

Claribel Bentler 23 Feb 78
Weidman Route 2A
Main Street, Weidman

No Paper Next Week--
It's the Holiday Break!

The Weidman Messenger

VOL. XV, NO. 23

Weidman, Mich. 48893

Thursday, December 21, 1978

35¢ per copy



KIDS WAITED FOR SANTA--To arrive in Weidman last Saturday noon, as always an eager and trusting batch of little charmers. Santa is invited here annually by the Weidman Business Association. Messenger photos



... big red fire truck, and hurried to take his place in his pretty little house, where he took the kiddies on his knee and listened to their lists of Christmas wants. This year's Christmas looks to be a white one, and Saturday was a perfect day for Santa's arrival here.

AREA CHURCHES OBSERVE THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Area churches observed Christmas Sunday evening, in various ways.

The Church of the Nazarene had a Christmas program, fea-

tured by a play for which young people have been rehearsing since October.

The play concerned a family which had grown away from the church and was brought back by a girl one of the sons brought home for the holidays.



OLD FOLKS AT THE BEAL CITY CHRISTMAS DINNER-- They really enjoyed the meal, and the day, with a program by kids from intermediate grades of Beal City schools. The dinner is sponsored, prepared and served by ladies of St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church. Messenger photo by Geoff Allen



NATIVITY SCENE--At The Flower Shop in Weidman has a three-dimensional look, though the figures are color prints pasted on flat wall board. Frances has the scene in an unobtrusive place, to the east of the entrance to her greenhouse and home. Messenger photo

The Methodist church here had a real Christmas party Sunday evening, early, with Christmas dinner at the church, a children's program, and a large number of carolers going about the village

(including Ye Ed's home) and singing the lovely carols.

The Baptist Church's program, "None Other Name," was a beautiful presentation.

Around Horr

Betty Thompson, Reporter
(Filling in for Jessie Rosencrantz while Jessie's in the hospital.)

Mr. and Mrs. Mack Denslow attended the funeral of their nephew, George Gardner, Saturday afternoon at White Cloud.

This community was saddened by the passing of another of its older members, Treva Cummins. Sympathy goes out to the family.

Ardith and Theron Merrihew, Harold and Lois Losey, and Gerald and Marilyn Losey spent Sunday evening with Hattie Losey, and all called at the Crittenden-Hansen Funeral Home in Remus to pay their respects to Treva Cummins. Hattie spent Monday with the Ervin Dutchers.

Phyllis Wood is enjoying being home to stay, after her bout with pneumonia.

Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Miller attended the United Methodist Christmas program Sunday at Weidman. Saturday evening the Millers were guests of the Miles Millers.

Mr. and Mrs. Garth Lawrence and Pam spent Sunday with Mrs. Nettie Lawrence.

Celia Backus and Linda Backus of Evart were Saturday luncheon guests of Margaret Denslow, to celebrate their December birthdays.

The Drew Busy Bees had their Christmas meeting and gift exchange Thursday afternoon.

Even though the group was small in number, an enjoyable time was spent visiting, and a delicious lunch was served by Mrs. Denslow.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fahnestock were pleasantly surprised and thoroughly enjoyed a large number of Christmas carolers from the Weidman United Methodist Church Sunday evening. Sunday afternoon visitors were their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Bateman and son, of Lake Isabella.

Betty Thompson and son, Bill, enjoyed the Chippewa Hills High School orchestra and choir concert Thursday evening.

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Merry Christmas!

Brinton News

Frances Beck, Reporter

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Geasler attended the wedding of her granddaughter, Melanie McNeilly, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eldon McNeilly. The wedding was held at Shepherd Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Snodgrass are spending this week with their family at Royal Oak. They will return after Christmas.

The December senior citizens meeting was canceled for December, due to bad weather. The annual Christmas party is scheduled to take place at the Brinton Hall Jan. 4, at the regular meeting.

Elaine Mercer spent last week with her brother, Don Scott, returning Sunday to her home in St. Johns.

Eunice La Londe and I and Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Bowen called at the Daggett Funeral Home in Barryton Tuesday evening, paying respects to our neighbor, Flossie Scott.

The Merry Go Round Club met last Thursday with Elvah Gott, in Weidman, with a nice crowd. It was a Christmas gift exchange. A lovely dinner was served at noon. The January meeting will be held with Dolores Schleicher. She lives on Grass Lake Road, and the meeting will be Jan. 11. Margaret Snodgrass was taken in as a new member at the last meeting. Jessie Fields, Jr., of Grand Rapids came Sunday to spend some time with his uncle, Alfred Bartley.

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NEWS NOTES

Mrs. Verlia Wilcox, Mrs. Lee Parker and Mrs. Richard Curtiss were supper guests of the Wm. Wilcox family Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Harland Snider are planning to have all their children home for the holidays. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Touchinski and girls attended the Christmas program at the Weidman Methodist Church Sunday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Miller went with the Touchinski family.

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Weidman Messenger

Weidman, Michigan

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FOR SALE--Blender, Sunbeam brand. I paid \$35 plus tax. You can have it for \$15. Connie Skinner, 6298 Airline Road, in Weidman. Dec. 14tf

BABY SITTING WANTED--In the Weidman, Beal City and Remus area. References. Tel. 644-2869. Dec. 21t1p

FOR SALE--Three-room humidifier, used short time. I paid \$100 for it. I'll sell it for \$50. Connie Skinner, 6298 Airline Road, Weidman. Dec. 14tf

Merry Christmas!

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Feb. 10, 79p

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Joint Temple Association
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9 Aug. 78p

Notice

There will be a meeting and film at Chippewa Hills High School auditorium Wednesday, Dec. 20, 1978, at 7.30 p.m., to deal with the problem of headlice and scabies in our schools and community.

If you care, be there!
Dec. 21t1

IT'S A GIRL!

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Wanagat of Sterling Heights announce the birth of a daughter Dec. 18, at South Macomb Hospital in Warren.

The little Miss weighed eight pounds, 10 ounces. She has been named Anna Marie.
Mrs. Wanagat is the former Mary Fussman of this area.
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Expiration of your subscription date appears each week beside your address.

Obituary

JAY LEINAAR

Jay Leinaar of Broomfield Township died last Wednesday at the Clare Nursing Home. He was 89.

For many years Jay lived with his sister, Nettie Crowley, on a farm in Broomfield. They both came up here from Sparta.

Jay worked the farm while he lived with his sister. They cared for their blind and bed-ridden mother, who lived to be more than 100 years old.

Jay had many friends in this area, especially in the Broomfield farming district where he lived. He had been in a nursing home since last January. Before he left, he was living alone, as Nettie died; and neighbors kept check on his well-being. Later he went to a nursing home.

Funeral services were held Saturday at 1 p.m. at the Crittenden-Hansen Funeral Home in Remus, with Rev. G. Leroy Bruce officiating. Interment was in the Greenwood Cemetery at Sparta.

He was born in Sparta March 22, 1889, to Jacob and Irma (Stockdale) Leinaar.

He is survived by one sister, Irma Caulkins of Gladwin, and many nieces and nephews. Also many friends.

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Obituary

TREVA CUMMINS

Treva Cummins, an old-time resident of the Horr area, died at CMC Hospital Saturday evening, Dec. 16. She was 81.

In recent years she had made her home with her daughter, Alma White, who cared for her as she became more incapacitated.

Alva and Treva were two of the Horr area's old settlers, with Alva having been Supervisor for Sherman Township many years.

Their friends are legion, and the passing of both (Alva died Aug. 7, 1977) is mourned by all who knew them.

Treva was born in Troy, Ohio, March 18, 1897.

Funeral services were held Monday at the Crittenden Hansen Funeral Home in Remus, with Rev. Robert Watt officiating. Burial was in the Forest Hill Cemetery.

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

Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Morning Service, 11 a.m.
Evening Service, 7 p.m.

Obituary

GEORGE GARDNER

George Gardner, 69, of White Cloud passed away last Thursday at Mecosta Memorial Hospital, after a lingering illness.

He married Elga Kent in 1929, living in Grand Rapids many years.

He is survived by two sons, four daughters, 29 grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, one brother and two sisters.

Funeral services were held at the Crandall Funeral Home at White Cloud Saturday, with Rev. Foster Brummel officiating.

Many from this area attended the services.

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9.15 a.m.
Divine Worship, 10.45 a.m.

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George Getchel, minister. Ph. 588-9731.

Morning Worship, 9.30 a.m.
Bible School, 10.45 a.m.
Evening Worship, 7 p.m.



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Dora Smith, Reporter

The family of Coletta Gross held their annual Christmas get-together Sunday in the church basement, with 58 members present.

A pot-luck dinner was enjoyed, and cards, bingo, and the singing of Christmas carols made up the entertainment.

Present were Coletta's children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Tillie Schafer spent Sunday at the Walt Schafer home in Mt. Pleasant.

The Ed Schafer family of Coldwater Lake had their Christmas party Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Klumpp visited their daughter at Ferris State College Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Milo Eldred of Winn called on Tillie Schafer Saturday.

The family of Vera Neubecker held their Christmas party Sunday.

Paul Smith and daughter spent the weekend with Mrs. Irene Smith of Beal City.

Rick and Jane Cotter and family have moved back into their newly remodeled home.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rau, Ginny Rau, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gould and family attended a birthday party for Renee Rau's sixth birthday Sunday afternoon. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Rau.

The bans of matrimony were announced Sunday for Greg Yunker and Roxanne Rummer.

Our new parishoners are Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Thielen of West Beal City Road, Mr. and Mrs. Vern Hoag of South Winn Road.

Beal City Schools dismissed for Christmas break Wednesday, Dec. 20.

Delores Gould visited Mrs. Sheila Rau Saturday.

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In the Editor's Mail

Zapata, Texas
Dec. 4, 1978

Dear Connie:

Just a line to let you know we are receiving the Messenger every week o.k. and are enjoying it.

We got into Zapata Oct. 22. It took 16 days to get here the way we travel, never on the super-highways if we can help it. We just wander around on all sorts of highways and byways, seeing a lot of very interesting country, bypassing all the large cities. The little country towns are so much more interesting to us, some of them so cute and quaint.

We seldom travel the same route going or coming, so we

have seen a lot of the country in each state we travel through.

There is a lot of history written of the country, that one misses traveling the superhighways.

We had beautiful weather all the way--warm and sunny, except for a couple of days in Missouri. There we had some rain.

Zapata is a little border town, with Mexico just across the Rio Grande from us, and 50 miles south of Laredo on Route 83.

We cross the Fulton Dam into Mexico any time we feel like going over there. Have been over three times so far this year.

We go down to the valley (McAllen) for citrus fruit to a grove we've been going to for years, where we can pick our own fruit. There are lots of vegetable gardens, too, that we visit.

We had a lovely pot-luck Thanksgiving dinner at our recreation hall. Everyone ate too much, but we had a good time.

Our daughter, Wanda Brown, of Ann Arbor, flew down and spent six days with us, and was here for Thanksgiving, so that made the day especially enjoyable for us.

We've had beautiful weather all winter, up in the 90s for several days, but it has got down to mid-60s for a day or two; but there has been no snow or ice.

This is a semi-desert county here, around Zapata, and they get very little rain.

Hope you have a nice Christmas and enjoy the holidays, without its being too cold there, or getting snowed in like you did last year.

Sincerely
Daniel and Audrey
Bushree

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Local Items

Mr. and Mrs. Jacques Coon and son were last Tuesday supper guests at the Richard Touchinski home.

Christmas dinner guests expected at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Charnes include Mr. and Mrs. Jim Cole of Midland and their daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Kelsey, of Midland; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Donley and children, Mr. and Mrs. K.C. Charnes and Mrs. Emma Middlesworth.

Mrs. Milo Handy of Harrison spent last Thursday with their brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Louisell.

Lillian Johnston was a Friday luncheon and afternoon guest of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Phillips.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Boulton of Saginaw spent Saturday with their uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Emil Phillips.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Smith and two granddaughters and Ray's mother, Mrs. Clara Smith, called on Clara's brother-in-law

and sister, Mr. and Mrs. John Gould, at Ewart, Sunday afternoon.

Margaret Johnston and Edna Bowein enjoyed a tour at Greenfield Village in Dearborn, staying overnight at the Dearborn Inn. They greatly enjoyed the experience.

Mrs. Jeannie Spence and four children of Pontiac spent the weekend with their parents and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Gene McArthur. The family had their Christmas party at the home of Kathy Beutler of Sherman City.

Present were Mr. and Mrs. David McArthur and family, the Gene McArthur family, Larry, Tim and Rick, and Lorrie Netmop of Gladwin.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Tilmann, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Fox and Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell McArthur were Friday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Fox of Mt. Pleasant.

Linda McConnell was a Sunday overnight guest of Mr. and Mrs. Gene McArthur and family. She is living in Grand Rapids.

Happy New Year!

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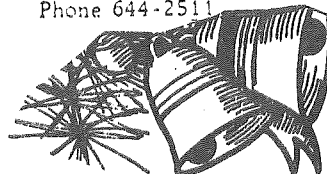
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Mabel Chaffee, Reporter

The Beutler children took part in a Christmas program at the Weidman Methodist Church Sunday afternoon. Some of the older children were caroling in the evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Maeder and Mark, the Harry Gatehouses and the Dale Gatehouses visited Mr. and Mrs. Gary Gatehouse Sunday afternoon. Gary had returned home from CMC Hospital Saturday, after treatments for a heart condition. He is resting at home. Take care of yourself, Gary.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Carr of Amble and the Clayton Stephans of Lakeview were Thursday afternoon and evening guest of the Carl Fitzgeralds.

Kevin Dutcher, 19 years old, son of the Monroe Dutchers of Pontiac, passed away suddenly Friday evening of asphyxiation in a car, after bowling.

Kevin had been accepted at CMC in Mt. Pleasant, and had planned to start attendance in January. The funeral was held Tuesday. Our hearts and prayers go out to the Dutcher families. The sun will shine again.

Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Dutcher, Sr., and the Ervin Dutchers, Jr., spent the weekend in Pontiac with the Monroe Dutcher family, visiting the Bill Remingtons en route home.

Oren Sheldon and son and Mabel Chaffee attended a birthday dinner Monday evening, honoring their sister, Doris Wilmot. Old Santa brought Doris to our family on Christmas morning.

Steve Dutcher spent Sunday with the Brian Dutchers. The Eddie Oplingers visited Steve Saturday.

Mabel Chaffee accompanied the Mack Denslows to White Cloud Saturday, attending the funeral of George Gardner. He was the son-in-law of the late Elsie and Darcy Kent. He passed

away in the Stanwood Hospital after being ill several months.

Randy Eberbach of Lansing visited Pat Kurtz Sunday afternoon.

Another precious old-timer was taken from our midst. Treva Cummins was buried Monday. She lived a successful, wonderful life. She was well known as a humorous poetess. We will miss her.

It's very hard to write tragic news such as this week's column. Life goes on, but the beautiful memories remain forever.

May each of you have a happy and healthy 1979, and let's not forget the true meaning of Christmas as we dine on Christmas Day.

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Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Fredrickson of Muskegon spent the weekend here, visiting their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Bud Fredrickson and family, at Coldwater Lake.

North Weidman

Elvah Gott, Reporter

The Merry Go Round Club met at the home of Elvah Gott last Thursday. A Christmas party, exchange of gifts, and a lovely potluck dinner were enjoyed. There were 18 adults and two children present. Helen Alwood hosted the party. The next club meeting will be at the home of DeLores Schleicher on West Grass Lake Road north of Brinton, on Jan. 11.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl McGillis and Cecil Rhynard visited Mrs. Elvah Gott last week Tuesday. Cecil spent two days with his sister. Mr. and Mrs. McGillis spent some time with Carl's sister, Naomi Mayes, in Clare. When she returned, all had dinner Wednesday with Elvah.

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HOME PAPER FOR THE WEST HALF OF ISABELLA COUNTY

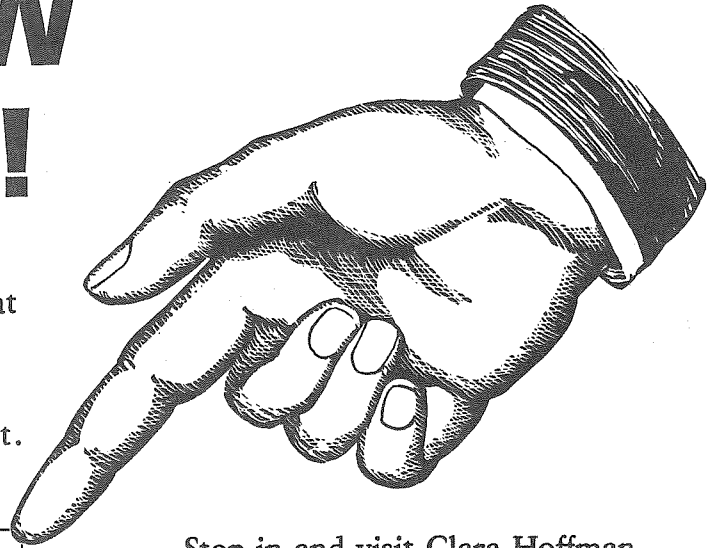
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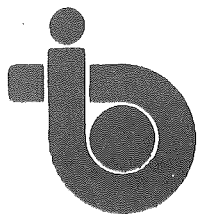
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To take advantage of the Keough Retirement Plan, you must by law open your account prior to December 31st.



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Your Hometown Friend

Editor's Column

By Connie

HAVE A GOOD YEAR

Merry Christmas. I always do. Frances Tranbarger comes over Christmas Morning laden with gifts, which I arrange among the always lesser ones I select for her.

We have a great old time opening them and exclaiming over their appropriateness. (They're always appropriate, at least the ones she gives me.)

Then she takes her gifts (the ones I give her) and goes home while I go about getting the dinner for Christmas Day. (This year it's a huge rooster, tougher'n all get-out, which I plan to soak a couple of days in white wine, bake the liver out of it and hope for the best.)

Anyhow, everyone always has a Merry Christmas; even the elders, the very small ones, even the teenagers.

And a disturbing thought, aside from Christmas.

Last week's Messenger gave a "maternity set" to Edna Rau of Beal City, wife of Harold Rau.

I don't know all the first names of all the Rau women (but I'm learning. Oh yes, I'm learning!) That was the way I read the Beal City copy last week, but it was a blooper, and Beal City, we heard, had a good laugh. (We hope Edna Rau did, too.)

(And we promise, Edna, that next time we mention "maternity set" in the Messenger, we'll find the right woman to give it to.)

The gift that Edna Rau received was a nativity set.

Yikes.

Happy New Year.

Incidentally, we have some nice things coming up in future

issues.

We have to finish the account of the building of the Martin Boger home; we have a list of earliest settlers in Deerfield Township, from an old book loaned by Burton Ward; and an old "arithmetic" book loaned by John Forest; and lately, a diary written by Frederick Schmidt, brother of Ernie Schmidt, while he was serving in the American Army in France in World War I.

Last but not least, we have a lovely story about a deer named Sweetie.

So--We're gonna have a passel of good things coming up.

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BEAL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT TREATS ELDERLY AT XMAS

Last week Wednesday area senior citizens, a hundred strong, enjoyed the hospitality of Beal City folks at a Christmas dinner put on by the Beal City Schools. Actually, there were 116 oldsters present to enjoy the sumptuous meal.

Seniors and Juniors of the Beal City High School acted as waiters and waitresses, laying down dishes of turkey and all the trimmings, including turkey dressing of course; mashed potatoes and gravy, cranberries, jello salad, peas with mushrooms, home-made rolls, Christmas cookies, and coffee.

A musical program was enjoyed after dinner, with performers from the kindergarten, third and fourth grades, fourth, fifth and sixth grades, seventh and eighth grades, and a special "vocal dimensions, "What Child Is This?" and "Sleigh Ride." A singalong followed, with everyone joining in for Joy to the World and Silent Night.

This was the fourth annual holiday dinner put on by the school and the ladies of St. Joseph's Church, and others.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day. (And why not, with a

dinner and program like that?) Younger schoolkids made the table decorations.

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Mr. and Mrs. David Flower, Mrs. Rose Showalter of Mt. Pleasant,

Mr. and Mrs. John Showalter of Farwell and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Showalter of Ithaca were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell McArthur, Saturday evening.

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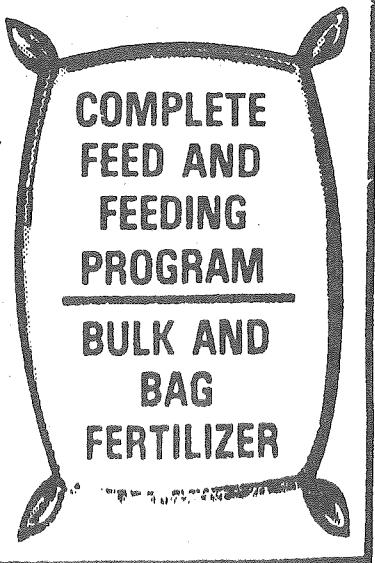
MONDAY THRU

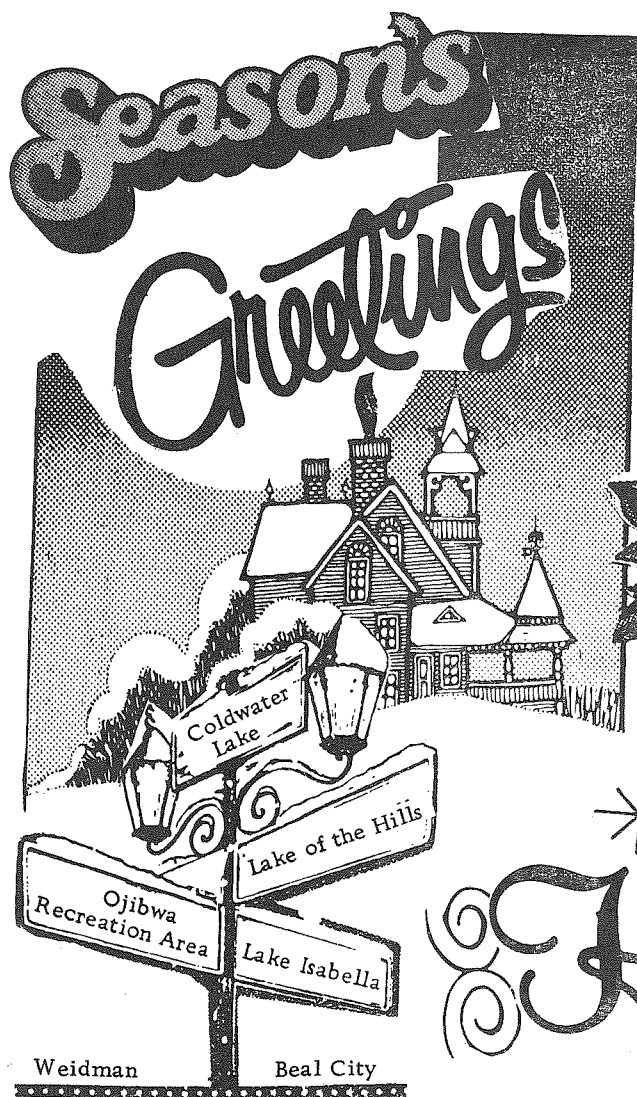
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BAG
FERTILIZER

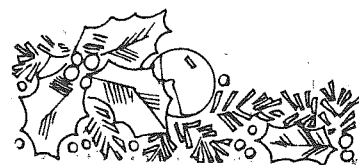




Merry
Christmas
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR

EACH CHRISTMASTIME--We business and professional people of the Weidman and Beal City area band together on this page to wish each and every one of you, our friends, our neighbors, our associates--everyone!--a Happy Holiday Season and sincere wishes for a good year ahead. May your year be hopeful and happy.

*
Holiday



ABBOTT FURNITURE
Complete Home Furnishings

ALLEN LUMBER COMPANY
Everything for Building
And the Home

AMERICAN SECURITY BANK
Beal City Branch
Greetings from All of Us

BADER MILLING COMPANY
Feeds, Seeds, Fertilizers
Ed and Mary Ley and the Staff

BAUMANN'S IGA
Your Complete Chopping Center

BEAL CITY SERVICE
Harold and Edna Rau

BUD'S PARTY STORE
Gifts, SSD & SDM
Bud, Ginny and Three Children
And the Staff

CRITTENDEN-HANSON
FUNERAL HOME
Remus. Greetings and
Best Wishes

COLDWATER LAKE INN
Paul and Teresa Stickler
And Staff

DICK CURTISS
Gulf Oil Products, Home
and Farm Delivery.

DAGGETT FUNERAL HOME
Barryton. Greetings from All
the Family.

FOX HARDWARE
Appliances, Everything You
Need in Hardware

GEORGE FUSSMAN
Mason. Merry Christmas to All.
Happy New Year.

ISABELLA BANK & TRUST
Weidman Branch. Greetings
From All of Us.

JACK'S MOBIL SERVICE
Jack and Nancy Theisen

HERMAN'S GARAGE
Beal City. Herman, Rosie
And Family

McARTHUR INSURENCE AGENCY
Bernard, Yvonne and Family

MICK'S BARBER SHOP
Mick Schmalbach. Greetings
From All the Family

MAEDER BROTHERS SAWMILL
Weidman. We care for Your
Big and Little Lumber Needs

RAU'S FOODLAND
Beal City. Greetings from
Walter, Dollie and Family

ROSEBUSH LUMBER COMPANY
Max Straus. Greetings from
Our Family.

SCHAFFER'S BAIT & SPORT SHOP
Weidman Archery Range
Leon, Carol And Family

STRAUS PROCESSING COMPANY
North Winn Road. The Straus
Family.

THE FLOWER SHOP
West Airline Road. Where
Beautiful Things Come From

TILMANN BUILDERS
Dale, Russell, Neal
And Families

TILMANN'S HARDWARE
Beal City. Howard Tilmann
And Family

WEAVER'S VILLAGE INN
Food, Liquor, Beer in or out
Greetings from Ev and Staff

WEBER BROTHERS SAWMILL
Beal City. Greetings.

WEIDMAN DRIVE IN RESTAURANT
Jack and Vernie Welcome You
for Complete Meals.

WEIDMAN LAUNDRYLAND
Coin-Operated Laundromat
Thayne and Phyllis Sides
And Family

WEIDMAN MESSENGER
Better Than a Letter
Connie and Her News Writers

WEIDMAN REXALL PHARMACY
Licensed Pharmacist
Lou and Justine Fiorillo And
Family, and the Staff

WESTERN AUTO
Whitey and Janet McCreight
Benn and Carol Johnson

VIC'S GULF SERVICE
Vic Jeffrey and Family