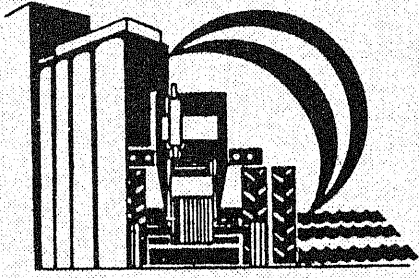


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SERVING THE THUMB SINCE 1897

VOL. 90, NO. 36 24 PAGES Pigeon, Elkton, Caseville, Bay Port and Owendale, Michigan WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 1988
THROUGH TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 1988

Enjoy the NEW
extended hours at
the Pigeon
District Library -
11:30 a.m. to
7:30 p.m.
Thursdays!

Named President of MBSA Directors

Kohr to head Bean Shippers' Board



JOHN KOHR

and was appointed vice-president.

RE-ELECTED: John McGill of Saginaw was elected to another term as executive vice-president and treasurer of the bean shippers, an office he has held since 1969.

Other members of the MBSA board include Gerald Geiger, general manager of

Ruth Farmers Elevator of Frankenmuth, and William Kenney, bean trader for Ruth, Richard Krafft, Jr., president of Star of the West Berger and Company of Milling Company of Saginaw.

Huron in pilot program

Huron and Gratiot Counties - two of Michigan's highest bean and grain producers - are among 40 counties nationwide selected by USDA for a pilot program to maximize farmers' returns through improved marketing skills.

Huron and Gratiot Extension and ASC Services will be involved in the USDA program, which will teach farmers how to protect their commodities and derive most profit through trading in futures and options.

Commodities included are corn, wheat and soybeans across the country, and also cotton in the South.

FROM FARM BILL: The plan is being developed as a result of a provision in the 1985 Farm Bill. That requires the Secretary of Agriculture to determine the

manner in which commodity futures and options markets may be used.

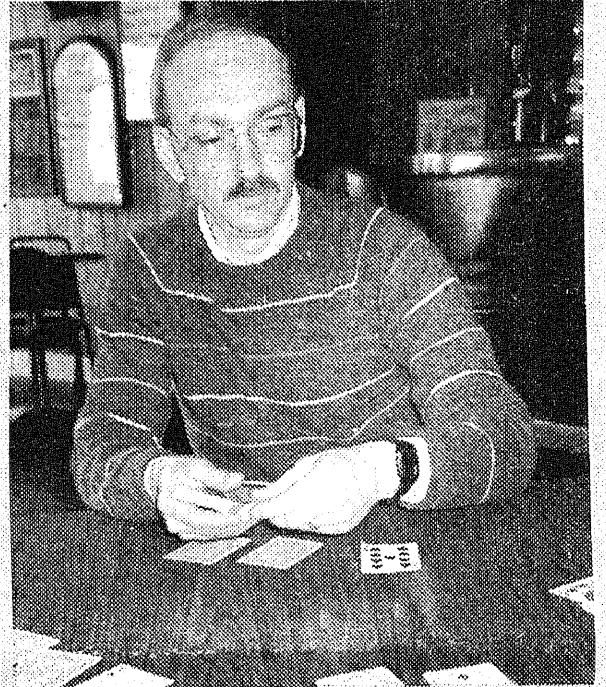
While educational programs have been offered for years, this program will include the Commodity Credit Corporation. Through CCC, participants will be guaranteed that they'll receive as least as much as they would get from county loan rates.

"Those will be the guarantees from USDA as an incentive to bring producers into participation," one of the officials explains.

"It's a method to involve farmers in their own marketing," he continued.

MUCH PLANS: The pilot program has been in the discussion and planning stages for a long time, he continued.

Guidelines will be announced in early March.



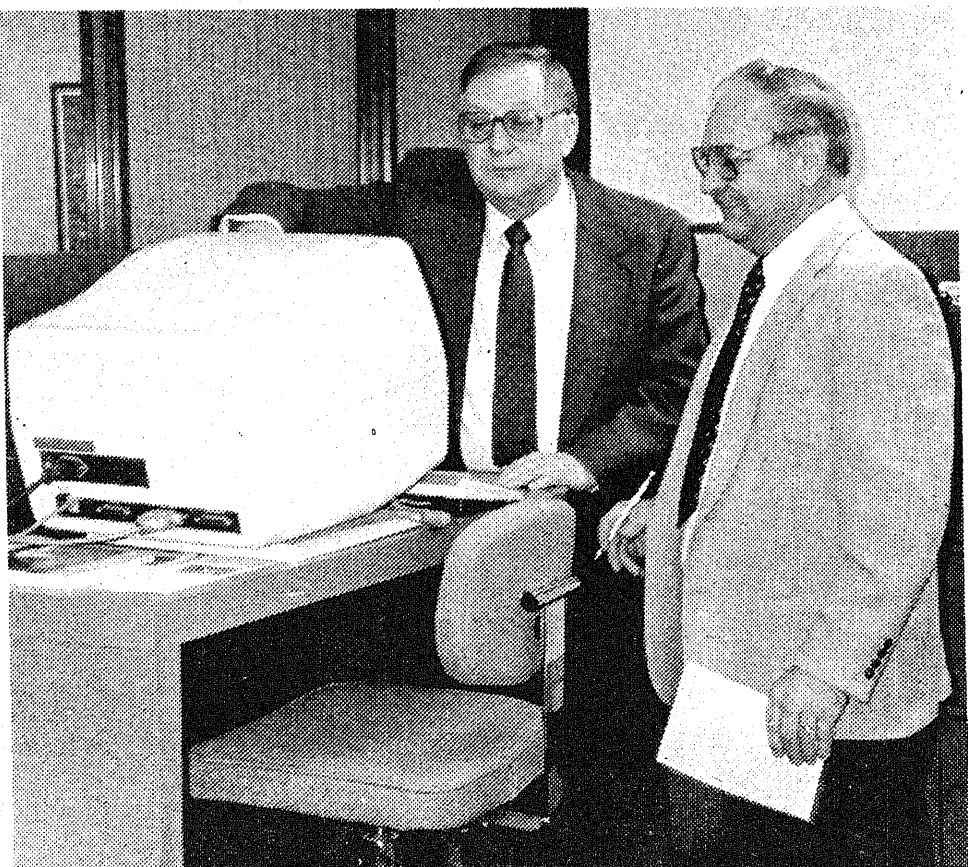
PRACTICING PRESIDENT: Pigeon Chamber of Commerce President Dave Jarvis "practices up" on card games, in preparation for the Chamber's annual "Las Vegas Nite" on Saturday, March 19.

All types of games are played - just for fun - and the evening starts with a happy hour at 6:30. Games start at 7:30 and tickets are available in advance only, from Pigeon Chamber members.

More than \$1500 in available prizes will be auctioned off about 11 p.m., Jarvis says.

AMY HEIDEN PHOTO

Thumb National's 'Bud' Luedtke plans to relax (a little)...



ARTHUR "BUD" LUEDTKE scans a computer screen, with longtime Thumb National co-worker Nelson Binder, right.

By AMY HEIDEN

Arthur "Bud" Luedtke has been an integral leader and familiar face to Thumb National Bank & Trust customers for the past 37 years.

But later this month, Luedtke will be stepping down as senior agricultural loan officer, while retaining the Chairmanship of the Board of Directors, as well as serving as a consultant.

EARLY 1950s START: In 1952, after being "courted" first by longtime banker Ernest Clabuesch, then by son E.J. Clabuesch, Luedtke agreed to begin employment at the then-Pigeon State Bank as a bookkeeper.

During the past 37 years, he has worked his way through nearly every position - including cashier, assistant trust officer, vice president, and president - all the way to his present post as Chairman of the Board. As a loan officer for Thumb National, he has specialized in ag loans.

THEN AND NOW: Speaking of the differences in banking through the years, Luedtke says, "Back in 1952, a busy day might have meant 50 to

150 transactions and six employees. Now we might have 4,000 to 5,000 transactions a day and we have 37 employees, a trust department, and a branch office."

He says the biggest change he's seen "is the area and the number of farmers we've done business with. It has shrunk in numbers."

"The value of land has changed. Back in 1952, land sold for \$300 to \$400 an acre. In the late seventies, the price went up nearly to \$4,000 an acre. Now it's down to around \$1500 an acre. And the size of farms has increased."

MORE MACHINERY: Luedtke says there has also been a tremendous increase in mechanization, along with the size and dollar amount of equipment needed in order to farm.

"Before, a lot of farmers had a small dairy farm. Now you have to be more diversified on a farm operation."

PERSONAL HISTORY: Born in Berne, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Luedtke, he attended St. John's Lutheran School where his father was his teacher and principal.

After graduating from

Pigeon High School in 1940, he worked at various jobs in the area before joining the Naval Air Corp and serving as a radioman on a torpedo bomber during World War II.

He married Alice Richmond in 1945, and together they had three children, Carol, Janet, and Alan.

In 1947, Luedtke went to work at Pigeon Lumber and was employed there until the Clabueschs tapped him for the job at the bank.

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE, TOO: Luedtke has not limited his talents to banking only. He operated a cash crop farm north of Pigeon from 1947 to 1970, when he sold the operation.

He is a past President of the Pigeon Chamber of Commerce, and the Pigeon Lions Club, where he has been a member for over 35 years. Luedtke also was elected to the Pigeon Village Council in 1959, and was elected Village President in 1961, serving until 1970.

A lifelong member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Berne, he served on the Church Council for 15 years.

PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 15

INSIDE: Laker Basketball and Volleyball Teams are WINNERS! See Pages 8 & 13

Middle school workshops presented

Elementary teachers from Huron, Tuscola and Sanilac counties recently participated in grade-level workshops, structured around sharing effective teaching strategies, according to Huron Intermediate School Supt. F. James McBride.

meetings were sponsored by HESD while lower grade-level meetings were hosted by Sanilac's ISD. **MIKE LANG SPEAKS:** Included in workshop activities was a presentation by Laker Teacher Mike Lang on the Laker Spelling Bee, followed by a discussion on how to promote the positive and

reduce negative results of student competitions. Project DEEP Coordinator Terri Rubringer of North Huron Elementary School shared teaching strategies which enhance student awareness of our economic system. Other discussion topics focused on developing global awareness through the use of pen pals, a management system for differentiating math curriculums to meet the needs of gifted and talented students in the regular classroom, and classroom computer ac-

ivities. Huron and Sanilac ISD staff members also contributed a variety of discussion topics, as did Scott Richards of Huron County Community Mental Health Services. The theme refers to efforts to "bring back the Bluebirds" by joining in the annual DNR-sponsored Bluebird workshop. Betsy Ribbens, assistant park manager and a member of the Audubon Club, will make the bird-of-the-month presentations, dedicated in March to Bluebirds.

Bluebird lovers unite!

Roy Elie, park manager and vice-president of the Audubon Club, will lead the workshop, which will include constructing a Bluebird nestbox and joining in the "Bluebird Trail" to help stop the alarming decline in Bluebird population.

FISH POINT TOUR: On Saturday, March 26, Huron Club members will join Saginaw Valley Audubon Society members on a morning field trip to Fish Point. The Point, located on Saginaw Bay in Tuscola County, is noted for spring waterfowl and shorebird migration. During the spring, flooded fields and cattail marshes attract species of ducks, Canada Geese, Tundra Swans, Greater Yellowlegs and an occasional Ruff, says Monica Eschenmacher of Port Austin, president of Huron Audubon. "Be daring and adventurous - come along," she says, adding guests are welcomed.

Pigeon news

Last weekend Mr. and Mrs. Marlin Rathje visited with Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Rathje in Cleveland, Ohio, celebrating Harriett's birthday.

Other guests included Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Orth and daughter.

Friday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Mel Baerwolf were Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Elsholz of Peck.

Stuart Armistead of Snover was a Sunday dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. Mel Baerwolf.



Press Club, organized last fall by Dave Busch of The Harbor Beach Times and Mark Rummel of The Progress-Advance.

SMALL TOWN AND BIG CITY JOURNALISM

Progress-Advance News Editor Amy Heiden talks with a person she "spends time with" three mornings a week - Detroit Free Press columnist Mike Duffy, during last Wednesday's Thumb Area Press Club meeting at Wildwood Farms near Cass City.

Heiden, who professes a great reading love for all things Free Press, was among 29 local newspaper and radio reporters who heard Duffy discuss his career, fellow Free Press employees such as Bob Talbert and heard his comments about the proposed Joint Operating Agreement with the Detroit News.

This was the second regular meeting of the Thumb Area

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Laker musicians play well in Districts



LAKER SOLO AND ENSEMBLE: Winners include Dawn Swartzendruber, Carleen Kauffman, Beth Ann Henry, Holly Swartzendruber, Mike Schmitt, Mary Kay Smith, Steve Kauffman, Phil Robison and Clark Harner.

ALL THE NEWS THAT FITS WE PRINT!
It's a Print Extra AP Style
Truth, justice - Stop the Presses! Now is the time for Galley

Laker Volleyball and Basketball Teams are **CHAMPS!** See Pages 8 & 13!!

Plenty of Caseville ballot questions

By AMY HEIDEN
Caseville Village residents will be asked to vote on two proposals in the general election on March 14.
First on the ballot is a question asking whether the village should withdraw from its present retirement program.
The second proposal asks voters if there should be a general revision of the home rule charter of the village.
OVERDUE: Village Clerk Jan Prill says there have been no major revisions of the village's charter since 1962, meaning many of its provisions are outdated.
Voters also will elect five Home Rule Charter Commissioners, in another ballot question.
If Proposal #2 is approved, the commissioners will be responsible to frame a new village charter within 60 days of the election. But if the proposal is defeated, then the election of the commissioners is void, Prill says.

Laker Band Director Bill Denbrock announces the next band event is district band competition set for Laker High School on March 5 for junior bands and on March 19 for senior high bands.
Laker Band Director Bill Denbrock announces the next band event is district band competition set for Laker High School on March 5 for junior bands and on March 19 for senior high bands.
PRILL NAMED: Village Council named a new controller in action Thursday night.
Current Clerk Janice Prill was named to the new position, effective March 22. Prill's new duties will include analyzing the village's financial situation, preparing and administering the budget, preparing monthly statements and general oversight of bills payments plus village payroll and benefit programs.
She will also be responsible for most office duties such as keeping track of water bills, corresponding with village residents and maintaining an accurate filing system for village documents and council minutes.
Prill was hired at a salary of \$12,900 with six months' probation. At the end of that period, her salary may increase to \$13,000.
A new village clerk will be elected in the general election on March 14.

No contests in Pigeon March 14

Seven persons are running for the seven seats up for election in Pigeon's Village General Election on Monday, March 14.
All are Republicans, incumbents and all are unopposed.
They include President David Geiger, Clerk Janet Heckman, Treasurer Frances Armbruster, Assessor Roy Lawrence and Trustees Michael Gehrs, Robert Fluegge and David McCormick.

Pigeon Chamber Of Commerce Annual Las Vegas Nite Saturday, March 19, 1988

Pigeon VFW Hall
Happy Hour Cash Bar 6:30 p.m.
Games Begin At 7:30 p.m.
Adult Tickets \$10.00 Per Person
Available From Pigeon Chamber Members
-Advance Tickets Only-

Play Vegas Games As:

Black Jack Roulette Craps Money Wheel ... Plus Others

We've Added More Tables And More New Games, So Plan Now To Enjoy A Fun Filled Evening. Mark March 19th On Your Calendar!
Free Popcorn • Lots Of Fun More Than \$1500 In Available Prizes Will Be Auctioned Off At The End Of The Evening - Approximately 11:00 p.m.

Try Your Luck To Win Some GREEN

Elkton United Way meets 1987 fund goal

The Elkton Area United Fund reached its goal for 1987, and at its Feb. 18 meeting made the following allocations:

Elkton Civic Organizations	\$1100
United Way of Michigan	500
Catholic Family Service	450
Elkton Recreation Council	450
Elkton Historical Society	250
Huron Co. Chapter Red Cross	200
Meals on Wheels	350
Elkton Area 4-H Clubs	125
Elkton Area Girl Scouts	100
Mitten Bay Girl Scouts	50
Students Against Driving Drunk	100
Elkton Bloodmobile	75
Child Abuse Council	100
Explorer #2500, Huron Co. Sheriff's Dept.	150
Campaign expenses	250
TOTAL	\$4,250

The Board of Directors wish to thank everyone who helped the United Fund reach its goal. Board members say, "It's nice to be a part of a caring and sharing community."
NEW LEADERS: Officers elected for 1988 are Chairman Ben Phillips, Vice Chairman Barbara Thompson and Secretary-Phyllis Tamblin.
Re-elected to the board of directors are R.B. Woodward, Merlin Farver, Dennis Ropp, Joy Lutz and Donna Schuette.

Thumb Weekly News Round-Up

HURON CARE FACILITY MILLAGE?
Huron County officials are considering the possibility of needing extra millage to support the county's Medical Care Facility near Bad Axe. Falling land property values are reducing funds available to all county government operations, including the facility, and state budget cuts may require a millage request to support the 112-bed long-term care facility.

State officials have proposed a \$43 million budget cut in care facility funding for 1989, which could mean more than \$490,000 in funding cutbacks. Plus, administrator Arthur Woelke says, farm land values have dropped nearly 40% since 1983 to further reduce revenues.
About \$250,000 in county general funding helps finance the care facility's operations each year. That equates to \$6.51 paid daily for each patient covered by Medicaid benefits. Besides a county millage, the facility could be sold to a private corporation, but some residents may then be denied service, officials say.
Tuscola County voted a millage two years ago for its medical care facility, but similar votes in Sanilac and St. Clair Counties have failed in recent years.

GTE PLANS IMPROVEMENTS
More than \$28 million in expansions and improvements for telephone service in Central Michigan have been announced by GTE North District Manager Kevin Hammer. Combined with last year's expenditure, that totals \$57 million in all improvements in the past two years.
Caseville will get all private lines, as the final party lines are eliminated. Caseville also gets more cable projects, to add more lines.

COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP SET
Persons who participate on boards and organizations can fine-tune their communication and leadership skills at a "Dynamics of Group Communication Seminar," planned from 5:30-9 p.m. on Thursday, March 10, at Huron Area Skill Center, Bad Axe.
Sponsored by Huron County Extension Service, the seminar will help community leaders build more effective organizations. Areas to be covered include parliamentary procedure, basic organizational skills and listening skills. Speakers include Walt Rummel of The Sebewaing Blade-Crescent and Don Wheeler of Laker High School.
The per-person cost includes dinner. Deadline to register is Friday, March 4. For more information, call the Extension office at 269-9949.

BAY MED, OSTEO TO MERGE
Officials of Bay Medical Center and Bay Osteopathic Hospital in Bay City are studying the possibility of merging the two hospitals, in light of declining patient census and revenues at BOH, according to Bay Health Systems.
BOH employees recently received a letter from BOH President Jack Mills who stated, "After much study, Bay Health Systems has concluded that the BOH facility could best be used to provide specialty medical care as a part of the Bay Medical Center."
Last August, BOH and Bay Medical formalized an affiliation agreement that paved the way for many BOH physicians to secure staff privileges at Bay Medical. The hospitals intend to complete the planning, merger and regulatory approval process in 1988, and remodeling and/or construction in 1989 or early 1990.

TRAXLER RAISES FUNDS
U.S. Rep. Bob Traxler (D-Bay City) has raised more than \$63,000 for his re-election bid later this year, as all present congressmen submit their contributions received during



MORE TIME TO ENJOY READING! - Patrons of the Pigeon District Library will have additional hours starting the month of March to enjoy the services available at the library.

The library will now be open Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., according to Librarian Naomi Jantzi.

It's a boy!

Mr. and Mrs. Terry (Teresa) Swartzendruber of Pigeon are the proud parents of a newborn son, Joshua Paul, born Friday, Feb. 26 at 12:30 p.m. at Scheurer Hospital, Pigeon.

Mrs. Pearl Stutesman of Fairview, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Swartzendruber of Bay Port and Mrs. Leona Shetler of Pigeon.

It's a girl!

A baby girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Marianna) Steele of Pigeon on Monday, Feb. 22 at McLaren Hospital, Flint.

Laurel Elizabeth weighed 8 lbs. 10 oz. at her birth. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Herbert C. Steele of Flint and maternal grandparents are Dr. and Mrs. Frank W. Cook of Davison.

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BOARDS OF REVIEW

CASEVILLE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF REVIEW

Board of review will meet on Monday, March 14 and Tuesday, March 15, 1988, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday, March 19 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., at the Caseville Township Hall for the purpose of hearing objections.

Table with columns for AG, COM, IND, RES, PERS, TC and their respective values.

CHANDLER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF REVIEW

Board of review will meet on Monday, March 14 and Tuesday, March 15, 1988, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., at the Chandler Township Hall for the purpose of reviewing the assessment roll and hearing any objections thereto.

Table with columns for AG, COM, IND, RES, PERS, TC and their respective values.

BROOKFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF REVIEW

Board of review will meet on March 14 and 15, 1988, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. both days, at the Community Building in Owendale.

Table with columns for AG, COM, IND, RES, PERS, DEV, and their respective values.

Table with columns for AG, COM, IND, RES, PERS and their respective values.

Table with columns for AG, COM, IND, RES, TC, DEV, PERS and their respective values.

Table with columns for AG, COM, IND, RES, COMM and their respective values.

Table with columns for AG, COM, IND, COMM, PERS, and their respective values.

--VOTE-- March 14th Frank L. Malosky for Caseville Village President. Paid for by the candidate.

Obituaries ADDITIONAL OBITUARIES ON PAGE 21

MARIE BUNDO 1904 - 1988

Marie Bundo, age 83, of Bay Port, formerly of Bad Axe, passed away Saturday, Feb. 27 at the Huron Medical Care Facility, Bad Axe, after a long illness.

ALICE FREEMAN 1924 - 1988

Alice M. Freeman, age 64, of Pigeon, former Bad Axe resident, passed away Friday, Feb. 26 at Huron Memorial Hospital, Bad Axe, after a long illness.

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SEN. DONALD RIEGLE, 253 Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510, phone 202-225-4822.

REP. J. ROBERT TRAXLER, 1526 Longworth Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510, phone 202-224-3121.

SEN. JAMES BARRICA, State Capitol, Room 127-A, Lansing, MI 48909, phone 373-1777.

REP. DICK ALLEN, State Capitol, Room 220 1/2, Lansing, MI 48909, phone 373-0476.

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NOTICE TO VILLAGE RESIDENTS

The annual election for the Village of Pigeon will be conducted on Monday, March 14, 1988. Polls will be open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m.

The following persons have filed for re-election to the following office:

DAVID GEIGER, President
JANET HECKMAN, Clerk
FRANCES ARMBRUSTER, Treasurer
ROY LAWRENCE, Assessor
MICHAEL GEHRMS, Trustee
ROBERT FLUEGGE, Trustee
ROBERT FLUEGGE, Trustee
DAVID McCORMICK, Trustee

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MIKE POWER



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Tenbusch of Bad Axe wish to announce the engagement of their daughter, Mary Jo, to Bryan Frederic Chisholm, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Chisholm of Pigeon.

VFW POST #2236 LADIES AUXILIARY

The regular meeting of the Ladies Auxiliary of VFW Post #2236 was held Feb. 9 with 18 members present. The business meeting was conducted by President Jessie Otto.

Verna Thede reported on the Mid-Winter Conference. It was noted that 40-year membership pins have been given to Marie Stirrett and Julie Ann Witkovsky. Charter members Clara Diebel and Stella Rolph will receive their 45 year membership pins.

ELKTON SENIOR CITIZENS

Thirty-one members were guests for the Feb. 23 meeting of the Elkton Senior Citizens. Guest George Keim offered the table prayer preceding the potluck dinner.

The afternoon session opened with the singing of "America" and the Pledge to the Flag. Alvena Walsh, Della Trudgen and Esther Hodapp were feted for their birthdays. Greetings were received from the Hal Conkeys, Ina Anderson and the Bill Blocklocks.

CASEVILLE RETIREMENT CLUB

The Caseville Retirement Club met Feb. 23 with 102 members. In the absence of President Tom Beadle, Vice President Hank Hill presided over the meeting.

A new member, Norma Farver, was welcomed to the club.

Thanks was extended to the ladies who donated the Early Bird Goodies. Birthdays celebrated for

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First Meeting Fee... \$ 8.00
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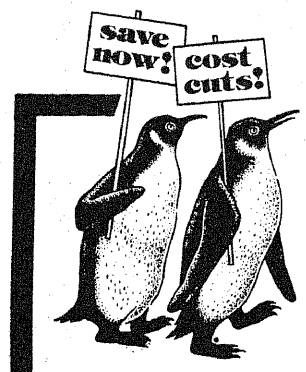
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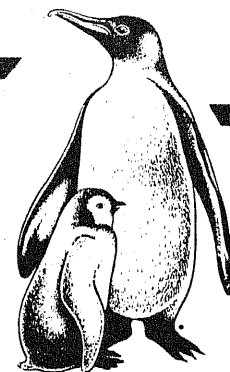
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Elkton -- Phone 375-2530



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PIGEON APARTMENTS for rent: 2 bedroom, refrigerator & stove, carpeting. Call Monday - Friday, 8 & 4 p.m., 453-3221.
6tfn/chgl

For Rent
FOR RENT Caseville: 2 bedroom cottage. Security deposit & references required. No pets. 856-2898.
20tfn/chgl

For Rent
FOR RENT: Now accepting applications - 6 newly remodeled & carpeted apartments. 2-Caseville & 4-Pigeon. 4-1 bedroom, 2-2 bedrooms. NANLO PROPERTIES, 856-4660 EVENINGS.
30-tfn/chgl

For Rent
FOR RENT: 2 bedroom house on Sand Point with basement & garage on 1.6 acres. Call 269-9823 ask for Carol or 1 (616) 885-5293.
36coT

Lost & Found
LOST: '78 Dodge Tailgate, white & blue. Caseville & Stein Roads. Pigeon area. 453-2858.
36coT

Miscellaneous
FOR SALE: YASHICA, ELECTRO 35mm GSN camera with flash attachment, wide angle and telephoto lens, new leather carrying case. TX 856-3069, after 6:00 p.m.
36pdM

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21-tfn/chgl

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Grandpa & Grandma
Armbruster

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STORE FOR RENT: 2100 Sq. Ft. carpeted, air cond., lots of free parking. 836 S. Van Dyke, Bad Axe. Call 269-8225.
35-38coL

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You're reading this one.
Call 453-2331 to place yours!

The family of William Czewski wishes to thank family & friends for all their prayers, cards, and flowers during the loss of our husband and father. Special thanks to Rev. Maxwell, Rev. Brooks and Rev. Hastings for all the support and words of comfort during our difficult time. Thanks to Warren and Sandy Juengel, Scheurer Hospital and Ambulance crew. Thanks to United Methodist ladies and friends who brought and served food. This kindness and support will never be forgotten.
36pd

Miscellaneous
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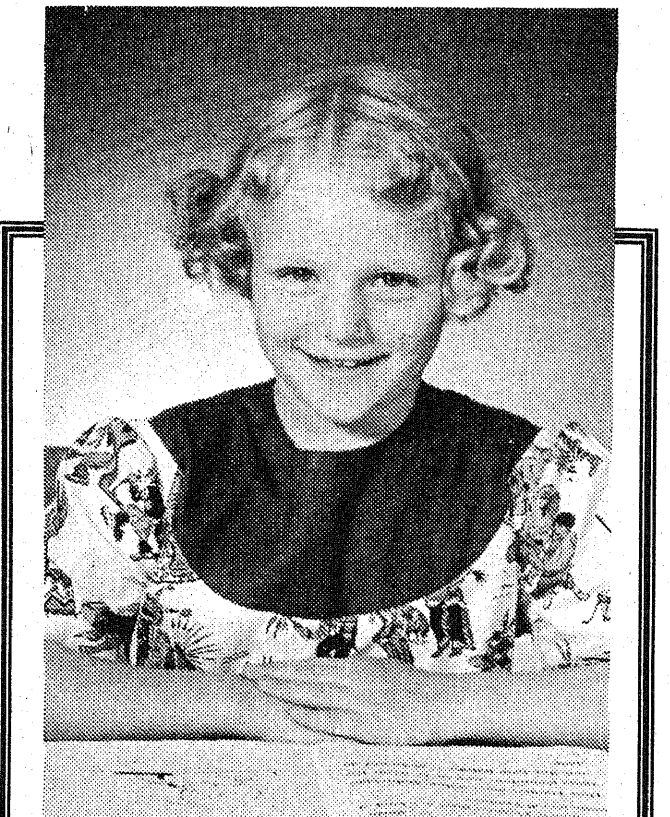
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HAPPY 40th BIRTHDAY
(You Know Who!)
LOVE- Mom, Evette, Kathy, John
And Your Nieces & Nephews

Happy 15th Birthday Pooh Bear

Love Ya,
Mom, Dad & Sisters

We would like to say thank you to our relatives and friends for the beautiful cards and gifts we received for our 50th anniversary. A thank you to Pastor Orth for his prayers, and to our daughters Janalou and Karen for the floral pieces that helped beautify the church on Sunday morning, and a family dinner at the Sandpiper.
God Bless You All!
Melvin and Meta Farver

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WE WON'T FORGET your birthday if you don't. Stop by Annabelle's Tuesday, Wednesday of Thursday of your birthday week and see!
36

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D & D

We would like to thank Doctor Ray, and the nurses and staff of Scheurer Hospital, Pastor Nusz and the Ladies Aid of the Methodist Church, and to all the neighbors and friends.
The Family Of Earl Schaffer

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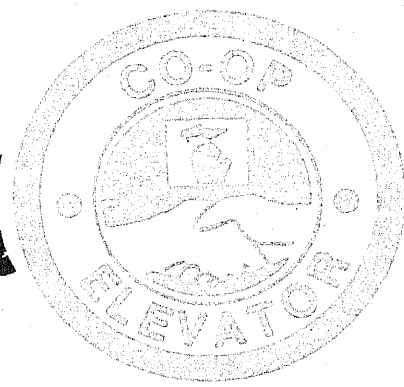
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Happy Belated Birthday STEVEN

LOVE — Dale, Sherry, Scott & Bryan



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Thursday, March 3rd**

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For **ALL YOUR SPRING FARM NEEDS!****

**PIGEON VFW HALL
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