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# CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

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CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2020

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## **Mask up, Red Hawks!**

REVIVE Ministries of Cass City recently delivered a “care” package to the Cass City Public Schools in the form of 1,200 masks, enough to give one mask to each student and staff member. Pictured above are (from left) Revive representatives Rob Sangster and Jaime Fritz along with seventh grade students Jackson Anthony, Kelsey Anthony and Lauren Bartnik.

## **Freak accident claims teen’s life in Huron County**

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

A Huron County teen lost his life during a freak accident in a farm field over the weekend, Huron County Sheriff’s Department investigators reported.

Deputies and a Scheurer Ambulance Service crew were dispatched to the scene – a cornfield on Limerick Road, between Farver and Maxwell roads in Chandler Township – shortly before 9 a.m. Saturday, according to Sheriff Kelly J. Hanson.

“Preliminary investigation indicates that a 13-year-old young man from Elkton had been dropped off earlier to deer hunt in that field, and it is believed he may have fallen asleep once there. A little while later, a 25-year-old man from Pigeon arrived to finish harvesting the field with a large Krone corn chopper. Unaware anyone was in it, the hunter was accidentally driven over and found by the chopper operator a very short while later,” Hanson said.

“Unfortunately, though, the victim didn’t survive and was pronounced dead at the scene.”

The Huron County Medical Examiner’s Office ordered an autopsy,” said Hanson, who did not release the names of the victim and machine operator.

No other information was available at press time.

## **Jury trials back on track in Tuscola Co.**

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

Even with the cloud of a global pandemic hanging overhead, the wheels of justice in Tuscola County are continuing to turn.

After nearly a six-month hiatus, Tuscola County District Court was slated to resume jury trials this week (Tuesday) and Thursday.

Because jury selection typically involves close to 20 citizens from the county, officials conducted “virtual” jury selection, according to Sheila Long, Tuscola County court administrator. She explained the potential jurors were not physically at the courthouse, but rather connected to the court online via the Zoom app.

Jurors logged onto the application and were greeted by District Court Judge Jason E. Bitzer, who explained the new process.

Jurors were questioned until the jury panel for the trials set for this week were seated, and those selected to serve were scheduled to appear in person at the courthouse in Caro for the trials.

“With all of the safeguards put into place by Chief Judge Amy Grace Gierhart and Court Administrator Sheila Long, the courthouse is ready for a jury trial to take place in person,” Bitzer said last week.

“However, we were all concerned about jury selection, given that twenty or more people from the community would have to appear. Social distancing would have been impossible, given the size of district court with that many people. That is why we made the decision to proceed with jury selection virtually,” he noted.

Please turn to page 5.

## **STOP!**

### **Thumb agencies clamping down on drivers**

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

Law enforcement agencies throughout the upper Thumb are putting motorists on notice with a number of enhanced enforcement efforts designed to make this a safe fall on area roadways.

In Tuscola County, the campaign will involve troopers from the Michigan State Police (MSP) post in Caro, sheriff’s deputies and local police departments, and will include another round of stepped up enforcement targeting drivers who run red lights and stop signs.

“Troopers will also be focusing seatbelt usage,” said First Lt. Brian McComb, commander of the MSP post in Caro.

In Tuscola County, law enforcement agencies staged a red-light enforcement campaign a month ago that resulted in officers making more than 50 traffic stops and issuing 33 citations in a three-hour span.

In Sanilac County, troopers are teaming up with Sanilac County Sheriff’s deputies and Sandusky police officers for a similar red-light enforcement campaign, according to McComb, who reported on the results of a traffic initiative that troopers and Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division officers conducted last Wednesday along with Sandusky police.

“The initiative, for traffic signal and enforcement, ran from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. A total of 40 vehicles were stopped,” he said.

During the 4-hour enforcement period, officers issued 10 citations for disregarding a traffic signal, 15 for impeding traffic, two for texting and driving and one for seatbelt violation. Officers also issued 28 written or verbal warnings.

In Huron County, meanwhile, troopers and sheriff’s deputies will be watching intersections throughout the county, where several serious and fatal traffic

crashes have occurred due to motorists running stop signs, McComb said.

Red light and stop sign violations carry a fine of \$110 plus three points assessed on to the violator’s driving record. The fine for a seatbelt violation is \$65.

“All agencies are committed to traffic safety,” McComb said. “Our goal is to not write citations during these initiatives, but we will not tolerate people running red lights or stop signs.”

In 2019, there were more than 6,000 traffic crashes involving drivers running red lights. The

Please turn to page 9.

## **Cremation fee issue laid to rest in county**

by Mary Drier  
For the Chronicle

The issue of who can set cremation fees has been laid to rest by Tuscola County’s corporate counsel.

The law firm of Braun Kendrick asserted the county’s right to set fees charged by the medical examiner’s office in a legal opinion presented to the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners, which approved making the letter public.

For four months, commissioners have debated the issue of who has control to set cremation fees for the county with Dr. David Stockman, CEO of the Michigan Institute of Forensic Science and Medicine (MIFSM).

The area of contention is MIFSM’s unilaterally raising the cremation fee from \$10 to \$63 without notice to commissioners or to funeral homes in the county.

The attorney’s letter noted an Aug. 2 letter from MIFSM acknowledged commissioners have the “exclusive authority” over the fee charged for cremation permits.

“Unfortunately, MIFSM continues to require payment for this unauthorized increase fee before it will issue a cremation permit in the

Please turn to page 9.

## **Old desks from Kingston school are a perfect fit**

by Mary Drier  
For the Chronicle

And everything old is made new again. There is back to school, and then there is really b-a-c-k to old school.

With so many students attending school virtually this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic, finding an efficient and comfortable work area for them is important.

Which is why some old one-room school desks are being put into service once again, according to Kingston’s Shirley Hampshire, who recently posted a photo of two granddaughters, Trinity Ondrajka and Verity Ondrajka, using old-time school desks to do their virtual school work using laptop computers.

But the desks aren’t just any school desks, according to Hampshire, who says the old furniture has ties to Kingston’s educational past.

“My granddaughters are using desks from the Beverly School, where their Grandpa Randy Hampshire and Great-

Please turn to page 2.



TRINITY Ondrajka and her sister, Verity, are pictured above using recycled school desks from the former Beverly School, Kingston, to do their virtual school work. Kingston’s Shirley Hampshire, the girls’ grandmother, submitted the photo along with some interesting history related to the old desks.



# Assault complaint ends in arrest

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

Sheriff's deputies arrested a man accused of assaulting his ex-girlfriend in Sanilac County's Moore Township last week.

Sgt. Chris Kravitsky reported the incident unfolded Tuesday at about 2:45 p.m. when the victim called 911 and stated she had been assaulted by her ex-boyfriend at a residence in the 1500 block of West Snover Road.

"A 31-year-old female from Moore Township alleged she was assaulted by her 32-year-old boyfriend from Deckerville. After the assault took place, the male suspect fled the scene and was later located at his residence in Deckerville," he said. "Sanilac County Sheriff's deputies along with Sanilac County Drug Task Force deputies and Deckerville police made entry into the residence and apprehended the suspect without incident.

"The victim of the assault was treated on scene by Sanilac EMS and later sought treatment at McKenzie Health Systems for her injuries."

Kravitsky, who noted the suspect remained incarcerated while awaiting arraignment on formal charges, said drug task force officers executed a search warrant at his residence, where they located a firearm, schedule II controlled substances and drug paraphernalia.

# Sanilac drug team arrests two drivers

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

The Sanilac County Drug Task Force is continuing its war against methamphetamine trafficking in the county, arresting two drivers during recent traffic stops in Flynn Township and the city of Marlette.

The most recent arrest came Sept. 4, according to drug team Director Jim Johnson.

"The Sept. 4 traffic stop took place within the city of Marlette. During that traffic stop, methamphetamine, prescription pills and marijuana were seized," Johnson

reported.

"The 42-year-old male driver of the vehicle was arrested and lodged at the Sanilac County Jail for arraignment on multiple drug and weapon related charges. A 28-year-old male passenger of the vehicle was also arrested and lodged on multiple outstanding warrants."

Johnson noted that his officers were assisted by the Marlette Police Department, Sanilac County Sheriff's deputies and the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department K-9 Unit.

An earlier traffic stop took place

Aug. 26 in Flynn Township, where officers located and seized methamphetamine and heroin.

"A 29-year-old female from Marlette Township was arrested and lodged at the Sanilac County Jail for arraignment on multiple drug related charges. Her 33-year-old male passenger from Sanilac Township was released from the scene pending further investigation," Johnson said.

Both the Sanilac County Sheriff's Department and St. Clair County Sheriff's Department K-9 Unit assisted drug team officers during the investigation.

# Old school desks work just fine in 2020

Continued from page one.

Grandpa Ronald Hampshire went to school, and where Great-Great-Grandma Alice Seddon Hampshire taught school," she said.

Hampshire noted the desks were cleaned, pulled apart, oiled and adjusted to size.

The old school desks now back in use were considered the new generation of their kind back in

the 1950s. They were viewed as the "Cadillac" of desks because they had individual cubby holes that allowed students to stash their belongings, and the seat and top could be adjusted to the size of the student.

And, with those desks, it didn't matter if the student was left-handed. Some of the forerunner desks had a curved armrest that was part of the desktop, which made it difficult for left-handed

students to use.

Hampshire's granddaughters – Verity, eight, and Trinity, six – are the daughters of Amalie and Ron Hess of Flushing and Adam Ondrajka of Marlette.

"Our daughter, Amalie, worked with us on our organic farm and bakery in Kingston until a few years ago. She now manages an organic orchard in Flushing, Almar Orchards," Hampshire noted.

# Legal Notices

**FORECLOSURE NOTICE (Tuscola County) NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT.** Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Tuscola County (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 Southeast 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 borrower 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 judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Tuscola County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, 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

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
COUNTY OF TUSCOLA

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
Decedent's Estate

FILE NO.  
20-36854-DE

Estate of Dondra Tenniswood Date of Birth: November 28, 1953.

TO ALL CREDITORS:  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Dondra Tenniswood, died June 9, 2020. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Eric C. Wisniewski, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 440 N. State St., Caro, MI 48723 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice. September 11, 2020 Attorney: Eric C. Wisniewski (P82947) 41000 Woodward Ave, Ste. 350 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304 (248) 686-1127

Personal Representative: Eric C. Wisniewski  
41000 Woodward Ave, Ste. 350  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304  
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9-16-1

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

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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Certified Public Accountants  
~Shareholders~

Thomas B. Doran, CPA

Valerie J. Hartel, CPA

Jamie L. Peasley, CPA

~For Additional CPAs and other  
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# In Our OPINION...

Clarke Haire  
Publisher

Tom Montgomery  
Editor

## Don't ignore suicide risk; get some help

You may have missed the observance of Suicide Prevention Week this month, but it's vitally important that you don't miss the signs of someone who is struggling with thoughts of taking their own life.

Fortunately, you don't have to go it alone. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), Michigan Association for Suicide Prevention and national and local suicide prevention organizations have been working tirelessly to halt the growth of suicide rates in Michigan.

"Michiganders may be experiencing increased levels of emotional distress due to the pandemic and, therefore, it's critical for people to know there are resources available and help raise awareness about suicide prevention," said Dr. Debra Pinals, MDHHS medical director for behavioral health.

Suicide is the tenth leading cause of death in both Michigan and the nation, and a top five leading cause among individuals who are 10 to 54 years old.

Michigan has higher rates of suicide among people who are 10 to 19 and 25 to 44 years of age compared to the nation as a whole.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the overall suicide rate in Michigan spiked 33 percent from 1999 to 2016, compared to a nationwide rise of 25 percent over the same period. For those ages 15 to 24 in the state, suicide is now the second leading cause of death, with the rate jumping nearly 50 percent in less than a decade in this age group.

Michiganders can help lower these rates by knowing the warning signs of suicide, encouraging those at risk to seek help, and having open and honest conversations about suicide.

"Suicide is a major public health concern across Michigan," said Dr. Brian Ahmedani, chairman of the Michigan Suicide Prevention Commission.

"Our commission is working hard with leaders and partners from across our great state to gain a better understanding of this problem as well as determine the best ways to leverage key opportunities and resources to prevent suicide across Michigan."

Health experts say warning signs for those at risk of suicide include:

- \*Feelings of hopelessness.
- \*Threatening to or talking about wanting to hurt oneself.
- \*Loss of interest in activities.
- \*Withdrawal from friends and family.
- \*Changes in eating and sleeping habits.

If you are in a crisis or know someone who needs help, contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 800-273-TALK (8255) or visit the MDHHS Suicide Prevention website for more information.

Additional emotional-support services for those who are feeling emotional distress during the COVID-19 pandemic are available at Michigan.gov/StayWell or by calling Michigan Stay Well Counseling via the COVID-19 Hotline at 888-535-6136 and pressing "8" to talk to a counselor 24/7.

## Drier Humor

by Mary Drier

Two wheels of separation



I never stopped to think about the importance of some of the basic skills parents teach their children that will in turn have an impact on the parent.

We potty trained them. When we fed them Cheerios, we helped them with hand coordination so they could text at lightning speed. We taught them to dress themselves, tie shoes, etc.

However, it was some of the other everyday things we taught our children that really had an impact on the child and the parent as well.

The realization on the impact struck home to me when I watched a Facebook posting of a father running alongside his little girl on her first attempt to learn to ride a two-wheel bike. From time to time, the father had to grab the bike to help his daughter keep it upright and to guide her back to the middle of the road.

After about 15 minutes, she mastered two-wheel riding without any assistance. She peddled as fast as her little legs would go, leaving her father behind.

The simple act was the first in many defining moments of a child growing up, becoming self-assured, their own person, and independent.

There will be other milestone events, such as the first day of school, getting their driver's license, going to college, getting a job, and moving out on their own, and such.

That father, like I, probably didn't realize exactly how much that simple accomplishment of riding a two-wheel bike actually meant in the scheme of a child's life.

The defining moment of that realization for me was when my sons started working.

For a while, we had a garden when the boys were growing up. The boys helped hoe the weeds in the garden, pick the vegetables, and they helped prepared them to eat as well as helping with meals.

I was the main support of the family. Although I worked more than one job, I tried to spend as much time as I could with the boys doing things.

Because I worked so much, they helped with the laundry, dishes, some cooking and housework. Their help allowed me to take them swimming at the pool that used to be in Caro several times a week, to the movies often, or to Indianfields park with the neighbor boys to play.

Eventually, I came to realize that how I raised them provided life skills.

They used the gardening skills to hoe fields in the summer for neighboring farmers to earn money. Their helping prepare meals also helped them later on; they each started out as dishwashers at the Capri restaurant that used to be in Caro. They worked their way up to being cooks, and one even became an assistant manager there.

When they started working, I joked with them that I should get a percentage kickback from their checks for

a while like employment agencies for providing them with all of that on-the-job training. Neither of them saw it that way.



### Rabbit Tracks

by Clarke Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)

Each year I receive birthday wishes from Chronicle subscriber Martha (Martinek) Parsons, who shares the same birthday as me – Sept. 14. She writes:

Happy Birthday to us! I just lived through the most brutal summer of my life, here in the middle of the Arizona desert. Normally we get between 19-20 days during the summer when the temperature goes over 110 degrees – the highest being 33, back in 2011. This summer, we have had 54 days with over 110 degrees - 12 of those over 112 – SO FAR! The weather personnel reported that this last summer was the hottest one in recorded history – back in 1895.

I know my Michigan friends will not want to hear this, but I am wishing it were winter, so that I could don my Bermudas and go out walking again – while they are shoveling snow (MEOW).

Due to the COVID-19 "house arrest" and the heat, I have spent most of my summer indoors. I go out only when necessary and stay the least amount of time that I can. If it gets any hotter next summer, I just might melt away! Stay safe and have a great birthday.

Same to you Martha, thanks for sharing.

\*\*\*\*\*

For my 61st birthday, I enjoyed two fishing trips.

My first journey came Thursday when I traveled to Custer to fish the Pere Marquette River. It was an experience that I've done many times and this trip didn't disappoint. We – Bob Woods and I – were targeting king salmon and put three fish in the net.

My next fishing trip came on Saturday when I traveled just south of Traverse City to fish the Platte River. This stream was new to me and it too didn't disappoint. The Platte River is a shallow waterway that is crystal clear with a swift current. We – Fred McIntyre and I – were targeting Coho salmon and hooked two but failed to put either in the net.

\*\*\*\*\*

Both fishing trips came with guide service. On the Pere Marquette, we used pro Chad Schaub (Schaub outfitters on the internet, if interested). He's a hard worker, knowledgeable, with good equipment, and I would recommend his services for fishing on the Pere Marquette, Muskegon, Manistee or Grand Rivers.

While most of our readers don't know Schaub, several of you will recognize the name of our Platte River guide – former Cass City resident Brent Szarapski.

Actually, Brent and Fred are good friends (they worked together at the local UPS facility back in the day) and invited me to tag along for the weekend at Szarapski's streamside cottage. Despite no fish, it was a fun 2-day excursion and very generous of the pair.

\*\*\*\*\*

Here's some news for young hunters. Eligible hunter education students will be allowed to purchase a Michigan hunting license through June 1, 2021 – prior to completing the required field day. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division administers the State's hunter education program and is providing a temporary solution due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Field days – in which students must successfully demonstrate hunter safety skills to a certified instructor – are the required final step in earning a DNR hunter education safety certificate for online and take-home study students. A safety certificate is required to purchase a Michigan hunting license.

"The department recognizes that COVID-19 is preventing some students from attending the required field day," said Chief Gary Hagler, DNR Law Enforcement Division. "We hope this extension will allow new hunters the time they need to attend a field day while still being able to safely enjoy the upcoming seasons."

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

- \* Started the program on or after Sept. 10, 2019 and complete it by June 1, 2021.
- \* Already completed the online program but have yet to complete a field day.

Anyone who receives a temporary hunter education safety certificate will be required to complete a field day by June 1, 2021, or within 12 months of completing the course – whichever date comes later – to receive their permanent hunter education safety certificate.

All first-time hunters born on or after Jan. 1, 1960, are required to take and pass a hunter safety course to purchase a Michigan hunting license. The traditional "classroom setting" hunter education classes remain postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

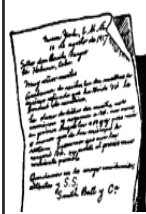
Learn more about earning an online hunter safety certificate at Michigan.gov/HunterEducation and don't forget to email the Chronicle a photo with your trophies.

## 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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**VILLAGE OF CASS CITY  
TUSCOLA COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
WELL HOUSE #3 STANDBY GENERATOR**

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids for the installation of a Generac Stand By Generator for Well House #3 will be received by the Village of Cass City, at the Village, until 10 a.m. on Thursday, October 22, 2020, at which time the sealed bids received will be publicly opened and read.

The project consists of the following:

- \*Install one 100 kw Generac stand by generator to be located no further than 20' away from Well House #3.
- \*Install one 200 amp Automatic Transfer Switch; switch to be surface mounted on the outside of the Well house.
- \*Remove old transfer switch.
- \*Install PVC conduit underground for generator load and control wires.
- \*Pour concrete pad for generator (North side of well house).
- \*Acquire all County permits required for installation of the generator.
- \*Generator must be LP gas applicable.
- \*LP gas will be hooked up by another company.

*Bids may be dropped off at the Village office or mailed to the office:*

**Village of Cass City  
P.O. Box: 123  
Cass City, MI 48726**

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## Circuit court proceedings

# Trio appear on felony charges

The following people recently appeared in Tuscola County Circuit Court on felony charges:

\*Ryan S. Thornton, 28, Mayville, pleaded guilty to malicious destruction of a building May 13 in Fremont Township. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (two prior felony convictions).

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered in the case and bond was set at \$10,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

\*Kenneth S. Mahan, Jr., 32, Caro, pleaded no contest to charges of assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder and domestic violence March 15 in the city of Caro. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (three or more prior felony convictions).

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

\*Cory J. Lewicki, 31, Saginaw, pleaded no contest to charges of delivery of/manufacture of methamphetamine and carrying a concealed weapon May 4-5 in the city of Caro. He was also convicted of being an habitual offender (three or more prior felony

convictions).

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

In a separate case, Lewicki entered a plea of no contest to flee-

ing a police officer March 18 in Unionville.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued in that case as well. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

## Kingston, O-G officials discuss student numbers

by Mary Drier  
For the Chronicle

School officials in the Thumb are continuing to monitor financial adjustments that may be needed to offset the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on their districts.

Kingston Community Schools Supt. Matt Drake, and Owendale-Gagetown Schools Supt. Terri Falkenberg recently weighed in on the state's revised funding formula and how that will affect their schools' bottom line based the latest student enrollment numbers.

"Normally, we would receive full state funding for every student we enrolled — around \$8,000 per student," Drake said. "That includes Kingston residents...and Schools of Choice students."

Because of the pandemic, however, state officials have revised the way they will be funding schools.

"This year, because of COVID, the Legislature changed funding to be based on 75 percent of last fall's fourth Wednesday count and 25 percent on this fall's fourth Wednesday count," Drake explained. "So, schools that lose a lot of students are going to have more money to spend on fewer students. And, schools that had an increase in enrollment will have less money to spend on more students."

"Schools that see a growth in enrollment will have to meet the needs of increased staffing, increased demand for technology software and hardware, additional costs for transportation, and PPE (personal protective equipment) supplies on less dollars per student than districts with declining enrollment."

The new formula significantly hit the Kingston Schools, which saw an increase of 70 new students when they opened the doors for the 2020-21 school year.

Normally, that increase would be a financial boom, but not this year.

"The addition of 70 new students — in any other year — would mean an additional \$560,000 for the district, but this year those new students mean \$140,000 additional dollars," Drake said.

"Because of the unexpected growth, we are hiring a third kindergarten teacher. At this time, we have 63 Kindergarteners, 52 of whom are doing school face to face," he added, noting there are also other expenses. "We had purchased 30 more chrome books and more PPE than we had anticipated."

Despite the new school funding formula, Kingston School officials are happy that so many families chose the district.

"Our current district enrollment is 662. Last fall we were at about 588. We are thrilled that so many families have elected to come to Kingston, and we will do whatever it takes to provide our students with great academic, athletic and social experiences," Drake said.

In contrast, Owendale-Gagetown School officials say they don't anticipate the funding formula will impact their finances significantly.

"At this time, the district has remained steady for enrollment, with about 16 (students) in and 16 out, which makes our current budget relevant," said Falkenberg, who acknowledged the district, like its neighbors, has had to implement some changes stemming from the pandemic restrictions imposed by the state.

"One change is with the types of instructions that are taking place. Although most students have returned to face-to-face instruction, we do have a few students that have selected either a virtual option where they log into the classroom from home, or an online option with a mentor teacher," she explained.

"We encourage all students to return to face-to-face learning when they are ready."

"We are fortunate to be able to distance all our desks six feet apart, and we have new cleaning/sanitizing and lunch routines, all of which have proven to be successful to-date," added Falkenberg, who said the building otherwise looks the same with the exception of some new signs and floor markings.

"We are proud and grateful that our students are back and learning."

## Nessel: OK2SAY still valuable resource here

With a new school year underway, students, teachers and administrators are dealing with a myriad of challenges stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, but Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel is reminding everyone that Michigan's student safety program, OK2SAY, remains in operation and is still a valuable resource to help keep young people safe.

OK2SAY has been a violence prevention tool for more than six years, and the attorney general's office last week launched a social media campaign to remind everyone of the program's important role in student safety.

"OK2SAY gives students the ability to report concerns directly, confidentially and with the understanding that caring adults will be involved and provide help," Nessel explained.

"Let's face it — students know, long before adults, what's occurring in their school and community because they have witnessed the behavior in-person or online," she added. "OK2SAY gives students a voice to break the code of silence by equipping authorities with the information needed to respond to threats and avert tragedy."

To minimize the spread of COVID-19, some schools are hosting classes remotely, and technology may be more heavily used by students, potentially opening the door wider to cyberbullying. Meanwhile, some students may feel more isolated from friends and classmates, which could cause feelings of anxiety or depression.

OK2SAY has received nearly 26,000 tips since the program was launched.

Tips are submitted in 31 categories. The top five tip categories are: suicide threats, bullying, "other" (e.g., anxiety, depression, harassment, and stress), drugs and self-harm.

Nessel and Michigan State Police Col. Joseph Gasper remind Michigan principals to fill out or update the online OK2SAY school contact form per Public Act 670 of 2018. This emergency after-hours contact information will allow OK2SAY technicians to efficiently communicate with school personnel about potential harm or criminal activities directed at school students, school employees and schools.

Tips can be submitted by phone — 8-555-OK2SAY (855)-565-2729; via text to 652729 (OK2SAY); email at OK2SAY; via the OK2SAY website; and through the OK2SAY mobile app available for download in both the Apple App Store and Google Play Store for iOS and Android mobile devices.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to section 141.412 of the Michigan Compiled Law (MCL) Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems will hold a hearing on the proposed budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.

**Date: Thursday, September 24, 2020**

**Time: 6:45 p.m.**

**Location: Zoom Platform**

To join the meeting via Zoom Meeting electronically (laptop, phone, computer, etc.), click on go to <https://zoom.us/j/4325510106> or dial toll-free 1-312-626-6799, enter Meeting ID#: 432 551 0106.

### PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET

Copies of the proposed budget are available for public inspection at 323 North State Street, Caro, MI 48723. Oral or written comments may be presented in person at the hearing on Thursday, September 24, 2020 or mailed to the above address and received in writing by 5:00 pm, Thursday, September 24, 2020.

## VILLAGE OF CASS CITY TUSCOLA COUNTY, MICHIGAN SEEGER STREET WATER MAIN & SANITARY SEWER IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 1 and 2

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids for the construction of the Seeger Street Water Main and Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project Phase 1 will be received, by Village of Cass City, at the Village, until **11:00 a.m.** local time on **October 20, 2020**, at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read. The Project generally consists of constructing:

- 7,300 lineal feet of 8" watermain**
- 12 Hydrants**
- 84 Water Services**
- 22 Connections to Existing Main**

The project consists of two phases. One phase will be constructed in the spring of 2021 and the other phase will be constructed in the spring of 2022.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: Townley Engineering, LLC, [chris@townleyengineering.com](mailto:chris@townleyengineering.com). Prospective Bidders may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below.

Bidding Documents also may be examined at the Construction Association of Michigan and the Lansing and Grand Rapids Builder's Exchange. **Builder's Exchanges are authorized to share the contract documents with other exchanges.**

Bidding Documents may be ordered via email after September 14, 2020 by contacting with the Issuing Office at [chris@townleyengineering.com](mailto:chris@townleyengineering.com), with Seeger Water Bid Documents in the subject line. Following registration, complete sets of Bidding Documents may be downloaded from the Issuing Office's website as portable document format (PDF) files. Partial sets of the Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office.

Bid security shall be furnished in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders. The Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any bid which is considered in the best interest of the Owner.

Bidders may attend the public bid opening via teleconference based on the Governors Executive Orders in effect at the time of the bid opening. Contact engineer prior to the bid opening or see instructions on the Engineers bidding site for instructions to attend via teleconference.

"Section 746 of Title VII of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2017 (Division A - Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017) and subsequent statutes mandating domestic preference applies an American Iron and Steel requirement to this project. All listed iron and steel products used in this project must be produced in the United States. The term "iron and steel products" means the following products made primarily of iron or steel: lined or unlined pipes and fittings, manhole covers and other municipal castings, hydrants, tanks, flanges, pipe clamps and restraints, valves, structural steel, reinforced precast concrete, and construction materials. The deminimis and minor components waiver (add project specific waivers as applicable) apply to this contract."

Owner: Village of Cass City

By: Nan Walsh

Title: Clerk

Date: September 4, 2020



## Reporter's notebook

Where have all the years gone?

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor



I'm coming up on my 34th anniversary at the Chronicle, prompting two reactions: first a question — where did the years go? And, secondly, I'm spending the obligatory time focusing on the past. That's something old people do, right?

Actually, I'm not old.

I can remember my first trip to the Thumb and Cass City like it was yesterday. Frankly, I was tempted to turn around and head back to Grand Rapids before I even reached the Chronicle office at the corner of Oak and Main.

But my long-suffering wife, Deb, encouraged me to forge ahead to my interview for a reporter's job at the local paper. After all, we had just covered miles, many of them past flooded and muddy cornfields — our trip brought us here during the Great Flood of '86 — in a region where I probably wouldn't have visited otherwise, given the lack of inland lakes and trout streams.

Anyway, to make a long story short (if that's possible at this point), we arrived and I still wasn't impressed. There isn't even a convenience store open 24 hours in this town, I muttered.

Talk about being shortsighted.

Back in those days, Cass City had two full-service grocery stores, including Erla's, which made the best hotdogs ever and could have given the Colonel a run for his money any day with their chicken. Both Coach Light Pharmacy and Old Wood Drug were just a few blocks away, as was Kritzman's, where we took advantage of the opportunity to buy quality clothing and shoes locally.

Perhaps my favorite store on Main Street was Ben Franklin. A trip inside was like stepping back in time — way back to when I was a kid growing up in Middleville, Mich. The amazing smell of penny candy is timeless, you know?

Of course, today, most of those businesses are long gone, although Dick Hendrick managed to keep the Cass Theatre tradition alive and well over the years — it took a global pandemic to force him to close the doors, at least temporarily, back in March. Talk about a labor of love.

My first few years covering local government found me interviewing veteran village Manager Lou LaPonsie and village President Lambert Althaver on a regular basis. The local police department was headed up by Chief Gene Wilson, who always welcomed me into his office.

A few weeks after I was hired at the Chronicle, Wilson hired a young railroad detective from Detroit by the name of Craig Haynes. Now, Cass City Police Chief Craig Haynes and I are the old guys in our respective jobs (although I believe Craig is much older than I am).

Fortunately, while the faces and names of many of the local government officials and business owners I came to know after moving to the village have changed, the sense of community here hasn't changed. I suppose that's proof that it really is people that make a town what it is, especially when those people aren't shy about demonstrating compassion, concern for others, and a willingness to roll up their sleeves for one another.

I've learned a few other things along the way.

I remember, as a cocky 20-something back in the day, writing an accident story in which I referred to the 60-year-old victim as being elderly.

Former longtime Chronicle Publisher the late-John Haire read my copy, grunted and made it clear to me, in no uncertain terms, that 60 is not elderly.

Aside from looking ahead to my work anniversary at this newspaper, I'm also just a few months away from my 59th birthday, and I can tell you with absolute certainty that John was right.

I can also tell you that of all the places I've lived and worked in this lifetime, none will ever feel like "home" to me the way Cass City does. How can it not, after living and working in the same community, surrounded by some of the most amazing people I've ever known, for all these years?

I'm not a native, but Cass City is familiar and comfortable. In fact, I wouldn't mind growing old here.

Well, some day.

## Trials resuming in district court

Continued from page one.

Bitzer added, "I am beyond pleased with how virtual jury selection went. I am appreciative for the jurors who took the time to appear remotely and work with us patiently as we tried this new approach. I look forward to making this process as smooth as possible for other jury selections in the months to come."

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# Down Memory Lane

by Tina Pallas



### 5 YEARS AGO (2015)

Motorists traveling east on Bay City-Forestville Road, just east of M-53, shouldn't be surprised if the driver in front of them slows down a bit when passing Fred and Terrie Powell's place on the north side of the road. Double-takes aren't uncommon among passersby, but that doesn't surprise Fred Powell, whose skill in growing giant pumpkins is hard to miss this time of year. Curious onlookers aren't the only ones interested in the Powells' field in Sanilac County's Greenleaf Township; Fred Powell has been keeping an eye on the largest of five super-sized pumpkins that are still putting on weight as fall settles into the Thumb. Still a few days away from harvesting the giant squash, he already knows at least one specimen among this year's crop will top his own personal best of 792 pounds, grown back in 2007. "These will break our record — they're 800-plus (pounds). The smallest is, maybe, 600 pounds," Powell commented Saturday afternoon at the field where he and his wife, Terrie, also raise a variety of produce sold at their F n T Home Grown Produce roadside stand. The couple grows and sells sweet corn along with a variety of pumpkins.

### 10 YEARS AGO (2010)

Ask her why she decided to spend years teaching youngsters, and Brenda Fulcher will tell you there wasn't a specific individual or life-changing experience that steered her into the classroom. She'll also tell you that it was the right decision. Fulcher, who has been enjoying spending more time with her family since retiring from the Cass City Public Schools last spring, indicated she never lost her passion for teaching, even after 36 years in education — all of it spent at Campbell Elementary School in Cass City. "I spent 12 years teaching second grade — regular second grade — and then I taught a regular third grade for 12 years, and then I taught 3 and 4 multi-age," the Cass City native said of her tenure, which began after she earned her bachelor's degree at Central Michigan University. "(Former school Supt.) Don Crouse hired me and (former Campbell Elementary Principal) Jackie Freiberger was my principal," she noted.

The 2010 Cass City homecoming king and queen candidates are: Rob VanAuken, Joey Doerr, Alex Varney, Justin Ketterer, Mitch O'Dell, Brooke Hartwick, McKensie Parrish, Hayley Peters, Krista Guinther, Kelsey Cooper and Amanda Clifton and Dylan Miller.

### 25 YEARS AGO (1995)

Jeanne Aline Mercer has been accepted into the graduate school at Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., for the fall of 1995. A 1985 graduate of Nebraska City High, Mercer is the daughter of Gene and Jennie Brief Mercer. He is a former resident of Cass City and she is formerly of Caro. Her grandparents are George and Evalyn Mercer of Cass City and Clair D. and Orlena Brief of Caro. Mercer will be working toward a master's degree in interior design in the College of Human Ecology and will be minoring in hotel administration. The focus of her study will be hospitality design. Mercer accepted a full time teaching assistant position for her 2 years of study. She plans to obtain a tenure-track professor position. She is now a retail design strategist for Hallmark Cards, Inc., Kansas City. She earned a BA degree from Iowa State University.

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Patrick L. Shagena, son of William and Suzanne L. Humpert of Cass City, is currently halfway through a 6-months overseas deployment to the Persian Gulf aboard the guided missile cruiser USS Vella Gul I. Shagena is one of 415 sailors aboard the ship who departed Norfolk, Va., in June for the trip to the Middle East. So far, Shagena has traveled approximately 15,000 miles and has been helping enforce the no-fly zone

over southern Iraq. While spending most of the deployment at sea, Shagena and fellow sailors have also visited Bahrain, Israel, Spain and the United Arab Emirates. While in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, sailors from Shagena's ship volunteered their free time to re-paint classrooms at a local school. In Haifa, Israel, Shagena and fellow sailors delivered medical and health supplies to a local orphanage. The 1990 graduate of Cass City High School joined the navy in March 1991.

### 35 YEARS AGO (1985)

Mr. and Mrs. Tim Brinkman of Caseville are the parents of a daughter, Lexie Lynae, born Sept. 6 in Huron Memorial Hospital in Bad Axe. The baby weighed eight pounds and five ounces. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Tom Herron and Mr. and Mrs. Don Brinkman, of Cass City. Great-grandmothers are Mrs. Leland De-Long of Cass City and Mrs. Bertha Hoover of Caro.

Donald Hicks, who has been employed by the Texaco Oil Co. for the past 35 years, has been visiting his mother, Mrs. Archie Hicks, and brother, Gerald Hicks and family, the past week. Donald, a former lieutenant in World War II, served five years in the Naval Air Force, circling the Atlantic in his search for submarines and vessels carrying food and munition supplies to Germany. He will be leaving shortly to resume his work with Texaco, in San Mako, near San Francisco.

Cass City High School has been notified by National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) that Tim J. Davis has been designated a commended student in the 1986 Merit Program, Principal Russell L. Richards announced recently that this senior will receive a Letter of Commendation in honor of outstanding academic promise, demonstrated by placing in the top five percent of over one million participants in the 31st annual National Merit Scholarship Program.

Around 50 relatives attended a family dinner at Lordel's in Bad Axe in honor of Sara Campbell's 88th birthday Saturday. Sara Campbell and Harry Edwards were taken in a horse and buggy, driven by Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Copeland from Lordel's to the Bad Axe Masonic Temple. The hall and cake were decorated in rainbow colors. Relatives, friends and neighbors met at the Masonic Hall for an open house where birthday cake, ice cream, coffee and punch were served from 5 to 8 p.m. Her four children, 13 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren attended.

### 40 YEARS AGO (1980)

When school resumed at Burt Elementary School in Waterford this month, Ruth Henke had a "show and tell" story to top any her first grade students could offer. The ex-Cass City resident and her husband, Dave, rode a motorcycle to Alaska and back this past summer, a trip of 9,287 miles. The trip would have been even longer except that Henke broke his foot when their machine tipped over in Alaska so they returned home early. Mrs. Henke, 56, and her husband of eight years, 47, have been avid motorcyclists for five years and have now ridden in every state except Hawaii. A native of this area, Mrs. Henke's maiden name was White.

Brad William is the name of the son born Sept. 14 in Hills and Dales General Hospital to Mr. and Mrs. David Deering of Deford. The baby weighed eight pounds and Mrs. Deering and baby left the hospital Sept. 16. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Harold Deering of Mayville and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Kritzman. Great-grandparents include Mr. and Mrs. Louis Behr of Argyle, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Kritzman of Sandusky and Byron Williamson of Deckerville.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Hopper announce the birth of an eight-pound, 13 ounce son, Matthew Theron, Sept. 16 in Hills and Dales General Hospital. Mrs. Hopper, the former Marlene Chapman, and baby came home

from the hospital Friday. Grandparents are Mrs. Onnalee Hopper of Deford and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Chapman of Cass City. Great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Otto Keilitz of St. Helen, Mrs. Celia Johnson, in the county medical care facility, and Mrs. Eva Bair, Cass City.

Navy Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Jasper Collins II, son of Jasper Collins Jr. of 2805 English, Kingston, has reported for duty aboard the guided missile cruiser USS Mississippi. A 1975 graduate of East Detroit High School, he joined the Navy in November, 1976.

### 50 YEARS AGO (1970)

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Haney of Cass City celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary Aug. 18. The Haneys are the proprietors of the Cass City Eat Shop. About 30 friends and relatives were guests at the Haney home for the occasion. The couple were married in Gilford at the bride's home. Mrs. Haney is the former Maxine Dora. They have one son, Joseph, 15, a sophomore at Cass City High School. The couple's parents are Mrs. Ed Dora and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Haney, all of Cass City.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Keating and son Eddie took Philip Keating to Albion College Sunday where he has enrolled as a freshman. En route home they stopped at the home of Mrs. Keating's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walt Miller, at Linden where other relatives had gathered to celebrate Mr. Miller's birthday which was Monday. Albion College's 1,800 students include persons from 24 states, Japan, Africa, Europe and Asia.

David Bushong is the new pastor at the Novesta Church of Christ and arrived here Saturday, accompanied by Mrs. Bushong and their 14-month-old son Brian. He came from Fountain City, Ind., where he has pastored a Church of Christ for the past three years and eight months.

Sgt. Walter Hempton left recently for Ft. Hood, Texas, where he will be stationed until Jan. 1, 1971. He had spent 30 days' leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Hempton of Cass City, and other relatives after spending a year in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division.

### 75 YEARS AGO (1945)

1/Sgt. Eugene Comment, stationed in Pennsylvania, received a three day pass which he spent in visiting Mrs. Comment and daughter at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Bliss and visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Comment. Sgt. Comment has been overseas one and a quarter years.

Arthur Little returned home on Thursday from Detroit where on Wednesday he completed his work as assistant local supervisor, working under the Census bureau with the Department of Commerce. The farm census for the sixth enumeration district has been completed. The work in this district has been in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, St. Clair, Lapeer, Sanilac, Huron and Tuscola counties. The farms enumerated totaled 99.9 per cent of the last census which was taken in 1940.

### 100 YEARS AGO (1920)

Wm. Foe has sold his 160-acre farm in Greenleaf Township to John Ball of Grant Township through the Watson Real Estate Agency.

The Exchange Bank is installing a steam heating plant in the bank building which insures employees and patrons comfortable quarters in which to transact business this winter.

Frank Lenzner brought a sample of a New Guinea butter bean to the Chronicle office Thursday. This vegetable is of the gourd family and is edible and palatable. The sample weighed eight pounds.

Ed Jackson and Geo. Kirton of Greenleaf, Neil Marshall and Geo. Russell of Elkland are among the progressive farmers of this community who will install electric lighting plants in their homes soon.

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**THE BRIGHT, large flower heads of sunflowers present a nectar and pollen mother lode for their pollinators, including bumblebees. Each flower head's central disc contains many smaller tubular disc flowers, each with its own supply of nectar and pollen. Bees go from flower to flower within the disc, becoming covered with pollen. They then pollinate other sunflowers as they go from plant to plant.**

## Collins earns bachelor's degree

Joel D. Collins, Cass City, has graduated cum laude from Bethel University, Mishawaka, Ind., with



Joel Collins

a Bachelor of Arts in Business Management Degree with a concentration in finance.

A 2017 graduate of Cass City High School and the son of Chris and Melanie Collins, Cass City, he was honored by family during a belated celebration over the Labor Day holiday weekend.

Collins completed the requirements for his degree in December 2019 and was scheduled to participate in his commencement ceremony last May, but the event was rescheduled for August due to the COVID-19 pandemic and later canceled.

Early this year, he was hired at the Kevin Rice State Farm Insurance Agency in Bad Axe as an Insurance account representative.

# Rawson Library staff gearing up to welcome patrons inside again

Rawson Memorial District Library in Cass City is extending its services in an effort better serve the community, according to library Director Ruth Steele.

"Beginning Sept. 21, the library is offering 'Grab and Go' in addition to our curbside service. Patrons may call (989) 872-2856 or email [librarian@rawsonlibrary.org](mailto:librarian@rawsonlibrary.org) to set up an appointment for Grab and Go service," Steele said.

"Forty-five minute appointments will be scheduled daily, beginning at 10 a.m. and starting at the top of each hour thereafter. During each 45-minute time slot, five patrons may enter the library to browse, check out items and use the public computers," she explained.

"Once the appointment time is over, staff will sanitize in preparation for the next scheduled appointments," Steele added. "All who enter the library need to wear a face mask."

Library hours are Monday,

Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

"We are continuing our curbside service for those who prefer to get their materials this way," Steele noted. "To check out books, audio books, DVDs or magazines, call or email the library and let us know what you would like. If you prefer, you may use our online catalog to reserve items by going to our website, [www.rawsonlibrary.org](http://www.rawsonlibrary.org), and clicking on "Search for Books and Other Library Materials."

"Items requested will be checked out to you and placed in a bag with your name on it. At the pre-arranged pick up time, the bag will be on a table outside the front doors of the library."

Fax and copy services are also available through curbside service, according to Steele, who says patrons need only contact the library if they would like something

copied or faxed.

"We request that all items be returned into the drop box located to the left of the library's front doors. Returned items are quarantined for several days and will remain on your record during that time until they can be processed. No fines accumulate during this phase," she said.

"Online services continue to be available through Overdrive and RBDigital. We have an excellent selection of books, audiobooks and comics available for download onto your device. MeLCat is up and running so you may request items from other libraries."

Steele expressed appreciation for patrons' patience and understanding as the staff continues to work to provide excellent library services to the fullest extent possible during the COVID-19 pandemic.

More information is available by contacting Steele by calling (989) 872-2856 or via email at [director@rawsonlibrary.org](mailto:director@rawsonlibrary.org).

## State health officials concerned

# Cases of EEE climbing quickly in state

With the recent discovery of five additional cases of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in equids over the holiday weekend, the number of confirmed cases for 2020 is more than double the number of cases found by this time last year.

State health officials say the rise in cases intensifies the need for horse owners to vaccinate their animals and for Michigan residents to take precautions.

EEE is one of the most dangerous mosquito-borne diseases in the United States that can affect both animals and humans. In 2019, Michigan experienced one of the worst outbreaks of EEE ever documented in the state, with 10 human cases — including 6 deaths — and 50 cases in animals from 20 counties.

While the first case of EEE in 2019 was reported about two weeks earlier than the first case for this year, only eight cases of the disease were confirmed in horses at this point of the year in 2019.

Currently, for 2020, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) has confirmed 18 cases in horses.

In addition, in 2019, the cases were found across only three counties: Barry, Kalamazoo, and

St. Joseph. This year, cases have been discovered in eight counties: Barry, Clare, Isabella, Kent, Mecosta, Montcalm, Newaygo and Oakland.

"We cannot state this strongly enough: horse owners and the general public need to take responsible, proactive steps to protect themselves and their animals from mosquito-borne diseases immediately," said state Veterinarian Nora Wineland, DVM.

"We don't know if the dramatic increase in EEE equid cases is due to a lapse in vaccinations or a higher prevalence of EEE in Michigan's mosquito population, but it doesn't matter. If we ignore what's happening, we run the risk of losing lives."

Even though the state is experiencing some cooler temperatures, this should not cause horse owners or residents to ease up on precautions they are taking.

The virus is typically seen in late summer to early fall each year in Michigan. Usually, mosquito-borne illnesses, such as EEE, will continue to pose a risk to both animals and humans until about mid-October, after there have been at least two hard frosts.

"We strongly urge Michiganders to take precautions against mosquito bites," said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, chief medical executive and chief deputy for health at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).

"Mosquito-borne diseases can cause long-term health effects in people, even death. Signs of EEE include the sudden onset of fever, chills, body and joint aches. Severe encephalitis, resulting in headache, disorientation, tremors, seizures and paralysis and even death can also occur."

To protect horses and other do-

mestic animals — dogs, sheep, goats, etc. — residents are encouraged to:

\*Talk to a veterinarian about vaccinating horses against EEE.

\*Place livestock in a barn under fans (as mosquitos are not strong flyers) during peak mosquito activity from dusk to dawn.

\*Use an insect repellent on an animal that is approved for the species.

\*Eliminate standing water on the property (i.e. fill in puddles, repair eaves, and change the water in buckets and bowls at least once a day).

\*Contact a veterinarian if an animal shows signs of the illness: fever and stumbling, which can progress to being down and struggling to stand.

To protect yourself and your family, here's what you should do now:

\*Apply insect repellents that contain the active ingredient DEET, or other U.S. Environmental Protection Agency-approved products, to exposed skin or clothing and always follow the manufacturer's directions for use.

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

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

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

\*Use nets and/or fans over outdoor eating areas.

For more information about mosquito-borne diseases, visit the website [Michigan.gov/EmergingDiseases](http://Michigan.gov/EmergingDiseases).

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## Jensen: foster care cost varies county to county

by Mary Drier  
For the Chronicle

State and local authorities step in when a child's health and safety is an issue in the home, and the cost of providing care for youngsters in those situations varies county by county — even in the Thumb.

Tuscola County Commissioner Mark Jensen, a member of the local Department of Health and Human Services and county medical care facility boards, shared information on foster care costs during a recent county board meeting.

"(From) 2017 to 2019, Tuscola spent over \$2 million in foster care (expenses) and all of the other options to take care of children," said Jensen. "In Huron County, which is way smaller than us, they spent over \$3.6 million during the same period."

And, Lapeer County, which is larger than Tuscola County, spent under \$2 million.

"So, a lot of the cost depends on the programs counties have for youths, the judges, and a lot depends on kids in the county," Jensen noted.

The costs for court-placed childcare is paid for by the county along with state and federal funds.

"That is a lot of money year after year. If parents cannot take care of things the way they should, counties have to do that for them," he stated.

Jensen also provided an update on the Tuscola County Medical Care Community, a skilled nursing and long term-care facility in Caro.

Officials at the facility faced an outbreak of the COVID-19 virus earlier this year, but they were able to contain the spread, thanks largely to measures such as closing the facility to visitors, changes in procedures and social distancing.



# CHRONICLE SPORTS

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 clarke@ccchronicle.net

## Red Hawks post wins at Hatchet XC Invitational

by Clarke Haire  
 Publisher

The Cass City Red Hawk cross country teams had double the fun over the weekend in Bad Axe, running to team titles at the Hatchet Cross Country Invitational.

On the men's side, Cass City edged Mayville, 40-41, for team bragging rights, while Kingston held off Ubly, 67-68, for third place honors at a gathering reduced to just four schools due to Covid-19 restrictions.

"The men's race was a very exciting affair," said Cass City Coach Jon Zdrojewski, noting the win was very big for us as we lost to Mayville earlier in the season. Nick McArdle led the winners Saturday, taking advantage of a very flat and fast course. He ran a 15:53, posting a sub 16-minute time for the first time in his career.

"This was a goal Nick set for himself at the beginning of the season and he has achieved it very early in the season. He ran a very fast race with his first mile in under five minutes," Zdrojewski said.

Brandon Witherspoon ran a much better race, according to Zdrojewski, as he is competing with an early season injury. Nonetheless, he finished 6th overall with a time of 18:50. Trenton Bruno was third for the team, taking 8th overall and setting a new personal best time of 18:59 over one minute faster than his previous best time and going sub 19-minutes for the first time in the freshman's short career. Vaughn Severance took 12th overall setting a new personal record for himself as well, running a 19:49. Right on his heels was Gabe Schwendinger, who was the final Cass City scorer, again with a new personal record time of 19:49, going sub 20-minutes for the first time in his career.

For Kingston, Ethan Green posted a time of 18:57. He was the first Cardinal to the finish line and 7th overall. Morgan Green and

Dustin Peter, each turned in Top 10 efforts with times of 19:20 and 19:29, respectively, and completing the scoring for Kingston were Trayton Wenzlaff and Jacob Rayl. Wenzlaff, 23rd place overall, completed the 5,000 meter run in 21:25 and Rayl, 24th place overall, in 21:28.

For Ubly, Utah Gusa was fastest with a time of 18:45. He was followed across the end line by teammates Levi Peruski with a time of 19:43, Andrew Vogel with a time of 20:40, Jacob Messing with a time of 21:00 and Wade Messing with a time of 21:05. The Ubly scorers placed 5th, 11th, 17th, 20th and 22nd overall.

On the women's side, Cass City completed the sweep with a team score of 30, while Mayville was runner-up in the standings with a score of 45 and Owen-Gage was third with a tally of 46.

"The Lady Red Hawks also took first place in the race for the second time this season. These ladies are off to a great start for a very different looking cross country season. I am looking for some very good things from these ladies as we proceed through the season," said Zdrojewski.

Riley Copeland had her best showing of the early season and was 2nd overall to the tape with a time of 21:03. She was followed by Madi Ware collecting 7th place honors with a new season best time of 22:40, while Diana Cortes continued her remarkable start to her rookie season by finishing in 8th place with a time of 22:53.

Cass City scorers also included Amelia Weiler with a time of 23:49 and Madison Beckrow with a time of 25:02. They finished 14th and 19th overall.

For Owen-Gage, Libby Ondrajka (4th overall) recorded a time of 21:45, Shelby Bowers (9th overall) recorded a time of 23:01, Karsyn Gruehn (11th overall) recorded a time of 23:11, Katriana Curtoys (23rd overall) recorded a time of 25:55 and Danielle Hunt (26th overall) recorded a time of 28:31.

Ubly's Maze Gusa won the race with a time of 20:36.

## Fabulous Four's Fearless Forecast

2020  
 Football  
 Season  
 WEEK ONE



Clarke Haire



Ray Maurer



Geoff Morgan



Doug Hyatt

Sept. 18th Weekend (11-player games)	Clarke Haire	Ray Maurer	Geoff Morgan	Doug Hyatt
Cass City -vs- Vassar	Cass City	Cass City	Cass City	Cass City
EPBP -vs- Caro	EPBP	EPBP	EPBP	EPBP
USA -vs- Reese	USA	USA	USA	USA
Harbor Beach -vs- Ubly	Harbor Beach	Harbor Beach	Ubly	Harbor Beach
Bad Axe -vs- Sandusky	Sandusky	Sandusky	Sandusky	Sandusky
Marlette -vs- Brown City				
Brown City (8-man games)	Brown City	Marlette	Brown City	
Kingston -vs- Flint Intern.	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston	Kingston
Deckerville -vs- Merritt	Deckerville	Deckerville	Deckerville	Merritt
(Pro game)				
Detroit -vs- Green Bay	Green Bay	Green Bay	Detroit	Green Bay
LAST WEEK	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0
SEASON RESULTS	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0

## Cass City Red Hawk ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Meet Diana Cortes, Knights Insurance Agency's Cass City Red Hawk Athlete of the Week.

Cortes is one of several outstanding underclassmen for Coach Jon Zdrojewski's cross country teams.

The promising Cass City freshman gets better with each meet. In her first outing, she posted a time of 23:33 at Bad Axe to kick-off her career. In her second outing, at Mayville on a tougher course, Cortes posted a time of 24:25, and most recently, returning to Bad Axe for the Hatchet XC Invitational Saturday, she was clocked in 22:53 to finish in the Top 10 overall.

"Freshman Diana Cortes continues her remarkable start to varsity cross country. Diana set a new personal best time on Saturday, she will be very good as we continue and one to keep your eye on," Zdrojewski said.

Diana is the daughter of Rufina Cervantes and Rutilio Cortes-Sanchez.



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# 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 Back On

### Varsity Football

Date	Opponent
9/18	Vassar
9/25	Reese
10/2	Harbor Beach Homecoming
10/9	USA
10/16	Caro
10/23	Beaverton

All games begin at 7 p.m.



### JV Football

Date	Opponent
9/21	Vassar
9/28	Reese
10/5	Harbor Beach
10/12	USA
10/19	Caro
10/23	Beaverton @ 4 p.m.

All games begin at 6:30 p.m. unless noted

## Volleyball (FRESHMAN, JV & VARSITY)

Date	Opponent	Time
9/12	Yale (JV)	8:30 a.m.
9/15	Vassar (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
9/17	USA (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
9/19	Brown City Quad (V)	8:30 a.m.
9/19	Cass City Quad (JV)	8:30 a.m.
9/24	Caro (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
9/26	Cros-Lex Quad (F)	8:30 a.m.
9/29	Reese (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/1	EPB Lakers (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/3	Cass City Quad (JV & V)	8:30 a.m.
10/6	Bad Axe (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/8	Vassar (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/10	Almont Quad (V)	8:30 a.m.
10/10	Yale Quad (F)	8:30 a.m.
10/13	USA (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/15	Harbor Beach (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/17	Yale Quad (V)	8:30 a.m.
10/17	Marlette Quad (JV)	8:30 a.m.
10/20	Caro (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/22	Reese (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/24	Cass City Quad (F)	8:30 a.m.
10/27	EPBP Lakers (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/29	Bad Axe (F, JV & V)	6:00 p.m.
10/31	Armada Quad (V)	8:30 a.m.
10/31	BC Central Quad (V)	10:00 a.m.
11/2-7	Districts (V)	TBA

## Varsity Girls Swim co-op @ Caro

Date	Location	Time
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
9/12	Bad Axe	9:00 a.m.
9/22	Cass City Quad	4:00 p.m.
9/26	Lakers	9:00 a.m.
10/1	Kingston	4:30 p.m.
10/10	Cass City	9:00 a.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
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  
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**THE TUSCOLA Intermediate School District (TISD) was recently recognized at the statewide SNAP-Ed University virtual conference. TISD won the Stepping Up Award, which acknowledges a partner whose statewide evaluation results showed a greater increase in youth physical activity and a decrease in screen time compared to the statewide average. TISD nutrition educators work in 27 schools across three counties to provide direct education to Kindergarten, second and fourth graders to encourage healthy food choices and a physically active lifestyle. Pictured above are (from left) Mary Boury, nutrition educator; Tanya Stowell, administrative assistant; Janet Nichols, nutrition educator; Wendy Guinther, nutrition educator; Alyssa Westerby, nutrition educator; and Tracy Robinson, regional school health coordinator.**

## Law enforcement putting drivers on notice

Continued from page one.

total accounted for just under two percent of crashes that year, but involved 16,121 people, claiming 25 lives and leaving more than 4,000 injured.

A total of 44 pedestrians and 51 bicyclists were involved in red-light running crashes. One pedestrian was killed and 72 non-motorists were injured.

According to the Michigan Department of State Police, Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP), the number of red-light running crashes increased by 7.2 percent – 5,614 crashes compared to 6,018 crashes — in the five-year period from 2015 to 2019.

Those crashes typically involve more than one vehicle (98 per-

cent).

### School bus safety

Troopers are also reminding drivers to be especially mindful of school buses on the road now that classes are back in session throughout the Thumb.

“With the start of the school year, the Caro post wants to remind parents to talk to their kids about bus safety and also remind motorists to share the road,” McComb said. “Buses might be taking a little longer this year when picking up students due to Covid (screening) procedures.”

“The Caro post and other local departments will be doing random school bus details, looking for motorists who run the buses’ red lights. Last year, we put troopers, deputies and other local officers

on some buses,” he added. “We will continue this cooperative effort to protect our kids.”

School bus “danger zones” extend 10 feet from the bus in all directions. Children crossing in front of a bus should move forward away from the bus until they can make eye contact with the driver, and they should never cross in front of the bus without the driver’s permission.

McComb also offered the following safety tips:

- \*Have a safe place to wait for the bus, away from traffic.
- \*Children should not run or play while waiting for the bus.
- \*Children should always remain in clear view of the bus driver, and never walk behind the bus.
- \*Stay away from the bus until it comes to a complete stop and the driver signals it’s okay to enter.
- \*Walk to the bus stop with a buddy.
- \*Mind all traffic signals and/or crossing guards. Never cross a street against a light, even if you don’t see traffic coming.
- \*Do not talk to strangers. Tell your parents if a stranger tries to talk to you.
- \*Never leave with a stranger or get into a stranger’s vehicle.
- When approaching a school bus with its lights activated, motorists should always:
  - \*Prepare to stop when a slowing bus has its overhead yellow lights flashing.
  - \*Come to a complete stop at least 20 feet away from the bus when its overhead red lights are flashing. Do not proceed until the bus resumes motion and/or you are signaled to do so by the bus driver.
  - \*Proceed with caution when the hazard warning lights, located near the headlights, are flashing.

## Cremation fees laid to rest

Continued from page one.

county. This must change without delay,” Braun Kendrick attorney Eric Morris stated in a letter to Stockman.

“The county did not act to raise the cremation permit fee. Given these facts, the only possible conclusion is that the increase in fee approved by MIFSM is unauthorized.

“Most importantly, MIFSM continued to charge those fees even after acknowledging that the authority to raise the fee lies with the county.”

Because MIFSM had the opportunity to correct this issue on its own but has not done so, the county is demanding that MIFSM immediately cease directly charging any cremation permit fees.

The issue of the arbitrary fee charge was brought to the commissioners’ attention by Mark Ransford of Ransford-Collon Funeral Homes, Caro, who has been the spokesperson for Tuscola County’s funeral homes.

Over the last few months, Ransford pointed out several times the county abdicated its responsibility to a private sector entity. In doing that, he said, it combined two different philosophies of free-market and government, which gave a private enterprise the ability to choose the best of both.

“I am pleased the county asserted their right to set the fee. Fees need to be set in public and for the public. Any time you have a private sector given governmental authority, interesting things can happen,” said Ransford. “I think that has proven out in this whole circumstance.

“I’m proud how the commissioners asserted their right.”

Aside from requiring MIFSM to stop charging the increased fee, commissioners demanded the immediate refund of all excess fees collected to the appropriate entities.

The county also decided to return to the practice of collecting the authorized \$10 cremation fees and forward them to MIFSM.

The letter noted commissioners understand the cremation fee has not been increased in several years and they understand the expense of issuing a permit.

And, once all of the unauthorized fees have been refunded, the county is willing to work with MIFSM on a more permanent resolution going forward, and they “believe a good working relationship still exists, but the cremation fee issue has to be addressed in order to maintain that relationship.”

Although Ransford called into question the legality to the fee change, he noted the agency provides a quality service.

“The county advocated a fundamental responsibility they have by subcontracting it to a group that they have little or no control over or understanding of,” Ransford explained. “I’m not calling into question MIFSM’s ethics. This comes down to a bad contract, and maybe a misplaced idea.”

About a year ago, Tuscola and several other counties contracted with MIFSM to provide medical examiner and forensic pathology services. The agency is also a training center for medical examiners as well as a forensic lab for technicians and support staff.

## News briefs

### Tuscola expo scheduled Oct. 8

CARO – The 2020 Tuscola County Human Services Community EXPO will be a drive-through affair, thanks to the COVID-19 pandemic, but the event will still offer plenty of giveaways.

The expo is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 8, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the parking lot of the Colwood Church, 1840 Colwood Rd. (corner of M-81 and Colwood Road).

Participants are asked to remain in their vehicles with their trunks open, and volunteers will deliver items to them.

Available this year will be a food bundle distribution, hygiene care bags, baby supply bags, children’s totes and flu shots, as well as information on free resources available to county residents.

The event is sponsored by the Tuscola County Human Services Collaborative Council and all participating agencies, Great Start Tuscola and the Michigan Department of Education.

### Sweet dreams made of cheese

MICHIGAN – MSU Extension is offering another live “4-H in the Kitchen” episode that will instruct participants in how to create the ultimate grilled cheese sandwich using predominantly low fat and fat-free ingredients.

Registration is open through Wednesday, Oct. 14, and the event will take place via Zoom Saturday, Oct. 17 at 3 p.m. Participants will receive the recipe and a Zoom invite two days prior to the event.

The program is open to all youth ages eight to 19. Youth may need adult assistance when using kitchen appliances and the stove.

Participants should register online at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/UlimateGrilledCheese/>. More information is available by contacting Aaron Myers, Mason County 4-H coordinator, at (231) 301-5622.

Compiled by Mary Drier and Tom Montgomery

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# Obituaries

## Janet Bradley

Janet Mae Hurd Parrish Bradley, 75, of Deford, died Friday, August 21, 2020 in Covenant Medical Center, Harrison Campus, Saginaw.

She was born March 19, 1945 in Tuscola County to Norman and Florence (Cummins) Hurd.

Janet married Russell Lee Bradley, Jr. July 27, 2001 in Ubyly. He died January 14, 2019.

Janet worked as a CNA for Hills & Dales Hospital of Cass City and also for Satchel's Christian Retirement Home in Caro. She was a home health caregiver for numerous families over the years. Janet was a member of Deford Community Church.

She loved crafting and made beautiful wreaths, crosses and grave blankets. Janet enjoyed working in her yard and planting her flowers. She liked to relax and watch the wildlife in her back yard. Best of all she loved her family, her beautiful smile and loving heart will be dearly missed by all.

Janet is survived by her children: Dawn (Carl 'Chip') Parrott of Branchville, SC, David (Lisa) Parrish of Grand Morristown, TN, Jeff (Cyndi) Parrish of Cass City, Michael Parrish of Branchville, SC and Jamie (Amanda) Parrish of Clarkston; grandchildren: Carl, Jacob, Shane, Kirsti, Morgan, Hunter, Dustyn, Chrysler, Seth, Tristan, Breanna, Lily, Adalyn and Deegan; great-grandchildren: CJ, Juliyah, Logan, Kyler, Braxton, Jocelyn, Aurora, Ayden and Maverick; siblings: Grace (Harland) Murdick of Caro, Ellen (Don) Mills of Watertown and Norman Hurd of Ocala, FL; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Russell; sister, Norma Connolly; and brother, Raymond Hurd.

A private family celebration of Janet's life will be held. Memorials may be made to Tuscola County Pet Friendz, or Deford Community Church.

Friends may share memories, prayers and photos with the family at [www.kranzfuneralhome.com](http://www.kranzfuneralhome.com).

Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home of Cass City.



## Roland Nicholas

Roland Lewis Nicholas, 75, of Cass City passed away unexpectedly Friday, August 14, 2020 in Tuscola County Medical Care Facility, Caro. He was born September 5, 1944 in Grant Township to Earl Joseph and Lola Mae (Ingalsbe) Nicholas.

Roland graduated from Owendale-Gagetown High School in 1963. He served in the U.S. Army in the mid to late 1960's, where he was awarded as a sharpshooter and later retired from GTE (Verizon).

Roland appreciated all sports and was an avid fisherman. He enjoyed helping on fishing charters especially during fishing tournaments. A hunter of small and large game, Roland has many mounts from his successful hunting adventures. He was fond of trying his luck in the casino and loved playing cards. His friends will recall many good memories of the man they nicknamed "Rock".

Roland is survived by his sisters: Donna Ferguson of Marlette, Joyce (Jim) Turner of Cass City, Jean (John) Heck of Sebawaing; sister-in-law, Paula Nicholas of Sebawaing; seventeen nieces and nephews, many great nieces and great nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers: Ronald Nicholas, Lloyd Nicholas and two great nieces.

A graveside service will be held 2:00 p.m. Saturday, September 19, 2020 in Novesta Township Cemetery, Cass City with Sam Leppert, Funeral Service Celebrant officiating. Military honors conducted by the U.S. Army and the Cass City V.F.W. Post #3644. Friends may share memories, prayers and photos with the family at [www.kranzfuneralhome.com](http://www.kranzfuneralhome.com). Memorials may be made to Cass City Public Schools Athletic Department or Cass City Parks and Recreation Department. In accordance with the current state executive order regarding COVID-19, social distancing and wearing facial coverings will be observed.

Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home of Cass City.



## Agnes "Aggie" Zawilinski

Agnes "Aggie" Catherine Zawilinski, 80, of Cass City, died Monday, September 7, 2020 in her home.

She was born November 12, 1939 in Bad Axe, one of ten children born to Fritz and Helen (Boogaard) VanErp.

She married Walter Zawilinski February 8, 1964 in St. Columbkille Catholic Church, Ubyly. He died January 26, 2014.

Aggie was employed as a bookkeeper for the Bad Axe Grain Elevator until she married Walter. In 1973, she went to work for Walbro and retired thirty-two years later in 2005. Aggie also helped Walter at the Cass Tavern which he owned and ran with his brother, Martin. She was a devout member of St. Pancratius Catholic Church of Cass City, where she was very involved in many activities. Aggie's hobbies included sewing, gardening and shopping at garage sales.

Agnes is survived by her daughter-in-law, Anna Zawilinski of Cleveland, OH; grandchildren: Megan, Kateri and Sarah; brothers: Bill (Kay) VanErp of Canton Township and Bob (Sue) VanErp of Bad Axe; sisters: Mary Kubacki of Ubyly, Florence (Norman) Briolat of Romeoville, IL and Evelyn Schadd of Filion; sister-in-law, Carol VanErp of Bad Axe; and many nieces and nephews.

Agnes was preceded in death by her husband; son, Fred Zawilinski; siblings: Marcella (W.J.) Campbell, Dorothy (Robert) Schmidt, Joseph VanErp, Albert (Ruth Ann) VanErp, Albert Kubacki, and Earl Schadd; in-laws: Bruno (Martha) Zawilinski, John (Marge) Zawilinski, Martin (Virginia) Zawilinski and Frances (Jack) Hrabec; and nephews: Jerry Zawilinski, Pete Zawilinski and Philip Zawilinski.

A private funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. Friday, September 18, in Our Lady Consolata Parish, St. Pancratius Catholic Church with the Rev. Theo Nnabugo officiating. Interment will be in Elkland Township Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Our Lady Consolata Parish, St. Pancratius Catholic Church. Friends may share memories, prayers and photos with the family at [www.kranzfuneralhome.com](http://www.kranzfuneralhome.com).

Attendees are also kindly reminded to wear a mask or other facial covering while in church and at the graveside and maintain proper social distancing.

Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home of Cass City.



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## Cass City Missionary Church

4449 Koepfgen Rd., Cass City, MI 48726 • 989-872-2729  
Worship Service 8:30 a.m. & 10:50 a.m.  
Pastor: Phil Burkett • Associate Pastor: Joel Schwendinger  
[www.casscitymc.org](http://www.casscitymc.org)



## Cass City United Methodist Church

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



## Community Baptist Church (Independent Fundamental)

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



## Deford Community Church

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

## Evangelical Free Church of Cass City

6430 Chestnut Blvd., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-5060  
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## First Baptist Church

(Independent, Fundamental)

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Sunday School All Ages 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship Service 11:00 a.m.  
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AWANA Clubs 6:15 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday - Kids4Truth Club - Teen Club 6:15 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
Pastor: Christian Wright • Website: [www.fbccc.us](http://www.fbccc.us)



## First Presbyterian Church

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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.  
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## Fraser Presbyterian Church

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



## Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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

## Living Word Worship Center Church of God

Pentecostal

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



## Mizpah Missionary Church

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

## Novesta Church of Christ

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• 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](http://www.novestachurch.org)

## Our Lady Consolata Catholic Church

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

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

FOR SALE - 140 silo blocks 6 & 8 ft.; 8 gates 10-16 ft.; wire mesh gate 52" x 42"; "FORMOST" a-25 Cattle Chute with head gate; dehorning clamps, 2 sets; castrator clamps; "Med-A-Dart" cross bow; ear tags & syringes; 5 rubber & steel water tanks 20-150 gal.; 3 cattle prods; hay & straw in 4'x5' new wrapped bales, stored inside. Call 1-989-550-1254. 2-9-16-3

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MOVING SALE - September 23-25 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cash only, mask up. 4895 Northwood Crl, Cass City Condos. 14-9-16-2

ESTATE SHED SALE - Lots of everything, unpacking boxes daily. Sept. 17-20 starting at 9 a.m. (more dates to possibly come depending on sales) 6 miles east of Owendale, 3 miles west of M-53 on Sebewaing/Owendale Rd., South to Hartsell Rd. 14-9-16-1

### Household Sales

GARAGE SALE - Thursday, Sept. 17 & Friday, Sept. 18 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. 4754 Hunt St. 14-9-16-1

### Facilities For Rent

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

### Real Estate For Rent

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### Services

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-tf

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# New school year brings changes and new faces

by Mary Drier  
For the Chronicle

While there is always a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes to get a school district ready to start a new academic year, this year's preparations took more work than in previous years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

There were several meetings in the weeks leading up to the first day of school on Aug. 31.

One of the sessions involved the leadership team in the Kingston Community Schools focus on new expectations of students related to hand washing, mask-wearing and other safety precautions related to reducing the chances of exposure to COVID-19, according to school Supt. Matt Drake said.

Another key change involved an annual open house to kick off the new school year, which was conducted virtually instead of face-to-face. And, students were greeted with several staffing changes this year, including:

\*Hannah Schank is a new third-grade teacher, and the new technology teacher is Jordan Jolley, who will be filling in for Jodi Haubenstricker for the first semester in second grade.

\*Jessica Hahn was moved to teach fifth and sixth-grade science; Ashleigh Bussinger, who is a second grade teacher, will be teaching kindergarten to second grade virtual students; kindergarten teacher Sarah Lester will be teaching third to sixth grade students virtually during the first semester; Chelsea Green will be teaching kindergarten; and Brooke Walker will be teaching second grade.

Kingston School officials have hired Jakob Asmonday to serve as the new technology director, Brittany Jewett as the new social worker, Meg Daniels as the new student council advisor and Dawn Laude as a special education teacher.

"We are posting for an instructional paraprofessional to fill the open position created by Brent Darling going to the high school," said elementary Principal Justin Diegel, who lauded staff members on their willingness to take on new roles and responsibilities.

"Their flexibility and dedication to the students of Kingston Elementary is greatly appreciated," he added.



## Corn moon...

**AMAZING – This September's "Corn Moon" happens only once every three years. According to the Farmers Almanac, the September moon is usually referred to as the Harvest Moon, so-called because of how close it is to the autumn equinox. This year, however, the Corn Moon occurs in September and the Harvest Moon occurs in October. The latter is attributed to Native Americans because it marked the time when corn was supposed to be harvested.**

## Officials monitor for holiday virus spike

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

The number of COVID-19 cases in the Thumb continues to rise gradually as local health department officials continue to monitor the numbers for any possible spikes stemming from the Labor Day weekend holiday.

"We will know in about two weeks or so if there will be outbreaks," Ann Hepfer, health officer for both the Tuscola and Huron county health departments said a week ago. "It will take about 20 days after Labor Day to determine if there was an impact. It was a holiday and everyone wanted to get together for the long weekend."

**Latest virus numbers**  
Between Monday, Sept. 7, and

Monday, Sept. 14, the number of combined confirmed cases in Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac counties increased by 14 – from 708 to 722 — with the three counties' combined death toll increasing by one fatality to 40.

According to the latest data, Tuscola County had recorded 419 confirmed cases, an increase of eight cases compared to a week before, and 29 deaths (no change), with about 325 individuals having recovered from the virus county-wide to-date.

The total includes 61 cases and 10 deaths within the Cass City zip code, where the number of individuals who have recovered from the virus is estimated at 50.

In other area communities defined by zip code, Caro has had 114 cases, 82 recoveries and 15

deaths; there have been 11 cases and eight recoveries in Unionville; nine cases and nine recoveries in Deford; six cases and six recoveries in Kingston; and three cases and two recoveries to-date confirmed in Gagetown.

In Huron County, meanwhile, there are 174 confirmed cases (no change from a week earlier), with five deaths (an increase of one fatality), and Sanilac County has a total of 129 confirmed cases, up from 123 cases a week earlier, and six deaths (no change).

Statewide, Monday's total confirmed cases reached 112,612, with a total of 6,601 deaths, compared to 107,371 cases and 6,538 deaths a week earlier. Health officials are reporting that an estimated 85,513 Covid patients have recovered statewide.

Cass City Chronicle

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