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# CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

VOLUME 114, NUMBER 19

CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2020

.75 CENTS - 10 PAGES

## Mask up or pay up? Enforcement questions remain

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer urged residents to “mask up” Friday as she issued a new executive order requiring people to wear a face covering in indoor public spaces or possibly face a misdemeanor charge and a \$500 fine.

However, some law enforcement agencies in the Thumb, including the Bad Axe and Sandusky police departments, responded with formal statements passing the enforcement buck back to the Michigan Attorney General’s Office, while other agencies indicated they hadn’t yet set a specific policy on how or if they’ll enforce the tougher rules.

Whitmer’s latest executive order states individuals are required to wear a face covering whenever they are in an indoor public space or in crowded outdoor spaces. It also requires any business that is open to the public to refuse entry or service to people who refuse to wear a face covering, with limited exceptions. No person is subject to penalty for removing a mask while engaging in religious worship, although congregants are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings during religious services, according to the news release issued by the governor’s office.

Exempt from wearing a mask in Michigan businesses include children younger than five years of age, those who cannot medically tolerate a face covering, and those who are eating or drinking while seated at a food service establishment.

Whitmer noted governors in the states of Kansas, Maine, Nevada, Pennsylvania, and Washington have imposed similar requirements on businesses.

But at least two Thumb police agencies are telling citizens to address

Please turn to page 7.

## Kingston board okays adjustment in grading

by Mary Drier  
For the Chronicle

The Kingston School District will no longer be the odd man out when it comes to its grading system.

The local board of education recently unanimously approved changing from a grading system based on grade-point averages to one based on percentages.

Under the new grading system, 40 percent of a student’s grade will be determined in the first nine weeks and 40 percent in the second nine weeks, and the final exam will count as 20 percent.

Although both grading methods use the 4.0 grade scale, the new method will shift from calculating the final grade based on grade point to using a percentage instead.

“That is the grading method nearly all of the school districts in the Thumb use,” school Supt. Matt Drake said, noting the district’s previous

Please turn to page 10.

## Special meet set Monday on graduation

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

The Cass City Board of Education will meet in special session Monday night to discuss plans for the district’s commencement ceremony.

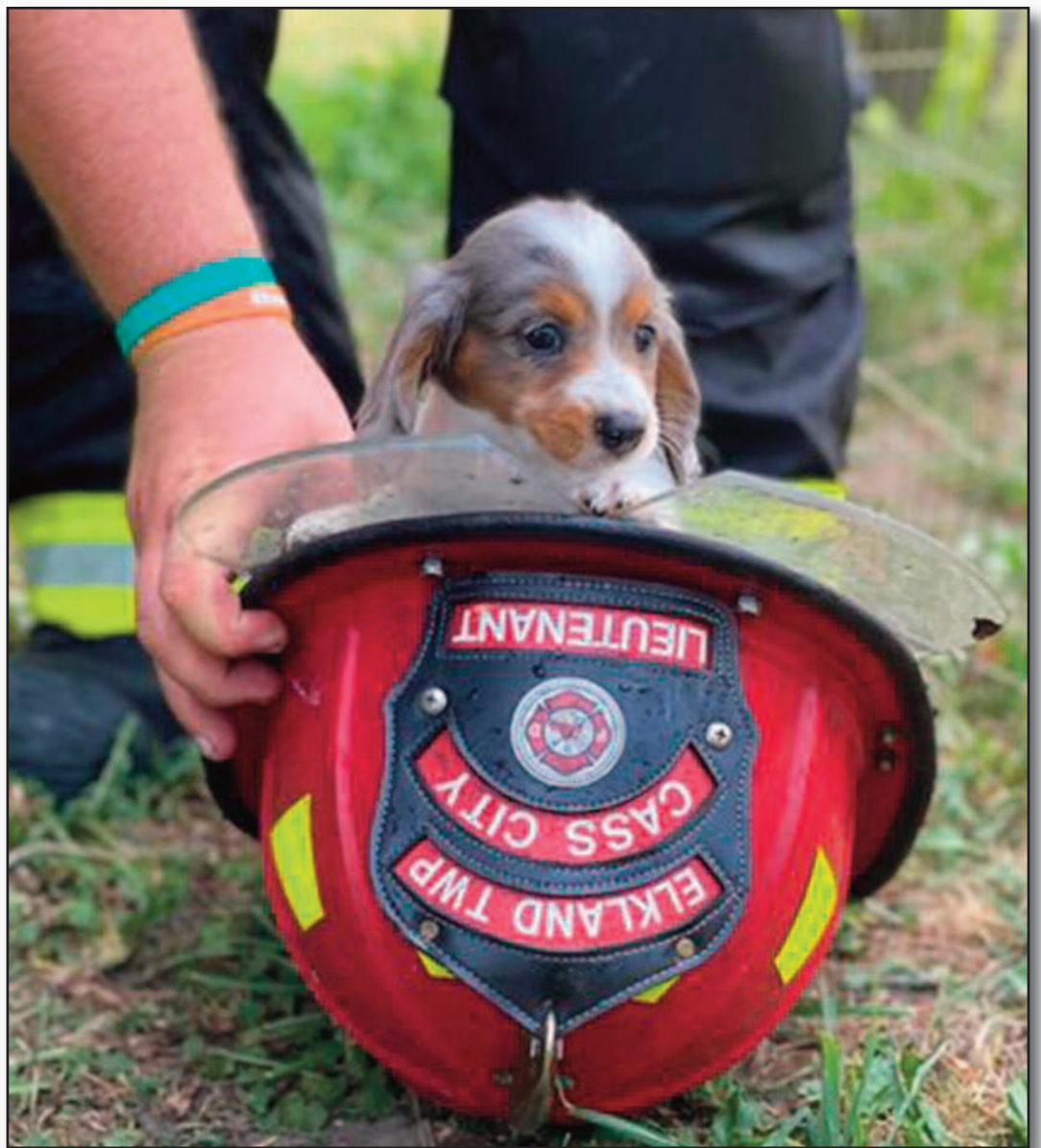
The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. in the junior-senior high school library.

Cass City High School seniors are currently set to formally graduate during a ceremony Thursday, July 30, starting at 8:20 p.m. at the football field.

The purpose of the meeting, school Supt. Jeff Hartel explained, is to take another look at those plans and determine if school officials want to go through with them as planned.

“We want to make sure our kids are honored – they deserve to be honored,” Hartel said. (But) some of the schools are backing off on their graduation plans. We’re going to have to re-think what we’re going to do and how we’re

Please turn to page 5.



ELKLAND TOWNSHIP Fire Department Lt. Nick Moyer cradles an eight-week old dachshund puppy in his helmet – one of six puppies along with several adult dogs Moyer and his fellow Thumb fire fighters saved when they responded to a garage fire at the Crystal Quinn residence on Green Road Friday at about noon.

## Firemen move a litter of pups to safety before knocking down fire

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

Firemen from several area fire departments not only saved the day, they also saved the lives of several puppies and dogs at Crystal Quinn’s Cass City area residence Friday around noon.

Fire fighters from Gagetown and Cass City arrived at the scene to find thick, black smoke

pouring out of a garage at Quinn’s residence at 5054 Green Rd. – with several puppies and adult dogs in kennels near the structure. No one was home at the time.

“I had six puppies in an outside moveable pen within six feet of the garage on fire. I wasn’t home – I had left the house to go take lunch to my fiancé a little after 11 a.m.,” said Quinn. “I

Please turn to page 4.



CASS CITY’S Don Greenleaf is best known for what he readily admits is a gift given to him by God — his music. From playing at weddings and funerals to using his talents at church, Greenleaf has had a profound musical presence in his community, one born out of a love of music that began at a very early age.

## Cass City’s Don Greenleaf looks back on lifetime filled with music

by Tyler Perry

Some know him as the smiling teller who used to wait on them at the Pinney State Bank. To others, he is known as an excellent baker and a grower of flowers.

But Cass City’s Don Greenleaf is best known for what he readily admits is a gift given to him by God — his music.

From playing at weddings and funerals to using his talents at church, Greenleaf has had a profound musical presence in his community, one born out of a love of music that began at a very early age.

“We always had a piano in the house. My mother played and my grandmother played, but I always pretended all the time I was growing up that it was an organ,” he recalled.

That love of organ music was deepened during a visit to an evangelistic meeting in Saginaw in the 1950s.

Please turn to page 6.

# Health officer looks forward to serving on state virus task force

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

A Thumb health department official is among 13 healthcare professionals, administrators and executives Gov. Gretchen Whitmer appointed to the Michigan Nursing Homes COVID-19 Preparedness Task Force last week.

The area appointee is Ann Hepfer, of Mayville, who has been a public health nurse for 31 years and served as a health officer in the Thumb since November 2016. She currently is health officer for both the Tuscola and Huron county health departments.

Hepfer earned her associate's degree in nursing from Kirkland Community College and a Bachelor of Science in Public Administration Degree from Central Michigan University.

"We have taken great strides here in Michigan to protect families from the spread of COVID-19, but we must stay engaged and continue to protect our most vulnerable Michiganders and those who

have dedicated their lives to caring for them," Whitmer said in announcing the appointments.

"These appointees have the knowledge and professional backgrounds that will help our state protect more nursing home residents and staff in the case of a second wave. I will be working closely with this task force and with everyone who wants to help us protect our most vulnerable populations, the heroes on the front lines, and our families from COVID-19."

The Michigan Nursing Homes COVID-19 Preparedness Task Force was created via an executive order as an advisory body in the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) to adequately inform the state's response to a potential second wave of COVID-19.

The task force is charged with, among other things, coordinating across state government and with industry stakeholders to ensure a broad range of input from relevant entities, analyzing relevant data on the threat of COVID-19 in

nursing homes and making recommendations to the governor on improving data quality, reporting on best practices to minimize the spread of COVID-19 in nursing homes and provide appropriate and timely technical assistance to nursing homes.

The task force will also draft recommendations to the governor for an action plan, by Aug. 31, on how to prepare nursing homes for any future wave of COVID-19 cases.

Hepfer indicated she's looking forward to making a contribution to the state panel.

"I am thrilled to be on the governor's task force (and) excited to be able to prepare rural communities and the impacts this virus has had in these nursing homes. I worked directly with them on trying to strategize on how to best handle these outbreaks," she said.

"This task force has some great people in leadership roles that have a direct impact on the lives of seniors. I will learn a lot and at the same time be able to represent the rural issues."

## Commissioner catches description error

by Mary Drier  
For the Chronicle

County commissioners who have a diverse background can bring a unique set of skills to the board.

That proved true during the last Tuscola County Board of Commissioners meeting, when a commissioner caught a major error in a property description.

Fellow commissioners were about to approve accepting the state's offer of some Caro Center property when Commissioner Dan Grimshaw questioned the issue.

"Why and since when do we want to take on the liability of the (former) prison?" he questioned while reviewing the legal description of the property. Grimshaw pointed out the legal description in the resolution was inaccurate.

"They have parcels B, C, A1, and the remainder of parcel A. The remainder of parcel A is the prison site. We only want A1. That is why we had it surveyed. That is the wrong legal description," stated Grimshaw. "We do not want to assume the cost of tearing down that prison and the clean-up and all of the stuff in that building."

Grimshaw is owner of Mid-State Title Services Inc. and is also a former Tuscola County Register of Deeds — both of those positions required dealing with legal descriptions of property.

Back in the 1990s when decommissioning the prison was first being discussed, it was estimated it would cost about \$1.5 million to tackle asbestos and site clean-up. "The legal description in the cer-

tificate of survey is wrong. That 30.26 acres is where the prison is. If the state is going to give us the \$2 million to clean up the prison, we will take all of the land," Grimshaw said. "A1 is about 9.83 acres and includes the land down to the riverbank.

"Before we sign that, the state needs to understand we are only asking for A1, B and C."

Commission Chairman Thom Bardwell thanked Grimshaw, saying, "without that insight, that would not have been caught."

"I try to do my job correctly. I appreciate that chairman," said Grimshaw. "That is what can happen when people do not understand how to read legal descriptions. That happens often."

County Controller-Administrator Clayette Zechmeister pointed out the legal description came from the state land bank to the Tuscola County Economic Development Corporation to the commissioners.

Because of the error, the board did not accept the property, instead opting to send it back to the state land bank for corrections.

In other business, commissioners have been dealing with complaints from funeral homes in the county regarding Michigan Institute of Forensic Science (MIFSM) and Medicine's increase from \$10 to \$63 for a cremation permit.

About a year ago, Russell Bush and David Stockman established MIFSM as a centrally located institute offering medical examiner and forensic laboratory services to counties, rather than each county operating its own. Tuscola County was the first to sign on. Since then, seven other counties have joined.

By consolidating county services, there are now 23 investigators, two pathologists, four medical examiners, and in-house toxicology lab.

Tuscola County pays MIFSM \$75,000 a year, which is cost savings compared to operating its own agency.

When Bush was giving an overview report of MIFSM, Mark Ransford, of Ransford Collon Funeral Homes, Caro, and Dwight Thabet, of Thabet Funeral Home, Cass City, questioned the fee increase for cremation permits.

Ransford pointed out that when MIFSM formed, it created a monopoly that is funded with tax money without oversight.

Ransford and Thabet both took issue with the cremation fee, and especially how it was implemented.

"My biggest gripe is we were not informed prior to the increase," said Thabet.

And, because funeral homes were not informed before of the \$53 increase, that was not added to the funeral costs paid by family members.

According to Ransford, the seven funeral homes in the county are concerned with the increased cost being passed on by MIFSM as "a death tax" without any limit on their authority.

Commissioners took the funeral home directors' concerns under advisement and are seeking a legal review of the issue on who has the authority to set fees — the participating counties, or MIFSM.

## Tuscola businesses can apply for grants

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

Tuscola County businesses have another opportunity to cash in on funding offered to help offset the financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Tuscola County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Executive Director Steve Erickson Monday announced the roll-out of the Michigan Small Business Restart Grant Program.

"More than \$500,000 in grant funding will be awarded to small businesses in Tuscola County that have been negatively impacted by COVID-19," Erickson said.

A minimum 30 percent of the funds must be awarded to eligible women-owned, minority-owned and veteran-owned businesses, according to Erickson, who said the application period opens today (Wednesday) and will continue through Wednesday, Aug. 5 at michiganbusiness.org/restart.

Grants to be awarded under the program will range from \$5,000 to \$20,000 and can be used as working capital to support payroll expenses, rent, mortgage payments, utility expenses and other related costs.

Tuscola County business owners who need assistance in applying for a grant are encouraged to contact the Tuscola County EDC office at (989) 673-2849 and make an appointment. Erickson said the EDC staff will have one computer available to be used by business owners or managers who need access to a computer for the application process.

To qualify for grant support, businesses must meet the following criteria:

\*Be a business or non-profit that can demonstrate it is affected by the COVID-19 emergency.

\*Need working capital to support eligible expenses.

\*Demonstrate an income loss as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

\*Has not received a grant through the Michigan Strategic Fund's Michigan Small Business Relief Program. Businesses that have received support through other COVID-19 relief programs, including the Michigan Small Business Relief Program loans, are eligible to apply for Restart grants.

Michigan EDC officials estimate more than 5,000 businesses across the state will benefit from the Restart program.

"With the outbreak of COVID-19, many small businesses have been faced with significant economic impacts, including challenges with cash flow and resources to support their workforce," said (MEDC) CEO Mark A. Burton. "The Michigan Small Business Restart Program, combined with other (resources)... will enable small businesses throughout the state to address short-term impacts of the COVID-19 crisis while looking ahead to the long-term economic recovery of the state."

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

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

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# In Our OPINION...

Clarke Haire  
Publisher

Tom Montgomery  
Editor

## The heat is still on; be careful out there

Weather forecasters were calling for the summer heat to continue this week in Michigan, with temperatures in the 80s and 90s.

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) officials, meanwhile, are reminding all residents to stay cool – and safe.

“It’s important Michiganders stay hydrated and out of the sun as much as possible to avoid serious health complications during this hot weather,” said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, MDHHS chief medical executive and chief deputy director for health.

“Young children, older adults and those who have medical conditions are at increased risk for heat-related illness, so be sure to check frequently on them and others in your community who may need additional assistance.”

To prevent complications from the heat, residents are encouraged to:

\*Drink more fluids and avoid liquids with large amounts of sugar or alcohol.

\*Limit outdoor activities to when it is coolest in the morning and evening.

\*Spend time indoors in air conditioning.

\*Wear lightweight, light-colored and loose-fitting clothing.

\*Wear sunscreen, as sunburn affects a body’s ability to cool down.

\*Check on elderly neighbors and relatives to determine if they need assistance.

For those without access to air conditioning, text or call Michigan 211 or contact your local health department to find out if there is a cooling center nearby. You can also spend some time at an air-conditioned store, shopping mall or other public building – even a few hours spent in air conditioning can help.

Remember to follow guidance regarding COVID-19 precautions including wearing a mask or other face covering and practicing social distancing (keeping a distance of at least six feet from others).

In addition to staying hydrated and out of the sun, residents are reminded to never leave children or pets alone in a car even with the windows cracked. Temperatures inside a car can easily be double the temperature outside, and because a child’s body heats up three to five times faster than an adult’s they are more susceptible to heatstroke.

Heat exhaustion and heatstroke are both forms of heat-related illness.

Signs of heat-related illness vary but may include heavy sweating, muscle cramps, weakness, dizziness, headache, nausea or vomiting, fainting, an extremely high body temperature (above 103 degrees) and tiredness. Heatstroke occurs when the body is unable to regulate its temperature and can result in death if not treated promptly.

More information on how to protect yourself and your loved ones from heat-related illness is available on the MDHHS website (Heat Awareness and Safety Fact Sheet), or by visiting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) website.

## Drier Humor

by Mary Drier

Money’s paws and rabbit’s foot



Besides being a journalist and a columnist, I’m also an avid reader.

Over the years, I’ve read thousands of books, and there are some that I have read more than once because I enjoyed them so much. Those books include “To Kill a Mockingbird” as well as “Gone With The Wind” and “Jane Eyre”.

And, there is a short story that has haunted me greatly since childhood. I live in the country, so I went to a country school.

Every day the teacher would read to us for about 15 minutes or so. One of the short stories he read to us was the “Monkey’s Paw” by W.W. Jacobs. That story and the lesson it taught has stayed with me and has guided me at times.

The story is about a family of three that were content with their lives until a visitor tells them about the monkey’s paw he had on him. He said the paw could give its owner three wishes, but you had to be very careful what was wished for.

Of course, that intrigued the family. So, the father wished for \$200. As he made the wish, he said the paw twitched in his hand.

The next day, the family did receive \$200 as compensation because their son was killed in an accident at work.

A few days later, the mother, who was overcome with grief, used the paw to wish to have her son back.

The next night there was persistent loud knocking at the door. When the father realized that what had come back couldn’t really be their son after having been buried, he used the monkey’s paw to wish his son away.

The story is a cautionary tale of how unintended consequences can come from the best intentions.

Back when my boys were little and I was the main support of the family, I often thought about wishing I could spend more time with them, but the specter of the monkey’s paw story halted that.

And, back when I had to go to the office to work every day, I would grumble how the weekends were not long enough. Once again, the memory of the Monkey’s Paw story would come to mind.

And, I confess, I never made another birthday wish again after hearing that story.

With everything that has gone on this year, I can’t help but wonder if the monkey’s paw has somehow made it back.

And, just how in the heck can carrying a rabbit’s foot around be lucky? That belief dates back to the Celtic tribes who believed that because rabbits spent so much time underground, they could talk to the spirits and therefore intervene in keeping misfortune away.

While I do believe in being careful what you wish for, I don’t believe a rabbit foot can be lucky. It sure wasn’t for the rabbit.



### Rabbit Tracks

by Clarke Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)

I enjoyed my first fishing trip of the summer last week thanks to Mike Ziembra of Decker. Targeting walleyes in Saginaw Bay near Sunset Marina, our party landed 30 marble eyes, one nice perch, 5 or 6 bass, and about a dozen sheephead on Friday. Using planner boards, we had 12 rods in the water, six on each side of Ziembra’s dedicated fishing boat that had twin Volvo engines.

Although I still prefer stream fishing, my trip on Lake Huron was one to remember. Thanks Mike.

\*\*\*\*\*

High temperatures, sun and the anticipation of being outdoors – the water was the cool place to be during the July Fourth holiday weekend, and Michigan Department of Natural Resources conservation officers stayed busy patrolling the state’s lakes, rivers and streams. Statewide, officers contacted more than 15,700 boaters in less than 72 hours.

“We had an open, increased patrol presence on the water during peak boating hours to let people know we were there,” said Chief Gary Hagler, DNR Law Enforcement Division. “Our gary during holiday patrols is to be involved with communities and respond to water incidents such as search and rescue, marine accidents and complaints of reckless boating. We hope that a visible presence will help prevent unfortunate events and keep boaters safe.”

Conservation officers spent the holiday and surrounding days ensuring boaters were sober and responsibly operating their watercraft. This included an emphasis on preventing drownings by enforcing life jacket requirements aboard vessels.

“We were focused on boating under the influence (BUI) enforcement along with making sure people had the proper safety gear on board while they were enjoying the beautiful weather,” said Conservation Officer Anna Cullen, who patrols Muskegon County.

Leading up to the holiday weekend the DNR promoted its participation in Operation Dry Water – a national sober boating campaign.

A Portage Lake resident personally thanked Conservation Officer Todd Thorn after he and Conservation Officer Katie Baker arrested a drunk boater. According to the resident, the boater “almost caused several accidents” in front of his house.

When the boat operator saw the DNR vessel approaching, he drove away at high speeds, weaving between other boats in the slow, no-wake channel.

Once the officers stopped the boat, it was clear the 47-year-old operator was having a difficult time standing and speaking. After all passengers and the operator failed sobriety tests, Baker drove the boat and passengers safely back to shore and Thorn took the boat operator to jail for BUI. Thorn received the operator’s .179 blood alcohol content results earlier today.

More than 145 conservation officers participated in Operation Dry Water patrols. The highest BAC recorded by the DNR during the heightened sober boating campaign was .20.

Last year, alcohol use was the leading known contributing factor in fatal boating accidents; in incidents where the primary cause was known, alcohol was listed as the leading factor in 23% of the deaths, according to the U.S. Coast Guard.

Conservation Officers Brenna Reed and Sgt. Chris Maher were patrolling Muscamoot Bay in St. Clair County when they encountered an intoxicated swimmer who had lost his friends. A passing boat took the swimmer onboard to get him out of deep water and officers helped him find his friends, despite unclear details about what his friends’ boat looked like or where it might be located.

“We prepared for a busy holiday and strategically placed officers in high use boating locations,” said Hagler. “Because many people are still on vacation, our officers will continue to have a visible presence on popular bodies of water during the upcoming weekend.”

Throughout the state, conservation officers have noticed an increase in boating activity.

“All bodies of water in Oceana County experienced high marine activity, especially along Lake Michigan, Pentwater Lake and Silver Lake,” said Conservation Officer Ben Shively, who patrols that county.

Silver Lake residents and business owners told Shively they saw boater numbers they haven’t seen in years. Shively discussed marine safety with several boaters on the busy lake and ended his patrol by escorting a man back to shore who was on a personal watercraft with a 2-year-old after sunset.

Officers in the Upper Peninsula noticed the same trends.

“It seemed to be just as busy if not busier than previous Fourth of July holidays,” said Conservation Officer Rob Freeborn, who patrolled Lake Michigan from Manistique to Fairport.

Patrol activity numbers from the DNR Law Enforcement Division, July 3-5, included more than:

\* 15,715 public contacts.

\* 830 warnings.

\* 170 civil infraction tickets.

\* 70 criminal complaints.

\* 45 misdemeanor arrests.

Michigan conservation officers are fully commissioned state peace officers who provide natural resources protection, ensure recreational safety and protect residents by providing general law enforcement duties and lifesaving operations in the communities they serve.

For the latest information on boating safety, regulations, harbors, boat launches, high water and more, visit Michigan.gov/Boating.

## Letters to the Editor

### Should town change name?

I don’t remember when I first learned that Cass City was named after a man responsible for genocide, but I do remember thinking “that’s not great, but I can’t imagine anyone will ever care enough to do anything about it.” So, I was quite surprised to see a recent article in which several community leaders responded seriously to the idea that Cass City should change its name.

The article presents Lewis Cass as a problematic figure because he “owned a slave” and advocated a states’ rights position on slavery.

This is a dramatic understatement of what makes Cass an inappropriate person to honor, an oversight that reflects a widespread ignorance of the state’s history. Cass was the second governor of the then-Territory of Michigan. He was responsible for the Treaty of Saginaw, in which the U.S. government acquired the rights to the land on which Cass City currently stands. This document was considered legally binding by the U.S. government, but the terms of negotiation would today be universally recognized as plain theft.

Cass used his reputation as an expert in “Indian affairs” to launch himself into national politics. His lengthy editorial advocating the complete ethnic cleansing of Native Americans east of the Mississippi

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## Firemen save pup, knock down fire

Continued from page one.

got a call from a friend at 12:10 p.m. that my garage was on fire and the fire department was there already.

"I breed miniature dachshunds. I'm a 21-year employee at UPS, but I breed dachshunds on the side," she noted. "My puppies are almost eight weeks old and almost ready to go to their new homes.

"I let them outside in a portable pen so they can get fresh air, and there's a big shade tree near the garage where the fire was," Quinn said. "I was only going to be gone maybe two hours, so I left them outside under the shade while I was gone. It just so happened that they were about six feet from the burning garage.

"The firemen said at first they picked the puppies up and put them inside their tanker truck, but then they moved their portable pen away from the garage and over in the shade on the other side of the yard," she said. "When the work was done and the fire was out, the firemen all came over and gave my puppies some love.

"They also saved my fiancé's dogs that are in an outside kennel near the garage – one blue tick hound, one treeing walker, one beagle and my male doxie, Amigo," Quinn continued. "They were in danger of the fire if it had spread. We have a small hobby farm here. I also have five horses, three sheep and some chickens."

Aside from the puppies, Quinn has three dachshunds of her own – the puppies' parents, Roxie and Amigo, and one of their offspring, Callie. She also decided to keep one of the new puppies, which she named Layla.

As for the other pups, she said, they all have new homes waiting for them.

"(The) puppies will be leaving for their new homes (soon). One has a new home in Wisconsin, one in Missouri, and the rest are going to Michigan homes," Quinn said. "I have a large waiting list as I don't breed them very often. Usually only one litter per year."

Elmwood Township-Gagetown Fire Chief Ed Rievert said the cause of Friday's fire has not been determined.

Thankfully, the damage was limited to the one structure, according to the fire chief, whose department received assistance from the Elkland Township, city of Caro and Unionville fire departments along with an MMR Ambulance crew.

"There are several barns and hay fields out there – there were a lot of hazards out there where it (fire) could have spread, but they got it knocked down pretty quickly," he said.

Fire fighters remained at the scene for about 2 ½ hours. No one was hurt, but the garage sustained extensive damage, estimated at \$25,000.

In the process, the area firemen earned the appreciation and respect of Quinn and her family.

"I've never experienced a fire before, but I am very, very thankful for what they did here today," she said. "I wanted to thank all the departments for doing a great job of saving my puppies and putting the fire out.

"Firemen are heroes."



QUINN'S daughter, Savannah Brown, 11, holds one of the family's dachshund puppies.

## Troopers arrest trio in connection with recent methamphetamine probe

Troopers from the Michigan State Police (MSP) post in Caro arrested three suspects in conjunction with a narcotics investigation earlier this month in Bad Axe.

MSP officials stated troopers arrested a 31-year-old male, a 31-year-old female and a 48-year-old female on multiple felony charges, including possession with intent to deliver methamphetamine.

Officers observed a female leave a known drug house and walk north on Port Crescent Road, according to reports, which state the troopers stopped and talked to the woman and discovered she was in possession of methamphetamine. The woman attempted to resist arrest at the scene, but she was taken into custody without incident.

A search warrant was then conducted at the suspected drug house, where officers seized what they described as a large quantity of methamphetamine along with other narcotics and a loaded firearm.

The two subjects inside the residence were arrested for possession with intent to deliver methamphetamine, possession of a firearm in the commission of a felony (felony firearm), possession of cocaine and possession of analogues.

All of the suspects were transported to the Huron County Jail. Names were not released pending their formal arraignments.



**Michigan families deserve better...**

by Senator Kevin Daley

The coronavirus has swept across the globe, resulting in tragic losses and economic turmoil. Michiganders found themselves without a job as the coronavirus took hold on the state's economy and devastated businesses in communities all over Michigan.

A few months ago, as the governor continued to issue executive orders that halted industries and put people out of work, there was a promise made to families in Michigan: They would qualify for special unemployment assistance as a result of the government-mandated shutdowns forced by the coronavirus.

In the subsequent days and weeks, people flocked to the Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency's (UIA) website hoping to get the benefits that were promised to them. The system was not up to the standard of dealing with such overwhelming traffic, causing massive delays in filing claims and having questions answered.

The governor should have anticipated this drastic increase after she closed businesses across the state and dedicated more resources and staff to the agency she oversees in an effort to handle the unavoidable onslaught of claims. Instead, the governor ensured that furloughed state employees would receive extra pay without any issues while nothing was done for those who hopelessly tried to file claims or contact someone at the agency.

For months, my office has been fielding calls from folks who have nowhere else to turn. People are angry, and understandably so. The state forced businesses to close their doors and put many people out of work. A promise was made that those affected would receive benefits to take care of their families as we continue to battle the coronavirus outbreak.

Days, weeks and months passed by without people receiving any assistance or even a call, letter or email notifying them of an issue or their status. My office currently has 400 active cases and most of those are from people who spent hours on the phone or online trying to contact the agency themselves.

I understand their frustrations. Many of my colleagues and I have echoed these same frustrations with the administration's lackluster response to the overwhelming number of new claims.

I recently supported two funding measures that would add more temporary workers to the agency to assist with the onslaught of new claims. We need to get people the money and answers they deserve and the only way to do that is getting more hands on deck.

I am happy to see businesses opening their doors and providing the same reliable service to customers with extra safety measures in place. In the meantime, people need the unemployment benefits they are owed so they can keep themselves and their families afloat.

In addition to supporting measures to hire extra temporary staff at the UIA, I join my colleagues in calling for the governor to begin opening the agency's branch offices so people who are having trouble with the cumbersome system can get the answers they need.

As always, feel free to contact my office at (517) 373-1777 or at SenKDaley@senate.michigan.gov if you have questions. If you are still having issues with the unemployment office, please visit my website at www.SenatorKevinDaley.com/unemployment-assistance/ and fill out the form. Once we receive your unform, a member of my staff will follow up with you as soon as possible.

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## Reporter's notebook

### Count me out of this contest

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor



Back in the day, I had no problem devouring three or four Erla's hot dogs in one sitting. I thought they were that good, and so did family members, some of whom specifically requested the now-gone homegrown brand when they planned a visit to the Thumb.

But I never, ever flirted with the idea of eating, say, 50 Erla's hot dogs at one time. Who would?

Well, guys like Joey "Jaws" Chestnut, for starters. He's what folks in food circles refer to as a competitive eater.

You may have read recently about Chestnut, who earlier this month chowed his way to a 12th title during the annual Nathan's Famous July Fourth Hot Dog Eating Contest in Brooklyn, N.Y. — continuing his record-setting reign as top dog (eater).

According to published reports, Chestnut downed a world-record 75 wieners and buns in 10 minutes, breaking his 2018 record of 74 hot dogs and buns he set in Brooklyn two years ago.

In case you're wondering, another veteran competitor eater, Miki Sudo, secured a seventh straight Mustard Yellow Belt title — and a world record — in the women's competition. The Las Vegas woman devoured 48 ½ in a competition that took place at an undisclosed location with no in-person spectators due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Competition aside, experts offer a few words of caution for those flirting with the idea of indulging in this unique sport:

\*You can choke. One veteran explained: "To be a successful speed eater, you have to focus mostly on swallowing rather than chewing. While speed eating, make sure to take very many small bites rather than a few large bites so you reduce the need for chewing and the possibility of choking."

\*You can bite your finger.

\*You may get sick.

You think?

\*You may gain weight.

Again, you think?

\*You can drown yourself if training with liquids. From what I've read on the subject, a number of competitors take significant risks during their training by ingesting a large amount of water. The problem is, if you attempt to train with water or other liquids, you can seriously hurt yourself and even kill yourself if you are not extremely careful — drinking too much water at one time can deplete your electrolytes and cause you to pass out or even die.

Aside from a chunk of prize money at the big competitions, I can't imagine the motivation behind speed eaters, you know? I mean, I hate feeling too full after overdoing it during a normal meal, although I'm rarely able to resist the urge for that second helping during Thanksgiving, or when I've prepared roasted garlic pork loin and mashed potatoes.

Okay, so I've also pushed the envelope a few times with Chicago-style pizza.

Maybe competitive eaters have simply prepared themselves to the point where they're able to experience some sort of eating "second wind" and aren't feeling the pain as much as you or I would.

Just the same, I think I'll pass on this sport of champion gluttons.

Besides, if I want to live dangerously around food, I'll eat my wife's cooking.

# Down Memory Lane

by Tina Pallas



## 5 YEARS AGO (2015)

Corbin and Allison Swiastyn of Manistee, announce the birth of their daughter, Kinsley Grace Swiastyn. Kinsley was born at 11:56 a.m. on Thursday, July 9, 2015, at West Shore Medical Center in Manistee. Kinsley weighed 8 pounds, 1 ounce and was 20 inches long. Grandparents are Louie and Rochelle Sabo of Marlette and Walt and Kaye Swiastyn of Gagetown. Kinsley's great-grandparents are Eleanor and Gil Krueger of Caro and Jack and Bonnie Brinkman of Cass City.

## 10 YEARS AGO (2010)

Shirley Tuckey spent a total of 38 years teaching at Campbell Elementary School in Cass City. After teaching third grade for 24 years and kindergarten for 14 years, she said she has never regretted becoming a teacher. "I just love kids," Tuckey said.

Some area residents were recently named to the dean's list at Grand Valley State University following the winter 2010 semester. They include Samuel M. Howard, Cass City; Shelby A. Lemke, Ubyly; and Alexander M. Diaz, Austin J. Graham and Aaron P. Steele, all of Caro. To be named to the dean's list, a student must maintain a 3.5 grade point average while completing a minimum of 12 credit hours of coursework.

## 25 YEARS AGO (1995)

Several local people attended the wedding of Tim McConnell and Jennifer Muske in Bangor Saturday. Attending, besides Tim's parents, Chuck and Wanda McConnell, were Peggy Nordquist, Ron Speirs, Skip Speirs, Chris and Melissa McConnell and Stan and Melva Guinther. Pat and Norman Blue of Millington and their children, Jeff, Kim, Kerry and Gary Blue, were also at the wedding.

Charles and Deanne Brown of Cass City announce the birth of a daughter, Abigail Lynne Brown, at Huron Memorial Hospital July 10 at 3:42 p.m. She weighed 9 pounds, 7 1/4 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long. Abigail has a brother, Jacob, 7, and a sister, Anna, 5. Grandparents are Walt and Evelyn Zmierski and Wallace and Clara Brown, all of Cass City. Great-grandmother is Anna Gabler of Deford.

## 35 YEARS AGO (1985)

Staff Sgt. Alan L. Dorman, son of Bill and Carol Dorman, Decker Road, Decker, has graduated from the U.S. Air Force course for computer programmers at Keesler Air Force Base, Miss. Graduates of the course studied the operation of conventional and electronic data processing equipment, and earned credits toward an associate degree in applied science through the Community College of the Air Force. Dorman is scheduled to serve at Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass. His wife, Melinda is the daughter of Joe and Myra Navarro, Decker. He is a 1975 graduate of Marlette High School.

Capt. Glen A. Walls, son of Evelyn Walls, E. Sanilac Rd., Kingston, has earned a master's degree from Golden Gate University, Sacramento, Calif. Walls has completed college studies through participation in the U.S. Air Force off-duty education program. The program has the Air Force paying 75 percent tuition for active duty Air Force members and 90 percent tuition non-commissioned officers with less than 14 years military service. He is an instructor of advanced navigation and computer systems implementation with the 323rd Flying Training Wing at Mather Air Force Base, Calif. His wife, Cheryl, is the daughter of John B. LaBrie, Gladstone. The captain is a 1973 graduate of Michigan State University.

## 40 YEARS AGO (1980)

It pays to be persistent. Just ask Isabelle Seeley, of Schwegler Road, who won \$5,000 in the Michigan State Lottery Friday. Although she has never won the big money before, Mrs. Seeley said she has been buying lottery tickets since it was instituted. She discovered she had the winning ticket while on vacation in Sault Ste. Marie. When she saw she had

won, she said she could not believe it. "I rubbed and I rubbed on that ticket to make sure it was real," Mrs. Seeley said. She said her husband, Clark, is usually luckier at the lottery game than she is, adding she gets discouraged when he wins and she does not. However, her recent good fortune has eliminated any discouragement she may have for a while, she admitted. When asked what she would do with the money, Mrs. Seeley replied she would "salt it away for a rainy day or emergency." Mrs. Seeley said she has won \$50 previously and her husband has won the \$25 prize a few times. The ticket was purchased at a magazine store in Sault Ste. Marie. Mrs. Seeley works as a certified dietetic assistant at Hills and Dales General Hospital. Her husband is self-employed and does grading and bulldozing work.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Rienstra of Harrison, a daughter, Amber Christine, July 12 in a Mt. Pleasant hospital. She weighed seven pounds and 11 ounces and joins three brothers, Dennis, Reuben and Samuel.

Gertrude Erla became a great-aunt for the seventh time with the birth July 19 in Hills and Dales General Hospital of an eight-pound, two-ounce son to Mr. and Mrs. Bruce LeValley. The baby's name is Trent Zacharie. He has a 2-year-old brother Nathan.

## 50 YEARS AGO (1970)

The Rev. Gerald Knoblet, 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Knoblet of Cass City was graduated June 1, from Wayne Bible College, Fort Wayne, Indiana. He was awarded a bachelor of science degree in missions. Rev. Knoblet has accepted a position with the Pellston Missionary Church in Pellston, Mich. Future plans include graduate work in a seminary. He will be married Aug. 8 to Linda Johnson of Ann Arbor. A 1966 graduate of Cass City High School, he attended Central Michigan University for two years before transferring to Wayne Bible College.

William A. Calka, a brother of B. A. Calka of Cass City, announced recently that he has started a firm dedicated to distributing major appliance lines to Detroit and Eastern Michigan area dealers. Calka has 23 years of successful appliance wholesaling experience and his new firm, Calka Distributing Company, has been appointed exclusive distributor for Norge Appliances in Detroit and Eastern Michigan. Calka was formerly sales manager of electronics for Peninsular Distributing Company and in 1966 earned Sylvania's sales manager of the year award. He lives in Grosse Pointe with his wife.

A mass was celebrated Sunday by the Rev. Fr. Leo Gengler at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Windy, Sr. in honor of their 53rd anniversary. Around 85 members of the family and friends attended. A money tree was presented to the couple and a potluck dinner was served.

James E. Tutwiler, son of Mrs. Mollie V. Anderson, of Biloxi, Miss., has been promoted to master sergeant in the U. S. Air Force. Sergeant Tutwiler, a communications equipment supervisor at Goose AB, Labrador, is serving with a unit of the Air Force Communications Service which provides global communications and

air traffic control for the U.S. The sergeant is a 1955 graduate of Dover, Del., Public High School. His wife, Teresa, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Konrad Konwalski, Church St., Cass City.

## 75 YEARS AGO (1945)

Lt. Sophie Kapral, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Kapral, former residents of Deford, is now at home with her parents in Detroit, on a 30-day leave. Lt. Kapral was graduated from Cass City high school with the class of '39. She then started training as a nurse at St. Mary's hospital in Detroit, and was vice president of her class that was graduated in September, 1943. Enlisting in February 1944, she went overseas in June of the same year. She served near Hereford, England, for one year and returned home on June 29 on the Queen Elizabeth.

Honoring the 86th birthday of Enoch W. Turner of Grant township, a dinner was served Friday noon, July 20, to a number of relatives. Besides the immediate families, guests included a granddaughter, Mrs. Gaylord Lapeer, and her son, Lynwood, and other grandchildren. The day was quietly spent in reminiscing and singing. Mr. Turner came to the United States from Canada at the age of 21 years. He was married to Miss Charlotte Williamson of Deckerville. Mr. and Mrs. Turner have two daughters, Mrs. Archie Stirton of Cass City and Mrs. Manley Fay of Gagetown. Mr. and Mrs. Fay are now visiting in Montana. The Turners also have ten grandchildren and four great-grandchildren besides several nieces and nephews. The Turner home is one mile east, seven miles north and one and three-fourths east of Cass City, in Grant township.

A daughter was born in Pleasant Home hospital to Mr. and Mrs. Howard Asher of Caro, Monday, July 16. She has been named Peggy Joyce. Mrs. Asher and baby spent a week at the home of Manley Asher here.

## 100 YEARS AGO (1920)

Glen F. Benkelman, who has been employed at St. Marys, Pennsylvania, for the past four years, has resigned his position at that place, to take up work in one same line with another firm in Chicago. He will have charge of the chemical and electrical laboratories and direct the research and development work of brushes used on automobile electrical systems. After spending a short vacation at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. Benkelman, he left for Chicago Sunday evening.

Relatives and friends gathered at the home of A. D. Mead Sunday, July 18, to help him celebrate his 65th birthday. About two o'clock, the guests sat down to tables that were loaded with all the good things that go to make up a "tripping good" dinner. A telegram was received from Mr. Mead's son, Burt, in Dickinson, N. D., requesting that a chair be drawn up to the table and that his tither imagine him present doing his share. Mr. Mead was presented with a purse and many beautiful gifts. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. William Fryer and daughter, Hazel, and Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Keating, all of Detroit, Mrs. W.E. Rogers and son, Warren, and daughter, Lillian, of Trenton and Mrs. Hannah McKim.

# Letters to the Editor

## Should town change name?

Continued from page three.

River won him a position as Andrew Jackson's secretary of war. This goal, known as "Indian removal," was far from uncontroversial at the time, and Cass had to use all his resources to sell the plan to white Americans.

In the end, the Indian Removal Act passed the House by only four votes. Aside from native communities themselves, it was opposed most strongly by Christian missionaries.

When Cass oversaw the removals now known as the Trail of Death and the Trail of Tears, he wasn't just following orders; he was enacting exactly the genocide he had envisioned and campaigned for. Communities were marched hundreds of miles at gunpoint, their crops and homes burned behind them, because Lewis Cass believed they were racially incapable of meeting his standards of "civilized" behavior. Thousands died along the way.

In the recent article, as in many similar recent debates about statues and name changes, the objection was raised that to change the name of Cass City would mean the community was ignoring its history. But ignoring history is the only reason the name has endured as long as it has. Only the near-universal ignorance of Cass' actions protects the town—and all the businesses named after it—from the stigma of his legacy.

Lewis Cass is, in a sense, exactly the sort of person you'd expect to be memorialized in the names of towns, streets, and rivers. He is meaningfully responsible for creating the state of Michigan as it exists today. Many of us have benefitted from ownership of land that was never truly for sale. But we've also been deprived of the company of vibrant native cultures and communities.

On one hand, changing the name of a town would do nothing to rectify those injustices. On the other, it's hard to imagine the more serious conversations that need to occur, conversations about land rights and reparations, making any headway if we still see honoring an architect of genocide as core to our identity as a community.

Adam Kranz  
Detroit (formerly  
of Cass City)

## Special meet set on graduation

Continued from page one.

going to do it legally and safely."

Restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, which closed school doors across the state in mid-March, continue to evolve, with Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer announcing a new executive order Friday reiterating that individuals are required to wear a face covering whenever they are in an indoor public space, requiring businesses to refuse entry and/or service to people who refused to wear a face covering, and requiring the use of face coverings in crowded outdoor spaces.

The new order also established a misdemeanor charge punishable by a \$500 fine for those violating the rules.

The governor's latest executive order was prompted by a rise in new confirmed cases of COVID-19 in recent days in Michigan.

The increase in cases and new rules implemented to slow the spread of the virus have all taken place since school officials initially scheduled the local commencement exercises.

"We just want to look at all the options," Hartel said. "Let's have a meaningful discussion and do what's right for everybody."

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## News briefs

### HDC offering curbside meals

THUMB – The Human Development Commission (HDC) is now offering curbside meal pick-up for seniors (ages 60 and older).

Reservations are required to participate in the Congregate Nutrition Curb-side Pick-up program, which runs from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursdays.

In Tuscola County, call (989) 672-1750 – pick-up is at the LeeRoy Clark Center, 435 Green St., Caro. In Huron County, call (989) 269-9502 (ext. 226) – the pick-up location is at the HDC office, 856 N. VanDyke Rd., Bad Axe. In Sanilac County, call (810) 376-0417 – the pick-up location is at the Deckerville Dining Center, 2030 Black River St., Deckerville.

The program is funded, in part, by the Region VII Area Agency on Aging along with millage funds in Huron, Sanilac and Tuscola counties.

### M-25 road work is underway

HURON COUNTY — The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will invest \$1 million to resurface more than four miles of M-25, from Stein Road to Pigeon Road, in Huron County.

The work, which was scheduled to get underway Monday, will include joint repairs and pavement markings.

Traffic will be maintained with traffic regulators during daytime working hours. Lane restrictions will be removed overnight.

The project is expected to be completed in August.

In addition, MDOT is investing \$173,000 in resurfacing and signal relocation upgrades on M-25 at Sebawaing Road and Bay Street.

The work was also expected to begin Monday and includes curb and gutter, sign improvements, and sidewalk and ramp improvements compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Drivers should expect shoulder closures on M-25, with the right-turn lane closed at Sebawaing Road/Bay Street. Sidewalk closures are also expected.

The work is expected to be finished in August.

### Antibody testing is available

MARLETTE — Marlette Regional Hospital (MRH) is offering COVID-19 antibody testing on a walk-in basis, Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A physician's order is not necessary and insurance will not be billed. Testing is available for a \$25 cash fee.

Antibodies are proteins that develop after contracting the COVID-19 disease. These proteins help your body fight off infections and typically provide protection against contracting the disease again. MRH's COVID-19 testing is being done to detect antibodies in a blood sample that would indicate prior COVID-19 infection.

The Abbott test has been clinically proven to detect illness with 100 percent sensitivity and 99.6 percent specificity.

It is possible to have a positive test result even if you have not had symptoms of COVID-19. If a person has a positive antibody result, it is likely they previously had COVID-19 and have developed antibodies to the virus.

However, if a person is experiencing symptoms of the virus, they should talk to their healthcare provider, who may recommend having the viral PCR test done by swabbing the inside of the nose, as testing for the active virus.

### Experience outdoor job options

THUMB – Area youth ages 11 to 19 years are invited to explore a variety of outdoor careers during an upcoming virtual seminar.

Does working outside interest you? Enjoy camping, hunting, hiking, kayaking, nature photography or fishing? Learn firsthand about careers that will keep you connected to the natural environment during the "Venture to Adventure" online program slated for Tuesday, July 28, at 1 p.m.

The hour-long program will include live and video presentations from professionals in the field as well as games and interaction.

Interested residents can learn more and register at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/VenturetoAdventure/>.

### "Stuff the Humvee" in August

TUSCOLA COUNTY – The Tuscola County Sheriff's Department and Great Start Tuscola are joining forces again for their "Stuff the Humvee" donation drive this year.

"The Humvee will be at the Team One Credit Union Membership Appreciation Day on Aug. 14. We are hoping to get a few other business locations to park the Humvee also," said Sheriff Glen Skrent.

"Donations can always be dropped off here at our office, too," he noted. "Let's hope we can get the kids back into the schools and get them the supplies they need."

Desired items include pencils, Crayons, erasers, binders, Kleenex, folders, markers, scissors, glue sticks, backpacks, notebooks and hand sanitizer.

More information is available by calling (989) 673-2144 (ext. 30325).

### Get vision, dental, hearing help

THUMB – The Region VII Area Agency on Aging is now accepting referrals for its free vision, dental and hearing aid programs.

Eligibility for these programs requires the participant or caregiver be ages 60 or older and a resident of Tuscola, Huron, Sanilac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Midland or Saginaw counties.

Region VII Area Agency on Aging is providing funding for these services through Sept. 30 or until funding is depleted.

The area agency on aging offers a comprehensive list of services for older adults that includes assistance with Medicaid and Medicare questions, volunteer opportunities, and the USDA Food Box Program.

More information is available by calling 1-800-858-1637.

Compiled by Mary Drier and Tom Montgomery



**"THE PURPOSE of the music is to give back to God what He's given to you and to glorify Him," commented Greenleaf, pictured above in front of a keyboard, where he has spent much of his life sharing his God-given talent with others in the Cass City community and beyond.**

### Greenleaf looks back on lifetime of music

Continued from page one.

"It was in the old auditorium in downtown Saginaw, which is no longer there. I saw my first organ there, and...that just did it. I remember running away from my parents and sitting on the front row so I could watch the man (playing)."

Greenleaf's parents encouraged their son's musical interests, purchasing record albums of the same organist he watched so attentively in Saginaw. "I listened to those by the hour, I never got tired of them," he said.

In addition to record albums, Greenleaf's parents ensured he had piano lessons.

"I took lessons first from Ruth Esau," he said. "But I could play the lesson by ear, so I wouldn't read the music. I was in first grade."

As a boy, the Cass City native's musical appetite and style was influenced by musicians near and far. Gospel musicians Helen Barth and Al Smith were particularly influential.

"As I got a little older, my aunt brought home a player and radio combination type thing, it played 45s," he said. "Well, then I would play from the piano. I would hear the songs...on there that Helen Barth and Al Smith were singing, and then I would play with it on the piano, one finger at a time."

Locally, it was Emmaline Bullis, the pianist at the First Baptist Church, who influenced the aspiring musician.

"I used to try to emulate her," Greenleaf said. "I used to see her every Sunday morning, every Sunday night. I just loved Emmaline and the way she played."

When Myrtle McColl donated a Hammond organ to the Baptist church in memory of her son in 1960, Greenleaf, then a sixth-grader, knew the Hammond was for him.

"I had to learn that," he said. "I can't explain it. It was just a fascination. It was the sound, everything about it was fascinating to me."

Local organist June Deering instructed Greenleaf on the organ for a year, but she soon learned what Ruth Esau and other instructors had learned about her student — he could play by ear.

"I wouldn't study," said Greenleaf, who progressed under the direction of his teachers, but as a young man longed for more instruction. "I didn't read (music) well," he explained, "and I didn't know much about music, so I worked with a man who was a piano major at Northwestern University one summer in Bad Axe. And then I went to Gull Lake."

The Gull Lake Bible and Missionary Conference, held at Gull Lake Ministries in Hickory Corners, brought in well-known Christian preachers, evangelists and musicians each summer. Two of the musicians featured at Gull Lake, John Innes and Merrill Dunlop, had a profound impact on Greenleaf. After hearing them play, he realized that if he was

going to be a better musician, he needed an intensive musical education.

"I knew I couldn't carry off the things that I heard anymore (by ear)," he said. "So, I went to Bad Axe and studied with Hazel Krueger for 12 years, classic music. That was when I was 25."

Greenleaf took his studies with Krueger seriously.

"Mrs. Krueger had to take me right from the very bottom, right from the C-scale on. I learned scales and arpeggios — all those things, all technique, because I had never had any of that," he said. "I knew I had to do it now or never."

"I would get up early in the morning and practice before I went to work, and then I would take my lesson either in the evening or on Saturday afternoon," Greenleaf added. "She would have me in recitals, and I would learn things by Bach and Mozart. I would memorize those things and then do them."

Since those early days, the Hammond organ has been Greenleaf's instrument of choice.

"The Hammond was invented by a clock-maker back in 1935," Greenleaf said. "His clocks weren't selling so well, so he was getting to the point where he needed a new invention. He was a marvelous inventor. So, he invented the Hammond organ with the tone wheel generator and with the drawbar system, whereby you could control every aspect of the harmonics you were using."

For Greenleaf, and many Hammond enthusiasts like him, a Hammond organ is nothing without a Leslie speaker, a unique invention of radio service engineer Don Leslie in the late 1930s.

"Don Leslie used a rotating device in both the treble and the bass, and when you played the Hammond through it, it gave it a

totally different sound," Greenleaf said. "[It is] much warmer and much richer and just very, very different from what the Hammond sound (by itself) was. It was not produced as a substitute for the pipe organ, which it will never be, but with the proper equipment on it, you can produce pipe sounds."

Whether playing the organ or the piano, Greenleaf has had a prolific career as a local musician since the 1960s.

"As time went on, I became church organist," he said. "And then I played for several years at the Little Funeral Home. I played an hour before the service and two hours on the evening before. They had a full-sized Hammond, which was a real delight to me, because the church at that time did not have a full-sized Hammond."

In addition to playing at his church and at the funeral home, Greenleaf has played a variety of venues, including numerous weddings and evangelistic crusades in Bad Axe and Akron. "I love to accompany. That's my favorite thing to do," he said.

Today, Greenleaf continues to play at funerals and community events. He also plays the organ and, occasionally, the piano, at First Baptist Church each Sunday. But as much as he enjoys playing for the benefit of others, Greenleaf says his music is ultimately an offering back to God.

"Everyone isn't given a gift in music; they're given a gift of some sort, but I realize that God just gave you that. I was able to develop it to a degree — not to the degree that I would like, because I would like to be a classical musician if I could carry it off."

"But probably that would never be the heart of what I wanted to do. The purpose of the music is to give back to God what He's given to you and to glorify Him."

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# On the job

## Veteran state trooper joins village police department

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

It didn't take long for veteran Michigan State Police Trooper Jeff Hook to settle into his new role as a village police officer in Cass City.

Hook, who joined the local department in early March, brings a wealth of law enforcement experience with him to the community.

A Lapeer native who currently resides in the Mayville area with his wife, JoLyn, Hook, 47, says he was drawn to a career in law enforcement for as long as he can remember.

His path to the job started after he graduated from Lapeer West High School in 1990, when he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, serving as a military police officer at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Wash.

"I was in the Navy for four years, and after that, I enlisted in the state police in May of 1995," re-

called Hook, who was initially assigned to the Michigan State Police post in Cadillac, but was later promoted to sergeant and moved to the Monroe post. In 2003, he was transferred to the Caro post, where he spent 16 years of his 24-year career, although he was regularly assigned temporary duty at other posts across the state.

Hook retired from the state police in 2019, but he wasn't ready to stop working.

"I had my time in, so I thought I was young enough to start a new career," he said, noting he accepted a job with DTE as a corporate investigator, working in Detroit. After eight months, he decided moving to the city wasn't something he wanted to pursue.

That's when the job in Cass City caught his eye.

Veteran Cass City Police Chief Craig Haynes says Hook has proven to be a solid addition to the local police department.

"He brings a lot of experience to

the job. I think he's a good fit to the community, a great asset to the department," Haynes said.

"He's a strong believer in community policing," added the chief, referring to a policing philosophy that encourages law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve to work together as a problem-solving team. It also encourages officers to be involved in their communities and interact with citizens on a regular basis.

It's an approach to law enforcement that Hook agreed he has embraced in Cass City.

"What I noticed right away about Cass City, particularly, is the support for the police," said Hook, who indicated he's enjoying working in a small town setting.

"I like being available to help citizens when they need it," he added. "You have more of a connection to the community your servicing in a smaller jurisdiction, and that makes a difference."



IT DIDN'T take long for veteran Michigan State Police Trooper Jeff Hook (pictured above) to settle into his new role as a village police officer in Cass City.

## Mask up or pay up? Enforcement question remains

Continued from page one.

any complaints or report violations they may have to the Michigan Attorney General at the governor's constituent services at (517) 335-7858.

"Gov. Whitmer has issued 147 executive orders (EOs). Some of the EOs rescind previous EOs and some of the EOs modify previous EOs. For local law enforcement, this has become a confusing issue as to what is enforceable and what is not enforceable," Bad Axe Police Chief Dave Rothe said in a statement released to the media Friday.

"Please do not contact (the) Bad Axe Police Department to file a complaint reference for a person possibly violating the governor's EO. We will only refer you" to the Michigan Attorney General's Office, he stated.

"Thank you for your patience during this unprecedented time in history, and remember, be kind to one another, even if you disagree with what they do or say."

Cass City Police Chief Craig Haynes said over the weekend that he plans to meet with village officials and his officers to discuss the new executive order before taking a formal stand on enforcement.

"We're not going to rush into it," Haynes said. "Certainly we need to talk to the prosecutor, because ultimately, the burden falls to the prosecutor."

Tuscola County Sheriff Glen Skrent also weighed in, noting, "Law enforcement has been told that MIOASHA will be the enforcement arm of the state on this and people should call MIOASHA at (855) 713-3219.

"We, as a local law enforcement group, meet every week by phone conference and go over the items of concern for our area. Regarding the executive orders, we favor compliance through education and not writing tickets. We have done this since the very beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak," Skrent said.

"As far as our office is concerned," he added, "if a business is trying to enforce the no-mask rule and the person refuses to leave and causes a disturbance, there are other laws that pertain to this and we will take enforcement action on those criminal laws that have been in force for years.

"I, as the sheriff, do believe in wearing masks in a public place where you might be close to another person (who is) not of your family. It is a minor inconvenience," Skrent said.

"Everyone has rights, including those who are elderly, immune compromised, pregnant or even the young who can have serious consequences in contracting Covid."

Whitmer said wearing face coverings is the least residents can do when many working in the healthcare, childcare, grocery and other fields go hours each day without taking off their masks. "We owe it to them to wear our masks when we're on a trip to the grocery store or pharmacy," she added.

"Masks can reduce the chance of spreading COVID-19 by about 70 percent. By wearing masks, we can save lives and protect our family, friends, and neighbors

from the spread of COVID-19. And by wearing masks now, we can put our state in a stronger position so our kids can return to school safely in the fall."

Whitmer cited research confirming that a big part of the reason is spotty compliance with previous executive orders recommending that individuals wear face coverings in public spaces.

"Michigan's fight against COVID-19 is nowhere near over, which is why it's so important that we all do our part and wear masks when we're out in public," said Chief Medical Executive and DHHS Chief Deputy for Health Dr. Joneigh Khaldun.

"Wearing a mask or face covering can significantly decrease the chance of spreading COVID-19 and save lives. It's important that all Michiganders wear masks properly — not down around the neck, not only over the mouth, but correctly over the mouth and nose."

Ann Hepfer, health officer for the Tuscola and Huron county health departments, continues to encourage residents not only to wear masks, but also to insist healthcare and other workers they come in contact with to wear face coverings.

"I have received numerous calls from residents concerned about the fact that many people are not wearing masks, (including some) physicians, waitresses, hardware store (workers), bartenders, nurses, and the general public," Hepfer said.

"I will be honest; there is not much I can do to enforce the mask wearing. What I can say is that if you are being seen by a healthcare provider that does not respect your health enough to wear a mask, then you have every right in the world to seek care elsewhere," she added. "The same applies to where you eat and shop. If you don't like the practices you are seeing, then go where you will be safe, and where people care and respect you."


"We all have choices to make — make the right one for yourself and your loved ones."


### Latest virus numbers

Between Monday, July 6, and Monday, July 13, the number of combined confirmed cases in Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac counties increased by 20 — from 336 to 356 — with the three counties' combined death toll increasing by just one to 35 fatalities.

As of Monday afternoon, Tuscola County had recorded 235 confirmed cases, an increase of five cases compared to a week before, and 27 deaths (an increase of one); Huron County had recorded 68 cases (an increase of 11 cases), with three deaths (no increase); and Sanilac County, 53 confirmed cases, up from 49 cases a week earlier, and five deaths (no change).





Statewide, Monday's total confirmed cases reached 69,722, with a total of 6,075 deaths, compared to 66,173 cases and 5,975 deaths a week earlier.

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# Legal Notices

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Tuscola County, Michigan starting promptly at 10:00 a.m., on August 6, 2020. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Daniel V. Smith Jr. and Kelley A. Smith, husband and wife. Original Mortgagee: Associates Housing Finance, LLC Date of Mortgage: June 1, 1998 Date of Mortgage Recording: June 5, 1998 in Liber 741, Page 865, Tuscola County Records, Michigan, subsequently assigned to Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance Inc. by an assignment of mortgage dated June 15, 2005 and recorded on September 6, 2005 in Liber 1053, Page 1, Tuscola County Records, Michigan. Amount claimed due on date of notice: Fifty-eight thousand four hundred twenty-four and 71/100 Dollars (\$58,424.71), including interest. Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Fremont, Tuscola County, Michigan, and described as: Part of the East 1 / 2 of the Northeast 1 / 4 of Section 6, Town 11 North, Range 9 East, described as beginning at a point on the East line of said Section that is North 330 feet from the East 1 / 4 corner of said Section 6; thence continuing North 330 feet; thence parallel to the East-West 1 / 4 line, South 89 degrees 36 minutes 05 seconds West, 264 feet; thence South 330 feet; thence North 89 degrees 36 minutes 05 seconds East, 264 feet to the point of beginning and all fixtures and improvements thereon, including a 1998 Mansion manufactured home bearing serial number MO-30448-1. Common street address: 3670 Chambers Road, Vassar, Michigan 48768. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later; or unless MCL 600.3240(16) applies. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. This notice is from a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information we obtain will be used for that purpose. This sale may be rescinded or set aside by the foreclosing mortgagee. In such event, damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return or refund of the bid amount tendered at such sale, together with interest at the rate set forth herein. Dated: June 18, 2020 Vanderbilt Mortgage and Finance Inc., Assignee of Mortgagee Richard A. Green, Attorneys, 133 W. Main St., Ste 130 Northville, MI 48167 (248) 924-2354 FIRST PUBLICATION: July 1, 2020

7-1-5

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

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

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Tuscola County, Michigan, starting promptly at ten o'clock in the forenoon on Thursday, the 20th day of August, 2020. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the

day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

The mortgage was made by JARED SADLER and TAYLOR L. SADLER, husband and wife (collectively, "Mortgagor"), to GREENSTONE FARM CREDIT SERVICES, FLCA, a federally chartered corporation, having an office at 3515 West Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823 (the "Mortgagee"), dated December 18, 2015, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Tuscola County, Michigan on December 22, 2015, in Liber 1343, Page 372, as partially released by a partial release of mortgage dated September 10, 2019, recorded October 25, 2019, in Liber 1433, Page 1277, Tuscola County Records (the "Mortgage"). By reason of a default under the conditions of the Mortgage, the Mortgagee elects to declare and hereby declares the entire unpaid amount of the Mortgage due and payable forthwith. Mortgagee is the owner of the indebtedness secured by the Mortgage.

As of the date of this Notice there is claimed to be due for principal and interest on the Mortgage the sum of Thirty-Nine Thousand Three Hundred Four and 21/100 Dollars (\$39,304.21). No suit or proceeding at law has been instituted to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage or any part thereof.

The premises covered by the Mortgage are situated in the Township of Dayton, County of Tuscola, State of Michigan, and are described as follows:

A parcel of land being in and a part of the Southwest quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 33, Town 11 North, Range 10 East, described as: Commencing at the West quarter corner of said Section 33, thence, thence North 01 degrees 55 minutes 32 seconds west along the West line of said Section 33, 581.04 feet to the Point of Beginning, thence North 01 degrees 55 minutes 32 seconds along the West line of said Section 33, 340.76 feet, thence North 87 degrees 41 minutes 27 seconds East parallel with the North 1/8 line of said Section 33, 468.96 feet, thence South 01 degrees 55 minutes 32 seconds East parallel with the West line of said Section 33, 345.31 feet, thence South 87 degrees 12 minutes 16 seconds West 194.0 feet, thence North 01 degrees 55 minutes 32 seconds West parallel with the West line of said Section 33, 8.53 feet, thence South 87 degrees 12 minutes 16 seconds West, 275 feet to the Point of Beginning.

Together with all fixtures, tenements, hereditaments, and appurtenances belonging or in any way appertaining to the premises.

Commonly known as: 6691 Pattison Road, Mayville, Michigan 48744  
P.P. #79-005-033-000-0600-03

Notice is further given that the length of the redemption period will be one (1) year from the date of sale, unless the premises are abandoned. If the premises are abandoned, the redemption period will be the later of thirty (30) days from the date of the sale or upon expiration of fifteen (15) days after the Mortgagor is given notice pursuant to MCLA §600.3241a(b) that the premises are considered abandoned and Mortgagor, Mortgagor's heirs, executor, or administrator, or a person lawfully claiming from or under one (1) of them has not given the written notice required by MCLA §600.3241a(c) stating that the premises are not abandoned.

If the premises are sold at a foreclosure sale, under MCLA §600.3278 the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the premises at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the Mortgagee for damaging the premises during the redemption period.

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

Dated: July 15, 2020  
GREENSTONE FARM CREDIT SERVICES, FLCA  
Mortgagee

Timothy Hillegonds  
WARNER NORCROSS + JUDD  
LLP  
1500 Warner Building  
150 Ottawa Avenue NW  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-2487  
(616) 752-2000  
20379093-2

7-15-4

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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: Ross Foley  
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.  
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Pastor Dale Bullock 989-872-2828

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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.  
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GARAGE SALE - Friday, July 17 from 8 a.m. to ?, little bit of everything, 6457 Beechwood Dr. 14-7-15-1

ESTATE SALE - 6427 Chestnut Blvd. - Northwood Estates, Cass City. Joyce Cameron Home. Thursday, July 16 & Friday, July 17 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. & Saturday, July 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Like new lift chair, double glider, mid century sofa & matching chair, end tables and coffee table, mid century lamps, dining room table with 4 chairs, china hutch, antique oak bed and dresser, misc. dressers, wall unit, kitchenware, costume jewelry, over 200 Barbies (1970s-present) strawberry shortcake, large selection of goofus glass, depression glass, entire set of amber, lots of nice Christmas including a 9 foot tree. The house is packed! Sale by Aunt Netty's Nook 989-550-8484. 14-7-8-2

3 FAMILY HUGE Garage Sale 2735 N. Cemetery Rd. 3-1/2 miles south of Cass City. Dressers, table and chairs, wooden twin bed with drawers in bottom. Glassware, kids' and adult clothes, many toys. Lots of other items. July 16, 17 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday the 18th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. 14-7-15-1

**Notices**

**Annual  
5K Run &  
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To benefit  
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When: Aug. 15, 2020 at 9 a.m.

Where: Our Lady Consolata Parish  
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Cost: 5K - \$21 through 8/14;  
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**Deadline: JULY 20, 2020**

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**Mental Health**

*Tip of the Week*

*Value yourself. Treat yourself with kindness and respect, and avoid self-criticism. Take stock of the qualities you like about yourself, your accomplishments and abilities. Take some time every day to relax, reflect and rejuvenate.*

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**MENACING STARE** – A common snapping turtle (pictured above near Deford) can appear docile, but they have a well-earned reputation for being aggressive hunters, eat nearly anything that they can get their jaws around — dead animals, insects, fish, birds, small mammals, amphibians, and a surprisingly large amount of aquatic plants. In the wild, snapping turtles can live up to 30 years.

# Kingston board okays adjustment in grading

Continued from page one.

grading system has been used since 1999. The first time the system was questioned was during a meeting in March.

"I am fine with the change. It is the same system that is used by nearly every school in our area. I get why we were doing it the old way, because I do think it holds students to a little higher standard," said Drake.

"I work for the school board, the students and the community, and I will always implement what they feel is in the students' best interest."

Drake explained the differences in the two grading systems this way:

"Most high schools that I am aware of use a method where the final semester grade is composed of 40 percent for the first nine-week grade, 40 percent for the second nine-week grade, and 20 percent for the final exam," he explained. "The final grade percentages may look like this: 93 percent the first nine weeks, 93 percent the second nine weeks and 90 percent on the final exam."

Drake went on to outline the different methods, saying the math for the straight percentage grading system used by most all Thumb Schools would, for example, determine that 93+93 (40 percent) plus 93+93 (40 percent) plus 90 (20 percent) equals 92.4% (final grade of A-minus). Using the same numbers, the final grade using the 4.0 scale as Kingston does would translate into a 3.94 (grade of A).

"Using these two formulas, you can run different scenarios and see how each system impacts students. Using straight percentages, the higher the A's, the more weight they carry. The lower the A's the less weight they carry," Drake said. "Using the Kingston 4.0 system, a 100 percent A counts the same as a 94 percent A when the translation to 4.0 scale is used."

"In another example, if a student earned a 98 in the first nine weeks, and 98 in the second nine weeks, and got an 86 percent on a final exam, that student would earn a 4.0 (A) on percentages. However, on the 4.0 scale method Kingston used to use, they would get an A-minus," he added. "The differences between these two methods will impact different students in different ways. They are both fair, but they are different."

"So that all comes down to where do you want to put more weight — the nine weeks of instructions or on the final exam?"

The bottom line is that the district's former method made it more difficult for students to get a 4.0 grade.

"The new grading system will be easier for students and parents to understand," Drake said.

The change in grading will start this fall with students in seventh through twelfth grade.

"We will not make any retroactive changes for past grades," said Drake.

In other business, the board discussed preparations for the start of the 2020-2021 school year.

"We are working on a reopening plan that includes new precautions that our caregivers will take. That plan has to be turned in and approved by our licensing consultant before we can open," explained Drake.

"There was a virtual meeting with the staff to discuss options, barriers and what the next school year might look like. I have also been looking at classrooms, passing times, and locker arrangements for next year to increase social distancing if we are back in the building in the fall," he said.

"There has been a lot of thought and planning in motion to make the upcoming school year work. Student transportation and in-building social distancing have been the main focus of planning."

Also during the regular meeting, the board:

- \*Acknowledged a letter from the Tuscola County Health Department recognizing the district for its 99-percent compliance rate with immunization reporting.

- \*Approved the purchase of new Chromebooks for staff for an amount not to exceed \$20,000, and approved the purchase of 430 Chromebook covers for students, with the cost not to exceed \$8,200.

- \*Noted that because restrictions are still in place due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the district will not register children for summer daycare.

- \*Accepted "with regret" the resignation of Mary Lou Mallory, public library paraprofessional.

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123-20-0019

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123-20-0017

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123-20-0025

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194-20-0004

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Jean Board welcomes Tasha Hadrill of Tasha's Dirty Paws to Cass City. Watch for Tasha's opening at the corner of Leach & Church Streets.

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