

Sewage plant funding nears

Treatment will take place in the first pond with the second primarily for storage. The ponds will be capable of holding the entire effluent for a year. The ponds will be 7 acres each at Owendale.

Because of the resulting pollution problem, both villages are under orders from the Michigan Water Resources Commission to take action to correct the problem.

Proposed from both is installation of sewers with one pumping station, with the sewage flowing to two lagoons.

Discharge from the ponds will take place in the spring only. At Gagetown, it will flow into the Bears Drain; at Owendale, into the Duffy Drain.

Gagetown already owns the land for the lagoons; Owendale will have to purchase it.

FUNDING LIKELY

According to Knop, "It looks good" that the EPA will approve funding for the projects, "but there's no guarantee."

Approval of the "no significant environmental impact" reports prepares the way for the next step in the funding process.

Had the conclusion been otherwise, time consuming environmental impact statements would have had to have been prepared. The finding was, however, that the proposed sewage treat-

ment systems would not have an adverse effect on the environment.

The report for Owendale was released Sept. 17. Gagetown's was released Dec. 3, after which there is 21 days for anyone to protest the findings that no impact statement is needed.

APPLICATIONS

Both villages have applied to the EPA for combined Step II funds, to prepare the construction plans, and Step III, to pay for construction.

Knop expressed hope that the DNR will approve Gagetown's Step II-III application within a month, but then pointed out that the agency has had Owendale's application longer than that and still hasn't okayed it.

Once it does, then the EPA must approve the applications, which might take another 1-1½ months.

He expressed hope the funds might be awarded in February — if they are awarded. The EPA usually announces funding for such projects early each year and again in August or September, so if approval doesn't come soon it might be a wait of several more months.

Once the funds are assured, it will then take several months for Edmands to prepare the construction plans and bid documents.

Assuming funding comes by February or so, advertising for bids could take place toward the end of the year. With a few months before bids would be awarded, construction would start in early 1982.

It will then take 1-1½ years to complete both projects in each village, Knop said.

Billings gets prison term in one of 8 sentencings

Eight persons were sentenced Monday when they appeared before Circuit Judge Martin E. Clements.

Clifford Billings, 61, formerly of Walnut Trailer Park, Cass City, was sentenced to 5-10 years in the State Prison of Southern Michigan at Jackson for breaking and entering an unoccupied dwelling. He was credited with 125 days served.

He pleaded guilty to the charge Nov. 3, in connection with a March 17 break-in of a mobile home on Hurds Corner Road, Ellington township.

Robert L. Trisch, 44, of 2633 W. Deckerville Road, Caro, was placed on 2½ years' probation for criminal sexual conduct (3rd degree). He was also sentenced to 60 days in the county jail and assessed \$300 court costs.

The charge was in connection with an incident July 29 in Almer township involving

a teenage girl.

David Lee McDonald, 33, of 304 Goodrich Street, Vassar, was placed on two years' probation for criminal sexual conduct (4th degree). He was also sentenced to 60 days in the county jail with work release privileges granted and credit given for five days served, fined \$200 and assessed \$300 court costs.

He pleaded guilty to the charge Nov. 3, in connection with an incident Oct. 11 in Vassar involving a 15-year-old girl.

John R. Taylor, 21, of 2009 Bliss Road, Caro, was sentenced to 140 days in the county jail, with credit given for 66 days served, for joy riding.

He pleaded guilty to the charge Nov. 3, of having driven a car belonging to someone else Oct. 11 in Caro.

James R. Stevens Jr., 19, of 6448 S. State Street, Vassar, was placed on two years' probation for attempted forgery. He was sentenced to 178 days in the county jail, with credit given for 178 days, fined \$100, assessed \$100 court costs and ordered to pay restitution.

He pleaded guilty to the charge Nov. 17, to having cashed an altered promissory note June 21 in Indianfields township.

Dennis J. Brady, 17, of 3120 Hurds Corner Road, Caro, was sentenced to 90 days in the county jail for larceny under \$100, with credit given for 90 days served.

He pleaded guilty Nov. 17

to the theft of money Aug. 25 from Ted Robinson in Wells township.

Michael Richards, 20, of 9355 Beech Street, Fostoria, was sentenced to 58 days in the county jail for violating probation, with credit given for 58 days served. Probation was revoked.

He was placed on two years' probation in August, 1978, for breaking and entering an occupied dwelling. He violated probation by failing to report to his probation officer for two months.

Sara J. Sprague, 25, of Bay Port, pleaded no contest to insufficient funds. Her plea was accepted and she was fined \$25 and assessed \$10 court costs.

She was charged with cashing a personal check June 9 for \$35 at Bigelow's Hardware, Cass City, for which she did not have a bank account.

OTHER CASES

Kin Lado Geilhart, 25, of Quinn Street, Caro, stood mute to a charge of delivery of PCE Aug. 13 in Indianfields township.

A plea of innocent was entered and pretrial hearing scheduled Jan. 5. Bond was continued.

Gregory A. Welch, 22, of 240 E. Grant Street, Caro, stood mute to a charge of delivery of marijuana Oct. 22 in Caro.

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

Tony W. Welch, 19, of 240 Grant Street, Caro, stood

mute to two charges: delivery of LSD, Aug. 22 in Indianfields township and Sept. 11 in Caro.

Pleas of innocent were entered and pretrial hearing scheduled Jan. 19. Bond was continued.

Walter R. Oliver, 27, of Saginaw, pleaded innocent to violating probation. His plea was accepted and hearing scheduled Wednesday. Bond was continued.

He was placed on 12 months' probation in April 1979, for attempted embezzlement over \$100. He was charged with violating probation by failing to pay court-ordered obligations for three months.

Robert J. Howell, 18, of 67 Little Road, Cass City, stood mute to a charge of delivery of marijuana July 9 in Ellington township.

A plea of innocent was entered and pretrial hearing scheduled Jan. 12. Bond was continued.

The guilty plea of Terry H. Hascall, 18, of 6076 S. Sheridan Road, Vassar, to malicious destruction of property over \$100 was refused.

He tried to plead guilty to damaging a car July 25 that belonged to the Vassar schools, in exchange for which a second malicious destruction over \$100 charge and a district court case would be dismissed.

The second charge involves damaging the utility station wagon of Thomas Asperger July 25 in Vassar. He will now be tried on both charges Dec. 18.

Decision nears in pay dispute

The Tuscola County Board of Commissioners and Probate Judge W. Wallace Kent Jr. are both waiting for a Christmas present from state Court Administrator Einar Bohlin, but only one will get it.

Bohlin conducted a six-hour hearing in Lansing Monday to hear both sides present their arguments in the dispute over the contract Kent negotiated with his seven employees, which would give them substantially more pay than in the contract the board negotiated with courthouse employees.

It contends the probate employees were covered in that contract. The next step is for Bohlin to send a letter to the board and Kent informing them of his decision. Kent and county Commissioner Donna Rayl, chairman of the board's personnel committee, expressed hope the letter will be mailed this week.

If he rules in favor of the judge, Kent will then issue an administrative order directing the county to pay his employees at the higher rate. The difference between what the board wants to pay the employees and what Kent wants is \$10,476.

The hearing was conducted by Bohlin, Thomas Cooper, former president of the Michigan Association of Counties, and Probate Judge John Vusich of Montcalm county, representing the Probate Judges Association.

In the morning, everyone was present together. In the afternoon, Vusich met with Kent and Cooper met with the county representatives. At the end, the two "advisors" made their recommendations to Bohlin. It was agreed that their recommendations would not be revealed publicly until Bohlin issues his decision.

The county was well represented at the session. In addition to Mrs. Rayl, also present were Commissioner Ken Kennedy, chairman of its finance committee; Jackie Larson, county personnel director; Michael Ward, the board's labor attorney; labor consultant Charles Minner, who negotiated the contract with county employees, and James Yarger, head of a consulting firm that conducted an employee wage-hour study for the board.

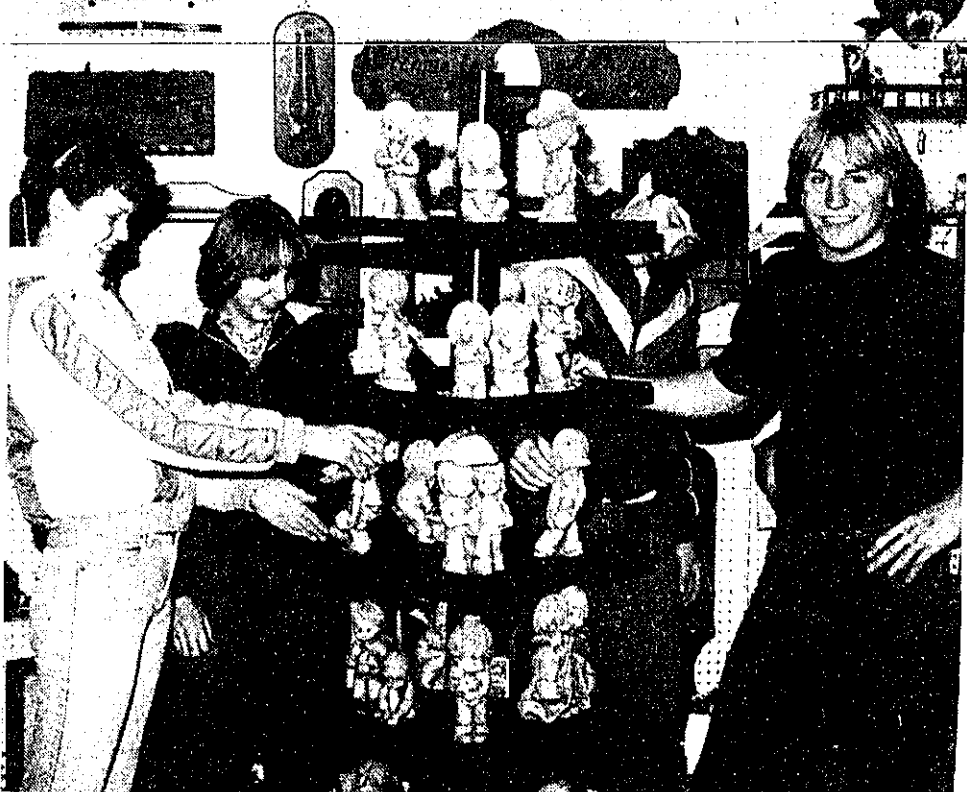
Kent was there on his own, but among those present from the court administrator's office was Bill Rye, who conducted a study comparing wages of probate court employees with those of other courthouse employees and employees of similar-size counties.

The two sides had agreed last February to have him conduct the study in an attempt to resolve the dispute. Kent had negotiated the contract in 1980.

Rye's report had concluded that to establish parity, the probate employees should be paid \$10,476 more in 1980 than they would be paid under the contract with other courthouse employees.

Kent and his staff agreed to accept that recommendation, rather than the almost \$15,000 additional in the contract they had negotiated.

Monday's hearing was conducted at the request of the county board.



Karla Wischmeyer, Martha VanCamp and Todd Nurnberger look over the nice gift items under the barn doors at Old Wood Drug. Beautiful things for home and gift giving are found in the corner store with a whole lot more. Salesman Bob VanCamp seems pleased with his display. (Adv.)

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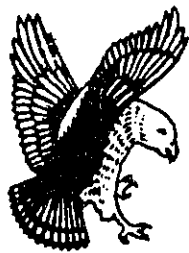
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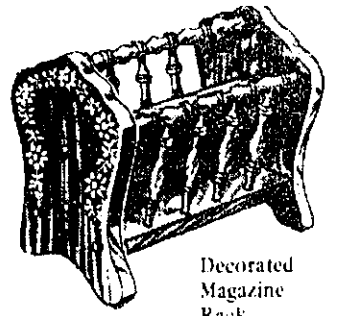
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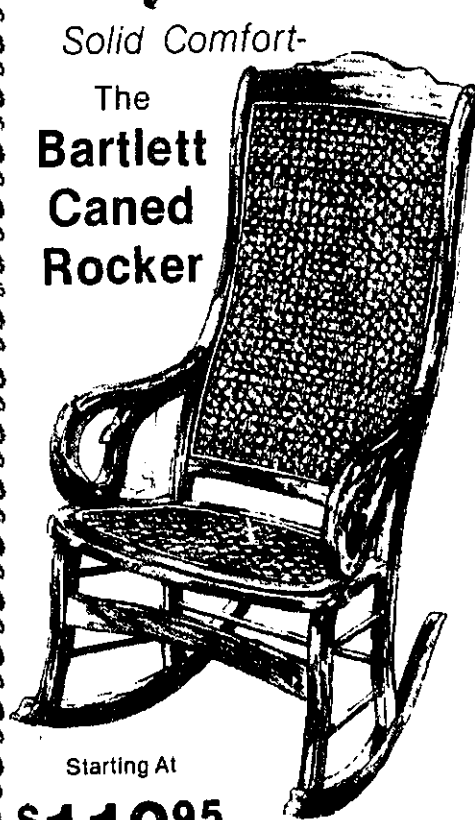
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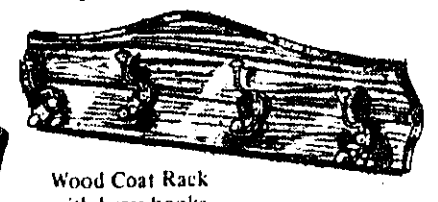


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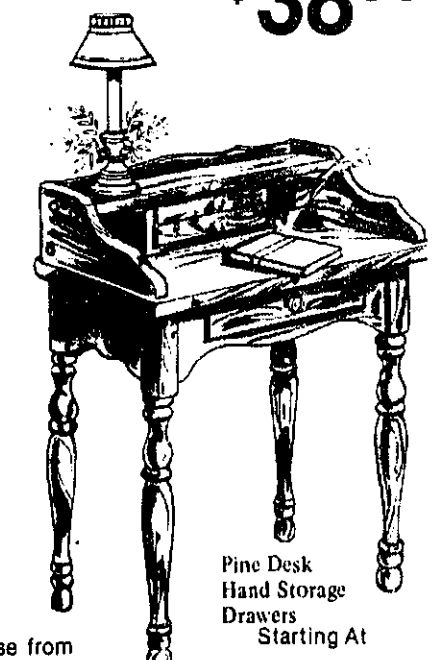
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