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CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

VOLUME 110, NUMBER 23 CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2016 75 CENTS ~ 16 PAGES

School repairs a concern, but no emergency

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Cass City School officials have a little more breathing room regarding

how quickly they're going to have to address deteriorating heating system components that led to flooding in one classroom a couple of years ago and resulted in the discovery of a

more widespread problem. That was the consensus after the board met with representatives of two contracting/project management firms during a special meeting called

to look at the district's options Monday night.

"I don't think we're in any danger of these pipes bursting, like we were afraid of," school Supt. Jeff Hartel commented following the contractors' presentations. "It could happen, but it's not imminent, so I don't think we're looking at doing anything, like, next week."

School officials acknowledged, however, that repairs and heating/mechanical upgrades are going to be necessary at both the junior-senior high school building and the former middle school - now known as Cass City Elementary School.

In the meantime, Hartel said the

school is taking the experts' advice and locating all water shut-off valves so that if there is a major leak, it can be contained quickly.

Monday's session was scheduled after Cass City Public Schools Chief Financial Officer Allison Zimba presented board members with some photos of corroded pipe connection at the junior-senior high school during a regular monthly meeting last month. Zimba reported that two different contracting firms had been asked to take a look at the condition of the heating and other systems in the district's buildings, and to give school officials recommendations for both long- and short-term solu-

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TOM DANIEL (standing), project manager for E. Gilbert and Sons, Utica, addresses Cass City School Supt. Jeff Hartel (second from left) and board members (clockwise from left) Craig Bellew, Alice Zaleski, Dave Osentoski, Dan Manwell and Emily Phillips during Monday night's special meeting.

Tibbits: extraordinary God makes great use of His "ordinary people"

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Ask Lew and Gerry Tibbits about their decades-long youth and family ministry in the Thumb, and they'll be the last ones to tell you they knew the years would unfold as they have - that their efforts would add up to some life-changing accomplishments.

They won't go on and on about all of the education, skill and ability it takes to be successful in the ministry. In fact, quite the contrary - the Tibbits describe themselves as ordinary people.

"When I was in school I thought I was less than ordinary because I was dyslexic. I didn't know it then," Lew Tibbits recently commented, adding his wife, Gerry, pushed him to attend college, but he felt even less qualified to follow a path to success after flunking out in the first year.

But rather than wallow in the notion he had nothing to offer, he began looking for ways he could serve God and his fellow man.

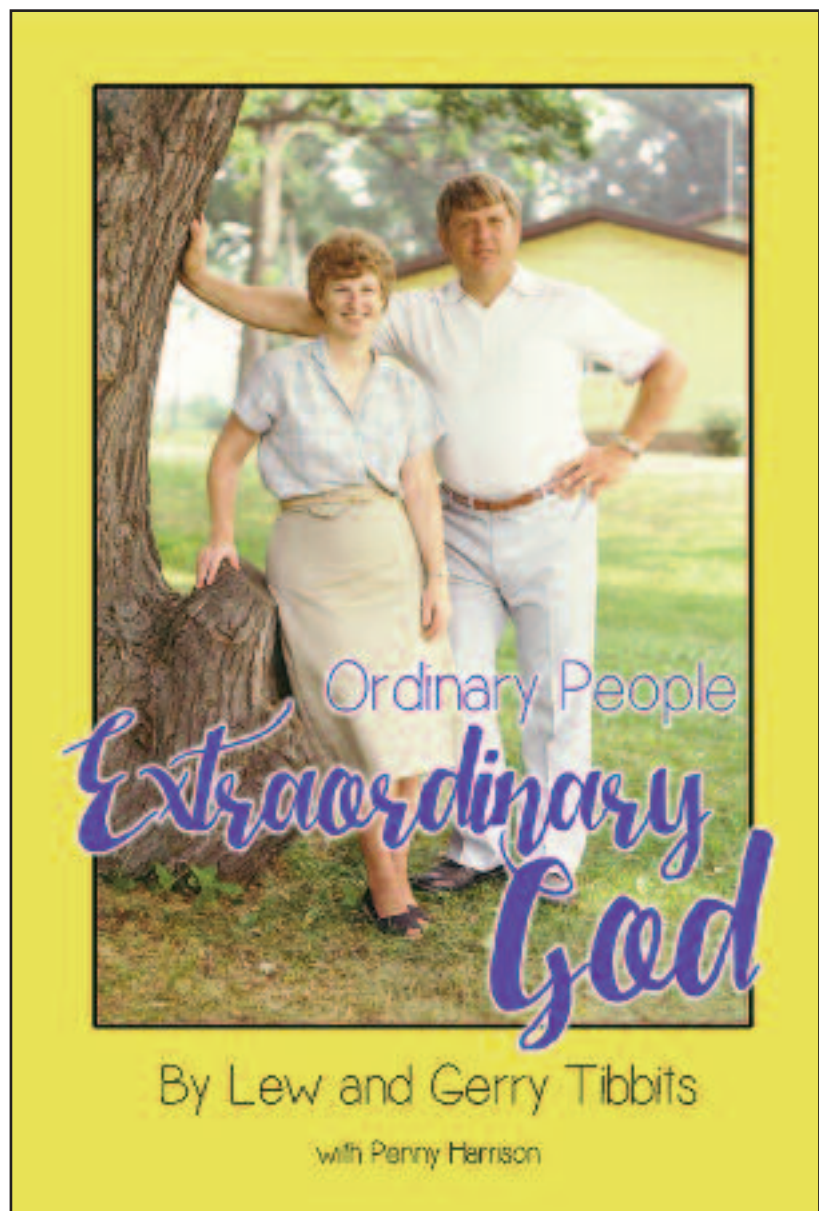
Tibbits found a way to do both because, he says, God can and does accomplish amazing things through ordinary people. "God creates us with a plan...and great things happen," he said.

Lew and Gerry share that message over and over again in a book they recently released, entitled "Ordinary People - Extraordinary God".

"If you lived in the Upper Thumb between 1981 and 2007, you probably ran into, had lunch with or at least heard about Lew Tibbits, long-time executive director of Bay Shore Camp and Family Ministries in Huron County's Sebawaing. Lew

and his wife, Geraldine, lived and worked at Bay Shore for 27 years before departing for a well-earned

Please turn to page 8.



Air Advantage fires back in federal suit

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Air Advantage officials are firing back in a lawsuit filed by the U.S. government against the Frankenmuth-based company last spring.

Federal officials filed the suit in March 2016 in Federal District Court in Bay City on behalf of the Rural Utility Service (RUS), a division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, claiming Air Advantage defaulted on a loan and owes the government a balance of \$13.9 million. Air Advantage initially secured the loan in the fall of 2010 to bring Internet services and infrastructure to select rural communities in the state.

Earlier this month, Air Advantage filed a counter lawsuit against RUS, citing breach of contract and asking that the entire amount owed to the RUS, if any, be set aside and dismissed.

The original RUS lawsuit alleged that Air Advantage failed to make scheduled payments on its loan as agreed upon in the September 2010 loan agreement. In Air Advantage's countersuit, attorneys for the company allege that it was the RUS that breached the contract in July 2011 when it "suddenly and inexplicably began withholding loan and grant payments to Air Advantage as promised under the program and contract."

"Both Air Advantage and the Rural Utility Service share a common mission to provide robust Internet services to underserved areas which would not otherwise be served because private investment would not justify the capital required to build out the network infrastructure," said Scott Zimmer, president of Air Advantage. "We are proud to have fulfilled that mission by bringing high-speed fiber and wireless Internet service to the businesses, schools, hospitals, libraries and residents in the communities we serve in mid-Michigan and the Thumb.

"Air Advantage continues as a viable entity that will operate and maintain our network until this dispute is resolved - and we are confident that it will be resolved fairly," Zimmer added.

"Despite our inability to receive the committed funds from RUS, Air Advantage, its employees and its partners worked tirelessly to find innovative ways to continue network development," he said. "Through these efforts, Air Advantage and its partners were able to build 86 percent of the planned fiber network, bringing state-of-the-art service to thousands of mid-Michigan businesses and residents at a cost far below the average cost per-user incurred by other awardees in the same program."

Please turn to page 5.

Tuscola man charged with abducting girl due back in court this month for exam

by Mary Drier
Special for the Chronicle

A 48-year old Unionville man facing two dozen felony counts for the alleged abduction and rape of a Millington area girl under the age of 13 is scheduled to appear in Tuscola County District Court for his preliminary examination later this month.

David Alex Brigham, whom investigators say was at one time related to the victim's family by marriage, allegedly lured the little girl away from her parent's Swaffer Road home in the early morning hours of July 30.

Twelve pages of charges allege he held the girl against her will for five hours while he repeatedly sexually assaulted and strangled her.

The investigation unfolded when Lt. Ted Hull, Sgt. Josh Herman, and Detective Scott Sgt. Jones from the Tuscola County Sheriff's Department responded to a call at about 5:15 a.m., according to reports, which state Brigham returned the child to the residence at about 10:30 a.m. and was arrested.

"The child knew him and he exploited that. He (Brigham) was aware people knew he had the child and she was returned," said Tuscola County Prosecutor Mark Reene, who released few details because the case remains under investigation.

"The girl was taken for medical attention, counseling, working with a (caseworker at the) Tuscola County Child Advocacy Center, and she is in protective custody."

Brigham is charged with one felony count of kidnapping - child endangerment which carries a life sentence or any number of years if found guilty, and one count of felony kidnapping, which also carries a life sentence or any number of years and/or a \$50,000 fine. He also faces six felony counts of criminal sexual conduct - first degree, punishable by up to a life sentence or any number of years with a minimum of 25 years and a lifetime of electronic monitoring when and if paroled; and 11 counts of criminal sexual conduct - second degree, which carries as 15-year minimum sentence as well as lifetime electronic monitoring as a parole stipulation.

Other charges authorized by the prosecutor's office include felony unlawful imprisonment (15-year felony and/or \$20,000 fine), criminal sexual con-

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David Brigham

Foundation to boost local parks

by Conner Emery
Staff Writer

A group of civic-minded area residents is behind a new foundation supporting enhancements and expansion

at Cass City Recreational Park. The Friends of the Cass City Parks and Recreation Foundation was established earlier this year.

"The purpose (of the foundation) is to set up a funding resource where

large park projects can gather funds to match grant applications," explained Cass City Village Council Trustee Nancy Barrios.

This is a foundation for larger scale "brick and mortar" improvements to the park system, not the smaller day-to-day ones, according to Barrios, who noted these larger scale projects often need to have funds in advance to provide a match in grant applications. As an example, Barrios cited a proposed splash park that has been in the works since January.

Projects for all the Cass City parks will be supported by the foundation; the main park, Rotary Park, Northwood and walking trail areas as well as the playscape.

The foundation is currently an un-endowed fund, but it will become endowed once there are enough

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Local recreation facilities are among village's crown jewels

by Conner Emery
Staff Writer

Roughly 100 years ago the area where Cass City Recreational Park is located today was nothing more than a fairground and a horse track. Now it is arguably the crown jewel of Cass City.

According to Cass City Village Manager Peter Cristiano, attendance and usage at the 60-acre park this summer is up compared to last year, which saw an increase in activity from the year before.

"What we have in this park is as much as any park in the Thumb," said

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Cass City Elementary announces honor roll

Officials at Cass City Elementary School announce the 4th Marking Period Honor Roll.

4th Grade

Taylor Beckrow*, Lance Britt, Zackary Burnette, Diana Cortes*, Heather Czekai*, Hailey Dubs*, Trysten Gruber*, Cortland Hartwick, MacKenzie Healy*, Tojh TyegerHewitt-Miller, Natalie Holdburg, Erica Horning, Jamie Holodnick*, Brady Kolacz, Katelyn Krueger, Robert Krueger II*, Paula Learman*, Brendan LeValley, Connor Lowman, Justin MacAlpine, Cooper Mallory, Nolan Medere*, Ryan Mellendorf, Claire Merchant, Hailey Morrish*, Braden Murdoch*,

Carter Patrick*, Ellie Perkins*, Paige Roth, Sage Sanders, Sydney Schefka*, Landyn Schott, Ethan Schrader, Cohen Sherman*, Chase Skinner, Landon Smith, Josie Spencer, Abby Stapleton*, Wyatt Sutton*, Colin Thabet and Lucas Tschirhart*

5th Grade

Brianna Bergman, Kendall Blanchard*, Anna Burke*, Zachary Cowdry, Saylar Cuthrell*, Montanna Engelhardt, Alicia Farmer, Michael Fernald, Madilyn Gniewek*, Cameron Gottschalk, Reese Grady*, Emma Hennessey, Chloe Jaworski, Cora karr, Bryce Koch*, Olivia

Krueger, Jady Laster*, Savannah Louks, Kylie McGrath*, Thomas Muter*, Hannah Parker-Woodward, Zackary Regnier, Kayley Salcido, Sean Searles, Riley Swiderski, Hunter Turnbull, Amelia Weiler, Dylan Wilkie, Nathan Woodruff and Blake Wooters

6th Grade

Abigail Essex, Allison Fritz*, Olivia Graff, Kalee Gray, Abbey Halabis*, Connor Herford, Kendall Hicks, Erin Laurie*, Rhett Meeker*, Rees Romain, Vaughn Severance, Autumn Sutton and Parker VanWormer.
*denotes all A's



Taylor Dawn Kubacki

It's a girl!

Stephanie and Adam Kubacki of Ubly announce the birth of their daughter Taylor Dawn Kubacki. Taylor was born June 21, 2016 at Huron Medical Center in Bad Axe. She weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces and was 21 1/2 inches long.

Taylor was welcomed home by her brother Max, 2 1/2 years old; grandparents Gary and Amanda Kubacki of Ubly and Nancy and the late Charles Dorsch of Gageton; great-grandparents Mary and the late Albert Kubacki of Ubly, Sue and Bob Krug and the late Clarence Kubacki of Ubly, Eloise and the late Howard Dorsch of Owendale and Virginia and the late Donald Hoagg of Sebewaing.

Taylor was baptized in her grandmother Nancy's baptism gown from 55 years ago on July 3 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Cass City by the Reverend Steve Bagnall. Her Godparent's are Stacie Dorsch, Kevin and Kristie Dorsch and Kristy Sting.

Rawson Library to host senior movies Friday

Rawson Memorial District Library in Cass City will be hosting its next monthly Senior Citizen Movies Friday, Aug. 19, at 1:30 p.m.

Films to be shown are:
**"The Megafalls of Iguacu"* - Deep in the heart of South America, where Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay collide, lies the greatest waterfall on earth. Five times the size of Niagara, these falls are also home to one of the richest habitats on earth. This documentary charts the life of animals adaptable enough to make Iguacu their home (60 minutes).

**"Budapest: The Best of Hungary"* - Budapest is a heavyweight city filled with subtle charms. It's cosmopolitan, complicated, and a bit challenging at first. Seasoned travelers like it more with each visit. For many, Budapest is Eastern Europe's most fascinating and rewarding destination.

Join Rick Steves and soak in elegance at thermal baths, stomp and slap with traditional dancers, visit the communist all-stars now in a statue park, remember Hungary's secret police, sample some paprika and cruise under floodlit monuments (30 minutes).

Refreshments will be served. This older adult program is offered free of charge.

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Fun By The Numbers

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

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

Make Retirement a Walk in the Park

Even the most savvy investors wonder about how to best protect their retirement nest egg.

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In Our OPINION..

Clarke Haire
Publisher

Tom Montgomery
Editor

Hospital expansion worthy of support

A half-million dollars sounds like a fortune to most of us, but in a community known for its generosity and willingness to sacrifice for a good cause, raising that sort of cash is hardly insurmountable.

And we're confident Cass City will come through for Hills and Dales General Hospital, following officials' announcement last week that the USDA has come through with a loan of more than \$5 million to help cover the cost of an estimated \$6 million expansion/renovation project.

Certainly the project involves a makeover of sorts of the local hospital, but the improvements are hardly cosmetic alone. In fact, this effort represents another major step forward in local health care officials' efforts to provide the best, state-of-the art care and facilities for its patients throughout the Thumb.

Start with patient rooms that haven't seen significant renovation since the hospital was constructed more than 55 years ago. The rooms will be expanded and feature private bathrooms and showers along with accommodations for family members wishing to stay overnight with patients.

A 25-foot addition to the front of the hospital will become space for Hills and Dales' specialty physician and after hours clinics – both now located across from the hospital – and planned renovations on the main level will give patients convenient access to laboratory and radiology services if needed.

A remodeled registration area will centralize the hospital's emergency room and outpatient registration areas, which will now be manned 24 hours a day and will offer patients a more private registration experience.

Of course, all those improvements and more will only add to the value of a health care facility we feel is second to none in the Thumb, a facility that not only offers top-notch care, but is also a key factor when it comes to attracting new families and businesses looking to locate in this area – not to mention physicians considering a move to the Thumb. Hills and Dales is also a major economic contributor in the community, employing more than 275 people.

Officials say the upcoming project is the next logical step following major upgrades to Hills and Dales' operating suites and emergency room about 10 years ago. Along with investments in people and the latest in technology, upgraded facilities complete the hospital's goal of providing the best health care services possible to its patients.

"When we decided that we would launch a building campaign to go along with the renovation project, I had no hesitations," Hills and Dales President and CEO Jean Anthony said last week in announcing the project. "I have seen the Cass City community members rally around many wonderful projects throughout the years, and I hope we can add this project to the ongoing list."

We do, too. Towards that end, we want to point out that donations don't have to be huge to make a difference; every dollar will count, just as every resident has the potential to contribute in a way that makes Cass City a better place to work, live and raise our families.

Donating is as easy as mailing a check or visiting the hospital's website at www.hdghmi.org. Area residents are also encouraged to contact Hills and Dales Foundation Director Danielle Blaine for more information.

We encourage you to make that call. This is an investment we all share in as members of the community.

Drier Humor

by Mary Drier

Staying within the lines



I wrote a column a few years ago scoffing at a news report about the adult coloring book craze. The report said a woman was making a good living at designing coloring books aimed at the adult market.

The column was not very kind about the adult coloring book trend that was starting. Since then I've had to eat my type written words...big time.

Adult coloring books became a mainstream pastime primarily because of Johanna Basford's art. Basford's first two adult coloring books were "Secret Garden" and "Enchanted Forest." Those were the books I "colored" in a bad light in that column. Basford's books have sold approximately 453,000 copies and 350,000 copies, respectively, so far this year.

Earlier this year, I was going through some personal issues that depressed me. The last time I was that low emotionally was back when my son (Army Sgt. Charles A. Drier) was killed in Iraq. At that time, my son Jason was dating a woman who had a little girl. To keep my mind off my sorrow and to keep the little girl entertained, we would color together.

With that in mind, I asked Jason to buy me a coloring book and crayons to help me with my mood. I guess I should have been more specific in my request. Jason (love him) bought me a very juvenile coloring book. Anyway, coloring is coloring, and a way to relax. So I would color when no one was around to see me.

Jason's girlfriend laughed at the coloring book that was geared to a child younger than her eight-year-old daughter. She bought me an adult coloring book.

I became not only a fan of adult coloring books, but also an addict. I now proudly own several adult coloring books as well as a variety of colored pencils and markers to use on them. I spend a couple of hours a day coloring.

When I saw Rawson Memorial District Library hosts a once-a-month adult coloring book session, I was intrigued. I attended a session under the guise of research for doing a news article, and I did write an article about it (see related story). I also just wanted to color, to be with others who enjoyed the same pastime, and to atone for my previous judgmental column.

Another, more personal reason for attending, was to prove that I had actually finally grown up. When I was much younger, I rebelled against following the rules of having to stay within the lines. My free spirit could not understand staying within lines when I wanted to express my creativity.

Anyway, all things considered, I've gotten pretty good recently when it comes to staying within the lines. Plus, after seeing a news report, I'm totally embracing my coloring book addiction. I've learned coloring a couple of hours a day just might be training, as coloring has even made it into the 2016 Olympics. On Thursday, Good Morning America reported the mother of 12-time Olympic medal winner Ryan Lochte would pack small items for him when he went off to compete. The items she packed for his trip to Rio included a coloring book and


crayons.

I can't help but wonder if someday coloring will be an Olympic event. If it is, my wrist is ready to "color on."

Rabbit Tracks

by Clarke Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)



Lake Huron isn't the king salmon producing factory it was back in the late 1990s. It is, however, a fishing destination worth visiting for lake trout, walleye and other popular species.

Proof positive came last week when a group of area residents – Mike Brinkman, Paul Brown, Bob McLachlan and I – took a six hour charter out of Port Austin. We returned to the Huron County port with 12 big Lakers, one Atlantic salmon, one Pink salmon and one marble eye beauty.

If you're interested in taking a charter yourself, our group enjoyed our time with Team Mermaid Fishing Charters. Captain Paul's 30' Carolina Classic provided a smooth and comfortable ride and the 33-year-old guide gladly filleted and bagged our catch when we returned to the dock.

Cost was \$500, plus tip. Now if King salmon is your choice of prey, Dean Woods - he delivers each week's Chronicles from printer Midland Daily News – reports last week also produced 17 silver monsters fishing Lake Michigan out of Manistee over the course of four charters. Woods says he caught three fish over 20 pounds, the biggest tipping the scales at 23 pounds. No cost figures were provided.



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

The Cass City Chronicle welcomes letters to the editor.

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

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

What the heck, Michigan State University? Always a proud Spartan backer, I was flabbergasted to learn that this year's student ticket package for the football season, won't include the Michigan State vs. Michigan game slated for Oct. 29 in East Lansing for any students that have yet to purchase tickets.

I guess the \$25 grand-plus that yearly students are paying to attend the Big 10 School isn't enough. Hillary Clinton knows the cost for higher education is out of hand and her plan for free college tuition (excluding room and board) for families making under \$125,000 a year certainly has my attention.

Cass City Treasurer, Nanette Walsh, asked us to pass along this warning from the Michigan Department of Treasury.

In an effort to combat potential income tax fraud, The Michigan Department of Treasury is cautioning taxpayers of fraudulent phone calls being made demanding that taxpayers pay an immediate amount of money or face actions from the department. Calls are being received from a legitimate Grand Rapids-area Treasury phone number, which has apparently been cloned by the scammers. Victims are told they owe money to the Department of Treasury and if not paid promptly through a pre-loaded debit card or wire transfer, the caller will face arrest, legal action or suspension of business.

Please be advised The Department of Treasury will not:

Demand immediate payment without first mailing you a letter.
Require you to pay your taxes a certain way (for instance require you pay over the phone with a prepaid debit card).

Threaten to call the police or other law enforcement agencies to arrest you for not paying.

Ask for a PIN, passwords, access codes to your bank accounts, or credit or debit card numbers over the phone.

If you receive a phone call from someone claiming to be from the Michigan Department of Treasury, but you suspect he/she is not a Treasury employee...

If you don't owe taxes, or have no reason to think that you do, do not give out any information. Hang up immediately.

If you believe you may owe taxes or that the Department of Treasury may need to legitimately contact you, please record the employee's name, call back number and caller ID available, then call the Department of Treasury at (517) 636-5265 to determine if the caller is a Treasury employee with a legitimate need to contact you.

Please use caution and NEVER provide personal information unless you are sure the situation is legitimate.

It's that time of year again, according to President Geri Perry. Our Cass City neighbor reminds folks that the 103rd Novesta Old Settler's Descendants Reunion will take place Saturday, Aug. 20 at the Novesta Church of Christ, 2896 N. Cemetery Road, Cass City, at noon.

Perry says to bring a dish to pass and your own table service, beverages will be provided. Also requested are pictures, poems, artifacts and stories to share with other descendants of the area.

Dale Churchill is the guest speaker.

CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

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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*

Wednesday, August 17

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

Thursday, August 18

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

Saturday, August 20

- 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.

Monday, August 22

- 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.
- 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.

Tuesday, August 13

- 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.



TWO METAMORA men walked away with only minor injuries after their airplane veered off of a grass runway into a large drainage ditch and struck the ditch bank at the Sandusky Airport last week.

Two walk away from plane crash

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Two Michigan men walked away from a plane crash at the Sandusky Airport last week, Sanilac County Sheriff's deputies reported.

The accident occurred last Wednesday at about 10:30 a.m., according to Sgt. Ron DuBois, who said the pilot and passenger were out of the airplane and in the airport terminal when officers from the sheriff's department and Sandusky Police Department arrived.

"The initial investigation indicates that the pilot, a 65-year-old

Metamora man, and his passenger, a 61-year-old man, also from Metamora, were flying in from Lapeer in the pilot's 1940 Piper J5A airplane," DuBois said. "At approximately 7:30 a.m., the pilot attempted to land on the grass runway at Sandusky Airport.

"The airplane touched down without issue and, after the touchdown and traveling a short distance, an unknown issue caused the aircraft to veer off the runway into a large drainage ditch," he said. "The wing struck the opposite bank of the ditch and turned the nose of the airplane straight into the ditch bank. The

impact caused significant damage to the aircraft."

The pilot and passenger were able to get themselves out of the plane, and both were transported to McKenzie Memorial Hospital in Sandusky for treatment of minor injuries.

"The Federal Aviation Administration was contacted and will be conducting an investigation in conjunction with the sheriff's office," DuBois said. "The names of the occupants of the airplane are being withheld pending an investigative determination."

Police apprehend Caro Center run-away

A man placed at the Caro Center enjoyed about 2 1/2 hours of freedom Saturday morning before Thumb law enforcement officers apprehended him and returned him to the facility.

Troopers from the Michigan State Police post in Caro were dispatched

to the Caro Center at about 10 a.m.

after officials reported Benjamin Jeffrey Denning, 32, ran from the center into a nearby wooded area. Denning had been placed at the facility after being found incompetent to stand trial for armed robbery in

Oakland County.

Denning was located and taken into protective custody at about 12:30 p.m., according to troopers, who were assisted by a state police K9 unit, Tuscola County Sheriff's deputies and Caro Center security.

Circuit court proceedings

Several appear in court on charges last week

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

*Erin Y. Sockow, 35, Akron, pleaded no contest to three counts of purchasing/possessing ephedrine/pseudoephedrine between July 23 and Dec. 20, 2015, in Caro, knowing it would be used to manufacture methamphetamine.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered in the case and bond was continued at \$6,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Raymond L. Popp, 29, Caro, pleaded no contest to assaulting, resisting or obstructing a police officer, fleeing a police officer, and

operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor May 8 in Indianfields Township.

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

*Travis S. Stec, 37, Akron, pleaded guilty to operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor, third offense, May 1 in Fairgrove Township. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (one prior felony conviction).

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$1,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Scott D. McMurray, 19, Vassar,

pleaded guilty to one count of illegal use/sale of a financial transaction device April 11 in Vassar.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$2,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Gina M. Nickens, 36, Caro, pleaded guilty to operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor, third offense, and driving while her license was suspended or revoked, second offense, June 17 in Kingston.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$8,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.



1 in 5 people will suffer from depression, anxiety, anorexia, or another mental illness in their life-time.

How is your mental health?

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Reporter's notebook

You don't know her; I don't either

by Tom Montgomery
Editor



You probably didn't know Kathleen "Katie" Marie Shoener. Neither did I. But chances are good you know someone like her and don't even know it.

Chances are even better there are many names in the obituaries that belong to folks just like Katie, but again, you wouldn't know it, because we're all so afraid to talk about friends and loved ones who suffer from bipolar disorder or any number of other illnesses we instantly relate to feelings of shame.

Why?
I recently saw this obituary, thanks to a post shared on Facebook by Thumb Area Psychological Services in Cass City.

It speaks for itself, and for a family who had the courage to share a lovely young woman's battle — which, like too many others, ended tragically — in hopes of encouraging and educating those around her and beyond.

"Kathleen "Katie" Marie Shoener, 29, fought bipolar disorder since 2005, but she finally lost the battle on Wednesday to suicide in Lewis Center, Ohio.

Katie was born in Scranton and is the daughter of Deacon Edward R. and Ruth Shoener of Scranton. She was a graduate of Scranton High School, received her Bachelor of Science in business from Penn State University and recently her MBA from Ohio State University. She also leaves behind three brothers, Robert, San Diego; William and wife, Sarah, Scranton; Edward M., Old Forge; three nieces, Harper and Brylee, of San Diego; Grace, Scranton; and two nephews, Ben and Jacob, of Scranton.

So often people who have a mental illness are known as their illness. People say that "she is bipolar" or "he is schizophrenic." Over the coming days as you talk to people about this, please do not use that phrase. People who have cancer are not cancer, those with diabetes are not diabetes. Katie was not bipolar - she had an illness called bipolar disorder - Katie herself was a beautiful child of God.

The way we talk about people and their illnesses affects the people themselves and how we treat the illness. In the case of mental illness, there is so much fear, ignorance and hurtful attitudes that the people who suffer from mental illness needlessly suffer further. Our society does not provide the resources that are needed to adequately understand and treat mental illness.

In Katie's case, she had the best medical care available, she always took the cocktail of medicines that she was prescribed, and she did her best to be healthy and manage this illness - and yet - that was not enough.

Someday a cure will be found, but until then, we need to support and be compassionate to those with mental illness, every bit as much as we support those who suffer from cancer, heart disease or any other illness.

Please know that Katie was a sweet, wonderful person that loved life, the people around her - and Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Editor's note: the obituary was published Aug. 6-7 on the Edward J. Chomko Funeral Home and Cremation (Scranton, Penn.) website.

Air Advantage fires back at feds

Continued from page one.

Air Advantage has presented numerous proposals to resolve the ongoing dispute with the RUS, according to Zimmer.

"The counter lawsuit was the best of the remaining alternatives at this time," he said. "Our position is reasonable, and we look forward to working to resolve these issues or proving our position in a court of law."

In the meantime, Zimmer noted, the company will continue to operate as usual, with no impact on the business and residential services it provides to customers in nine counties in mid-Michigan and the Thumb.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Award funding approved for Air Advantage in 2010 totaled \$64,250,000 — a loan of \$32,300,000 and \$31,950,000 in the form of a grant — to expand broadband Internet service to 13 "un-served and underserved" rural communities.

At the end of Air Advantage's five-year project contract (which was extended from an original period of three years), company officials say roughly \$36 million of the funding was returned to the U.S. Treasury, as that amount was not advanced to Air Advantage. The company says it spent about \$31 million over the five years and was not reimbursed for all of the eligible expenses it incurred.

Air Advantage began providing broadband wireless service in 2002 with five towers serving a potential market of about 2,000 people, according to the company's website, which noted the business' initial geographic market included Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac counties. Today, Air Advantage also provides service to portions of rural Saginaw, Bay, Lapeer, St. Clair, Oakland, Macomb, Livingston, Shiawassee and Genesee counties with a network that has grown to more than 130 towers serving nearly 9,000 commercial and residential customers.

Tuscola man due back in court

Continued from page one.

duct — assault with intent to commit penetration (a 10-year felony), assault by strangulation (10-year felony and/or a \$5,000 fine), assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder (10-year felony with a \$5,000 fine), and interfering with electronic communications (two-year felony with a \$1,000 fine).

Brigham's bond, originally set at \$3 million, was revoked by Tuscola County District Court Judge Kim D. Glaspie during a probable cause hearing last week.

Brigham now faces a preliminary exam Monday, Aug. 29, at 8:30 a.m.

Reene, who cautions parents to be vigilant of who their child comes into contact with — even family members — lauded the work of everyone involved in the investigation. "The sheriff's department, medical personnel, and the advocacy center all did an outstanding job on this case," he said.

Anyone who has any information related to Brigham and the case is asked to contact the sheriff's department at (989) 673-8161.

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NEXT: "ICE AGE: COLLISION COURSE"

Down Memory Lane

by Tina Pallas



5 YEARS AGO (2011)

Rebecca Hughes of Caro, and Rebecca Walker of Cass City are a part of the Thumb Area Big Brothers Big Sisters program, which offers teens and adults the opportunity to volunteer their time to mentor youths through various activities. The pair has been together for 3 years. Their favorite activities include getting manicures and making arts and crafts projects.

Four area residents were recently named to the dean's list at Grand Valley State University after maintaining a grade point average of at least 3.5 while completing a minimum of 12 credit hours of coursework. They are: Samantha L. Swiderski of Deford, Hanna J. Partlo and Dayna M. Roe, both of Caro, and Shelby A. Lemke of Ubly.

Derek A. and Elaine A. (Butler) Romain will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary Friday, Aug. 19. The couple was married Aug. 19, 1961 at the Cass City United Methodist Church. They are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Butler (deceased) and Jack and Edna Bell, and Mike Romain (all deceased). The maid of honor was Pat (Profit) Easton. Bridesmaids were Dorothy (Butler) Sweeney and Florence (Butler) Witherspoon. The best man was James Romain. Groomsmen were Ed Curtis and Ronald Brandel. The flower girls were Mary Beth Butler and Cindy Doerr. The organist was Mrs. Stuart Merchant, and soloist was Mrs. Charles Stover. The couple honeymooned in Niagara Falls and currently reside in Cass City. They have 2 children: Wendy M. Romain and Rodney A. Romain, both of Cass City; 12 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. The couple are both retired.

Kelly Knight of Cass City has been awarded an Associate of Applied Arts Degree in health sciences from Kaplan University, Chicago, a leader in higher education innovation. Knight's accomplishment was celebrated during a graduation ceremony held Aug. 6 at the Arie Crown Theater in Chicago. The commencement speaker was former U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexis M. Herman.

10 YEARS AGO (2006)

Zachary Hoppe, Cass City 13-year-old, caught a Smallmouth bass recently on the Cass River while fishing with his uncle, Mike Hoppe. The trophy bass measured 19 1/2" long and tipped the scales at 3 lbs. 2 oz.

Whenever a community-wide project funded by donations is complete, it's almost certain that the Pinney Foundation is involved. Since it started it has spent \$762,082.25, with grants large and small. The late Fred Pinney, a lifelong resident of Cass City, funded the Foundation. Pinney (rhymes with pin, not pine) started working in the family bank (Pinney State Bank) in 1926. He took over presidency from his mother in 1976 and later became chairman of the board. The bank was sold to Chemical Financial Corporation in 1982 and Pinney remained board chairman until 1987 when he retired. On the original board of directors were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Pinney, Annette Pinney, Dick Donahue, Dr. Delbert Rawson and 2 members of the Chemical Bank trust department that manages the money in the fund, Jude Patnaude and Glen Pietenpol. Today, the only members of the first board still active are Annette Pinney and Jude Patnaude.

25 YEARS AGO (1991)

Staff Sgt. Donald E. Hendrick II, son of Donald and Barbra Hendrick, 5054 Green Rd., Cass City, has been reassigned to Hurlburt Field, Fla., where he is a turboprop propulsion mechanic with the 834th Aircraft Generation Squadron; His wife, Sharolyn, is the daughter of Dale and Sharon Penny of Empire, Mich. They have 2 children, Penny Lynn, 7, and Michael, 6. Hendrick is a 1980 graduate of Cass City High School. He joined the Air Force 9 years ago.

Former Cass City resident, Don Galbraith of St. Louis, Mo., will be competing in the U.S. National Tennis Tournament in Palm Springs, Calif., the weekend of Sept. 28. He is the son of Roger and Beverly Little of Cass City.

Thomas L. Hyatt, Snover, recently graduated from the Auto Diesel Technician program at Northwestern College. The 1986 Cass City High School graduate

had perfect attendance while attending the Lima, Ohio, school. Hyatt, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Hyatt, Snover, currently is employed as a mechanic by Goodyear in Lima, where he worked while attending classes at Northwestern.

35 YEARS AGO (1981)

Hills and Dales General Hospital — Births — Aug. 10, to Mr. and Mrs. Robin King of Kingston, a girl Bobbie Jo. Aug. 10, to Mr. and Mrs. Jon Gaymer of Cass City, a girl, Kara Kaye. Aug. 16, to Mr. and Mrs. Mark Dore of Mayville, a girl.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Root visited Mrs. Sybil Roth Sunday afternoon at her home near Sebewaing.

Mr. and Mrs. David Binder, Craig and Kalyn of Portage spent the week end with Mrs. Lois Binder and their daughter Kristene and son Kirk, who have been with their grandmother, returned home with them Sunday.

Miss Kelli Winter, daughter of Marv and Janis Winter, was guest of honor at a bridal shower held recently at Colony House attended by 80 relatives and friends from Detroit, Sandusky, Kinde, Caro and Cass City. Hostesses for the shower were Marian Longuski, Eleanor Truemmer, Cheri and Carolyn Martin. Guests were treated to a display of bridal gowns, styles from 1924 to 1975. The table centerpiece was a bride doll made by Kelli's grandmother, Mrs. Doris O'Dell. Kelli and Chuck Hendrick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hendrick, will be married Oct. 3.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Langenburg of Cass City announce the engagement of their daughter, Susan Marie, to John William Kappen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Kappen of Cass City.

Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller of Gagetown announce the engagement of their daughter, Annette Marie, to Larry David Prich. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Prich of Gagetown. A March 27, 1982, wedding is planned.

40 YEARS AGO (1976)

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Ware and son Greg of Clarkston spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Leo Ware and with Mrs. Lois Hill.

Emmerson Brown of Detroit spent last week at the Willis Brown home and with his sister, Mrs. John Guinther. Charles Brown of Holbrook was also a Saturday evening visitor at the home of his sister, Mrs. Guinther.

Ten friends of Mrs. William Rohlf from Cass City and Mrs. Glen Folkert of Bay City were guests of Mrs. Rohlf at Caseville, Thursday.

Darlene Osentoski and Carl Russell were united in marriage at St. Columbkille Catholic Church, Ubly, July 10, at 4 o'clock. Rev. Fr. George Klimas officiated at the double ring ceremony during a nuptial mass. Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Enoch Osentoski, and Mrs. Keith Russell, all of Cass City, and the late Mr. Russell.

Hills and Dales General Hospital — Recent births — Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hudson of Deckerville, a girl. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brinkman of Cass City, a boy.

50 YEARS AGO (1966)

Army Pvt. Roger K. Atkins, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth O. Atkins of Decker, was assigned to the 937th Engineer Group in Vietnam July 29. Atkins, a light-vehicle mechanic in Headquarters Company of the group, entered the Army in December 1965, completed basic training at Fort Knox, Ky., and was last assigned at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. He graduated from Marlette High School in 1963 and was employed by Buick Motors, Flint, before entering the Army. His wife Trudy lives in Flint.

It's been business as usual for most of Cass City's industries despite the lengthy airline strike, but nearly every plant reports a good deal of inconvenience caused by the curtailment of available air travel. At General Cable there has been a shifting of scheduling and added expense due to the strike. Work for production lines had to be changed as samples sent for customer approval were delayed. In one case on a government order, samples sent by plane had to be recalled and reshipped by truck, causing a five-day delay. Mrs. Phyllis Connolly, purchasing agent reports. Naturally, we had to retool the line for another order while awaiting approval. Outgoing shipments have not been

affected greatly, James Reehl, sales service manager, reports. About 95 per cent of our shipments are by freight, he explained. Where we have been hurt is in the movement of personnel among plants. We had several calls slated for our people at other plants cancelled because of the strike and there hasn't been a visitor here since the strike began, he said.

Mr. and Mrs. Rinerd Knoblet and Miss Martha Knoblet visited various places in Ontario from Thursday until Saturday. At Chesley, Ont., they visited Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Hallmas. He is a cousin of Mrs. Knoblet. They attended meetings at the Stayner United Missionary church camp, attended the presentation of Henry V at Stratford and visited the birthplace of Mrs. Knoblet.

75 YEARS AGO (1941)

The Farm Produce Company's business the past year was one of the best in the company's history, stockholders were told at their annual meeting Tuesday. This year's volume showed a considerable increase over a like period ending on June 30, 1940. Over 6,000 of the 7,820 shares of stock of the company were represented at the meeting on Tuesday either in person or by proxy. The company's charter granted 30 years ago has expired and stockholders voted to renew it for a like period. W. J. Schwegler, C. J. Striffler, J. A. Benkelman, I. W. Hall, Smith Hutchinson, Charles Bond and J. E. Crawford were reelected members of the board of directors. Frank Reid will continue as manager of the company, having been given a three-year contract last year. Stock holders received 6% dividend checks within the past week.

Miss Cecil Wolf, R. N., Sanilac County Health Department nurse, with her headquarters at Sandusky since July, 1940, announced she would resign August 15 to accept a position as community nurse employed by the board of education at Alma. Miss Wolf will begin her new duties soon after leaving Sanilac. Until another nurse is secured, one third of the county will be without the services of a public health nurse except for urgent calls. Every effort will be made to fill the vacancy as soon as possible.

With the summer session at Central Michigan College at Mt. Pleasant drawing rapidly toward its close, Dean of Administration C. C. Barnes has released names of August graduates and recipients of one or another kind of certificate. Three students are to receive Bachelor of Arts degrees, although the number of bachelors of science is vastly greater—with 61 students receiving the science degrees. State elementary provisional certificates go to 17 students; state secondary provisionals to 20, while 27 students receive state limited certificates. Four students of the Thumb district are included in the list of graduates, each with a Bachelor of Science degree. They are: Ethel Buschlen, Bay Port. Patrick Garety, Cass City. Marjorie Shier, Cass City. Dorothea Gollin, Unionville.

100 YEARS AGO (1916)

Street commissioner Hutchinson and his crew of workmen have just completed a cement sidewalk from the Striffler & Patterson store north on Ale Street to the fairgrounds. This is an improvement which will be greatly appreciated by the public. The completion of the walk on the north side of East Main St. earlier this summer together with that just completed on Ale St. will be a great convenience for the crowds attending the Cass City Fair Sept. 19-22.

W. A. Bruce has sold a half interest in his egg and poultry business at Deckerville to James Powley and the firm name now becomes Bruce & Powley. Mr. Powley will have charge of the business while Mr. Bruce will return to his former home at Deford where he will buy produce on track.

The first game of the Masonic League of Lapeer county, consisting of Imlay City, Almont, Dryden and North Branch, took place at the Imlay City fair ground, Imlay City and Almont furnishing the attraction in an exciting game, Imlay City winning out by a score of 8 to 7.

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VFW: Serving our country and community

Cass City VFW post 3644 was established in 1984. Throughout the years the local post has been heavily involved in improving Cass City's community through volunteer hours and charitable donations. Post 3644 has provided Cass City students

scholarships throughout the years.

In 2012 the VFW finished an impressive renovation of the old VFW Hall — originally constructed as a bowling alley back in the late 1940s or early 1950s and still in use for that purpose into the 1970s. The

kitchen has been refurbished, with new appliances, cupboards, counter tops and sinks along with a new exhaust fan system. The ceiling was raised, and an addition to the west now houses the caterers' entrance within the kitchen area. The walls

throughout the hall have been repainted/textured. There are new windows, doors and wood trim, the women's bathroom was renovated, the dance floor has been sanded and repainted, the stage expanded and recarpeted, and there's a new public

address system in place. The post has become a "VFW Community Center" utilized for a variety of functions. It also now serves as an emergency facility available, for example, in the event that students need to be evacuated from school buildings and moved to a temporary location. The combined construction phases also saw workers fully insulate the space above the ceiling and install a pair of 3-ton air conditioning units and 2 new, 95-percent energy-efficient furnaces.

A History of VFW

The VFW traces its roots back to 1899 when veterans of the Spanish-American War (1898) and the Philippine Insurrection (1899-1902) founded local organizations to secure rights and benefits for their service. Many arrived home wounded or sick. There was no medical care or veterans' pension for them, and they were left to care for themselves.

In their misery, some of these veterans banded together and formed organizations with what would become known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. After chapters were formed in Ohio, Colorado and Pennsylvania, the movement quickly gained momentum. By 1915, membership grew to 5,000; by 1936, membership was almost 200,000.

Since then, the VFW's voice had been instrumental in establishing the Veterans Administration, creating a GI Bill for the 20th century, the development of the national cemetery system and the fight for compensation for Vietnam vets exposed to Agent Orange and for veterans diagnosed with Gulf War Syndrome. In 2008, VFW won a long-fought victory with the passing of a GI Bill for the 21st Century, giving expanded educational benefits to America's active-duty service members, and members of the Guard and Reserves, fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The VFW also has fought for improving VA medical centers services for women veterans.

Besides helping fund the creation of the Vietnam, Korean War, World War II and Women in Military Service memorials, the VFW in 2005 became the first veterans' organization to contribute to building the new Disabled Veterans for Life Memorial, which opened in November 2010.



Members of the VFW Post 3644 —(Front, l-r) Emerson Kennedy, Northern Luzon Philippines-Occupation Korea; Charles Tunis, Occupation Korea-Japan; Commander Joe Merchant, 1970-71 Vietnam U.S. Army; Bruce Sherman, Army Ordinance —Philippines and World War II; Martin Twork, Aerial Surveillance Korean War; (middle) Frank Anchor, U.S. Marines Vietnam; Al Wallace, U.S. Marines Vietnam; Jack Burns, U.S. Army Vietnam; Phil Nichols, U.S. Army Vietnam; Bill Klinkman, U.S. Army Vietnam; David McNaughton, U.S. Army Vietnam; (back) Randy Wright, U.S. Marine Corps, Desert Storm Warrant Officer; Mark Zmierski, U.S. Navy 1980-2006, Lebanon Senior Chief; John Mulrath, U.S. Army Vietnam; Donald Miller, U.S. Marines Vietnam; Mark Alfini, U.S. Army Afghanistan.

Members missing for photo are: Pete Gamet, U.S. Army Desert Storm; Larry Keyser, U.S. Army Vietnam; John Newton, U.S. Army Vietnam; Mitch McCreedy, U.S. Army Vietnam; Frank Keller, U.S. Army Vietnam; Grant Merchant, U.S. Army Vietnam; Grant Hulburt, U.S. Army Iraqi/Afganistan; John Shagnea, U.S. Marines Vietnam; Leroy Simms, U.S. Army Occupation Korea; Earl Schember, U.S. Army World War II; Ken Hayes, U.S. Army Vietnam; Nick Pink, U.S. Army Vietnam; Bob Stickle, U.S. Army World War II; Jerry Sugden, U.S. Army Vietnam; George Turner, U.S. Army Vietnam; Shannon Kzinowek, U.S. Army; Ken White, U.S. Army Korea; Oscar Brooks, U.S. Army World War II; Leonard Hawkins, U.S. Marines World War II; Phil McPeck, U.S. Army Vietnam and Andy Nichols, U.S. Navy.

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Obituaries

Mildred Bitterling-Shipley

Mildred Emma (McGregory) Bitterling-Shipley, 89, passed away July 19, 2015.

Mildred was born May 22, 1926 to Precille and Harvey McGregor.

She married Lorne Bitterling on December 25, 1948. Together they had 5 children. In June of 1995 she remarried Herbert Shipley.

Mildred is survived by her children Gary (Rose) Bitterling of Mich., Jerry (Roberta) Bitterling of Mich., Larry Bitterling of Virg., Terry (Shelia) Bitterling of Flor., and Joyce (Ray) McCool of Tenn., 10 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Herbert Shipley, daughter Bonnie Bitterling and daughter-in-law Cheryl Bitterling.

Mildred was cremated and interred in Evergreen Cemetery on August 5, 2016.

Christine Guewa

Christine A. Guewa of Caro and formerly of Cass City, passed away suddenly on Friday, August 5, 2016

at the age of 69.

Chris was born January 10, 1947 in Cass City, the daughter of the late Scotty & Lucille (Schnepf) McCullough and was a 1965 graduate of Cass City High School.

One of her great joys as a child was working with her parents at the family business, Mac & Scotty's Drug Store in Cass City. She was united in marriage with William Guewa on



August 11, 1973 in Cass City. Chris worked for Hills and Dales Hospital as a ward clerk in the operating room for several years before retiring to raise her children. In her free time, she loved cooking and baking. Friends and family never left her

home hungry. She cherished her grandchildren and time spent with them. A frugal shopper, Chris was known to be a fanatic coupon clipper. She also enjoyed watching television and in her younger years, doing needlepoint.

Chris is survived by her loving husband, William Guewa of Caro; two children, Danielle Guewa of Cass City, Scott Guewa of Caro; three grandchildren, Dalton, Josalyn and Alexis Guewa; one sister, Kathryn McCullough of Cass City; and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Chris was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Lydia Rose Guewa in 2006.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, August 10 at the Ransford Collon Funeral Home in Caro with the Rev. Cameron Steele officiating.

Burial will follow at a later time at the Elkland Township Cemetery in Cass City.

Those planning an expression of sympathy may wish to consider memorial contributions to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

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.

Ted Linderman

Ted Lee Linderman, 42, of Deford, passed away following a long illness, Monday, August 8, 2016 at his home.

Ted was born May 12, 1974 in Cass City, the son of Harvey Jacob and Linda Sue (Taylor) Linderman.

Ted graduated from Deford Christian Academy in 1993. He worked for Dan's Fireplace and Stove and The Lighthouse Rehabilitation Center for many years. He liked to golf, play table tennis, checkers, chess, tennis and to go to the cabin with friends and family. He coached boys' basketball for a few years at Deford Christian Academy. He collected guns and knives and liked John Wayne, playing PS4 and talking to people all over the world. Ted also loved spending time with his dog, Rusty Joe.

Ted is survived by his father, Harvey Jacob Linderman, sister, Jeri Lynn Linderman, grandmother, Dorothy Taylor, many aunts, uncles, cousins, extended family and special friends, Georgina Goldspink and Margaret Cox.

He was predeceased by his mother Linda Sue Linderman.

Cremation has taken place and a memorial service was held Thursday, August 11 at Deford Community Church, Deford.

Pastor David Cooper officiated. Burial was in Elkland Township Cemetery, Cass City.

Memorials may be directed to Ted's family. Please share condolences at www.thabetfuneralhome.com

Arrangements were made by Thabet Funeral Home of Cass City.

Lucille Ostrander

Lucille Maxine Ostrander, 95, of Cass City passed away peacefully in the presence of her family at Medilodge of Cass City on Sunday evening, August 7, 2016.

She was born April 23, 1921 in Yale, to the late Walter C. and Sarah (Parker) Groat.

Lucille accepted Christ at age 12 in Brown City, MI at the Baptist Church.

She married Harvey J. Ostrander, October 4, 1941.

Lucille loved being a homemaker and was a devoted mother to her seven children. Her children agree she was an outstanding role model right up to the end. Her thirteen grandchildren often remark that "grandma loved us unconditionally." Lucille was loved by all who knew her and she quickly made friends wherever she lived. She has been a resident of Cass City for the past 43 years. During her time in Cass City she worked at Provincial House (now Medilodge) as a housekeeper for 12 1/2 years. Lucille will be remembered as someone always ready to help others. She was a beloved, long-time member of First Baptist Church in Cass City where she attended and served faithfully. She was a faithful prayer warrior for the benefit of her family, neighbors, friends, and church family. Up until the very end Lucille continued her phone and card ministries.

Surviving are her children: Garry and Ruby Mae (Foy) Ostrander of Adrian; Sandra (John) Buell of Grosse Pointe Woods; Harvey III & Kathryn (Banyai) Ostrander of Farmington; Troy & Carolee (Waite) Ostrander of Furlong, PA; Charlene (David) Newkirk of Sandusky; Calvin Ostrander of Caro; Bobette (Dave) Michael of Rochester Hills; thirteen grandchildren; twenty-three great-grandchildren; two brothers: Roger (Marian) Sparling of Naples, FL.; Larry (Pat) Groat of Grand Rapids; a sister-in-law, Jesse (Wilbur) Ostrander of Adrian; several nieces and nephews.

Lucille was preceded in death by her parents, Walter and Sarah (Parker) Groat; step-mothers: Goldie (Ingram) Groat and Lois (Demaray) Groat; several brothers and sisters in-law, all whom she loved dearly.

A funeral service was held Friday, August 12 in Cass City First Baptist Church, with Pastor Larry Groat officiating.

Memorial contributions for Lucille Ostrander may be made to Cass City First Baptist Church - Bible Translation Fund.

Interment is in Fairview Cemetery, Melvin. Family and friends may share memories, prayers and stories with the family at www.kranzfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home of Cass City.

Gerald Turner

Gerald Grant Turner of Caro passed away following a long illness on August 8, 2016. Jerry was the first born to Grant and Laura (Kelly) Turner on March 31, 1926.

Jerry attended school in Caro and graduated in 1944 and then worked as a carpenter until he went into the army in 1945.

Jerry was a section leader in Berlin, Germany where he supervised and instructed a section of mounted police. Her performed guard duty and riot squad duty. He protected army personnel and property. He also supervised the maintenance and repair of troop weapons. Jerry was honorably discharged in 1947.

Returning to Caro he worked at Wahjamega State Hospital. In 1948 he travelled to Florida with a best friend, Bernard Wilson of Caro. Plans for continuing their trip to South America stalled when Jerry met the love of his life Elizabeth McGovern. They were married in Tampa, Fla. on March 4, 1948 and returned to Caro to make their home.

Jerry worked for the Department of Conservation in Tuscola County for a few years and later moved to Clarkston working in Oakland County. In the early 60's he purchased land on Albin Rd. in Caro where he propagated and planted blueberry bushes. The Turner Blueberry Farm still exists. In the late 80's he retired from the business. He and Betty moved to Florida for several years and returned to

Manistee in 2006.

When Jerry became ill he came to live at Carry's Young at Heart in Caro until his death.

From a young boy, he spent every moment he could fishing and hunting. He continued this love all of his life.

He is survived by siblings Madelyn Skaggs of Cass City, Merrill (Chris) Turner of Cass City, Jeanne (Denny) James of Manistee and multiple nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife Betty, brother Milo S. Turner and brother-in-law James Skaggs.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be held at a later date, to be announced.

Douglas Van Allen

Douglas Van Allen, 84, of Cass City, died Monday, August 8, 2016 in Covenant Medical Center Cooper Campus, Saginaw.

He was born November 17, 1931 at home on Severance Road to William Lincoln and Genevieve Bell (Thompson) Van Allen.

He married Hilda Marie Campbell December 27, 1951 in Mizpah Missionary Church.

Doug served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. He worked for Nestles in Cass City for a time and for Parrott Ice Cream.

Doug worked as a custodian for Walbro Manufacturing, retiring after many years. He was a member of Cass City Missionary Church, driving the church bus when the children were younger. Doug loved gardening and loved tractors, taking the grandchildren for many rides. He was a farmer at heart. When he was young he farmed with his grandfather and his love of farming began. Doug loved to eat, sweets were hard to turn down. He was an avid bird watcher. Doug loved talking to people. Most important to Doug was his family. He loved spending time with his children and grandchildren.

Doug is survived by his wife, Hilda; children: William (Melanie) Van Allen of Virginia Beach, VA, Ronald Van Allen of Sterling Heights, Debra (Craig) Emke of Hamilton, IN, Shari (Robert) O'Dell of Cass City, Jeffrey (Laura) Van Allen of Cass City, Michael (Sheila) Van Allen of Suffolk, VA; grandchildren: Jennifer (Doug) Gibbons, Allen (Cynthia) Cruze, Michael Cruze, Jenna (Jonathan) Taplin, Cassie (Ben) Stockton, Tyler Van Allen, Ashley Pollock, Paige Emke, Megan O'Dell, Mitchel O'Dell, Dean (Helena) Wilson, Cassie Wilson, Stone Van Allen, Cameron Van Allen, Kaitlyn Van Allen; great-grandchildren: Aubree, William, Levi, Elowen, Stephen, Luke, Rhianna, Henry, Zachary, Rylan, Braxton, Kaylee, Kinslee, Jayda, Brooklyn, Michael, Tristan. Doug will also be missed by his sister, Sharon Hartwick of Cass City; brother, Dave (Kim) Van Allen of Canton; sister-in-law, Doris Van Allen of Troy and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by son, James Douglas Van Allen; brothers: Ronald Van Allen, Jack Van Allen; infant brother, Bobby Van Allen; brother-in-law, Arlan Jack Hartwick.

A funeral service was held Thursday, August 11 in Cass City Missionary Church with Pastor Phil Burkett officiating.

Interment will be in Novesta Township Cemetery, Cass City. Pallbearers for Mr. Van Allen: Tyler Van Allen, Dean Wilson, Stone Van Allen, Cameron Van Allen, Mitchel O'Dell, and Robert O'Dell.

Memorials may be made to Cass City Missionary Church. Family and friends may share memories, prayers and stories with the family at www.kranzfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home of Cass City.

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Color me calm

Rawson Memorial District Library welcomes adult coloring book enthusiasts every month

by Mary Drier
Special for the Chronicle

The adult coloring book craze is catching on everywhere - even Cass City.

Rawson Memorial District Library hosts "Color Me Calm", a 90-minute program, once a month for adults to come in and color.

The adult coloring book craze started in early 2015 and has steadily gained momentum.

Adult coloring books became a mainstream pastime, primarily because of Johanna Basford's art, according to a Nielsen BookScan report.

Basford's first two adult coloring

books, "Secret Garden" and "Enchanted Forest", sold approximately 453,000 copies and 350,000 copies, respectively, so far this year.

Rawson Memorial District Library has been hosting monthly adult coloring book events since the first of the year. The next adult coloring book session is slated for 7 p.m. Monday, Aug. 22. Registration is not necessary.

"The first session drew 13 people. Others sessions have drawn 30 or so. We will keep offering them each month as long as there is an interest," said library Director Kate Van Auken.

"I'm surprised at the number of adult coloring books on the market,

and the number of people who are into coloring," she added. "Adult coloring books are kind of like the paint-by-number pictures that used to be popular. Coloring is a great and an easy way to feel creative."

The library's coloring sessions are for adults only. The ages of those who attend range from age 18 on up.

Kathy Hale, 73, of Cass City is among those who has attended coloring sessions. "I used to do a lot of paint-by-number pictures. I've been doing adult coloring books now for about a year and I enjoy it," said Hale.

The coloring sessions are open to anyone - not just those who live in the library's coverage area.

Hali Brown of Marlette is a regular attendee at the sessions. "I haven't missed a session since they started having them here. The library in Marlette doesn't offer this," said Brown. "I've always loved coloring since I was a little girl, and I have kept doing it all these years."

Coloring evokes happy, carefree memories of childhood. The simple, low-tech act of coloring is a relaxing respite from stress and today's fast-paced life.

There is a wide variety of adult coloring books that cater to just about every interest; whimsical, doodles, mandalas, nature scenes, fantasy worlds, Steampunk, and copies of masterworks of art.

Some pages can be colored in a couple of hours, while others may take a couple of days, depending on how intricate the design is and the time that can be devoted to the piece.

Participants of the adult coloring sessions at the library can bring their own coloring books and coloring utensils such as color pencils, markers, jell pens or traditional crayons. The library also furnishes pages to color as well as colored pencils and markers for free.

The free adult coloring sessions are coordinated by Jesika Ferris-Struve, the library's special program librarian.

"A mixture of all ages and backgrounds attend from the Thumb area. It's a relaxing time," said Ferris-Struve. "It's a night without the kids."

Attendees share ideas about coloring, tips, tricks and techniques.

"It's nice to be with others to talk and laugh, and share an interest," Hale said.

For more information about adult coloring sessions as well as other special programs, call the library at (989) 872-2856.



RAWSON MEMORIAL District Library, located at 6495 Pine St., hosts monthly adult coloring book events. The next session will be Monday, Aug. 22, starting at 7 p.m. Adult coloring books feature whimsical designs, doodles, mandalas, nature scenes, fantasy worlds, Steampunk and more. (Mary Drier photo).

Lew, Gerry Tibbits pen book

Continued from page one.

retirement in 2007," said Penny Harrison, a former Bay Shore Camp employee who collaborated with the Tibbits and authored the book.

"Though they invested the better part of three decades in Bay Shore, the Tibbits' story is even larger," she added. "Going back to their early-married days when they were youth directors for Deford Community Church, Lew and Gerry have chalked up a total of 43 years in youth ministry."

Now, in their seventies, you'd think they'd be spreading beach blankets and making plans for 'snowbird season' in Florida. But no — they've got important work to do.

"Mr. and Mrs. Tibbits have a message for God's people. It's a simple message: God works through ordinary people. He accomplishes extraordinary things through ordinary people," Harrison said. "How do they know? They're just ordinary people, themselves. And they can prove it."

Harrison, now a Petoskey resident who worked at Bay Shore from 1990 through 2002, said the Tibbits make their case for being no one special in their just-released book of memoirs.

"Within its 470+ pages, they tell their own story, underscoring their family lives, their childhood adventures (and lack of adventures), their high-school angst about sports, dating, college, etc. — the "ordinary" stuff — and the calling each one felt to give God all of themselves for the rest of their lives," she added.

Another large section of the book is devoted to their best thoughts and lessons learned as they watched Bay Shore Camp slowly grow from an almost-rustic seasonal campground to the full-time, year-round well-equipped camp and conference center it is today.

"This new adventure they're starting at the age of 72 or 73 is mind boggling," Harrison said of the book. "They have earned their rest and retirement, but are shrugging it off to spread the message that God loves and works through ordinary people. They are way beyond sure of this from their 27 years in watching God build Bay Shore Camp through just ordinary people."

"And it wasn't dull or boring," she added. "Their book records some of the miracles they witnessed, like the architect who just happened to walk through the front door when camp officials were searching for a licensed architect who would review and give official approval to some blueprints for the family center. They were about to break ground, had a volunteer building crew lined up, but couldn't do a thing until those plans were approved and on file at the county seat."

"This guy (architect) had been to Bay Shore once and thought he'd just walk in and see if anything was going on," Harrison said. "Only God could make it happen and He did, time and time again, through 'ordinary people'."

The final section of the book highlights a broad representation of the "ordinary people" who gave God their talents and time, together accomplishing more than anyone dared dream was possible, according to Harrison.

Both Thumb natives who now make their home in Mason, south of Lansing, Lew is a native of the Pinnebog area, while Gerry hails from Deford.

"Lew and Gerry have a long, solid connection to Cass City," Harrison said. "Gerry invested her entire teaching career — 33 years — in the Cass City Schools. She and Lew lived on Houghton Street until they were called into camping ministry in 1981 and moved to Bay Shore."

"During the almost 20 years they were in Cass City, they were stalwart members of Deford Community Church, where they poured themselves into youth ministry. Many, many lives were touched and changed," she continued. "Some of those kids are now grandparents, but they still stay in touch with Lew and Gerry."

Harrison said the Tibbits' retired in December 2007 and fulfilled their dream of living in the country, but a few years later, Lew battled some health issues that forced the couple to leave their dream home and adopt a condo lifestyle.

"Now, with most of those health issues behind him, they are focused on spreading this message," she said. "That's who and what they are."

Editor's note: area residents wishing to obtain a copy of "Ordinary People — Extraordinary God" can find purchase information on the Tibbits' website, www.bscordinarypeople.org, or by contacting them via mail at 106 Hartwell Terrace, Mason, MI 48854-9281.



"COLOR ME CALM" are 90-minute, adult coloring book sessions coordinated by Jesika Ferris-Struve, special programming librarian at Rawson Memorial District Library in Cass City. Above, Kathy Hale, 73, of Cass City (at the end of the table), is one of the regulars at the coloring sessions. (Mary Drier photo)

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Cass City drops junior varsity football season

by Clarke Haire
Publisher

procedures in place,” said Markel.

Friday, at 3 p.m., Cass City Schools made it official, cancelling the Red Hawk junior varsity football program for the 2016 season. Athletic Director Don Markel made the announcement citing a lack of student participation forced the action.

For several years, Thumb schools enrollments have been on the decline. According to MHSAA enrollment records, Cass City has fallen from a Class B school with 512 students in 2000, to a Division 7 school in 2016-17 with 288 students. Other area schools, and their latest enrollment figures, show Caro with 495 students, Marlette 296, Ubyly 260, Mayville 196, Kingston 208 and Owen-Gage 48. Mayville, Kingston and Owen-Gage will all play 8-man football this fall.

According to Markel, approximately 25 students are taking part in this year’s summer practices.

“I’ve talked to other athletic directors and we aren’t the only one suffering with numbers. Hopefully it’s (no junior varsity football) is only a one year thing. We came close last year to cancelling the season,” Markel said.

“We only had 10 junior varsity (players); six freshman and four sophomores,” he said, while confirming the district may have to look at 8-man football in the future.

Struggles with numbers come as a surprise locally as the Cass City junior varsity team hasn’t lost a game in over two years. Additionally, participation in Youth Football here at home has solid numbers, including 27 players. Please turn to page 10.

For now, however, Cass City Schools will dress just one high school team consisting of students in grades ninth through twelfth. That could mean 100-pound freshman rookies, with underdeveloped bodies, practicing against muscular 200-pound senior headhunters.

“That’s a big concern. We will have to keep a close eye on that and make sure we have safety

MHSAA announces preliminary care data for spring 2016

Similar to information gathered after the first two seasons of the 2015-16 school year, the Michigan High School Athletic Association has found through collection of preliminary data that fewer than one percent of its more than 100,000 spring student-athletes experienced potential concussions during the season that concluded early this month.

percent of spring student-athletes play boys’ lacrosse.

The MHSAA this school year requested for the first time that member schools report possible concussions by their student-athletes during both practice and competition. As expected, the overall percentage of spring student-athletes with potential concussions was lower than for both fall and winter – as many spring sports involve only limited contact. A first set of preliminary data announced in December showed only two percent of more than 100,000 high school fall athletes experienced concussions during that first season of 2015-16. Preliminary data released in May for the winter also showed two percent of that season’s more than 70,000 student-athletes had experienced potential concussions as well.

Girls’ soccer has produced 58 percent more potential concussions than boys’ soccer did during the fall, despite seven percent fewer student-athletes playing girls’ soccer. Boys’ lacrosse, meanwhile, had nearly three times as many possible concussions as girls’ lacrosse – with only 48 percent more participants.

Schools also are required to designate if potential concussions occurred during competition or practice and at which level – varsity, junior varsity or freshman – and this spring those designations provided additional compelling data. In girls’ lacrosse, 63 percent of possible concussions occurred at the varsity level, while softball saw its most at the junior varsity level and baseball saw as many at the varsity level as the junior varsity and freshman levels combined.

“The preliminary data we were able to collect this spring again shows, and especially with girls’ soccer, why we must work for solutions to limit head injuries in all sports and not focus solely on sports that are most publicized,” MHSAA Executive Director John E. “Jack” Roberts said. “As we now move toward solidifying our research from this school year, we expect to learn even more about which factors contribute most to the sustaining of concussions at the high school level, and what our administrators, coaches, rule-makers and others might be able to do to make our games even safer and healthier for our student-athletes.”

As it did for the fall and winter, the MHSAA again received data from more than 99 percent of its member high schools at the end of the spring season. The average number of possible spring concussions reported by member high schools through June 27, 2016, was 1.0 concussion per school – fewer than the averages per school reported for the fall (3.2) and winter (1.6) seasons. Just under 50 percent of reporting schools stated they had no concussions by athletes this spring.

Data collected by the MHSAA remains preliminary, in part, because results noted include pending reports that have not been verified. After completion of these follow-up reports, the final number of concussions that actually occurred this past season and during the fall and winter may be lower than the preliminary numbers being reported at this time. The data analyzed to date is for high schools only, although middle schools also have the opportunity to report possible concussions. A full breakdown of the data including concussions by gender, sport, team level (varsity through junior high) and setting (practice or event) will be reported at the end of this summer. Please turn to page 10.

However, six spring sports — including girls’ track & field — registered at least 20 possible concussions, and for the second consecutive season a girls’ sport reported the highest percentage. Following girls’ basketball in the winter, girls’ soccer revealed 53 percent of possible concussions reported this spring – despite only 12 percent of spring student-athletes participating in that sport. Softball, also with roughly 12 percent of spring student-athletes, followed with 19 percent of possible concussions reported. Boys’ lacrosse, with 11 percent of possible concussions, ranked third-highest overall and highest among boys’ sports this spring. Roughly five per-



LISTEN UP..

COACH AMY Cuthrell, right, and senior Victoria Cumper chat during Monday night’s varsity volleyball practice in Cass City. Cuthrell is saddled with a heavy graduation toll but plenty of talent, entering her rookie season in charge for the Lady Red Hawks.

Cuthrell takes control of City City spikers

by Clarke Haire
Publisher

starters Maegan LeValley, Taylor Rasmussen, Lauren Potter and Macy Dickinson.

After a three-year stint, Amy Cuthrell takes the reins from Bill Potter as leader of the Cass City varsity volleyball team.

Middle hitter LeValley was a two-time first team GTW all-star and her career numbers include an impressive 1,364 kills and 109 aces. Outside hitter Rasmussen and setter Potter were named to the GTW all-conference second team in their final season. Rasmussen tallied 269 kills, 74 aces and 115 digs during the 2015 season, while Potter posted 1011 assists, 106 aces, and 188 digs in her final season. Potter’s lofty career totals include 3,021 assists, 300 aces and 585 digs. Dickinson, another strong net player, was credited with 235 kills, 34

The first year mentor will inherit a team with eight returning letter winners from the Red Hawks’ 2015 season that finished third in the Greater Thumb West with a 7-2 record and advanced to the Class C District final at USA. However, Cuthrell also will have to find replacements for five key senior team members gone from last year’s squad.

aces, and 46 digs during last year and earned GTW honorable mention praises in the process.

Topping Cass City’s graduation losses are four year

Also sure to be missed from a year ago is senior Libero Tara Nicholas. She gathered 284 digs and 42 aces in her final Red Hawk campaign, earning honorable mention GTW all-conference recognition.

Although the list of senior losses appears overwhelming for Coach Cuthrell, she’ll have two seniors, 10 juniors and one sophomore to build around in her maiden season in charge.

Be sure to pick up next week’s Chronicle for complete details on this year’s team in our annual preseason report.

Varsity Football

8/18	Carrollton, Valley Luth, Flint Beecher,MLS, Merrill @Sar Carrollton	11:00 am
8/26	Flint Hamady	7:00 pm
9/1	Ubyly	7:00 pm
9/9	Brown City (Service Night)	7:00 pm
9/16	USA	7:00 pm
9/23	EPB Lakers	7:00 pm
9/30	Bad Axe (HC)	7:00 pm
10/7	Vassar	7:00 pm
10/14	Reese	7:00 pm
10/21	Caro	7:00 pm

JV Football

8/18	Carrollton, Valley Luth, Flint Beecher,MLS, Merrill @Sar Carrollton	11:00 am
8/25	Flint Hamady	6:30 pm
8/31	Ubyly	6:30 pm
9/8	Brown City	6:30 pm
9/15	USA	6:30 pm
9/22	EPB Lakers	6:30 pm
9/29	Bad Axe	6:30 pm
10/5	Vassar	6:30 pm
10/13	Reese	6:30 pm
10/20	Caro	6:30 pm

Cross Country

8/25	Birch Run Invite	4:15 pm
9/1	Brown City Invite	9:00 am
9/10	Bad Axe Invite	8:30 am
9/14	Ubyly Invite	3:00 pm
9/17	Holly Invite	7:40 am
9/22	Frankenmuth Invite	TBD
9/24	EPE Laker Invite	10:00 am
10/1	Wagener Park Invite @Sardusky	7:30 am
10/8	Cass City Invite	9:00 am
10/15	Reese Invite	9:30 am
10/18	GTC League @Vassar	4:30 pm
10/22	Thumb Meet @Caro	10:00 am
10/28-29	Regionals @Deckerville Wegener Park	TBA

Volleyball

8/26	Bad Axe Invite (JV)	9:00 am
8/27	Bad Axe Invite (V)	9:00 am
9/10	Caro Invite (V)	9:00 am
9/15	USA	6:00 pm
9/17	Caro Invite (JV)	8:30 am
9/17	Bay City Western (V)	9:00 am
9/20	Reese	6:00 pm
9/22	Vassar	6:00 pm
9/24	USA Invite (V)	8:30 am
9/27	EPB Lakers	6:00 pm
9/29	Bad Axe	6:00 pm
10/4	Millington	5:30 pm
10/6	USA	6:00 pm
10/11	Reese	6:00 pm
10/13	Vassar	6:00 pm
10/18	EPB Lakers	6:00 pm
10/20	Bad Axe	6:00 pm
10/22	EPB Laker Invite (V)	10:00 am
10/25	Caro	6:00 pm
10/31-11/5	Dist Tourny	TBA

Junior High Girls Volleyball

9/12	Kingston	5:30 pm
9/14	Mayville	5:30 pm
9/19	Reese	5:30 pm
9/21	USA	5:30 pm
9/26	Vassar	5:30 pm
9/28	Harbor Beach	5:30 pm
10/3	Kingston	5:30 pm
10/5	Mayville	5:30 pm
10/10	Reese	5:30 pm
10/12	USA	5:30 pm
10/17	Vassar	5:30 pm
10/19	Harbor Beach	5:30 pm

Junior High Football

9/20	Vassar (no kick)	6:00 pm
9/27	Memphis (no kick)	6:00 pm
10/4	Reese (no kick)	6:00 pm
10/11	Harbor Beach (kick)	6:00 pm
10/18	USA (kick)	6:00 pm
10/25	Brown City (kick)	6:00 pm

CASS CITY SCHOOLS 2016 FALL SPORTS SCHEDULE

Home games bdd and highlighted

Admissions: Jr. High \$4.00
High School \$5.00

MHSAA announces preliminary care data for spring 2016

Continued from page 9.

The reporting of possible concussions is part of a three-pronged advance by the MHSAA in concussion care begun during the 2015-16 school year which is producing data related to the frequency and severity of head injuries. The MHSAA in fall 2015 launched the largest ever state high school association sideline concussion testing pilot program, with 62 schools taking part by using one of two screening tests designed to detect concussions. One of the objectives of the pilot was to increase awareness of concussions and improve sideline detection; and preliminary results have indicated that the average number of possible concussions reported by pilot schools exceeds the average reported by schools outside the pilot group.

Of 15 schools reporting the most

possible concussions this spring, six are part of the MHSAA's pilot sideline detection programs. Those programs – King-Devick Test and XLNTbrain Sport – utilize technology to provide on-site testing of athletes who have sustained possible concussions, with results of those examinations then compared against baseline tests taken by athletes previously. Schools participating in the pilot programs for the 2016-17 school year received training at the MHSAA office in East Lansing on June 16 and 17.

The MHSAA also is the first state association to provide all participants at every member high school and junior high/middle school with insurance intended to pay accident medical expense benefits – covering deductibles and co-pays left unpaid by other policies – resulting from head injuries sustained during school


practices or competitions and at no cost to either schools or families. The program has produced additional data about the frequency and severity of head injuries. As of June 27, only 144 claims had been made on the insurance policy designed to assist in payment for concussion care. Fifty-one of the claims are for football, 39 are for basketball (girls and boys combined) and 14 are for boys' soccer.

Schools report possible concussions online via the MHSAA Website. Reports are then examined by members of the MHSAA staff, who follow up with school administrators as those student-athletes continue to receive care and eventually return to play. Student privacy is protected. Previously, the MHSAA also was among the first state associations to adopt a return-to-play protocol that keeps an athlete out of activity until

at least the next day after a suspected concussion, and allows that athlete to return to play only after he or she has been cleared for activity by a doctor (M.D. or D.O.), physician's assistant or nurse practitioner. The follow-up reports schools are providing the MHSAA reveal that the majority of students are being withheld from activity for a week or longer following the reported concussion. This will be discussed in more detail when the MHSAA releases a more comprehensive review that covers the entire school year.

The MHSAA is a private, not-for-profit corporation of voluntary membership by more than 1,400 public and private senior high schools and junior high/middle schools which exists to develop common rules for athletic eligibility and competition. No government funds or tax dollars support the MHSAA, which was the first such association nationally to not accept membership dues or tournament entry fees from schools. Member schools which enforce these rules are permitted to participate in MHSAA tournaments, which attract more than 1.4 million spectators each year.

CHIP SHOTS



**at Rolling Hills
Golf Course**

Week 15 Standings

Monday Night League

Championship Flight	
Dieter Roth	166
Tony Nika	161
Chris Clifton	114
Nick Bliss	99
Don Ouvry	98
Ryan Lowman	92
Brad Langenburg	90
Scott Adams	82
Mike Lowe	79

1st Flight	
Jon Zdrojewski	181
Dan Caister	148
Larry Robinson	141
Harold McAlpine	124
Jim Hobbs	123
David Allen	123

2nd Flight	
George Batty	162
Paul Regnerus	152
David House	134
Daryl Iwankovitsch	133
David Block	100
Jacob Boynton	98

Wednesday Night Early League	
Iwankovitsch/Block	180
Biefer/Hoard	174
Mastie/Robinson	162
Herron/Fox	161
Hendrick/Veggian	158
Berwick/Young	144
Wallace/Warner	138
Hobbs/Meck	135
Jones/Marshall	134
Alexander/Spencer	133
Caister/Burns	128
Tate/Wiseman	127
Irrer/Dillon	123
McAlpine/Mosher	123
Bolton/Thompson	111
Craig/Knight	91

Wednesday Night Late League	
Division 1:	
Hacker/ Nika	180
Hartel/Brown	164
Lowman/Tamlyn	163
Davis/Lowe	151
Doerr/Haire	146
Osentoski/Wallace	142
Bitzer/Curtis	139
Hillaker/Murphy	121
Richards/Bitzer	109
Langenburg/Langenburg	109
Ulfig/Ulfig	87

Division 2:	
Andersen/LaMarr	157
LeValley/Krol	153
Cotton/Israelson	151
Koch/McNeil	135
Schinnerer/Dillon	134
Wallace/Wallace	129
Martin/Stern	122
Sommerville/Tomlinson	122
Brinkman/deBeaubien	115
Peters/Brown	112
Halasz/Ahleman	69
Prieskorn/Repshinska	65

Number woes

common among area teams

Continued from page 9.

ers on the third and fourth grade team and 24 players on the fifth and sixth grade team.

Still, some Red Hawk supporters question if Youth Football isn't hurting the numbers at the varsity level down the road.


When asked, Cass City Booster Club member Dave Weiler said, "I think the young kids playing contact football is hurting the numbers as they get older. Play flag football at the younger levels then go to pads. Gives the kids something to look forward to as they get to hit someone."

ers, including varsity Coach Scott Cuthrell, are believers in the benefits of Youth Football – skill and technique development to name a few - as-well-as the continuity gain by starting to learning the system used at the junior varsity and varsity levels.

"I heard both arguments, it's really a mixed bag. I think so much negativity in the press is a big factor," Markel said.

Coaches

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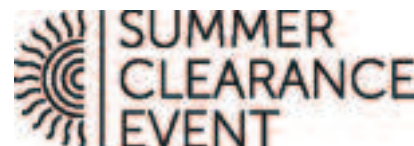
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Email scam targeting businesses with a fake attorney general label

Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette recently released a new consumer alert after several Michigan businesses reported receiving a suspicious email from "The Office of The Attorney General."

The email subject reads, "The Office of The Attorney General Complaint", and attached to the email is a complaint that requires a response. Recipients are then prompted to view the complaint by clicking the included link. This link, when clicked, installs malware which steals confidential information from individual computers.

"It is concerning when someone purports to be another entity to scam hard-working business owners," said Schuette. "It is especially concerning when it claims to be from my office, which is tasked with consumer protection. I encourage anyone who receives this suspicious email to delete it and contact my office."

The Department of Attorney General advises that recipients delete the email. If recipients open the email, they should simply delete it—without opening any attachment or clicking on any link. If the attachment is opened, recipients should assume they have malware and seek technical assistance.

The grammatical errors, generic reference to "The Office of The Attorney General," and the sender's email address are clues to the bogus nature of this email. Attorney General Schuette cautions, however, to remain vigilant.

The email received by businesses is similar to the following:

"From: The Office of The Attorney General [mailto:compl.dept@outlook.com] Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2016 3:46 PM To: * * * Subject: The Office of The Attorney General Complaint

Dear Business Owner:

A complaint has been filed against your Business. Enclosed is a copy of the complaint which requires your response. You have 10 days to file a rebuttal if you so desire. You may view the complaint at the link below.

Complaint41163.pdf Rebuttals should not exceed 25 pages and may refer to any additional documents or exhibits that are available on request.

The Office of The Attorney General cannot render legal advice nor can The Office of The Attorney General represent individuals or intervene on their behalf in any civil or criminal matter.

Please review the enclosed complaint. If filing a rebuttal please do so during the specified time frame.

Sincerely,

The Office of the Attorney General."

"Be cautious about opening any attachment or downloading any file from emails you receive, regardless who sent them. These files can contain viruses or other software that can weaken your computer's security," Schuette said. "Install protective anti-virus, anti-spyware, and firewall software, and keep them up-to-date. Some phishing emails contain software that can harm your computer or track your activities on the Internet without your knowledge."

"If you get an email or pop-up message that asks for personal or financial information, do not reply, and do not open any attachment or click on any link in the message. Legitimate companies don't ask for this information by email," Schuette said. "Don't email personal or financial information. Email is not a secure method of transmitting personal information."

For more information on various government imposter schemes, see the Attorney General's Government Imposter Scams Consumer Alert.

If a business is concerned about any email purporting to be from the Michigan Attorney General, do not open it and instead call the Consumer Protection Division at 1-877-765-8388.



Huron County 4-H ambassadors...

RECENTLY HONORED as the 2016-17 Huron County 4-H junior and senior ambassadors were (from left) Royce Daskam (Junior 4-H ambassador), and Addy Battel, Lauren Gillig and Macy Knoblock (Senior 4-H ambassadors). The youths will be representing 4-H at various county parades and 4-H activities throughout the year.

2016 wheat trial results recently published

Results of the 2016 Michigan State University Wheat Performance Trials were recently published by Michigan State University wheat breeder Dr. Eric Olson and Lee Siler.

The state's wheat farmers will want to review results before making decisions for this fall's planting, according to officials with the Michigan Wheat Program, which sponsored the high management portion of the trials.

The high-management plot comparisons have been part of the wheat performance trials since 2013, when the Michigan Wheat Program board of directors voted to fund it. The trials continue to show very promising results for over 90 percent of the wheat seed lines being tested.

The MSU wheat research team has planted wheat variety trial plots for more than 20 years, currently at six locations in five counties (two in Ingham County). Test sites are located on private farmland in Huron, Lenawee, Sanilac and Tuscola counties.

At five sites the wheat trials are

under a high-management system, which are then compared to "control" plots that utilized conventional production practices. All high-management trials were funded by the Michigan Wheat Program, as part of the check-off board's research emphasis on high-management wheat systems.

This year, 90 wheat varieties were tested including 26 experimental lines. Fifteen organizations provided seed lines for testing, including MSU, the Michigan and Virginia Crop Improvement Associations.

"Data from the high-management variety trials were again very supportive of high-management practices," said Dave Milligan, chairman of the Michigan Wheat Program and wheat farmer from Cass City. "While most varieties performed a little to significantly better under high management, the improvement in yield was less pronounced this year than last year. Stripe rust and the very dry weather in June took their toll on an otherwise good growing season."

"Wheat farmers should consider these results, along with input costs to make the decisions that make the most sense for their farming operation," said Jody E. Pollok-Newsom, executive director of the Michigan Wheat Program. "The check-off is reviewing a proposal at its meeting later this month to fund these plot trials again in 2016 and add a location in the southwest corner of the state. This project is a very important part of our research portfolio."

"The Michigan Wheat Program's board has also invested significantly in other research projects that are fine-tuning high-management prac-

tices, and we've featured high management in all of our educational programs," Pollok-Newsom added.

For more results from the program's research agenda, visit miwheat.org and visit the Research tab.

Data on the 2016 trials is posted on the home page at www.miwheat.org at the top of the "What's Hot" box. The site also includes 2015, 2014 and 2013 MSU wheat variety trials—and a link to data from 2012 and prior years.

Michigan State researchers recommend that farmers use at least three years of data to make decisions about varieties. Variety trials provide the opportunity to compare data on dozens of varieties on multiple sites, which may have experienced different weather conditions.

According to Olson, the 2016 winter wheat crop got off to a great start last fall due to near perfect planting conditions and a late winter.

"The crop overwintered well and emerged in good condition this spring," he said. "Even though the weather was hot and dry during grain fill, the crop still out-yielded expectations. The weather held in most areas of the state and harvest was smooth across most of Michigan."

The Michigan Wheat Program is funded by nearly 8,000 farmers who grow wheat in 50 of Michigan's 83 counties. The wheat program board seeks to promote the state's wheat industry by funding and supporting the strategic priorities of wheat farmers working with input suppliers, seed producers, millers, end users and consumers.



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<p>Birch Run 8461 Main Street Birch Run, MI 48415 989-244-1890</p>	<p>Lapeer 3120 N Lapeer Road Lapeer, MI 48446 810-356-3491</p>	<p>Saginaw 6150 Bay Road Saginaw, MI 48604 989-272-4548</p>
<p>Burton 4135 Davison Road Burton, MI 48509 810-471-3177</p>	<p>Marlette 7454 Vandyke Highway Marlette, MI 48453 810-346-1351</p>	<p>Sandusky 989 West Sanilac Sandusky, MI 48471 810-269-2562</p>


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Worship Service 10:50 a.m.

Sunday Evening Service & Youth Group 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday Family Night 6:30 p.m.

Pastor: Phil Burkett • www.casscitymc.org



Associate Pastor: Joel

Schwendinger

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.

Wednesdays - 7 p.m.

Pastor: David Cooper

DefordCommunityChurch.org

Evangelical Free Church of Cass City

6430 Chestnut Blvd., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-5060 •

Summer Cafe Church at 10:15 a.m.

through Labor Day

Midweek Bible Studies • Biblical Counseling

Pastor: Rev. Todd R. Gould

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First Baptist Church

(Independent, Fundamental) Barrier Free

6420 Houghton St., Cass City, MI 48726 • 989-872-3155

Sunday School All Ages 9:45 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Evening Service 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

AWANA Clubs 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. •

Wednesday - Teen Club 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Summer 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.

Pastor: Rev. Linda Graham

Exercise Program: Mon., Wed. & Fri. 8:30 a.m.

After School Adventure: Wed. following school - 4:15

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: Rev. Steve Bagnall

www.goodshepherdlutherancasscity.webs.com



Living Word Worship Center

Church of God

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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 Karwowski

Website: www.lwccog.net



Mizpah Missionary Church

4631 N. Van Dyke, Cass City, MI 48726

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Sunday Service: 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Wednesday Prayer Group 6:30-8 p.m.

Wednesday Kids' Club 6:30-8 p.m.

Pastor Dale Bullock 989-872-2828



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Weekday Mass: Wednesday - 9:00 a.m.

Parochial Administrator: Fr. Christian Tabares



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

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Edwin Blackmer and Diane Blackmer, husband and wife, original mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns, Mortgagee, dated September 30, 2005, and recorded on December 9, 2005 in Liber 1063 on Page 1249, and assigned by said Mortgagee to Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Morgan Stanley Home Equity Loan Trust 2006-1 as assignee as documented by an assignment, in Tuscola county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-Four Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Nine and 16/100 Dollars (\$64,489.16).

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 September 1, 2016.

Said premises are situated in Township of Watertown, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as: Beginning at a point 670.00 feet South of the Northwest corner of the Northwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 26, Town 10 North, Range 9 East, thence running East 168 feet, thence South 130 feet, thence West 168 feet, thence North 130 feet to the place 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: August 3, 2016
For more information, please call:
FC H (248) 593-1300
Trott Law, P.C.
Attorneys For Servicer
31440 Northwestern Hwy Ste. 200
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-5422
File #135784F02

8-3-4

MORTGAGE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Notice is hereby given that Default has occurred in a Mortgage given by David A. Mathews and Kristina M. Mathews, husband and wife, mortgagors, to Mayville State Bank, mortgagee. The Mortgage is dated May 14, 2003, and was recorded on July 9, 2003, in Liber 940, on page 1450 of the Tuscola County records. The balance owing on the Mortgage as of the date of this Notice is \$73,785.67, including interest at 6.125% per year. The Mortgage contains a power of sale clause and no proceedings have been instituted to recover any part of the debt owing.

The Mortgage will be foreclosed by selling the property described below at a public auction to the highest bidder. The sale will be held on September 1, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. local time at the main entrance to the Tuscola County Court Facility, 440 N. State Street, Caro, Michigan, that being the place of holding Circuit Court for Tuscola County, Michigan. The property will be sold to pay the amount then due on the Mortgage, including interest, legal costs, attorney fees and any taxes or insurance which may be paid by the mortgagee before the sale.

The property to be sold is located in the Township of Fremont, County of Tuscola, Michigan and is described as:

The W 100 ft of the E 200 ft of the N 16 rods of that part of the NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 36, T11N, R9E, Fremont Twp., Tuscola Co., Michigan, lying W of the W line of Leonard Fox's third addition to the Village of Mayville, Tuscola County, Michigan.

commonly known as 241 W. Main, Mayville, MI 48744
tax i.d. 040-036-000-1200-00

If the property described in this notice is sold at a foreclosure sale, then under MCL 600.3278, the Mortgagor(s) will be held responsible to the buyer of the property at the foreclosure sale, or to the Mortgage

holder, for damage done to the property during the redemption period.

The redemption period will expire six (6) months after the date of the foreclosure sale, unless the property is determined abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will expire 30 days after the date of the foreclosure sale, or when the time to provide notice under MCL 600.3241a(c) expires, whichever is later.

SMITH, MARTIN, POWERS & KNIER, P.C.
Dated: August 1, 2016
Henry L. Knier, Jr. (P46393)
Attorney for Mayville State Bank,
Mortgagee
900 Washington Ave., P.O. Box 219
Bay City, MI 48707 - (989) 892-4574

8-3-4

Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

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

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

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Lynn M Adkins, a single woman, original mortgagor(s), to Thumb National Mortgage, LLC, Mortgagee, dated July 27, 2007, and recorded on August 8, 2007 in Liber 1127 on Page 90, and assigned by said Mortgagee to U.S. Bank National Association as assignee as documented by an assignment, in Tuscola county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Fifty-Three Thousand Eight Hundred Twelve and 64/100 Dollars (\$53,812.64).

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 September 8, 2016.

Said premises are situated in Village of Cass City, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as: The West 181.5 feet of Lot 11, Block 1, Garden Center Subdivision, Village of Cass City, Tuscola County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 42B, Tuscola County Records.

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

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

Dated: August 10, 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 #426673F02

8-10-4

Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale

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

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

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by John Squire, a single man, original mortgagor(s), to Independent Mortgage Company Central Michigan, Mortgagee, dated January 17, 2008, and recorded on February 14, 2008 in Liber 1141 on Page 609, and assigned by mesne assignments to CIT Bank, N.A., formerly known as OneWest Bank N.A. as assignee as documented by an assignment, in Tuscola county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-One Thousand One Hundred Sixty and 46/100 Dollars (\$61,160.46).

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 hold-

ing the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on September 8, 2016.

Said premises are situated in Township of Almer, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as: Part of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 34, Town 13 North, Range 9 East, Village of Caro, Almer Township, Tuscola County Michigan, Described as Commencing at a point on the South line of said Section 34 which is North 89 Degrees 56 Minutes 15 Seconds West, 902 Feet from the Southeast corner of said Section; thence continuing along said South line, North 89 Degrees 56 Minutes 15 Seconds West, 85 feet; thence perpendicular to said South line, North 00 Degrees 03 Minutes 45 Seconds East, 198 feet; thence South 89 Degrees 20 Minutes 05 Seconds East 85 Feet; thence South 00 Degrees 03 Minutes 45 Seconds West 198 feet to the South line of Section 34 and place of beginning. Subject to the use of the Southerly 33.00 feet thereof as Gilford Road.

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: August 10, 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 #451677F02

8-10-

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 Vina Lue Swinton, an unmarried woman, original mortgagor(s), to Independent Mortgage Company, Mortgagee, dated December 18, 2008, and recorded on January 27, 2009 in Liber 1165 on Page 1468, and assigned by mesne assignments to CIT Bank, N.A. 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 Eighty-Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Fifteen and 25/100 Dollars (\$87,915.25).

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 September 8, 2016.

Said premises are situated in City of Vassar, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 13, Block 15, North's Addition to the Village (now city) of Vassar, Tuscola County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof

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

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

Dated: August 10, 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 #408969F04

8-10-4

holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Dated: August 17, 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 #464454F01

8-17-4

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

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by BRIAN GILMORE and STACY L. GILMORE AKA STACEY GILMORE, JOINT TENANCY WITH FULL RIGHTS OF SURVIVORSHIP, HUSBAND AND WIFE, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender's successors and assigns, Mortgagee, dated April 23, 2010, and recorded on April 27, 2010, in Liber 1197, on Page 162, and modified on January 14, 2015, recorded January 30, 2015, in Liber 1323, on Page 198, and assigned by said mortgagee to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, as assigned, Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Forty-Seven Thousand Three Hundred Thirty Dollars and Twenty-Nine Cents (\$147,330.29), including interest at 3.875% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, front entrance of the Courthouse Building in the City of Caro, Michigan, Tuscola County at 10:00 AM o'clock, on September 15, 2016 Said premises are located in Tuscola County, Michigan and are described as: Part of the West half of the Southwest quarter of Section 10, Town 13 North, Range 10 East, described as beginning at a point on the South line of said Section 10, which is East 881.51 feet from the Southwest corner of said Section; thence continuing along said South line, East, 440.75 feet to the West, North and South one-eighth line; thence along said one-eighth line North 00 degrees 10 minutes 20 seconds East, 989.14 feet; thence parallel with said South line of Section 10, West 440.02 feet; thence South 00 degrees 12 minutes 52 seconds West, 989.14 feet to the place of beginning. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241, in which case the redemption period shall be 1 month, or under MCL 600.3241a 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later, or extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

JPMorgan Chase Bank,
National Association Mortgage/Assignee
Schneiderman & Sherman, P.C.
23938 Research Drive, Suite 300
Farmington Hills, MI 48335
S20141022020481 USDA

8-17-4

Subscription Rates

	1-year	2-years	3-years
Tuscola, Sanilac or Huron	\$23.10	\$37.40	\$51.70
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POLEGA'S PRODUCE - Open every day from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Homegrown tomatoes, sweet corn, watermelon, muskmelon, beans, cucumbers, red potatoes and canning tomatoes soon. We accept Project Fresh and Senior Fresh coupons. Just east of M-53 at 6480 Bay City Forestville Rd. (989) 872-3348. 2-8-3-3

FOR SALE - 15 Pine and Blue Spruce trees from 40' to 50' for sale to be cut down, call Kelly and Co. at 872-2248. 2-8-10-tf

CANNING TOMATOES - Now taking orders for canning tomatoes - \$10/bushel call (989) 912-9511. 2-8-10-3

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 2-4-16-tf

Household Sales
LARGE MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE & SHED SALE - Lots of hunting and fishing gear, power tools, table saws, miter saw, scroll saw, bench grinders, belt sander, router with table and much more. Hand tools, gas grill, compressor, hardware, electrical, trailers, loading ramp, exercise bike, vacuum, weed trimmer, men's clothing to size 4x, books, CDs, hunting art, lots of miscellaneous. Cash only. August 18-20 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 5591 Huron Line Rd. 14-8-17-1

MULTI FAMILY GARAGE SALE - 6323 Virginia Drive, Cass City. Aug. 18-20. Thursday and Friday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Kitchen set, two matching loveseats, dresser, chair, TV/DVD and TV stands, dorm room small refrigerator, microwave, Wii Playset, men's rollerblades size 10, clothes, toys, household items and lots of miscellaneous. 14-8-17-1

Household Sales
GARAGE SALE - 6304 Beechwood Dr. Cass City on August 20 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Furniture, kitchen sink, small replacement window, range hood, ping pong table, men's and women's clothing and much more. 14-8-17-1

HUGE GARAGE SALE - 5-1/2 miles south of Cass City, 3/4 east of Cemetery Rd. at 6917 Shabbona Rd., Deford. August 18-20 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. '04 and up Ford F150 tires and rims, exhaust fan, glassware, household items, clothes, bedding, Wii games and much more. 14-8-17-1

ESTATE SALE - 571 N. Center St. Sebawaing. Please note the times - Thursday, August 18 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday, August 19 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, August 20 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Saturday all items 1/2 price. 16 horse Bolen riding mower, freezer, couch, recliners, china cabinet, beds, dressers, tools, and miscellaneous furniture, household and garage items. Wonder Women Sales. 14-8-17-1

Real Estate For Rent
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2 & 3 BEDROOM HOUSES
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 Ask for Russ

Real Estate For Rent
FOR RENT - Country home near Cass City with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and laundry room. \$700 month plus deposit. No pets. Call 989-550-8319. 14-8-10-2

CASS CITY APARTMENTS - an elderly community (elderly being defined as 62 years of age or disabled of any age) located in Cass City, MI is currently accepting applications for 1 Bedroom Apartments. Units of barrier free design may also be available. Rent based on income, starting at \$468. For affordable housing call (989) 872-2009. \$0 Security Deposit! Free Heat & Water! Pet Friendly! "This institution is an equal opportunity provider" TDD/TTY #711. 4-7-27-tf

Facilities For Rent
VFW HALL - weddings, parties, funeral, dinners. 989-872-4933. 4-2-22-tf

FOR RENT - Cass City Mini Storage. Call 989-872-3917. 4-8-17-tf

Services
FALL OPENINGS at LICENSED Day Care in Cass City is accepting infants through 12 years old. CPR, First Aid training, reasonable rates, nutritious meals provided, fenced in yard, age appropriate activities call (989) 872-3568. 8-7-27-6

SELL IT FAST IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

Services
SALT FREE iron conditioners and water softeners, 24,000 grain, \$750. In-home service on all brands. Credit cards accepted. Call Paul's Pump Repair, 673-4850 or 800-745-4851 for free analysis. 8-9-25-tf

YOU KNOW YOUR wife likes and wants the Kirby. Why not get her something practical. My name is Daniel Messing. Many used Kirby vacuums on sale now. Sold with a 1-year warranty. Kirby Co. of Bad Axe, located across from the Franklin Inn on the east end of Bad Axe. Carry genuine Kirby factory parts. Call me to set up a private deal on lay away. Quality, reliability and performance. Don't wait, call 989-269-7562, 989-551-7562 or 989-479-6543. 8-12-17-tf

ELECTRIC MOTOR and power tool repair, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, 8 a.m. to noon Saturday. John Blair, 1/8 mile west of M-53 on Sebawaing Road. Phone 269-7909 or 989-553-7960. 8-12-13-tf


PAUL'S PUMP REPAIR - Water pump and water tank sales. In-home service. Credit cards accepted. Call 673-4850 or 800-745-4851 anytime. 8-9-25-tf

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 8-7-9-tf

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CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

CALF FEEDER Experience preferred but willing to train the right person. No smoking & must be able to pass drug/alcohol test. Most work is outside. Flexible schedule. 40hr/wk. Must be dependable and self motivated. Please apply at Zimba Dairy, 7995 Mushroom Rd, Deford. 11-4-20-tf

MILKER POSITIONS open on organic dairy farm. 12 hr shifts. Must have dependable transportation and be available holidays & weekends. No smoking and must be able to pass drug/alcohol testing. Please apply in person 7995 Mushroom Rd Deford MI 48729. 11-4-20-tf

HELP WANTED - Light Production Worker - We have a position available at competitive wages with excellent benefits. Qualifications: High School Diploma, Excellent Work Attendance Record, good math, reading and writing skills, excellent manual dexterity, prior manufacturing experience helpful. For consideration please send resume with references to Anrod Screen Cylinder Co., Attn: Human Resources, P.O. Box 117, Cass City, Mi 48726. 11-8-3-2

HELP WANTED - Someone to do ironing of shirts/tops in their home. Call (989) 670-9631. 11-8-17-1

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REDUCED!!!

Quality built brick home with the view of Lake Huron across the road. 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, Kitchen, dining and living room area is all open, there is a large rear deck and a very nice covered front porch and 2 pole buildings All this sits on 13+/- beautiful acres with 2 road fronts. Additional property across the road can be purchased along with this or separately(that MLS# is 123-15-0055. Call listing agent for all details and showings. DV-153



ATTENTION HUNTERS!!!

Attention Hunters!!!!!! Over the river and through the woods. That's only part of what you get with this 85 +/- acres. Not only does the Cass River run through the property there is also a cabin with garage, 30 x 48 shed, fruit trees and food plots. Call listing agent for tour. A-918



REDUCED!

The perfect building spot. Located on 2 road fronts - one of which is a class A road. Within walking distance to Lake Huron. Many mature trees, driveway and city water to road. Assessment balance remains and is to be assumed to buyer. Property has been surveyed. L-654



FARM!!!

Multi purpose farm just waiting for a family. Do you need room - well there's plenty here. There was a new addition just recently put on along with a new steal roof, windows, doors and siding. 6 bedrooms, 2 baths, full basement under the original part of the home. Now for the outside, there is 75+/- acres. 30 of which is tillable, the remainder is made up of lawn, pond, pasture and the rear portion is wooded with the rear border of the property is the Cass River. The buildings consist of a detached garage, pole barn, new calf barn, hoop barn, horse barn with 10 tie stalls and 1 box stall and a milk house. Call for tour. Cass City Schools. CC-151



AUCTION!!!

Now taking consignments for fall auction coming **October 8** at Van Dyke and Pringle Rd., Cass City. Call our office today.

MOVE RIGHT IN!!!

Move right in!! 2 bedroom 1 bath home on just over 2 acres on a paved rd. in the country. Brand new plumbing, wiring, water heater, steel roof, deck, kitchen, well pump, and flooring. Also the windows and siding have been done in the last 5 years or so. 30'x40' pole barn w/ new cement. Almost everything has been done. This house is ready to go!!



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Real Estate for Sale



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THUMB AREA FARMERS have seen plenty of heat but little rain during the dog days of summer 2016 -- until late last week, when Mother Nature came through with a series of rainstorms. Weather forecasters were calling for more rain this week as well as for temperatures to moderate in the low- to mid-80s.

School repairs a concern

Continued from page one.

tions.

E. Gilbert and Sons President Lester C. Gilbert and Project Manager Tom Daniel addressed the board first Monday, saying their inspection of the heating system found deterioration issues with some rubber valves in the radiant heating ceiling panels located in classrooms.

Daniel said the problems don't represent an emergency situation, but the deteriorating will continue because it stems from high pH levels in the water. "The water is destroying the piping system right now," he said, adding a water treatment system would likely slow the process.

Daniel estimated fixing the existing heating system and incorporating a water treatment system at the junior-senior high would cost roughly \$92,000. In the long term, he recommended replacing the existing heating system with individual heating units for each room, which would cost about \$315,000 and last for 15 to 20 years.

Daniel told board members that replacing deteriorating gaskets in the control water valves and installing chemical treatment for the piping at the elementary school -- now 20 years old -- would cost the district about \$40,500.

While the elementary boilers are near the end of their life expectancy, they are in decent shape, he noted.

Chip Hendrick, president of R.C. Hendrick and Son Inc., Saginaw, also addressed the board. Hendrick presented similar findings to that of Daniel with respect to the school heating systems. Hendrick introduced engineering consultant Ron Moulton, partner and mechanical engineer with MacMillan Associates, who explained the primary concern is deterioration of metal coils inside the radiant heating ceiling panels.

Hendrick outlined a myriad of proposed improvement -- ranging from site work to electrical upgrades to new furnishings -- and rated them based on urgency. The combined "top priority" fixes in all categories add up to about \$322,420.

A list of the combined recommendations included replacement of damaged radiant heating system panels at a cost of \$24,600, with the price tag to replace all radiant panels estimated at nearly \$556,000.

Hendrick, whose company has worked with the Cass City Schools on previous occasions, including during construction of the elementary building (former middle school), emphasized his firm works with schools on all aspects of major construction projects, from funding options to finishing touches.

Hartel said paying for significant improvements could come in the form of establishing a voter-approved one-mill sinking fund that would generate roughly \$235,000 a year. Another option would be to ask voters to extend an existing millage levy in the future.

However, Hartel indicated -- and board members agreed -- that there is no need to rush into a major capital improvement campaign yet.

Foundation to boost park

Continued from page one.

donations for funds. The group is encouraging current and past Cass City area residents to contribute.

"It will take donations from all around to make good projects happen at the parks," Barrios said. "There are a lot of people who grew up here and left but still keep in touch. When the theatre was having problems a few years back, people from out of state donated, and we're hoping for something similar to happen here."

The foundation has seven board members; Barrios, Dotty Scollon, Brad Speirs, Brad Langenburg, Jim Freeman, Nanette Walsh and Carl Palmateer. The fund was suggested by Scollon, who had seen similar funds established when she served as a member of the Tuscola County Community Foundation Board.

The group has since presented information on the new Cass City parks fund to various groups in the community.

Recently Barrios and Scollon attended at the Tuscola County Senior Health Fair, handing out flyers, and Barrios presented a program on the foundation for board members at Rawson Memorial District Library.

People can donate to the foundation by picking up a flyer at the Biddinger and Bitzer Office in town, or online at the organization's website, www.friendsofcasscityparks.org.

Rec facilities drawing more people

Continued from page one.

Cristiano. "And it is maintained that way."

Cristiano cited facilities that include ball fields, tennis and basketball courts, and the summer day camp, which offer a wide variety of activities to residents of all ages in the area.

The fields host six different tournaments during the summer months, from softball and baseball little league to church leagues.

The day camp, meanwhile, provides a great outlet for young kids to have fun in the summer. Participants have been taking weekly field trips every Thursday, including a recent trek to Splash Village in Frankenmuth.

Above all else, Cristiano praised the pool, noting businesses that have been willing to sponsor free days, and a dependable, well-trained lifeguard staff help to make the facility even more family-friendly.

"The single most important thing is when parents bring their kids to the swimming lessons," Cristiano added. "And the special thing about the classes is not only do they teach the kids to swim, but also give them tips on how to be safe in other bodies of water like lakes. The pool is as good as you can find in the Thumb and the state."

Over the past few years, village officials have tackled a number of small improvements throughout the park that have been received well by the public. A conversion from chlorine to salt in the pool to be more economical and safer is one example. Maintenance projects at the tennis courts and ball fields are others.

"Maintenance is important, but costly," said Cristiano.

With the Friends of Cass City Parks and Recreation recently being established, local residents can look forward to seeing even more improvements in the near future.

Cristiano noted attendance and use numbers at the park won't be determined until the end of summer, but he predicts both figures will be up this year.

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