

History was made about 5:40 p.m. Monday, a couple of miles west of Cass City. My 1970 Gremlin rolled its 100,000th mile.

A lot has happened since I took possession of the car June 19, 1970. Including sales tax, I paid \$2,546.36 for it. When I buy a new car, probably this spring, it will probably cost me three times that and I won't be buying a fancy car.

Every time I buy gas, I write down the price, gallons and mileage. I goofed the first time I bought gas for my car, and only wrote the price, but the second time, I paid 38 cents a gallon for lead-free gas.

My car doesn't need leadfree. It's just that back then, I was concerned about lead poisoning our environment. I am still concerned about our environment, but now I am also concerned about price, so it has been a long time since I paid for unleaded gas. Leaded regular, expensive but still cheaper, is good enough for me.

The cheapest I have ever paid for gas is 23.9 cents per gallon, but I don't remember if that is when I had my present car or the one before that, a Volkswagen beetle.

The Gremlin is only the second car I have owned. If the rest of the public were like me (cheap), America would be in a permanent

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The Chronicle

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depression, instead of what we hope is a temporary one. Obviously, the economy will improve when I buy my new car.

My Gremlin was not perfect when I got it, so sloppy workmanship is nothing new. The gas gauge didn't work, the clutch pedal didn't work right, the shift linkage needed adjustment, the knob on one of the window cranks fell off and the seat belts were installed backwards.

During the 10 years, my car was involved in two accidents, only one of which was my fault. In 1972, I was working as a

volunteer in an election campaign and I emerged from election headquarters about 2 o'clock one morning to find the left front fender had been viciously attacked by another vehicle. The metal wasn't just dented, it was ripped.

The second mishap occurred in the winter of 1975 or 1976. I forget. While returning to Monroe on US-23, north of Milan, I spun off the road when I hit a stretch of ice. My car got stuck in the snow and before I could get it going again, another car spun off the road into the

front end of mine. I was car-less for about a month. I made the unfortunate choice of the wrong body shop in Monroe. The workmanship was okay, but

they managed to throw out my mudflaps, return the fender brace they had ordered to the distributor because they forgot which car they had ordered it for, and did a few other things wrong, which I no longer remember.

For those of you ninny drivers out there who think the only way to stop a car is with the brakes screeching and the only way to get one going is with wheels spinning, I modestly point out that my car is on its second set of tires (granted, I use snow tires in winter), the front brake linings were replaced at 90,000 miles (the back ones are original) and I still have the original clutch.

I better stop bragging or I will be tempted to try for 200,000 miles.



BEST WINDOWS in the senior high division of the Halloween window painting contest sponsored by Cass City downtown merchants were Beabe McLachlan, Deb Dorland and Teresa Flowers. Absent was Margaret Hawkins. Each won a \$10 gift certificate.



Halloween 'reasonably quiet'in Cass City area

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Building owner David Luana reported Tuesday that there was a small hole in a window at Hobart's Shoes, apparently made with a BB gun. The 41/2-by-61/2-foot window will cost \$150 to replace.

While on patrol Thursday morning, Wilson noticed a hole about the size of a watermelon in the Schneeberger's-owned building on Maple Screet. On the floor inside, he found a sug beet. The window was v ued at \$150-200.

Marilyn Woodward of 69 Severance Road repor Friday morning that wh

Slipcovers ca

reduce costs

A shabby-looking home o apartment need not be the natural consequence of in flation. You can make you abode's interior comfortable and handsome-looking with a few inflation-wise change that are long on impact an short on ready cash, accord ing to the home fashion experts Some of their advice:

-You can defer such ma jor purchases as upholstered ofas and chairs by buying furniture slipcovers. Th newest slipcovers are made of stretch-knit fabrics for good fit and come in variety of fashion-conscious patterns, prints and colors The key to handsome look ing slipcovered furniture i to measure properly, say the experts, and there are

measuring guides in catalogs to help you. Properly fitte slipcovers can give furnitur and the room part of new lease on life, and cost very little. A standard size sofa can be slipcovered in heavyweight, cotton-blend stretch-knit slipcover in coordinated florals, solids on stripes for as little as \$50.

-You might also consider furniture throw covers as thrifty way to brighten furniture or protect it. Throws now come in designer patterns and can provide a real lift for tired sofas and chairs.

--Don't throw away a chair or bar stool with a ripped or worn vinyl or

her son's car was parked Alice Finkbeiner of 4463 behind Cass City Floral Thursday night, someone shot two holes in the windshield with an air gun. Street, from 7:30-9:40 Fri-Replacement cost will be \$200-250.

Lamton Road told officers Margaret Biebel of 7537

while her car was parked on Houghton Street, near West day night, someone cut her left front tire, apparently with a knife. When she Bay City-Forestville Road told officers Friday that

returned, the tire was flat. Murill Shagena of 6470 while driving through Cass Houghton Street told police City at 8:50 p.m. Thursday, that at 8:45 p.m. Monday, an her car was hit by eggs, apple was thrown through a which removed some paint. storm window. The window Damage was estimated at was valued at \$20.

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

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CASS THURSDAY Thru SUNDAY **NOVEMBER 6-7-8-9** Thursday "Bargain Nite" 8:00 Only Fri.-Sat.-Sun. 7:30 & 9:20 (Reg. Prices) THE YEAR'S GREATEST COMEDY SPOOF FOR ALL AGES



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"Raise The Titanic"

JUNIOR HIGH division winners in the window painting contest were Annette Stachura (left) and Pam Polega, along with Sara MacRae, unable to be present for the photo. Each won a \$5 gift certificate.

Gagetown village council's apartment plans foiled

The Gagetown Village Council unknowingly eliminated any possibility it had of getting federal funds to purchase the old St. Agatha's School to convert into apartments for senior citizens.

The council, which first plained as to why the council took the action it did. Gagetried to get funds a year ago, town's federal grants addecided in October to apply for \$150,000 to convert the visor, Leonard Hool, told him of the development a building into five apartments. The Gagetown Decouple of weeks ago. Downing said the possibilvelopment Corp. probably ity of getting a Farmers would have put up the funds to buy the property had the Home Administration loan

grant been received. to finance the project will But at the Oct. 6 council now be explored and Hool will check to see if there meeting, trustees voted to participate in a federally might be some other federal funded housing rehabilitaprogram to tap. If Tuscola county does get tion program, for which Tuscola county is applying for the \$900,000 grant, or a

portion of it, some low-\$900,000. It turned out, however, income Gagetown homethat by voting to participate owners will be able to get in the county program, the money at low interest or for free to improve their homes. village was therefore ineligible to apply on its own At the council meeting

for the apartment project, Monday, trustees voted to as that money would have hire the Pigeon certified come from the same federal public accounting firm of program, administered by Anderson, Lynch, Nietzke the Department of Housing and Co., to perform the and Urban Development. annual audit.

"Nobody told us," Village The council voted to buy President Bill Downing excandy for Santa Claus to give to children during his annual visit, When St. Nick will be visiting Gagetown hasn't been decided yet.

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Cass City Chronicle





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