

Death Notices

Howard W. Mitchell, 78, of Manistee (formerly of the Chesaning and Oakley areas), passed away Sunday, Dec. 30, 2007, at Hernando Pasco Hospice, Dade City, Fla. Memorial services were Saturday, May 3, in Manistee.

Steve Sheriff, 61, of Owosso (formerly of Waterford), passed away Monday, April 21. Memorial services will be held at a later date.

Stephen J. Krcmarik, 84, of Okemos (formerly of New Lothrop), passed away Wednesday, April 23. Funeral Mass was Monday, April 28, in East Lansing, with Rite of Committal at St. Paul Catholic Cemetery, Owosso.

Beverly J. Napier, 70, of Durand, passed away Wednesday, April 23, at Durand Senior Care and Rehabilitation. Services were Saturday, April 26, with interment at Greenwood Cemetery, Vernon.

David E. "Gene" Ade Sr., 86, of Durand, passed away Thursday, April 24, at Memorial Healthcare. Services were

Monday, April 28, with interment at Newburg Cemetery, Bancroft.

Robert Paul Craft, 60, of Oxford, passed away Thursday, April 24. Memorial services were Monday, April 28, in Owosso.

Clement F. Machala, 89, of New Lothrop, passed away Thursday, April 24, at Avalon Hospice. Services were Monday, April 28, in Swartz Creek, with interment at New Calvary Catholic Cemetery, Flint.

Clare E. "Bud" Allen, 78, of Chesaning, passed away Friday, April 25, at St. Mary's Saginaw. Services were Tuesday, April 29, with interment at Wildwood Cemetery, Chesaning.

Craig Martin Irish, 46, of Owosso, passed away Saturday, April 26. Memorial services were Saturday, May 3, at the Shiawassee Conservation Association.

Phyllis Arlene Chappel, 73, of Owosso, passed away Sunday, April 27, at Heritage Manor, Flint. Mass of Christian Burial was Wednesday, April 30, with

interment at St. Paul Catholic Cemetery.

Francine J. McGuckin, 68, of Spruce, Mich. (formerly of Owosso), passed away Sunday, April 27, at Northern Michigan Regional Hospital, Petoskey. Memorial services were Friday, May 2.

Ann Bendt, 64, of Elsie, passed away Monday, April 28, in Grand Rapids. Services were Friday, May 2, with interment at Eureka Cemetery.

Frankie K. Chastain, 51, of Owosso, passed away Tuesday, April 29, at Memorial Healthcare. Services were Friday, May 2.

Leora Fay Matthews, 82, of Owosso, passed away Tuesday, April 29, at Sparrow Hospital, Lansing. Services were Friday, May 2, with interment at Sciota Township Cemetery.

Wilbur L. Ricketts, 78, of Deford, Mich., passed away Tuesday, April 29, at Marlette Hospice. Services were Saturday, May 3, in Marlette, with interment at Brookside Cemetery, Fairgrove.

MUSALL SEEKS COMMISSIONER SEAT

BYRON – Richard E. (Rick) Musall, D-Byron, announces his candidacy for the District 5 Shiawassee County Board of Commissioners position, running against longtime commissioner Jerry Cole (R-Bancroft).

Musall, 39, was raised in Byron and has lived there for 35 years. He and his wife Laura (Lobdell) have four sons – Derek, Jason, Brandon and Dylan.

He worked on a Burns Township dairy farm after school, then in 1987 joined the Burns Township Fire Department, starting to attend fire classes shortly after that. In 1998, he was hired as the Burns Township Fire Chief. He is also Firefighter I and II certified and Fire Officer I, II and III certified and is certified for Hazardous Material Operation, among other certifications. He keeps up with changes by attending educational conferences.

As chief, he is responsible for keeping 17 Firefighters and 3 Fire Officers trained and ready to respond, keeping the fire department in compliance at the State, Federal and local levels, preparing the annual fire budget and working with the Burns Township Board of Trustees.

Musall has been employed by the Shiawassee County Road Commission for the last 8 years, is currently vice president of the Shiawassee County Fire Chiefs Association and currently serves on the Byron Village Council. Other work experiences have been in excavating and with the Byron Department of Public Works.

He has served on many boards, including the Byron Park Board as a trustee, Shiawassee County Firefighters Association as trustee then vice president and Shiawassee County Road Commission, (Union Chapter) vice chairman, then chairman.

He states, "I have worked with many committees, which gave me the opportunity to work with various personalities and opinions. I stayed on task, completed all fact finding and was able to give a solid vote to the issue at hand.

"I'm asking residents in Shiawassee County District 5, to vote for me. I will work with the Commissioners to keep the county moving forward. I care, pay attention, ask questions and do research. I believe the Shiawassee County Board of Commissioners should be the leaders of County Government.

"I am qualified to represent the people of Shiawassee County. I care and believe in listening to the concerns which the people of Shiawassee County may have."



Richard E. Musall

Railroad Days' Beautiful Babies

The Durand Railroad Days annual Beautiful Baby Contest will begin at 1 p.m. Sunday, May 18, in the Activity Tent downtown Durand.

The contest includes seven age divisions ranging from newborn to three years old.

Early registration entry forms can be picked up at these Durand businesses: Studio 125, 125 N. Saginaw Street; Acker Agency, 101 N. Saginaw Street; or Classic Concepts Studio, 4555 S. Reed Road.

Early registration forms must be mailed or dropped off at the Acker Agency, downtown Durand, by Friday, May 9. Registration the day of the event can be completed in the Activity Tent from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. No entries will be accepted after 12:30 p.m. the day of the event.

The entry fee is \$15 per child and must be included with the entry form. Checks must be payable to Railroad Days Inc.

The overall winner will receive a complimentary 11-inch by 14-inch portrait from Classic Concepts Studio and a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond from the Durand Area Chamber of Commerce. The overall runner-up will receive a \$50 U.S. Savings Bond from the Chamber of Commerce. The first place winner of each division will receive a complimentary 8-inch by 10-inch portrait from Classic Concepts Studio.

New this year, all participants will be entered in a drawing to win a special prize from Classic Concepts. The drawing will be held after announcing the winner of the last division and persons do not have to be present to win.

Each participant will receive a certificate for a complimentary sitting at Classic Concepts Studio, a Beautiful Baby tee-shirt from SAGELink Credit Union and an official Durand Railroad Days Beautiful Baby Contest ribbon.

For more information, persons may call Monica Acker, (989) 271-8946.

Also, persons may visit www.durandrailroaddays.com to see last year's winners.

All proceeds go to the Railroad Days organization in order to continue this tradition.

The committee extends a special thank you to the contest sponsors, Classic Concepts Studio for the 18th year; SAGELink Credit Union, for the second year; and the Durand Area Chamber of Commerce, for its first year.

OUTLOOK IMPROVED

Piping Plover - Protection of this shorebird's beachfront nesting grounds is helping to improve the outlook for this species. Human development along beaches, increased beach recreation, disturbance by pets, and increased predation require constant vigilance. Intensive conservation efforts supported by the Endangered Species Act have helped stabilize populations and allowed populations to increase in some regions of the Atlantic and Gulf coasts.

Black-capped Vireo - Suburban development, agricultural conversion, and fire suppression in Texas and Oklahoma have decreased available breeding habitat, reducing both the range and population size of this species. Increased predation near human development has further decreased populations, as has parasitism from Brown-headed Cowbirds, which lay their eggs in Black-capped Vireo nests, out-competing the vireo chicks. Innovative conservation efforts on public and private lands seem to be helping some populations recover.

52-Club Winners

The Durand Athletic Boosters organization has announced the winners in its monthly 52-Club contest.

Winners in the March drawing were: Gina Telford and Matt Kimmer of Durand, Matt Hickson of Owosso and Steve Hawkins of Lennon.

The Boosters will meet again at 7 p.m. Monday, May 5, in room 123 of Durand High School, 9575 E. Monroe Road, Durand. Parents of athletes are encouraged to attend. For more information, persons may call (989) 288-3075.

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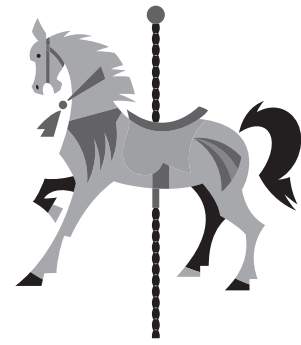
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