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CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

VOLUME 113, NUMBER 14

CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2019

.75 CENTS ~ 16 PAGES - 2 SUPPLEMENTS



CASS CITY'S Tom Herron, center, has sold his company, Herron Building, to brothers Jason (left) and Matt Klein, who also own Superior One Plumbing and Heating in Cass City.

Closes books on 55 years of building

Herron leaves solid foundation in town

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

Although Tom Herron's dream was to spend his life being a dairy farmer, there are hundreds of residents and business owners who are happy those plans didn't work out for him.

Instead he became a builder, forming Herron Building Co. in 1964. This month he sold his business with an eye on taking it a bit easier.

"I've been a builder for 55 years and I loved every minute of it. I'm 77 years old, so I guess it's time for a change," Herron commented Friday. "I'm packing up my office to make room for the new owners. I'll still be involved on into the fall to finish a couple homes."

Brothers Jason and Matt Klein, who own Superior One Plumbing and Heating, Cass City, purchased Herron's company.

"We worked with Tom for several years, doing his plumbing and heating work," said Jason Klein, noting construction is new to them and will be the next step in their business. "We are keeping all of Tom's workers. They are all experienced."

Please turn to page 16.

Rawson Library director Van Auken accepts job as library cooperative chief

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Kate Van Auken credits the late Bob Hirn with her landing the job of director of Rawson Memorial District Library in Cass City more than 17 years ago.

At the time, Van Auken was serving on the library board, and its members, including Hirn, were searching for a replacement for then-veteran library director Barb Hutchinson. Hirn asked Van Auken to submit her resume for the job, and the rest is history.

Now, Van Auken is preparing to leave her post after a similar scenario unfolded at the Saginaw-based White Pine Library Cooperative, where Director Bryon Sitler announced his resignation after 15 years of service.

The White Pine Library Cooperative serves 49 libraries in 14 counties, including Rawson Memorial District Library, so Van Auken was already very familiar with the cooperative, having worked with Sitler over the years. She's also served on the library cooperative board and held every office, from secretary to president — although she wasn't



VETERAN Rawson Memorial Library Director Kate Van Auken is pictured above (right) with Ruth Steele, assistant library director.

Please turn to page 7.

State officials set community forum on Caro Center project

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Area residents will have another opportunity to express their opinions regarding the proposed construction of the state's new psychiatric hospital — and where it will be built — during a meeting hosted by state officials this week.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services last week announced plans to conduct a "community listening forum" along with the consulting firm of Myers and Stauffer to gather input. The forum is slated for Thursday from 3 to 6 p.m. in the Caro Community Schools auditorium at 301 Hooper St.

According to a news release issued Friday, MDHHS officials have contracted with Myers and Stauffer to conduct an evaluation of the process and decision to locate the new state psychiatric hospital facility in Caro. In 2017, the

state legislature authorized funding for a new hospital to replace the aging Caro Center. The facility was scheduled to be completed in 2021 and serve 200 adults, an increase of 50 beds from the existing facility.

"Earlier this year, concerns about staffing, ability for patients' families to be involved in their treatment and water accessibility caused state officials to delay the Caro Center Reconstruction project to allow for an independent review and recommendation on next steps to best meet the needs of Michigan's citizens," the news release states.

Residents are invited to provide comments on the following areas consistent with the scope of the evaluation:

*The process by which the Caro psychiatric hospital facility location was determined.

*The status of current psychiatric hospital bed capacity and unmet

bed needs.

*Input regarding the appropriate location(s) for state hospital construction.

*Continuing or revising the current Caro build approach to better meet the needs of citizens requiring state hospital supports.

Those unable to attend the community forum can still comment by e-mailing MICaroEvaluation@MSLC.com until 5 p.m. Wednesday, June 19.

In May, 84th District state Rep. Phil Green (R-Millington) reported the Michigan House Appropriations Committee had approved an MDHHS budget proposal for 2019-20 that clarifies the Legislature's original intent to use funding to expand the psychiatric facility within the Caro Center and nowhere else.

"This budget proposal sends a message to the executive branch that the Legislature stands behind Please turn to page 6.

Community garden

Cass City teens spearhead effort to put fresh vegetables into hands of residents in village

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

The organizers of the Cass City Hunger Summit held last April asked participants to brainstorm ways to connect their abilities and talents with the need for nutritious food among residents in their own community.

Katie Mendrick took that message to heart. Now, weeks later, and with the help of a handful of some fellow students — including Marissa Petiprin-Ball and Matt Danks — as well as some adult volunteers, the Cass City High School junior has realized her goal of spearheading construction of a community garden in town.

"We're starting out small. We're hoping to get the community involved, and soon we hope to make a huge difference," Mendrick commented Thursday in front of the ag barn located just east of Cass City High School, where the garden, consisting of four four-foot by 12-foot raised beds, is located. Volunteers recently planted a variety of vegetables, including tomatoes, peppers, bush beans, cabbage, spinach and radishes.

"The idea came to life at the hunger summit," noted Mendrick, referring to the event organized by area teens Addy Battel and Pearl Daskam, who together founded the "Meating the Need for Our Village" project in Cass City back in 2015 after the community's only grocery store closed.

Battel and Daskam, both now 16, 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.

Since then, that 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, and roughly 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.

Please turn to page 8.



CASS CITY High School junior Katie Mendrick (left) and sophomore Marissa Petiprin-Ball stand at the Cass City Community Garden, a project they and some other students helped launch after attending a hunger summit in town earlier this year. The garden is located in front of the school district's ag barn.

Obituaries

Mary Ann Opanasenko

Mary Ann Opanasenko, 77, of Cass City, died suddenly following a short illness, Thursday, June 6, 2019 in Caro.

She was born June 13, 1941 in Cass City, to Willard and Helen (Randall) Agar.

Mary Ann graduated from Cass City High School in 1960. She attended and graduated from Howard's Beauty Academy as a licensed beautician. She worked as an attendant in the Caro Regional Center, retiring after 27 years.

Mary Ann always worked third shift, so she could spend the daytime with her children. She was a dedicated mother, especially to her daughter Cindy. Mary Ann proudly attended all of her children's and grandchildren's school and sporting events.

A longtime member of the Red Hat Society, Mary Ann was also a charter member of the Tom Thumb Singers. Mary Ann bowled on many bowling leagues. She played the handbells in church and also with the Thumb Ringers. Mary Ann was actively involved in First Presbyterian Church of Cass City, where she sang in the choir and served as elder and deacon. Mary Ann baked many pies for the church and helped with the church rummage sales. She was an avid Detroit Tigers fan and enjoyed seeing them play ball in Comerica Park and on television.

Mary Ann is survived by her children: Lori Simpson of Cass City, Daniel Opanasenko of Cass City and Suzanne (Scott) Rockwell of Caro; grandchildren: Jeffrey (Nicole) Hartsell, Cassie (Tyler) Rygwelski, Brandon (Kaitie) Rockwell, Robby (Amanda) Simpson, Nathan (Alyssa) Simpson and Garrett (Mallory) Rockwell; great-grandchildren: Natalie, Gabby, Alyssa, Hunter, Avery Jean, Brantley, Emma, Noah, Ayrrow and Ayzel.

She was preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Cindy Opanasenko; and her sister, Joyce Ann Walpole.

A funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 11, in First Presbyterian Church of Cass City with the Rev. Linda Graham officiating.

Interment will be in Novesta Township Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Kranz Funeral Home for the benefit of the family.

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.



Paul Windy

Paul Edward Windy, 58, of Hancock (Paavola Location) passed away at his home with his wife by his side on May 20, 2019 after a long battle with cancer.

He was born November 25, 1960 in Cass City, the fourth of six children of Joseph and Ruth (Bliss) Windy.

Paul graduated from Cass City High School in 1979. He then attended trade school for welding in 1986, graduated, and worked at various jobs in the welding field. He later went to work at Calumet Electronics until his illness forced his retirement in 2017.

Paul was united in marriage to Tonette Timmreck on Brockway Mountain in Copper Harbor on October 5, 2002.

From the time he was a boy, Paul enjoyed spending his time outdoors. He was an avid hunter, trapper and fisherman. He truly appreciated the beauty of nature, especially in the Upper Peninsula.

Paul is survived by his wife Tonette Timmreck-Windy of Paavola Location; his siblings, Joseph Windy of Calumet, Mary (Rick) Doerr of Cass City, Ruth Langlois of Gagetown and James Windy of Cass City; his nephews, Anthony and Mitchell Langlois and Mason Doerr; his nieces, Christina (Craig) Swiderski, Melissa Doerr and Bethany (Greg) Dillon; great-nephews Tristan and Riley Swiderski, Logan Doerr, Jackson Royal, and Teagan Dillon; and a great-niece, Josie Dillon.

Besides his parents, he was also preceded in death by a sister, Helen Windy; a brother-in-law, Michael Langlois, and his chemo-buddy, Bob Mantta.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Monday, June 10, at St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church of Houghton with the Reverend Father John Martignon officiating.

Interment will be in the Elkland Township Cemetery.

The O'Neill-Dennis Funeral Home of Hancock is assisting with the arrangements. To leave online condolences, please go to www.oneilldennisfh.com.



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In Our OPINION...

Clarke Haire
Publisher

Tom Montgomery
Editor

Preventing suicide: learn warning signs

Suicide continues to take far too many lives in our community, but there are steps we can all take to prevent another tragedy from unfolding in our homes and neighborhoods.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is urging residents throughout the state to know the warning signs and resources available to prevent suicide, the second leading cause of death in Michigan among residents ages 10 to 24.

Historically, Michigan's youth/young adult suicide rates have been slightly lower than the national average. However, the state's rates have been surpassing national rates since 2010.

"Learning the warning signs of suicide can help raise awareness about suicide prevention and provide loved ones with the proper help," said Robert Gordon, MDHHS director. "Talking with family, friends and neighbors about this important topic is essential as we try to get help to those who need it."

Warning signs for those at risk of suicide include:

- *Feelings of hopelessness.*
- *Threatening to or talking about wanting to hurt oneself.*
- *Loss of interest in activities.*
- *Withdrawal from friends and family.*
- *Change in eating and sleeping habits.*
- *Talking about being a burden to others.*
- *Increasing the use of alcohol or drugs.*
- *Displaying extreme mood swings.*
- *Looking for a way to kill oneself.*

The recently updated MDHHS Suicide Prevention website has a variety of resources and information for individuals who are having thoughts of suicide or know a loved one who is in crisis. These resources include a communications tool kit, a county map of coalitions and crisis lines, fact sheets, trainings and information about the Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

According to a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study in 2016, covering data from nearly 26,000 suicides in 32 states, mental health was an important contributing factor to suicide, with 49 percent of people who took their own lives suffering from an identified mental health issue, most commonly depression.

However, this means that over half did not have a known mental health problem, so it's important to consider other contributing circumstances, such as experiencing a personal crisis, struggling with an alcohol or other substance abuse issue, experiencing a problem with a current or former intimate partner, and facing a physical health problem.

If you are in a crisis or know someone who needs help, contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 800-273-TALK (8255). If you are interested in getting involved in suicide prevention, visit Michigan.gov/suicideprevention to find out more about local suicide prevention coalitions across the state.

Drier Humor

by Mary Drier

Is my past history all wet?



Among the many adventures of my misspent youth was having a past-life regression "reading" done by Doctor Love while I traveled the entertainment circuit.

Back in the day, I made and sold American Indian jewelry, imports, and craft items all over the state. Because of that, I came into contact with a wide variety of colorful characters, one of whom was Doctor Love. His talents included palm reading, hypnotism, card readings and other mystical delving.

As a trade-off for a piece of jewelry he wanted, he did a reading on me, which included exploring my "many past lives via reincarnation" over several centuries.

According to his findings, over several hundred years I have been: a male Egyptian slave who was crushed to death at an early age while helping to build one of the pyramids (that might be where my fascination with Egyptian culture comes from).

I lived in Rome and was a male slave there as well, and was put to death because something I did displeased by owner (that might be why I took three years of Latin and a year of Greek in high school).

I supposedly was a genteel lady who saw London's Jack the Ripper commit one of his murders (I've always been fascinated with Jack the Ripper stories and theories of who he was).

I was also killed during the French Revolution (hmm. Some of my heritage is French).

At one time, I was a pioneer woman who was trampled to death by a horse and/or horses (I admit I have an abnormal fear of horses and refuse to go near them).

And, I was a nurse during World War I (unless it is a dire emergency, I totally shy away from the sight of blood and trauma).

While I had some tenuous connections to his predictions, there is one that I cannot help but wonder about; Doctor Love said I had several strong connections to old ships with billowing sails, the sea, drowning, and swashbuckling.

Of all of the conjectures about my supposed past lives, I feel this one might have merit.

It has been my life-long dream to live on a houseboat in some place warm. I love being near the water, going boating, fishing and swimming.

I admit it took me a long time to learn how to swim. I came close to drowning a couple of times, but I was determined to learn how to swim. I finally accomplished that when I was about 15 years old when we

were camping at Port Sanilac for the summer.

I think one of the dumbest ways to die is drowning, so I spent many a summer day at the former outside Caro pool, teaching my sons to swim.

And, when the "big ships" dock in Bay City, I feel the strong pull of fascination to go see them and rub shoulders with pirates and swabbies. They will be back again this year July 18-21.

Arrgh, ahoy me hearties, tickets are on sale now at tallshipsnetwork.com.

Rabbit Tracks

by Clarke Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)



The Cass City Envirothon Team – composed of a group of talented homeschooled students – represented the community well in capturing the state high school Envirothon title earlier this year.

Now, area residents have a chance to give something back to the team in the form of supporting an upcoming fundraiser that will enable the local teens to compete in the North American Envirothon event, slated for July 28-Aug. 2 in North Carolina.

The fundraiser – a garage sale – has been scheduled for Thursday, Friday and Saturday, June 20-22, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day at 4716 Seeger St., Cass City. If you can't attend but would like to donate an item, call (989) 545-0863 or (989) 551-9809.

In a nutshell, Envirothon is a two-part competition for teens to learn about conservation, agriculture and environmental science. The local team won first place in the state contest via testing in forestry, aquatic ecology, agriculture, wildlife, soils and energy. In addition, the group is tackling a community outreach project by helping to upgrade the Cass City nature trails.

Encouraging these young people is a great cause, so if you would like to support their next step, consider shopping at the upcoming garage sale. The team will also gladly accept financial donations – checks can be made out to parent Tamara Daskam and sent to c/o Cass City Envirothon Team, 4716 Seeger St., Cass City, MI 48726.

Letters to the Editor

Freedom is not free

To the Editor:

I am concerned that many of the younger generation don't understand freedom takes work and dedication, and that they do not understand or appreciate what it means to wear a uniform or have once worn one.

I get heart sick when I hear those who deny Holocaust happened and don't believe more than one million Jews and others were murdered during that time.

With the commemoration of the 75th anniversary of D-Day last week, very few truly realize what those young Americans went through. It was a genteel time. There was no television bringing the horrors of the world into living rooms. I feel we need to stop and think about that, and either read or listen to President Franklin D. Roosevelt's powerful D-Day prayer.

On the evening of D-Day, June 6, 1944, President Roosevelt addressed the nation on the radio. He did not make a flowery speech. He simply asked the American people to join him in prayer.

This is a copy of that prayer:
"My fellow Americans: Last night, when I spoke with you about the fall of Rome, I knew at that moment that troops of the United States and our allies were crossing the channel in another and greater operation. It has come to pass with success thus far.

And so, in this poignant hour, I ask you to join with

Please turn to page 6.

Former Cass City graduate and college baseball standout Morgan Erla has teamed up with Jacob Purman and Matt Sahr from Reese to help create an affordable collegiate showcase (not instructional camp) for baseball athletes in the Thumb.

Their goal is to get area baseball players exposure that isn't necessarily happening at GTC league games vs. Division I schools.

According to Erla, we want the kids who have the aspiration and ability to play at the next level, yet aren't able to pay \$150-\$500 for Showcase Camps in the city.

Please Contact Purman with any questions. He can be reached by emailing purmanjacob@gmail.com.

The Thumb's annual West vs. East All Star basketball games – featuring 2019 area boys and girls graduates - are slated for Friday, June 21, in Sandusky starting at 6:00.

Kingston basketball Coach Jay Green is the West girls' team skipper. His team members include: Leah Denome-Millington; Lily Hessling-Caro; Savannah Comstock and Madi Thompson-Reese; Brittany Hamilton and Kacey Haire-Cass City; Gerilyn Carpenter, Lily Lyons, Jillyan Dinsmore, Carley Smith, and Camryn MacGuire-Kingston.

Mark your calendar and join the fun.

Cass City United Methodist Church officials report their June Dorcas meal will be served today, June 12. A menu featuring pork tenderloin, potato casserole, carrots, applesauce and dessert, served family style at 5100 Cemetery Rd. in Cass City, starts promptly at noon.

Cost is only \$8.00 and take outs are available by calling 872-4604 by 10:00 a.m. on the day of the meal.

I've been invited to take part in two fishing charters in the near future.

On Thursday, I'll be departing from Manistee looking for salmon in Lake Michigan. Then on Sunday – my father's day gift – is another charter on Lake Michigan, this time leaving from Racine, Wisconsin.

The trip from the west side of Lake Michigan will be my first out of state salmon adventure on the Great Lakes. Of course, you can expect a full report in next week's paper.

Happy Father's Day to all dads.

CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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CALENDAR EVENTS

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

Wednesday, June 12

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

Thursday, June 13

•AA meeting, 7-8 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Cass City. For more information, call (989) 553-5932.
•Caregiver Connection, 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m., Country Gardens, Scheurer Hospital, 203 N. Caseville Rd., Pigeon. For more information, call Merry at (989) 673-4121.

Saturday, June 15

•Al-Anon meeting, 11 a.m., Cakima Serenity Home, Mayville. Call 989-912-5478 for more information.
•Revive Food Pantry, from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. Must live in the Cass City School District and meet the financial guidelines. For more information, call (989)551-7803.

Monday, June 17

•Alcoholics Anonymous, "Monday at a Time," 8 p.m., Parkside Cafe, 2031 Main St., Ubyly. For more information, call Angela R. at (989) 658-2319.
•AA meeting, 7-8 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Cass City. For more information, call (989) 553-5932.
•Shabbona Outreach Baby Pantry, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Shabbona Outreach 5448 Shabbona Rd. Decker, MI. Gently used clothing and equipment, diapers, bottles, toys, formula, baby food. For more information contact Judy Doerr (989) 658-8625.

Tuesday, June 18

•Crafty Ladies Group, 1-4 p.m., Common Grounds (next to Revive). Bring a crafting project to work on. Call 989-551-7803 for more information.
•AA Meeting, 7-8 p.m., St. Joseph Church, 4960 N. Argyle Rd. (Meeting will be held in the hall next to the little stone church.)
•Al-Anon meeting, 7 p.m., Cakima Serenity Home, Mayville. Call 989-912-5478 for more information.
•Living with Parkinson's Support Group, 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m., Holiday Inn Express, 55 Rapson Lane West, Bad Axe. For more information, call Merry at (989) 673-4121.
•Family Caregiver Support Group, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Harbor Beach Community Hospital Administration Building/Conference Center, 147 S. First St., Harbor Beach. For more information, contact Merry at (989) 673-4121
•Ubyly Lions Club meeting, 7:00 p.m. at the Ubyly Thumb Veterans OrganizationHall, 2165 Bingham St., Ubyly MI 48475. A pot luck is served prior to the meeting. Everyone is welcomed.



PICTURED above are photos of the driver and suspect vehicle – a 2003 Buick with an Illinois registration – wanted by the Huron County Sheriff's Department in connection with a high-speed chase last week.

Deputies in Huron Co. seek suspect

Huron County Sheriff's deputies are seeking the public's help in locating a man who recently led officers on a high-speed chase.

Sheriff Kelly J. Hanson reported the incident took place Tuesday, June 4, at about 9 p.m. when Sgt. Ryan Neumann was on patrol and attempted to stop an out-of-state car traveling at a speed of 69 miles per hour in a 55 mph zone near the intersection of Caseville and Berne roads in Huron County's McKinley Township.

"The vehicle then accelerated and attempted to flee the deputy, as an approximately 10-mile chase began," Hanson said, adding the pursuit covered sections of multiple roads. "Several stop signs were run and speeds reached 100 plus mph. At one point, an occupant threw a beer can out the window in an attempt to strike the deputy's patrol car.

"Sgt. Neumann was able to get the vehicle's Illinois registration number and get a good look at the driver," the sheriff noted. "The chase then had to be terminated for safety reasons after opposing traffic became present."

Anyone with information is asked to contact the sheriff's department at (989) 269-6500 during regular business hours, or Huron Central Dispatch anytime at (989) 269-6421. Residents can also offer confidential information by calling the TIP Line at (989) 269-2861.

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LOOK WHO'S BACK IN THE NEW ANIMATED PG ADVENTURE...

THE SECRET LIFE OF
PETS 2



Circuit court proceedings

Several appear on felony charges

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

*Jason A. Frank, 38, Clio, received a one-year delayed sentence following his plea of guilty to impaired driving, third offense, Aug. 28 in Millington Township.

He was ordered to pay court costs and fines totaling \$1,508.

*Troy L. Smith, 21, Silverwood, pleaded no contest to receiving and concealing stolen property valued at more than \$1,000 between Sept. 11 and Oct. 18 in Mayville.

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

*Richard R. Vansumeren, 29, Bay City, pleaded guilty to one count of organized retail crime Oct. 28 in Caro. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (three or more prior felony convictions).

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered, the defendant's \$5,000 bond was revoked and he was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Gerald R. Paul, Jr., 65, Mayville, was sentenced to 365 days in the county jail following his plea of no contest to criminal sexual conduct, second degree, July 8 in Dayton Township.

He was also placed on probation for 60 months and ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$758 plus

attorneys fees of \$500.

*Whitney A. Alexander, 23, Flint, was sentenced to eight to 15 years in prison following her pleas of no contest to one count of criminal sexual conduct, third degree; two counts of assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder; and two counts of assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault).

The defendant was also ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$530.

*Heather L. Jackson, 31, Sebewaing, received a six-month delayed sentence following her pleas of no contest to assaulting, resisting or obstructing a police officer, and driving while her license was suspended or revoked, second offense, Sept. 26 in Caro.

She was ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$408.

*Angel J. Padro, 61, Caro, was sentenced to two days in jail after pleading no contest to charges of delivery/manufacture of marijuana or a synthetic equivalent, subsequent offense, and possession of ammunition by a felon Sept. 14, 2017, in Wells Township. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (two prior felony convictions).

In addition to jail time, he was ordered to pay costs and fines to-

taling \$1,026.

*Werner H. Bauer Jr., 54, Eastpointe, received a one-year delayed sentence following his pleas of guilty to charges of possession of a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle, operating a motor vehicle with a high BAC (blood alcohol content) and possession of a firearm while under the influence of liquor Nov. 15 in Dayton Township.

He was also placed on probation for 24 months and ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$1,708.

*Jeffrey A. Marshall, 57, Vassar, was sentenced to 30 days in jail, with worksite privileges, following his plea of guilty to operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor, third offense, Dec. 6 in Vassar.

He was also placed on probation for 60 months and ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$1,508.

*Logan J. Rocha, 18, Reese, pleaded no contest to three counts of criminal sexual conduct, second degree, involving personal injury to the victim and the use of force or coercion Feb. 1-19 in Denmark Township.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$50,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

Former Reese coach pleads guilty in embezzlement case

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

A former Reese High School coach has pleaded guilty to stealing nearly \$4,000 from the Tuscola County school district's athletic program.

Scott Andrew Long Jr., 32, Saginaw, entered the plea to a charge of embezzlement of \$200 to \$1,000 from a non-profit or charitable organization last week in Tuscola County Circuit Court.

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

Under a plea agreement, Long has agreed to pay full restitution – roughly \$3,900 – by his sentencing date. In exchange, the prosecutor's office dismissed the more serious charge of embezzlement of \$1,000 to \$20,000, which is punishable by up to 10 years incarceration and/or a \$15,000 fine. Any jail time for Long would be deferred pending successful completion of probation, according to court records.

Tuscola County Prosecutor Mark E. Reene authorized the embezzlement charge against Long in early March following an investigation into missing money from the Reese Public Schools and/or the Reese Public Schools Athletic Program.

"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.

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Reporter's notebook

Being a father is a year-round job

by Tom Montgomery
Editor



I've never been completely comfortable with being the center of attention on Father's Day.

Sure, the attention and gifts are fun – especially the ones I received when our kids were young, along with the tokens of love my grandchildren shower me with these days. I mean, can a guy ever really have enough homemade cards, jellybeans or balloons?

But when I look back at the job I did as a dad when the kids were growing up, I tend to remember my shortcomings. And there were many; missed concerts, overreacting to misbehavior that I can now see pales in comparison to some of the things I've seen other kids pull (and get away with), and all too frequently just not being there for them when I should have been.

Hindsight can be a real bear.

Observing some other dads only makes the past sting a bit more. You know the ones – the fathers who never seem to miss anything in their kids' lives, the ones who always know just the right thing to say. The fathers who appear to be superheroes in their youngsters' eyes, both then and now.

I wasn't that guy, in part because for a number of years I was too busy battling an addiction that nearly swallowed me whole in the end. Anyone who's been there will tell you there aren't too many brands of selfish that are more powerful or destructive than that.

They'll also probably tell you that getting better – even staying sober for a period of years — doesn't erase the daunting task of trying to make up for past failures, especially when it comes to your role as a parent.

In time, however, I realized something really important; it's never too late to be a good (or at least a better) dad, if you're willing to explore ways to re-establish relationships and try to heal old wounds.

Sure, it's a tall order, but so worth it.

Like any other thing in life, I suppose, you can't be a better father by looking in the rearview mirror, you know? And it's not about working at it for a while and then calling it quits. This is a year-round job, guys.

There's no lack of horrifying stories out there about men who have abused their kids or worse, or simply drop out of the picture. And, sadly, there are far too many "baby daddies" out there, many of whom simply don't get the reality – or just don't care — that creating a new life comes with more responsibility than they were ever willing to accept.

But there are also many dads who wish they could have done a much better job the first time around.

Fortunately, Father's Day doesn't have to be an "all or none" proposition.

Never stop trying to be a good dad, no matter your past. Keep in mind we've all made a few (or too many to count) mistakes, but that the only real failure comes when you've stopped trying. Doesn't matter if your kids, biological or not, are teenagers or looking at a mid-life crisis, the important thing is to keep working at it.

Maybe you've burned some bridges and believe there's nothing left to be done. You might be surprised what can happen if you reach out again.

Be generous with your time and have a listening ear. Mend relationships when and where you can, and keep an eye out for ways to let them know you love them and you have their backs.

Get busy – today, because you may not be here tomorrow.

Remember, they still need you.

Happy Father's Day.

Down Memory Lane

by Tina Pallas



5 YEARS AGO (2014)

Cass City landed 4 players on the Greater Thumb West all-conference baseball dream team, to the delight of Coach Nathan Haag. Named to the GTW all-conference first team in 2014 were Red Hawks Mason Erla, Dakota Hartel, Jake Hacker and Brock Thane.

10 YEARS AGO (2009)

Area resident Brice Stine recently graduated from Michigan State University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in crop and soil sciences. Stine, a 2004 Cass City High School graduate, has taken a position with Walther Farms. He is the son of Ivan and Roxanne Stine.

The Rev. Gerald Meyer will retire this month after spending 14 years in Cass City as the pastor at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. He said the phrase "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" sums up why he is a Lutheran.

25 YEARS AGO (1994)

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Doerr of Cass City spent last week with Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Marchand of Waterford. While there they were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Marchand and family. They were all guests of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Speer for Sunday dinner, and Monday the Jerry Marchands and the Doerrs had a fish fry at the Speer home and went for a boat ride on Lake Lotus.

McKenzie Memorial Hospital, Sandusky, reports the birth June 4 of a baby boy, Travis Lee, to Robert and Kelly Schmitt of Snover.

35 YEARS AGO (1984)

Julie Helwig, received an associate's degree in applied arts and sciences in dental assisting May 11 from Grand Rapids Junior College. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elwyn Helwig of Cass City. Mr. and Mrs. Roger Talaski, Cass

City, announce the birth of their son, Adam Andrew at Hills and Dales General Hospital, May 31. Adam joins a sister, Stephanie, 5%, and a brother Shawn, 3, at home. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Leo Talaski, Ubly, Mrs. Joyce Hamilton, Caro and William Hamilton, Caro. Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Hobart, Caro, Mrs. Lillian Hamilton, Burton and Wilbur Conley, Ubly, are great-grandparents.

40 YEARS AGO (1979)

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Root had as Sunday dinner guests, Mr. and Mrs. George McKee of Lapeer, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Nemeth of Deford and Mrs. Lois Binder. In the afternoon, Mr. and Mrs. Root and Mr. and Mrs. McKee attended a silver wedding anniversary celebration for Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Dorman at the Laing Free Methodist Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Hunt, Mrs. Ina Hool and their granddaughter, Kim Hool, who is home for the summer from Alma College, went Tuesday to Windsor, Ont., to attend high school graduation. Hunt Hool was among the grads. They will come home by way of Adrian where they will visit Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Forthun and children. They were to return home Thursday.

Bradley Hartel, who just completed his sophomore year, is a member of the all-star Lions honor band of Michigan. He left June 13 for Montreal, Canada, to attend the Lions convention and from there will be with the Michigan band on tour, returning home the last of the month. The band performed Friday evening in Lansing. Mr. and Mrs. Forest Walpole of Caro, Mrs. Scott Hartel, Mrs. Roger Reid and Mrs. Lota Hartel attended.

50 YEARS AGO (1969)

Mrs. Clifford Owens and children and Mrs. Alvin Hutchinson and children spent from Monday until Wednesday last week at the Agar cottage at Huron City. Mrs.

Dean Hoag and children joined them Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Les Hartwick of Cass City are the parents of a nine-pound baby boy, Jeffery Wayne, born in a Bad Axe hospital.

Born June 15 in Hills and Dales General Hospital to Mr. and Mrs. Mark Tuckey, their fifth son, Kurt Jay, who weighed eight pounds, 10 ounces.

75 YEARS AGO (1944)

Miss Ruth Marie Zapfe, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Zapfe, became the first bride of the class of 1944 of the Cass City high school, recently graduated, when she exchanged her marriage vows with Charles "Bud" Peasley in a ceremony Friday evening, June 9.

James Walker received a telegram from J. J. O'Leary from Long Beach, California, in which he says: "Arrived in states. Washington has approved my assignment as chief boatswain mate. Will see you about July 1." Jimmie, as O'Leary was called here, made his home with the Walker family for some time.

100 YEARS AGO (1919)

A very pretty wedding took place on Wednesday, June 18, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Flint when their daughter, Leta, became the bride of J. L. Merriam. At twelve o'clock, Maxine Campbell played the wedding march, and the bride and groom, accompanied by Miss Beryl, sister of the bride, and Nelson Merriam, brother of the groom, took their places beneath an arch of roses and ferns where Rev. J. D. Young pronounced them husband and wife.

Miss Maude Soderquist, for the past two years kindergarten teacher in the Cass City schools, was united in marriage Friday evening, June 13, in Saginaw to Elmer Jamison of Fairgrove. Mr. and Mrs. Jamieson have a delightful treat in prospect, planning to leave Monday or Tuesday for a motor trip to South Carolina, not returning until August.

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June Events:
1st Annual Cass City UMC – Flea Market
Sat. June 15th 9:00 – 3:00 pm Bargains, Food & Fun. Bouncy House 4 Kids, BBQ & Chinese Auction and vendors selling lots of items.

July Events:
Sat. July 6th look for our float in the Freedom Festival Parade.
Sat. July 6th Annual Fireworks Tailgate in our Parking Lot. 8:00 pm
Sat. July 27th 10:00 am – 4:00 pm **Thumb Arts, Music, Food & Fun.** Bouncy House 4 Kids, Food, Fun and Music and vendors selling lots of items.

August Events
Sat. August 3rd 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Kids Fly a Kite or Teens/Parents Fly a Drone. Picnic at the church grounds. Prizes.
Sat. August 17th 10:00 am – 4:00 pm **Classic Car, Tractor & Motorcycle Show Salute to our Veterans** Sponsored by the Cass City UMC - Progressive Group Music, Food & Fun. Bouncy House 4 Kids, Food, Fun and Music.

Sunday Worship 9:30 am
Web site: www.casscityumc.org

Wednesday Dorcas Meals
Sign Up and Reserve your Spot for our upcoming Flea Market.
Call (989) 872-3422 to reserve your space.

Join us for Holy C.O.W
Church on Wednesdays
Sign Up and Reserve your Spot for our upcoming Thumb Arts, Music, Food & Fun.
Call (989) 872-3422 to reserve your space.

Sign Up and Reserve your Spot for our Classic Car, Tractor & Motorcycle Show.
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News briefs

4-H volunteers are needed

The sixth annual Special Needs Kids Event will be held Thursday, Aug. 1 (rain or shine), from 9 a.m. to noon at the Huron County Community Fair, and organizers are looking for 4-H members who would like to volunteer their time.

Volunteers are needed to: give tours of the small livestock barn, man the Miracle of Life Building, help serve food at the Lions Building, help with various activities, and assist in cleaning up after.

Organizers are also looking for a few members who have small, friendly feeder steers that can be brought to the Miracle of Life Building (for one-hour shifts so the animals don't get tired.)

More information is available by contacting Kay Balcer via email at balcerdan.kay@gmail.com or by calling (989) 553-2927.

DTE scam circulating again

TUSCOLA COUNTY — The scam involving a person saying they are representing DTE has been targeting business in Tuscola County again, according to Tuscola County Sheriff Glen Skrent.

"Unfortunately, one person contacted our agency to say that they believed the person and purchased \$999 in prepaid cards and gave the numbers off the card to the suspect. Other businesses reported they received the same call but knew it was a scam," he said.

"So sad to see people keep falling for this criminal behavior. Please pass the word to everyone, especially vulnerable adults, that DTE or any other legitimate business will never demand you go get prepaid cards and give them the numbers off the card," Skrent added.

Dairy Odyssey day scheduled

SEBEWAING — Area youth are invited to participate in a Thumb Dairy Odyssey Day event set for Saturday, July 13, in the Sebewaing area.

The event will be from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Oak River Dairy, 4697 Gettel Rd., with the program focusing on showmanship. Participants will have the opportunity to practice showmanship skills, learn about calf nutrition, mastitis management and on-farm milk culturing.

Thumb Dairy Odyssey programs are designed for youth ages nine to 19 who are interested in learning about the dairy industry. The programs are open to farm kids, city kids, country kids, FFA and 4-H members, and introduce youth to career options in agriculture as well as strengthen skills that are key in FFA and 4-H competitions.

The cost is \$5 per youth, with an accompanying adult free. Lunch is included.

To register, visit the website events.anr.msu.edu. More information is available by contacting Marianne Buza at the Huron County Extension Office at (989) 269-9949 or via email at mbuza@msu.edu.

Green applauds quick action

TUSCOLA COUNTY — State Rep. Phil Green (R-Millington) applauded Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's recent declaration of a state of emergency in response to road damage caused by flooding in Tuscola County last month.

"The administration's prompt response will help ensure our community is receiving the assistance necessary to recover from the damage caused by the heavy rainfall," Green said. "I want to thank Governor Whitmer for working with our county officials to address the needs faced by the local recovery effort. I'd also like to share my appreciation for the folks on the ground in Tuscola County working diligently to repair our infrastructure and meet the needs of our residents."

Compiled by Mary Drier and Tom Montgomery



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Thank You!

The hygiene bag project for kids was a huge success. We put together **565 individual bags** for school age children.

Each contained shampoo, body wash, deodorant, bar soap, toothbrush and toothpaste items.

The community was instrumental in this effort. We would like to extend a thank you to all of the collection sites and to all of the generous individuals who took the time to donate the items. Boxes of supplies were collect by employees at several local businesses & banks. The bags we packed were also generously donated to the project.

The bags were distributed to children who came to the Common Grounds building on June 6 and then to Cass City Schools and Owendale-Gagetown School. The remaining were distributed to other school age children programs in the community.

Thank you Judy Keller, Chamber of Commerce for her guidance and assistance in this venture.

This project exceeded our expectations and we are very grateful to all who helped in every way to ensure its success.

*Thank you,
Christina Turner & Dawn Woidan*

State to host Caro Center public forum

Continued from page one.

its 2017 decision to dedicate funds for the new state psychiatric hospital here in the Thumb, the right place for the project," said Green, who represents citizens in Tuscola and Huron counties.

State Senator Kevin Daley (R-Lum), whose 31st District includes Tuscola County, says the Senate has since passed a version of the budget that includes similar language.

In mid-March, new Gov. Gretchen Whitmer announced the decision to halt construction of the new psychiatric hospital in Tuscola County while a reevaluation of the project was conducted by a consultant.

It was new MDHHS Director Robert Gordon who called for a reassessment of the hospital location based on concerns related to staffing shortages, lack of new staff recruitment and lack of a permanent psychiatrist on the Caro Center staff, and water accessibility.

However, emails obtained via a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted by an ABC12 reporter subsequently revealed Gordon had all but decided in late 2018 that the project wasn't going to proceed in Tuscola County.

"Among other things, the... emails show a decision was already largely made to stop the project before a consultant was brought on to 'study' its feasibility," Michigan Speaker of the House Lee Chatfield (R-Levering) said. "The idea of using a third party to put on a show of making that decision was pitched as a way to 'get the right answer' and 'hold off the legislature.'"

Tuscola County officials have responded with reams of research and data presented last year, when former Republican Gov. Rick Snyder's administration signed off on the project and approved the funding — \$115 million to construct the 200-bed, 225,000-square-foot hospital.

County commissioners have also hired consulting/lobbying firms to help them plead their case to the state. More recently, officials have focused on gathering information related to available services and facilities in place to support the new psychiatric facility, including hospitals, specialty clinics and law enforcement resources.

In addition, local governmental units throughout the region have adopted resolutions in support of keeping the new hospital in Tuscola County, and residents have been encouraged to express their opinions via emails to the governor and other state officials.

And those voices are being heard, according to Daley, who indicated current and former lawmakers are continuing to work together in their effort to convince the governor to reconsider the hold placed on construction of the facility.

A groundbreaking ceremony for the project was held last fall, and the state has already invested \$3 million in the project to-date.

The Caro Center, a staple in the community for more than 100 years and Tuscola County's second largest employer, boasts roughly 350 employees and has an estimated economic impact of some \$54 million on the region's economy.

"Relocation of the facility would have dramatic, devastating repercussions to businesses, schools and families in communities throughout this region," Green said last week. "The Caro site is the best possible place for this project. The 600-acre site is state-owned, and infrastructure is already in place. Plus, it has easy access to state highways and nearby medical providers."

The governor is scheduled to make her decision by the end of September. But Green says there's no time to waste.

"People across the state are crying out for access to quality mental health care," he said. "We simply can't wait any longer for the additional beds this project would provide. I urge the governor to reconsider her decision to halt this important project."

Green noted residents can join him in urging Whitmer to restore funding to the Caro project by signing his online petition at

Letters to the Editor

Freedom is not free

Continued from page three.

me in prayer:

Almighty God, our sons, pride of our nation, this day have set upon a mighty endeavor, a struggle to preserve our republic, our religion, and our civilization, and to set free a suffering humanity.

Lead them straight and true; give strength to their arms, stoutness to their hearts, steadfastness in their faith.

They will need Thy blessings. Their road will be long and hard. For the enemy is strong. He may hurl back our forces. Success may not come with rushing speed, but we shall return again and again; and we know that by Thy grace, and by the righteousness of our cause, our sons will triumph.

They will be sore tried, by night and by day, without rest — until the victory is won. The darkness will be rent by noise and flame. Men's souls will be shaken with the violence of war.

For these men are lately drawn from the ways of peace. They fight not for the lust of conquest. They fight to end conquest. They fight to liberate. They fight to let justice arise, and tolerance and good will among all Thy people. They yearn but for the end of battle, for their return to the haven of home.

Some will never return. Embrace these, Father, and receive them, Thy heroic servants, into Thy kingdom.

And for us at home — fathers, mothers, children, wives, sisters, and brothers of brave men overseas — whose thoughts and prayers are ever with them—help us, Almighty God, to rededicate ourselves in renewed faith in Thee in this hour of great sacrifice.

Many people have urged that I call the nation into a single day of special prayer. But because the road is long and the desire is great, I ask that our people devote themselves in a continuance of prayer. As we rise to each new day, and again when each day is spent, let words of prayer be on our lips, invoking Thy help to our efforts.

Give us strength, too — strength in our daily tasks, to redouble the contributions we make in the physical and the material support of our armed forces.

And let our hearts be stout, to wait out the long travail, to bear sorrows that may come, to impart our courage unto our sons wheresoever they may be.

And, O Lord, give us faith. Give us faith in Thee; faith in our sons; faith in each other; faith in our united crusade. Let not the keenness of our spirit ever be dulled. Let not the impacts of temporary events, of temporal matters of but fleeting moment let not these deter us in our unconquerable purpose.

With Thy blessing, we shall prevail over the unholy forces of our enemy. Help us to conquer the apostles of greed and racial arrogancies. Lead us to the saving of our country, and with our sister nations into a world unity that will spell a sure peace a peace invulnerable to the schemings of unworthy men. And a peace that will let all of men live in freedom, reaping the just rewards of their honest toil.

Thy will be done, Almighty God.

Amen."

We are fortunate those prayers were answered. It could be a much different world today.

Mary Drier
Unionville

We can end psych bed shortage

Editor,

I continue to urge the executive branch to resume construction of the new state psychiatric hospital in Tuscola County. I've spoken publicly many times about what the facility would mean for our local community and the countless individuals in need of inpatient mental health care in our state.

Relocating the project that employs so many members of our community will have devastating repercussions on our local businesses, schools and families.

It's important we take a look at the history of the state's mental health-care crisis and the related severe shortage of inpatient psychiatric beds to understand the desperate need our state has for a new hospital in Caro.

In the 1970s, there was a push to move people experiencing mental illness from hospital care to community-based care. As a result, Michigan closed a large majority of its state psychiatric hospitals.

Making matters worse, from 2005 to 2010, Michigan eliminated nearly 50 percent of its state psychiatric beds, leaving many individuals experiencing debilitating mental health crises with nowhere to turn but hospital emergency rooms. Many ended up homeless or in jails and prisons.

In 2017, the Legislature responded to the mental health care crisis by providing \$115 million for a new state psychiatric hospital to be built on the grounds of the existing Caro Center. Gov. Rick Snyder signed that plan into law in July of 2017 and the state entered into a construction contract the following December. The project was scheduled to be completed in 2021, granting relief to patients in need and their families across Michigan.

Section 1061 under Public Act 107 of 2017 says that money appropriated for the new state psychiatric hospital at the Caro Center must only be used for that exact project at that exact location and none other:

"Sec. 1061. The funds appropriated in part one for Caro Regional Mental Health Center shall only be utilized to support a psychiatric hospital located at its current location. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Caro Regional Mental Health Center shall remain open and operational at its current location on an ongoing basis, and that any capital outlay funding shall be utilized for planning and construction at the current location instead of at a new location."

We must respect the law as it was written.

The Caro Center was chosen because it is centrally located for family visits and patient transportation, with 80 percent of patients coming from Genesee, Oakland and Macomb counties. Further, the 600-acre site is already owned by the state, and necessary infrastructure is already in place and requiring only modest upgrades. The site is easily accessible to state highways and nearby medical providers. It's the perfect location for the project.

I urge the executive branch to consider the critical shortage of inpatient state psychiatric beds and continue with the construction of a new, much-needed state psychiatric hospital on the grounds of the current Caro Center. It is the right choice for quality care, patient access and value to the taxpayers of Michigan.

State Rep. Phil Green
84th District

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

Teens turn community garden plan into reality

Continued from page one.

The idea of making a difference appealed to Mendrick, who recalled the recent hunger summit involved multiple discussions, with those attending focusing on the goals of working to get a grocery store opened in the village as soon as possible, transforming the "meating the need" project into a non-profit organization, and establishing a community garden.

"Many members of the community expressed a desire to form a community garden, and I agreed to head the project along with another student, my friend Matt (Danks)," Mendrick said.

"I was really excited – this was the one thing I thought I could make a difference in," she added. "I know how to build, I know a little about plants – why not do this?"

"We hope to just start getting fresh, good produce into the hands of people who can't get it; who can't drive to get it or who can't afford it or grow it themselves."

Mendrick and her fellow volunteers went to work, designing the raised garden beds, which were selected to reduce small animal damage, and because they would allow older volunteers to pull weeds without having to bend over.

The preparations also included a trip to Cass City School Supt. Jeff Hartel's office to secure permission to place the garden in an easily accessible location — in front of the school's ag barn — and to ask for a donation to purchase materials.

Hartel obliged with a \$1,000 contribution, saying he was impressed with the students' initiative and the time and effort put into planning and securing cost estimates for the project.

"It (was) a no-brainer to say 'yes,'" Hartel said. "I'm very happy with what they've done."

Support has also come in the form of words of advice from some adults who attended a planning meeting. The high school's FFA advisor and science teacher, Leigh Osentoski, and the district's

food service director, Shari Bock, were among them. Students in the high school's shop classes, meanwhile, constructed the raised beds, the village donated the soil and transported it to the site, and Theresa Woodward, owner of Willow Ridge Farm Market, donated the vegetable plants.

While Mendrick says she'll be keeping a close eye on the garden in the days ahead, the goal is to encourage area residents to lend a hand by pulling a weed or two if they happen to be passing by.

"We really want to involve the community. We're hoping people walking by – if you see a weed, pull it. If it looks dry, water it," she said, noting Petiprin-Ball is in charge of the project's social media presence and will be posting updates on sites such as Facebook and Instagram.

When harvest time rolls around, Mendrick says the plan is to distribute the vegetables free through Revive Ministries, perhaps via a produce stand set up in the ministry's building on Main Street.

While past efforts to establish a community garden have yielded less-than-successful results, in part due to location and failure of organizers to follow-through, Bock says she's confident the latest attempt will be a different story.

"I think this one will be our successful garden. I think we have the right kids, and I think it's going to be a go. This is a great location and the kids have a plan," Bock said. "I'm totally impressed with every one of them."

"I just can't say enough about that group of kids. We have got some magnificent go-getters in Cass City," she added. "If this is any (indication) of our future, our future's great."

Battel agreed. "One of our core values in Meating the Need for Our Village has always been youth empowerment," she said. "We're very proud that such a wonderful project has come out of the Cass City Hunger Summit, and that it's (being) driven by youth in Cass City."



Marvin "Roger" Woods



Senior Movies set

Rawson Memorial District Library in Cass City will be hosting its next Senior Citizen Movies Friday, June 21, starting at 1:30 p.m.

Films scheduled to be shown are: *The Harvey Girls: Opportunity Bound – Beginning in the 1880's, more than 100,000 brave young women left home and traveled west to work as waitresses along the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad. The Harvey Girls, as they were called, opened the doors of both the American West and the workplace to women. "Opportunity Bound" features rare interviews with the few remaining Harvey Girls (57 minutes).

"Kyoto" – Rudy Maxa presents the concept of wabi-sabi, the uniquely Japanese art of finding beauty in everyday life, as he travels to Kyoto. Enjoy a 15th-century Zen garden, walk along quiet backstreets with little shrines and wooden houses, witness the weaving of kimonos, and visit Kiyomizu-dera Temple (30 minutes).

Owendale officials hope to honor native son who died in 9/11 terrorist attack

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

Although it has been nearly 18 years since the 9/11 terrorist attack on the United States, for some the memory of that tragic day is still raw.

Owendale Village officials are working to honor a native son who was killed in the attack on the Pentagon. Marvin "Roger" Woods, 57, who was a retired Navy radioman chief and a civilian technical manager for the Chief of Naval Operations, was at work on that fateful day. He was assigned to work at the Pentagon in the mid-1990s.

According to Owendale Village Clerk Randy Howard, Woods is a native of Owendale.

"He was in his new office in the Pentagon on 9/11 when the plane crashed into the building. He had just relocated from an office on the opposite side of the Pentagon a week earlier," said Howard, who received council permission in May to look into the process of creating a memorial for Woods.

During the terrorist attacks, American Airlines Flight 11 and United Airlines Flight 175 crashed into the North and South World Trade Center complex in lower Manhattan.

American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into the Pentagon, which is the headquarters of the U.S. Department of Defense, in Arlington County, Va. The attack caused a partial collapse of the building's west side.

And, United Airlines Flight 93, which was initially flying toward Washington, D.C., crashed into a field in Stonycreek Township near Shanksville, Penn., when its passengers thwarted the hijackers.

Woods enlisted in the Navy when he was in high school and went on to serve for 23 years, including a tour in Vietnam.

"The village is looking into the possibility of placing a memorial in his honor in the village park. We are leaning toward a bronze plaque affixed to a large rock," Howard said. "We don't have any specific language for the plaque or exactly what kind of costs are associated with such a monument — We are still researching that."

Hopes are to be able to create a memorial for about \$500. An update on the effort is expected later this month.

Whether or not Owendale officials are able to create a memorial for Woods, he will not be forgotten.

At the Pentagon Memorial, each victim is memorialized by a bench, placed in line according to year of their birth. And, Woods was laid to rest in Section 64 of Arlington National Cemetery, in the shadows of the Pentagon.

Al-Qaeda's attack on the United States was the single deadliest terrorist attack in human history and the single deadliest attack involving the loss of fire fighters and law enforcement officers.

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Lady Hawks bow in regional final

by Clarke Haire
 Publisher

After exploding for double digit runs in their regional semifinal victory over Madison Heights Bishop Foley, Cass City's bats went silent in the championship game Saturday as coach John Hacker's team fell to Marine City. The Lady Red Hawks actually trailed 5-2 early in their semifinal tilt against the Ventures, but used the long ball to roll into the championship game with a convincing 20-9 decision. Trailing 6-4 after two innings, sophomore Haven Bouverette put Cass City on top with a 3-run blast over the fence in the third. To their credit, however, the Ven-

tures regained the advantage with a pair of runs in the 4th, only to see Cass City rally with three runs of their own in the top of the 5th to lead 10-8. Bouverette, only a sophomore who joined the team late in the season, belted her second home run in the contest to start the Red Hawk comeback bid. "Wow, I couldn't believe it. Her first home run was hit a mile. She's a strong girl," said Hacker of Bouverette's antics. Cass City used another home run, this one from freshman Abbey Halabis with the bases loaded in the 7th, to secure the outcome. The Red Hawk hit parade featured 24 knocks with eight players recording multiple safeties. Hailey Beckrow pounded out five hits

and Halabis added four hits to lead the way. The pair accounted for 10 RBIs. Besides the three homers, Brittany Hamilton, Abbey Salcido and Macey White all added doubles for the winners. "We brought in a hitting coach in March and I think that paid huge dividends for this team," noted Hacker. Halabis and Dawson Klein handled the pitching duties for Cass City. Halabis worked the opening four innings and was awarded the win. She gave up seven earned runs and struck out one. Klein, who worked the final three innings, was credited with a save. She surrendered just three hits and didn't allow an earned run. In the championship game, Cass City was limited to just three hits

by Marine City ace Katelynn MacEvan, who was the pitcher of record in the 7-2 decision. Marine City scored the game's first four runs, but led just 4-2 after three innings as White doubled in both runs for the Red Hawks scoring Beckrow - she had Cass City's other two hits - and Bouverette in the bottom of the third. The Red Hawks would never seriously threaten to score again. Klein and Halabis shared the mound chores for Cass City. Starter Klein was tagged with the defeat, as she yielded four earned runs before handing the ball to Halabis after 2 1/3 innings on top of the hill. "We went about as far as you could go without a dominant

pitcher," said Hacker, adding, "Our bats go a little quiet against faster pitching, she (MacEvan) had a good riser. We only saw that type of pitching three times all year." At the plate for the Mariners, Brittany Miller and Erin Davis had three hits apiece while Riley Wood chipped in two hits. Miller and Davis both hit home runs. With the loss, the careers of four Cass City seniors come to an end. They are Kacey Haire, Jalene Krol, DeeDee Haley and Hamilton. "I had a lot of fun coaching these girls. They are all great kids," Hacker said. Cass City, which won the school's first district crown in 16 years, finishes with a 26-8 record.



CASS CITY freshman Abbey Halabis was the winning pitcher in regional semifinal action against Madison Heights Bishop Foley. She helped her own cause with a grand slam.

Kingston suffers only loss of season during regional play to USA

by Clarke Haire
 Publisher

A season that won't be forgotten any time soon ended over the weekend for the Kingston High School softball team. After winning their first 27 contests, the Lady Cardinals fell in the Division 4 Regional championship game at Genesee Saturday to Unionville-Sebewaing Area School 8-0. With the 8-0 win, the Patriots advanced to the quarterfinal round to take on Allen Park Inter City Baptist (19-2) at Saginaw Valley State University. Tuesday's contest was scheduled for a noon start. USA scored solo runs in each of the first three innings and then removed most doubt from the game's outcome with four markers in the top of the 7th. Brynn Polega tossed a complete game to earn the win on the mound for USA. She allowed just two hits and struck out 18 in a dominant performance.

Camryn MacGuire was the victim of little offensive support and suffered the loss on the hill for the Cardinals, yielding five earned runs while fanning three. Maci Montgomery turned in a 3-for-3 showing at the plate with a pair of RBIs and two runs scored to lead the winners. She had plenty of help as USA belted out 13 hits, including doubles from Carissa Dinsmore and Nicole Schember. Katelyn Iseler's triple and Ashtian Davis' single were the only hits allowed by Polega. In semifinal action Saturday, Kingston edged Mio 6-5 in extra innings, as a double by Payton Kolacz in the bottom of the 9th provided a walk-off victory. Tied 4-4 at the end of regulation, both teams plated one run in the 8th inning, setting the stage for Kolacz's heroics. Davis, Kolacz and Iseler all had multiple knocks for Kingston. MacGuire whiffed 12 to collect Please turn to page 10.

GTW airs all-conference softball picks

by Clarke Haire
 Publisher

Hailey Beckrow, Kacey Haire and Abbey Salcido topped Cass City's 2019 Greater Thumb West all-conference softball listing- the Lady Red Hawks had eight players total honored - as first team choices. Junior Beckrow made the most of her rookie varsity season for Coach John Hacker as the Red Hawks finished with a 26-8 record and the school's first district championship in 16 years. The Cass City shortstop made good use of her speed on defense and offense. Entering regional play, her average at the plate was a team best .512 that included five triples. Senior Haire, a 3-year varsity starter, was a gold glove performer in center field with a strong arm. The team leader's offensive numbers included a .961 on-base and slugging percentage with a pair of home runs and 35 runs scored. Salcido, another first year varsity

junior, batted for a .459 average and knocked in 24 runs. She was counted on defensively to patrol left field. "Hailey beat everybody up with her bat and Kacey catches everything hit her way. Abbey is a good decision maker. All the coaches were impressed with those three girls," Hacker said. Also voted by league coaches to the GTW fantasy all-conference first team were USA's Brynn Polega - sophomore pitcher, Reese's Abigail Huizar - junior pitcher, Reese's Jordynn Roberts - senior catcher, USA's Rylee Zimmer - senior infielder, Reese's Madi Thompson - senior infielder, EPBP's Kristyn Wurst - senior infielder, Vassar's Tristin Paquette - junior outfielder and USA's Delanie Pavlichek - senior player at large. On the GTW all-conference second team were a trio of Lady Red Hawks in freshman Abbey Halabis, sophomore Macey White and senior Brittany Hamilton. Halabis was honored for her

work in the pitcher's circle. Entering regional play she had chalked up a team best 14 wins with only three losses and held a 2.411 ERA. White, the GTW all-conference second team catcher, batted over .470 during the regular season with eight doubles, while infielder Hamilton, who also participated in track during her final high school season, ended her 3-year varsity stint with a .452 average and 20 RBIs before regional action. The remainder of the GTW all-conference second team picks are Caro senior pitcher Ashlin Murphy, Caro senior infielder Meredith Moore, EPBP junior infielder Jaelyn Talaski, Bad Axe senior infielder Abby Newland, USA freshman outfielder Macy Reinhardt, Caro junior outfielder Kaitlyn Arebalo, EPBP senior outfielder Greta Elston and Vassar sophomore player at large Sarah Colosky. The GTW all-conference honor- Please turn to page 10.

2018-19 EAST SOFTBALL ALL CONFERENCE			
FIRST TEAM			
Sadie Souva	Ubly	Senior	Pitcher
Lauren Woods	Brown City	Junior	Pitcher
Bethany Gornowicz	Ubly	Senior	Catcher
Samontha Souva	Ubly	Sophomore	Infielder
Madison Wheeler	Capac	Senior	Infielder
Taylor Calkins	Sandusky	Senior	Infielder
Danielle Franzel	Sandusky	Senior	Infielder
Alexis Wiltse	Brown City	Senior	Infielder
Aubree Smith	Capac	Senior	Outfielder
Madison Winarski	Sandusky	Senior	Outfielder
Lexi Crenshaw	Brown City	Senior	Outfielder
Katelyn Sweeney	Ubly	Junior	At Large
SECOND TEAM			
Alley Patterson	Sandusky	Sophomore	Pitcher
Kennedy Lefler	Marlette	Junior	Pitcher
Izabelle Amador	Capac	Senior	Catcher
Mikaela Van Erp	Ubly	Senior	Infielder
Ally Dean	Capac	Senior	Infielder
Carleigh Nickens	Marlette	Junior	Infielder
Amber Pleiness	Harbor Beach	Junior	Infielder
Kelsey Knoblock	Ubly	Senior	Outfielder
Shelby Husovsky	Capac	Senior	Outfielder
Paige Patterson	Sandusky	Junior	Outfielder
Jessica Weber	Harbor Beach	Senior	Outfielder
Haley Mitchell	Memphis	Freshman	Outfielder
Zoe Mathews	Brown City	Senior	At Large
2018-19 EAST BASEBALL ALL CONFERENCE			
FIRST TEAM			
Alex Heussner	Marlette	Senior	Pitcher
Ben Blanco	Memphis	Senior	Pitcher
Garrison Booms	Harbor Beach	Senior	Catcher
Sean Quade	Marlette	Senior	Infielder
Cam Walsh	Memphis	Junior	Infielder
Dan Patrias	Brown City	Junior	Infielder
Casey Sweeney	Ubly	Junior	Infielder
Bret Havens	Marlette	Senior	Outfielder
Dawson Stier	Memphis	Senior	Outfielder
Austin Creguer	Ubly	Junior	Outfielder
Cody Hayden	Marlette	Sophomore	At Large
SECOND TEAM			
Ross Arntz	Harbor Beach	Senior	Pitcher
Brendan Falco	Capac	Senior	Pitcher
Chad Bower	Marlette	Senior	Catcher
Blake Wiltse	Brown City	Junior	Infielder
Andrew Geiger	Brown City	Senior	Infielder
Dylan Kadar	Harbor Beach	Sophomore	Infielder
Danny Parski	Capac	Sophomore	Infielder
Mason Jahn	Harbor Beach	Senior	Outfielder
Parker Jahn	Harbor Beach	Junior	Outfielder
Jakob Sawyers	Capac	Senior	Outfielder
Noah Treutle	Memphis	Senior	At Large

Greater Thumb West names baseball best

by Clarke Haire
Publisher

A pair of repeat dream team picks, and two first time selections highlighted Cass City's 2019 Greater Thumb West all-conference baseball choices.

Red Hawk juniors Kendall Anthes and Sandyn Cuthrell were named to the GTW first team for the second straight year, while sophomore Kenton Wiseman and senior Luke Stern make their maiden appearance on the factious squad.

Determined by the vote of league coaches, Anthes was one of two pitchers and Cuthrell one of four infielders to receive top honors in the 7-school association.

"Kendall was amazing all season and allowed only one earned run in conference play," said Cass City coach Josh Stern, adding, "Sandyn continued to shine in both the field and at the plate."

On the mound, Anthes compiled impressive numbers. The hard throwing right hander – his fast-ball was clocked in the mid-80s – held a .107 ERA and .350 WHIP. In 65 2/3 innings of work, Anthes recorded 122 strike outs, issued just one base on balls, and scattered 19 hits to post an perfect 10-0 record.

At the plate, Anthes batted for a .400 average with 17 RBIs. He scored 29 runs for the GTW champs that went 11-0 in conference play and 25-3 overall.

Cuthrell anchored the Red Hawk defense at shortstop. A first team GTW all-conference selection in football, basketball and baseball, he batted for a .393 average and had an OBP of .460 during his third year on the Cass City varsity. Cuthrell led the team with 39 runs scored.

Wiseman also was listed as an infielder on the GTW all-conference first team, but may be better known for his work on the mound. Like Anthes, he was undefeated on the season at 8-0. Wiseman's totals included 60 strikeouts and 10 earned runs in 48 1/3 innings toting the rubber. At the plate, he held a .358 average with 15 doubles.

Stern, a 4-year varsity member, was voted as the GTW all-conference first team player at large. The team's No. 3 hitter in the

lineup, he batted for a lofty .412 average with team highs in RBIs and home runs clubbing 31 and three, respectively.

"Kenton is only a sophomore and has the potential to be first team two more times. Luke was our leading hitter and did a great job with our pitchers when catching," Stern said.

"All four guys extremely deserve and I was glad to see them be recognized by the other coaches for what they do for our team."

Joining the Cass City foursome as GTW first team pick are Reese senior pitcher Adam Fisher, Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port junior catcher Bryce Sears, Bad Axe junior infielder Jack Fischer, USA senior infielder Nic Lutz, Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port sophomore outfielder Anthony Sheridan, USA junior outfielder Landin Zimmer and Vassar junior outfielder Ethan Dunham.

Turning to the GTW all-conference second team, among the headliners is Cass City senior Zack Beecher. The Red Hawk outfielder, who has signed a letter of intent with Delta College, capped his 4-year varsity career with a .367 batting average, .480 OBP, .443 SLG and .923 OPS.

Rounding out the GTW all-conference second team are Luke Sobezak - Bad Axe junior pitcher, Max Kukulski - Vassar junior pitcher, Jacob Kowalski - Reese sophomore catcher, Bryce Brechtelsbauer - Reese junior infielder, Caleb Guigar - Bad Axe sophomore infielder, Justin Esch - Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port freshman infielder, Preston Warren - Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port senior infielder, Nash Morton - USA junior infielder, Jax McCabe - Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port junior outfielder, Tyler Foster - Caro junior outfielder and Garrett Everett - Reese junior player at large.

Receiving GTW all-conference honorable mention praises were Michael Sheridan, Reese; Vinny Blackstock, Bad Axe; Miles Campbell, Caro; Hadyen Horne, Cass City; Brady Gugel, Reese; Tom Papesch, Reese; Ryan Wehner, Bad Axe; Micah Gordon, Bad Axe; Christian Bunzack, Caro; Andrew Siegfried, Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port; Jalen Gangler, USA; and Addison Hansard, Vassar.



THE 10u Cass City all-star softball team won the championship of the Johnny T Classic Tournament in Pigeon over the weekend. They are (front row, l to r) Ali Learman, Jannah Sheikh, Destiny Periso, Taliesha Tageson, Molly Poole, Rylee Bliss (middle row) Veedell Moore, Grace Rockwell, Shayler McIntyre, Addison Frederick, Breanna Miller, Kylie Perkins (back row) Coach Paul Learman, Coach Todd Bliss and Coach Eric Hollis.

Cardinal gals close fabled athletic careers

Continued from page 9.

the complete game victory.

The Kingston Class of 2019 will be considered by many as the most athletic in Cardinal history. They posted a 20-1 record in volleyball, winning the North Central

Thumb League Star crown in addition to district and regional banners in the fall.

Then in the winter, the Cardinal cagers finished with a 24-3 mark despite playing one of the toughest hoop schedules in the Thumb. They also won North Central Thumb League Star honors and

advanced all the way to the State Division 4 semifinal rounds, collecting the school's first quarterfinal win in the process.

Finally, the senior led bunch finished with a 27-1 record on the softball diamonds in 2019, winning league and district championships.

GTW girl stars announced

Continued from page 9.

able mention players for 2019 are: Dawson Klein, Cass City; Hayley Krug, Bad Axe; Maci Montgomery, USA; Kaytlyn Kunse, Caro; Laci Harris, USA; Delaney Peyok, Reese; Lauren Scramlin, Reese; Carly Syms, Caro; Katlin Kady, EPBP; Lainey Zwerk, Vas-

sar; Emilee Whitney, Vassar; Morgan Etzel, Bad Axe; Danielle Harper, USA; Maddi Osantowski, Reese; Katie Ratajczak, Reese; Haley Newland, Bad Axe; Sydney Prill, Bad Axe; Lilly Hessling, Caro; Madi Tschirhart, Cass City; Josie Johnson, Reese; Nichole Schember, USA and Hadley Goodell, Vassar.

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K of C distributes funding



THIS YEAR'S distribution of about \$2,655 in funding from the Cass City Knights of Columbus Council 8892, collected during the council's annual Tootsie Roll Fundraiser, included \$445 to the special education program at the Cass City Public Schools. Above, Tootsie Roll Chairman Daryl Iwankovitsch presents the check to Kathy Wright, special education teacher. Also donated was \$150 for special education programs at Owen-Gage Schools, \$100 to Highland Pines School, \$350 to the Sacred Heart SPRED (Special Religious Education) program, \$1,079 to Tuscola County Special Olympics, and \$531 to the state council.



ACCEPTING THE \$150 check for special education programs at Owen-Gage Schools (above) is Christine Grim.



ACCEPTING CHECKS on behalf of Highland Pines School and Tuscola County Special Olympics (above) are Anne Olsen and Jennifer Gray and students of Highland Pines. In addition, Iwankovitsch (center) accepted a plaque presented by the Tuscola County Special Olympics organization to Knights of Columbus Council 8892.



ACCEPTING THE \$150 check for special education programs at Owen-Gage Schools (above) is Christine Grim.

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Job Posting: English Language Arts with second endorsement (social studies preferred) - Qualifications: Candidate must be Highly Qualified in Michigan. Candidate must possess a valid Teaching Certificate with English and a secondary endorsement. Candidate will have a passion and desire for working with 6-12 grade students. Candidate will be flexible and have the ability to work with a diverse student population. The candidate must have a willingness to learn and collaborate with a team as well as have a willingness to serve on committees and be involved in school functions. Candidate must have superb work attendance for school as well as be involved in professional learning opportunities. Location: Owendale-Gagetown Area Schools, Salary: Per Contract, Apply to: Terri Falkenberg/Superintendent: Owendale-Gagetown Area Schools 7166 Main St., Owendale, MI 48754 or by e-mail at falkenbergt@owengage.org. Application Deadline: June 28. 11-6-12-2

NOTICE FOR GILFORD TOWNSHIP

MAY 9, 2019- MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting called to order at 7:30 P.M., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present: D. Strasz, Treasurer; R. Haines, Clerk; J. Stockmeyer, Supervisor; A. Goss, Trustee; K. Houghtaling, Trustee. Order of agenda approved.
 Public Comment: M. Trumbauer from Nextera says they will be submitting applications tomorrow for additional turbines in Gilford TWP.
 Minutes of Previous Meeting: Motion by D. Strasz, second by A. Goss to approve minutes. Motion approved. Motion by K. Houghtaling, second by A. Goss to approve minutes of 4/11/19 Election Commission meeting, motion approved. Motion by J. Stockmeyer, second by D. Strasz to approve minutes of 4/29/2019 Election Commission meeting, motion approved.
 Treasurers Report: Motion by A. Goss, second by J. Stockmeyer to approve Treasurers Report. Motion approved.
 REPORTS:
 Supervisor: 1 Reese medical run. Roadside mowing: 1 bid for \$10,000 which includes primary roads (82 miles) with 2 mowings. Discussed option to not mow primary roads, and request more information before decision. Brickel Brothers contract for Hall and Cemetery grounds keeping. D. Strasz motion, second by K. Houghtaling to accept contract, motion approved. Land Plan is near completion and will meet May 13 at 7:00 P.M. to review. Resolution supporting Bradleyville Rd. upgrades. Motion by D. Strasz to support resolution 2019-12, support by K. Houghtaling, roll call vote, 5 yeas, 0 nays, resolution adopted. Resolution supporting Psychiatric Hospital presented by A. Goss, second by J. Stockmeyer, roll call vote, 5 yeas, 0 nays, Resolution 2019-13 adopted. Letter of support for FAA determination. Motion by K. Houghtaling, second by D. Strasz supporting FAA letter, motion approved. Request by land owner to repair Pike road north of M-138. Will seek estimate from Road Commission.
 Treasurer: Monday is Township audit.
 Clerk: VOIP phone system discussion, motion by J. Stockmeyer, second by A. Goss to accept Air Advantage quote for phone system, motion approved. List of Hall maintenance issues presented. Election report. Motion by J. Stockmeyer, second by D. Strasz to pay bills, motion approved.
 Trustees: Land Plan meeting Monday. Parks meeting surveys reviewed, will narrow down results before decision.
 Ambulance Representative: Gilford 8 responses, change in contract to read 11 minutes or less response time, this reflects larger service area. R.A. Kaijala was recognized for 36 years of service. CPR class May 11 at VAAS.
 Fire Department Representative: Reese: Tuscola Association meeting, fire and rescue truck repairs needed, pumper truck foam training on May 20, chief asking for new equipment requests.
 Zoning Administrator: 2 permits issued, 1 demolition permit, junk car near cemetery has been removed.
 Public Comment: Some people have not received participation check from Nextera. Big potholes on Quanicasse road section that is not paved.
 Motion by J. Stockmeyer, second by R. Haines to adjourn at 9:10 P.M. Motion approved.

Robert L. Haines,
Gilford Township Clerk

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 123-19-0003



Very nice brick Ranch with open floor plan, remodeled kitchen and central air. Home features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, first floor laundry and a full semi-finished basement. Call today to take a look and see all this great home has to offer. 194-19-0009



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 approx. 10 acres tillable. Has a pole barn with water and electric and a lean-to. There is also a storage shed. A 1-year home warranty is included. CY2764



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3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 story home, sets on a large lot and features hardwood floors, central air, full unfinished basement, 1-1/2 car garage and is in walking distance to town.
 032-18-0023



Ranch home with 1,000 sq. ft. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, full basement, attached garage. Home in need of TLC. Potential is here for a very nice Ranch in town. Lots of closets and storage and good sized rooms. TCC1817

Herron sells business

Continued from page one.

Matt Klein added he is excited to add this new aspect to the family business and to carry on Herron's legacy in the Thumb.

As a builder, Herron has left his mark throughout the region, especially in Cass City and Caro.

There is a map hanging in Herron's office with yellow pins marking the locations of his various projects. The northwest corner of the map is crowded with yellow pins noting multiple housing projects in Cass City as well as a few others scattered throughout the community and the Thumb.

In 1972, Herron bought 10 acres in the corner of the village where he built his first subdivision.

"I got a loan from the (former) Pinney Bank for that. It was paid off in two years," he recalled.

"It was a different era back then," added Herron, who noted a man's word and a handshake closed many a deal.

"When that was done in 1974, I went back for another loan to build Hillcrest Subdivision. The bank told me no because they felt the community didn't need another subdivision. So, I went to a different bank and got a loan," Herron said.

When that subdivision was completed in 1978, he started construction of Northwood Estates. He then built the Northwood Condominiums. In 1996, he started doing modular homes and founded Northwood Modular Homes, Inc.

"My most challenging project was building Walbro; that was a big project," Herron said, referring to the company that has locations in Caro as well as Cass City.

Herron's skills as a carpenter and builder can be seen in a number of Caro locations, where his projects have included the Brentwood, Star Brite restaurant, and remodeling the Capri, which is now the Oven restaurant.

His residential and commercial construction thumbprints have also been left on IGA grocery stores, car dealerships and a variety of other businesses in the Thumb.

Of all of the structures he tackled, however, it was his first construction project in 1965 that he takes the most pride in and is closest to his heart; a house he built for Preston and Florence Karr outside of Gagetown.

"That helped get me started in construction. It is a ranch-style home. Florence is 101-years old now. She still lives in that house, and it is still just as I built it," he said.

Besides helping launch his career, building the Karr house led to another major life event for him – he found the woman he wanted to marry, although he was hesitant to do so because of his financial situation.

"That Karr home helped get me going as a builder, and I was able to marry Linda," said Herron. "She has stood by me all of these years. There has been a lot of ups and downs in the construction business, and she has always stood by my side."

When he started taking on construction work, the Herron kitchen table was his office, a cigar box was his filing cabinet, and his wife served as company bookkeeper.

Now, with retirement looming on the horizon, there is time for reflection.

Herron was just one when his mother passed away, leaving him to be raised by his grandmother, Mary McDonald, and his step-grandfather, Lawrence McDonald. He was 19 years old when his step-grandfather passed away.

"The farm was sold then. That ended the dream of being a farmer," he said. "He was the one who encouraged me to take up carpentry work."

"The two things he taught me (were) to work hard, and to go to church...I still do both."

According to Herron, he always felt like he was alone when he was growing up. He said he wasn't a very good student, and he wasn't popular in school, which made him kind of shy when he was attending the former St. Agatha Catholic School in Gagetown and Cass City High School.

He recalled his hopes and dreams of building a better life for himself.

"My life has gone beyond anything I had ever dreamed of for myself. It's been a good life. I have a good family. I had a good career that I loved. I worked six-days a week; but because I enjoyed building so much, it didn't really seem like work," said Herron as he choked back the raw emotion of giving up a large part of his life.

"Selling the business was a very difficult decision. It's hard to give up something you love so much, brought so much joy, and (has been) a big part of my life."

One thing he said he won't miss is all of the red-tape that goes hand-in-hand with the construction trade today.

"Back when I started, you didn't need a builder's license and there were no building codes with all of its rules and regulations," Herron explained. "When builders had to start being licensed, I think I got one of the first ones issued."

Aside from working six-day weeks, family demands also kept him busy. His wife, Linda, had three children, which he adopted. They had two children together, and they also adopted a boy.

While doing all of that, he also found time to give back to the community. He was honored with the Lion of the Year Award in 1997 and was named Cass City's Citizen of the Year in 1983.

Although no longer doing construction, Herron is continuing to serve the community as a Cass City Village trustee.



"SELLING THE business was a very difficult decision. It's hard to give up something you love so much, brought so much joy, and (has been) a big part of my life," said veteran Cass City building contractor Tom Herron, who has sold the business he formed in 1964.

O-G students benefit from snow day forgiveness

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

Because lawmakers approved "forgiving" some extra days off due to the extreme winter weather conditions, the Owendale-Gagetown School District will get out a few days earlier than what had been projected.

Students missed 14 days of classes because of the weather, so the last day of school was scheduled for Friday, 14, but thanks to lawmakers, the school year ended with a half-day of classes Tuesday.

The Legislature approved forgiving four missed snow days from Jan. 29-Feb. 1. Under state law, school districts are allowed six canceled days due to circum-

stances beyond their control such as severe storms, fires, epidemics, power outages, or water or sewer failure. Districts can also petition the state for three additional days if necessary. However, even with those additional days forgiven, it wasn't enough.

In other business during a recent meeting, school Supt. Terri Falkenberg reported district officials have been negotiating some contracts.

The Owen-Gage Board of Education went into a closed session to discuss contracts for the district's administration secretary and for the maintenance-transportation director, but took no action after returning to open session.

According to the district's administrative assistant, Mary Ann Min-

kler, the contracts expire June 30.

Also, the board again approved accepting School of Choice students.

Michigan's School of Choice program was introduced in 1996. It provides students with additional enrollment opportunities, including allowing students to determine which school within the resident district they will enroll, and allowing non-resident students to enroll in a district other than their own.

The school board approved its meeting schedule for the coming year, with regular sessions scheduled to be held at 7 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of every month in the school library (except for November and December due to the holidays).

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TUSCOLA County Sheriff's Department Corrections Officer Emily Cockerill graduated from the Delta College Correction Officer Training Program last week, according to Sheriff Glen Skrent. "Delta provides the 160-hour correction officer training mandated and approved by the Michigan Sheriff's Coordinating and Training Council (MSCTC), forming the foundation for a successful career in corrections," he explained.