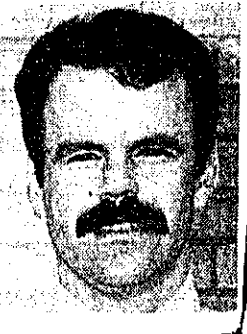


**PEDALING AROUND**

**Germ warfare**

By Mike Eliasohn



Sometimes I think the big fear in this country is not war with Russia, economic catastrophe or a shutoff of our imported oil, but germs.

I'm not talking about the germs that give people diseases, but dirt germs.

It seems like for every kind of dirty germ, there is a product to get rid of it.

Older women, correct me if I'm wrong, but didn't housewives at one time get all their cleaning done with a box of laundry soap, bottle of bleach, box of Spic and Span or equivalent, can of floor wax, cleanser and some bars of soap?

If you go back far enough in American history, probably all they had was one all-purpose cleaner. After all, homes built with dirt floors didn't need to be washed or waxed, people only took one bath a week, and for kids with only one set of clothes, mom washed those while they were washing themselves.

How times have changed. For instance, as I type this, I am looking at a Lysol ad.

One of their products is toilet bowl cleaner. I won't argue with that.

However, they also have a basin-tub-tile cleaner, a deodorizing cleaner for anything you missed with the basin-tub-tile cleaner and then, if there are still any germs left, you can get rid of them with the disinfectant spray.

After all that, you would think one's bathroom would be pretty clean. However, I'm sure Dixie would like to sell you some of their paper cups for use in the bathroom for prevention of SPREADING OF GERMS.

It's probably some company other than Lysol that makes the product for getting rid of MOLD AND MILDEW in the bathroom. Granted, I would rather not use a shower with walls covered with green slime, but I have never heard of a person dying from mold or mildew.

Let us switch to the kitchen, where there now are not only cleaners for inside the oven, but on top as well. In addition to the cleaners for oven and counter tops, there are cleaners for sinks (can't scratch the porcelain) and for the chromework.

I'm sure some company will develop a special cleaner for cleaning the insides of refrigerators. ("Gets rid of those MUSTY ODORS.")

Then there is the laundry. A box of soap and container of bleach isn't enough any more. There are soil and stain removers and special whiteners. Plain white isn't white enough anymore, or plain anything.

After the clothes are finally washed -- hopefully after adding everything else, you didn't forget the soap -- it is time for the dryer.

But one doesn't just put their clothes in the dryer anymore. A piece of tissue paper with some magical qualities must be added so that the clothes come out bouncy and soft.

That's quite a change from the old clothes line, off of which clothes came stiff and scratchy.

As for bouncy and soft, that sounds fine for cheerleaders, but I don't bounce in my clothes.

I would rather have them slightly wrinkled. I call it the lived-in look.

**Hobby Club**

Fourteen members of the Hobby Club and one guest attended the Monday evening meeting of the club at the home of Katherine Crane.

With Betty Jo Agar as co-hostess, the meeting began with a potluck dinner.

Exchange student from Holland, Caroline Swart, showed slides and gave a talk about her native country.

During the business meeting, officers elected for the coming year were Dorothea Quick as president and Caroline Garety as secretary-treasurer.

**AARP installs officers**

The regular monthly meeting of the American Association of Retired Persons was held last Thursday with 45 members attending.

Blood pressure readings were taken by volunteer nurses Irene Freeman and Helen Kelly. Floy Hampshire from the Commission on Aging was in charge of this project.

Hymns were sung with Esther McCullough at the piano. Mary Kritzman gave the invocation. Avis Youngs won the door prize.

Jessie M. Hall, of Flint, AARP training specialist for Area 5, installed the new officers:

President, Charles Beckett (unable to be present); vice-president, Hugh Wells; secretary, Helen Little; assistant secretary, Frankie Anker; treasurer, Margaret Beckett, and assistant treasurer, Martha Durham.

Board of directors members are Earnest Beardley, Marie Roch, Mary Kirtton, Blake Sackett and Donna Wernette.

Mrs. Hall also showed slides of the organization's activities.

The May 8 meeting will be held at the Good Shepherd Lutheran church fellowship hall. Ken Jensen, Hills and Dales General Hospital administrator, will be the guest speaker.

Chuck Simon, Noreen Partridge, Mildred Herr and Vera Bearrs will be in charge of arrangements.



**NEW OFFICERS** of the American Association of Retired Persons Cass City chapter were sworn in last Thursday by Jessie Hall (right) of Flint, AARP training specialist. Officers are, from left, Martha Durham, assistant treasurer; Frankie Anker, assistant secretary; Helen Little, secretary; Margaret Beckett, treasurer, and Hugh Webb, vice-president. The new president, Charles Beckett, was absent due to illness.

**Gerald Parks**

**Death of teacher mourned in Ubley**

Classes at Ubley High School were cancelled Monday because of the funeral of band teacher Gerald D. (Gerry) Parks, who died last Thursday after a fall in his home.

Parks was only 23 and was in his first year of teaching, having graduated in December, 1978, from Central Michigan University with a bachelor's degree in music education.

About 80 persons, administrators, teachers, band members and members of the Ubley Band Boosters, traveled in two school buses Monday to Shepherd, south of Mount Pleasant, for the afternoon funeral.

High School Principal Fred Ruthko described Parks as a "pretty nice young man," very likeable and easy-going, who got along well with his students, fellow teachers and parents.

Parks also taught music at the elementary level. His wife, Cathy, told authorities she was washing dishes about 6:30 p.m. while her husband was hanging drapes in the living room. Their home was on Union Street in Ubley.

She heard a noise, went to investigate and found him on the floor, next to the drapes and a footstool he had been standing on.

One ambulance emergency medical technician and two Huron county sheriff's deputies began cardiopulmonary resuscitation at Parks' home. The CPR continued in the ambulance while on the way to Huron Memorial Hospital, Bad Axe.

Parks reportedly responded in the ambulance.

Resuscitation efforts at the hospital lasted for more than an hour, but the teacher could not be revived.

Cause of death listed on the death certificate signed by Dr. Kenneth B. Herrington, M.D. of Bad Axe, was "acute pulmonary edema" due to or as a consequence of "inhalation of gastric juices (regurgitation of above)."

The death certificate was signed after results of an autopsy performed Friday in Saginaw were received, according to the doctor's office.

Reportedly, it is felt that Parks, who had just finished eating dinner, had either started to choke on his food and fell from the stool or the opposite.

**Thumb spared in road cutback**

Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac counties apparently have been spared from a Michigan Department of Transportation imposed cutback in federally funded projects.

From May through September, according to DOT Director John P. Woodford, new contracts on federal aid projects will be limited to about \$70 million instead of the \$220 million that had been planned. Federal funds provide an average of more than 75 percent of the project costs.

A complete list released by the department of projects scheduled to go under contract in the next five months, which will now be delayed, does not list any from the three upper Thumb counties.

The cutbacks were necessitated because of President Carter's efforts to reduce the federal budget. In turn, the Federal Highway Administration trimmed all

The teacher was born Feb. 1, 1957, in Grand Rapids, the son of Beatrice (Chaffee) Parks and the late Chester A. Parks.

He was salutatorian of his senior class at Shepherd High School in 1974.

He and Cathy Wonsley were married July 23, 1977, in Shepherd. Mrs. Parks is expecting her first child next month.

Her husband was active in band in high school and college, was a member of Phi Mu Alpha fraternity at CMU and belonged to the Ubley Jaycees.

He is survived by his wife and mother. His father and a brother, Elton Parks, preceded him in death.

states' obligated authority, that is, spending commitments made by the states on behalf of the federal government.

Michigan's obligated authority from May through September was reduced from \$187.6 million to \$56.7 million, a cut of 69.8 percent, hence the cutback in state projects.

Contracts for \$123 million in federally-funded projects so far this fiscal year have already been awarded and projects slated for bid opening this month won't be affected.

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Wednesday	56	32	.31
Thursday	48	32	.01
Friday	45	35	.02
Saturday	43	26	.13
Sunday	40	24	.08
Monday	36	30	0.
Tuesday	42	20	.87

(Recorded at Cass City wastewater treatment plant.)

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**13 join Owen-Gage honor group**

Thirteen students from Owendale-Gagetown High School were inducted into the National Honor Society March 26.

The traditional candle-lighting ceremony took place in the high school cafeteria.

The new members welcomed into the society were: Seniors -- Kirk Carolan, Carol Goslin, Tamara Kain, Lori Mandich, Richard Powell, and Dawn Wissner.

Juniors -- Marcello Bruno. Sophomores -- Kimberly Diebel, Julie Enderle, Karla Kretschmer, Tina Mandich, Teresa Schmidt and Bonnie Wells.

Members were selected by the faculty and administration for meeting high standards of character, leadership, scholarship, and service.

A reception for parents and friends followed the ceremony.

The food was prepared by the advanced home economics class and their advisor, Muriel Barr.

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