



# CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

VOLUME 110, NUMBER 16

CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2016

75 CENTS ~ 20 PAGES - 1 SUPPLEMENT

## School holds the line on spending in new budget

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

Cass City School officials this week followed through with plans to approve a new balanced budget without subsidizing general fund spending with fund balance dollars. The board of education adopted a

revised 2015-16 spending plan as well as a proposed 2016-17 budget during its regular monthly meeting Monday night. The June session traditionally includes finalizing the coming year's budget in accordance with state law, which requires schools to have new spending plans in place by July 1.

As expected, the new budget represents a reduction in spending of more than \$180,000 compared to 2015-16. The decrease was accomplished via multiple revenue/expenditure adjustments, including the elimination of 1.5 teaching positions and a reduction in the pay rate/classification for the district's Title I director.

The new spending plan totals \$9.78 million, \$182,205 less than in 2015-16. The budget projects a fund balance of more than \$1.4 million, or an amount equal to 14.39 percent of the district's general fund.

During its last regular meeting, school officials discussed at length an anticipated revenue shortfall largely due to a continued trend of shrinking enrollment. Cass City Public Schools Chief Financial Officer Alison Zimba, who noted the district has averaged a loss of 30 kids annually over the past decade, said the new budget anticipates the loss of roughly 25 more students based on the trend.

Cass City's K-12 enrollment of 1,017 students last fall dipped to 990 kids over the winter. The latest figures indicate that number has recovered slightly, to 997 students.

Zimba last month outlined a series of project losses and gains for 2016-17 based, in part, on the loss of those 25 kids, which translates into a

reduction of nearly \$185,000 in state revenue (Cass City received \$7,391 per pupil in state funding this year).

The board unanimously approved both the 2015-16 and 2016-17 budgets. The latter includes a reduction in the teaching staff with the lay-offs of full-time junior-senior high school science teacher Sterling Herrman and part-time special education teacher Sherri Distelrath. In addition, the pay/classification change in the Title I director/behavior specialist job, now held by Nick Moyer, will save another \$37,000 by making the job an hourly paraprofessional/high school title position instead of a salaried position.

School officials last month also discussed the possibility of eliminating one principal post — which would add up to another \$80,000 in savings — but took no action.

In other financial matters, the board adopted the district's 2016-17 debt service fund and an accompanying

Please turn to page 10.



**YOUNG HAVEN Osentoski displays a free pizza certificate while her father, Tavis Osentoski of Osentoski Auctioneering, Cass City, keeps track of the bids during Saturday's annual Bluewater Thumb Youth for Christ Auction. (Photo by Conner Emery)**

### **SOLD!**

## YFC auction brings in \$23,000 Saturday

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

Bluewater Thumb Youth for Christ (YFC) officials held their breath a bit Saturday as they hosted their 19th annual Campus Life summer auction fundraiser in Cass City — a month earlier than they have in past years — but in the end, they reported the event was a success.

"We were a little nervous about the date change," Heather Jensen,

Bluewater Thumb YFC's veteran Campus Life director confided following the sale at Cass City Recreational Park. "But it was a good auction. It went really well and we had a great crowd — a lot of new faces.

"Right now everybody's feeling good about this weekend," added Jensen, who estimated the sale drew roughly 250 bidders and grossed about \$23,000. Last year's auction netted about \$24,000.

YFC Campus Life officials rely heavily on the summer benefit auction to help keep their youth programs up and running in local schools throughout the school year.

The sale has been traditionally held on the third Saturday in August. However, YFC officials decided to move up the date for a couple of reasons, the first involving a date change for an annual Tuscola County

Please turn to page 10.

## New batch of CMU med students slated to work with Hills and Dales physicians

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

Hills and Dales General Hospital officials in Cass City recently announced the continuation of their partnership with Central Michigan University's (CMU) Comprehensive Community Clerkship program, part of the CMU Medical School.

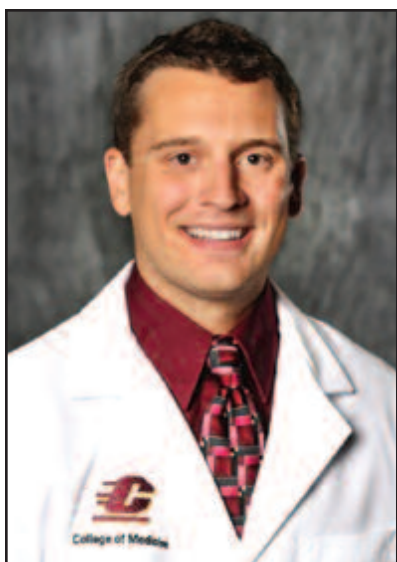
CMU College of Medicine has a proven strong emphasis on rural and

medically underserved regions. Towards that end the college temporarily places its students in hands-on training at various rural hospitals, including Hills and Dales, which will welcome three medical students next month.

The arrival of the students will mark the third group of CMU medical students to work alongside local physicians as well as the Cass City hospital's staff.

"This clerkship allows the students to gain essential experience in a rural setting," said Danielle Blaine, community relations director at Hills and Dales.

Beginning Tuesday, July 5, two CMU Medical Students will partner with Dr. Surendra Raythatha (Dr. Ray) at the Cass City Family Practice and one will partner with Dr. Melanie Kramer at the Family Practice. Please turn to page 4.



Kevin Steelman



Michelle Miller



Travis Baes

## Auditor gives town finances thumbs up

by Clarke Haire  
Publisher

Anderson, Tuckey, Bernhardt & Doran Certified Public Accountant Angela Burnette presented Cass City's 2015 financial audit during Monday's regular monthly meeting of the village council that was quickly approved.

She reported the village's financial statements received an "unmodified opinion" — the highest level of assurance that acceptable accounting practices have been followed — and that there were no "material instances of non-compliance." However, Burnette also told trustees that for a second consecutive year, a significant deficiency — lack of segregation of duties — was discovered in the village's internal controls.

"It's nothing to be concerned with," Burnette said of the village's internal control flaw, adding, "a small staff is very common for a small village."

The audit reported an increase of \$23,695 to the general fund balance in 2015. Last year's financial statements also unveiled net increases of \$152,813 in the village's four other government fund balances — Major Street, Local Street, DDA and EDC — over the course of 2015.

In the general fund, revenues topped expenditures by \$28,695, leaving a healthy year-end fund balance of \$328,162, while in the Major Street Fund revenues topped expenditure by \$37,037 and in the Local Street Fund revenues exceeded expenses by \$78,643. In the EDC Fund, \$40,146 was added to the year-end fund balance, with most of the increase in revenue coming from the sale of land.

It was a different story for the village's DDA fund balance, which dipped by \$3,013 from the start of 2015 as expenditures exceeded revenues during the year.

Please turn to page 10.

## Sunday crash claims one life

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

A two-vehicle collision claimed the life of one driver Sunday afternoon in Tuscola County's Gilford Township, Tuscola County Sheriff's deputies reported.

According to Undersheriff Glen Skrent, deputies were dispatched to the intersection of Bradford and Darbee roads at about 4:25 p.m.

"They found that a vehicle had been westbound on Darbee Road. The vehicle, driven by a 52-year-old female from Bay City, failed to yield at the intersection and struck a vehicle that had been northbound on Bradford Road," Skrent said. "Both vehicles then overturned into a large ditch."

The driver of the northbound vehicle, a 41-year-old female from the Fairgrove area, was deceased at the scene and her passenger, her 18-year-old daughter, was injured. The other driver was also injured.

Both injured persons were airlifted to a Saginaw area hospital. The extent of their injuries and their conditions were not available at press time. No names were released.

Skrent said the accident remains under investigation.

The Michigan State Police, Akron and Fairgrove fire departments, Reese police and MMR Ambulance personnel all assisted deputies at the scene.

### Inside This Week

•Cass City's annual Freedom Festival promises fun for all!  
Pages 11-20

•Sanilac drug team arrests trio last week  
Page 4

•Tuscola County 4-H Coordinator Middleton loves her job  
Page 5





*Ravenous readers...*

THESE CASS City third grade students concluded their school year by receiving some well-deserved recognition after each earning 400 Reading Counts points. The kids read books and took quizzes to earn the points over the course of the school year. Thumb National Bank presented each student with a gift, and their names will be engraved on a plaque at the school library. The students are (front row, left) Mason Brown, Kian Hoppe, Caleb McGovern, Billy Steely, Jarod Mathewson, Kylie McGee, Lillian Betts, (back row, left) Hope Storm, Kacee Gray, Alysa Fritz, Rylan Kruse, Emily Speirs, Carson Anthes, Matt Mellendorf and Shelby Ignash.

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

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Answers to June 22

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

# Obituaries

**Maryke Weidman**

Maryke Ann Weidman of Cass City, age 55, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, June 24, 2016 at Covenant Health Care - Cooper in Saginaw. Maryke was born December 11, 1960 in Cass City, the daughter of the late Hessel and Ruth Ann (Graubner) Venema. She was a 1978 graduate of Cass City High School, and received her B.S. degree in 1983 from Calvin College in Grand

Rapids. She was united in marriage with Dale A. Weidman on October 15, 1988 at the Colwood Church in Caro and continued her membership at the church for the remainder of her life. Maryke was employed by the Huron Medical Center as a lab tech specialist. Her free time was spent loving her family, baking, sewing and camping.

Maryke is survived by her husband, Dale A. Weidman of Cass City; three

children, Derek Weidman of Lapeer, Kyle & Megan Weidman of Williamston, Jared Weidman of Grand Rapids; four brothers and their spouses, Stuart & Brenda Venema of Cass City, Stanley & Cindy Venema of Deford, Martin & Lisa Venema of Deford, Robert & Angie Venema of Valdosta, Georgia; two sisters-in-law, Carol & Jack Green of Eaton Rapids, Denise Weidman of Saginaw and one brother-in-law, Neil & Gayle Weidman of Midland. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one brother, Dirk Venema in 1977.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 28, 2016 at the Colwood Church in Caro with Rev. Dr. Jason Garwood officiating. Burial will follow at the Elkland Township Cemetery in Cass City. The family will be present to receive friends at the Ransford Collon Funeral Home in Caro on Monday from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and at the church on Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service at 11:00 a.m. Those planning an expression of sympathy may wish to consider memorial contributions to the Weidman Family Discretionary Fund, c/o Dale A. Weidman, 205 West Sherman Street, Caro, MI 48723. The family was assisted with these arrangements by the Ransford Collon Funeral Home of Caro. Friends may share memories, thoughts and prayers online at [www.RansfordCollon.com](http://www.RansfordCollon.com).

## Shawn Rienas Benefit

Shawn was diagnosed with APL Leukemia



Wife Jen, Shawn and son Julian

Please join us July 9th at the Cass City VFW Hall - 4533 Veteran's Drive, Cass City. All monies raised will go to help the family pay for medical bills and expenses

**Taco Bar** from 2-5 p.m.  
**Pasta Dinner** from 5-8 p.m.  
 Adults - \$10, Under 8 - \$5  
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# In Our OPINION...

Clarke Haire  
Publisher

Tom Montgomery  
Editor

## Play it safe with your fireworks this weekend

*Fireworks are just about as American as apple pie, baseball and backyard barbecues.*

*While they're fun to ignite, however, fireworks also deserve plenty of respect — especially the higher-powered consumer grade fire crackers, rockets, mortars and other items now legal to purchase in Michigan.*

*According to the National Council on Fireworks Safety, thanks to testing of consumer fireworks in China, through the American Fireworks Standards laboratory and other testing programs, and rigorous enforcement of federal fireworks regulations, consumer fireworks today are safer than ever before.*

*But all the safety features in the world will never replace common sense.*

*The fireworks council urges everyone to keep these safety tips in mind:*

*\*Closely supervise teens using fireworks, and don't allow young children to handle or light them.*

*\*Only use fireworks outdoors, and be sure to leave plenty of space between your launching area and spectators.*

*\*Always have some water nearby, just in case.*

*\*Familiarize yourself with your fireworks — take a moment to read the caution label.*

*\*If you've been drinking, let someone else handle and set off fireworks.*

*\*Wear safety glasses.*

*\*Never attempt to re-light a "dud". Wait 20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water.*

*\*Soak spent fireworks with water before placing them in an outdoor garbage receptacle.*

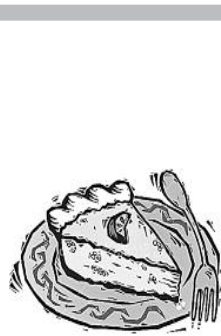
*\*Stay away from homemade and/or illegal fireworks.*

*Fireworks enthusiasts are also encouraged to show their neighbors some courtesy, and to follow local ordinances.*

*Michigan's new fireworks law, put to the test for the first time last summer, allows licensed vendors to sell high-powered, airborne fireworks previously illegal in the state but available for purchase in several border states.*

*While the law generates revenue for the state, it also generated numerous noise complaints, prompting Michigan officials last month to enact another law that gives local governments the power to restrict/regulate fireworks use during the nighttime hours on holidays and the day before and after, with violations bringing a fine of up to \$500.*

*Bottom line? Enjoy yourselves, but play it safe and obey the law.*



## Slices of Life

by Jill Pertler

### Slug wars



Anyone who gardens grapples with the reality of pests. Most often, pests want to eat your garden before you get the chance to do so yourself. Or, they destroy the prettiness of plants by chewing holes in leaves and such. Pests are like a plague and a curse to gardeners everywhere.

My particular pest of choice is the common slug. Although I suppose I didn't choose them; they chose me, or better put, my garden.

I have a host of hostas and slugs treat them like a smorgasbord. Typically, by mid-summer my garden is a regular slugfest. I've tried eliminating the slugs — or at least limiting their numbers — without much success. They can be voracious (and slimy) little invertebrates.

I read up on slug removal; you'd be surprised at the number of ways to thwart a slug. There are commercial products, which in some cases could be harmful to pets and other animals. I wanted to kill the slugs, not my cats.

You can get rid of slugs the old fashioned way — by picking them off the plants, but that's rather tedious. A similar technique involves placing a board (or other flat object) in the garden overnight. Slugs supposedly crawl under the object and you can remove the board — and slugs — in the morning. Picking slugs off the ground involves touching them. They are slimy. I'm no ghost-buster and try to reduce the slime in my life whenever possible.

Some experts advise putting down sharp groundcover around plants to repel (and probably puncture) the slugs. Crushed eggshells, diatomaceous earth or coffee grounds all do the trick. Trouble is, I have a lot of plants, and we don't drink that much coffee. Plus, stabbing a slug seems painful (to the slug).

Slugs can be their own worst enemy. Some species are carnivorous. My garden should be so lucky. My slugs seem more intent on breeding than eating one another. Hence my (over) population problem.

My research took a turn for the positive when I remembered a critical and game-changing fact about common, garden-variety backyard slugs: they love beer. They love it so much they will actually crawl into a container of beer and drown not only their sorrows, but themselves.

True life can be weirder than fiction, especially if you are an inebriated slug.

As a gardening guru, I'd heard of this practice, but hadn't ever tried it. It seemed like a waste of beer. I attempted the same technique with ginger ale once, thinking the sweet liquid might lure the slugs, but they are attracted to yeast, not sugar.

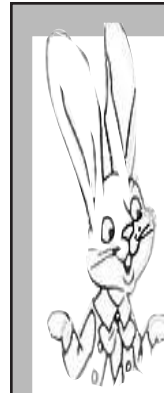
This year, I decided to tap the keg and see if an open bar would put an end to my slug-ish backyard buffet. I got little plastic containers, poured in a couple ounces of beer and put them near the hostas.

What do you know? It worked. The next morning I awoke to slug-filled cups. I also managed to save the life of a beetle that was frantically treading beer when I checked one container. Maybe beer has a more universal appeal than I thought.

And, if it can help me help my hostas, well, I'll drink

to that. (I just won't be drinking beer. I've got to save that for the garden.)

*Jill Pertler is an award-winning syndicated columnist, published playwright, author and member of the National Society of Newspaper Columnists. 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)

Our congratulations go out to VFW Post 3644, Cass City. Commander Joe Merchant reported last week that the local post has received confirmation and congratulations from the VFW's national headquarters for attaining 100 percent membership. "This makes four straight years the post has been recognized as an 'honor post,'" Merchant noted.

Merchant also took a moment to remind everyone that as we prepare for the upcoming Freedom Festival activities in Cass City, it's important to observe proper flag etiquette, including standing as the colors pass during the parade.

\*\*\*\*\*

Early last week I could have been found trout fishing the Au Sable River with former Cass City School Supt. Ron Wilson and Tuscola County District Court Judge Kim Glaspie.

Talk about name dropping. Anyway, we were fishing the "Bugs of June, by the light of the moon" near the well-known Gates Au Sable Lodge in Grayling.

Say what you will about our district's previous administrator — his job required ruffling a few feathers and started with the firing of the once popular Red Hawk band director, Doug Burtch, not to mention the privatization of janitorial services in the district, both highly sensitive topics around town.

I will tell you this about Ron Wilson: the man knows how to fish and is willing to share his knowledge and equipment with any sportsman. I've taken hundreds of guided fishing trips over the years and none were more enjoyable than Tuesday night's adventure with the current Ionia Schools superintendent.

I'd bet Judge Glaspie would agree that Wilson's fishing skills are top-notch. He netted a 20-plus inch brown trout fishing from the bow of Wilson's decked-out river boat.

\*\*\*\*\*

Michigan residents have until Tuesday, July 5, to register to vote in the Aug. 2 primary election.

"Statewide elections are almost upon us, and to participate, you must be registered to vote," said Secretary of State Ruth Johnson, Michigan's chief election officer. "Visit your local clerk's office or a Secretary of State office and register today so that your voice will be heard in both the August primary and the November general election."

To register to vote, applicants must be at least 18 years old by election day and U.S. citizens. Applicants also must be residents of Michigan and of the city or township in which they wish to register. Polls will be open on election day from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Voters may register by mail or in person at their county, city or township clerk's office or by visiting any Secretary of State office.

\*\*\*\*\*

In the last eight months, the Tuscola County Recycling Facility has collected 24,563 pounds of recyclable materials with its satellite trailer that goes to three different towns every week, including Cass City on Fridays, when it can be found in the parking lot behind the municipal building.

The amount includes 12,931 pounds of paper, 6,214 pounds of cardboard, 2,493 pounds of plastic bottles, 1,716 pounds of glass bottles, 199 pounds of Styrofoam and 55 pounds of miscellaneous materials.

\*\*\*\*\*

Please remember that next week's Chronicle edition will arrive a day later than usual as our office will be closed Monday in observation of Independence Day.

We hope the holiday allows for time to be spent with family, and we caution folks about the hazards associated with the use of fireworks.

## Letters to the Editor

### Freedom Fest brings back great memories

Editor,

It's getting to be that time of year again. The time where our town rallies together to put on an eventful and unforgettable weekend of patriotic fun — the Cass City Freedom Festival!

If you grew up in Cass City, chances are you have attended the festival at least once. When I look back on years past, I remember more than just being in awe of the grand parade, fiercely competing for first place in the Fire in the Sky basketball tournament, or finding the perfect location to watch fireworks. I remember an overwhelming sense of community, belonging to a place that cares, and being a part of a celebration that truly exemplifies the meaning of July 4.

Words fall short of describing the appreciation that I have for such a great event.

I hope that everyone has an opportunity to enjoy what our community has to offer this year and many years to come. I know I will!

Sincerely,

Aimee Hennessey  
Cass City

### Prevent unwanted kittens

If you're unfamiliar with the term, "kitten season", this is the period between March and November when most kittens are born. Increased daylight triggers feline heat cycles, and because females can go into heat every two to three weeks — and can become pregnant as young as five to six months — one female can produce multiple litters during just one season. That means even

Please turn to page 4.

## CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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# CALENDAR EVENTS

*Deadline for submitting items in the calendar is the Friday noon before publication. Please send calendar items to:*  
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Phone: (989)872-2010 Fax: (989)872-3810 [chronicle@ccchronicle.net](mailto:chronicle@ccchronicle.net)

## Wednesday, June 29

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

## Thursday, June 30

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

## Sunday, July 3

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

## Monday, July 4

•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.

## Tuesday, July 5

•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.)

### 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.

#### 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.

#### Third Saturday:

•Revive Food Pantry, from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. Must live in the Cass City School District and meet the financial guidelines. For more information, call (989)551-7803.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.)

#### 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.

#### Every Thursday:

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

# Sanilac drug team arrests three

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

Sanilac County law enforcement officials recently arrested three suspects — one of them twice — on alleged drug-related crimes.

Sanilac County Drug Task Force Director Jim Johnson said Friday that drug task force officers executed a search warrant a week earlier (June 17) at a lower level apartment on South Morse Street in Sandusky.

"Arrested on scene were a 39-year-old female from Sandusky and a 35-year-old male from Port Sanilac," Johnson said, adding officers seized suspected heroin, controlled medications not prescribed to the suspects,

and various drug paraphernalia.

"Both were lodged (in the Sanilac County Jail for allegedly) maintaining a drug house and will be additionally charged with the drugs seized in the apartment when lab results are complete," he said.

While out on bond last week, the female suspect was stopped by Sanilac County Sheriff's deputies in Fremont Township, according to Johnson.

"Based on information provided by the drug task force, she was known to have had a suspended driver's license and no insurance on vehicle," he said. "During the traffic stop violation, Deputy Chad Adams discovered suspected heroin

and...Suboxone. A 28-year-old male from the Macomb County area, who was a passenger in the vehicle, was also arrested for the drug violations."

"Additional charges are pending based on statements provided and evidence gathered from the suspects."

Johnson noted Suboxone contains a combination of buprenorphine and naloxone. Buprenorphine is an opioid (narcotic), while naloxone blocks the effects of opioid medication, including pain relief or feelings of well-being that can lead to opioid abuse. "Suboxone is used to treat narcotic addiction," he said. "It is not for use as a pain medication."

## Deputies probing theft of truck, tools

Sanilac County Sheriff's deputies are investigating the theft of a pickup truck in Marlette last week, and they're asking residents throughout the Thumb to keep an eye out for the vehicle.

Deputies were dispatched to the 6700 block of Marlette Road early Wednesday morning, according to

Undersheriff Brad Roff.

"The investigation revealed that the vehicle taken is a 1997 Dodge extended cab pickup truck, black in color," Roff said. "The truck has noticeable damage to the right box side, and the rear window has Plexiglas on the rear driver's side. Also taken with the vehicle was a

large amount of power tools that were kept inside."

Roff noted the theft is believed to have taken place between 10 p.m. June 21 and 5 a.m. June 22.

Anyone with information related to the crime is asked to call Sanilac County Central Dispatch at (810) 648-2000 (ext. two).

### Circuit court proceedings

## Several appear on felony charges

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

\*David M. Pontello, 44, Akron, pleaded guilty to charges of carrying a concealed weapon, two counts of possession of a firearm by a felon, and one count of possession of a firearm in the commission of a felony Sept. 18 in Wisner Township.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered in the case, bond was continued at \$100,000 and the defendant was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

\*Ryan A. Scott, 18, Fostoria, pleaded no contest to three counts of criminal sexual conduct, third degree, involving a victim at least 13 years of age but under 16 years between June and November 2015 in Watertown Township.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$5,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

uled.

\*Geoffrey V. Austin, 28, Caro, pleaded guilty to possession of marijuana and no contest to assaulting, resisting or obstructing a police officer May 2 in Wells Township.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$4,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

\*Scott J. Worth, 46, Caro, was sentenced to 30 days in the county jail, with work release and worksite privileges, following his plea of guilty to operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor, third offense, Dec. 23 in Caro. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (one prior felony conviction).

In addition to jail time, he was placed on 60 months probation and ordered to pay court costs and fines totaling \$1,258.

\*Mark A. Davis, 41, Fostoria, was sentenced to 180 days in jail and 12 months probation following his plea

of guilty to delivery/manufacture of marijuana, subsequent offense, and no contest to a second count of delivery/manufacture of marijuana, subsequent offense, Sept. 10-11 in Watertown Township. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (two prior felony convictions).

He was also ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$1,026.

\*Aaron W. Austin, 26, Caro, pleaded no contest to charges of domestic violence and assaulting, resisting or obstructing a police officer May 2 in Wells Township.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$4,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

\*Cody L. Soper, 26, Midland, received a one-year delayed sentence following his plea of guilty to possession of marijuana, second offense, June 22 in Akron Township.

He was ordered to pay \$1,258 in costs and fines.

## New batch of CMU med students arriving soon

Continued from page one.

Healthcare of Cass City and Kingston Family Practice.

"Michelle Miller of Lapeer and Travis Baes of Flint will spend their time with Dr. Ray. Michelle did her undergraduate work at Michigan State University, earning her Bachelor of Science (Degree). She enjoys playing soccer, traveling and spending time with her family," Blaine said. "Travis also did his undergraduate work at Michigan

State University, earning a degree in human biology. His interests include golfing, playing soccer and weightlifting."

Kevin Steelman of Grand Rapids, meanwhile, will join Dr. Kramer. He completed his undergraduate work at Michigan State University, earning a degree in Physiology. He enjoys basketball, tennis, camping and reading.

All three students are third year medical students at CMU's College

of Medicine. They will work with Hills and Dales physicians until December.

"Working with CMU's students has been very rewarding for us," commented Jean Anthony, Hills and Dales president and CEO. "It's exciting to see the students learn and grow, as well as to see our physicians mentoring them. We hope this experience gives the students an understanding of the importance of rural healthcare."

# Letters to the Editor

## Assistance available to prevent unwanted kittens

Continued from page three.

six-month-old kittens can give birth to kittens.

For many of us in animal welfare, the word "kitten" brings a sense of dread, because as cute as they are, there's something very sad — there are way too many of them. This is a very stressful time for animal shelters and rescue groups everywhere.

The unbelievable number of kittens born every year could be avoided if people would just get their cats fixed. It's actually a small percentage of unaltered cats that create all the problems, because cats can reproduce so quickly and so young.

One of the excuses we hear from people is that they can't afford to get their pet fixed. However, help and options are available.

Cass River Pet FriendZ is dedicated to helping low income people fix their pets and have spent thousands of dollars doing just that. There is a serious problem with pet overpopulation in Tuscola County and particularly with cats. Call (989) 325-8669 Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for spay/neuter assistance. People can also call the Tuscola County Humane Society at (989) 672-PETS.

Spay Neuter Express is a mobile spay/neuter clinic that fixes both cats and dogs and offers other services at reduced prices. Visit <http://spayneuterexpress.com> for information or call (616) 897-8865. The Mayville Veterinary Clinic also hosts several cat clinics in the fall. Call (989) 843-5030 for information.

There is no excuse not to get your animals fixed.

Because preventing litters and saving lives takes money, Cass River Pet FriendZ is always looking for new ways to raise funds to enable them to help others. The latest fundraising event is "Putt Fore Paws", scheduled for Saturday, July 16, at the Arrowhead Golf Club. Call Robin at (989) 325-1969 to sign up or sponsor. More information can be found at [www.petfriendz.org](http://www.petfriendz.org).

Monetary donations may be sent to: Cass River Pet FriendZ, P.O. Box 513, Caro, MI 48723. The group can also accept donations made through Paypal at its website, <http://www.petfriendz.org>.

Cass River Pet FriendZ was founded in September 2001 and is an IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Patricia Trisch, public relations  
Cass River Pet FriendZ

## VILLAGE OF GAGETOWN

The Village Water Report is ready for your review. If you are interested in reviewing it Contact Robert McCreedy at 665-0127.

Thank you,  
Village of Gagetown

# CHURCH DIRECTORY



Visitors always welcome...  
Please join us today!

## Anchor Cove Outreach Church

*Find Hope. Find Love. Find Purpose.*

201 E. Sanilac Rd., Caro, MI 48723 • 989-672-2262  
Sunday Services: 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.  
www.anchorcoveoutreachchurch.com



## Cass City Missionary Church

4449 Koeppgen 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: Joel Schwendinger • 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. Deford Community Church  
Wednesday - 7 p.m. TRUST • GROW • GO  
Pastor: David Cooper  
DefordCommunityChurch.org



## Evangelical Free Church of Cass City

6430 Chestnut Blvd., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-5060  
• Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.  
• Summer Cafe Church at 10:15 a.m. through Labor Day  
Midweek Bible Studies • Biblical Counseling  
Pastor: Rev. Todd R. Gould • Like us on Facebook!



## 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 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. • Wednesday - Teen Club 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Sumer V.B.S. July 25-29 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.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  
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 following worship • 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.lwccog.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



## Novesta Church of Christ

*"the friendly church that cares"*  
2896 Cemetery Rd., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-3658  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. • Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Minister: Brad Speirs  
Visit our website at: www.novestachurch.org

## 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



# Dedication to youth drives Tuscola County 4-H Coordinator Middleton

by Conner Emery  
Staff Writer

"I pledge my head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service, and my health to better living, for my club, my community, my country, and my world."

This is the pledge that is spoken at the beginning of every 4-H meeting. And to Heather Middleton, it's not just a saying, but a pledge to the group's commitment and dedication to the youth of Tuscola County.

Middleton serves as the Tuscola County 4-H Program coordinator. She's had the job for the past six years since temporarily taking over for the previous coordinator, who moved to Saginaw. Middleton's work impressed MSU Extension officials, who subsequently offered her the full-time position in Caro.

"I've been a part of the Tuscola County 4-H since I was a youth myself, and have been volunteering with the group for the past 20 years," Middleton commented Friday. "I was fortunate to get this job."

It appears Middleton eats, sleeps and breathes 4-H.

Her job revolves around youth development, mainly planning and providing a host of programs and opportunities for the kids to learn and maybe even transform their interests into careers ranging from robotics and agriculture to clothing and textiles to culinary arts and many others.

"We build life skills," Middleton pointed out. Towards that end, her work has included organizing a career night in which several colleges came together to share with youths the programs and facilities they offer.

More recently, Middleton was involved in a three-day exploration

event for students throughout Michigan, including 23 students from Tuscola County, who had the opportunity to travel to the Michigan State University campus, stay in the dormitories, and learn about programs available at MSU.

Middleton's favorite part of the job is working with all of the young people in the county, face to face, as they strive to achieve goals and explore careers. The variety in her work is another big plus. "No two days are ever the same," Middleton said.

The only downside of the job is

simply that there isn't enough time in the day, according to Middleton. Unfortunately, she added, it's not possible to be able to pursue every idea.

Of course, when that's the worst thing about a job, you know you must be in a line of work that you really enjoy. That certainly is true for Middleton.

"I absolutely love working with the youth of Tuscola County," she said. "I love my job, and to see the kids grow is a very satisfying experience."



HEATHER MIDDLETON is the 4-H program coordinator for Tuscola County. She operates out of the Tuscola County MSU Extension Office in Caro and has been involved in 4-H in the county since she was a youngster.

# Cass City area teen among youths honored during Michigan 4-H state awards program

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

A Cass City area teen with an already long list of impressive



Battel is pictured above with her parents, Sue and Bob Battel.

accomplishments in 4-H and Future Farmers of America (FFA) added to her resume last week in East Lansing when she was presented with the 2016 Birds and Poultry Science Award in the Junior Division.

Kristi Schrieber of the Isabella County 4-H Council presented the honor to 13-year-old Addy Battel Thursday at the Huntington Club in Spartan Stadium on the campus of

MSU.

Battel, the daughter of Sue and Bob Battel, was among several outstanding Michigan 4-H member recognized for their accomplishments through the Michigan 4-H State Awards Recognition program, according to Michigan 4-H officials, who said the awards are the highest honor bestowed on state 4-H youth and are open to teens ages 13 years and older who have at least three years of 4-H experience.

The awards are presented in 19 different categories that showcase the diverse array of their knowledge, skills and experience.

Battel, a Huron County resident who will be entering her freshman year at Cass City High School in the fall, shows poultry and livestock at the Huron Community Fair.

In addition to 4-H, Battel is active in FFA; showing dairy, livestock and poultry; dairy judging; and competitive swimming.

She is currently president of the Boots and Bling 4-H Club and is a Huron County 4-H Junior Ambassador. Battel also serves as the 2016-17 Cass City FFA reporter and is president of the Cass City High School Class of 2020.

Battel, who counts her 4-H club and the county fair as her favorite activi-

ties in 4-H, has been involved since she was seven, when she started out with a small market goat operation. She has been showing livestock through 4-H for eight years.

At home, she raises market poultry and produces maple syrup in her own successful business with a friend, neighbor and partner, Ethan Healy.

Battel says 4-H has had a big impact on her life, including helping her to develop leadership skills. Michigan 4-H officials described the teen as kind, outgoing and having a real passion for everything she does.

Battel's future goals include pursuing an animal science degree at MSU, with plans to become a dairy nutritionist.

The youth honored last week were all chosen after a review of their written applications and selected based on their learning experiences, knowledge, skills and contributions in their local 4-H programs. The Michigan 4-H Awards Selection Committee — composed of volunteers, staff and industry representatives — reviewed the applications and selected the winners.

The primary goal of Michigan 4-H youth development is to help young people become self-directing, productive and contributing members of society. The award recipients have embodied that goal through community service, leadership and extensive 4-H project work, state 4-H officials said.



THE THUMB wasn't blessed with a multitude of inland lakes, but the region boasts many small farm ponds, such as this one south of Cass City, which are teeming with aquatic life, including fish and bullfrogs (above).

## Reporter's notebook

### In search of the Great Pumpkin

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor



I have no delusions of giving Fred Powell a run for his money in the giant pumpkin growing department, but I'm going to give it my best shot this summer anyway.

Actually, thanks to Fred's generous gift of a few seeds from one of his trophy pumpkins last fall, I already have a pretty good start. Of course, the real proof will be in the pumpkin pudding – that is, the final weigh-in come October.

I figure my success will be largely determined on how much time and effort I put into the growing process. And believe me, the guys (and gals) who grow the giants put a great deal of time and effort into nurturing their gargantuan squash.

A little luck wouldn't hurt, either.

I met Fred last summer at the home he shares with his wife, Terrie, in Sanilac County's Greenleaf Township for an interview focused on the secrets to his pumpkin growing skills.

The first thing he said – "I think I made every mistake there is the first year" – convinced me I might want to try this myself. After all, I feel like an expert when it comes to going out of my way in the mistake department, you know?

Of course, I found Fred's admission a little hard to believe, given we were standing in a pumpkin patch with specimens ranging from, perhaps 600 pounds to more than 800 pounds – a personal best for him.

Now, I've had my share of success gardening. And I enjoy sharing my harvest almost as much as I do growing it. So I'm up to speed on the basics of growing vegetables; starting with good soil enriched with rotted manure and compost. I know about the importance of the soil's pH, fertilizer and ensuring plants of adequate moisture.

But growing massive pumpkins requires even more work and attention to detail.

Powell emphasized the vital role that hand-pollinating plays in making sure the genetics of one monster squash are passed on to another – and then closing off the blossoms to prevent cross-pollination via bees and other insects.

The work continues as the pumpkin plants' vines begin to spread. The Powells remove all but two or three fruits on the vines, and then eventually removal all but one on each vine to encourage the plant to focus all of its energy and nutrients into that one pumpkin.

Timely applications of insecticides and fungicides can also mean the difference between a good year and a great year.

Powell applies a liquid fertilizer to the leaves and vines. "Trench feeding" is another component of his growing regimen and involves burying portions of the vines in small trenches, where they will sprout additional sets of roots. He applies a fish emulsion/seaweed fertilizer and an inoculant to the trenches in order to encourage root growth.

One thing Fred didn't mention, but I quickly discovered after a trip to a farm supply store, is that fish fertilizer, while effective, smells. Really bad.

Anyway, if everything comes together just right, the pumpkins will put on weight – as much as 20 pounds a day at the height of the growing season, Fred told me.

Geez, I think my biggest pumpkin ever might have weighed 40 pounds. Period.

But this year might be the year for me. In spite of the mistakes I'll invariably make over the course of the summer, I'm looking forward to celebrating a personal best this fall. Maybe 42 pounds?

We'll see.

## Ask your neighbor

by Conner Emery  
Staff Writer

### Good things still come in some small packages

It looks like the old expression 'good things come in small packages' applies perfectly to the town of Cass City. This town of around 2,500 is nothing to scoff at despite the size; there are several things that stand out and can be enjoyed by the lifers, the newbies and the tourists of this city.

One of many people who share that sentiment is Cass City resident Jim Hobbs. Hobbs pointed out several aspects of this town that could be considered the best part, including the recreational park, pool and the Rolling Hills Golf Course.

"One of the nicest things in Cass City is the park, it fills up every Saturday," said Hobbs. "The pool has a nice schedule which allows everyone to use it."

"The most recent owners (of the golf course) have gone through great pains to make the course ideal," said Hobbs. "I have a friend that can get me into courses all around, and the greens and fairways at the course here are just as good."

Hobbs, who has lived in Cass City for the past 38 years, praised the town for multiple things, including the tennis courts, real estate, the large Christian community, and the Cass Theatre. One of the more interesting things that the retired Cass City school vocal band teacher pointed out is how the town would be a perfect place to hide out if the zombies all take over.

"If there's a zombie apocalypse, I'd want to be in Cass City," said Hobbs. "There are only five roads that could be blocked off and we have our own well, it would be an easy town to defend."

Unfortunately not every town is perfect; there are issues in the biggest and smallest of places. One of the biggest problems that Hobbs pointed out was the lack of a grocery store, which is very much needed.

"As a lifer I feel violated, someone bought that place and just let it go," said Hobbs. "It thrived for 50 years and someone ruined it, insulted the business and the employees."

Hobbs is 65 years old and has been retired for several years now. He considers himself unique in that he is not related to anyone in this town. In fact in some of his classes in the past he asked his students to raise their hand if they had a first cousin in their school, and often times over half would.



Jim Hobbs

# Down Memory Lane

by Tina Pallas



### 5 YEARS AGO (2011)

Justin Ruggles of Kingston will exhibit Angus cattle at the 2011 National Junior Angus Show at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg, Pa., July 10-16, according to Robin Ruff, director of junior activities for the American Angus Association. Ruggles, a junior member of the American Angus Association with headquarters in St. Joseph, Mo., is one of 549 young Angus breeders from 39 states and Canada who have entered a total of 1,170 head in the show. In addition to the traditional cattle show, this year's event will include a beef cook-off; team sales competition; and public speaking, photography, graphic design, writing, poster and other contests.

This year's lifeguard staff at the Cass City pool consists of Derek Mozden, Jacob Daniel, Cassandra Tomlinson, Travis Mozden, Rob VanAuken, Logan Kausch, Audrey VanAuken, Troy Kausch, and Emily Martin, Megan Vannvliet, Karen Fraim, Alex Smith, Bryan Mohr, Jordan Vanney and Amy Howard.

### 10 YEARS AGO (2006)

Thumb resident Marv Irrer recently recorded his first hole-in-one. He accomplished the feat at Rolling Hills Golf Course. Marv used his 8 iron on hole #5, a 133-yard, par 3. Witnessing the ace were Bob Bliss, Jack Baker and Ross Kraft.

Jon Langley recently used a lop wedge to post a hole-in-one on the 133-yard, par 3, hole #5 at Rolling Hills Golf Course.

Jennie Thorp might not look like a seasoned racer at first glance. At just 5 feet 4 inches tall and 105 pounds, the petite blond Cass City area teen looks like she'd be more at home modeling on a runway than coasting down a soapbox derby track. But make no mistake about it — Thorp, 14, is a competitor. In fact, she's a champion. The daughter of Sheri and Shawn Sherman, Thorp recently captured first place in the All-American Local soapbox derby competition at the Saginaw Superslope in Buena Vista Township. The win qualified her to compete in the upcoming All American World Competition, July 23 in Akron, Ohio.

### 25 YEARS AGO (1991)

Mike and Norma Bigelow of DeWitt, formerly of Cass City, and Gordon and Sandy Grindey of Hubertus, Wis., announce the engagement of their daughter, Tracy, to Michael Middaugh. Tracy graduated from Cass City High School in 1986 and is a 1991 graduate of CMU.

The Greenville College scholastic honor roll for the second semester of the 1990-91 academic year includes Janet Koch of Cass City. Koch, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Koch, Gageton, is a communications major. She has completed her sophomore year. She has been on the dean's list a minimum of 3 consecutive semesters and is therefore considered a college scholar.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Asel Collins, Pigeon, former Cass City residents, honored them with an open house on their 50th wedding anniversary, June 30, at Pigeon. The couple was married June 29, 1941, at Cass City by Rev. Frank Smith of the First Baptist Church. Attendants were her brother, Frank McComb, and his sister, Wilda (Collins) Courliss, Caro. Flower girl was Beverly (McComb) Rusmisl, Saginaw.

Dale and Danna Rabideau of Naperville, Ill., announce the birth of a daughter, Leah Nicole Rabideau, June 19. The maternal grandparents are Nellie Wilbur and Albert Wilbur, both of Germantown, Ill., and the paternal grandparents are Jacob and Jenny Schwartz of Cass City.

Mr. and Mrs. George Hawley of Snover announce the engagement of their daughter, Robin Jeanette Hawley, to Lawrence Allen Six, son of Mrs. Eloise Six of Crosswell, and the late Frank Six.

Leann Lynn LaRoche earned an associate's degree in business management. The daughter of James and Joyce LaRoche of Cass City, Leann is returning to Northwood in September to study hotel and restaurant services with a major in marketing and management. The 19-year-old currently works for the village of Cass City as a park and recreation supervisor.

### 35 YEARS AGO (1981)

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Nemeth of Deford, Mrs. Helen Root of Caro, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Root, Mrs. Lois Binder and Mr. and Mrs. Roger

Root and children went to Lapeer Saturday to attend the wedding of Gene McKee, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Root and Sally Roach. The 6 p.m. wedding and dinner which followed took place in the First Baptist church. Gene is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George McKee. Mr. and Mrs. Claud Roach are the parents of the bride. The newlyweds will be living in Lawrenceville, Ga.

Dr. and Mrs. Edward Francis and family and Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Francis and Fred and Denise were Father's Day guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Francis of Kingston.

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Buehrly had as dinner guests Father's Day, Mr. and Mrs. Grant McKee of Pontiac, Mrs. Isla Cook and Mrs. Mary Rich, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Buehrly and Don and Esther Buehrly. Mr. and Mrs. Larry Buehrly and sons were callers.

Mr. and Mrs. Reynold Tschirhart attended the wedding of Marlene Thoms and Edward Tschirhart at St. John's Lutheran church at 3 p.m. at Port Hope. A reception followed at AmVets Hall at Port Hope. Mr. and Mrs. Jim A. Sweeney attended the reception.

### 40 YEARS AGO (1976)

Tom Loomis of Cass City, Todd Comment, Tim Sontag and Mark Goslin of Gageton, are in Angola, Ind., this week attending a basketball camp. Mr. and Mrs. Clare Comment took them to Angola, Sunday.

Mrs. John Rogers of Harbor Beach was a Thursday guest of Mrs. Isla Cook.

About 60 from Salem UM Church enjoyed a family camp from Friday until Sunday at Pigeon River Camp.

About 65 relatives and friends of Miss Sally Loomis attended a dinner Sunday at Salem UM Church, celebrating her graduation from high school. Guests came from Lansing, Flint and the local area.

Douglas Forshee and Dave Cooper left Tuesday from Caro en route to Detroit and San Diego, Calif., to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps. Douglas Forshee, 18, has made his home for the past two years with his aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gaffney.

Mrs. Esther McCullough and Miss Catherine MacGillvray and Kirk Winter went June 5 to Washington, D.C. Mrs. Marvin Winter and daughter Kelli spent two days there with them and Kirk returned home with his mother and sister. While Mrs. McCullough and Miss MacGillvray were in Washington, D.C., they visited Mrs. Mildred Munro, formerly of Cass City, in Alexandria, Va. Mrs. Munro was hospitalized with a broken ankle but is now back in her home. Ian Stirton, who just graduated from George Washington University, served as a guide for the women on their visit to Washington. They returned home June 13.

Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Tracy of Cass City announce the engagement of Mrs. Tracy's daughter, Miss Karen Sue O'Dell, to James A. Bolz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Bolz of Milan. Miss O'Dell is the daughter of the late Raymond O'Dell. The bride-elect is a 1974 graduate of Cass City High School. The prospective bridegroom is a graduate of Milan High School and a 1971 graduate of the Agricultural Technology course at Michigan State University.

### 50 YEARS AGO (1966)

Aden Clump, manager of the Nestle plant at Ubyly, was honored Saturday night by plant employees, their wives and husbands, in recognition of his 40 years of company service. He was guest of honor at a dinner in Klump's Restaurant, Harbor Beach. Clump began work with the Nestle company June 4, 1926, in Reedsville, Wis. He came to Ubyly in 1929 as assistant plant superintendent and worked as assistant at Cass City in 1937-38 and returned to Ubyly. He became plant manager at Greenville, in 1944 and returned to Ubyly as manager in 1953. He received a gift of a ruby ring from employees. Two other plant employees were also honored for extended service, Roy McMillar, on his 30th anniversary with the company, and Olin Ramseyer on his 25th anniversary.

S-Sgt. Peter Bogner, 379th Bomb Wing deputy commander for maintenance illustrator, took first place in the security symbol contest at Wurtsmith Air Base recently. Bogner is a 1951 graduate of Cass City High School. His winning design featured a hand with a finger pointing straight at the viewer. The copy read, "Without YOU there is NO SECURITY." His entry was forwarded to Second Air Force to compete for the 2nd AF award.

Athletic Director James Seals

accepts a check for a new projector for Cass City School from representatives of the Lions Club. Making the presentation for the Lions are Ronald Keegan and Lloyd Bryant. John Bifoss, football coach, watches with obvious satisfaction.

### 75 YEARS AGO (1941)

Ernest L. Schwaderer, manager of the Cass City Sand and Gravel Company, is superintending the excavation of 1,000 yards of marl from a bed in a 10-acre plot of the William Schwaderer Estate in Section 34, Elkland, located about a mile south of Cass City. The marl is being dug by a gasoline crane from deposits approximately five feet in depth and will be offered to farmers for liming their land. Should there be sufficient demand for the product, a large supply is available at that bed. The marl is reported a very good grade by the Michigan State College. Two tests made by the college show an average of 93% calcium carbonate.

Gordon Spencer of Detroit, son of Mrs. Stanley Sharrard, of Cass City, and Miss Virginia Siegel of Detroit were united in marriage on Saturday, June 28. The bride's brother and his wife of Detroit assisted as best man and matron of honor. The bride wore a blue silk afternoon dress, and the matron of honor was dressed in a blue wool suit. Both had rose and sweet pea corsages. After the ceremony at a priest's house at five o'clock, a reception was held at the home of the bride's parents.

A color scheme of pink and white was carried out in decoration when Miss Harriett McComb, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd McComb, of Cass City, and Mr. Asel B. Collins of Cass City, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Collins, of Caro, were united in marriage at high noon on Sunday, June 29, at the McComb home. Rev. Frank B. Smith, pastor of the Baptist Church, officiated.

### 100 YEARS AGO (1916)

Farmers in the northeastern part of Elkland township held a road bee Monday and improved the Buehrley road three miles northeast of town. Nineteen teamsters and eight shovellers loaded and hauled 110 loads of gravel and one quarter of a mile was placed in excellent shape. Farmers living on the highway north of the cemetery which is being made into a state road are confining their road work to the Buehrley road. This together with the work done at Monday's road bee is working wonders to a highway which has been long neglected.

No branch of industry has been more seriously affected by the war and the consequent scarcity of various supplies than the printing trade. This newspaper has several times commented on the shortage of paper and the impossibility of procuring any of the blue white kind formerly used by all newspapers. Because of the storage of dye imports, publishers are compelled to use the yellow tinted paper as it comes from the mills. Even that has advanced in price four times within 60 days, the advances being from 50 to 100 per cent. Ink began to soar almost as soon as the war began and is still going up. The metal from which both type and castings are made is also steadily ascending. Other departments of the printing trade are faced with corresponding increases in cost of production. For example, one of the chemicals used in engraving, that is, in making the cuts from which pictures are printed, has advanced from 60 cents to \$7.50 the pound. Now the rollers used on the presses have advanced in price more than 50 per cent, because one of the constituents is glycerin, and the munition manufacturers need all the glycerin they can get. In the matter of cornering supplies, the sword is mightier than the pen.

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# Most Michigan snakes harmless

This time of year, as snakes are out and about in the great outdoors, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) fields many questions about Michigan's snakes. Michigan is home to 18 different species of snakes, 17 of which are harmless to humans.

There are two that are very similar and often cause a stir when people encounter them.

Eastern hognose snakes, when threatened, puff up with air, flatten their necks and bodies, and hiss loudly (this has led to local names like "puff adder" or "hissing viper"). If this act is unsuccessful in deterring predators, the snakes will writhe about, excrete a foul-smelling musk and then turn over with mouth agape and lie still, as though dead. Despite this intimidating behavior, hog-nosed snakes are harmless to humans.

The eastern massasauga rattlesnake, the only venomous snake species found in Michigan, is quite rare and protected as a species of special concern due to declining populations from habitat loss. As the name implies, the massasauga rattlesnake does have a segmented rattle on its tail. It should not be confused with the other harmless species of snakes in Michigan that do not have segmented rattles but also will buzz their tails if approached or handled.

Eastern massasauga rattlesnakes are shy creatures that avoid humans whenever possible. Also known as "swamp rattlers", they spend the vast majority of their time in year-round wetlands hunting their primary prey — mice.

When encountered, if the snake doesn't feel threatened, it will let people pass without revealing its location. If humans get too close, a rattlesnake will generally warn of its presence by rattling its tail while people are still several feet away. If given room, the snake will slither away into nearby brush.

Rattlesnake bites, while extremely rare in Michigan (fewer than one per year), can and do occur. Anyone who is bitten should seek medical attention immediately.

Those who encounter a snake of any kind should leave it alone. Don't try to handle or harass the snake — this is primarily how snake bites happen. A snake can only strike roughly one-third of its body length, so it is physically impossible for people to get bitten if they do not get within 24 inches of the snake's head. Michigan snakes do not attack, chase or lunge at people or seek out human contact. Simply put, if left alone, Michigan snakes will leave people alone.

To learn more about Michigan's snakes, visit [www.michigan.gov/wildlife](http://www.michigan.gov/wildlife), click on the "Wildlife Species" button and select "Amphibians and Reptiles."

Also, be sure to check out the DNR's 60-Second Snakes video series for identification tips and information about Michigan's snake species.

The DNR asks Michigan residents to consider reporting any reptile or amphibian sightings to the Michigan Herp Atlas research project to help monitor amphibian and reptile populations in Michigan and protect these valuable resources for future generations. Visit [www.mherpatlas.org](http://www.mherpatlas.org) for more information.

## CHIP SHOTS at Rolling Hills Golf Course



### Monday Night League

#### Championship Flight

Tony Nika	95
Dieter Roth	88
Brad Langenburg	65
Chris Clifton	58
Nick Bliss	51
Mike Lowe	49
Ryan Lowman	47
Don Ouvry	45
Scott Adams	36

#### 1st Flight

Jon Zdrojewski	100
Larry Robinson	87
Dan Caister	76
David Allen	71
Jim Hobbs	63
Harold McAlpine	63

#### 2nd Flight

George Batty	90
David House	81
Paul Regnerus	72
Daryl Iwankovitsch	68
David Block	62
Jacob Boynton	46

### Wednesday Night Early League

Iwankovitsch/Block	122
Biefer/Hoard	103
Hendrick/Veggian	101
Herron/Fox	93
Jones/Marshall	92
Wallace/Warner	90
Berwick/Young	90
Mastie/Robinson	86
Tate/Wiseman	84
Caister/Burns	83
Alexander/Spencer	82
Hobbs/Meck	82
Bolton/Thompson	82
Craig/Knight	66
Irrer/Dillon	61
McAlpine/Mosher	60

### Wednesday Night Late League

Division 1:	
Lowman/Tamlyn	104
Hacker/Nika	98

Osentoski/Wallace	95
Hartel/Brown	92
Davis/Lowe	92
Richards/Bitzer	70
Bitzer/Curtis	68
Langenburg/Langenburg	64
Doerr/Haire	57
Ulfig/Ulfig	57
Hillaker/Murphy	55
Division 2:	
Andersen/LeMarr	105
Martin/Stern	91
Sommerville/Tomlinson	88
Cotton/Israelson	85
Wallace/Wallace	85
LeValley/Krol	84
Peters/Brown	77
Halasz/Ahleman	69
Koch/McNeil	68
Brinkman/deBeaubien	68
Schinnerer/Dillon	66
Prieskorn/Repshinska	42

# 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 William Diehl, a married man and Reva Diehl, his wife, original mortgagor(s), to Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, Mortgagee, dated November 7, 2003, and recorded on November 13, 2003 in Liber 964 on Page 414, and modified by agreement dated November 19, 2015, and recorded on January 6, 2016 in Liber 1343 on Page 1403, and assigned by mesne assignments to MidFirst Bank, a Federally Chartered Savings 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 Seventy-Four Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty-Three and 41/100 Dollars (\$74,763.41).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on July 21, 2016.

Said premises are situated in Township of Almer, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as: Part of the Southwest Quarter of Section 27, Town 13 North, Range 9 East, described as: Commencing at the Southeast corner of the Southwest Quarter of Section 27, Town 13 North, Range 9 East; Thence North 40 rods; Thence West 8 rods; Thence South 40 rods; Thence East 8 rods 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: June 22, 2016  
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 #055014F04

6-22-4

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TOR 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 Connie Sutherland and Tony Sutherland, wife and husband, original mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., Mortgagee, dated October 31, 2003, and recorded on January 12, 2004 in Liber 972 on Page 1332, and assigned by mesne assignments to Ally Bank 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-Two Thousand Two Hundred Thirty-Eight and 96/100 Dollars (\$52,238.96).

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 venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on July 21, 2016.

Said premises are situated in Village of Millington, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as: Part of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 9, Township 10 North, Range 8 East, Millington Township, Tuscola County, Michigan described as beginning at a point on the West line of said Section 9 which is North 796.89 feet from the Southwest corner of said Section 9; thence continuing along said West line North 98.11 feet; thence East, at right angles to said West line, 412.50 feet; thence South, parallel with said West line, 98.11 feet; thence West, 412.50 feet to the Point of Beginning.

The redemption period shall be 12 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: June 22, 2016  
For more information, please call:  
FC J (248) 593-1311  
Trott Law, P.C.  
Attorneys For Servicer  
31440 Northwestern Hwy Ste. 200  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-5422  
File #449352F02

6-22-4

GERNER & KEARNS, PLLC, IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN

WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT 513-241-7722 IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY. This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing Mortgagee.

Mortgage SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a Mortgage made by Jamshid Bakshi Zahraie, a single man to Visio Financial Services, Inc., original Mortgagee, dated December 23, 2013, and recorded on December 30, 2013, in Liber 1298, Page 1337, and assigned from Visio Financial Services, Inc. to VFS Lending Services IV, LLC, as documented by an assignment, recorded on April 14, 2014 in Liber 1305, Page 271 in the Tuscola County Records, Michigan, and assigned from VFS Lending Services IV, LLC to Atalaya Administrative LLC, as documented by an assignment, recorded on April 14, 2014 in Liber 1305, Page 274 in the Tuscola County Records, Michigan, and assigned from Atalaya Administrative LLC to Visio Financial Services, Inc., as documented by an assignment, recorded on May 26, 2016 in Liber 1351, Page 1477 in the Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Twenty-Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-Nine and 50/100 (\$29,929.50), including interest at 18% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said Mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the Circuit Court within Tuscola County, Michigan on July 28, 2016 at 10:00 AM. Said premises are located in Tuscola County, Michigan and are described as: Land situated in the Township of Indianfields, County of Tuscola, State of Michigan described as: Commencing at a Point on the centerline of Highway M-81, said point being South 41 degrees 55 minutes West 153240 feet from the intersection of Highway M-8 and the East line of Section 17, Town 12 North, Range 9 East, and THENCE RUNNING South 41 degrees 55 minutes West along the said centerline of Highway M-81, 68 feet; thence South 48 degrees 5 minutes East 275.70 feet to the Southwest right of way line of the M.C. Railway; thence Northeasterly along said right of way 78.50 feet, thence North 48 degrees 5 minutes West 181.8 feet; thence South 41 degrees 55 minutes West 3 feet; thence North 48 degrees 55 minutes West 125 feet to the Point of Beginning.

Property Address: 2111 W. Caro Road, Caro, MI 48723 Tax ID No. 013-017-200-1300-00 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If this 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 sale or to the Mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Visio Financial Services, Inc. Mortgagee/Assignee Gerner & Kearns, PLLC  
809 Wright's Summit Parkway, Suite 200  
Fort Wright, KY 41011

6-29-4

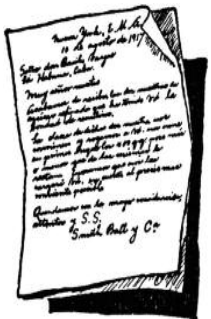
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Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. The latter is in case it is necessary to call for verification, but won't be used in the newspaper. Names will be withheld from publication upon request, for an adequate reason.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

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

# CLASSIFIEDS

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**CHARMING COUNTRY!!!**

Charming older home with much of the original character still in wonderful condition. Such ownership pride. The home features 6 bedrooms, updated electrical box, and a new roof in 2012. See photo tour for view of woodwork. Property also includes 2-car detached garage, Morton machine shed, multi-level post and beam barn with new foundation, workshop with attached kennel, and additional farm sheds - all in good condition. This is an ideal property for horses, but offers so many possibilities. 6 acres +/- DV-156

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Great family home. Very, very well maintained. This is a must see to appreciate. Approx 2016 sq. ft. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, plus a full tall basement for even more room. A 2+ car attached garage, 2 storage sheds and a nice covered rear deck to enjoy the serenity of the county. The home sets on the back portion of the 2.7 acres for a peaceful, private setting. Just 2 miles from town. CC-152

**SOLD!!!**

This is a country home for you with new vinyl siding in 2014, new windows and doors in 2013, new cupboards in 1999 and a new roof in 2011. The pole barn has 220 amp and studio has water and electricity. The well is 182 feet with a new pump tank and supply line in 2014. What better area than this than this 5 acres with mature trees, grapes, and an orchard! In addition to the studio and pole barn is a building that can be used as a man cave or play house with various updates!

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Looking for a country home with a little room to roam. This brick ranch home sitting on 20+/- acres, 3/4 tillable. Has a full basement, 2 car attached garage, wood burning fireplace in living room, rear deck to capture the peacefulness of country living. Many updates including ceramic tile, kitchen, windows, deep well, ect. Just bring your belongs. Move in ready. Property has been surveyed. Cass City Schools. CC-153

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Great home on a corner lot. Easy to heat and maintain. Neat & clean with a full basement, fenced in yard, garden shed and a 2 1/2 car garage with work area & heat. Call and take a look. TCC1740



# CLASSIFIEDS

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 FOR SALE - 2005 Saturn Vue, great shape, new tires, new rotors, new breaks - Asking \$3,500 or best offer. Also selling a 2009 Chevy Impala LT. All the extras including heated leather seats, power seats, newer tires. \$8,900. Call Dave at (989) 670-7862 for more information. 2-6-15-3

**FURNITURE SALE** - Amish made solid oak dining room set, like new. Floral sofa with matching chair, like new. '100 years of Royal Albert Collection' English teacups and plates collection over 100 years old. Call 872-5405. 2-6-15-3

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FOR SALE - 25 foot 2001 Salem 5th wheel, sleeps 5. Can be seen at 3867 Cemetery Rd. Cass City. 2-6-29-1

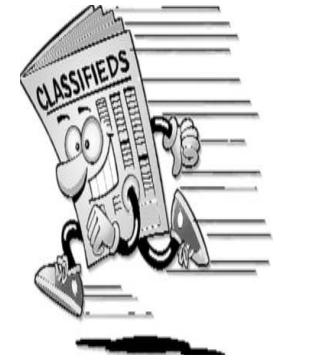
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Yard Sale - Thursday, June 30 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday, July 1 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ladies clothing, crafts, books, afghans, TV trays, DVD's, sewing machine, model trains and more. 14-6-29-1

UNDER THE BIGTOP YARD SALE - June 30th through July 2 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. - Corner of M-53 and Deckerville Rd., Decker. Antiques, furniture, collectibles, lightning rods, balls and arrows, old jars and bottles, houseware, toys, bikes, garden items, tools, fishing gear and tree stands. 14-6-22-2



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 3-6-22-2

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

# YFC auction in Cass City nets \$23,000

Continued from page one.

Relay for Life event at the fairgrounds in Caro, which now coincides with the previous YFC auction date in Cass City.

"We didn't want to compete with them. We didn't want to have to make people choose (between attending one event or the other)," Jensen said. However, she noted over the weekend that officials were not aware that this year's sale fell on the same date as the Huron County Relay for Life. She indicated it's difficult to say to what extent that may have impacted the sale.

The other reason for moving up the auction date, according to Jensen, was to give the YFC Campus Life staff adequate time to fit in vacation days in between auctions, other fundraisers and Campus Life trips they organize and host every summer — and at the same time give staffers ample time to prepare for a new school year. "We're looking forward to having (that) time this year," Jensen said.

The ministry comes into contact with hundreds of students throughout the year.

"We have Campus Life (high school) ministries happening in just about every town in the county, and then a lot of the communities also have Campus Life middle school (programs)," Jensen noted. "So we're reaching, I would say, 80 percent of the population of teens in the county."

Proceeds from the auction go to support YFC Campus Life programs

in Cass City, Caro, Reese, Akron-Fairgrove and Kingston, with the various programs benefiting based on where donated items originate. For example, proceeds from a donated gift certificate or merchandise contributed by a Cass City resident stays in Cass City.

"For Cass City and Caro, especially, this is our largest funding source of the year — it's almost half of what is needed for (Campus Life operation expenses in) Cass City," Jensen noted.

"We work in conjunction with all of the churches and the school districts. We organize programs, events and trips (designed to) help teenagers make good choices and live a balanced life," Jensen said of the Campus Life mission, adding Campus Life directors encourage young people to find and maintain balance not only mentally, but also physically, spiritually and socially.

"We're youth pastors to kids who maybe don't go to church or maybe don't have a youth pastor," Jensen said.

The auctions and other summer fundraisers enable Campus Life staffers to get right down to business in the fall, doing what they do best; developing friendships and trust with young people, both by interacting with them in the school setting and by attending dozens of athletic events, concert recitals and other extracurricular events.

"Our goal is to walk alongside them and show them we're supporting them and care about them as people," said Jensen, who explained

Campus Life staff members strive to share the Gospel message once they have established a relationship with the kids.

Those efforts annually receive plenty of support from the Cass City community and beyond in the form of donations from individuals and businesses for the auction as well as auctioneering services, courtesy of Osentoski Realty and Auctioneering, Cass City, which has been with the YFC auction every year.

**JANE BRAEM, pictured at right, displays the item that she and her husband bid for — a guided turkey, bear or deer hunt. (Photo by Conner Emery)**



# School board holds the line on spending

Continued from page one.

three mill tax rate — the same as the previous year, and a 2016-17 food service fund totaling \$534,970. The figure is \$2,200 less than in 2015-16 and will rely on a little over \$10,000 from the food service fund balance in the coming year. That balance is expected to total nearly \$72,000 at the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2017).

The board also approved a routine motion to borrow \$1 million to maintain cash flow during the summer months until state aid payments resume in October. School officials will be asking area banks to submit

interest rate bids for the loan.

In other business Monday night, the board:

\*Heard from school Supt. Jeff Hartel, who briefly reviewed what he indicated were positive job performance reviews for each of the district's principals — junior-senior high Principal Chad Daniels, elementary Principal Aaron Fernald and Assistant Principal/Athletic Director Don Markel.

Hartel pointed out the 2016-17 budget includes one-percent pay increases for the administrators — whose salaries have been frozen for several years — as well as for salaried support staff members. The com-

bined cost of those increases adds up to about \$9,000, he said.

\*Accepted "with regret" the resignation of longtime Cass City Elementary School Social Worker Beth Howard, who leaves the district after more than 31 years of service.

\*Heard a brief report on the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) from Dawn Kalkman and Keisha Shadley, who oversee the program in Tuscola County. The pair reported Cass City's GSRP is achieving top marks in virtually every category, has outstanding teachers, and has a proven track record of preparing at-risk children for kindergarten.

# Council hears audit report

Continued from page one.

Looking at the village's proprietary funds, in the Sewer Fund the village's net position dropped \$22,845 from 2014 despite an increase in revenues of nearly \$300,000 in user fees. The Water Fund, meanwhile, posted a whopping \$1,685,270 reduction in net position from the previous year.

"I hope people understand that, just like in the private sector, these (proprietary) funds include depreciation," said Village Manager Peter Cristiano.

"We are as tight as we are in our funds because of the state's shared revenues (system) that take away from local governments, with township and village governments hit the hardest," he said.

Cristiano went on quote former State of Michigan Treasurer Robert Kleine on how over the last 15 years the state has prioritized its needs over essential services at the local level, namely police and fire departments, schools and road maintenance agencies.

"If the state can afford to cut business taxes by \$3 billion over the last five years, they can afford to fully fund revenue sharing," says Kleine. "The state has failed our cities. We have a dysfunctional system of local government organization and financing. The entire system needs to be overhauled. We cannot have a strong state without strong communities."

### OTHER BUSINESS

Also Monday, the council:

\*Approved Rawson Memorial District Library Director Kate Van Auken's request for two handicap parking signs to be placed in front of the library for special needs patrons.

\*Heard from local resident Lisa Karwowski, who expressed concerns over health consequences related to DTE's smart meters that she claim may cause insomnia, heart palpitations and headaches among other problems due to "dirty electricity". She asked the council to further investigate the effect of installing smart meters.

\*Appointed Amy Peters and Michael Rule to three-year terms on the DDA/EDC boards, effective June 27, 2016.

\*Approved the purchase of a 2016 Elgin street sweeper in the amount of \$183,180. The new street sweeper will replace a 1994 model that requires major repairs after 30 years of use.

\*Approved the purchase of two clarifier drive units at the wastewater treatment plant in the amount of \$95,000 — the lower of two bids received. Clarifiers remove solids in the scum before the effluent is sent to the chlorine contact chamber.



**THUMB AREA residents who enjoy seeing hummingbirds up close and personal will tell you there's no shortage of these unique birds, which can both see and hear better than humans, but have little to no sense of smell. Hummingbirds have an average lifespan of five years. Their wings beat roughly 70 times per second (up to 200 times a second when diving), their hearts beat about 1,260 times per minute, they maintain a body temperature of about 107 degrees Fahrenheit, and their metabolism is 100 times that of an elephant.**



**THE CASS CITY Lions Club recently presented the club's 2016 scholarships. Pictured above with Lions President Ed Knight (far right) and member Dennis Meck (far left) are award recipients (from left) Tara Nicholas, Macy Dickinson, Michael Rader and Sophia Romain.**



**THE CASS CITY Lions Club recently honored its 2016 Lion of the Year. Gary Jones (right), presented the honor to Jerry Mathie.**

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# NOTICE

## Novesta Township Residents

A public hearing will be held in front of the **Novesta Township Planning Commission on Thursday, July 7, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.** at the Cass City Gun Club.

*The purpose of the hearing will be to finalize the approval of the 2016 Novesta Township Master Plan*

\*\*\*\*\*

The **June Planning Commission** meeting has been rescheduled to **Thursday, July 7, 2016**. The meeting will be held at the Cass City Gun Club and will immediately follow the previously scheduled Public Hearing meeting.

*Windmills will be a topic of discussion at this meeting and information on them will be available.*

\*\*\*\*\*

In addition, the **Novesta Township Election Commission** will meet on **Monday, July 11, 2016 at 7:15 p.m.** Board meeting to follow at 7:30 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

The **Novesta Township July Board of Review** will be held on **Tuesday, July 19, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.**

Joann Peters  
Novesta Twp Clerk