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winners announced

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CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

VOLUME 109, NUMBER 40

CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2015

75 CENTS ~ 16 PAGES - 3 SUPPLEMENTS

Village okays budget

by Clarke Haire
Publisher

Once again, Cass City village residents can expect to see an increase in their water bills.

A two-percent price hike for water and sewer rate services, slated to go into effect next month, was deemed necessary Monday during the regular meeting of the village council, where officials approved the 2016 operating budget with expenditures totaling \$3.812 million.

Although the new spending plan projects revenue levels to decrease

Please turn to page 4.

Spirit of giving

Anonymous Huron
residents share cash

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

"Spreading Christmas cheer" isn't part of a typical job description for a sheriff's deputy, but Huron County Sheriff Kelly J. Hanson probably considered revising that description for his officers after some generous residents came forward with cash gifts last Christmas and asked deputies to distribute them.

Hanson was pleasantly surprised again this month when those acts of kindness began repeating themselves.

"Once again this year, local families wanting to remain anonymous have come forward with money and have requested that we distribute it at our discretion, in the form of cash or gift

Please turn to page 8.



AFTER A YEAR'S hiatus, the Nicol family's Christmas light extravaganza is back and better than ever this month, boasting a whopping 150,000 lights – a record for the Nicol family — erected by Joel and Jaime Nicol with the help of Joel's parents, John and Gayle Nicol, who started the tradition more than 30 years ago. The amazing light display is located at 6250 Germania Road, about eight miles east of Cass City.

Nicol's 150,000-light Christmas extravaganza in the Thumb area is back and better than ever

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Eat your heart out, Clark W. Griswold.

When it comes to exterior lighting displays during the Christmas season, few folks can even hope to come close to the Nicol family, whose high-tech LED computer-controlled display continues to draw hundreds of people from the Thumb and beyond to their Germania Road home, smack dab in the middle of farm country in northern Sanilac

County.

The display, located about eight miles east of Cass City (and a half-mile south on Germania Road) isn't difficult to find; just look for the house and yard boasting 150,000 lights – some of them twinkling and dancing two stories high. Or the 30 or more vehicles lined up, bumper to bumper, on both sides of the road.

Both the young and young at heart are treated to an electric amusement park of sorts featuring more than a dozen large structures, some of them animated, including a carousel and

Ferris wheel, a castle, lighthouse and a 20-foot snowman.

It's a family tradition that dates back three decades or so, one that Joel and Jaime Nicol took over from Joel's parents, John and Gayle Nicol, back in 2008.

And after a year hiatus in 2014, the couple has enjoyed bringing back the popular Christmas light extravaganza this month.

"I missed it," commented Jaime Nicol, who explained the couple took 2014 off because their plate was full, with the birth of their daughter, Jenna, now 16 months, and major renovations underway at their home. The Nicols also have a son, Justin, three.

"My favorite part of it all – I love giving out candy canes and getting out to meet the people (who stop to see the display) – making new friends, and so I missed that last

year," she said, adding the couple posted a sign last year explaining the decision to keep the lights put away for a year, "but we still had people come out, and they would slow down and read the sign."

Jaime indicated she's quickly made up for lost time since she and Joel unveiled this year's holiday extravaganza Dec. 4. "Opening weekend was crazy," she recalled. "At one point I counted 36 cars. Maybe there were more."

The Christmas-themed spectacle will remain in place for viewing through Thursday, Dec. 31, from 5:15 to 10:30 p.m. each night, and motorists are encouraged to tune their radios to 92.9 FM to enjoy more than two dozen songs that are synced with several of the light displays.

"The show, from start to finish, is

Please turn to page 16.

During annual meet in Grand Rapids

MFB honors Wood for distinguished service to state's agriculture industry

There is no shortage of superlatives to describe Wayne H. Wood's distinguished 14-year tenure as president of Michigan Farm Bureau (MFB) as well as his proud legacy of leadership in the farming community.

Leader of the organization from

2001-2014, Wood stepped down from the position at MFB's 95th annual meeting, one year ago.

Wood was honored with MFB's Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award Dec. 2, during the organization's 2015 annual meeting in Grand Rapids.

Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder praised Wood's leadership of the state's preeminent farming organization.

"Thank you for serving our state and the agricultural community throughout your career," Snyder said. "This award represents many years of hard work and dedication to advocating on behalf of Michigan agriculture. Your expertise in the industry has played a significant role in Michigan's comeback."

"Your support of key initiatives like MAEAP (Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program) has been instrumental in driving the agricultural sector forward. Under your leadership, the food and ag industry has exceeded the \$100-billion mark for annual contributions to Michigan's economy," Snyder added. "On behalf of all Michiganders, I sincerely thank you for your leadership and continued efforts. I have no doubt that agriculture in Michigan is better off today thanks to your dedication."

"Thank you for your partnership in the reinvention of Michigan."

A Sanilac County dairy farmer from Marlette, Wood spent more than three decades involved in Farm Bureau leadership. He served as a director on the American Farm Bureau Federation board and as a member of Michigan's Agricultural

Please turn to page 6.



MFB President Carl Bednarski, Caro, (left) presents his predecessor, lifelong Sanilac County farmer Wayne H. Wood, with Michigan Farm Bureau's 2015 Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award.

Five hurt in pair of traffic crashes over the weekend

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Sanilac County Sheriff's deputies say five people suffered injuries in a pair of traffic crashes over the weekend.

Deputies investigated a one-vehicle accident Saturday at about 8 a.m. on Ugly Road (M-19), south of Cumber Road in Austin Township.

"The investigation revealed that 37-year-old Justin Carpenter of Decker was southbound on Ugly Road when he fell asleep at the wheel," Sgt. Ron DuBois reported. "(His) 2002 Dodge Ram drove off the roadway to the right, entering a shallow ditch before striking two driveway embankments."

"The driver was not wearing his seatbelt, and the impact vaulted his head into the upper windshield and roof, causing injuries," DuBois added.

Bingham EMS personnel transported Carpenter to Huron Medical Center in Bad Axe for treatment of his injuries. Sanilac EMS also provided treatment at the scene of the crash, DuBois said.

Please turn to page 8.

Christmas baskets coming to town thanks to donation to United Way

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

A generous trust donation will help to make Christmas a little nicer for some families in the Cass City area.

"United Way of Tuscola County received a \$2,000 donation from the Maxine Marion Read Trust to be used exclusively for providing holiday food baskets in the Cass City area," said Jim Heiser, director of operations for the United Way of Tuscola County (UWTC). "Thanks to this generous donation, UWTC and Revive Ministries Food Pantry will provide these food baskets."

Heiser said the baskets will be distributed Saturday, Dec. 19, from 10 to 11

Please turn to page 6.



THE KNIGHTS OF Columbus Council 8892 has awarded college scholarships to two recent Cass City High School graduates. Above, Chris Pawloski, the area Knights' scholarship chairman, presents the awards to Erin Zdrojewski, attending Central Michigan University, and Chandler Pawlowski, attending Saginaw Valley State University.

Hey kids! It's time to write letters to Santa

Hey kids, get busy writing those letters to Santa. Everybody knows Santa has a list, and he checks each issue closely this time of year in search of Christmas lists from children in the Thumb area. All you have to do is write your letter and send it to us. The easiest way is to have mom or dad e-mail your note along with a photo of yourself to: sales@ccchronicle.net. Letters can also be mailed to the paper at 6550 Main St., Cass City, MI 48726, or drop them off to us in person (we're located at the corner of Main and Oak streets, next to Schneckberger's). All of the letters will be published in December - most of them in our annual Christmas edition, Wednesday, Dec. 23. But get started now because the deadline is Tuesday, Dec. 15.



Kritzman-Spencer celebrate 59 years



Barbara & Harold Spencer

Harold Hiram Spencer, Jr. and Barbara Jean Kritzman met in Cass City High School over 65 years ago. They were high school sweethearts and were married on December 22, 1956. They will celebrate their 59th wedding anniversary this year. The couple have 4 children: Karen Sue (Herbert) Freeman of Alger, MI; Harold Hiram (Rebecca Ruth Freeman) Spencer III deceased April 22, 2014 of Deford; Christina Marie (Joseph) Favazza of Alger; and Garry Lee (Julie Bell-Warren) of Prescott, MI. They have 12 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and 5 great great-grandchildren with 2 more due in 2016 and several step grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Harold and Barbara live in Alger, but were lifelong residents of Kingston and Deford. Harold continues to work road construction and Barbara is retired from road construction.

Thanks for calling 872-2010 with feature story ideas

SUDOKU

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!

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

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!

Answers to December 9

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

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In Our OPINION..

Clarke Haire
Publisher

Tom Montgomery
Editor

Saving moms' lives should be a priority

Every ten minutes, a woman nearly dies from pregnancy-related complications. In 2010, Michigan had the eighth highest maternal mortality rate in the country with 86 deaths. In industrialized countries, maternal morbidities have increased fifty percent in the last decade.

Health officials in Michigan have taken notice of those startling numbers, which has led to a new partnership we believe is a step in the right direction to address the rising number of women who die as a result of childbirth.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), Michigan Health and Hospital Association (MHA), and Wayne State University (WSU) have joined forces with more than 30 national and local organizations to reduce severe morbidity and maternal mortality across the state of Michigan.

"This new partnership between MDHHS, MHA, and WSU is vital to saving the lives of women in Michigan during childbirth," said Eden Wells, M.D., chief medical executive with MDHHS. "While Michigan's national ranking is staggering, Detroit has three times the nation's maternal mortality rate at 58.7 deaths per 100,000 births.

"We need to work collaboratively to address not only this issue as a whole, but the health equity issues it poses for Michigan families as well."

The Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM) Program is a national partnership of organizations working to reduce severe maternal morbidity by 100,000 events and maternal mortality by 1,000 deaths by 2018.

The national AIM Program will provide intensive technical assistance and implementation support to eight states, including Michigan.

"The Michigan Maternal Mortality Surveillance Medical Committee has been working towards the reduction of maternal mortality for the past decade," said Robert J. Sokol, MD, chair of the MMMS Committee and Emeritus Dean and Emeritus Distinguished Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Physiology at Wayne State University. "We see an opportunity now to do a better job preventing maternal deaths and severe illness with our partners in this public-private statewide consortium."

The national AIM Program has created "Maternal Safety Bundles", outlining a structured framework and checklist of what every birthing unit should have. All bundles include examples of support for patients, families, and staff involved in traumatic events.

"With the MHA Keystone: Obstetrics (OB) collaborative impacting nearly 80 percent of all births in Michigan, our partnership with the national AIM Program will accelerate our work in driving continued safety and quality improvements for mothers and babies across the state," said Sam R. Watson, executive director of the MHA Keystone Center and the MHA's senior vice president of patient safety and quality.



"Our current work...seeks to decrease early elective births before 39 weeks and educate patients around labor management, induction, possible cesarean birth, postpartum hemorrhage and preeclampsia," Watson explained. "This work has resulted in a reduction of early elective births by 60 percent from 2010 to 2014, and this new partnership will build upon the MHA Keystone Center's extensive learning network developed for Michigan hospitals over the past decade."

The Michigan partnership, called MI AIM, will work to provide information and resources to each birthing center in Michigan to ensure that every woman has access to best practices and the best chance for a safe and uneventful birth experience.

Slices of Life

by Jill Pertler

A Star Wars Saga

It's that special time of year and we're a nation in anticipation. My family is experiencing the same star-laden excitement as the rest of the country and I'm not talking about deciding who gets to place the topper on the tree. The newest Star Wars premiere is coming soon to a theater near you!

The whole Star Wars pop culture phenomenon started 38 years ago, in 1977, with the original movie. Because of its success the one movie quickly became a trilogy, with shows released in 1980 and 1983. The second set of three movies spanned from 1999 to 2005 and gave us the prequel to the first three episodes. So, the first episode wasn't the first, it was the fourth, even though it was released first. The second was the fifth and the third the sixth. The fourth was the first and so on. You don't have to be a Jedi Master to follow the logic. Even Jar Jar Binks could do the math.

At our house the excitement is as palpable as Senator Palpatine's evil aura. My guys – all fans of the Force – debate intricacies that I've yet to understand, much less ponder. They are making plans to see the film at midnight the first day it is released. I am making plans to sleep. Sorry, I know how incredibly anti-Wookiee that sounds.

(Whispered) I'm not a huge fan of Star Wars. I don't even own a lightsaber. I'm going to have to rewatch the first six movies in order to understand what's going on in the current one. And, quite frankly, I'm not sure I have the time.

My husband is unaccepting and in denial regarding my total lack of any sense of the Force. He's been trying to get me to turn to the dark side since 1983, when he tricked me into seeing the third movie (which was actually the sixth, we just didn't know it at the time). He said we were going to see "Flashdance," or maybe it was "Terms of Endearment," I can't remember. I do remember not seeing either.

Instead we went to "Return of the Jedi." In a year with films like "Risky Business," "The Big Chill" and "Staying Alive," my husband, who was not my husband or even my boyfriend at the time, picked a movie that featured a Muppet in an attempt to impress me.

Our familial history with the franchise doesn't stop there. Our sons were at impressionable ages when the second trilogy was released and another generation of Star Wars fans was created. One son even had his own Jedi braid when he was about 5. My boys are serious about this "May the Force be with you" stuff.

While epic, here's the Star Wars saga in a nutshell: Boy meets girl. Anakin Skywalker and Padme were 9 and 13 when they first met. They grew up, fell in love and got married. Anakin was busy becoming a Jedi, otherwise known as "one of the good guys," but the dark side proved tempting. Padme got pregnant, delivered twins and died during childbirth. This further pushed Anakin

into the abyss (literally), from which he emerged as Darth Vader – one of the greatest villains of all time.


Jump forward a couple of decades. The twins, Luke and Leia, are all grown up, but they don't know they are brother and sister because they were separated at birth. Leia is a princess. Luke's Jedi skills are emerging. "The Force is strong in this one." Darth Vader attempts to entice Luke over to the dark side. "I am your father." Luke goes to Jedi school with a Muppet.

Meanwhile battles and wars break out and planets get blown up, but Leia's funky hair always stays in place. There are also robots and lots of weird looking aliens thrown in for good measure. Luke fights his dad a couple of times in awesome action scenes featuring lightsabers as the weapons of choice for chopping off right hands. Darth dies, but not before making peace with Luke. Leia falls in love with Han Solo and in a little known tidbit of trivia, Chewbacca marries and has a son named Lumpawarrump. I'm not making that up. I found the info on Wookieepedia, and I'm not making that up, either.

The world's abuzz with Star Wars hype. And, despite not being much of a fan, I'll probably go see the movie. Not at midnight, but I'll go. With my husband – because he is a super fan and we sort of have a longstanding history with this Star Wars stuff.

For us, it all started a long time ago, in a movie theater far, far away, when we were just starry-eyed teenagers not much older than Padme was when she met Anakin. Sigh.

Jill Pertler is an award-winning syndicated columnist, published playwright and author. Don't miss a slice; follow the Slices of Life page on Facebook.



Rabbit Tracks

by Clarke Haire

(And anyone else he can
get to help)

Bert Althaver, former Cass City Citizen of the Year winner, tells the next Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner gala, where the coveted award becomes public, is fast approaching.

Accordingly, nominations for the citizen of the year will be accepted until Friday, Jan. 8, 2016. Nominations should be placed in an envelope and dropped off or mailed to the Cass City Chamber of Commerce office, located inside the downtown municipal building at 6506 Main Street.

Letters to the Editor

Future doc impressed with hospital and town

An open letter to Cass City and surrounding communities:

For the last six months, I've had the pleasure of continuing my medical education in Cass City, a small but resilient community. Never having visited the Thumb prior to this experience, I had no idea what to expect when I chose this location for my primary care rotation through the CMU College of Medicine.

I found Hills and Dales to be a beautifully kept facility with all of the modern amenities of a larger hospital; the most advanced electronic medical record systems available; and up-to-date patient care practices and policies.

The outpatient clinics are home to dedicated physicians and support staff, who go above and beyond to improve the health of every patient in their care. From the moment my fellow classmates and I arrived, I felt extremely welcome. Everyone, from the CEO of the hospital to the patients we saw in the clinics, was so warm and excited for us to be here.

As this was my first clinical experience, the learning curve was steep. However, I found a small town setting to be the perfect learning environment because the pre-existing trust between the physicians and patients provided me as a student more opportunities to learn. I found that most of the patient I saw were more than willing to tell me their medical histories, accept my medical advice and treatment plan, and allowed me to perform various physical exams and procedures.

During my time here, I not only learned about medicine, but I learned about the Thumb region, and how medicine in a rural setting might be different from a more urban setting. Patients' names and faces started to look more and more familiar, and every visit became more conversational and less like a formal encounter.

Please turn to page 8.

<p>CASS CITY CHRONICLE</p> <p>6550 Main Street P.O. Box 115 Cass City, MI 48726 Phone: (989) 872-2010 Fax: (989) 872-3810 Email: chronicle@ccchronicle.net Website: www.ccchronicle.net</p>	<p>PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 6550 MAIN STREET, CASS CITY, MICHIGAN, by Clarke Haire, publisher.</p> <p>Periodical postage paid at Cass City, Michigan 48726.</p> <p>POSTMASTER: Send address changes to CASS CITY CHRONICLE, P.O. BOX 115, CASS CITY, MI 48726.</p> <p>National Advertising Representative, Michigan Weekly Newspapers, Inc., 257 Michigan Avenue, East Lansing, Michigan.</p> <p>For information regarding newspaper advertising and commercial and job printing, telephone: (989) 872-2010.</p> <p>(ISSN 0724-0001)</p>	<p>News Staff</p> <p>Clarke Haire Publisher clarke@ccchronicle.net</p> <p>Tom Montgomery Editor tom@ccchronicle.net</p> <p>Krysta Boyce Sr. Sales Executive sales@ccchronicle.net</p> <p>Deb Severance Composition</p> <p>Tina Pallas Columnist</p> <p>Jill Pertler Columnist</p>	<p>Rates & Policies</p> <p>The Cass City Chronicle reserves the right to edit any and all copy for content and size restrictions. Final editorial judgement lies with the Chronicle management and staff. Deadline for classified advertising is Monday, noon and deadline for display advertising is Friday, 5 p.m. for the next week's edition.</p> <p>Subscription Rates</p> <p>Tuscola, Huron & Sanilac counties - \$23.10 per year. In Michigan - \$27.50 per year. Out-of-State - \$29.70 per year. College - \$15 per year. Email subscriptions - \$22 per year.</p> <p>Payable in advance. Discounts available for multi-year subscription.</p>
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With the holiday season upon us, the Michigan State Police are encouraging citizens to celebrate responsibly. If your holiday party involves alcohol, designate a sober driver before the party begins. In addition, party hosts are asked to make sure all guest leave with a sober driver.

"Driving under the influence of alcohol endangers everyone, from the driver to the passengers, to other people on the road," say Community Service Troopers of the Caro Post. "For safety's sake, please don't get behind the wheel if you've been drinking."

To reduce traffic crashes and fatalities this holiday season, law enforcement officers will be on the lookout for drunk drivers. In addition, officers will be making sure motorists obey laws including using a safety belt and following speed limits.

"The holidays are a time to enjoy gatherings with friends and family," officials say. "Together, we can make sure everyone celebrates safely."

According to the U.S. Fire Administration, one of every three home Christmas tree fires is caused by electrical problems. Here are some basic fire safety reminders to avoid these tragedies:

- *Always unplug lights, both inside and outside, before leaving the house or going to bed.
- *Carefully inspect lights for worn or frayed cords before use.
- *Do not purchase a dry tree or one that's losing its needles. Set tree away from heat sources and exits, and water it daily.
- *Have at least one smoke alarm on every level of your home, especially outside of sleeping areas.

During Operation Christmas Child's National Collection Week, Nov. 16-23, Cass City residents and folks from surrounding counties generously donated 10,500 gift-filled shoeboxes for children in need.

With a computer or mobile device, anyone can still conveniently pack a personalized Operation Christmas Child shoebox gift on the Samaritan's Purse website: samaritanpurse.org/occ. Area residents can select the age and gender of a child to help, shop through an online selection of gifts, "build" the shoebox, write a note of encouragement and upload a photo. This year these gifts will be added to those collected in nine countries so more than 11 million children can receive a personalized gift from people who want them to know they are loved and not forgotten.

Yes, it is truly better to give than to receive.

Trying to find that perfect gift for an avid hunter? Give the hunter on your list the chance at a hunt of a lifetime — a gift of Pure Michigan Hunt applications!

Each year, three people are randomly selected as Pure Michigan Hunt winners. The prize is a hunting package valued at over \$4,000. Each winner receives elk and bear hunting licenses, a Darton Archery crossbow package, a 30.06 rifle from Dick Williams Gun Shop, a 12-gauge shotgun from Ducks Unlimited and many more prizes! For a complete list of licenses and prizes, visit www.mi.gov/pmh.

Hunters must enter to win. The \$5 Pure Michigan Hunt applications can be purchased anywhere hunting licenses are sold as well as online. There is no limit to the amount of applications you can purchase, but the deadline for the 2016 hunting season is Dec. 31, 2015.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Deadline for submitting items in the calendar is the Friday noon before publication. Please send calendar items to:
Cass City Chronicle P.O. Box 115, Cass City MI 48726
Phone: (989)872-2010 Fax: (989)872-3810 chronicle@ccchronicle.net

Wednesday, December 16

- 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.
- Adult Exercise, 8:30 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, Cass City, open to the community.
- After School Adventure, First Presbyterian Church, until 4:15 p.m. For more information call 989-872-5400.
- Bible Study, 7 p.m., Fraser Presbyterian Church. For more information call 989-872-5400.
- Spaghetti Dinner at Cass City VFW Hall from 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Take out available. For more information call (989) 872-4933.

Thursday, December 17

- AA meeting, 7-8 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Cass City. For more information, call (989) 553-5932.
- Sanilac County Alzheimer's and Family Caregiver Support Group, 3 p.m., HDC Adult Day Services Building, 227 N. Elk St., Sandusky. For more information, contact Kim at (989) 673-4121 or Amanda at (810) 648-4497.
- Grief Support meetings, "Healing Together." Heritage Hill, 1430 Cleaver Rd., Caro, 7-8:30 p.m. For questions or to register to attend please call the office at (989) 872-5852 or toll free (877) 872-5852. These sessions are open to anyone dealing with a grief or loss. Sponsored by Hospice Advantage, Cass City.
- Caregiver Support Group, 11:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Bullard-Sanford Memorial Library, 520 W. Huron Ave., Vassar. For more information, contact Merry at (989) 673-4121.

Friday, December 18

- Adult Exercise, 8:30 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, Cass City, open to the community.

Monday, December 21

- Alcoholics Anonymous, "Monday at a Time," 8 p.m., Parkside Cafe, 2031 Main St., Ubyly. For more information, call Angela R. at (989) 658-2319.
- AA meeting, 7-8 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Cass City. For more information, call (989) 553-5932.
- Adult Exercise, 8:30 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, Cass City, open to the community.

Tuesday, December 22

- Al-anon meeting, 7 p.m., St. Francis Parrish, Pigeon.
- AA Meeting, 7-8 p.m., St. Joseph Church, 4960 N. Argyle Rd. (Meeting will be held in the hall next to the little stone church.)
- First Presbyterian Church Bible Study at 11 a.m. For more information call 989-872-5400.

STANDING COMMUNITY CALENDAR ITEMS

First Sunday:

- Gagetown United Methodist Brunch, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., All you can eat. \$6 donation.

First Monday:

- Novesta Township Board meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- Grief Support meetings, "Healing Together." Meadow Lane, 150 Meadow Lane, Bad Axe, 1-3 p.m. For questions or to register to attend please call the office at (989) 872-5852 or toll free (877) 872-5852. These sessions are open to anyone dealing with a grief or loss. Sponsored by Hospice Advantage, Cass City.

Second Monday:

- Elkland Township Board meeting, 7 p.m.
- VFW monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m., VFW Hall, Cass City.

Second Tuesday:

- Thumb Octagon Barn meeting, 7 p.m., fire hall in Gagetown.
- Tuscola County Alzheimer's and Family Caregiver Support Group, 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., HDC Intergenerational Building, 430 Montague Ave., Caro. For more information, contact Merry at (989) 673-4121.
- Kedron OES #33 of Caro meeting, 7 p.m.
- Huron County Family Caregiver Support Group, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Human Development Commission, 150 Nugent Rd., Bad Axe. For more information, contact Merry at (989) 673-4121.

Second Wednesday:

- Dorcas meal at Cass City United Methodist Church at noon. 1 1/4 mile north of Cass City. (989) 872-4604 for take outs.

Second Thursday:

- Caregiver Connection, 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m., Country Gardens, Scheurer Hospital, 203 N. Caseville Rd., Pigeon. For more information, call Merry at (989) 673-4121.

Third Tuesday:

- Living with Parkinson's Support Group, 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m., Holiday Inn Express, 55 Rapson Lane West, Bad Axe. For more information, call Merry at (989) 673-4121.
- Family Caregiver Support Group, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Harbor Beach Community Hospital Administration Building/Conference Center, 147 S. First St., Harbor Beach. For more information, contact Merry at (989) 673-4121
- Ubyly Lions Club meeting, 7:00 p.m. at the Ubyly Thumb Veterans Organization Hall, 2165 Bingham St., Ubyly MI 48475. A pot luck is served prior to the meeting. Everyone is welcomed.

Third Wednesday

- Spaghetti Dinner at Cass City VFW Hall from 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Take out available. For more information call (989) 872-4933.

Third Thursday:

- Sanilac County Alzheimer's and Family Caregiver Support Group, 3 p.m., HDC Adult Day Services Building, 227 N. Elk St., Sandusky. For more information, contact Kim at (989) 673-4121 or Amanda at (810) 648-4497.
- Grief Support meetings, "Healing Together." Heritage Hill, 1430 Cleaver Rd., Caro, 7-8:30 p.m. For questions or to register to attend please call the office at (989) 872-5852 or toll free (877) 872-5852. These sessions are open to anyone dealing with a grief or loss. Sponsored by Hospice Advantage, Cass City.
- Caregiver Support Group, 11:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Bullard-Sanford Memorial Library, 520 W. Huron Ave., Vassar. For more information, contact Merry at (989) 673-4121.

Fourth Monday:

- Cass City School Board meeting, 7 p.m.
- Hills & Dales General Hospital Auxiliary meeting, 11:30 a.m., Gilligans (no meetings July, August, December).
- 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.

Fourth Wednesday:

- 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.
- Sanilac County Alzheimer's and Family Caregiver Support Group, Sanilac County Medical Care Facility. Noon to 2 p.m. For more information, contact Merry at (989) 673-4121

Fourth Thursday:

- Community Lunch, noon, Shabbona United Methodist Church.
- Thumb TEA Party, 6:30 p.m., Evangelical Free Church, Cass City.

Last Monday:

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

Every Monday:

- Alcoholics Anonymous, "Monday at a Time," 8 p.m., Parkside Cafe, 2031 Main St., Ubyly. For more information, call Angela R. at (989) 658-2319.
- AA meeting, 7-8 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Cass City. For more information, call (989) 553-5932.
- Adult Exercise, 8:30 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, Cass City, open to the community.

Every Tuesday:

- Al-anon meeting, 7 p.m., St. Francis Parrish, Pigeon.
- AA Meeting, 7-8 p.m., St. Joseph Church, 4960 N. Argyle Rd. (Meeting will be held in the hall next to the little stone church.)
- First Presbyterian Church Bible Study at 11 a.m. For more information call 989-872-5400.

Every Wednesday:

- 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.
- Adult Exercise, 8:30 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, Cass City, open to the community.
- After School Adventure, First Presbyterian Church, until 4:15 p.m. For more information call 989-872-5400.
- Bible Study, 7 p.m., Fraser Presbyterian Church. For more information call 989-872-5400.

Every Thursday:

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

Every Friday:

- Adult Exercise, 8:30 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, Cass City, open to the community.

Decker woman injured in crash

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

A Decker woman suffered minor injuries in a one-vehicle traffic accident last week in Sanilac County's Evergreen Township.

Sanilac County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to the scene – Leslie Road near Argyle Road – after Sanilac County Central Dispatch received a 911 call Tuesday from

On-Star reporting the crash.

"A 2015 Buick driven by 61-year-old Bonnie Adkins-Salowitz of Decker was traveling north on Leslie Road when the vehicle began to drive across the center and ended up going into the ditch on the west side of the road," said Sgt. Matt Armstrong. "The vehicle proceeded along the ditch bank, striking an embankment for a private driveway, and the vehicle went up and over the driveway and came to rest in the

ditch."

The driver suffered minor injuries. A MMR crew transported her to Hills and Dales General Hospital in Cass City for treatment.

"She was being evaluated for a possible medical condition which led to the accident," said Armstrong, who noted Adkins-Salowitz was wearing a seatbelt.

Argyle fire fighters assisted deputies at the scene.

Circuit court proceedings

Several appear recently on felony charges

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

*Damian K. Meindl II, 28, Detroit, pleaded guilty to charges of attempted carrying a concealed weapon and assaulting, resisting or obstructing a police officer Oct. 5 in Caro. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (three or more prior felony convictions).

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered in the case, bond was continued at \$20,000 and the defendant was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Penny J. McIntyre, 31, Vassar, pleaded no contest to one count of assaulting, resisting or obstructing a police officer Aug. 1, 2014, in Vassar. She was also convicted of being an habitual offender (one prior felony conviction).

A pre-sentence investigation was

ordered and bond was continued at \$2,500. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Cody M. Hodgins, 24, Millington, pleaded guilty to violating the Sex Offenders Registration Act by failing to notify local law enforcement that he had changed his place of employment or that his employment had been discontinued between Dec. 19, 2014, and June 1, 2015, in Arbela Township. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (three or more prior felony convictions).

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$10,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Nicholas H. Guthrie, 37, Flint, pleaded guilty to failure to pay child support April 1 through Aug. 31 in Caro. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (three or more prior felony convictions).

A pre-sentence investigation was

ordered. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Austin M. Graubner, 21, Vassar, was sentenced to 34 months to 20 years in prison following his pleas of no contest to charges of breaking and entering a building with intent to commit larceny, larceny of a firearm, possession of a firearm by a felon, and possession of a firearm in the commission of a felony between Aug. 14 and Aug. 18 in Vassar Township.

He was also ordered to pay court costs and fines totaling \$462 plus restitution of \$196.84.

*Raymond K. Baker, 44, Caro, was sentenced to 180 days in the county jail following his plea of guilty to operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor, third offense, July 28 in Caro.

He was also placed on 60 months probation and ordered to complete 480 hours of community service and pay costs and fines totaling \$1,258.

Village officials approve new spending plan

Continued from page one.

4.8 percent during the upcoming year, the call for increased water rates drew criticism from a couple of residents during a public hearing held prior to passing the new financial measures.

Good news concerning next year's spending strategy, Clerk-Treasurer Nanette Walsh reported, is property taxes will remain unchanged at 18.137 mills, meaning the owner of a house with a market value of \$40,000 will pay roughly \$360 for the year. Unfortunately, taxable property values in the village continue to fall and next year's refuse fees will increase slightly – from \$12.08 to \$12.32 per pick-up.

Still, Village Manager Peter Cristiano feels the new proposal will allow local citizens to continue enjoying the benefits of small town living.

"The 2016 budget is balanced and meets the goals of village staff, council and residents," Cristiano said. "The theme that runs through this proposed budget is one of maximizing available resources, both physical and human, to continue an exceptional quality of life for residents of Cass City."

Planned for the upcoming year is the purchase of a new police car and street sweeper.

The new Ford Interceptor utility vehicle will replace a 2012 Dodge Charger patrol car. The AWD vehicle, officials say, will be an asset to the community for emergency responses in inclement weather. Meanwhile, bids for a new Elgin Street Sweeper – slated to replace a 1995 Elgin Sweeper – will be opened Wednesday, Jan. 20, at 2 pm at the municipal building.

At the wastewater treatment plant, the proposed budget calls for electrical improvements, and in the Motor Vehicle and Equipment Fund a paint buggy and additional hydraulics for

the grader are scheduled for purchase.

In the Water Enterprise Fund, capital improvements will include hydrant replacements, completion of the GIS system and SCADA upgrades.

Also next year a two-percent wage increase for village workers is scheduled, and health insurance costs are expected to be 1.8-percent higher in 2016.

Turning to the Parks and Recreation Department, the village's day camp, Helen Stevens Memorial Pool and other facilities have been restructured to expend fewer dollars.

"User fees are the responsibility of the parks and recreation director, who will continually review cost and revenues and measure ways to increase usage of our parks system," Cristiano said, noting the village expects to keep the same high level

of services by being more efficient.

LOAN PAYMENT

In other financial matters Monday, the council approved a one-time additional payment of \$200,000 to Chemical Bank, Midland, for a direct principal payment against the wastewater treatment plant installment loan.

By keeping costs contained, and receiving unanticipated higher usage revenues, the village is in a good position to make this payment, according to Cristiano, who explained the first loan payment of \$58,248 is due Dec. 23 and includes both principal and interest.

"The additional payment of \$200,000 will be made directly to the principal and terms of the loan do not penalize for early pay down," he said.

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Sunday		By appointment

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2015 Window Decorating Contest

Businesses & Residential
Decorating will be judged December 18.

Winners will be announced
on December 22.

If you are out of town, please call 872-4618.



Reporter's notebook



Alcohol, drugs got you down?

by Tom Montgomery
Editor



The holidays don't mean all that much when you're addicted to drugs and/or alcohol, largely because every day of the year – every minute, every day, every week – is all about using and making sure that next fix is going to be there when you need it.

Christmas and New Year's Day celebrations don't change that.

Sure, you may be the life of the party around family and friends, but you're miserable. Maybe it's been years since you first realized you're still using not because it's fun to get high, but because it's the only way to keep the pain and anxiety of not using at bay.

It's an exhausting treadmill; a dark, depressing, lonely, fearful, hopeless existence. And when you get right down to it, the prospects of an early grave don't hold much sting in your mind anymore.

But if that's where your life is at, it doesn't have to stay that way.

I know. Up until four years ago, I was where you are now.

I've been sober since late December 2011 – feels like a lifetime — thanks to the gift of desperation, which finally forced me to make the decision to put down the bottle for good. It was the most difficult thing I've ever tried to do. Ever. In fact, I'll be the first to tell you I spent the first several months thinking sobriety really sucks (still do occasionally).

But it's been so worth it.

And I'm going to share my secret with you, here and now.

Start by getting out of your isolation. In short, if you really want to break those chains — and what addict doesn't deep down inside – talk to someone; a friend, family member, clergyman, doctor, a counselor. Don't stop until you find someone who will listen — really listen – and point you in the right direction.

Of course, once you get up the nerve to do that, you're going to have to be brutally honest about your addiction, and that's not an easy thing to do. We addicts/alcoholics have some real issues with the truth when we're using.

Try to get past the fear of what others will think about you. Hey, no one could possibly have more disdain for us than we do when we're using. We hate looking in the mirror, which is no surprise considering we spend much of our time loathing ourselves.

Keep in mind that addiction is a tricky as well as nasty customer, so you have to find the sort of help that will work for you. Some people will tell you to go to support group meetings, while others might suggest out-patient substance abuse counseling or admitting yourself into a more intensive in-patient program.

Those are all good suggestions, but you have to decide what sort of help and how much you need to get back on your feet again. You have to embrace that whole honesty thing.

Just a word of caution here: there are plenty of recovering addicts and alcoholics out there who will tell you exactly how to get straight based on what worked for them. Don't buy into that, because some of the most popular methods out there lose their shine when you take a close look at their success rates. There isn't a one-size-fits-all solution out there. You have to find the right combination of supports that will work best for you. And you will find them if you keep looking.

It all sounds overwhelming, I know, but this is doable and worth every painful moment as you create your own new beginning.

Don't let another Christmas or New Year's pass you by with a drink, pill or syringe in your hand. You can do this.

I won't tell you getting sober is easy or painless, but I can guarantee you one thing – if you give it time, sobriety will deliver everything drugs or alcohol have been promising all these years.

Down Memory Lane

by Tina Pallas



5 YEARS AGO (2010)

Old Man Winter roared into the Thumb with a vengeance Saturday night and early Sunday morning, dumping several inches of snow and bringing winds of 30 miles an hour. Wind chills dropped to minus-10 degrees. All area schools were closed Monday, as were all Tuscola County government offices. The white stuff was welcomed by some, including Doug Wilson of Cass City, out fueling his snowmobile at the Shell station in town Saturday afternoon. Wilson was out with his daughter, Dakota, 14, his daughter, Hope, 10, and his son, Braden, 9.

The 2010-11 Cass City Red Hawk gymnastics team include Dakota Wilson, Catherine Lugo, Kylie Maggard, Katelyn Hacker, Rachel Bartnik, Robin Dinsmore, Sarah Burk, Halley Wynn, Katherine Woodruff, Chelste Lauria, Alexandra Pena, Kelsey Russell, Mandi Bartnik, Chelsea Green and Lizzy Deluyck. Coached by Kathy Bouverette.

Several members of the Owendale-Gagetown/Caseville varsity football team were recently honored at their Fall Sports Banquet. They are Ben Good, freshman, Ron Good Most Improved Player Award; Tommy Kennedy, sophomore, Honorable Mention All Conference; Mike Mandich, sophomore, Eugene Mitchell Outstanding Interior Lineman Award; Clyde Rhodes, senior, Captain Award, Defensive Player of the Year Award and 1st Team All-Conference; Hunter Champagne, junior, Assistant Captain Award, Duane Ziehm Most Valuable Player and 1st Team All-Conference; Jordan Kain, sophomore, Offensive Player of the Year Award and Danny Jeffery, sophomore, Don Cummings Oil Can Award.

10 YEARS AGO (2005)

Dawn Marie Enderle and Matthew David Bussey were married at a Christian ceremony Nov. 5, 2005 at the Cass City United Methodist Church, Cass City. The Rev. Alice Sheffield and the Rev. George Ward officiated the ceremony. The bride was given in marriage by her father, Frank Enderle.

Ron and Karen Ouvry of Cass City announce the engagement of their daughter, Ashley, to Kyle Greenwood. Kyle is the son of Roy and Chris Greenwood of Caro. Ashley is a graduate of Cass City High School and Grand Rapids Community College. She is continuing her education in gerontology and is currently interning at Covenant Village of the Great Lakes, a retirement community in Grand Rapids. Kyle is a graduate of Caro High School and Ferris State University. He has a degree in marketing and is a certified PGA Professional. He is currently employed at Maple Hill Golf Course in Grandville. A July 1, 2006 wedding is being planned.

The top spelling bee finishers in grades 5 and 6 are Jared Weidman (first), Alison Blattner (second), Madie Lively (third), Ali Smith (fourth), Alexandra Pena (fifth) and Jessa Prieskorn (sixth).

Spelling their way to the top in grades 7 and 8 were Mason Doerr (first), Kelsey Rudy (second), Jalen Ferris (third), Angie Janssen (fourth) and Jordan Yax (fifth).

25 YEARS AGO (1990)

When it comes to holiday lighting, few displays rival that put up by area residents John and Gayle Nicol, whose decorated Robinson Road home offers a striking view in the rural countryside about 9 miles east of Cass City. In all, the couple spent about a week stringing some 5,500 lights this season.

A Christmas dinner was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Dennis at Caro. Present were Mr. and Mrs. Mike Fader and daughter Heather, Jimmie Dennis and Julia Generous, Kerry Dennis and friend Tom, Mrs. Daisy Hodges, all of Caro, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Morell, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Laurie, Mr. and Mrs. Doug Laurie and boys, Mr. and Mrs. Loren O'Harris and family, Mr. and Mrs. David Laurie and Maegan, all of Cass City, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Garcia and family of Adrian, Mr. and Mrs. James Neal and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Quinn and boys of Toledo, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Ball entertained at an early Christmas dinner Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Ball and family of Reese and Mrs. Laura Ball of Cass City. Afternoon visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Richard Armstrong of Lapeer and Mr. and Mrs. Tom Newbegin of Clifford.

Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Wildman of Sebawaing announce the engage-

ment of their daughter, Theresa Diane, of Bay City, to Charles F. Auten, of Bloomfield Hills. Charles is the son of Mr. and Mrs. F.B. Auten of Cass City. A May 18, 1991, wedding is planned.

35 YEARS AGO (1980)

Cindy Opanasenko of Cass City was one of approximately 125 students from Highland Pines School in Caro to be greeted by Santa Claus Monday at the ninth annual Christmas party at the Cass Theatre for handicapped youngsters. Bauer Candy Co. provided the Christmas candy and General Telephone paid for lunch at The Station dining room, reopened for the occasion.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Ball and sons had with them Sunday for an early Christmas dinner, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Ball and children of Reese and Mrs. Grant Ball. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Armstrong and family of Lapeer joined them in the afternoon.

Donald Loomis and his mother, Mrs. Howard Loomis, went to Suttons Bay Sunday where Miss Becky Loomis is a teacher. At 11 a.m. in the BayView Wesleyan Church in Traverse City, they attended a concert of which Miss Loomis was the director. Sunday evening they attended a community choir presentation for which Miss Becky Loomis is pianist. It was presented in the Leelanau Bay theatre at Suttons Bay. They returned home Monday.

Ms. Barbara Zuckerman was honored at a bridal shower Sunday, Dec. 14, at the home of Mrs. Betty Pattullo, along with co-hostess Mrs. Sally DeCou. The bride's mother and grandmother, Mrs. Maeda Zuckerman and Gertrude Silverman, and other relatives attended from Southfield. The mother of the groom, Mrs. Ira Osentoski, and sister-in-law, Mrs. Martin Osentoski, attended from Cass City. An afternoon luncheon was served to 30 guests and was highlighted with a birthday cake, prepared by Marie Osentoski, for the bride's mother. Ms. Zuckerman is the bride-elect of David Osentoski of Caro. The couple plan to be married during the holidays and will honeymoon on Marco Island, Fla.

Mrs. Herman Umpfenbach and Mrs. James Karr, worthy matron and marshall of Echo chapter OES, attended the fall meeting of the OES Thumb Association Dec. 6 at Sebawaing. The annual report showed a gain of seven new members and a loss of 48 members during the past year. Mrs. Karr was installed as marshall of the Association for the coming year. The spring rally will be held at Decker.

40 YEARS AGO (1975)

Kingston Elementary school students prepared to give 200 bales of hay destined for the Detroit Zoo a rousing send-off last week. The hay, which will feed one bison for one year, is part of a bicentennial project. School officials said the students became interested in the project after they learned that the zoo is financially strapped.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sugden and Mrs. Etta Sugden of Cass City, Mrs. Marie Sefton of Argyle and Mrs. Iva Soflin of Crosswell spent Sunday in Port Huron and celebrated Mrs. Soflin's birthday Sunday evening. Ice cream and cake were served.

Mrs. Esther McCullough entertained friends at dinner Saturday evening to celebrate the birthdays of Mrs. James McMahan and Harold Perry. Guests included Mrs. McMahan, the Perrys, Miss Muriel Addison and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Ludlow.

Mrs. Glenn McClorey had as a week-end guest, her sister, Miss Lessel Crawford of Pontiac. Other callers on Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Crawford and son Jon of Caro.

50 YEARS AGO (1965)

Six months of negotiations between Walbro Corporation of Cass City and representatives of the UAW, AFL-CIO Local 213 ended Tuesday with the signing of a one year contract which gives employees a 15 and a quarter cents an hour raise, including fringe benefits. Negotiations on the contract, the first for Walbro, have been underway since July 16. The contract took effect immediately. Jack Esau and Howard Bacon represented the company and Rod Karr, Pat Sherman and Lucille Cooper represented the employees. Kirk Perly was the union negotiator.

If you believe that to be single is to be happy, then Tuscola county's eligible bachelors are taking the season seriously. For the first time in at least

10 years, there was not one marriage license issued or applied for in Tuscola county during the week's period from Tuesday noon through Tuesday noon, according to information reported by the clerk's office.

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Bartsch of Farmington announce the birth of a daughter Nov. 13, Kathleen Marie. She is the first great-great-grandchild of Mrs. Ethel Spittler.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Peasley Jr. had as week-end guests, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Getchel of Lincoln. The entire group were Sunday dinner guests of Rev. and Mrs. George Getchel and family.

Jane Richards, former Cass City resident, was a member of the Alma College a cappella choir which presented a concert in Cass City Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Holland of Sebawaing (Patty Finkbiener) returned home Friday from Chicago where they had spent six weeks while Mr. Holland was attending school.

75 YEARS AGO (1940)

The fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the State Savings Bank at Gagetown was celebrated at a reception in the Gagetown High School auditorium Thursday evening, December 19. Invitations were mailed to 350 families and several hundred people attended. J. L. Purdy, president of the bank, was also honored at the gathering for his banking career that began the day he and his father established the institution in 1890.

Rev. Stanley P. Kim, the newly appointed pastor of the Evangelical Church here, was the speaker at the Rotary Club luncheon Tuesday and told of some of his experiences as a missionary in China. With the aid of a blackboard, Mr. Kim illustrated the intricacies of Chinese writing and also told his listeners how the slightest inflection in pronunciation changes the meaning of a word in that language. Fred Pinney was program chairman. Among the guests were four 4-H Club members—Leslie Smith and Bruce Stine, who exhibited grand champion and reserve champion steers at the Junior Livestock Show at Detroit, and Jeanne Muck and Norene Goodall, who showed grand champion and reserve champion steers at the Michigan State Fair.

Dr. Fred Hemerick's dental office at Sandusky was destroyed by fire Sunday afternoon and the loss is estimated at \$10,000. The origin of the blaze is unknown. Firemen were unable to bring the flames under control but succeeded in preventing the fire from reaching the Sandusky Bakery and the K. H. McKenzie store nearby.

100 YEARS AGO (1915)

Nearly \$2,500,000 have been raised by Red Cross Christmas Seals in the last seven years, and yet many people who will buy these holiday stickers at this eighth annual sale do not know how the charity stamp idea originated. It was war that brought forth the charity stamp, our Civil war of '61 to '65. Some of your grandmothers first played "post office" with stickers similar to Red Cross Seals way back in 1862 when they conceived the idea of selling stamps at fairs for the benefit of the relief funds for the soldiers' hospitals.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. James McQueen at Hay Creek was the scene of a pretty wedding on Wednesday, December 8, when their son, James McQueen was married to Miss Laura Brown. The rooms used for the occasion were made beautiful with bouquets of white roses and white carnations. The bridal party was formed as Mr. Brinker played the wedding march, and Rev. John Willerton performed the ceremony, using the ring service. The bride wore a becoming gown of white silk and lace. Immediately after the rites had been performed a bountiful dinner was served.

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NOTICE Greenleaf Township Residents Board of Review

The Greenleaf Township Board of Review meeting will be held at the Greenleaf Township Hall - 1 1/2 miles north on Cass City Rd. to 7510 Gilbert Rd.

December 16, 2015 at 9 a.m.

to correct errors and omissions

Lori Mazure, Clerk
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Monday, December 7th – Saturday, December 19th

Monday 7 40% OFF Ornaments	Tuesday 8 40% OFF Santas	Wednesday 9 40% OFF Nativities & Angels	Thursday 10 40% OFF Christmas Wall Decor	Friday 11 40% OFF Christmas Candles and Christmas Candle Accessories	Saturday 12 40% OFF Christmas Nightlights
Monday 14 40% OFF Christmas Jewelry	Tuesday 15 40% OFF Christmas Puzzles	Wednesday 16 40% OFF Wreaths & Foliage*	Thursday 17 40% OFF Trees	Friday 18 40% OFF Gift Wrap, Bags & Bows**	Saturday 19 40% OFF Snowmen

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MFB recognizes Wayne Wood for service

Continued from page one.

Preservation Fund board. He was appointed by Snyder to serve a term on the Michigan Strategic Fund board following his formal retirement from the top post at MFB last year.

"Wayne Wood is truly one of the great agricultural leaders of his generation," said Dan Wyant, director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

Wyant pointed to several of Wood's accomplishments—the Right to Farm program, MAEAP, livestock and plant initiatives, Diagnostic Center for Population and Animal Health at Michigan State University—to illustrate what he described as Wood's profound impact as MFB's leader.

"Michigan had model programs under Wayne's leadership and tenure," Wyant said. "He had a tremendous ability to get things done and a tremendous vision for agriculture—a true leader for Michigan."

Wood has also been instrumental in helping develop future MFB leaders.

"Before I became Sanilac County president, Wayne and I had talked about it," current Sanilac County Farm Bureau President Mike Noll recalled. "I said, 'Wayne, what drives you? What makes you want to

be so involved and so active?' He said, 'Mike, the most rewarding thing for me is this is the same at the county level as it is at state.'

"He says, 'When I walk away, if it can be better than when I got here, I know I accomplished what I set out to do.'"

Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award recipients are selected by the MFB Board of

Directors based on nominations submitted by county Farm Bureaus and other agriculture industry representatives. In considering applicants, the board looks for individuals who have helped improve the status of Michigan agriculture.

MFB is the state's largest farm organization, representing the interests of more than 45,000 farm families.



FORMER MFB President Wayne H. Wood, recipient of the organization's 2015 Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award, addresses the MFB annual meeting crowd.

Christmas baskets coming thanks to donation to U-W

Continued from page one.

a.m. at Revive Ministries, located at 6400 Main St. in Cass City.

Area residents can also get into the spirit of giving by donating to the local United Way organization, which works year round to meet a variety of needs in Cass City and other communities throughout Tuscola County, according to Heiser. "Since 1998, UWTC has distributed nearly \$1 million in funds to agencies that provide programs and services dedicated to making a positive impact in Tuscola County," Heiser said.

"A \$100 donation can provide over-the-counter medications to 10 children (through the Human Development Commission's Thumb Area Assault Crisis Center), personal protective orders for four abused women (through Lakeshore Legal Aid), 200 pounds of food for runaway and homeless youth (Innerlink Youth Protection), and purchase and mail 12 age-appropriate books to three-plus children per year (through the Imagination Library)," he added.

In addition, UWTC, in a partner-

ship with FamilyWise Community Service has saved \$54,894 on prescription costs for 150 residents in Tuscola County on nearly 1,100 prescriptions.

"By reducing the burden of high prescription medication costs for those that are uninsured or underinsured, we are helping to build a stronger community," Heiser said, adding free FamilyWise Prescription Savings Cards are available by calling UWTC at (989) 325-1980.

Heiser noted UWTC is also registered with AmazonSmile, a website operated by Amazon that offers the same wide selection of products and convenient shopping available on Amazon.com. "The difference is that when customers shop on Amazon Smile (smile.amazon.com), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate .5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organization selected by the customer. The AmazonSmile Foundation does not charge fees or any other charges for this fundraising program," said Heiser, who urges customers using AmazonSmile to indicate UWTC as the charitable organization.

And, of course, area residents can

boost the United Way's efforts by simply making a cash donation to the organization.

"Our current mail campaign is at \$7,364.31, and there is still time to contribute this year," Heiser said. "Anyone wishing to contribute can send their contribution to United Way of Tuscola County, P.O. Box 51, Cass City, Michigan, 48726."

The UWTC is governed by a board of directors, and Heiser announced that local resident Jason Bitzer has recently joined the organization's leadership team.

"Jason graduated from Caro High School, Eastern Michigan University, and Thomas Cooley Law School. He is employed at Bidding & Bitzer, PLLC Attorneys and Counselors, and resides in Cass City," he noted.

Bitzer joins a board composed of Mary Kulis, president; Susan Holder, vice president; Dawn Prieskorn, secretary/treasurer; Heiser; and directors Sandy Gaudreau, Myrtle Oatzen and Ken Spencer.

For more information on UWTC or to obtain a brochure, contact Heiser at (989) 325-1980.

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 "I'm ok" I wish you would
 look me in the eye and say
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www.tbhsonline.com

Train, quilt raffle ticket deadline set next week

Area residents still have a few days left to get in on raffles for a train set and a quilt at Rawson Memorial District Library in Cass City.

"For the past five years or so at the holidays, Kevin Gracey has had a wonderful Christmas train display in the lobby of the library. Each year he has also donated a train set for children to win," said library Director Kate Van Auken, who added raffle tickets for the train cost 50 cents, with proceeds going towards the purchase of books for the Cass City Rotary Club's Christmas for Kids project.

"This year, (area resident) Donna Sageman donated her late husband's eight-foot H.O. train layout, which includes a ton of other things. We are going to do a silent auction for this, with the minimum bid at \$100," Van Auken said. "Kevin is also donating another train set, too."

She added local resident and library patron Sandra Nizzola donated the quilt that will be raffled.

"This is the second quilt that Sandy Nizzola has donated. She gave us one a few years back, and then this beautiful one this year," Van Auken noted. "The first quilt raised over \$100, and I am hoping the same for this one. Sandy specifically said she wanted the proceeds to be used for children's books and children's DVDs."

More information is available by stopping in at the library or by calling (989) 872-2856.

Obituaries

Antonina Donovan

Antonina (Toni) Donovan, 75, of Gagetown, passed away Fri., Dec. 11, 2015 at Timberline Lodge AFC Home, Caro.

Toni was born March 11, 1940 in Detroit, the daughter of the late John and Sophie (Wierzbicka) Gajor and was a resident of the Caro and Gagetown area since 1975.

She married Eugene Donovan in 1975. He passed away on April 6, 2012. She graduated from the St. Clair Community College Nursing Program and worked at McLaren Bay Region Hospital and Brian's House Hospice as a Licensed Practical Nurse.

Toni is survived by her children, Sue Donovan of Utica, Nancy (Bill) Donovan-Barbour of Sterling Heights, Charles (Sandy) Donovan of IL, Jeanne (Joe) Donovan-Adams of Coleman, Ward (Debbie) Donovan of Caro, James (JoLynne) Stewart of WI and Sheila (Randy) Czaplak of Deford, 14 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by a son, Joseph Donovan on July 6, 2013; 4 sisters and 3 brothers.

A funeral service was held Dec. 15, 2015 at Thabet Funeral Home. The Reverend Mark Melillo officiated. Burial will be in Ellington Township Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Tuscola County Humane Society. Please share condolences at www.thabetfuneralhome.com

Arrangements were made by Thabet Funeral Home of Cass City.

Jerry Mayer

Jerry Lee Mayer, 72, of Alma, passed away Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at Masonic Pathways in Alma.

He was born August 13, 1943 in Covington, Kentucky, the son of Charles and Betty (Runge) Mayer.

He was a graduate of Owendale-Gagetown High School and went on to earn his Bachelor of Science Degree from CMU.

On August 21, 1965 he married Elizabeth "Betty" Burdon at St. Agatha's Catholic Church in Gagetown.

Jerry taught 8th grade science classes for St. Louis Public Schools for 30 years and while working in St. Louis Schools he coached high school track and cross country. In 1979 he earned the Michigan Coach of the Year for Class C Cross Country. He was a 40 year member of the Michigan Track Coaches Association and held offices of secretary, treasurer, vice-president and president over the years. After his retirement he continued as an assistant coach for Hemlock Schools. Outside of being with his family, Jerry loved coaching and investing in each of his athlete's lives. He was proud to have coached so many great athletes in his career and was fond of all the great memories they shared. Jerry also enjoyed woodworking, lapidary and gardening, before falling ill to Parkinson's Disease.



Jerry is survived by his wife of 50 years, Betty of Alma; two children, Jim (Jennifer) Mayer of Midland and Kara (Todd) Belding of DeWitt; three granddaughters, Olivia Mayer, Kristine and Laura Belding; and two brothers, Charles (Eva) Mayer of Leesburg, FL and Roger (Kathy) Mayer of The Villages, FL.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a granddaughter, Katie Mayer.

A memorial service was held December 12 at Lux-Moody-Wolfel Funeral Home. Memorial contributions may be made to the Parkinson's Foundation. To view Jerry's obituary online, or to leave a condolence for the family, please visit www.luxfuneralhomes.com.

Jacqueline Tilt

Jacqueline Fox Tilt passed away peacefully with her family at her side Sunday, December 6, 2015 after a brief illness. She was 85 years old.

Jackie was born May 6, 1930 in Hastings, Michigan, the daughter of Homer and Mary (Barnum) Fox.

On December 16, 1962, she married Thomas A. Tilt, and he survives her.

Jackie enjoyed many years working in the floral business at Nielsen's and Chelsea Flower Shop in Ann Arbor. She had a creative passion for quilting, painting and gardening, and spent countless hours volunteering at Arbor Hospice.

She was a devoted wife and loving mother to her two sons, George (Sandy) Tilt of Saline, MI and John (Barbie) Tilt of Cass City, MI. In addition to her two sons, she is survived by her granddaughter Alexandria Tilt and her two sisters, Sandy Lazarus of Apopka, FL and Sister Ann (Jeri) Fox of Boston, MA.

A memorial service will take place to celebrate Jackie's life on Saturday, December 19, 2015, at the Cass City United Methodist Church, at 2:00 p.m. There will be a time for fellowship and refreshments following the service.

To sign Jackie's guest book, or to leave a memory, please visit www.rbh-saline.com.

**Send Letters to the Editor to
Cass City Chronicle
P.O. Box 115, Cass City**

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www.anchorcoveoutreachchurch.com



Cass City Missionary Church

4449 Koepfgen Rd., Cass City, MI 48726 • 989-872-2729
Worship Service 8:30 a.m. • 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
Associate Pastor: Justin Kuhl
www.casscitymc.org

Cass City United Methodist Church

5100 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



Community Baptist Church (Independent Fundamental)

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.

Deford Community Church

1392 N. Kingston Rd.
(1/4 mile south of Deford on Kingston Rd.)
872-4055
Sundays - 10 a.m.
Wednesday - 7 p.m.
Pastor: David Cooper
DefordCommunityChurch.org



Evangelical Free Church of Cass City

6430 Chestnut Blvd., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-5060
Summer Cafe Church Brunch at 10 a.m. Sunday Worship: 10:15 a.m.
Midweek Bible Studies • Biblical Counseling
Pastor: Rev. Todd R. Gould
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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 6:15 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. • Wednesday - Teen Club 6:15 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Pastor: David G. Hill
Website: www.fbccc.us



First Presbyterian Church

Barrier Free • State & National Historical Registry
6505 Church St., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-5400 • Worship Service 10:45 a.m.
Exercise Program: Mon., Wed. & Fri. at 8:30 a.m. • After School
Adventure: Wed. following school - 4:15 • Bible Study: Wed. 7 p.m.
Pastor: Rev. Linda Graham



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.
Social/Mission Coffee Hour 10:15 am. • Pastor: Rev. Linda Graham



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: Steve Bagnall
www.goodshepherdlutherancasscity.webs.com



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.lwwccog.net



Mizpah Missionary Church

4631 N. Van Dyke, Cass City, MI 48726
Sunday School: 10 a.m. • Sunday Service: 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Group 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m. • Wednesday Kids' Club 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m.
Pastor Dale Bullock 989-872-2828

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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
Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. • Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Pastor: F. Robert Tucker



Our Lady Consolata Parish

4292 S. Seeger St., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-3336
Sunday Mass: Saturday 5:00 p.m. - Sunday: 8:00 a.m.
Daily Mass: Wednesday 9:00 a.m.
Parochial Administration: Fr. Christian Tabares



THE KNIGHTS OF Columbus Council 8892 recently hosted its annual spelling bee in Cass City. Pictured above are the winners in grades seven through nine: (from left) Emilee Bruno, fifth place; Luke Stern, fourth place; Tiffany Matson, third place; Marla Muter, second place; and Taryn Pisarek, first place. The winners were rewarded with McDonald's gift cards and Cass Theatre passes.



LOCAL SPELLING bee winners in grades five and six were: (from left) Vaughn Severance, first place; Alexandria Tilt, second place; Lukas Sheridan, third place; Olivia Graff, fourth place; and Quentin Rick, fifth place. Each of them received a McDonald's gift card and Cass Theatre pass.

Five hurt in Sanilac County crashes

Continued from page one.

FOUR HURT

Later the same day, at about 7:15 p.m., deputies were dispatched to South Lakeshore Road, near Lynn Boulevard, in Sanilac County's Worth Township to investigate a head-on collision.

According to Sgt. Matthew Armstrong, the accident was the result of a chain reaction crash involving four vehicles.

"A 2014 Ford Fusion being driven by 44-year-old Monique Touchette-Soper of Lexington and also occupied by her 14-year-old daughter was northbound on South Lakeshore and

was attempting to turn left onto Lynn Boulevard with its blinker on. That vehicle was waiting for southbound traffic to clear before proceeding," Armstrong said.

"A 2003 Dodge Stratus being driven by 19-year-old Emily Glennie of Port Huron was also northbound on South Lakeshore Road and came to a stop behind the...Ford Fusion while that vehicle waiting to turn left," he added. "A 2001 Ford Taurus that was being driven by 27-year-old Erika Ramsey of Cass City was the third vehicle northbound on South Lakeshore Road. (Ramsey) did not stop in stop in time and struck the second vehicle (2003 Dodge Stratus), causing that vehicle to enter into the southbound lane on South

Lakeshore Road, and the 2001 Ford Taurus then struck the 2014 Ford Fusion.

"The 2003 Dodge Stratus then struck a southbound 2014 Buick Lacrosse head-on," said Armstrong, who added that vehicle was driven by Jacob Smith, 76, of Lexington, and also occupied by Smith's wife, Verna Smith, 75.

Glennie, Jacob Smith and Verna Smith were all transported to McLaren-Port Huron Hospital by Crosswell EMS for treatment of their injuries, and Ramsey was taken by Tri-Hospital EMS to McKenzie Memorial Hospital in Sandusky for treatment.

All six occupants are believed to have been wearing seatbelts, according to Armstrong, who said the investigation is continuing.

The Lexington and Crosswell police departments and Lexington and Crosswell fire departments all assisted deputies at the scene.

Letters to the Editor

Future physician impressed with Hills and Dales and community

Continued from page three.

Just as I established relationships with our regular patients, I also came to know and appreciate the many healthcare professionals I had the pleasure of working with. Over time, I felt that I started to belong in the Hills and Dales healthcare system, and that I had learned how to be an integral part of a healthcare team.

I appreciate the physicians, especially Dr. Donald Robbins Jr., and all of the wonderful staff who took on the daily burden of teaching students; Hills and Dales for providing the resources and clinical learning environment; all of the hospital employees; and most importantly each and every patient.

Please know that you helped shape the mind of a future doctor, and that your generosity will never be forgotten. I hope that I can repay you for all you've given me by building on the lessons I've learned here as I move forward in my training, and by one day practicing medicine in a small, but resilient community not unlike Cass City, Mich.

Cassandra Vogel
M.D. Candidate 2017
Central Michigan University|College of Medicine

Anonymous Huron donors sharing cash for holidays

Continued from page one.

certificate, to individuals or families that are having a hard time making ends meet or have been set back due to some type of circumstance this past year," Hanson announced Friday.

"With some of those circumstances being health, tragedy or loss of a loved one, the main goal of this project is to brighten up or extend a little extra help for this Christmas," he added.

"Last year's effort was very much appreciated and was displayed in the numerous thank-you cards and messages that I received from the many who we reached out to. Some...may recall there were five families last year that dropped off a total of fifty \$100 bills (\$5,000)," Hanson continued. "This year, so far, seven families have dropped off a combined total of \$4,400."

Members of the county's law enforcement community along with local clergy, school officials and community leaders are lending a hand by helping the sheriff's department select recipients for the gifts based on need, according to the sheriff. "Unfortunately, last year a couple situations did arise where special provisions couldn't be implemented for high-risk recipients due to...substance abuse concerns," he said. "With any luck, this year that won't be an issue."

"Beginning within the next couple of days, our deputies will start delivering Christmas cards containing a \$100 bill or a gift certificate equivalent to recipients in hopes of accomplishing our goal," he added.

"We at our sheriff's office are very proud of those caring families who stepped forward, as well as the multitude of other individuals who donated toys or money to the Toys for Tots campaign. That program, too, was very successful again this year," Hanson said. "These acts of kindness certainly say a lot about the county we live in."



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Hawks bounce back

by Clarke Haire
Publisher

Cass City rebounded nicely from Friday's loss at the Saginaw Valley State University Ryder Center with a 46-34 win at Capac.

After Sandusky delivered the Red Hawks a 51-36 non-conference defeat at this year's Cardinal Classic, Coach Tyler Erla's team improved to 2-1 on the early season Monday with a double digit road victory over the Chiefs.

Both teams struggled to score in the opening quarter and would enter the quarter before the intermission tied at 6-6. There, however, guards Sawyer Cuthrell and Parker Haire took control for the winners. After both teams traded baskets to get

things started in period two, nine unanswered points by the senior playmakers had the Red Hawks enjoying their biggest spread of the night entering the final half.

Cuthrell was hot from the outside and his three treys complimented three hoops by Haire who was able to find success by driving down the lane and getting to the rim late in the half.

It wouldn't take Capac long to close the gap. The hosts used steals and subsequent lay-ins by Andrew Sams to crawl back into contention during the third frame and a pair of fast break points from Noah Burgess helped to put the Chiefs on top 26-25.

"We had some problems getting the ball in bounds," said Erla.

But down the stretch Cass City remained calm and Cuthrell kept cool to ice the game at the stripe. Chase Winter converted a pair of freebies to make the score 41-32 with 1:57 left on the clock. Brad Hacker was next to the line for Cass

Please turn to page 10.

Cass City grapplers come up just short

In an early season showdown, Bad Axe topped visiting Cass City 45-35 during a Greater Thumb Conference wrestling thriller not decided until the final match.

Joining the two preseason league favorites Wednesday was Brown City. The Green Devils surrendered 69-15 to the Hatchets and 59-18 to the Red Hawks.

While the opening matches against Brown City were one-sided affairs, last week's marquee match-up didn't fail to live up to its billing. Both teams battled back-and-forth on the night, exchanging the lead eight times, before Zach Jandereski captured the 145 pound match to seal the Hatchet victory.

Cass City had five double winners in their first outing of the year. Going 2-0 were Tylor Cowdry (103), Alex Jeffrey (112), Race Woloshen (125), Seth Osentoski (140), and T. J. Moore (189).

On Saturday, Coach Don Markel's grapplers rebounded nicely from their heart breaking loss against Bad Axe at the Marlette Team Tournament, placing second in the six team field with a 4-1 record over the weekend.

"Even though we are off to a 5-2 start, we are missing several opportunities on the mat due to poor technique and timing. Those are two areas of focus that will be worked on in practice this week as we prepare for Mayville and Ubly on Wednesday and the Cros-Lex tournament on Saturday," Markel said.

After bowing to eventual champion Algonac 60-12 to open the day, Cass City reeled off four straight victories to finish as the runner-up. The Red Hawks defeated Brown City 51-28, Marlette 40-39, Otisville-Lakeville 46-24, and North Branch 60-21.

The final team standings were Algonac (4-1), Cass City (4-1), Marlette (3-2), Brown City (1-4) Otisville-Lakeville (1-4) and North Branch (1-4).

Cowdry and T. J. Moore posted perfect 5-0 showings to lead the Red Hawks, while Jeffrey and Wyatt Dickson each registered 4-1 marks.



RED HAWK Kelcie Autry uses her dribble to move down the lane against the defense of Sandusky's Ceirra Phillips during GTC crossover play Thursday in Cass City.



NOT IN MY HOUSE. Bulldog Dan Good makes a play at the rim Friday against Kimball Landmark Academy.

Sandusky gals roll

Despite a game-high 18 points by sophomore Sayge Cuthrell, Cass City was no match for visiting Sandusky Thursday during a Greater Thumb Conference crossover game.

The Lady Redskins took an 18-6 lead after one quarter and increased their advantage to 35-10 at the half. The visitors would extend the gap to 58-26 entering the final 8 minutes, before settling for a 68-46 non-conference decision.

A balanced Sandusky scoring attack saw five players pour in multiple baskets before the break. Haley Nelson tossed in a pair of field goals in each first half period to pace the winners. She was the lone Redskin to finish in double-digits with 17 points, but was far from the only Redskin making contributions for Coach Al DeMott.

Jenna Franzel registered seven early points that included Sandusky's only hoop from behind the 3-point arc, while Lacey Nielsen contributed three field goals and Ceirra Phillips and Ally Black chipped in with two buckets apiece heading into the break.

Unable to find any offensive rhythm, Cass City Coach Steve Hollocker went to his bench midway through the initial half looking for help with the ball. The move worked as substitutes Josie Loomis, Lauren Dickinson and Victoria Cumper combined for eight points to offset early foul troubles by the hosts.

Nelson and Madsen Jansen rattled in 15 third quarter points, part of a 23-10 Redskin run that removed all doubt from the game's outcome.

"The team played really hard again, but we struggled in the first half and weren't able to overcome our slow start. Sayge had another great game for us and Kelsey Bouverette played

solid in limited action due to foul trouble. We're a very young and inexperienced team, so nights against high caliber teams will be part of our growing experience. I'm proud of the girls' effort and tenacity. They played hard to the final whistle," said Hollocker.

Cuthrell scored in every period and went 4-for-4 at the foul line in a complete showing that also included 12 rebounds and 2 blocks. Bouverette added 8 points, 5 rebounds and one block, while Rylie Weiler was credited with 5 points, 5 steals and 2 assists.

Kingston 66, Caseville 36

Kingston had no trouble during their North Central Thumb League opener Friday and raced to a 30 point win over guest Caseville.

Several fast break opportunities created leads of 22-4 and 37-11 for the winners. Carley Smith and Sarah Savage each recorded 15 points for Kingston, while Madison Cofer finished with 10.

Heidi Ewald tossed in a dozen and Olivia Grates added 10 for Caseville.

Owen-Gage 24, Landmark 16

A low scoring affair proved to be to host Owen-Gage's liking Friday, as the Bulldogs' defense came up big in Owendale against Landmark Academy.

Courtney Wightman and Alyson Witzke split 22 points to lead Owen-Gage.

Girls' Basketball Standings

Greater Thumb West			
	W	L	W L
USA	0	0	3 1
Bad Axe	0	0	2 1
EPBP	0	0	2 2
Reese	0	0	2 2
Cass City	0	0	1 2
Vassar	0	0	0 3

Greater Thumb East			
	W	L	W L
Marlette	0	0	4 0
Sandusky	0	0	3 0
Brown City	0	0	2 0
Harbor Beach	0	0	3 1
Ubly	0	0	2 1
Memphis	0	0	2 3

NCTL			
	W	L	W L
Kingston	1	0	2 1
Mayville	0	0	1 2
Deckerville	0	0	1 2
Peck	0	0	0 2
Dryden	0	0	0 2
North Huron	0	0	0 3
Caseville	0	1	1 2

Summit League			
	W	L	W L
BCAS	0	0	3 1
Flint Int.	0	0	2 1
SASA	0	0	2 1
Akron-Fair.	0	0	2 2
Owen-Gage	0	0	1 3

Gymnasts set

Coach Kathy Bouverette will ring in the New Year with one of the largest Cass City gymnastic teams in recent memory. The Lady Red Hawks swing into action Jan. 9 in Fraser.

While there is little doubt the veteran coach, along with long-time Asst. Coaches John and Lena Waltz, will miss graduates and standout team leaders Miranda Spry and Kendra Kerkau from last year's squad, they can turn to a handful of returning leters winners to build around in 2016.

Among the returnees for Cass City expected to qualify for Individual Regionals this year are Alexis Bates and Victoria Mathewson. The duo was regional qualifiers on the vault in 2015.

Red Hawks Becca Mulrath, Sophia Romain, Savannah Walker and Emily Gilliam all look to be much improved with a year of varsity gymnastics to their credit. They, and a handful of rookies, will need to develop quickly for Cass City to qualify for Team Regionals, a yearly goal for the local gymnastics under Bouverette's tenure.



THE CASS CITY 2015-16 gymnastic team members are: (front, l-r) Drew Susalla, Gabrielle Romain, Emily Gilliam, Alexis Bates (middle) Larissa Moreira, Megan Graham, Becca Mulrath, Savannah Walker, Cali Richardson (back) Coach Kathy Bouverette, Kate Dzyuba, Brittany Swiderski, Sami Stern, Victoria Mathewson and Kani Arstanbaeva. Missing are Sophia Romain, Jillian Erla and Asst. Coaches John and Lena Waltz.

Bulldogs start season strong

Continued from page 9.

City and his two free throws, followed by three makes from Cuthrell at the stripe prevented any comeback hopes Capac may have been entertaining.

Cuthrell paced Cass City with 15 points, while Haire finished with 11. Hacker and Logan Schenk split 10 markers.

For Capac, Burgess reached double-digits with a team high 10 points.

Owen-Gage 56, Landmark 47

Owen-Gage outscored visiting Landmark Academy in every quarter Friday to earn the non-conference decision.

The Bulldogs enjoyed narrow leads

of 12-11 after one quarter and 31-28 after two. The winners then outscored their guests 14-9 in the third and held on for the win.

David Binder, Jacob Wright and Dan Good had monster games for the Bulldogs. Binder posted a team-high 18 points and 11 rebounds, Wright added 16 points and 15 rebounds, and Good collected a team-best 16 rebounds, 8 blocks and 9 points.

Lake Shannon posted 23 points in vain for Landmark Academy.

Fabulous Four's Fearless Forecast

2015 Basketball Picks Dec. 16-18



Krysta Boyce



Clarke Haire



Geoff Morgan



Doug Hyatt

BOYS' BASKETBALL

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 16

Bad Axe at Brown City
Ubyly at EPBP
Flint MSD at Owen-Gage

THURSDAY, DEC 17.

Caseville at Kingston
FRIDAY, DEC. 18

Marlette at Cass City
EPBP at Sandusky
USA at BCAS
Vassar at Harbor Beach

Bad Axe
Ubyly
Owen-Gage

Kingston

Marlette
Sandusky
USA
Vassar

Bad Axe
Ubyly
Owen-Gage

Kingston

Cass City
Sandusky
USA
Vassar

Bad Axe
Ubyly
Owen-Gage

Kingston

Marlette
Sandusky
USA
Vassar

Bad Axe
EPBP
Owen-Gage

Kingston

Marlette
Sandusky
USA
Vassar

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

THURSDAY, DEC. 17

Bad Axe at Cass City
EPBP at USA
Harbor Beach at Ubyly
Sandusky at Matlette

FRIDAY, DEC. 18

Caseville at Kingston

Cass City
USA
Harbor Beach
Sandusky

Kingston

Bad Axe
USA
Harbor Beach
Sandusky

Kingston

Bad Axe
USA
Harbor Beach
Marlette

Kingston

Bad Axe
USA
Harbor Beach
Sandusky

Kingston

SEASON RESULTS

(10-2 83%)

(7-5 58%)

(5-7 41%)

(10-2 83%)



FIRST BUCK. Cass City youth Paula Learman, 10, used a muzzleloader to down this nice 6-point buck. She is the daughter of Paul and Mayra Learman.

Schneeberger's ATHLETE of the WEEK

Schneeberger's selects Cass City's Tylor Cowdry as their choice for "Athlete of the Week" award honors.

The Red Hawk junior grappler, who posted a 30-23 record last season, kicked off his 2015-16 campaign with a perfect 7-0 showing.



Cowdry was a double winner in the Red Hawks' opening Greater Thumb Conference meet last week in Bad Axe and followed up his opening performance with a perfect 5-0 effort over the weekend in Marlette, where the mighty mite defended foes from Algonac, Marlette, Brown City, Otisville-Lakeville and North Branch.

Tylor is the son of Ryan and Jennifer Cowdry.

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Cass City Jr./Sr. High School 2015-16 Winter Sports Schedules

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

Varsity Boys' Basketball

DATE	OPPONENT
12/9	Mayville
12/11	Sandusky 51, CC 36
12/14	Capac
12/16	Memphis
12/18	Marlette
1/6	BCAS
1/8	Lakers
1/13	Harbor Beach
1/15	Reese
1/18	Caro
1/22	USA
1/27	Brown City
1/29	Vassar (snowcoming)
2/3	Bad Axe
2/5	Lakers
2/12	Reese
2/17	Ubyly
2/19	USA
2/26	Vassar
3/3	Bad Axe
3/7-11	District @ Harbor Beach - TBD

Games begin at 7:30 p.m.

Follow our Hawks at Home

JV & Varsity Boys' Basketball
December 16 vs. Memphis
JV starts at 6:00 p.m.

JV & Varsity Girls' Basketball
December 15 vs. Memphis
JV starts at 6:00 p.m.

Wrestling
Ubyly/Vassar
January 13 at 6:00 p.m.

Varsity Girls' Basketball

DATE	OPPONENT
12/1	CC 53, Mayville 13
12/4	Marlette 50, CC 28
12/10	Sandusky 68, CC 46
12/15	Memphis
12/17	Bad Axe
12/22	BCAS
1/7	Lakers
1/12	Harbor Beach
1/14	Reese
1/19	Caro
1/21	USA
1/26	Brown City
1/28	Vassar
2/2	Bad Axe
2/4	Lakers
2/9	Akron-Fairgrove
2/11	Reese
2/16	Ubyly
2/18	USA
2/25	Vassar
2/29-3/5	Districts @ USA TBD

Games begin at 7:30 p.m.

Junior Varsity Boys' Basketball

DATE	OPPONENT
12/9	Mayville
12/11	Sandusky @ SVSU
12/14	Capac @ 5:30 P.M.
12/16	Memphis
12/18	Marlette
1/6	BCAS
1/8	Lakers
1/13	Harbor Beach
1/15	Reese
1/18	Caro
1/22	USA
1/27	Brown City
1/29	Vassar (snowcoming)
2/3	Bad Axe
2/5	Lakers
2/12	Reese
2/17	Ubyly
2/19	USA
2/26	Vassar
3/3	Bad Axe
3/7-11	District @ Harbor Beach - TBD

Games begin at 6 p.m.

Wrestling

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
12/9	Bad Axe/Brown City	6:00 p.m.
12/12	Marlette Team Tourny	8:00 a.m.
12/16	Mayville/Ubyly	6:00 p.m.
12/19	Cros-Lex Team Tourny	9:00 a.m.
12/29	Mayville Ind. Tourny	TBD
1/6	Sandusky/Brown City	6:00 p.m.
1/9	N. Branch Team Tourny	9:00 a.m.
1/13	Ubyly/Vassar	6:00 p.m.
1/16	Flushing Team Tourny	8:00 a.m.
1/20	Marlette/Memphis	6:00 p.m.
1/23	Mayville Team Tourny	9:00 a.m.
1/27	Caro/Frankenmuth	6:00 p.m.
1/30	Bullock Creek Team Tourny	8:30 a.m.
2/6	GTC Lean Meet @ Brown City	TBD
2/10	Team Districts	TBD
2/13	Individual Districts@Mayville	TBD
2/17	Team Regionals@N. Lothrop	TBD
2/20	Individual Regionals@N. Lothrop	TBD
2/26-27	Team State Finals @ Mt. Pleasant	TBD
3/3-5	Indiv. State Finals @ Auburn Hills	TBD

Junior Varsity Girls' Basketball

DATE	OPPONENT
12/1	CC 44, Mayville 6
12/4	Marlette 40, 27
12/10	Sandusky
12/15	Memphis
12/17	Bad Axe
12/22	BCAS
1/7	Lakers
1/12	Harbor Beach
1/14	Reese
1/19	Caro
1/21	USA
1/26	Brown City
1/28	Vassar
2/2	Bad Axe
2/4	Lakers
2/9	Akron-Fairgrove
2/11	Reese
2/16	Ubyly
2/18	USA
2/25	Vassar
2/29-3/5	Districts @ USA TBD

Games begin at 6 p.m.

Gymnastics

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
1/9	Fraser	9:00 a.m.
1/12	Vassar	6:30 p.m.
1/16	Milford-Lakeland	8:30 a.m.
2/4	Fenton	6:30 p.m.
2/13	Vassar Invite	10:00 a.m.
2/25	Vassar	6:30 p.m.

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Legal Notices

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 Joseph A Higginson Sr aka Joseph A Higginson, a married person, original mortgagor(s), to Wells Fargo Bank, NA, Mortgagee, dated July 21, 2011, and recorded on July 29, 2011 in Liber 1226 on Page 1268, in Tuscola county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Fifty-Eight Thousand Six Hundred Sixty-Eight and 47/100 Dollars (\$58,668.47).

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 vendue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on January 7, 2016.

Said premises are situated in Village of Fairgrove, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 38, Hillcrest Subdivision, according to the plat recorded in Liber 3 of Plats, Page 27, of 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: November 25, 2015
For more information, please call:
FC D (248) 593-1309
Trott Law, P.C.
Attorneys For Servicer
31440 Northwestern Hwy Ste 200
Farmington Hills, Michigan
48334-5422
File #457695F01

11-25-4

to Nationstar Mortgage LLC, as assigned, Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Twelve Thousand Four Hundred Seventy-Eight Dollars and Three Cents (\$112,478.03), including interest at 4.625% 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 vendue, front entrance of the Courthouse Building in the City of Caro, Michigan, Tuscola County at 10:00 AM o'clock, on January 7, 2016 Said premises are located in Tuscola County, Michigan and are described as: THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PREMISES SITUATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF KINGSTON, COUNTY OF TUSCOLA, STATE OF MICHIGAN, TO WIT: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTH 1/4 POST OF SECTION 33, TOWN 12 NORTH, RANGE 11 EAST; RUNNING THENCE NORTH 0 DEGREES 15 MINUTES EAST, 264 FEET ON THE NORTH-SOUTH 1/4 LINE OF SAID SECTION 33; THENCE EAST 0 DEGREES, 165 FEET ON A LINE PARALLEL TO THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 33; THENCE SOUTH 0 DEGREES 15 MINUTES WEST, 264 FEET TO THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 33; THENCE WEST 0 DEGREES, 165 FEET ALONG SAID SOUTH SECTION LINE TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; EXCEPT 60 FEET OF ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241, in which case the redemption period shall be 1 month, or under MCL 600.3241a 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later, or extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 600 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, under 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. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. Nationstar Mortgage LLC Mortgagee / Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman, P.C. 23938 Research Drive, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 S20150731161309 FHLMC

11-25-4

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 Michelle R. Burch, an unmarried woman, original mortgagor(s), to First Chicago NBD Mortgage Company, Mortgagee, dated July

10, 1998, and recorded on July 16, 1998 in Liber 744 on Page 1452, and assigned by mesne assignments to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association as assignee as documented by an assignment, in Tuscola county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Twenty-Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety-Six and 89/100 Dollars (\$29,896.89).

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 vendue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on January 7, 2016.

Said premises are situated in Township of Akron, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as: Commencing at a point 21 rods North of the Southeast corner of Section 33, Town 14 North, Range 8 East, thence West 11 rods, thence South 6 1/2 rods, thence East 11 rods, thence North 6 1/2 rods to the point of beginning.

Right of way for Ringle Road over the Easterly side thereof.

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 2, 2015
For more information, please call:
FC S (248) 593-1304
Trott Law, P.C.
Attorneys For Servicer
31440 Northwestern Hwy Ste 200
Farmington Hills, Michigan
48334-5422
File #117469F04

12-2-4

IF YOU ARE NOW ON ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY OR HAVE BEEN IN THE PRIOR ONE YEAR, PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT 586-777-0770

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE MORTGAGE SALE-Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a mortgage made by ALAN K. COLOSKY, a single man, 122 S. EAST STREET, VASSAR, MI 48768, Mortgagor(s) to FRANKENMUTH CREDIT UNION, 580 NORTH MAIN STREET, FRANKENMUTH, MI 48734, Mortgagee dated JANUARY 24, 2003, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Tuscola County, and State of Michigan on MARCH 17, 2003, in LIBER 921 on PAGE 223 and loan modification dated FEBRUARY 28, 2013, and recorded on MARCH 11, 2013, in LIBER 1274 on PAGE 48 of Tuscola County Records with ALAN COLOSKY aka ALAN K. COLOSKY, a married man and JENNIFER COLOSKY, his wife, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, for principal and interest, the sum of FORTY SIX THOUSAND TWENTY THREE AND 18/100THS (\$46,023.18) DOLLARS at 7% percent per annum and attorney fees as provided for in said Mortgage, and no suit or proceedings at law or in equity have been instituted to recover the moneys secured by said Mortgage, or any part thereof;

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN 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 JANUARY 14, 2016, AT 10:00 A.M. local time, said Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at public auction, to the highest bidder in the main lobby of the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County, Michigan (that being the building where the Circuit Court for the County of Tuscola is held), of the premises described in said mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due, aforesaid, on said mortgage with interest thereon and 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: VILLAGE NOW CITY OF VASSAR, COUNTY OF TUSCOLA AND STATE OF MICHIGAN, to wit: ALL THAT PART OF LOTS 15 AND 16, BLOCK 22 OF THE PLAT OF THE VILLAGE (NOW CITY) OF VASSAR, NOW BEING T. NORTH'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF VASSAR, DESCRIBED AS COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 16; THENCE SOUTHERLY ALONG EAST STREET, 8 RODS; THENCE WEST ALONG THE LINE OF LOT 15, 8 RODS; THENCE NORTH PARALLEL WITH EAST STREET, 8 RODS; THENCE EAST TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, EXCEPT THE EAST 8 RODS OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF LOT 15, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN LIBER 1 OF PLATS, PAGE 21A OF TUSCOLA COUNTY RECORDS. PROPERTY ADDRESS: 122 S. EAST STREET, VASSAR, MI 48768 During the SIX (6) MONTHS immediately following the sale, the property may be redeemed, except that in the event that the property is determined to be abandoned pursuant to MCLA 600.3241 a, the property may be redeemed during the thirty (30) days immediately following the sale. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foregoing Mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, 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 damage to the property during the redemption period.

KENNETH C. BUTLER II (P 28477)
ATTORNEY FOR MORTGAGEE
24525 Harper Avenue
St. Clair Shores, MI 48080
(586) 777-0770
Dated: 12-16-15

12-16-5

Without official Public Notice

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Currently and historically, it is the responsibility of government to publish public and legal notices here in Michigan's newspapers. Facts concerning court actions, government bids, zoning changes, tax increases, and legislative proposals are all published here. In fact, it's the law serving your right to know; assuring that you are informed of events and important information affecting your life and community.



Public Notices in Newspapers.
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SCHNEIDERMAN & SHERMAN, P.C., IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT, ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT (248)539-7400 IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY. MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by LAWRENCE THRALL and BILLIE MAY THRALL, HUSBAND AND WIFE, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender's successors and assigns, Mortgagee, dated August 16, 2013, and recorded on August 23, 2013, in Liber 1290, on Page 918, and assigned by said mortgagee

Legal Notices

IF YOU ARE NOW ON ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY OR HAVE BEEN IN THE PRIOR ONE YEAR, PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT 248-502-1400.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Amy L. Lugo aka Amy Lugo, a single woman and Bobbi A. Lugo aka Bobbi Ann Lugo, a single woman, to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., Mortgagee, dated October 21, 2005 and recorded November 8, 2005 in Liber 1060, Page 1019, Tuscola County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust 2006-WFHE1, Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-WFHE1, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-Three Thousand Three Hundred Twenty-Four and 34/100 Dollars (\$63,324.34), including interest at 7.375% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, Michigan at 10:00 AM on JANUARY 14, 2016.

Said premises are located in the City of Caro, Tuscola County Michigan, and are described as: Lot 9, Block 43 of the Plat of Centerville (now Caro), according to the Plat recorded in Liber 11 of Deeds, Pages 362-363, now being Liber 1 of Plats, Page 56, now being Page 59A.

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

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, 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 damage to the property during the redemption period.

Dated: December 16, 2015
Orlans Associates, P.C.
Attorneys For Servicer
P.O. Box 5041
Troy, MI 48007
File No. 15-010200

12-16-4

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 Harold C. Garrison and Elizabeth J. Garrison, husband and wife, as joint tenants with full rights of survivorship, original mortgagor(s), to James B. Nutter and Company, Mortgagee, dated November 21, 2007, and recorded on February 1, 2008 in Liber 1140 on Page 920 in instrument

200800904303, in Tuscola county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Seventy Thousand Two Hundred Ninety-Four and 96/100 Dollars (\$170,294.96).

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 vendue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on January 14, 2016.

Said premises are situated in Township of Dayton, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as: Parcel A: Part of the Southeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 21, Township 11 North, Range 10 East, described as: Beginning at a point on the East line of said Southeast 1/4 which is North 00 degrees 01 minutes 39 seconds West along said East line 984.39 feet from the Southeast corner of said Section 21; thence continuing North 00 degrees 01 minutes 39 seconds West along said East line 337.70 feet to the North line of said Southeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4; thence South 89 degrees 39 minutes 18 seconds West along said North line 1291.21 feet to the East line of the West 33 feet of said Southeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4; thence South 00 degrees 01 minutes 56 seconds East along said East line; 337.70 feet; thence North 89 degrees 39 minutes 13 seconds East parallel with said North line 1291.18 feet to the point of beginning.

Being the same property conveyed to Harold C Garrison by deed dated February 20, 1998 and recorded March 5, 1998 in Deed Book 731, Page 1250, in the Office of the Recorder of Tuscola County, Michigan. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

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 16, 2015
For more information, please call:
FC H (248) 593-1300
Trott Law, P.C.
Attorneys For Servicer
31440 Northwestern Hwy Ste 200
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-5422
File #425305F03

12-16-4

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 Dwight D. Thabet and Elizabeth A. Thabet, husband and wife, original mortgagor(s), to Ameriquest Mortgage Company, Mortgagee, dated August 31, 2005, and recorded on September

13, 2005 in Liber 1053 on Page 1400, and assigned by mesne assignments to JPMC Specialty Mortgage LLC as assignee as documented by an assignment, in Tuscola county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Fifty-Four Thousand One Hundred Fifty-Five and 85/100 Dollars (\$54,155.85).

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 vendue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on January 14, 2016. Said premises are situated in Township of Elkland, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 12, Block A, Kelland's Addition to the Village of Cass City, according to the Plat recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 7, now being Page 8A, and a parcel of land commencing at the Northeast corner of Lot 12; thence North 96.8 feet; thence West 85.14 feet; thence South 97 feet; thence East 85.14 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: December 16, 2015 For more information, please call: FC S (248) 593-1304 Trott Law, P.C. Attorneys For Servicer 31440 Northwestern Hwy Ste 200 Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-5422 File #458487F01 (12-16)(01-06)

12-16-4

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 James Zwerican and Sabrina Zwerican, Husband and Wife, original mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., Mortgagee, dated November 9, 2006, and recorded on November 29, 2006 in Liber 1103 on Page 1122, and assigned by mesne assignments to FNBN I, LLC as assignee as documented by an assignment, in Tuscola county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Two Hundred Twenty-Four Thousand Eighty-Three and 08/100 Dollars (\$224,083.08).

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 vendue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on

January 14, 2016.

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

Parcel J:
A Parcel of land in the Northeast 1/4 of Section 21, Township 10 North, Range 8 East, Millington Township, Tuscola County, Michigan, described as follows: To fix the point of beginning commence at the Northeast corner of Section 21; thence South 00 degrees 09 minutes 22 seconds West. On the East line of said Section, 867.17 feet; thence South 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West, parallel with the North line of said Section 450.57 feet to the point of beginning of this description; thence South 00 degrees 09 minutes 22 seconds West, parallel with said East Section Line, 208.43 feet; thence South 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West, parallel with said North Section line, 803.70 feet; thence North 00 degrees 19 minutes 41 seconds East, 208.43 feet; thence North 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East, parallel with said North Section Line, 803.08 feet to the point of beginning.

Subject to and together with a private easement for ingress, egress and utilities on, over, under and across the following described parcel of land: A strip of line 66.00 feet in width across a portion of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 21, Township 10 North, Range 8 East, Millington Township, Tuscola County, Michigan, being 33.00 feet measured either at right angles or radially, each side of the following described centerline: To fix the point of beginning commence at the Northeast corner of Section 21, thence South 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West, on the North line of said Section 714.09 feet to the point of beginning of

said centerline; thence South 00 degrees 34 minutes 5 seconds East, 308.97 feet to the point of curvature of a 178.50 foot radius curve left (delta angle of 78 degrees 53 minutes 16 seconds) 245.77 feet to a point of reverse curve, said are being subtended by a chord bearing South 40 degrees 00 minutes 43 seconds East, 226.81 feet to said point of reverse curve; thence Southeasterly, on the arc of a 178.50 foot radius curve to right (delta angle of 79 degrees 36 minutes 43 seconds) 248.02 feet to the point of tangency of said curve, said curve being subtended by a chord bearing South 39 degrees 39 minutes 00 seconds East, 228.55 feet to said point of tangency; thence South 00 degrees 09 minutes 22 seconds West, parallel with the East line of said Section, 625.28 feet to the point of ending of said centerline.

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 16, 2015
For more information, please call:
FC S (248) 593-1304
Trott Law, P.C.
Attorneys For Servicer
31440 Northwestern Hwy Ste 200
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-5422
File #330674F02

12-16-4

*Have a concern? A complaint?
Just want to voice your opinion?*

**The Cass City Chronicle
welcomes letters
to the editor.**

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

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

Vacancy Posting

Position: Elementary Special Education Teacher
Qualifications: Must be Highly Qualified in Elementary Special Education. Need to be knowledgeable in Dibels, Pals, Six Minute Solution, Phonics for reading or other math and reading interventions.
Deadline: January 22, 2015
 Apply to: **Terry Falkenberg, Superintendent**
Owendale-Gagetown Area Schools - 7166 Main St. Owendale, MI 48754
falkenbergt@owengage.org ~ Telephone: (989) 678-4141 ~ Fax: (989) 678-4284

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Transit (nonbusiness) rates, 10 words or less, \$5.00 each insertion; additional words 15 cents each. Three weeks for the price of 2-cash rate. Save money by enclosing cash with mail orders. Rates for display want ads on application.

General Merchandise

FOR SALE - 12 gauge single shot shotgun in nice shape. \$100. Call 872-3928.
 1-12-9-2

Real Estate For Rent

NICE COUNTRY home, beautiful view — 2-3 bedrooms, appliances, new carpet & paint. Paved road between Caro & Cass City. No pets or smoking. \$450. Call 989-872-2248 or 989-872-8825, evenings cell 989-737-3517.
 4-9-30-1f

Services

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FOR RENT — Cass City Mini Storage. Call 989-872-3917.
 4-1-23-1f

Household Sales

ESTATE SALE - 11948 Winters Rd., Sebawaing. Thursday, Dec. 17 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 18 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (50% off); Saturday, Dec. 19 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (75% off); King and full size beds, dressers, oak table and chairs, grandfather clock, doll collection, kitchenware, glassware, jewelry, misc. furniture and household items.
 Wonderwomen Sales.
 14-12-9-2

Notices

LOOKING FOR POSTER possibly/accidentally donated to Revive Ministries. Inscribed to John-Richard Merkin. Large drawing of a man at a piano. Will buy back (212) 627-3806. 5-12-16-3

CASS CITY GUN CLUB — Memberships available (Skeet & Trap, Rifle Range, Hunter Safety Classes, Turkey Shoot 1st Sunday of each month, Open to public Wednesday nights, CPL Classes. For CPL Classes, contact Arlin at (989) 375-2591. \$50 membership per year, \$5 jr. membership. For membership, contact Mike at (989) 545-2937. Hall rentals available (non-members). Cost is \$100, plus \$50 deposit. For rental information, contact Dave at (989) 872-3328.
 5-3-25-52

Real Estate For Rent

FOR RENT — 2 bedroom duplex in Cass City. \$600/mo. plus \$600 security deposit. Call 872-2722.
 4-12-16-3

Wanted To Buy

LOOKING TO BUY — Morgan silver dollars or any American made silver dollar 1921 or older. Paying \$30 for each good shaped silver dollar. Call (989) 392-7355.
 6-12-16-1f



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NOTICE OF HEARING OF THE PETITION OF THE VILLAGE OF CASS CITY TO ANNEX CERTAIN TERRITORY TO THE VILLAGE OF CASS CITY

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Village Council of the Village of Cass City, Tuscola County, Michigan has petitioned the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners to annex to the Village of Cass City, Tuscola County, Michigan, the following described lands located in the Township of Elkland, Tuscola County, Michigan, to-wit:

Parcel 1:

Township of Elkland, County of Tuscola, State of Michigan, Part of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 28, Town 14 North, Range 11 East, being more particularly described as Beginning at the South 1/4 corner of said Section 28; thence South 89 degrees 52 minutes 43 seconds West along the South line of said Section 28, 328.00 feet; thence North 00 degrees 17 minutes 49 seconds West, parallel with the North and South 1/4 line of said Section 28, 330.00 feet; thence North 89 degrees 52 minutes 43 seconds East, parallel with said South line, 328.00 feet to the North and South 1/4 line of said Section 28; thence South 00 degrees 17 minutes 49 seconds East along said 1/4 line, 330.00 feet to the South 1/4 corner of said Section and the point of beginning.

Enhancement Parcel (Parcel 3):

A parcel of land in the Southwest 1/4 of Section 28, T.14 N.- R.11 E., Elkland Township, Tuscola County, Michigan, described as follows: Beginning at a point on the North and South 1/4 line of said Section which is 330.00 feet, N.00°-17'-49"W., of the South 1/4 corner of said Section; thence S.89°-52'-43"W., parallel with the South line of said Section, 528.00 feet to the centerline of a drain; thence N.00°-17'-49"W., parallel with said North and South 1/4 line and on said centerline, 15.82 feet; thence N.23°-01'-49"E., continuing on said centerline, 117.31 feet; thence S.88°-54'-25"E., 481.68 feet to said North and South 1/4 line; thence S.00°-17'-49"E., on said North and South 1/4 line, 113.47 feet to the point of beginning, containing 1.39 acres of land and subject to any easements of record.

This notice shall be published in the **Cass City Chronicle**, a newspaper published in the **Village of Cass City**, one time each week for three weeks immediately preceding the hearing on the petition.

The hearing on the petition will be a public hearing and all persons for or against the proposed annexation may be heard. **The hearing will be held in the Purdy Building Boardroom, 125 W. Lincoln Street, Caro, MI, on the 28th day of December, 2015, at 7:30 a.m., EST.**

Dates: December 1, 2015

Michael Hoagland

County Administrator for the Tuscola Board of Commissioners

Jodi Fetting

Clerk
 County of Tuscola

Nanette Walsh

Village Clerk
 Village of Cass City, MI

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MediLodge of Cass City is hiring Part Time Dietary Aides. Please apply within or contact Jill Lesson for more information. MediLodge of Cass City 4782 Hospital Drive, Cass City, MI 48725. 11-12-9-2

SEEKING full time medical assistant for physician office setting in Caro. Please email resume to aqiloffice1070@gmail.com. 11-12-2-3

Calif Feeder-Experience preferred but willing to train the right person. No smoking & must be able to pass drug/alcohol test. Most work is outside. Flexible schedule. Must be dependable and self motivated. Cheyenne 989-670-4169 or apply at Zimba Dairy, 7995 Mushroom Rd, Deford. 11-12-2-tf

HELP WANTED – There is a full-time opening for a combination WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor-Clerk II/Clinic Assistant. A Breastfeeding Peer Counselor is a support person who gives basic breastfeeding information and encouragement to WIC pregnant and breastfeeding mothers. A requirement for this position is having breastfed at least one baby (doesn't have to be currently breastfeeding). A Clerk II/Clinic Assistant will perform a variety of duties and provide assistance to professionals during clinic and health screenings. Must have working knowledge of Microsoft Office programs and type accurately 40 wpm. EOE. Submit applications/resumes to: Human Resource Department, Tuscola County Health Department, 1309 Cleaver Road, Suite B, Caro, Mich. 48723 or email application/resume to: kodell@tchd.us Deadline Wednesday, December 23, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. 11-12-16-1

HELP WANTED – Northwood Meadows is looking for a part-time kitchen aide. Must enjoy working with elderly. Serv-Safe certification is a plus. Please send resume to Northwood Meadows, 6086 Beechwood Drive, Cass City, Mich. 48726 or email resume to mzmierski@hillsanddales.com. 11-12-16-3

Card of Thanks

A special "thank you" to everyone who was able to be with us, sent a card, made a phone call, provided food and any other expressions of sympathy that were given during the loss of a loving husband, father, grandfather and brother. It has been overwhelming but comforting to know he had so many friends and made an impression on so many people. There are no words to fully express the meaning of all the support that has been given to us. The family of Robert (Bob) Him.

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REDUCED!!!

 Spacious manufactured home sitting on 5.28+/- acres. To add to it there is a full walkout basement, garage and a storage shed. Kitchen appliances stay. Needs a little bit of TLC. Call for viewing.
M-170

A MUST SEE!!!
 Much of the original charm still remains in this sturdy 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath home. Along with it's extra tall ceilings, original woodwork and hardwood flooring it also offers a bonus room on the main level that could easily be turned into a 4th bedroom, office or den. All the rooms are nice sized. One bedroom down, 2 up. In 2014 the exterior of the home was painted, new kitchen countertops were installed, to help with your heat bill insulation was blown in the exterior walls of the home, plus more. Come take a look. Ready to move in, just waiting for a family.
CCT-516

BAD AXE SCHOOLS!!!
 4 bedroom, 2 bath home conveniently located between Bad Axe and Cass City just off main road. Many updates have been done to this home. Nice kitchen cabinets, stove and refrigerator included. Master bedroom has private 1/2 bath with open tub and large closet. Sits on 1.02 acres per survey. 28' x 50' pole barn. Bad Axe Schools. Keys at closing.
BA-216

CALL TODAY!!!
 Nice 4 bedroom family home close to downtown, post office and park. The backyard is fenced in and has a storage shed and a lean off the back of the garage. In the home you'll find hardwood floors, an enclosed porch between the garage and house, a workshop in the basement and much more.
CCT-533

KEYS AT CLOSING!!!
 Country Living at it Best!, No neighbors for a mile, 4 Bedroom 2 Story home situated on 12 acres. 8 Tiled and tillable., Large tall 32' X 80' Pole building. 2 Car detached garage.. 2 Story home, is well maintained, Kitchen is updated and includes all the appliances. 2 bedrooms on main floor, and 2 up. Additional room that could be a 5th bedroom.. Yard is very nice with many mature trees. Call me to set an appointment, Keys at closing!!!
CC-139

CONDO LIVING!!!
 Located in a well-established condo association in Cass City, this home has a common ground lot size. In addition to its 1,200 square feet, there is a full finished basement, another bedroom, craft room, what ever your desires are. There is a deck on the main level, and a walk-out area of the lower level. Located close to hospital, beautiful grounds surround you. Call today and move in before winter.
CC-139

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 mommalacita@yahoo.com
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 528 N. State St., Caro, MI 48723
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3 BEDROOM, 2 bathroom located in the beautiful village of Cass City. This home has beautiful floors, a 2-car garage, and lots of storage. It also has 1,800 sq. ft. on the main floor and an additional 1,800 sq. ft. in the basement. Call today to set up your personal tour.
TCC1732

COUNTRY LIVING AT ITS BEST! - This exceptional Ranch features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and has been completely updated with new cabinets, countertops, kitchen island, wood and tile flooring and custom closets. Located on a paved road, this home includes 5 acres, a pond, 2-1/2 car garage and full basement. Great Location! Call Today!
CY2713

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STORE FRONT - Ideal for small retail or office space on Main Street in Cass City. Parking on either Main St. or the Village Parking Lot in the back.
COM1164

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION!!!
 Great building spot in village of Cass City. With multi-family zoning you have lots of options so bring your plans and get busy.
TL364

PRICE REDUCED!

GREAT LOCATION just outside the town limits. 3 bedroom, 2 bath Ranch home with attached garage plus a 30' x 30' pole barn, remodeled kitchen, knotty pine sun room, great backyard with woods behind and a playhouse.
CY2707

PRICE REDUCED!

CUTE HOME IN CASS CITY with lots of charm. Great starter home or rental. Needs a little updating to make it your own. 3 bedrooms (1 upstairs, 2 downstairs) Seller very motivated. Must see to appreciate.
TCC1708

Nicols' Christmas light display better than ever

Continued from page one.

like an hour long, and then that will replay four or five times a night," said Jaime, who credit's Joel's imagination with the finished product passersby enjoy.

"It's all controlled by computer," Joel noted, adding a system of communication cables connect the various light displays to a computer inside the home, where he spends considerable time programming the show. "All the computer work has to be done prior to (setting up the displays)," he said. "There are over 300 channels out there. The amount of work that goes into the computer work is about as much work as putting up the lights out there."

The Nicols switched to all LED lights - 25,000 on the house alone - this year. The family has never talked about specifics when it comes to their electric bill, but Joel said LEDs use roughly one-eighth the energy of standard lights. "I got to a point where I was just about maxed out on my power," he added.

Jaime, a Caro area native who teaches English and speech at Sandusky High School, said the family, including John and Gayle, spend about six weeks erecting the display, starting Thanksgiving weekend.

But it's a labor of love, a passion Joel inherited from his parents, who spent decades creating and putting together the original display.

"It's been all of 30 years. I'm 34 now, and mom and dad have always put lights out," Joel said. "When they got married, my dad was not into lights at all, but my mother - her dad was an electrician and he actually made them some lights."

"It was just something we did. We spent our Thanksgiving weekends

putting lights up," he added, referring to himself, his older brother, Jason, and his sister, Jessica Hurd.

John and Gayle, who live just a mile away on Robinson Road, decided to end the tradition about seven years ago, after Joel and his siblings had all gone off to college.

"Dad had always wanted to hit 100,000 lights, and that last year they had 100,000," said Joel, who works with his dad and brother in the family business, Nicol and Sons Excavating.

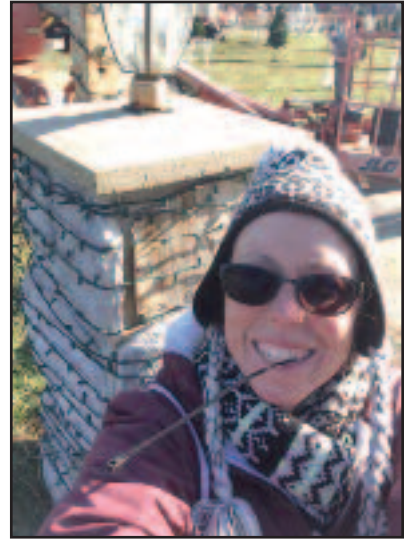
Jaime said moving the display to their home on Germania Road wasn't as much a deliberate decision as a gradual process that took place over time, piece by piece as she and Joel watched their own Christmas light extravaganza unfold throughout their property. And, like his father, Joel has enjoyed taking on new projects such as the 20-foot-tall snowman he constructed three years ago.

These days, however, Joel spends as much time focused on the technology end of the project as he does actual construction and set-up.

"One of my favorite parts anymore, is once I get everything up, is to see if I can make them (lights) go," he joked. "If something is slightly off, it's not going to work."

"I look forward to the challenge, and a lot of people like it," Joel added.

Editor's note: The Nicol's residence is located at 6250 Germania Road. From Cass City, take M-81 east eight miles (four miles past M-53), then turn right (south) onto Germania Road. The couple also have a Facebook page - Nicol's Christmas Light Extravaganza, which boasted nearly 3,150 "likes" as of Thursday.



MOTORISTS ARE invited to see the Nicols' Christmas light display from 5:15 to 10:30 p.m. each night through the end of December.

JAIME NICOL takes a break from installing lights for a quick selfie.



JOHN AND JOEL Nicol work together to assemble Joel's 20-foot snowman a few weeks ago in preparation for the Nicols' Christmas extravaganza light display on Germania Road. The Nicols said weather couldn't have been much better.

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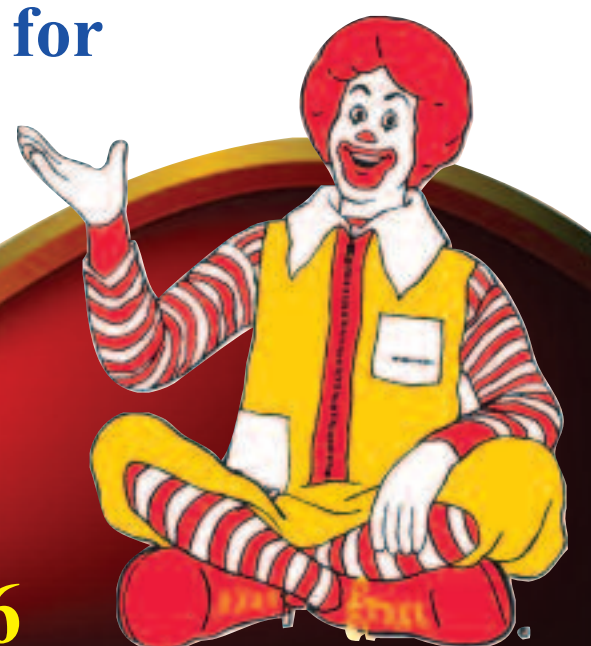
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