

Claribel Bentler 23 Feb 77
Weidman Route 2A
Main Street, Weidman

The Weidman Messenger

VOL. XIV, NO. 39

Weidman, Mich. 48893

Thursday, April 20, 1978

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FIREMEN NOW HAVE NEW TANKER TRUCK--And they really worked to get it! Shown above are some of the men who put in hours of their spare time helping remodel and paint an International truck chassis purchased from Morval Lalone. The chassis was formerly the basis of a milk truck. Shown above are, left to right: Jerry Smith, Fire Chief Spike Branson, Jim Carrick, Bob Reynolds, Dennis Carr, Whitey McCreight, Mick Schmalbach, Thayne Sides, and Don Starr. Others working on the new water-tank truck included Dennis Embrey, Dick Schaffer, Dick Touchinsky, Ronnie Sprague, and Benn Johnson (these are not shown above.)

This is one instance of where the money in the Firemen's "slush fund" goes to. (For needed equipment, nearly always.) The Firemen want the public to know that their money earned at their annual auction sale, and from the annual Lil' Mac Pig Roast on the Elwood Miller farm, almost invariably goes for some such project as the new, 3,600-gallon water-tank truck. (The old water tank truck carried a capacity of only 2,000 gallons of water to fires all over this area.)

Firemen put in an estimated 200 man-hours repainting and re-fitting the new tank truck, as it came from Lalone only as a

truck chassis.

They want to offer some special thank-yous: To Randell Manufacturing Company on Coldwater Road south of town, for aluminum work on the truck body; Dennis Carr, who helped on the whole project; and to Morval Lalone, who held the truck, up for sale, till the Firemen could raise enough money to buy it.

Also a big Thank-you to Walt Smith, who acts as volunteer secretary for the Volunteer Firemen.

Our Firemen, volunteers all, are rated among the very best in

the state. They work at it.

Last Monday night a joint meeting was held between the Boards of the Townships of Nottawa and Sherman regarding remodeling of the fire barn.

Each township agreed to put up \$5,000 for a new roof on the fire barn, an A-shaped covering that will greatly enhance the appearance of the building, and also will eliminate the leakage now plaguing the flat-roof top of the building.

All four of the big doors will be made wider and higher, for convenience of the Firemen in taking out or parking inside the big trucks when that old siren lets loose.

Most of the roofing material now on will be utilized, Walt said last week. Jerry Straus will be the contractor for the new roof.

"That old roof is leaking like a sieve, right now," Walt said in

an interview.

The A-frame roof will eliminate the leakage problem on the building.

When it's time to start work on taking off the old roof and putting on the new, a work-bee will be held, and a most hearty welcome will be extended to all volunteers, young and old, on this work.

The date will be announced later.

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CANADIAN GEES ARRIVE ON LAKE OF THE HILLS

With Lake of the Hills not entirely free of ice, and with the lake often freezing over nights, a small flock of Canadian geese made it their resting place several days last week and this.

The big white birds use open waters as resting places on their annual flight back up north for the summer.

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BETTER THAN A LETTER

OPEN HOUSE FOR MR. AND MRS. FRANCIS BLODGETT

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Blodgett will be guests of honor at an Open House celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary May 7, from 12 to 5 p. m., at the Markey Township Hall at Houghton Lake, located next to the Roscommon County Airport.

The event is sponsored by their children.

All friends and relatives are cordially invited to attend.

A buffet dinner will be served.

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GOLD KEY VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION BANQUET

A highlight of the third annual Gold Key Volunteer Recognition Banquet will be the presentation of the Senior Citizen Volunteer of the Year award.

The 1977 recipient of the award was Norma Burdick, of Mt. Pleasant. She has been a Gray Lady at the hospital more than 20 years, and a Gold Key Volunteer since 1974.

The awards banquet is sponsored jointly by the Isabella County Commission on Aging and Isabel-

la Bank and Trust of Mt. Pleasant and Weidman.

The banquet is the highlight of the year for more than 150 Gold Key volunteers. It will be held at the Mt. Pleasant High School cafetorium, at 6.30 p. m.

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SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNCIL MEETS TUESDAY, APRIL 25

The Mid-State Substance Abuse Services advisory council will meet Tuesday, April 25, at 7.30 p. m. in the Michigan Room at Mid Michigan Community College at Harrison.

The Council will discuss a plan for alcohol and drug services for Clare, Gladwin, Arenac, Isabella, Roscommon, Midland and Osceola Counties.

Anyone wishing to contribute ideas on substance abuse problems or services in this area is invited to attend.

A movie, "Father Martin's Guidelines," will be shown at 7, prior to the meeting.

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One year ago today temperatures were in the 70s, low 54. On the 18th the high was 82.

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In the Editor's Mail

Constance Skinner
Editor and Publisher
Weidman Messenger
Weidman

Dear Editor:

Beal City Council No. 3651, Knights of Columbus, wishes to thank you for the news coverage given our third annual Tootsie Roll fund drive for the help of retarded children.

Your assistance in publicizing their state-wide K. of C. event has helped in making it a successful effort again this year.

May we also extend many thanks to all in the Weidman-

Beal City area who so generously contributed. A total of \$556 in contributions was collected in the areas solicited by our K. of C. members, which also included Rosebush, Leaton, Shepherd and Winn.

Proceeds of the drive will now be distributed to local programs for the mentally impaired, with 20 percent going to the State Council, Knights of Columbus, to assist in other programs state-wide.

Sincerely,
Fred Steffeke,
Mental Retardation Committee,
Beal City K. of C. 3651

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BETTER THAN A LETTER

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Weidman, Michigan

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Address all mail: Weidman Messenger, Weidman, Michigan 48893.

Want Ads

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Mar 10tf

PIANO TUNING--And service. Russell Merrihew, West Broomfield Road, PO Remus 39340, ph. (Blanchard) 561-2592. Pd. to Feb. 1, 1978

S. W. Sherman

Mabel Chaffee, Reporter

Pat Egbert and Mabel Chaffee went to Lansing Saturday morning, visiting Pat's parents and daughters, returning home Tuesday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Knipfer and daughter of Big Rapids visited their mother, Pat Egbert, Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gatehouse and the Dale Gatehouse family attended the Spring Concert at Chippewa Hills School Sunday afternoon.

Hattie Losey spent Tuesday night and Wednesday with Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Dutcher, Sr.

The Drew Busy Bees held their first meeting since Christmas last Thursday, at the home of Opal Denslow. They had lots of catching up to do. The club has

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Feb. 10, 79p

B-I-N-G-O

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

9 Aug. 78p

been in existence over 50 years. Claribel Beutler is the only living active charter member, although the ladies hear on a regular basis from a former member, Mrs. John Hibberd, who is now in her nineties.

Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Dutcher, Jr., left for Detroit Sunday morning to attend the funeral of Ronna Jean's brother, Leonard Leiter, who passed away at the age of 58. The funeral was held Monday. Many from this area will remember Leonard and his brother, Clement. Our hearts go out to Ronna Jean and Junior.

Mr. and Mrs. Brian Dutcher and children visited her parents, the Wernettes, at Greenville, Sunday afternoon.

Florence Fitzgerald of Lansing is spending the week at the home of her parents, the Carl Fitzgeralds.

Mabel Chaffee, Doris Wilmot and Minnie Flaughner enjoyed the Chippewa Hills school concert Sunday afternoon.

Pat Egbert spent several days

at the home of her son and family at Big Rapids, as her son and daughter-in-law and two children from Oklahoma were visiting in Big Rapids last week.

As Goldie Dutcher is now home from Florida, she will take over the news-writing once more. I have enjoyed taking her place this winter.

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North Weidman

Llyrh Gott, Reporter

Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Ben Peacock took me to the Dick Gott home. It was our old home. We had a nice dinner, and I walked back to the woods, the first time in a long while.

Helen Alwood and I went to Mt. Pleasant Friday, then back and picked up Cathy, and went to visit the new baby of Mr. and Mrs. Rusty Alwood, at their home.

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Leiter attended the music festival at the Fieldhouse on the campus in Mt. Pleasant, Sunday.

Mrs. Lloy Sperry and I attended the Merry Go Round Club meeting last Thursday, at Ellen Geasler's. We had 20 people there, with two new members. A nice lunch was enjoyed. The next meeting will be with Fern Beutler May 11.

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AUTO MECHANICS TESTS FOR CERTIFICATION AT MID MICHIGAN COLLEGE

Tests for certifying Michigan auto and small-vehicle mechanics will be conducted at Mid Michigan Community College at Harrison Monday, April 24.

The Michigan Automotive Mechanics Certification exam tests will cover six repair categories for heavy truck mechanics, eight for automobile and light truck mechanics, one for motorcycle mechanics, and one for recreational trailer mechanics.

No pre-registration is necessary for taking part in these tests; participants may walk in at any time.

The State of Michigan will charge \$5 per test for each of the certification categories.

The tests will be held in the Michigan Room at Mid Michigan College and will start at 12 noon and continue till 7 p. m.

Automobile mechanics are reminded that beginning in January, 1978, every repair facility in the state must employ at least one certified mechanic for each service category offered by the facility.

For further information, interested persons may contact Dr. Corrigan's office at MMCC, tel. 386-7792, ext. 235.

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HOME PAPER FOR THE WEST HALF OF ISABELLA COUNTY

West Gilmore

Lena Cole, Reporter

We welcome Rev. and Mrs. Maltzan to our community. Mrs. Maltzan and Tressie Brown called on the Paul Coles last Wednesday.

Lena Cole visited her doctor in Mt. Pleasant last Thursday. Paul and I called on our sister, Hilda Sampson, between blood tests and doctor's call.

Paul called on Mrs. Gladys Swan at the Medical Care Facility, while I saw the doctor.

Mr. and Mrs. William Pfannes of rural Harrison visited his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Bess Pfannes, Friday.

Mrs. Jack Allbee and nieces, Colleen and Collette Shaner, went to Bay City, Texas, after Luella's sister, and the other girl's mother, Helen Allbee. Helen had spent several weeks there with her grandchildren, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Willkie, formerly of Weidman.

Those enjoying a fish supper with the Paul Coles Saturday evening were Mr. and Mrs. Bess Pfannes and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Kripa.

Mrs. Beulah Wixson and Miss Ruth Border spent a few days in Flint last week.

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Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Sprague called on Mr. and Mrs. Truman Hinton at Remus Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Claribel Beutler returned Monday evening from East Lansing, where she spent the last four days with the Robert Tibbettses.

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The Churches

WEIDMAN BAPTIST CHURCH
One mile west of Weidman on Airline Road. In fellowship with the Central Michigan Association of Regular Baptist Churches.

Marvin Eldridge, Pastor
Ph. 644-3504

Sunday School, 10 a. m.
(Classes for all ages.)
Preaching service, 11 a. m.
(Junior Church and nursery provided.)

Evening Bible Study Friday, 7 p. m.

Don't forget our 20th anniversary for the church April 30. A program will be presented at 10 a. m. Everyone who has ever been there is cordially invited to come.

BRINTON CHAPEL

Corner of Brinton and Stevenson Lake Roads.

James Weber, Pastor.
Sunday School, 10 a. m.
Church School, 11 a. m.
Midweek Services Thursday, 7.30 p. m.

GRASS FIRES BEGINNING EARLY THIS YEAR

Grass fires in this area seem to be starting early this year, with the Nottawa and Sherman Volunteer Fire Department called out on two of them over the weekend.

Sunday the Firemen were called to a grass fire one and a quarter mile west of the Coldwater Road on Pickard Road.

Mike Fairbanks occupied the home. Apparently someone was burning brush and winds spread flames into his fields.

He had no burning permit. Monday the Firemen were called to a location on North Johnson Road, on the former Blodgett farm.

Someone was burning a trash fire in a barrel when wind gusts took debris into grass and leaves nearby.

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LAKE ISABELLA

Helen Klenk, Reporter

There was standing room only for the Country-Western Jamboree at Lake Isabella Lounge last Sunday, April 16. In addition to the regular band, The Travelers, there were five other bands taking part: Jerry Schafer's group, The Sands, Randy's Good Time Band

from Six Lakes, Kenny McWilliams' band from Connors' Supper Club, and a group from Farwell who play regularly at the Moose Club in Mt. Pleasant.

Coming soon, May 7, will be another big musical attraction, "Star Sunday," will feature Kenny Dale and his band of Nashville fame, who have also done some recording with Capital Records. Better put that on your calendar for sure!

Although the winter was extremely hard on our greens, the golf course will officially open next Saturday, April 22. Hope the weatherman co-operates with a nice, sunny day for the occasion. Warren Stanchina, our golf pro, is again offering free golf instruction Saturday mornings at 10 o'clock, starting May 6 through the end of May.

There are still a few spots open on the Thursday Night Men's League. Tee off time is between 5.30 and 6.30 p.m. If you're interested, call the pro shop.

We are happy to announce that Lake Isabella's ranch has been completely renovated, and has a good stable of riding horses available. The ranch is located on Rolland Road about three miles north of M-20. Price is \$5 per hour Monday through Friday and \$5.50 per hour Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

BETTER THAN A LETTER

Local Items

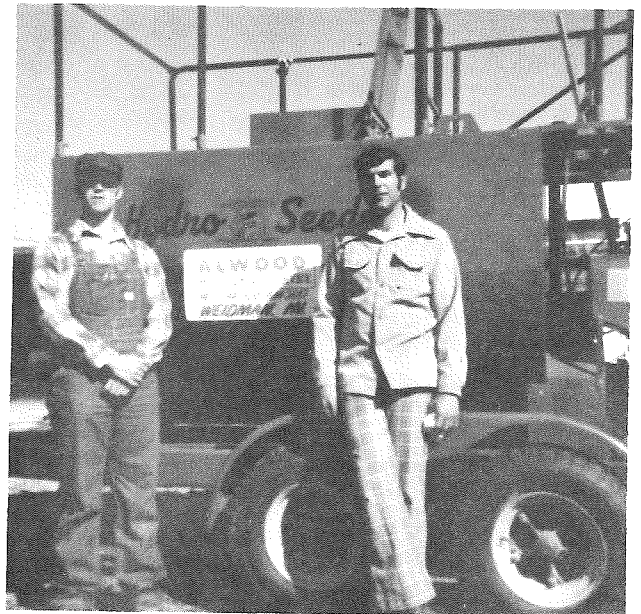
Mr. and Mrs. Elenbahr of Mt. Pleasant were callers of Mrs. Nina Forbes the first of last week. Mr. and Mrs. Elton Watson of Leaton were Sunday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell

McArthur.

Paul and Cheryl Barbour of Grand Ledge spent the weekend at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Pitts. Darryl and Lou Anne Graui were here from their studies at the Great Lakes Bible College.

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Beal City

Dora Smith, Reporter

BEAL CITY SENIORS TO PUT ON PLAY

The Senior Class of Beal City High School will present the play, "Cheaper by the Dozen," at 2.30 p. m. this coming Sunday afternoon.

The class is raising money for its Senior trip to New York.

The public is invited to see the play.

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Mrs. Beverly Quillen and son spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Goffnett and family called on Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gould Saturday evening.

Pete Bierschbach, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Bierschbach, was married Friday evening in town, with a reception at the K. of C. Hall.

Louis Rau spent last weekend with Joe Boge in Flat Rock.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Grinzinger and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Finnerty enjoyed cards with Mr. and Mrs. Bernie Rau Saturday evening.

We welcome to our parish Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lafata.

Joey Haupt spent the weekend with Courtland Larry.

Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Brown moved Friday to a house near Jackson. Mr. and Mrs. Jim Barz have bought their home, and they moved in Friday and Saturday.

We welcome to Beal City Mr. and Mrs. Don Barz and family, who have bought Mr. and Mrs. Jim Barz's house.

CCW had election of new officers Thursday evening. Mrs. Fronie Hauck was elected president, Mrs. Theresa Stickler vice president, and Mrs. Irene Zeien treasurer.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Smith and family spent the weekend with Mrs. Irene Smith.

Steve Smith was home over the weekend, at his mother's, Mrs. Bernie Smith's.

Elaine Simmer of Reed City and Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Smith called on Anne Smith Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Rau and family called on Mrs. Delores Gould Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Klumpp, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Klumpp and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Schafer attended the wedding of Tony and Michele Tryon in Shepherd, with a reception at Black Creek Hall.

Mathilda Schafer spent Sunday at the Alfred Klumpp home.

Effie Schafer spent Sunday at the Robert Klumpp home.

Mrs. Margie Schafer and Mrs. Anne Pasch had dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Harold Block one evening last week.

An appreciation dinner was given Sunday evening in the church basement for readers,

EMEs, ushers and music people and committee people.

Sign up for PeeWee, Little League, Pony, Colt, and Girls' softball will be held Friday, April 21, at 9 p. m. at the K. of C. Hall.

Mrs. Louise Zeien called on Mrs. Irene Smith Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Tillie Starr called on Bill Martin Friday afternoon.

Mrs. Walter Elias and Mrs. Hel-

en Simmer spent Thursday with Miss Josephine Bengal in Mt. Pleasant.

Mrs. Wendell Simmer had dinner Wednesday with Miss Josephine Bengal.

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CORRECTION

Last week's Messenger mistakenly listed April 12 as the date of birth for beautiful little Heather Dawn Simmer, daughter of

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Simmer, Jr. The correct date was early morning, April 2. Sorry.

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NEWS NOTES

Ronnie and Pami Sprague were Monday supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Touchinski and girls. Mr. and Mrs. Jude Simons were visitors.

STATEMENT OF SAVINGS

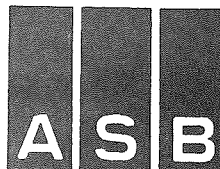


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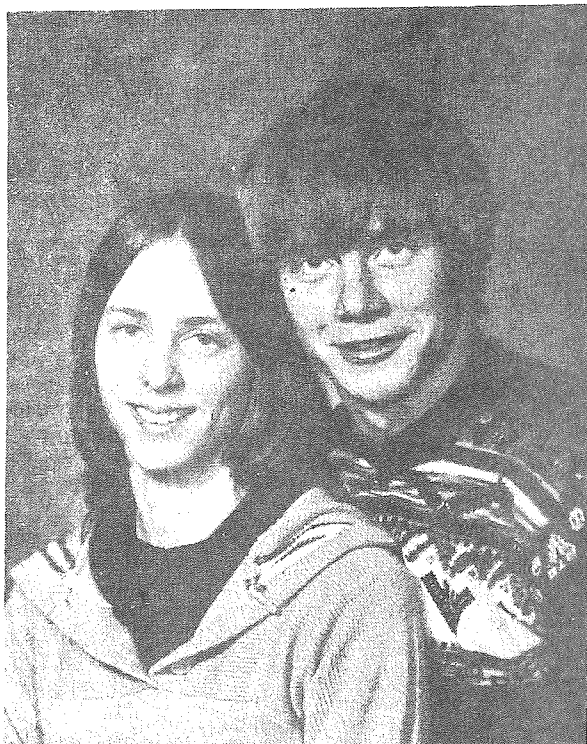
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JANICE KAY PUNG AND KEVIN JOHN SCHAFER

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pung of Beal City wish to announce the engagement of their daughter, Janice Kay, to Kevin John Shafer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Schafer of Weidman. Janice is a 1976 graduate of Beal City High School and is now employed at Provincial House, Inc. Kevin is also a graduate of Beal City High School and employed at Delfield. An August wedding is being planned.



Around Horr

Jessie Rosencrantz, Reporter

BUSY BEES HOLD FIRST MEETING THIS YEAR

The Drew Busy Bees enjoyed their first meeting of 1978 at the home of Opal Denslow last Thursday, April 13. There were 15 members and guests present.

They enjoyed having Mary Fahnestock back with them again. They also enjoyed having Oraulea Baker, Flora Wood, Eva Denslow and Debbie Aldrich as guests.

The president, Margie Denslow, conducted the business meeting.

Many cards were sent to friends who are ill.

Officers were elected for the coming year, and will be installed at the May meeting.

Opal Denslow served a delicious lunch.

May 4 they will have luncheon at the Country Kitchen in Barryton, and will then go to the home of Edna Merrihew for the meeting. Ruby Kirvan will be co-hostess.

At this meeting, Mystery Sisters will be revealed, with a gift exchange.

Note change of date: It will be May 4.

Margaret Denslow and Mr. and Mrs. Orrin Forest of Rosebush spent the weekend in Rochester, N. Y., with the Stuart Denslow family

Sunday dinner guests of the Jim Thompsons were Mr. and Mrs. Tim Workman of Reed City, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wood and children, and Shirley Fox.

Bob Thompson received his

Bachelor of Science degree, in surveying, at Ferris State College. Monday he started a job with the Air-Land Surveyors of Clarkston.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Thompson attended a Consumers Powers meeting in Grand Rapids. They called on the Chuck Wilsons, who also attended the meeting.

Betty Thompson attended Busy Bees last Thursday, at the home of Opal Denslow.

Mr. and Mrs. Theron Merrihew called on Hattie Losey Sunday. Ardith also called on me.

Mr. and Mrs. Garth Lawrence and Pam spent Saturday with his mother, Mrs. Nettie Lawrence.

Nettie called on her sister, Mrs. Merle Scott, Sunday. On the way she called on her nephew and family, the Dale Grabers.

Mack and Margie Denlow entertained their children and grandchildren Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Duncon of Newberry were Sunday guests of the Pete Woods.

Other Sunday guests were Mr. and Mrs. Dan Mills and Carrie, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Wood, Mr. and Mrs. Eric Bingham and three children, and Mr. and Mrs. Lee Flory.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wright of Pontiac and Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Wright were Sunday dinner guests of the Paul Millers.

Mr. and Mrs. John Carr were Sunday afternoon callers of the Earl Oplingers.

Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Oplinger returned home last Tuesday evening, from wintering in Florida. Their Sunday dinner guests were Mr. and Mrs. Earl Oplinger, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Oplinger, Mr. and Mrs. Danny Tiani and two chil-

dren, and Mr. and Mrs. Denny Madigan.

Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Miller and Mr. and Mrs. Glenwood Holmes spent last Wednesday and Thursday in Toledo, O.

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Brinton News

Frances Beck, Reporter

The Merry Go Round Club met with Ellen Geasler last Thursday, with 13 attending. They have

four new members, including Hazel Graham, Fern Beutler, Gertrude Sperry, and Mrs. Moyers. The May meeting will be with Fern Beutler the second Thursday in May, the 11th. All members are urged to attend.

Joe La Londe is a patient at the CMC Hospital in Mt. Pleasant.

Hazel Graham of near Clare was an over night guest of Carl and Ellen Geasler Wednesday.

Janet Beers and friend of Big Rapids spent Sunday with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Beers.

Helen Strang and I were in Saginaw Friday. While there, we called on Lillie Maddox. Saturday, Helen attended a pink and blue shower for the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Butts at Owosso.

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Fields and daughter, Chris, and Mr. and Mrs. George Holland, all of Grand Rapids, spent Sunday with their uncle, Alfred Bartley.

Mr. and Mrs. Fay Forbes enjoyed a barbecued chicken dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Laverne Forbes Sunday.

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CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

1/4 mile south of Weidman School, corner of Coldwater and Weidman Roads.

Richard Wadsworth, Pastor, ph. 644-3604.

Sunday School, 10 a. m.
Morning Worship, 11 a. m.
Youth Service, 6. 15 p. m.
Evening Worship, 7 p. m.
Prayer Meeting (Wednesday), 7. 30 p. m.

HOME PAPER FOR THE WEST HALF OF ISABELLA COUNTY

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Editor's Column

By Connie

A DELIGHTFUL BOOK FROM THE YEAR 1920

Burton Ward has loaned us his copy of "How to Do Things", put out by the Farm Journal, a national publication at that time.

It's chuck full of interesting details on how we lived back in that day and age.

It's on farm life specifically, of course; but it's of interest to all those who may have lived in small towns and smaller cities, too.

The first important feature of the book is a complete list of residents of 15 townships--and that's a fascinating part of the book.

We see names of folks we know listed as "ch.:" (children) after the listing of the man-owner of the farm or business. There's a lot of history here, and we were pleased and thrilled to recognize so many of the families. (Now second, third and fourth generations.)

There are plentiful advertisements throughout the book, too.

Robert Thompson's Garage at Coleman lists Overland and Maxwell cars for sale.

Dittmann's Shoe Store in Mt. Pleasant (remember that?) also carries a full-page ad.

Holmes Milling Company of Weidman has a full page; along with the Weidman Banking Company (Unincorporated). The bank here boasted "The largest resources of any Bank in Central Michigan!"

Holmes Milling Company advertised, hay, grain and beans,

along with lumber, lath and shingles.

Holmes Milling was maker of "Klondike Flour--Good as Gold!" Cecil Sellers of Broomfield Center advertised his "Sanitary Meat Market".

There's an extensive index for the "How to Do Things" section, the larger part of the book.

Among subjects listed in "How To Do Things" are these--just a few of the countless items in the book:

Barrel: Easy way to empty when heavy; Belt for kicking cow; Bench for corn husking; a home made carrier for berry baskets, an outdoor coal bin; Bob-sled for hauling wood; Burning out stumps; Portable ice box for butter, in delivering to grocer;

Butter-making, churn and temperature; Carpet beating; Carpet stretcher; Catcher for pigs; Cess-pool; Clothes drier, home made from wood (remember those things, used in winter weather in upstairs rooms?); Heat saver for heating flat-irons; Convenient wood box; Carrying freight on a sleigh;

Snow scoop (horse pulled); converting the carriage into a sleigh; Cess-pools; Butter carrier; Buried rain barrel; Keeping surface water from the well; Making an ox yoke.

And on and on.

Maybe next week we can tell you about treatment (in 1920) for milk fever in cows. They hadn't yet discovered that "milk fever" is caused solely by calcium deficiency.

The book belonged to Clayton D. Ward, and it's an historical treasure.

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HOME PAPER FOR THE WEST HALF OF ISABELLA COUNTY

BEAL CITY CARD PARTY HAS 78 PLAYERS APRIL 13

At their April 13 card party at the K. of C. Hall in Beal City last Thursday, 78 people attended, one of the record crowds.

Agnes Sheahan won first prize for the ladies, with Kitty Gross second and Vera Bierschbach low. For the men, Bill Appelgreen

won first prize, with Ambrose Thielen second and Mike Gross low.

Dorothy Streng won the pepper prize. Orielda Farner won the door prize.

The next card party at the K. C. Hall in Beal City will be Thursday afternoon, April 27. Everyone is cordially invited.

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FIREMEN'S ANNUAL AUCTION SET FOR APRIL 29

The annual auction sale sponsored by the Nottawa and Sherman Volunteer Fire Department is scheduled for Saturday night, April 29.

Donations are solicited--everything from garden tractors to household appliances and knickknacks. Everything but used clothing is desired.

Especially needed is baked goods, which always is a most popular feature, and always short of supply.

For pickup of items too large to tote to the Village Inn Tavern, where the auction will be held, the following phone numbers are available:

(All on Weidman exchange). 644-3507, 644-3501, 644-2147, Or 644-3640. All of these numbers are Firemen's homes, and they will arrange for pickup.

Families are urged to search garages, attics and basements for items to donate to the annual sale.

This year the Firemen hope for a big, big sale; they need it to help pay for the new 3,600 gallon tanker truck recently renovated and converted by the Firemen.

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CHIP HILLS DOING WELL ON COLLEGE ENTRANCE TESTS

The Grand Rapids Press featured a front-page story Sunday on area schools and the SAT tests publicized last week in the Detroit Free Press. In the Press report, Dr. James Ford, principal at Lakeview High, said, "I think that if people in other school districts take a look at their own schools, they'll find that they are not failures."

Joan Charnes, counselor at Chip Hills, was quoted by the Press as saying, "Everybody, including school board members, was asking questions" (after the Free Press story was out citing Lakeview as a small school with an above-national educational rating.)

Joan did some research, and found that no student from Chippewa Hills took the SAT tests this year.

The SAT tests are required only for high school students intending to enter the University of Michigan, the newspaper article pointed out. Other colleges use the American College Testing Act (ACT) program for high school students intending to go on to college.

A check through records at Chip Hills back to 1971 showed scores in math and reading (in the SAT tests) came out close to or higher than this year's 516 verbal and 588 math scores at Lakeview.

In 1976, seven Chippewa Hills students took the SAT tests and scored 494 on verbal and 627 on

math.

Greenville Principal Clark Oliver said his students' scores have been going up since 1965. He said that Greenville High is 150 to 165 points higher than the national average.

A researcher for the National Association of Secondary School Principals said it was the SAT findings a few years ago which prompted formation of a special national committee of educators to determine what was going wrong with the public schools.

Ford said that Lakeview educators put emphasis on reading, writing and arithmetic. Today, most students at Lakeview take four years of English.

"If there's anything good to come out of this," Principal Ford said, "it is that it has caused all of us to look at ourselves a little closer."

"We don't want people to think we are something we are not," he went on. "We are a small community whose people take pride in their schools and support them."

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ALWOODS SET UP GARDEN CENTER HERE

Russell (Rusty) and Jim Alwood announce a new garden center for the Weidman area, to be located at Walt's Bait Shop on the Airline Road just west of town.

They have established a thriving landscape-planting-planning business, and doing well.

They have 30 acres of harvestable Christmas trees, and this year will have 40 acres, with some new plantings, Rusty said in an interview last week.

They keep their trees trimmed and growing on, and at Christmas-season time they truck them to Alabama and sell them.

Rusty is married to Fonda (Methner), and the couple have three children, with the recent arrival of another child.

Jim lives at the home of his parents, the Don Alwoods.

We must say "Congratulations" to this pair of enterprising young men.

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RATE RISES AT MEDICAL CARE FACILITY

John P. Verwey, administrator of the Isabella County Medical Care Facility at Mt. Pleasant, announces rises in rates at the Facility.

"Due to the rising costs of care for patients," he said in a press release, "the per diem (daily) rate for Medicare patients has risen in the past 12 months."

"According to the Medicare law, the charges to any patient in the facility cannot be less than the charges to the patients covered under the Medicare program."

"Therefore, it has become necessary to increase the charges to all patients in the facility, in-

cluding private pay patients.

"...The Isabella County Social Services Board increase increases the private-pay rate for the patients in the Facility, from \$45 per day, plus ancillary charges, to \$48 per day, plus ancillary charges."

"This will become effective May 1, 1978."

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NEWS NOTES

During the past week, Connie

Skinner battled that virus cold going around. At this point, Connie says, "As for the Messenger, any resemblance to a newspaper is purely coincidental."

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Embrey attended the Spring Concert at the school Sunday afternoon. A big turnout of parents and friends enjoyed a fine program.

Mr. and Mrs. Clare Oberlin of Lansing were Sunday callers of Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Sprague.

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\$6,000	\$128.95	\$101.15	\$80.98
\$7,000	\$150.45	\$118.04	\$94.45
\$8,000	\$177.19	\$134.88	\$107.99
\$9,000	\$198.66	\$151.79	\$121.48
\$10,000	\$220.12	\$168.64	\$134.96

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