

The Weidman Messenger

VOL. XIII, NO. 4

Weidman, Mich. 48893

Thursday, August 5, 1976

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Editor's Column

By Connie

MICHIGAN'S SCHOOLS: BLACKMAIL FOR TAXPAYERS?

All over Michigan, school boards are demanding more millage--taxation--from landowners, while taxpayers are hollering "Blackmail!" when school boards threaten cuts in school programs.

Detroit is the state's biggest district, and its taxpayers are yelling their heads off, after the Detroit Board of Education announced it needs more taxes to run the schools. (Detroiters gave the Board a hefty millage raise during the past few years, and renewed it. But now the Board says it is not enough.)

Farwell is another district in turmoil over millage issues and management of school funds and programs--and taxes.

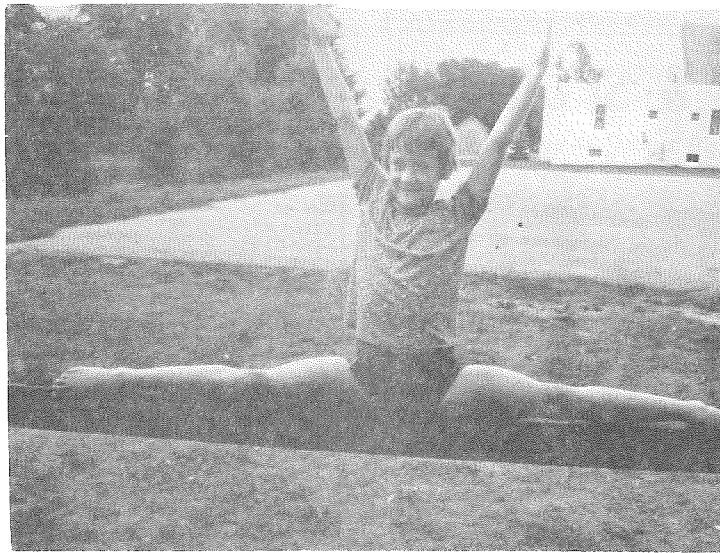
Chippewa Hills District is no exception. With its teaching staff in command of the school through its powerful union, the Board now says it will present another millage vote Monday, Oct. 18, at a cost to taxpayers of \$1,500 for the election. The millage proposition was snowed under this spring.

At a special meeting last Thursday night, the Chippewa Hills Board announced "cuts" in the school's annual programs amounting to savings of about \$10,000 annually, while also announcing about \$379,000 annually in total savings through cutting of services.

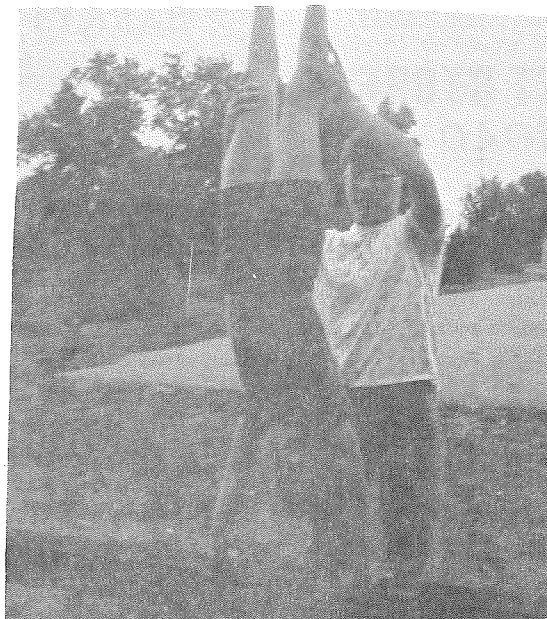
Ag teacher Daniel Latendresse was given a tap on the wrist with a cutoff of \$1,500 for travel expenses to chat with farmers in the district.

The Board eliminated most class sponsors, with four retained. Field trips, the athletes' shuttle bus service, a 40 percent reduction in requests for teacher supplies, no school furniture replacement, a \$15,000 cutback in remodeling and renovation (maintenance) of all school buildings, reduction of 11 teaching positions, but not elimination of 11 teachers (they can't do that, what with "tenure", no matter

(Continued on Back Page)



SHE PUT WEIDMAN ON THE FRONT PAGES--Of State papers, including the Detroit Free Press (Sunday, Aug. 1). Ten-year-old Margo Schafer, daughter of Leon and Carol Schafer of Weidman, appeared first in the Mt. Pleasant Times-News, and the photo was sent out over the AP wire. The Free Press gave the center half of its front page Sunday to feature the lithe and pretty little girl. Messenger photo



Margo's sister, Kelly, taught her her gymnastics on the balance bar, and is working with her on routines she learned in high school gym classes at Chippewa Hills School. Margo says she made up her balance-bar routine herself, for her and other girls in a school talent show. Both girls help their parents in their new and very beautiful bait and sports-goods shop attached to the home. Messenger photo

LOCAL ELECTION RESULTS (As of 7 a. m. Wednesday Morning)

Sherman Township returned its Republican incumbents in Monday's Primary Election, the only real contest being for Supervisor.

Incumbent Earl Oplinger was returned as candidate in the fall elections against two opponents.

The vote: Oplinger 106, Lou Fiorillo 72, Bernard (Pete) Wood 37.

Don Smith drew the one seat for township constable against Ted Krauss, 133 to 58.

The other township officers were unopposed. By and large, Sherman Township voted Republican.

Sherman turned down the millage proposal for county bridge renewal, No 127, Yes 67. The county, however, approved it by a narrow margin, Yes 2, 142, No 2003.

Betty Prout won the Republican nomination for Township Clerk on the Republican ticket against Bill Dewey, 1,564 to Dewey's 1,076.

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Editor's Mail

Dear Connie,

I'm glad you got the school forest straightened out. We have our problems with the school administration here--they are very arrogant, and assume that if they submit a budget we will have to OK it because no one wants to do anything to hurt "the Kiddies".

Well, we showed 'em, this year. We turned down the budget three times, along with five of the extras they put in.

There is something about the textbooks that they are covering up, too, and which hasn't been brought out.

This attitude of the "experts", that they know best, that education is a very high-brow and scholarly affair, best left to the experts, is the bunk.

I remember when any sixteen-year-old girl could get a temporary license to teach in a country school, and everybody managed to survive and they could read, then, too, which is more than they can say now.

I think that Weidman Day is a

(Continued on Page 4)

West Gilmore

Lena Cole, Reporter

Mr. and Mrs. Sebastian Pfannes were called to the Cadillac hospital Tuesday, due to the severe illness of her father, Edgar Walters, of Houghton Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Mossell spent the weekend with her parents, the Paul Coles.

The Mossells visited his sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Merchants, at Harrison, Saturday. They returned to their home in South Bend, Ind., Saturday.

Funeral services were held for Julius Allbee Friday at the Coaker Funeral Home in Farwell.

Mrs. Dorothy Courter of Ches-

aning spent several days with her sisters, Mrs. Hilda Sampson and Mrs. Helen Allbee, and her brother, Wm. Wixson.

Paul Cole has been on the sick list. Velma also has been ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Tony Masiwchuk made a business trip to Blanchard Thursday.

Delbert Allbee is moving to Breckenridge.

Mr. and Mrs. Sebastian Pfannes went to Flint Thursday, where they attended the funeral of their father, Edgar Walters, Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Kripa also attended the funeral.

Our sympathy to the family of Edgar Walters. We also extend our sympathy to the family of

Julius Allbee.

Mrs. Beulah Wixson and daughter, Ruth, and her four daughters called on Beulah's sister and husband, the Paul Coles, Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Tony Masiwchuk called on Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Banas Friday, at Farwell.

Mrs. Beulah Wixson and daughter, Ruth Ann, and family took a trip to Indianapolis for the weekend.

Sp/5 Wm. Ewing and Mrs. Ewing and Becky of Maryland visited their grandparents, the

Paul Coles, Thursday.

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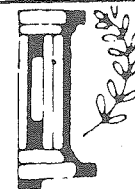
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Weidman Messenger

Weidman, Michigan

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Want Ads

WANT AD RATES: 75 cents per week, unless very long. Over 1 inch in length, regular advertising rates. Cards of Thanks \$2.50, unless very long.

B-I-N-G-O

Joint Temple Association
413 Coker Drive
Every Saturday Night
6:30 P.M.

3-76-tf

FLEA MARKET--Every Saturday at Broomfield Grange Hall, corner M-20 and Coldwater Road. Lunch served 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. June 3tf

FOR SALE--Mixed heavy spring chickens. Paul Cole, West Coleman Road, ph. 644-2088. July 15tf

LOST--Clipboard in hard covers, black with manufacturer's logo on cover. \$5.00 reward for return. Messenger office. July 29tf

FOR SALE--1974 Scamper Camper for Datsun or other small pickup. Self contained, with lights, water, stove, refrigerator and sink. Sleeps four adults. Ph. 644-2643. July 29t4

HUGE GARAGE SALE--North Coldwater Lake, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Follow signs. Aug. 5t1p

B-I-N-G-O
Weidman Business Association
1/2 MILE SOUTH OF WEIDMAN
On Coldwater Road
Every Wednesday Night, beginning at 6.30

LEGAL

Notice

Commercial or residential installations, including trailers, must have building permits from James Theisen, Building Inspector. Ph. 644-2161.

(Signed)
Nottawa, Sherman and Coldwater Townships Building Code Authority.
June 17tf

Obituary

GERTRUDE M. SCHAFER
Gertrude M. Schafer of Nottawa Township died Saturday, July 31, at the Isabella County Medical Care Facility. She was 77. She was born in Ohio Nov. 4, 1898, and moved to Nottawa Township 42 years ago. Survivors include her husband, John; brothers, Philip Schoen of Florida and Robert Schoen of Detroit; and a sister, Mrs. Angela Zalkovki, of Bowling Green, Ohio.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Tuesday in St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church in Beal City. Burial was in St. Joseph's Cemetery at Beal City.

The family have the sympathy of all.

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Mrs. Emma Middlesworth and Mrs. Claribel Beutler were among Senior Citizens from Barryton who attended the Minnie Goodman show at Interlochen last Wednesday evening.

"Food with Friends" in Weidman is doing very well. Their quota is always filled as to orders.

Obituary

JOHN GROSS

John E. (Jack) Gross of Mt. Pleasant died July 28 at CMC Hospital. He was 30.

He was born Dec. 12, 1945, in Weidman. Weidman folks remember him as the toddler roaming up and down the alley between his home and his mother's tavern, where he loved to tap dance for the customers. He suffered from an illness since early childhood.

He is survived by his father, Charles, and step-mother, Beatrice, of Mt. Pleasant; sisters Mrs. Dale (Pat) Klumpp of Winn, Mrs. Howard (Virginia) Jackson of Mt. Pleasant, Mrs. Gerald (Marilyn) Losey of Weidman, Mrs. Alva (Joann) Cochran, Lake Isabella, Mrs. Ken (Carol) Thomas, Pennsylvania, Mrs. John (Sandy) Strezanac of Grand Haven, and Charlene Gross of Mt. Pleasant; brothers Don of Cincinnati, Bob of Lansing, Larry of Shepherd, and Allen of Mt. Pleasant; maternal grandmother Mrs. Mary Grisdale of Mt. Pleasant, and paternal grandmother Mrs. Catherine Gross, Beal City.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. Friday, July 30, at the J.J. Rush Funeral Home, with Father C. N. McEachin officiating. Burial was in St. Joseph's Cemetery at Beal City.

The family have the sympathy of all.

Obituary

ELMER SHAWAGAN

Elmer E. shawagan of the Indian Reservation east of Mt. Pleasant died July 23 at CMC Hospital. He was 68.

He was born Aug. 29, 1907, in Weidman, and was one of our last Indians to live in this immediate area. He spent most of his life here. He was a retired farmer, a member of the Indian Methodist Church, and a veteran of World War II.

He is survived by his wife, Mary; a daughter, Mrs. Frederick (Carolyn) Harris, of Suttons Bay; a step-son, Peter Otto, of Mt. Pleasant; and seven grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. at the Indian Methodist Church, with Rev. Joseph Sprague officiating. Interment was at Fairview Cemetery at Weidman.

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Mrs. and Mrs. William Knudson of Livonia spent the weekend with their mother and uncle, Mrs. Lela Whearett and Don Clark. Greg Knudson, a grandson, of Trenton, and his girl friend were Sunday guests.

Obituary

JULIUS ALBEE

Julius E. Albee of Mt. Pleasant died July 27 at the Medical Care Facility in Mt. Pleasant, after a lingering illness. He was 70 years old.

He was born July 23, 1906, in Leota, and was a retired truck driver.

He is survived by his wife, Helen; sons Delbert of Blanchard and Frank of McBride; a step-son, Edward Wardwell, of Mt. Pleasant; daughters, Mrs. Lois Shea of Farwell, Mrs. Judy Jacobs of Weidman, and June Albee of Mt. Pleasant; step-daughters Mrs. Coranna Shaner of Rosebush and Mrs. Luella Albee of Clare; brothers Dewey of Farwell, and Raymond of Texas; sisters, Mrs. Dora Widman of Mt. Pleasant and Mrs. Zena Olger and Mrs. Sylvia Riggs, both of Weidman; and 21 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m. Friday, July 30, at the Coker Funeral Home in Farwell with Rev. Charles Garrison officiating. Burial was in the Gilmore Township Cemetery.

The family have the sympathy of all.

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North Weidman

Elvah Gott, Reporter

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Burley of Hazel Park were weekend guests of their daughter and family, the Joe Ptaks.

Dinner guests at the Don Abbott home Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Knorr of Shepherd and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Wernette and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Allen of Lansing visited us Sunday and had dinner with us. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Gott called on us Friday.

Mrs. Garnet Penoyer and grandson, Mitchell, called on us this Monday.

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The Churches

WEIDMAN BAPTIST CHURCH
(1 Mile West of Weidman)
Pastor: Marvin Eldridge, phone 644-3504.

Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Service, 11 a.m.
Evening Service, 7.30 p.m.

Prayer Meeting Wednesday, 7 p.m.
Bible School program Thursday, 7 p.m.

Mrs. Birdie Abbott, Mrs. Emma Middlesworth and Mrs. Claribel Beutler were Monday afternoon visitors of Mrs. Bessie Teall. Mabel Allen was also a recent visitor.

In the Editor's Mail

(Continued from Page 1)

remarkable institution because your people enter into it with such a flourish and carry it through. Then, the big secret is that people want to return from their habitats in other cities, just to say "Hello," and spend the day.

Lots of love,
Charles H. Roe
Tarrytown, New York
---0---

Brinton News

Frances Beck, Reporter

DANCE AT BRINTON HALL
There will be a dance at the Brinton Hall Saturday night, Aug. 7, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Music by Eddie Adams with the Country Partners. Admission will be \$1.00.

The 4-H Club museum will be open from 1 to 4 p.m. Old-timers especially welcome, as well as the general public.

Edna Teeter spent a few days with her son, Herman, and family, last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer Teeter and Angela called on her brothers at Lake Mecosta several times last week, and did some fishing.

Chris and Rona are spending the week at Cold Springs Camp near Grayling.

Recent callers of Jane Fields and Tony Bartley included Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Fields and family and Mr. and Mrs. George Holland.

Irene Bowen and daughter, Wanda Haenke, were in Mt. Pleasant Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Bailer are in the process of moving to Weidman, in the home they purchased from Charlie Gross.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Wright left Thursday to attend the wedding of their nephew, Rick Merrihew, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roland Merrihew, at Taylor.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Geasler called on her sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Herb Hanson, of near Big Rapids. The ladies spent the afternoon at Big Rapids shopping.
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Mrs. J.A. McCarthy of Lansing spent the weekend with Mrs. Emma Middlesworth. Mr. and Mrs. Tom Stamm of Houghton Lake called on their aunt Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Elwyn Pitts of Big Rapids and Elaine Esterline of Farwell were Friday supper guests of the Bernard Pitts family.

Mrs. Nina Forbes and Mr. and Mrs. Russell Wilson were Sunday callers of their sister, Mrs. Marge Mullet, Sunday afternoon.
BETTER THAN A LETTER

Ms. Connie Skinner
Route #1
Weidman, Mi.
Dear Connie:

The overwhelming POSITIVE response to the resumption of our Weidman Day celebration festivities this year prompted me to write.

I, too, was delighted at the success of the one-day event; but I feel some misunderstandings, held by seemingly a majority of our townspeople and your readers, should be corrected.

The initiation, expended effort, and ultimate success of this event cannot and should not be attributed entirely to the Weidman Business Association.

CERTAINLY, we worked on the project, but we did it as members of the community--not as an organization. The project was designed and accomplished only through the concerted efforts of many organizations and many "just interested citizens" from our local area.

As I look back on the 1976 celebration, I can see where it has accomplished its basic purpose--"to bring our citizens together in a harmonious effort for our good and that of our town".

We had many people of differing backgrounds working together for the first time in many years.

There was fun to be enjoyed during this one day; but the greatest thing was to see OUR PEOPLE pull together as a team!

Young and old, business people and non-business people; we were all there and we all worked. Yet we all enjoyed the opportunity to talk, dance, and generally have a good comradely day with each other.

Maybe the world could use just a touch more co-operative effort like that. I'M proud to say I was part of Weidman Day; and I'll be proud to be part of it next year if the decision is made to have it again.

As a member of this community, I'd like to say Thanks!!

Thanks for the help, the fun, and the opportunity to enjoy a "community spirit". I only hope that this is just the beginning of our efforts to make Weidman a place of community co-operation and not just a place to say you're from.

Sincerely
Gary L. McArthur
President, W.B.A.
---0---

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Embrey spent the weekend at Traverse City, where they visited Florida neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. C.W. Fensenden. They report the cherry crop around there is about two weeks earlier than normal, on account of that warm spell in April.

Darryl Pitts, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Pitts, spent last week as a staff member at Rock Lake Christian Assembly at Vestaburg.

In the Editor's Mail

Dear Connie:

Here's some money to keep the Messenger coming.

I have lived two years now in this rest home, and have good food, good care, and everyone is nice to me.

I am able to walk around the building and at 92 years have pretty good eyesight, and read a lot, too!

My daughter Flossie's death was a hard blow to me, but my son-in-law, Jack, is a good guy and visits me often, and he misses Flossie, too.

The Messenger was newsy today, and all those buildings are so familiar to me.

Brinton has a few strange names, but still a few old-timers, too, and I remember when Martin and Emma Boger were born. I was all set to attend the first Weidman Day celebration, but my brother, Elmer Hamilton, took a notion to be born that day, and I had to stay home to get dinner for my dad and the midwife, Mary Hammond.

When I leave this earth, I will lie in North Brinton Cemetery, by my former husband, John Wright.

I remember Weidman when people used to call it Weidman Camp. My uncles, the Tower boys, used to work down there.

My 10-year-old brother and I

used to sometimes go with horse and buggy to bring our uncles home from work, and brother and I once saw a bear on the little bridge north of Weidman, and were we ever scared! So was the bear, for he ran away. Deer and wildcats were very plentiful those days, too.

Bye-bye,
Edith Hamilton Kennedy
Flint
---0---

Dear Connie:

Well, here I come with payment for the Messenger again.

I really look forward each week for it, to hear all about my friends. It is just like a letter. Keep up the good work, Connie.

Love,
Minnie Strauch
Mt. Pleasant
---0---

Local Items

Douglas Tilmann, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Tilmann of Lake Windoga and Florida, was planning to leave Thursday from Elkhart, Ind., to meet Dick and Dorothy and fly them to Deadwood, South Dakota. They will spend Friday at a radio there, then will camp out two days, trout fishing on mountain rivers. They plan to return next Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. James Snyder of St. Louis spent the weekend with their folks, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Wilson.

The Messenger

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Beal City

Dora Smith, Reporter

Mr. and Mrs. August Bierstetel and son and family of Pewamo and Mrs. Joseph Fox and Mrs. Joseph Bengal visited Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Keiffer Sunday.
Mrs. Don Rau visited Mrs. Fred Gould Monday. Mrs. Grace Burt had dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Gould Monday. She is Fred's grandmother, 94 years old. Mr. and Mrs. Jim Gould of Wisconsin were Saturday guests.

Theresa Smith and Cathy Pung called on Dora Smith Saturday.
Mrs. McCall called on Mrs. Shelly Rau Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Rau and family visited Mr. and Mrs. Rick Klumpp and Mr. and Mrs. Greg Hunting Sunday.

Elaine Simmer of Reed City called on Mrs. Fred Gould and Ginny Rau Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Tillie Schafer spent Sunday with the Bob Schafer family.
Kathy Fedewa had surgery last Thursday at CMC Hospital in Mt. Pleasant.

Sister Mary Margaret of West Branch is visiting with relatives here this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Rau visited Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gould Sunday.
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Ahler of Lansing visited Mrs. Joe Pung Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Rau had their baby boy baptized Sunday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. David Dahlquist, of Lake City celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Sunday. A number from here attended.

A number of friends from Beal City had a surprise house-warming for Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gould Friday evening.

The Wilson family held their union Sunday afternoon. The Bill Faber, Sr., family also had their reunion Sunday, at Littlefield Lake. The Lawens family union was held Saturday.

Mrs. Gertie Schafer died Saturday.

We welcome to our parish Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gould and sons Brian and Don.

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Local Items

Mrs. Harvey spent Sunday with mother-in-law, Mrs. Nina Gibbs, recently. She is from Macatawa.

Edy Simons and Jackie were Sunday morning visitors of Jan Touchinski. Mrs. Touchinski and girls spent Saturday afternoon with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Miller.

Mrs. Donna McArthur and Eric were morning visitors of Mrs. Mary McArthur.

Keith Critts of Detroit has been spending the past several weeks with his grandmother, Mrs. Edna Wevin. Mr. and Mrs. Ken Critts were recent visitors.

BETTER THAN A LETTER

Coldwater Lake

Beryl Beck, Reporter

Glenn Kemmis is back home here, following surgery in Lansing. He is much improved.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Armstrong of Lansing spent the past week at their home here.

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Goodell of Detroit spent the weekend with his brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Goodell. Friday evening they were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Harkins at Lake Isabella.

Saturday the Fellowship Degree of the Moose Lodge held their annual picnic at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Andy Beck. There were about 33 present, and all reported a good time and a good dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. John Potter of Midland visited Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Beck Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Andy Beck attended the Harrison Fair Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Bud Tomlinson and Kay drove to Livonia recently, to visit their son and family to see the new home which they had just purchased.

Mrs. Bob Shelppe spent the past week at their home here. She was joined Saturday by her husband.

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Galgoczi drove to Rockford Saturday to attend a Pilgrim Roving at the Moose Lodge.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Huguélet visited Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Sisler near Shepherd Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Eilerton of Lansing are spending the week at their place here.

Mrs. Glenn Kemmis of Lansing and Miss Linda Kemmis of Haslet spent the weekend with Glenn Kemmis. Sunday guests were Mr. and Mrs. Joe Mockridge of Marquette.

Mrs. Jerome Beck, Mrs. Louis McNeal and Mrs. Don Thering enjoyed an afternoon of bowling in Mt. Pleasant last Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Parks and Jody and Amy of Shepherd, and nephew, Joe Brewer, of McBain, called on Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Beck and Mr. and Mrs. Andy Beck Sunday evening.

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LAKE ISABELLA

Ruth Yabs, Reporter

Are you over 60? If so, you are invited to join others at Food with Friends at the Masonic Temple in Weidman Monday through Friday, 12 noon. Reservations are necessary. Call 644-2538.

No other news this week, as we were away. See you next week!

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HOME PAPER FOR THE WEST HALF OF ISABELLA COUNTY

In the Editor's Mail

To the Editor:

In our participation on July 10 in Weidman, I made an announcement over the p.a. system on behalf of our High School band, which is trying very hard to raise funds for the Orange Bowl Game, to which they have been invited next year.

I personally did not expect a big response, but what I saw was unbelievable. The people of Weidman and their many out-of-town guests came forward and gave donations, and the age group was from four years to the oldest people in the town.

This is why I would like to say a very warm Thank You to all

the wonderful people of Weidman for their great hospitality, their friendship, and--gemutlicht.

On your day--Weidman Day 1976, I proudly can say, the people of Weidman set themselves a monument in our hearts, which should make them stand 10 feet taller.

God bless you, and thanks again, Weidman.

Wolfgang Hurm

From the Edelweiss Inn

Four miles south of Remus.

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Mary Smith left Monday for Ann Arbor to spend a couple of days with her sister, Joyce, who is in nurses' training at the University Hospital. Joyce is working at University Hospital this summer. She will graduate as an R.N. next year.

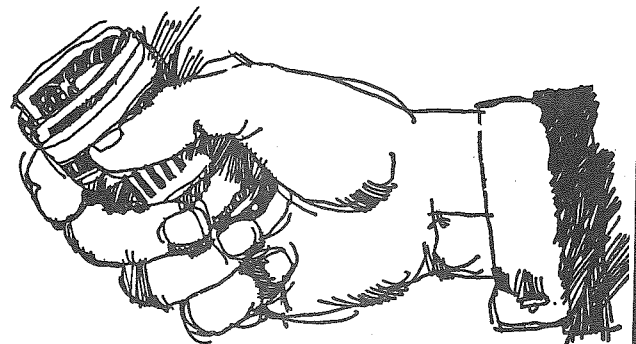
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WEIDMAN DAY



THE CHICKENS WERE BARBECUED AT THE PARK---With Beal City men pitching in as usual to help with their experienced know-how. The result was a popular and much-enjoyed dinner. Photo by Lou Fiorillo

THE BEAL CITY CELEBRATION.....



UNCLE SAM WALKED TALL--About nine feet, we estimated, in the parade Saturday at Beal City.

Notice

Weidman Messenger

YOU CAN ORDER BY MAIL

(See Application Form on another page)

Around Horr

Jessie Rosencrantz, Reporter

Mrs. Bobbie Oplinger called at the Mike Salchert home near Rosebush Sunday to pay respects to Mr. Salchart, her cousin, who was killed in a tractor accident.

Bob Thompson worked last week, and will work this week for Ruddell in Corunna. Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Wilson and Miss Shirley Fox were Sunday dinner guests at the Jim Thompson home. Bill Thompson was a Saturday overnight guest of Don Snyder. He worked Saturday and Sunday at the WFYC radio station at Winn.

So, Charlie and I have another birthday. Guests to help us celebrate Sunday at his home were Mr. and Mrs. Harold Losey, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Lorenz and Dany and Traci, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Chapman and Chad and Jason, Mr. and Mrs. Theron Merrihew, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Losey and Nancy, Patti, Gary and Beth, and Mrs. Joanne Cochran.

Mrs. Conrad and Susan Fahnstock of Southfield were Sunday guests at the Charles Fahnstock home. Susan Fahnstock will leave Aug. 10 for a three weeks' stay in Germany.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wright of Pontiac were Sunday overnight guests at the Paul Miller home.

Mrs. Joyce Chaffee spent Sunday with her folks, the Mack Denslows.

Michael Wood and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Mills spent Sunday with their folks, the Pete Woods. Their grandson, D.J., spent last week with them. His mother came Saturday and took him home.

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THE COLOR GUARD--In Saturday's parade wore colonial uniforms and were impressive. Messenger photos

BETTER THAN A LETTER

THE WEIDMAN SCHOOL FOREST: WILL IT BE CLEANED UP?

This last spring a petition signed by 30 home-owners in a fire-hazard zone of the Weidman School forest mailed a petition to the Chippewa Hills Board of Education asking that the debris left by pulpwood cutters be removed, as they considered it a fire hazard to their homes and families. The petition was signed by 35 Weidman people, five of them sympathetic to the home-owners' plight in relation to the disheveled woodland surrounding the school.

The petition was duly presented at a Board meeting, but Daniel Latendresse, ag teacher who engineered the contract for the tree-cutting, talked the Board out of taking action, assuring them "there was no fire hazard." Allegedly, he had a county agent, a forester, and such, to back him up.

So--nothing was done. Weidman residents adjacent to the forest called the State Fire Marshal at Rockford, who came up, inspected it, said he considered it a definite fire hazard to the homes and the school, but he wanted to bring in a forester to corroborate his opinion.

After several weeks, he brought in a state forester, an area forester, and a local forester, all agreeing that the forest was a fire hazard with the debris drying out, and must be cleaned up.

Consequently, the Fire Marshal wrote a letter to the Board of Education ordering the Board to cause the forest to be cleaned up and not only that, but fire lanes to be cut throughout, allowing a fire truck to enter in case of a conflagration.

This week Monday we called LaVern Alward, Superintendent of the Chippewa Hills Schools, and he said that the pulpwood cutters were considered responsible for the cleanup and that they were expected to be in with bulldozers to clear fire lanes this week or next.

There was nothing definite, however, again, on the cleanup of the Weidman pine forest.

With our real drouth conditions the past several weeks, the forest remains a threat to adjacent homes and the school building.

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Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell McArthur spent the weekend camping at School Section Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Strong of Sheridan Township, Mecosta County, and his sister, Hazel Adams, of Auburn Heights, spent last Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. Ethel Bywater. Mrs. Dale Bywater and daughter of Midland were evening visitors. Last Thursday evening guests were Mr. and Mrs. Curtiss of Rosebush, and Mrs. McNicol took Mrs. Bywater a plate of dinner from the Commission on Aging, Friday.

25TH CASE SCHOOL REUNION HELD IN JUNE

The 25th Case School reunion was held Saturday afternoon, June 12, in the Farwell School cafeteria.

The group was small, but enthusiasm was big. Of the 24 who signed, 11 were former students.

They were Verna (Arthur) Seymour (she was also the oldest one present), Paul Cole, Catherine (Schneider) Rodgers, Marian Schneider, Frieda (Schneider) Schaupter, Edna (Shilling) Shaffer, Hazel (Colosky) Battleshaw, Arlie Renner, Paul Brown, Leona (Seymour) Buchel, and Helen (Tanner) Hudson. The only teacher was Mrs. Eulah (Welch) McAlvey. Other names representative of bygone days were Fordyce, Douglas, and Yats. The three Schneider girls came from Sun City, Ariz., the farthest-traveling of any present.

A delicious cake, baked and brought by Lucille Brown for Leona Buchel's birthday, was shared by all, along with the pretty Case School Reunion 25th Anniversary cake. After the bountiful dinner, a business meeting was called to order by president Arlie Renner, with a joke to start the proceedings. Later he gave a reading, "Can You Wave the Flag Too Much?" Minutes of the last meeting, and a financial report were read by the secretary, Thelma Yats. They were approved by all.

Officers elected for the coming year were Frieda Schaupter, president; Thelma Yats secretary; Arlie Renner, vice president; and Helen Hudson secretary.

A sad note of the day was recalling the deaths of our friends during the past year: Mrs. Flossie Jarman, Owen Jarman, Allan Graham, Elam Seymour, Alfred Seitz and Jess Shaner.

Mrs. Anna (Stanley) Wood was unable to attend on account of illness, along with many others who were ill. All hoped they will be able to attend next year, the second Saturday in June, 1977, at the same place.

The meeting was adjourned by Arlie Renner, and the rest of the time was spent reminiscing, and looking at scrapbooks and photos.

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LYNN BOWERMAN

Lynn Bowerman (Miss Lake Isabella Corporation) is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leon (Buz) Bowerman, Jr.

She is a natural blonde, with blue eyes. She is 5 feet, seven inches tall, weighing 110 pounds. She's 19 years old.

Lynn is a 1975 graduate of the Chippewa Hills High School, and will be a Freshman this fall at Ferris State College, majoring in business.

Lynn will be competing, along with eight other girls, for the

Miss Isabella County Queen title at Island Park during the Isabella County Youth and Farm Fair, Aug. 23.

The winner of this pageant will go on to the Miss Michigan contest in June of 1977.

Miss Michigan will represent her state in the Miss America contest in September, 1977.

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Editor's Column

By Connie

(Continued from Page 1)

what character a teacher may exhibit or what the circumstances), elimination of an assistant principal at the high school, no replacement of school buses this year, and elimination of all Freshman and Junior High athletic expenses; elimination of some coaches (but not getting rid of them--the teachers' union won't let them); and all secondary classes must have a minimum of 22 students. All kids except kindergarten and first-grade tots must walk 6/10 of a mile to board buses; in other words, kids must group in neighborhoods instead of buses stopping at every house.

The Chippewa Hills Board, like school boards all over Michigan, makes a pass at trimming off small barnacles without getting to the heart of school-operation efficiency.

Like other school boards all over Michigan, the Chippewa Hills Board has lost touch with the taxpayers, and, as the Farwell paper put it, it has lost touch with reality itself.

It's true the teachers' union has a stranglehold on schools and schools' operating monies. It's time to break that stranglehold.

No union should be able to bleed homeowners indefinitely, no matter what rules, regulations and agreements school boards have come to make with any union.

In the case of the schools, it is the Michigan Education Association (laugh) backed by the National Education Association. Of late years these organizations have changed from betterment of teachers' abilities to betterment of teachers' financial status, no matter what teachers' abilities or behaviors may indicate.

(Could any of our \$16,000-a-year teachers in our school get and hold a job in private industry or business paying a salary like that? Please don't laugh.)

Do you as a taxpayer to the Chippewa Hills Schools (68% of our real estate taxes go to the school)--do you net \$16,000 annually? (Now try to laugh.)

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CHIP HILLS BAND WORKING HARD FOR FLORIDA TRIP

Following is a partial schedule of efforts by the Chippewa Hills High School Band for this summer, earning money for their trip to the Orange Bowl in Florida in 1977, by invitation.

July 30-31, hot dog stand in Barryton. The band will stage a marching show at 3 p. m. July 31.

Aug. 7, chicken barbecue at Big Rapids.

Aug. 9, Booster meeting, 7.30, in the high school band room. All are invited.

Aug. 12-15, Rummage Sale at Merl Mercer's. The band will accept anything anyone has to offer as donations.

Aug. 21, march at Chippewa Lake, and hot dog stand.

Aug. 22, hot dog stand at Chippewa Lake.

Aug. 28, car wash, minimum donation \$1.

Sept. 4, auction at Nora Quisenberry's. Items accepted for this also. Take to Ronnie Sprague or Gale Krueger.

Sept. 25, dance at K. of C. Hall in Beal City. Plans for this are incomplete at this time.

Oct. 19, a toy and gift party at the high school, 7 to 9 p. m.

Sometime in October there will be an October Fest, the date not chosen at this time. Included will be German dances and music and plenty of good food.

A sample of the proposed new uniforms is in, and will be available for inspection at the meeting Aug. 9.

WEAVER'S TAVERN ROBBED, TWO MEN ARRESTED

Two men were arrested Monday night in Beal City, Sheriff's officers observing a suspicious-looking car sitting beside the road in the village.

An Isabella County State Bank money bag with a large amount of cash in it was found in the car, along with a large amount of cigarettes.

Both men, from the Farwell area, were being held in the county jail pending warrants, Tuesday morning.

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WEIDMAN UNITED ANNUAL METHODIST CHURCH AUCTION SALE AND BAZAAR

Saturday, AUGUST 7

AT THE CHURCH PARKING LOT

BEGINNING AT 11 A. M. --Lunch Served During Noon Hour

It is not too late for friends and neighbors to join with church members in contributing any saleable items--dishes, tools, furniture, implements, appliances, etc. Calle Harry Herman, 644-2050; Gary Sprague, 644-3580; or Tom Herman, 644-2328.

Come early a

Come early to the church parking lot, enjoy the auction, visit the lunch counter at noon, and be sure to take in the bazaar where items of interest will be on sale.