

Particka earns coveted Ferguson band award

The Cass City High School bands held their annual banquet at the Colony House April 19.

The blessing was asked by Rob Clarke.

Rob Hartwick, president of the concert band, recited a speech and with the help of Deb Paladi presented awards. The award categories were: most improved, Jackie Yost; biggest honker, Rob Hartwick; biggest pest, Keith Langenburg, and teacher's pet, Deb Paladi.

Scott Krueger, president of the symphony band, gave a speech and presented the following awards:

Most undependable, JoAnn Peters; most improved, Bobbi McKay; fire-up award, Karen Wallace, and biggest complainer, Lonnie Wilson.

The band members recognized the Band Booster officers present.

Thomas Clair and George Bushong, directors of the high school bands, presented recognition honors. Freshmen and sophomore band members were given certificates. Juniors were given their band letters. Seniors were given a band pin to add

to their letters.

Then the most deserving senior was awarded the Harold Ferguson award. This is based on the individual's contributions to the band program throughout the four years of high school.

Recipient was Melanie Particka, first chair trumpet player of the Symphony Band. Melanie has participated in marching band, concert band, and pep band for four years.

She competed in solo and ensemble for three years and this year was part of the Brass Quartet that went to the state solo and ensemble.

She has also been a member of the jazz band. This year, she was a member of the Tri-County Band.

Dorn Beddow, a freshman trombone player, gave a speech. She saluted and thanked the senior members.

Senior wills were read by Laurie Enos and Debbie Page.

The fun-filled, exciting evening was brought to a close as the senior prophecies were read by Karen Wallace and Melanie Particka.



TOP BAND MEMBER — Trumpet player Melanie Particka was the recipient of the Harold Ferguson Memorial Award from Cass City High School band director Thomas Clair during the recent band banquet. Her receiving the honor was acknowledged during last Thursday's "Evening With the Arts" program. She was selected by her fellow band members. Melanie is the daughter of Melvin and Charlotte Particka of Cumber Road, Uby.

Gifted child group meets

The Tuscola County Association for Gifted Children will hold a meeting Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Tuscola

Intermediate School District offices, 1685 Cleaver Road, Caro.

On the program is a presentation, "The Testing of Gifted Children." Speakers will be Lynn Burmeister, psychologist for the Tuscola Intermediate School District, speaking on IQ and achievement tests, and Harriet O'Brien, speaking on tests for creativity. They will answer questions on the identification and testing of academically talented and creative children.

The association will also be electing officers for the coming year.

All interested persons are invited to become involved in the work of the organization in promoting the educational and personal opportunities of academically talented and gifted children.

Road contract status remains unclear

The status of the negotiated contract between the Tuscola County Road Commission and the union representing its hourly workers remained muddled as of mid-week.

Tentative agreement was reached April 22 and members of Local 21 M of the Service Employees International Union were to have voted April 29 on the pact.

Afterwards, however, the local union president, Arthur (Jim) Saeger, wouldn't say what happened at the meeting.

Tuesday, Road Commission Clerk Jim Miklovic said about all that was known was that there is no agreement yet between the agency and its employees.

Union representatives are to meet this Thursday with the Road Commission board and more should be known then.

Norm Hughes announces for Congress

Norman R. Hughes, 37-year-old Lapeer County construction management expert, has announced his candidacy for U.S. Congress from the 8th District.

The district consists of all or part of Arenac, Bay, Huron, Lapeer, Saginaw, Sanilac and Tuscola counties.

Hughes received 51,900 votes as the Republican nominee against incumbent Democrat J. Bob Traxler in the 1978 election.

After the 1978 election, Hughes won election to the 8th congressional district Republican chairmanship. He was named to a blue ribbon committee to reorganize the state Republican party, and became chairman of an appointments sub-committee.

Hughes is an advisor to the Ronald Reagan presidential campaign with close contacts to both the state and national Reagan leadership.

Periso sent to prison in sexual conduct case

Raymond D. Periso, 17, of 1545 Phillips Road, Cass City, was sentenced to 3-10 years in the State Prison of Southern Michigan at Jackson Monday for his part in the rape of a woman in Novesta township.

A Circuit Court jury found him guilty March 19 of a charge of criminal sexual conduct (1st degree) in connection with the June 28, 1979, incident.

In pronouncing sentence, Judge Martin E. Clements ordered that Periso not be given any good time or early parole. The defendant was credited with two days served.

In another rape case, James J. Paquette, 20, of 10269 Sheridan Court, and Alvin E. Thrasher, 22, of 10370 Oak Road, both Millington, each stood mute to a charge of criminal sexual conduct (1st degree).

The two are charged in connection with an incident March 28 in Arbela township.

Pleas of innocent were entered for both, with pre-trial hearings scheduled May 19. Bond was continued.

Also Monday, Kenneth W. Reinke, 19, of 4890 E. Block Road, Reese, was placed on two years' probation for attempted breaking and entering.

He pleaded guilty to the charge March 17, in connection with a break-in Jan. 30 at the Reese IGA.

He was also sentenced to 30 days in the county jail and ordered to pay \$170 restitution.

Timothy S. Piazza, 19, of 105 N. Main Street, Vassar,

pleaded guilty to breaking and entering a coin operated device, a Detroit News vending machine March 30 in Vassar township.

His plea was accepted and sentencing scheduled June 16. Bond was continued.

LeRoy A. Hayward, 25, of 3840 W. Gifford Road, Caro, stood mute to a charge of possession of a controlled substance (amphetamines).

A plea of innocent was entered and pretrial hearing scheduled May 19. Bond was continued.

He was arrested on the charge March 17 in Caro.

JUDGE JOSLYN

Judge Patrick R. Joslyn Monday denied the appeal of the prosecutor's office seeking overturning of a ruling by District Judge Richard F. Kern in the case involving Charles Mersino.

The Clarkston resident, 23, had been charged with armed robbery in connection with the March 15, 1979, holdup of the Ku Ku Kow restaurant in Caro.

Kern ruled the following month that a confession given by the defendant after he was arrested in Alpena was given involuntarily and therefore dismissed the charge against him.

Joslyn's upholding of Kern's ruling won't be appealed, according to Assistant Prosecutor Kathleen

Christner. Joslyn ruled Monday that Glen A. Christner is competent to stand trial for murder in the shooting death of his wife.

The judge made the ruling based on results of the examination Christner underwent at the state Center for Forensic Psychiatry, Ann Arbor.

Part of the report of forensic psychiatrist Y.K. Lee, MD, read, "Concerning the matter of competence to stand trial, the defendant has a clear understanding of the charge against him. There is no evidence of mental illness that would interfere with his ability to help his attorney in his own defense."

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Joslyn granted the motion the attorney offered Monday to allow his client to be examined by a private psychiatrist, Dr. Emanuel Tanay of Detroit.

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