

The Weidman Messenger

VOL. XI, NO. 31

Weidman, Mich. 48893

Thursday, February 6, 1975

35¢ per copy

Editor's Column

By Comie

WE STILL DON'T KNOW WHERE ALL THE CAN LIDS ARE

So we still haven't found out anything about the can-lid shortage, which continued from last autumn's canning season right through the winter.

There have been no can lids on any shelves of any stores we have visited and searched in Isabella County.

Do the Mason and Kerr plants not operate during the winter? Seems they should have accumulated a head-start on supply during these winter months.

Are the Mason and Kerr plants so small that they really cannot put out the volume to satisfy demand for canning facilities? We don't know.

This week we are writing Ralph Nader, and we'll see if he will look into the situation.

For it is a serious one, one that will affect the food-supply situation all over the nation. Home canners are increasing year by year as grocery prices continue to soar, and home gardeners will be increasing in numbers with every year.

What are we to do about lack of facilities for saving our garden crops?

The Mason company says there has been a shortage of sheet tin, as one excuse for shortage of can lids.

Why do they depend on sheet tin, which we have to import? Why not devise a can lid with other than tin as its base metal, say aluminum, or some other material? There must be a way to make can lids without the imported tin.

We just don't understand, but we're still working on it.

By the way, we received a letter from Sen. Robert Griffin, promising to send further epistles when he hears from the Commerce Department.

He's the only politician who answered our mailings of our first column on Where Are All the Can Lids. The others: Rep. Cederberg, State Rep. Johnny Engler, State Senator Jack Toepf, have yet to be heard from as we



NEW OPERATORS OF THE DRIVE IN--Yvonne Osborn and her daughter, Dawn, are running the Weidman Drive In Restaurant, under a one-year lease with option to buy from the Dale Tilmanns, who built the place. Yvonne and Dawn were busy in their spotless kitchen Friday when we took this picture, and they plan to offer regular meals with full menus and a special every day. The Osborn family, Ed and Yvonne and their children, Randy, Dawn and Tracy, have lived on their place just south of town the past seven years, and all but Tracy have graduated from high school. Randy works for the Michigan-Wisconsin Gas Company summers, while Dawn quit her job at Bud's Party Store to take part in the new venture at the Drive In. Good dining facilities feature the restaurant, with good service and good eating
Messenger photo

write this.

On another page we're giving you all the information we have received so far, both from politician(s) and the canning companies themselves.

(We wrote both Ball and Kerr Companies, asking if we could buy can lids direct from the factory. Both said we couldn't.)

We wonder at the news media, on this subject. Where are the investigative reporters? We've seen nothing on the subject except a bare mention in Judd Arnett's Sunday column on the fact that his wife finally found a packet of can lids and canned tomatoes. But nothing about the why of the shortage.

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Mr. and Mrs. R.D. Sprague were last Tuesday evening guests at the Andy Bellinger home in Gilmore. They spent Thursday in Cedar Springs with Mr. and Mrs. George Looman.

SUMMER FLUORIDE PROGRAM BEING PLANNED AT BEAL CITY

A summer topical fluoride program will be held again this year at the Beal City High School.

The clinic will be held during the summer, with schedules to be announced in May.

Children most benefited are the three-and-four-year-olds, and the second, fifth and eighth graders. These are the ages of new teeth, and the child should be protected with fluoride, officials say.

Children of other ages may receive the treatment at the regular fluoride clinic, also.

Parents wishing to obtain the fluoride treatment for their children should apply before March 1. There will be a fee of \$3.50 again this year.

If interested in enrolling your child you may contact Mrs. Richard Schafer at tel. 644-2271 for sign-up.

WORK SESSION AT FIRE HALL FOR LITTLE MAC CELEBRATION SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16

A work session is planned for this Thursday evening, Feb. 6, at 8 o'clock at the Weidman Fire Hall to continue preparations for the third annual Little Mac Bridge Day celebration on Sunday, Feb. 16.

Anyone willing to donate time and effort will be more than welcome at the meeting. Help is needed in preliminary preparations for the dinner.

Next week on Friday evening, Feb. 14, a work bee will take place at the Fire Hall, when women of the Firemen and Beal City and Weidman Business Associations--and their men--will work on making dressing for the roast-pork dinner, wrapping potatoes in foil for baking, etc. Anyone willing to help with this session also is more than welcome.

On the big day, Sunday, Feb. 16, the public is advised, you don't have to have a snow machine to enjoy the celebration. Just go out to the Elwood Miller farm (there will be plentiful guidance signs to get there) and enjoy the outdoor feast.

There will be room for campers and snow-machine trailers, though camping facilities will be very primitive: No water (except in the Chippewa River), no electricity; only porta johns will be provided for public comfort stations.

Visitors will be met at the parking lot with transportation from their cars to the eating area.

There will be warming tents for frosty feet and faces, with old-fashioned pot-bellied stoves that are a delight.

Taping for Gary Bugh's outdoor show on Radio Station WCEN was done Monday of this week.

The interviews will be heard on Radio Station WCEN this Friday evening at 6.30 on Gary Bugh's program. The interviews will be with Richard Touchinski and Leon Schafer, both members of the Nottawa and Sherman Volunteer Fire Department.

The dinner is guaranteed to excite and satisfy the gourmet diner, with eight hogs roasted over outdoor charcoal fires; and

(Continued on Back Page)

Around Horr

Jessie Rosencrantz, Reporter

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Martin accompanied her sister, Mrs. Irene Keck, to Copemish Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Swan and Kevin and Mr. and Mrs. Othel Denslow were Sunday dinner guests of their mother, Mrs. Eva Denslow.

Mrs. Opal Denslow, Mr. and Mrs. Junior Denslow and Mrs. Ruby Williams left Jan. 20 for Florida. They returned home the 31st of January. They found perfect roads all the way. They stayed at a condominium at Marco Island. They stayed over night on the way down and back at the Daryl Platek home in Nicholasville, Kentucky.

Mr. and Mrs. Junior Denslow of Lakeview and Mr. and Mrs. Randall Brownell and two children of Mt. Pleasant were Sunday dinner guests of Mrs. Opal Denslow.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wright spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Paul Miller.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Thompson spent Saturday in Lansing. They did some shopping, and Mrs. Thompson called on her mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Fuller and children of Mt. Pleasant were Sunday afternoon callers at the Thompson home.

Mr. and Mrs. Theron Merrihew were Sunday evening callers at the Charlie Losey home, and Ardis called on me.

Mrs. Flora Wood was a Sunday dinner guest at the home of her son, Pete, and family, in Mt. Pleasant, celebrating Pete's birthday.

Mrs. Bobbie Oplinger returned home from the hospital Saturday morning. Mrs. Barb Dutcher and Patti called on her Sunday.

Mrs. Nettie Lawrence called on her sister, Mrs. Myrl Scott, Monday.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Our phone rang Saturday afternoon, and a man's voice started singing "Happy Birthday To You." So we said, "Well, thank you, Dick Shook!"

Dick spent the weekend here to celebrate his own birthday, which was Feb. 4; and he said that he and his mother were recalling several birthdays right around that date, as follows:

Bobbie Anderson, Feb. 2, and also Jim Neubecker; Janet (Dillenbeck) Louisell (and Connie Skinner), Feb. 3; Dick Shook, Monica Parker, Gene McArthur, Dallas McClain and Sherri Palmer, Feb. 3.

Frances Tranbarger treated Connie to dinner at the Coldwater Lake Inn Sunday, observing her birthday on Monday.

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Mr. and Mrs. Rusty Alwood and Heather were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Walter J. Smith and Wally Joe. Mr. and Mrs. Leo Smith were also guests.

Brinton News

Frances Beck, Reporter

Evelyn Slupe and family of Grand Rapids spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Wright. Other callers Sunday included Ron Husted and family. They also called on his brother and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Husted.

Lewis Bowen and Harold Brooks of Clare left Sunday by plane for St. Louis, Missouri, where they attended meetings connected with the Federal Land Bank.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Fletcher, Jr., of Farwell and Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Haenke and boys spent Sunday at the Bowen home.

Linda La Londe was ill with the flu last week for several days.

Mr. and Mrs. Ike Moore called on Mr. and Mrs. Wayne La Londe Saturday.

Nick and Andy Godwin were overnight guests of their Grandma, Eathel Beers, Saturday.

Bud Longton and Alfred Bartley were in Remus last week Monday, where they called on their doctor.

Mr. and Mrs. Alvie Moore and Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Bazaire called on Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Bowen Thursday evening.

Violet Wright called on her brother, Ron Husted, at the Stanwood Hospital, where he was hospitalized due to pneumonia.

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Geasler returned home to Pontiac after a few days' visit with Carl and Ellen Geasler and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. John Pollard of near Detroit called on Mr. and Mrs. Joe La Londe over the weekend.

Violet Wright was in Mt. Pleasant Monday.

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BEAL CITY SENIORS HAVE 17 TABLES IN PLAY

At their regular scheduled card party Jan. 23, the Beal City Senior Citizens had 17 tables of pepper in play.

Ruth Gallagher won first prize for the ladies, with Irene Smith second. Eva Phillips won low.

For the men, Wilbur Reinert won first prize, with Roderick Nicholson second. Bill Taylor won low.

Christine Bierschbach won the pepper prize. Julius Schumacher won the door prize.

A lunch of sandwiches, pickles and coffee was enjoyed.

The next party at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Beal City will be this Thursday afternoon, Feb. 6. All are invited.

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Mr. and Mrs. Ross Momany of Big Rapids spent Sunday afternoon with their mother, Mrs. Ruth Momany. They took her a batch of yarn for her to crochet an afghan.

Mrs. Grace Pitts was a Thurs-

day supper guest of the Bernard Pitts family. She attended a fel-

lowship dinner at the Gilmore Church Sunday.

DICK CURTISS

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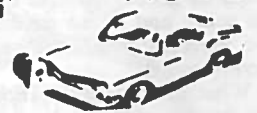
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Weidman Messenger

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WANT ADS

WANT AD RATES; 75¢ per week for ordinary ad; space rate per column inch for those of longer length. Card of Thanks \$2.50, unless very long. Phone 644-2000.

LADY--Would like to do house-work. For more information call 644-2310.
 Jan. 23tf

LOST--Female beagle, white and light brown coloring, six months old; near the Ojibwa Recreation Area. Earl Tilmann, ph. 644-3960.
 Jan. 30tf

WANTED--Live-in baby sitter for three to five days a week. Call 644-2550 in early evening. Betty Dutcher.
 Jan. 30tf

B-I-N-G-O
 Joint Temple Association
 413 Coker Drive
 Every Saturday Night
 8:00 P.M.
 Jan. 9tf

FOR RENT--Two bedroom apartment, furnished. \$120 per month, plus utilities. Security deposit required. Coldwater Lake Cottage Motel, ph. 644-3962.
 Jan. 9t

WANTED--Interior or exterior painting. Also wallpapering. No job too small. Wayne Sherlock, tel. 644-2310. Free estimates.
 Jan. 23tf

EXPIRATION DATE--Of your subscription appears each week on your address line.

HAVE SNOW BLOWER--Will clean drives, walks, business places. Minimum charge \$3. Also will do any man-size odd jobs. Tim McArthur, ph. 644-2202.

Dec. 12tf

WANTED

Building Inspector on fee basis. Required to handle issuance of building permits, blueprint and site schematic approval and inspection of construction in Not-tawa, Sherman and Coldwater Townships.
 Must have minimum of 5 years experience in construction or equivalent.
 Local resident preferred.

Address replies before March 1, 1975, to Alma Dosenberry, Sherman Twp. Treas., R. No. 1, Box 202, Lake, Mich. 48632.
 Feb. 6t4

FOR SALE--Dry fire wood, \$12 per cord. Call 644-2096.
 Feb. 6t4p

Card of Thanks

We wish to thank all our relatives, friends and neighbors for the Masses, flowers, cards, and donations of food given to us during the time of the death of our father;

And our special thanks to Father Don Dueweke and Father Melvin Fox.

Your kindness will long be remembered and appreciated.

The Family of
 Charles Gross

Weidman Messenger

BETTER THAN A LETTER

'Some buy it. A gratifying number subscribe to it. Some borrow it. Some loan it out to relatives, neighbors, friends. We don't mind a bit, because

EVERYBODY READS IT!

Card of Thanks

I wish to thank my friends and relatives for the cards, gifts and visit during my stay in the hospital, and since I have returned home.

Ralph Geasler

Obituary

CATHRYN M. JOHNSON
 Cathryn M. Johnson (Kit) died Sunday, Feb. 2, at the Isabella County Medical Care Facility. She was 88, and had been in poor health the past year.

She was born Nov. 4, 1886, in Michigan and was the widow of Charles Johnson (Charlie, as we all knew him).

The family came to Weidman in 1914, and the children were raised here and attended Weidman schools. Charlie worked at first for John S. Weidman, in the woods, and later settled into village life as business man and employee of the school.

Kit was a tireless worker for the betterment of her fellow beings, having been active all her life here in the Methodist Church (she started the Methodist rummage sales 'way back, in the old Fox Building); she made hundreds of quilt blocks for church raffles, and was active in all projects relating to the church and the fraternal lodges.

She was a foremost worker in the Eastern Stars of Weidman, and the Rebekah Lodge. She was a faithful worker in the Methodist Women's Society.

Ladies of Waubenoo Lodge No. 360, Order of the Eastern Star, held a memorial service at 8 p. m. Tuesday at the J.J. Rush funeral Home in Mt. Pleasant.

Funeral services were held at 1 p. m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, in the Weidman United Methodist Church with Rev. Arlo Vandlen officiating. Burial was in Fairview Cemetery in Weidman.

She is survived by her children, Mrs. Robert (Marion) Vanness and Howard Johnson, both of Fremont, Ohio; Gerald and Charles Johnson and Mrs. Thomas (Jean) Powell, all of Mt. Pleasant; and Fey Johnson of Punta Gorda, Florida; one sister, Della Herbert, of Port Austin; and 22

grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren, and a host of friends.

Weidman folks miss Kit Johnson.

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Obituary

RUBIE GARDENER

Rubie Gardener died Feb. 1 at Gratiot Community Hospital. She was 60.

She was born June 29, 1914, in Lafayette, N. Y., and had lived in Michigan the past 30 years, employed as a cook.

Funeral services were held at 1.30 p. m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, at the chapel of the J.J. Rush Funeral Home in Mt. Pleasant, with George Stehle officiating.

She is survived by her husband, Leland; a son, Leland, of Mount Clemens; two daughters, Mrs. Marsha Appel of Warren and Mrs. Linda Frederick of Mt. Clemens; a brother, Charles Speich, of Palos Verdes, Calif.; and four grandchildren.

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Weidman Messenger

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State Wide Real Estate of Midland, Inc., is expanding operations into the Mt. Pleasant-Weidman area. Call collect and ask for Ellie Pontious or Vickie Metcalf Bauer--687-5566, 687-5262 or 687-5631, for more information on listing your property.

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Poet's Corner

"DO NOT DESPAIR"

Now with the energy crisis
We'll do whatever we can
To stop these high prices
Everywhere in the land.

But with Pres. Jerry Ford
Shaking his head in dismay,
And saying, "Oh, my Lord,
What must I do today?"

I've already pardoned Nixon,
And hiked oil and gas;
Now I'll really fix 'em
By raising property tax."

But every single person born
In these United States
Need not feel forlorn--
We'll have fire in our grates.

Also an abundance of food
To fill the desperate need--
If every one of us only could
Have faith of a mustard seed.

By Mabel Chaffee

Walker Creek News

Mary Loomis, Reporter

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Curoski and family of Clifford Lake spent Saturday night and Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Orval Reed. Mr. and Mrs. Earl Kendall of Chipewa Lake were Saturday evening visitors. They were Thursday callers of the Burdette Reed family.

Mrs. Ruby Williams of Clare spent Sunday with her nephew and family, Mr. and Mrs. Gary St. John.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Fifield and family of Lansing were Saturday evening visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Emmons. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Amsler and daughter were Sunday dinner guests. Marvin Eldridge was a caller one day during the week. Larry Wilcox of Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, is expected home the end of the week, to spend a few days with his family, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Wilcox.

Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Lashet and family of Williamston were Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Gray and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Denzel Connors of Lansing were last week visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Burdette Reed and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Pat Dillenbeck were Tuesday evening visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Austin Dent. Saturday evening they were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Art Savage in Mt. Pleasant.

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HOME PAPER FOR THE WEST
HALF OF ISABELLA COUNTY

Dusk:

I smelled a pop corn whiff, I
know not where from. So I
made some quarter-cup meas-
uring of oil and popcorn by
twos.

I sat down to eat it and threw
equal sizes to the dogs.

I finally turned around and
looked down in the slope of
Bridgets' woods. I marveled all
day at the snow there.

I thought about how the name
on my house, I put Hill, when
I first moved into my new house.

A swath of hill out and then
I noticed two car beams over
on the Lutheran Church hill. It
is as good as owning your own
airplane here.

In five minutes the car beam
shone from clear way down
on Coldwater Road.

Another minute the car drove
by my drive, just the kind of
car I'd like to own.

Orval S. Merrihew

Local Items

Clayton Smith received word
Friday of the death of his sister,
Ellie Inman, of Dallas, Ore.,
Jan. 21. If she had lived to see
the 7th of February, she would
have been 90 years old.

In a recent letter, Mrs. Bennet
Skinner (Doris) of Swartz Creek
informed us that Bill Jones, hus-
band of Mary (Skinner) Jones,
died Christmas Eve, after a long
illness. She also said that Edith
Kennedy of Flint was 90 years
old Jan. 3, and had her picture
and a writeup printed in the Flint
Journal. She is in a rest home.

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In the Editor's Mail

Dear Connie,

I'm enclosing the \$11 for an-
other year's subscription.

I hope this finds both you and
Frances well.

The paper is the only way I
have of hearing anything about
Weidman. My husband always
beats me to reading it, and I
don't think he even knows any-
one there. But he seems to en-
joy it.

I spent 11 days in the hospital
in January, and learned mostly
I just have to live with my ail-
ments. Age does creep up.

Most sincerely,
Mrs. Genevieve Scott Gingery
Flint

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EXPIRATION DATE--Of your
subscription appears each week
on your address line.

BETTER THAN A LETTER

The Churches

WEIDMAN BAPTIST CHURCH
(1 Mile West of Weidman)
Pastor; Marvin Eldridge, phone
44-3504.

Sunday School, 10 a. m.
Morning Service, 11 a. m.
Evening Service, 7.30 p. m.
Prayer Meeting (Wednesday),
7.30 p. m.

Feb. 7, at 7.30 p. m., there
will be a special meeting at the
First Baptist Church in Mt. Plea-
sant, with Dr. Pickering, presi-
dent of Pennsylvania Baptist Col-
lege, as speaker. Everyone is in-
vited to attend.

WEIDMAN UNITED METHODIST
Rev. Athel Lynch, Pastor, 2163
2nd Street, Weidman.

Office phone 644-3336, parson-
age 644-3441.

Church School, 9.45 a. m.

Worship Service, 11 a. m.

Sharing and prayer Thursday,
7.30 p. m.

Pot-luck dinner third Sunday,
1 p. m.
U. M. W., 1st and 3rd Thurs-
days, 3 p. m.
Methodist Men, 4th Saturday,
5.30 p. m.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
Broomfield: Located six miles
south of Weidman on Coldwater
Road.

Rev. Edwin Schmelzer, Pastor.
Sunday School, 9.15 a. m.
Worship Service, 10.45 a. m.
Ladies' Aid meets on second
Wednesday of each month.

WEIDMAN CHURCH OF THE
NAZARENE

Rev. William Hurt, Pastor
Phone 644-3604.

Sunday School, 10 a. m.

Morning Worship, 11 a. m.

Choir practice, 6.30 p. m.

Evening Service, 7.30 p. m.

Prayer Service Wednesday,
7.30 p. m.

HOME PAPER FOR THE WEST
HALF OF ISABELLA COUNTY

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Beal City

Dora Smith, Reporter

ALTAR SOCIETY MEETS

The Altar Society of St. Joseph the Worker Church at Beal City met Tuesday evening, Jan. 28, in the church basement.

Pepper was enjoyed, with prizes won by Mrs. Harry Joe Smith, for high score, Mrs. Julius Bierschbach, pepper, Mrs. Herman Kremsreiter low, and Mrs. Isadore Schafer, the door prize.

Mr. and Mrs. John Theisen went to Florida Saturday for a two weeks' visit. Mr. and Mrs. Mark Schafer stayed with the children.

Mrs. Helen Simmer, Paul Simmer, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Wawersik and Mr. and Mrs. Raldon Pasch attended the funeral of Mary Sebenick.

Mrs. Irene Henning of St. Johns visited her mother, Mrs. Will Martin, and Mrs. Helen Simmer.

The engagement of Cynthia Lou LaLone of Shepherd to Thomas Tilmann, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Tilmann, has been announced. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Maurice La Lone of Shepherd. She is a 1970 graduate of the Shepherd High School, and attended Mid Michigan Community College. Tom graduated from the Beal City High School and attended Michigan State University. He is employed at the Tilmann Hardware in Beal City. A March 8 wedding is being planned.

By Louise Smith

Monday, Jan. 27, I was sitting in my old rocking chair when someone came in the door. Here was Irene Fedewa, someone who hadn't been to my place in years. A little while later came Joe Keiffer, then came Vera McKenzie, who I hadn't seen for years. What a big surprise! Ed Fedewa stopped and picked up Irene.

Dora Smith called on Mrs. Joe Keiffer Tuesday morning.

Bill Martin was in the hospital in Mt. Pleasant, and came home Sunday.

Mrs. Helen Simmer and Dora Smith called on Mrs. Catherine Gross Friday afternoon.

Pam Schafer of Ann Arbor called on Louise Schafer Friday. Pat Schafer and girls were Saturday visitors.

Mrs. Mark Schafer called on Tillie Schafer Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Theisen are vacationing in Florida.

Word has been received that John W. Schafer, formerly of this place, had heart surgery in Florida and was improving nicely. Sister Marie Alexander flew down there to be with him.

Tillie Schafer and Louise Schafer spent Sunday at the Milo El-

dred home in Winn.

Mrs. John E. Gross entertained company Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Art Profrock of Reed City and Jody and Elaine Simmer visited Aunt Louise Smith Friday evening. Luella Smith was also a visitor. Johanna Smith and Irene Fedewa and Ann Schafer were Saturday afternoon callers. Mr. and Mrs. Howard Blasen and children of St. Johns were evening guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Buck Smith of Lansing are the proud parents of a baby boy, Steven Michael, born Jan. 23.

Dora Smith called on Mrs. June Blasen and Theresa Smith Monday afternoon.

Mrs. Fred Gould and sons and Miss Regina Faber called on Louise Smith Tuesday.

Jack Cotter spent Sunday evening with Rose and Henry Schafer.

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GERALD COTTER UP FROM FLORIDA FOR O'CONNELL JUDGESHIP CEREMONIES

Gerald J. Cotter of Mt. Pleasant and Florida called at the Messenger office Saturday, on his way to Eight Point Lake with a group of friends.

Mr. Cotter, who has many relatives and friends in this area, was principal speaker at the swearing-in ceremonies for Paul F. O'Connell, a former practicing lawyer in the firm of Cotter, Janes & O'Connell.

Judge O'Connell now presides over the 21st Judicial Circuit. He was sworn in Saturday, Jan. 25.

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In the Editor's Mail

Dear Connie,

Apropos of your article from the Messenger on canning lids, I looked up my Sears Roebuck catalog, Fall and Winter edition, 1974, and on page 1063 found this:

Glass Storage Jars: For canning or storage.

Upon second thought, I am tearing out the page and enclose it herewith.

It beats me why the things have to come from France, of all places. And so expensive.

I took a look at my storage place down cellar and found:

3 pt. Atlas E-Z Seal

1 1 1/2-pt. Ball Ideal

9 glass "lids" for above, in addition to those on the cans.

These are not the old Mason "screw-on" type of covers, but have a wire around the neck of the bottle and another wire on the bottle (or can) which you press down and which clamps the glass cover, with a rubber gasket in between, onto the top of the can. Apparently the French use another method entirely, judging from the picture in the Sears catalogue, and you have to buy the complete cans.

Some convenience.

I remember that these cans replaced the old-fashioned Mason jars which Mother used years ago. What happened to Mason I don't know. Maybe he went into the building board business (Masonite).

If these cans would help even a teeny little bit, I could send them out to you. You would have to buy the gaskets or rubbers.

Love to all,
Charles (Roe)
Tarrytown, New York

P.S. How about a letter to Ralph Nader, consumer consultant, Washington, D.C. ? I'll bet he would go to town.

Editor's Note: Thanks, big bro-

ther Charles, but I have plenty of canning jars--all I need is the doggoned lids.

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Local Items

Mrs. Robert Tibbetts of East Lansing spent last Thursday with her mother, Mrs. Claribel Beutler.

Annette Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Smith of Wolverine, called on her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Smith, on her way to her new base at Glenview, near Chicago.

EXPIRATION DATE--Of your subscription appears each week on your address line.

Please--



Mr. John Walsh, Executive Secretary for the Mt. Pleasant Chamber of Commerce is URGING all service organizations in the Mt. Pleasant area to send him their meeting and activity dates to be put on the master calendar at the Chamber office. This will very much alleviate the over-lapping of dates for many of the activities sponsored by the various organizations. He will appreciate your cooperation.

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CANNING LIDS, ANYONE?

(Editor's Note: We give you herewith what meager results we attained from sending our editorial to all our area politicians, and also from writing letters to the two canning-lid manufacturers, Ball Mason at Muncie, Ind., and the Kerr Company at Sand Springs, Oklahoma.)

(At the time of writing this, Saturday, Feb. 1, we had heard from only one politician, U. S. Senator Robert P Griffin. We mailed copies of our first editorial on can-lid shortages to all our area politicians: Philip Hart, Griffin, Elford Cederberg, and state politicians John R. Toepp and John M. Engler. None of these had bothered to answer, at the date of Feb. 1.)

January 27, 1975

Dear Ms. Skinner:

Thank you for providing me with a copy of your recent article concerning home canning supplies.

Last summer I became aware of the shortage of canning equipment, especially jar lids, and I contacted the Ball Corporation on the matter. Enclosed is a statement I received from the company.

The Department of Commerce has also been contacted. Just as soon as I have their report, I shall write again.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,
Robert P. Griffin, U. S. Senate

Statement by W. C. Hannah, Group Vice President, Ball Glass Container Group, Ball Corporation, Muncie, Indiana.

There has been a great deal of interest and concern regarding

the availability of home canning supplies in 1974.

There isn't any question that there are out-of-stock situations in both glass and lids in various parts of the country.

Ball and other companies have been able to satisfy most of the increased demand for home canning supplies, and we have been able to handle the seasonal change in demand. Our 1973 Annual Report states that our home canning business was up 46 percent (1973 compared to 1972). This year (1974) it is anticipated that our home canning business will be up 30 percent (estimated final 1974 compared to 1973). Additionally, our sales were up over 2,500 percent in the first three months of 1974 compared to 1973.

This leads us to believe that many NEW home canners bought home canning jars and lids early in the year (January-February-March) before they specifically knew what they would require. Regular home canners traditionally have purchased their home canning supplies in or near the end of the growing season so that they would be able to determine exactly the quantities they would require. This early purchase by new home canners has contributed to the current out-of-stock situation.

A further indication of this is that we are currently receiving inquiries from home canners who have used our products for many years but today, cannot find jars or lids at retail. We have received only a few letters from consumers indicating that they are new home canners and asking about product availabilities.

Ball Corporation has done its best to provide home canning supplies despite soda ash shortages (used in making jars) and shortages of tin plate (used in making lids and caps). Our Muncie and El Monte cap plants are currently running three shifts per day, five days a week and on Saturday when tin plate is available, despite the fact that the plants normally run only two shifts per day. If adequate supplies of tin plate had been available, Ball could have produced an additional four million packages of caps and lids.

Another indication is the level of inventory that is carried in our plants, distribution centers and warehouses. At the end of June, 1973, there were 3 1/2 million cases of inventory. At the end of June, 1974, there were only 200,000 cases of inventory, which is 5 percent of the total in 1973.

Also, in both 1973 and 1974 Ball has shipped safety stocks, which are normally used to provide a minimum quantity of product in warehouses to provide balanced customer shipments that is an assortment of different products (quarts, pints, etc.) to

help meet our customers' demands.

Our products are currently on allocation so that the available product can be equitably distributed into our selling areas.

August 14, 1974.

(And we wrote letters to both can-lid companies, asking if we could order lids direct from the manufacturer. So here are their answers to our letters:)
Dear Customer:

We apologize for the delay in answering your letter and for the use of a form letter. This letter was used because it appeared to be the quickest method of communicating with the many people that have ordered jars and lids direct from Muncie.

We do not handle individual orders through Muncie because the appropriate mailing and handling facilities are not available and our products have been allocated to retail outlets such as supermarkets, discount department stores, hardware stores, etc.

We recognize that a product shortage may have occurred in your area and plan to have more jars and lids available next year.

Thank you for your continued interest in Ball products.

Sincerely,
Mary Lou Williamson
Director, Consumer Service
Ball Corporation
Muncie, Indiana
(The letter was not dated.)

Dear Customer:*****

Please accept our apologies for using this form letter to answer your inquiry. Due to the many thousands of consumers asking the same questions and your need

for a quick response, we felt this was the best way.

Barring any unforeseen raw material shortages as we have experienced in the past three years, we feel that there will be more canning supplies available in 1975 than in previous years. These items should start appearing in stores in the very near future.

Many have asked us to sell on a direct basis. We regret that we are unable to do so as all stock is shipped to our wholesale customers for distribution to the retail stores. Because thousands of retail stores carry the Kerr line of home canning supplies, we can not give specific names and locations in your area.

A complimentary copy of our Kerr Home Canning and Freezing Guide is enclosed for your use. You will note that jar rubbers, glass lids, zinc lids and Economy caps and clamps are not offered. Also, our No. 63 caps and lids have been discontinued.

Very truly yours,
Kerr Glass Mfg. Co.
Sand Springs, Oklahoma

Well, there's what we've garnered so far. We'd say, offhand, that there isn't much information or reassurance in any of the letters, "form" or otherwise.

The fact remains that there are no canning supplies on any grocers' shelves.

Ever think about the contingencies of power failures, and your jammed-full freezer thawing out those vegetables and fruits you raised and processed last year?

We have.

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Two Rivers

Blanche Carr, Reporter

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kolassa and baby were Sunday guests of the Ed Coursers.

Mrs. Linda Krueger, Mrs. Geraldine Johnson and Mrs. Joan Kalil spent Thursday with Mrs. Leona Courser, and tied off a quilt.

Mrs. Linda Krueger and Mrs. Geraldine Johnson took their grandmother, Mrs. Emily Wood, to Alma to see her doctor, Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bud Worix and Jane were Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Flaucher. Mr. and Mrs. Russell Flaucher and Jane of Midland were Sunday breakfast guests. The Ron Flauchers were evening visitors. Ralph and Richard called Saturday. Mrs. Florence Maxon was a Tuesday afternoon visitor.

Bud, Brenda and Lisa Hines of Barryton visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hines.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lueder spent Tuesday evening playing pepper with Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hines.

Visitors of Mrs. E. R. Rhode and Harold were Mr. and Mrs. Herman Lueder, Mrs. Roy Adams, Mrs. Eda Van Zandt, and Mrs. Paul Lueder, during the week.

Mrs. Eda Van Zandt was a weekend guest of her son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Van Zandt, of Saginaw.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer Moses were Sunday callers of Mrs. Nettie Baker.

Mrs. Ruby Combs of Lansing spent the weekend with her mother, Mrs. Ella Cox.

Mr. and Mrs. Terry Martin and baby were Sunday supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Garrett and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Elton Bunting, Mr. and Mrs. Dalton Rayborn and Mr. and Mrs. Olen Bunting visited their father, Oral Bunting, during the week.

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North Weidman

Elvah Gott, Reporter

Our sympathy to the Kit Johnson family.

Mrs. Zena Olger visited her daughter Friday. She attended the wedding of her grandson in the evening, and a reception. She came home Saturday. She attended the Gilmore Church of Christ Sunday, and stayed for a pot-luck dinner, a monthly affair.

Zena and I tied a quilt Tuesday, and put one on for her. She tied it Wednesday and Thursday. I went to the doctor at Evart Friday.

Visitors at our house Saturday were Mrs. Ruth Riegles and son and Dennis Heifer of Clare. Also Mr. and Mrs. Max Garver and three children of Clare, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Gott and family of Stanton, and Debbie Graham. In the evening we all went to Wanda Graham's, where she and Julia and Tina, Carl's girls, had a lunch of sandwiches, punch, and a nice anniversary cake, with 20 years on it. It was also trimmed with roses. Helen Alwood was with us. Cathy was sick. They received gifts of towels, wash cloths, and money, all useful things.

We had Sunday dinner with

Mr. and Mrs. Don Alwood and family. Later, Helen took us to the Coker Funeral Home in Farwell to pay our respects to an old friend, Mrs. Eleanor Madison, of Clare. We met the children. Cathy was still on the sick list.

Brad and Marty Hines and Donny Alwood enjoyed fishing at Six Lakes all day Saturday.

Merry Go Round ladies, don't forget the club will meet at the Brinton Hall again Feb. 13. It was Mrs. Pearl Geasler who won the door prize last month, instead of Pearl Loomis.

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Local Items

James Noe returned home last week after spending a short time in CMC Hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. K. C. Charnes of Mt. Pleasant and Mrs. Emma Middlesworth were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Charnes.

Flu, bronchitis and pneumonia have been quite prevalent in this area the past few weeks, and is still rampant.

Mr. and Mrs. David Wood and Jonathan and Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Apple, all of Lansing, spent the weekend with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Pitts.

Mrs. Lillian Johnston was a last week Monday afternoon and supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Phillips.

Weidman Messenger

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LITTLE MAC PIG ROAST
(Continued from Page 1)

dressing, home made by local women, to go with the meat; plus baked potatoes, the famous bean soup, and soft drinks. Young and old can enjoy this day, without undue frosting of hands and feet and without undue exertion from walking. They'll get you to the dining tables.

BEAL CITY CENTENNIAL DANCE AND 100TH BIRTHDAY PARTY DRAWS CROWD IN COSTUME

The Beal City Centennial Dance and 100th Birthday Party drew a large crowd to the K. C. Hall Saturday evening, with many wearing their Centennial costumes. Enthusiasm is fast building for the Centennial celebration, July 26 to Aug. 3, this summer.

Mary Beth Hauck made a beautiful 100th birthday cake, and Jerry Schafer's Band furnished music for dancing.

Rep. John Engler was present, and read a legislative resolution on the Centennial which will be presented to the House of Representatives at Lansing.

Signing for the beard contest will continue during the month of February. A hundred and sixty men signed up for the contest at the party.

The Centennial Committee is indebted to many who helped make the party a great success.

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC DATE CHANGED

The immunization clinic at the Central Michigan District Health Department in Mt. Pleasant Feb. 12 has been changed to Feb. 13, due to the health department's closing on Lincoln's Birthday.

The clinic will be conducted during the hours of 9 a. m. to 11.30 a. m. Free immunizations against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, measles, rubel-

la, polio and smallpox are offered.

Immunization clinics are normally scheduled for the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month.

LITTLE LEAGUERS HAVE GOOD POPCORN SALES

Boys of the area Little Leagues were around Saturday morning, selling packets of popcorn with all the makin's included. (The corn is purely delicious.)

The boys report good sales Saturday, and have some packets left, which may be obtained at the Walt Smith or Jack Burden homes.

The boys also plan on having a booth at the Little Mac Bridge celebration Feb. 16.

COE TWP. DEMS SCHEDULE ENERGY MEETING

Members of the Coe Township Democratic Club have completed arrangements for a public meeting Monday evening, Feb. 17, at the Valley View Restaurant in Shepherd beginning at 8 p. m. The meeting will be open to all, its purpose being to help people find out what they can do to lower their utilities costs.

The Coe Democrats, jointly with representatives from Consumers Power Company, will present facts and figures anent the present energy crisis, and will answer questions from the floor. Those attending will be invited to exchange ideas and opinions informally in small groups, trying to think up workable solutions to the energy problems (and their frightening high costs).

The meeting's results will be summed up afterward, and forwarded to Consumers Power Company and other appropriate agencies.

The Coe Democrats say they are sponsoring the meeting as a public service in order to help their fellow citizens. They feel

that, given the facts and the know-how, ordinary people can do much to solve their own problems.

Local Items

Glenn Hart, father of Jeanne Smith, is in the hospital at Iron River, for tests and x-rays. He retired last August, and he and his wife have been living there since.

Mrs. Lucille Smith and Mr. and Mrs. Jim Smith of Barryton spent the weekend with the Roger Smiths in Flint.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Kyser of Mt. Pleasant were Friday even-

ing guests of their cousins, the Harland Snider family. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Keiser of Belding were Saturday evening visitors. Mrs. Bertha Zuke and daughter of Big Rapids were Sunday evening visitors.

Mrs. Don Abbott spent Friday afternoon with Mrs. Ethel Bywater, and took her for a nice ride in the country west and south of town. Dale Bywater was a Saturday visitor, and took her for a long ride to the north, through Lake Station and that area.

Mr. and Mrs. Emil Phillips were Saturday dinner guests of their nephew and niece, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Williams, of Midland.

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