

The Weidman Messenger

VOL. XIII, NO. 30

Weidman, Mich. 48893

Thursday, February 3, 1977

35¢ per copy

Editor's Column

By Connie

THE CHIPPEWA HILLS SCHOOLS AND THE MILLAGE VOTE

There is a millage election coming up March 3 to determine whether taxpayers in the Chippewa Hills School District will vote themselves a tax raise of six mills besides renewing the 14 mills we now pay but which will expire this year.

According to the school's paper, the Chippewa Hills Courier, about 30 "concerned residents" of the district met Jan. 19 (the paper doesn't say where) to discuss the formation of a group called "United Communities for Education".

The meeting apparently was led by Gary Lowery, administrative assistant (whatever that is) for Chippewa Hills Schools.

Lowery apparently addressed the group with an excruciatingly lengthy "explanation" for the need for 24 mills operating expenses for the schools. (The Chippewa Hills Schools now operate on a \$3,000,000 (three million) dollar a year budget (spending).

Result of that meeting was the formation of "The United Communities for Education".

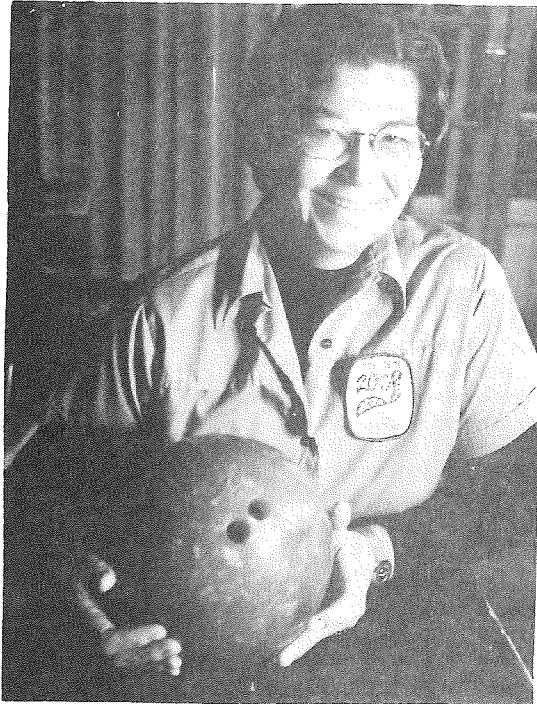
Larry Rescoe brought me a copy of a booklet published by the group, titled "Chippewa Hills Voter's Guide", which is proclaimed "paid for and published by the United Communities for Education". (We were unable to obtain names of members of "The United Communities for Education".)

The booklet has a front and back cover of rag-content paper, which means expensive stuff; and if its contents are a sample of the "education" the Chippewa Hills district gives our kids, I say let's skip it.

The first page is a lengthy explanation of "Why So Much" is required of taxpayers to keep the schools running. (By Gary Lowery.)

(Continued on Back Page)

SHE BOWLED OVER 200



WANDA GRAHAM bowled a 260 game at the Chippewa Lanes Bowling Alley in Mt. Pleasant last Wednesday evening, winning high series (571) and game of the year at the lanes, playing on the Buyers Guide-sponsored team. She won her first 200 patch, and also a patch for 10 pins over her average in the Women's Bowling Association. Wanda came up with highest total as of last Wednesday on the Charity Bowl. The Charity Bowl is an annual affair, and qualifiers may go on to other rollofs in Petoskey and Chicago. The finals will be in Petoskey. Grand prize for first place is a trip to Hawaii for two. Each year the league sponsors a Charity Ball at \$1 per head. Money goes for the blind and other handicapped children in Michigan. Others on Wanda's bowling team include Joan Cole, Linda Swan, Connie Bushre, and Marlene Davy. The girls also play as the Weidman Pharmacy team, in another league.

Messenger photo

WEIDMAN DAY STARTER MEETING HELD SUNDAY

A preliminary meeting was held Sunday evening at 7 at the Fire Hall, to decide whether to put on another Celebration Day, and if so, to begin organization of committees.

It was decided to hold another Weidman Day this summer, with the possibility of a two-day celebration discussed.

An executive committee was

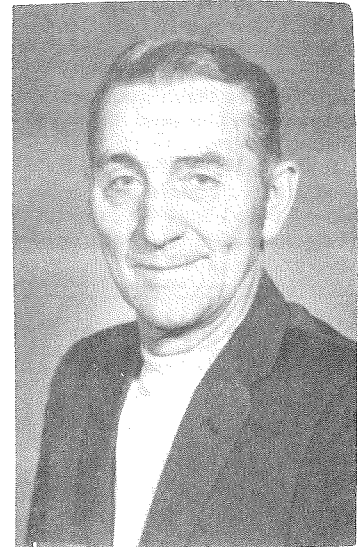
appointed, consisting of Whitey McCreight, Thayne Sides, Bob Reynolds, as main overall planners.

Another meeting will be held after the Little Mac Day Feb. 20.

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NEWS NOTES

Mrs. Dick Curtiss had surgery at the Alma Hospital last week Tuesday. She was reported as doing good, and hoped to return home this week.



BERT CHAFFEE

This area was deeply saddened by the sudden passing of Albert (Bert) Chaffee last Thursday, Jan. 27.

He and his wife Mabel have countless friends in this area, who will mourn Bert's passing, and extend deep sympathy to Mabel.

Albert Chaffee, age 68, passed away at his home Jan. 27.

He was born near Weidman, the son of William and Flora Chaffee.

He and his wife, Mabel, lived in Grand Rapids 32 years, while he worked at Blackmer Pump Company, retiring in 1973. Bert and Mabel then moved back to Weidman.

Those left to mourn are his wife, Mabel; a daughter, Jeanine Bauw, two granddaughters, Michelle and Robyn Bauw, of Kentwood, Mich.; a brother, Clarence, of rural Weidman; two sisters, Vada and Beatrice Gatehouse, of Lake Isabella; and nieces and nephews, and a host of friends.

Funeral services were held at the Daggett Funeral Home in Barryton Sunday, with Rev. Marvin Eldridge officiating. Interment was in Memorial Gardens in Grand Rapids.

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HOME PAPER FOR THE WEST HALF OF ISABELLA COUNTY

WORK MEETING NEXT MONDAY NIGHT FOR LITTLE MAC BRIDGE DAY FEB. 20

A work meeting is scheduled for next Monday night at the Fire Hall in Weidman, to start the work of preparation for Little Mac Bridge Day and Pig Roast on the Elwood and Iola Miller farm Sunday, Feb. 20.

The meeting will begin in earnest about 7.30, and organization of committees will be completed, with probably some real chores like wrapping several thousand sets of silverware in paper napkins, to be ready for the day.

Harry Pung says the beans--300 pounds of them--are here, with 100 pounds donated. Potatoes have been donated by Dick Cook--they're those good potatoes raised on the sand around Weidman Town.

A few donations of money to buy hogs have been made, with more--we do hope--to come.

The potatoes must be washed, dried, and wrapped in foil,

ready for baking on the grills at the charcoal-fires site.

Volunteers to help with the monumental chore of all the details--including women to help make the dressing--are needed. The dressing is mixed and made at the Fire Hall by local housewives, and then, at the last minute, it's baked in the ovens of Weidman and Beal City women.

Volunteers are also needed to supply home-baked bread.

SCHOOLS CLOSED DUE TO DRIFTING SNOW

Area schools, all the way from Mt. Pleasant to the Chippewa Hills system, have been closed during the recent blizzard and drifting conditions prevalent here.

Schools were again closed Monday and Tuesday, due to drifting snow on side roads.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Dent were callers of Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Sprague one day last week.

NOTE TO ALL EDITORS--INCLUDING THIS ONE:

"Lord, fill my mouth with worthwhile stuff
And shut it when I've said enough!"

(Contributed by Ruth Yabs of Lake Isabella, who was given it by Mrs. Mays, who found it among her mother's papers. Mrs. Mays' mother recently died.)

54TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY FEB. 26

Roy and Mamie Sisco will observe their 54th wedding anniversary Feb. 26.

Old friends are asked to send them cards, for a card shower.

Their address is Mt. Pleasant, R4, East Remus Road.

HOME PAPER FOR THE WEST HALF OF ISABELLA COUNTY

In the Editor's Mail

Dear Connie,
I'm enclosing my check for another year's subscription. Hang in there and don't let anyone run you out. We'd miss you.

We were going to Florida for a short while, but every night when we saw the storms across the middle states on tv, we didn't start out.

Today we have a blizzard, but we haven't had as much snow as usual. However, it has never been above freezing since Dec. 20.

Most Sincerely,
Genevieve Scott Gingery
Flint

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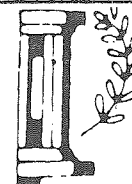
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Weidman Messenger

Weidman, Michigan

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER: Constance Skinner.
Tel. 644-2000, Weidman. Address, 6298 Airline Road, Weidman, Mich., 48893.
SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$8 per year locally. Anywhere in the world, \$11.00. Single copy 35¢.
Second-Class Postage paid at Weidman, Michigan.
Published at Weidman, Isabella County, Michigan, each Thursday; except that the last week of June and the first week of July; the last week of September and the first week of October; the Christmas and New Year's Issues, and the last week of March of the first week of April, are combined.
Address all mail: Weidman Messenger, Weidman, Michigan 48893.

Local Items

Mr. and Mrs. Bart Helmer and daughter, Barb, of near Remus, called on their uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Smith, Sunday evening.

Mrs. Claribel Beutler visited the Daggett Funeral Home Saturday to pay respects to Bert Chaffee, who died last Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Middlesworth left for Florida last week, to make their permanent home there. They tried to spend the winter here, but decided it's too cold here for them.

So we bought a molded wall plaque made by Jack Stevens, who learned how to do it through a program for handicapped persons, in Mt. Pleasant. The small plaque was brought to the Messenger office by Shelley Battleshaw, Dorothy Chase, and Christine and Frances Chase. They live in Bonnie Loomis' old home on the Loomis place here in Weidman.

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The Churches

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

Sunday Services
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Worship Service, 11 a.m.
Jr. Church in Basement, 11 a.m.
Evening Service, 7 p.m.

A group from our church went to Brinton to attend a hymn sing at the Brinton Chapel Sunday evening. Cookies, coffee and Koolade were enjoyed after the sing.

Sunday evening, Feb. 6, at 7 p.m., the Crusade Quartet will be presenting a musical program at our church. Everyone is cordially invited to come.

A free-will offering will be taken.

WEIDMAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Athel J. Lynch, Pastor. Ph. 644-3336.

Church School, 9.45 a.m.
Worship Service, 11 a.m.
Pot-luck dinner third Sunday, 1 p.m.
Sharing and Prayer Thursday, 7.30 p.m.
Methodist Men, 4th Saturday, 6.30 p.m.

The local church board's meeting scheduled for Monday night of this week was postponed to next Monday night, at 7.30.

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Card of Thanks

I wish to thank my relatives, neighbors and friends, for their loving kindness to me when my Sweetheart went to Heaven;

The floral offerings, gifts of money, the Busy Bees for the dinner, Daggett Funeral Home, Dr. Brown, Rev. Eldridge;

To Tom Loomis for plowing our drive; my family, who stayed and helped me.

A special Thanks to Gary and Ruth Gatehouse in getting Jeanine and the grandkids up here with their Blazer; CB radio people, and help from State Police.

Your loving kindness shall always be remembered.

God bless you all.

Mabel Chaffee
And Family

Two youths arraigned

Two Mount Pleasant youths were charged with breaking and entering and larceny from a building Wednesday in the 76th District Court before Judge Douglas Dehn.

Steven Lyle Smith, 17, Rte. 4 and Thomas Lee Mathewson, 17, Airway Drive, stood mute at their arraignment. The court scheduled a preliminary hearing for Feb. 16.

Bond for Smith and Mathewson was set at \$1,000 each.

The youths are being held in connection with the burglary of Maxfield's Lake Isabella Lounge Monday evening.

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Local Items

Arthur Loomis can remember the winter of 1941-42, when kids were out of school from two weeks after Christmas till the middle of March. This winter has been tough, but in this area it really isn't the worst one in our history.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Sprague called on her sister, Janet Sutton, at Carson City Hospital Sunday afternoon. They also called on Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Spiece and family while in Carson City.

Mrs. Nina Forbes received a letter from Blanche (Carr) Miller from Lakeland, Fla. Blanche said she'd been having asthma there, but her husband wanted to return next winter.

BETTER THAN A LETTER

B-I-N-G-O

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B-I-N-G-O

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

3-76-tf

Card of Thanks

I want to thank all my friends and relatives, and those who sent cards, flowers, and words of encouragement, and came to visit me during my three week's stay at Gratiot Hospital;

And to all those who have visited me since I have been home. A special Thank You to Pastor Louis Cheek for his daily visits, and also the Nottawa-Sherman Fire Department.

Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. God bless you all.
Carol Cookie Miller

In the Editor's Mail

Dear Connie,

Enclosed find my check in amount of \$11.00 for renewal of my subscription for another year. I know it's supposed to be better late than never, but nevertheless I apologize for being late with my check.

We enjoy reading the paper, and hope that things work out so that you can continue publication for many more years.

Good luck.

Stuart McArthur
Maryland

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.

LEFT AT MESSENGER OFFICE--Man's glasses, gray plastic rims. Owner may call for same.
Dec. 2tf

PIANO TUNING--And service. Russell Merrihew, West Broomfield Road, PO Remus 39340, ph. (Blanchard) 561-4043.
Jan. 20t4p

FOR SALE--Two Ford snow tires, excellent condition. Paul Cole, 5383 W. Coleman Rd., Gilmore Twp., ph. 644-2088.
Jan. 20tf

FOR RENT--Three room furnished apartment. Utilities paid. No children, no pets. 1888 North Winn Road, tel. 644-3958.
Jan. 6tf

ALWOOD PLUMBING--Service and replacements. Phone 644-2647 or 644-3581.
Jan6tf

FOR SALE--Hay and straw. Also two snow tires, 7.30-5.15. Original tires. ph. 644-2153.
Feb. 1t2p

METHODIST MINISTER AND WIFE HAVE COLD JOURNEY

Last Sunday at 7 p.m. Rev. and Mrs. Lynch left for Nashville, Tenn., where they spent four days attending a national association of lay and associate ministers of the United Methodist Church.

Temperature there, when they left to start for home, was 47 degrees. There was snow when they got there, but it was melting. They stopped at Columbus, Ohio, the first night on their trip back. When they got up next morning, a blizzard had hit that part of the country, and that day, Friday, they drove all day at 20 to 30 miles per hour, with snow blowing so bad across the highway they had to come to a standstill often.

Their second day they got only as far as Fort Wayne, Ind., and all highways out of there were closed, with police stationed on all highways to stop all traffic in any direction.

They got off the highway and stayed at a motel Friday night, Saturday and Saturday night, till about 1 p.m. Sunday, and driving was still described as very treacherous.

They passed snowdrifts beside and on highways as high as eight to 10 feet. That was on the south bound lane, so they did not encounter them, except that they drove in blowing snow, especially in Michigan.

Temperature at Fort Wayne was 57 degrees below zero, counting the chill factor.

They took a short drive to an eating place, from their motel, and while they were on their way the gas line froze in their car. Rev. Lynch was unable to get it started, and they stayed inside the car about 10 minutes, calling on citizens' band for help. Help came, they were rescued and were taken in to Fort Wayne, while their car

was repaired.

The gas line froze up again when they were in Michigan, but they poured some antifreeze liquid into their gas line and got their car started.

A truck driver who was stalled rode with them from Fort Wayne to Lansing.

Car wrecks and cars in ditches around Cass City, Ind., including semi trailers, to the number of 15 to 16 semis piled up in both lanes of the highway, unable to move. Two tour buses out of Nashville were also stalled, and occupants were put up in the Moose Lodge building over night. They were musicians from Nashville, and provided music for other victims of the storm over the long waiting hours.

In Nashville practically all business places and schools were closed for lack of natural gas, and the gas shortage extended through Tennessee, Kentucky and Indiana, all states suffering from lack of heat facilities. In Fort Wayne businesses were closed to conserve fuel for home heating.

Mrs. Lynch heard over the radio that four men within half a mile of Fort Wayne got stuck in a drift and all four froze to death in their car. Wind was blowing snow so they could not see the lights of nearby Fort Wayne city.

Fred Rescoe conducted services at the Methodist Church here during the absence of Rev. and Mrs. Lynch.

The Lynches thank their church people for their public prayer Sunday for their safety in getting home.

"We're just thankful to be home," Mrs. Lynch said Monday. "We're not half as bad off here as in some states. Motels were filled all along the way down to Nashville and back and people were put up in armories, schools and such, as

their homes had no heat."

The Lynches said that roadmen such as the truck drivers deserve a lot of credit for their arduous and dangerous work in the deep snow.

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S. W. Sherman

Goldie Dutcher, Reporter

Albert (Bert) Chaffee passed away suddenly Thursday night at his home here on Rolland Road. His funeral was Sunday afternoon at the Daggett Funeral Home in Barryton. His family have our deepest sympathy.

Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Dutcher, Sr., and Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Dutcher, Jr., called at the Daggett Funeral Home Saturday evening to pay respects to Bert Chaffee.

Clayton and Robert Dutcher attended the funeral Sunday.

Douglas Dutcher and Monica Breuer spent Sunday with the Richard Dutchers.

Ervin and Clayton Dutcher called on Floyd Dutcher Sunday.

Dawn, Richard, Garry and Jim Dutcher called on us Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Dutcher and Chris and Jon spent Monday afternoon and had supper with us. They called on the Robert and Garry Dutchers.

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NEWS NOTES

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Sprague called on Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Meeker recently. Mr. Meeker is a former superintendent of the old Weidman High School and the couple now live on M-66 north of the Airline corner.

Local Items

Last Thursday afternoon and supper and evening guests of Mrs. Nina Forbes were Mrs. Harvey Brien of Ithaca and son, Michael, of Madison, Wis., and Thomas C. Brien of Berkeley, who was an overnight guest.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Larry Spence, a seven-pound, 12-ounce baby girl, Saturday, Jan. 29, at CMC Hospital in Mt. Pleasant.

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Beal City

Dora Smith, Reporter

Mrs. Joanne Schafer started working at Pleasant Manor in Mt. Pleasant this past week.

Oscar Fedewa of Houghton Lake spent Monday with Mr. and Mrs. Bob Blasen and Theresa Smith.

Julius Bierschbach spent some time in Grand Rapids and Jackson, and also Kalamazoo, the past week.

Dale Rau of Gregory, Mich., was home over the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Funnell, Louis Rau, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gould and Mr. and Mrs. Larry Rau enjoyed a fish fry at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rau, Sunday evening.

Mrs. Rose Ann Sheahan of Littlefield Lake visited Mrs. De-lore Gould Wednesday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Barz are the proud parents of a baby boy.

A good-sized group of people were served breakfast Sunday morning at the K. C. Hall, by K. C. members.

Tillie Schafer and Louise Schafer spent Sunday at the Walter Schafer home near Mt. Pleasant.

Mr. and Mrs. Milo Eldred spent Thursday with Tillie Schafer.

Mrs. Ethel Bywater is now in the Medical Care Facility at Mt. Pleasant and would like to see old friends from here.

Coldwater Lake

Jean Schneider, Reporter

Mrs. Vera McKenzie spent Sunday with her brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gross, of Weidman. They all enjoyed a lovely dinner together, and visited before she returned home.

Bob and Bev Bamford spent this weekend entertaining their children, Jack and Jan Bamford, and Sandra Hopp and Nicky, all of Lansing. They all spent the weekend snowmobiling and visiting.

Our sympathy to the family of Harry Shaw, who passed away last week. He had been in the hospital with heart trouble, and was allowed to come home Saturday. Sunday he passed away. Burial was at Crystal.

Sorry to report that Jack McKenzie was admitted to CMC Hospital Thursday. His wife, Vera, said he was doing fine, and feeling much better. We wish him a speedy recovery from a bad case of flu.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Smith spent the weekend in Jackson, visiting their son, Gary, and his family.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Beck had dinner Friday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ludwig.

A surprise birthday party was held for JoAnn Marchiando last Sunday. Those attending included George Flaugher, Bill Bleise,

Mike Cone, Keith Yuncker, Michele Gruss, Jane Bechtel, Gary Smith, Sally Reihl, Joyce Pasch, and Karen Rau. The kids had a hot-dog roast, rode snowmobiles, and ice skated.

Joe and Carol Marchiando spent Saturday evening playing cards with Bernie and Amy Bierschbach. Larry and Jeri Benson also were there.

Scott and Daphne Frear entertained Joe and Carol Marchiando Friday evening. They visited and played cards, and spent an enjoyable evening together.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Harter, along with friends Mr. and Mrs. Robert Oldt, attended "Hawaiian Night" at the American Legion Hall in Big Rapids Saturday evening.

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North Weidman

Elvah Gott, Reporter

Mrs. Laura Latham attended the funeral of her brother-in-law, Bert Chaffe, at the Daggett Funeral Home in Barryton Sunday.

The Busy Bees put on a dinner for the Chaffee family Sunday after Bert's funeral, at the Masonic Hall in Weidman.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Parker and family and Muriel Miller and Lois Knollenberg and boys spent Sunday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Micky Abbott. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Gott called on us Sunday evening.

Mrs. Zena Olger visited her doctor last week.

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HOME PAPER FOR THE WEST HALF OF ISABELLA COUNTY

The Messenger

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Michigan's Schools

By Harmon Cropsey Executive Director
"Friends of Michigan Schools"

Fortunate People

The impossible happened in Boyne City and East Jordan Monday, January 3, 1977. The citizens of these two cities voted 2,163 to 191 to dissolve the Twin Valley School District and recreate the East Jordan and Boyne City school systems.

For the first time since July 30, 1968, the problems caused by the consolidation have been resolved. From information I have gathered, the merger vote was sold on promises like Jimmy Carter's campaign where everybody was promised whatever they wanted to hear. Living with those kinds of promises is slightly difficult, as was found out in Twin Valley, and as Carter is about to find out in Washington.

The main contention between the two cities was the location of the proposed new high school. At the time of the merger in 1968, the citizens of East Jordan assumed the school would be built somewhere between the two cities, but the Boyne City folks (being the largest city) wouldn't listen to that, they wanted it in Boyne City. So, as a result, the bond issue for the new high school never passed, and neither have any other bond issues.

It Is Not Simple!

If school districts decide to annex or consolidate, they always receive lots of encouragement from the Michigan Departments of education and the education departments of the universities—but it is a different story if a school wants to get back its identity after it has merged. There was no provision in the school law to unravel a merger until last year when the legislature approved the Twin Valley demerger.

The problem of the Twin Valley District first came to my attention in 1971 when Richard Friske was the state representative from that area, and he introduced a bill to make it possible for the districts to demerge. A subcommittee was appointed to

study the problem, but they never reached a conclusion as to what could be done. Some members of the committee thought time would heal the problem—that it was just something the people would learn to live with. But the citizens in Charlevoix County didn't see why a bad merger wasn't reversible. The persistence of the citizens finally paid off. After many trips to Lansing, the citizens finally got a bill passed in 1976 to give them the opportunity to vote.

During all the legislative delay from 1971 to 1976, not a word was said about the precedent (right to demerge) being set, but I knew that was what was bothering a lot of legislators. It would be like tearing down the Berlin Wall—everyone would escape to West Germany if they could vote with their feet. It would be interesting to see what would happen if other consolidations that haven't worked satisfactorily could be put to a vote of the people.

Vote Taken Away

A number of years ago Congress passed a new farm program in which farmers were given an opportunity to have a referendum on whether they wanted a farm program for wheat. The farmers voted overwhelmingly to get government out of farming and let the farmers run their own business. The social planners were horrified to think the "dumb" farmers didn't know what was good for them, so the next year Congress, agreeing with the social planners, was convinced the farmers didn't know what was good for them and passed a new wheat bill that didn't have a referendum provision in it.

We have had a number of bills introduced in the Michigan legislature, and sometimes reported out of committee and passing one house, that would recognize school districts and intermediate districts without a vote of the citizens.

A classic example of this was the governor's proposed Educational Reform Package introduced in the fall of 1969. This package included ten bills and two proposed constitutional amendments. One bill would have completely abolished all the intermediate school districts and another would have merged districts with an enrollment of less than 2000 pupils. All this without a vote of the citizens!

Who was in favor of Educational Reform? Everyone testifying at the first public hearing! What really surprised me was to hear the President of the Michigan School Boards give his stamp of approval to the whole package. It wasn't surprising to hear the League of Women Voters and the Michigan PTA Council endorse the program. That was just an echo of the position they have always taken in Lansing.

Friends of Michigan Schools alerted all our member districts around the state about what was being planned and we were successful in stopping the two reorganization bills. It just proves what a minority of dedicated people can do!

From all indications, we will need that same kind of dedication in 1977 if our present school districts are going to survive.

---Farwell News & Review
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Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Sprague called on Mr. and Mrs. Dick McCann at Midland Sunday afternoon.



LIL MAC BRIDGE PIG ROAST COMING UP--Sunday, Feb. 20. Snowmobilers and campers from all over the state converge on the Elwood Miller farm's lovely hillsides to enjoy the weekend and especially the Sunday roast-pig dinner, complete with home-made dressing and Evelyn Hackney's gourmet bean soup. Monday night's meeting of the Firemen and the business folks of Beal City and Weidman saw appointment of work committees to get ready for the big day.
Messenger photo

Around Horr

Jessie Rosencrantz, Reporter

Tim Workman of St. Louis and Jim Strong of Horsehead Lake were Friday evening and overnight guests at the Jim Thompson home.

Mr. and Mrs. Garth Lawrence and Pam were Saturday supper guests of his mother, Mrs. Nettie Lawrence.

Mrs. Opal Denslow reports that Mrs. Violet Carr is getting lots better, and is walking. She had heart surgery earlier.

This community was saddened by the sudden death of Bert Chaffee.

Opal Denslow, Betty Thompson and Alma Dosenberry assisted with the funeral dinner for the family of Bert Chaffee, at the Masonic Hall in Weidman, Sunday.

Opal Denslow called on Ruth Wark in Weidman Sunday evening. Ruth had just returned from a six-weeks vacation in Florida, and reported it was cold down there, she saw only a few birds, and said she would appreciate friends and neighbors here calling on her.

Mrs. Joyce Chaffee spent Sunday with her folks, the Mack Denslows. Mack and Margie attended the funeral of Bert Chaffee at Barryton.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Mills were Sunday visitors of her folks, the Pete Woods.

Monroe Dutcher was a Tuesday dinner guest at the Charlie Losey home. Mr. and Mrs. Theron Merrihew took Sunday dinner to her folks, and also a dinner to Jessie Rosencrantz. After dinner, Ardis and Theron and Gerald and Marilyn went snowmobiling.

Brinton News

Frances Beck, Reporter

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Tower called on Mr. and Mrs. David Livermore last week Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Rouse of Alma were dinner guests of her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Wright, last Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Wright and Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Husted and a group of friends spent Satur-

day evening at the Coldwater Lake Inn, where they enjoyed dinner and dancing.

Bill Forbes' wife says he's improving, and will be released from the hospital at Pontiac. She is spending some time with her son, Leslie, and family.

Helen Strang and baby spent last week with some friends near Saginaw

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EXPIRATION--Of your subscription date appears each week beside your address.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Coon and little Josh of Lake were Saturday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Touchinski and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Wilson attended a birthday party for their granddaughter, Pamela Kennedy, near Shepherd, Sunday.

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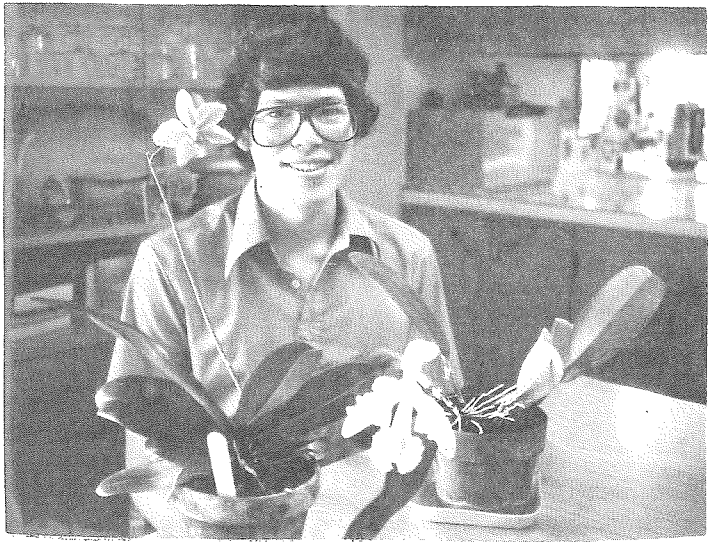
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\$1,000.00	25	280,000 to 1	21,538 to 1	10,769 to 1
100.00	425	16,471 to 1	1,267 to 1	634 to 1
20.00	750	9,333 to 1	724 to 1	359 to 1
5.00	2,400	2,917 to 1	224 to 1	112 to 1
2.00	6,000	1,167 to 1	88 to 1	44 to 1
1.00	12,000	583 to 1	44 to 1	22 to 1
TOTAL	52,100	132 to 1	10 to 1	5 to 1

The grand prize played in the county under 871 participating IGA and affiliated food stores located in the local community of the State of Michigan. Established 1/1/1977. Expires April 11, 1977.



GREG ALLEN RAISES ORCHIDS--And with great success. Shown above is Greg with his white Cattleya orchid, the expensive florists' item for top-cost corsages. Also shown is his Phalenopsis orchid, a smaller but exquisite flower. Greg has had several blooms at once on both of his orchid plants, and is something of an expert on horticulture. The Phalenopsis is light-greenish-yellow with a bright orange lip. Last year he had in bloom a pale yellowish-white slipper orchid that had blooms lasting up to two months. The orchids bloom out of the leaf stems, and Greg's present supply of plants is on their last blooms, having given forth on all the big green leaves before this. Greg says the plants will send up new leaf-shoots, to produce new blooms. The Allen family toured a huge orchid greenhouse with acres of glass, in Chicago, over a year ago, and also have visited Williamston's greenhouse in Lansing, which specializes in orchids, in Lansing. Greg drew a Double-A on an exquisitely-drawn book of sketches of orchids in a high school class free-choice science project. All the Allen children of Ivan and Rowena Allen have been All-A students in schools.

Messenger photo

Editor's Column

By Connie
(Continued from Page 1)

In the "United Communities for Education" booklet, Lowery is quoted as saying, "There are some encouraging signs that Lansing will wake up", however the Courier has the word correctly used, "encouraging"

But both publications quoted Lowery as saying, "...school management personnel must strive to keep the school operating." What he meant was, of course, "school personnel".

On another page we read with astonishment, "In no cases were any of the schools contacted for this information able to say that they would differently not going to ask for increases in millage".

Onward with education!

The book is redolent of grammatical errors and non-understanding of the English language

Also it gives us salaries paid to La Vern Alward, and the teachers in Chippewa Hills' various schools.

Alward, for instance, gets \$28,000.00 per year salary (plus fringe benefits, of course);

beginning teachers with Bachelors' degrees start at \$9,873.00 salary per year for nine months' work, plus fringe benefits; top Masters' degreed people get \$15,641.00 per year salary for nine months' work, plus fringe benefits.

I haven't heard any teacher or administrator, all of them so very concerned about the "education" of our children, offer to peel off, say, about \$4,000 by all administrative personnel beginning with Alward; \$2,000 by Masters' degree people and \$1,000.00 per year by ordinary teachers. (But their hearts are bleeding for the children.)

The booklet points out that the school has already cut communication skills (what's that? If they mean Speech 101 including understanding of words and proper grammar, I say too bad; if it's what I'm afraid it is, I say good, cut it). They've cut graphic arts, touted as a great step in industrial arts instruction for those not college bound. I say, Good. Cut it. No high school print shop could possibly hope to anywhere near keep up with the almost daily advances in the graphic arts. The school's printshop materials and equipment are entirely out-

moded today.

They've cut astronomy. Good. We need astronomy in the high school like another hole in the head.

They've cut architectural drafting, varsity ensemble (whatever that is), home visitations by the ag teacher (for 30 families truly farm supported in the entire far-flung district);

They've cut club and activity sponsorship (paid, that is); they've not replaced an assistant principal, and they've required some students to walk up to .6 of a mile. (Blow me down. Kids having to walk half a mile!)

Larry Rescoe remarked that if the millage fails entirely (they're planning elections in March, June and the fall, if the millage is turned down), the State will step in "and take over. Look what happened to Farwell!"

Look at what happened to Farwell. The truth is that taxpayers in the Farwell School dis-

trict wanted to get rid of their school superintendent, and the School Board said they couldn't. The arguments got so hot the whole School Board resigned, bag and baggage.

The State did step in.

The State ran the school a relatively short while, the people elected a new school board which fired the unwanted superintendent, and the people voted the millage originally requested.

They voted it because they got their school back in their own control.

So don't scare us with "the State will step in and close the schools".

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NEWS NOTES

Sunday dinner guests of Mrs. Claribel Beutler were her son and family, the Carl Beutlers.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Valentine of Midland were Sunday guests of their uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Emil Phillips.

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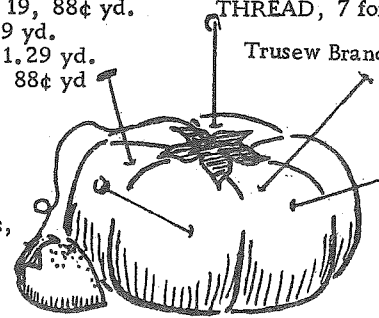
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NYLON FLANNEL PRINT, \$1.19 yd.
KNITS AT \$ 2.29, \$1.19, 88¢ yd.
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