



Meet the October students of the month

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Colonoscopy not scary after all

Reporter's Notebook, page 5



CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

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CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2019

.75 CENTS - 16 PAGES

School board to spend surplus on several projects

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

The Cass City Board of Education Monday approved several upgrades in the district using a \$600,000-plus windfall left over after a myriad of voter-approved summer construction projects were completed under budget.

School officials last month briefly discussed how the unexpected money will be used, approving two expenditures — \$39,384 to complete new ceiling and lighting in some junior-senior high building hallways and \$212,000 for the purchase of three new buses.

However, the board put off a final decision on how to spend the remaining funds until after contractors could take a close look at the condition of the elementary boilers, which are beyond their lifespan and may or may not continue to serve the building for another couple years.

According to school Supt. Jeff Hartel, an inspection of the elementary boilers revealed they will need to be replaced soon at an estimated cost of \$300,000.

The board approved a resolution Monday to spend \$88,000 on a new heating, ventilation and air conditioning system for the junior-senior high offices and administrative offices, which were bypassed this summer; \$15,700 for new shades for high school classrooms; and \$2,500 for new keys for all offices as a security measure.

Student numbers

Turning to student enrollment, Hartel presented information related to both the impact of Schools of Choice legislation and the trend of student numbers in Tuscola County.

Earlier this month, schools throughout the state conducted the second of two biannual enrollment counts used by the state to determine how

Please turn to page 12.

Powell receives highly effective evaluation

by Clarke Haire
Publisher

The Cass City Village Council met behind closed doors Monday night to evaluate Village Manager Debbie Powell. When they returned to the public forum 15 minutes later, the second-year administrator received nothing but praise from Village President Dan Delamarter.

"Overall the council is pleased with her performance. There were no negative comments and she was rated highly effective," he said.

Powell, who was chosen to replace interim Village Manager Lou LaPonsie, started as Cass City's permanent village manager in September 2017 and has exceeded the expectations of trustees since leaving her job with the city of Saginaw, despite inheriting a new embattled council at the time.

Powell served as assistant to the manager/public information officer

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OWEN HOWARD (from left), Preston Smith, Penelope Smith and Jackson Howard were among the hundreds of youngsters who participated in Cass City's 2019 Pink or Treat event last Wednesday, which saw another tradition continue — the staff at Knights Insurance grilled up and served 1,000 hotdogs before running out. (Related photos, page 16)

Sobriety court tops 100 grads

Thumb regional program changing lives, officials say

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

"This has been the best thing that has happened to me in life so far. This program has taught me to be more accountable, learn how to do things without alcohol, put me on the path to respecting myself and others, and straighten out my attitude. I now have a positive attitude for the first time."

—Thumb Regional Sobriety Court graduate.

If the success of the Thumb Regional Sobriety Court (TRSC) can be measured in changed lives, the program has achieved its goal and then some.

But the local program has also served as a shining example of effectiveness among regional sobriety courts in Michigan.

And the numbers prove it. The TRSC will top the 100-graduate mark during its 12th graduation ceremony next month.

In all, 10 more individuals who have successfully completed the program will be honored during a ceremony scheduled for Friday, Nov. 8, starting at 10 a.m. in Tuscola County's 54th Circuit Courtroom in Caro.

The honorable Amy Grace Gierhart, Tuscola County chief judge and TRSC presiding judge will be recognizing the achievements of each graduate at the ceremony, while 84th District state Rep. Phil Green (R-Millington) will be the keynote speaker.

The public is welcome to attend. When the ceremony comes to a close, a total of 104 individuals will have officially completed the

rigorous TRSC requirements since the specialized court program began operations in 2014 to address the impact alcohol abuse/addiction has on repeat driving-related offenses among Thumb defendants.

In a nutshell, defendants accepted into the TRSC — individuals who have been convicted multiple times of operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated or impaired — are required to comply with a host of requirements such as intensive court and case management supervision, individual and group therapy, intensive drug/alcohol testing, and recovery.

Please turn to page 6.

O-G expels student, rates district chief Falkenberg

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

There were two closed sessions during a recent Owendale-Gagetown Board of Education meeting. One dealt with student discipline and the other with an administrator's evaluation.

The board went into closed session at 8:10 p.m. to discuss the student discipline matter, and returned to open session about 12 minutes later, voting unanimously to expel the student.

"The student (in question) was a middle grade student in possession of a dangerous weapon," explained school Supt. Terri Falkenberg. "There were no threats involved."

The board went back into closed session at 8:24 p.m. to conduct Falkenberg's annual evaluation in accordance with state law.

Falkenberg has been with the school district for 21 years. Before becoming both superintendent and principal at Owen-Gage, she served as

Please turn to page 6.



THE YELLOWS AND reds of fall in Michigan seemingly arrived overnight in the Thumb, where there is still time to enjoy a color tour. Pure Michigan officials predicted this week would usher in the season's peak colors in the east central portion of the state.

Trick-or-Treating Hours

- Cass City - 5:30 to 7 p.m.
- Gagetown - 6:00 to 7 p.m.
- Kingston - 6:00 to 7 p.m.
- Owendale - 5:30 to 7 p.m.
- Snover - 5:00 to 7 p.m.
- Ubyly - 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Cass City Schools announce October "students of month"



Kindergarten Student of the Month is Gabe Tamlyn

Nominated by: Mrs. Jaworski

Characteristics he displays: Gabe is such a nice boy! He does his very best work at school and works very hard. He is always helpful and polite.

Some of his favorite things: Riding my bike, hot dogs, the color blue and snuggling with my dog, Brandi.



1st Grade Student of the Month is Siobhan Roche

Nominated by: Mrs. LeValley

Characteristics she displays: Siobhan is a great girl! She always does her best! She is an awesome worker, great listener and friend. She is a spectacular first grader! Some of her favorite things: Cake with whipped cream and strawberry frosting, visiting the Octagon Barn and snuggling with her dog, Sophi.



2nd Grade Student of the Month is Lexi Skinner

Nominated by: Mrs. Sweeney

Characteristics she displays: Lexi is a good friend to everyone. She is honest, helpful, loving and caring. She is careful, neat, and on time with her work. Lexi always has a positive attitude and a smile on her face.

Some of her favorite things: Family, friends, swimming and riding horses.



3rd Grade Student of the Month is Colin Radabaugh

Nominated by: Mr. Hollocker

Characteristics he displays: Colin is a fantastic all around student! He is kind, considerate, respectful and a leader in the classroom.

Some of his favorite things: Playing baseball on the Sugarbeets, playing with his 6 dogs and eating cinnamon doughnuts.



4th Grade Student of the Month is Corbin Dewey

Nominated by: 4th Grade Teachers

Characteristics he displays: Corbin is soaring through fourth grade! He shows respect for his peers and teachers. He gives an outstanding effort in the classroom. He is a caring friend, honest and turns his work in on time!

Some of his favorite things: Reading, cookie dough and salted caramel ice cream, and running with his dogs.



5th Grade Student of the Month is Ford Bemis

Nominated by: Fifth Grade Teachers

Characteristics he displays: Ford regularly displays the characteristics of SOAR. He is a polite student who always has a smile on his face. Ford puts forth a lot of effort in all that he does. He always follows the classroom rules and is considerate of others. He participates well in class and turns work in on time.

Some of his favorite things: Playing Nintendo Switch & iPad and his dogs.



6th Grade Student of the Month is Destiny Periso

Nominated by: 6th Grade Team

Characteristics she displays: You can always count on a smile from Destiny. She is helpful, and is very focused in her classes. She is friendly to her classmates and has a great attitude. She displays all aspects of expectations and is a great addition to our classrooms.

Some of her favorite things: Playing softball, being with her friends, spaghetti and ice cream.



12th Grade Student of the Month is Kendall Anthes

The PRIDE acronym serves as a reminder that personal responsibility, respect, integrity, discipline and enthusiasm are important values not just in the classroom, but to carry through in life. Over the past few years Kendall has displayed all of these characteristics on a regular basis. Kendall always has his work completed, even if he has extracurricular activities to attend after school. Kendall is always respectful to staff, coaches, and to his peers. He possesses great integrity and all of his teachers know they can depend on and trust Kendall to be honest and helpful. Kendall uses his time wisely, and always meets his deadlines. Kendall also comes to school with a positive attitude ready to learn, no matter how demanding his life outside of the classroom becomes. Kendall has shown he is capable of handling both a demanding course load and extracurricular activities. Kendall has worked diligently while at Cass City Jr/Sr High School taking challenging course loads each year while also participating in athletics and holding down a job. Kendall is always willing to help when asked. For example, Kendall recently assisted in the reorganizing of the athletic trophy cases in the Jr. and Sr. High School. Kendall has also helped organize the student cheering section for football, volleyball and basketball games. His leadership and enthusiasm for Cass City has not only been on display during athletic events, it has provided a positive wave of school spirit that is evident throughout the halls of the school. Kendall is a dependable, kind, hardworking young man. We have watched Kendall shine throughout high school and know he will continue to strive for excellence and succeed throughout his life.

Sincerely,
Mr. Walker and Mrs. Tamlyn



Andy Gray

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Tuscola County Health Dept. Huron County Health Dept.
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*Hosted by the Departments- Empowering Youth Today Programs

In Our OPINION...

Clarke Haire
Publisher

Tom Montgomery
Editor

This policy change will support needy

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Director Robert Gordon recently announced policy changes that will make it easier for needy families to access food assistance and other public benefits while planning for a more stable future.

It's a measure worth recognizing and applauding. Effective Nov. 1, asset limits for food assistance, cash assistance and State Emergency Relief will now be the same – \$15,000. That means a family can have up to \$15,000 in assets, such as money in a savings account, and still be eligible for assistance.

“These asset test policy changes are important because right now too many Michigan families are struggling to get ahead,” said Whitmer. “This is about doing what’s right to help more families get the resources they need and building a stronger Michigan for everyone.”

Michigan will ease asset test requirements that are currently among the most restrictive in the United States for people applying for public assistance benefits. The new asset limits will put Michigan more in alignment with most other states, which have concluded that stringent asset tests are counterproductive. Thirty-four states have no asset test for food assistance under the federal Supplemental Assistance Program (SNAP).

Currently asset limits range from \$500 for State Emergency Relief such as assistance to prevent utility shutoff or repair furnaces, to \$3,000 for the Family Independence Program and other cash assistance programs, to \$5,000 for food assistance. The limit for State Emergency Relief had been \$50, but was raised after Whitmer took office.

Gordon said it’s wrong to prevent families from having a rainy-day account in order to receive public assistance.

“People should be encouraged to save – not discouraged from saving – so that they can get out of poverty,” he said. “Michigan is unusual in saying that in addition to having a low income, families also have to establish that they have almost nothing in the bank to receive public assistance.

“Most states have moved away from stringent asset tests because they are hard to administer; they lead to higher administrative costs as people come on and off programs more frequently, and they discourage low-income families from saving to build a better future.”

Vehicles will no longer be counted in the asset test for food assistance, which will now be consistent with the requirements for cash assistance programs. A household’s first vehicle will continue to not be counted in the State Emergency Relief asset test.

Whitmer, who noted MDHHS remains committed to addressing fraud and abuse in all its programs, sought a \$3.4 million increase in the Office of Inspector General budget that was approved by the Legislature, and the Inspector General is increasing its monitoring of asset reports.

“We remain strongly committed to program integrity,” Gordon said. “Caseworkers will still be free to use their judgment to ask for documents when reports are questionable. Intentionally false reports are crimes subject to prosecution.”

Drier Humor

by Mary Drier

Spook-tacular holiday



I have always loved Halloween. I recently came across a unique way for some to celebrate the holiday. The Teal Pumpkin Project is for children who have food allergies and cannot eat most candies.

I can relate to that; I’m allergic to peanuts. I was lucky I didn’t develop that allergy until I was in my 30s. With the Teal Pumpkin Project, people either put a teal FARE (Food Allergy Research and Education) sticker on their house or paint a pumpkin on their porch teal as a way to signal they are passing out non-food treats.

Among those non-food options are glow sticks, bubbles, crayons, or small toys. I think this is a wonderful idea to help create a safe Halloween for those who have food allergies. You can learn more about the project on the website tealpumpkinproject.org.

Also, there was another Facebook post about Halloween that wasn’t the usual one focusing on how the holiday came about.

Apparently, Google did extensive research on each state’s most popular candy. Michigan and about 11 other states’ favorite candy is Reese’s peanut-butter cups. The runner up candy was M&Ms, while the Dakotas’ favorite candy is Hot Tamales, which I guess isn’t surprising considering those states measure their snowfall in feet.

While writing this column, I realize some of my best memories revolve around Halloween.

I miss the days of walking with my sons to collect candy in either Unionville or Sebewaing. I loved their excitement of getting dressed up, of the leaves crushing under our feet as we walked down sidewalks, and the smell of leaves burning in the cool night air.

The best memory was when my youngest son was about two years old. Because he was so young, the plan was to only take him up to a couple of houses for his first Halloween experience, but he had other plans.

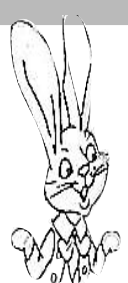
When he realized candy was involved, he got out of his car seat and crawled out of the car’s window to run up to a house for candy. Because he couldn’t pronounce trick or treat very well, he cut to the point just

saying, “hungry, hungry,” which made people laugh. They thought that was cute and dumped half their candy bowl in his bag.

Rabbit Tracks

by Clarke Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)



Mary Drier reminds us that Daylight Saving Time (DST) ends Sunday, Nov. 3. The time change means earlier sunsets and shorter afternoons.

Initially, Michigan did not embrace the time change. In 1967, Arizona and Michigan became the first states to exempt themselves from DST, but Michigan changed its mind and would begin observing DST in 1972.

For those who cannot remember what to do for the time changes that happen in March and in November, use this saying: fall back and spring ahead.

Time zone changes are nothing new. Time zones and changes date back to when railroads were the main form of travel. Official time zones were set back in 1883 by the U.S. Railroad Industry, and congress signed the time-zone that system into law in 1918. At that time the only federal agency was the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Then, in 1966 the congress transferred the responsibility to the Department of Transportation when it was created. Those standard times stood until changes in the law in 2005 that went into effect in 2007 that stipulates daylight saving time must switch back to Standard Time at 2 a.m. on the first Sunday in November, and move ahead one hour on the second Sunday in March.

The reappointments of Jennifer Gray, Joseph Sweet, Richard Wallace and Nancy Walsh to the Cass City Planning Commission, with terms ending May 1, 2022, were approved Monday at the regular meeting of the local village council.

“We are always looking for volunteers,” says Village Manager Debbie Powell.

Village officials do more than talk-the-talk when it comes to community service and have begun a project to provide children in our area with snow boots and snow pants. They encourage you to join them in helping out our little residents by dropping off donations at the Municipal Building at 6506 Main Street from now until Nov. 14th.

During the cold months of the year, there are children in desperate need of snow boots and pants, they say.

Speaking of community servants, the folks at Curtis Garber Chevrolet in Caro presented a \$1,500 check last Friday during the halftime ceremony of the Cass City and Ubyl varsity football game in the recreational park.

Company employee Dan Curtis handed Cass City Youth Football Program representatives Mark Halabis and Keith Czekai the gift, part of Chevy’s youth sports support

The donation can grow to \$2,000 this Friday during Cass City’s playoff game against visiting Sandusky. That’s when Curtis Garber will contribute another \$25 towards our local youth football program for each person that test drives one of the many vehicles that will be on display in the park.

Please help, the event starts at 4:30 p.m.

Cass City resident and Tuscola County Sheriff Deputy Steve Roland is retiring from the force at only 43 years of age.

He’s still will be involved with law enforcement, however, as he has accepted a teaching position in that field with the Tech Center in Caro,

Roland is replacing Lee Pavlichek in the classroom. The former Cass City Police Officer has accepted the position of assistant principal at the facility.

While many outdoorsmen are chasing deer and steelhead this time of year, Cass City resident Matt Lynch took time out Monday to hunt squirrels. The frequent Chronicle office visitors stopped in to show me this female bushy tail he harvested with a 410 shotgun on private property.



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

The Cass City Chronicle welcomes letters to the editor.

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

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

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, October 30

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

Thursday, October 31

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

Saturday, November 2

•Al-Anon meeting, 11 a.m., Cakima Serenity Home, Mayville. Call 989-912-5478 for more information.
•Grief/loss meetings, 9:45 a.m., Novesta Church of Christ.
•Suicide Survivor Grief Support Group, 1 p.m., Thumb Area Psychological Services 6627 Rose St., Cass City. For more information Lisa Schoettle, MA LPC NCC at 989-872-1800.

Sunday, November 3

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

Monday, November 4

•Alcoholics Anonymous, "Monday at a Time," 8 p.m., Parkside Cafe, 2031 Main St., Ubly. 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.
•Novesta Township Board meeting, 7:30 p.m.
•Shabbona Outreach Baby Pantry, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Shabbona Outreach 5448 Shabbona Rd. Decker, MI. Gently used clothing and equipment, diapers, bottles, toys, formula, baby food. For more information contact Judy Doerr (989) 658-8625.

Tuesday, November 5

•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.

Officials confirm state hospital construction escapes budget axe

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

In spite of ongoing uncertainty over Michigan's new budget, officials last week confirmed that a new 100-bed psychiatric hospital will indeed be built in Tuscola County.

Under the final compromise on the budget, funds for a new hospital at the Caro Center is in the 2020 budget, according to representatives of the Caro 4 Michigan website that was created to keep residents informed about the Caro Center issue and to keep the state hospital local.

In the end, an agreement was reached between legislative leaders and the administration that was not impacted by vetoes or transfers, and Caro will remain a center of care for individuals who need state-funded inpatient psychiatric care.

Although previous reports indicated the new psychiatric hospital had escaped the state budget axe, Tuscola County officials remained cautiously optimistic due to broken promises in the past, because portions of the budget had not been formally finalized, and Gov. Gretchen Whitmer slashed \$947 million in spending via 147 line-item vetoes in the budget.

"This outcome is a testament to the exceptional advocacy of this

community, our legislative champions Rep. Phil Green and Senator Kevin Daley, and our allies across the region, on behalf of all Michiganders needing mental health services," said Capitol Services Partner Jean Doss.

Capitol Services is a consulting-lobbying firm the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners hired to help them coordinate efforts to keep plans for a new state psychiatric hospital within in the county's borders.

Under the final budget compromise, the aging Caro Center will be replaced with a new, safer, more efficient although smaller facility than state officials originally promised.

Specific final budget details include:

*A revised construction authorization for a 100-bed psychiatric hospital to replace the current Caro Regional Mental Health Center at the Caro site.

*An increased funding from \$53.5 million to \$63 million for the current Caro Regional Mental Health Center based on an average census of patients and up to 542.3 full-time employees.

*About \$5 million in one-time funding for demolition of vacant/uninhabitable properties at the Caro site.

In October 2018, crews razed seven former residential structures along with a hall located on the

grounds as contractors prepared to begin construction for the new hospital. Currently, there are 20 uninhabitable and unusable buildings out of 38 buildings on the 650-acre Caro Center site.

The latest funding news should be the last word on plans to replace the Caro Center, but county officials were led to believe the same thing back in 2017 when state lawmakers approved \$115 million in funding to build a 200-bed, 225,000-square foot hospital. Groundbreaking of the project took place a year ago.

However, weeks before construction was to have started in April, Whitmer and Department of Health and Human Services Director Robert Gordon halted the project and hired a consulting firm to conduct a study to reassess the needs and resources available in Tuscola County.

After the study was completed, the state pitched a proposal for an 84-bed hospital in Caro in conjunction with reliance on more accessible community-based services. The plan fell far short of the 200-plus psychiatric beds in demand now in Michigan.

Valuable time has been lost in the process. Had construction started on the new hospital last spring as originally proposed, the project would have been completed in 2021.

Sanilac "baby shower" on tap Nov. 4

The Sanilac County Child Abuse Prevention Council (SCCAPC) and Great Start Collaborative are sponsoring a free event for all expectant and new parents in Sanilac County.

The 29th annual Community Baby Shower, slated for Monday, Nov. 4, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Countryside Free Methodist Church, offers families an opportunity to get information and services that can assist them with the difficult, and often confusing, task of raising a baby. It is not easy raising a child today and one ongoing challenge for parents is to learn how to filter through the myriad of information that is often provided by agencies, physicians, well-meaning relatives and neighbors, and the worldwide web.

The Community Baby Shower

offers a half-day of education, services, and support for all Sanilac County families who are expecting a child or have a new baby.

Participants will have the opportunity to visit with local service agencies and businesses as well as interact with other families with newborn children.

New this year is the SAVE Council will be sponsoring a food distribution during the event. They have teamed up with the YAC students who will be packing and distributing food items to all participating families.

This event is exclusively for Sanilac County expectant and new parents with infants in arms (born after July 1, 2019) and one support person. There is no income requirement. No childcare will be provided.

Registration is required and interested participants can register online

at www.savepartnership.org, or by obtaining a registration form at the Sanilac County Health Department, DHS, the Community Baby Pantry, or by calling Amy Dumaw, prevention education specialist at (810) 648-4098 (ext. 144).

Refreshments and light snacks will be available for all participants, who will leave the event armed with door prizes, good information, dates of future parent education events, answers to their questions and ways to get more help when they need it.

More information is available by contacting Dumaw by phone or via email at dumawa@sanilachealth.com.

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CASS CITY HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA

Circuit court proceedings

Several appear on felony charges

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

*Sherri G. Wattrick, 53, Akron, was sentenced to 90 days in the county jail following her plea of guilty to malicious destruction of personal property totaling \$1,000 to \$20,000 and lying to a peace officer May 18, 2018, in Caro.

She was also placed on probation for 24 months and ordered to pay court costs and fines totaling \$326 plus restitution of \$1,857.26.

*Scott R. Liestman, 49, Clio, was sentenced to 90 days in jail following his plea of guilty to operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor, third offense, June 29 in Vassar Township. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (one prior felony conviction).

In addition to jail time, he was placed on probation for 60 months and ordered to complete 480 hours of community service and pay costs and fines totaling \$1,258.

*Jason E. Whittie, 37, Caro, was sentenced to 23 months to 15 years in prison following his plea of no contest to child abuse, third degree, March 13 in Wells Township. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (three or more prior felony convictions).

In addition to prison time, he was ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$258.

*Gary G. Nanney, 40, Akron, re-

ceived a one-year delayed sentence following his plea of no contest to larceny of property valued at \$1,000 to \$20,000 Jan. 23-

24, 2017, in Caro.

He was ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$1,008 plus restitution of \$1,779.

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Reporter's notebook

Colonoscopy not scary after all

by Tom Montgomery
Editor



The late Tom Petty was right; the waiting is the hardest part. That was among my thoughts last Wednesday after undergoing my first colonoscopy.

I had been told by a couple folks that the procedure isn't scary, but comforting words aren't always enough to erase anxiety.

I mean, what if...?

Frankly, I wasted far too much time thinking about the "what ifs" before Wednesday (personally, I believe God has a way of encouraging worriers like me to have a little more faith by letting us grapple with the internal struggle that comes with facing our fears).

Looking back, my biggest worry should have been figuring out how to get into that hospital gown, which is pretty silly considering those garments were designed to outwit modesty at every turn.

But I digress.

My trip to Hills and Dales General Hospital last week started with my family physician's prescribing of one those home stool DNA tests. After much procrastination, I completed the test and shipped it off, figuring it was certain to come back negative, as I had no symptoms of any problems.

I was wrong, and my physician immediately referred me to Dr. Jason Kuhn — who recently moved to the Cass City community to serve as Hills and Dales' new general surgeon — for a consultation to undergo a colonoscopy.

I've always appreciated my family physician's sense of humor, but never knew how hilarious he was until he ordered this test for me. Me undergo a colonoscopy? Seriously? Yup, that'll happen, doc. Not.

My initial reaction stemmed from the fact that I knew what the procedure involves, as in a specially trained physician inserting a colonoscope — a long, flexible, tubular instrument about half-inch in diameter — through the rectum and advancing it to the other end of the large intestine. The colonoscope transmits an image of the lining of the colon, enabling the doctor to closely examine the colon for any abnormalities.

I was aware that patients are generally sedated to help ensure their comfort during the procedure. Still...

In spite of my anxiety, I agreed to meet with Dr. Kuhn, in part because I also knew I was about seven years passed the age when this sort of screening is recommended.

I was aware, too, that colonoscopy is considered the gold standard of colorectal cancer screening methods for its ability to view the entire colon and both detect and remove precancerous polyps during the same procedure, which is important because this cancer is frequently accompanied by no symptoms in the early stages.

And then there are those nagging statistics:

Colorectal cancer is the third leading cause of cancer-related deaths among men in the United States; nearly 135,000 people in this country are diagnosed with colorectal cancer each year and more than 50,000 die because of it annually; and the majority of colorectal cancer cases can be prevented with proper screening, early detection and removal of polyps.

I reluctantly walked into Dr. Kuhn's office, and I walked out with a date to undergo my first colonoscopy.

I give Dr. Kuhn plenty of credit. After going over my medical history, he fully explained the importance of colonoscopy. He described the bowel prep — referring to the day before the procedure when you swallow the perfect storm of laxatives and Gatorade (to clean out the colon) and then spend ample time catching up on Facebook in the bathroom — as unpleasant, but tolerable. He also pointed out that I probably wouldn't even remember having undergone the colonoscopy itself because of the sedation, and he took the time to address all of my concerns (read that last line again).

So, last week I bravely (well, more or less) walked into Hills and Dales, accompanied by my wife, Deb, and before I knew it, I was prepped and in the operating room, talking to the doctor and nurses as they prepared to start what I had been dreading.

A split-second later, I found myself waking up in recovery.

Not long after that, the doctor stopped by to give me the results. The bottom line? Everything came out alright, and I can wait another five years before my next screening.

I was relieved to say the least, but even if he had found and removed one or more polyps, I would have still been ahead of the game, because early detection is how you beat colorectal cancer.

I won't be so hesitant to make that next appointment.

As a side note, while Hills and Dales officials outdid themselves in completing their recent renovation and expansion, the hospital's most valuable assets are inside this impressive facility. Every staff member I came into contact with, from registration to the doctor and nurses, was professional, friendly, caring and compassionate.

Most folks will agree that's just what the doctor ordered for the people — like me — who arrive at their door feeling a bit anxious.

Down Memory Lane

by Tina Pallas



5 YEARS AGO (2014)

Cass City students honored local veterans, as they do each year on Veterans Day, with a program that began with a flag raising ceremony conducted by local Boy Scouts Logan Severance, Payton Bock, Gunnar Koon and Zach Jammer.

Cass City Elementary School second grader Trent Patrick led the charge in his school's submission in the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan #MIKidsCan Contest. The local elementary was named the only school-wide finalist in the video category in this year's contest.

Cass City VFW Post 3644 members Phil Nichols and Joe Merchant presented certificates to this year's Patriot's Pen Essay Contest winners representing the Cass City Public Schools. They are Mary Muter, Hailey Beckrow, Marla Muter, Sierra Walker and Sandyn Cuthrell. Also receiving special recognition was teacher Rebecca Walker.

10 YEARS AGO (2009)

Emma Sweeney, 8, with her brother, Josh, 4, enjoys picking up and petting the family's pet chickens. Raising the birds has been an enjoyable hobby for the entire family, according to their parents, the Rev. Bob and Laura Sweeney of Cass City.

The third annual "Honoring Our Veterans and Supporting Our Troops Ceremony" was Saturday night at VFW Post 3644 in Cass City. Among the guests were John Wald, a Vietnam veteran who served in the Air Force for 20 years; Bill Zeidler, (who) served in the Navy for over 20 years, is a Vietnam vet and the father of Bill Zeidler Jr., who has also served in the Navy for 20 years; Dagmar Brown, who served in the Navy for 40 years; and Cecil Brooks, Emerson Kennedy and Garry Gamet, the father of Pete Gamet, who served in Desert Storm. Veteran Mark Zmierski, Deford, filled in for a couple of guest speakers who could not attend due to illness. He also served as master of ceremonies.

The daughters of Dale and Patty Churchill announce their parents' 35th wedding anniversary. Dale and Patty (O'Kelly) were married Nov. 9, 1975 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Caro. They reside in Deford where they raised their family. The couple has 4 daughters: Corrine (Brandon) Rogers, Jennifer (Robert) Correll, Stacey (Adam) Dorland, and Katherine (Ryan) Ouvry. They also have 6 grandchildren: Galilee, Guinness, Eloise, Faustina and Helena Rogers, and Preston Dorland. A family celebration will mark the anniversary.

Leland Wendorf and June Innes were married Nov. 4, 1949 at the bride's home in Decker. The maid of honor was Marilyn Pike Nicholas of Troy and the best man was Virgil Geister of Lewiston. The Wendorfs have lived and farmed in the Decker area, where Leland was also a milk hauler for many years. The couple has 3 sons: Randall, Charles and Jeffrey. They also have 5 grandchildren; a deceased grandson; and 9 great-grandchildren. They parented many foster boys from Teen Ranch.

25 YEARS AGO (1994)

A Cass City area couple have made big names for themselves in the world of quarter horse judging. It's a claim to fame that John and Betsy Tuckey will take with them later this month when they leave their Thumb home and move to Virginia. There, they'll carve out a new life and return to their first love: training quarter horses. Betsy is a world class quarter horse judge and John, a top-notch cutting horse judge.

Clyde and Marie Glasco were honored on their 40th wedding anniversary with a surprise party Sunday, Oct. 30, at their Pringle Road home. Marie reports that she expected that the group

would go and buy pizzas. Instead, their children, Rose Glasco and her finance, Harry Cook, and son, Fred and wife, Angie, took over the kitchen and prepared the anniversary dinner.

This week's student of the week is Katie Anthony, daughter of Kim and Barb Anthony. Katie is in the tenth grade. She is involved in basketball, volleyball and softball. Katie was chosen for her work as a student helper in the guidance office.

35 YEARS AGO (1984)

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Kozan returned home Wednesday, Oct. 24, from a 10-day vacation trip. They visited their daughter and husband, the Carl Palmateers, Jr. at Spring Lake, N.C., and the Andrew L. Kozans at Kalamazoo and accompanied them to the Amish settlement at Middlebury, Ind., for dinner.

Kathryn Ann Patnaude, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jude Patnaude, was dedicated by Rev. Eldred Kelley during the morning worship service in Evangelical Free Church Oct. 28.

In honor of his birthday, Eugene Izydorek and his family of Marlette were entertained Saturday for dinner with birthday cake and ice cream at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Ashmore.

Twenty-eight members of the Senior Citizens group attended the dinner on Friday where they celebrated Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Jackson's 50th wedding anniversary and Mrs. Bruce Holcomb's birthday. Mrs. Murill Shagena brought the 50th wedding anniversary decorated cake for the dinner.

Veteran employees at Hills and Dales Hospital were feted Wednesday, Oct. 31, at an awards tea. Five-year and 10-year employees received pins. Fifteen-year persons received a pin or necklace and a certificate of appreciation. Jon Fahrner has 20 years of service and was given a \$75 gift certificate in addition to the awards given for 15 years. Other employees honored and their years of service were: Liz Montei, 10; Lou Ann Root, 10; Colleen Hawley, 10; Jo Gray, 10; Juanita Warack, 10; Jane Mitchell, 15; Judy Eskilsen, 15; Helen Copeland, 15; and Johanna Miklovich, 15

40 YEARS AGO (1979)

Mr. and Mrs. Don Lorentzen were in Detroit Sunday, guests at a dinner in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Smith when the 50th wedding anniversary of Mrs. Lorentzen's sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. William Smith of Juhl was celebrated. Other guests were Mr. and Mrs. Emmerson Smith of Southfield, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Ralston of Berkley, Mrs. Jennie Coleman and Mrs. Maxine Gunsell of Caro, Anne Marie Lorentzen of Saginaw and Rick Lorentzen of Mt. Morris. Mr. Smith, 93, and Mrs. Smith, 82, the former Anna Steinmann, were married Nov. 8, 1929, and have lived on a farm at Juhl all of their married life. They have two sons, Emmerson of Southfield and Eugene A. Smith of Sydney, Australia.

Mr. and Mrs. Donnell Holland prepared a wild game supper last Thursday for the 48th anniversary celebration of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Holland of Kilmanagh. Among the guests were William and Ethel Lindeman and son Mark, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Finkbeiner and Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Neumann.

Four-year-old Tracey Burns has won the 1979 leadline championship of the Blue Water Pleasure Horse Association. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Burns of Decker. She rode her registered quarterhorse, "Sissy Kingetta," which was led by her father. Tracey competed in 21 horse shows from May 30 through Sept. 23 against a total for all the shows of 225 entries. There were usually 11 or 12 entrants per show, both boys and girls.

50 YEARS AGO (1969)

After 15 years it's kind of a hard break away, so when Mrs. Florence Leslie, 64, was feted Friday by fellow employees and management at Walbro she was visibly shaken. Trying hard to hide the tears, yet obviously delighted about the cake and good-bye luncheon served at the plant, Mrs. Leslie talked about the years ahead. Retirement years for this native of the area mean just that...retirement. Right now, Mrs. Leslie plans to do nothing at all. I've been too busy raising a family and working to think about a hobby, she said.

In a dual announcement this week, spokesmen for Croft Clara Lumber Inc. of Cass City and Weber Lumber Co. of Richville announced the purchase of Forbes Lumber Co. in Caro. Authorities said that each of the companies will hold equal interests in the new company. Clifford A. Croft of Croft Clara said that the final details of the sale were completed Monday and that immediate plans call for increasing the stock at the store. Who will manage the new unit has not been decided, Croft said Tuesday.

Richard Erla, Cass City, was recently elected vice-president of the Michigan Meat Association. The board represents some 200 meat packers in Michigan as well as many frozen food locker operators. Erla has been a member of the board of directors for eight years.

75 YEARS AGO (1944)

Dean Attridge Murphy son of the late Archie Murphy and grandson of David Murphy, of Grant township, left Thursday, Nov. 2, to enroll in the course of Arts and Letters at the University of Notre Dame, at South Bend, Indiana. Dean, being handicapped with poor vision, did not attend school until he entered the seventh grade at the age of 12 years. With help from home and by having his assignments read to him, he was graduated from Cass City high school last June as one of the honor students. Dean will have a reader to assist him in the carrying on of his studies at the university.

Mrs. Don Miller was the first to register from this community in the blood donor program in Tuscola county. A blood donor unit from the State Department of Health will be at Murray hall in Wahjamega on Nov. 20, 21 and 22.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Wills of Ubyly was the scene of a pretty wedding Saturday when their daughter, Miss Fay Wills, became the bride of Harold Dean Ballagh, son of Mrs. Wm. Ballagh, of Sheridan township. The ceremony, performed by the Rev. Robert Morton of Ubyly, took place at 3 p. m. with only the families of the contracting parties present.

100 YEARS AGO (1919)

A quiet autumn wedding was witnessed Sunday, Nov. 9, at the Baptist parsonage at Snover when Miss Pearl E. Clark was united in marriage to Mr. Leith Starr by Rev. Martin of Bad Axe: The bride was prettily attired in taupe silk georgette crepe, the bridesmaid, Miss Ida, wore brown satin. The groom was attended by his brother, Clinton. The bride is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Clark and the groom is a son of Wm. Starr, both popular young, people of Argyle. Mr. and Mrs. Starr left for a few days' visit with relatives in Detroit and other points, after which they will reside on the groom's farm in Argyle township; They have the best wishes of their many friends and neighbors.

Eleven girls gathered at the Bruce home last Saturday evening to help Esther Bruce and Charlotte Walmsley celebrate their eleventh and thirteenth birthdays respectively. They played games and a lovely supper was served. All report an enjoyable evening.

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News briefs

It's time to get that fright on

CARO — For those who haven't had time to get a Halloween Fright on yet, there is still time to do so. The Wicked Woods of Terror at 2912 Ross Rd., Caro, is waiting for those who think they are brave enough to enter.

The Wicked Woods has four attractions that will keep hearts racing right to the end. The events run each Friday and Saturday through Nov. 2.

Aside from the woods, there is a cave blackout maze, escape room adventures, and zombie brain smash. Tickets range from \$5 to 15 for each of the various attractions, or \$25 for a combination ticket.

Tickets are available at app.hauntpay.com. For more information, call (989) 252-3398.

Canfield now serving agency

MICHIGAN — Former 84th District state Rep. Dr. Edward "Ned" Canfield is now serving as the physician for the Region VII Area Agency on Aging.

Region VII is one of 600 area agencies on aging in America, which were created by an amendment to the Older Americans Act (OAA) of 1965. The organization's mission is to advocate, plan, develop and support an array of services for older adults.

The region is governed by a board whose members are appointed by the county boards in Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Isabella, Midland, Saginaw, Sanilac and Tuscola counties.

The agency contracts with and monitors service providers throughout the region, which in turn assures that the most vulnerable older adults, disabled persons and family caregivers receive the support and services necessary for healthy aging. The agency also works to identify trends in aging, and seeks out the funding to develop new programming to meet the need.

Candela welcomes questions

UBLY — Because Uby Community Schools Supt. Joe Candela realizes it isn't possible for some district residents to attend board meetings, he tries to provide as much information as possible on district happenings.

Candela regularly posts school news on the district's website, but he says he also wants to connect with residents.

"It's been great to share in the news that is happening at Uby Schools," Candela said. "I thought it might be interesting having the community ask questions that they want to know about Uby Schools and for me to provide answers. Depending on how many questions I receive, I will try to answer all of the questions within that week."

"In weeks where I do not receive many questions, I will write about what is happening in the school."

Questions can be sent to Candela via his e-mail address (jcandela@ublyschools.org), by calling him at (989) 658-8202, or by mail sent to Joe Candela, 2020 Union St. Uby, Michigan 48475.

"I hope, I can clear up some misunderstandings or just answer questions that you want to know about Uby Schools," said Candela, who noted there are some issues he can't address. "I will not be able to discuss any personal information about any employee or something that might be a private matter."

Commissioners okay land lease

CARO — Tuscola County Commissioners have approved leasing 61-acres of county-owned farmland located off M-24 to Schriber Farms, LLC, which submitted the high bid of \$155 per acre.

Board will hear mining proposal

CASS CITY — The Elkland Township Zoning Board of Appeals will host a public hearing Thursday, Nov. 7, to consider an application related to a proposed mining operation at 4312 Crawford Rd.

The hearing is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. at the township hall, 6691 Church St., Cass City.

During the hearing, the public can ask questions or make comments. Those who are unable to attend but would like to offer their input are invited to submit written comments to the Elkland Township clerk, 6691 Church, St., Cass City, MI 48726 any time before the hearing.

Compiled by Mary Drier and Tom Montgomery

Sobriety court graduates top 100

Continued from page one.

ery-based support group attendance, throughout the duration of the 15- to 24-month program.

"These requirements have been proven to improve public safety, reduce recidivism rates of operating while intoxicated/impaired offenses, minimize incarceration time, decrease jail expenses, and promote participants to become productive, law-abiding, and substance-free citizens within Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac counties," explained Heather Walther, TRSC program coordinator.

It's a groundbreaking program — named a fully-certified treatment program last spring — that continues to thrive under the leadership of Gierhart, Walther and a support team representing groups ranging from law enforcement to substance abuse treatment experts.

In fact, the local regional sobriety court has achieved a success rate of 80 percent.

"As of Sept. 30, 2019, the statewide average rate of successful completions was 74 percent for sobriety court participants across Michigan," Walther said.

While 26 individuals have failed to complete the Thumb program to-date — the vast majority of those defendants (16) were terminated due to non-compliance with the rules — local program officials are pleased with the numbers they're seeing.

"Our recidivism rate (repeat operating while intoxicated offenses after successfully graduating) is currently at 4.8 percent," Walther pointed out. "Statewide, recidivism averages typically between six and eight percent. As a result, we are finding that our program is effective at reducing driving while under the influence offenses."

"We are also proud of the overall 'life changes' that we see our participants make, such as becoming employed, obtaining independent housing, improving family relationships or parenting skills, becoming more financially responsible/stable, and improving their physical and mental health, to name a few," she added.

"We always hope that our participants continue to do well and maintain their personal recovery programs that they have established. We also hope that they have learned about resources and tools available to them and will reach out for help if they are feeling tempted or if they relapse in the future."

Courts such as the TRSC are also known as problem-solving courts — innovative programs designed to address an offender's underlying problem, in this case alcoholism. Gierhart and Kim Glaspie, a retired longtime Tuscola County District Court judge, were among those who spearheaded the program in the Thumb.

The TRSC was officially established in 2013 through a partnership of the trial court judges in Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac counties. The goal was to create a specialized central treatment court

that could utilize tools outside of the traditional fines and jail time to encourage those who have been repeatedly convicted of drunken driving to turn over a new leaf.

The TRSC was one of four pilot programs launched by the State Court Administrative Office

(SCAO) in an effort to bring sobriety courts to rural parts of the state on a regional, multi-county basis.

The first offenders accepted as participants in the program began their journey to "graduation" in early 2014.

Owen-Gage board expels pupil

Continued from page one.

principal for five years and as a teacher for eleven years.

"Prior to that I spent some time as a lead instructor at Sylvan Learning Center, did some long-term subbing in Bridgeport, and spent five years at Bach-Kilmanagh," Falkenberg noted. "I continue to enjoy working with and helping students reach their potential."

Under the state's revised school code, board of education members are required to conduct an evaluation of their superintendent each year. That regulation went into effect with the 2016-17 school year.

Board members are required to evaluate job performance based on several factors, and then assign the administrator with a rating of highly effective, effective, minimally effective, or ineffective.

When Owen-Gage board members returned to open session at 9:28 p.m., they unanimously voted to give Falkenberg the rating of "highly effective" — the same rating she has received each year since the evaluation process started.

In other business, school officials noted the district's National Honor Society will host a Veterans Day program Monday, Nov. 11, starting at 2:15 p.m.

NOTICE FOR GILFORD TOWNSHIP

October 10, 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: Road tube near Soybean plant was dug out again. Shoulder on M-138 has been graded to help prevent standing water. Vassar Road RR crossing repair job is terrible. Minutes of Previous Meeting: Motion by D. Strasz, second by A. Goss to approve minutes. Motion approved. Treasurers Report: Motion by A. Goss, second by K. Houghtaling to approve Treasurers Report. Motion approved.

REPORTS:

Supervisor: 4 Reese fire/medical runs this month. Paving discussion for 2020, decision to seek estimates to pave Deckerville from VanBuren to Reese, and Deckerville from Bradleyville to Bradford. Also widen Quanicasse from Darbee to Dutcher, and include estimate for fog lines on all roads. Motion by R. Haines, second by K. Houghtaling to seek estimates for 2020 road work. Motion approved. Discussion on ventilation for storage garage to prevent mold. Drain commissioners meeting here tomorrow. Culvert applications from EGLE for next year. Roadside mowing is complete. Discussion on cleaning up brush on TWP property in front of old dump and park.

Treasurer: State Treasurer letter regarding audit. D. Strasz will send corrective action plan.

Clerk: TWP generator was in use for 28 hours recently, allowing office operations to continue uninterrupted. April 21, 2020 deadline for filing for office. 3rd. quarter reports completed. Motion by R. Haines, second by A. Goss to reallocate \$1,000.00 from TWP Board Other Expenses to Reassessing. Motion approved. Motion by D. Strasz second by K. Houghtaling to reallocate \$6,000.00 from TWP Board Other Expenses to Miscellaneous Trustees. Motion approved. Motion by K. Houghtaling, second by A. Goss to pay bills. Motion approved.

Trustees: Reese Parks/Recreation Public hearing regarding 5-year plan.

Ambulance Representative: September meeting at Saginaw base. Stop the Bleed training is available at no charge. Grant for generator was approved. 4 medical responses.

Fire Department Representative: 1 new member, LZ (landing Zone) training. Trunk and treat coming. Officer nominations. Halloween safety on Halloween night.

Zoning Administrator: 7 permits this month, all for turbines.

Public Comment: Thanks for doughnuts.

Motion to adjourn at 9:30 P.M.

Robert L. Haines
Gilford Township Clerk

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Museum's future secure...for now

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

Because a piece of Tuscola County's history has been shifted to various locations since the 1870s, its future has always been questionable.

But the Caro Roadhouse Museum, with a history dating back more than 140 years, now has a secure future, at least for the next few years.

When representatives of the Caro Roadhouse Museum and the Caro Historical Commission joined forces last year, they shared a goal of either taking on ownership of the Roadhouse Museum or securing a lease for the museum, located at 235 Congress St. across

from the Tuscola County Fairgrounds in Caro.

The Caro City Council subsequently voted to have an attorney draw up an agreement for a five-year lease of the museum.

In November 2018, the Caro Roadhouse Museum and the Caro Historical Commission organized as a non-profit organization as part of the preparation to either lease or own the museum.

The 30-foot by 40-foot building dates back to a time when the Caro area was known as Centerville and the structure housing the museum is believed to have been called the Centerville Hotel and Inn.

According to historical accounts, the structure was established in

1859 by William E. Sherman, who stocked it with goods, establishing the first real store in the community.

In 1887, the building was moved to Ellington Street (M-24) to make way for a new Caro House. Then, it was donated to the city in 1996 by Alan Wasik, because of its historical significance, when he expanded his car dealership across the street.

The Caro Historical Commission took on the role of caring for the museum, hosting historical programs, and storing historical items there.

With its foreseeable future secure, plans are being developed for historical displays for the entire county to enjoy.

State shares FDA report on vaping illnesses

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) last week released test results the state received from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regarding vaping materials collected from lung injury patients in the state.

Lung injury patients are asked to provide any materials they have vaped for testing. Results received from FDA's preliminary testing of materials used by five Michigan lung injury patients found:

*Two patients' products contained only nicotine.

*One patient's products contained only tetrahydrocannabinol (THC).

*One patient's products contained both THC and nicotine.

*One patient's products contained THC and vitamin E acetate. One product, a Dank Vape Birthday Cake THC cartridge, contained 23 percent vitamin E acetate.

The FDA lab results are the first confirmation that a Michigan lung injury patient was exposed to vitamin E acetate (an oil derived from vitamin E).

In addition, two vaping cartridges submitted by a medical marijuana caregiver to a Michigan Marijuana Regulatory Agency licensed safety compliance facility also contained 40 percent or more of vitamin E acetate.

Although the cause of the lung injuries is not yet known, the majority of lung injury patients report using products with THC. One hypothesis being investigated is that contaminants in THC vapes, in-

cluding vitamin E acetate, may be related to the outbreak.

Other states are also finding vitamin E acetate in their testing. The New York State Department of Health found high levels of vitamin E acetate in nearly all cannabis-containing samples analyzed as part of its own investigation of lung injury patients. Product sample testing at the Utah Public Health Laboratory showed evidence of vitamin E acetate in 89 percent of THC-containing cartridges provided by six lung injury patients.

"We urge Michiganders not to use e-cigarette or vaping products, particularly those containing THC," said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, chief medical executive and chief deputy for health for MDHHS. "This outbreak is still under investigation, and the exact substance or devices that are causing the outbreak are unknown."

As of Oct. 25, Michigan had 44 confirmed and probable lung injury cases, with one death. About 81 percent of these patients reported using a product containing THC.

Nationally, there have been 1,604 lung injury cases associated with the use of e-cigarette or vaping products reported to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) from 49 states, the District of Columbia and one U.S. territory as of Oct. 24. There have been 34 deaths.

So far, no specific brand of device or e-liquid has been identified. Although products with

THC, particularly those obtained through informal or illicit sources, appear to play a major role in this outbreak, experts say nicotine products cannot be excluded at this point.

Adults who are vaping should not smoke combustible tobacco products as a replacement for nicotine. E-cigarettes are not FDA approved as a smoking cessation device. Free help is available for individuals who are interested in quitting tobacco at 800-QUIT-NOW (800-784-8669).

Teens trying to quit tobacco or stop vaping can call or text the My Life, My Quit program at 855-891-9989 for real-time coaching. This program allows teens to work with a coach who listens and understands their unique needs, provides personalized support and helps them build a quit plan to become free from nicotine.

E-cigarette and/or vaping users should immediately seek medical attention if they develop symptoms such as shortness of breath, chest pain, cough, fever and/or nausea and vomiting.

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, meanwhile, announced Friday she is working to take her case to ban flavored nicotine flavored vaping products to the Michigan Supreme Court.

In September, Whitmer, acting on the findings of Dr. Khaldun, ordered MDHHS to issue emergency rules to ban the products in retail stores and online in the state. However, the Michigan Court of Claims later blocked the ban.

"Our chief medical officer has found that the explosive increase in youth vaping that we've seen over the past few years is a public health emergency. For the sake of our kids and our overall public health, we must act swiftly to get these harmful and addictive products off the market," Whitmer said.

Nationwide, nicotine e-cigarette use jumped 78 percent last year alone. In 2018, more than 3.6 million U.S. kids – including one in five high school students and one in 20 middle school students – were regular users. Officials say they believe the rates are still climbing, fueled by the availability of flavors akin to apple juice, bubble gum and Nerds.

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Knights support pantries



THE CENTRAL Thumb Knights of Columbus Council 8892 recently presented a \$3,975 donation to the St. Agatha's Food Pantry in Gagetown following the council's annual 5K fundraiser. Accepting the donation on behalf of the food pantry are (above, from left) Marlene Donaldson, Edna Kujawski, Regina Salcido, Olive Cupal and Shirley Lenhard.



THE CENTRAL Thumb Knights of Columbus Council 8892 also delivered a check for \$1,325 to the Revive Ministries Food Pantry in Cass City. Above, Knights representative Dale Churchill presents the donation to Revive's Jenny Hudson.

MANHATTAN SHORT fest winners announced

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

Rawson Memorial District Library patrons had the opportunity again this year to participate – and help decide the winners – in the MANHATTAN SHORT, described as being not only the world's largest short film festival, but also the world's first and only global film festival.

As part of the event, attendees received a ballot to vote for their favorite films and actors. Votes were tallied and sent to the MANHATTAN SHORT headquarters in New York City.

And, the winner of this year's Gold Medal was "Sylvia", the fact-based story of the deep meaning one car had to a family — a tale that resonated with viewers around the world.

"We are so incredibly thrilled to have won the Manhattan Short Film Festival! This festival is one of the most special places for a filmmaker to showcase their work. We always wanted Sylvia to be watched and loved by audiences and this is the only film festival reaching audiences worldwide, and to have their vote means more to us than anything," said Richard Prendergast, who wrote and directed the film.

"Having watched all 10 films, the standard was exceptional and we did not expect to win against such a great selection. We cannot thank enough Nick Mason and the amazing team at Manhattan Short and all the people who watched, voted and wrote to us personally about Sylvia."

Among the other winners:

*"Nefta Football Club", directed by Yves Piat of France, won the Silver Medal for its hilarious depiction of a cocaine smuggling operation gone wrong.

*"This Time Away", written and directed Magali Barbe, won the Bronze Medal for its story of an aging man whose spirits are raised by a robotic companion.

*The Best Actor Award went to veteran thespian John Standing for his performance in "A Family Affair".

Locally, the films were shown at the library between Sept. 29 and Oct. 5. And, thanks to a generous donation from the Pinney Foundation, the event was offered free of charge to those attending the showings.

Last year Rawson became one of the few Michigan libraries to host the films. It was such an enjoyable experience, library officials wanted to host this year's 22nd film festival so even more Thumb residents could participate in this exceptional cultural event.

The MANHATTAN SHORT was founded Sept. 27, 1998, when Nick Mason attached a screen to the side of a truck on Mulberry Street NYC and projected 16 short films to an audience of about 300 New Yorkers. Since then the festival has grown and gained popularity around the world.

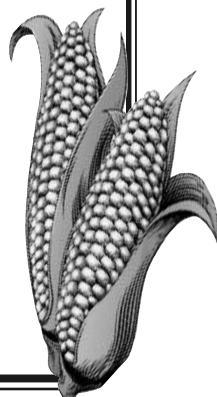
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Horne runs wild in Cass City win

by Clarke Haire
 Publisher

Senior Hadyn Horne's career night led Cass City to victory Friday over visiting Ubly.

With a convincing 27-6 hammering, the Red Hawks run their win streak to eight games and finish the regular season with a lofty 8-1 mark that included back-to-back Greater Thumb West championships. Greater Thumb East Ubly, meanwhile, completes the regular season with a 7-2 record. Both teams are playoff bound.

Coach Scott Cuthrell will make his 6th consecutive trip to the post season. His Red Hawks host another Greater Thumb East foe in Sandusky (6-3) Friday during a Division 7 matchup. For the Bearcats - this will be the team's 5th straight trip to the Michigan High School Athletic Association's post season - a rematch with USA (6-3) awaits when the Patriots visit Friday for the second time this season. Ubly defeated USA 28-6 in Week One.

After handing Cass City a 20-6 defeat last year, the showdown between the two neighbors had a similar start Friday when Ubly marched 76 yards to take a 6-0 advantage. Quarterback Casey

Sweeney accounted for the touchdown with a 5-yard run that followed his 50-yard scramble to set up the game's first points.

The lead was short-lived, however, as Cass City answered on their next possession with a 3-yard dive by Alex Perry, who also added the 2-point conversion and with 3:22 on the clock the hosts surged in front, 8-6. Perry ran for 80 yards on 22 totes on the night.

Both teams would trade turnovers before the half and the 2-point gap stood at the break. Ubly's Carson Heleski intercepted a pass to create a break for the visitors, only to see Cass City's Bryce Fernald's fumble recovery spoil the opportunity.

In the final half, Horne came up big for the winners. His 74-yard touchdown gallop in the third quarter widened the gap to 14-6 and another Horne marker midway through the final quarter put Cass City comfortably in front 20-6. Besides his two touchdowns, Horne led all rushers with a career best 210 yards on 19 carries.

"Our offense has consistently moved the ball. I give a lot of credit to the offensive line who helped propel Hadyn Horne to his 1,000 yard milestone," said Cuthrell.

Horne's banner night couldn't have come at a better time as Cass City was without the services of their Thumb Player of the Year candidate Sandy Cuthrell, who was sidelined with an injury sustained against Reese in Week 8.

Along with Horne's offensive contribution, Cass City's defense has been stellar all season. Leading the charge against Ubly were Matt Mihalic and Perry with six tackles each, while Jeremy Velasquez and Dustin Naegele split 10 stops.

"Defense wins championships. This is the best Red Hawk defense since 1958. The 2019 defense has only given up 50 points in nine games," Cuthrell said.

Leading 20-6, Jordan Mester found pay dirt from 3-yards out in the closing minutes to complete the pounding.

STANDINGS

Team	GTW		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Cass City	6	0	8	1
USA	5	1	6	3
EPBP	4	2	6	3
Bad Axe	3	3	4	5
Caro	2	4	3	6
Reese	1	5	2	7
Vassar	0	6	0	9

UBLY quarterback Casey Sweeney (2) found little room to operate against the Cass City defense Friday night.

Caro spikers knock Hawks from top of league standings

With the Greater Thumb West volleyball championship in their path, the Cass City Lady Red Hawks hit a road block last week in Caro. There, Coach Amy Cuthrell's spikers fell from the top of the conference standings as the host Tigers avenged an earlier setback against their M-81 rivals in four sets.

After trading victories in the opening two sets - Caro captured

the opening set 25-18, but saw Cass City even the match with a 25-15 decision in set two - the hosts ended play on the night with wins of 25-21 and 25-22.

With the loss, Cass City drops from the top of the Greater Thumb West (GTW) standings, a spot they had occupied for most of the second half of the league play, at 8-3. Caro, meanwhile, improved

Please turn to page 10.



RED HAWK Abby Phillips sets up Hailey Beckrow (13) for a kill against Caro.

Kingston holds Middleton in check during victory over rival Mayville

Kingston's Caleb Goss and Jake DeLong each recorded a pair of touchdowns Friday to lead the host Cardinals over the visiting Mayville Wildcats in a battle for runner-up honors in the North Central Thumb League Blue standings.

With a 40-22 win, Kingston improves to 4-1 in the North Central Thumb League Blue (NCTL B) and 7-2 overall. They will entertain Mesick (7-2) Friday in first round playoff action. For rival Mayville, they finish the regular season at 6-3 overall and 3-2 in the NCTL B. The Wildcats travel north to take on Mio (8-1) for their 8-player playoff contest.

"Very proud of our effort in the trenches tonight. Mayville is an extremely talented team. Offensively, we were able to move the ball on the ground most of the night and defensively, we did a

great job containing Austin Middleton. He is a dynamic player that can hurt you with his arm and with his feet. We said going in that we were not going to let him beat us with his feet. He made some plays through the air, but our execution stopping their run was a difference maker," said Kingston Coach Brandon Jones.

DeLong put Kingston on the scoreboard first with an 11-yard run in the first quarter. But Mayville was able to answer on a pass from Middleton to Jeffrey Frost moments later and cut the margin to 8-6 entering the quarter before the break.

Turnovers ruled much of the action in the second quarter, although Kingston managed to enter the intermission with a 24-14 cushion.

Both teams traded scores in the third quarter before Kingston se-

cured the win with the only fourth quarter points.

The winners rushed for 350 yards that included 177 yards by Goss and 144 yards by DeLong. The Cardinals completed one pass on the night to Jacob Savage for 26 yards.

Defensively, Jacob Rayl was credited with 6.5 tackles and 1.5 tackles for loss to pace Kingston. Aaron Koehler and Kaidin Cavett added interceptions for the winners.

STANDINGS

Team	NCTL Blue		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Deckerville	5	0	9	0
Kingston	4	1	7	2
Mayville	3	2	6	3
North Huron	2	3	6	3
Peck	1	4	5	4
Atherton	0	5	1	8

Caro defends cross country regional title

by Clarke Haire
 Publisher

The Thumb was well-represented Friday at the Michigan High School Athletic Association Cross Country Division 3 Regional in Shepherd.

There, Caro repeated as the men's team champion with a score of 49, while Shepherd was the runner-up with 68 points and Sanford third with 81. From the Thumb, Reese (149) finished in 6th place, Cass City (155) in 7th place and Bad Axe (158) in 8th.

"We finished in 7th out of the 10 complete teams represented," said Cass City Coach Jon Zdrojewski. "The top three teams, as well as the top 15 individual finishers, advance to the State Finals on Nov. 2 at Michigan International Speedway."

Moving on from Caro will be Top 10 finishers Kevin Wilson, Cole Moen and Izak Brown, plus scorers Tristan Lovett and Connor Stefanovsky. Wilson was fourth to the line with a time of 16:46, while Moen placed 6th with a time of 16:54 and Brown was 10th with a time of 17:19. Tiger Lovett

was 17th individually with a time of 17:45 and finished just ahead of Stefanovsky who ran the 5,000 meter course in 17:58. Also for Caro, Tyrese Beedle was clocked in 20:28 and is eligible to run at the State Final Meet.

For Cass City, Nick McArdle was the only Red Hawk State Meet qualifier, but did so in splendid fashion. The Red Hawk junior was the Regional Champion taking first in a time of 16:30. Senior Drew Markel was next across the line for the team and finished his career as best as he could have hoped for, according to Zdrojewski, as he ran his last race in a new personal best time of 18:22 and finished 28th. Junior Brandon Witherspoon was immediately behind him taking 29th in 18:23.

Other scorers for Cass City had sophomore Hugh Walker - he ran a very good race coming off of his back injury - finishing in 55th place in a time of 19:26 while junior Anthony Boscaglia came in 56th place in 19:42.

"Anthony had a very nice first season on the team and we are looking forward to his continuing improvement," Zdrojewski said,

adding, "Freshman Gabe Schwendinger finished his first varsity season setting a new personal best time of 20:02 taking 59th place and the final runner for the team was senior Evan Roggenbuck taking 69th in a time of 21:38."

In the women's field, Shepherd held off Clare 31-65 to win team honors, while Reese was third with a score of 77. Cass City, meanwhile, finished in 7th out of the 11 complete teams with a tally of 184.

Leading the way for the Red Hawks was junior Riley Copeland.

"Riley achieved her goals for the season by finishing in 13th place and advancing to the State Finals. On the way to that fantastic finish she set a new personal best time of 20:17 and moved up to number seven on the All-Time board (at Cass City)," said Zdrojewski before praising his other runners.

"Cass City senior Mary Muter ran her last race in 21:45 taking 33rd place. Sophomore Madi Ware finished in 36th place with a time of 21:54. Senior Marla Please turn to page 10.



CARO'S Ellie Hornbacher posted 18 kills and 32 digs during the Tigers' win over Cass City.

Lady Cardinals trade decisions

Kingston traded North Central Thumb League Stars volleyball decisions last week, recording a straight sets victory over Peck and a straight sets loss to Deckerville.

After bowing to Deckerville on Tuesday, Coach Beth Hunter's Cardinals rebounded nicely against visiting Peck behind scores of 25-19, 25-13 and 25-19.

"Kingston was eager to get back on the winning side of things Thursday night and did just that in a three set win over Peck. The Cardinals set the tone from the service line, recording 16 aces as a team in the match," said Hunter.

Hannah James turned in a well-rounded showing for Kingston with 20 assists, 15 service points, four aces, two kills and two blocks against the Pirates, as did Payton Kolacz who had eight kills, nine service points, two aces and two blocks. Also for the hosts, Brooke Mooney chipped in eight kills,

five service points and four aces and Ella Retan had four kills and two aces.

On Tuesday, Kingston traveled to Deckerville (7-2 in the NCTL Stars) and returned home without winning a set. Scores on the evening were 25-18, 25-11 and 25-11.

"Deckerville finished off the season sweep of Kingston in dominant fashion," Hunter said. "The Cardinals couldn't get anything going all night and Deckerville took advantage."

Individually, the visitors had Anna Ahern with three kills, five digs, five service points, one ace and one assist leading the way. James added 16 assists, three digs and one kill, Mooney six kills and two digs, Retan four kills and three service points and Kolacz five kills.

Kingston (15-11 Overall, 6-3 NCTL Stars) was scheduled to

host division leading Dryden (8-0 NCTL Stars) Tuesday night in their final game of the regular season.

DISTRICT DRAW

In their own Division 4 district, host Kingston drew tourney favorite Dryden in an opening night matchup. Also on Monday (Nov. 4th) Mayville and Peck swing into action at 6:00 p.m., with the marquee game between Dryden and Kingston to follow approximately 30 minutes after the completion of the early quarterfinal game.

On Wednesday (Nov. 6), Genesee awaits the early game winner from Monday, while Carsonville-Port Sanilac will take on the late game winners from the opening night.

The district championship game starts at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday.

McArdle, Copeland moving on

Continued from page 9.

Muter took 54th place in a time of 23:41. Freshman Amelia Weiler had a good opening season as she made the adjustment to the 5K race in high school. She will continue to improve as she moves forward in her career. She finished in 57th place, in 24:09. The final two team members included sen-

ior Jules Palm, exchange student from Germany. She was a nice addition to the team and we really enjoyed having her, she finished in 25:51 taking 71st. Freshman Chloe Jaworski rounded out the team finishing her first season with a time of 28:33 taking 75th place," he said.

When asked to comment on his State Meet qualifiers McArdle

and Copeland, Zdrojewski said, "We have two outstanding athletes continuing to the elite final race at MIS, you will not find two athletes that will work any harder to meet their goals and I am very happy for the success they have attained this season. The effort they put into achieving those goals is unmatched in any sport."

#####

Cass City bows in M-81 battle

Continued from page 9.

to 8-4 in the GTW. Both Cass City and Caro trail league-leading USA. The Patriots stand at 8-2 in the GTW entering the final week of the regular season.

Still, Cass City's hopes for the GTW crown remain alive. The Red Hawks were scheduled to face Reese Tuesday. The Parents' Night contest is the hosts' final outing before district action. The Rockets, however, entertain USA tonight (Wednesday) in a make-up contest with title aspirations on the line.

"Sad day," said Cuthrell afterwards, who was lost for words.

Individually, Hailey Beckrow was a force at the net for Cass City with 25 kills, while Haven Bouverette added six kills. The Red Hawk offense also had Abby Phillips with 22 assists and Taylor Cumper with 14 assists.

On Thursday, Cass City entertained Capac and returned to the win column in straight sets, winning the non-conference affair by the scores of 25-15, 25-7 and 25-13.

Beckrow and Macy White led the host offense with 14 and nine kills, respectively, while Phillips had 18 assists and Cumper, eight.

Defensively, for Cass City Abbey Salcido and White split 24 digs and Beckrow recorded five blocks.

DISTRICT PREVIEW

At the Division 3 District in Bad Axe, tourney favorites Harbor Beach and USA will meet Monday, Nov. 4 at 7:00 p.m., with the winners advancing into Wednesday's (Nov. 6) late semifinal match to take on the Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port Lakers.

Cass City, meanwhile, is slated to meet Bad Axe in the early semifinal match Wednesday, when the first serve is slated for 6:00 p.m.

The semifinal winners will meet Thursday at 7:00 p.m. to decide district honors.

The Red Hawks split with Bad Axe and USA during their GTW matches during the campaign, and were swept by the undefeated GTW champ Pirates recently at the Marysville tournament, bowing 25-24 and 25-17.

Fabulous Four's Fearless Forecast

2019 Football Season



Clarke Haire



Ray Maurer



Geoff Morgan



Doug Hyatt

	Clarke Haire	Ray Maurer	Geoff Morgan	Doug Hyatt
PLAYOFF GAMES				
NOV. 1ST WEEKEND				
<i>(11-player games)</i>				
Sandusky @ Cass City	Cass City	Cass City	Cass City	Cass City
Madison Heights @ EPBP	Madison	EPBP	Madison	Madison
USA @ Ubly	USA	USA	Ubly	Ubly
MLS @ Harbor Beach	Harbor Beach	Harbor Beach	Harbor Beach	Harbor Beach
Millington @ Flint Hamady	Millington	Flint	Flint	Millington
<i>(8-player games)</i>				
Mesick @ Kingston	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston
Mayville @ Mio	Mio	Mio	Mio	Mayville
Flint IA @ Deckerville	Deckerville	Deckerville	Deckerville	Deckerville
<i>(College games)</i>				
Illinois @ MSU	MSU	MSU	MSU	MSU
U of M @ Maryland	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan
<i>(Pro game)</i>				
Detroit @ Oakland	Detroit	Detroit	Detroit	Detroit
LAST WEEK	13 - 1	11 - 3	10 - 4	11 - 3
SEASON RESULTS	90-15 (86 %)	87-18 (83 %)	82-23 (78 %)	78-27 (74%)

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VARSITY FOOTBALL

DATE	OPPONENT
L - 8/29	Montrose 16, CC 14
W - 9/6	CC 13, USA 8
W - 9/13	CC 48, Marlette 6
W - 9/20	CC 51, EPB Lakers 0
W - 9/27	CC 59, Vassar 8
W - 10/4	CC 45, Bad Axe 6
W - 10/11	CC 58, Caro 0
W - 10/18	CC 46, Reese 0
W - 10/25	CC 27, Ubly 6

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All Varsity Games begin at 7 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL (JV & VARSITY)

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
8/23	Bad Axe (JV)	9:00 a.m.
8/24	Bad Axe (V)	9:00 a.m.
9/7	Birch Run (V)	8:30 a.m.
9/10	EPB Lakers (JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
9/12	Bad Axe (JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
9/14	Ogemaw Heights (V)	9:00 a.m.
9/17	Vassar (JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
9/19	USA (JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
9/21	Frankenmuth (V)	8:00 a.m.
9/21	Bay City Central (JV)	8:00 a.m.
9/26	Caro (JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
9/28	Ogemaw Heights (JV)	TBD
10/1	Reese (JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/3	EPB Lakers (JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/5	Croswell-Lexington (JV)	TBD
10/8	Bad Axe (JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/10	Vassar (JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/15	USA (JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/19	Marysville (V)	TBD
10/19	North Branch (JV)	TBD
10/22	Caro (JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/24	Capac (JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/29	Reese (V)	6:00 p.m.
11/4	Districts (V)	TBD

JV FOOTBALL

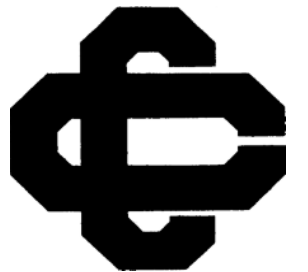
DATE	OPPONENT
L -8/28	Montrose 22, CC 0
W -9/5	CC 30, USA 0
W -9/12	CC 40, HB 6
L -9/19	Lakers 28, CC 6
W -9/26	CC 44, Vassar 6
L -10/3	Bad Axe 51, CC 0
W -10/10	CC 38, Caro 6
W -10/17	CC 14, Reese 6

All JV Games begin at 6:30 p.m.

FRESHMAN VOLLEYBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
9/7	Richmond Invite	TBD
9/10	EPB Lakers	6 p.m.
9/14	Chippewa Valley	TBD
9/19	USA	6 p.m.
9/21	USA	TBD
9/26	Caro	6 p.m.
9/28	Reese	TBD
10/1	Reese	6 p.m.
10/3	EPB Lakers	6 p.m.
10/5	Cros-Lex	TBD
10/15	USA	6 p.m.
10/19	Midland Dow	TBD
10/22	Caro	6 p.m.
10/24	Capac	6 p.m.
10/26	Caro	TBD
10/29	Reese	6 p.m.

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School to spend surplus

Continued from page one.

much state funding each district will receive.

In Cass City, Hartel reported 10 fewer students in the elementary grades and an increase of 33 kids at the junior-senior high school compared to the February 2019 count. This month's tally revealed 523 students at the elementary and 473 at the junior-senior high for a total enrollment of 996.

Comparing this month's count to October 2018, Cass City was one of only two county districts to gain students (seven kids); the other was Akron-Fairgrove Schools, which picked up four students. Declining enrollment was reported in Caro (75 fewer students), Kingston (nine), Mayville (14), Millington (20), Reese (15), Vassar (53) and Pioneer Work and Learn (31). USA Schools' enrollment remained the same.

Tuscola County Intermediate School District officials reported a combined enrollment decline of 200 kids between October 2018 and October 2019.

As for the Schools of Choice program, Hartel reported a 2018 analysis showed that Cass City lost 156 students to other districts in that year while gaining 133 kids for a net loss of 23 students.

In other business

In other business during the regular monthly meeting, the board:

*Unanimously voted against selling a tract of farmland located adjacent to the district's agriscience barn.

Hartel noted that Cass City Village officials had contacted him and asked about the possibility of selling the property to the village in the future in conjunction with a long-term parks and recreation plan.

Board members agreed that village officials have done a good job in maintaining an outstanding park system for the community, but they noted the farmland could be an asset to the school's agriscience program. They also pointed out it's difficult to predict the school's future educational needs with respect to utilizing the property.

*Learned there is significant interest in reviving a high school cheer-leading program, which has been absent in Cass City for more than a decade. Athletic Director Lindsay Bitzer reported 16 students have indicated a strong interest in participating. Bitzer said a coach has been selected and plans are to establish the program and build on it gradually.

*Learned the district has received another clean bill of financial health following an annual audit presentation from Angie Burnette, CPA, of Anderson, Tuckey, Bernhardt and Doran, P.C.

Among the figures presented were Cass City's general fund revenues (\$10,176,270) and expenditures (\$10,079,487) for the 2018-19 fiscal year, which ended June 30. School officials were able to add \$97,534 to the fund balance, which now totals more than \$1.9 million, an amount equal to roughly 19 percent of the district's general fund budget.

*Approved the hiring of Heather Middleton to fill a vacancy left by the resignation of agriscience teacher and FFA Advisor Leigh Osen-toski.

*Approved a routine resolution to participate in the Michigan Schools of Choice program by opening enrollment to any student in grades K-10.

Powell highly effective

Continued from page one.

for the city of Saginaw and also served as executive assistant to the city manager for the city of Bay City.

Turning to other matters during the regular monthly meeting, the council agreed to sell one vehicle and approved the purchase of another.

Accepted was the sale of a 2015 Ford Police Interceptor Utility – a Ford Explorer — to Jerry Middaugh of Great Lakes Public Safety Equipment for \$7,500. The vehicle has 102,334 miles.

Actually, Middaugh's net price will be \$4,425 after both parties agreed that Middaugh can deduct the cost of his services to set up a new 2019 Ford Police Utility in the amount of \$3,075. Those services included removing equipment from the old vehicle and installing them on the new vehicle, plus adding new LED lighting, a magnetic mic holder and a shotgun/rifle locking gun rack on the 2019 vehicle.

According to Police Chief Craig Haynes, Middaugh made a fair offer. The 2015 vehicle needs rotors, brakes, tires, battery, tune-up and minor body work. The vehicle has a NADA value, depending on condition, from \$6,375 to \$7,535, and will be sold as is.

Also approved was the purchase of a Kubota Rough Terrain Vehicle (RTV) in the amount of \$18,531. The village received three quotes from area dealers: Tri-County Equipment, Ball Equipment and the low bidder — Farm Depot — for the TRV that will have a two-year warranty. The equipment will be used year-round and features four-wheel drive, a two-seat cab with heat and air, front wiper, two-inch hitch, hydraulic dump bed, string trimmer holder, long handle tool carrier and V-plow.

EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

With a 6-0 roll call vote, revisions to the village's employee handbook took effect following a personnel and public services committee report. Among the changes made involved bereavement leave and paid time off (PTO) sections of the original manual drafted in 2017.

A new tiered-structure bereavement leave policy now depends upon the relationship of the departed to the employee, with up to five paid days of leave when the loss involves a spouse, child, parent or parent-in-law, of a permanent member of the employee's household. Three paid days will be granted when the loss involves a sister, brother, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, grandchild, grandparent or grandparent-in-law, and one paid day off to attend the funeral for an aunt, uncle, niece or nephew.

Regarding PTO, changes have been made to clarify benefits and when they are implemented. All PTO calculations are based on the calendar year of January through December.

MANAGER'S REPORT

During a recent Downtown Development Authority meeting, three goals were established for the group in 2020. They are: 1) construction of an information kiosk to provide information on Cass City attractions, events and general information; 2) Streetscape improvements to include black benches and/or bistro tables and chairs that reflect the black wrought-iron theme on Main Street, and 3) Creation of a facade improvement grant program designed to assist business in improving the exterior of their downtown buildings or sidewalks (grants would cover up to 50 percent of the investment).

OTHER BUSINESS

Also during Monday's 50-minute session, the council learned its blight subcommittee has been working on a rental ordinance. According to Powell, multiple meetings have been held, with rental safety issues for occupants being the priority.

Upon completion of a draft ordinance, it will be distributed for review by the village council. In addition, a community meeting will be held to receive comments and feedback from the public prior to introducing the ordinance at a future council meeting.

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



Cass City United Methodist Church

5100 Cemetery Rd., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-3422
Worship: 11:00 a.m. (Summer 9:30 a.m.) • Sunday School - Sept.-May 9:30 a.m.
Community Dinner - Monthly (2nd Wed. at noon)
Pastor: Bob Demyanovich • www.casscityumc.org



Community Baptist Church (Independent Fundamental)

4446 Ale St., Cass City, MI 48726 • 989-872-4088
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. • Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Afternoon Service 2:00 p.m. • Wednesday - Pray/Bible Study & Youth Group 6:00 p.m.
Pastor: Rev. Nathan Whipple

Deford Community Church



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

Evangelical Free Church of Cass City



6430 Chestnut Blvd., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-5060
• Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. • Worship at 10:30 a.m.
Midweek Bible Studies

Pastor: Jim Allred • Like us on Facebook!

First Baptist Church

(Independent, Fundamental)

Barrier Free

6420 Houghton St., Cass City, MI 48726 • 989-872-3155
Sunday School All Ages 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
AWANA Clubs 6:15 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. • Wednesday - Teen Club 6:15 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.



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



First Presbyterian Church

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

Fraser Presbyterian Church

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



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church



6820 E. Main St., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-2770
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Pastor: Steve Bagnall
www.goodshepherdlutherancasscity.webs.com

Living Word Worship Center Church of God

Pentecostal

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



Mizpah Missionary Church

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Pastor Dale Bullock 989-872-2828

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

Our Lady Consolata Catholic Church

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



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Potter's House Church of Cass City

• Sunday: 11:00 a.m.



Obituaries

Patricia Smith

Pat (Patricia) Ann Smith, 91, of Cass City, died following a short illness Friday, October 11, 2019 in Angela Hospice, Livonia.

She was born August 1, 1928 in Detroit, the sixth of eight children born to Phillip and Angela (Bauer) Schmidt.

She married Wilbur "Bud" Edwin Smith October 18, 1947. He died May 22, 2015.

Pat raised her eight children prior to receiving her BFA from the University of Michigan, December 1980 at the age of 52. She was a talented artist of many forms including: weaving, painting, beading, sewing and quilting, to name a few. Her favorite trip was to St. Petersburg, Russia in January of 2000. Pat was an active member of the American Association of University Women.

Pat is survived by her children: William Smith (Marlena Tyre) of Cincinnati, OH, Gregory (Sheila) Smith of San Antonio, FL, Patrice (Mike Mayotte) Smith of Livonia, Nicholas (Stormy) Smith of Wilkes Barre, PA, Peter (Martha Weintraub) Smith of Ann Arbor, Celia (Chuck McCulloch) of Bloomfield Hills, Christopher (Martha Witte) Smith of Philadelphia, PA and Robert (Jennifer) Smith of Newport; grandchildren: Ethan (Inca) Smith, Alexi (Erica Goff) Koltowicz, Nikolai (Kristi) Koltowicz, Joshua (Katie Snyder) Koltowicz, Emmet (Emily) Smith, Elliot (Becky) Smith, Adam (Hsin-Yi Lee) Smith, Hannah Smith, Rachel Smith, Trevor (Marina) McCulloch, Daryl McCulloch, Katelin Smith and William Smith; great-grandchildren: Madelyn, Katherine, Isabella, Greyson, Henry, Eli, Sam, Olivia, Emily, Elizabeth and Eleanor; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband and siblings.

Visitation will be held from 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, November 2, in Kranz Funeral Home, Cass City and a memorial service will be held 11:00 a.m. Saturday, November 2, in Kranz Funeral Home, Cass City with her oldest grandson, Alexi Koltowicz officiating.

Interment will be in Elkland Township Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to AAUW Scholarship Fund for Women.

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.



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POLEGA'S PRODUCE - Pumpkins, cornstalks, straw, Indian corn, cabbage, peppers, onions, squash, red and white potatoes (5lb. to 50 lb bags), a variety of apples, also animal feed apples. We accept WIC & Senior Fresh coupons through October 31, 2019. Hours 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Just east of M-53 at 6480 Bay City Forestville Rd. 872-3348 & cell:989-670-2836. 2-10-30-1

FOR SALE - 8' fluorescent light bulbs - single pins on the ends. Some are new, some are used (changed my shop to energy efficient lights) \$1.00 each. Call 989-872-2010. 2-10-23-tf

FOR SALE - Amish fiction, like new, books. Boxed lot of 39 books for \$35 call 989-872-4670. 2-10-30-1

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Notices

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Class Schedule:
Nov. 7 & 8 - 6-9:30 p.m.
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11-10-9-5

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11-10-30-3

Real Estate for Sale



Snuggle in before winter and start enjoying the warmth of a natural fireplace with this 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath home, located on a large lot in Cass City. Includes a large family room, dining room, 2-car garage and lots of storage space.
TCC1826



2-story, 4 bedroom, 2 bath. Home with gas fireplace and 2-1/2 car detached garage, located on Fish Point, with access to canal leading to the Bay. Updated windows, furnace, water heater and roof. Home is move-in condition.
CY2793



Cute 2 bedroom house located in Elkton with lots of character, and a nice backyard. Newer vinyl siding and a new roof in 2018.
194-19-0019



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CY2791

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11-10-23-3

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TCC1827

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123-19-0033

REDUCED!!!



Looking for a small farm, a country retreat/retirement property? Here it is. The home is in need of some repairs and updating, but has good bones. There is an additional bedroom or 2 in the upstairs. There is only pull down stairs at this time, but room for a stairway. Approx 20 to 21 acres tillable and about 12 areas in the back wooded for great hunting.
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Hernandez sets sights on seat in 10th District

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

A Thumb lawmaker — 83rd District state Rep. Shane Hernandez — has set his sights on Washington, D.C., and a fellow legislator is endorsing the candidacy.

“My friend Rep. Shane Hernandez announced he is running for congress in the 10th District. Shane has been our House Appropriation (budget) chairman and a steadfast supporter of the Caro Center battle in Lansing,” said state Rep. Phil Green (R-Millington).



Shane Hernandez

“I am excited to see Shane run for Congress and am looking forward to calling him

Congressman Hernandez.”

Hernandez (R-Port Huron) was first elected in 2016 to the Michigan House. He represents the citizens of Sanilac County and Burtchville Township, Fort Gratiot Township and the city of Port Huron in St. Clair County.

Hernandez graduated from Croswell-Lexington High School and Lawrence Technological University in Southfield. He grew up in Croswell and now lives in Port Huron with his wife, Renee, and their two children, Kelsey and Kara.

According to Hernandez’s biography, he credits his family upbringing for his conservative principles. His father, Salvador Hernandez, Jr., worked his way up from general laborer to boiler operator at the Croswell pickle factory.

Hernandez says he has witnessed firsthand that hard work and determination can lead to success.



RAIN DIDN'T deter the crowds that once again wandered throughout downtown Cass City in search of treats during the village’s annual Pink or Treat last week. Pictured above is the Hollis family — Eric, Elizabeth, Lucy, Dillan and Molly. Roughly 60 businesses and organizations took part in the breast cancer awareness activity.



AMONG THE businesses participating in Pink or Treat was the Lighthouse Rehabilitation Center, Caro, represented above by Brenda Pomeroy and Lighthouse Mascot Beamer.

Pink or Treat fun in Cass City



JACK LIPE AND Brooke Lipe, dressed as Spiderman and a Cabbage Patch Doll, appeared to be enjoying the tasty treats handed out by area merchants.

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