

# Door open for expanded 'Thumb C' athletic conference

by **Mary Drier**  
Participants in the Thumb C Athletic Conference will change drastically following approval to expand the com-

petition area. Conference officials approved inviting the four schools of the Blue Bay Conference and two other

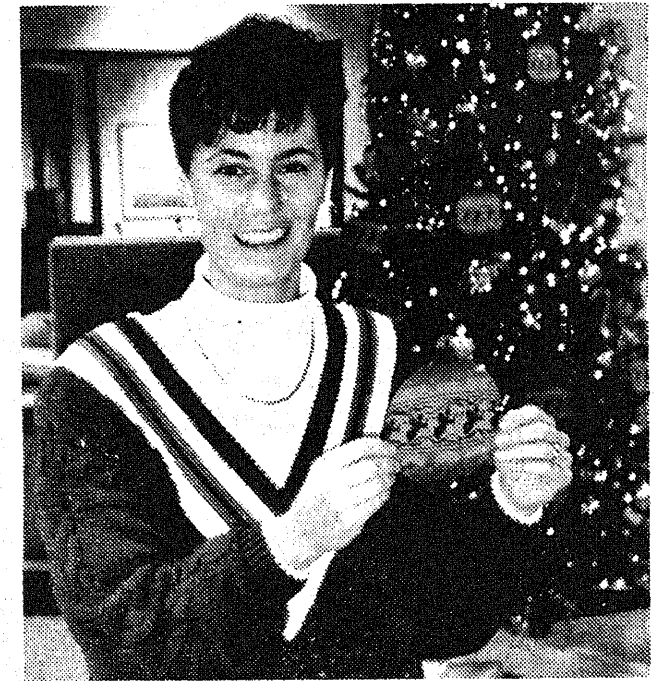
schools to join the Thumb C group. The Lakers, Marlette, Bad Axe, and Cass City of the Blue Bay Conference have been extended invitations, as well as Bay City All Saints Crosswell-Lexington schools. Currently, there are seven schools in the Thumb C League—USA, Reese, Mayville, Sandusky, Harbor Beach, Deckerville and Uby. While the invitation has been extended, it is up to each individual school district whether or not to approve admission of the new schools.

Laker Superintendent Robert J. Drury is excited about the offer and says the district will join. "The final decision rests with the Board of Education, but I am confident they will except at our December 14 board meeting."

## Young Bowlers Are Wanted

American Legion Post 421, Unionville, is interested in starting a Young Bowling League at Unionville Bowling Alley Saturday mornings. Bowlers' ages would be 6-13 years and 14-18 years. Anyone interested in joining is asked to contact Connie Sy at 674-2213, or Lee or Gloria Mascorro at 674-2576. After 6 pm call 674-8451. Plans are to start the Young Bowlers League Saturday, January 9.

Christmas Is Just 17 Days Away!



**GIVING TREE** Coordinator Stacey Gettel displays an ornament from the tree. 'Giving Tree' growing at Thumb National Bank

All around the world, Christmas is on the way. At Thumb National Bank & Trust, Christmas has already arrived — as The Giving Tree stands in the lobby in Pigeon. The Giving Tree is a method for area residents to help bring a Christmas gift to a child, sponsors say. To participate, a donor may visit Thumb National's lobby sometime before Friday, Dec. 18 and select an ornament on the tree, upon which the child's age and clothing size is written. The donor then buys a gift

for that child and when the gift is received back at Thumb National, Giving Tree coordinator Stacey Gettel of TNB replaces the ornament with a gold bow. Just before Christmas, Santa will deliver the presents to deserving children. "Help us turn the Christmas tree to gold and give to a child through the Giving Tree," Gettel says. "You may not see their smiles on Christmas morning, but you'll feel them, knowing you helped someone during the Season of Giving," she says.

If the other schools do join, it will not affect area sports until 1994.

"The first impact is we won't have to play the same schools two times in football and four times in boys' and girls' basketball like we have done for the last two years. We will have more schools to play," said Drury. "The second impact is that most of the schools we will play will be of similar makeup

with the Huron, Tuscola and Sanilac area." Lakers currently competes against Bay City All Saints in boys' baseball, girls' softball, and in tennis.

If the new admissions are approved, the league will be left with an uneven number, and it is expected the conference will split into two divisional levels. "I'm not a scheduling guru so I don't know all of the

ramifications of an odd number of teams, but I think there will still be an occasional a need for that odd number school to find competition," said Drury. "There has been some of that now." The change could help reduce transportation costs for some of the schools like USA which has had to travel as far as Houghton Lake to fill-out its seasonal athletic schedule.

## Sebewaing Merchants

### OPEN SUNDAYS

December 13 & 20  
For Your Shopping Convenience

12 NOON - 4 PM

- Aileen's & Mr. Coots
- Bolzman Ace Hardware
- Claerhout Greenhouses
- Dast Pharmacy
- Hannah's Fashion Shoppe
- Hooks Pharmacy
- Layher Jewelers, Inc.
- Pitcher's Ben Franklin
- Satow's Home of Fine Furnishings
- Sears Catalog Merchant

Convenient and personal service for you, our customers!

Sponsored by the Sebewaing Chamber of Commerce

## ST. CLAIR COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### WINTER OFF-CAMPUS SCHEDULE

Register at Huron Area Skill Center, 2:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday, December 14, 1992  
Classes start week of January 11, 1993  
CLASSES OFFERED AT HURON AREA SKILL CENTER

Course Number & Title	Sem. Hrs.	Day	Time	Instr.
<b>DAY COURSES</b>				
ENG 101 B1 ENGLISH COMPOSITION I	3	W	9:00-11:50	RIEGLE, K
ENG 102 B1 ENGLISH COMPOSITION II	3	M	9:00-11:50	RIEGLE, K
PSY 220 B1 LIFE SPAN DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCH	4	TH	8:00-11:40	SHELIN, L
<i>Prerequisite: PSY 180 or Permission of Instructor</i>				
PSY 225 B1 ADOLESCENT & ADULT PSYCHOLOGY	2	F	8:00-11:40	SHELIN, L
<i>Prerequisite: PSY 180, 210 and permission of instructor. This class is combined with PSY 220 Section B1. Class begins: 3/19/93 Class ends: 5/7/93</i>				
<b>NIGHT COURSES</b>				
BIO 205 B1 MICROORGANISMS AND MAN	4	M	6:00-8:50	TBA
<i>Monday class meets at the Huron Area Skill Center Tuesday class meets at the Huron Memorial Hospital</i>				
BIO 205 B2 MICROORGANISMS AND MAN	4	M	6:00-8:50	TBA
<i>Monday class meets at the Huron Area Skill Center Wednesday class meets at the Huron Memorial Hospital</i>				
BUS 153 B1 INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS	3	W	6:30-9:20	TBA
BUS 180 B1 MARKETING PRINCIPLES	4	M	6:15-10:00	TBA
DP 101 B1 MICROCOMPUTER APPLICATIONS	4	T	6:15-10:00	MAURER, R
DP 200 B1 ELECTRONIC SPREADSHEETS	3	W	6:30-9:20	MAURER, R
<i>Lotus 1-2-3 using IBM</i>				
ENG 101 B2 ENGLISH COMPOSITION II	3	T	6:30-9:20	ELLIOT, N
ENG 102 B2 ENGLISH COMPOSITION II	3	TH	6:30-9:20	MAKOVITSCH, R
HIS 150 B1 HISTORY OF U.S. 1877 TO PRESENT	4	M	6:15-10:00	TBA
<i>HIS 150 may be taken before HIS 149</i>				
MFT 111 B3 MACHINE TOOLS	3	TTH	6:00-8:50	MAIN, T
OA 110 B1 BEGINNING KEYBOARDING	3	W	6:30-9:20	TBA
OA 125 B1 BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS	4	T	6:15-10:00	TBA
OA 120 B1 SPELLING/PROOFREADING	2	M	5:15-7:15	TBA
OA 135 B1 AUTOMATED OFFICE PRINCIPLES & PRACTICES	3	TH	6:30-9:20	TBA
PS 101 B1 INTRODUCTION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE	3	TH	7:00-9:50	HARRISON, R
PSY 180 B1 INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY	4	W	6:15-10:00	TBA
<b>TV COURSES</b>				
RD 075 B1 STUDY SKILLS	1			BERRY, J

Information for this course is presented on videotapes which students check out from the Huron Area Skill Center for home viewing. The class will meet on SC4 Campus three times during the semester in Room 120 MB. The three campus meeting dates are: Jan. 21, from 7:00-9:00 p.m., Feb. 25 and Apr. 8 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. For more information call 1-800-553-2427 ext. 5559.

ELLEN MOORMAN - COORDINATOR  
517-269-9284

## Zook Collector Dolls

Bring a wonderful bundle of joy into your life, or give someone you love a gift of love to cherish for many years to come.

"KATHY"

"VICTORIA"

Collector Doll

and Collector Dolls are lovingly recreated and individually hand-crafted in a limited edition made in Michigan.

Choose from several dolls which are in stock and ready for your Christmas gifting.

## Orr's Drug Store

Pigeon 453-2234

# It's 26th Christmas for Caring/Sharing

By **MARY DRIER**  
The Unionville and Sebewaing Area has its own version of Santa Claus.

Although his hair is still black and he sports no beard, Unionville-Sebewaing Area School District Supt. William Dodge has played Santa to the area's needy for 26 years.

Dodge developed and coordinates the district's annual USA Caring/Sharing Christmas program that helps area people during the holidays.

The program collects non-perishable food items and money from area residents,

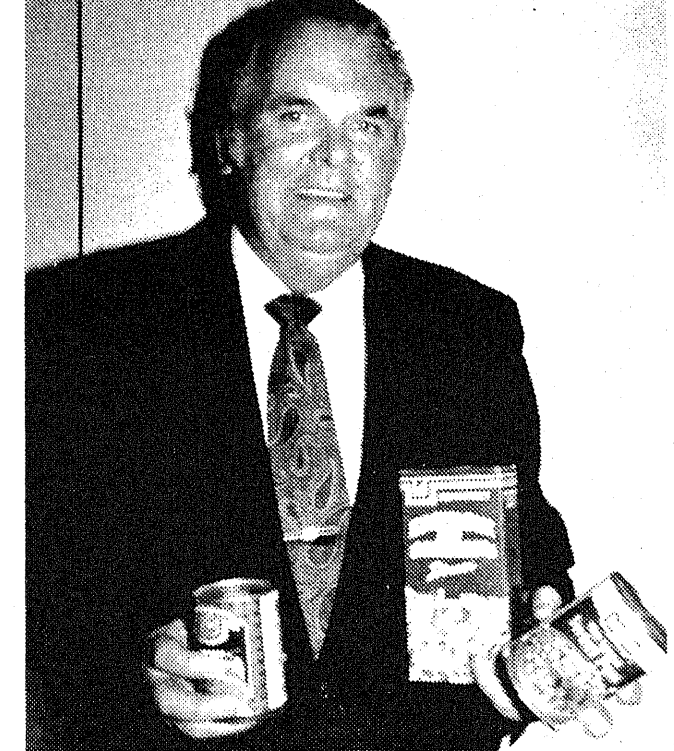
businesses, companies and churches to purchase food so everyone can have a joyous holiday.

"We all know the current financial status of our area due to high unemployment, so the need for assistance continues," said Dodge, noting there is an even greater need this year due to the economy and the increasing number of senior citizens.

While Dodge bears no physical resemblance to Santa, the heart that beats in his burly chest shares the same love of fellow man. His Caring & Sharing ef-

orts have helped more than 2,800 area residents have a merrier Christmas in past years.

Last year, about 125 residents in the communities of



**USA SCHOOL SUPT. William D. Dodge** coordinates the annual Caring/Sharing drive to collect food for needy families in the area.

All The News That Fits

## We Print!

by Mark Rummel

**CHRISTMAS RAMBLINGS:** My very favorite Christmas sight when I was little was Sebewaing's Center Street Bridge, festooned with big plastic candy cane lights. We called it "Candy Cane Lane" and it meant Christmas through and through.

We also took trips to Cass City to see the lights, but both "Candy Cane Lane" and big Cass City displays are gone today (even though Cass City still claims to be the "Christmas Decoration City" or something similar on the signs coming into town).

These days, you SHOULDNT miss seeing Frankenmuth's lights at dusk or later. Michigan's leading tourism destination again leads the way for best-lighted — they've got displays and lights EVERYWHERE!

As we've stated here before, PIGEON's almost-finished street-scape project has brought BEAUTIFUL lighted trees for the first time, too — and the downtown Pigeon streets are almost brighter at night than during the day!

**DEC. 8 RAMBLINGS:** We've also said THIS before: once M-24 is completed into Unionville, the wise men at the state Department of Transportation had better install a stoplight at the M-25 intersection.

The traffic there already is busy, but it will be ridiculous when the M-24 extension is finished. Hope they think about this NOW when it's early, rather than later...

Wanda Eichler found this map of the Pioneer Seed "Search Communities" listed in "Visions from the Heartland," a publication of the Heartland Center for Leadership Development of Lincoln, Neb.

### The Search Communities

As you can see, it shows the general location of the current 12 Search Communities, which Pioneer is helping develop progressively. Interesting — thanks for sharing it, Wanda!

**RUMORS:** Bay City supposedly is getting a Red Lobster restaurant, although company officials haven't officially said so yet. Also, Port Huron's Toys R Us store just opened, as did Midland's... Port Huron also is supposed to get a Red Lobster, along with an amazing amount of other new development. Details when we hear them...

Our Mary Drier took the front-page photo in last week's paper and wrote the outline about Sebewaing's tourism racks. But "the old editor" (me) knew the correct way to spell Sharron Adler's name, since Sharron Martini used to live next door to us... and was my favorite babysitter for a long time! Now I realize she really wasn't that much older than me...

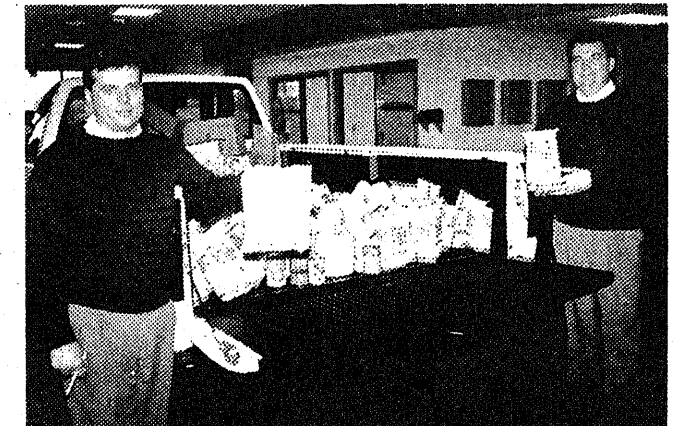
— 30 —  
WISH I'D SAID THAT: "Change your thoughts and you change your world." (Norman Vincent Peale)

Unionville, Sebewaing, Owendale, Gagetown and Bay Port were helped by the Caring/Sharing program.

Besides food, the program has several local volunteers who make hand-crafted toys so each child is assured of at least one Christmas gift. Also, the program provides

toys and clothes from the Interfaith Council's "Clothe a Child" program in Bad Axe.

Anyone knowing of a family in the program's service area who needs foodstuffs for Christmas can call 883-2360 Monday through Friday.



**GETTEL AUTO MALL** is again collecting food for Caring/Sharing in a pickup in their showroom. Like last year, they'll double contributions made to the program, say General Manager Dennis Harrington, left, and Sales Manager Larry Richardson.

## Sugar Fest t-shirt designs needed soon!

Once again the Michigan Sugar Festival Committee is asking for your ideas for a theme for the 1993 Michigan Sugar Festival.

If you have a T-shirt in mind for your theme, you can include that also, they say. The committee is looking at the possibility of having a circus or rodeo in conjunction with the festival, and the theme and/or T-shirt design could possibly correlate with these ideas.

Again the Sebewaing Chamber of Commerce will offer a \$25 gift certificate to both the winning T-shirt design and theme.

Entries should be dropped at the village office or mailed to Sebewaing Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 622, Sebewaing 48759 by Tuesday, Dec. 22.

## Tom Farver wins Elkton's \$1,000 prize

The Elkton 300 Club held its final drawing on Sunday, and Tom Farver, Jr. of Elkton was the big winner of the \$1,000 first prize.

Dave Anderson of Pigeon took home \$500, while Jim Seley of Elkton walked away with \$250.

Richard Arnott of Port Austin and Dennis Kunder of Sebewaing each won \$100 and Chuck O'Dell of Cass City and Alma Stahl of Bay Port each nabbed \$50.

The annual fund-raiser is sponsored by the Elkton Chamber of Commerce.

Christmas Is Just 17 Days Away!

Blade & Progress

## NEWS ROUND-UP

Continued from Front Page

Commerce. Special consideration was given to communities that:

- Have more than one-half of their residents in low- to moderate-income levels.
- Have projects mandated by state or federal agencies.
- Have matching funds available.
- Have already started project planning and engineering.

The Rebuild Michigan program is funded by the federal Community Development Block Grant program, and requires all approved projects be completed by January 1, 1995.

## Choir sings with symphony

You'll be able to enjoy the Laker Honors Choir on Christmas morning from the comfort of your living room, when it takes part in **TV12 Christmas with the Pops**.

The eleven local singers are members of an honors chorus which will perform with the Saginaw Symphony under the direction of Leo Najar on Tuesday, December 8 at the Saginaw Civic Center. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m., and is a benefit for the Toys for Tots program.

The concert will be broadcast Christmas morning at 11:00 a.m. on Channel 12.

Members of the Laker group include: Vicki Gascho, Tammy Dilleree, Aline Foster, Beth Duffield, Julie Schulz, Gretchen Eichler, Stephanie Niebel, Tim Heriden, Angela Winkel, Ima Aguilera and Kari Gardy. The Laker singers are directed by Annie Eichler.

## Traxler's term winding down

Eighth District U.S. Congressman Bob Traxler (D-Bay City), who is retiring at the end of this 102nd Congress, will begin closing his offices as sought by the House Administration Committee.

He will close his Washington, D.C., office Friday, Dec. 11, and the Bay City and Saginaw offices Friday, Dec. 18. The closings are required in order to provide time for transition to new members of the 103rd Congress, officials say.

"Because the turnaround time for the new Congress is so short, I must comply with the committee's order to close my office early," Cong. Traxler says. "Due to the large number of incoming members, more time is needed to accommodate the hundreds of moves taking place."

During late December all offices are prepared for new members. In the interim, Michigan's U.S. Senators Don Riegle (D-Flint) and Carl Levin (D-Detroit) will help 8th District constituents. Riegle's phone number is 202-224-4822 or Levin at 202-224-6221.

In January, constituents of the new Fifth Congressional District should contact Representative-elect Jim Barcia, who will be sworn in on Jan. 4, 1993.

## Court proceedings

In 73rd District Court (Huron County), Judge Karl Kraus last week heard the pleas of/or passed judgement on:

■ Kimberly S. Bieri, 27 of Bay Port, pled guilty to impaired driving; ordered to pay \$500 fines and costs, serve six months' probation, attend alcohol counseling classes and loses driver's license for six months;

■ David B. Binienda, 32 of Sterling Heights, pled guilty to driving with license revoked, following a Nov. 26 incident on M-53 at Sebewaing Road, Sheridan Township; \$260 fines and costs;

■ William R. Hutchinson, 27 of Caseville, pled guilty to no operator's license in possession and improper license plates; \$120 fines and costs, and

■ Michael S. Elliott, 18 of Bay City, on charge of possession of marijuana, following a Nov. 8 incident in Village of Sebewaing investigated by Michigan State Police; sentencing or plea acceptance deferred to March 31, without finding of guilt.

In 71 District Court (Tuscola County), Judge Kim D. Glaspie recently heard the pleas of/or passed judgement on:

■ Gary L. Hellebuyck, 36, of Gifford pled guilty to operating a vehicle under the influence of liquor to a Sept. 6 incident in Fairgrove Township; sentenced to pay \$570 in fines and costs, 12 months probation, and license suspended for six months.

■ Dennis A. Binder, 19, of Unionville pled guilty to assault/battery against Christopher Swinehart on Oct. 21; sentenced to serve 90 days in jail.

■ Robert L. Woody, 62, of Saginaw pled guilty to attempted recreational trespassing to an incident in Akron Township on Oct. 21; ordered to pay \$50.

■ Marshall Sanders, 67, of Saginaw pled guilty to attempted recreation trespassing to an incident Oct. 21 in Akron Township; ordered to pay \$50.

■ Dennis A. Binder, 19, of Unionville, pled guilty to malicious destruction of police property; ordered to pay restitution of \$272.57 within nine months for damage to Tuscola County jail property.

# The Newsweekly Forum

## As we see it

### Holidays can be stress-free by thinking ahead...

While this holiday season is one of the happiest and most enjoyable times for most folks, it's also a time of great frustration for others. Whether there isn't quite enough money to go around, whether people have trouble deciding what gifts to buy, whether baking, gift-wrapping or other commitment bring frustration... whatever the reason, the holidays bring stress for many people.

An Iowa State University Extension Home Economist shares some thoughts on fighting the bad parts of Christmas, leaving us more time to enjoy the wonder of it all... and not lose sight of the true reason for the season.

Susan Klein says we all have old-fashioned holiday expectations — which often aren't compatible with today's lifestyles. Most folks surveyed say holidays were less stressful and more enjoyable 20

years ago, but Klein offers several remedies to make the season more bearable:

■ List all the old family traditions that appear on your calendar every year. After examining the list closely, trim out the unneeded ones, to be more practical.

■ Same with gift-buying. Make a list of all the "wanted" gifts in your family, and cross off those that are unneeded or too expensive.

■ Start NOW, don't procrastinate! Get the whole family involved in shopping, decorating, cooking and so on. The more the merrier, Klein says.

■ Rough economic times can be especially straining during the holidays. Try to teach kids that giving is more important than getting, and encourage them to help out the needy.

■ Share food work loads. Have some of your guests bring part of holiday meals, and share "favorite family recipes."

■ "Blended families" (involving divorced parents) can be a major cause of stress. If you are separated from your child, make arrangements to see him or her. Let kids know that security still exists for them.

■ Ensure that kids and "step-kids" get equal treatment, by including everyone in family photos and traditions.

It's going to take some work to have a stress-free holiday, but you'll enjoy it much more if you start now — and benefit from the ideas outlined here. You'll be glad you did...

she spoke good German and that helped a good deal.

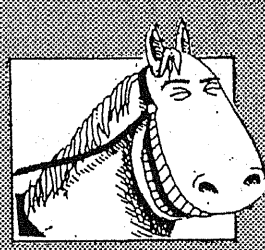
She was seven years younger than I am because when I was 14 she was seven, but somehow she caught up with me. If everything goes good I'll be 82 on Dec. 6. You can read in Psalms that if you live three more and by reason of strength you get another 10 years, you had your time.

Well, I'm living on borrowed time and people tell me to behave myself, but I don't know that an old man like me can still do any mischief.

Sincerely yours,  
George Keim

## Horsin' Around

by Kate Pickering



## Hey, hey, they're the Monkees!

Back about a hundred years ago as I teetered on the brink of adolescence, I had a lovesick crush on a young man (a former jockey, ironically enough) who was as cute as the dickens. His name was Davy Jones, and he was a member of television's faux-pop band "The Monkees." I thought the sun rose and set in his beguiling British smile, and I assure you, I never missed a single episode of that rather "lite" TV program.

But I endured a lot of criticism due to this infatuation. I was constantly reviled by friends who were rock and roll purists because the Monkees weren't really a band, they didn't really sing the lilting little ditties that permeated each show, and they were—at best—no more than talented lip-synch artists. I felt cheap and stupid then, as must've most Monkee fans, because we let them fade into obscurity.

Then came the ill-fated "Partridge Family." At least that show featured the inimitable Shirley Jones, and later gave us "L.A. Law's" Grace Van Owen. Still, former Partridge Family fans have had to change their names and burn old David Cassidy posters for fear of the verbal abuse that always ensues when one of their ilk is exposed. Why? Well, they weren't a real band and they didn't really sing those songs. (See a pattern developing here?)

Well, the world was such a different place back then, and we, the youth of America, were so naive, we didn't know that music and musicians were supposed to embody virtue and integrity. So The Monkees and the Partridge Family went off the air and the airwaves for good, a valuable lesson learned, and no real harm done.

So did we learn and change and grow from all the Monkee/Partridge mayhem? Apparently not. As recently as a couple of years ago the music industry was shocked and horrified when the dread-locked duo "Milli Vanilli" was exposed for having lip synched at their live performances, and for having failed to lend their voices even to their own recordings. Realizing that they were nothing more than a pair of handsome-faced, big thighed front men, they were asked to return their Grammy, and were branded with scarlet "A's." No one has heard from them since, save for a pathetic, short-running CareFree chewing gum commercial. (Of course, now you hear people mocking them mercilessly as if they knew all along that Milli and his friend Vanilli were complete and total frauds...but somebody was buying their records, and you know who you are!)

So are talent-less lip synching teen idols finally a thing of the past? Apparently not. Now we are being asked to swallow a concept called "The Heights," a new Fox Network television series featuring super-hip, super-slim actors and

actresses who portray struggling musicians who have formed a band. Each week they enjoy torrid, intramural love affairs, look great in all the latest fashions, and feature female cast members so dang chic and skinny that I'm sure scores of young women all across America have taken to vomiting in an effort to emulate them.

"The Heights-es" even have a single out on the radio, "How Do You Talk to an Angel?" which is currently being over-played to death on every major radio station and is subsequently number one on the charts with a matching video. The video features the cast members humming, strumming, and lip-synching away as if they are the actual musicians behind the music.

But they are not. Hmmm...where have I hear/seen this concept before?

Still, the show is very popular, the single is No. 1, and the video is played every hour. So I guess you could say, "Hey, hey, they're the Monkees of the 90's"...except that no one of them is half as cute as my Davy Jones.

## A Wahre G'schichte

bei Hanswurst

## Years of saving

Meiste Leute sind into zwei Categories ge-classified. Sie sind either sehr free-spending and kaufen alles neu, oder Sie sind sehr tight, und machen alles lang lasten und dann recyceln Sie es.

Wir Deutsche wissen ja in welche Category wir belongen, aber wir kommen honestly dabei.

Lately, finden wir das unsere Kinder sind 10 oder 20 times mehr free-spending denn wir waren.

Ein Example haben wir recently discussed, da eine Kaffee Klatcher explained hat wie Sie immer "Silver Paper" sauen musste.

Das hat eine ganze flood Memories aufgebracht. So 50 Jahre ago was Silver Paper ein fancy, fancy Weg zum Food Articles packen.

Hershey Bars kamen in Silver Paper, inside den ge-printen Wrapper. Das haben wir carefully unwrapped, und haben das Silver Paper into ein kleiner Ball ge-pressed.

Das nächste Stueck haben wir um den kleinen Ball gerollt, und dann das Nächste, usw (das meint "und so weiter", auf Englisch "etc.")

Even individual Stuecker Gum kamen in Silver Paper. Das hatte eine inside Wax Paper Lining so mussten wir die Lining ab-pullen und das kleine Stueck Silver Paper zu unsern Ball adden. Das kleine Stueck war nur so about 3 Inches bei ein Inch, aber doch war es ge-saved.

Zu der Zeit kamm Tee in dickes Silver Paper und wenn wir das zu unser Ball ge-added haben dann hat es den Ball schnell enlarged. Tee Silver Paper war dick und schwer und das hat schnell auf-ge-counted.

Silver Paper kamm auch als Decorations an fancy Candy Boxes, und Saecke Candy, Packaged Kaese, Soaps und andere Groceries.

Ein Weihnachten kamen ganze "Swift Brand" Schinken in ein grosses Stueck Silver Paper, und wir freuten uns fuer das Silver. Dann sahen wir das die inner Seite war ge-covered mit Fett und Speck von Schinken. Aber, wir haben das Silver Paper aus-ge-flattened, und mit Soap und Hot Water ge-cleaned, und dann konnten wir es zu unser Silver Ball adden.

So ist mit der Zeit unser Silver Ball ge-growed und gewacksen.

Ich weiss nicht ob es sechs Months, ein Jahr oder laenger nahm, aber endlich hatten wir ein Silver Ball das about so gross wie ein Peck Basket war.

Mit unser Coaster Wagon haben wir den Ball zum Charley Beckman ge-hauled, weil er war der local Junk Dealer.

Auf unser Weg haben wir discussed wie viel er uns offern wird.

Wenn er "Fuenf Dollars" sagen wird, so werden wir fuer Sechs fragen. Wir waren confident das mit so viel Silver Ball werden wir eine starke bargaining Position haben.

"Was wenn er nur Vier Dollars offern wird?" haben wir gewundert.

"Dann werden wir fuer Fuenf Dollars bargainen", haben wir gesagt.

Endlich kamen wir zum Herr Beckman's Yard. Wir erwarteten seine erste Offer, determined das no matter wie hoch er bidden wird, das wir fuer mehr bargainen werden.

Er lief zwei oder dreimal past uns und sagte gar nichts. Endlich hat er den Ball auf den Wagen angeguckt.

Er hat in seine Hosentasche rum-ge-fished, und hat zwei Quarters heraus bebracht.

"Fifty cents", sagte er, und hat beide von uns ein Quarter ge-handed.

"Danke vielmals", sagten wir beide und haben unser Coaster Wagon toward Heim ge-pulled.

Die Moral in die Story ist, das es nimmt ein smarter Mensch zu wissen wenn er sein full Potential ge-reached hat.

## Yarns From The Thumb

by Walt Rummel

It's TUESDAY, DEC. 8, and there are just 23 days remaining in 1992, which means that we've used up 343 days. We're 13 days from the first day of Winter and 17 days before Christmas... William Crapo Durant, better known as Billy Durant, promoter of the Buick car, co-founder of Chevrolet, and founder of General Motors in 1908, was born in Boston on DEC. 8, 1861. He made a fortune, lost it, made another fortune and went bankrupt during the Depression, and operated a bowling alley in Flint during his last working years. He died in 1947... James Hoban, Irish-born architect who designed the White House, was born in 1762 and died on DEC. 8, 1831. The White House, oldest public building in Washington, was started in 1792... Birthdays today, Actress Kim Basinger 39, Comedian Flip Wilson 59, and Actors James MacArthur 55 and Maximilian Schell 62...

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 9, is the night of the next Full Moon and there will also be a total eclipse that evening, the middle being at 6:44 pm and ending about 9:30 pm. The eclipse will be visible in many parts of the world, including northern and eastern North America... The first formal cremation of a human body in America occurred 200 years ago on DEC. 9, 1792, near Charleston, SC. The deceased had left strict orders on how his cremation was to be carried out, but he left disposal of his bones and "deposit them wherever he (his son) may think proper"... Clarence Birdseye, who developed a way to deep-freeze food, was born on DEC. 9, 1886, and he became one of the founders of General Foods Corp... Actor Kirk Douglas is 76, Singer Donny Osmond is 34 and Former House Speaker "Tip" O'Neill is 80...

The Sioux Indian Chief Red Cloud, a firm defender of Indian rights and negotiator with U.S. Government agents, died on DEC. 10, 1909. He was the subject of a postage stamp in the Great Americans Series in 1987, issued by U.S. Postal Series... MWR49-43... Actor Harold Gould is 69 today, Actress Dorothy Lamour is 78 and Former Ag Secretary Clayton Yeutler is 62...

King Edward VIII of England, formerly the Prince of Wales, abdicated the English throne on DEC. 11, 1936, to marry Wallis Warfield Simpson, an American divorcee, whom he called "the woman I love". Edward succeeded to the English throne upon the death of his father, George V, on Jan. 20, 1936, but the coronation never took place. He was opposed by many high English officials because of Mrs. Simpson's divorces... At 6 p. m. DEC. 11, 1953, Channel KTVA, Anchorage, AK, went on the air, becoming Alaska's first broadcast station... Singer Brenda Lee is 48 today, Actress Rita Moreno is 61, Movie Producer Carlo Ponti, former husband of Sophia Loren, is 79, and Author/Educator Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn is 74...

SATURDAY, DEC. 12, is a day to enjoy poinsettias and to honor Dr. Joel Roberts Poinsett, the American diplomat who introduced the Central American plant into the U.S. Consequently the plant was named for him. He was born in Charleston, SC, in 1799, served in Congress and as secretary of war before he received diplomatic appointments. He died on DEC. 12, 1851. The poinsettia has become a favorite Christmas season plant... Singer Frank Sinatra (Francis Albert Sinatra) is 77 today, Former NY Mayor Ed Koch is 68, Singer Connie Francis is 54 and Singer Dionne Warwick is 51...

SUNDAY, DEC. 13, is Santa Lucia Day in Sweden, a national day celebrating the festival of light, when white-robed young girls, often wearing a candle-ripped halo, serve coffee and lussekatter (safron buns) to friends and guests... Mary Todd Lincoln, wife of President Lincoln, the 16th U.S. President, was born DEC. 13, 1818. She died in 1882... Archer/Outdoorsman Ted Nugent is 43 today, Actor Dick VanDyke is 67, Actor Christopher Plummer is 63 and Actor/Comedian Tim Conway is 59...

## From Under The Willow

by Wanda Eichler

## Miscellaneous from Main Street...

The routine is setting in for this new shopkeeper. Dec. 3 marked one month in business and, while I still feel a novice at what I'm doing, there must be some point where new shopkeepers turn into just shopkeepers.

I've learned a lot and done lots of new things in the process of renovating a building and opening a shop in a small town. The list of observations could get long, but let's confine it to a few short pieces.

1. SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY — From the encouraging words of shop owners and employees in Pigeon businesses, to customers excited about a new shop in town, to helpful folks at the bank and among the advertising community, I've been blessed with a supportive community. My guess is that the size of the town has something to do with the warm welcome. Friends, it's felt like a homecoming...and that feels good.

2. YOU CAN'T PLEASE EVERYBODY — While I realize that the longtime watchword for retailing is something like "the customer is always right," cultural differences alone dictate that you will not please everyone. Every business has a standard to follow. Some people will attempt to bend that standard and it is up to the business to kindly hold the line from time to time.

3. THE HOURS ARE L-O-N-G-I-I — I knew that I'd be putting in long hours and I am. Most small businesses are run with a minimum of employees and the owners try to be on site as much as possible. Friday is the longest day for me. I'm up by 6 a.m., at the shop by 8:45 a.m. and close the door at 8 p.m. I usually don't eat lunch until mid-afternoon, and by 7 p.m., I'm ready to drop.

Employees, friends and family tell me that I'll have to find a different pacing for those kinds of days and they are graciously right.

Most six-day-a-week small businesses have their doors open over 50 hours. When you consider the standard of a forty hour work week and realize that these people still have ordering and paperwork to do when they close their doors at night, you come to respect their initiative and drive lots more.

These are not people who can close the door and go home without a care. If things don't go well, their employees get paid, but they do not. Paying monthly bills is a juggling act.

Are you getting the message that I have lots more respect for small businesses? There's nothing like walking a mile in someone's moccasins to get a feel for the life that person leads.

Oh yes, I'd tell you about the morning that I took a pail of hot water and ammonia and swept the sidewalk. Someone had vomited on the pavement and I scrubbed that away. While I worked, a car parked nearby and the driver let me know that my scrubbing made the gutter wet where he wanted to park.

I didn't tell him what the options were that morning. I just assumed that he'd rather deal with a clean sidewalk and some water in the street than the mess that I'd just scrubbed up.

You see, I have learned, too, that there are just some things that you don't tell people!!

## Recollections Of By-Gone Days

by George Keim

Dear Editor:

I didn't write an article last week because there was too much going on. My youngest sister passed away and the relatives were around. I had to do a little with the funeral arrangements, and then Thanksgiving was last week.

I remember a lot of Thanksgivings. We went to country school and they let us off for Thanksgiving, but usually made us come to school on Friday. We never had any turkey for dinner, but my mother was a very good cook and she could fry or roast chicken better than a lot of other women.

Years ago, farmers wouldn't get their fall work done till Thanksgiving, but there was always some plowing to do and corn shucking to do. I remember one Thanksgiving day our neighbor had an old tractor that had chains to steer it with. It was snowing and blowing but he was out plowing and he had to spin that steering

wheel to stay in the furrows. He went home past our place and he told my Dad that he was very thankful that he got his plowing done. The next day it was nice and warm and my Dad was thankful that he didn't have to plow in all that storm.

I was to my son's place for Thanksgiving day and had a very good dinner and my grandchildren were there and we had a good time although we felt sorry that my sister was gone. I was very thankful that she could go and be with the Lord. She didn't have any children but she loved her nieces and nephews. She took good care of my folks and she had made everything ready. She traveled around a lot and worked in the telephone office over 20 years and worked in the Scenic old people home and in the long term at Scheurer Hospital, and then she was a patient there for several years. She took care of a lot of old people that could hardly talk English and

The BLADE-CRESCENT & The Progress-Advance

# The Newsweekly

— All The News For The Western Thumb —

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# Thumb-area folks open their hearts to Chris Schuz family

by Amy Heiden

Less than a month ago, Chris Schulz was worrying about paying for trips to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. for surgery on her tongue. Now, thanks to the generosity of folks from all over the Thumb and other states, she has enough in the bank to finance at least three more trips to the clinic.

Schulz has been suffering from a tumor on her tongue

may have to undergo at least three laser surgeries before doctors are satisfied with the results, but if those surgeries fail, she could lose at least two-thirds of her tongue.

Her story appeared in *The Newsweekly* (Nov. 10), detailing her struggle to find relief from the pain of the tumor and of the difficulty in paying medical and travel bills. Much to her surprise, folks from all over Huron

for gas, motels and meals and the fund's balance will allow at least three more trips, or pay some of the mounting medical bills. Steve Schulz's medical insurance covers 20 percent of his wife's medical bills, but most doctors' office calls must be paid at the time of the visit. Steve Schulz also loses pay when he takes time off to accompany his wife to Minnesota.

Schulz's first laser surgery was done Nov. 18 at the Mayo Clinic. Her doctors said the swelling and soreness should subside within a couple of weeks after the surgery, but that hasn't happened yet, Schulz said last week.

"If anything it's more swollen and sore than it was before," she said. "They didn't

know how the surgery would turn out because this is the first time they've operated on a tumor of this type on a tongue."

The Schulzes will travel again to Minnesota in early January for another round of laser surgery. One more operation after that may be necessary for the tumor to shrink substantially, but if it fails, Schulz may have to face the amputation of two-thirds of her tongue.

Since her return to Elkton, Schulz has fought a bout with flu and now is suffering from bronchial pneumonia, which can be dangerous because of her tracheostomy which allows her to breathe more easily. And since her tongue is so sore, she worries constantly about the possibility of amputation.

But with the donated funds, she has a few less worries and says she's grateful for the generosity of people she doesn't even know.

"If I wasn't able to go to the Mayo Clinic, I would probably have had to do the amputation," Schulz said. "It's nice to have alternatives to that, and I'm glad I'm able to go to the Mayo. I'm grateful that people have helped."

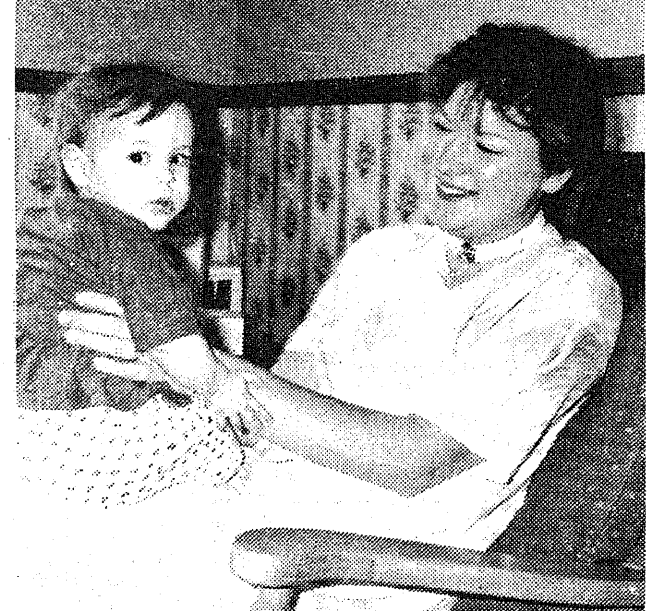
One special help came from a former Pigeon resident now living in California who owns a bed and breakfast inn only ten minutes from the clinic in Rochester. The owner has offered to let the Schulzes stay at the inn anytime they're in Rochester at no charge.

Schulz has received nu-

merous cards and letters from local folks, and every single one has been read and treasured, she said.

A benefit spaghetti supper for Schulz is being planned for Thursday, Dec. 17 at the Elkton Civic Center, sponsored by the Cornerstone Sunday School Class at Elkton United Methodist Church. Final details haven't been worked out yet, according to organizer Paul Brooks, but the dinner will precede the Laker Senior High Band Concert at 7:30 p.m., and all proceeds will go to the Christina Schulz Fund.

To help with ongoing travel and medical expenses, donations can be sent to "The Christina Schulz Fund, c/o Elkton Chamber of Commerce, Elkton, MI 48731.



ELKTON RESIDENT Chris Schulz and her daughter Danielle are getting ready for the holiday season.

called a hemangioma which has caused her to have difficulty breathing and eating. The tumor was probably caused by higher hormone levels brought on by her pregnancy earlier this year, and it's made up of many small blood vessels fed by one large one. She made one trip to the Mayo Clinic in October, when doctors started a course in steroid therapy, hoping to shrink the tumor.

When that therapy failed, doctors at the Mayo Clinic decided on laser surgery to cauterize the blood vessels and allow it to shrink. Schulz

County and several states have donated generously to the Christina Schulz Fund set up by the Elkton Chamber of Commerce to provide a financial cushion for Schulz and her husband Steve.

Over \$1,700 has been received so far from individuals, businesses and local civic clubs, and from a fund-raising bake sale held by the Bad Axe K-Mart Good News Committee.

"People around here have been great. It's just been overwhelming," Chris Schulz said. "When this is all over and I find that other people need help, I'll try to help if I can. It's wonderful not to have to worry so much about how to pay to travel out to Minnesota."

Each trip to Minnesota costs the Schulzes over \$500

## Bay Shore planning '93 schedule

The Bay Shore Camp's 1993 calendar for ministry is close to completion, reports Camp Director Lewis Tibbits.

Program changes for youngsters include adding a second Co-ed Basketball Camp and a Co-ed Tennis Camp, and moving Senior Music Camp to June 27 to July 3 slot, and bumping Junior Camp for grades fifth and sixth to Aug. 1 to 6.

Adults will find repeats of the Father-Son Catfishing Tournament and the 55 & Upward Weekend, with the addition of a Singles Weekend Retreat.

Wrapping up the 1992 season, the camp reports their annual Senior High Retreat at the Laker High School drew over 80 participants.

Also, Tibbits reports the financial picture of the camp is bright. It became debt free in Nov.

However to meet projected goals of the gifts and Donations budget, the camp needs to raise another \$12,000, Tibbits says.

## Christmas Sing-a-long at Gallery

The Lake Huron Community Arts Council will present *An Evening of Christmas Songs* on Friday, Dec. 18 at the Heidelberg Gallery, in downtown Sebewaing.

Scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m., the musical revue will feature Fred Volz on organ and Rich Wroblecki playing guitar. Donations for Arts Council operations are optional.

Organizers say everyone is invited to visit the Gallery, sample the spirit of the season, and enjoy an evening of favorite Christmas carols and songs.

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**Nancy's OF PIGEON** 453-3533  
**Our Own Pre-Christmas SALE!**  
**\* 3 DAYS ONLY \***  
Thursday - Friday - Saturday • Specials on EVERYTHING!  
Sweaters, Sweatshirts, Blouses, Skirts, Slacks, Jeans, Shoes, Boots, Dresses, Isotoner Gloves, Slippers, Jogging Sets, Pantsuits, Jewelry, Jackets, Coats, Turtle & Mock Turtle-necker!

**We financed Our New Dairy Facility with Farm Credit Services**

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# Pigeon & Elkton share EPA wellhead grant

by Amy Heiden

The Villages of Pigeon and Elkton have received a \$29,550 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to establish a Wellhead Protection Plan to protect groundwater and establish a database of information on area wells in case of future contamination.

Public-Health Dept. The two villages are working together with the Michigan Rural Water Association, the U.S. Geological Service, and local and state health departments to create the Wellhead Protection area, which encompasses Oliver, Winsor, most of Fair

Haven and part of Colfax Townships. "The biggest source of contamination is old wells around here," Forster said. "We also have to locate underground storage tanks, especially the ones that are leaking."

After all sources of contamination are identified and mapped, each village and probably each township will have to make changes in its ordinances to provide penalties for people who allow contamination to occur, Forster said. The plan will be submitted to the state Department of Public Health for approval. "The whole plan is meant to help us protect our groundwater sources," Forster said. Committee members from Pigeon include Dave Geiger and Ken Licht from the village council, along with Dave McCormick, Art Priebe and Wes Edington. Those representing Elkton include Forster, Doug Keyworth, Alfredo Santos, Sr., Barb Thompson and Marty Baker.

## Sebewaing's lucky shoppers

This week's Sebewaing Sunday Shopper Drawing winners are: Amber Graves,

Kevin Radabaugh, Sandy Gremel, Lillian Gremel and Gen Kehoe.

Each winner received a gift certificate from the Sebewaing Chamber of Commerce.

## USA JVs Set Babysitting Fund-Raiser

Junior varsity cheerleaders of USA School are planning a baby-sitting fund raiser this coming Saturday, December 12.

The young cheerleaders will provide babysitting service at \$1 per hour between 8:30 am and 5 pm on Saturday.

Sitting will be done for children 12 years of age and under.

For scheduling sitters, families are invited to call Karen Remar at 883-2473 as early this week as possible.

**Christmas Is Just 17 Days Away!**

**Pam's SHEAR COUNTRY FAMILY HAIR SALON**  
3162 Maxwell Rd. • Pigeon

Hey, Ladies... Don't forget to pamper yourself during the holidays. Take advantage of a Christmas Special.

**Perms \$5.00 off**  
**Hair Cuts \$3.00 off**  
Make Your Appointment Soon.

Open Tues. - Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-12  
Pigeon 453-3540

**20% OFF!** Sportcoats, Outerwear, Alfred Dunner, etc.

**1/2 OFF!** Large selection of Men's and Women's sportswear.

**Storewide Specials**

Specials on ties, wallets and other accessories.

**Over 200!! Men's & Women's Sweaters**  
Reg. \$30.00-\$45.00  
**On Sale \$24.95-\$39.95**

• Gift Certificates Available  
• Free Gift Wrapping  
• Free Alterations

Check out our gift ideas -sachets, tights, cologne, PJ's, lingerie and more!

**Women's Silk Blouses**  
Reg. \$49.95  
**Sale \$35.95**

**Women's Dresses**  
Reg. \$74.95-\$130  
**Sale \$59.95-\$103.95**

**Men's & Women's Slacks**  
Reg. \$35.00  
**Sale \$28.95**

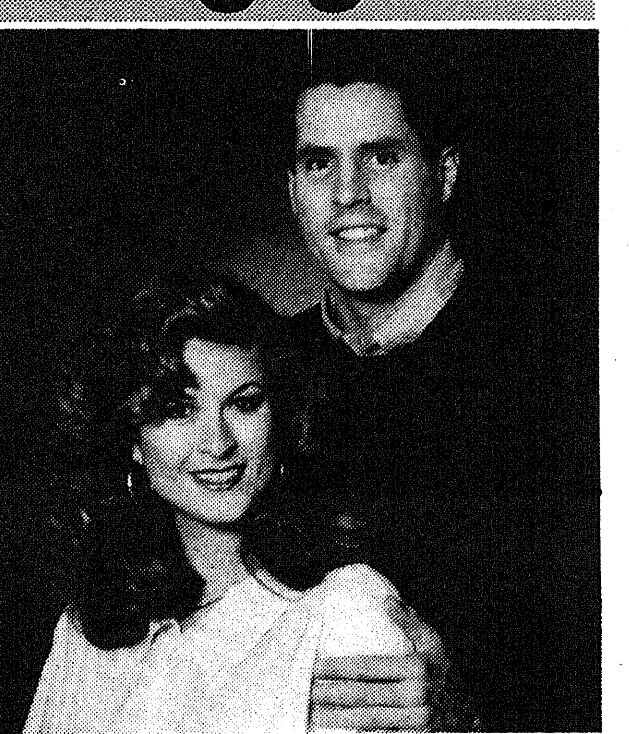
**Pima Cotton Dress Shirts**  
Reg. \$30.00  
**Sale \$24.95**

**Woolrich Gift with purchase...**  
Get a Woolrich stocking, duck or sheep when you purchase \$75.00 or more of regular priced merchandise now through Dec. 24th

**Aileen's & Mr. Coots**  
Fashions for Women & Men  
Downtown Sebewaing • 883-9010

**HOURS DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> - 23<sup>RD</sup>**  
Sundays 12-4  
Mondays-Fridays 9-8  
Saturdays 9-5

# Engaged!



**Mohr - McPhillips**

Bob and Carolyn Mohr of Essexville announce the engagement of their daughter, Tezra, to Michael McPhillips, son of Gary and Ruth Ann McPhillips of Midland. The bride-elect is the granddaughter of Adolph and Marian Einhardt of Pigeon.

**COCA COLA PRODUCTS**  
20 oz. Plastic 2/\$1 + DEP.

**Mr. Chips FOOD STORE**  
Sebewaing 883-9341  
Specials Good Thru Sun., Dec. 13

**M & M's, Milky Way & Snickers**  
**69¢ + EA.**

**London's Homogenized Milk**  
\$2.25 Gal.

**Lunch Specials**  
Wed. - Burrito's, Nachos & Cheese \$2.59  
Thurs. - Pasties ..... \$2.99  
Fri. - Shrimp, Fries, Cole Slaw, Roll ..... \$3.29  
Mon. - Meat Loaf, Scalloped Potatoes, Vegetable ..... \$2.79  
Tues. - Beef Stew Over Biscuit... \$2.89

**Condo Owners: Do You Have Too Much, Too Little Insurance?**

It's possible! With your association and personal policies, you could now be overinsured for the contents of your home but underinsured for other important items, like carpeting or cabinets. To make sure your condominium home is properly insured, see your Auto-Owners agent today.

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# CALENDAR

Final deadline for this Calendar: 5 p.m. Thursday

## Now 'til Christmas - Sebewaing tree sales

Sebewaing Rotary Club is selling Christmas trees behind Village Pizzeria, every day while supplies last. Stop in for best selection, and help a community project!

## Wed., Dec. 9, Sun., Dec. 13 - Caseville Cantata

The Caseville Community Choir will present "Home for Christmas," its Cantata by Don Wrytzen, Phyl and Lynne Brower, in two remaining performances, at 7 p.m. Dec. 9 is at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and Dec. 13 is at Caseville United Methodist Church. Public's invited.

## Thursday, Dec. 10 - Fair Haven Township

Township Board meets second Thursday of month at 8 p.m. at Township Hall, Bay Port. William Forge is Supervisor. Office phone: 656-9901.

## Friday, Dec. 11 - Thumb Ag Day

Annual event runs 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Colony House, Cass City. All farmers and ag-related persons invited, as sponsored by Huron, Tuscola and Sanilac Coop Extension.

## Dec. 11-20 - Deer hunting

Muzzleloading deer season in Lower Peninsula.

## Saturday, Dec. 12 - Christmas Cookie Walk

St. John's Episcopal Church, Sand Point, invites you to choose from more than 30 homemade styles of cookies at their annual Christmas Cookie Walk, starting at 10 a.m. until it's sold out.

## Sunday, Dec. 13 - Immanuel Christmas Concert

Four choirs and instrumentalists will joyfully proclaim the birth of our Savior at the Immanuel Lutheran Church Christmas Concert, beginning at 7:00 p.m. There will be a free-will offering.

## Monday, Dec. 14 - Caseville Township

Township Board meets first Monday of month at 8 p.m. in the Caseville Village-Township Hall at 8 p.m. Joseph Cilic is Supervisor. Township Office: 856-3053.

## Monday, Dec. 14 - Chandler Township

Township Board meets first Monday of month at Township Hall, 5004 Pilon Road, Elkton, at 8 p.m. Supervisor William Renn: 453-3688.

## Monday, Dec. 14 - Fairgrove Village

Village Council meets at 7:30 p.m. the first Monday of each month at Municipal Building, Gerald Fuller is Village President. Phone: 693-6087.

## Monday, Dec. 14 - Gagelton Village

Village Council meets first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in Municipal Building. Village President position is vacant currently. Office phone: 665-9981.

Calendar continues on Page 19

## Shoppers win in Pigeon Christmas promotion

Twenty-five lucky shoppers won prizes at last Saturday's Chamber of Commerce Christmas Drawing in Pigeon.

Dale Killinger of Pigeon was the day's top prize winner, picking up \$200. He had registered at the Cooperative Elevator. Lois Diebel of Bay Port earned \$100, and also registered at Cooperative Elevator.

Other adult \$10 shopping money winners were: Marlin Rathje (entered at Don Erla Foods), Brenda Smith (Village Qwik Stop), Dan Maxwell (Pigeon Telephone), Deb Herzog (Pigeon Lumber), Tammy Siewert (Village Qwik Stop), Phyllis Maxwell (Peoples Choice), and Bob Tate (Bay House Sports), all of Pigeon, and Veronica Fluegge of Ann Arbor (Don Erla Foods).

### Teen Drawing Winners

of \$10 each in shopping cash were Sara Kreh, Kim Frost, Heather Orr and Shawn Diebel, all of Pigeon, and Regina Hurren of Gagelton.

**Toy winners** in the Children's Drawing were: Nathan Einhardt, Matt LePage, Samantha Stafford, Jon LePage and Andrew McAlpine, all of Pigeon, Glenda Cregor of Elkton, Matt Gotham and Jennifer Richmond of Bay Port and Marlena Lesoski of Cass City. Brad Klebba of Ubyly was named winner in the drawing for a new bike.

Christmas Is Just

# 17

Days Away!



Santa Claus presented a brand new bike to Brad Klebba at Saturday's Pigeon Christmas Giveaway.

# Win \$1,000 Weekly

At Pigeon's Christmas Giveaway!

Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus every Saturday until Christmas!

Congratulations to our winners

at last week's drawing

\$1,000 Joyce Miller • \$200 Lois Diebel

You Too Could Be A Winner!

### 3 Weekly Adult Drawings

Chance To Win \$100 • \$200 • \$1,000

December 12 & 19 at 4:00 p.m.

10 Adult Names Drawn Each Saturday!

Get your ticket at any participating Pigeon Merchant.

1 Ticket for every \$10\* or less purchase.

### Many Pigeon Stores Now Open

Monday & Friday evenings til 8:00

p.m. & Sundays Noon to 4:00 p.m.

for your Holiday Shopping Convenience.

### Kids' & Teens' Drawing

Teens: Five \$10 Pigeon Money Prizes Each Week

\$50 Grand Prize on 12/19

Kids: 10 Toys Prizes AND

A New Bike each Week!

### Free Bean Soup!

At Each Pigeon Christmas Prize Drawing!

Lunch With Santa!

Saturday, December 12 • Noon-1:00 p.m. at Pigeon Elementary School

**Annabelle's** Downtown Sebewaing 883-3913

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY SHOPPERS**  
Shop your local Sebewaing Merchants on Saturday or Sunday, bring in your sales slip (excluding groceries, beer, wine or cigarettes) dated for either of those 2 days and receive **10% off** your Lunch or Dinner

Dine at Annabelle's where you are treated like a King or Queen and waited on personally.

**LUNCH WITH SANTA**  
Sat., Dec. 19th - \$2<sup>00</sup> per child. 11:30 A.M.

A play sponsored by Lake Huron Community Arts Council will be presented by the USA Drama Club at 1:00 P.M.

Reservations Required by Fri., Dec. 18

✓ Openings Still available for Christmas Parties

✓ Give an Annabelle's Gift Certificate

**WINTER SPECIAL**

**Frantz Garage Doors**

#8019 White Raised Panel Steel (in stock) 9' x 7'

**\$236<sup>75</sup>**

Doors Are Non-Insulated. Price Does Not Include Lock. While Supplies Last

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## A long winter

Winter came to my deer hunting woodlot the other night. It arrived on the crest of a cruel northeast wind and was festooned with a driving snowstorm that rattled brittle snowflakes off the cedar boughs. Its viciousness lasted less than an hour, but the initial effect told a tale of woe for the birds and animals who must ride out the fury for the next several months.

Some are lucky, they rise on wings to ride the jet streams to a warmer climate in the south, or burrow deep holes to hibernate away the deep and penetrating chill. Others are not, like the injured doe who cautiously crept through the edge of the clearing, pawing and scraping for a morsel of food that would give her the necessary energy to sustain yet another cold night in the woods.

The moment I saw the deer, my heart went out to her. She appeared, ghost-like, in my peripheral vision led by a single fawn who intermittently looked back to check on its wounded mother. They proceeded slowly, inspecting the forest floor for whatever bounty it would reveal.

I'm not really sure if they were hungry. A 20-acre field of standing corn was less than 200 yards away, and my pile of frozen carrots had not been touched during the night. But, together, in the starkness of the winter woods, they portrayed a picture of sadness and futility.

I had to remind myself that this was not a poor, helpless creature, but, despite its size, one of the hardest of all the tenants of this particular woodlot. Over the years, they have proven they can survive the ravages of disease, the pressure of predations, the threat of starvation, the

encroachment of civilization, and the onslaught of an army of hunters. And

one less than the normal of a pair of twins, and two less than the triplets a healthy, well-fed doe will often drop.

Does usually come into heat in early November. If they are not impregnated

probably not much more than a year and a half old, and her fawn looks equally small. The size of deers sometimes surprise people, most are only three feet at the shoulder, some smaller, and a few larger. Their average weight may only be 100-pounds, but it takes a lot of fuel to energize this wary and nervous body.

The deer duo finally find my carrot pile and begin to feed. On several occasions, the doe drives her own fawn from the pile so she will have the choice pick. With winter arriving, competition for food can be very strong,

strong enough that the instinctual bond between parent and offspring will be broken so the fittest will survive. This night, the fittest is the wounded doe.

When winter finally settles in, this may not be the case. Food is always plentiful in farmland woodlots, but the injury to this particular doe may be so damaging that she will not be able to manipulate a heavy snow cover.

Their sharp hoofs make excellent digging tools to paw through the frozen snow to find a bit of browse or an, heretofore undiscovered, acorn, and she may not be

able to handle such a maneuver. Should the winter be really severe, the doe may have to reach into the cedar branches to find enough food to keep her warm. This can mean balancing on two legs to reach higher than your neighbor, and again, she may fail.

When night finally fell, I lowered by bow and descended from the tree blind. My movement flushed the deer from the bait pile, and I was surprised to find my wounded doe bolting for cover with hardly a limp.

Could she have been goldbricking? Naw!!!!!!

## Woods & Waters

by Duane Guenther



through this all, their herd continues to increase in numbers.

Deer, like all creatures of the forest, produce more offspring than are needed to maintain numbers within the species. Not my wounded doe, for her single fawn is

during this period of estrus it will reoccur in 28 more days, and if they have still not mated, another month later. Because of this, bucks will stay in the rut from September until sometimes as late as February.

My wounded doe is small,

## Dec. 23 date set for Caring & Sharing deliveries

The Unionville Sebewaing Area School District's Caring and Sharing delivery date for foodstuffs is 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23.

Families receiving deliveries should plan to have someone home so the foodstuffs can be put away upon delivery, organizers ask.

**Only 16 more shopping days 'til Christmas!**

If you need to finish up those persons on your gift list..... You'll find it here.

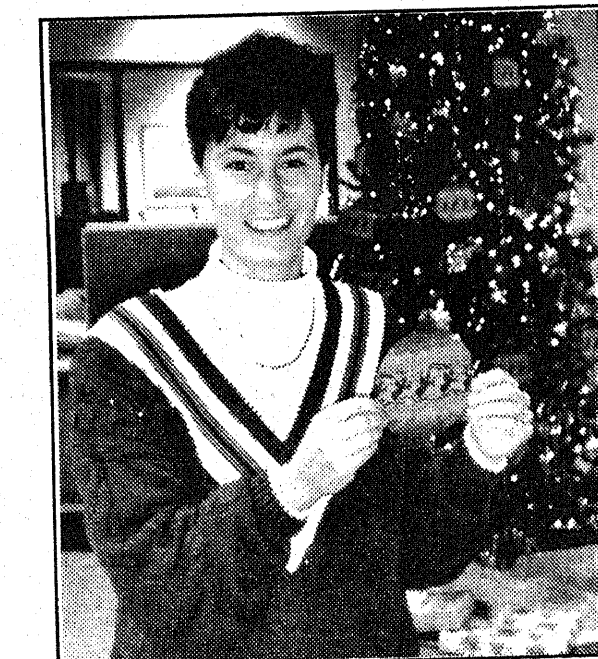
- Gift Wrapping Free
- Layaway Too

Thank you to everyone who helped us celebrate our Grand Opening and Congratulations to our winners: Brenda Maust, Linda Oeschger, Tracy Weiss

**Smith's Apparel**  
Downtown Pigeon - 453-2200

## Help Turn Our Christmas Tree To Gold

Give To A Child Through The Giving Tree



Give to a deserving child this Christmas through the Giving Tree, sponsored by Thumb National Bank & Trust Co. To participate, visit Thumb National's Pigeon lobby between now and Friday, December 18. Select an ornament that includes the child's age and size from the Giving Tree. Then buy a gift for the child you've chosen, and place it under our tree by December 18. For each gift under the Giving Tree we'll place a gold bow on our tree. Just before Christmas we'll have Santa deliver the presents to the children.

Help us turn our Christmas tree to gold and give to a child through the Giving Tree. You may not see their smiles on Christmas morning, but you'll feel them, knowing you helped someone during the Season of Giving.



**Thumb National Bank & Trust**

MEMBER FDIC

Pigeon: 453-3113  
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