HURON, TUSCOLA VALUES DROP 31% IN 1987 AG SALES
Western Thumb Area school districts and local governments already reeling from property valuation drops of one-third and more in the past two years, can expect more of the same when 1988 assessments are formally announced.

That's the word from Huron and Tuscola County government leaders, as 1987 ag property sales figures are compiled.

In HURON COUNTY, Western Thumb Township will likely experience 30% valuations declines, says County Commissioner Bruce Kohl (R-Shebaing). Townships of Winorn, Shebaing, Fair Haven, McKinley and Caseville Townships are expected to see drops of up to 31%, as will portions of Brooklyn and Chandler Townships, Kohl says.

Where farm land values averaged $1300 per acre last year, they're expected to drop to $900 per acre in the Western Area, Southern and mid-county townships with 1987 values of $1000 per acre will fall to an average of $600 per acre, or 31%, when final equalization figures are in, Kohl says.

In central and northern Huron County, the decline is 30%, from average prices of $1000 per acre to $700 this year. The figures are based on sale prices of the 42 farm parcels sold in Huron County in 1987.

TUSCOLA COUNTY VALUES are dropping about 18% this year, says Equalization Director Del Graf. That's down from the state's biggest decline, at 21% in 1986. Graf says, but it too will have an impact with schools, townships and counties trying to balance budgets.

In Shebaing Township, the State Equalized Value (SEV) on ag land will likely drop from $232.1 million last year to $83.9 million this year, meaning the county and other governmental units will receive fewer tax dollars for the same amount of taxes levied compared with last year. Ag land is roughly half of Tuscola's total property, which will decline by $75 million in all this year – to $307 million from $482 million in 1987.

WHAT'S AHEAD? Kohl and other county leaders say the tax structure must be reformed to avoid such dramatic value swings, which have wiped out "paper profits" farmers and others have used as equity in financing farm operations in the past years.

But, Kohl says, since this is an election year, don't expect major financing changes on the state level.

OWENDALE BANK CLOSING The Owendale office of First of America Bank-Thumb Area will discontinue operations in that site at 7253 Main Street, after Friday, Feb. 26.

PGA.Thumb President and CEO James Krause says branch operations and staff will be consolidated with the Gagetown Office, six miles to the south, and that branch

"Don't wait to be asked. Offer your help once in a while and humbly.

These were the words of departing Pigeon Chamber of Commerce President Mike LePage, as he handed over the gavel to new president Dave Jarvis at the organizational annual meeting last Monday, Jan. 25 at the Specialty House on Main Street.

LePage, who had served as President for two years, offered praise for the board which served with him and for the many people who offered their support during his leadership.

In his closing remarks, he said to Jarvis, "You have inherited a second chance to make a first impression.

WHAT A YEAR: In ending his presidency, LePage completed a year in which the Pigeon Chamber of Commerce took on the largest project ever – the 1987 Christmas Car Giveaway.

According to LePage, Chamber members who responded to a survey conducted by the Chamber Board, the Chamber was highly pleased with the promotion, its effect on the community, the business climate, etc.

The Christmas promotion overall was a $15,972 effort, when all advertising and expenses are included. Nearly 70 Chamber members, each chipped in a special $100 assessment to help fund the new car.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: The general public now has a chance to respond to a survey as a way to learn about the Chamber, which printed on page 2 of this week's Progress Advance.

All in all, 90% of the respondents felt that the promotion marked Pigeon as a "progressive community," and over 90% feel that another promotion of similar size should be planned for 1988.

OCTOBER TO DESTROY TIME: With 1988 well underway, the Chamber is in the beginning stages of planning for the 1988 Farmers' Festival, coming July 27-31. Overall Farmers' Festival Chairwoman Linda Cuykendall, is negotiating a commitment from the volunteerism and she approached the Chamber members in attendance for their help.

A mailing has already been distributed to those who helped with past projects, entailing their support this year and, others are invited to submit new ideas.

"We're looking for new activities and also hope to revitalize events like the art show this year, which had been very successful," said LePage.

"Maybe a children's cooking contest, with politicians as judges, would be an idea to pursue." FAREWELL, MELD: Stepping up the Pigeon Chamber Board of Directors are Mike LePage, Neal Eicher, Kent McKenzie and Al Abbott. In other remarks, LePage said, "I'll still be around. I don't plan to retire from my Chamber work. I plan to help work on Pigeon's Downtown Beautification project and other projects. You're still going to hear from me."

Added to the Board roster are new members Rhonda Buehler of Dr. Douglas Buehler, Operonist; Billy Eich of Universal Printing Co., Linda Garvey of Village Variety and Marty Caverly of Pigeon Telephone Co.

JOHN PERRI HONORED: Long-time Orr's Drug Store owner and Chamber Board member, Orr's owner John Orr was feted with applause and a plaque from the Chamber Board, in recognition of his 40-plus years of community service.

"Pigeon has been good to me," said Orr, in accepting the honor. "I tell you, you and your Board have done an exceptionally good job this year."

BUDGET CUTS: The Chamber had overall expenses of $6,833, including more than $3,875 for Farmers' Festival expenses, $3,515 for Las Vegas Night costs, $2,961 for

Dave Jarvis to head Pigeon Chamber

"The time has come to make a decision and to take a step forward, to find solutions to the problems that we are faced with."

Dave Jarvis was named the new president of the Pigeon Chamber of Commerce last Monday, Jan. 25 at the Specialty House on Main Street.

Jarvis, who recently purchased the Pigeon Bar, has been involved in the business community for several years and is looking forward to his new position.

"Dave is a strong backbone of the Chamber," said former President Mike LePage. "He's a man that's interested in the community and its progress."

LePage, who has served as president for the past two years, praised the Chamber Board for their hard work and dedication.

"The Chamber has done an excellent job in planning and executing major events such as the Christmas Car Giveaway," he said. "I believe that the Chamber is in a strong position to continue its growth and development."

Jarvis is looking forward to continuing the Chamber's efforts and working with the community to bring about positive changes.

"I am committed to the success of our Chamber and the growth of our community," he said. "I believe that the Chamber can play a significant role in helping our community achieve its goals."
Parents say 'yes' to co-op preschool

By DALLI RUBINO

Parents of 5 preschool age children met last week to receive an overview of the Preschool Educators Association (PEA) Parent Educator program. The meeting was held at a classroom at 313 East 13th St. Parents brought young children to the meeting and also enjoyed refreshments. A discussion of the various phases of the program followed. Parents were encouraged to sign up for the program and return the application by Jan. 30, 1983.

Parents who have children in the program can expect to hear much more about the program and related events in the coming weeks.

Parents have reservations about the program, which includes activities related to the children's development and learning. Parents also have concerns about the cost of the program and the availability of spaces for their children. The program includes activities such as art projects, music, and science experiments.

Parents were encouraged to sign up for the program and return the application by Jan. 30, 1983. Parents were also reminded to contact the program coordinator with any questions or concerns.

Pigeon Chabers of Commerce
Shopper's Survey

The Pigeon Chamber of Commerce is asking you to participate in their survey. They are interested in your opinions and thoughts on their services. They will be using this information to improve their services and provide better customer service.

Please complete the survey and return it to the Pigeon Chamber of Commerce by mail or via email. Your feedback is important to us and will be used to make improvements.

Laker Band to perform in Lansing

The Laker Band, directed by Dr. Robert Johnson, will perform at the annual Band Festival at the Lansing Community College. This is a great opportunity to enjoy the music of the Laker Band.

Please come out and support the Laker Band as they perform their musical selections. The performance will take place at 7:30 PM on Thursday, Jan. 18, 2018. The event is free and open to the public.

Sybeyan meeting this Friday

A meeting will be held on Jan. 19, 2018, at 7:00 PM at the Sybeyan School. The meeting will be open to the public and will provide an opportunity for discussion and feedback.

If you have any questions or concerns about the meeting, please contact the Sybeyan School at 555-1234. We look forward to seeing you there.
Bad news and then... the lamb!

BY WANDA ECKERT

There are days when the news is more bad than good. But today, as I sit down to write, I am surprised by the unexpected joy that has filled my heart. It seems that even in the darkest of times, there is always hope to be found.

The day began with a phone call from an old friend who had been through a difficult time recently. She shared her struggles and concerns with me, but also expressed her gratitude for my presence in her life. It was a reminder of the power of friendship and the importance of staying connected.

Later in the morning, I received a surprise invitation to attend a local event. The opportunity to connect with others and participate in positive activities brought a smile to my face. It was a reminder of the many wonderful opportunities that exist in my community.

As I reflect on these moments, I am reminded of the resilience and strength of the human spirit. Even in the face of adversity, there is always hope to be found. So, let us embrace the unexpected joys in our lives and never stop searching for the beauty that surrounds us.

The news is not all bad, but it’s not all good either. There are days when the world seems to be falling apart, and other days when we can celebrate small victories. But one thing is certain: we must continue to support each other and find ways to stay connected.

So, as I close this letter, I urge you to look for the good in your own lives. Look for the moments of joy and the people who make your world a better place. And remember, even in the darkest of times, there is always hope to be found.

Wanda Eckert
Engagements

Scott - Negaro

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Auclair celebrate the engagement of their children, Mr. and Mrs. Brian Auclair and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Auclair. The couple plans to be married in the spring.

Mrs. Larry Burt and Mrs. Bobbutto celebrate the engagement of their children, Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Burt and Mr. and Mrs. John Burt. The couple plans to be married in the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. George Keating celebrate the engagement of their children, Mr. and Mrs. Sarah Keating and Mr. and Mrs. John Keating. The couple plans to be married in the fall.

Hospice class to begin

Friends of Life will present a new hospice class training session on Thursday, beginning at 9 a.m. The class will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and cover various topics related to hospice care. The class is free to attend, and all interested individuals are encouraged to register.

Don't Forget Your Valentine

When: The Pigeon Advance, 02-14-19
Place: St. Patrick's Church, Pigeon

Celebrate Valentine's Day with these special events happening in and around Pigeon on February 14th.

Valentine's Day Specials

Lauren's Pharmacy

729 Michigan Avenue
Pigeon • 439-2712

SAY, I LOVE YOU THIS FEBRUARY 14...

With one of more than 1200 Valentine's from American Greetings. Each with a message of love from Cupid for that special person.

Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Anderson

Mary Anderson and Bruce Anderson celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on February 14th.

Achievements

Robert K. Kindt has been named to the Jordan College Foundation Board of Directors. He is a retired accountant and currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Chamber of Commerce.

Valentine Dance

Dances With Cupid Saturday Evening Feb. 13th

Pigeon VFW Hall Feb. 13

3:00 Admission Doors Open 7:00 The Music Of D.J.

SOUND TRACK MIX 6:30 To 12 Midnight

Laurens Pharmacy

729 Michigan Avenue
Pigeon • 439-2712

Diamond Sale

20% OFF

A Diamond Sale From February 13th

We have a beautiful collection to show you... Handcrafted with passionate detail and nothing ordinary about these diamonds.

Available at:

- Private Diamond Viewing Room
- Credit Terms Available
- Same Day Service

Diamonds Available: 02-13-19

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Ewing

Kent McKenzie Jewelers

19 SOUTH MAIN STREET • 609-2308 • PIGEON

Kent McKenzie Jewelers

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Don't Miss Satow's Semi Annual Drapery and Window Covering Sale!

Now Through February 28th

SAVE on custom made fashions for your home

Don't Miss Satow's Semi Annual Drapery and Window Covering Sale!

Now Through February 28th

SAVE on custom made fashions for your home

SAVE 15% - 25% on all orders for custom made draperies, cornice, valances and accessories.

SAVE 30% on vertical blinds and pleated shades

SAVE 10% on Kincheloe drapery hardware

Get our experienced personnel to help you with your decorating plans!!

Satow's Fine Furnishings

111 S. Main Street

609-2308

Serving the Thumb Since 1919

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Mary Anderson and Bruce Anderson celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on February 14th.

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Mr. and Mrs. Bill Ewing

Kent McKenzie Jewelers

19 SOUTH MAIN STREET • 609-2308 • PIGEON
ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE THIS SUNDAY

For most of us who attend our House of Worship every week, it is not just a matter of routine or a feeling that we have an obligation to be there. We do it because we have learned that it is the best place to solve our troubles. There is a great deal of peace and comfort that we cannot find anywhere else. This is not to say that we must become all church people or that we must grow ignorant of the world. It is only to say that it is one of the richest gifts that can come to us. It is one of the richest gifts that we can give to the world. It is one of the richest gifts that we can give to ourselves.

For most of us who attend our House of Worship every week, it is not just a matter of routine or a feeling that we have an obligation to be there. We do it because we have learned that it is the best place to solve our troubles. There is a great deal of peace and comfort that we cannot find anywhere else. This is not to say that we must become all church people or that we must grow ignorant of the world. It is only to say that it is one of the richest gifts that can come to us. It is one of the richest gifts that we can give to the world. It is one of the richest gifts that we can give to ourselves.

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Obituaries

NEILAN M. HOFFMAN
1917 - 1996

Neilan M. Hoffman, age 79, of Pigeon, formerly of Eileen, passed away on Friday, February 10, 1995. He was born on Oct. 23, 1917, in Eileen, the son of Edwin and Hattie (Schuch) Hoffman. He was married to the former Edith Quots March 1, 1941. He was preceded in death by his wife on March 14, 1988, and by his son, Neil A. Hoffman, who was born in 1942. He is survived by his son, Neil A. Hoffman of Pigeon; his daughter, Mrs. Jerry (Hoffman) Quots of Eileen; his sister, Mrs. Lois (Hoffman) Montgomery of Eileen; his brother, Charles Hoffman of Eileen; and many nieces and nephews. He was a member of the Farmers Union, the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Lions Club, and the Masonic Lodge. He was active in his community and a dedicated member of his church. His funeral was held on Saturday, February 11, 1995, at the Eileen Christian Church, with Rev. Bill Quots officiating. Interment was at the Eileen Cemetery.

ELIZABETH MANDICH
1911 - 1995

Elizabeth Mandich, age 84, of Pigeon, passed away on December 30, 1995. She was born on July 17, 1911, in Cleveland, Ohio, daughter of the late Anna and Isidore Mandich. She was a member of the St. Anthony Church and the Ladies Auxiliary. She was preceded in death by her husband, John Mandich, who passed away on July 17, 1995. She is survived by her son, Robert Mandich of Detroit; her daughter, Mrs. John (Mandich) Putz of Royal Oak; her brother, John Mandich of Cleveland; her sister, Mrs. Anna Mandich of Cleveland; and her nieces and nephews. She was a member of the St. Anthony Church and the Ladies Auxiliary. Her funeral was held on January 2, 1996, at the St. Anthony Church, with Rev. William Stumpf officiating. Interment was at the Forest Hill Cemetery.

MARTHA GARDNER
1905 - 1996

Martha Gardner, age 91, of Pigeon, passed away on December 30, 1995. She was born on April 29, 1905, in Marietta, Ohio, daughter of the late John and Mary (Cotter) Gardner. She was married to Alvin Gardner on April 29, 1923. She was preceded in death by her husband, Alvin Gardner, who passed away on November 19, 1988. She is survived by her daughters, Mrs. Mary (Gardner) Martin of Pigeon, and Mrs. Joan (Gardner) Rose of Pigeon; her brother, John Gardner of Marietta; and her nieces and nephews. She was a member of the St. Anthony Church and the Ladies Auxiliary. Her funeral was held on January 2, 1996, at the St. Anthony Church, with Rev. William Stumpf officiating. Interment was at the Forest Hill Cemetery.

EDWARD M. MILEWICKI
1923 - 1995

Edward M. Milewski, age 72, of Pigeon, passed away on December 30, 1995. He was born on January 1, 1923, in Pigeon, son of the late Edward and Mary (Glass) Milewski. He was married to the former Mary Glass on January 1, 1947. He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Milewski, who passed away on January 1, 1987. He is survived by his daughter, Mrs. John (Milewski) Rose of Pigeon; his son, Edward M. Milewski, Jr., of Pigeon; his brother, John Milewski of Pigeon; and his nieces and nephews. He was a member of the St. Anthony Church and the Ladies Auxiliary. His funeral was held on January 2, 1996, at the St. Anthony Church, with Rev. William Stumpf officiating. Interment was at the Forest Hill Cemetery.
It Makes Sense
In this day and age, insurance is more than a little luxury in life. It's a necessity for living today...and planning tomorrow.

INSURANCE UPDATE 1988

Stop by and talk to Lynn Sturm about you and your family's insurance updates. It's never too early to discuss insurance needs, but it could be too late some time!

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Work Hand in Hand
to keep you free of heart disease

February is HEART MONTH

High Blood Pressure, Angina, and other heart conditions can be controlled through a carefully supervised program of medication.

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Cassville
Registered Pharmacist
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Protect Your Heart

HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE HAS SOME GREAT SIDE EFFECTS.

Like getting into shape, losing weight, looking better and feeling like a new person. All of which can happen when you follow your doctor's orders for keeping your blood pressure under control.

We offer free Blood Pressure Checks and LITERATURE on keeping Your Heart Healthy "Total Health Care Right In Your Own Backyard"

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YOUR OWN!
We offer you this free advice:
• Reduce if overweight
• Don't smoke
• Eat foods low in saturated fat and cholesterol
• Exercise regularly, moderately
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Take advantage of progress in the prevention of heart disorders — by keeping good health habits. It's your only heart — act now to protect it!

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