

# MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

Sweeney, Biddinger and Mabe honored students

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# CASS CITY CHRONICLE

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FIFTY CENTS

18 PAGES PLUS 2 SUPPLEMENTS



**THE CASS CITY Rotary Club's annual Christmas for Kids campaign was the best ever, according to organizers who said this year's effort generated a record \$6,400, making the holiday season brighter for nearly 90 area families. Above, Rotary members (from left) Val Hartel, Michelle Hill, Mike Weaver, Cindy Joseph and John Haire prepare to distribute the toys Friday morning.**

## Club assists 88 families

## Rotary lauds community

In spite of a struggling economy, generosity overflowed in the Cass City community this holiday season. In fact, this year's Christmas for Kids project, organized and manned by the Cass City Rotary Club, was the most successful ever, according to Cindy Joseph, Christmas for

Kids chairman. "We raised \$6,400 roughly from the community, and we had a lot of toys," Joseph said, adding local service clubs and organizations contributed to the cause. The Cub Scouts donated \$1,100, and members of the Cass City High School

Honor Society organized a toy drive, she said. "Plus our businesses and community were very, very generous." This year's campaign served 88 families in all with a variety of toys, food and clothing. "We served 104 families last year, but our donations

are way up," said Joseph, who noted cash contributions were up by \$1,300 this year. "It's our biggest year ever. "We're very pleased," she added. "It's probably the most rewarding project that Rotary does in our community."

## \$50,000 savings annually

# Owen-Gage going with part-time school chief

As expected, Owen-Gage School officials last week approved a plan to restructure the district's administration by utilizing a part-time superintendent.

The board also filled that post along with a new "dean of students" position during the Dec. 17 special meeting. Named superintendent was veteran Thumb educator and administrator Bob Peterson. Current Owen-Gage Athletic Director Josh Hahn was hired as dean of students.

Under the plan recommended by the Owen-Gage Board of Education's Administrative Reorganization Committee, the district will pay the part-time superintendent roughly \$44,000 annually, with no fringe benefit package. The dean of students, meanwhile, will earn \$15,000 a year.

The new structure is expected to save the district an estimated 3,000 annually based on the previous full-time superintendent's salary and fringe benefit package of nearly \$108,000.

Peterson, who previously served the Owen-Gage district as an interim principal 2 years ago, retired from Millington School District after some 30 years. He taught there and later served as principal and, during the last 11 years, was superintendent. Before that, he taught for 3 years in Muskegon.

Since then, Peterson has served as an interim high school principal in Marlette, interim middle school principal in the Cross-Lex School District, and as interim superintendent in Caseville for one year.

Hahn was hired as athletic director at Owen-Gage in July 2002. He also served as

varsity baseball coach last year and as assistant football coach this year. He has also substitute taught in the district.

Prior to approving the new administrative structure, board members and interim Supt. Don Gleeson discussed a number of questions and concerns, including whether administrative decisions will be made by Hahn in the absence of the superintendent. "If it's not in the (student) handbook, I think there needs to be discussion," said Gleeson, adding Hahn should be able to handle most situations simply by following existing board policy outlined in the handbook.

Board President Randy Howard agreed. "There are pretty good guidelines in place," he said.

Gleeson pointed out that Hahn can rely on a solid support staff, including long-time superintendent's secretary Liz Roemer, who handles most budgeting matters; Principal Diane Warack, who also has many years in the district; and board members, particularly Howard as president.

Board Secretary Brenda Kretzschmer agreed the support staff will play a vital role. She noted the board has believed all along that the success of the new structure depends "on long-term employees who know their job very well - that we can rely on them to make sound decisions based on years of experience."

"You're treading on new ground. It's unique. I think you're going to have to be flexible," Gleeson said of the new administrative structure, which will be implemented

at the start of the second semester in January.

Gleeson said adjustments can and probably will be made during the transition, but that he's confident the district can make it work. "I think it can be extremely effective and I think you have the right man for the job."

Peterson said he also believes a part-time superintendent can work, although the idea is unique and unproven.

"If we work together," he added, "I think we can probably manage it and make it happen."

Aside from a part-time superintendent, the board was considering 2 other options, including a shared superintendency with another smaller school district. That proposal would also have involved hiring support staff in the form of a dean of students, and would have saved the district an estimated \$37,600 annually.

The other proposal would have promoted the K-12 principal to the post of superintendent at a pay rate of \$88,747. Again, a dean of students would have been hired as well as a "head teacher" at the elementary campus in Gagetown. The plan would have saved an estimated \$65,800.

In other business last week, the board agreed to review the posting process used to hire a new volleyball coaching staff earlier this month following the resignation of Sheila Pawlak.

Pawlak appeared before the board last week to clarify the resignation letter she sent to the board. She said she intended to resign from her position as varsity coach, but continue to coach junior high volleyball.

Gleeson and board members said the letter was not clear, and that they understood Pawlak was resigning from both positions. Subsequently, the board hired Kaye Swiastyn as the new varsity coach, Karen Gaeth as the junior varsity coach and Ashley Adams as the junior high coach.

Pawlak, who told board members she still wants to coach junior high, noted Adams is not a member of the school staff, so school officials should have advertised the position in area newspapers after posting the job within the district.

Howard said the board will review what happened and may have to reconsider its decision if the posting procedure was not followed properly.

## Dunham named trooper of year

Michigan State Police Third District Commander Captain Daniel J. Miller recently announced that Trooper Robert L. Dunham of the Caro post is the recipient of the Third District Trooper of the Year Award.

The award recognizes the trooper or sergeant who symbolizes outstanding professional ethics, dedication to duty and a concern for giving back to the community.

The Third District award qualifies Dunham as one of 7 individuals considered for the Gerstacker Award, which is the statewide award for Michigan State Police Trooper of the Year. In 1961, the late Dr. Carl Gerstacker, former chairman of the Dow Chemical Company, and his wife, Esther, of Midland, created the award.

"Trooper Dunham was chosen for continuously going beyond the normal call of duty both on the job and in his community," Miller said.

Dunham is currently serving on temporary assignment in Genesee County as a member of the Flint Violent Crimes Task Force. The unit is comprised of officers who investigate serious crimes in and around the city.

In addition, the unit has reviewed "cold" cases from the past and applied the latest investigative techniques and current technology to bring suspects to justice.

The task force has been instrumental in the arrest of a number of violent criminal

suspects. Most notably, Jeffrey Gorton of Clio was arrested after an extensive co-



Trooper Dunham

operative investigation involving several police agencies. Gorton was responsible for the murder of Margaret Eby in 1986, and the 1991 slaying of Nancy Ludwig, a flight attendant staying at a Romulus hotel.

As a trooper at the Caro post, Dunham was responsible for day-to-day criminal investigation and traffic enforcement functions. In addition to those duties, he also provided his knowledge to less experienced troopers and served as a field training officer.

He has received training as an advanced accident investigator, child forensic interviewer, medical examiner special investigator, and auto theft investigator.

Dunham has been the lead investigator in a number of

Please turn to page 10.

## County avoids cuts through concessions, using fund balances

While some neighboring counties have been scrambling to cut services and even some jobs to offset mounting deficits before the end of the year, no major changes in services are expected in Tuscola County.

But county officials say their ability to maintain services won't last beyond the coming year unless there are some drastic changes in the economy.

Tuscola County commissioners were expected Tuesday to adopt a proposed 2004 General Fund budget of \$11,152,000.

County Controller Mike Hoagland described the budget as lean, but said commissioners are not expected to eliminate any additional positions or further reduce services at this time.

"If I had to characterize what's happened here, the significant cuts in Tuscola County took place in 2003," Hoagland said, referring to the county board's decision

to make several cuts in November 2003 following voters' rejection of a proposed tax increase.

Commissioners slashed \$400,000 to \$500,000 from the budget, eliminating funding altogether for animal control and one county park. Some jobs were also cut, as were portions of funding for Michigan State University Extension/4-H programs, economic/job development, the local airport authority, soil conservation and county planning programs.

More recently, voters overwhelmingly rejected another county effort to secure additional funding via Proposal U, which was defeated in a special election Oct. 28.

In spite of that defeat, Hoagland said the county will end 2003 with a balanced budget, with possibly \$50,000 to \$100,000 to spare.

In 2004, he explained, the county is relying on one-

Please turn to page 10.



**THE CASS CITY High School Choir and Concert Band joined with the Tom Thumb Singers Friday to perform their holiday concert in front of students and staff members.**

# Down Memory Lane

By Harmony Doerr



## 5 YEARS AGO

**MAN'S BEST FRIEND** - Gagetown resident Lee Strickland credits Flash, the family's 6-year-old basset hound, with saving his life Tuesday when a fire broke out at his home. Strickland works nights at Rochester Gears in Clifford and his wife works days. The dog's repeated barking finally woke up the sleeping Strickland. He was disoriented and dizzy, but finally escaped from the house through a bedroom window. Strickland said that he believed the dog did not succumb because it is short-legged and close to the floor. His legs were burned.

Coach Chad Daniels' Cass City debate team finished second among 9 teams Saturday competing at the high school. Team members include: Manisha Raythatha, Becky Oesch, Rose Hoelzle and Kristy Ryan.

Christmas came early for Heather Woidan when Linda McMahan, from McMahan's Auto Supply, presented her with an all expense paid trip to Disney World. Woidan entered a drawing in the store that included all the Auto Value Parts Stores in Michigan.

## 10 YEARS AGO

Owen-Gage teachers, who have been without a contract for 18 months, staged an informational picket prior to the annual elementary

## 15 YEARS AGO

Christmas program Monday night at Gagetown Elementary School.

Cass City Chamber of Commerce officials last week announced the winners of the first "Decorating for Dollars" contest. Judging was completed Dec. 15. In all, 26 homeowners within village limits competed for a total of \$1,000 in "shopping dollars". The ten winners, determined by impartial judges from Sebewaing and Pigeon are: Robert and Donna Wischmeyer, Dana Truemmer, Dean and JoAnn Rasmussen, Leonard and Karen Smolarkiewicz, Linda Regnerus, Nannette Rutkowski, Jack and Verna Kilbourn, Stephen and Cheryl Osentoski, James Greenlee, and Terri Kico.

Robert Townsend, of Regional Education Media Center #10, Cass City, recently announced the NBD Bank support of Thumb Area Television. In an informal ceremony Monday, Richard M. Carncross, president Sandusky Region, NBD Bank, presented Townsend a check for \$2,500. Although currently eligible to apply for federal matching funds, REMC #10's position is strengthened by the additional support.

## 25 YEARS AGO

Rumors of a prison camp in the Deford area may be premature. In fact, according to one Tuscola County Commissioner, Donna Rayl of

## 35 YEARS AGO

Cass City Christmas shopping was reportedly "the same" or perhaps "a little better" than previous years, according to the local merchants. Everything from "Tippie Toe Dolls" to "Instant Insanity" moved rapidly, with the hottest toy on the market the "Hot Wheels" racing set.

Dennis Longuski's luck is changing. The 19-year-old Longuski, still recovering from a truck-tractor accident, was the winner in the Lions Club snowmobile drawing held Friday at the high school. In fact, the young Cass Cityan was so lucky that he had not even purchased a ticket for the drawing. Marv Winter, Dennis's uncle, purchased a book of tickets and put his nephew's name on one - the lucky one, as it turned out.

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# Engaged



Angela Kranz and Stuart Ridpath

Angela Kranz and Stuart Ridpath, both of Plymouth, announcement their engagement.

Angela is the daughter of Jim and Debbie Kranz of Cass City, and Stuart is the son of Stan and Lynda Ridpath of Southam, England.

The bride-elect works as the project director at MORPACE International (market research company) in Farmington Hills. She is a graduate of Michigan State University.

The groom-to-be works as a senior data processing executive for Millward Brown (market research company) in Southfield.

The wedding is planned for May 1, 2004 on the island of St. Lucia.

# It's a boy!



Xander Davis

Roy and Amy Davis of Spring Valley, Calif., announce the birth of their son, Xander Paul.

He was born Nov. 15, 2003 at Naval Medical Center, San Diego. He weighed 7 pounds, 1 ounce and was 19 1/2 inches long.

He is the grandson of Dave and Kathy Luana of Decker and Tina Davis and Roy Childers of Cass City.

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The night before deadline I stumbled through the house in search of a column, like a drunken old soue.

The rooms were all cluttered with clothing and toys. Who'd think that 3 grandkids could make so much noise!

There are shoes, bags and boxes everywhere you can see, And nothing is where it's expected to be.

I'd had some ideas that just hadn't come together. Now they've flown away like the wind takes a feather.

The week had gone quickly with no solitude. There was shopping and wrapping and fixing of food.

The gifts all got wrapped and the stockings were hung. Special programs attended and carols were sung.

The rooms rearranged, with sleeping for nine. Instead of the two who are here all the time.

Decorations were up from kitchen to hall, But no column came forth, no column at all.

So if this one is lacking and makes little sense It's because I've been busy. Please don't take offense.

The chaos will grow, for tomorrow will come Two more, plus 3 cats. My brain will be numb.

But I'll tell you a secret - this grandma of three Is glad for the hubbub, the activity.

Don't think I'm complaining, I'd not change a thing. For being with family can make the heart sing.

The kittens are cute. What delight they will be As they race through the house and swat at the tree.

Seeing Spencer and Drew having fun in the snow Makes a grandma's heart warm, fills her eyes with a glow.

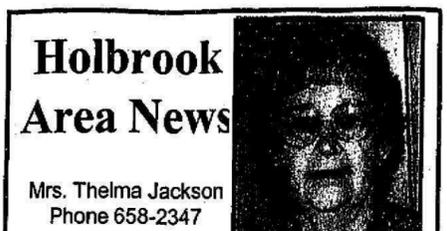
And Gretchen, who's 2, gazing up at the tree Makes it seem almost holy, the way it should be.

So hectic or peaceful, may your Christmas be What makes you as happy as this one makes me.

# Raffle winners named

The Hills and Dales General Hospital Auxiliary held their annual bake sale and raffle on Dec. 5, 2003.

Winners of the raffle prizes were: Mimi Nicol, handmade afghan; Isabel Wright, hand painted picture; Beverly Terry, Frans Kopper water fountain; Florence



Bob Andersen of Livonia spent a couple of days with Mrs. Earl Schenk.

Cheryl Egres of Ortonville spent a few days with her aunt, Mrs. Gaylord Lapeer. Mrs. Curtis Cleland spent 3 days with her sister, Irene Kippen, in Port Huron. Other visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Kippen of Kalkaska, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kippen of Port Huron, Mrs. Sonny Moore, Vern and Sharon.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Depcinski attended a birthday party for 5-year-old Brooke Depcinski at Biff's Bowling Alley at Kinde on Sunday afternoon. Carol Osantoski made and

decorated the birthday cake. Others attending were Cynthia Meldrum, Carol Osantoski, Susan Krozek, Ryan and Samantha, Tom and Flora Prill, Kennie Meldrum and a friend, Godparents Ray Prill and Elaine Drospeksi and other friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Franzel, Allen Farrelly and Doris Western attended the fish fry at the Bad Axe K of C Hall on Friday.

Mary Ann White of Shabbona visited Mrs. Curtis Cleland on Wednesday.

Seven members of the Traveling Breakfast Club met at the Peppermill Thursday morning. They will meet at the Peppermill again in 3 weeks.

Bernard Morley, Jack Kennedy, Claud Mestack and Allen Farrelly met at McDonald's in Bad Axe Friday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sageman, Mrs. Kevin O'Connor of Minden City and Mrs. Allen Depcinski visited Thelma Jackson on Thursday.

Ray and Rita Depcinski attended the K of C and D of I Christmas party and potluck supper at the Bad Axe K of C Hall.

They had snacks, exchanged gifts and made a Christmas craft. Before leaving, they sang Christmas carols while the residents ate dinner.

Great-great-grandmothers are Doris Terrill of Frankfort and Mildred Keilitz of Sanford, Fla.

# It's a boy!

Alex Hopper

Alex Matthew Hopper was born Dec. 8, 2003 at Bay Medical Center to Cara Festian and Matt Hopper of Cass City.

Grandparents are Greg and Kara Festian of Caro, Lore Festian and Gene and Marlene Hopper of Cass City.

His great-grandparents are Paul Festian of Caro, Onalee Hopper of Deford, and Ralph and Carolyn Chapman of Cass City.

Great-great-grandmothers are Doris Terrill of Frankfort and Mildred Keilitz of Sanford, Fla.

# Brownie troop meets

Cass City Girl Scout Brownie Troop #863 had their Christmas party at Northwood Meadows on December 1. They made Christmas placemats and potpourri jars for the residents.

They had snacks, exchanged gifts and made a Christmas craft. Before leaving, they sang Christmas carols while the residents ate dinner.

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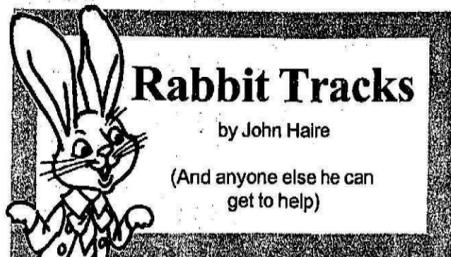
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Valley Lutheran has one of the better basketball teams in the Greater Thumb West. It also has an active varsity pom team with 24 members. In addition, there is a varsity and junior varsity cheerleading team. Judging by its performance at the Red Hawk-Charger game Friday, the pom team spends a lot of hours practicing and its routine captured an appreciative crowd.

\*\*\*\*\*

Be careful if one of the original signs paid for by Hawk boosters that lists the games and dates for the Cass City High School basketball season happens to slip out and be posted. Don't use it to check game schedules for the team. The schedule listed was for the 2002-03 season and is totally inaccurate.

\*\*\*\*\*

Coach Aaron Fernald doesn't care to lose any game, but he and his teams have been especially hard on Brown City. Cass City defeated the Green Devils in the opening game last season and in the first home game this year. So? Fernald graduated from Brown City High School.

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RECEIVING THE Red Hawk Award of Excellence were, from left: Travis Mabe, middle school; Heather Sweeney, Campbell Elementary and Ryan Biddinger, high school.

**Red Hawk Excellence Award**

**Sweeney, Biddinger and Mabe honored students**

Four times a year a student from each of the 3 buildings in the Cass City School District is chosen to receive the Red Hawk Award of Excellence at special ceremonies in October, December, February and April.

The December winners received awards at a special meeting before parents and friends Monday, Dec. 15, at the school.

Award winners are selected by teachers and the administrator from each building and are selected on contributions to the school and the community.

From Campbell Elementary, fourth grade student Heather Sweeney, daughter of Terry and Colleen Sweeney of Cass City, was honored.

She is a straight A student and is a caring student, pleasant and ready to offer help to others in a kind way. She looks out for others and tries to make sure that everyone gets a fair and equal chance, her teacher said.

Selected from the Cass City Middle School was seventh grade student Travis Mabe, son of J.T. and Trisha Mabe of Deford. It was the second time Travis was honored, as he also was selected from Deford School.

His teachers say Travis works well with his classmates and "always demonstrates leadership, responsibility and trustworthiness when working in a group. His energy and enthusiasm make him a joy to work with."

Ryan Biddinger, son of Greg and Michelle Biddinger, was honored from the high school. He is the first freshman to win the award.

In his brief high school career he has maintained an A average. An avid sports fan, he was a member of the varsity golf team and won second team all conference honors. He is on the freshman basketball squad.

He exemplifies the 6 pillars of character that the school strives for, his teachers said.

Science, taught by Garrett Gordon, is his favorite class. Gordon nominated Biddinger for the award.



Back in pre-historic times when I was chief cook and bottle washer at the Chronicle, when the Christmas issue was on the sired Christmas took on the glow that the season can bring.

I was not alone. The hectic pace also weighed on the businessmen of the community and many of us joined in a party sponsored by different store owners each year. That died out a decade or so ago as business changed. The day of local store owners that were friends, or at least social acquaintances, diminished. What helped it along was the risk of party sponsors being held to blame if a guest took too much cheer and got into trouble.

Not weighted down by the press of business or the responsibility of the front page makes it easier to reflect about the year and the help that the paper received. Without that help, forget about producing a paper that reflects the community and the people in it.

We lean heavily on lots of folks. Cass City School Superintendent Ken Micklash has a policy of seeing that the activities of the school are well publicized. He always is available and has never failed to call back when contacted. It's a policy that is fostered by the school board, and teachers at every level are quick to publicize achievements of all the students.

At Owen-Gage, when I stepped in temporarily, it was a pleasure to deal with Kaye Swiastyn who took that extra step beyond the call of duty to help out.

We won't attempt to name all of you who have contributed this year and all the previous years. It leaves a little glow when you know that readers like Bob McArthur and Norm Gray will be in to

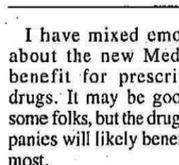
take the paper hot off the press every week. Help comes from unexpected sources and many human interest stories are published because of tips from thoughtful readers.

This annual Christmas edition of the paper is typical. Where would it be without the outstanding art produced by talented students? Where would we be without the Santa letters complete with pictures of the trusting writers? Where would we be without you?

The answer is easy. We just wouldn't be around to praise or criticize or in our small way help unite the community.

The spirit of the season is alive and well in our community. Merry Christmas.

**The back forty**  
by Roger Pond



I have mixed emotions about the new Medicare benefit for prescription drugs. It may be good for some folks, but the drug companies will likely benefit the most.

The trend toward marketing drugs on television has led to higher costs and overuse of prescription drugs in my opinion. Several times each hour viewers are urged to ask their doctor if a free sample of such and such would be right for them.

What's a doctor supposed to say? "No, I don't think that would help you one bit, and I'm surprised you are stupid enough to fall for that commercial."

Not likely. The doctor might as well give us a free sample and shoo us out the door. The drug companies know this. They know some folks will keep asking until the doctor gives them what they want. Then, the chances are about 50/50 the patient will feel better the next day and think this drug was just what they needed.

Those are pretty good odds. A drug company gives the doctor some free samples and half the folks who get them think this is just the ticket. (I know most doctors are professional enough to resist this kind of coercion, but there's no denying the pressure exists.)

It's like the shrimp oil, crawdad juice, and smelt slobber we put on our fishing baits. If a person squirts this stuff on his bait and catches a fish, he thinks the scent oil surely must have helped.

If he doesn't catch a fish, he can't say it doesn't work. He just figures the fish weren't biting. The odds are excellent for the companies selling this stuff.

The "ask your doctor" trend has become so pervasive I'm worried it might spill over into other things the patient thinks he needs. We could, for example, ask the doctor, "Don't you think a new boat would perk me up a little?"

Or, "With the price of cattle going up every day, don't you think I should feed another batch of steers this winter?"

We might see TV ads with a very attractive young woman asking a guy, "Did you see

the doctor today?" The guy says, "You bet I did. Doc says a new 20 gauge double choked cylinder and modified, is just what I need for grouse season this year."

Another trend in the drug market is to fill our prescriptions in Canada. Consumers forget this sneaking across the border works both ways.

Some drugs that are available in the U.S. aren't available in Canada, so Canadians cross the border to buy them in the U.S. Viagra, for example, wasn't available in Canada when it first came out down here.

A Canadian friend told me he was talking with a pharmacist in a little town just south of the border a few years ago. The pharmacist said he got a call from a man at Williams Lake asking if his drug store had any Viagra.

The pharmacist said they did, and the caller asked how much. When the pharmacist told him, the Canadian hung up the phone, got in his car and drove 300 miles to pick up \$2,700 worth of Viagra!

I don't know what this fellow had in mind, but we can bet he didn't ask his doctor (or his wife) if this was right for him.

**The Weather**

	High	Low	Precip.
Tuesday	42	27	.5"sn.
Wednesday	29	24	1.75"sn.
Thursday	30	23	tr.
Friday	31	14	1"sn.
Saturday	30	15	0
Sunday	42	29	0
Monday	41	33	.02"

(Recorded at Cass City wastewater treatment plant.)

**CHIROPRACTIC OUTLOOK**  
By Dr. Robert Gabriel

**I HAVE A SLIPPED DISC!**

Most likely you have heard people say they are suffering from a slipped or herniated disc in their back. Discs act as a soft protection between the hard bones or vertebrae in the spinal column. The nucleus is the gel-like substance inside the disc. The discs allow the back to flex or bend and absorb shock. In the middle of the spinal column is the spinal canal, a hollow space containing the nerves. A disc herniates when part of the nucleus pushes the outer edge of the disc into the spinal canal and puts pressure on the nerves.

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**Season's Greetings...**

The Staff, the Administration, and the Board of Directors of Caro Community Hospital wish you a joyous Holiday Season.

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## Red Hawk Talks

by Kristi Fluegge

What is Christmas all about? Seven elementary students seemed to know all the answers. Not only did they know what present they wanted most, but also had an idea of how Santa Claus delivers so many presents in such a short period of time.

It was obvious first and second graders put quite a bit of thought into what they wanted for Christmas. Katlyn Bock and BreAnna Wooters both wanted Brat dolls for Christmas. I have never heard of them before but they seem to be a big favorite for the first grade girls. I told Robert Haley, a first grader, that he had to spell what he wanted most and this is what he told me, "Yu-gee-o cards!" Jacob Hacker, a second grader, agreed the spelling looked right, so hopefully it is correct. (We'll let mom figure that one.) However, Jake said he had an electric train first on his list. Kara Reif, another second grader, surprised me when she said she wanted a remote control truck! Something I remember asking for when I was her age. The traditionalist was definitely Ally Whitney who wanted a stuffed teddy bear.

Our technological society was also shown when Jessica Yax, a fourth grader, wanted a C.D. player. Although the students wanted something different, I saw the same excitement fill every one of them when they described what they wanted most for Christmas.

A question that has always puzzled my mind was how Santa delivered so many presents on Christmas Eve. Now, with the help of these students, there is no doubt in my mind how it is possible. BreAnna and a few other first

and second graders had it all figured out. "I think that he tries to do it from a computer and prints stuff out and paints them and then sends it out to the kids, and the elves help him." Said BreAnna. No one seemed to disagree with BreAnna, but Jake and Kara reminded us that the reindeer also help! Not only are these students smart, but they are generous too.

I was surprised by the variety of treats Santa and his reindeer must receive. Robert leaves out lots and lots of carrots for the reindeer. But Jake wanted everyone to know not to leave candy out for the reindeer, "they might die". However Kara has seemed to prove that this is not true. She thinks Santa actually gives cookies to his reindeer. She made a good point when she said, "How can he eat all those cookies alone?" Katlyn puts out sugar cubes and Ally left a candy cane for Mrs. Claus last year. Their enthusiasm doesn't end with the treats they leave out on Christmas Eve.

I asked the students what they thought made this holiday special. Coming from first and second graders, I was surprised and happy to hear their touching answers. To Kara, Christmas is being together and opening presents. To BreAnna it is her dad's birthday. One of the second graders, Jacob Hacker, knew the true meaning, "it is Jesus' birthday!"

In a society that seems to always be in a hurry and based on material things, a few elementary students remind us the true importance of Christmas. Presents are obviously a bonus but this holiday should be a time of celebration and for families to come together.

Thank you to the first and second graders who hopefully reminded a few more people to just slow down and enjoy the holiday. Remember the true meaning of Christmas. MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL! Kristi Fluegge from the "Red Hawk Talks".

## Hills and Dales upgrades service

After many years of receiving "mediocre" or "poor" satisfaction scores on patient surveys, the Food Service staff at Hills and Dales General Hospital decided it was time for a change. The staff, with assistance from consulting dietitian Michele Lawford, began to research options available that could replace the traditional patient meal delivery system.

Sue Kappen, director of Support Services, stated, "We had the opportunity to improve patient nourishment intake and dietary knowledge. The staff determined this process was important to work on because patient food satisfaction was poor and many opportunities to educate patients on their diets were missed during the hospital stay."

Staff began by analyzing the current process of meal delivery, looking at process variations. They then began brainstorming to determine what could be changed and what skills needed improvement. Kappen stated, "Through this process they came up with many solutions, and determined "room service" was the best way to address identified challenges.

Another important aspect to ensure success of the plan was to involve the nursing staff, our front line workers who would introduce and explain room service to patients admitted to the hospital. After many months of hard work "room service" was implemented.

The end result is a meal delivery system that allows the patient to select their meal from a restaurant style menu (based on the diet prescribed by the physician), order their meal when they are ready to eat, and guaranteed meal delivery within 30 minutes of placing an order. For the patient who cannot or chooses not to order their meals, a cycle menu is provided.

Additionally, patients can also order a bedtime snack before the kitchen closes. As a bonus, guests are allowed to order from the same menu and dine with the patient.

Since March of 2002, there have been many positive comments received on hospital surveys returned. "We have to credit our staff for

making this process a success. They have overcome many challenges and we are very proud of our team," said Kappen.

Kristen Blausey, registered dietitian joined the team shortly after room service was implemented. Blausey states, "This type of meal delivery impacted the patient's education relevant to their prescribed diet. When the patient orders their meal, food service staff assists them to ensure menu items ordered are allowed on the diet prescribed by the physician. This is especially beneficial for the patient on a diabetic or cardiac diet. This has proven to be a great teaching tool."

The Food Service staff continues to evaluate the service, making modifications as needed to ensure exceptional customer service is maintained.

## Bill would extend tax deadline

The Michigan Senate passed legislation Thursday that would amend the Single Business Tax (SBT) Act to extend to Dec. 31, 2009, the ability of the Michigan Economic Growth Authority (MEGA) to award certain tax credits.

Senate Bill 820 (SB 820), sponsored by State Senator Jim Barcia (D-Bay City), extended the sunset, which was set to expire Dec. 31, 2003.

As part of a 4-bill package (SBs 820-822, and 824), Barcia's bill essentially allows authorized businesses to continue to claim certain tax credits against the SBT. SB 820, along with SB 821, was sent to Governor Granholm for her signature.

"With the passage of this legislation, the state of Michigan can continue to be at the forefront in attracting new businesses to the state, as well as enticing existing businesses to expand," Barcia said. "I am confident that this legislation will help to create and retain jobs, improving the economic climate for Michigan, which is critical for real economic recovery to be realized in this state."



## Bulldog Beat

by Laura Enderle

Christmas time is here again and everyone is rushing from store to store to find the perfect gift for each person on their long list. These days it could be the hottest video game or the latest electronic device, but do you remember what toys were like when you were young? What's the one toy that stands out in your mind that you opened on Christmas morning? You probably shared it with your siblings and friends or maybe you still have it. Can you remember playing with it for hours without end?

I hear and see all the time how children simply don't play with toys the way they used to. So I challenged myself to find out what was so special about toys 40 to 50 years ago. What I found out really amazed me!

My first toy dates all the way back to 1913 and has proven to be a timeless game because it is still around today, unchanged from the original thing. The wooden spokes, spools, rods and reels of Tinker toys can still be found packaged in a round tin can. The inventor was inspired by watching kids play with pencils, sticks, and old spools of thread.

Years later came Lincoln Logs and Legos. Legos came from Denmark. The meaning of the word Lego is to "play well". Legos are well made toys; they were the first blocks to interlock, so a child's creation would not collapse as easily. These were one of the first toys and best examples of how young children could explore their ability and imagination by building things with their own hands.

My next toy is actually a board game, the most popular one in the world for that matter. In 1934 Charles B. Darrow needed money to support his family during the Great Depression, so he sat down at the kitchen table and went to work. When he first presented his invention to Parker Bros. it was rejected with 52 design errors. But he went ahead and sold the game locally with the help of a local print shop and the sales were great!

Parker Bros. soon found out of the success and signed a

contract with Darrow immediately. Within the first month 200,000 Monopoly sets were sold per week! Since then Monopoly has grown worldwide and is published in 26 different languages.

In the 1970s, an all chocolate version was made by Nieman-Marcus and sold for \$600. In 1974 in London a game set was made of pure silver and gold and sold for \$5,000. At the University of Michigan an 8x8 foot version was painted on the ceiling and played with helium balloons. Monopoly was even designed to be played in space at NASA's request. The longest recorded game was played for 70 days! The game is so popular for the young and old because it has strategy, is fun, and is easy to understand. Congratulations to Monopoly, a game that never ends and will never grow old.

Now I bring you a potato, or a head, wait, it's Mr. Potato Head with a personality all his own. The original Mr. Potato Head was born in 1952 and consisted of only eyes, ears, a nose, and a mouth; the body was supplied by the parents who gave up a potato for their children to create a masterpiece. His head soon showed up on puzzles, play sets, hand-held electronics, board games and video games. He has also been a representative for Burger King, the League of Women Voters, and the American Cancer Society and of course we can't forget his roles in the "Toy Story" and "Toy Story II". He's even hosted his own T.V. show on Fox, "The Mr. Potato Head Show". It's almost like Mr. Potato Head is not a toy at all because he has become one of the world's most adored personalities.

My final toy is probably the best known, most remarkable and accomplished toy in the history of the world. She has had over 80 careers ranging from a rock star, a paleontologist, a presidential candidate and her first career as a teenage fashion model.

In 1959, Barbie Millicent Roberts from Willows, Wisconsin was born. Ruth Handler invented Barbie and presented her at the American Toy Fair in New York. We will always remember the first Barbie in her black and white bathing suit, which sold for \$3. To find an original in good condition today could cost you up to \$10,000. Barbie is marketed in over 150 nations and has had 45 different nationalities. She is a well-known animal lover with over 48 pets including 21 dogs, 12 horses, 6 cats, 3 ponies, a parrot, a chimpanzee, a panda, a lion cub, a giraffe and a zebra. Her clothes fetish has made Mattel one of the largest apparel manufacturers in the world, using a total of over 105 million yards of fabric. Barbie receives more than 200 new additions to her wardrobe annually and has obtained over a billion pairs of shoes in her lifetime!

The best selling Barbie ever was Totally Hair Barbie with hair from her head to her toes. Totally Hair Barbie is actually the one Barbie I can remember adoring as a child that was my very own. Every second 2 Barbies are taken from a store and put into the hands of a caring young child. Barbie is the perfect example of most every woman's dreams. I am sure it has influenced many young minds.

These toys and many more are over 40 years old this year and have surely conquered the test of time. They can still capture the eyes of so many young'ns with hearts full of dreams and minds crowded with imagination. Let's hope their success continues so children in generations to come may still relate to the simpler days and not too much T.V. and video games. I wish your holidays may be filled with a young child's spirit and an old person's love.

## Letters to the editor

### Kudos to band directors, kids

Dear Editor,  
Last night, I attended the band concert at the high school. There were 350 students in the gym ranging from the fifth grade through the high school. The bands were all set up by grade. The two band directors asked for no applause until it was over. They went from band to band with no time in between. It was so good, it was pretty hard to keep applause to a minimum.

The high school concert choir was also there. They have a high school jazz band and also a middle school jazz band. High school students start practice at 6:45 a.m. simply because they love it and respect their

teacher.  
There was 5th grade band students, who after only 3 months of practice, were playing pieces. It only got better from there. Cass City is fortunate to have employed the new band instructor, Mr. Doug Burch and Miss Christine Foerster. The school administration is fully behind the new band program and it is wonderful.

The music flowing through the high school gym was professional and marvelous. Kudos and praise go to the band directors and students for the monumental task that a packed gym watched last night. Thanks to all.

Respectfully,  
Aletha Misch

### Outstanding concert by Cass City bands

While on a family visit, my wife, mother and I attended the Cass City Department of Music Holiday Collage Concert last Thursday evening. What an outstanding performance, and what a find for Cass City in their director of bands, Doug Burch!

As parents of former band students who went through programs in both Pontiac and Raleigh, N.C., we were extraordinarily impressed

with the planning, coordination, and quality of this concert.

As a graduate of Cass City High (class of 1960), I am glad to see that the administration recognizes the importance of a good fine arts program in hiring Mr. Burch.

Kudos to Mr. Burch, Ms. Foerster and the students on a job very well done!

Bob and Kay Hrabec  
Raleigh, N.C.

### Please take time to defrost windows

Please Take "5" Minutes

I'm writing this letter in regards to an incident that happened on the very frosty morning of Dec. 3, 2003.

My son was going to work just after 8 a.m. He was driving south on Schwegler Rd. and when he topped the hill just past Milligan Rd., to his surprise there was a car driving in his lane going north. Thanks to his good judgment and quick reflexes he veered to the right and drove

his truck in the ditch to avoid being hit or hitting the car. When he got his truck stopped, he got out to see how and why this happened. The car didn't stop. He then realized they hadn't seen him and didn't know they were in his lane because he could see their windows were all frosted over.

My son nearly got killed that day or could have killed that driver and had to live with that the rest of his life. Needless to say, how I, his mother, felt that day. Thankfully neither driver was hurt. So, I'm asking, please take "5" minutes to start your vehicle and scrape and defrost all your windows. It may save your life or someone you love or know as it did my son's that day.

Sincerely,  
Becky Chard

#### Letters to the Editor

The Chronicle welcomes letters to the editor.

Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. The latter is in case it is necessary to call for verification, but won't be used in the newspaper.

Names will be withheld from publication upon request, for an adequate reason.

The Chronicle reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity.

We will not publish thank you letters of a specific nature, for instance, from a club thanking merchants who donated prizes for a raffle.

It's easy to reach us at  
The Cass City Chronicle:

By phone:  
(989) 872-2010

By fax:  
(989) 872-3810

## Cass City Middle School Student Spotlight

for the month of November

Teachers select students who possess the following:

- 6 Pillars of Character: *Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, Citizenship*
- Good grades
- A positive attitude
- Regular attendance
- Shows improvement (academic and/or behavior)



Front row: Kendra Grady, Dillin Lewis, Candace Myers, Hayley Peters, Caitlin Reed, Mariah Tabar, Nathan Zimmerman, Chris Whisenant, Justin Ketterer, Marion Henderson.  
2nd row: Aaron Bader, Steffin Bader, Amber LaPonsie, Emily Martin, Zach McCreedy, Angie Simpson, Kyle Weidman. Missing: Ashleigh Stoeckle.  
3rd row: Roger McKee, Bryan Burk, Adam Osentoski, Gage Hardesty, Kyle Kausch.  
Back row: Ethan Damm, Erica Darr, Kevin Devine, Tommy Parrish, Stephanie Regnerus, Nicholas Smith, Jerry Sweeney, Jenny Zmierski.

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# Valley Lutheran hands Hawks first hoop loss

The Cass City Red Hawks won the first 3 games of the season, helped by very good free throw shooting with the games on the line.

Friday Valley Lutheran turned the tables on Cass City as its great clutch free throw shooting pushed the Hawks into the loss column for the first time this season.

The game was up for grabs until the final minute. With 1:10 left Cass City trailed, 50-46.

Before it ended the Hawks had 4 open shots from the perimeter and missed them all. Forced to foul, they sent Ryan Wood to the free throw line 3 times in a bonus situation and the Charger senior converted 6 shots in a row to ice the game.

It was a tight battle all the way as Valley Lutheran jumped into the lead in the

first quarter and stayed in front until midway in the third quarter. The Hawks trailed, 26-25, at the intermission.

Tyler Erla, who played one of the top games in his career, personally carried the Hawks into the lead midway through the third period. Cass City trailed 31-28 when Erla hit a pair of hoops, Andrew Martin connected for another before Erla finished the spurt with a 3-pointer and the Hawks were in front, 37-35.

Rob Hirschman hit a trey for the Chargers and his team never trailed again. It was the start of a 10-3 run that ultimately decided the game.

Erla led all scorers with 23 points and was credited with 11 rebounds. Jordan Hurt netted 16 to top the Chargers. Ryan Perlberg had 11

rebounds and 4 blocks for Valley Lutheran.

The Chargers are now 4-0 overall and 1-0 in the Greater Thumb West. Cass City is 3-1 overall, 0-1 in the GTW.

**CASS CITY** - Glaza 0-2 (3-5) 9; Swanson 0-1 (0-0) 3; Schinnerer 1-0 (0-0) 2; Brinkman 2-0 (0-0) 4; Holmgren 3-0 (2-3) 8; Martin 1-0 (0-0) 2; Erla 7-1 (6-7) 23.  
**TOTALS** - 14-3 (11-15) 51.

**VALLEY LUTHERAN** - Hurt 6-0 (4-6) 16; Wood 1-0 (7-8) 9; Barnett 4-1 (0-0) 11; Hirschman 2-1 (3-4) 10; Perlberg 3-0 (0-1) 6; Gruber 2-0 (4-6) 8.  
**TOTALS** - 18-2 (18-26) 60.

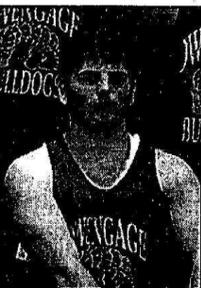
Junior varsity: Cass City 36, Valley Lutheran 26. Freshmen: Valley Lutheran 60, Cass City 37.



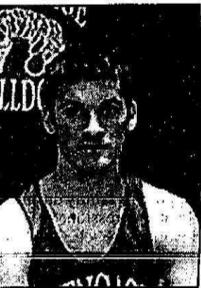
Red Hawk Tyler Erla



Red Hawk Justin Glaza



Bulldog Aaron Faist



Bulldog Cody Howard

# Owen-Gage still in search of first victory at holiday break

The Christmas break is undoubtedly welcome for the Owen-Gage Bulldogs, who have lost the first 3 games of the season and can use the 2-week break to regroup, and prepare for the rest of the season.

It's been rough going for the short-staffed Bulldogs. They have had as little as 5 players ready to play and at full strength there were just 7 players available. If nothing else, there will be one more player available when the season starts after the holidays. Zac Sutter, a transfer student, was forced to sit out the first semester. There were 7 players available in the twin losses to North Huron Tuesday, 74-43, and to Memphis Friday 62-33.

In both losses Owen-Gage was off to a horrendous start. The North Huron Warriors raced to a 22-4 lead in the first quarter and the Bulldogs were held to just 4 free throws in 9 tries.

Against Memphis it was worse. The Bulldogs scored just a free throw and trailed 24-1 at the end of the first 8 minutes.

After the first period the Bulldogs played much better, but it was too little, too late. The shots failed to fall in the second quarter for the Bulldogs and Memphis was in front 38-8 at the intermission.

The last half was a different story. Led by Cody Howard, who scored 12 of his 17 points in the third quarter, Owen-Gage outscored Memphis, 16-15, and played the winners on even terms as each team netted 9 points in the last quarter. Levi Adams was in double figures for Owen-Gage with 10 points. Adam Sutton netted 16 for Memphis.

The game with North Huron was a carbon copy of the game with Memphis. After falling behind 41-10, the Bulldogs played the Warriors on even terms in the last half.

Aaron Faist showed the way in what was the Bulldogs' best offensive quarter of the young season. Faist scored 9 of his 17 points for the night in the period as Owen-Gage outscored Memphis, 20-15. Jason Osentoski netted 17

for Memphis.  
**OWEN-GAGE** - J. Rogers 0-0 (1-2) 1; Howard 7-0 (3-8) 17; N. Rogers 0-0 (1-2) 1; Faist 2-0 (0-2) 4; Adams 1-2 (2-4) 10.  
**TOTALS** - 10-2 (7-19) 33.

**MEMPHIS** - Arnold 1-0 (0-1) 2; Phillips 5-0 (0-0) 10; Jock 2-0 (0-0) 4; Wilton 2-1 (0-0) 7; Sutton 3-3 (1-3) 16; Thomson 3-0 (0-0) 6; Diaz 4-0 (2-5) 10; Potter 0-0 (1-2) 1; Hanley 2-0 (2-2) 6.  
**TOTALS** - 22-4 (6-13) 62.

**OWEN-GAGE** - Rogers 1-0 (1-4) 3; Kain 1-0 (1-4) 3; Howard 2-0 (3-7) 7; Rogers 1-0 (0-0) 2; Faist 5-0 (7-9) 17; Adams 3-0 (0-0) 6; Pawlak 2-0 (1-1) 5.  
**TOTALS** - 15-0 (13-25) 43.

**NORTH HURON** - Miller 1-0 (0-0) 2; Krinkie 4-1 (2-2) 13; Simmons 1-0 (1-4) 3; Ruth 6-1 (0-0) 15; Schranski 3-0 (2-2) 8; Osentoski 6-0 (5-7) 17; Dobson 2-0 (2-4) 6; Schmidt 0-0 (1-3) 1; Polega 3-0 (3-4) 9.  
**TOTALS** - 26-2 (16-26) 74.

BASKETBALL STANDINGS AND RESULTS			
BOYS BASKETBALL GREATER THUMB WEST			
Team	W	L	PTS
Reese	2	0	4
Valley Lutheran	2	0	4
BCAS	1	1	2
USA	1	1	2
Cass City	0	1	3
EPF	0	1	1
Bad Axe	0	2	0

GREATER THUMB EAST			
Team	W	L	PTS
Harbor Beach	2	0	3
Uby	1	1	2
Marlette	1	1	2
Brown City	0	0	2
Sandusky	0	0	0
Deckerville	0	0	0
Mayville	0	2	1

NCTL NORTH			
Team	W	L	PTS
Caseville	2	0	2
North Huron	2	0	2
A-Fairgrove	0	2	1
Port Hope	0	2	1
Owen-Gage	0	2	0

NCTL SOUTH			
Team	W	L	PTS
Kingston	2	0	2
Peru	2	0	2
CPS	1	1	3
Memphis	1	1	1
Dryden	0	2	0

FRIDAY'S RESULTS			
BCAS 87, Bad Axe 94	Reese 53, USA 50	Valley Lutheran 60, Cass City 51	EPF 46, Deckerville 38
Harbor Beach 52, Uby 47	Marlette 52, Mayville 25	Brown City 66, Armada 56	Sandusky 57, Yale 38
Caseville 73, Port Hope 45	North Huron 49, A-Fairgrove 37	Memphis 62, Owen-Gage 33	Kingston 50, CPS 47
Peck 72, Dryden 51			

# Cass City cagers win home opener against Brown City

There has been no shortage of thrills for Cass City Red Hawk basketball fans in the first three games of the season.

Each of the games has netted a win for the Hawks and each of the games could have ended with a loss rather than a win.

The third game at home against Brown City was even closer than the first 2 wins over Harbor Beach and Sandusky. Cass City won, 54-51, as the game-tying Green Devil 3-point shot as the final whistle sounded clanked off the rim.

Most of the action occurred in the last half after a slow first 2 quarters. The Hawks jumped off to a 12-7 lead in the first quarter paced by Tyler Erla who connected for a trey and regular hoop.

Chad McNary took charge in the second quarter to pull Brown City into a 19-all tie at halftime. He connected for 8 of his game-high 23 points in the period.

Brown City opened fast in the third quarter and scored 6 unanswered points to take the lead, 25-19, and set the stage for a spurt in which the Hawks played some of their best basketball of the young season.

It started with a 3-point shot by Justin Glaza and it ended with a minute gone in the fourth period with another trey by Glaza that capped a 20-0 run by Cass City. The Hawks led 39-25 and appeared on the way to a comfortable victory.

Coach Aaron Fernald pointed out after the game that one of the problems that the team needs to work on is consistency.

That was apparent in the final 7 minutes of the game. Sparked by McNary, who drilled 3 treys and a 2-pointer, the Green Devils edged back into the game. With 2:11 left to play, the Hawk margin had dwindled to 5 points. With 11 seconds it was 53-51. Brad Langenburg then converted

one of 2 foul shots to move the Hawks ahead by 3 points and when the desperation shot missed, that's the way it ended.

Glaza led Cass City with 17 points and Erla added 14 for Cass City. Robert Cross netted 14 for the Devils.

**CASS CITY** - Glaza 2-3 (4-4) 17; Schinnerer 2-1 (0-1) 7; Toner 0-1 (0-0) 3; Brinkman 0-0 (2-2) 2; Holmgren 4-0 (0-2) 8; Langenburg 0-0 (1-2) 1; Martin 1-0 (0-0) 2; Erla 1-3 (3-4) 14.  
**TOTALS** - 10-8 (10-15) 54.

**BROWN CITY** - Lowe 1-0 (0-0) 2; McPhail 0-0 (1-2) 1; McNary 7-3 (0-1) 23; Marion 0-0 (1-2) 1; Kalbfleisch 1-0 (1-1) 3; Cross 7-0 (0-0) 14; Miller 1-0 (0-0) 2; Twinski 2-0 (1-1) 5.  
**TOTALS** - 19-3 (4-7) 51.

Junior varsity: Cass City 56, Brown City 52. (Overtime) Freshmen- Brown City 32, Cass City 26.

## Fabulous Four's Fearless Forecast

 John Haire	 Clarke Haire	 Tom Montgomery	 Doug Hyatt
Last week's results		Last week's results	
12-10		17-5	
26-16 (62%)		33-9 (79%)	
Season's results		Season's results	
13-9		15-7	
27-15 (64%)		30-12 (71%)	

FOR RESULTS YOU CAN MEASURE, TRY THE CLASSIFIEDS!

# Cass City Area Church Directory

<p><b>Cass City Church of Christ</b> 6743 E. Main St., Cass City, MI 48726 Contacts 872-2367 or 872-3136 Worship Service Sunday 11:00 a.m. &amp; 6:00 p.m. Bible Study Sunday 10:00 a.m. &amp; Wednesday 7:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>Cass City Church of the Nazarene</b> 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 &amp; Bible Study &amp; Children's Activities 6:00 p.m. Pastor - Rev. Darold Ward</p> <p><b>Cass City Missionary Church</b> 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</p> <p><b>Cass City United Methodist Church</b> 5100 N. Cemetery Rd., P.O. Box 125, Cass City, MI 48726 872-3422 Worship: 8:30 &amp; 11:00 a.m. (Summer 9:30 a.m.) Sunday School - Sept.-May 9:30 a.m. Community Dinner - Monthly (2nd Wed. at noon) Pastor: Rev. George F. Ward</p> <p><b>Deford Community Church</b> 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 &amp; Traditional 6:00 p.m. Wednesdays 7:00 p.m. Pastor: David Mercer email: dcdca@band.net website: defordcommunitychurch.org</p>	<p><b>Deford Country Church</b> 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</p> <p><b>Evangelical Free Church of Cass City</b> 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</p> <p><b>First Baptist Church</b> 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 &amp; Bible Study, Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Pastor: Eric Holmgren Youth Pastor: Bryan Heller</p> <p><b>First Presbyterian Church</b> 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</p> <p><b>Good Shepherd Lutheran Church</b> 6820 E. Main St., Cass City, MI 48726 872-2770 Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Bible Class &amp; Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Pastor: Gerald Meyer</p>	<p><b>Living Word Worship Center</b> (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 &amp; Carla Arp</p> <p><b>Novesta Church of Christ</b> 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 &amp; Sunday Evening Services 6:00 p.m. Minister: Chuck Emmert Youth Minister: Brad Speirs Visit our website at: www.novestachurch.org</p> <p><b>Potter's House</b> 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</p> <p><b>St. Agatha's Catholic Church</b> 4618 South St., Gageton, MI 48735 665-9966 Sunday Liturgy 10:30 a.m. Parish Administrator: Joan Wyskiel</p> <p><b>St. Pancratius Catholic Church</b> 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 Fillon</p> <p><b>Shabbona United Methodist Church</b> 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</p>
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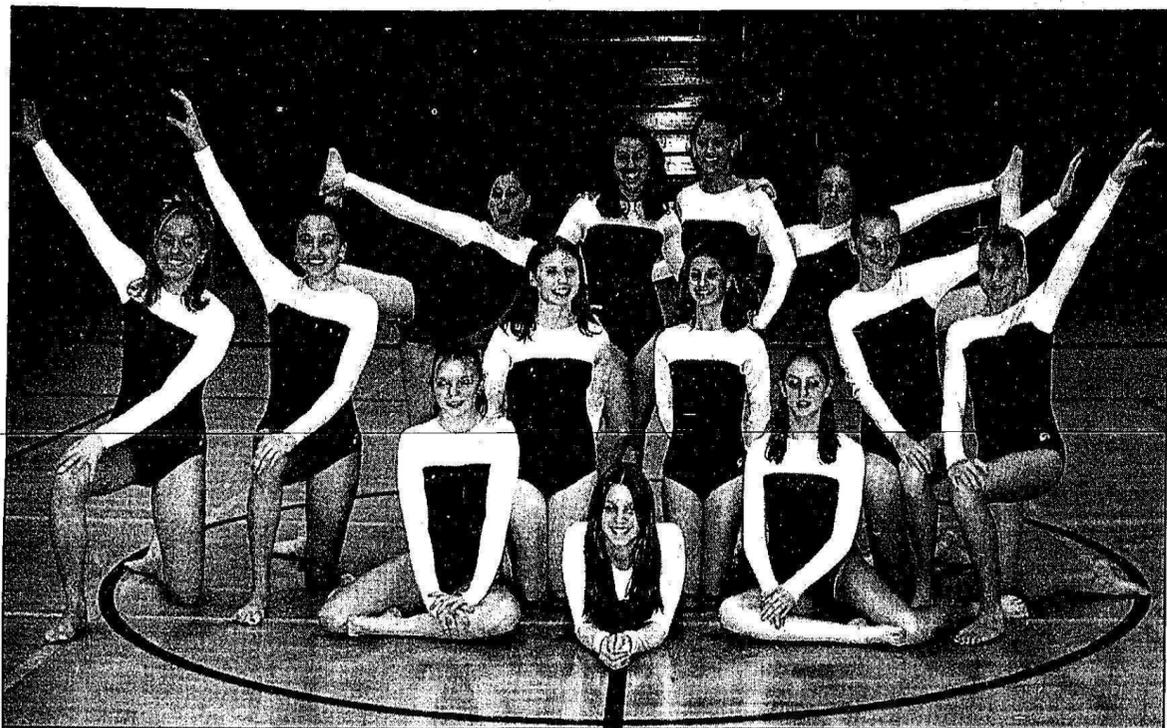
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CASS CITY GYMNASTIC team. Front row, from left: Valerie Scasny, Nicole Heronemus, Ivy Hiatt. Second row: Brittany Laethem, Becca Bennett, Holly Angle, Leah Whittaker, Andrea Badgley, Mirrissa Curtis. Third row: Candace Wallace, Marta Streu, Tara Whittaker, Pam Nagy.

# SURPRISE!

## Hawk gymnasts open season with quality win over Vassar

Cass City's gymnastic squad opened its season with an impressive showing last week, Tuesday, downing host Vassar 118.35 to 109.65. Red Hawk Candace Wallace paced the Hawk victory with a first place all around score of 31.40, while teammate Pam Nagy finished runner-up in the event with a tally of 30.55. Wallace recorded first place finishes in the uneven bars with a score of 7.6 and in the floor exercise with a mark of 8.05. Wallace also recorded a score of 7.8 on the beam, good for 2nd place and finished 3rd in the vault with a score of 7.95.

Nagy won the vault and beam with scores of 8.1 and 9.0 respectively. She also finished 4th in the floor exercise and 5th on the bars. Cass City also received solid efforts from Brittany Laethem and Marta Streu. Laethem's best finishes

came on the bars where she earned 2nd place with a score of 6.75. Streu placed 3rd in the floor exercise with a score of 7.5. The Hawks are now off until Jan. 3rd when they will travel to compete in Traverse City.

### Cass City Red Hawks 2003-2004 Gymnastics

Jan. 3	Traverse City	11:00 a.m.	A
Jan. 13	Midland / Hartland	6:00 p.m.	H
Jan. 24	Vassar Invite	12:00 p.m.	A
Jan. 31	Troy Athens Invite	11:00 a.m.	A
Feb. 11	Midland / Freeland	6:00 p.m.	A
Feb. 17	Vassar / Cadillac	6:00 p.m.	H

Call Us - 872-2010  
With Ideas For Feature Stories

## Cass City Bowling Leagues

Merchanettes League As of Dec. 18	M. Gray 164; D. Sweeney 159; L. Riddle 158; L. Pabst 157; J. Montgomery 154; D. Zdrojewski 152; D. Bang 151; D. DeRocco 149.	Burkel 232 (609); D. Dickinson 222 (585); E. Schmaltz 234 (584); G. Robinson 211 (579); S. Osentoski 223; D. Miller 217.	Patrick's Flooring 2 Curtis Chrysler 0
Empty Pockets 27	Split Conversions: J. Bemus 4-5-8; J. Koch 2-4-10.	Team High Game & Series: JEBCo, 658 (1894).	Individual High Games & Series: A. Reed 210-223 (635); T. Pattengill 257 (635); L. Morgan 289 (634); T. Davis 224 (593); E. Bombrowski 216 (579); T. Lis 223; M. Hawrylo 220; B. Joseph 214; R. Salcido 212.
Crowley Chiropractic 22	Team High Game & Series: FBI Gals, 675 (1909).	JEBCo, 658 (1894).	Team High Series: Charmont, 2831 actual.
Osentoski Realty/Auct. 22	THURSDAY NITE TRIO As of Dec. 18	Charmont 7 Charmont Motel 5 Stafono's 5 R&H Body Shop 4 Lee Morgan Painting 3	Sunday No Rollers As of Dec. 7
F.B.I. Gals 19	JEBCo 18 Mycogen Seeds 18 Riversbend 16 Dairy Queen Braz-Caro 14 United Building Centers 12 Martin Electric 11 T. Furness Resid. Blder 9 Schmaltz Construction 8 Doerr Landscaping 8 CSS Contract. Co, Inc. 6	Minus 1 22 Par-T-Ranch 18 Damn Near Last 17 Deford Drifters 16 Somtimers 13 Rolling Thunder 13 Pinheads 11 JEBCo 11 CB's 10 Crowley Chiropractic 8	Individual High Games & Series: T. Betzold 247; B. Potrykus 217; D. Potrykus 214 (535).
Gagetown Cutting Corners 17	Individual High Games & Series: R. Finkbeiner 236-211 (639); D. Beecher 236 (629); D. Doerr 232 (617); D.	Team High Game: CB's, 708.	Team High Series: Minus 1, 1960.
Charlie's Angels 16			
All Season Video 14			
Langenburg Plumb/Heat 14			
Cablettes 13			
Thumb Octagon Barn 11			

Unemployed Thumb area residents who find Michigan's fully automated unemployment claim processing system difficult or confusing will now have help. Thumb Area Michigan Works! (TAMW!) will launch Unemployment-To-Work Problem Solving Sessions beginning Jan. 5. The weekly public information sessions will help people understand the forms, processes and timeliness of the new system and learn how Thumb Area Michigan Works! can assist them in training and job hunting. The one-hour sessions will rotate among the TAMW! Service Centers in Bad Axe, Lapeer, Caro and Sandusky. Morning sessions will run from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., and afternoon sessions will run from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. "The program should help people negotiate the 2 biggest difficulties they face with Michigan's new unemployment system," says TAMW! Executive Director Marv Pichla. For more information, call TAMW! at (989) 635-3561.

## TAMW! to launch program

## 4-H essay contest slated

Four-H members between the ages of 12-13 years of age may participate in a 4-H essay contest. Four-H members will have the opportunity to share their 4-H experiences with other 4-H youth in their county and across the state. Interested 4-H'ers will write an essay focusing on the theme "Because of 4-H, I Can...". Each county may select up to 2 representatives to be recognized during the State Awards Celebration at MSU in June during 4-H Exploration Days. Participation in 4-H Exploration Days is not required, but is strongly encouraged. For more information and the entry deadline, please contact your local MSU Extension Office.

## SANTA COMES TO CASS CITY



## DON'T LOSE OUT!

Dear Friends & Customers: We Must Reduce Our Inventory Before JANUARY 1st. "THIS TAX SALE" Means Greater Savings To You Than Any Sale You've Ever Seen Before. You Can't Afford To Miss This Opportunity To Have First Choice Of Many Bargains We Are Making Available!

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Franklin Roosevelt... "Taxes are paid in the sweat of every man who labors. If those taxes are excessive, they are reflected in idle factories, tax-sold farms and in hordes of hungry people tramping the streets and seeking jobs in vain."

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SATURDAY LATE SHOW 9:30  
Children \$2.50 - Teen/Adults \$4.00

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Joel Sloop, Good Morning America  
PG

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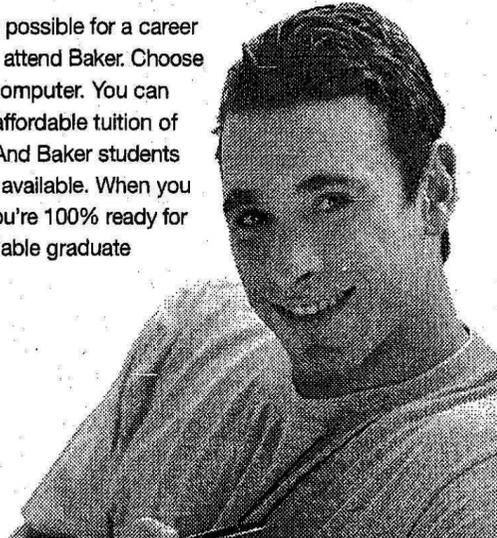
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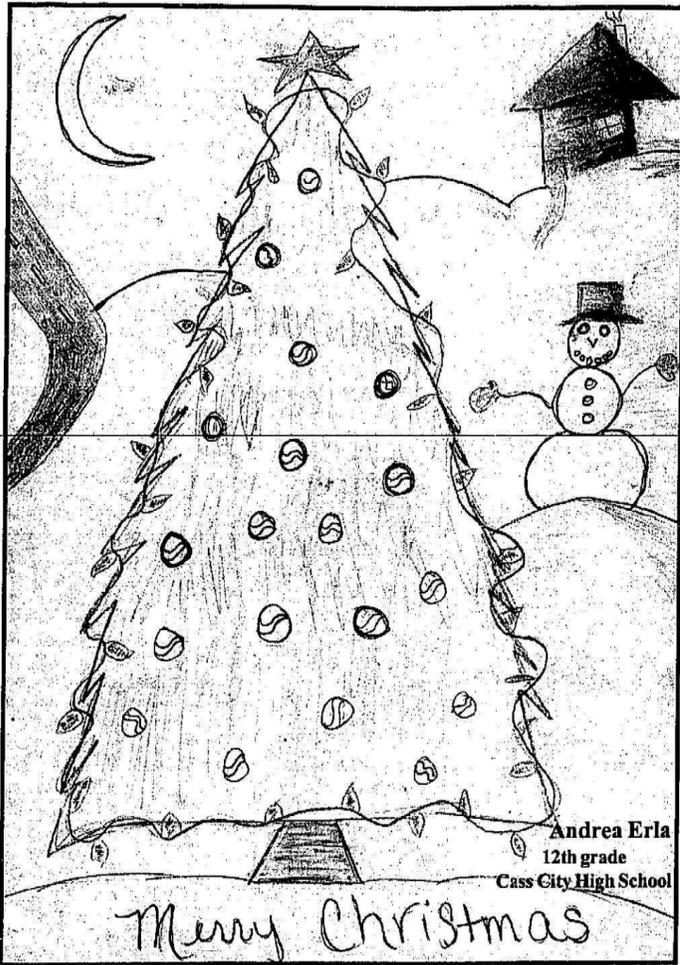
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**I've been a very good boy**



Tristan Swiderski

Dear Santa,  
I've been a very good boy this year. I try very hard to listen to my mommy and daddy and I always remember to feed my dog, Cocoa.  
For Christmas I would like a pair of My First Skates, a Power Touch Learning Pad, and a dirt bike. Anything else will be fine.  
Please bring my cousins Samantha, Brittany, Alex, Logan, Lucas and Lance all something special. I'm pretty sure they've been good, too!  
Thank you very much.  
Love,  
Tristan Swiderski, 2 1/2 years



**Santa, this is my first Christmas**



Jesse Allen Merchant

Dear Santa,  
This is my first Christmas and I am so excited!  
I have been a very good boy and I hope that you will bring me a John Deere Tractor and

a bulldozer. I would also like a farm hat like my "Grandpa Al" wears. Please also bring something nice for my mommy, daddy, our kitties, the squirrels, the deer, Mr.

Possum and Gracie "B". My cousin, Alexandria, could use some tights for her dresses to keep her legs warm. I will have cookies for you but you better use our front

door and not the chimney because mom keeps the fireplace pretty "hot!"  
Love,  
Jesse Allen Merchant

**I'd really like a play camera**



Leah Crooks

Dear Santa,  
My name is Leah Crooks and I'm 4 years old.  
I'd really like a play camera like my friend Sami's. I'd also like a McDonald's drive thru with all the food. That's all for now.  
Love,  
Leah Crooks



Alexandria Mary Tilt

**Welcome to my house, dear Santa**

Dear Santa,  
Since this is my first Christmas, I would like to welcome you to come to my house!

daddy, Dakota, our kitties, Sasha and my Grandma Joanie, who watches me every "work day". I would also like a farming book for my cousin Jesse, if it is not too much trouble.  
I love you Santa Claus,  
XOXOXO  
Alexandria Mary Tilt

I have been a very good girl and I hope that you could please bring me a dolly. I would also like you to bring something nice for mommy,

**Have a Joyous Holiday Season**  
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**Merry Christmas**

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Thumb Area **Behavioral Services Center**  
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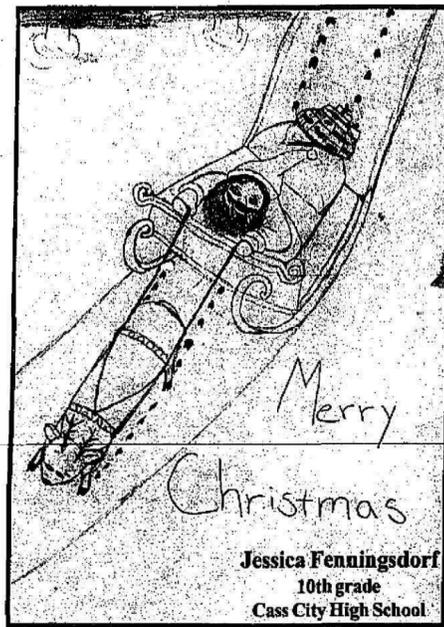
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A Division of Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems

**pic**  
A Division of Tuscola Behavioral Health Systems

**Season's Greetings**

from all of us at...

**Independent Bank**  
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Cass City



## Dear Santa, here's our Christmas list

Dear Santa Claus,  
My name is Joshua and this is my 9th Christmas. I am 8 1/2 years old and in the third grade. I always listen when I am at school, but not too good when I am at home. My sister's name is Tiffanie and this is her 5th Christmas. She is 4 1/2 years old and says, "Well yes, I have been a good girl!" Then why is she so afraid of you this year? What I would like for Christmas this year is a blue

Game Boy Advance. The games I would like are Frogger Temple of the Frogs, Rocket Power Beach Bandits, Four Wheeler Racing, Build and Destroy Robots and Hot Wheels Yellow City. I could also use some new pants since I have outgrown the other ones, and I still love money.

Please bring my sister a big toy horse to play on (she insists it has to be real), Care Bears castle, Mommy's Little Patient (doll), a talking grill, a toy cat that meows and a toy dog named Max, don't forget her night time friend Sponge Bob, some new clothes (the color of blue) and money to put in her purse since she always says, "I have no money."

We wish everyone in our family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year with good health and wealth especially to our Nanna.

Santa, I hope you had a good year. We will leave out a gallon of milk (if Tiffanie does not drink it all) and a package of Christmas Oreo cookies for you to enjoy. For your reindeer, we will leave out a big bag of sugar. Tell Rudolph it should really energize his nose since it did not glow at the Christmas parade.

We love Christmas because it brings families together, and we love you, Santa!



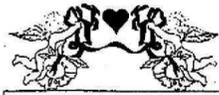
Joshua Guigar



Tiffanie Guigar

Joshua Edward and Tiffanie Kay Guigar

## Christ was born on Christmas Day



### Tying the knot?

We can help! Come in and browse through our large selection of:  
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Cass City Chronicle  
Phone 872-2010

Christ was born on this day. Happiness is when family gathers together Remembering special Christmases Inspirational songs that people sing. Silently the baby lays. Three wise men bring gifts to share. Many presents under the tree. Angels watching over us. Star that shines over the stable.

Becky Sweeney  
9th grade  
Cass City High School

Best Wishes to everyone for the Holidays! From everyone at Coach Light Pharmacy

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## Hometown Holiday Greetings...

Best wishes for a wonderful Holiday season Pam  
Merry Christmas! Kari  
Happy Holidays! Wendy  
Seasons Greetings Kelli  
May your Holiday Season be of Peace and Joy! Mary  
merry Christmas! Rochelle  
Wishing you Good Health & Happiness Curtin  
Best Wishes for the Holiday Season Cindy  
Wishing everyone a great new year! Daw  
Wishing you the Season's Best Moe  
Happy Holidays Colleen  
Merry Christmas Michelle  
Happy New Year Joyce  
Merry Christmas! Happy New Year! Bob  
Have a wonderful Christmas & New Year. Enjoy the Season! Joanna

From Your Friends at  
**Thumb National Bank**

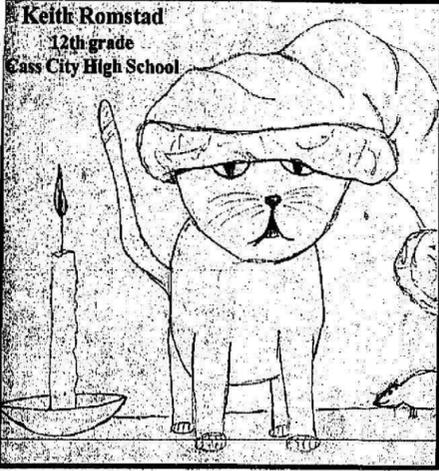
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We're tuning up to wish all our many customers and friends a very

# Merry Christmas

**Cass City Tire & Auto Repair  
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### Caroling, hanging the lights

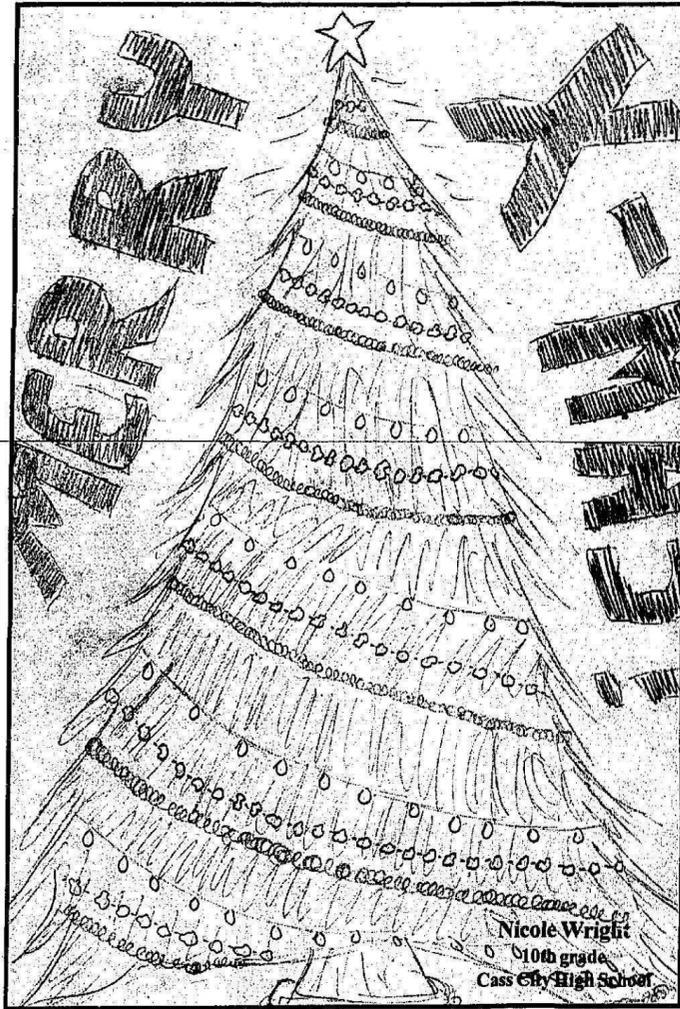
Caroling and hanging Christmas lights, Opening gifts and tickle fights. Pancakes and bacon are breakfast, Building snowmen, Cousin's being a pest. Loving and laughing, sharing all joy, Looks like daddy got a new toy. Watching movies and staying up late, Drinking eggnog, this is great. Santa's suit is way too tight, as he says... Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night.

Chelsea J. DeLuyck  
9th grade  
Cass City High School

### What is the real reason?

What is the real reason for Christmas? When I think of Christmas, I think of that holy night 2,000 years ago when Christ, God's only son, was born in a manger in Bethlehem. I wonder what it would have been like to have been there to see the baby who would save the world from their sins? I wonder what the shepherds felt when the host of angels appeared unto them with the great news? I wonder what the wise men thought when they gazed up at the star that would lead them to the Christ child? I wonder if you will remember the real reason for the season?

Preston Stec  
9th grade  
Cass City High School



### Christmas is the time we celebrate... Jesus

Christmas is the time we celebrate... How Jesus came into this world. Remember the miracle found... In that humble manger. So remember what Christmas is really about... To keep the spirit alive. May Christmas live in your heart. As it lives in mine. So Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night.

Lindsey Montgomery  
9th grade  
Cass City High School

### Christ was born, the heavens were beautiful

Christ was born. Heavens were beautiful. Rejoice, for Christ was born In a manger. Star led the way to find baby Jesus. Three wise men gave gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Mary was his mother. Angels watched over him. Snow fell gracefully.

Derek Ricker  
9th grade  
Cass City High School

**WARM WISHES**  
For A Bright Holiday.  
From all of us at  
**LAFAVE STEEL SUPPLY, INC.**  
Cass City



### PEACE ON EARTH

May the radiance and gift of His love light your way to everlasting peace and contentment. Best wishes for a joyous Christmas.

From The Family & Staff  
**Ken Martin Electric, Inc.**  
Cass City 872-4114

Joy to All!

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**HEAR THEM RING**

As the holidays draw near, we'd like to toll a message of sincere thanks and best wishes to our friends near and far.

May all the best come to you and yours this holiday season.

Merry Christmas!

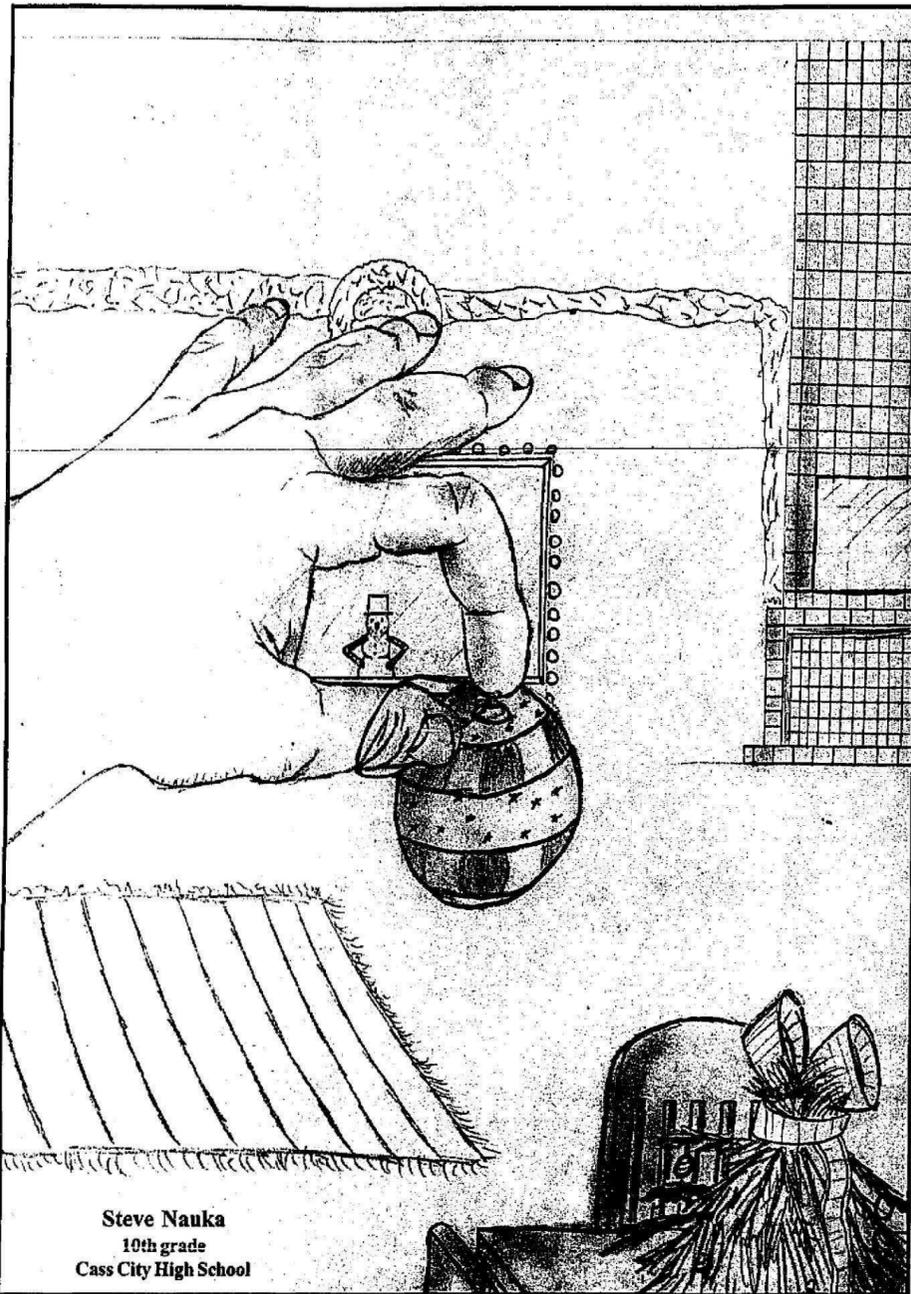
**Heartland** HOME HEALTH CARE & HOSPICE  
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Erla's Food Center  
wishes everyone  
**Happy Holidays!**

Open Christmas Eve 7 a.m.-5p.m. Closed Christmas Day.  
Open New Year's Eve 7a.m.-8p.m. Closed New Year's Day.

**Erla's**  
FOOD CENTER  
- IN CASS CITY - Phone: 872-2191 -

CALL NOW TO ORDER YOUR PARTY TRAYS & SNACK TRAYS



Steve Nauka  
10th grade  
Cass City High School

# Dunham trooper of the year

*Continued from page one.*

notable crimes in Tuscola County. In 1998, 5 suspects were prosecuted for the arson of a bridge in southwest Tuscola County.

Two years later, Dunham's investigation of a stolen snowmobile led to the recovery of that machine and some \$14,000 worth of additional stolen property and the arrest and conviction of 2 felons. That same year, his investigation of a driveway-paving scam that victimized a number of area residents resulted in the arrest of one suspect and the seizure of \$250,000 worth of construction equipment.

In a recent armed robbery complaint, the victim became the suspect and was arrested for 11 counts of narcotics and weapons violations. Further investigation led to 2 more arrest counts for fraud and filing a false police report, and the seizure of illegal weapons, ammunition, and cocaine that belonged to the suspect.

Dunham has also demonstrated his dedication to community through his service to the Juniata Baptist Church. He has been a long-time member of the deacon's board and has participated in a missionary trip to Bolivia where a church was constructed for indigent residents.

He has also been active in Christmas fundraising events in the community to help assist children and lo-

cal families during the holiday season. Dunham was honored last year by the Caro VFW and VFW Auxiliary as Officer of the Year.

Dunham worked as a corrections officer at the

Tuscola County Sheriff's Department prior to joining the Michigan State Police in 1989. A graduate of the 106th Trooper Recruit School, his prior assignments have included working at the

Ypsilanti and Sandusky posts.

Dunham lives in Caro with his wife of 28 years, Denise. The couple has 2 sons, Joshua of Caro and Adam of Pensacola, Fla.

# County avoids more cuts

*Continued from page one.*

time revenue sources and employee concessions - a modest wage increase, substantially higher health insurance premiums and increased prescription co-pays, for example - to get by.

The county spends \$1.6 million on health insurance, Hoagland noted, "and basically, the board is saying that they can't incur any additional cost in 2004. That's got to remain the same, even though we incurred a 12-percent cost increase."

The board will also dip into some fund balances and other temporary revenue sources. Hoagland didn't have an exact figure, but said, "I'm sure we're pushing \$300,000 or \$400,000 from various sources."

"We're able to get by in 2004 because of those concessions and the use of the one-time sources of revenue."

County officials will continue to monitor the financial picture in the coming year to determine what adjustments may be needed. A key factor will be any further

cuts in state revenue sharing. Already, Tuscola County has sustained cuts of 3 percent, 3 percent and 3.5 percent over the past 2 years, adding up to a loss of \$150,000.

Hoagland said service cuts implemented by other Michigan counties in recent weeks could take place again in Tuscola County.

"I think we're going to be confronted with something

similar in 2005 unless something drastic changes. The board is probably going to have to come up with some changes, either on the revenue side or the expenditure side.

"We're borrowing from Peter to pay Paul, which we can't do forever," he said. "You can't keep balancing your budget that way."

# We'll leave some cookies for you



Erika Martin

Dear Santa,  
My name is Erika Martin. I would like a portable CD player with headphones, like my brother and sister have. They don't share. I would like some CDs, too. I would like a baby bed for my baby doll. I would like some toys and clothes for my baby doll, too.

We will leave out some cookies for you and carrots for your reindeer. Have a good Christmas.

Love,  
Erika

# Christmas stands for all this

Cheerful  
Home for the holidays.  
Ready to see your family.  
I love you, mommy and daddy.  
Santa has been here.  
Time to look under the tree.  
May we be happy.  
As for my family, we are happy.  
Savior was born.

Day of rest.  
All we do is have fun.  
Yes! It's Christmas!!!

Kevin Ouvry  
9th grade  
Cass City High School

## Wedding Announcements



Catalogs loaned overnight.

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Cass City Chronicle  
Phone 872-2010



Hope the magic and mirth of Christmas shower you with happy surprises! We thank you especially dear friends and patrons for your support.

# BARTNIK'S SERVICE

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Cass City

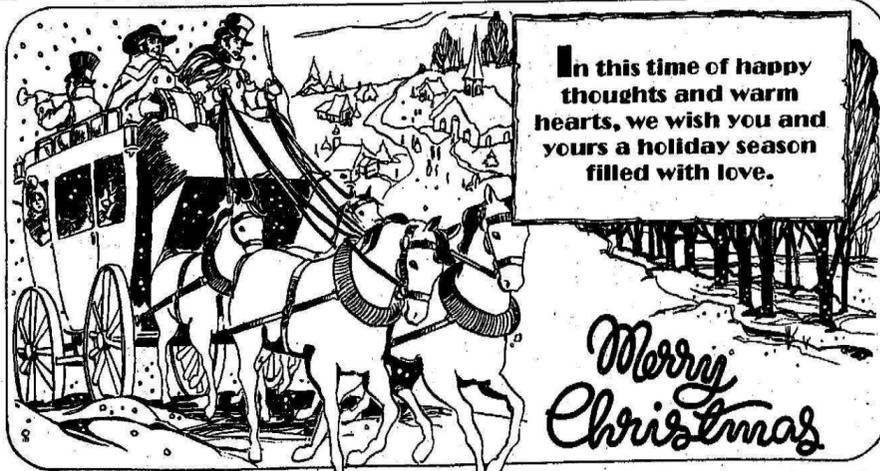
Wishing You  
a Peaceful &  
Joyous Holiday  
from everyone at Chemical Bank



CHEMICAL BANK<sup>SM</sup>

Where to Bank Across Michigan.

www.chemicalbankmi.com



In this time of happy thoughts and warm hearts, we wish you and yours a holiday season filled with love.

From all the salespeople at...

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REALTY



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AUCTIONEERING

673-7777

# Christmas is a time for family

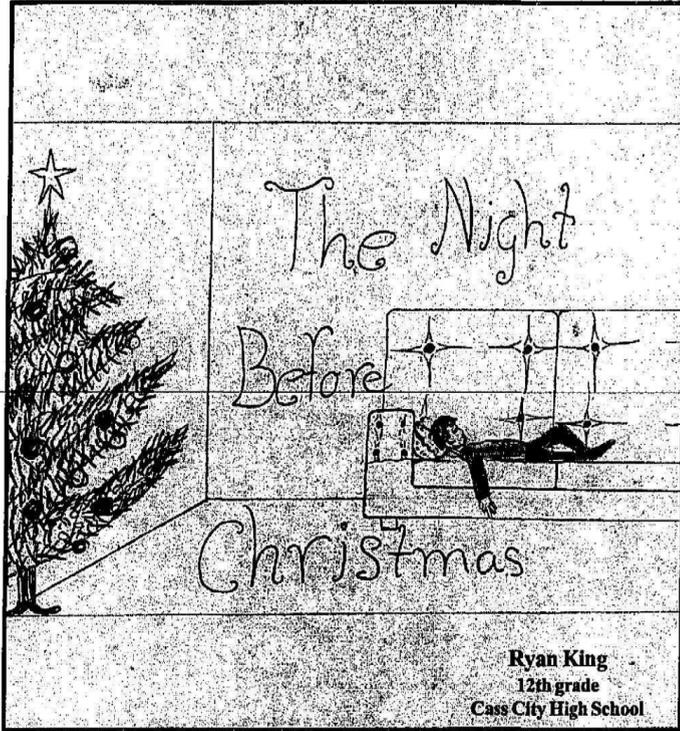
Christmas is the time to spend time with family and friends. It goes on forever and ever and again and again. Santa Claus does his runs during the night. He might get stuck in your chimney if it is very tight. If you want presents, don't get into fights. Also, make sure whatever you're doing, That it's not the wrong but the right.

Tyler Venema  
9th grade  
Cass City High School

# Children anxiously await Santa's visit

Children anxiously waiting for Santa Claus to come. Houses full of loved ones. Reliving past Christmas memories. I can't think of a better time of year. Stories told to excite children all around the world. Tons of presents under the tree. Months of planning finally happen for one brief day. At last everyone opens their carefully thought out presents. Soon it's all over, but you'll always have the memories.

Laura McComas  
9th grade  
Cass City High School



Ryan King  
12th grade  
Cass City High School

# Christ's birth and Holy songs

Christ's birth  
Holy songs  
Rejoice  
Israel  
Shepherds  
Three Wise Men  
Manger  
Angels  
Stable

Ryan Ross  
9th grade  
Cass City High School



Have A Safe And Happy Holiday Season

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With Ideas For Feature Stories

**Holiday Greetings**  
from the  
Staff of the Cass City Chronicle

We wish each and every one of you a Safe and Blessed Holiday Season filled with love and laughter.

John Haire  
Clarke Haire  
JoAnn Asher  
Candi Benjamin  
Larry Bogart  
Harmony Doerr  
Thelma Jackson  
Tom Montgomery  
Deb Severance  
Janet Severance

# Happy times with family

Happy times to be with family  
Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one horse open sleigh  
Lots of good food to eat  
In the spirit of giving  
Days off school for weeks  
A bunch of presents under the tree  
Yellow lights decorate the tree  
Singing carols around the town

Allie Hillaker  
9th grade  
Cass City High School

# Little elves at the 'pole'

Little elves at the North Pole  
Over our house Santa is singing "Ho, Ho!"  
Very fast he deliver presents  
Every year he gives me gifts

Tristen Coleman  
9th grade  
Cass City High School

**Season's Greetings**

We extend to all our friends and neighbors warm wishes for a wonderful holiday season.

Thank you for your patronage.

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To Our Friends  
**Happy Holiday**  
THE  
PIT STOP  
Owendale

HOLIDAY BELLS  
are ringing  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
from Mr. Chips

**Mr. Chips Food Store**  
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BACK TO THE 50s

Happy Holidays From Our Family To Yours.

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6240 W. Main Street, Cass City  
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Floyd • Don • Joe • Barb  
Randy WISH YOU A VERY  
Erin

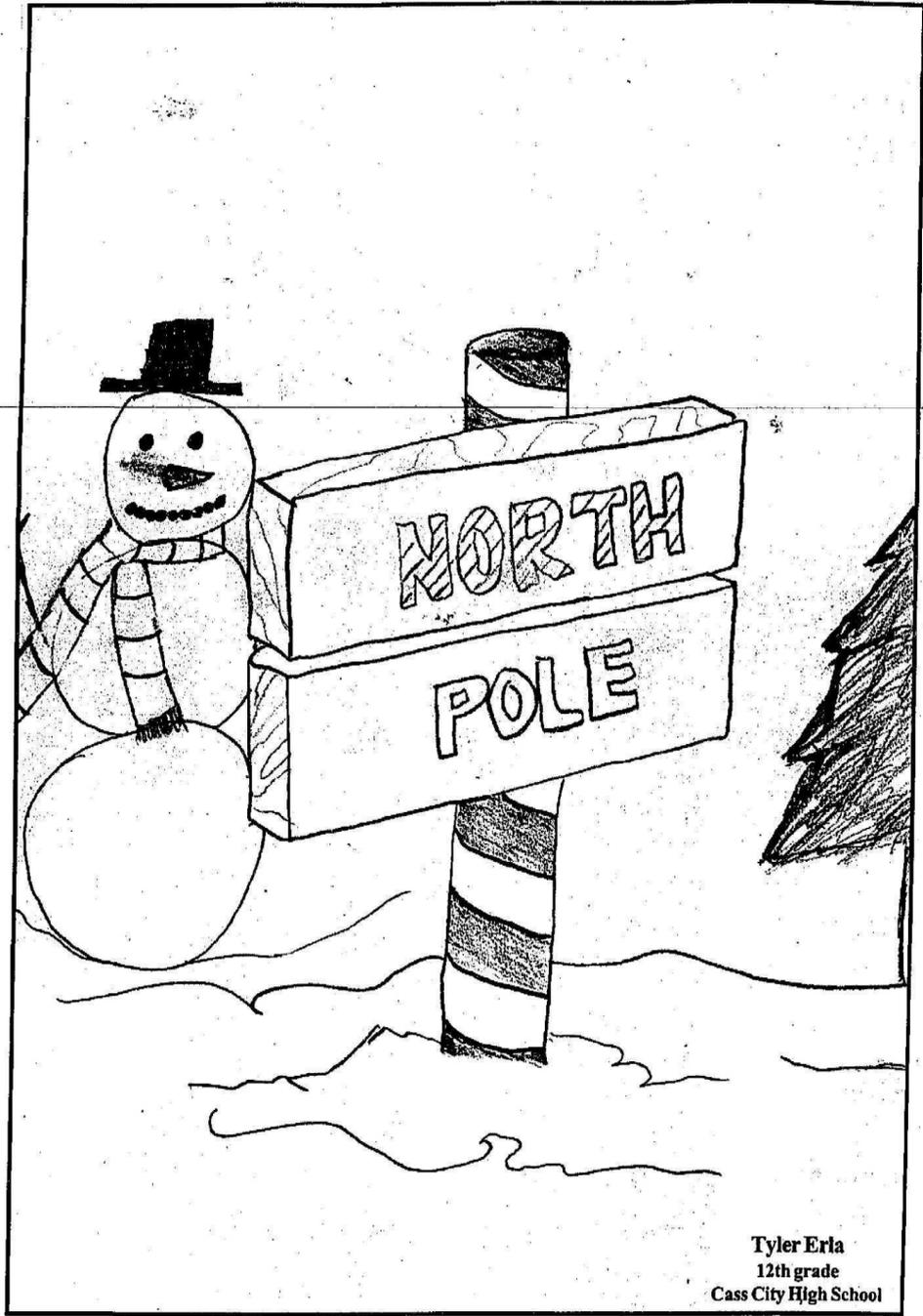
**Merry CHRISTMAS**  
and a  
"Warm" Cozy  
Holiday Season

**HOWARD'S HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING, INC.**  
6523 Main St., Cass City, MI 48726  
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BUILT BETTER THAN IT HAS TO BE

Have a  
**Merry Christmas**  
and a  
Joyous New Year  
from  
Your friends at

**Millennium INDUSTRIES**  
Cass City, Michigan



**I'm almost 5  
I'd like Polly Pocket**

Dear Santa,  
My name is Hailey Sue Guinther. I am almost 5 years old.



Hailey Sue Guinther

My grandma and grandpa Guinther say I've been a pretty good girl when I'm at their house.

For Christmas this year, I would like some Polly Pocket dolls and things to

go with it and also a vacuum cleaner that works so I can clean my room. I could also use a few clothes.

My dad has been pretty good this year. He only wants clothes, he's too big for toys.

Please leave my gifts at my grandparents Guinther's house because I'll be there on Christmas.

Please also take something to my dad's cousins Nathan and Kevin Wissner, who are in Iraq.

I will leave some cookies and milk for you and some apples for your deer.

Love,  
Hailey Sue Guinther

Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for the coming year

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Season's Greetings

To old friends, new friends and friends yet to be made, we send our best wishes for a glorious holiday and a prosperous new year.

**Cass City Floral and SCRAPBOOK CORNER**  
6358 Main St., Cass City  
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**Advertise it in the Chronicle**

Chronicle Liners Work Like Magic

Cass City Chronicle  
6550 Main St., Cass City  
Phone 872-2010

**Bright Wishes**  
FOR A MERRY CHRISTMAS

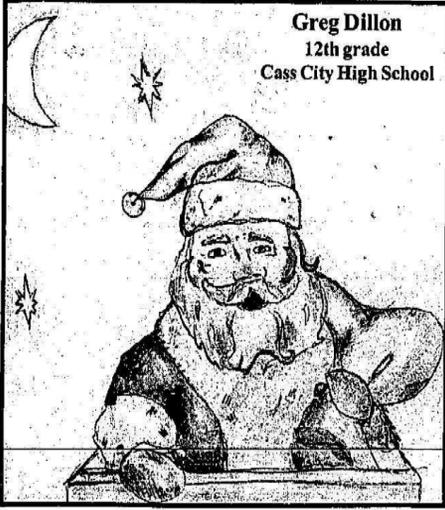
**Kirn Electric**  
ELECTRICAL SERVICE  
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Cass City

**Holiday Wishes for a Healthy and Prosperous Year**

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GENERAL HOSPITAL

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4675 Hill Street • Cass City, MI • 989-872-2121 • www.hillsanddales.com



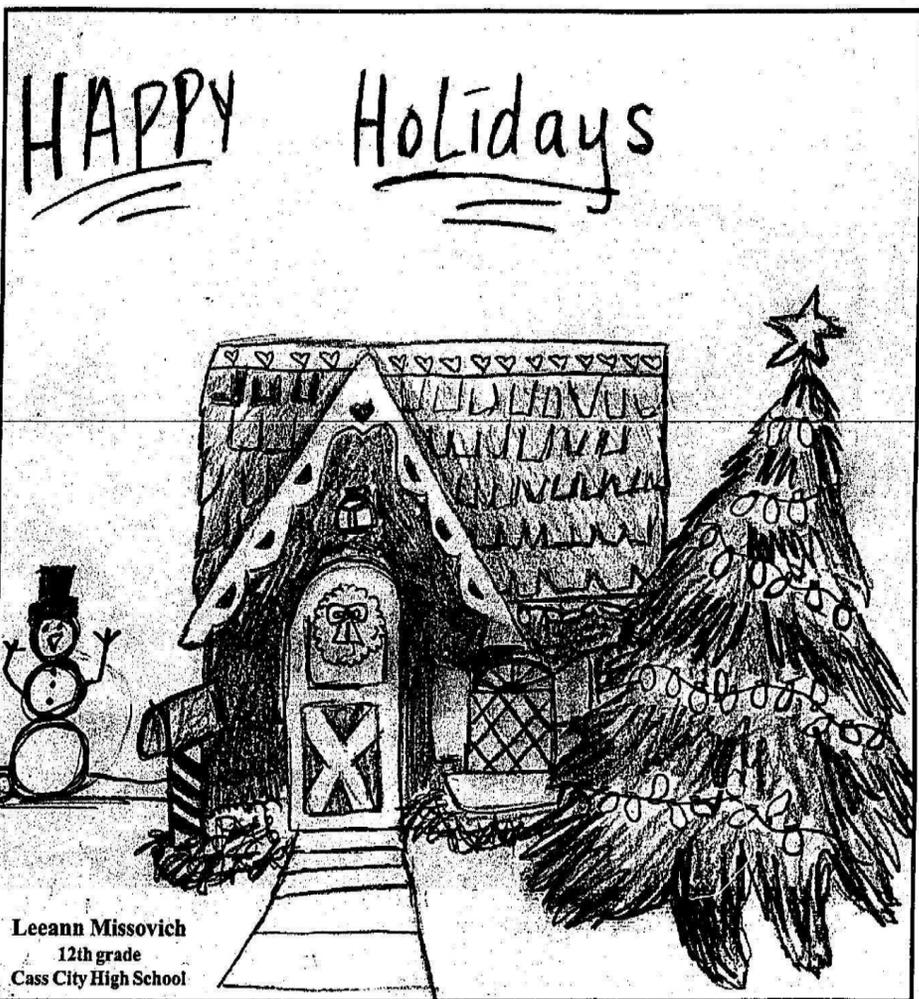
**Santa,  
I've been  
real good**



Seth Frank

Dear Santa,  
My name is Seth Frank. I am 2 1/2 years old. I have been good this year, although my mom says I keep her pretty busy. I would like a tractor, a guitar and some cars to play with. Please don't forget my sister, she has been pretty good too. I will leave you some cookies and milk and carrots for your reindeer. I love you lots, Santa.  
Love,  
Seth

**I'd like  
a guitar  
this year**



Leeann Misovich  
12th grade  
Cass City High School

**Could you  
bring me  
a wagon?**



Ethan Crooks

Dear Santa,  
I'm Ethan and I'm Leah's little brother.  
For Christmas could you bring me a new wagon. I just had my first birthday a couple of weeks ago but I didn't get a lot of new toys. So I'd like some new toys to play with inside, too.  
Hope to see you soon,  
Ethan Crooks

*Season's Greetings*  
Have a very cozy holiday.  
From The Comment  
Family and Staff  
**CHARMONT MOTEL**  
Cass City

**Watch it  
Santa  
Claus**

Santa Claus  
(Sing to Yankee Doodle)

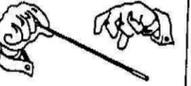
Santa Claus comes to town,  
Riding behind a reindeer.  
Throws a present in a house,  
And hopes the people like it.

CHORUS:  
Santa Claus get going,  
Big Red Santa Claus.  
Make sure you don't miss a house,  
Big Red Santa Claus.

Santa Claus don't be late,  
Everybody is waiting for you.  
If you're late they might get mad,  
And hit you with a snowball.

Brandon Miller  
9th grade  
Cass City High School

**Chronicle Liners  
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Chronicle  
Phone 872-2010

*We wish you a Merry Christmas!*

Be sure to use your Cass City Cash or Gift Certificates toward your 2003 tax preparation at...

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872-4532

Read Meg's Peg, page 2

**A Child Is Born**

On this day, we celebrate with joy the birth of a Child who would become our Savior. May you live in the light of His love and follow His message of peace and hope for all.

**BOOKMART**  
Books, Cards, Photo & Gifts  
6498 Main St.  
Cass City, MI 48726  
(989) 872-2075



Breanna Frank

Dear Santa,  
My name is Breanna Frank. I am almost 7 years old. I have been good this year and would like a guitar, Finding Nemo movie, a soft horse blanket and a bike. Please don't forget my brother, he has been pretty good this year too. We will leave you cookies and milk and carrots for your reindeer.  
Love you lots,  
Breanna

**STOP IN & ASK FOR GARTH**

*To all my friends and customers... I wish you a Very Happy, Happy Holiday Season!*

**Moore Motor Sales**  
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"Christine, Keep that smile on your face"  
Garth O'Mara

**Merry Christmas**

Ray & Marlene Donaldson

*A List of Blessings*

- \*LOVE
- \*PEACE
- \*HAPPINESS
- \*PROSPERITY
- \*FRIENDS LIKE YOU

Thank you for your patronage and friendship. We hope you enjoy a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year.

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**"Season's Greetings"**

*along with special wishes for a happy & healthy New Year!*

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**GREETINGS**

Wishing You A Very Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!!

From Everyone At...

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**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

from  
**DR. RICHARD A. HALL, D.O.**  
and the entire staff

4674 Hill Street • Cass City

We're wishing you LOADS of HOLIDAY CHEER!

**DOUBLE D GAS & DIESEL REPAIR**  
7923 E. Cass City Rd. 872-4540



Angela Stoeckle  
11th grade  
Cass City High School

### Christmas is the best time of the year for me

Christmas is the best time of the year.  
Holiday is when family gathers.  
Radiant star that shown above the stable.  
Irresistible smells come from the kitchen.  
Songs are sung throughout the world.  
Three wise men stand in awe around the manger.  
Music of the season fills the air.  
A time of celebration is near.  
Season's greetings and a Happy New Year.

Kati Hill  
9th grade  
Cass City High School

### Children are happy to get all their presents

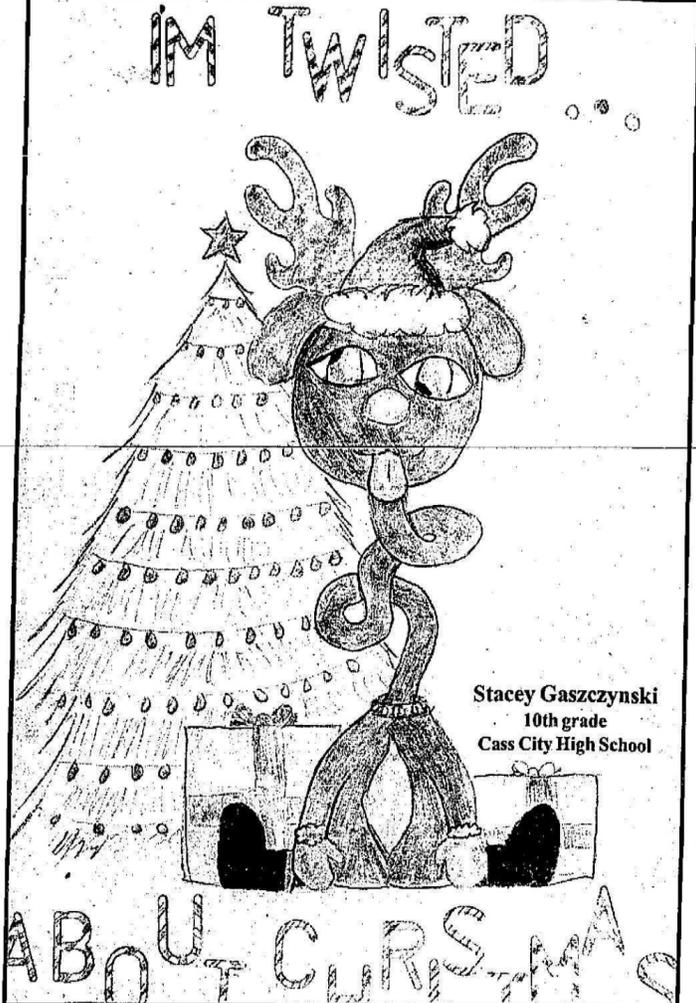
Children are happy to get their presents  
Happy holiday to everyone  
Ripping open your new gifts  
Incoming sleigh  
Santa's elves are at work making toys  
Time to open presents is coming closer  
Many kids are on the naughty list  
A lot of new toys  
Singing Christmas carols

Jeremy Farr  
9th grade  
Cass City High School

### Happy children spread the Christmas cheer

Christmas is the most fun time of year  
Happy children spread the Christmas cheer  
Rudolph has a red nose to lead Santa's sleigh  
It had no use until it was a foggy day  
Santa Claus makes lots of toys  
To give to all the girls and boys  
Most people would need lots of light, but  
All presents are delivered in one night  
Santa Claus eats so many cookies his suit must be tight

Galen Kuebli  
9th grade  
Cass City High School



Stacey Gaszczynski  
10th grade  
Cass City High School

## Joyous Noël

Christmas day is almost here  
It's the happiest of events  
May yours be filled with love and cheer  
From all of us at  
**Special Scents**

DORIS, BARB, MICHELE, AND DEB, BARBIE & BUD

Thanks to all our friends, new and old,  
for your continuing patronage  
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### Proclaim Joy Throughout the World!

Michelle P. Biddinger  
Attorney at Law  
872-5601  
Cass City

Happy Holidays  
and an  
Especially Healthy New Year  
from  
**CROWLEY CHIROPRACTIC**  
and Staff  
Cass City 872-4241  
Office will be closed Dec. 22 - Jan. 5, 2004  
In case of emergency call:  
Dr. White 989-673-4241

### Yuletide Greetings

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\*Annuities and Other Investments  
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Cass City, MI 48726-0038  
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### Bring Home the HOLIDAY SPIRIT

Thank you, neighbors, for visiting us this year.  
You're always welcome at our door.

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Governor's Quality Care Award Winner  
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989-551-8113

**Season's Greetings**

Full satisfaction  
with your inspector  
or you don't have  
to pay!

### Thumb Area Home Inspections

Best Wishes!  
FOR THE COMING YEAR!

**DON'T**  
Spend the holidays  
with us.....  
**PLEASE DON'T**  
**DRINK AND DRIVE**

**KRANZ**

Debra Kranz  
Funeral Director  
Cass City 872-2195

Rachael Kluz  
Funeral Director  
Kingston 683-2210

FUNERAL HOMES

We wish you a Merry Christmas!

**S.H. RAYTHATHA, M.D., P.C.**  
(Dr. Ray)

4672 HILL STREET  
CASS CITY, MI 48726

872-5010

We, at the Knight Insurance Agency,  
would like to extend the  
warmest wishes to all of you

# Legal Notices

**THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER 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 Kenneth Lewis Lickly Jr., a single man (original mortgagor), to Mac-Clair Mortgage Corporation, Mortgagee, dated January 15, 2001 and recorded on January 15, 2001 in Liber 819 on Page 687, and assigned by said Mortgagee to Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corporation as assignee by an assignment dated January 15, 2001 recorded on February 1, 2001 in Liber 820 on Page 1372, in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Eighty-One Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety-Six and 75/100 Dollars (\$81,996.75), including interest at 8.5% 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 22, 2004.

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

A part of the Northeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 13, Township 13 North, Range 9 East, Almer Township, Tuscola County, Michigan, beginning at the Northeast corner of said Section 13; thence continuing South 13 degrees, 18 minutes, 14 seconds East on said East line of Section 13, 465.28 feet; thence North 86 degrees, 45 minutes, 12 seconds West on the Northern line of Hume Drain, 169.64 feet; thence North 56 degrees, 38 minutes, 05 seconds West continuing on the Northern bank of Hume Drain, 273.41 feet; thence South 72 degrees, 41 minutes, 42 seconds West continuing on the Northern bank of Hume Drain, 255.36 feet; thence North 18 degrees, 18 minutes, 14 seconds West, 382.24 feet; thence South 90 degrees, 00 minutes, 00 seconds East on the North line of said Section 13, 639.60 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 redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 24, 2003

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:**  
FC S (248) 593-1304

Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys For Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corporation  
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200  
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822  
File #007069F01

12-24-4

**THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER 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 Daniel S. Vasko and Constance M. Vasko, His Wife, to Pinafund, USA, A California Corporation CFL#603-3977, Mortgagee, dated July 14, 1999 and recorded July 26, 1999 in Liber 777, Page 1073, Tuscola County Records. Said mortgage is now held by 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 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 Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety and 44/100 Dollars (\$124,919.44), including interest at the rate of 8.74% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in the mortgage and the statutes of the State of Michigan, 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, MI in Tuscola County, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on January 8, 2004.

The premises are located in the City of Silverwood, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Beginning 470 feet East of the Southwest 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 of beginning.

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 resolution with the borrower.

Dated: December 10, 2003

**ORLAND ASSOCIATES PC**  
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 Services Inc. f/k/a Meritech Mortgage Services Inc., As Assignee  
P.O. Box 5041  
Troy, MI 48007-5041  
(248) 457-1000  
File No. 244.0722

12-17-4

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:**  
FC D (248) 593-1309  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys For Wachovia Bank f/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., Ste. 200  
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822  
File #005832F01

12-17-4

**THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER 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 Dennis P. Lawler and Elsa M. Lawler, husband and wife (original mortgagors), to ABN AMRO Mortgage Group, Inc., Mortgagee, dated June 19, 2001 and recorded on September 18, 2001 in Liber 843 on Page 201, in Tuscola County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Two Hundred Two Thousand Six Hundred Sixty-Three and 22/100 Dollars (\$202,663.22), including interest at 7.25% 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 22, 2004.

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

Commencing at the Southeast corner of Section 12, Town 12 North, Range 8 East; thence West 30 Rods 12 feet; thence North 32 Rods 4 feet, East 30 Rods 12 feet; thence South 32 Rods 4 feet to the place of beginning.

Less and except: A part of the Southeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 12, Township 12 North, Range 8 East, Juniata Township, Tuscola County, Michigan, described as beginning at a point on the South Section line that is North 86 degrees, 06 minutes, 00 seconds West, 474.00 feet from the Southeast corner of Section 12; thence North 01 degrees 51 minutes 30 seconds East, parallel with the East Section line, 212.00 feet; thence South 85 degrees 06 minutes 00 seconds East, parallel with the South Section line, 92.00 feet; thence North 01 degrees 51 minutes 30 seconds East, parallel with the East Section line, 320.00 feet; thence North 86 degrees 06 minutes 00 seconds West, parallel with the South Section line, 125.00 feet; thence South 01 degrees 51 minutes 30 seconds West, parallel with the East Section line, 532.00 feet to a point on the South Section line; thence South 86 degrees 06 minutes 00 seconds East, along the South Section line, 33.00 feet to the point of beginning. Contains 1.08 acres, including that part reserved for West Caro Road (M-81), subject to an easement recorded in Liber 205, Page 462, Tuscola County Records.

The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 24, 2003

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:**  
FC C (248) 593-1301  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys For ABN AMRO Mortgage Group, Inc.  
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200  
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822  
File #008279F01

12-10-4

**THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER 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 Dollars (\$124,060.07), including interest at 8% 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.

The premises are located in the City of Silverwood, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Beginning 470 feet East of the Southwest 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 of beginning.

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 resolution with the borrower.

Dated: December 10, 2003

**ORLAND ASSOCIATES PC**  
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 Services Inc. f/k/a Meritech Mortgage Services Inc., As Assignee  
P.O. Box 5041  
Troy, MI 48007-5041  
(248) 457-1000  
File No. 244.0722

12-10-5

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:**  
FC F (248) 593-1313  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys For Washington Mutual Bank, f/k/a Washington Mutual Home Loans, Inc.  
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200  
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822  
File #005007F01

12-3-4

**THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER 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 Impact Funding Corporation DBA Novelle Financial 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, Linton Loan Servicing LP and JP Morgan Chase Bank, C-BAS 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 THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY-ONE AND 19/100 dollars (\$47,251.19), including interest at 9.7500% 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 1 of Plats, Page 104, now being Page 54B, Tuscola County Records.

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

**AMERICAN BUSINESS MORTGAGE SERVICES**  
Mortgage  
ATTORNEY FOR: 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

12-10-4

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

**FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:**  
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

12-10-4

**THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER 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 Dollars (\$124,060.07), including interest at 8% 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.

The premises are located in the City of Silverwood, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Beginning 470 feet East of the Southwest 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 of beginning.

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 resolution with the borrower.

Dated: December 10, 2003

**ORLAND ASSOCIATES PC**  
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 Services Inc. f/k/a Meritech Mortgage Services Inc., As Assignee  
P.O. Box 5041  
Troy, MI 48007-5041  
(248) 457-1000  
File No. 244.0722

12-17-5

**THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER 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. Ture & 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 date 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.

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 Arbia, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Commencing 395 feet East of the Southwest 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 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 redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 17, 2003

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:**  
FC S (248) 593-1304  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys For Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corporation, successor in interest by merger and/or name change to Chase Mortgage Company  
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200  
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822  
File #006509F01

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:**  
FC S (248) 593-1304  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys For Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corporation, successor in interest by merger and/or name change to Chase Mortgage Company  
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200  
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822  
File #006509F01

12-17-4

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

**AMERICAN BUSINESS MORTGAGE SERVICES**  
Mortgage  
ATTORNEY FOR: 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

12-10-4

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

**FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:**  
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

12-10-4

**THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER 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 certain mortgage made by Cynthia Lou McConkey Jackson, a single woman, to Franklin Mortgage Funding, A Michigan Corporation Mortgagee, 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 Americas, f/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 mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Fifty-Three Thousand Five Hundred Ninety-Nine Dollars and Seventy Cents (\$53,599.70) including interest 12.55% 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, 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 MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 11, 2003

Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, f/k/a Bankers Trust Company, As Trustee  
Assignee of Mortgagee  
Attorneys: Potessivo & Associates, P.C.

36150 Deguindre Rd., Ste 810  
Sterling Heights, MI 48310  
(586) 795-4400 Ext. 129  
Our File No: 03-19414

12-17-5

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

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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 Arbia, Tuscola County, Michigan, and are described as:

Commencing 395 feet East of the Southwest 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 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 redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 17, 2003

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:**  
FC S (248) 593-1304  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys For Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corporation, successor in interest by merger and/or name change to Chase Mortgage Company  
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200  
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822  
File #006509F01

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:**  
FC S (248) 593-1304  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys For Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corporation, successor in interest by merger and/or name change to Chase Mortgage Company  
30400 Telegraph Rd., Ste. 200  
Bingham Farms, Michigan 48025-5822  
File #006509F01

12-17-4

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

# CALL 872-2010 TO PLACE AN ACTION AD

Transit (nonbusiness) rates, 10 words or less, \$3.75 each insertion; additional words 10 cents each. Three weeks for the price of 2-cash rate. Save money by enclosing cash with mail orders. Rates for display want ads on application.

**General Merchandise**  
SEASONED HARDWOOD for sale - split and delivered, \$40 face chord. Also, free puppies. 872-2128 2-12-17-3

**General Merchandise**  
MATTRESS SET - king size pillow top. New in plastic. Includes deluxe frame. Cost \$1,050, sacrifice \$335. 989-839-4846 2-11-26-6

**Real Estate For Sale**  
VACANT LAND - 7 1/2 acres near Kingston. \$33,000; land contract with low down. 989-823-8981 3-12-24-3

**Real Estate For Rent**  
FOR RENT - 2-bedroom trailer in country, \$375 monthly, plus utilities. 872-3638 between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. 4-12-17-3

**Real Estate For Rent**  
2-BEDROOM downstairs apartment at beautiful Hillside Apartments. Fully carpeted, refrigerator, range, water softener, air conditioner, storage units and laundry. Near grocery store, beauty shop, hospital, doctors. Call 872-3315. 4-5-23-1f

**Real Estate For Rent**  
FOR RENT - K of C Hall, 6106 Beechwood Drive. Parties, dinners, meeting. Call Rick Kerkau, 872-4877. 4-2-3-1f

**Notices**  
  
**FOUND (Great Dog)**  
Need owner or new home  
872-4825  
5-12-24-1

**Automotive**  
2 - 1997 SKI-DOO Formula 3-600, mint condition, low miles. Great trail sleds, many extras! 989-872-2486 or 810-797-2096. 1-12-24-3

**General Merchandise**  
FREE CHRISTMAS KITTENS, two months, litter trained cute cuddly. 872-3785 2-12-17-3  
SEASONED FIREWOOD - 98% dry oak. Delivery and piling service available. Call 989-872-4038. 2-12-24-10

**EHRlich's FLAGS AMERICAN MADE US-STATE-WORLD MILITARY-POW**  
Aluminum/Poles Commercial/Residential Sectional or One Piece  
1-800-369-8882  
Bill Ehrlich, Sr. 665-2568  
Bill Ehrlich, Jr. 665-2503  
2-4-16-4f

**Paintball & Supplies**  
RAMBO PAINTBALL of Ubyly since 1986, Thumb area's only full service establishment. Store, Fields, ProShop, Guns and accessories, Co2, Nitrogen fills, special events, upgrade, repairs, parts. 989-658-8113 or for more information go to www.rambopaintball.com. 16-6-25-1f

**Real Estate For Rent**  
VFW HALL available for rental occasions. Call 872-4933. 4-4-1-1f  
AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY - 1- and 2-bedroom apartments. Water, sewage and garbage removal included. Also, 4-bedroom home. 989-872-4532 4-11-5-1f

**Real Estate For Rent**  
FOR RENT in high traffic location. 750 sq. ft. building next to Erla's Food Center. Call 989-872-2191, ask for Agnes. 4-11-5-1f  
FOR RENT - 2-bedroom apartment available immediately. Close to grocery store, doctors' offices and hospital. Rent includes water and trash. No pets! Located at Hillside North Apartments. Require first month's rent and security deposit to move in. Call after 6:30 p.m. for details, 872-4654. 4-10-8-1f

**Notices**  
LOOKING FOR horse hay? Square or round bales. 989-872-5211. 5-12-10-4  
TREE TRIMMING and removal. Reasonable rates. 989-550-7803. 5-12-10-6

**M-N-AUTO Repair** - Complete auto repair. 872-8832. 1-1-15-1f

**General Merchandise**  
AMISH LOG HEADBOARD with queen pillow top mattress set. New in plastic. Must sell, \$275. 989-923-1278 2-11-26-6

**Real Estate For Sale**  
VACANT LAND - nearly 2 acres with new well and septic. Mayville area. \$34,500; land contract with low down. 989-823-8981 3-12-24-3

**Real Estate For Rent**  
2-BEDROOM UPSTAIRS apartment - \$500/month, includes washer/dryer, dishwasher, stove, refrigerator, central air and all utilities. NO pets! 872-5448 4-12-17-2

**Real Estate For Rent**  
WE ARE NOW taking applications for 1 & 2 bedroom apartments at Northwood Heights apartments in Cass City. Rent is based on income. For rental information, call 989-872-2369 or Crest Property Management at 989-652-9281. Some units barrier free. TTY for hearing or speech impaired. 1-800-649-3777. Equal Housing Opportunity. 4-4-11-1f

**Real Estate For Rent**  
FOR RENT - Cass City Mini Storage. Call 872-3917. 4-3-13-1f

**INDOOR ARCHERY League**. Sign up now. January-March. Call 872-8002. 5-12-10-4

**Knights of Columbus FISH DINNERS**  
Baked & Fried Fish ALL YOU CAN EAT  
3rd Friday of each month  
4:00 to 7:00 p.m.  
K of C Hall  
6106 Beechwood Rd., Cass City  
Adults \$7.00, Children \$3.00  
5-9-10-1f

**General Merchandise**  
FOR SALE - \$25 lab puppies, 6 weeks old. 872-1880 2-12-3-5

**General Merchandise**  
FOR SALE - Pillows, throw and vests, for a Christmas gift for someone special. Call Janice at 989-872-4276. 2-12-10-3

**Real Estate For Sale**  
VACANT LAND - nearly 2 acres with new well and septic. Mayville area. \$34,500; land contract with low down. 989-823-8981 3-12-24-3

**Real Estate For Rent**  
2-BEDROOM UPSTAIRS apartment - \$500/month, includes washer/dryer, dishwasher, stove, refrigerator, central air and all utilities. NO pets! 872-5448 4-12-17-2

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**Real Estate For Rent**  
FOR RENT - 2-bedroom apartment available immediately. Close to grocery store, doctors' offices and hospital. Rent includes water and trash. No pets! Located at Hillside North Apartments. Require first month's rent and security deposit to move in. Call after 6:30 p.m. for details, 872-4654. 4-10-8-1f

**INDOOR ARCHERY League**. Sign up now. January-March. Call 872-8002. 5-12-10-4

**NO SMOKING BINGO** - Every Sunday at new Knights of Columbus Hall, 6106 Beechwood Dr., Cass City. Doors open 5:00 p.m., games start at 5:30. Phone 872-8892. Knights of Columbus Council No. 8892. 5-9-30-1f

**General Merchandise**  
FOR SALE - Kimball piano, \$700.00 or best offer. Call 989-872-4101. 2-12-10-3

**General Merchandise**  
FOR SALE - Pillows, throw and vests, for a Christmas gift for someone special. Call Janice at 989-872-4276. 2-12-10-3

**Real Estate For Sale**  
VACANT LAND - nearly 2 acres with new well and septic. Mayville area. \$34,500; land contract with low down. 989-823-8981 3-12-24-3

**Real Estate For Rent**  
2-BEDROOM UPSTAIRS apartment - \$500/month, includes washer/dryer, dishwasher, stove, refrigerator, central air and all utilities. NO pets! 872-5448 4-12-17-2

**Real Estate For Rent**  
WE ARE NOW taking applications for 1 & 2 bedroom apartments at Northwood Heights apartments in Cass City. Rent is based on income. For rental information, call 989-872-2369 or Crest Property Management at 989-652-9281. Some units barrier free. TTY for hearing or speech impaired. 1-800-649-3777. Equal Housing Opportunity. 4-4-11-1f

**Real Estate For Rent**  
FOR RENT - 2-bedroom apartment available immediately. Close to grocery store, doctors' offices and hospital. Rent includes water and trash. No pets! Located at Hillside North Apartments. Require first month's rent and security deposit to move in. Call after 6:30 p.m. for details, 872-4654. 4-10-8-1f

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**BROASTED FISH & FRIES**  
All you can eat - Public Welcome  
Dinner 4:30 to 7:00 p.m.  
Masonic Lodge, Cass City  
Corner of Maple and Garfield  
First Friday of the month  
Tickets at door  
Adults \$7.00, 12 & under \$4.00  
Tyler Lodge 317, Cass City  
Take-outs Available 5-9-3-1f



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**Real Estate For Rent**  
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**Real Estate For Rent**  
FOR RENT - Cass City Mini Storage. Call 872-3917. 4-3-13-1f

**INDOOR ARCHERY League**. Sign up now. January-March. Call 872-8002. 5-12-10-4

**BROASTED FISH & FRIES**  
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Tickets at door  
Adults \$7.00, 12 & under \$4.00  
Tyler Lodge 317, Cass City  
Take-outs Available 5-9-3-1f

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The Chronicle classified advertising deadline is noon on the Monday before the date of publication. The minimum charge is \$3.75 for 10 words, and non-business ads can be purchased for 3 weeks at the price of 2. Just call us at (989) 872-2010 or fax your ad to (989) 872-3810. Don't forget to include a phone number.

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Register now for winter 2004 semester! SVSU offers evening classes at the Cass City campus. The semester starts Jan. 12. Financial aid and advisement available. Call the SVSU Admissions Office for further information. (800) 968-9500

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For appointments call: (989) 673-4464  
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No appointment necessary Open 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.  
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Washers, Dryers, Dishwashers, Microwaves, Stoves, Refrigerators, All Brands  
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Total Family Care  
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Phone 872-5010  
Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8-5

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8-5-21-1f

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Full line of tires  
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Computerized Alignments  
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Tune Ups, Oil Changes  
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For all your automotive needs, stop in today!  
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STATE LICENSED  
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8-8-10-1f

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Cleaning  
Don Dohn  
Cass City  
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8-7-10-1f

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Residential or  
Light commercial  
Seasonal Rates  
Insured  
872-5606  
8-11-26-1f

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CASS CITY, MICHIGAN  
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8-11-27-1f

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In Memory

**Mary Louise "Mary Lou" (Caister) Pallas**  
9-12-33 to 12-19-02  
  
"In Sweet Remembrance"  
Mary Lou retired after working 32 years at Walbro Corp. in Cass City, MI. Mary Lou's passion for Christ Jesus, overflowed at work, towards her family, at Tenderecare, and especially to her junior church class.  
Mary Lou served her Savior with a great love!  
Mary Lou loved taking her friends, grandchildren and family to Tenderecare every Thursday after work to have Bible study and to entertain faithfully for over 20 years.  
Mary Lou loved her children from church! They all called her Grandma. Mary Lou spent days preparing and making special lessons for her classes.  
Most of all Mary Lou loved her family, taking special care to love, and take care of their needs. Mary Lou was married to Herb Pallas for 51 years.  
Mary Lou loved to cook, write short stories of her life's memories, poetry, do embroidery, write letters, make lessons and especially to read her Bible. If you knew Mary Lou, you were on her prayer list! Because she wants to see you in Heaven!  
Mary Lou passed away at Tenderecare, Cass City, MI on December 19, 2002 after a long battle with her health. Mary Lou never gave up hope, or her faith! We miss you terribly, and we want you to have an "Obituary Remembrance" you deserve!  
Mary Lou was a member of Deford Community Church in Deford, MI. Pastor David Mercer officiated the funeral services. Burial was at Moore Twp. Cemetery, Snover, MI.  
We love you!!  
Husband Herbert Pallas; daughters: Judy (Jim) Boyce, Sandra (Dan) Widdis; son, Wayne Pallas; 13 grandchildren; 2 great-granddaughters; 4 great-grandsons; brothers: Arthur (Marjory) Caister, Darrell Duane (Janet) Caister; sisters: Joanne (Eldon) Beachy, Janet (Thomas) Schwannecke; many nieces, nephews, family and friends.  
Preceded to Heaven by: daughter, Karla Sue Pallas; nephew, Brian Caister; mother, Mary (Schweitzer) Caister; and father, Wilford Caister.  
12-12-24-1

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Services

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Certified Authorized Dealer of  
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8-10-8-1f

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All Work Guaranteed  
Hours:  
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Card of Thanks

THANK YOU Senior Class 2004 for the thoughts and prayers. Happy holidays! Love, Jenna Krueger.  
13-12-24-1

Help Wanted

**TRANSPORTATION CHAUFFEUR** - casual position. High school education is required, valid chauffeurs drivers' license, must have excellent communication skills and excellent customer service skills are essential. Competitive wages. Interested applicants may mail/fax/e-mail a resume to or apply in person at: Huron Medical Center, Human Resource Department, 1100 S. Van Dyke Rd., Bad Axe, MI 48413; Fax: (989) 269-5202; Email: edarr@hurmcom.com. EEO 11-12-24-1

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# Calendar of Events

Deadline for submitting items in the calendar is the Friday noon before publication.

## Wednesday, December 24

Thumb Retired Officers of Police Service (TROOPS) meets at Franklin Inn, Bad Axe at 11:30 a.m.

## Friday, December 26

Alcoholics Anonymous, 8 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

## Monday, December 29

American Red Cross Babysitter Class, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Marlette Community Hospital, 3270 Wilson St., Marlette. For more information or to register, please call Resource Coordinator Judy Mahaffy, RN at (989) 635-4349.

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## Sylvester Bukowski

Sylvester Bukowski, 91, of Sand Point, died Saturday, Dec. 13, 2003 at Courtney Manor Nursing Home, Bad Axe.

He was born Nov. 30, 1912 in Sigel Township to the late John E. and Martha (Perek) Bukowski.

He married Lucille Chinoski Nov. 25, 1932 at St. Mary Catholic Church, Parisville. She preceded him in death Jan. 1, 1973. He married Genevieve Vassallo Dec. 15, 1973.

Bukowski graduated from the Bingham #2 Township School and attended Ubyly High School. In 1932, he worked for Joe Block running a portable bean-picking machine until 1934, when he moved to Detroit to work for the Chrysler Dodge main plant in Hamtramck. He started farming in 1937 in Argyle Township, and kept working in Detroit until 1941. Bukowski sold his farm and bought a tavern in Argyle Township in 1943. In 1944, he sold the tavern and bought a farm in Austin Township. He was involved in farm and milk producing organizations for many years. In 1966, Bukowski crop farmed and worked at General Cable in Cass City. He started a Robo Car Wash in 1968 in Bay City. He sold the car wash in August of 1977 and retired. He lived in Deford until 1985 when he moved to Sand Point. He was a parishioner at St. Roch Catholic Church, Caseville; and a former parishioner at St. John Catholic Church, Ubyly.

Bukowski is survived by his wife, Genevieve; three sons: Ronald (Marlene) Bukowski of Metamora, Richard (Jinny) Bukowski of Lake Orion and Roger (Sharon) Bukowski of Palm Bay, Fla.; three daughters: Shirley Robinson of Sand Point, Virginia Schaffer of Marietta, Ga. and Jane (Robert) Deachin of Lake Orion; two step-sons: Richard (Mable) Vassallo of Silverwood and Ronald (Kathy) Vassallo of Vassar; a step-daughter, Shirley (Leonard) Lucik of North Branch; 34 grandchildren; 64 great-grandchildren; 4 great-great-grandchildren; and 12 step-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Frank Brooks; and a sister, Irene Maurer. Funeral mass was held Thursday, Dec. 18, at St. John Catholic Church, Ubyly, with the Rev. T.J. Fleming, pastor, officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

## Gertrude Erla

Gertrude C. "Gertie" Erla, 73, of Cass City, died Tuesday, Dec. 16, 2003 in St. Marys Medical Center, Saginaw.

She was born July 29, 1930 in Hamtramck to John and Genevieve (Kowalski) Erla. She never married.

Erla was a member of St. Pancratius Catholic Church. She is survived by brothers and sisters: Florence (Stanley) Pijanowski of Fairhaven, Richard "Dick" (Chris) Erla of Cass City, Lorraine Klimas of Sterling Heights, Delphine McKillop of Imlay City, Dan (Marlene) Erla of Cass City, Don (Mary Lou) Erla of Cass City, Chuck (Agnes) Erla of Cass City, Doris (Tom) Sieland of Marietta, Ga., Arnold (Sharon) Erla of Cass City, Marilyn Erla of Cass City, Clark (Pat) Erla of Cass City; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by an infant sister; her parents; and two brothers-in-law: Ted Klimas and Eugene McKillop.

Funeral services were held Friday, Dec. 19, at St. Pancratius Catholic Church, Cass City, with the Rev. Steve Fillion officiating.

# Obituaries

Interment was in the Elkland Township Cemetery. Memorials may be made to St. Pancratius Catholic Church.

## Robert Hammond

Robert "Bob" L. Hammond, 67, of Kingston, died Sunday Dec. 14, 2003 in his home after a short illness.

He was born May 14, 1936 in Gladwin to Oscar and Katherine (Camp) Hammond.

He married Carolyn C. Rucker Sept. 29, 1973 in Richmond.

Hammond served in the U.S. Army 101st Airborne. He worked for Bower Roller Bearing in Detroit for 19 years and then for All State Insurance as a claims representative for many years. He was a member of the New Haven VFW until they moved to Kingston three years ago.

Hammond is survived by his wife, Carolyn; children: Cheryl (Lindy) Crane of Kingston, Shelly (Kenneth) Meredith of Snover and Susan (Steven) Wynn of Unionville; 8 grandchildren; a brother, Richard O. (Jackie) Hammond of St. Clair Shores; two half-brothers: Patrick Hammond and Robert Hammond; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by two sisters: Beverly Tallberg and Earlene Walker; and infant twin brother and sister, Robert and Sally

Hammond; and his parents. Funeral services were held Thursday, Dec. 18, at Kranz Funeral Home, Kingston, with the Rev. Terry Butters of Kingston United Methodist Church officiating.

Interment was in the Kingston Cemetery. Memorials may be made to Kingston Rescue, United Hospice of Marlette or the Kingston United Methodist Church.

## Lula Glassford

Lula M. Glassford, 93, of Corunna, formerly of Kingston, died Friday, Dec. 19, 2003, at Shiawassee County Medical Care Facility, after a long illness.

She was born Oct. 1, 1910, in Kingston to Charles and Elta (Warner) Sanford.

Glassford attended school in the Kingston area, leaving upon her marriage in 1924. She worked as a nurse's aid at the Tuscola County Medical Care Facility, retiring after many years.

She is survived by her son, Lynn C. (Alma) Glassford of Clio; a daughter, Jean M. (Nickolas) Hoffman of Owosso; daughter-in-law, Elaine Glassford of Kingston; 15 grandchildren and many great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a son, James H. Glassford; and 2 sisters, Eunice Allen and Inez Gilmore.

Funeral services were held Monday, Dec. 22, at Kranz Funeral Home, Kingston, with the Rev. Terry Butters of the Kingston United Methodist Church officiating.

Interment will be in Kingston Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Tuscola County Medical Care Facility, Caro.

## Josephine McCarty

Josephine Mae McCarty, 89, of Austin Township, died Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2003 at Autumnwood of Deckerville. She was born May 8, 1914 in Argyle to the late Frank and Pauline (Fisher) Peters.

She married Mark M. McCarty on Oct. 2, 1934 at St. Joseph Catholic Church of Argyle. He preceded her in death Dec. 30, 1987.

McCarty attended the Argyle and Lang schools. Before she married, she worked in Port Huron and Detroit. She was a member of the Argyle, Ubyly and Bad Axe Senior Citizen Clubs. She was a lifelong member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Argyle.

McCarty is survived by three daughters: Ilene (Carl) Franzel of Ubyly, Judy (Duane) Free of Ubyly, and Paulette McCarty of Florida; a son, William (Beverly) McCarty of Rochester; 17 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; 6 step-grandchildren; 11 step great-grandchildren; a sister, Marie (Wally) Plevin of East China;

a brother-in-law, Patrick McCarty of Ubyly; and a sister-in-law, Mabel McCarty of Lake Orion.

She was preceded in death by two grandchildren: Mark Weltin and Janis Lautner; five brothers: Dolph, Virgil, Harold, Clifford and Edwin Peters; and two sisters: Pauline Peters and Everal Walker.

Funeral mass was held Saturday, Dec. 20, at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Argyle, with the Rev. T.J. Fleming, pastor, officiating. Burial was in the St. Ignatius Cemetery.

Arrangements were made by the Zinger-Smigielski Funeral Home, Ubyly.

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**BUY SPECIALS OF THE WEEK**

<p><b>2004 CHRYSLER TOWN &amp; COUNTRY FWD</b> V-6, Auto, Air, Cruise, Tilt, Power Mirrors, Windows &amp; Locks, Quad Buckets, Keyless Entry</p>  <p>Sale Price \$18,662 Employee Price \$17,772</p>	<p><b>*2004 PT CRUISER</b> Auto, Air, Cruise, CD, Power Locks &amp; Windows, Tilt</p>  <p>DCX EMPLOYEE 39 Month Lease \$112 Mo. OR BUY \$13,286</p>
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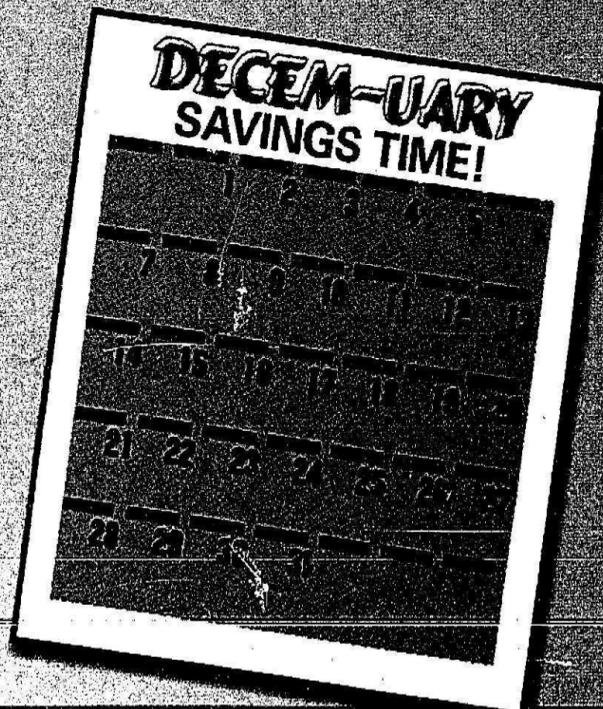
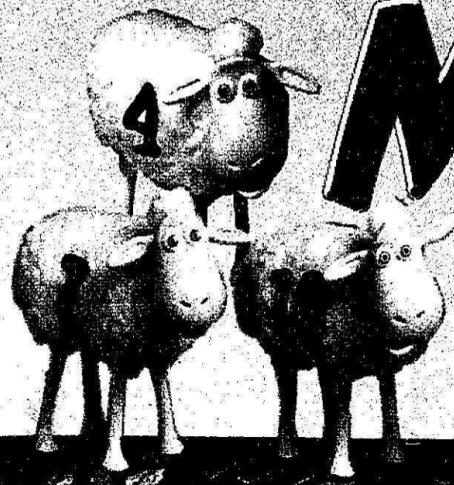
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