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among state security
grant recipients

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stranger to stage

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CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

VOLUME 113, NUMBER 4

CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2019

.75 CENTS ~ 16 PAGES

Anthony: regional partnership won't affect independence

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Hills and Dales General Hospital officials say their new partnership with a number of other hospitals in the region will have no impact on the local hospital's status as an independent healthcare organization.

What it will do, according to hospital officials, is supplement the state-of-the-art medical care already offered at Hills and Dales through a cooperative agreement designed to benefit all of the participating members.

"It really doesn't change anything for us, other than strengthen our relationship with Covenant (HealthCare) — since we are already an affiliate — and the other local hospitals," said Danielle Blaine, director of marketing for Hills and Dales General Hospital.

Officials last week announced the formation of what is being called the Covenant Regional Thumb Network (CRTN).

The CRTN is a network comprised of Covenant HealthCare, located in Saginaw, and five independent, critical access hospitals located throughout the Thumb — Hills and Dales General Hospital in Cass City; Deckerville Community Hospital; Harbor Beach Community Hospital; Marlette Regional Hospital; and Scheurer Hospital, Pigeon.

Please turn to page 6.



THE OLD OFFICE and ticket booth at the entrance to the Tuscola County Fairgrounds in Caro is being torn down to make way for a new facility that will also be used as an office and ticket booth during the fair. The facility will also be available to the public for rent for activities such as parties and banquets. See story, page 6.



PICTURED ABOVE are the CRTN hospital member chief executive officers: (left to right) Jean Anthony, Hills and Dales General Hospital; Paul Clabuesch, Harbor Beach Community Hospital; Angela McConnachie, Deckerville Community Hospital; Terrance Lerash, Scheurer Hospital; Ed Bruff, Covenant HealthCare, Saginaw; and Dan Babcock, Marlette Regional Hospital.

Governor puts MCCA on notice with an audit

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer is putting the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association (MCCA) on notice after the agency voted to add to the burden Michigan motorists already shoulder when it comes to insurance premiums.

Whitmer last week directed the state Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) to conduct an audit into the MCCA after the board voted to impose an additional fee increase of \$28 on drivers, which is added to a driver's insurance premium, bringing the total fee to \$220 per vehicle.

The vehicle assessment fees go into a fund that covers the cost of medical care for people injured in car accidents when the cost of medical care exceeds \$580,000. The increase, assessed to every car insurance company doing business in Michigan and charged to consumers, will take effect July 1.

"From Detroit to the Upper Peninsula, drivers are feeling the pinch of paying the highest auto insurance rates in the nation, and it's time to do something about it," Whitmer said. "Michiganders deserve to know why they are being forced to shell out hundreds of dollars in additional

Please turn to page 7.

Coach faces embezzlement charge

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

A former Reese High School coach has been bound over to Tuscola County Circuit Court on a charge of embezzlement.

Scott Andrew Long, Jr., 32, waived his preliminary examination during a probable cause conference last week in Tuscola County District Court. A date will now be set for his formal arraignment on the charge in circuit court.

Tuscola County Prosecutor Mark E. Reene authorized the charge — embezzlement of \$1,000 to \$20,000 from a non-profit or charitable organization — in early March following an investigation of missing money from the Reese Public Schools and/or the Reese Public Schools Athletic Program.

Please turn to page 16.

Hunger no more?

Cass City summit to explore food desert solutions

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Addy Battel and Pearl Daskam aren't old enough to vote, but the 16-year-olds have already spent a quarter of their lives devoted to meeting the most basic of human needs — hunger — by spearheading the "Meating the Need for Our Village" project in their own community back in 2015.

Now, with college and careers beckoning in the future, the pair are focusing on working to ensure their efforts will be continued by others in the Cass City area.

Battel and Daskam have taken lead roles in organizing the upcoming Cass City Hunger Summit, slated for Saturday, April 13, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Cass City United Methodist Church.

The event encourages attendance by area youth and adults who are interested in acting on hunger and making the community food secure, with discussion topics to include: what does a hunger-free Cass City look like, the hunger experience, community strengths and needs assessments, and workgroups moving forward.

Those planning to attend are asked to RSVP on the website <https://tinyurl.com/cchungersummit>.

The meeting is the result of a partnership involving Meating the Need for Our Village, MSU Extension and the newly-formed Thumb Food Policy Council, according to Battel, who along with Daskam are

hopeful the brain-storming session will strengthen the resolve to fight hunger locally.

"We're graduating in two years, and Meating the Need for Our Village is kind of our 'baby,'" Battel said, adding the summit will hopefully not only keep that project alive, but also explore connections between local residents willing to contribute their time and talents, and the need for available nutritional foods on a consistent basis.

"We want to make sure our project's sustainable in the community and will continue," Daskam said.

She explained the idea for a hunger summit came about early this year as she and Battel were working on drafting by-laws for Meating the Need in order to apply for non-profit status for the organization.

Battel said they have since been talking to a variety of individuals representing healthcare, economic development, local government and youth to drum up interest in attending a summit focused on the hunger problem.

In the process, they're working with resources that include MSU Extension, which will be helping to facilitate the upcoming summit, as well as churches/youth groups, the health department and businesses.

"We want to look at our strengths as a community, we want to look at the needs, and look at how the strengths can meet the needs. So, everyone is welcome," Battel said. "It's (an effort) to move the en-

Please turn to page 8.

Leader of the Band

Veteran O-G music director gearing up for his retirement

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

Don Starks' passion for music helped him build a career.

"First of all, I love music. I wanted to teach others and share the enjoyment of music with others," said Starks, who teaches band as well as geography in the Owendale-Gagetown School District. "I want to help kids to learn to play an instrument, to learn music and to appreciate it."

Aside from teaching the standard band format of music, Starks also teaches a music elective that embraces an upbeat format.

"I teach a class of rock and roll music at

Please turn to page 6.



DON STARKS became a teacher because he loves music and wanted to pass that passion on to future generations, a mission he has been enjoying at Owendale-Gagetown Schools for the past two decades. He's now gearing up to close the books on his career as he looks forward to retirement.

O-G honors students of month

The focus for Owen-Gage's students of the month for February is being an "Effective Communicator". A student who is an effective communicator speaks, reads, writes, and listens effectively. They also use numbers effectively and use effective non-verbal language.

The following students have been chosen: Cailum Hewitt, third grade (elementary level), son of Nicole Keyes; Dagon LaCroix,

eighth grade (junior high level), daughter of James and Amy LaCroix; Kaitlyn LaCroix, eleventh grade (high school level), daughter of James and Amy LaCroix; and Matthew Fritz, twelfth grade (senior student), son of Randy and Debbie Fritz.

Special recognition goes to the Senior Student of the Month, Matthew Fritz. Fritz has been very active in sports throughout high school and has won several awards. He was a member of the football, basketball, baseball and golf teams all four years. He also has been a member of the band all throughout high school, where he plays percussion.

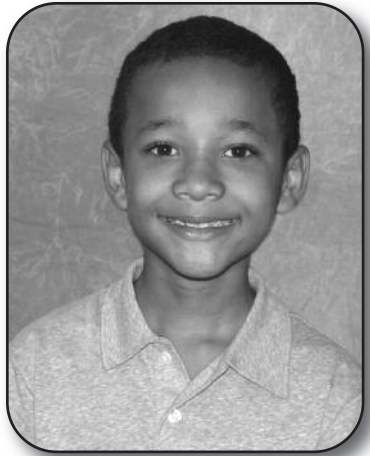
Fritz was inducted into the Owen-Gage Chapter of the National Honor Society as a sophomore and currently is the N.H.S. secretary. He has been on the honor roll and a member of the 3.0 Honors Club all throughout high school.

Fritz served as his class treasurer his freshman and senior years, class president his sophomore year, and class secretary his junior

year. He served as a member of the Student Council his sophomore year, served as Student Council vice-president his junior year, and is currently the president. Fritz was a homecoming representative his freshman year. He was chosen as this year's homecoming king.

Fritz has attended the Huron Area Technical Center, enrolled in the construction program the past two years. Other activities that he has been involved in are: Innovative Vehicle Design (IVD) as a freshman, a member of the Post-Secondary Action Committee (PAC Squad) for three years, and a member of the yearbook staff the past three years. Fritz has volunteered for many community events such as Helping Hands, Michigan Blood drives, Lions Club breakfasts, Santa's Workshop, and has operated the clock for sporting events at Owen-Gage. He has also worked on local farms and in construction.

Fritz plans to attend Delta College in the fall and study agriculture technology.



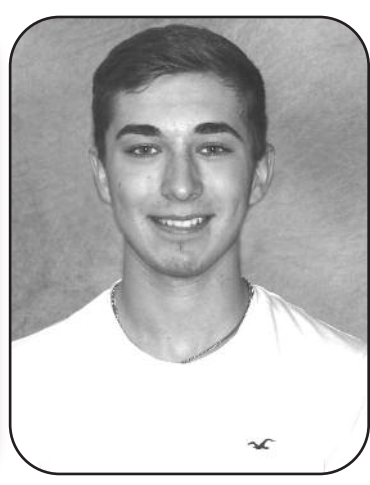
Cailum Hewitt



Dagon LaCroix



Kaitlyn LaCroix



Matthew Fritz

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 Sunday Service: 10:00 a.m.
www.anchorcoveoutreachchurch.com

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

Cass City United Methodist Church
 872-3422 - 5100 Cemetery Rd., Cass City, MI 48726
www.casscityumc.org
 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

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

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

First Baptist Church
 (Independent, Fundamental) Barrier Free
 6420 Houghton St., Cass City, MI 48726 • 989-872-3155
 Sunday School All Ages 9:45 a.m.
 Sunday Morning Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
 Sunday Evening Service 6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 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.fbccc.us

First Presbyterian Church
 Barrier Free • State & National Historical Registry
 6505 Church St., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-5400
 Worship Service 10:45 a.m. • Pastor: Rev. Linda Graham
 Exercise Program: Mon., Wed. & Fri. 9:00 a.m.
 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: Rev. Steve Bagnall
www.goodshepherdlutherancasscity.webs.com

Living Word Worship Center
 Pentecostal - Church of God
 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 p.m.
 Wednesday Prayer Group 6:30-8 p.m.
 Wednesday Kids' Club 6:30-8 p.m.
 Pastor Dale Bullock 989-872-2828

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 Associate Minister: Austin Keller at Uibly &
 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
 Mass: Saturday 4:00 p.m. Nov. 1 - Mar. 31
 Saturday 5:00 p.m. Apr. 1 - Oct. 31
 Sunday 8:00 a.m.
 Priest: Fr. Adam Maher

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In Our OPINION...

Clarke Haire
Publisher **Tom Montgomery**
Editor

Drier Humor

by Mary Drier

Technology not my friend



Share the roadway with motorcyclists

Michigan has roughly 490,000 residents with a motorcycle endorsement on their driver's license and about 250,000 registered motorcycles — numbers that serve as a reminder for motorists throughout the state to think about motorcycle safety, especially with the arrival of warmer weather.

Statistics show that 80 percent of motorcycle crashes result in injury and death. To help avoid such tragedies, motorists are advised to:

**Watch out at intersections - they are the number one spot for crashes with motorcyclists.*

**Scan approaching traffic carefully when making left turns – a motorcycle's smaller size makes it easy to miss. In other words, remember the slogan, "Look Twice, Save a Life".*

**Double check blind spots when changing lanes.*

**Keep at least three to four seconds between your vehicle and a motorcyclist.*

**Treat motorcyclists with respect and courtesy – they have the same rights as any other driver and are legally entitled to a full lane.*

Motorcyclists have an equally important role in ensuring they are prepared to ride. According to the Michigan State Police, nearly half of riders involved in a crash do not have a motorcycle endorsement.

Troopers say motorcyclists can avoid trouble by taking a motorcycle safety class, getting a motorcycle endorsement on your driver's license, always wearing the appropriate safety gear, and by choosing a motorcycle suited for your size and skill level.

To address the problem of unendorsed riders, the Secretary of State's Office and the Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP) are overseeing a multi-year program — called the Shadow Rider Campaign — that targets those without a motorcycle endorsement and informs them of the risks of riding without it.

Each year, OHSP officials send a Shadow Rider postcard to every known unendorsed operator of a registered motorcycle in Michigan, reminding them to get endorsed.

The postcard program started in 2013, when it was determined that 50,000 of the state's 250,000 registered motorcycles (20 percent) were being operated by unendorsed riders. In 2018, that number was down to 38,000 — a 24-percent reduction in the number of unendorsed riders.

A motorcycle endorsement is required to drive on public roads. To obtain an endorsement, you must successfully pass a motorcycle safety course or pass a written and vision test at a Secretary of State office, obtain a motorcycle temporary instruction permit (which allows you to practice riding legally on the streets), pass a motorcycle skills test at a third-party testing organization, and present your skills test certificate at a branch office. The motorcycle safety course is required for teens.

A person's first violation for operating a motorcycle without an endorsement is punishable by a \$500 fine and/or 90 days in jail, or both. A second offense is punishable by a \$1,000 fine and/or one year in jail, or both.

Once you've dotted your I's and crossed your T's, don't forget that safety on the roads is no accident. Regardless of your vehicle of choice, everyone shares a serious responsibility to watch out for the other guy, to be courteous on the roads, and to put away anything that might distract your attention while driving.

Let's make this a safe and enjoyable summer for all.

I know just enough to really mess things up. I have tech support on speed dial.

Because I used to work three jobs and traveled all over the Thumb, my former partner got me a pager. I hated it. I felt like the cat that had been belled. When the pager chimed, I was supposed to find a payphone and call. Even though pay phones were rather plentiful back in the day, finding one that worked wasn't.

The hated pager gave way to a cellular phone. It took a while to get used to carrying a phone in a bag around in the car, but it did come in handy when I broke down in the middle of the night.

A bag phone gave way to portable cell phones. The little flip phone I had for several years was great.

But like the bag phone, the flip phone gave way to so-called smart phones. I was told that a smart phone can do a number of amazing techie things. So a few years ago I tried switching from a flip phone to a smart phone.

It took me three days to figure out how to answer an incoming call. Part of the phone had to be slid up in order to answer a call.

I normally have about 100 numbers saved in my cell phone, but not with that phone. The touch screen was so sensitive, every time I tried to scroll through the screen trying to get to the number I wanted to call, the phone would call the number where I had touched the screen.

After a week, I went to the company and switched back to a flip phone for several more years.

I finally found a smart phone a dumb person like me can use. And with the phone I have now, answering it is easy, making a call is easy, and with some help, I was able to get one of my business email accounts set up where I can use it on the phone.

According to my son, my phone can have Facebook set up, take photographs, play music, play videos, and a bunch of other things. Me, I'm just happy I can answer, make calls, and get to one email account.

When it comes right down to it, the only technology I have ever truly embraced was switching from a typewriter to using a computer, because mistakes could be quickly erased with the delete button, and it had a spelling and grammar checking program. However, I have to keep an eye on the spell check option. There are times when the computer has a mind of its own.

I will admit I sold my soul for one technology convenience. Several of my friends who work in the print industry have e-readers. And, because we all work for print media companies, I chided them about their use of electronic readers rather than books.

Since I had several points available on my credit card that had to be used before they expired, I started shopping to use the points. Most items I liked or could use I didn't have enough points to buy. About the only things in my price range were e-readers like Kindles.

For those who have never used a Kindle Fire reader, they are the "Holy Grail" of readers. I looked at all of the fancy things it is capable of doing. I went back and forth on the computer screen comparing the Fire to the other e-readers.

Although I wanted a Kindle Fire, I decided I should go with the Chevy price of a Kindle reader instead of the Cadillac Kindle Fire reader. By the time I finished waffling, comparison shopping, and sipping on some wine, it was late at night and I was getting tired. Because of that, I mistakenly ordered the Fire reader instead of the cheaper one.

I didn't realize my mistake until later. I panicked. The cost was still more than I had planned to spend my points on. Because Amazon has a good return policy, I figured I would send it back for the cheaper model.

When the Kindle arrived, it sat on the kitchen table for several days until I had time to send it back. I decided it wouldn't do any harm to just open the box and check out the reader to see if I really would like to get it later on. So, I decided to open it, check it out and then send it back. No harm, right? Or so I thought. As soon as I turned the reader on, it connected with my Internet. It said, "Welcome, Mary." It had adopted me so how could I abandon it, I reasoned.


When I explained to my friends what had happened with my foray into online shopping and the world of Kindles, they laughed at me for joking with them about turning away from print books to read on-line.

I must admit, whether a mistake or not, I love my Kindle Fire. I can order a book on-line cheaper than buying a hardcover book, and get it in a matter of minutes.

The only issue I have is when the battery dies at night when I'm in bed reading. It always seems to

happen in the best part of the story, so I have to wander around late at night for an extension cord to charge it to keep reading.

I will admit some technology is wonderful once you figure out how to use it, and as long as the battery doesn't die.



Rabbit Tracks

by Clarke Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)

Thomas (T.C.) Gruber - Chemistry, Physics, Physical Science, Advanced STEM, and 7/8 STEM Teacher at Cass City Jr./Sr. High School — reports the district's 5th Annual STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Fair held last month went really well.

"There were over 50 student projects this year and hundreds of people came to the STEM Fair. First place was a project about the fourth dimension by Mariah Mellendorf and Shane Hoppe. Second place was the science of survival by Jesse Goniwicha and Sid Lintner. Third place was Angel Shiel with her constellation project. The students won scholarship money provided by the AAUW," he said.

Dave Milligan, Pinney Foundation Presidents, encourages any non-profit organization to submit requests for grant money from the Cass City philanthropic group by Friday, April 26, to be considered for the local foundation's annual endowments that are presented twice annually.

To be considered, send your written requests to Milligan at 6226 Bay City-Forestville Rd, Cass City, MI 48726, or via email to dave@milligan-farms.com. More information is available by contacting Milligan at (989) 872-2937.

I was glad to see Duke and Kentucky both bounced from the NCAA basketball tournament. Those freshmen dominated teams haven't paid their dues and in my opinion don't deserve to be in the final four.

Now I don't blame those underclassmen for wanting to join forces to earn championship honors, but I do blame NCAA officials for not coming up with a plan to discourage just that.

How about this? Still give all athletes that meet the requirements for a full ride a free education. However, how about allowing each school to give a couple of their scholarship athletes a certain amount of spending money — maybe one could receive, let's say, \$20,000 annual for their commitment and another, let's say, \$10,000.

That way the top athletes would have incentives to attend different universities. I am sure there are details that would have to be worked out, but I'm in favor of paying college athletes for their services.

The Cass City Chamber of Commerce invites everyone to attend this Thursday's Taste of the Thumb Food & Business Expo at our local high school from 5 p.m. — 8 p.m.

In addition to discovering more about local businesses, community programs and sampling food from local restaurants and caterers, visitors can take advantage of Revive Ministries' mobile food pantry.

There has been some fantastic snowmobiling this winter in Michigan, with heavy snowfall in many places, providing superb riding conditions.

However, some of the fun is winding down as the Michigan Department of Natural Resources will close its state-designated trails to snowmobiling April 1.

"This is the date our trails close, as grooming contracts and private land agreements expire," said Ron Yesney, DNR U.P. trails coordinator. "Snowmobilers can still ride on state land, but state-designated trails will be closed beginning April 1."

Riders may know that the snowmobile trail system is dependent upon easements the DNR has secured from private landowners to connect trails between public lands.

"These easement uses expire on April 1," said Ron Olson, DNR Parks and Recreation Division chief. "In addition, as late-winter temperatures begin to rise, riding conditions can become very unpredictable, leading to unsafe situations or poor to very little snow. We appreciate the cooperation of all snowmobilers."

For those continuing to ride, remember to Ride Right to bring everyone back home safe. For more information, visit Michigan.gov/RideRight.

CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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News Staff

Clarke Haire
Publisher
clarke@ccchronicle.net

Tom Montgomery
Editor
tom@ccchronicle.net

Krysta Boyce
Sr. Sales Executive
sales@ccchronicle.net

chronicle@ccchronicle.net

Deb Severance
Composition

Mary Drier
Freelance Writer, Columnist

Tina Pallas
Columnist



(USPS 092-00)

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, April 3

•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, April 4

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

Saturday, April 6

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

Sunday, April 7

•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.

Monday, April 8

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

Tuesday, April 9

•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.
•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.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Cass City Village Council will be holding a Public Hearing at the Municipal Building, 6506 Main Street, Cass City, Michigan,

Monday, April 29, 2019, 2018 at 7:00 P.M.

To receive comments on Proposed Ordinance # 186, Sale of Certain Village-Owned Real Property and at 7:05 P.M.

To receive comments on Proposed Ordinance # 184, Anti-Blight, Vacant, Abandoned and Foreclosed Property

The proposed ordinance can be found on the Village Website at www.casscity.org Drop down to Government, Ordinances, Recreational Marijuana

The Public is invited to attend.

Nanette S. Walsh
Clerk/Treasurer

Fairgrove Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes February 18 2019 7:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Supervisor Keith Aeder, Treasurer John McQuillan, Clerk Katie Gebhardt, Trustees Mike Day, Sexton Doug Foster, and Zoning Admin Bruce Turner.

Trustee Dennis Hadeway – excused absence. Visitors Present: Dave Rohlfs, Diane Foster, Ben Grady, Pat Sheridan. Call to order, Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Day moved and McQuillan supported to approve January minutes. Passed. McQuillan moved Day supported to approve January insurance meeting minutes. Passed. Aeder moved and Day supported to approve February agenda. Passed. McQuillan moved Day supported to authorize the supervisor to communicate with road commission to being survey and hearing on Dutcher Rd project, Unionville Rd to Ringle Rd. Passed. McQuillan moved and Day supported to sign 5 year agreement with Frankenmuth Credit Union for ITM/ATM at Fairgrove Township Hall and authorize the clerk and supervisor to sign lease. Passed. McQuillan moved Aeder supported ordinance 2019-01, Prohibition of Recreational Marijuana Establishments.

An ordinance to prohibit marijuana establishments within the boundaries of Fairgrove Township pursuant to Initiated Law 1 of 2018 MCL 333.27951. Roll Call Vote: Day-Y, Gebhardt-Y, McQuillan-Y, Aeder-Y, Hadeway – Absent. Passed. Day moved Aeder supported to accept financial report. Passed. McQuillan moved and Day supported to accept bills as presented. Passed. Aeder moved and McQuillan supported to adjourn meeting. Passed.

Adjourned 10:17 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Katie Gebhardt
Fairgrove Township Clerk

Mishap leaves man badly burned

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

A Huron County man suffered serious burns early last week when his clothing caught fire near a residence in Caseville Township.

Huron County Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to a Pt. Charity Drive address Monday afternoon, according to Sheriff Kelly J. Hanson, who reported the man, Allen B. Fisher, 35, was burning leaves

in an easement when the accident occurred.

"(The victim) was apparently stomping out some of the burning leaves when his Carhartt bibs caught on fire. His father and a neighbor extinguished the clothing fire and got the burnt clothing off of him as two deputies who were in the area responded," Hanson said.

"Deputy Alex Jobes, who is an EMT and (recognized) the severity of the burns, coordinated with dispatch and Scheurer Hospital to

get an out-of-county EMS helicopter enroute to the hospital in Pigeon. Deputy Jobes also began treating Mr. Fisher while Elkton EMS was enroute to the scene, as the other responding deputy, Ryan Swartz, contained the fire," he added.

Fisher was transported from the scene and later flown to an out-of-county hospital for treatment of burns from his waist down.

Hanson noted the Caseville Fire Department assisted deputies at the scene.

Sanilac deputy earns promotion

Sanilac County Sheriff Garry Biniecki recently announced the promotion of Nathan Smith to the position of uniform services lieutenant.

Smith is a 1997 graduate of Imlay City High School, has an associate's degree and is currently working toward his bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Fort Hays State University.

A 1999 graduate of the Kirtland Regional Police Academy, he started his career at the Sanilac County Sheriff's Department in 2000 as a deputy. Smith has since held many positions at the sheriff's office, including K-9 handler, special response team member, drug task force investigator, dive team member and medical examiner special investigator.

Smith was promoted to sergeant in 2012 and has served as the K-9 supervisor, marine division supervisor, dive team supervisor and, at the time of promotion, was serving as the detective bureau, a position he's held since 2015.

He is currently enrolled in the Michigan State University School of Staff and Command, and is scheduled to graduate in June.

Smith resides in the Marlette area with his wife, Kelly, and their three children, Parker, Grayson and Bryson.

"I am very pleased with his promotion, and with his history of dedicated service, I am confident that his skills and abilities will only serve to assist us in moving forward in our pledge to serve the

public," Biniecki commented.



Lt. Nathan Smith

Circuit court proceedings

Several appear on felony charges

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

*Nicholas H. Guthrie, 40, Flint, pleaded no contest to domestic violence, third offense, Aug. 18 in Millington Township. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (three or more prior felony convictions).

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered in the case and bond was continued at \$3,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Eric T. Hill, 21, Deford, pleaded no contest to three counts of criminal sexual conduct, third degree, involving force or coercion between Aug. 8, 2013, and Aug. 8, 2014, in Kingston Township.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered, Hill's \$50,000 bond was revoked and he was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Daniel Hill, 22, Caro, pleaded no contest to three counts of criminal sexual conduct, third degree, involving force or coercion between Aug. 8, 2013, and Aug. 8, 2014, in Kingston Township.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered, his \$300,000 bond was revoked and he was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Paul B. McConnell, 29, Vassar, pleaded no contest to charges of domestic violence, third offense, carrying a weapon with unlawful intent, assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault) and possession of a firearm in the commission of a felony Dec. 17 in Vassar Township. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (one prior felony conviction).

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$25,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Cloys C. Heath, 44, Mayville, pleaded no contest to three counts of accosting a child for immoral purposes between October 2017 and May 2018 in Mayville.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered, bond was continued at \$500,000 and the defendant was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

Chelsea E. Childers, 23, Kingston, received a one-year delayed sentence following her pleas of no contest to charges of maintaining a drug house and delivery/manufacture of marijuana or a synthetic equivalent Dec. 2, 2017, in Koylton Township.

She was ordered to pay court costs and fines totaling \$658.

*Jessica M. Adams, 35, Vassar,

received a one-year delayed sentence following her pleas of no contest to assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault) and malicious destruction of property

totaling \$200 to \$1,000 Aug. 23 in Denmark Township.

She was ordered to pay costs and fine totaling \$1,008 plus attorneys fees of \$500.

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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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Reporter's notebook

A little humor in the garden

by Tom Montgomery
Editor



Okay, so I've already written a column this spring about gardening, but I'm going to add a second installment, because it's a very important topic. And because I couldn't think of anything else to fill this space with this week.

Besides, now I'm really looking forward to it – the temperatures have climbed to a sizzling 50 degrees. Twice!

Anyway, if you're into growing your own vegetables and flowers – whether you have a tiny patch of dirt in your back yard or you till an acre or more — no explanation is needed when it comes to understanding the enjoyment that can come from watching tiny seedlings mature into healthy plants yielding fresh tomatoes and cucumbers (or whatever).

If you're one of those unfortunate folks who just don't get it, no explanation is possible.

But even if you don't understand gardening nuts, you might enjoy the following bits of humor – most of them closer to truth than fiction — gleaned from various websites and blogs run by green thumb fanatics like me:

- *Grow your own dope, plant a man.
- *"Annuals" mean disappointment once a year.
- *Whichever garden tool you want is always at the back of the shed.
- *The only way to ensure rain is to give the garden a good soaking.
- *Weeds grow at precisely the rate you pull them out.
- *Nothing ever looks like it does on the seed packet.
- *Autumn follows summer, winter follows autumn, drought follows planting.
- *The only way to guarantee some color all year round is to buy a garden gnome.
- *However bare the lawn, grass will appear in the cracks between the patio paving stones.
- *Clear indications that you have too much zucchini — Your neighbor finds them every morning in his mailbox; you're eating it for breakfast, lunch and dinner (snacks, too); you have a flute made out of a zucchini; the stores pay you to take some off their shelves; even the field mice stop eating it; you till under the zucchini plants, but still have more today than you had yesterday; your kids are using it for building blocks.
- *What is the difference between boogers and spinach? You can't get your kids to eat spinach.
- *Organic, or Inorganic? Pete and Harry were talking one day. "My wife asked me to buy organic vegetables from the market garden," said Pete.

"So were you able to find some?" Harry asked.
"Well, when I got to the market, I asked the gardener, 'These vegetables are for my wife. Have they been sprayed with any poisonous chemicals?'"

"The gardener answered: 'No, you'll have to do that yourself.'"
*Any self-respecting rock will break at least one shovel before accepting its new home.

*The real meaning of plant catalog terminology — "A favorite of birds" means to avoid planting near cars, sidewalks, or clothes lines; "Grows more beautiful each year" means "Looks like road kill for the foreseeable future"; "Zone 5 with protection" is a variation on the phrase "Russian roulette"; "May require support" means your daughter's engineering degree will finally pay off; "Moisture-loving" plants are ideal for landscaping all your bogs and swamps; "Carefree" refers more to the plant's attitude than to your workload; "Vigorous" is code for "has a Napoleonic compulsion to take over the world."; "Grandma's Favorite" — until she discovered free-flowering, disease-resistant hybrids.

I don't know about you, but in spite of a cool, lingering spring, my garden is looking amazingly healthy already. Well, in my mind anyway. Who knows what this summer could bring?
Only thyme will tell...

Down Memory Lane

by Tina Pallas



5 YEARS AGO (2014)

Construction crews continue to make steady progress on the new Dairy Farmers of America (DFA) milk processing plant, located in the Cass City Industrial Park. Above, crews set a 40,000-gallon silo weighing in at roughly 35,000 pounds. When the construction is completed, there will be a dozen silos with storage capacities ranging from 20,000 to 60,000 gallons.

Area residents who participated in Revive Ministries' Hunger Action Month Balloon Launch last fall may find this note interesting: according to a recent post on the ministries' Facebook page, a hunter in Canada has made contact with the local group to say three of the balloons tangled themselves together and made the journey several hundred miles across from Sault St. Marie intact and into his tree blind. By the way, the fundraiser, held last September, resulted in the sale of more than 430 balloons and generated enough cash for Revive officials to purchase some 2,600 meals for needy families in the area.

10 YEARS AGO (2009)

The chamber of commerce Saturday honored 2 of Cass City's top citizens at Northwood Meadows, where Kate VanAuken and Red Hawk senior Sarah Reed walked away with arguably the village's most prestigious annual awards. Presenting VanAuken with the coveted 2009 "Citizen of the Year" plaque, signifying her devotion to Cass City, was last year's co-recipient, David Osentoski.

Cass City High School seniors Chelsea Paladi and Riki Badgley recently took first place for their public relations campaign in a Michigan DECA competition and were invited to compete at the national level.

Private First Class Brandy Cooper recently graduated from basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C., and is now undergoing advanced individual training (AIT) as a health care specialist/medic. Cooper, a 2003 Cass City High School graduate, is currently a CNA (certified nursing assistant) and is on the waiting list for the registered nurse program. She is the daughter of Joe and Holly Cooper of Owendale.

A musician from Cass City is a member of one of 6 performing groups that Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp will be sending to Europe this summer. The groups will be touring 8 countries, from the Mediterranean Sea to the North Sea. Evan Bushong, a 2008 Cass City High School graduate, will be touring with the 70-member Southern Wind Ensemble, directed by Dennis Zeisler, currently director of bands at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va.

25 YEARS AGO (1994)

It was a memorable and exciting three days in New York City recently for Kelly Jo Erlenbeck, who was one of two grand prize winners of the national "Caress Before You Dress" contest sponsored by Caress Body Bar soap. She is the daughter of Lyle and Ann Erlenbeck of Saginaw and the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Orval C. Hutchinson of Crawford Road, Cass City. Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Hutchinson of Cass City are her aunt and uncle.

Greg Musial, son of Walt and Lorraine Musial of Decker, will leave Sunday for Marine Corps basic training at San Diego,

Calif. He attended Cass City High School.

Frank Benitez celebrated a birthday Saturday when several family members gathered at his home for dinner. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Tino Benitez, Anna Maria Torres, Anita Benitez and Jane Pawlaski of Elkton, Mrs. Julie Lopez, Mrs. Regino Lopez and Nat Benitez of Gageton.

35 YEARS AGO (1984)

Sara DePoy graduated in December from the nursing program at Delta College and is now employed at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Saginaw. The daughter of Arthur and Joann Brown of Jacob Road, Cass City, is a 1979 graduate of Cass City High School. She and her husband, Christopher, live in Saginaw.

Doug Depcinski, a member of the Ubyly Jolly Workers 4-H Club, finished second in the senior division of the soils judging and land use contest at the 4-H Future Farmers of America crop-o-rama March 21 at Michigan State University.

Tim Horner of S. Seeger Street, Cass City, was one of 3,371 University of Michigan students recognized Sunday at the university's annual honors convocation. He received class honors, given to students who achieved an academic record equal to at least half A's and half B's for two terms during 1983 or one term for freshmen. He is a student in the College of Literature, Science and the Arts.

40 YEARS AGO (1979)

Mrs. Barbara Bush of Cass City and Miss Linda Hood of Vassar, a teacher of the Hearing Impaired at Kingston Elementary School, recently returned from a visit to Washington, D.C. They attended classes at Gallaudet College for the Deaf to learn a new way of communication called Cued Speech. While there, they stayed with Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Brasse of Annandale, Va., the parents of Mrs. Bush.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Erla attended the annual Jefferson-Jackson dinner Saturday, March 31, at the Renaissance Center ballroom and attended the reception for First Lady Rosalyn Carter, the speaker for the evening. The event honored G. Mennen Williams, justice of the Michigan Supreme Court.

Meritorious service at Williams Air Force Base, Ariz., has earned the - second award of the U.S. Air Force Commendation Medal for Master Sgt. Ronald A. Gettel, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Gettel of Owendale. Gettel, a mechanical superintendent, was presented the medal at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, where he now serves with a unit of the Strategic Air Command. The sergeant, a 1959 graduate of Owendale High School, holds a B.S. degree from Culver-Stockton College, Canton, Mo. His wife, Karen, is the daughter of Erick Pierson of Corvallis, Ore.

50 YEARS AGO (1969)

SP4 David R. Sember 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.

Miss Mary Hanby entertained

eight "Lightning Dodgers," a division of Jet Cadets, at a party at her home Saturday. The group won a contest in competition with three other divisions. The Jet Cadets, grades 1-6, meet Wednesday evenings at 7:30 in the Baptist church annex. Miss Hanby is in charge and is assisted by Miss Kaye Spencer.

A former Cass City resident, Mrs. George Southworth of Elkton, has been named one of 15 Merit Mothers of Michigan for 1969 by the Michigan State Federation of Women's Clubs. She is one of the finalists in the race for Merit Mother of the year to be elected April 14. She was nominated by the Elkton Woman's Civic Club. She is the former Florence Striffler, born at Argyle, and a graduate of Cass City High School. She attended State Normal College, now Eastern Michigan University at Ypsilanti.

75 YEARS AGO (1944)

Sunday afternoon at three o'clock, in the home of Rev. and Mrs. Silas Parker, Miss Phyllis Deneen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Deneen, of Cass City, became the bride of Calvin McIntosh, son of Mr. and Mrs. Foy McIntosh, of Novesta. Rev. Mr. Parker performed the ceremony with only the groom's parents as guests. Mr. and Mrs. McIntosh were attended by Mr. and Mrs. George Wright of Cass City. Both the bride and her attendant wore street length dresses of lilac blue, complemented by corsages of snapdragons. The newlyweds left to spend a few days in Flint and will make their home for the present with the groom's parents.

Mrs. John Field and sons, Everett and Eldon, attended the commencement exercises held Friday evening in the auditorium of the Flint General Motors School of Technology where Howard, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Field, was one of the 105 graduates. Howard has completed a four-year course in cooperative engineering and was vice president of the Phi Sigma Phi fraternity for the past two years.

Clarence Horak surprised his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Vorhes, this week by coming home on leave of absence, by way of California. Clarence was home about a year ago for a week, and has since been at many places in the Pacific waters. He will return to naval service, leaving here next Sunday.

100 YEARS AGO (1919)

Richard Schneider, who with his parents left this locality early in the winter to locate in Florida, remembered his youthful playmate, Warren Wood, by sending to him a bushel of large, handsome, Florida oranges, freshly picked with leaves and stems still clinging to them. Richard writes he is employed by a man who raises oranges extensively, thus he was enabled to make the delicious and generous gift.

Gordon Finkbeiner returned to Cass City Wednesday from Lansing where he has been the past three weeks taking the tractor course at the Michigan Agricultural college. He left town Saturday accompanied by his wife, formerly Miss Fannie Hendrick, for Bach where they expect to remain, Mr. Finkbeiner being employed on the extensive Bartholomy farm of 1,000 acres located there.

Taste of The Thumb Food & Business Expo

Thursday, April 4, 2019
5 PM TO 8 PM
Cass City High School

Sponsored by the Cass City Chamber of Commerce

- Discover more about local businesses
- Literature, brochures and giveaways
- Sample food from local restaurants and caterers
- Learn about community programs
- A great networking opportunity



Make sure to mark your calendars for April 4th! We look forward to seeing you there.

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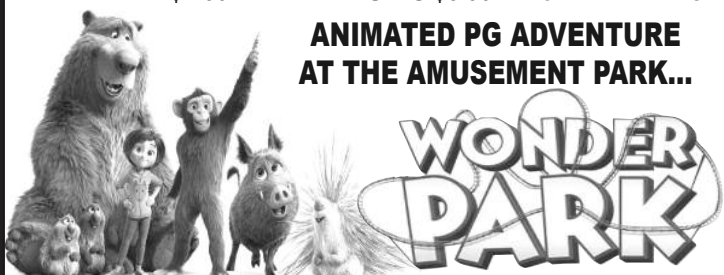
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New county fair office under construction, thanks to grant

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

A major piece of Tuscola County Fair history is being replaced.

The main entrance to the fairgrounds off of Congress Street in Caro is being razed to make way for a new and larger building that will have multiple uses.

“We got a grant to build a new building. We wanted to add on to the building down in the parking lot area, but the city would not let us because they said we had to have a paved parking lot,” said former veteran fair board member Judy Campbell. “The old office was getting to be in rough shape, so we decided to put the (new) building there.”

The structure will house the office, be used as a ticket booth during the fair, and can be rented out for parties, banquets and special events.

“It is going to be very nice and an additional place in Caro to rent for different events,” said Campbell, noting rentals will bring in some extra money for fair operations.

The fair board received a \$250,000 grant from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development to build a community center at the fairground to replace the old office building at the entrance.

Former senator Mike Green (R-Mayville), who headed up the agricultural committee before his retirement, helped fair officials secure the grant for the new facility.

Green now serves on the Tuscola County Fair Board.

The fair has a long history that is noted on a sign at the entrance:

“On March 11, 1882, the Tuscola County Fair was organized as the Caro District Agricultural Association. On September 19-22, 1882, the fair hosted its first agricultural, industrial, educational and recreational exhibition. Always a primary agricultural attraction, the county fair has displayed new farming equipment and methods, animals, produce and handicrafts on this site for the past century.”

The Michigan History Division erected that historical marker in 1981.

Tuscola County’s 138th fair will be July 21-27.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Tuscola County Fair Association or volunteering to help can contact any member of the board of directors. More information is available on the website www.tuscolacountyfair.org.



ALTHOUGH THE old Tuscola County Fair office and ticket booth are being razed, a green historic marker at the site will continue to serve as a reminder of the fair’s origins and long history. The 138th fair has been scheduled for July 21-27.

O-G band director set to close books on his career

Continued from page one.

the high school. It’s an elective. A teacher gets to pick an elective they want to teach,” he said. “I enjoy rock and roll music. I enjoy teaching it, and the kids enjoy it, too.”

He and his students enjoy classic rock. It’s one class in which they can have a say in what is taught and also help with the lesson.

“There have been times when the students write their own songs, and that has been fun. Doing that was a collaborative effort,” Starks said.

Starks, who is from Texas, earned his teaching degree at Texas State University. He says getting a degree as a band teacher is not as easy as it may sound.

“You have to learn to play all of the instruments in order to get a degree,” he explained. “I would say I play three instruments well.”

His first teaching job was at Bay City Western, followed by a stint in Midland. He has been with the Owendale-Gagetown School District for the last 21 years.

Starks plans to retire soon, but that doesn’t mean he won’t still be passing his love for music on to others.

“I’m going to retire at the end of the year. I’m going to enjoy my free time. I will probably continue to teach music in private lessons,” he noted. “I’ll do some traveling. My daughter lives in Florida, so I will probably go down there in the winter.”

“I’ll do some riding on my Gold Wing (motorcycle.)”

And, of course, playing and listening to music will be included on his retirement agenda.

“Some of my favorite bands are the Eagles, Emerson Lake and Palmer, and Chicago. I could go on and on,” he said.

Although he didn’t include Steppenwolf or the song “Born to be Wild” — the ultimate bike-riding song — Starks will probably be at least thinking it as he heads out on the highway this summer as a new retiree.

Hospitals form partnership

Continued from page one.

“While CRTN formed in late 2018, we have been working collaboratively for more than a decade to ensure quality healthcare is available to patients in the Thumb,” said Jean Anthony, Hills and Dales president and CEO.

“We are very excited to be part of the unique affiliation with Covenant and a select group of local hospitals,” she added. “Our collective vision will move us forward, while allowing us to remain a strong and independent hospital. This network is a great benefit for our patients and we are proud to be a part of it.”

Having an independent relationship with Covenant allows for a streamlined flow of resources and services that might not be available outside of a major metropolitan area, according to Anthony.

“The partnership enables patients to choose a hospital close to home that best fits their needs while utilizing the capabilities and strengths of CRTN. Instead of losing local hospitals like ours to an acquisition by a large hospital conglomerate, our communities have strengthened local hospitals,” she said.

Anthony noted the relationship among the Covenant Regional Thumb Network members ensures that Thumb communities retain their independent hospitals, close to home, that they can continue to depend on for quality care. It also provides the assurance that if there is a need for more advanced procedures, the appropriate care is delivered through the coordinated relationship that the Thumb hospitals have with Covenant.

“The announcement and the formation of the group just solidifies further what our partnership with Covenant was already doing,” Blaine said. “And also allows us to work together with the other local hospitals — perhaps share supplies, specialty physicians, etc. It also means that Covenant is going to continue supporting our efforts of providing care close to home, by providing those specialists to come out to our clinics, or maybe it’s through our medical records system.”

“So, it really comes down to moving forward together, just in a stronger, formal network.”

Cass City Village Council members, we support your recent decision to allow certain licensed medical marijuana facilities within the village.

We believe this will create more avenues for CASS CITY’S SUCCESS moving towards the future.

Thank you and YOU ARE appreciated.

~ Chancy Balk, Ross Forrest, Devin Jamieson, and Jeff Sparks.

NOVESTA TOWNSHIP NOTICE

Novesta Township Cemetery
Reminder to please remove all winter decorations and grave blankets by April 1st.
Not responsible for decorations left on site.
Graves must remain clear until May 1st.

Pennie Rienas
Novesta Twp Clerk

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DEPRESSION IS REAL YOU ARE NOT ALONE - 16 million Americans are affected each year

People of all ages, ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds experience depression.

SYMPTOMS Depression can present different symptoms, depending on the person. For most people, depressive disorder changes how a person functions day-to-day, and typically for more than two weeks. Common symptoms may include:

- ~ Changes in sleep
- ~ Changes in appetite
- ~ Lack of concentration
- ~ Suicidal thoughts
- ~ Loss of energy
- ~ Lack of interest in activities
- ~ Hopelessness or guilty thoughts
- ~ Physical aches and pains
- ~ Changes in movement (less activity or agitation)

CAUSES Depression does not have a single cause. It can be triggered by a life crisis, physical illness or something else - but it can also occur spontaneously. Several factors may contribute to depression:

- ~ **Trauma.** When people experience trauma at an early age, it can cause long-term changes in how their brains respond to fear and stress. These changes may lead to depression.
- ~ **Genetics.** Mood disorders, such as depression, tend to run in families.
- ~ **Life circumstances.** Marital status, relationship changes, financial standing and where a person lives influence whether a person develops depression.
- ~ **Brain changes.** Imaging studies have shown that the frontal lobe of the brain becomes less active when a person is depressed. Depression is also associated with changes in how the pituitary gland and hypothalamus respond to hormone stimulation.
- ~ **Other medical conditions.** People who have a history of sleep disturbances, medical illness, chronic pain, anxiety and attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) are more likely to develop depression. Some medical syndromes (like hypothyroidism) can mimic depressive disorder. Some medications can also cause symptoms of depression.
- ~ **Drug and alcohol abuse.** Approximately 30% of people with substance abuse problems also have depression. Source: NAMI

Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems
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News briefs

Whitmer puts MCCA on notice with audit

Continued from page one.

fees for car insurance, which is why I'm ordering an audit to provide drivers with the transparency they deserve."

DIFS officials have the legal authority to visit the MCCA and examine any and all documents to conduct a thorough review of the association's operations, which was last conducted in 2015. Under Gov. Whitmer's direction, the department will conduct an accelerated financial examination into the MCCA.

"Today we told the MCCA that we were concerned and strongly urged them to provide more information so the public can understand the basis for this fee increase," said Anita Fox, who serves as director of DIFS. "To provide greater transparency, we welcome Gov. Whitmer's direction to conduct a financial examination into the association's operations."

The MCCA is a private non-profit unincorporated association that was created by the state Legislature in 1978 to provide unlimited lifetime coverage for medical expenses over \$555,000 resulting from auto accidents.

The MCCA, which is not subject to the Freedom of Information Act and Open Meetings Act, has increased the fee motorists pay to cover catastrophic medical claims annually for the last three years — 6.3 percent in 2017, 13 percent in 2018, and 14.5 percent in 2019 — resulting in drivers paying more than twice as much as they did in 2008.

The MCCA oversees a fund that reimburses auto insurance companies when the cost of medical care exceeds \$580,000. Michigan is the only state in the nation that requires such a fund because it's the only state that requires drivers to purchase unlimited, lifetime medical benefits with their auto insurance policy.

Last month, MCCA officials testified before the Senate Insurance and Banking Committee that fee increases were the result of "waste and fraud" in the medical system. However, the recent increase

comes on the heels of a volatile market that reportedly caused the association's investments to miss their projected returns.

The Insurance Alliance of Michigan (IAM) is also pointing its finger at the medical care system while urging state officials to do away with Michigan's current auto insurance requirements.

"The per-vehicle fee increase underscores the urgent need to reform Michigan's broken, outdated auto no-fault system, which continues to overburden drivers," said Tricia Kinley, IAM executive director. "The fact that medical providers can dramatically overcharge for medical procedures when someone is injured in a car accident has caused the cost of medical care to increase exponentially in Michigan, while the MCCA struggles to keep up."

Kinley says much of the recent testimony in the Senate Insurance and Banking Committee, which has held hearings on auto no-fault reform for the last two months, has centered on Michigan's unlimited, lifetime medical benefit and a lack of cost controls to rein in overcharging by medical providers. In one example, a medical provider charged more than \$5,000 for an MRI when that exact same procedure, at the same location and on the same machine, costs \$500 under Medicare.

Jean Anthony, president and CEO of Hills and Dales General Hospital in Cass City, has heard time and time again the accusations of hospitals overcharging as it relates to the no-fault insurance debate, and she's quick to say that painting the entire medical community with a wide brush is neither fair nor accurate.

"I want to be clear that at a hospital like ours, and at any medical institution, there are policies in place that do not allow for overcharging," Anthony said.

"Just like patients experience with their medical insurance when having a procedure done, there has to be preauthorization done when a medical provider is working with the auto insurance company. A medical provider is going

to advocate for the best care possible for their patient, but there are standards of care in place that help guide everyone to the appropriate plan of care for a patient," she added. "Hills and Dales is proud of being transparent with our patients, and I know many of our partnering hospitals strive to do the same."

Anthony noted the Michigan Health and Hospital Association has recommended several actions over the years to positively impact the no-fault system.

"We know changes are needed," she said, "but it has to be the right changes, to ensure our patients are protected and premiums are actually reduced. We want to be at the table to help create change that is effective, and hope that Gov. Whitmer's call to action can create real change."

"And you must remember, you will find fraudulent examples in any given business. Sometimes a few bad apples can ruin the orchard."

"It's time the Michigan Legislature sees the state's auto no-fault system for what it is: A failed policy experiment that has forced drivers...to choose between paying their auto insurance premium or buying groceries. For some, it's like a second mortgage," Kinley said. "Drivers across the state are demanding reform and we urge the Legislature to listen to their pleas for help and to pass real reforms to lower the cost of auto insurance."

A recent study conducted by the University of Michigan found that auto insurance is unaffordable for drivers in 97 percent of the state's zip codes.

The Lansing-based IAM was formed in 2017 when the Michigan Insurance Federation and Insurance Institute of Michigan joined together, and represents property/casualty insurance companies that annually underwrite more than \$12 billion in insurance. According to the organization's website, IAM member companies provide insurance to about 90 percent of the property/casualty insurance market in Michigan.

Sheriff reports car sale scam

CARO — Tuscola County Sheriff Glen Skrent is again reminding area residents to beware of deals that look too good to pass up.

"Our agency took a report from a citizen (last week) that he attempted to purchase a vehicle off of Facebook Marketplace. The vehicle was for sale out-of-state," Skrent explained. "A deal was reached and the person wanted Ebay cards for payment, which the victim obtained and sent. The vehicle would be shipped free to his house. Afterward the seller demanded more money for shipping, and the victim found out the sale was a fraud."

"Please use caution and don't trust a picture of a vehicle you see for sale. If the deal sounds too good to be true, it probably is," he added.

Fuelwood permits available

MICHIGAN — Michigan residents who heat their homes with wood can obtain fuelwood permits to cut dead and downed trees on designated state forest lands.

"This program allows people to cut up to five standard cords of firewood for personal use," said Donovan Asselin, timber sales specialist for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR), which manages four million acres of state forest in the northern Lower Peninsula and the Upper Peninsula. Some wood also may be available in state game areas where forests are managed to create habitat.

Contact your local DNR office to determine what areas are available this year for wood collection. Quality and quantity of wood varies by location, so scout where you'd like to cut to make sure wood is available before purchasing a permit.

Fuelwood is for personal use only and cannot be resold or traded. Wood must be dead and down within 200 feet of a road.

Fuelwood permits cost \$20 and are good for 90 days after they are issued. More information is available by visiting the website Michigan.gov/Fuelwood or by contacting Asselin at (517) 284-5843.

Treasury: PREs don't expire

MICHIGAN — Michigan Department of Treasury officials are reminding Michiganders that Principal Residence Exemptions — known as a PREs — do not expire.

Inaccurate social media posts are claiming that Michigan taxpayers will experience a surge in property taxes due to their PRE expiring after 25 years. As a result, state treasury officials and local assessors are experiencing a surge in inquiries from residents who are trying to verify this misinformation or submit unneeded paperwork.

"Simply put, there isn't an expiration date on a Principal Residence Exemption," said acting Deputy State Treasurer Anne Wohlfert, who oversees treasury's state and local finance programs. "Homeowners who have claimed a Principal Residence Exemption do not have to refile the required form unless they move."

A PRE exempts a residence from the tax levied by a local school district for school operating purposes up to 18 mills. To qualify for a PRE, a person must be a Michigan resident who owns and occupies the property as a principal residence.

M-46 work resumes April 8

CARO — The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is gearing up to resume construction of M-46 through Tuscola County.

Work will start Monday, April 8, and is expected to be completed in May. The project includes resurfacing the M-46 and M-24 intersection. Also, the project will include pavement markings and installation of center-line rumble strips, along with additional clean-up items.

This project is part of an overall \$3.9 million investment to resurface more than five miles of M-46, from Sheridan Road to M-24, which began in July 2018.

Blood drive set in Kingston

KINGSTON — The Kingston United Methodist Church and Kingston Community Schools are hosting a blood drive Friday, April 12, from 2 to 7 p.m. in the high school cafeteria.

The high school is located 5790 State St. Anyone interested in donation blood can sign up using the following website link: https://donate.milblood.org/.../schedules/drive_schedule/120434.

Cleaning supplies are needed

THUMB — The Human Development Commission (HDC) will host a household cleaning supply drive to help the homeless Monday, April 15, through Thursday, April 18.

The drive will benefit the homeless who were recently able to secure a place to call home, and they are in need of cleaning supplies. Welcome donations include new, unopened cleaning supplies along with laundry soap, shower curtains and hooks, paper towel, tampons and pads, and toilet paper.

Donations can be dropped off at the following Human Development offices: 150 Nugent Rd., Bad Axe; 429 Montague Ave., Caro; 1559 Imlay City Rd., Lapeer; and 215 N. Elk St., Sandusky.

Compiled by Mary Drier and Tom Montgomery

Ugly Schools among security grant recipients announced by state police

The Michigan State Police (MSP) last week announced 135 public school districts, 66 non-public schools, 20 public charter schools and nine intermediate school districts/regional educational service agencies will share in \$25 million in state grants.

Among the recipients is the Ugly Community Schools, which will receive a matching grant totaling \$61,291.

The funding is being distributed in conjunction with the 2019 Competitive School Safety Grant Program to improve the safety and security of students, staff and school buildings through the purchase of technology and equipment.

"Safety for our children should always be a top priority," said Governor Gretchen Whitmer. "Every parent should have the peace of mind that their children are receiving an education that allows them to achieve their dreams under the safest possible condi-

tions." Grant recipients will have until June 1, 2020, to spend their awards.

Grant applications were reviewed by a committee that included representatives from the MSP, Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police, Michigan Sheriffs' Association, Michigan Department of Education, Michigan

Association of Non-Public Schools and other school safety professionals.

In all, 366 applications were received, requesting more than \$46 million in funding for security enhancements. In accordance with the appropriation, priority was given to applicants who had not received school safety grant funds in the past.

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SCHEDULE 3:00 - 6:30 pm
(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
April 12
4:30-7:00 pm



Wednesday Dorcas Meals

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

www.casscityumc.org or find us on Facebook.

“Meating the Need” founders spearheading hunger summit

Continued from page one.

tire community forward. It will be up to those who attend as to what that looks like.”

“It’s just kind of a time for everyone to think about what they can contribute to Cass City,” Daskam agreed.

Specific goals include exploring ways to secure quality, nutrient-rich food for those in need, especially the elderly and others who are struggling financially and un-

able to travel a distance to shop.

“The food pantries do a great job,” Battel said. However, she noted, they are limited to pastas, canned foods and other staples that can be stored long-term, so there is a need for items such as meat, eggs and milk.

A key to success, according to Battel, will be empowering youth to “really get boots on the ground and make change. How can we help each other make even more change for Cass City?”

“It (youth empowerment) means making sure youth know that, no matter what their strength is or their passion is, they can be a part of this project,” Daskam added.

At just 12 years of age, Battel, the daughter of Sue and Bob Battel, Cass City, and Daskam, daughter of Tamara and Michael Daskam, launched the Meating the Need program with a team of fellow Huron County 4-H’ers after Cass City became a “food desert” when the community’s

only grocery store closed. That was more than 4 ½ years ago.

Recognizing the need for higher quality foods for those in need, they secured grants and contributions from the community and began providing high-quality protein to the Revive Ministries Food Pantry in Cass City. The effort was later expanded to include the St. Agatha Food Pantry in Gagetown.

“When I found out that 17 percent of my community was food insecure, my passion really took off – there was a tangible need in my community, and there was something I could do about it,” Battel said.

Since then, the project has had an economic impact of roughly \$54,000, with volunteers distributing about 10,000 pounds of meat, 1,700 gallons of milk and 150 dozen eggs.

Behind those amazing figures have been a core group of 15 youth involved in actively raising meat and coordinating the project, according to Sue Battel, who estimated around 470 youths have supported the cause, including Cass City High School ag students and others whose fair animals ended up being purchased by companies that then donated them to the project.

In addition, Addy Battel and Daskam have shared their experiences and successes with more than 540 youths as guest trainers during training workshops – most of them 4-H-sponsored – throughout the state, in Washington, D.C., and in North Carolina. Both teens are also past delegates to the World Food Prize Global Youth Institute.

Battel credits teamwork as the backbone of their partnership.

While the teen is a confident, big-picture thinker, her teammate, Daskam, thinks through the details to make it happen. The pair have proven to be an effective team. In their efforts to fight hunger, Battel’s focus is on providing food from an animal agriculture perspective, and Daskam is especially interested in nutrition and preserving the dignity of food pantry customers.

And both have siblings following in their footsteps.

Battel’s sister, Dori, 13, has a flair for graphics arts and designed the Cass City Hunger Summit flyer. Daskam says her brother, Royce, 14, is very much a people person and is looking forward to being a part of the summit, as is her sister, Evelyn, 13.

Battel and Daskam, both charter members of the Boots and Bling 4-H Club, formed in 2013, are qualified to play key roles in the upcoming hunger summit in Cass City. Battel was recently recognized earlier this month in Washington, D.C., as one of just four 2019 4-H Youth in Action Pillar Award winners nationwide, receiving the honor in the agriculture category, while Daskam was named a finalist in the healthy living category.

While the area teens have given much back to their community, both say their efforts have netted a number of rewards, including fine-tuning their own future plans.

Battel has set her sights on earning an animal science degree at MSU and is considering a number of minors, including ag communications and international development. Daskam hasn’t decided on a college yet, but plans to pursue a career as a registered dietician.



Lights, camera, action!

THE UGLY HIGH School Drama Department recently presented the comedy *The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon*, a combination of fairy tales of the Brothers Grimm turned on their heads in a fast-paced, rollicking ride as two narrators and several actors attempt to combine all 209 stories. Cast members were (back row, from left) Kylie Ogryski, Caleb Powers, Joshua Brandel, Jaclyn Toth, Zachary Ziehm, Logan Hulbury, Austin Burk, (middle row, left) Anna Greyerbiehl, Trinity Franzel, Sabrina Schumacher, Amanda Weaver, (front row, left) Tess Grifka and Allison Lautner. Missing are JaeLynn Burton and Lacey Pionk. The play was directed by Tony O’Neil, assisted by Chrissy Szymanski.

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Track teams ready in CC

Red Hawk boys have deep roster

by Clarke Haire
 Publisher

MEMBERS OF the 2019 Cass City Red Hawk boys' track squad include: (front row, l-r) Nick McArdle, Ishak Mamutov, Hugh Walker, Jordan Mester, Zachary Essex, Colby Sutton, Drew Markel (middle row) Brandon Witherspoon, Vaughn Severance, Cameron Kaake, Alex Hopper, Ghazi Shawish, Anthony Boscaglia, Alie Kalokon (back row) Dylan Halpin, Tyler Asher, Kristofer Nika, Leevy Matthews, Andrew Venema, Shahrom Saidahmadzod, Jacob Shantz, Zachary Brunke and Coach Jon Zdrojewski. Missing are Logan Boynton, Gabe Farver, Ethon Fetterhoff, Connor Herford, Gavin Medere, Dustin Naegele, Jarod Naegele, Justin Schaufele and Lucas Swiderski.

Sure to be missed by the Cass City Red Hawk track team during the 2019 campaign are a pair of standouts and state qualifiers from a year ago.

Still, veteran Coach Jon Zdrojewski, now in his 8th season in charge, has several key returnees and plenty of talented newcomers ready to help fill the team's graduation toll that also included consistent point winners Zane Wright, Michael Ziegler, Eric Peters and Jamison Biskner-Kruse.

"We suffered some key losses from last year's squad in 4-year state qualifier CarLee Stimpfel," said Zdrojewski, adding, "Brendan Hamilton qualified for the state finals last year in the long jump and he will leave a large gap in the sprints as well."

Helping to offset the void created by Stimpfel and Hamilton's absence will be a pair of underclassmen, according to Zdrojewski.

"CarLee's position will be very difficult to fill, but I have a very capable sophomore in Nick McArdle who has assumed the leadership of our distance runners. He's coming off of an outstanding cross country season as a state finals qualifier. Junior Justin Schaufele (should excel) in the long jump, he finished last season jumping over the 20' mark for the first time in his career and he looks to improve on that this year," he said.

Adding to the team's depth in the distance events will be returning letter winners in senior Gabe Farver, junior Drew Markel, junior Lucas Swiderski, and sophomore Brandon Witherspoon.

Turning to the sprints, the return of seniors Jarod Naegele, Ethon Fetterhoff and Zac Brunke will lead the way in their final season.

Please turn to page 10.



MEMBERS OF the 2019 Cass City Lady Red Hawk track squad include: (front row, l-r) Abby Essex, Laci Anthony, Breanna Wolschlag, Raeven Periso, Janelle Hartwick, Madison Ware, Hannah Gilmore, Riley Copeland (middle row) Autumn Sutton, Marla Muter, Mary Muter, Tiana Tageson, Haven Bouverette, Brittany Hamilton, Kristin Stimpfel, Savina Terpe (back row) Coach Adam Dorland, Layna Mathewson, Hailey Schmotzer, Harlie Mallory, Sierra Spry, Kendra Schmotzer, Kalee Gray, Madi Beckrow, Tasha Tageson and Marissa Petiprin Ball.

Kingston gals rule NCTL Stars All-League picks

by Clarke Haire
 Publisher

Camryn MacGuire, Lily Lyons

and Jillyan Dinsmore highlighted the Kingston girls' basketball North Central Thumb League Stars All-League picks for the

2018-19 season. MacGuire averaged 7.8 points and 3.4 assists in her senior season, but it was the 5' 5" guard

work on defense that separated her from the pack. Named the league's defensive specialist for

Please turn to page 10.



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Track and Field rosters boast good numbers in Cass City

Continued from page 9.

They will be joined by Anthony Boscaglia who had a promising freshman season last year and sophomore Dustin Naegele.

In the hurdles, Cass City will feature returning juniors Kris Nika and Leevy Matthews. They left last season beginning to run strong in those events and Coach Zdrojewski anticipates their continued improvement in 2019.

In the field events, Cass City will count on leadership from junior Logan Boynton in the discus and shot put as he returns stronger and more eager to perform well with a year of experience under his belt. In the high jump, freshmen to keep an eye out for include Dylan Halpin and Vaughn Severance.

"We have been weak the past several years in that event, but these two are leaving middle school with better heights than most of our varsity athletes last year," Zdrojewski said, noting sophomore Jacob Shantz will be

returning with the most pole vault experience.

"We are generally a younger squad, but with strong numbers we should be more competitive in some larger races where we don't need to win in order to take points. We are in a very competitive conference and I look for us to finish somewhere near the middle of the teams. I have several athletes already setting goals of reaching the state finals in June at Comstock Park. Look for these guys to be strong competitors as the season progresses," Zdrojewski said.

Lady Hawks look to end drought

Back for his second year as skipper of the Cass City Lady Red Hawk track team is Adam Dorland.

Despite the loss of six letter winners from last year's squad that placed 4th in the Greater Thumb West, Dorland has 14 returnees to mold this year's team around in Madison Beckrow, Haven Bouverette, Riley Copeland, Marissa Petiprin-Ball, Sierra Spry, Kristin Stimpfel, Tasha Tageson, Tiana Tageson, Brittany Hamilton, Harlie Mallory, Marla Muter, Mary Muter, Layna Mathewson and Hailey Schmotzer.

The team's first year athletes are Laci Anthony, Abby Essex, Hannah Gilmore, Kalee Gray, Janelle Hartwick, Kendra Schmotzer, Autumn Sutton, Madison Ware, Breanna Wolschlager and Raeven Periso.

"Our team strength is going to be in the distance events, relays and hurdles. We have to improve in the mid distance and field events to have a shot at the league meet. We look to improve on nine all conference performances from last season, six Thumb Area Meet of Champions qualifiers and no

state qualifiers. We look to end the 6-year drought of not sending a girl to the Division 3 state meet held in Comstock Park," said Dorland.

Individual stars for the Lady Red Hawks include twins Mary and Marla Muter in the distance events, while Riley Copeland has shown a ton of potential in the distance arena and is coming off a great rookie cross country campaign this past fall.

Add to the Hawk list of stars Hailey Schmotzer. She was a 1st team all-conference athlete last year in both hurdle events and was the Huron Daily Tribune Meet of Champions champion. Layna Mathewson is also a returning all-conference athlete and her final season should be her best.

Brittany Hamilton will be one to watch in the sprint relays, according to Dorland, who sees the team's sprint relay teams having success with the help of talented young runners in Laci Anthony,

Abby Essex, Janelle Hartwick, Madison Ware, Kendra Schmotzer, Raeven Periso and Autumn Sutton.

Additionally, Madison Beckrow is coming off a great freshman season in the pole vault and the Hawk throwers are plenty in Haven Bouverette, Marissa Petiprin-Ball, Tiana and Tiara Tageson, Kalee Gray, Breanna Wolschlager, Kristen Stimpfel and Harlie Mallory.

"Reese will be one of the major favorites to win the league meet again this year. Bad Axe also has a good track program and will be among the top schools in the league. USA nipped us last year near the end of the year and with Caro coming in to the GTC West, it only gets tougher. We are going to have to work extremely hard if we want to compete with these schools on a meet to meet basis. We are young but much deeper with better numbers than years past and should improve in the league standings," said Dorland.

Kingston girls rule NCTL Stars All-League selections

Continued from page 9.

the second straight year, MacGuire led Kingston with 36 steals, while shooting 44 percent from the field and 80 percent from the foul line. She is the daughter of Tip and Pam MacGuire.

"Camryn was our team leader who does whatever it takes to help the team succeed. Camryn has great vision and was relied on to run our offense. She is also a tenacious defender who can take away the other team's leading scorer," said Kingston Coach Jay Green.

Lyons led Kingston with an average of 11.2 points per game. The 5' 7" senior guard shot a team-high 53 percent from the field. She scored a season-high 20 points against Bendle. She is the daughter of Tim and Meredith Lyons.

"Lily has worked hard in the off-season and was our most improved player. She is an athletic playmaker who finishes well around the basket, improved her shooting, and was disruptive to the other team in our half-court defense," Green said.

Dinsmore average 7 points and 5.7 rebounds at the power forward

position. The 5' 10" senior could score with either hand. Jillyan is the daughter of Josh Dinsmore and Amy Wildfong.

"Jillyan's season high in points was 14 (Dryden), rebounds 10 (Oxford & Utica Eisenhower)," Green said, adding, "Jillyan is a strong post presence offensively and defensively. She understands the game and is always in the correct defensive position. She neutralizes any opponent's best post player. Jillyan has good instincts and is a great rebounder."

Joining the trio as dream team picks were Deckerville senior Morgan Armstead and junior Claire Watson, while Dryden junior Hannah Peyerk rounded out the North Central Thumb League Stars All-League first team.

Named to the All-League second team were Kingston seniors Gerilyn Carpenter, Carley Smith and sophomore Hannah James, along with Deckerville junior Ella Watson, Genesee junior Hayle March, Dryden sophomore Ella Kage and Deckerville junior Addison Williams.

Kingston's second team choices were any coach's dream players

according to Green.

"Gerilyn's season high in assists was 5 (Dryden). Gerilyn is a great role player for our team. She can be counted on to make the important hustle play or pull down the timely rebound. Gerilyn reads the floor well and makes plays for her teammates both offensively and defensively," he said, noting Gerilyn is the daughter of Mike and Jennifer Carpenter.

Continuing, Green commented, "Carley's season high in points was 19 (Swan Valley), rebounds

12 (Nouvel). Carley can score inside or outside and is a tough matchup for opponents. Defensively she positions herself well and improved her passing and ball handling. Carley is physically strong and helped control the paint with her shot blocking and rebounding. Carley is the daughter of Larry and Audrey Smith."

As for the lone Kingston underclassman to be honored, Green said, "Hannah is versatile and can play multiple positions effectively. She is a solid defender and

offensively can hit the three or penetrate and create for herself or others. She was tied with MacGuire for the team lead in 3-point shots made (21) and steals (36). Hannah is the daughter of Dave and Stacey James."

The North Central Thumb League Stars Honorable Mention players included Dryden's Ally Sobek and Jordan Peters, Mayville's Julia Smith, North Huron's Patricia Pineau and Genesee's Madison Knag and Serena Winter.

2018-19 NCTL STRIPES All-League Girls Basketball

First Team

Stacia Cohee – Akron 11th grade
Samantha Bissett – Peck 11th grade
Abbey Bullis – Peck 12th grade
Taylor Sempf – Peck 11th grade
Emily Judd – BCAS 12th grade
Emily Huiskens – BCAS 12th grade

Defensive Specialist

Emily Judd – BCAS 12th grade

Second Team

Cynthia Beauvais – Akron 12th grade
Chelsey Breismiester – Caseville 10th grade
Jenna Stull – Peck 11th grade
Lilly Grigg – CPS – 10th grade
Stephane Cahoon – CPS 11th grade
Caitlyn McDonnell – BCAS 12th grade

Honorable Mention

Kaylin Ewald – Caseville 12th grade
Dezi Breismiester – Caseville 12th grade
Emma Engler – Peck 11th grade
Rocio Costilla BCAS 12th grade
Carley Haldone – Owen-Gage 11th grade
Libby Ondrajka – Owen-Gage 10th grade

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Andrew Pattengill – 11th grade – Caseville
Zac Dudley – 12th grade – Peck
Brandon Winiarski – 10th grade – Peck
Alex Czyzewski – 10th grade – BCAS
CJ Samborn – 12th grade – BCAS

Defensive Specialist

Cody Babcock – 12th grade – Peck

Second Team

Kenny Hawley – 12th grade – Akron
Payton Mooney – 11th grade – CPS
Brad Nugent – 12th grade – CPS
Kyle Vincent – 10th grade – Peck
Matt Fritz – 12th grade – Owen-Gage

Honorable Mention

Landon Emerson – 12th grade – CPS
Allen Cooney – 12th grade – CPS
Michael Kelly – 12th grade – Caseville
Jacob Kennedy – 11th grade – Caseville
Nathan Collins – 12th grade – Peck
Aaron Booth – 12th grade – Peck
Cody Babcock – 12th grade – Peck
Antonio Mota – 9th grade – BCAS
Brandon Binder – 12th grade – Owen-Gage

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Senior




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#5 Carley Smith
Senior



"Jillyann is a wise veteran who controls the paint on both ends of the floor."

#35 Jillyann Dinsmore
Senior



"Lockdown defender and clutch shooter Camryn ran the show from the point."

#13 Camryn MacGuire
Senior



"Lily is an athletic playmaker with great finishing skills and a solid mid range game."

#23 Lily Lyons
Senior



"Crafty pass first guard Gerilyn is relentless and passionate."

#25 Gerilyn Carpenter
Senior



"Kendra is a classy veteran with a team first attitude."

#22 Kendra DeLong
Senior

A few quotes from Coach Jay Green.



"Ashtian is a skilled scout team leader with a great attitude and relentless."

#10 Ashtian Davis
Senior




"Danielle is reliable and hardworking with a desire to improve."

#31 Danielle Crisman
Junior



"Payton is an athletic rebounder with a soft touch near the basket."

#33 Payton Kolacz
Junior



"Long and versatile with good vision and Anna has a knack for blocking shots."

#15 Anna Ahern
Junior



"Brooke is energetic and athletic with a nose for the ball and solid finishing skills."

#12 Brooke Mooney
Junior



"Ella is a skilled JV player with great footwork around the basket."

#32 Ella Retan
Sophomore



"Hannah is a multi-skilled and dedicated 6th girl who can score and defend."

#24 Hannah James
Sophomore



"Isabel is a speedy and athletic JV player who is just learning the game."

#11 Isabel Hurd
Freshman

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Cass City Jr./Sr. High School 2019 Spring Sports Schedule



BOYS' BASEBALL (VARSITY)

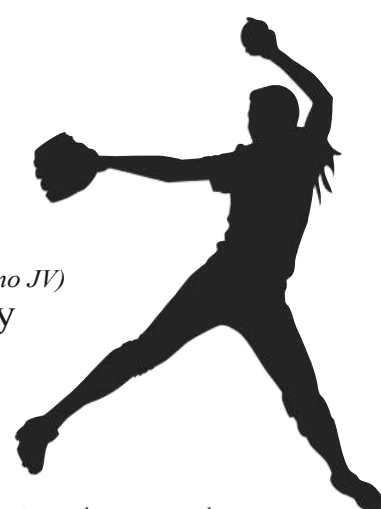
DATE	OPPONENT
4/4	Imlay City <i>(JV & Varsity)</i>
4/9	Marlette
4/12	Memphis
4/13	Tuscola Tourny @ Millington - <i>time to be announced</i>
4/15	Capac
4/18	Bad Axe
4/23	Sandusky
4/25	Vassar
4/29	Ubly
5/2	USA
5/6	Brown City
5/9	Harbor Beach
5/13	EPBP Lakers
5/17	Caro
5/20	Deckerville <i>(no JV)</i>
5/22	Reese
5/29-6/1	Districts @ Lakers - <i>time to be announced</i>



All games begin at 4 p.m. unless noted

GIRLS' SOFTBALL (VARSITY)

DATE	OPPONENT
4/5	Burton Bentley
4/9	Marlette
4/12	Memphis
4/13	Tuscola Tourny @ Millington - <i>time to be announced</i>
4/15	Capac
4/18	Bad Axe
4/23	Sandusky
4/25	Vassar
4/29	Ubly
5/2	USA
5/6	Brown City
5/9	Harbor Beach <i>(no JV)</i>
5/11	Hemlock Tourny
5/13	EPBP Lakers
5/17	Caro
5/20	Deckerville <i>(no JV)</i>
5/22	Reese
5/29-6/1	Districts @ Lakers - <i>time to be announced</i>



All games begin at 4 p.m. unless noted

TRACK

DATE	OPPONENT
4/2	Caro/Bad Axe at 4:30 p.m.
4/9	Brown City/Lakers at 4:30 p.m.
4/12	Brown City Invite at 4:00 p.m.
4/16	USA/Ubly/Bad Axe at 4:30 p.m.
4/18	Marlette Invite <i>time to be announced</i>
4/23	USA Invite at 4:00 p.m.
4/25	Bad Axe/Brown City/Sandusky at 4:30 p.m.
4/26	Vassar Invite at 4:00 p.m.
4/30	Ubly Invite at 4:00 p.m.
5/3	Reese Invite at 3:30 p.m.
5/7	Capac/Brown City/Ubly @ 4:30 p.m.
5/8	Reese 9/10 Invite <i>time to be announced</i>
5/10	Bad Axe Invite at 4:00 p.m.
5/14	GTW League Meet at USA @ 4:00 p.m.
5/17	Regionals @ Brown City <i>time to be announced</i>
5/21	Tribune Meet of Champs @ Bad Axe <i>time to be announced</i>
5/28	Thumb Meet of Champs @ Caro <i>time to be announced</i>
6/1	State Finals <i>time to be announced</i>



GOLF

DATE	OPPONENT
4/23	Verona Hills - Bad Axe <i>time to be announced</i>
4/25	GTC Jamboree @ Caro at 4:00 p.m.
4/26	Ubly Invite at 8:15 a.m.
4/29	GTC Jamboree @ Vassar at 3:30 p.m.
4/30	GTC Jamboree @ USA at 4:00 p.m.
5/6	GTC Jamboree @ Bad Axe at 4:00 p.m.
5/7	GTC Jamboree @ Cass City at 4:00 p.m.
5/10	GTC Jamboree @ Lakers at 4:00 p.m.
5/15	Brown City Invite at 8:00 a.m.
5/17	Warner Memorial Invite @ Vassar <i>time to be announced</i>
5/20	GTC League Meet @ Ubly <i>time to be announced</i>
5/22	Mayville Invite <i>time to be announced</i>
5/24	Verona Hills - Bad Axe <i>time to be announced</i>
5/29	Regionals @ Verona Hills <i>time to be announced</i>



JUNIOR HIGH TRACK

DATE	OPPONENT
4/10	Vassar/Reese
4/15	Bad Axe/Brown City
4/17	Caro/Marlette
4/22	Lakers/Marlette
4/24	Brown City/Memphis/H.B.
4/29	Ubly/USA/HB/Reese/Capac/BA
5/1	Vassar/USA
5/6	Harbor Beach/Sandusky/Caro
5/8	Capac
5/15	GTC West League Meet @ Reese <i>time to be announced</i>



All meets begin at 4:30 p.m. unless noted

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Obituaries

Jane Derengowski

Jane Marie Derengowski, 75, of Caro, died peacefully Friday, March 29, 2019 in Satchell's Christian Retirement Home, Caro.

She was born March 8, 1944 in Port Huron to Steven Earl and Elene (Brock) Parrish.

She married Stanley Joseph Derengowski, Jr. June 7, 1989 in Caro. He died November 7, 1997.

Jane attended Gagetown schools, but had to quit school early to help work on the farm. She enjoyed long walks and conversations with family and friends. Jane was skilled in embroidery and made many beautiful pillow cases and doilies. Her favorite foods included macaroni and cheese and pumpkin pie. Jane loved stuffed animals, especially teddy bears. She was known for giving great, warm hugs to those she loved.

Jane is survived by her uncle, Roger Parrish of Cass City; cousins: Donna (Clare) Schuette of Cass City, Vernita (Don) Loeffler of Sebawaing, Joyce Smith of Bay City and Ron Gibbs of Caro.

She was preceded in death by her parents and infant brother, Patrick Parrish.

A funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. Tuesday, April 2, in Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Cass City with the Rev. Steve Bagnall officiating. Interment will be in Hillside Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Family Discretionary Fund.

Family and friends may share memories, prayers and photos with the family at www.kranzfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home of Cass City.



Irvin Schaufele

Irvin Reinhold Schaufele, 84, of Cass City, died following complications of Parkinson's disease Monday, March 25, 2019 in Covenant Medical Center Harrison Campus, Saginaw.

He was born July 15, 1934 in Rapson to Reinhold and Auguste Charlotte (Schwartz) Schaufele.

Irvin attended Peck High School. In his younger years, he worked on his parent's farm. Irvin worked as a truck driver for Sanilac County Road Commission, retiring after 35 years of service. He enjoyed the outdoors. Through the years he continued to farm and work in his garden. Irvin was fond of camping with friends and fishing. He loved helping out in Shabbona United Methodist Church by making sub sandwiches and pies.

Irvin is survived by his children; Timothy Schaufele of Brown City, Debora Harris of Toledo, OH, Jeffrey (Deanna) Schaufele of Deford, Laura (Dan) Schneider of Sterling Heights and Clifton (Becky) Schaufele of Melvin; grandchildren: Matthew Bischoff, Shannon Bischoff, Amanda Kunkle, Jason Schaufele, Phillip Schaufele, Jenna Schaufele, Joshua Schaufele, Caitlin Schneider, Justin Schaufele and Angelina Schaufele; great-grandchildren: Andre Mlynarski, Jamal Mlynarski, Jason Schaufele, Gabrielle Schaufele, Easton Kunkle and Graham Schaufele; sisters: Esther Lippert of Ashford, AL and Elfrieda Nielsen of Peck; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

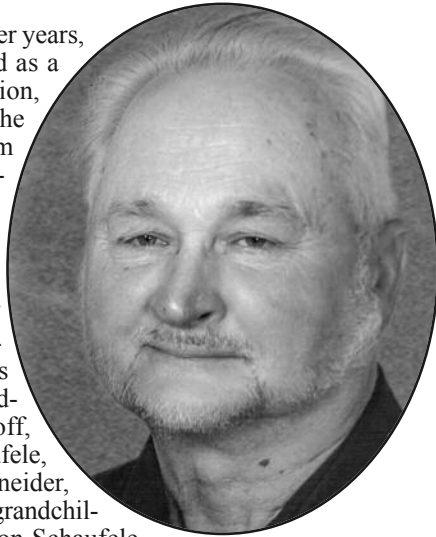
A funeral service was held Thursday, March 28, in Kranz Funeral Home, Cass City with Bruce McCumons of Omard United Methodist Church officiating.

Interment will be in Omard Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Family Discretionary Fund.

Family and friends may share memories, prayers and photos with the family at www.kranzfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home of Cass City.



Josephine Ziemba

Josephine Ziemba, 87, of Decker, passed away Saturday, March 30, 2019 at Marlette Regional Hospital Long Term Care Unit in Marlette.

She was born August 12, 1931 in Detroit, the daughter of the late Joseph and Josephine Oleski.

Josephine graduated from Cass City High School and was crowned Homecoming Queen her senior year.

She married Stephen Michael Ziemba August 26, 1950 at St. Pancratius Catholic Church in Cass City, and they were married 59 years.

Josephine worked as an aide at the Extended Care Facility at Marlette Regional Hospital. She was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church in Wilmot. Josephine loved spending time with her family and friends, celebrating Polish holidays, helping at church fish fries, going to her daughter's campground, flower and vegetable gardening and farming.

Left to cherish Josephine's memory are her children, Kathy Ziemba of Lupton, Michael (Sandy) Ziemba of Decker and Linda Ziemba (Kim) Vaughan of Vassar; four grandchildren; five step-grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Stephen Ziemba Jr. in March of 2010; two sisters, Leona Dawson and Emily Kutyla; two brothers, infant Teddy, and Joseph Drossos.

The family will receive friends from 2 - 8 p.m. Thursday, April 4, at Marsh Funeral Chapel in Marlette with a Prayer Service at 7 p.m. and 10 a.m. until time of the service on Friday at the church.

A funeral service will take place at 11 a.m. Friday, April 5, at Holy Family Parish, St. Elizabeth Catholic Church in Marlette, with Father Robert Schikora officiating.

Burial will take place at St. Michael's Cemetery in Wilmot, at a later date.

Pall Bearers will be her son, Michael Ziemba, nephew, Dennis Ziemba, grandsons, Joe Kazmouz and Bryan Millwood; and friends, Jessie Zimba and David Nauka.

Memorial contributions may be made to United Hospice Service of Marlette Regional Hospital.

You may share an online condolence at www.marshfuneral.com.

Arrangements were made by Marsh Funeral Chapel of Marlette.



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

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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 a large covered porch. Ugly schools.
 CY2770

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 This 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 story home sets on a large lot and features hardwood floors, central air and a full unfinished basement, 1-1/2 car garage. All within walking distance to town. TCC1801


 3 Bedroom, 1 bath, 912 sq. ft. home, built in 2001 with 6-inch exterior walls well insulated - located on a paved road, comes with 15.02 acres total with approximately 10 acres tillable. Has a pole barn with water and electric and a lean-to, there is also a storage shed.
 1 year home warrant included. CY2764


 Price Reduced! Immediate Possession!!
 4 bedroom home on a double lot in Gagetown. Home has a large kitchen, basement and attached 4-car garage. T0819

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NEW!!!
 This spacious quad-level house awaits your family! It boasts a large kitchen with a deck and gazebo out back for entertaining. In rain or cold weather, entertain inside by the fireplace and wet bar located on the main level. There are 3 bedrooms upstairs, and one bedroom on the main level to be used as a guest room or home office. Store your big toys in the pole barn, workshop that has electric, heat, and insulation or the large 2 car garage.


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NEW!!!

 Take a look at this beautiful brick ranch home setting on 1.9 acres. This home has been completely remodeled and includes heated tile floors in the bathroom and utility areas. custom Hickory cabinets and granite countertops. The home also has a two car attached heated garage to house your vehicles. New carpeting and wood flooring throughout also.
 154-19-0005

NEW & PENDING!!!
 All redone and ready to move into. Basically everything in this home has been update from 2014 to 2017. The home offers 2 (possibly 3) bedrooms, 1.5 baths with main floor laundry. 2014 new custom kitchen cabinets, custom office cabinets, custom trim, new roof, eve troughs, septic and drainage field, and door wall deck. 2015 new storm/screen windows and storm doors.
 123-19-0011


SELL IT FAST IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

Cass City teacher no stranger to the Thumb area stages

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

There isn't much difference between teaching and acting, so that may be why Cass City's Jon Zdrojewski has achieved success in both fields.

When teaching, Zdrojewski stands in front of a class and tries to keep students engaged so they learn. As an actor, he's on a stage, engaging an audience in an effort to convince them he is the character he's portraying.

"They are both about the same principal," Zdrojewski commented during a recent interview.

Zdrojewski, who teaches seventh and eighth grade science classes in the Cass City School District, has performed in about two dozen community theater plays throughout the Thumb area.

Neither education nor drama were on the local native's radar when he enrolled at Northern Michigan University after graduating from Cass City High School.

"I went to college to study computer science. I learned that I really didn't enjoy programming computers. It wasn't fun like I thought it would be," Zdrojewski recalled, noting he understood what was being taught, but many of the 30- and 40-year-old students in the class didn't.

"When they asked the professor to explain the information so they could understand, he just kept saying it was on the board in black and white. He didn't really answer their questions."

The professor's lack of empathy bothered Zdrojewski.

"When the professor left the room, those older students asked if anyone understood the information? I said I did. I went to the front of the room and started teaching. I debugged everyone's programs and started helping teach every day," he said. "I realized I enjoyed that. So I ended up going into education instead."

That experience changed the direction of the 18-year-old's life and led him back home. After he graduated college, he returned to Cass City to begin his teaching career. His first job was in Harbor Beach, and then at Saints Peter and Paul School in Ruth, before spending the next 26 years with the Cass City Public Schools.

"When I came back to Cass City, there was the Cass City Players theater at that time. My mom was one of the organizers," Zdrojewski said. "In the 80's, I appeared on stage with her in two plays; the 'Leading Ladies' and 'Murder at the Tony Lou Awards'. And, I did 'Arsenic and Old Lace' with the Cass City Players, and a couple of plays in Caro."

In high school, he performed in plays all four years.

"I really enjoyed acting, but it is difficult to make a living doing that," he said.

Zdrojewski figures he came by his love of theater thanks to his mother's influence.

In college, he took one theater class — art appreciation — where he studied scripts but didn't do plays.

Then, life happened, drawing him away from theater. He married and had a family, leaving his passion for acting on a shelf from 1990 to about 2005.

His first play back on stage was "Escanaba in da Moonlight". From, there he started doing one to two plays a year.

Zdrojewski had been in the process of rehearsing for another play but a "curtain" came down before he had a chance to even learn all of his lines. He had been rehearsing for Neal Simon's play, "God's Favorite", with the Port Austin Players group to be performed later this month and again in May. However, he pointed out, "I'm not going to be able to do that now. My daughter is graduating. That comes first."

Zdrojewski was a member of the cast of "Beverly Hillbillies", a play presented in the Unionville-Sebewaing area. "So far my favorite play that I've been in was 'Moon Over Buffalo' by George Hay. That was in Port Austin."

When he's not acting or bowling, Zdrojewski can be found mentoring Cass City student athletes — he coaches three varsity sports.

"I'm one of those stupid busy guys, and I enjoy that," he said. "I love coaching the kids and teaching, but performing gives me a break from teaching and sports. I can forget about everything and become the character I'm playing."

"Also, I've been in a few, but don't care much for musicals. I was in the 'Rocky Horror Picture Show', but just as a narrator," Zdrojewski added. "If I'm not acting, I do tech stuff for plays. I do the lights and sound. So even if I'm not in a play, I still don't get away from it. I'm just one of those regular guys who loves doing theater."

It's a schedule that keeps Zdrojewski hopping, and he credits his wife, Deidra, for her support for being behind him in everything he does.

"She is a real trooper," he said.



CASS CITY teacher Jon Zdrojewski earns a living in the classroom, but feeds his passion for acting in community theatre productions throughout the Thumb area. He's pictured above, front and center next to Rita Wencel, when the pair along with other Port Austin Community Players cast members performed Ken Ludwig's "Moon Over Buffalo".

Reese coach charged with embezzlement

Continued from page one.

The charge carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison.

"The charge arises from funds the defendant (allegedly) misappropriated to his personal use

from various fundraisers that occurred between approximately June and November 2018 while he was the varsity football coach for Reese Public Schools," Reene explained.

Long was arraigned March 13 in

district court and released on a personal recognizance bond.

Reese Police Chief Michael Hadd has served as investigator on the case with assistance from the Michigan State Police, Reene noted.



ZDROJEWSKI's past community theatre acting credits include Jeff Daniels' "Escanaba in da Moonlight". He's pictured above (second from right).



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