

The Weidman Messenger

VOL. XIV, NO. 1930

Weidman, Mich. 48893

Thursday, December 1, 1977

35¢ per copy

Editor's Column

By Connie

'TIS THE SEASON

Winter arrived here suddenly, with heavy snows and bitter cold, last week. It's for sure we'll have a white Christmas.

And Christmas is coming right up--seems only a little while ago we were planning on cleaning out a flower bed before cold weather.

Snowmobilers are having a ball and all winter sports are going lickety-split.

And we old 'uns sit and shiver, and mayhap toss another log on the fire.

Our old kitchen range--at the north end of the house--is still the most effective heat-giver, next to the gold-plated gas furnace, of course.

North winds sweep that warmth from that old stove right through the house, and it helps. It helps a lot, as we notice by the slowing up of the furnace thermostat when we have a fire in the kitchen.

And yes, Frances and I are using that chimney-soot remover you toss in your stove or fireplace to prevent soot pileup.

Hope we get around to using ours before that old soot-filled chimney goes up in flames.

A SPECIAL CLAUSE IN MURPHY'S LAW

There's a special clause in Murphy's Law (if anything can go wrong, it will; everything takes longer to do than you figure it will; and so on).

The special clause has to do with weekly newspapers. It goes like this:

Anything of great importance in your area will happen just after you've dumped the week's edition at the postoffice.

That occurs, with us, Wednesday afternoon.

As soon as the papers are in the mail, things pop out all over, for a weekly paper.

Murphy's Law was proved to us again last week: The devastating fire at McClain's Garage, which threatened again the entire east side of the business

THE WEIDMAN FIRE

On the night of Wednesday, Nov. 23, fire broke out in McClain's Garage, the second big Weidman fire in my life in Weidman.

Fortunately, it was not as bad as the first time, so damage is not so much.

It brought to my mind once again when the first fire came. This was a long time ago, when most people living here had not been born.

It happened in June, 1941, when Franklin D. Roosevelt was president in his third term, and World War II had not yet been started in America, though it was in Europe for two years.

Pearl Harbor had not been bombed yet, which was on Dec. 7, 1941. Most people then lived their own lives, hoping they would not have to fight in a war, and memory of World War I was still alive.

I was 16 years old at the time, when school was out. On a morning in June, 1941, I was told to work in the garden. Dad was not at home at the time, so Mother ordered me to hoe the lines.

I saw a very high smoke not too far away, so I ran to home to tell about it. She saw it, so she told me to take some water.

I filled six 10-gallon milk cans with water and took some shovels and loaded them in a pickup and drove there.

When I arrived, I saw there was nothing I could do, so much fire.

There was only one Fire Department in Mt. Pleasant at the time.

There was very little water pressure in Weidman then, so there were many, many lengths of hose to the millpond at Holmes Milling Company.

Fire raged through all of the east-side, as all the stores were

(Continued on Page 6)

street--it broke out between 6.30 and 7 o'clock last Wednesday evening.

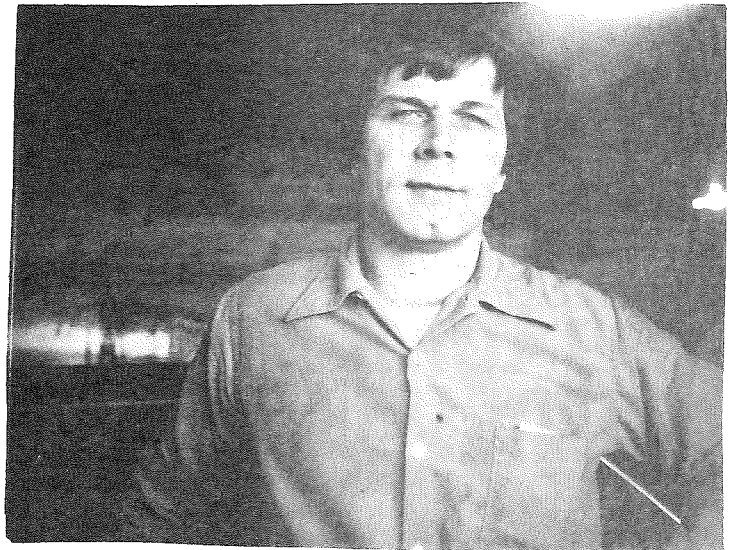
That's why this paper has to cover it a week late.

After a lifetime you get used to that law--practically.

A pox on Murphy and all his laws--but especially the one pertaining to weekly newspapers!



THE EAST SIDE OF WEIDMAN'S BUSINESS STREET--Narrowly escaped destruction (again) Wednesday evening when McClain's Garage was gutted by fire, menacing all store buildings on that side of the street. Dallas had some singed hair and slight burns on his arms, but there were no serious injuries. The whole towns of Weidman and Beal City pitched in, along with the Nottawa and Sherman Volunteer Firemen, who had to call on the Mt. Pleasant units, and finally the Rosebush and Winn fire units to control the blaze.



DALLAS McClain, Of the Weidman McClain Garage, said the fire started when a drop of gasoline from a car line he was working on dropped on his trouble-light, which was hot, and exploded, setting off oil and gasoline fires immediately. The car he was working on had a gas tank that simply burned-- "Otherwise, it would have exploded," Dallas said (that would have been tragic.)

Messenger photos
Only one car--Richard Stevens'-- was totally destroyed by the fire. Three other cars in the garage were damaged, but Dallas said they could be repaired, and (Continued on Next Page)

McCLAIN GARAGE FIRE

(Continued from Page 1)

he was working on them Saturday in Merle Mercer's garage on West Weidman Road.

Dallas' main loss was the Stevens car, and his car-testing equipment--"but thank goodness, somebody saved my tools," he said Saturday.

Styrofoam insulation on the ceiling caused dense black smoke which filtered to nearby stores and businesses: The Archery Range in the same building, the Western Auto Store, and Bud's Store. All but the Archery Range were quickly cleaned up Thursday and business went on as usual there. The Archery Range remains closed, as the Schafers are reluctant to enter the building at all, not knowing structural damage to the whole thing (the roof pretty well burned off).

Weidman and Beal City businessmen and citizens rushed to help, and many performed some quite heroic deeds.

Ray Battleshaw pulled two cars sitting just outside the building

to safety, with his wrecker outfit. Young men and kids around town flocked in and got most of the portable equipment of the garage out.

"All the heat went straight up," Dallas told the Messenger. "That is how come my tools and a lot of other things escaped damage."

A pickup truck owned by Dean Denslow was on the hoist and was damaged some but is salvageable, Dallas said. A Corvette sitting in the back of the garage was not damaged. A cleanup job will put it back in new-car condition, Dallas said. Joan Snider's Nova also was saved, beside the Denslow pickup.

When his trouble-light exploded and fire started, Dallas had hair afire, and one arm, but his co-worker in the garage put out the fire. After one futile attempt with the garage's fire extinguisher, Dallas ran to the fire station next door "and just leaned on that siren button," as he put it.

The local Firemen responded immediately, and very soon realized the fire was out of their control and called for assistance

from the Mt. Pleasant Fire Department. Along with trucks from there, calls were put in--and responded to with alacrity--to the fire stations at Rosebush and Winn. In all there were four fire-fighting units from four localities fighting that stubborn fire.

"Besides the Firemen," Dallas said, "there were dozens of just people rushing in to help, and they sure did help. Jack and Nancy Theisen, brother George McClain, Jr., all the business men of Weidman and most from Beal City were there, pitching in.

"They were simply fantastic," Dallas said Saturday. "I'm glad I live here and work here. Folks are simply fantastic, and I love them all!"

Rosebush sent two fire trucks here, Mt. Pleasant two, Winn one, and all of the entire equipment of the Weidman fire fighters was in frantic action.

The fire call (when Dallas "leaned on that siren button" went in a little after 7 p.m., according to reports from Firemen.

The roof of the garage building was burned off, and other business buildings' roofs were menaced but not damaged.

There was smoke-cleanup to be done in the adjacent stores.

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Dec. 1tf

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Weidman Messenger

Weidman, Michigan

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AREA BINGO

B-I-N-G-O
 WEIDMAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

1/2 MILE SOUTH OF WEIDMAN
 On Coldwater Road
 Every Wednesday Night, 6.30 p.m. till 11 p.m.
 Feb. 10, 78p

B-I-N-G-O
 Joint Temple Association
 413 Coker Drive
 Every Saturday Night
 6:30 P.M.
 9Aug77p

FOR SALE--Fresh cedar shavings, baled. Dogs love it, fleas flee it. Get it for your dog's house this winter. Elwood Miller, tel. 644-3602. Benefit Sherman City Church.

Dec. 1tf

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.

WANTED--Building and remodeling jobs. 10 years' experience. Free estimates. No job too small. Ph. Richard's Building and Remodeling, 644-2643.

Mar10tf

PIANO TUNING--And service. Russell Merrihew, West Broomfield Road, PO Remus 39340, ph. (Blanchard) 561-4043. Pd. to Feb. 1, 1978

MEN--WOMEN

The world's largest training school is hiring.

Where else can you choose the job you want and get paid while you learn? If you qualify, we'll start you at \$397 a month (before deductions). Join the people who've joined the Army.

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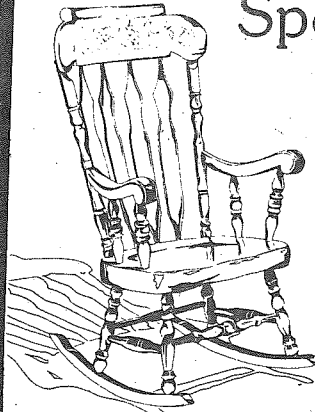
FIREWOOD--For sale, \$20 per cord. Mixed hardwood. Tom Maeder, tel. 644-2235. Go to Maeder Bros. Sawmill just east of Weidman.

Dec. 1t1p

BETTER THAN A LETTER

ROCKERS! ROCKERS!!

Special Buy



The quality is styled in this new massive Boston Rocker. Only the finest Northern grown wood is used in the construction of this, the ultimate Boston Rocker.

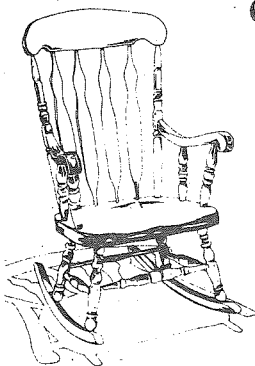
Hand decorated, original stencil designs and five step finishing process all insure a beautiful and lasting finish.

The finest accent piece available for your decor.

Only \$119⁹⁵

This Boston Rocker is the ultimate in Americana Traditional design. Hand crafted of select Northern Hardwoods, hand buffed and handpainted accents make this rocker an outstanding decor piece.

Only \$89⁹⁵



A fine Boston style rocker made with selected Northern Hardwoods and finished in rich Early American tones.

If you are looking for an inexpensive rocker with a clear rich finish, this is it.

Available in maple and pine.

Only \$39⁹⁵



LAYAWAY NOW FOR CHRISTMAS

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"COMPLETE FURNISHINGS FOR THE HOME"

Card of Thanks

This is an attempt at expressing my personal and heartfelt appreciation to the wonderful people of Weidman and Beal City.

During the disastrous fire at my garage last Wednesday night, it seemed just everybody pitched in and helped save a lot of things from the building that otherwise would have been lost.

Young men--teenagers, mainly--got out most of the things while the building was burning.

I want to thank our wonderful Nottawa and Sherman Volunteer Fire Department for heroic efforts, and for their good sense in calling for help when they realized it was beyond their control; those Firemen we have are really super, just super.

I also want to thank businessmen, and everybody who turned out to help.

A special thanks also to the Sheriff's Deputies, who handled

the crowds so efficiently, so no one was hurt.

To all of you, I offer my real and heartfelt gratitude.

I'm glad I live here.

Dallas McClain

Card of Thanks

We wish to thank all the fire departments who worked so hard to save my building from fire last Wednesday evening;

Especially our local Firemen, who did a superior job; and also the other three Fire Departments from Mt. Pleasant, Winn and Rosebush;

All the townspeople who pitched in and helped get things out;

We do thank all you people.

Allan and Pat Marshall

Leon and Carol Schafer

And Family

Dallas and Barb McClain

Winter came suddenly--and now the forecast is rain. Wow.

Obituary

RENA GRACE PITTS

Rena Grace Pitts of Weidman died last Tuesday, Nov. 21, in the Clare Nursing Home. She was 83.

She was born in Hillsdale County Sept. 18, 1894, daughter of Heeson and Elsie (Barnes) Perry.

She married James F. Pitts May 4, 1920, and they spent most of their lives on their beautiful farm in North Nottawa Township. Jim preceded her in death July 26,

1971. After her husband's death, Grace lived alone in the big farm house, but later moved to Weidman to live in a mobile home on Airline Road. She was a member of the Gilmore Church of Christ and the Clare World War I Ladies' Auxiliary.

She is survived by two sons, Elwyn of Big Rapids and Bernard of Weidman; a daughter, Elaine Esterline, of Farwell; and 11 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Grace had many friends through the Gilmore Church and her neighborhood there, and also in Weidman.

YOU ARE SPECIALLY INVITED!

MICROWAVE OVEN DEMONSTRATION

Friday **DECEMBER 2** 1 to 5 p.m.

The microwave oven has finally come of age. With the first microwave cooking system even a gourmet could love. Sharp's Carousel System. Uses up to 75% less energy than conventional ovens.



JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS!

SHARP DELUXE "CAROUSEL" MICROWAVE OVEN

Woman Demonstrator--Here all day to show the marvelous Microwave Oven. She will have micro-wave cooked food to sample.

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644-2460

WEIDMAN

Beal City

Dora Smith, Reporter

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Blasen and Theresa Smith had Thanksgiving dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Bill Trowbridge and family of Midland.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Larry and family went to Detroit for Thanksgiving.

Mrs. Mary Tilmann started work in the kitchen of the Beal City Public School last Monday.

Mrs. Ida Fussman came home Friday, after spending a few days with her daughter, Mary, and husband.

Mr. and Mrs. Luke Cotter came home Friday from Chicago, after spending Thanksgiving there.

Mr. and Mrs. Al Tilmann had Thanksgiving dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Don Tilmann of Mt. Pleasant.

Walt and Wanda Schafer of Mt. Pleasant spent Sunday with Tillie Schafer. Mrs. Schafer spent Thanksgiving with the Ed Schafers at Coldwater Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Schafer and Jeanette and David spent Sunday with Louise Schafer.

Mrs. Schafer and Martha Sheahan spent Thanksgiving at the John Sheahan home

Mr. and Mrs. John Schafer and family spent Thanksgiving with the Ed Schafers.

Ginny Rau and Mrs. Delores Gould visited Mrs. Margaret (Rau) Noble in the Alma Hospital Sunday. Bill Yuncker and Cindy Rau also are in that hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Block entertained company at dinner on Thanksgiving.

Judy Steffke and Brad Hines were married Friday at St. Joseph's Church here, with a reception at the K. of C. Hall. A very beautiful wedding.

Lyle Keiser and Judy Schmidt were married Saturday evening in St. Joseph's Church, with a reception at the K. C. Hall. Also a very beautiful wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gould and family, Dale Rau, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Rau and family, and Anne and Dora Smith had Thanksgiving dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rau.

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BEAL CITY SENIORS HAVE NINE TABLES AT PLAY

At their regular card party last Wednesday afternoon, the Beal City Senior Citizens had nine tables of pepper at play.

Ida Mae Dent won first prize for the ladies, with Gertrude Cross second and Regina Faber low.

Isadore Schafer won first prize for the men, with Father Neubecker second and Elwyn Cluley low.

Louis Rau won the pepper prize, Monica Grinzinger won the door prize.

A special prize, a half-gallon

of ice cream from Walt and Dolly Rau, was greatly appreciated, and was won by Harold Schumacher.

A committee composed of Mildred Young, Mrs. Elwyn Cluley, Luella Martin and Dorothy Strang, with others on the committee, served cookies and coffee for refreshments.

The next card party at the K. C. Hall in Beal City will be on Thursday afternoon, Dec. 8. Everyone is cordially invited.

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S. W. Sherman

Mabel Chaffee, Reporter

(Editor's Note: We are pleased to announce that Mabel Chaffee will write the Southwest Sherman news this winter, in the absence of Goldie Dutcher, who with her husband Clayton is basking in Florida sunshine. We are certain you will enjoy Mabel's writings.)

Thanksgiving guests of Mabel Chaffee were her daughter, Jeanine Bauw and two daughters, Robyn of Grand Rapids and Michelle of Atlanta, Ga. They returned home Sunday.

Mrs. Patricia Egbert spent last week in Lansing, visiting her daughter and her parents, the Frank Goodriches, returning on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gatehouse enjoyed Thanksgiving dinner at the home of the Bill Maeders.

Our scenery by the Chippewa

River looks like a picture postcard. Could be a Christmas greeting card, with Nature's beauty.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Beutler spent Sunday in St. Louis, visiting her parents at a pre-Christmas family gathering, while the Carl Beutlers entertained their immediate families at the their home for pre-Christmas, as the parents of both families are heading for the Sunny South for the winter months.

The Dean Chaffees are remodeling their home. The Busy Bees meet at the home of Lila Sisco Dec. 8, for their Christmas party. Make a special effort to attend.

James Farnsworth, age 70, of Cave Creek, Ariz., passed away Nov. 14, and was buried Nov. 16. He leaves his wife, the former Alma Sheldon, of Weidman; three daughters, and eight grandchildren. James made a movie for television with the actor Dick VanDyke, and a mural of him hangs in a Cave Creek restaurant as a tv personality.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Oplinger and Mr. and Mrs. Brian Dutcher enjoyed Thanksgiving dinner with their parents, the Ervin Dutchers, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Dutcher and the Jack Dutchers called on them during the week, before returning home.

Mike Knipfer of Big Rapids and Rock Knipfer of Oklahoma

visited their mother, Mrs. Pat Egbert, last week. The boys were deer hunting, each bagging a deer.

Mrs. Kate Martin and son spent Thanksgiving with Mr. and Mrs. Philip Mead (Mary Catherine).

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Local Items

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Ley had her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Bader, and the Leys' boys as Thanksgiving dinner guests. The Baders, who have stayed north while Bert helped out at the mill during Ed's recent illness, left this week for the winter in Florida. Ed has been back at the mill some time, and says he feels just fine.

Bryan Embrey, 15 years old, got his first deer Thanksgiving morning. It is a five-point buck, with some broken points that would have made it a much bigger trophy. He got it near Middlesworth's swamp south of town.

Bruce Middlesworth of Laurel, Md., spent the Thanksgiving weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Middlesworth. Doug Middlesworth and family of Fowlerville were also holiday guests, as were also Mr. and Mrs. Dick Donley.

Mr. and Mrs. David Flower entertained all their children and their families during the deer hunting season. They left for their homes Sunday.

To The Sherman-Nottawa Twp.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

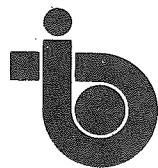
A BIG COMMUNITY

THANK YOU 

IT'S COMFORTING TO KNOW THAT WHEN THE NEED ARISES YOU ACT QUICKLY AND PROFESSIONALLY TO PROTECT PROPERTY AND LIVES.

Thanks also to the Firefighters from Rosebush, Winn and Mt. Pleasant who assisted you.

IT'S GREAT TO BE A PART OF A COMMUNITY WITH DEDICATED PEOPLE SUCH AS YOURSELVES



isabella bank and trust

YOUR HOMETOWN FRIEND

MEMBER FDIC

THE WEIDMAN FIRE

(Continued from Page 1)

of wood construction, and the fire consumed all of them.

All in all, there were burned Miles Drallette's General Store, a vacant building once used as an office by Dr. Gillett, Dillenberg's Drug Store, Fred Neubecker's Hardware, a vacant barber shop of John Otterbine's, and Ann Snyder's Tavern.

I only helped to try and take out merchandise, to save as much as I could. When the fire came under control, only McClain's Garage and Charlie and Agnes Gross' Tavern were saved.

An incident occurred at the time when that fire was raging. John Ritchie was there, and saw a case of liquor hidden by some looters. Maybe much more was to be stolen, but at least there was one case of liquor they didn't get! (To me, looters are the most despicable people, the lowest human beings on earth. If I saw them do it and had a gun, I would shoot to kill, and I would not have any conscience twinges at all.)

During July and August the

east block was rebuilt, in brick and concrete except for the Neubecker store, which he didn't want rebuilt. Construction was by Frank Fox, and his cornerstone is still there today (on Western Auto's Store). By December, all businesses were going again.

Now we have much more equipment for fires (thanks to the WBA and the Townships of Nottawa and Sherman, and also our heroic Volunteer Firemen). We also have much more to save buildings on fire, as well as others if needed.

Then there was only the Mt. Pleasant Fire Department.

John Forest

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AUDUBON FILM TO BE SHOWN SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

"Hidden Worlds of the Big Cypress Swamp," the third Audubon Wildlife film of the season, will be presented Sunday, Dec. 4, at 3 p.m. in Warriner Auditorium on CMU campus.

Tickets will be available at the auditorium entrance before the program. Adult admission is \$1.50, with student admission 50 cents.

BETTER THAN A LETTER

Brinton News

Frances Beck, Reporter

Mr. and Mrs. Verl Wright and family spent Thanksgiving with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Wright. Friday they called on relatives at Greenville.

Fay Forbes is a patient in CMC Hospital at Mt. Pleasant, where he had surgery last week Wednesday. He was reported as coming along satisfactorily at this writing.

A large crowd of friends and relatives gathered at the hall in Brinton to help Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sowles celebrate their 47th anniversary. A lovely lunch was served, and the evening was spent dancing.

Mr. and Mrs. George Kline had her mother from Mt. Clemens as a guest over the Thanksgiving holiday. She returned home Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Beers spent the holiday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Beers. They were callers of their grandmother, Eathel Beers.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne La Londe

held their Thanksgiving family dinner with the Larry Strangs, with also the Gary La Londe family present, Mrs. Eunice La Londe, and Mr. and Mrs. Joe La Londe.

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Baker spent Thanksgiving with their son, Keith, and family, in Grand Rapids. Mr. and Mrs. John Baker and son spent the weekend with them.

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LAKE ISABELLA

Ruth Yabs, Reporter

Your reporter is snowbound. I'll try to get in this week's news next week.

Carmen Drive is certainly shut in this week.

Thanksgiving Day's news will be in next week, if possible.

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Dan and Nina Carrick and Del and Betty Johnson left Monday morning for Zephyrhills, Florida, for the winter. Harold and Helen Cotter have already set up residence there.



FOR MOTHER--WIFE
SWEETHEART

Make it a Merry Christmas with
A LOVELY BLOOMING CHRISTMAS PLANT.

POINSETTIAS
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HOURS
MONDAY THRU
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8 AM TO 5 PM

COMPLETE FEED AND FEEDING PROGRAM

BULK AND BAG FERTILIZER

DAWN'S PAST AND PRESENT SHOP

WEIDMAN 517 / 644-2540

LAY-A-WAY NOW FOR CHRISTMAS

10% Down For 30 Days

Mexican Imports - Toys - Electronics - Glassware
Gifts
Cement Lawn Ornaments

WINNERS For The GRAND OPENING

1st Ulna Cummings
2nd Margaret Blodgett
3rd Vernie Cocklin

Card of Thanks

To all the Firemen, the Sheriff's Department, and everyone who helped out the night of the fire;

Without such wonderful co-operation, we could have had a real disaster.

Western Auto
Whitey and Janet
Benny and Carol

Around Horr

Jessie Rosencrantz, Reporter

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Thompson and Bill, Mr. and Mrs. John Thompson and family, and Mrs. Zola Wright were Thanksgiving dinner guests of the Chuck Wilson family in Grand Rapids.

Mrs. Thompson hosted a bridal shower for Sally Lee, bride-to-be of Tim Workman, at Mrs. Thompson's home Saturday afternoon.

Saturday evening guests at the Thompson home were Tim Workman, Sally Lee, Shirley Fox, Jan and Jack Wood, and Jim Strong.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Touchinsky and girls and George Miller, Glenwood Holmes and Mrs. Maude Cassidy were Thanksgiving dinner guests at the Elwood Miller home. Bill Johnson of Lansing spent a couple of days with the Millers, deer hunting.

Larry Cummins and son, Dwayne, and the Garth Lawrence family brought dinner to the Treva Cummins home for Thanksgiving.

Mr. and Mrs. Mack Denslow had 23 guests at Thanksgiving dinner. It was their children and grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Roberts and family and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dent and family spent from Wednesday till Sunday with their folks, the Gerald Dents. Gerald and Mabel had been in Florida, and came for for the holiday.

The Harold Krueger and Benn Johnson families were Thanksgiving guests of Gerald and Mabel Dent. Mabel went shopping with them in Saginaw last Friday. Sunday night they took Harriet Dillenbeck to the hospital in Alma to visit Pat, who was taken there by ambulance.

Mrs. Isabel Pelletier and Harry Dunton and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Mills and Carrie and Mr. and Mrs. Mike Wood were Thanksgiving dinner guests of the Pete Woods.

Mrs. Wendy Whitman and D. J. were Saturday callers of the Woods.

Mrs. Nettie Lawrence was a Thanksgiving dinner guest of Mrs. Helen Smith and Ula Cummins, in Weidman. Later in the day, Garth called on his mother.

Several families enjoyed Thanksgiving dinner with the Berl Denslows. Some of the men did some

hunting.

Mr. and Mrs. Theron Merrihew, Mr. and Mrs. Don Merrihew and family and Harold Losey were Thanksgiving dinner guests of the Charlie Loseys. Theron, and Ardis, Harold Losey and Gerald were Sunday evening guests.

Last week callers at my home were Mrs. Shari Lorenz, Mrs. Charlene Merrihew and Brenda, Mrs. Shinaberry and Tim, and Mrs. Lloyd Watson.

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Local Items

The Winning Pioneers and Brinton Busy Bees 4-H Club are holding a roller-skating party at Spinning Wheels Roller Rink in Mt. Pleasant Thursday, Dec. 1.

They will meet at the Weidman School parking lot at 6.15 p.m.

All members are asked to take a friend. Leaders and parents are urged to attend, and provide transportation.

Waubenoo Chapter No. 360, OES, is celebrating its 70th year as a chartered chapter at its Dec. 7 meeting. The meeting will be called to order at 8 p.m.

A special tribute will be given to those having been members 40 or more years.

All members of OES are welcome to attend. Take a small gift for Christmas exchange and treats to be shared with a birthday cake.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene McArthur and family spent Thanksgiving Day in Pontiac, at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Larry Spence (Jeannie) and family. Tim McArthur of Pontiac was also a dinner guest.

Callers of Clayton Smith at the Medical Care Facility in Mt. Pleasant during the past week included Don and Birdie Abbott, who took Clara to see him; also Roger Smith and two boys called on their grandfather Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. David Smith of Kalamazoo also called on him, on their way home from Wolverine.

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Sprague spent last Tuesday evening with the Andy Bellingers and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Dent of Farwell, celebrating her birthday.

Mrs. Jim Smith and baby, Matt, and Lucille Doyle were Thanksgiving dinner guests of Mrs. Leah Scharrer.

Mr. and Mrs. Harland Snider spent a week recently in Marinette, Wisc., and Menominee, U. P.

Mr. and Mrs. Harland Snider had all their children and their families home for Thanksgiving dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Sprague and Mrs. Bessie Teall were Thanksgiving guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Sprague and girls. Wm. Johnson of Lansing spent

last week Monday and Tuesday here, hunting with Dick Touchinski.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Touchinski celebrated the seventh birthday of their daughter, Terri. Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Miller and George were guests.

Mrs. Verlia Wilcox and Mr. and Mrs. Dick Curtiss were Thanksgiving guests of Mr. and Mrs. Gary Gatehouse.

Mrs. Helen Smith and Ula Cummins entertained Mr. and Mrs. Larry Cummins and two sons from St. Louis, and Mr. and Mrs. Garth Lawrence and Pam of Laingsburg, and Nettie Lawrence as Thanksgiving dinner guests.

Ann Nash and family and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Carrick were Thanksgiving dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Elmo Blodgett, at Uncle Benn's Rest Home west of town.

Mr. and Mrs. Allan Marshall were called home by the fire in the garage. They were spending Thanksgiving with her sister and family. State Police came and notified them of the fire at the garage, and they came back Saturday.

Mrs. Claribel Beutler spent Thanksgiving Day with the Forrest Johnston family at Rosebush. Mr. and Mrs. Mark Johnston and baby of Franklin, O., were also guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Wilson spent Thanksgiving in St. Louis with their daughter and family, the James Snyders.

Mr. and Mrs. Felix Stevens and his sister, Judy, were last Wednesday visitors of Mrs. Marie Smith. They had visited Ina Gillett, and Ina said she was pleased that Marie was in her house. Ina loves to get cards from friends here.

Mrs. Nina Forbes spent several days last week with her son and his family at Berkley. Mrs. Leo Linebaugh of Pontiac was also a guest.

Tim McArthur of Pontiac spent the holiday weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene McArthur.

Stuart McArthur returned to Alexandria, Va., Saturday morning, after spending two weeks during the deer season with his brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell McArthur.

Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell McArthur had all their children and their families home for Thanksgiving dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Louisell had Thanksgiving dinner at the home of their son, Bob, and family, in Mt. Pleasant.

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Pitts had all their children and their families home for Thanksgiving.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Sperry of Virginia Beach, Va., were visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Phillips Thursday morning.

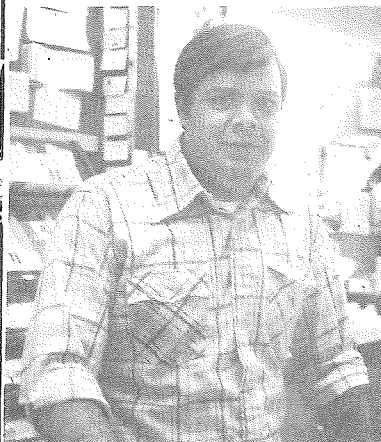
Paul Sanders of Coldwater

Township was a Friday visitor of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Phillips.

AFTER THE WEIDMAN FIRE...



"We haven't been inside the Archery since the fire," Carol Schaffer said. "We didn't know just what structural damage there might have been as to the roof, and son on. We don't know when we can re-open the place."

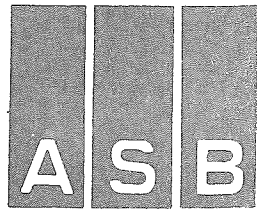


"No real damage at my store," Bud Fredrickson said this week. "Just a matter of wiping smoke stains off around the store."



"No damage to merchandise at Western Auto," Whitey McCreight said. (Western Auto is adjacent to the garage building that burned last Wednesday evening.) "We shan't have to have a fire sale, or anything like that. There was just a lot of smoke in here, but we got it out."

Messenger photos



AMERICAN SECURITY BANK

Where Your Friends Are!

Member FDIC

Beal City office

You're invited!

Suckers and Balloons for the kiddies. Refreshments for the adults.

GRAND OPENING

Monday

DECEMBER

5

Through

Saturday

DECEMBER

10



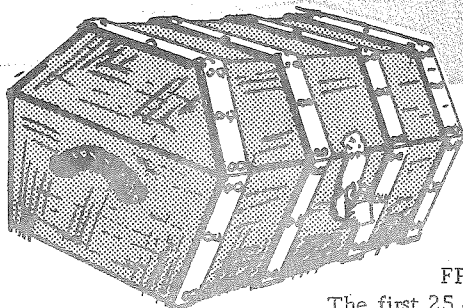
FREE

LUXURIOUS CAROUSEL BLANKET

special

JUST FOR BANKING WITH US!

A lovely Carousel bed blanket by Beacon is yours absolutely FREE when you open a new savings or checking account for \$100 or more or add \$100 or more to an existing savings account. Purchase of any time certificate of deposit also qualifies you for a free blanket. These fine blankets are machine washable and dryable. Also, we pay the highest legal interest rates paid on savings. The happiness that comes with savings . . . plus a free blanket. (One blanket per family.) Offer good at all offices of American Security Bank.



TREASURE CHEST OF PRIZES

Come in, try your key in the Treasure Chest lock. If you lost your key, or didn't receive one in the mail, we have one waiting for you.

FREE TO EARLY BIRDS!

The first 25 customers daily will receive a free frozen-food/utility knife. One knife per customer, please

