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The Sun and News
Your Hometown Newspaper Serving Middleville and Caledonia Areas
No. 12/March 23, 1999 Middleville, Michigan 49333 128th year

Caledonia Twp. asked to turn down airport noise

by Ruth Zachary
Staff Writer

Caledonia Township residents, frustrated with noise from the airport and costly traffic problems emerging from the new Air Cargo Facility, made impassioned requests last Wednesday for intervention by the Township Board.

The first reading of an ordinance to regulate various kinds of noise in the township was made at the meeting. Presumably, the ordinance would be the first step in negotiating with the airport to reduce noise effects on Caledonia Township residents.

The ordinance would establish a noise level residents expect in the community in the future.

Township Supervisor Bill Johnston said two types of noise were covered, one being single event noise and the other, an overall level of noise in both commercial and industrial areas, before noise was already well established.

For instance, it would pre-empt a car crusher. Evening noise would carry a penalty, and would permit enforcement, giving the township police powers. The township would need some equipment, or to hire a qualified agency with measuring equipment to determine the noise levels.

Richard Robertson, president of the Coalition for Responsible Aviation, asked the township to become actively involved in citizens' attempts to resolve differences with Kent County International Airport over its use of the recently realigned and extended north-south Runway 17/35.

Robertson said airport authorities are responsible for an injustice against the community, indicating in 1992 that Runway 17/35 would serve as an alternate backup runway" with limited and specific use, but in reality using the runway without restrictions of any kind once it opened for service in 1997.

"We have documented that this pattern of north-south commercial traffic severely and negatively impacts residential communities north and south of the airport has not been the result of operational needs, crosswinds or safety concerns.

"To the contrary, this arbitrary assault on the quality of our lives and the value of our property is the result of a self-serving policy... that places the convenience of pilots ... above the legitimate rights of residents living here.

"Our efforts to press this matter to a satisfactory conclusion are being met with a stubborn unwillingness on the part of airport officials to work seriously toward any resolution which balances our legitimate rights with the responsibility KCIA bears to provide safe and efficient air service to a growing community.

"In spite of 800 petition signatures, airport officials refuse to meet with us to discuss the matter or even schedule time in their agenda for a consideration of our concerns."

Robertson asked township officials to become involved beyond expressions of support, and informal conversations with Kent County and airport officials, and even beyond the noise ordinance.

Robertson said airport authorities are responsible for an injustice against the community, indicating in 1992 that Runway 17/35 would serve as an "alternate backup runway" with limited and specific use, but in reality using the runway without restrictions of any kind once it opened for service in 1997.

See airport noise, pg. 3

State Representative Steve Pestka discussed educational issues with teachers and citizens who came to the C-PAC forum.

CPAC holds forum with legislators

by Ruth Zachary
Staff Writer

State Senator Ken Sikkema, State Representative Mark Jansen and Representative Steve Pestka met with local parents and teachers March 9 to discuss current educational issues at a Caledonia Parents Advisory Council forum March 9.

Sikkema mentioned that before Proposal A, a gap in school funding between the haves and have nots was emerging, which the proposal was intended to correct.

He said one of the hidden benefits of Proposal A was that before it was passed, millages for buildings were being defeated, while after its passage, with property taxes cut in half, the millages started passing, because people could afford projects.

Citizen Fred Boncher said he had supported Proposal A. "We were told no school grant would fall lower than the rate of inflation," he said. "At 3%, Caledonia's foundation grant only went up $13, when it should have been more like $150."

Because of the shortfall, he said, to compensate, everyone, even the janitors, chip in to make a difference to education in other ways.

Federal controls were favored by Martin Hall as a means for better funding for title programs and mandates than the state provides.

Sikkema said the federal government was better equipped to do some things, especially research. But he said he thought the local district was usually the best option for providing the best education. He said each step up in the government meant taking out another nick of the funds available.

In Grand Rapids, Pestka said, there is only enough money to renovate or replace one school, when two schools are needed.

"Proposal A was supposed to equalize the schools, but the infrastructure still needs to be dealt with on a local level. People didn't understand that in exchange for the two-cent (from four to six cents on the dollar) increase in sales tax that no more millages would have to be passed" Pestka said.

"I'm concerned. All the kids in the state need an opportunity to have a good ed-

See CPAC meeting, pg. 2

State Representative Mark Jansen answers questions in an informal gathering before the forum.

Superintendent Doug Busman (center) lines up for a photograph with State Representative Steve Pestka and State Senator Ken Sikkema.

In This Issue...

- Officers say Btk in killing gypsy moths is safe
- Bradford White builds 105,000 sq. ft. expansion
- Caledonia school election will include 3 open seats
- Fleischmann appointed to Caledonia Twp. Board

CPAC meeting, continued from front page

ucation whether they are from Grand Rapids or East Grand Rapids or Detroit or Grosse Pointe."Pestka said.

"We're going to have serious problems if we don't do that, not just in the state, but in this country."

School buildings are not as good in the urban areas, he said. The supplies and equipment are in short supply. The imbalance is a very serious problem. "We can't have two different kinds of societies," Pestka said. "All these kids end up in the same world."

One parent thought Detroit's problems were due to not enough money, and feared if the state stepped in they would want even more money from the rest of the state to help with the problems.

Jansen said, "Detroit has a lot of money there already. They are the second best funded city in the United States. They have money in the bank. There are management issues," he said.

Martin Hall mentioned that $88 per child was spent on computer technology and only $6 was spent on continuing education for the teachers to continue to be up to date with the constant changes.

Pestka agreed with the need for continuing education for teachers.

Jansen mentioned that the tobacco settlement for education would amount to $250,000,000 per year for Michigan. Use of this money could be very important. He said legislators need to be aware of the needs and wants of people on the local level.

Jansen said Proposal A's intent to supplement lower income schools had nearly been met, and the goal to equalize the foundation grant per child across the state is close to being reached. In one or two years, there would not be a need to redistribute funds to equalize the school grants. The funds used for that purpose might then be available for other purposes, he said.

People need to express how they want to deal with those funds.

Everyone agreed that parental involvement is the most important contributor to successful schools. Sikkema said this had been the conclusion of a one-year long task force studying 47 school districts.

The question evolving from this information is "how to get parents more engaged in the education of their children?"

Citizen Lindy Crandell said parental involvement is very important in Caledonia, with about 98% of parents coming to school conferences.

She said parent interest appeared to be less in Grand Rapids, where she teaches. She said she could only get 40% of the parents to come to parent-teacher conferences, so she went to them, arranging conferences in their homes.

Jenny Frazier, a teacher, said she was upset over the amount of time required by teachers and students in preparing to pass the Michigan Education Assessment Program (MEAP) test, and the real teaching begins after the test is over. Indirectly, the state is taking over the curriculum, and there were costs involved, interfering with local control.

Sikkema defended testing. He said objective tangible measurement to evaluate school achievement is needed. He said whether MEAP is too long is an important question, "but one way to get a sense of and if kids are achieving what we want them to is by testing."

Sikkema said this year was the first time for social studies testing on the MEAP.

Jansen asked, "How do we encourage kids to get training beyond high school, whether vocational or college?" He mentioned tuition tax credits as a solution and wanted local opinions.

Frazier mentioned the financing of charter schools, which she felt competed unfairly with public schools for funding.

But she was told that charter schools get only about 1 to 2% of public funding and that charters give parents an important option. Legislators are also poised to remove the cap on the amounts going to charter schools.

Boncher said charter schools are able to set up a school for profit, and choose the school population that would be the most profitable, while public schools are required to take on the parts of education that cost more dollars than the state provides to administer those programs.

He said elementary schools usually operate at a profit, while high school, special education and some other educational programs operate at a loss. Boncher said no one offered to operate a charter high school because it was too expensive. He said charter schools don't offer the things special needs children should have, so few special ed students attend.

Charter schools do offer an opportunity to minority kids, Boncher acknowledged.

Sikkema said one half of the kids in charter schools were from minorities.

The lawmaker then said that one administrator of a charter school told him that his school wasn't making any money.

Boncher charged that charter schools don't have to make public disclosure of the way their funds were used.

Sikkema said he would check that out, but said there is an element of trust involved.

Pestka said there should be public records when there were tax dollars involved. He said the struggle for inner city schools resulted in parents opting out with charter schools.

Pestka said, "The answer is to improve our public schools. Can we level the playing field, and not take from one to fund another?" He also said it was important for people to stay in the city.

One woman suggested a voucher system might allow parents to choose the best situation for their children. She said the only way to have a child in a smaller class with more teacher attention was to be able to take her tax dollars to another community or a charter school.

Boncher said special education hurts public education because the schools are not paid anywhere near what it costs them to educate the special education programs.

"If you have a good special education program, people bring their kids to that school and funnel all the regular money away," he said.

Boncher said that in Grand Rapids, 25% is special education, which reduces an equal educational opportunity to the other kids.

He said one special education teacher said she loved the kids, but some kids can't learn, and a lot of money still goes for them. But most importantly, schools need to be reimbursed for the real costs mandated for special needs kids.

Boncher charged that charter schools are a kind of elitism.

Sikkema answered that it is being intellectually elite not to give parents a choice and assume they are not smart enough to make a choice. He said charter schools have a disadvantage in that they could not borrow money to build a facility for the school, but at least public schools could get those resources.

Lindy Crandell said there wasn't a policy to set aside resources for gifted and talented kids.

"We have a pool of intelligent young people with no money to help them except in after school programs."

One man said business involvement from the community might help the school to make better money decisions. "We need corporate help," he said.

Sikkema said one very important issue he was working on was a bill that would allow school districts to pool their resources to provide health insurance at more reasonable rates, something school districts are not able to do now by themselves.

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CRUEL INTENTIONS (R)
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WED / THURS - 5:10, 7:10, 9:10
KING AND I (G)
TUES - 12:40, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:20
WED / THURS - 5:20, 7:20, 9:20
BABY GENIUSES (PG)
TUES - 12:00, 2:30, 4:50, 7:00, 9:00
WED / THURS - 5:00, 7:00, 9:00
CARRIE 2: THE RAGE (R)
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Planning consultant to attend Yankee Springs work sessions

by Patricia Johns
Staff Writer

Planning consultant Ken Dettloff of McKenna Associates will attend the work sessions on the zoning ordinances and master plan at the Yankee Springs Township Hall at 7 p.m. March 23, April 6 and April 20.

To help the discussion, he has provided some guidelines for effective local zoning and what land use plans should contain. Copies of these guidelines will be available at the work sessions.

Among the suggestions are:

- A plan should tell what a place is all about. It should focus on what elements of a community's character are important and should be retained.
- Making the new fit with the old should be an element of planning. Existing problems of the community as well as possible solutions should be explored.
- Getting from "here" to "there" is an essential part of the plan. Preserving community character that may be taken for granted or overlooked is important.
- Dettloff encourages plans written in clear and comprehensible language. Strong public input and support are needed to make sure it will be a useful tool for guiding future community change.
- Among the guidelines for effective zoning are the requirement that all proper procedures have been followed. It is important to remember that "zoning runs with the land and not with the owner."
- On any rezoning request the most important question is, "Is the request an appropriate location for that zone?" "Does it comply with the master plan?" is the next question to ask.

Dettloff encourages the community to enforce ordinances whenever they are violated. If ordinances are not enforced equitably a community may lose the right to enforce an ordinance when it wants to.

Residents are encouraged to help the Township Planning Commission as it works to review and update the zoning ordinances and the master plan.

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Airport noise, continued from front page

"KCIA officials need to see we are a community of individuals with rights and protections represented by a local Board of Trustees which is willing to stand up for them.

"I would recommend that you not allow KCIA to dictate to this township our plans, our strategies and our dreams for the future.

"I was here on Monday evening for the meeting of the Planning Commission. I would confess that some of Chairman Keating's initial remarks regarding the issues raised by the airport in the northern part of the township were alarming.

"As he talked about possibly rethinking the master plan for the area that I have lived in for nearly 20 years, my mind raced forward to a hideous vision of deteriorating homes and rundown properties all awaiting the arrival of the highest bidder.

"What is now a beautiful residential setting, complete with hills and valleys, woodlands, rivers and streams, well maintained homes and manicured yards should never become a wasteland of depleted gravel pits, parking lots and flat topped buildings, all covered in a toxic layer of jet fuel residue."

Trustee Mike Dunn said he believed the airport as a federal organization ignores any outside interference.

"We could pass a noise ordinance all day long and if we try to ticket them, their federal law trumps our law any day of the week. Pilots are the ones who make the decisions on which runway they will land on.

"What do we do besides sue them?" he asked.

Robertson said the coalition had reviewed a book on aviation law, which indicated that Kent County as proprietor can place reasonable restrictions on the use of that runway.

"It's done all over the country," he said."This explanation you have received is bogus. The airport has every right to place curfews, runway restrictions as long as it does not interfere with interstate commerce. The airport officials want us to believe that the FAA is in charge."

Citizen Dick Driscoll said he was a frequent traveler.

"I talk to pilots, listen to headphones," he said. "Are you aware that from 12 to 6 a.m., KCIA runs an intersecting runway situation with no radio tower? That seems irresponsible to me. It is the air traffic controllers who give the pilots whatever choice they want between runways. Controllers could tell pilots to "use this runway."

Pilots say they use a particular runway "because they gave me the choice." Driscoll said.

Robertson said, "The airport chooses to ignore us. As a coalition, we have contacted the FAA, asking for a meeting. FAA has a community involvement program, a published program, it indicates their willingness to work with communities and individuals to address some of the issues.

"They insisted the meeting be attended by airport staff, aeronautics board members would not be allowed, and only two or three of us could show up.

"We refused the meeting, and said this is not in keeping with the community involvement program you have stated, and were waiting a reply from that."

"In California they closed their airport at 11 p.m. at night, at an airport three times busier than KCIA served by 16 airlines, it has 30 gates and they close at 11 p.m. because people don't like the noise.

"The east-west runway operated for 30 years. The north-south runway was never part of their master plan until 1992. We want reasonable restrictions on the use of that runway."

Trustee John Potter said perhaps the township should talk to a law firm to seriously consider legal options. "We could be directing our resolutions to our county commissioners, stating our concerns, and putting them on the table.

Johnston said he was trying to talk to the county commissioners.

"We have also talked to the Road Commission. In the master plan we are developing, the airport noise is not the only impact. Another factor is the cargo facility. They built it where they wanted to, and now everyone is scrambling over the roads. It will take a big bite out of the tax dollars, which we pay.

He said the noise was one problem, but soon there will be a double problem when the traffic issue and its impacts are realized.

He said without the noise ordinance, when the airport does a noise impact study it would not have to include Caledonia in it., but with the 55 DNL sound level ordinance, the airport would have to consider them.

"We are being as active as we can be for this point in the process."Johnston concluded.

Robertson said there are several sites on the internet that list airports with restrictions: San Jose, White Plains N.Y., and the Reagan Airport in Washington D.C is closed for the same reason, he said.

A woman said she had a chart of at least 12 restricted airports.

Robertson continued, "The airport would have us believe there is nothing they can do. We hear this all the time. Yet those communities are doing something. Our understanding of aviation case law explains as proprietor, Kent County can impose reasonable guidelines, restrictions as long as it doesn't interfere with interstate commerce. At midnight, if Federal Express or Emery is asked to use runway 2/6 left instead of 3/5, what harm is there in that?"

Citizen Mike Kerry said he lives near the east-west runway and on a hill, where planes have gone over a lot, but the noise from airplanes over his home come from east-west runway traffic.

"If the airport has planes take the other runway, it becomes a choice between which homeowners won't sleep at night. We could have a war in the township between ourselves." Kerry said he thought the airport had been using the east-west runway more of late, if the increased noise over his house was an indication.

Suzanne Pets said she lives in the flight path of the north-south runway, and has been told by the airport there would be only limited use, but was now was having her whole life disrupted.

"We cannot listen to the phone, the TV, hold a conversation."

At night she said the noise has been particularly disruptive. She thanked the board members for their study and the noise ordinance.

"I implore you to think of us and put this in place," she said. "You are taking steps to protect the citizens of Caledonia."

Girl Scouts working hard to sell more cookies

Girl Scouts in Middleville Troop 769 were like many girls across the Cherry Valley Neighborhood, trying to sell those last few boxes. It was hard work outside Lon LeFanty's State Farm office work, but fun, too. The girls now are working together to decide what fun and sharing things they can do with the money they raise. From left are Kalyne Zylstra, Amanda Denney, Ashley Ironside Burns and Elena Gornley. Not pictured is troop leader Debi Wilson who has kept the girls interested even when it was cold and no one stopped for a "Thin Mint" or "Shortbread."

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Dutton Middle School choirs to do 'Annie'

by Ruth Zachary
Staff Writer

"Little Orphan Annie," will be presented by the Dutton Christian Middle School seventh and eighth grade choir at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 30, in the Caledonia High School Performing Arts Center.

This version of Broadway's "Annie" will be a "children friendly" production with entertainment for the whole family.

In the story, Little Orphan Annie escapes from the orphanage, only to be brought back by Lieutenant Ward, when to her surprise, she is chosen to spend two weeks at the mansion of the millionaire Oliver Warbucks. While she is there, they try to discover the where-abouts of her real mother and father.

Stephanie Sikma plays Annie. Oliver Warbucks is portrayed by Sam Sportel. Grace is acted by Jordyn DeVries, and Miss Hannigan's role is performed by Tracey Sikma. Brad Yonker portrays Rooster and Stephanie Holkeboer plays Lily St. Regis.

Forty-five students in the seventh and eighth grade choirs are involved in the production, which includes both speaking and singing roles. Four student assistants will help with costumes, sets, props, lighting and other stage details.

The book, by Thomas Meehan, is produced as a musical by Musical Theatre International and Hal Leonard, with music by Charles Strouse and lyrics by Martin Charnin.

The musical is directed by Mary Hoekstra and Jean DeVries.

Questions may be directed to the school at 698-8660.

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Sunday Evening Service ..... 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Mid-Week Prayer ..... 6:45 p.m.
Word of Life Clubs ..... 6:45 p.m.

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Al Tiemeyer, Community Calling
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Wednesday Prayer Meeting/
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Rev. Karl Bashor, Assoc. Pastor/Youth Ministries

McCrumb-Systma marriage announced

April LaDawn Sytsma and Stephen Paul McCrumb were joined in marriage on Dec. 19th in Grand Rapids at the Reformed Bible College Chapel. Parents of the couple are Ed and Karen Sytsma of Byron Center and Al and Judy McCrumb of Middleville.

Matron of honor was Kimberly Graham, friend of the bride. Maid of honor was Dena Gillespie, friend of the bride. Flower girl was Chloe Obeid, friend of bride and groom.

Serving as best man was Todd McCrumb, brother of groom and Jeff Guckes, friend of groom. Ringbearer was Justin Nelson, cousin of bride. Robert Jansen and Mahrea Pratt, friends of groom were ushers.

Masters and mistresses were Dennis and Becky Malore brother-in-law and sister of groom and Sandra Horn and Tammy Louiselle, aunts of the bride.

The couple reside in Ypsilanti. Steve is teaching in the Taylor School System. April is self employed as owner of A.I. Paper Design.

Lewises to celebrate 40th anniversary

Al and Margie Lewis married in a small chapel in Key West, Florida forty years ago, March 24.

They reside in Bowens Mills where they raised five children and have five grandchildren.

Al retired from Bradford White and Margie works for Thornapple Kellogg Schools.

No finer a pair, these two.

For all the wonderful times you've shared with us and others, we wanted everyone in the community to know.

Congratulations on 40 years from all your kids. Love, Rob and Ashley, Louise, Tyson and John Herrick, Joe, Lorraine, Lauren and Audrey Bush, Shari Lewis, John Lewis.

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A gift to the Barry Community Foundation is used to help fund activities throughout our county in the name of the person you designate.

Ask your funeral director for more information on the Barry Community Foundation or call 945-0526.

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Noah to celebrate 90th birthday

The family of Mary Edna Noah would like to invite you to an open house in celebration of her 90th birthday. The open house will take place in the community room at Lincoln Meadow Apartments, 500 Lincoln Road, in Middleville on Saturday, April 3, 1999 from 2 to 4 p.m.

No gifts, please. Just bring a big smile, and fond memories to share with everyone. Watch for the twinkle in Mary's eyes, see you there!

Middle school memorial plans moving ahead

Plans for a memorial to the old Thornapple Kellogg Middle School building are moving along.

The middle school memorial concept was introduced at the special board of education meeting this month, as Don Williamson showed his design of a possible memorial. Members of the committee were also available to answer questions.

The committee met last Thursday evening to go over order forms, costs, the best way to install the serpentine wall and other issues.

Committee members said they were very excited about Williamson's design, which will remember the past while looking forward to the future.

The committee will continue to work on final plans. Once final decisions are made, order forms will be available at the individual schools and at the board of education office.

Three from area on Michigan Tech list

Three area students have been named to the dean's list for the winter quarter at Michigan Technological University.

To make the list, a student must achieve at least a 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

The students, their hometowns, class levels and major field of study are:

- Robert W. Mosey of Middleville, a junior majoring in computer science.
- Ryan J. Prough of Shelbyville, a freshman majoring in chemical engineering, who earned a 4.0 GPA.
- David Allen Pell of Caledonia, a senior majoring in mechanical engineering.

Obituaries

Sandy Luikes

WYOMING - Mrs. Sandy Luikes, age 37, of Wyoming, passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, March 14, 1999 at St. Mary's Hospital.

She was a graduate of Thornapple Kellogg High School in Middleville.

Mrs. Luikes is survived by her husband, Keith; four daughters, Chrissty, Tamra, Kelly, and Tracey; her parents, Arthur and Marilyn Ellinger of Gun Lake; her mother-in-law, Matilda Luikes; two brothers and one sister, Tom and Deb Ellinger, Dick and Sue Ellinger, and Diane Ellinger Satterfield; her brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Dale and Judy Luikes; her grandmother, Lucille Bredeweg; many aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews.

Funeral Services for Sandy were held on Friday, March 19, 1999 at the Zaagman Memorial Chapel. Reverend Eilden Zwart officiated.

Interment took place at Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Luikes Trust Fund for Sandy's Children.

Sandy will be remembered by her family as an all around wonderful wife and mother who worked hard. She was a deeply loved & respected Region C Director of the Michigan Jaycee's, and was also loved deeply by the staff and students at Lincoln School where she taught.

Kathryn F. Stager

MIDDLEVILLE - Mrs. Kathryn F. Stager, age 93, of Middleville, passed away Sunday, March 14, 1999 at Thornapple Manor, Hastings.

Mrs. Stager was born on November 16, 1905 in Racine, Wisconsin, the daughter of Andrew and Maggie (Prailes) Johannes.

She was married to Walter Stager on December 26, 1928 in Elkart, Indiana moving to Barry County from Detroit in 1931. They operated their 150 acre farm for 35 years before retiring in 1967.

Mrs. Stager was a homemaker, she devoted her life to her family and enjoyed spending time with her loved ones.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Walter Stager, and granddaughter, Lisa Porteous.

Mrs. Stager is survived by one son, Richard (Jean) Stager of Middleville; four daughters, Patricia Porteous of Clear Lake, California, Kathleen (Virgil) Franks of Bellevue, Ann (Frank) Bolton of Hastings, and Jean (John) Dusseau of Louisville, Kentucky; eight grandchildren; eight great grandchildren; several nieces and nephews.

Funeral Services for Mrs. Stager were held Thursday, March 18, 1999 at the Beeler Funeral Chapel. Reverend Michael Anton officiated.

Interment was in Irving Cemetery, Irving Township.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Thornapple Manor.

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Officials say Btk best in killing gypsy moths

Editor's Note: A Reminder and Sun & News article about the spray Bacillus thuringiensis earlier this month should not be taken as an expression of advocacy for the point of view expressed, either by the reporter or by these newspapers.

Regrettably, reactions to the article have caused a disruption in the efforts of the Michigan Department of Agriculture Gypsy Moth Suppression Program, which says it operates in a responsible manner, constantly updating its information and working consistently with many different methods to deal with the gypsy moth problem with local landowners under strict guidelines to protect their rights.

This article reflected only one of many points of view about gypsy moths from a wide number of sources, which has been presented over the past year and acknowledging points of view that differ.

by Ruth Zachary
Staff Writer

Spraying with Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki (Btk.) is the best method available for suppressing gypsy moths, say Barry County MDA Gypsy Moth Program Coordinator Casey Harris and Dennis Pennington, Barry County Agricultural Agent, working through the Cooperative Extension Service.

They say Btk. is basically one of the safest approaches to the gypsy moth problem, especially the way the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) administers the program.

Pennington insists that spraying with Btk is the safest method if spraying is chosen. He said since 1961, when the spray was first used, there has been no case documented that shows any harm to birds, fish, animals, pets or people.

Btk is most effective on gypsy moths and affects only moths and butterflies. It is a protein which is toxic to the caterpillars only if ingested. He said contact with skin and by inhalation was not shown to be harmful to other species.

Harris defended the MDA program as an integrated pest management program of which Btk. spraying is a part. She said there are many precautions built into the program to prevent it from having long-term detrimental effects.

For instance, spraying rarely occurs on one site more than two or three times. High infestations usually do not recur in exactly the same place, which greatly reduces the chance that gypsy moths will become resistant to Btk. Rotation of spray areas, and intermittent spraying also reduce danger of resistance developing in the species. Resistance in a species usually develops after eight or more generations of consistent exposure.

Dennis Pennington

Casey Harris

> Btk is most effective on gypsy moths and affects only moths and butterflies. It is a protein which is toxic to the caterpillars only if ingested. Pennington said contact with skin and by inhalation was not shown to be harmful to other species.

Some people are concerned about harming other moths and butterflies. In Barry County, five endangered species have been identified, affecting 961 acres within spray blocks.

If spraying for gypsy moth is indicated in these areas, an alternative and very specific spray will be used that will not affect the species to be protected. This spray, called Gypchek, is made from the Nucleopolyhedrosis virus(NPV), a disease which affects only gypsy moth caterpillars and no other species. The treatment is developed only by the U.S. Forest Service. Production is too labor intensive and expensive to use widely.

The MDA requires specific steps in the administration of the program to protect people's rights and safety. There are several times at which people can choose to be involved and ask for spraying or refuse it. Spraying dates and times are pre-announced.

Harris said if people choose other alternatives to spraying, every choice regarding gypsy moth suppression involves some undesirable consequences.

Even doing nothing at all can risk water quality in lakes and streams. If the level of infestation is high, in some areas near lakes and streams, defoliation can result in raising water temperature, raising nitrate levels, affecting stream flow and yield, increasing acidity and can result in coliform and fecal streptococcal densities.

She said an environmental impact statement evaluates different alternatives for dealing with gypsy moths, including doing nothing at all, and it points out the advantages and disadvantages of each choice. This statement is put out by the USDA, the U.S. Forestry Service and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. Copies are available at the MSU Extension and the Barry Conservation District offices.

When people are overwhelmed with the caterpillars in early summer, they often combat the pests with desperate measures which are much more harmful than spraying with Btk. For example, Harris found one person mixing kerosene and orthene to spray in an area that could run off into a nearby lake.

People are often concerned over damage to trees and potential loss of value to property, and use other chemicals that can severely affect other insect species, and may not touch gypsy moths.

Some people have advocated the use of organic approaches, like fungi, viruses and predatory insects against the pest, but these can also have detrimental effects on the environment if attempted without enough knowledge.

Deborah McCullough, an entomologist working at MSU, has said there are only a few species that are truly safe to release for the purpose of combatting gypsy moths, and some well intentioned people have released species into the ecosystem that have attacked other moths and butterflies and other beneficial insects with far-reaching detrimental impacts on the environment.

Btk seems to have fewer amaging consequences to he environment than some other approaches, including biological methods that end up being harmful.

Pennington said people don't want to harm the environment, and are too eager to accept claims that a biological solution to the gypsy moth problem is automatically better than some other approach. He says it is

See gypsy moths, pg. 7

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Gyspy moths, continued from page 6

important that people try to be as informed as possible about all the alternatives before they make any choices about gypsy moths. Of all the options, each will have consequences, he said.

One way is to attend informational meetings and seminars on gypsy moths, like those being given by the MSU Extension service and the Barry Conservation District.

Harris said the MDA gypsy moth program avoids exposing people to direct contact with the spray. People are notified by mail and radio broadcast of the time and day of spraying so they can avoid it, and put pets inside. Only a half gallon of spray is used over an acre of land, and that is in a concentration of 2.1% of Btk in the spray when used in Barry County.

Spraying includes atomizing the Btk liquid to break it into droplets of spray of a size so that is a lethal dose for one caterpillar, and not so large that the drop will discourage ingesting it. The spray is so fine that it is distributed in very minute quantities in the environment.

Harris and Pennington were critical of a recent article in the Reminder and the Sun and News about Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt), taken from the Journal of Pesticide Reform.(1994). They said it was misleading because the strain of Bt being used in the Barry County Gypsy Moth Suppression Program, is Btk (kurstaki), which is not the source of various harmful side effects mentioned in the previous article.

Harris and Pennington were critical of a recent article in the Reminder and the Sun and News about Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt), taken from the Journal of Pesticide Reform(1994). They said it was misleading because the strain of Bt being used in the Barry County Gypsy Moth Suppression Program is Btk (kurstaki), which is not the source of various harmful side effects mentioned in the previous article.

Harris said the EPA investigates all complaints about Btk. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) had investigated the farmer who had an ulcer in his eye, and discovered it was there before exposure to Btk, she said.

Pennington said he talked to Steve Nicholson, who works for Abbott Corporation, which makes Foray 48 B, the commercial name of the Btk product used for spraying.

Nicholson said the spray is 75% water. The other ingredients of the spray solution are materials people would find in their kitchen, he said, and are used to make the droplets stick to leaves, last longer, to keep them from evaporating and other things so the spraying will be the most effective.

In regard to charges that the other ingredients in the spray are harmful, Pennington mentioned a study the USDA cites, in which the spray was autoclaved so the Btk was killed, and then sprayed on gypsy moth caterpillars. He said the spray caused no mortality, which indicated the living Btk was the ingredient which was effective against the caterpillars.

"This is still our best alternative to spraying with chemicals," Pennington said. Another significant advantage of Btk. is that it really is very specific to moths and butterflies, and most especially to gypsy moths, he said.

Meetings to give information about the gypsy moth program are planned, and all county residents are invited to attend.

These meetings will be held at Rutland Township Hall, 2561 Heath Road, Hastings, tonight (March 18) at 7 p.m., and at Yankee Springs Township Hall, 284 N. Briggs Road, Middleville, and Wednesday, March 24, at 7 p.m.

Herb gardening program planned

Hildegard Adkins, a well known Kent County Master Gardener, will present the spring gardening program at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 24, at the Caledonia Public Library.

Now that spring is here, it is time to plan for the gardening year. Adkins will help gardeners gain an overview of herb gardening and how to include herbs in the garden.

Adkins has given gardening programs throughout the area and will be doing presentations at Romence Gardens in April.

This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Caledonia Library, which will have a display of gardening books available to borrow.

For more information, call the Caledonia Library at 891-1502. The library, a branch of the Kent District Library, is at 240 Emmons in Caledonia.

Middleville Lions chicken dinner set for March 28

The Middleville Lions Club is holding its annual chicken dinner at the Middle Villa Inn from noon to 3 p.m.Sunday, March 28.

The cost is $6.50 for adults and $4 for children. Diners should enter the Middle Villa's back dining room. The entrance is in the back. There also is plenty of parking to the rear.

Lions Club members use the money raised at this annual dinner for community needs and projects.

Lions Club members judged the Pinewood Derby races for Cub Scouts and Webelos on Thursday March 18.

Hastings students discuss action with Middleville Rotary

Hastings High School Interact Club members Sally Edger and Sarah Byington told members of the Middleville Rotary Club about their experience in the club. Hastings Rotary Youth Liaison David Baum gave the Middleville Club an overview of what is needed to organize an Interact Club at a high school.

From the bricks up, the work was hard, but rewarding. Five Middleville Rotary Club members traveled to Nicaragua in February to help rebuild homes lost to Hurricane Mitch. While there were some problems Judy Sloan, Bill Getty, Lindy and Jerry Bolthouse and Mike Boysen all returned safely.

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Future problem solvers to compete this weekend

by Patricia Johns
Staff Writer

Two teams of Thornapple Kellogg Problem Solvers will be competing this coming weekend at the State Bowl at the University of Michigan.

The teams had qualified for the state competition by brainstorming and writing about potential problems, possible solutions and the challenges of "lifelong learning."

Senior Jenny Tobin who was part of the State Title winning Problem Solving Team in 1998 is one of the members of this year's teams.

The Future Problem Solving program helps students acquire higher level thinking skills. Students also improve their communication and problem solving skills.

The two TK four-person teams will compete against teams from across the state.

With the assistance and encouragement of coaches Kevin Briggs and Celeste Diehm, students already have begun researching the topic "prison alternatives" as they prepare for the state competition. They will not know the exact topic until they get to Ann Arbor.

There are five seniors, one junior, sophomore and one freshman divided between the two teams. They all say they got involved because it "sounded interesting" and it was "pretty awesome." All the students credited Briggs and Diehm for their success, but the snacks helped, too.

Students on the teams are Jenny Tobin, Dewey Spicer, Tabitha Curths, Nicole Altermann, Melanie Meekhof, Ruby Curths, Shannon Burns and Alecia Holst.

Sisters Tabitha and Ruby say they don't compete, rather they help each other.

Students have to do a lot of writing and researching to prepare for competition. Using the internet and traditional sources they have discovered information they didn't even know existed.

Taking a break from the hard work of researching and writing in preparation of the state competition March 26-28 in Ann Arbor are members of the TK Problem Solvers teams and their coaches. Pictured (from left) in the back row are coaches Celeste Diehm and Kevin Briggs, (center row) Dewy Spicer, Nicole Altermann and Ruby Curths (standing in front) Jenny Tobin, Alecia Holst, Tabitha Curths and Shannon Burns. Not pictured is Melanie Meekhof.

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Gary Dulabaum gave students at McFall familiar music played to jazz, rock, and classical rhythms.

Reading fun was had by all at McFall

At Page author/ illustrator Mark Herrick gave students an inside look to how the "Buck Wilder" stories are crated with a side trip into drawing "Wilder fish"

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Surplus commodities to be distributed Thursday

A U.S. Department of Agriculture surplus commodity food distribution will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, March 25, at the Caledonia Holy Family Church, 9669 Kraft Ave.

Foods available for distribution will be green beans, frozen ground beef, corn, apple juice, frozen ham, instant milk and peaches.

Income eligibility guidelines based on a monthly income are:

- Household size of one person under 60 years of age, $872; over 60 years, $1,073.
- Household size of two people under 60 years of age, $1,175; over 60 years, $1,447.
- Household size of three people under 60 years of age, $1,479; over 60 years, $1,820.
- Household size of four people under 60 years of age, $1,782; over 60, $2,193.

For each additional household member, add $303 for under 60 years of age and $373 for over 60 years.

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Bradford White builds 105,000 sq. ft. expansion

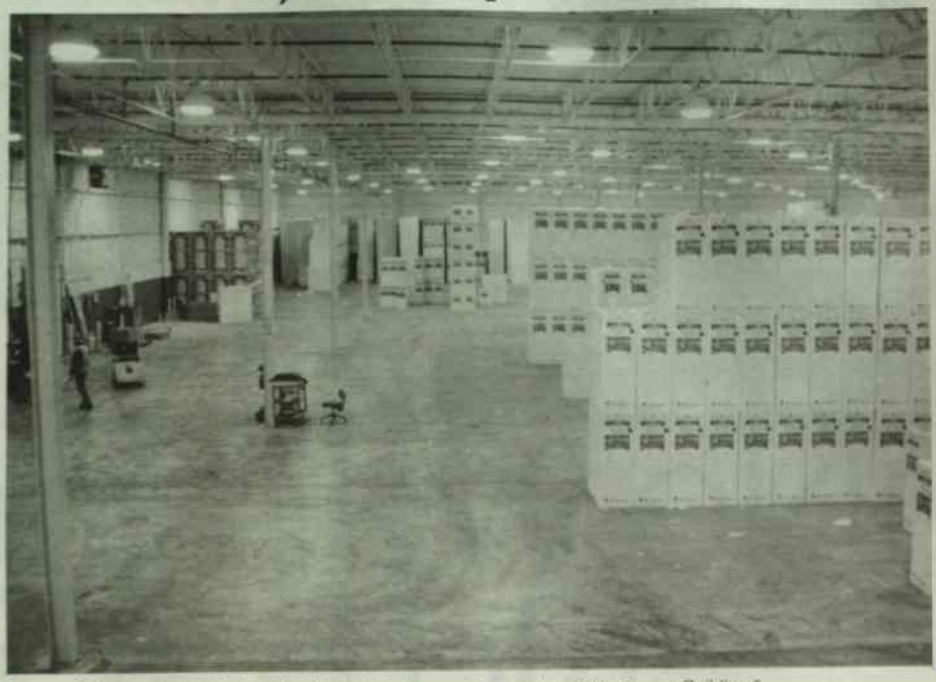
To meet the demands of steadily increasing sales and production, Bradford White of Middleville recently completed its "Northwest Building," a 105,000 square-foot addition at its manufacturing facilities.

"We're building for the future here in Middleville. The new building not only improves our ability to meet the current demands for our water heaters, it also giveS us the space for continual growth," said Richard Milock, vice president and chief operating officer of Bradford White.

Completed last November, 70 percent of the new building is used as an expansion to Bradford White's Distribution Center. Increasing in size from 60,000 to 133,000 square feet, the center has a storage capacity of approximately 40,000 water heaters and can ship 6,000 units per day.

The expansion also allows the center to store a wider variety of finished products ranging from residential and commercial water heaters to larger industrial units. Using 10 new shipping docks, 28 in total, a computerized inventory system and a fleet of 24 tractors and 63 trailers, 90 employees work a 24-hour, three-shift schedule to ensure quick, efficient and timely product delivery.

The construction of the new building also provided Bradford White with 32,000 square feet of warehouse space for pre-production materials. Bradford White can now store a larger volume of raw materials and such items as water heater tanks and heads. The expansion also enables Bradford White to consolidate its warehouse facilities under one roof for quicker and more efficient production.



This is an inside look of Bradford White's recently completed "Northwest Building."

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Thornapple Kellogg School Menus

Thornapple Kellogg Middle and High School Lunch Menu

Wednesday, March 24

Chicken/rice soup, crackers, gr. cheese sandwich, veggies, apricots.

Thursday, March 25

Spaghetti, meat sauce, tossed salad, garlic toast, peaches.

Friday, March 26

Middle - Pizza. H.S. - Cook's Choice, golden corn, fruit, chocolate grahams.

Monday, March 29

Rosy applesauce, ravioli with cheese, dinner roll, peas, pears.

Tuesday, March 30

Goulash, green beans, bread, fruit.

Note: Cold cereal is available each day. There will be some breakfast changes in those buildings where breakfast is eaten in the classroom. We always have at least two alternate choices for lunch each day. At this time we will offer the following choices: Monday, Hot Dog on Bun; Tuesday, Ham and Cheese on a Bun; Wednesday, Salad; Thursday, Hamburger on Bun; Friday, Fishwich; Every Day, Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich. Lowfat chocolate and white milk available with each meal.

Thornapple Kellogg Elementary School Lunch Menu

Wednesday, March 24

Chicken soup with rice, crackers, grilled cheese sandwich, carrots and celery, apricots.

Thursday, March 25

Spaghetti with meat sauce, parmesan cheese, tossed salad, garlic toast, peaches.

Friday, March 26

Pizza, golden corn, apple or orange, chocolate grahams.

Monday, March 29

Ravioli with cheese, dinner roll, peas, pears.

Tuesday, March 30

Wombat stew (goulash), gum nuts (green beans), dingo delights (orange slices), Billy Bong mud.

Thornapple Kellogg Breakfast Menu

Wednesday, March 24

Egg/cheese on English muffin, juice, milk.

Thursday, March 25

Bagel with cream cheese, juice, milk.

Friday, March 26

Cinnamon roll, juice, milk.

Monday, March 29

Breakfast pizza, juice, milk.

Tuesday, March 30

Breakfast pocket, juice, milk.

NOTE - A variety of cold cereal with a muffin or graham crackers available each day. Some items may not be offered in buildings where breakfast is served in classrooms.

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Caledonia Township fields library questions

by Ruth Zachary
Staff Writer

The Caledonia Township Board was questioned closely last Wednesday night about issues related to the library.

Citizen Kris Apol mentioned a letter from Eric Longman, published in the Sun and News March 9, in which he charged the Township Board with considering hiring a consultant to do the work volunteers were trying to do for free.

"Is the township considering hiring a consultant?" she asked.

Township Supervisor Bill Johnston answered, "Not at this time."

"So we can quit worrying about our tax dollars?" she ended.

The idea of hiring a consultant was offered by Planner Tim Dolehanty last September. Dolehanty said an alternative to the board or Planning Commission working on a new library would be to hire an outside consultant. He expected that

Kris Apol

cost would be from $25,000 to $50,000, unless some firm would donate time and money to the project.

Dolehanty offered to create two different work programs, "one if we did it in-house with time allotted, and one if we were to contract it out, with a time line for the in-house program versus that for contracting it out."

So far, further discussion of hiring a consultant has not occurred, but Johnston's statement this month would indicate a consultant is not being considered.

Apol also said a library committee had held a very successful fund-raiser with the corn maze and had supposedly raised more than $30,000 that the public understood was to be used toward a new library.

"My question is, has this money, $30,000, been deposited in any Caledonia Township account?"

Treasurer Ruth DeVries answered, "No maam."

Trustee John Potter said, "It's my understanding that money is under the control of a private group, not accountable to the township. We assume the money is out there." He said he hoped there was public scrutiny over that fund.

DeVries said,"I've never received any of it."

Potter said they didn't have to account to anybody, he supposed.

Apol asked, "Do you know how much is left of that $30,000?"

DeVries said, "We have asked, but we don't know."

Apol said, "It's a large sum of money. Does the librarian know?"

Johnston said, "You'd have to ask her."

Someone asked about maze postcards sold at the town hall, and where the money for that had gone.

DeVries said donations were made to the township hall. She said donations can still be made and receipts can be given to the library fund under the auspices of the township. She said the money for the maze also could be transferred to that fund.

The Friends of the Library was the group named that had organized the corn maze fund-raiser.

"We don't know who they are," Potter said.

Fire service contract work begins for Yankee Springs, Thornapple

by Patricia Johns
Staff Writer

Hoping to avoid some of the problems and controversy surrounding the Thornapple Township Emergency Services contract members of the Yankee Springs Township Board met with representatives from the Thornapple Township Board March 16.

This was a "brainstorming" meeting that allowed both sides to discuss openly their ideas, hopes for the future, and questions about the contract.

Thornapple Township will hold a second workshop session when Fire Chief Bob Woodard can attend.

There was no quorum and no action was taken at this discussion session. Thornapple Township hopes to present the new contract in May to both Yankee Springs and Irving townships.

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Jenny Tobin selected Rotary Student of the Month

Senior Jennifer Tobin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel and Francy Tobin of Hastings, was nominated as the Rotary Student of the Month for February by Mark Uyl, U.S. history instructor at Thornapple Kellogg High School.

Her list of accomplishments include a rigorous college preparatory curriculum, including seven advanced placement classes, volunteer at Page and Lee Elementary schools, D.A.R.E. role model, National Honor Society, Science Olympiad, S.A.D.D., member of the Bell Choir at the United Methodist Church, and worker at the TKHS Community Library.

"This list is impressive in itself, but what makes Jenny truly extraordinary are the physical odds and challenges she had to overcome after her nearly fatal automobile accident," Uyl said.

Jenny Tobin

"Doctors gave her virtually no chance of surviving; and after it was apparent she would survive, they claimed she would not be able to live any kind of a 'normal' life. Jenny has proven these assumptions incorrect by becoming one of TK's finest students.

"Her sheer determination and attitude are examples to every person in this community on how adversity can be conquered. Jenny Tobin is a gifted young lady who reaches out to others with a friendly, selfless approach; she is truly an exemplary role model and an individual to be emulated."

Future plans include a pre-medical major at Albion College.

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TK Students of Month for February chosen

The following young people were chosen as "Students of the Month" for February at Thornapple Kellogg High School: (front row, from left) Jessie Chessor, Erika Enyart, Lindsey Delille, Danielle Altermann, Christine Dood; (second row) Heather Nink, Jamie Brookman, Katie Kimmel; (third row) Josh Young, Chere Case, Matt Timmer, Becca Higgins; (fourth row) Sunshine Curths, Lindsey Deboode, Adam Lucas, Jennifer Laansma; (fifth row) Megan Morley, Amy Wiersum, Justin Sherman, Jeremy Huyck and Chris DeBruin. Unavailable for picture, Tyler Pyke and Scott Ploeg.

TK junior wins honor

Shannon Richards

Shannon Richards, a junior at Thornapple Kellogg High School, earned Student of the Month honors at the Kent Career Technical Center for her performance in retail marketing.

Senior Parents Car Raffle raises $8,825

The Senior Parents Car Raffle raised $8,825 for the winner, Elaine Roberts of Swartz Creek and the Senior Parent sponsored graduation party. Pictured (from left) are Brenda Hoffman who sold the winning ticket to her friend Elaine and raffle chair persons Deb McKeown and Bonnie Slayton. The second prize TV/VCR went to Jannell Pillors of Hastings.

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Superintendent's Corner

By Midge Pippel
Asst. Superintendent

New marketing and business class planned

by Midge Pippel
Assistant Supt. for curriculum and instruction

Thornapple Kellogg High School has a new course and textbook for the next school year. The new class is called "Marketing and Business" and will use a textbook called "Marketing Essentials," Glencoe/McGraw-Hill.

The new class will provide a year-long (two credit) vocational, school-to-career type of class where students learn the basics of marketing and business management. Marketing and business would be targeted to those students who have completed computer applications and business skills I (the school's introductory business class).

Marketing and business also will be very beneficial to those who desire a more focused training in marketing and basic business and management. Through this class, the college-bound student who plans to study business and/or marketing will learn all aspects of marketing and of starting up a small business. They will also use basic accounting skills and will be able to see how marketing and accounting fit together.

The class would include some real-life applications with one possibility being to incorporate projects similar to those used in the Junior Achievement program.

Community members may view the new textbook in the Thornapple Kellogg Community Library located in the high school at 3885 Bender Road. It will be available until the end of March.

'Reading Celebration' winds down for year

Students created their own puppet show before the final session of Reading Celebration on March 13.

Dad Mike and son Matthew Davidson share a quiet moment

The overnighter was host to 52 students and 22 adults. (The adults looked a little more tired than the students. Here Tracy Hodges has her hair brushed by volunteer Val Howard

WANT TO GET A FOOT IN THE DOOR?

If you have considered entering the health care profession, a great way to start is by obtaining your CENA certificate. You can do that here at Thornapple Manor and get paid while you are doing it!!! Pre-qualifications include: honesty, dependability, like working with and helping people. Training lasts 11 days and begins on April 7th. The first 6 days run from 8am - 4pm and the last 5 days run from 6:30 am - 2:30 pm with no classes being held on the weekends. Starting rate of pay is $7.81 per hour with excellent benefits, including medical and/or dental insurance. To apply, come to Thornapple Manor to fill out an application and schedule an interview before April 2nd, 1999.

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Caledonia, MI 49316

EOE/M/F/D/V

Thornapple Plan Commission sets public hearing guidelines

by Patricia Johns
Staff Writer

Members of the Thornapple Township Planning Commission, with the help of planning consultant Rand Bowman, have approved new guidelines they hope will improve meetings and public relations.

These changes to their by-laws include policies to cover disruptive comments, to insure smooth operation of meetings and to provide for public hearings.

The public hearing issue rose to prominence after a public hearing in January attended by many neighbors when the issue was withdrawn by the applicant. The public hearing was not held and the neighbors did not have an opportunity to discuss their views of the issue.

The commission members agreed that in the future if a public hearing notice had been published, it would be held even if the applicant removed the request. Applicants would be told that the public hearing would take place.

If an issue was tabled, a second public hearing notice would be published prior to the issue being reopened.

The commission also approved a tracking system to make sure that applicants

See guidelines, page 16

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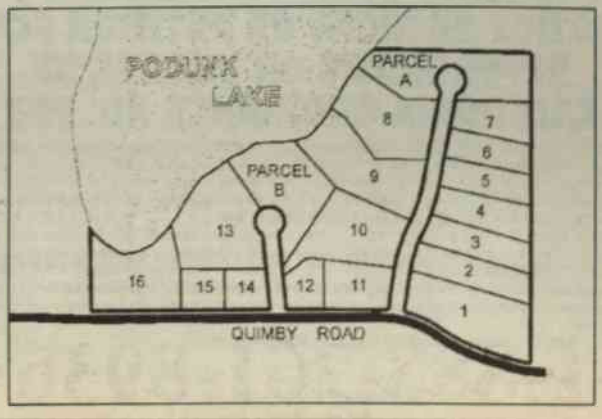

Caledonia school election will include 3 open seats

by Ruth Zachary
Staff Writer

Caledonia's annual school election June 14 will include a millage renewal of 18 mills on non-homestead properties and will elect three school board candidates.

The terms of Dan Clark and Bob Bergy will up for election. Stephen Donker, who submitted his resignation at the Board of Education meeting March 16 was reappointed to stay in his position until June 30, when a replacement can fill his job through the election process.

So the annual school election will be for two candidates to four-year terms and one candidate to replace Donker, whose term will end on June 2001.

Proposal A brought establishment of a property tax millage for all property owners, 6 mills on all properties, but 24 mills will be levied on non-homestead parcels. However, the local district must hold an election and receive the approval of local taxpayers in order to levy the 18 mills on non-homestead properties needed to obtain full state funding of 24 mills on non-homestead land.

School officials say Caledonia Community Schools has a tax base of $652,000,000. Of that total, $350,000,000 is in non-homestead property. If the school district could not levy the 18 mills on that property, children in the district could lose $6,300,000 in funding, or a 31 percent decrease in revenues.

They stress the renewal in June is imperative to maintain the schools at their present budget. They do not want the passage of the matter to be taken for granted and hope people remember they are not being asked to add a new tax. There will be no difference in their tax bills. It means voting to continue the current millage at the same level.

Current School Board : Left to Right, Dan Clark, James Gless, Bernard Nagel, Robert Lillie, Stephen Donker, Robin Vaughan and Robert Bergy.

The renewal is not a tax on homes, but a property tax on business, commercial and other non-homestead property.

Qualified candidates must be registered voters 18 years of age or older. Residency in the state for 45 days and of the school district for at least 30 days prior to the election also is required.

To become a candidate, a petition with the signatures of a minimum of 20 registered voters of the school district must be filed at the Board of Education office at 203 E. Main St. before 4 p.m. Monday, April 12.

Questions may be directed to the schools' administrative office at 891-8185.

YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

To the residents of Yankee Springs Township, Barry County, Michigan and any other interested persons:

Please take notice that the Yankee Springs Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, April 15, 1999, commencing at 7:30 pm at the Township Hall located at 284 N. Briggs Rd., to conduct the following business:

1. **ZOC 99-03-03;** a request by the Yankee Springs Township Planning Commission to amend the Township Zoning Ordinance by adding the following to Article IV Section 7:

   "The cost of technical review of the site plan shall be paid by the applicant in accordance with the adopted fee schedule. In addition, the Township may determine that additional specialized studies and analysis are necessary for the proper evaluation of a proposed development, the cost of which shall be borne by the applicant. To insure that sufficient information is available to the Township in its review and decision making process, the Board of Trustees may require the creation of an escrow account, funded by the applicant, from which fees for technical services would be paid."

2. **ZOC 99-03-03**, Parcel ID. No. 017-001-00; A request by Daniel Phillips, 525 S. Briggs Rd., to rezone his property from the "Agriculture" Zoning District to the "Rural Residential" Zoning District.

3. Such other business as may properly come before the Planning Commission.

Please take further notice that the Township Zoning Ordinance will be available for inspection at the office of the Township Clerk, 284 N. Briggs Rd., during regular business hours and will also be available at the time of the public hearing. Written letters of comment will be accepted until the start of the public hearing.

Please take further notice that the Township Planning Commission reserves the right, at or after the Public Hearing, to make changes in the Proposed Amendments to the Ordinance.

Please take further notice that the Township will provide to individuals with disabilities, necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services may as may be required, upon 5 days notice to the Township Clerk of the need for the same.

All persons are invited to be present at the aforesaid time and place to participate in the discussion of the above Proposal(s).

Al Schwennesen
Secretary
Yankee Springs Township
Planning Commission

302

Synopsis of Minutes

THORNAPPLE TOWNSHIP

SYNOPSIS
THORNAPPLE TOWNSHIP
REGULAR MEETING
March 8, 1999

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by supervisor at the Township Hall.

Thornapple Township Board members present - 6. Absent - 1. Others present - 3.

Motion passed to approve agenda as printed.

Motion passed to approve minutes of February 8, 9, and 23.

Printed bills in amount of $9,307.93 were approved by roll call vote.

Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

R. Bouma, resident of Stimpson Road, requested a street light at M-37 and Stimpson. Supervisor advised this was requested of Consumers Energy last May. He will contact them again.

Motion passed to amend Fire Budget and Sewer Assessment Budget by adding $27,000.00 and $1,100.00 respectively and to adjust certain cost centers of General Fund by $19,581.00.

Quarterly planning meeting was set for April 15.

Motion passed to hire Steve Funk for full-time position by Emergency Services, contingent on his passing the physical.

Motion passed for EMS Chief to purchase lockable tool box at approximate cost of $1,000.00.

Motion passed to give Phil Clinton permission to attend an EMS Instructor course.

Cemetery report: hearings for juveniles charged in cemetery vandalism start in March.

March 16 was set for special Township Board Meeting to discuss preliminary Fire Contract.

Motion passed to transfer $41,000.00 from General Fund to Fire Fund.

Motion passed to transfer $17,570.00 from Ambulance Fund unrestricted to equipment reserve.

Motion passed to transfer $75,000.00 from Fire Fund unrestricted to equipment reserve.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Submitted by:
Donna Stagray, Clerk

Attested to by:
Donald E. Boysen, Supervisor

(A complete text of township minutes is available during regular office hours at the township offices.) (303)

OFFICIAL NOTICE of Thornapple Township Planning Commission PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that on Monday, April 19, 1999, at 7:00 P.M., at the Thornapple Township Hall, 200 E. Main Street, Middleville, Michigan, the Thornapple Township Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing for the purpose of hearing comments regarding the changing of the Zoning Map of the Thornapple Township Zoning Ordinance.

RZ#-14 An application has been received from Dick Suwyn, 4546 Patterson Road, Caledonia, MI, to rezone approximately 8.2 acres of Section 6 from an A-R (Agricultural-Residential) district to a C-2 district (Community Business District). This property is located on the east side of Patterson Road approximately 1/2 mile south of 108th St.

Lengthy legal description of this area, 8.2 acres to be rezoned, is on file in the Township offices.

The above rezoning application and map may be inspected at the Thornapple Township Hall daily, 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., except Friday, 9:00 A.M. to noon. Written comments regarding this application may be addressed to:

Secretary, Thornapple Township Planning Commission
200 E. Main Street
Middleville, MI 49333

Wesley VanRhee, Secretary,
Thornapple Township Planning Commission

NOTICE: Thornapple Township will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed material being considered at the hearing, meeting, or election, upon seven days notice to the Township Clerk. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Clerk by writing or calling:

Thornapple Township Clerk
200 E. Main Street
Middleville, MI 49333
Telephone 795-7202 (306)

VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA COUNTY OF KENT, MICHIGAN NOTICE OF RIGHT OF PETITION FOR REFERENDUM ON VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA ORDINANCE NO. 99-3

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on March 8, 1999, the Village Council of the Village of Caledonia adopted Caledonia Village Ordinance No. 99-3 to provide that certain duties of the Village Clerk shall be assigned to the Village Manager. Such duties include matters pertaining to Village accounting, budgeting, personnel, purchasing and related management functions, except, however, all duties required by law to be performed by the Village Clerk.

Public notice is further given that such ordinance will become effective April 22, 1999, such date being 45 days after the date of its adoption, unless a petition requesting a referendum vote on such ordinance and signed by not less than 10% of the registered electors of the Village is filed with the Village Clerk within such 45-day period. In the event of the timely filing of a sufficient petition, the ordinance shall take effect only upon its approval by the Village electorate, at an election held for such purpose.

This notice is given by order of the Caledonia Village Council.

Dated: March 15, 1999
VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA

300

VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA COUNTY OF KENT, MICHIGAN NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF VILLAGE ORDINANCE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on March 8, 1999, the Village Council of the Village of Caledonia adopted Ordinance No. 99-3, to provide that certain duties of the Village Clerk shall be assigned to the Village Manager, to the extent permitted by law. Such duties include matters pertaining to Village accounting, budgeting, personnel, purchasing and related management functions, except, however, all duties required by law to be performed by the Village Clerk.

The ordinance becomes effective 45 days after the date of its adoption, unless a timely and sufficient petition for referendum thereon is filed with the Village Clerk.

A copy of the ordinance may be examined or purchased at the Village office, 250 South Maple Street, Caledonia, Michigan, during Village office hours.

Dated: March 15, 1999
VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA

301

Synopsis of Minutes

THORNAPPLE TOWNSHIP

SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES
THORNAPPLE TOWNSHIP
SPECIAL MEETING
March 16, 1999

Meeting called to order at 3:10 p.m. at Township Hall for preliminary preparation of Fire contract, pre-hearing budget adjustments and other related matters.

Board members present - 5. Absent at roll call - 2. Others present - 1.

Bills for $65,615.54 were approved by roll call vote.

Motion to correct General Fund budget adjustment total approved March 8 from $19,581.00 to $22,781.00 and to approve additional budget adjustments of $2,125.00.

We have been keeping something in Equipment Reserve rather than spending down, then needing to borrow and ask the people for additional money when new equipment is needed.

I.S.O. 10 year inspection is due in the year 2000.

Three Board members will meet with Emergency Services Chief to estimate our projected budget needs. They will come up with 3 options.

Meeting adjourned at 4:25 P.M.

Submitted by:
Donna Stagray, Clerk

Attested to by:
Donald E. Boysen, Supervisor

(A complete text of township minutes is available during regular office hours at the township offices.) (304)

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Yankee Springs Township
Barry County, Michigan

NOTICE of HEARING

TO: The residents and property owners of Yankee Springs Township, Barry County, Michigan, the owners of land with the Special Assessment District No. 19, and any other interested persons.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Supervisor of the township has reported to the Township Board and filed in the office of the Township Clerk for public examination a **SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL** (second hearing) prepared by him covering all properties within the Special Assessment District No. 19 benefited by the proposed grading & paving project. Said Assessment Roll has been prepared for the purpose of assessing costs of aforesaid Special Assessment District as more particularly shown on the plans and estimates of costs on file with the Township Clerk at 284 N. Briggs Road, Middleville, Michigan within the Township which assessment is in the total amount of $6,000.00.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the District within which the improvements are proposed to be constructed and within which the cost thereof is proposed is more particularly described as follows:

Grade and Pave frontage of Lighthouse Court including the removal of one tree.

In the Plat of Streeter's Resort as recorded. Property located in Yankee Springs Township, Barry County, MI described as follows:

08-16-215-014-00 08-16-215-017-00 08-16-215-018-00
08-16-215-019-00 08-16-215-020-00 08-16-215-021-00
08-16-215-022-00

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Supervisor has further reported that the assessment against each parcel of land within said district is such relative portion of the whole sum levied against all parcels of land in said district as the benefit to such parcels bears to the total benefit to all parcels of land in said district. The proposed special assessment as shown on the roll is $857.15 per parcel of land in the district. For further information you are invited to examine the Roll.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Township Board will meet at the Township Hall on **APRIL 8, 1999, AT 7:00 P.M.**, for the purpose of reviewing said Special Assessment Roll, hearing any objections thereto, and thereafter confirming said Roll as submitted or revised or amended. Said roll may be examined at the office of the Township Clerk during regular business hours from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to noon on Friday until the time of said hearing and may further be examined at said hearing. Appearance and protest at this hearing is required in order to appeal the amount of the Special Assessment to the State Tax Tribunal.

An owner, or party in interest, or his or her agent may appear in person at the hearing to protest the Special Assessment, or may file his or her appearance or protest by letter at or before the hearing, and in that event, personal appearance shall not be required. The owner or any person having an interest in the real property who protests in person or in writing at the hearing may file a written appeal of the special assessment with the State Tax Tribunal within 30 days after the confirmation of the Special Assessment Roll.

After the public hearing is closed, the Township Board may confirm the roll as submitted or as revised or amended; may provide for payment of special assessments in installments with interest on the unpaid balance, and may provide by Resolution for any and all such other matters as are permitted by law with regard to Special Assessments.

All interested persons are invited to be present at the aforesaid time and place to submit comments concerning the foregoing.

Yankee Springs Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed material being considered at the hearing upon 7 days notice to the Township Clerk. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Clerk at the address or telephone number listed below.

YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP
Janice C. Lippert, Clerk
284 N. Briggs Road
Middleville, MI 49333
616-795-9091

(308)

Fred Fleischmann appointed to Caledonia Township Board

by Ruth Zachary
Staff Writer

Fred Fleischmann was appointed Wednesday to the Caledonia Township Board to complete the term left vacant by Bonnie Keller, who resigned her four-year board term last month.

Fleischmann will complete her term through the year 2000.

Fleischmann was nominated by Trustee Mike Dunn. Two other candidates, Archie Warner and Bill Bravata, also were considered.

Trustee John Potter said "Fred has been involved in many activities in a positive way."

Dunn said Fleischmann had been supportive of the positions of both sides of issues in the past, and said he had said he was happy with the way the gypsy moth program was handled when he could have gone along with others who didn't. Dunn said he could "take the heat."

Supervisor Bill Johnston said he was pleased there were three people who were willing to be involved and hoped they would continue to help.

Fleischmann has been involved on the Parks and Recreation Committee, actively trying to locate park land for the township. He has been working on the Paul Henry Thornapple Trail Association (Rails to Trails) Project in both Kent and Barry counties.

Fred Fleischmann

He is employed by H & L Manufacturing of Caledonia, and has been a self employed computer systems consultant with 25 years experience in creating business and finance systems.

Born and raised in Kent County, Fleischmann is a graduate of Caledonia Schools and Calvin College and has degrees from the University of Maryland and Southern Illinois University. He holds a master of business administration in accounting and finance.

Fleischmann is a four-year Vietnam Era veteran of the United States Air Force.

He has been married 25 years to Dr. Shirley T. Fleischmann, professor of engineering, Grand Valley State University. They have four children.

He has been active as a scoutmaster, Caledonia Troop 202, for six years.

Fleischmann is a Republican party member and has been a candidate for the Kent County Board of Commissioners and the State Legislature.

Yankee Springs sends R-R rezoning to trustees

by Patricia Johns
Staff Writer

Yankee Springs Planning Commission members last week approved the rezoning of 85 acres of property owned by William Weick at 1885 Patterson from agricultural to rural residential.

Planner Ken Dettloff recommended that the rezoning be the first step. After the rezoning goes to the Board of Trustees and is approved, the next step is to look at the best use of the site.

No one spoke at the public hearing either for or against the rezoning.

In other business at last week's Yankee Springs Township Planning Commissin meeting:

- Richard Beukema read letters from residents asking for a new traffic survey on Patterson and Chief Noonday Roads.
- The commission approved site plans for a new restroom up from the beach at the YMCA camp. The board also approved a pavilion with restroom facilities for the horse barn area of the camp.
- The commission also sent on to the board of trustees an ordinance change that will allow the township

See rezoning, page 16

SPECIAL MEETINGS NOTICE

Yankee Springs Township

284 N. Briggs Road
Middleville, MI 49333
(616) 795-9091

Dates of Meetings: MARCH 23, TUESDAY - 7:00 P.M.
APRIL 6, TUESDAY - 7:00 P.M.
APRIL 20, TUESDAY - 7:00 P.M.

Place of Meetings: YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP HALL

Purpose of Meetings: Planning Commission is conducting Workshop Sessions regarding revisions and updating the Township Zoning Ordinance.

Residents are welcome to attend and contribute suggestions for revisions. The township planning consultant will also be attending these sessions.

This notice is in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act); MCLA 41.72a (2) (3) and the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA).

The Yankee Spring Township Board will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon 7 days notice to the Yankee Springs Township Clerk.

Signed: Janice C. Lippert, Clerk
Yankee Springs Township (307)

VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA

COUNTY OF KENT, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS AND SUMMARY OF REGULATORY EFFECT THEREOF

VILLAGE WATER CONNECTION, USE AND RATE ORDINANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on March 8, 1999, the Village Council of the Village of Caledonia adopted Ordinance No. 99-20, which amended certain provisions of the Village Water Connection, Use and Rate Ordinance No. 98-5 (the "Water Ordinance). The following is a summary of the amending Ordinance:

Advance Billing. Section 1102A is added to the Water Ordinance to provide for billing in advance of the readiness to serve and commodity fees, and to provide a transition period from the current system of billing in arrears. Commencing January 1, 2000, these fees will be billed in advance. Corresponding changes were made to Sections 1102 and 1003 of the Water Ordinance to reflect the transition to billing in advance.

Accrual Date. Section 1103A is added to the Water Ordinance to provide that the readiness to serve fee and commodity fee begin to accrue on the earlier date of issuance of an occupancy permit, or 150 calendar days after the water service permit application is filed.

Billing and Collection. Section 1110 of the Water Ordinance was amended to reflect that customers will be billed on or about the 1st day of the first month in each calendar quarter. Payment is due on or before the 1st day of the second month in the quarterly billing period, except that, for 1999, the April 1, July 1, and October 1 quarterly bills are due and payable on or before the 15th day of the second month in the quarterly billing period. Miscellaneous customer fees are due 10 days after the bill or statement is mailed. Non-receipt of a bill is not an excuse for nonpayment.

Late Payments. Section 1111 of the Water Ordinance was amended to indicate that a time price differential of 5.0% per quarter is charged on the unpaid balance until the rates and charges are paid or certified for placement on the tax roll.

Remedies. Section 1112 of the Water Ordinance was amended to provide for 30-days notice and opportunity for hearing before disconnection.

Delinquent Rates and Charges. Section 1113 of the Water Ordinance was amended to provide that water supply rates shall be considered delinquent if not paid when due. Water supply rates and charges and time price differential which are delinquent as of April 1 each year, plus a penalty of 5.0%, will be reported to the Village Treasurer and placed on the Village tax roll for the premises served.

Effective Date. The Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon this publication.

Ordinance Available for Public Inspection. A complete copy of Ordinance No. 99-20 is available for public use, inspection and copying at the office of the Village Clerk, 250 S. Maple Street, Caledonia, Michigan 49316, during regular business hours.

Dated: March 23, 1999

THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA

(305)

Caledonia's Science Olympians compete at Grand Valley

by Patricia Johns
Staff Writers

Once the total scores had been tallied the Caledonia's team of Science Olympians were on their way to the state finals on April 24 at Michigan State University.

The team tried everything from Mystery Architecture to bottle rockets and the Water Strider and 20 other adventures as they rehearsed for the regional competition at Grand Valley State University this past Saturday.

The rehearsal was important, noisy, full of laughter and discovery as students added ice cubes to solutions, looked closely at bugs, plotted their way on a map and successfully launched a bottle rocket.

Coach Larry West adjusts the bottle rocket launcher as inventor Dave Juhlin looks on. Juhlin exclaimed excitedly just a few moments later, "It works!"

Coordinator Sharon Oatley had planned the rehearsal day to give the students and their parents a taste of what to expect. There are some events that are closed to an audience.

Coaches George Anderson, Sue Atkinson, Joe and Kim Beaumont, Mary Danielson, John Jacobson, Deb Powers, Carol Treacy and Larry and Sue West were there to cheer students on, to encourage them when something did not work and to learn themselves.

The competing team of 15 students was selected from the 28 who have participated in the program this year.

The Caledonia Middle School Science Olympiad team and coaches were ready for regional competion March 20 at Grand Valley State University.

Present and future Science Olympians look on as the team prepares its "Water Strider."

Guidelines, from pg. 13

know what they must comply with before coming to the Planning Commission.

The commission hopes that this checklist system will eliminate some of the problems developers and the commission have had in the past.

The commission will hold a work session on planning issues on March 29 at 7 p.m. The next regular meeting will be at 7 p.m. Monday, April 19. Planning commission meetings are held in the Township Hall.

Rezoning, from page 15

to collect fees to pay for some of the costs of new development.

• Dettloff told the commission that within several weeks McKenna Associates will have completed an update of the zoning ordinances.

This will be a place to start and the township will keep the historical changes.

Beukema encouraged residents to attend the zoning workshops on March 23, April 6 and April 20. All workshops begin at 7 p.m.

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Signs going up

Matt Hawley prepares to add "Thornapple Kellogg High School" to the new facade at the school

Watershed group wins grant to fund short course

Judge Janet Haynes, representing The Grand Rapids Foundation presents the check for the Thornapple River Watershed Management Short Course to Renee Van Houten, TRWG board president. Left to right: Patricia Pennell, TRWG Director of Educational Programs, John Zadvinskis, Renee Van Houten, Judge Janet Haynes, Jim Williamson, and Nancy Bell Harmony.

The Thornapple River Watershed Group has announced the receipt of a $12,000 grant from The Grand Rapids Foundation to plan and present the Thornapple River Watershed Management Short Course this fall.

The award presentation was made March 3 by Judge Janet Haynes (representing the foundation) to Renee Van Houten, executive director of TRWG, with John Zadvinskis, Nancy Bell Harmony, Jim Williamson (all board members) and Patricia Pennell, director of educational programs, present.

Patricia Pennell, director of educational programs, said, "This will be an excellent first step for bringing together all the important players needed to develop a watershed-wide protection plan for the Thornapple River. The river flows through four counties and 38 townships, and is a unique and beautiful natural resource that needs protection. The short course will be a great educational opportunity for citizens interested in water quality and land use issues."

The short course will be presented Sept. 9, 16, 23 and 30 (Thursday evenings) 6 to 10 p.m. and Oct. 2 (Saturday) from 8 a.m to noon. The 20-hour course will have a fee of $75. Some scholarships will be available.

Participants will receive a certificate of completion suitable for framing. Continuing Education Units (CPU's) are available for those who complete the entire course. Caledonia High School is host.

Currently identified partners in the short course are MSU Extension, Gull Lake (Kalamazoo County); MSU Extension, Kent County; MSU Extension, Barry County; West Michigan Environmental Action Council; Land Conservancy of West Michigan; Kent County Drain Commissioner; Michigan Department of Environmental Quality; Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, Inc. Environmental Engineering, Ada; Michigan State University Institute of Water Research; Timberland Resource Conservation and Development Area Council, Inc., Sparta; Resource Management Group, Inc., Environmental Planners and Consultants, Grand Haven, Michigan Groundwater Stewardship Program; USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service; Caledonia Township, Kent County, and Caledonia High School.

More information about the short course can be obtained form Patricia Pennell, Thornapple River Watershed Group, at 891-8817, or Kara Griffith at MSU Extension, Kent County, (616) 336-3265.

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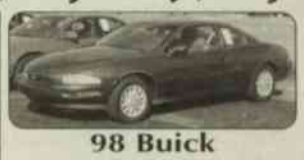

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97 Olds Cutlass Supreme SL
4 door, leather bucket seats, CD, dark teal

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Athletes of the Week

Mike Tomanek
Caledonia High School

Tomanek finished third in the 103-pound weight class of the Division II State Individual wrestling finals held last week at the Joe Louis Arena. Tomanek won four matches, all four on decisions.

Jeremy Vandefifer
Thornapple-Kellogg High School (Middleville)

Vandefifer was the runner-up in the 189-pound weight class at the Division II State Finals in Detroit. The Trojan grappler won three times before losing a decision in the championship match.

Athletes of the Week Presented by:
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Running and Throwing for the Broncos...

Addi Radcliff, on left, and Jessi Davis, on right, are area athletes who are competing as cross country and track and field athletes at Western Michigan University. Radcliff is a graduate of Lakewood High School, while Davis is a former sports standout at Thornapple Kellogg High School in Middleville. Both are currently active on the Broncos' womens track and field team as throwers and runners. Radcliff throws the disc, hammar and the shot put. Davis, who also runs cross country, will compete in the 1500 and the 3000. (Photo provided by Neil Rankin, WMU)

Caledonia's Brooke Wierenga is finalist for state FFA award

A Caledonia FFA member was a finalist for State FFA Award. 11 others received State FFA degrees and four received outstanding Junior FFA awards at the state convention in Lansing March 8-10.

More than 2,500 FFA members, advisors and supporters gathered for the 71st State FFA Convention at the Wharton Center for the Performing Arts on the Michigan State University campus. This year's theme was "FFA – making a Difference."

Students attended presentations by motivational speakers, received state awards, and competed in leadership skills contests. The three-day event is the largest annual student convention in the state.

Brooke Wierenga, a senior at CHS, was recognized onstage as one of the top six FFA members in Michigan in the areas of agribusiness and production agriculture. A total of 273 members from FFA chapters across Michigan were awarded the State FFA Degree – the highest honor given by the Michigan Association of FFA to active members.

Wierenga received a Gold State FFA Degree, and 10 other Caledonia FFA members received the state degree that evening in recognition of their achievements during their high school careers. They were Matt Ayriss, Mike Klapmust, Betty Jo Meyer, Joe Risdon, Andy Schupp, Blake Trutsch, Dan VanKalker, Archie Warner, Jason Workman and Jill Zinger.

Four Caledonia FFA members were among 159 FFA members across Michigan to receive the Outstanding Junior Award, given Monday evening. They were Carrie Baxter, Jake Gerst, James Sheely and Eric Yonker. The Tau Chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity and the Gamma Chapter of Sigma Alpha Sorority sponsor this award. Winners are high school juniors with outstanding supervised experience projects who demonstrate leadership qualities in their local FFA chapters.

Two Caledonia FFA members received state Proficiency Awards for their supervised experience programs. Jason Workman received a silver award in diversified livestock production, and Archie Warner received a gold award in turf and landscape management.

Caledonia FFA member Betty Jo Meyer received a Pauline Glassbrook scholarship. Former FFA state administrative assistant Pauline Glassbrook established the scholarship to reward current and past FFA members who intend to become agriscience educators. Meyer is a senior at CHS and intends to enroll in Agriscience Education at MSU next fall.

Caledonia FFA members also participated in the state leadership contest finals after qualifying at regional competition Feb. 18. The demonstration team of Dan VanKalker and Brooke Wierenga received a gold award with their presentation on pole barn construction.

Jill Zinger received a silver award in the Prepared Public Speaking contest with her speech on transgenics. The Parliamentary Procedure team of Jason Workman (chairperson), Archie Warner (vice chairperson), Lisa Kaechele (secretary), Matt Ayriss, Mike Klapmust, Andy Schupp and James Sheely received a silver award in competition. The Ag Forum team of Maygan Post (chairperson), Brian Anderson, Marcie Crandall, Kelly Goodwin, Tony Governal and Justin Workman received a silver award with their discussion on farm land preservation.

The Caledonia Middle School FFA Conduct of Meetings team received a silver award in competition on Tuesday. Team members were Jenny Workman (president), Taylor Smith (vice president), Alex Buchanan (secretary), Jordan Sheely (treasurer), Katie Meyer (reporter), Pamela Martin (sentinel) and Kaylin Barnes (advisor).

The Michigan FFA consists of more than 5200 members from 120 chapters. FFA is a diverse organization, operating in rural, suburban and urban schools. Students ages 12 to 21 enrolled in agriscience education programs are eligible for membership.

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TK's Alicia Harper to roll at state bowling finals

Alicia Harper, a freshman on the girls bowling team at Thornapple Kellogg High School, rolled her way to the State finals.

Harper will compete in singles at State to be held March 26 at the Fairlanes in Grandville.

The freshman has a 144 average and notched a 473 series in districts to advance to the regional tournament.

At regionals, Harper's success continued with a 510 series and a high game of 224.

This is the first year of high school bowling. Thornapple Kellogg's girls squad consisted of Harper, Tisha Turcott, Summer Cornett, Trinnady Dykstra, Samantha Grochowski and Teresa Venton. The Lady Trojans were fourth out of nine teams in the Southern Division and placed seventh at districts. Grochowski, Harper and Turcott all advanced to the regional singles competition.

Thornapple Kellogg's boys team included Kyle Aspinall, Stuart Aspinall, Matt Pullen, Tim Suwyn, Jeff Douherty, Zack Keysor, Mike Gromko and Scott Ploeg. The boys were six out of nine league teams during the regular season, fourth at districts and just missed making the team regionals. Stuart Aspinall, Pullen and Ploeg all competed in regional singles.

Alicia Harper, pictured here at the Middle Villa Inn, represented the TK bowling team at the first year of the state tournament. (Photo provided)

The Trojan teams were coached by Harry Walker, Greg Smith and Judy Dougherty.

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Kaechele closes out college hoop career

Guard Sarah Kaechele, of Middleville, helped the Ferris State women's basketball team tie a single season record for wins with 18 during her senior campaign.

Sarah Kaechele

Kaechele, a graduate of Thornapple Kellogg High School, averaged 3 points and 1.1 rebounds per game for the 18-10 Bulldogs during their 10-9 Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference season.

Continued next page

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From previous page

An FSU captains, Kaechele was one of 10 players to play in all 28 games. She reached double figures in scoring twice and shot a team-best 44.1 percent (15-of-34) from three-point range.

For her college career, Kaechele ranks fifth in Bulldog history in three-point field goals (61) and ninth in three-point field goal percentage (.307). She totaled 331 points, 150 rebounds, 82 assists, 43 steals and six blocks.

The 1998-99 FSU women's basketball team finished tied for fifth in the GLIAC's North Division at 10-9 and posted the program's longest winning streak in history with 11 straight wins.

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BED, PILLOW TOP KING, bought new 1 month ago, but never used (still in plastic), nice as new, cost $1,050, sacrifice $400 or best. 517-626-2629

TRUCK CAP Leer contractor's cap, extended height, ladder racks, excellent condition, new paint. Fits Chevy full size long box. $500. Also, Fold-A-Cover for full size 88-98 Chevy long box. 2 months old, paid $500. Asking $350. Call 616-792-6829 after 5:30.

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DUTTON CEMETERY 4 LOTS. 868-6489

Help Wanted

TRUCK DRIVERS, CDL class BX, seeking reliable truck driver for spring season in Caledonia, Clarksville, Lake Odessa. Pay commensurate with skills and abilities. Apply in person or send resume to Caledonia Farmers Elevator. 146 E. Main, Caledonia Mi. 49316. 8:00am-5:00pm.

ATTENTION: Work from home! Our children come to the office every day. Earn an extra $500-$1,500 per month part-time. $2,000-$4,500 full-time. 616-752-8438. www.work-from-home.comfun

CHILD CARE HELP WANTED: We are looking for caring and reliable individuals. We have openings available in our infant room from 12-6, Mon-Fri. Toddlers Mon-Fri., hours vary. 3 year old room aide 2:30-5:30 after school Mon-Fri 3:15-6:00 w/possible additional hours a few days per week. If interested please call Sherri or Anne Marie at Caledonia Community Ed Kid's Corner 891-0266.

LAWN MAINTENANCE COMPANY IN ALTO IS LOOKING FOR INDIVIDUALS FOR LANDSCAPE & MOWING. EXPERIENCE HELPFUL, STARTS APRIL 1ST - DECEMBER 31ST. VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE A MUST. 868-5296

CONSTRUCTION HELP WANTED: Full time position available, concrete experience helpful, health insurance included, wage depending on experience. Call John at 891-1450

DOCTOR ATKINSON is looking for an individual for 3 days a week. Will train for office, patient, and lab work. Apply at 9361 Cherry Valley Ave., Caledonia.

DUE TO A LARGE INCREASE IN BUSINESS, local company must expand and fill 10 full time permanent positions to start at $540 per week. Company will train the inexperienced; job descriptions, hours, pay scale, profit sharing, benefits, etc. will be discussed at a one on one interview. No 3rd shift. For appointment, call 948-2387 ext. 8.

GENERAL LABOR: Leading wood door manufacturer has openings for general labor, assembly and machine operator positions. Excellent compensation and fringe benefit package as well as opportunity for advancement. All shifts available. Apply at: **KARONA, INC., 4100 KARONA COURT, CALEDONIA, MI. 616-554-3551**

NOTICE OF POSITION FOR VILLAGE CLERK: The Caledonia Village Council is committed to seeking a qualified and interested citizen to participate in public service through appointment/employment as the Village Clerk. To be considered for the position, a citizen must be a resident of the Village of Caledonia, and a registered voter. Duties to include but not limited to: Elections, Petitions, & Minutes of Regular and Special meetings of the Village Council. Interested applicants should contact the Village office at 891-9384 for further details.

Miscellaneous

" RESPONSIBLE HUNTERS" Looking for hunting privileges on private property in Caledonia and Middleville. Dad and 2 teenagers. 616-554-4873, leave message.

YOU WANT QUALITY AT AFFORDABLE PRICES when you buy printing. Call J-Ad Graphics for everything from business cards and brochures to newspapers and catalogs. Ph 945-9554 or stop in at 1952 N. Broadway, Hastings

Mobile Homes

FIRST TIME HOME BUYERS, We represent several banks, they are eager to sell homes they have repossessed. No application fee if you mention this ad. 1-800-672-9604.

1993 DUTCH 16x80. Located in Cidermill Village. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, walk in closet, all appliances, central air, carport, and shed. Moving- must sell! $29,900 795-4736

ABANDONED REPO: Bank needs someone to assume payments on huge 3 bedroom home. Will move if necessary. 1-800-672-9604.

REPO: MUST SELL will look at any offer, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Will move if necessary. 1-800-672-9604.

Real Estate

MIDDLEVILLE: 4+ beautiful wooded acres, $37,000. 698-2759

ONE ACRE WOODED BUILDING SITES, Caledonia-Middleville area, underground electric, paved road, $25,900 to $33,900, 616-891-8982 or 616-891-1693 evenings.

Recreation

FISH FOR STOCKING: Giant Hybrid Bluegills, Rainbow Trout, Walleye, Largemouth, Smallmouth Bass, Catfish, Perch, Fathead Minnows. Laggis' Fish Farm, 08988 35th St., Gobles, Mi 49055., 616-628-2056 days., 616-624-6215 evenings.

Wanted

WANTED: Tepee and poles. 18 ft or larger. New or used. Call 945-4505

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Located in the Caledonia Crossings
(1Block South of 84th on M-37)

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201 S. Jefferson, Downtown Hastings
945-0100
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Open Easter Sunday at noon.
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Carpet matting can be caused by improper installation & cleaning. Call L&N for your carpet answers.