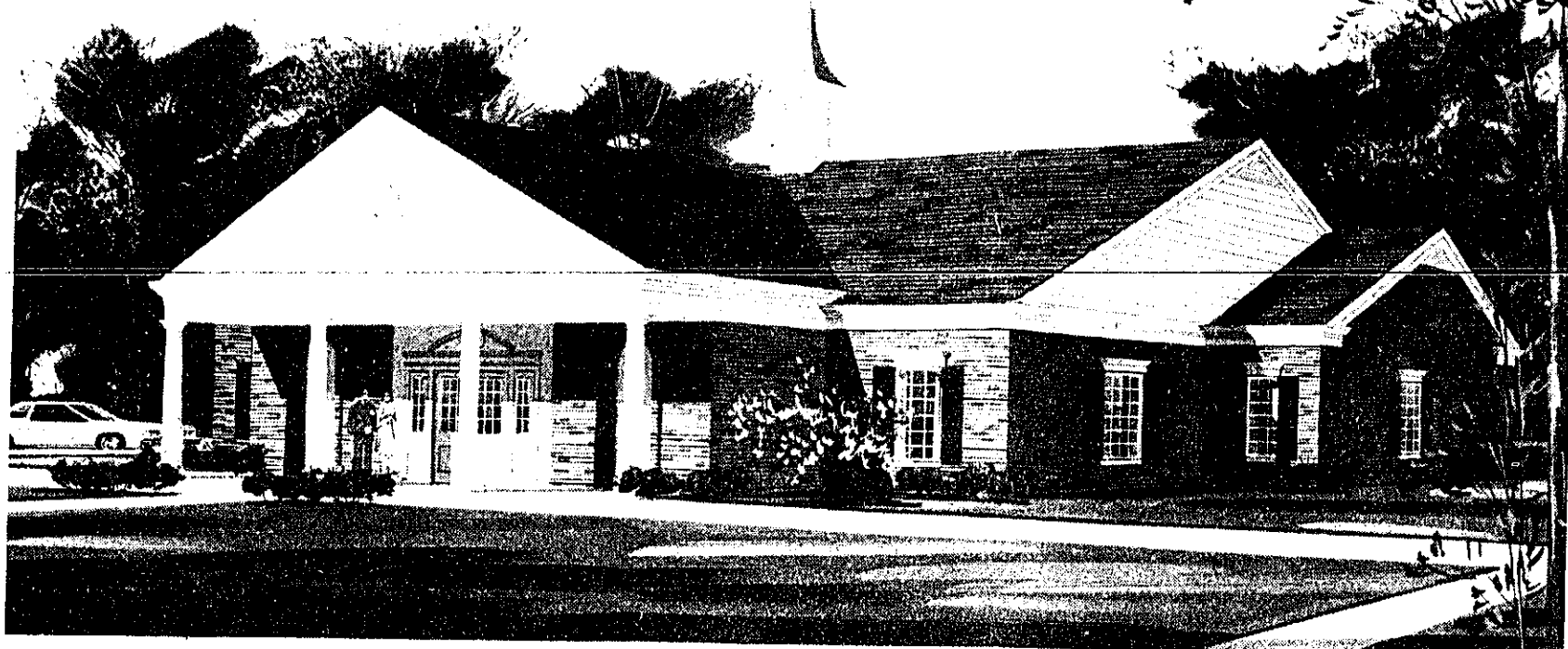


Barb
Springport Hinckley
Springport, MI 49284
bid



ARTIST'S DRAWING OF NEW CASS CITY STATE BANK BUILDING

Construction of the new Cass City State Bank building, at the corner of W. Main and West Streets, is scheduled to start Monday.

Construction should take six months to complete. Value of the building, according to the village building permit, will be \$370,040.

The two-story structure will have 3,469 square feet on each level. The lobby will have 713 square feet, with five teller stations, two booths, two private offices, and a safety deposit vault.

The teller stations, vestibule walls, and office doors will be paneled with Honduras mahogany.

Outside will be two drive-in units, with provisions for two more.

The lower level of the building will contain employee's lounge and lockers, in-line computer area, and 714 square feet of open space reserved for future office use.

There will be stairways at the front and side of the building, plus an elevator to the lower level.

Outside of the building will be colonial in design, with brick facing and front doors flanked by coach lights.

All facilities will be in compliance with the barrier-free code.

After the new building is opened, around Feb. 1, according to bank president Fred Auten, the present building will be sold. The Cass City State Bank has been at the corner of Main and Seeger Streets since 1882.

Design and construction of the new building is being handled as a "total project" by Thompson-Phelan, Inc., of Anchorville, specialists in construction of bank facilities.

Sewage plant planning funds delayed again

Receipt of the federal grant for planning the Cass City wastewater treatment plant renovation project has been delayed again, the village council was informed Tuesday night.

Even when the grant is received, there still remains a question mark whether the village will receive federal money to build the plant improvements and expansion.

Receipt of the approximately \$150,000 Step II planning grant had been expected in mid-July.

The latest delay was because the federal Environmental Protection Agency changed its regulations regarding funding of collection systems, that is, installation of sewer lines.

Village President Lambert E. Althaver explained the new policy is that the EPA will only fund collection systems where it can be shown that they are necessary to protect public health. If an area, for instance, is adequately served by septic tanks, funds for installation of sewer lines won't be granted.

Part of the approximately \$2.6 million construction grant the village is seeking included funds for installation of sewer lines along the south edge of the village, including some outside the village limits.

The streets involved were two blocks of Elizabeth Street east of Cemetery Road, along Cemetery Road, part of Maple and Sherman Streets, and all of M Street.

A check with the District Health Department, however, found there have been no reported problems with septic tanks in that area.

It was thus decided, Althaver said, to delete requested funding for those sewer lines, to improve funding chances for the wastewater plant.

That required filing an amendment to the original improvement plan (Step I), with the result being a delay in granting of the Step II planning funds. Receipt of the funds is now expected by late

Demolition of the old and construction of the new portions of Owendale-Gagetown High School won't start until late September, the Owen-Gage School board was told at a special meeting Monday night.

The board did authorize construction of the new gymnasium next to the present gym, a move, it was told, that will save \$170,000.

The high school project, to be financed by \$1.675 million in bonds, will start with demolition of the 1913 portion of the old high school, to be replaced with a new classroom unit. A new gymnasium will be built, with the old gym converted into a cafeteria.

Until the location was changed, the gymnasium was scheduled to be constructed on the east end of the building. It will now go on the west end, next to the present gym.

Jim Giachino of Construction Coordinators, Inc., of East Detroit, told the board that construction costs have been increasing at 3 1/2 per cent a month since voters approved the school bond issue in December, 1975.

Because of what he called "serious concern" about the price, he explained, it was decided not to take any bids until the final plans for Phase I were done. Phase I design couldn't be completed until the board made the decision

on where to put the gym. The final design, Giachino explained, will allow a closer cost estimate to be made.

The timetable now calls for final drawings to be done by Aug. 8, with cost estimates done by Aug. 22. The board, at a special meeting Aug. 29, can review the plans and authorize advertising for bids.

Depending on progress, according to Giachino, at a minimum, Phase I will consist of demolition of the 1913 building and ground preparation.

At a maximum, it could consist of that plus building of the foundation, erection of the steel framework, and ordering of other needed building materials. The latter items could become a Phase II.

Phase I bids could be opened Sept. 21 and awarded Sept. 26, with construction to start the following day.

Phase II (or Phase III) would consist of the rest of construction, such as building the walls and heating, plumbing, and electrical work.

Final drawings for Phase II should be done Oct. 10, with advertisement for bids Oct. 20, and bids due Nov. 9.

Giachino emphasized the timetable may be moved up.

The architect for the high school project, Leslie D. Tinknell of Wigen, Tinknell and Associates of Saginaw, explained to the board the savings that will result from relocating the gym next to the cafeteria. Giachino supplied the \$170,000 savings estimate.

Tinknell said the move will allow elimination of an additional entrance, a small classroom, and building of new toilet facilities. Restrooms in the present gym could be used but would have to be renovated.

The gym concession area could make use of the cafeteria. The new location will also eliminate the need for addition of a second boiler for heating at the east end of the building.

In relation to the project, the board approved a resolution worked out by Supt. Ronald G. Erickson with the Owendale Village Council.

The agreement calls for the village to abandon the street running between the high school and the cafeteria building. In turn, the school board will pay for construction of a new road to the north of the cafeteria, beyond the pine trees, and tying into other village streets.

As part of the agreement, the district will take over the village park to the west of the high school. The new gym will closely border the park.

A public hearing may have to be held, it was indicated, before the agreement can be official.

In other action relating to the high school project, the board authorized the Owen-Gage Band Boosters to remove salvageable items not useable in the new building, from the 1913 structure. The items, such as blackboards, lights, and banisters, are to be sold at the Band Boosters auction the last Saturday in August. Proceeds will be used for purchase of new band uniforms.

The Citizens Commercial and Savings Bank of Flint

was authorized as the paying agent to investors for the construction bonds. The bank will receive \$100 per year, plus \$2 per bond at maturity and 20 cents per coupon.

The superintendent was told to ask the St. Agatha Catholic church board to have a rental price for its school in Gagetown for 1977-78 ready for the board to consider at its Aug. 8 meeting. Owen-Gage will need the classrooms

there due to the loss of the classrooms in the 1913 building.

TAX NOTES

Citizens Commercial was also the lowest of two bidders for purchase of \$245,000 in tax anticipation notes. Maturity date of the bonds is April 1, 1978. The board will pay interest of 3.18 per cent.

Please turn to page 9.

Commissioners eye funding of county intelligence unit

With the handwriting on the wall, the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners took steps Tuesday to replace the Thumb Intelligence Unit with a county-level unit.

To continue in operation after Sept. 30, the undercover drug investigation unit required almost slightly under \$20,000 each from Tuscola, Huron, and Sanilac counties. Federal funds would have contributed \$90,000.

After the upcoming fiscal year, the third for federal funding, the three counties would have been required to pay the entire cost for the drug unit, or about \$50,000 each per year.

The Huron county board also met Tuesday and the Sanilac county board was meeting Wednesday. However, according to Maynard McConkey, chairman of the Tuscola county board, indications were that commissioners from the other two Thumb counties were going to reject further funding for the intelligence unit.

The Tuscola board met with Prosecutor Patrick R. Joslyn and Bill Bliss Jr., director of the Thumb Intelligence Unit, to discuss the situation.

The commissioners ultimately decided to form a committee to develop alternatives for continuation of the unit in some form on a county level.

The aim, according to McConkey, will be to have the county unit formed by Sept. 30, when funding for the Thumb Intelligence Unit runs out.

Serving on the committee which will present alternatives to the county board will be Joslyn, Bliss, Sheriff Hugh Marr, and the finance and personnel committees of the county board.

The various governmental officials serving on the advisory board to the state police post at Caro may also be involved.

Bliss said after the session with the county board that the new unit may be involved in other activities in addition to drugs and not all of its operations may be undercover.

Also to be explored will be use of federal Comprehensive Employment and Training Act funds, either to pay

persons working in the unit or to hire deputies to replace experienced officers assigned to the special unit.

Of the apparent decision to end the tri-county drug unit, but to continue some form of Tuscola unit, Bliss commented, "I would say the other two counties (Huron and Sanilac) will have some problems because we won't be working in those counties."

DOG POUND

The city of Vassar and Indianfields township have offered sites to the county

board for lease or sale for erection of a new county animal shelter.

Board members will now visit the sites before making a decision. The new pound is to be constructed with \$200,000 in federal public works funds.

The original location was to be on county-owned land on Luder Road in Almer township, however, the township board refused to issue a building permit for the shelter's construction.

LIBRARIES

The board increased its

contribution, to county libraries from 20 cents per capita in 1976 to 25 cents this year. The libraries had sought 30 cents.

Board chairman McConkey said the total contribution comes to less than \$15,000, all of which comes from federal revenue sharing funds.

He recalled that Rawson Memorial Library in Cass City received about \$1,300 last year, so should receive about \$1,625 this year.

Each library's "population" is based on service area, not on political boundaries.

Board split over adding school program

The Cass City Board of Education wrestled with the problem of adding a continuing education program to the school's curriculum for three hours Monday night.

After the lengthy debate at the special meeting ended, the board was still uncertain about what action to take.

Before the discussion, trustees listened to three experts in the field. Dr. Hugh Rohrer of Alma College, Gary Gutman and Steve Hoffman of Caro High School's continuing education explained the aims and costs of the program.

Because of massive State and Federal aid programs, continuing education has been adopted in 94 schools in Michigan.

In the immediate area there are programs in Caro, Vassar, Millington and Kingston.

The three agreed that to run a high school completion program it is necessary to have a full time person assigned to the job.

In Caro, Gutman claimed, the program is paid for by funds from various programs available on the state and national level.

Discussion revealed that the key to the program was finding enough persons for the high school completion courses to pay for the program.

That's the starter. If successful, Gutman said, the program then can branch out to myriad other community service projects.

It is certain that Cass City will not hire a director of continuing education for the current school year.

But it is possible that the school will hire an intern to work under the direction of the Caro department.

A decision will be reached at the regular board meeting Monday, Aug. 9.

It is estimated that this type of program will cost around \$15,000 for one year. We may be able to make this type of program sustaining from aid programs. Supt. Donald Crouse said. At any rate it would be an inexpensive way for the board to look at the program with the idea of hiring a full time director the following year if it appears warranted, he said.

It is estimated that around 30 students would be needed to fund a program with an intern.

An informal poll shows that the board is generally in favor of an intern program but two trustees feel that it is too late to start the program for the current school year.

Favoring starting now are Dr. Ed Scolton, Ms. Geraldine Priesscorn and Ms. Thresa Burnett.

Wanting to wait a year are Dr. Paul Lockwood and Art Severance. Dean Hoag okays the program on the theory that it will be sustained from other than local tax funds.

Otherwise he says, he wants a complete curriculum study before reaching a decision on any additional tax programs.



DIGGING IN -- State Rep. Quincy Hoffman got to do the shoveling at Saturday's ground breaking ceremonies at Owendale-Gagetown High School. Looking on, from left, (all school board members unless otherwise identified) are Ron Reinhardt, Carl R. Stelter, member of the board of directors of the Michigan Association of School Boards and secretary of the Caseville School Board; Supt. Ronald G. Erickson, Ronald Good, Joseph Warack (partially hidden), Jack Laurie, Leona LaFave, Jack Brinkman, and Don Cummins.

See story page 9.

THE ANNUAL Striffler-Benkelman reunion will be held at the Cass City Masonic Hall, Sunday, Aug. 7.



"If It Fitz. . ." An urban vigilante

By Jim Fitzgerald

Kurt Eickhoff got tired of asking the police for help and not getting any. So he became an urban vigilante.

He obtained proof of the crook's guilt. He searched the neighborhood until he found his man hiding in a burned-out apartment building.

Eickhoff then stood guard over the criminal, ready to hit him with an empty wine bottle, while the cops were called one more time.

An hour later, the cop still hadn't showed up to arrest Eickhoff's prisoner. The police station was five minutes away.

Kurt (Ike) Eickhoff, 62, is night supervisor at the Free Press building. He lives on Alter Road, on Detroit's east side, where the 5th Precinct enforces the law. He and his neighbors say it is not enforced nearly enough, and they are fed up.

Eickhoff's story was no big news to me. Every time I brag to my Cousin Al about how safe it is walking around downtown Detroit, I hear yowls from the neighborhoods.

"Sure it's safe downtown, you knucklehead," the yowlers say. "That's because all the cops are downtown, making Mayor Young look good to the big shots. But you should try walking around our neighborhood after dark. You'll get your head busted and you'll bleed to death before a cop ever shows up."

A woman who works in our downtown apartment building told how things are at the other end of her bus ride. Teenage vandals regularly damage her property. She has complained to the police several times. Not once has a cop been to her home.

Eickhoff's story is a doozie. His neighbor, a 52-year-old woman, asked his help in reporting a theft. She said her 32-year-old nephew, who had been staying in her home, had stolen \$400 cash from her.

Eickhoff took the woman to the 5th Precinct station where she made a formal complaint. He advised the police to hurry because, at that moment, the nephew was packing and preparing to leave his aunt's home. A cop wrote down all the information, but no officer was dispatched to make the arrest.

Later that day, the nephew apparently decided \$400 wasn't enough. He knew his aunt had left \$100 with a friend for safekeeping. He talked the friend out of the \$100, saying he needed it to bail his aunt out of jail. He claimed she had been locked up after a barroom brawl.

This was a flat lie, but the friend handed over the \$100. However, the friend insisted that the nephew sign a receipt for the money.

When Eickhoff heard about the latest rip-off, he phoned and urged them to send someone after the nephew, who

was still in the neighborhood, five minutes from the police station. Eickhoff added that he now had written proof that the nephew was a thief.

No cops were sent.

By now, Eickhoff was really steaming. He began his own search and, in about two hours, he found the nephew sleeping—or passed out—on the floor of an abandoned building.

Eickhoff again phoned police and gave them the nephew's location. "Hurry!" He returned to stand guard over the sleeping thief, prepared to make a citizen's arrest with the aid of an empty bottle.

An hour later, police had not yet arrived. The nephew was still out. Eickhoff gave up on phoning and went to the station in person where he raised hell. Someone finally listened.

Two cops made the arrest. The nephew had only \$91 left out of \$500. He had a suitcase full of new clothes, and a gut full of booze.

Why did Eickhoff risk his elderly neck playing cops and robbers? "The police wouldn't do anything," he told me. "That money was every cent that woman had in the world. We all got to help each other."

Why are police so slow to respond to some calls for help from the neighborhoods? Priorities. The available cops are busy with more important crimes. It is hard to argue with that. Murders must take precedence over family thefts.

But if that nephew had grabbed his aunt's purse at Cobo Hall, and she screamed for help, 25 cops would have been on his back in one minute.

That's why so many people who live in the neighborhoods aren't impressed by how safe it is around the Renaissance Center. I don't blame them.

NOTICE OF CHANGE of NOVESTA TWP. MEETINGS

Meeting Will Be Held
1st MONDAY OF EACH MONTH
7:00 p.m.
AT TOWNSHIP HALL
RESIDENTS URGED TO ATTEND

More people eligible for job training

More persons will be eligible to receive federally-financed job training under changes approved Thursday, July 1, by the Thumb Area Consortium administrative board.

The changes, for the fiscal year starting Oct. 1, were made in the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) Title I program.

Title I covers classroom, on-the-job, and work experience training programs. For the current fiscal year, which ends Sept. 30, 558 residents of Tuscola, Huron, and Sanilac counties will have received training through the program.

An expanded budget will finance training for 700 persons in 1977-78.

The consortium's Title I budget for the current fiscal year totals \$1,121,494, which included \$149,827 left over from the previous year.

For the upcoming fiscal year, the budget will be \$1,242,966, which will include a projected \$193,283 left over at the end of the current fiscal year.

More persons will qualify for the Title I program due to the administrative board's decision to allow persons receiving as much as 125 per cent of the federally-established poverty level income to be eligible.

Previously, to be eligible a person could earn no more than the federally-established poverty level.

For a single person, the poverty level is \$2,970 annual income; 125 per cent of that is \$3,712. For a family of four, the poverty level is \$5,850; 125 per cent of that, \$7,312.

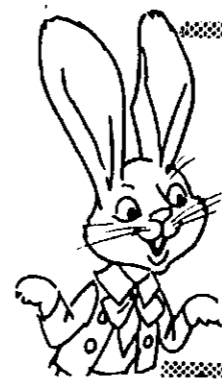
The administrative board approved one other Title I change, which will make it harder for employed persons to quit their jobs in order to receive federally-funded job training for a higher-paying job.

In order to be eligible, in addition to meeting income criteria, the person will have to have been unemployed for at least five weeks prior to their applying for the Title I program.

Title I participants receive a maximum of \$92 per week while receiving job training.

Marriage Licenses

- Steve Gordon Myers, 25, of Silverwood and Gail Gae Cremel, 26, of Silverwood.
- Larry Glenn Haske, 27, of Fairgrove and Philamena Jo Gillis, 24, of Dearborn.
- John Arthur Kowitz, 18, of Millington and Tammy Lynn Kester, 18, of Millington.
- Ray Ralph Bennett, 23, of North Branch and Diane Lynn Yakes, 20, of Caro.
- Bernard Anthony Harlukowicz Jr., 19, of Vassar and Janet Carol Beadle, 19, of Vassar.
- Michael Edward Ratza, 19, of Millington and Lanette Gay Weber, 18, of Millington.
- Raymond Edward Bliss, 43, of Cass City and Lois Jean Wright, 33, of Cass City.
- Junior Leroy Spohn, 47, of Millington and Phyllis Jessie Sasser, 38, of Millington.
- Robert George McPaggert, 36, of Caro and Freida Marie Newcomb, 31, of Bay City.
- Harvey George Hunt, 45, of Reese and Millicent Emily Rowland, 50, of Vassar.
- Stanley Edward Hoppe, 27, of Cat Lake Hills, Mayville and Nancy Lee Cornwell, 19, of Cat Lake Hills, Mayville.
- Arden Thompson, 60, of Silverwood and Myrtle Irene Grossman, 48, of Redford.
- Frank Martin Chmielecki, 62, of Caro and Sophie Helen Koroleski, 53, of Caro.



Rabbit Tracks

By John Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)

Life's little frustrations: Duty called me east of town on M-81 four times Monday. Each time I reached the Cass River bridge I was stopped by the traffic light installed there.

The lights are to control traffic during bridge repair which is good. But all day Monday a crane set lonely and deserted on the bridge. There were no workers.

You get the feeling you were inconvenienced for nothing.

+++++

You've seen the advertising for Woody Herman's band around the Thumb. The band is the feature of the Cass City Rotary big band summer show. It follows on the heels of the Tommy Dorsey band that was an instant hit last summer.

The show is slated at Colony House Tuesday, Aug. 16. A boon to ticket sellers is that they no longer have to answer embarrassing questions about Woody Herman who was injured in an auto accident.

I read where he's back with the band again so he should be ready and waiting for the crowds that his show generates.

+++++

Fred Auten dropped in just as I was watering the tree in front of the Chronicle. It's r.v. this year and we are trying our best with TLC (tender, loving care).

Fred said that his tree gets a couple of buckets of water every morning and it obviously is healthy and growing.

I remarked about this to Editor Mike Eliasohn and he didn't believe the water had anything to do with the big green tree in front of the bank.

It's just natural, he said, that a bank's tree would have more green. (Than anybody).

+++++

Collectors have a field day with items like this. Michael Isa is showing a pint bottle of Pepsi with an unusual cap. The bottle is (presumably) filled with Pepsi but the cap says Pabst Blue Ribbon.

Isa has already turned down \$10 for the curio.

Chamber sees slides

Members of the Cass City Chamber of Commerce Monday night reviewed slides of photos to be used in the promotional booklet the chamber is having printed.

Chamber vice-president Phil Keating said it is hoped the booklets will be printed in time for the chamber's Aug. 22 meeting.

One thousand copies of the business-oriented booklet are scheduled to be printed, at a cost of \$1,360.

Baer back from Army exercise

PFC Edward W. Baer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Baer, 1463 Church St., Decker, recently returned to Ft. Campbell, Ky., from Puerto Rico.

He and other members of the 101st Airborne Division served in support of training for the Puerto Rico Army National Guard.

The training included weapons qualification, communications, and artillery survey.

PFC Baer, a gunner with the division, entered the Army in March, 1976.

The private is a 1970 graduate of Marlette High School. His wife, Sheila, lives in Clarksville, Tenn.

FROM THE Editor's Corner



Jimmy must be paying back for the support he received from the big unions.

How else can you explain the latest proposal by the president?

In response to the demands of labor he has proposed a sweeping change in the law governing the action of unions.

If you just happened to believe that the unions were able to take care of themselves you could be influenced by living in industrial, labor dominated Michigan. In some states they don't have it this good.

But that's another story. What the subject here is one of the proposals in the labor bill proposed by the president.

He wants to give a committee the right to decide wages when negotiations are bottled up between labor and management.

The wages would be based on the average paid in the industry.

Anyone who has ever met a payroll can see the flaw in this one. What if there isn't enough money to do it?

Nowhere does it say that the committee should take into consideration the profit and loss statement of the company.

Just because General Motors can pay it doesn't mean that your ordinary company down the block is in the same financial shape. You know it isn't.

That's the practical flaw in the proposal.

There's another which in the long run may be more important.

That's the role that government should play in business.

When the government can decide how much a company should pay, how far away are we from having the government tell us how much to charge, too?

In other words, Socialism. We've gone a long way down that street already of course.

Social security, medicare, medicade, welfare and, on the immediate horizon, national health insurance.

There's arguments for and against most of these programs . . . or rather the abuses of these programs.

By and large they have popular acceptance.

But none of them imposes the will of the government to manage business.

When that happens the abuses in Federal programs now will become miniscule in comparison.

They went that route in England and now they are having trouble finding enough productive workers to pay the bills. Taxes are outrageous and getting worse.

Could it happen here? I submit that already we are a long ways down that trail now.

And picking up speed.

SENIORS - SPECIAL COMBINATION OFFERS GIVE YOU BIG DISCOUNTS



A

ALL IN NATURAL COLOR IN 3 SIZES

Triple Family Special

pictures for you, mom, dad, grandparents, relatives and friends

1 - 8x10 NATURAL COLOR PORTRAIT
4 - 5x7 NATURAL COLOR PORTRAITS
18 - WALLET SIZE COLOR PORTRAITS

All for only **\$1995** combination saves you \$20.85

B

All Natural Color Senior Special

1 - 11x14 NATURAL COLOR PORTRAIT
2 - 8x10 NATURAL COLOR PORTRAITS
4 - 5x7 NATURAL COLOR PORTRAITS
27 - WALLET SIZE COLOR PORTRAITS

All for only **\$6995** This special saves you \$42.75



E

All Natural Color

1 - 8x10 natural color portrait
2 - 5x7 natural color portraits

All for only **\$2995** combination special saves you \$6.95

C

Natural Color

2-8x10 NATURAL COLOR PORTRAITS
4-5x7 NATURAL COLOR PORTRAITS
27 - Wallet Size NATURAL COLOR PORTRAITS

All for only **\$5995** Saves you \$27.80

D

Color Spectacular!

1 - 11x14 NATURAL COLOR PORTRAIT
2 - 8x10 NATURAL COLOR PORTRAITS
12 - 5x7 NATURAL COLOR PORTRAITS
72 - WALLET SIZE COLOR PORTRAITS

All for only **\$9995** This special saves you \$104.40

WALLET SPECIAL

27 FOR ONLY \$1495 36 - \$19.95
72 - \$27.95
99 - \$34.95

These must be ordered at the same time as your portraits and from the same pose for you to obtain this special price.

Extra Portraits at Extra Big Savings!

WHEN ORDERED WITH COMBINATION SPECIALS These special prices apply only to the same pose you order now with any of above "Combination Special" offers: IF YOU WISH TO ORDER FROM MORE POSES, ADD \$5.00 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL POSE ORDERED.

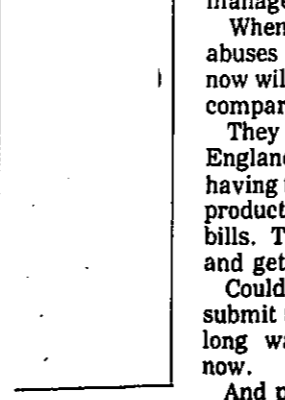
Portraits	Size	Price	Portraits	Size	Price
1	16x20	\$39.95	2	5x7	\$12.95
1	11x14	\$19.95	4	3x5	\$14.95
1	8x10	\$ 9.95	18	Wallets	\$12.95

Mark Green Photography

269-6084

By Appointment

Bad Axe



GOLF CLEARANCE Sale

- GOLF SETS
- GOLF BAGS
- GOLF CARTS
- INDIVIDUAL CLUBS & PUTTERS

40% OFF

THIS WEEK ONLY

your **BANKAMERICARD** welcome here

we honor **master charge** THE TRAVEL CARD

BEN FRANKLIN

Cass City

Where Everything You Buy Is Guaranteed

Earnings up at Walbro

Walbro Corporation reported that net earnings and sales for the second quarter and six months ended June 30, 1977 were substantially ahead of last year's record highs in those periods.

Second quarter net earnings from consolidated operations amounted to \$407,357, compared to \$343,257 for the same period last year -- an increase of 19 per cent. Per share earnings for the quarter were \$.53 on 766,820 shares outstanding, compared with \$.45 per share on the same number of shares for the like period in 1976.

Second quarter sales amounted to \$7,124,576, compared with \$5,652,667 for the same three months in 1976 -- an increase of 26 per cent.

For the six months ended June 30, net earnings were \$835,843, compared with \$615,120 in the same period in 1976 -- an increase of 36 per cent. Sales for the six months were \$13,879,941, up 31 per cent over sales of \$10,571,411 in the comparable 1976 period.

THREE MONTHS JUNE 30

1977	1976
Net Income \$407,357	\$343,257
A share .53	.45
Sales \$7,124,576	\$5,652,667

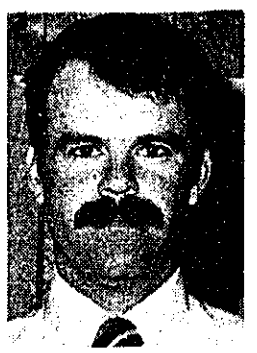
SIX MONTHS JUNE 30

1977	1976
Net Income \$835,843	\$615,120
A share 1.09	.90
Sales \$13,879,941	\$10,571,411

PEDALING AROUND

Mail malarkey

By Mike Ellasohn



The Postal Rate Commission is faced with deciding whether to raise postage rates from 13 to 16 cents for businesses, but let the public keep using 13-cent stamps for their letters.

Credit for the idea goes to Postmaster General Benjamin F. Bailar. It has received the endorsement of President Carter.

Despite their blessings, I hope the rate commission uses common sense and rejects the idea.

The idea was conceived, no doubt, with the hope of keeping the people happy by socking it to business. According to Cass City Postmaster Grant Glaspie, about 70 per cent of the Postal Service's volume is business mail.

Of course, the whole thing would be unnecessary except for the fact that the Postal Service needs more revenue. Despite my sympathy for the common man, I think the idea of having different rates for consumers and businesses is dumb.

For starters, there's the problem of distinguishing citizen mail from business mail. Being proposed is that the citizen mail must have all

hand-writing on the envelope. If you use a return address sticker or, out of sympathy for the mailman trying to read your illegible scrawl, you prefer to type -- too bad, you pay 16 cents.

And how about paying your bills by mail to utility companies, insurance firms, etc.? Most firms provide return envelopes with the address already printed on them but leave it up to each customer to provide the stamp.

But a preprinted envelope would mean it would cost the customer 16 cents for the stamp.

The firms doing the billing could provide postage-paid envelopes, but in the end the consumer would pay anyway. My other objection is that raising the postage rate for businesses will create a bigger incentive for them to turn to other forms of communication.

I recall a few years ago that a representative of an appliance manufacturer telephoned my mother after she had written it to complain about one of its products which she had bought.

The firm had a WATS (Wide Area Telecommunications Service) line, which made it cheaper for them to respond to customer complaints by phone than by letter. Using the firm phone meant the firm could save both the cost of postage and of paying a secretary to type a letter.

The more letters that get mailed, the more money the Postal Service makes, or more correctly, the less it loses. Raising the postage rates for businesses may ultimately mean less revenue for the Postal Service. And if the Postal Service loses more money, we all know who ultimately will have to make up the difference, either through taxes or higher postage rates for citizens.

And for that matter, if businesses do have to pay higher postage, it ultimately will be reflected in the cost of doing business, so again the consumer pays.

As one who can remember when a letter could be mailed for 5 cents, I don't like the idea of a postage increase any more than anyone else.

But if there has to be a postage increase, make it the same for business and consumer and avoid all the confusion.

Star studded programs set for 96th running of Tuscola fair

The 96th annual Tuscola County Fair starts Sunday. A wide variety of events are scheduled for the week at the Caro fairgrounds.

There is only one event scheduled Sunday, a variety talent show starting at 7 p.m. in front of the grandstand.

The show is open to amateur and professional talent. Fair President Walter Jackson said acts wanting to participate can still do so by calling the fairgrounds office.

By the time the fair is over, fair officials are hoping they will have topped last year's paid attendance of 45,000 persons.

The fair gets off to its full-scale start when the gates open at noon Monday. The rest of the week gates will open at 8 a.m. They will close each night at 10.

Events for the week are as follows:

Monday -- All entries and exhibits will be set up by

noon. Harness racing starts in front of the grandstand at 8 p.m.

Tuesday -- This is Kid's Day, and a variety of games are scheduled in front of the grandstand. Children will also be able to go on rides at a reduced price. During the entire fair, children under age 12 are admitted free.

Harness racing starts at 8 p.m.

Wednesday -- Pony pulling in front of the grandstand starts at 1 p.m., followed by garden tractor pulling at 3. The Sheriff's Posse Drill Team will give a demonstration at 7:45 p.m., followed by harness racing.

Thursday -- Senior citizens will be admitted to the fairgrounds free. They will also be admitted to the grandstand free until 8 p.m.

The annual 4-H livestock auction of sheep, swine, and steers starts at 1:30 p.m.

Harness racing starts at 2

p.m. Tractor pulling starts at 7 p.m., with modified, super stock and farm stock classes running.

The competition in front of the grandstand will be temporarily halted at 8 for the final judging and then crowning of a Tuscola county bean queen.

Friday -- Remaining tractor pulling classes will start pulling at 12:30 p.m. The demolition derby starts at 7:30 p.m.

Friday and Saturday, old gasoline engines will be displayed in the office area. There will also be a flea market, with free space for sellers.

Saturday -- The light weight horses start pulling at 10 a.m., followed by heavy weight horses at 1 p.m.

Also at 1 p.m. will be horse shoe pitching. Prior registration is not required. Competitors should bring their own horseshoes. Trophies will be

presented. The final special event of the fair will be motorcycle

competitions, with time trials starting at 6 p.m. and the races at 7:30.

Show Starts at Dusk **CARO DRIVE-IN** Phone: 673-2722 Mon. & Tues. Guest Nights!

Wed.-Thurs.-Fri.-Sat. July 27-28-29-30

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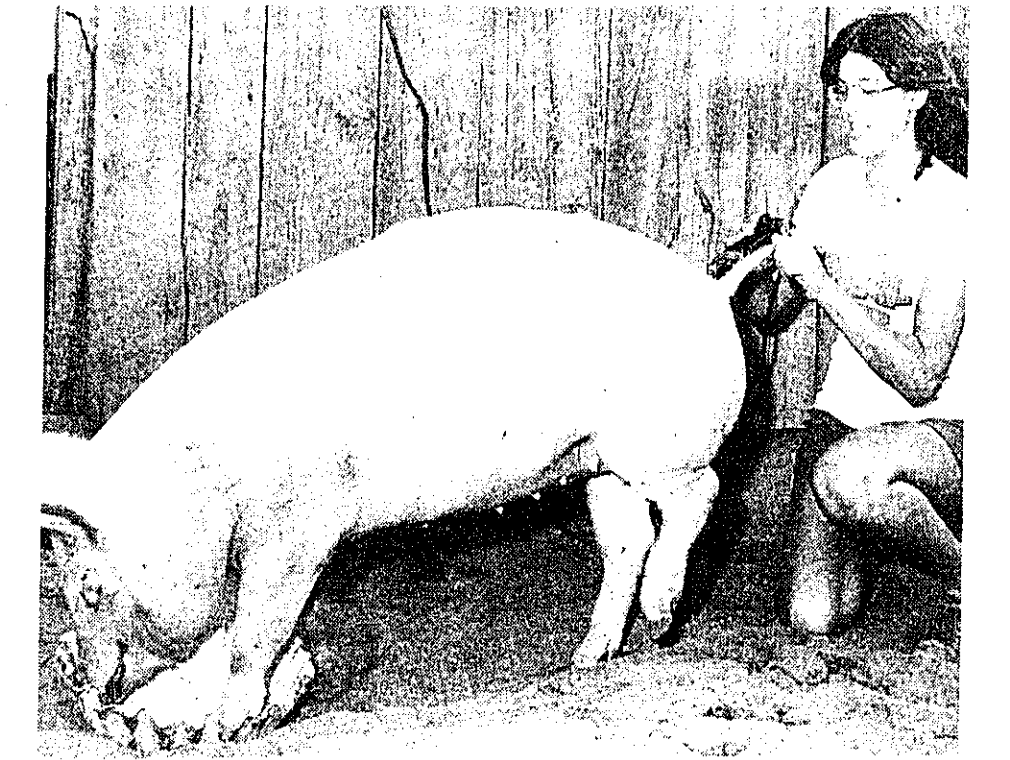
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GETTING READY -- Sue Cooklin, 17, gives one of her three hog entries a final trimming prior to next week's Tuscola County Fair. This will be her eighth or ninth year she has entered hogs in the fair. Her brother Jim, 12, also has three of the animals entered, for his fourth year of competition, and Steven, 8, will be entering one hog, for his first year. All three are members of the CCMD 4-H Club (Cass City, Caro, Marlette, Deford), of which their mother, Coiene, is club leader. Their father, George, is the club's swine leader. The Cooklins, who sell feeder pigs as part of their farm business, live at 2061 Dodge Road.

Girl Scouts finish camp

Mitten Bay Girl Scout Council's Camp Riverdale, near Owendale, completed its day camp July 15.

Nearly 60 girls from all over the county and nearby areas, plus leaders from Sebawaing, Elkton, Harbor Beach and Owendale enjoyed the week-long session in the out-of-doors. The campers participated

in such activities as outdoor cooking, putting up tents, hiking, handicrafts, wading, and canoeing.

The Juniors also had an overnight campout, complete with a bonfire.

The final day at camp was highlighted by an all-camp program. Scout olympics, flag ceremony, friendship circle, and watermelon for all.

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AIRPORT '77

6:09 P.M. PASSENGERS STILL ALIVE, TRAPPED UNDERWATER...

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30 Stay Free Mini Pads	1.76	1.19
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40 Tampax	2.40	1.78
10 oz. Noxzema	2.50	1.88
Summers Eve	65¢	46¢
5 Gillette Trac II	1.60	1.19
10 Gillette Techmatic Refill	2.39	1.79
100 Vitamin E 400 U - "Natural"	9.88	5.13
16 oz. Liquid Protein Plus Free "Last Chance Diet" Book	8.95	5.99
7 oz. Colgate	1.51	1.26
18 oz. Cepacol	1.89	1.46
60 Polident	2.15	1.83

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Picnics 67¢ lb.

Hickory Smoked (by the chunk)
Slab Bacon 79¢ lb.

Hickory Smoked Sliced Rindless
Layer Bacon \$1.19 lb.

By The Chunk
Hard Salami \$1.59 lb.

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Pork Steaks \$1.09 lb.

Young Steer Sliced
Beef Liver 29¢ lb.

Erla's Hickory Smoked
Whole or Shank half
HAMS
89¢ lb.

Fresh or Smoked Pork
SPARE RIBS
\$1.29 lb.

Fresh Whole or Rib Half
(Sliced Free)
PORK LOINS
\$1.19 lb.

Tender Aged Beef
(Blade Cuts)
CHUCK ROASTS
or
CHUCK STEAKS
69¢ lb.

Large Green
CUKES and PEPPERS 2 for 29¢
U.S. No. 1
BANANAS 5 lbs. \$1.00
Home Grown
SWEET CORN dozen 69¢
U.S. No. 1 Michigan
POTATOES 10 lb. bag 79¢
Red Ripe
NECTARINES lb. 49¢

COCA COLA
12/12 oz. cans \$2.19

Erla's Mild Sensation
SKINLESS FRANKS
RING BOLOGNA
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79¢ lb.

Schmidt's Kluski
Noodles 8 oz. pkg. 39¢
Vlasic Kosher-Polish
Dills 46 oz. jar 89¢
Vlasic Snack
Butter Chips 46 oz. jar 99¢
Pillsbury Country or Buttermilk
BISCUITS
7 8 oz. pks. \$1.00

Sunshine
KRISPY CRACKERS
1 lb. box 49¢

Ralston
Corn Flakes 18 oz. pkg. 59¢
Bright & Early Frozen
Orange Juice 12 oz. cans 3/\$1.00
Cod & Haddock Frozen
Sandwich Portion lb. pkg. 99¢

Kraft
Miracle Whip 48 oz. jar \$1.49
Kraft Italian
Dressing 8 oz. bot. 49¢
Kraft Parkey Qtrd.
Margarine lb. pkg. 49¢
McDonald Natural Premium
Ice Cream asst'd round 1/2 gal. \$1.39
Except Butter Pecan

* McDonald
Half & Half pint 35¢
* McDonald
Low Fat Milk plastic gal. \$1.19
* Asst'd Reg.
Candy Bars 20¢ bars 6/\$1.00
* Betty Crocker
Bisquick Baking Mix 40 oz. pkg. 99¢

Asst'd
SUN GLO POP
5 33 oz. ltr. btl. \$1.00
Realemon
Lemon Juice 32 oz. btl. 59¢
Jack Rabbit
White - Yellow Popcorn 4 lb. bag 89¢
Pringles New Fangled
Potato Chips 8 oz. pkg. 77¢

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Cream or Whole
★ **Corn**
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BAKERY
Oven Fresh
Lumberjack Bread 1 1/4 lb. ll. 49¢
Oven Fresh
Breakfast Rolls 8 pkg. 69¢
Oven Fresh
Spice Cake 16 oz. 79¢
Brown or Powdered
SUGAR 2 lb. bag 59¢

Campbell's
PORK n BEANS
4 16 oz. cans \$1.00
American Beauty
Whole
Potatoes 39 oz. can 59¢

Pure Maid
Solid
OLEO
3 lb. pks. \$1.00

Health & Beauty Aids
McLeans 7 oz. **Toothpaste** reg. 1.08 84¢
Foot Deodorant
Spray reg. 1.39 99¢
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Banquet® Frozen
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2 lb. pkg. \$1.89

Nestea Instant
TEA 3 oz. jar \$1.49

2nd Vote slated Saturday

Factions battle over Owen-Gage millage

Voters in the Owendale-Gagetown School District go to the polls Saturday to vote on a renewal of 6.25 mills for two years, three mills less than the millage that expired.

The proposal is the same as the one defeated June 13 by a margin of 490-442.

Controversy about the proposal centers on two main questions: How much money will the district receive in property tax revenue if the issue is defeated and the projected "surplus" in the budget the school board submitted to the state based on a defeat of the millage.

A defeat will leave the district with 17.25 mills for operations.

Opponents claim that will still bring in enough money to keep the schools operating; Supt. Ronald Erickson says the district cannot keep in operation with only 17.25 mills.

Based on that figure, the school board approved a tentative 1977-78 school budget June 9, calling for revenues of \$591,078 and expenditures of \$479,078.

One opponent of the millage request, Dr. Dalton Coe, asked, "If they're going to have \$112,000 (surplus), why do they need the 6.25 mills?" Erickson's response is twofold: First, he says the budget was meaningless in that the

Owen-Gage opens tax note bids

Continued from page one

The only other bidder was Community Bank of Bad Axe at 3.29 per cent.

MILLAGE

On the recommendation of the superintendent, the board voted to lower the district's operation millage by 2.6 mills, provided the "Elenbaum parcel" is returned to the district by the state appeals court by Nov. 15, the last date to set millage rates. The parcel was transferred from Owen-Gage and is now part of the Laker School District.

Assuming voters approve the millage proposal on the ballot Saturday and the parcel is returned, that would give the district 20.9 mills for operations.

The board spent about an hour writing a letter to be sent to voters prior to Saturday's election. Part of the letter reads that without approval of the millage, the district won't be able to meet its financial obligations "and we will not be able to open schools as scheduled (in September)."

GAGETOWN SCHOOL. Erickson indicated that after the election, the board will have to deal with the problem of the leaking roof in the gym, cafeteria, and new portion of Gagetown Elementary School.

only reason it was submitted was because the state department demanded it.

If the millage is defeated, he said, "We couldn't operate, knocking off as many teachers as we'd have to."

He also said that even if a teacher is laid off, the district still has to pay unemployment compensation.

Secondly, the superintendent said the projected \$112,000 "surplus" will actually have to be used to pay off the deficit from 1976-77 school year. How much that deficit will be isn't known yet because the auditors are still going over the books, but he estimated it will be "considerable." The board probably won't receive the annual audit until September.

Ground broken for high school building

More than 200 persons gathered Saturday afternoon for official groundbreaking ceremonies for the new Owen-Gage High School.

The ceremonies were only symbolic, in that it was announced at Monday night's school board meeting that actual demolition work and start of construction may not begin until Sept. 27.

The ceremonies took place in front of the 1913 portion of the high school, which is to be demolished. The new high school will consist of replacement of that with a new classroom building and construction of a new gymnasium, with renovation of the old gym into a cafeteria. The other portions of the high school, all built later, will remain in use.

Main speaker at the ceremonies was State Rep. Quincy Hoffman, who congratulated those present for "battling the bureaucracy" in order to get the new school built.

His criticism was aimed at the state board and state department of education for thinking that "bigness is the answer."

Hoffman was introduced by school board President Ronald Good.

Supt. Ronald G. Erickson also spoke, thanking the people "for all the time and effort you gave to this school district."

Rep. Hoffman was given the honor of manning the chrome-plated shovel for the actual groundbreaking, as the board members looked on. Also taking part was Carl R. Steller, Caseville School Board secretary and a member of the board of directors of the Michigan Association of School Boards.

Elder John Abbe of the RLDS Church of Latter Day Saints gave the invocation. The Rev. Carl Litchfield of the Owendale United Methodist church gave the benediction.

The superintendent mentioned that one big expense during 1976-77 was legal fees. He estimated the total bill will be about \$40,000.

The other big question is if the 6.25 mills is defeated, how much will the remaining 17.25 mills raise?

Opponents such as Orville Gremel point out that the district "will have more money even if they vote it (the millage) down."

The old operational millage rate of 26.5 mills times the district's 1976 state equalized valuation (SEV) of \$18,593 million resulted in revenue for the district of \$492,762. (There was also a debt retirement - building - levy of 7.28 mills, reduced this year by the board to 1.28 mills.)

The Owen-Gage High School band played the national anthem and the school song.

The new SEV for the district is \$28,606 million, a boost of almost 54 per cent. If the millage request is defeated, the new SEV times the remaining 17.25 mills will bring in revenue of \$493,454, less than \$1,000 more than what the old levy raised.

If the 6.25 mills passes, making a total of 23.50 mills, property tax revenue to the district will be \$672,242, an increase of \$179,480 from what was raised last year.

Erickson insists the money is needed.

One reason is that when the SEV was \$18,593 million, the district received \$60-\$70,000 in state membership state aid.

The amount of state aid is based on SEV per pupil. When the district's SEV jumped to \$28,606 million, the district no longer got membership state aid as the SEV per pupil became too high to qualify. Thus the \$60-\$70,000 the district formerly got in state aid, the superintendent said, now has to be made up out of local revenue.

Another factor to consider, he continued, is teacher salaries. Before the start of school this fall, the district will have to negotiate a new

contract with the Owen-Gage Education Association, which represents the districts 29 teachers.

Almost 70 per cent of the school's budget goes for teacher salaries, according to Erickson, so a pay raise of 7-8 per cent would mean a sizeable chunk out of the extra revenue raised by the renewal of the 6.25 mills.

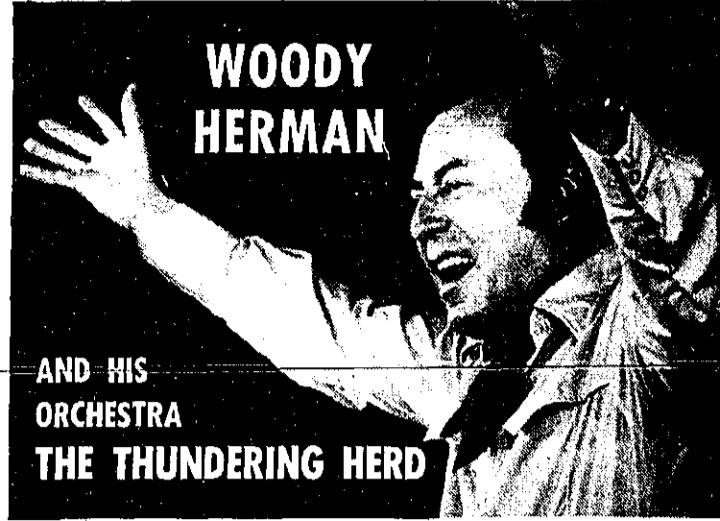
Include that and other inflationary factors, such as increases in utility bills, and the superintendent figures that the almost \$600,000 school budget could increase by 7 per cent during the course of the 1977-78 school year.

Enrollment in the Owen-Gage schools, Erickson said, totaled more than 600 a few years ago, but dropped to 478 for the official "fourth Friday" count last September. By the end of the school year, it had increased to more than 500.

Because of the enrollment decline, three teachers who retired during the last few years were not replaced.

Polls in the Brookfield Township Hall will be open Saturday from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The Cass City Rotary Club Presents



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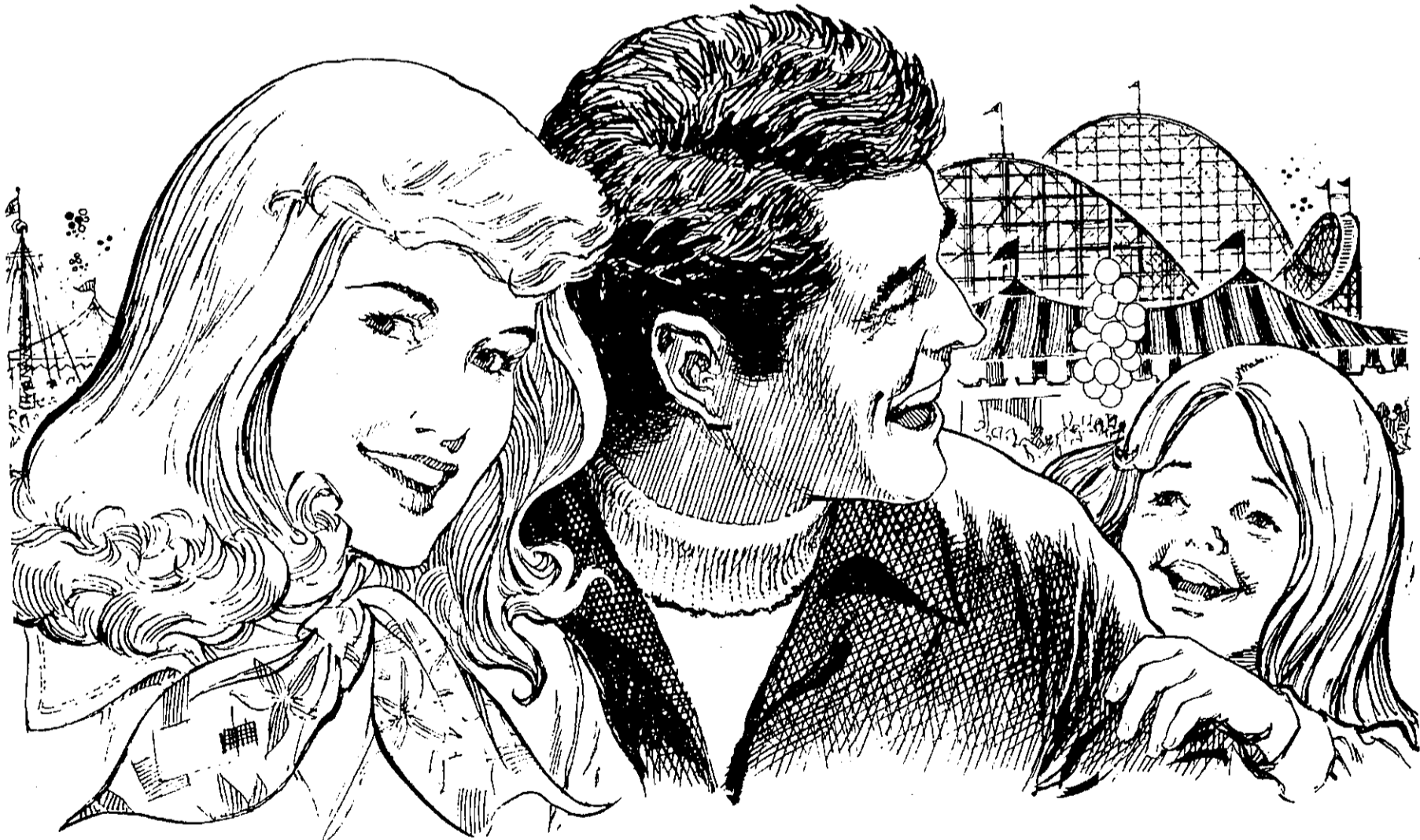
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ALL'S FAIR!

(AT THE TUSCOLA COUNTY FAIR)



SUNDAY, JULY 31 — 7:00 PM — Variety Talent Show At The Grandstand.
MONDAY, AUGUST 1 — Entry Day, Colt Stakes — Harness Racing, 8:00 PM.
TUESDAY, AUGUST 2 — Kids' Day, Harness Racing In The Evening.
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3 — Horseman's Day — Pony Pulling, Tractor Pull, Posse Drill Team, Harness Racing.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4 — Farmers' and Senior Citizens' Day — Livestock Sale, Harness Racing, Tractor Pull, Bean Queen Pageant.
FRIDAY, AUGUST 5 — Merchants' Day — State Tractor Pull Championship, Demolition Derby.
SATURDAY, AUGUST 6 — Sportsman's Day — Horse Pulling, Motorcycle Racing.

TUSCOLA COUNTY FAIR

AUGUST 1-6, 1977

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Plan no improvement of area railroad lines

The Grand Trunk Western Railroad will not file a formal appeal with the Interstate Commerce Commission of an administrative law judge's ruling requiring the railroad to keep its line through Cass City open.

The administrative law judge's ruling was issued earlier this month, following a public hearing in Cass City in February on the proposed abandonment of the Grand Trunk's Imlay City to Caseville line.

The railroad, if it so chose, could have filed an "exception," that is, an appeal, to the judge's ruling with the ICC.

Instead, according to its general attorney, Charles Hrdlicka, he will file some clarifications this week with the federal regulatory agency.

The clarifications will be of some figures quoted by the judge, L.W. Walker, in his opinion.

It will then be up to the ICC.

Hrdlicka said, as to whether it wishes to consider the clarifications as a formal "exception."

"The attorney doesn't expect the ICC to overrule Judge Walker, but thought it might issue a formal order ordering the rail line kept open, in place of Judge Walker's opinion. Such an order, if issued, will probably be released within about 60 days.

"I think they made the wrong decision," Hrdlicka said. He added that the railroad will continue to provide service over the line, but service won't improve.

Although the railroad claimed it was losing money on the Imlay City to Caseville line, based on other testimony made at the Cass City hearing, Judge Walker said otherwise.

He also said there was a possibility of increased traffic on the line, thus providing further justification for keeping the line open.

Some of Hrdlicka's com-

ments paralleled those of Grand Trunk President John H. Burdakin, made in a press release dated July 14.

"We are willing to provide railroad service on unprofitable light-density lines, but we must have financial relief," Burdakin said.

"Because present laws require rail abandonments before any federal funds can be made available (to improve the tracks), we sought the only avenue available to us to gain help.

"It is most unfortunate that not only in this instance but throughout the state and nation, light density branch lines must be forced into disrepair and severe speed restrictions that prevent adequate rail service -- driving away what freight does exist and thus resulting in the justification for abandonment.

"If abandonment is approved, then federal funds with state assistance are available to continue service

and thus permit industry and agriculture of the region to remain competitive."

The railroad president endorsed legislation introduced in Congress by Rep. Bob Traxler. If approved by the House and Senate, the bill would make money available to repair tracks ordered by the ICC to remain in operation after the railroad petitions for abandonment.

The legislation would give the Grand Trunk \$1 million annually for five years to improve the Imlay City to Caseville line. At present, in most plans places on the 66-mile line, trains are limited to only 20 miles per hour.

Traxler's legislation was supposed to be the subject of hearings in Washington some time this month.



CONFERENCE PLANNING -- Board members of the East Central District of Michigan Hospital Auxiliaries met Monday morning with the planning committee of the Hills and Dales General Hospital Auxiliary in the hospital's meeting room to plan the district's fall conference. The Hills and Dales Auxiliary will be hosts for the Oct. 19 conference, to be held in the First Presbyterian church. More than 100 members from 27 hospital auxiliaries will attend. Among those present Monday, from left, were Jeanne Auten, Hills and Dales Auxiliary president; Sally Hammond of Midland, district president; Sally Maine of Saginaw, district treasurer; Martha Ann Joseph of Saginaw, district secretary, and Joyce Fawcett of Grand Blanc, district president-elect. This will be the first time the Cass City auxiliary has hosted a district conference since October, 1963.

Award area road work

The Tuscola County Road Commission Thursday, July 21, awarded bids for improvements on two roads in Elkland township.

Scheduled for improvement are Richie Road between Huron Line Road and Bay City-Forestville Roads and Spence Road between Milligan Road and M-81.

The work to be done will consist of base work, grading and drainage improvement, with the aim of cutting down some of the hills. The roads will remain unopened.

Lowest of two bidders for the Richie Road project was Pat LaFave of Caro at \$9,230.

Lowest of two bidders for the Spence Road project was C.H. Hunt Construction Co. of Cass City at \$9,875.

According to road commission clerk James Miklovic, construction will start "any time." The two projects must be completed by Nov. 1.

The roads will remain open to local traffic during reconstruction.

Elkland township will pay the entire cost of the projects. The township did receive \$1,888 from the road commission as its annual share for township road projects, but that money has already been spent elsewhere, Miklovic said.

The road commission also announced that Cemetery Road will be repaved between Milligan and Bay City-Forestville Roads.

Federal funds will pay about 70 per cent of the cost of the project, according to Miklovic, with the road commission paying the remainder.

As the project is federally funded, the State Highway Commission will take bids for the project. Depending on when they do so and some other factors, the repaving may be done yet this year or may be delayed until 1978.

The resurfacing project will not require additional right-of-way. The project plans can be inspected at the road commission office, 1733 S. Mertz Road, Caro.

Under federal law, any citizens who would be affected by the project can request that the road commission hold a public hearing concerning its social, environmental, and economic impact. Requests for a hearing should be mailed to the road commission by Aug. 15.

Edison asks new Senior Citizens rate

The Detroit Edison Co. Wednesday, July 20, filed a rate case with the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) requesting price adjustments for 1978 and approval to institute a special electric rate for senior citizens, the first of its kind in the nation.

For the average senior citizen household, which uses 333 kilowatt hours a month, the savings would be \$1.16 a month, or 7 per cent, compared to the proposed new standard rates for the same electricity use by other residential customers.

About 275,000 households, or nearly 20 per cent of the company's 1.5 million residential customers, would be eligible for the new senior citizens' rate if it is approved by the MPSC.

The proposed new rate takes into account differences in electrical use patterns between senior citizens and other customers, as well as differences between the company's cost of providing service for senior citizens and other customers.

Promote two in Walbro expansion

According to Lambert E. Althaver, president and chief operating officer, Walbro Corporation, Alton J. O'Connor has been advanced from chief engineer to director of engineering, a new post, in the company's automotive products group.

Thomas Haddas, a recent addition to the staff, has been promoted from project engineer to administrative engineer of the group, also a new post.

Althaver says that these two executive promotions, along with the previously announced election of Victor M. Guernsey as senior vice-president of the group, are the opening moves in a restructuring program designed to meet the growth needs of Walbro's continuously expanding automotive products group.

what was then the fuel pump division in 1964.

Althaver said that O'Connor, holder of a number of fuel pump patents, has made many significant contributions to the research and development work constantly being done on Walbro electric fuel pumps.

Haddas joined Walbro earlier this year after having worked as a certification engineer in the emission laboratory, Ford Motor Company's Engineering and Research Center, Dearborn; and as a technical advisor-mechanical engineer with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Mobile Source Air Pollution Control, Ann Arbor.

He graduated from Western

Michigan University in 1970 with a B.S. degree in automotive engineering technology.



THOMAS HADDAS



TWO EMPLOYEES at Auten Motors were honored recently for excellence in their respective departments. Receiving trophies for their achievements from Kristen Bell of Ford Motor Co. are Al Seeley, manager of the body shop, and Walt Jezewski, service manager.

At the same time, Edison applied for MPSC approval of a 5.5 per cent price adjustment for 1978 to recognize the continuing impact of inflation. This would add about \$1.70 a month to the average residential customer's monthly bill. The utility's industrial and commercial customers also would be subject to 5.5 per cent electricity price adjustments.

The utility also applied for an increase of 1 per cent in its authorized rate of return on the investment made by the company's common shareholders, which would add about 71 cents (2.2 per cent) a month to the average residential customer's bill, to enable it to raise, at lower costs, capital required to build new generating plants needed for the anticipated growth in electrical use in the coming years.

An accounting change also has been requested that would increase depreciation rates to more properly reflect the wearing out and obsolescence of plants and equipment experienced by the utility, adding about 27 cents a month (0.9 per cent) to the average residential bill.



ALTON O'CONNOR
O'Connor, who attended both the Electronics Institute, Detroit, and Michigan State University, joined Walbro in 1956 as an electrician. He was made a foreman in 1958, a staff engineer in 1960, and became chief engineer of

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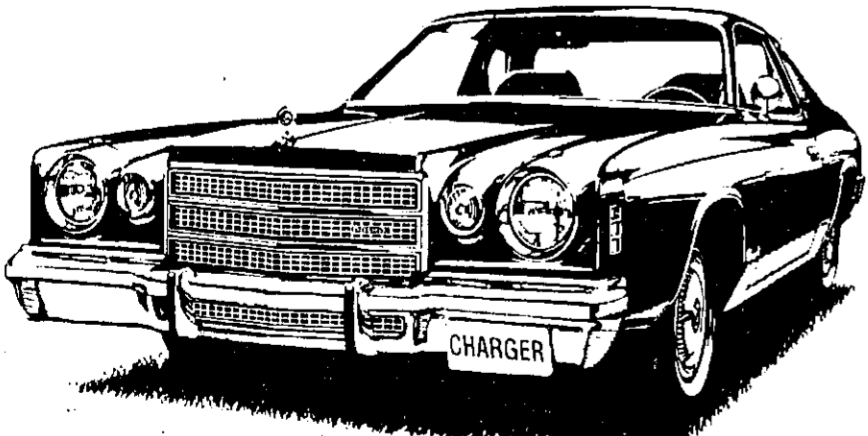
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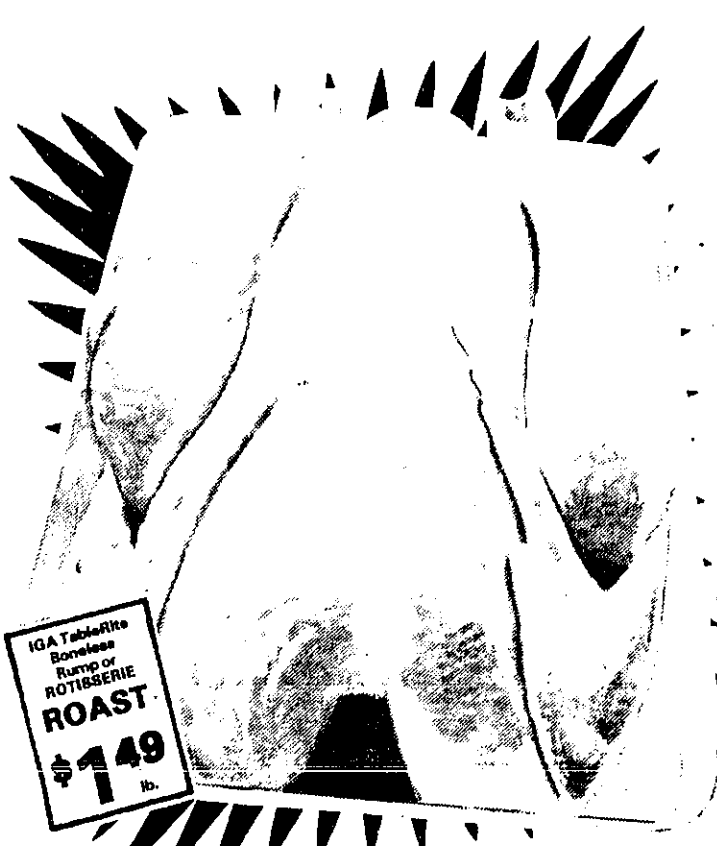
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Court orders exam for Emmons

Circuit Judge Norman A. Baguley Monday approved a defense motion requesting the county pay for an examination of Mark Emmons by a private psychiatrist.

Emmons, 24, is charged with two counts of murder in the July 8 shooting deaths of his mother, Joan Emmons, 52, and sister, Dawn Emmons, 22. The shootings took

place at a home the three were living in on Ellington Street in Caro.

Court-appointed attorney Leo Maki of Caro requested that Emmons be examined by

Dr. Ames Robey, an Ann Arbor psychiatrist. He will be taken there by the sheriff's department.

District Judge Richard F. Kern, Friday, July 22, had waived jurisdiction for purposes of allowing Judge Baguley to hear Maki's motion. The defendant is to be later returned to district court for a preliminary examination.

July 15, Judge Kern signed an order committing Emmons to the Center for Forensic Psychiatry at Ypsilanti State Hospital for a forensic examination at the request of the prosecution.

Prosecutor Patrick R. Joslyn said Tuesday, Emmons is still in the county jail as he is awaiting delivery of some medical records before having the defendant taken to Ypsilanti for the examination.

Also Monday, Judge Baguley dismissed charges against Ronald B. Luther, 19, of Sebewaing.

He had been charged with attempted larceny in a building in connection with the taking of some items from Prime's Super Market in Unionville May 31, 1976.

He pleaded guilty to the charge June 14 of that year. Judge Baguley delayed sentencing provided he meet certain conditions, including not breaking any laws, reporting to his probation agent, continuing his high school education, and attending Alcoholics Anonymous meetings.

Assistant Prosecutor Thomas A. Carlson moved for dismissal of the charges on the grounds Luther had lived up to the terms established under the delayed sentencing. Betsy L. Hogge, 18, of Lincoln Park, pleaded guilty to a charge of attempted larceny in a building. The charge was in connection with the taking of a clock radio from a home at 5266 N. Colling Road, Columbia township, July 4.

Her plea was accepted and sentencing was set for Sept. 6. Personal recognizance bond of \$1,000 was continued.

Police search for Voelker pickup

The search continues for the man who allegedly drove away with the pickup truck belonging to the widow of a dairy farmer killed in a June 30 auto accident in Ohio.

The complaint was signed by Mary Voelker of Owendale, widow of Kenneth Voelker, 43, who was killed when the car he was riding in was struck head-on by another vehicle on I-280, south of Toledo.

Named in the complaint signed by Mrs. Voelker was Frank Wendell, 27, who had been employed on the farm.

Both he and the 1972 model pickup allegedly disappeared from the Canboro Road farm July 15. The warrant for Wendell's arrest, charging him with unlawfully driving away a motor vehicle, was issued by the Huron county prosecutor's office.

State police from Bad Axe are handling the investigation.

Voelker and a Brown City dairyman, James A. Frey, were killed when returning from a dairy show in Ohio. William G. Ramsey of Millington reported to Tuscola county sheriff's deputies Wednesday, July 20, that a boat, motor, and trailer were stolen from the garage of his Belsay Road home between 9 and 10 p.m. that night.

Taken were a Sea Craft 16-foot fiberglass tri-hull boat, valued at \$3,000; an Evinrude 70-horsepower outboard motor, \$1,250, and trailer, \$200. Inside the boat was various equipment, including life jackets.

Ramsey was co-owner of the stolen items along with James A. Morton, also of Millington.

Eleven-month-old Courtney Crandell was treated at Hills and Dales General Hospital Sunday after being bitten by a dog. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Crandell of 6526 Pine Street.

Cass City police reported he was at his grandfather's house, James R. Romain of 4282 Sherman Street, and playing with his dog in the garage when it bit him.

Alejandro Salas of New York City reported to Cass City police Wednesday, July 20, that his wallet was lost or stolen in the Cass City area the previous day.

In the wallet was \$300 in cash plus several credit cards, his driver's license, and car registration.

Sherrilynn Werner, 19, of Elkton, was arrested by Cass City police at 2:20 a.m. Sunday on a charge of driving under the influence of liquor after they stopped her car on Main Street, west of Seeger Street. They also gave her a ticket charging her with

Horse causes crash

A stray horse was the cause of an accident late Wednesday night, July 20, in Almer township.

State police at Caro reported that Michelle A. Thayer, 17, of 1570 Colwood Road, Caro, was eastbound on Orr Road, southwest of Decker-ville Road, when she saw the horse in her headlights.

She went off the right side of the road to avoid striking the horse, her car landing in a ditch. The horse was not found.

Jeffrey L. Heinitz, 19, of Unionville, escaped injury Saturday evening in an accident in a farm field. Sheriff's deputies reported he was driving a four-wheel-drive vehicle when he hit a bump as he approached a farm lane and the vehicle rolled onto its side.

The lane ran east from Colwood Road, south of Hobart Road. The vehicle was owned by Lynn Uhl of Akron.

Cass City police were called to the General Cable parking lot at 7:05 a.m. Friday, after a vehicle backed into a car.

Police reported Patricia A. Sherman, 49, of 6991 Severance Road, backed into the car of Charlotte Sangster, 33, of 3350 N. Van Dyke Road, Decker.

Mrs. Sherman then left, police said, but returned after she saw a police car at the scene. She said she didn't realize she had hit the Sangster auto.



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District Court

Cheryl Lynn Lowe of Deford in the village of Cass City was ticketed for speeding 35 mph in a 25 mph zone. She paid fine and costs of \$20.

Larry William Cooper of Cass City in the village of Cass City was ticketed for speeding 56 mph in a 25 mph zone. He paid fine and costs of \$50.

Gary Bruce Cummings of Kingston in Indianfields township was ticketed for failure to yield right of way. He paid fine and costs of \$25.

Margaret Ann McAlpine of Kingston in Kingston township was ticketed for speeding 70 mph in a 55 mph zone. She paid fine and costs of \$30.

Marilyn Louise Schaible of Cass City in the village of Cass City was ticketed for an unsafe start. She paid fine and costs of \$15.

William Earl Zemke of Deford in the village of Caro was ticketed for mutilated operator's license. He paid fine and costs of \$25.

Brian Maynard Helwig of Cass City in Juniata township was ticketed for speeding 70 mph in a 55 mph zone. He paid fine and costs of \$30.

James Robert Ruel of Bad Axe in the village of Cass City was ticketed for speeding 35 mph in a 25 mph zone. He paid fine and costs of \$20.

Jim Douglas Daley of Deford in Ellington township was ticketed for speeding 65 mph in a 55 mph zone. He paid fine and costs of \$20.

Michael Lee Zmierski of Cass City in the village of Cass City was ticketed for excessive noise (tires). He paid fine and costs of \$15.

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Official Proceedings Of The
TUSCOLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JUNE 14, 1977

Meeting of the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners was called to order by the Chairman, Maynard McConkey.
Roll Call: All members present.
Prayer by Commissioner McConkey.
Pledge to the Flag.

77-M-174
Sheriff Hugh Marr appeared before the Board with a request for 3 full-time matrons, also discussion was had on a van for the Mobile Crime Laboratory. A request was also presented for a change in the charge to working inmates for board.

Motion by Kennedy, supported by Collon, the requests be referred to the Personnel and Departmental Control Committees for further study and recommendation. Motion carried.

77-M-175
Motion by Wentia, supported by Rayl, the Sheriff Dept. be authorized to offer certified C.P.R. Training for all law enforcement and fire department personnel of Tuscola County. Motion carried.

77-M-176
Motion by Collon, supported by Rayl, \$30,699.00 of Title II Anti Recession Funds be transferred to the Road Commission. Motion carried.

Discussion was had on the Tuscola County Local Public Works applications:

77-M-177
Motion by Rayl, supported by Nagy, the minutes of May 24, 1977 be approved. Motion carried.

77-M-178
A resignation was received from Richard Dehmel as a member to the East Central Michigan Planning and Development Region board.

Motion by Collon, supported by Nagy, Commissioner Kennedy be appointed to act on the East Central Michigan Planning and Development Region Board. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kennedy, chairman of the Claims and Accounts Committee, presented the following report:

JUNE 28, 1977

Meeting of the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners was called to order by the Chairman, Maynard McConkey.
Roll Call: All present except Commissioner Nagy.
Prayer by Chairman McConkey.
Pledge to the Flag.

Robert Wellington of the Tuscola County Road Commission appeared before the board with reports on Local Road Bridge Construction.

77-M-194
Minutes of June 14 and June 21 were presented.
Motion by Kennedy, supported by Wentia they be approved. Motion carried.

Recess for lunch.

AFTERNOON SESSION - JUNE 28, 1977
All members present except Nagy
John Niederhause, new director of the Thumb District Health Department appeared before the Board and discussion followed on his new role as Director.

77-M-195
2:00 P.M. - Opening of Van bids for the Sheriff Dept:
Covry Chevrolet, \$7930.00
Burton Moore Ford, \$8689.00
Bob McKee Dodge, \$6505.42
Rabideau Motors Dodge, \$6922.00

Motion by Kennedy, supported by Rayl the bids be referred to the Sheriff Committee for further study and recommendation. Motion carried.

77-M-196
Report of Committee: Motion by Collon, supported by Russell the bid of Burlington Moore for \$8689.00 with delivery in one week be approved. Motion carried.

77-M-197
Motion by Rayl, supported by Wentia, that two vehicles from the Motor Pool be assigned to the Building Codes Department. Motion carried.

77-M-198
Motion by Russell, supported by Kennedy, Don Graf be hired as Equalization Director with a salary of \$15,500.00 effective June 27, 1977. Motion carried.

77-M-199
Motion by Kennedy, supported by Rayl \$1400.00 be transferred from the Contingency Account to the Elections Account to cover the purchase of necessary equipment and supplies to comply with the Political Reform Act. Motion carried.

77-M-200
Motion by Russell, supported by Kennedy the Chairman be authorized to sign a lease between Tuscola County and the State of Michigan for office space located at 2266 W. Caro Rd. Motion carried.

Frank Lenard, Manpower Director appeared before the Board with a C.E.T.A. Title II Financial Report.

77-M-201
Discussion was had on the distribution of the \$344,000.00 Local Public Works program funds.

Motion by Wentia, supported by Russell that the priority of the Local Public Works funds be established as follows:
Tuscola County Animal Shelter, \$200,000.00
Tuscola County Road Construction, \$144,000.00

Roll Call Vote: Wentia, yes; Nagy, absent; Kennedy, yes; McConkey, yes; Rayl, yes; Russell, yes; Collon, yes. 6 yes, 1 absent. Motion carried.

77-M-202
Motion by Rayl, supported by Russell, we allocate \$3000.00 of Revenue Sharing Funds for material to construct public facilities at Vanderbilt Park.

Roll Call Vote: Rayl, yes; Russell, yes; Collon, yes; Wentia, yes; Kennedy, yes; McConkey, yes. 6 yes, 1 absent.

Minutes were read and approved.
Motion by Kennedy, supported by Wentia we adjourn until July 12, 1977 at 9:30 a.m. Motion carried.

Elsie Hicks, Clerk
Maynard McConkey, Chairman

Gagetown girl returns from European band tour

Fifteen-year-old Robin Sullivan doesn't have any medals to show for it, but she is a member of a championship "team."

The "team" was actually the Blue Lakes Fine Arts Camp International Band, which came home from its recent European trip with a first-place trophy in its division at the Janits Jar Festival in Hamar, Norway.

The 80-member band beat out the Sagene Band of Oslo, Norway, which had won the competition the previous seven years in a row.

Robin, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sullivan of 4687 South Street, Gagetown, has been playing the clarinet for three years.

Last summer, her second at the Blue Lakes camp, near Muskegon, she auditioned and was accepted for the international band.

That meant that starting in October, her parents had to drive her to the camp for one Sunday each month for a five-hour rehearsal. Despite the more than three-hour drive each way, the Sullivans had it "easy" in a sense. Although most band members were from Michigan, some had to come from as far away as Kentucky, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

The band learned 15 numbers, predominately lighter material, such as Broadway

show tunes, plus a few Norwegian folk tunes.

The group assembled at Blue Lake for a week of intensive rehearsal plus a few Swedish lessons prior to their departure June 13. They arrived in Stockholm, Sweden.

The band stayed in various towns in Sweden, Norway, and Denmark during their stay, giving performances in each town and the surrounding area. Robin stayed with six families during her trip, one of which spoke no English. Communication was mainly by making drawings.

With one family, she got to ride a horse and milk a cow, the latter being a new experience. The head of another family with whom she stayed was first clarinetist with the Norwegian national military band.

Some of the concerts the international band played were indoors, others were in town squares. Crowds usually averaged 200-300, Robin said.

The competition at the Janits Jar Festival took place June 26. The festival ran three days, but the competition consisted of two numbers played on one day.

Although the members of the Blue Lake band ranged in age from 14-18, they competed in the top division, for bands with members 18 and older. Five other bands com-

peted in the division, all from Scandinavia.

Each band had to perform two numbers, one a mandatory piece written especially for the competition by a Norwegian composer. The international band's director, Kenneth Bloomquist, chairman of the Michigan State University music department, termed the piece "very, very difficult." He called the other bands "almost professional in caliber."

Each band had a free choice on the second selection. Robin's group played "Chorale and Shaker Dance" by John Zdechlik.

The bands were judged in six categories, including tone, precision, and rhythm. There was a maximum of 10 points awarded in each category for each selection. Of the 120 possible points, the international band received 117, the most ever awarded at the festival.

The group received a gold medal, engraved Stein and a clarinet for winning the competition. There were no individual awards for each of the band members.

The band arrived back in the U.S. July 11, after having departed from Copenhagen.

They then had one more concert to perform. Robin and her family had to return to the camp Tuesday, July 19, for a "welcome home" concert.



ROBIN SULLIVAN

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She will be entering the 10th grade this fall at Owen-Gage High School. As would be expected, she plays in the high school band.

For the 15-year-old, there was three highlights on the trip. One was winning the festival competition. Second was the first meal she had with her first host family in Sweden. The meal consisted of six courses and afterwards, to put it mildly, she was "stuffed."

And lastly, she celebrated her 15th birthday in Europe, July 2.

"Happy Birthday" wasn't one of the numbers the band had rehearsed playing, however, so instead, the band members sang it.

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A TOTAL OF 424 years are represented at this birthday celebration. Mrs. Mary Buehrly observed 87 years last Sunday and her sisters and brothers were there to help her celebrate.
From left, back row: Ed Mark, 88, and Alma Seeger, 81.
Front row: Lena Schwegler, 85, Mary Buehrly, 87, and Martha Darling, 83.
(Neitzel photo)

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Tuesday	83	39

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