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set to meet, but
what do they do?**

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shine at county bee**

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barn quilt at Rawson
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CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

VOLUME 113, NUMBER 1

CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2019

.75 CENTS ~ 16 PAGES

Cass City man to spend decades in prison for sex crime

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

A Cass City man will spend at least the next 30 years behind bars for sexually assaulting a developmentally disabled woman more than a year ago.

Tuscola County Circuit Court Judge Amy Grace Gierhart last week sentenced Charles E. Damoth II, 56, to multiple prison terms of 15 to 60 years – two of them to run consecutively – following his conviction on 10 counts of criminal sexual conduct in December.



Charles Damoth

He was also ordered to pay court costs and fines totaling \$530. A jury returned verdicts of guilty to six counts of first degree criminal sexual conduct, involving sexual penetration via force or coercion, with the victim suffering personal injury, and four counts of second degree criminal sexual conduct, involving sexual contact via force or coercion as well as injury to the victim.

Tuscola County Prosecutor Mark E. Reene said the charges also take into account the fact that Damoth was well aware that the victim was mentally incapacitated or mentally incapable of consenting to sexual activity.

“If you’re looking for an example of a reprehensible human being, it would be him,” Reene said. “His conduct was outrageous as he preyed upon a developmentally disabled victim. He was fully aware of her disability.”

Prosecutors alleged Damoth picked up an adult female acquaintance in Vassar – his victim – Jan. 18, 2018, and drove her to a trailer in a secluded area of Elkland Township, where he assaulted her.

Reene said investigators did an outstanding job in collecting evidence that led to Damoth’s conviction.

“It was very well investigated by Detective James Hook of the Tuscola County Sheriff’s Office. It was just a very thorough, complete investigation,” he added.

A jury deliberated for about 52 minutes before convicting Damoth on all counts following a five-day trial that ended Dec. 11.



ROUGHLY THREE dozen area residents attended Thursday night’s First Impressions Tourism (FIT) community assessment forum in Cass City. The MSU Extension-sponsored FIT program is designed to help communities learn about their strengths and weakness through the eyes of a handful of first-time visitors.

Hidden treasures

First-time visitors to Cass City say village should do more to promote local attractions

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

While Cass City’s downtown district is struggling, the village and surrounding areas offer a bounty of attractions that could lure more people to town if officials do more to promote the community’s hidden historical and recreational “treasures”.

That was among the impressions of a handful of first-time visitors to Cass City in conjunction with the village’s participation in a First Impressions Tourism (FIT) Assessment in cooperation with MSU Extension tourism officials.

In a nutshell, FIT helps communities learn about their strengths and weaknesses through the eyes of first-time visitors. The FIT program arranged to have five unannounced visitors, all unfamiliar with Cass City, spend some time in the community last fall.

Their observations and comments were compiled

for a report presented during a two-hour community forum Thursday night at the Hills and Dales Corporate Services Building (formerly the Baker College campus).

About three dozen area residents attended the session, led by Andy Northrop, an MSU Extension educator and statewide tourism and leadership coordinator for the MSU Extension Community, Food and Environment Institute.

Northrop explained the goal of the program is not to transform every town into a tourist town, but to offer suggestions related to what tourists – in this case, five newcomers – think of a specific town. And while the visitors’ impressions include both positive and negative comments, the point is to generate information, not criticism.

The visit by two male and three female visitors took place between Aug. 24 and Oct. 25, and involved day

Please turn to page 6.

Suspect in high-speed pursuit faces charges

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Tuscola County Sheriff’s deputies were able to put an end to a Pinconning man’s effort to evade a host of Thumb law enforcement officers, including ramming a patrol car with a stolen vehicle during a pursuit that covered portions of three counties last week.

The suspect, identified as 31-year-old James Martin, also allegedly attempted to shoot a Tuscola County homeowner after entering the man’s residence and trying to steal his vehicle as police closed in at the end of the pursuit.



James Martin

The incident

unfolded Tuesday afternoon. At the time, Sanilac County Sheriff’s deputies were assisting Brown City police in the apprehension of a wanted fugitive who was spotted in a vehicle in Brown City, according to Sgt. Shelly Park of the Sanilac County Sheriff’s Department.

Park stated the suspect “pulled a knife and held it to his own throat from inside the vehicle. Deputies were able to get the female driver and another male passenger out of the vehicle.”

“Deputies attempted to get the man to put the knife down when the man began to swing the knife at deputies, and attempts to Taser the man were ineffective,” Park said. “(He) then fled in the vehicle that he had stolen from the female subject who was giving him a ride.”

Sanilac deputies pursued the suspect until he entered Lapeer County, where Lapeer County

Please turn to page 12.

Veteran Tuscola controller retiring

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

Tuscola County Commissioners are facing the daunting task of replacing a key employee whose skills and financial expertise have seen the county through thick and thin for more than three decades.

County Controller Mike Hoagland turned in a letter announcing his pending retirement last summer after 33 years of service.

Aside from announcing his retirement, the always-efficient Hoagland also presented the commissioners with a timeline of steps that should be taken regarding finding his replacement, including developing a job description, necessary qualifications, posting the job in early spring, and reviewing applications in late April.

According to Hoagland’s plan, the new controller would be expected

Please turn to page 7.



Huron pet owners may face charges

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Sheriff’s deputies in Huron County may request formal charges against a pair of pet owners after investigating back-to-back animal cruelty complaints early last week.

The investigations took place March 3 and 4, according to Huron County Sheriff Kelly J. Hanson, who reported the first involved allegations of physical abuse of a dog in Verona Township.

“Deputy Steve Bismack was dispatched to contact four individuals who alleged to have witnessed a man beating a hunting dog with what they described as a piece of garden hose on Verona Road,” said Hanson, who added the witness also told the deputy that the man “threw the dog against the side of a pickup box.”

“After looking into the incident over a period of a couple hours,

Please turn to page 16.

DEPUTIES WHO responded to an animal abuse complaint at one Huron County residence took four dogs to the Thumb Animal Shelter after a veterinarian concluded three of the four animals were malnourished. One of the dogs (above) later gave birth to five puppies.

Cass City announces February Students of the Month



Kindergarten Student of the Month is Isaac Brown

Nominated by:
Mrs. Jaworski

Characteristics he displays:
Isaac is such a nice boy! He always chooses to do his very best in school. He is so polite and respectful to his friends and grown ups.

Some of his favorite things:
going to the bowling alley, eating spaghetti, playing with my friends & the 2 sheep I am going to get around my birthday!



1st Grade Student of the Month is Roman Woodruff

Nominated by:
Mrs. Peruski

Characteristics he displays:
Roman is always kind and thoughtful. He is a wonderful student because he is hard working and interested in everything. Every morning he comes in with a beautiful smile and a positive attitude and stays that way all day.

Some of my favorite things:
going to Florida, macaroni and cheese & playing games with my family



12th Grade Student of the Month is Layna Mathewson

"I have worked with Layna Mathewson for over 4 years. She has been an avid volunteer ever since she was in 8th grade. She is one that I have always been able to count on to step up and give her all. When the community has contacted me in need of volunteers in the summer, Layna is the first person I contact. She ALWAYS helps out as much as she can. She has also been the NHS go-to person for filling back-packs. She takes it upon herself to make sure they are filled and delivered. With her as part of NHS, I never have to worry about our community duties being missed or neglected. Layna is such a valuable part of our school and the community. She is kind, caring, giving, and an exemplary individual; she has a bright future ahead. I am proud to have had the opportunity to work with her over these middle school and high school years." ~ Mrs. Hempton

Some of her favorite things:
Favorite Subject: Science
Hobbies: running, basketball, watching Netflix
Weekend Fun: hanging with friends
Favorite Movie: "To all the Boys I Loved Before"
Favorite Snack: red Doritos



2nd Grade Student of the Month is Karsyn Ignash

Nominated by:
Mr. Hollocker

Characteristics she displays:
Karsyn is an amazing all around student! She is a terrific classmate and a wonderful friend. She is kind, considerate, respectful and a leader in the classroom. She is a great role model who goes out of her way to help others.

Some of her favorite things:
playing sports & her animals



3rd Grade Student of the Month is Averi Stanko

Nominated by:
Mrs. Murdoch

Characteristics she displays:
Averi Stanko is an excellent student. She always has a smile on her face. She is a hard worker and always does her best. She is helpful and kind. It is a pleasure to have her in class!

Some of her favorite things:
strawberries, basketball & dogs



4th Grade Student of the Month is Elizabeth Kohaif

Nominated by:
4th Grade Teachers

Characteristics she displays:
Elizabeth is an absolute joy to have in class! We can depend on Elizabeth to work hard and give us excellent quality work including neatness and being detailed. She is also a very caring individual in her own quiet way. She treats her peers with respect as well as her teachers. We are very proud of the awesome young lady that you are Elizabeth. You make teaching a piece of cake! Congrats!

Some of her favorite things:
seafood, gymnastics, softball & traveling



5th Grade Student of the Month is Brynn Pallas

Nominated by:
Fifth Grade Teachers

Characteristics she displays:
Brynn is committed to her education. She conscientiously completes her work and is willing to ask questions that improve others' understanding of content as well as her own. Brynn interacts positively with those around her and models characteristics of a Student of the Month recipient such as hard work, perseverance, and cooperation.

Some of her favorite things:
reading, Michigan Wolverines, singing, basketball & softball



6th Grade Student of the Month is Kacee Gray

Nominated by:
6th Grade Team

Characteristics she displays:
Kacee has a smile for everyone and willingly takes on any task that she is given. She is friendly to all and is helpful. Her dedication to academics shows her level of responsibility and respect she shows on a regular basis.

Some of my favorite things:
She enjoys most outdoor activities and sports. Volleyball, basketball, softball are her favorites! She loves comedies and interacting with her friends in sports and board games. Her favorite food is potatoes!

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Senior movies on tap Friday

Rawson Memorial District Library in Cass City will host its next Senior Citizen Movies Friday, March 15, starting at 1:30 p.m.

Films slated to be shown are:

*"Wonders of Mexico: Forests of the Maya" – Mexico's Yucatan peninsula, home to the Maya, is a forest rich in wildlife, including monkeys, jaguars, and vibrant tropical birds. Here lies a secret underworld which holds the key to life (55 minutes).

*"Turquoise Coast" – Rudy

Maxa has a case of the "Blues" as he takes a Blue Cruise along the dazzling Turquoise Coast to discover enchanting Greek and Roman ruins. Step back in time to explore the great ancient towns of Ephesus, Antalya, Myra and Dalyan that dot the Turkish coast. Enjoy Bodrum's lively waterfront promenade, the Bodrum Underwater Museum, and the Lycian Rock Tombs (30 minutes).

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

Library officials note that there

will be no senior movies in April, as the library will be closed from noon to 3 p.m. April 19 for Good Friday.

Correction

A story in the Feb. 27 edition of the Chronicle incorrectly stated Novesta Township officials will be hosting a tire collection in conjunction with a joint Tuscola County Recycling and Mosquito Abatement recycling program. In fact, the township's collection — slated for Saturday, May 18, from 9 a.m. to noon at the old township hall in Deford — is not a county collection and was organized for Novesta Township residents only. Residents are limited to six tires per household.

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

In Our OPINION...

Clarke Haire
Publisher

Tom Montgomery
Editor

Whitmer proposal too great a burden

New Gov. Gretchen Whitmer didn't waste much time pursuing her campaign promise to repair Michigan's crumbling roadways, last week proposing a combined 45-cent-per-gallon gasoline tax in her first executive budget to raise an estimated \$2 billion a year to address road repairs.

It's a direct, bold plan. And, any motorist familiar with what can be a costly game of dodge-the-potholes after a Michigan winter will tell you the need is very real.

But we believe Whitmer should first put significant effort into exploring options that don't rely on yet another tax increase alone, placing an even heavier burden on many Michiganders who are already against ropes when it comes to making ends meet.

Towards that end, Whitmer and lawmakers would do well to finally address the Great Lakes State's ridiculously high auto insurance rates.

Whitmer's announced gas tax hike plan – via a trio of 15-cent hikes at the pump over the next year and a half – was met with swift criticism from Michigan Republican Party Chair Laura Cox last week.

“Governor Whitmer promised that she would ‘fix the damn roads’. Instead she is proposing a \$2 billion tax increase that will break many Michiganders’ budgets. This comes just four years after Michiganders rejected a similar proposal by an 80-20 vote,” Cox said. “The people of Michigan deserve real solutions on this critical issue, not a tax-and-spend solution which places the burden on the state’s overtaxed families.”

Whitmer's combined tax increases would push Michigan's gas tax from 26 cents per gallon to more than 70 cents, the highest in the nation.

Officials at the Mackinac Center for Public Policy have also weighed in on the issue in conjunction with the center's list of 2019 policy recommendations.

“Fixing Michigan's roads was a major platform of Gov. Whitmer's campaign, but these improvements will come at a high cost,” Mackinac Center staff members stated. “Rather than shifting more of the expense to taxpayers, lawmakers can look to save money by cutting ineffective programs, duplicative spending and unnecessary expenses.”

An analysis conducted by the center indicates Whitmer's tax would cost more than 22,500 private sector jobs and raise just under \$2.5 billion annually by fiscal 2022 – and it would increase government employment by 6,300 jobs – according to Michael D. LaFaive, senior director of the Morey Fiscal Policy Initiative.

“Fortunately, a straight-up tax hike is not the only option available to lawmakers,” LaFaive noted. “They can also reprioritize current spending to roads, or raise the gas tax by 45 cents and offset some or all that tax increase with spending cuts and personal income tax cuts. By raising the gas tax and cutting taxes elsewhere, lawmakers can stick to something akin to a user fee for roads – a sound tax policy – while offsetting that tax hike with a job-creating tax cut elsewhere.”


As for the need to address auto insurance rates, Michigan has been consistently ranked as the most expensive state for insurance premiums over the past several years. Those premiums average \$2,239 annually – 64 percent higher than the national average of \$1,365.

Please turn to page 12.

Drier Humor

by Mary Drier

A penny for thoughts and God



As a journalist, I've come across a wide variety of people who have an even wider variety of interests and beliefs.

Friendships have developed from some of the people I met by doing interviews and writing an article about them. One of those friendships that came about was with a Hungarian woman who fluently spoke that language as well as several others. She had her own set of values and beliefs along with an amazing outlook on life. Through hard work and careful living, she had a financially secure retirement, so she was able to do and live the way most of us can only dream about.

She would stop in to where I used to work from time to time to say that she liked a particular article I wrote or liked a certain photograph I had taken. Other times she just stopped in to say hello when she was in the area. We would have lunch together a couple of times a year.

One day on our way into a restaurant she suddenly stopped, looked down at the sidewalk, smiled, picked up a penny, clutched the penny in her hand, and held it against her chest for a moment before dropping it in her purse.

I've heard that pennies are supposed to bring good luck, and be even luckier if they are heads up rather than tails up when they are found.

Considering her well-off financial position, I thought it was kind of odd that she would pick up a penny.

When she noticed me watching her, she smiled. She fished the coin back out of her purse and told me to look at it. It looked just like any other penny.

She told me to read it, which I did. It had the standard information; the United States of America, the denomination of a penny, etc. I still didn't get the point she was trying to make.


In her heavily accented Hungarian-English, she explained that every U.S. coin has the words “In God We Trust” printed on it.

She said she trusted in God, but we all get so busy we don't stop and think of Him during the day. We don't take a moment to think of His goodness. We don't think of His sacrifice. We don't think of His love, and we don't take time to thank Him for our blessings.

She said finding a penny or any other coin on the

ground is a quick message from God telling us to stop and think of Him, to trust in Him, and to realize the blessings we take for granted.

Because of her message about pennies, I have a different view of the expression “A penny for your thoughts” being a message to think about Him.



Rabbit Tracks

by Clarke Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)

The Michigan High School Athletic Association has been preaching the need for officials at this year's tournament hoop games.

If you are interested, Cass City Athletic Director says you can expect to collect around the following rates provided by the Bay Metro Officials Association.

For football games, the 2018-19 rates for varsity games was \$66, for junior varsity games \$55, freshman games \$50, freshman/JV doubleheader \$95 and middle school games \$40.

For volleyball games with 2 officials, varsity contests pay \$50, junior varsity contests \$32, freshman contest \$32; for volleyball games with 1 official, middle school contests pay \$28 and league tournaments \$170.

For basketball officials, varsity refs make \$67, junior varsity refs \$50, freshman refs \$50, middle school single games pay between \$35 - \$40 and middle school doubleheaders between \$65 - \$80.

For baseball games with 2 umpires, varsity games pay \$50, junior varsity games pay \$47, and freshmen games pay \$47.

For 2 softball ump's, varsity games pay \$45, while JV and freshman games pay \$42.

Additionally, many schools pay a mileage rate of \$.35 per mile round trip.

We all have seen commercial that we feel, uh... stink.

For me it's the television ad that features actor Matthew McConaughey.

You know the one, he's playing pool and make a trick shot - curving the ball between a few others to knock in yet another ball near the pocket - and suddenly a car is shown swerving back onto the roadway.

I have to change the channel every time that commercial starts. Maybe, women find it more acceptable than me. And that I get.

Michigan taxpayers have the opportunity to donate some of their state income tax refund to the Fostering Futures Scholarship Trust Fund, according to the Michigan Department of Treasury (Treasury).

When taxpayers file their 2018 state income tax return, they can choose to donate \$5, \$10 or a desired amount directly to the Fostering Futures Scholarship Trust Fund. The amount donated will be deducted from a taxpayer's state refund.

“A donation to the Fostering Futures Scholarship Trust Fund helps provide scholarships to young adults who have experienced foster care,” said Robin Lott, executive director of the Michigan Education Trust (MET). “This scholarship assists with paying college expenses when no other assistance may be available.”

Scholarship awards are paid to Michigan degree-granting colleges or universities where eligible students are enrolled to assist with tuition, fees, room, board, books and supplies.

Approximately 13,500 children are in the Michigan foster care system at any given time. A growing number of our youth are reaching adult age while in foster care and have no resources to attend college when they age out of the system.

Through e-filing or paper filing, taxpayers must complete a Voluntary Contributions Schedule Form 4642 to participate.

To learn more about Michigan's state income tax or to download forms, go to www.michigan.gov/incometax. The state Treasury Department is also on Twitter at @MITreasury.

Letters to the Editor

Dem priorities all wrong

With all of the problems that we have in this country, it's ridiculous that the first thing our newly-elected Congress did was work on making more gun control legislation. They have to know that President Trump will veto any gun control legislation that they come up with.

The Democrats say we have to do better regarding background checks in order to keep guns out of the hands of the mentally ill, but it shouldn't be hard to know who some of these people are.

We have Democrats saying how cruel and evil it is that President Trump is separating families that illegally cross our border, but they don't have a problem killing a baby upon birth. Anyone should be able to see that politicians who endorse letting babies die after they are born, and their supporters, have mental problems themselves. These are the people who should never own a firearm, especially when they want newborns to die on the table.

Robert Peruski
Ubyly

Two years later, no grocery

Editor,

It is nice to see in the paper the new store, Sugar-House, opened by the village manager, Debbie Powell. The sad part is this past January marks two years ago that there was a big village meeting about a new grocery store. Well, two years later and Cass City still has no grocery store. Maybe the village officials should have pooled their money together and opened one.

Karl R Witkovsky
Cass City

CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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CALENDAR EVENTS

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

Wednesday, March 13

•Spoonfuls of Plenty Free Community Meal, 3:30-6 p.m., Humand Development Commission at 429 Montague Ave., Caro. Open to anyone wanting a hot, home-style meal.

Thursday, March 14

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

Friday, March 15

•Senior Citizen Movies, Rawson Memorial Library, Cass City at 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 16

•Al-Anon meeting, 11 a.m., Cakima Serenity Home, Mayville. Call 989-912-5478 for more information.
•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.

Sunday, March 17

•Thumb Area Companions, 3 p.m., hosted by Dawn Woidan at Hills and Dales Boardroom 4675 Hill street. Social support group that strives to benefit from social contact with others experiencing grief/loss.

Monday, March 18

•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.
•Shabbona Outreach Baby Pantry, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Shabbona Outreach 5448 Shabbona Rd. Decker, MI. Gently used clothing and equipment, diapers, bottles, toys, formula, baby food. For more information contact Judy Doerr (989) 658-8625.

Tuesday, March 19

•Crafty Ladies Group, 1-4 p.m., Common Grounds (next to Revive). Bring a crafting project to work on. Call 989-551-7803 for more information.
•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.)
•Al-Anon meeting, 7 p.m., Cakima Serenity Home, Mayville. Call 989-912-5478 for more information.
•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.

STANDING COMMUNITY CALENDAR ITEMS

First Saturday:

•Suicide Survivor Grief Support Group, 1 p.m., Thumb Area Psychological Services 6627 Rose St., Cass City. For more information Lisa Schoettle, MA LPC NCC at 989-872-1800.

First Sunday:

•Hillside Community Brunch, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., All you can eat. Free will offering.
•Thumb Area Companions, 3 p.m., hosted by Dawn Woidan at Hills and Dales Boardroom 4675 Hill street. Social support group that strives to benefit from social contact with others experiencing grief/loss.

First Monday:

•Novesta Township Board meeting, 7:30 p.m.
•Shabbona Outreach Baby Pantry, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Shabbona Outreach 5448 Shabbona Rd. Decker, MI. Gently used clothing and equipment, diapers, bottles, toys, formula, baby food. For more information contact Judy Doerr (989) 658-8625.

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

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 Sunday:

•Thumb Area Companions, 3 p.m., hosted by Dawn Woidan at Hills and Dales Boardroom 4675 Hill street. Social support group that strives to benefit from social contact with others experiencing grief/loss.

Third Monday:

•Shabbona Outreach Baby Pantry, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Shabbona Outreach 5448 Shabbona Rd. Decker, MI. Gently used clothing and equipment, diapers, bottles, toys, formula, baby food. For more information contact Judy Doerr (989) 658-8625.

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 Friday:

•Senior Citizen Movies, Rawson Memorial Library, Cass City at 1:30 p.m.

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.
•Families Against Narcotics, 6 p.m., Hills and Dales Corporate Services and Regional Education Center, 6667 Main St. Cass City. For more information, call (989) 551-4326.

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.

Last Wednesday:

•Cass City Chamber meeting, 8 a.m., Rawson Memorial District Library.

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:

•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.)
•Al-Anon meeting, 7 p.m., Cakima Serenity Home, Mayville. Call 989-912-5478 for more information.
•Crafty Ladies Group, 1-4 p.m., Common Grounds (next to Revive). Bring a crafting project to work on. Call 989-551-7803 for more information.

Every Wednesday:

•Spoonfuls of Plenty Free Community Meal, 3:30-6 p.m., Humand Development Commission at 429 Montague Ave., 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.

Every Saturday:

•Al-Anon meeting, 11 a.m., Cakima Serenity Home, Mayville. Call 989-912-5478 for more information.

House approves Green's bill in support of rec project funding

The Michigan House Thursday approved State Rep. Phil Green's legislation to support outdoor recreation and natural resource protection projects across the state.

The vote is a key step toward final approval of Green's measure,

providing \$26 million for 34 recreational development projects and 30 land acquisition projects statewide, including one in Huron County. The money would come from the Natural Resources Trust Fund, which according to the Michigan Constitution can only

be used to support these types of projects.

"I'm glad to see the broad, bipartisan support this plan is receiving," said Green (R-Millington), after the House approved his bill by a 105-0 vote. "There's something for everyone to embrace in this plan supporting our way of life here in Michigan, including a love for the outdoors and our state's natural beauty."

The project investments outlined in Green's proposal, recommended by the Natural Resources Trust Fund Board in December, are subject to approval by the Michigan Legislature, a process accomplished through Green's legislation. House Bill 4244 next advances to the Senate for further consideration.

The recommended project list includes developments or land acquisitions in many areas of the state. Included is \$49,000 to buy property along Lake Huron and expand Lincoln Park in the city of Harbor Beach.

Money in the Natural Resources Trust Fund comes from the development of minerals on state land and is distributed on an annual basis in partnership with local governments.



STATE REP. Phil Green (R-Millington), who represents the 84th District (Tuscola and Huron counties), speaks on the House floor about his legislation related to the Natural Resources Trust Fund.

Circuit court proceedings

Several appear on felony charges

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

*Tyler C. Gokey, 27, Cass City, pleaded no contest to a charge of aggravated assault Nov. 17 in Ellington Township.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered in the case, bond was continued at \$8,000 and the defendant was remanded to the sheriff's department. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Melvin W. Drier Jr., 28, Mayville, was sentenced to 365 days in the county jail, with work release and worksite privileges, following his pleas of no contest to domestic violence and child abuse, third degree, in September in Fremont Township. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (two prior felony convictions).

In addition to jail time, he was placed on probation for 36 months and ordered to pay court costs and fines totaling \$908 plus attorneys fees of \$500.

*Michael A. Yates, 62, Caro, was sentenced to 365 days in jail following his pleas of no contest to two counts of assaulting, resisting or obstructing a police officer and one count of operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor, third offense, Sept. 1 in Fremont Township. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (one prior felony conviction).

In addition to jail time, he was placed on probation for 60 months and ordered to complete 480 hours of community service and pay costs and fines totaling \$394 plus attorneys fees of \$500.

*Dennis S. Jager, 55, Millington, received a one-year delayed sentence following his pleas of no contest to assaulting, resisting or obstructing a police officer, driving without insurance and operating an unregistered vehicle Oct. 30 in Millington. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (three or more prior felony convictions).

He was ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$908.

*Aaron C. Dewald, 32, Vassar, was sentenced to 90 days in jail, with work release and worksite privileges, following his plea of guilty to operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor, third offense, Sept. 30 in Vassar.

He was also placed on probation for 60 months and ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$1,258 plus attorneys fees of \$500.

*Jaclyn M. Fil, 28, Caro, was sentenced to 60 days in jail following her pleas of no contest to assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault) and driving without insurance Oct. 5 in Caro.

She was also placed on probation for 24 months and ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$608 plus

restitution totaling \$725.72.

*Kristen N. Carter, 24, Caro, was sentenced to 365 days in the county jail (deferred) following her pleas of no contest to two counts of assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault) and four counts of assaulting, resisting or obstructing a police officer Oct. 7 in Caro.

She was also placed on probation for 36 months and ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$394.

*Amanda G. Haskell, 41, Harrison, was sentenced to 90 days in jail (deferred) following her plea of guilty to possession of cocaine, heroin or another narcotic (less than 50 grams) Aug. 13 in Caro.

She was also placed on probation for 18 months and ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$858.

*Duane N. Metro, 38, Millington, was sentenced to 365 days in jail, with worksite privileges, following his pleas of no contest to three counts of assaulting, resisting or obstructing a police officer Sept. 24 in Vassar Township. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (three or more prior felony convictions).

In addition to jail time, he was placed on probation for 24 months and ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$1,494 plus attorneys fees of \$500.

*John R. Peterson, 60, Millington, was sentenced to 180 days in jail following his pleas of guilty to operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor, third offense, Jan. 11, 2018, in Millington Township. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (one prior felony conviction).

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

*Dean B. Gage, 43, Linwood, pleaded no contest to three counts of uttering and publishing Oct. 8 in Arbela Township. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (three or more prior felony convictions).

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

*Kenneth R. Crawford, 72, pleaded no contest to violating the Sex Offenders Registration Act by failing to verify and report his sex offender information during February 2018 in Kingston Township.

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

*Jakob A. Rajkovic, 18, Caro, pleaded no contest to charges of home invasion, second degree, and assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault) July 31 in Juniata Township.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$35,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Jason R. Adams, 34, White Lake, was ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$385 following his plea of no contest to malicious destruction of property May 19 in Vassar.

*Candice L. George, 38, Clawson, was sentenced to two to 20 years in prison following her pleas of guilty to five counts of uttering and publishing Aug. 18, 2017, in the villages of Cass City, Caro and Reese. She was also convicted of being an habitual offender (three or more prior felony convictions).

In addition to prison time, she was ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$394 plus restitution of \$7,915.44 to Frankenmuth Credit Union.

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“ALITA: BATTLE ANGEL” (PG13)

STARTS FRIDAY (5 DAYS)

DOORS OPEN AT 7:00 - SHOWTIME 7:30
2 SHOWINGS ON SUNDAY - 4:00 & 7:30 - (NO MON. OR TUES.)
CHILDREN \$4.00 - TEEN/ADULTS \$6.00 - NO CREDIT CARDS

A SNOWPLOW DRIVER TRYING TO FIND WHAT KILLED HIS SON...
LIAM NEESON - LAURA DERN

COLD PURSUIT (R)



Reporter's notebook

Welcome to the Thumb, our home

by Tom Montgomery
Editor



I am so over winter.

As hardiness goes, I'm as excited as the next person when those first few flakes fall in November (or December), but by this time of year – especially after this year's weeks of subzero or near-subzero cold – I just want to get outside, wash my truck, till my garden and watch the sun set while sitting on my porch.

I don't even bother with early morning weather reports anymore. What's the point? We already know it's going to be cold, colder or coldest, right?

And then I see something like the handful of photos local photographer Cheryl Viney Osentoski recently posted on Facebook, featuring the Thumb Octagon Barn frosted in white after another bitterly cold night, and I'm reminded of how amazing the Thumb can be, and how easy it is to take for granted all that we have here.

Which reminded me of an old Internet article shared with me by former longtime Huron County newsman Mark Rummel, who ran The Newsweekly, Thumb Blanket and Progress-Advance for about two decades before leaving the area to own and manage a Mancino's eatery in Fenton.

The article listed several things "Someone from Michigan's Thumb Might Have to Explain to an Out-of-Towner". Here's a few most of us are familiar with and proud of when it comes to our home:

*Expect a slower way of life – The Thumb is known for its more relaxed nature, full of agriculture and small towns. The corn and soybean industries are huge here, with the farming lifestyle having a big impact on the local culture (along with the economy).

*A trip to the lake can trump a trip to the ocean – With around 150 miles of shoreline, heading to the Great Lakes is the perfect summer getaway for Thumb dwellers. The fishing's great, the beaches aren't too crowded, the sunsets are more beautiful, and it doesn't require a 20-hour drive.

*But it's not Lake Michigan here – While most Midwesterners probably recognize Lake Michigan and Lake Erie, the Thumb is all about Lake Huron, which has not only the longest shoreline of the Great Lakes, but also boasts the second largest surface area (more than 23,000 square miles).

*M-25 makes it worth the drive – Following along the state's shoreline, M-25 is one of the most scenic drives in America. Stretching from Port Huron, around Saginaw Bay and into Bay City, this 147-mile tour is a breeze.

*Lighthouses are a big deal here – famous lighthouses stretch up and down the entire shoreline of the Thumb, including those in Port Austin, Harbor Beach and Port Sanilac. Many of these old buildings are still open for tours and can make a great day trip.

*Being a Lions fan is harder than it looks – People living in the Thumb still cheer for Detroit when it comes to professional sports. They're some of the most diehard Lions fans around, despite far too many disappointing seasons. Never doubt their loyalty to game day.

*The people here have a crush on Jimmy Buffet – Thumb dwellers love life by the shore, so the popularity of the Cheeseburger (festival) in Caseville, Jimmy Buffet and the island lifestyle should come as no surprise.

*Polka isn't just a type of dot here – With the huge amount of German and Polish heritage in the Thumb area, visitors should expect to hear a little polka music while they're here.

*Thumbers call it "pop" – Some places call it "soda", some places call it "coke", but in the Thumb, if it's sugary, carbonated and full of flavor, it's pop.

*Bean soup is a big deal – Once upon a time, Kinde was the bean capitol of the world. In other words, people in the Thumb love their bean soup.

*People love local here – Whether it's a small business or a farmer's market, Thumb residents love buying local.

*It's pronounced "See-Ba-Wing".

*And, yeah, the Sugar Festival is as sweet as it sounds – originally started with the goal of showing appreciation to the local sugar industry, the Michigan Sugar Festival in Sebawaing has become one of the coolest summer fests around.

*Don't be surprised by that head on the wall – With more than 49,000 acres of state game and wildlife areas in the Thumb region, there's a huge hunting culture here.

The Thumb is a great place to visit – scenic shorelines, woods and farm fields as far as the eye can see, and good old-fashioned small-town friendliness make this region one of the coolest places in the country.

Now, if Old Man Winter would just throw in the towel already and let us enjoy some of that cool on a warm, sun-drench day.

Notice to Bidders

Construction of a new 2,000 square foot Township Hall

Sealed bids will be received by Novesta Township Board, Deford Michigan until March 20, 2019, at 9:00 am for the following:

Construction of a new 2000 square foot Township Hall.

The township of Novesta is now taking bids for a new two thousand sf facilities that will be located at the corner of North Cemetery road and Delong road. General Contractors bidding project must supply a five percent bond of the total cost of the project.

The bids will be due by Wednesday, March 20, 2019, at 9:00am, at the offices of Campbell Associates, Inc. located at 550 E. Frenchline road Sandusky Michigan.

The bid documents can be obtained by contacting Campbell Associates, Inc office at (810) 648-5099 during regular office hours of 9:00am to 4:00pm Monday through Friday. The pre-bid meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 6, 2019, 9:00am at Campbell Associates, Inc. office located at 550 E. Frenchline road Sandusky Michigan.

The bids for General Contractors will be publicly opened, read aloud and tabulated on March 21, 2019 at 7:00 pm at the Cass City Michigan Gun Club located at 2676 N. Englehart road, Cass City Michigan. The tabulated bids will then be presented at the next regular scheduled Township board meeting for further discussion. During this time period the bids will be closed to the bidders and information regarding the bids will not be available. Emailed or Faxed bids will not be accepted only sealed bids delivered to Campbell Associates, Inc. office as specified in the bid documents.

Notification of the General Contractor bid award will be mailed to each bidder. The information will not be available until that time.

Novesta Township, Deford Michigan

Down Memory Lane

by Tina Pallas



5 YEARS AGO (2014)

The Sanilac County Sheriff's Department recently honored its own during an annual departmental awards ceremony. Receiving 2013 Distinguished Deputy of the Year honors was Corrections Deputy Ronald Edington. The Sanilac County Sheriff's Department's 2013 Dispatcher of the Year is Sandra Robinson. This year's Uniform Deputy of the Year is Sgt. Nathan Smith. Aaron Hillman was named the 2013 Sanilac County Sheriff's Department's Corrections Deputy of the Year.

Steffin Bader, a 2010 Cass City High School graduate and current senior at CMU, is in the running for an internship with the Detroit Pistons. The internship will be awarded based on most Pistons tickets sold by individuals in the CMU Sports Management Program. Bader is in second place so far and is hoping area residents will push him over the top by purchasing tickets from him for upcoming games.

10 YEARS AGO (2009)

Cass City Middle School Student Council members Madison Brinkman and Audrey VanAuken recently coordinated a school-wide fundraising effort supported by the student council. During "spirit week" at the middle school, students raised \$270 for the Tuscola County Imagination Library. The money will provide books for 9 children for one year.

The Knights of Columbus, Council 8892, held its annual recognition dinner. Named this year's "Knight of the Year" was Dale Churchill. The honor recognizes Churchill's dedication to his church (Sacred Heart in Caro), his community and the council.

The Knights of Columbus also honored the Kerkau family as its "Family of the Year" for their dedication to their church (St. Pancratius in Cass City), their community, the Cass City Schools and the council.

Tiffany Matson, a student at Campbell Elementary School, was selected for publication in "Kaleidoscope 2009," a collection of student writings assembled by the Michigan Reading Association. Her piece is entitled "The Lake Monster." Kaleidoscope is in its 18th year of publication. Its purpose is to celebrate the talents of Michigan's young authors. Each school may submit one piece of writing to be published.

25 YEARS AGO (1994)

Sarah Ann Davidson, daughter of the late Jeffery Davidson and Carol Davidson, has been named "student of the month" for March at Owen-Gage High School. The senior has been involved in a host of activities during her high school career, including Students Against Drunk Driving, yearbook staff, French Club, Student Council, prom committee and basketball. She served 2 years as class treasurer, and was elected snowball queen and homecoming representative. Her future plans include attending Saginaw Valley State University to prepare for a career as a registered nurse.

Melanie S. Churchill of Cass City and Harold M. Swartzentruber of Ubyly have been named to the winter term dean's list at Northwood University, Midland. Churchill, a sophomore, is the daughter of Clarence and Thelma Churchill, Cass City. Swartzentruber, a junior, is the son of Harold and Constance Swartzentruber, Ubyly. To achieve dean's list recognition, students must earn a minimum 3.0 grade point average on a scale of 4.0.

Navy Seaman Recruit Heath A. Phillips, son of Dave G. and Cecilia I. Phillips of Kingston, recently completed basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

35 YEARS AGO (1984)

Cass City High School has an-

nounced its honor students for the class of 1984. Leading the class of 140 at the May 24 commencement ceremonies will be valedictorian Gerald H. Kocan, who has accumulated a 3.977 grade point average.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert M. Kolar and Mr. and Mrs. Louis Walsh announce the engagement of their children, Nanette Susan Kolar, to Rodney Patrick Walsh, all of Ubyly. Miss Kolar is attending Central Michigan University, working toward a degree in computer science. Walsh will be a 1984 graduate of Delta College, majoring in technical electronics. Both are 1981 graduates of Ubyly High School. A September, 1985, wedding is planned.

Born March 1, to Mr. and Mrs. Bill Shagenc in Huron Memorial Hospital, Bad Axe, a daughter, Kerry Beth. She weighed seven pounds and three ounces and was 20 inches long. She joins a sister, Leah, 3-1/2.

Diane Zyrowski, a student at Kingston High School and the Tuscola Area Skill Center, finished in fourth place in restaurant marketing in the recent Distributive Education Clubs of America District 5 career development and competitive events conference in Lapeer.

40 YEARS AGO (1979)

Mrs. Manly Fay was honored Sunday at a buffet dinner at her home in observance of her 81st birthday, which was Friday. Around 25 family members attended and presented Mrs. Fay with a gift of money. Mrs. Fay's daughter, Mrs. Gaylord Lapeer, was born on her mother's birthday, and was among those present. Guests came from Pontiac, Ubyly, Owendale and Cass City.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Jackson honored Mr. and Mrs. Tom Woody Saturday evening with an open house farewell party. About 90 attended. Following the open house, a dinner was also held in their honor at Sherwood on the Hill, sponsored by the Gavel Club, of which Mr. Woody is a member.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Perry returned home Thursday evening from an 11-day trip to Florida. Saturday evening they met their son and daughter-in-law, Jim and Geri Perry, at the Tampa Airport and they accompanied them home.

Honor students for the Class of 1979 at Owendale Gagetown High School have been announced by Principal James R. Barr. James Koch, son of Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Koch of Gagetown, is valedictorian and Lori Ann Gaeth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Gaeth of Owendale, is salutatorian. Jim has earned a 3.906 grade point average out of a possible 4.0 for seven semesters and Lori has a 3.674 average.

50 YEARS AGO (1969)

SP4 David R. Schember was honored at an open house at the Cass City Missionary Church Saturday evening. Slides were shown, taken during David's year in Vietnam. Also shown were slides taken by the Clarence Schembers in Hawaii when they visited David there during his R and R. He will report to Ft. Sill, Okla., after his leave.

Army Staff Sergeant Robert E. MacAlpine, 26, was assigned to the 25th Infantry Division in Vietnam in January. Sgt. MacAlpine entered the service in September of 1964 and served three years in Germany, where he married his wife Monika. She was residing in Marlette but has returned to her native country, Frankfort, Germany, during her husband's Vietnam tour of duty. Sgt. MacAlpine attended Cass City High School and is the son of Mrs. Wilma Wheeler of Snover. He stayed with Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Ferguson of Snover for a number of years.

Bob Spencer, Alma College student from Ubyly, is a member of the college A Cappella Choir that

leaves Sunday, March 23, on an eight-day three-state concert tour. During its spring tour the Alma choir will sing in Petoskey, Escanaba, Marquette, Menominee, Beloit, Wis., Arlington Heights, Ill., and Deerfield. Spencer, a 1965 graduate of Cass City High School, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Spencer.

Martin Kubacki, son of Mr. and Mrs. Casimer Kubacki, Priemer Rd., Ubyly, will be awarded the State FFA degree at the 40th annual Convention of Michigan Future Farmers of America. The convention is being held at Michigan State University in conjunction with Farmer's Week. To receive this degree an FFA member must have been active in the FFA and in Vocational Agriculture class for at least two years. He must have demonstrated qualities of leadership, citizenship and co-operation. In addition he must have earned at least \$500 by his own efforts from his supervised experience projects.

75 YEARS AGO (1944)

Dr. and Mrs. E. C. Fritz entertained at dinner Wednesday evening Dr. and Mrs. I. A. Fritz, and Francis Fritz and sons, Jerry and Tommy. Icy roads kept some of the family from a distance from attending. The dinner was in honor of the 83rd birthday of Dr. I. A. Fritz. Sixty-one years in the same profession in the same town is something of a record. Such is the case of Dr. I. A. Fritz, who arrived in Cass City from Pennsylvania on his 22nd birthday and began practicing dentistry. He enjoys good health and each weekday finds him at work in his office.

In winning Saturday night's contest from Saginaw St. Mary's team at Lapeer, Cass City was awarded the regional honors in Class C schools. The Redhawks were scheduled to play Lakeview high school in the quarter finals at Pontiac on Thursday, March 16, at 8:30 Eastern War time. The outcome of this game determined if Cass City would participate for the state championship at Lansing next week.

Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Montague will celebrate their 61st wedding anniversary today (Mar. 17). Open house will be held this afternoon and evening for friends and relatives, at their home in Novesta township. Mr. Montague moved near Caro from Canada where he was born, when he was a small child. At that time, Caro had but one small building which was a post office, department and drug store. Mr. Montague drove an ox team and helped "log" the ground to build the first courthouse. He also built several miles of road through standing timber in that vicinity. Mrs. Montague was born in Redford, Mich., and moved to Tuscola county with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Judson Dains, when she was a small child. They located a few miles north of Caro.

100 YEARS AGO (1919)

Bernice Hitchcock entertained seven of her little girl friends at a St. Patrick's day dinner. The color scheme was the Erin shades of green and white. The evening was spent with music and games. Miss Bernice proving herself an ideal little hostess.

The friends and neighbors of B. and L. Loomis gathered at their home Saturday evening and surprised them, it being their birthdays. The evening was spent in games. After a lunch of sandwiches, cake and ice cream was served, they all returned home wishing them many happy birthdays.

A farewell party was given in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Guy Bailey at their home Friday evening. About sixty people were present. Potluck was served. A good time is reported. Mr. Bailey has sold his farm and will move to Owendale for the summer.

Visitors share impressions of village

Continued from page one.

and overnight stays in the area, according to Northrop, who said the participants started by researching the village on the Internet (village and chamber websites, social media sites, travel sites, etc.).

Northrop indicated specific information, such as maps and listings of restaurants and historical/cultural attractions available was limited, indicating a need to provide more information on local websites promoting the community. Likewise, he said, individuals the visitors talked to were largely unable to provide specific details about places to see and things to do.

Northrop presented a number of comments from the visitors, whose impressions of Cass City indicated they saw the village as a typical northern Thumb town in a safe, secure setting, with ample parking, a wide Main Street and wide, ADA accessible sidewalks. They also immediately noticed a depressed downtown district marked by a number of empty storefronts along with signs of façade upgrades at others. And,

they pointed out the contrast they observed in touring what they described as nicely maintained neighborhoods with many nice homes; an impressive hospital complex; and a good school system.

The visitors gave high marks to Rawson Memorial District Library – in the quality of both the facility and staff. Among local businesses, the report covered a mixed bag of comments, from favorable reviews of the Cass City McDonald's restaurant children's play area and the gift shop inside Coach Light Pharmacy, to a lack of friendly greetings when visitors entered some businesses.

He indicated the visitors initially did not see Cass City as a destination, but it didn't take long to learn about local and regional attractions that piqued their interest.

"A number of us had the chance to visit your municipal park, which is absolutely amazing, but tucked away," Northrop said, adding a bit of exploration revealed an expansive recreational facility with a pool, walking trails – even a disc golf course that really stood out as a strong attrac-

tion, provided people are made aware it's there.

Regionally, multiple golf courses along with the Sanilac Petroglyphs and Thumb Octagon Barn and Agricultural Museum are solid attractions, and Cass City's own ties to former Astronaut Brewster Shaw, and its historical connection to former Michigan Gov. Lewis Cass add to the community's attractiveness to visitors.

There was disappointment, however, when the visitors could not find anyone able to provide them with information regarding where and how to access the Cass River, Northrop continued.

Audience member Nancy Barrios, a member of the Cass River Greenway Committee, noted efforts are underway to develop canoe access to the river in the Cass City area.

Northrop suggested one lesson to take away from the report is the need for signage that provides visitors with specific directions and distance to various local attractions. For example, he recalled utilizing the village's walking trail and said he would have completed the trek south if he had known the trail distance, or that it ends at the Cass River.

"We've never been in a community that has so much to offer, but it's so hidden," Northrop commented. "There's a lot here. It's just a matter of raising awareness."

Cass City officials will now spend time reviewing the FIT report and incorporate it into a plan of action under the guidance of a local community leadership team (CLT) that was formed in conjunction with participation in the FIT assessment, according to village Manager Debbie Powell.

Cass City's CLT is composed of Powell, Mike Rule (representing technology businesses), Judy Keller (Cass City Chamber of Commerce administrator), Helen Larson (representing retail), Janie Meeker (representing the Cass City Board of Education), David Weiler (local financial advisor/business owner) and Peggy Davidson (healthcare representative).

The FIT program is designed to boost local leadership, strengthen community vitality and form the basis for future development by enabling participants to:

- *Learn about their assets and opportunities from new visitors to their towns.
- *Strengthen existing cooperation among leaders and residents so they can better organize based on valuable feedback.
- *Develop a list of action items for community improvement.
- *Integrate action items into their community plans.
- *Take action on community improvements and strengthen their image.
- *Improve community well-being and quality of life for residents.

Following Northrop's presentation, Rule spoke briefly, saying the assessment was generally surprising to members of the local CLT team, which he chairs.

The group has discussed a number of general suggestions regarding improving Cass City. They include branding/design of the village, marketing, signage/gateway and wayfaring, streetscape/benches/artwork, the walking trail, community gardens, and promoting the Cass River/handicap accessibility, Rule noted.

And, he added, on many levels, officials have already put significant effort into paving the way for revitalization in the community, particularly the downtown district.

"I think we're positioned pretty well. I think there are some exciting things coming," said Rule, who wears a number of hats in Cass City, including business owner, chamber president and chairman of both the Cass City EDC (economic development corporation) and DDA (downtown development authority).

As for putting proposals into action, Powell said Cass City has been awarded a \$2,000 grant through the state's Regional Prosperity Initiative (the Thumb is part of what is known as Prosperity Region Six).

The Regional Prosperity Initiative is part of the I-69 Thumb Region, a partnership consisting of seven counties (including Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac counties) which promotes the region's strengths, from a strong agricultural base, to manufacturing know-how to transportation resources.

News briefs

Boater safety class scheduled

RICHVILLE – The Tuscola County Sheriff's Marine Division will conduct a boater safety class Saturday, May 11, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Richville Conservation Club, located between Sheridan and Washburn roads at 3270 W. Sanilac Rd. (M-46).

The class and lunch are free. The class is recommended for residents ages 12 and older, but anyone may attend.

Pre-registration is required by calling Deputy Deb Mika at (989) 673-8161 (ext. 2238) or via email at Richvilleconservationclub@gmail.com.

Daley to host office hours

LANSING — State Sen. Kevin Daley (R-Lum) will hold office hours with constituents throughout the 31st Senate District during the month of March.

The schedule includes office hours in Cass City— Friday, March 15, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at Gilligan's, 6444 Main St.

Daley will be available to answer questions and provide information and assistance, as well as take suggestions on issues affecting communities and businesses in the district. No appointment is necessary.

For more information or to contact Daley, visit the website www.SenatorKevinDaley.com or call (517) 373-1777.

Scholarships for leadership

MICHIGAN — The Robert R. Robinson Scholarship, awarded annually by the Michigan Townships Association (MTA), offers financial assistance to students aspiring to leadership roles in their communities.

The scholarship is designed to help Michigan students who are preparing for a career in public administration. Applicants must be a junior, senior or graduate student in a Michigan college or university.

The scholarship is awarded on a competitive basis, and applicants are considered on several factors including academic achievement, community involvement and commitment to local government administration. Requirements include: a letter of recommendation from a professor or instructor; a copy of a resolution of support from an MTA-member township board in good standing; and a short essay on an important issue facing local government.

All applications are due by Friday, May 31. More information is available online at www.michigantownships.org/scholarship.asp, or by contacting MTA at (517) 321-6467.

Diabetes seminar March 18

CASS CITY – The Cass City Lions Club will present a diabetes seminar Monday, March 18, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Rawson Memorial District Library.

Lions Club member John Bitner, MD, will be the moderator for the program, which is open to the public and will include a question-and-answer period. Brochures and literature will also be available.

Diabetes is the leading cause of cardiovascular disease, blindness and kidney failure, and is the eighth leading cause of death in the world. Lions Club International has taken on the task of promoting the need for diabetes education, related study and research.

Send letter to Splat the Cat

CASS CITY – In honor of National Library Week, Rawson Memorial District Library in Cass City will be setting up space in the library for patrons to write a letter to send to the well-loved book character, Splat the Cat.

April 7-13 is National Library Week, an annual celebration of the life-changing work of libraries, librarians and library workers. Libraries have evolved over the years, offering resources ranging from e-books and access to computers, to technology classes and other special programming for all ages.

Not just a place to borrow books or study, today's libraries are creative and engaging community centers where people can collaborate using new technologies and develop their skills and passions.

Road restrictions in effect

THUMB — Seasonal weight restrictions are now in effect on roadways in Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac counties.

Restrictions were imposed effective Saturday, March 9, in Huron County, and Monday, March 11, in Tuscola and Sanilac counties.

Seasonal weight restrictions are imposed to protect local roads during the transition from winter to spring.

Each spring, road officials impose weight limits because when roads that have been frozen all winter begin to thaw from the surface downward, melting snow and ice saturate the softened ground. During the spring thaw, the roadbed is softened by trapped moisture beneath the pavement, making it more susceptible to damage. It's also the time of year when potholes begin forming because of freeze-thaw cycles.

Compiled by Mary Drier and Tom Montgomery



ANDY NORTHPROP, an MSU Extension educator and statewide tourism and leadership coordinator for the MSU Extension Community, Food and Environment Institute, visits with former longtime Cass City business owner Geraldine Prieskorn during Thursday's First Impressions Tourism (FIT) community assessment forum.

NOTICE FOR GILFORD TOWNSHIP

FEBRUARY 14, 2019- MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM with the pledge to the flag. Board members present were; J. Stockmeyer, Supervisor, D. Strasz, Treasurer, R. Spencer, Deputy Clerk, K. Houghtaling, Trustee and A. Goss, Trustee.

Public Comment: None.

Minutes of the Special Meeting and the Regular Meeting. For the Special meeting held on January 24, 2019, a motion was made by A. Goss and seconded by J. Stockmeyer to approve the minutes. Motion carried. For the regular board meeting of January 10, 2019, a motion was made by D. Strasz and seconded by K. Houghtaling to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report. A motion was made by K. Houghtaling and seconded by A. Goss to approve the report as read. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Supervisor. There were no fire runs from the Reese Fire Department in the month of January. No further information of the Quality Roasting project. Budget discussion followed. Review further for the March meeting and present any changes at that time. Discussed whether or not participate in the tire collection this year and decided not to do it this year. Fairgrove Township presented information regarding an electronic messaging sign they would like to purchase. They would like to know if Gilford Township would like to contribute to the cost. After discussion, it was decided not to contribute. The railroad crossing on Gilford Rd. between Bradleyville and Garner Roads will be repaired this summer. A letter was received from the Generac Company (makers of the generator the Township installed) regarding a warranty. It was tabled until next month.

Treasurer. The last day to pay winter taxes will be February 28th. The treasurer will be at the office from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM on that day. The Township needs to open a checking account for Quality Roasting. A motion was made by J. Stockmeyer and seconded by K. Houghtaling to open that account. Motion carried. Due to the fact that Ruth Ann Kajjala has retired as Deputy Treasurer, Robert Strasz has been appointed to be Deputy Treasurer.

Clerk. No correspondence to present. Payment of the bills; a motion was made by D. Strasz and seconded by A. Goss, to approve payment of the bills. Motion carried.

Trustees: A. Goss gave a report on the Parks meeting. A. Goss reported on the Fire Meeting at Fairgrove and Reese for last month. She asked if she could attend the MTA Conference that will be in April in Grand Rapids. The board gave its approval.

Ambulance Rep. D. Spencer reported no activity.

Fire Rep. Report already given.

Zoning Administrator. No activity this month.

Public Comment: Vassar Fire Department is looking for Townships that would like to loan them money. Also, has there been any further discussion on the columbarium at the cemetery?

Adjournment was called for at 9:10 PM with a motion for J. Stockmeyer and seconded by D. Strasz. Meeting adjourned.

Ruth A. Spencer,
Gilford Township Deputy Clerk

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Veteran Tuscola controller ready to retire

Continued from page one.

to start in mid-May in order for Hoagland to work with him or her during the transition.

Hoagland was the county's first controller/administrator when he was hired back in 1986. The first crisis he faced were storms and flooding — termed by meteorologists as a once in a 500-year event — that devastated the Thumb.

Hoagland, who has earned a reputation for working quietly but effectively behind the scenes, was the backbone of several of the county's major accomplishments over the years.

He helped coordinate the passage of several millages. Among them was a successful Tuscola County Sheriff's Department millage in 1988 to reinstate the road patrol.

"The first millage failed and the entire road patrol was laid off. That had never been done before in Michigan. It was then voted again and passed," he said noting he was also proud that voters passed a millage for veteran's needs as well.

A number of county commissioners over the years deemed Hoagland as a "bean counter" when it comes to finances.

Former Commissioner Jerry Peterson is among them. Peterson served on the board for 14 years, including seven years as chairman, so he worked closely with Hoagland on a regular basis and considered his conservative ap-

proach to financial management a plus.

"Some say Mike is negative, and at times he is. I or one of the other commissioners would think something was a great idea and we should do it," Peterson recalled. "Mike would study the matter and its implications, which brought another viewpoint that it wasn't as great as we thought it was."

"Yes, he can be negative, but he looks at both sides, the bottom line, and financial management is what a controller should do. Mike does that well."

"It's without precedent in Tuscola County to have an administrator/controller retire with 33 years of service," commented Thom Bardwell, county board chairman.

"As one of the many commissioners who have enjoyed his leadership and attention to detail, it is difficult to comprehend what we will be losing in experience and dedication," Bardwell added. "His presence will be missed and we wish him our best in his retirement."

Hoagland's money management expertise resulted in four bonding rating upgrades for the county, from B+ to AA. Accomplishing that wasn't easy, due to recessions, position cuts and state revenue cuts as well as dramatic agricultural land value declines.

"Bond rating agencies consider Tuscola a financially well-man-

aged county," said Hoagland, noting multi-year financial planning implemented by county commissioners has been a very important part of that, and he credits his staff and county employees for their hard work and cooperation.

"One of our strengths has been effective financial management."

At 3.9141, the county has one of the lowest general operating millages in the state, yet Hoagland and his staff has earned the Excellence in County Financial Reporting Award from the Government Finance Officers Association for the past 19 years.

During his time with the county, Hoagland has heralded the construction of the Department of Health and Human Services, central dispatch and Michigan State Police post buildings, the Purdy Building, and major renovations and additions at the Tuscola County Medical Care Facility.

And, as soon as he learned about the state considering closing the Caro Center to build a new state hospital in another location, he gathered information on the financial impact the closure would have on the county, and he coordinated a comprehensive and successful campaign to build the new hospital in Caro.

Some of the other behind-the-scenes work Hoagland has tackled over the years are writing grants and researching wind farm development, and pushing to have those wind farms taxed fairly.



Mike Hoagland

What does your board of review do?

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

It's that time of the year for boards of review to meet.

While legal notices announcing township board of review meetings are a familiar sight in newspapers across the state in early spring, not everyone understands what a board of review actually does.

"A board of review meeting gives a property owner the opportunity to challenge the assessment on their property, the possibly of having an assessment changed, and also to ask questions about their assessment," explained Huron County Equalization Director Walt Schlichting, whose resume includes having served as Tuscola County's equalization director.

In addition, this is the time of year for property owners who qualify for exemptions to give notice.

"There is a 'hardship exemption' for those who are low income, which is based on income and assets," explained Schlichting.

Also, the Michigan State Tax Commission is now allowing disabled veterans' property tax exemptions under Public Act 161 of 2013, which provides totally disabled military veterans an exemption from property taxes on their primary residence. The exemption covers not only disabled veterans, but also the spouses of veterans who are or were 100 percent disabled.

However, those who want to use that provision, "must file their proof of status" with their local township assessor or tax board to become exempt from property tax.

Previously, a veteran could qualify for a property tax exemption only if he or she was receiving assistance for specially adapted housing.

The assessment process

Assessments are supposed to reflect half of a property's market value. It is the review board's responsibility to weigh all factors and make a determination regarding the value of a property, then to set the assessment.

Those wishing to protest their assessments are encouraged to bring documentation with them to the board of review, said Schlichting.

If someone wants to try to protest that their property assessment is too high, they should collect as much information as possible to demonstrate the market value of similar properties in their area. One of the ways to do that is research the sale prices of similar homes.

The appeals process can be daunting for someone unfamiliar with it, but it is not difficult if you take the time to properly organize. Gather your facts and documentation showing comparable homes

have sold at lower prices than your appraisal, or copies of the appraisal you received through a private firm. Before an appeal, discuss the valuation with your assessor.

An assessor is often willing to adjust an appraisal to correct errors, saving everyone the hassle of going before the local Board of Review.

However, homeowners planning to proceed with the formal review process must comply with specific deadlines.

Each city and township has a formal board of review that typically meets in March or early April. Boards must also meet in July and December to correct any errors.

If a property owner misses the deadlines, they will lose out on the opportunity to appeal their assessment.

To check local deadlines, contact your city or township assessor's office to verify the filing dates, or review legal notices in area newspapers. By law, the offices must provide you with the forms necessary to appeal. Be sure to ask any questions you have about the form and what information is required.

Assessment methods

An assessor doesn't necessarily have to visit a property for an assessment to change.

Primarily, any change in a person's home value is a reflection of inflation in the housing market. An assessor makes a direct appraisal of a property only periodically, or on a small portion of properties each year. Studies of property sales in the neighborhood are often used to establish a base value for all properties.

"That's why it's particularly important for you to double-check the appraisal records from your assessor's office when preparing your appeal," explained Schlichting. "You may find that your appraisal was based on assumptions which you might be able to prove are false, which would help your case."

Those assumptions may include having valued a home above the actual market value or valued a home significantly above identical or similar homes in the area, or having made an inaccurate structural appraisal or an error in the appraisal computation.

Many factors go into a property appraisal, including age, size, quality, type of construction of the house, number of bathrooms, size of the lot, surrounding neighborhood and the usual market price of similar homes.

Homeowners have the right to review their property records with the assessor without filing an appeal. Typically, an assessor will correct an error without requiring an appeal. If you still have concerns, your first step should be to determine the actual market or true cash value of your property and compare it to the assessor's

judgment. The state equalized valuation, which is listed on bills and on notices of assessment increases, is exactly half of the assessor's judgment of your property's actual market value.

To challenge an assessment, a property owner must build their case by documenting information via research on the Internet and by searching public records of home prices in their area.

Talk with a real estate agent or loan officer at your financial institution. They may be able to help you find recent sale prices for houses comparable to yours in size, construction, age, location and style. Some real estate firms may be willing to provide an estimate of the market value of your home for a small fee.

A professional appraiser will likely carry the most weight, but the cost involved may not be worth it unless there is a substantial savings.

Michigan law requires that appraisal records be available upon request from your assessor's office. They should check to make sure that the recorded dimensions of both the house and lot are correct. The appraiser may have also missed defects that reduce the house's value, including settling or shifting of the foundation. Also, unfinished attics and basements may be marked as finished in your assessment, inflating the value of your home.

Normal maintenance and repairs are not considered in the value of the property.

Members of a board of review can correct a mistake if one is made, make adjustments and approve exemptions. While the board of review has the authority to make adjustments, it also has to be able to justify its decisions.

And it is the board's job to make sure everyone is fairly represented.

"All property must be assessed at 50 percent of true cash value, and the purpose of the board of review is to ascertain that this has been accomplished," Schlichting said.

The board will review the information presented and make a determination. If the members agree an assessment should be changed, it must be endorsed by a majority of the entire board.

A property owner cannot appeal an assessment unless they first go to the board of review.

If the property owner is not satisfied with the decision at the local level, they can file an appeal with the State Tax Tribunal. Reviews of complaints and a method for tax remedies are mandated in the Property Tax Code.

Appeals to the State Tax Tribunal must be filed by the end of July. You can call (517) 334-6521 or send mail to Tax Tribunal, P.O. Box 30232, Lansing, MI 48909. For more information, visit the Tax Tribunal Web site at <www.michigan.gov/taxtrib.

Cass City United Methodist Church

Rev. Robert Paul Demyanovich, Pastor

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3 Friday **Fish Dinner's** during Lent. March 15th, March 29th and April 12th.

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Questions call the church office at (989) 872-3422.

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(Pick a time and event that interests you, your children, friends and family.

All Wednesday events are FREE!)

• 3:00 - 4:00 pm Lenten Study (Simon Peter)

All are Welcome to attend for this study during Lent.

• 4:00 - 4:30 pm God's Kitchen Ministries

• 4:30 - 5:00 pm Lite Dinner for All

• 5:00 - 6:00 pm Children's Time

• 5:00 - 5:30 pm Choir Practice

• 5:30 - 6:00 pm Healing Worship Service & Choir

• 6:00 - 6:30 pm Fellowship Coffee/Dessert

Fish Dinners

4:30-7:00 pm
March 15, & 29
April 12



Join us for Holy C.O.W. Church on Wednesdays

www.casscityumc.org or find us on Facebook.

ELKLAND TOWNSHIP CEMETERY Rules and Regulations

Planting of trees or shrubs is prohibited unless permission is given by sexton.

No decorative stones around markers or monuments.

One arrangement per grave site.

All flowers must be in containers.

All glass jars or bottles used for arrangements are prohibited.

Monuments and markers are to be installed by sexton.

All lots will be cleaned off on April 1st, and remain clean until May 1st.

The township shall not be financially responsible for damage to flowers, shrubs, lots, stones, objects or articles removed from any grave in this cemetery.

Elkland Township Board

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RAWSON Memorial District Library in Cass City will host a barn quilt block painting class Friday, March, 15, at 6 p.m. for area residents who like barn quilts. There will be a variety of quilt-barn designs to choose from, plus participants will get to paint their own barn wood quilt magnet.

Paint your own barn wood quilt at library in village March 15

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

The village of Cass City became part of the Thumb Quilt Trail last summer, and now Rawson Memorial District Library officials are offering patrons an opportunity to join the experience by creating their own barn wood quilts.

From 6 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, March 15, there will be a Paint Your Own Barn Quilt Class at the Cass City library. Alicia Lantzer of Reclaimed Nation will be on hand to help participants with painting their own barn wood quilts plus a 3-3/4" x 3-3/4" wooden quilt magnet.

There will be a variety of colors and patterns to choose from. All of the supplies will be available during the class.

The cost is \$29 per person for the class, which is open to 30 participants. Your payment registers you for the activity. Residents are asked to sign up by stopping at the library's circulation desk.

More information is available by calling (989) 872-2856.

The Reclaimed Nation business near Gagetown is owned and operated by Eric and Alicia Lantzer. They sell art and furniture made from worn barn wood.

The village of Cass City became part of the Thumb Area Quilt Trail in 2018 when an eight-foot by eight-foot wooden quilt square honoring local native and former NASA Astronaut Brewster H. Shaw. It was hung on the village DPW building. It was the 100th quilt on the trail that winds its way through Huron, Sanilac and Tuscola counties.

For more information about the Thumb Area Quilt Trail or a map showing where each quilt is located, visit the website www.thumbquilt-trail.com. The group also has a Facebook page.



Murder at Crimson House...

CASS CITY High School senior cast members worked to solve the "Murder at Crimson House" — a mystery, musical and comedy – for appreciative audiences over the weekend. Pictured above is the cast and crew: (back row, from left) Assistant Director Whitney Kirn, Orsi Pleban, Anthony Pawloski, Imogen Sanders, Shane Hoppe, Kjersti Herrmann, Angel Shiel, Kevin Estrella, Jared Blattner, Logan Severance, Parker Rosebrugh, Adam Habicht, Emily Bootz, Sid Lintner, Lilly Maxwell, (middle row) Sophie Mazure (stage manager), Rhett Meeker, Kyle Koepf, Savina Terpe, (front row, left) Director, Connie Iwankovitsch, Assistant Director Lydia Montei, Lukas Hayes (lights), Mariah Mellendorf (spotlight) and Technical Director Jon Zdrojewski.

"Casual" fundraiser helps to support Sanilac groups

Sanilac County Community Mental Health (CMH) staffers recently collected and donated about \$258 to Carsonville Project Blessing.

The money was generated through the CMH employees' "Casual for a Cause" fundraiser. CMH employees are allowed to dress casually every other Friday in exchange for a \$3 donation to the Casual for a Cause fund, with the understanding that the money will be donated to benefit initiatives that benefit citizens of Sanilac County.

Past recipients include Shop with a Hero, HDC Walk for Warmth, the Veterans' Administration Soldiers Relief Fund, Eva's Place, Thumbs' Up for Kids, United Hospice Service, Deckerville Project Blessing, the Sanilac County Child Advocacy Center, the BCups program of Marlette Regional Hospital, the Salvation Army, ISD Autism Walk, the DHS Backpack and Christmas Projects, and The Moving Wall Project.



WIL MORRIS, CEO (left), Sanilac County Community Mental Health, recently presented a \$257.95 check to Carsonville Project Blessing. Karen Slivka (from left), Mary Bokach and Rick Miller were on hand for the donation presentation.



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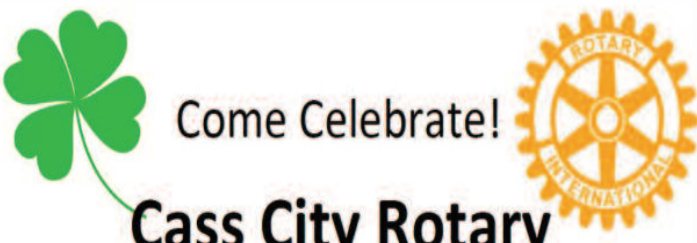


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Come Celebrate!
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Authentic Irish Cuisine, Drinks, Dancing
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Saturday, March 16th, 2019
Cocktails @ 5:30 PM & Dinner @ 6:30 PM
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CHRONICLE SPORTS

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THE KINGSTON CARDINALS captured district honors in convincing fashion Friday at Akron-Fairgrove High School. Posing with the Division 4 trophy are, front from the left, Brooke Mooney, Ashtian Davis, Kendra DeLong, Ella Retan, Anna Ahern, Hannah James, Carley Smith, Jillyan Dinsmore, Camryn MacGuire, Danielle Crisman, Isabel Hurd, Gerilyn Carpenter, Emily Warrington, Payton Kolacz and Lily Lyons. In the back are Assistant Coach Dave Green, left, and Coach Jay Green.

Kingston rolls to another district title



KINGSTON CARDINAL Hannah James eyes a loose ball before Mayville's Carly Hoag can react in Friday's district championship game.

It would be a major understatement to say that Kingston had little trouble winning the Lady Cardinals' 2nd straight district crown last week at Akron-Fairgrove High School.

Coach Jay Green's girls opened the Division 4 district with a 49-13 quarterfinal win over Caseville Monday and advanced into Friday's championship game with a 56-10 victory Wednesday over the host Vikings.

It was more of the same for Kingston in the title contest, as they moved into their own regional with a 54-9 triumph over Mayville.

The North Central Thumb League Stars champs made certain of the game's outcome early against Mayville, as they led 19-0 after one quarter and 32-3 after two. In fact, the Wildcats didn't score from the floor until the final 10 seconds of the opening half, when sophomore Kealsie Dinsmore broke the seal on the rim for the Wildcats.

It didn't take long for Kingston to activate a running clock in the final half, as a pair of baskets by Carley

Smith and Payton Kolacz helped build a 44-3 advantage with just over four minutes removed from the clock in the third.

Mayville's Julia Smith's buzzer beater ended the third quarter scoring, after Coach Jay Green had retired his key players earlier in the whitewash.

Leading 44-4, Ella Retan made the most of her time on the floor in the closing quarter, hitting for a pair of baskets for the winners.

"We defended well early leading to a number of easy baskets. This is our 5th district title in the last six years," said Green.

A well-balanced Cardinal offense saw Smith with 10 points leading the way, while Camryn MacGuire added eight points, Hanna James seven, Payton Kolacz six, Anna Ahern five, Gerilyn Carpenter four, Jillyan Dinsmore four, Retan four, Kendra DeLong two, Emily Warrington two and Ashtian Davis

Genesee, Kingston square off tonight for regional title

by Clarke Haire
Publisher

Genesee Christian and Kingston each punched their tickets to a Division 4 girls basketball regional final Monday night with double digit victories.

In the early game at Kingston High School, the Soldiers from Genesee used a big first half to march into tonight's (Wednesday) championship game following a 49-37 win over the Deckerville Eagles.

Eva Jones, Ava Boike and Hannah Dorow each connected on a pair of field goals in the opening eight minutes for Genesee as they

Please turn to page 10.

two. For Mayville, Dinsmore had three tallies.

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During the procedure you may experience sensations of pulling, tugging, mild pinching, intense cold, tingling, stinging, aching, and cramping at the treatment site. These sensations subside as the area becomes numb. Following the procedure, typical side effects include temporary redness, swelling, blanching, bruising, firmness, tingling, stinging, tenderness, cramping, aching, itching, or skin sensitivity, and sensation of fullness in the back of the throat after a submental area treatment. Rare side effects may also occur. The CoolSculpting® procedure is not for everyone. You should not have the CoolSculpting® procedure if you suffer from cryoglobulinemia, cold agglutinin disease, or paroxysmal cold hemoglobinuria. The CoolSculpting® procedure is not a treatment for obesity. Ask your doctor if CoolSculpting® is right for you. To learn more about what to expect, visit www.coolsculpting.com.

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Cass City General Surgery
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www.hdghmi.org



UBLY'S Ashley Puvalowski, wearing a face shield, battles Harbor Beach's Haylie Essenschmayer for control of the ball in district semifinal action.

Ugly gals bow in semis to rival Harbor Beach

Ugly refused to go away quietly in their district semifinal matchup against rival Harbor Beach, but eventually ran out of time Wednesday night and fell, 37-27, in the Division 3 Girls' Basketball District at Cass City High School.

The Greater Thumb East matchup went the way of the Pirates early, as they jumped out in front, 10-4, after the initial quarter. Harbor Beach continued to control the action in the second stanza and after a Megan Pawlowski trey they led 18-8 with just over three minutes remaining in the half. Both teams would then trade baskets to the break, where Harbor Beach enjoyed a 23-12 edge.

Pawlowski continued to have her way in the third quarter and registered nine of her game-high 16 points, including her second hoop from behind the 3-point arc, during a 13-7 Harbor Beach run.

Trailing 36-19, Ugly would outscore the winners 8-1 in the final quarter, but it would prove to be too little, too late.

For Ugly, Katelyn Sweeney tossed in 13 points as the game's only other player – besides Pawlowski – to reach double figures. Also for the Bearcats, Josie Gusa and Ashley Puvalowski each added four points, while Ellie Peruski and Jaiden Schulte each chipped in a deuce.

With the loss, the careers of Bearcat seniors Haili Guza, Kelsey Knoblock and Ashley Puvalowski come to a close.

DISTRICT FINAL

USA avenged an early season loss to Harbor Beach Friday to claim its second straight district championship.

With the 42-38 victory, USA improved to 13-8 on the season and advanced into the Flint Hamady regional to take on undefeated Hemlock, winners of 23 straight.

For USA to have any chance to deliver Hemlock its first defeat in Monday's regional semifinal, a big night from Rylee Zimmer would most likely be required. After scoring 24 points in USA's district semifinal win over Bad Axe, the senior forward scored 13 points in the district final against Harbor Beach – both team highs.

Cards fall in regional battle

A banner-hanging season for North Central Thumb League Stars and district champion Kingston came to an end last week during an exciting regional semifinal matchup on the Cardinals' own floor.

Eventual Division 4 Regional champion Big Rapids Crossroads delivered the heartbreaking defeat Tuesday with a 59-56 victory that was even closer than the final margin suggests. The winners (23-1) went on to knock off tournament favorite Fulton 49-44 Thursday and advanced into this week's quarterfinal round in Cadillac to meet Frankfort (19-5). Tuesday's contest, which was scheduled for a 7:00 p.m. tipoff, could be seen at Live@MHSAA.TV.

Big Rapids Crossroads and Kingston traded hoops throughout the opening half that provided spectators in the packed gym a glimpse of what was to come on the night. The visitors were able to stretch their advantage to 15-11 early, before Nathan Cloyd connected at the horn to cut Kingston's deficit to 15-14 entering the second quarter.

Neither team could distance themselves from the other during the two middle quarters as both scored 28 points, making the score 43-42 with eight minutes remaining in regulation. Kingston trailed 28-26 at the break, but cut into the margin when they sliced a single point for the Big Rapids Crossroads advantage in the third.

However, the Cougars calmly made 7-of-8 free throws in the closing minutes to hold off Kingston.

"We played hard. The game was back and forth all night. Each team made runs. The atmosphere was electric. We are disappointed to lose and see our season end, but our team left everything on the floor. It's been a successful season," said Kingston Coach Dave Lester.

Hunter James led Kingston (19-4) with 20 points. Evan Neff added 14, while Nathan Cloyd added 13.

Britton Angell led Big Rapids Crossroads with 17 points and Cody Carlson added 14.

The loss ended the careers seven Kingston seniors including James, Cloyd, Brian Hobson, Nathan Dawson, Levi Cryderman, Cody McCormick and Scott Helton.

Kingston looks to hang regional banner

Continued from page 9.

built a 17-6 advantage entering the second quarter.

Darla Swanson took over the scoring duties before the break for Genesee and poured in eight markers to extend the cushion to 31-13 at the break.

After struggling for two quarters, Deckerville got on track in the third and multiple baskets by Claire Watson and Morgan Armstead started the Eagles' comeback hopes.

Trailing 44-39, Deckerville continued to slice into the Genesee lead in the final quarter, but an 8-5 Eagle run wasn't enough to catch the Soldiers.

Armstead finished with 11 points to pace Deckerville, while Ella Watson chipped in nine points and Claire Watson seven.

Genesee had Dorow record a dozen tallies to earn game scoring honors.

In the late game, Kingston continued its post season dominance with an impressive win over Austin Catholic.

After winning three district titles by an average of 42 points, Kingston showed no signs of taking their foot off the gas in their regional semifinal matchup against the Crusaders and rolled to a 59-24 decision.

The Cardinals opened the contest with an 8-0 run and then closed the initial quarter with an 11-2 spurt to take a 19-5 lead into period two.

Kingston hit three treys in the opening eight minutes – two by Carley Smith and another by Hannah James – as a terrific shooting display by the hosts had the Lady Cardinals leading 42-15 at the intermission.

Kingston's Lily Lyons added a trey during the second stanza, but

it was an ally-oop pass at the top of the key from Camryn MacGuire to a cutting Lyons that erupted the home town fans while widening the gap to 25-7 early on.

Kingston outscored their guests 17-9 in the final half to complete the whipping.

"Our defense was great tonight," said Coach Jay Green afterwards, adding, "Camryn MacGuire and Gerilyn Carpenter dominated their guards and made it hard for Austin to run their offense. Offensively we got a number of scores in transition and made six 3-pointers in the first half."

sively we got a number of scores in transition and made six 3-pointers in the first half."

Smith led all scorers with 15 points, while James added 10 for Kingston.

For Austin Catholic, Carmela Shorkey had 11 points.

Wednesday's regional championship game is scheduled for a 7:00 PM start. If host Kingston defeats Genesee it will be the Lady Cardinals 4th regional crown since 2015.



KINGSTON'S Carley Smith, left, establishes position near the basket against Austin Catholic's Marcelina Powalka in the first half Monday night.

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Cass City Missionary Church

4449 Koepfgen Rd., Cass City, MI 48726 • 989-872-2729
Worship Service 8:30 a.m. • Sunday School 9:45 a.m. • Worship Service 10:50 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m. • Wednesday Family Night 6:30 p.m.
Pastor: Phil Burkett • Associate Pastor: Joel Schwendinger • www.casscitymc.org



Cass City United Methodist Church

5100 Cemetery Rd., 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: Bob Demyanovich • www.casscityumc.org



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.
Afternoon Service 2:00 p.m. • Wednesday - Pray/Bible Study & Youth Group 6:00 p.m.
Pastor: Rev. Nathan Whipple

Deford Community Church

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

Evangelical Free Church of Cass City

6430 Chestnut Blvd., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-5060
• Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. • Worship at 11:00 a.m.
Midweek Bible Studies
Biblical Counseling
Pastor: Rev. Todd R. Gould • Like us on Facebook!



EFCA

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 6:30 p.m.
AWANA Clubs 6:15 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. • Wednesday - Teen Club 6:15 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.



Pastor: Christian Wright • Website: www.fbcc.us



First Presbyterian Church

Barrier Free • State & National Historical Registry

6505 Church St., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-5400 • Worship Service 10:45 a.m.
Exercise Program: Mon., Wed. & Fri. at 9:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Linda Graham
After School Adventure (K-6) - Call for winter schedule.

Fraser Presbyterian Church

3006 Huron Line Rd., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-5400
• Worship Service 9:30 a.m.
Coffee Hour following worship • Pastor: Rev. Linda Graham



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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



Living Word Worship Center Church of God

Pentecostal
6536 Houghton Street, Cass City, MI 48726 • 989-872-4637
Worship Service: 11:00 a.m.
Family Training Hour: Wednesday 7 p.m.
Pastor: Jephtha Bryant



Mizpah Missionary Church

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

Novesta Church of Christ

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• 1st Worship Service 9:00 a.m. • 2nd Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Senior Minister: Brad Speirs
Associate Minister: Austin Keller at Ubyl & Student Minister: Don Mecomber
Visit our website at: www.novestachurch.org

Our Lady Consolata Catholic Church

4292 S. Seeger St., Cass City, MI 48726 • 665-1027
Website: www.olconsolata.org
Mass Times: Saturday 4:00 p.m. November 1 thru March 31
Saturday 5:00 p.m. April 1 thru October 31
Cass City - Sunday: 8:00 a.m. • Sebawaing Holy Family Site - Sunday: 10:30 a.m.
Priest: Fr. Adam Maher



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Potter's House Church of Cass City
• Sunday: 11:00 a.m.



Annual wheat growers meet slated this month

The Michigan Wheat Program's seventh annual Winter Grower Meeting is coming up quickly, with research results, new varieties slated for release, Fusarium head blight discoveries, new weed challenges, national wheat issues and an update on the Michigan Wheat Program all on the agenda.

The meeting also has a tradeshow featuring ag businesses that support Michigan wheat farmers and their needs.

The session takes place Wednesday, March 20, from 8:15 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the MSU Saginaw Valley Research and Extension Farm, 3775 S. Reese Rd., Frankenmuth.

Online registration is available by visiting miwheat.org (at the top of the "What's Hot" column on the left edge of the page). You can also register by phone by calling 1-888-WHEAT-01. Meeting attendance is free to wheat growers and stakeholders, but pre-registration is requested to ensure adequate food, seating and handout materials.

The meeting opens with registration, a traditional continental breakfast and the tradeshow. Presentations begin at 9 a.m. Attendees receive 8 RUP and 5 CCA credits.

The keynote speaker is Dr. Pierce Paul, professor and extension specialist with the Ohio State University Department of Plant Pathology. He has been with OSU for 13 years and is currently part of a team researching the epidemiology of Fusarium head blight of wheat in a multi-state cooperative project funded by the U.S. Wheat and Barley Scab Initiative.

"We value our high-quality researchers at Michigan State, yet the Michigan Wheat Program always wants to bring in speakers from other northern wheat-growing states and regions to discuss what has and has not worked in their area in regard to wheat production," said David Milligan, chairman of the Michigan Wheat Program and a Cass City farmer.

"Fusarium has confounded wheat growers the world-over, yet there are gains being made including some as a result of the US Wheat and Barley Scab Initiative. Dr. Paul's work in that area will be a highlight of the meeting.

"Delivering a quality educational program for Michigan wheat growers and sharing where check-off funds are utilized is a job our board takes very seriously as we push for higher yields and higher quality in Michigan wheat," Milligan added.

The Michigan Wheat Program is funded by nearly 6,500 farmers who grow wheat in 50 of Michigan's 83 counties. The Michigan 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.

Tuscola commissioners honor retiring veteran county workers

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

After 25 years of service to Tuscola County, Patricia Witkovsky is pulling the plug on her career in the Tuscola County Drain Office.

The Tuscola County Board of Commissioners recently honored Witkovsky along with two other county officials for many years of service.

"During her time in the drain office, she (Witkovsky) was instrumental in reviewing accounting procedures and assisted with rights-of-way for all established county drains being recorded with the register of deeds. And, she played a key role in establishing a permitting process for crossings, spraying, excavation, driveways and utility bookings for both private property owners and utility companies," states a resolution the county board presented to her.

Witkovsky is the deputy drain commissioner, working alongside Drain Commissioner Robert Mantey.

"Witkovsky has been invaluable in keeping the board of public works and inter-county drain meeting records, necessary posting, minutes, and agenda items," the resolution states. "And, her knowledge of drain history and her ability to summarize these in written form along with her proofreading, organizing and daily planning capabilities will be greatly missed."

Witkovsky's knowledge of drains and drainage districts was enhanced by her having a Michigan Assessor's License and also by acquiring a soil erosion certification.

Commissioners thanked her for what they described as her tremendous contributions to the county.

In addition, the county board awarded two county resolutions, including one to buildings and grounds Foreman Dennis Sattelberg in recognition of his more than 30 years of service to the Tuscola County Road Commission.

"His wealth of knowledge and experience of road commission operations will be difficult to replace. Dennis will be greatly missed by his fellow employees and associates at the road commission, all of whom wish him much happiness in his retirement," the resolution honoring Sattelberg states.

"During these many years, Dennis has been a dedicated, hard-working and loyal employee. Dennis performed his job in a professional manner and was always dependable during his years of serving the public."

Road commission board member Pat Sheridan, meanwhile, was honored for serving two terms on the local road board.

"During these years, Pat has been a dedicated, level headed, and fair-minded road commissioner. Pat has performed his role as road commissioner in a professional manner, and always had the best interests of the public in mind," his resolution states.

SOS launches Michigan's "no-reason" voting system

No-reason mail-in voting has been launched in Michigan, Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson recently announced, saying it will make voting easier for people across the state.

"If you want to fill out your ballot at home, you should be able to do so. And if you want to avoid the stress of finding time to get to the polls on election day, you should be able to do that, too," Benson said.

Benson called no-reason mail-in voting a common-sense reform that can save administrative costs and headaches, increase turnout and reduce lines during elections.

The reform also removes Michigan from the ranks of the relatively few states that haven't offered voters the ability to mail-in their vote for no reason.

The new voting program stems from Michigan voters' approval last November of Proposal Three, which included several measures designed to make voting more accessible and secure, including a provision that allows voters to obtain a mail-in ballot without providing a reason.

Before that, voters could request a mail-in ballot only if they could meet one of six criteria as an "absent voter" such as being 60 years or older or expecting to be out of town on election day. Benson encouraged residents to visit Michigan.gov/Vote, where they can download a mail-in ballot application and find a wealth of election-related information.

Fugitive charged in high-speed chase

Continued from page one.

Sheriff's deputies took over. The chase was later picked up by Tuscola County deputies, who pursued the suspect through Tuscola County.

Park said the chase came to a head after Martin allegedly targeted the Tuscola County officers, ramming into their patrol vehicle.

The collision occurred in the village Tuscola, where the suspect put his vehicle in reverse and struck the patrol unit, which sustained little damage thanks to a protective push bar, according to Tuscola County Sheriff Glen

Skrent, who reported the suspect vehicle entered a field and crashed into a ditch, with the suspect fleeing on foot.

The suspect ran down Frankemuth Road and tried unsuccessfully to gain access to a residence, Skrent said.

"So he went next door and walked into the house. He grabbed a set of vehicle keys and went into the homeowner's garage. The homeowner grabbed a revolver to confront the suspect, who had already started the vehicle in the garage," Skrent said. "The suspect began to fight with the homeowner and ended up grabbing the

revolver. He then pointed it at the homeowner's torso and pulled the trigger, (but) the gun did not go off. He discarded the gun, and that is when he went outside."

Deputies Cory Jacobs, Jon Ramirez and Ryan LaFlure met Martin in the driveway. The officers subdued him with Tasers after he refused to drop the knife he was holding.

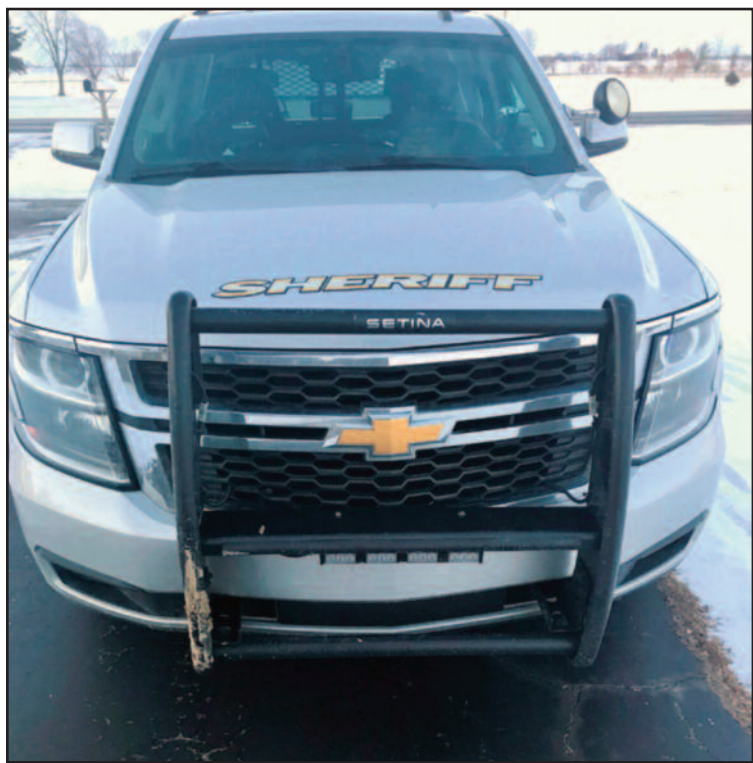
"The homeowner received a cut on his hand and also injured his shoulder in the struggle," Skrent noted, adding deputies "found a pocket full of .22 bullets on the suspect, so there is a question of where the firearm is that went with those bullets."

Martin was arraigned last week on multiple felony charges, including assault with intent to murder, first degree home invasion, assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder or by strangulation, breaking and entering a building, fleeing a police officer, carrying a dangerous weapon with unlawful intent, carry a concealed weapon, malicious destruction of police property, assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault), larceny in a building, attempted motor vehicle theft, three counts of assaulting, resisting or obstructing a police officer, three counts of possession of a firearm in the commission of a felony, operating a motor vehicle while his license suspended, and operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated.

Martin remains lodged in jail. His bond was set at \$800,000 cash or surety.

Sanilac County will seek additional charges on the suspect, Park said, adding the incident remains under investigation.

The Sanilac County Sheriff's Department and Brown City police were assisted by Sanilac Central Dispatch, Sanilac County Drug Task Force officers, Lapeer County Sheriff's deputies, Frankemuth police and troopers from the Michigan State Police post in Caro, as well as the Tuscola County Sheriff's Department.



A PUSH BAR prevented significant damage to a Tuscola County Sheriff's Department patrol unit when a suspect rammed the vehicle during a pursuit that involved multiple law enforcement agencies and ended with Tuscola County deputies apprehending the wanted fugitive in Tuscola Township last week.

In Our OPINION..

Whitmer proposal too great a burden

Continued from page three.

The cost has prompted many motorists to take their chances and drive without coverage. In fact, the Insurance Research Council estimates roughly 20 percent of the state's drivers don't have insurance, compared to a national average of 12.3 percent.

The problem is, Michigan employs a unique no-fault car insurance system – unique in that while the state, like other no-fault states across the country, requires all drivers to carry personal injury protection coverage, Michigan guarantees unlimited lifetime medical benefits to auto accident victims, dramatically increasing an insurer's risk.

No one is disputing Michigan's need for decent, safe roadways. But the means spelled out in Whitmer's proposal don't justify the ends if the citizens forced to pick up the tab can't afford the fuel and insurance required to legally drive on them.

Obituaries

William James Bliss, Jr.

William (Bill) Bliss, Jr. died March 1, 2019.

He was born September 7, 1944 and raised by William (Bill) Sr. and Marge Bliss (Ty) in Cass City, Michigan and had five siblings.

Bill was a loving father to Greg, Kevin, Kurt, and Todd (mother Carol Wagner) and Steven and Jessica with his wife, Kathleen. He was also a proud grandfather to Lisa, Eddie, Gunner, Brecken, Rylee, Jackson, Rylee, Kyle, Kayleigh and Luna.

Throughout his life, Bill had many unique careers that positively impacted many people and changed the world around him. While working for the Tuscola County Sheriff's department, Bill was instrumental in setting up the security for President Nixon's visit to Michigan and was the proud owner of presidential cufflinks, given to him during this service. For over five years, Bill risked his life

while working for the Federal Undercover Narcotics Unit in Michigan. After leaving law enforcement, Bill ran security for Detroit Tiger's Stadium, Pontiac Silverdome and the Detroit Grand Prix, while working for Burns International Security Company. Promoted to district manager of southwest region of Michigan for this company, Bill, his wife Kathleen, and children, Steven and Jessica, moved to the Kalamazoo area in 1987. Brother-in-law, Robert Vickers, and Bill formed the Ultimate Handyman company and enjoyed completing construction projects together.

Bill greatly enjoyed cooking, camping, hunting, playing the slot machines at the casinos and spending time with his family. He was a member of St. Michael Lutheran Church and the Portage Eagles. Bill treasured his wife, Kathleen, enjoyed their time together and shared the journey of his health with grace, respect and love.

Bill is survived by his wife, Kathleen, sons, Greg (Tammy), Kevin (Denise), Kurt (Mari), Todd (Stacey), Steven (Rose) and daughter, Jessica. He is survived by his siblings, Barb (Jerry) Generous, Bob (Beryl) Bliss, David (Penny) Bliss, Paul (LaDonna) Bliss and Chuck (Tammy) Bliss. Bill is also survived by his ten grandchildren and many other loving family members.

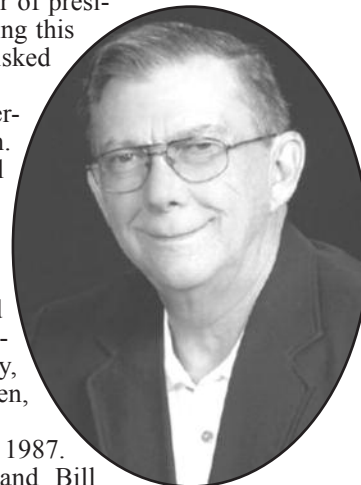
He was preceded in death by his parents and one infant son, Michael and one infant grandchild, Dylan.

Per Bill's wishes, as an avid Michigan State University fan, his body has been donated to the MSU Willd Body Program for Medical Education.

Donations in lieu of flowers can be given to: Fraternal Order of Police Michigan Foundation Children's Scholarship Fund, 3474 Alaiedon Parkway, Suite 500, Okemos, MI 48864 (www.mifop.com/donate)

A memorial service honoring Bill's life will be held Thursday, March 28, at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, 7211 Oakland Drive, Portage, MI.

10:15 – 11:00 visitation with family and 11:00 memorial service. Luncheon following at Portage Eagles, 1611 Shaver Road, Schoolcraft, MI.



In the United States almost half of adults (46.4%) will experience a mental illness during their life time.

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Owendale-Gagetown Area Schools

Preschool and Kindergarten Round-Up

Thursday, March 14, 2019
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

You will need to bring your child's original birth certificate, immunization records, and health appraisal (if available). For Pre-school you must also have proof of residency and income.

For more information call: Marilee Faist for Kindergarten and Samantha Minkler for Pre-school (989) 678-4141 or go to our website www.owengage.org

Legal Notices

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to MCL 600.3212, that the following will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public auction at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on March 21, 2019:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Douglas S. Stewart and Julie A. Stewart, husband and wife

Original Mortgagee: North American Mortgage Company Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. Date of Mortgage: August 12, 1998 Date of Mortgage Recording: August 27, 1998 Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$102,564.10

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Tuscola, Tuscola County, Michigan, and described as: A Parcel of land in the East part of the South 1/2 of the South 1/2 of the Fractional Section 31, Town 11 North, Range 7 East, being a part of the so-called Southeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of said Fractional Section, described as follows: commencing on the South line of said Fractional Section 31 at a point 198.00 feet, South 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West, from the Southeast corner of said Section; thence South 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West, on Said South Section line, 152.00 feet; thence North 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East 197.13 feet; thence North 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East, parallel to said South Section line 133.48 feet; thence South 05 degrees 22 minutes 00 seconds East parallel to the East Section Line, 198.00 feet to the point of beginning.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16). 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. This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: February 20, 2019
Trott Law, P.C.
1376067

2-20-4

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to MCL 600.3212, that the following will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public auction at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on March 21, 2019:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Rachel A. Wittbrodt, A Married Woman
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper
Date of Mortgage: June 13, 2014
Date of Mortgage Recording: July 1, 2014

Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$247,660.07
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Watertown, Tuscola County, Michigan, and described as: Parcel 2-B: Part of the Northeast quarter of the Southwest quarter of Section 35, Township 10 North, Range 9 East, Watertown Township, Tuscola County, Michigan, described as beginning at a point on the North-South quarter line that is North 00 degrees 07 minutes 11 seconds West

1321.68 feet from the South quarter corner of said Section 35, thence North 89 degrees 57 minutes 22 seconds West 658.59 feet; thence North 00 degrees 07 minutes 11 seconds West 1323.00 feet thence along the East-West quarter line, South 89 degrees 50 minutes 29 seconds East 658.60 feet, thence along said North-South quarter line, South 00 degrees 07 minutes 11 seconds East 1321.68 feet to the point of beginning. Subject to and together with easements for ingress, egress and utilities 66 feet in width as described in Easement A and 33 feet in width as described in Easement B as described below.
Easement A: Part of the Northeast quarter of the Southwest quarter of Section 35, Township 10 North, Range 9 East, Watertown Township, Tuscola County, Michigan, described as beginning at the South quarter corner, thence along the North-South quarter line North 00 degrees 07 minutes 11 seconds West 1354.68 feet, thence North 89 degrees 57 minutes 22 seconds East 66.00 feet, thence South 00 degrees 07 minutes 11 seconds East 1354.72 feet, thence along the South section line, West 66.00 feet to the point of beginning.

Easement B: Part of the Northeast quarter of the Southwest quarter of Section 35, Township 10 North, Range 9 East, Watertown Township, Tuscola County, Michigan, described as beginning at a point on the North-South quarter line that is North 00 degrees 07 minutes 11 seconds West 1321.68 feet from the South quarter corner of said Section 35, thence North 89 degrees 57 minutes 22 seconds West 658.59 feet, thence North 00 degrees 07 minutes 11 seconds West 33.00 feet, thence South 89 degrees 57 minutes 22 seconds East 658.59 feet, thence along said North-South quarter line, South 00 degrees 07 minutes 11 seconds East 33.00 feet to the point of beginning. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16). 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. This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: February 20, 2019
Trott Law, P.C.
1376303

2-20-4

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to MCL 600.3212, that the following will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public auction at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on March 28, 2019:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Terry Gast, An Married Man
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for United Wholesale Mortgage, its successors and assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): PennyMac Loan Services, LLC
Date of Mortgage: August 29, 2008

Date of Mortgage Recording: September 5, 2008
Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$62,222.45
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Almer, Tuscola County, Michigan, and described as: Parcel 1: Part of the Northeast quarter of Section 29, Town 13 North, Range 9 East, Almer Township, Tuscola County, Michigan, described as commencing at the Northeast corner of said Sec-

tion 29; thence along the East line of said Section 29, South 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West, 856.34 feet to the Point Of Beginning; thence continuing along said East line of Section 29, South 00 degrees 00 minute 00 seconds West, 263.69 feet; thence North 89 degrees 44 minutes 07 seconds West, 466.69 feet; thence North 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds east, 263.69 feet; thence South 89 degrees 44 minutes 07 seconds East, 466.69 feet to the point of beginning.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16). 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. This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: February 27, 2019
Trott Law, P.C.
1376770

2-27-4

TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foregoing Mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE MORTGAGE SALE-A mortgage was granted by ALLEN L. JOHNSON, a single man, Mortgagor(s) to NEIGHBORHOOD MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS, LLC, 975 N. MAIN ST., SUITE D, FRANKENMUTH, MI 48734, Mortgagee dated NOVEMBER 21, 2008, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Tuscola County, and State of Michigan on DECEMBER 2, 2008, in LIBER 1162 on PAGE 1360 on which mortgage there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, for principal and interest, the sum of FORTY FIVE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FORTY FOUR AND 99/100THS (\$45,244.99) at 6.375% percent per annum and attorney fees as provided for in said Mortgage, and no suit or proceedings at law or in equity have been instituted to recover the moneys secured by said Mortgage, or any part thereof; NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, and pursuant to the statute of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that on MARCH 28, 2019, AT 10:00 A.M. local time, said Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at public auction, to the highest bidder in the main lobby of the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County, Michigan (that being the building where the Circuit Court for the County of Tuscola is held), of the premises described in said mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due, aforesaid, on said mortgage with interest thereon and all legal costs, charges and expenses, including the attorney fees allowed by law, and also any sum or sums which may be paid by the undersigned, necessary to protect its interest in the premises. Which said premises are described as follows: TOWNSHIP OF MILLINGTON, COUNTY OF TUSCOLA AND STATE OF MICHIGAN, to wit: BEGINNING AT A POINT WHICH IS THE INTERSECTION OF THE CENTERLINE OF ELLIS ROAD AND THE SOUTH LINE OF SECTION 4, TOWN 10 NORTH, RANGE 8 EAST, WHICH IS WEST 333.13 FEET FROM THE SOUTH 1 / 4 CORNER OF SAID SECTION 4; THENCE ALONG SAID SOUTH LINE WEST, 573 FEET; THENCE NORTH 20 DEGREES 40 MINUTES 25

SECONDS WEST, 320.65 FEET; THENCE EAST, 496.41 FEET PARALLEL TO SAID SOUTH LINE TO A POINT ON THE CENTERLINE OF ELLIS ROAD; THENCE ALONG SAID SOUTH 32 DEGREES 19 MINUTES 10 SECONDS EAST, 355 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, TUSCOLA COUNTY RECORDS During the SIX (6) MONTHS immediately following the sale, the property may be redeemed, except that in the event that the property is determined to be abandoned pursuant to MCLA 600.3241 a, the property may be redeemed during the thirty (30) days immediately following the sale. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.

JOHN W. BUTLER (P 33908) ATTORNEY FOR MORTGAGEE 24525 Harper Avenue St. Clair Shores, MI 48080 (586) 777-0770 Dated: 2-27-19

2-27-4

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to MCL 600.3212, that the following will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public auction at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on March 28, 2019:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Paul Fent, single man, as his sole and separate property
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Metropolitan Life Insurance Company
Date of Mortgage: June 3, 2005
Date of Mortgage Recording: June 7, 2005

Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$213,236.71
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Ellington, Tuscola County, Michigan, and described as: Part of the North half of the Southwest fractional quarter of Section 31, Town 13 North, Range 10 East. Described as beginning at a point on the South line of the North half of the Southwest fractional quarter, that is North 00 degrees, 08 minutes 12 seconds West, 1311.74 feet along the West line of said Section 31 and along said South line of the North half of the Southwest fractional quarter, North 89 degrees, 59 minutes, 30 seconds East, 398.45 feet from the Southwest corner of Section 31, thence continuing along said South line of the North half of the Southwest fractional quarter, North 89 degrees, 59 minutes, 39 seconds East, 335.50 feet, thence North 00 degrees, 15 minutes 52 seconds West, 1311.82 feet; thence along the East and West quarter line of Section 31, South 89 degrees, 59 minutes , 18 seconds West, 332.57 feet to a point that is North 89 degrees 59 minutes, 18 seconds East, 398.45 feet from the West quarter corner of said Section 31; thence South 00 degrees 08 minutes, 12 seconds East, 1311.78 feet to the South line of the North half of the Southwest fractional quarter and the point of beginning.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16). 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. This notice is from a debt collector.

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee for any reason. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest, and the purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. Notice is hereby given that the below mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public auction at the place of holding the Circuit Court of Tuscola County at 10:00 am on April 4, 2019. Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Stanley W. Brant and Debra D. Brant Original Mortgagee: Freedom Mtg Corp. d/b/a Freedom Home Mtg Corp Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, successor by merger to Wells Fargo Bank Minnesota, National Association, solely in its capacity as Trustee for Provident Bank Home Equity Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2000-2 Date of Mortgage: February 17, 2000 Date of Mortgage Recording: March 6, 2000 Amount claimed due on mortgage on the date of no-

lector.

Date of notice: February 27, 2019
Trott Law, P.C.
1377180

2-27-4

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Janice Taylor, a single woman, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns, Mortgagee, dated February 15, 2007 and recorded March 8, 2007 in Liber 1113, Page 2 Tuscola County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, Successor in Interest to Bank of America, National Association, as Trustee, Successor by merger to LaSalle Bank, National Association, as Trustee for Merrill Lynch First Franklin Mortgage Loan Trust, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2007-1, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Ninety-Six Thousand Three Hundred Eighty-Eight and 3/100 Dollars (\$96,388.03), including interest at 8.05% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, Michigan at 10:00 AM on APRIL 4, 2019.

Said premises are located in the Township of Millington, Tuscola County Michigan, and are described as: THE SOUTH 209.42 FEET OF THE WEST 208 FEET OF THE EAST 772 FEET OF THE WEST 1/2 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 2, TOWN 10 NORTH, RANGE 8 EAST, MILLINGTON TOWNSHIP, TUSCOLA COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

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

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.
Dated: March 6, 2019
File No. 19-000589
Firm Name: Orland PC

3-6-4

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee for any reason. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest, and the purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. Notice is hereby given that the below mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public auction at the place of holding the Circuit Court of Tuscola County at 10:00 am on April 4, 2019. Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Stanley W. Brant and Debra D. Brant Original Mortgagee: Freedom Mtg Corp. d/b/a Freedom Home Mtg Corp Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, successor by merger to Wells Fargo Bank Minnesota, National Association, solely in its capacity as Trustee for Provident Bank Home Equity Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2000-2 Date of Mortgage: February 17, 2000 Date of Mortgage Recording: March 6, 2000 Amount claimed due on mortgage on the date of no-

notice: \$53,246.76 Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in the Township of Dayton, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as: Commencing at the Northeast corner of the Northwest one-quarter of Section 29, Town 11 North, Range 10 East; thence South 209 feet; thence West 209 feet; thence North 209 feet; thence East 209 feet to the place of beginning. The improvements thereon being known as 2690 E. Snover Road. The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later; or unless MCL 600.3240(16) applies. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act 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. This notice is from a debt collector. Date of notice: 03/06/2019 Potes-tivo & Associates, P.C. 115799

3-6-4

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to MCL 600.3212, that the following will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public auction at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, at 10:00 AM, on April 11, 2019:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Joseph Rothfuss and Veronica Rothfuss, husband and wife as tenants by the entirety
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Village Capital & Investment, LLC

Date of Mortgage: February 23, 2013
Date of Mortgage Recording: March 6, 2013
Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$97,681.55
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Indianfields, Tuscola County, Michigan, and described as: The West 90 feet of Lot 1, Block 1 of Westdale Subdivision, according to the plat recorded in Liber 1 of plats, Page 74, now being page 24B, EXCEPT the South 78 feet of said Lot. Indianfields Township

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16). 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. This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: March 13, 2019
Trott Law, P.C.
1378187

3-13-4

LOOK

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CASS CITY CHRONICLE
989-872-2010

Legal Notices

Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC 5955 West Main Street, Suite 18 Kalamazoo MI, 49009 THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND 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 certain mortgage made BY Sterling O. Hermann and Lori A. Hermann, husband and wife, whose address is 5600 River Road, Cass City, Michigan 48726, as original Mortgages, to Icon Financial Group, Inc., being a mortgage dated October 14, 2002, and recorded on October 16, 2002 in Liber 898 Page 488, Tuscola County Records, State of Michigan. Said Mortgage is now held through mesne assignments by BankUnited N.A., as assignee as documented by an assignment dated February 20, 2019 and recorded on March 7, 2019 in Liber 1417 Page 635, Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of EIGHTY-EIGHT THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED TWENTY-NINE AND 35/100 DOLLARS (\$88,829.35). 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, at public sale to the highest bidder

AT THE PLACE OF HOLDING THE CIRCUIT COURT WITHIN TUSCOLA COUNTY, at 10:00 a.m. on April 11, 2019. Said premises are situated in the Township of Novesta, County of Tuscola, State of Michigan, and are described as: THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF THE NORTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 5, T13N, R11E, LYING SOUTH OF THE CENTER OF THE CASS RIVER, EXCEPT AN UNDIVIDED 1/2 INTEREST IN ALL OIL, GAS, CASING-HEAD GAS, COAL AND OTHER MINERALS AND GASES OF EVERY KIND AND CHARACTER TO R.S. GARDENHIRE AS SET FORTH IN MINERAL DEED RECORDED IN LIBER 250 OF DEEDS, PAGE 521, AND ANY INTEREST IN SUBSEQUENT INSTRUMENTS PERTINENT THERETO. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 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: March 13, 2019 For more information, please call: (312) 541-9710, Kenneth J. Johnson, Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC, 5955 West Main Street, Suite 18, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. File No.: MI 18 3725

3-13-4

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 Michael D. Chedister, a married man, and Michelle L. Chedister, his wife, mortgagors, to Independent Mortgage Co. East MI, which became Independent Mortgage Co., a dissolved Michigan corporation, and successor-by-merger to Independent Mortgage Co. East MI, as assigned to Independent Bank, a Michigan banking corporation, mortgagee. The Mortgage is dated January 3, 2003, and was recorded on February 10, 2003, in Liber 914 on page 1000 of the Tuscola County records, and subject to a Modification recorded at Liber 1216, Page 1149, and further subject to an Assignment of Mortgage recorded at Liber 1248, Page 1414. The balance owing on the Mortgage as of the date of

this Notice is \$66,574.45, including interest at 6.625% per year variable. 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 April 11, 2019, 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 Arbela, Tuscola County, Michigan, and described as:

A part of the NE 1/4 of Section 20, T10N, R7E, Arbela Twp., Tuscola County, Michigan, described as: Beginning at the N 1/4 corner of said Section; thence S 87°08'48" E, 225.23 ft along the N Section line; thence S 03°36'40" W 410.00 ft parallel with the N-S 1/4 line; thence N 87°08'48" W, 225.23 ft. parallel with said N Section line to said N-S 1/4 line; thence N 03°36'40" E, 410.00 ft along said 1/4 line to the Point of Beginning. Subject to any and all easements and/or rights of way, whether used, implied or of record.

The structure residing on the above described premises, consisting of a 1995 Mansion M0254432 is considered real estate and is also collateral for this loan.

commonly known as 9015 Helen Road, Vas-sar, MI 48768 tax i.d. 003-020-100-0690-00

If the property described in this notice is sold at a foreclosure sale, then under MCL 600.3278, the Mortgage(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: March 8, 2019

Henry L. Knier, Jr. (P46393) Attorney for Independent Bank, Mortgagee 900 Washington Ave., P.O. Box 219 Bay City, MI 48707-(989) 892-4574

3-13-4

NOTICE TO CREDITORS TO ALL CREDITORS: Please take notice that MICHAEL J. KOWALSKI, Settlor and Trustee of THE MICHAEL J. KOWALSKI TRUST DATED MARCH 10, 2018, of 1380 W. Sanilac Road, Caro, Michigan 48723, passed away on February 11, 2019. Creditors of the decedents are notified that all claims against the Trust of the decedents as Settlor and Trustee will be forever barred unless presented to Lynda M. White and Roger W. Niemiec, Co-Successor Trustees, c/o Duane E. Burgess, Attorney at Law, 121 W. Grant Street, Suite 2, Caro, Michigan 48723, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled according to the terms of the Trust.

March 11, 2019 LYNDA M. WHITE and ROGER W. NIEMIEC Co-Successor Successor Trustees

DUANE E. BURGESS Attorney for Trust 121 W. Grant Street, Suite 2 Caro, MI 48723 (989) 673-1990

3-13-1

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2-1-24-tf

Real Estate For Rent

FOR RENT - 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 \$499. For affordable housing call (989) 872-2009. Free Heat & Water! Pet Friendly! \$0 Security Deposit (limited time only) "This institution is an equal opportunity provider" TDD/TTY #711"

4-2-21-tf

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4-2-13-6

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4-3-13-tf

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4-2-22-tf

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Notices

FOUND - Two rings in lockers at Helen Stevens Memorial Pool call 872-2911 to inquire. 5-2-27-3

STILL WORKING on my She Shed. Go RedHawks! ~Marilyn Erla. 5-2-27-3

**Roast Beef &
Pork Dinner**

Sat., March 16
4:30-7:00 p.m.

**Shabbona United
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5-3-13-1

Services

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8-12-17-tf

Services

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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 Sebewaing Road. Phone 269-7909 or 989-553-7960. 8-12-13-tf

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8-5-13-tf

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8-6-11-52

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 11-3-6-3

The Fowler Center for Outdoor Learning a year round camp for children and adults with disabilities now hiring seasonal positions. Start and end dates may be flexible. Background checks will be completed on all applicants. Please submit an application on line or in person www.thefowlercenter.org - Maintenance Assistant \$10/hr (32hr/wk 4/01 to 9/22); Dietary Supervisor \$12/hr (40hr/wk 4/01 to 9/22); Cook \$9.75/hr (20-32hr/week 4/01 to 9/22); Dietary Aide \$9.25/hr (20-32hr/week 6/15 to 8/18); We can start aides immediately: Equestrian Aides: Can work one or all sessions 20 hrs/ \$10 hr for each session - (May 13-18; July 28-August 2; August 11-August 16); and Counseling staff (Details on website).
 11-3-13-1

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Price Reduced - Immediate possession comes with this 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath farmhouse convenient to Bad Axe and Cass City. Home features wood floors, formal dining room, unfinished basement and large covered porch. Ugly Schools. CY2770

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VASSAR STUDENT Paytyn Sweat (above, far left) won this year's 38th annual Tuscola County Fourth Grade Spelling Bee, but Cass City Schools was also well represented; the second-place winner was Alexis Tamlyn of Cass City (center), and the third-place winner was Kirsten Guc of Cass City. Also participating was Cass City's Lilli Little.

Huron pet owners may face charges

Continued from page one.

Deputy Bismack was eventually able to make contact with that man, who is a 62-year-old man from Ubyly. After talking with him about the incident, the dog was checked on and found to be doing well and appearing not to need any medical attention," Hanson said.

However, the sheriff said Bismack would be consulting with the Huron County Prosecutor's Office regarding possible charges.

The next day, shortly after 8 a.m., Sgt. James Hunt was dispatched to a residence on Moeller Road in Huron Township after someone relayed an anonymous tip indicating there were four dogs not having proper food, housing or care.

"Sgt. Hunt arrived at the residence to find all dogs separately chained, with one dog laying in a wide-open plastic piece of what may have been part of a dog house, with little bedding, and shivering in the below zero-degree weather," Hanson said.

"Another dog was found with a dog house that had openings where the wind could pass directly through, and another dog — believed to be pregnant — was found with a chain too short (and) couldn't even get into its house. The fourth dog was found having a decent dog house, but all four had no food or water."

A veterinarian was called to the scene to assess the animals' physical conditions. Three of the four dogs were found to be malnourished, with one severely malnourished and in poor health.

"No residents of the home were there at the time, nor was it even known who the owners were," Hanson said. "All dogs were then taken to the Thumb Animal Shelter while the incident was being looked into."

Later the same day, deputies were able to make contact with one of the residents via telephone at her workplace, and officers were expected to interview her and possibly another resident.

Criminal charges are likely to be sought, according to Hanson, who later reported that the pregnant dog gave birth to five puppies Monday night. "It is believed the puppies would have never survived if mother would have had to remain outside."

Hanson took the opportunity to remind all pet owners of their responsibilities.

"Pet owners finding themselves running out of patience with their pets, or maybe not having the time or resources to take care of them, are strongly encouraged to find someone who does," he said. "Beating them at an extreme level or leaving them to fend for themselves...during extreme cold is not acceptable."

"In (this) case, we are very thankful for that tip because (these dogs) may have had to endure an even more brutal night with the wind added to the cold temperature."

Residents who are not able to properly care for their animals, and who have no other resources, are encouraged to call the Thumb Animal Shelter at (989) 375-4204 to make arrangements to take them there.



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