



# Happy New Year

## CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

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CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2014

75 CENTS ~ 14 PAGES

## \$150,000 grant targets Thumb worker training

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

Efforts to meet the demand for skilled workers in the food processing industry in the Thumb area is getting a \$150,000 boost, thanks to a Strategic Growth Initiative (SGI) grant.

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) Director Jamie Clover Adams and Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) President and CEO Michael A. Finney recently announced the recipients of several SGI grants, including the Marlette-based Thumbworks!

Thumbworks! \$150,000 grant will fund a project that focuses on the workforce needs of Michigan's food and agriculture industry in the Thumb region.

According to Finney, the organization will develop and implement a workforce training model that pre-

pares workers for entry-level food processing opportunities. In addition, an interactive, online tool will be developed and implemented, allowing real time interaction and communication directly with food and agriculture employers with the potential to deliver an education opportunity that does not exist elsewhere.

Long term, this model can be adopted and refined in other parts of Michigan as local communities work to increase employers' access to the skilled workers needed for business growth and expansion, while providing food and agriculture employment opportunities for their citizens."

Thumbworks!, which covers a region comprised of the four counties in the Thumb, is one of 25 Michigan Works! agencies that operate more than 100 service centers across the state. They all share a common goal: providing a myriad of

Please turn to page 4.

## Motorists suffer minor injuries in vehicle crash

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

The Sanilac County Sheriff's Department recently investigated a two-vehicle traffic crash that left both drivers suffering from minor injuries.

According to reports, the accident occurred at the intersection of M-53 and Airport Road in Sanilac County's Marlette Township.

Deputy James Leen stated a Ford Econoline van driven by 50-year-old Marshall Lacross Jr. of Fraser was traveling northbound on M-53 when he lost control of his vehicle. "He then crossed the centerline and collided with a southbound Kappen Tree Service Ford Super Duty box truck. This vehicle was driven by 28-year-old Steven Walther of Deford," he said.

Walther suffered what the deputy described as "non-life threatening" injuries and was transported to Marlette Community Hospital by Marlette EMS personnel. Lacross was treated at the scene.

"Both subjects were wearing seatbelts, and alcohol was not a factor in the crash," Leen reported. "A citation was issued to Mr. Lacross for speed too fast for conditions, causing an accident."

Marlette fire fighters assisted deputies at the scene.

## Gifts await first 2014 newborn

The arrival of 2014 will have special meaning to couples that are also expecting their own little arrivals, but just when the first baby of the new year will be born is anyone's guess.

Will the first birth take place just minutes or hours after the bells start ringing after midnight, Jan. 1, or will several days or even weeks pass before the blessed event?

Regardless, the first baby of the new year born and reported to the

Chronicle by a Cass City area family will be showered with gifts and well wishes from local merchants, a tradition that has continued for many years in the community.

The only question mark each year is timing. In 2003, Michelle Smith of Cass City gave birth to the first baby, Ian Matthew Vasquez, Jan. 23, and in 2012 the first baby arrived Jan. 1, when Irwin and Susan Bricker of Cass City welcomed

their daughter, Maria I. Bricker, at home on Leslie Rd.

Last year, Carrie and Josh Byer of Kingston welcomed their son Josiah D. Byer on Jan. 1, as the first baby.

As was true last year, the coming year's proud parents will receive a \$20 floral bouquet from Special Scents Floral Shoppe and Angel's Hair Studio is chipping in a \$15 gift certificate and Gilligan's will have a \$20 gift certificate waiting.

In addition, 2 area banks will offer their best wishes. Chemical Bank and Thumb National Bank each have a \$10 savings account for the new arrival.

But that's not all; Curtis Chrysler has chipped in a free oil change, while Plain and Fancy Decorating, is offering a \$25 gift certificate.

Finally, the family can read about their new arrival and other local news all year long with a free, one-year subscription to the Cass City Chronicle.



THE WINTER OF 2013-14 has been a bitter one so far, with temperatures in the single digits on several days already. The season also recently brought an ice storm that left thousands of Mid-Michigan residents without electricity during the holidays. In spite of those headaches, Old Man Winter has still managed to provide area residents with some spectacular outdoor scenes, including this sunset photographed through ice-covered trees just west of Cass City.

## Year in review

### Headlines reveal a good (difficult) year

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

Ask a dozen area residents to describe 2013 and chances are good you'll get a dozen different answers.

The year was heartbreaking for those who lost a loved one, frustrating and exciting for area school officials trying to pass a bond issue, challenging for Thumb law enforcement agencies working to curb a revival in the popularity of heroin use, and reason for celebration among local government officials who saw years of discussions and red tape pay off in the groundbreaking for a new dairy plant in town.

The list goes on and on; the only constant seemed to be change.

Although area residents have already welcomed the arrival of 2014, it seems appropriate to take a brief look back on the past 12 months and the events that made 2013 memorable, for better or worse.

With that in mind, the Chronicle editorial staff presents its annual Year in Review featuring some of the top stories published in 2013.

#### DFA BREAKS GROUND

What started with informal talks between Thumb Amish farmers and Cass City Village Manager Peter Cristiano 7 years ago became reality last fall with the groundbreaking for a new Dairy Farmers of America (DFA) milk processing plant in the

village's industrial park.

Local, state and DFA officials were all on hand for the celebration, marking the start of construction of a plant representing a \$40 million investment and the initial addition of 25 jobs in town.

Upon completion later this year, the 33,000-square-foot plant will process up to three million pounds of milk — 60 tractor trailer loads — each day.

And that could be just the beginning, according to Cristiano, who says DFA officials are planning for Phase II and Phase III expansions that could result in a total investment of \$300 million and 300 new jobs.

The project, which is requiring a host of major infrastructure upgrades to roads and at the village's wastewater treatment plant, is the result of cooperation and funding agreements involving several agencies along with a tireless effort and persistence on the part of Cristiano and his staff.

#### SCHOOL SALE?

Cass City School officials closed the former Campbell Elementary School in a consolidation effort to cut costs and as a result of a trend of declining enrollment that cost the district some 500 kids over the span of a decade.

They've since spent the better part of a year debating whether or not to sell the building, and the issue still hasn't been settled.

## New Year's Gospel sing is tradition in Cass City

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

Everyone is invited to take part in a New Year's Eve tradition in Cass City that now spans 45 years, as the annual New Year's Eve Gospel Concert gets underway Tuesday, Dec. 31, at 7 p.m. at Cass City High School.

The event continues to be sponsored by the Cass City Laymen's Club, although the organization hasn't been an active "club" in the real sense for many years. Still, the legacy started by a handful of faithful men back in the 1960s lives on in the community.

And this year's concert promises to continue a number of traditions, including the return of the Calvarymen Quartet. The faces of the Calvarymen have changed several times over the decades, but the group's faithfulness to the Cass City gathering has not. The Calvarymen appeared at the first-ever New Year's Eve Gospel Concert and have returned to Cass City every year since.

This year's all-star Gospel group line-up will also feature Justified and Mark and Andrea Forester.

All three groups represent some of the best Gospel music in Michigan, according to Arthur Severance, whose father, Lloyd, was among the founding members of the Cass City Laymen's Club, and who has helped to continue that tradition along with other family members, including his son, Randy.

"This is an opportunity to welcome in the new year with Christian friends enjoying great Gospel music

Please turn to page 4.

### Inside This Week

• Giving a little bit more is resolution-worthy  
*Reporter's Notebook, page 5*

• Why not resolve to be a bit healthier?  
*Editorial, page 3*

• Thumb offers a plethora of venues to enjoy some winter fun  
*Page 14*



NANCY MASON of Deford was the lucky winner of a free La-Z-Boy chair given away in a drawing sponsored by Schneeberger Furniture and Appliance in Cass City. She is pictured above with Russ Schneeberger.

# Precautions for radon poisoning

Gov. Rick Snyder declared January 2014 Radon Action Month in Michigan, encouraging all Michigan residents to learn more about this environmental hazard and to test their homes during the coming heating season.

Radon is a tasteless, odorless, colorless, radioactive gas that occurs naturally in soil and rock. It normally travels up and out to the atmosphere where it is quickly diluted, but when it is trapped under a foundation, it can leak into the home through cracks and openings in the floors and walls. Exposure over time can increase the risk of lung cancer.

Radon is believed to be the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S. and the leading cause among nonsmokers. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that exposure to radon results in more than 21,000 lung cancer deaths each year, including more than 600 in Michigan.

Residential surveys estimate that more than one in eight Michigan homes likely have a radon problem. Some counties have higher incidence rates than others, but elevated radon levels have been found in homes in every Michigan county. There are no warning signs, so each home must be tested. Radon screening measurements require closed house conditions, so it is best to do the test during winter heating season when doors and windows normally are kept closed.

Testing is easy and inexpensive, and the DEQ is partnering with local health departments and tribal communities to ensure that radon test kits and literature are accessible to all Michigan residents. The kits generally cost \$15 or less from county or city health departments, and the price includes postage and lab fees. Kits also can be found at some hardware stores and home improvement centers or be purchased online directly from radon test kit manufacturers.

The DEQ urges Michigan residents to take action by testing their homes for radon. For more information about radon, visit [http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3310\\_4105\\_4196---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3310_4105_4196---,00.html), or call the DEQ's Indoor Radon Program at 1-800-RADON GAS (1-800-723-6642) for a free packet of information.

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## SUDOKU

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### Fun By The Numbers

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

#### Here's How It Works:

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

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

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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

## Wednesday, December 25

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.

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.

## Thursday, December 26

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

Thumb TEA Party, 6:30 p.m., Evangelical Free Church, Cass City.

## Saturday, December 28

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)

## Monday, December 30

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.

Cass City Village Council meeting, 7 p.m., municipal building.

## Tuesday, December 31

Al-anon meeting, 7 p.m., St. Francis Parrish, Pigeon.

## Grant funds training in Thumb

**Continued from page one.**

services that assist businesses with finding qualified applicants or training existing workers, and assisting job seekers to find employment and gain valuable career education.

In all, grants totaling \$2.25 million are being awarded to help fund projects aimed at bolstering Michigan's second-largest economic sector. Of 75 applications received by MDARD, 14 were approved.

"These grants allow us to leverage business development and growth for Michigan's \$91.4 billion food and agriculture industry, Clover Adams said. "With increased investment in our agri-food sector, we can help 'move the needle' for continued long-term growth."

"We're constantly looking for improvements and ways to feed our state, country and the world for future generations," added Finney. "With projected growth in populations in coming years, Michigan agriculture needs to keep pace to produce enough food to feed all of us. At MEDC, we are working to foster greater economic opportunities for our food processors, agribusinesses and those involved in food production. It's a great state partnership with MDARD and local organizations."

In addition to the Thumbworks! funding, grants were approved for programs ranging from specialty food production research by the Michigan Bean Commission in Frankenmuth and value-added potato processing by the Michigan Potato Industry Commission, to several ag-related research endeavors based at Michigan State University.

"These are the kind of forward-thinking investments that will help solidify Michigan agriculture's position as one of the state's leading industries," commented Wayne H. Wood, a Thumb area farmer and longtime president of the Michigan Farm Bureau, the state's largest farming organization.

"With our food and farm sector contributing more than \$91 billion into the state's economy every year, I think this \$2.25 million investment is not only warranted, but demonstrates a welcome commitment by the state to the long-term health of the work Michigan farm families and ag-

processors do every day."

The Strategic Growth Initiative grant program is a product of Gov. Rick Snyder's 2011 Summit on Production Agriculture and recommendations from the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Agricultural Processing.

"I'm comfortable saying — on behalf of our 48,500 farmer mem-

bers across the state — that this effort by MDARD and MEDC to invest in our food and farm sector represents greatly appreciated support for the great things our industry is doing here in Michigan," Wood said. "It's encouraging to see this vital sector of our economy encouraged to continue down a path of progress and excellence."

## New Year's concert set

**Continued from page one.**

by some of Michigan's finest artists," Severance said.

The community concert was organized by the laymen's club, a small group of area men dedicated to serving God as laymen. Although no longer active, a few of members — most of them relatives of the founding members — continue to put the concert together in an effort to offer the community an alternative to traditional New Year's celebrations.

The first concert was held at the old high school (formerly the intermediate school, which is now the site of the Cass City Playscape). Tickets were sold that first year and the sing featured the Calvarymen and Crystalaires.

The laymen's club was officially organized Oct. 23, 1967, with Severance's father serving as president, William O'Dell as secretary and Warren Kelly as treasurer.

"It was kind of set up for the laymen to get together, but also to sponsor some programs at the school. They (hosted) Rex Humbar and the Cathedrals," Severance noted. "We did have regular meetings and we had devotions."

Those involved in the early years included Keith McConkey and Burton Allen. "There were a few others; Don Buehrly and Dale Buehrly were both part of it," he said, adding the club remained active for about two decades.

Today, Severance and his brother, Les, and Arthur's son, Randy, are helping to keep the legacy alive.

"Basically all we do now is sponsor the New Year's Eve concert," he said. "The goal, basically, is to provide something for everybody at no charge. We go with no charge so it's available for everybody, especially in these economic times."

A free-will offering will be taken during the evening to help cover the group's expenses. There will be a fellowship time following the event, with donuts, coffee and milk available.

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## Mental Health Statistics and Facts



Mental illness is a disease just like cancer or heart disease. With knowledge, community members can stop the stigma attached to mental health and start the healing and recovery process.

According to the **National Institutes of Mental Health (NIMH)**, the top five most commonly diagnosed mental health disorders in adults are as follows:

- **Anxiety disorders** (panic disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, general anxiety disorder, phobias) **approximately 18.2% of American adults**
- **Mood disorders** (major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder) **approximately 9.5% of American adults**
- **Personality disorders** (antisocial, avoidant, and borderline personality disorders) **approximately 9.1% of American adults**
- **Eating disorders** (anorexia, bulimia, binge eating disorders) **approximately 4.4% of American adults**
- **Schizophrenia** **approximately 1.1% of American adults**

Nearly one in five American adults, or 43.7 million people, experienced a mental health issue in 2012. (SAMHSA)

### What can community members do?

Take a **FREE Youth or Adult Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) course** offered by **Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems, 989.673.6191.**

The course teaches a 5-step action plan to offer initial help to **Youth or Adults** with the signs and symptoms of a mental illness or in a crisis, and connect them with the appropriate professionals. MHFA makes it OK to have the difficult conversations — it helps people open up and talk with family, friends, and coworkers. Research shows that the sooner an individual gets help for mental health disorders, the more likely they are to have positive outcomes.



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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.



# Year in review

## Headlines in the year 2013 revealed a good (challenging) year

Continued from page one.

offered \$85,000 for the building.

Negotiations have remained at a stand-still, however, since last spring when the school board approved, on

a split vote, a motion to not sell the building.

Board members in favor of selling say they don't want the former school to remain vacant and left to deteriorate. They also cite on-going utility costs of roughly \$20,000

annually to maintain the building.

Opponents say they're concerned that school officials may need the building for classroom space in the future.

The board is expected to take up the topic again during a regular meeting later this month.

### O-G BOND ISSUE

The third time proved to be the charm for the Owen-Gage School District, where voters turned out in droves during a special election in September and overwhelmingly approved a proposed 2.9-mill, \$3.15 million bond issue for 25 years.

Cash generated by the bond issue will pay for a myriad of badly-needed and long-overdue capital improvement projects.

Voters approved the measure by more than 100 votes, 258-147. It was a far different outcome compared to district officials' previous two attempts to secure approval for additional funding at the polls. Residents earlier last year rejected a similar proposal by a 9-vote margin. That election followed another in 2011 in which voters rejected a bond issue proposal by just 7 ballots.

Although school officials are not planning to tackle new construction — or any other "luxuries" — Owen-Gage now has the cash it needs to take care of a host of upgrades, including new boilers and a new roof, a new lighting system, interior repairs, replacement of an outdated telephone system, and electrical system, security and technology upgrades.

### SMACK'S BACK

Thumb law enforcement agencies took a bite out of heroin trafficking in the region in late June when they executed a pair of search warrants in Huron County.

The warrants were part of an ongoing investigation into the sale and use of the street drug, which has been making a comeback in popularity in recent years in the state, especially in southeastern Michigan, according to the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH).

Huron County Sheriff's deputies confiscated heroin, drug paraphernalia, prescription drugs and \$4,500 in cash from one Caseville Township residence, and more drug paraphernalia from another Caseville area residence. Officers arrested one suspect, but noted search warrants had been issued for several other individuals, some of whom are believed to be responsible for distributing heroin throughout the Thumb.

Heroin use, especially among young people, has increased at an alarming rate, spreading beyond cities into suburban areas, in part because the drug is relatively cheap compared to more popular — and expensive — prescription drugs (OxyContin and Vicodin, for example) that are frequently abused.

### FATAL SHOOTING

Newspaper headlines in the Thumb rarely announce incidents in which law enforcement officers must resort to deadly force — let alone draw their service weapons in the line of duty — but an apparent domestic disturbance over the summer at a Reese area residence resulted in one exception.

Tuscola County Undersheriff Glen Skrent reported the incident unfolded after two deputies responded to

the home after a family member stopped at the house and was told by the homeowner that his wife was lying dead on the floor.

The man, James Edward Garcia, 53, died of gunshot wounds himself after he opened fire on two deputies and a Caro police officer. One deputy was also shot while wearing a protective vest. He was treated and released from an area hospital.

Investigators released few details regarding what led to the shooting of Garcia's wife, Donnieca Ann Garcia, 54, a Caro High School graduate and bookkeeper with Anderson, Tuckey, Bernhardt & Doran, PC CPA in Caro.

### ANTLER RESTRICTIONS

Avid deer hunters on both sides of the fence continue to wait for the results of a survey that could bring mandatory antler point restrictions (APR) to the entire Lower Peninsula, including the Thumb.

The heated debate over whether quality deer management practices should be voluntary or mandatory dominated headlines for a number of weeks back in 2002 when the Thumb Area Branch of QDMA (Quality Deer Management Association) proposed mandatory antler restrictions locally. The proposal led to the formation of the United Sportsmen Alliance (USA), which opposed the measure and played a key role in its defeat.

Now, another group — the Lower Peninsula Deer Management Initiative (LPDMI) — is sponsoring a mandatory APR rule which, like the QDMA plan, is designed to improve the quality of the deer herd and provide hunters with a greater opportunity to harvest older bucks by passing on shots at younger bucks.

Under the LPDMI proposal, any buck harvested under a buck-only license must have at least four points on one side.

The results of the latest hunter survey are expected to be released sometime in February.

### JUDICIAL UNITY

The year saw veteran Tuscola County District Judge Kim D. Glaspie, along with newly-elected circuit court Judge Amy Grace Gierhart and probate court Judge Nancy L. Thane usher in a new era of unity in the county through formation of a judicial council.

The impact of this story is expected

to be felt by citizens who find themselves dealing with the county courts for one reason or another, as the planned changes are designed to make that experience a smoother and less frustrating one for all.

Glaspie explained the council will significantly improve court operations by adopting a concurrent jurisdiction plan that will enable the judges to fill in for each other's absences and more fairly divide the workload; working toward a unified collections plan to help the public bring in every dollar that is owed; unifying personnel policies of the three courts, reducing administrative burdens on the county in tracking separate vacation policies and other rules; combining three separate budgets into one county court budget; and by designing and implementing a court-wide website that will include user-friendly tools, forms and information for the public.

"The resolution forming the judicial council says that we will make decisions by consensus, which really symbolizes the new era of cooperation that we are going to usher in," Glaspie said.

### GOING DIGITAL

A film industry trend making reels of film a thing of the past at movie theatres across the nation forced theatre owners in the Thumb to make some difficult — and expensive decisions over the past year or so.

Dick Hendrick, longtime owner of the Cass Theatre, was the first to make the shift to all digital technology over the summer, and at his own expense — roughly \$45,000.

"Every film company will eventually go all digital and do away with film," Hendrick said in an interview. "The studios want it so they don't have to ship any (film)."

Hendrick had considered several options, including approaching Cass City Village officials with a proposal asking them to finance the equipment in exchange for keeping the building in the future. A handful of concerned community residents also got involved, starting a fund drive that was abandoned when Hendrick began leaning towards tackling the upgrade himself after finding a less expensive alternative to making the transition.

The Thumb's other theatres, in Caro and Bad Axe, have since also gone to the all-digital format via various means, including fundraisers.



**AVID DEER** hunters on both sides of the fence continue to wait for the results of a survey that could bring mandatory antler point restrictions to the entire Lower Peninsula, including the Thumb.



**CASS THEATRE** owner Dick Hendrick (right) and friend Bob Montgomery work on the new digital projection system now up and running at the Cass Theatre — the Thumb's first theatre to switch to the high-tech equipment.



**BAKER COLLEGE** of Cass City ended the year with an expansion project in a portion of the Nestles Building in town, where college officials have created a new, state-of-the-art welding lab. The facility is slated to be completed in time for classes this month



**OFFICIALS GATHERED** at the Cass City Industrial Park last fall for the Dairy Farmers of America (DFA) groundbreaking ceremony to celebrate the kick-off for the \$40 million dairy processing facility now under construction in the village.



**USHERING IN** A new era of judicial unity in 2013 were Tuscola County District Court and Chief Judge Kim D. Glaspie (center) along with circuit court Judge Amy Grace Gierhart (left) and probate court Judge Nancy L. Thane.







**THE DEBATE** over whether or not to sell the former Campbell Elementary School building dominated several Cass City Board of Education meetings in 2013. School officials are expected to return to the topic during its next regular monthly meeting.

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## Fabulous Four's Fearless Forecast

### Forecast at the Break

<b>Varsity Basketball</b>				
	Tom Montgomery	Krysta Boyce	Geoff Morgan	Doug Hyatt
<b>Girls' Basketball</b>				
<b>Friday, Jan. 3</b>				
Owen-Gage @ Port Hope	Port Hope	Owen-Gage	Port Hope	Owen-Gage
<b>Monday, Jan. 6</b>				
Owen-Gage @ A. Fairgrove	Owen-Gage	A. Fairgrove	Owen-Gage	A. Fairgrove
<b>Tuesday, Jan. 7</b>				
Caseville @ Kingston	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston
Cass City @ Ubyly	Ubyly	Ubyly	Cass City	Ubyly
<b>Boys' Basketball</b>				
<b>Friday, Jan. 3</b>				
Brown City @ Cass City	Cass City	Cass City	Cass City	Cass City
<b>Monday, Jan. 6</b>				
A. Fairgrove @ O-Gage	Owen-Gage	Owen-Gage	A. Fairgrove	Owen-Gage
Mayville @ Kingston	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston
<b>Week of Dec. 18 Results</b>	<b>4-3</b>	<b>6-1</b>	<b>6-1</b>	<b>6-1</b>
<b>Season's Results</b>	<b>7-11 (64%)</b>	<b>14-4 (78%)</b>	<b>12-6 (67%)</b>	<b>15-3 (83%)</b>

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## Cass City gymnastic team starts season on high note

Kathy Bouverette may have been right. The Cass City High School long-time gymnastic coach said before the start of the season that this year's Lady Red Hawks should be pretty good.

Judging by the team's showing at Vassar December 18, in their first effort of the season, there's certainly plenty of talent on this year's roster.

Despite falling 122.65 to 120.40 to the Vulcans on the day, Bouverette was pleased with the Red Hawks' point total, which surpassed the regional qualifying standard.

Always a team goal at the start of

every season, Cass City needs 3 more team scores of 120 or better throughout the course of the season to advance as a group into regional competition.

Several returning Red Hawk letter winners shined in their opening match, none more than all-around champion Katie Hacker. She recorded scores of 8.05 on the vault, 7.275 on the uneven bars, 8.25 on the balance beam and 8.3 on her floor exercise to win what many consider signifies the best athlete at the meet.

Still, it was far from a one-man show for the visitors. Dakota Hartel

earned fourth place honors in the all-around event with scores of 8.0 on the vault, 6.95 on the uneven bars, 7.425 on the balance beam and 8.375 on her floor exercise.

"All of Katie's and Dakota's scores where individual regional qualifying marks. They are off to a great start," said Bouverette.

Also earning their maiden individual regional qualifying scores for Cass City were Miranda Spry and Kendra Kerkau. Spry recorded a score of 7.9 on the vault, while Kerkau posted scores of 8.1 on the vault and a winning score of 7.875 on the uneven bars to meet the post-season standard.

## Red Hawk grapplers compete at Mayville

The Cass City wrestling team scored 100 points at the Mayville Individual Tournament over the weekend to finish in the top half of the 14-team field standings.

Six Cass City wrestlers earned medals at Saturday's gathering including third place winners Blake Lebioda in the 140-pound weight class, Ethan Montei in the 215-pound weight class, Alex Jeffrey in the 103-weight class and Darren Dickson in the 130-weight class. Finishing with 5th place medals for the Red Hawks were Josh Daniels in the 171-pound weight class and Seth Osentoski in the 125-pound weight class.

Capac captured the team standings with 201 points to easily hold off runner-up Clio with 157. Mayville placed third with 134 tallies, while Grand Ledge (127), Bad Axe (123), Rochester Hills Stoney Creek (119), Cass City, Sandusky (81.5), Michigan Lutheran Seminary (72), New Haven (61), Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port (59), Imlay City (58), Sterling Heights (34.5) and Mason (22.5) complete the team listings.

"As a team we showed some improvement. With half of our line-up as freshmen we have a lot of growth yet to make," said Cass City Coach Don Markel.

## Schneeberger's ATHLETE of the WEEK

Schneeberger's first "Athlete of the Week" honor in 2014 goes out to Cass City gymnast Katie Hacker. The Red Hawk senior opened her final season in splendid fashion,



Katie Hacker

earning the all-around category top finish during a dual meet at Vassar, where she recorded a winning score of 31.875.

Hacker placed first on the balance beam, third on the uneven bars and floor exercise and fifth on the vault to walk away with the day's most coveted title.

A four-year standout for Coach Kathy Bouverette, Katie is the daughter of Melissa and Brian Hacker.

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koozies. Paper goods include prints, greeting cards, notebooks and note pads. Custom jigsaw puzzles are also available.

The Michigan Historical Center preserves the state's legacy, and the center's collections represent a wonderful mirror to the past. Michiganology products originate from several Michigan Historical Center collections including the Main Streets, Proud Robin, Lighthouse, Sporting Life

and Vintage Brewery collections.

The Main Streets Collection consists of vintage Michigan town-themed post cards, spanning much of the 20th century. The Proud Robin gained prominence as the 1958 Michigan Week logo and now is available on a variety of products. The mid-century modern logo is the epitome of Michigan pride as he boasts "It's great to live in Michigan."

The Lighthouse Collection includes drawings and photographs of many Michigan lighthouses and is also popular as prints or puzzles.

The Vintage Michigan Brewery Label Collection is possibly the most unique representative of the center's collections. These labels from defunct Michigan breweries date from 1934-1956 and were originally submitted to the Michigan Liquor Control

Commission as a licensing requirement. The labels stand as colorful mementos of Michigan's strong brewing past and, often, as symbols of community pride. Brands include Auto City, Cadillac, an early Dark Horse brand, an early Frankenmuth brand, Goebel, Grand Rapids, Muskegon and Old Michigan, among others.

It's easy to own a piece of Michigan brewing memorabilia, as these labels now adorn prints, T-shirts, pint glasses, can koozies, bottle opener key chains and more.

Michiganology is adding new products, as Michigan Historical Center staff continues to rediscover fascinating materials in the collections. This unique store offers a variety of items for history enthusiasts, nostalgia buffs, lovers of fine artwork and people who are just proud to be from Michigan. There's a good chance that Michiganology offers something for you or someone on your holiday shopping list. Stop by [www.michiganology.com](http://www.michiganology.com) to check it out and then check out to support history, education and the Michigan Historical Center.

Maybe you still like to visit a brick-and-mortar store? If you're in the Lansing area, you can stop by the Michigan Historical Museum's gift shop, located on the first floor of the Michigan Historical Center's building at 702 W. Kalamazoo St. in downtown Lansing.

The gift shop carries an array of Michigan-themed items, including trays to make ice cubes shaped like the Mitten state, Michigan oven mitts, jewelry made from Michigan copper and also Petoskey stones, copper coins and bars, and Petoskey stone drink coasters. The shop also carries embroidered apparel and several books on Michigan history and places.

The museum gift shop is open seven days a week - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturdays and 1 to 5 p.m. on Sundays. After you've shopped, spend some time at the museum's new special exhibit - Lake Effects, which investigates the history and science of Michigan weather. For more information about the museum, go to [www.michigan.gov/museum](http://www.michigan.gov/museum).

Perhaps you're looking for a natural resources-related item? The Michigan eStore has a selection at [www.michigan.gov/estore](http://www.michigan.gov/estore). The DNR's online items at the eStore include Traveling Through Time, a guide to the state's historical markers. There is also a selection of frame-ready wildlife prints by Michigan artists that support the DNR's wildlife management work.

Camping fans would love a Michigan State Parks stainless-steel water bottle, which makes a great stocking stuffer. State park gift certificates are also available at the eStore, and can be redeemed for camping or mooring fees or merchandise at state parks. The gift certificates can only be redeemed if making camping reservations through the DNR call center, but cannot be redeemed through the online reservation system.

Not sure what to get? You can also make a tax-deductible contribution for that hard-to-shop-for person or in memory of someone at the eStore. You can make donations to Michigan's State Park Fund, Sportsmen Against Hunger or the Nongame Wildlife Fund.



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# Legal Notices

**FORECLOSURE NOTICE RANDALL S. MILLER & ASSOCIATES, P.C. MAY BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE-MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY NOW OR IN THE PRIOR NINE MONTHS, PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE.**

Mortgage Sale - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Scott Hall, A Married Man and Christy L. Hall, His Wife and Daniel Carver, A Married Man to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. acting solely as a nominee for Flagstar Bank, FSB, Mortgagee, dated January 12, 2009, and recorded on January 20, 2009, in Liber 1165, Page 708, Tuscola County Records, said mortgage was assigned to NEWBURY REO 2013, LLC by an Assignment of Mortgage which has been submitted to the Tuscola County Register of Deeds, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Fifty-Eight Thousand Three Hundred Forty-Five and 74/100 (\$58,345.74) including interest at the rate of 5.50000% 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 in said Tuscola County, where the premises to be sold or some part of them are situated, at 10:00 AM on January 30, 2014 Said premises are situated in the Village of Millington, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as: The East 100 feet of land described as follows: Commencing 447.48 feet North and 198 feet West of the Northeast corner of Lot 4, Block 2 of Village of Millington, according to the recorded plat thereof; thence North 132 feet; thence West 290.4 feet; thence Southeast along the land owned by the Michigan Central Railroad Company to a point West of starting point; thence East to place of beginning. Being part of Southwest quarter of Southeast quarter of Section 9, Town 10 North, Range 8 East, Village of Millington, Tuscola County, Michigan Commonly known as:

4705 NORTH ST If the property is eventually sold at foreclosure sale, the redemption period will be 6.00 months from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 and/or 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes prior to the date of the foreclosure sale pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the redemption period is 1 year.

Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, the borrower(s) will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

**TO ALL PURCHASERS:** The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages are, if any, limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

If you are a tenant in the property, please contact our office as you may have certain rights.

Dated: January 1, 2014  
Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C.  
Attorneys for NEWBURY REO 2013, LLC  
43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180,  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302,  
(248) 335-9200  
Case No. 13MI01661-1

1-1-4

a certain mortgage made by La-Mar Custom Builders, LLC, whose address is 3175 Wynns Court, Metamora, MI 48555, to CSB Bank, 206 N. Main Street, Capac, Michigan 48014, dated February 4, 2005, and recorded on February 14, 2005 in Liber 1027, Page 621, Tuscola County Records, on which there is claimed to be due at the date of this notice the sum of \$ 3,139.57, plus interest, at a rate of 6.5% per annum, together with any additional sum or sums which may be paid by the undersigned as provided for in said mortgage, and no suit or proceedings at law or in equity having been instituted to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, and pursuant to the statute of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that on Thursday, January 30, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. local time, the undersigned will sell at public auction to the highest bidder, at the Circuit Court within Tuscola County, in Caro, Michigan, the premises described in said mortgage or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due on said mortgage, including all legal costs, charges and expenses, including the attorney fees allowed by law, and also any sum or sums which may be paid by the undersigned, necessary to protect its interest in the premises. Which said premises are described as follows: Land in the City of Fostoria, County of Tuscola, State of Michigan to-wit:

PARCEL A - PART OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 26, TOWN 10 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST, WATERTOWN TOWNSHIP, TUSCOLA COUNTY, MICHIGAN, DESCRIBED AS BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE NORTH SECTION LINE THAT IS NORTH 89 DEGREES 49 MINUTES 3 SECONDS EAST 327.25 FEET FROM THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 26; THENCE CONTINUING NORTH 89 DEGREES 49 MINUTES 3 SECONDS EAST 218.17 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 650.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 49 MINUTES 3 SECONDS WEST 218.17 FEET; THENCE NORTH 650.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

Commonly known as: 1239 Barnes Road, Fostoria, Michigan 48435 Tax Identification No.: 021-026-000-0600-03 (Parcel A) The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of such sale unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with 1948 CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be thirty days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Dated: December 26, 2013  
Mortgagee CSB Bank  
206 N. Main Street Capac, MI 48014  
Pamela S. Ritter (P47886)  
Attorney for Mortgagee CSB Bank  
Strobl & Sharp, P.C.  
300 E. Long Lake Road, Suite 200  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304  
(248) 540-2300

1-1-4

Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

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. Marr, A Single Man, original mortgagor(s), to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, Mortgagee, dated May 11, 2009, and recorded on May 20, 2009 in Liber 1175 on Page 595, in Tuscola county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Fifty-Eight Thousand Three Hundred Four and 12/100 Dollars (\$58,304.12).

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 30, 2014.

Said premises are situated in Township of Arbela, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as: Part of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 29, Town 10 North, Range 7 East, described as beginning at a point on the South line of said Section 29 which is South 89 Degrees 35 Minutes 30 Seconds East 440.00 Feet from the South 1/4 corner of said Section 29, thence continuing along said South line, South 89 Degrees 35 Minutes 30 Seconds East 110.00 Feet, thence parallel to the North and South 1/4 line, North 00 Degrees 03 Minutes 30 Seconds West, 415.00 Feet, thence parallel to the South line of said Section 29, North 89 Degrees 35 Minutes 30 Seconds West, 110.00 Feet, thence South 00 Degrees 03 Minutes 30 Seconds East, 415.00 Feet to the place of beginning.

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

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Dated: January 1, 2014  
For more information, please call:

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Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys For Servicer  
31440 Northwestern Hwy Ste 200  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-5422  
File #434004F01

1-1-4

Notice of Hearing

Marvel Reivert, Buella Kretschmer, Virginia Roeber and any interested parties and/or heirs of the Estate of Mildred Kain, deceased, whose name and address are unknown.

Please take notice that on Friday January 3, 2014 at 9:00 a.m., in the Tuscola County Circuit Court, County Courthouse 440 N. State St. Caro, MI 48723, before the Honorable Amy Grace Gierhart, a hearing will be held on a Motion to Approve Distribution of Proceeds.

To recover damages pursuant to law, any person who may be entitled to damages must present a claim for the damages to the personal representative on or before the date set for a hearing on the motion for distribution of the proceeds and failure to present a claim for damages within the time provided shall bar such person from making a claim to any of the proceeds.

Dated: January 1, 2014  
Robert J. Lipnik (P47288)  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
4000 Town Center Suite 550  
Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 351-2200  
Case Number: 12-27359-NH

1-1-1

Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

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ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your dam-

ages, 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 Wayne E. Helm, a single man, original mortgagor(s), to National City Mortgage Services Co., Mortgagee, dated November 19, 2001, and recorded on January 7, 2002 in Liber 855 on Page 755, in Tuscola county records, Michigan, and assigned by said Mortgagee to PNC Bank, National Association as assignee as documented by an assignment dated December 5, 2013, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Seventy-One Thousand Six Hundred Forty-One and 68/100 Dollars (\$71,641.68).

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 23, 2014.

Said premises are situated in Township of Denmark, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 13, Weber Subdivision, according to the Plat thereof recorded in Liber 2, Page 47 of Plats, 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.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Dated: December 25, 2013  
For more information, please call:  
FC H (248) 593-1300  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys For Servicer  
31440 Northwestern Hwy Ste 200  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-5422  
File #433817F01

12-25-4

Without official

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MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE DEFAULT having been made in the terms and conditions of



# Hazzards of power outages

An ice storm that left more than 400,000 residents in Michigan without power earlier this winter season has the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) urging residents affected by power outages to be aware of the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning and what steps can be taken to protect against it.

Carbon monoxide is an invisible, tasteless, and odorless gas formed when fuel is burned, that can build up to deadly levels within minutes in enclosed spaces. Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning are headaches, nausea, confusion, vomiting, chest pain, and shortness of breath. Michigan families are encouraged to follow these carbon monoxide poisoning prevention tips:

Never use generators, grills, camp stoves, or other gasoline or charcoal burning devices inside of homes, basements, garages or near a window. These appliances give off carbon monoxide which can build up quickly in a home.

Do not use a cooktop or oven to heat the home, as these appliances are not designed for this purpose and may result in carbon monoxide poisonings.

Ensure your home has a battery operated carbon monoxide detector, which are available at

local home improvement and retail stores.

In 2011 alone, there were 22 unintentional deaths and 934 non-fatal unintentional carbon monoxide poisonings in Michigan. Of those, 98 people were poisoned from carbon monoxide produced by generators and 23 from using a cooktop or oven as a heating source.

If carbon monoxide poisoning is suspected, get fresh air immediately and call 911. If the power is out for an extended period of time, residents should also:

Discard any potentially hazardous food (meat, dairy, eggs, cut melons, and cooked vegetables) that has been above 41° F for four hours or more, reached a temperature of 45° F or higher for any length of time, or has an unusual color, odor, or texture.

Wear layers of clothing to help keep in body heat.

Avoid power lines, objects in contact with power lines, and the use of electric tools and appliances to prevent electrical shock.

For more information about carbon monoxide poisoning and poisoning prevention, visit [www.michigan.gov/carbonmonoxide](http://www.michigan.gov/carbonmonoxide). To learn more about safety precautions during a power outage, visit <http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/poweroutage/>.

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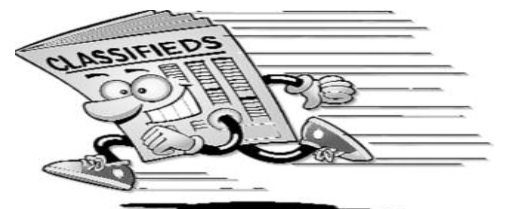
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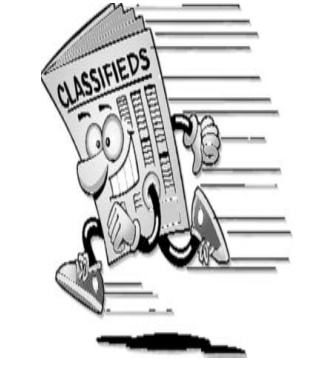
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**CALL TODAY!!**

Gorgeous home just waiting for a family. It needs carpet in one of the bedrooms (padding is down) other than that it is move in ready. Nice mature trees in the yard along with a 10 x 15 storage shed, rear upper level deck off of one of the bedrooms, attached 2-car garage and much more. This is a home you need to see to appreciate. Call today for your personal tour. EPB-206

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**NEED TO SEE!!**

Welcoming charm best describes this 4 bedroom plus home. Beautifully decorated with finished walkout basement. Multiple decks for your enjoyment. Very nice yard with mature trees, 10.74 acres, plus much, much more. You just need see this one to appreciate all that it has to offer. Call listing agent for appt. CC-693

**NICE!!**

Nice 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath Ranch home. The garage has been changed into a family room for extra roaming area for the family. Plus there is a full basement. There are 3 types of heat at this residence, LPFA, electric and wood. The home has been very well taken care of and to top it off out back is a 30 x 40 tool shed w/12' ceiling, concrete and electric. Sets on 1.6 +/- acres. On paved road. Cass City schools. CC-703

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Very nice 3 bedroom home. This home is located in a subdivision just 3 miles from Caro on a large lot. It has an attached 2-1/2 car garage, full basement, fireplace and a closed in sunroom with rear deck. Nicely landscaped yard. C-1277

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**Well maintained home** - Must see to appreciate all the beautiful extras. A great home for entertaining. Many possibilities to finish the basement and have it as an extra family room. Fireplaces are gas log and ready to warm you up. Seller relocating. Ready to move. TCC1673

**Great home to start the new year in** - 2 story home with a possibility of 4 bedrooms, 1-1/2 baths, first floor laundry. Basement and 2-car garage. Call and take a look. CY2681

**Cass City Cape Cod!** - Country view out your back door. Full basement finished, large sun room, garage and workshop. TCC1644

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# Obituaries

## Laura Aneita Denhoff

L. Aneita Denhoff, 92, of Kingston, died following a long illness, Friday, December 27, 2013 in Tuscola County Medical Care Facility, Caro. She was born February 13, 1921 the only child of Vernon and Ada (Jarvis) Green. She married Eldon Everett Denhoff August 24, 1943 in Cass City. He died April 4, 2010.

Aneita attended County Normal and then Central Michigan University where she received her teaching certificate. Aneita was a country school teacher teaching in many area country schools, the last being East Dayton Country School. She also taught for Kingston Community Schools retiring after many years as teacher and then librarian. Aneita was a good, thorough and caring teacher. Many of her former students remember her as being tough, not letting them get away with any-

thing but determined to help them learn. Aneita was a member of OES, Kingston United Methodist Church and Retired Teachers Association. She enjoyed bowling and spending time with friends and family.

Aneita is survived by her children: Betty (Bill) Stark of Beaver Creek, OR, Albert (Marilyn) Denhoff of East Tawas, Mary Kortis of Bella Vista, AR, Carrie (Irv) Gilley of Kingston; grandchildren: Steve (Jaymi), Stark, Brian (Rhonda) Denhoff, Bethany Denhoff, Julie (Randy) Hipps, Chris Kortis, Jeff (Lisa) Kortis, Kate (Mark) Kawiecki and Adam Gilley; great grandchildren: Kenneth, Cole, Kyle, Colin, Allison, Laura, Amber, Sarah, Logan and Abigail. Aneita is also survived by many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her granddaughter, Jill Stark and son-in-law, Joseph Kortis.

Visitation will be held Friday, January 3, 2014 from 2 to 8 p.m. at Kranz Funeral Home, Kingston and Saturday January 4, from 12 to 1 p.m. at the Kingston United Methodist Church.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, January 4, at 1 p.m. in Kingston United Methodist Church, Kingston with the Rev. Debra Brown officiating. Interment will be in Kingston Cemetery, Kingston.

Pallbearers for Mrs. Denhoff: Adam Gilley, Mark Kawiecki, Brian Denhoff, Cole Denhoff, Kyle Denhoff, Colin Denhoff and Randy Hipps.

Memorials may be made to Kingston Library or Kingston United Methodist Church. Family and friends may share memories, prayers and stories with the family at [www.kranzfuneralhome.com](http://www.kranzfuneralhome.com).

Arrangements were provided by Kranz Funeral Home of Kingston.

# Wintertime Blues?

**Thumb offers a plethora of venues to enjoy some outdoor winter fun**

by Ryan Walker  
Staff Writer

Sanilac Petroglyphs Historical  
State Park

The arrival of winter has sent some area residents into a semi-hibernation state. Those same individuals are active throughout the spring, summer and fall, however, the cold and snow drape a blanket of inactivity over the daylight-shortened days.

Research reveals that exercise and periods of sunlight are effective in warding off bouts of depression during the winter months.

Snow can serve as an obstacle to getting outdoors and enjoying nature, but a number of adventurous folks embrace winter recreational activities by turning to cross country skiing and snowshoeing, which are fun for the entire family, young and old.

This 240-acre hidden gem located in Sanilac County can provide cross country skiers and snowshoe enthusiasts with a unique, historical jaunt that crosses the Cass River in two places.

The Sanilac Petroglyphs are the only known prehistoric rock carvings attributed to North American craftsmen in the Lower Peninsula. The archeological site containing the petroglyphs is available for view with a use permit. The rest of the park has a one-mile long trail for hiking, cross country skiing and snowshoeing.

The trail is open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. year-round. The park supervisor can be contacted by calling (989) 856-4411.

## Albert E. Sleeper State Park

Both activities require access to property that offers ideal conditions such as trails and open areas. The good news is, there are state parks and public land throughout the Thumb area that not only provide a great venue for outdoor recreational activities, but also encourage participants to take advantage of the winter fun they offer.

## Bay City State Recreation Area

Located on picturesque Saginaw Bay, the Bay City State Recreation Area provides year-round outdoor opportunities. The roughly 2,100 acres are home to one of the largest freshwater coastal wetlands on the Great Lakes. With more than seven miles of trails, hikers, skiers and snowshoers have the chance to observe the wetlands in their natural state.

Schools interested in encouraging students to take part in the outdoors can visit the recreation area for many educational offerings, including a snowshoe hike. More information is available by calling (989) 684-3020.

## Port Crescent State Park

Nestled at the tip of the Thumb, Port Crescent State Park also lies on scenic Saginaw Bay. Interspersed throughout the 600 acres are trails that can be used in the spring, winter and fall, as well as for cross country skiing or snowshoeing in the winter.

The Port Crescent Day Use Trail stretches for 3.5 miles and provides a view of shoreline habitat. The Organization Area Trail winds for 2.5 miles through the state park. For more information, call (989) 738-8663.

Renowned for its camping facilities, Sleeper State Park provides an extensive trail system ideal for winter sports.

Candlestick Trail runs for .63 of a mile, Deer Run Trail covers two miles, Huron Trail is a .2-mile hike, and Old Dunes rounds out the list at .65 of a mile.

Experienced and adventurous skiers and shoers can follow the trails that wind through the adjacent Rush Lake State Game Area. The forests and wetlands are occupied by a variety of different species of wildlife. The terrain offers different challenges to traverse, such as straight runs, small hills, ridges and sharp turns.

Additional information is available by calling (989) 856-4411.

## Deford State Game Area

While not specifically groomed or maintained for snowshoeing or cross country skiing, there are still several trails on the approximately 10,390 acres that can provide opportunities for both winter activities.

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) parking lots can serve as jumping off points for snowshoeing and cross country skiing. According to experienced trekkers of these trails, it's a good idea to examine a topographical map of the area prior to beginning an adventure.

Veteran snowshoe enthusiast and Cass City resident Tom Lounsbury is no stranger to the Deford State Game Area. He is fond of many of the trailheads that begin just off of Cemetery Road, south of Deckerville Road.

"Blueberry Trail is perfect for snowshoeing," Lounsbury said. "If you have the right snow, it would also be idea for cross country skiing."

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**THIS SIGN at the Blueberry Trail trailhead welcomes visitors to just one of several scenic trails located within the Deford State Game Area.**

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