

Another local winner  
in dairy contest

Page 4

A change in plans  
I'm grateful for

My Corner, page 6

Doctor adds voice  
to Covid concerns

Page 12

# CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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

VOLUME 114, NUMBER 39

CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2020

.75 CENTS - 12 PAGES

## Council welcomes Hartzell

# No hike planned in village tax rate

by Clarke Haire  
Publisher

Cass City officials laid the groundwork to approve a 2021 spending plan and welcomed newly-elected Trustee Bill Hartzell to the village council during a regular monthly meeting Monday night.

"I'd like to welcome Bill to the council," said Village President Dan Delamarter, noting Hartzell, a Cass City school teacher, will be the youngest council member. "We also would like to thank Jenny for her 16 years of service," he said, referring to former Trustee Jenny Zawilinski, who lost her bid for reelection during last month's general election.

After the brief introduction of Hartzell, officials voted to conduct a pair of public hearings Monday, Dec. 14, before acting on the village's proposed 2021 millage rates and new budget.

"There is no increase or change to the proposed millage rate for 2021," noted village Manager Debbie Powell, who stressed comments on the

Please turn to page 10.

## Hosting diners costs Thumb business cash

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

State officials last week targeted a number of businesses, including a Thumb restaurant, for refusing to follow Nov. 15 public health orders issued by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Officials issued citations to four restaurants, including Big Boy in Sandusky, which faces \$5,000 in fines — \$1,000 for each violation/day of violation.

In addition, the Michigan Liquor Control Commission (LCC) suspended liquor licenses and permits to establishments in Fremont, Newaygo and Fenton for multiple violations of the MDHHS emergency orders, including allowing in-person gatherings, providing in-person dining, failing to require face coverings for staff and patrons, and failing to prohibit patrons from congregating.

The state action came as Michigan, including the Thumb region, continues to see sharp increases in confirmed cases of COVID-19 and deaths stemming from the virus. Michigan's COVID-19 daily death average has quadrupled in the last five weeks.

Nationally, as of Sunday, U.S. coronavirus cases surpassed four million in the past month, doubling October's previous monthly high. The na-

Please turn to page 10.

## Thanksgiving Day ruckus trouble for Sanilac tavern

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

A Sanilac County bar may be in hot water with state officials for being open for business after Michigan State Police (MSP) troopers were dispatched to the establishment to break up a disturbance early Thanksgiving Day.

Troopers made one arrest after responding to the scene, according to Sgt. Don Pisha of the MSP post in Caro.

Pisha said the incident unfolded at about 2:20 a.m. when troopers from the Caro post were dispatched to the Silver Tavern Bar in the village of Deckerville to investigate a report of multiple individuals arguing and fighting.

"Sanilac County Central Dispatch advised a 911 caller reported several

Please turn to page 4.

## Hey kids! It's time to write letters to Santa

Hey kids, get busy writing those letters to Santa.

Everybody knows Santa has a subscription to the Cass City Chronicle, and he checks each issue closely

this time of year in search of Christmas lists from children in the Thumb area.

All you have to do is write

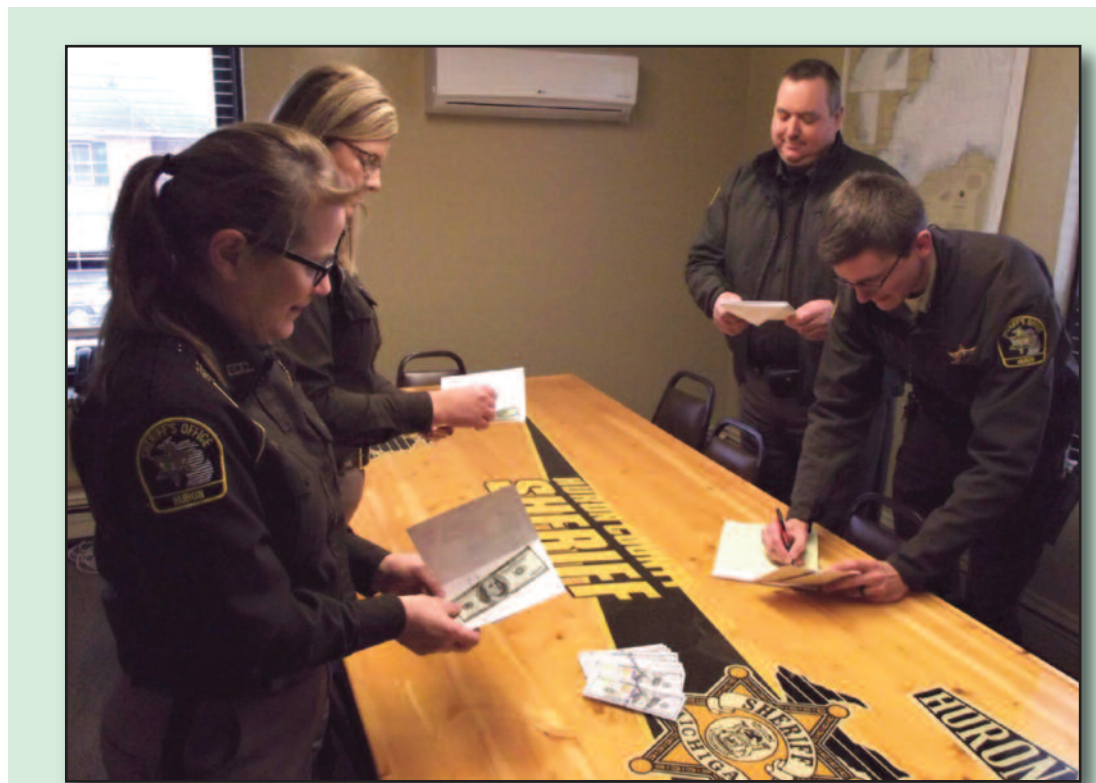
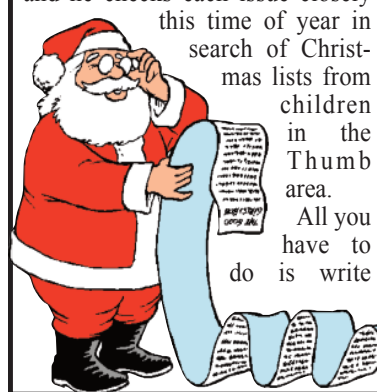
your letter and send it to us. The easiest way is to have mom or dad e-mail your note along with a photo of yourself to:

[sales@ccchronicle.net](mailto:sales@ccchronicle.net).

Letters can also be mailed to the paper at: 6550 Main St., Cass City, MI 48726, or drop them off to us in person (we're located at the corner of Main and Oak streets, next to Schneeberger's).

All of the letters will be published in December - most of them in our annual Christmas edition, Wednesday, Dec. 23.

But get started now because the deadline is:  
Thursday, Dec. 17.



MEMBERS OF the Huron County Sheriff's Department prepare to distribute cash gifts and gift certificates during last year's campaign, which saw deputies present a combined \$7,000 to individuals and families in need. The annual effort is funded by anonymous donors who ask the sheriff's department to pass on their gifts to citizens who could use a boost during the holidays.

## Christmas spirit

### Huron deputies gearing up to spread holiday cheer

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor

You don't have to tell Huron County Sheriff Kelly J. Hanson that the Christmas season has a way of bringing out the best in mankind, especially when it comes to giving back to communities and reaching out a helping hand to those in need.

Even during a global pandemic.

"For the seventh year in a row, anonymous cash donors have started coming in to continue hopes of brightening a few Christmases of those who have endured some type of big setback this year," Hanson reported Friday.

"In a couple weeks, our deputies will begin delivering cash gifts or food gift certificates (typically worth) \$100 to people or families

who have experienced a hardship related event during the past year. Some examples of those hardships include losing a loved one, serious illness, grandparents having to raise grandchildren, losing a job because place of employment closes, etc.," he said.

"We'll also contribute to a couple of non-profit organizations committed to providing services to homeless or other displaced individuals."

What has become an annual campaign started seven years ago when some Huron County citizens, who wanted to remain anonymous, approached the sheriff and asked that his department use its discretion to distribute cash or food certificates to those struggling financially during the holiday season.

Please turn to page 4.

## Nominations welcomed for junior citizen

The annual Cass City Chamber of Commerce Community Dinner hasn't been scheduled yet, but the committee members in charge of selecting the top junior citizen to be honored is gearing up for the selection process.

And they're asking area residents to lend a hand by nominating outstanding young people for the award.

"These young adults have contributed many things to our community, including their willingness to make Cass City a better place to live, work and attend school," explained Kate Van Auken, a member of the selection committee.

"They have motivation, dedication and an outstanding desire to get involved. These individuals are true role models, and we want to celebrate their accomplishments and contributions, especially in 2020.

"Cass City educators as well as community members, businesses and non-profits are encouraged to submit nominations," Van Auken said. "Please consider nominating a deserving student who is in their senior year of school, attending

Please turn to page 12.



SANTA HAS been forced to think outside the (mail)box this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and he's getting some help in Gagetown with a special receptacle to collect children's letters. Trace Lopez says a Santa mailbox has been set up at his residence at 4796 Center St., Gagetown, MI 48735. "If your child wants to write Santa a letter, have them drop it off in the box and we will make sure Santa sends them a letter back. We will send you your child's original letter back as a keepsake," Lopez added, noting parents should make sure to include a return address and their child's name.

# Cass City Elementary announces first semester honor roll students

**4th GRADE**  
 Ryder Anthes  
 Bryce Barrigar\*  
 Lainey Beck\*  
 Jackson Bliss\*  
 Logan Boyle  
 Lily Brooks  
 Evan Brown\*  
 Westin Caister  
 Nathan Edwards  
 Justin Freyaldenhoven  
 Julius Gibson  
 Lydia Hartzell\*  
 Charles Hempton  
 Bradley Horning  
 Karsyn Ignash\*  
 Colten Kady  
 Brooklyn Kolacz\*  
 Daniel Krueger  
 Jocelyn LaFave  
 Corbin Lenhard  
 Taylor Lewis  
 Mason Ligrow  
 Cooper Luana  
 Tinley Mahoney  
 Jayden Matson  
 Brynlee McIntyre  
 Braden Messing\*  
 Ryleigh Middaugh  
 Brayden Miller  
 Onhayla Nazario  
 Desarie Perez  
 Logan Peters  
 Max Phelps  
 Ashton Prahin\*

Ross Pringle  
 Colin Radabaugh\*  
 Jacob Ross  
 Cadin Shippey\*  
 Kaelyn Spangler\*  
 Reed Spencer\*  
 Nevaeh Stevens  
 Aaron Tordai  
 Brinley Weippert

**5th GRADE**  
 Alexander Anderson  
 Jenna Bartnik\*  
 Shelby Bemis  
 Aiden Brinkman\*  
 Emma Daul\*  
 Preston Dorland  
 Macy Doucette  
 Keegan Elston\*  
 Lillyan Fritz  
 Macy Haag\*  
 Skylar Ignash\*  
 Isabelle Kappen\*  
 Brystal Klinkman  
 Madison Krueger  
 DeShawn Moore\*  
 Deighan Moyer\*  
 Bria Pallas\*  
 Marshall Posluszny\*  
 Tyler Reinke  
 Abby Romstad  
 Jeremiah Rutkoski\*  
 Dakota Schank  
 Keyton Simmons

Paige Valley  
 Jaidyn Van Vliet  
 Landen Whetstone

**6th GRADE**  
 Jack Betts\*  
 John Bulla  
 D'Angelo Clement  
 Conor Currier  
 Zachary Dooley  
 Ava Eremia  
 Corbin Forster  
 Kirsten Guc  
 Chandler Hendrick  
 Elyse Hoppe  
 Lilly Jaworski\*  
 Elizabeth Kohaif\*  
 Braxton Kolacz  
 Kady Kruse  
 Lindsey Langenburg  
 Lillian Little  
 Haylee Mahoney  
 Shayler McIntyre  
 Justin Murdoch  
 Aleksander Nika  
 Ryllyn Pringle  
 Ryan Robinson  
 Lluvia Sanchez-Esqueda  
 Brody Schefka  
 Milo Schwendinger  
 Kenna Sigmund  
 Ethan Speirs  
 Kayla Stout  
 Alexis Tamlyn\*  
 Melody Tillery

# Owen-Gage Schools announce November students of the month

The focus for Owen-Gage's students of the month for November is "Respectful of Others". A student who is respectful of others cares about others and their property, demonstrates courtesy, cooperates with others, and accepts differences in others. They also interact appropriately with others. The following students have been chosen: Avery Vincent, first grade (elementary level), daughter of Timothy Vincent and Kimberly

Proctor; Aubrey Hellebuyck, seventh grade (junior high level), daughter of Anthony and Ashley Hellebuyck; Hannah Wood, ninth grade (high school level), daughter of Brandon and Kathleen Wood; and Boyd Evans, twelfth grade (senior student), son of Maurice and Tanya Evans.

Special recognition goes to the "Senior Student of the Month", Boyd Evans. Evans has been very active in sports at Owen-Gage. He has participated in football, basketball and baseball all four years. He earned the Interior Lineman Award in football his sophomore year. Evans also plans on participating in golf as a senior.

Evans has been a member of the band each year, in which he plays the trombone and has participated in Solo/Ensemble each year. Evans has also been a member of the Vex Robotics team and the Innovative Vehicle Design team.

Evans has been a member of the National Honor Society since his sophomore year and currently serves as the chapter's treasurer. He has been on the honor roll and a member of the 3.0 Honors Club each year. He served as his class representative to the Student

Council each year. As a sophomore, Evans was a class representative for homecoming and was nominated as a candidate for 2020 homecoming king. He is a member of the yearbook staff. As a junior, Evans attended the Huron Area Technical Center and participated in the marketing program, where he was also a member of DECA. As a senior, he is a member of the M.A.E.D. (Mechanical/Architecture, Engineering & Design) program at the Tech Center.

Evans was a member of the Boy Scouts of America. He became an Eagle Scout during his freshman year of high school. He also was a member of Tuscola County Archers for two years, where he earned the honors of being the Intermediate League Champ his freshman year. Evans has volunteered and has spent hours of community service through the school and local towns. In his spare time, he enjoys fishing, hunting, cruising and spending time with friends and family.

Evans plans to attend Michigan Technological University next fall to pursue a career in Forestry/Fish & Wildlife Management.



Avery Vincent



Aubrey Hellebuyck



Hannah Wood



Boyd Evans

# Hey kids! It's time to write letters to Santa

Hey kids, get busy writing those letters to Santa.

Everybody knows Santa has a subscription to the Cass City Chronicle, and he checks each issue closely this time of year in search of Christmas lists from children in the Thumb area. All you have to do

your letter and send it to us. The easiest way is to have mom or dad e-mail your note along with a photo of yourself to:

[sales@ccchronicle.net](mailto:sales@ccchronicle.net).

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All of the letters will be published in December - most of them in our annual Christmas edition, Wednesday, Dec. 23.

**But get started now because the deadline is:**

**Thursday, Dec. 17.**



# SUDOKU

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

**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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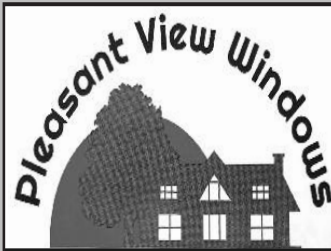
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# In Our OPINION...

**Clarke Haire**  
Publisher

**Tom Montgomery**  
Editor

## Drier Humor

by Mary Drier

Kodachrome moments...



### Medicare assistance just a click/call away

Aging adults and people with disabilities in Michigan can receive free assistance selecting Medicare coverage, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Aging and Adult Services Agency announced.

But there's no time to waste. Medicare open enrollment runs through Monday, Dec. 7.

Assistance for residents who are eligible for Medicare – who are age 65 or above or have disabilities – is available from the Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program, which provides access to free, unbiased counseling on health benefits to help make selecting coverage easier.

“Providing easy access to services such as health care coverage is one of MDHHS’s core values,” says Dr. Alexis Travis, senior deputy director at the Aging and Adult Services Agency. “We want to make sure all Michiganders know about the services available through the Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program.

The Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program – working through the Area Agencies on Aging – has provided high-quality and accessible health benefit information and counseling, supported by a statewide network of unpaid and paid skilled professionals, since 1985.

There are over 600 counselors statewide, most of whom are volunteers. They are specialists trained in Medicare and Medicaid law and regulations, health insurance counseling and relevant insurance products. Counselors are not connected with any insurance company, nor are they licensed to sell insurance. Their purpose is to serve residents objectively and confidentially.

Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program counselors helped beneficiaries save more than \$51 million on their health care expenses last year. Counselors can help residents:

- \*Identify resources for prescription drug assistance.
- \*Explain Medicare Health Plan options.
- \*Understand doctor bills, hospital bills and Medicare summary notices.
- \*Understand Medicare/Medicaid eligibility, enrollment, coverage, claims and appeals.
- \*Enroll in Medicare Savings Programs.
- \*Review Medicare supplemental – “Medigap” – insurance needs, compare policies and pursue claims and refunds.
- \*Explore long-term care financing options, including long-term care insurance.
- \*Identify and report Medicare/Medicaid fraud and abuse.

In addition to Medicare open enrollment, MDHHS and the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) are reminding Michiganders that open enrollment for the Health Insurance Marketplace runs until Dec. 15. This open enrollment period allows all consumers to evaluate available plans and discounts. Information to get started is available at [Michigan.gov/HealthInsurance](http://Michigan.gov/HealthInsurance).

For more information, visit <https://mmapinc.org> or call 1-800-803-7174 to speak with a counselor. For more information about open enrollment on the Health Insurance Marketplace, visit [Michigan.gov/HealthInsurance](http://Michigan.gov/HealthInsurance) or call (877) 999-6442.

First and foremost, I’m a writer. That is all I ever wanted to be. I wanted to be a best-selling author of fiction, but only a handful of writers can make a living doing that.

Because of that, the teacher I had in my creative writing class in college directed me to journalism. And, as the saying goes, the rest is history.

However, I quickly learned editors wanted photographs to go with stories. Of course, as a writer, that didn’t sit too well with me. I hate the saying that a “picture is worth a thousand words.” Eventually, I adjusted. It required a lot of practice to frame a photograph so I didn’t cut the person’s head off.

Then I adjusted to using a digital camera instead of a 35 mm one I had used for years.

Because I needed more memory on my computer, I started cleaning out some of the old photos I took. While doing that, I remembered an old song, “Kodachrome”, by Paul Simon, and started singing the words:

*“When I think back  
On all the crap I learned in high school,  
It’s a wonder  
I can think at all.  
And though my lack of education  
Hasn’t hurt me none,  
I can read the writing on the wall.*

*Kodachrome,  
They give us those nice bright colors,  
They give us the greens of summers...”*

When that song came out, it was about that time that Kodak developed a film that really showed off colors. It was a big-time development in photography, but its momentum wasn’t sustained. Kodachrome film was gradually discontinued in 2009.

I initially thought Kodak failed because it missed the digital age. It was while I was looking up how to spell kodachrome that I learned Kodak had actually invented the first digital camera in 1975. However, the company saw its market share decline, as digital imaging became dominant. It seems to me the company’s belief that marketing would overcome the new technology was what proved fatal, especially, with every cell phone now having a camera.

For decades, the saying “Kodak moment” meant a special time in a person’s life captured in a picture by a camera.

## Letters to the Editor

### Health department has responsibility to listen

To the editor,

When un-elected health department workers — who shape local policy — act in an unprofessional manner, how can citizens ensure their voices are heard?

In a Tuscola County press release dated Nov. 21, Health Officer Ann Hepfer lamented, “...we are seeing an increasing number of long-term care outbreaks and now in adult foster care homes, and homes for the aged.”

These facilities bar entrance to anyone not wearing a mask. These facilities only recently started to allow visitors to see their loved ones — and even then, the visits forbid touching/hugging and are very brief.

Despite this, Hepfer asserted, “The community is responsible for every death, and for every illness. We still have businesses refusing to wear masks, refusing to put the ‘we require mask signs’ up in the businesses. If I were a local business that is shut down again, I would be very frustrated, and yes even angry.”

Those words encourage blame and anger. Those words are unprofessional. Those words sow division in our community. Those words assume correlation equals causation, which isn’t scientific.

I called the Tuscola County Health Department to ask who I should direct my concerns to regarding the words of the press release. I was calm and polite. The health department employee on the other end yelled, “Excuse me?!” three times before placing me on hold. Indefinitely.

Health departments operate on our tax dollars. There should be no taxation without representation, and I am distressed to see the Tuscola County Health Department bristle at the prospect of receiving feedback from the community it supposedly serves.

Signed,  
Stephanie Spencer, Caro

Photography has changed a lot since then, with digital cameras, computer programs to enhance them, printers that print them at home, and social media sites to share them.

Because of house fires, I lost most of the photos my mother took along with the ones I took. Although my photos are gone, I have the memory of taking them. If I still had the pictures, the special moments in my life would be of my son when he was born, the other when my other son returned home after his first tour of duty in Iraq, and the last time we were all together as a family.

To me, now calling those special times “digital moments” just doesn’t have the ring of saying a “Kodak moment.” No matter what term is used or the kind of equipment that captures an image of a special time, a photo is something special that captures that moment in time forever.

And, I must admit, words can’t do that.



### Rabbit Tracks

by Clarke Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)

If you love Christmas lights and are tired of COVID-19 shutting everything down – and who isn’t? – the Nicol family offered some great news over the weekend.

The wildly popular annual Nicol’s Christmas Light Extravaganza will kick off the 2020 season Friday, Dec. 4, from 5:30 to 10:30 p.m. And the impressive display – complete with animation and music – will continue throughout this month from 5:30 to 10:30 each night.

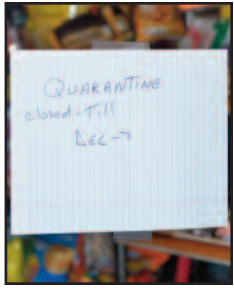
The display, featuring about 150,000 lights in all, is located at the Joel and Jaime Nicol residence, located four miles east of M-53 on Cass City Road (M-81) and one-half mile south on Germania Road.

The Nicol family is expecting big crowds this year, so they ask everyone to be patient as they wait in their cars to view the display.

The Chronicle will be featuring the Nicol family tradition, including photos, in a story to be published in our Dec. 9 edition. In the meantime, you can learn more by checking out the Nicol’s Christmas Light Extravaganza page on Facebook anytime.

\*\*\*\*\*

Sign of the times. I noticed this sign hanging at the Parkway drive-thru window in Cass City Monday morning. Consequently, my biggest newsstand customer won’t be able to help distribute this week’s paper.



Accordingly, I thought now might be a good time to remind our readers that the Cass City Chronicle is available every week from our other downtown vendors including Quaker Maid, Sunoco, Village Service Center, Forward and Coach Light Pharmacy.

Of course you can always find your local paper at the corner of Oak and Main streets, next to Schneeberger’s Furniture.

\*\*\*\*\*

Every year Cass City recognizes an outstanding citizen in our community during the chamber of commerce’s annual community dinner.

These citizens have contributed many things to our community, including their willingness to make Cass City a better place to live and work. They have motivation, dedication and an outstanding desire to get involved. These individuals are true role models and we want to celebrate their accomplishments and contributions. Cass City educators, community members and businesses, as well as representatives of non-profit organizations, are encouraged to submit nominations.

Please consider nominating a deserving citizen. The deadline for nominations is Friday, Dec. 18. You can send your nomination to the Cass City Chamber of Commerce, 6506 Main St., Cass City, MI 48726, or via e-mail to [ccc@casscitychamber.com](mailto:ccc@casscitychamber.com).

\*\*\*\*\*

Troopers from the Michigan State Police post in Caro are inviting area residents to participate in an annual campaign to benefit area families this Christmas season.

“On Friday, Dec. 4, the Michigan State Police (MSP) Caro Post, in conjunction with Team One Credit Union, Christmas for Kids, Caro Walmart, and local law enforcement will be hosting its annual ‘Stuff a Blue Goose’ event,” said Trooper Nicole Dhooghe.

“We are excited to spend another year collecting new and unwrapped toys to spread holiday cheer and help our communities in need. Monetary donations are also appreciated to help the cause.”

Donations will be collected by troopers and other volunteers between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at Walmart and Team One Credit Union, both in Caro. Donations can also be taken to the MSP post in Caro or Team One Credit Union.

Dhooghe noted all volunteers will be following current CDC guidelines related to slowing the spread of COVID-19 to ensure safety for all involved.

You can learn more by contacting the Caro post at (989) 673-2156.

## CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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(USPS 092-00)

# Kingston appoints a new clerk

by Mary Drier  
For the Chronicle

Kingston has a new clerk-treasurer.

The Kingston Village Council recently appointed Stefanie Bruce to serve in the role. She replaces Heather Baker, who resigned to accept another position.

The council also decided to change the clerk-treasurer position from salary to an hourly rate, with a maximum of 32 hours a week.

The starting wage for the posi-

tion was set at \$16 per hour, with a 50 cent raise after she obtains a clerk certification. Also, she will receive an additional 50-cent raise on her one-year hire date, which would bring the pay up to \$17 per hour.

In other personnel matters, the council appointed Bob Phagan to a vacant, partial trustee term position. The term will expire Nov. 20, 2022.

In other business, officials heard a resident's request to have utilities to a vacant house stopped be-

cause no one is using water or generating trash.

According to the council, even though no one is living at the residence, there is still a base fee for water and sewer services because they are connected to a main and capable of being used, and garbage collection is under a contract that doesn't end until February 2021. At that time, the service can be canceled.

The council also approved the recommendation of Tristan Skinner as a new fire fighter.



CASS CITY'S Helena Wilson (pictured above) is the fifth winner – and the second recipient of prizes from the Cass City area – in the Home Fridge Advantage contest, sponsored by the Michigan's dairy farmers, the Detroit Lions and Kroger. She was awarded prizes that include a new refrigerator-freezer, a \$500 Kroger gift card and \$500 in cash.

## Thanksgiving Day fight spells trouble for tavern

Continued from page one.

intoxicated subjects fighting both inside and outside the bar," Pisha reported. "The caller also reported one of the subjects had a gun and a person was down on the ground near a residence. Multiple other police agencies also responded to the scene."

Before troopers could arrive at the scene, most of the crowd had already dispersed and left the area, Pisha said.

However, he noted, "Troopers encountered multiple intoxicated and disorderly subjects, some of whom failed to comply with officers' demands as they attempted to secure the scene. One subject even resisted and fought with troopers, and another became verbally aggressive, resulting in two subjects being handcuffed and detained."

"The subsequent investigation revealed Silver Tavern Bar was open for business and serving patrons alcohol inside the establishment, despite the health department emergency order prohibiting indoor service," Pisha said. "At some point during the evening, several subjects began arguing and fighting inside and outside the bar."

"Troopers were also informed by several witnesses who were at the

bar, as well as by a witness from a nearby residence, that one of the male subjects retrieved a shotgun from his pickup truck."

In the end, troopers arrested a 23-year-old Deckerville man on charges of disorderly conduct, assaulting and resisting a police officer, and possession of a firearm while intoxicated.

"Troopers discovered only minor injuries on multiple subjects and learned no firearms had been discharged during the incident."

The case remains under investigation, according to Pisha, who said troopers notified the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and the Michigan Liquor Control Commission regarding the establishment's violation of the emergency pandemic orders announced in mid-November.

The Sanilac County Sheriff's Department and Sandusky Police Department assisted troopers at the scene.

## Christmas spirit alive, well

Continued from page one.

"Each year, I inquire with local police agencies, clergy, municipal and school leaders and other organizations to seek out recipients," Hanson noted.

"Total donated amounts for the majority of the 7 years typically averaged around \$5,000 per year. However, there were a few years over \$7,000, which included last year," he said. "Although deciding who actually gets the gifts is very difficult because the money is limited, we consider it a great honor to be held in such high regards by such unselfish, generous, private individuals, who have en-

trusted us to help others on their behalf."

Complete distribution normally takes until New Year's Day, as deputies try to deliver the gifts unannounced, and the recipients aren't always home when officers arrive.

In the end, however, the department has enjoyed tremendous success in its mission to ensure every penny goes to benefit needy citizens.

"By year's end," Hanson said, "between this seven-year program and our nine-year partnership with Toys for Tots, our deputies and myself will have collected and distributed a combined total of nearly \$250,000 in cash and toys that have directly impacted thousands of Huron County citizens, both young and old."

"The residents of Huron County should be very proud of the many volunteers, contributors and other organizations who have put Huron County way out in front of other counties when it comes to caring and sharing their good will. Know that myself and the deputies of our sheriff's office consider it our pleasure."

Hanson said anyone wishing to contribute to the cause may do so by contacting the sheriff's department at (989) 269-6500 during regular business hours.

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## Reporter's notebook

### No comparison to zebra pudding

by Tom Montgomery  
Editor



I'm working to stay on my diet of trying to keep my opinions to myself when it comes to COVID-19 (yes, it's real. Please wear a mask) and politics (if brains and common sense were lard, there are plenty of folks out there who couldn't grease a small skillet).

So, I'm going to write about another enticing subject this week: food.

Sure, thanks to this awful pandemic, many of us are keeping holiday gatherings to a minimum — if we have them at all — in hopes that sacrificing this year will enable us all to join together again in the future.

But that doesn't mean we can't enjoy ourselves in the kitchen.

I love the challenge of whipping up entire Thanksgiving and Christmas meals by myself, from brining and roasting a turkey to preparing side dishes — dressing and mashed potatoes, casseroles, etc. And, not to sound too modest, my cooking and grilling skills draw some decent reviews, thanks to a lot of practice, learning a few tricks and relying on a good meat thermometer.

But even on my best day, my culinary skills couldn't come close to comparing with my Grandma Miller, God rest her soul.

My memories of her preparing holiday dinners still leave my mouth watering and wishing I had taken the time to ask for a few recipes, although I can't remember her ever following any directions that were written down.

Even a quick breakfast never looked all that simple as she dashed around the kitchen, preparing southern style eggs, bacon and fried potatoes in a cast iron pan with a certain love and care you could taste with each bite.

But around the holidays, grandma was truly a whirling dervish in the kitchen, and her menus were amazing. I'm talking turkey and dressing, ham, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, green bean casserole along with another vegetable or two, and her homemade apple pie and cheesecake.

And, of course, zebra pudding.

I could (and will) describe this dessert for you, but there's no way you'll ever really appreciate it until you try it for yourself.

First, even if you don't cook, let me assure you this dish is simple. In fact, zebra pudding's popularity among young and old (well, it always was in our family) is equaled only by how easily and quickly the recipe comes together.

Here it is in a nutshell:

You'll need a package of thin chocolate wafer cookies (roughly nine ounces), about 1 1/2 cups of heavy whipping cream, and a couple teaspoons each of confectioners' (powdered) sugar and vanilla extract.

Place the whipping cream, sugar and vanilla extract in a mixer and beat until the cream is thick (until it forms a sharp peak that will hold its shape).

Now the fun part: spread a two-inch wide line of cream lengthwise on a serving plate. Next, spread a generous portion of cream on each cookie and press the cookies together in groups of three or four at a time, placing them on the platter to form the shape of a long barrel on top of the cream already spread on the serving platter. Finally, "frost" the creation with the rest of the whipping cream, which will soak into and expand the chocolate wafers while setting in the refrigerator overnight.

Just one warning: zebra pudding has a tendency to cause otherwise civil relatives to become a little selfish when it comes time for dessert, so if you want to avoid a food fight, you might want to double the recipe.

I suppose I should also mention that dieters need not belly up to the dessert bar in this case.

On the other hand, as far as I'm concerned, there's no place for diets during the holidays, especially after the year we've all had. There will always be time to shed a few pounds once January arrives.

I mean, isn't that what New Year's resolutions are for?

# Down Memory Lane

by Tina Pallas



## 5 YEARS AGO (2015)

Special recognition goes to the "Owen-Gage Senior Student of the Month", Tyler Roemer. Tyler participated in track his sophomore year. He has been a member of the high school band throughout high school and currently serves as the band's president. Tyler was inducted into the Owen-Gage Chapter of the National Honor Society as a sophomore. He served as the chapter's secretary his junior year and currently is the vice-president. Other class offices Tyler has held are: class treasurer as a freshman, secretary as a sophomore, vice-president his junior year, and currently is class president and a member of the Student Council.

## 10 YEARS AGO (2010)

A 2004 Cass City High School graduate now stationed at Malmstrom Air Force base in Montana was among the defenders who were recently hand-picked to represent the base during the 2010 Global Strike Challenge contest. Air Force officials reported that Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Tuckey, 741st Missile Security Forces Squadron convoy response force leader, recently competed with the base's Security Forces Team at Fort Polk, Louisiana. Tuckey, 25, the son of Jeffrey and Janice Tuckey, served as second in charge of the Security Forces Team. Tuckey said he has maintained proficiency in his job with a lot of physical training and by simply doing what he is told. He said he feels proud to have been selected to represent the 741st Security Forces Group. Tuckey explained his role was to serve as the "primary compass man", directing the team during the mental and physical challenge. He said he was very confident in the security force's role in the competition and added the challenge is a healthy way to see what other bases are doing well. Tuckey joined the Air Force in 2005.

## 25 YEARS AGO (1995)

William and Roma Laffrey of Smiths Creek announce the engagement of their daughter, Kristine Kathryn, to Eric Lowell King, son of Bruce and Rose King of Caro. The bride-to-be is a graduate of Saginaw Valley State University. She is employed at Walbro Engine Management as an accountant. Her fiancé is a graduate of Ferris State University. He is employed at Walbro Engine Management as a senior designer. A May 1996 wedding is planned.

Two area residents are among 1,476 Michigan State University students who were candidates for bachelor's degrees for fall 1995. Commencement ceremonies were held Saturday at the Breslin Student Events Center, East Lansing. Robert D. Battel, son of Mark and Diane E. Battel, Cass City, earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in crop and soil sciences, The 1991 Cass City High School graduate has been working in the crop and soil lab at MSU, and is now looking for employment in his field. Also from the area, Kelly L. Polega, Uby, graduated with honors, earning a Bachelor of Arts Degree in accounting.

A Decker area native is continuing a long-standing tradition of providing medical care for dogs, cats and other pets at 4438 Seeger Street in Cass City. Dr. Susan Hoppe recently purchased the former Companion Animal Hospital. The new name is All Pets Veterinary Clinic. But she's adding a new dimension to the local clinic. "I'll work with the exotics, too," she said, referring to birds, rabbits, hamsters, ferrets and the occasional reptile. "I have an interest in them and I like to work with them," added Hoppe, whose patients already include several ferrets, a rabbit, a hamster and a skunk.

## 35 YEARS AGO (1985)

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Fisher and

Mrs. Virginia Zawilinski received word of the birth of a grandson, Nathan Aaron, the second child of Pvt. Scott and Mrs. Fisher, born Nov. 21 in Germany, where Pvt. Fisher is serving with the Army.

Lena Teller and Sharon and Jack Hartwick of Cass City announce the engagement of their children, Susan Renae Sheldon and Robert Jack Hartwick. Hartwick is attending ITT in Fort Wayne, Ind., where he will get his bachelor's degree in Automated Manufacturing Technology in May. Miss Sheldon completed one year of dietary management at Ivy Tech in Fort Wayne. The couple will be married Dec. 28 at Novesta Church of Christ.

Sherryl Seeley was selected as the Business and Professional Women's Club Woman of the Year at a meeting Monday, Nov. 25. Presenting the award to Seeley is Marilyn Ertman, the first vice-president of the BPW, and Shirley Haas, a member of the Woman of the Year Committee. Seeley has been a member of the organization since it began 25 years ago. She is presently serving her third term as BPW president.

Sgt. Werner H.F. Schulz, Jr., son of Werner H.F. Schulz, Sr. of Snover, and Selma A. Schulz of Cass City, has re-enlisted in the U.S. Army at Fort Polk, La., after three years of military service. He is a 1980 graduate of Owen-Gage High School, Owendale.

## 40 YEARS AGO (1980)

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Erla returned to Cass City Friday from a trip when they visited friends, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Nichols at Massillon, Ohio, and Mrs. Erla's cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Galindo and family at Virginia Beach, Va. They left Cass City Nov. 20.

Visibility in Cass City was near zero at the height of the snowstorm Tuesday afternoon. Outside of town, it was even worse, with the combination of blowing snow, icy roads and zero visibility putting many cars into the ditch. One result of the snowstorm was that students in the three schools in Cass City who ride buses home were forced to stay at the high school.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Adams, Jr. (Kathy McArthur) announce the birth of a six-pound, 10-ounce son, Dec. 1 in Hills and Dales General Hospital. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Robert McArthur and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Adams Sr. Great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Stanley McArthur.

Santa Claus came to Cass City Friday and among the first youngsters telling him what they wanted for Christmas were Holly Coryell, 6, Jeff Doerr, 6, and Arthur Coryell, 7.

Girl Scout Troop 659 met Nov. 18 in the Gagetown community building. Eleven girls were present. Co-leaders Linda Edwards and Pauline Reehl passed out badges that were earned by the girls last year. It was decided to have a Christmas party and Christmas caroling Dec. 16. Mothers are being asked to participate. The meetings Dec. 2 and 16 will be 6-8 p.m. Sandra Miller received first place in the environmental poster contest for her age group, which was sponsored by the Federated Garden Clubs of Michigan. Officers of the year for the Girl Scout troop are: president, Cindy Enderle; vice president, Marcie Drachil; secretary, Kendra Reehl; treasurer, Lisa Edwards, and centurians, Michelle McPhail and Sandra Miller.

## 50 YEARS AGO (1970)

Mrs. Edna Hartman, wife of the late August Hartman, of Florissant, Missouri, announces the engagement of her daughter, Janet Ann Hartman, to Charles William Iseler, presently of Whitehall, Mich. He is the son of Mr. and

Mrs. Fred Iseler of Cass City. Miss Hartman is a graduate of Concordia Teachers College in River Forest, Illinois, and is teaching at St. Peter Lutheran School, near St. Johns. Iseler, who is a graduate of the University of Michigan, is a band and chorus instructor in the Montague Public Schools. A June 12 wedding is being planned by the couple.

Miss Rona Rayl was honored at a kitchen shower Friday evening, Nov. 20. Around 30 ladies attended. The shower was given by Mrs. Jim Perry and Mrs. Elwyn Helwig, aunts of the prospective bride and groom, at the Helwig home. Miss Rayl and Jack Hillaker will be married Dec. 19.

Mr. and Mrs. Willis Campbell were to leave Tuesday to spend Thanksgiving with their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Jones and son, in Lansing. The Campbells will then leave to spend the winter in Florida. Mrs. Robert McConkey of Durand and Mrs. Campbell will fly to Florida and their husbands will drive their cars down.

## 75 YEARS AGO (1945)

Pfc. Ray H. Lapp, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray T. Lapp, was recently discharged after a little more than four years in the service. He was in the European theatre of operations and was awarded two battle stars and six ribbons including the purple heart. His brother, S. C. Geo. Lapp, is expected home this month after 18 months in the Pacific area.

Bob Foy, local protégé of Cass City's football "greats," has received many honors for his football prowess for the past season. Bob was elected captain of the 1945 football squad. Then he was selected unanimously as center of the Upper Thumb All Star team. His latest feat toward football fame was being placed on the Northeastern Michigan All Star squad. Along with the glory for these feats, Foy will receive the following awards: For captain, a sterling silver football from the Cass City High School Varsity club; for center on Upper Thumb All Star team, a golden football presented by the Huron County Tribune given at a banquet sponsored by the Bad Axe Chamber of Commerce; for center on the Northeastern Michigan All Star squad, Bob and Coach Jack London attended a banquet at Hotel Wenonah, Bay City. Bob is a senior, weighs 175 pounds, is five feet eight inches tall and has played football for four years.

Miss Esther Gerstenberger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Gerstenberger, was surprised Sunday, on her 11th birthday, when several of her school friends came to help celebrate her birthday. She received nice gifts. Games were played and ice cream and cake were served.

## 100 YEARS AGO (1920)

Mrs. J.A. Saddoris of Norwalk, Ohio, and a former resident of Cass City, is making an effort to start a movement for the establishment of a grandmothers' and grandfathers' day, "We too often forget what the elderly people have done for us," said Mrs. Saddoris. For what Norwalk and other cities have accomplished they are indebted to the older people. And yet how many appreciate this fact? "I suggest that some date be set aside for this observance, and that all efforts be made to show our appreciation of the old folk. Automobile rides, picnic, theater parties and other diversions would be enjoyed and appreciated by them, I am sure."

Mrs. James Dorman of Cass City purchased from D.S. McClure last week, the residence next door to the Presbyterian parsonage. She will not take possession until April first. We have been informed that Mr. and Mrs. John Clothier will occupy jointly with her and will assist in her care.

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## My Corner

### A change of plans

by Ty Perry

It was Oct. 1, 1943, and there were nearly two years left of World War II. American G.I.s were stationed around the world, fighting tyranny... and homesickness.

Back in the United States, America's favorite crooner, Bing Crosby, was recording what would become one of his most popular tunes, a song that reflected both the melancholy and the hopes of the age—"I'll Be Home for Christmas."

It was a piece that channeled the feelings many Americans, both at home and abroad, were wrestling with in the midst of dark days. It also reminded servicemen of what they were sacrificing for. Yank, a magazine published for military personnel, said that Crosby, in his song, "accomplished more for military morale than anyone else of that era."

Although we are not fighting a bloody war this year, we, Americans, and the rest of our world neighbors are witnessing one of the most tumultuous years of the past decade, a year that certainly has caused our own morale to take a hit.

Earlier last month, with the last of the Halloween candy gone, my thoughts turned to the holidays.

My heart warmed with anticipation of my family's trip back to Cass City for Christmas. Las Vegas, where I now live, has endless opportunities for entertainment during the holiday season, but in my mind, there is no better place to celebrate than in the little village nestled in Michigan's Thumb.

It is there that I find my family and friends, who are always up for a visit over a cup of hot chocolate. There, the peace of the town, blanketed by a late afternoon snow, refreshes me. There, the voices lifted in worship under the warm glow of the lights in the Baptist church, give new life to the old greeting, Merry Christmas.

As I packed my bag, thinking about such joyful things, I hummed—I'll be home for Christmas. But when a friend with whom we had recently been in contact notified us that they tested positive for Covid-19, everything changed.

That text changed our plans entirely, not only because it meant we had to be tested (a process that took, in our case, three days), but also because it caused us to consider the severity and reality of this microscopic nemesis. It all added up to one thing—we had to cancel our plans.

I would be home for Christmas, but only in my dreams.

If you think about it, a change of plans is a major motif of the biblical Christmas account.

The dreams of a young man and his betrothed are changed when they learn that she is carrying the Messiah of Israel. The social and political aims of Rome were disrupted by the rumors of a royal Child born in the City of David.

And best of all, the status quo of the world, "in sin and error pining," was upended when "He appeared and the soul felt its worth."

This year, my family and I will celebrate Christmas in our little apartment, not under a blanket of snow, but rather under the shade of a palm tree. It will be different, and I will, undoubtedly, dream about being home for Christmas in that most special of villages.

But I will also be reminded that, no matter where we might be, no matter how white the Christmas is or is not, the event we are celebrating transcends Covid-19. The Person we are celebrating was and continues to be a major disruption to mankind's plans.

Indeed, the night His pitiful cry was first heard in Bethlehem, the future of the world—particularly that of those who put their trust in Him for salvation—was irreversibly and dramatically altered.

Now that's a change of plans I'm grateful for.

## Board overrides Grimshaw on 2020 budget purchases

by Mary Drier  
For the Chronicle

Although the 2021 mosquito season is months away, Tuscola County Mosquito Abatement program officials are gearing up now in preparation for next spring.

Towards that end, the department secured approval from Tuscola County commissioners for some purchases, including \$20,296 for a 2021 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 work truck, and \$17,815 for a ULV sprayer.

Likewise, commissioners approved a sheriff's department request to spend \$16,000 from the department's budget to buy new firearms for road patrol deputies. But that approval didn't come until after officials provided a detailed explanation.

Commissioner Dan Grimshaw's stance was that the purchase should come out of next year's budget instead of out of the department's current fund balance.

The county's 2021 budget year will begin Jan. 1.

"Instead of using fund balance now, why not put the expense in the next budget. That is my position," Grimshaw said. "And, I don't believe we have 30 road patrol deputies."

The sheriff wants to replace aged and worn out firearms with 45 caliber, and he has the money in his budget, explained county Controller-Administrator Clayette Zechmeister.

"I trust the sheriff's judgment on why he wants this and the money will come from the road patrol dedicated millage fund," she said.

Grimshaw continued to balk at the proposal.

"This raises the fact (of) using road patrol money to buy supplies for non-road patrol sheriff deputies," he speculated. "We don't have 30 road patrol deputies—to my understanding anyway. It would appear that is what is going on, and I don't agree with that."

The issue did not move forward until Undersheriff Robert Baxter called in to speak with commissioners.

"We have the funds for this. There is a lag time to get those weapons. Shipping is about six months out from order time. We thought it was a good time to do it now," Baxter explained.

Grimshaw countered that if it takes six months to receive the guns, then there is no hurry.

"Unless there is a savings, I would prefer putting it in the budget for next year," Grimshaw continued. "Put it in the next budgeting process. There is no reason why we shouldn't be able to do that."

However, Grimshaw's fellow board members didn't have an issue with the sheriff's request, and the majority approved the purchase, with funds coming out of the department's budget this year.

Grimshaw cast the lone dissenting vote on the purchase motion.

In other business, Leah Dinsmore was hired as a part-time account clerk in the Tuscola County Register of Deeds Office to fill a vacant part-time position.



DEPUTIES FROM the Tuscola County Sheriff's Department have been participating in the "No Shave November" campaign to generate donations for a good cause. "It's a fundraiser where they donate money to go to kids' Christmas gifts," explained Sheriff Glen Skrent, who noted beards are not allowed normally. "They raised \$600, (and) the money will be used for next year's 'Shop with a Cop' event." (Photo courtesy of the Tuscola County Sheriff's Department)

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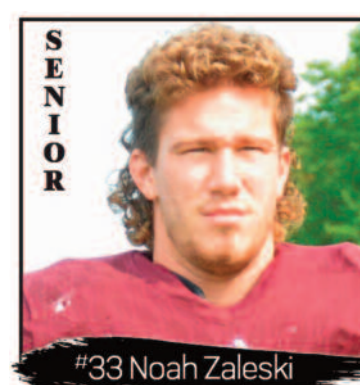
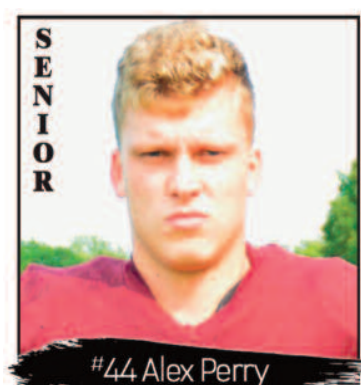
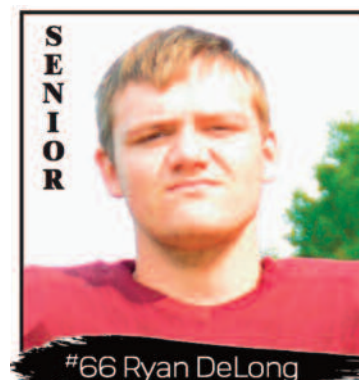
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## GTW all-conference gridiron selections include nine players from Cass City



by Clarke Haire  
 Publisher

Co-champions Cass City and Bad Axe are featured throughout the Greater Thumb West all-conference football choices in 2020 determined by the votes of league representatives.

The Red Hawks dominated the first team all-conference stars of the 7-school association with six players listed on the offensive make-believe squad and five players on the defensive team.

Seniors Bryce Fernald, Matt Mihalic, Ryan DeLong, Jeremy Velasquez and Alex Perry were all 2-way first team picks for Cass City.

The complete Greater Thumb West all-conference first team offense players are Vinny Blackstock, Bad Axe, Senior Quarterback, Bryce Fernald, Cass City, Senior Quarterback (538 rushing yards and nine TDs, 266 passing yards and 3 TDs), Matt Mihalic, Cass City, Senior End (36 receiving yards and four 2-point conversions), Jeremiah Hahn, USA, Senior End, DaMarquess Palmreut, Reese, Junior wide receiver, Ryan DeLong, Cass City, Senior Lineman, Jeremy Velasquez, Cass City, Senior Lineman, Blake Smithers, EPBP, Senior Lineman, Jacot

Nimtzt, USA, Senior Lineman, Jack DuRussel, Reese, Senior Lineman, Toby MacPhee, Bad Axe, Senior Lineman, Alex Perry, Cass City, Senior Back (772 rushing yards and 12 TDs, 137 receiving yards and 2 TDs), Noah Zaleski, Cass City, Senior Back (532 rushing yards and 4 TDs, 69 receiving yards and one TD), Zach Kretschmer, EPBP, Junior Back, Braylon Ballard, USA, Junior Back, Walker Foley, USA, Senior Back, Jacob Kowalski, Reese, Senior Back and Macah Gordon, Bad Axe, Senior Place Kicker.

The Greater Thumb West all-conference second team offense featured Tanner Terbush, Reese, Junior Quarterback, Jacob Shantz, Cass City, Senior End, Garret Bowles, EPBP, Senior End, Jensen Emerick, Bad Axe, Senior End, Connor Herford, Cass City, Junior Lineman, Colton Oyervidez, EPBP, Junior Lineman, Dawson Gnavey, EPBP, Senior Lineman, Westin Bowles, EPBP, Senior Lineman, Grant Bouvy, Reese, Senior Lineman, Corbin LeGault, Bad Axe, Senior Back, Jordan Mester, Cass City, Junior Back, Ethan Wisner, EPBP, Sophomore Back, Monte Davis, Vassar, Junior Back and Tanner Smith, Caro, Sophomore Place

Kicker.

The Greater Thumb West honorable mention offense players are Senior Devin Parsell, Caro; Sophomore Connor McCain, EPBP; Senior Keegan Bixman, USA; Junior Levi Foco, Reese; Sophomore Keegan Gomez, Caro; Junior Zack Williams, Caro; Senior Micah Gordon, Bad Axe; Junior Manny Mendham, Vassar; Senior Kirkland Czewski, USA; Junior Dustin Spencer, Caro; Senior Cody Bailey, Bad Axe; Senior Luke Schember, Bad Axe; Sophomore Griffin Meinhold, Bad Axe; and Junior Jayden Brown, Caro.

Turning to the Greater Thumb West all-conference defense choices, the first team players are Toby MacPhee, Bad Axe, Senior Lineman, Matt Mihalic, Cass City (29 tackles, 9.5 TFL, 4.5 sacks), Senior Lineman, Ryan DeLong, Cass City (16 tackles, 3 TFL, 3 sacks), Senior Lineman, Blake Smithers, EPBP, Senior Lineman, Jack DuRussel, Reese, Senior Lineman, Alex Perry, Cass City (31 tackles, 9 TFL), Senior Linebacker, Jememy Velasquez, Cass City (54 tackles, 9.5 TFL), Senior Linebacker, Colton Oyervide, EPBP, Junior Linebacker, Grant Bouvy, Reese, Senior Linebacker, Aiden Karst, Reese, Senior Punter, Micah Gordon, Bad

Axe, Senior Back, Bryce Fernald, Cass City, Senior Back (26 tackles, 3 INT) and Jeremiah Hahn, USA, Senior Back.

The Greater Thumb West all-conference second team defense is made up by Noah Zaleski, Cass City, Senior Lineman, Jacob Shantz, Cass City, Senior Lineman, Dakota Miller, USA, Junior Lineman, Tim Waggoner, Caro, Senior Lineman, Matthew Piazza, Vassar, Senior Lineman, Corbin LeGault, Bad Axe, Senior Linebacker, Carson Affer, Bad Axe, Senior Linebacker, Andrew Partaka, Bad Axe, Senior Linebacker, Braylon Ballard, USA, Junior Linebacker, Jacob Nimtz, USA, Senior Linebacker, Micah Gordon, Bad Axe, Senior Punter, Mason Williams,

EPBP, Senior Back, Jacob Kowalski, Reese, Senior Back and Monte Davis, Vassar, Junior Back.

Rounding out the Greater Thumb West all-conference players and receiving honorable mention recognition are Sophomore Jake MacPhee, Bad Axe; Senior Cody Bailey, Bad Axe; Junior Sam Hass, Bad Axe; Junior Connor Herford, Cass City; Sophomore Luke Braun, EPBP; Senior Garret Bowles, EPBP; Sophomore Ethan Wissner, EPBP; Junior Jayden Brown, Caro; Junior Logan Collison-Russel, EPBP; Senior Jensen Emerick, Bad Axe; Junior Jordan Mester, Cass City; Junior Zack Kretschmer, EPBP and Junior Zach Williams, Caro.

####

### Cass City Red Hawk ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Knights Insurance Agency is thrilled to announce Autumn Sutton as this week's Cass City Red Hawk Athlete of the Week award winner.

Only a junior, the Red Hawk swimmer was the leading scorer for the Tiger Swim & Dive Team, a co-op group with Caro, Cass City and USA school students, during 2020. Named team captain, Autumn tallied a team-high 70 points for the season. She set personal records in the 50 free and 100 butterfly - taking third in the 50 free and fifth in the 100 butterfly at the Independent Swim conference (ISC) Championships.

Autumn also was a member of the team's 200 medley relay team at the ISC Championships that recorded third place honors and included teammates Hanna Wood (sophomore USA), Emma Joslyn

(sophomore Caro) and Sophia Wanless (freshman USA).

Autumn is the daughter of Vanessa and Dave Sutton.



### AUTUMN SUTTON

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Winners will receive a Holiday Gift Basket!

CASS CITY CHAMBER

# Rayl highlights Kingston all-league football picks



JACOB RAYL



LUKE FETTING



MYLES SPENCER



OWEN CORLIS



KAIDIN PETERS

by Clarke Haire  
Publisher

Junior Jacob Rayl was the lone Kingston Cardinal named to the North Central Thumb League Stars all-league dream teams, landing among the gridiron fantasy defensive selections at linebacker. He was also chosen to the all-league offensive second team at running back.

During the shortened Covid-19 campaign, the hard-hitting Rayl recorded 62.5 tackles, five tackles for losses and forced one fumble. With the ball, Rayl ran for 658 yards and eight touchdowns and hauled in seven passes for 59 yards.

Also selected to the North Central Thumb League Stars all-league defensive first team were linemen Ethan Bowerman - Deckerville - Junior, Jordan Con-

verse - Morrice - Senior, Brett McGowan - Morrice - Junior, Lucas Rutter - Mayville - Junior, Austin Middleton - Mayville - Senior; linebackers Justin Hall - Genesee - Junior, Wyatt Wesley - Morrice - Junior, Peyton Smith - Morrice - Junior, Ashgin Mrock - Mayville - Senior, DeWayne Love Jr. - IAF - Senior; backs Traiten Colesa - Deckerville - Senior, Alton Davis - Genesee - Junior, Devon Dietz - Morrice - Junior, Steven Gilbert - Mayville - Junior; and punter Austin Middleton - Mayville - Senior.

The North Central Thumb League Stars all-league defensive second team consisted of linemen Christian Green - Genesee - Sophomore, Michael Croak - Genesee - Junior, Jacob Sutter - Merritt - Junior, Andrew Bruman - Mayville - Senior; linebackers Todd Nanasy - Morrice - Junior, Hunter LaBean - Mayville - Sophomore, Zach Smith -

Mayville - Senior; backs Will Brown - Deckerville - Junior, Garrett DeLau - Morrice - Senior, Nathaniel Garven - Merritt - Junior, Ja'Zaveon Stevenson - IAF - Senior; and punter Ethan Bowerman - Deckerville - Junior.

The North Central Thumb League Stars defensive all-league honorable mention players included Kingston's Luke Fetting and Kaidin Peters. Lineman Fetting recorded 27 tackles and 3.5 tackles for losses in 2020, while back Peters recorded 28.5 tackles and three interceptions.

Other defensive honorable mention choices of the North Central Thumb League Stars are Keaton Jobson - Genesee, Esai Luna and Javier Scott - IAF, Nick LaRue and Nathan Crane III - Mayville, Ryan Morgan - Merritt and Jonah Mosher, Evan McPherson and Alex Larner - Morrice.

Turning to the North Central Thumb League Stars all-league

offensive picks, the first team included quarterback Austin Middleton - Mayville - Senior; backs Ethan Bowerman - Deckerville - Junior, Ashgin Mrock - Mayville - Senior; wide receivers Steven Gilbert - Mayville - Junior, Hunter LaBean - Mayville - Sophomore; tight ends Traiten Colesa - Deckerville - Senior, Todd Nanasy - Morrice - Junior; linemen Jacan Cishke - Deckerville - Senior, Alex Larner - Morrice - Junior, Brett McGowan - Morrice - Junior, Jacob Sutter - Merritt - Junior, Lucas Rutter - Mayville - Junior, Kenneth Blackwell - Mayville - Junior; center Carson Benjey - Deckerville - Junior; and kicker Austin Middleton - Mayville - Senior.

The North Central Thumb League Stars all-league offensive second team consisted of quarterback Alton Davis - Genesee - Junior, backs Jacob Rayl - Kingston - Junior, Peyton Smith

- Morrice - Senior; wide receivers Keaton Jobson - Genesee - Senior, Ja'Zaveon Stevenson - IAF - Senior; tight ends Nathan Crane III - Mayville - Junior, Jonah Mosher - Morrice - Junior; linemen Myles Spence - Kingston - Freshman, Carter Pattison - Morrice - Senior, Zach Smith - Mayville - Senior, Tyriq Ross - IAF - Senior; center Alex Wren - Mayville - Sophomore; and kicker Gavin DeLau - Morrice - Senior.

Honorable mention North Central Thumb League Stars players included Will Brown and Ethan Bowerman - Deckerville; Brady McGregor and Lawson Oliver - Genesee; Xavier Wheeler and DeWayne Love, Jr. - IAF; Owen Corlis and Michael Croak - Kingston; DeShawn Terhune and Ryan Morgan - Merritt; and Wyatt Wesley, Jordan Converse and Garrett DeLau - Morrice.

####

## Greater Thumb East 2020 all-conference football

### FIRST TEAM OFFENSE

Dylan Kadar	Harbor Beach	Senior	Quarterback
Lucas Feehan	Sandusky	Senior	Quarterback
Nolan VanErp	Ubly	Senior	Lineman
Austin Burk	Ubly	Senior	Lineman
Dakota Deer	Harbor Beach	Senior	Lineman
Caden Blashill	Sandusky	Senior	Lineman
Jacob Sanderson	Sandusky	Senior	Lineman
Travis Fuller	Marlette	Junior	WR
Levi Peruski	Ubly	Senior	End
Tanton Babcock	Harbor Beach	Sophomore	WR
Brenden Duff	Sandusky	Senior	End
Carson Heleski	Ubly	Senior	Back
Luke Woodke	Harbor Beach	Junior	Back
Zach Franzel	Sandusky	Senior	Back
Delorin Wedge	Sandusky	Senior	Back
Ethan Marshall	Marlette	Junior	Place Kicker
Martin Tover	Sandusky	Junior	Specialist

### SECOND TEAM OFFENSE

Evan Peruski	Ubly	Freshman	Quarterback
Jeremiah Miller	Marlette	Junior	Lineman
Patrick Cummings	Marlette	Senior	Lineman
Kenton Wood	Brown City	Senior	Lineman
Grant Smaglinski	Harbor Beach	Junior	Lineman
Casey Kirkpatrick	Sandusky	Senior	Lineman
Grant Roberson	Marlette	Junior	WR
Josh Pasco	Brown City	Senior	End
Kyle Sweeney	Ubly	Junior	End
Colin Oberski	Ubly	Junior	Back
Ian Schetter	Marlette	Senior	Back
Lukas Primeau	Brown City	Junior	Back
Martin Tover	Sandusky	Junior	Back
Luke Woodke	Harbor Beach	Junior	Place Kicker
Clint Ford	Brown City	Sophomore	Specialist

### HONORABLE MENTION OFFENSE

Jason Tenbusch	Marlette	Junior	Quarterback
Brenden Whiteside	Marlette	Junior	Offensive Line
Carter Hughes	Ubly	Junior	Offensive Line
Brady McArdle	Brown City	Senior	Offensive Line
Broxton Davis	Sandusky	Senior	Offensive Li

### FIRST TEAM DEFENSE

Caden Blashill	Sandusky	Senior	Lineman
Jacob Sanderson	Sandusky	Senior	Lineman
Dakota Deer	Harbor Beach	Senior	Lineman
Austin Burk	Ubly	Senior	Lineman
Zach Franzel	Sandusky	Senior	Linebacker
Brenden Duff	Sandusky	Senior	Linebacker
Carson Heleski	Ubly	Senior	Linebacker
Nolan VanErp	Ubly	Senior	Linebacker
Delorin Wedge	Sandusky	Senior	Back
Dylan Kadar	Harbor Beach	Senior	Back
Kyle Sweeney	Ubly	Junior	Back
Cole Hagen	Ubly	Senior	Punter

### SECOND TEAM DEFENSE

Micah Brown	Sandusky	Senior	Lineman
Mitchell Davis	Sandusky	Sophomore	Lineman
Levi Peruski	Ubly	Senior	Lineman
Tristan Creighton	Marlette	Junior	Lineman
Luke Woodke	Harbor Beach	Junior	Linebacker
Chyler Chisholm	Marlette	Junior	Linebacker
Dustin Cummings	Marlette	Junior	Linebacker
Lukas Primeau	Brown City	Senior	Linebacker
Matt Brandel	Ubly	Junior	Back
Travis Fuller	Marlette	Junior	Back
Thomas Thompson	Brown City	Senior	Back
Grant Roberson	Marlette	Junior	Punter

### HONORABLE MENTION DEFENSE

Grant Smaglinski	Harbor Beach	Junior	Lineman
Kenton Wood	Brown City	Senior	Lineman
Kevin Turner	Brown City	Junior	Lineman
Lucas Feehan	Sandusky	Senior	Back
Tanton Babcock	Harbor Beach	Sophomore	Back
Collin Miller	Marlette	Junior	Back
Dylan Kadar	Harbor Beach	Senior	Punter
Elliot Sieman	Harbor Beach	Senior	Linebacker

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## News briefs

### Covid testing set to resume Dec. 3

CARO – Following the Thanksgiving Day holiday, testing for COVID-19 will resume in Tuscola County Thursday, Dec. 3, from 9 to 11 a.m. at 1500 Press Rd., Caro (across from VG's), according to Ann Hepfer, health officer for the Tuscola and Huron county health departments.

"If you are in need of testing, visit the Michigan COVID-19 test locator (online) at [https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-99891\\_99912--,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-99891_99912--,00.html)."

### New courthouse protocols set

BAD AXE – There have been some changes at the Huron County Courthouse due to the COVID-19 pandemic. All employees and visitors to the courthouse must now enter through the south entrance of the building.

At that entrance, which is handicapped accessible, everyone will be screened upon entry.

The board of commissioners determined all visitors entering the courthouse must wear a face mask, unless medically unable. In addition, employees are required to wear a mask if they are unable to maintain the six-foot social distancing recommendation.

### Gagetown Village meet canceled

GAGETOWN – During its November monthly meeting, the Gagetown Village Council agreed to cancel its next regular meeting, which was scheduled to be held in December.

The council's next meeting is slated for 7 p.m. Jan. 4.

### Courthouse display approved

CARO — The annual holiday display on the Tuscola County Courthouse lawn was recently approved by county commissioners.

Marsha Perez, representing the committee that makes the annual request, reported this year's display will run through Jan. 2.

### 4-Hers to deliver wrapped boxes

BAD AXE — It's getting to be that time of the year when the Clothe-A-Child Program provides complete outfits, including underwear and socks, to many needy youth in Huron County at Christmas time, and it looks like there will be a greater need for wrapped boxes this year.

This will be the 20th year in which 4-Hers will wrap boxes for this program. Empty boxes must be two-part, large shirt or boot boxes or something similar in size.

Last year, 65 4-H youth members from eight Huron County 4-H clubs wrapped a total of 232 boxes for this worthwhile project.

This year, due to COVID-19 and no face-to-face 4-H club meetings, officials are highly encouraging all 4-H youth members and their families to wrap boxes in their own homes.

Because the MSU Extension office has moved into an office trailer and there is no space to store wrapped boxes this year, organizers are looking at the possibility of having everyone who has wrapped boxes drop them off directly to the Bad Axe Free Methodist Church Sunday, Dec. 6, from 5 to 6 p.m..

In order to limit contact with others, someone will be there to unload your wrapped boxes. Prior to your arrival, please write down the names of family members who wrapped, how many boxes you are dropping off, and turn in when you deliver your boxes.

All youth — 4-Hers and non-4-Hers — who wrap boxes will receive 4-H Community Service certificates.

More information is available by contacting either Patti at (989) 550-2971 or Kari at (989) 269-9949.

### Bring some cheer to area seniors

CASS CITY – The COVID-19 pandemic has been especially hard on residents living in long-term care settings, and the holidays only make it more difficult.

But Cass City area residents can make a difference.

Officials at Medilodge of Cass City, for example, were forced to cancel the facility's annual Christmas party due to the pandemic. However, they still want to bring some holiday cheer to their residents.

Area residents can lend a hand by:

\*Sending Christmas cards or letters that can be distributed.

\*Setting up a time to Christmas carol outside of the building — while wearing masks and social distancing.

\*Calling the activity department to obtain information about a resident's Christmas wish list. Items can be dropped off safely outside at the door, and they will be delivered to the appropriate resident.

More information is available by calling (989) 872-2174.

### Young people can join 4-H free

BAD AXE – Area youth are invited to explore their way through 4-H – free – and enjoy all the benefits, including making new friends, having fun and trying new things with the help of caring adults.

There's a 4-H experience for everyone, with hand-on projects ranging from robotics, cooking and performing arts, to helping your community, raising animals and discovering nature.

In an effort to support families during the COVID-19 pandemic, Michigan State University Extension has waived the 4-H participation fee for 2020-21 program year.

The 4-H year runs Sept. 1 to Aug. 31 each year. Some online events may continue to have registration fees, but no participation fees will be collected for general 4-H participation. Youth must be ages five and older prior to Jan. 1, 2021, to enroll.

To register in the Huron County 4-H Program, go to [v2.4honline.com](http://v2.4honline.com) or contact the MSU Extension office at (989) 269-9949 for a paper copy of the enrollment form.

Compiled by Mary Drier and Tom Montgomery

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# Obituaries

## Barbara Hanby

Barbara Jeanne Hanby, 88, of Cass City, died peacefully Monday, November 23, 2020 in Northwood Meadows Assisted Living Medical Care Unit, Cass City.

She was born July 31, 1932 in Cass City, the only child born to John and Ida (Vogel) Gordon. She married Donald Ward Hanby December 1, 1956 in Cass City. He died February 1, 2010.

Barb worked for various companies in the community over the years, mainly in a clerical position. She enjoyed cooking and canning, always making sure to follow the directions perfectly. As a teenager, her canned vegetables won numerous 4-H awards. Barb's hobbies included gardening, shopping and spending time with her family.

High School in Beardstown, Ill and Bradley University.

He married Evelyn Ruth Krohe Feb. 14, 1986 in Beardstown. She



survives.

Surviving family includes: wife, Evelyn Hardwick of Craw-

fordsville; brother, G.T. Hardwick (Joan) of Champaign, Illinois; sister, Peggy Hardwick (Ted Stone) of Barrington, Illinois; aunt, Betty Ritter of Denver, Colorado; uncle, Maurice Hardwick of Quincy, Illinois; he also leaves his many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Janet Jamison.

A service was held Saturday, Nov. 28 at the Hillsboro Church of the Nazarene, led by Pastor Greg McDonald and assisted by Pastor Duane Abston.

Burial was held Monday, Nov. 30 at the Beardstown City Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Hillsboro Church of the Nazarene, Yountsville Community Church, or the Gideons International. Online condolences may be made at [www.BurkhardtFH.com](http://www.BurkhardtFH.com).



Together, Barb and Don were fond of traveling, as long as it didn't require flying. She loved outings with her church friends from the First Baptist Church of Cass City, especially to attend southern gospel music gatherings.

Barb is survived by her children: Sharon (Robert "Toby") Todd of Oak Hill, OH, James (Rita) Hanby of Cass City, Jeff (Michelle) Hanby of Cass City, Lori (Randy) Patera of Cass City and Greg (Kristi) Hanby of Saline; fourteen grandchildren: Shannon (Jeremy Brunson) Todd, Wesley (Amy) Todd, Mary Beth (Aaron) Hofner, Eric (Susan) Hanby, Kurt (Ashleigh) Hanby, Bradley (Sarah) Hanby, Kyle Hanby, Jacob (Charity) Hanby, Bethany (wife of Caleb) Hanby, Rachel Patera, Joel Patera, Kendal Hanby, Ian Hanby and Reese Hanby; fifteen great-grandchildren: Gunnar, Annabelle, Savannah, Izabella, Marisa, Alexis, Steyr, Seth, Ezra, Keely, Kellan, Aidan, Ward, Colman and Nevin.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Don; and grandson, Caleb Hanby.

A private family funeral service was held Monday, November 30, in Kranz Funeral Home, Cass City with Pastor Christian Wright of First Baptist Church of Cass City officiating.

Interment will be in Elkland Township Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the First Baptist Church of Cass City, or Rawson Memorial District Library.

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

Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home of Cass City.

## Ralph Hardwick

Ralph G. Hardwick, of Crawfordsville, Indiana, passed away Monday afternoon at IU Arnett in Lafayette. He was 81.

Ralph was a project engineer, starting at Carter Carburetor in St. Louis and then Walbro Automotive in Cass City, Michigan for more than 20 years.

He was a member of the NRA, Society of Automotive Engineers and Gideons International. He was a member of the Hillsboro Church of the Nazarene, where he taught Sunday School. He also attended the Yountsville Community Church. He liked being helpful to others and doing projects for other people. He did many projects. He also passed the song book for a musical group as they visited nursing homes in Crawfordsville. He also served his country in the U.S. Army.

Born Nov. 29, 1938 in North Platte, Nebraska, he was the son of Golie C. Hardwick and Alice Ritter Hardwick.

He graduated from Beardstown

## NOTICE FOR GILFORD TOWNSHIP

NOVEMBER 12, 2020  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Virtual format for Thursday November 12

Virtual meeting called to order at 7:49 P.M., followed by the pledge of Allegiance. Board members present: D. Strasz, Treasurer; R. Haines, Clerk; J. Stockmeyer, Supervisor; A. Goss, Trustee; K. Houghtaling, Trustee. Order of agenda approved.

Public Comment: None

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Motion by K. Houghtaling, second by A. Goss to approve minutes of October 8, 2020 minutes. Motion approved. Motion by K. Houghtaling, second by A. Goss, to approve minutes of October 8 election commission meeting. Motion approved. Motion by A. Goss, second by K. Houghtaling to approve minutes of October 19 special meeting. Motion approved. Motion by K. Houghtaling, second by A. Goss to approve minutes of the October 27 elections public test. Motion approved.

Treasurers Report: Motion by A. Goss second by J. Stockmeyer to approve Treasures Report. Motion approved.

REPORTS:

Supervisor: 0 Reese fire runs. Motion by K. Houghtaling, second by A. Goss to approve Bittner PA 116 agreement. Motion approved. Motion by A. Goss, second by K. Houghtaling to approve Brickel Brothers bid for snow removal. Motion approved. Blight ordinance tabled until December. 2021 road construction discussion.

Treasurer: Report on audit, need to budget on more line items. Meeting with new Tuscola County treasurer on November 18.

Clerk: Motion by D. Strasz, second by J. Stockmeyer to approve payment of the bills. Motion approved. Election report; 455 total voters, 180 returned absentee voter, one challenger on election day, no issues things went well. Township officials bond insurance to be renewed November 20, 2020. Tuscola county Planning Commission recommends approval of our new zoning ordinance. Board officers to meet Monday morning to administer oath of office. Blight tabled until December.

Trustees: Benches have been ordered, new corn hole game is in use. A. Goss term on Reese Parks and Recreation committee needs to be re-appointed.

Ambulance Representative: One mobile medical response for Gilford Township. Next meeting November 19 at 7:30.

Fire Department Representative: Fairgrove fire: all Tuscola meetings cancelled because of Covid. Reese fire: hazmat training, 3 trucks set up for Halloween, pancake supper will be by curbside pickup only, shortage of firefighters for day runs, everyone should try to make as many runs as possible.

Zoning Administrator: None

Public Comment: None

Motion by J. Stockmeyer, second by A. Goss, to adjourn at 8:34 P.M. Motion approved

Robert L. Haines  
Gilford Township Clerk

*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.

## Millage rate unchanged

Continued from page one.

new spending plan can be aired during the public hearings, which are slated to get underway at 7 p.m.

"Each municipality must approve a balanced budget prior to the commencement of each fiscal year. Prior to adoption, there must be an opportunity for comment," she said.

The 2021 millage rates will remain unchanged and will include 12.4625 mills for operating; 4.9162 mills for streets; .08 of a mill for landfill and .68 of a mill for community projects, for a total of 18.1387 mills.

The 2021 budget projects expenditures of \$5.359 million, compared to the original 2020 budget of \$4.923 million. The increase is due to the village's capital improvement plan.

General fund revenues, meanwhile, are proposed to increase \$26,170 in the new year, an increase attributable to what village officials described as continued aggressive investment in capital improvements projects in the village.

The capital improvements are for plant equipment and street work, as well as the motor vehicle fund for a pickup truck, dump truck and leaf vacuum truck.

"The conservative budget was prepared with the taxes paid today (and) will be spent to benefit those who are paying taxes now and provide the services and amenities for our resident and business," Powell said.

Complete copies of the proposed plan can be viewed on the village's website or at the municipal building.

In other financial matters during the session — which was conducted via Zoom due to restrictions on gatherings stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic — trustees ratified a loan facilitation letter with Robert W. Baird and Co., Inc. which will serve as loan agent for the village on its proposed \$1,237,000 water supply system revenue bonds.

The company will provide financial services associated with the Seeger Street Project. Baird and Co. will plan and arrange for the closing, settlement and delivery of the loan.

"The village was informed by USDA that if the loan closing took place prior to Dec. 31, 2020, we would qualify for a lower interest rate of 1.75 percent, instead of 1.85 percent," Powell said.

Turning to a Public Services Committee matter, the council approved the purchase of ferric chloride for the wastewater treatment plant from Haviland Corporation in the amount of \$6,486.

Ferric chloride is used to remove phosphorus from the effluent. Excessive amount of phosphorus can cause algae growth in the Cass River and would be a violation of the village's discharge permit.

### In other business

Also during the 45-minute regular meeting, the council:

\*Adopted the village's health and welfare benefit plan and summary plan description. The document is a summary that explains and defines what an employee can expect in regards to the Affordable Care Act, ERISA, HIPAA, and now the Families First Coronavirus Response Act and Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act.

\*Approved a resolution to request grant funding from the Michigan Township Participating Plan - Risk Reduction Grant Program for police surveillance and investigative equipment. The Cass City Police Department requested grant funding in the amount of \$2,320 for 50 percent funding of a surveillance camera system to be installed in the park. The village will match the \$2,320 request.

\*Approved the sale of a 2016 Ford Police Interceptor, as is, to Jerry Middaugh of Great Lakes Public Safety Equipment for \$6,500. Middaugh plans to deduct the \$6,500, plus another \$800 in discounts from the cost of his services, \$8693, for equipment and set-up of the new 2020 Ford Police Utility vehicle. The village will end up paying the difference — roughly \$1,393.

## Hosting diners costs business cash

Continued from page one.

tion has now confirmed more than 13 million COVID-19 cases, and more than 266,000 Americans have died from COVID-19 since the pandemic began.

Closer to home, Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel made it clear her office intends to pursue legal action against businesses violating health department orders related to the pandemic.

"Our office is working closely with the commission as it exercises its duties, and we are prepared to prosecute these summary suspensions," Nessel said.

"Although none of us wants to take such actions, the deliberate and blatant defiance of the state emergency public health orders by these owners put their businesses at risk. While we are heartbroken at the toll these closures invariably have on the businesses affected, first and foremost the state has an obligation to protect the lives of our residents."

Information related to the violations was received by MDHHS from local health departments and local law enforcement, according to Nessel, who said additional establishments are slated to be cited.

"The vast majority of restaurant and bar owners are doing the right thing and they have temporarily closed their indoor service to help prevent the spread of the virus," said MDHHS Director Robert Gordon.

"We know this is not easy for anyone, this is not an action we take lightly, but the sooner we can mitigate the spread of COVID-19 the sooner we can all get back to doing the things we enjoy."

"Cases of COVID-19 are incredibly high across the state, and these orders are in place to help prevent the spread of the virus, save lives, and protect our frontline workers," said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, chief medical executive and chief deputy for health at MDHHS.

### The latest numbers

Statewide, Monday's total confirmed cases reached 360,449, with a total of 9,134 deaths — that's an increase of 46,233 cases and 591 more deaths compared to a week ago, when the totals were 314,216 cases and 8,543 deaths. State health officials estimate roughly 165,269 Covid patients have recovered statewide to-date.

In the Thumb, between Monday, Nov. 23, and Monday, Nov. 30, the number of combined confirmed cases in Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac counties increased by 581 — from 2,489 to 3,070 — with the three counties' combined death toll increasing by 12 to 84 fatalities.

According to the latest data (Monday afternoon), Tuscola County has now recorded 1,603 confirmed cases, an increase of 232 cases compared to a week before, and 54 deaths (an increase of six).

In Huron County, meanwhile, there are 666 confirmed cases (an increase of 142 from a week earlier), with 15 deaths (an increase of two), and Sanilac County has a total of 801 confirmed cases, up from 594 cases a week earlier, and 15 deaths (an increase of four).

The latest statistics available in the Chronicle's coverage area (as of Thursday) revealed 181 confirmed cases, up from 140 cases a week earlier, in the Cass City zip code. The number of deaths attributed to COVID-19 so far is 12 (no update available). State officials are reporting 79 recoveries in this area.

The only county zip codes reporting higher numbers of cases are Caro (333 — an increase of 56 cases over the previous week — and 19 deaths), Vassar (240 cases — an increase of 24 cases — and three deaths), and Millington (183 cases — an increase of 25 — and two deaths).

Over the same week-long period, there was an increase of 12 cases (for a total of 92) in the Unionville zip code, where there have been 34 recoveries and one death to-date; Deford has 24 (an increase of six), 11 recoveries and no deaths; Gagetown, eight cases (no change), four recoveries and no deaths; Kingston has 50 cases (up from 39), 22 recoveries and no deaths; Ubyly has 22 cases (an increase of three), 15 recoveries and one death; and Owendale, 13 cases (an increase of nine), one recovery and no deaths.

# CHURCH DIRECTORY



Visitors always welcome....  
Please join us today!

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*Find Hope. Find Love. Find Purpose.*

201 E. Sanilac Rd., Caro, MI 48723 • 989-672-2262  
Sunday Service: 10:00 a.m.  
www.anchorcoveoutreachchurch.com



### Cass City Missionary Church

4449 Koepfgen Rd., Cass City, MI 48726 • 989-872-2729  
Worship Service 8:30 a.m. & 10:50 a.m.  
Pastor: Phil Burkett  
www.casscitymc.org



### Cass City United Methodist Church

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



### Community Baptist Church (Independent Fundamental)

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



### Deford Community Church

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



### Evangelical Free Church of Cass City

6430 Chestnut Blvd., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-5060  
• Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. • Worship at 10:30 a.m.  
Midweek Bible Studies  
Pastor: Jim Allred • Like us on Facebook!

### First Baptist Church

(Independent, Fundamental)

Barrier Free

6420 Houghton St., Cass City, MI 48726 • 989-872-3155  
Sunday School All Ages 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Morning Worship Service 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday Evening Service 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 6:30 p.m.  
AWANA Clubs 6:15 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday - Kids4Truth Club - Teen Club 6:15 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
Pastor: Christian Wright • Website: www.fbccc.us



### First Presbyterian Church

Barrier Free • State & National Historical Registry

6505 Church St., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-5400 • Worship Service 10:45 a.m.  
Exercise Program: Mon., Wed. & Fri. at 9:00 a.m.  
After School Adventure (K-6) - Call for winter schedule.

### Fraser Presbyterian Church

3006 Huron Line Rd., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-5400  
• Worship Service 9:30 a.m.  
www.fraserchurch.org



### Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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

### Living Word Worship Center Church of God

Pentecostal

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



### Mizpah Missionary Church

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

### Novesta Church of Christ

"the friendly church that cares"

2896 Cemetery Rd., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-3658  
• Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
• 1<sup>st</sup> Worship Service 9:00 a.m. • 2<sup>nd</sup> Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Senior Minister: Brad Speirs  
Associate Minister: Austin Keller at Ubyly & Student Minister: Don Mecomber  
Visit our website at: www.novestachurch.org

### Our Lady Consolata Catholic Church

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



### Potter's House Christian Fellowship

Pentecostal • 6455 Sixth St., Cass City, MI 48726 • 872-5186  
• We enjoy singing from the Hymnals and  
Spiritual Preaching From The Word of God  
• Find us on Facebook:  
Potter's House Church of Cass City  
• Sunday: 11:00 a.m.



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**Transit (nonbusiness) rates, 10 words or less, \$5.00 each insertion; additional words 15 cents each. Three weeks for the price of 2-cash rate. Save money by enclosing cash with mail orders. Rates for display want ads on application.**

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

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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**



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 4180 Hurds Corner Rd. 8-8-10-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 Sebawaing Road. Phone 269-7909 or 989-553-7960. 8-12-13-tf

**Bad Axe Orthodontics**  
**Scott M. Behnan, DDS, MS**  
 118 North Hanselman St. Bad Axe, MI 48413  
  
  
**989.269.6811**  
 www.badaxeorthodontics.com 8-6-11-52

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 310 Center Ave, Bay City  
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**Move in ready!**  
**\$115,000**  
  
 Beautifully restored turn of the century Cass City home. 1750 sq ft, 3 bed, 1 1/2 bath, completely remodeled.  
**Price Reduced!**  
**\$229,900**

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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

FOR RENT - Cute little house for 1-2 people in country between Caro and Cass City. Heat, air conditioning, electricity, internet all included \$575, Jim Baughman 989-912-0531. 4-11-4-6


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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
 If it's not in the newspaper, how will the public notice?  
 Zoning changes. Tax increases. Legislative proposals. These are just a few topics where government actions can affect your life and community. Imagine if government no longer had the legal obligation to publish this information in your newspaper. How would public notices get noticed? In our democratic society your newspaper fulfills an essential role in serving your right to know. It should not be your responsibility to know how to look, where to look, when to look or even to know what you're looking for to be informed. It is government's responsibility to publish and deliver public notice information as it becomes available. So take notice. Your right to know is being served... right here in your newspaper.  
  
 Public Notices in Newspapers. Your Right to Know, Delivered Right to Your Door.

## Legal Notices

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement  
 Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Tuscola County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on January 14, 2021. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:  
 Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Michael Arends III, single man  
 Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns  
 Foreclosing Assignee

(if any): PennyMac Loan Services LLC  
 Date of Mortgage: September 7, 2018  
 Date of Mortgage Recording: September 10, 2018  
 Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$53,409.89  
 Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Village of Cass City, Tuscola County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 2, Block 1 of Pinney's Addition to the Village of Cass City, according to the plat recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 60, now being Page 6B Common street address (if any): 6742 Main St, Cass City, MI 48726-1528  
 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).  
 If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.  
 Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.  
 Date of notice: Novem-

ber 25, 2020  
 Trott Law, P.C.  
 31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145 Farmington Hills, MI 48334  
 (248) 642-2515  
 1425392

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, on January 14, 2021. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:  
 Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Rudyard K. Fay, a single man  
 Original Mortgagee: Financial Freedom Senior Funding Corporation, a subsidiary of Indy Mac Bank, F.S.B.  
 Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. as Trustee for Mortgage Assets Management Series I Trust  
 Date of Mortgage: March 12, 2005  
 Date of Mortgage Recording: April 20, 2006  
 Amount claimed due on date of notice: \$114,145.14  
 Description of the mort-

gaged premises: Situated in Village of Kingston, Tuscola County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 3, Block D, Legg's Addition to the Village of Kingston, according to the plat thereof, recorded in Liber 1, Page 65 now being Page 15B of Plats, Tuscola County Records. Common street address (if any): 3312 River St, Kingston, MI 48741-9701  
 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).  
 If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.  
 Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.  
 This notice is from a debt collector.  
 Date of notice: November 25, 2020  
 Trott Law, P.C.  
 31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145 Farmington Hills, MI 48334  
 (248) 642-2515  
 1425140 11-25-4

# Health department physician: we all need to do our part

by Mary Drier  
For the Chronicle

A new voice was added during the monthly COVID-19 pandemic update report presented to the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners last week.

Typically, that report is presented by Ann Hepfer, health officer for both the Tuscola and Huron county health departments. This time, however, she was joined by Dr. Mark Hamed, medical director for both of the county health departments.

And neither local official had much to offer in the way of good news, with the number of daily confirmed cases and deaths linked to the virus continuing to soar in the Thumb as well as across the state and nation.

Dying alone in an intensive care unit (ICU) from COVID is the loneliest death you can have, Hamed told commissioners.

"This is killing an American every minute. It is really important to control the virus from spreading. Hospitals are being overwhelmed," said Hamed, an emergency room physician, who pointed out the sheer number of Covid patients makes it difficult for patients who suffer strokes or heart attacks to get care.

"We all need to do our part — as human beings — to protect each other," he added.

The health officials reiterated the list of vital measures proven to help slow the spread: wear a mask, keep at least a six-foot distance from others, limit exposure to others to under 15 minutes in a 24-hour period, and regularly wash hands and disinfect frequently-touched surfaces.

"These simple steps will help slow the spread of the virus and deaths," said Hepfer. "I am at my wit's end with this. The numbers we are seeing cannot and should not be sustained. The numbers are appalling. I am so frustrated. It is not that difficult to do those simple things."

The surge in cases is overwhelming hospitals.

According to a recent report, there are more than 4,000 COVID-19 patients in area hospitals, and of that number, about 800 are in an ICU.

Hamed, who works at the McKenzie Hospital in Sandusky and Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, said he tried to have some COVID patients transferred from the Sandusky hospital to other hospitals that specialize in handling COVID cases, but there was no room for them.

McLaren-Flint reported they are at 88 percent capacity, Covenant Health Systems is at 100 percent capacity, McLaren Bay Region is at 90 percent capacity, as is Ascension Genesys, and Hurley Medical Center is at 93 percent capacity.

"The lack of available EMS (medical transport) is understated. There are so many ambulance requests, services are at a breaking point. Now is not the time for reckless behavior," said Tuscola County Sheriff Glen Skrent.

EMS services are being overrun in having to respond to calls across county lines, which translates into longer response times during life-threatening events.

The ACW Ambulance service, Unionville, has already surpassed the total number of calls they responded to last year.

As of Wednesday, ACW Ambulance has responded to 275 calls, which broke last year's record of 236 runs.

"Over the last two months, we have broken records. In September, the service did 31 runs in 30 days, and in October there were 42 runs in 31 days," said ACW EMT Ken Currey, who reported 30 runs so far in November.

And with so many hospitals at or near capacity, it can be a challenge to find a hospital that can take another patient.

The surge in cases also makes contact tracing difficult to do, and the lag time in the effort to trace those who have come into contact with virus cases is a concern, according to Hepfer.

Until an infected person is contacted, they could be spreading the virus, which creates a snowball effect of others testing positive for the virus, she said.

To help with contact tracing, the state has developed a free COVID alert application for phones that gives notifications of exposure to the virus. Go to the My COVID Alert website <https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus> for the application. Users of the app will be alerted if they may have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive.

Hepfer said the virus is spreading into some new areas in the region. "The surge in cases and deaths is hitting nursing homes. That was expected. We knew that was going to happen," she said. "(But) now, we have adult foster-care homes that are being infected that were not before. This comes back to all of us doing our part," she said. Hepfer cited gatherings — funerals, weddings, and businesses where mask precautions are being ignored — among the circumstances in which the virus is being spread.

The good news in all of this is some vaccines have been developed and are expected to be approved for use soon.

Henry Ford Health Systems is expected to receive a shipment of the vaccine in mid-December, although the general public isn't expected to have access to the vaccine until next spring or early summer — the first to be protected include frontline workers, the elderly and those with underlying health conditions.

## Diabetes concern in Thumb

The Thumb Community Health Partnership (TCHP) is encouraging families to learn more about diabetes and how to reduce its impact.

In a recent survey conducted by TCHP officials, residents in the Thumb rated the risk of developing diabetes as number four out of five possible risks.

"We got the idea for our survey from a similar survey that was conducted by the American Diabetes Association in 2008 that surveyed 2,400 people. We wanted to know if Thumb area residents would have the same reaction," said Kari White, TCHP program coordinator.

"Although our sample was smaller, we also found that people were not as concerned about diabetes," she said. Of 37 responses received, White noted, the risk with the highest amount of concern was developing cancer.

"Here in Michigan, an estimated 2.7 million people have prediabetes, while an average of 54,000 people are diagnosed with cancer each year. But awareness and concern of cancer is clearly much higher. Despite these facts, diabetes was less of a worry to survey respondents.

"Diabetes is a chronic disease that affects how your body turns food into energy," White explained. "If you have diabetes, your body doesn't produce or release the right amount of insulin to process the sugar you eat. This can cause serious health problems."

The National Institutes of Health recommends the following steps to help residents lower their risk of developing Type 2 diabetes:

\*Manage health conditions associated with diabetes by setting goals with a health provider.

\*Lower cholesterol levels and blood pressure, which can then reduce your chances of developing heart disease and stroke.

\*Eat healthy and be more active.

\*Don't smoke or use other tobacco products. Avoiding nicotine and tobacco lowers the risk of developing other chronic diseases too.

More information is available by talking to a health care provider, by visiting the website [www.Facebook/ThumbHealth](http://www.Facebook/ThumbHealth), or by contacting Kay Balcer, TCHP director, at (989) 553-2927.



**PICTURED ABOVE (from left) are ACW Ambulance crew members Denise Maguire, driver; Tara Winter, EMT; Lonnie Vermeersch, MFR; Rebecca Fritz, EMT; Kenneth Currey, EMT; Kathy Hare, EMT; and Alice Vermeersch, EMT. The ambulance service's new equipment is shown — bariatric side rails and mattress, new Lucas chest compression machine, new defibrillator, and an updated auto-load cot.**

## Ambulance crew welcomes equipment

by Mary Drier  
For the Chronicle

The ACW Ambulance Service, based in Unionville, has purchased some new medical equipment.

Those purchases include a defibrillator; an auto-lift unit that raises a cot into the ambulance with the touch of a button; a Lucas chest compression machine, which performs consistent CPR chest compressions; an updated mattress and bariatric side rails for the comfort of larger patients; and a blanket warmer to provide heated blankets for patients who have been exposed to the elements or who suffer from poor circulation.

The new defibrillator replaces an outdated unit, and the auto-lift will reduce potential back strain/injury for the crew, according to EMT Ken Currey.

The new equipment was purchased from Stryker Corporation, Kalamazoo.

"A large purchase last year from Mobile Medical Response (MMR) granted a discount to other county ambulance services through Stryker," Currey noted.

The ACW Ambulance Service,

which consists of the townships of Akron, Columbia and Wisner, is operated by paid on-call volunteers. The ambulance service is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week by nine EMTs (emergency medical technicians), three MFRs

(medical first responders), and three drivers.

The ACW ambulance board, made up of two township officials from each represented entity, authorized the recent equipment purchases.

## Citizen nominations sought

Continued from page one.

Cass City Public Schools, or is homeschooled in the Cass City School District.

"These 'above and beyond' young adults may be from your organization, congregation, business, club or your neighborhood."

A copy of the nomination form can be found on the Cass City Chronicle's Facebook page. The deadline for nominations is Friday, Dec. 11. They can be mailed to: Cass City Junior Citizen Nominations, 6789 Pine St., Cass City, MI 48726, or emailed to [junioreitizennominee@gmail.com](mailto:junioreitizennominee@gmail.com).

In the past, the chamber of commerce has organized a silent auction where the proceeds, along with \$1 from each ticket sale, goes to the Junior Citizen Scholarship Fund," Van Auken noted. "This fund provides a \$1,000 scholarship each year to the student chosen as the junior citizen.

"This year, due to Covid, rather than embarking on an auction, we are asking (everyone) instead to consider a monetary donation to the scholarship fund directly at Tuscola County Community Foundation, P.O. Box 534, Caro, MI 48723," she said. "These funds help to pave the way for the student's next chapter."

More information is available by contacting the Cass City Chamber of Commerce office at (989) 872-4618.

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Located just outside of Pigeon, this large family size home awaits you to come give it some love. So very spacious with endless possibilities. Situated on 1.6 acres, sets back off the road. Has hardwood floors that could be brought back to spectacular with some sanding and finishing. 123-20-0043

TAKE A LOOK!!!

Many updates to this home!! Up for sale is 12'x65' trailer in Sunrise mobile home park. Newer windows, new deck, new carpet, new driveway, new kitchen floors, and new doors. Senior Living 55+. It is a nice spot. 038-20-0121

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Condo for sale-3 bedroom(one in the basement) and 3 full baths tucked away. No more mowing or shoveling. New living room flooring, freshly painted, with open concept. Ready to go!! Take a look and call today. 038-20-0126

TAKE A LOOK!!!

3 bedroom (one in full finished basement) 3 bath(one in full finished basement) brick ranch on 2.3 acres of well manicured grounds with many garden spots. Generac propane back up generator, main level laundry, breakfast nook in kitchen. 038-20-0112

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