

# Loss totals \$45,000 in two Ubyly area fires

An electric heater was the apparent cause of a fire that destroyed a double-wide mobile home near Ubyly Sunday afternoon. Loss was estimated at \$30,000.

The owners were Harold and Lucille McKnight, who had only been living there with their children about a month, Bingham Township Fire Chief Elmer Brahmmer said.

No one was home at the time of the fire, which was discovered by a neighbor. The structure was on Munford Road, east of Jurgess

Road. The fire started about 2 p.m. and firemen were there about two hours.

Inside the gutted mobile home, Brahmmer said, firemen found the plug-in type electric heater with the switch still in the "on" position and that the extension cord to it had burned itself into the rug, which led them to believe the heater was the cause of the fire.

The McKnight family was finally located about 4:45 p.m. at his mother's house on Pinnebog Road. They had

left their home at 10:30 a.m. Brahmmer believed they had at least partial insurance on the structure.

### PIG BARN FIRE

Loss was estimated at \$15,000 in a fire that destroyed the 24-by-63-foot pig barn of Jack Tyrrell on Huron Line Road, southwest of Ubyly, Thursday evening.

Lost in the blaze were 50 feeder pigs.

Cause of the fire is unknown, although Bingham Township Fire Chief Elmer Brahmmer believes it may have been due to a faulty space heater.

Tyrrell told the Chronicle he and a son were inside the building feeding the pigs about a half-hour before the blaze started. The family was just sitting down to

dinner when a daughter looked out the window and saw flames coming through the roof.

Contributing to the rapid destruction of the barn were 40 mile per hour winds and the foam-type insulation inside, which burns.

The metal-covered pole barn was built in 1973 and was insured, Tyrrell said. In addition to the pigs, he also lost a high pressure sprayer and some other small equipment that was stored inside.

Firemen received the call at 6:22 p.m. and were back to the fire hall at 7:45.

Bingham firemen went out a third time, at 12:20 a.m. Tuesday, to a home on Nugent Road, northwest of Ubyly, because of an overheated chimney.

The chimney was connected to a wood-burning stove. Only minor smoke damage was reported.

## Shabbona Area News

Marie Meredith

Phone 672-9489

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Smith and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Smith spent Wednesday in Saginaw and Bay City.

Heather Zawilinski of Cass City and Mr. and Mrs. Louis Behr were Sunday afternoon callers of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Leslie and family. Julie and Donnie Smith spent Friday with Brent, Brad and Brenda Wehner.

The Hilltoppers met Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Cleland.

The Pioneers will meet Jan. 24 for a potluck dinner at 12:30 at the RLDS annex.

Mr. and Mrs. Randy Smith and family and Donovan Vining were Sunday supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Don Smith and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Smith spent Thursday evening with Mr. and Mrs. Leigh Franklin at Brown City to celebrate Dana's birthday.

The Evergreen Guys and Gals 4-H Club will go roller skating Monday evening, Jan. 21, at 7:30 at the Blue Blazer in Caro.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Cameron were Friday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Leslie.

Mrs. Frances Krause accompanied Mrs. Trudy Berden, Mrs. Leon Smith and daughter Cindy to Port Huron Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Smith were Monday evening callers of Rev. and Mrs. Harold Smith.

Emma Wheeler returned to Mt. Pleasant Saturday after spending some time here.

### METHODIST WOMEN

The United Methodist Women met Wednesday

evening, Jan. 9, at the church.

Hostesses were Mrs. Arlie Gray, Mrs. Leslie Severance, Mrs. Arthur Severance and Mrs. Jim McIntosh. Mrs. William Jones had charge of worship.

The 12 members made communion cups.

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Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Wallace were hosts when the Bunco Group met Jan. 12. High was won by Albert Jones and low, Mrs. Albert Jones. The door prize went to Albert Jones. The next meeting is Jan. 26 with Mrs. Jim McIntosh.

## Mr. Farmer

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### Choices limited, Laurie says

## Farm Bureau has stand on embargo

Saying that all segments of the nation must share in carrying the burden of "sacrifices needed to deal with the current national security crisis," delegates to the American Farm Bureau national convention urged President Carter to cut off all cultural and economic contacts with the Soviet Union.

The delegates didn't really think they had much choice in the position they took, according to Jack Laurie of Dodge Road, Cass City, Michigan Farm Bureau vice-president and one of its five delegates to the national convention.

The gathering was held Jan. 6-10 in Phoenix, after

President Carter had announced his embargo on grain sales to Russia beyond what had already been contracted.

Laurie couldn't say that if the delegates had had a choice, whether they would have opposed an embargo. "Everyone wants to play his part," he explained.

But if they had opposed it, it wouldn't have made a difference as the embargo had already been announced, he continued, so the action of the delegates aimed at easing the burden on farmers.

The general feeling at the convention was that in Carter's imposing of sanctions against the Soviet Union, "farmers were taking the greatest share of the burden."

The embargo is "pretty rough on farmers, who weren't doing too hot in the first place."

Noting that agriculture will suffer severe economic hardship as a result of the suspension, the Farm Bureau resolution said steps must be taken by the government to provide compensation for such losses to farm incomes.

Delegates added that "agricultural trade should not be sacrificed unless the national security demands a total suspension of all non-diplomatic relations with the USSR."

In what was termed an emergency Farm Bureau policy for 1980, the delegates asked the Carter administration and Congress to

take specific steps aimed at reducing the economic hardship to farmers and ranchers.

The policy called for an immediate increase in the Commodity Credit export credit budget from \$800 million to \$2 billion for the 1980 and 1981 fiscal years; offering of wheat and feed grains loans and target price programs to all producers; and placing of the 17 million metric tons of embargoed grains and oilseeds in isolation.

The policy also requested revised 1980 farm program release and "call" levels be announced by Feb. 1, 1980; establishment of acreage diversion programs; legislative requirements for gradual addition of alcohol to fuels; and providing low interest loans to holders of agricultural commodities not sold due to the embargo.

Delegates also called on the President to end all business contracts, exchange programs, participation in the 1980 summer Olympic games in Moscow and "all other contacts other than diplomatic ties necessary to resolve the current situation."

They also urged Carter to seek similar sanctions against the Soviet Union from other governments throughout the world.

Telegrams outlining the Farm Bureau policy were immediately sent to the President, Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland and all members of the House and Senate.

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### Cass City Chronicle

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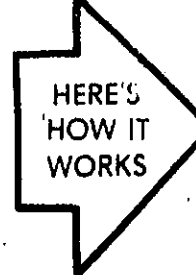


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