SOME harvesting, but then MORE rain!

Sunday should have been an average, normal day for Thumb Area farmers, but instead it was extremely special. It was the first day in more than two weeks most of them could get into their fields to harvest Navy Bean crops, which have been inundated in recent weeks by six times the average rainfall for this time of year.

But Sunday gave way to nearly two more inches of rain Monday—putting struggling farmers even further behind, in an extremely frustrating year.

Here’s Laker royalty!

LAKEK KING AND QUEEN candidates, above are, girls clockwise from bottom, Kathy Clabousch, Rhonda Bar, Bethanne Beachy and Ani Bahle.

King hopefuls, from left, are Lee Miller, Steve Wolfram, Tom Bear and Brad Krohn.

One of these Laker seniors will be crowned Queen and another will be King, to preside over 1986 Homecoming festivities this weekend. Class members will pick the Laker King Friday, but the Queen’s selection won’t be made public until halftime during Saturday’s 2 p.m. game hosting the Caro Tigers.

This year’s Laker Homecoming Parade kicks off (literally) at 10 a.m. Saturday in Elton. And, students and guests will enjoy the Homecoming Dance at 8 p.m. at the school gym.

Other school activities this week include float building, jersey day, tour day, fog day, teacher look-alike day plus green and white day.

Queen Erin!

Senior Erin Barton was chosen as Caseville High’s 1986 Homecoming Queen Saturday, and displays her winning smile.

It was a nice day all around for the Eagles, too, with a 36-0 football victory.

For details, see Pages 16-22.
FLOOD '86

Farms cope with non-stop rain

By Rich Sweeney

The page of flooding rain has soaked the cornfields nearly to the brim, and the farmers are doing their best to cope with the situation. The weather has been quite unpredictable, with sudden downpours and storms causing flooding in many areas. The cornfields are already starting to suffer from the excessive rainfall, and the farmers are working hard to keep their crops healthy.

The situation is particularly challenging for the farmers who rely on their crops for income. The rain has caused damage to the plants, and the farmers are struggling to maintain their yields. Despite the challenges, the farmers are determined to do their best to protect their crops.

On the farm WHERE TO GO FOR HELP

(List compiled by Cooperative Extension)

Local farmers very much appreciate the assistance of the following individuals and organizations. To schedule a visit, call 515-327-0242.

1) COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

- COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
- 2200 University Avenue
- Ames, IA 50011
- 515-294-2831

2) EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMUNICATIONS

- 300 East Waverly Drive
- Ames, IA 50010
- 515-294-5394

3) IOWA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

- 4601 Westown Parkway
- West Des Moines, IA 50266
- 515-281-9585

4) ASSOCIATION OF IOWA FARMERS AND CHILDREN

- 703 East 13th Street
- Des Moines, IA 50319
- 515-281-9585

5) IOWA FARM BUREAU AND COUNTY extension agents

- 2200 University Avenue
- Ames, IA 50011
- 515-294-2832

- 300 East Waverly Drive
- Ames, IA 50010
- 515-294-5394

- 4601 Westown Parkway
- West Des Moines, IA 50266
- 515-281-9585

- 703 East 13th Street
- Des Moines, IA 50319
- 515-281-9585

Recovery on the farm

At this time we have a lot of our farm markets that have gone away, but that represents a very small area of the farm that is affected, so we are not quite as affected by the water, but we are also affected by the run-off, so we are being hit very hard. Most of the farms that have been affected so far are completely ruined by flood damage. The rain has been so heavy that the fields are almost completely flooded.

The farmers are doing their best to cope with the situation. Some are working on dikes to prevent further damage, while others are trying to drain the fields. The situation is particularly challenging for the farmers who rely on their crops for income. The rain has caused damage to the plants, and the farmers are struggling to maintain their yields.

On the farm WHERE TO GO FOR HELP

(List compiled by Cooperative Extension)

Local farmers very much appreciate the assistance of the following individuals and organizations. To schedule a visit, call 515-327-0242.

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- 515-281-9585

- 703 East 13th Street
- Des Moines, IA 50319
- 515-281-9585
**From Under The Willow**

By Wanda Ecker

**As we see it editorially**

This must be the place...

W

We recently received a column from the Maupin, Texas, Journal and decided it would be interesting to share it with our readers, as it gives us a glimpse into the lives of people in a small town. The town of Maupin is not far from our location and it is a place that is special to us. The people there are friendly and the town is full of character. We think you will enjoy reading this column as much as we did.

The town of Maupin is a small community that is located in the Shenandoah Valley. It is a quiet town with a population of about 1,000 people. The town is known for its beautiful scenery and its friendly people.

The column begins with a description of the town and its surroundings. The author talks about the beauty of the Shenandoah Valley and how it has always been a special place to him. He goes on to describe the town itself, pointing out some of the notable features.

The author then talks about the people of Maupin. He describes them as friendly and welcoming, and he notes that they are always willing to help others. He also talks about the local businesses and the importance of supporting them.

The column ends with a final thought about the town and its people. The author expresses his love for Maupin and his appreciation for the town's beauty and its people.

We think this column is a wonderful representation of the town of Maupin and its people, and we hope you enjoy reading it as much as we did.

---

**Letter to the Editor**

Jan 1, 2023

We thought we'd share our favorite Christmas memory with you...

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**How does your garden grow?**

Robert A.

Area school lunch menus

*Based on Oct 31*

**District Governor visits Rotarians**

The Progress-Advocate — Wednesday, October 1, 2016

**The Progress-Advocate — Wednesday, October 1, 2016**

**The Progress-Advocate — Wednesday, October 1, 2016**

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**Registrations Notice for General Election**

**To the Qualified Electors**

Caswell Township, County of Huron, State of Michigan,

Notice is hereby given that I will be at my office at 6377 Main Street, Monday, October 1, 2016, last day to register to vote, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The 30th day, December 22, 2016, is the last day to register and register and list of the qualified electors in said Township as thereby properly apprised.

**Lenee's Landscaping Says "Fall Is Here!"**

It's Time To Tag Your Fall Trees For Autumn Planting!

**Health Problems Don't Improve With Time... Only With Care**

**We Care**

**Trees**

**Oriental Arbor-Vite**

**ASSORTED BULBS**

**COMPACIA PFEITZER JUNIPER**

**Selected Fruit Trees 50% Off**

Need Assistance? Ask Any Of Our Salespeople For Tips On Fall Planting Or Other Landscaping Questions.

---

**Pigpen Rotary is invited to District Conference at Macomb Valley Fish on May 10.**

---

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**To the Editor**

Jeff W. Smith

123 Main Street

Caswell Township, MI 48707

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my concern about the current state of the local government in our area. As a long-time resident of this community, I have seen a decline in the quality of services provided by the government over the past few years.

First and foremost, I am concerned about the state of our roads. They are in terrible condition and it is becoming increasingly difficult to travel through the area. I have also noticed a decrease in the number of police officers on the streets, which makes me feel unsafe.

Another issue that I find concerning is the lack of transparency in the decision-making process. It often seems as though decisions are made behind closed doors, without any input from the community. This has resulted in a lack of trust between the government and the people it serves.

I understand that funding is tight, but I believe that the government should be doing more to address these problems. I would like to see more efforts made to improve our roads, increase police presence, and increase public involvement in decision-making.

I urge the government to take these issues seriously and to work towards finding solutions that benefit our community. I am committed to working with the government to make our town a better place for everyone.

Sincerely,

Jeff W. Smith

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**Newspaper Edition**

**Health Problems Don't Improve With Time... Only With Care**

**We Care**

**Trees**

**Oriental Arbor-Vite**

**ASSORTED BULBS**

**COMPACIA PFEITZER JUNIPER**

**Selected Fruit Trees 50% Off**

Need Assistance? Ask Any Of Our Salespeople For Tips On Fall Planting Or Other Landscaping Questions.
Thumb obituaries

CLARENCE EISINGER

CLARENCE EISINGER, 87, of Pigeon, passed away May 27, 2016. He was born July 5, 1928, in Pigeon. He was married to the former Betty Jo Ostrop on May 12, 1948. His many years of service included 33 years as a teacher at Our Lady of the Lake School, 18 years as principal and superintendent for the Town of Pigeon School District, and 4 years as a dispatcher for the Bay County Sheriff's Office. He was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War. He is survived by his wife; sons, Mark (Jan) of Bay City, Louis (Lyn) of Wixom, and John (Lori) of Bay City; daughters, Mrs. Verl (Vivian) of Marquette, Betty (Wayne) of Bay City, and Nancy (Gary) of Big Rapids; 13 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren, 2 nieces, 3 nephews, and several other relatives. Services were held at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church. Burial was in Our Lady of the Lake Cemetery.

HERMEN SCHELLENBERG

HERMEN SCHELLENBERG, 82, of Bad Axe, passed away May 7, 2016. He was born in Germany. He is survived by his wife, Mary; son, Lee (Judy) of Midland; daughter, Mrs. Sandy (Larry) of Hesperia, California; 11 grandchildren; and 4 great-grandchildren. Services were held at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church. Burial was in Our Lady of the Lake Cemetery.

FREDERICK YOUNG

FREDERICK YOUNG, 84, of Owosso, passed away May 6, 2016. He was born in Owosso. He is survived by his wife, Virginia; sons, Bruce (Mary) of Owosso, Brian (Kathy) of Owosso, and Robert (Kim) of Owosso; daughters, Mrs. Nancy (Michael) of Owosso, Mrs. Lorraine (James) of Owosso, and Mrs. Joanne (Richard) of Owosso; 15 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren. Services were held at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church. Burial was in Our Lady of the Lake Cemetery.

Fannie Finkbeiner

Fannie Finkbeiner, age 92, of Owosso, passed away May 5, 2016. She was born in Owosso. She is survived by her children, Mr. and Mrs. Norman (Sharon) of Owosso, Mr. and Mrs. Richard (Ann) of Owosso, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth (Dorene) of Owosso, Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Marie) of Owosso, Mr. and Mrs. Donald (Joyce) of Owosso, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph (Sue) of Owosso, Mr. and Mrs. John (Margie) of Owosso, and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph (Anne) of Owosso; 25 grandchildren; and 27 great-grandchildren. Services were held at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church. Burial was in Our Lady of the Lake Cemetery.

Glen W. Wakefield

GLEN W. WAKEFIELD, age 90, of Owosso, passed away April 29, 2016. He was born in Owosso. He is survived by his wife, Mary; children, Mrs. Mary Daigle of Owosso, Mr. and Mrs. David (Rita) of Owosso, Mr. and Mrs. Michael (Barbara) of Owosso, Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Sharon) of Owosso, and Mr. and Mrs. James (Suzan) of Owosso; 16 grandchildren; and 29 great-grandchildren. Services were held at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church. Burial was in Our Lady of the Lake Cemetery.

BAY PORT

BURLINGTON

BURLINGTON, age 86, of Owosso, passed away April 12, 2016. He was born in Owosso. He is survived by his wife, Mary; children, Mr. and Mrs. Donald (Sharon) of Owosso, Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Joyce) of Owosso, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph (Sue) of Owosso, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph (Anne) of Owosso, Mr. and Mrs. John (Margie) of Owosso, and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth (Dorene) of Owosso; 12 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren. Services were held at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church. Burial was in Our Lady of the Lake Cemetery.

REVIEW OF THE WATERSHED PROGRAM

A meeting will be held Thursday, May 26, 2016, at 5:00 p.m., at the Bay County Extension Office, 1910 S. Center Road, Bay City. This meeting is sponsored by the Bay County Watershed Program and the Bay County Watershed Council. The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss the current status of the Watershed Program in Bay County and to receive public input.

Club news

McDonald Food and Family Seminar is an educational seminar that focuses on the importance of healthy eating and family involvement. The seminar is designed to help families understand the relationship between nutrition and health, and to provide practical, hands-on activities that families can use to improve their eating habits. The seminar is presented by a registered dietitian at the Bay County Extension Office, 1910 S. Center Road, Bay City. To register for the seminar, please call (989) 789-4234.

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Pancake & Sausage Breakfast
Veterans Memorial Home, Pigeon
Sunday, Oct 6
7 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Adults $3.75
Children under 12 $2.00

Homeowners insurance discounts from State Farm
DAVE ANDERSON
7575 Pigeon Road
Pigeon • 983-3441

West Michigan BEEF TENDERLOIN CANTONENSE
Ingredients and Method:
1/4 cup vegetable oil, heat in a skillet or sauce pan
1 pound tenderloin tips, 4 oz. each, broiled even in oil
Season beef with kosher salt - to taste Pepper - to taste
Fresh Garlic - to taste
Add to pan and saute briefly: 1 1/2 cups pico de gallo, 2 tsp chili con carne
1/4 cup Black Chinese mushrooms
2 water chestnuts, peeled and sliced
1/4 cup red bell pepper, sliced thin
1/4 cup yellow bell pepper, sliced thin
Add:
1/2 tablespoons dry sherry
1 cup Kow Suey sauce (below) and cook rapidly until meat is medium rare. Serve immediately.

KOW SAUCE
Ingredients and Method:
1 1/2 cups beef consomme
2 cups chicken broth
1/2 cup soy sauce, light
1/2 cup soy sauce, dark
1/2 tsp salt
1/2 tsp pepper
1/2 tsp garlic powder
1/2 tsp onion powder
1/4 tsp red pepper
1/8 tsp cumin
1/8 tsp cinnamon
1/8 tsp chili powder
1/4 tsp paprika
1/8 tsp allspice

CREAM OF POTATO SOUP
Ingredients and Method:
1 small onion
1 teaspoon finely chopped garlic
1/4 cup finely chopped vegetable
1/2 cup finely chopped potato
1/2 cup finely chopped onion
2 cups milk
1 1/2 cups cream
1 1/2 cups sharp cheddar cheese, shredded
1/2 cup finely chopped green pepper
1/2 cup finely chopped celery
1/2 cup finely chopped tomato
2 cups chicken broth
6 cups water
1 1/2 cups flour
3/4 cup half and half
8 cups milk
1/2 cup finely chopped parsley
1/2 cup finely chopped chives

Western BEEF TENDERLOIN CANTONENSE
THE FOODS OF MICHIGAN
by Linda Hughes

Celebrating MICHIGAN's
Restaurant Month

What's heating in your upholsterer's shop?

25 YEARS AGO
Piggin and Schmitz lumber mill in Sturgis is now
owned by Michigan Lumber of Grand Rapids. They are
a division of the lumber company of the same name.

20 YEARS AGO
A number of Michigan dairy farmers have
sold their farms to out-of-state buyers.

15 YEARS AGO
The Michigan Dairy Farm shows are being
held throughout the state.

10 YEARS AGO
The Michigan State Fair is being held.

5 YEARS AGO
The National Dairy Show is being held.

The Progress-Advocate Wednesday, October 1 to Tuesday, October 7, 1980

The Past in Print...
Mrs. Charles Herzig of Pigeon, and Albertine Merkle of Evart, were united in marriage by the Rev. Leo Zelich in the Evart Methodist Church on April 12. The couple is the son and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Zelich, respectively.

The bride was given away by her father, who also served as the officiant for the ceremony. The groom was accompanied by his father, who served as the best man. The couple exchanged vows in front of a布置华丽的白色鲜花装饰，还有一面写着“LOVE GROWS THIS DAY”的旗帜。

The wedding party included the bride and groom, their parents, and a number of close friends and family members. A reception followed at the Evart Community Center, where the couple enjoyed a delicious meal with their guests.

The bride wore a traditional white wedding dress with lace accents, while the groom donned a classic black tuxedo. They were accompanied by their flower girls, who carried bouquets of white roses, and their ring bearers, who carried rings on a small saucer.

The wedding was a beautiful celebration of love and commitment, and the couple is now planning a happy life together.
WHAT IS 4-H?

During National 4-H Week, Oct. 5-11, nearly five million 4-H members throughout the U.S. will be observing the week with activities centered on this year’s theme “4-H for Youth, For America.” This national theme is to challenge 4-H members to develop their fullest potential for the benefit of their home community, state and nation. National 4-H Week provides a chance to celebrate the tremendous benefits 4-H programs in 3250 counties of the U.S. and its territories around the world have for more than 8 million youth in educational programs. 

More than 4-H programs are carried on in America, ranging from foods and nutrition, arts, woodworking, field crops, livestock, personal appearance, home, safety, conservation, possession and understanding and leadership. All offers young people the chance to acquire real life skills, while developing leadership and citizenship abilities.

4-H activities for area youths help them get involved in hobbies, travel and more enjoyment!

October 5-11, 1986

New 4-H Programs Possible
Arts and crafts projects are the most popular 4-H projects going now in Michigan. About 40,000 members use them to express creative potential, skills and talents. The arts program includes drawing, painting, arts, drama, dance and visual arts. Crafts programs in Michigan include ceramics, woodworking, food arts, cooking and more.

Study 4-H Program Wants: A Michigan State University survey two years ago was performed to learn what quality, relevant programs are wanted by 15 to 19-year-olds for 4-H. Most 4-H members have positive self-esteem, the study showed, and half the youth can not recognize limits of family responsibilities. Boys and girls surveyed were interested in career study — with high preference fields such as electronics, wildlife management, bee, computer programming and architecture, and girls sought unique traditional roles such as nursing, teaching, child care and secretarial.

More and more job alternatives are being considered by young people today, making the day the best as far as 4-H programs are concerned. What are the 4-H projects of future projects are possible — and 4-H leaders will continue studying the developments and directions of 4-H programs statewide and locally.

The Progress-Advocate — October 1 to October 7, 1986 — 13
**ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE THIS SUNDAY AND EVERY SUNDAY**

**OVERCOME ALL YOUR FEARS WITH THE BULWARK OF FAITH**

Fear is an emotion, whether well-grounded or not, which sooner or later strikes all of us and we all have our own brand of it. Some are afraid of the unknown, criticism, rejection, an impending illness, and even a routine trip to the dentist. What are you doing? We are offering a solution to your problem. Study the Bible, and attend your Church of Worship regularly. This will help you to defeat your imaginary fears and teach you to cope with the real ones. So take just a little time to sit down with the Bible. Your heart, your hope, your prayers, and your faith shine through.

— Henry W. Longfellow

*This shall not be afraid for the fear of man...nor...the...peacemaker...nor...the...sinful.*

— Psalm 91:5, 6

**THESE AREA CHURCHES WELCOME YOU TO JOIN THEIR SERVICES**

- **BETHEL BIBLE CHURCH**
  1503 S. 19th St.
  Phone: 453-2238
  Service: 10:30 AM

- **COOPERATIVE ELEVATOR CO.**
  2500 S. 20th St.
  Phone: 453-2111

- **DEUTERONOMY**
  2400 S. 20th St.
  Phone: 453-2121

- **DUTCH KETTLE RESTAURANT**
  1400 S. 20th St.
  Phone: 453-2323

- **GETTYS IMPLEMENT COMPANY**
  1600 S. 20th St.
  Phone: 453-2324

- **GOD'S HOUSE**
  1200 S. 19th St.
  Phone: 453-2235

- **HEATON ENTERPRISES, INC.**
  2400 S. 20th St.
  Phone: 453-2325

- **KRAFT, INC.**
  1300 S. 20th St.
  Phone: 453-2312

- **NETTIE & FAUPEL, P.C.**
  1100 S. 20th St.
  Phone: 453-2311

- **PEOPLE'S OIL & GAS CO., INC.**
  1500 S. 20th St.
  Phone: 453-2312

- **PIONEER MOTOR SALES, INC.**
  1400 S. 20th St.
  Phone: 453-2311

- **PROFESSOR A. K. JOHNSON**
  1300 S. 20th St.
  Phone: 453-2310

- **QUINN'S ENTERPRISES, INC.**
  1200 S. 20th St.
  Phone: 453-2311

- **RESUME ENTERPRISES, INC.**
  1100 S. 20th St.
  Phone: 453-2312

- **The Salvation Army**
  1400 S. 20th St.
  Phone: 453-2313

- **THUMB NATIONAL BANK & TRUST CO.**
  1500 S. 20th St.
  Phone: 453-2311

- **SUE'S ENTERPRISES, INC.**
  1200 S. 20th St.
  Phone: 453-2311

This Page Sponsored by the Following Community Merchants:
Lakers crush Vulcans in home opener

By RICH SCHWARTZMAN

Although their teams had been tied in the previous game, the Lakers and the Matadors were uncharacteristic in their first game of the season last Friday. The Lakers scored a convincing 87-74 victory over the Matadors to open the season with seven points in the standings. Los Angeles scored 25 points in the first half, with Kelli Underwood’s 8-point effort leading the way.

The Lakers’ Tony Love scored 17 points, followed by Kelli Underwood with 18 and 22 points. The Matadors’ Matt Robbs scored a game-high 23 points, followed by Collin Holcomb with 17 and 21 points. Despite their efforts, the Matadors fell short in the final minutes, as the Lakers maintained their lead.

Western Thumble League Bowling Roundup

**PIGIONE THURSDAY**

**LADIES**

1. **Andy Roeseler**
2. **Labe Boatwright**
3. **Sherry Babb**
4. **Grace Shepherd**

**MEN**

1. **Mike Conley**
2. **Tom McRae**
3. **Bill Faller**
4. **Mike Conley**

**TUESDAY**

**LADIES**

1. **Dawn Smith**
2. **Susan Roeseler**
3. **Sherry Babb**
4. **Grace Shepherd**

**MEN**

1. **Ed McRae**
2. **Bob Faller**
3. **Mike Conley**
4. **Bill Faller**

**THURSDAY**

**LADIES**

1. **Dawn Smith**
2. **Susan Roeseler**
3. **Sherry Babb**
4. **Grace Shepherd**

**MEN**

1. **Ed McRae**
2. **Bob Faller**
3. **Mike Conley**
4. **Bill Faller**

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT BOWLING**

**LADIES**

1. **Dawn Smith**
2. **Susan Roeseler**
3. **Sherry Babb**
4. **Grace Shepherd**

**MEN**

1. **Ed McRae**
2. **Bob Faller**
3. **Mike Conley**
4. **Bill Faller**

**FRIDAY NIGHT BOWLING**

**LADIES**

1. **Dawn Smith**
2. **Susan Roeseler**
3. **Sherry Babb**
4. **Grace Shepherd**

**MEN**

1. **Ed McRae**
2. **Bob Faller**
3. **Mike Conley**
4. **Bill Faller**

**MONDAY NIGHT BOWLING**

**LADIES**

1. **Dawn Smith**
2. **Susan Roeseler**
3. **Sherry Babb**
4. **Grace Shepherd**

**MEN**

1. **Ed McRae**
2. **Bob Faller**
3. **Mike Conley**
4. **Bill Faller**
REAL ESTATE AND AUCTION — SATURDAY, OCT. 4, 1986 — 10 A.M.

Hawker House is planning to open a new restaurant. The following is a list of the restaurants that are opening soon:

- "Mackinac Island" (a restaurant on Mackinac Island)
- "Lakeview" (a restaurant near Lakeview)
- "Shoreline" (a restaurant near the shoreline)
- "Pinehurst" (a restaurant near Pinehurst)
- "Downtown" (a restaurant in downtown)

The list includes restaurants that are opening soon. The week before opening, they will be featured on the front page of the newspaper. The restaurants include a variety of cuisines and locations. Some of the restaurants are located near water bodies, while others are located in downtown areas. The restaurants are expected to attract a diverse range of customers.

RETAIL

- "Mackinac Island" (a restaurant on Mackinac Island)
- "Lakeview" (a restaurant near Lakeview)
- "Shoreline" (a restaurant near the shoreline)
- "Pinehurst" (a restaurant near Pinehurst)
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BUSINESS AS USUAL AT PIGEON LIONS

The Pigeon Lions Club held their regular meeting at the Pigeon Lions Club Headquarters, 123 Main Street, Pigeon, MI 49764. A motion was passed to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The club also discussed the upcoming fall events and fundraisers. The club is looking forward to a successful year.

Thumb area OUTDOORS

The Thumb area outdoors is a popular destination for outdoor enthusiasts. The area offers a wide range of activities, including hiking, fishing, and boating. The Thumb area is home to several lakes, including Lake Huron, Lake Michigan, and Lake Superior. These lakes provide excellent opportunities for fishing and boating. The area also has several parks, including Dunes State Park, Saugatuck Dunes State Park, and Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. These parks offer hiking trails, beaches, and other outdoor activities. The Thumb area is a great place for outdoor enthusiasts to explore and enjoy the natural beauty of the area.

HOMER BOUCH, OWNER

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September 10th, 2006

News that counts from HURON COUNTY

Garage Sale
A Great Way to Sweep Up Extra Cash!
Phone 453-2331

Henderson Sales
1300 Pigeon Rd. - Bad Axe - 289-7976

USED EQUIPMENT
 Vănї 11/2 g

Tractors
1-1/2 T BT25T
CST 1-1/2 T

Combines
1-1/2 T JD 1250

Special thanks to Farm, Ma Quinn, Kathy & Moms for making our baby shower so special. Also to everyone who came bearing gifts to share in our happiness. God Bless you all!

Dave & Marra

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THE PROGRESS-ADVANCE
Just fill out the handy coupon below and send in today.
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STATE: __________________________
ZIP: _____________________________
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Sugar Beets Are Bright Spot In Fall Crop Situation

As it is with all crops, heavy rains are affecting the area’s sugar beets. Some fields are dead, according to Davis Sunderland, vice-president of agriculture of the Michigan Sugar Company, with an estimated 2,500 to 1,000 acres throughout the company’s four plant areas affected.

In the Sebewaing plant area, somewhere between 400-500 acres are affected by the rains and wet fields, he added.

A smashing new record was set in the spring, as Sebewaing plant area growers planted more than 25,000 acres to sugar beets. Last year there were about 25,000 acres, planted to beets.

How damaging the effects are will depend on rain conditions from here on. Sunderland explained, stating that neither yields nor sugar content are too adversely affected at this point.

“We’re ready to start harvesting beets just as soon as growers can get their harvesting machinery into the fields,” he said.

The company is still looking at “better than 30 tons per acre at this point,” (Friday morning), Sunderland explained, and despite wet fields, quality and purity of beets is still very good, too.

“IF THE RAIN WOULD STOP” See-BEETS-Page 2

MICHIGAN SUGAR COMPANY OFFICIALS are optimistic about this year’s crop despite individual reports of flood damage. With 25,000 acres planted in the Sebewaing plant’s growing area, yields are projected at +20 tons per acre.

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Michigan Loses 1,000 Farms In Year

LANSING - Michigan has another 1,000 farms during the past year, according to the Federal/State Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service, reducing the total Michigan farms to just 12,000 farms. It's a record low since the survey began in 1936, with approximately 11,000 farms giving "farm" each year, according to USDA. Total land in farms is at 11,688,000 acres, a decline of 14.4% from last year. The average size of a farm is 1,000 acres, up from 980 acres in 1995. Under USDA figures, 1 farm is defined as "a place of business that is used as a place of business for the purpose of producing and selling agricultural products.

They Cleared The Land....

BY PERRY HARRISON

Like many farmers, land is cleared of trees and brush to make room for crops. But one family, the Bines, cleared every inch of their property to make room for their new home. The Bines family has lived on this land for generations, and they wanted to make the most of their property. They cleared every inch of their land, including the trees and brush. It was a difficult process, but they were determined to make it happen. The Bines family has lived on this land for generations, and they wanted to make the most of their property. They cleared every inch of their land, including the trees and brush. It was a difficult process, but they were determined to make it happen.

On behalf of MICHIGAN SUGAR CO. we wish our BEET GROVERS a Successful and Safe HARVEST.

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ducers, no matter where they live.

"Hello. I'm over here under the truck," was the way Jim Selys of Elkton greeted the reporter who ar-

rived for an interview. The dairy farmer was engaged in an activity to which he must resort more and more as a result of the federal govern-

ment's "whole herd buy-out plan" - repairing old equip-

ment.

Cutting expenses by pitch-

ing old equipment himself and cutting down on hired help on the farm are the ways Selys is coping with in-

come reduction as the government takes a cut of his milk check to help pay for the buy-out program.

"I'm just trying to do a better job with what we're using now," he says.

To increase the size of his herd from the 60 cows being milked and 36-40 replacement heifers, Selys points out he would have to make a substantial investment in new equipment and addi-
tional shelter for the animals.

"It's a dove man parlor built back in 1966," he jokes about his milking setup.

With a bleak outlook in dairy farming, he is uncer-
tain what the future holds for him. The Elkton man hoped to take advantage of the buy-

out plan, but his bid was just 30 cents over the amount the government set for the cut-

d-off price. "I hope it does some good eventually, but right now all I see is a smaller check for the same amount of milk," he says.

Now he believes he can't afford to get out of dairy far-

ming, at least in the near future.

Although Selys took over the dairy operation from his father, sons Chad and Dutch don't plan to carry on that tradition. Chad is a freshman in college this year andtrying a career in law en-

forcement. Lack! High freshman Dutch likewise has little interest in dairy farm-

ing. These decisions don't upset their parents at all.

"We never encouraged them to be dairy farmers. We talked college to them over twice they started high school. Maybe one of them will be a doctor and support us," Selys says with a smile in his eye.

Although other farmers might become depressed with talk about gloom and doom in agriculture, Selys keeps a bright outlook. He attributes that attitude to his involvement in Jaycees some years back, which im-

pressed on him the need to keep a positive mental outlook.

To achieve that goal, Selys points to his involvement in community activities. He en-

joys working with young baseball players in the sum-

mer, is a member of the volunteer fire depart-

ment and is involved with his wife Diane in church ac-

tivites.

"It gives you something to talk about besides what's go-

ing wrong on the farm," says Sely.

"If a guy goes in a rut he has to find a way out him-

self," he adds.

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