

Jardot's last day Monday

4-H youth agent moving on

After 13 years as 4-H youth agent for Tuscola county, Bernard Jardot is moving on.

His last day on the job in Caro was Monday. Tuesday,

he began work as 4-H youth agent for Montcalm county, northeast of Grand Rapids. He leaves behind a program much larger than it was when he began. His

efforts here recently earned him the prestigious National 4-H Distinguished Service Award.

Jardot, 52, didn't ask to be reassigned -- "They needed

a body over there and they decided I was more important over there, I guess." -- but sees his new assignment as a challenge. The position in Montcalm had been vacant six months.

That county isn't much smaller than Tuscola, about 8,000 less population, but the 4-H program there is about the same size as the one here when Jardot started.

Jardot came to Tuscola, his first assignment as a 4-H agent, after 10 years of selling seed in northern Indiana and seven years as a vocational agriculture teacher in Climax and Homer in southern Michigan. He is a native of Eaton Rapids, near Lansing.

When he came here, there were about 900 youngsters enrolled in the regular 4-H program.

Now there are more than 1,300 enrolled in organized 4-H clubs and about 2,600 enrolled in special projects (bicycle safety for fourth graders and conservation in fifth grade) in the schools.

The latter program, which involves working with superintendents, principals and teachers, didn't exist 13 years ago.

Another program he started was 4-H clubs for the handicapped. That was about 10 years ago and there presently is a club at the Caro Regional Center, dealing mainly with foods and crafts, and one at Caro Area Services for the Handicapped, dealing primarily with crafts.

THERE ARE 48 or 49 4-H clubs in Tuscola county and about 260 adult leaders.

The main duties of his job, Jardot said, are recruiting and training leaders and developing activities.

Recruiting leaders is harder now than it was when he started, one reason being because more women are working outside the home, thus they "just don't have the time and energy to commit to 4-H like they used to."

He added that the busiest leaders are usually the best ones because they try to do the best job possible in the short time they have available.

He estimates that about one-fourth of the leaders change each year. The best source of new ones, he finds, is young parents with children entering 4-H. (Children

must be at least 8 years old to participate).

ANOTHER CHANGE over the years is in attracting 4-H'ers. There have always been substantially more girls in the program than boys, but now girls have competing activities, for instance, sports. "Thirteen years ago, 4-H was about it," Jardot noted.

That change perhaps makes good leadership even more imperative. "It still takes an active club with good leadership to keep the boys and girls involved."

Good leaders, he noted, need to be flexible and "tuned into the needs of different ages. There's a lot of difference between a 9-year-old and a 16-year-old."

The traditional image of 4-H has been farm kids raising animals, but that has changed during the 13 years. The 4-H agent estimates that about one-third of Tuscola county 4-H'ers live on farms. The rest either live in town or in rural non-farm homes.

Accordingly, 4-H has moved away from the traditional livestock, woodworking and foods. Arts and crafts project areas have grown considerably, as well as interest in rabbits and other small animals, which are an inexpensive way for youngsters to have an association with animals which don't require much space.

ASA 4-H YOUTH AGENT, Jardot is required to sit on a state project developmental committee.

He is the leader of the crops developmental committee, on which also sit two other 4-H agents, a Michigan State University crops specialist and a teen leader.

The committee develops materials for statewide use -- it recently produced a leaders' guide for beans, to be followed by ones on corn and small grains -- and conducts leader training during Farmers Week and 4-H Exploration Days at MSU.

A Jardot innovation has been to start similar developmental committees on the county level.

It was for his various accomplishments during the past 13 years, especially the 4-H clubs for the handicapped, school conservation programs and county developmental committee, that earned him the National 4-H Distinguished Service Award. He was recommended for the award by a state nominating committee.

He will be presented with the award at the National 4-H Agents' Conference, to be held in Detroit this fall. Jardot received a state 4-H Distinguished Service Award a few years ago.

An active member of the Lions Club for 24 years, he will be moving to Montcalm county with his wife Betty and daughter Judy.

Huron sheriff receives grant of \$17,670

The Huron County Sheriff's Department has received a federal grant of \$17,670 for an inmate rehabilitation program.

The grant is to be matched by \$18,600 from the county. The money is to be used to employ a person experienced in education to coordinate rehabilitation services for all sentenced prisoners in the jail. The coordinator will work with the five correctional officers and use community services whenever available.

The grant will also provide funds for classroom materials, physical education equipment and audio-visual aids.

The federal grant, obtained through the East Central Michigan Planning and Development Region, is from the federal Law Enforcement Assistance Administration.

It will probably be at least October before a replacement is appointed for him here. In the interim, the 4-H program will be in the hands of county Extension Director Bill Bortel, 4-H secretary Barbara Eyre and a program assistant, yet to be hired, for the rest of the summer.

He expresses confidence and the hope that the programs he started will continue despite the temporary absence of a full-time youth agent. "I look for them to stay on track. I hope the leaders and parents have a good success."

Damage set at \$2,000 in Ubly fire

Approximately \$2,000 in damages was reported Monday after sparks from a cutting torch ignited plastic in a storage area at the Lyntex Manufacturing Plant in Ubly.

Bingham township firemen worked for about one hour to extinguish the blaze which started when sparks from a torch used by workers cutting a pipe outside the building traveled down the metal pipe igniting boxes of plastic parts in the storage area.

The plant is owned by Frank Peplinski Jr. and Bill Roberts and is located across the street from the fire hall.

Lautner graduates from NMC

David Lautner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Lautner, 4830 Hospital Drive, Cass City, was among the 381 to graduate at Northwestern Michigan College at Traverse City in early June.

Lautner was awarded an Associate of Applied Science Degree for his successful completion of the two-year program of study in Petroleum Engineering Technology.

Owendale has lengthy history

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Williamson and Rescue Schools in Grant township joined two years later.

INDUSTRY CAME TO Owendale in 1946, when Automotive Industries opened in the previous G.B. Black General Store building. Products over the years included arm rests, molding and sun visors.

A second disastrous fire hit the village in February, 1949, when a grocery, locker plant and tavern-restaurant were destroyed.

A drainage tile plant was constructed in the village in 1954 by Howard Dorsch.

That was the year the village got its first fire truck. Until then, hose carried on a man-pulled cart was connected to the nearest fire hydrant. Residents outside of town had to depend on fire departments from surrounding towns.

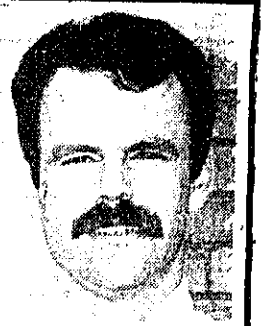
Owendale's two churches, the Evangelical United Brethren and Methodist, merged into the Owendale United Methodist church in 1968 -- part of a worldwide merger -- and made use of the EUB building.

(Information from "History of Owendale, 1861-1969," written by Marilyn (Osborn) Peters, presently remedial reading teacher at Campbell Elementary School in Cass City.)

PEDALING AROUND

British meanderings

By Mike Eliasohn



Unemployment is rampant, inflation is soaring, auto sales are down sharply and the Japanese are disliked.

Sound familiar? All of the above is true of Britain, only conditions are worse there than here.

The inflation rate over there, according to Motor magazine, is presently 22 percent, 1.5 million persons are unemployed, and stocks of unsold new cars have reached 400,000.

May car sales in the United Kingdom, Autocar magazine reported, were down 34 percent compared to the same month in 1979. Of the cars sold in May, 57 percent were imported into Britain.

Most of them come from Europe, as the British government has an agreement with Japan limiting sale of their cars to 11 percent of total auto sales in Britain.

The Japanese are resented for being too successful, although, unlike here, there is no apparent effort to "drive them back into the sea," for lack of a better term.

Where Japan has been most successful in Britain in visible terms has been in motorcycles. British machines used to dominate the market in that country and overseas, with such names as Triumph, BSA, Matchless and Norton.

But in my 1 1/2 weeks in that country, the only British bike I recall seeing was an old moped. Other than some mopeds or motor scooters made in Europe, all I saw were Japanese motorcycles.

The same holds true in this country, most cycles sold being Japanese, the only difference being that American motorcycles never dominated the market here. Most were British.

It isn't obvious to the traveler that Britain is going through a recession, and I'm sure the same would hold true to a foreign visitor traveling in this country.

Despite gasoline costing the equivalent of about \$2.60 a U.S. gallon, highways are full of cars, there is lots of building and renovation work going on and some towns feature new downtown shopping malls.

Britain has, I must add, an excellent public transportation system. Much of it is old and dirty, but the trains run

on time and for much of the public transit I used, it wasn't necessary to know what time the train or bus ran. Wait a few minutes and it would be there.

For the most part, unlike here, the public transportation systems are extensively used. Despite that, they apparently still run massive deficits, which must be made up out of the general treasuries (that is, from taxes).

It appears that with the exception of very rural areas, one could easily get along in Britain without a car, provided one owns a bicycle for local errands and is willing to make sacrifices in terms of convenience by using public transportation.

I was surprised to find very few cars in Britain that appeared in poor shape, and none was rusty. Cars with much of the bodywork rusted away just aren't seen over there.

Part of the answer, in addition to little road salt being used and Englishmen taking better care of their cars, is required annual inspections of cars more than three years old. One of the items inspected is bodywork, so perhaps very rusty cars simply aren't allowed to be licensed.

There's no point to be made in all my meanderings here, other than that if someone wishes to argue that the United States is following the same path as are the British, for better or worse, I won't disagree.

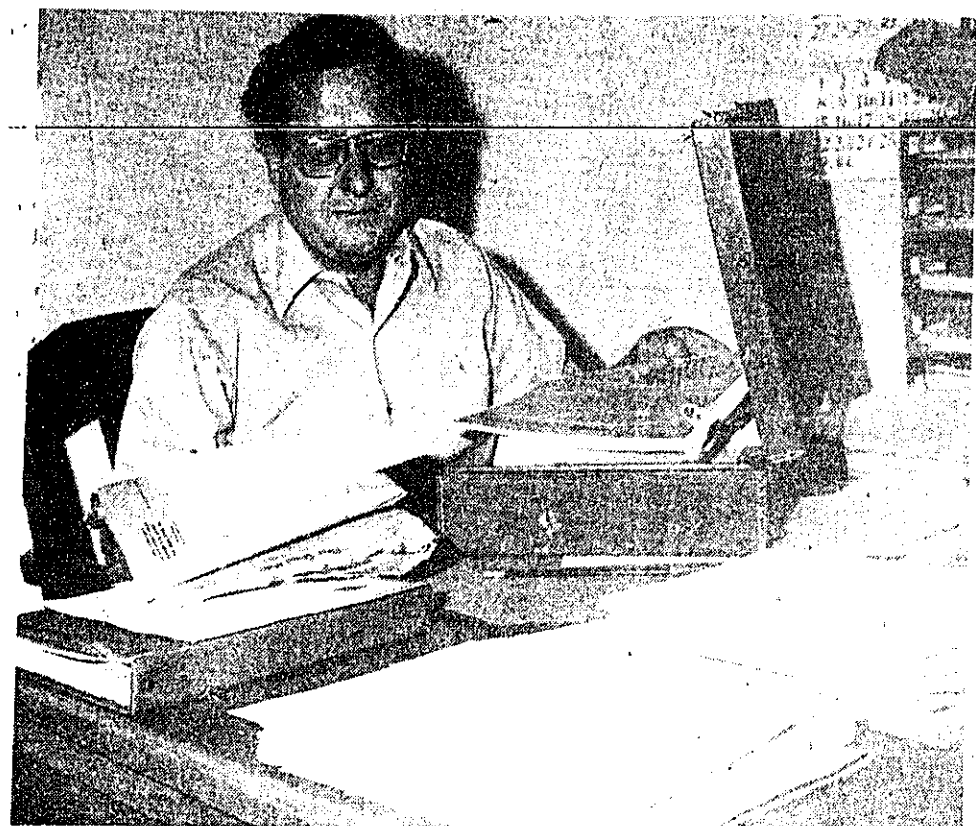
Some 93 million veterans, dependents and survivors of deceased veterans -- or approximately 41 percent of the total population of the United States -- are potentially eligible for VA benefits and services.

DIAMONDS

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MOVING ON -- Cleaning out his desk last week in preparation for his move to Montcalm county was Tuscola County 4-H Youth Agent Bernard Jardot. He held the position here 13 years.

IRS to hold workshop

A small business tax workshop will take place in Saginaw Friday, July 25, at 9:00 a.m., the Internal Revenue Service announced today.

The workshop is sponsored by the IRS, with

participation by state of Michigan tax authorities. It is open to any current or prospective small business owner. There is no charge to attend, but seating is limited

and will be reserved for those who register in advance.

The five-hour program includes discussions on subjects such as federal income tax withholding requirements, and other federal requirements for various federal business tax returns; methods of legally minimizing taxes, and features of the IRS assistance program available to small business persons.

The local workshop will be held at the Multi-Purpose Center, 222 N. Warren, Saginaw.

Interested persons can register by calling IRS toll free at 1-800-482-0670, extension 3674, and asking for Helen Madro, taxpayer education coordinator.

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