CHRONICLE

VOLUME 97, NUMBER 39

CASS CITY, MICHIGAN - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2003

Blazedamages building in Caro

Some 60 fire fighters from 7 Tuscola County departments fought a blaze that ripped through a 2-story building in downtown Caro Sunday morning, causing extensive damage to the

The building at 156 N. State St. houses the Caro Masonic Lodge and Thumb Office Supply.

Caro fire fighters were called to the building, located between Howard's Beauty Academy and Innovations Salon and Day Spa, at 7:30 a.m.

"When I got there the fire was blowing out of the southeast corner of the building," said Caro Fire Chief Dave Mattlin. "We had a heavy fire load within the building. It was cooking." No one was inside the structure at the time of the fire,

and no firemen were injured.

"The fire originated in the kitchen of the upstairs occupancy," Mattlin said, referring to the Masonic lodge. "They had had an installation of officers the previous evening and they were having some electrical problems," he noted, adding those problems are the suspected cause, although a final determination will not be made until a state fire marshal can be called in to in-

Mattlin said the Masonic lodge sustained heavy fire damage. "We were able to save the lodge's records and a lot of their artifacts and furnishings in the lodge room itself," he said. Thumb Office Supply sustained a great deal of water damage, but fire fighters were able to salvage "quite a bit" of property inside the business, Mattlin

Please turn to back page.



Oh, Christmas tree...

A CREW AT THE Silvernail Tree Farm near Kingston is ready to assist customers looking for that special Christmas tree. The workers have been busy this year, transporting, shaking and bundling trees for hundreds of residents.

At Silvernail Tree Farm

Christmas trees going fast

When it came time to retire, farm. Carl-Silvernail considered This is the trio's busy-time hold-their needles the long tinued. "With-the firs, institing back and taking it of the year as customers come est and hold their color the creasingly we're getting (cuseasy after a teaching career spanning 25 years, but it wasn't long before the Kingston area man realized that wasn't the life for him.

So, Silvernail put his background in agriculture to use again by planting some trees.

Today, Silvernail and his partners, Ted and Jim Brzezinski, also of Kingston, have a thriving landscape nursery and Christmas tree

Lambert (Bert) E. Althaver

of Cass City was the guest

speaker at Northwood

University's winter com-

mencement, held Saturday in

the Bennett Sports Center in

Althaver, retired chairman

and CEO of Walbro Corpo-

Business Leader and trustee,

Midland.

of the ceremony.

Althaver began his career at Walbro Corporation in 1954 as an accountant and quickly rose to the top, retiring in 1998

as a chairman and chief executive officer. He served on the board of directors of the company from 1968 until his retire-

Althaver was born in Kansas City, Mo., and received a BBA

Degree from Principia College in Elsah, Ill. He spent 2 years in the military before joining Walbro Corporation.

In Cass City, he served as village president for 32 years and

is currently chairman of the Tuscola Area Airport Authority

and director of the Tuscola County Economic Development

Corporation. He was also a member of the Tuscola County

Active in Boy Scouts of America, Althaver received the Distinguished Eagle Scout and Silver Beaver awards.

He has served as director of the Cass City Arts Council and

as a director and business manager of the Village Bach Festival, which was held in Cass City for many years. He was a director of Artrain USA for more than 25 years and served as

The Cass City Chamber of Commerce named Althaver Citi-

zen of the Year in 1978. He is a multiple Paul Harris Fellow

of Rotary International and has served as president of the

Northwood honors

Lambert Althaver

from all over to select that perfect Christmas tree. Many are repeat customers who know exactly what they're looking for, and most take the time to search for and

then cut down their own tree,

according to Silvernail, 72. "From Thanksgiving on, it's very busy," he said, adding hundreds of people visit the farm, located about 2 miles east of Kingston, during the weekends in December. "Yesterday (Friday), there were 2 of us working, and we

were non-stop." Customers find a wide selection of trees to choose from, although many have a personal preference for one

variety or another. "The scotch pine is the old standby," Silvernail said. The Colorado blue spruce has been a big seller, but now the firs are becoming an increasing portion of the market. I think probably the firs Now it's 60 percent," he con-

Silvernail grows Douglas, Fraser and concolor fir trees. He said Fraser firs are native only to certain mountainous regions and prefer cool, damp summers, which makes them difficult to grow.

"They're one of the exotic trees, but we're learning to raise them in Michigan," he said, noting he's found that the soil on a good portion of his land is very suitable for growing the variety.

"Because they're so hard to raise, we charge more for these," he added. "This year we're getting about \$10 a foot. The other trees average half that."

Silvernail, who also grows white spruce trees, said the Douglas fir and other varieties are becoming increasingly popular.

"The scotch pine used to be 90 percent of the business.

tomers) from the city, the suburbs. People seem to be willing to pay a little more."

Also gaining popularity are potted trees, which customers can use for the Christmas season and later plant in their yards, Silvernail said. "We sell hundreds of those each Christmas."

Silvernail pointed out that raising the trees involves much more than planting and harvesting.

"A lot of people think. 'we're going to plant and sell Christmas trees', but there's a lot of work. We have to shape the tree every year, and we spray for weed control and also for disease and insect control."

How quickly the trees grow, he explained, depends on age and variety. "It'll vary." he said. "We buy trees that are already 3 to 5 years old. Please turn to back page.

Church to use Deford School

School approves lease of building

The Cass City School Board approved leasing the former Deford School Building to the Deford Country Church for \$500 per month at its regular meeting Monday at the high school:

It is expected that the church, under the direction of Pastor Dan Strength, will approve the terms. The lease requires a security deposit of \$500 with a guarantee of a minimum of 6 months use. After that the lease may be terminated by either party with 30 days notice.

The board also reviewed a request by Jeff Doerr of TotalCom in Cass City to use the school tower at Deford in exchange for service. The board refused the request, but indicated that it would consider renting the tower for a payment of about \$100 per month.

TotalCom would use the tower to expand its wireless coverage in the Deford area.

The board is expected to apply to the state for participation in the Freedom to Learn program that includes a laptop computer for each of the 130 students in the sixth grade.

However, Supt. Ken -Micklash-said-it's-doubtfulif Cass City would be one of ticipation will be based on need and since Cass City now has a computer for each 2 students we should not be high on the priority list.

Even if the school does become one of the select few it's not at all certain that it will enter the program. Lyle Severance, tech coordinator, and Jeff Hartel, middle school principal, explained the program.

There would be an initial cost of \$25 a student to qualify and another \$62.50 per student for training in the program. Other questions that would need to be answered are the cost of insurance and the cost of maintaining the 130 units. If the program proceeds as outlined, the computers would stay with the students and the number of machines requiring maintenance double

each year.

If the state abandons the program after a year or so, it could cause a serious problem for the school, Micklash pointed out.

Applications to enter the program must be submitted by Jan. 16.

OTHER BUSINESS

January meeting.

ceived a B rating in the statewide school evaluation by the Michigan Department of Education. Although the rating is satisfactory, the school is appealing part of the rating because of inaccurate Forms for evaluation of the statistics in the survey.

board and the superinten-

dent were distributed and are

due to be returned for the

Cass City High School re-

Council okays lean budget

Cass City officials Monday approved a lean 2004 spending plan totaling \$2.75 million, slightly less than actual estimated expenditures this year. Revenues for the year are projected at \$2,83 mil-

The Village Council unanimously approved the budget following a 15-minute public hearing during the special meeting.

Council President Les Karr noted the new spending plan is based, in part, on a slight increase - 1.2 percent — in the village's taxable value. The estimated millage is 18.2746 mills, an increase of .11 of a mill. For the owner of a home valued at \$80,000, the increase translates into an additional \$4.40 in taxes in 2004.

Karr said the millage rate is only an estimate and won't be set until March, when the exact taxable value will be known.

Also factored into the budget is a wage increase of 1.56 percent for full- and part-time village employees. The exception is seasonal part-time workers, whose pay will remain the same. A chart outlining the increase accompanies this story.

On the revenue side, Karr pointed out the village, like many others, is being forced to get by on less money. Among the hardest hit areas is state shared revenues. Village officials expect to receive 12 percent (about \$38,000) less from that revenue source next year,

Karr noted a few revisions in the proposed spending plan since the council last met in November.

They include a fee cut of \$5 in the seasonal charge for the arts and crafts program, from \$25 to \$20 for village

Sergeant

Patrol Officer

Patrol Officer (current)

residents and \$30 to \$25 for non-residents. In addition, the police department will now charge \$5 for fingerprinting and out-of-jurisdiction accident reports.

The 2004 General Fund budget is slightly less - just over \$8,000 - than the actual estimated 2003 expenditures of \$1,245,762. Revenues are set at \$1,237,964.

Village Manager Frank Sheridan said last month that he hopes to balance the budget without dipping into the iund dalance, which is expected to be near the \$326,000 the village is expected to have at the end of the current fiscal year. The figure equals enough cash to run the village for about 3 months.

Among the village's other funds, revenues remain steady in the street fund thanks to stable gas and weight tax levels, which enable the village to tackle a number of planned paving projects.

The wastewater and water funds, on the other hand, continue to struggle to keep pace with rising equipment maintenance costs, which prompted officials to implement slight rate increases.

The hikes are \$1.27 per month, or about 3 percent, for wastewater. The figure is based on the average household, which uses about \$7,000 gallons. Water rates were increased by \$1 per month for the basic charge, again based on the average usage of 7,000 gallons.

Sheridan recommended the increases due to rising costs, including those related to the aging wastewater plant, where officials will invest \$110,000 in 2004.

Please turn to back page.

22.69

21.09

17.90

ration and a 1997 Northwood University Outstanding charged the graduates with "making a difference". He was vested as Doctor of Laws, h.c., at the conclusion

DECK THE HALLS...There's no shortage of brightly lit holiday decorations in the Cass City area. This display was set up by Shelly Cook at her family's Koepfgen Road residence.

2004 WAGE CHART (PER HOUR) **FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES** ADMINISTRATION: % Incr. Village Manager Village Clerk/Treasurer 20,68 Executive Assistant DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & PARKS: DPW Superintendent Asst. DWP Superintendent **DPW Crew** WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT: WWTP Superintendent 25.58 WWTP Operators Crew Out-of Class Pay 22,20 POLICE: Deputy Chief of Police

VILLAGE OF CASS CITY

local Rotary Club. In 1998, he was elected to the board of the American Business Conference, a coalition of mid-size growth companies, headquartered in Washington, D.C. Althaver was also appointed to the board of Hills and Dales General Hospital in Cass City, was on the board of directors of the Michigan

Municipal League Foundation and has been a member of the board of directors of the Michigan Chamber of Com-

chairman of the board for several years.

Planning Commission.

'Tis the season for "Fa la la

"Frosty

BB gun for Christmas and has

to deal with the "You'll shoot

your eye out" mind set of

adults. It's pretty funny, but

after watching it year after

year, you get so you almost

I haven't seen Scrooge or

The Grinch yet this season,

but I'm convinced that one

of their relatives has been out

Much like Dr. Seuss' Grinch

who attempted to steal

Christmas, this character

seems determined to rob

people of the true Christmas

Sometimes he's subtle, but

make no mistake, he's out to

remove the joy from "Joy To

The World." He likes to

spread the extremely conta-

gious affliction we'll call

You often catch sight of him

among shoppers who shove,

cuss, snap at and occasion-

ally trample one another in

true Grinch-like fashion.

They're bent on getting a

bargain on something that

will express tender feelings

toward someone on their gift

The devious fellow invades

households of normally lov-

ing, happy families when

their resistance has been

lowered by the pressure of

too many holiday activities

and the stress level is near

He likes to infect children

with the Greed virus, caus-

ing them to make 1-o-n-g

wish lists and fully expect to

the breaking point.

How Do They Solve

A Mystery When They Don't

know it by heart.

and about.

Grinchitis.

Snowman", etc.

la la" on the radio and holi-

Holbrook **Area News**

Mrs. Thelma Jackson Phone 658-2347

Eight members of the Greenleaf Extended Homemakers met at Northwood Meadows for dinner on Thursday where they collected items for the Sanilac County Baby Pantry.

Eight members of the Traveling Breakfast Club met at Big Boy in Bad Axe for Breakfast Thursday morning. They will meet at the Peppermill in Bad Axe next

Mrs. Hiram Keyser, Mrs. Melvin Particka, Lana Puterbaugh and Mrs. Jim Doerr visited Mrs. Curtis Cleland on Thursday afternoon.

Sally and Pat Bell, Lauren and Katelynn of Cheboygan, Eric and Heidi Sweeney, Brandon, Nicole, and Brett and Wayne Sweeney were Saturday guests of Jim and Kay Sweeney where they celebrated Lauren and Katelynn Bells' birthdays. Reva Silver was a Wednes-

Curtis Cleland. Mr. and Mrs. Dan Franzel and Allen Farrelly were Tuesday evening guests of Margaret Cook in Bad Axe.

day afternoon guest of Mrs.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Depcinski attended the senior dinner,

Senior Menu Senior Dining Center

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DEC. 19-22-23

Friday - Roast turkey, mashed potatoes with gravy, corn, stuffing, pie. Monday - Mystery Meal Tuesday - Pork chop sucy with rice, Oriental blend vegetables, peaches, cookie.

drawing and dance at the Fox Hunters in Ubly on Thursday. Mrs. and Mrs. Bryce Hagen attended the Ubly Elementary School Christmas Party Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Deachin of Detroit, Mrs. Martin Sweeney and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Jackson visited Thelma Jackson on Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Wallace were Tuesday afternoon guests of Mrs. Alex Cleland and Carol Laming.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Doerr and Mrs. Curtis Cleland visited Leone Doerr at Argyle Sunday evening.

Dan Franzel and Allen Farrelly attended the Bad Axe Lions Club dinner Monday evening and later went to the health center where the Lions Club put on a Christmas program.

Phil and Cheryl Sweeney of Brown City were Friday afternoon guests of Jim and Kay Sweeney.

Mrs. Ray Depcinski attended the Over 50 Club Christmas potluck dinner at Oswald Hall on Tuesday where they played card bingo. The next meeting will be January 13.

Mrs. Melvin Particka and Mrs. Evans Gibbard visited Mrs. Arnold Lapeer at Northwood Meadows in Cass City.

Julie Koroleski of Bad Axe and Allen Farrelly visited Eleanor Koskie at Covenant Hospital on Tuesday morn-

Bob Cleland Sr. spent a week in Walled Lake where he visited Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cleland and family and other friends.

Bernard Morley, Jack Kennedy, Jim Lewis and Allen Farrelly met at McDonald's in Bad Axe Monday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Rumptz and Mrs. Jerry Grifka attended the golden wedding party at The Bad Axe



Inn for Tony and Jackie Koroleski Saturday evening. Allen Farrelly visited Don Rackoff, Harley Salsbury and Florence Labetski at the Huron County Medical Health Center Tuesday.

Janet Hagen and Diann visited Mr. and Mrs. Bryce Hagen Saturday morning.

Seven couples of the Young Ideas Farm Bureau met at Cousins for a fish fry supper and later at the Christmas party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Heleski where cards were played. Dewey Holz won the traveling prize. Mr. and Mrs. Evans Gibbard were Tuesday guests of

George Barber in Royal Oak. Bernard Morley, Claude Mestack, Jack Kennedy and Allen Farrelly met at McDonald's in Bad Axe Saturday morning.

Mrs. Evans Gibbard and Charlotte Particka visited Mrs. Lloyd Grifka at Northwood Meadows in Cass City.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Depcinski and Mr. and Mrs. Tom O'Henley were Saturday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Iseler, Gina and Ali for ice cream and cake for Ali's 12th birthday. Allen Farrelly visited Don Rackhoff at the Huron County Health Center and attended the 3rd floor Christmas party there.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Filar of Clinton Township, Mr. and Mrs. John Haire of Cass City, Joyce Pechett of San Diego, Susie Cook of Lansing and Mrs. Melvin Particka visited Thelma Jackson.

Mrs. Eugene Cleland of Bad Axe, Mrs, Jim Doerr and Mrs, Curtis Cleland were Tuesday lunch guests of Bessie Sanbaugh of Sterling Heights.

Five members of The Traveling Breakfast Club met at the Peppermill in Bad Axe Thursday morning. They will meet at the Peppermill again next week.

Glaza named student of the month

Randi L. Glaza has been named Owendale-Gagetown's Senior Student of the Month" for December,



Randi Glaza

While at Owen-Gage, Glaza has been active in sports as a member of the softball, volleyball and golf teams for 2 years along with being a member of the basketball team for 4 years. She is also a member of this year's dance team.

Glaza served as class secretary as a junior and president as a sophomore. Currently, she is secretary of the Student Council and president of the senior class. She has been a member of the Quiz Bowl Team and a cast member in 2 school plays.

Glaza was selected as a homecoming representative as a freshman and senior. For the last 2 years, she has attended the Huron Area Skill Center to study cosmetology. She also has taken dance lessons for 3 years.

Glaza is the daughter of Denise and Randy Radabaugh of Owendale, and Dave Glaza of Harbor Beach. Her future plans are to complete her cosmetology education over the summer and then attend Eastern Michigan University, where she plans to major in secondary education.

find it all under the tree Christmas morning.

by Melva E. Guinther

Meg's Peg

When passed on to adults, day classics on TV -"White Christmas", "Holi-day Inn", "It's a Wonderful it often erupts in swellings of guilt, inadequacy or frustration when they're unable to find or can't afford the re-We passed when "A Christquested items. In some cases the illness drives folks to lose mas Story" aired for the first all control, causing them to time this year. In case you fulfill the requests, even if it don't remember, it's the acmeans pushing the credit count of Ralphie, who desperately wants a Red Ryder cards to the limit, or even

beyond.

Grinchitis

This guy's sneaky, but sometimes you catch a glimpse of him in the mirror, replacing smiles with worry lines and frowns and "ho, ho, ho"s with 'oh no, no"s.

When friends drop by unexpectedly, he'll push you to the edge of your seat and set your foot tapping, wishing they'd leave so you could get to the pressing task of wrapping, decorating and baking those essential Christmas cookies.

Busyness may be his most powerful weapon. He likes to keep people too preoccupied with the hustle and bustle to exercise fundamental kindness and consideration for those around them.

He also thrives in an atmosphere of self pity. If he can persuade folks to think about how lonely, miserable and unappreciated they are instead of counting their blessings, his mission is half accomplished.

The true Christmas Spirit can't survive in the midst of self-centeredness.

My advice if you fear you've been infected is to sit down, close your eyes, take a deep breath and remind yourself that it will all be over Dec. 26.

It might also help to remember what Christmas is really all about.

Campbell students on the honor roll

Campbell Elementary School announces the fourth grade second marking period

honor roll. Angela Braun, Richard Brooks, Samantha Clapper, Maria Collins, Kelsey Dillon, Joshua Farkas, Alexis Fetterhoff, Rebecca Hacker. Kyle Hanby, Jordan Hendrian, Korey Hool, Joshua Jensen, Alexa Kamrad, Troy Kausch, Kristen Kawecki, Nicole Kelley, Drew King, Tessa Kus, April Langley, Alyssa Lawrence, Trenton Loomis, Lindsay McMahan, Megan

Metzger, Josie Moore, Ethan Nicol, Tayler Nye, Zachary Osentoski, Megan Parrish, Alexandra Pena, Zachary Potykus, Morgan Potter, Justin Powell*, Jessa Prieskorn, Jordyn Rasmussen, Logan Rowell, Travis Schmitt, Alexandria Smith, Zachary Speirs, Shannon Stec*, Heather Sweeney*, David TerBush, Cortney Thompson*, Hayley Thorp, Cassandra Tomlinson, Jared Weidman, Michael Wills, Jessica Yax, Ashley Zakrzewski, Alex Zaleski and Sarah Zmierski.

Novesta cantata on tap

The Novesta Church of hope, peace, love and joy to Christ, 2896 N. Cemetery Rd., Cass City, will present the Christmas cantata, "Festival of Lights", Sunday during the 10:45 a.m. worship service.

Both youth and adult choirs will sing songs of

communicate the message of Jesus' birth.

The public is welcome to attend and a nursery will be provided.

More information is available by calling 872-3658.



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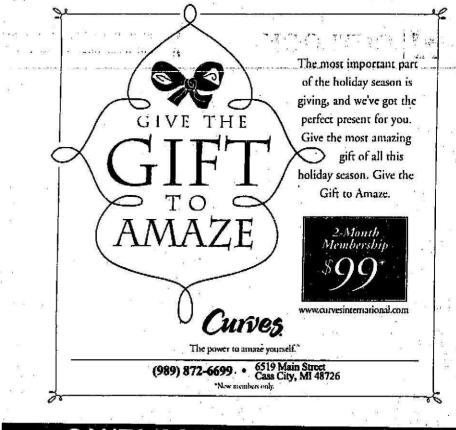
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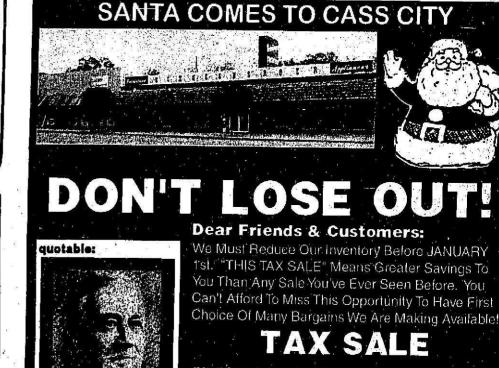
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Musical Program





Roosevelt. . . .

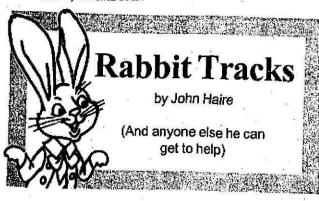
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A collection of pay stubs that Bob McArthur found as he was sorting out documents that belonged to his late father, Stanley, provides a glimpse of how it was in the early 1940s. He saved the pay stubs from his time as an employee of

Nestles Milk Co. Nestles was Cass City's principal employer and the pay was good.

McArthur's pay stub revealed that he received 66 cents an hour, straight time, which was 48 hours (8 hours a day for 6 days). Overtime paid a princely 99 cents an hour. One week he earned several hours of overtime.

Must have been rolling in dough.

Saturday was the first time that I attended a performance at Cass City's United Methodist Church.

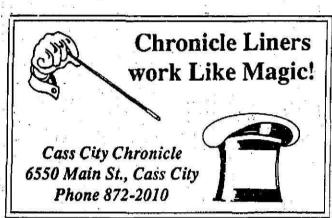
The Tom Thumb Singers presented their 21st concert Saturday night and Sunday afternoon. I was pleasantly surprised by how good the speaker system and the acoustics were in the church.

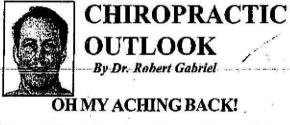
It was a fun night and both the choir and the audience were obviously having a good time. Perhaps that's why the 48member choir still has 6 charter members. The charter members are Janet Francis, President Geneva Richards, Tom Proctor, Mary Ann Opanasenko, Dotty Scollon and Treasurer Norma Wallace.

Incidentally, Doug Burtch, Cass City High School Band Director, is probably the most recent addition to the organization. He was drafted to play the drums in the choir's impressive closing number, "Battle Hymn of the Republic".

Christmas will be here before you know it. The last visit of Santa Claus in the village will be Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Cass City Municipal Building.

Time is also growing short for kids to write letters to Santa to be published in next week's Chronicle. Deadline for the letters is Friday, Dec. 19. Wallet sized pictures are welcome. There is no charge.





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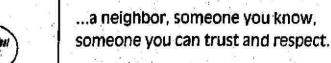
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STUDENTS AT THE Cass City Early Childhood Education Center have combined efforts to provide some Christmas treats for their 4-legged friends at the Tuscola County Humane Society. Representing each class above are (from left) Shaede Perzanowski, Hoyt Merchant, Parker Haire and Austyn Liebeskind.

\$47,167 grant to assist needy in Tuscola County

Congressman Dale E. Kildee recently announced that the 5th Congressional District of Michigan, including Tuscola County, will share in \$559,359 in emergency food and shelter grants.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) awarded the grants to provide shelter, food and supportive services for the hungry and homeless.

"I think this news will come as a pleasant surprise to all those individuals without a home or a warm meal during this holiday season," Kildee said in making the an-nouncement. "These funds will enable local government agencies and non-profit organizations to provide critical assistance to homeless and hungry individuals.

"In order to break the cycle we must provide every homeless and hungry individual with immediate access to food, housing and support services to help them avoid a life on the streets," Kildee added.

Tuscola County will receive \$47,167 in the grant funding, while Bay County will receive, \$70,075, Saginaw County, \$144,461 and Genesee County, \$297,656.

The Emergency Food and Shelter (EFS) Program is ad-ministered by a national board of volunteer agencies chaired by FEMA.

The national board provides supplemental funding to'shelters, soup kitchens, food banks, and rent, morigage and utility assistance programs. In each county, a

local board advertises the mental agencies to receive availability of funds, establishes local priorities, selects local non-profit and govern-

supplemental funding, and monitors program compli-

when I crossed, but be sure

that if I foolishly decide to

take the trip again I will, I

will, I will definitely follow

I can comprehend a mother

killing her child in a fit of

anger, depression or similar

mental ailments. What I

never will be able to under-

stand is how a mother could

deliberately murder her chil-

dren in cold blood. Leaving

kids in a car to drown is too

What's even worse is that a

TV news show revealed that

450 children annually are

horrible to contemplate.

killed by their mothers.



the road.

A little of this and that as seen from the corner of Oak and Main streets, thoughts about items caught in the passing parade.

In a controversial decision, President George Bush has decreed that only countries that have sent troops to Iraq will be allowed to share in the \$18.6 billion reconstruction projects needed to rebuild the country.

You can make a case for or against the proposal. Here's one vote that says no matter the decision, it comes too late. The day to get troop help in Iraq and support from our traditional allies was before we jumped into war.

Sometimes a straight line is not the quickest way to reach your destination. Making a delivery to Al's Bump Shop on Schwegler Road, that's a couple short blocks south of M-81, I found that

It's only about 1.5 miles from my house so I decided to walk, carrying 2 packages. The original intent was to walk the highway all the way. But the packages gained a little weight as I traveled, so I decided to cut through Elkland Township Cemetery.

Now the part of the cem-etery that faces M-81 is level and easy to get across. But it's a different story where the cemetery faces Schwegler Road. There's a good-sized drainage ditch there and no easy way across.

It was either cross that ditch or walk back to M-81 and fool that I am, I decided to cross the ditch. I won't go into the horrible details of my ditch safari, except to say that one hand was bleeding

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The back forty by Roger Pond

A recent conversation reminded me that newcomers don't always feel accepted in rural communities. We are accepted, of course. We just don't realize it.

I've known folks who moved into rural communities and spent several years worrying about whether they were accepted or not. That's

They have to accept us. Whether they like us or not is up to us, but they have to accept us.

As one who grew up in a farm community and has lived in 3 others, I've never had the slightest concern about the old-timers accepting me. Besides, I've finally reached the age where I'm nearly as old as the old-tim-

I think rural people actually like newcomers. Everybody knows what the established residents are going to do. Newcomers add a touch of suspense.

That's the big difference between farm communities and urban areas. Everyone seems a stranger in the city, but folks will spot you a mile away out in the country.

I used to stop at a little farm country café for coffee. I knew nearly everyone there, so I wasn't exactly a stranger, but being from out of the area made me a "foreigner"

The tradition at the café was to roll the dice to see who bought the coffee. A touch of joy rolled through the place when I showed up.

I always bought the coffee, partly because I was unlucky, and partly because I didn't know the rules. That's the first rule of the game: if you don't know the rules, you lose. "O.K.," I'd tell them. "I'm

going to buy the coffee, but I'll roll the dice if I have to." "Oh, boy! Foreign money," they'd say. "It's about time we got some outside money in this place."

I think the best way to understand rural communities is to remember that anyone who has lived here less than 10 years is still pretty much a transient. Who knows how long they are going to be around?

Those who've lived here more than 30 years might be considered residents, but it's way too late to become a pioneer family.

Readers may recall the story of a young school teacher who moved to a rural area of Maine - and wanted very badly to become an established member of the community. After several years of residence the young man was talking to a neighboring farmer about some new resi-

"You know, I can understand that people like me will always be considered outsiders in Maine," the young fel-

dents down the road.

low said. "And I know it takes awhile to become established in an old commu-

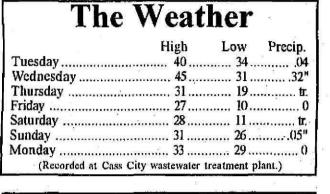
nity like this. "But my kids were born here. Will they be accepted

as natives of Maine?" The old farmer kicked around in the dirt, and fi-

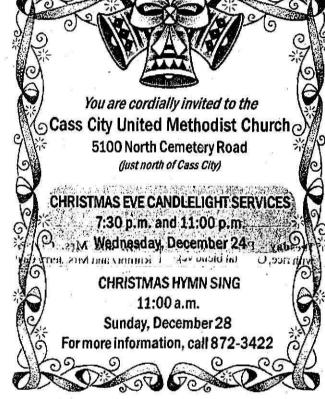
nally said, "You have a cat

don't you, Jim?" "Well, yes we have a cat," Jim said.

'Let's look at it this way, the farmer said. "If your cat had kittens in the oven, you wouldn't call them biscuits, would you?"









Letters to



Red Hawk Talks

by Kristi Fluegge

A great thing about holidays is that there are so many activities you can be a part of. But it seems like there are some people that get stressed out for this very same reason. It is important to remember how Christmas should be. Every holiday is meant for enjoyment and

At our schools; Campbell, middle school, and the high school, we welcome the holiday with spirit and energy!

I was truly inspired on December 11 to write this article. The gym was packed; even the doorways and balcony were crowded last Thursday at our high school gymnasium. Family, friends, and students enjoyed an amazing performance by all our bands and choir. The "Holiday Collage Concert" was incomparable to any other! Around 350 students were entertaining an expected 1,200 people with their outstanding singing and playing.

Mr. Burtch kicked off the concert and asked the audience to please withhold applause after each performance until the end of the night. However, he did mention if anyone could not withhold his or her applause because they were so moved that this would be okay. Well, after approximately three pieces every completion was followed by applause. The entire audience 'was so moved!"

Personally, my favorite was the Russian Christmas Music performed by the high school concert band. It nearly received a standing ovation and clapping lasted several minutes. Within an hour and fifteen minutes the Beginning Band, the 6th, 7th and 8th grade bands, the High School Concert & Jazz hands, and even the high school choir and the Middle School Jazz Band ended a continuous and exciting per-

If you were one of the few who did not attend this ents and staff that have re-Christmas performance you membered what the holiday still have another chance to hear the band play. Including today, Tuesday, and this Friday, the band has four more events in February and March.

989-683-2647

There are many other events in addition to the concerts that take place before Christmas. At our high school a few Christmas activities are carried out. National Honor Society holds an annual toy drive around this time every year. It started last week and will end this week. Students bring in toyshoping they will make a difference to children who wake up Christmas morning and find more than they were expecting.

The staff also joins in on the holiday fun by having "Secret Santa." After the staff returned from Thanksgiving they received another staff member's name. They were then that person's Secret Santa, getting little gifts for them up until Christmas, or just one big present for Christmas.

The high school does a few things to celebrate the holiday, but they don't get into it quite as much as the elementary and middle school. At both Campbell and the middle school, every class holds their own classroom Christmas party in addition to other individual events.

· A big event for the middle school is the Performing Arts Class's play. The eighth graders are holding a Santa's Secret Workshop as a fundraiser for their trip to Washington, D.C. The 5th grade class raised over \$125 for the F.I.A. that purchased 5 Wal-Mart gift cards for 5 high school students. On Friday at the middle school all the elementary students go down to the gym to have a sing along with Mr. Hobbs.

Last, but not least, I found something out about the Early Childhood Center that surprised me. I was pleased to learn that they decided to collect money for the animal shelter instead of exchanging gifts.

I was very impressed by all of the holiday spirit I found at our Cass City schools. Thanks to the students, paris all about and even gone out of their way to make it more enjoyable for everyone this holiday,

See you next week in Red Hawk Talks!

walkstreefarm@yahoo.com

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Bodrie faces years in prison

A Unionville man convicted on 9 counts of criminal sexual conduct was sentenced to 10 to 30 years in prison last week in Tuscola County Circuit Court.

A jury previously handed down guilty verdicts against George L. Bodrie, 44, on one count of first degree criminal sexual conduct and 8 counts of second degree criminal sexual conduct.

According to court records, the crimes involved a victim at least 13 years of age but under 16 years and took place between March and August 2002 in Columbia Township.

In other recent circuit court proceedings;

 Michael G. Parker, 39, Vassar, pleaded guilty to possession of a narcotic/cocaine (less than 25 grams) May 1 in Vassar.

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond in the case was continued at \$4,000. Sentencing is to be scheduled.

Michael J. Hagle, 46, Millington, pleaded guilty to attempted possession of marijuana with intent to deliver, and possession of marijuana May 16 in Millington Town-

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$15,000. Sentencing is to be set,

Levi Owens, 51, Saginaw, was sentenced to 365 days in the county jail (180 days deferred) and 12 months probation for his plea of guilty to carrying a concealed weapon May 30 in

He was also ordered to pay court costs and fines totaling \$1,620.

 Earl A. Northrop Jr., 28, Decker, was sentenced to 2

to 5 years in prison for his plea of guilty to operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor, third offense, Sept. 14 in Novesta Township.

He was also ordered to pay \$660 in costs and fines.

•Kenneth E. Williams, 30, Flint, was sentenced to 365 days in the county jail, with worksite privileges, for his pleas of guilty to possession of marijuana with intent to deliver, second offense, July 27, 1998, in Caro, and to absconding or forfeiting bond Sept. 19, 1998, in Caro. He was also ordered to pay

costs and fines totaling \$380. • Jason W. Endert, 24, Cass City, pleaded guilty to operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor,

third offense, Oct. 5 in Caro. A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$1,000. Sentencing is to be sched-

 Thurmon R. Tucker, 21, Cass City, was sentenced to 36 months probation and 180 days in jail, with work/ school release, for his plea of no contest to assault with a dangerous weapon May 31 in Caro.

He was also ordered to undergo substance abuse therapy (residential treatment) and to pay costs and fines totaling \$4,060 plus restitution of \$802.

 Adam S. Gainforth, 19, Unionville, pleaded guilty to carrying a concealed weapon, driving while his license was suspended or revoked, and using an artificial light while in possession of a firearm Sept. 29 in Wisner

A pre-sentence investigation was ordered and bond was continued at \$2,500. Sentencing is to be set.

Officers ticket nearly 16,000 in special campaign

Nearly 16,000 Michigan motorists received a costly reminder to fasten their safety belt during the 2-week "Buckle Up or Pay Up, Click It or Ticket" campaign.

Law enforcement agencies across the state made safety belt enforcement a priority Nov. 17-30, with agencies in 20 counties conducting highly visible safety belt enforcement zones. A total of 334 agencies reported their citation activity to the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP).

Of the citations issued, 15,499 were for unbuckled adults. Another 490 were child restraint citations. Agencies also made 1.818 drunken driving and other alcohol-related arrests, 850 felony arrests, 3,902 misdemeanor arrests, cited 11,596 drivers for speeding, and 1,652 motorists for driving

with suspended licenses. These figures include citations written in the 207 safety belt enforcement zones, where officers issued 8.663 safety belt citations for unbuckled adults and 179 child restraint citations.

"This wasn't a secret. There was \$400,000 in advertising on the airwaves to alert motorists that we were cracking down on safety belt violators. and there were even signs up advising them of the safety belt enforcement zones," said Michael L. Prince, OHSP safety director.

"The good news is that safety belt citations are down from the 19,347 written this time last year, which means more people are getting the message that safety belts save lives and are buckling

The enforcement period included the Thanksgiving Day holiday weekend, when Michigan récorded 11 traffic fatalities.

Michigan's mandatory seat belt law requires the driver and front seat passengers to be buckled up and children under the age of 4 to be in an approved child safety seat. And, passengers up to and including age 15 must be buckled up in front and rear seating positions. In addition, drivers or passengers who have a shoulder harness placed under their arm or behind their back can be ticketed for failure to properly buckle up. The cost for a safety belt citation is \$65.

Check Out These Web Sites:

Fire Sense: A Smart Way to Prevent, Detect and Escape Home Fires at www.thehartford.com/fire

The Jeffrey Modell Foundation at www.jmfworld. org. Ryobi at www.ryobitools.

Benicar™ at www.Benicar. com.

Liz Claiborne at www.liz claiborne.com. Fit Pregnancy magazine at www.fit.pregnancy.com. YardRight at www.yard

right.com. The Connection to Care program at www.pfizer.



Bulldog Beat

by Laura Enderle

The Owendale gym and cafeteria was packed this past Saturday as the third annual Fun Fair got underway.

It seemed as though the whole community, young and old, came together to celebrate the joy of Christmas. Some may have called it a Bulldog Christmas Wonderland. The Owen-Gage Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO) has sponsored this every year and it has proven to be more successful time after time. It is a great opportunity for the whole school to raise money for separate

Let me tell you what it actually is. The PTO provides a food stand, bake sale, 2 different raffles, craft booth and a cotton candy stand. Then each class and organization from pre-school to twelfth grade gets a chance to set up a booth around the gym. This year they even opened spaces up for outside crafters.

The families come and buy tickets for their children to play games and for every game they win, they receive a different color ticket to take to the prize booth. The school is open from 10 to 2, and for those 4 hours it is wall-to-wall fun for every-

The games seemed to be endless this year. The sixth graders sponsored Smack the Mole, bottle fishing, and the Price is Right game PLINKO. The creative minds in seventh grade made some money with minnow racing, a ring toss, and bowling. The eighth graders had three booths including darts, a football toss and a sling shot game where they had each teacher's smiling face pasted on a can waiting to be dented! The freshmen class hosted a hot electronics raffle, sucker pull, and junior basketball shots. The sophomores wanted people to "Guess the Mess" by putting their hand inside a bowl of who knows what! The junior class sponsored the super competitive Play Station Playoff. Seniors tried to target the young and old with a wooden personal name sign raffle and the traditional face painting.

Junior high cheerleaders had a free throw challenge, a duck pond, and a puzzle game with popcorn. Junior high band was popular with the young children who enjoyed throwing pies in other student's faces. The senior high band had a rubber band target and lawn darts. The French Club sponsored a cakewalk and if players weren't satisfied there, they could go to the cookie walk

by National Honor Society. Student representatives from each class manned their booths and had fun along with the players. I personally was amazed by some of the great ideas these students

came up with. The elementary students worked hard for the past few weeks making a huge variety of crafts to sell for this special day. The pre-school class headed by Ann Garske designed gift bags, hot beverage mixes, wrapping paper, moose floor mats and various ornaments. Andrea Ross and her sweet kindergartners made applesauce cinnamon ornaments and hot cocoa mix in the shape of an ice cream cone with marshmal-

lows on top.

Together, Sandy Parks and the first and second graders created smiling snowmen about the same size as their designers (2-4 feet high). The third grade class headed by Kay Nguyen made helping hands cardholders, doorknob hangers and angel pins as precious as the children. Amy Maurer led her fourth and fifth grade students in designing unique Christmas cards, snowmen smores in a jar, and bird feeders that topped the selling list. Theresa Hurley's gifted special education class made small gift bags and rag ball ornaments.

Mrs. Hurley and Kelly Bencheck also put plenty of hard work in making a community cookbook sold at the fair. This year it seemed because there was an increase in game activities that the craft sales went down, but all in all the day was a huge suc-

helping, it made for an outstanding day without the It's Ms. Roggenbuck's inaround the huge tree in the center, but the joyful, carefree children racing around was the perfect substitute. Santa even came to fulfill his duties with a picture booth for the children.

It is a great feeling to live in such a safe place where children can run freely together. Many people refer to the Owen-Gage school district as one big family and Saturday sure proved that to be true.

One last thanks to everyone, local businesses, parents, teachers, staff and students who helped bring things together! Have a healthy and happy holiday!

the editor Bands outstanding

11, 2003, a most amazing thing happened. I would like to have called it a Christmas Miracle, An open invitation was extended to all to come to the Cass City High School to see the expanded music department perform.

When I arrived 30 minutes early, I found the bleacher section nearly filled and the 10 rows of seats the length of the gymnasium filling fast. Saving seats is always hard to understand, but it was standing room only by performance time.

Chairs and music stands were arranged for 7 bands, including two Jazz bands as well as high school choir and smaller groups. Doug Burtch, the new director of bands and Christine Foerster, assistant director, along with several students were checking to see that all equipment was in its proper place. Students begin filing in by band. An amazing number of shiny instruments were held carefully. Three hundred and sixty Cass City students filled the gymnasium floor. In Cass City? Unheard of, not

With only marching band

Eviction notice very sad

Speaking of moving, and starting a new business in Cass City because "we" are such a friendly village. Amanda Roggenbuck is evicting a single mother of 2 children because the mother The 2003 Fun Fair demon- babysits to pay her bills. In strated a great time for the Ms. Roggenbuck's belief whole community. Because there is more than one adult everyone did their part in and 2 children living in the apartment.

stress that usually comes tention to remodel the apartwith this hectic holiday sea- ment and utilize it personson. The only thing missing ally. Giving the single, was an ice rink wrapped mother 20 days to vacate the premises. In the month of December, with no funds, and the children can't even put up a Christmas tree. I find it very sad. Things

could have been done differently if all she wanted was to remodel and utilize the apartment herself.

Proverbs 18:24a: A man/ woman that hath friends. must show himself/herself to be friendly.

Elizabeth King Cass City

Editor's note: the preceding letter was written by the tenant's mother, Elizabeth

Last week, Thursday, Dec. uniforms before, all students were dressed in black and white as concert bands always wear. Yes, I saw one lad with a black top hat. But Mr. Burtch entered with a Tux with tails. (Nothing like setting the tone for students in dress, attitude and class.)

Were these countywide bands? No, all 360 were Cass City students. Even the beginning band, mostly 5th grade, has 60 members. They proceeded with 90 minutes of magic in the Holiday Collage Concert. With two fine directors, it was a precision performance moving from band to chorus to band with no breaks. We have reasons to be very proud of our students and happy to have Doug Burtch to lead us in a music revival. I can hardly wait for the next concert. Sincerely,

Hospital is not gouging

Tom Proctor

Despite appearances, Hills & Dales Hospital has not resorted to "price gouging" to take advantage of the scarcity of late season flu vaccine.

The hospital made a decision to comply with the Medicare requirement to bill flu vaccinations in two components to separately reflect the charge for the vaccine and the charge for administration of the shot. The billing format change was to be made effective on 12/01/03. Prior to that time, Hills & Dales billed for the service in one "all-inclusive" rate.

The initial reprogramming of the billing system, however, resulted in an additional and unintentional charge for the service. The problem was quickly identified and corrected. The process to refund overpayments and process credits to those individuals and insurers affected is in motion. Despite the confusion, the charge for flu vaccinations remains unchanged at \$18.50.

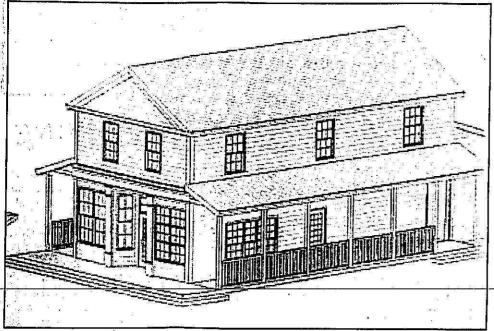
Needless to say, we wish to offer our sincere apologizes for any inconvenience this may have caused. Anyone with additional questions is invited to contact the Hospital billing department. Sincerely,

David Oehring Chief Financial Officer Hills & Dales General Hos-

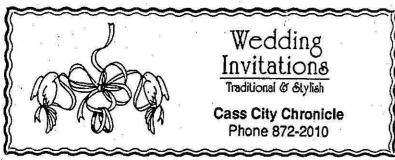
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THE THIRD phase of a plan to re-shape the Sanilac County Historical Museum and Village will involve construction of an authentic replica of the long lost Lexington News building from the 1800s.





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Sanilac Museum facelift includes

new construction

Through a combination of privately raised funds and grants, the Sanilac County

Historical Museum and Village will receive a major facelift beginning in 2004, Several of the facility's historic buildings will receive needed renovations, including the Barn Theatre, Loop-

Harrison Mansion and

Huckins Schoolhouse. In addition, plans call for construction of a new building that will provide muchneeded handicap accessible restrooms, storage space and an exhibit and reception hall. The new structure will be an authentic replica of the long lost Lexington News building from the 1800s and will contain an early print shop from that era.

Phase one of the ambitious project will see a new roof, floor and ventilation system, along with foundation, drainage and parking area work done at the Barn Theatre.

The second phase calls for major renovations at the Loop-Harrison Mansion, including roof work and a central heating system. The phase will also include heating and handicapped access for the historic Huckins Schoolhouse.

Phase 3 will involve construction of the new 3,600square-foot Lexington News building, which will be located between the Barn Theatre and the Platts General

Arthur Birdsall, former Sanilac County administrator and a spokesman for the new fundraising drive, called the museum site "a rare treasure that needs to be preserved and enhanced now while it is still possible."

Community leaders from the 4 corners of Sanilac County have joined the capital campaign and are helping to raise the estimated \$300,000 needed to complete the project. Already \$100,000 has been granted for the work from federal sources through the Sanilac County Economic Development Corporation (EDC) and the Michigan EDC. Organizers are seeking a second grant through the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Af-

"The campaign has already stimulated great interest throughout the county," Birdsall said.

"When the project is completed, the facility will be a real jewel for county residents as well as visitors. Our history will be preserved for future generations, regional access to the arts will be improved, and our families, students and visitors will enjoy a facility that is rarely equaled in other counties."

The museum and historic village is located on M-25 at the south end of Port Sanilac. When completed, the complex will feature a total of 8 historic buildings on 10

Babysitting class set

Huron Medical Center, Bad Axe, is offering a one-day babysitting class for boys and girls ages 11 to 15, Tuesday, Dec. 30, at the hospital's West Campus, located at 1142 S. VanDyke.

The babysitting course leaches students how to interview for a babysitting job; choose safe and age-appropriate toys and games; perform first aid; diapering and feeding techniques; handle bedtime issues; and tips for? having a safe babysitting experience.

Class size is limited. To register, call Huron Medical Center's Health Manage ment Department at (989) 269-2882.

Down Memory Lane

By Harmony Doerr



5YEARSAGO

Coach Don Markel's Cass City wrestling team improved its non-tournament record to 4-0 last Wednesday by defeating a pair of Class B schools at Vassar. The Hawks-sputtered in their opening weight bout against Buena Vista, but then captured the next 6 matches, which helped the defending Greater Thumb Conference champs record a lopsided 66-18 win.

The Cass City Red Hawks earned second place honors at the annual Marlette Invitational Saturday. The tourney was won by Lapeer West with 199 1/2 points. Cass City finished with 169 1/2

Research has shown that nearly 40 million Americans suffer from sleep disorders, costing them an estimated 16 billion dollars in health care costs annually. In 1997, the average American got 243 hours less sleep per year than the average American in 1969.

10 YEARSAGO

Self Serve Lumber Company officials have formally announced plans to transform the former Ouvry-Scott Chevrolet dealership building into a complete home center. Plans call for the business to open in March, Purchase of the building was finalized last week after 4 months of negotiations.

CellularONE's general manager Ben Varney presented Susan Woern, volunteer services manager, Department of Social Services, with a \$500 check from CellularONE and food contributed by individuals in the CellularONE sponsored food drive in Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac counties. Fifteen representatives of

the Peoples Republic of China, representing 8 different corporations, visited the Orbital Fluid Technology plant in Cass City Thursday. After touring the Orbital plant in Cass City, the group

met in the Detroit Edison community meeting room.

25 YEARS AGO

The kindergarten classes of Sherryl Dillon and Marlene Erla at Campbell Elementary School-put on a Christmas program for parents and other students last week.

Winter just started, but spring is merely around the corner. It is if you believe Jim MacTavish. He found a robin eating in his front yard Sunday. As long as he's whistling in the dark, he could have pointed out that Friday the days were getting longer again. (From Rabbit Tracks)

Troy Peasley of Cass City was one of about 115 Tuscola Intermediate School District students greeted by Santa Claus Friday morning at the annual Christmas party at the Cass Theatre. Bauer Candy Co. donated the candy. After the movie, students and staff were treated to lunch by General Telephone at the Colonial Inn.

35 YEARS AGO

The flu bug, which has been terrorizing the nation in recent weeks, has not reached the Cass City area in full force yet, but local authorities are bracing the community for its inevitable arrival. "All indications from the Board of Health are that the flu is picking up at a rapid rate," said Frank Haythorn, administrator at Hills and Dales Hospital. "On Friday we had eight cases of the flu, and it is seldom that we have more than one."

The Chronicle this week received a U.S. Post Office Department public service award. A framed certificate was presented to the paper by Postmaster Grant Glaspie for the "complete and very good cooperation of newspaper coverage, for the post office department."

Cass City High School's freshman basketball team finished their game with only four men, Monday night, but that was more than enough

the Hawk freshman team fouled out with four minutes remaining, but Cass City managed to outscore their opponents in this final period, 16-10.

to defeat Frankenmuth, 54-

45. All but four members of

O-Gstudents perform

Twelve Owen-Gage Junior High band students participated in the District III Solo/ Ensemble competition held Dec. 6 at North Branch High School.

Tim Neal, Amanda Faist and Katie Rhodes received a Division I rating (highest score possible) for their clarinet trio, while Stephen Roemer, Samantha Radabaugh and Lucas Powell received a Division I rating for their trumpet trio.

Students who participated in the solo performance category and received Division I ratings are: Josh Starks (drums), Bethany Kovach (flute), Amanda Faist (clarinet), Kelsey Schuette (flute), Jessica Burrows (flute) and Alisha Kovach (flute).

Students who received Division II ratings for solo performances are: Christopher Harp (alto saxophone) and Stephen Roemer (trumpet).

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Cass City Area Church Directory

Cass City Church of Christ 6743 E. Main St., Cass City, MI 48726 Contacts 872-2367 or 872-3136 Worship Service Sunday 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. Bible Study Sunday 10:00 a.m. & Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Cass City Church of the Nazarene 6538 Third St., Cass City, MI 48726 872-2604 or 872-5201 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship Service 11:00 a.m. Wed. Prayer & Bible Study & Children's Activities 6:00 p.m. Pastor - Rev. Darold Ward

Cass City Missionary Church 4449 Koepfgen Rd., Cass City, MI 48726 872-2729

Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship Service 11:00 a.m. Evening Service 6:30 p.m. Pastor: David Edwards

Cass City United Methodist Church 5100 N. Cemetery Rd., P.O. Box 125, Cass City, MI 48726 Worship: 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. (Summer 9:30 a.m.) Sunday School - Sept.-May 9:30 a.m. Community Dinner - Monthly (2nd Wed. at noon)

Deford Community Church 1392 Kingston Rd., Deford, MI 48729 989-872-4051(parsonage) 989-872-4055(church) Sunday School 9:45 a,m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Contemporary & Traditional 6:00 p.m. Wednesdays 7:00 p.m. Pastor: David Mercer email: dccdca@tband.net website: defordcommunitychurch.org

Pastor: Rev. George F. Ward

Vistors always welcomed

Deford Country Church Assemblies of God 5903 Main St., Box 224, Deford, MI 48729 989-872-5158 Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Dan Strength Sr. Pastor Tim Wells, Associate Nathan Hazzard, Youth WSNL 600 AM, Saturday noon

Evangelical Free Church of Cass City 6430 Chestnut Blvd., Cass City, MI 48726 Phone: 872-5060 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Midweek Bible Studies Biblical Counseling Pastor: Rev. Todd R. Gould

First Baptist Church 6420 Houghton St., Cass City, MI 48726 989--872-3155 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship Service 11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting & Bible Study, Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Pastor: Eric Holmgren Youth Pastor: Bryan Heller

First Presbyterian Church Barrier Free 6505 Church St., Cass City, MI 48726 872-5400 Sunday School - Sept.-May 10:45 a.m. Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Pastor: Dave Blackburn

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 6820 E. Main St., Cass City, MI 48726 872-2770 Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Pastor: Gerald Meyer

Bible Class & Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Please join us today

Living Word Worship Center (Where the Word is Life) 6536 Houghton St., Cass City, MI 48726 872-4637 Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m. Wed. (Family Training Hour) 7:00 p.m. Senior Pastors: Michael & Carla Arp

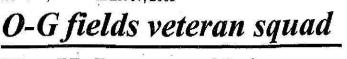
Novesta Church of Christ 2896 N. Cemetery Rd., Cass City, MI 48726 872-3658 or 872-1195 Bible School 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:45 a.m. Youth Group & Sunday Evening Services 6:00 p.m. Minister: Chuck Emmert Youth Minister: Brad Speirs Visit our website at: www.novestachurch.org

Potter's House Christian Fellowship Church Corner of 6th and Leach, Cass City, MI 48726 872-5186 Thursday Evening 7:00 p.m. Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m. Pastor: F. Robert Tucker

St. Agatha's Catholic Church 4618 South St., Gagetown, MI 48735 665-9966 Sunday Liturgy 10:30 a.m. Parish Administrator: Joan Wyskiel

St. Pancratius Catholic Church 4292 S. Seeger St., Cass City, MI 48726 872-3336 Saturday Liturgy 5:30 p.m. Sunday Liturgy 9:00 a.m. Pastor: Father Steve Fillion

Shabbona United Methodist Church 4455 North Decker Rd., Decker, MI 48426 810-672-9929 (parsonage) 989-872-8094 (church) Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. UMW Monthly 1st Wed., 7:30 p.m. Youth Group Sunday Evenings 5:00 p.m. Pastor: Ellen Burns Visit our website at: www.dasuparish.com



Bulldog spikers set to defend title

Coach Kaye Swiastyn and assistant Barb Adams have big shoes to fill as they take over the reigns of the outstanding volleyball program at Owen-Gage High School.

It's a legacy handed down from Judy Campbell, who developed the great volleyball program, that was carried on by Sheila Pawlak and produced championships after championships for the

Campbell's influence is still being felt on this year's squad. She coached the juniors on this year's team when they were in junior high, including Kayla Zaleski, a first team all-conference player last season, and Katie Swiastyn who earned second team all conference honors.

Zaleski is a hard hitter, plays the net well and is the team's main blocker. Last year she averaged 3.0 points per game, had a 49% kill average, with 153 total blocks and 462 total digs.

Swiastyn is a powerful hitter and a consistent server. She averaged 3.3 points per game, 40% kill average and

Bay City All Saints had a

pair of players, Andy Spyhalski and Nathan Fritz,

unable to play in the open-

ing game of the season

against the Owen-Gage Bull-

dogs. But the Cougars had

10 other players left on the

581 total digs. Last year the Bulldogs were undefeated in the North Central Thumb League and 35-8-5 overall. The team won the district and went to the finals in the regional.

Adding experience and talent to the squad will be a group of seniors. Stephanie Dorsch is a consistent server. Meagan Mentor, Candi Rhodes and Laura Enderle are hustle players and will see lots of action. Enderle was a setter as a sophomore. But was a foreign exchange student as a junior.

The juniors on the squad will be depended on to fill vacancies caused by graduation. Gone are Kelly Zaleski, Ashley Pawlak and Brooke Marks.

The juniors as outlined by the coaches are: Mary McKee, good server; Kayla Kady who can be a good hitter with practice; Nicole Schmidt, main setter on the junior varsity last year; Jenny Czewski, Jessica Neal, Amandy Eavy and Wendy Errer, Errer has height, 5-10, but needs to work on

strength. Coach Swiastyn, looking at the rest of the league, se s that in the south division Kingston and Memphis

should dominate. In the north division she

feels that the Bulldogs will

be tested. Caseville has lots of height. Port Hope and North Huron have good athletes and Akron-Fairgrove will be tough.

After all, said coach Swiastyn, Judy Campbell coaches there now.

Owen-Gage Bulldogs 2003-2004 Volleyball

North Huron	6:00 p.m.	A
Bad Axe Tourney	TBA	
Port Hope	6:00 p.m.	Α
Akron-Fairgrove	6:00 p.m.	
Caseville	6:00 p.m.	H
CPS Tourney	TBA	
Memphis	6:00 p.m.	Н
Kingston	6:00 p.m.	A
Lakers Tourney	TBA	
Dryden	6:00 p.m.	Н
Peck	6:00 p.m.	Α
USA Tourney	TBA	
North Huron	6:00 p.m.	H
Port Hope	6:00 p.m.	Н
Akron-Fairgrove	6:00 p.m.	Α
Caseville Tourney	TBA	1
Caseville	6:00 p.m.	Α
CPS (Parents' Night)	6:00 p.m.	H
Districts	TBA	H
	Bad Axe Tourney Port Hope Akron-Fairgrove Caseville CPS Tourney Memphis Kingston Lakers Tourney Dryden Peck USA Tourney North Huron Port Hope Akron-Fairgrove Caseville Tourney Caseville CPS (Parents' Night)	Bad Axe Tourney Port Hope 6:00 p.m. Akron-Fairgrove 6:00 p.m. Caseville 6:00 p.m. CPS Tourney TBA Memphis 6:00 p.m. Kingston 6:00 p.m. Lakers Tourney TBA Dryden 6:00 p.m. Peck 6:00 p.m. USA Tourney TBA North Huron 6:00 p.m. Port Hope 6:00 p.m. Akron-Fairgrove 6:00 p.m. Caseville Tourney TBA Caseville 6:00 p.m. CPS (Parents' Night) 6:00 p.m.



RETURNING VETERANS on the Owen-Gage volleyball squad are, from left, Laura Enderle, Meagan Mentor, Candi. Rhodes, Kayla Zaleski, Katie Swiastyn, Stephanie Dorsch.

O-G steamrolled by Saints

Their loss pales when com-

pared to the plight of the

Bulldogs. Owen-Gage

started the season with just 8

players on the varsity and by

the time the opening game

rolled around Tuesday there

were just 5 players eligible

It was no surprise that the

Bulldogs were steamrollered

by the Saints, 70-28. The

game was decided in the first

quarter as All Saints rolled to a 23-4 lead, sparked by a

17-0 run. Six Cougars col-

lected points in the initial

stanza, led by Jason

Brzezinski with 7 and Scott

Ryan Janer paced All Saints

in the second quarter with 11

points, while the Bulldogs netted 10 points in the pe-

riod as Levi Adams and

Aaron Faist hit treys and Jus-

tin Rogers and Cody

Late in the third quarter

Adams was forced to leave

with an ankle injury and

didn't return until the fourth

quarter, All Saints Coach

Mike Showalter then also

Howard, regular hoops.

Trepkowski with 6.

for the game.

Hawks split meets

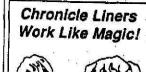
The record isn't good, but the Cass City Red Hawk wrestling team continues to show improvement as underclassmen gain experience, coach Don Markel said this week after the team competed

Tuesday the Hawks split a pair of meets, defeating Flint Northern, 54-18, before falling to Bridgeport, 50-27. Cass City's dual meet record

Markel expected the underwinners for Cass City, including their weight class were: Andrew Peruski, 103; Kyle Reif, 125; Gordon Hatcher, 130; Eric Hollis, 189; and Lee Hutchinson,

Saturday the Hawks finished 5th in the 12-team invitational at Marlette. North Branch won with 153 points. Other teams finished in the following order: Memphis, 136; Imlay City 124; Flint Beecher, 107; Cass City 99.5; Almont, 90; EPB Lakers, 67; Marlette, 67; USA, 57; Burton-Bentley, 55.5; Sandusky 31; Brown City

Placing and winning med-





Phone 872-2010

on mats

in a pair of meets last week.

ris 2-7 for the season.

classmen to continue to show improvement. Double

als for the Hawks were: Wes Becker, 3rd, 171; Marcell Helland, 2nd, 112; Steve Meeker, 2nd, 215; and Eric Hollis, 1st.



GILLIGAN'S

pulled a player and the Cou-

gars played with 4 until the

Arnie Howard, in his first

year as Owen-Gage coach,

has had to try to get past the

myriad injuries his squad has

It's probably a good thing

that the Bulldogs had an

open date Friday. A little

more time for players to heal

before they played at home

Tuesday against North Huron is a definite plus. Friday

Owen-Gage takes to the road

again to play tough Mem-

OWEN-GAGE - Rogers 2-0

(2-2) 6; Howard 3-0 (0-0) 6;

Faist 0-1 (1-2) 4; Adams 3-1

(0-0) 9; Pawlak 0-0 (3-7) 3.

ALL SAINTS - Lukowski 2-

0 (0-0) 4; Velazquez 2-0 (0-

1) 4; Brzezinski 4-1 (2-2) 13;

Heintskill 1-1 (0-0) 5; Bauer

2-0 (0-0) 4; Trepkowski 5-0

(0-0) 10; B. Janer 3-0 (1-1)

7; R. Janer 8-1 (0-0) 19;

TOTALS - 29-3 (3-6) 70.

Phillips 2-0 (0-0) 4.

TOTALS - 8-2 (6-11) 28.

last quarter.

suffered.

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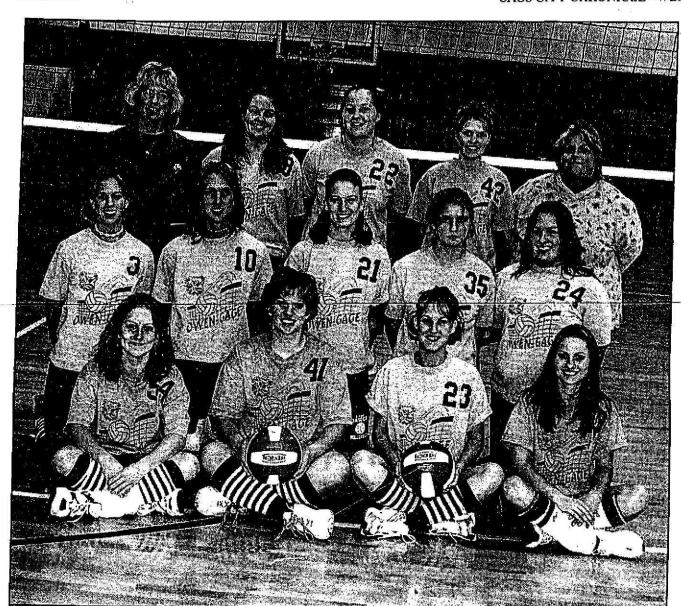
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OWEN-GAGE VARSITY VOLLEYBALL squad is ready for the season. Front row, from left: Laura Enderle, Stephanie Dorsch, Meagan Mentor, Candi Rhodes. Second row: Katie Swiastyn, Kayla Zaleski, Wendy Errer, Amandy Eavy, Mary McKee. Third row: Coach Kaye Swiastyn, Nicole Schmidt, Kayla Kady, Jenny Czewski, Coach Barb Adams. Missing are Hope Hunt and Jessica Neal.

Coaches - Please remember to call in your results

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Convert 28 of 31 tries

Hawks deadly from foul line in victory over host Sandusky

Coach Aaron Fernald said added a trey by Justin Glaza 5 of 6 free throws to cement after the opening day victory over Harbor Beach that he would like to see his team drive to the basket and get and then make more foul shots.

will receive as the Red cashed a pair of treys over Hawks responded with a tremendous night from the line that resulted in a close, hardfought victory at Sandusky, 62-50. The Hawks converted 28 of 31 free throws on the way to the win.

Cass City was to meet its third quality team from the Greater Thumb East Tuesday night when Brown City comes to town.

After that it's back on the road to meet Valley Lutheran in the opening GTW game of the year.

The win over the Redskins was closer than the final score indicates,

Things were going smoothly for the Hawks for the first 3 quarters. In the first period the Hawks jumped off to a narrow 10-6 lead as both teams netted 3 hoops, and Cass City converted 4 of 5 free throws.

The second period was a parade to the foul line for Cass City. The team converted 12 of 12 free throws,

and buckets by Tyler Erla and Brad Langenburg to outscore the Redskins 19-14 to lead at the half, 29-20.

Some fine perimeter shooting kept the Hawks in front It was a case of ask and you in the third quarter. Erla the outstretched hands of his defender to lead the way. Chris Loding, who led all scorers, cashed in 8 of his 22 points for the night in the period to keep the Redskins on the heels of the Hawks.

> In the first 4 minutes of the last quarter Sandusky overcame a 7-point Hawk lead to tie the game at 47-all. Two unforced Cass City turnovers helped the Redskins climb back into the game. The rally was led by Loding who netted 2 free throws, a trey and a regular basket in the spurt.

The Hawks were able to keep Sandusky from forging into the lead as Andrew Schinnerer cashed a bucket and 2 free throws.

After the teams traded baskets, the Hawks went in front to stay with 1:30 left in the game. Stoutenburg hit a trey and Erla converted 2 free throws to put Cass City in front, 54-49.

After that the Hawks broke the Redskin press and cashed the win.

Craig Holmgren led the Cass City rebounders with 7, closely followed by Erla with 6. Erla led Hawk scorers with 14. Jake Brinkman was in double figures with

Nick Stoutenburg made 3 steals and Andrew Martin snagged 3 offensive rebounds.

CASS CITY - Glaza 0-1 (6-6) 9; Schinnerer 2-0 (3-4) 7; Toner 0-0 (2-2) 2; Brinkman 2-1 (3-4) 10; Holmgren 1-0 (4-4) 6; Stoutenburg 0-2 (3-4) 9; Langenburg 1-0 (2-2) 4; Martin 0-0 (1-1) 1; Erla 2-2 (4-4) 14.

TOTALS - 8-6 (28-31) 62.

SANDUSKY - Hassler 1-1 (0-1) 5; T. Sheldon 3-0 (3-5) 9; Page 1-0 (0-0) 2; L. Sheldon 4-0 (0-0) 8; Horst 1-0 (0-2) 2; Loding 6-2 (4-4) 22; Gutc 1-0 (0-0) 2. TOTALS - 17-3 (7-12) 50.

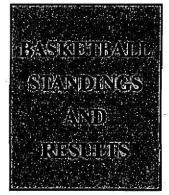
Freshmen scores: (Tuesday) Harbor Beach 35, Cass City 30. (Friday) Sandusky 38, Cass City 24. Junior varsity: (Tuesday) Harbor Beach 52, Cass City

36. (Friday) Sandusky 52,

Cass City 19.

IT WAS A BATTLE under the boards as Cass City edged Sandusky Friday. Driving to the bas-

foul shots for Hawk shooters who converted 28 attempts.



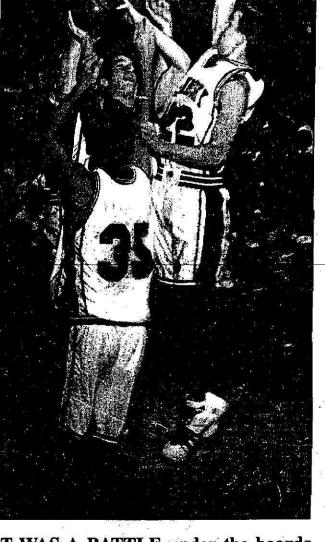
BOYS BASKETBALL

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USA	1	0	2	0
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Marlette	0	1	1	1
Mayville	0	1	0	2
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Caseville	0	0	0	0
North Huron	0	C	. 0	1
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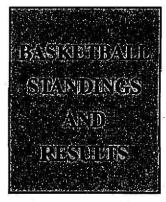
CASS CITY JUNIOR VARSITY basketball squad. Front row, from left: Brad Hartel, Jeff Stoutenburg, Cameron Lautner, Chris Brown and Jarod Stoutenburg. Second row: Jordon Mozdzen, Cody Halasz, Brandon Otulakowski, Chris Landrith, Chad Newton, Brett Babich.

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Valley Lutheran 6		SP 56		(7)
USA 77, BCAS 6	6	800		

Fabulous Four's Fearless Forecast

This week's match ups John Clarke Hyatt Haire Montgomery Haire December 16 Bad Axe at Mayville Bad Axe Bad Axe Mayville Bad Axe Harbor Beach Harbor Beach Cass City **Brown City** Brown City at Cass City Cass City Cass City Valley Lutheran Valley:Lutheran Valley Lutheran venite, ignite mate Ministe MLS Reese Reese Reese at MLS Akron-Fairgro Caseville Akron-Fairgrove A francisto de la Case North Huron North Huron Owen-Gage North Huron North Huron at Owen-Gage Peck we we CPS **CPS CPS** CPS at Dryden (Kingston Kingston ... Kingston A Memphis December 19 BCAS BCAS. USA USA Reese Reese USA at Reese Cass City Valley Lutheran **EPBP EPBP** Deckerville at EPBP Harbor Beach **Ubly** Ubly: erfosos Etrologi**uj**ojo Marlette Marlette Mayville Marlette Marlette at Mayville Armada Brown City Brown City Brown City Caseville Port Hope Caseville Port Hope Caseville at Port Hope Akton-Raingrove -Akron-Fairgrove Akron-Fairgrove destrait Albanovia sufficie North Huro Memphis Owen-Gage Memphis Owen-Gage at Memphis Memphis CPS : CPS, Peck Peck Dryden Dryden at Peck 14-6 16-4 15-5 Last week's results 14-6 (70%) 15-5 (75%) 16-4 (80%) 14-6 (70%) Season's results

Cass City earns gratifying win in opener over Harbor Beach

Over the years there hasn't been much to choose from between Harbor Beach and Cass City on the basketball floor. But recently the Pirates have dominated, making life miserable for the girls (4 district losses in a row) and the boys.

Harbor Beach defeated the Hawk boys last year and sent a real good Hawk team to the sidelines in a hotly disputed district tournament game several years ago at Harbor Beach.

That's why the opening 66-57 decision against the Pirates last week, Tuesday, was especially gratifying for Hawk fans.

In the opening quarter it appeared as if the Pirates were going to add another notch to their victory belt. Led by Jay O'Neil who hit 4 hoops, including a trey, Harbor Beach jumped of to a 2113 lead in the opening 8 min-

But the next 3 quarters and the game belonged to the Hawks. Led by Craig Holmgren, who hit a pair of hoops and as many free throws in the second quarter for 6 of his 10 points for the night, Cass City bounced

back to edge in front, 34-33.

at the intermission. Justin Glaza carried the scoring load in the third period. He swished 3 bombs from 3-point range for 9 points and the Hawks led, 52-46, going into the final pe-

Nick Supczynski did his best to keep the Pirates in the game with 7 points in the last quarter, but the Hawks responded with balanced scoring with Tyler Erla contributing a trey and a regular hoop. For the night, Erla topped all Hawk scorers with

riod.

14 points. O'Neil led Bad Axe with 16 points.

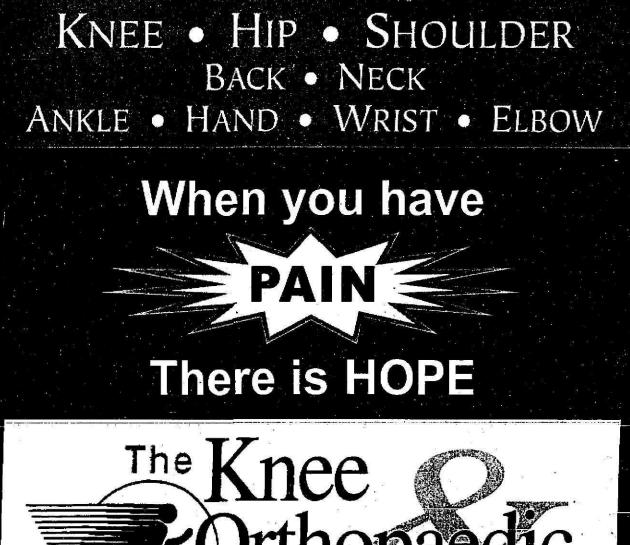
Coach Aaron Fernald used II of the 12 players on the squad and 10 of them scored, including 4 in double fig-

CASS CITY - Glaza 0-4 (0-0) 12; Swanson 1-0 (0-2) 2; Schinnerer 2-0 (0-0) 4: Toner 0-0 (2-2) 2; Brinkman 3-1 (2-4) 11; Dillon 1-0 (0-0) 2; Holmgren 3-0 (4-9) 10; Langenburg 2-1 (0-1) 7; Martin 1-0 (0-0) 2; Erla 4-1 (3-6)14.

TOTALS - 17-7 (11-24) 66.

HARBOR BEACH Connell 1-0 (1-2) 3; C. Mausolf 5-0 (0-0) 10; J. Mausolf 3-1 (0-0) 9; Tyrrell 1-0 (0-0) 2; O'Neil 6-1 (1-3) 16; Meisner 2-0 (1-1) 5; Supczynski 4-0 (4-6) 12. TOTALS - 22-3 (6-11) 57.





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Cops ready to target drunken motorists

ing campaign and a tough, new drunken driving law, more than 500 Michigan law enforcement agencies will take part in a statewide, coordinated drunken driving crackdown slated to begin Friday and continue through Jan. 4.

This is the first statewide "You Drink and Drive, You Lose" mobilization under the new and tougher drunken driving law that took effect Sept. 30. The new law lowers the limit at which a motorist is considered a drunk driver.

broadcast ads reinforce the fact that Michigan police officers are trained to spot drunk drivers," said Michael L. Prince, Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP) division director. "Special training and experience mean_there's_no_'outsmart-_ ing' an officer if a person is driving drunk."

Studies show that motorists bined with highly visible public awareness efforts, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Adminis-

In-the-current-year, OHSP will provide nearly \$2 million in federal money to law enforcement agencies for are more likely to drive so- overtime patrols and another ber when patrols are com- \$1.5 million in paid advertising during the mobilization periods.

program.

Michigan was the 44th state to adopt a .08 blood alcohol content (BAC) standard for drunken driving offenses. Prior to the change in law, .08 BAC was considered impaired driving in the state.

OHSP officials are coordi-

nating the mobilization, pro-

viding federal traffic safety

funds to boost patrols in se-

lected areas and funding

paid advertising to ensure

widespread awareness of the

NHTSA officials estimate the country would save 400 to 600 lives each year if all states adopted the .08 stan-

Research shows that the vast majority of drivers are significantly impaired at .08 with regard to critical driving tasks such as braking, steering, lane changing, judgment and divided atten-tion. In addition, driving skills can be affected at BAC levels as low as .02, according to the National Institute

on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

Under the new drunken driving law, Michigan motorists convicted for a first drunken driving offense now face up to 93 days in jail, a fine of up to \$500, up to 360 hours of community service. up to 6 points on their driver's licenses, and a license suspension of up to 180 days.

In addition, convicted drivers are subject to a new \$1,000 fee for 2 consecutive years. Anyone who refuses a breath test the first time is also given an automatic oneyear driver's license suspen-

In spite of the progress that has been made to reduce drunken driving, nearly 35 percent of all traffic fatalities in Michigan still involve alcohol and/or drugs.

Last year, 422 people died and 9,414 were injured in alcohol-related crashes in the state's highways. Nearly 58,000 people were arrested for alcohol-related driving offenses in 2002, and during the last national drunken driving crackdown one year ago, Michigan law enforcement officers arrested more than 2,700 motorists for alcohol-related offenses.



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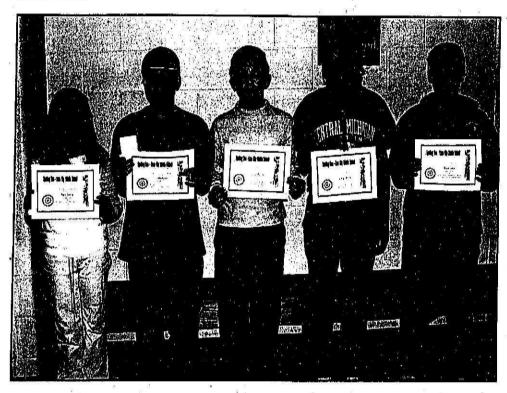






Top spellers!

LOCAL WINNERS of the Knights of Columbus annual spelling bee included seventh and eighth grade students (from left) Becca Doerr (first place), Adam Kranz (second place), Trey Helwig (third place) and Scarlett Helland (fourth place). Missing is alternate Kristie Karr. The students will now move on to the diocesan level bee, slated for Jan. 24 in Auburn.



FIFTH AND sixth grade spelling bee winners are (from left): Angie Simpson (first place), Jalen Ferris (second place), Logan Kausch (third place), Emily Martin (fourth place) and Mason Doerr (alternate).

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* All prices and payments are figured at GMS pricing and are plus tax, title and license fees.

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over, 3.5% rate, \$0 down, \$294.00 due at

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Sunday: 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM

\$31,600

8 way pwr. seat.

DTE video offers energy saving tips

DTE Energy has produced a 30-minute video, which offers a number of energy saving tips that can help. homeowners significantly reduce their heating bills. Titled "Managing Your Home Energy Costs," the video provides helpful hints on how to increase the efficiency of your home, reduce natural gas consumption and lower heating bills.

The video features Rob Derksen, one of Michigan's

leading energy consultants, and Larry Kaufman, an energy efficiency specialist from DTE Energy. Topics covered in the video include: Insulating attics, base-

 How to decrease energy bills by finding and sealing air leaks that cause cold air to enter homes.

ments and walls to reduce

• The use of programmable thermostats as an energy saving device.

heating costs.

 How to make sure your home furnace and hot water heater are sized properly and operating with correct set-

"DTE Energy is committed to providing our customers with information that will help them manage their energy costs," Kaufman said. We appreciate the opportunity to help customers save money, and use natural gas

The video is available at no cost to community groups, neighborhood clubs and service organizations. To obtain

Larry Kaufman at (313) 235-8196 kaufmanL@dteenergy.com.

Sale ends 12/31/03



was awarded in 1641 by Massachusetts for a method of



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Calendar of Events

Deadline for submitting items in the calendar is the Friday

Cass City Bowling Leagues

Merchanettes As of Dec. 11

Empty Pockets Osentoski Realty/Auct. 18 Crowley Chiropractic FBI Gals Charlie's Angels Langenburg Plumb/Heat 14 Cablettes Gagetown Cutting Corners

All Season Video Thumb Octagon Barn

Individual High Games & Series: P. Bauer 191-184-171 (546); J. Krol 188-183-166 (537); B. Watson 191-168-166 (525); M. Barber 194-164-150 (508); L. Hanson 179-165-160 (504); D. Sweeney 184-160-152 (496); S. Buschlen 177-163

Team High Game: Cablettes, 692. Team High Series: FBI Gals, 1908.

Thursday Nite Trio As of Dec. 11

Mycogen Seeds

JEBCo Riversbend Dairy Queen Braz-Caro 11 United Building Centers 11 Martin Electric Schmaltz Construction T. Furness Resid. Blder

Doerr Landscaping

CSS Contract, Co, Inc.

Individual High Games & Series: G. Robinson 244-233 (642); K. Martin 236 (632); B. Blaylock (591); B. Biebel 226 (586); R. Doerr 216 (576); J. Enos 247; J. Roth 236; D. Dickinson 225; D. Burkel 224; D. Miller 224; E. Schmaltz 216; R. Finkbeiner 210; T. Czekai

Team High Game & Series: JEBCo, 666 (1850).

Cass City Chronicle

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2000 Chevy Impala:FAMILY VALUE

1999 Buick Regal:w/Leather

2003 Buick Century: 2 to Choose from

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1995 Dodge Neon:....

2001 Chevy \$-10, 4x4 Ext.....

2000 GMC Jimmy: Loaded 2001 Jeep Cherokee Sport 4x4: Loaded

2001 Pontiac Montana:Rear Air/Heat

1996 Dodge Ram Reg. Cab:.... 2000 Chevy Silverado Long Box:....

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Merchants As of Dec. 10

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Individual High Games & Series: T. Pattengill 223-258 (668); T. Lis 219 (618); M. Zawilinski 225 (598); K. Repshinska (588); L. Morgan 210 (577); R. Salcido (576); R. Hull 212-222; A. Reed 241; C. Anthes 233; J. Krol 211.

Team High Game & Series: · Charmont 990 actual (2703 actual).

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Thursday, December 18

Senior Citizen Bingo Party, 1-4 p.m., VFW Hall, 4533 Veterans Dr., Cass City. Prizes and refreshments. Sponsored by Post 3644 Ladies Auxiliary.

Friday, December 19

noon before publication.

Senior Citizen Movies, 1:30 p.m., Rawson Memorial Library. Alcoholics Anonymous, 8 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran

Saturday, December 20

Kids' Christmas Activity, 10 a.m., Rawson Memorial Library, Please call to register.

Monday, December 22

Cass City School Board meeting, 7:30 p.m. Hills and Dales Hospital Auxiliary meeting, noon, Charmont.

Band students shine at event

Several members of the 7th and 8th grade Cass City Junior High band attended this

\$13.900

year's District III Junior High Solo & Ensemble Festival hosted at North Branch High School. At this event, the students were judged while performing a solo or ensemble piece.

Earning a top Division I rating for a solo was Alyssa Nicol (8th grade) and Kyle Kausch (7th grade). Chelsea Depner and Rebecca Perry (7th grade) also received a Division I rating for their duet, along with a trio performance that included Ariel Veneziano, Sarah Reed and Aleigh Kappen (7th grade). Earning a Division II rating for solo were 8th graders Ethan Damm, Danielle Delamarter, Bria Romstad and Ashley Hutchinson. Romstad and Hutchinson also performed a duet that earned them a Division II rat-

Dry bean production down in '03

Michigan's 2003 dry bean production is estimated at -2.5 million hundredweight (cwt), down from a production of 4.9 million cwt in-2002, according to the Federal/State Michigan Agricul-

tural Statistics Service. Planting of dry beans started in the beginning of June. In the middle of July, some beans were showing signs of root rot. Dry conditions before harvest helped lessen the effect of white mold, but had a negative effect on pod fill. Harvest of dry beans began in the early part of September and finished ahead of normal. Planted acres were a

a,m.-8 p.m.

Sunday

CHILDRENS' LIBRARIAN, Cheryl Levy, visited the Cass City Middle School Wednesday where she interacted with students during several story telling sessions.

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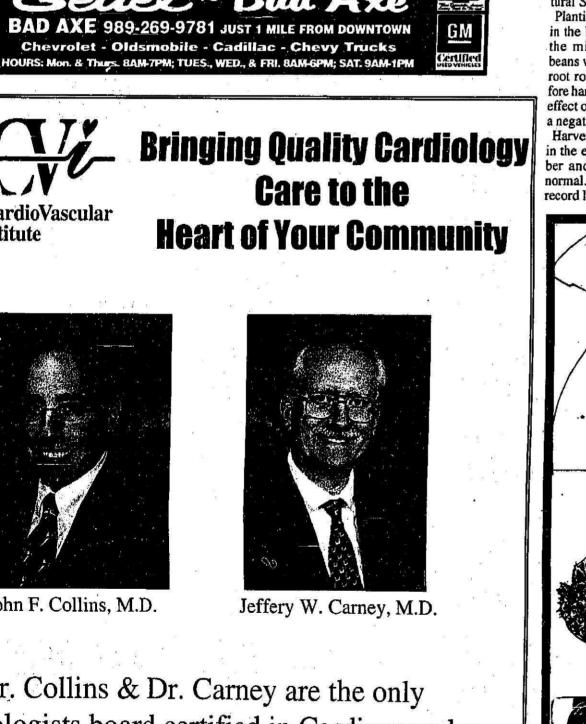
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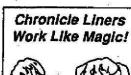
Employees raise cash for program

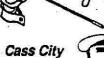
Employees from Independent Bank East Michigan held a "Casual Because We Care Day" to support the Winter Warm Up program in Kingston.

Employees who made a donation were able to dress casually for the day. Their efforts raised over \$283.

The Winter Warm Up program involves a non-profit group that purchases coats, snow pants, boots, hats and gloves for needy children in the area. Each year the group is able to purchase these items and give them to local children to keep warm in the cold weather.

"We are very pleased to support this program," stated Ronald Long, president and CEO of Independent Bank East Michigan. "A slowed economy and rising unemployment creates additional needs. It is important that local businesses lend a hand to support those needs within their communities this holiday season,"





Chronicle

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Clayton Hubel

Jessie Berriman

Jessie Helen Berriman, 69,

of Troy, formerly of Ferndale

and Cass City, died Saturday,

Dec. 13, 2003, in William

She was born March 1,

She married Paul Merton

Berriman July 15, 1967 in

Ferndale. He died Nov. 16,

Berriman was a student

counselor with the Ferndale

School District. She retired

in 1986 after 28 years. She

was a member of the Troy

Garden Club, Troy Weavers

Guild and the Michigan

She is survived by three

children: Jon R. (Linda)

Edwards of Troy, Martha

Berriman of Royal Oak and

Daniel (Patty) Berriman of

Clarkston; a sister, Joyce

Willard of Port Austin; and 8

Funeral services were held

Tuesday, Dec. 16, at the Price

Funeral Home, Troy, with the

Rev. Jack Kannschreck offi-

Interment was in the White

Chapel Memorial Cemetery,

Memorials may be made to

the Beaumont Hospice

Fund, William Beaumont

grandchildren.

ciating.

Education Association.

Beaumont Hospital, Troy.

1934 in Cass City.

1980.

Clayton F. Hubel, 75, of Davison, died Thursday, Dec. 11, 2003, at Genesys Hospice Care Center, Goodrich.

Hubel was born June 30, 1928, in Oxford, son of the late Carl and Mina Hubel. He married Agnes Koshatski May 11, 1991.

He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Davison, where he served as an elder. He was a former member of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Flint, where he taught Sunday school, served on the board of directors and was a member of the men's club. A Boy Scout leader, Hubel was a herdsman at the Post Dairy Farm. He worked at Fisher Body and finished his career at Consumer's Power, retiring in 1990 after 35 years of ser-

vice. Hubel is survived by his wife, Agnes Hubel; 3 children, Sylvia (Dale) Ricketts of Swartz Creek, Joyce (David) Kidwell of Waterford and Clayton I. (Patricia) Hubel of Flint; 10 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, 4 step-grandchildren and 7 step-great-grandchildren; 2 step-children,

(Mardelle) Johnson of Evert and Connie Mosier of Davisburg; a brother, Wilbur (Sue) Hubel of Ruth; and several nieces and nephews.

Arrangements were made by He was preceded in death Price Funeral Home, Troy. by his wife, Sophie J. Hubel;

a son, Jeffrey C. Hubel; his father and mother, Carl W. and Mina Carletta Hubel; and sisters, Joyce Sexton and Earlene Frapport.

Funeral services were held Dec. 15 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Davison, with the Rev. Steve Stahlhut officiating. Burial was in Crestwood Cemetery.

Joseph Lorencz Jr.

Joseph Lorencz Jr., 82, of Gagetown, died Friday, Dec. 12, 2003, at Huron Medical Center in Bad Axe,

He was born March 12, 1921, in Detroit to Joseph Sr. and Mary (Hozsa) Lorencz. He married Mary L. Bozarth June 8, 1946, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Oklahoma City, Okla.

Following his graduation from Roosevelt High School in Wyandotte, he served with the U.S. Navy during World War II. Lorencz farmed in the area for 20 years, retiring in 1980. He also worked at Automotive Industries in Owendale, Pigeon Manufacturing, and Sebewaing Industries, retiring in 1982.

He was a charter member of the Owendale Lions Club, holding several offices through the years. He was also a third degree member of the Caro Council #3224, Knights of Columbus, and was a member of St. Agatha

He is survived by his wife, Mary; 5 daughters, Mary Lorencz of Troy, Linda (James) Sattler of Unionville, Margaret (John) Shagena of Chandler, Ariz., Elizabeth (Tom) Fritz of Gagetown and Katherine Sclumeca of Baltimore, Md.; one brother, John Lorencz of Owendale: 8 grandchildren and 5 greatgrandchildren; 5 sisters, Helen Smith of Essexville, Sister Joan Lorencz of Warren, Elizabeth (Richard) Binder of Essexville, Nancy (Ronald) Prokopenko of Bay City and Dr. Kathleen Lorencz of Beverly Hills; his mother-in-law, Leona Bozarth of Oklahoma City, Okla.: 2 sisters-in-law, Evelyn (Lyle) Schoonover of Mannford, Okla., and Mildred (Clarence) Cosper of Oklahoma City, Okla.; 3 brothers-in-law, William Howell of Essexville, the Rev. Joe (Carolyn) Bozarth of Dickersen, Texas, and Bob (Debbie) Bozarth of Guthrie, Okla.; and many nieces and

Obituaries

He was preceded in death by his parents; a grandson, James Sattler; 2 sisters, Mary Howell and Rose Lorencz: his father-in-law, Lawrence Bozarth; a sister-in-law, Althea Lorencz; and 2 brothers-in-law, Lawrence Bozarth and Alger Smith.

nephews.

A funeral mass was scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 16 at 11 a.m. at St. Agatha Catho-Catholic Church in Gag-

lic Church, Gagetown, with Father Steve Fillion officiat-

Burial will be in the church cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Owendale Lions Club or the Alzheimer's Association.

Wilda Nemeth

Wilda Ruth Nemeth, 67, of Kingston, died Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2003, at Bay Medical Center, Bay City. She was born Jan. 8, 1936,

Leone (Palmer) Zemke. She married Edward Nemeth Feb. 26, 1955, in Caro.

in Port Huron to Henry and

Nemeth graduated from Cass City High School in 1953. She worked as a secretary for Kingston High School for 6 years, and also as a bookkeeper at a grain elevator.

She is survived by her husband, Edward; children, James (Trish) Nemeth of Grand Rapids, Sherry (Eric) Fischer of Perry, Sue Nemeth of Kingston, Scott (Lori) Nemeth of Mt. Clemens, and Steve (Kim) Nemeth of Redford; 6 grandchildren and one great-granddaugh-

She was preceded in death by her infant son, Thomas Allen Nemeth.

Funeral services were held Friday, Dec. 12 at Kranz Funeral Home, Kingston, with the Rev. Terry Butters of the

11 P.M.

Refreshmentsl

FREE Gift Wrapping

Kingston United Methodist Church officiating.

Interment was in Novesta Township Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Kingston Fire and Rescue and the Kingston Lions Club.

Arrangements were made by Kranz Funeral Home, King-

George Wright

George Albert Wright, 83, of Cass City, died Friday, Dec. 12, 2003, in Saginaw. He was born May 5, 1920, in Paris, France, to William

and Helen (Delsaert) Wright. He married Nellie Mae Glatz June 14, 1941, in Fraser. She died Oct. 3, 1999.

Wright was a member of Redemption Lutheran Church in Detroit. He worked for the city of Detroit Fire Department for 35 years, rising through the ranks until he retired as battalion chief. He was also an electrician, plumber, builder and carpenter. Upon his retirement, he attended MSU classes and obtained a Master Gardener certificate.

Wright is survived by his children, David Wright of Cass City, James (Tamara) Wright of White Lake, and Richard Wright of Caro; a daughter-in-law, Karen E. Wright of Cass City; 15 grandchildren and 13 greatgrandchildren; and a brother, Richard (Francis) Wright of

Texas. He was preceded in death by his wife and son, Lawrence.

Funeral services were held Monday, Dec. 15 at Kranz Funeral Home, Cass City. Interment was in Novesta

Township Cemetery, Cass

Memorials may be made to Rawson Memorial Library in

Cass City. Arrangements were made by

Kranz Funeral Home, Cass

Check Out These Web Sites:

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society at www.leukemia-

lymphoma.org. For information on glaucoma, log on to: www.glauco mainfo.com.

Cardima, Inc. at www.cardima.com. The Caregivers Marketplace at www.caregiversmarket place.com.

For answers to Medicare questions, visit www.medicare.gov. For information on the Tampa Bay area in Florida, see www.TampaBay.org.

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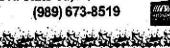
was The Thursday Before Christmas Thursday, December 18th **Downtown Caro**



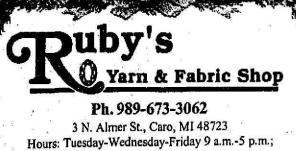
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Notices

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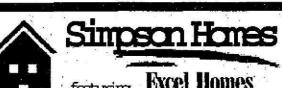
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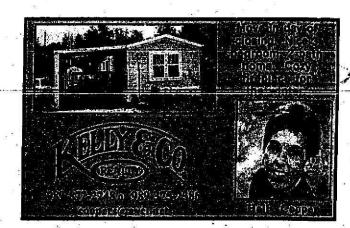
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Company paid benefits include medical insurance with dental and prescription coverage, life insurance, paid vacation and holidays, and 401K plan. Salary commensurates with experience.

Apply at

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bath, 1st floor utility. There is a large 2+ car attached garage.

Property is bank owned and ready to buy. Call Marty or Lola

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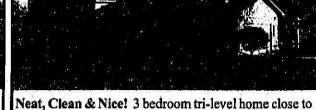
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CC-496



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1,000 sq. ft. 2 story on a

nice I acre. There is a

garage, hip roof barn

and some other outer

buildings. Call Marty O.

for the showing and the

reason to buy today.

Associate Broker

Legal Notices

made and provided, notice is hereby given

that said mortgage will be foreclosed by

a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some

part of them, at public venue, at the Front

entrance to the Courthouse in the Village

of Caro, Tuscola County at 10:00 AM, on

Said premises are situated in Township

of Arbela, Tuscola County, Michigan, and

Commencing 395 feet East of the South-

west corner of the Southwest 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 22, Town 10

North, Range 7 East; thence East 130 feet;

thence North 325 feet; thence West 130

feet; thence South 325 feet to the point

The redemption period shall be 6 months

from the date of such sale, unless deter-

mined abandoned in accordance with

MCLA 600,3241a, in which case the re-

demption period shall be 30 days from

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE

Attorneys For Chase Manhattan Mort-

gage Corporation, successor in interest

merger and/or name change to Chase

Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822

AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, WE ARE AT-

TEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND

ANY INFORMATION ORTAINED WILL

BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. NOTIFY

USATTHENUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE

MORTGAGE SALE - Default having been

made in the terms and conditions of a

certain mortgage made by Amadore S.

Nugent and Janice L. Nugent, husband

and wife, Mortgagors, to Creve Coeur

Mortgage, Mortgagee, dated the 23rd day

of January, 2002 and recorded in the of-

fice of the Register of Deeds, for the

County of Tuscola and State of Michi-

gan, on the 14th day of March, 2002 in

Liber 869 of Tuscola County Records,

Page 1452, said Mortgage having been

assigned to Mortgage Electronic Regis-

tration Systems, Inc., said assignment

having been recorded on the 19th day of

July, 2003, in Liber 886 on Page 1467,

on which mortgage there is claimed to be

due, at the date of this notice, the sum of

Ninety Three Thousand Four & 49/100

(\$93,004.49), and no suit or proceeding

at law or in equity having been instituted

to recover the debt secured by said mon-

Now, therefore, by virtue of the power of

sale contained in said mortgage, and pur-

suant to statute of the State of Michigan

in such case made and provided, notice

is hereby given that on the 9th day of

January, 2004 at 10:00 o'clock a.m. Lo-

cal Time, said mortgage will be fore-

closed by a sale at public auction, to the

highest bidder, front entrance of the

Courthouse in Village of Caro, Tuscola

Cty (that being the building where the

Circuit Court for the County of Tuscola is held), of the premises described in said

mortgage, or so much thereof as may be

necessary to pay the amount due, as afore-

said on said mortgage, with interest

thereon at 8.85000% per annum and all

legal costs, charges, and expenses, includ-

ing the attorney fees allowed by law, and

also any sum or sums which may be paid

hy the undersigned, necessary to protect

Which said premises are described as

follows: All that certain piece or parcel

of land situated in the Township of Mill-

ington, County of Tuscola, State of Michi-

Lot 18. Miller Subdivision as recorded

in Liber 2 of Plats, Page 2, Tuscola County

During the six (6) immediately follow-

ing the sale, the property may be re-

deemed, except that in the event that the

property is determined to be abandoned

pursuant to MCLA 600.3241a, the prop-

erty may be redeemed during 30 days

Mortgage Electronic Registration Sys-

Attorney for Mortgage Electronic Regis-

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR AT-

TEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY

INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE

USED FOR THAT PURPOSE, PLEASE

CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUM-

Default has been made in the conditions

of a mortgage made by Christine Bonnell,

a married woman, and Duane Bonnell, her

husband, to Mortgage Electronic Regis-

tration Systems, Inc., mortgagee, dated

October 25, 2001 and recorded Decem-

ber 10, 2001 in Liber 852, Page 156,

Tuscola County Records. Said mortgage is now held by BANK ONE, NATIONAL

ASSOCIATION, ASTRUSTEE FOR CER-

ter of Deeds. There is claimed to be due

on such mortgage the sum of One Hun-

BER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE

immediately following the sale.

FABRIZIO & BROOK, P.C.

tration Systems, Inc.

Truy, MI 48084

248-362-2600

MILITARY DUTY.

MORTGAGESALE

Jonathan L. Engman (P56364)

888 W. Big Beaver, Suite 1470

Dated: 12/3/03

Mongagee

gan, and described as follows, to wit:

interest in the premises.

gage or any part thereof.

INACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

12-17-4

Dated: December 17, 2003

FC S (248) 593-1304

Mortgage Company

File #006509F01

30400 Telegraph Rd., Stc. 200

January 15, 2004.

are described as:

of beginning.

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR AT-TEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT, ANY ENFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUM-BER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Eddie R Clark III and Andrea J Clark, husband and wife (original mortgagors), to The Homestead Mortgage Company, Mortgagee, dated July 31, 1998 and recorded on August 3, 1998 in Liber 746 on Page 1121, and assigned by said Mortgagee to First Nationwide Mortgage Corporation as assignee by an assignment dated March 2, 1999 and recorded on June 7, 1999 in Liber 773 on Page 813, in Tuscola county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Seventy-Seven Thousand Four Hundred Ninety-Seven And 21/100 Dollars (\$77,497.21), including interest at 7.75% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front entrance to the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County at 10:00 AM, on January 8, 2004.

Said premises are situated in Township of Arbela, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Commencing at the Southwest corner of Section 18, Town 10 North, Range 7 East and running North on the West Section line of Section 18, said line being the county line, 2020.6 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 150 feet; thence East perpendicular to the West Section line 200 feet; thence South 150 feet; thence West 200 feet to the point of be-

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: November 26, 2003

CALL: FC D (248) 593-1309 Trott & Trott, P.C. Attorneys For CitiMortgage Inc. successor by merger to First Nationwide Mortgage Corporation

Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822

30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE

11-26-4

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR AT-TEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE PLEASE

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

CONTACT OUR OFFICE ATTHENUM-

BER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE

MILITARY DUTY.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by

Timothy W. Beckett and Karen A. Beckett, husband and wife (original mortgagors), to Emergent Mortgage Corp., dba Homezold, a Corporation, Mortgagee, dated September 9, 1997 and recorded on September 17, 1997 in Liber 720 on Page 329, and assigned by said Mortgagee to Wachovia Bank (/k/a First Union National Bank of North Carolina as Trustee for the registered

holders of Emergent Home Equity Loan Pass through Certificates Series 1997-03, as assignee by an assignment dated September 24, 1997 recorded on November 7, 1997 in Liber 723 on Page 1328, in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Fifty-Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty-Four And 64/100 Dollars (\$58,954,64), including interest at 12.979% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front entrance to the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County at 10:00 AM, on January 15, 2004.

Said premises are situated in Township of Dayton, Tuscola County, Michigan,

Commencing at a point 784.75 feet East of the Southwest corner of Section 33. Town 11 North, Range 10 East; running thence North 417.00 feet; thence East 200.00 feet; thence South 417.00 feet; thence West 200.00 feet to the point of beginning.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600,3241a, in which case the redemotion period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 17, 2003

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE

CALL: HC D (248) 593-1309 Tron & Tron, P.C. Attorneys For Wachovia Bank [/k/a First Union National Bank of North Carolina as Trustee for the registered holders of Emergent Home Equity Loan Pass through Certificates Series 1997-03. 30400 Telegraph Rd., Stc. 200 Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822 File #005832F01

AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, WE ARE AT-TEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE, NOTIFY USATTHENUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default having been

made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Richard W. Smith and Laurie E. Smith, husband and wife, Mortgagors, to Homeowners Loan Corp., Mortgagee, dated the 13th day of July, 2000 and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds, for the County of Tuscola and State of Michigan, on the 7th day of August, 2000 in Liber 807 of Tuscola County Records, Page 1178, said Mortgage having been assigned to Citibank, N.A. as Trustee under the Pooling and Servicing Agreement dated as of November 30, 2001 Series 2001-1 on which mortgage there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, the sum of Thirty Three Thousand Three Hundred Sixty Six & 83/100 (\$33,366.83), and no suit or proceeding at law or in equity having been instituted to recover the debt secured by said mortgage or any part

Now, therefore, by virtue of the power of

sale contained in said mortgage, and pursuant to statute of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that on the 19th day of December, 2003 at 10:00 o'clock a.m. Local Time, said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at public auction, to the highest bidder, front entrance of the Courthouse in Village of Caro, Tuscola County (that being the building where the Circuit Court for the County of Tuscola is held), of the premises described in said mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due, as aforesaid on said mortgage, with interest thereon at 11.75000% per annum and all legal costs, charges, and expenses, including the attorney fees allowed by law, and also any sum or sums which may be paid by the undersigned. necessary to protect its interest in the

Which said premises are described as follows: All that certain piece or parcel of land situated in the City of Vassar, County of Tuscola, State of Michigan, and described as follows, to wit:

East half of Lots 1 and 2, in Block 24, of Village (now City) of Vassar, Michigan, according to the recorded Plat thereof, County of Tuscola, State of Michigan.

During the six (6) months immediately following the sale, the property may be redeemed, except that in the event that the property is determined to be abandoned pursuant to MCLA 600.3241a, the property may be redeemed during 30 days immediately following the sale.

Dated: 11/19/03

Citibank, N.A. Mortgagee

FABRIZIO & BROOK, P.C. Jonathan L. Engman (P56364) Attorney for Citibank, N.A. 888 W. Big Beaver, Suite 1470 248-362-2600 11-19-5

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR AT-

TEMPTINGTO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY

INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE

USED FOR THAT PURPOSE, PLEASE

CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUM-

BER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been

made in the conditions of a mortgage

made by Daniel S. Vasko and Constance

M. Vasko, His Wife, to Pinnfund, USA, A

California Corporation CFL#603-3977.

Mongagee, dated July 14, 1999 and re-

corded July 26, 1999 in Liber 777, Page

1073. Tuscola County Records. Said

morteage is now held by IPMorean Chase

Bank, formerly known as The Chase Man-

hattan Bank, successor by merger to Chase

Bank of Texas, National Association, F/

K/A Texas Commerce Bank, N.A., as

Trustee and Custodian, by assignment

submitted to and recorded by the Tuscola

County Register of Deeds. There is

claimed to be due on such mortgage the

sum of One Hundred Twenty-Four Thou-

sand Nine Hundred Nineteen and 44/100

Dollars (\$124,919.44), including inter-

Under the power of sale contained in the

mortgage and the statutes of the State of

Michigan, notice is hereby given that the

mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of

the mortgaged premises, or some part of

them, at public venue at the front entrance

of the Courthouse in the Village of Caro.

Tuscola County, MI in Tuscola County,

Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on January 8,

The premises are located in the City of

Silverwood, Tuscola County, Michigan.

Beginning 470 feet East of the South-

west corner of the Southeast 1/4 of the

Southeast 1/4 of Section 27, Town 11

North, Range 10 East; thence North 838

feet; thence East 260 feet; thence South

838 feet; thence West 260 feet to the point

The redemption period shall be 6 months

from the date of such sale, unless the

property is determined abandoned in

accordance with MCLA \$600,3241a, in

which case the redemption period shall

be 30 days from the date of the sale. The

foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the

sale in the event a 3rd party buys the

property and there is a simultaneous reso-

Attorneys for JPMorgan Chase Bank.

formerly known as The Chase Manhattan

Bank, successor by merger to Chase Bank

of Texas, National Association, F/K/A

Texas Commerce Bank, N.A., as Trustee

and Custodian By; Saxon Mortgage Ser-

vices Inc. f/k/a Meritech Mortgage Ser-

lution with the borrower.

Dated: December 10, 2003

ORLANS ASSOCIATES PC

vices Inc., As Assignee

P.O. Box 5041 Troy, MI 48007-5041

(248) 457-1000

and are described as:

of beginning.

est at the rate of 8.74% per annum.

MILITARY DUTY.

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR AT-TEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT, ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE, PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICEAT THE NUM-BER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Wendy Garrison and Jeffery Garrison, husband and wife (original mortgagors) to Impac Funding Corporation-DBA-Novelle-Pinancial Services, a Delaware Corporation, Mortgagee, dated September 28, 2001, and recorded on October 24, 2003 in Liber 961 on Page 318 in Tuscola County Records, Michigan and was assigned by said mortgagee to the U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee under the Pooling and Servicing Agreement, dated as of February 1, 2002, among Credit-Based Asset Servicing and Securitization LLC, Asset Backed Funding Corporation, Litton Loan Servicing LP and JP Morgan Chase Bank, C-BASS Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2002-CB1, without recourse, Assignee by an assignment dated October 4, 2001, which was recorded on November 21, 2003, in Liber 965 on Page 764, Tuscola County Records, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of FORTY-SEVEN THOUSANDTWO HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE AND 19/100 dollars (\$47,251,19), including interest at 9.750% per annum. Said Mortgage recorded via an Affidavit of Lost Document dated October 2, 2003 and recorded October 24, 2003 in Liber 961 on Page 318,

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front entrance to the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County, Michigan at 10:00 AM, on January 8, 2004.

Said premises are situated in TOWNSHIP OF DAYTON, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 25 of Cat Lake Subdivision No. 2, according to the plat recorded in Liber I of Plats, Page 104, now being Page 54B. Tuscola County

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 10, 2003

FOR INFORMATION, PLEASECALL: Team M (248)593-1306

Trott & Trott, P.C. Attorneys and Counselors 30400 Telegraph Road, Suite 200 Bingham Farms, MI 48025

File# 200327257 Team M

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR AT-TEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUM-BER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Maxine B. Reaver, an unmarried woman (original mortgagor), to Mac-Clair Mortgage Corporation, Mortgagee, dated May 4, 2001 and recorded on May 11, 2001 in Liber 831 on Page 734, and assigned by said Mortgagee to Washington Mutual Home Loans, Inc., as assignee by an assignment dated May 4, 2001 and recorded on February 12, 2002 in Liber 864 on Page 146, in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Twenty-Four Thousand Sixty and 07/100 Dol-

(\$124,060.07), including interest at 8% Dated: December 11, 2003

Under the power of sale contained in said morigage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front entrance to the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County at 10:00 AM, on January 8, 2004.

Said premises are situated in Township of Arbela, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

A parcel of land in the South 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 8, Town 10 North, Range 7 East, described as follows: Commencing at the East 1/4 corner of said Section; thence South 88 degrees 50 minutes 52 seconds West, on the East. and West 1/4 line of said Section, 500 feet; thence North 01 degree 01 minute' 48 seconds West, parallel to the East line of said Section, 350 feet; thence North 88 degrees 50 minutes 52 seconds East. parallel to said East and West 1/4 line, 500 feet to said East section line; thence South 01 degree 01 minute 48 seconds East, on said East line, 350 feet to the

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600,3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 3, 2003

point of beginning.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL: FC F (248) 593-1313 Trott & Trott, P.C.

Attorneys For Washington Mutual Bank. A/k/a Washington Mutual Home Loans,

30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste 200 Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822 Robert A. Tremain & Associates, P.C. is a debt collector and we are attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by ROBERT J. MCCOLLUM & CARLA L. MCCOLLUM, HUSBAND & WIFE, to AMERICAN BUSINESS MORT-GAGE SERVICES, Mortgagee, dated May 2002 and recorded on June 12, 2002 in Liber 881 on Page 383, TUSCOLA County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Forty-Four Thousand Nine Hundred Forty-Eight and 41/100 Dollars (\$44,948.41), including interest at

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front entrance of the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola, MI, at 11:00 AM on January 15, 2004.

Said premises are situated in TWP. OF COLUMBIA, TUSCOLA County, Michigan, and are described as:

LOTS 5 AND 6 AND THE SOUTH 33 PEET OFLOT7AND & BLOCK I. PLATOFTHE VILLAGE OF COLLING, COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP, TUSCOLA COUNTY, MICHI-GAN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN LIBER 1 OF PLATS, PAGE 64, NOW BEING PAGE 12B. TUSCOLA COUNTY RECORDS.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

DATED: December 10, 2003

AMERICAN BUSINESS MORTGAGE SERVICES

ATTORNEY FOR: Mortgagee

(248) 540-7701

Robert A. Tremain & Associates, P.C. 401 South Old Woodward Avenue Suite 300 Birmingham, MI 48009-6616 For Information, please call:

This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information ob tained will be used for this purpose. If you are in the Military, please contact our office at the number listed below.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Cynthia Lou McConkey Iackson, a single woman, to Franklin Mortgage Funding, A Michigan Corporation Morigagee, dated June 26, 2001 and recorded July 5, 2001 in Liber 837, Page 734, Tuscola County Records, Michigan, said mortgage was assigned to: Deutsche Bank Trust Company Ameri-cas, 1/k/a Bankers Trust Company, As Trustee, by assignment dated December 10, 2003 and recorded February 12, 2002 in Liber 864, Page 167, on which morthereof the sum of Fifty-Three Thousand Five Hundred Ninety-Nine Dollars and Seventy Cents (\$53,599.70) including interest 12.35% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front entrance of the Courthouse in Village of Caro, Tuscola County, Michigan at 10:00 AM. on Thursday, January 15, 2004.

Said premises are situated in City of Cass City, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Lot 4, Block 15 of Segars addition to the Village Plat of Cass City. According to the Plat recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Pages 144 - 144A of Tuscola County Records. Commonly known as 6454 Houghton St, Cass City MI 48726

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, f/k/a Bankers Trust Company, As Trustee. Assignce of Mortgagee

Attorneys: Potestivo & Associates, P.C.

36150 Dequindre Rd., Ste 810 Sterling Heights, MI 48310 Our File No: 03-19414

12-17-5

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR AT-TEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT, ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE, PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUM-BER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Teri L. Tune & Cheryl L. Ruckle, a married woman & a single woman (original mortgagors), to Flagstar Bank, FSB, Mortgagee, dated November 29, 2001 and recorded on January 11, 2002 in Liber 856 on Page 934, and assigned by said Mortgagee to Chase Mortgage Company as assignee by an assignment dated May 1, 2003 recorded on October 29, 2003 in Liber 961 on Page 1358, in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the

hereof the sum of Ninety-One Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty-Four And 05/100 Dollars (\$91,984.05), including interest at 7.5% per annum.

TIFICATE HOLDERS OF BEAR STEARNS ASSETBACKED SECURITIES, INC. AS. SET BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2002-2by assignment submitted to and recorded by the Tuscola County Regis-

dred Nine Thousand Six Hundred Twenty-Eight and 22/100 Dollars (\$109,628.22) including interest at the rate of 11.75% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in the mortgage and the statutes of the State of Michigan, nodee is hereby given that the mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the front entrance

of the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola County, MI in Tuscola County, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on January 8, The premises are located in the Township of Fremont, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Part of the Northwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 16, Town 11 North, Range 9 East, described as: Beginning at a point on the North line of Section 16, North 89 degrees 35 minutes 55 seconds East 881:58 feet from the West 1/4 corner of said Section 16; thence continuing alone said North line North 89 degrees 35 minutes 55 seconds East 443.93 feet to the East line of said Northwest 1/4; thence along said East line South 00 degrees 08 minutes 07 seconds West 989.07 feet; thence South 89 degrees 35 minutes 55 seconds West 441.30 feet; thence North 00 degrees 01 minutes 00 seconds West 989.05 feet to the point of begin-

The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA \$600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. The foreclosing mongagee can rescind the sale in the event a 3rd party buys the property and there is a simultaneous resolution with the borrower.

Dated: December 10, 2003

ORLANS ASSOCIATES PC Attorneys for BANK ONE, NATIONAL AS-SOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR CERTIFI-CATE HOLDERS OF BEAR STEARNS ASSET BACKED SECURITIES, INC. ASSETBACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2002-2, As Assignee P.O. Box 5041 Troy, MI 48007-5041 (248) 457-1000 File No. 199.1353 12-10-5

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR AT-TEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE, PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUM-BER BELOW IFYOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Dennis L. Allen, a single man (original mortgagors), to Investaid Corporation, a Michigan Corporation, Mortgagee, dated October 22, 1999 and re-corded on February 7, 2000 in Liber 793 on Page 1296, and assigned by said Mortgagee to Bank One, National Association, as Trustee as assignee by an assignment dated October 27, 1999 recorded on June 11, 2003 in Liber 935 on Page 803 in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-Two and 26/100 Dollars (\$67.922.26), including interest at 10,99% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said 2 5. 6.22 mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front of Caro, Tuscola County at 10:00 AM, on January 8, 2004.

Said premises are situated in City of Vassar, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Parcel 1: Lot 14, Block 12 of the City of Vassar, according to the plat recorded in Liber 1 of Deeds, Page 143 and Liber 2 of Deeds, Page 93.

Parcel 2: A parcel of land in the Village (now City) of Vassar, described as: Commencing at the Southeast corner of Lot 20, Block 12 in said Village of Vassar; thence Westerly and on the line between said Lot 20 and Lot 21 to the Southwest corner of said Lot 20; thence Northerly on the line between said Lot 20 and Lot 14 of said Plat to the Northeast corner of

said Lot 14: thence

Easterly and parallel with the line between said Lots 20 and 21 to the street; thence Southerly and along the street line to the place of beginning. All being in the Original Plat to the Village (now City) of Vassar. according to the Plat recorded in Liber 1of Deeds, Page 143 and Liber 2 of Deeds, Page 93, ALSO part of the Northwest fractional one quarter of Section 7, Town 11 North, Range 8 East, City of Vassar, described as being a part of Lot 60 of Block 12 of the New Plat of the Village of Vassar, recorded in Liber 2 of Deeds, on Page 93, and also be a portion of the apparent Park Street right of way and more particularly described as beginning at a point on the Westerly right of way line of said Park Street which is North 50 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West, 70.15 feet along the Southwesterly right of way line of Maple Street and along said Westerly right of way line of Park Street South 20 degrees 16 minutes 39 seconds West, 121.00 feet from an iron pipe found at the intersection of the Easterly right of way line of Park Street and the Southwesterly right of way line of Maple Street;

thence continuing along said Westerly right of way line of Park Street, South 20 degrees 16 minutes 39 seconds West, 19.23 feet to the point on the southwesterly line of said Lot 60; thence North 28 degrees 18 minutes 24 seconds East, 19.35 feet; thence North 68 degrees 25 minutes 38 seconds West, 3.15 feet to the Westerly right of way line of Park Street and the Point of Beginning.

EXCEPT part of the Northwest fractional one quarter of Section 7, Town 11 North, Range 8 East, City of Vassar, described as being a part of Lot 60 of Block 12 of the New Plat of the Village of Vassar, recorded in Liber 2 of Deeds, on Page 93, more particularly described as beginning at a point which is North 50 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds. West, 70.15 feet along the Southwesterly right of way line of Maple Street and South 20 degrees 16 minutes 39 seconds West, 101.00 feet along the Westerly right of way line of Park Street, South 20 degrees 16 minutes 39 seconds West, 20.00 feet; thence North 68 degrees 25 minutes 38 seconds West, 36.77 feet; thence North 21 degrees 34 minutes 22 seconds East, 20.00 feet; thence South 68 degrees 25 minutes 38 seconds East, 36.32 feet to the point of beginning.

ALSO EXCEPT part of the Northwest fractional one quarter of Section 7, Town 11 North, Range 8 East, City of Vassar, described as that part of Lot 19 of Block 12 of the New Plat of the Village of Vassat, recorded in Liber 2 of Deeds, on Page 93.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless deter-

mined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from

Dated: December 10, 2003

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE FC H (248) 593-1300 Trott & Trott, P.C. Attorneys For Bank One, National Association, as Trustee

Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822

30400 Telegraph Rd., Stc. 200

File #005806F01

12-10-4

Robert A. Tremain & Associates, P.C. is a debt collector and we are attempting to collect a debt and any information ob tained will be used for that purpose,

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been

made in the conditions of a mortgage made by JUDY L. DONNELLY, A SINGLE WOMAN, to MORTGAGE AMERICA (IMC), INC., a Florida Corporation, Mortgagee, dated August 4, 1999 and recorded on August 12, 1999 in Liber 779 on Page 643, TUSCOLA County Records, Michigan, and assigned by said mortgage to ALTEGRA CREDIT COMPANY, now known as NATIONAL CITY HOMELOAN SERVICES, INC., by an assignment dated August 4, 1999 and recorded on August 14, 2000 in Liber 808 on Page 571, TUSCOLA County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of seventynine thousand seven hundred ninetyeight and 72/100 Dollars (\$79,798.72), including interest at 11.500% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be forcelosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the Front entrance of the Courthouse in the Village of Caro, Tuscola, MI, at 11:00 AM on January 22, 2004.

Said premises are situated in TOWNSHIP OF VASSAR, TUSCOLA County, Michigan, and are described as:

Commencing at the intersection of centerline of highway and South line of Section 29, Town 11 North, Range 8 East, which is \$87*19'59"E, 1290.22 feet from the Southwest corner of Section 29; thence N29*46'10"W, along centerline of highway, 107.82 feet; thence along centerline 390.44 feet on a curve to the left (having a radius of 122,778,40 feet, a delta angle of 00*10'56" and a chord bearing and distance of N29*51'47"W, 390.44 feet); thence N76*17'37"E. 311.28 feet to a point on the West, North and South 1/8 line, South 508.06 feet, N87*19'59"W, 42.48 feet to the point of

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

DATED: December 17, 2003

NATIONAL CITY HOME LOAN SER-Assignee of Mortgagee

ATTORNEY FOR: Assignce of Mortgagee

Robert A. Tremain & Associates, P.C. 401 South Old Woodward Avenue Suite 300 Birmingham, MI 48009-6616 For Information, please call; (248) 540-7701

12-17-4

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Ordering a subscription to the Chronicle is easy and economical, with savings built into extended subscriptions. Order by phone - 872-2010 - distop by the office (we're next to Schneeberger's at the corner of Main and Oak streets). If you have a problem with an existing subscription, or you want to change your address, give us a call.

News and features...

If you have a story or photo idea, we welcome your call at (989) 872-2010. We're always on the lookout for interesting feature story ideas as well as photos involving community events and residents in the area, and we'll be glad to come to you. Residents can also submit articles and photos - just stop by and talk to someone in our editorial department.

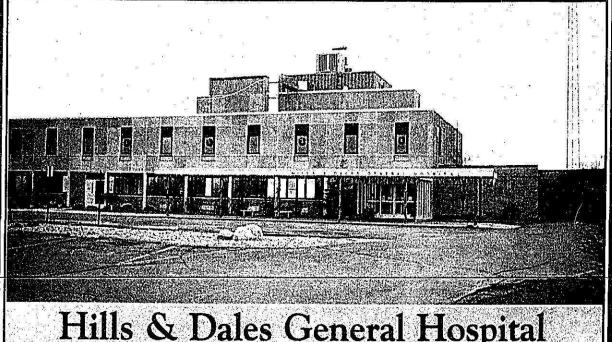
Questions, problems?

We also welcome your questions and comments - both positive and negative. Your input is important to us, whether you appreciate our handling of a story, or you believe we need to correct an error or clarify an article.

File No. 244.0722 12-17-4

12-10-5

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case



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Tuscola Farm Bureau members attend meeting

Members of the Tuscola County Farm Bureau represented the local agriculture industry at Michigan Farm Bureau's (MFB) 84th Annual Meeting, Dec. 2-5 in Acme. Appointed delegates spent 3 days in policy resolution sessions, defining MFB's

agenda for the coming year. Representing Tuscola County at this year's meeting were Gordon Bierlein, Viola Bierlein, Nancy Ortner, Dorothy Keinath, Donald Keinath, Jonathon Findlay, Bernia, Irene Karen Rodammer,

Goodchild, Bonnie Bergdolt, Barbara Hickey, Diane Rohlfs, Anthony Bierlein, Greg Ackerman, Alice Starkey, Norman Bergdolt, Delores Damm, Myron Ortner, Otto Rodammer, Richard Starkey, Larry Hickey, Martin Damm and Dennis Engelhard.

Policy highlights from this year's meeting include MFB's opposition to individual National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits for new concentrated animal feeding operations, and op-

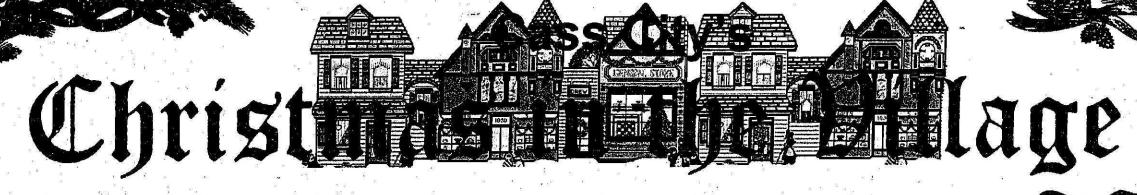
position to the merger of Young Farmer competitions, MSU's Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources with two other de-

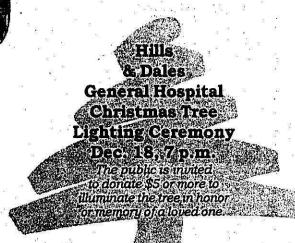
partments. In addition to delegate sessions, members had the opportunity to attend informative programs about pollution discharge permitting and the visual preference survey conducted by the Michigan Farmland and Community Alliance, a nonprofit company affiliated with MFB.

This year's MFB Annual Meeting featured the annual

discussion meet and awards. MFB's second annual Harvest Gathering food drive raised more than 13,200 pounds of food to stock the shelves of the state's 4 Ronald McDonald Houses. Michigan Court of Appeals Judge Bill Schuette and State Representative Judy Emmons spoke at the AgriPAC Breakfast, and the Taste of Michigan Reception highlighted many of the commercially available food products grown and processed in the state.



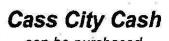






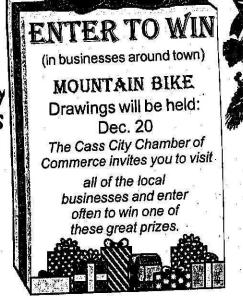


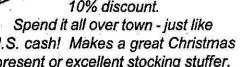
Lions Club See Community the Christmas Tree



can be purchased (during regular business hours) at the Municipal Building for a 10% discount.

Spend it all over town - just like U.S. cash! Makes a great Christmas present or excellent stocking stuffer.







Rotary Christmas for Kids **Toy Collection**

Help Light Up Cass City

Luminary Kits for sale at Chamber office 12 bags, candles & sand - just \$5.00

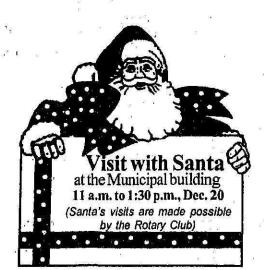
Look for drop boxes around town



Home & Business Decorating Challenge

Light up Cass City - you could be surprised with Detroit Edison electric certificates, Cass City Cash, or free Chamber business member advertising in Chamber Chat Judging will be Dec. 19. Keep your lights on from 5-10 p.m.



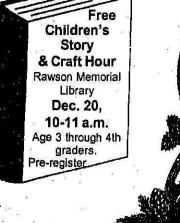




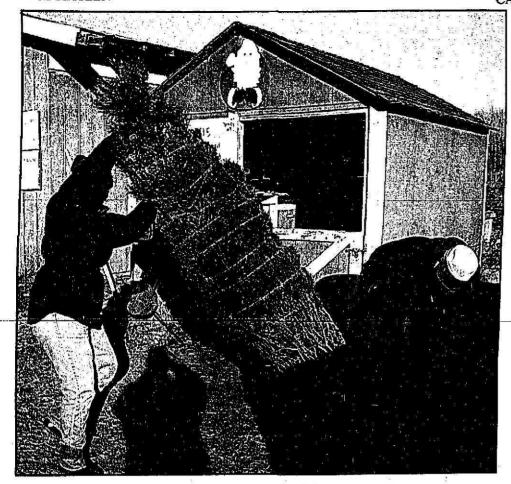
Christmas Gift Display at Thumb National Bank Great gift and food ideas from

your local merchants

Children's Story & Craft Hour Rawson Memorial Library Dec. 20. 10-11 a.m.



This ad has been sponsored by: Cass City Oil & Gas and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan



CARL AND PHYLLIS Silvernail demonstrate what they call their "marriage-saving" tree stand. The stand, which features a rod that fits into the base of a drilled tree trunk, makes it easy to set up the tree.

Council approves budget

ontmued from page one.

The water fund, meanwhile, continues to pay on a \$250,000 loan for a new well and painting of the village's water tank. In addition, the federal government's mandate to reduce arsenic levels in public water supplies is expected to cost the village up to \$1.5 million in water treatment costs.

In other business Monday, the council:

 Approved a proclamation thanking Planning Commission member Catherine M. Hellew for her service on the board. Hellew resigned because she's moving out of the area. The council approved the appointment of Mick Kirn to fill the vacancy.

larly scheduled council

meeting, having completed

all regular business Monday

Karr recommended and the council approved sending a similar letter to former council trustee Don Ball, who resigned in the fall after 2 years of service to the village.

•Adopted a schedule of regular meeting dates for 2004. The council will continue to meet on the last Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the municipal building. One exception is the May meeting date, which was rescheduled due to the Memorial Day holiday. ·Canceled the Dec. 22 regu-

Area students compete in bowl

The Thumb Area Quiz Bowl League held its fall tournament Wednesday at the Sanilac Career Center. Twelve area high school quiz bowl teams were registered from Marlette, Deckerville, C-PS Sandusky, North Huron, Almont and Bad Axe.

Teams of 4 students competed. One of the questions from the championship round answered correctly by Sandusky's Ted Irland was "Fascism comes from the Latin word describing a bundle of rods that enclose an ax carried ahead of ancient Roman officials as a symbol of power," (fasces) Another answered by Sandusky's Trey Landsburg at the end of the championship match was, "In 1973, the person third in command at the justice department fired Archibald Cox as Watergate special prosecutor. Fourteen years later, the Senate rejected his nomination to the Supreme Court. Name him. (Robert Bork)

The top 6 teams in the fall season in order of finish were: Sandusky, Bad Axe A, Almont A, Deckerville A,

coached by Denise Sudderth, Bad Axe B and Deckerville B. C-PS, coached by Scott Bular, won the fall 2003 sportsmanship award.

Valuable player trophies went to Jackie Ondrajka. Melissa Broecker and Hali Brown, Marlette; Val Bays, Kurt Radatz and Justin. Helfer, Deckerville; Charles Hundersmarck, Shawn Swartendruber and Brandon Stout, Bad Axe; Logan Williams, C-PS; Danielle Bojanzyk and D.L. Lawrence, Almont; Beth Koroleski and Rachael Horetski, North Huron; and Ted Irland, Sandusky,

Winter Quiz Bowl starts Jan. 14 and runs through April 23-24. Teams that qualify may take part in the State Ouiz Bowl games at Michigan State University. Addition Thumb teams joining for the winter season include Cass City, Brown City and

Additional teams from the Thumb may enter by contacting Bruce Irland, league director, at Marlette High



Trees going fast

Continued from page one.

Once they get to 4 feet, they grow a foot a year.

"A complete rotation will take at least 10 years from the time we plant until the time we harvest.'

Silvernail has an extensive and interesting background in agriculture.

An ordained minister, he worked as an agricultural missionary in Brazil for 10 years. When he returned to the Thumb, he started farming and taught special education for many years. "Then we rented out our land, and for something to do I planted

Silvernail started his tree farm about 20 years ago. In the beginning, he and his wife, Phyllis, handled the work. Later, Silvernail partnered with the Brzezinskis. "It's a partnership, but you could call it a family Christmas tree farm." Silvernail noted that grow-

ing Christmas trees is actually a small portion of the farm operation, which totals 50 acres, including about 35 acres in the Thumb. "We sell nursery trees - landscape trees, evergreens - all spring and all fall."

Today, Silvernail and his partners also market hay and raise sheep and cash crops. "That's all happened in the scene for 7 hours.

last year with all the younger guys coming in," he said.
"It's more than a hobby, but

it keeps us busy, let's put it that way," added Silvernail, who indicated he still enjoys the work.

"My wife wonders when I'm going to retire, and I say, 'I'm retired. This is it'."

Blaze

Continued from page one.

added.

Mattlin didn't have a damage estimate, but said the loss will probably be several hundred thousand dollars. "The damage is expensive, but the structure is sound, I think," he said.

There was very little damage at Howard's Beauty Academy and Innovations Salon and Day Spa, the fire

"The guys got into it quick and knocked it down and kept it from spreading," Mattlin said. "The guys did a great job and we had some outstanding help. In the end, I had (assists) from Cass City, Fairgrove, Kingston, Mayville, Reese-Blumfield, Unionville and Vassar." Fire fighters remained at the



WORKERS AT the Silvernail Tree Farm use special machines to shake (above) and then bundle trees for their customers. In addition to a variety of trees, the farm offers wagon rides and a lunch wagon.

Call Us - 872-2010 With Ideas For Feature Stories

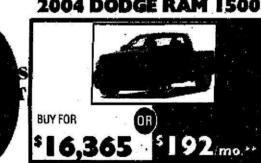


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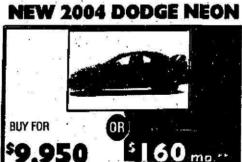
2003 GMC ENVOY SLE

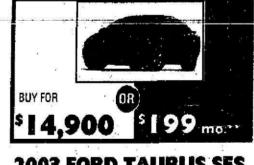
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Notice to the Public: Special Test Market

The month of December has typically been one of the slowest in the automotive industry. In an effort to change thi trend, the firm of Wauters, DeGroote, and Spore Will be conducting test market pricing electrons are stored at various locations in the Midwest Brooke Store events, new cars, trucks, sport utilities and minivans from Ford, Chrysler & GW as stored as treatership demos and pre-driven vehicles, will be priced below national averages to promote immediate product awareness. The firm has secured special Chaysler employee pricing (green sheet) for all nesses and Chryslers sold during this event. Also, Ford a men pricing is available veryone during this expansion THESE OFFERS HAVE NEVER BEEN OFFERED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC!!

In addition, our firm has been ordered to conduct a four day FINAL CLOSE-OUT of over \$7.000 morth of new and factory sponsored auction and less bank repossessions, executive demonstrates and dealership used vehicles - all marked with test market prices starting as low as \$999 for this four day event. Our goal is to deliver 75 units, complete of loss

or profit. As a recipient of this invitation, your credit of lease a vehicle during this event, your dealer is virtually pre-approved. Finance representatives the pay off your current loan, no matter how will be at the test market site to assist your test will be at the test market site to assist you will be at the test market site to assist your test will be at the test market site to assist your test will be at the test market site to assist your test will be at the test market your test will be at the

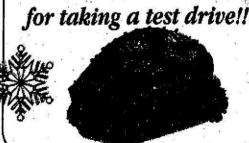
EXPLY NO CREDIT APPLICATIONS WILL BE REFUSED !! desire of Ford, Chrysler & GM to put as products as possible in service immediately to gain quick requirition in the communities in which they cold. This recognition will increase production and subsequent sales. For 4 days or we will be conducting one of these tests at a dealership near you. You will not have to negotiate. All models will be included in this test market program and factory rebates of up to \$7,000° or special below market financing starting as low as 0.0% APR for 72 months* will be available

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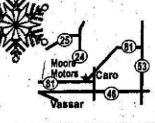








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