



# CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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FIFTY CENTS ~ 20 PAGES

## Board terms to remain at 4 years in CC

by Clarke Haire  
Publisher

The Cass City Board of Education Monday addressed Michigan's newly passed school board election rules and the state's freshly mandated anti-bullying policy requirements during their regular monthly meeting, which was advanced one week due to the Christmas holiday.

House Bill 4005 calls for all school board elections be held in November of even years beginning in 2012. In order to implement the new election cycle, Cass City current board members' terms - who were originally elected in May - were extended by statute for either 6, 12, or 18 months determined by the expiration date of their existing terms.

The effect of the new legislation locally extended the terms of Jim Veneziano, Kathy Leslie, and Alice Zaleski for 6 months, while Dave Osentoski, Sloane Stimpfel, Craig

Bellew and Dan Manwell were tagged for an additional 18 months of service on the board.

The resulting board member rotation schedule would be 4-3 beginning with the 2016 election, instead of Cass City present 2-2-1-2 rotation.

To help with the rotation switch, school Supt. Jeff Hartel suggested board members' terms increase from 4 to 6 years, which would accomplish a more manageable 2-3-2 rotation.

However, it was the consensus on the board that 6 year terms are just too long of a commitment to serve on the panel.

"Finding people willing to run for 6 years may be hard," said board secretary Stimpfel, while board treasurer Veneziano commented "there is a lot of stress" involved with serving as a board member.

Turning to the anti-bullying requirements, House Bill 4163 Please turn to page 10.



**LOCAL VOLUNTEERS** (from left) Sue Walsh, Craig Bellew, Emily Phillips, Dan Curtis and Pat Curtis wrap up the last of the packing Saturday for the Cass City Rotary Club's annual Christmas for Kids campaign. This year the effort is providing a happier Christmas for nearly 110 families in the Cass City School District.

## Success!

### Cass City Rotary Club's Christmas for Kids project serves 109 families

Cass City Rotary Club members figure their Christmas for Kids campaign couldn't have gone much better than it did this year.

"It was a great year," said Pat Curtis, who serves on the Christmas for Kids Committee along with Colleen Langenburg and other members of the Cass City Rotary Club. "Having it (campaign headquarters)

at the same location has really helped."

According to Curtis, this year's project, now in its 13th year, served 109 families — some 330 children in the Cass City School District — with club members providing those families with clothing, toys and books. Referrals to the program come from the Cass City Public Schools and the

Tuscola County Family Independence Agency

In addition to the Rotary Club's work, the campaign involved several other organizations and area residents, including local Cub Scouts and students at Campbell Elementary School, who held fundraisers in order to donate toys and other items.

Rawson Memorial District Library also came through, and then some, with its annual donation of books. This year's effort was boosted by Please turn to page 8.

## Cass City graduate eyes a House seat

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

A 1985 Cass City High School graduate has his eye on running for the 84th District Michigan House seat, representing residents in Tuscola and Huron counties.



Sami Khoury

who has lived in Sebewaing since graduating from high school, recently announced his candidacy as a Republican, saying he believes his experience as a lifelong area resident and businessman has prepared him well to serve constituents in the Thumb.

"I own the Sebewaing Market, located near Michigan Sugar Company. I and my wife, Odette, raised our children here in Sebewaing. I always have and always will love Michigan's Thumb area," Khoury said.

"I serve (as a) Sebewaing Village trustee. The committees I'm on are budget, ordinance, trash, insurance, streets/parks and recreation and light and water."

"I announced my candidacy because I have only a positive outlook and think that is what the 84th District is lacking," he continued.

"I have run my own business in good times when Sebewaing

Industries/Tower Automotive/Lapeer Metal Stamping employed up to 400 employees, and through bad after the plant closed.

"I do have a lot to offer when it Please turn to page 10.



**THE NICOLS' Christmas Light Extravaganza** offers just about everything to passersby — and there have been plenty this year. The 60-minute show includes 15 songs, all synchronized with music thanks to computer technology and plenty of work. (See story, page 5)

## Foundation distributes fall grants

Tuscola County Community Foundation officials presented more than \$104,000 in grants and scholarships during their annual fall awards distribution Thursday at the Tuscola Intermediate School District (ISD) Administrative Office in Caro.

The following grants/scholarships were presented:

- Andrews (Claude D. and Etta H.) Fund — \$3,000 for the Tuscola ISD Youth Mentoring Program, \$2,000 for Highland Pines School to purchase equipment to support student mobility equipment, \$2,800 for the Caro Middle School Media Center to assist in replacing 31 outdated computers, and \$5,000 for Thumb Area Big Brothers/Big Sisters to support operation of programs for youth.

- Carl Fritz Cancer Transportation Fund — \$200 for 2 \$100 grants to Please turn to page 8.



*At the holiday season, our thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our success possible. It is in this spirit we say...thank you and best wishes for the holidays and a peaceful & prosperous New Year!*

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Meg's Peg



O Christmas tree!

by  
Melva E. Guinther

Every family must have some favorite memories regarding Christmas trees and/or lights. If they don't, they should. Ours certainly has its share, most of them pretty funny.

If you happened to drive past our house this year and noticed the rather strange looking semi-lighted tree by the garage, let me explain.

Two years ago we decided to put colored lights on the tree and enlisted the help of a relative. He became sick before finishing and the job was left half done. I later made a feeble attempt to complete the task, but gave up when I realized how cold it was, how tangled the lights were and how high off the ground.

This year my husband enlisted some young men to work on the project. The strings remaining on the tree were deemed usable. Of course, it was daylight when they tested them.

The lights are on a timer. When they turned on at dusk, it seemed that the strings that had been nibbled by squirrels over the 2-year interval chose not to light up. The design formed by those that did light created a unique pattern. It resembled either an ampersand, a treble clef or a dollar sign, depending on the viewing angle.

After a couple nights, the wind rearranged them somewhat, and our imaginative daughter convinced me that they actually depicted a couple from "Dancing With The Stars."

My first impulse was to pull the plug, but then I decided they were a conversation piece.

Our indoor trees haven't given us nearly as many laughs as when we used to go out into the snow and freeze our feet picking out a live tree. We gave that up a few years ago and took the sensible route with an artificial one.

Our daughter faithfully comes up from Ohio and puts the tree up and the lights on. She swears that it's not because she doesn't think I'm capable. (Just because she caught me putting the branches on upside down that one time) "We want a happy tree, Mom, with the branches reaching upward."

We've had a lot fewer problems with the fake tree than we had with the real thing. The trees themselves were sometimes laughable, but nothing compared to the measures conceived to make them look, if not perfect, at least normal.

There were a couple of them that we had to fasten to the wall on 2 sides, and one time we wrapped a cement block to look like a present under the tree in order to keep it from keeling over. That was the one I had personally chosen. Honestly, it didn't look that crooked in the field.

In retrospect, those experiences make good memories, but they aren't always so funny at the time.

As for the tree lights, it might be a good prerequisite for marriage that a couple endure a Christmas light installation together before they tie the knot. (Either that or have a go at wallpapering) Those are the times when true character often comes to light.

Here's to every family having some fond, funny memories of Christmases past. And here's to slowing down long enough amid the hectic schedule of the season to consider the true meaning of Christmas and create some pleasant, abiding memories for the future.

## Huron County Extension will move next week

The Huron County MSU Extension Office will be closed the week of Dec. 27-30 while moving to a new location.

"We will be located at the new health department/VA building. Our office will be housed between the new Huron County Health Department and the VA clinic, formerly the old health department building," explained Kari A. VerEllen 4-H administrative secretary. "Our phone system will be shut down Thursday, Dec. 22. We ask for (area residents') patience during this time of transition into our new office space."

The office will be open for business Tuesday, Jan. 3, with new office hours from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The office will also be open during the lunch hour Monday through Friday.

## Huron County cookbooks and plat books are now available

The "Huron County 4-H Share Our Best" cookbooks and the Huron County Plat Books are now available at the Huron County MSU Extension Office.

The cookbook contains 250 recipes, including appetizers and beverages, soups and salads, vegetables and side dishes, main dishes, breads and rolls, desserts, and cookies and candy. The cost is \$10 each, while the plat book costs \$30.

"All proceeds from the 4-H cookbooks, as well as a portion of the proceeds from the Huron County Plat Books, go to the Huron County 4-H Youth Development Program when purchased from the MSU Extension office," said Kari A. VerEllen, Huron County 4-H administrative secretary.

## Baker College now registering for winter 2012

To accommodate busy schedules, Baker College of Cass City, a satellite campus of Baker College of Flint, is offering "by appointment" enrollment opportunities for winter 2012 quarter.

Classes for winter quarter begin Monday, Jan. 9, with registration continuing through Friday, Jan. 13.

In observance of the holidays, Baker College is closed Dec. 23, 26 and 30, and Jan. 2.

For more information, call Baker College of Cass City at (989) 872-1129. Students may also schedule an appointment via the Baker College website: [www.baker.edu](http://www.baker.edu).



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

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

In Our  
OPINION...

Clarke Haire  
Publisher

Tom Montgomery  
Editor

# Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus

Eight-year-old Virginia O’Hanlon wrote a letter to the editor of New York’s Sun, and the quick response was printed as an unsigned editorial Sept. 21, 1897. The work of veteran newsman Francis Pharcellus Church has since become history’s most reprinted newspaper editorial, appearing in part or whole in dozens of languages in books, movies, and other editorials, and on posters and stamps. We present it again to our readers for their enjoyment.

“DEAR EDITOR: I am 8 years old.  
“Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus.  
“Papa says, ‘If you see it in THE SUN it’s so.’  
“Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus?

“VIRGINIA O’HANLON.  
“115 WEST NINETY-FIFTH STREET.”

VIRGINIA, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except [what] they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men’s or children’s, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, VIRGINIA, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no VIRGINIAS. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that’s no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You may tear apart the baby’s rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, VIRGINIA, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood

Slices of Life

by Jill Pertler

Ignoring the snoring and other caveats of marriage

One morning not long ago, I awoke to find my husband’s side of the bed empty. He came into the room a few minutes later. I asked where he’d been and he said I’d been snoring so he left for a quieter venue on the couch.

I thought about disputing the snoring allegation (clearly I do not snore), but rolled over for a few extra minutes of sleep instead.

When the same set of events unfolded a few days later, I felt it was time to address the situation.

“Honey,” I said in my gentlest of morning voices, “You’ve been snoring every night for the last 10 years and I don’t get up and leave. It’s called marriage.”

He didn’t give me much of a reply, but every morning since, his head’s been on the pillow next to mine.

For my husband and me, this wasn’t about noises in the night, but about the things we do in the name of wedded bliss. (Like pretending our spouse doesn’t snore.)

I’ve been married for over 20 (consecutive) years to the same person. Like most brides, I walked down the aisle with glitter in my shoes and visions of sugarplums in my future. Marriage was going to be a piece of cake – a walk in the park. I just knew it.

What I didn’t consider is cake can grow stale and a walk in the park can result in doggy doo on your shoes. Marriage can be messy because life can be messy.

I have a friend who’s tried the whole marriage thing a time or two. She tells me my life is easy because I’ve been married for 20 years. Anyone who thinks being married for 20 years is easy has not been married for 20 years.

When I said, “I do,” I never contemplated snoring, stinky feet or flatulence. I didn’t think about times when money might be scarce and the bills abundant. Things like plugged toilets and clogged sinks weren’t even a blip on my radar. I thought my husband and I would

## Letters to the Editor

### We can’t keep paying more for this water

What is wrong with the article in the Chronicle about increase of the village water? What part does the village not understand we cannot keep paying high water bills for bad water?

The village needs to send out a notice with a town meeting on the high cost of water. We should not have to pay for a house that is empty.

You had the voice of people that was against the increase but what good did it do? The village does not pay me for the bottle water I drink and for the salt for my water softer to wash clothes.

Maybe the village needs to take cuts in wages and pay for their insurance so we would have a decrease in water.

Karl R. Witkovsky  
Cass City

Some Facebook users have gone way too far

Recently, my husband’s nephew passed away. While contacting family and friends of his death, a lot of people said, “Yes, I know, it was on Facebook.”

I could not believe someone had actually posted his death on Facebook. Did the person who did this have no respect for him?

When someone dies, you

don’t post it on a social webpage. Have a little more dignity and respect. Calling people with this kind of information would be more appropriate.

I hope there are people out there who have more respect for a person after they die not to post it on a social webpage like Facebook.

Patty Yax  
Cass City

Tom Thumb Singers and handbell choir were great

Wow! Merry Christmas to the Tom Thumb Singers, past and present. Your concert was outstanding, exemplifying heartwarming for this blessed Christmas season.

So good to listen and be on the receiving side of that glorious sound of Christmas. Remembering when I was once a member, and seeing so many or quite a few that are still active while I was.

The bell choir added so much, and Steve Fobear and Roger Parrish did yourself proud again.

Hard to believe 29 years (ago) when Andy Hoffmeister came up with

the idea of a community choir. We talked about it and I urged her to see what could be done and made me promise to join. Was I glad I did! And look and see how God has blessed it.

I’d love to be part of it again. I could hardly not sing along as most members did through the years. So good to hear them again.

I could go on, but I’ll close and wish you all a merry Christmas.

I’ll sign it, “number one charter member”, Hilda Koch.  
Gagetown

agree on everything from how to squeeze the toothpaste tube to the best way to discipline our children. I believed we’d never ever go to bed angry and by all means we’d always communicate effectively without misinterpretation or misunderstandings.

I’ve learned a lot in the last two decades.

I’ve learned sometimes you take your spouse for granted and let little things get under your skin. When this happens, it’s important to ignore your skin. I’ve learned a marriage starts with love, but a good marriage contains healthy doses of patience, understanding, persistence, trust and a smidgen of luck. I’ve learned disagreements get solved faster if both a husband and wife are willing to apologize more than half the time. I’ve learned you never give up on your spouse. I’ve learned most worthwhile things in life are not always easy. Marriage is near the top of the list.

More than 20 years ago, I married my best friend. He’s been by my side and had my back ever since. I, in turn, have had his. We’ve raised tomatoes, goldfish and children. We share the same last name and the same inside jokes. If one of our kids does something cute or smart, we catch each other’s eye with a knowing glance that makes my heart thump. When he’s away, I miss him. We’ve squabbled and we’ve loved, but mostly we’ve made it work. Together.

Marriage can be a piece of cake and a walk in the park – as long as you are willing to rebake your cake every so often and watch the ground for doggie doo with each step forward. And, if your spouse is snoring, I advise you don’t get up and leave – unless you plan to come right back.

\*\*\*\*\*

Jill Pertler, award-winning syndicated columnist and author of “The Do-It-Yourselfer’s Guide to Self-Syndication” is collecting fans on Facebook on her Slices of Life page. Email her at [permtm@qwest.net](mailto:permtm@qwest.net); or visit her website at <http://marketing-by-design.home.mchsi.com/>.

Rabbit Tracks

by Clarke Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)

Here’s the latest on the Lexi Smith benefit.

Circle Saturday, Feb. 4th, on your calendar. Stazha Hartsell, local Woman’s Life Chapter 848 member, says that is one day all about Lexi – a first grade student at Campbell Elementary School diagnosed with an inoperable brain stem tumor.

A silent auction and bake sale are being planned for the fundraiser, and I’d wager inflatable attractions will be on site at the high school.

A safer bet would be to count on area residents reaching out with open hearts to the Smith family during their time of need.

Merry Christmas, Lexi – we’re all praying for you.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you had to guess which current business owner in Cass City has the most seniority, who would it be? Perhaps Dick Hendrick, long-time owner of the Cass Theatre. Dick told me last week he plans to run the theatre for at least 2 more years, when his cinema career reaches 50 years.

Merry Christmas, Dick – we’re lucky to have a great local theatre.

\*\*\*\*\*

I visited the Kingston fire hall last week and came away impressed. It’s about 4 times the size of the Elkland Township fire hall and that’s just for starters. It has its own repair garage, a spacious meeting room, and is just plain roomy. Kingston fire chief Jeff Mallory reports a full sized kitchen is in the works.

Merry Christmas, Jeff and to Cass City fire chief Glenn Guilds- we’re lucky to have dedicated leaders on both squads.

\*\*\*\*\*

Please note the Chronicle office will be closed Monday, Dec. 26th, for the Christmas holiday. That means our final issue of 2011 will be on the newsstands on Wednesday, and subscribers should receive next week’s issue on the following day.

Merry Christmas, everyone – we’re hoping your holiday wishes come true.

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CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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Rates & Policies

The Cass City Chronicle reserves the right to edit any and all copy for content and size restrictions. Final editorial judgement lies with the Chronicle management and staff. Deadline for classified advertising is Monday, noon and deadline for display advertising is Friday, 5 p.m. for the next week’s edition.

Letters to the Editor

The Chronicle welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must include the writer’s name, address and telephone number. The latter is in case it is necessary to call for verification, but won’t be used in the newspaper. Names will be withheld from publication upon request, for an adequate reason. The Chronicle reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity.

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

Social News

The Cass City Chronicle will gladly publish social news free of charge. Social news includes: engagements, weddings, anniversaries, college graduations, birth announcements and similar items. There is a \$4 fee to include a photo.

Subscription Rates

Tuscola, Huron & Sanilac counties - \$21 per year.  
In Michigan - \$25 per year.  
Out-of-State - \$27 per year.  
College - \$15 per year.  
Email subscriptions- \$20 per year.  
*Payable in advance. Discounts available for multi-year subscription.*

Advertising Rates

Transit (nonbusiness) rates, 10 words or less, \$4.00 each insertion; additional words 10 cents each. Three weeks for the price of 2--cash rate. Save money by enclosing cash with mail orders. Rates for display want ads on application.

Obituary Rates

Obituary notices cost \$19 per insertion. There is a \$4 additional charge for including a photo.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

**Wednesday, December 21**  
Spoonfuls of Plenty FREE Community Meal, 4-6 p.m., LeeRoy Clark Building, 435 Green St., Caro. Open to anyone wanting a hot, home-style meal.

**Thursday, December 22**  
AA meeting, 7-8 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Cass City. For more information, call (989) 553-5932.  
Senior Lunch, noon, Shabbona United Methodist Church.

**Friday, December 23**  
Al-Anon meeting for family and friends of alcoholics, 7 p.m., United Methodist Church, Elkton. For more information, call (989) 912-0546.

**Saturday, December 24**  
Narcotics Anonymous meetings, 7 p.m., St. John Episcopal Church, Sand Point. Anyone with a drug problem is invited to attend. For more information, please call (989) 963-9077.

**Sunday, December 25**  
Gagetown AA meeting, 8-9 p.m., Gagetown fire hall. For more information, call (989) 665-0086 or (989) 912-5493.

**Monday, December 26**  
Alcoholics Anonymous, "Monday at a Time," 8 p.m., Parkside Cafe, 2031 Main St., Uby. 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) 553-5932.  
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.

**Tuesday, December 27**  
Al-Anon meeting, 7 p.m., St. Francis Parrish, Pigeon.

**Wednesday, December 28**  
Owen-Gage School Board meeting, 7 p.m.  
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 CASS City FFA and Agriscience program recently hosted its first Turkey Trot, a district-wide food drive that netted 2,241 items being donated to the Revive Ministries Food Pantry. The event featured 2 students from each grade racing 22 sponsored turkeys, raised by the FFA and agriscience programs, through an obstacle course set up in the high school gym. Each turkey was sponsored by a local business in town. Pictured above are all of the food items donated. At right, Braeden Perzanowski and Marilyn Walsh hold their trophy and show off the best racing bird after winning the final heat of the Turkey Trot race.



## DON'T LOSE OUT!

Dear Friends And Customers:

**quotable:**



Franklin Roosevelt... "Taxes are paid in the sweat of every man who labors. If those taxes are excessive, they are reflected in idle factories, tax-sold homes, and in hordes of hungry people tramping the streets and seeking jobs in vain."

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- SHARP MICROWAVE OVEN
- MOHAWK

Stop in to enter for LA-Z-BOY Giveaway Christmas Eve Day at noon!

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Behavioral Health Systems  
A Michigan Community Mental Health Authority serving Tuscola County and the Greater Thumb Area



**CASS VALLEY ENTERPRISES**  
A Program of Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems



**PIC**  
Personal Independence Center

323 N. State St., Caro MI 48723  
673.6191 or 1.800.468.6814  
www.tbhsonline.com

## 5 injured in a 2-vehicle crash

Five people were injured in a 2-vehicle crash Friday in Tuscola County's Fremont Township. The accident occurred at the corner of Leix and Blackmore roads, according to troopers from the Michigan State Police (MSP) post in Caro, who reported the driver of one of the vehicles failed to stop for a stop sign as he was traveling west-bound on Blackmore Road. He was

then struck by a northbound vehicle that could not avoid the collision. The driver of the westbound vehicle was thrown from his vehicle on impact and was airlifted to St. Mary's Medical Center for treatment. Four people traveling in the northbound vehicle, including 2 young children, were taken to Caro Community Hospital for treatment

of minor injuries. Troopers were assisted at the scene by the Tuscola County Sheriff's Department, Mayville Ambulance, MMR Ambulance and the Mayville Fire Department. The crash remains under investigation by troopers and the MSP Third District Accident Reconstruction Team.

## HDC seeking local general contractors

The Human Development Commission (HDC) is seeking local general contractors to participate in its Community Development Rehabilitation programs. The programs are designed to provide needed repairs to single-family, owner-occupied homes and rental units in Tuscola, Huron, Sanilac and Lapeer counties. Contractors must carry a valid builder's license, liability insurance, and be willing to obtain lead training. The HDC is an equal opportunity employer and encourages minority,

female-owned and Section 3 businesses to participate. More information is available by calling (810) 648-4497 and asking for Traci. Incorporated in 1965, the HDC is one of 30 Community Action Agencies in Michigan that are committed to helping people and changing lives. The organization's mission statement is to empower individuals and communities to identify their needs and secure the resources necessary to achieve their goals of self-sufficiency and an improved quality of life.

## Party Time!

**Sherwood on the Hill**  
*invites you to ring in the New Year with*

**TRIGGER HAPPY**  
*Doors open at 7 p.m.*

**6625 Third St.**  
**Gagetown, MI 48735**  
**(989) 665-9971**

## CASS THEATRE

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 7:30

ANIMATED **"HAPPY FEET TWO"** (PG)

**STARTS FRIDAY (PREMIERE SHOWING)**

**SPECIAL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**  
Closed Christmas EVE - Open EVERY Evening During Holidays  
No Matinees - EVERY EVENING 7:30 Only  
**CHILDREN \$3.50 - TEEN/ADULTS \$5.00**

**The National Premiere Showing**  
**He Moved His Family To The Country**  
**MATT DAMON - SCARLETT JOHANSSON**  
**WE BOUGHT A ZOO (PG)**

Reporter’s notebook

Smith family could use town’s support

Just when you think that life has dealt you a lousy hand and you’re struggling with what you think are some difficult times, you run into someone like 6-year-old Lexi Smith. All of a sudden, your situation isn’t so bad after all. In case you missed last week’s issue of the Chronicle, Lexi’s story is heartbreaking. The Campbell Elementary School first grader was recently diagnosed with an inoperable brain stem tumor, and she’s undergoing radiation treatments that her family hopes will give her a little more time — quality-of-life time. The symptoms began with weakness on one side of her body, and those symptoms have since worsened.

As I said, simply heartbreaking. Here is a child who by all accounts spends much of her time thinking about others, and she’s facing a battle for her life. “She’s kind of the worrywart of the family,” her mom, Heidi (Hartwick) Smith commented in last week’s story. “She’s always, always concerned about other people.” She’s also adorable. Just check out the photo of her on page 8 of the Dec. 14 issue of the Chronicle if you doubt it. Lexi is a typical youngster, active and full of life. She loves softball, art and writing, and has been active in the Girl Scouts. With a prognosis from doctors that offers little hope, the family was left with only a couple choices after Lexi

was diagnosed; either take her home and let the tumor take its course, or have her undergo radiation treatments for several weeks in order to give her a little more quality-of-life time. What parent wouldn’t have opted to give radiation a shot? Now, any child facing terminal illness is a tragedy, but I suppose this story especially hit home because after we moved to this community more than 2 dozen years ago, the Hartwicks — Heidi’s parents — were (and still are) our neighbors. Heidi and her siblings would get on the school bus with our kids. They grew up together in this neighborhood. Heidi and her family have suffered more than their share of grief, including the accidental death of her brother, Ryan, several years ago. Now, she and her husband, Randy, are bravely trying to deal with a parent’s worst nightmare. So, what can you do? Well, for starters, drop a few bucks into one of those canisters located in businesses around town, and attend a benefit fundraiser planned for sometime next month to help support this young family. We’ll be sure to publish the details as soon as we get them. Personally, I’m praying for a miracle for this little girl. Who deserves it more? This family could use one, and if you’re inclined to do so, please add a prayer or 2 of your own.

Nicols have Christmas lighting display that is second to none

by Tom Montgomery Editor

The parade of cars passing by Joel and Jaime Nicol’s Germania Road residence in Sanilac County’s Greenleaf Township never seems to end once it’s dark this time of year. That’s no surprise. The Nicols have a Christmas light display that is, simply, second to none, with more than 100,000 lights, featuring everything from a ferris wheel, merry go-round and fireworks in trees, to a pair of 20-foot animated trees, snowmen, deer in a forest, shooting stars, and a nativity scene. And, the entire 60-minute repeating show is synchronized with music, all controlled by computer. For Joel, a 1999 Cass City High School graduate, Christmas lighting skills came naturally. His parents, Gayle and John, who reside on Robinson Road, delighted passersby with their Christmas light displays for more than 3 decades before handing over the reins to their son. One thing hasn’t changed, according to Gayle; “Sometimes it’s hard to get out of the driveway” due to all of the traffic, she said. “It’s in my blood, I guess. It’s a lot of work, but it’s a lot of fun too,” Joel commented Saturday night as vehicles stopped along Germania Road in a long line, enjoying the work he and Jaime put into their display. “There’s been a lot of traffic out here this year. “We’ve lived out here about 5, 6 years, but we’ve put up lights ever since we’ve been here,” Joel added, noting he expanded the project 3 years ago. As for Gayle and John, they don’t seem to mind passing on the lighting show to their son. “We just got too old,” Gayle joked,

“but we still come and help. Now my son is doing it and my daughter-in-law, and it’s on a paved road. We’re just trying to get the word out.” According to Gayle and John, the lights now displayed are a bit different in that they’re more computerized and the lighting is animated. “The computer pretty much runs the lights,” explained Joel, whose day job is working for his dad’s excavating company, Nicol & Sons Inc. “Every 5 minutes, everything turns off and just certain lights flash with the music.”

The show takes a great deal of time and effort, he acknowledged. “I think I’m at around 105,000 (lights), and we started in October. It’s pretty much every weekend and some time during the week. It never stops. I’m starting right now for next year’s show.” That includes staking each individual display. “And zip ties. Zip ties and stakes, you can’t have enough,” Jaime commented. John said the goal has been, and still is, to always try to add to and improve the display, a philosophy his son and daughter-in-law have embraced. Area residents interested in seeing the Nicols’ light show — the show repeats and is accompanied by 15 songs — can do so through Sunday, Jan. 1, from 5:15 to 11 p.m. The couple’s home is located 4 miles east of M-53 on Cass City Road, and a half-mile south on Germania Road. For Joel and Jaime, the enjoyment others get out of the lights makes all of the effort more than worthwhile. “I love watching the cars. Like last night it was really busy,” said Jaime, a teacher at Sandusky High School. Joel agreed. “The people, I guess,” he said. “I really enjoy it.”

Down Memory Lane

by Tina Pallas



5 YEARS AGO

The discovery of a pair of old military mortar shells resulted in some tense moments last week at a Gagetown residence. Fortunately, no one was injured and the shells were disposed of by experts from a pair of Michigan State Police bomb units. According to Gagetown Police Chief Gene Bucholtz, Gagetown resident Jerry Wooters, 6462 Cleaver St., called federal authorities last Wednesday at about 12:40 p.m. after finding the shells in a crawl space inside the home he rents. The bomb unit personnel removed the devices and transported them to a gravel pit, where they were disposed of safely, according to Detective Sgt. Steven Hickman of the Michigan State Police Bomb Squad out of Grayling. Hickman said the shells were both from the World War II era. He said one of the shells was not live, but it’s not known if the other one was, because of the method used to destroy them. “That’s the safest way to go,” he said.

Coach Beth Howard’s revamped Red Hawk spikers brought home an early Christmas present over the weekend, claiming their first invitational crown of the season Saturday at Caro. Individually for the champs, Meeker had 38 kills, 12 aces and 5 blocks; Schinnerer, 24 kills, 9 aces, 17 digs; Carly Howard, 16 kills, 13 aces, 40 digs; Sarah Howard, 14 kills, 4 blocks; Amanda Langenburg, 9 kills, 74 assists, 17 aces; Ashleigh Rabideau, 4 kills, 20 digs; Lauren Dillon, 13 kills; and Megan VanVliet, 41 digs.

The winners of the Cass City Chamber of Commerce’s Christmas in the Village children’s drawings are: Jacob Miller, Tyler Miller, Lauran Russell, Mariah Miller, Brandy Brooks, Shane Hoppe, Nataliah Frankowski, Christopher Fifer, Martha Brooks, Kristen Stimpfel, Abby Phillips, Vincent Favazza, Payton Bock, Owen Hoppe, Hunter Walker, Mariah Mellendorf and Logan Adams.

10 YEARS AGO

Josh Errer, a senior at Owen-Gage High School, recently was selected to participate in Central Michigan University’s Honors Band. A trumpet player, Errer sent in a taped audition and was selected to perform along with approximately 70 other students from throughout the state. The Cass City-Deckerville gymnastic team competed in its first invitational of the season Saturday in Troy during the Troy Athens Invite. Coach Heather Spencer sited several team members for turning in fine early season efforts, led by Deckerville junior Randee McGregor who recorded 2 regional qualifying

marks. McGregor registered team-high marks on the vault and on the bars where she had record scores of 8.0 and 7.0, respectively. Also posting regional qualifying scores were Cass City’s Ashley Ouvry, Elise Pasant and Chelsee Zimba. Pasant and Zimba registered marks of 7.7 and 7.75, respectively, on the vault, while Ouvry produced a 7.0 score on the bars.

Kimberly Sweeney of Ubyly is the latest lucky winner in the Cass City Chamber of Commerce’s Christmas in the Village drawings. Sweeney’s prize was an American Girl Doll.

It was 3 points or no count for Grant Frank as the Cass City Red Hawks racked up their second straight win of the young season, defeating Brown City, 59-55, last Tuesday. Frank scored all 5 of his baskets from outside the 3-point line to carry the offensive load for the Hawks. As good as it was, Frank’s outstanding shooting was eclipsed by Ryan Hoag of the Green Devils. Hoag burned the hoops for 6 trifectas, 4 regular hoops and a pair of free throws to net 30 of Brown City’s 55 points.

25 YEARS AGO

Like a number of area do-it-yourselfers, Cass City resident Jim Spencer enjoys working on cars. The 29-year-old husband and father of 2 is an employee at Shetler’s Plumbing and Heating, Inc., in addition to being self-employed as a masonry contractor. But he’s serious about his hobby, which includes a flair for rebuilding engines. Unlike the products of many other part-time mechanics, the cars Spencer works on tend to be a bit on the “high performance” side when he’s finished tinkering. How does he define high performance? “A lot more horsepower than what’s on the street.” An average street car today has about a 150 to 175-horsepower engine. Compare that figure to a 1968 Ford Mustang equipped with a 425-horsepower engine. The car, built and driven by Spencer, was capable of covering ¼ of a mile in 13 seconds at 112 miles per hour. That Ford was only one of 7 Mustangs he’s owned since his 18th birthday, when he “officially” became old enough to race. Spencer’s most recent project, now sitting in his garage, “is going to be a new experience,” he observed. Paying \$5,000 for a car without an engine may not seem wise, but Spencer says this former top fuel class dragster was a great buy. Spencer plans to install a homemade 351 Boss engine this winter and be racing at a top speed of 150 miles per hour in the spring. His father is Frank Spencer, owner of Frank’s Service Station, 4083 N. Cemetery Rd. The elder Spencer also had a

hand in helping to arrange the dragster purchase. The son of a Kingston-area couple recently was selected as the “Federal Employee of the Year” for outstanding work as a Naval Air Facility photographer in Detroit. Walter W. Bollinger, son of the Rev. and Mrs. C.W. Bollinger, Kingston, received the Service/Trades award at a breakfast at the Veterans Administration Building in downtown Detroit. On hand for the event were his wife, Bette, and their 3 children, Walter II, 10; Timothy, 9; and Renee, 7.

50 YEARS AGO

Area youngsters crowded around the Main and Seeger streets corner Tuesday night to greet the Gavel Santa Claus and receive a package of free candy and nuts. A total of 900 packages prepared by a dozen members of the Gavel Club and financed by the Chamber of Commerce were given to area children. Santa’s committee in charge from the Gavel Club included Arlan Hartwick, Dick Wallace, Jim Gross and C. M. Wallace.

The Tyo barber shop, one of the oldest businesses in Cass City, now has a representative of the fourth generation employed in the shop. Tom Tyo, nephew of Alex Tyo, the owner, served three years in the Marine Corps and last October completed a barber school course in Detroit. He is married and lives near his parents, south of town. The late David Tyo started in business as a barber in Cass City in 1881. Later, his son, the late Clement Tyo, joined his father in business and in turn Clement was joined by his son Alex.

Dear Santa, I have been a good boy this year. I would like a pair of cowboy boots with big heels and a red car for Christmas. I will leave some cookies for you. David Eberline Dear Santa, I want a whole hunting set. And a pair of Binoculars a Helicopter a Dart game. A rifle and bullets. I have been a very good boy all year. Yours truly, Claude Leyva, Gagetown, Mich.

100 YEARS AGO

Elmwood - Richard Hilliker’s hand which he had injured in the shredder, is getting along nicely. - Jas. O’Dell’s had a pedro party, last Wednesday evening. All had a good time. - Thos. Wood & Son shipped several Ancanas to Pontiac on Monday for the show held there this week. A Christmas entertainment will be held at the Cedar Run school house on Saturday evening also one at the Bearss school house. The township treasurer of Ellington will be at P. W. Stone’s store on Wednesday, Dec. 27, to take all your money.

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**Cass City Area Church Directory**

<b>Anchor Cove Outreach Church</b> 1116 E. Caro Rd, Caro, MI 48723 989-672-2262 Directly across from Wal-Mart Saturday Service: 6:00 p.m. Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m. www.anchorcoveoutreachchurch.com	<b>Cass City United Methodist Church</b> 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. Jackie Roe	<b>Good Shepherd Lutheran Church</b> 6820 E. Main St., Cass City, MI 48726 872-2770 Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Bible Class & Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Vacancy Pastor: Michael Boyer
<b>Calvary Bible Fellowship an Independent Baptist Church</b> 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.	<b>Evangelical Free Church of Cass City</b> 6430 Chestnut Blvd., Cass City, MI 48726 872-5060 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Midweek Bible Studies Biblical Counseling Pastor: Rev. Todd R. Gould www.casscityefc.org	<b>Novesta Church of Christ</b> <i>"the friendly church that cares"</i> 2896 Cemetery Rd., Cass City, MI 48726 872-3658 Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Minister: Brad Speirs Visit our website at: www.novestachurch.org
<b>Cass City Church of Christ</b> 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.	<b>First Baptist Church</b> <i>(Independent, Fundamental)</i> <b>Barrier Free</b> 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 6:00 p.m. Wednesday- Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 7:00 p.m. AWANA Clubs 6:45 p.m. During School Year Thursday Teen Club 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Pastor: David G. Hill Website: www.fbccc.us	<b>Potter's House Christian Fellowship Church</b> 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
<b>Cass City Church of the Nazarene</b> 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. Pastor: Jerry Harrington Associate Pastor: Judy A. Escilsen	<b>First Presbyterian Church</b> <b>Barrier Free</b> State & National Historical Registry 6505 Church St., Cass City, MI 48726 872-5400 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Pastor: Dave Blackburn	<b>St. Pancratius Catholic Church</b> 4292 S. Seeger St., Cass City, MI 48726 872-3336 Summer Saturday Liturgy 4:00 p.m. DST Sunday Liturgy 9:00 a.m. Winter Saturday Liturgy 5:30 p.m. EDT Sunday Liturgy 9:00 a.m. Pastoral Administrator: Sr. Maria Dina Puddu MC
<b>Cass City Missionary Church</b> 4449 Koepfgen Rd., Cass City, MI 48726 989-872-2729 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship Service 10:50 a.m. Sunday Evening Service & Youth Group 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Family Night 6:30 p.m. Pastor: Phil Burkett www.casscitymc.org	<b>Fraser Presbyterian Church</b> 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	<b>Mizpah Missionary Church</b> 4631 N. Van Dyke, Cass City, MI 48726 Sunday School: 10 a.m. Sunday Service: 11 a.m. Wednesday Prayer Group 7-8 p.m. Wednesday Kids' Club 7-8 p.m.

**Visitors always welcomed... Please join us today!**

# CHRONICLE SPORTS

To Report Your Sports News & Scores  
contact Publisher Clarke Haire at  
(989) 872-2010; fax: (989) 872-3810  
clarke@ccchronicle.net



THE 2011-12 Cass City girls' junior varsity basketball team members are (front, l-r) Briana Samons, Tanyatorn Jongsoojarittum, (middle) Ashtyn Janiskee Weiler, Alliah Riddle, Calixte Engelberg, Kara Reif, Maria Weilbach, Lauren Bukoski, Erin Zdrojewski, (back) Coach Scott Miklovic, Alyssa Bennett, Pauline Degoudenne, Rachel Collins, Elisabeth Milligan, Erika Martin, Heidi Bjarnadottir, Hunter Langenburg and Kayla Barnes.



THE 2011-12 Cass City boys' junior varsity basketball team members are (front, l-r) Tristan Kuntz, Jacob Perry, Al Adams, Theron Bogart, Eric Churchill (back) Curtis Dickinson, Dakota Hartel, Jake Hacker, Collin Hartwick and Braeden Perzanowski.

## Markel welcomes break for grapplers

The numbers don't favor the Cass City wrestling team. Coach Don Markel's Red Hawk grapplers fell to 4-8 on the season after a 1-4 showing over the weekend at the Cros-Lex Team Tournament. Cass City suffered losses to St. Clair 51-25, host Cros-Lex 60-24, Richmond 56-18, and Midland 48-33. Cass City defeated Memphis, 48-18, for their lone victory on the day. "Due to injuries, illness and eligibility issues we were forced to void 5 weight classes on Saturday. When you spot other teams 30 points it makes it very difficult to come back to win. We look forward to the upcoming Christmas holiday to regroup, work hard and emerge as a stronger team as we enter January," said Markel. Richmond captured team honors

with a 5-0 record and was followed in the standings by Cros-Lex with a 4-1 mark, Midland 3-2, St. Clair 2-3, Cass City 1-4, and Memphis 0-5. Despite earning just one team win, a trio of Red Hawks turned in solid individual efforts to the delight of Markel. Ron Wolschleger, 125-weight class, and Josh Jensen, 171/189-weight classes, both went unblemished in 5 bouts at the meet, while Kurt Reif, 160-weight class, was defeated just once and handed in a lofty 4-1 record. "Josh recorded an impressive 5-3 victory over Knute Hoffman of Midland who was a state medalist in Division 1 and is currently ranked #4 in his weight class," said Markel. Cass City is now off until Jan. 4, when they host Vassar and Brown City in the Red Hawks' only home meet on the season.

## Red Hawks win low scoring affair

A win Tuesday over visiting rival Caro during the annual M-81 Clash and the Cass City boys' basketball team will enter the Christmas break with a lofty 4-1 mark. The Red Hawks returned to the win column Friday in Capac, where Coach Aaron Fernald's Red Hawks earned a 34-27 decision. Cass City's non-conference victory comes on the heels of their only defeat, delivered by undefeated Harbor Beach last Tuesday on the Pirates' home court. To retain the M-81 Clash trophy - Cass City has taken pleasure in possession of the traveling hardware, awarded to the winning team, every year but one since 2001 - the Red Hawks will need another strong defensive showing similar to their effort against the Chiefs during the team's 3 straight non-conference road contests. Although Cass City actually trailed 7-2 after the opening quarter, the Red Hawks held their hosts to solo baskets by Noah Mallioux and Jacob Breis during the second frame that ended with Cass City leading 15-11. Senior Morgan Erla had a big night for the winners and posted a double-double that included 12 points and 10 rebounds. Both teams traded baskets after the break and entering the final stanza Cass City was in control 23-19. Red Hawk Cody Orban poured in 13 points, including 2 treys, to lead all scorers.

short end of a 49-25 affair with the rough and tough Pirates. Orban and Cole Israelson kept the visitors close in the early going, but a 16-3 run to end the initial half dug Cass City a hole they would never escape from. Leading 35-20, Harbor Beach secured the win with a 14-5 run to the final whistle. Orban and Israelson netted 23 of Cass City's 25 points on the night. Orban hit on 4 shots from behind the 3-point arc to lead all scorers and finished with 14 markers. Andrew Siemen paced the Pirates with 11 points, while Jordan Booms added 10.

**CASS CITY** - Orban 1-4 (0-2) 14; King 0-0 (1-2) 1; Ross 0-0 (1-2) 1; Zaleski 0-0 (0-1) 0; Israelson 4-0 (1-3) 9.  
**TOTALS - 5-4 (3-10) 25.**

**HARBOR BEACH** - Ginther 2-0 (0-0) 4; Ja. Hanson 0-2 (0-0) 6; Je. Hanson 1-0 (0-0) 2; Kraft 4-0 (0-0) 8; Murawske 1-0 (0-0) 2; Booms 3-0 (2-4) 8; Siemen 5-1 (0-0) 13; Klaski 2-0 (2-2) 6.  
**TOTALS - 18-3 (4-6) 49.**

**CASS CITY** - Orban 2-2 (3-5) 13; Nicol 0-0 (0-1) 0; Schenk 1-0 (0-0) 2; King 0-1 (0-0) 3; Zaleski 1-0 (0-0) 2; Erla 4-0 (4-8) 12; Israelson 1-0 (0-4) 2.  
**TOTALS - 9-3 (7-17) 34.**

### HARBOR BEACH

Despite holding high scoring Harbor Beach to a season-low 49 points, Cass City came out on the

**CAPAC** - Ja. Boers 2-0 (0-0) 4; A. Peak 1-0 (0-0) 2; O'Brien 4-1 (0-0) 11; Beaudin 1-0 (0-0) 2; Maday 0-1 (0-0) 3; Mallioux 1-1 (0-0) 5.  
**TOTALS - 9-3 (0-0) 27.**

## Cass City defense difference in win

Cass City started Greater Thumb West play on a positive note last week, delivering Bad Axe a crushing 40-18 defeat. With the win, Cass City improves to 4-1 on the year. Cass City raced to a 12-2 edge after 8 minutes Wednesday and then held the Hatchets to a solo field goal by Rachel Breault and a pair of free throws from Amanda Hind in period 2, which removed most doubt from the game's outcome. The Red Hawks' defensive play didn't surprise Red Hawk Coach Lloyd Schinnerer. "Another fine defensive effort and a nice job by Nicole Kelley coming off the bench with 10 points," he said. Kelley tallied 5 points in the second

quarter and then added Cass City's only trey on the night during a 15-6 run in the third. Logan Rowell netted 12 points to record game scoring honors for Cass City. Hind led all Hatchet scorers with 7 points. **CASS CITY** - Parrish 1-0 (0-0) 2; Chambers 2-0 (0-0) 4; Kelley 3-1 (1-1) 10; Hendrick 3-0 (2-2) 8; Rowell 6-0 (0-0) 12; Hacker 2-0 (0-0) 4.  
**TOTALS - 17-1 (3-3) 40.**

**BAD AXE** - Kociba 0-0 (2-2) 2; MacAlpine 1-0 (0-0) 2; McVey 0-0 (1-2) 1; Orban 1-0 (0-0) 2; Breault 2-0 (0-0) 4; Hind 2-0 (3-6) 7.  
**TOTALS - 6-0 (6-10) 18.**

## Gymnast Wynn starts final season with good showing

Haley Wynn kicked off her final season as a Cass City gymnast with a special performance for Coach Kathy Bouverette. The Red Hawk senior earned 4 regional qualifying marks in the team's maiden outing, captured last Tuesday by visiting Vassar, 128.25 to 105.25. "Haley had a great start on the year. She is my first gymnast to ever record 4 regional qualifying scores in the same meet," said Bouverette who is entering her sixth year in

charge of Cass City's tumblers. Wynn turned in scores of 8.3 on the vault, 7.7 on the uneven bars, 7.85 on the balance beam and 8.15 during her floor exercise, all tops for the hosts. Also meeting the regional qualifying standards on the day for Cass City was Katherine Woodward and Dakota Wilson. Both earned the first of 4 required scores to compete in regional play on the vault with marks of 8.1 and 7.9 respectively.

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# Fabulous Four's Fearless Forecast

## Varsity Basketball

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<b>BOYS' BASKETBALL</b> <i>Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2011</i> Caro at Cass City <i>Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2011</i> Owen-Gage at Mayville <i>Thursday, Dec. 22, 2011</i> Reese at Caro	Cass City Owen-Gage Reese	Caro Mayville Reese	Cass City Mayville Reese	
<b>GIRLS' BASKETBALL</b> <i>Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2011</i> Kingston at Peck Owen-Gage at Caseville <i>Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2011</i> Caro at John Glenn	Kingston Owen-Gage Caro	Kingston Owen-Gage John Glenn	Kingston Owen-Gage Caro	
<b>Last Week's Results</b>	8-5	10-3	7-6	7-6
<b>Season's Results</b>	24-11 (69%)	28-7 (80%)	19-16 (54%)	18-17 (51%)



CASS CITY hunter Dana Truemner holds his 11-point buck shot on the Gracey Farm during the 2011 firearms season.

# BOWLING

Merchanettes as of Dec. 8

Thumb Octagon Barn	5
Wild Things	5
Just One More	2
No Shows	2

Individual High Games & Series: Chris Little 145; Joan Koch 144-143 (426).  
Individual High HDCP Game & Series: Joan Koch 204 (606).  
Team High Games & Series: Thumb Octagon Barn 572-537 (1608).  
Team High HDCP Game & Series: Thumb Octagon Barn 797-762 (2283).  
Splits: Marlene Sieradzki 5-10; Elaine Romain 3-10.

# Schneeberger's

## ATHLETE of the WEEK

He's not big in stature, but Ron Wolschleger has the heart of a giant.  
That's why the Cass City grappler is honored as Schneeberger's Athlete of the Week award winner.  
The 125-pound Red Hawk had a banner showing over the weekend at the Cros-Lex Team tourney, where the senior team leader posted a perfect 5-0 record by defeating opponents from Richmond, Midland, St. Clair, Memphis and Cros-Lex.  
"We look for Ron to be a consistent point winner for Cass City entering into 2012," said Coach Don Markel.



Ron Wolschleger

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# Kingston overpowers Owen-Gage

Kingston used an offensive explosion in the second quarter of Thursday's North Central Thumb League contest with visiting Owen-Gage to post an easy 66-37 win.

The host Cardinals received a monster game from James Barden. He tossed in a game-high 22 markers and added 8 rebounds to help keep Owen-Gage winless in the early season.

Barden registered a dozen points before the intermission, where Kingston enjoyed a 41-19 spread. Kingston's halftime bulge was courtesy of a 24-9 run to close the half.

Evan Bootz chipped in 10 points for the winners, while Steven Hill dished out 5 assists.

Owen-Gage, 0-3 overall, was paced by senior Hunter Champagne with 17 points.

**OWEN-GAGE** - Smith 0-0 (1-2) 1; Fahner 1-0 (0-0) 2; Champagne 6-1 (2-9) 17; Miller 1-0 (3-4) 5; Mandich 1-0 (0-0) 2; Good 3-0 (1-5) 7; Rievert 1-0 (1-2) 3.  
**TOTALS** - 13-1 (8-22) 37.

**KINGSTON** - Barden 10-0 (2-5) 22; Zyrowski 3-0 (0-0) 6; Hill 0-1 (0-2) 3; Steel 2-0 (0-0) 4; Hale 3-0 (1-2) 7; James 4-0 (0-1) 8; Pennington 1-0 (2-2) 4; Hartsell 1-0 (0-2) 2; Bootz 4-0 (2-3) 10.  
**TOTALS** - 28-1 (7-17) 66.

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# Obituaries

## William Cutlip

William Don Cutlip, 71, of Deford, died unexpectedly in his home Saturday, Dec. 17, 2011.

He was born Dec. 26, 1939 in Farmington, West Virginia, the son of James and Elizabeth Mary Ann (Glover) Cutlip.

He married Lorraine Arlene VanDuker June 28, 1969 in East Detroit.

Don graduated from Farmington High School and attended 2 years of college. He served in the U.S. Army. He worked for American Extrusion in Troy, Jones Motor in Detroit, Hare Cartage in Detroit, Eaton Foundry in Vassar, and Frankenmuth Brewery in Frankenmuth. He worked as a mail carrier in Midland and he retired in 2002 from U.S. Manufacturing in Bad Axe after 18 years. Don was a kind, gentle and loving man, always willing to help. He was a longtime member of the Caro Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #3587 and held a dual membership with the Fairmont, WV Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #2373. He enjoyed his family and loved watching his grandchildren's sporting events. For years, Don and Lorraine have been distributors of Rada Cutlery participating in many area fairs and craft shows. He truly enjoyed gardening, tending his black walnut trees and fighting the squirrels for the walnut harvest.

Don is survived by his wife, Lorraine; children: Anthony Bennett of Lapeer, Elliott Lee (Kimberly) Vinson III of Caro, and Bernadette (DeLane) Redman of Grand Ledge; grandchildren: Christopher, Shana,

Amber (Gordon), Preston (Jill), Kelli, Rebecca (Dustin), Amanda (Robert), Ashley (Joe), Jared, Hayleigh, Justin, Anthony; great grandchildren: Jacob, Hayleigh, Carter, Autumn, Brianna, James, Hunter, Alayna, Bayleigh, Jaden, Hannah, Brady, Sabina, Mia, Gavin, Joey, Natalie; a sister, Pat (Eugene) Paxton of Livonia; and many nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews and their families.

He was preceded in death by a sister and brother-in-law, Sarah (Chester) Craig; his parents; his uncle and aunt and guardians, John (Laura) Cutlip.

Funeral services were held today (Wednesday), at Kranz Funeral Home, Kingston, with the Rev. Debra Brown of Kingston United Methodist Church officiating.

Interment will be in East Dayton Cemetery, Caro.

Memorials may be made to Salvation Army.

Family and friends may share memories, prayers and stories with the family at [www.kranzfuneralhome.com](http://www.kranzfuneralhome.com).

Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home, Kingston.

## Jack Esau

The memorial service for Jack Esau will be held at 11 a.m., Monday, Jan. 2, at Fraser Presbyterian Church, located at M-53 and Huron Line Rd.

A community meal and memory sharing will be held immediately after at the VFW Post 3644 in Cass City.

## Michael Kosal

Michael J. Kosal, 66, of Cass City, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2011 at his residence.



He was born Oct. 24, 1945 in Detroit, the son of the late Joseph and Alma (McCoy) Kosal.

He married Barbara A. Summerer June 17, 1967 in Port Huron.

Michael was a teacher at the Ubly Community Schools for 25 years before he retired in 1992. He enjoyed woodworking, antiques and traveling.

Michael is survived by his wife of 44 years, Barbara; a daughter, Laura J. Kosal of Fairgrove; and a son, Jeffery D. Kosal of El Paso, Texas.

Mass of Christian burial was held Saturday, Dec. 17, at Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church in Ruth, with the Rev. Peter Nwokoye, pastor, officiating.

Burial was in the church cemetery.

Friends and family may visit our website at [www.smigielskifuneralhomes.com](http://www.smigielskifuneralhomes.com) to sign the guest book for Michael's family.

Arrangements were made by Zinger-Smigielski Funeral Home, Ubly.

## Horace Pinney

Horace "Gus" Victor Pinney passed away peacefully Oct. 15, 2011 after a brief illness.

He was born Sept. 18, 1914 in Cass City, the son of Edward and Elizabeth Pinney, where he attended Cass City Schools and later earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan.

Mr. Pinney became an officer at the Pinney State Bank, founded by his family in 1886, and then left his role there to join the army during WWII, where he was awarded a Bronze Star for setting up the payroll for over 250,000 American troops fighting in the European theatre. After serving, he worked in the family dry goods store and later moved to Illinois where he ran a successful Laundromat business. Gus moved to Boynton Beach, Fla., in the mid-1960s and later to the Abbey Delray Retirement Community where he enjoyed several years with friends playing cards and spending time with special friend, Susan Thomas, who cared for him every day. He loved football and his alma mater. He helped many people and felt his life was blessed. He was always for the underdog, loved music, dancing, traveling, a good glass of scotch, stimulating conversation and his friends.

Mr. Pinney is survived by a sister, Patricia Murphy of Saginaw, as well as several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Edward and Elizabeth Pinney; and brothers and sisters, Elizabeth Day, Lewis Pinney, Grant Pinney and Frederick Pinney.

## Jordan Yax

Jordan Daniel Yax, 20, of Cass City, passed away suddenly Sunday, Dec. 11, 2011, at his home.

He was born Nov. 3, 1991 in Pigeon, the son of Edward and Shirley (Miller) Yax.

Jordan liked working with the public. He worked at Erla's, Dollar General, the Charmont, and Mulligan's Irish Links. Jordan enjoyed reading, music, time with friends and family, especially his nieces and nephews. He loved the beach, warm weather and hated cold weather. He especially loved his dog - Juno.

Jordan is survived by his father, Edward (Rhonda) Yax of Cass City; his mother, Shirley Yax of Cass City; a brother, Dalton Yax of Cass City; a sister, Kayla Yax of Gagetown; grandparents: Robert (Roberta) Miller of Kingston, and Herbert and Valrie Yax of Deford; nieces and nephews, Jaelynn and Walter Springborn and Hayden Hughes; and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his grandmother, Laural Miller.

Funeral services were held at Wednesday, Dec. 14, at Deford Community Church, Deford, with Pastor Roger Mosey officiating.

Memorials may be made to the Family Discretionary Fund.

Family and friends may share condolences at [www.thabetfuneralhome.com](http://www.thabetfuneralhome.com).

Arrangements were made by Thabet Funeral Home, Cass City.

## Cass City Rotary Club's Christmas for Kids project serves 109 families

**Continued from page one.**

Ubly area resident Kevin Gracey, who showcased a portion of his train collection at the Cass City library in an effort to share his interest in the hobby and to draw more interest in the library's donations by offering a starter train set. Library patrons who brought in a new children's book to contribute to Christmas for Kids received a free ticket for a drawing to win the train.

Library officials had set a goal of collecting more than 100 books this holiday season. That goal was met plus a great deal more, according to Rawson Memorial District Library

Director Kate VanAuken.

"I took about 250 (books) to Curtis last week. It was the most we have ever been able to give," VanAuken said. "Of course, we had \$120 in train ticket sales and a donation of \$120. So, I was able to buy a bunch of books, and then we had the book donations from the public as well.

"It was just awesome to be able to provide all those books to local families," she added.

Curtis indicated this year's campaign resulted in a great deal more generosity all the way around.

"We were able to give quite a bit," he said. "I think everybody's going to have a good Christmas."

## Foundation distributes fall grants

**Continued from page one.**

provide Tuscola County residents with transportation to obtain cancer medical treatment.

•Future Youth Involvement (FYI) Fund — \$950 for the Caro Community Pool to assist with and expand children's swimming programs, \$2,560 for the Live Wire Coffee House/USA High School to support youth activities, \$10,000 for Kingston Elementary School in the form of a challenge grant to purchase playground equipment for children (Kingston must raise \$4,445 in order to receive the grant), \$2,384 for Highland Pines School for the purchase of a tricycle for its fitness student program, \$6,000 for the Cass City Public Schools to help support the purchase of cardio equipment to help reduce student obesity, \$720 for the Tuscola ISD/Transitions Program to support a program designed to enhance good choice making/managing risk for students with disabilities, \$200 for the Watertown Township Library to expand teen reading choices, and \$400 for FYI's support of the Spoonfuls of Plenty Dinner in January 2012.

•Great Start Tuscola's Imagination Library — \$16,117 to purchase books for preschool children throughout Tuscola County July through November.

•Healthy Youth/Healthy Seniors Fund — \$3,764 for the Great Start for 211 program to help connect Tuscola County residents with needed support.

•James Plain Sport Foundation Fund — \$3,200 for 10 grants from \$75 to \$1,000 to support athletic programs.

•Janks (William A. and Ruth) Fund — \$5,000 for the Good Samaritan Fund to provide basic living needs and utilities to needy families, \$1,160 for the Tuscola ISD for youth mentoring programs, \$5,000 for the children backpack food program, \$5,000 for Mobile Medical Response (MMR) to replace an AED, \$950 for Highland Pines for a student mobility program, \$625 for LEAD Tuscola to support the organization's leadership program, \$700 for the Caro Middle School Media Center to assist in replacing 31 outdated computers, \$5,000 for the Caro Diamond Dwellers to support upgrades to the Caro High School ball field, \$4,000 for the Great Start Tuscola Imagination Library to support its preschool reading program, \$3,900 for the Tuscola County Sheriff's Department to purchase digital cameras, \$2,000 for the Tuscola Technology Center Challenge grant for an auto chassis dynamometer (the program must raise \$2,000 in order to receive the grant), and \$5,000 for Thumb Area Big Brothers/Big Sisters to support operations of youth programs.

•Dr. Bruce Dunn Memorial Scholarship Fund — 3 \$500 scholarships for Caro, Mayville and Cass City high school students.

•Rawson Foundation — 4 \$875 scholarships for Cass City High School students, and \$1,932 in children scholarships to the Child Fund International Organization.

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

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Laura L. Jacks, a single woman, original mortgagor, to Mac-Clair Mortgage Corporation, Mortgagee, dated October 20, 2000 and recorded on October 27, 2000 in Liber 814 on Page 561, and assigned by said Mortgagee to ABN AMRO Mortgage Group, Inc. as assignee as documented by an assignment, in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Thirty-Six Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety-One and 23/100 Dollars (\$36,991.23), including interest at 8.5% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on January 12, 2012.

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

Lots 3 and 4 of Block 20 of H C Marvin's Plat of Unionville, according to the Plat recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 49A of Tuscola County Records; Except the West 61 feet of Lot 4, Block 20 of H C Marvin's Plat of Unionville.

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

Dated: December 14, 2011

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

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Troy L. Owenby and Rebecca L. Owenby, His Wife, original mortgagors, to Ameriquest Mortgage Company, Mortgagee, dated April 14, 2003 and recorded on May 27, 2003 in Liber 932 on Page 1245, in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, and assigned by mesne assignments to Bank of America, N.A., successor by merger to BAC Home Loans Servicing, L.P., f/k/a Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, L.P. as assignee, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Eighty-Two Thousand Nine Hundred Fourteen and 79/100 Dollars (\$82,914.79), including interest at 6.25% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on January 12, 2012.

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

Part of Section 32, Township 10 North, Range 7 East, beginning 1845.00 feet North of West 1/4 corner of Section 32, thence North 155 feet, thence East 282.00 feet, thence South 155 feet, thence West 282.00 feet to the point of beginning, Tuscola County Records.

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

Dated: December 14, 2011

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:  
FC X (248) 593-1302  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys for Servicer  
31440 Northwestern Highway, Suite 200  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-2525  
File #164046F02

12-14-4

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

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

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Karen Becker, a married woman, original mortgagor, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., Mortgagee, dated October 13, 2006 and recorded on October 20, 2006 in Liber 1099 on Page 1347, in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, and assigned by mesne assignments to U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO BANK OF AMERICA N.A. SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO LASALLE BANK N.A. TRUSTEE FOR THE HOLDERS OF THE MERRILL LYNCH FIRST FRANKLIN MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST, MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-FF18 as assignee, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Fifty-One Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety-Five and 37/100 Dollars (\$151,795.37), including interest at 8.85% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on January 12, 2012.

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

Lot 3 and 4 North of Oak Street Block 8 of Ebenezer Morse's Addition to the City of Vassar according to the plat thereof recorded in Liber 1 of Plats page 359 Tuscola County Records.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the

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

Dated: December 14, 2011

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:  
FC X (248) 593-1302  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys for Servicer  
31440 Northwestern Highway, Suite 200  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-2525  
File #284685F05

12-14-4

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

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

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Ronald Alfred Pomeroy and April Ann Pomeroy, Formerly Known As April Ann Welch, Husband and Wife, original mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns, Mortgagee, dated May 10, 2006 and recorded on June 19, 2007 in Liber 1122 on Page 1027, and assigned by said Mortgagee to The Bank of New York Mellon, f/k/a The Bank of New York, as Trustee for the Certificate holders, CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-8 as assignee as documented by an assignment, in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Forty-Six Thousand Five Hundred Ninety-Nine and 59/100 Dollars (\$146,599.59), including interest at 9% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on January 12, 2012.

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

Described as Beginning at a point on the East-West 1/4 line of Section 17, Town 12 North, Range 8 East, 2023 Feet East of West 1/4 corner of said Section, thence North 1 degree 30 minutes West 266 Feet, Thence East 183 Feet. Thence South 1 degree 30 minutes East 266 Feet to East-West 1/4 line of said section, thence West 183 feet along East-West 1/4 line to point of beginning.

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

Dated: December 14, 2011

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:  
FC X (248) 593-1302  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys for Servicer  
31440 Northwestern Highway, Suite 200  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-2525  
File #286693F03

12-14-4

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

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

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Scott Spears, a single person, and Kristine Kalis, a single person, as joint tenants, original mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., Mortgagee, dated May 5, 2003 and recorded on May 7, 2003 in Liber 930 on Page 155, and assigned by said Mortgagee to Wells Fargo Bank, NA as assignee as documented by an assignment, in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-Six Thousand Two Hundred Twenty-One and 75/100 Dollars (\$66,221.75), including interest at 5.75% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on January 12, 2012.

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

Commencing 453 feet West of Northeast corner of Section 18, Town 14 North, Range 9 East, Columbia Township, Tuscola County, Michigan thence West 132 feet, thence South 204 feet, thence East 132 feet, thence North 204 feet to point of beginning and commencing 585 feet West of the Northeast corner of said Section 18, thence South 204 feet, thence West 90 feet, thence North 204 feet, thence 90 feet to point of beginning. All land located in Section 18, Town 14 North, Range 9 East, Columbia Township, Tuscola County, Michigan

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

Dated: December 14, 2011

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:  
FC D (248) 593-1309  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys for Servicer  
31440 Northwestern Highway, Suite 200  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-2525  
File #387846F01

12-14-4

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

MORTGAGE SALE – Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by DONALD L. SPENCER and REBECCA M. SPENCER, HUSBAND AND WIFE, to TRAVERSE MORTGAGE CORPORATION, Mortgagee, dated June 7, 2006, and recorded on June 14, 2006, in Liber 1084, on Page 1235, and assigned by said mortgagee to MICHIGAN STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, as assigned, Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is

claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Fifteen Thousand Five Hundred Ninety-Seven Dollars and Sixty Cents (\$115,597.60), including interest at 5.500% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, front entrance of the Courthouse Building in the City of Caro, Michigan, Tuscola County at 10:00 AM o'clock, on January 12, 2012.

Said premises are located in Tuscola County, Michigan and are described as:

PART OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 14 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST, COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP, TUSCOLA COUNTY, MICHIGAN, DESCRIBED AS: COMMENCING AT THE EAST QUARTER CORNER OF SAID SECTION 12; THENCE ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID SECTION 12, SOUTH 00 DEGREES 11 MINUTES 00 SECONDS WEST, 864.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID EAST LINE OF SAID SECTION 12, SOUTH 00 DEGREES 11 MINUTES 00 SECONDS WEST, 182.31 FEET; THENCE PERPENDICULAR TO SAID EAST LINE OF SAID SECTION 12, NORTH 89 DEGREES 49 MINUTES 00 SECONDS WEST, 398.65 FEET TO A TRAVERSE LINE ALONG THE EASTERLY BANK OF THE KING DRAIN; THENCE ALONG SAID TRAVERSE LINE AND EASTERLY BANK OF KING DRAIN, NORTH 04 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 40 SECONDS WEST, 182.91 FEET; THENCE PERPENDICULAR TO THE SAID EAST LINE OF SECTION 12, SOUTH 89 DEGREES 49 MINUTES 00 SECONDS EAST, 413.46 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING TO THE TRAVERSE LINE. SUBJECT TO EASEMENTS, RIGHT OF WAY, AND RESTRICTIONS OF RECORD.

THE ABOVE DESCRIBED PARCEL TO INCLUDE ALL LAND LYING BETWEEN THE CENTERLINE OF SAID KING DRAIN AND THE ABOVE DESCRIBED TRAVERSE LINE, BOUNDED BY THE NORTH AND SOUTH LINES OF SAID PARCEL.

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

MICHIGAN STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
Mortgagee/Assignee

Schneiderman & Sherman, P.C.  
23938 Research Drive, Suite 300  
Farmington Hills, MI 48335  
USBW.001283

12-14-4

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

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

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Nichole J. Palmateer, a single woman, original mortgagor, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., Mortgagee, dated September 1, 2009 and recorded on September 4, 2009 in Liber 1183 on Page 359, and assigned by said Mortgagee to U.S. Bank National Association as assignee as documented by an assignment, in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Ninety-Eight Thousand One Hundred Ninety-Six and 90/100 Dollars (\$98,196.90), including interest at 6.125% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on January 12, 2012.

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

Lot 8 of Pinney and Kinnaird Addition to the Village of Cass City, according to the plat thereof in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 85, now page 35B, Tuscola County Records, except easements and rights of way of record.

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

Dated: December 14, 2011

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:  
FC F (248) 593-1313  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys for Servicer  
31440 Northwestern Highway, Suite 200  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-2525  
File #386215F01

12-14-4

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

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

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Paula Wade, an unmarried woman, original mortgagor, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns, Mortgagee, dated November 1, 2005 and recorded on May 11, 2006 in Liber 1081 on Page 181, and assigned by said Mortgagee to The Bank of New York Mellon, f/k/a The Bank of New York as trustee for the certificate holders CWABS Inc. asset backed certificates series 2005-17 as assignee as documented by an assignment, in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Two Hundred Eleven Thousand Fifty-Six and 26/100 Dollars (\$211,056.26), including interest at 8.99% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on January 12, 2012.

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

The North 52 1/2 feet of Lot 25, all of Lot 26 and the South 55 feet of Lot 27 of Broad-Lea Subdivision, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in

plat Liber 2, Pages 28 to 29, Tuscola County Records.

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

Dated: December 14, 2011

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:  
FC X (248) 593-1302  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys for Servicer  
31440 Northwestern Highway, Suite 200  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-2525  
File #310003F03

12-14-4

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

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

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Owen Ramon Koppelberger, a married man, and Susan R. Koppelberger, His Wife, original mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registrations Systems, Inc., as nominee for Michigan Home Finance, LLC its successors and assigns., Mortgagee, dated March 24, 2008 and recorded on March 31, 2008 in Liber 1145 on Page 67, and assigned by said Mortgagee to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association as assignee as documented by an assignment, in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Twenty-Three Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Nine and 89/100 Dollars (\$123,489.89), including interest at 6.75% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on January 19, 2012.

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

East half (E 1/2) of the West half (W 1/2) of the Southeast quarter (SE 1/4) of the Southwest quarter (SW 1/4), also beginning at a point being 600.25 feet West of the South quarter (S 1/4) corner, thence North 362.86 feet, thence West to the East line of the East half (E 1/2) of the West half (W 1/2) of the Southeast quarter (SE 1/4) of the Southwest quarter (SW 1/4) thence South 362.86 feet, thence East to the point of beginning. Being part of the Southeast quarter (SE 1/4) of the Southwest quarter (SW 1/4) of Section 29, Town 11 North, Range 9 East, Fremont Township, Tuscola County, Michigan.

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

Dated: December 21, 2011

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:  
FC S (248) 593-1304  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys for Servicer  
31440 Northwestern Highway, Suite 200  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-2525  
File #376395F01

12-21-4

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

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

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Larry A. Decaire, Jr. and Maria E. Decaire, Husband and Wife, original mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., Mortgagee, dated May 22, 2007 and recorded on June 1, 2007 in Liber 1121 on Page 549, and assigned by said Mortgagee to Branch Banking and Trust Company as assignee as documented by an assignment, in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Forty-Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty-Six and 18/100 Dollars (\$49,766.18), including interest at 7% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on January 19, 2012.

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

Commencing 64 rods and 18 links South and 12 rods and 14 links East of the Northwest corner of the Southwest quarter of Section 16, Township 13 North, Range 8 East, Village Fairgrove, Tuscola County, Michigan; thence South 7 rods and 3 feet; thence East 7 rods and 18 links; thence North 12 rods and 23 links to the right of way; thence Southwest along the right of way to the point of beginning. Being a part of the Southwest quarter of Section 16, Township 13 North, Range 8 East. Subject to easements and rights of way of record.

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

Dated: December 21, 2011

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:  
FC F (248) 593-1313  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys for Servicer  
31440 Northwestern Highway, Suite 200  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-2525  
File #379579F03

12-21-4

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Duane Polzin and Cami Polzin, his wife, original mortgagors, to Argent Mortgage Company, LLC, Mortgagee, dated July 28, 2003 and recorded on January 6, 2004 in Liber 971 on Page 1336 in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, and assigned by mesne assignments to Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for the holders of Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2003-W4 as assignee, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Forty Thousand Six Hundred Ninety-One and 19/100 Dollars (\$140,691.19), including interest at 5.99% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on January 19, 2012.

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

Part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 10, Township 10 North, Range 8 East, Millington Township, Tuscola County, Michigan, described as beginning at a point on the North Section line that is North 89 degrees 46 minutes 30 seconds West 416.80 feet from the Northeast corner of said Section 10; thence South 00 degrees 00 minutes 45 seconds West 208.00 feet; thence North 89 degrees 46 minutes 30 seconds West 209.42 feet; thence North 00 degrees 00 minutes 45 seconds East 208.00 feet; thence along said North section line South 89 degrees 46 minutes 30 seconds East 209.42 feet to the point of beginning.

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

Dated: December 21, 2011

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:  
FC J (248) 593-1311  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys for Servicer  
31440 Northwestern Highway, Suite 200  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-2525  
File #047076F04

12-21-4

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

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

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Brenda K. Purves, married woman, and Jason Purves, her husband, original mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., Mortgagee, dated October 31, 2007 and recorded on November 14, 2007 in Liber 1134 on Page 1032, and assigned by said Mortgagee to Bank of America, N.A., successor by merger to BAC Home Loans Servicing, L.P., f/k/a Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, L.P. as assignee as documented by an assignment, in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Two Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Two and 33/100 Dollars (\$225,482.33), including interest at 6.375% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on January 19, 2012.

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

Part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 4, Town 10 North, Range 8 East, Millington Township, Tuscola County, Michigan, being further described as follows: Commencing at the North 1/4 corner of said Section; thence North 88 Degrees 42 Minutes 53 Seconds East, 440.00 Feet along the North line of said Section to the point of beginning; thence continuing North 88 Degrees 42 Minutes 35 Seconds East, 185.00 Feet; thence South 01 Degrees 10 Minutes 47 Seconds West, 740.00 Feet parallel with the North-South 1/4 line of said Section; thence South 88 Degrees 42 Minutes 53 Seconds West, 185.00 Feet parallel with the North line of said Section; thence North 01 Degrees 10 Minutes 47 Seconds East, 740.00 Feet parallel with said North-South 1/4 line to the North line of said Section being the point of beginning.

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

Dated: December 21, 2011



SUNSET FROM THE sunrise side — The weather may be frightfully cold these days, but the sunsets can still be spectacular in the Thumb.

## School board terms remain unchanged

Continued from page one.

requires all schools to implement “Matt’s Safe School Law” within 6 months of the law being enacted.

The new bullying policy will be administrated by school counselors Jill Rowland, Beth Howard, and

Stacey Bliss. The guidelines will include how to spot and prevent bullying of any student.

According to Rowland, the new plan will involve not only students and teachers, but all school employees from cooks to bus drivers.

“We already have the new law covered,” said Hartel, noting that the

board recently re-wrote the school’s board policy book and tackled the subject.

“We’re in pretty good shape in regards to meeting the letter of the law,” said Hartel. “Its important that our students know that we won’t put up with any bullying.”

## Cass City grad eyes House seat

Continued from page one.

comes to the business (experience) part,” Khoury said. “I feel like I have a lot of positive things to offer.

“If I get elected, I will protect small business so everyone that has a job keeps it. I will serve and protect my Thumb. I will serve on any committees that are asked of me.”

If voters send him to Lansing, Khoury said he would focus on several issues.

“I hope to...protect our lakes and our fresh water supply,” he explained. “I feel that agriculture plays a major role in Huron and Tuscola counties. We need to assure farmers that we are there to support

them, and that we’re always a phone call away. I feel education is very important for our children’s future, because they are the future of this country. We need to assure parents that we can meet their child’s needs and goal. I would also like to focus on transportation, sanitary sewers, storm sewers, water mains and electric grids. Our villages and our towns need the tools to repair these primary needs.

“I feel that I am the man for this job, and I feel that I could do a better job than what’s being done,” Khoury said. “After announcing my candidacy, I have received an overwhelming amount of support from family and friends.”

Joe's

Heating & Air Conditioning  
(Joe Howard, Inc.)

**Happy Holidays!**

I believe it is important to express our sincere appreciation for the confidence and loyalty that you have placed with me. In this spirit, I would like to say "Thank You" for your continued patronage and I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and the Happiest of New Years.

Joe Howard

Call **Joe** for details at  
**989-635-3251 or 989-550-7328**  
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**THESE UNITS ABSOLUTELY MUST GO!**

**2008 Jeep Patriot Limited**  
Loaded, 4x4  
  
was \$16,995  
closeout price **\$13,995**

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4x4, loaded, leather  
  
was \$27,995  
closeout price **\$23,995**

**2011 Buick Lacrosse CXL**  
All Wheel Drive  
  
original MSRP over \$40,000  
closeout price **\$27,995**

**2011 Chevy Impala LT**  
Loaded, leather  
  
was \$18,995  
closeout price **\$15,995**

**2011 Chevy Malibu LT**  
1-owner trade  
Only 7,000 miles -awesome  
  
was \$19,995  
closeout price **\$16,888**

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4x4, Reg. Cab, 5.3 L, V-8 Auto  
Cleaner than new!  
  
was \$15,995  
closeout price **\$13,995**

From our family to yours  
Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year!!

**2011 Buick Regal CXL -RL4**  
SAVE THOUSANDS OVER NEW!  
  
was \$27,995  
closeout price **\$23,900**

**2003 Chevy Impala LS**  
4 Door- Very nice!  
  
was \$8,995  
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Al Rae

Ryan Wasik

Doug Sugden

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Jeff Sweat

Shawn King

**BUY BULK & SAVE AT ERLA'S**  
Starting December 21-27, 2011

All of Erla's fresh meat is from the United States and is USDA inspected and approved

**\$100 purchase of fresh meats = \$10 GIFT CERTIFICATE**  
(limited time only) towards your next Erla's purchase

**USDA Boneless Beef Whole N.Y. Strip Loins**  
Sliced free  
**\$2.59/lb.**

**USDA Center Cut Pork Chops**  
Family pack  
**\$1.59/lb.**

**USDA Pork Loin End Roast**  
**\$1.29/lb.**

**USDA Boneless Beef English Roast**  
**\$2.79/lb.**

**USDA Boneless Beef Denver Steak**  
**\$2.99/lb.**

**USDA Boneless Beef Eye of Round Steak**  
Family pack  
**\$2.69/lb.**

**USDA Boneless Beef Rump Roast**  
**\$2.69/lb.**

**USDA Boneless Beef Sirloin Tip Steak**  
Family pack  
**\$2.99/lb.**

**USDA Boneless Beef Sirloin Tip Roast**  
**\$2.89/lb.**

**USDA Fresh Pork Country Style Rib**  
Family pack  
**\$1.69/lb.**

**USDA Boneless Pork Tenderloin**  
**\$3.59/lb.**

**USDA Beef Ground Round**  
**\$2.69/lb.**

**USDA Deli Dept. Chicken Special**  
10 pc. Dark (5 drums, 5 thighs)  
**\$4.99**

**USDA Ripple Creek Ham Portions & Shanks**  
Butts \$1.39/lb. Shanks \$1.29/lb.

**Erla's Summer Sausage OR Erla's Hickory Stick**  
**\$2.59/lb.**

**We will be closed at 5 p.m. Christmas Eve & closed Christmas Day**

**50¢ Double Coupons Every Day**

**Phone: 989-872-2191 989-872-ERLA**

**Erla Foods**  
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Cass City