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# CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

VOLUME 114, NUMBER 5

CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2020

.75 CENTS - 12 PAGES

## Lawmakers: Whitmer's order extension excessive

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

As expected, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer Thursday signed an executive order extending her prior

"stay at home" order through the end of April, saying the move would further reduce foot traffic in stores and slow the spread of the novel coronavirus.

But Thumb lawmakers say the

governor's extension went too far by imposing even more stringent limitations on the state's businesses.

A new section of the order imposes restrictions on stores in an effort to reduce crowds. Large stores must limit the number of people in the store at one time to no more than four customers for every 1,000 square feet of customer floor space; small stores must limit capacity to 25 percent of the total occupancy limits (including employees) under the fire codes.

To regulate entry, stores must establish lines with markings for patrons to enable them to stand at least six feet apart from one an-

other while waiting. Large stores must also close areas of the store that are dedicated to carpeting, flooring, furniture, garden centers, plant nurseries or paint.

"The senate has been working over the last few weeks and presented the governor with many reasonable and safe options to alleviate some of the pain and burden being placed on our business owners during this time. Unfortunately, our governor has rejected every single one of those and has even tightened up some restrictions in her newest executive order," said 31st District state Senator Kevin Daley (R-Lum), who represents residents in Tuscola, Bay and Lapeer counties.

"I want to be clear; we must continue to do everything we can to stop the spread of this virus and protect our families, but we cannot destroy our livelihoods in the process. I believe in the people in our state and in their ability to implement common sense measures."

Daley said businesses in "low-risk" areas should be able to open if they implement strict health and safety measures such as social distancing, wearing a mask, washing hands and practicing exceptional sanitation practices.

"We need to put the politics aside and develop a plan so that people can get back to work safely,"

Please turn to page 4.



**OFFICIALS AT Revive Ministries in Cass City are continuing to host "pop-up" mobile food pantries in the community, in spite of working with limited volunteers. The ministry reported serving 292 families – more than 1,000 people – during a pop-up pantry April 7, when they distributed roughly 20,000 pounds of food. Area residents are encouraged to keep an eye on Revive's Facebook page for future pantry date announcements.**

## Cass City among 10 communities selected for fellowship program

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

Cass City will be on the receiving end of a helping hand as officials continue efforts to boost local prosperity and development.

The Community Economic Development Association of Michigan (CEDAM) last week announced the village is among 10 communities chosen to host a community development fellow for the 2020-21 program year.

The other communities selected for the coming year are Cassopolis, Charlevoix, Frankenmuth, Mount Clemens, Oscoda Township, Shelby, St. Ignace, St. Johns and Ypsilanti.

This is the second year for CEDAM's Community Development Fellowship, which was made possible with funding via a partnership with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC).

According to Michelle Parkkonen, community development director of technical assistance programs at MEDC, the fellowship was created to help address a common challenge Michigan's diverse communities face: a lack of sufficient capacity to achieve their economic development potential.

Fellow projects expand organizational capacity, increase local collaboration, and remove barriers to development, Parkkonen said.

"Vibrant, strong communities attract and retain young professionals, increase tourism, and support small businesses, but communities need to collaborate and build capacity to move forward and transform," Parkkonen explained. "By participating in CEDAM's Community Development Fellowship program, these 10 communities will be empowered to build a strong future, and we're pleased to support their efforts."

"The village of Cass City is honored and excited to be chosen to participate in the CEDAM Fellowship Program," village Manager Debbie Powell said. "There is so much to do with limited staffing. The CEDAM Fellowship Program will allow us to make a significant impact in both community and economic development."

Specifically, Powell said, the fellow hired to serve Cass City will play a key role in assisting the village in its goal to achieve Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC) certification, which is basically the gold standard for communities in order to demonstrate to prospective business and industry that they are developer-friendly – ready, willing and equipped to welcome new business.

Earning the RRC certification will also be tied to receiving state funding, she added.

Powell said Cass City is already in the process of earning RRC certification – the village has updated its master plan and is in the process of updating its zoning or-

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## Bingham Ambulance no more; deal in the works

by Mary Drier  
For the Chronicle

After 41 years of providing emergency response in the area, the Bingham Ambulance Service is no more because of a deal with Central Huron Ambulance to take over providing service — sort of.

Although an agreement was reached between the two agencies, not all of the details have been worked out due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which has halted meetings at all levels across the state.

As a result, the ambulance will be dispatched out of Bad Axe until the details and paperwork are completed. Once the agreement is sealed, the

Please turn to page 9.

## Four adults, one juvenile suspected in mailbox smash spree in Tuscola County

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

Tuscola County Sheriff's deputies have identified four young adults and one juvenile sus-

pected in a mailbox smashing spree in the county last week.

And Tuscola County Prosecutor Mark E. Reene says there will be little delay in charging the suspects – not only for the damage, but for ignoring Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's "stay at home" executive order.

The vandalism took place during the late evening/early morning hours of April 4-5, according to Reene, who noted the suspects allegedly destroyed multiple mailboxes and "then decided to post videos of their exploits on social media.

The suspects' names have not been released.

Reene called their behavior "intolerable. They're out when they shouldn't be, they're obviously oblivious to what we're contending with (regarding the COVID-19 pandemic). It's just completely mind boggling.

"The conduct at issue was outrageous from multiple perspectives, (and) those involved will be expeditiously charged with not only the malicious destruction of property offenses, but also with willfully violating the governor's executive order (to stay home). Anyone who has not reported their loss of property is asked to do so at your earliest convenience," Reene said.

He added the senseless acts of vandalism forced other residents to leave their homes, possibly ex-

Please turn to page 12.

## Picture perfect

### Talented Cass City couple shares love of outdoor photography

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

You could say Paul and Mickie Bessler enjoy a picture-perfect hobby together.



Paul Bessler

Paul, 55, and Mickie, 56, are not only partners in life, the Cass City couple also share a love of capturing lasting images of wildlife and landscape in the Thumb — and both have proven themselves to be accomplished photographers.

"We bought our first digital camera in 2017 when our daughter, Jessica Avery, graduated from SVSU. I used it to take photos of birds in our yard — I have about 14 active feeders during the summer," said Paul, a Commerce, Mich., native who moved to Cass City as a teenager, graduating from Cass City High School in 1982.

"We decided to go to Fish Point one day and take a few photos," he recalled. "The camera brought so many new things to life for Mickie and I, and we were hooked right then and there.

"Since then I purchased each of

us a Nikon Coolpix P900 point-and-shoot style camera with a 2000mm auto zoom lens. These cameras are fantastic for people like us who aren't that schooled in the ins and outs of DSLR (digital single lens reflex) cameras and the multitude of lenses that are available for them."

Paul joined the U.S. Air Force out of high school and then moved back to Cass City in 1986. He and Mickie went on to raise their three now-adult daughters. An accident in 2009 sidelined him from an active lifestyle, forcing him to retire from his job as new car salesman a few years later.

Paul said he's undergone a dozen knee surgeries, including four total knee replacements, but his health challenges haven't dampened his interest in taking photos. "I live with chronic pain now and it has greatly slowed down my

life," he said. "When I am able to go out and photograph wildlife, I take the majority of my photos from the driver's seat of my Jeep Cherokee.

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Mickie Bessler

# Officers arrest two Flint men

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

Tuscola County law enforcement officers tracked and arrested a pair of Flint men after a resident reported that someone stole a pickup truck from his residence early Monday morning.

The homeowner in Indianfields Township called 911 after hearing his truck start and then leave his driveway just before 4 a.m., according to Tuscola County Sheriff Glen Skrent.

"A BOL (be on the lookout) was put out for his truck. A Caro officer was checking west of Caro for the vehicle and spotted it," Skrent

reported. "The vehicle quickly pulled into a business and the lone occupant jumped out of the moving truck and fled on foot. The moving vehicle struck a small shed and came to rest.

"Deputy Robinson and K-9 Blek responded to the scene along with deputies LaFlure and Spangler," Skrent continued. "The dog tracked the subject for approximately one mile and found him hiding, laying on the ground in a swampy area. The subject was arrested for the theft of the stolen vehicle."

At the same time, the sheriff said, a suspicious vehicle was reported in the area where the vehicle had

originally been stolen.

"Sgt. Nitz from the sheriff's office found the vehicle and stopped it. During the traffic stop, it was learned that this subject was involved with the other subject in the stolen truck. Both suspects were from the Flint area.

Traffic charges led to the arrest of the second subject, according to Skrent, who noted the investigation is continuing and could lead to additional charges for both suspects.

Anyone with information related to the incident is asked to contact Detective James Hook at (989) 673-8161 (ext. 2234).

# Ubly announces honor students

Officials at Ubly Elementary announce 2nd Marking Period honor students, they are:

#### Mrs. Guigar's Third Grade:

Weston Guza  
Gabby Hagen  
Tyler Hartel  
Audra Maurer\*  
Trenton Maurer  
Meghan Mausolf  
Liam Mueller  
Landyn Raymond  
Katherine Sulkowski  
Avery Tenbusch\*  
Jolene Vogel  
Lucas Volmering

#### Mrs. Smalley's Third Grade:

Andrew Aumann  
Mason Cady\*  
Adrienne Cleland\*  
Connor Essenmacher  
Marquel Essenmacher  
Ella Grifka\*  
William Grifka\*

Lacie Horetski  
Cooper Langenburg  
Bristol Messing  
Blaine Nicol  
Asher Waterbeck

#### Mrs. Bischer's Fourth Grade:

Hunter Budzisz  
Brooklyn Morell\*  
Sophia Mueller  
Myah Peruski\*  
Brianna Schmidt  
Madyson Schumacher\*  
Xavier Sweeney  
Anastasia Warchuck  
Addison Weber  
Ronna Yaroch

#### Mrs. Laurie's Fourth Grade:

Alaina Donnellon\*  
Ava Donnellon\*  
Elle Marks  
Sarah Romzek  
Laura Roth\*  
Ian Schumacher  
Blake Soule

Derek Stringer  
Wyatt Walsh

#### Mrs. Camp's Fifth Grade:

William Alburg  
Theodore Bischer\*  
Carter Budzisz  
Claire Grifka\*  
Beckett Hagen  
Waverly Hagen\*  
Ian Harris\*  
Nicole Klee  
Brooke Kolar\*  
Graham Nicol  
Hope Ogryski\*  
Brayden Sweeney\*

#### Mrs. Roth's Fifth Grade:

Weston Bambach  
Collin Franzel  
Landon Greyerbiehl  
John Guza  
Destiny Leipprandt  
Irelyn Wolschleger  
Lily Wright  
\*Denotes all A's

# SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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# Obituaries

#### Mary Beach

Mary Evelyn 'Inky' Beach left this world April 10, 2020 to go to her Heavenly Father. She was born November 7, 1939, the daughter of the late Albert and Florence Leslie.

Inky was raised in Decker, Michigan and graduated in 1957 from Cass City High School where she met her husband to be Ross Beach.

After graduating from high school, Inky attended Taylor University. After completing her studies, she married Ross September 2, 1960 and later worked as the head of the laboratory at Oakland Hospital in Marshall, Michigan. She and her husband then served as missionaries with The Evangelical Alliance Mission (TEAM) for 46 years. She and her husband served in Korea, Chad and Inky later became the administrator for the Central Asia Consultation.

Inky traveled extensively and influenced others from a number of nations, tribes and languages. She was a cheerful and kind person who was always there for people at every turn. She set an example of kindness and faithfulness to the Lord. She always planted seeds of love, respect, teaching, sharing, grace and commitment to her Lord.

Inky is survived by her husband Ross and daughter Bethanne (Steve) Gennette; sisters Margaret Sefton of Snover, Beatrice Wallace of Owosso, Jean (Larry) Behr of Brown City and a brother Dale (Audrey) Leslie of Decker; her brother-in-law Stan (Ellen) Beach of Seminole, Florida; and two grandchildren AndreRoss and MiAnna Gennette.

A memorial service will be held at a later date and location yet to be determined.



#### Joyce Cameron

Joyce Lavonne Cameron, 87, of Cass City, died following a lengthy illness Monday, April 6, 2020 in United Hospice of Marlette Residence Center, Marlette.

She was born August 13, 1932 at home in Snover to Gordon Benjamin and Grace Anne (Blank) Smeckert. She married Russell Cameron April 14, 1962. He died November 10, 1984.

Joyce graduated from Sandusky High School and received a degree in teaching from Asbury College, Kentucky. She taught two semesters in Cuba and also in Michigan before she was married. Joyce taught in the country school and worked with special needs children. She also helped Russell on their crop and dairy farm. Joyce was an active member of the Women Christian Temperance Union for over forty years and volunteered with United Hospice of Marlette for ten years. After Russell died, she traveled all over the world including China, Australia and Israel which was her favorite. Joyce researched her family history and genealogy while visiting Germany. She spent the winter months in Arizona and Florida. Joyce enjoyed estate and garage sales with good friend Kathy Hale. A member of Deford Community Church and its Diamond's Class, Joyce always looked forward to Pastor Cooper singing to her when he would visit. She loved reading her Bible and spent much time praying for family and friends.

Joyce is survived by her sons: Robert (Wendy) Cameron of Decker and Kenneth (Darlene) Cameron of Decker; grandchildren: Bobbi, Whitney and Jeremy; great-grandchildren: Alisa and Jamie; sisters-in-law: Doris Smeckert and Grace Cameron; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Russell; brother, Leland Smeckert; sister, Helen (Glenn) Stevenson; and brother-in-law, Max Cameron.

A private family funeral service was held Thursday, April 9, in Kranz Funeral Home, Cass City with Pastor David Cooper of Deford Community Church officiating. A public service will be held at a later date.

Interment will be in Moore Township Cemetery, Snover.

Memorials may be made to Deford Community Church, or to Jorge and Laura Vaca (World Gospel Mission). Family and friends may share memories, prayers and photos with the family at [www.kranzfuneralhome.com](http://www.kranzfuneralhome.com). Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home of Cass City.



# In Our OPINION...

**Clarke Haire**  
Publisher

**Tom Montgomery**  
Editor

## Making healthy food choices so important

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program recently joined with the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics to remind Michiganders about choosing nutritious foods and getting enough physical activity.

Both practices have become even more important – although social distancing is still a must – as area residents work to protect themselves from and help to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Each spring, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics focuses attention on healthy eating. This year's theme, "Eat Right, Bite by Bite", promotes eating a variety of nutritious foods every day, planning and creating healthy meals each week and the value of consulting a registered dietitian nutritionist.

"Good nutrition is an important part of leading a healthy lifestyle," said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, chief medical executive and chief deputy for health at MDHHS. "Combined with physical activity, diet can help people reach and maintain a healthy weight, reduce their risk of chronic diseases and improve their overall health."

Unhealthy eating habits have contributed to the obesity epidemic in the United States, with about one-third of U.S. adults and approximately 17 percent of children and adolescents ages two to 19 years being considered obese.

Even for people at a healthy weight, a poor diet is associated with major health risks that can cause illness and even death. These include heart disease, hypertension (high blood pressure), type 2 diabetes, osteoporosis and certain types of cancer.

Registered dietitian nutritionists often work as part of a medical team to help clients set nutrition goals to improve their health. They can provide recipe ideas, cooking tips and other healthful advice for everyday issues such as cooking dinner or meal preparation for picky eaters. In addition, many registered dietitian nutritionists provide medical nutrition therapy to help clients manage chronic conditions such as diabetes, heart disease and hypertension.

Michiganders are urged to follow these healthy eating tips:

\*Eat a variety of nutritious foods each day by including healthy foods from all food groups and be sure to hydrate with water instead of sugary drinks.

\*Be a smart shopper by reading food labels to find out more about the foods you eat.

\*Plan your meals each week by choosing healthy recipes to make and using a grocery list to shop for healthy foods.

\*Learn skills to create tasty meals and reduce food waste by transforming leftovers into meals, using the foods already on hand and practicing good food safety.

More information about healthy eating and lifestyle can be found on the website [Eatright.org](http://Eatright.org).

WIC is a federally-funded program that serves low income women, infants and children up to age five by providing nutritious food, nutrition education, breastfeeding promotion and support and referrals to health and other services. WIC foods are selected to meet nutrient needs such as calcium, iron, folic acid, vitamins A & C.

To learn more about WIC or find an agency near you, call 211 or visit [Michigan.gov/WIC](http://Michigan.gov/WIC).

# Drier Humor

by Mary Drier

Social distancing -- time to pause



I am probably more aware of the virus than most people. Besides writing a weekly column, I'm a freelance journalist with about 40 years' experience in the field.

I am also among the many who have a compromised immune system, which makes this virus crisis even more deadly for me than it already is.

I normally try to keep my column on the lighter side, but our current health crisis is all too real and certainly not a laughing matter. Because of that, I'm struggling to write a column. And, my mind keeps circulating back to a Facebook post that got my attention. It was of two women dressed in early 1900s era attire, walking arm-in-arm with cloth masks covering part of their faces.

The post noted that history repeats itself. The poem posted with the photo says it was first written in 1869 by Kathleen O'Mara, and reprinted during the 1919 Pandemic.

The poem moved me deeply so I'm including it:

*"And people stayed at home  
And read books  
And listened  
And they rested  
And did exercises  
And made art and played  
And learned new ways of being  
And stopped and listened  
More deeply  
Someone meditated, someone prayed  
Someone met their shadow  
And people began to think differently  
And people healed.  
And in the absence of people who  
Lived in ignorant ways  
Dangerous, meaningless and heartless,  
The earth also began to heal  
And when the danger ended and  
People found themselves  
They grieved for the dead  
And made new choices  
And dreamed of new visions  
And created new ways of living  
And completely healed the earth  
Just as they were healed."*

Speaking of healed, I wish I would have written down how the world has changed in just this short time because of sheltering in place.

Without so much traffic, the canals in Italy have cleared up and fish have returned. And, the air quality in some cities has greatly improved because of fewer vehicles on the roads.

There were a couple of other positive environmental impacts, but I don't remember them. It would seem like with all the free time to watch television, I would have paid better attention.

Anyway, I truly hope that: "when the danger

ended and people found themselves. They grieved for the dead, and made new choices, and dreamed of new visions. And that they created new ways of living and completely healed the earth."



## Rabbit Tracks

by Clarke Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)

This tiny sliver of light at the end of the tunnel may or may not come to pass, given the uncertainty we all face related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Still, officials at the Cass City Public Schools are hopeful.

School Supt. Jeff Hartel offered this announcement Thursday on the district's Facebook page:

"A couple bits of information for our community. These events will, of course, only happen if the governor gives the "all clear" to hold public gatherings.

"Prom will be held at Rolling Hills Golf Course on Saturday, July 18. More information to come on tickets and so forth. There will be a tent set up outside. The golf course provides a beautiful setting for pictures and an evening of fun. We hope students will take advantage of this event and make new memories. Thanks to Ryan and Amy Lowman for their assistance in setting up this event.

"Graduation will be held at the football field at 7 p.m. on Friday, July 31. If the weather doesn't cooperate, we will make a quick transition to the high school gym. We intend to honor our seniors in the best manner possible."

\*\*\*\*\*



Be on the lookout: The Kingston Village Police Department last week reported seizing 80 fake \$100 bills. Some of the money was passed off at a Kingston business, according to police, who are urging residents to make sure they closely examine any \$100 bill they receive. In the photo above, the bill at the top is real, while the slightly smaller bill on the bottom is fake.

\*\*\*\*\*

Because the 2020 high school seniors will not get to enjoy many of the traditional celebrations, school districts hosted a special event for them Friday night reports Mary Drier.

At 8:20 p.m., (20:20 in military time) the field lights were on for 20 minutes and 20 seconds. With the scoreboards lit up to honor the class of 2020 with scores spelling out 2020.

Cass City and Kingston School Districts were among several high schools across the state that participated.



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


#### The Cass City Chronicle welcomes letters to the editor.

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

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

## CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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## TBHS opens COVID-19 support line for residents

Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems (TBHS) has set up a COVID-19 support line through its main phone number at (989) 673-6191.

"This phone line is available Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., for individuals not currently receiving community mental health (CMH) services. The phone line will be available for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis or until such a time where it becomes unnecessary," said Susan R. Holder, director of TBHS Marketing and Training Services.

Holder explained the phone line is staffed by mental health professionals and can support people who:

- \*Are struggling with feelings of isolation and loneliness.
- \*Are dealing with panic or anxiety over the possibility of getting sick, financial struggles, resource scarcity, or caregiving.
- \*Are first responders, essential employees, medical professionals on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic and struggling with burnout, anxiety, depression and/or feeling overwhelmed.
- \*Are sick at home or caring for a sick family member and dealing with fear, anxiety, depression and feeling overwhelmed.
- \*Could simply benefit from having someone to talk to during this difficult time.

If the mental health professional determines that the issue is more severe than the COVID-19 support line can manage, they will refer individuals to appropriate resources, according to Holder, who noted that callers who leave a message and get a call-back from the COVID-19 support line may see the message "blocked caller" and/or state the caller has a private number.

"Anyone in Tuscola County can utilize the COVID-19 support line; you do not need to be using CMH services or have a mental health diagnosis of any kind – it is for the general public," Holder said.

"The support line should not be used for crisis calls. If you or a loved one is in crisis, please call TBHS and request emergency services," she added. "The COVID-19 support line is not meant to take the place of therapy/counseling or to treat or diagnosis any physical or mental health condition. It is a support resource for anyone in the community who could use a listening ear during this national emergency."

Those wishing to take advantage of the new support service should call (989) 673-6191 and ask for the COVID-19 support line.

"While TBHS is not available to conduct any community trainings, speaking engagements or events during this time, our focus continues to be on supporting our community and sharing vital information via several different outlets," said Holder, who cited the TBHS Facebook page and the website [www.tbhsonline.com](http://www.tbhsonline.com) among those outlets.



**WITH SUPPLIERS** having limited quantities of isolation gowns, the Tuscola County Medical Care Community (TCMCC) staff is taking matters into their own hands by making their own. "The annex staff is hard at work sewing reusable gowns for our frontline caregivers," said TCMCC CEO Brenda Kretzschmer, who thanked volunteers in the community who have been assisting in the goal of making 100 gowns. "We are in search of bias tape, one-half inch elastic and one-half inch twill tape (grosgrain ribbon) for the sleeves and ties. Stores are sold out. If you have extra you can spare, we'll gladly take it off your hands," she added. All donations can be dropped off at the main entrance of the TCMCC in Caro. For more information, call (989) 673-4117.

## Whitmer order extension excessive

Continued from page one.

Daley said. "We need to trust our neighbors and our business community. The governor spoke loud and clear — she doesn't trust the people of Michigan."

State Rep. Phil Green (R-Millington), whose 84th District is comprised of Tuscola and Huron counties, agreed.

"While my top priority is obviously lessening the spread of COVID-19 and keeping people healthy, I believe the governor missed an opportunity to help struggling families with her revised 'stay home' order. I am more disappointed in what she didn't do than what she did," he said.

"She missed a chance to align Michigan with federal guidelines that would allow more people to safely return to their jobs and support their families — jobs that can be done in relative isolation while following social distancing guidelines and other safety precautions.

"It's time we look at jobs with the perspective of whether they are safe or unsafe, rather than get into arguments over what is 'essential' or 'non-essential'."

As with the prior order, Whitmer's latest executive order limits gatherings and travel and requires all workers who are not necessary to sustain or protect life to stay home.

"Michigan has the third highest number of COVID-19 cases in the country, and we're still on the upswing. We must continue to do everything we can to slow the spread and protect our families," Whitmer said in extending her latest "stay at home" executive order.

"Data shows that most Michiganders are doing their part by staying home and staying safe. That's good, but we must keep it up. When we do, we can save lives and shorten the amount of time we're working through this crisis, which will be good for our families and good for our economy in the long run," she added.

"We can also protect critical infrastructure workers like doctors, nurses, grocery store employees, and childcare workers. Now more than ever, it's crucial that people stay home and stay safe."

Whitmer's order prohibits all businesses and operations from requiring workers to leave their homes, unless those workers are necessary to sustain or protect life or to conduct minimum basic operations.

In addition, all public and private gatherings among persons outside a single household remain temporarily prohibited. Though Michiganders may leave the house to get groceries or needed supplies, the new order encourages people to limit the number of household members running errands to the maximum extent possible.

As before, people may engage in outdoor activities like walking, hiking, running, cycling, kayaking, canoeing, or any other recre-

ational activity, consistent with remaining at least six feet from people from outside a person's household. However, travel for vacations or for any other purpose is prohibited.

### Local COVID-19 data

Between Monday, April 6, and Monday, April 13, the number of combined confirmed COVID-19 cases in Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac counties increased from 40 to 74, with the three counties' combined death toll rising from four to nine victims.

As of Sunday, Tuscola County had recorded 45 cases and seven deaths, Huron County had six cases and no deaths, and Sanilac County, 23 cases and two deaths.

In Tuscola County, at least 12 of the deaths have been reported at the Tuscola County Medical Care Community in Caro, where several staff members have also tested positive and are off work until they meet CDC guidelines to return to work, according to Ann Hepfer, health officer for the Tuscola and Huron county health departments.

"Our hearts go out to the families who have lost loved ones during this pandemic, (and) also for those that have a family member currently sickened with this infection," she said. "It is heartbreaking what families have had to endure."

Statewide, Monday's total of confirmed cases reached 25,635,

with a total of 1,602 deaths, compared to 17,221 cases and 730 deaths a week earlier.

Hepfer noted Saturday that the number of testing sites is increasing, with at least one drive-through site added in the Thumb at Great Lakes Bay Health Centers, 876 N. Van Dyke Rd. in Bad Axe (phone 989-623-0137). However, she also emphasized that not everyone is eligible for testing.

She explained those wishing to be tested must first obtain an order from their doctor, a local health department or a testing site location to obtain an order.

Sunday's Michigan-wide COVID-19 case totals reported by the state were down significantly compared to previous days — 645 total new cases and 95 new deaths, compared to 1,210 new cases and 111 deaths on Saturday, for example. However, state officials cautioned that the numbers may not represent a true decline of cases and deaths.

"Reported case counts may reflect a reduction in the amount of laboratory testing performed over the weekend and holiday. Single day fluctuations in the number of confirmed cases may not be significant, as a number of external factors can affect data reporting," state officials said. "Although there is a limited amount of data to compare, previous testing reports have illustrated consistent Sunday decreases, with some being as high as a 25 percent reduction over the previous day."

## Commissioners address pay issues during virus pandemic

by Mary Drier  
For the Chronicle

The last meeting of the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners was held electronically via the Google Hangouts application.

The first item of business was District One Commissioner Tom Young's call to officially declare a state of emergency for the county for the COVID-19 public health emergency that is occurring not only within the state of Michigan, but also across the entire United States.

During discussion, District Five Commissioner Dan Grimshaw pointed out the declaration should have an end date so it will not go on in perpetuity.

Commissioners unanimously approved declaring a state of emergency through the end of June, although the resolution could be extended in the future.

The county's emergency operation plan has been activated and all local resources will be utilized to the fullest possible extent, officials noted.

County Controller-Administrator Clayette Zechmeister presented an overview of the county's office and building closures and on how the various departments are continuing to provide service online.

County Clerk Fetting, meanwhile, pointed out communication has not been provided regarding paying staff during the courthouse and office closures, as some employees have to continue working. She asked for clarification, which led to a lengthy discussion.

"We have a budget. The money has been budgeted, so there is no reason to consider laying anyone off," Grimshaw said, noting it would impact their health insurance coverage.

Board Chairman Thom Bardwell agreed with Grimshaw, saying the outbreak is beyond anyone's control.

Zechmeister said she has been in contact with administrators throughout the state, and "every single one confirmed they will continue to pay (staff)."

District Four Commissioner Mark Jensen pointed out that Bay County is only paying about two-thirds of the wages of non-essential workers.

However, his fellow commissioners countered that some of the workers that could be considered "non-essential" have been working from home while others periodically go to their offices to work.

Drain Commissioner Bob Mantey and Equalization Director Angie Daniels each pointed out their staff continues to work from home and go into the office on a rotating schedule.

Tuscola County Circuit Court Judge Amy Grace Gierhart said the courts are also continuing to operate on a limited basis.

Gierhart explained that she, District Judge Jason Bitzer and Court Administrator Sheila Long began discussing the potential need to close the courthouse March 9. Their goal was to put a plan of action in place if needed, and it proved necessary.

She explained the courts are operating in compliance with the Supreme Court and governor's executive orders. That plan of operation is outlined on the county's website at [tuscolacounty.org](http://tuscolacounty.org).

Gierhart said court employees will be paid throughout the duration of the emergency closure.

"We don't want to create more stress in this time of uncertainty," agreed Grimshaw, who suggested using the county's inclement weather policy for payment.

However, Sheriff Glen Skrent noted the inclement weather policy for his department calls for overtime pay, and that he doesn't think following that policy is the answer.

After another lengthy discussion, it was decided to pay everyone their salary at this time.

Fetting asked the commissioners to keep the lines of communication open with elected officials and staff, which they agreed to do.

Following a closed session to discuss contract negotiations, commissioners approved ratifying a tentative agreement reached between the AFSCME Courthouse Deputies Bargaining Committee and the Tuscola County Bargaining Committee for an agreement that goes through Dec. 31, 2021. No details were released initially.

"Once signed (by the union), I expect the contract will be placed on the county website along with the other contracts," said Fetting.

The commissioners' next scheduled meeting is Thursday at 8 a.m., and the session will again be an electronic meeting.

Fetting was directed to work in coordination with IT Director Ean Lee to post future electronic meetings.

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## Reporter's notebook

### Dying to work more? Not me

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor



I'm not sure where I heard it, but I really appreciate the individual who wisely observed that few people have ever gone to their graves wishing they had spent another day on the job.

I can relate. How about you?

These past few weeks in isolation have only strengthened my opinion.

It's so easy to get caught up in work, especially if you enjoy what you do. Well, most of the time. But when it comes right down to it, who wants to be remembered for spending more time earning a living than living a meaningful life?

Okay, so maybe that sounds a bit cheesy. And, there are many people I know who consistently find ways to improve the lives of others while on the job week in and week out.

The older I get, however, the more I embrace that sort of thinking. I'm more about today than worrying about tomorrow, in part because I've seen the names of far too many of my peers in the obituary columns.

Thirty years ago I rarely paid attention to the obituaries. Now I find myself checking them out regularly to see the ages of the dearly departed.

I'm reminded of the importance of revisiting priorities anytime I recall an article on the website [www.themindunleashed.org](http://www.themindunleashed.org), written by a nurse who revealed the five common regrets she's heard many people express on their death beds.

They are, in no particular order:

\*I wish I'd had the courage to live a life true to myself, not the life others expected of me.

\*I wish I hadn't worked so hard.

\*I wish I would have had the courage to express my feelings.

\*I wish I had stayed in touch with my friends.

\*I wish that I had let myself be happier.

The way I see it, I'm good when it comes to expressing my feelings (at times, much to the chagrin of family and co-workers). As far as I'm concerned you shouldn't ever really grow up completely, and if you're too old to be silly occasionally, well, you're just too darn old.

As for letting myself be happier, getting sober more than eight years ago – and staying that way – has made all the difference, although there are many times I look reality squarely in the face and wonder how I'll get through this or that without a shot of something.

I guess it all comes down to being responsible for my own happiness, just like everyone else.

That's not to say I don't anticipate regrets when the end comes (I'm also not claiming to have finished doing stupid things I'll regret later), but every new day gives me another opportunity to whittle that list down a bit more.

As the author concluded, "Life is a choice. It is YOUR life. Choose consciously, choose wisely, choose honestly. Choose happiness."

That's something we can all try to do, regardless of our lot in life.

# Down Memory Lane

by Tina Pallas



## 5 YEARS AGO (2015)

The Cass City community was well represented among the annual Tuscola Stars nominees, with local resident Gail Smith honored as the 2015 winner in the Above and Beyond category. "Like a couple of other (nominees), Gail's name was submitted by at least three people for going above and beyond," Tuscola Stars Planning Team member Jim McLoskey said in introducing the Cass City woman. "Gail is an organizer for high school foreign exchange programs and has placed students from all over the world," McLoskey added. "When Gail is not wearing her foreign exchange hat, she is helping out at Rawson Library. To-date, Gail has organized fundraisers to raise over \$8,000 to assist the library. Gail organizes trips to interesting places for area citizens, including the Chicago Navy Pier, the Holocaust Center in Farmington Hills, and our state capitol. "Gail promotes a culture of awareness and passion for living," he said. "She is a tremendous 'star' for the Cass City area."

## 10 YEARS AGO (2010)

The Hicks family is synonymous with public service in Tuscola County, and Carol Hicks has carried on that tradition for 35 years. Hicks, of Deford, officially retired Monday from her job at the Tuscola County Health Department, where she has worn a number of hats over the years. She was first hired Dec. 17, 1974, starting at the department as a clerk-typist through a grant. "Carol has worked in most of the programs that the health department offers and became the administrative services coordinator in August 1992," said Ann Hepler, nursing administrator at the Tuscola County Health Department.

Nicholas Chappel, son of Dr. Paul and Suzanne Chappel of Cass City, recently graduated with honors from Palmer College of Chiropractic Medicine in Davenport, Iowa. Chappel is a 2006 graduate of Albion College and a 2002 graduate of Cass City High School. Dr. Chappel is currently practicing chiropractic medicine in the Charlotte, N.C. area. His grandparents are Jane and the late Larry Chappel of Marlette, and Marjorie and the late Daniel Orr of North Branch.

Gary Haas was recently honored by officials at Tuscola Behavioral Systems (TBHS) for his 15 years of dedicated service as a board member. Paula Cavanaugh, chairperson of the board, presented Haas with a plaque and thanked him for his commitment to individuals receiving mental health services in Tuscola County.

## 25 YEARS AGO (1995)

Plans are in the works to erect the famous golden arches of McDonald's in Cass City. The Cass City Village Planning Commission was to have met Tuesday night to schedule a public hearing on a proposed zoning change related to the fast food chain's purchase of a lot on Main Street.

Mark E. Guinther graduated with honors April 2 from St Mary's College, Moraga, Calif., with a Master of Business Administration degree. A 1980 graduate of Cass City High School, he attended Michigan State University for 2 years and graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1984 with a bachelor's degree in computer science. He is currently a product manager for SBE in San Ramon. He and his wife, Shelley, have 2 sons, Drew and Spencer, and live in Concord, Calif. Mark is the son of Stan and Melva Guinther and grandson of Vern McConnell, all of Cass City.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Kessler of Cass City announce the engagement of their daughter, Rachael Renee Kessler, to Clem Richard Koepf, son of Joan Fritz of Lansing and Clemens Koepf of Cass City. Rachael and Clem both reside in the Lansing area. A Sept.

21, 1996, wedding is being planned.

## 35 YEARS AGO (1985)

Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Tracy were guests Tuesday evening, April 9, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Don Whittenburg at a welcome home party, given by the Whittenburgs and Mr. and Mrs. George Fisher, Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Hunt of Ubyly announce the engagement of their daughter, Carol Jean, to Bruce Allen Loeffler, son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Loeffler of Sebewaing. Miss Hunt will be a 1985 graduate of Ubyly High School. Loeffler is a graduate of Ferris State College. He is employed at Colonial Dodge, East Detroit. An Oct. 12 wedding is being planned.

Lori and Alvin Seurnyck, Kristin and Stacy Adams joined the Wayne Dillons, Jeff and Scott on a nine-day tour which included Niagara Falls, Washington, D.C., Gettysburg and the Amish country of Pennsylvania.

Air Force Capt. James C. Harper, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis C. Harper of Centerline Road, Kingston, has been chosen as junior officer of the year for the 15th Air Force at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Mont. Harper, commander with the 341st Strategic Missile Wing, was selected in competition among contemporaries for professional skill, duty performance and exemplary conduct. His wife, Bonnie, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence C. Wallaert of Saginaw.

## 40 YEARS AGO (1980)

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Geiger had their entire family with them for Easter. Present were Mr. and Mrs. Martin Hyzer, Lori and Dan of Caseville, Mr. and Mrs. John Spencer and son Josiah of Lansing and Mr. and Mrs. Ken Schott and Ben of Cass City. Lori Hyzer stayed and spent until Thursday with her grandparents.

Mr. and Mrs. Luis Salas, Jr. are the parents of a six pound, 15 ounce son, Justin Luis, born April 12 in Hills and Dales General Hospital. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. John Zawilinski and Mr. and Mrs. Luis Salas, Sr.

First Lt. James C. Harper, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis C. Harper of 6201 Center Line Road, Kingston, is a member of an organization that has received the U.S. Air Force Outstanding Unit Award at RAF Upper Heyford, Oxford, England. The Outstanding Unit Award is earned by members of an Air Force unit for exceptionally meritorious service or outstanding achievement that clearly sets the unit apart from similar units. A 1972 graduate of Kingston High School, Harper received a bachelor's degree in 1976 from Michigan State University at East Lansing, where he was commissioned through the ROTC program. His wife, Bonnie, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence C. Wallaert, Saginaw.

## 50 YEARS AGO (1970)

Gene D. Wilson, a native of rural Cass City, was selected from among six candidates Friday to fill the post of Cass City Police Chief, it was announced by Lambert Althaver, village president. Wilson will take over May 1 the job that has a starting salary of \$9,000 a year in Cass City. He replaces Carl Palmateer who resigned Jan. 28. Palmateer drew \$9,700 yearly after eight years of service. Wilson is no stranger to Cass City and is known by many Cass Cityans. He graduated from Cass City High School in 1957 and has eight years' experience in law enforcement work. He worked from 1962-1966 for the Tuscola County Sheriff's Department and since 1966 has been with Dow Corning in Midland where he worked in plant protection. He returned to the Sheriff's department for a month during this period. In addition to his experience, he completed 15 hours in law enforcement study at Delta College

and 60 hours at a Saginaw Law Enforcement school. He is married. He and his wife, Donna, have three children.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hartwick and Mr. and Mrs. George Fisher, Sr. enjoyed dinner Friday evening at the Chuck Wagon at Dryden to celebrate the wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Hartwick and the birthdays of Mr. and Mrs. Fisher.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Linderman of Decker announce the engagement of their daughter, Freda A., to Dale F. Daniels, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Daniels of Caro. Miss Linderman is a 1968 graduate of Cass City High School and is presently employed at General Cable in Cass City. Her fiancé is a 1967 graduate of Caro High School and is employed at Faulkner Construction Company in Midland. Wedding plans are indefinite.

## 75 YEARS AGO (1945)

The Sutton Methodist church was the scene of the wedding Saturday, April 7, of Sgt. Shirley E. Beardsley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Beardsley, and 1st Lt. Archibald A. Stephenson, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Archibald A. Stephenson, Sr., of 726 East Court street, Flint. An archway with baskets of mixed spring flowers formed a background for the candlelight service which was witnessed by 150 guests. Rev. J. Charles Dibley of Onaway, a former pastor of the Sutton church, performed the ceremony at 4:30 Saturday afternoon, assisted by Rev. B. F. Littleton. Mrs. Edna Pattison of Caro played the wedding march, and Mrs. Andrew Wright of Caro sang "I Love You Truly" and "O Perfect Love."

Mr. and Mrs. George Seeley received the Purple Heart through the mail Tuesday which had been awarded to their son, Pfc. Raymond Seeley, for wounds received in action. Pfc. Seeley is now in France, according to his letters, after being hospitalized for several months in England recovering from a wound in the shoulder.

Mr. and Mrs. John Guinther have received a letter from their son, S/Sgt. Wm. H. Guinther, who was wounded on Feb. 22 at Iwo Jima. He said he was getting along nicely. S/Sgt. Guinther was hit with a motor shell on the left hand. He has a couple of fingers that are stiff but the doctor says they will be ok. This was the first letter received by the parents from their son in three months.

## 100 YEARS AGO (1920)

Dr. S.A. Bradshaw and Miss Mabel Willerton were united in marriage Wednesday, April 7, in Saginaw by an Episcopalian minister. They returned to Cass City Thursday and are at home to their friends in the Bradshaw residence on Leach Street. About twenty-five of their friends gathered at their home Tuesday evening for a miscellaneous shower. The evening was spent happily and a pot luck supper was served. They received many beautiful and useful gifts.

Miss Bernice Kolb entertained eight of her friends Thursday evening at a birthday party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. G.A. Tindale. The evening was spent in cards and conversing with the ouiga board. A delicious lunch of sandwiches, pickles, fruit salad, assorted cakes and coffee was served. Everyone had a delightful time and left wishing that Miss Kolb might have a birthday twice a year.

T.J. Auten & Son have dissolved partnership in the grocery business, Delbert, the son, has purchased the 80-acre farm of L.L. Wheeler in Novesta Township and will devote his entire time to farming. T.J. Auten will continue the grocery store under his own name.

Miss Jewel Sparling, a former high school teacher here, will teach again at Marlette. The Marlette board has Miss Sparling's contract to continue her work there, her salary for the coming year being \$1,650.



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

\*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.

We plan to reschedule the dinner for a later date.

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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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# Local couple share love of photography

Continued from page one.

“There are so many places I’d love to photograph in Michigan, but I’m physically unable to do so because of all the walking that is involved,” he added. “My favorite subjects are snowy owls; water-fowl, especially ducks that migrate here for a short time; and birds.

“If all goes right with our current coronavirus lockdown situation, I want to go to Tawas State Park in May for the Warbler migration. There are so many different color-

ful types of Warblers that use Tawas Point as a stay over while migrating.”

Paul describes photography as “a very active hobby for me. I’ve been asked by professional photographers to join them in selling my photos in shows, but I really just enjoy taking photos at this point in my life.

I love photography because you can see beautiful, amazing things through the camera lens that the naked eye cannot normally see or define,” he said. “I’m thinking about starting a photographic se-

ries of the sites in and around Cass City.”

Mickie, who has spent most of her life in Cass City and worked at Walbro in town for the past 30 years, recalled her interest in photography was sparked when she sighted a pair of Bald Eagles on Cass City Road, east of the village.

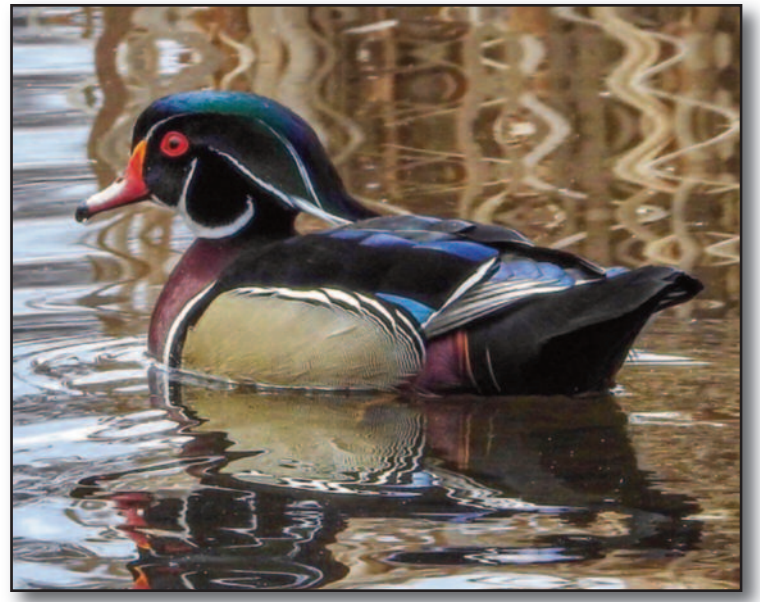
“They remain one of my favorite subjects today. I’ve also developed an interest in landscape photography,” she said. “I’ve found that everything becomes more interesting when it’s in front of my camera.

“I was approached by Kathy Woods Booth with Through Our Lens Michigan, to see if I would like to participate in photo sales,” noted Mickie, who explained the shows feature the work of multiple photographers, along with creators of other “natural” types of art — basket weavers, wood workers, painters and candle makers, for example.

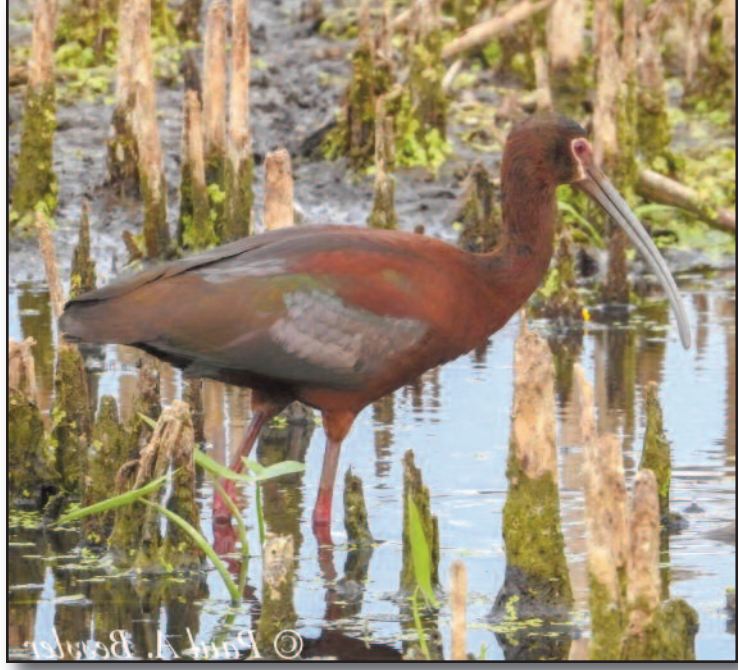
“They offer an open house format, where you can come in anytime and enjoy each vendor. They also have a small concessions area that offers great food for a small charge,” she said, adding the events are held at the Masonic Center in Saginaw. May’s show has been cancelled due to Covid-19 and is now expected to take place in November.

In the meantime, Mickie offers her own work for sale on her Facebook page, Mickie Bessler Photography.

“It’s very rewarding and humbling to know that people appreciate your photos enough to purchase them,” she said.



A DRAKE wood duck swims in a pond at Kensington Metropark in Milford.



A VERY rare sight to see is this white-faced Ibis at Fish Point, according to Bessler, who photographed the bird in 2018, noting the species primarily resides on the West Coast.



MICKIE Bessler also enjoys wildlife photography, capturing this image of a Great Egret at Fish Point.



A PAIR of fox kits peer around the shed near the Shiawassee Wildlife Refuge in Saginaw County.



A SHOT at Chippewa Landing in Caro.



A FEMALE snowy owl prepares for flight from an antenna on the DNR office at Fish Point in Unionville.



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## Cass City Red Hawk softball program robbed of district title defense in 2020

by Clarke Haire  
 Publisher

Cass City Schools waited 16 years between district softball championships, ending the drought after claiming Division 3 honors last year at Elkton-Pigeon-Port Bay Schools.

The 2019 Lady Red Hawks were Abbey Halabis, Kacey Haire, Macey White, Abbey Salcido, Morgan Russell, Brittany Hamilton, Haven Bouverette, Sierra Spry, Hailey Beckrow, Olivia Peters, Tiana Tageson, Dawson Klein, Jalene Krol, Madi Tschirhart, DeeDee Haley, Coach John Hacker, Asst. Coach Ken Martin and Asst. Coach Mark Halabis.

Unfortunately, the Lady Red Hawks will now have to wait an extra year to defend their crown as the pandemic has forced the Michigan High School Athletic Association to cancel spring sports.

A look at the record books in Cass City shows that the Lady Red Hawks have won back-to-back district crowns only once – 1990, 1991 – but twice has captured regional glory.

Although Cass City's graduation losses – Kacey Haire, Brittany Hamilton, Jalene Krol and DeeDee Haley – were plenty entering the spring, Coach Hacker would have had several returnees from his championship squad to build this year's team around.

No doubt, however, the services of Haire, Hamilton and Krol would have been missed in 2020.

Haire, a 3-year varsity starter, was a gold glove performer in center field with a strong arm

and was voted to the Greater Thumb West all-conference first team in her final season. The team leader's offensive numbers included a .961 on-base and slugging percentage with a pair of home runs and 35 runs scored.

Hamilton, also a 3-year letter winner, ended her career with a .452 batting average and 20 RBIs before regional action. She landed on the Greater Thumb West all-conference second team while Krol was a versatile player capable of providing the long ball.

Notwithstanding the graduation toll, Cass City had high hopes in 2020 as returning senior leaders Hailey Beckrow and Abbey Salcido looked to improve on last year's lofty record of 26-8.

Beckrow was a Greater Thumb West all-conference dream team performer as a junior. The Cass City shortstop made good use of her speed on defense and offense and held a team best .512 batting average that included five triples.

Salcido, another dream team performer in 2019, batted for a .459 average and knocked in 24 runs. She was counted on defensively to patrol left field.

"Hailey beat everybody up with her bat and Kacey catches everything hit her way. Abbey is a good decision maker. All the coaches were impressed with those three girls," Hacker said after the all-conference voting a year ago.

Cass City's title defense was also expected to have back Greater Thumb West all-conference players Abbey Halabis, Macey White, Dawson Klein and Madi Tschirhart.

Halabis and White were Greater Thumb West all-conference second team picks in 2019, while Klein and Tschirhart were honorable mention players.

Halabis was honored for her work in the pitcher's circle. Entering regional play last year she had chalked up a team best 14 wins with only three losses and held a 2.411 ERA.

White, the GTW all-conference second team catcher, batted over .470 during the regular season with eight doubles.

Here's a look at some other championship teams from Cass City's past.

### 1993

Perhaps the most decorated team in Cass City Red Hawk history, winning Blue Bay League, district and regional honors. Team members were Marlene Shimer, Jodi LaRoche,

Stacey Klinkman, Becky Britt, Kristy Messing, Jennifer Fruendt, Heather Kelly, Jenny Storm, Denelle DeLong, Darcie Monroe, Karla Zinnecker, Raquel Oliveira, Coach Dave Hoard and Asst. Coach Jim Turner.

Led by hard throwing pitchers Kelly and Fruendt the Red Hawk season ended with an 11-5 loss to Hemlock in quarterfinal action.

### 1976

This Coach Kally Maharg team also captured regional honors before bowing to Kalamazoo Christian, 5-2, just two games short of winning the state championship. Team members included Robbie Leslie, Pat Goslin, Lisa Zimba, Cheri Martin, Kathy Clarke, Mary Fleming, Karen Parker, Gerry

Pittman, Jerry Wariu, Elaine Stoutenburg, Norene MacCallum, Chris Krueger, Colleen Leslie, Laurie Decker, Sarah Wilson, Liz Vargo, Deb McFarland and Kim Downing.

Stoutenburg and Zimba were team leaders.

### 2003

Alissa Pasant, Courtney Green, Paula Fluegge, Becky Hartel, Lindsey Hendrick, Luann Laming, Gail Hartwick, Krystee Borland, Mallory Powell, Kristi Fluegge, Monica Wilcox, Megan Toner, Coach Dave Hoard and Asst. Coach Ken Martin made up this Cass City team that rode the arm of Hartel to a 1-0 victory over USA in the district championship game.

### 1974

This Coach Kally Maharg Cass  
 Please turn to page 8.

**SOFTBALL CHAMPIONS**  
**LEAGUE CHAMPIONS**  
 TB-1974, TB-1975, TB-1977, TB-1980  
 BB-1992, BB-1993,

**DISTRICT CHAMPIONS**  
 1983, 1986, 1990, 1991, 1993  
 2003, 2019

**REGIONAL CHAMPIONS**  
 1976, 1993,

THE SOFTBALL CHAMPIONS sign hanging in the Cass City High School gym shows the years that the Lady Red Hawks' won league, district and regional championships.



CASS CITY'S Abbey Halabis came on strong at the end of last year. She was the winning pitcher in regional semifinal action against Madison Heights Bishop Foley and helped her own cause with a grand slam.

## Cass City Red Hawk ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Say hello to Hailey Beckow, the daughter of Dave and Robin Beckrow. She's Knights Insurance Athlete of the week.

Hailey is a 2-sport standout at Cass City Schools, earning Greater Thumb West all-conference first team honors in both volleyball and softball.

Hailey also was member of the Red Hawk homecoming and snowcoming courts in her senior year.

"Hailey is every coaches dream," said John Hacker, Cass City varsity softball coach.

**HAILEY BECKROW**

Sponsored by:  
**KNIGHTS Insurance Agency** **Auto-Owners INSURANCE**  
 LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS  
 989-872-5114

## Champion softball teams at Cass City Schools over time

Continued from page 7.

City High School's girls softball team ended its most successful year in its three-year history by downing Vassar to tie with Vassar and Frankenmuth for the Thumb B championship.

Among the team leaders were senior pitcher Mary Thane, second baseman Sharon Deering, catcher Karen Martin and outfielders Chris Murphy, Melody Bacon and Karen O'Doll.

1992

Blue Bay League softball champions are the Cass City Red Hawks, who posted an 8-2 mark to defeat second place Lakers, 6-4. Marlette (3-7) was third and Bad Axe lost (1-9). Overall the Hawks were 21-8.

They were Stephanie Leiterman, Jodi Hillaker, Denelle DeLong, Jodi LaRoche, Keri Santos, Christie Perkins, Heather Kelly, Jenny Storm, Melanie Churchill, Jennifer Fruendt, Julie Knowlton, Coach Dave Hoard and Manager Jen Hoard.

LaRoche was a hard out at the plate.

1990

The district championship squad featured Kim Morley, Shelly Melendorf, Jodi Benitez, Jennifer Fruendt, Jandi Hillaker, Mia Garety, Sherrie DeLong, Shannon Sapien, Terri Gibson, Beth Powell, Sue Papp, Vicky Robinson, Heather Kelly, Coach Dave Hoard and Asst. Coach Jim Mastie.

They rode into the regionals on the strong right arm of Beth Powell, and some key hitting and clutch fielding when it counted most.

Playing in the district tournament at Bad Axe, the Hawks swept by Sandusky and Ubyly to earn the right to face Armada in the regional tournament at Lake Fenton. The Hawks will have their hands full as Armada knocked Marlette from the tourney in the districts. The Red Raiders hold a pair of wins over Cass City this season.

"We can win if we hit," Coach Dave Hoard said of the match-up.

1991

Cass City won back-to-back district championships for the first and only time when the squad of Janet Kubacki, Sharie DeLong, Kim Morley, Jodi Benitez, Jennifer Fruendt, Jandi Hillaker, Stephanie Leiterman, Jodi Hillaker, Keri Santos, Julie Knowlton, Melanie Churchill and Mia Garety used miracle finishes to win district honors.

No script writer would dare try to fashion an ending where the winning team comes from 9 and 10 runs behind in successive games to win. Too far-fetched to be believed.

But the truth is sometimes stranger than fiction and the Hawks of 1991 did just that to defend its district softball title under the guidance of Coach Dave Hoard.

1983

First year Coach Jim Fox believed that his Cass City High School softball team would be one of the prime contenders for Thumb B Association honors.

He was right and the champs included Becky Severance, Julie Smith, Sherri Horner, Pam Sawdon, Jeanette Cross, Jill Hutchinson, Jamie Fox, Deanna Hempton, Laura Richards, Lori Calka, Joy Root, Lisa Benitez, Rhonda Fader, Beth Adkins, Coni Tietjens, Jill Root and Deanna Nichols.

The Cass City High School softball team captured the state district trophy on its home diamond by defeating Bad Axe, 9-4, and Unionville-Sebewaing, 12-8.

Hutchinson was a force on the mound for Fox.

1980

With a double victory over Bad Axe, the Cass City High School girls' softball team tied North Branch for a share of the Thumb B Conference crown. The Red Hawks defeated the Hatchets by a score of 7-6 in the first game and 15-3 in the second.

The games played at Bad Axe were the finale of the softball season, one which Coach Dave Hoard termed: "Our best in a long time." The victories give the girls a 12-2 league record and a 21-5 mark overall. In the first contest, the Hawks came alive in the third inning as they scored four of their seven runs. Libby Hartel knocked out a double, followed by a walk to Shelley Lapeer. Both scored on a triple by Shirley Fleming. She then scored on a triple by Vickie Pobanz who came in on an error. Nancy Tonti scored in the first inning after hitting a single and Fleming came in on an error in the second inning after pounding out a two-base hit. The Hawks scored once more in the seventh as Tonti came in on a single by Hartel.

Winning pitcher was Fleming with 12 hits and five strikeouts. Losing pitcher Robin Belew allowed 10 hits and struck out two batters. The second game saw the five-inning mercy rule go into effect with Cass City ahead by 12 runs. The Hawks had hot innings in the second and fifth, scoring five and four runs respectively. They also scored three runs in the first inning, two in the third and one in the fourth. Beth Sieradzki had four runs-batted-in during four trips to the plate. Julie Carpenter and Tammie Root had three RBIs each. Tammie Root was the winning pitcher, having given up six hits and striking out one batter.

1997

Sarah Dore, Janis Mastie, Lindsay Maharg, Lori Brown, Melissa Heinlein, Leah Shagene, Cara Graichen, Katie Anthony, Jodi Hurd, Mandy Deering, Rachel Peters, Shawna Long and Colleen Cartwright won the Thumb C National League title.

That team relied heavily on 2 seniors. Shawna Long was the catcher and a good defensive player and hitter. The same can be said for Katie Anthony who filled in at either the infield or outfield.

## Cass City Village Council PUBLIC NOTICE

### Electronically Held Special Meeting Thursday, April 16, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that there will be a Special Meeting of the Cass City Village Council on Thursday, April 16, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. conducted electronically using Zoom Video Communications. The meeting will be held electronically due to COVID-19 precautions under Governor of Michigan's Executive Orders 2020-15 and 2020-21.

The public is encouraged to participate and may do so by:

- Village of Cass City Website at [www.casscity.org](http://www.casscity.org) Home Page link
- Joining by phone at One tap mobile  
+13126266799,,83452083050#,,#,745595# US (Chicago)  
+16465588656,,83452083050#,,#,745595# US (New York)
- Meeting ID: 834 5208 3050
- Password: 745595
- Joining by computer at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83452083050?pwd=YzJOL3d5cW1OZUprd2tFS3FoZ2pQQT09>

Public comments will be heard during the public comment period at the beginning and end of the meeting by using the "Raise Hand" method.

Participants may use this feature by:

- Dialing \*9 on their phone if joining by phone, -or-
- Click the "Raise Hand" button on the bottom right-hand side of the Zoom screen
- Submitting a written public comment to the Village Clerk, Nanette Walsh, at [cctreasurer@casscity.org](mailto:cctreasurer@casscity.org) by Thursday, April 16, 2020, 12:00 p.m.

Public comments will be limited to 3 (three) minutes. A recording of the meeting will be made available on the Village's website [www.casscity.org](http://www.casscity.org).

This notice is given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended and Governor of Michigan Executive Orders 2020-15 and 2020-21.

Nanette S. Walsh  
Clerk/Treasurer  
Posted: April 13, 2020



TUSCOLA  
Behavioral Health Systems  
A Michigan Community Mental Health System

## COVID – 19 Community Support Phone Line

Starting Monday, April 13, 2020

Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems (TBHS) has set up a **COVID-19 support line** through our main phone number 989.673.6191. This phone line is available Monday through Friday, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm for individuals **not** currently receiving Community Mental Health (CMH) services. The phone line will be available for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis or until such a time where it becomes unnecessary. **This phone line is staffed by mental health professionals and can support people:**

- Who are struggling with feelings of isolation and loneliness
- Who are dealing with panic or anxiety over the possibility of getting sick, financial struggle, resource scarcity, or caregiving
- Who are first responders, essential employees, medical professionals on the front lines of the Coronavirus situation and struggling with burnout, anxiety, depression and feeling overwhelmed
- Who are sick at home, or caring for a sick family member and dealing with fear, anxiety, depression and feeling overwhelmed
- Anyone who could use someone to talk to during this difficult time.
- If the mental health professional determines that the issue is more severe than the COVID-19 Support Line can manage- they will refer individuals to appropriate resources.

If you leave a message and get a call back from the COVID-19 Support Line- it may come through as a blocked caller – phone contact may state private number.

**Anyone in Tuscola County can utilize the COVID-19 Support Line, you do not need to be using CMH services, or have a mental health diagnosis of any kind – it is for the general public.** The Support Line should not be used for crisis calls. If you or a loved one is in crisis please call TBHS and request Emergency Services. The COVID-19 Support Line is not meant to take the place of therapy/counseling or to treat or diagnosis any physical or mental health condition. It is a support resource for anyone in the community who could use a listening ear during this national emergency. **Those wishing to contact the COVID-19 Support Line should call 989.673.6191 and ask for the COVID-19 Support Line.**

While TBHS is not available to conduct any community trainings, speaking engagements or events during this time, our focus continues to be on supporting our community and sharing vital information via several different outlets:

TBHS Facebook page - updates and information related to caring for your mental health during times of crisis, healthy activities to engage in from home, information for families, links to other support service/resources, etc.

[www.tbhsonline.com](http://www.tbhsonline.com) - Comprehensive information about all TBHS programs and services, up-to-date information on hours of operation and locations, a resource page with links to COVID-19 information and resources



# Love conquers all for couple

by Mary Drier  
For the Chronicle

Love really can conquer all. A Thumb couple has taken their wedding vows another step beyond the traditional love, honor, obey, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, etc., by maintaining a special closeness in spite of the strict social distancing requirements brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dale and Ilene Johnson are separated because she is a resident at the Huron County Medical Care Facility in Bad Axe, and he is not. Before the lockdown of the facility in mid-March, Johnson visited his wife nearly every day for several hours at a time.

Now, their visits are limited to virtual meetings on the Internet, using FaceTime on iPads.

"We had three iPads we use for a variety of activities before this," said Huron Medical Care Facility's Activity Director Lori Kovowski. "We use them now for FaceTime and Skype visits with family."

Although the Johnsons FaceTime a couple of times a week, Johnson wanted to do more to show his wife how much he cares.

To do that, he stood outside the medical care center at 116 S. Van Dyke Rd., Bad Axe, with signs. One of the signs featured black letters on a white board that spelled out "I love you" for his wife, and another offered a written "thank you" to the medical care staff.

"What he did was very heartfelt and very emotional for his wife," said Kovowski. "My reaction was the same when I saw it as it was for the others; that is real love."

Using iPads to talk face-to-face was not enough for Johnson.

"They (iPads) are used on a rotating schedule. We reached out to all of the families to see if they were interested in doing FaceTime with the ones who are here. We had about 25 sign up to do that," said Kovowski.

Huron County Medical Care Facility set up the electronic communication system so family members can connect. Area residents wishing to contact loved ones living at the facility via FaceTime are asked to contact Lori Kovowski at lkowolski@hcmcf.org or call (989) 269-6425 (ext. 120).

The Bad Axe facility isn't the only medical center doing electronic "virtual visits" for their residents.

The Tuscola County Medical Care Community (TCMCC) in Caro has set up internet visits as well.

"We established virtual visits with the use of Facebook Messenger and Skype for our residents

and loved ones," said TCMCC Director and CEO Brenda Kretzschmer, who added families can take advantage of the program by calling (989) 673-4117 and ask to speak to someone in the TCMCC

Life Enrichment Department. From there, they will have a brief conversation to get the person signed up for a planned virtual visit with their loved one, Kretzschmer explained.



**THERE ARE times when spoken words are just not enough to express what you feel, which prompted Dale Johnson to create a sign emphasizing his devotion to his wife, Ilene.**



**ILENE JOHNSON looks out of a window of the Huron County Medical Care Facility in Bad Axe, where she resides, to see her husband, Dale, holding a sign for her.**



**ASIDE FROM making a sign for his wife, Dale Johnson created this message thanking the staff of the Huron Medical Care Facility for all they do.**

## Village picked for fellowship

Continued from page one.

distance. But there are a number of other requirements, including creating an economic development strategy and a marketing plan.

She noted the fellow chosen for Cass City could be assigned to assist with a number of possible projects, including working with the local downtown development authority to establish a community information kiosk and streetscape program, working with downtown property owners to consider transforming second-floor space into housing, organizing special events, and applying for grants.

"(This) is a 13-month program, and it is scheduled to start June 1, as of now," Powell said, noting the fellow selected to serve Cass City could work remotely initially, depending on the status of the state's "stay at home" order.

CEDAM officials are currently seeking candidates to fill fellowship positions.

"Last year's fellows made a significant impact on their communities, and we are excited for ten new communities, all of whom are engaged in the Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC) program, to benefit from the fellowship," said Sarah Teater, program manager at CEDAM.

"The selected hosts have identified ambitious and impactful projects that will make a difference in their communities. We are excited to recruit fellows to match their needs and increase capacity to get things done."

More information on how to apply to be a community development fellow is available on the website [cedamichigan.org/fellowship](http://cedamichigan.org/fellowship).

# CHURCH DIRECTORY



Visitors always welcome...  
Please join us today!

### Anchor Cove Church

Find Hope. Find Love. Find Purpose.

201 E. Sanilac Rd., Caro, MI 48723 • 989-672-2262  
Sunday Service: 10:00 a.m.  
[www.anchorcoveoutreachchurch.com](http://www.anchorcoveoutreachchurch.com)



### Cass City Missionary Church

4449 Koeptgen 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](http://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](http://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](http://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.fbccc.us](http://www.fbccc.us)



### First Presbyterian Church

Barrier Free • State & National Historical Registry

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



### Fraser Presbyterian Church

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



### Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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



### Living Word Worship Center Church of God

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



### Mizpah Missionary Church

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



### Novesta Church of Christ

"the friendly church that cares"

2896 Cemetery Rd., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-3658  
• Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
• 1st Worship Service 9:00 a.m. • 2nd Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Senior Minister: Brad Speirs  
Associate Minister: Austin Keller at Uby & Student Minister: Don Mecomber  
Visit our website at: [www.novestachurch.org](http://www.novestachurch.org)



### Our Lady Consolata Catholic Church

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



### Potter's House Christian Fellowship

Pentecostal • 6455 Sixth St., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-5186  
• We enjoy singing from the Hymnals and Spiritual Preaching From The Word of God  
• Find us on Facebook:  
Potter's House Church of Cass City  
• Sunday: 11:00 a.m.

## Ambulance

Continued from page one.

new service will be able to utilize the Uby base.

A deal for medical services was sought because in November 2019, the Bingham Township Board sent out notices stating it was shutting down the ambulance service in Uby that has operated since 1979.

The reasons given for going out of business included a lack of adequate medical personnel to man the service 24/7, and the cost of continuing to operate the service locally.

The original plan was for the Uby-based ambulance service to close at the end of January, but the date was extended to March 31 to allow Uby and Central Huron officials to try to work out a deal.

During negotiations between the two agencies, some townships previously served by Bingham Ambulance worked out other deals for medical coverage on their own.

The Minden Township Board of Trustees approved going with Sanilac EMS and Sanilac Medical Control to provide emergency medical services to their township, for example. EMS is part of McKenzie Health System, which has bases in Sandusky, Deckerville and Carsonville.

The Austin Township Board of Trustees, meanwhile, also opted to go with the Sanilac EMS for medical needs and is contracting with the Argyle Fire Department for Medical First Responder services and fire protection.

# Legal Notices

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 AM on APRIL 23, 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 John H. Berlin a single man and Kathy Maize a single woman, joint tenants with full rights of survivorship, to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., Mortgagee, dated September 20, 2006 and recorded September 27, 2006 in Liber 1097, Page 54 Tuscola County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Citibank, N.A., as trustee for CMLTI Asset Trust, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty-Eight and 9/100 Dollars (\$75,758.09), including interest at 2.125% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue at the place of holding the circuit court within Tuscola County, Michigan at 10:00 AM on APRIL 23, 2020.

Said premises are located in the Township of Vassar, Tuscola County Michigan, and are described as:

Commencing at a point 20 rods North of the Northwest corner of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 25, Township 11 North, Range 8 East, thence East 330 feet; thence South 280.50 feet; thence West 330 feet; thence North 280.50 feet to the point of beginning.

6851 Sheridan Road, Vassar, Michigan 48768 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in

which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.

Dated: March 25, 2020  
File No. 20-002618  
Firm Name: Orleans PC  
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084  
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400

3-25-4

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 May 21, 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): John H. Berlin, a single man Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. Date of mortgage: October 24, 2001 Recorded on January 4, 2002, Liber 854, on Page 663, and modified on September 1, 2011, recorded November 14, 2011, in Liber 1234, on Page 1250, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: Forty-Nine Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-Nine and 36/100 Dollars (\$49,689.36) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Tuscola County, and described as: Commencing at a point 20 rods North of the Northwest corner of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 25, Town 11 North, Range 8 East; thence East 330 feet; thence South 280.50 feet; thence West 330 feet; thence North 280.50 feet to the point of beginning. Commonly known as 6851 Sheridan Road, Vassar, MI 48768 The redemption period will be one year 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. NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing Mortgagee / Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400

1413962

3-25-4

## 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 May 21, 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 INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Eric Albrecht, a single man, whose address is 6709 Vassar Road, Vassar, Michigan 48768, as original Mortgagee, to CSMC Inc., DBA Central States Mortgage, being a mortgage dated July 27, 2007, and recorded on August 15, 2007 in Liber 1127 Page 806, Tuscola County Records, State of Michigan. Said Mortgage is now held through mesne assignments by

CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC, as assignee as documented dated March 28,

2019 and recorded on April 8, 2019 in Liber 01419 Page 00939, Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of SIXTY-THREE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED FORTY-THREE AND 77/100 (\$63,443.77).

Said premises are situated in the Township of Vassar, County of Tuscola, State of Michigan, and are described as: PART OF THE SOUTH 20 ACRES OF THE SOUTHWEST FRACTIONAL 1/4 OF THE NORTHWEST FRACTIONAL 1/4 OF SECTION 30, TOWN 11 NORTH, RANGE 8 EAST, DESCRIBED AS: BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE WEST LINE OF SAID FRACTIONAL SECTION 30 WHICH IS NORTH, 229.90 FEET FROM THE WEST 1/4 CORNER OF SAID SECTION 30; THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID WEST LINE NORTH 165.00 FEET TO THE NORTH LINE OF THE SOUTH 20

ACRES; THENCE ALONG SAID NORTH LINE OF SAID SOUTH 20 ACRES, NORTH 88 DEGREES 35 MINUTES 20 SECONDS EAST, 264.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 165.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 88 DEGREES 35 MINUTES 20 SECONDS WEST, 264.00 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING.

Street Address: 6709 Vassar Road, Vassar, Michigan 48768 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT

COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN 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. Dated: April 15, 2020 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing:

Kenneth J. Johnson, Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC, 5955 West Main Street, Suite 18, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Telephone: (312) 541-9710. File No.: MI 20 4079

4-15-4

## PUBLIC NOTICE

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**Help Wanted**

**Apply Now!**

**Community Development Fellowship Available**

Community Economic Development Association of Michigan (CEDAM) is seeking a fellow for **Cass City** to implement community economic development projects, increase community engagement, and advance goals related to participation in the Michigan Economic Development Corporation's (MEDC) Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC) Program.

**The fellow position is a full-time, contractual position for a 15-month term starting June 2020.**

**Scope of Work**  
The fellowship includes training and professional development on topics such as:  
- Community economic development 101  
- Redevelopment Ready Communities (RRC) best practices  
- Working with boards and commissions  
- Managing conflict and meeting facilitation

**Fellows will also participate in statewide networking:**  
- Representing CEDAM and the MEDC at statewide conferences  
- Attending five professional development days in Lansing  
- Attending two statewide conferences

**Fellows will complete projects that may include:**  
- Evaluating and updating the Development Review policy  
- Assessing public and private land for viability as housing or Redevelopment Ready sites  
- Creating a marketing plan  
- Drafting an Economic Development strategy

**Partnership building**  
- Initiate and/or strengthen partnerships with community stakeholders  
- Convene stakeholders to support project implementation, discuss progress, and identify possible areas of growth

**Communications**  
- Develop a relationship with local news media (print, digital, radio)  
- Formulate a local communications and media strategy to share about project progress  
- Create content for social media and a CEDAM blog post to share project highlights

**Research and Reporting**  
- Research best practices across the country to implement locally  
- Create monthly, mid-year, and final reports detailing progress and accomplishments

**Qualifications**  
The appropriate candidate will have a strong interest and background in coalition building and/or community organizing, planning, community economic development, and communications or a combination of such interests. The appropriate candidate must possess strong verbal and written communication skills, excellent attention to detail, the ability to work within a team or as an individual and be familiar with the Microsoft Office suite and Google Applications.

**Compensation**  
This is a contractual position with a stipend of \$62,500, for the full scope ending after fifteen months. The contract requires monthly check-ins and reporting to monitor progress. This position requires statewide travel with fellows providing their own means of travel. Fellows will also be required to provide their own computer and software, internet, telephone, and any other technology required to complete the job. Contractors are responsible for their own payment of income taxes, as well as carrying business insurance.

**To Apply:**  
Please send a resume, a cover letter describing how your experience directly relates to the list of desired qualifications above, and contact information for three professional references to [madeleine@cedamichigan.org](mailto:madeleine@cedamichigan.org) by the end of day on Monday, April 27. Please designate "Cass City" as the Fellowship Program for which you are applying.

CEDAM does not and shall not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment with respect to her or his hire, tenure, terms, conditions, privileges of employment, or any matter directly or indirectly related to employment because of her or his race, religion, color, national origin, age, gender, height, weight, marital status, or physical or mental disability unrelated to the individual's ability to perform the duties of a particular job or position.

About CEDAM  
CEDAM is a nonprofit trade association serving the community economic development industry in Michigan. Our members are nonprofit affordable housing developers, Main Street. Organizations, community development organizations, community foundations, and municipalities, as well as other organizations working to ensure their communities are financially empowered, equitable, and vibrant. We host conferences and training events, manage programs, and offer funding and capacity building opportunities. CEDAM is also involved in advocacy at the state and federal level, working on consumer financial protections and community economic development issues.

CEDAM celebrates diversity of all kinds and is committed to providing a welcoming and non-discriminating environment for all who seek to work with us. Candidates can find additional information at [cedamichigan.org/about/careers](http://cedamichigan.org/about/careers).

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8-12-19-tf

# Teaching youngsters is a family tradition for educator Kemp

by Mary Drier  
For the Chronicle

Lori Kemp always knew what her career path would be when she was growing up.

"I always wanted to be a teacher. I've always enjoyed working with and helping kids," said Kemp, who has been an elementary teacher at the Unionville-Sebewaing Area School District for the last 10 years.

Kemp comes from a long line of teachers. She is the third generation of her family to be a teacher, and she has followed nearly the same path other family members did before her.

"My grandmother, Alison Brown, was a teacher. She taught at a lot of country schools in Tuscola County and she also taught at the Evergreen School," explained Kemp. "My mother, Judy Brown, was a teacher as well as several other family members.



Alison Brown



Judy Brown

"And, my paternal grandmother and all my aunts — both paternal and maternal — but one were teachers. Teaching really ran in our family."

Mother and daughter closely followed the same path.

"My mother taught at Lakers School and she taught at Cass City Schools as well," Kemp noted.

Before taking a position with USA, Kemp taught at Cass City Schools as well.

"I was at Cass City for eight years teaching elementary. I en-

joyed it there. I wasn't looking to leave Cass City, but an opening came up at USA," she said. "I live in Sebewaing and my kids go to school here. Switching to work here was more convenient, especially as my kids got older and got into activities."

For her undergraduate degree, she went to Hope College in Holland, Mich., and she earned her master's degree at Marygrove College in Detroit.

"I am passionate about helping kids learn and make new discoveries, and fun memories," Kemp said.

That is why her main focus has always been on elementary education. She has taught first-, second- and third-grade students. Currently, she is teaching first grade students at USA.

"I chose the elementary school level because I wanted to work with kids when they were first learning and excited about it. I love seeing their excitement, and I want kids to love coming to school," Kemp said. "It's fun to watch them get excited when they master learning something."

"I love it because every day is different in helping them reach goals — academically, emotionally and socially."

Aside from structured in-classroom learning, Kemp coordinates other programs to keep her students engaged. She heads up the school district's annual salute to veterans, for example.

"It is our pleasure to do the veteran assembly each year to educate our students and to honor our veterans," she said.

Also, Kemp and fellow teacher Stacy Queback, coordinate a garden project at the elementary school that has grown bigger each year.

Her first grade students plant a vegetable garden in the spring, and over the summer, the students and their parents help water, weed and tend the garden.

By the time the vegetables are ready to harvest in the fall, there is a new crop of first grade students to pitch in and get involved.

They take the produce and process it into salsa, which is shared with second grade students who had planted the garden the year before as first graders," Kemp said. "It is fun to watch how excited they are about doing that."

"I love my job working with the kids and a great group of co-workers."

Kemp and her husband, John, have four daughters. She pointed out her name sometimes causes confusion — her mother-in-law, who has the same name, serves on the district's board of education.



**LORI KEMP is a first-grade teacher in the Unionville-Sebewaing Area School District. Besides teaching first grade, she has taught second- and third-grade students, ages she enjoys working with because they are excited about learning.**

## Five identified in mailbox smash spree

Continued from page one.

posing them to the virus, in order to replace mail boxes they especially depend on during the statewide stay-at-home order.

"Citizens who were supposed to be staying home had to go to stores to buy new mailboxes so they could continue to function in their households," he said. "One of the victims I spoke with had to go to two different stores because one of them didn't have what he needed."

Reene and Tuscola County Sheriff Glen Skrent again issued a plea for residents to follow the state's current guidelines regarding efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19.

"It is time for everyone to understand that each time you go into public and interact with others you are assuming a tremendous risk of contracting this insidious disease. There is only one way to stay safe and that is to stay home," Reene said.

"Many, of course, do not have the option of staying home," he added. "All of those who risk their lives on a daily basis are continuing to do so. Our ambulance, fire, law enforcement and all other first responders continue their tremendous but too often overlooked work."

"Medical care providers at all stages of the health care system are risking their lives to tend to those who are unable to care for themselves. Employees in gas stations, grocery stores, hardwares, pharmacies, take out restaurants and countless others are working so we can continue to live our lives in these most trying of times."

Reene suggested all of those workers deserve a "thank you", as do Ann Hepfer, health officer for the Tuscola and Huron county health departments, and Emergency Services Coordinator Deputy Steve Anderson of the Tuscola County Sheriff's Office "for their extraordinary and tire-

less work throughout this crisis."

Reene and Skrent also reminded all area residents to do their part by continuing to practice frequent hand washing and social distancing; when going to the store for essential items, have only one family member go if possible; wear a facemask or covering of some type when in public; and assume everyone you are encountering in public is COVID-19 positive.

"Take a moment to stop and think about the sacrifices so many are making to help us weather this storm. Be part of the solution rather than part of the problem," Reene said. "To-date, at least 21 officers across the country and many health care workers have died from COVID-19 trying to keep us safe. Honor their memory and loss by following the executive order."

"Every decision you make and every action you take impacts others with potentially catastrophic consequences."



## WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

Important COVID-19 Update:  
In light of Governor Whitmer's Executive Order our Visitor Restrictions have been changed effective immediately.

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

### Call us anytime at 989-872-2121!





**ASIDE FROM classroom work, Lori Kemp has her first-grade students plant a garden each spring. Then, in the fall, the new first graders harvest the produce for salsa and share it with second grade students.**