

# After 23 years Kirn walks without mail; saying good-bye at open house

Stanley Kirn has stopped delivering the mail but he has not forgotten his faithful patrons. To thank them for their help to him over the years, he and his wife Betty are holding an open house from 2-5 p.m. Sunday at the Masonic Temple at Maple and Garfield Streets. They will be serving ice cream, cake and coffee. Kirn, 55, started working

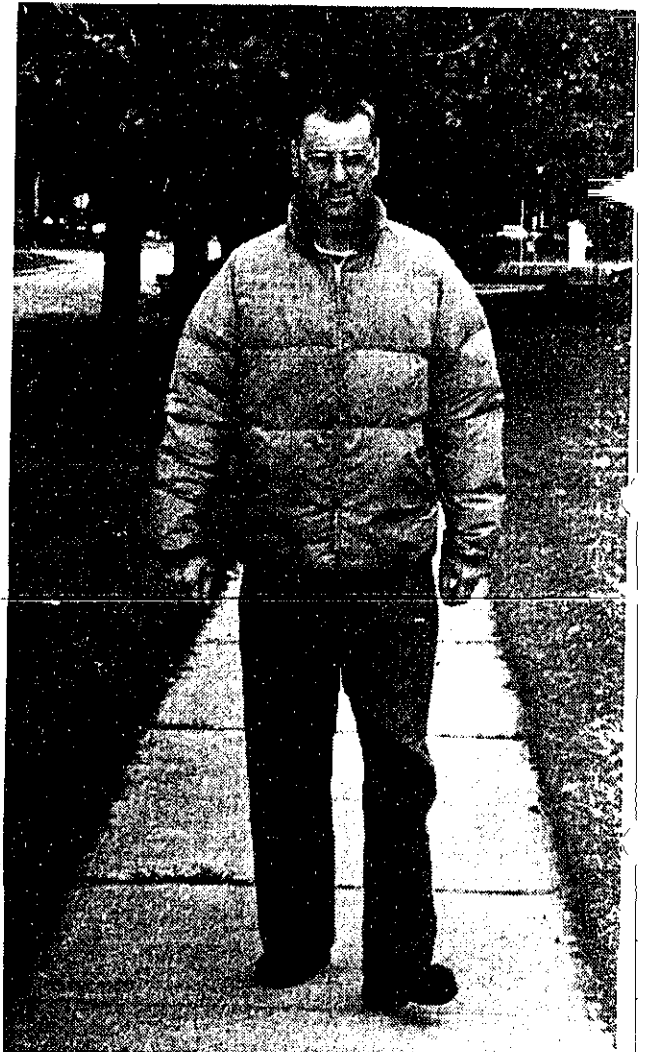
for the Cass City post office in October, 1948. He had been employed at the A&P before then. Postmaster Marie Bigelow needed some temporary help until Christmas and couldn't promise a job after that, "but I've been there ever since." His first nine years were spent as a clerk. On Oct. 23, 1957, he and Dick Root, who is still delivering mail, began the first

home delivery in the village. Until then, persons had to pick up their mail at the post office. Kirn kept the same route for 23 years, delivering mail in the south half of the village. His last working day was Sept. 15, but because of accumulated vacation time, his official last day was Friday. Federal government employees can retire at age 55

if they have a minimum of 30 years of service. Kirn never bothered to figure it out, but estimates he walked 8-10 miles a day. He wore out one pair of shoes a year and several pairs of heels. When he started, he guesses there were 300 stops on his route. At the end, there were about 500. Weatherwise, there were lots of bad days, but he said the worst was on his very first day, back in 1957. There was a strong wind and "it rained cats and dogs all day." Before going out to deliver the mail, he had to buy a raincoat. There were lots of bad winter days, of course, and he recalled one week when he had to wear his ice creepers every day to keep from slipping. During his 23 years, he dislocated his shoulder twice from falls on ice.

He recalled on those instances, someone took him inside their home until help arrived. There were also the offers of hot coffee on cold days, sidewalks shoveled in winter and loans of a raincoat when it suddenly started raining. There were presents of cookies and candy at Christmas and some of his patrons who spent the winter in Florida sent him oranges. He described his upcoming open house as, "Just a little thank you for all the favors people have done for me." Over the years, there were some changes, in addition to more customers. He figures there is more junk mail now than when he started. In the beginning his working day was from 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m. At the end, it was 7:30-4. A big change came in 1975, when the two village carriers started using Jeeps.

Prior to then, someone else in a vehicle made all the Parcel Post deliveries. When the Jeeps arrived, the carriers took that over. Since the vehicles are parked most of the time, he did as much walking as ever and with the Parcel Post, there was more work to do. His replacement on the route is Tom Kelly, who had been a substitute carrier. Kirn and his wife, a first grade teacher at Campbell Elementary, have three children: Mick, an electrician for Martin Electric; Melinda, employed by the Salvation Army in Lansing, and Kathy, a student at Saginaw Valley State College. Kirn has no special plans for his retirement, other than lots of yard work at his home at 4317 Maple Street, some painting and odds and ends. Plus, "I go for a walk every once in a while."



AFTER 23 YEARS of walking 8-10 miles a day delivering mail, Stanley Kirn still likes to go for a walk.



AN ESTIMATED 150 persons attended a fund raiser at Sherwood on the Hill in Gagetown Sunday night, staged in behalf of Dick Erla, left, and James McCann. Among the dignitaries attending was Robert Traxler, United States Representative. Erla is the Democratic candidate for Commissioner in district 2 and McCann is running for state representative on the Democratic ticket.

## Michigan Mirror

# Michigan legislature recesses without passing 1980-81 budget

By Warren M. Hoyt  
Mich. Press Association

general election with election year pressures causing postponement of enactment of a full-year budget for fiscal 1980-81.

The state began its new fiscal year Oct. 1 with only a 90-day continuation budget which will allow for current spending for the first quarter less approximately 10 percent.

The continuation budget in effect hands over virtually all authority to spend about \$1.1 billion during the period to the Milliken administration.

Gov. William G. Milliken agreed to a continuation budget after meeting with legislative leaders who told him Republicans — members of his own party — simply would not support the revenue measures he endorsed in order to fund his \$4.7 billion general fund spending recommendations for the new fiscal year.

THE DECISION TO NOT write a budget forced Management and Budget Director Gerald Miller to scrap plans to go to New York to get approval from bonding houses to borrow \$500 million in short term notes to cover early cash disbursements, such as school aid and revenue sharing payments to units of local governments.

Without the completion of the full year's budget, a bond for the short term money was impossible to obtain.

Instead, the state will borrow from pension funds, probably around \$100 million to make the first payments. Milliken called the continuation budget an unprecedented action, saying other failed attempts to approve budgets were solved with temporary authorizations of not more than several weeks.

"It means the Legislature will have given the executive the unprecedented authority to further reduce spending. 'We're going to see more drastic cuts, and they're going to be tough,'" he said, not elaborating where the cuts will be made.

WHILE THE CONTINUATION budget proposed to simply appropriate a bulk amount of money without specific authorizations for specific programs, the measure creates a new special legislative committee to confer continuously with the budget director on allotments.

The bill also directs the budget director to meet weekly with the House and Senate appropriations and taxation committees.

Capital outlay projects would be continued, but no new projects would be started.

The upcoming election was a factor in the failure to get a full-year budget, Milliken said. He added the uncertainty about the economic situation was another factor.

Although the department of management and budget and legislative fiscal agencies estimate the deepest of the recession has passed, some are worried another downturn could occur.

Others hope revenue estimates will have increased enough by the time a full-year budget is approved so the proposed revenue measures will not be needed.

THE GOVERNOR AND leaders have agreed to add \$125-160 million in revenues through new lottery games, higher cigarette taxes, revised controls on liquor prices and new taxes on military pay and capital gains.

Before leaving for the fall recess, members of the Senate took a parting shot at the House of Representatives for not completing a budget.

Collectively, they said it was totally irresponsible for the House not to want to stay in Lansing until completing the budget. They complained also about turning over their powers of appropriating money to the executive.

Interestingly, though, no member of the Senate is up for re-election this year as they are in the middle of four-year terms.

Continued from page one

Maynard veered onto the shoulder, which gave way and his truck tipped over into the ditch.

### DRIVERS CITED

Max B. Morrish, 19, of 6217 Bay City-Forestville Road, Cass City, was ticketed by deputies on a charge of careless driving after a 6 a.m. accident Friday.

Officers said he was eastbound on Bay City-Forestville, east of Ashmore Road, when his car went off the south side of the road. It hit a driveway culvert, crossed the driveway and came to rest on the lawn. Morrish told officers he had fallen asleep.

At 2:10 p.m. Friday, deputies said, Dewayne M. Austin, 43, of Unionville, was eastbound on M-25, when his car struck the right side of a vehicle southbound on Kirk Road, which had failed to yield.

The other driver involved, Danny R. Whittaker, 25, of 1746 Kingston Road, Deford, was ticketed on a charge of failure to yield right of way at a signed intersection.

Gail L. Davidson, 24, of Essexville, was cited by Caro state police on a charge of disregarding a stop sign after a 4:30 p.m. accident Sunday.

Troopers reported she was westbound on Akron Road, didn't stop at the stop sign, and her car was struck in the right side by a vehicle southbound on M-138.

Driver of the other vehicle was Janet K. Skirlo, 19, of 4415 Seeger Street, Apt. 1, Cass City.

### OTHER ACCIDENTS

Donald Lee Baker, 21, of 3495 White Creek Road, Kingston, told deputies he was northbound on E. Dayton Road, near Riley Road, at 6 p.m. last Thursday when a four-wheel-drive vehicle forced him off the right side of the road.

At 2:10 p.m. Friday, according to deputies, Arthur J. Bulla, 19, of 6777 E. Kelly Road, Cass City, was southbound on Colling Road, north of Deckerville Road, when his car went off the east side of the road into a ditch.

The car came out of the ditch, crossed the road and rolled over into a field on the west side of the road.

Cass City police reported that at 3:15 p.m. Monday, Mildred L. Smith, 65, of 6806 Houghton Street, was southbound on Leach Street, started to turn left onto Pine, and ran into a northbound car.

Scott Vatter, 16, of 4110 Decker Road, Decker, was the other driver involved. Edward J. Doerr, 22, of Caseville, was northbound

on M-53, north of Argyle Road, at 1:30 a.m. Sept. 30 when his car struck a deer. Cass City police investigated.

At 6:45 a.m. Friday, ac-

cording to Caro state police, Mark E. Bastien, 20, of 5560 Bond Road, Deford, was northbound on Dodge Road, south of Severance Road, when his car struck a deer

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