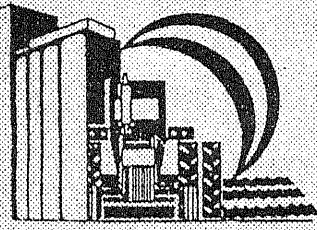


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The Progress-Advance

VOL. 94, NO. 35 24 Pages Pigeon, Elkton, Caseville, Bay Port and Owendale, Michigan
 (With Laker Wave)

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 19, 1992
 THROUGH TUESDAY, FEB. 25, 1992

Teen heads March 21 collectors' show

By AMY HEIDEN

Collectors of baseball cards and other collectibles have shows where their wares are bought and sold all over the state.

And the same is true with collectors of tractors, the scale models of the workhorses of the American farm.

But there's never been a show like that in the northern parts of Michigan. That's soon to change though, as a

show is set for March 21, at Laker High School from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Over 27 collectors have rented tables at the show, some from Indiana and Ohio.

The show's not so unusual, though. What makes the show unique is the person who's organizing it.

A 17-year old entrepreneur, Laker senior Mike Richmond, is handling all the details, and he's promised to

donate all the proceeds to the Laker FFA, of which he's a member.

Richmond has been collecting the scale-model tractors for over four years now. He gives the credit—or the blame—for his collecting passion to Pigeon's Ralph Limberger, a long-time model collector and builder.

"He urged me to buy my first collectible, a Case International 4994 four wheel drive," Richmond said.

He collects the tractors because he likes them, but there's a more pragmatic reason—his collection has appreciated in value.

"This is the first time I'll be at a show as a seller," Richmond said.

But tractors aren't the only things he's sold. This young businessman also owns his own company, Richmond Steel.

Last year, his fledgling business made the gates for the new Junior Livestock building at the Huron County Fairgrounds, and he also makes livestock feeders and recreational trailers, to haul snowmobiles and motorcycles.

"(FFA leader) Don Wheeler was on the phone one day getting bids for the gates, and the bids he was getting were really high," Richmond said. "I knew I could make them cheaper, so I put my bid in, too."

On July 4, he got word that his bid was accepted, and he had one month to get the steel, make the gates, and

paint and install them.

"My Grandma said my dad used to go up in his bedroom with a piece of cardboard and come down with something that moved. She says I do the same, only I manufacture it.

"I love working with things, and I grew up tinkering," Richmond said, explaining his building ability. "We've got the welders at the farm, and if it's cheaper for him to make something he needs, he'll make it."

Richmond's father, Glen, farms about 900 acres north of Pigeon, growing beets, corn, beans, and wheat, and Mike farms a bit, too.

He has his own beet contract, growing three acres of sugar beets on land subcontracted from his dad, and for the past three years, he's been producing and marketing hay.

He buys the standing hay from area farmers, harvests it with his dad's tractor and a rented hay baler, and sells enough to make a tidy profit.

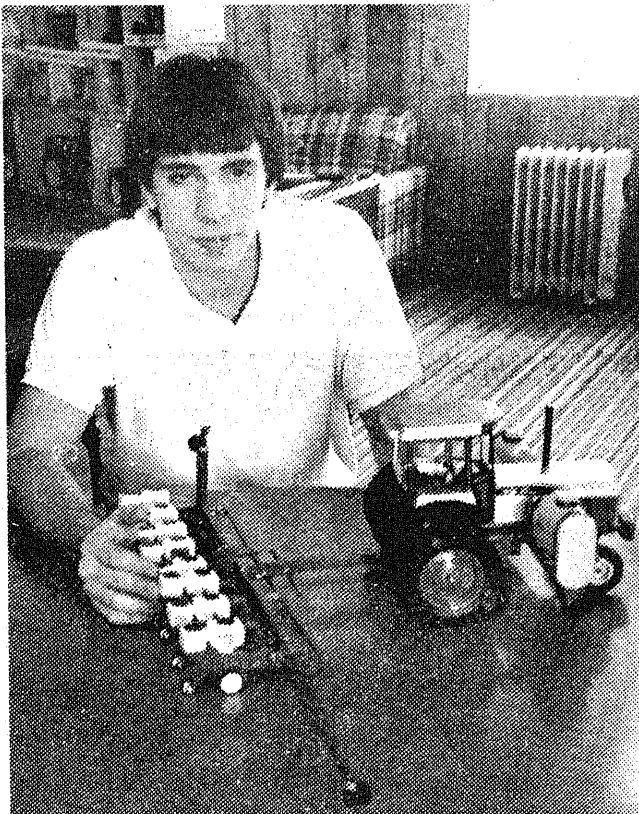
His beets get harvested with a beet harvest he built with help from family friend Ollie Schaaf.

All those activities just might be the key to winning the Star Agribusinessman degree from the FFA. Richmond is one of the top three finalists in the state from all the winners of the State FFA Degree.

He'll have to present a slide program at the state FFA convention on March 24 in his quest for the degree.



HERE, Richmond shows some of the top-quality steel gates his Richmond Steel Company builds for farmers.



MIKE RICHMOND shows part of his miniature tractor collection. He built this model as a Christmas present for his father, imitating his Dad's equipment.

SALLY RUMMEL PHOTOS

Bay Port-Caro-Caseville-Elkton-Fairgrove-Gagetown-Owendale
Thumb Weekly
News Round-Up
 Pigeon-Sebewaing-Unionville-And-All-The-Thumb
 Bay-Port-Bad-Axe

DNR TO REVIEW HURON DEER HUNTING PERMITS WEDNESDAY

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Biologists from regional, district and local levels will meet with local sportsmen this Wednesday, Feb. 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the Pigeon Conservation Club.

The meeting, sponsored by the local club, will answer questions about the number of permits issued and whether boundaries of permits should be revised. The public is welcome to attend.

Gary Boushelle, regional biologist of Roscommon, will be accompanied by Tom Prodzick, district biologist from Bay City. Local biologist Bud Jarvis of Cass City will be present to receive suggestions from local sportsmen on the permit process.

Michigan United Conservation Club members of District 9, Thumb Area, will also be present.

4 BAY SHORE CAMP CHANGES

Four events have been announced to help start the 1992 camping season at Bay Shore Christian Camp, near Sebewaing, according to Camp Director Lew Tibbits.

■ Saturday, April 11 is the 1992 Kick-Off Rally at Trinity United Methodist Church, Sebewaing. A buffet banquet will precede preview of the expanded Children's and Youth Camping Program;

■ Friday & Saturday, May 8-9 is the second annual Father-Son Catfishing Tournament, for fathers and sons of all ages;

■ Friday & Saturday, May 22-23 is the first 55 and Upward! Weekend, a new camping ministry concept for folks "young at heart," according to Tibbits;

■ Aug. 9-14 are dates for the new Co-ed Soccer Camp, which also allows Senior Music Camp to have its own week. Dean Gary Glanville has expanded past events and will add some new fine arts workshops.

Tibbits has more information about any of these new events, plus the complete summer camping schedule for children, youth and families, by calling 883-2501 or writing Bay Shore Camp at 450 N. Miller Road, Sebewaing, 48759.

KRETZSCHMER CRITICALLY INJURED

Caseville Area farmer Leroy Kretzschmer was critically injured late Friday evening when a truck he was driving

Please turn to Page 3

Talent night coming March 1 at Lakers

A dozen acts will be on stage Sunday, March 1 at 2 p.m. at Laker High School, to help raise funds for the Laker Band Boosters.

Clown comedy, dancing, a gospel quartet, several soloists and other entertainment acts will perform, according to organizers.

A special highlight of the event will be a performance by the Laker Alumni Band, a group of Laker graduates from past years who are coming together specially for this event.

Tickets will be available at the door.

19 Laker FFA's
 Win State Degree
 As featured on Pages 15-18 in this week's issue, 19 Laker High students have earned the title of FFA State Degree winners, according to Advisor Don Wheeler:

- Susan Engelhardt
- Mike Keifer
- Peter Shupe
- Reggie Ignash
- Mike Richmond
- Eric Wissner
- Melissa Stevenson
- Ryan Stahl
- Doug Schember
- Jim Niebel
- Timothy Frazho
- Jeff Fritz
- Monte Herford
- Ryan Krohn
- Jason Hunt
- Dan McIlhargie
- Rich Buchholz
- Aaron Dubs
- Michael Bushey

Thompson leads Elkton winners

Former Elkton Council member Barbara Thompson upset incumbent Village President George Willoughby 152 - 65 in Monday's Primary Election, to be the Republican nominee in the March 9 General Election.

Thompson, 54, is a homemaker who likely will become Elkton's first woman Village President, as there is no Democratic opponent on the March 9 ballot.

Of the five G.O.P. candidates for the three available two-year Council terms, incumbent James Jaworski was top vote-getter with 143 votes. Newcomers James Wilson with 123 and Frank Kolar with 120 defeated incumbents Brenda Wichert with 101 and Terry Heck with 63.

Max McKenzie got 189 votes as Treasurer, Phyllis Tamblyn had 185 as Assessor and Janet Santos 184 as Clerk, all unopposed, as Republicans. In all, 216 of Elkton's 350 voters -- 66% -- cast ballots.



Around the Elementary Centers...

PIGEON AND BAY PORT ELEMENTARY - TODD BIGGER, PRINCIPAL

We are now midway through our third marking period. Teachers are busy assessing students progress, as well as comparing class progress. Together we are assessing individual progress, and focusing on those who are "at risk" of not finding success.

Our goal is to work together with the child's family by setting a course of action (i.e. remediation, better homework habits, etc...) that will help place the child back onto a more positive track. Any community person that is interested in working with our "at risk" students, before or after school, can contact the school principal at 453-3553, or at 656-2801.

The work session would involve a lot of praise, guidance, and support. The number of sessions a week would depend on the need of the child. This is a volunteer program. The best tutoring time would be 8:30 - 9:15 a.m., or 3:45 - 4:30 p.m. The elementary school would be the tutoring site.

The "ANNUAL BAY PORT CARNIVAL" was Saturday, February 8, 1992. The Bay Port P.T.O. is to be commended for the super job they do of setting up this annual event. Also, the area merchants for the Laker District, as well as those from the Sebawaing area, are to be thanked for the annual donations and support.

This event is a tradition that can only exist with the support of the Bay Port P.T.O., the Bay Port Staff, and assistance of our many loyal contributors. I cannot forget the wonderful volunteerism that we get from Mary Motz and her group of cosmetology students from the Huron County Skill Center. Thank you, everyone!

Many of you will be seeing K.A.D.S. shirts on our area fifty graders. These shirts are a part of a special program offered to area fifth graders by the Huron County Sheriff Department. Sgt. Brent Woodward, the presenter, provides a three day (3 hour) program for each fifth grade class in the county. K.A.D.S. translates into KIDS AGAINST DRUGS. Sgt. Woodward does an excellent job with this program, and we greatly appreciate his expertise in this area.

The fifth grade basketball program is halfway through its season. Coaches for Pigeon and Bay Port Elementaries are Mr. Harmon and Mrs. Keena, respectively. Cheerleading coaches are Mrs. Hill (Pigeon), and Mrs. Keena (Bay Port).

We are very pleased with the number of fifth graders who are playing and cheering this year. We are happy to be able to provide our students with this opportunity. If you wish to come and enjoy a game please call for scheduled games (453-3553 or 656-2801).

We are pleased to have the opportunity for our students and parents to participate in the Annual Lions Slam/Dunk and Auction Family Day. This program is sponsored by the Pigeon Lions Club. Proceeds go towards the annual Lions' Scholarship.

The scholarship recipient is one of our own Laker students. The lucky recipient receives a two year scholarship to a local college. What a neat idea! The Pigeon Lions' Club also offers an opportunity for area families to host a foreign exchange student for the summer. These programs are six week programs. The students come from Europe, Scandinavia, Japan, etc... Local families interested in hosting can call me (Todd Bigger) direct at 453-2290. This is a unique experience, and I will be more than happy to discuss this with you. It is also possible to split a student's visit down to two three week family stays. If you have an interest please call.

The Pigeon P.T.C. is making plans to construct a portable concession stand to be used at our local events. Anyone having items (stoves, sinks, microwaves, pots, pans, bun warmers, roasters, etc...) that would be usable in a concession stand are asked to contact Pigeon Elementary.

We are hoping to have the shell of the stand in the area by the middle of March. Construction of the inside is going to be by volunteers.



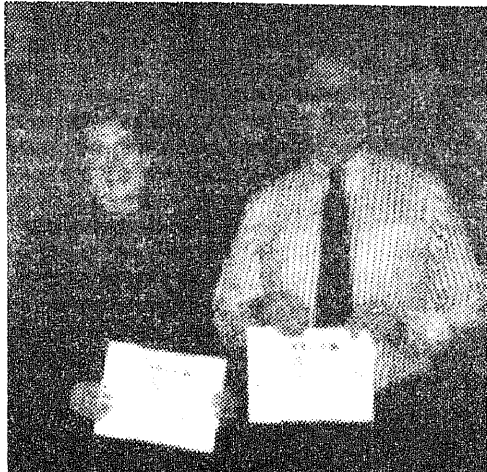
VOLUNTEERS 'GO POP!': These volunteer popcorn poppers can be seen at Pigeon Elementary School every week. "Head Popper" Mrs. Ruth Schulz is helped by Deb Collison, until Mrs. Bussema returns from vacation.



THESE FIFTH GRADE Bay Port students put up an outdoor squirrel feeder, made by Christin Brown's father, as the students study squirrels using "TRACKS" magazine.



BAY PORT ELEMENTARY STUDENTS Melanie Rathje, Rosa Schafer and Erika Allen enjoy a creative outdoor moment "showing their school pride."



STUDENT OF THE MONTH - JOSHUA HAZARD

THE WALL OF HONOR at Pigeon Elementary School includes Mrs. Deb Armbruster, parent volunteer and Michael Gehrs, staff representative.



IT'S ELEMENTARY BASKETBALL time again. Pictured here is Elkton 5th grader Kurt Jurek.

ELKTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - BEN PHILLIPS, PRINCIPAL

SPELLING BEE - Congratulations to all of the Spelling Bee participants. The overall winner was Brian Radomski, who is a 7th grader. Eric Deming made it to the final four and did a super job! The other Elkton participants were: Jeff Nimtz, Erin Gulash, and Sharon Hebert.

POSTER CONTEST - Our classrooms are participating in Detroit Edison's Environmental Poster Contest. The posters must be original and depict one or more of the following 3 categories:

Recycling
Planting trees

Conserving our world's natural resources Winners will be picked by Detroit Edison. All students participating will receive a special prize. Any school that has 100% participation will receive a tree seedling for each student. Our goal is to have all of our students participate. The contest closes Friday, February 28th.

HONOR ROLL - Congratulations to all of our honor roll students for the second marking period. The following is a list of these students: (an * indicates all A's)

Ryan Fritz, Wanda Hebert, Scott Herford, Jim Johnson, Mackenzie Kerr, Aaron Licht, Brayden McCairns, Joshua Murphy, Cassandra Peyer, Jennifer Peyer, Cassie Smith, Braden Beachy, Matthew Bruce, Carrie Bulla, Trisha Clark, Cindy Collings, Kristi Fogarski, David Hazard, Reid Kilgus, Kimberly May, Michael Sienkiewicz, Andrea Siver, Zachary Talarek, Jeremy Tonn, Jill Wiederhold, Dan Armbruster, Daniel Bouverette, Lindsay Brown, Jeff Nimtz, Matthew Reibling, Jessica Weidman, Robin Wimmer, Heather Creguer, Nathan Flores, Jason Gettel, Erin Gulash, Lonnie Hedley, Stacey Kreh, Stacey Smukala, Justin Walker, Dana Albrecht, Alicia Bouck, Sandy Brakenberry, Eric Deming, Charles Krohn, Tia McCairns, Crystal Peyer, Sharon Hebert, Melissa Knowlton, Kim Langley, Jeremy Wissner, and Jeff Zarnke.

BOOKMARK BONANZA READING PROGRAM - March is National reading month and we are going to have a special reading program here at Elkton Elementary. The program will run from March 2-31. The guidelines are very simple and are as follows:

1. Each student will receive 10 Bookmark Bonanza coupons on March 2nd.
2. When a child has read a new book, the parent fills out the coupon. The coupon may then be turned in to the principal's office for a free bookmark. We will have many exciting bookmarks to choose from. A child may collect up to ten bookmarks.
3. Students turning in all ten coupons will receive a special bonus at the end of the program.
4. Kindergarten students may count books that are read to them by a parent or guardian.
5. We ask that parents help us by making sure students read books that are at their child's approximate reading level.

TEN SECRETS TO AVOID BOREDOM

1. Get the reading habit.
2. Develop hobbies.
3. Be a joiner. Belong to organizations that share your interests.
4. A lifetime of learning. Take advantage of the opportunity to learn new things at any age.
5. Watch TV selectively.
6. Do your chores.
7. Don't isolate yourself. Make a point of getting out.
8. Say "I can!"
9. Be nice to yourself.
10. Have a wish list. Always have a list of things you want to do, want to learn, want to see, and want to be.

19 Lakers earn State FFA Degrees

The Laker High FFA program has 19 students who have earned the State FFA Degree award, given annually to the top 1% of FFA students nationwide, according to Advisor Don Wheeler. They are:

SUSAN ENGELHARDT, daughter of Orin and Frances Engelhardt of Kilmannagh, received her State FFA Degree in Production Agriculture.

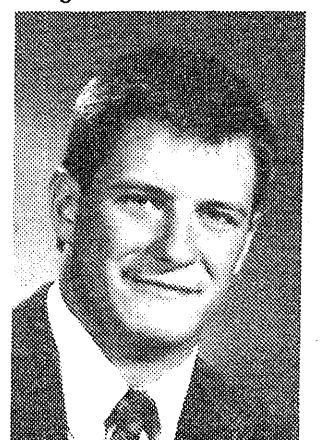


She owns 14 cows and 32 heifers. She has been involved in the dairy business with her family since 1982. She has been showing cattle around the state since she was eight years old, having received many awards for her achievements in showmanship.

Engelhardt has been involved in the FFA for four years, participating in Opening and Closing Ceremonies, the Farm Forum Team and Parliamentary Procedures Team. She is involved skills contests for dairy showmanship and recently was elected Laker FFA president.

She hopes to get involved in the field of physical therapy, earning her degree by attending night school.

MIKE KEEFER, son of Burt and Linda Keefe of Pigeon, earned his State FFA Degree in Ag Production.

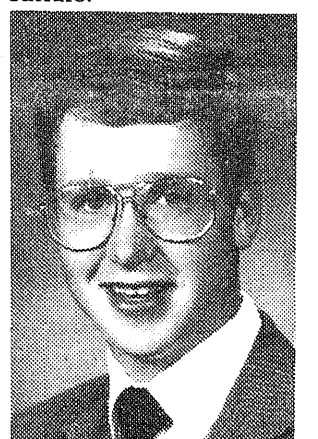


His supervised Agricultural Experience Program was Diversified Livestock Production. During his four years in FFA, he has raised poultry, sheep, swine, beef cattle and horses. He has competed at the Huron Community Fair and the Michigan State Fair.

Keefe has been vice president of the Laker chapter the last two years and was also Regional President during his junior year. He has competed in various leadership contests, placing second in the state in Demonstration, Ag Forum and Greenhand Conduct of Meetings. Keefe was also an "Alpha Gamma Rho" Outstanding Junior.

Keefe plans to further his education at a Big 10 university to major in Agricultural Science.

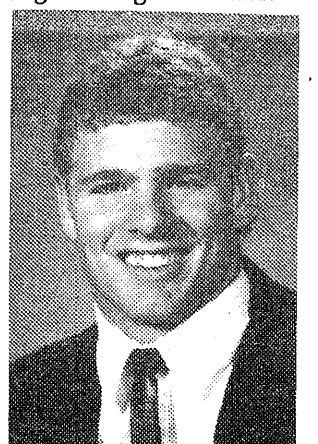
PETER SHUPE, son of Tom and Bernice Shupe of Elkton, received his State FFA Degree in Production Agriculture.



In the last four years of FFA, he has been active in: MSU State Poultry Contest for four years, Parliamentary Procedure Team alternate, 1990 Ag Forum Team and has taken three steers to the Huron Community Fair.

He plans to attend Dordt College in Iowa to study Dairy Science.

REGGIE IGNASH, son of David and Kathy Ignash of Pigeon, earned his State FFA Degree in Agri-Business.

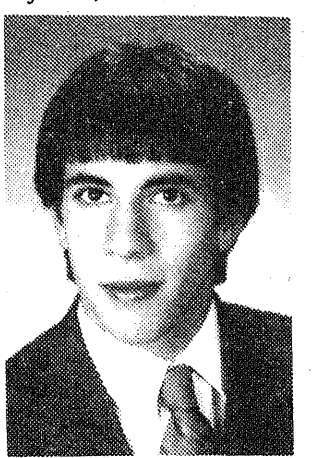


Ignash has been employed at the Scenic Golf Course, and at the Cooperative Elevator Co. part-time for the past two years.

Ignash's FFA activities have included Greenhand Conduct of Meetings, soil samples, Poultry Contest and State Skills Contests.

His future plans are to attend Saginaw Valley State University, earning a biology degree. Then he plans to attend graduate school at Michigan State University, for his Master's Degree in Wildlife Conservation.

MIKE RICHMOND, son of Glen and Carol Richmond of Bay Port, received his State



FFA Degree in Agri-Business.

His activities have included working on the following farms: Paul Leipprandt Dairy Farm, Bruce Baur Dairy Farm, Richmond Farms, Roger Haley Cash Crop Farm and owning his

Please turn to Page 16



Leaders of Tomorrow . . .

Congratulations To All FFA Members!

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LEADING THE CHALLENGE

NATIONAL FFA WEEK FEB. 15 - 22

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Looking for graduates' addresses

Lakers form Alumni group

CALLING ALL LAKER GRADUATES!!!

Laker High School Principal Lisa DiCamillo, Student Council President Kristi Gaeth, and school secretary Gail Richmond are looking for you. Better yet, they want your address.

They need those addresses to start a database of names and addresses of Laker graduates beginning with the Class of 1961, and continuing down through the years.

And with that long, long list of names, graduates interested in joining a proposed Laker Alumni Club could be contacted, DiCamillo said.

The idea began back in August as a brainstorm by members of the Student Council, who set goals for the coming school year. One of those goals to find a way to reach out to the Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port community, and possibly expand it to Laker graduates.

And since then, the group has tried to gather names and current addresses of previous Laker grads.

DiCamillo said plans are being made to produce a newsletter three times a year, to be mailed to former graduates. The newsletter would include current happenings at the school, feature stories on past staff and administrators, and an update on former graduates.

"A list of graduates would be invaluable to those who are trying to organize class reunions," DiCamillo said. "We have the technology, the computers to organize the information. Now we need the names and addresses."

The three women have identified a contact person from each graduating class, and have found some addresses from that person. But they have only been trickling in, DiCamillo said.

"We asking people to contact either me or Gail at the

high school with current addresses," she said.

The address list and the newsletter are current concerns, and sometime down the road, an Alumni Club may be started. "We stress a lot in terms of tradition and a family atmosphere here at Laker, and that sense of community is very important," DiCamillo said. "We want to continue that sense with this new project."

Bowl-a-thon set March 8

Scheurer Hospital employees are sponsoring a "Bowl-a-thon" on Sunday, March 8 at Pigeon Lanes at 12:30 p.m.

All funds raised by the 30 bowlers scheduled to participate will go towards the purchase of a birthing bed for the hospital's obstetrical unit. Cost of the bed is \$5,400, according to the hospital.



HELPING TO FORM THE new Laker Alumni Group are Kristi Gaeth, student council president; Gail Richmond, high school secretary and Lisa DiCamillo, Principal.



DIENER'S in Pigeon

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PIGEON VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1992

The regular meeting of the Pigeon Village Council was held on Monday February 10, 1992. President David Geiger called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members Present: Eichler, Miller, Gehrs, Smith and Licht. Absent: Pobanz.

A motion to approve minutes of January 13, 1992 meeting was made by Smith and supported by Eichler. Carried.

A motion to accept the Police Operations Report for January was made by Miller and supported by Smith. Carried.

A Resolution to adopt the Wellhead Protection Program was offered by Gehrs and supported by Licht. Carried.

A motion to approve the Accounts Payable for January was made by Gehrs and supported by Eichler. Carried.

Public Hearing was opened to solicit comments on a Variance Request by Clare Bechler. Mr. Bechler request was to construct a parking lot on the north end of his property to park his commercial vehicles. Residents voiced opposition to the request.

A motion to deny the Variance Request of Clare Bechler was made by Eichler and supported by Licht. Roll Call Vote: All ayes. Carried.

A motion to approve the Financial Reports for January was made by Gehrs and supported by Smith. Carried.

A motion to approve the budget amendments for the 1991/92 fiscal year was made by Eichler and supported by Licht. Carried.

Members were informed of participation in Curbside Recycling Program by Cove Sanitation representative. After considerable discussion, it was decided to change program from weekly pickup to twice monthly. Beginning March 1, curbside pickup in the Northeast area of Community will be on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays.

Public Hearing was held to review proposed Budget for the 1992/93 fiscal year.

A Resolution to adopt the proposed Budget for the fiscal year 1992/93 as presented was made by Gehrs and supported by Miller. Carried.

A motion to accept the proposed salary and wage increases for the coming year was made by Gehrs and supported by Miller. Carried. Proposals were as follows: Kohl - 20 cents per hour, Dubs - 10 cents per hour, Graf - 10 cents per hour, Heckman - \$1000 per year. Village will continue to pay costs of Blue Cross.

A motion to adjourn was made by Eichler and supported by Smith. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

JANET HECKMAN
Village Clerk