

Adopt 1981 budget

Commissioners reject equalization



Continued from page one
residential.

For area townships, the proposed valuation increases in the now rejected equalization report are as follows, with agricultural given first, residential second and timber cutover third. All are increases: Elkland, 7.66 percent, 12.21, 3.20; Ellington, 4.76 percent, 6.45, no increase; Elmwood, 6.18 percent, 4.65, no increase; Novesta, 7.79 percent, 6.56, .89, and Kingston, 6.38 percent, 7.71, .19.

The vote to reject the equalization study was 5-1, with Robert Russell of Vassar voting no and Margaret Wenta unable to be present.

mittee, was the only commissioner to vote against the park appropriation.

The two added appropriations, he later told the Chronicle, reduce the anticipated balance, which the board must dip into for emergencies, to about \$30,000, even more precarious than the original \$44,493.

That makes it even more likely the board will have to dip into the \$300,000 it should receive in federal revenue sharing funds in 1981, he warned, and make layoffs likely in 1982.

To get through next year, the board will have to use all the revenue sharing money it has saved in past years. Most of the 1981 revenue sharing will probably go to the Road Commission (tentatively \$150,000), Health Department (\$75,000) and county libraries (\$15,000). If the rest goes for general county operations, Kennedy warned, "We won't have anything to dip into for '82. That's when we'll have to start laying people off."

BUDGET

With minor changes, the board unanimously approved the 1981 county budget that it tentatively approved Dec. 16.

No one spoke at the scheduled public hearing. The major change was an increase from the \$38,000 originally appropriated to county Community Mental Health Services to \$48,000, the amount it had requested. The reason for the increase was that it qualified the agency to receive an additional \$134,000 in state matching funds.

The other change was that the board voted to reinstate funds for the county park at Quanicasse, at a cost of \$4,000. The tentative budget didn't include any funds to keep it open.

Ken Kennedy, chairman of the board's finance com-

and Millington to the board in January. Tentative starting date is Feb. 1.

For the 1980-81 fiscal year, which started Oct. 1, TACA

will spend \$591,680 in federal, state and local funds in the three upper Thumb counties.

The board approved an-

nexation of the property of Mary Wilding on Seventh Street to Cass City.

The board discussed with Sheriff-elect Paul Berry pro-

posed remodeling of the jail to make use of the space in the no-longer-to-be-used sheriff's apartment, but no decisions were made.



NO SWING -- The heavy snow of late makes it seem like a long time before children will be able to use these swings again. Winter officially began Dec. 21. The first day of spring is March 20.

WILLIS LaBLANC of 3771 Cemetery Road was a winner of \$250 in "lucky bucks" in the Dec. 21 drawing sponsored by the Cass City Retail Committee.

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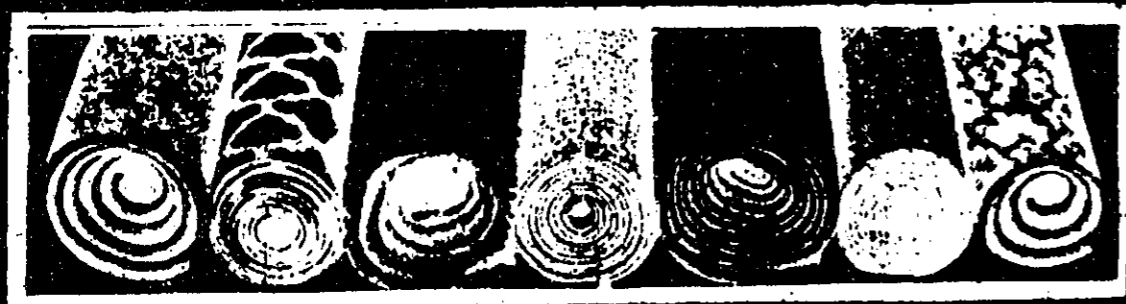
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Fire chief in hospital with injury

Elmwood-Gagetown Fire Chief Chuck Wright was reported in fair condition Tuesday morning at Hills and Dales General Hospital, recuperating from injuries suffered at a Dec. 20 fire.

Wright's left leg was pinned between two fire trucks after the brakes on one of them failed.

He was treated and released after the mishap and was recuperating at home. A blood clot developed in the leg, however, and he went into the hospital Saturday, his wife, Judy, said.

The fire was in a barn on Dodge Road, owned by Joseph Krymenski of Detroit. Arson is believed to have been the cause.

The firemen quickly extinguished the fire, which resulted in no more than \$300 damage.

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Senior citizen hall of fame

Few people are aware of how much senior citizens have achieved over the years, and how some senior citizens may be honored this year.

Achievements
The great composer, Johann Sebastian Bach, wrote what many consider some of his best works including *Musical Offering* and *The Art of Fugue* when he was in his 70s.

The early American explorer John Cabot was 73 when he became the first European since Viking times to reach South Greenland, and then he crossed to North America and followed its coast south to what is now Delaware.

When Sir Winston Churchill was elected Prime Minister of England in 1951, he was 77 years old.

Benjamin Franklin was 83 when he helped draft the United States Constitution in 1787.

English physician William Harvey, who discovered the process by which blood circulates in the body also did important work on embryology, writing *Of the Animal Species* in 1651, when he was 73.

When Oliver Wendell Holmes was 91, he was still a judge of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Washington Irving completed his detailed *Life of George Washington* in 1859, at the age of 76.

Senior Hall of Fame Award

Now, for the second year in a row, achieving older people will be honored with membership in the Senior Hall of Fame. An outstanding man and an outstanding woman will be chosen by a panel of celebrity judges, including Maureen O'Sullivan, Mrs. Norman Vincent Peale and Robert J. Lipshutz, to receive the September Days Club Davy Award and membership in the Hall of Fame. Winners will be honored at a national awards ceremony.

Last year's winners were Florence Hunter and Don Brandon, each of Florida, Florence, 68, serves on the board of seven organizations ranging from criminal rehabilitation to educational programming. Brandon, 72, organized and executed an ongoing program of free holiday meals for needy citizens.

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