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No. 37/September 14, 1999 | Middleville, Michigan 49333 | 127th year

Caledonia Twp., Village consider area-wide planning

by Ruth Zachary
Staff Writer

The Caledonia Village Planning Commission voted last week to recommend creating a new master plan and to join with the Township Planning Commission in an area-wide planning effort, to be approved by the Village Council.

Langworthy/LeBlanc, consultants for the planning process for the township's general development plan will charge the township $53,000 for assistance, as presently planned.

To include the village in the process would cost an additional $11,250, if the Village Council approves the proposal. If the village was included in the telephone survey in which village relevant questions would be added in, an additional $1,000 would be charged.

The old master plan for the village was written in 1974 and updated in 1982.

A master plan or general development plan is a legal document required to define the background and the planning, and supports zoning for the community, as explained by Al Niles, chair of the Village Planning Commission, and by Township Manager/Planner John Wallace.

The plan usually includes population growth projections, a statement of desired future land use, streets, etc. A supporting document, a development plan map, shows the projections for what residents would like the community to become and defines what development would be allowed in various sectors.

"The general development plan outlines the vision of the community up to 20 years into the future," Wallace said. "It would attempt to identify the direction, including the types of infrastructure improvements, parks, schools, streets, utilities, land uses, and a number of other components with a strategic plan map for locations of specific projects, shown as a layer over the map.

> "Throwing everything in to a general commercial zone is probably not the best strategy. Allowing 100% development along the M-37 corridor would create a lot more problems in the future for the community. We need to collaborate on how much is enough."
>
> – Township Manager/Planner John Wallace

"Another component is the goals, objectives and policies. The direction for the community must be stated specifically what is wanted. Time must be taken to create a solidly worked out plan because if the zoning is challenged, the court will scrutinize the plan. It must support the plan, showing it reflects what the community wanted. How the community was involved in the creation of the plan, how it was devised, and how zoning decisions are supported must be documented. Prevention against litigation is a well developed plan.

"All components of growth must be looked at in making a plan."

Wallace said the consulting firm, Langworthy and LeBlanc, would work with the township or both municipalities to gather information through processes, which already overlap in the work that must be done.

The village would gain relevant information, would be included in creating a Citizen's Advisory Group to represent village residents to advise Planning Commissioners in creating the plan, and would be involved in many areas in which decision making affects both

John Wallace

bodies.

If the Village Council also wanted to be included in the survey, the questions asked would be adjusted to reflect areas the village would need for creating its own master plan.

Wallace, making a presentation for the Village Planning Commission, spoke in favor of both government units working in concert if possible.

"If the township and village are not working in harmony, both plans could suffer," he said. "I would like to see the township and village to cooperatively plan the direction of the community."

He mentioned creating a transitional character along borders of the village, so development is planned to create a smooth aesthetic appearance and would function practically from one area to another.

"I would like to see a plan both units can support," Wallace said.

He said he thought the village would be enhanced through planning, rather than being placed in a situation that could undermine or degrade the quality of life.

Wallace mentioned a restoration and improvement program for the historic sector of the village might be included in the village plan, with supportive efforts by the township. Because most development

See planning, page 2

Heritage Days shine in the sun

by Patricia Johns
Staff Writer

Memory shared truly was the theme of the Heritage Days weekend in Middleville whether downtown or at the new Page location.

Walt Eaton, who died earlier this year was remembered for his volunteer service to the festival.

Grand Marshals Christine and Douglas Shumway enjoyed their parade experience

Middleville Lions provided vision screening for many young children during the festival

The Kal Creek Kickers got everyone's feet a tapping as they demonstrated western swing during the entertainment

Bakers shared their favorite recipes, floats recalled times gone by and perhaps a brighter future.

Heritage Days got off to a slow but tuneful start on Friday with the youth talent show.

Faith Hepler was the winner for her song, "Her Father's Eyes."

Teens vied for the chance to try out karaoke after the

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- GFWC – Gun Lake area 8th annual 'Home Tour' planned
- Middleville planning panel taking up drainage issues
- Issues take Yankee Springs officials late into evening

Planning, continued from front page

within the township is new, such an emphasis for the township would not be a priority if the village was not part of the planning.

"One of the hottest areas to work together on is whether 100th Street should be extended or not," Wallace said. "Whether it should also connect to the business district downtown will have an impact on the future character of the village," he said.

At one point in the discussion, Niles said, "We don't want the old part of the village to be separate."

Areas Wallace said needed cooperative planning included the two major traffic arteries, M-37 and 100th Street, drainage planning, water and sewer systems, commercial zoning along municipal boundaries, choosing where a village center would be and how to influence these components with mutual planning, and the establishment of mutually beneficial goals and policies.

Wallace mentioned the present problem in the village caused by 100th Street traffic moving down two lanes on Johnson Street and jogging over to Main to gain access to M-37 at the light. He predicted that this traffic would become increasingly troublesome in the next few years.

Wallace suggested two possible ways to ease this problem; one would be to create a route (perhaps diagonally) from Johnson across to Main in an area largely open between the two streets, except for one garage.

The other was conditional on extension of 100th Street around an existing marsh south of the high school.

Wallace suggested the creation of a north-south street between 100th (if extended) and near where Johnson Street ends would allow movement in and out of the village by those wanting it and would allow east-west traffic to bypass the village. The land where this road would be routed is presently zoned as agricultural, with the expectation it will one day become residential.

Wallace said the Michigan Department of Transportation would only allow a certain number of traffic signals along the corridor, usually about one signal every half mile.

"We need to coordinate where the locations of outlets will be and how they will filter out to intersections that are signalized."

He suggested that if not planned for together, the village and township actually could be working against each other on some issues, where transportation boundaries are involved.

He gave as an example the Jasonville housing development competing with business interests across M-37 for a signal in a different place.

"As we go forth with other agencies like the Road Commission, we would come with a unified position, which would help both units of government to get the job done," Wallace said.

Another proposal Wallace advocated was the joint commercial planning and zoning of the shared area along the M-37 corridor.

"In the northwest limit of the township, there is huge pressure to develop along M-37, with pressures for entertainment, large discount retailers, auto dealerships." He said closer to the village however, both the village and the township have their own commercial zoning.

"We need to decide where this zoning should start and stop now, and 10 to 15 years down the road. There could be certain local centers for some types of uses. The problem is how to zone to accommodate the different market issues between different pressures along the corridor. Rather than assign a general commercial zone along the corridor, should we develop more market defined commercial zones at different locations? We need a strategy for the whole corridor, to achieve certain objectives, such as market centers with a grocery store, a pharmacy and so forth."

He mentioned the need to allow for motels near the freeway, for contractors and service businesses and automotive businesses to be planned for certain areas.

Wallace said, "Throwing everything in to a general commercial zone is probably not the best strategy. Allowing 100% development along the corridor would create a lot more problems in the future for the community. Traffic created by commercial belts along corridors is difficult to navigate. There are concerns over traffic problems, even with planned signals. We need to collaborate on how much is enough."

With zoning policies that support each other, less conflict would result. For instance, if an ordinance governing signs was the same on both sides of M-37, businesses on both sides would feel they were treated more fairly. If zoning definitions and fees for development were standardized, there would be less pressure to locate in one area over the other.

Surface water flows from the township through the village and out again into the township. Cooperatively working for policies to ensure water quality in the whole area would result in a healthier ecosystem for all.

It is the prerogative of planning commissions to zone certain areas for certain types of residential use, for others to be for specific types of commercial or industrial use, and so on, to create a community that expresses the vision of its residents.

Where this kind of zoning is not done, and speculators pressure to build their own projects in places they desire, often asking for rezoning, the result can be a hodge-podge of conflicting uses.

Planning Commission members discussed pros and cons of joining with the township in a mutual planning of the community.

One commissioner said, "I think we should update our plan, but I don't know if our share of the bill should be as high as this."

Most commissioners seemed to think the cost to join the process and to have a new master plan for the village at the end could be achieved at a very reasonable cost.

Cost was of concern to Village Trustee Dan Erskine, who challenged the amount of the consulting bid by Langworthy/LeBlanc.

Wallace explained that actually the bid was much lower than if the two governments worked independently. If the village hired its own consultant, a lot of the background information to be gathered would be duplicated, increasing the cost. Likewise, information already gathered included information relevant to the village, reflected in a low bid.

Some questioned if a new master plan was really needed, or thought the process would be adequate if new statistics were plugged in to the old plan to update it.

Planning Commissioner Rose Kogge said the statistics backing up the present plan were terribly out of date.

Some thought the village was already developed to capacity, without many more options to alter the character by a changed plan.

Wallace had pointed that out without the input of professional expertise and knowledge about the changes and impacts that were coming.

He said instances of poor planning for access drives on M-37 could be seen in places like the one near MacDonald's. He said reconstruction would be needed within a few years. He said planning ahead of construction could prevent such costly problems in the future. He said it was an example of how good planning could save money long term.

> "We need to coordinate where the locations of outlets will be and how they will filter out to intersetcions that are signalized."
>
> – Township Manager/Planner John Wallace

He said the added vision of new residents and information gathered by the consultant would produce 15 to 20 new ideas no one ever thought of, or forgot about, but that would make good sense to do today. If the village is not involved in the planning, it would miss out on the benefits of that perspective because of not being updated.

Some thought they should be included in the township planning process whether the village was to have a new plan or not, because they are taxpaying residents of the township.

The township does not have authority to plan improvements and do planning for the village, however. The village is out of the township's jurisdiction, even though village residents also pay taxes to the township.

The village must create its own master plan, and pay for it if it is to have one.

Kogge said she had worked with the schools' planning process and believed the cost to the village was extremely reasonable.

If the village officials were not actively involved in the planning decisions as a planning partner, they would have about half the input through involvement as township residents, Wallace said.

On the other hand, he said, if the two units plan cooperatively, a more successful plan for both would be the result. A collaborative planning process would be a better foundation for future zoning by both government bodies, and there would be solid studies supporting the plans, with complete community information being included.

Niles said he wanted to be sure the village would get village issues addressed in the planning process, and to be represented adequately in the way it was set up.

Wallace said village residents would have a voice in the township master planning process by participation, and if the two municipalities cooperate on an official level, the village will have a greater voice in the result.

"There is so much we could do now, if we were a part of this," Kogge said.

Others said the village would have to pay to have a good plan in place.

"If we don't do it now, we will pay, one way or the other. And probably we will pay a lot more if we wait."

Erskine voted against collaborating with the township to create new master plans for each governing body and to employ Langworthy/LeBlanc.

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Scooters	4 & 5	Pre-Kdg. & Kdg.
Voyagers	6 & 7	1st & 2nd
Pathfinders	8 & 9	3rd & 4th
Trailblazers	10 to 12	5th & 6th

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MOVIE GUIDE

SIXTH SENSE (PG-13) DIGITAL
TUES - 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:00, 9:20
WED - 4:45, 7:00, 9:20

DUDLEY DO RIGHT (PG)
TUES - 1:00, 5:20, 9:40
WED - 5:20, 9:40

ASTRONAUT'S WIFE (R)
TUES - 3:00, 7:30
WED - 7:30

13th WARRIOR (R) DIGITAL
TUES - 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
WED - 5:00, 7:15, 9:30

MYSTERY MEN (PG-13)
TUES - 4:55, 7:25, 9:55
WED - 12:00, 2:30, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55

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Students in Steve Seward's Kindergarten class enjoyed making sounds like the animals in the story read by Zero.

Tenth day of school celebrated

Students at McFall Elementary School in the Thornapple Kellogg district got a special visit to mark the tenth day of school this year. "Zero the Hero" made his first visit of the year to all the class rooms, checked to see how well they could count to 10 and read a story.

Police warn of aggressive door-to-door salespeople

by Shelly Sulser
Staff Writer

A marked increase in the number of door-to-door sales taking place in West Michigan has spawned an increase in the number of citizen complaints of rudeness and theft.

"Some are acting very aggressively and rudely," said Sgt. John O'Rourke of the Kent County Sheriff's Department's Community Services Unit. "They're rude in the sense that if a homeowner doesn't want to hear their pitch, they will curse at them."

O'Rourke said some citizens have reported that the salespeople, described as men and women in their late teens and early 20s, sometimes push their way into their homes to get a glass of water.

"In the areas that these salespeople are active," said O'Rourke, "we have seen an increase in reports of property being taken from unlocked cars and homes."

O'Rourke said in the last two weeks, at least three, legitimate companies have been canvassing Gaines Township, Ada Township, Cascade and Caledonia Township to sell products such as magazines, tapes and cleaning products.

Although the workers are apparently legitimate salespeople selling legitimate products, their techniques are offensive, said a spokeswoman from the Alaska Neghborhood Watch, who asked not to be identified.

"If you're not home and they find your door unlocked, they'll go in and take things," she said. "The same thing with cars."

Police have received a number of complaints of people returning home to find their personal things such as drawers, jewelry boxes and purses have been searched.

O'Rourke said the salespeople are dropped off in groups by a crew chief who targets neighborhoods identified in a nationwide marketing directory to be generous to door-to-door sales and solicitors.

Because they travel from home to home on foot, the ones who are stealing only take items that will fit into their pockets such as medicine, cash and jewelry.

In Ottawa County, two individuals operating in the same manner were arrested last week.

Another person was arrested by the Portage Police Department and was found to be in the possession of items missing from an Ottawa County home.

"There are over 20 of them staying right now in a motel in Grand Rapids," said O'Rourke. "I'm not saying they're from out of state, but they are traveling through the west Michigan area."

O'Rourke has advised area Neighborhood Watch and Child Watch groups to advise their residents to be on the alert for aggressive salespeople and to lock their homes and vehicles.

"We strongly support our local charities, we are just recommending that the homeowners be very suspicious of anyone who comes into their homes uninvited," said O'Rourke. "We are reminding people they have a right to say 'I'm not interested, I don't want you in my house.' These are our homes. No one has the right to come in uninvited and insist that we listen to a sales pitch."

People encountering any suspicious person, vehicle or activity are urged to immediately notify their local law enforcement agency, said O'Rourke.

"Be careful where your charity money goes," said O'Rourke. "Nobody is obligated to buy or donate."

O'Rourke noted that only two townships issue solicitation permits, while the others do not.

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5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Adults $6.00 • Children 5-12 $3.00
Bowne Center United Methodist Church
Corner of 84th and Alden Nash

Scouting Night set for tonight at Page Elementary

Girl Scout and Boy Scout troops in the Middleville area will take part in the nationwide "School night for Scouting" tonight (Sept. 14) at 7 p.m. at Page Elementary School.

Families with children interested in getting involved in scouting can meet with the Middleville area Boy Scout and Girl Scout leaders.

This combined recruitment and information night is designed to help parents with children of different ages who attend different schools.

Children will be able to meet those already active in scouting and find out what activities troops have planned for the year.

Those who cannot attend this evening meeting can call Gail Kraft at 891-1802 for Girl Scout information or Jan Stora at 672-6868 for Cub and Boy Scout information.

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Caledonia Elemnetary PTO plans fund-raiser

by Ruth Zachary
Staff Writer

The Parent Teacher Organization at Caledonia Elementary is planning a "WALK for FUNds" at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 16, to raise money for the projects the group supports that supplement regular funding for schools.

Some of the projects the PTO supported last year were "Science Closet," the cultural arts program, "Living Science," a health walk, a field day, a math presentation by a math professor, bringing in authors and more. Caledonia Elementary also gave $1,000 to the new Emmons Lake Elementary as a beginning nest egg for its PTO.

The cost of providing these supplementary educational options is around $10,000 per year. If the PTO could do all the things on its wish list, it will cost around $17,000.

The organization wants to purchase additional playground equipment this year on top of the usual programs it funds.

Pledges for Thursday's fund-raiser will be collected by students attending the school from parents, relatives, friends and neighbors. They have already raised about $5,000. Students and their family members will take part in the walk. Younger students will walk around the school grounds. Older students will walk through the village to draw attention to their cause.

Thirty more volunteers are needed to walk with the students. Volunteers also are needed to bring in cookies for the event. If readers would like to help, they may call the number below.

Kris Francke, said fund-raising with small projects to raise money at this level ends up being a daunting task. Members of the PTO hope this new means of raising funds will reduce the volume of product handling and time that deliveries entail, and the event will be both efficient and fun.

One other positive aspect is that pledge money will be used entirely for school projects, rather than being diverted in product costs and costs for deliveries.

People who would like to help or make independent pledges may call 891-4053.

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Morning Worship...11:00 a.m.
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Middleville – Parmelee

Parmelee Morning Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.
Middleville Sunday School ..... 9:45 a.m.
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Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Midweek Prayer & Bible Study ..... 7:00 p.m.

Rev. Thomas Skye
Rev. Karl Bashor, Assoc. Pastor/Youth Ministries

CMS students learn to hand craft pottery

Sixth-graders at Caledonia Middle School are enjoying a unit in clay, learning to make containers by slab construction and using the potter's wheel. Lindsey Woodcock, age 10, is making a bowl.

Charles Cole and David Brewton are making cups using slab construction. They join the edges to make a cylinder before joining that to the base.

Clayton Berridge is making a cup. "It's my first time on this thing... pretty cool!" he says, with enthusiasm.

TK grad joins honors society at Michigan State

Laura Reed of Middleville has accepted membership in the National Society of Collegiate Scholars and will be honored during a campus ceremony Sept. 26 at Michigan State University.

The National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS) is a highly selective, national, non-profit honors organization. Founded in 1994, NSCS recognizes first and second year undergraduate students who excel academically.

The society was established on the principle that with scholarship comes a responsibility to develop leadership and a duty to perform service.

"NSCS provides the opportunity for students, like Laura, to be recognized for their outstanding academic accomplishments early in their college experience," said Steve Loflin, NSCS executive director. "Laura will also have the opportunity to join other high achieving college students in developing leadership skills and a sense of civic responsibility."

Laura Reed

Reed, a 1997 Thornapple Kellogg High School graduate, is a student at Michigan State University. She is the daughter of David and Nancy Reed.

Among her honors are top ten of 1997, class vice president, National Honor Society, Renaissance Achievement Award, National Science Olympiad, Michigan Competitive Scholarship, Rotary scholarship, Academic All-State, three school track records in the 100-, 200- and 400-meter relay, placed third in the state track meet in the 100- and 400-meter relay, broke a district conference record and dean's honor list at Michigan State University.

A junior at MSU, she is pursuing the field of educa-

Turn to back page

TK library has resumed regular hours

The Thornapple Kellogg School and Community Library has resumed its regular hours.

The library is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. On Tuesdays the library is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

On Thursdays the library is open from 8 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Librarian Deb Jones invites residents to visit the library and "leave with a book." She will announce special library hours during school vacations in the *Sun and News*.

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Heritage Days. continued from front page

talent show.

Saturday opened with the always delicious pancake breakfast at the Middleville Methodist Church.

The parade featured lots of fun floats, the high and middle school bands, high stepping horses and really big trucks.

Middleville's Christian Reformed Church won for best float, with the Thornapple Heritage Association taking second and the Thornapple Kellogg Schools float coming in third.

The day was filled with contests. The car show winners will be listed in next week's *Sun and News*.

But the friendly competition for best apple pie has local bakers already planning for next year

This year's winners were Dawn and Mackenzie Meyering for their Dutch apple, Jean DeVries came in second with Dutch Apple Raisin and Roberta Meeker took third.

The Festival Committee awarded the "Most Improved House" plaque to the Don and Missy Hutchens home on Greenwood.

The most improved business award went to Tires Plus which has even improved its name to Tires 2000.

Whether people came for crafts or conversation, games or even to sample festival food there was something for everyone at the 1999 edition of Middleville Heritage Days.

Walt Eaton's family accepts the brick which will be placed in the "Reclaimed Spirit" sculpture's river walk in his honor. From left: Front Kyle and Nathan Eaton and in back, Lane, Randy and Shirley Eaton.

This float created by the Middleville Christian Reformed Church won first place

Area School Lunch Menus

Thornapple Kellogg Elementary Lunch Menu
Wednesday, Sept. 15
Hamburger on bun, sloppy joe on bun, baked beans, diced pears, milk.
Thursday, Sept. 16
Chicken noodle soup w/1/2 p.b. sandwich, fish sandwich on bun, corn, orange slices, milk.
Friday, Sept. 17
Cheesy ravioli w/roll, corn dog on stick, green peas, fresh fruit, milk.
Monday, Sept. 20
Pepperoni pizza, ham salad sandwich, tator tots, fresh watermelon, milk.
Tuesday, Sept. 21
Chicken nuggets, chicken quesidlla w/roll, cole slaw, fruit cocktail, milk.
Note: P.B. sandwiches available each day.

Thornapple Kellogg Middle and High School Lunch Menu
Wednesday, Sept. 15
Hamburger on bun, sloppy joe on bun, baked beans, diced pears, milk.
Thursday, Sept. 16
Chicken noodle soup w/1/2 p.b. sandwich, fish sandwich on bun, corn, orange slices, milk.
Friday, Sept. 17
Cheesy ravioli w/roll, corn dog on stick, green peas, fresh fruit, milk.
Monday, Sept. 20
Pepperoni pizza, ham salad sandwich, tator tots, fresh watermelon, milk.
Tuesday, Sept. 21
Chicken nuggets, chicken quesidlla w/roll, cole slaw, fruit cocktail, milk.
NOTE: Rotating items will be chix nuggets, chix patties, hamburgers, tacos, nachos, cold sandwiches, chef salads and theme bars.

Thornapple Kellogg Breakfast Menu
Wednesday, Sept. 15
Fruit yogurt, fresh fruit or 100% fruit juice, milk.
Thursday, Sept. 16
Cinnamon breakfast pizza, fresh fruit or 100% orange juice, milk.
Friday, Sept. 17
Peanutbutter and jelly, wafer sandwich, fresh fruit or 100% orange juice, milk.
Monday, Sept. 20
Egg and cheese biscuit, fresh fruit or 100% orange juice, milk.
Tuesday, Sept. 21
Scrambled eggs muffin, fresh fruit or 100% orange juice, milk.
NOTE - A variety of cold cereal and Pop Tart with a muffin is offered daily as a breakfast option. Students may choose white or chocolate milk with their breakfast.

Stutzman-Middleton exchange vows

Amanda J. Stutzman and Alex D. Middleton were united in marriage on June 12, 1999 in a beautiful outdoor ceremony at the bride's parents home. The couples parents are Martin and Bonnie Stutzman of Middleville and David and Diane Middleton of Middleville.

Paula Sweeny was maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Darla Stutzman, sister of the bride, and Gretchen Browning. Flowers girls were Brooke Kopenkoskey and Alee Ocampo.

Jason Preslar was best man. Groomsmen were Kyle Brower and Mike DeBlaay.

The couple is residing in Middleville.

Roundups being planned for scouts in Caledonia

by Ruth Zachary
Staff Writer

Scout troops of Caledonia will be getting together for a Scouts School Night as a part of a National Scout Roundup at all elementary schools.

The Girl Scouts all will meet at the various elementaries at 7 p.m. tonight (Tuesday, Sept. 14), including Emmons Lake Elementary. The roundup will also be held at Cross Creek Charter Academy, on that date, but probably will be only for girls.

The Scout roundup at Kettle Lake was Sept. 9.

At Caledonia and Dutton, Elementary Schools, the Cub Scouts will meet Sept. 14 from 6 to 8 p.m. Cub Scouts who attend Emmons Lake Elementary will be able to choose between Kettle Lake and Caledonia packs.

If interested, Cub Scouts who did not already attend the roundup at Kettle Lake and show up at the Sept. 14 meeting at Emmons Lake may still call Ric Parent to join one of those dens, if that is the group they want to join.

The different groups are encouraging interested new members to register, and they hope to recruit interested parents to take leadership as well. Information will be given and questions may be answered.

Girl Scouts include girls from kindergarten through fifth grade, and Boy Scouts will include boys from first through fifth grade in this gathering.

Ric Parent is troop leader for boys at Kettle Lake. Bill Markee is leader for Caledonia and Dutton Elementary boys.

Cub Scouts usually meet three times a month. Cub Scout activities include archery, camping at Camp Gerber in the summer, hay rides and hiking. The pack at Kettle Lake is divided into grade level dens, each with their own activities. They work toward their own advancements.

Scouting customarily becomes more intense after a boy advances to the next level, Boy Scouts, and they are given an extra rank if they have completed Cub Scouts.

The organization for Girl Scouts is different than for Boy Scouts. There are generally more activities available for Girl Scouts. The girls grow older in their groups, are encouraged to take more initiative in planning and determining the frequency, type, and tone of their own groups. Some meet weekly, others bi-monthly or monthly.

There also are varying levels of involvement in different types of projects for the girls. There are many outdoor programs and often chances for girls to travel. Some may pursue a long term interest in a particular area.

Karen Cargill and Gail Kraft are co-leaders of the Girl Scout troops in all the elementary schools in the area.

Fred Fleischmann has been the leader of the Boy Scouts for sixth grade and up. Larry West is the assistant Boy Scout master.

All scouts have expressed a need for additional volun-

Continued next column over

teers, and for new leaders. Two Cub Scout leaders will be leaving and need replacements.

Adults who would like to lead a group in Cub Scouts or in Girl Scouts are encouraged to make their interests known. New leaders will receive training to learn about the programs, about the organization.

Cargill, one of the area leaders, said, "These activities can be exciting for adults taking part, as well as for the girls." She said she had learned a lot about science, for instance, by being involved.

If there are additional questions, they may be directed to Kraft at 891-1802, to Cargill at 891-7607, to Markee at 891-8422 or Parent at 868-2006.

Freeman-Haight wedding announced

The marriage of Erin Freeman and Aaron Haight was celebrated May 15, 1999 at Caledonia United Methodist Church. Attendants for Erin were her sisters, Katie, maid of honor and Mindy, bridesmaid. Other bridesmaids were Erin's childhood friend, Julie Zinger and Darcy Fruner, college roommate. Flowergirl was Hannah Geiger, groom's cousin.

Attending Aaron were his brothers, Nicholas, best man and Eric, groomsman. Other groomsmen were Brad Diehl, grooms friend and John Flohrs, shipmate. Ringbearer was Justin Makarewicz, special little boy to the bride's family. Ushers were Joel Freeman, bride's brother and Jeff Haight, groom's uncle.

Trumpet solo's were played by Erin's brother Joel, who sang duets with Tina Bovee, organist.

Master and mistress of ceremonies were Keith Sarah and Celia Salmon, special friends of the bride and her family.

Honored guests were the couples grandparents, Lee and Shirley Tolan, Ward and Faye Freeman, Alan and Beverly Kennedy, Ken and Liz Haight, Dean and Katherine Geiger and Erin's Great Grandfather, Simon Jolman.

The couples parents are Mark and Barb Freeman, Colleen and Gordon Elliott and Brian and Darla Haight.

The couple now resides in Virginia where Aaron is serving in the U.S. Navy.

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Overholt to celebrate 90th birthday

Bernice Overholt will celebrate her 90th birthday with an open house given by her family on Sept. 18, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Good News Baptist Church, 6830 Eastern Ave. S.E., Grand Rapids. No gifts please.

She was born and raised in Caledonia, Mi. Her parents were Charlie and Bertha Tape of Caledonia.

She was married to Lawrence (Mose) Overholt for 56 years. He preceded her in death in 1991.

She worked at the State Bank of Caledonia for 32 years. Bernice was the organist for 45 years at the Good News Baptist Church.

Those who cannot attend,

cards may be sent to her address - Oakcrest Manor, 5980 Eastern S.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49508.

Zoo-phonics helps young kids learn

by Ruth Zachary
Staff Writer

Zoo-phonics is a kinesthetic method for teaching phonics, reading and spelling, and uses a cast of animal characters to teach the letters and sounds of the alphabet.

The method associates an animal formed in the shape of a lower case letter with the shapes and sounds of alphabet letters. Letters are abstract, and difficult for some children to learn. Lower case letters are used in reading materials 95% or the time, so this encourages recognition for beginners. A transition from the animal shape to the letter shape and then to the letter without the animal is sequentially grasped.

The sounds of the letter are used instead of the name. These sounds are more easily stored in the brain as language from birth. The auditory system of sounds already in place is automatically associated with the visual system of reading and spelling when taught in this way.

In addition, this method teaches children to lock the shapes and sounds of the alphabet into memory through a body movement that directly relates to the animal/letter. The method makes the connection between phonics, spelling, literature and student writing.

Another feature of the method is that children can use the whole alphabet much more quickly because the Zoo-phonics animals and signals make it concrete and playful (rather than abstract).

The method brings fun and excitement into the classroom, motivating the children to future success in both English and Spanish.

Zoo-phonics teaches short vowels before long vowels, and in short words, made up of fewer sounds so the process is simpler at the beginning. Most long vowels are found in larger words and require other vowels to create the long sound. More advanced concepts are introduced later.

Word family patterns are used to teach reading and spelling. Children naturally locate patterns, and Zoo-phonics uses repetitive patterns to make them aware of patterns in speech and text.

The methodology uses oral (speaking), phono (hearing), visual (seeing), kinesthetic (moving), and tactile (touching) senses in a whole brain approach to learning. The kinesthetic approach provides a memory retrieval system by using the simple movement that is associated with each animal/letter.

Children quickly make the connections between the sounds, (phonemic) and the visual aspects of print.

Sound blending is begun by first using simple consonant-vowel-consonant words, building toward more advanced words as the children develop skill and confidence.

The concepts are taught in a developmental, sequential fashion, from concrete to more challenging, with much time spent in authentic reading and writing.

The concreteness of the method is easier to grasp for children with areas of deficit. Teachers say gifted children can grasp the basics of reading and writing at an earlier age.

The methodology of this system of phonics was developed by teachers. More than 125 research projects have independently concluded that phonemic methods are the most effective ways to teach reading and spelling. Emergent readers through third grade need patterns, rhythms, movement, whole pictures, imagery, and concrete concepts in daily lessons.

Teachers say Zoo-phonics is successful because students learn quickly and retain what they learn. Parents also can support their children at home. Children feel good about their reading and writing ability, and no child slips between the cracks.

Sarek Buchan and Paule Voevodsky show the letter "b," which contains the animal, a bear, named Bubba, and the kinesthetic motion indicates reaching up for honey from an imaginary bee hive.

Zoo-phonics "a" is demonstrated by Austin Root showing the movement of an alligator's jaws while Dylan Fitzsimmons displays the picture of the alligator, which makes an "a" shape.

Engagements

Lynch-Stolsonberg

Bridget Mercedes Lynch, of Kalamazoo, and Craig Allen Stolsonburg, of Middleville, will be married April 22, 2000, in Kalamazoo.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Joan Lynch of Kalamazoo and Patrick Lynch of Negaunee, MI. Kay and Larry Stolsonburg of Middleville are the parents of the groom-to-be.

Bridget is a graduate of Portage Northern High School and employed by Kalamazoo County in the administration offices.

Craig graduated from Thornapple-Kellogg High School, and he's a realtor for Miller Real Estate in Middleville.

The couple plans to live on Barlow Lake in Yankee Springs Township.

Webb-Harrison

Sonja LiAnn Webb and Corey Patrick Harrison will be united in marriage on Oct. 2, 1999.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of David and Karren Webb of Freeport. The groom-to-be is the son of Patrick and Judy Harrison of Middleville.

Sonja is a '93 graduate of Thornapple-Kellogg High School and is employed as a private practice sign language interpreter in Grand Rapids.

Corey is a '93 graduate of Thornapple Kellogg High School and is employed at Steelcase in Grand Rapids.

They will be married at Thornapple Valley Church in Hastings and reside at their new home in Wyoming, MI.

Jackiewicz 80th birthday open house planned

Open house will be held for Ruth Jackiewicz for her 80th birthday, Sunday, Sept. 26 from 2 to 6 p.m. at Bryonwood Estates, 124 Riverwood Dr., Middleville, given by Jim and Diane, Ed and Shari and Betty.

No gifts.

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Ex-Farm Bureau president dies

Elton Smith, highly respected Michigan Farm Bureau president of 22 years, died Sept. 8 following a stroke. Smith, of Caledonia, was 88.

Smith was widely recognized as a leader, not only in Michigan agriculture, but on the national and international scene, as well.

"We're experiencing the loss of a great ag leader," said Michigan Farm Bureau President Jack Laurie.

Smith graduated from the two-year agriculture short course at what is now Michigan State University in 1931. He began his farming career with 120 acres of rented land and built Med-O-Bloom, an 800-acre, 500-head dairy farm in Caledonia, nationally renowned for its red-and-white Holstein herd.

Smith devoted much of his life to the betterment of Michigan and American agriculture. As president of Michigan Farm Bureau from 1964 to 1986, his abilities as a forward-thinking, articulate and knowledgeable spokesperson for agriculture were frequently tapped by U.S. presidents, Michigan governors and secretaries of agriculture. He also served as vice president of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

"Elton was a leader in developing an awareness of the importance of marketing and international trade for agriculture," Laurie said."He took the lead both in the state and nationally in creating an environment where farmers could negotiate, through legislative action, a price for their agriculture products."

A recognized builder of leaders, Smith shared his "whatever you do, give your best," philosophy with everyone he encountered.

Smith is perhaps most noted for his strong support of young farmers, according to Laurie. "He believed in young people," Laurie said. "He was the reason I got involved in Farm Bureau. He emphasized the need to keep young people involved in agriculture."

Because Smith understood the importance of foreign trade in furthering world peace and strengthening American agriculture, he served on U.S. trade committees appointed by four different U.S. presidents. He also led several trade missions, including missions to Japan, Europe and Israel.

Smith once told the Grand Rapids Press that the best way to work with competitors is to "sit around a round table and talk with them," he said. "Every time I take one of these trips," Smith continued, "I come home thinking we've got the greatest place to live in the world. And the Midwest is the best place in the world to be a farmer."

Smith was considered one of Michigan's leading proponents of agriscience education and research. He served as a board member of the Michigan FFA Foundation and was a 4-H supporter. In 1986, in what Smith considered his highest honor, Michigan State University created the Elton R. Smith Endowed Chair for Food and Agricultural Policy, one of very few of its kind of the nation.

Elton R. Smith

He believed that farmers have a responsibility to be good stewards of their natural resources, and was recognized for his efforts in soil and water conservation.

Smith's distinguished service has been honored by Michigan State University, the Michigan Association of Soil Conservation Districts, Michigan State Horticulture Society, Michigan Farm Bureau, the American Farm Bureau Federation, the National FFA Organization, the Michigan Farmers Hall of Fame and other organizations.

"The most important thing," Laurie said, "is that he was a good farmer."

Smith's farm will be carried on by Jerry Good, his partner since 1969. Exemplifying his commitment to young farmers, Smith hired Good as a high school student to help with chores. He helped him earn an education at Michigan State University, then Good returned to the farm to take over day-to-day operations while Smith was away serving as Michigan Farm Bureau president.

After retiring as president of the state's largest general farm organization in December 1986 at the age of 75, Smith continued to serve agriculture on state and national committees and was an active partner on his Med-O-Bloom dairy farm. He was an active, lifelong member of Caledonia United Methodist Church.

Smith leaves behind his wife, Lynde, and a married daughter, Barbara, and her family.

The funeral was Saturday morning at the Leighton United Methodist Church. Memorial contributions may be made to the Leighton United Methodist Church of Caledonia or Caledonia FFA chapter.

Middleville man gets jail for violating probation

Ryan Miller, 18, of Middleville, was sentenced earlier this month in Barry County Circuit Court to one year in jail with credit for 232 days served, for violating probation by possessing marijuana, failing to get a job, to notify his probation agent that he had moved, to report to his probation agent, to attend treatment and for violating curfew.

Miller was on probation for a previous conviction of resisting and obstructing police and unlawful use of a motor vehicle.

"It's obvious from the pre-sentence report that Mr. Miller has failed to stick with being a productive citizen," said Assistant Prosecutor Amy Kuzava. "He has done nothing to follow the rules and even told his mother that nothing would happen has a result of these violations. He's running out of community options. Further violations will result in the court having no choice but to send Mr. Miller to prison."

According to defense attorney Gordon Shane McNeill, Miller is fully aware he could go to prison.

"Mr. Miller will not succeed in prison, his life will essentially be over at that point," said McNeill.

Miller told the court that he has learned recently that he is going to be a father.

"My life is changed," he said. "I'm hoping for county time so I can be a father to my son or my daughter."

"Based on what everyone is saying about you, you are squandering your life," said Circuit Judge James Fisher. "Hopefully, you understand the situation you are in."

Wiley celebrates 90th birthday

Mildred Wiley of Middleville, celebrated her 90th birthday Monday. She was born Sept. 6, 1909, in Hastings.

Family members got together to have dinner, including a grandson who came up from Kentucky.

Her husband Horace (Mickey) A. Wiley is deceased. She has three children, Diana (Bill) Roberts of Kingman, AZ, Ronda Wenger of Midland, MI, and Jody (Bruce) Grantham of Byron Center, MI. She also has one daughter-in-law Joyce Wiley, in Middleville (son Joe Wiley deceased), six grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

Mildred retired from Tyden/Viking Co. in 1974.

Obituaries

Elton R. Smith

Mr. Elton R. Smith, age 88, went to be with his Lord Tuesday, September 7, 1999.

Elton was president of the Michigan Farm Bureau and a life-long pioneer farmer. He received an honorary doctoral degree of agriculture science and natural resources at Michigan State University and the distinguished service to agriculture from Michigan State. He was an honorary state farmer of FFA, he received a citation for outstanding service to 4-H. He was president and member of the Board of Directors of Farmers Petroleum Cooperative Incorporated, and Farmers Crude Production Company for eleven years. He received an award for distinguished and meritorious services by the American Farm Bureau Federation. He has been inducted into the Michigan Farmer's Hall of Fame. He was also very active at Leighton United Methodist Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert & Mary Smith; his sister, Leora Fay; his brother, Edward and daughter, Virginia Shelton.

Mr. Smith is survived by his wife, Lynde Smith of Caledonia; his daughter & son-in-law, Barbara & Paul Schantz of Ohio; three granddaughters and seven great grandchildren; his brother & sister-in-law, Bryce & Mary Ellen Smith of Caledonia; his sisters & brothers-in-law, Lila & Orion Thaler, Margaret & Julius Mutschler of Wayland; his brothers-in-law & sisters-in-law, Eva Smith of Ohio, Luke Fay of Romeo, Kenneth & Maxine Raab of Mason, Jarold & Elizabeth Raab of Florida, Roger & Marion Raab of Battle Creek, Eugene & Marjorie Raab of Kentwood; his partner and like a son, Jerry Good of Caledonia and several nieces & nephews.

Funeral Services for Elton were held on Saturday, September 11, 1999 at Leighton United Methodist Church, Caledonia. Pastor Raymond Townsend officiated.

Interment was in Hooker Cemetery.

The family suggests memorial contributions be made to Leighton United Methodist Church or Caledonia FFA Chapter.

Mary I. Linton

ALTO - Mrs. Mary I. Linton, age 92, of Alto, passed away September 7, 1999 at Spectrum Health - Downtown, Grand Rapids.

Mrs. Linton is survived by her two daughters, Joan (Dwayne) Durkee of Alto, and Janet (Ralph) Wheeler of Kemp, Texas; six grandchildren; eleven great grandchildren; two sisters, Myrtle McCarty and Dorothy (Donald) Dutcher both of Caledonia; several nieces & nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ray Linton.

Funeral Services were held Friday, September 10, 1999 at the Beeler Funeral Chapel, Middleville. Reverend Bryan G. Schneider-Thomas officiated.

Interment was at Bowne Center Cemetery, Alto.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Alto United Methodist Church or St. Jude Hospital.

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Caledonia 5th-graders collect butterflies, bumble bees, bugs

Bumble bees cease to be observed as a generic insect when grouped together so variations between many different bees can be seen and compared.

Tess Bradford and Leslie Curtis show how they pinned their specimens for dying prior to later display in a collection.

Tess Botsford, Nick Cramer, Leslie Curtis and Alex Johnson show off their specimens and hand made butterfly nets. The display behind them explains the way living things are classified.

All Caledonia fifth-graders are doing a unit on the scientific classification of species. Other subjects are tied in, such as writing, art, and language, as shown in this poster about insects in English and Spanish.

by Ruth Zachary
Staff Writer

Megan Brown's fifth graders in Caledonia have been finding that the study of insects is only one branch of the science of the classification of living things.

It can also be a whole lot of fun.

Brown's class took a field trip recently from the Emmons Lake nature path down to Lakeside Park. The teacher said the proximity of the new elementary makes access to the park ideal.

Using handmade nets to capture their creatures, the youngsters returned with jars full of samples which eventually will become part of individual collections.

"It's really funny to see six kids with nets trying to catch the same butterfly," Brown said.

It is easy to think that once you have seen a bumble bee, you have seen them all, but when the kids saw 20 or more varieties of bumble bees, the variations of the different insects pointed out the need to identify each one accurately. The principles of the scientific process and of the need to classify the differences was demonstrated.

While only the order of Hemiptera are accurately named as bugs, spiders are also grouped with bugs when most people talk about the creatures. True bugs have partially thickened, partially membranous front wings, and piercing-sucking mouthparts in a form of a beak. Many are aquatic and most suck plant juices.

The kids in Brown's class are studying more insects than just bugs. They are also relating other areas of the curriculum to the unity of study. They will make papier-mache insects, write stories about the creatures, make charts and graphics related to their studies, and more.

The purpose of the unit is really to teach the students about the classification of all living things and to lay the foundation for their understanding of the scientific process through accurate observation.

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GFWC-Gun Lake Area 8th annual Home Tour set

The Frank home, 4106 Joy Road

The Pruitt home, 12715 Sunrise Court

The Schafer home, 2431 Patterson Road

The General Federation of Women's Clubs-Gun Lake Area is presenting its eight annual Homes Tour, Sunday, Sept. 26, from 1 to 5 p.m. This is a major fund-raiser that funds community involvement, which is the purpose of GFWC-Gun Lake Area.

This year the club is pleased to feature five area homes, two churches and a hospitality center all located in and around the Gun Lake area. Donation at $10 per person. "Tickets" are available at the following businesses in the area: Hummingbird Arts and Crafts, 2717 Patterson Rd. and The Sea Shanty, 11403 Chief Noonday Rd. There are also available the day of the tour at each tour site as well. For ticket information call Gloria Cunningham at (616) 795-9170 or Sandy Ringler at (616) 672-7560.

For more event information, please call Marjory Richards, Homes Tour Chair, (616) 795-3969, Fran Leonard, Publicity Chair at (616) 795-8731 or either ticket contact listed above.

Mary and Terry Frank
4106 Joy Rd.
Gun Lake

Mary and Terry Frank have been residents on Gun Lake since 1976. The Frank home on Joy Road started out as a two bedroom bungalow with a sandy, shallow beach and great neighbors. As the family grew over the years so did the lake retreat.

In 1985, a large lakeside deck was built on, the livingroom enlarged and a second story with two additional bedrooms added. After a few years, the deck was replaced by a spacious all-season porch that extended the livingroom area and increased the enjoyment of the lake's beautiful sunsets. It became a favorite spot to relax, rain or shine.

The first floor living space was completely renovated in 1993 making the Frank home more efficient. The kitchen and bath were redecorated, walls moved and a beautiful open space was created. The home now has four bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths and is an "all season" home.

The furnishings are casual country with a few treasured antique pieces scattered throughout. The black secretary desk was handed down from Terry's family and the antique sewing machine and dresser are two other period favorites.

Especially inviting are the roses in the copper foil window in the street-side door. The door was specifically built to accommodate this special keepsake from a 1981 trip to San Francisco. The Franks feel this window adds "a touch of year round summer to our home." This home shows loving care and is a treasured retreat.

Deb and Ron Pruitt
12715 Sunrise Ct.
Gun Lake

Eight years ago, Deb Pruitt designed this very unique 1550 square foot contemporary home on Sunrise Court. It has 130 feet of water frontage, three bedrooms, and 2 1/2 baths and is truly, "a home with no square (or rectangle) rooms" to quote Deb. All of the bedrooms have well organized closets, one is diamond shape, that use space so efficiently and completely that there is no need for chests of drawers. Yet, all can accommodate a queen size bed. Each closet is placed to act as a sound "buffer" to the adjoining room.

Unique are the Marvin windows that tilt in from the top and facilitate the ceiling fans and large furnace blower fan that keep it cook in summer, warm in winter. Thus, there is no need for air conditioning. The windows also open into the room like a door. Deb's goal was to avoid windows that cranked out onto the deck, because of the lost deck space. There are two decks, one off the large kitchen, dining, livingroom area, the other off the master bedroom.

The master bedroom with its full bath and the laundry with 1/2 bath are separated from the three bedrooms and full bath by this "great" room with vaulted ceilings. Deb calls this a split design. Bathrooms are efficient "no playground" rooms which use space most efficiently.

You must see this lovely home with its angled walls, hip roof and display shelf high up in the greatroom. Space is efficiently and wisely utilized here.

Kim & Ron Schafer
2431 Patterson Rd.
Gun Lake

Located near the Allegan County Park on Gun Lake, the home at 2431 Patterson Rd., Gun Lake was purchased by Kim and Ron Schafer in 1991. The original cottage was raised and building began in 1997. The Schafer's kept the 'barn' storage building that was on the property for extra room (plus, it has a second floor). Then they created an inviting entry with leaded glass doors leading you into a foyer of seven majestic columns and vaulted ceilings. The lower level livingroom, diningroom and open kitchen have double doors and arched windows that offers a terrific view.

The master suite has doors that open onto the deck. A mammoth walk in closet, master bath with space to spare and a special feature for the commode that is unique and practical... "a must to see." Also on the main level is a nursery/guest bedroom, large laundry room and an additional full bath. Corian counters in the kitchen and fireplace in the livingroom. The lakefront doors step out to a multi level deck with stone planters. The decking wraps around the north and south sides of the home to access the back of property.

On the second level, the catwalk/loft area houses the home office. There are two more large bedrooms, another full bath, and a gym/playroom/game room over the three stall garage. There is plenty of storage in the extra large closets in all bedrooms. To appreciate all this home is, a visit to recommended.

Jeannie and Bob ten Haaf
1230 Lynn Dr.
Payne Lake

Jeannie and Bog ten Haaf have a "celebrity" home on Payne Lake that was featured in the 1996 Grand Rapids Parade of Homes and the July 1996 issue of West Michigan Builder/Architect Magazine. It's a custom design by Jeannie and Kuiper Builders. This home is 3200 square feet, constructed with 2x6 walls and are Tyvek wrapped to withstand winter lake winds. Custom carpentry throughout, there are three bedrooms, two and one half baths and a family room over the garage. The master bedroom is equipped with a dressing area and full bath with jacuzzi. The main floor laundry also houses the home office.

Continued next page

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The ten Haaf home, 1230 Lynn Drive

The Richards home, 3122 Elmwood Beach Road

Bowens Mills Chapel, Bowen Mills & Briggs Road

Yankee Springs Bible Church, 10100 Duffy Road

From previous page

Naturally lighting provided by the many windows also affords a beautiful view of Payne Lake. The greatroom was a real Michigan field stone fireplace. Look for solid surface countertops in the kitchen and custom cabinetry in both the kitchen and greatroom.

The ten Haaf's purchased the property in 1989, raised the original Strogan cottage and constructed their new home. Some antiques are displayed. The view is great of Payne Lake, too!

Marjory Richards
3122 Elmwood Beach Rd.
Gun Lake

This two-story home at 3122 Elmwood Beach Rd. is owned by Marjory Richards. It is billed by her as a "home away from home for my children and grandchildren," and she designed it herself for the purpose. The original cottage, bought in 1969, was replaced in 1991 by the current 1800 sq. ft. home. To accommodate visiting children and grandchildren, yet keep the expenses of a four bedroom, two bath home in check, separate heating and cooling of the second floor is featured. The master bedroom on the main floor gives Richards plenty of living space when her three daughters, three sons-in-law, and six grandchildren (12 total) are not in residence. However, they are free to come and go at will and enjoy Gun Lake, which they do often.

The open living/dining area and galley kitchen make efficient use space. The diningroom table expands into the livingroom when necessary and can seat 14 comfortably. There are lots of toys, some antique, for indoor and outdoor use, and lots of books, puzzles and games to keep those grandchildren (and children) busy on rainy days. The "toy chests" on the front deck holds a very large variety of the outdoor toys, the rest is in the single stall garage.

Good ideas for accommodating visiting families and living space for one makes the Richards home a good one to see. Have enough toys for the kids and... "they will come!"

Yankee Springs Bible Church
10100 Duffy Rd.

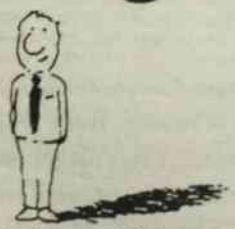
The building at 10100 Duffy Road, known as Yankee Springs Bible Church, was built in 1900. Originally owned by the Evangelical United Brethren (EUB) Conference the church was saved from the wrecking ball on July 11, 1944 when it was purchased by Rev. & Mrs. Floyd Nagel of Grand Ledge for the sum of $1. Many structural changes have been made over the years to improve usage of the original building which is its "core" yet.

The first pastor back in 1948 was Rev. John Boers, newly ordained from the Grand Rapids School of Bible and Music. In a newspaper account from the Reminder of January 16, 1990, Rev. Boers was quoted: "It had an old chimney and wood stove. The first services were by lamplight. It had no water, no electricity, no bathrooms, no basement." Reverend Boers lived in Vicksburg and rarely missed Sunday services. He spent his entire ministry at this lovely church, more than 40 years, tending the needs of parishioners. Pastor Merritt Johnson, of Hastings, and friend of Rev. Boers has been pastor since then.

The first renovation was a basement under the existing building. This was done with

See home tour, pg. 14

113 years old & still single.



These days, being "unattached" in the banking world is becoming unusual. At Hastings City Bank, we're proud of our tradition as a strong, independent community bank.

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Issues take Yankee Springs officials late into evening

by Patricia Johns
Staff Writer

Many contentious issues were the order of the day for Yankee Springs Township Sept. 9, as they went past midnight in deliberations.

One item considered was a request by Robert and Avis Martin at 1877 Parker Drive. Their request to the Zoning Board of Appeals had been denied, but their attorney said there may be reasons to present the issue to the ZBA again.

Following a lengthy discussion, supervisor George London told the Martins he would check with the township attorney.

The board decided to waive the late fee charged to an area homeowner who began construction without obtaining a building permit. London said a new ordinance was being discussed by the Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the draft of the new master plan at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 30. Copies of the plan are available for review at the township offices.

The board also reviewed the manufactured housing section of the ordinances. The new ordinances now will be sent on to the Michigan Mobile Home Commission before they can be approved by the township.

Baker Lake is now under special local "no wake" watercraft control for boats and jet skis. Barlow Lake, which had been the center of some controversy, will remain the same.

Even at the end of four hours of meeting, the controversy continued with debate between residents and the zoning administrator.

At the Aug. 12 meeting Zoning Administrator Ken Worsham had left the meeting when questioned about a structure on property owned by Dave Vanderslik.

When questioned at the September meeting, Worsham said, "The questions were ridiculous and I will refuse to answer such questions in the future."

Vanderslik has changed the name of the building to "accessory" rather than "community hall." Worsham stated at Thursday night's meeting that the permits issued to Vanderslik were legal.

Residents, however, said they were still concerned about future Vanderslik developments.

The next Yankee springs meeting is a special one to consider the fire contract at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 15. Oct. 14 will be the date of the next regular meeting.

Planning begins for water tower in Yankee Springs

by Patricia Johns
Staff Writer

Two representatives from the Fleis & VanDenbrink engineering firm told the Yankee Springs Township Board Thursday nifght that the water system is sound, but nearing capacity.

Craig Laurent and Don DeVries brought an overview of possible improvement of the Yankee Springs water system.

DeVries told the trustees that the current system, built in 1991, has130 customers and is getting close to the 150 customer mark, which would trigger a mandatory water tower and a future third well.

The current two-well system produces 28,000 to 30,000 gallons of water a day and at peak times 50,000 gallons. Two sites were considered for the construction of a 150-foot tall tower with a capacity of 200,000 gallons.

DeVries also discussed the additional fire hydrants that will be added with the additional construction. This should improve fire insurance rates.

Laurant concentrated his comments on the best way to pay for water system improvements. He is recommending that the township sell bonds for the improvements.

He suggests waiting until a developer begins a project to go out for bonds. It takes about one year to construct a water tower and one year to do the engineering and paperwork.

Laurent also suggested raising water rates, which did not please many members in the audience.

The trustees will review the draft report and suggest any changes. No action was taken on the plan.

Middleville planning panel taking up drainage issues

by Patricia Johns
Staff Writer

Most of the Middleville Planning Commission meeting Sept. 7 considered the problems of drainage and planning for adequate drainage.

Commission President Eldon Newmyer pointed out possible problem areas where commission members should pay attention when site plans are submitted.

The construction of Carveth Village has lead to drainage problems, which were exacerbated by the recent hot dry weather. The owner of the property has been trying to remedy the situation.

Village Manager Bryan Gruesbeck reported that Vince Meaney will be bringing in his site plan review for a multi-family development to the Oct. 5 planning meeting. The property is zoned R-3 but is adjacent to an industrial area.

Newmyer asked commission members to review the pertinent zoning ordinances before the next meeting.

Gruesbeck also reported that the search for a planner continues. Applications are being accepted until the end of the month.

Gruesbeck also reported that the new contract being developed with the county sheriff may allow deputies to do zoning enforcement.

Cathy Williamson told her fellow commission members that she would wait until the planner was hired to begin work on a new master plan.

There was also a discussion of the next door property, which was purchased through an agreement with owners of Thornapple Kitchen. Gruesbeck said, "The deal is still going through. Don Haney could not guarantee that he would not be in construction during Heritage Days, which is why the committee sought another location.

Newmyer also gave an overview of the Local Development Finance Authority and what impact it might have on the planning commission.

In closing, he reviewed the impact of M-6 (also called the south beltline) will have on Middleville. The village will have to be prepared for the impact of development along the corridor.

The next meeting of the Middleville Planning Commission is Oct. 5 at 7 p.m.

Barry County Chamber wins Yankee Springs endorsement

by Patricia Johns
Staff Writer

The Barry County Area Chamber of Commerce received a vote of confidence from Yankee Springs Township and a "wait and see" from Irving Township.

Chamber Executive Director Dixie Manshum explained the benefits of a county-wide chamber, including medical insurance coverage, business education seminars, and leadership training.

She also reviewed the new promotional brochure which the chamber is producing. This brochure will include information about area attractions and businesses, including Bowens Mill and Middleville Tool and Die.

Following a discussion, which included comments from the audience like "We're not sure we want any more interest in this community," the trustees voted to contribute $500 toward printing the brochure. The township also joined the chamber.

Manshum said that the Barry County Area Chamber is looking forward to working with the Gun Lake Chamber and that both chambers had their own areas of interest.

On Sept. 8, the Irving Township trustees decided to table indefinitely the request from the Barry County Area Chamber to help underwrite the promotional brochure.

"I'm not sure why anyone would be interested in the township," Supervisor Milton Buehler said. "We have no gas station, industry or commercial property."

The trustees also decided to wait before joining the chamber. The chamber will be contacted for more information.

Manshum is meeting with Middleville Village Manager Bryan Gruesbeck to discuss the village's involvement in helping pay for the promotional brochure.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR RAPID INFILTRATION BASIN RENOVATION FOR THE VILLAGE OF MIDDLEVILLE

The Village of Middleville is soliciting sealed proposals for rapid infiltration basin renovation. Items of work include excavation of seven approximately 350 foot long trenches backfilled with granular fill material, and all related work.

Sealed proposals will be received by Mr. Bryan Gruesbeck in the Village of Middleville Council Chamber until 2:00 p.m. local time, Tuesday, September 21, 1999 at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Contact Documents may be obtained at the offices of Williams & Works, Inc., 549 Ottawa Ave., N.W., Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49503; telephone (616) 224-1500; facsimile (616) 224-1501.

After the time of opening, no bid may be withdrawn for a period of thirty (30) days.

The Village of Middleville reserves the right to accept any bid, reject any or all bids, to waive informalities and make the award in any manner deemed in the best interest of the Village of Middleville.

Village of Middleville
By Order Of:
Mr. Bryan Gruesbeck, Manager
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YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TO: THE PROPERTY OWNERS OF YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP, BARRY COUNTY MI. AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT THE YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1999, COMMENCING AT 7:30 PM AT THE YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP HALL, 1284 N. BRIGGS RD., CONCERNING THE FOLLOWING:

1. ZBA 99-07-14, PARCEL ID. NO. 200-008-00; A REQUEST BY KENNETH HUBBARD, 202 OAK ST., FOR A VARIANCE FROM THE ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY SETBACK REQUIREMENTS OF THE TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE TO ALLOW HIM TO CONSTRUCT A GARAGE LESS THAN TWENTY-FIVE FEET FROM THE ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY.
2. ZBA 99-07-15, PARCEL ID. NO. 10-015-00; A REQUEST BY MICHAEL AND KIMBERLY SEIBOLD, 4131 SMITH RD., DIAMONDALE, MI. FOR A VARIANCE FROM THE SIDE YARD SETBACK REQUIREMENTS OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO ALLOW THEM TO CONSTRUCT A STORAGE SHED AT 2081 ARCHWOOD WITHIN FIVE FEET OF THE SIDE YARD PROPERTY LINE.
3. SUCH OTHER MATTERS AS MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT THE TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION AT THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE TOWNSHIP, 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 MEETING.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT THE TOWNSHIP WILL PROVIDE TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES, NECESSARY, REASONABLE, AUXILIARY AIDS AND SERVICES AS MAY BE REQUESTED, 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).

CHARLES BIGGS, SECRETARY
YANKEE SPRINGS TOWNSHIP
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
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Fire contract reviewed in Irving, Yankee Springs

by Patricia Johns
Staff Writer

Irving and Yankee Springs township trustees have reviewed the three-year fire services contract sent to them by Thornapple Township.

Thornapple originally had considered a five-year contract, but after a joint meeting of the three townships revised the contract to three years since no one can predict economic conditions that far ahead.

Thornapple has asked that the two townships approve the contract by Oct. 7. It takes effect in May 2000.

In Irving Township the contract was mostly acceptable, but Supervisor Milton Buehler will check with Freeport Fire Chief Jim Yarger to make sure that the sections transferred to Thornapple Township Emergency Services (TTES) are acceptable to him.

Yankee Springs Township has set a special meeting for Wednesday, Sept 15, at 7:30 p.m. to discuss the contract. Treasurer Bob Herold suggested that Yankee Springs request a one-year extension of the current contract, then go to the voters to see if they want their own department or to continue with TTES. The three year contract will cost Yankee Springs more than $300,000 over its life.

Herold asked that trustees consider at the special meeting the sizable reserve which TTES now has.

"They've been overcharging us," he says.

The previous contract included a clause that allowed either party to cancel with six months notice. The three-year contract cannot be broken without a breach of the contract by TTES.

The discussion of this issue included the need to inform the community of the vote, the possible costs of running an independent department, and whether consultant Lynn Harvey could review the contract.

Herold said, :"If Dr. Harvey says my concerns are out of line, I'll drop them."

Yankee Springs officials will meet in a special session to review the fire contract issues Sept. 15. The next Thornapple Township meeting is on Monday, Oct. 11

Yankee Springs was hit hard by gypsy moths

by Patricia Johns
Staff Writer

Gypsy moth coordinator Casey Harris brought news that wasn't that new to residents of Yankee Springs Township during her talk at the Township Board meeting Sept. 9: "Yankee Springs was one of the hardest hit areas" this year.

A very high density of egg masses meant that many caterpillars survived spraying. Parts of the township were sprayed with Gypchek because it is specific to gypsy moths and other parts with Bt, which kills all caterpillars.

Unfortunately, the Gypchek was less effective than anticipated because of a heavy rain that fell almost immediately after its application.

Harris also told the trustees and audience that homeowners have to help suppress the caterpillars by using the burlap bands. The spray is only about 80 percent effective.

Harris predicted that one more year of spraying should be all that it takes to get the population under the 40% defoliation rate. She will be doing the egg mass survey this month.

The Michigan Dept of Agriculture, Department of Natural Resources and others are discussing how to regulate spraying this year.

Spray applicators may lose their licenses if they spray an unapproved chemical in an area.

Harris said, "I am haunted by scary scenarios of chemical soup into their trees if area wide spraying is prohibited due to abuse,"

The township has until December to decided whether or not to participate in the 2000 spray program.

Year 2000 rainforest trip in planning stage

by Ruth Zachary
Staff Writer

Going to the Amazon could be the ultimate adventure for Caledonia students and others in a week long trip next summer to Peru.

The extracurricular Amazon rainforest workshop, which targets middle school students, involves a two-year commitment, including work on rainforest and ecological issues at home. A few older students and adults often participate as well.

The trip culminates in a week-long, hands-on workshop in the Peruvian Amazon Basin, where participants experience first hand the intricate web of life that makes up the Amazon rainforest and the largest river system in the world.

The program uses world renowned rainforest scientists, ecologists, cultural anthropologists and native guides to teach students about the fascinating experience. Students also interact with their Peruvian peers, exchanging cultural traditions and seeing how their new friends live, work and have fun in the rainforest.

An informational meeting Monday, Sept. 13, explained details. Anyone who did not attend may also visit the booth on the rainforest workshop at the Middle School Open House at Caledonia Middle School Monday, Sept. 20, from 7 to 8 p.m.

Interested parents and persons may call Dorothy Wolf at 698-0193 or check the website at www.celfoundation.org.

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THORNAPPLE TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Date and time of Public Hearing: Tuesday, September 21, 1999 at 7:30 p.m.
Place of Hearing: Thornapple Township Hall, 200 E. Main Street, Middleville, MI.

Application No. V-#38
Derrek and Kathleen Kim
6919 Noffke Drive
Caledonia, MI 49316

Description of Variance Requested: Applicant is seeking a variance from Chapter 7 of the Zoning Ordinance, Section 7.6.6 District Regulations, side and front setback requirements. Applicant would like to build an addition to side and front of home which would change front and side set-backs to be less the required needed to comply with the Zoning Ordinance.

Legal Description: P.P. #08-014-070-006-00, Noffke's South Lake Shore Plat, Lot #8. Lengthy description available in the township office.

Application No. V-#39
Gary A. Hall
10980 Finkbeiner Rd.
Middleville, MI 49333

Description of Variance Requested: Applicant is seeking a variance from Chapter 7 of the Zoning Ordinance, Section 7.4.2 & 7.4.14, which disallows two principal residences on the same lot. Applicant wishes to dwell in a mobile home (which he moved from the site of a new home) during the period of construction of the new home. After the new home is given an occupancy permit, the mobile home would be removed from the premises.

Legal Description: P.P. #08-014-016-011-00, Section 16 of the Thornapple Township. Lengthy description available in the township office.

THESE VARIANCE APPLICATIONS MAY BE INSPECTED at the Thornapple Township Hall daily 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and 1 to 4 p.m., except Friday, 9 to noon.

Written comments regarding this application may be addressed to: Secretary, Thornapple Township Zoning Board of Appeals, P.O. Box 459, Middleville, MI 49333.

Everette Boggs, Secretary Zoning Board of Appeals

NOTICE: Thornapple Township will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services such as signers for the hearing impaired, and audio tapes for the visually impaired, of printed materials being considered at the hearing, upon seven day's notice the Township Clerk. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Clerk by writing or calling: Thornapple Township Clerk, P.O. Box 459, 200 E. Main Street, Middleville, MI 49333. Telephone: (616) 795-7202.

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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, September 16, 1999, commencing at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Hall, located at 284 N. Briggs Rd., to conduct the following business:

1. **ZOC 99-07-08, Parcel ID. Nos. 006-001-00 & 007-001-00;** a request by Community Land Associates, LLC, 10800 Sikes Place, Charlotte, North Carolina, to rezone a parcel of land located on Patterson Rd. in sections one and two, from the "Agriculture" to the "MHP, Mobile Home Park" Zoning District and change the master plan.
2. Such other business as may properly come before the Township 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 as may be required, upon five 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

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VILLAGE OF MIDDLEVILLE PUBLIC NOTICE

The Barry County Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing to discuss the Village of Middleville's petition to annex parcel #08-014-021-017-00. The metes and bounds are described as follows:

THORNAPPLE THE SW 1/4 OF SW 1/4 AND THE E 1/2 OF SW 1/4 SEC 22-4-10 EX BEG 379.5 FT N AND 33 FT E OF SW CORSEC, TH E 208.75 FT TH N 208.75 FT TH W 208.75 FT TH S 208.75 FT TO BEG ALSO EX BEG NW COR SW 1/4 SW 1/4 TH E 475 FT TH S 696 FT TH W 475 FT TH N 696.75 FT TO BEG, ALSO EX SUPERVISORS PLAT OF HENRY STEHR PLAT ALSO EX BEG SW COR OF SEC, TH NO 0 DEG 19 MIN E 313.50 FT TH S 89 DEG 30 MIN E 812 FT TH S 313.50 FT TH N 89 DEG 30 MIN W 813.75 FT TO BEG, ALSO EX BEG 379.5 FT N OF S 1/4 POST TH N 567 FT TH W 417 FT TH S 567 FT THE E 417 FT TO BEG ALSO EX COM S 1/4 POST TH N 946.5 FT TH W 417 FT FOR BEG TH S TO CENTER JOHNSON ST., TH W 875 FT TH N TO THORNTON ST TH E TO BEG. ALSO EX BEG 585.25 FT N OF SW COR OF SEC, THEN N 244.75 FT, THEN W 475 FT, THEN S 36 FT TO BEG. ALSO EX BEG 1584 FT W OF S 1/4 POST, THEN N 313.5 FT, THEN W 66 FT, THEN S 313.5 FT, THEN E 66 FT TO BEG. THORNAPPLE THE SW 1/4 OF SW 1/4 AND THE E 1/2 OF SW 1/4 SEC 22-4-10 EX BEG 379.5 FT N AND 33 FT E OF SW CORSEC, TH E 208.75 FT TH N 208.75 FT TH W 208.75 FT TH S 208.75 FT TO BEG ALSO EX BEG NW COR SW 1/4 SW 1/4 TH E 475 FT TH S 696 FT TH W 475 FT TH N 696.75 FT TO BEG, ALSO EX SUPERVISORS PLAT OF HENRY STEHR PLAT ALSO EX BEG SW COR OF SEC, TH N 0 DEG 19 MIN E 313.50 FT TH S 89 DEG 30 MIN E 812 FT THS 313.50 FT TH N 89 DEG 30 MIN W 813.75 FT TO BEG, ALSO EX BEG 379.5 FT N OF S 1/4 POST TH N 567 FT TH W 417 FT TH S 567 FT TH E 417 FT TO BEG ALSO EX COM S 1/4 POST TH N 946.5 FT TH W 417 FT FOR BEG TH S TO CENTER JOHNSON ST, TH W 875 FT TH N TO THORNTON ST TH E TO BEG. ALSO EX BEG 585.25 FT N OF SW COR OF SEC, THEN N 244.75, THEN W 475 FT, THEN S 36 FT TO BEG. ALSO EX BEG 1584 FT W OF S 1/4 POST, THEN N 313.5 FT, THEN W 66 FT, THEN S 313.5 FT, THEN E 66 FT TO BEG.

The public hearing will be held on Tuesday, October 12, 1999, at 9:30 a.m. 220 W. State St., Hastings, Michigan in the mezzanine. The public is welcome to attend.

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945-9554

Home tour, continued from page 11

a tractor and a "slip scrape" that hauled dirt like a wheelborrow away from the site. The construction planners made the basement larger than the building for expansion in later years. That expansion is in the works today. In the meantime, a roof was installed over the basement extension to keep water out.

Additional changes made over the include padded benches, nursery, kitchen, Sunday school classrooms, auditorium, vestibule and sanctuary. Bathrooms were added and remodeled, new roof and banister railing. Church members are planning for expansion over the extended basement area and the bell and bell tower are marked for removal. So, visiting this historic site before that day comes is a must.

Bowens Mills Chapel
Bowen Mills & Briggs Rd.

In 1992, Bowens Mills Chapel celebrated 100 years. The event welcomed everyone to "One Hundred Years as God's Light House on Bowen Mills Road" and the special historical brochure, created by Donna Cook and several church members, is an account of this beautiful building with the leaded glass windows at the corner of Bowen Mills and Briggs Roads.

Edwin and Eleanor Bowens purchased the church property in 1869 from John Briggs. The Bowens sold shares to the community, establishing Board of Trustees. In 1892, the Trustees built the "People's Undenominational Church of Bowen Mills" for a mere $950. The parishioners volunteer their services in a variety of capacities to keep the chapel going and cut operating expenses. Grandma Huggett was one of the first who started the fire in the stove for church and Sunday school, later Minnie Springer took over those duties. Traveling ministers held the services and, in a way, that is still the practice. Today, they are called visiting ministers and are scheduled in advance.

In 1954 the Bowens' children sold the chapel to the Grand Rapids Board of Evangelism of the Christian Reformed Church and the Boston Square Christian Reformed Church became the chapel sponsor. Changes began... a new block foundation, furnace, building additions, front and back. Then, in the 1970's the chapel was purchased by four interested parishioners for $4,000. Papers were filed with a promise that the property would always be used as a chapel. It has been the Bowens Mills Chapel (Undenominational) every since.

A new wing and air conditioning was added to accommodate increased attendance. The chapel now has a capacity of 200. Additional property purchased from owners of the Old Mill enlarged the chapel property to three acres.

Besides Sunday school, summer Bible school and Sunday services, the chapel sponsors 14 missions, and collects goods for Mel Trotter Ministries. The leaded glass windows are part of the wonderful charm of this piece of history near Gun Lake. A must to see.

Hospitality Center
GFWC-Gun Lake Area Library
Hummingbird Arts & Crafts
2717 Patterson Rd.

It took Joan Weick and Jenny Lamoreaux and the members of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC)-Gun Lake Area ten years to put all of the pieces together for what is now the GFWC-Gun Lake Area Library. Housed in the Hummingbird Arts and Crafts business at 2717 Patterson Rd., the library allows Gun Lake area residents and visitors to enjoy reading year round. It has eliminated the need for one more trip to town.

Materials and labor for the library have been donated by local supporters for shelving, along with furniture, computer, printer, copy machine and the like. Books have been donated by members, friends, other libraries, GFWC Michigan, to name a few. Some are new, most are used. Club members volunteer the most time as volunteer librarians during library hours. Those hours are Mondays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. You can call the Hummingbird or Joan Weick if you have questions.

Come in sometime on your tour of the homes and churches to browse, have some refreshments on us and accept our thanks for your support.

TK plans first parade before Homecoming

by Patricia Johns
Staff Writer

The Thornapple Kellogg High School Homecoming game will be introduced for the first time by a Homecoming Parade, which begins at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 17.

The parade will feature the Thornapple Kellogg High School marching band, class floats, the Homecoming Court and class representatives.

The parade will start at Page Elementary, then go down Bender Road and turn left at Green Lake Road and end in the north parking lot of the high school.

The floats will be judged before the game begins.

The floats replace the hall decorating competition previously done by classes. Winners will be announced at halftime. The 1999 king and queen will be introduced at half time as well.

The athletic boosters will hold a tailgate event in the high school parking lot, beginning at 5:30. The Senior Parents will have graduation pictures and videos of the Class of 1999, which haven't been picked up by parents available before the game and during halftime. There is no charge for these items since they were a gift to parents from the Senior Parents' organization.

There are many other Spirit Week activities planned at the high school this week, with dress up days and the traditional assembly with a fun competition on Friday.

Irving tax rate drops slightly

by Patricia Johns
Staff Writer

The Irving Township Board last Wednesday evening decided to allow the local property tax rate to be decreased to 2.1331 mills for the coming year.

If the township had held a public Truth in Taxation hearing, the rate could have gone up to 2.1371.

"This is barely enough to pay for the postings of the special meeting," Supervisor Milton Buehler said.

It also was reported that the county will consider new open space amendments Sept. 27. Local developments were also discussed.

The Irving Township Board hopes to move into its new building across the street within several months.

The next meeting of the Irving Township Board will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 13.

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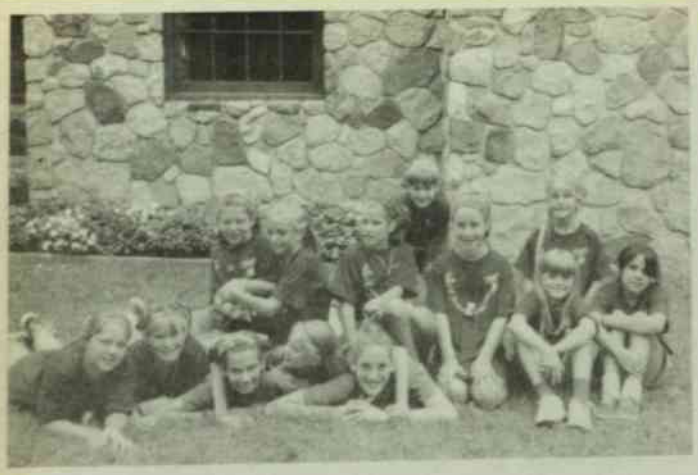

Girl Scouts have Day Camp

Girl Scouts in the Cherry Valley Neighborhood spent the week of Aug. 9 at Day Camp at Caledonia's Lakeside Park. The girls took hikes, learned about nature, and even cooked their own food. All the activities reflected the week's theme, "Discovering Different Lands."

GFWC-Gun Lake Area to sponsor Juniorette Club

The General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) has a Juniorettes program for young women, ages 12 to 18, to work together to meet the needs of their communities through volunteer service projects.

For more than 30 years, GFWC Juniorettes have sharpened their leadership skills and put their idealism to work on projects that benefit children, families and communities. Juniorette clubs are sponsored by local GFWC clubs and Joan Weick, founder of the GFWC-Gun Lake Area Club and a former GFWC Michigan State President, has met with two Delton-Kellogg High School students to begin the process of creating a GFWC-Juniorette in this area. Monique Hoyle and Elena Liceaga say they are excited about the prospect of helping organize a club that will enable them to channel their energies and sharpen their community involvement/people skills.

The first meeting took place in August, when Monique and Elena were introduced to the workings and history of the General Federation of Women's Clubs nationally and at the local level. They also learned how their communities will benefit from their involvement in such things as:

- Volunteering at homeless shelters.
- Assisting in building homes for needy families.
- Raising funds for AIDS and cancer research.
- Adopting highways.
- Participating in youth literacy projects and student tutoring.
- Helping in local libraries.
- Working with Special Olympics participants.
- Visiting nursing homes and hospitals.

Those interested are encouraged to call. The next meeting of the club will be held at 7 p.m. at Weick's home, 11396 Oak Drive, Gun Lake, Shelbyville. Call for more information, (616) 672-4252, (616) 672-5886 or (616) 623-2071.

Joan Weick (left) with Juniorettes Monique Hoyle and Elena Liceaga.

CASA director speaks to Middleville Rotary Club

by Patricia Johns
Staff Writer

Janet Clancy, director of the Barry/Eaton CASA for Kids brought a powerful message to the Middleville Rotary Club Sept. 7.

She talked about the role that Court Appointed Special Advocates play in the lives of children. CASA volunteers are appointed by a judge to speak up for abused or neglected children in court.

Working alongside attorneys and social workers, they provide a consistent contact for children. They learn as much as possible, talk with the child and make recommendations about what is best for the child.

The only requirements for volunteers are that the person must be older than 18, care about children, have good judgment and common sense.

Volunteers receive 40 hours of training before working directly with children. After training, volunteers get support from CASA staff and can take ongoing training.

Clancy encouraged anyone interested in finding out more about becoming a CASA volunteer to call her at 948-3213.

Dan Parker and Nancy Goodin, who are on the CASA board, shared some of their experiences with the Rotary members.

Clancy also alerted Rotary members to two fundraising activities she hopes will keep CASA "speaking for the child" in Barry and Eaton counties.

Janet Clancy

CASA and Mulberry Fore Golf Course are sponsoring a fun "four-person scramble" golf event on Oct. 2, beginning at 10 a.m. The cost is $45 per person and includes 18 holes, cart and lunch.

Teams are encouraged to register by calling 1-800-450-0760.

Clancy also reminded Rotary members that the Christmas card season is just around the corner. To help CASA and brighten holiday mail boxes, cards designed by children can be ordered. Orders will benefit CASA. Forms are available by calling the Barry/Eaton CASA office at 948-3213.

Clancy said she appreciates the support which the Barry County United Way has given the local CASA efforts.

"Without their help," she said, "we wouldn't be as powerful a voice and help to children in this community."

CHS blood drive set for Sept. 27

A community blood drive will be held from 3 to 8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 27, at Caledonia High School.

The blood bank is being sponsored by the Caledonia Community Churches and the Grand Valley Blood Program.

The goal is 100 pints.

Those who are at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds, are in reasonably good health and haven't donated within 56 days of the date of the drive are eligible to give blood.

For an appointment or more information, call Jim and Linda Hillen at 891-1183.

Police seeking 1986 Cavalier in hit and run

The Michigan State Police is requesting the public's assistance in locating a 1986 Chevrolet Cavalier believed to be involved in a hit and run fatal accident that occurred on Aug. 15, on U.S.-131 in Mecosta County.

The Cavalier is believed to be dark in color and should have damage to the right front of the vehicle a cracked windshield, broken out passenger window and a dented top. Investigation has revealed that this vehicle is in the Grand Rapids area.

There is a $5,000 reward being offered in this case through silent observer. Any information in this case can be called in to silent observer or the State Police Post in Rockford.

Scots still undefeated in boys cross country, girls also win

Caledonia's boys cross country team improved its season mark to 5-0 with a 15-50 victory over the Calvin Christian Squires on Sept. 7.

Tim Ross was first, setting a new course record with a 15:32.

Joe Lillie was second in 17:15, Mitch Petz third in 17:45, Pat Spitzley fourth in 17:52, Jeff Kooiman fifth in 17:57, Curt Rozell sixth in 18:18 and Kevin Longstreet was seventh in 18:47.

Caledonia's girls also beat Calvin Christian, 20-35.

Megan Jacques was first in 21:36, Becca Busfield second in 23:21, Amy Busfield third in 23:23, Molly Cryderman fourth in 23:37 and Amber Moose was 10th in 26:33.

Trojans tame Vikes in varsity soccer match

Lakewood traveled to Middleville last Tuesday for a non-league varsity soccer match and the Trojans came away with a 3-0 triumph.

Middleville got on the scoreboard early when junior Kyle Preslar scored six minutes into the game with Jake Williams adding the assist.

Senior Mike Gromko tallied his first goal of the year in the second half with B.J. Shuck notching the assist.

Preslar came back with seven minutes left and scored his second goal with Gromko getting an assist.

The winning goalkeeper was Dawn Osborne.

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TK seniors alert home with tenant to brush fire

Dan Warner (left) and Zac Truer took Truer's truck into the heart of a grass fire Saturday to warn a home's tenant of the fire.

A brush fire off Irving Road Saturday afternoon (Sept. 4) consumed eight acres of grass and woods and did $2,100 damage to a home located at 3450 Eagleview Court.

Two Thornapple Kellogg High School seniors were able to warn a tenant sleeping in the house that fire surrounded it. The seniors also worked to douse a fire in a shed behind the house and rescued a truck threatened by the brush fire's flames.

Forest Fire Officer Mike Pine of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources said the fire was started by an unattended camp fire. Tenants of the house had been burning the fire the previous evening, Pine said, and failed to put it out properly. A citation was issued to one of the tenants for "allowing a fire to escape from control," Pine said.

TKHS seniors Zac Truer and Dan Warner said they were on their way home from goose hunting Saturday afternoon when they spotted a large quantity of smoke and went to investigate.

"There was a circle of fire around the house," Truer said.

Flames burned on both sides of the driveway as Truer drove his truck up to the house, he said. He and Warner woke up a college student living there. The student then called 911.

Pine said several calls about the fire were received from people in the immediate area. The first call came at 3:23 p.m., according to Bob Woodard of Thornapple Township Emergency Services. The fire threatened three homes located off Eagleview. The damaged home belongs to Robert Buelow.

While waiting for fire trucks to arrive, Truer and Warner filled up a trash can with water, put out a fire in the tires of a truck near the house, moved the truck, and put out a fire that started in a nearby shed. The pair also wet down a portion of the outside of the home. Truer said the fire melted part of the home's siding.

Thornapple Township fire

See brush fire, pg. 17

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Middleville women's grandson wins honors

The nephew and grandson of two Middleville women, Nathanael H. Harrison of Jacksonville, Ala. graduated from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), receiving a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering degree, with minors in mathematics and chemistry.

Harrison was inducted into Tau Beta Pi National Engineering Honor Society, Pi Tau Sigma Mechanical Engineering Honor Society, the Alpha Lambda Delta, Alpha Epsilon Delta and Golden Key Honor Society. He was named to the president's list or dean's list of UAB numerous times. He was a University Student Government Association Legislator, representing the School of Engineering, and a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

He also played trumpet in the UAB Marching Blazer Band, and played on the UAB Intramural Tennis and Soccer Teams.

Harrison was valedictorian of Jacksonville High School in 1993 with a grade point average of 96.74, and was awarded an advanced academic diploma with honors. He was the president of Mu Alpha Theta Mathematics Honor Society during his senior year at JHS.

Following his graduation from UAB, he was accepted into the Graduate Engineering Program at Auburn University and awarded a research assistant. He also received a legacy tuition scholarship from Auburn. He is pursuing a master of science in engineering with a focus in fluid dynamics.

Harrison is the grandson of Nellie Weyerman and the nephews of Sandy Tolan-Zostra, both of Middleville and grandson of the late James Milford Harrison, who was a native of Stanton, Ala. He is the son of Randal Allen Harrison of Anniston, Ala.

Harrison's brother, Christopher McIntyre, a junior at UAB, was recently inducted into the Golden Key National Honor Society and was on the president's list. Their mother, Marilyn May Hudson, graduated at the same time Nathanael graduated from Samford University in Birmingham. She received a bachelor of general studies with a concentration in political science and history. She is now attending Cumberland School of Law at Samford.

Christopher is the son of Jerry G. McIntyre of Piedmont, Ala., and Marilyn is the wife of Charles D. Hudson of Jacksonville.

Nathanael Harrison

Scots stop Sparta with stingy defense

With 61 offensive plays to their opponents' 28, Caledonia was able to wear down Sparta last Friday in varsity football action and win a 12-6 contest at Caledonia High School.

Shawn Frisbee scored both of the touchdowns for the Scots with a 2-yard run in the third quarter and a 5-yard jaunt in the fourth quarter.

Frisbee ended up with 51 yards on 16 carries.

Dan Bloemers finished with 92 yards on 15 carries.

Passing, Ben Busman completed 3-of-9 for 32 yards.

Dan Kietzman caught one of Busman's passes for 21 yards.

The Scots' defense was on the top of their games, holding Sparta to four first downs in the entire game and just one in the second half.

Caledonia (2-1, 1-0) will play at Wayland this Friday.

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Screenings will be held at Metropolitan Hospital on:

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Thursday, September 16
Friday, September 17
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TAG SALE

Bud and AJ Thompson are moving and have commissioned AppleTree Auctioneering to conduct a tag sale in order to sell their personal property on:

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NO EARLY VIEWING

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Caledonia cools off Hastings' shooters

Holding Virginia Jennings to two points and forcing Hastings' team into 28 turnovers, Caledonia improved its season record to 2-0 last Tuesday with a 48-35 non-conference varsity basketball victory at home.

The game was tied 8-8 after the first quarter, but the Sweet Ladies charged ahead by three points, 21-18, at the half.

In the third quarter, Caledonia outscored Hastings 11-9 to go up 32-27 and in the fourth stanza, the purple and gold tallied 16 points to the Lady Saxons' 8 to win by the 13-point margin.

"It was a sloppy game, especially early, but we were able to pick up the intensity," Caledonia coach Jon Meerman said. "Overall, the defense was outstanding."

Caledonia's defense not only forced Hastings into 28 miscues, but also came up with eight steals. The Sweet Ladies, in comparison, committed just nine turnovers.

Kelley Jackson led Caledonia with 10 points, Nessa Hofstra came off the bench to tally 9 markers, Anne Morgan and Pam Spitzley each netted 7 points and Kristy Green scored 6.

Caledonia opened league play versus Belding last Thursday and improved their season mark to 3-0 and 1-0 with a 53-48 triumph against Belding.

Morgan led the Sweet Lady scorers with 19 points, 11 of those scores coming in the third quarter.

Heather Duffield tallied 11 points, including three "big" 3-pointers during the second and third quarters, and Jackson added 13 markers.

In the fourth quarter, Caledonia sank nine free throws to add distance between them and the Belding team.

"It was a nip and tuck game until the fourth quarter when we started to pull away," Meerman said.

Lindsay Walter helped Caledonia's winning cause with 4 points and Pam Spitzley added 3 points.

Junior Varsity...

The junior varsity cagers improved to 3-0 with a three-point win, 43-40, over Belding in O-K Gold play Sept. 9 at Belding.

Freshmen...

Hastings' freshman basketball team improved to 2-0 with a 43-18 win Tuesday over Caledonia.

But the Caledonia cagers, currently 1-1, rebounded nicely with a 32-28 victory over Belding.

TK tennis team wins two matches

The tennis team at Middleville won two 8-0 matches last week against Godwin and Wyoming Park.

Winning singles matches versus Godwin were Kelly Bremer at No. 1 (6-0, 6-1), Laura McKinley at No. 2 (0-6, 6-1, 7-5), Julie Courdts at No. 3 (6-0, 6-1) and Christine McKee at No. 4 (6-0, 6-0).

Taking doubles matches were Teresa Venton and Erin Holmes at No. 1 (6-5, 6-2), Amanda Bowyer and Kara Hutchens at No. 2 (6-1, 6-1), Veronika Villa and Jessica Price at No. 3 (6-0, 6-2) and Shelly Cargill and Nicole Craven at No. 4 (6-0, 6-0).

Bremer at No. 1 (6-1, 6-0), McKinley at No. 2 (6-1, 6-1), Courdts at No. 3 (6-0, 6-2) and McKee at No. 4 (6-0, 6-0) were singles winners versus Wyoming Park.

In doubles, Venton and Holmes at No. 1 (6-1, 6-2), Hutchens and Bowyer at No. 2 (6-1, 6-3), Price and Villa at No. 3 (6-1, 6-1) and Cargill and Craven at No. 4 (6-4, 6-2) won against Park.

Coach Larry Seger said it was a great boost getting the two easy wins, but realizes that things should get tougher.

"Both wins were good wins for us, but things will get tougher," Seger said.

Records for the year include Bremer 11-1, McKinley 8-4, Courdts 10-2, McKee 11-1, Venton and Holmes 11-1, Hutchens and Bowyer 11-1, Price and Villa 6-1 and Cargill and Craven 6-3.

Ninth-grade gridders now 2-0 for Scots

The freshman gridders at Caledonia High improved to 2-1 with wins over Middleville and Sparta.

The Scots beat their rivals from Middleville 24-0 on Sept. 2 and ousted their opponents from Sparta 40-20 Sept. 9.

Joe Kowalski, Anthony Reed and Brian Schmidt all ran hard to lead Caledonia's offense in the Sparta contest.

Tony Pike ran back a fumble 40 yards for one touchdown and Brad Marlow made a tackle in the end zone for a safety.

Brush fire, from page 14

personnel were assisted by the Hastings and Freeport fire departments and a Department of Natural Resources firefighting unit operating out of the Yankee Springs fire barn. Thornapple fire personnel stayed on the scene until 8:30 p.m., though the fire was under control by shortly after 4 p.m., Woodard said.

According to Pine, a recent lack of rain resulting in dry grass conditions has contributed to a number of brush fires in the area and has increased the possibility that brush fires will occur. On Wednesday he canceled burning permits in Barry and Allegan counties because of the high risk of brush fires.

Scot golfers on a roll

The varsity golf team at Caledonia High School ran its record to 8-1-1 on Sept. 9 by beating Byron Center 157-183 at a match played at Briarwood.

Rick Leatherman led the Scots with a 35 and Nick Fuller carded a 37.

Troy Leatherman, Casey Winslow and Josh Baltrusitis also contributed to the Scots' score.

Fuller shot a 40 at Alpine to lead the team Sept. 8 to wins over Kenowa Hills and Sparta.

Rick Leatherman, Baltrusitis and Winslow also figured in the scoring for Caledonia that scored a 170.

Kenowa Hills managed a 180, while Sparta scored a 185.

Caledonia (6-1 in the conference) scored a 151 to beat South Christian (152) and Wayland (166) in a league match Sept. 2 at The Pines.

Rick Leatherman and Fuller each carded 36s.

Baltrusitis shot a 39 and Matt VanVelgen had a 40.

Trojan freshman beat Coopersville

On the second play of the game, Blake Carter scampered 52 yards for a touchdown as Middleville's freshman football team beat Coopersville Thursday 20-6.

The Trojans' defense held Coopersville to one first down through three quarters. Defensive leaders included Alec Belson, Kyle Fletke, Justin VanSpronsen, Chad Barager, Brandon Moore and Carter.

At half, Middleville led 8-0 with the running tandem of Carter and VanSpronsen leading the offense on two scoring drives. The offense drove 57 yards and scored on 1-yard dart by Carter. The extra point pass attempt from quarterback Barager to flanker Nate Thornton was unsuccessful.

The Trojans began the fourth quarter with another scoring drive that covered 47 yards. VanSpronsen's running helped move the ball to the one where Fletke scored on a quarterback keeper.

The offense for Middleville was led by lineman Bryan Winchester, Mike Yarger and Belson.

Middleville plays at Hamilton this Thursday.

Trojan golfers battle top league foes

The Trojan golf team lost a couple of close decisions in league matches held last week.

Against Coopersville at the Western Greens, Thornapple Kellogg scored a 159, one stroke behind Coopersville's tally of 159.

Adam Seifert carded a 36, Matt Pullen had a 40, J.D. Prostko a 41, Bob Rousch a 42 and Brett Ybema a 42.

In a junior varsity match Sept. 7, the Trojans had a 180 and Caledonia carded a 177.

Sean Lenartz led TK with a 43, Brian VanderWerp fired a 44, Dan Burbank a 44, Tyler Pike a 49 and Seth Welton a 49.

Burbank carded a 42, Lenartz a 45, Tyler Wenger a 47 and Pike a 48 in a junior match versus Lowell.

The Trojans scored a 182 and the Red Arrows had a 220.

Pullen was the top swinger at Winding Creek when TK faced league foes Hamilton and Calvin Christian.

Calvin took first place honors with a 162, TK was two shots off the lead at 164 and Hamilton finished with a 199.

Pullen carded a 37, Seifert had a 39, Rousch a 41 and Ybema a 47.

Scot netters face O-K Gold rivals

The tennis squad at Caledonia High School lost a 5-3 match to Kenowa Hills Sept. 9 to make its record for the season 3-7-1 and 0-2-1 in the league.

Winners in singles were Sara Dunlap at No. 1 6-1, 6-0 and Bonnie Hickle at No. 4 4-6, 6-4, 7-5.

For Dunlap, the triumph put her league record at 3-0. It was Hickle's first singles match of the season.

Lindsey Knapp and Heather Hanna won at No. 1 doubles, 0-6, 6-2, 6-1. After losing the first set, the Scots' team fired back with a strong performance.

Caledonia lost a 6-2 match to O-K Gold rival Wayland Sept. 7 in varsity tennis.

Winners for the Fighting Scots were Dunlap at No. 1 singles and Kristin Manning at No. 2 singles.

Dunlap overcame a first set deficit of 5-0 to win 7-5, 6-2.

Manning outlasted Mara Sivak, who entered the match undefeated, 2-6, 6-4, 7-6 (7-3).

Dunlap and Manning also were winners Sept. 1 in a 4-4 match against Sparta.

Dunlap won at No. 1 6-1, 6-4 and Manning prevailed at No. 2 6-2, 6-1.

The No. 1 doubles team of Knapp and Hanna won 6-3, 6-4, while the No. 3 doubles team of Kristin Uyl and Kelli VanVolkinburg prevailed 6-3, 6-2.

Soccer Scots still without a loss

With a 2-1 win against Unity Christian Sept. 9, the varsity soccer team at Caledonia High School moved its season record to 4-0 and 2-0 in the O-K Gold.

The Fighting Scots trailed 1-0 and rallied with heart and defense to shutout the Crusaders in the second half.

Chris Cox scored the first Caledonia goal on a header, off a cross from Matt Schupp.

Doug Jousma buried the game-winner with less than two minutes to play.

Junior Varsity...

The JV team lost to Unity 2-1, but beat Wayland 3-1.

Keagan Good, on a corner kick to Steve Yanasik, accounted for the lone score against Unity.

Yanasik, Branden Dalburg and Good each scored in he win over Wayland.

Freshmen...

The freshman squad lost to Forest Hills Central 5-3 Sept. 1 and 2-0 to South Christian Sept. 8.

Tough defense and solid play from goalkeeper Matt Cook were highlights in the game with South.

Trojans hope new streak starts with Hawkeyes

The streak is over... but what a streak it was.

The Trojans' 20-game winning streak in the O-K Blue Conference came to a close last Friday as Coopersville handed the black and orange a 29-7 defeat at Coopersville.

Middleville (1-2, 0-1) had won, or shared, the last three conference championships, but this year they will have to fight back in order to get a chance at No. 4.

Coopersville racked up over 330 yards on the ground to snap Middleville's streak.

The lone score for Middleville came on a 2-yard run by Mike Smith. Smith's touchdown made it 7-7 with 9:52 left in the first half.

From there, however, it was all Broncos.

Part of the Trojans' problem was holding onto the ball. Middleville fumbled four times and also were intercepted on another occasion.

This Friday, coach Tim Penfield's team hopes to get back on the winning track with a home game versus O-K Blue foe Hamilton.

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ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Rick Leatherman

Caledonia High School

The Fighting Scot golfer carded a one over par 73 at the Thousand Oaks Golf Course in Grand Rapids Aug. 18 to finish as the event's medalist. He also helped the team in a dual win over Kenowa Hills and Sparta Sept. 8 at the Alpine Golf Course.

Adam Seifert

Thornapple-Kellogg High School (Middleville)

Seifert has averaged 38.1 per nine holes during the early going, was a co-medalist with Rick Leatherman firing a 78 at the Mid-Way Invitationals, scored a 34 against Delton and Wayland and a 39 Sept. 1 versus Godwin and Spring Lake.

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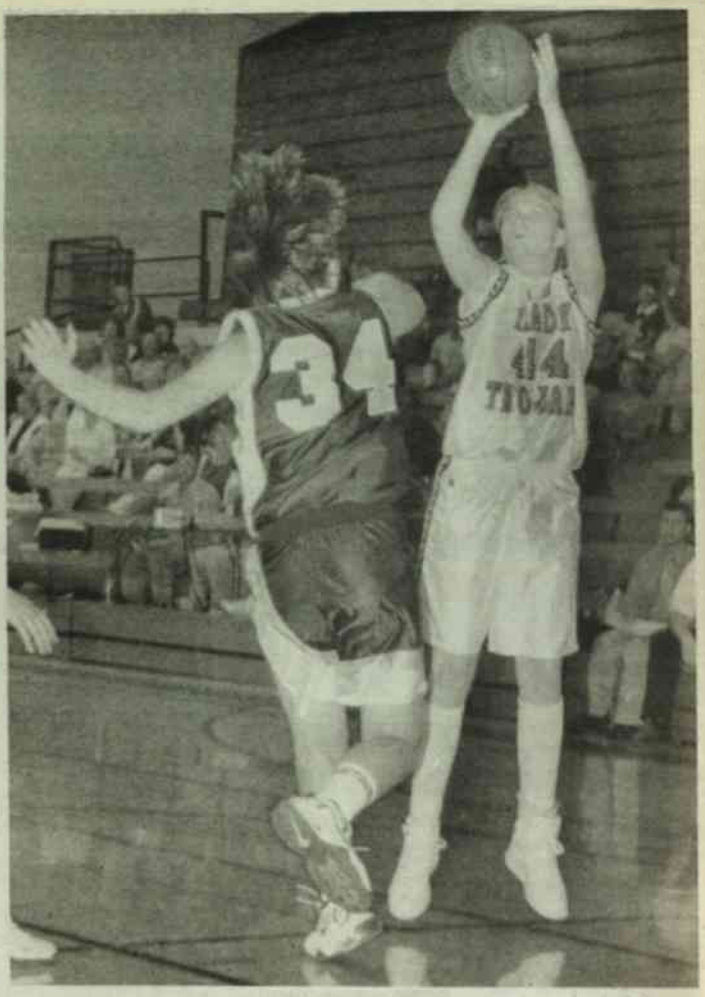
Lady Trojans wear down Saxons in varsity hoop battle

Coach Marcy Uyl knew that her Middleville varsity basketball team would be extremely pumped for its hardcourt matchup last Thursday against Barry County rival Hastings.

And that emotion did not hinder the Lady Trojans' play one bit as they improved to 2-1 overall with a convincing 63-45 home triumph.

Middleville's Leslie Crowley (31) goes between two Hastings' defenders in last Thursday's Barry County basketball win.



Jill Williams (44) scorched the nets for 15 points in a victory against her former team.

"There was some emotion that was attached there," Uyl said of the game between the two area hoop rivals. "I was nervous to begin... if there was any game that they wanted, it would have to be this one."

The Lady Trojans played like they wanted it.

From the start, the black and orange played with fire.

After one quarter Middleville led 22-14 and extended that advantage out to 36-23 at the half.

In the third stanza, Middleville scored 13 points and limited the Saxons to just 6, making it a runaway 49-29 game heading into the final eight minutes.

It was all done with a "team" philosophy in mind, according to Uyl.

Eight players scored for the Lady Trojans, including 15 from senior Sarah Schut, 15 from 6-0 senior Jill Williams, 14 from 6-2 freshman Leslie Crowley, 7 from senior Jessica Crowley and 5 from senior Payshence Erb.

The senior leadership that includes Schut, Erb, Lyndsey VanAman, Jessica Crowley and Jill Williams makes Uyl's job a little bit easier.

"When you can put five seniors out there, they know who is open," Uyl said.

Jill Williams, who played for the Hastings team during the past three years, was a big force in the Thursday contest.

In the third quarter, Williams made [illegible] sank a left-side jumper (42-27), scored on a hook shot (44-27) and hit another outside jumper (46-29) all within a three-minute time frame. A three-pointer (55-38) in the fourth quarter closed out Williams' scoring efforts.

"We've got to play as a team; we can't play as individuals," Uyl said. "We just want to get the job done."

With height, athleticism and team unity, Uyl's squad will be very tough for many teams to match up against this season.

"Watching how well we were able to work together, that concept was what I was most proud of tonight," Uyl explained.

For Hastings, senior Virginia Jennings was tops in the scorebook with 16 points, junior Kailey Lyons tallied 7 markers and junior Katie Noteboom also scored 7. Lyons drained a three-pointer with two seconds left to make the final score 63-45.

"She (Lyons) really played hard and hustled for four quarters," Hastings coach Scott Allan said.

Allan pointed to the size that his squad was giving up in the paint and the offensive rebounding as key factors in the final score.

Junior Varsity...

The JV Trojans beat Hastings 39-23.

Becca Cobb scored 12 points and Ande Bouma added 7 markers versus the Saxons.

Kate Martisius led Hastings with 8 points.

Middleville led 13-8 after the first quarter, 29-13 at half and 33-21 after three quarters.

In earlier season games, Middleville lost to East Kentwood 52-30 and Wayland 55-50.

Bouma tallied 13 versus East Kentwood and Ashley Carter scored 7. Carter also had 12 rebounds and Bouma dished out 3 assists.

Carter scored 15 in the contest with Wayland, Carly Allington had 10, Bouma 9 and Cobb 8.

On the boards, Carter came up with 7 caroms and Shauna Brice had 4.

Bouma dished out 5 assists, Laura VanRyn 4 and Cobb also had 4.

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Trojans run by Godwin with first-place efforts

It was a first place kind of day for Middleville's cross country team at the Godwin Invitational Sept. 9 at Johnson Park.

Three Trojan runners came away with first-place efforts in their respective classes. No team scoring was kept as the meet is based strictly on years of running experience.

Danielle Quisenberry was first for third-year girls with a 19:58.

Melissa Quisenberry was first for second-year girls with a 20:49.

And Katie Richter was first for first-year girls with a 23:30.

Other second-year girls for Middleville were Jen Verkerke (second place, 21:29), Chris Dood (fifth place, 21:54), Almena Rabbers (17th place, 24:53) and LeAnn Pitt (21st place, 25:31).

Second-year boys were John Boom (16th place, 21:11) and Dave Patterson (35th place, 26:41).

First-year girls also included Theresa Miller (third place, 23:52), Stephanie Simon (fourth place, 23:54), Elise Nyland (seventh place, 24:20), Rachel Norton (20th place, 25:50), Greta Gustafson (29th place, 28:16) and Deann Weeks (37th place, 30:42).

First-year boys were Tim Brog (fifth place, 19:48), Adam Wyant (sixth place, 19:51), Nick Tomson (22nd place, 21:55), Isiah Thaler (26th place, 22:05), Jake Robinson (32nd place, 22:41) and Matt Timmer (47th place, 24:23).

The times of Brog, Wyant and Simon were all personal records.

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A MEIJERS DINNER is being held by the Freeport Boosters on Thursday, Sept. 23rd at the Freeport Community Center at 6:30pm. Tickets are $5.00 each and proceeds will go to the Freeport Historical Society to help reach their goals. For reservations call 765-5319 or 765-8571.

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