

# The Weidman Messenger

VOL. VII, NO. 24

Weidman, Mich., 48893

Thursday, December 17, 1970

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## Editor's Column

By Connie

### ONE MORE ISSUE AND WE TAKE OUR VACATION Whee.

One more issue of the Messenger to get out--the Dec. 24 date --and we take our semi-annual skip-a-week vacation.

Your copy of the Messenger dated Dec. 24 probably will be late on account of Christmas falling on the 25th, and therefore there will be no mail service on that day, or Friday. Local-area subscribers should get their papers Thursday, Dec. 24, but out-of-county readers probably will receive their copies a day late.

Our faithful news writers are reminded to gather and mail their news as usual next week, mail on Monday, Dec. 21, and thereafter skip the Dec. 31 issue date.

So--we'll get out next week's paper and then take a short rest.

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### "TRUE CASH VALUE" ON WILD LAND, HERE AND THERE

It has been noted that the GEM Survey Company seemed to hit pieces of "wild land" in Isabella County especially hard, in estimates of "true cash valuation".

We have some interesting figures from Midland County, on the matter of some 1,574 acres of "wild land" owned by the city of Mason and located in the old oil fields of Midland County, east of Mt. Pleasant.

A Detroit realty company has offered Mason \$40 per acre, the best nibble the city of Mason has had on the sale of these wild lands.

The city of Mason first asked \$100 per acre for the land, but gave up on that as no takers appeared.

The city earlier received an offer from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources of \$25 per acre. It is now thought the city might be able to get \$25 or \$35 per acre for the wild land.

Compare this with the John Gott place on Woodruff Road just north of Weidman. The GEM Survey Company placed a "true cash value" on John's 18 acres of wild land at \$13,200.

HOME PAPER FOR THE WEST HALF OF ISABELLA COUNTY



ANOTHER LANDMARK BUSINESS CLOSES--Ray Geasler closed his gas station and general store at Brinton Tuesday, Dec. 15, after nearly 37 years of serving the area people and resorters on their way north. Messenger photo

Ray opened his store and gas station May 5, 1933, on the birthday of his mother, Emma Geasler. (1933, if you remember, was in the pinch of the Great Depression, and it must have taken courage to open a new business at that time.)

Since the day of opening, there have been only two days when the store has not been open for business, seven days a week.

Ray had worked at the Fisher Body plant in Pontiac before returning to Brinton and going into business for himself.

The wedding of Ray Geasler and Joyce Lowery took place about two months after the opening of the store.

Mrs. Geasler is a retired teacher, having taught 23 years in all, in the Brinton rural school, and at Barryton and Weidman.

The Geaslars have three children: Marilyn Fosberg, Mitchell Geasler, and Emily Geasler. There are four grandchildren, all now in school.

Joyce has a loom for rug-weaving, and creates most beautiful and unusual designs and textures.

## Men in Uniform

PFC. Richard Straus, son of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Straus, is back in the hospital at Allen Park.

His address: Allen Park Veterans' Hospital, Allen Park, Mich.

He has had extensive surgery on his leg since being wounded in action in Vietnam a year ago last June.

He has gone through a lot, with a shattered shin bone and surgery several times in efforts to replant bone there.

He would like to hear from his friends.

\*\*\*\*\*

Steve Faber called home from Fort Carson, Colo., Saturday. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Faber. He will be unable to be home for Christmas, as he will have short leave at that time.

He will be out of the service for good on Jan. 21.

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Sp/4 K. C. Charnes will be discharged from the Armed Forces at Fort Dix Dec. 21, and will be home for Christmas. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Charnes.

He plans to enroll at Ferris State College, where he had been studying on a business course before his induction.

At present she is working on a 9x12 rug. She does not sell her handiwork.

Ray served on the Isabella County Road Commission six years, 1958-64, and on the County Planning Commission seven years, leaving shortly after the hiring of Scott Bagby & Associates of Grand Rapids. Before that, Planning Commission members drove to meetings, paying their own gas and mileage bills.

Ray has been on the Board of Directors of the Weidman Bank for 22 years.

Needless to say, his store and gas service will be greatly missed by many people.

"I like to be here," he told the Messenger reporter, "but I can't keep up with government regulations. Maybe if I were younger... But I like to meet people, talk with them."

People will miss you, too, Ray.

**S. W. Sherman**

Goldie Dutcher, Reporter

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Beutler were called home from their Texas trip by the death of his father, Clyde. They got home Monday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Beutler attended the Farm Bureau Christmas party at the Union Town Hall Saturday evening.

Rev. and Mrs. James Linton of Midland visited the Howard Beutlers Tuesday evening, and the Crittenden Funeral Home to pay respect to Clyde Beutler.

Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Kirvan of Barryton had dinner with Mr. and Mrs. George Merrihew Thursday. They all attended the Grand Opening of Assmann's new store in Mt. Pleasant.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Sanderson of St. Charles came Wednesday morning to the Howard Beutlers' and attended the funeral of Clyde Beutler in the afternoon.

Of course the school children all enjoyed the snow storm Thursday night, as they didn't have to go to school Friday. At least it does look more like Christmas time outside.

Orval Merrihew came early Thursday morning and he and his father went for a drive to Carson City and Cassopolis. Orval was after storm windows for his trailer home.

Harry Hardenburgh (Butch) and Nancy Howard were married Friday, Dec. 11, at the West Side Gospel Tabernacle in Mt. Pleasant. Congratulations, Butch and Nancy.

Mrs. Willard Ransom and sons of Flint have been visiting her folks, the Harry Hardenburghs, since last Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Dutcher and Sam Pankhurst were Monday morning callers of the Garry Dutchers.

Ervin Dutcher, Jr., is having the flu and kidney infection.

Mrs. Clayton Dutcher called on Ronna Dutcher Thursday morning.

Nearly all the neighbors called at the Crittenden Funeral Home Tuesday evening to pay respect to Clyde Beutler, and attended his funeral Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Chaffee and Nancy and Mr. and Mrs. Dean Chaffee attended the wedding and reception for Butch Hardenburgh and Nancy Howard Friday night at Mt. Pleasant and St. Louis.

Miss Florence Fitzgerald of Lansing spent the weekend with her folks, the Carl Fitzgeralds. They all had Sunday dinner with Miss Sophia Bauman and Carl Bauman of Big Rapids.

Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Kiander and family of Coopersville called on the Harry Gatehouses Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gatehouse and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Maeder and Mark spent Saturday eve-

ning with the Gary Gatehouses, helping Steve and Brian celebrate their birthdays, which were close together this month.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Beutler and children attended the Fellowship dinner at the church Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Dutcher and sons of rural Merrill spent Saturday over night and Sunday with his folks, the Clayton Dutchers.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dutcher of Midland spent Saturday over night and Sunday with the Garry Dutchers. They called on me on their way home. They were having fun on their snowmobiles.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Fitzgerald spent Friday evening with a cousin, Mrs. Frank Doerr, of Remus.

Mrs. Robert Decker of Midland and Mrs. Carl Fitzgerald spent Thursday in Greenville.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Dutcher attended their annual Christmas party for the General Telephone Company at the VFW Hall in Mt. Pleasant.

We want to thank the school and Mrs. Starr and students, who came out our way Christmas caroling. We enjoyed it very much. And that's the first time we've ever had that happen to us.

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**A TRIBUTE TO ZEKE TANNER**

(Ed's Note: We received the following article written by Mabel Chaffee March 5, 1969, and a short note from Mabel: "Connie: Just wanted you to see the article about Zeke. It is so true and real. In our times of tragedy, murder, etc., it is refreshing to know Weidman people have a heart for another human. 'But for the Grace of God it could be us, and not Zeke.'")

Here's the article:

He doesn't know how old he really is, was never married, his parents passed away many years ago, leaving their son alone in the world with no formal education, therefore a weekly salary was denied him throughout his life.

He has been generously helped, loved and encouraged by the people in the small village where he lives, being the only family he has ever known.

He can be spotted bright and early each morning, brushing debris from the streets, waving a cheery greeting to the clerks as they open for business. The customers, too, know and respect him, never too busy to chat a moment.

He goes daily to the town restaurant, emptying garbage cans or burning the trash for a cup of good coffee or a slice of home made pie.

In the taverns he mingles with the customers while taking care of the empties and cleaning up, so he won't be home alone every

night.

Especially fond of young children, he often takes them to his favorite fishing site for a fun day, getting a good catch every time.

Sometimes he does cleanup jobs at local filling stations, or befriends a stray dog or cat.

He rides his cherished bicycle to his daily chores about town, his only means of transportation, but it keeps him in excellent physical condition.

The entire village has offered him aid, and he in turn does the odd jobs he is very capable of doing, never bothering anyone, and the town folks see that he isn't bothered by bullies or strangers who perhaps wouldn't know the situation.

Now getting well along in

years, some day the town will be very sad, when his thin, smiling face is no longer among them, but knowing that an unfortunate human being was made happy during his entire lifetime through the efforts of a small town with a big heart.

Many years from now, if you should be driving through a small village and spot a battered old bicycle in a place of honor, with a plaque saying, "We miss you, Zeke," you will know this is a true story of human kindness and faith.

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**Weidman Messenger**

BETTER THAN A LETTER

**Starr's Sales & Service**

ALLIS-CHALMERS LAWN AND GARDEN EQUIPMENT

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6240 W. Main WEIDMAN

Ph. 644-3337 ALLIS CHALMERS

**STRAUS PROCESSING CO.**

Dependable Custom Butchering. Processing of Beef, Pork, proper Aging, Cooling, Curing. We sell meat wholesale and retail. Butchering days: Wednesdays and Thursdays. 4 miles North of Beal City Phone 644-2292

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Of the Mount Pleasant Agency



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Phone 644-3465

WEAVER'S

**VILLAGE INN**

WEIDMAN

BEER IN OR OUT--MIXED DRINKS  
SANDWICHES--PIZZA To Take Out 9 to 2 a. m.

**Crittenden Funeral Home**

Phone 967-3464, Remus

**BEAL CITY SERVICE**GAS AND OIL  
Phone 644-2142  
BORON DISTRIBUTOR

A complete line of dependable products  
for the farm and home.

# Weidman Messenger

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## WANT ADS

WANT AD RATES: 50¢ per  
week for ordinary ad; space  
rate of 50¢ per col. inch for  
those of longer length. Card  
of Thanks: 75¢, unless very  
long. Ph. 644-2000.

FOR SALE--1963 CHEVROLET  
STATION WAGON. Rusty. 4  
good tires, 2 good snow tires.  
Transportation. \$200. Connie  
Skinner, Airline Road, Weid-  
man, ph. 644-2000.  
tf

IF PLUGGED--Don't dig. Call  
644-2058 for information and  
price. Electric sewer rod 100  
feet long.  
tf

PAINT JOBS WANTED--Brush  
and spray. Interior and exter-  
ior. Edw. Schafer, Coldwater  
Lake, ph. 644-3967.

LOST--White and brown Brittany  
spaniel, male, six years old,  
southwest Sherman Township  
area. Ph. 773-39961 or 644-  
3304. Reward.  
Dec. 10t2

FAMILY RESTAURANT--In  
Weidman. Open 7 a. m. to  
7 p. m. Specials every day.  
Try our meals.  
tf

FRESH EGGS--Clyde Emmons,  
4 miles west on Airline Road,  
1/2 mile north, 1/2 mile west,  
or follow river road from Paul  
Miller's corners. Ph. 644-2090.  
Dec. 17t1p

SMORGASBORD--Dec. 19, Sat-  
urday, at Broomfield Grange  
Hall, corner Coldwater Rd. and  
M-20. Ham loaf, fish, turkey  
hash, salad bar, pies, etc.  
\$1.50 adults, children under 12,  
75¢, under 5, free.  
Dec. 17t1

BETTER THAN A LETTER

I WILL DO SEWING--And iron-  
ing in my home. I live 10  
miles south of Weidman, to  
Broomfield Road, 1 3/4 east,  
third house, south side of the  
road. Zada Ehl,  
Dec. 17t1

CLEANINGEST carpet cleaner  
you ever used, so easy, too.  
Get Blue Lustre. Rent electric  
shampooer \$1 at Fox Hardware,  
Weidman.  
Dec. 17t1

FOR SALE--1961 Chevrolet  
Pickup, 3/4 ton. Cheap. Also  
1 portable record player, two  
small occasional chairs. Ber-  
nard Gross, Littlefield Road at  
corner Weidman Road.  
Dec. 17t1

### SORRY!

To the family who had planned  
to use the Coldwater Township  
Community Hall for a private  
party on Sunday, Dec. 13:  
Our sincere apology for the mis-  
understanding in planning the  
Community Christmas dinner  
for the same evening.  
Ladies of the Brinton  
Quilting Club.

## Notice

COLDWATER TOWNSHIP  
ELECTORS:  
There will be a regular quarter-  
ly meeting of the Coldwater  
Township Board on Thursday,  
Dec. 17, at 8 p. m., at the Com-  
munity Hall.

Fern Beutler  
Coldwater Township  
Clerk

## Card of Thanks

We wish to thank everyone for  
all the kindness, flowers, and  
cards sent us in the loss of our  
husband, Elsworth Emmons.  
I also wish to thank the Broom-  
field Grange for the lovely din-  
ner served the family and friends.  
Wilma Emmons  
And Family

## Card of Thanks

Please accept our sincere grati-  
tude for the many kindnesses  
shown us during our bereavement.  
For the calls at the hospital  
and home, the cards and beauti-  
ful flowers, memorials to Heart  
Fund and Respiratory Diseases  
Associations;

To Pastor Eldridge for his com-  
forting words, the Masonic Bro-  
thers and Eastern Stars and  
those who helped serve the din-  
ner, and those who sent food.

To the doctors, nurses and hos-  
pital staff at C. M. C. H. To the  
Crittendens, and to many more.

We are deeply appreciative for  
all that was done to lighten our  
sorrow, and especially to Virgil  
Loomis and Thomas Loomis for  
the help they gave.

May God bless you all.

Mrs. Clyde Beutler

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Tibbetts  
And Family

Mr. and Mrs. James Beutler  
And Family

Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Johnston  
And Family

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Beutler  
And Family

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Beutler  
And Family

Mr. and Mrs. Hervey Beutler

## Obituary

MRS. AUDREY WOODBURY  
Mrs. Alfred Woodbury (Audrey)  
died in an automobile accident  
last Thursday, Dec. 10, near  
Fremont.

Mr. and Mrs. Woodbury were  
returning home from a visit with  
their children, Mr. and Mrs.  
Stanley Woodbury and Mr. and  
Mrs. Richard Parks, of Shelby,  
and apparently the car hit an  
icy stretch on the road and went  
out of control.

The Woodburys have been  
Weidman residents since about  
1952, and have many friends  
here.

Mrs. Woodbury was born Nov.  
14, 1903, on Gratiot County.

She is survived by her husband;  
three sons, Darrel of Flint,  
Charles of Breckenridge, and  
Stanley of Shelby; two daughters,  
Mrs. Louise Parks of Shelby and  
Mrs. Lela Johnson of Punta Gor-  
da, Florida; and 15 grandchil-  
dren.

Funeral services were held  
Monday, Dec. 14, at 1 p. m.  
at the Stinson Funeral Home in  
Mt. Pleasant, with Rev. David  
Fall of Blanchard officiating.  
Interment was in Fairview Cem-  
etery at Weidman.

The family have the deep sym-  
pathy of all.

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BETTER THAN A LETTER

## the Churches

WEIDMAN BAPTIST CHURCH  
(1 mile west of Weidman)  
Pastor: Marvin Eldridge, ph.  
644-3504.

Sunday School, 10 a. m.  
Preaching, 11 a. m.  
Choir practice, 6.45 p. m.  
Evening Service, 7.30 p. m.

Our Christmas program will  
be held Sunday, Dec. 20, at  
7.30 p. m. Everyone invited.  
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WEIDMAN UNITED METHODIST  
Rev. Athel J. Lynch, Pastor  
Weidman Church:

Church School starts at 10 a. m.  
Worship Service, 11.15.  
Methodist Men, fourth Saturday  
evening, 7 to 9.

WSCS, first and third Thursdays  
2.30 p. m., at the church.

WINN CHURCH:

Worship service, 8.45 to 9.45.  
Sunday School, 10 a. m.

COOMER CHURCH:

Worship service, 10 a. m.  
Sunday School, 9 to 9.55 a. m.  
\*\*\*\*\*

BROOMFIELD ZION LUTHERAN  
Located six miles south of Weid-  
man on Coldwater Road.

Rev. Edwin Schmelzer, Pastor  
Sunday School, 9.15 a. m.  
Worship Service, 10.30 a. m.  
Ladies' Aid meets on second  
Wednesday of each month.  
\*\*\*\*\*

GILMORE CHURCH OF CHRIST

George Getchel, Minister  
Located six miles south of Far-  
well; northeast of Weidman on  
Coleman Road.

Morning Worship, 9.30 a. m.  
Bible School, 10.30 a. m.  
Youth Hour, 6 p. m.  
Evening Worship, 7.30 p. m.  
BETTER THAN A LETTER

CHRISTMAS DINNER  
ENJOYED AT BRINTON

The Coldwater Township Com-  
munity Christmas dinner was  
held Sunday evening, Dec. 13,  
at the Community Hall in Brinton.

Thirty-five people attended,  
and enjoyed the fellowship and  
the bountiful pot-luck dinner.  
The Brinton Quilting Club fur-  
nished baked ham and rolls.

The people of the community  
and the members of the Cold-  
water Township Board are very  
appreciative of the ladies of the  
Quilting Club: Eva Gray, Lena  
St. John, Maggie Boger, Pearl  
Geasler, Pearl Loomis, Etta  
Skalitzky, Cleda Navarre, Vio-  
let Sloan, and Nina Forbes, for  
the purchase of a new electric  
stove for the kitchen of the Com-  
munity Hall.

The stove will be greatly ap-  
preciated by all who use the  
hall.

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NEWS NOTES

Mr. and Mrs. George Getchel  
and family were Sunday supper  
guests of the Bernard Pitts fam-  
ily, after evening services at  
the Gilmore Church of Christ.



## Around Horr

Jessie Rosencrantz, Reporter

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Wood and Vance Wood called on their mother, Mrs. Flora Wood, Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. Richard Wood entered Community Hospital at Mt. Pleasant and underwent surgery Monday.

Little Peter Wood, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Wood, spent several days in the hospital last week.

Mrs. Hattie Losey and I attended the funeral of Clyde Beutler.

Sunday callers at the Charlie Losey home were Mrs. Ardis Merrihew, Mrs. Lois Losey and two friends, Mrs. Susie Chapman, two Cook girls, and Nancy Losey.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Geitman were Monday callers at the Wilbur Wright home. Mr. and Mrs. John Baublets were Sunday evening callers. Mr. and Mrs. Max Aldrich were also Sunday callers.

Mrs. Eva Denslow and her children all met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Othel Denslow Sunday for a pre-Christmas dinner and get-together.

Mrs. Opal Denslow attended the funeral of Ezra Sutliff, a cousin, last week at Flint. Mrs. Mildred Terry of near Barryton was a caller of Mrs. Denslow last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Junior Denslow and Debbie of Lakeview were Saturday afternoon and evening guests at the Berl Denslow home, and spent some time at their cottage in Coldwater Township.

Jim Thompson was a business caller in Lansing Tuesday and Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Krueger and family and Harry Dent were Sunday supper guests of their parents, the Gerald Dents. Janet Dent and baby were afternoon guests. Geraline Johnson was a Monday guest. Mr. and Mrs. Dent called on her mother, Mrs. Emily Wood, Tuesday.

Mrs. Nettie Lawrence spent Wednesday in Midland. Mr. and Mrs. Garth Lawrence and Pam were Sunday dinner guests of his mother. Later, all of them and Mrs. Helen Smith visited Ula Cummins at the Lakeview hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Baker and Kerri and Scott were Saturday overnight and Sunday guests of Mrs. Margaret Denslow. Sunday they visited the Dean Denslow family, to meet the new baby, Ginger Lea.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Miller say they live in a good neighborhood. The day after the snow, George Miller came down on the snowmobile to see them, and a little later on Elwood came with the snow plow and plowed their road out, and also the Wilbur Wrights'.

Mrs. Carol Johnson and two of her sisters, Mr. and Mrs. Bud Blodgett and Mrs. Clara Lutz,

spent this week Monday with Mrs. Merle Blodgett, helping her celebrate her birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Miller called at the Paul Miller home Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. Dick Touchinski and Kerri were Sunday dinner guests of her folks, the Elwood Millers.

Sunday guests at the Alva Cummins home were Mr. and Mrs. Larry Cummins and Dawn Marie, Mr. and Mrs. Tracy White, Mr. and Mrs. Garth Lawrence and Pamela, Mrs. Nettie Lawrence and Mrs. Helen Smith.

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## Walker Creek News

Esther Stanley, Reporter

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Denslow entertained the following guests Saturday evening for supper and a get-together: Mr. and Mrs. Vance Wood, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Denslow, Mr. and Mrs. Keith Thompson, and Burdette Reed.

Scott and Michael Finney spent Sunday with their grandparents.

Mr. and Mrs. Dewayne Fifield and daughter of Lansing were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Emmons and Eddie John.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Dosenberry of Lansing visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dosenberry, and Paul and Keith, Sunday.

Mrs. Gary Portenga began working Friday as manager and cook at the Lake Isabella Restaurant. Now if I can talk the Mister into taking me out to dinner!

Mrs. Lyle Denslow visited her sister, Mrs. Wyona Risdon, at Blanchard, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Stebelton and Renee of Mt. Pleasant were Sunday guests of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Leiter, and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Loomis and daughters were Sunday evening callers of the Leiters.

Sunday afternoon visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Voss and Stacey were Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Custer of Fife Lake, Kenneth Bowen of west Brinton, and Cheryl Leiter, and Joseph Wilmot and daughter, Linda, of Weidman.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Denslow visited Mr. and Mrs. Otis Conley Sunday evening.

Philip Schrock spent Tuesday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Russell Stanley, while his father, Gilbert Schrock, went to Wimm.

Larry Welch, the lad who was killed in a farm accident last week, was the son of Gilbert's superintendent at Morbark Industries at Wimm, Bruce Welch. Gilbert spent some time with the bereaved family. We extend our sympathy to the grieved relatives and friends.

David Moore of Lake Thirteen called on his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Stanley, Saturday, and took his grandmother's

baked goods to the Fox Hardware in Weidman for the Bake Sale by the Hep TOPS Club.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley went with Mr. and Mrs. Lou Gray to the Christmas community supper at the Brinton Hall Sunday evening, and enjoyed it very greatly.

Our granddaughters, Sharon and Sheila, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Stanley, entered Clare Osteopathic Hospital Monday, for having their tonsils out Tuesday.

We received a phone call Sunday evening from our daughter-in-law, Mrs. Russell Stanley, Jr., of Mt. Morris, saying they would come to our Christmas party at the Brinton Hall Saturday afternoon, Dec. 26. The children are drawing names, and the adults a grab-bag. Gifts not to exceed \$1.00. This is a Stanley family gathering, and we are looking forward to it. I hope we have nice weather so our families can all get together for a Happy Holiday.

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## NEWS NOTES

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Keiser and children of Belding were Sunday callers of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Sprague.

## WEIDMAN "HEP" TOPS CLUB ENDS WEIGHT CONTEST

The Weidman Hep TOPS Club held its regular meeting Tuesday evening, Dec. 8. Jeanne Smith, our president, opened the meeting with the salute to the flag, and the regular procedures followed, with secretary's and treasurer's reports read and approved.

Caroline Sowle was Club Queen for the week, and also backslider Queen. Esther Stanley was the non-backslider Queen.

The contest based on point system, composed of two groups from the club, ended, and the losing side will furnish low calorie lunch for our Christmas party Dec. 22.

If any member on the winning team gains weight the following week after the party, she will pay for our lunch.

So keep counting calories, and beware of Christmas goodies. See you lighter, E. V. S.

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## NEWS NOTES

Diane Hazen of Barryton was an overnight guest of Becky Graham last Thursday. Becky spent Sunday night with her at her home.



FOR MOTHER--WIFE  
SWEETHEART

*Make it a Merry Christmas with*

A LOVELY BLOOMING CHRISTMAS PLANT.

Poinsettias, \$3.00 up  
Red, Pink and White

MUM PLANTS  
\$6.00

Fresh  
Scotch Pine  
WREATHS  
For Home  
Or Cemetery

West Airline Road  
Weidman  
Phone 644-3941

*The Flower Shop*

WHERE BEAUTIFUL THINGS COME FROM

### Beal City

Dora Smith, Reporter

#### GROSS FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY HELD DEC. 13

The family of Coletta Gross had their annual Christmas party in the church basement Sunday, Dec. 13, with 46 present.

Mrs. Robert McCabe (Mary Gross) of San Diego, Calif., was present, and spent the week visiting relatives and friends here.

Everyone enjoyed the party very much.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR ROSE MARIE GROSS

Rose Marie Gross, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Gross, had a birthday party Dec. 12, on her eighth birthday.

Twenty-three friends and relatives were present, and all had a nice time.

Ice cream and cake were served. Happy Birthday, Rose Marie!

\*\*\*\*\*

Mrs. Ruth Pung suffered a gallstone attack Thursday and was in CMC Hospital. She returned home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Pung spent last Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. Tony Schafer.

Gerald Smith of Mt. Pleasant called on Louise Smith Wednesday. His wife, Loretta, is in Saginaw General Hospital. Ginger Rau went to her Grandma's Sunday afternoon and put up a Christmas tree for her.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Keiffer had dinner with her daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Gesselman, and family in Lansing.

### Coldwater Lake

Marjorie Schafer, Reporter

Hi:

Well, how's everyone after the big snow storm Thursday evening?

Wayne and Ruth Ann Sherlock and children of Kalkaska came down Wednesday evening to attend the wedding of her brother, Jerry Schafer, and Jane Bader. They returned home Saturday morning.

Jerry and Jane were married in St. Henry's Church at Rosebush Friday evening. Their reception was held at the K. C. Hall in Beal City. Many were unable to attend, due to the storm.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitney, grandparents of the bride, had an accident on their way home. A man on a snowmobile went around them, and as soon as he got in front of them, he tipped his snowmobile over and they took the ditch to avoid hitting him. He got up and got back on his machine and drove off, leaving this couple, who are both in their 70s, in the ditch. How ungrateful can he be? Mrs. Whitney was taken to her doctor Sunday. She has pneumonia.

Judy Schafer and daughter, Joesette, left Thursday morning for Brush, Colo., to spend a few weeks with her sister and family.

We called on Russ and Pauline Klumpp Sunday evening.

Virginia Beck called on us Sunday afternoon. Little Andy Beck is staying this week with me.

Andy and Grace Beck called on their son, Jerome, and family, Sunday evening.

Until next week, Marge

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### Two Rivers

Blanche Carr, Reporter

Mrs. Maude Johnston celebrated her 80th birthday anniversary with some of her friends Monday at dinner.

Mrs. Leona Courser attended the Coomer Ladies' Aid at the Pine School, with Mrs. Lillian Wonsey as hostess. They tied some comforters.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Nichols and family of Saginaw spent Sunday with their uncle and aunt, the Chris Larsons.

Mrs. Ina Gillett, Mrs. Ethel Bywater and Blanche Carr paid their respects to Clyde Beutler at the Crittenden Funeral Home last Tuesday. They also visited Mrs. Maycie Cook and Mrs. Mary Kunkle at the Billings Convalescent Home in Millbrook.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hayes and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Strahle of St. Johns and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Kamp of Greenville were Sunday guests of their sister, Blanche Carr.

Mrs. Ina Gillett and Blanche Carr were recent dinner guests of Mrs. Verne Foster.

Elton Bunting and children, Joel, Beth, Theresa and Mat-

thew, of Belding, and Mrs. Kenneth Bollman of Mt. Pleasant were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Oral Bunting.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Flaughter, the Ron Flaughers and Mr. and Mrs. Otto Klish attended the Chippewa Hills Christmas concert given by the students Sunday, including Debbie Flaughter. They had supper at the Ron Flaughter home afterward.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Flaughter and children were Saturday dinner guests of the Ray Flaughers. Minnie and her sister, Laura Latham, attended the Clyde Beutler funeral Wednesday. Minnie also called on Mrs. Herb Hochrein.

Mr. and Mrs. John Miller of Westphalia were Tuesday guests and Edwin Bierschbach of Detroit was a Thursday guest of Mrs. Kate Martin.

Mrs. Nettie Crowley, who is in the Edmore Hospital, had many visitors last week, including Mr. and Mrs. Herman Lueder, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Caulkins, Jr. and Sr., of Secord Lake, Mrs. Ed Ehrman, and Mrs. Edwin Toarmina of Detroit.

Herman Cook and his children and their husbands and wives had their annual Christmas party at the home of Mr. and Mrs.

Herman Cook, Jr., in Lansing, Sunday.

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### North Weidman

Elvah Gott, Reporter

Sam Waters came home from the Ann Arbor hospital Sunday afternoon. He was reported doing fine the first of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Blodgett visited Sam and wife Sunday.

Visitors at the Ed Olger home Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Allbee of near Farwell, Mr. and Mrs. Dale Letson and son of Mt. Pleasant, and a grandson, Jack Wood, who called after the storm and shoveled paths for them.

Mr. and Mrs. Micky Abbott and boys called on Mr. and Mrs. DeWayne Chapman and family of Mt. Pleasant Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Peacock and Richard Gott and Brenda Allen of Farwell called on Mr. and Mrs. John Gott Sunday evening. They also called on Wanda Graham and Becky and Debbie.

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Mr. and Mrs. Robert Holt and son of Mt. Pleasant were Sunday afternoon and supper guests of Mrs. Nina Forbes. Mr. and Mrs. Russell Wilson and Mrs. Pat Hathaway were also supper guests.

SAY  
*Merry Christmas*

WITH A

*Gift*

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**CHEVROLET SALES AND SERVICE**

**Brinton News**  
Frances Beck, Reporter

**BRINTON STORE CLOSSES AFTER MANY YEARS**

The store in Brinton, run by Ray Geasler, discontinued business by closing this week.

This will be the first time there hasn't been a store in Brinton for around 90 years, dating back to the coal kiln days.

It will be missed very much by the local people and those passing through.

A party is being planned for Ray and Joyce at the Brinton Community Hall Dec. 27, from 2 to 6 in the afternoon. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. Everyone come and enjoy the afternoon, visiting and talking over days gone by.

The store has been in business over 35 years.

\*\*\*\*\*

Fern Verette, Eathel Beers, Echo Godwin and Eunice La Londe were in Big Rapids Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe La Londe left Wednesday for Grandville, O., where they will spend the holidays with their daughter. Then they are going on to Arizona, where they plan the spend the rest of the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Baker spent Tuesday in Grand Rapids, shopping. They called on their son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. John Baker. They were overnight guests of their sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wise, returning home Wednesday.

Nora and Ellen Geasler, Eunice

La Londe and Frances Beck were in Mt. Pleasant and Alma Tuesday, shopping.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Fosburg joined a group from Evert Products plant in Grand Rapids, where they held their Christmas party Saturday night. They made the trip by bus from Evert. Curt and Carl Fosburg spent the night with Carl and Ellan Geasler.

Fern Verette and Frances Beck were in Mt. Pleasant Wednesday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wright of Battle Creek were supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Wright Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Darrel Haenke of near Blanchard spent Sunday with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Bowen.

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**Central Gilmore**

Lola Fordyce, Reporter

Mrs. Walter Faber attended a bridal shower for Gail Schumacher Sunday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Robert Walton.

Mr. and Mrs. Len Parker were callers at the Ed McAlvey home Sunday afternoon and evening.

Mrs. Elwyn Pitts and Greg, Marlene and Terry of Big Rapids were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Egbert Fordyce. In the evening they called at the Jim Pitts home.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Perry of Midland called at the Fordyce home to see Elwyn Pitts, Sunday afternoon.

Last Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Walter Faber and Susie went to Paris to visit Mr. and Mrs. Leo Battle. Susie stayed, but Grandma brought the two boys, Steven and Lee, home with her for a visit a few days while their mother, Judy, and Susie went to Grand Rapids shopping. They came after the boys Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Vaness Cook and Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Phillips were luncheon guests Sunday evening after church at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Pitts.

Farm Bureau met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Vaness Cook Monday, Dec. 14. It was a Christmas party, and a big Christmas dinner was served.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. L. Phillips enjoyed Sunday dinner at the home of her sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Benn, at Shepherd. Other guests were Mr. and Mrs. F.B. Stevens of Sanford, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Benn and son, Chris, of Weidman. Mrs. Benn just returned from a Senior Citizens' bus tour of Florida, which she said was just wonderful.

Word has been received that Albert Madison of Farwell died early Tuesday morning, at his home.

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Mrs. Wanda Graham took her mother, Mrs. John Gott, to Big Rapids for some shopping last Wednesday.

**In the Editor's Mail**

Dear Connie:

I want to send my personal word of thanks to you for hurrying the extra copies of the Messenger to me.

I'm sure I speak for all the "far away" relatives and friends when I say you couldn't have done any more to show your regard for Lucile.

I believe I got a copy into the hands of every family, asking each recipient to share it with other members of his or her immediate family.

I don't know what other relatives knew my marker is already on the Fleming lot, waiting for me. Lucile and her family, and Hazel, all went to see it. Orrie had so many details on his mind he may not have thought to tell others.

With Lucile gone, I had planned only graveside rites for myself, but when you have room in your "Mailbox" column, you might tell the old friends that my son and his wife refuse to send me; they plan to bring me home when my time comes.

Very sincerely,  
Lylah M. Simmers  
8420 San Carlos Way  
Buena Park, Ca. 90620

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Mr. and Mrs. James Pitts were Sunday afternoon callers of Connie Skinner.

Mike Sprague has been sick with flu.

NEWS NOTES

Mrs. Albert Kew of Baldwin and Grand Rapids is staying for a time with her cousin, Earnest Gross, who has been ill.

SAY

*Merry  
Christmas*

WITH A

*Gift*

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**WEIDMAN MT. PLEASANT**



**In the Editor's Mail**

Dear Ed.:

Your editorial of Dec. 3 hit the rusty nail on the head. It should be ENSHRINED in the Circuit Court Room at the courthouse.

Our County Commissioners can be excused for one mistake, but not for a series, such as (1) \$150,000 for "GEM", (2) zoning ordinance without taking time to read it or time for consideration, just taking an out-of-town big-city planner's word; (3) making the new court house plans too small for the future--too few wash rooms, etc.

Keep up the good work--publish letters like Paul Cole's--on arrogance and incompetence.

The big papers don't check these government situations, like "lame ducks" junkets out of state, etc.

People have to be vigilant and fair or we'll have a Bureaucracy dictatorship.

Keep us informed.

Sincerely  
Gerald J. Cotter  
Naples, Florida.

P. S. --Stop in Naples and visit us. ---0---

To the Editor:

Open Letter to the Chairman, Board of County Commissioners.

I respectfully suggest you give your deepest consideration to the unrealistic, unfair and unreasonable recommendations of the GEM Survey Company of St. Clair, arrived at in some instances with gestapo tactics and urge you to reject their findings.

If the State of Michigan is in such drastic need of money, how come the State Officers' Compensation Commission has recommended a salary hike of \$5,-000 per year for the Governor, \$7,000 for Supreme Court justices, \$2,500 for the Lieutenant Governor and legislators, plus a 14 percent raise for some 50,000 Civil Service workers?

Is it so that, when the President accepted a 100 per cent raise and the Congressmen about a 41 percent raise, that did not contribute to inflation, but if a working man asks for a nickel raise, that's highly inflationary? That doesn't make sense to me.

If the GEM Survey Company of St. Clair and the Bagby & Associates of Grand Rapids are going to operate the affairs of the county of Isabella, what do we need of you Commissioners?

If the state is in such financial difficulty, does it not show pretty poor supervision from the administration? Why wouldn't it make sense to get rid of some of the committees, bureaus, department, sub-committees and commissions we don't actually need?

As for the phrase "state equalization", if it wasn't so tragic and deplorable, it would be in

my opinion a comic opera.

I have facts and figures available to me (I have seen them) of an 80-acre piece of light sand covered with brush, with only a shack on it as a building, and no fences, valued at only about \$1,400 less than a 50x120-foot lot in another township, with a very nice eight-room house with bath, nearly new 24x26 foot garage, and sewer, water, gas, fire and police protection, weekly garbage pickup, paved streets and sidewalks, public transportation, and schools within walking distance. This is a corner lot, and is fenced.

In my opinion, we the people of Isabella county must remember (and I'll see to it we do remember) to vote men in office who will discharge their duties in an acceptable manner to the taxpayers.

Paul Cole  
Lake, Route 1  
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**SANTA IN FLORIDA**

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the town  
No noses were frozen, no snow fluttered down;  
No children in flannels were tucked into bed,  
They all wore shorty pajamas instead.  
To find wreaths of holly was not very hard,  
For holly wreaths grew in every back yard.

In front of the houses were Daddies and Moms  
Adorning the crotons and coconut palms.  
The slumbering kiddies were dreaming with glee  
That they would find water-skis under the tree.  
They all knew that Santa was well on his way  
In a red Thunderbird instead of a sleigh.

He whizzed up the highway and zoomed up the roads  
In a snappy convertible, peddling his loads.  
As he jumped from the car he gave a deep chuckle.  
He was dressed in Bermudas with an Ivy-League buckle.  
There weren't any chimneys, but that caused no gloom,  
For Santa came in through the Florida room.

He stopped at each house, stayed only a minute,  
As he emptied his bag of the toys that were in it.  
Before he departed he treated himself  
To a glass of papaya juice left on the sheld;  
Leaped into the car and put it in gear  
And drove over our bridges, singing with cheer.

But we heard him exclaim, as he went on his way,  
"Merry Christmas, Sunny Flor-

ida, wish I could stay!"  
(Received by Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Smith among their Christmas cards.)

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**Local Items**

Gladys Navarre and Wanda Graham were shopping in Saginaw last Monday.

Ike Hampton and son, Jeff, of Benton Harbor came last Thursday, and took Ike's mother to their home. Wednesday of this week Mrs. Schultz planned to fly to Nashville, Tenn., to spend some time with her grandson, Richard Wiley, and family, and the Breedlove girls.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Smith called on Louis Harrington at Greenville last Wednesday.

Callers of Mrs. Emily Wood during last week were Mr. and Mrs. Otis Kirvan of Oscoda, or Sunday; Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Kirvan of Flint were Saturday visitors. Mr. and Mrs. Jerry

Dent and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Kirvan of Grand Rapids were callers.

Mr. and Mrs. C.A. Sanders and family of Ithaca were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Geitman.

Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Grove and son of Lansing were Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Thayne Sides and family.

Mrs. Hermione Smith had Sunday dinner with the Don Smith family.

**Weidman Messenger**

BETTER THAN A LETTER

Some buy it. A gratifying number subscribe to it. Some borrow it. Some loan it out to relatives, neighbors, friends. We don't mind a bit, because

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# BOWLING

CONTINENTAL LEAGUE  
Dec. 9

	W	L
Central Concrete	27.5	
Giant Super Mkt.	27.5	
Weidman Bank	27	
Household Appl.	25	
Schlitz Beer	24.5	
Beal City Service	23	
Wentworth IGA	22.5	
Lowery Northern	22	
Marchiando & Rau	22	
Beal City Tavern	19.5	
Pabst Blue Ribbon	19.5	
Smalley Builders	10	

High Team Series: Lowery Northern 3041. High Team Games: Weidman Bank 1132.

High Indv. Series: Bob Lyon 591, Bob Hartupee 571, Jack Burden 557.

High Indv. Game: Bob Lyon 265, Jerry Tuma 218, John Wilmot 218.

GUYS & DOLLS  
Dec. 11

Thon-Blake	40	20
Blehm-Hyde	37	23
Moore-Long	37	23
McArthur-Anderson	36.5	23.5
Bierschbach-Zill	35	25
Ecker-Eldred	34	26
Nolte-Kolarik	32	28
Lawens-Pantenburg	30.5	29.5
Bleise-Straus	30	30
McConnell-Meyers	26	34
Moore-Moravy	14	43
Stewart-Bleise	6	54

High Team Series: Blehm & Hyde 2409. High Team Game: Thon & Blake 854.

High Indv. Series: Jerry Thon 558, Tom Bierschbach 552, Perce Blake 542.

High Indv. Series, women: Mary

Hyde 551, Mary Blake 511, Julia Lewis (sub) 508.

High Indv. Game: Jerry Thon 222, Dale Lawens 213, Don Pung (sub) 211.

High Indv. Game, women: Mary Hyde 202, Mary Blake 190, Julia Lewis (sub) 189.

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## OPEN HOUSE FOR 90TH BIRTHDAY OF HERMAN COOK

Friends, relatives and neighbors are cordially invited to attend an Open House honoring Herman Cook on his 90th birthday, next Sunday, Dec. 20, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Weidman school cafeteria.

Mr. Cook's birthday is Dec. 18. He is one of our pioneer citizens, having cleared the farm in Broomfield which has always been his home, and he has lived there all his adult life.

The reception is being planned by his children, Alliance Cook and Glee Krueger, and grandchildren.

Our congratulations.

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## MERRY GO ROUND CLUB HAS CHRISTMAS MEETING

The Merry Go Round Club met last Thursday at the home of Mrs. Wanda Graham in Weidman, with Mrs. Jeanne Smith and Mrs. John Gott as co-hostesses.

Twenty-four were in attendance, and they enjoyed a lovely pot-luck dinner and exchange of gifts.

Secret Sisters were revealed, and new names drawn for the coming year.

The next meeting will be at the Community Hall in Brinton Jan. 14, with Lena St. John and Etta Skalitzky as hostesses.

## BEAL CITY CARD PARTY, DINNER, GREATLY ENJOYED

The annual pot-luck dinner and afternoon of cards was greatly enjoyed last Thursday, with everyone arriving with well-filled baskets. Ham, buns and coffee were furnished, and the dinner was really sumptuous.

In the pepper playing, with 16 tables at play, Louise Schaffer won first prize for the ladies, with Cecilia Simmer winning second; Mrs. Clark won low.

W.A. Appelgreen won first for the men, with Frank Benn winning second, Joe Lawens won low. Florence Pung won the pepper prize, with door prizes going to Frank Benn and Stub Beutler.

The next party will be Jan. 7, at the KC Hall in Beal City.

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Mr. and Mrs. Alton Allen, Jr., and family of St. Louis were Sunday dinner guests of his parents, the Alton Allens, Sr.

## SANTA WILL BE IN WEIDMAN THIS SATURDAY, DEC. 19

Santa Claus will visit Weidman this Saturday, Dec. 19, from 12.30 to 1.30 o'clock p.m., for the kiddies' pleasure and to give them candy bags and good wishes.

He will be at the usual place, under the canopy at Marshall's Sales & Service.

Bring the little ones in to see him here, this Saturday!

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## NEWS NOTES

Mrs. Wanda Graham met Mrs. Lela Johnson at Tri-Cities Airport Saturday afternoon. Lela was called home by the death of her mother, Mrs. Al Woodbury.

Ernest Gross entered CMC Hospital last Monday, and was still there the first of this week. He hoped to come home this week.

Mrs. Ethel Bywater was ill last week, with arthritis in her wrist, and other ailments.

# CHRISTMAS Gifts

- \*\*TIMEX WATCHES
- \*\*ZIPPO LIGHTERS
- \*\*LADIES' PERFUMES
- \*\*MEN'S COLOGNE
- \*\*BATH POWDER
- \*\*SHAVERS

AMITY BILLFOLDS--Men's and Women's

AMERICAN GREETING CARDS--Box Cards, American Greeting Single Cards, American Greeting wrapping paper.

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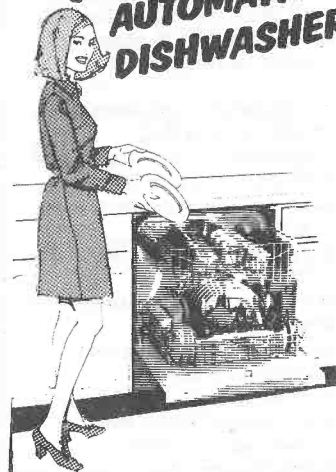
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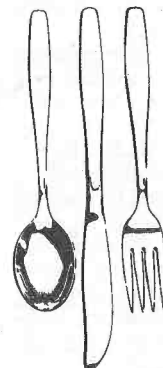
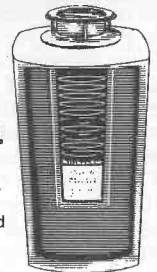


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