

## Jim Kuhr student of the month

James Kuhr, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lambert Kuhr of Tazewell, was chosen as student of the month for November at the monthly meeting of the Owendale-Gagetown Board of Education.

Students of the month are nominated by the teaching staff at the high school. Kuhr was their unanimous choice. An honor student and member of the National Honor Society, Jim has also played on the football, basketball and baseball teams at Owen-Gage.

He is president of the senior class, and is photographer-financial manager of the yearbook.

Kuhr plans to attend the University of Michigan School of Engineering, where he will also be enrolled in the Navy ROTC program.

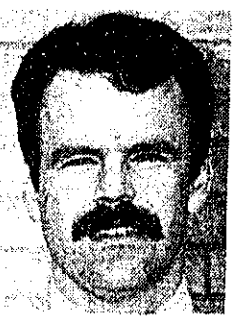
## Trees help

A tree in your yard can be like money in the bank. Several studies in recent years have shown that well landscaped homes will not only sell more quickly, but will go for a higher price. As much as 20 percent more, according to one U.S. Forest Service study.

## PEDALING AROUND

### Lennon and the news

By Mike Eliasohn



Was John Lennon that important?

Once again there is that fascinating journalistic question. Does the news media cover someone or something because that person or event is important, or by virtue of that coverage, does the person or event become important.

The NBC 6:30 p.m. news program on Tuesday, the day after the shooting last week, devoted at least a third of its time to the news about Lennon and his assailant. That's the one I watched, so can't vouch for ABC and CBS.

At 11:30 Tuesday night, NBC and CBS had special half-hour programs about the shooting. I don't know what ABC did.

The Tom Snyder Tomorrow show on NBC from 12:30-2 a.m. Wednesday devoted the whole show to Lennon, but of that, one hour consisted of a rerun of an interview Snyder did with Lennon in 1975. (Very interesting, by the way.) Unfortunately, I was still typing at that hour.

The Detroit News, according to a Thursday column by its editor, practically rewrote the Tuesday paper to get in everything it could about Lennon and the shooting.

I assume the Detroit Free Press undertook a similar effort.

Obviously, John Lennon was much better known in much of the world than many world leaders and he had a major influence on music. Maybe I'm demeaning the music profession, but it still doesn't seem like his death deserved all the coverage it got.

As for Lennon's accused killer, it fascinates me in a perverted sense how one's mind can become so twisted that he can get on an airplane and fly more than 5,000 miles to kill someone he has no reason to dislike.

I have yet to read or hear how Mark David Chapman managed to fly those 5,000 plus miles with a handgun in his possession.

As a reporter, I noted with interest how CBS scooped NBC by a day in reporting that when Chapman signed out of work the final day, instead of signing his name, he wrote "John Lennon," then crossed it off.

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Switching topics, now that John Haire's question about persistent chemicals has been resolved, here's another scientific question maybe someone can answer.

As I type this on a Sunday evening, the thermostat thermometer reads 66 degrees and I am cold. If it were 66 degrees OUTSIDE, and I were outside, I would be very comfortable. Why? (Another question is, why is the furnace not working?)

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The unemployment statistics I mentioned at the beginning of last week's "Your Neighbor Says" were incorrect because the newspaper article I got them from had them screwed up.

The latest unfortunate figures from the Michigan Employment Security Commission are that the October unemployment rate in Michigan was 12.1 percent (not 11.9 percent as reported) and 12.5 percent in November.

The November rate was the highest since the MESC started keeping such statistics in 1956.

The national jobless rate in November was 7.5 percent, down from 7.6 percent in October.

The ability of youth to dream visions of the future is its greatest advantage over old age.



**CHRISTMAS CONCERTS** -- The Cass City High School gym was filled with the sound of Christmas music at concerts performed last Thursday by the sixth, seventh and eighth grade bands (top, seventh grade band shown) and Monday by the high school concert (shown), jazz and symphony bands, plus the high school choir.

## Reese girl 21st fatality of year

Michelle J. Adams, 16, of Reese, became Tuscola county's 21st traffic fatality of the year Monday afternoon when her car went out of control west of Fairgrove and flipped over.

She was pronounced dead at Caro Community Hospital.

Caro state police reported she was eastbound on M-138, west of Garner Road, when her right side wheels dropped off the edge of the pavement and the car went out of control.

Her auto spun around and went off the north side of the road sideways, struck the north side of the ditch bank and then rolled over into a field. The car came to a halt upside down with gasoline leaking from the tank.

The Fairgrove Fire Department used its Jaws of Life hydraulic tool in removing the victim from the wreckage. The accident took place at 4:10 p.m.

Last year as of this date, 19 persons had been killed in county traffic accidents.

### OTHER ACCIDENTS

Three persons sought their own treatment for minor injuries after a 3:15 a.m. accident Saturday.

Injured were the driver, Glen D. Spencer, 19, of 7336 E. Kelly Road, Cass City, and his passengers, Kevin A. Lawhorn, 18, of Bad Axe, and Allan S. Spencer, of 7296 E. Kelly Road.

Sheriff's deputies reported

their vehicle was headed northeast on M-81, northeast of Colwood Road, when the driver lost control. The car went off the north side of the road sideways and rolled over 1½ times into a shallow ditch.

Glen Spencer was ticketed on a charge of careless driving.

Janice Kay Shanlian, 22, of 4917 State Street, Gagetown, was ticketed by Caro state police on a charge of violation of the basic speed law (too fast for conditions) after a 3:40 p.m. accident Monday.

Troopers said she was headed northeast on M-81, southwest of Deckerville Road, and didn't see a vehicle waiting until traffic cleared before turning left into a driveway until it was too late. Her car then ran into the rear of the other vehicle, driven by Dennis J. Stahl, 36, of Caro.

At 8:20 p.m. Dec. 9, deputies reported, Duane Edwards, 17, of 6221 Severance Road, Cass City, was southbound on Cemetery Road, south of River Road, when he lost control of his car on icy pavement.

The vehicle spun off the left side of the road and landed upside down in a ditch.

### CAR-DEER

Cass City police reported three car-deer accidents during the past week:

## Judge's verdict killer insane

Thomas D. Kakonis, charged with the March 26 shooting death of his Ferris State College accounting professor, Robert Brauer, was found innocent by reason of insanity last Wednesday.

Mecosta County Circuit Judge Lawrence Root, who heard the case without a jury, issued his ruling in a 30 page opinion.

Brauer, 34, was married to the former Kathy J. Milligan of Decker. They had been married about 1½ years at the time of his death.

The verdict means Kakonis will be sent to the Center for Forensic Psychiatry at Ypsilanti State Hospital for evaluation, for a period not to exceed 60 days.

If there is evidence of mental illness, the staff can petition the probate court in Mecosta county to have him committed to a state or private institution for further treatment.

If they make no recommendation, he will be free at the end of 60 days. Kakonis' defense attorney, Michael Hults, predicted after the trial that his client will be institutionalized.

## The weather

	High	Low	Precip.
Wednesday	30	-3	trace
Thursday	22	4	trace
Friday	35	16	0
Saturday	26	13	0
Sunday	22	2	0
Monday	30	2	0
Tuesday	20	-10	0

(Recorded at Cass City wastewater treatment plant.)

Snow recorded as melted water — 1" water = 10" snow.

## Student of the week

Clayton Hobart was named student of the week last week at Cass City Intermediate School.

A sixth grader, he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Hobart of 2558 Hobart Road, Gagetown.

## "How much would it cost to replace everything in your apartment..?"

See me about State Farm Renters Insurance. The cost is low and the coverage comprehensive.

Ernest A. Teichman Jr.  
6529 Main St.  
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TWO ADMITTED FOR \$2.50 ON MON. & TUES. COME & SAVE!

SUN., 2:30 till 6:00 ADULTS...\$1.50

FIRST SHOWING IN THE ENTIRE THUMB!!

Starts Wednesday, Dec. 17

NOTE: THEATRE CLOSED DEC. 24th.

FRI. and SAT. FEATURE @ 7:35 and 9:50

SUNDAY FEATURE @ 3:00-5:08-7:16-9:23

MON., TUES., & WED. @ 7:15 and 9:30

CHRISTMAS DAY... DOORS OPEN AT 4:30

FEATURE STARTS @ 5:15-7:23-9:31



**FLASH GORDON**  
Music by QUEEN

DINO DE LAURENTIIS Presents  
FLASH GORDON  
SAM J. JONES ★ MELODY ANDERSON ★ ORNELLA MUTI  
MAX VON SYDOW ★ TOPOL ★ TIMOTHY DALTON  
MARIANGELA MELATO as Kala ★ BRIAN BLESSED ★ PETER WYNGARDE  
Screenplay by LORENZO SEMPLI, JR. ★ Produced by DINO DE LAURENTIIS  
Directed by MIKE HODGES  
Filmed in 1000 AD. (Based on the comic book by Alex Toth) A UNIVERSAL RELEASE

CARO MERCHANTS FREE SATURDAY MATINEE... DECEMBER 20 at 2:00 p.m. FOR KIDDIES AND PARENTS!!

## CALLING ALL SANTAS

"MEN'S NIGHT"

Thursday, Dec. 18th

6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Give her what she wants most and receive

# 10% Off

Anything In The Store

MEN ONLY - CASS CITY STORE ONLY

Storewide Coat Sale  
Now 1/3 Off

The Clothes Closet

Bad Axe

Cass City

Open  
12 - 4 p.m.  
Sunday

## JINGLE BELL SPECIALS

### SPECIAL OF THE WEEK

1979 Ford LTD Station wagon

Auto. Trans. Stereo Radio, Roof

Rack, Power Brakes & Steering, Pin

Stripes, Real Clean.

Special at \$4,295

Plus Tax



1978 MONZA 2 + 2 SPYDER COUPE Jet Black, 4 Speed, Rally Wheels, Lettered Tires, Sun Roof. 11,000 Miles. New.	1979 CHEVROLET MALIBU CLASSIC Two Door, Landau, Auto. Trans., Air cond., PS & PB, Pin Stripes, Real Clean.	1978 FORD 1/2 TON PICKUP V-8, Auto. Trans., Power Steering and Brakes. Extra Sharp Truck.
1978 CHEVROLET NOVA 4 Door, 6 Cyl., Automatic Trans., Power Steering & Brakes, Pin Stripes, Whitewalls, Real Clean!	1976 CHEVROLET CAPRICE 4 Dr., Vinyl Roof, Air Cond., Full Power, Cruise Control, Tilt Wheel, and other Extras.	1978 CHEV. 12 FT. STAKE TRUCK 4 Speed, Radio, Dual Rear Wheels, A-1 Condition.
1978 CHEVROLET MALIBU CLASSIC 4 Dr., V-6 Engine, Auto. Trans., Power Steering & Brakes, Radio and Whitewalls and Extra Clean.	1976 MERCURY MONARCH 4 Dr., Bucket Seats, Auto. Trans., Power Steering & Brakes, Real Clean.	1979 OLDSMOBILE, DIESEL, ROYAL COUPE Landau Roof, Wire Wheels, Cruise Control, Air Cond., Power, Auto. Trans., Check this one for the long gas mileage.
1978 FORD FAIRMONT 4 Dr., Auto. Trans., Power Steering and Brakes. Pin Stripes, Extra Clean.	1980 CHEVROLET LUV TRUCK With Camper Box, Extra Long Bed, 4 Speed Trans., Radio, Wheel Covers, Low Mileage. New.	1976 CHEVY LUV 4 Speed, Two-Tone, Rally Wheels and Radio, Real Clean, Low Mileage.



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