



CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

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Hundreds attend community meeting Monday night

Gun threat closes Cass City Schools

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

The timing couldn't have been worse.

Cass City School officials sent parents an automated phone message Sunday, reporting that a junior-senior high student had allegedly threatened gun violence at the school, that

police were called in to investigate, and that the student had been suspended.

The threats were made last Wednesday, but school officials did-

n't learn about them until a parent contacted Cass City School Supt. Jeff Hartel over the weekend.

The phone message set off a torrent of posts on the social network web-

site facebook and the Cass City School District's website, with several upset parents demanding answers and vowing not to send their children to school Monday. A second phone message was then sent to parents later Sunday evening, stating school officials had decided to cancel classes through the start of the Christmas break, which officially begins Thursday.

The district also scheduled an impromptu public forum just prior to the Cass City Board of Education's regular meeting Monday night, and the session drew more than 400 community residents who expressed concern, anxiety and fear for their children's safety.

The local school board had already planned to discuss the issue of school violence and security measures currently in place during its monthly meeting Monday, following the horrific massacre of 20 young children and 6 adults at the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., by a lone 20-year-old gunman Friday morning.

But to have a local student threaten to bring a gun to school, regardless of whether he was just talking, is inexcusable and bad timing, acknowledged Hartel, who said he was approached Saturday by a parent who reported his daughter had heard that another student was making threats last week.

Please turn to page 10.

"Right to work" now state law

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder last week signed controversial "right to work" legislation amid protests from thousands of workers and pro-union activists.

Michigan is now the 24th "right to work" state in the nation, although whether that status will help or hinder Michigan's economic picture has been a matter of heated debate on both sides of the issue.

"The Mackinac Center (for Public Policy) has said right-to-work was right for Michigan for more than 20 years," center President Joseph G. Lehman commented after Snyder signed Senate Bill 116 and House Bill 4003, which will take effect 90 days after the Legislature adjourns. "This victory that workers celebrate today shows the power an idea can have when it is pursued with principle and persistence.

The Mackinac Center for Public Policy describe itself as "a non-partisan research and educational institute dedicated to improving the quality of life for all Michigan citizens by promoting sound solutions to state and local policy questions."

Extending right-to-work protections to employees in both the pri-

Please turn to page 10.



"WHILE THEY WERE there, the time came for the baby to be born, and Mary gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped Him in cloths and placed Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them and said, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you.'" The Christmas story is depicted in this nativity scene, which is on display in front of Hills and Dales General Hospital in Cass City.

Sanilac, Huron projects secure

State rec board recommends grant funding

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) Board of Trustees Thursday announced its final funding recommendations to the Michigan Legislature for a host of recreation development and land acquisition projects in 2013.

The announcement included the awarding of roughly \$300,000 for additional improvements at Sanilac County's Evergreen Park, and another

\$281,000 for the city of Harbor Beach in Huron County for a waterfront development.

In all, the MNRTF Board recommended that 76 recreational development projects and land acquisitions totaling \$23.5 million be funded next year. The board this year considered a total of 142 applications seeking a combined \$37.88 million in funding. In a competitive process, all eligible

applications were evaluated based on scoring criteria development by the MNRTF Board.

"Michigan's natural resources and recreation opportunities are a big part of what is driving our state's reinvention," said Gov. Rick Snyder. "I applaud the trust fund board for recommending the kind of investment that builds on the appeal of our great outdoor spaces for long-term

economic and quality-of-life rewards in communities throughout Michigan."

Sanilac County Parks officials will be using their grant to move more than 3 dozen existing campsites located in a flood plain adjacent to the Cass River to newly-acquired high ground next to the south border of the current park facility. In addition,

Please turn to page 10.

Teen struck by a car in Tuscola Co.

Tuscola County Sheriff's deputies say a 14-year-old boy was critically injured in an accident last week in Tuscola County's Watertown Township.

Undersheriff Glen Skrent reported the accident occurred at about 5:51 p.m. Tuesday after the teen was struck by a vehicle while riding a skateboard on Fostoria Road near Barnes Road.

"The driver of the vehicle, Scott Valentine, 24 years old, from Fostoria, told investigators he was southbound on Fostoria when he struck the pedestrian, who was wearing dark clothes and riding the skateboard in the traffic portion of Fostoria Road," Skrent said, adding the teen was transported to an area hospital for treatment.

The accident remains under investigation.



DANIELLE LAMING'S art students at Cass City Junior-Senior High School are again sharing their talents in the Chronicle's annual Christmas issue. Readers will find the students' work throughout this week's holiday section, pages 11-16 and 20.

Inside This Week

- A new twist on some old carols this Christmas *Slices of Life, page 3*
- Meeting to address signing of oil and gas leases in area *Page 4*
- "Dear Santa, I'm on the nice list this year, right?" *Santa letters, pages 11-16, 20*



Meg's Peg



by Melva E. Guinther

There's a song in the air

One of the features of Christmas I appreciate most is the music. It's everywhere.

We were out of town and missed the community carol sing this year, but we were back in time for the Tom Thumb Singers' concert, which was excellent. Steve Fobear and company always present a varied program featuring some of the best talent in the Thumb area.

The only time I really got tired of hearing Christmas music was years ago when a speaker for the town's PA system was situated just outside my office window. Whoever was tending the system apparently got busy somewhere else. As a result, for a solid day Nat King Cole roasted chestnuts on an open fire with Jack Frost nipping at his nose – over and over again.

I like Nat King Cole, but enough is enough!

One complaint I have, other than over-repetition, is the jazzing up of traditional carols. "Silent Night, yeah, yeah, yeah" just isn't right. I heard a modernized version of "O Holy Night" recently and it definitely lacked the impact of the original.

A discussion on Facebook last week involved "the worst Christmas song." One person nominated "The Little Drummer Boy" with its pa rum pum pum.

I don't know that I agree. The song has no basis in Scripture, but I think it's kind of cute. I'd rank it higher than "Santa Baby" or Grandma getting run over by reindeer. The list of potential "worst" songs is vast. Every year somebody tries to come up with the next "White Christmas"

or "Rudolph." Few succeed.

According to a report on Google, the Drummer Boy song was written by Katherine K. Davis, and the story is similar to an old 12th century legend retold by Anatole France as "Le jongleur de Notre-Dame" (The Juggler of Notre Dame). It was adapted into an opera in 1902.

In the legend, it's a juggler instead of a drummer who performs before the statue of the Virgin Mary, and she either smiles at him or throws him a rose, depending on which version you read.

"Mele Kalikimaka," which I think is "Merry Christmas" in Hawaiian, was also mentioned as the worst song. I don't recall ever hearing it, but the title is fun to say.

Another vote went to "O Christmas Tree."

I think my favorite among the relatively new numbers is "Mary, Did You Know?" Thinking about the words, you wonder how much Mary actually did understand about what was taking place. She knew, of course, that it was a virgin birth. That alone made it awesome, but how much was she able to comprehend regarding the eternal significance of the baby's birth and all that awaited Him?

She knew what the angel had told her, and had expressed her willingness to be the instrument by which the God/Man would come into the world. Still, being human, she must have had some of the concerns any other mother would have regarding her child.

One line of the song asks if Mary knew that "when you kiss your little baby, you've kissed the face of God." That's incredible! That God would condescend to become a helpless infant is beyond my finite comprehension.

Anyway, with or without roasting chestnuts or nipped noses, in the true spirit of the holiday, we wish our readers a very blessed Christmas.

Senior movies on tap at the library Friday

Rawson Memorial District Library in Cass City will show the following Senior Citizen Movies Friday, Dec. 21, at 1:30 p.m.

150 Year History of Mayville including Fostoria, Juniata and Silverwood: This documentary tells the story of Mayville and the surrounding area from the early settlers to modern day including the annual Sunflower Festival and other events. Produced by Al and Dave Eicher, this DVD promises the same quality combination of photos and narrative of their other histories and is sure to be one you'll want to see. (62 minutes).

A World of Natural Wonder...New Brunswick Canada: Welcome to the incredible world of natural wonder in New Brunswick Canada! This DVD contains just some of the highlights of New Brunswick's expansive natural beauty, marine wonder and legendary east coast hospitality! Don't miss the awesome Bay of Fundy, whale watching, great sand dunes, unique Acadian culture, succulent seafood, cosmopolitan cities and all kinds of season to season excitement! (30 minutes)

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

SUDOKU

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

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It's a girl!



Jolie Dillbeck

Andy and Brooke (Bensinger) Dillbeck of Midland announce the birth of their daughter, Jolie Joy Dillbeck.

Jolie was born at Mid-Michigan Hospital. She weighed 5 pounds, 15 ounces and was 17 inches long.

She joins her sisters, Olivia and Kaylee, at home.

Grandparents are Mike and Sherry Dillbeck of Sanford, and Betty and the late Kirk Bensinger of Ubly.

Lutheran church planning services for Christmas

The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Cass City, will host worship services to celebrate the Christmas season beginning with an adult choir Christmas Cantata, entitled "Love Comes Down", Sunday, Dec. 23, at 9:30 a.m.

The children's Christmas program is also planned for Dec. 23, at 6:30 p.m.

A New Year's Eve service is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 31. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Thanks for calling 872-2010 with feature story ideas

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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 newspaperman 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

Holiday music -- new words bring new meaning to old tunes



I love holiday music. When I hear the melody of "Silent Night" or "Jingle Bells," I can't help but join in. Fortunately, I know the words to just about every Christmas song ever written. Unfortunately, not many people love hearing me sing them. I'm not gifted in that regard.

The music of the season has a special magic to it. We hear it for a short time each year and it sticks with us. It's amazing how many songs we know - by heart - from hearing them over and over through the decades. The words etch themselves permanently within us.

Chestnuts roasting on an open fire. Jack frost nipping at your nose. All is calm; all is bright. Oh what fun it is to ride in a one horse open sleigh. A partridge in a pear tree.

I've wondered, what does it mean, exactly, to troll the ancient yuletide carol? When we don gay apparel, does that mean the clothing itself is happy, or wearing it makes us happy? For that matter, how does one make the yuletide gay? What sort of reindeer games did Rudolf not get to play? Who was mommy really kissing under the mistletoe last night?

I don't purport to possess all the answers to these caroling questions, but I do have a new twist to the season. Don't worry; I'm not planning to sing. I merely took creative liberties with the wording to a few perennial favorites. Just for fun.

Sung to the tune (either on key or off) of "Joy to the World," "Deck the Halls" and "White Christmas." Try 'em out at your family get-together this year. Enjoy.

"Joy to the World"
Joy to the world Black Friday has passed
The shopping season grows
Let every tree be filled with stash
And packages topped with bows
And packages topped with bows
And packages, more packages topped with bows.

Joy to the world the credit card reigns
Let's all our plastic employ
While charging to the max, credit limit strains
But you're spreading so much joy
But you're spreading so much joy
But you're spreading, spreading so darn much joy.

Don't worry now, about the bills
Or minimum payment amount
Christmas is all about the thrills
And charging to your account
And charging to your account
And charging, yes charging to your account.

Electronics rule the world, in gigabyte glory
Found at your local mall
But games and apps can't tell the story

Letters to the Editor

Glad to be calling Cass City home

To the Editor:
The song says, "There's no place like home for the holidays," and that is so true. As my family and I celebrate our first Christmas in Cass City, we are glad this is our new home. We have been enjoying the lights on the street and the nativity scene at the hospital - and the parade was great! Our extended families may be far away, but when Christmas Eve comes, we will come together with our church family to celebrate the birth of Jesus, our Savior. I can hardly wait to light the candles and sing the old carols. It's a gathering of God's. Please turn to page 9.

Think gun ownership is really the answer?

R.E. Protecting ourselves.
Let me get this straight. Gun ownership a "God-given right"? I'm no priest, but I can't find in the Holy Bible where God says to arm ourselves with guns. I do know one of His commandments is "Thou shalt not kill." And Jesus of Nazareth (many gun toters' Lord and Savior) has gone on record as saying, "Love one another as I have loved you" and "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you - what credit is it to you if you love only those who love you?"
Where is it written that these 2 endorse gun ownership as protection?
Look at the facts - we are some of the most policed people on the planet. Local, county and state police, federal marshals, Homeland Security, FBI, CIA, TSA and NSA. Isn't that enough security for us?
A reading of Wednesday's court news in the Chronicle reveals scant evidence of an invasion by armed bandits, mostly pot smokers and alcohol users - seemingly oblivious to the dangers all around them.
Enough, already, of this constant fear mongering by paranoid gun owners. Enough, already, (especially in this CHRISTmas season where we celebrate Please turn to page 9.

Of the greatest gift of all
Of the greatest gift of all
Of the greatest, most worthy gift of all!

"Deck the Halls"
Hit the mall and bring your plastic (Fa la la la la, la la la la)
Finding gifts is so fantastic (Fa la la la...)
Stopping by at Bath and Body (Fa la la la...)
Victoria's Secret for your hottie (Fa la la la...).

See amazing deals before us (Fa la la la...)
Macy's, Nordstrom, Neiman Marcus (Fa la la la...)
Spending adds to festive cheer (Fa la la la...)
Swipe your card and pay next year (Fa la la la...).

Follow me through Abercrombie (Fa la la la...)
Santa looks like he's a zombie (Fa la la la...)
From our wallets cash it passes (Fa la la la...)
Celebrating with the masses (Fa la la la...).

Mailing out your family letter (Fa la la la...)
While complaining 'bout the weather (Fa la la la...)
Sing we joyous all together (Fa la la la...)
In an ugly Christmas sweater (Fa la la la...!)


"White Christmas"
I'm dreaming of an unplugged Christmas
Like all the Christmases of old
Where we'd sit and babble
Play a game of Scrabble
And no iPads were bought or sold.

I'm dreaming of an unplugged Christmas
Just like our Christmas used to be
Grandpa read from the good book
There was no Kindle or Nook
And the only thing glowing was the tree.

I'm dreaming of an unplugged Christmas
Like back when Google was hardly a word
Frosty was a new guy
There was no WiFi
No one texted, and tweets came from a bird.

I'm dreaming of an unplugged Christmas
Just like the ones we used to know
May your holidays be filled with love and cheer
And may you have a wonder-filled New Year!

Follow Slices of Life on Facebook and hit Like (please). Jill Pertler is an award-winning syndicated columnist, playwright and author of "The Do-It-Yourselfer's Guide to Self-Syndication" Email her at 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)

Lion's Club President Dennis Meck reports that Kristina Russell is the winner of the local civic club's 50-50 drawing held earlier this month in conjunction with the Christmas in the Village celebration. She pocketed \$477, according to Meck.

Tom Lounsbury, president of the United Sportsmen's Alliance, says the decade-old organization will hold its annual December anniversary meeting tonight - Wednesday, Dec. 19, - at the Sebewaing Sportsmen's Club beginning at 7 p.m. Lounsbury further tells that Dan Kuhl will be cooking up his legendary deep-fried venison and Bob Walker will be giving a colorful presentation about his recent Alaska brown bear hunting adventure. Grab a friend and join the fun.

Calling all high school beauties. The application deadline for the Caro 150 Winter Fest Princess Pageant is this Friday, Dec. 21. The finalist will receive a \$500 scholarship to a college or trade school of their choice, while a \$100 scholarship will also be awarded to the first runner-up.

The Caro 150 Winter Fest Princess Pageant is open to female seniors currently enrolled in 12th grade at a Tuscola Intermediate School District high school and who are planning to attend college or a trade school in the fall of 2013.


Officials claim the ideal candidates will be comfortable in promoting the Caro 150 Winter Fest during the week-end event and throughout the year at other Tuscola County festivals. Being knowledgeable of winter sports and area events is also helpful for the candidates.

Completed applications must be mailed and postmarked no later than Dec. 21, 2012. Finalists will be selected and notified by Jan. 7, 2013, and an interview process will follow.

Contact Debra Lipan at (989) 673-7424 for more information.

Cass City bowling team coaches Todd and Dora Potrykus report this year's squad has 4 home dates. They are: Thursday, Jan. 3; Thursday, Jan. 10; Tuesday, Jan. 15; and Tuesday, Feb. 5.

Mark your calendar and join the fun at Charmont. Matches start at 4 p.m.



State Sen. Mike Green
1010 Farnum Building
P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, MI 48909-7536
mgreen@senate.michigan.gov
(517) 373-1777

State Rep. Kurt Damrow
1188 House Office Building
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514
kurtdamrow@house.mi.gov
(517) 373-0476

CASS CITY CHRONICLE

6550 Main Street
P.O. Box 115
Cass City, MI 48726
Phone: (989) 872-2010
Fax: (989) 872-3810
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News Staff

Clarke Haire
Publisher
clarke@ccchronicle.net
Tom Montgomery
Editor
tom@ccchronicle.net
Harmony Doerr
Office Manager
chronicle@ccchronicle.net
Krysta Boyce
Sr. Sales Executive
sales@ccchronicle.net
Tina Pallas
Digital Media Director
tina@ccchronicle.net
Deb Severance
Composition
Melva Guinther
Columnist
Jill Pertler
Columnist



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Wednesday, December 19

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 20

AA meeting, 7-8 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Cass City. For more information, call (989) 553-5932.

Parkinson's Support Group meeting, 1:30 p.m., Holiday Inn Express, Bad Axe. For more information, call Kim at 1-800-843-6394 or Annette at (989) 864-3779.

Friday, December 21

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 22

Closed AA meeting, 10-11 a.m., St. Joseph Church, 4960 N. Uby Rd., Argyle. (Meeting will be held in the hall next to the little stone church). For more information, contact Mandy at (989) 975-0544.

Monday, December 24

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.

Women's AA meeting, 7 p.m., Faith Free Methodist Church, 2380 Deckerville Rd. For more information, call the Rev. Wayne at (810) 672-9242 or Bob at (810) 672-9084.

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 25

Al-Anon meeting, 7 p.m., St. Francis Parish, Pigeon.

Wednesday, December 26

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

Meeting to address signing oil and gas leases in Thumb

Area residents who have questions about signing an oil and gas lease may be interested in attending an upcoming informational meeting on the topic.

MSU Extension, Chemical Bank, Greenstone Farm Credit Services, the Tuscola County Planning Commission and the Tuscola County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) are sponsoring the meeting, slated for Jan. 10 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Tuscola Technology Center, 1401 Cleaver Rd., Caro.

In addition to lease information, the session will cover the role of the Oil, Gas and Minerals Section of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in regulating the oil and gas industry, including technology and practices used to construct oil and gas wells.

The meeting is open to the public and registration is free, but pre-registration is recommended by Jan. 8 by calling the Tuscola County EDC at (989) 673-2849.

Recently a number of companies have begun contacting landowners in many areas of the state in an effort to lease land for oil and natural gas

exploration. Lease bonuses ranging from \$25 to \$200 per acre are being offered.

As a property owner, when you read the lease agreement offered, do you understand what you have read? What do you need to know to determine if you want to sign a lease?

Experts say a number of things should be considered, including:

- What does it mean my royalty will be paid based on net income?

- What are the post-production costs the lease mentions? How do they reduce my royalty?

- Is there an alternative to a 1/8 royalty? What royalties do other areas of the United States receive?

- What state agency regulates the oil and gas industry to insure the wells are properly constructed?

- Is compulsory pooling a bad thing for the landowner?

- What is horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing? Are they safe?

- Does "brine and other chemical disposal" mean there could be an injection well on my property?

- What does it mean that I have to defend the title to my land?

- If it's an oil and gas lease, why

does it say it includes helium, nitrogen and other gases?

- How do I insure the land is reclaimed in the manner I wish?

- Can I charge a fee for pipelines placed on the property? Can I charge for uses of the land surface other than for the well site?

When you sign an oil and gas lease, you have essentially "sold" a part of your property. Obtaining a good lease is a negotiation. Negotiating the lease can result in much more income to the landowner over the lifetime of the lease and insure the land is managed for oil and gas production in an acceptable manner.

An oil/gas/mineral lease is an important legal document that can last for many years. A landowner has one opportunity to obtain a good lease and that is before it is signed. Negotiation of these terms may be a landowner's first exposure to an oil and gas lease.

The upcoming meeting will feature speakers from MSU Extension, Michigan DEQ and an attorney who specializes in oil and gas leasing, along with a question-and-answer period.

Circuit court news

Several appear on felony charges

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

- Scott P. Newman, 20, Akron, was sentenced to 365 days in the county jail for his pleas of guilty to 2 counts of second degree criminal sexual conduct involving a victim at least 13 years of age but under 16 years Feb. 23-25 in Fairgrove Township.

He was also placed on 60 months probation and ordered to pay court costs and fines totaling \$1,866.

- Damirs Maksutovs, 27, North Branch, was sentenced to 30 days in jail and 60 months probation for his plea of no contest to operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor, third offense, May 19 in Watertown Township.

He was also ordered to complete 480 hours of community service and pay costs and fines totaling \$1,198 plus restitution of \$220.

- Sheila R. Brown, 45, Mayville, was ordered to complete 243 hours of community service for her pleas of guilty to 3 counts of stealing/retaining a financial transaction device without consent of the device holder Aug. 20 in Indianfields Township and the village of Mayville.

She was also ordered to pay costs

and fines totaling \$1,234 plus restitution of \$754.

- Cody S. Sheridan, 30, Akron, stood mute to 2 counts of assault with intent to commit great bodily harm less than murder, and 3 counts of domestic violence last October-November in Akron Township.

A pre-trial hearing was ordered scheduled in the case and the defendant was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department.

- William C. Pomeroy Jr., 45, Caro, was sentenced to 22 years to 33 years in prison for his jury convictions on charges of engaging in child sexually abusive activity, captur-

ing/distributing images of an uncloned person without their knowledge, possession of child sexually abusive material, and surveillance of an uncloned person in June 2011 in Elmwood Township.

In addition to prison time, he was ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$402.

- Anthony C. Gretz, 18, Vassar, was sentenced to 93 days in jail and 24 months probation for his pleas of no contest to killing/torturing animals and domestic violence Feb. 8 in Arbela Township.

He was also ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$2,278.

Dutch Country Bakery

We will be closing after New Years and reopening the 1st weekend in April.



Our bakery will be open every Friday and Saturday. Hours: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Fresh produce available Monday through Saturday.

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Reporter's notebook

'Twas the edition before Christmas

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

*'Twas the week before Christmas
and all through this place
Every staff member was scurrying
at an incredible pace.*

*The holiday issue!
And all of us knew.
Our readers were waiting.
There's plenty to do!*

*There were meetings and
stories and photos and more.
Letters to Santa
and artwork galore!*

*The stories are ready,
The ads have been placed.
We push back the lunch hour.
There's no time to waste!*

*Our staffers got busy,
We proofed every line.
We laid out the pages,
So many this time!*

*Our customers and sources
and parents came through.
Without them, oh my!
Just what would we do?*

*The noon hour is coming,
We've hit the newsstand
With this week's edition.
Now isn't that grand?*

*We put it together,
We gave it our best.
We hope that you like it,
'Cause we need a rest!*

Down Memory Lane

by Tina Pallas



5 YEARS AGO (2007)

Presented with the December Red Hawk Award of Excellence awards last week were seventh grade student Shannon Bardwell, sophomore Emily Martin and fourth grade student Carley Stone.

The Cass City boys' basketball team gained a little respect Friday in Pigeon where the Red Hawks earned their third straight win. Unlike Wednesday's non-conference victory over a not-so-good John Glenn team, however, the Red Hawks' Greater Thumb West opener featured a Laker squad that came into the contest with a lofty 4-1 mark. Austin Babich and Chris Summersett split 32 points to lead Cass City. D'Andre Cook had 13 tallies to pace the Lakers.

Chuck and Danielle Helm of Cass City were reunited earlier this month when Chuck, a U.S. Army sergeant, returned home safely from his second tour of duty in Iraq. The couple has 3 young children.

10 YEARS AGO (2002)

Cass City's Josh Wark will be participating in this year's holiday season production of "The Nutcracker" with the prestigious Joffrey Ballet of Chicago. Wark, who left Cass City last June to attend a summer program at the renowned Joel Hall Dance Center, was awarded a dance scholarship to attend the Chicago Academy for the Arts in the windy city. Born in Saginaw and raised in Cass City, Wark attended Cass City High School. The son of Kim Wark and the late Andrew Wark, his dance education has included 3 years at the Sally Doerr Dance Studio in Cass City.

Champions Owen-Gage dominated the North Central Thumb League all conference teams with a pair of selections on both the first and second teams. Highlighting the first team selections for the Bulldogs were sisters Kelly and Kayla Zaleski, while Katie Swiastyn and Stephanie Dorsch were voted to the second team by league coaches.

Hot bean soup served up by Steve Wright and Matt Prieskorn helped

keep everyone warm during another successful Christmas in the Village community gathering in Cass City Saturday night.

25 YEARS AGO (1987)

Cass City High School senior Jane Dickinson was recently named the 1987-88 "Good Citizen" by the Daughters of the American Revolution, Piety Hill Chapter of Birmingham. She received a certificate, a "Good Citizen" pin and a copy of "The Landmark," the DAR's official book. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Harlan Dickinson, Jane participates in debate and drama, and is active in Student Council and the National Honor Society.

Two records were set in Cass City's ridiculously easy win over the Caro Tigers Friday on the Tigers' home floor. One may last awhile and the other will probably be soon eclipsed. On the way to a 78-60 decision, Cass City converted 9 of 14 3-point shots, by far the most of the season. That record may not last. One that may be the 12 assists racked up by Jeff Sontag, breaking a record that was set in 1977 by Jeff Hartel and equaled by Virgil Peters last year. Each of these former Hawks had games with 10 assists.

Doug Englehart, Cass City, is \$10,000 richer these days because he and a co-worker, Dave Newbold, came up with a suggestion at Saginaw Steering Gear, where they work in plant 7, that resulted in savings of nearly \$2 million for the company.

50 YEARS AGO (1962)

Whether or not Cass City will continue to have Greyhound bus service will depend on the effectiveness of a number of petitions being circulated in the village and other towns served by the bus line. According to a new bus schedule recently released and effective Jan. 3, the entire Thumb area service by Greyhound will be discontinued.

Grade school authorities in Cass City were not sure just how many persons would turn out to the open house Monday night that featured a

singing program by the various grades. The huge crowd was so much larger than expected that the formal program went flying and a make-shift program instigated. Instead of holding the singing in the elementary gym, the youngsters were herded into the hall where a piano was hastily rolled and the singing conducted. The gym was crowded with visitors eating cookies and drinking punch.

Five Cass City persons were awarded diplomas certifying them to act as instructors in the county's Civil Defense Self-help Medical Assistance Program following a final test Tuesday night in Caro. Awarded their certificates, along with 27 other county persons, were: Sharon Allen, Dorothy Tracy, Lucille Wotton, Al Avery and Lyle Richardson.

100 YEARS AGO (1912)

"It is hard to conceive the amount of money that is paid out each season at Cass City for live stock and farm products," said I.B. Auten to the Chronicle yesterday. "We have used over 12,000 pennies in the Cass City Bank in paying odd cents on checks this fall, and one shipment of small change we received from the city weighed 94 pounds.

School Notes - Monday morning everybody came to school with "a smile that wouldn't come off." Why? Because the Carnival was a howling success. The proceeds amounted to \$85 and expenses about \$10 leaving a net gain of \$75.

Mrs. James Johnson, living on the Lauderbach farm, one mile north of the city, was seriously burned Saturday morning while polishing a stove with a stove blacking mixed with naphtha. The blacking required that the stove be cold before an application was made, and Mrs. Johnson thinking the stove was cold enough, made an application and before she was really aware of it, the naphtha had burst into flames. Miss Lizzie Johnson, a daughter working in the Kalamazoo asylum, was called home, arriving Thursday and will stay some time.

The Cass City Chamber of Commerce & the Downtown Development Authority
Proudly Present
Cass City's Spotlight Business of the Week
Cherished Treasures

It is a joy to watch people's dreams become their reality, and that is what has happened for Joyce Bostwick, with the opening of her store, Cherished Treasures, on Main Street in downtown Cass City. Located in what was most recently the Busy Bee Daycare, Cherished Treasures already offers a large variety of handmade crafts for sale from over 15 local crafters, with new items added daily. Craft supplies, fabric, and gift items are also available, and suggestions and requests are always welcomed. Help support our community by purchasing locally, as well as finding a one of a kind item for that special someone on your Christmas list.

Children's craft classes are being held in December; call Brenda at (989) 872-8542 for more information. Starting in January, adult and children's classes will both be scheduled - stop by or call (989) 912-2323 for further details. Gift certificates are also available, and make wonderful Christmas gifts.

If you are a crafter and interested in renting space at Cherished Treasures, please call (989) 872-2323 and ask for Joyce. Christmas hours will be Monday through Saturday, 10 AM - 5 PM. Please note that the store will be closed for the holidays Sunday, December 23rd - Wednesday, January 2nd. Happy Holidays from the Cherished Treasures family!

Be sure to check next week's paper for the next
Cass City Spotlight Business of the Week.

And Remember to Shop Local and Support Those Who Support Cass City!

Cass City Area Church Directory

Anchor Cove Outreach Church
201 E. Sanilac Rd.
Caro, MI 48723
989-872-2262
Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.
www.anchorcoveoutreachchurch.com



Cass City United Methodist Church
5100 N. Cemetery Rd.,
P.O. Box 125, Cass City, MI 48726
872-3422
Worship: 11:00 a.m.
(Summer 9:30 a.m.)
Sunday School - Sept.-May 9:30 a.m.
Community Dinner - Monthly (2nd Wed. at noon)
Pastor: Rev. Jackie Roe



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
6820 E. Main St., Cass City, MI 48726
872-2770
Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
Bible Class & Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
Pastor: Rev. Steve Bagnall
www.goodshepherdlutherancasscity.webs.com



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



Evangelical Free Church of Cass City
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



Novesta Church of Christ
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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

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



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



**First Baptist Church
(Independent, Fundamental)
Barrier Free**
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



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



First Presbyterian Church
Barrier Free
State & National Historical Registry
6505 Church St., Cass City, MI 48726
872-5400
Worship Service 10:45 a.m.
Pastor: Dave Blackburn



St. Pancratius Catholic Church
4292 S. Seeger St., Cass City, MI 48726
872-3336
Summer
Saturday Liturgy 5:30 p.m. DST
Sunday Liturgy 9:00 a.m.
Winter
Saturday Liturgy 4:00 p.m. EDT
Sunday Liturgy 9:00 a.m.
Pastoral Administrator:
Sr. Maria Dina Puddu MC



Cass City Missionary Church
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



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



Mizpah Missionary Church
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.
Pastor Dale Bullock 989-325-0736



Living Word Worship Center Church of God
6536 Houghton Street, Cass City, MI 48726
989-872-4637
Sunday School: 10 a.m. Worship Service: 11:00 a.m.
Family Training Hour: Wednesday 7 p.m.
(including youth and children's services)
Pastor: Rev. Mark Karowski
Website: www.lwccog.net



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CASS CITY'S Erica Kolacz draws the attention of a pair of Vassar defenders Friday to give teammate Jocelynn Venema a good look from the perimeter.

Lady Hawks fall in GTW contests

It wasn't the start of Greater Thumb West play Coach Clarke Haire was hoping for with Cass City. The Lady Red Hawks fell to 0-4 Friday, 0-2 in the GTW, with a 52-20 setback against Vassar in the team's conference home opener. On Tuesday, Cass City suffered a similar defeat at Reese where the mighty Rockets registered a 68-20 decision. "We're having trouble scoring points right now, but we've shown some progress in other areas. Our turnovers are down and our steals are up. When we start hitting some shots I think the girls' confidence will skyrocket," said Haire. Cass City had 2 non-conference opportunities scheduled to break into the win column before Christmas, starting tonight (Wednesday) at Imlay City. On Friday, neighbor Uby visits for a double header affair with Cass City's girls and boys varsity teams. The Lady Red Hawks take the stage first and tip-off is scheduled for 6 p.m. Cass City stayed even with the Vulcans for most of the opening half. Shania Chambers hit a pair of early field goals for the hosts and after 8-minutes of action the score was knotted at 6-6. Red Hawk Gracy Hollis answered a basket by Vassar's LaTonya Wilson to start the scoring in the second quarter for each team. Tied at 8-8, however, the visitors closed the half on a 7-3 run and enjoyed a 17-11 edge at the break. "We tried to stress at halftime the importance of starting the final half strong," said Haire. "We had some good looks at the basket in the first half and couldn't convert." That wasn't the case for Wilson in the third quarter, as she canned 13 of her game-high 24 points, spearheading a 19-0 run that staked Vassar to a 36-11 margin entering the final frame. Cass City heated up down the stretch, but so did Shelby DeVuyst as she tallied 3 hoops to help keep Vassar in command until the final whistle. Chambers posted a team-high 7

points for Cass City, while Hollis added 6 points and 6 rebounds. DeVuyst and Lydia Peplinski split 16 markers for Vassar.

REESE

Reyna Frost hit for 22 points and Drew Findlay chipped in 11, as host Reese raced to a 40-10 cushion at the break and a lopsided win in the GTW meeting. Despite the running clock defeat, Coach Haire was impressed with the play he received from Chambers. "Shania looked like the 3-year varsity player she is. She is a competitor and wants to play her best against the best. She did exactly that at Reese." Chambers connected on 2 shots, including one from behind the 3-point arc, in the initial quarter that closed with the Rockets leading 23-7. The Rockets then held Cass City to a Hollis trey for the remainder of the half and built a 40-10 spread at the intermission. The Rockets then limited Cass City to a pair of Chambers field goals in the third period where they extended the margin to 58-14. Chambers finished the night with a dozen points to pace Cass City.



KINGSTON'S Newt DeLong tries to establish position against Owen-Gage's Eric Rievert. DeLong scored 5 points in vain, as the Bulldogs rallied for a 67-53 win.

Bulldogs rally past Kingston

Guest Kingston had their way early Thursday in Owendale, but couldn't contain high scoring Brett Stockton during the middle 2 quarters, resulting in a 67-53 victory for the Owen-Gage Bulldogs in a battle between former North Central Thumb League foes. A balanced scoring attack that featured field goals from 5 different Cardinals had the visitors enjoying a double digit advantage in the early going before Stockton heated up. Trailing 14-5, Stockton netted a pair of treys before the break to help narrow the gap to 30-25 at the halfway point. Stockton scored 13 of his game-high 32 points in the frame. The high scoring senior was just getting started. He poured in another 13 points in the third quarter, but it was the Bulldog defense, which held Kingston to just 6 tallies in the period, which was the main cog in establishing a 44-36 spread for the eventual winners with 8 minutes remaining. Owen-Gage's Ben Good scored all 12 of his points in the final period and the Bulldogs ended the game making 10 straight free throws to preserve the victory. Brett Morrish joined Stockton and Good in double digits with 11 points for Owen-Gage. He matched Stockton's production from behind the 3-point arc with 3 treys on the night. Justin Ruggles registered 19 points and grabbed 6 rebounds to highlight Kingston's offensive attack. Cardinals Steven Hill and Alex Lemos complete the list of double digit performers and finished with 11 and 10 points, respectively.



OWEN-GAGE'S Ben Good alters the shot of Kingston's Eric Hartsell. Stockton's production from behind the 3-point arc with 3 treys on the night.

Justin Ruggles registered 19 points and grabbed 6 rebounds to highlight Kingston's offensive attack. Cardinals Steven Hill and Alex Lemos complete the list of double digit performers and finished with 11 and 10 points, respectively.

KINGSTON - Steele 1-0 (0-0) 2; Lemos 2-2 (0-0) 10; Hill 2-2 (1-3) 11; DeLong 1-0 (3-3) 5; Zyrowski 0-0 (1-2) 1; Hartsell 2-0 (2-3) 6; Ruggles 4-2 (4-5) 18. **TOTALS** - 12-6 (11-18) 53.

OWEN-GAGE - Smith 1-0 (0-2) 2; Morrish 1-3 (0-0) 11; Jeffery 0-0 (2-2) 2; Fahrner 2-0 (2-3) 6; Stockton 7-3 (9-10) 32; Mandich 1-0 (0-0) 2; Good 4-0 (4-4) 12. **TOTALS** - 16-6 (17-21) 67.

Harbor Beach delivers Cass City's first defeat

Although Harbor Beach was able to deliver Cass City their first defeat on the season last week, Red Hawk Coach Aaron Fernald couldn't fault the effort supplied by his team. The talented and physical Pirates - still celebrating a state championship in football - showed its basketball skills are plentiful, too, during Tuesday's 59-50 non-conference victory. "We battled for the entire game. We didn't lie down in the final half like we have in some recent years. That was a good sign to see," said Fernald.

Host Cass City also had its fair share of talent on hand. In the early stages, Collin Hartwick was on target and helped the Red Hawks to an 18-13 lead with 3 long-range bombs. Both teams tightened their defenses before the break. Cass City was limited to a pair of Cody Orban buckets in period 2, while Pirates Josh Schelke and Andre Siemen each tallied 5 markers in the quarter to produce a 23-23 tie entering the locker rooms. After the break, Siemen and Orban Please turn to page 7.



CASS CITY'S Cole Israelson scores between a pair of Harbor Beach defenders. The senior center's 8 points were enough for the hosts in the 59-50 decision.

Basketball Standings

Boys' Basketball Standings				Girls' Basketball Standings			
Greater Thumb West				Greater Thumb West			
Team	W	L	W	Team	W	L	W
Reese	3	0	0	USA	5	0	2
USA	2	0	0	Vassar	4	2	2
Cass City	2	1	0	EPBP	3	2	1
BCAS	2	2	0	Bad Axe	5	1	1
EPBP	1	1	0	Cass City	3	3	0
Vassar	1	2	0	BCAS	0	4	0
Bad Axe	0	2	0	BCAS	0	5	0
Greater Thumb East				Greater Thumb East			
Team	W	L	W	Team	W	L	W
Harbor Beach	3	0	0	Marlette	5	1	1
Brown City	2	2	0	Brown City	2	1	1
Marlette	2	2	0	Sandusky	4	2	1
Sandusky	1	3	0	Harbor Beach	3	2	1
Memphis	0	2	0	Uby	1	5	0
Uby	0	3	0	Memphis	0	5	0
NCTL Stripes				NCTL Stripes			
Team	W	L	W	Team	W	L	W
North Huron	2	1	2	Peck	5	1	3
Peck	2	2	1	Port Hope	0	5	0
Caseville	1	2	1	North Huron	0	6	0
Port Hope	0	3	0	Caseville	0	6	0
NCTL Stars				NCTL Stars			
Team	W	L	W	Team	W	L	W
CPS	3	0	3	Deckerville	5	0	4
Kingston	2	1	1	Mayville	4	0	3
Mayville	1	2	1	Kingston	4	0	2
Deckerville	0	2	0	CPS	4	1	3

Fabulous Four's Fearless Forecast

Varsity Basketball



Tom Montgomery



Tina Pallas



Geoff Morgan



Doug Hyatt

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2012

BCAS at John Glenn	John Glenn	John Glenn	John Glenn	BCAS
North Huron at Ubyly	Ubyly	North Huron	North Huron	Ubyly
Port Hope at Owen-Gage	Port Hope	Port Hope	Owen-Gage	Owen-Gage
Memphis at Kingston	Memphis	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston

Friday, Dec. 21, 2012

BCAS at Mayville	Mayville	Mayville	Mayville	BCAS
Nouvel Catholic Cen. at Reese	Nouvel Cath. Cen.	Reese	Reese	Reese
Sandusky at Bad Axe	Sandusky	Sandusky	Sandusky	Sandusky
Marlette at EPBP	Marlette	Marlette	Marlette	EPBP
Caro at USA	USA	Caro	USA	USA
Kingston at CPS	CPS	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston

BOYS' BASKETBALL

Monday, Dec. 17, 2012

Kingston at Caseville	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston
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Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2012

North Branch at Caro	North Branch	North Branch	North Branch	North Branch
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Thursday, Dec. 20, 2012

Akron-Fairgrove at BCAS	BCAS	BCAS	Akron-Fairgrove	BCAS
Harbor Beach at Vassar	Harbor Beach	Harbor Beach	Harbor Beach	Harbor Beach
Reese at Nouvel Catholic Cen.	Nouvel Cath. Cen.	Reese	Reese	Nouvel Cath. Cen.
Sandusky at Bad Axe	Sandusky	Bad Axe	Sandusky	Sandusky
Owen-Gage at Mayville	Mayville	Owen-Gage	Owen-Gage	Owen-Gage
North Huron at Kingston	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston

Friday, Dec. 21, 2012

Caro at USA	USA	USA	USA	USA
Marlette at EPBP	Marlette	Marlette	Marlette	Marlette

Saturday, Dec. 22, 2012

Nouvel Catholic Cen. @ BCAS	Nouvel Cath. Cen.	BCAS	Nouvel Cath. Cen.	Nouvel Cath. Cen.
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Last Week's Results

15-13	23-5	20-8	18-10
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Season's Results

34-22 (61%)	44-12 (79%)	39-17 (70%)	37-19 (66%)
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Pirates earn crossover win

Continued from page 6.

continued with their antics. Siemen recorded a trio of field goals, only to see Orban do the same. Two of Orban's hoops, however, produced 6 points and entering the final stanza Cass City trailed just 39-35. Orban led Cass City with 22 points, despite being hounded on the night

by Pirate defender Aaron Ginther. In addition to making Orban work for every point, Ginther contributed 18 points of his own in the Harbor Beach win.

True to their pedigree, Harbor Beach was clutch in the closing moments and used an 11-of-12 showing at the foul line to escape with victory. For the contest, the

Pirates converted 21-of-24 free throw attempts, including 8-of-8 by Ginther with the game on the line.

Besides Orban, Hartwick finished in double figures for Cass City with 11.

CASS CITY – Orban 4-4 (2-2) 22; Hartwick 1-3 (0-0) 11; Perry 0-0 (1-2) 1; Ross 0-0 (1-2) 1; Dickinson 1-0 (0-0) 2; Kuntz 0-1 (0-0) 3; Churchill 1-0 (0-0) 2; Israelson 4-0 (0-3) 8.
TOTALS – 11-8 (4-9) 50.

HARBOR BEACH – Oswald 1-0 (1-2) 3; Schelke 2-1 (0-0) 7; Ginther 2-0 (14-14) 18; J. Kraft 0-3 (0-0) 9; Siemen 8-0 (6-8) 22.
TOTALS – 13-4 (21-24) 59.

SOS airs hours

Secretary of State Ruth Johnson reminds residents that all branch offices and the Office of the Great Seal will be closed in observance of the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

The closures are:
* Monday, Dec. 24, and Tuesday, Dec. 25, for Christmas. SUPER!Centers will be closed on Saturday, Dec. 22.
* Monday, Dec. 31, and Tuesday, Jan. 1, for New Year's. SUPER!Centers will be closed on Saturday, Dec. 29.

The Department of State mails notices to motorists 45 days before their driver's license or license plates expire to give them ample time to renew. Licenses and plates that expire on a day when state offices are closed, such as a holiday or weekend, can be renewed the following day without penalty.

Most people renewing license plates, driver's licenses and ID cards can do business online at www.ExpressSOS.com or my mail. Easy to follow instructions can be found with the renewal notice. Additional services can be done online as well.

License plate tabs can also be renewed at Self-Service Stations, many of which are available around the clock. Visit the Branch Office Locator at www.michigan.gov/SOS to find a Self-Service Station near you.

With the exception of holidays, offices are open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Smaller offices may close for the lunch hour. On Wednesdays most offices are open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., with those in city centers open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. PLUS offices and SUPER!Centers are open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesdays. SUPER!Centers also provide Saturday hours from 9 a.m. to noon.

For more information about office locations and additional services, visit www.michigan.gov/SOS. Sign up for official Secretary of State Twitter feed at www.twitter.com/michSOS and Facebook updates at www.facebook.com/michiganSOS.

Customers also may call the Department of State Information Center to speak to a customer-service representative at 888-SOS-MICH (767-6424).

Schneeberger's ATHLETE of the WEEK

Schneeberger's congratulates Cass City senior Austin Baker as their choice for athlete of the week.

The Red Hawk senior grappler improved his season mark to 13-1 over the weekend with an undefeated performance Saturday at the Cros-Lex invitational tournament. Baker breezed through the tournament field, helping the Red

Hawks to team victories over Memphis and Richmond in pool play.

While Baker came out on top in the championship bracket, Cass City did not and fell to hosts Cros-Lex and Midland to end their day.

Earlier in the week, Baker recorded a pair of impressive pins during a double duel match in Caro, which also included Yale.



Austin Baker

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Cass City Jr./Sr. High School 2012-13 Winter Sports Schedules

Support your favorite teams all season long with this guide to Cass City High School's big games!

BOYS' BASKETBALL

All games at 6 p.m.
12/4 Cass City 50, Sandusky 37
12/7 Cass City 52, Capac 37
12/11 Harbor Beach 59, Cass City 50
12/20 Uibly (JV) CANCELLED
12/21 Uibly (Varsity) CANCELLED
12/28 Caro
1/3 Marlette
1/8 Bad Axe
1/10 BCAS
1/16 USA
1/18 Brown City
1/25 EPB Lakers
1/30 Reese
2/1 Vassar
2/6 Bad Axe
2/8 BCAS (Snowcoming)
2/15 Brown City
2/20 USA
2/22 Lakers
2/26 Reese
2/28 Vassar Districts

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

All games at 6 p.m.
11/27 H. Beach 48, Cass City 20
12/5 Sandusky 60, Cass City 19
12/12 Reese 68, Cass City 20
12/14 Vassar 52, Cass City 20
12/19 Imlay City CANCELLED
12/20 Uibly (JV) CANCELLED
12/21 Uibly (Varsity) CANCELLED
12/28 Caro (Varsity)
1/4 Marlette
1/9 Bad Axe
1/11 BCAS
1/15 USA
1/17 Brown City
1/24 Lakers
1/29 Reese
1/31 Vassar
2/5 Bad Axe
2/7 BCAS
2/14 Brown City
2/19 USA
2/21 Lakers
2/28-3/2,4 Districts

WRESTLING

12/5 Imlay City/Capac 5:30 p.m.
12/8 Marlette Team Tourney 8:00 a.m.
12/12 Caro/Cros-Lex/Yale 6:00 p.m.
12/15 Cros-Lex Team Tourney 8:00 a.m.
12/28 Mayville Tourney TBD
1/3 Memphis/Lakers 6:00 p.m.
1/5 North Branch Team Trny 9:00 a.m.
1/9 Bad Axe/Marlette 6:00 p.m.
1/12 Imlay City Invite 9:00 a.m.
1/16 Sandusky 6:00 p.m.
1/19 Mayville Team Tourney TBA
1/23 Brown City/Vassar 6:00 p.m.
1/26 Bullock Creek Team Trny 9:00 a.m.
2/2 GTC Leag. Meet @Sandusky TBD
2/6 Team Districts TBD
2/9 Individual Districts TBD
2/13 Team Regionals TBD
2/16 Individual Regionals TBD
2/22-23 Team St. Finals @Battle Creek TBD
2/28-3/2 Ind. St. Finals @Auburn Hills TBD

GYMNASTICS

12/13 Vassar 6:30 p.m.
1/17 Vassar 6:30 p.m.
1/21 Farmington Invite 8:30 a.m.
1/26 Vassar/Freeland 6:30 p.m.
1/22 Freeland 6:00 p.m.
1/26 St. John's Invite 10:00 a.m.
2/16 Freeland Invite TBD



FOLLOW THE HAWKS AT HOME!

Wrestling
Jan. 9 ~ Bad Axe/Marlette ~ 6 p.m.
SR. HIGH
Girls' Basketball
Jan. 15 ~ USA ~ 6 p.m.
Gymnastics
Jan. 22 ~ Freeland ~ 6 p.m.
Boys' Basketball
Jan. 30 ~ Reese ~ 6 p.m.

Junior High Boys' Basketball
JR. HIGH
Jan. 14 ~ Memphis ~ 5:30 p.m.



JUNIOR HIGH SPORTS

BOYS' BASKETBALL

All games at 5:30 p.m.
1/14 Memphis
1/16 Vassar
1/21 Marlette
1/23 USA
1/28 Harbor Beach
1/30 Reese
2/4 Memphis
2/6 Vassar
2/11 Marlette
2/13 USA
2/20 Harbor Beach
2/25 Reese

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

All games at 5:30 p.m. unless noted
11/5 Memphis
11/7 Vassar
11/12 Marlette
11/14 USA
11/19 Harbor Beach
11/26 Reese
11/28 Memphis
12/3 Vassar
12/5 Marlette
12/10 USA
12/11 Harbor Beach
12/17 Reese CANCELLED

WRESTLING

All games at 5:30 p.m. unless noted
11/12 Sandusky/Bad Axe
11/19 EPB Lakers/Brown City
11/26 Bad Axe/Mayville
11/28 Mayville
12/1 Caro Tour. 9:00 a.m.
12/3 Marlette 6:00 p.m.
12/5 Vassar/Memphis
12/10 GTC Leag. Meet @Br. City

Home games in bold.
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Letters to the Editor (cont.)

Glad to be calling Cass City home

Continued from page 3.

family. Maybe you haven't been to church in a while. For whatever reason, you got separated and now you're not sure how to come back. Well, now is the perfect time to come home. There is a place for you as the

Christian family hears the best story there is: that Jesus is God the Son, born to set us free from sin and guilt.

Please use this season of hope and forgiveness to return to your church home. Call your congregation's office and find out the service times - I'm sure they will be glad to wel-

come you back. And if you have no church home, you are welcome to join us at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church as we greet the birth of our Savior. With the love of Jesus,

Rev. Steve Bagnall, pastor
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Think gun ownership is really the answer?

Continued from page 3.

the arrival of the Prince of Peace) of connecting God and guns. Jesus must surely weep as the world continues to snuff out 12,000-plus lives a year. Most ironically a nation that proclaims, "In God we trust."

Next time you're at the movies, shopping at the mall, etc., ask yourself - will I be the next victim of a "law abiding" gun owner gone berserk? Gun ownership is one issue - gun violence is the real problem. If guns are the answer, why send Jesus here? Can you really be a fol-

lower and "pack heat" too?

Merry Christmas to one and all - Jesus is here - be joy-full!

Sincerely,
Jack Adams
Deford

I would take Obama over the cliff with us

Republican Speaker of the House John Boehner keeps saying if we give President Obama what he wants concerning the fiscal cliff, we will end up in the same mess Greece is currently in. If Boehner is correct and feels confident in what he is talking about, this is what he could do; give President Obama the proposal that he claims will launch America on the road to recovery.

If the president declines this proposal, Boehner could then go on national television and inform the American people what was offered to the president. He could explain why we can't afford to give him one more penny, knowing if we did, it would take us on a road to self-destruction. Tell the American people, "If you don't agree with me, you can vote me out. You can then vote in a candidate to take you down the road to hell."

I pray Boehner is more concerned about doing what's right for America rather than doing what's wrong for American to keep his job. I hope he can stand up to the president so he can proceed with the plan to solve the fiscal cliff problem.

President Obama, what group of people pays the largest share of the money to keep the federal government running? Is it the people that voted for you or the people that didn't vote for you? I highly doubt he could collect enough money from all his constituents to meet the payroll of the White House. The people the president claims to want to help the most will be the ones to get hurt the worst. President Obama is just lucky I'm not in John Boehner's shoes because if I was, I would knock him off that pedestal he's on. I would let him know that if we were going over

the fiscal cliff, he would be going right along with us.

The president must have pressed the mute button on the rest of the Republicans, because I haven't heard anything from them. I'm wondering if they're wimps or just in the after-shock that Romney didn't win. I wouldn't want them next to me in a

combat because they give up too easily. Democrats and Republicans claim they can solve the world's problems when campaigning, but once elected, they forget what the heck they got chosen for.

Robert Peruski
Ubyly

Store boycott hurts everyone

Dear Editor, I am writing in response to the letters and rumors that have been floating around town regarding changes made at Erla's. While I am not an employee of the company, nor have I ever been, I am able to understand the points made by the disgruntled former employees of the business in last week's issue of the Chronicle. Whenever a person loses their job, and for whatever reason, hard feelings are bound to follow. It is, however, the hostile attitude of many in the community that I take issue with.

Both of last week's letters mentioned repercussions for Mr. Ganga's letting go of so many people and I cannot argue with the fact that there have certainly been repercussions. But I must respectfully disagree with the writers of those letters. The "boycotting" of this business is not going to hurt the owner of Erla's nearly as much as it is going to hurt this community. The Gangas have businesses throughout the United States and the loss of one small town grocery store is not going to have the devastating effect on them it seems the writers of those letters and the gossips of this town wish it would.

Perhaps the repercussions of boycotting this local institution should be thought through.

Let us imagine for a moment what could happen if this protest "succeeds". Because of these rumors and hearsay (poison in a small community like ours), which result in a loss of business, the Gangas decide to close their store. In the economic climate we currently live in, it is unlikely that another buyer will come along, so we have yet another building sitting empty unnecessarily, not to mention dozens more people out of work, thanks to your boycott.

Now, local residents will have no other option but to go to Caro or other surrounding communities for their groceries. While there, it would only make sense for them to fill their cars with gas, get hardware supplies, pick up parts for the car, have prescriptions filled, and have their hair cut. This will very negatively impact the small businesses in Cass City, and will eventually force some to close, thanks to your boycott.

With fewer businesses in town, there will be even fewer job opportunities. This, in turn, would force even more families to move outside of the village. Empty houses lower the property values of their neighbors, thanks to your boycott. Surely this is not what is best for our town.

I know and respect Venu Ganga. I know and respect people who were let go after several years working at the business. And I know that neither party in this debacle deserves to be demonized by anyone. As one who cares deeply for this community, I urge ex-employees and formerly loyal customers of Erla's to reconsider your protest. Yes, you may have hurt feelings, but your on-going grudge is going to cost you and others much, much more than it will ever cost this business owner.

Actions do have consequences. For the sake of the community you love, please reconsider.

Respectfully,
Tyler Perry
Cass City

Help is the key

I strongly believe Cass City should have a mental/medical health facility located in town that responds to the Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac counties immediately. When a patient calls in, help should be available. Instead of having to wait for a month to schedule appointments.

Bud Schneeberger
Cass City

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Nanette Walsh
Village Clerk

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Cass City High School Bowling Team Donations

Can it be? High School bowling season is here again. I am Todd Potrykus, the boys' coach and my wife Dora is the girls' coach. As we are a club sport, our team needs sponsorship to survive.

To all who have sponsored us the previous two years, we deeply appreciate the help. We are asking for your help again. The Cass City Sports Boosters have helped us the past two years. The team is hoping for the same support this year. Cass City Bowling is proud to say that this has been our biggest turn out for bowling yet, (13 boys and 6 girls), who would be greatly disappointed if we were not able to support the program as needed.

My wife and I volunteer our time so the children can compete. Charmont Lanes has generously allowed us to use their facilities to assist the bowling team. Funding is needed for new uniforms, league fees, the regional tournament, and whatever supplies we may need throughout the season. It costs approximately \$2500 per season to accommodate our league expenses.

We request your help in supporting this sport with a little give and take. For businesses and/or individuals who donate \$100, Charmont Lanes will raise a banner advertising your business for one full year. Please make checks out to Cass City High School Bowling. All checks shall be turned in to Charmont Lanes. Don Doerr needs to know who to make the banners out for. He will make sure your funds make it to our account at the high school.

To all parents of our bowling team, you are needed. There is no bussing for the student athletes this year, so we desperately need volunteers for each away meet. Students are not allowed to drive themselves. Besides, they do like knowing their family supports them. Please let the coaches know if you can drive to away meets.

Cass City Bowling would like to thank everyone in advance for your assistance. If we make this a concentrated community effort, everybody wins. Please do not let these children down. They deserve our best effort at all times.

Thank you for your time,
Cass City Bowling Team
Coaches Dora and Todd Potrykus



Gun threat cancels classes in Cass City

Continued from page one.

"We had a student making some remarks to a couple of other kids that he was going to bring a gun and shoot up the school," Hartel said, adding he immediately contacted the Cass City Police Department. Local officers launched an investigation entailing interviews with students, and consulted with Tuscola County Prosecutor Mark E. Reene.

Officials said the student who allegedly made the threat has denied doing so, but interviews with other students appeared to "match up" regarding what they heard the juvenile suspect say.

Reene, in a news release issued Monday afternoon, indicated school officials acted promptly and appropriately in an effort to ensure the safety of students and staff members.

"School administration immediately contacted the Cass City Police Department, which commenced an investigation involving multiple officers which is continuing at the present time," Reene said. "Measures were immediately undertaken to assess the legitimacy of the threat(s) and contact was made with the student/suspect, who is a juvenile, at his residence"

Cass City Police Chief Craig Haynes confirmed officers searched the student's home, and while there are firearms there, they were all securely locked in a storage area, he said.

"A meeting was held at the Cass City Schools (Monday morning) that included the Cass City Police Department, Cass City School administration and employees, and the Tuscola County Prosecuting Attorney to assess additional steps to be taken," Reene added. Among the items considered, he indicated, was providing for a police presence in the school buildings had classes resumed Monday morning.

"The security of every student, teacher, administrator, employee, volunteer and visitor is what is of primary concern and focus," Reene repeated during Monday's 70-minute public gathering in the Cass City Junior-Senior High School gym. The prosecutor, who noted the student who allegedly made the threats has withdrawn from the Cass City School District, added, it's vital that anyone with information come forward and share what they know about this incident or any similar incident with local law enforcement.

"Information is continuing to be gathered to provide a complete picture of what is alleged to have transpired," he continued. "Every step is being taken to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the Cass City community and Cass City School System."

Hartel offered those gathered Monday similar assurances.

"We have several safety measures in place in our buildings, recommended by the state police and Homeland Security. We can have our entire district locked down in seconds," he said. Hartel added that school officials are planning to install a video surveillance system and a door buzzer at the front entrance of the elementary school during the holiday break.

Several parents aired their concerns and frustrations over the threat of violence, as well as praise for school officials for making the decision to close school for the remaining days before the Christmas holiday.

One parent pointed out that a door buzzer system would not prevent the sort of horrific violence that took place in Connecticut last week. It also would not prevent a student from smuggling a weapon into school inside a backpack, for example, another parent said.

Some suggested that school officials must be consistent in making sure someone is aware of each visitor who enters the building, while others recommended installation of metal detectors and/or an armed guard presence in the buildings.

A few parents indicated school officials need to take a tougher stand on bullying incidents in school.

Parent Joey Kreeger asked what parents can do at home to help take responsibility for preventing violence in school. "You can't put all of the responsibility on the school or the school system," she said.

The response from another resident was to encourage kids to accept and welcome new students, and to make an effort to be aware of their children's activities and friends. "We've got to be more involved in our kids lives," she said. "Talk to your kids; who are they hanging out with, what's going on in their lives?"

BOARD MEETING

During the regular monthly meeting, the board:

*Heard from Title I Director Nick Moyer, who reviewed planned spending of federal dollars appropriated to the school this year. Plans for the remaining \$160,000 available will be used to cover various expenses, including the pay for 3 para-pros and a junior-senior high school

social worker for the remainder of this school year, said Moyer, who also outlined purchases technology equipment and staff training, and after-school and weekend homework support for students.

Moyer noted the expanded use of technology such as iPads, mini notepads and laptop computers will require an upgrade in the district's

wireless system in the near future at an estimated cost of \$20,000 to \$30,000.

*Tabled plans to hire a consultant to assist school officials in drafting and implementing a strategic plan to guide the direction of education in each building. The board will consider next month whether or not to spend the roughly \$5,000 needed to

complete the project.

*Learned new federal regulations are requiring the district to spend about \$6,500 to downsize from a broadband to narrowband radio frequency system for school buses and offices. The purpose is to reduce the number of channels used by schools and make those frequencies available for other entities.

"Right to work" law in Michigan

Continued from page one.

vate and public sectors means that unions will no longer be able to get a person fired for refusing to financially support them.

"Right-to-work does not affect collective bargaining in any way except to take away unions' ability to fire workers for not paying them," said F. Vincent Vernuccio, who serves as labor policy director for the Mackinac Center. "It makes unions accountable to their members. Unions will no longer be able to bolster their political power by taking money from people who don't support their agenda."

Michigan Education Association President Steve Cook called the legislation a rushed effort that will hurt the state's middle class wage earners.

"As time is ticking on the lame duck Legislature, extremist politicians are in a hurry to continue their assault on working families while exacting political revenge against union members who didn't support their bids for reelection," Cook said, adding the right-to-work law "is just another political attack on Michigan's middle class, and it does nothing to help dig our state out of an economic hole."

"We elected leaders who we thought would work together to create jobs, steer our economy back to fiscal strength and restore the American Dream for the middle class," Cook said. "Instead, Gov. Snyder and his allies in the Legislature are fulfilling their extremist agenda by going after working families — setting the wrong priorities and making the wrong choices."

Vernuccio disagreed, noting Snyder's signature on the new law

comes less than a year after Indiana became a right-to-work state.

"Since that time, the Hoosier State has added 43,300 jobs, while Michigan has lost 7,300," he said. "Indiana's manufacturing sector added 13,900 new jobs, while Michigan's lost 4,200."

"Nationally, the numbers are even more telling," Vernuccio added. "Between 1980 and 2011, total employment in right-to-work states grew 71 percent, while employment in forced unionism states grew just 32 percent. Employment in Michigan grew just 14 percent during that same time. Inflation-adjusted compensation over the last decade grew 12 percent in right-to-work states, but just 3 percent in forced unionism states."

"This is a signal to job creators and entrepreneurs that Michigan is open for business," Vernuccio continued. "This will mean more and better jobs for our state. Jobs that will allow Michigan's children and grandchildren to stay here and prosper."

Cook offered a different view as well as some statistics of his own.

"Let's be clear," Cook said. "This legislation is not about improving the economy or creating jobs — this is political payback that puts big corporations and special-interest CEOs before Michigan's working families. In states with so-called right-to-work laws, workers make an average of \$1,500 less per year, 21 percent more people lack health insurance, and workplace deaths are 51 percent higher than in states without the law. On average, workers in right-to-work states have a lower standard of living, bring home less pay and go without health insurance more frequently. That hurts small businesses as consumer spending is reduced,

causing a ripple effect that will further hurt Michigan's economy.

"Worst of all is the utter lies about what this does," he continued. "No one is forced to join a union — that's already illegal. This allows workers to get out of paying their fair share of what it costs to negotiate the contract they benefit from. Whether proponents call this right-to-work or freedom to work, it's really just freedom to freeloader."

Vernuccio pointed out that the law doesn't ban collective bargaining or unions' ability to exist and organize new workers.

"Unions can — and do — still exist in right-to-work states," he said. "But people also have a right to say 'no thank-you' when a union demands money for providing an unwanted service."

State Rep. Kurt Damrow (R-Elkton), who represents residents in the Thumb, concurred.

"I supported this bill for several reasons, and the reason I first took a strong look at was, from union members who live in the district that are not happy with how their dues are being spent or how they are being represented," said Damrow, who represents the 84th District, comprised of Tuscola and Huron counties. "Another reason was due to the number of manufacturers I have spoken with over the past 4 years that have been looking at Michigan and mainly the Thumb region for future opportunities. This is one thing that U.S. and overseas CEOs that have toured our region have said on their checklist as they toured states."

"The main reason I supported this bill was freedom of choice," Damrow said. "No worker should be fired from their job because they do not want to be in a union."

Rec grants approved

Continued from page one.

tion, officials hope to develop a pond for swimming and wading, nature trails and wildlife/bird watching areas.

The 68-acre Evergreen Park offers 147 grass and shaded campsites. It is located 9 miles north of M-46 along M-53 (4 miles east and 4 miles south of Cass City). The park is handicap accessible and has modern bathroom/shower facilities along with modern pull-through sites, some with 50-amp service.

In Huron County, Harbor Beach City officials are planning to tackle a waterfront development project with their state recreation grant dollars. The improvements will include creation of a bike and pedestrian path, new restroom facilities and playground equipment along the waterfront in Harbor Beach.

The trust fund board can recommend funding for both development projects and acquisitions to local and state agencies.

This year, it awarded \$14,466,500 for acquisition grants and \$9,072,200 for development grants. Seventeen grants were awarded to local units of government for a total of \$11,956,500 for acquisitions, while 5 acquisition grants went to

the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for projects totaling \$2.5 million. For recreation development projects, the board recommended a total of \$7,822,200 be awarded to 49 local units of government, while 5 DNR projects garnered a totaling \$1.25 million.

"The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund provides tremendous support to communities that want to offer residents and visitors quality recreation opportunities, while ensuring broad public access to hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation in Michigan's special, scenic places," said DNR Director Keith Creagh.

The MNRTF is a restricted fund that was established in 1976 to provide funding for public acquisition of lands for resource protection and outdoor recreation. It is funded through interest earned on funds derived from the development of state-owned minerals. In 1985, Michigan voters chose to make the MNRTF part of Michigan's Constitution, ensuring the program's future.

The trust fund board's recommendations will now go to the Michigan Legislature for review as part of the appropriations process. The Legislature then forwards a bill to the governor for his approval.

Obituaries

Renee DeGrandchamp

Renee Sue DeGrandchamp, 51, died in Tucson, Ariz., Saturday, Dec. 8, 2012. Renee passed away in her own bed sleeping, after a long 15 year battle with breast cancer.



She was born April 9, 1961 in Cass City, the daughter of Marcia (Sherrard) and Lyle Schember.

She married Paul DeGrandchamp July 23, 1983.

Renee graduated from Cass City High School and then Central Michigan University. Over the years, she worked as a substitute teacher at Hendricks Elementary in Tucson, and later as a tutor at the Arizona Schools for the Deaf & Blind, also in Tucson. Renee, along with Paul, lived in Mt. Pleasant, moved to Ajo, Ariz., and then to Tucson. She enjoyed reading, singing and hats.

Renee is survived by her husband, Paul J. DeGrandchamp; children: Jordan, Caitlin and Joseph; parents, Marcia Schember and Lyle Schember; siblings: Lynn Burden, Brian Schember and Brenda Stover; mom-in-law, Gloria DeGrandchamp; many nephews, nieces and cousins; friends, Judy Trent and Val Seiwerth; and, of course, Shorty, her indomitable dachshund.

She was preceded in death by a nephew, Jason Smith, son of Lynn Burden.

A celebration was held Saturday, Dec. 15, at Foothills Community Church, Tucson, Ariz., with Pastor Jon Farmer officiating.

Renee's wish was to be cremated and taken to Cass City.

There will be a memorial service in Cass City in the spring.

Memorials may be made to Arizona

Oncology Foundation, 2625 N. Craycroft Rd., Suite 101, Tucson, Ariz. 85712.

Funeral arrangements were made by Desert Sunset Funeral Home, Tucson, Ariz.

Elizabeth DeLuyck

Elizabeth Joanne DeLuyck, 18, of Cass City, died unexpectedly, Sunday, Dec. 16, 2012 in Deford.

She was born May 20, 1994 in Saginaw, the daughter of Lucky and Darla (Boyes) DeLuyck.

Elizabeth graduated from Cass City High School in 2012. When Elizabeth was young, it was her dream to walk dogs for a living. Her most recent dream was to pursue a career as a pastry chef. Elizabeth loved spending time with her family and friends. She also enjoyed dancing, gymnastics, music and traveling.

Elizabeth is survived by her parents, Lucky and Darla DeLuyck of Cass City; sisters: Amy (Tim) Marker of Unionville, Andrea Butler of Cass City, and Chelsa (Ryan) McCauslin of Prudenville; a niece, Allison Marker; nephews: Connor Middaugh, Jacob Marker, and Isaac McCauslin; aunts: Jeanie Boyes of Cass City, and Janie Wise of Sun City, Ariz.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents: William and Joanne Boyes, and Cyril and Jane DeLuyck; aunt, Suzy Davidson; uncle, William Wise.

Funeral services were held today (Wednesday), at the Cass City Missionary Church, Cass City, with Pastor Phil Berkett officiating.

Interment was in the Elkland Township Cemetery, Cass City.

Memorials may be made to Revive Ministries or Positive Alternatives.

Family and friends may share memories, prayers and stories with the family at www.kranzfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home, Cass City.

Charles Hayes

Charles M. Hayes, 76, of Kingston, passed away Friday, Dec. 14, 2012, at Covenant Healthcare - Cooper, Saginaw.

He was born Feb. 14, 1936 in Bad Axe, the son of the late Jack and Beatrice (Daily) Hayes.

He married Lucille Soldan Nov. 12,

1977 in Cass City. She passed away Jan. 27, 2008.

Charles worked as a farm hand for many years. He enjoyed time with family and friends and had a great sense of humor.

Charles is survived by a son, Eric (Crystal) Hayes of Kingston; 3 grandchildren, Collin, Caitlyn and Carley; and sisters: Mary (the late Arnold) Morley of Elkton and Gladys Hayes of Pigeon.

He was preceded in death by 3 brothers: John, Henry and Jim Hayes.

A funeral service was held Monday, Dec. 17, at Deford Community Church, Deford, with Pastor David Cooper officiating.

Memorials may be made to Deford Christian Academy.

Family and friends may share condolences at www.thabetfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements were made by Thabet Funeral Home, Cass City.

Richard Wald

Richard "Joe" Joseph Wald, 80, of Gageton, passed away Thursday, Dec. 13, 2012.

He was born Oct. 18, 1932 in Gageton, the son of Vincent and Alma (Phelan) Wald.

He married Barbara Stock in June 1960.

Joe retired from the U.S. Air Force after 20 years of service. He then was a letter carrier with the U.S. Postal Service until retirement. He was an avid golfer and boater and enjoyed motorcycles.

Joe is survived by his children: Timothy Wald, Laura Raab, Julie Koliboski, Bridget Childs, and Kristie Wald; a long-time companion, Patricia Posluszny; 4 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren; and a brother, John Michael Wald.

He was preceded in death by a brother, George; a sister, Mary Louise Merz; and a special aunt, Mary Wald.

Mass of Christian burial was celebrated Tuesday, Dec. 18, at St. Agatha Catholic Church, Gageton, with Father Paul Bala and Sr. Dorothy Ann Blasko officiating.

Memorials may be made to the Richard J. Wald Memorial Fund or to St. Agatha Catholic Church, Gageton.

Arrangements were made by the Gageton Funeral Chapel, Gageton.

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HOURS: Oct. 1 to Dec. 31
Monday-Friday 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday By appointment
Rest of year by appointment only.

