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# CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

VOLUME 114, NUMBER 26

CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2020

.75 CENTS - 12 PAGES



**THE TUSCOLA County Sheriff's Department recently acknowledged the U.S.D.A. and Melissa Mora (the department's U.S.D.A. representative, pictured above with Undersheriff Bob Baxter) for their continued support in providing grant money for patrol vehicles and also for other items. "The Tru-Narc device (pictured) on the left will provide a safe way to analyze dangerous powders without having to open the container they are in. The drone, which is operated by our deputies who have their FAA part 107 license, will be used for locating missing persons and suspects night or day," explained Sheriff Glen Skrent, who said the grant funding for the combined items totaled more than \$45,000.**

## Village: fall league at mercy of state's Covid restrictions

by Clarke Haire  
Publisher

Cass City Area Summer Athletic Program (CCASAP) President Troy Perry addressed the local village council Monday, seeking approval to proceed with a youth baseball league this fall at Cass City Recreational Park.

But when the smoked clear after debating the topic during the regular monthly meeting — held outside at the Lion's Pavilion east of the football field due to the Covid-19 pandemic — Perry was still searching for some answers.

"I'm just looking for something for the kids to do this fall," Perry said. On the recommendation of village President Dan Delamarter, the group was advised to follow Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's Executive Order 2020-160 — for the time being.

That would allow the CCASAP teams to hold practices, but not games, according to Delamarter, who stated practices would be easier to follow safeguards detailed in the executive order, which limits outdoor gatherings to 100 people, while controlling the crowd numbers at games would be much tougher.

Delamarter indicated he believes Whitmer, who has received pressure from the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) recently, may reduce some of the social distancing requirements in her executive order.

"This is what I would like to do; let's see if the executive order is relaxed any and then go forward. Why don't we start with practices only and no games," Delamarter said. "I know it's important to have kids out there and not getting into trouble."

Please turn to page 9.

## New court ruling has treasurers scrambling

by Mary Drier  
For the Chronicle

A recent Michigan Supreme Court ruling related to the sale of tax-foreclosed properties has created a labyrinth of problems that could have a major impact on municipalities across the state.

The Michigan Supreme Court decision — that local governments cannot keep surplus cash from the sale of tax-foreclosed properties — may lead to a tidal wave of payments being owed to former property owners.

For decades, the state has allowed county treasurers to keep the extra money from the sales of foreclosed properties that were left after the tax lien was met.

However, the Michigan Supreme Court ruling states that practice is illegal under the Michigan Constitution.

The decision has treasurers in a quandary and worried about financial repercussions.

Soon-to-retain Tuscola County Treasurer Pat Gray and her successor Ashley Bennett have been closely following the issue since the announcement was made.

"Treasurers were following state guidelines," Gray said, adding she is waiting to hear back from legal counsel. "I really don't know much of the details yet. The Supreme Court has ruled that if a piece of property is sold for more than the taxes owed, the property owner is supposed to get the difference back."

"We don't know if it will be excess proceeds or if it will be fair market value, and we don't know how many years this will have to go back."

Because the court ruling was just recently issued, the fallout from it is still in the process of being determined.

"What I have heard (is), the person will probably have to go through

Please turn to page 2.

## Mackinac Center database compares pay, benefits for state's school chiefs

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

Pay and fringe benefit packages for school superintendents in Tuscola County's nine public school districts range from \$142,890 to \$189,637.

The estimates are included in an updated database released last week by the Mackinac Center for Public Policy in an effort to make it easier for parents, lawmakers, the media and education officials

to see how tax dollars are spent on school district leadership across the state.

"The Michigan Public School Superintendent Compensation Database reports how much districts spent on superintendent compensation, including salary, insurance, pension and other benefits," explained Ben DeGrow, director of education policy at the Mackinac Center.

DeGrow noted the database compiles the information from two

sources: Freedom of Information Act requests for current superintendent contracts, and district transparency websites. He reported nearly 90 percent of districts and intermediate school districts (ISDs) responded.

"The database reports how much districts spent in the most recent year, which varies by district," DeGrow said. "Some base this on the calendar year 2019 and others use their fiscal year, starting July 1. It also notes when multiple superintendents were paid by a single district over the course of the year."

Statewide, there were 31 superintendents who made more than \$300,000 in total annual compensation. The districts with the highest paid superintendents are Roseville (\$409,760), Detroit (\$399,010) and West Ottawa (\$383,929).

Overall, 88 districts spent more than \$250,000 on superintendent compensation.

In Tuscola County, the largest salary and benefit package goes to the Tuscola Intermediate School District superintendent, who receives roughly \$220,000 annually, according to the Mackinac Center database.

Among the local public school districts, Millington Community Schools tops the list at \$189,637 in superintendent salary and benefits, followed by Kingston Community Schools (\$180,380), Mayville Community Schools (\$177,812), Cass City Public Schools (\$175,125), Caro Community Schools (\$175,088), Reese Public Schools (\$169,448), Vassar Public Schools (\$155,522), Unionville-Sebewaing Area

Please turn to page 6.

## Changing of the guard set at Sanilac Sheriff's Office

by Mary Drier and  
Tom Montgomery

There's a new sheriff in town...actually a new sheriff in Sanilac County.

Paul Rich, 57, is expected to become veteran Sheriff Garry Biniecki's successor after winning the Republican primary election for sheriff last month. Barring a successful write-in challenge in the general election in November, sheriff-elect Rich will be sworn in as the next sheriff Jan.

Please turn to page 4.



Sheriff-elect Paul Rich



Sheriff Garry Biniecki

## Suspect in custody after assaulting 95-year-old

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

Tuscola County Sheriff's deputies made short work of a complaint involving a suspect who broke into an elderly Kingston Township woman's home and assaulted her early Thursday morning.

Deputies, assisted by troopers from the Michigan State Police post in Caro, located and arrested the 27-year-old suspect in some woods near the victim's home, according to Sheriff Glen Skrent, who noted the victim did not seek medical attention following the incident.

The investigation unfolded shortly after 2:10 a.m. when deputies were dispatched to a reported home invasion at a residence on South Cemetery Road.

"A 95-year-old female resident reported that an unknown male had broken into her home through a window," Skrent reported. "The suspect was not known to the resident. The suspect threatened and assaulted the resident before fleeing the home."

Skrent did not release the suspect's name, saying only that he is from Clarkston (Oakland County).

The case remains under investigation, according to the sheriff. "This is preliminary information only," he said. "Facts are still being compiled and information is subject to change."

# Tuscola County commissioners grapple with ADA compliance

by Mary Drier  
For the Chronicle

Tuscola County commissioners will have to do a little more work than they initially planned to make some county facilities handicap accessible.

Plans were underway before the primary election in August election to tackle Americans with Disability Act (ADA) upgrades at the prosecutor's office in the annex building and to the H.H. Purdy Building, which houses several county offices as well.

District Four Commissioner-elect Doug DuRussel was elected to fill a vacancy left by soon-to-be former Commissioner Mark Jensen, who did not seek another term.

And, that is the issue. DuRussel, who is a paraplegic, uses a mobility device to move around. However, the Purdy Building is not ADA-compliant.

"Before you do anything, I think we are going to have to reconfigure the whole room where the commissioners are at for that to be accessible all the way across for someone who is in a mobility vehicle," Commissioner Dan Grimshaw said during a recent meeting. "I don't think there is enough room behind the chairs when we are sitting at the table for anyone to get through."

"And, before we put any money in the doors, have Doug come over and meet with (county building and ground director) Mike Miller because Doug has done this across the state for buildings compliant in ADA."

"In order to address the Purdy building issues, it is going to require someone who lives with it (disabilities) to go through the building to make it handicap accessible. The building needs to be accessible for someone wheelchair bound."

In the meeting room, commissioners sit on a slightly elevated platform with a ramp access on one side and a steep step on the other.

Grimshaw went on to point out several other accessibility issues in the Purdy building.

Aside from an electric button to open the front door, there should also be ones on the bathroom doors, he noted.

The recently configured treasurer's office – making it secure with an enclosed front and protective glass – is a key point. The way it is set up, there is no way for someone in a wheelchair to communicate with someone in the treasurer's office on a face-to-face level.

"No one wants to be talked down to by someone on the other side of the window. Those are some real concerns that we need to address," Grimshaw continued. "We need to get a real plan on how we are going to make the whole building ADA compliant."

The county bought the Purdy building, located at 125 West Lincoln St., Caro, in 2010. It was renovated to house the treasurer,

register of deeds, drain office, equalization and the controller of offices.

Jensen expressed concerns with the cost of all of the ADA renovations.

"With money issues, it might be able to be done in stages," he suggested.

That didn't work for his fellow commissioner.

"I don't think we can do it in stages and be ADA compliant. We do not want to be sued by a county

commissioner because we don't have the building accessible for him to participate. We would lose," Grimshaw said. "The Purdy building is not going to be able to be done in a piecemeal fashion. "We are going to have to do this in an oversight of what it is going to cost us to (be) ADA compliant in every single office."

Commission Chair Thom Bardwell agreed an expert ADA opinion should be sought to look at current accessibility requirements.

## Ruling has treasurers scrambling

Continued from page one.

court proceedings to ask for the money. Everything is up in the air right now. Sounds like it is going to impact us big time because we make money off of this," said Gray. "There are some parcels that we really take a (financial) hit on that sold for less than the taxes. That is all I know right now."

When property taxes go unpaid, the land in question is foreclosed on — put up for auction with a minimum bid of the amount to cover the back taxes, explained Gray.

Depending on the property, it could sell for a lot more than the taxes owed, and the state allowed that for years until the court challenge.

"This information is hot off the press and everyone is scrambling for answers," said Tuscola Controller-Administrator Clayette Zechmeister. "MAC (Michigan Association of Counties) is forming a work group to study the options on this tax foreclosure issue. They are trying to determine the fiscal impact."

Zechmeister, who previously served as the county's chief accounting officer, estimates the county has about \$1.5 million in an account for surplus funds after delinquent tax bills were covered.

"It could wipe that fund out. It will depend on how far we have to go back. We had 40 acres that we sold that we made pretty good money on," said Gray. "We are going to take a hit on this, but until we know exactly how many years, it is hard to say how much."

"I hope the change doesn't completely wipe it out. We need that money to cover the taxes on property that isn't sold for what is owed. Everything is up in the air right now."

The Supreme Court became involved because of a lower court ruling when Oakland County resident Uri Rafaeli initiated a lawsuit changing that practice when he lost his property for an unpaid tax bill that started out at less than \$10.

Because of an oversight, Rafaeli's tax bill increased to about \$300 due to penalties and interest. The Oakland County treasurer sold the property at auction for \$24,500, and kept the dif-

ference.

Another example given in the court's decision involved Andre Ohanessian, who owed about \$6,000 in back property taxes. Oakland County sold his 2.7 acres for \$82,000 and the county kept the surplus proceeds.

Similar situations have happened in Tuscola County as well as in other counties throughout the state.

After a piece of property is foreclosed on, it goes to an auction sale. The minimum bid is the amount of the taxes owed. If the property doesn't sell for that, there is a second auction later. The minimum bid for the second auction is \$100, even if several hundred or thousands of dollars in taxes are owed.

"We usually end up losing money on that one. Once in a while, we get lucky, but not too often," explained Gray. "There are times when a property doesn't sell (and is subsequently) sold for \$50 just to get it out of the county's name and back on the tax roll."

"When we lose money, we have to charge back everyone — the schools, the townships, all of the county special-voted millages. It could have an impact on everybody."

"Lawyers are working on it. I assume it will have to go to the legislatures to determine how far back and the process of how they would go to get back their money. I'm assuming it would go through a court process."

Commissioner Dan Grimshaw has voiced several questions and opinions on the court ruling, and says he feels it is going to be a major problem as well as an expense because the court concluded it is a constitutional issue, not a statutory issue.

"What has been allowed to happen is unconstitutional, and the only way to change it would be a constitutional amendment," Grimshaw concluded. "I would think that whatever year that case was started it would (be retroactive) from there."

He also noted the court ruling could call into question several other property taxing issues, such as municipalities tacking on delinquent utility bills and other unpaid bills — lawn mowing, for example.

# Obituaries

## Howard Bacon

Howard Arthur Bacon, 91, passed away peacefully on Thursday, August 20, 2020, in Naples, Florida.

Howard was born in Fenton, Michigan, January 9, 1929, to George and Helen Bacon. He had two brothers, Bill (deceased) and Jim (Margaret) of Fenton.

In 1954, Howard, his wife Ruthie and their young child Sherry, moved to Cass City with Walbro Corporation. Their family was complete with the births of Debra, Melody and Randy.

In 1980 Howard and Ruthie moved to Dallas, Texas, where he worked for Overhead Door until his first retirement. He then worked with the National Center of Policy Analysis and eventually finished his long career with Truswal Systems while living in Naples, Florida.

Howard reunited with his beloved music, picking up his trombone, playing with several popular bands in the Naples area. His love of music and the wonderful friendships he and Ruthie developed gave the last several years of his life great joy and meaning.

Howard is survived by his wife of 69 years, Ruthie, his children: Sherry Pellicore of Westminster, CO, Debra (Larry) Campbell of Richardson, TX, Melody Bacon of Naples, FL and Randy (Marion) Bacon of Grapevine, TX, five grandchildren: Lacey Campbell, Blaine (Sara) Pellicore, Ryan Campbell, Reed Pellicore and Niklas Bacon.

Due to the corona virus, no celebration of life event is planned.

## Special Meeting Notice Greenleaf Township

Township Board: Planning Commission  
Address: 6735 Bay City Forestville Road  
Cass City, MI. 48726

Phone: 989-670-1401  
Meeting Date: September 17, 2020  
Meeting Time: 6:00 PM  
Meeting Location: Township Hall  
6435 Bay City, MI. 48726

Purpose of Meeting: To change  
Property No. 76-130-008-200-070-03,  
8254 Van Dyke Road Cass City, MI. 48726  
from residential to commercial property.

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

Posted on: August 26, 2020 hall sign.  
September 2, 2020 newspaper ad.  
Township Clerk Signature: Judy Keller

A copy of this notice is on file in the Clerk's Office,  
located at: Greenleaf Township Hall

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-For Additional CPAs and other  
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-Cass City- 6476 Main St. Suite 1  
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### VETERINARIANS

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## Cass City St. Pat's Auction Rewind

Join us online to bid on items donated in Spring 2020 for the Rotary's annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner & Auction. Due to COVID-19, the Auction was canceled. Money raised from these items help fund all the local district and international projects we are involved with.

Bidding opens September 4, 2020 online at  
[www.bidnow.us/auctions](http://www.bidnow.us/auctions)

Select: "September 14th (Monday)  
Cass City Rotary Club  
St. Pat's Auction Rewind"

Bidding ends:  
September 14, 2020

**Rotary**  PEOPLE of ACTION 

# In Our OPINION...

**Clarke Haire**  
Publisher

**Tom Montgomery**  
Editor

## Drier Humor

by Mary Drier

What comes around should go around



### Health officials say flu vaccines are vital

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) officials are launching a statewide campaign encouraging Michiganders to get their flu vaccine this fall and help prevent an outbreak of a second communicable disease that – with COVID-19 still very much a concern – could put the state’s economy and health care system at greater risk.

Last flu season, an estimated 3.2 million people in Michigan received a flu vaccine. The state has set a goal of achieving a 33 percent increase in flu vaccination this season, which means more than one million people over last flu season.

The vaccine is already available in some parts of Michigan, with an ample supply expected across the state and nation starting in early fall.

“It’s more important than ever for Michiganders everywhere to get your flu vaccine. Preventing the flu will help us save lives and preserve the health care resources we need to continue fighting COVID-19,” said Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. “Every flu-related hospitalization we see this season will put an additional strain on Michigan’s economy and our health care systems and hospitals.”

The flu vaccine campaign – Facing the Flu Together – will include multiple media sources designed to reach everyone, including the most vulnerable and at-risk populations. An updated flu vaccine website at Michigan.gov/Flu is also up and running.

During the 2019-2020 flu season, the nation recorded 39 to 56 million estimated cases of the flu, 18 to 26 million medical visits due to the flu and nearly half a million flu hospitalizations.

Despite its comparison to the common cold, the flu is a very serious and potentially deadly disease, especially for children, older people and people with chronic health conditions. Last season, 187 children died from the flu in the United States, including six children in Michigan.

“There is a lot of misinformation about the flu and the flu vaccine, but the science is clear: the flu can be deadly, and there are steps that we can take to protect against it,” said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, MDHHS chief deputy for health and chief medical executive. “That’s why as a parent and a doctor, I make sure myself and my children are protected each year with a flu vaccine for their safety, and for my patients, friends and community.”

To support the effort to get Michiganders vaccinated against the flu, the Michigan Health and Hospital Association, Michigan Primary Care Association and the Franny Strong Foundation joined Whitmer and MDHHS in calling on residents to get vaccinated.

Michigan’s health care system, hospitals and health clinics will be ramping up efforts to vaccinate for the flu this fall and throughout the season.

In addition, the state’s I Vaccinate campaign is working to educate residents about the safety of vaccinating. In an effort to help parents protect their children from all serious vaccine-preventable diseases, I Vaccinate provides the facts parents need to make informed decisions about vaccinations.

As the flu vaccine becomes available, Michiganders should contact their local health departments, physicians and pharmacies to schedule a time to get the flu shot, and to seek out credible sources such as IVaccinate.org for answers to vaccine questions.

Brace yourself for a snarky column as I step up on my soapbox for one of my pet peeves — irresponsible pet ownership.

I am acquainted with a few people who get and get rid of pets at the same rate that most people change underwear.

The two families I am acquainted with are once again dumping their pet at an animal shelter or, more than likely, just dumping their pet in the country. They each got their kids a puppy for Christmas. The puppies are now about eight to nine months old — basically still babies.

Pet ownership is a responsibility and an honor. You will never find a more devoted and loving friend than a dog.

Cats are another story. They act like they are doing you a favor by allowing you to coexist with them in the same house. Despite their attitude, they are still a devoted pet, even if they don’t show it like a dog does.

When dumping a pet in the country, cats at least have a fighting chance of surviving by hunting mice and such. Puppies and older dogs do not have that natural hunting instinct.

The one family said they had to get another dog because the one they got a few months ago wasn’t potty trained, and teaching it was too much effort. I so wanted to say, “Did your baby come home from the hospital potty trained? It took about two years to accomplish that, didn’t it?”

Puppies are babies and, like potty training a child, it takes patience and time.

The other family said they are dumping their nine-month-old dog because it was no longer cute and cuddly like when they got it for their kids at Christmas, so they were getting a new one. That one really spiked my ire. I had to bite my tongue. I wanted to say that I hoped his kids put him in an old folks’ home when he wasn’t young and spry anymore, because that was how he was treating his dog.

To a dog, their owner is the whole world to them. They cannot understand why they are suddenly given away to a place where they are locked up with others no one wants, or dumped alongside the road like a bag of garbage.

I have adopted several shelter dogs over the years. Just like a person, they each had their own personality and little unique quirks. They were loving and grateful to once again have a home and someone to love and take care of them.

But like any change, it took them awhile to adjust to a new environment, to learn new routines and to learn what was expected of them. And, most of all, it took time to build trust and a bond.

All of that is well worth the effort for a life-long devoted friend.

One of the dogs I adopted had been abandoned and locked in an upstairs bedroom. She and another dog broke out the window and were on the roof when they were noticed and rescued. They were both starved and dehydrated. One of the dogs died as a result.

The other was in the shelter for several months being nursed back to health. When I adopted her and named her Blue, she was still pretty skinny, timid and shy. Because she had been starved, whenever no one was home, she would somehow manage to get a loaf of bread off the top of the refrigerator or cookies out of a cupboard. She didn’t eat them. She just put them in her bed.


I tried for several weeks to break her of that habit and even gave her extra dog food. I finally decided if hav-

ing some food by her bed gave her security, that was okay after all she had gone through. So, I would buy an extra loaf of bread that she could keep in her bed (I replaced the bread when it started getting old).

After a few months of doing that, she realized she didn’t have to worry about not having food. She stopped keeping food in her bed when we left the house.

Anyway, back to my main point. There are several news broadcasts and Facebook postings about how sad and isolated people feel about staying at home during quarantine and being separated from friends.

Think about those feelings when you want to dump your pet.



### Rabbit Tracks

by Clarke Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)

All Secretary of State Offices will be closed on Monday, Sept. 7 in observance of Labor Day. Same holds true for the Cass City Chronicle.

With the day off, next week’s Chronicles will be on the newsstands on Wednesday and area subscribers will receive their local paper a day later.

Enjoy the holiday and please be safe.

\*\*\*\*\*

Here’s a little Labor Day trivia, courtesy of the U.S. Census Bureau.

The first observance of Labor Day is believed to have been a parade on September 5, 1882, in New York City, probably organized by Peter J. McGuire, a Carpenters and Joiners Union secretary. About 20,000 attendees picnicked, smoked cigars, and listened to speeches by the union leadership in Union Square.

By 1893, more than half the states were observing a "Labor Day" on one day or another, and a bill to establish a federal holiday was passed by Congress in 1894. President Grover Cleveland signed the bill soon afterward, designating the first Monday in September as Labor Day.

Today, Americans by the millions celebrate Labor Day with a day off at backyard barbecues or with coastal celebrations at US beaches.

\*\*\*\*\*

Here’s a look at Labor Day by the numbers:

**13.4 million**  
The number of Americans who work at home before the pandemic. That’s about 4 million more people than in 1999 thanks to Skype and hi-speed Internet connections.

**14.4 million**  
Number of labor union members nationwide. About 11.3 percent of wage and salary workers belong to unions, with New York having among the highest rates of any state - 23.2 percent. North Carolina has one of the lowest rates, 2.9 percent.

**25.3 minutes**  
The average time it takes to commute to work. Maryland and New York had the most time-consuming commutes, averaging 31.8 and 31.3 minutes.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you’re an illegal marijuana grower in the Thumb there’s no need to be alarmed if you see a helicopter flying overhead at the end of the month - maybe.

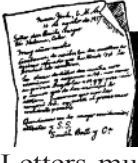
International Transmission Company (ITC) will be conducting aerial patrols of the high-voltage transmission towers and lines in east Michigan from approximately August 31 – September 4, weather permitting.

The helicopter patrols are conducted to provide an overall status of the overhead transmission system that is operated by ITC. The aerial inspections will cover the eastern part of the state, including all or parts of Clinton, Genesee, Gratiot, Huron, Ingham, Lapeer, Livingston, Macomb, Midland, Oakland, Sanilac, Shiawassee, St. Clair, and Tuscola Counties.

### Subscription Rates

Tuscola, Huron & Sanilac counties - \$25.10 per year.  
In Michigan - \$29.50 per year.  
Out-of-State - \$31.70 per year.  
College - \$15 per year.  
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### Have a concern? A complaint? Just want to voice your opinion?



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

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

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

## CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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Columnist



## Foundation accepting fall grant requests

Eligible Tuscola County organizations could be on the receiving end of some welcome funding this fall if they meet the deadline to apply for a grant through the Tuscola County Community Foundation (TCCF).

John Hunter, TCCF executive director, last week announced applications will be accepted through Oct. 1.

“The TCCF is offering grants to fund projects within Tuscola

County,” Hunter said, adding a total of \$101,500 will be available to apply for during the upcoming fall grant cycle for eligible Tuscola County organizations.

Applications are available online at [www.tuscolacf.org](http://www.tuscolacf.org) (under the grant application drop down tab). Prospective grant recipients are asked to carefully review the grant guidelines document and, if they have any questions, to contact Hunter via email at [jhunter@tuscolacf.org](mailto:jhunter@tuscolacf.org) or by calling (989) 673-8223.

Grants and the total amounts available will be awarded from the following funds: Claude and Etta Andrews Fund, \$16,000 for children’s activities; Future Youth Involvement (FYI) Fund, \$30,000.00 for youth programs; William and Ruth Janks Fund, \$55,000 for unrestricted projects; and List Family Fund, \$500 for human services/environment/arts projects.

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## New sheriff will take the reins in Sanilac Co.

Continued from page one.

When Rich takes office, it will be a homecoming of sorts for him. He is a retired sergeant from the sheriff’s department who has been working as chief of police in the village of Peck.

During the August election, Rich edged out Steve McKenney, who is a detective-sergeant with the sheriff’s department.

Aside from being a new sheriff the first of the year, there could also be a new undersheriff as well.

Currently, Brad Roff is the undersheriff, but each sheriff gets to select his second in command, so that could change.

Biniecki announced last December that he would not be seeking a fourth term as sheriff.

A veteran law enforcement officer whose career with the sheriff’s department spans more than 44 years, Biniecki indicated he’s pleased with the legacy he’ll leave behind.

“We have accomplished much of what we set out to do, and it has been a pleasure to see it come to fruition,” he said.

“Some of our key accomplishments over these years are areas such as the jail addition and renovation project, where health and safety issues for staff and the inmates were addressed and remedied,” Biniecki noted. “This major accomplishment was done through teamwork and without burdening the taxpayers for the debt, by creating a larger revenue

source throughout the federal bed rental program.

“Sanilac County has also experienced a reduction in crime, credited to our staff and innovative ways to fight crime,” Biniecki said.

“Over the past several years, we have written and been awarded multiple state and federal grants, with several million dollars’ worth of equipment and technology grants coming back to Sanilac County.”

The sheriff has said increased accountability within the department, as well as improved efficiency and effectiveness in serving the community are among his goals achieved during his tenure. In addition, he followed through with promises to launch a county-wide arson investigation unit and to reinstate the sheriff’s work crew program, saving taxpayers thousands of dollars in labor costs.

Biniecki first joined the sheriff’s department in 1976 as a corrections deputy, and he attended the police academy in 1977. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1984 and was appointed to the position of undersheriff in 2006. Biniecki served in that role until 2009, when he was first elected sheriff.

Over the years, he earned a reputation not only as a leader in law enforcement, but also for giving back to the community as a 4-H leader in archery shooting sports. He has also enjoyed mentoring youngsters in conservation.

An active member and past pres-

ident of the Sandusky Lions Club, Biniecki says he’s confident the sheriff’s department will continue to serve residents well for many years to come.

“There are a lot of very dedicated, hard-working people serving our citizens, from administration, records, jail staff and patrol, to our many volunteer groups, all striving every day to make a positive impact in the community we serve,” he said. “I know I leave the office of sheriff in very capable hands, with a challenge to carry on with (that) mission.”

Biniecki indicated he’s looking forward to retirement.

“At this point in my life, I hope to focus on some personal goals. To start with, I’ve been informed that there is a very long ‘honey-do’ list of things to do that I apparently have neglected over the years,” he joked.

“Spending time with family will also be a priority, along with exploring,” he added. “My wife and I have always wanted to go to Patagonia, not to mention that Lake Huron still has hundreds of undiscovered shipwrecks to locate and explore.”

“What I want everyone to know is how grateful I am for all their support they have shown over the years,” the sheriff said.

“I never thought I would live this dream, so thank you, Sanilac County, for all the memories. They make us who we are, and I for one won’t forget any of you.”

## 2019-20 state wheat trial results now available

Thumb farmers planning to plant wheat this fall might want to check the results of the high-management trials funded by the Michigan Wheat Program.

For the eighth consecutive year, the Michigan Wheat Program has partnered with Michigan State University to incorporate a high-management component into the MSU Wheat Performance Trials. Those trial plots – located on seven farms in Michigan – were harvested in July, and results are now available.

Farmers will certainly want to study the results of the 113 different varieties tested in plots across Michigan before making seed purchasing decisions for planting this fall, said Dennis Pennington, MSU wheat specialist and trial researcher.

“Over the last eight years, we have developed a pretty extensive body of data on high-management wheat research, including these trials, that supports the Michigan Wheat Program’s focus on high-management production and an increased bottom line for growers,” said Bill Hunt, chairman of the nine-member Michigan Wheat Program Board.

“We all know that just because you can add additional yield through additional steps, it does not mean that you are increasing your bottom line. The goal of this research is to allow growers to make the comparison of their style of management with the variety performance under different management conditions.”

“The results of this research have been very interesting. As I have run the numbers, it shows that some wheat varieties do not return the funds invested in a high management situation,” said Dr. Eric Olson, MSU wheat breeder.

“What makes this program so effective is our high-management plot comparisons plus farmers’ willingness to experiment on their own farms, along with Michigan’s unique climate. We really have a partnership that is helping drive increased productivity, profitability and quality in Michigan.”

Results of the 2019-2020 research plots in a side-by-side com-

parison in Tuscola County found that across all 113 varieties, high-management techniques had a mean average of 5.8 bushels more per acre this year. A handful of varieties performed 10 to 12 bushels/acre better.

“Every wheat farmer in Michigan should be looking at their farm management and how the various varieties respond to high management to make the decision as to what is the best variety for his or her farm,” Hunt said. “The goal of this project is to provide yet another tool for growers to help them stay on the cutting edge of production.”

This year’s Performance Trials include 62 commercial wheat varieties and 51 experimental wheat seed lines.

“When selecting varieties, it’s important to look at multi-year data from locations that are closest to the soil type and conditions you have on your farm,” commented Olson. “Farmers should study individual varieties across all the parameters evaluated in the trials including yield, test weight and disease ratings. This report is an unbiased, scientifically-based evaluation of varieties in various Michigan regions.”

“This data is meant to give Michigan farmers a ‘leg up’ over their competition in other states. The report itself is a valuable tool to help farmers make decisions about which varieties to plant based on their performance in different management situations,” Pennington said. “If you are a high-management farmer, you will want to review those varieties that do best under high management. If you are not utilizing high-management you will want to study those varieties that do not need high management to flourish and have a strong disease resistance package.”

MSU’s wheat research team has planted wheat trial plots for more than 30 years. During the 2019-2020 growing season, research plots were planted on private farmland in seven Michigan counties and the MSU Research Farm.

This year’s trials at a private farm in Tuscola County had both con-

ventional and high-management plots, to create a “same farm” comparison.

Michigan farms hosting the 2019-2020 trials included Darwin Sneller of Owendale (Huron County), JGDM Farms of Sandusky (Sanilac County), and Stuart Bierlein of Reese (Tuscola County).

“There is a wealth of knowledge in the report and I know the board is very proud of playing this important role in advancing knowledge about high-management wheat production here,” said Jody Pollok-Newsom, executive director of the Michigan Wheat Program.

“From the very beginning, the board has been focused on this project and helping growers determine what is the best variety for their farm, their soil and their management style. We know it’s not a one-variety fits all approach for growers and that they need diversity to get the right mix for their farms.”

Results of the 2020 trials, as well as the prior six years of high-management data, is available at [www.miwheat.org](http://www.miwheat.org) under the Research and High-Management tabs.

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## News briefs

### Green: smart planning needed

LANSING – State Rep. Phil Green (R-Millington) says smart, conservative planning must continue to make sure Michigan’s state budget remains stabilized.

Green, who represents the 84th District, comprised of Tuscola and Huron counties, made the comment following the state’s recent Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference, which brings together state economists to forecast the economy and revenue projections upon which the state budget is built.

While the state budget is in better shape than previously anticipated, Green noted that’s largely because of temporary federal assistance – direct payments to states, stimulus checks, expanded unemployment benefits and other items — that shouldn’t be counted on in the future.

“State government should take a realistic look at its future prospects and operate within its means just like families and businesses do,” Green said.

“We can’t keep counting on federal bailouts to keep the state afloat – it’s not sustainable, and it’s irresponsible. We can’t just kick the can down the road and hope our problems go away – they won’t go away, and they might only get worse. We’ve got to plan for the future today.”

Green, a member of the House Appropriations Committee, said two key steps must be taken right away.

“We must continue moving toward a safe and full reopening of the economy, and we must make smart budget decisions, including possible spending reductions in areas that don’t hurt essential services,” he explained. “If we can take some important steps now to save money, we will help avoid potentially worse and devastating cuts in the future.”

### Cass City schools a testing site

CASS CITY — The Cass City Public Schools is a testing center for College Board SAT tests, and registration is now open to participate.

Those interested in taking the test should register as soon as possible due to limited seats available. Participants must register through their College Board account. Members of the Class of 2021 will take the state required SAT in the fall (October) during the school day, free of charge.

Scheduled testing dates for the SAT Saturday testing include Sept. 26, Oct. 3, Nov. 7 and Dec. 2.

### Argyle fire crew looking at rig

ARGYLE TOWNSHIP — During a recent monthly meeting of the Argyle Township Board, officials noted the Argyle Fire Department is considering making some changes.

Fire Chief Lyle Ramer reported the department is discussing buying a different first responder vehicle, and they are considering the possibility of housing it in Evergreen Township. He explained that having a rig there would allow for a faster response to that area of the county.

In other matters, the board approved the purchase of a storage cabinet in the bathroom to address a shortage of space to keep supplies. The cost of the cabinet is \$400.

### Bug run a go in Huron County

SEBEWAING — The standard joke amongst motorcycle enthusiasts is you can tell a happy biker by the bugs in his teeth.

The Christian Motorcycle Association is taking that joke a step further with a “bug run” event.

The Sebewaing Village Council recently approved the Christian Motorcycle Association’s request for a block party Saturday, Sept. 5, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the main park.

The group will leave Sebewaing to run to Grindstone for ice cream. For the bug run, a circle is painted on the bikes’ fairings or windshields, and whoever collects the most bugs inside of the targeted circle area wins prizes.

### Learn to relax free this month

MICHIGAN – MSU Extension is offering a pair of free online series this month that are designed to help people relax and stress less.

The RELAX Online Series will be offered Tuesday, Sept. 15 through Friday, Sept. 18, from noon to 1 p.m. Interested residents can pre-register online at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/UPRELAX9151820/>.

This series presents alternatives to anger in an effort to help teens, adults, parents and caregivers understand and manage anger and stress, and develop communication and problem-solving skills needed for healthy relationships.

The second series, Stress Less with Mindfulness, will be offered Monday, Sept. 21, through Friday, Sept. 25, noon to 1 p.m. 12-1 p.m. Pre-registration is available online at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/UPSLWM9212520/>.

This series teaches a wide variety of strategies of “mindfulness” that lead to stress reduction, pain relief and improved focus.

Compiled by Mary Drier and Tom Montgomery

**Let's Talk About Mental Health**

Through Mindfulness in Nature  
with:

**Eric LaPaugh, MA, LLPC**  
From: True North Consulting  
in Traverse City, MI

Experience Nature  
Engage your Senses  
Relax your Body  
Calm your Mind

Release your  
Stress

---

Coming to you on: **Saturday, September 12, 2020**  
At: **The Brentwood in Caro, MI**  
**1:00 – 3:00 P.M.**

**FREE** presentation for **Adults only** – snacks & sweets provided

10 person limit (at this time)  
Social Distanced Seating  
MASKS required



Not up for going out?  
Join Eric via Livestream  
On Facebook @TCHD.us

Register by Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> via email or phone  
[sluedtke@tchd.us](mailto:sluedtke@tchd.us) or 989-673-1723 OR [kpitts@hchd.us](mailto:kpitts@hchd.us) or 989-269-3319

\*Hosted by the Empowering Youth Today Program  
with the Tuscola and Huron County Health Departments.

## Reporter's notebook

### Dad jokes are too punny...

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor



If you're a "friend" of mine on Facebook, you know that glancing at many things I post is slightly less depressing than COVID-19.

That's because I'm a huge fan of terrible jokes – mostly puns, but dad jokes, too (sometimes I hit the jackpot and find a tidbit that offers a little of both). Hey, as long as they elicit groans and eye rolls, I'm happy. I wear them like a badge of honor.

Of course, I can't take credit for coming up with most of the best (worst) jokes; many are shared by equally disturbed folks such as former long-time Thumb newspaperman Mark Rummel, who has retired but still dabbles in writing (and some really great dad jokes).

Anyway, with Covid news, natural disasters and a nasty general election dominating the news these days, I figured I'd try to do my part to add to the misery – er, lift the spirits — of those who are fortunate to not be my friend on Facebook.

They say laughter is the best medicine, but you may not agree after reading a few of these examples:

\*Before my surgery, the anesthesiologist offered to knock me out with gas or a boat paddle. It was an ether/oar situation.

\*My friend just hired a limo for \$1,000, but it didn't come with a driver. Imagine spending all that money with nothing to chauffeur it.

\*Studies show that cows produce more milk when the farmer talks to them. It's a case of in one ear and out the udder.

\*Finally fixed that noise in the car; opened the door and pushed her out.

\*In case you didn't know, Yoda's last name is "layheehoo".

\*A guy walks into a lumberyard and asks for some two-by-fours. The clerk asks, "How long do you need them?" The guy answers, "A long time. We're going to build a house."

\*The Lego store is open! People are lining up for blocks.

\*It turns out that when you're asked who your favorite child is, you're expected to pick from your own. I know that now.

\*What do you call a bunch of chess enthusiasts standing around in a hotel lobby? Chess nuts boasting in an open foyer.

\*Wonder if glass coffins will become popular. Guess that remains to be seen.

\*What do you call a cow that has just given birth? Decaffeinated.

\*Germany is now advising people to stock up on cheese and sausages. This is called the Wurst Kase scenario.

\*With so many sports events being canceled, they're having to televise this year's Origami World Championship. It will be on paperview.

\*What's the difference between Dubai and Abu Dhabi? The people in Dubai don't like the Flintstones, but the people in Abu Dhabi do.

\*A sweater I bought was picking up static electricity, so I returned it to the store. They gave me another one, free of charge.

\*How much room do fungi need to grow? As mushroom as possible.

\*I caught my son chewing on electrical cords. So I had to ground him. He's doing much better currently. And conducting himself properly.

\*I just realized my kitchen countertop is made out of marble. I've been taking it for granite all these years.

Yeah, I know, these are bad, but I'm always striving to do worse. If we are friends on Facebook and it gets to be too much, just "snooze" my page for 30 days. I'll understand.

No need to pun-ish yourself.

## Hills and Dales earns CMS' Five Star rating

Hills and Dales General Hospital in Cass City has earned a Five Star patient experience rating from CMS (Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services).

CMS released new patient experience star ratings July 31 for 3,478 hospitals nationwide, giving 266 of those hospitals, including the Cass City facility, a rating of five stars.

"Ratings are derived from the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) survey, which is administered to a random sample of adult patients across all types of medical conditions between 48 hours and six weeks post-discharge," explained Danielle Blaine, Hills and Dales' marketing and foundation director.

"Surveys are not restricted to Medicare beneficiaries," she said. "To receive a rating, hospitals must have received at least 100 completed HCAHPS surveys over a given four-quarter period and be eligible for public reporting of the measures. This patient experience star rating is based on the HCAPS scores collected from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2019."

"This designation is really special for us," said Jean Anthony, Hills and Dales president and CEO. "We know that our staff provide exceptional patient care. To see CMS and our patients recognize this truly brings it full circle for our employees."

"Healthcare can be challenging," Anthony added, "and this rating is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our staff. I congratulate every employee here at Hills and Dales."

Overall, 1,120 (32 percent) of the rated hospitals received four stars; 1,479 (43 percent) received three stars and 528 (15 percent), received two stars. Eighty-five hospitals (two percent) received one star.

CMS gave 266 hospitals (eight percent) five stars based on patient experience, the highest score a hospital can receive.

Other hospitals in Michigan receiving the Five Star rating include: Charlevoix Area Hospital, OSF St. Francis Hospital and Medical Group (Escanaba), UP Health System Portage (Hancock), St Joseph Mercy Chelsea, Iron Mountain VA Medical Center, Saginaw VA Medical Center, MidMichigan Medical Center-Gladwin, Scheurer Hospital (Pigeon), Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital (Manistique), Saint Mary's Standish Community Hospital, Bronson Lakeview Hospital (Paw Paw), Eaton Rapids Medical Center and Bell Hospital (Ishpeming).

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# Down Memory Lane

by Tina Pallas



### 5 YEARS AGO (2015)

Artistic Endeavors Art Gallery will feature artist Brandon Muscott, who along with his wife and son recently moved to the Thumb after having lived in Midland, Detroit and Jackson. "When we moved here, we were struck with how many people asked us, 'why?', as if there was something wrong with life out here compared to life somewhere else," Muscott commented. "The work I am showing here at Artistic Endeavors is my response to the question. It reflects our appreciation of the area. There is a unique culture here that...has offered inspiration as I begin to explore what's possible in digital art and photography."

### 10 YEARS AGO (2010)

Stephanie Richards of Cass City has been awarded a master's degree in speech-language pathology from Central Michigan University's Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow College of Health Professions. Richards, who also earned her undergraduate degree from CMU, is a graduate of Cass City High School. Richards' clinical assignments included work with Masonic Pathways Senior Living Services and Sacred Heart Academy, where she provided speech and language assistance and services to adult and child clients. She plans to continue her work by pursuing her doctorate in communication disorders at Bowling Green State University.

Mallory Powell-Wilkins of Cass City, a current 10th trimester student in the Doctor of Chiropractic program at Palmer College of Chiropractic, Davenport, Iowa, has been named to the dean's list for the ninth trimester. To be eligible for the dean's list, a student must achieve a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.50 in all studies for the respective term. The highest possible GPA is a 4.00.

### 25 YEARS AGO (1995)

Roger and Cindy Talaski of Decker announce the birth of a daughter, Brooke Lee, Sept. 5, at Saginaw General. She weighed 5 pounds, 3 ounces. Grandparents are Jim and Noreine Sobie of Florida and Lois Talaski of Ubyly and the late Leo Talaski. Brooke also has a stepsister and 2 stepbrothers at home.

Pam Polega and Anthony Prill announce the birth of Briana Marie Aug. 29. She weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces and was 19 inches long. Grandparents are Harold and Joyce Polega and Florence and Alex Prill. Great-grandmothers are Bernice Osentoski and Regina Prill.

Dan Smith has been showing angora goats at various fairs and shows for only a few months, but the Cass City High School freshman has proven to be a quick study. Smith, the son of Randy and Jackie Smith of Decker, recently showed the first place junior yearling doe at the Michigan State fair. The goat was raised by Don and Debbie Krug, Deford, whose Pine Creek farm is known for its award winning angora goats, which have won scores of honors.

Cass City Red Hawk Student of the Week is Laura Moore, 11th grade, daughter of Jeff and Sally Moore. Laura was recently selected for the Sanilac County 4-H Queen's court. She attended a pageant along with assisting with the animal shows and the 4-H auction. She also showed prospect beef, dairy and swine at this year's fair. Her other school activities include gymnastics and track.

### 35 YEARS AGO (1985)

Three-month-old Sadie Marie Doerr was baptized Saturday evening in St. Pancratius Church by Fr. Julius Spleet. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim (Brenda) Doerr of Caro. Grand-

parents are Mr. and Mrs. Royal Vollmar of Unionville and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Doerr, Cass City. She has a brother Levi. Godparents are a great-aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Cletus Doerr of Harrison. Ice cream and cake were served to guests at the Jack Doerr home following the service.

The 1985 Perannos, the Cass City High School yearbook, earned a Year Book Efficiency Award from the publisher, Jostens. The yearbook was judged on its photo and editorial content. Presenting the award to members of this year's class who worked on the 1985 yearbook is High School Principal Russ Richards. The students are Shannon McIntosh, Brian LaJoie, Debbie Wutzke, Michelle Connolly, Lisa Hirn, Katie LaBelle, Alice Izydorek, Renee Szarapski, Denise Francis, Eric Traube, Scott Harding, Chuck McPhail, Pete Leiterman, Gary Suzor, Kim Wing and Lorreen Irrer.

A reunion was held at the Bob Speirs residence last weekend for the crew of the "Belle of the Brawl", a United States Air Force B-17 bomber, that was forced down during a bombing mission over Berlin. The 10-man crew parachuted to safety, but they were soon captured by German troops. They were taken to Stalag 17, where they were held as prisoners for about one year. Crew members are: John Thompson, Bob Speirs, Roland McGee, Tony Rossi, William Courtright and Jerry Craig.

### 40 YEARS AGO (1980)

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Schwartz, Sr. announce the birth of a grandson, born to Mr. and Mrs. Ed Schwartz Jr. in Newport News, Va. Edward George III weighed seven pounds and 15 ounces and was born Sept. 4. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Dean Gasteiger of Hampton, Va., and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Schwartz, Sr. of Cass City. Great-grandmother is Mrs. Josephine Schwartz of Gagetown and great great-grandmother is Mrs. Cecelia Lenda of Caro.

The Elkland Township Fire Department is the owner of this new rotary saw, which can cut through steel, cement and various construction materials. The Lions Club paid the \$679 cost. Ron Keegan, club secretary presented to Don Erla, president, and Fire Chief Jack Hartwick. One use of the saw will be in rescuing victims trapped in wrecked cars.

### 50 YEARS AGO (1970)

Born to Mr. and Mrs. David Johns (Judy O'Dell) at Butterworth Hospital, Grand Rapids, their first child, a boy. He weighed seven pounds and 11 ounces and is named Michael David. Mr. and Mrs. William O'Dell went Sunday afternoon to see their new grandson and returned Monday. Also traveling with them were Mr. and Mrs. Ellwood Eastman, who stayed overnight with their granddaughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. David Soet.

New teachers in Cass City High and Intermediate Schools and the subjects they will teach are Paul Clabuesch, social studies; Diana Williams, Intermediate math-English; Will L. Philbin, biology-coach; Patricia Specht, girls physical education; David Lovejoy, sixth grade; Kayleen Pawloski, junior high art-physical education, and Kathy Olding, speech-English; Ray Pranger, typing, physical education; Bob Roth, library; The Rev. Fr. Leo Gengler, English-Journalism; Dale McIntosh, social studies, and Jim Mastie, science and social studies. Elementary schools are Mary Lou Buttery, first grade; Ruth E. Carlson, fourth grade; Ann Marie Jonas, second grade; Gary Kelley, Deford Principal; June Gulp, Evergreen first and second; Mike Muehlenbeck, third grade; Joyce Cameron,

Evergreen second and third; Fran Lovejoy, first grade, Campbell; Polly Pakonen, first grade, Campbell.

A sporadic summer long golf instructional course offered as one feature of the Cass City summer recreational program was capped by a golf meet Thursday at Rolling Hills Golf Course. Members in the course and the winners were, John Scollon, Scott Krueger, Junior Junior winner; Clarke Haire, Senior Junior champion, and Chris Krueger, intermediate winner.

### 75 YEARS AGO (1945)

Fort Sheridan, Ill., Sept. 6—Sgt. Edward D. Graham, 28, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chester L. Graham, of Cass City, has been honorably discharged from the Army. Sgt. Graham entered the service on Nov. 28, 1941, and was stationed in Africa and Italy from April, 1943, until May, 1945, as an aircraft mechanic. After his return from overseas duty, he was assigned to the Miami Beach Service Base of the Air Technical Service Command. His decorations include 13 battle stars, an Oak Leaf Cluster, and a Presidential Unit Citation. Before he entered the Army, Sgt. Graham was an upholstery cutter for the Ford Motor Co. in Detroit. Mrs. Graham resides at Farmington.

The rear of the E. Paul & Son implement building on East Main St. has been converted into a repair shop for the company's line of tractors. The shop, 24 by 28 feet in size, has a cement floor, and will be equipped with a hoist for lifting motors and with refacing and regrinding tools. Folding doors will open a space 14 feet wide to admit the largest machinery used on the farm. The shop has a new roof recently placed.

At the Sept. 11 meeting of the Gavel club, it was decided to do the grading for two tennis courts this fall in the city park, formerly the fairground. Plans are under way to use this space (flooded) for a skating rink this winter. Harold Oatley, toastmaster, introduced James Wallace and Robert Foy at Tuesday's meeting, both of whom gave very interesting talks on their experiences and duties at Boy Scout camp this summer. Joseph Lo Presti was a guest of the club.

"Happy Birthday to You" and "Old Al Knapp, He Aint What He Used to Be" were sung with zest by Rotarians Tuesday when A. J. Knapp's birth anniversary was given special recognition. Gifts were presented to the honor guest—some of the joke variety and others more desirable. M. B. Auten was master of ceremonies and incidents in Mr. Knapp's life were related by several of his friends.

### 100 YEARS AGO (1920)

D. T. Knight and family and Mrs. Knight's father, William McCauley of Cass City returned last Monday evening from a ten day auto trip to Canadian points, which included visits to Guelph, Orangeville, Milton, and the great annual exposition at Toronto. They report a very pleasant trip and Mr. Knight says the crops in western Ontario are very good, but that the roads that have made the province famous are beginning to show neglect or lack of care in various communities.

Earl Gowen and James Brooker will enter the Michigan Agricultural College this month, being among a great number of young people from over the state who have made early application for registration. An unusually large freshman class, with heavy total enrollment is indicated by requests for information which have poured into the Office of President F. S. Kedsie during recent weeks from prospective students. This correspondence is reported to be the heaviest in the history of M. A. C.



# Jail study presented, but next step unclear

by Mary Drier  
For the Chronicle

Despite completion of an extensive feasibility study of the Tuscola County Jail, there is still no easy solution to address the needs of the aging jail.

Byce and Associates, Inc., an engineering and architectural firm, conducted the study of goals for the Commissioners.

The main part of the jail, which is 21,000-square feet, was built in 1966 with 46 beds. There have been several remodeling projects over the years along with an expansion to create 92 beds in a 26,350-square foot space.

However, today's bottom line is that the 56-year old jail is wearing out, and replacement parts that old are about impossible to find, Tuscola County Sheriff Glen Skrent explained.

"New jails cost a lot of money and there is no way around it, except if you want to wait and wait," Skrent said.

Skrent and his predecessors know all about waiting – more than 25 years' worth. Other jail studies have been drafted in the past, but they've ended up on shelves. The jail facility, meanwhile, has continued to deteriorate.

On top of that, the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) keeps adding new requirements that are getting more and more difficult to meet, such as creating a private meeting area for inmates and their attorneys. In Tuscola County, a closet was renovated to comply with the rule.

"Incoming inmates have to stay in isolation for a day before being placed in the back (general population of the jail). Besides having to separate them from male and female, juveniles have to be separate, and so do those who are suicidal, with mental issues, those who are assaultive, those who are gay, etcetera," Skrent explained.

"It seems the small holding pen frequently has someone recovering from drugs or alcohol or is suicidal."

The main goal of the recent Tuscola County Jail study was to come up with a ballpark figure of what a new jail would cost, as well as other possible options.

The study pointed out numerous deficiencies, including:

- \*Inadequate space in the security garage, which presents a safety risk to the staff.
- \*The processing area is marginally compliant with MDOC standards.
- \*There is no isolation flexibility, no padded cells in the detoxification-holding cells. They are in poor condition with limited visibility from the control room, resulting in a staff-intensive situation for supervision.
- \*Control centers — the building's configuration requires a minimum of two, which currently offer limited visibility.
- \*Housing — limited cells, has several group cells and dorms, has limited space for classification separation capability, and dayroom space is inadequate.
- \*Program space — one classroom in C pod, and the library is in a corridor within half of the visitation area, which is inadequate, and is staff intensive.
- \*Space — inadequate outdoor recreation area.
- \*Inmate classification — no dedicated space. Booking area is utilized.
- \*Duty stations — work space is marginal with little storage space.
- \*Visiting accommodations are inadequate and in poor condition.
- \*Treatment rooms are marginal, are difficult to supervise, and include medical providers office and storage area.
- \*Workspace — administrative and clerical space marginal, some undersized, lack storage.

The list of inadequacies, security issues, structural issues and safety issues, along with Americans with Disability Act (ADA) considerations for inmates and staff is long and extensive.

The study concluded it is no longer to use the existing jail facility because all systems are beyond their useful life, the layout is operationally dysfunctional and inefficient, the facility is not conducive to expansion/renovation (the cost would exceed the expense of new construction, and it would be difficult to meet the state's minimum standards.

"The control room and holding cells are right in the middle of the jail and all the experts say it's better to tear it down rather than gut the middle," Skrent said. "The big issue is not so much the current jail population, which is guaranteed to go up again, as only two observation cells are in direct sight of the control room.

"The rep forgot to mention that the old jail was built where the new jail would go and there is definitely a bunch of cement and debris from the old jail buried there," he said. "We already ran into that doing some digging years ago, and they found burned timbers."

About the only positive the jail has is that it is close to the courthouse and there is an underground tunnel between the two buildings that is used to safely escort inmates to the courts.

The report outlined several proposed options on different ways to tackle construction on the same jail site, done in phases, to building a new jail offsite ranging from about \$25 million and up.

The key recommendations included building 140 more beds and a later expansion for 170 beds in order to address jail needs in the years to come.

The Byce and Associates, Inc. report can be viewed on county's website. [www.tuscolacounty.org](http://www.tuscolacounty.org) (click on the July 27 committee of the whole packet).

**DESPITE THE completion of an extensive feasibility study of the Tuscola County Jail, there is still no easy – or cheap — solution to addressing the needs of the aging jail.**

## Database compares state school chiefs' pay

Continued from page one.

Schools (\$155,426), and Akron-Fairgrove Schools (\$142,890).

DeGrow pointed out that the Michigan Public School Superintendent Compensation Database does not recommend the appropriate amount of compensation for superintendents. Rather, it simply serves as a tool for taxpayers to see how their dollars are being used.

are spending resources on the leaders their boards have chosen," he added.

"This makes it easier to compare how different Michigan districts

The Mackinac Center's complete superintendent compensation database can be viewed online at [www.mackinac.org/depts/epi/salary.aspx](http://www.mackinac.org/depts/epi/salary.aspx).

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# CHRONICLE SPORTS

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**THE 2020 CASS CITY Red Hawk women's cross country team members are: (front row, l-r) Riley Copeland, Diana Cortes, Madison Ware, Amelia Weiler, (back row) Ellie Perkins, Paula Learman, Madison Beckrow, Chloe Jaworski and Coach Jon Zdrojewski.**

## McArdle, Copeland pace Hawks

by Clarke Haire  
 Publisher

After being uninvited to their first scheduled meet at USA High School the week prior, the Cass City cross country teams made up for lost time at their opening meet last Tuesday in Bad Axe. There the Red Hawk men's team finished first, while the women's team was runner-up at the gathering limited to just 70 runners and 100 individuals total due to the Covid-19 outbreak.

"It's very confusing. There are plenty of gray areas," said Cass City Athletic Director Justin Ketterer of the rules concerning the pandemic.

Nonetheless, Red Hawk senior Nick McArdle posted a winning time of 17:13.95 at the Huron County Fairgrounds course, while classmate Brandon Witherspoon finished third overall with a time of 19:14.58. Also for Cass City, Vaughn Severance was 5th to the finish line with a time of 20:20.70 and Gabe Schwendinger was 7th with a time of 21:02.33. Hugh Walker, still running with an injury, completed the scoring for Cass City, coming in 9th place with a time of 21:11.02.

"I expect Nick to have a very good senior year," said Cass City Coach Jon Zdrojewski, adding, "Brandon finished where he left off last season and I look for him to be our number 2 all season."

A nice surprise, according to Zdrojewski, was turned in by Severance after taking a year off to study in Spain.

Turning to the women's field, Riley Copeland handed in a time of 22:39.27 to lead the way for Cass City and was the second runner to the tape overall.

Next for Cass City was Diana Cortes with a time of 23:33.05, while Madi Ware, with a time of 24:10.64, and Amelia Weiler, with a time of 24:28.14, all recorded Top-10 finishes.

"Competing in her senior year, I am looking for big things from Riley this year," said Zdrojewski.

Ware finished third for the team. She, too, is picking right up where she left off last season. Weiler was the fourth runner to finish for Cass City, 8th overall, with scoring for the team rounded out by Paula Learman with a time of 27:05.33. She placed 14th overall.

"Diana Cortes will be the lady athlete to watch this year; she surprised us all, including herself, with her great opening race," Zdrojewski said.

Cass City's next scheduled meet is tonight (Wednesday) in Mayville.



**THE 2020 CASS CITY Red Hawk men's cross country team members are: (front row, l-r) Vaughn Severance, Ethan Hall, Hugh Walker, Thomas Muter, Gage Schwendinger, (back row) Alex Hopper, Nicholas McArdle, Noah Zaleski, Brandon Witherspoon and Coach Jon Zdrojewski. Missing is Trenton Bruno.**

## Cass City Red Hawk ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Knights Insurance Agency proudly presents senior Alex Perry as their Cass City Red Hawk Athlete of the Week.

Perry, who is a physical rebounder on the Red Hawk basketball team, plus an all-around utility player for the district's baseball team, is best known for his work on the gridiron field. He was a Greater Thumb West all-conference dream team player on both offense and defense in 2019. The 3-year varsity standout was named to the Greater Thumb West's first team at running back on offense and linebacker on defense.

"Alex is a tough runner and found a home at middle linebacker. He was a disruptive force," said Cass City football coach Scott Cuthrell.

Cass City basketball coach Aaron Fernald added: "Alex is one of the most gifted athletes that I have every coached. Things come very easily for him. When Alex wants to go up and get a rebound he general gets it. Great athlete and a great kid."

Alex, a National Honor Society member, is the son of Julie and Troy Perry.



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**MSU BOUND.** Amanda Nugent, Bad Axe High School Class of 2020, is the recipient of this year's Parker Haire Michigan State University Memorial Scholarship. The \$1,500 gift is awarded annually to a top Thumb area student continuing their studies in East Lansing. Pictured with Nugent are Parker's parents, Clarke and Karen Haire.

# FALL 2020 | Cass City Jr./Sr. High School Sports Schedule

Support your favorite athletes all season long with this guide to Cass City High School's big games!

## Football Season Postponed

The Representative Council of the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) recently made the difficult decision to postpone football until the spring of 2021. This decision was based on feedback and input from the Governor's office, state health department officials, member schools, collegiate conferences and individuals on both sides of the issue.

Please note that all other fall sports in the low and moderate risk categories are moving forward

Mark Uyl, Executive Director of the MHSAA, wrote in an email: At the end of the day, we did everything we could to find a path forward for football this fall. With all input received, along with school feedback from the first week of practice, there was just too much uncertainty and too many unknowns to safely play football this fall. While there is disappointment today that we could not play football this fall, we are encouraged and motivated to find the best possible plan to fit football in with existing seasons to give all of our kids the best experience possible.

## Volleyball (FRESHMAN, JV & VARSITY)

Date	Opponent	Time
9/10	Bad Axe (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
9/12	Birch Run Inv. (V)	TBA
9/15	Vassar (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
9/17	USA (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
9/19	Frankenmuth Inv. (V)	TBA
9/19	USA Inv. (F)	TBA
9/24	Caro (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
9/26	Bay City Central Inv. (JV)	TBA
9/29	Reese (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/1	EPB Lakers (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/3	Ogemaw Heights Inv. (JV)	TBA
10/6	Bad Axe (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/8	Vassar (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/10	Cros-Lex Inv. (F, JV)	TBA
10/13	USA (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/15	Harbor Beach (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/17	New Lothrop Inv. (V)	TBA
10/17	North Branch Inv. (JV)	TBA
10/20	Caro (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/22	Reese (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/24	Marysville Inv. (V)	TBA
10/24	Caro Inv. (F)	TBA
10/27	EPBP Lakers (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
11/2-7	Districts (V)	TBA

## Varsity Girls Swim co-op @ Caro

Date	Location	Time
8/27	Garber	6:00 p.m.
9/1	Ogemaw	5:00 p.m.
9/12	Ogemaw Inv.	9:00 a.m.
9/22	Gaylord	6:00 p.m.
9/29	Ogemaw	6:00 p.m.
10/6	John Glenn	6:00 p.m.
10/13	Oscoda	6:00 p.m.
10/20	Standish/Sterling	6:00 p.m.
10/27	Garber	6:00 p.m.
11/6	ISC Prelims	TBA
11/7	ISC Prelims	TBA
11/12	Dive Regionals	TBA

~ Home meets are located in Caro ~

## Cross Country

Date	Location	Time
8/25	Bad Axe	5:00 p.m.
9/2	Mayville	4:00 p.m.
9/3	Brown City	5:30 p.m.
9/12	Bad Axe	9:00 a.m.
9/17	Reese	4:00 p.m.
9/19	Holly	8:00 a.m.
9/24	Frankenmuth	4:15 p.m.
9/26	Lakers	9:00 a.m.
10/3	Wagener Park	9:00 a.m.
10/10	Cass City	9:00 a.m.
10/14	Ubyly	4:30 p.m.
10/20	GTC League @ Reese	4:00 p.m.
10/24	Thumb Meet @ Caro	10:00 a.m.
10/31	Regionals @ Delta	TBA
11/7	State Finals @ Brooklyn	TBA

## Varsity Boys Soccer co-op @ USA

Date	Opponent	Time
8/26	Bad Axe	5:30 p.m.
9/2	Harbor Beach	5:30 p.m.
9/7	Caro	5:30 p.m.
9/9	EPB Lakers	5:30 p.m.
9/12	Clare Quad	TBA
9/14	Capac	5:30 p.m.
9/16	Memphis	5:30 p.m.
9/21	Marlette	5:30 p.m.
9/23	Bad Axe	5:30 p.m.
9/28	Harbor Beach	5:30 p.m.
9/30	Caro	5:30 p.m.
10/5	EPB Lakers	5:00 p.m.
10/7	Capac	5:00 p.m.
10/14-16	Districts	TBA
10/19-24	Districts	TBA

~ Home games are located at USA ~

Home games in bold.

Admissions:

High School - \$5.00

Jr. High - \$4.00

Season Sport Passes:

Family - \$125.00

Individual - \$80.00

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# Village: league at mercy of restrictions

Continued from page one.

Perry then asked the council why the CCASAP was allowed to hold its annual summer tournaments but not allowed to hold games now when the rules are the same.

"Our summer program went well," said Perry.

Part of the answer, according to Cass City Village Manager Deb Powell, rests with the Tuscola

County Health Department, which was bombarded with calls and push-back following the July tournaments, plus the announcement that an employee of the Helen Stevens Memorial Pool tested positive for the virus in early August.

"The bottom line is we have to follow the governor's executive order," Delamarter said.

Trustee Rob Piaskowski agreed, saying that if the state executive order stays the same, village officials would most likely have to shut the program down.

Village officials have already shut down youth softball and soccer programs and an adult co-ed softball league.

"We either shut them all down or let them all play," Piaskowski added.

### In other business

Also during the 90-minute session, the council:

\*Approved a motion requesting bids to sell two parcels of public property. The parcels, located at 6720 Third St. in the village, were donated in memory of Jack and Irene Doerr in 2016. Conditions of the gift included that the property be used as a park or, if sold, to be used to further develop the municipal park.

\*Adopted a resolution authorizing notice of intent to issue water supply system revenue bonds.

Officials have determined that it is necessary for public health, safety and welfare of the village to replace water mains and sanitary sewer lines within the village. The amount is not to exceed \$1,500,000.

\*Approved a proposal and three-year contract with Michigan Agribusiness Solutions, LLC

(MAS) to haul the village's bio solids annually.

MAS is the sole proprietor of bio solids application in the area. Cass City normally hauls 200,000 to 250,000 gallons of bio solids a year. The three-year contract is priced as follows: in 2021: 48 cents per gallon; 2022, 50 cents per gallon; and 2023, 52 cents per gallon.

\*Approved a motion to request bids for a natural gas generator that will power well house number three. The bids must include removal of the old transfer switch, installation of a new transfer switch, cement pad, all piping/conduit, county permit and installation of a Generac generator.

\*Held the first reading of proposed ordinance 189 to amend the village of Cass City Municipal Code regarding the operation of golf carts on the streets of Cass City.

\*Approved an additional \$100 payment to Halfway Fence Company for the splash park fence. In June, a quote was approved for \$6,870 for a new splash park fence, gates, concrete bollards and decorative vinyl fencing. Design changes resulted in the extra fee.



**Troy Perry**  
CCASAP President

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

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

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

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

## NOTICE FOR GILFORD TOWNSHIP

August 13, 2020 - MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting called to order at 7:30 P.M., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present: D. Strasz, Treasurer; R. Haines, Clerk; J. Stockmeyer, Supervisor; A. Goss, Trustee; K. Houghtaling, Trustee. Order of agenda approved.

Public Comment: None.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Motion by A. Goss, second by D. Strasz to approve minutes. Motion approved. Motion by J. Stockmeyer, second by D. Strasz to approve minutes of the July 9, 2020 Election Commission Meeting. Motion approved. Motion by A. Goss, second by J. Stockmeyer to approve minutes of July 13, 2020 Public Test. Motion approved.

Treasurers Report: Motion by J. Stockmeyer, second by K. Houghtaling to approve Treasurers Report. Motion approved.

### REPORTS:

Supervisor: 1 Reese run for a PIA. Brush at dump has been sprayed. Roadside mowing done. AMAR review has been approved. Audio system quote discussion. Motion by D. Strasz, second by K. Houghtaling to approve the wireless option audio system. Motion approved. Update and discussion on Quanicasse Rd. project, will request more information from Road commission. Cemetery roads have been sprayed, will grade and top with stone when grass is dead. Discussion on Hall repairs that are needed.

Treasurer: NorthStar CD maturing soon. Will research rate options.

Clerk: Election report, FOIA request for election data. Motion by J. Stockmeyer, second by D. Strasz to pay bills. Motion approved. Trustees: Discussion on Public Hearing dates for new Ordinance. Parks and Recreation report on RC plans and costs, approved signs, much of painting is done, approved concrete work, 5 year plan on schedule.

Ambulance Representative: Two medical responses to Gilford Township in June.

Fire Department Representative: Reese: training on football injuries, buy 7 smoke detectors. Fairgrove: all fund raisers postponed until covid-19 is under control, thanks from Jodi for use of Fairgrove Hall for election. Getting 2 spiro masks, 50 runs so far this year which was the total for all of last year.

Zoning Administrator: Nothing.

Public Comment: Resident having problems with TCF and Chemical Bank merger/transition. Has person who was in cemetery with dirt bike been back?

Motion by J. Stockmeyer, second by R. Haines to adjourn at 10:11 P.M. Motion approved.

Robert L. Haines  
Gilford Township Clerk

Cass City's own  
Sherryl Seeley will be  
celebrating her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday  
this September!

We are honoring her through the end of the month, but due to Covid-19 circumstances a gathering isn't possible. Instead we ask you to shower Sherryl with birthday wishes by sending her birthday cards all month long!



Happy 80th Birthday Mary Ann



## Mental Health

Tip of the Week

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# State tops 100,000 cases of COVID-19

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

With Michigan recording its 100,000th confirmed case of COVID-19 last week and the flu season fast approaching, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer reiterated the need for residents to remain vigilant to protect themselves and others from exposure to the virus.

"Since the first cases of COVID-19 were recorded in March, the vast majority of Michiganders have done their part to protect themselves and their loved ones. And because we took some of the most aggressive actions against this virus in the nation, Michigan is faring far better than other states in terms of new cases and deaths, and our economy is moving closer to where it was in March," Whitmer said Friday.

"The same cannot be said for other states that closed down late and reopened early – states like Florida and Texas. Michigan has shown the rest of the country what it means to take aggressive action against COVID-19, but our work is far from over. The COVID-19 pandemic is still a very real threat to our families, our brave frontline workers, and our economy.

"This virus demands to be taken seriously. Youth will not protect you from this virus. This virus will not go away when we get tired of it," Whitmer added.

"We must continue to fight back against COVID-19. That means wearing a mask, practicing safe physical distancing, and doing everything in your power to protect you and your loved ones. And as we approach the 2020-2021 flu season, make sure you get your flu vaccine."

Local health department officials, meanwhile, continued in their efforts to answer residents' questions related to COVID-19 exposure.

"Many people ask the following question: If someone tests positive in my home what happens next? This really depends on the situation. Those who live in the same household are quarantined for 14 days from the last contact with the positive person," explained Ann Hepfer, health officer for the Tuscola and Huron county health departments.

"The health department will call or text and monitor individuals for symptoms every day," she added. "(We) will verbally let individuals know when their quarantine ends.

"Many people are under the impression that the household will just get tested and if it's negative, they can return to their normal schedule. This is false; they are in quarantine regardless of the test results because the incubation period is two to 14 days in length and they could test positive anywhere along this spectrum of days," Hepfer said.

"The person in the household that tested positive will be questioned to identify all contacts which they have spent a combined 15 minutes of time and within less than a six-foot space of. These contacts include household members, friends, relatives, co-workers, etc. Individuals should consider events that they may have attended or participated in, such as church, community events, family gatherings, having people over for a dinner, work, sports teams/practices, motorcycle riding, etc."

"Anyone who wants to be tested can do so either by attending one of the drive-through clinics (or) by talking to your physician or clinic," Hepfer said. "The drive-through clinics in Huron and Tuscola (counties) are for diagnostic purposes and use the nasal swab method.

"Results are never mailed to individuals or texted; they are given over the phone only. This is so contact tracing can be completed."

Those attending a testing site need only bring a piece of paper that includes their full name, date of birth, address, phone number, and insurance information and numbers (residents will not be turned away if they don't have health insurance).

In Tuscola County, testing times were recently changed to 9 to 11 a.m. on Thursdays in the parking lot of the health department in Caro. In Huron County, testing is offered from 10 a.m. to noon in the Bay Great Lakes Health Care Center parking lot in Bad Axe, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

## Latest virus numbers

Between Monday, Aug. 24, and Monday, Aug. 31, the number of combined confirmed cases in Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac counties increased by 31 – from 660 to 691 — with the three counties' combined death toll increase by one fatality to 39.

As of Monday afternoon, Tuscola County had recorded 401 confirmed cases, an increase of 21 cases compared to a week before, and 29 deaths (no change). Huron County had recorded 170 cases (an increase of four cases), with four deaths (no change), and Sanilac County, 120 confirmed cases, up from 114 cases a week earlier, and six deaths (an increase of one fatality).

Statewide, Monday's total confirmed cases reached 102,468, with a total of 6,480 deaths, compared to 97,660 cases and 6,397 deaths a week earlier.

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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

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



## Mizpah Missionary Church

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



## Novesta Church of Christ

"the friendly church that cares"

2896 Cemetery Rd., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-3658  
• Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

• 1<sup>st</sup> Worship Service 9:00 a.m. • 2<sup>nd</sup> Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Senior Minister: Brad Speirs  
Associate Minister: Austin Keller at Ubyly & Student Minister: Don Mecomber  
Visit our website at: www.novestachurch.org



## Our Lady Consolata Catholic Church

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




## Potter's House Christian Fellowship


Pentecostal • 6455 Sixth St., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-5186  
• We enjoy singing from the Hymnals and  
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Potter's House Church of Cass City  
• Sunday: 11:00 a.m.





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**OATS FOR SALE** - Taking orders for winter freezer beef, 1/4, 1/2, whole. Call 989-912-0017. 2-8-26-4

**MUMS FOR SALE** - \$6 each or 4 for \$20. Tricolored mums, \$15 each. End of the Lane Greenhouse, Deford. Call 989-912-9511. 2-9-2-1

**CANNING TOMATOES** - for sale \$10 half bushel. End of the Lane Greenhouse, Deford. Call 989-912-9511. 2-9-2-1

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2-1-24-1f

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**Household Sales**

**GARAGE SALE** - Saturday, September 5 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 6304 Beechwood Dr., Cass City. Lots of men's and women's clothing, small furniture, miscellaneous. 14-9-2-1

Greenleaf Township Historical Society

**FALL FAMILY "Fun"draiser**

**September 5**  
from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Estate Sale Items**  
Baked Goods  
Cotton Candy  
Popcorn

At the Old Holbrook Hall on Germania Rd. 1/2 south of Bay City Forestville Rd. Just south of Petroglyph State Park

**Household Sales**

**SMALL ESTATE SALE** - 4393 Koepfgen Rd. Sept 10-12, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (noon on Sat), furniture, Cedar Chest, dishes, Noritake china set circa 1920, Wm. Rogers Silverplate circa 1920, kitchenware, small appliances, craft supplies, holiday decorator items, games, PlayStation 2 console with Dance Dance Revolution game and mats, books, woman's petite clothes, jewelry, tools, lots of misc. 14-9-2-2

**LARGE MOVING SALE** - September 4-7 at 4043 Cass City Rd. Everything must go cheap, lots of lawn ornaments, lawn jockey, lots of tools - 5 miles west of Cass City. 14-9-2-1

**GARAGE SALE** - 4830 Hospital Drive, September 4-5 starting at 8 a.m. -? Electric dryer, light furniture, kitchen items, decor and more. Israelson. 14-9-2-1

**Facilities For Rent**

**VFW HALL** - weddings, parties, funeral, dinners. Please call 989-872-4933. 4-2-22-1f

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**ELECTRIC MOTOR** and power tool repair, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, 8 a.m. to noon Saturday. John Blair, 1/8 mile west of M-53 on Sebewaing Road. Phone 269-7909 or 989-553-7960. 8-12-13-1f

**KIRBY VACUUM** - Do you want your carpets to be clean & free of dirt and dust? Try our new 100 year anniversary vacuum sweeper. Manufactured in Cleveland, Ohio. This carpet sweeper is made and built in the USA ensuring quality, reliability and performance. Used Vacuums - Kirby, Eureka, wet & dry, Sears, tank, Oreck etc. Warranty 90 days. **KIRBY VACUUM OF BAD AXE** (located across from the Franklin Inn on the East end of Bad Axe) or call 989-269-7562, 989-551-7562 for repairs, parts or service. 8-12-17-1f

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8-6-11-52

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# Legal Notices

**FORECLOSURE NOTICE (Tuscola County) NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT.** Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judiciary act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Tuscola County (at the front entrance of the Courthouse in the City of Caro, Tuscola County, Michigan), starting promptly at 10:00 o'clock A.M. on Thursday, October 1, 2020. Default has been made in the terms and conditions of the mortgage made by Barry W. Popp, a single man and Judith E. Cole, a single woman, as original mortgagor, to Chemical Bank, a Michigan banking corporation, as original mortgagee, dated September 2, 2016, and recorded on September 9, 2016, at the Tuscola County, Michigan Register of Deeds, in Liber 1358, commencing on Page 1145, which mortgage is now held by Chemical Bank, a Division of TCF National Bank, successor in interest by merger to Chemical Bank, a Michigan banking corporation. The amount claimed to be due on this mortgage, on the date of this notice, was \$13,289.01. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. The description of the mortgaged premises is all that certain piece or parcel of land situated in the Township of Novesta, in the County of Tuscola and State of Michigan further described as follows: Commencing at the Southwest corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 9, Town 13 North, Range 11 East, thence running North to the Northwest corner of said Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter; thence East to the Right of Way of the Pontiac, Oxford and Northern Railroad, thence along the Westerly line of said railroad in a Southwesterly direction to the section line between Sections 9 and 16, thence West along said section line to the place of beginning. Except for a parcel described as follows: Commencing at the Southwest corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 9, Town 13 North, Range 11 East, thence East 100 feet, thence North 436 feet, thence West 100 feet, thence South 436 feet to the point of beginning. Also including that certain mobile/manufactured home located thereon. Commonly known as: 6139 DeLong Rd., Deford, MI 48729 Tax ID Number: 018-09-000-1800-01 (covers more land) The redemption period shall be Twelve (12) months from the date of such sale, unless the redemption period is shortened in accordance with MCLA 600.3238. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, under MCLA 600.3278, the bor-

rower and mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention Homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Attention Purchasers: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Shaheen, Jacobs & Ross, P.C. is a debt collector attempting to collect this debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose Dated: August 19, 2020 Chemical Bank, a Division of TCF National Bank Mortgagee SHAHEEN, JACOBS & ROSS, P.C. By: Michael J. Thomas, Esq. Attorneys for Mortgagee 615 Griswold Street, Suite 1425 Detroit, Michigan 48226-3993 (313) 963-1301 8-26-4

**FORECLOSURE NOTICE** Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judiciary act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Tuscola County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, October 1, 2020. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Raymond H. Foshee, Jr, a single man aka Raymond Foshee to BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., Mortgagee, dated March 27, 2002, and recorded on April 16, 2002, in Liber 874, Page 347, Tuscola County Records, said mortgage was assigned to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB as Owner Trustee of the Residential Credit Opportunities Trust V-E by an Assignment of Mortgage dated May 29, 2020 and recorded July 16, 2020 in Liber 1452, Page 1151, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Forty-One and 82/100 (\$69,841.82) including interest at the rate of 6.87500% per annum. Said premises are situated in the Township of Vassar, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as: Commencing at a point that is North 230.1 feet from the Southeast corner of

Section 12, Town 11 North, Range 8 East, Vassar Township, Tuscola County, Michigan, thence North 410.87 feet; thence North 82 degrees 49 minutes 46 seconds West 169.77 feet; thence South 00 degrees 11 minutes 50 seconds West 410.7 feet; thence South 82 degrees 49 minutes 46 seconds East 171.00 feet to the point of beginning. Right of way for Washburn Road over the Easterly side thereof. Commonly known as: 4950 WASHBURN RD, VASSAR, MI 48768 If the property is eventually sold at foreclosure sale, the redemption period will be 6.00 months from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 and/or 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes prior to the date of the foreclosure sale pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the redemption period is 1 year. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, the borrower(s) 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. **TO ALL PURCHASERS:** The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages are, if any, limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Dated: September 2, 2020 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB as Owner Trustee of the Residential Credit Opportunities Trust V-E 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302, (248) 335-9200 Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Case No. 18MI00628-2 9-2-4

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
Decedent's Estate

File No. 20-36807-DE

Estate of Jay Champlin date of birth: July 20, 1957.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS:** The decedent, Jay Champlin, died September 18, 2018. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Pamela Champlin, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 440 N. State Street, #4, Caro, MI 48723 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

August 14, 2020  
Shane M. Childers (P77348), Attorney  
331 E. First Street  
Imlay City, MI 48444  
Phone: 810-724-0555

Pamela Champlin, Personal Representative  
4073 Clifford Road  
Silverwood, MI 48760  
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## My Corner

**A good teacher never forgotten**

by Ty Perry

Just a couple of weeks ago, I began my last semester of college, and even though I've been out of high school for 10 years, the first day back to class still affects me. There's still something electric about the air on the morning of that first day.

As I think about back-to-school time, my mind goes to Willis Campbell Elementary School. Having gone to Deford Elementary from kindergarten through the third grade, I only spent one year at Campbell. But it was a year that had a profound impact on me, mostly because of one teacher.

I was a pudgy, bespectacled 10-year-old who was in the midst of a baseball obsession when I entered Mrs. Yvonne Sherman's fourth grade class. Generally, I liked school. History, English, geography — even science — they all came quite easily to me.

Math, however, was a different matter. I got so confused when it came to numbers. Did one really need to know the difference between the big hand and the little hand on the clock? And what on Earth did it matter how many pieces of pie Oscar would have after he gave four of them to his friend? The point was he had pie. Leave it at that!

Fourth grade math brought its own problems. I can still remember the sense of panic I felt when, just after recess, I saw the overhead projector sitting in the middle of the classroom. Its presence could mean only one thing: a math drill.

On a piece of paper were printed 100 multiplication problems. At Mrs. Sherman's "Go!", we were to successfully complete as many problems as we could in one minute.

My palms were wet. Sweat beads formed on my brow. I looked down at my paper. I was, at once, sweltering and frozen. I hoped no one would notice my inability to do the problems. But one person did. Mrs. Sherman did. And it was one of the best things that ever happened.

She sat down with my parents soon after and explained the situation. She told them that, due to the fast pace of the curriculum, she could not hold the rest of the class back until I grasped the math concepts.

"He needs a little extra help," she said.

That extra help came in the form of Friday afternoon tutoring sessions after school. So embarrassed was I about these sessions, though, that I would run to the bathroom just minutes before the dismissal bell rang, hiding out in one of the stalls until I heard the rest of the kids leave through the cafeteria.

Back in the classroom, Mrs. Sherman patiently sat down with a stack of scrap paper, a few sharpened pencils, and plenty of erasers to help her struggling student.

These sessions went on even through the summer because she wanted me to be ready for middle school math.

The tutoring paid off — I learned the material and was ready for the fifth grade.

But even more importantly, I learned the inestimable value of a good teacher; someone who took the time to ensure her struggling student did not fall through the cracks.

There's a great deal to criticize about the way we educate our kids today, but one thing is for sure: when it comes to getting a quality education, a good teacher makes all the difference.

Thanks, Mrs. Sherman.



**BETWEEN A rock and an orange place** – Gray tree frogs, which are native to much of the eastern United States and southeastern Canada, are nocturnal and rarely descend from high treetops except for breeding, but this specimen was recently spotted lounging between a large rock and a pumpkin in the Deford area. The gray tree frog's color can range from mottled gray to light green, but like a chameleon, they can change their tint depending on their surroundings.

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Just minutes from Caro. This custom ranch home has it all. Open concept, custom kitchen, large bedrooms, finished basement, natural gas heating, brand new deck over looking the finishing 18th hole of Arrowhead Golf Course. Kitchen and dining feature 3/4" hickory hardwood flooring, custom cherry cabinets with self closing and pullouts. 038-20-0093



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194-20-0004

  
 Kim Donovan  
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CY2793