

Clyde Beutler 12 June 71  
Weidman  
Mich 48893

# The Weidman Messenger

VOL. VII, NOS. 25 & 26

Weidman, Mich. 48893

Thursday, Dec. 24 and 31, 1970

20¢ per copy

## Editor's Column

By Connie

### WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS

And a Happy New Year. Our very best wishes to our many subscribers, writers, and friends.

May the coming year be one of betterment for us all.

\*\*\*\*\*

Our next issue will be dated Jan. 7, 1971. We and our faithful reporters will take next week out and have ourselves a vacation.

See you on Jan. 7!

\*\*\*\*\*

Lola Fordyce called at the Messenger office one day last week and brought us a gift of a hand-crafted silver dish.

She learned to do etching on metal while in Florida last year, (from her sister), and her work is truly amazing. It is a beautiful piece.

Lola and Egbert left this week for their winter home in Florida, to be back home by April 1.

We'll miss you, Lola!

\*\*\*\*\*

The sizzling situation in Isabella County may calm itself for a day or two for Christmas, but the work of organizing taxpayers into a coherent group and filing their grievances will resume full tilt during the holiday week.

The inequities of the GEM Survey Company's findings on land pieces around here is appalling, and the outrageous ordinance passed by the Board of County Commissioners on zoning has been admitted by the Board to "need some correcting".

Let us hope the Board will listen to the taxpayers at once, without extensive warfare between them and those who pay the county's bills. It would be much more economical and easier on the nerves than a prolonged and bitter fight.

The taxpayers will fight, if necessary. Taxation has reached the proportions of confiscation for many home owners and small land-holders. Somewhere the line must stop, and somewhere it must be pulled back, if we are to be able to own any real estate in Isabella County.

(Continued on Next Page)



SANTA CAME TO WEIDMAN--And bashful young fry stopped to chat with him and have a bag of candy. Santa comes here at the invitation of the Weidman Business Association, and WBA members help Santa by filling the candy-bags in advance for him. Messenger photo

### TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION SETS MEETING FOR MONDAY

A meeting has been set up for next Monday evening at the Weidman School for taxpayers of Isabella County to get together and discuss the GEM Survey on property valuation and the recent zoning ordinance passed by the County Board of Commissioners.

The Association is well organized by this time, but it wants people to attend the Monday evening meeting, to discuss gross errors or poor judgement in the GEM Survey findings.

Dr. Nance is collecting evidence of both of these items, and anyone who feels his property has been over-valued should contact him, either at the meeting or before.

In any case, get out, irate taxpayers, and give your views and hear others, at Monday night's meeting.

The meeting will start at 8 p. m., at the Weidman school.

### MAEDER SAWMILL SAVED FROM MIDNIGHT FIRE

Maeder Bros. sawmill a mile east of Weidman was saved from total damage Friday at midnight when Mr. and Mrs. John Warner saw a blaze there while driving past on their way home, and turned in a fire alarm.

An estimated \$2,000 damage was suffered, mainly from wiring burning. Wires were melted together on the carriage apparatus which is valued at \$35,000.

Firemen from the Nottawa and Sherman Volunteer Fire Department turned out and saved the mill, which would have been a total loss in another half hour, it was estimated.

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### NEWS NOTES

Rose Gardner of Lansing and her aunt and a friend were Saturday visitors of Mrs. Ina Gillett. Mr. and Mrs. F.B. Stevens of Sanford were Sunday dinner guests. They brought the dinner, and all enjoyed the day.

## Men in Uniform

### GARY RECKER HAPPY WITH CHRISTMAS BOX FROM LOCAL CHURCH

Gary Recker sends his thanks and appreciation to the people of the Weidman United Methodist Church, who sent him a Christmas box.

Gary received the gift Dec. 1, in Vietnam. He said he was very happy to get it, and he enjoyed it greatly.

\*\*\*\*\*

Bruce Chapman graduated from basic training at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center last Friday, and was expected home Tuesday on a 14-day leave.

\*\*\*\*\*

Home on two week's leaves are Doug Elias, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Elias; Danny Thielen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Thielen; and Stewart Rau, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Rau.

Have a good holiday, Men in Uniform!

\*\*\*\*\*

Sp/4 K. C. Charnes arrived home Sunday night from Germany. He is discharged from the Armed Services, and is home to stay. ---0---

### NO MAIL DELIVERY FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

The Weidman post office will be closed Christmas Day, Dec. 25. There will be no rural deliveries on Friday, Dec. 25, or Saturday, Dec. 26.

The schedule for Saturday will be as follows:

Window service from 9 to 11 a. m. for handing out mail only.

No delivery of mail.

Normal local box service.

Mail dispatched at 4 p. m.

We thank you for your co-operation during the past year, and wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Harry Herman, Postmaster.

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### NEWS NOTES

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Louisell plan to have at Christmas dinner their children, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Louisell and Heather, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Louisell, Jr., and Patrick and Jill, Ward Dell, and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Dillenbeck. Mr. and Mrs. Bob Louisell and family will be afternoon guests.

## Editor's Column

By Connie

(Continued from Page 1)

Taxes have been rising every year, without the help of the GEM Survey Company. As they now stand, no person of small means can afford to hold a forty-acre plot, or an eighty, just for the pleasure of owning land.

The small person can't afford it. He can't afford the present taxes on his home, either, even if he is a "Senior Citizen" and claims homestead exemption.

The "homestead exemption" does not exempt the elderly person's home from taxation. It exempts it from a portion of the taxation.

Many of us cannot afford to hang on to what we have in real estate in Isabella County.

State and county administrations have got to figure a way to cut down expenses, rather than the familiar old sob-story of more taxes and more taxes.

There is a limit on what taxpayers can stand.

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## Around Horr

Jessie Rosencrantz, Reporter

Christmas Greetings and Happy New Year to everyone!

Mr. and Mrs. Benn Johnson and children attended the children's Christmas program at Weidman Sunday evening. They were Sunday dinner guests at the Clarence Lutz home. They are expecting his parents, the Del Johnsons, and his brother and wife, the Duane Johnsons, and Frank Benn, for Christmas.

The Baptist Church on the Air Line Road had its Christmas program Sunday evening. It was a very nice program.

Mrs. Opal Denslow and granddaughter, Sharie Lynn Harvey, called on Mrs. Ethel McLean Sunday afternoon. She is lonely, and enjoys company. She would be glad to see her friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Derry Dunn at Coldwater Lake Inn will be host and hostess to her family and his family for Christmas dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Losey and Patti, Gary and Beth, and Bruce Jackson spent the weekend in Grand Haven with Mr. and Mrs. John Straganac and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Losey will be entertaining her brothers and sisters and their families for Christmas Eve.

Mrs. Margaret Denslow hopes to have all her children home for Christmas. They are hoping the weather will co-operate. It will be the first time in three years they have all been together for Christmas. The guests will be Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Denslow and family of Rochester, N. Y., Mr. and Mrs. Gary Denslow and Lori of Lexington, Ky., Mr. and Mrs. Keith Baker and children

of Grand Rapids, and Mr. and Mrs. Dean Denslow and children.

Mr. and Mrs. John Carr of Lansing were Friday evening callers at the Earl Oplinger home.

Mrs. Betty Thompson was a business caller in Lansing Tuesday, and also called on her mother. The Jim Thompson family attended the Chippewa Hills High School musical at Remus Wednesday evening. Mrs. Thompson and Bob went caroling with the Remus youth group Sunday evening, around Remus and Millbrook.

Mrs. Eva Denslow called on Jack Thompson recently. Mrs. Jim Thompson expects to spend Christmas with her mother. The John Thompson family, the Chuck Wilsons and the Jim Thompsons expect to have a delayed Christmas with their father, Jack Thompson, Sunday. The John Thompsons will spend Sunday night there.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Miller expect his son, Norman, and wife and two boys for Christmas dinner.

Mrs. Flora Wood was a Sunday dinner guest of her son, Vance, and family. Diane Wood is having a vacation from her school at Ferris State College.

Mrs. Wood expects to have Christmas breakfast with the Vance Woods, and Christmas dinner with the Ralph Bergquists. Then on the 31st they will have a belated dinner at the Richard Woods'. Their son, Richard, will be home on furlough from New London, Conn.

Harold Losey and two couples who were here snowmobiling Sunday had coffee with the Charlie Loseys Sunday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Theron Merrihew were evening callers. The Charlie Loseys are expecting to have their children and grandchildren for Christmas dinner, and a tree.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Martin and family, Mr. and Mrs. Greg Martin and Woodrow Martin were Sunday dinner guests at the Charles Garner home.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin and family, the Greg Martins and Woodrow Martins expect to spend Christmas with Mrs. Cora Shippee and Jane. Then on Sunday, Mrs. Martin's father and her brothers and sisters will be at her home for a delayed Christmas dinner and get-together.

Mrs. Eva Denslow plans to have Christmas dinner with the Mike Loubert family.

Garth Lawrence called on his mother, Mrs. Nettie Lawrence, Thursday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Dent called on the Elwood Millers and the Bob Kirvans Tuesday. Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Miller were Wednesday supper guests of the Dents. Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Roberts and family were weekend guests. The Harold Kruegers and the Lynn Johnsons and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dent and baby were Sat-

urday evening callers and Sunday dinner guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Dent are planning on going to Akron, Mich., Tuesday to visit the Melvin Osborn family, and they plan to have all their children home for Christmas. Mr. and Mrs. Dent called on her mother, Mrs. Emily Wood, Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Dent and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Kirvan called on the Elwood Millers Tuesday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Miller called on his mother Thursday. Mr. and Mrs. Miller and George, Mrs. Ethel McLean and Mrs. Edith Touchinski and son of Marquette plan to spend Christmas at the Dick Touchinski home.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Oplinger and Kenny and Eddie plan to spend Christmas with Mrs. Oplinger's mother, Mrs. Edna McDonald.

Tuesday evening callers at the Wilbur Wright home were Mr. and Mrs. Bob Kirvan, Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Miller, Mr. and

Mrs. Gerry Dent. Mr. and Mrs. Leland Wood were Thursday evening guests. The Max Aldrich family were Sunday guests. Mr. and Mrs. Wright, their son, Jim, of Pontiac, and Mrs. Katie Smith plan to spend Christmas with the Max Aldrich family.

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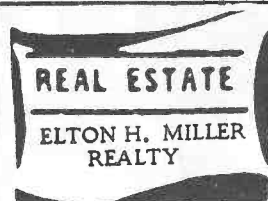
## Local Items

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Beutler had a birthday party for their daughter, Diane, Sunday evening, on her eighth anniversary. Mrs. Claribel Beutler and Mr. and Mrs. Norman Schultheiss of St. Johns attended.

Mr. and Mrs. Milo Handy of Harrison and Ward Dell were Monday evening dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Louisell.

Mr. and Mrs. Bud Richardson and family of Jackson and Mr. and Mrs. James Noe will be Christmas dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Allen and family.

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# Weidman Messenger

Weidman, Michigan

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## WANT ADS

WANT AD RATES: 50¢ per  
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rate of 50¢ per col. inch for  
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of Thanks: 75¢, unless very  
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tf

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Try our meals.

tf

## Notice

I will be at the Weidman Bank  
on the following day from  
12.30 to 3 p.m., to collect  
Sherman Township taxes and  
dog taxes:

Wednesday, Dec. 30, and Jan.  
19, last day to pay taxes  
without penalty; and also on  
Wednesday, Feb. 10.

Alma Dosenberry  
Treasurer  
Sherman Township

### NEWS NOTES

Mrs. Fey Johnson left Monday  
morning for her home in Flor-  
ida, after spending last week  
with the Woodbury and Johnson  
families. She was called here  
by the death of her mother, Mrs.  
Audrey Woodbury. Her father,  
Al Woodbury, accompanied her  
to Florida.

Mrs. Nina Forbes attended the  
WCSA meeting at the home of  
Mrs. Kenneth Saunders Thursday  
afternoon.

## Card of Thanks

We wish to express our gratitude  
to the Nottawa and Sherman Vol-  
unteer Firemen who saved our  
sawmill at midnight last Friday.  
You did a wonderful job.

Also we wish to give special  
thanks to John Warner for turning  
in the fire alarm.

Maeder Bros., Gerald and Rus-  
sell.

### THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

By Blanche Carr

'Twas the night before Christmas  
And all through the house  
Everybody was sleeping  
But one little mouse.

You'll say I was dreaming,  
But there the mouse sat  
With a puzzled expression  
I'll never forget.

"What's bothering you?"  
I ventured to say.  
"Don't you know that tomorrow  
Will be Christmas Day?"

"It's the way people act  
I don't understand,"  
Said he, "celebrating  
All over the land.

"They are so excited  
And mostly forget  
Or else haven't heard  
About Bethlehem yet.

"If it were my birthday  
I'd wonder a lot  
If, with all of the fuss,  
About me they'd forgot.

"They give to the rich  
As well as the poor,  
And forget about Jesus  
Who waits at their door."

All the tinsel and glitter,  
I forgot about, then,  
And thought of the Babe,  
Sent here to save men.

And I woke with a purpose  
That right now was when  
I'll tell the old story  
All over again.

### THESE LITTLE WANT ADS--

Really pay. They're cheap,  
too, 50¢ for one week. Try it.

## BOWLING

CONTINENTAL LEAGUE

Dec. 16

	W	L
Giant Market	30.5	
Central Concrete	29.5	
Household Appl.	27	
Weidman Bank	27	
Beal City Service	26	
Schlitz Beer	25.5	
Lowery Northern	25	
Marchiando & Rau	24	
Wentworth IGA	22.5	
Pabst Blue Ribbon	20.5	
Beal City Tavern	20.5	
Smalley Builders	10	

First Half Winners: Giant Super Market.

High Team Series: Giant Mar-  
ket 2995. High Team Game:  
Lowery Northern 1035.

High Indv. Series: Larry Mason  
606, Ron Neubecker 569, Bob  
Hartupee 567.

High Indv. Game; Larry Mason  
230, Harry Smith 225, Jack  
Burden 218.

Split Conversions: Clarence  
Smalley 4, 7, 9, 10.

### GUYS & DOLLS

Dec. 18

Thon-Blake	44	20
McArthur-Anderson	39.5	24.5
Moore-Long	39	25
Blehm-Hyde	38	36
Bierschbach-Zill	37	27
Ecker-Eldred	37	27
Nolte-Kolarik	33	31
Lawens-Pantenburg	32.5	31.5
Bleise-Straus	30	34
McConnell-Myers	28	36
Moore-Moravy	21	43
Stewart-Bleise	6	58

First Half Winners: Thon &  
Blake.

High Team Series: Ecker &  
Eldred 2362. High Team Game:  
Moore & Long 867.

High Indv. Series, men: Dale  
Lawens 527, Bob Anderson 524,  
Perce Blake 506.

High Indv. Game, women:  
Mary Blake 541, Gertrude Nolte  
467, Carol Pantenburg 466.

High Indv. Game, men: Mike  
Long 209, Bob Anderson 203,  
Bob Moore 192.

High Indv. Game, women:  
Carol Pantenburg 194, Mary  
Blake 187, Barb Moore 185.

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### SNOWMOBILE ACCIDENT ON WEIDMAN STREET

The Sheriff's office at Mt. Plea-  
sant reports an accident with a  
snowmobile Tuesday night at  
9, when Roger Clark, eight  
years old, drove a 71 Polaris  
snowmobile owned by Earl Oplin-  
ger into the porch of the Leon  
Haight home across the street  
and a little west of the Clark  
residence.

Colleen Clark, 15, was a pas-  
senger on the vehicle with her  
brother, according to sheriff's  
reports. Both were unhurt.

The front end and skis of the  
snowmobile were damaged, ac-  
cording to the official report.

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HOME PAPER FOR THE WEST  
HALF OF ISABELLA COUNTY

### WEIDMAN HEP TOPS CLUB BAKE SALE NETS \$50

The Weidman Hep TOPS Club  
met at the Weidman school last  
Tuesday evening, Dec. 15, with  
most all members attending.

Jeanne Smith opened the meet-  
ing with salute to the flag, with  
regular business following.

Eileen Faber led the group in  
singing TOPS songs, encourag-  
ing members to lose weight.

Joan Allen was club Queen,  
with a loss of 3 3/4 pounds. Sue  
Faber was non-backslider Queen  
with 4-3/4 pound loss.

Our bake sale netted close to  
\$50. As weather was bad to get  
their baked goods to the sale,  
some brought them to the meet-  
ing, and also donations were  
made. This money is to be used  
for our anniversary party at The  
Embers in January, and for our  
SRD in Flint in May.

By the time this is printed,  
our Christmas party will be over,  
secret pals exchanging gifts and  
revealing who their pals were  
in 1970. There will also be a  
numbered gift exchange, as  
some of the members joined the  
club late in the year. But most  
of them have been good losers,  
which has given a boost to our  
TOPS Club.

We were glad to hear Ann Law-  
ler was home from the hospital  
and hope she attends our Christ-  
mas party Dec. 22.

A Merry, Brighter, and Lighter  
Christmas to you. E. V. S.

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THIS NATIVITY SCENE IS PUT UP BY WALT AND JEANNE SMITH every year, sometimes on their own place west of town, but more often on the business street so more people can enjoy it. It is quite an impressive sight, and its presence adds greatly to the Christmas holiday spirit. Messenger photo

#### PIONEER FARM BUREAU MEETS AT COOK HOME

The Pioneer Farm Bureau of Gilmore Township met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Vaness Cook Dec. 14, for its annual Christmas dinner and meeting.

The hostess served a delicious roast turkey dinner with pot-luck additions prior to the meeting.

An exchange of gifts was enjoyed.

A short business session was conducted by Chairman Wm. L. Phillips. Fourteen members were present.

Mrs. Olive Irwin led in discussion of the topic, "Health Costs". Mrs. Eulah McAlvey, recreation leader, gave a humorous reading, "Mom's Privilege," and also she gave a "seed guessing game", which was enjoyed by all.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ball Jan. 11.

Mrs. Wm. L. Phillips, Reporter

ONE of the finer things of life-- Blue Lustre carpet and upholstery cleaner. Rent electric shampooer \$1 at Fox Hardware, Weidman.

Dec. 25t1

#### Local Items

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Starr and family are enjoying the Christmas vacation in Florida, traveling in a pickup camper. They planned to visit the Wilbur Edmondses at Port Ritchey while there.

Mrs. Kit Johnson plans to spend Christmas Eve at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Powell, and family.

Jeff and Jerry Clark of Mt. Pleasant were Friday night guests of the Dennis Embrey family. Their parents attended the funeral of

Mrs. Beerman at Big Bay, Mich.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Embrey and family plan to join the Clark family at their mother's home in Mt. Pleasant for Christmas Day.

Mrs. Nina Forbes spent Sunday at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Robert Holt, in Mt. Pleasant, for a pre-Christmas family gathering. Their son, Robert, Jr., and wife, of Jackson, were present, and will spend Christmas with her folks in Cedar Rapids, Ia.

Harry Kurtz of Doster spent Thursday night with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Goodrich. Mr. and Mrs. Larry Egbert had Thursday evening dinner with them.

Mr. and Mrs. Alton Allen plan to have dinner with their son, Rev. Carl Allen, and family, the day after Christmas. They expect to spend Christmas Day with her mother and brother at Wheeler.

Mr. and Mrs. Alton Allen attended the wedding of their oldest grandson, Michael, son of the Alton Allens, Jr., at St. Louis, Saturday evening.

Mrs. Claribel Beutler and son, Carl, attended ceremonies at CMU Friday afternoon in the graduation of Norbert Mengot, who was commissioned a second lieutenant as a distinguished graduate in the ROTC. Jane Beutler, daughter of the James Beutlers, will become his bride Dec. 26.

Sunday visitors of Claribel Beutler were Mr. and Mrs. Stub Beutler and Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Johnston and Nancy of Rosebush and Mr. and Mrs. James Beutler and Annette, also of Rosebush, and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Beutler and children.

Mrs. Eva Denslow was a Saturday caller of Mrs. Ethel Bywater and Mrs. Emily Wood, Sunday

the Dale Bywater family of Midland were visitors.

Mrs. Ethel Bywater plans to spend Christmas Eve with the Gerald Knapp family in Evart. The Burr Abrahamsons of Mt. Pleasant also will be guests.

Mrs. Orville Bates and Marty of Clare were Friday evening guests of the Garold St. John family.

Richard Shook is spending the week with his mother, Mrs. Leila Shook. Dick is directing a choir at St. James Church in Bay City at Christmas time. He will spend next week with friends in Ohio.

Mrs. Leila Shook and son, Richard, plan to spend Christmas Day with Mr. and Mrs. Gale Krueger and family.

Mrs. Alfred Sprague and daughters, Jean and Mary, of Lansing were Saturday supper and evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. R.D. Sprague.

Mr. and Mrs. R.D. Sprague and Mrs. Bessie Teall plan to spend Christmas Day with the Ronnie Sprague family.

Frank and Mary Ann Williams of Weidman hosted a Christmas dinner Sunday. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Leon Snyder of Ithaca, Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Sprague, Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Sprague and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Faber and family, Mr. and Mrs. James Sutton and family of Ashley, and a special guest, Santa Claus.

Mr. and Mrs. C.A. Sanders of Ithaca and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Geitman went to Howell to visit her son. They also visited her two sisters-in-law, Mrs. Bob Boyce and Mrs. Benda.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Horstman were host and hostess to their family Saturday, in the basement of the Methodist Church. About 32 members of Jerry's family were present, with Ruth Momany and Connie Skinner as special guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Horstman plan to have Mr. and Mrs. Leon Horstman as Christmas dinner guests. Later in the day they will drive to Barryton to visit his mother and step-father, Mr. and Mrs. Harlow Courtright.

Mr. and Mrs. Thayne Sides and family plan to spend Christmas with her folks, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Funke, of Farwell, and will have Christmas dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Russell Sides.

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#### REBEKAH CARD PARTY HAS SEVEN TABLES IN PLAY

At the Rebekah-sponsored card party last week, there were seven tables of pepper in play.

Earl Blodgett won first prize for the men, with Jessie Rosencrantz winning first for the women.

Eva Anstey won low, Jack Cotter won the pepper prize, and the door prize was won by Gertrude Gross.

The next party will be Jan. 12. BETTER THAN A LETTER

#### North Weidman

Elvah Gott, Reporter

#### GOTT FAMILY OBSERVES CHRISTMAS WITH FAMILY GATHERINGS THROUGH WEEK

The John Gott family had their Christmas party and tree at the Gilmore Hall last Saturday evening.

They exchanged gifts and enjoyed a pot-luck supper.

We always spend Christmas in the morning with Wanda Graham and girls, for breakfast. We always did when Meryl was here, and we sure miss him. In the afternoon we go to our daughter's, Mrs. Bessie Allen's, of Farwell, and her family will be there for Christmas dinner.

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Mr. and Mrs. Earl Blodgett visited Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Helmar of Barryton Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Micky Abbott called on Mr. and Mrs. Wiley Knollenberg of Mt. Pleasant Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Sidney Wood and Mrs. Zena Olger went Christmas shopping Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Tice of Mt. Pleasant visited the Olgers Sunday.

We had our Christmas program at the Weidman Baptist Church Sunday evening. The children were wonderful, and we had a nice crowd.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Gott of Stanton visited the John Gotts Monday.

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#### Brinton News

Frances Beck, Reporter

The church in Brinton held its Christmas program Sunday, Dec. 20. Sorry to hear there were some of the young folks sick and couldn't attend.

Carl, Ellen and Nora Geasler were in Mt. Pleasant Wednesday.

A large crowd attended the meeting at the Coldwater Community Hall in Brinton Friday evening on the GEM tax survey and the zoning ordinance.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Bowen attended the funeral for Albert Madison at the Coker Funeral Home in Farwell Thursday.

Nora and Ellan Geasler were in Alma Monday, shopping.

Bill Forbes of Pontiac came Saturday and his mother, Flossie Forbes, returned home with him Sunday, where she will spend the holidays and later go to Florida, where she will spend the rest of the winter months.

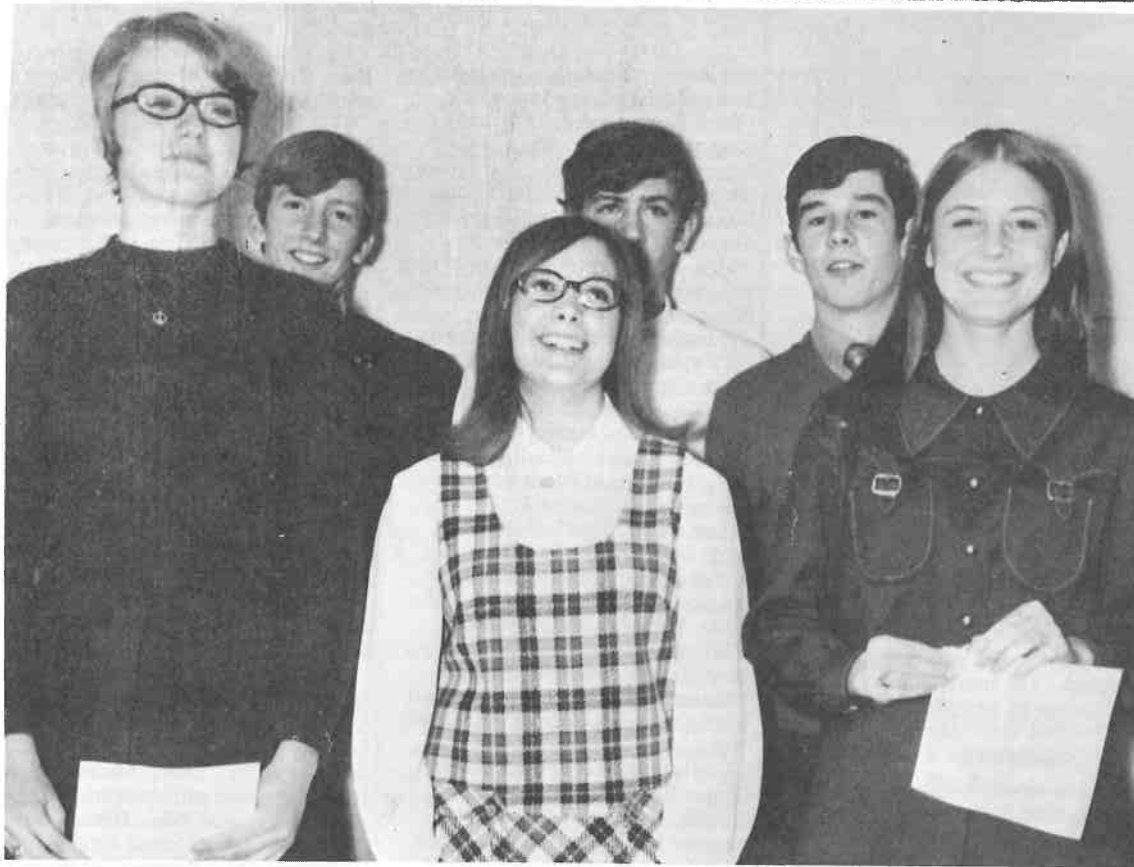
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Scott and family of Suttons Bay spent the weekend with Don and Flossie Scott.

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#### WE RAN OUT OF ROOM....

Sorry, folks, but we couldn't get in everything we wanted to this week.

There's a lot of Christmas news and special features, and we took them on the basis of first in, first placed in the paper.



**BEAL CITY STUDENTS INSTALLED IN NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY**--The following students were installed into the Beal City Chapter of the National Honor Society: First row: Denise Zeien, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Zeien of 571 W. Pickard Road; Debbie Yuncker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Yuncker, 3277 N. Gilmore Road; Ann Gross, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Gross, 3627 N. LaPearl Road. Second row: Ken Pung, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Pung, 2418 North Littlefield Road; Mark Stevens, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Stevens, 3159 N. Vandecar Road; Fred Schafer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Schafer, 1385 S. Winn Road.

## Walker Creek News

Esther Stanley, Reporter

Merry Christmas, everyone!!

Mr. and Mrs. Austin Dent visited Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Dillenbeck Friday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Dillenbeck will have their daughters and husbands, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Louisell, Jr., and Patrick and Jill, of Grand Haven, and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Louisell and Heather as guests over Christmas weekend. All will be guests of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Louisell, Sr., of Weidman for dinner Christmas Day.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Zill and sons are expecting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Rolland Zill, of St. Charles, and her mother, Mrs. Ida Bazaire, of Weidman, for Christmas dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Thompson will spend Christmas Eve with her mother, Mrs. Leona Couser, at Mt. Pleasant. Mr. and Mrs. Craig Thompson of Roger Heights in Big Rapids and Ralph Thompson will be dinner guests Christmas Day.

Arthur Loomis was a recent visitor of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Emmons and Eddie John. Mr. and Mrs. Emmons and Eddie John visited Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kirvan Thursday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Kirvan have invited them for

supper Christmas Day.

Mrs. Clyde Dosenberry called on Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dosenberry Sunday morning, bringing them a lovely red poinsettia plant. Mr. and Mrs. Dosenberry and Paul and Keith are entertaining Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Dosenberry of Lansing and Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Dosenberry and Blaine as Christmas Eve guests. Mr. and Mrs. Roy Patterson of Marion are expected for Christmas dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Lou Gray visited Mr. and Mrs. Duane Gray and family and Mr. and Mrs. Loren Gray and family at Mt. Pleasant Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Gray and granddaughter, Kimberly, visited Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Ley of Conklin one day this week. Ernest Gray of the Hamilton Rest Home spent Sunday with them, and also will be a guest Christmas Day. Mr. and Mrs. Loren Gray and family of Mt. Pleasant are also expected to spend the holiday with them.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Schrock and Philip visited Mr. and Mrs. James Bowman and family at Big Rapids Saturday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Schrock and grandchildren, Ed, Debbie, Susan and Mary, of Farwell, visited at the Gilbert Schrock home Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Schrock will have Rodney Schrock and children of Farwell, Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Schrock and Philip, and her brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Dean Smith, of Riverdale, for Christmas dinner.

Mrs. Charles Voss reports they haven't made plans for Christmas dinner as yet. Her nephew, Danny Wilmöt, of Weidman, is home on leave for the holidays, and perhaps will have the Wilmöts as guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Beutler and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Straus of east Weidman attended the wedding and reception for their nephew and wife, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Beutler (Betty Bel-lows), at Roscommon.

Mrs. Lena St. John is planning her family get-together for the Christmas holiday on Sunday, Dec. 27. Guests will be Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Beutler, Clifton and Mary, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Beutler of Weidman, and Floyd Sowle.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Skalitzky visited her sister, Mrs. Kate Darnell, at Barryton Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Ward Loomis of Sherman City were Tuesday callers. They visited Ray Skalitzky at the Wallace Frost Rest Home Sunday morning. They plan to be dinner guests of their daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs.

Otis Conley, Christmas Day. Other guests will include Mr. and Mrs. Barry Conley and Kurt and their daughter, Loretta, and Terri.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Monroe attended the special Christmas services at the Weidman Baptist Church Sunday evening.

Mrs. Juanita Struble of Mt. Pleasant visited Mr. and Mrs. Dale Denslow Sunday. The latter will spend Christmas Eve with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Denslow, and will join her relatives at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Packer of Deerfield Center for Christmas dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Micky Dargitz and Brian, Jill and Kathy of Rural Remus and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Corwin and Robert, Jr., and Kyle will also be guests of the Lyle Denslows for a Christmas get-together.

Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Leiter visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Leiter, and family Sunday. They and Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Stebelton and Renee will be Christmas dinner guests at the Leiter home.

Mrs. Leo Denslow wasn't home when we called for news Sunday evening, but reported previously that their family were having Christmas get-together with her mother, Mrs. Mabel Cummings, and sisters and husbands and their families, at the home of her sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sowle, and family at Barryton.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Loomis took their little daughter, Marcia, who is 10 months old, to the hospital Tuesday. She had bronchitis, and has been in an oxygen tent, but was reported to be gaining in health. Arthur Loomis was a recent visitor.

Mrs. Loomis reports they will probably spend Christmas with him, along with other members of the Loomis family.

Mrs. Russell Stanley went with her daughter, Mrs. Donald Pung, to Alma Thursday, where they did some Christmas shopping.

Mrs. Stanley spent Thursday evening with the little "Dee" Pungs, while their mother attended the Mt. Pleasant Topettes' Christmas party at the home of Mrs. Rachel Downing in Mt. Pleasant.

Gilbert Schrock and son, Philip, called at the Stanley home Friday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Stanley called on the Donald Pungs and Donald Stanleys Saturday afternoon.

Adelbert Pung and Julie, Susan and Sandra called at the Stanley home Sunday morning.

Hope to see all our family for Christmas get-together Dec. 26 in the afternoon.

The Old Year will be gone when we write again, So Happy New Year!

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BETTER THAN A LETTER



ON HIS NINETIETH BIRTHDAY, HERMAN COOK HAD A BALL-- A reception, rather, in the Weidman school cafeteria, where relatives and friends from far and near gathered to congratulate him on his good health and sound mind. He spent Sunday afternoon visiting with the throngs who came to see him, and he enjoyed every minute of it. He has retired from farming, but he is alert and energetic, and enjoys the card parties for Senior Citizens at Beal City and Weidman.

Messenger photo

Over 125 friends and relatives attended the reception, and Mr. Cook received about 125 cards in the mail congratulating him on his birthday.

The Messenger was on hand, and we were surprised and pleased to receive the following notes Mr. Cook had jotted down for use in an upcoming history of Weidman and the area.

The notes are unedited, and we think they are a remarkable chronology of Mr. Cook's young days:

His motto on the notes says, "To be a neighbor, you must be a neighbor."

Here are his notes:

- (My parents) leaving Germany Oct. 1, 1881, with four children. I was nine months old.
- Arrived in New York Nov. 1, 1881. Two days (by train) to get to Theodore Hummel's. Stayed with the Hummels all winter.
- 1882-83, lived in parish house.
- Bought 40 acres for \$300.
- 1884 (his father) built house. Dad worked in (lumber) camp.
- 1885, cleared land.
- 1886, bought our first horse.
- 1887, Dad broke his leg. The camp helped.
- 1888, Charles worked for Grants \$12 per month.
- 1889, 5 cows, 2 horses, 6 sows with pigs.
- 1890, Mother would spin yarn and make socks to sell.
- 1890, Remick lumbered Sec. 13 (Broomfield), hauled to Chipewawa River and down to Saginaw.
- 1891, Leach cut hemlock on Section 11. Peeled bark off logs, used bark for tanning and those logs went to the river and down to Mt. Pleasant.
- 1891, bought another 40 acres,

\$350. Had logging bees to clear land.

1892, Dad quit camp and started farming.

1893, I went to school in winter. Charles started working in camp.

1894, last winter for Hall Lumbering Company.

1895, Hall sold to Bundy Lumbering Company.

1896, Bundy built sawmill and railroad between Remus and Weidman.

1897, big fire. Timber woods burned, farm buildings burned in some instances, our barnyard became hot but saved the barn.

1898, I finished school and took over farming. Never got to work in camp.

1899, Bundy finished sawing.

1900, built barn, 36x58 feet, using 50-foot beams discarded from the lumberers' foundations for piling up logs.

1901, pulled stumps, 950 \$20.

1902, pulled stumps, 530 for \$20. 1904, pulled stumps, 450 for \$35.

1900, bought first mower and binder.

From 1900, Charles, Will and I worked together farming.

On the last day of 1907, married Theta Smith.

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That's the end of Mr. Cook's notes, and we think they are remarkable, and also valuable for the historical data they contain.

Today Herman Cook has children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and lives a good life on the farm he cleared and in the house he built himself.

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HOME PAPER FOR THE WEST HALF OF ISABELLA COUNTY

## Beal City

Dora Smith, Reporter

Theresa Ahlers of Lansing visited relatives here last week.

John Forest spent Tuesday evening with Mr. and Mrs. Dale Anderson and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Schafer and Donald Schafer spent Thursday evening with Tillie Schafer.

Mrs. Al Klumpp and Mrs. Tony Schafer spent Wednesday in Mt. Pleasant.

John Reihl is in CMC Hospital.

The Art Funnell family had their Christmas party at the Bob Schafer home Sunday. All reported a good time.

Mr. and Mrs. Milo Eldred and son, Micky, of Blanchard and Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Schafer of Winn spent Saturday evening with Mrs. Tillie Schafer.

Wm. Pung went to Midland Tuesday for a physical checkup.

Ida Tilmann returned home Thursday after a two weeks' visit with Mrs. Polly Courtright.

Danny Schafer left Sunday on a trip through Canada and New York.

Callers at the Louise Smith home Saturday were Bernie Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Simmer of Rosebush, Mrs. Arnold Simmer and daughter, Elaine, of Reed City, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Grinzinger and Mrs. Tony Schafer.

Mrs. Ed Fussman, Mrs. Paul Schafer, Mrs. Joe Streng, Mrs. Tony Tilmann and Mrs. Walter Rau had lunch Thursday with

Mrs. Richard Schafer. All reported a good time.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Cole had their Christmas dinner Sunday, with all her children attending.

The Pung family held their pre-Christmas party Sunday at the K. C. Hall in Beal City. Attending were Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Pung and family, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Tilmann and family, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pung and family, Mr. and Mrs. Adelbert Pung and family, Mr. and Mrs. Don Pung and family, Mr. and Mrs. John Pung and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Pung and family, Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Knight and Mrs. Joe Pung.

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## Local Items

Christmas dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Charnes and Mrs. Emma Middlesworth will be Mrs. Ruth Blesch and daughter of Barryton and C. S. O'Neill of Mt. Pleasant.

Christmas guests of Mrs. Lela Whearett and Don Clark will be Mr. and Mrs. Harold Clark of Saline, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Clark and son of St. Paul, Minn., Mrs. Jean Brew and children of Comstock Park, and Mrs. Glee Clark of Mt. Pleasant.

Mr. and Mrs. Barney Tranbarger plan to have Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Wilson of Grand Rapids and Connie Skinner as Christmas dinner guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Frantz are planning on having all their children home for Christmas Day.

*person-to-person*  
banking

Of course it's person to person banking here in Weidman; and so we give our advertising space over this week to letting you know that we will be

# CLOSED

This Week Friday (Christmas Day)  
And Next week Friday (New Year's)

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MEMBER F.D.I.C. FRIS

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## Two Rivers

Blanche Carr, Reporter

### DALE BRIDGETT HURT IN SNOWMOBILE ACCIDENT

Dale Bridgett, 17-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Bridgett, suffered a broken shoulder bone and a bruised leg in a snowmobile accident on the Barryton race track Sunday.

The machine ahead of Dale went into a spin, and Dale took to the right, off the track, to avoid a collision or running over him.

Dale was taken to CMC Hospital in Mt. Pleasant, where he was treated and released.

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Mr. and Mrs. Gale Krueger were host and hostess to the Krueger family Saturday, at a pre-Christmas dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Cook of Huntington, Ind., Mr. and Mrs. Carl Cook, the Leonard Cooks and Mrs. Mary Cook were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Lueder.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Gostola and Dixie of Mt. Pleasant and Mr. and Mrs. Tom Jones of Evert were Sunday guests of Mrs. E. R. Rhode and Harold. Mrs. Rhode and Harold plan to have Christmas dinner with her granddaughter and family, the Fred Thompsons, of Holt.

Mrs. Maude Johnston had Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Dell of Stevenson Lake, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Dell and son and Mr. and Mrs. Myron Johnston and family at a pre-Christmas dinner Sunday.

The C. M. B. Club had its Christmas party with Mrs. Flo Haupt Thursday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Tuer and grandsons, Jim and Mike Duff, of Detroit were Sunday dinner guests of Mrs. Verne Foster and Connie. They took Connie back with them to her home for the holidays. Choice plans to have Christmas with her daughter and family, the Louis Fiorellos.

Mr. and Mrs. Dalton Rayborn of Belding were Saturday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Oral Bunting. Mr. and Mrs. Earl Seybert of Elsie spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl V. Seybert. The Earl V. Seyberts plan to have Christmas with the Seyberts, Jr., of Elsie.

Mr. and Mrs. Einar Sandelius plan to celebrate Christmas at Cadillac, Thursday, and to entertain their own family Friday.

Mrs. Flossie Flachs and Mrs. Lois Hoag visited their folks, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hines, last week. Bob and Minnie are having their children and families home for Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Flaughter were Saturday evening guests of their son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Flaughter, of Midland. They plan to have their children home for Christmas.

Mrs. June Plank and Pennie were Wednesday visitors of

Blanche Carr.

Mrs. Flossie Sellers was a Tuesday night guest of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hines.

Most people from this neighborhood attended the Open House for Herman Cook's 90th birthday at the Weidman school Sunday.

The Farm Bureau met with Roderick Nicholson last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Martin and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Martin and children of Lakeview were Sunday supper guests of Mrs. Kate Martin and Ray. Mrs. Martin plans to have her children and grandchildren home for Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Swan and Mrs. Ella Swan attended a pre-Christmas dinner with the family at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Swan of Midland.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Harvey and family of Lansing and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Sweet and family of Mt. Pleasant were Sunday visitors of Mrs. Charles Harvey.

Col. and Mrs. Newell Staley of the Quantico Marine Base in Virginia are spending the week with Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Bugsby.

Mrs. Nettie Baker was a Sunday guest of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Bugsby.

Mr. and Mrs. Singleton Moses and family of Flushing were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Krueger and family. In the afternoon the children took part in a Christmas program at the Lutheran Church in Mt. Pleasant.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Woodin of Midland were Sunday afternoon visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Fitzgerald.

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### S. W. Sherman

Goldie Dutcher, Reporter  
Mrs. Margaret Saunders entertained the Weidman WSCS ladies at her home for their Christmas party and gift exchange. Marion Beutler attended from here.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Schultheiss of St. Johns and Claribel Beutler helped their granddaughter, Diane, celebrate her birthday Sunday, at her home. She is the daughter of the Carl Beutlers. They all attended the Christmas play at the church, as Diane and Billy were in the cast.

The Clarence Chaffees are looking for their children and families home for the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Beutler attended the Rosebush Young Farmers' Farm Bureau meeting and Christmas party at the home of the Frank Grahams.

Mrs. Virginia Harshman and Tracy of Lansing called on Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Dutcher, Jr., and family Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Maeder and Mark entertained the rest of the family, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gatehouse, Mr. and Mrs. Dale Gatehouse and family, and Mr. and Mrs. Gary Gatehouse and family

at their Christmas party and gift exchange Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Dutcher entertained at a birthday supper Wednesday evening, Dec. 16, for their son, Douglas, who was 14, her folks, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Case, and Burgess, and Mrs. Clayton Dutcher. Steve Dutcher called later, as he couldn't make it for dinner.

Orrie Merrihew says he's coming along fine this winter so far.

Mr. and Mrs. George Merrihew visited Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Kirvan of Barryton Friday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. James Hare and Mr. and Mrs. Wayne West of Northville spent Sunday with the George Merrihews, for a pre-Christmas party. Hope brought a beautiful birthday cake for her mother's and George's birthdays, Edna's being Dec. 18 and George

will have another Dec. 26. Happy Birthday, folks!

Jim Dutcher called on his folks, the Clayton Dutchers. Mrs. Joyce Yuncker and children were evening luncheon guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Dutcher, Sr., called on Mrs. Clara Smith at the Lakeview hospital Tuesday afternoon. They called on the Ervin Dutchers, Jr., Friday afternoon. Ervin has been off work, due to the flu.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Beutler attended a Christmas play at the church Sunday evening. Laurel and Donald took part.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Fitzgerald visited her brother, Walter Stadfeld, of Remus, and Mrs. Robert Decker of Barryton at the Edmore hospital Thursday evening.

BETTER THAN A LETTER

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