

Erasing the past
won't fix problem

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CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

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.75 CENTS - 10 PAGES



CASS CITY Village Council trustees Tom Herron (left) and Don Ball have worked tirelessly to get the community's new splash park up and (almost) running. The new recreational attraction, located adjacent to Helen Stevens Memorial Pool, is expected to be completed in a matter of days.

Splashdown!

Newest addition to village park in Cass City nearly completed

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

With temperatures forecast to stay warm, there will soon be a second way to cool off from the heat in the village of Cass City.

"The splash pad is just about done. The water needs to be connected to it," Tom Herron, a village council trustee who has been instrumental in getting the new local recreational attraction off the ground, commented Friday. "That should be done this week or next. Then, it will be ready to go."

A trip to Atlanta, Ga., about a year ago, was how the idea to build a splash pad in the village came about.

"I was there visiting my daughter. There was one there that I saw," Herron recalled. "We were doing renovations to the pool here, and I thought adding a splash park would be a good addition to the park and for the pool."

And, Herron's fellow village council members agreed with him. Please turn to page 10.

Deputies identify victim in fatal car fire July 12

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Tuscola County Sheriff's Department investigators are continuing their probe into a fatal vehicle fire that left the victim burned beyond recognition.

Sheriff Glen Skrent identified the victim Thursday as Ashley Mikowski, 32, of Bay City.

Sheriff Glen Skrent said deputies were dispatched to a car fire in a ditch, on Fairgrove Road near Vassar Road in Gilford Township, during the early morning hours of July 12.

"MMR Ambulance had been en route to another call when they located the burning car," Skrent reported. "The vehicle had been travelling westbound on Fairgrove Road, left the roadway and struck a tree and caught fire. One person was located in the vehicle."

"Because of the fire, the body was not able to be immediately identified," Skrent said. "Deputies and detectives spent considerable time tracking down information on the vehicle through previous owners. No plate has been found and no paperwork to assist in the identity."

An autopsy was ordered in the case. The victim was later identified by a tattoo, according to Skrent, who noted DNA samples were taken to confirm the information.

Any area residents who believe they may have information related to the investigation are asked to contact the Tuscola County Sheriff's Department. Calls should be directed to Detective Scott Jones at (989) 673-8161 (ext. 2233).

Governor clarifies new mask rules

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer last week clarified the rules related to her mandate requiring residents to wear masks in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Local health department officials, meanwhile, updated testing numbers and addressed some myths regarding how virus case and fatality numbers are being calculated.

Whitmer, who recently signed an executive order requiring all Michiganders to wear a mask in indoor public spaces and crowded

outdoor spaces, last week said business are not to assume that an unmasked customer cannot medically tolerate a face covering, though they can accept a customer's verbal representation to that effect.

She also noted her latest order requires public safety officers to wear a face covering unless doing so would seriously interfere in the performance of their responsibilities, and she stated that wearing a mask at polling places for the purpose of voting in an election is not required, but strongly encouraged. "Wearing a mask is the right thing to do to protect our families,

our businesses, and our economy," Whitmer said. "If everyone in Michigan masks up, we can save thousands of lives and put ourselves in a better position to send our kids back to school in the fall."

"COVID-19 is far from over - people are still getting sick and dying," said Katie Scott, RN, vice president of the Michigan Nurses Association.

"As a nurse, I'm worried that many people are not taking the Please turn to page 6.

Graduation a go in Cass City

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Cass City School officials abandoned plans for a special meeting early last week to discuss plans for the district's commencement exercises for the Class of 2020.

The purpose of the special meeting was 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," school Supt. Jeff Hartel explained. (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 going to do it legally and safely."

The good news, Hartel announced last week, is school officials have ironed out details for this year's graduation ceremony after consulting with the district's law firm and county health department officials.

Cass City High School seniors were previously scheduled to graduate during a ceremony Thursday, July 30, starting at 8:20 p.m. at the football field.

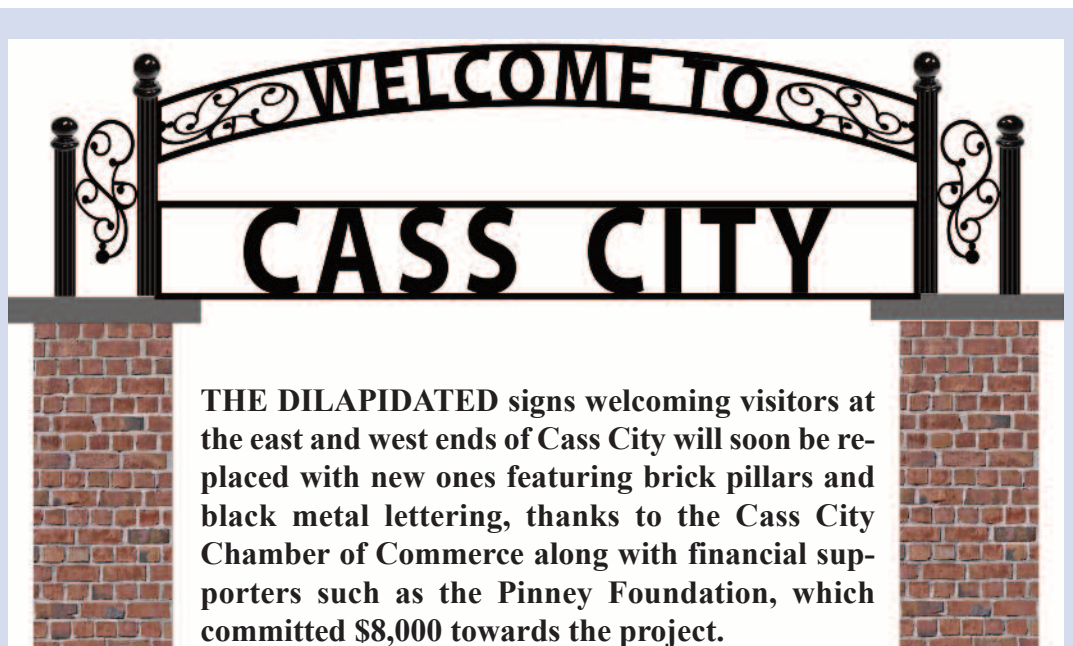
Now, the ceremony will still be held July 30, but the starting time is 7 p.m. and the venue has changed from the football field to an area in front of the high school, where board of education members and administrators will greet and honor seniors one at a time.

Those seniors will arrive in vehicles - each graduate will be allowed to be accompanied by family members in up to three vehicles - which will line-up at the elementary school and make their way up to the high school in alphabetical order.

The ceremony will include pre-recorded speeches by students and Hartel, and the district has hired a professional videographer to capture the entire event. Students and their families will then receive a free link to access the video.

The program was patterned after what Frankenmuth School officials did for their seniors, according to Hartel, who explained the change in venue was made in order to cut down on the risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic by avoiding a large gathering at the football field.

"We want a controlled situation," he said. "I think we have a good plan to honor the kids. We want to give them the recognition (of completing their high school educations), but we want to be safe."



THE DILAPIDATED signs welcoming visitors at the east and west ends of Cass City will soon be replaced with new ones featuring brick pillars and black metal lettering, thanks to the Cass City Chamber of Commerce along with financial supporters such as the Pinney Foundation, which committed \$8,000 towards the project.

New signs to welcome visitors to village

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Years of planning for new signs welcoming visitors to the village of Cass City were scheduled to become a reality starting this week with the demolition of old dilapidated signs at the east and west village limits.

Cass City Chamber of Commerce officials say the replacement signs will be not only be more attractive, but also fit in with architectural designs already in place in the community, including the entrance sign at Rotary Park along Main Street.

"It will be nice to have them there - something

a little more permanent. I think they will look great," chamber Administrator Judy Keller commented Friday.

The signs, featuring brick pillars and black metal wording, will stand eight to 10 feet high and 14 to 16 feet wide, according to Keller. The signs will be installed at both the east and west village limits.

"These signs are going to be real close to what the Rotary (Park) fence sign look like," she said, adding Jason Mester of Creative Concrete, Cass City, is scheduled to begin work on the pillars next week. The chamber has hired Mike Stolicker, Sandusky, to complete the metal sign

Please turn to page 6.

Obituaries

Janet Hurley

Janet Elizabeth Hurley, 76 of Cass City, passed away Wednesday, July 15, 2020 in Saginaw. She was born September 18, 1943, in Detroit, to Udell Alfred and Elizabeth Ann (Boon) Wareham.

Janet graduated from Grosse Pointe High School in 1962. She worked at Palmer Osteopathic Hospital, Mt. Clemens General Hospital, and several retail stores; however, the career that Janet was most proud of was that of an Elkland Township Firefighter. While serving as a firefighter Janet's responsibilities included the positions of secretary, the treasure, and she instructed youth fire safety classes. She participated in numerous community events such as marching in parades, driving firetrucks, and making popcorn on Halloween. Janet was a member of The Girl Scouts of America for 40 years. She also served her community as a Girl Scout and Boy Scout leader. Janet enjoyed helping kids develop leadership skills and giving them opportunities to gain hands on experience in real world situations. She volunteered in many other ways throughout the community. Janet was a member of the Caro Moose Lodge #1049 and prior member of the Zonta Club of Cass City. She attended the United Methodist Church of Cass City, taking part in the church bazaars, singing in the choir, and making quilts. Janet was passionate about her stamp collection. She enjoyed spending hours sorting, researching, and obtaining rare stamps.

Janet is survived by her children: Lorie Hurley (Berlyn Zimmerman) of Saginaw, Tammy Hurley of Saginaw, Steven (Pam) Hurley of Statesville, NC, Wendy (Rick) Sekely of Midland; five grandchildren: Shawn, Adam (Krissy), Jeffery, Kristin, Kaitlin; four step-grandchildren: Samantha (Aaron), Alysha, Tyler, Dalton; nieces and nephews: Cindy Stilson of Cass City, Peter (Rachael) Matson of Lewiston, Raymond (Anita) Matson of Lewiston; several great nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her parents; sister, Shirley Matson.

Funeral service held Tuesday, July 21, 2020 at Kranz Funeral Home, Cass City, with Rev. Bob Demyanovich of Cass City United Methodist Church officiating. Interment will be at the Elkland Township Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Elkland Township Fire Department. Family and friends may share memories, prayers and photos with the family at www.kranzfuneralhome.com. Janet's funeral service will be webcast live on the Kranz Funeral Home website and archived to her obituary page.

Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home of Cass City.



Nancy Volante

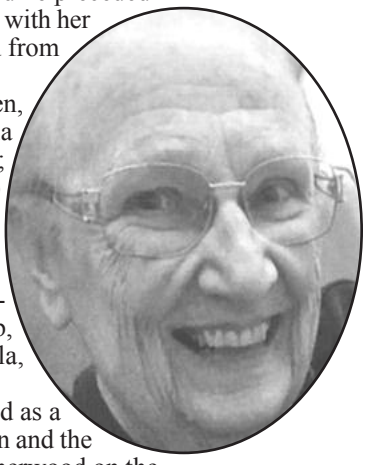
Nancy "Nana" Volante passed away peacefully in her home with family late Tuesday night, July 14, 2020 at the age of 80, after a long battle with pulmonary fibrosis. Nancy was a sibling of four, Frank (Mary) Eagle, Linda (Don) Schwartz and Michael Eagle. She was born in Centerville, Pennsylvania, to the late Mike and Mary Eagle. She married Anthony Volante on May 2, 1959 and he preceded her in death. Nancy moved to Detroit with her family at a young age and graduated from Chadsey High School in 1958.

She is survived by her three children, Keith (Janet) Volante, Pamela Nowaczyk and Vicky (Tim) Neuman; six grandchildren, Anthony (Stacey) Volante, Christie (Derek) Palermo, Nicole Nowaczyk, April (Brent) Kucharczyk, Nick (Jaime) Neuman, Stephanie (Stephen McLane) Neuman; six great-grandchildren Jacob, Alyssa, Anthony II (AJ), Izabella, Chloe and Edyn.

Nancy will be lovingly remembered as a staple of the community in Gageton and the surrounding areas as the owner of Sherwood on the Hill Golf Course for the last 40 years.

She was a proud member of the Bay City Red Hatters, a lover of golf, bowling, baseball and the outdoors in general, but not to be overshadowed by the love for her family.

A memorial service was held in her honor at Sherwood on the Hill, Sunday, July 19, 2020.



Faye Karpovich

Faye Wanda Karpovich, 73, of Cass City, died Wednesday, July 15, 2020 in the comfort of her home. She was born August 16, 1946 in Ruth the fifth of nine children born to Charles and Magdalene (Kirsch) Messing. She married Stephen Charles Karpovich July 11, 1966 in St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Ruth. He died June 15, 2013.

Faye graduated from St. Peter and Paul Catholic School of Ruth and attended Port Huron Junior College. She worked as an operator for Bell Telephone and as an executive assistant for Oakland University, Michigan State University and Frankenmuth Mutual Insurance. Faye had a tremendous eye for home decorating. This skill allowed her to work as an area manager for Home Interiors. She enjoyed the peaceful, quiet country life and was known for her beautiful flower gardens. Faye enjoyed going for countryside rides with Stephen. She loved her family, especially her beloved grandchildren.

Faye is survived by her son, David (Holly Beverly) Karpovich of Cass City; grandchildren: Charles Karpovich, Rebecca Karpovich, Nathan Karpovich and their mother, Tonya Karpovich; siblings: Ron (Pat) Messing, Carol (Harold) Dropeski, Ben (Pat) Messing, Harry Messing, Clifford (Sue) Messing, Mike (Sherry) Messing; brothers in law: Ken Vahovick, Paul Slater; Goddaughter, Jane Slater; many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Stephen; two sisters: Alice Vahovick, Lillian Slater.

Graveside service was held Monday, July 20, 2020 at St. Agatha Cemetery, Gageton with Rev. Theodore Nnabugo officiating. Memorials may be made to St. Agatha Cemetery Fund or Juniata Christian School. Friends may share memories, prayers and photos with the family at www.kranzfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home of Cass City.



Joyce Neal

Joyce Ann Neal, 82, of Cass City, died Friday, July 10, 2020 in Ascension St. Mary's Hospital, Saginaw. She was born June 8, 1938 in Bad Axe to Stanley Ellis and Ruth Ann (Steadman) Morell. Joyce married James Leroy Neal on February 2, 1957 in Gageton United Methodist Church, now Hillside Community Church, where she was currently a member.

Joyce moved to Bay City following graduation from Bad Axe High School. Jim and Joyce were blessed with four children, Janet, James, Jeanne and Jacqueline. During the blizzard of 1978, the Neal's moved to Toledo, Ohio. Joyce worked for Dr. Razi Rafeeq as office manager for 30 years. Upon retiring, they lived in Tennessee, Florida and finally settled back in Cass City. Joyce loved to knit, sew, go to ceramics with her sister, play the piano, and sing in the choir.

Everyone who came into the Neal home always enjoyed plenty of home cooking, a warm environment, and lots of baked goods. Joyce knew how to be a gracious hostess! She was also a gracious guest. Whenever she went to visit or stay with someone, she always had a special gift to show her appreciation.

There are plenty of people that own personally handmade gifts from Joyce, everything from hats, socks, blankets, Christmas stockings and more. If you knew Joyce, you knew she loved Christmas. It was her favorite holiday. Her home was always beautifully decorated, but at Christmas, you could feel the magic come alive. She would have music playing, cookies and candies for tasting, and presents for all. More than anything else, Joyce loved her family. It was important and very special when all of her children could be together and celebrate.

Joyce is survived by her husband of 63 years, James; children: Janet (Mike) Darrah of Groveland, FL; James (Joe) Neal of Tucson, AZ; Jeanne (Fred) Quinn of Toledo, OH; Jacqueline (Thomas) Van Tress of Phoenix, AZ; twelve grandchildren: Melissa LeTourneau, Matthew LeTourneau, Stephanie Darrah, Clint Darrah, Elizabeth (Kris) Kruse, Benjamin Darrah, Brandon (Jon) Quinn, Brian (Karina) Quinn, Alexandria (Jeremiah) Eklund, Mackenzie (Jacob) Keck, Zachary Van Tress, Madison (Joshua) Orcutt; five great-grandsons: Ryker LeTourneau, Christopher Head, Nico Darrah, Emrik Eklund, Carson Eklund; sister, Betty (Jack) Laurie; sisters-in-law: Jeanette (Lynwood) LaPeer, Janice (Edward) Neal, Shirley (Danny) Haag; numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, great-great nieces and nephews, many loving cousins and close family friends. Joyce was preceded in death by her parents; sisters: Shirley (Jerry) Houghton, Marilyn (James) Dennis.

Due to the current COVID 19 health situation there will be no services at this time. A Celebration of Life will be held in the future when everyone can safely gather to remember her beautiful life.

Memorials may be made to Hillside Community Church, Gageton. 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.



Jon Walsh

Mr. Jon Mark Walsh, age 55, of Sandusky, passed away Friday, July 17, 2020 at his home. He was born July 1, 1965, in Cass City, the son of W. Joseph and Patricia J. (Otulakowski) Walsh.

Jon liked gardening, cars, cooking, taking walks, music, shopping at thrift stores, his religion (which was very important to him) and time with his family and family gatherings.

Jon is survived by his parents, W. Joseph and Patricia Walsh of Uby, siblings, Dr. Diana (Robert Reuss) Walsh-Reuss of CA, Paul Joseph Walsh of Uby, Laura Anne (Paul) Ubelhor of Lakeville, Stephen Michael (Holly) Walsh and Joseph Patrick (Kim) Walsh, both of Uby and Rickelle Jennifer Walsh of Bad Axe, nieces and nephews, Ashley Walsh, Leann (Harry) Grifka, Amanda (Randy) Smith, Adam (Danielle) Walsh, Sarah Walsh, Trevor Walsh and Jesse Weaver, great nieces and nephews, Sara Grifka, Eric Grifka and Finn Walsh.

He was predeceased by a nephew, Brent Tinsey. Visitation is Friday, July 24, 2020 from 10 a.m. until an 11 a.m. funeral service at Freiburger Cemetery. Fr. Nathan Harburg officiating. Please bring a lawn chair to sit on. Burial will be in Freiburger Cemetery.

Please share condolences at www.thabetfuneralhome.com. Arrangements were made by Thabet Funeral Home, Cass City.



THANK YOU!

The Cass City Chamber of Commerce would like to thank the **Cass City Lions Club** for their generous donation for 2020 4th of July fireworks display!

Professional and Business DIRECTORY

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In Our OPINION...

Clarke Haire
Publisher

Tom Montgomery
Editor

Time to catch up on kids' vaccines

Fewer Michigan children are currently up-to-date on their routine vaccines because of postponed well-child visits during the COVID-19 pandemic.

That's according to Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) officials, who are now urging families to get children and adolescents caught up on all recommended vaccines as soon as possible.

Because of the pandemic, it is especially important to ensure everyone is protected against vaccine-preventable diseases. Decreased immunization rates put Michiganders at risk for disease outbreaks.

A recent study published in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report revealed how COVID-19 has had a negative impact on routine vaccinations in Michigan. According to data from the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR), the percentage of five-month-olds in Michigan who were fully up-to-date on all recommended vaccines decreased from about two-thirds during 2016-2019 to less than half in May 2020.

In addition, only 53 percent of Michigan children 19 months through 35 months of age were fully immunized with recommended vaccines.

"It is concerning that so many children are behind on their vaccinations and susceptible to preventable diseases," said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, chief medical executive and chief deputy for health at MDHHS. "Vaccines are essential. It is important for caregivers to contact their healthcare provider to get children caught up on needed vaccines."

Many healthcare providers are implementing new procedures to ensure patients can safely come in for well visits and to get caught up on immunizations. The CDC has released extensive guidance for healthcare providers on how to continue to provide immunization services safely during the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to the CDC, ensuring immunization services are maintained or reinitiated is essential for protecting individuals and communities from vaccine-preventable diseases and outbreaks, and reducing the burden of respiratory illness during the upcoming influenza season.

"It will also be vital for everyone ages six months and older to get their flu vaccine this fall," said Khaldun. "The influenza vaccine will help keep Michiganders out of the hospital for flu-related illnesses, saving lives and protecting our hospital capacity during the COVID-19 pandemic."

Parents should contact their child's healthcare provider to find out what vaccines their child needs, discuss the safety measures put in place to protect patients and schedule an appointment. If insurance coverage has been disrupted or there is concern about being able to afford childhood vaccines, the Michigan Vaccines for Children program can help. It provides vaccines for children through age 18 years who are Medicaid-eligible, uninsured, underinsured, American Indian or Alaska Native.

In an effort to help parents protect their children from serious vaccine-preventable diseases, MDHHS participates in the I Vaccinate campaign. I Vaccinate provides the facts parents need to make informed decisions about vaccinations.

More information on the campaign can be found on the website IVaccinate.org.

Drier Humor

by Mary Drier

One letter at a time



Ever since I attended the 50th Sebewaing High School Class reunion about a year ago, I've been tripping down memory lane.

It was the first class reunion that I attended, and with its celebration every 10 years, it will more than likely be the last one.

Although I don't look back on those four years in the hallowed walls of high school with fondness, I do remember the typing class, probably because it is a skill I use every day as I write.

Back in the day, classrooms only had manual typewriters. With 25 or so students in a class, the pounding clatter of keys was loud along with the dingling bell of the return carriage, and they were never in unison.

There was a girl who sat behind me during the two years I took the class. She typed so fast it sounded like a machine gun going off. She was amazing to watch type.

Eventually, the school got a couple of electric typewriters. We all got to spend few days on what we considered at the time to be the ultimate futuristic machine. There was no carriage return on the electric typewriters. Instead of having separate letters at the end of bars, the electric typewriters had a ball that spun around to the letter needed.

It turned out, the same girl who sat behind in typing class in high school also went to the same college. I was once again in class with the machine gun typist.

In college, the teacher upped the ante for typing. Besides just being timed for speed and accuracy, we were graded on form.

The teacher would have us place quarters on our wrists and type. The first typist who lost a quarter got an E. The grade could be improved by how much longer it took for the second quarter to fall.

The machine gun typist had wide wrists and hardly moved her fingers when she typed. At the end of the typing test, she normally had one if not both quarters still on her wrists. She always got an A for the day.

For some reason, I have really small wrists. I have to wear a child's bracelet or take the links out of an adult one to make it smaller so it doesn't fall off.

I was, and still am, what I call a percussion typist; I push the keys hard, especially when I'm typing fast. So, I was one of the first students to lose the quarters.

After the reunion, several times I thought about the sounds of typing class with clattering keys and dings as the carriage was returned.

So, when I saw old typewriters for sale on the Albrecht Auction site, I put bids on them. The decision to do that was just nostalgia for wanting to once again hear the clatter of keys, feel the thrill of slamming the carriage return to hear that little ding.

Then, later when I was waiting to see if I was the winning bidder, I came to my senses as I typed the outline for a column on my laptop computer.

No matter how fast or hard I type on my computer keyboard, the keys don't jam. They don't make any noise.

Letters to the Editor

Erasing the past isn't going to fix problem

Dear Editor,

I read with interest and a measure of empathy the letter written by Mr. Kranz in last week's edition of the paper. Mr. Kranz argued that it might be a step in the right direction to change the name of Cass City, since Lewis Cass advocated for and participated in "Indian removal." At the very least, he argued, the name change might spur on "more serious conversations."


In some ways, I agree with Mr. Kranz. We ought to remember the atrocities perpetrated in the past. We ought to be careful about who we hold up as role models and heroes. We ought to be cautious of our acceptance of the victor's version of history alone. We ought not brush over those parts of the past which inconveniently disrupt our ideals. But I would like to make a couple of points that I think deserve some thought.

As a local historian, I will point out one, minor technicality—Cass City was not named to celebrate Lewis

Please turn to page 4.

And as I ran what I had typed through the computer's grammar and spell check, the nostalgia gave way to the reality of what the heck was I thinking.

After that realization, I was never so happy to be outbid.



Rabbit Tracks

by Clarke Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)

Huron County Sheriff Kelly J. Hanson says the operator of a disabled personal watercraft did himself a big favor by having his cellular phone on hand. That's a lesson we can all take with us when venturing out on the Great Lakes — or any lakes.

Hanson reported the rescue of the 23-year-old Wyandotte man early last week, saying his department was dispatched about 2 ½ miles offshore of Caseville, where the man's personal watercraft had quit and was full of water.

"Our deputies and a conservation officer, aboard our 28-foot Caseville patrol boat, responded to get the man out of the water and recover his machine," Hanson said. "He was brought aboard, requesting no medical attention, and taken back to Caseville with his 2001 Sea-Doo in tow."

"The operator is credited for having a cellular phone in a watertight case, which helped immensely in his quick recovery," the sheriff noted.

In early June, Michigan retailers officially began accepting cans and bottles with a deposit for redemption and recycling after an 11-week shutdown. During this time, it is estimated that Michiganders stockpiled 800 million containers, worth \$80 million in deposits. Due to this tremendous backlog, the Department of Treasury established unprecedented measures to limit the amount of containers retailers could redeem in a week in order to avoid breakdown of the system's reverse logistics and processing infrastructure.

Since reopening the system, retailers, distributors and their recycling service providers have been working at maximum capacity to collect and process the extremely high volume of stockpiled containers in addition to peak summer container recycling amounts.

For this reason, the Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy encourages the public's continued patience while beverage distributors, retailers and deposit system service providers process an unprecedented volume of containers.

It is strongly recommended that consumers check with their local retailer to find out the best time to redeem cans and bottles, as bottle rooms may be closed due to mandatory capacity limits. The Department of Treasury has issued a limit of the number of containers recyclers can redeem per day to 250 (\$25), and retailers are limited to accepting 140 percent of their 2019 volumes.

Covid-19 has canceled the descendants of "Novesta Old Settlers" 107th reunion planned for Aug. 15th at the Novesta Church of Christ Fellowship Hall located at 2896 N. Cemetery Road, Cass City.

The virus pandemic has called off the reunion, says volunteer Geri Perry, adding, See you next year.

The Rotary Club of Cass City is hosting an online/silent auction. They will be auctioning off 7 disc golf baskets from the Rotary Disc Golf course. The auction is from Friday July 17th to Friday July 24th at Noon. Bids can be submitted via a private message to either The Cass City Rotary Club Facebook Page or to the Club President Kevven Dorland. Don't have a Facebook account? Email Kevven at kevven-dorland@gmail.com. Please provide your name, address and phone number when placing your bid. All winners will be contacted by Kevven.

The Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) member schools will begin the 2020-21 school year playing fall sports as traditionally scheduled, but with contingency concepts for potential interruptions due to the spread of COVID-19. Currently, high school football practices are scheduled to begin Aug. 10, with all other Fall sports to start practice Aug. 12.

The MHSAA is moving forward with a plan that first calls for all Fall sports to be started and played as scheduled. However, if the situation deems it necessary, the start of some or all Fall sports practices or competitions could be delayed. The next step in the plan's progression calls for lower-risk Fall sports that can be played to be completed, with higher-risk Fall sports postponed until later in the school year. If all Fall sports must be suspended, they will be rescheduled during a reconfigured calendar that would see Winter sports begin in November followed by the conclusion of Fall and Spring seasons potentially extending into July 2021.

Plans remain reliant on progression by schools and regions across the state according to Governor Gretchen Whitmer's MI Safe Start Plan. Currently two regions are in Phase 5, which allow for limited indoor activity, while the rest are in Phase 4 and unable to host indoor training, practice or competition.

"Our student-athletes just want to play, and we've gone far too long without them playing. But doing so safely, of course, remains the priority," MHSAA Executive Director Mark Uyl said. "Our plan moving forward is Fall in the Fall, starting on time. We're excited to continue moving forward to bring back sports safely. It's important for keeping students in our schools and keeping students in our sports programs."

"We remain grateful to the governor for the opportunity to build the schedule and policies for returning sports to schools. We will continue to support her directives and those of the state and local health departments as we work to create the safest environment for all involved in our activities."

What a mess and also the perfect storm. Glad I don't make that call.

CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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(USPS 092-00)

Hospital welcomes Dr. Shoemaker to local family practice

Officials at Hills and Dales General Hospital recently announced that Dr. Eric Shoemaker has joined their medical staff.

Dr. Shoemaker will be at the Cass City Family Practice alongside current providers Dr. Raythatha and Marie Havercamp, nurse practitioner.

Dr. Shoemaker is a family practice physician, having graduated from Wayne State University



Dr. Eric Shoemaker

School of Medicine in 2017 and most recently completing his residency at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital in Wayne. He also attended Wayne State to complete his Bachelor of Science Degree in chemistry.

Born and raised in Michigan, Dr. Shoemaker knew he wanted to stay in Michigan to practice.

"Practicing in a more rural setting is exciting for me," he said. "And to work alongside the staff at Cass City Family Practice will be a privilege. I am really looking forward to meeting patients and getting to know the Cass City community."

"Dr. Shoemaker is a wonderful addition to our medical staff," commented Jean Anthony, Hills and Dales president and chief executive officer.

"We are excited to offer our patients another professional and compassionate physician to help with their medical needs. Please join me in welcoming Dr. Shoemaker to our community."

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Shoemaker, call (989) 872-5010.

Kingston Schools set to tap into savings for new budget

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

When members of the Kingston Board of Education approved the district's proposed 2020-21 budget, they knew they would have to dip into savings to balance the new spending plan.

Kingston Community Schools Business Manager Shona Vennevy recently provided the board with an overview of how the 2019-20 fiscal year ended, and presented the proposed budget for the coming year.

According to Vennevy, the district was able to bank over \$100,000 at the end of the 2019-20 school year, boosting Kingston's fund balance to \$1.55 million.

During that time, the district recorded revenues of \$6,163,436 and expenditures of \$6,063,369.

However, the outlook for the new fiscal year, which started July 1 for schools, is less rosy.

Vennevy projected revenues in 2020-21 at \$5,880,485, which expenses estimated at \$6,238,018, leaving a deficit of \$357,533.

After offsetting the shortfall, the district's fund balance is expected to be \$1,192,579.

In other district matters, board of education Trustee Lane Walker asked if anything has been decided on the district's logo, because athletic season is fast approaching.

"No. We are still struggling with it. We all want something as cool as the swirling Cardinal and we haven't found it yet," said school Supt. Matt Drake. "We have discussed pulling out the old logo to get us by until a new official logo is discovered and approved."

School officials ran afoul when a simple order for some clothing featuring Kingston's logo led to a copyright issue involving Iowa State University.

It turned out the Kingston and Iowa State logos are considered "birds of a feather" in that they are exactly the same except for the names inset in the logo of an angry cardinal with a clenched fist inside of a swirling image.

Kingston Schools has used that logo for at least 20 years, and has spent several years, much time and expense changing over to that logo.

Although the college's legal team has been understanding about the perceived copyright infringement, Kingston has to find a different logo. So far, the district has not been able to reach a consensus on what the new image should be.

Cass City Red Hawk ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Knight Insurance Agency names 2020 graduate Logan Severance as their Cass City Red Hawk Athlete of the Week.

Severance was a tested distance runner for Coach Jon Zdrojewski. He spent three seasons running on the varsity cross country team in the fall and three years on the varsity track team in the spring. He also was on the school bowling team for a year.



LOGAN SEVERANCE

"Versatile athlete would do whatever I asked him to do," said Zdrojewski who coached Severance in all 3 sports.

"Logan was willing to try anything. He was big into robotics as a senior. It's too bad his senior track season got canceled. He would have been a point winner for us in the distance events and relays."

Logan is the son of Heather and Lyle Severance. He plans to attend Eastern Michigan University.

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Letters to the Editor

Erasing the past isn't going to fix the problem

Continued from page three.

Cass or to commemorate his actions; rather, the town was named thus in reference to its proximity to the Cass River. While this does not negate the fact that the village's name derives from the man himself, it is necessary to understand the origins of the town name and the intent of the founders, who were actually remarkably uncreative in their choice of a town name.

More importantly, and more to my point, is the fact that Mr. Kranz's arguments beget other questions, chief among them—Where do we stop? Should we scrub the United States of any reference to Abraham Lincoln, who suspended habeas corpus? Do we ban the Communist Manifesto from library shelves and bar Marxist groups from organizing (it was, after all, Karl Marx whose ideas led to the murder of one hundred million and whose anti-semitism is well-documented)? Do we shut down Planned Parenthood, an organization founded by noted eugenicist Margaret Sanger? (Incidentally, this is one organization whose closure I would applaud loudly, not because of its founder's actions, but because of its scandalous devaluation of human life, its targeting of minority women, and its savage murder of unborn children; but I digress). Do we change the name of every street and building in the Union named in honor of John F. Kennedy, a known womanizer, and Martin Luther King, Jr., whose womanization and acquies-

cence of rape have been well-documented?

My point, of course, is that our current cultural moment, this obsession with erasing references to those individuals and ideas we find abhorrent, is unsustainable and unprofitable. Unsustainable because there is no end to it. Unprofitable because it does not get to the heart of the matter, summed up in one word that is most certainly not in vogue today: sin.

Those Christian missionaries Mr. Kranz referenced in his well-written letter, who "opposed most strongly" the Indian Removal Act did so because they had a right understanding of human nature. They understood what we moderns would do well to relearn ourselves, namely that the heart of every person is unfathomably evil in its intents and actions.

C.S. Lewis, lauded Oxford don and popular writer of *The Chronicles of Narnia*, voiced succinctly what we are seeing in our own day. He wrote of "the uncritical acceptance of the intellectual climate of our own age and the assumption that whatever has gone out of date is on that count discredited," a concept he dubbed, in a way only an Englishman can, chronological snobbery.

Lewis' point is that every generation sees itself as the arbiter of truth, the gold standard for morality and righteousness. We celebrate our own debauchery as contemporary "liberation," yet condemn the sins of our fathers' pasts with a roll of the eyes and a tisk of the tongue.

We fail to see that there will

come a day when our grandchildren will ask in bewilderment how we could hold up as heroes many of the social justice advocates we laud today. And the answer is that we have the same sin nature that those who came before us had. None of us is righteous, not one.

No campaign to tear down monuments, no movement to expunge names from the pages of history, and, indeed, no call to change the name of a little village in Michigan's Thumb, no matter how well-intentioned, will ultimately change anything at all, because such actions are futile attempts to deal with symptoms of sin, not sin itself.

If we were honest in our historical research, and our own anecdotal experience with human beings, we would admit that no public figure is truly worthy of unqualified celebration; indeed, if we were even more painfully honest, we would admit that our own secret thoughts and actions are often not only cringeworthy, but damnable.

Yes, let's have conversations about the heroic and the heinous of our past. Let's grapple with the messiness of human action. But if we are content with cultural revolution instead of personal repentance, we are wasting our time.

Respectfully,

Tyler Perry
Las Vegas, Nev. (formerly of Cass City)

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Reporter's notebook

First impressions can be all wrong

by Tom Montgomery
Editor



Long before I moved to the 'burbs of Deford, I noticed during my travels through the area that a handful of homes featured gardens – the work of fellow green thumbs always catches my attention – surrounded by posts with strips of white or silver cloth/plastic tied to them and swinging in the wind.

And I always thought that was the stupidest thing I've ever seen. I was wrong. Well, sort of.

First impressions are like that, you know? No matter how many times I'm reminded to slow way down before making a judgment, my knee-jerk brain takes over, forcing me to choke down a big helping of crow later on.

But back to the gardening. After moving to Crawford Road, I carved out a small piece of garden space that first summer and griped my way through the harvest season at every critter that wandered through my vegetable patch, helping themselves to just about everything as soon as it reached the peak of ripeness.

This wasn't my first garden, and I knew protecting those tender plants would be more of a challenge out here in the middle of nowhere.

I had been told it would be nearly impossible to enjoy a varmint-free garden unless I put up a fence, and after trying a couple of commercial powders that promised to keep the rabbits and deer away – but didn't – I was starting to believe it.

Fast forward to 2020. I've since expanded the garden space to a respectable (way more than I need) size, and decided to follow the lead of my neighbors, including Dale Churchill, who lives across from me and grows a handsome garden inside a modest perimeter of flashing pieces of reflective tape attached to some sort of line or string.

Over the past five or six years I've been experimenting with a number of variations on the technique and spent very little along the way. Well, except for everything I need (want) for the garden. What did I have to lose? A few dollars before deciding whether or not to invest many dollars in a fence.

I have to admit, I was pretty skeptical of claims that these decorations would keep the local wildlife population out of my cucumbers, melons and beans.

But they have. In fact, I rarely see deer hoof prints in my garden during the summer months.

Of course, I've gone a bit beyond the precautions taken by some gardeners, starting by utilizing the life-size skeletons my wife bought me for Halloween and using them as makeshift scarecrows.

But I didn't stop there.

I pose them the best I can, and each one is adorned with long ribbons of reflective tape that can be seen even in the darkest night, thanks to the light on my barn. I also attach aluminum pie plates to the figures, each flapping in the wind and making a pretty impressive noise.

When fall arrives and most of the vegetables and melons have been harvested, I pack away my nicely decorated macabre scarecrows, and by October, the deer are back out there, grazing for edible morsels along with our resident flock of turkeys.

I still think gardens decorated with strips of cloth and tape and whatever look pretty stupid. But now I know my fellow gardeners are some pretty smart cookies and have probably known for years what I was hesitant to even consider.

So much for first impressions.

Here's hoping I learned my lesson this time.



ONE OF the author's custom scarecrows on duty in Deford.

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Down Memory Lane

by Tina Pallas



5 YEARS AGO (2015)

VETERAN 5 STAR Livestock 4-H Club member Clay Daily, showing in his final year at the Tuscola County Fair, won Grand Champion Beef Steer and Reserve Overall Showman honors. He sold his 1,295-pound steer for \$5,400 to a cooperative buying partnership comprised of Farm Depot, Poet Refining and Chemical Bank during Thursday's annual 4-H and FFA Large Livestock Sale. Daily is the son of Greg Daily and Linette Daily, Kingston.

10 YEARS AGO (2010)

Justin Ruggles sold his Grand Champion Beef at this year's Tuscola County 4-H Livestock Sale on July 29. His 1,325-pound steer was purchased for \$4,000. He also won the honor of Reserve Overall Showman. Ruggles is the son of Tim and Julie Ruggles and is part of the 5 Star Livestock Club in Kingston.

After years in the classroom, Judy Hoelzle will tell you she learned to measure her success as an educator not just by watching her students successfully hone their artistic skills, but also by helping other students realize something about themselves that even they didn't know. "I enjoy students who love art, and students when they don't know they love art, but discover they do," she said. Hoelzle recently walked out of her classroom at Cass City High School for the last time, having made the decision to retire after 23 1/2 years of teaching, including more than 15 years in Cass City.

25 YEARS AGO (1995)

Tim Englehart, son of Don and Barb Englehart of Deford, graduated from Ferris State May 6 with a Bachelor of Science degree in marketing. He is currently working at Crimmins and Forman Marketing Research, Westland.

Jane E. Marker, daughter of Richard and Mary Marker of Unionville, graduated from Ferris State May 6 with a Bachelor of Science degree in advertising. She is currently working for U.S. National Retirement Center - Met Life of Southfield.

Construction of a McDonald's restaurant in Cass City will get underway this fall following recent approval of a zoning permit and site plan.

Around 50 relatives and friends attended a bridal shower Saturday afternoon at Northwood Shores Restaurant for Michelle Particka. Games were played and prizes given. Beatrice Franzel won the door prize and Mary Beno won a prize for being the oldest person present. A luncheon was served. Michelle will become the bride of Greg Reed of Dearborn Sept. 9. Guests attended from Houston, Texas, Tipton, Dearborn, Chicago, Gladwin and the surrounding area.

35 YEARS AGO (1985)

Born Thursday, July 25, to Mr. and Mrs. Clark Hillaker of Indianapolis, a daughter, weighing four and a half pounds. Grandparents are Mrs. Elsie Hahn and Mr. and Mrs. Lorn Hillaker of Cass City.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles (Kelli) Hendrick are the parents of a daughter, Lindsey Lee, born July 11 at Huron Memorial Hospital. She weighed nine pounds and seven ounces and was 21 inches long. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Winter and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hendrick.

AMIE HEDLEY was selected as the 1985 Tuscola County Bean Queen last Tuesday at the county fair. The 18-year-old college sophomore is the daughter of Unionville area farmers Barry and Sally Hedley. A psychology major, she will be attending Concordia College, Ann Arbor, this fall. Miss Hedley will compete for the Michigan Bean Queen title over the Labor Day week end. First runner-up was Mary Bauer, Richville. Cass City's Barb Root was second runner-up.

Julie Sugden, Cass City, was one of 90 high school students who

were nominated by their school and selected by the state to participate in the Michigan State Board of Education Summer Institute for the Arts and Sciences at Grand Valley State College July 7-20. The institute brings talented students and professionals together and provides a unique setting for sharing intensive and exploratory work.

40 YEARS AGO (1980)

GRAND CHAMPION market steer, judged Tuesday at the Tuscola County Fair, was the 1,260-pound Simmental crossbreed of John Gallagher, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Gallagher, Cass City. It was the fifth year he entered a steer and his first grand champion. He is a Cass City Future Farmers of America member. The steer's name is "Oscar."

SENIOR BEEF SHOWMAN-SHIP winner Tuesday at the Tuscola County Fair was Bob Leslie, 17, with his Hereford-Simmental cross. He also won that title two years ago. He is a Cass City FFA member and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Leslie of Leslie Road, Decker.

Sgt. Michael A. Sieradzki, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chester A. Sieradzki, 350 N. Crawford Road, Deford, recently was named Soldier of the Month for the Military Traffic Management Command, Western Area, at Oakland Army Base, Oakland, Calif. He was selected for his soldierly appearance, knowledge and performance of duties and military courtesies. Sieradzki is a military policeman. He has been awarded with safe driving certificates twice, in addition to the Soldier of the Month honor. He will be attending a primary leadership course in September. Sgt. Sieradzki will be home Friday on leave.

50 YEARS AGO (1970)

"Ol' Charlie," has, over the span of nearly 30 years, become as much a part of the Tuscola County Fair as the 4-H Club, cotton candy, or the Ferris wheel. Each and every year he can be found grooming and training one or two of his horses at the barn on the fairgrounds. Or, he may be found sitting on a bench just outside the horse barn, swatting flies with his mod-print fisherman's hat, smoking a cigar, and talking over the old times with some of the younger men. To them he's "OF Charlie." His real name is Charles Strevel. He was born in Avoca township in 1892. He's been married 40 years and has been seven times a father. And, he likes horses. No, he loves horses.

Born July 26 in Scheurer hospital in Pigeon to Mr. and Mrs. George Lynch (Shirley Watson), a six-pound, one ounce girl, Annmarie Kay. Mrs. Robert Watson of Ubyly

and Mrs. Vern Watson visited them in the hospital Monday afternoon.

75 YEARS AGO (1945)

Miss Mildred Brege, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Brege, of Hawks, Mich., and Mr. Thomas Laurie, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Laurie, of Cass City, were married last week at the Evangelical Lutheran manse in Rogers City by the Rev. Lewis A. Linn. The bride wore a street-length dress of embroidered white silk I poplin with white lace straw hat and carried white accessories. Her J corsage was of red rosebuds and ferns.

Clarence Lyle Zapfe, 22, is serving as a fireman, first class, USNR, aboard a destroyer escort of the Atlantic fleet. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lyle E. Zapfe of Cass City. Zapfe was graduated from Cass City high school and worked for Fleetwood Fisher Body Co., Detroit, as a receiving clerk before enlisting in the Navy in April, 1943. He was at his battle station during the invasions of the Marshall Islands, the Marianas and the Philippines. Then came a rest and reassignment to sea duty aboard his present ship, where he works as a watertender and repairman.

100 YEARS AGO (1920)

Fire of unknown origin destroyed the big dredge belonging to Whitfield Patterson, late Thursday evening. The crew had been working with the machine about 1/2 miles from Owendale and stopped work about 7:30 and drove to Owendale so there was no one about at the time the machine caught fire. The Owendale fire department was called but the wood frames were so saturated with oil and grease that it burned rapidly. The loss is estimated at between \$2,500 and \$3,000 with no insurance and is especially hard on Mr. Patterson because the ditch must be completed in ten days and a machine moved from another job several miles away to complete the work.

EdWard Bonner, wh6 lived here years ago, called on the people of this locality past week. He is now preparing for dentistry in which he hopes to make good regardless of his crippled shoulder that befell him in the world's war in France.

Ben Gage, Lester Day, Forest Day and I. Genriek went north past week by auto in search of berries. Did not find much fruit, but gathered in as much experience as Napoleon had crossing the Alps with his army. Their ear was a Ford. All makes known this side of Ireland are up there in the land of huckleberries, but for climbing the sand hill or wading the muck swamp the Ford comes back with the fairest laurels on its brow.

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Area couple celebrate 65 years married

Dale and Joyce (McLellan) Stevens will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary July 23, 2020.

They were married by the Rev. Howard Woodard at the Novesta Church of Christ. The maid of honor was Florence Wright and the best man was Robert McLellan.

The Stevens made their home in Cass City. Dale drove trucks for road construction and retired in 1994 after 45 years on the job. Joyce, a 1956 graduate of Cass City High School, was a homemaker until the couple's children all graduated from high school. She then worked at Plastech in Caro, retiring in 1995.

The couple have four children; Larry (Joanne) Stevens, Debra Marrs, Peggy Rogers and Joseph (Rori) Stevens, as well as 12 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

The couple enjoy spending time with family, traveling, hunting and fishing.



Dale & Joyce Stevens - 1955



Dale & Joyce Stevens - 2020

News briefs

“Pop-up” food pantries slated

HURON COUNTY – Several area pop-up pantries are planned this month in Huron County.

They include:

*Wednesday, July 22, at 2 p.m. at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Port Austin.

*Tuesday, July 28, at 2 p.m. at the Port Hope AMVETS hall in Port Hope.

*Thursday, July 30, at 2 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Cass City.

*Friday, July 31, at 2 p.m. Bay Port Main Park in Bay Port.

Foundation gives \$1,500 grant

SANILAC COUNTY — A grant from the Sanilac County Community Foundation will make visiting the Sanilac County Historical Society Historical Village and Museum safer.

The \$1,500 grant will be used to purchase and install eight battery-powered hand sanitizer dispensers. The dispensers will be placed throughout the historical village and museum.

New Extension office hours set

HURON COUNTY – Effective Friday, July 17, the Huron County MSU Extension Office hours for the general public are 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Thursday.

Visitors must wear a face mask.

Support staff will be working regular hours, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Residents are asked to call (989) 269-9949 (ext. 602 or 604) and make an appointment if they cannot make it to the office during those hours.

HHW collection slated in Huron

HURON COUNTY — Huron County residents are encouraged to take part in a household hazardous waste (HHW) collection scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 19, from 3 to 6:30 p.m.

To register, contact the MSU Extension Office at (989) 269-9949. Once registered, participants will be filled in on additional information, including the location of the collection.

Attention all Thumb “paddlers”

MICHIGAN – a new self-paced online program was designed to help Michigan paddlers learn the best practices to identify and avoid transporting invasive species.

Despite these extraordinary times, it is still possible to safely – with social distancing – enjoy paddle sports on Michigan's many wonderful water trails and lakes. Kayakers, paddleboarders and canoeists can also be key in the fight to protect the waters they love by identifying and reporting aquatic invasive species they encounter.

The MI Paddle Stewards' new self-paced, online program from Michigan Sea Grant and Michigan State University Extension will help paddlers learn about important invasive species, how to properly clean a watercraft, and how to report invasive species. Paddlers will learn to use the MISIN (Midwest Invasive Species Information Network) app, a reporting tool used by Michigan's Department of Natural Resources and others to locate invasive species of concern.

Registration is open for the online course, which features six short sessions and costs \$20. Participants who complete the class will receive a certificate, bucket hat, towel, waterproof phone case, dry bag and more (the class is free if participants choose not to receive the items).


Participants must complete the six sessions of the course by Dec. 31. Registration Information can be found online at <https://bit.ly/paddestewards>.

For questions and more information about the MI Paddle Stewards online course, contact Mary Bohling, MSU Extension educator, via email at bohling@msu.edu.

Compiled by Mary Drier and Tom Montgomery

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Kubacki among drug team gift winners

The Sanilac County Drug Task Force held its annual bike give-away a little bit differently this year.

“Due to the Covid-19 virus and the cancellation of the 2020 Sanilac County 4-H Fair, where the bike give-away usually happens, The Sanilac County Drug Task Force partnered with the Sanilac County Child Abuse Prevention Council to hold the drawing during the Youth Survivor Camp,” explained Amy Dumaw, prevention education specialist with the county child abuse prevention council.

Given away in the drawing were two bikes — one for a girl and one for a boy, as well as two tablets, also one each to a girl and boy.

The bike winners were Isaac Webb of Sandusky, the son of Brittany Coburn and Jonathan Webb; and Carley Dunn of Peck, the daughter of Chris and Katie Dunn.

Winning the tablets were Jesse Kubacki of Argyle, the son of Jessica Heilig and James Kubacki; and Maryssa James of Deckerville, the daughter of Jason and Kim James.



Jesse Kubacki

Governor clarifies state's new mask rules

Continued from page one.

pandemic seriously enough. Don't wait until Covid happens to you or a loved one to take action. Wearing a mask is a simple step that protects everyone,” Scott added.

Although a face covering is strongly encouraged even for people who are not required to wear one, the latest rules do not apply to some individuals, including children younger than five years old, and those who can't medically tolerate a face covering or are eating or drinking while seated at a food service establishment.

Also last week, Whitmer extended her emergency and disaster declaration through Aug. 11, noting every region in the state has an uptick in COVID-19 cases over the past two weeks.

“COVID-19 has now killed more than 6,000 people in Michigan. That's more than 6,000 of our parents, grandparents, friends, and neighbors. And the rising numbers we've seen over the past few weeks prove that this virus is still a very real threat in our state,” she said.

Whitmer added the health, economic, and social harms of the COVID-19 pandemic remain widespread and severe, and they continue to constitute a statewide emergency and disaster.

Though local health departments have some limited capacity to respond to cases as they arise within their jurisdictions, state emergency operations are necessary to bring this pandemic under control in Michigan and to build and maintain infrastructure to stop the spread of COVID-19, trace infections, and quickly direct additional resources to hot-spots as they emerge, she said.

Testing numbers

During her weekly COVID-19 pandemic update last Wednesday, Ann Hepfer, health officer for the Tuscola and Huron county health departments, offered the latest testing numbers for Tuscola and Huron counties.

“In Huron County, 2,959 people had viral testing done and 163 people had antibody testing completed. In Tuscola County, 7,115 people had viral testing done and 360 had antibody testing completed,” Hepfer said.

“The viral testing is what we use for diagnostic purposes. When a person has a retest due to follow-up after they have had COVID-19, if they return a positive result, those people are not counted as positive twice — their cases are combined to mean one positive case,” she noted. “If they have recovered and it has been at least nine weeks since their last positive result, then they could become a new case depending on the case investigation.”

Among the myths circulating is that anyone who has a positive COVID-19 test and they die because of a car accident, for example, they will have death certificate that states they died of COVID-19.

“This is absolutely false,” Hepfer said. “The cause of death is whatever injuries resulted from the car accident. Every death in the state...that is declared a COVID-19 death has its medical records reviewed by the Department of Health and Human Services to ensure that it meets the CDC case definition for COVID-19. The numbers are then corrected on the state's website once a week.”

Testing continues to be available to anyone living in a rural county. No doctor's order is needed, but participants must present a sheet of paper listing their full name, date of birth, address, phone number and insurance information and

numbers.

“The drive-through clinics in Huron and Tuscola are for diagnostic purposes and use the nasal swab method,” Hepfer said, adding testing is offered in the Tuscola County Health Department parking lot in Caro, from 8 to 10 a.m. on Thursdays only.

In Huron County, testing is available at the Bay Great Lakes Health Care Center in Bad Axe, from 10 a.m. to noon on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Latest virus numbers

Between Monday, July 13, and Monday, July 20, the number of combined confirmed cases in Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac counties increased by 40 — from 356 to 396 — with the three counties' combined death toll remaining the same at 35 fatalities.

As of Monday afternoon, Tuscola County had recorded 239 con-

firmed cases, an increase of four cases compared to a week before, and 27 deaths (no increase); Huron County had recorded 87 cases (an increase of 21 cases), with three deaths (no increase); and Sanilac County, 70 confirmed cases, up from 53 cases a week earlier, and five deaths (no change).

In the Cass City area, the latest statistics show the total number of Tuscola County's confirmed COVID-19 cases includes 49 residents in the Cass City zip code, while 48 have been confirmed in the Caro area, four each in Deford and Unionville, three cases in Silverwood, and two in Kingston. There have been no confirmed cases involving a resident in the Gageton area.

Statewide, Monday's total confirmed cases reached 73,180, with a total of 6,117 deaths, compared to 69,722 cases and 6,075 deaths a week earlier.

New signs to welcome visitors

Continued from page one.

work.

Unlike the previous signs, the new ones will not include the names of local businesses, although the Pinney Foundation and Cass City service club emblems are expected to be featured.

“We can put service club signs on, but not businesses because that's advertising. This is considered a ‘gateway sign’,” Keller explained.

The total budget stands at \$14,000 to \$15,000 and includes landscaping. The chamber will also be responsible for a \$200 annual permit fee to the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT).

“This is something the chamber has wanted to do, but when we first started (planning the project three to four years ago), we had to keep putting it on hold because of the money,” said Keller, who noted funding has come from a variety of sources, including an \$8,000 gift from Cass City's Pinney Foundation. The village and chamber each chipped in \$2,000, and an I-69 Placemaking Grant brought in another \$2,000.

Plans for lighting the sign are still up in the air, as DTE officials have put off projects like this one due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, Keller said the chamber will be re-applying for a \$3,000 grant next year. In the meantime, she added, the chamber is considering solar lights.

Caseville resident arrested in connection with break-in

A Caseville man was recently arrested in connection with a complaint alleging he broke into a woman's home earlier this month.

Huron County Sheriff Kelly J. Hanson reported the incident unfolded when officers responded to a Huron Street address in Caseville.

“Deputies were told by the 41-year-old female resident...that a former male acquaintance had just entered her home through a window and then left. Cellular phone history showed that the suspect started contacting the complainant via text and phone during the prior afternoon, angry with her, with some of the contact referring to physical harm,” Hanson said.

“Deputies searched the Caseville area looking for the suspect, as well as his residence, with negative results. The suspect was later found on foot in Caseville...by a Michigan State trooper and was arrested and lodged in our jail by responding officers for the felony crime of home invasion.”

The suspect, Craig J. Naert, 45, was subsequently arraigned in Huron County District Court on formal felony charges authorized by the prosecutor's office for third degree home invasion and aggravated stalking. Bond was set at \$100,000 cash. He remained lodged in the county jail.

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State: protect against mosquito-borne virus

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and Ottawa County Health Department have confirmed the state's first human infection with a mosquito-borne virus for 2020 as a county resident tested positive for Jamestown Canyon virus.

Jamestown Canyon virus is spread to people through bites from infected mosquitoes. Most cases occur from late spring through mid-fall. Illness can develop from a few days to two weeks following a mosquito bite.

While most people do not become ill, initial symptoms can include fever, headache and fatigue. In rare cases, it can cause severe disease, including infection of the brain – encephalitis – or the lining around the brain and spinal cord – meningitis.

“During the warm weather months in Michigan, there is always a risk of viruses spread by mosquitoes, including, but not limited to, West Nile virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE),” said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, MDHHS chief medical executive and chief deputy director for health. “This is an important reminder to stay vigilant and protect against mosquito bites throughout the summer and into the fall”.

Michigan reported its first two cases of Jamestown Canyon virus in 2018 in patients from Oakland and Menominee counties. In 2019, one case was detected in a person from Cass County.

While the virus is found throughout much of the United States, reports have been increasing in the upper Midwest. This likely reflects increased awareness and testing, but may also be due to an increase in the presence of the virus in the environment.

The virus can be spread by many types of mosquitoes that become infected when they feed on deer or other animals that have the virus in their blood. These infected mosquitoes can then spread the virus to other animals or people through bites.

Residents can stay healthy by using simple, effective strategies to protect themselves and their families. The following steps are recommended to avoid Jamestown Canyon virus and other mosquito-borne diseases:

*Apply insect repellents that contain the active ingredient DEET, or other EPA-approved products to exposed skin or clothing. Always follow the manufacturer's directions for use.

*Wear light-colored, long-sleeved shirts and long pants when outdoors. Apply insect repellent to clothing to help prevent bites.

*Maintain window and door screening to help keep mosquitoes outside.

*Empty water from mosquito breeding sites around the home, such as buckets, unused kiddie pools, old tires or similar sites where mosquitoes lay eggs.

More information regarding West Nile virus and other mosquito-borne viruses is available by visiting the website www.michigan.gov/west-nilevirus.



Music in Rotary Park returns Friday...

AFTER A WEEK off, the Music in Rotary Park summer concert series in Cass City returns Friday, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., featuring Sonas, whose members – (pictured above, from left) Kelly Sible, Dee Dee Tibbits and Tom Krause – perform fine Celtic and early American music.

Law allows farmers to grow hemp in the state

The Michigan Legislature recently passed legislation sponsored by Senator Dan Lauwers that would allow farmers in the state to grow hemp for commercial purposes.

Senate Bill 850 would create the Industrial Hemp Growers Act and establish a state-operated program for industrial hemp.

“Hemp is best known for CBD oil, but also produces fibers used in fabrics, textiles, yarns, paper, home furnishings and a number of other objects,” explained Lauwers (R-Brockway Township).

“While it is a variety of the same plant species as marijuana, it contains almost none of marijuana’s psychoactive component, THC, and has long been cultivated for non-drug use. Michigan farmers will benefit greatly from being able to grow hemp.”

The 2014 federal Farm Bill included a provision that in states where it is legally authorized, institutions of higher education and state departments of agriculture can grow or cultivate industrial hemp for research as an agricultural commodity.

With the passage of the 2018 federal Farm Bill, industrial hemp became legal under United States Department of Agriculture oversight.

While the USDA worked to create rules for industrial hemp, states were allowed to use the authority granted under the 2014 Farm Bill to create pilot programs. Michigan passed a law in 2018 to allow the commercial farming and processing of industrial hemp under a licensing and registration program for hemp growers and processors.

“I always found it ironic that the state of Michigan required me to use a hemp rope on the hand-operated manlifts of the grain elevator but prohibited us from producing hemp to produce such a rope,” Lauwers said.

On October 2019, the USDA published its “Final Interim Rules” establishing the U.S. Domestic Hemp Production Program. The program has a compliance date of Oct. 31, 2020, at which time all states seeking to administer a hemp program must have an approved state plan.

Lauwers’ legislation creates a state regulated program for indus-

trial hemp under the USDA interim final rules and requires reporting to the USDA and the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

“Michigan’s pilot program for industrial hemp has been a great success,” Lauwers said. “There is increasing interest in this crop in a wide variety of sectors.”

SB 850 now heads to the governor to be signed into law.

Lauwers represents the state’s 25th Senate District, comprised of Huron, Sanilac and St. Clair counties along with Armada Township, Memphis, New Baltimore, Richmond and Richmond Township in Macomb County.

Hills & Dales 22nd Annual Golf Outing

has been cancelled for this year.

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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
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Grand Rapids, MI 49503-2487
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20379093-2

7-15-4

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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.fbccus



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



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Pentecostal

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Family Training Hour: Wednesday 7 p.m.
Pastor: Jephtha Bryant



Mizpah Missionary Church

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Sunday School: 10 a.m. • Sunday Service: 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
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



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



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LARGE GARAGE SALE - Mask up please - Thursday - Saturday starting at 9 a.m. to ? 872-5057 - Lots of stuff, adding more daily - 1545 N. Kingston Rd., Deford. 14-7-22-1

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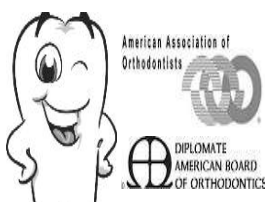
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State making naloxone more available

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has launched an online portal where community organizations can request free naloxone, a medication that reverses opioid overdoses and saves lives.

In 2018, opioid overdoses killed more than 2,000 Michiganders, or an average of five people every day.

Turning the tide on the epidemic remains an urgent priority for Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, the Michigan Opioids Task Force and MDHHS. And in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, which may have disrupted resources that people who use drugs rely on, access to naloxone is critical.

Naloxone saves thousands of lives each year by reversing the effects of an opioid overdose. However, a recent study found that only 25 percent of individuals using opioids in southeast Michigan had access to naloxone.

State health officials say that expanding naloxone access, espe-

cially for individuals at high risk of overdosing, is imperative and an integral part of Michigan's response to the opioid crisis.

"Getting naloxone into the hands of people who are most likely to be able to save a life is important," said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, chief medical executive and chief deputy for health at MDHHS. "MDHHS is proud to partner with community organizations to make it as easy as possible to access free naloxone, reducing the devastation caused by the overdose epidemic."

The online portal is available to any community organization statewide, including substance use treatment providers, non-profits, harm reduction organizations, jails, first responders, local governments and small businesses.

MDHHS officials will review organizations' plans for distributing naloxone, especially to individuals at high risk of overdose. If approved, the organization will receive naloxone by mail; ship-

ments are in increments of 12 kits, and organizations are expected to have a plan for distribution and training for individuals at risk of overdose on how to use naloxone.

Separately, NEXT Naloxone has also partnered with MDHHS to offer individuals free naloxone delivered by mail. Providing naloxone by mail-order will help people who cannot access naloxone in their area, have insurance barriers or other challenges.

NEXT Naloxone is a free, online service that makes naloxone available to people who use drugs, their families and friends, and others who may witness and respond to an overdose.

NEXT Naloxone is available in Michigan through funding from Vital Strategies and a partnership with the harm-reduction organization The Grand Rapids Red Project. Individuals can place an order for mail delivery at Naloxoneforall.org/michigan.

For more information, please visit Michigan.gov/Opioids.



GENEROUS donations, including \$40,000 from an anonymous donor and another \$25,000 from the Pinney Foundation, made it possible for village official to tackle the new splash park, an addition Herron suggested after seeing a similar attraction while visiting his daughter in Georgia a year ago.

New splash park almost done

Continued from page one.

Even though the village didn't have all of the money in hand at the time to fund the entire project, they still moved forward.

The village had enough money to go ahead and make the purchase of the equipment while they sought grants and organized fundraising for the money to needed to install the splash pad.

"We needed money for materials and labor to put the splash pad in place — like the cement and fencing," explained village Manager Debbie Powell.

The splash park received a couple of welcome financial boosts along the way.

In 2018, the Pinney Foundation gave the village a \$25,000 grant, and an anonymous source donated another \$40,000 towards the project.

Herron helped with fundraising for the project just as he did when money was needed for the Helen Stevens Memorial Pool renovations.

Herron, who is a retired builder, was the project manager for the splash pad.

"Helping build the splash pad was a real challenge. I had never done one before," said Herron. "It will be a nice asset for the park and pool."

Herron's "right-hand man" was Don Ball. He and Herron have been working together on the project.

"He was my muscle. He has done construction work, so he helped a lot with this project," Herron said of Ball, also a village council trustee who was part owner of C. R. Hunt Construction Company. He retired in 2007.

The two men have worked tirelessly to get the project done.

According to Powell, everyone likes a splash park, from toddlers to grandparents. It also offers variety, because older children can be in the pool while the little ones can enjoy the splash park.

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154-20-0016

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