



Teen injured in one-vehicle crash

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Even before pandemic, Thumb families struggled

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CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

VOLUME 114, NUMBER 10

CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2020

.75 CENTS - 10 PAGES

Virus hits facilities in Cass City, Harbor Beach

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Thumb health department officials say that while the growth of COVID-19 case numbers appear to be slowing statewide, they have seen outbreaks of new cases at

healthcare facilities in Huron and Tuscola counties, including a nursing home in Cass City.

"The numbers across the state do appear to be leveling, but locally this is not the case," Ann Hepfer, health officer of the Tuscola and Huron county health departments,

said over the weekend. "We have two areas where outbreaks have occurred in the past week – Harbor Beach Hospital...and Medilodge in Cass City."

Hepfer reported 18 positive cases and two deaths at Medilodge. The good news, she said, is there had

been no new positive cases in a couple of days. "That is a good sign. They are really working in containing this infection," she added.

At Harbor Beach Hospital, 14 cases have been confirmed, according to Hepfer, who emphasized the outbreak is not associated with the hospital's long-term care facility. "They have taken additional precautions to contain the infection," she said.

At Hills and Dales General Hospital in Cass City, meanwhile, President and CEO Jean Anthony announced Friday that

surgeries/procedures "determined medically necessary by a licensed medical provider to preserve patients' health and wellbeing," would resume this week Monday.

"We are comfortable with our current personal protective equipment (PPE) supply and confident that we will be able to maintain that supply if a time came that we had increased need," Anthony said.

"Procedures or visits that may not have been time sensitive over the last several weeks may be now. We are ready to slowly reen- Please turn to page 2.



ELKLAND TOWNSHIP fire fighters showed their appreciation of the nurses serving the Cass City community last week, staging a parade that included stops at Hills and Dales General Hospital and Northwood Meadows by delivering a truckload of beverages and snacks to the staff in recognition of National Nurses Day and Nurses Week.

Sanilac health officials now offer virus testing

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Sanilac County Health Department officials last week announced drive-through COVID-19 testing is now available to county residents who are eligible.

Weekly clinics are scheduled for Tuesdays and Thursday from 9 to 11 a.m. in the parking lot at the health department, located at 171 Dawson St. in Sandusky.

Residents interested in being tested must first schedule an appointment by calling (810) 206-0682.

A doctor's order is not required in order to be tested for COVID-19. However, patients must meet certain criteria. They include:

*Those experiencing a cough, shortness of breath and/or difficulty breathing, or at least two of the following symptoms: fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat and a new loss of taste or smell.

Please turn to page 4.

Commissioners okay funding for delivered meals in Tuscola Co.

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

The state's stay-at-home executive order has more people eating at home, and that includes seniors citizens.

In fact, the number of seniors who are now using the Tuscola County Human Development Commission's (HDC) Meals on Wheels service has increased so much, the allotted funding that supports the program has been depleted.

In an effort to meet the increased demand for home-delivered meals, HDC Deputy Director Brian Neuville recently asked Tuscola County Commissioners for \$34,991 more in funding.

The agency expects to spend \$60,621 to prepare 21,806 meals over the next few months at a cost per meal of \$2.78, Neuville explained.

The agency's budgeted amount for the service this year was \$25,630, which normally meets the need for meals. However, the demand has grown due, in part, to the closure of HDC's congregate meal sites – also as a result of the shelter-in-place and social distancing directives. The congregate meal sites offered area residents a place to share a meal and

Please turn to page 10.

Tuscola and Huron fairs now canceled

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

A Tuscola County tradition dating back nearly 140 years won't be returning this summer at the fairgrounds in Caro.

Tuscola County Fair Board officials announced Monday that they have made the decision to cancel the 139th annual fair, joining their counterparts in Huron County, where that county's community fair board made the same difficult decision over the weekend based on concerns stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Neil Jackson, president of the Tuscola County Fair, issued a statement Monday, saying the local board regretfully voted to cancel the 2020 fair during a virtual meeting Thursday.

"The safety and health of the entire community, volunteers, guests, exhibitors and merchants was our top priority in making this decision," Jackson said. "(It) was not taken lightly. Our longstanding tradition of bringing the community a fair that is packed with 4-H animals, crafts and projects, exhibitors, vendors, carnival rides, grandstand entertainment and more is something that we wish to be able to continue for years to come.

"With the economic impact the current health crisis has had not only in our county, but the entire Michigan and the entire United States,

Please turn to page 10.



BIRTHDAY BOY – Emerson Kennedy, a World War II veteran who still resides in the home where he was born in Sanilac County's Evergreen Township, enjoys the parade of family members, friends and neighbors passing by his home along M-53 in honor of his 94th birthday last week.



Family, friends throw vet Emerson Kennedy a 94th birthday parade

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Social distancing has put a crimp on everything from graduation open houses to family reunions these days, but Emerson Kennedy's family and friends weren't about to let the Cass City area man's 94th birthday pass without a special celebration.

So, Kennedy's daughter, Luann de la Sotta, organized a car parade in her father's honor, with

family members, friends, neighbors and fellow members of VFW Post 3644, Cass City, staging at Sanilac County's Evergreen Park on M-53 and then forming a parade consisting of more than 30 vehicles that passed by Kennedy's home across the road.

"I was very pleased with the parade. My father could not believe that so many people came out for him," de la Sotta commented. "Relatives and friends drove from Lansing, Saginaw, Flint Please turn to page 6.

Cass City Elementary announces 3rd Marking Period honor roll

4th Grade
Shelby Bemus
Tyler Budreau
Jenna Bartnik
Chevy Brinkman
Aiden Brinkman*
Cadence Burley
Emma Daul*
Corbin Dewey*
Preston Dorland
Keegan Elston
Lillyan Fritz
Chloe Graves
Macy Haag*
Ava Hess
Skylar Ignash*
Ronan Johnson
Isabelle Kappen*
Brystal Klinkman
Sequoia Kurtansky
Gage Mallory*
DeShawn Moore*
Deighan Moyer
Jack Muska
Bria Pallas*
Tyler Pergande
Molly Poole
Marshall Posluszny*
Tyler Reinke*
Alaina Reynero
Abby Romstad*
Jeremiah Rutkoski
Dakota Schank
Keyton Simmons
Averi Stanko
Blake Sweeney
Jaidyn Van Vliet
Landen Whetstone*

5th Grade
Jack Betts*
Zoey Burnette
Conor Currier*
Anthony Curtis
Marissa Dorland
Corbin Forster
Michael Gaul
Evelyn Gniewek*
Kirsten Guc*
Tyler Healy
Chandler Hendrick*
Leeann Hill
Elyse Hoppe*
Lilly Jaworski*
Carley Kester
Elizabeth Kohai*
Braxton Kolacz
Kadyn Kruse
Lindsey Langenburg*
Lillianne Little
Blake Mackowiak
Haylee Mahoney
Sophia Mathewson
Shayler McIntyre*
Justin Murdoch
Aleksander Nika
Rylyn Pringle*
Ryan Robinson
Grace Rockwell
Lluvia Sanchez-Esqueda
Brody Schefka
Kenna Sigmund
Ethan Speirs*
Ella Steadman
Kayla Stout
Taleisha Tageson
Alexis Tamlyn*

Melody Tillery
Aby Wright

6th Grade
Rylee Bliss*
Lauren Bartnik
Evan Bogart
Carla Cortes*
Sebastian Esqueda-Alba
Gavin Franzel
Addison Frederick
Brady Halabis
Owen Hall
Laurn Hempton
Madelyn Hicks
Kilee Hopper*
Ashley Jones*
Kaleigh Kubacki
Madison Kulinski
Ali Learman*
Rylie Ligrow*
Haven Osentoski
Brynn Pallas*
Destiny Periso
Kylie Perkins*
Kaylee Peters
Jeevesh Prabakaran
Trenton Roberts
Sawyer Ross
Eloisa Ross*
Zachery Schram
Nickole Shimer
Zoe Speirs
Alivia Spencer
Griffin Weiler
Makaylah Westendorf

*Denotes all A's

Novesta board approves zoning for proposed gym

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

The Novesta Township Board recently approved a rezoning request and made some changes to procedures.

According to Trustee Jesse Robinson, Rocky and Kathy Bouverette purchased land in the township that they would like to have rezoned from residential to commercial.

Although the township sent the necessary paperwork to Tuscola County officials, there has not been a response.

The designated parcel is in the township's master plan as well as in a future land-use map as being a possible commercial use site, explained Robinson. As a result, the township board went ahead and approved the zoning request.

Robinson said the Bouverettes want to build a gymnastic center on vacant land on the east side of Cemetery Road, north of Koch Road and south of River Road.

"She operates the gymnastic center in Cass City, and they have outgrown it. They want to build a facility that can accommodate more kids in the area," he added. "We have some very preliminary site plan details. More information will be submitted when they go for their zoning application, which is the next step. We just approved the rezoning to allow them to move forward."

Turning to financial matters, the board discussed the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the township's budget, including possible cuts in revenue sharing, and ways to trim expenses.

The expense related to the township's annual road brining program was among the items reviewed by the board, which decided to proceed with one brine application totaling 4,000 gallons of brine per mile at a cost of \$11,502, with a cushion of \$1,300 for a total cost of \$12,802.

In other money matters, they approved paying TDM Construction \$1,500 to finish the sidewalk from the side door at the new township hall.

In other business, the board:

*Adopted a policy continuing a practice of allowing the township clerk and treasurer to pay bills in the absence of a regular board meeting.

*Noted a planned collection of unwanted tires has been postponed until July 18 due to the state's extended "stay home, stay safe" executive order.

Virus hits facilities in Cass City, Harbor Beach

Continued from page one.

gauge patients in need of medical services that may have been delayed as a result of this pandemic."

Elective surgeries and most in-office visits were suspended in mid-March with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and to comply with Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's executive orders. Since then, Hills and Dales has performed treatments and surgeries only for emergent conditions, and turned to telemedicine visits for a majority of office calls.

"As we begin to reengage our patients, please know that the safety of our patients and staff continues to be our number one priority and we will continue to take extra precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19," Anthony said.

Patients can expect some additional steps to ensure everyone's safety, including the following:

*Screening over the phone prior to their visit and on the day of their visit for COVID-19 symptoms.

*Wearing a mask during their visit. If the patient does not have a mask, one will be provided.

*Staff will continue to be screened for COVID-19 symptoms prior to the start of their workday.

*The number of patients scheduled for in-office visits and surgeries will be limited each day to allow for social distancing, so visits may take longer than normal.

*Visitor restrictions remain in place at this time, so patients should not bring a guest with them unless they are accompanying a minor, are a legal guardian, or are exercising power of attorney.

"We cannot stress enough how important it is for patients who are experiencing signs or symptoms of possible life-threatening emergencies or conditions to not delay seeking treatment. We are taking all of the necessary precautions to ensure the safety of all patients and staff at our facilities," Anthony pointed out.

Hills and Dales General staff will be contacting patients by phone, and the most emergent cases will be scheduled first.

"We will also continue to utilize available technology, such as telemedicine, in lieu of in-person office visits where our providers deem it appropriate to do so," she added.

Order extended

Whitmer on Thursday signed an executive order extending the state's "stay home, stay safe" directive to May 28 while also allowing manufacturing workers to resume work early this week as part of her MI Safe Start Plan.

Under the latest executive order, manufacturing facilities must adopt measures to protect their workers from the spread of

COVID-19. That includes conducting a daily entry screening protocol for workers and everyone else entering the facility, including a questionnaire covering symptoms and exposure to people with possible COVID-19, together with a temperature screening as soon as no-touch thermometers can be obtained.

They must also create dedicated entry points at every facility, and suspend entry of all non-essential in-person visits, including tours.

Manufacturing facilities must also train workers on, among other things, how COVID-19 is transmitted from person to person, signs and symptoms of COVID-19, steps workers must take to notify the business or operation of signs and symptoms of COVID-19 or suspected or confirmed diagnosis, and the use of personal protective equipment.

All businesses in the state — including manufacturers — must require masks to be worn when workers cannot consistently maintain six feet of separation from others, and consider face shields for those who cannot consistently maintain three feet of separation from other workers.

The governor's "stay home, stay safe" states residents must not leave their homes except to run critical errands, to engage in safe outdoor activities, or to go to specified jobs.

Latest numbers

Between Monday, May 4, and

Monday May 11, the number of combined confirmed cases in Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac counties increased from 173 to 213, with the three counties' combined death toll rising from 20 to 23 victims.

As of Monday afternoon, Tuscola County had recorded 139 confirmed cases and 17 deaths, Huron County had recorded 36 cases and one death, and Sanilac County, 38 cases and five deaths.

Tuscola County Health Department officials updated their new COVID-19 dashboard Friday, detailing the number of cases reported in the county as well as a breakdown of those cases by zip code.

According to the data, Tuscola County had recorded 124 cases and 16 fatalities as of Friday. The totals represented an increase of 21 new cases and two additional deaths compared to the week before.

Of the 103 confirmed cases, 38 were reported in the Caro zip code (an increase of two), followed by 24 in the Vassar area (up from 23) and 19 in Millington (an increase of three cases). Officials reported 18 cases in the Cass City zip code (up from nine), with five in the Deford area (an increase of one) and one in the Kingston area. No cases have been reported in the Gagetown zip code.

Statewide, Monday's total of confirmed cases reached 47,552, with a total of 4,584 deaths, compared to 43,950 cases and 4,135 deaths a week earlier.

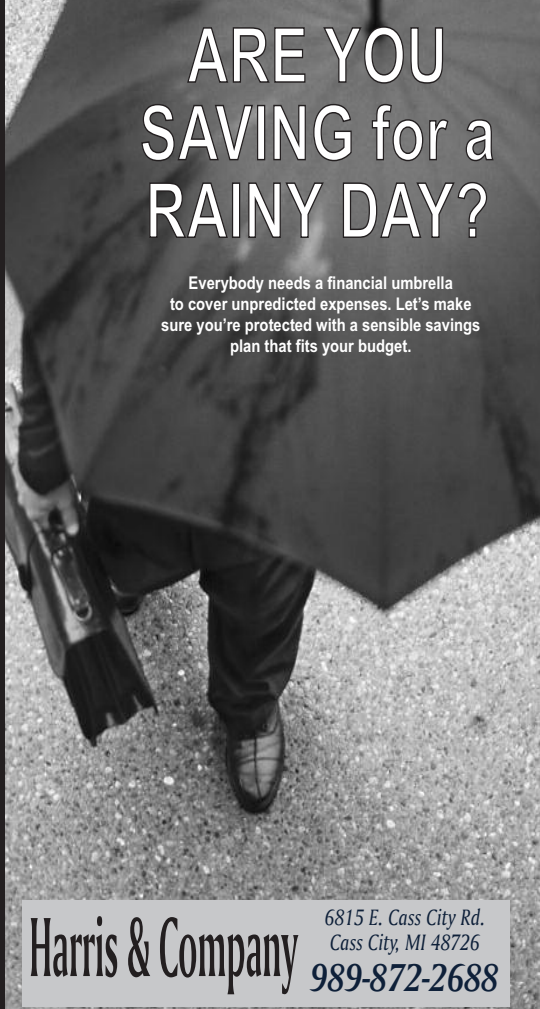
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**In Our
OPINION...**

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

Some orders should remain law in state

by **Jarrett Skorup,**
*director of marketing and communications
The Mackinac Center for Public Policy*

The COVID-19 pandemic has required a massive response from state and federal governments, including closing schools, shutting down many parts of the economy, implementing multiple massive spending programs and issuing executive orders pushing through immediate policy changes.

This is an emergency and, by law and for good policy reasons, most of what has been done is short-term — we can't shut down our schools forever and the state and country cannot afford continued massive stimulus programs.

But there are also many changes that have been put into place to solve a short-term problem that will benefit Michigan in the long term if they are put into law for good.

The adequacy of the response in Michigan — whether enough was done or too much — is, of course, up for debate. But many policy changes put into place drew immediate bipartisan praise.

They include:

**Certificate of Need: The law, which prevents the expansion of health care facilities and services, was rolled back to deal with the expected surge in patients. It would be ludicrous to require, say, a grocery store or book seller to get permission from its competitors on a state board in order to open or expand. But that's exactly what Michigan requires of medical providers. This regulation means fewer hospital beds, fewer cancer procedures and higher costs for everything.*

**Scope of practice: State law lays out what different occupations are allowed to do, which helps define licensed professions. But for many professions, the legally allowed scope is much too narrow, such as the case for Michigan nurses. Anticipating a need for flexibility, the governor temporarily suspended some of the rules limiting how nurses do their work. When it comes to advanced practice nurses, Michigan limits them more than any other state. The result: fewer medical professionals in the places we most need them.*

**Occupational licensing rules: Most of the nearly 200 occupational licenses created under Michigan law require training or educational hours, exams, continuing education and fees. For some jobs, the requirements were suspended during COVID. So, for example, some medical students were able to graduate early, skip testing and get right to work. In some cases, occupational regulations make sense. But we don't really know how often because nobody regularly reviews, updates or repeals them.*

**State recognition of certifications: If you move to Arizona, any license or certification you've obtained elsewhere easily transfers. That's not the case in Michigan. Professionals who have worked for decades in other states — as teachers, doctors or even*

Please turn to page 5.

Drier Humor

by **Mary Drier**

Pig = prolific journalist



"In a pig's eye," and "when pigs fly," are idioms. Seeing as how pigs greatly helped my journalism career, I was curious about those sayings.

In a pig's eye is an expression of emphatic disbelief. And, "When pigs fly" is an adynaton — a way of saying that something will never happen.

The explanation of both of those idioms really tie into my journalism career.

I never dreamed I would be a journalist when I was going for a business career. Although I wanted to be a famous novelist, I shied away because of poor spelling skills and struggles with grammar.

Although I had a scholarship to go back to college, I didn't have the gas money to get there along with paying other bills. The one job I found that fit into my home life was feeding 1,000 pigs seven days a week at a neighboring farm. I hated the job, but I wanted to go to college, so I did that for a couple of years.

During my last semester at college, there was a scheduling conflict, and I was forced to take a creative writing class at Jordan College when the school had a campus in Bad Axe. It was either take that class or come back the following semester for just one class.

Although I was not thrilled with being in the class, the teacher said I was the best creative writer she had seen. However, she explained that no matter how creative, only a few novelists can make a living.

She directed me to freelance writing for area newspapers.

Those who knew me well scoffed at the idea of my being a journalist, so I often heard the in a pig's eye and when pigs fly expressions several times.

There was a lot of trial and errors in my first articles. The poor editors had to do so much rewriting, there were some articles I didn't recognize as mine. Because of that, it took a long time before I got my first by-line on an article.

A by-line is the tag at the beginning of a story, noting who wrote the piece and for what newspaper. I will never forget the thrill of seeing my name in print on something I had written.

Anyway, within a matter of months of the teacher directing me to journalism, I was writing for nine newspapers and two radio stations, and I was getting paid for something I enjoyed doing.

I was determined I was going to make that journalism gig pay. I wanted out of the pig barn.

I attended meetings, read meeting minutes and read want ads looking for ideas for articles anywhere and everywhere for something to write about to be able to sell.

It took a while before my writing started to pay more than expenses. Finally, after making a profit for six months, I resigned from the pig barn.

Eventually, I even became a staff writer until I went back to being a freelance writer and columnist when I retired.

It was because of feeding pigs that I became a journalist, disproving the pig's eye and flying pigs theories.



Rabbit Tracks

by **Clarke Haire**

(And anyone else he can get to help)

Local Knights of Columbus member Dale Churchill reports the non-profit group has started a matching challenge to support the Revive Food Pantry during these tough times for so many more people in our area.

"KC Council #8892 will match dollar for dollar up to a total of \$2020.00 for any Revive donation from the public that is sent to our treasurer. Donations must be received by 7/6/2020. Please make check out to KC Council #8892 and write Revive on the memo line," says Churchill.

Send your donations to: Marco Estrella, KC Council #8892 Treasurer, 6388 Chestnut Blvd., Cass City, MI 48726. For more information call (989) 912-9540.

Eligible online hunter education students will be able to hunt this spring despite the postponement of field day classes, which normally are required. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is providing temporary hunter education safety certificates to select online students who have not been able to attend a field day due to cancellations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Field days are the required final step in earning a Michigan DNR hunter education safety certificate for online students. Safety certificates are mandatory to purchase a Michigan hunting license. The face-to-face classes have been postponed as a result of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" Executive Order.

"Since the beginning of March, we have seen a significant increase in students enrolling in our online hunter education course," said Lt. Tom Wanless, DNR hunter education administrator. "We want to thank our online course provider, Kalkomey Enterprises, for their fast response to help us develop a solution for future hunters."

To receive a temporary hunter education safety certificate, online students must meet one of the following criteria:

- * Completed the online hunter education safety training since March 15, 2019, but not yet completed the field day.
- * Started the online program on or after Jan. 1, 2020, and still in process of completing the course.
- * Begin and complete the online program between now and the end of the "Stay Home, Stay Safe" Executive Order.

Eligible students will receive an email from Kalkomey Enterprises, LLC and be able to print a temporary certificate from the student portal, allowing them to purchase a license through Dec. 31, 2020. Anyone who receives a temporary safety certificate will be required to take a field day once the classes resume.

"Safety is our number one priority," said Chief Gary Hagler, DNR Law Enforcement Division. "We want to do what we can to ensure future hunters have the opportunity to enjoy spring hunting and Michigan's natural resources."

The most recent license data from the DNR shows that spring turkey hunting license sales are the highest they have been since 2015, indicating a strong desire by customers to pursue these outdoor activities this year.

All first-time hunters born on or after Jan. 1, 1960, are required to take and pass a hunter safety course. The DNR offers hunter safety education safety certificates through three different formats:

- * Traditional classroom setting.
- * Online course followed by a one-time field day.
- * Take-home study course followed by a one-time field day.

Regardless of the learning option a student chooses, all students must demonstrate successful understanding of the skills they learned to a certified hunter education safety instructor.

The DNR offers several recreational safety certificates online, including boater education and ORV and snowmobile safety. Get more information about these certifications and other safety resources at Michigan.gov/RecreationalSafety.

*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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Thriving trees help make a community an inviting place to live. A grant opportunity provided by the DTE Energy Foundation is helping schools, communities, tribes and eligible nonprofits add more green to their neighborhoods.

Eligible organizations within DTE Energy's service territory may apply by June 15 for up to \$4,000 in matching grants for public tree-planting projects. About \$90,000 total is available.

"The DTE Energy Foundation is proud to be a long-time partner in this program," said Lynette Dowler, president of the DTE Energy Foundation. "These grants help communities across the state with their beautification projects and support an environmentally sustainable future for Michigan."

Tree-planting projects must occur on public property such as parks, road rights-of-way and school grounds and promote the "right tree, right place" message about utility awareness. The required 1-to-1 match can be made of cash contributions or in-kind services, including volunteer efforts.

Awards will be announced in August and projects must be completed by May 31, 2021.

For more information, visit Michigan.gov/UCF or contact Colleen Rosso (DTE Energy), at 313-235-5555.



(USPS 092-00)



TUSCOLA COUNTY Sheriff's deputies say a 16-year-old female from Bailey was traveling north on Hurds Corner Road, near Elmwood Road in Elmwood Township, when she lost control of her pickup truck shortly after 9 p.m. May 5. The vehicle rolled over several times, ejecting the driver, who was transported by MMR Ambulance to Covenant Hospital in Saginaw for treatment of her injuries. (Photo courtesy of the Tuscola County Sheriff's Department)

Tuscola County mosquito abatement chief Green honored in her retirement

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

A Tuscola County Department head recently retired and was recognized with a resolution from county commissioners honoring her for her years of service.

Kimberly Green has been a county employee for eleven years. During that time, she served as co-director of the Tuscola County Mosquito Abatement Department along with Richard Colopy in 2010-11, and then she took over as director of the department in 2012.



Kimberly Green

"My retirement was planned as I wanted to spend time with my family. I have an eight-year-old granddaughter, and felt like I was missing so much during her summer break from school," Green said of her decision to retire. "Unfortunately, that was our busy season, so it didn't always work out.

"I was blessed with the best (crew)," she added. "Whatever the need was, everyone pulled together to take care of it. They were all very good to me."

Green noted the decision to step down was a difficult one, and she will miss her staff and crew.

"During her time as director, Kimberly was a member of the American Mosquito Control Association and the Michigan Mosquito Control Association. She was also instrumental in restructuring the department, with the addition of the new garage and updating the fleet of vehicles and equipment that is used by the technicians during the season," the commissioners' resolution states.

"Director Green has been involved in working with the organic farmers and beekeepers by developing maps for the technicians to use while providing treatment. And, (she) worked in collaboration with Tuscola County Recycling on a tire drive program for the townships."

The resolution went on to note Green also established programs designed to educate the public and staff, as well as meeting with schools and county officials to inform them of a possible disease in the county and providing them with a plan of treatment.

The commissioners recognized Green for her "tremendous contribution she and her department provided to the county."

Green figured she would kick off her retirement with some adventures, but those plans haven't panned out.

"I sure did not plan on my retirement starting out this way, I had hoped to do some traveling," Green said, noting the COVID-19 shelter-in-place regulations have curtailed travel plans. "I am sure as things improve I will be able to make some plans.

"At this time I wish I could give you my grand plans, but they have been put on hold for now."

Just the same, Green is enjoying time with her family and helping

her son.

"I live on a whitetail deer ranch. I will be helping out with the deer ranch during the fall and winter months," she explained. "My youngest son, Michael, is handling most of the operations now, but we still help out when needed."

For now, with her retirement adventures on hold, Green can also look back on a satisfying career.

"I knew it would be difficult for me to leave. The only thing that gives me peace about it is I know it is in good hands. They also know where to find me," she said.

Commissioners recently appointed Larry Zapfe as her replacement.

"Larry is a long-time employee. He was my right hand, stepping in to keep things going in my absence during time off or illness," Green said. "I know Larry will do a wonderful job. He has the best interest of the public and the employees in mind and cares deeply about our program."

Sanilac offering testing

Continued from page one.

*Those who are health care workers or first responders with or without COVID-19 symptoms or exposure.

*All essential workers with or without COVID-19 symptoms or exposure (if you are working, you are essential).

*People who reside in community settings such as nursing homes and homeless shelters.

According to Michigan health officials, Sanilac County has 38 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and five deaths attributed to the virus to-date.

The county's latest data map revealed the least number of cases (three) are centered in the northwest quarter of the county, comprised of Greenleaf, Austin, Evergreen, Argyle, Lamotte and Moore townships along with portions of Minden, Wheatland and Custer townships.

Most of the cases – 18 – involve residents in the southeast quarter of the county (Washington, Sanilac, Buel, Lexington, Fremont and Worth townships, as well as eastern portions of Watertown, Elk and Speaker Townships; 12 cases involve residents in the southwest corner of the county, consisting of Marlette, Elmer, Flynn and Maple Valley townships plus western portions of Watertown, Elk and Speaker townships; and five cases involve residents in the northeast quarter, consisting of all or portions of Minden, Delaware, Wheatland, Marion, Custer, Bridghampton and Forester townships.

More information, including ways to slow the spread of the virus, is available by calling the Sanilac County COVID-19 Hotline at (810) 270-5889.

Sanilac County Health Department officials lauded the efforts of McKenzie Memorial Hospital, Sanilac County Community Mental Health and the Sandusky Police Department for their assistance in making it possible to open a local testing center.



SANILAC COUNTY Health Department officials last week announced drive-through COVID-19 testing is now being made available each week in the parking lot of the health department, located at 171 Dawson St. in Sandusky. An appointment is required, and the testing will be available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 to 11 a.m.

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Reporter's notebook

These staffers deserve prayers

by Tom Montgomery
Editor



"Please pray for the elderly in the nursing homes. A lot of them don't understand why their families are no longer visiting them. For someone with dementia, the slightest change in routine can be devastating for them."

Mandy Czekai, who works at Northwood Meadows – A Senior Living Community in Cass City, posted this simple meme on Facebook several days ago. It instantly caught my eye, but not just because we're all surrounded by far too much sadness these days in the wake of the on-going battle with a pandemic that has claimed thousands of lives.

Efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19 prompted hospitals and nursing homes across the country to close their doors to visitors weeks ago, forcing countless mothers and fathers, siblings, spouses and friends to leave this world virtually alone, without a family member at their side, holding their hand.

Months before the virus took over the headlines, my siblings and I said our last goodbyes to my mom before she took her last breaths at the nursing home where she had lived in the Grand Rapids area.

Hard to believe that was nearly a year ago now.

I was elected to give the eulogy at mom's funeral, and just seconds after walking up to the podium, I noticed a young woman I didn't recognize, sitting four or five rows back, grieving the loss of the woman who had raised me.

I had never met her, but later learned she had come to know my mother during her years of working at the nursing home where mom lived. I don't remember her title – whether she was a nurse or CNA — but that didn't matter to me. Her tears and sense of loss were very real.

What struck me is the connection she must have made with mom, who obviously had made an impression on this young lady, and vice versa. I was certain she had heard mom go on and on about her children and grandchildren, listening intently even though she had heard the stories many times before.

A strong friendship had developed between the two, and this gal thought enough of mom to attend her funeral to pay her last respects.

Like a lot of folks, I suppose, I hadn't put a great deal of thought in the people who work in nursing homes until someone I knew, and loved dearly, moved into one.

I can't imagine how heartbreaking it must be these days for the family members of those residents in this era of the novel coronavirus, which has literally separated them from their loved ones.

I can, however, imagine how much worse it would be if it weren't for the compassionate, hard-working staffers, like the gal I met briefly after mom's funeral. Their calling in life has led them to careers that focus on caring for other human beings, whether age or health issues have robbed them of their independence.

In some cases, these are the people who have said goodbye in the absence of loved ones.

So, while I agree with Mandy that our nursing home residents can use our prayers, I'm certain the women and men who take care of them, listen to them and hold their hands, deserve our prayers, too.

That may not sound like much, but it's a start.

In Our OPINION...

Make these orders law?

Continued from page three.

barbers — have to get licensed again here. Sometimes that just means filling out paperwork, but it often means more classes, training, fees and exams. During the pandemic, Michigan opened itself up to outside medical professionals. Recognizing professional work and certifications is always good policy, and the state should do so going forward.

***Budget cuts:** At the beginning of 2020, Michigan's budget was looking good. It had also been increasing significantly for years, allowing the state to pay down debt and spend more in other areas. The governor's proposed budget for this year was flush, with substantial increases in most areas of state government, including K-12 schools, universities, Medicaid, Pure Michigan advertising and most departments. The virus changed that, freezing spending, cutting the budget and redirecting money. Michigan has already received a lot of federal funding to fight COVID-19, and more may be coming to backfill state revenue losses. Lawmakers should not turn around and increase spending in unnecessary areas.

Nobody should use the pandemic as an excuse to push unrelated political objectives. But some of the policy changes Michigan put into effect to deal with the crisis will also be solid ideas once COVID-19 has subsided. Lawmakers should consider making them permanent.

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Down Memory Lane

by Tina Pallas



5 YEARS AGO (2015)

Hills and Dales General Hospital officials recently took some time to honor three of the local hospital's veteran physicians. The doctors were recognized during the annual Hills and Dales Medical Staff Dinner. Dr. Donald H. Robbins, Jr., chief of staff at Hills and Dales, presented awards to Surendra Raythatha ("Dr. Ray"), MD.; Richard A. Hall, DO; and Francis T. Ozim, MD, for their dedication and service to the hospital over the years.

Tom and Linda Herron celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on May 1. A surprise private vow renewal was held and all 6 of their children; Brenda (Tim) Brinkman, Barbara (Patrick) Graham, Dawn (Mike) Karr, Paula (Richard) LeValley, Donald Herron and Angela Jordan were in attendance. The renewal was also witnessed by 8 out of their 10 grandchildren. Tom and Linda have also been blessed with six great-grandchildren. In special recognition, Arnie Messing, officiated the exchanging of vows, just like he did 50 years ago in 1965.

Owen-Gage School officials recently announced the top graduates of their Class of 2015. They are Valedictorian Andrea M. McCreedy, the daughter of Keith and Beverly McCreedy of Owendale, and Salutatorian Adam T. Retford, the son of John and Gina Retford, also of Owendale.

10 YEARS AGO (2010)

Kyle Weidman and Jacob Ballard were both honored during the annual senior awards ceremony. Weidman received the nationally recognized 2010 John Philip Sousa Award, presented by band Director Jonelle Lull. "Our senior alto saxophonist plays his instrument with the reflexes of a cat," Lull said at the ceremony. The award was created to celebrate John Philip Sousa, the composer of the national anthem, the "Star Spangled Banner", Lull noted. Lull presented Ballard with the 2010 Harold Ferguson Memorial Band Award, which Lull said is unique to Cass City. This award is traditionally given to the most elite senior member of the high school band, she explained. "He plays a fast xylophone and a loud quad tom," Lull said. "He's been an essential part of the drumline this year and the percussion section at large." Lull said she has watched Ballard's leadership skills blossom and will miss his tremendous talents and incredible leadership.

Carin K. Seibel has been named Owendale-Gagetown School's "Senior Student of the Month" for May. Seibel has been very active in school activities during high school. She served as class president her freshman, junior and senior years. As a sophomore, she served as her class secretary. She currently also serves as the secretary for the student council. During her sophomore year, Seibel was a member of the E.P.I.C.S. program at Owen-Gage and was a representative on the homecoming court. She was a member of the prom committee her junior year. As a senior, she was chosen as a 2010 snowball queen candidate. She has been the editor of the school's newspaper for the

past 2 years.

Nicholas Swanson of Cass City, recently won the Frank Stagers Award for Excellence in Marketing Research from the Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) School of Business. The award is sponsored by the late Stagers' wife, Brenda Stagers, as well as his family, friends, SIUE marketing faculty and former colleagues. Swanson was among some 60 students recently honored with several awards for academic excellence and leadership at the school's annual scholarship and awards program.

25 YEARS AGO (1995)

Marine Cpl. Jason R. Smith, son of Dennis E. and Deborah K. Nausedas of Cass City, recently returned from a 6-month overseas deployment that included duty off the coast near BosniaHerzegovina while serving with the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (22nd MEU). Departing in late October, Smith traveled 26,000 miles and spent more than 120 days at sea during the 6-month voyage to the Mediterranean and Adriatic seas. Smith went to the Adriatic Sea near Bosnia early in the deployment in response to rising tensions in the area. Demonstrating the ARC'S flexibility and mobility, Smith left Toulon, France, on short notice after an amphibious exercise being conducted ashore with French military units was curtailed so the ARG and MEU could go support U.N. and NATO forces. In less than 33 hours, the 2,200 MEU Marines and Sailors and their equipment were loaded on board the ships and were headed to the Adriatic Sea. The 1989 graduate of Cass City High School joined the Marine Corps in June 1989.

35 YEARS AGO (1985)

About 100 area residents came to the Cass City Chamber of Commerce's annual banquet to see Tom Proctor honored as the 1985 Citizen of the Year, and Julie Smith named as Junior Citizen of the Year. Proctor's award, presented Thursday evening by 1984 Citizens of the Year, Tom Herron and Geraldine Prieskorn, was an early birthday present for Proctor, who recently celebrated his 49th birthday. Proctor, a graduate of Ferris State College, came to Cass City from the Midland area in 1962. He is the owner of the Old Wood Drug Store.

The following Cass City High School seniors will be trading in their casual clothing for a United States Navy uniform. Students who have signed up for the Navy's delayed entry program are Robert Wrona, Robert Walters, John Brunn, Craig Schuette, Gary Crickon, Bryan Beecher and Jim Palmateer.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Thompson and Mr. and Mrs. Ephraim Knight were in Hamilton, Ont., from Thursday until Sunday where they attended the 24th International Square Dance convention. The convention, attended by 4,000 people, was held at McMaster University.

40 YEARS AGO (1980)

Rev. Gerald Rodgers, pastor of the Deford Community Church, officiated at the christening of

four infants during the Sunday morning worship service May 4. The children are: Jason Allen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Duane O'Dell; Jared Randall Terpenning, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Terpenning; Toby Lee Kilbourn, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Kilbourn, and Crystal Leigh Collins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clif Collins. Relatives and friends of Mrs. Dean Tuckey attended a surprise birthday party in her honor Friday evening at her home, hosted by her daughters, Mrs. Arnold Taylor and Miss Carole Tuckey. Others present were Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Evens and three children of Gagetown, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Lounsbury, Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Merchant, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Wiles and son Hazen, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Hutchinson, Mr. and Mrs. Veron Gingrich, Mrs. Jessie Goodall and Arnold Taylor and their children.

50 YEARS AGO (1970)

After some three months of steady preparation the expanded and remodeled Ben Franklin Store in Cass City will hold its grand opening starting Thursday, Gerald Prieskorn, owner, announced this week. Shoppers will be visiting a store with 6,200 square feet of floorspace, about double the size of the previous store.

The top honor students at Cass City High School were named this week by school authorities and two girls were named co-valedictorians with perfect four-point grade averages for four years at high school. The girls are Susan Hartwick, daughter of Mr. and Mr. Leland Hartwick, Cass City, and Sally Geiger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ron Geiger, Cass City. Salutatorian is Sharla Hartwick, twin sister of Susan. Her point average was 3.914.

75 YEARS AGO (1945)

Miss Bernice Stocking, a member of the senior class here, has been awarded the 1945 Regents-Alumni scholarship for Cass City by the University of Michigan. Announced by Clark Tibbits, the university's administrator of the scholarship program, the award is one of the highest the university confers on graduates of Michigan high schools. It is made on the basis of outstanding scholastic record, proved leadership, good citizenship and evident ability to make use of the opportunities offered by the university. The scholarship pays the tuition for the first two semesters. For those students who make a satisfactory academic record at Ann Arbor, the award will be renewed for the sophomore, junior and senior years. Credit was given by the university to the Cass City school officials and the local alumni committee for taking care of preliminary interviews, application forms, and arranging for the examinations. This cooperation was necessary in order to determine who should receive the award.

100 YEARS AGO (1920)

C.W. McPhail, who first entered the banking business as the founder of the Cass City Bank in 1882, has greatly expanded his interests in banking until now he is owner or partner in 18 banks in Michigan, of all of which he is president. The latest addition to Mr. McPhail's string of banks is the Luther Exchange Bank at Luther. Negotiations for its transfer have been in progress for some time. Associated with Mr. McPhail in the ownership of this bank is Robt. J. Smith of Baldwin. These two gentlemen have been associated as partners in the banking business for 16 years.

Harry Crandell has been greatly inconvenienced by the switchmen's strike which has made shipments of thoroughbred O. I. C. swine impossible the past few weeks. He has orders from several states which have had to be cancelled because of inadequate shipping facilities, causing disappointment to his customers as well as himself.

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Pat Stecker

Police arrest man after 13-mile chase

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

A Kingston man is in hot water after fleeing from a pair of Tuscola County Sheriff's deputies early Saturday morning.

Sheriff Glen Skrent reported the incident unfolded shortly before 12:30 a.m. when deputies Brad Spangler and Ryan LaFlure attempted to make a traffic stop for a speeding violation on Hurds Corner Road, near Sanilac Road in Wells Township.

"The suspect vehicle sped away and (the) deputies pursued. The vehicle led deputies on a pursuit for approximately 13 miles," Skrent said. "The Kingston Police Department responded to the area in an attempt to set out tire deflation devices. The suspect vehicle eventually stopped on Plain Road near Shay Lake Road."

A 59-year-old Kingston resident was taken into custody. After completing their investigation the deputies transported the driver to the county jail, where he was lodged on suspicion of operating while under the influence of drugs, subsequent offense; driving on a suspended license, subsequent offense; possession of cocaine; and fleeing and eluding a police officer.

The suspect's name was not released pending formal arraignment.

Fraud probes

Also last week, Skrent reported officers responded to two different fraud complaints.

"One was a victim of the grandparent/grandchild scam demanding \$2,400," he said. "The caller pretended to be an attorney needing the money to get the person out of jail. Money was wired. However, the family realized it was a scam and was able to cancel the transaction."

"The deputy was actually able to talk to the suspect by calling back the number and was promptly hung up on."

"On another call, a person attempted to purchase chicken coops on Facebook Marketplace," the sheriff continued. "Instead of receiving the items ordered, a charge for the same amount was placed on their card for other (merchandise)."

"We all need to be careful with making purchases on sites like marketplace," he said, (and) the 'grandchild in jail scam' has been around for some time. Everyone should know that is not the way it works. Always verify before sending money."

Sheriff's department detectives are continuing their investigations into both incidents.



Disappointing turn of events

by Senator
Kevin Daley

We are currently facing a health crisis that is causing a severe strain on families across the state.

Critical front-line workers are under a great deal of stress as they continue to serve their communities and risk their health and that of their families. Small businesses across the state risk closing their doors, and people who are healthy and otherwise able to work are confined to their homes as they wait for answers on their unemployment and watch their savings dry up.

This outbreak has caused significant harm to our economy, people's livelihoods and the physical and mental health of countless Michiganders.

People have had to put their health issues on hold because the governor banned non-emergency medical care. Unfortunately, that's not how it works. Many have had their otherwise manageable medical issues become serious as the doctors turn patients away because of government-issued threats to their licensure.

I have received countless calls from constituents who are unable to receive a response from the Unemployment Insurance Agency as they patiently wait to return to work. Times are tough enough as it is; ambiguous, burdensome government mandates that do not deliver on their promises are straining people who are already pushed to the limit.

The most effective and responsible path would have been listening to the pleas from the people, working together and moving forward. When we offered to share what we were hearing from our districts, and when we needed commonsense measures most, the governor dismissed the Legislature, and in turn she dismissed the people's voice.

Unfortunately, the governor believes that she can remove the Legislature from the process and make decisions that affect millions of people's lives all by herself.

The Senate recently approved legislation that would continue to provide aid to Michiganders in need during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The measure would have put several COVID-19-related executive orders into law — including those regarding expanded unemployment benefits, distance learning for schools, and liability protections for health care workers treating patients in innovative ways.

Unfortunately, as we saw with last year's budget and many times since the beginning of this crisis, the governor again demonstrated a need for 100 percent control and vetoed this legislation days after going around the Legislature to unlawfully extend the state of emergency.

The Legislature voted to authorize legal action against the governor and Wednesday morning took the unfortunate but necessary step of filing a lawsuit against her for violating state law and disregarding the Michigan Constitution.

The Legislature, along with folks from every corner of this state, placed their trust in the governor to lead Michigan through this pandemic. For weeks, the Legislature sought to cooperate with the governor in good faith, as it was generally agreed upon that preemptive actions were in the best interest of everyone as we navigated the unknown of COVID-19.

Despite this, the governor has shown an unwillingness to be transparent with the people of Michigan as we sought a reasonable compromise to begin reopening our state. The governor's actions and decision to go it alone stripped the legislative branch of its constitutional authority and subsequently silenced the voices of Michigan residents.

There's no reasonable defense for these actions — especially during a time of emergency.

Sen. Kevin Daley R-Lum) represents the 31st state Senate District, which is comprised of Bay, Lapeer and Tuscola counties.

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



LAST WEEK'S full moon appeared to have a light halo of sorts. Clear skies, along with successive cold fronts, have made this spring largely a chilly one in the Thumb.

Living in poverty

Even before pandemic, many Thumb families struggled

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

Even before the economic repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic began, about 14 percent of Michiganders were living in poverty and another 29 percent of households were struggling to make ends meet.

That's according to the latest Michigan Poverty and Well-Being data released by the University of Michigan's Poverty Solutions, an initiative that aims to prevent and alleviate poverty through action-based research.

The report shows that among Huron County's population of 31,543, roughly 12.6 percent live below the poverty level and nearly 11 percent receive food assistance. The median income in the county is 45,817, and 31.8 percent are single-parent households.

In Tuscola County, which has a population of roughly 53,250 people, 12.7 percent of residents live below the poverty level, and 15.5 percent receive food assistance,

according to the data, which notes the median income in the county is \$51,113, and 26.7 percent are single-parent households.

Among Sanilac County's population of 41,376, nearly 16 percent of residents live below the poverty level and 14.6 percent are on food assistance. The median income for the county is \$46,184, with 28.5 percent single-parent households.

In addition, the report includes ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) information, which focuses on data involving residents who are working, but due to child care costs, transportation challenges, high cost of living and other factors, are living paycheck to paycheck.

The percent of ALICE residents in Tuscola County is 28.6 percent, compared to 27.9 in Huron County and nearly 30 percent in Sanilac County.

Because the information was compiled before the COVID-19 pandemic hit Michigan, the number of those living in poverty is

expected to have increased significantly.

People living in poverty and the working poor will have an especially difficult time weathering the pandemic, which is taking a toll on people's economic security and health.

"Even before the pandemic spread to Michigan, there were many people struggling, and that shows up in a number of different ways on the Poverty and Well-Being Map," explained H. Luke Shaefer, director of Poverty Solutions.

Statistics related to the pandemic and the resulting economic repercussions are expected to have a significant impact on social service programs.

"Understanding this is critically important as we think about how federal, state and local relief efforts are rolled out," Shaefer added. "We need to make sure we are not letting residents who were already struggling slip through the cracks."

Small businesses hurting everywhere

The owners of one in seven Michigan small businesses — 14 percent — are not confident they will survive the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a recent survey conducted by the Small Business Association of Michigan (SBAM).

"The COVID-19 pandemic and closure orders have created such an uphill challenge for small businesses that one out of every seven in Michigan aren't sure they'll be able to recover," said SBAM President Brian Calley. "Michigan small businesses are truly struggling to survive."

The survey, conducted in late April of more than 1,300 Michigan small businesses, also found that 60 percent of businesses have had to lay off at least one em-

ployee.

Additional results revealed:

*Nearly 45 percent of small businesses are closed.

*More than 50 percent of small businesses don't have the ability for their employees to work from home.

*About 72 percent of surveyed businesses have applied for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), and 43 percent have applied for other loans or advances.

*More than half of small businesses don't believe they will be able to implement split shifts to limit exposure to the virus.

*Roughly 35 percent of small businesses would need additional physical space to meet social distancing guidelines.

*Some 44 percent of small business owners said they don't qualify for classification as critical essential infrastructure.

"These are extremely difficult times for Michigan's small businesses and the results of this survey confirm those facts," said SBAM CEO Rob Fowler. "SBAM is doing everything we can to help small businesses get through these times so they can hopefully return to their place as the backbone of our economy."

The Lansing-based SBAM focuses solely on serving the needs of Michigan's small business community through advocacy, collaboration and buying power. Today the organization serves more than 28,000 members in all 83 counties of Michigan.

Family, friends stage parade for Kennedy

Continued from page one.

and Sterling Heights just to drive by with their signs.

"He was very happy and it brought him to tears. He has wonderful neighbors."

She noted neighbors Tom Dorland and Galen Zimmerman helped organize the parade along with Phil Nichols, who organized the local VFW post's participation.

"Tom Dorland and Galen Zimmerman took responsibility to control the M-53 traffic, so the cars lined up at Evergreen park could safely enter the highway and parade pass my dad's house," de la Sotta said. "The backed-up traffic of cars and semis all honked their horns and waved

when they finally got to pass."

Kennedy, whose wife, Maxine, passed away 10 years ago, still lives alone without assistance in the home where he was born in Sanilac County's Evergreen Township.

"He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and is the oldest of two surviving veterans at the Cass City (VFW) post," according to his daughter, who said he underwent basic training at Camp Fannin, Texas, in July 1944, and later was stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas; Fort Ord, Monterey, Calif.; and Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

"He was on a ship bound for Japan when the atom bombs were dropped, ending the war in Japan. The ship was rerouted to Korea, where he stayed (with) occupation

troops."

Kennedy, who earned the rank of sergeant, returned home in 1946 and, in April 1947, married Maxine Gracey. The couple, married for 63 years, had three children; Bonnie Petee, the late Kenneth Kennedy and de la Sotta.

"After he returned home from the service, he bought the family farm from his parents. He farmed the land that eventually became a Centennial Farm," de la Sotta said.

"He also drove school bus for the Cass City Public Schools, transporting elementary students to the Evergreen School in Shabbona. After (that) did construction, mostly roofing. He retired in 1989."

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Bringing nature and history home for kids

By Casey Warner
Michigan DNR

When Michigan schools closed in March, ultimately for the remainder of this school year, and educational recreation venues shut down to help slow the spread of coronavirus, many parents and caregivers began asking themselves the same question:

“What do we do with the kids now?”

Seeing the need for more at-home learning resources, Michigan Department of Natural Resources educators set out to help answer that question.

“The DNR recognized early that families and teachers were going to need engaging and relevant educational activities while obeying the governor’s ‘Stay Home, Stay Safe’ orders,” said Kevin Frailey, DNR education services manager.

Frailey and others in the DNR who work on education programs – interpreters at state park and fish hatchery visitor centers, staffers at the Michigan History Center in Lansing and the Outdoor Adventure Center in Detroit – while unable to provide their normal in-person learning opportunities, began creating videos to help teach people about a range of nature and history topics from a distance.

These videos are available on a recently launched webpage at Michigan.gov/NatureAtHome, along with a collection of other resources, including virtual field trips and online tours, scavenger hunts, games and other easy ways for families to explore and engage with nature and history. The webpage also has suggested reading materials and links to free nature apps, social media pages and websites where families can find more learning tools.

“We know you’re overwhelmed trying to teach your kids from home,” said Natalie Elkins, DNR preK-12 education specialist. “Start by watching the videos from DNR staff for a stress-free addition to your new ‘learning from home’ environment – they’re educational, fun and Michigan-based.”

Frailey said DNR staffers consulted resource agencies in other states and environmental education colleagues to collect materials for the webpage.

“We’ve heard that many organizations and agencies are linking to ours in lieu of creating their own site,” he said. “We are proud to be providing leadership in these difficult times.”

The website includes a series of videos DNR education staffers

created to celebrate 50 years of Earth Day, which took place April 22 this year. Many fairs and events associated with the annual environmental observance, normally drawing hundreds or thousands of people, were canceled due to the COVID-19.

“The 50th anniversary of Earth Day was something we wanted to celebrate even though DNR education staff are quarantined. Their creativity was just what we needed to celebrate five decades of Earth Day with five days of educational and engaging videos all shot in their homes, yards and property,” Frailey said. “With so much negative news coming out each day, we felt these put a smile on everyone’s face.”

Other DNR nature lesson videos featured on the webpage cover everything from birds, frogs and snakes to tying various types of fishing knots.

One video series on the site explores how to identify Michigan trees. Hartwick Pines State Park interpreter Craig Kasmer, who created the videos, calls it “Tree Detectives,” a moniker he originally came up with for his tree ID programs at the park.

“My hope was to inspire the curiosity in kids. At the time, my nephews were just toddlers and watched Blue’s Clues: ‘Look for clues!’ So I took that idea and used it in my interpretation,” Kasmer said.

Kasmer and interpreters at other state parks and fish hatcheries contacted teachers who had planned spring field trips that had to be canceled because of coronavirus concerns to let them know about the videos and other educational resources available on the DNR website.

They heard back from many educators about the videos’ usefulness.

“We plan to run with these and use them in our Google Classrooms as assignments to watch and respond to,” wrote Janet Serba, a teacher at Johannesburg Elementary in Otsego County.

Kelly Signorello, a Gaylord Middle School teacher Kasmer works with, posted a lesson asking her students to “go on a virtual field trip to Hartwick Pines and be tree detectives” by watching one of the videos and answering question about tree identification and pine species native to Michigan.

When the Michigan History Center in Lansing closed due to the coronavirus pandemic, education staff there began converting museum gallery programs and activities into short videos.

Filmed prior to the “Stay Home, Stay Safe” executive order, the

first two 10-minute videos are about the Kellogg brothers and Michigan’s war production during World War II. The content for the videos was originally developed for the Michigan History Museum’s Learn 517 home school program.

“It was fun to take information and activities that aren’t normally seen outside of the museum and adapt it for home audiences,” said Christine McCreedy, the Michigan History Center educator who created the activities and appears in the videos. “We already have plans for creating more segments – with better lighting and a microphone – once we get back to work.”

Since then, the Center has added a series of “Museum People Cook” videos exploring the connection between cooking and history.

For those who want to learn more about our state’s past, there’s also Michiganology.org. Launched in the fall of 2019, the website includes the Archives of Michigan’s digital collections, educational materials for K-12 teachers and interesting stories about Michigan history.

In mid-March, the staff at the DNR Outdoor Adventure Center in Detroit started the “Nature in Our Neighborhood” video series.

“Since staying at home, I have really been trying to use the resources at my disposal to create online content that is fun and educational,” Katie Gillies, Outdoor Adventure Center program assistant, said. “It is important to pull in resources that viewers of the videos can access while they’re at home too.”

One of Gillies’ favorite things about spring – “the smallest

blooming flowers that are super easy to overlook” – inspired the neighborhood wildflower identification exercise she created, offering an activity that families either can do outdoors or adapt for the indoors by researching the flowers they discovered or making their own illustrations of the flowers to color.

Another indoor family activity Gillies suggests, and discussed in a video, is making a reusable tote bag out of an old T-shirt.

“This is a great opportunity to discuss the importance of waste reduction and the longevity of material items,” she said.

Catie Olszewski, Outdoor Adventure Center program assistant, looked at a different way to reuse household items in another video in the series.

“I had an interesting time piecing together resources I could find around my house to upcycle into a nature journal,” Olszewski said. “It has been fun trying to brainstorm different video topics we hope viewers will enjoy and find educational.”

The Outdoor Adventure Center videos – which also cover topics like turtles, bees, moths and more – aim to inspire outdoor exploration close to home.

“One of the main themes of our Nature in Our Neighborhood series is that given our current circumstances, we obviously are encouraging folks to explore what is literally right in the neighborhood or backyard – and that you don’t need to live on a woodlot or a farm to observe nature,” Natalie Cypher, OAC program assistant, said. “You can watch the buds change daily on your trees, look for pollinators or learn to recognize couple of neighborhood bird

songs – and you can do this anywhere. Maybe you’ll even find a new interest or hobby.”

Tracy Page, DNR aquatic education coordinator and creator of a series of videos dubbed “Tracy’s Teachings,” also chose topics that most families can do at home with very few materials.

“Sampling macroinvertebrates (little critters that live in water) can be done in a ditch of water, a tiny pond or a vernal pool in their neighborhood. Kids don’t necessarily need to even know what they are, but finding tiny critters on their own helps open up a whole new world of learning and exploration,” she said.

For younger children – like Page’s daughters, ages 3 and 5 – she suggests short activities like an obstacle course, a nature scavenger hunt or what she calls, in one of her videos, a sensory hike.

“Their favorite is doing a ‘six touches’ sensory hike. We use half an egg carton, and their job while we are outside is to find six tiny items in nature that each represent a different ‘touch’ or texture. So a smooth leaf, a hard rock, a pokey pinecone, et cetera. It is a different hike each time, and it helps them to use their observation skills,” Page said.

With about a month of at-home learning left during this school year – and the upcoming months when many summer programs may be canceled to help slow the spread of coronavirus – videos like these, and the other resources on the DNR’s Nature at Home page, offer a variety of answers to the question, “What do we do with the kids now?”

To learn more about the DNR’s education programs, visit Michigan.gov/DNREducation.

Cass City Red Hawk ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Meet Abbey Salcido, Knights Insurance Agency Cass City Red Hawk Athlete of the Week.

The senior star for Coach



ABBEY SALCIDO

John Hacker was selected to the Greater Thumb West softball all-conference first team last year and was a key player on the district championship team, Cass City Schools’ first since 2003.

She batted for a .459 average and knocked in 24 runs during the 2019 season and was counted on defensively to patrol left field.

“Special talent, she will be missed next year,” Hacker said.

Abbey is the daughter of Rick and Michelle Salcido. She plans on attending Central Michigan University in the fall.

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Obituaries

Carol Harrington Hrycko

Carol Harrington Hrycko died on April 28, 2020 at Chandler Memory Care in Chandler, Arizona of COVID-19, after surviving for several years with the debilitating effects of Alzheimer's dementia.

She was born December 25, 1937 to Marjorie H. and Francis J. Harrington of Southfield, Michigan.

The youngest of eight children, she graduated from Mercy College of Detroit in 1959 with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She worked most of her nursing career in home health care and in 1982 received her Master's Degree in Nursing from Wayne State University, Detroit. She moved to Susanville, California in 1993 to work as the Director of Home Health at Northeastern Rural Health Clinics, Inc. After retiring from home health, she worked as a medical transcriptionist for several years.

She was very active in her church, particularly as a cantor and singer. She is survived by her three sons: Raymond, of Yachiyo-shi, Chiba-ken, Japan, Jeffrey and his wife, of Chandler, Arizona and Russell and his wife, of Arizona City, Arizona; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

She was predeceased by her seven brothers and sisters, and her daughter, Julia, of Ann Arbor, MI.

Carol's remains will be interred at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield, Michigan following her funeral. Well-wishers desiring to make a contribution in her name are requested to make donations to Food for the Poor, or Catholic World Missions.



Vivian Rabideau

Vivian Rose Rabideau, 94, of Cass City died peacefully Saturday, May 9, 2020 in her home with her family by her side.

She was born November 11, 1925 in Ashmore, Huron County, the fourth of seven children born to Robert Edgar and Mildred (Patnaude) Kappen.

She married Robert Clare "Bob" Rabideau July 5, 1947 in St. Pancratius Catholic Church, Cass City. Bob died on their 68th wedding anniversary.

Vivian grew up in Cass City and at the age of ten moved with her family to Detroit. She described it as an exciting place to grow up as she learned to take buses and streetcars across the city to visit relatives. Because she had an older sister who was employed, she was treated to many movies at the Fox Theatre and big band concerts. Vivian also told many great stories related to the boarders who stayed at her mother's boarding house. After high school she experimented with a variety of jobs, eventually working as a Rosie the Riveter during the war. After the war, she married Bob Rabideau and had two children. Vivian enjoyed her role of homemaker and caring for her family. She was an excellent seamstress, allowing her to sew all of her own clothes and then her kid's clothes as they were growing up.

Vivian was described by her children as a wonderful mother whose philosophy was "Everything for the Kids". She was also described as loving, kind, positive, and one who always managed to look on the brighter side of life. As years went on, she partnered with her husband and brother to purchase a tavern business; managing the many responsibilities and challenges of being a business owner. Later when they no longer had the responsibilities of a business, she enjoyed employment for many years as a Medicare biller for Hills and Dales Hospital. She loved this job as it was a perfect match for a woman who loved working with figures.

When it was time to retire from that job, she again partnered with her husband to buy and remodel houses in order to acquire rentals. Again, this was another perfect match which was more of a hobby than work. Vivian and Bob enjoyed time at their cottage in Caseville with many friends and family. They especially enjoyed the many good times shared with their grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Vivian's family would like to thank the many family and friends who made life especially enjoyable the last few years; Lillian, Aunt Myrtle, Aunt Shirley, Uncle Jack & Aunt Iris, Mark, Annie and Brian.

Vivian is survived by her children: Bob (Elaine) Rabideau of Lansing and Renee Rabideau of Royal Oak; grandchildren: Nathan (Charlene) Rabideau of Lansing, Rachel (Nick) Lipinski of Lansing and Amanda (Euan) Rabideau of San Francisco, CA; great-grandchildren: Braden, Gavin, Stella, William, Jacob, Claire, Hugo and Callum; brother, Jack (Iris) Kappen of Cass City; sisters-in-law: Shirley Kappen of Cass City, Myrtle Rabideau of Cass City and Judy Rabideau of West Branch; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert; brothers: Warren Kappen, Lester (Jenny) Kappen and Wally Kappen; sisters: Margie McGill and Maxine (Jay) Smith.

A private graveside service will be held Thursday, May 14, in Elkland Township Cemetery with the Rev. Theo Nnabugo of Our Lady Consolata Parish, St. Pancratius Catholic Church of Cass City officiating. This service will be broadcast live on the Kranz Funeral Home website.

A public celebration of Vivian's life will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made to Revive Ministries of Cass City. Family and friends may share memories, prayers and photos with the family at www.kranzfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home of Cass City.

James Wallace

James "Jim" Murray Wallace, 89, of Midland, passed peacefully Thursday morning, April 30, 2020, at his daughter and son-in-law's loving home in Lansing, MI.

He was born December 13, 1930 in Cass City, where he was raised son of the late Margaret (Hurley) Wallace and the late Cameron "Buzz" Wallace.

Jim graduated from Cass City High School in 1949 and Alma College in 1953, where he met and married his college sweetheart, Leontine N. Wallace in 1951.

In 1955, Jim moved back home to Cass City with his wife and son, Duncan M. Wallace and started working with Walbro Corporation as Personnel Director. He relocated to Midland in 1963 and continued his lifelong pledge to support the Boy Scouts of America by working full time administering the adult training programs with the Paul Bunyan Council. In 1965, Jim started working for Dow Chemical Company's Personnel Department in Employee Relations and Labor Relations. Jim retired as Personnel Specialist after 25½ years in 1991.

Though he would never tell you himself, Jim served and held leadership positions in several organizations throughout his life. At Alma College, he served as Vice President and Program Director for the local Zeta Sigma fraternity. In Cass City, Jim was a member of the Gavel Club, board member of the City Planning Committee, and board member of the Chamber of Commerce. In Midland, he spent years as an Eagle Counselor (being an Eagle Scout himself since 1946) and on the District Advancement Committee for the Boy Scouts, President of the Bowling Association, member of the Bowling Council, President of Moose Lodge #1541, a coach in the Babe Ruth and Connie Mack Youth Baseball Leagues, and official timer at the County Fair harness races. Jim also served on the Board of Deacons and as a Ruling Elder for the Chapel Lane Presbyterian Church.

Jim loved golfing, and finally got a hole-in-one at age 78. He also enjoyed bowling, deer hunting, attending his grandchildren and great-grandchildren's sporting and other events, walking outdoors and going for drives to watch wildlife, and occasionally, a friendly game of pool. Jim also enjoyed visits from family and friends, who will always remember him standing in the driveway to see them off with a wave and his one-of-a-kind whistle.

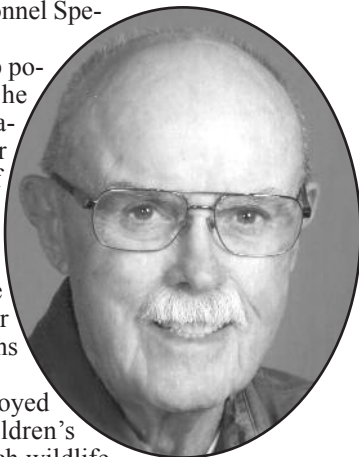
Jim is survived by his brother, Richard (Norma) W. Wallace; daughter, Cameron (Bud) Wallace-Hines; son, Benjamin J. Wallace and his partner, Linda Girdley; daughter-in-law, Deana Wallace; four grandchildren, Brent (Jill) Wallace of Midland, Troy (Megan) Wallace of Kalamazoo, Leontine (Alex) Wallace-Becker of Fenton and Marlette Wallace of Owosso; two step-grandchildren, Chad Hines of Lansing and Ryan (Elodie) Hines of Vero Beach, FL; 14 great-grandchildren; and several nephews and nieces; along with a host of other beloved relatives and friends.

Jim was predeceased by two spouses, Leontine N. Wallace and Susan E. Wallace; son, Duncan M. Wallace; parents, Margaret and Cameron "Buzz" Wallace; brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Gordon and Naomi Netzorg; and niece, Susie Netzorg; along with other dear relatives and friends.

A memorial service at Ware-Smith-Woolever Midland Chapel will take place and be announced at a later date.

The family would like to thank Riverside Place, Heartland Services, MidMichigan Home Care, and Sparrow Hospice & Palliative Care Services and their many dedicated staff.

The family requests that those who wish to make a donation, please do so to a cause of their choice in Jim's name.



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Cass City Missionary Church

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



Cass City United Methodist Church

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



Community Baptist Church (Independent Fundamental)

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



Deford Community Church

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



Evangelical Free Church of Cass City

6430 Chestnut Blvd., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-5060
• Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. • Worship at 10:30 a.m.
Midweek Bible Studies
Pastor: Jim Allred • Like us on Facebook!



First Baptist Church

(Independent, Fundamental)

Barrier Free

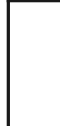
6420 Houghton St., Cass City, MI 48726 • 989-872-3155
Sunday School All Ages 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
AWANA Clubs 6:15 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday - Kids4Truth Club - Teen Club 6:15 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Pastor: Christian Wright • Website: www.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.



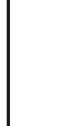
Fraser Presbyterian Church

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



Living Word Worship Center Church of God

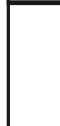
Pentecostal

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

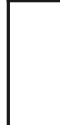
4631 N. Van Dyke, Cass City, MI 48726
Sunday School: 10 a.m. • Sunday Service: 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Group 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m. • Wednesday Kids' Club 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m.
Pastor Dale Bullock 989-872-2828



Novesta Church of Christ

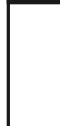
"the friendly church that cares"

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 Ubyly & Student Minister: Don Mecomber
Visit our website at: www.novestachurch.org



Our Lady Consolata Catholic Church

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



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Potter's House Church of Cass City
• Sunday: 11:00 a.m.

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Legal Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS TO ALL CREDITORS:

The decedent, Jean M. Colliton, date of birth, October 11, 1939, Grantor of the Colliton Trust No. 1, dated September 30, 2013, who lived at 9980 Evelyn Street, Reese, MI 48757, March 3, 2020.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Becky M. Edwards, Trustee, at 1011 South Bradford Road, Reese, Michigan 48757, or the attorney for the trustee, Jim Thomas, at 5191 Hampton Place, Saginaw, Michigan 48604, within 4 months after the date of May 13, 2020 (first publication of this notice).

5-13-1

Have a concern? A complaint? Just want to voice your opinion? The Cass City Chronicle welcomes letters to the editor.

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

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

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THUMB health department officials say afternoon and early evening drive-through COVID-19 testing clinics will be available soon in both Tuscola and Huron counties. Currently, clinics are offered Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 to 11 a.m. in Caro, and on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to noon in Bad Axe.

Tuscola Board okays meal funding

Continued from page one.

socialize.

Commissioners approved the funding request.

The additional money will fund the meal service through Sept. 30. On Oct. 1, the state starts its 2021 fiscal year, which HDC follows.

Residents ages 60 and older may qualify for home delivered meals through the local area agency on aging. If you are eligible after you sign up, your regional agency or volunteer will contact you to have meals delivered. Meals can be fresh, frozen or shelf stable (non-perishable).

HDC in Tuscola County is among roughly 1,000 Community Action Agencies (CAAs) created in conjunction with the late President Lyndon Johnson's war on poverty.

CAAs are non-profit organiza-

tions that fight poverty at the local level and are a primary source of support for low-income individuals and seniors.

In other business during the county board meeting, commissioners decided to split the county's two millage issues that are expiring between the August and the November elections, rather than asking voters to approved both at the same time as was originally proposed.

"I don't like having both ballot issues on at the same time," Commissioner Mark Jensen said during discussion prior to the vote.

County Clerk Jodi Fetting pointed out there could be other ballot proposals. "Other jurisdictions will also have ballot proposals as well as schools and libraries, and there will be local issues as well," she noted.

Jensen's suggestion led to a discussion of which ballot issue

should be requested on which election date. One suggestion was to place the mosquito abatement funding proposal on the November ballot.

"Mosquitos aren't biting in November. They are in August," said Jensen said, adding November is when residents observe Veterans Day and would be an appropriate time to ask for funding to help pay for services that support veterans.

Commissioners approved ballot language to request .17 of a mill for six years on the Tuesday, Nov. 3 general election ballot. If approved, the tax would generate about \$316,375 in the first year.

Commission then approved asking for .6316 of a mill for six years during the Tuesday, Aug. 4, primary election ballot. If approved, the tax would generate an estimated \$1,132,000 in the first year.

News briefs

BYOM plans for council meet

CASS CITY — Although conducting business virtually has gone pretty well, the Cass City Village Council tentatively plans to have a "BYOM" meeting later this month.

During a recent special meeting, it was suggested that, if at all possible, the council could resume meeting at the municipal building.

If that were to happen, it would be a BYOM (bring your own masks), gloves and hand sanitizer session.

During discussion it was noted that another table could be added to the council room, so members could be at least six feet apart, and audience members could be seated in the lobby.

Because of the Memorial Day holiday, the next meeting will be held Monday, May 18, at 7 p.m., about a week earlier than usual.

Carpool lot re-opened May 13

KINGSTON — A carpool lot on M-46 at Hurds Corner Road was scheduled to reopen today (Wednesday) following a resurfacing project that started Friday.

Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) officials said the lot was being resurfaced in conjunction with a \$3.5 million investment to resurface 17 miles of M-15 and M-46 in Genesee and Tuscola counties.

HHW collection set for Aug. 19

BAD AXE - Because of the governor's shelter in place and social distancing orders, a household hazardous waste (HHW) collection in Huron County slated for May 9 was rescheduled.

The collection is now slated for Wednesday, Aug. 19, from 3 to 6:30 p.m.

Residents can arrive anytime during those hours to drop off their household hazardous waste items.

Call the Huron County MSU Extension office at (989) 269-9949 for the specific location/drop-off site, and to register to participate.

During the collection, the following items will be accepted: automotive fluids, batteries, cleaners and polishes, smoke detectors, household cleaners, oil based paints, paint thinners and weed killer. Items not acceptable are latex paint, commercial/industrial waste, explosives and ammunition, tires and yard waste.

This program is being offered to residents in Huron County to reduce the waste going into local landfills and the negative impact these products can have if mixed with the regular waste stream. Residents are encouraged to dispose of hazardous materials they have in their homes.

Most roadside parks opening

MICHIGAN — Most roadside parks operated by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will reopen for the season Friday, May 15. However, the Lake Michigan Shores Roadside Park on US-31 in Charlevoix County will remain closed for a few more weeks until shoreline repairs are made.

While most parks are scheduled to be open May 15, motorists should not expect drinking water to be turned on until sometime later in May, after annual testing and treatment of the park water systems is completed.

A map and complete list of MDOT roadside parks are available on the MDOT website.

State weight restrictions lifted

MICHIGAN — The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) lifted remaining spring weight restrictions on all state trunkline highways Friday morning. State routes typically carry M, I, or US designations. County road commissions and city public works departments put in place their own seasonal weight restrictions, which usually, but not always, coincide with state highway weight restrictions. Signs are generally posted to indicate which routes have weight restrictions in effect.

Weight restrictions on state highways are implemented during the spring frost thaw period and are now complete for the 2020 season. A typical timeframe for these restrictions is from February to May, with specific dates determined by weather and road conditions. They will be posted again when the 2021 season starts.

Compiled by Mary Drier and Tom Montgomery

Virtual village meetings set this month

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic shelter-in-place and social distancing orders, plans for governmental and other public meetings have been subject to rescheduling.

For example, the Cass City Village Downtown Development Authority (DDA), and the Cass City Economic Development Corpora-

tion (EDC) meetings that were scheduled for 1:30 and 1:45 p.m., respectively, for Tuesday, May 12, have been suspended.

Village officials say the postponements are a result of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's executive orders enacted to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus.

In the meantime, the following meetings are still scheduled to be conducted virtually utilizing the

Internet:

A parks and recreation committee meeting was to have been held May 12, a public services committee meeting is slated for today (Wednesday) at 7 p.m., and a budget and finance committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 14, starting at 7 p.m.

For more information on how to attend one or more of the virtual meetings, visit the village's website at www.casscity.org.

Tuscola and Huron County fairs canceled

Continued from page one.

we knew it was in our best interest to cancel this fair to be able to stay financially healthy.

"We are deeply saddened for the 4-H youth who have already begun to prepare their projects," he continued. "The safety of our local youth and their families was at the forefront of our decision."

There has already been discussion about how to conduct a virtual 4-H show and auction, according to Jackson, who noted more information will be released in the future.

"As a board, we will continue to monitor the situation and begin working hard at planning for the 2021 fair," he said. "We look forward to continuing to provide the community with family fun and entertainment, 4-H youth exhibits and agricultural history for years to come."

The Huron Community Fair Board, meanwhile, announced it voted to cancel the 2020 fair in Huron County during a special meeting Saturday.

Fair board President Clark Brock said the decision came "after a great deal of communication regarding the health and safety of all fair attendees and with our fiscal responsibility to be able to continue the long tradition of the fair moving into the future.

"We acknowledge the hardships the youth of the county, as well as adults, have had over the past several months; therefore, the board is looking at the possibility of holding portions of our shows. We are looking at all formats, including virtual show options — within

state guidelines," Brock added.

"These events will be guided and approved by the board, with a hope of providing safe and continued support to the youth of our county, which has always been the goal of the fair board."

Brock said planning has already

begun as officials look to the future of the Huron Community Fair, and the fair board "is looking forward to working with the many people of Huron County that have been a great support to the community fair in hopes of a great year in 2021."

Tuscola Behavioral
Health Systems
989.673.6191
www.tbhsonline.com



1 IN 5

people will experience a
mental illness during
their lifetime.

However,
EVERYONE
faces challenges in life
that can impact their
mental health.

