Many faces of Christmas...

WHEN SANTA came to visit at Sebewaing's Open House last Sunday, he quickly made some young friends... such as this youngster sharing his "wish list" with Santa. Sebewaing Christmas Drawing winners on Nov. 22 were Phyllis Coon, D. Pritchard, Doris Quilick, Marilyn Haag, Jeannine Fillman, Eilea Baur and Anna Ertel. Christmas Drawing winners on Nov. 29 were Dan Hurd, Chris Geeth, Joy Schultz, Deb Fritz, Irene Martinez, Jenny Beach and Sharon Treder.

SHE'S A BIKE WINNER: One-year-old Chelsea Avalos hasn't quite grown into the bike she won Sunday from the Pigeon Chamber of Commerce, but she's got lots of time. She's the daughter of Joel and Lisa Avalos, shown holding her daughter. Another bike and 10 kids' toys will be given away every Saturday afternoon at 4 p.m. "‘Til Christmas.

KAY NESCHULZ of Bay Port won $500 in shopping cash Sunday, during Pigeon's Christmas Open House. She chose the right envelope, and received it from Mrs. Claus, on right. See details inside, on Page 8.

SOME YOUNGSTERS weren't happy at all visiting Santa...

$6.7 MM Tuscola budget

Tuscola County Commissioners are expected to adopt a budget later in the month that is about $436,000 more than last year's budget. The proposed 1994 budget is $6.72 million. Commissioners expect to hold a public hearing during and adopt the budget at their Tuesday, Dec. 14, meeting.

A significant portion of additional costs is because of increases in providing medical coverage to county employees. "Blue Cross/Blue Shield expenses are up by about $140,000 from last year's $450,000," said Tuscola County Commission Chairman Norm Bates. "Also, we are putting $120,000 more in equipment and capital improvements because of adding additional computers and other related office upgrades."

Elected officials and department heads will have a chance to take over the budget and make recommendations before it is finalized. Also in December, commissioners will begin interviewing companies for a technical consultant to help coordinate the county's capital improvements in technology to make sure all of the systems are compatible and do the work expected.

— BY MARY LUVER

MICHIGAN "by the numbers"

SMOKE IN YOUR EYES: About 29% of Michigan adults smoke cigarettes, says the state Department of Public Health, as of 1992 figures. That's down from 32.5% in 1992, but the 29% figure has been holding steady since 1987. Only Kentucky and Tennessee (tobacco-growing states) have higher percentages of smokers in the entire country.

Average retail price for a pack of cigarettes is $1.68, which includes 56 cents in state and federal taxes. That's lower than Ontario's price of $4.35, which includes 9.69 in taxes.

HISD keeps 4 in Caseville

The Huron Intermediate School District Board has approved allowing the four children of Les Ann Ruth to continue attending the Caseville School District rather than the Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port School District.

"The children have attended Caseville Schools for about 10 years. It was a mix-up because everyone thought they belonged in Caseville rather than to Latars," said HISD Super. William Mayes. "It was just recently discovered that they were attending the wrong district."

Also, it was announced that Carol Hart, Child and Adult Care Services instructor with the Huron Area Skill Center, received the state award as "Teacher of the Year." Hart, of Bad Axe, was selected for the honor by the Michigan Life Management Educators Association. She has been with the skill center since it opened in 1978.

Vanderbilt grant sought

Tuscola County officials have applied for a grant to upgrade Vanderbilt Park at Quanicassee, its only county-owned park. Commissioners have applied for $4,000 from the state DNR to create nature trails at Vanderbilt Park, on Saginaw Bay.

The 18-acre, rustic park has 20 campsites with electric hook-up...
Second half domos Laker regional bid

By Jim Jaworski

The Lakers (25-8) dominated the first quarter of play against the Eagles (26-2-1) last night. The Lakers were leading 20-19 after the first eight minutes, but the Eagles caught fire in the second half, outscoring the Lakers 42-28 to pull away for the 68-48 victory and advance to the state tournament.

The Lakers started strong in the first quarter, with guard Timmy Thompson scoring 12 points and forward John Smith adding 8. However, the Eagles countered with a balanced attack, featuring 12 points from guard John Doe and 10 from forward Jane Smith.

In the second half, the Eagles took control, with Doe scoring 18 points and Smith adding 15. The Lakers were unable to keep up with the Eagles' scoring pace, with Thompson scoring only 4 points and Smith adding 2.

The Lakers' next game is against the Blue Jays, who have a record of 27-1. The game is scheduled for next Tuesday at 7:30 PM. The Eagles' next game is against the Red Sox, who have a record of 22-6. The game is scheduled for next Friday at 8:00 PM.
The BLADE Progress Newsweekly's...

'93 Christmas Gift Guide

Christmas Cards
Christmas cards give us a relatively new way to reach out to others. The London Co. John Calcutt, director of sales, will be in Kansas City this week to introduce the company's latest line of cards, which is based on the work of British artists.

Unusual Unique
For a change, different Christmas gifts this year. Instead of a traditional card, try a unique gift that will be remembered. For example, a hand-made wooden ornament, a personalized letter, or a custom-made tree topper.

Christmas Beginnings
Since the dawn of time, the Bible is the story of Christmas. In the early chapters of Genesis, we see the first signs of the coming of Christ. Then, the story of Joseph and Mary, the birth of Jesus, and the Christmas tree. Today, we celebrate the holiday with family and friends.

HOLIDAY

GIFT IDEAS FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

Don't waste your time running all over town. We have the items to meet your needs!!!

The quality grows in the name before it goes on

Special Low Holiday Pricing Now In Effect

Watch for our 25th Anniversary Sale Dec. 8 - 12.

The Clothes Basket
Bay City
908 Washington
(313) 893-0020

HIGH QUALITY

Women's Sweaters
Sizes 8-20

Check Us

NEW HOURS
Mon.-Fri., 7:00 - 7:00
Sat., 9:00 - 3:00
Sun. 12 noon-6:00

GIFT WRAPPING / CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

The Burch House Collection of famous beers
and bars, etc. Any one of PAPERWORKS.
Just released limited edition figurines
of the Burch House.

The Blade Collection of beer
and bars, etc. Any one of PAPERWORKS.
Just released limited edition figurines
of the Blade.
The Newsweekly's Thumb-Area CALENDAR

Tuesday, Nov. 30 - Nominating deadline
Last day to file nominating petitions for village elections.

Thursday, Dec. 2 - Tuscola public hearing
Tuscola County Road Commission will hold a public hearing at 10 a.m. at the Tuscola County Administration Building regarding improvements to the bridge on Ringle Road north of M-138, in Akron Township. The meeting is open to the public and comments are welcome.

Thursday, Dec. 2 - USA Athletic Banquet
USA Fall Athletic Banquet is 6 p.m. at the high school cafeteria. Fall athletes are admitted free.

Saturday, Dec. 4 - St. John's hosts Cookie Walk
The Parent-Teacher League of St. John's at Port Hope will hold a Cookie Walk Saturday, December 4, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the school campus. More than 40 families will donate cookies. Details: 428-4811.

Saturday, Dec. 4 - Big Y Food Auction in Caro
The annual Bluerose Thumb Youth Fair Auction in Tuscola County is 10 a.m. at Caro High School. Pictures, antique milk cans and handcrafted items will be offered, and there's a bake sale at 8 a.m. You're invited!

Saturday, Dec. 4 - Sebewaing Little League Auction
Little League Auction is at 7 p.m. at the Sugar Shack Tavern, which has details for personal donating or attending.

Saturday, Dec. 4 - Unionville Bazaar
Unionville United Methodist Church will host a bazaar 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Included are a luncheon of chicken and biscuits, corn dogs and desserts.

Saturday, Dec. 4 - Michigan Ave. Menno Bazaar
Norland's angel food cake, cookies, Christmas cookies, baked goods and crafts will be offered for sale at the church from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 4 - Bay Port RDLB Bazaar, Bake Sale
The Bay Port Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints will sponsor a Christmas Bazaar and Bake Sale, featuring a large selection of holiday cookies, craft items, baked goods, candies, etc. Details: 435-2850, 656-7281 or 656-3483.

Sunday, Dec. 5 - Sebewaing Christmas Homes Tour
Sebewaing Woman's Civic Club hosts a Christmas Homes Tour from 1 to 6 p.m., featuring six area homes and the Heidelberg Gallery. Refreshments are available at the Gallery from 3 to 6 p.m., and tickets are available.

Sunday, Dec. 5 - St. John's Men's Sacred Concert
The junior and senior choir of St. John's Lutheran Church, Bern, will present a performance of sacred music in celebration of the Christmas season at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 5 - Huron SPARK program
Huron Intermediate School District's Gifted and Talented Program will sponsor enrichment programs, "Cultures of Many Lands," at the Huron Area Skill Center, Bad Axe. The SPARK program is designed for youth ages four to six years old and is from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The SOS (Special On Saturday) is designed for youth in grades four through sixth and is from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 5 - Swiss Steak Dinner
The 26th Annual Lutheran Laymen's League Steak Dinner is 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the St. Paul Lutheran Auditorium, Unionville.

Tuesday, Dec. 7 - Sebewaing 4-H Jets meeting
Sebewaing 4-H Jets will meet 7 p.m. at Arlene Sweeney, 681 Hickory Court, Allendale, ages eight by December 1, 1994 may sign up, plus certificates for 2003 will be given out.

Wednesday, Dec. 8 - Thumb Ag Day
Annual event runs 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Colby Center, near Cass City.

Wednesday, Dec. 8 - Special Elkton Prayer Breakfast
The Elkton chamber will hold a Christmas Luncheon (bring a dish to pass) with Christmas songs and a short testimony time, at the Elkton Civic Center. Free child care at Elkton United Methodist Church. Details: 453-5804.

Wednesday, Dec. 8 - USA Board meeting
The regular monthly meeting of the USA School Board of Education was rescheduled to 7 p.m. on this date. Regular meetings will resume in January to the second Monday of each month.

Saturday, Dec. 11 - See Santa in Unionville
Santa Claus comes to Unionville Fire Hall at noon.

Saturday, Dec. 11 - Santa visits Bay Port
Santa Claus is making rounds around the Thumb, stopping Bay Port 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m. to bring each child a bag of peanuts and candy, a free photo with Santa and refreshments.

Sat-Sun, Dec. 11-12 - Christmas concert at Cass City
The Tom Thumb Community Singers will present their 11th annual concert, "Merrily We Sing Noel," 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11 and 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, at the First Presbyterian Church, Cass City. The choir includes members from Capac, town, Owendale, Unionville and Sebewaing. There is no charge, but donations will be accepted to free-will offering. Details: Genevra Richards at 877-2467.

Monday, Dec. 13 - Red Cross Blood Drive
American Red Cross Blood Drive is 2 to 6:45 p.m. at the VFW Hall, Pigeon.

Monday, Dec. 13 - USA Advisory group to meet
USA High School Advisory Committee's December meeting is 7 p.m. at the conference room. Parents of high school students are invited.

Wednesday, Dec. 15 - USA Booster meeting
All parents of USA High School athletes and supporters are encouraged to attend the 7 p.m. meeting at the high school.

Wednesday, Dec. 15 - Seb. Am. Legion Aux. #293 meet
Meet at the Legion Hall, 12:30 with a potluck lunch and gift exchange.

Thursday, Dec. 16 - Financial Aid Workshop
Owendale-Capitagon School District will host a Financial Aid Workshop 8:30 a.m. at the high school, Owendale.

Friday, Dec. 17 - K of C Fish Fry
Unisville-Sebewaing Knights of Columbus will host an All-You-Can-Eat Fish Fry from 4:30 to 7 p.m. at USA High School Cafeteria. Public's invited.

Sunday, Dec. 19 - Caseville Perch Contest
Mayor Frank Maloisky's Annual Perch contest begins today and runs until March 31.

Wednesday, Dec. 22 - USA Holiday vacation starts
Christmas vacation begins at the end of the day for the USA School District. Classes resume Tuesday, Jan. 4.

Saturday, Dec. 25 - Thumb Christmas Toy Store
"Christmas Reflections" decorated trees are shown 1 to 4 p.m. weekends at the Heidelberg Gallery, Downtown.

Saturday, Dec. 25 - Christmas Aid Workshop
The Newsweekly's Calendar Deadline is THURSDAY at 5:00 p.m.
The BLANK Progress Newsweekly...

CHRISTMAS KISSES
(Makes about 4 dozen)
1-1/4 cups all-purpose flour
1/2 tsp. salt
1 egg
1 tsp. milk
1/2 cup shortening, softened
Finely grated orange peel
Cooking spray
Combine flour, sugar, baking soda, and salt; set aside.
In a large bowl, combine egg, milk, shortening, and orange peel; blend well. Stir in flour mixture; mix well. Drop by rounded tablespoon onto ungreased cookie sheets. Bake at 375°F for 15 minutes. Cool; remove from cookie sheets and microwave in a coffee press to make a perfect kiss. Roll edges in powdered sugar before tossing. Refrigerate leftovers.

LIVE CHRISTMAS TREES
WREATH SALE
You can purchase your live Christmas Tree or Wreath from YTC and help kids earn money for school trips, Beginning Mon., Dec. 9, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday, or Saturday, through Dec. 18, in the YTC office at the Unionville-Sebewaing Area Schools. All sales will benefit the student organizations, so every purchase you make will go towards the school trip fund. This is a great opportunity for you to support your local school and help the kids! Call 888-232-9652 for more information.

The Holidays Don't Have To Be Expensive!
Festive Fruit Basket Starting At $399

At McDonald's
We Want To Serve You!
• Fresh Bakery
• Postage Stamps
• Fax Service
• Film Processing
• Notary Service
• In-Store Restaurant
• Fresh Soft-Serve Yogurt
• Floral Department
• Double Mfg. Coupons

We will gladly customise a basket or bow to your specification, adding cheese, candy and canned hams too. Just give your request to The Produce Department or call 269-7442.

Educational Finance Reform
By William D. Dodge, Superintendent

Educational reform, along with school support change, is bringing a multitude of problems to focus in our State of Michigan. It is too bad that a complete reform package, along with a funding source, had not been drafted prior to the Governor’s change of local property support as a major revenue for local school districts.

It is certainly generally believed that too much emphasis has been placed on property tax for the support of Michigan schools, but many feel this financial reform undertaking should not have started piece meal but should have been looked at in its entirety before change was instituted. No one really seems to know just what educational reform and financial change is taking place. A person can go to three different meetings each day in succession for three days and come out of those meetings with totally different concepts on what is taking place in Michigan schools. The legislators don’t seem to know what is going on nor do other people who have generally been in the know of what is happening with education in the State of Michigan.

Some sources feel a referendum for increasing the sales tax will be soundly defeated while others feel a 1% or 2% increase in the state income tax should be quickly implemented by the legislature. Needless to say, something has to be done if we are to keep an even flow of funding for Michigan schools. Hopefully, something will come out of this mess prior to the end of this calendar year or perhaps the entire package will be placed on hold for one or two years so that a totally new concept for funding education in Michigan can be drafted.

USA Board of Education members, parents, teachers, citizens, and student representatives. The various committees will be studying their specific areas in depth and, in many cases, touring other school facilities to obtain information for our local project. Ground will be broken for the new construction project this spring and occupancy is expected by September, 1994.

One of the first projects will be the tiling of the athletic fields for proper drainage and settling prior to the construction of the football field, all purpose track, and baseball/softball diamonds.

Adult volunteers are needed...
An adult volunteer program is now underway at USA Elementary School. The purpose of this program is to provide students with a special friend to talk with and learn from. Volunteers are matched with students who have permission from both their parents and teachers. Once matched, the adult and student meet at least one-half hour per week together talking, reading, working on school work, or sharing a hobby enjoyed by the student. Each volunteer and student pair meets at a time and place convenient to both the student and the volunteer.

Summary of USA Schools’ Bond Sale on November 10
There were seven good reasons for good feelings on the bond sale as follows:
1. A 12% interest decline from what had been projected on the Bond Application for Approval to the Department of Education.
2. $1,239,000 cost savings in interest over the life of the bond issue as a result of the lower interest rate.
3. Five bids were received.
4. All five bids were close in interest rate.
5. Bids were from Detroit, Chicago, Florida and local.
6. 35 mills less than anticipated on debt retirement millage.
7. Credit ratings of A+ from Moody and AA from Standard and Poor.

The Unionville-Sebewaing Area Schools’ school district and property tax does not have the so-called low construction costs at this particular time, should all this play a role in having qualified handicapped individuals.
From USA Elementary School...

School Improvement Goals
- All USA elementary students will improve their critical thinking math skills.
- All USA elementary students will improve their proficiency in gaining information from exposure to poetry.
- All USA elementary students will demonstrate respect for self and others.
- All USA elementary students will be physically, intellectually, and emotionally secure at school.

Math training given to Elementary teachers
This past summer, the Resource Room, Kindergarten, and First Grade teachers taught the students at University of Chicago. They received training in math instruction using our new math series, Everyday Mathematics.

Tuscola County public school teachers have worked for two years to update, fine tune, and coordinate the math curriculum for the area. It is an on-going process. Based on the problems and proposals of this project, USA elementary teachers designed this training.

Daily: "I like doing the alphabet and measuring with a tape measure."
Art/Artwork: "I like counting by 2's and like doing the ABC's."
Destiny: "I like doing math word problems, especially counting and telling time, I like counting by 10's."
Alyana: "I read reading, read, read, and read, and books, books, books.
And: "I like counting by 5's, like 5, 10, 15, 20. I like Safetyville, fac.
Kenny: "That goes to learn about shapes, I like writing on the chalkboard, or on paper, I like counting, I like counting."
Misty: "I like recites, coloring, and listening to stories.
Elly's: "I like talking about the stories we read, I like going to the library, I like talking about the weather and temperature every day."
Jeremy (the high school aid): "I like reading all the time and count and spell and to spell and to color.
Mrs. Betts: "I like the three bears and girls in my class. There are 3 girls and 7 boys."

Students in Mrs. Suzanne Burrows' first grade class are pictured doing Chicago math with manipulatives.

From USA Middle School...

Global issues involve sixth graders
On October 30 and 31, while other sixth graders were racing around gathering candy for trick or treat bags, students in Mrs. McCloy's class were reaching out to help children from the other side of the world. Students received an UNESCO boxes in class and were challenged to collect money for children in Africa. When the boxes were totaled, $60.00 was collected to be sent to UNESCO. The next day, an international and multicultural show for preschool and school-age children in Liberia, Namibia, Zambia and Mozambique.

The project was a joint effort of UNESCO and the Scholastic Book Club. This activity brought global problems of children from other countries right into our classroom. While most students had fun in the collecting of money, the reason behind it was a very somber thought. Some preschool children will go blind without proper vitamins provided to them through UNESCO. The students and Mrs. McCloy would like thank all the agents, clothes, brothers, sisters, grandparents, neighbors, and friends for contributing to this cause. Mrs. McCloy would especially like to thank Ryan Robinson, Becki Neufeld, Michelle Pierce, Luke Finkbeiner, Msas Scharlich, Andrew Wolf, Ashley Alleyne, Katie House, Jesse Frost, Rebecca Holdwick, Kim Plato, Chuck Haeder, and Eric Gerth for their combined effort in collecting this money. Also, one last big thank you to the sixth grade students for helping us count and roll the coins. It was great working together!

Squier teaches French, and Mr. VanSumeren teaches gym. At this time students, teachers, and administrators are pleased with the new format in the fifth grade at USA Middle School.

USA Middle School Honors “Students of the Month”
The USA Middle School teachers chose “Students of the Month” for the months of September and October. Chosen for this honor were (front row) Lisa Kain, 5th grade; Stanlynn Voron, 6th grade; Melissa Scharlich, 6th grade; (back row) Joshua Kuhl and Carrie Wurm, 6th grade; Troy Vemmosen, 7th grade; and Dennis Hartman, 8th grade.

Fifth graders have team teachers for ‘93-‘94 school year
The fifth grade has a new format for their students. We have adopted a team approach to teaching this year. Concentrating on one subject allows the teachers more specialized instruction with more hands on learning. Each teacher has a language arts block in which reading, English, and spelling are taught. Mrs. Franczak teaches three subjects of science, Mrs. Mircan teaches three sections of social studies, and Mrs. Whittaker teaches three sections of math.

The students switch rooms for their different subjects. The teachers are planning a Friendship Unit to be used in all subjects. This unit will teach students how to find a valuable asset to have in all walks of life.

At team prep time is made available in the afternoon. Parents are encouraged to contact teachers during this time (2:00-3:00). Smooth operation of this curriculum is dependent upon team planning time.

Students rotate among three elective courses, attending each three or four times a week. Mrs. Beach teaches Key Club, Mrs. VanSumeren teaches gym, and Mr. Squier teaches French. In this team, teachers and students are pleased with the new format in the fifth grade at USA Middle School.

Dow Brands
proofs of purchase are sought
The USA Middle School would like to remind you that you are still collecting proofs of purchase from Dow Brands products. These are needed by the first week of December. Dow Brands EDUCATE AMERICA program will help us acquire math and science materials.

Dow Brands information sheets and a drop-off box are located across from the Middle School office.
Clothe-A-Help kids county-wide

Golden Anniversary

The Bells Are Ringing...

Leto-Schultz

South Side: 215-620-5750

Langley - Elstonones

Worship at the Church of Your Choice...

SEBEWAING CHIROPRACTIC CENTER
403 S. Oysterville Rd., Sebewaing
785-4050

Catholic Community Health Center
104 Greenfield St., Sebewaing
988-5071

Scheurer Family Medical Center
169 N. Cassville Rd. • Pigeon
983-0473

Scheurer Hospital Ambulance Service
Call Amsar For any Emergency
911

Mortgage Services

CITIZEN WATER CONDITIONING
361 S. Center • Sebewaing • 869-3990

ACTIVE FEED CO.
Feed Manufacturing - Egg Production
Pigeon • 869-6900

CLONELEAF EGGS
Newberndale

SEBEWAING MEDICAL CENTER
169 N. Cassville Rd. • Pigeon
983-0473

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Lenz

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Lenz of Sebewaing will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Sunday, Dec. 4. Family and friends are invited to join them at St. Open Angelus Democrat Parish, Mass will be followed by lunch at St. Open Angelus Democrat Parish Parish Hall. Guests are requested to RSVP to Mr. and Mrs. Lenz at 804-620-4762 or 620-385-8977. The Lenz couple resides in Sebewaing.

Watch The Newsweekly on Dec. 27 for...

"The Bells Are Ringing!"

The NewswEEKLY

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News by, for and about:

The Lake Huron Community Arts Council

By LAKE HURON COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

Boesch - Parmenter

Engaged!

Santa's in Bay Port Dec. 11

Santa is coming to Bay Port at 11:30 a.m. at the Bay Port Library. Each child will receive a toy and there will be refreshments for all. Sponsored by Dr. Maggie and Colleen Parmenter.

FROZEN DAIRY SAVINGS

Crisp 'n Tasty Jeno's Pizza
2/8 $5.00

Country Fresh 12/28/28 Chicken Breasts
Regular & Light

Budget Gourmet Entrees

Blue Bonnet Spread

3/4 lb. $1.19

Ore-Ida Hash Browns
2/8 $3.00

Fleischmann's Margarine

98c

Mini Garlic Loaf

79c

Kraft Shredded Cheese

2/8 $3.00

Prizes Worth Over $1,300

Offered Every Week In Pigeon!

Prizes: 1,500 - 4,200 - 5,250 - 4,250

10 Toy Prizes Drawn Each Week!

A New Bike Drawn Each Week!

Free Bean Soup

Served At Each Pigeon Drawing!

Drawing Dates: Saturdays, December 4 & 11 & 18 at 4:00 PM at Pigeon Village Hall.

ALL PRIZES AWARDED IN "PIGEON MONEY" GIFT CERTIFICATES. TICKETS AVAILABLE AT MOST LOCAL MERCHANTS. NO PURCHASE REQUIRED. YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN. SPONSORED BY PIGEON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.