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CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

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.75 CENTS - 12 PAGES

School and village officials breathe a sigh of relief

Governor, lawmakers agree on new budget and avoid major cuts

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Local government and school district officials were breathing a sigh of relief following last week's announcement from Lansing that Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and law-

makers have come to terms on a new state budget.

Whitmer said the proposed 2021 spending plan represents a budget that "funds shared priorities such as education, economic development, public safety and the environment.

Towards that end, the new budget keeps schools and local governmental units at their 2020 funding levels.

"I'm a little bit relieved," Cass

City Village Manager Debbie Powell acknowledged Thursday. "I was expecting the worst, and I think that with all things considered, Cass City will come out a little bit ahead of the curve."

Powell said she was glad to see state officials utilizing CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act funding to avoid major cuts in revenue sharing for local governments. For Cass City, that amounts to roughly

\$249,000 annually, according to village Clerk-Treasurer Nan Walsh.

There have also been some other financial bright spots for the community.

In spite of the economic crisis created by the COVID-19 pandemic, village officials were able to collect 90 percent of local taxes on time, which will enable Cass City to maintain its credit rating, said Powell, who pointed out

that's a key with bonding work such as the community's upcoming Seeger Street project.

Powell said the village was also able to secure half of a request — \$35,379 — for CARES Act money in the form of a public safety/public health payroll reimbursement grant for the police department for April and May.

The fact that the governor and Legislature were able to hammer Please turn to page 2.



DICK HENDRICK, owner of the Cass Theatre in Cass City since 1963, says he's making plans to reopen in October — more than six months after the COVID-19 pandemic closed his doors last March — following Friday's announcement that theatres will be allowed to re-open statewide starting Oct. 9. Hendrick hasn't set a date yet, but says his first showing will be a "free night" for all, featuring the film "Call of the Wild" starring Harrison Ford.

Coming soon!

Surprise announcement allows theatres, bowling alleys to open

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

The owners of theatres, bowling alleys and performance venues have received the go-ahead to open their doors starting Oct. 9.

The surprise announcement came Friday from Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, who signed executive orders amending the state's "safe start" restrictions.

"Michigan took some of the most aggressive action against COVID-19 in the country, and as a result, the health of our families and our economy are faring better than our neighbors in other states. As a result, we are now able to reopen movie theaters and performance venues with strict safety measures in place," Whitmer said.

"I know these business owners have made incredible sacrifices during this crisis to protect our families and frontline workers, and my administration will continue working to help them get back on their feet. (But) we are not out of the woods yet, and we will continue to monitor the effects of these incremental changes."

A number of previously closed businesses are now slated to re-open statewide, including indoor theaters, cinemas, performance venues, arcades, bingo halls, bowling centers, indoor climbing facilities, trampoline parks and more.

Please turn to page 6.

School board approves half-day Fridays for rest of the semester

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

Cass City Public School officials continue to make adjustments to the district's calendar in order meet state requirements related to educating students who have opted to attend classes online this year.

The board of education, during a regular monthly meeting Monday night, approved school Supt. Jeff Hartel's recommendation to make all Fridays half-days for students for the remainder of the semester in

order to give teachers more time to keep up with requirements such as mandated personal contacts with virtual students and documenting those contacts, as well as providing adequate support for students.

"There is a need for additional time for staff to continue to make adjustments to their teaching (schedules)," Hartel wrote in a letter sent to parents last week.

"Currently, staff has to plan for in-person instruction as well as instruction via Cass City Virtual Academy (the name given to the

district's online learning program). A great deal of additional time is being spent providing curriculum and instruction to CCVA students, recording all two-way communications for attendance purposes, answering homework questions and overall assisting families in a variety of ways," he explained.

"Beginning Friday, Oct. 2, school will be in session every Friday in the a.m. only through the first semester, which ends on Jan. 15," Hartel said. "Elementary stu-

Please turn to page 10.

Council okays golf carts on roads

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

Cass City Village residents will have another option when it comes to getting around in the community.

The village council Monday adopted an ordinance amendment allowing the use of golf carts on roadways.

However, there are a number of restrictions. Operators must have a driver's license, have a slow-moving vehicle sign on their golf cart, and cannot exceed a speed of 15 miles per hour (mph) or operate on a street that has a speed limit exceeding 35 mph. There is also a limit of four people in a cart, and hours of use are limited to the hours of one-half hour after sunrise to one-half hour before sunset.

The ordinance change, which goes into effect in 30 days, was proposed by a village resident.

The council is also considering a proposed ordinance amendment allowing ORVs on streets, but has taken no action yet.

Trustee Jenny Zawilinski presented a petition to the council, signed by some residents opposed

to the proposal. However, the council agreed to consider the amendment, which will be placed on the October regular meeting agenda.

Turning to finances, because the last quarter of municipality's fiscal year is about to start, officials noted they are keeping a close eye

Please turn to page 10.

Citizens again pitching clean-up of area dump

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

Developing a canoe and kayak launch site in Cass City is being pitched again.

Cass City resident Nancy Barrios, a former Cass City Village Council trustee, recently sent a letter to the Novesta Township Board of Trustees regarding the poor condition of a former dumpsite and how it would make a perfect launch site for watercraft. She included photos of debris at the

Please turn to page 5.



EAGLE EYE — Tuscola County Sheriff's deputies never know what they're going to run into while on patrol, but this find was a pleasant one for Deputy Cory Jacobs, who came across a Bald Eagle enjoying a roadkill lunch while patrolling near Gagetown. (Photo courtesy of the Tuscola County Sheriff's Department)

Unvaccinated Tuscola County Horse has EEE

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

A horse in Tuscola has tested positive for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), Tuscola County Health Department officials reported Monday.

Ann Hepfer, health officer for both the Tuscola and Huron county health departments, said the horse in question is in the Millington area and had not been vaccinated against EEE. It's the first positive case of EEE confirmed in the Thumb this year.

"As of Sept. 27, EEE has now been confirmed in 34 animals — 32 equine and two deer — in 14 counties. There is one confirmed human case in Barry County," Hepfer noted. "There is vaccination for horses. The horse in Tus-

Please turn to page 2.

Fairgrove man dies from injuries

by Tom Montgomery
Editor

A Fairgrove man involved in a trucking accident early last week in Huron County's Grant Township has died from his injuries, Huron County Sheriff Kelly J. Hanson said Friday.

Hanson identified the victim as Carl L. Childs, 71.

The accident occurred Monday, Sept. 21, at about 4:20 a.m. as

Childs was hauling potatoes in a 2019 International 7000 truck that was southbound on Maxwell Road, near Bach Road. Hanson said the truck left the roadway and Childs was injured.

"Our office, the Owendale Fire Department and the Elkton Ambulance Service responded, getting Carl into the ambulance and taken to Hills and Dales (General) Hospital in Cass City for treatment of lacerations and leg injuries," Han-

son said.

"At the time of the accident, Carl couldn't recall what made him crash," he added. "We received word today (Friday) that he unfortunately passed yesterday during surgery due to complications."

Deputies were also assisted at the scene by the Huron County Road Commission in cleaning up the roughly 18-ton cargo of potatoes that had spilled after the accident.

New psychiatric hospital project on track

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

Plans are coming together for construction of a new psychiatric hospital in Tuscola County.

"The preliminary design is complete. Granger Construction Company will be working on the detailed cost analysis, which will be completed soon," said Tuscola County Controller-Administrator Clayette Zechmeister. "By Oct. 1, hopes are for the final stages on the estimate to be done."

Granger Construction Company is familiar with the project, having worked on the proposed 2017 hospital project before it was halted.

The new hospital is smaller than the one that was proposed and ap-

proved in 2017. The plan back then was to build a \$115 million, 200-bed, 225,000-square foot hospital. But just as construction was to start, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Director Robert Gordon halted the project and hired a consulting firm to review it.

At the time, Gordon indicated the decision to halt the project was based on indecision over need, size of the facility, municipal water service, and other issues. In the meantime, several residential buildings at the site were razed in preparation for new construction.

Following that review, state officials revised the project, opting for construction of a smaller hos-

pital — a \$63 million, 100-bed state psychiatric facility that will replace the Caro Regional Mental Health Center outside of Caro on Chambers Road.

For the new project, two former hospital facilities — building 106 and cottage one — are being demolished at the Caro Center. A budget of \$5 million has been set aside for that.

However, officials have encountered some issues related to demolition of one of the buildings.

"The contractor was delayed on inspection with MIOSHA (Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration) regarding some asbestos abatement issues," said Zechmeister. "The work on building 106 should be completed by Sept. 30."

"Also, asbestos abatement at cottage one is in progress."

After those buildings have been removed, there will still be 36 buildings on the 650-acre hospital site, including 20 buildings that have been deemed unusable.

A water franchise between Indianfields Township and the city of Caro is moving forward as well. The franchise is for a 1.9-mile water line extension from the city of Caro to the new psychiatric hospital. When it is completed, it will replace the existing wells and water tower at the Caro Center.

The draft agreement on the water extension has been submitted to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget (DTMB) and is under review. An on-site meeting is expected to be scheduled soon.

Bids for the water project's underground utilities and structural cold form framing work have been awarded, and crews were expected to be out to set up on site, according to Zechmeister. "In late December or late January, phase one of that project will be finished," she said.

When the water system is completed, it will replace a water system that has been used since 1914 when the former Caro Farm Colony for Epileptics opened. The name of that hospital has changed several times over the years.

The new hospital is on track for completion in the spring of 2023.

The latest census at the Caro Center revealed 99 patients and 208 staff members at the facility.

Tuscola County Horse has EEE

Continued from page one.

cola County was unvaccinated, according to the Department of Agriculture and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).

EEE is one of the most dangerous mosquito-borne diseases in the United States, with a 33 percent fatality rate in people who become ill. There is no vaccine for humans.

People can be infected with EEE from one bite of a mosquito carrying the virus. Persons younger than age 15 and over the age of 50 are at the greatest risk for severe disease following infection, according to Hepfer, who said more than 25 percent of the nation's EEE cases last year were diagnosed in Michigan.

The good news, Hepfer said, is that the risk of additional cases is expected to fall substantially in the coming days.

"According to MDHHS, the mosquito that carries EEE is most commonly found in our environment flying from dusk to dawn. They do not like the cold temperatures, so over the next week the risk of infection will diminish," she said.

It was a year ago that MDHHS officials notified Hepfer of an unvaccinated horse that had tested positive for EEE in the Cass City area. The horse was euthanized after exhibiting symptoms.

Traffic light enforcement in county yields citations

Another round of increased enforcement targeting motorists who run red traffic lights in Tuscola County resulted in police pulling over more than 40 vehicles over the span of four hours Thursday.

Troopers from the Michigan State Police (MSP) post in Caro along with Tuscola County Sheriff's deputies, Caro police and the county weighmaster stopped a combined 43 vehicles and issued 29 citations related to stop lights in the Caro area.

Officers also cited a motorist for a school bus light violation and handed out tickets for seatbelt violations (two motorists) and moving violations (three drivers). In addition, police made one fugitive arrest.

The operation was one of a number of enhanced enforcement efforts announced earlier this month by Thumb law enforcement agencies in an effort to reduce accidents caused by drivers who run traffic lights.

Troopers are also focusing on seatbelt usage, according to First Lt. Brian McComb, commander of the MSP post in Caro.

In Tuscola County, law enforcement agencies staged a red-light enforcement campaign in August 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 early this month 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 that four-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 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.

Village, school officials relieved

Continued from page one.

out a new spending plan before the state's new fiscal year begins Oct. 1 is a plus as Cass City officials gear up to draft their own budget for 2021, which will be adopted at the end of this year.

"That really helps us with our budget process," she said.

At the Cass City Public Schools, Supt. Jeff Hartel along with the district's chief financial officer, Allison Zimba, also expressed some relief.

"Overall, I don't think we could be any happier that we're not seeing the cuts we were hearing about," Zimba commented. "We were budgeting for \$500 (less) per student and the loss of 25 kids."

State Senator Kevin Daley (R-Lum) said a portion of the budget agreement — Senate Bill 927 — is an education omnibus budget featuring a \$65 per student increase in state aid payments for all schools in addition to restoring the \$175 per pupil reduction made to balance the state's 2020 spending plan.

Even though the Cass City Schools is down an estimated 50 students this fall, Zimba said, the state's decision to base this year's school funding based on a formula of 75 percent of last year's enrollment and 25 percent of this year's student count should prevent the district from facing a huge financial impact in this fiscal year, which started July 1.

"We were talking about using \$300,000 to \$400,000 of the fund balance that we're not going to have to take out now," added Hartel, who pointed out the Cass City Schools has received significant support — about \$345,000 — in the form of federal aid related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"So overall, we're very pleased with the assistance we're getting," Hartel said.

"But there's also been increased costs," Zimba noted, referring to an estimated \$150,000 the district has already spent on pandemic-related PPE (personal protective equipment) such as masks, gloves and sanitation supplies as well as the purchase of technology equipment to enable school officials to support students learning on-line.

The district also anticipates losing some \$50,000 in gate receipts and other revenue from school athletic events, which have been severely restricted this year due to the pandemic.

When Whitmer introduced her proposed budget to the Legislature back in early February, Michigan had yet to experience its first case of COVID-19 and nobody knew how difficult the road ahead would become. The global pandemic, she said, has created not just public health challenges but created one of the most challenging and unique budget cycles in Michigan history.

"Saying that the development of the 2021 budget has been difficult would be an understatement, but I am very proud that we've been able to work together with the Legislature to put together a budget that moves Michigan forward," added Whitmer, who lauded Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey and Speaker of the House Lee Chatfield "for their hard work and collaboration at a time when Michigan needed us to come together."

The budget process drew praise from lawmakers, including Daley, whose 31st District includes Tuscola County.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has drastically affected our economy and the state's budget. Michigan families, businesses, health care workers and teachers have all been affected and faced unique and incredibly difficult challenges during this health crisis," Daley said.

"This budget recognizes these challenges and increases funding for schools, mental health and nursing home safety while also including funding for programs to help people get back on their feet and jumpstart the struggling economy."

Daley said the budget has an additional \$66 million for growing schools, \$37 million for student mental health support and \$3 million more for early childhood literacy.

"House Bill 5396 is a general omnibus budget that increases local revenue sharing and includes \$20 million to ensure nursing homes have adequate personal protective equipment to protect staff and residents, \$7 million to graduate at least 50 new state troopers and maintain trooper strength, \$26 million for the Going Pro program to help train employees, and \$30 million for Michigan Reconnect to help people complete an associate degree or skills certificate," Daley explained.

It also invests \$15 million in the Pure Michigan tourism campaign, deposits \$35 million in the state's rainy day fund, and fully funds the 2015 plan to help fix the state's roads.

"Gov. Whitmer has gone it alone too often in 2020. This budget proves what can be done when we work together to solve problems," Daley said. "I am happy to support this responsible bipartisan agreement that uses state resources where they are needed most and does not raise taxes on families who are already hurting."

Chatfield agreed.

"The economic impact of the coronavirus created an unprecedented challenge for state government, but more importantly it also created an incredible challenge for Michigan families," Chatfield said.

"The people of this state need our help, and they need the resources that will keep them safe and help them make ends meet once again. Our budget committees and representatives did great work finding a way to balance this budget while still protecting critical funding for healthcare, schools reopening safely, local public safety, fully phasing in the 2015 road funding plan, and other top priorities for Michigan families."

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In Our OPINION...

Clarke Haire
Publisher

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Editor

Get outside, enjoy state in all its glory

*Guest editorial
by Kathleen Lavey,
Michigan DNR*

There is only one thing to do as Michigan's air grows crisp, temperatures fall and trees turn from green to glorious shades of yellow, orange and red: revel in it.

Michigan's 19.3 million acres of forest land are ready to put on their annual show for leaf peepers, beginning now in the Upper Peninsula and spreading southward through October.

Enjoying fall color may be the perfect pastime for 2020, given the coronavirus pandemic. Take an outdoor hike or climb on bikes and hit the trails with appropriate social distancing, or just stay in the bubble of your own vehicle as you enjoy fall color from a drive along wind-ing country roads.

Here are some fall color possibilities (check out the DNR's fall color map to help plan your viewing):

**Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park in Ontonagon and Gogebic counties is 60,000 acres of forest that includes a backdrop of old-growth hemlock trees. The spectacular Lake of the Clouds is nestled among color-covered hills and includes an accessible viewing area.*

**You'll see plenty of fall color just getting to the Keweenaw Peninsula, Michigan's northernmost tip. Learn some history while you're at it with a visit to Fort Wilkins Historic State Park.*

**Waterfalls are also popular spots for catching fall color in the western U.P., including the Presque Isle River falls. Visitors also can check out Bond Falls (which has an accessible boardwalk with six viewing locations) Agate Falls state scenic sites. Below the Mackinac Bridge, Ocqueoc Falls in the northern Lower Peninsula has an accessible trail and viewing deck. And then, of course, there is the big kahuna of Michigan waterfalls, Tahquamenon Falls north of Newberry.*

**The Pigeon River Country State Forest covers more than 107,000 acres in the northeastern Lower Peninsula and is home to Michigan's elk herd.*

**Majestic white pines help create a stunning backdrop for fall color at Hartwick Pines State Park. The 9,672-acre park overlooks the AuSable River's East Branch and includes four lakes.*

**Ludington State Park includes more than 18 miles of trails, a canoe trail, Lake Michigan shoreline, the Big Sable River and inland Hamlin Lake, all packed onto 5,300 forested acres.*

**Metro Detroit area: Fall color in the city? Absolutely. In fact, Detroit is home to a rare type of forest at Belle Isle State Park. The 200-acre forest covers 20 percent of the island and includes rare Shumard oak trees, as well as a variety of other hardwoods.*

**Get out and camp: State parks, recreation areas and state forest campgrounds offer a variety of fall camping experiences. To check availability or make a camping reservation, visit MiDNRReservations.com or call 1-800-44PARKS (1-800-447-2757).*

Wherever you are in the Great Lakes State, get outside and enjoy all the magic and wonder that autumn has to offer. It's all there waiting for you.

Drier Humor

by Mary Drier

RIP = Residents Invited to Picnic



With almost 40 years of journalism under my belt, I have plenty of tales to tell.

Over the years, some of my adventures have turned up in columns about the people I've met, the places I was allowed to go with my press pass, and some of the odd places where I have done interviews.

During a drive with a friend from high school that I had recently connected with, we were catching up on what has happened to each of us since we graduated from Sebewaing High School 51 years ago (and, yes, there used to be separate Sebewaing and Unionville high schools before the districts merged in 1972).

One of the most unusual locations I did an interview was at the St. Agatha Catholic Church cemetery in Gagetown. Members of one family did a tour of the area a few years ago of old homesteads where various branches of the family lived, of some of the one-room schools attended, of businesses owned, and cemeteries where ancestors were buried.

Because the tour group was going to be constantly on the move, going to a variety of locations, it was decided I should meet them at the Gagetown cemetery because that was where most of the ancestors were buried and they would take a break for a picnic lunch.

Blankets were put down on the grass under shade trees and several picnic baskets were unpacked. We enjoyed a leisurely lunch while I talked in between bites of food about some of the local history I knew. After eating, I did the interview.

After I told my high school friend about that interview, she said her grandparents had often talked about how having Sunday strolls and picnics in graveyards was common.

I was like, really? So, of course, I did some research on that, and it was true. Although graveyards are a place for the dearly departed to "rest in peace," during the early 19th century, graveyards were a place where the living gathered to rest and dine in peace, and doing that was a national pastime.

One of the primary reasons I found for them using graveyards for social gatherings was because most municipalities didn't have recreational areas/parks, like there are today, so many people had full-blown picnics in local cemeteries.

I found old black and white photographs of Victorian-era women, wearing elegant dresses and wielding parasols while promenading on roadways between headstones.

And, another reason for doing that was because not many lived to adulthood because of diseases, and early medical care was not the greatest. It was a gathering place to mourn, to keep a connection with someone who had passed on, and also to celebrate life.

Cemeteries as a gathering area became so popular, admittance tickets were issued for crowd control. Attendees were also expected to adhere to proper decorum expectations.

Besides strolling and eating in cemeteries in the United States, that was also done in Greece, Guatemala, and other countries.

The tradition started falling out of favor in the early 20th century because medical advances were prolonging life, and public parks were developed as recreation areas.

I spent several hours researching that information and looking at photographs. Doing that gave a whole new meaning to RIP.



Rabbit Tracks

by Clarke Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)

Let it never be said that Cass City's Red Hawk family hesitates to lend a helping hand to their own.

Case in point: Cass City teacher Laura Schinnerer spearheaded a donation drive at the local elementary school last week in an effort to support the Don and Amanda Mecomber family, which recently lost its home and belongings in a house fire and whose children attend the Cass City Schools.

Kevven Dorland, the district's social behavioral coach, and high school teacher Barb Graff joined the effort, and collections were organized at the high school as well.

Over the weekend, Dorland reported students and staff at the combined buildings raised more than \$3,500 for the Mecombers.

Well, done, everyone.

Elkland Township Fire Chief Glenn Guilds is reminding area residents that fall is an ideal time to get into the habit of replacing old batteries with fresh ones in all of the smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in their homes.

If your detectors are old - 10 years or more - replace them, test them monthly, and be certain to have enough detectors installed in your home (based on size and location of bedrooms).

Guilds also recommends having an ABC fire extinguisher handy. ABC extinguishers are versatile and the ideal choice when it comes to quickly putting out all three classes of fire (Class A for trash, wood and paper; Class B for liquids and gases; and Class C for energized electrical sources).

When it comes to protecting your loved ones, an ounce of prevention could make all the difference between life and death.

Like nearly everything else, the COVID-19 pandemic will impact deer hunters' ability to have their deer checked, according to Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) officials, who said hunters should be prepared for big changes to DNR deer check stations this fall.

Staffing and financial shortages, due to both funding associated with long-term declines in the hunter base and the pandemic, will result in reductions in check station and drop-box locations, dates and hours operated, and the number of deer heads that will be accepted for chronic wasting disease testing (CWD).

In addition, to protect hunters and DNR staff, some procedures will be changed to make deer check stations safer for all. Hunters are required to wear masks and follow social distancing guidelines (staying six feet away from other people) at DNR deer check stations. At many check stations, hunters will be required to stay in their vehicles while their deer is checked.

"It is an unprecedented time in our state's history, with serious challenges that affect everyone. We ask for your patience and grace as we adapt to meet these challenges," said acting DNR Wildlife Division Chief Dan Kennedy. "Michigan hunters have a long history of partnering with the DNR for the benefit and health of the state's deer population. Let's continue working together to protect public health, too."

Check station days and hours of operation also will be reduced across much of the state. Many check stations will be open only during parts of the firearm deer season in November. Wait times may be longer than usual, especially during the firearm deer season, due to staffing reductions.

In parts of the state where CWD and bovine tuberculosis (TB) samples are needed, check stations and drop boxes will be available to hunters beginning Oct. 3 and continuing into December and January.

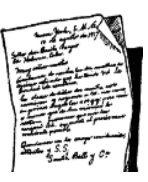
Deer cooperator patches will be available at DNR deer check stations, during their hours of operation, while supplies last.

Information about the new check station procedures can be found in the 2020 Hunting Digest or at Michigan.gov/CWD. Hours and locations of deer check stations will be updated this week and will be available at Michigan.gov/DeerCheck.

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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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Still fighting the bite

Mosquito abatement season near end in Tuscola County, but officials urging residents to take precautions this fall

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

The Tuscola County Mosquito Abatement department's season is starting to wind down, but it won't be over until it's over, so officials are urging residents to take precautions against mosquito bites.

Fall is the time of year that Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), and West Nile virus start to show up in animals and humans.

In fact, EEE has already been confirmed in nearly three dozen animals in 14 counties this fall, and there is a suspected case of EEE in a Barry County resident, according to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).

Locally, Tuscola County Health Department officials announced Monday that a horse in Tuscola County has tested positive for EEE (see story, page one).

"There have been reports of 90 human cases of the West Nile virus in Berry, Clinton, Ingham, Oakland (and) Kent (counties), and the city of Detroit. Tuscola has not had a human case of the virus," Tuscola County Mosquito Abatement Director Larry Zapfe reported last week.

EEE became such a concern that state officials recently launched aerial treatments to combat the virus across several counties.

EEE is one of the most dangerous mosquito-borne diseases in the United States. It has a 33 per-

cent fatality rate in people who become ill and a 90 percent fatality rate in horses that become ill.

People can be infected with EEE or West Nile virus from the bite of a mosquito carrying the viruses.

In July, positive test pools were found at four sewer lagoons in Tuscola County.

"We immediately started focusing on those areas with extra treatments and surveillance. One week later, they were tested again and all came back negative, because we got an early handle on the situation," Zapfe said. "Luckily, those lagoons in our county aren't surrounded by a high-density population, which is to our advantage."

"Historically, in years past, our sewage lagoons have always been hot spots for disease activity, so we are always doing surveillance on them."

There are currently no indications, based on testing, of West Nile virus in the county.

"However, we always assume it is here and continue to trap, test and treat accordingly," Zapfe said.

Health officials have also not confirmed the presence of EEE in Tuscola County.

"We will be proactive in continuing treatments for the next several weeks," Zapfe noted. "We will be targeting our county borders, villages and lagoons until cold night temperatures shut us down for the season."

Suppression spraying for mos-

quitoes generally ends in mid-October after night temperatures start to dip down in the 40s and 30s. However, low temperatures don't always result in an immediate shutdown of suppression efforts.

"Those low temperatures may not hit until 2 to 3 a.m. Second shift crews do fogging until midnight," he said.

Although Zapfe has been head of the mosquito abatement program less than a year, he has been with the department for eight years and has noticed some changes during that time.

"Our seasons seem to be changing. We seem to be having our warm temperatures later and later. For the last four years, diseases seem to creep up towards the end of the season," he said. "There is no explanation for that. We continue our surveillance and trapping as weather dictates."

Signs of EEE infection in humans include the sudden onset of fever, chills, body and joint aches which can progress to a severe encephalitis, resulting in headache, disorientation, tremors, seizures and paralysis.

Anyone who believes they may be experiencing these symptoms should contact a medical provider.

Most people infected with West Nile virus either don't develop signs or symptoms or have only minor ones, such as fever and mild headache. However, some people do develop a life-threatening illness that includes inflammation of the spinal cord or brain.

Mild signs and symptoms of a West Nile virus infection generally go away on their own, but severe symptoms — such as a severe headache, fever, disorientation or sudden weakness — require immediate medical attention.

Residents are urged to protect themselves by using mosquito repellent and wearing clothing that covers skin to reduce risk, maintain window and door screens, and empty water from mosquito breeding sites around residences.

Green initiatives getting boost in '20-21 budget

Two of state Rep. Phil Green's major initiatives — teacher retention and improved rural broadband in the Thumb — will receive additional resources through the budget plan approved by the Michigan Legislature last week.

The measures are expected to be signed by the governor soon.

Green (R-Millington) explained the teacher retention program en-

courages newcomers to stay in the profession by offering a one-time "new teacher" stipend of up to \$1,500 for educators in the first three years of their careers.

"Especially in rural school districts like we have in Huron and Tuscola counties, we must encourage new teachers to enter the profession," said Green, who represents the 84th District.

"This program will help. It shows the state's appreciation and thanks to new teachers while also providing a better financial incen-

tive to enter a profession so important to the future of our children and our communities."

Green said his work to improve broadband internet access in the Thumb is also continuing.

Towards that end, the budget provides more than \$14 million for a grant program to expand broadband Internet connectivity to underserved rural areas of the state.

"In this day and age, good Internet access is a necessity for education, healthcare and most workplaces — not to mention all the other ways it reaches our daily lives," Green said. "Expanding broadband is incredibly important to the Thumb's economy and quality of life — that's what I continue to fight for it. This budget represents a victory for our communities."

In a separate vote last week, Green supported House Bill 4288, which establishes the grant program to distribute the broadband funding included in the budget.

The budget plan — contained in House Bill 5396 and Senate Bill 927 — advances to the governor for her consideration. House Bill 4288 advances to the Senate for further consideration.

Argyle officials clarify plan to house vehicle in Evergreen

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

Officials in Sanilac County's Argyle Township are working to clear up an apparent misunderstanding stemming from the township's monthly meeting in July.

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

Somehow, township Clerk Edward Pfaff said, "Some people got the impression Argyle Township was building a building in Evergreen Township for Argyle Townships fire trucks." However, he added, that is not the case.

During the township board's latest meeting, officials discussed a Headlee Amendment override for the township's one-mill operating tax — if it passes during the Tuesday, Nov. 3, general election, it would bring the millage back to one full mill.

"Over the years, the Headlee proposal has reduced the one mill for township operating down to .83 of a mill. If passed, the millage will be reinstated to one full mill the first year and then will start the decline again," explained Pfaff. "If passed, income from this millage would be an increase of \$5,037 in the first year."

Also regarding the election, the board approved the purchase of a handheld gun scanner for driver's licenses at elections. The scanner costs about \$50.

In other matters, the board approved some land division splits.

Approval was given for a land division split for the Catholic Diocese of Saginaw to split off 1.88 acres with a house in Section 15.

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Phil Green

educators in the first three years of their careers.

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Reporter's notebook

I'm sorry, honey,
what did you say?

by Tom Montgomery
Editor



The more things change, the more they stay the same, especially when it comes to being married for more than 38 years.

I suppose it's largely age, but both my wife, Deb, and I have a little trouble hearing each other clearly from time to time. Okay, most of the time. In fact, we probably spend more time saying "Huh?" and "What?" these days than we do saying "I love you."

It doesn't help that we're empty nesters and frequently are in different parts of the house at the same time. Distance is not your friend when the hearing starts to go, you know?

We can be one room apart and I'll ask her, "Hey, where are the garbage bags?" Her: "Garage rags? Maybe they're in the garage. Duh!"

Me: "No, those little black plastic receptacles in which we place trash, dork."

Her: "Plastic spectacles? What? We don't have a box labeled trash and forks."

She'll probably tell you my hearing is worse than hers. I'll tell you it's beyond me why she waits until she's at the other end of the house to ask me if I sprechiches der frompin gurlish?

Maybe it's the echo?

Perhaps. But I wish she would stop insisting on reminding me about this or that while walking AWAY from me.

It can get pretty frustrating, which is why I sometimes can't resist tracking her down so I can repeat myself for the eighth time by demonstrating my own version of faux sign language. Then I exit. Quickly. Because sometimes Deb doesn't have a sense of humor.

Actually, our communication gap is the source of plenty of laughter. I guess we don't take everything as seriously as we did when we lived in a tiny ranch just outside Cass City. At the time, we had been husband and wife for just five years and our house was full of the sound of youngsters coming and going.

A lot of things have changed since then. For example, back then, when Deb asked my opinion about the color or style of a piece of furniture, I thought she was being serious. I was such an amateur.

Granted, I probably don't have great (or any) taste when it comes to window dressings or towel colors, but I don't understand why she still asks me for an opinion she'll probably dismiss before I even get it all out of my mouth. Maybe she just wants confirmation that I'm still the guy she married?

And I'm glad to prove it by asking things like, "Don't they have that in char-treuse?" Or, "Why don't you keep looking for curtain rods and I'll see if they have a stuffed armadillo - that would be perfect for the living room table."

Hey, if she's not going to see how right I am (and why should she start now after all these years?), I might as well have some fun, right?

At least the pole barn is my domain, where I say what goes where.

She even tests the limit there, though, by mentioning she needs to store this and that and the other thing out there. No problem. I'm sure we'll go out there, I'll ask her where she wants everything located, I'll listen intently, and then I'll put her stuff where I want to put it.

What's more, I'll tell her that's just the way it's going to be. No argument.

Well, once I'm sure she's back in the house.

A seasoned husband, hearing impaired or not, knows how to pick his battles.

Citizens for dump clean-up

Continued from page one.

former dump site, located at the forks of the Cass River, east of Cemetery Road on Elmwood Road.

Barrios also included information showing the dump has been an eyesore for decades.

She enclosed a pair of Cass City Chronicle articles, including a December 1968 editorial written by former Publisher the-late John Haire, recommending the village clean up the site. The other issue of the local paper, published in May 1970, featured a story on Lyle Clarke, a retired Cass City ag teacher, along with a group of FFA members who were proposing a clean-up of the site in order to create a riverside park.

It's been more than 50 years since those individuals brought the issue to light, but the site has remained untouched, with what appears to be a 50-gallon metal drum, coiled wire, a hot water heater, metal debris and trash on the surface with broken glass, tires and other debris that has fallen into the river during periods of high water over the years, Barrios noted in her letter.

It was also pointed out that the village dumpsite on Koch Road in the township was properly closed in the 1980s.

Barrios and Clarke, now in his 90s, attended a Cass City Village Parks and Recreation meeting last month, along with Novesta Township resident Dale Churchill, and spoke about cleaning up the site and developing it for water recreation.

In addition, Cass City area columnist and outdoor writer Tom Lounsbury, Gene Suuppi and Barrios also made a presentation to the village council during its committee of the whole meeting in August. They proposed that the site be cleaned up and converted into a canoe/kayak launch site, and encouraged officials to pursue a state recreation grant to help fund the work.

Regardless of whether or not the dump site is utilized for recreational purposes, it needs to be cleaned up, Barrios said.

"The letter didn't ask the township to do anything. It was informational," said Novesta Township Supervisor Chad Daniels. "She is hoping we support it. I don't see why we wouldn't support it."

And, the township board did just that.

In other township matters, the board set the rate for trash collection, and discussed zoning issues.

According to township Treasurer Valerie Peters, the township still has four months left on its current trash collection contract. The cost per household currently is \$198, and that is basically a breakeven cost. The board decided to set the cost at \$200 in 2021 in order to offset possible surcharges that could be imposed.

And, the reason Cass City Oil and Gas applied for a zoning change was explained.

"They are adding additional storage tanks on their property on Cemetery Road. Because they could not meet the necessary setbacks, they bought some additional property," explained Jesse Robinson. "That has to be zoned commercial."

Robinson also explained "conditional use zoning."

"Conditional zoning would allow any parcel in the township to be rezoned for a specific use. Right now, when we rezone something commercial, it is a blanket rezoning. It allows that property to be commercial from now until the end of time," said Robinson. "With conditional rezoning it allows the township to allow a certain business on this certain land location to operate within set parameters as long as they own it."

"Once they sell it or don't want to operate it, the township could revoke that zoning (classification)."

Robinson said he felt that zoning would be a good option, and it could be used for the small businesses that operate in the township.

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

Down Memory Lane

by Tina Pallas



5 YEARS AGO (2015)

Royal Red Hawks. Seniors Sawyer Cuthrell and Ilana Blatner highlighted the halftime ceremonies of Friday's homecoming contest with Vassar when the pair was announced as Cass City's 2015 king and queen.

David Binder is Schneeberger's choice to receive their Athlete of the Week honor. The Owen-Gage junior running back had a night he won't forget anytime soon Friday, leading the Bulldogs to a 54-30 victory over visiting New Haven Merritt. Binder averaged 9.4 yards per carry in the Bulldog homecoming night victory, gaining 225 yards, while tacking on three scores and three point after conversions. Binder also chipped in 6 solo tackles and one assist to help secure the Mid-Michigan 8-Man conference crown for the winners, who improved to 6-0 on the season.

10 YEARS AGO (2010)

Dr. Mike Jansen and Wendy (Weaver) Jansen of Grand Haven announce the birth of their son Brenner John Jansen. Brenner was born Sept. 28, 2010 at North Ottawa Community Hospital. He weighed 8 pounds, 9 ounces.

Cass City High School Principal Chad Daniels recently announced that student Dallas Woodward has been named a Commended Student in the 2011 National Merit Scholarship program. Woodward, a high school senior, is the son of Kevin and Tammy Woodward. Daniels will be presenting a letter of commendation on behalf of the school and the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), which conducts the program.

25 YEARS AGO (1995)

Dawn Marie (Hartwick) Bills, daughter of Harry and Harriet Hartwick of Deford, earned her associate degree in nursing from Wake Technical Community College in Raleigh, N.C. Thirty-one of the original 36 student nurses were officially pinned registered nurses May 22. The pinning ceremony was held at Bayleaf Baptist Church in Raleigh, N.C. Attending the ceremony were Harry Hartwick, her husband, Mike Bills, and the couples' 2 children, Taylor and Ashley. After passing her NCLEX, she was issued her license to practice nursing in the state of North Carolina. She is employed part time at Triangle Pediatric Center in Cary, N.C., and is a full-time staff nurse at Wake Medical Center in Raleigh, N.C.

Cass City High School seniors Jill Wright and Dan Sherman were crowned the 1995 homecoming queen and king at half time of the Red Hawks' game against Valley Lutheran.

35 YEARS AGO (1985)

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hehoe received news of the birth of a grand-niece, 10-pound, 2-ounce daughter born Thursday, Oct. 3, to Janet and Hank LaFave of Bay City. She is named Leigh Therese and is the second grandchild of Bud and Norma LaFave of Bay City.

Marsha Lopez, Owen-Gage Homecoming Queen, Kendra Reehl, Tuscola County 4-H Queen, Sean Smith of Pigeon 4-H King, the cheerleaders and the Owendale-Gagetown band took part in Sunday's Pumpkin Festival parade at Caro.

Betty Laurie of Cass City returned from a seminar in Tulsa, Okla., where she was trained in tole and decorative painting, which she will teach at her shop in Cass City.

In 1974 Richard B. Partlo took a leave of absence from his teaching position at Caro Community Schools to take over his ailing father's 350-acre farm. It took 11 years, but this fall Partlo has again returned to school work. Now, instead of teaching students industrial arts and drafting courses, Partlo has accepted a counselor's position at the Cass City Intermediate School. "I missed not working in this capacity," Partlo, sitting

behind a desk in his third floor Intermediate School counselor's office, said. One day Partlo looked at the problems he and other farmers are facing, and decided to return to working with children's education. "I have 37 credits beyond a masters," Partlo said. "Why should I be losing money on the farm?"

40 YEARS AGO (1980)

Born Oct. 3 to Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Lalko in Hills and Dales General Hospital, a six-pound, 12-ounce son, Adam Joseph. Mother and baby went to their home Wednesday. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Langmaid of Birch Run, Mr. and Mrs. John Lalko of Kingston and Mr. and Mrs. Gil Schwaderer.

Dianna L. Smith has received appointment to serve with the Volunteers In Action program of World Gospel Mission in summer, 1981, in Cairo, Egypt. She is the daughter of Barbara J. Smith of Houghton Street who is a member of the Deford Community church. Miss Smith graduated from Cass City High School in 1978. She is enrolled at Asbury College in Wilmore, Ky., where she is majoring in Christian education. World Gospel Mission is an interdenominational missionary agency with international headquarters in Marion, Ind. There are 335 missionaries and homeland staff who minister in Africa, Asia, and the Americas.

Curtis H. Dickinson, cable splicer for General Telephone Co. in Cass City, recently completed a course in basic cable construction at the company's training center in Muskegon. The 10-day course teaches students how to install pedestals, which are free-standing outdoor units that give access to telephone cables which are housed underground, and how to splice buried cable loops and ground cables. Dickinson, his wife Marjorie, and children Daniel, 17, Elizabeth, 14, and Jane, 10, reside on Church street.

50 YEARS AGO (1970)

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Royce Russell Tuesday, Sept. 22, at Hills and Dales Hospital, a five-pound, 14-ounce girl. She is named Lisa Jane. Grandparents are Harry Russell of Owendale and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Golding of Cass City.

Shirley Sprague of Bay Port was the winner of a \$2,800 home video system including a state-of-the-art video camera, video cassette recorder and 19" color television set. She is one of the sales representative winners that will be recognized on an ongoing basis for outstanding performance in Avon's largest customer service sweepstakes ever. She is the sister of Dorothy Puterbaugh of Snover and is the former Shirley Pallas of the Shabbona area.

Sgt. David M. Hennessey is attending military school at Fort Ord, Calif. He was promoted to the rank of sergeant upon completing schooling at Fort Benning, Ga. Hennessey recently spent five days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Hennessey of Cass City. He is a 1968 graduate of Cass City High School and attended Michigan State University before entering the service Jan. 5, 1970.

SR Gary T. Crickon completed boot camp at Recruit Training Command, Orlando, FL, Sept. 6. He is presently attending Disbursing Clerk School at Navy Technical Training Center, Meridian, MS. He entered the Navy July 16, 1985. Crickon is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Crickon, 3918 Cemetery, Rd., Cass City. He is a 1985 graduate of Cass City High School.

After extensive training in Travel Tourism, Lloyd Michael Gray, Jr. of Cass City is a recent graduate of Southeastern-Academy, Kissimmee, Fla. To complete the program of study, Gray met requirements in the areas of career and personal development in addition to specialized occupational training. He is now qualified for an entry-level position in all areas of the airline, travel or tourism industry.

Army Private First Class James L. Ballard, son of Dr. and Mrs. James H. Ballard of Cass City, received the Silver Star medal during ceremonies near Chu Lai, Vietnam.

75 YEARS AGO (1945)

The following are excerpts of letters to his parents from F 1/c Stanley P. Kirn, U. S. N. At Sea, Sept. 11, 1945. Dear Folks: By the time I get done, I don't believe that you will be able to read this letter as the sea is pretty heavy this evening. It is getting cool too outside. We are still approximately 60 miles southeast of Shanghai. We do not know how long we will be here. Yesterday we refueled a destroyer that is with us. We can tell that this navy is starting towards a peace time schedule for they ring a bell for time, have movies at sea, use flashlights at night, censorship is gone, and all the little things; but they do not add up enough to make me change my mind about slipping into the Regulars. Sept. 14: Today we were told to get our dress blues out and get them cleaned up. We don't know if they are going to have inspection or make liberty at Shanghai. Sept. 18, Mouth of the Yangste River. We just got back to our anchorage from trying to miss that typhoon. They say we just missed it but I have my doubts because we really did some heavy rolling. We did not eat from tables all day Monday. About 100 gallons of cold drinks spilled. A guy would set his tray on the deck and before he knew it, it would be on the other side of the mess hall. Tomorrow we are going into Shanghai. We don't know what liberty will be like but from reports it will be a lot better than Manila. They say the rate of exchange is 130, 000 to one. Sept. 19, in the center of the Whangpoo. We just anchored about an hour ago. We really got a reception; all the little tug boats whistling, the people hollering, and what not.

Fifteen relatives came Sunday, bringing with them a bountiful potluck dinner, to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Colwell to celebrate the 85th birthday of Mr. Colwell and the birthday of Alvah Shaw of Rochester, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Colwell, who was recently discharged from the army. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Roy Colwell and family of Saginaw, Mr. and Mrs. Claud Shaw and son, Alvah, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Marklewitz, all of Rochester, and Russell and Aletha Shaw of Decker. A beautiful birthday cake was made by Mrs. Claud Shaw, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Colwell, and when it was cut, the three youngest members present, Janice and Lois Marklewitz and Aletha Shaw, sang "Happy Birthday to You" to Mr. Colwell, their great grandfather. Mr. Colwell received a number of gifts.

100 YEARS AGO (1920)

The Misses Kathryn MacLarty, Catherine Fritz and Anna Pettit, Mrs. Earl Heller, and Mrs. Herman Doerr gave a shower in honor of Miss Gladys Hitchcock at Doerr's Hall. The hall was very prettily decorated in yellow and white. In one corner a charming dining room was fixed and when the guests went into another part of the hall, they found themselves in a cheerful parlor. Games furnished the entertainment for the first part of the evening and during the second all enjoyed a mock wedding. The bride, Miss Gladys Hitchcock, was charmingly attired in a gown of white satin and carried a bouquet of sunflowers while the groom, Helen McGregory, was clothed in the conventional black. The ceremony was performed before an altar, erected in the parlor, by (the Rev. Mr.) Kathryn MacLarty. The couple was attended by (Mr.) Louisa Smith and Miss Edith Champion, while Josephine Giroux carried the bride's train. The little ring bearer, Miss Elizabeth Doerr, wore a dainty little dress of yellow organdie.



Homecoming festivities underway

A PANDEMIC couldn't curb the enthusiasm of Cass City Junior-Senior High students, who were busy Friday preparing for Homecoming week this week. The grades are competing in a hallway decorating contest in lieu of a parade this year. The standard homecoming festivities are slated for Thursday in conjunction with the annual "powder puff" game. Above, in the photo at left, juniors Alex Hopper and Abbey Halabis work on their class' hallway entry. At right, (from left) Emily Ziegler, Paige Roth and Landyn Schott were also busy with the freshmen class' decorations.

Theatres can reopen Oct. 9

Continued from page one.

Under Executive Order 2020-183, instead of being limited to 10 people, non-residential indoor gatherings and events now must limit attendance to 20 people per 1,000 square feet or 20 percent of fixed seating capacity, with a maximum of 500 people in Michigan's largest venues. Non-residential indoor venues must require a face covering.

Instead of being limited to 100 people, non-residential outdoor gatherings and events now must limit attendance to 30 people per 1,000 square feet or 30 percent of fixed seating capacity, with a maximum of 1,000 people.

Another new executive order requires students in grades kindergarten and up to wear a face covering in classrooms. Prior orders had recommended, but not required, a face covering for grades kindergarten through five.

"With the 2020-2021 flu season approaching, we are in a precarious moment in our fight against COVID-19," said Chief Medical Executive and Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Chief Deputy for Health Dr. Joneigh Khaldun.

"This new mask requirement is so important to protect students and educators, and to keep our schools open. This year, it's more important than ever that Michiganders across the state get their flu vaccine as soon as possible, mask up, and maintain at least six feet of physical distancing."

Latest Covid numbers

Between Monday, Sept. 21, and Monday, Sept. 28, the number of combined confirmed cases in Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac counties increased by 20 – from 754 to 774 — with the three counties' combined death toll remaining at 42 fatalities.

According to the latest data, Tuscola County has recorded 444 confirmed cases, an increase of 11 cases compared to a week before, and 31 deaths (no change), with about 372 individuals having recovered from the virus countywide as of Sept 25.

In Huron County, meanwhile, there are 188 confirmed cases (an increase of six from a week earlier), with five deaths (no change), and Sanilac County has a total of 142 confirmed cases, up from 139 cases a week earlier, and six deaths (no change).

Statewide, Monday's total confirmed cases reached 122,735, with a total of 6,731 deaths, compared to 117,406 cases and 6,665 deaths a week earlier. Health officials are reporting that an estimated 95,051 Covid patients have recovered statewide.

Tuscola County officials to test remote court trial

*by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle*

The COVID-19 pandemic and the restrictions imposed in an effort to reduce exposure to the virus has created a variety of challenges.

One of those challenges in Tuscola County has been setting up a remote courtroom for a murder trial by jury that was scheduled to get underway this week at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 903 Ryan Rd., Caro.

"We are building a remote courtroom. We have never had to do that before. We have been working on the logistics of that with the chief judge on what is needed," said Eean Lee, Tuscola County Information System director. "It's not easy. On my staff, I have a great group of guys that are relentless in their duties in their commitment to the county, and (they) are rolling with the punches in getting the work done."

"It's been a learning process."

The trial is for Larry E. Lyons, 37, of Caro, who is charged in the stabbing death of Brandy Marie Dickson, 36. Prosecutors say the victim was clutching the couple's then-11-month-old daughter as Lyons allegedly attacked her with a knife inside his Ellington Township home.

In addition to open murder, he is charged with assault with the intent to murder the baby, who suffered cuts to the top of her head, a stab wound to the side of her head, a skull fracture and bleeding in the brain during the Dec. 15 assault. Lyon also faces charges of child abuse, domestic violence (third offense), carrying a dangerous weapon with unlawful intent.

According to Commissioner Dan Grimshaw, the key challenge in preparing for the trial was finding a building big enough to allow for the required six-foot social distancing rule implemented among other restrictions stemming from the pandemic.

"For a jury trial, they have to seat 12 jurors plus two alternates. There is not enough room in the jury box in the circuit court room for 16 people to be six feet apart. That is a concern, and the fact they will be calling 60 people at a time for a jury pool," explained Grimshaw. "They need a big enough area for the jury pool to sit apart as they are called up. From my understanding, that is why the trial was moved."

Setting up a remote jury room requires a lot of planning.

"Building a courtroom in two weeks takes a lot of moving parts. There is hooking up microphone connections, recording, and moving some computers over there to make sure programs are available offsite," said Lee. "It's not really a funding issue, but rather logistics. We are trying to do it without spending a whole lot."

Whatever the cost of setting up the courtroom is, it will be paid for with COVID-19 relief funds.

According to Tuscola County Controller-Administrator Clayette Zechmeister, the CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act) funding spells out that it can be spent on things that were not originally in the budget but are required to address concerns related to the pandemic.



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CASS CITY'S Jacob Shantz (89) applies pressure to Reese's quarterback during Friday's GTW contest.

Cass City wins home opener

by Clarke Haire
 Publisher

The Cass City gridiron team remained undefeated and improved to 2-0 in the Greater Thumb West (GTW) Friday with a lopsided win over Reese earned during the Red Hawk home opener. Coach Scott Cuthrell's gang posted a 42-3 victory over the Rockets to run their veteran coaches' conference win streak to 16 straight games dating back to early 2017.

Cass City will now take a break from GTW action in Week 3 as perennial power Harbor Beach invades the recreational park this Friday for a non-conference test, which also serves as Cass City's Homecoming contest. However, the Pirates may still be hurting from a pounding delivered by Sandusky over the weekend after beating Ubyly to kick off their season amidst the pandemic. Harbor Beach is 1-1 entering the Oct. 2 outing.

Despite a slow start against the Rockets, Cass City's vaulted running attack heated up and took control, finding pay dirt six times

to seal the outcome.

Jordan Mester struck first for Cass City on a one yard dive that came with 6:57 showing on the clock.

Reese answered the first quarter marker with a 31-yard field goal midway through the second quarter off the foot of Todd Gugel that narrowed the gap to 6-3. They would get no closer.

Cass City was able to breathe a little easier at the half as a pair of TDs had the hosts in front 20-3 at the break. Quarterback Bryce Fernald broke loose for a 66-yard score and Alex Perry added a 26-yard score for the winners.

"Tough game, I thought our kids settled in and played really well. Offensively, Jordan Mester went for 139 yards and three TDs which helped soften up the outside, giving QB Bryce Fernald opportunity with 4 carries for 117 yards. Alex Perry put in the tough yards, gaining 85 yards on 12 carries," said Cuthrell, adding, "I think what I am most proud of is our defense. Allowing only three points to what I thought was a quality offense. Looking forward to Week

3."

Mester scored on a 9-yard run for the game's only third quarter points. Then leading 28-3, Mester scored his final touchdown in the last quarter on a 3-yard dive, while Cameron Gottschalk cruised 27 yards for the game's final points minutes later.

Defensively, Cass City had Jeremy Velasquez with 7 solo tackles and 3 tackles for loss leading the charge, while Fernald had 5 solo tackles and an interception. Matt Mihalic was credited with two fumble recoveries.

Kingston struggles in setback

Kingston proved no match for host Mayville Friday, falling 64-0 in North Central Thumb League Stars action.

Kingston trailed 14-0 after one quarter and 50-0 after two. Neither team scored in the third quarter before the Wildcats completed the romp with 2 TDs in the final period.

"It is extremely disappointing to be on the losing side of a lopsided game like this. Mayville was just better than us, but we definitely gave them a ton of freebies. We are playing extremely undisciplined football right now, and I take full responsibility for that. It is my job to get my players better prepared and ready, and I need to be better in that department," said Kingston Coach Brandon Jones.

Don't expect things to get better anytime soon for Kingston (0-2 overall), as they face undefeated Deckerville next. To earn their maiden victory, Kingston will need to take better care of the ball. Against Mayville, they fumbled 6 times, losing 3.

Steven Gilbert had a big night for Mayville, hauling in 4 touchdown passes that covered 194 yards.

Kingston, meanwhile, was held to negative yards rushing in the whitewash, but did manage to gain 40 yards via the air. Owen Cortes' 16-yard reception from quarterback Luke Fetting highlighted the evening for the visitors, along with Kaidin Peters' 37 yard kickoff return.

Defensively, Kingston had Jacob Rayl with 7 tackles, while James Rayl, Boone DeLong and Myles Spencer each had 6 stops each.



THE 2020 Kingston Football team members are: (front row, l-r) Isaiah Helton, Owen Corlis, Collin Machota, Jeffrey Fitzroy, Brentyn Langmaid, James Rayl (middle row, l-r) Asst. Coach Derek Flikkie, Coltin Jocham, Turner Marquardt, Anthony Kopp, Wesley Sholes, Hunter Vennev, Myles Spencer, Arthur Stilson (back row, l-r) Head Coach Brandon Jones, Lawson Lyons, Jacob Rayl, Luke Fetting, Joe Cryderman, Ethan Harrington, Kaidin Peters, James Wilson, Anthony Krych and Asst. Coach Jay Green.

Cass City Red Hawk Athlete of the Week

Knight Insurance Agency is proud to introduce their Cass City Red Hawk Athlete of the Week, senior Ryan DeLong. Ryan is a standout of the Cass City football team. He shines on the line for the Red Hawks on both offense and defense. In last week's victory over Reese, DeLong recorded 3 solo tackles and assisted on 3 other stops in the team's 42-3 triumph.

Still, DeLong is best known for his work on the offensive line where he earned Greater Thumb West all-conference first team honors in 2019 at guard.

According to his coaches, Ryan is a tough kid, who loves to hit.

Ryan is the son of Misty and Dirk DeLong.



RYAN DELONG

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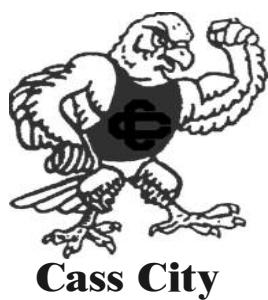


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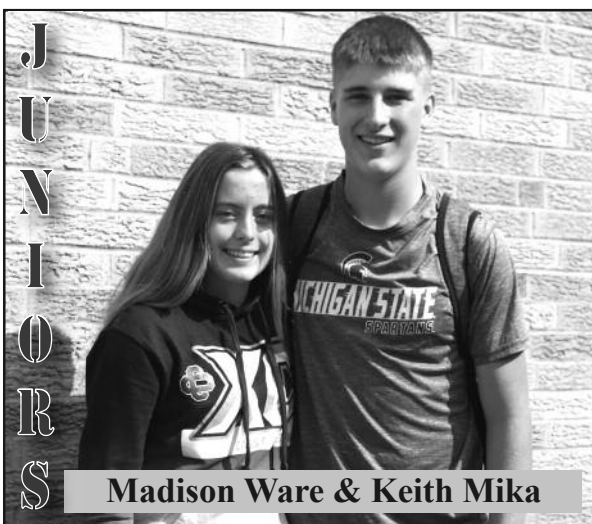
Harbor Beach

Friday, October 2
Kickoff at 7 p.m.

King and Queen will be crowned Thursday during annual "powder puff" game.
There will be no parade this year.



2020 KING & QUEEN CANDIDATES ARE, front l-r, Madison Cumper, Lauren Peters, Macy White, Abigail Phillips, Sierra Spry; back, Ryan DeLong, Bryce Fernald, Alex Perry, Dustin Naegele, Missing-Matt Mihalic



Madison Ware & Keith Mika



Montanna Engelhardt & Josh Jaster



Brady Kolacz & Paige Roth

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Kingston gals continue to roll

The Kingston spikers remained unblemished Thursday in North Central Thumb League Stars play after defeating visiting Peck in 4 sets. Scores on the night were 25-14, 25-15, 23-25 and 25-21.

“The Cardinals got off to a good start in the first 2 sets behind a well balanced offense and strong serving. The third set was back and forth until a very long serving run by Peck allowed the Pirates to jump out to a big lead. The Cardinals clawed their way back to gain some momentum to take into the final set where they closed out the

match,” Kingston Coach Beth Hunter said.

Individually, Hannah James had 29 assists, 13 serving points and 2 kills to pace the winners, while Ella Retan added 18 kills, 5 serving points and one ace, Isabel Hurd 7 kills, 8 serving points and one ace, Brooklyn Walker 15 serving points and 3 aces and Delaney St. George 4 kills and one ace.

Earlier in the week, Kingston downed Deckerville in 4 sets with decisions of 25-13, 23-25, 25-10 and 25-21.

“It was a great team win and we

executed when we needed to down the stretch,” said Hunter.

James with 27 assists, 16 serving points, 4 aces and one block had a terrific all-around showing for the visitors. She had plenty of help from Retan with 13 kills, 16 serving points and 2 aces, Hurd with 9 kills and 7 serving points, St. George with 7 kills, 8 service points and one ace and Olivia Ulewicz with 12 service points, 4 aces and 2 assists.

Kingston (4-0 Overall, 3-0 NCTL Stars) was to have hosted Dryden on Tuesday.

2020 NCTL Volleyball Standings

As of September 26th, 2020

Stars Division	League Record	Overall Record
Dryden	3-0	5-0
Kingston	3-0	4-0
Deckerville	2-1	3-1
Peck	1-2	2-2
Mayville	0-3	1-4
Genesee	0-3	0-4

Stripes Division	League Record	Overall Record
North Huron	3-0	5-0
Carsonville Port Sanilac	2-1	2-3
Owengage Gagetown	2-1	3-1
Akron-Fairgrove	2-1	2-3
Bay City All Saints	0-3	0-3
Caseville	0-3	0-4

Fabulous Four's Fearless Forecast

2020
Football
Season
WEEK THREE



Clarke Haire



Ray Maurer



Geoff Morgan



Doug Hyatt

Oct. 2 Weekend (11-player games)	Clarke Haire	Ray Maurer	Geoff Morgan	Doug Hyatt
Cass City -vs- Harbor Beach	Cass City	Cass City	Cass City	Harbor Beach
EPBP -vs- USA	EPBP	EPBP	USA	USA
Reese -vs- Bad Axe	Bad Axe	Bad Axe	Bad Axe	Bad Axe
Sandusky -vs- Ubly	Sandusky	Sandusky	Sandusky	Sandusky
Caro -vs- Vassar	Caro	Caro	Caro	Caro
Marlette -vs- Memphis (8-man games)	Marlette	Marlette	Marlette	Marlette
Deckerville -vs- Kingston	Deckerville	Deckerville	Deckerville	Deckerville
(Pro game)				
Saints -vs- Lions	Saints	Saints	Saints	Saints
LAST WEEK	6-3	8-1	7-2	6-3
SEASON RESULTS	(13-4) 76 %	(16-1) 94%	(12-5) 71%	(12-5) 71%

Obituaries

Sherryl Seeley

Sherryl May Seeley, 80, of Cass City, died Saturday, September 26, 2020 in her home after a lengthy battle with cancer. She was born at home September 23, 1940 in Cass City to Hollis Charles and Hazel (Hower) Seeley.

Sherryl loved to say that she never went far in life because she was born in Cass City, went to school in Cass City, worked all of her life in Cass City and would probably die in Cass City.

Sherryl graduated from Cass City High School in 1958. She was third in her class, which she said was the perfect spot because she didn't have to give a Valedictorian or Salutatorian speech. Sherryl was a member of the National Honor Society.

She began working in 1959 at Cass City State Bank (which became Chemical Bank) and retired in 2007 after forty-eight years of dedicated service, both to the bank and to her beloved community.

She was very honored to be chosen as Cass City's Citizen of the Year in 2017. Sherryl had many interests including: golf, sewing, crocheting, woodworking, playing cards, antiques, playing in the community bell choir, singing in the church choir and the Tom Thumb Choir. She gave every one of her family members a beautiful quilt that she made. Sherryl also enjoyed hunting and fishing around Drummond Island and various lakes in Canada.

Sherryl was a lifelong member of the Evangelical United Brethren Church, which later became the Cass City United Methodist Church, where she served in many positions including president, secretary and treasurer of the United Methodist Women, church treasurer for many years and leader of Youth Fellowship. She was a member of Hills & Dales General Hospital Auxiliary. Sherryl served in various positions as a charter member of the Cass City Business and Professional Women's Club. She also served on the village planning commission, Tuscola County Community Foundation and was a project leader on Cass City's playscape construction. Sherryl volunteered at the Thumb Octagon Barn for Fall Family Days and its school tours for several years. She served as local representative for the Salvation Army. After her retirement, Sherryl played on five golf leagues each summer for several years. She drove a yellow moped and she would often be seen scooting around town or heading for the golf course.

In 1950, Sherryl's parents bought her mother's parent's farm south and east of Cass City and she said that growing up on a farm was a lot of work for the whole family, but it was the best time of her life. She loved the memories that were made on that farm.

Sherryl had a devoted relationship with her niece and nephews, as well as her great-nieces and nephews. Taking them to Cedar Point was always a fun summer event.

Sherryl is survived by her sister, Janis Seeley of Cass City; three nephews: Christopher (Carrie) Seeley of Hudsonville, Jeffrey (Nikki) Seeley of North Branch and Brian (Leslie) Seeley of Caro; one niece, Kimberly (John) Thompson of North Branch; great-nieces and nephews: Cadence (Lee) DeVree, Courtney (Court) Ziegler, Carissa (Josh) Moshauer, Caleb (Bailey) Seeley, Michael Seeley, Brandon Seeley, Emily Seeley and Charles (Charlie) Seeley; great great nieces and nephews: Marshall DeVree and Oliver DeVree. Also surviving are many dear cousins: Mick Kirn, Melinda Kirn, Kathy Smith, Joan Ware, Joyce Hornbacher, Ron Seeley, Mary Ann Lowe, Tim Anthes, Anton Anderson, Brenda Dutch and Carol Ehrlich.

The family wishes to express a special thank you to Rob and Sara Young of McLaren Hospice Service for the care and comfort they provided.

She is preceded in death by her parents; sister, Kathleen Seeley; brother, Charles "Buzz" Seeley; cousins: Don Price, Betty Lou Watson, Wayne Seeley and Linda Salgat-Marker.

Visitation will be held from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, October 2, 2020, in Kranz Funeral Home of Cass City. Graveside service will be held at 11:00 a.m. Friday, October 16, 2020 in Elkland Township Cemetery with the Rev. Bob Demyanovich of Cass City United Methodist Church, Cass City officiating. Please feel free to bring a lawn chair.

Memorials may be made to the United Methodist Women's Group. Pallbearers for Sherryl will be: Chris, Jeff, Brian, Michael, Brandon, Charlie and Caleb Seeley.

Friends may share memories, prayers and photos with the family at www.kranzfureralhome.com. In accordance with the current state executive order, social distancing and limitations on numbers gathered in the funeral home will be observed. Attendees are also kindly reminded to wear a mask or other facial covering while inside the funeral home. Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home of Cass City.



NOTICE

TO USERS OF VILLAGE WATER SERVICE

During the flushing of the hydrants **Wednesday and Thursday, October 7 & 8, starting at 4 a.m.** there may be an abundance of crystallized iron (rust) in the water supplied to your area of the village.

This condition does not render the water unfit or harmful for consumption; however, clothing washed in this water will probably become discolored.

Check the color of your water before placing your clothing into it.

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Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

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**The Cass City Chronicle
welcomes letters
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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.

Board approves half-day Fridays

Continued from page one.

dents will be released at 11:45 am and junior-senior high school students will be released at 11:35 am. "Staff will remain at school and will be available Friday afternoons to offer homework support, clarify any curriculum and homework questions, plan for both in-person and virtual instruction and contact CCVA students as is required by law."

Board vice-president member Janie Meeker voiced support for Hartel's recommendation Monday night, saying she feels it's important to give the teaching staff time to adjust and transition to the new procedures.

"Virtual learning is taking more time than any of us anticipated," added Hartel.

District-wide, the superintendent reported Monday, roughly 19 percent of Cass City's students are taking online classes this year — 180 kids out of an enrollment of 952, leaving about 770 students who have opted for in-person learning.

The total includes 487 students in the elementary grades, with 75 kids (15 percent) participating in virtual classes, and the remaining 412 students learning in-person.

At the junior-senior high building, there are 336 students physically attending classes, while 105

students (24 percent of the enrollment of 441 kids) are learning online.

"It's (overall percentage of virtual students) lower than I anticipated, because I thought there was some hesitancy of bringing kids back. But we're seeing every day — kids in virtual classes, asking to come back, and we're allowing them to do that."

That flexibility marks another adjustment in school policy since the new school year started in August; School officials previously required students to continue learning via online classes — after making that choice — for the entire marking period.

"I know it's better to have kids in class, and if we can help those families..." Hartel said.

In other business

In other business Monday, the board:

*Reviewed the process and timeline for the annual superintendent's job performance evaluation.

Hartel said he will be submitting his self-evaluation to the board Nov. 2, followed by a board report of that evaluation Nov. 9 at 6 p.m. in the board room, a formal evaluation Nov. 16 at 6 p.m. in the board room, and a discussion of the completed evaluation during the board's November regular

monthly meeting Nov. 23 at 7 p.m.

*Accepted the resignation of Meredith May, PREP teacher, and approved a motion filling the vacancy by hiring Cass City High School graduate Erin Venema, who comes to the district from her previous position as a counselor in Millington.

Hartel explained the PREP program provides special needs students, who are unable to receive the standard high school diploma, with additional training in basic living skills, co-op working experience, etc., via a transitions program through the Tuscola Intermediate School District.

*Acknowledged a \$400 Google Classroom Grant awarded to Rebecca Walker, an elementary fine arts teacher. Another teacher nominated Walker for the grant, and the money will be used to support instruction in her classroom, Hartel noted.

*Reviewed and approved Cass City's third and latest version of its state-mandated Extended Continuity of Learning Plan, a written document outlining specific educational programs and protocols, goals, delivery methods, equitable access and other issues impacting this school year while complying with restrictions and rules stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Council approves golf carts on streets

Continued from page one.

on finances.

"A week ago, the Michigan Department of Treasury paid us \$35,379, which is 50 percent, of our request for CARES Act/Public Safety - Public Health Payroll reimbursements. These funds are grant specific for April and May wage reimbursement for public safety like police, fire dispatch, jail operations and/or juvenile detention centers for efforts to curtail the spread of COVID-19 within the community," explained village Clerk-Treasurer Nanette Walsh.

"After the treasury does a final review of all grant requests from municipalities, the final payment will be sent," she added.

Walsh is already starting to focus on developing next year's budget, which the council is expected to adopt at the end of December.

According to Walsh, the proposed 2021 budget is expected to be presented to the council during its Monday, Nov. 30, monthly meeting, with a public hearing on the budget and formal adoption tentatively scheduled for Monday, Dec. 14.

"The village has met its goal of 90 percent taxes received, with 92.49 percent of the taxes having been paid," Walsh said.

In other business

In other business during the

monthly meeting, the council:

*Learned September has been a busy a month with respect to meetings — in-person and via Zoom — for village Manager Debbie Powell.

"I attended a three-day virtual conference on economic development that gave me a new appreciation for teachers and students learning online," said Powell in her report to the council.

"The fall letting of many grants requires a submission date of Oct. 1 for some local grants. Staff has been busy applying for both public safety and recreational grants," she noted in report, adding, "The parks and recreation department is seeking grants from the Tuscola County Community Foundation for shade kites over the splash park. The village has been the recipient of many local grants and is very grateful for the support of our community."

Powell said the police department is seeking a grant for an in-car camera setup and installation, and body cameras for the four full-time police officers.

*Hired A. J. Rehmus to tackle sidewalk work on the south side of M-81 to Thumb Bank and Trust, because another contractor could not complete sidewalk work, A. J. Rehmus was hired to do the additional upgrades, which included a sidewalk approach to the post office, Brooker Street, and Chippis on M-81. The bill for

the additional work is \$5,455.

*Approved spending \$9,950 to hire American Leak Detection to locate a leak in the community's water system.

Normal water loss in a community Cass City's size is about 11 percent. In 2019, there were months during which the village's water loss ran was at 20 percent or more. And, so far this year, water loss has ranged from 13.96 percent to 19.98 percent.

"These amounts are high, and we need to find the source," said Powell.

*Noted that during the last downtown develop authority (DDA) meeting, Jim McLoskey, with the Tuscola County Economic Development Corporation, noted that the Michigan Restart Program has provided \$500,000 in grant funds to help local business "restart" their operations while dealing with COVID-19 challenges. The grants range from \$5,000 to \$20,000.

The DDA also approved spending about \$3,400 for a three-sided kiosk. The potential location for it is on the southwest corner of Main and Seeger streets.

*Learned that the Cass City Economic Development Corporation (EDC) approved recommending to the village council a rehabilitation tax exemption for Mi-Tech Tooling, which is seeking to buy a local business that is about twice the size of its current location.

News briefs

Flu shot clinics set in October

THUMB — The health departments in Tuscola and Huron counties are gearing up for the flu season.

The Huron County Health Department is planning to host flu vaccination clinics on two Thursdays, Oct. 1 and Oct. 8, from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m., and the Tuscola County Health Department will host a drive-through flu clinic Thursday, Oct. 8 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Colwood Church parking lot, located at the corner of Colwood Road and M-81.

Participants are asked to have a photo identification and their insurance card with them for all clinics. Residents who do not have insurance are asked to call the Huron County Health Department for an appointment at (989) 269-9723, or the Tuscola County Health Department at (989) 673-8114.

Green announces photo contest

THUMB — State Rep. Phil Green (R-Millington) recently announced a new photo contest for residents of Huron and Tuscola counties.

The contest focuses on the seasonal theme, "Fall Fun in the Thumb", and winners will be chosen in the following four categories: fall harvest, foliage and wildlife, family fun, and fall décor.

"I really look forward to seeing the pictures that people submit," said Green, who represents the 84th District. "Fall in the Thumb is one of the most beautiful times of year, and I look forward to this opportunity to see more of it through the photos that are submitted."

Photos should be submitted by Dec. 30. Winners will be selected in early January. The winning photos will be displayed in Green's office in Lansing.

Photos can be submitted to RepPhilGreen@house.mi.gov or mailed to S-1188 House Office Building, P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909. All submissions should include the name, address and contact information of the individual entering the contest, as well as where the photo was taken within Huron and Tuscola counties.

For more information, contact Green via email at RepPhilGreen@house.mi.gov or call his office at (517) 373-0476.

Ubyly Village has 2 job openings

UBLY — There are two job openings in the village of Ubyly.

Village President Jason Nicol recently announced Lori White has moved from the area, so the village's water billing position is open. Nicol also reported Virgil Briolat will be retiring in December, and his full-time DPW position needs to be filled.

The council approved posting both positions.

A committee composed Jeff Rubin, Andrew Batzer, Jason Nicol and Dave Franzel will review the applicants for the water billing position. They are expected to make a recommendation during the council's Oct. 1 meeting.

Also on the agenda for that meeting is formation of a committee to review the list of candidates for the DPW position.

Interviews will be scheduled, with the top three candidates recommended being presented to the council during the council's Nov. 5 meeting.

Kingston plans to feed students

KINGSTON — According to Kingston School District Superintendent Matt Drake, students won't have to deal with food insecurity.

The district will continue to participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) for the 2020-21 school year. The NSLP is a federally-assisted meal program operating in public and non-profit private schools and residential childcare institutions. It provides nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free lunches to children each school day.

The program was established under the National School Lunch Act, signed by President Harry Truman in 1946.

The district will also participate in the Community Eligibility Provisions (CEP) program that provides free breakfast and free lunch to all students.

The CEP, a non-pricing meal service option for school districts in low-income areas, allows eligible schools to serve breakfast and lunch at no cost to all enrolled students without collecting household applications. Instead, schools are reimbursed using a formula based on the percentage of students eligible for free meals based on their participation in other specific means-tested programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Domestic violence walk slated

SANDUSKY — The Sanilac Area Violence Elimination Council is inviting residents to participate in an "honor walk" Thursday, Oct. 1, in observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

The free, one-mile long walk will be from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Diamond Trail Park. The event will acknowledge the victims of domestic violence and feature luminaries and informational signs.

Compiled by Mary Drier and Tom Montgomery

My selfie doesn't show

...that I have

DEPRESSION & ANXIETY

Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems

www.tbhsonline.com 1.800.462.6814

CLASSIFIEDS

General Merchandise
POLEGA'S PRODUCE - Monday-Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Jack-o-lanterns, pie pumpkins, mini pumpkins, small gourds, indian corn, cornstalks, straw, home-grown tomatoes, potatoes, onion, pepper, carrots, cabbage, cauliflower, apples, watermelon, most varieties of winter squash and much more. We accept WIC and Senior Project Fresh coupons. **MASK REQUIRED.** Just east of M-53 at 6480 Bay City Forestville Rd. 989-872-3348 or Harold's cell: 989-670-2836. 2-9-16-3

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

FOR SALE - 27 Amish fiction paperback books. One owner, bought new \$35 for all 27 books. Call 872-4670. 2-9-30-1

FOR SALE - China cabinet, \$30; house door, \$30; dining room table, \$15; love seat with bed, \$50; call 989-872-4156. 2-9-30-3

Household Sales
SPORTSMEN'S GARAGE SALE - Wednesday, Oct. 7 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Thursday, Oct. 8 & Friday, Oct. 9 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1 mile east & 1/2 mile south of M-81 & M-53 on Hoadley Road, Cass City. Guns, ammo, fishing lures, tools and more. 14-9-30-2

Real Estate For Rent
CASS CITY Apartments, an elderly community (elderly being defined as 62 years of age or older; disabled regardless of age) located in Cass City, MI is currently accepting applications for 1 Apartments. Units of barrier free design may also be available. Rent based on income, starting at \$499. For affordable housing call (989) 872-2009. Free Heat & Water! Pet Friendly! "This institution is an equal opportunity provider" TDD/TTY #711" 4-9-9-tf

Services
PAUL'S PUMP REPAIR - Water pump and water tank sales. In-home service. Credit cards accepted. Call 673-4850 or 800-745-4851 anytime. 8-9-25-tf

Services
SALT FREE iron conditioners and water softeners, 24,000 grain, \$750. In-home service on all brands. Credit cards accepted. Call Paul's Pump Repair, 673-4850 or 800-745-4851 for free analysis. 8-9-25-tf

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

Dave Nye Builder
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 8-8-10-tf

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 A garage door that isn't working properly can be a big inconvenience, & we are here to take care of that problem for you. We are committed to getting you back up & running quickly, with the best customer service possible serving your residential, commercial, & industrial needs.
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Help Wanted
LIGHT PRODUCTION WORKER - We have a position available at competitive wages with excellent benefits. Qualifications: High school diploma, excellent work attendance record, good math, reading and writing skills, Excellent manual dexterity. For consideration please send resume with references to Anrod Screen Cylinder Co., Attn: Human Resources, P.O. Box 117, Cass City, MI 48726. 11-9-30-4

AMI INDUSTRIES has first and second shift positions available in production. Apply onsite with interview at 6285 Garfield Ave. Call 872-8823 for more details. 11-9-30-3

Automotive
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 GMC BAD AXE Chevrolet
Don Ouvry
 New & Used Cars
2019 BUICK ENCLAVE
 2 to choose from
 Starting at \$28,490
 CALL DON FOR DETAILS
 "I can find you exactly what you're looking for!"
 Call Don for lease specials on NEW vehicles & more details on USED vehicles at (989) 269-6401.

de Beaubien Lawn Service
CALL Blaine
(989) 670-6700
 8-12-19-tf

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

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

Legal Notices

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 9-2-5

USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Tuscola County, starting promptly at 10am, on Thursday, October 22, 2020. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. The foreclosure sale is pursuant to the terms and conditions of a Mortgage made by SANDRA SOUTHERS, Mortgagor, to First National Bank of America, Mortgagee, dated January 27, 2006, and recorded July 31, 2006, in Liber 1089, Page 756, of Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due as of the date of this notice \$16,061.82, including interest at 11.5% per annum. Said premises are situated in Dayton Township, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 778, Shay Lake Heights Subdivision No. 6, being a

part of the SW 1/4, Section 12, T11N, R10E, c/k/a 4538 North Rd, Silverwood, MI 48760. The redemption period shall be six months from the date of the sale, unless the premises are determined to be abandoned pursuant to MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be one month, or until the time to provide the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c) expires, whichever is later. The redemption period further may be shortened pursuant to MCL 600.3238(10) if the property is not adequately maintained, or if the purchaser is denied the opportunity to inspect the property. Please be advised that if the mortgaged property is sold at a foreclosure sale by advertisement, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale, or to the mortgage holder, for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Dated: September 23, 2020 Randall T. LeVasseur P41712 LeVasseur Dyer & Associates, PC Attorneys for Mortgagee 3233 Coolidge Hwy Berkley, MI 48072 (248) 236-1765. 9-23-4

IT'S PIE TIME!
Shabbona Riverside Church
 is taking orders, pies will be available through October 8
 Apple Pie - Cost- \$10
 To place an order call 670-3531
 No Deliveries, call for pick up times
 5-9-30-2

Squash Available - 3 kinds NO CORN THIS WEEK. CHECK BACK NEXT WEEK!
Les's Super Sweet Sweet Corn
 2 1/2 miles north of Cass City, 1/4 mile west on Merchant Rd.
872-4563
 "Les corn is the best corn!"
 5-8-10-tf



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 2-1-24-tf


Shop Local EVERY THURSDAY 2:30-5:30pm
DOWNTOWN CASS CITY
 Fresh Produce - Assorted Baked Goods Jams - Syrups Plants & So Much More!
Cass City Farmers MARKET

Household Sales
MULTIPLE MOVING & GARAGE SALES - Nicholas Drive at The Pointe in Cass City. Just off Division St. across from UPS. Many different items. Furniture, dishes, odds & ends. Must sell quick. 2 days only Friday, October 2 & Saturday, October 3 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Any questions call Kim Donovan at 989-670-8129. 14-9-30-1

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 Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

	1	6		5	
	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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 www.atbdcpa.com
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 Cass City 872-3730
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General Hospital

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We have a vaccine for you!**

Offering Drive-Thru Flu Shots at:

Cass City Medical Practice: 872-8202

Family Healthcare of Cass City: 872-2410

Millwood Street Primary Care: 672-1555

Ubyly Medical Clinic: 658-9191

**Beginning October 1st, call to schedule your
flu shot, appointments are required.**

What does "drive thru" mean? Our staff will come outside to give you the flu shot in your vehicle and you can be on your way!



FALL COLORS are far from their peak in the Thumb, but it isn't difficult to find a few trees already blazing in their fall glory, including this gem along Seeger Street north of the light in Cass City.

Kingston searching for new clerk-treasurer

by Mary Drier
For the Chronicle

Kingston Village officials are looking for a new clerk-treasurer. The decision was made during a

regular village council meeting, following a 15-minute executive session.

"Our clerk took another position, which was full time with benefits," village President Cory Skin-

ner said of former clerk Heather Baker.

Officials noted the qualifications for the job include a minimum high school diploma, knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel, knowledge of basic accounting, and be bondable. Also, they must be able to obtain sufficient training to be certified as a municipal clerk within one year.

Applications for the position will be accepted until Friday, Oct. 2, and interviews will be conducted between Oct. 6 to Oct. 8. The pay is \$14 per hour for 24 hours of work each week.

Applications can be sent to: Kingston Village, P.O. Box 187, Kingston, MI 48741.

In other business, officials continued work on updating community documents.

There was a planning committee meeting with Rowe Professional Services Sept. 28 to discuss the village's master plan.

A master plan helps a community plan for the future. Among the items included in the plan are designated areas for commercial, business, and residential development. Also, having an updated master plan helps a community secure grant funding.

During the public comment section of the meeting, audience member Fred Ruggles asked about a land split between his property and Beagio's restaurant to the west and north. The north section is to remain agricultural and the west, commercial.

The council also canceled the community's annual Halloween costume contest due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The village's trick-or-treating hours, meanwhile, were scheduled for 6 to 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31.

Thank You



Cass City Splash Park

Village Council

- Dan Delamarter, Village President
- Don Ball, Village Trustee
- Tom Herron, Village Trustee
- Mick Kirn, Village Trustee
- Joe Leeson, Village Trustee
- Robert Piaskowski, Village Trustee
- Jenny Zawilinski, Village Trustee

Monetary Donations

- Bert & Holly Althaver
- Kevin & Jean Anthony
- Paul & Suzanne Chappel
- Tom & Linda Herron
- Jim & Debra Kranz
- David & Kristine Milligan
- Surendra & Nancy Raythatha
- Kelly & Kelly Smith
- Benjamin & Kathryn Varney

Volunteers

- Don Ball
- Dan Delamarter
- Bill Harris
- Jason Klein
- Matt Klein
- Robert Piaskowski
- Jim Walmsley

Project Manager

Tom Herron, Village Trustee

Village Manager

Debbie Powell

Grants

- Pinney Foundation
- Dr. Edward & Dorothy Scollon Family Foundation Fund

Memorials

Geraldine Corcoran in Memory of Michael Corcoran

Businesses

- "Green Thumb Hydroseeding, Inc."
- "Martin Electric, Inc."
- "Northwood Modular Homes, Inc."
- R & R Concrete & Supply
- "Superior 1, Inc."
- Tuckey - Sebewaing Concrete Products
- Walther Farms

DPW / Parks Staff

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Dennis McCabe | Jeremy Russell |
| Al Dadacki | Tom Peruski |
| Ed Nizzola | Jeff Wills |
| Bob O'Dell | |

*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.