



Sanilac drug team arrests couple

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Huron Sheriff's Office honors its own

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Meet the K of C spelling champ

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CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

VOLUME 114, NUMBER 2

CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2020

.75 CENTS - 16 PAGES - 2 SUPPLEMENTS

Local schools, county work to slow virus spread

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

The spread of positive novel coronavirus (COVID-19) cases in Michigan prompted Gov. Gretchen Whitmer Thursday night to order the closure of all K-12 school buildings to students for three weeks, effective Monday (March 16) until Sunday, April 5. School buildings are scheduled to reopen on Monday, April 6.

In addition, Tuscola County court officials announced plans over the weekend to close all county courts and offices within

essary step to protect our kids, our families, and our overall public health," Whitmer said last week as she became one of at least 20 governors across the nation to order K-12 schools temporarily closed. "I am working with partners across state government to ensure educators, parents, and students have the support they need during this time, and to ensure our children who rely on school for meals have access to food.

"I know this will be a tough time, but we're doing this to keep the most people we can safe. I urge everyone to make smart choices

announcement, measures designed to help slow the spread of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) were being implemented by area school officials in the wake of last week's announcement that Michigan health officials had confirmed the state's first cases of the virus. In the Cass City Public Schools,

those measures had already included postponement or cancellation of field trips and a variety of other activities. In addition, the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) suspended all winter sports tournaments indefinitely. Additional information, as it be-

comes available, will be posted on the school district's website at www.casscityschools.org/coronavirus/.

Many of the nation's colleges, including those in Michigan, have shifted to online learning.

Closer to home, Tuscola County

Please turn to page 6.

Sheriff implements precautions at the county jail; state officials ready to lift weight restrictions to move supplies more quickly.

See stories, page 7

the courthouse to the public starting at the close of business today (Wednesday) and continuing until April 6.

And officials continue to announce new restrictions. Whitmer announced Monday morning that she planned to sign an executive order temporarily shutting down bars and restaurants across the state, although carry-out and delivery services will be allowed to continue. The order would also impact fitness centers and other "large places of assemblage."

The latest figures at press time revealed a total of 53 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Michigan.

"This (closing schools) is a nec-

during this time and to do everything they can to protect themselves and their families," she added.

"Closing our K-12 school buildings is the responsible choice that will minimize the risk of exposure for children, educators, and families and mitigate the spread of coronavirus," said Michigan State Supt. Michael Rice. "The Department of Education will continue to work closely with our partners in state government to help our students and educators in each school district get through this time. This is about protecting the most people in Michigan."

Even before Whitmer's an-



A PAIR OF employees were startled, but no one was injured when a vehicle crashed through the front of the Family Dollar Store in Cass City Monday morning. The accident, which damaged two large windows and metal window frames, occurred at about 9:20 a.m., according to Cass City Police Chief Craig Haynes, who reported the driver of a 2000 Volkswagon was pulling up to the store at 6094 Cass City Rd. when his foot became entangled between his brake and gas pedals. The driver's name was not released.

School serves up 800 meal kits for students at home

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

On the advice of the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB), the Cass City Board of Education canceled its regular monthly meeting scheduled for Monday night.

But efforts to slow the spread of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Michigan weighs heavily on the minds of school Supt. Jeff Hartel, board members and the entire staff.

While Cass City School officials have continued to keep up with the new rules and restrictions coming out of Lansing at breakneck speed, the district has managed to keep its focus on students, and that includes working to ensure no youngster goes hungry during a state-ordered cancellation of classes through early April.

Towards that end, district officials began offering free meal kits to families with children Monday and plan to continue to do so during the shutdown.

Cass City Food Service Director Shari Bock and her staff played a key

Please turn to page 12.

Spring's sweet bounty

Syrup season off to fast start, but concerns over coronavirus cancel Battel's annual open house

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Take heart, winter-weary residents of the Thumb; at least two harbingers of spring are here.

Aside from Daylight Savings Time, which returned to Michigan over the weekend, March is a busy month in sugar

bushes across the state, where a harvest of sweet sap is yielding fresh batches of pure maple syrup — an average of 90,000 gallons a year statewide.

It's spring's typical weather pattern of cold nights followed by mild days that are vital to a successful and bountiful harvest of maple sap, according to members of the Battel family, whose Cass

City area sugar bush has been churning out the sap used to create their trademark fresh, pure maple syrup for 138 years.

Unfortunately, the family's tradition of hosting area residents to take part in this rite of the season during an annual open house won't take place

Please turn to page 7.

Cass City twins boast GPAs of 4.11, 4.12

Cass City School officials suffered a case of double vision in determining the valedictorian and salutatorian for the local Class of 2020.

Twin sisters Mary Muter and Marla Muter, the daughters of Dale and Catherine Muter, earned the coveted titles.

Not only does this year mark the first time in recent memory that

twins topped a graduating class in Cass City, the sisters' cumulative grade point averages (GPAs) were virtually identical — separated by just one hundredth of a point — with Mary posting a GPA of 4.12 and Marla, a 4.11.

This year's honors-heavy class also boasts two other seniors with GPAs topping 4.0; Hailey Beckrow and Hanna Dobson, who both

earned cumulative GPAs of 4.01.

Mary Muter, who plans to attend the University of Michigan in the fall, has been on the honor roll throughout her high school career. She has also been active in the Cass City chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS), student council, Academic Games and 4-H.

Her honors have included earning academic pins in a variety of subjects, including algebra, biology, English, Geometry, Spanish, Anatomy, pre-calculus and literature. She earned academic varsity letters in each of the past four years.

In addition, she is an accomplished athlete, earning multiple varsity letters in cross country and field track.

In cross country, she earned Greater Thumb Conference second team all-conference honors in 2017 and 2019, and all-conference honorable mention in 2016 and

Please turn to page 7.



Mary Muter



Marla Muter

Area voters support Biden, approve millage proposals

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Thumb voters followed their neighbors across Michigan in giving Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden a decisive victory over Bernie Sanders in last week's presidential primary election in Michigan.

The former vice president handily won the state's Democratic primary — the biggest delegate prize among the March 10 primaries — winning more than 53 percent of the vote, with Sanders garnering more than 36 percent.

As expected, President Donald J. Trump easily won the Republican primary, winning roughly 94 percent of the state vote.

In the Thumb, about 24 percent of 41,343 residents turned out

Please turn to page 6.

Owen-Gage announces students of month

The focus for Owen-Gage's students of the month for March is being a "Critical, Creative Thinker". A student who is a critical, creative thinker identifies problems, collects information, and organizes, compares and contrasts data. The student also forms opinions, develops strategies to solve problems, and evaluates their conclusion.

The following students have been chosen: Wynter Brinkman, fifth grade (elementary level), daughter of Matthew and Catherine Brinkman; Shelby Bowers,

eighth grade (junior high level), daughter of Todd and Janice Bowers; Allison Haldane, ninth grade (high school level), daughter of Robert and Patty Haldane; and Andrew Roemer, twelfth grade (senior student), son of Matthew and Angie Roemer.



Wynter Brinkman



Shelby Bowers



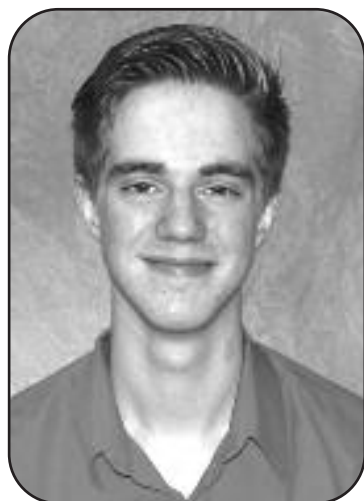
Allison Haldane

Special recognition goes to the "Senior Student of the Month", Andrew Roemer. Roemer has been a member of the band each year, in which he plays the alto saxophone. As a senior, he is also a member of the school's jazz band. He has participated in Solo/Ensemble each year and was chosen to participate in the Tri-County Honors Band this year. Roemer has been a member of the Huron County Youth Advisory Committee all through high school. He has also been a member of the Vex Robotics team for Owen-Gage as well as for the Huron ISD.

Roemer has been a member of the National Honor Society since his sophomore year. He has been on the honor roll and a member of the 3.0 Honors Club each year. He served as class representative to the student council his freshman year. As a sophomore, he served on the PAC (Post-Secondary Action Council) Squad and served as his class vice-president. Roemer was a homecoming

class representative two years and a snowball class representative three years. The past two years he has been enrolled in the Mechanical, Architecture, Engineering and Design program at the Huron Area Technical Center.

Roemer is very active in his church. He has been the Nazarene Youth International President the past three years, has provided music at his church, participated in Mission Outreach, and was a church board member/trustee. Roemer has also volunteered at Lions Club breakfasts, senior citizens' breakfasts/lunches, and at blood drives sponsored by the National Honor Society. He has worked at Scheurer Family Pharmacy in Pigeon the past two years.



Andrew Roemer

Roemer is the son of Matthew and Angie Roemer of Owendale. He plans on attending Lake Superior State University in the fall to pursue a degree in wildlife biology.

O-G officials name honor roll students

2nd Marking Period

3rd Grade: Derek Bowers, Axton Hellebuyck, Brotey Hewitt, Autumn Hoppe, StarAnn Miller, Olivia Sheufelt*.

4th Grade: Hailey Forman*, Nolen Gruehn, Cailum Hewitt, Hunter Mihaesi, Sierra Miller*, Gavin Neal-Arnold, Madalyn Rabun.

5th Grade: Jessica Bowers*, Wynter Brinkman*, Steven Hicks, Hunter Hoppe*, Rylin LaCroix*, Mya McCreedy*, Faith Morrish*, Jayden Prokop, Jessie Rolston, Ava Sheufelt*.

6th Grade: McKenzie Baker, Aubrey Hellebuyck*, Brooklyn Hunt, Logan Mihaesi.

7th Grade: Danielle Hunt*, Lucas McKnight*.

8th Grade: Shelby Bowers*, Karsyn Gruehn*, Hannah Wood.

9th Grade: Allison Haldane*, Amber Haldane*, Dagon LaCroix*, Erin Morrish*, Emily Schultz*.

10th Grade: Haden Gruehn, Madelyn Haldane*, Dana Morrish*, Cydnee Waske.

11th Grade: Katriana Curtoys, Boyd Evans*, Clay Evans*, Jameson McKnight*, Libby Ondrajka*, Andrew Partaka, Alivia Roehrig*.

1st Semester

6th Grade: McKenzie Baker, Aubrey Hellebuyck*, Brooklyn Hunt, Logan Mihaesi.

7th Grade: Danielle Hunt*, Lucas McKnight*.

8th Grade: Shelby Bowers*, Karsyn Gruehn*, Hannah Wood.

9th Grade: Brianna Bergman, Allison Haldane*, Amber Haldane*, Dagon LaCroix*, Erin Morrish*, Emily Schultz*.

10th Grade: Haden Gruehn, Madelyn Haldane*, Dana Morrish*.

11th Grade: Katriana Curtoys, Boyd Evans*, Clay Evans*, Jameson McKnight*, Hunter Meier, Libby Ondrajka*, Alivia Roehrig*.

12th Grade: Brandon Fritz*, Aaliyah Gonzales, Carley Haldane*, Kaitlyn LaCroix, Madyson Menzel*, Andrew Roemer*.

*DENOTES ALL A'S

CASS THEATRE

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DIGITAL CINEMA

Due to the latest orders from Governor Whitmer, All theaters must close. We hope to see you when the ban has been lifted.

SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

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

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

THIS PUZZLE BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

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SEMCO ENERGY ASKS CUSTOMERS TO KEEP METERS CLEAR OF SNOW AND ICE

During the winter, here are a few ways to help protect gas meter equipment and gas appliances to avoid a potentially hazardous situation or service disruption:

- Clean and repair leaky seams in your gutters and downspouts to prevent melting snow and ice from building up on the gas meter or pressure regulator.
- Never allow snow to cover your natural gas meter or its pressure regulator or block your appliance exhaust vents.
- Please use caution when shoveling snow, plowing or snow blowing to avoid piling snow against the natural gas meter, regulator or appliance vents.
- Clear a path to the meter free from snow and ice for easy access.
- Remove soft snow build-up gently, using only a broom or your hand rather than a shovel that could damage the meter.
- Do not try to remove ice or frozen snow from the natural gas meter pressure regulator or piping. If you find your meter or pressure regulator covered in ice or frozen snow, do not attempt to remove the ice or use de-icer. Contact SEMCO ENERGY Gas Company, toll free, at 1 800 624 2019.

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Special Meeting Notice Greenleaf Township Zoning Board of Appeals

Address: 6435 Bay City Forestville Road, Cass City, MI 48726

Meeting Date: April 2nd, 2020

Meeting Time: 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Location: Greenleaf Township Hall

Purpose(s) of Meeting: Robert Delong is seeking variance approval to add onto an existing non-conforming structure. Porch on the east side will be remodeled and added on to wrap around the south side of the house. Property located at: 8673 Hadley Rd. Cass City, MI 48726. Parcel No.: 130-004-300-020-00

This notice is posted in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267 of 1976, as amended, (MCL 41.72a(2)(3)) and the Americans With Disabilities Act.

The Greenleaf Township Board will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio recordings of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting or public hearing upon 10 days notice to the Greenleaf Township Board. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Township Board by writing or calling the following: Judy Keller, Township Clerk P.O. Box 135, Cass City, MI 48726

Written comments may be mailed to the Township Clerk, P.O. Box 135, Cass City, MI 48726.
Posted on: March 10, 2020

Judy Keller
Greenleaf Township Clerk

A copy of this notice is on file in the Clerk's Office, located at 6435 Bay City Forestville Road, Cass City, MI 48726.

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**In Our
OPINION...**

**Clarke Haire
Publisher** **Tom Montgomery
Editor**

Prevent potential tip-over accidents

Many useful and seemingly harmless items in our homes – televisions, furniture and appliances, for example – also have the potential to cause serious injuries, especially among children.

In fact, every three weeks a child dies from a television tipping over, and an estimated 71 children are injured or killed every single day when a piece of furniture, a TV, or an appliance falls on them.

A television tipping over from an average size dresser falls with thousands of pounds of force. The impact is like being caught between two NFL linemen colliding at full-speed – 10 times – according to a Consumer Protection Safety Commission report, which notes a child in the United States goes to the emergency room every 24 minutes due to tip-over incidents involving furniture or a TV.

The youngsters who survive these accidents may be left with severe and debilitating lifelong injuries.

The numbers are sobering, particularly when you consider that all of these accidents can be prevented.

That's why the Injury and Violence Prevention Unit of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) encourages residents to keep their loved ones safe by taking some simple steps to avoid accidents.

Incidents of tip-over injuries and related deaths have increased over the past ten years by 31 percent, according to officials with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

In the United States, thousands of injuries are reported annually among children ages 17 and under due to television, furniture and appliance tip-overs.

The good news is there are simple, preventive steps everyone can take to ensure their homes are safe for people of all ages, according to MDHHS officials, who recommend that homeowners and renters check their furniture, appliances, and especially TVs to ensure they are properly secured and anchored in place so that they don't pose a risk of tipping over.

It is estimated that only one in four adults anchors their televisions. Using furniture straps or a bracket to secure heavy items is an easy way to protect everyone, especially curious youngsters.

For example, mount flat-screen TVs on a wall and put older-style TVs on low, stable pieces of furniture. However, keep in mind that even lower pieces of furniture can destabilize if they have drawers that can pull out, or if a child tries to climb it. Book shelves and any cabinets or dressers with drawers should also be secured to a wall with a brace or strap.

Child safety experts recommend that adults take a few minutes to assess the stability of TVs and top-heavy furniture in their homes, and then secure each one to prevent an accident.

Visit the Safe Kids Michigan Coalition website at www.michigan.gov/injuryprevention for information about your local coalition and resources such as instruction videos, tip sheets, and even directions on how to recycle your old TV.

Residents will also find more information and tips for keeping their homes safe by visiting the Consumer Product Safety Commission www.cpsc.gov, and Safe Kids Worldwide www.safekids.org.

It may sound cliché, but safety really is no accident. Taking a few minutes and spending a few dollars could save the life of a child who means everything to you.

CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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Drier Humor

by Mary Drier

Can trees be happy?



Do trees and clouds really have feelings? Can they feel sadness or joy?

That question has been in the back of my mind ever since I saw my first television show years ago about a guy painting and talking about making happy trees with his paint brush.

Bob Ross a was painter, art instructor and television host in the 1980s and 90s. He shared his love for painting and the environment with millions of viewers in the program, "The Joy of Painting" on public television. He was known for simple brushstrokes that brought gorgeous landscapes – full of happy little trees – to life on canvas.

Bob Ross Inc. is partnering with the U.S. Forest Service Great Lakes Restoration Initiative in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) Happy Little Trees program. The aim of the program is to help state park campgrounds recover from invasive forest pests and diseases, such as emerald ash borer and oak wilt, that damage and kill trees.

The DNR is hosting a Bob Ross-themed virtual 5-K race. According to the event's billing, it doesn't matter if you walk, run, or hike, any place outdoors will do for the event as long it is done between April 17 and April 26.

I applaud Michigan for embracing Ross' enthusiasm for trees.

Although I didn't see it, I was told there was a billboard in Huron County, near the Port Crescent State Park, last summer that promoted Bob Ross and the DNR's Happy Little Trees program.

While placing paint here and there, Bob would often note the technique was ideal for painting "happy little trees."

I think that marketing technique for helping the environment is a great idea.

Whenever I do any of my art projects, I often think of Bob. I silently thank him for making painting fun and interesting, and remember how upbeat he was about everything.


The cost to participate in the upcoming virtual 5-k race is \$34 per person, with about \$10 from each registration going towards planting "happy little trees" in Michigan's state parks.

Each participant will be shipped a Happy Little T-shirt, a commemorative bib and a medal.

To sign up, contact Michelle Coss via email at

CossM@Michigan.gov.

Whether they are happy or not, there can never be enough trees, especially with the wildfires that have been making the news.



Rabbit Tracks

by Clarke Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)

The Cass City Chronicle received a pair of awards in the 2019 Michigan Press Association Better Newspaper Contest.

Chronicle Editor Tom Montgomery's photo of a Blood Moon won first place out of 14 entries submitted in the Weekly/News Media Class D Feature Photo category. Montgomery was also awarded third place in the Weekly Class D Best Editorial category for his piece on the governor's gas tax proposal, Whitmer proposal too great a burden. There were 10 entries in that competition.

Members of the Montana Press Association reviewed 3,500 entries submitted by 106 Michigan newspapers and individual members during this year's statewide competition.

Aside from the Better Newspaper Contest, the Chronicle was recognized for its contribution to the cover of the 2020-21 Michigan Press Association Directory, which features the work of four photographers whose pictures were selected to represent the beauty of the state's four seasons. Montgomery's photo of a tree in the Deford area, bursting with vivid orange and red colors, was chosen to represent fall in Michigan.

If you have business in the Tuscola County Courthouse in the near future, please note by administrative order of the Chief Judge Amy Grace Gierhart, the Tuscola County Courthouse, including the Courts, the Friend of the Court office, and the County Clerk's Office, will be closed to the public at the close of business today (Wednesday, March 18) until Monday, April 6 due to the coronavirus.

Also, all jury trials during this time period have been adjourned and the March jury panels for Circuit Court and District Court have been dismissed and will not have to report. April jurors for Circuit Court can call (989) 672-3770 for undated information about their services. April jurors for District Court can call (989) 763-5899 for updated information about their service.

Information regarding continuation of operations while the Courthouse is closed to the public is available on www.tuscolacounty.org.

Information regarding the County Clerk's Office continuation of operations can be found at www.tuscolacounty.org or by calling (989) 672-3780.

Three quick myths and facts about COVID-19.

MYTH
Wearing a mask will protect me from the virus.

FACT
Unless you have been told by your doctor that you should wear a mask because of a chronic medical condition, masks are not necessary. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that only people having symptoms such as coughing, sneezing or a runny nose should wear a mask. This will help effectively prevent the spread of COVID-19. Healthy people do not require a mask.

MYTH
COVID-19 is a bigger risk to our health than the flu.

FACT
Influenza (also known as the flu), has a much bigger impact on the United States than COVID-19 currently. So far this season, 22 million people have been affected by it and over 15,000 have died from the flu. It is expected that flu transmission will continue until mid-March.
Vaccination, hand-washing and avoiding ill persons will help protect you from the flu. If you get the flu, schedule an appointment with your primary care doctor. Medications such as Tamiflu® can be used for treatment, particularly if you are older or have underlying illnesses.

MYTH
Pets can carry and spread COVID-19.

FACT
At present, there is no evidence that any animals, including domestic pets, can be infected by or spread the virus. However, according to the CDC, since animals can spread other diseases to people, it's always a good idea to wash your hands after being around animals.

*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.

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CALENDAR EVENTS

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

Wednesday, March 18

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

Thursday, March 19

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

Saturday, March 21

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

Sunday, March 22

•Thumb Area Companions, 3 p.m., hosted by Dawn Woidan at 6048 Delong Rd., Deford. Social support group that strives to benefit from social contact with others experiencing grief/loss.

Monday, March 23

•Alcoholics Anonymous, "Monday at a Time," 8 p.m., Parkside Cafe, 2031 Main St., Ubyly. For more information, call Angela R. at (989) 658-2319.
•AA meeting, 7-8 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Cass City. For more information, call (989) 553-5932.
•Hills & Dales General Hospital Auxiliary meeting, 11:30 a.m., Gilligans (no meetings July, August, December).
•Tuscola County Right to Life meeting, 6:30-8 p.m., Caro Area District Library, 840 W. Frank St., Caro. For more information, call (989) 872-3259.
•Families Against Narcotics, 6 p.m., Hills and Dales Corporate Services and Regional Education Center, 6667 Main St. Cass City. For more information, call (989) 551-4326.

Tuesday, March 24

•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.

STANDING COMMUNITY CALENDAR ITEMS

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

First Sunday:
•Hillsdale Community Brunch, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., All you can eat. Free will offering.
•Thumb Area Companions, 3 p.m., hosted by Dawn Woidan at 6048 Delong Rd., Deford. Social support group that strives to benefit from social contact with others experiencing grief/loss.

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

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

Second Tuesday:
•Thumb Octagon Barn meeting, 7 p.m., fire hall in Gagetown.
•Tuscola County Alzheimer's and Family Caregiver Support Group, 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., HDC Intergenerational Building, 430 Montague Ave., Caro. For more information, contact Merry at (989) 673-4121.
•Kedron OES #33 of Caro meeting, 7 p.m.
•Huron County Family Caregiver Support Group, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Human Development Commission, 150 Nugent Rd., Bad Axe. For more information, contact Merry at (989) 673-4121.

•Al-Anon meeting, 7 p.m., St. Francis Parrish, Pigeon.
Second Thursday:
•Caregiver Connection, 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m., Country Gardens, Scheurer Hospital, 203 N. Caseville Rd., Pigeon. For more information, call Merry at (989) 673-4121.

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

Third Tuesday:
•Living with Parkinson's Support Group, 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m., Holiday Inn Express, 55 Rapson Lane West, Bad Axe. For more information, call Merry at (989) 673-4121.
•Family Caregiver Support Group, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Harbor Beach Community Hospital Administration Building/Conference Center, 147 S. First St., Harbor Beach. For more information, contact Merry at (989) 673-4121
•Ubyly Lions Club meeting, 7:00 p.m. at the Ubyly Thumb Veterans Organization Hall, 2165 Bingham St., Ubyly MI 48475. A pot luck is served prior to the meeting. Everyone is welcomed.

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

Third Saturday:
•Revive Food Pantry, from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. Must live in the Cass City School District and meet the financial guidelines. For more information, call (989)551-7803.
Third Sunday:
•Thumb Area Companions, 3 p.m., hosted by Dawn Woidan at 6048 Delong Rd., Deford. Social support group that strives to benefit from social contact with others experiencing grief/loss.

Fourth Monday:
•Cass City School Board meeting, 7 p.m.
•Hills & Dales General Hospital Auxiliary meeting, 11:30 a.m., Gilligans (no meetings July, August, December).
•Tuscola County Right to Life meeting, 6:30-8 p.m., Caro Area District Library, 840 W. Frank St., Caro. For more information, call (989) 872-3259.
•Families Against Narcotics, 6 p.m., Hills and Dales Corporate Services and Regional Education Center, 6667 Main St. Cass City. For more information, call (989) 551-4326.

Fourth Wednesday:
•Owen-Gage School Board meeting, 7 p.m.
•Huron County Alzheimer's and Family Caregiver Support Group, Huron Behavioral Health, Bad Axe. For more information, contact Rhonda Quinn at (989) 269-9293.
•Sanilac County Alzheimer's and Family Caregiver Support Group, Sanilac County Medical Care Facility, Noon to 2 p.m. For more information, contact Merry at (989) 673-4121.

Fourth Thursday:
•Community Lunch, noon, Shabbona United Methodist Church.
Last Monday:
•Cass City Village Council meeting, 7 p.m., municipal building.

Last Wednesday:
•Cass City Chamber meeting, 8 a.m., Rawson Memorial District Library.
Every Sunday:
•Thumb Area Companions, 3 p.m., hosted by Dawn Woidan at Hills and Dales Board room, 4675 Hill Street. Social support group that strives to benefit from social contact with others experiencing grief/loss.

Every Monday:
•Alcoholics Anonymous, "Monday at a Time," 8 p.m., Parkside Cafe, 2031 Main St., Ubyly. For more information, call Angela R. at (989) 658-2319.
•AA meeting, 7-8 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Cass City. For more information, call (989) 553-5932.

Every Tuesday:
•AA Meeting, 7-8 p.m., St. Joseph Church, 4960 N. Argyle Rd. (Meeting will be held in the hall next to the little stone church.)
•Al-Anon meeting, 7 p.m., Cakima Serenity Home, Mayville. Call 989-912-5478 for more information.
•Crafty Ladies Group, 1-4 p.m., Common Grounds (next to Revive). Bring a crafting project to work on. Call 989-551-7803 for more information.

Every Wednesday:
•Spoonfuls of Plenty Free Community Meal, 3:30-6 p.m., Human Development Commission at 429 Montague Ave., Caro. Open to anyone wanting a hot, home-style meal.
Every Thursday:
•AA meeting, 7-8 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Cass City. For more information, call (989) 553-5932.

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

Sanilac drug team arrests pair from Sandusky on meth charges

A traffic stop led to two arrests on drug charges and a search warrant for the suspects' home in Sanilac County earlier this month.

"On Friday, March 6, the Sanilac County Drug Task Force conducted a traffic stop within the city limits of Sandusky. During the traffic stop, a quantity of crystal methamphetamine was seized," Jim Johnson, drug task force director, reported.

"Both occupants of the vehicle, a 42-year-old male and 36 year-old-female, both from Sandusky, were arrested and lodged at the Sanilac County Jail."

"Following the traffic stop, a search warrant was obtained for their residence in the 400 block of Woodland Drive in Sandusky, (where) additional methamphetamine and paraphernalia related to the sales of methamphetamine was located," Johnson said.

Both suspects were arraigned on charges of possession with intent to deliver methamphetamine, possession of methamphetamine and maintaining a drug house, and both remained lodged on bond.

Johnson noted the county's drug team was assisted by the Sanilac County Sheriff's Department, Sandusky Police Department, Michigan State Police and St. Clair County K-9 Unit.

Circuit court proceedings

Several appear on felony charges

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

*Codi L. Giddings, 27, Mayville, pleaded no contest to charges of first degree home invasion, use of a computer to commit a crime and assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder Nov. 29 in Juniata Township. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered in the case, bond was revoked and the defendant was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Eric S. Bomsta, 45, Flint, pleaded guilty to attempted assaulting, resisting or obstructing a police officer Oct. 23 in Caro.

He was immediately sentenced, with the court ordering him to serve 63 days in the county jail. He was also ordered to pay court costs and fines totaling \$185.

*David C. Knight, 53, Millington, was sentenced to 365 days in jail following his pleas of no contest to two counts of assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder between May 14 and May 22 in Millington Township.

He was also placed on probation for 24 months and ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$326.

*Jason J. Flum, 46, Clinton Township, received a one-year delayed sentence following his pleas of no contest to fleeing a police officer, operating an ORV at an unreasonable speed, and assaulting, resisting or obstructing a police officer April 8 in Wells Township.

He was also ordered to pay costs and fines totaling \$1,626.

*James L. Swinton Jr., 47, Vassar, pleaded guilty to welfare fraud involving more than \$500 between Feb. 9, 2015, and Jan. 31, 2017, in Tuscola County. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (three or more prior felony convictions).

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

*Callie R. Cserca, 25, Essexville, pleaded no contest to obtaining land valued at \$20,000 to \$50,000 by false pretenses and fraud involving food stamps totaling more than \$1,000. The defendant was also convicted of being an habitual offender (one prior felony conviction).

A pre-sentence investigation was

ordered and bond was continued at \$5,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Dennis P. Clara, 68, Caro, pleaded no contest to malicious destruction of property totaling \$1,000 to \$20,000 Aug. 21 in Caro. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (two prior felony convictions).

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

*Jacinto D Aguilera, 35, Sebewaing, pleaded guilty to operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor, third offense, Aug. 23 in Akron Township. The defendant was also convicted of being an habitual offender (three or more prior felony convictions).

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

*Justin A. Terbush, 30, Caro, pleaded no contest to domestic violence, third offense, Nov. 16 in Caro. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (two prior felony convictions).

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered, bond was continued at \$4,000 and the defendant was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Michael A. Leverenz, 26, Mayville, pleaded no contest to assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder, operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor, and domestic violence Nov. 29 in Caro.

A pre-sentence investigation was

ordered and bond was continued at \$10,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Burton Colman, 66, Vassar, pleaded no contest to carrying a weapon with unlawful intent, possession of a firearm by a felon, possession of ammunition by a felon and possession of a firearm in the commission of a felony between Sept. 28 and Sept. 30 in Tuscola Township.

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

*Kayla R. Vandecar, 23, Caro, pleaded guilty to delivery/manufacture of methamphetamine and possession of methamphetamine/Ecstasy Nov. 5 in Caro.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered, bond was continued at \$2,000 and the defendant was remanded to the custody of the sheriff's department. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

*Audreanna M. Johnson, 26, Caro, pleaded no contest to two counts each of perjury during an exam by a prosecuting attorney, and delivery of a controlled substance to a minor between Aug. 25, 2014, and March 15, 2019, in Caro.

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

*Richard B. Cayer, 50, Vassar, pleaded no contest to carrying a weapon with unlawful intent, assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault) and reckless use of a weapon Nov. 27 in Vassar Township.

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



Pat Stecker

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Reporter's notebook

Darned if we do...

by Tom Montgomery
Editor



"The media is creating hysteria!"
"This coronavirus isn't nearly as big a deal as the media is making it out to be."
"The media just wants everyone to panic."

If you've been on Facebook or any other social networking site recently, chances are good you've seen one of these comments or something similar since the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) took over the airwaves and headlines across the globe.

I've been a journalist for roughly 35 years now, so I'm not altogether surprised with the "shoot the messenger" mentality some folks are embracing these days, but it still irks me a little.

It's easy to blame the media for store shelves emptied by selfish, ignorant individuals who are interested only in looking out for themselves, and for the reactions of everyone from your neighbor down the street to government officials at the local, state and national levels.

But is the media's reporting of stories related to this new strain of coronavirus really to blame for the reaction of readers and viewers?

Reminds me of centuries ago when I was a kid and I would get into a fight with a sibling. Once confronted by my mother, my excuse was quite often something like, "I pushed her because she made me so mad!" Mom's answer was always the same: "No one can make you angry - you allowed yourself to get angry."

Even so, a number of people insist on accusing "the media" of blowing everything out of proportion.

How do they know that? I mean, do we really know the full impact COVID-19 will have? What we do know is that tens of thousands of people have been sickened worldwide. People are dying, and the experts are telling us that the only way to slow that trend is to take decisive action.

Say what you want about journalists, but we didn't close the schools; we didn't break your heart by taking away every form of sporting event known to man (for a while); and we didn't ruin your (or our) spring break vacations.

What most news outlets are doing is this: our best to inform the public by talking to health experts, government officials, the schools, hospitals, etc., in order to ensure everyone is on the same page with respect to the seriousness of a pandemic and what we can all do to constructively and effectively address it.

Ironically, if we weren't drowning citizens in reports surrounding this health crisis, we would be accused of failing in our mission and in our responsibility to the public we serve.

Maybe, instead of blaming "the media", people could stop posting photo after photo of empty shelves in grocery stores (seems to me that's a great way to create hysteria).

Why not focus on sharing messages offering a little hope? How about a few words encouraging all of us to support one another and to keep in mind that the fear and anxiety and disappointments and boredom we're all facing now - yes, even journalists - isn't going to last forever.

So, what can we do?

Pointing to the obvious will do for a start: yes, wash your hands thoroughly and wash them often; practice social distancing, be ever mindful that the elderly and those with compromised immune systems are the most vulnerable (in other words, just because you don't feel sick doesn't mean you can't infect someone else). Stay informed.

COVID-19 is scary, but we can and will get through this. Together.

How we get through this will say a lot about us as people and our capacity to demonstrate courage, compassion and understanding in the face of our fears.

Talk about a great story.

Down Memory Lane

by Tina Pallas



5 YEARS AGO (2015)

The Huron County Sheriff's Department recently honored several of its own during the department's annual staff meeting, including Deputy Ryan Swartz, Lt. Josh Powell, Cpl. Stephanie Voss, Sheriff Kelly J. Hanson, Undersheriff Duane Miller, Deputy Dave Navock, Deputy Steve Bismack and Deputy Matt Blaine.

Kristen R. Kawecki of Cass City has been named to the Saginaw Valley State University dean's list for the fall 2014 semester in recognition of her high academic achievement. Kristen is a 2012 high honors graduate of Cass City High School. Kristen is the daughter of Maureen and Mark Kawecki.

10 YEARS AGO (2010)

Cass City students whose essays earned them the right to lay a wreath at Arlington National Cemetery this summer are Shania Chambers, Brock Thane, Michael Mulligan and Kristin Ewald.

Audrey VanAuken was the winner of the Kally Maharg Scholarship, which will cover a portion of her expenses to attend this year's eighth grade trip to Washington, D.C.

You may not know Kay Warner, but if you've ever attended Summer Mania in Cass City, or taken part in any of the many Christmas in the Village events, you've enjoyed a taste of her talent. Warner has served as administrator of the Cass City Chamber of Commerce since the position was created 8 years ago. Warner recently retired from her job with the chamber, but remains active as coordinator of the Cass City Downtown Development Authority and Economic Development Corporation.

Brandon Wyckoff of Kingston, a sophomore majoring in computer science, has been named to the dean's list for the fall semester at Lake Superior State University, Sault Ste. Marie. To be named to the list, a student must achieve a 3.5 grade point average or higher.

Aaron Anthes and his cousin, Justin Anthes, have spent the past several months perfecting what they've labeled the "Trail-Mate, The Original Portable Game Feeder." The invention consists of a 72-inch frame composed of sturdy, 11-gauge steel that supports a 200-pound capacity plastic barrel, which holds corn or any other game feed. Anthes pointed out that a built-in safety brake winch is part of what sets his game feeder apart from the standard, stationary feeder mounted on a steel frame tripod.

25 YEARS AGO (1995)

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Edward G. Schwartz, son of Margie Muggie of Cass City, recently reported for duty aboard the aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower, homeported in Norfolk, Va. The 1976 graduate of Cass City High School joined the Navy in October 1976. Petty Officer Schwartz is also a 1984 graduate of St. Leo's College, Jacksonville, Fla., with an associate of arts degree.

Sue Pawloski retired from the Michigan Army National Guard this month after 21 years of service. The National Guard awarded plaques to her as well as to her family for their support of her military career.

The following women were awarded Bowler of the Week honors for the month of February. For the week ending Feb. 4 - Sue Southworth, who bowled a 600 series at Almac Lanes on the Monday Night Ladies' League. Week ending Feb. 11 - Joanne Stevens, who bowled a 634 at Charmont Lanes in Cass City on the Thursday Morning Coffee League.

Ugly High School officials this week announced the honor students of the class of 1995. Jill and Jennifer Trepkoski, daughters of Joseph and Eileen Trepkoski of Ugly, are the valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively. Jill is completing her high school career with a grade point average of 3.98, while Jennifer will graduate with a 3.94 grade point average, school officials said.

35 YEARS AGO (1985)

Jeff and Beth Mellendorf of Caro announce the birth of a daughter, Emily Eloise, born March 14. The baby weighed six pounds and 10 ounces and was 19" long. Grandparents are Wayne and Helen Mellendorf of Cass City and George and Betty Abke of Caro. Great-grandmother is Erma Mellendorf of Owendale, and great-grandfather is Glen Churchill of Cass City.

Celebrating the birthday Sunday of Mrs. Pearl Hartwick with dinner at Wildwood Farms were Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Nicol of Marlette, Mrs. Hartwick and daughter, Virginia Greenlee of Argyle, Mr. and Mrs. Max Agar and Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Hartwick.

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas VanAllen of Cass City announce the engagement of their daughter, Debi Marie, to Craig Emke, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Emke of Sterling Heights. Miss VanAllen is a 1976 graduate of Cass City High School and is a cosmetologist in Lake Orion. Emke works for GM as a millwright. A June 29 wedding is being planned.

Coaches of the Thumb B Association volleyball teams selected the annual all conference teams and the undefeated Lakers landed three of the six first team berths. Cass City was represented by Julie Miller on the first team and Colleen Irrer and Julie Smith who received honorable mention.

40 YEARS AGO (1980)

Eleven persons celebrated the birthday of Mrs. Gerald Stilson Sunday with dinner in Bay City. Present, besides Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Stilson, were Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Stilson and Bob Kitchen of Caro, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Parrish and children of Gagetown, Mary and Jerri Stilson.

Mr. and Mrs. John Zinnecker, who sold their 165-acre farm on Schwegler Road to William Krohn of Elkton, are moving this week to their home on N. Seeger, purchased from Mr. and Mrs. Willis Campbell.

Billy Coston, construction supervisor for General Telephone in Cass City, recently completed a refresher course in basic cable construction at the company's service training center in Muskegon. Coston has held various craft positions in his 11 years with the company before becoming construction supervisor. Coston, his wife Sharon, and daughter Greta, 3, live on Heron Drive.

Richard Hartwick received his master's degree in business administration at Michigan State University in commencement ceremonies marking the end of the winter quarter. He is the son of Laurence and Gloria Hartwick of Cass City. He and his wife, Janet, live in Haslett, near East Lansing. A 1966 graduate of Cass City High School, he received his bachelor's degree from Alma College in 1970. He then worked as an auditor for a Detroit certified public accounting firm and as comptroller for Travco, a recreation vehicle manufacturer in Mount Clemens, before beginning his master's degree studies. He will now be working part-time at MSU on his doctoral degree and be employed part-time. He presently is editing a textbook for an MSU professor, his mother said.

50 YEARS AGO (1970)

Sandra "Sandy" Schuette, 19, enlisted in the WAFT after she graduated from Cass City High School last spring to see the world. She was accepted in November. After four months in Air Force blue she has seen a small slice of it, but she is still determined that she will see much more before her four-year hitch is over. Tops on her list of things to do -when she returns from furlough to Lackland AFB in Texas will be to apply for overseas duty. This is my chance to see the world and I'm going to see as much as possible, she says with an infectious smile. While things aren't exactly as she imagined they would be Sandy has no regrets. I've already learned a lot, met a host of wonderful new people and am looking forward to meeting more, she confides.

Joey and Mary Sue Decker, Timmy and Danny Smith, Greg and Kevin Bliss, Brian Klaus and Dana Zdrojewski all helped Jon Zdrojewski celebrate his fourth birthday at a party held Thursday afternoon, March 12, at the Zdrojewski home. Games were played by the youngsters and ice cream and cake were served.

James G. Heckman, Gagetown, is one of 1,387 students to earn a degree at the end of winter term at Michigan State University. He received a BA degree in business administration. Exercises were held Sunday, Mar. 15, at MSU Auditorium where Dr. William D. McElroy, director of the National Science Foundation, was the guest speaker. Heckman is the son of Mrs. Melvin Heckman and the late Mr. Heckman of Gagetown. His future business plans are indefinite. Heckman is a 1965 graduate of Owen-Gage High School.

Two Cass City High School Seniors will be honored as State Farmers during Farmer's Week at Michigan State University next week. The boys are Dave Milligan, son of James A. Milligan, and Dave Little, son of Keith Little. The farm awards run in the families of both boys. Milligan's brother, Bob, was a State Farmer and Little's dad was a State Farmer and American Farmer. Both Bob and Keith were State FFA secretaries. State Farmers are selected on the basis of their work on farm projects and FFA work. Dave earns about \$500 a year with his dairy cattle. He has 3 cows and 12 heifers. He rents 80 acres as part of his project.

75 YEARS AGO (1945)

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Beardsley of Cass City announce the engagement and coming marriage of their daughter, Shirley Elizabeth, Sergeant in the United States Marine Corps Woman's Reserve, to Archibald A. Stephenson, Jr., First Lieutenant, United States Army. The wedding date is set for Saturday, Apr. 7, at the Sutton Methodist Church at Ellington.

Mr. and Mrs. John Zmierski of Greenleaf township were made happy by the visit of one of their soldier sons, Pvt. Chester Zmierski, home on a 15-day furlough from Camp Joseph Robinson, Ark. They have three more sons in the service—Sgt. Ed Zmierski, who after three months' training at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., went to Australia nearly three years ago, then to New Guinea and the Philippines; Corp. Cassimer K. Zmierski now in France and overseas two years; and Pfc. Sylvester Zmierski in Texas over two years.

Mrs. DeEtte J. Mellendorf received a letter Monday from her son, Pfc. Perry Mellendorf, saying that he had gone to a hospital in the Philippine Islands to see Lt. Col. Lee Wallace, son of Mrs. Vina Wallace, of Grant, who was a patient there but not seriously ill. Pfc. Mellendorf found Lt. Col. Wallace asleep, woke him up and said to him, "I bet you don't know who I am." Lt. Col. Wallace said, "Like heck I don't!" They had a great talk and the colonel asked about Mellendorf's; brother, Stanley, and the rest of his family. Lt. Col. Wallace told him that he tried twice to find him when they were both stationed in Hawaii but one time he had moved and the other time he was on a detail, Pfc. Mellendorf wrote that he was going to try to spend a day with Lt. Col. Wallace in the hospital again. Mothers of the two boys are happy over the sons' meeting.

100 YEARS AGO (1920)

Little Miss Catherine Todd celebrated her birthday on the same day that St. Patrick did, so Saturday afternoon a number of her little friends and her teacher, Miss Hazel Hickey, gathered at her home for a St. Patrick's party. The children played games and Mrs. Murphy served a dainty lunch.

Edwin R. Andrews has sold his interest in the Elkland Milling Co. to Roy M. Taylor of Grand Ledge, who expects to move to Cass City July 1 and assist his partner, Harvey Hyde, who has been associated with Mr. Andrews. Mr. Taylor has been head miller in the Grand Ledge mill for several years.

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Voters support Biden, okay millage requests

Continued from page one.

for the election in Tuscola County, where Biden received more than 57 percent of the vote, followed by 31.8 percent for Sanders. The results in Huron County revealed Biden easily won Huron County with nearly 60 percent of the vote compared to 29.5 percent for Sanders, while Sanilac County residents also favored Biden (57 percent) over Sanders (31 percent).

Cass City area township officials were celebrating following Tuesday's election after residents approved a number of millage requests.

The results included:

*Elmwood Township – voters said “yes” to the proposed renewal of 1.5 mills to preserve, improve, repair and maintain township roads. The final count was 142 votes to 62 votes.

The request was composed of a 1.485-mill tax, plus an additional .0015 of a mill to restore the rate to the original 1.5-mill tax rate previously authorized for 10 years.

The tax will remain in effect through 2029 and generate roughly \$63,000 the first year. For the owner of a home with a mar-

ket value of \$80,000, the millage translates into about \$60 annually.

*Kingston Township – Residents approved a two-mill renewal request, 147 votes to 84 votes, for road maintenance for the years 2021 through 2024.

The tax is expected to generate about \$71,900 the first year and cost the owner of an \$80,000 home roughly \$80 per year.

*Novesta Township – Voters approved a two-mill increase for four years for construction, reconstruction, repair and maintenance of roads in the township. The vote was 146 votes to 118 votes.

Residents aren't expected to see a tax increase, because the township last year levied a pair of one-mill taxes for roads and a one-time, one-mill tax for expenses related to roadside mowing, for a total of three mills. Both the roadside mowing millage and one of the previously one-mill taxes for road improvements have expired, leaving the township with three mills, all for roads, in the coming year.

The two-mill millage approved last week is expected to generate about \$73,615 the first year and cost the owner of an \$80,000 home \$80 annually.

In Sanilac County, residents sup-

ported the renewal of a trio of county-wide levies for various services.

Voters renewed the county's recycling millage to its original rate of .15 of a mill for four years, effective from 2020 to 2023, by a vote of 5,857 to 2,193.

The tax costs the owner of a home valued at \$80,000 about \$6 a year and will raise roughly \$245,072 in the first year. The funding generated by the millage is earmarked for recycling and household hazardous waste collection services only.

Residents approved the renewal of .2 of a mill for four years, also from 2020 through 2023, to fund Sanilac County public libraries. The final vote was 6,191 to 1,885.

The millage translates into an annual tax of \$8 for the owner of an \$80,000 home and generates roughly \$326,762.

Finally, residents renewed .2 of a mill to fund medical emergency services in the county for four more years, from 2020 through 2023, by a vote of 6,805 to 1,276.

The millage covers a wide range of emergency medical services overseen by the Sanilac Medical Control Board and raises about \$326,762 annually.

Schools closed to help slow spread of virus

Continued from page one.

school officials, including Cass City Public Schools Supt. Jeff Hartel, met Thursday with Ann Hepfer, health officer for the Tuscola and Huron county health departments, to discuss prevention plans for the coronavirus and to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance along with various other public agencies to stay updated on the status and spread of COVID-19.

“Tuscola County school districts continue to monitor the coronavirus situation and take precautionary measures to keep our schools and communities safe,” Hartel said.

“It is expected we will see more cases of the coronavirus in Michigan, and while we want our parents, students and staff to be aware, we don't want to create a panic.”

Preparation is also the focus at Hills and Dales General Hospital in Cass City, where officials have been working to implement an executive order issued by the governor Friday related to non-hospital personnel entering the hospital.

Under the state order, effective through April 5, all health care facilities, residential care facilities, congregate care facilities, and juvenile justice facilities must prohibit any visitors that are not necessary for the provision of medical care, the support of activities of daily living, or the exercise of power of attorney or court-appointed guardianship for an individual under the facility's care; are not a parent, foster parent, or guardian of an individual 21 years old or younger who is under the facility's care; are not visiting an individual under the facility's care that is in serious or critical condition or in hospice care; and are not visiting under exigent circumstances or for the purpose of performing official governmental functions.

In addition, the facilities were required, as of Monday, to assess for COVID-19 symptoms and risk factors all individuals not under their care who are seeking entry into their facilities.

More information regarding the policy at Hills and Dales is available by calling (989) 872-2121.

Courthouse closing

Following a weekend meeting, Tuscola County Chief Judge Amy Grace Gierhart issued a news release announcing the closure of the courthouse in Caro, including the courts, friend of the court office and county clerk's office until April 6.

All court staff will continue to report to work and operations will be continuing, according to the news release, which encourages residents with business at the courthouse to check for additional information by visiting the website www.tuscolacounty.org or by calling (989) 672-3772.

“All jury trials during this time period have been adjourned, and

the March jury panels for circuit court and district court have been dismissed and will not have to report,” Gierhart stated. “April jurors for circuit court can call (989) 672-3770 for updated information about their service. April jurors for district court can call (989) 673-5899 for updated information.”

Slow the spread

State officials say they are closely monitoring the spread of the virus.

“Michiganders have been preparing for COVID-19 for weeks, including by taking basic measures such as washing their hands often, covering their mouths and noses when coughing or sneezing, and staying home when they are sick,” said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, chief medical executive and chief deputy for health for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).

“However, Michigan must take further action to avoid a rapid increase of cases in the state. Community mitigation strategies are crucial to slowing the transmission of the virus in Michigan, particularly before a vaccine or treatment becomes available.”

To slow the spread of COVID-19 in Michigan, health officials are recommending the following mitigation measures:

*Learn about the signs and symptoms of COVID-19, which include fever, cough and difficulty breathing.

*Stay home when you are sick, and individuals at risk of severe illness should consider staying at home to avoid others who are sick.

*Regularly clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces such as doorknobs, keyboards, cell phones and light switches.

*Communicate and reinforce best practices for washing hands and covering coughs and sneezes.

*Be sure to maintain a supply of medications, food and other essentials in your home.

*Cancel or postpone large gatherings, conferences and sporting events (e.g. events with over 100 people).

*Reduce in-person gatherings and activities, especially for organizations with individuals at

risk of severe illness. Consider offering video or audio of events.

*Consider tele-learning or telework opportunities, where feasible.

*Limit non-essential work travel.

*If you care for a loved one living in a care facility, monitor the situation, ask about the health of the other residents frequently, and know the protocol if there is an outbreak.

*Limit visitors at hospitals and other facilities to only those who are absolutely necessary and implement screening of visitors for temperature and respiratory symptoms.

Information related to the COVID-19 outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus and CDC.gov/Coronavirus.

The World Health Organization (WHO) last week classified the rapidly spreading coronavirus outbreak as a pandemic.

The CDC defines a pandemic as a global outbreak of a new viral form of illness. Pandemic illnesses spread rapidly from person to person and most don't have built-up immunity. The last global pandemic declared was the H1N1 flu in 2009.

While the state is continuing to implement new measures designed to protect the public's health, Whitmer said Sunday that officials are also working to protect consumers in light of reported incidents of price-gouging by individuals and businesses.

Whitmer on Sunday said anyone caught attempting to sell any goods, material, emergency supply or consumer food item at a mark-up of more than 20 percent will be prosecuted.

“We take this order seriously,” Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel said. “And we have seen a dramatic increase in complaints related to price-gouging and we have taken action on those complaints.”

Editor's note: The MDHHS has launched a statewide hotline to respond to health-related questions about COVID-19. Public health and other experts will be available via a hotline at 1-888-535-6136, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week.

Notice of
BOARD OF REVIEW
 for
Novesta Township
 will be held
Tuesday, March 31, 2020
 7:30 p.m.
 *Topic of discussion will be blight.
New Township Hall
3016 N. Cemetery Rd., Cass City, MI 48726
Pennie Rienas, Novesta Township Clerk

The Michigan Maple Weekend presents
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No decorative stones around markers or monuments.

One arrangement per grave site.

All flowers must be in containers.

All glass jars or bottles used for arrangements are prohibited.

Monuments and markers are to be installed by sexton.

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

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

Elkland Township Board
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News briefs

Events set at the courthouse

CARO — There are a couple of events planned at the Tuscola County Courthouse in the coming months.

County commissioners approved Nancy Matuszak's request to stage an annual gathering of the National Day of Prayer on the courthouse lawn Thursday, May 7, from noon to 1 p.m.

And, Susan Holder's request for the Caro Chamber of Commerce to use the courthouse Lawn Friday and Saturday, June 5 and 6, for children's activities during the annual cars and crafts weekend was approved as well.

Food distributions set in Caro

CARO — The Anchor Cove Church, 201 E. Sanilac Rd., Caro, will host food distributions for five months this summer.

Distributions have been scheduled for April 19, May 16, July 18, Aug. 15 and Sept. 19, each starting at 10 a.m.

Changes in place at jail to prevent virus spread

Tom Montgomery
Editor

Until the COVID-19 outbreak subsides, various operations in Tuscola County — and all other counties — will be far from business as usual.

Among the changes are revisions to policy and procedures at the sheriff's department and county jail, according to Tuscola County Sheriff Glen Skrent.

Those changes were implemented following Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's decision Thursday to order all K-12 schools closed for three weeks. A day later, the governor announced additional restrictions, including prohibiting large gatherings of 250 or more people until 5 p.m. Sunday, April 5.

Skrent says new policies at the sheriff's department/jail — which will also be in effect for at least three weeks — are designed to reduce the risk of exposure to the virus among inmates and staff.

"Inmates coming into the jail will have their temperature taken upon entry (and) asked if they have a fever, cough or shortness of breath," said Skrent. "If so, they will be denied entry and transported to a medical facility for assessment."

"All non-essential, non-mandated ancillary and educational programs will be suspended for the duration of the emergency, including substance abuse programs, church services, Bible studies and any other programs that are facilitated by individuals from the general public that require entrance to the jail," the sheriff noted.

"In order to reduce the amount of public traffic through the visitation area and to accommodate attorney and clergy services, public visitation will be suspended for the duration of the state of emergency. Inmates still will have the ability to utilize the inmate phone system."

Attorney visits will be conducted through the use of the non-contact visitation area of the jail, according to Skrent.

"Any paperwork that requires a signature by the inmate can be passed through the bank window intake, provided to the inmate, and passed back to the attorney. Staff (will continue to) ensure the attorney visits remain private/confidential in the same manner as under general jail policy."

"Religious services may still be provided to the inmate population through one-on-one visits with an approved clergy member or other approved religious leader utilizing the non-contact visitation area of the jail."

Skrent said personnel have been disinfecting the sheriff's office and jail on a regular basis.

"We have emptied some jail cells in case we need to quarantine an inmate or inmates, and looking into possibly suspending inmate visitation, jail ministries and psychological visits on a temporary basis," he added.

In Huron County, Sheriff Kelly J. Hanson said he has also taken precautionary steps.

"Many temporary changes in our operation are taking place — a lot of it on the jail side. Not sure on how long though; we'll be going day by day," Hanson added. "We have been in consultation with our emergency management and our health department."

Freelance writer Mary Drier contributed to this report

MDOT will exempt weight rules to move goods quickly

Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) officials announced Friday that the department will exempt from seasonal weight restrictions motor carriers and drivers providing direct assistance in support of relief efforts related to the COVID-19 outbreak.

"Knowing the importance of getting food and other supplies to retailers during this time, we are taking steps to ensure carriers can make deliveries as quickly and efficiently as possible," said MDOT Director Paul C. Ajegba. "We are going to get through this by working together and taking collective action for the greater good."

Michigan law allows the state transportation department, or a local authority with respect to highways under its jurisdiction, to suspend restrictions when necessary for the health, safety and welfare of the public.

Direct assistance means transportation and other relief services provided by a motor carrier or its driver(s) to the immediate restoration of essential services, such as medical care, or essential supplies such as food, related to COVID-19 outbreaks during the emergency.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Township of Elkland will hold a public hearing on the
26th day of March, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
at the Township Hall located at 6691 Church St., Cass City, MI 48726.

The purpose of the public hearing will be to consider the application by **Gentner Excavating LLC for a special land use permit for the purpose of harvesting and processing gravel to be located on Huron Line Road on property identified as tax parcel number 007-003-000-0100-06**

All interested persons are encouraged to attend the public hearing to ask questions or to make comments as to the application. Written comments may be submitted to the Clerk at 6691 Church St., Cass City, MI 48726 at any time prior to the public hearing.

Elkland Township Planning Commission
Gary Jones, Zoning Administrator

Battels cancel syrup open house

Continued from page one.

this year due to concerns related to the novel coronavirus.

Sue Stuever Battel announced Friday that the 12th annual Maple Syrup Saturday Open House at the Battel Sugarbush has been canceled.

"(We're) just canceling it in light of current events," Battel said. "We do love having people out and hope that we can enjoy pancakes with friends and visitors in the woods at a later date."

And, Battel noted, syrup is still available to those who were counting on it by contacting Mark Battel at (989) 550-2621.

The Battel's sugaring operation is located just a few miles north-east of Cass City at 7964 Daus Rd., also known as Ritter Road.

"The season started Sunday, March 1, with excellent sap flow the first four days," Sue Battel reported.

"It's hard to guess how long the season will last since it seems to be warming up early. Chances are that will cut our season short, so we're glad to get what sap we can while we can. Already all over the forest floor, last year's maple

seeds are starting to germinate, and that doesn't usually happen to this degree for another month," she noted.

"There comes a point where the tree begins to come out of dormancy because of the warmth. When that happens, the tree begins to use the stored carbohydrates in the sap for its own energy source, meaning what's left for us is bitter. We don't want bitter syrup, of course, so we have to pull taps before that."

The Battel family, including Mark and Diane Battel and their son and daughter-in-law, Bob and Sue Stuever Battel, and their children, has been producing high-quality, wood-fired, pure maple syrup in the same woods near Cass City since 1882.

While some things have changed since the Battel ancestors of the 19th century boiled sap in an open kettle, the basic process is still the same — and nearly as quaint.

In the spring, as the sun begins to warm the sugar maple trees — yet winter's grip still brings freezing temperatures at night — family members start the annual tradition of tapping trees. Sap is coaxed from the sugar maples and boiled

for hours over a rolling fire until nothing remains but pure syrup.

It takes about 40 gallons of sap to produce one gallon of syrup.

The Great Fires of 1871 and 1881 that swept across the Midwest managed to miss the family's stand of more than 300 sugar maple trees, although much of the surrounding Thumb was devastated.

These days, the Battel sugarbush continues to produce a bounty of sap, and the family offers visitors the chance to purchase and take home their own supply of pure maple syrup in various-sized containers.

Aside from the family business, Bob and Sue's oldest daughter, Addy, along with neighbor and partner Ethan Healy, established their own business — County Line Kids Maple Syrup — and the Battel's other daughter, Dori, has her own maple candy business, Dori's Sweets.

"Our customers primarily buy pints, quarts, half-gallons and gallons (of syrup)," Sue Battel said. "The kids fill some of those larger containers, but mostly specialize in smaller, pretty syrup jars that make nice gifts."

Twins top Cass City High Class of 2020

Continued from page one.

2018. Team captain in 2019, she was a regional qualifier in 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019.

She has been named a Greater Thumb Conference Scholar Athlete in each year of high school and participated in the Thumb Meet of Champs each year.

Mary has also earned multiple letters in track and field. Highlights of her career include: Greater Thumb Conference honorable mention 1600-meter relay (2017), Greater Thumb Conference Scholar Athlete (2017, 2018 and 2019), Greater Thumb Conference Second Team All-Conference 3200-meter relay and 1600-meter run (2018), first team all-conference 3200-meter relay (2019 and third team all-conference 800 meter (2019).

Marla Muter has also been on the honor roll throughout her high school career as well as being active in NHS, 4-H, Social Studies Academic Games, publications and the prom committee.

She has earned academic pins in algebra, Spanish, English, pre-calculus, American history, forensics, advanced placement literature and college algebra. She also earned third- and second-place wins in Social Studies Academic Games competitions as a sophomore and junior, respectively.

Marla has earned athletic letters in both cross country and track and field.

She was named a Greater Thumb Conference All-Conference Scholar Athlete in track in 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019.

In cross country, she was also named an all-conference scholar athlete (2017, 2018 and 2019), earned all-conference second team honors in the 3200-meter relay in 2018 and first team honors in the 3200-meter relay in 2019.

Her future plans include attending the University of Michigan,

where she plans to earn a bachelor's degree in chemistry.

Honor graduates

Also graduating with honors are the following Cass City seniors:

*GPA of 3.5 or above — Kendall Anthes, Tiara Anthony, Hailey Beckrow, Hunter Caister, Zoie Chippi, Taylor Cumper, Sandyn Cuthrell, Tyler Czekai, Hanna Dobson, Robin Edwards, Kevin Estrella, Drew Markel, Leevy Matthews, Katherine Mendrick, Kristofer Nika, Olivia Peters, Taryn Pisarek, Kate Pohlod,

Abbey Salcido, Landon Schenk, Olivia Schuette, Logan Severance, Lucas Swiderski, Tristan Swiderski, Colby Sutton, Tiana Tageson, Madilyn Tschirhardt, Gracie Williams and Brayden Wilson.

*GPA of 3.0 to 3.49 — Cora Cole, Aaron Darr, Quintessa Gaeth, Hadyn Horne, Matthew House, Alexis Hull, Kevin McArthur, Carlie McFarland, Gavin Medere, Elizabeth Morrish, Thom Rishouwer, Evan Roggenbuck, Morgan Russell, Imogen Sanders, Rachel Skiles, Andrew Venema and Collen Wruble.



A LARGE number of businesses in Tuscola County, as well as the Tuscola County Economic Development Corporation (EDC), will benefit from a donation awarded by Chemical Bank representatives during the February meeting of the Tuscola County EDC Board of Directors in Caro. The donation will allow for additional gap financing loans going to businesses from the EDC Revolving Loan Fund. Pictured above is EDC Board Chairman Gary Fritz (far right) accepting the \$10,000 check donation from Chemical Bank's (from left) Margaret Jensen, senior commercial banker; Kim Stevenson, AVP and banking center manager of the Caro Banking Center; and Walter Szostak, group manager and community president Bay-Caro.

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HANSON (far left) presented awards for professional excellence to deputies (front row, from left) Kim Kociba-Webber, Marc Woodward, Alex Jobes, Josh Loss, Ryan Neumann, Katie Carter, Stephanie Voss, Erik Raymond, Bret Zagorski, (back row, left) Jim Hunt, Todd Schember, Gabe Callender, Jake Dhyse, Steve Bismack, Roy Williamson, Justin Tietz, Charlie Stevens, Lucas Loss and Randy Smaglinski. Missing from the picture is Nathan Leppek.



HANSON (right) is pictured above with outstanding service award recipient Steve Bismack. Missing is award recipient Ryan Swartz.



TODD Schember (center) and Jim Hunt (right), both recipients of awards for outstanding service, are pictured above with Sheriff Kelly Hanson. Missing from the photo is award recipient Doug Gentner.

Huron Co. Sheriff honors officers during annual departmental meet

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

The Huron County Sheriff's Department recently honored its own during an annual departmental meeting.

"The activities of the prior year were reviewed and expectations and goals for 2020 were discussed. Many deputies received awards for the past year's service," Huron County Sheriff Kelly J. Hanson said.

Among the officers recognized were deputies Alex Jobes and Ryan Swartz, who were presented with lifesaving awards.

"Deputy Jobes and Deputy Swartz for (honored) their quick response and lifesaving efforts along with others on March 27 for a Sand Point man that accidentally caught himself on fire while doing yard work," Hanson explained. "The deputies used a fire extinguisher to extinguish the victim's burning clothes, then administered emergency first aid to the badly burned man."

Professional excellence awards, meanwhile, were presented to several deputies who performed 150 or more hours of overtime service.

They are: Chuck Bolzman, Charlie Stevens, Katie Carter, Alex Jobes, Gabe Callender, Jake Dhyse, Jim Hunt, Ryan Neumann, Marc Woodward, Erik Raymond, Kim Kociba-Webber, Nathan Leppek, Josh Loss, Todd Schem-

ber, Randy Smaglinski, Justin Tietz, Lucas Loss, Ryan Swartz, Steve Bismack, Stephanie Voss and Roy Williamson, according to Hanson, who noted Bret Zagorski put in more than 300 hours.

Hanson also recognized a pair of officers with commendations for outstanding service.

"Deputy Charlie Stevens' and Deputy Jeff Ney's quick actions during the discovery of two female inmates in a cell being under the influence of smuggled narcotics on June 13, 2019, likely averted the cell's other inmates with the opportunity of also becoming under the influence of the dangerous drugs," Hanson said.

"Both deputies further saw that the affected inmates received immediate medical treatment, then carried out an investigation that led to a Sebawaing female being criminally convicted and held accountable."

Hanson also cited the quick response and lifesaving efforts of Deputy Steve Bismack along with others during an incident last November that probably proved to be the difference between life and death for a Pigeon man.

"The victim had experienced an incapacitating drug overdose, which required emergency lifesaving actions and the application of Narcan to make him regain consciousness," the sheriff explained.

Likewise, he said, the quick response and lifesaving efforts of Deputy Ryan Swartz also made the difference between life and death for a Clarkston woman and a Harbor Beach man during the July 4 holiday. "Both victims had experienced incapacitating drug overdoses, which required emergency lifesaving actions and the

application of Narcan to make them regain consciousness."

In addition, Hanson recognized Sgt. James Hunt, Sgt. Todd Schember and Deputy Doug Gentner, each for dedicating 30 years of full-time service to the sheriff's department.

"Those were just a few of the exceptional good deeds that our deputies preformed last year," Hanson said.

"All deputies often find themselves involved in difficult situations, which many times require spur-of-the-moment decisions, decisions that can be the difference between life or death, or many that can turn out unpopular because of enforcement action taken," he added. "Regardless, it's not all that uncommon for me to receive compliments from people who have had interactions with our staff and agency. In fact, that occurred more last year than any other of the last 11. That in itself says a lot about the people who work at (the) sheriff's office."

"Our main functions are to provide 24/7 police services to areas without law enforcement coverage, and staffing our jail of 70 beds with deputies 24/7 as well. Some of the other services it provides is illegal drug enforcement, civil process, handgun registration, child safety education, law enforcement training to other police agencies, marine safety patrol, search and rescue, along with underwater recovery," Hanson continued.

"Our office takes pride in what we do for the people of and visitors to our county, while looking out for their safety, health and property. Rest assured we're trying to do our best."



OUTSTANDING service award recipients, pictured above with Hanson (far left) included Jeff Ney (center) and Charlie Stevens.

State's sheriffs offer scholarships

The Michigan Sheriffs' Association (MSA) is awarding scholarships for five high school seniors entering the criminal justice field.

The MSA Criminal Justice Scholarship was created to provide support to young adults who aspire to further their education and develop knowledge in criminal justice at a college or university in Michigan.

The association is offering a \$1,000 scholarship to five graduating seniors. One student from each of the five districts in the state will be chosen to receive a scholarship. The Thumb region is part of District Five.

Nominations for the scholarship can only be made by a member of the Michigan Sheriffs' Association, and each member may make up to two nominations.

The requirements to apply for a scholarship are: a high school senior who is accepted to a community college, four-year college, or university in Michigan; a copy of the applicant's high school transcript; and a letter of acceptance from a college or university.

Applicants will be notified of the scholarship recipients on or before May 1. Awards will be presented in the county where the award recipient resides.

The deadline to submit an application is March 31.

Hills & Dales
General Hospital

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

Important COVID-19 Update:

In light of Governor Whitmer's Executive Order over the weekend, our Visitor Restrictions have been changed effective immediately.

We will not be allowing any visitors into the building at this time, unless it with a pediatric patient or under extraordinary circumstances.

We are going to be offering technology so that inpatients can Skype/Facetime with their loved ones.

Please visit www.hdghmi.org/covid-19b, as we have many other facility updates to share. or follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/hillsanddalesgeneralhospital

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 clarke@ccchronicle.net



USA'S Nash Morton, left, and Cass City's Sandyn Cuthrell battle for control of the ball in district play.

SHOCKER

Cass City ends 32-game home win streak at USA before district tourney canceled

by Clarke Haire
 Publisher

It may not have been Cass City High Schools' biggest basketball win over USA of all-time, but last week's Division 3 district semifinal victory on the Patriot's home court sure was close.

With a shocking 42-39 victory, Cass City halted USA's 32-game home win streak, but more importantly, advanced into the championship round to face Bad Axe - two teams that split during conference play.

However, the Michigan High School Athletic Association followed the actions of professional and college sports officials and canceled the post-season due to the coronavirus.

"We had a big win in the district semifinals last Wednesday. The kids prepared very well prior to the game and pulled through for a big win against a good USA team. We are disappointed that we don't get the opportunity to play for the district championship, but totally support the MHSAA decision to cancel the tournament," said Cass City Coach Aaron Fernald.

Perhaps the biggest upset between the two long-time rivals came in 1977, when undefeated

USA, ranked No. 1 in the state, faced host Cass City in the district final and suffered a season-ending loss.

During their most recent meeting, Cass City was limited to a Sandyn Cuthrell basket from 3-point land in the first quarter and would trail 8-3 early.

USA, meanwhile, used six treys in the first half to take a 27-18 cushion in the break. The advantage could have been more, but a steal and subsequent lay in by Bryce Fernald gave Cass City some much needed momentum heading into the final half, where Cass City ramped up its defensive pressure and held USA to a Landin Zimmer trey in the third.

Two Cuthrell treys and another 3-point bomb from Collin Wrubel helped put Cass City on top 31-30 with 8 minutes remaining in reg-

ulation.

The stretch run saw Cass City make one-of-nine attempts at the foul line, but USA couldn't capitalize on the missed shots.

Cuthrell had 17 points to pace Cass City, while Thom Rijshouwer added 7 points and Wrubel, six.

Zimmer had a game-high 18 points for USA, while Nash Morton added 14 markers.

Playing in their final high school basketball games for Cass City were Cuthrell, Rijshouwer, Wrubel, Kendall Anthes, Landon Schenk, Hadyn Horne and Tyler Czekai.

Playing in their final high school basketball game for USA were Morton, Zimmer, Cade Rierson and Cody Babcock.

Cass City finishes 13-8, USA finishes 18-4.



CASS CITY'S Cameron Kaake shows off his 10th place medal from the MHSPLA State Championship competition. (See story page 10.)

Kingston boys left wondering, what if?

by Clarke Haire
 Publisher

One of the best basketball seasons ever at Kingston Schools came to an abrupt end last week during Division 4 District play at North Huron.

No, Coach Dave Lester's Cardinals were upset in an early round matchup - they defeated North Huron 72-33 in the quarterfinals and Caseville 83-40 in the semifinals - and were heavy favorites over Mayville, a team they whipped by 40+ points twice in the regular season, to hoist the district banner.

Instead, COVID-19 forced Michigan High School Officials' (MHSAA) hands. In a statement, they wrote: We are experiencing unprecedented times in our state and around the country, and the MHSAA faces tough decisions that balance our desire to compete and the health and well-being of the participants involved.

Under Governor Whitmer's direction, the MHSAA has made efforts to limit the spread and magnitude of the COVID-19 virus by reducing the amount of contact our players, coaches, spectators and officials have with one another. For our schools, this means that all in-season and out-of-season sports activities have been stopped until at least April 6, 2020. This mirrors the governor's most recent edict for schools across Michigan.

Kingston finishes the season 21-1 but will always wonder, what if? Especially, seniors Evan Neff, Aaron Koehler, Caleb Goss, Jack Green and Quinn Boucard.

In their quarterfinal match-up, Kingston used a big first half to record the easy win over the hosts. Leading 48-14 entering the third quarter, North Huron was able to trade baskets for much of the final half, but the damage had already been done.

"We got off to a great start. Our defense was causing turnovers, which turned into transition offense. We played well," said Lester.

Neff led Kingston with 23 points

and five rebounds. Marco Saenz de Lacuesta added 9 points and six assists. Trayton Wenzlaff scored 9, while Boucard added 8 points and seven rebounds for the Cardinals.

Deandre Morris led North Huron (9-12) with 13 points.

Kingston benefited from another fast start in the semis and then held Caseville to just one point in the second quarter in route to the one-sided victory.

Neff led Kingston with 21 points, seven rebounds and five steals.

Boucard added 14 points and Trayton Wenzlaff chipped in 11, while Koehler had 9 points and seven rebounds.

Kaden Geilhart led Caseville (9-8) with 19 points.

"We played well tonight. We are ready for play for a district championship," Lester said after Wednesday's game.

Unfortunately, two days later high school sports were canceled or postponed and Kingston players, coaches and fans must wonder, what if.



THE 2019-20 Cass City junior varsity boys basketball team finished near the .500 mark on the season. They are: (front row, l-r) Gage Witzke, Jacob Grave, Daniyil Yolkin, Riley Swiderski, Gabe Schwendinger, Michael Fuelleman, Matt RothAyden Torres (back row) Coach Reggie Ignash, Joe Zietz, Lance Swiderski, Connor Herford, Dylan Halpin, Michael Fernald, Alex Hopper and Coach Jon Ligrow.

Kaake shines in first year of MHSPLA competition

Cass City junior Cameron Kaake participated in his first year of Michigan High School Powerlifting Association (MHSPLA) competitions and qualified for the State Championship as an independent.

On Saturday, February 22, Kaake entered the MHSPLA Regional Powerlifting Meet at Dexter High School and earned a runner-up medal for his platform in the 181-weight class and a state competition qualifying total of 1035 pounds lifted for the day.

On Sunday, March 8, Kaake competed at the MHSPLA State Championship Meet held at North Branch High School and finished 10th.

"With his first year powerlifting in a competition setting, he was doubtful of placing at the State Championship meet," said Sarah Darling, Cameron's mother, adding, "MHSPLA competitions consist of three lifts, squat, bench and deadlift, with three attempts each on a platform designated by weight class. A combined total of the three best lifts and the pound for pound equation selects the place a lifter earns in the competition. Every one of Cameron's lifts at the state competition was good and earned him a total of 1060 pounds for the day, which was even higher than his regional qualifying total of 1035 pounds. Cameron's efforts won him a 10th place medal as an independent high school powerlifter."

Kaake is on the Cass City varsity football team, swims for Caro/Cass City co-op varsity men's swim team, is a member of the varsity track & field team and is an active member in all of Cass City's Jr./Sr. High School Bands.

Cass City Red Hawk

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Knights Insurance proudly presents their Cass City Red Hawk Athlete of the week, Riley Copeland.

Riley is a junior on the Cass City co-op gymnastic team and recently saved her best performance for the teams' season-ending meet in Grand Ledge, site of a Michigan High School Athletic Association regional.

Riley finished 11th on the beam with a lofty score of 8.575 at the elite meet and she also placed 30th on the bars with a season-best score of 7.55.

Riley is the daughter of Mark and Sue Copeland.

RILEY COPELAND

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Perfect 12-0 records for Hawk junior high boys basketball teams in 2019-20 season



THE UNDEFEATED Cass City 7th grade boys' basketball team members are: (front row, l-r) Trent Patrick, Cole Lenhard, Brendan Lord, Lane Herford, Trevor Tietjens, Garrett Reinke, Eli Wright (back row) Coach Al Patrick, Matt Mellendorf, Mars Tillery, Carson Anthes, Mason Gniewek and Rylan Kruse.



THE UNDEFEATED Cass City 8th grade boys' basketball team members are: (front row, l-r) Cohen Sherman, Connor Lowman, Taylan Nazario, Gabe LeValley, Landyn Schott, Tojh Tyeger Hewitt-Miller (back row) Coach Steve Muska, Braylon LeValley, Carter Patrick, Luke Tschirhart and Kellan Leavine.



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Cass City Jr./Sr. High School

2019-20 Winter Sports Schedule

BOYS' BASKETBALL (JV/VARSITY)

DATE	OPPONENT
12/13	Ubyly 42, CC 39
12/20	EPB 62, CC 52
1/08	CC 53, Marlette 37
1/10	Bad Axe 38, CC 37
1/15	USA 48, CC 32
1/17	CC 63, Vassar 30
1/22	CC 36, Caro 34
1/24	CC 46, S.A.A.S. 34
1/29	CC 53, EPB Lakers 37
1/31	Reese 55, CC 42
2/05	CC 55, Capac 33
2/07	CC 51, Bad Axe 39
2/12	USA 66, CC 40
2/14	CC 58, Vassar 40
2/19	CC 49, Caro 33
2/21	CC 62, Harbor Beach 59
2/28	Reese 73, CC 50
3/05	Nouvel 64, CC 54
3/11	CC 42, USA 39

All games begin at 6 p.m.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL (JV/VARSITY)

DATE	OPPONENT
12/03	Harbor Beach 43, CC 32
12/06	Nouvel 58, CC 14
12/10	CC 33, Sandusky 30
12/12	Ubyly 32, CC 13
12/17	Birch Run 47, CC 32
12/19	CC 34, EPB Lakers 21
12/27	CC 33, Capac 22
1/07	CC 52, Marlette 45
1/09	Bad Axe 36, CC 27
1/14	CC 38, USA 29
1/16	CC 35, Vassar 27
1/21	Caro 48, CC 37
1/24	S.A.A.S. 54, CC 47
1/28	CC 51, EPB Lakers 47
1/30	Reese 63, CC 37
2/06	Bad Axe 46, CC 26
2/11	USA 48, CC 24
2/13	CC 40, Vassar 20
2/18	Caro 45, CC 22
2/25	Reese 48, CC 31
3/2	CC 46, Harbor Beach 34
3/6	Bad Axe 47, CC 31

All games begin at 6 p.m.

WRESTLING

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
12/11	Lakers	6:00 p.m.
12/14	Birch Run Team Tourney	9:00 a.m.
12/18	Mayville/Marlette	6:00 p.m.
12/21	Ryan Mercer Memorial Tourney	9:00 a.m.
1/04	Ogemaw Hgts. Team Tourney	9:00 a.m.
1/08	Vassar/Ubyly	6:00 p.m.
1/11	Flushing Team Tourney	8:00 a.m.
1/15	Caro/Capac	6:00 p.m.
1/18	Mayville Team Tourney	9:00 a.m.
1/22	Bad Axe/Brown City	6:00 a.m.
1/25	Yale Team Tourney	9:00 a.m.
1/29	Sandusky/Memphis	6:00 p.m.
2/01	Clio Team Tourney	9:00 a.m.
2/08	GTC League Meet-Memphis	9:00 a.m.
2/13	Team Districts - Cass City	6:00 p.m.
2/15	Ind. Districts - New Lothrop	9:00 a.m.
2/19	Team Regionals @ TBA	TBA
2/22	Ind. Regionals @ TBA	TBA
2/28-29	Team State Finals @ Kalamazoo	TBA
3/6-7	Ind. State Finals @ Ford Field	TBA

GYMNASTICS

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
12/7	Holt Invitational	9:00 a.m.
1/7	Vassar	6:30 p.m.
1/11	Fraser Invitational	9:00 a.m.
1/20	Bounce Meet - Hartland	TBA
1/25	Huron Valley @ Lakeland	8:00 a.m.
2/1	Haslett Invite	10:00 a.m.
2/8	Vassar Invite	10:00 a.m.
2/19	Port Huron	TBA
2/20	Vassar	6:30 p.m.

BOWLING

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
1/7	Harbor Beach	4:00 p.m.
1/9	North Huron @ Bad Axe	4:00 p.m.
1/14	USA	4:00 p.m.
1/16	Caro	4:00 p.m.
1/21	CPS	4:00 p.m.
1/23	Reese	4:00 p.m.
1/28	Brown City	4:00 p.m.
1/30	Bad Axe	4:00 p.m.
2/04	Sandusky	4:00 p.m.
2/06	Boys @ Cass City	TBA
2/08	Singles @ Sandusky	TBA
2/11	Girls @ Capac	TBA
2/15	Team @ Caro	TBA

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School distributes meals

Continued from page one.

role in spearheading the effort, but they had no idea the response would be as great as it was.

In fact, at press time, the staff had filled orders for 800 meal kits – each containing one breakfast and one lunch (enough for two meals per child per day for an entire week). “And that doesn’t include any walk-ins. Those are just the ones who pre-ordered,” an exhausted Bock commented late Monday afternoon.

“It was just like unheard of numbers. It was a lot. The girls (food service staff) worked very, very hard today,” added Bock, who noted a couple of bus drivers and other volunteers stepped up to help deliver some meals to families unable to pick them up.

Going forward, families can order the meal kits by logging on to the Cass City Public Schools website at www.casscityschools.org and click on the “coronavirus” tab at the top.

Once ordered, the meal kits can be picked up for each child 18 years old and younger at one of two locations; Revive Ministries, 6400 Main St., Cass City, or the Novesta Church of Christ, 2896 N. Cemetery Rd., Cass City.

Bock noted the kits can be picked up by the child or parents, but children do not have to be present when the meal kits are picked up. The only restriction is the meals cannot be consumed at the pick-up locations.

“At Christmas when we send our kids home for two weeks, parents know that it’s coming and have had time to prepare, but this (shutdown of schools) gave them no notice,” Bock said. “People are scared.

“We have a freezer full of food, and an administration and school board that know what a benefit this is to parents in a time of stress and uneasiness -- some parents worried about losing jobs,” she added. “It’s our duty (and) pleasure to be able to help.”

Hartel agreed, saying Bock and her staff have come through with strong leadership for the community.

“She (Bock) has a good group of people helping her, and we freed up the funds” to get the meal program up and running, he said.

Although all Michigan K-12 schools have been ordered to remain closed through April 6, school officials subsequently learned that another executive order from the governor’s office provides for keeping all daycares – including Campbell Daycare and preschool in Cass City – open.

But even that rule was revised a day later, and now both the school daycare and preschool in Cass City have been closed in Cass City.

Hartel initially reported the programs would reopen this week. However, he reported Monday that all of the affected families had made other arrangements for their children, eliminating the need to keep the school programs open.

As for resuming classes, Hartel acknowledged there are no clear-cut answers. “This is a quickly evolving situation with many questions remaining and minimal guidance available at this time.”

However, he added, “Our goal is to get the third marking period completed when we return. We are making every effort to ensure no student’s grades are adversely affected by this.”

In fact, the board of education was scheduled Monday to consider on-line/digital curriculum offerings that would enable students to finish this school year, under a worst-case scenario.

“I promise...we will do all we can to keep our entire community safe and make sure our students educational needs are met to the best of our ability,” Hartel said.

Bock indicated officials will also do their best to continue meeting students’ nutritional needs.

“We’re going to keep doing this as long as we can keep our shelves filled and we stay healthy,” she said.

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Cass City Missionary Church

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



Cass City United Methodist Church

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



Community Baptist Church (Independent Fundamental)

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



Deford Community Church

1392 N. Kingston Rd. • 872-4055
(1/4 mile south of Deford on Kingston Rd.)
Sundays - 10 a.m. | Wednesday - 7 p.m.
Pastor: David Cooper • Associate Pastor: David Cooper
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 - Kids4Truth Club - Teen Club 6:15 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Pastor: Christian Wright • Website: www.fbccus.com



First Presbyterian Church

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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
Worship Service 9:30 a.m. • Bible Class & Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
Pastor: Steve Bagnall
www.goodshepherdlutherancasscity.webs.com

Living Word Worship Center Church of God

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Worship Service: 11:00 a.m.
Family Training Hour: Wednesday 7 p.m.
Pastor: Jephtha Bryant



Mizpah Missionary Church

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Sunday School: 10 a.m. • Sunday Service: 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
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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
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4292 S. Seeger St., Cass City, MI 48726 • 665-1027
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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.
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• Sunday: 11:00 a.m.



Legal Notices

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the Circuit Court in Tuscola County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on March 26, 2020. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Terry Gast, An married man Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for United Wholesale Mortgage, its successors and assigns Foreclosing Assignee (if any): PennyMac Loan Services, LLC Date of Mortgage: August 29, 2008 Date of Mortgage Recording: September 5, 2008 Amount claimed due on mortgage on the date of notice: \$59,694.08 Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in the Township of Almer, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as: Parcel 1: Part of the Northeast quarter of Section 29, Town 13 North, Range 9 East, Almer Township, Tuscola County, Michigan,

described as commencing at the Northeast Corner of said Section 29; thence along the East line of said Section 29, South 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West, 856.34 feet to the point of beginning; thence continuing along said East line of Section 29, South 00 degrees 00 minute 00 seconds West, 263.69 feet; thence North 89 degrees 44 minutes 07 seconds West, 466.69 feet; thence North 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East, 263.69 feet; thence South 89 degrees 44 minutes 07 seconds East, 466.69 feet to the point of beginning. Commonly Known as: 1905 French Rd., Caro, MI 48723 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later; or unless MCL 600.3240(16) applies. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961,

under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention Purchaser: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee for any reason. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest, and the purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector. Date of notice: 02/26/2020 Potestivo & Associates, P.C. 251 Diversion Street, Rochester, MI 48307 248-853-4400 312216
2-26-4

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Tuscola County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on April 9, 2020. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county

register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Paul Taylor aka Paul M. Taylor and Kimberly Taylor, aka Kimberly K. Taylor husband and wife
Original Mortgagee: FLAGSTAR BANK, FSB, A FEDERALLY CHARTERED SAVINGS BANK
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Mill City Mortgage Loan Trust 2018-1
Date of Mortgage: May 13, 2005

Date of Mortgage Recording: August 3, 2005
Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$37,271.24
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Watertown, Tuscola County, Michigan, and described as: Sec 2 Town 10 North, Range 9 East, com at a Point that is South 918.42 feet from NorthWest corner of said Section, then East 232 feet, then South 375.52 feet, then West 232 feet, then North 375.52 feet to POB, 2 A
Common street address (if any): 7101 Edwards Rd, Mayville, MI 48744-9543

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: March 11, 2020
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1412525
3-11-4

KUS, RYAN & ASSOCIATES, PLLC 2951 High Meadow Circle, Ste. 120 Auburn Hills, MI 48326-2790 NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT- Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Tuscola County, starting promptly at 10:00 A.M. on April 9, 2020. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a Mortgage made by GRICE RENTALS, L.L.C., a Michigan limited liability company, whose address is 2560 Mertz Road, Caro, Michigan 48723, dated April 1, 2010, and recorded April 6, 2010, in Liber 1195, Page 631, Tuscola County Records, on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due as of February 5, 2020, the sum of Two Hundred Forty-Two Thousand One Hundred Seventy-Six and 55/100 Dollars (\$242,176.55), including interest at the rate of Twelve and One-Half Percent (12.5%) per annum. The Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems (MERS) is not a foreclosing party. Under the power of sale contained in said Mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the front entrance of the Courthouse in the City Caro, Tuscola County, Michigan at 10:00 o'clock A.M., local time, on THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2020. Said premises are situated in the Township of Indianfields, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as: Land in the Township of Indianfields, County of

Tuscola, State of Michigan Parcel 2: A parcel of land in the Northeast one-quarter of Section 27, Town 12 North, Range 9 East, Indianfields Township, Tuscola County, Michigan, described as follows: Beginning at a point on the East line of said Section which is 600.00 feet, South 00 degrees 40 minutes 42 seconds West of the Northeast corner of said Section; thence continuing South 01 degrees 40 minutes 42 seconds East on said East section line, 325.42 feet; thence North 89 degrees 15 minutes 51 seconds West 573.45 feet; thence North 01 degrees 43 minutes 57 seconds East 338.89 feet; thence South 87 degrees 55 minutes 01 seconds East parallel with said North section line 573.06 feet to the point of beginning, subject to highway use of the East 33.00 feet which lies along and adjacent to said East section line and subject to any easements of record. Parcel 3: A parcel of land in the Northeast one-quarter of Section 27, Town 12 North, Range 9 East, Indianfields Township, Tuscola County, Michigan, described as follows: Beginning at a point on the East line of said Section which is 925.42 feet, South 00 degrees 40 minutes 42 seconds West of the Northeast corner of said Section; thence continuing South 01 degrees 40 minutes 42 seconds West on said East section line, 398.98 feet to the North one-eighth line of said Section; thence North 87 degrees 54 minutes 10 seconds West on said North one-eighth line 573.75 feet; thence North 01 degrees 43 minutes 57 seconds East 385.38 feet; thence South 89 degrees 15 minutes 51 seconds East 573.45 feet to the point of beginning. Subject to highway use of the East 33.00 feet which lies along and adjacent to said East section line and subject to any easements of record. Commonly known as: 2560 Mertz Road, Caro, MI 48723 including adjacent vacant parcel. Tax ID No. Parcel 2: 013-027-200-0100-02 Tax ID No. Parcel 3: 013-027-200-0100-03 The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of such sale. If the premises are sold at the above-described mortgage foreclosure sale, under the provisions of M.C.L.A. 600.3278 the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the Mortgage holder for damaging the premises during the redemption period. CHEMICAL BANK 2301 W. Big Beaver Road, Ste. 525 Troy, MI 48084-3320 KUS, RYAN & ASSOCIATES, PLLC MICHAEL J. RYAN, ESQ. Attorney for Mortgagee 2851 High Meadow Circle, Ste. 120 Auburn Hills, MI 48326-2790 (248)364-3090
3-11-4

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Tuscola County, starting promptly at 10:00 a.m. on April 16, 2020. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.
Name of Mortgagor(s): Joel J. Stoick, an unmarried individual
Name of Mortgagee: Independent Mortgage Co. East MI, which became Independent Mortgage Co., a dissolved Michigan corporation, and successor-by-merger to Independent Mortgage Co. East MI, as assigned to Independent Bank, a Michigan banking corporation
Name of Foreclosing Assignee: Independent Bank
Mortgage Date: March 6, 2000
Mortgage Recording Date: August 22, 2000
Mortgage Recording Information: Liber 808, Page 1415
Assignment Recording: Liber 01440, Page 848
Amount claimed due on date of this notice: \$34,982.12
Interest Rate on date of this notice: 6.375% variable
The property to be sold is located in the Township of Juniata, County of Tuscola, Michigan

and is described as:

The E 5 acres of the SE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 23, T12N, R8E, Juniata Twp., Tuscola Co., Michigan.

Street Address: 3750 Densmore Road, Caro, MI 48723

The redemption period will expire twelve (12) months after the date of the foreclosure sale, unless the property is determined abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will expire 30 days after the date of the foreclosure sale, or when the time to provide notice under MCL 600.3241a(c) expires, whichever is later.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Under MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

SMITH, MARTIN, POWERS & KNIER, P.C.

Dated: March 9, 2020
By: Henry L. Knier, Jr. (P46393) Attorney for Independent Bank, Mortgagee
900 Washington Ave., P.O. Box 219
Bay City, MI 48707 - (989) 892-4574
3-18-4

FORECLOSURE NOTICE (Tuscola County) NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Tuscola County (at the front entrance of the Courthouse in the City of Caro, Tuscola County, Michigan), starting promptly at 10:00 o'clock A.M. on Thursday, April 23, 2020. Default has been made in the terms and conditions of the mortgage made by Barry W. Popp, a single man and Judith E. Cole, a single woman, as original mortgagor, to Chemical Bank, as original mortgagee, dated September 2, 2016, and recorded on September 9, 2016, at the Tuscola County, Michigan Register of Deeds, in Liber 1358, commencing on Page 1145, which mortgage is now held by Chemical Bank, a Division of TCF National Bank, successor in interest by merger to Chemical Bank, a Michigan banking corporation. The amount claimed to be due on this mortgage, on the date of this notice, was \$11,417.00. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. The description of the mortgaged premises is all that certain piece or parcel of land situated in the Township of Novesta, in the County of Tuscola and State of Michigan further described as follows: Commencing at the Southwest corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 9, Town 13 North, Range 11 East, thence running North to the Northwest corner of said Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter; thence East to the Right of Way of the Pontiac, Oxford and Northern Railroad, thence along the Westerly line of said railroad in a Southwesterly direction to the section line between Sections 9 and 16, thence West along said section line to the place of beginning. Except for a parcel described as follows: Commencing at the Southwest corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 9, Town 13 North, Range 11 East, thence East 100 feet, thence North 436 feet, thence

West 100 feet, thence South 436 feet to the point of beginning. Also including that certain mobile/manufactured home located thereon. Commonly known as: 6139 Delong Rd., Deford, MI 48729 Tax ID Number: 018-09-000-1800-01 (covers more land) The redemption period shall be Twelve (12) months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be thirty (30) days from the date of such sale or when the time to provide the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c) expires, whichever is later or unless the redemption period is shortened in accordance with MCL 600.3238. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower and mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention Homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Attention Purchasers: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Shaheen, Jacobs & Ross, P.C. is a debt collector attempting to collect this debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose Dated: March 12, 2020 Chemical Bank, a Division of TCF National Bank
3-18-4

Mortgagee SHAHEEN, JACOBS & ROSS, P.C. By: Michael J. Thomas, Esq. Attorneys for Mortgagee 615 Griswold Street, Suite 1425 Detroit, Michigan 48226-3993 (313) 963-1301

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Tuscola County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on April 16, 2020. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): William Anthony, a married man Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender's successors and assigns Date of mortgage: July 6, 2011 Recorded on July 12, 2011, Liber 1225, on Page 1290, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: Fifty-Four Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty-Two and 35/100 Dollars (\$54,762.35) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Tuscola County, and described as: Beginning at a point that is 204.55 feet South 0 degrees 31 minutes East along centerline of 4th Street and 257.70 feet North 77 degrees 09 minutes West of an Iron at intersections of centerline of 4th and Center streets thence North 12 degrees 58 minutes East 169.90 feet to a Southerly line of Center Street, North 76 degrees 45 minutes West 182.30 feet along Southerly line of Center Street, South 12 degrees 58 minutes West 172.30 feet, South 77 degrees 09 minutes East 182.30 feet to place of beginning. Part of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 28 of Township of Tuscola, Town 11 North, Range 7 East. Commonly known as 8949 Van Cleave Rd, Vassar, MI 48768 The redemption period will be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238.

If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under

Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400
3-18-4

FORECLOSURE NOTICE (ALL COUNTIES) AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE.

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement – Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Tuscola County, starting promptly at 10:00 a.m. on April 16, 2020. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property.

A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Joann T. Jezewski of Tuscola County, Michigan, Mortgagor to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. dated the 16th day of April, 2014, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds, for the County of Tuscola and State of Michigan, on the 6th day of May, 2014, Instrument No. 53 2014 978822 L-1306 P-1034 (11) of Tuscola Records, which said mortgage was assigned to Chemical Bank, a Division of TCF National Bank, thru mesne assignments, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, for principal of \$24,645.21 (twenty-four thousand six hundred forty-five and 21/100) plus accrued interest at 4.875% (four point eight seven five) percent per annum. All that certain piece or parcel of land situate in the Village of Cass City, in the County of Tuscola and State of Michigan and described as follows to wit: Lot 7, Block C, Also commencing at the Northeast corner of Lot 7; thence North 16.5 feet; thence West 132 feet; thence South 16.5 feet; thence East 132 feet to the point of beginning, James L. Hitchcock's Second Addition to the Village of Cass City, Elkland Township, Tuscola County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof. Commonly known as: 4169 Seeger Street, Cass City, MI 48726 TAX ID: 035-500-321-07000-00 If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale the borrower, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

The redemption period shall be six months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. Dated: March 18, 2020 By: Benjamin N. Hoen Attorney for Plaintiff Weltman, Weinberg & Reis Co., L.P.A. 965 Keynote Circle Brooklyn Heights, OH 44131 216-685-1170 WWR# 10150988
3-18-4

Obituaries

Melvin Balk

Melvin Leonard Balk, 90, of Harbor Beach, passed away Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at his home under hospice care, with his family at his side.

He was born April 4, 1929 in Leroy Township, Ingham County, MI to the late Martin and Clara (Reidel) Balk.

Melvin and Olive Marie Fournier were united in marriage on September 17, 1949 at St. Philip Neri Catholic Church in Detroit. After 63 years of marriage, Olive Marie preceded him in death on November 11, 2012.

Melvin was a graduate of Wilbur Wright High School in Detroit.

He was employed by Detroit Edison for 50 years.

Melvin was a parishioner of St. Joseph Catholic Church, St. Hubert Parish in Rapson.

He enjoyed camping, gardening, crossword puzzles and reading. Melvin truly loved his family and his family, especially his many grandchildren, loved him back.

Melvin is survived by his children: Crystal Schipinski and her husband, Daniel of Cass City, Martin Balk and wife, Dena of Montana, Garry Balk and his wife, Tammy of Romeo, Judith Balk of Minnesota, Cynthia Nowiski of Tennessee, Dianne Mazure and her husband Michael of Jenison, MI, Paul Balk of Harbor Beach, Patricia Griafka and her husband, Scott of Ubyly, John Balk and his wife, Cindy of Cadillac and Matthew Balk and his wife, Blanca of Florida; 46 grandchildren; 75 great-grandchildren; two sisters-in-law, Connie Shaw of California and Eleanor Balk of Alabama.

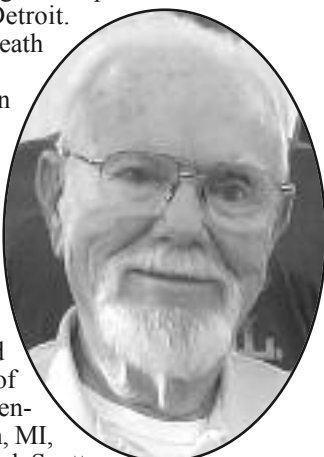
He was preceded in death by two sons, Richard Scott Balk and Melvin Lawrence Balk; one sister, Mary Ellen White and her husband, Garvey; three brothers, Lawrence Balk and his wife, Leona, James Frederick Balk and Robert Frederick Balk.

Mass of Christian burial for Melvin was Saturday, March 14 at St. Joseph Catholic Church of Rapson. Rev. T.J. Fleming, pastor, officiated.

Melvin's final resting place will be with his wife and son in the St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Rapson.

Please consider making a donation in Melvin's memory to his family, care of his daughter, Crystal Schipinski.

Please visit www.smigielskifuneralhomes.com to express your sympathy and sign the guest book for Melvin's family.



Francis E. Kanaby

Captain Francis E. Kanaby, former Great Lakes ship pilot, 84, of Ubyly passed away Thursday, March 12, 2020 at Courtney Manor Nursing Facility in Bad Axe.

He was born on February 29, 1936 in Detroit to the late Louis and Martha (Stepka) Kanaby.

He married Marilyn Wheeler on August 8, 1959 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Argyle.

Francis attended Cass City High School.

He sailed the Great Lakes for 50 years and was first employed for US Steel as a first mate for 25 years. Then he became a Captain for the Lake Pilot Association of Port Huron for 25 years, retiring in 2006. He was a current parishioner of Good Shepherd Parish in Ubyly. Francis enjoyed fishing and hunting.

Francis is survived by his wife of 60 years, Marilyn of Ubyly; two sons, Michael and his wife, Alecia of Fla. and Richard and his wife, Rebecca of Lansing; four daughters, Leona Alley of Fla., Beverly (Diego) Lombardo of Fla., Debbie Peruski and her husband, Robert of Ubyly and Sharon Langenburg of Ubyly; 17 grandchildren, Stephanie, Michelle, Elisa, Levi, Brady, Evan, Madeline, Lindsey, Tegan, Mia, Layla, Samara, Cooper, Morgan, Owen, Jacob and Benjamin; four sisters, Joanie Koroleski, Barbara Rutkowski, Grace Kamrad and Cindy Jackson; one brother-in-law, Carl Wheeler; special friend, Leigh Langenburg.

He was preceded in death by his son, Edward Kanaby.

Mass of Christian burial for Francis was Monday, March 16 at St. Ignatius Catholic Church, Good Shepherd Parish in Freiburg. Rev. Nate Harburg, pastor, officiated.

Francis' final resting place will be with his son, Edward, at St. Ignatius Catholic Cemetery.

Please consider directing your memorial for Francis to Sleeper Public Library or Compassus Long Term and Hospice Care.

Please visit www.smigielskifuneralhomes.com to express your sympathy and sign the guest book for Francis' family.



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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.

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Applications may be completed at www.tcmcf.org

Applicants considered for potential employment will be required to submit to a criminal background screening and pre-employment drug test.

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Up for sale we have a house in Cass City. Newer roof, carpet, and paint. This is a super cute house in the village. Great location-alley in the back for that extra room. Upstairs or downstairs laundry. Efficient house-all electric. Need to call on this one and see for your self.

038-20-0023



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TCC1826



Cozy Country Ranch. Set on a paved road in Cass City school district. Home features 2 large bedrooms, hardwood floors, new kitchen with soft close cabinets, full basement, L.P gas heat & central air.

CY2798



The perfect Ranch set on a quiet street. Home features 3 bedrooms & 2 baths, full finished basement, main floor laundry, breezeway entry off garage, updated kitchen with soft close cabinets & quartz counter tops.

TCC1830

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State champ!


CASS CITY sixth grade student Jeevesh Prabaharan, son of Praba and Priya Prabaharan, was named this year's Michigan Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee champion among competitors in grades four through six following the state-level competition earlier this month. "The competition consists of about 575 words. The last two spellers — Jeevesh and Peyton, from Harbor Beach, finished being asked quite a few more words from another list until Jeevesh won by spelling 'coyote' correctly," Daryl Iwankovitsch, K of C Council 8892, Cass City, reported. "There were 11 spellers who started the competition at this level."

Fish Point among birding tour sites

Early signs of spring are arriving in Michigan, and area residents are invited to celebrate the season and explore Michigan's Wetlands with a birding tour at a "wetland wonder" near them. Highlights of the birding tours may include diving and dabbling ducks in full breeding plumage, trumpeter and tundra swans, osprey, bald eagles, sandhill cranes and more. The tours will be led by Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) wildlife biologists and technicians, Audubon Great Lakes staff, and volunteers from Ducks Unlimited and local Audubon Clubs. Tours may include a sneak peek driving tour into refuge areas that are normally closed. The upcoming birding tours include one slated for Saturday, March 28, starting at 9 a.m. at the Fish Point State Game Area, 7750 Ringle Rd., Unionville (call 989-674-2511). Participants at most of the tours will meet at the area's headquarters building. Please dress for the weather and bring binoculars. Spotting scopes are also helpful for long-range viewing. The ground may be quite muddy and wet, so plan to wear boots.



THE MICHIGAN DNR is gearing up to host a series of spring birding tours, including one scheduled for Saturday, March 28, starting at 9 a.m. at the Fish Point State Game Area, 7750 Ringle Rd., Unionville. More information is available by calling (989) 674-2511.

 **Notice for Cass City Rotary's annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner**

Due to the advisement of the health department we cancelled our annual dinner and auction. We plan to reschedule the dinner for a later date.


*If you are a business/individual that donated an item to the auction and would like to pick your items up please call Debra Kranz at 872-4215. We'd be happy to store the items until we can reschedule the event.

*If you purchased a ticket and would like a refund you can receive refunds from the rotarian you purchased them from or call Debra Kranz at 872-4215 for a refund. If you would like to hold on to your tickets to attend the rescheduled event, they will be accepted at the rescheduled event.




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