

75¢

SINGLE COPY PRICE

SERVING THE
COMMUNITIES OF:
MINDEN CITY, UBLY
PARISVILLE, RUTH,
PALMS, FORESTVILLE,
DECKERVILLE &
HARBOR BEACH

THE MINDEN CITY

HERALD

VOLUME 123 - MINDEN CITY, MICHIGAN 48456 - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2011 - NO. 9

YOUR
LOCALLY
OWNED
PAPER
SINCE
1889

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH CELEBRATES 150TH ANNIVERSARY



St. Patrick's Church of Palms will celebrate its 150th Anniversary as a parish on Sunday, September 18, with Mass at 11:00 a.m. with Bishop Joseph Cistone and Fr. Peter Nwokoye.

After Mass a luncheon will be served in the Parish Center at 12:30 p.m. with kid's entertainment and a church raffle to follow.

Anyone in the community that would like to celebrate this special day with St. Patrick's is welcome to attend.

A HISTORY OF THE ST. PATRICK PARISH

Catholic settlers arrived in what is now the village of Palms in the 1850's.

Coming from Canada, the families of John Smith, Michael Dyer, Patrick Deegan, and John Lavin settled on the land. It was predominantly Irish families that first came to Palms.

One early settler, Patrick Deegan, was a teacher as well as a dairy farmer. He taught both religion and education to the people of the area. His two brothers, John and Peter, also settled in Palms. John had 13 children and it was the custom that the youngest son (Edward) get the farm with the understanding that he would care for his parents in their old age.

Mrs. Lavin, mid-wife and doctor, brought with her a surgeon's needle and Irish linen thread which would not cause infection. She and her husband lived across the road from the Deegans.

As early as 1852, these families were ministered to sacramentally by Fr. Lawrence Kilroy who came about once a year from St. Clair. Mass was celebrated in people's homes. It was most often celebrated in the residences of the Brady's and Deegan's since their homes were centrally located.

The first man to die in this Catholic settlement, Mr. Cleary, was buried in the Ruth Cemetery.

However, in 1855, when Matthew Brady died, it was decided to bury him on his own land instead of taking him north to Ruth as was the custom. This became the site of the church cemetery and also determined the location of the first parish church, one mile north of the present site of Palms. At this time, the people went to the church in Ruth and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

DECKERVILLE MAN DIES IN TRACTOR ROLL-OVER ACCIDENT

Sanilac County Sheriff Garry Biniecki stated that Central Dispatch received a call on September 12, 2011 at 1:17 p.m. for a roll-over accident involving a farm tractor while in a field brush-hogging.

Deputies responded to the scene and the investigation revealed that 74-year-old, Blaine Allen Kerbyson, of Deckerville was brush-hogging a lane in a field near Stevenson and Loree Roads in Marion Township, when he rolled the tractor into a 20-foot ravine.

Deputy Brad Thompson advised that Mr. Kerbyson was

backing his John Deere Model 3020 tractor northbound down the lane to make another pass with his brush-hog when his rear wheel went off the lane and caused the tractor to roll over into the 20-foot ravine to the east of the lane. The rolling over of the tractor crushed Mr. Kerbyson between the tractor and the ground causing fatal injuries. Mr. Kerbyson was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Sheriff's Deputies were assisted at the scene by Deckerville Fire Department, Sanilac EMS and the Sheriff's Victim Services Unit. See obituary on page 4.

OKTOBERFEST THIS WEEKEND IN DECKERVILLE

You know fall is coming quickly when the 10th Annual Oktoberfest in Deckerville takes place this weekend.

Come join the fun on Friday with Sidewalk Chalk Art at 3:30 p.m. on Main Street.

Saturday activities include from 7 a.m. 12:00 noon, an All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast sponsored by the Deckerville United Methodist Men at the Community Center.

At 7:15 a.m., a 5K Walk/Run, sponsored by the Deckerville Community Hospital takes place with registration at the Deckerville School from 7:15 until 7:45 a.m. The run starts at 8:00 a.m.

From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., a Quilt and Art Show takes place in the 2nd room at the Community Center.

At 9:00 a.m. and lasting all day, the 3rd Annual Kris Klaus Memorial Snowmobile Grass Drags & Swap Meet at Wilson

Park.

From 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., the Deckerville Historical Museum will be open with Indian Heritage Day in the back section of the museum at 12:30 p.m.

At 11:30 a.m., a Pumpkin Parade takes place on Main Street, sponsored by the Deckerville Library and the DCDC.

From 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm., a Kids Pedal Pull will take place on Main Street.

Opening at 12:00 noon, will be a Beer Tent at Wilson Park, sponsored by the Goodtimers.

At 2:00 p.m., an Antique Tractor Parade will take place on Main Street.

On Sunday, the Kris Klaus Memorial Snowmobile Grass Drag continues at 10 a.m., followed by an Antique Tractor Pull at Wilson Park at 3 p.m.

Lots of fun in Deckerville this weekend!

**BURNING BAN IN EFFECT IN MINDEN TOWNSHIP
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!**

**CHECK OUT OUR.....
PRESCRIPTION SAVINGS CLUB!**



**OVER 300 PRESCRIPTIONS STARTING AT \$4.99
FAST AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE!**

**HARBOR DRUG II
2046 Black River
Deckerville
(810) 376-8070
Open
Monday-Friday
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.**



September 18

Barbara Labeski
Judy Lynn Smithers
Jeannette Wilson

September 19

Dolores Osentoski
Barbara Hagen
Ron Pichla
Kay Peruski
David Smalley
Sr. Carmella Conway
Kacie Roggenbuck
Nick Lindquist

September 20

Richard Lowell
Florence Schrader
Jack Peruski
Henry Grifka
Carrie Nelson
Sarah Hoagland

September 21

Ann Agnes Bukoski
Michael Feury
Brett Sweeney
Angie Roth
Breanna Stapleton

UBLY ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations -

To Kevin and Tina Depcinski, who were married September 18.

To Paulette and Craig Halifax, who were married September 19, 1992.

HISTORY OF ST. PATRICK CHURCH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

helped support the pastor there, Fr. Marker, by furnishing food and cutting his wood.

It was in 1861 that St. Patrick Parish was established. At this time, the settlers were all of Irish descent. It was only in 1880 that the first Germans, the Philip Roth family, settled in Palms.

Mass was celebrated on Fridays in that first simple log church. It was Fr. Laugel of Ruth who came to say Mass. Later in 1870, a frame church was con-

structed, but it burned in 1898.

In the meantime, the railroad was built in 1881. Francis Palms, after whom the town was named, owned considerable land and lumber and promoted the railroad intersection at Palms.

When Fr. Anthony Burke became the first resident pastor of St. Patrick's in July, 1894, he realized that the railroad depot would facilitate departure to other parts of the diocese. Therefore, he had the rectory built in Palms.

The third church of St. Patrick's was built on its present site in 1899, next door to the rectory. Land for the church was donated by the John Deegan family. It was begun in the springtime with brick being hauled from the Minden City brick yard. The church was opened for Christmas.

Fr. Edmund McQuaid replaced Fr. Burke in 1908 and stayed until September, 1926, when Fr. A. J. George arrived. The rectory was remodeled. He remained until January, 1938 when he was transferred.

Fr. Anthony Busutti was appointed to succeed him. It was at this time the Diocese of Saginaw was established under Most Rev. William Murphy and from this time Palms was part of the Diocese of Saginaw. Fr. Busutti renovated and decorated the church. He remained until the fall of 1947.

Fr. Phillip Viktonoski came here for a few months and then Fr. Cornelius Bates was appointed administrator and stayed until the fall of 1948.

Fr. Michael Wolf was administrator from the fall of 1948 until the spring of 1949. He passed away on January 5, 2011, at the age of 96. He was the eldest and longest serving priest of the Saginaw Diocese.

Fr. Kyran McGinn came here for two years starting in the spring of 1949 and Fr. Francis Piaskowski stayed for four months starting in September of 1951 and he was succeeded by Fr. John Nagel in January 1952.

THE MINDEN CITY HERALD

Page 3

Thursday, September 15, 2011

In 1952, the Men's Club of the parish built a hall west of the church which served as a meeting center for classes, funeral dinners, and wedding receptions. This land was donated to the parish by Edward Deegen, son of John.

Fr. John Nagel celebrated his 25th Anniversary on June 2, 1954, with a High Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Patrick Church. Fr. Nagel served the last 18 years of his priestly ministry at St. Patrick's Church retiring in March of 1970. He died on November 22, 1977, in Utica.

Fr. Ray Oswald was ordained on June 2, 1962, at St. Mary's Cathedral in Saginaw. The next day he said his First Solemn Mass at St. Patrick's in Palms. Fr. Ray was a graduate from Sts. Peter and Paul High School in Ruth. He died on November 8, 1986.

Fr. Richard Ratajczak was here for a short time followed by Fr. Francis Lukowicz who stayed until 1972.

In 1972, St. Patrick Church became a mission church of Sts. Peter and Paul in Ruth. Fr. Gerard Gumbleton was the first priest to serve both parishes and he was here four years.

In September 1973, St. Patrick's parish honored Fr. Francis Lukowicz on his retirement with a Mass and dinner. During the dinner that followed, Parish Council president, James Roth, thanked Fr. Lukowicz. He died in July, 1995.

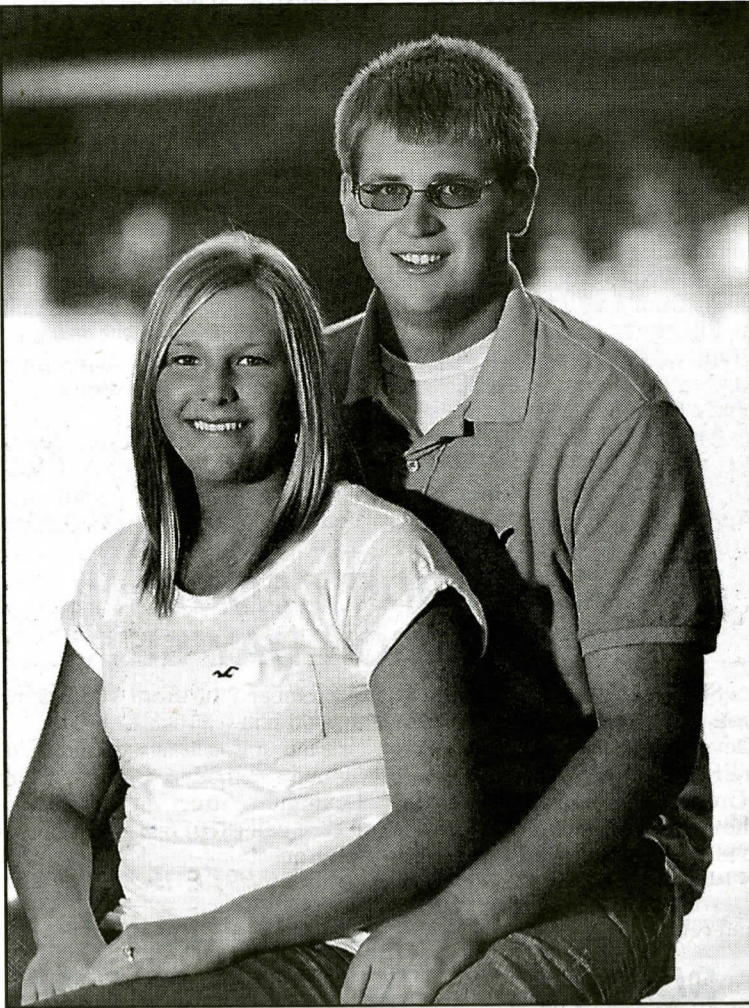
In 1976, Fr. Francis Murray's six year stay was interrupted with a special mission from the bishop. During his absence, Fr. Ronald Dombrowski became pastor for eight months. On Fr. Murray's return, he was promoted to a Monsignor on February 15, 1981, at Sts. Peter and Paul,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

THE MINDEN CITY
HERALD

(ISSUES 350-620 Weekly)

ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED



Terry and Connie Kramer of Harbor Beach are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jenna, to Justin Gentner, son of Mark and Colleen Gentner of Minden City.

Jenna's grandparents are Dave and Janet of Harbor Beach and Ed and Marianne Gehring of Harbor Beach.

Justin's grandparents are Lawrence Kranz, of Harbor

Beach and the late Delores Kranz, and Ken and Marie Helmreich of Minden City and the late James Gentner.

Jenna is a 2007 graduate of Ubyly Community School and a 2009 graduate of MSU. Justin is a 2006 graduate of Ubyly Community School.

Jenna and Justin are planning an October 29, 2011 wedding.

summer, was ordained a deacon by Bishop Kenneth Untener.

In 1994, Sister Theresa Carlow, S.N.D., was appointed pastoral administrator. She remained here for eight years. While here, she served with Fr. Ron Wagner (1994-2000) and Fr. Steve Gavit (2000-2005).

In 1996, Parish Council members suggested the parish start to look at fixing the church building since the building was in serious disrepair. Through the work and commitment of many parishioners, Rex Reitenbach, architect, and Wobig Construction of Saginaw, a major church building renovation began on October 9, 2000. It was completed in time for Holy Week services starting on Palm Sunday, April 8, 2001. The church was dedicated by Bishop Kenneth Untener on Sunday, September 9th.

Sister Betty Zeestraten, O.S.F., took over as pastoral administrator when Sister Theresa left in 2002. She remained here for three years leaving in 2005.

Fr. Tom McNamara, was here for one year. He was followed by Sister Mary Ann Ankoviak, C.S.J., in 2006 who was appointed the pastoral administrator for both parishes. Various priests in the diocese would take turns coming to celebrate mass with us on the weekends. Retired priest, Fr. Richard Ratajczak was the most familiar face we saw. He enjoyed coming back to the area on the weekends and stayed in the parish rectory. He passed away in June, 2010.

In 2007, Fr. Robert Pare' became our sacramental minister. He lived in the rectory at Sts. Peter and Paul in Ruth.

Two years later, Fr. Peter Nwokoye, became the pastor of St. Patrick's in Palms, Sts. Peter and Paul in Ruth, and St. Mary's in Parisville. He is still our current pastor and lives in the rectory at Sts. Peter and Paul.

What began 150 years ago as a strictly Irish parish is now composed of a number of nationali-

Thursday, September 15, 2011

ties and many vocations other than farmers. Our parish families come from as far south as Deckerville and east to Lake Huron. This year we remember and celebrate our 150 Anniversary as a parish church community.

St. Patrick Church has two cemeteries. Our current cemetery, St. Patrick Church Cemetery, is located on Ridley Road in Minden Township about one mile north of the church and is approximately five acres in size. It dates back to 1855.

Rosbury cemetery is located on Church Road in Bridgehampton Township southeast of Deckerville. A Catholic Church was located about a quarter of mile north of the cemetery and closed in 1908. The last person to be buried in the cemetery was in 1937.

FALL BREKFAST

St. Patrick's
Palms Parish

Sunday, October 16th

Serving 8:30 a.m.

DONATIONS

Adults \$7.50; Children 5 and over

Children 5 and over

Menu: Ham, Sausage, Pancakes, Waffles, Hash and Refried Beans

SEE YOU AT THE

HISTORY OF ST. PATRICK CHURCH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Ruth, by Bishop Ken Untener. Fr. Murray passed away in October, 2007.

Fr. Loren Kalinowski was sent to the area in 1982. In June, 1985, Fr. Loren was honored on his 10th Anniversary in the priesthood with a Mass and dinner that followed.

On September 14, 1986, St. Patrick Church celebrated an outdoor mass to commemorate 125 years of Catholic heritage. A pig roast and picnic followed the mass which was attended by approximately 250 people.

In 1988, Sister Rita Goedken, OSF, was appointed pastoral administrator and lived in the church rectory which had been vacant for some time. Fr. Richard Bokinskie was appointed the sacramental minister of St. Patrick's and pastor of Sts. Peter and Paul and they both stayed until 1994.

In 1991, when the parish hall was in need of costly updates and repairs, the parish decided it would be more economical to build a new parish center next door to the church. This land was donated by Peter and Joseph Deegan, grandsons of Edward. The old hall was sold and is now a wood working shop owned by a parishioner. The parish center was blessed and dedicated on December 1, with Sister Rita Goedken, pastoral administrator, Fr. Rick Bokinskie, pastor, and Bishop Kenneth Untener present for the celebration.

On December 12, 1993, Randy Kelly, a seminarian who worked with the parish during the

HARBOR BEACH COMMUNITY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Check On Our Low Interest Rates
Before you buy that New or Used Vehicle!
989.479.3357

727 Trescott Street - Harbor Beach, MI 48441
HOURS: Monday - Thursday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm ~ Friday 1:00 - 6:00 pm

Ramsey Funeral Home, Inc.

425 State Street

Harbor Beach, MI 48441

(989) 479-3407 - ramseyfh.com



Warren C. Ramsey

Ryan W. Ramsey

HARBOR BEACH COMMUNITY THEATRE

Adults \$6.00 ~ Students \$5.00 ~ Children \$3.00

STARTS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH

RISE OF THE PLANET OF THE APES

RATED PG13 • 120 MINUTES

STARRING: STEVE CARELL, RYAN GOSLING, JULIANNE MOORE

SHOW TIMES

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY 7:00 P.M.

MONDAY & TUESDAY - NO MOVIE

WEDNESDAY 2 P.M. & 7 P.M.

RUTH CONVENIENCE STORE

4506 S. Ruth Road • Ruth, MI



Phone: 989-898-8888

Liquor ~ Beer ~ Wine ~ Full Line of Groceries

SUMMER HOURS: M-SAT. 10:00 - 8:00

- KOEGEL'S - LB.
- COTTO SALAMI.....
- MICHIGAN APPLES.....
- BANQUET
- TV DINNERS.....
- ORIGINAL
- MAXWELL HOUSE C...
- KOOL-AID OR
- CAPRI SUN JAMMER...
- GOLD MEDAL FLOUR
- OPEN PIT - 18 OZ.
- BAR-B-QUE SAUCE.....
- LIPTON'S R/S
- SOUP MIX.....
- IGA DRESSINGS.....
- IGA MUSTARD OR
- BROWN MUSTARD.....
- MILK-BONE
- DOG BISCUITS.....
- OLD FASHIONED - APPLE, CHE...
- FROZEN PIES.....
- READ'S - GERMAN POTATO SA...
- THREE BEAN SALAD.....
- MORTON'S SEA SAL...
- HUDSONVILLE ICE C...

SALE RUNS THURSDAY
CALL AHEAD FOR