

Claribel Bentler 23Feb78
Weidman Route 2A
Main Street, Weidman

The Weidman Messenger

VOL. XV, NO. 21

Weidman, Mich. 48893

Thursday, December 7, 1978

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Editor's Column

By Connie

WE OLDSTERS ARE THINNING OUT

There are only a few of us oldsters left here who came to the village of Weidman before 1920. The Roes came in 1912; I was 10 years old.

Emma (Haskins) Middlesworth came in 1914, bride of Fey Middlesworth. Emma came from Brinton. Her father, Fred Haskins was some kind of power in the county's political world--I can't remember just what or how.

Emma and I have agreed that she and I are the oldest "real" early-arriving Weidmanites left.

Edith McArthur was born and raised here, and has never left; but she's a lot younger than Emma and I.

The passing of Clara Fox brought this to my mind. Clara raised her rather large brood of children, alone, on a farm not far from Weidman, in Nottawa Township.

It just seemed as if Clara Fox was ageless, and that was our fallacy. We are all aging, especially we older ones. But watch out, youngsters, you're getting older with every year!

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THE LLOY SPERRYS HURT IN TWO-CAR ACCIDENT

Mr. and Mrs. Lloy Sperry suffered injuries Monday in a two-car accident on an icy hill on Vandecar Road. They were taken to the Clare Hospital, where Lloy was admitted for observation. Gertrude was treated and released.

The Sperrys were passing a parked car when a car another car, northbound, tried to avoid hitting the Sperry car but struck it.

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NEW COMMUNITY BUILDING WILL MAKE COMPLETION DATE

The spacious and entirely adequate new Community Building in Mitchell Memorial Park is making good on its scheduled completion date, the first of the year.

Gary Wernette has been doing electrical wiring on the interior, with interior work going on



TWO OF THE FIRST SETTLERS IN COLDWATER TOWNSHIP-- Mrs. Jane Brown, left, and Margaret Shilling. Mrs. Shilling was Martin Boger's grandmother, Mrs. Brown his great-aunt. From an old photo loaned the Messenger long ago by Martin Boger.

as scheduled.

Ready-for-use date has been set for Jan. 1, and it looks as though the new building will make it!

Many Weidman-town and area folks have worked long and hard for this building, and we are about to see its reality.

Money for the building will come largely from the WBA-sponsored bingo games (now a separate entity) and from rent revenues for use of the totally-equipped building.

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CHIPPEWA HILLS SCHOOLS CONSIDER GESELL METHODS OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT

During recent years there has been much discussion among educators and others interested in young children, about developmental learning.

The Gesell Institute has been working in that area for a quarter of a century, and has discovered and documented many important factors related to development and learning patterns of children.

In an effort to begin "getting a handle" on some aspects of the programs, Chippewa Hills Schools

are hosting a one-day introductory workshop Dec. 8--this Friday.

Mrs. Nancy Richard, author of "One Piece of the Puzzle", who is an experienced educator and a Gesell practitioner, will make the presentation.

The program will be held at the Chippewa Hills High School, five miles north of Remus just off M-66, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Anyone interested may come as a guest of the schools.

The special programs office, under leadership of Harry Howard, principal of the Weidman Elementary School, special programs director, is sponsor of the series.

The special programs office presently is working on planning a more intensive follow-up workshop. Indications are for an early February date. There will be a charge for attending this phase of the program.

Anyone wishing further information on either program may contact Harry Howard at 644-3430.

Karen Rhode, a teacher in the Weidman Elementary School, has given this paper a wealth of information on the Gesell methods

of evaluating children's potentials.

This past summer Karen was sent to school to take a class in administering the Gesell tests and interpreting the followups.

Essentially, all the Gesell tests are designed to determine whether a child is ready in "development ability" for ordinary tasks assigned in elementary schools.

Other area teachers who have received the training include Betty Jo Martin of Remus, Nancy Martin of Barryton, Harry Howard of Weidman, Shirley Howard at Mecosta School, and Mary Kempton of Mecosta.

All attended classes in the Gesell methods at Traverse City and at Central Michigan University.

The Gesell goal is to give each child entering kindergarten a test in the Gesell methods in the spring roundups of prospective kindergartners.

Karen has tested several children so far, and says she has found no real pattern of readiness.

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METHODIST PASTOR NAMED TO CHIP HILLS BOARD

Rev. Vance Dimmick, pastor of the Weidman United Methodist Church, has been appointed a member of the Chippewa Hills School Board, to fill a vacancy created when Herb Serum resigned last week.

Rev. Dimmick will take his place on the Board immediately.

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"OPERATION ALOHA" GOES LOCAL IN ITS OFFERINGS

According to co-chairmen Gary "B" of Radio Station WCEN in Mt. Pleasant and Bill Sowle of Sowle Mayflower Moving Company, "Operation Aloha" will have a new emphasis this year.

The annual Christmas project began in 1974 with an exchange of presents and good will between the people of the Mt. Pleasant community and the people of Hawaii, including residents of the leper colony at Kaluapapa.

This year, "Operation Aloha" will gather gifts for the eight-member Cambodian refugee (Continued on Back Page)

Around Horr

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

Mrs. Margaret Denslow enjoyed attending Holiday On Ice at the Civic Center in Grand Rapids on Thanksgiving Night, with Mr. and Mrs. Keith Baker and family.

Holly Denslow, nine-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Denslow, underwent an emergency appendectomy last Monday evening. She is home, and was feeling much better.

Tuesday, Margaret Denslow planned to attend the Isabella County Retired School Employees Christmas luncheon at the Mt. Pleasant High School.

Mrs. Phyllis Wood is a patient at the Alma Hospital, suffering from pneumonia. She was feeling better, and hoped to be home this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Thompson attended the annual Farmers' Petroleum luncheon at the Grand Rapids Civic Center Tuesday.

Bob Thompson started his train-

ing at Bad Axe this week, on a month's class schedule.

Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Miller and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Touch chinski and girls spent the weekend in Lansing, visiting George Miller and Mabel Allen.

A rather quiet week for news, but will try do better next week, if the weather co-operates.

The Drew Busy Bees will meet at the home of Margaret Denslow next Thursday, Dec. 14, for their Christmas meeting. Each person bring a gift for the Christmas exchange, and her favorite Christmas dessert or salad. This will be the last meeting before next spring.

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THE LIBRARY BOOKSHELF
The Gladys McArthur Memorial Library recently received the following letter from Gerald McArthur of California, with a \$100 donation. (Gerald has made this donations for the past three years.)

Dear Friends:

It's that time of year again. We are looking forward to our rainy season, a very welcome

time in California. The winter is our "green" season.

Wishing you all a very happy holiday season, and another very successful year with your worthy efforts at the Library.

Sincerely,
Gerald McArthur
Hayward, Calif.

(Editor's Note: The letter was addressed to Diane Benn, the faithful mover and shaker for the Library in Weidman. Diane was one of the original founders of the library, and works at all times for the betterment of the place and its services to area folks.)

The Friends of the Library sincerely thank the McArthur family for their best wishes and financial support! Thank you so much!

The Library staff introduces Mary Stewart to its readers. Mrs. Stewart is an English novelist with 13 books to her credit. Her latest, a No. 1 best seller, is a mystery, "Touch Not the Cat", and it's loaded with suspense and drama--it's good fireside reading on a

stormy evening.

This book, plus "The Gabriel Hounds," "The Moon Spinners," "The Ivy Tree," "My Brother Michael," and "Madame, Will You Talk?" are available at the Weidman Library.

Library hours are 2.30 to 5 p. m. weekdays.

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CARD CLUB ENJOYS MEETING AT COLDWATER LAKE INN
The Card Club of Weidman held its Christmas party at the Coldwater Lake Inn Saturday evening.

The wives hosted their husbands. About 20 were present for the party.

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Local Items

Stuart McArthur returned to his home in Alexandria, Va., Friday morning, after spending three weeks with his brother, Mitchell, and wife, Jean, for deer hunting.

Jack Trainor of near Houghton Lake spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Charnes.

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Weidman Messenger

Weidman, Michigan

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Want Ads

WANT AD RATES: \$1.50 per week, unless very long. Over 1 inch in length, regular advertising rates. Cards of Thanks \$4.00, unless very long.

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Joint Temple Association
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 Every Saturday Night
 6:30 P.M.
 9 Aug. 78p

LEGAL

Notice

I will be at my home at 7470 West Battle Road every Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., to accept real estate tax payments for Coldwater Township.

Arlene Wilcox
 Treasurer, Coldwater Township

Dec. 7t2

In Memoriam

To our mother and grandmother who passed away Dec. 9, 1977: We miss you. We were an ocean apart, but we still felt very close. Mr. and Mrs. Harland Snider and Family

Card of Thanks

We wish to thank everyone who helped so generously in making our German-food smorgasbord a great success. God bless you. Ladies of the Catholic Diocese of St. Joseph's Church, Beal City

Obituary

CLARA FOX

Mrs. Clara Fox died last Thursday at the Medical Care Facility in Mt. Pleasant, where she had been a resident the past three years. She was 91.

She was born in Greenville Oct. 31, 1887, and she and her husband settled on a farm on the Nottawa Road, in Nottawa Township.

Their youngest of seven children Rosalie (Kremsreiter) was just a baby when the father died.

Thereafter, Steve and Ed, the older boys, did the farm work; the field work, caring for a herd of cows and other farm animals.

The family provided well for themselves through their farming; they had electric lights through the work of their own generator on the farm, as Steve Fox said in an interview, "It was a struggle, but we were never poverty-stricken."

Steve attended Ferris Institute before graduating from high school, then went on to study law. He has been a successful Mt. Pleasant attorney for many years.

Meantime, Ed took over the farm management, then, after him, Bill Fox, the next brother.

In the 1940s, when the Michigan oil and gas fever was at its height, a showing of oil was discovered on Clara Fox's farm, and she sold part of her mineral rights. "Enough," Steve Fox said, "to pay off all debts and buy a new car."

The Rau and Fox families, relatives, came from Germany to Canada, then down to Michigan. The head of that family, the present Fox family's great-grandfather, emigrated from Bavaria, after he'd been conscripted to build castles for "Mad Louie".

Between 25 and 30 years ago, Ed and Agnes Fox bought the hardware business from Glenn Scott, who had bought it from Steve Rau. It was located in the old Ad Scott building, where Ed and Agnes and Clara lived in apartments upstairs. Later Ed and Agnes bought the cement-block building where the Fox Hardware now stands. Clara then

bought the old Steve Rau house (John S. Weidman's original home here for his family), then owned by the Fred Neubecker family. Clara had parts of the house remodeled into an apartment for herself and one to rent. Ed and Agnes had had the hardware store just 25 years when they sold it to Jim Damitio of Lake Isabella.

Clara is survived by her three sons, Stephen of Mt. Pleasant, Edward of Weidman, and William of Beal City;

Also four daughters, Mrs. Margaret Judge of Winn, Mrs. Doris Sprague of Lansing, Rose Kremsreiter of Beal City, and Lauretta Fox of Fenton, Mich., Mrs. Ruth Fox of Rochester, Mich.; and Mrs. Ruth Richmond of Fenton, whom Clara raised as a daughter.

She is also survived by a brother, Louis Rau, of Beal City; and 37 grandchildren and 44 great-grandchildren, and countless friends.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Dec. 2, at 11 a.m., in St. Joseph the Worker Church in Beal City, with Scripture services at the Lux-Rush Funeral Home in Mt. Pleasant Friday evening.

Clara Fox was one of our best-loved pioneer-spirited citizens, and she was friends with everyone. She will be greatly missed, although she has been absent from this area for some years. But her life here left an impression of thrift and cheerfulness that has affected us all.

Donations may be made to the Isabella County Medical Care Facility, the family has announced.

FOR SALE--Hand made fancy dolls. Call Verlia Wilcox, tel. 644-3423.

Dec. 7tip

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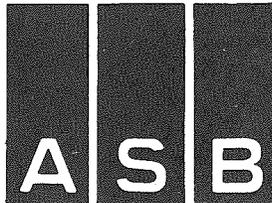
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Beal City

Dora Smith, Reporter

Mr. and Mrs. John Schafer and children of Bay City spent Sunday at the Ed Schafer home at Coldwater Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Klumpp spent the weekend in Grand Rapids.

Denise Tilmann and Donna Klumpp returned to their studies at Ferris State College Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Schafer and Melissa of Mt. Pleasant spent Sunday with Louise Schafer.

Tillie Schafer spent Sunday at the Ed Schafer home at Coldwater Lake.

The Beal City Business Association held their annual rabbit fry Sunday, after putting up the Christmas decorations for Beal City.

A large crowd attended the German smorgasbord and bazaar Sunday at the K. of C. Hall.

Mr. and Mrs. Al Tilmann entertained company Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Rau and family of Lansing called on Louis Rau and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gould Saturday afternoon. They were up to attend the funeral of Clara Fox.

Congratulations! The pastor baptized Jonathon Arthur, son of Paul and Marsha Faber.

The Senior Citizens will meet Thursday at 2 p. m. at the K. C. Hall.

Donny Gould spent Thursday afternoon with Sean Goffnett.

Ed Faber called on Louis Rau Wednesday.

Many from here attended the sing-along in Mt. Pleasant Sunday evening.

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Obituary

FRANKLIN F. LITTLEFIELD
Franklin F. Littlefield of Farwell died at his home last week Monday. He was 86.

He was the son of Josiah Littlefield who discovered, surveyed and bought land all around Littlefield Lake, thereby making his fortune. (Land was acquired in those days at prices from 50¢ to a dollar an acre, from the State of Michigan.)

Funeral services for Franklin Littlefield were held last Thursday at the Coker Funeral Home in Farwell, with the Rev. Dwight Burton officiating. Burial was in the Surrey Township Cemetery.

Franklin Littlefield was born in Farwell Feb. 8, 1892, to Josiah and Emma Littlefield. He was married to Jennie Bingham Dec. 29, 1957. She survives him.

He was a retired farmer, and president of the Farwell State Savings Bank.

He was a member of the Corning Lodge 335 of the Masonic order, and the Royal Arch Masons of Mt. Pleasant.

Surviving are a son, Lyle, of Fremont; a step-daughter, Mrs. Frances Schofield, of Farwell; and six grandchildren, a sister, Mrs. Hazel Grace Littlefield Smith, of Ann Arbor, and a nephew.

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JANE ELDRED, public relations director of American Security Bank at Mt. Pleasant, will be here this weekend to say "Hello," and see that you try some of those delectable cookies made for the occasion by la-

dies of St. Joseph's Altar Society in Beal City.
See yuh there!

Peanuts Are Healthy--If

Peanuts are healthy and nutritious if chewed well and

swallowed correctly. The American Lung Association warns parents to keep toddlers away from peanuts. Inhaled peanuts can lodge in the lungs and seriously damage sensitive tissues.



(Actual Photo of one of our Special House Wreaths) Done with red velvet wrappings and a huge red Velvet Bow--really gorgeous!

IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO START THINKING...

A Christmas Wreath for your departed loved one beautifies an otherwise dismal cemetery lot all winter.

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S. W. Sherman

Mabel Chaffee, Reporter

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Beutler and children enjoyed Sunday visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Sanderson, at St. Charles. The Sandersons planned to leave for Florida this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Duther, Jr., were Sunday guests of the Ervin Dutchers, Sr.

Bill Maeder entered CMC Hospital Friday, and returned home Sunday. He expects to undergo surgery for hernia in the near future. Best of Luck, Bill!

Alan Sheldon of Cheboygan will be staying with his father, Oren Sheldon, to attend the Chipewa Hills High School as a 10th grader.

Randy Eberbach of Lansing spent Saturday evening with Pat Kurtz, driving home on very icy roads.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Leiter and two children have moved back in our area, after living near St. Louis for a year. Welcome back, Jennie and Larry!

Little Robyn Bauw, granddaughter of Mabel Chaffee, is doing fine after a tonsillectomy last week in a Grand Rapids hospital. There were a few anxious moments when we learned she has hereditary excessive bleeding problems.

The Chaffee and Gatehouse families received word of the passing of a cousin, Don Chaffee, who died Sunday afternoon of a sudden heart attack, at CMC Hospital. Our hearts go out to his wife and children.

I wish to thank all those nice folks who have bought my books of poetry, and hope they enjoy reading, as much as I did writing them.

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FIREMEN CALLED OUT AT 4.45 A. M. TO BRINTON

The Nottawa and Sherman Fire Department was called out Tuesday morning in response to a fire call from the George Wilson home a quarter of a mile north of Brinton.

Firemen were on the scene for several hours, fighting a stubborn blaze that apparently started from a wood stove in the basement and spread to the kitchen above.

Damage was unofficially estimated between five and six thousand dollars, as the kitchen will have to be replaced, Firemen said Tuesday afternoon.

Exact cause of the fire was undetermined as we went to press.

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Babysitters Alert!

Inhaling of foreign objects can be a serious danger to young lungs. The American



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Local Items

We were sorry to hear that Connie Ewing was delivering pizzas with her new car and the oven that kept them warm set the back seat on fire and also the door panel. Connie will be home from her studies in college after Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Brenay of Bay City, and his mother, were Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Phillips. Frank Durham, also of Bay City, was with them. They were dinner guests, and left early on account of roads and weather.

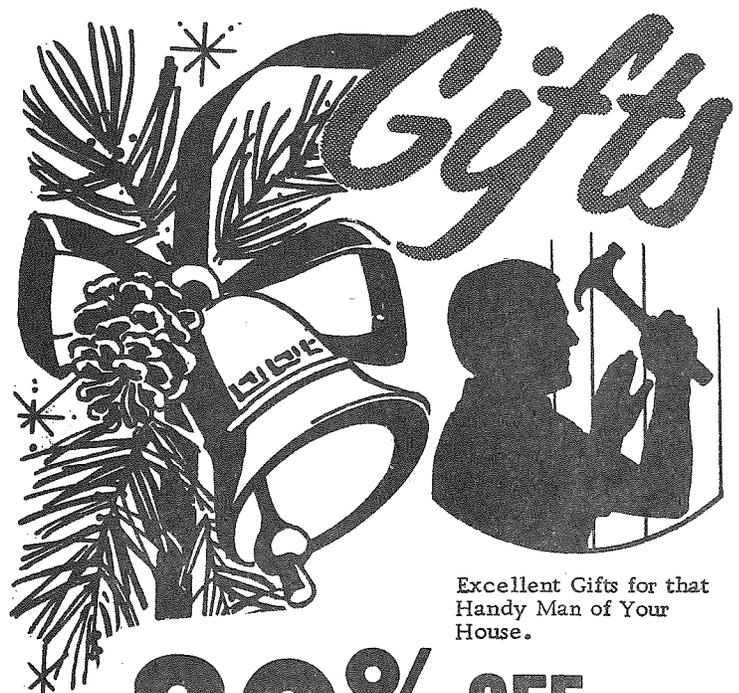
Wilma Kohler of Harrison was a Sunday visitor of Mrs. Verlia Wilcox. She bought one of Verlia's beautiful fancy dolls, for a Christmas present.

The Cripps family of Detroit spent the Thanksgiving weekend with their mother and grandmother, Mrs. Edna Bowein.

Margaret Johnston and Edna Bowein took a bus tour to Frankennuth and the Saginaw Mall, for shopping, last Thursday.

Lung Association reminds mothers that they should warn brothers, sisters, grandparents and babysitters to keep such things as small buttons, coins and peanuts away from toddlers.

The American Lung Association says inhaling of foreign objects can seriously injure young lungs.



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Obituary

DONALD ARTHUR CHAFFEE
Donald Arthur Chaffee of North Johnson Road, Weidman, died suddenly Sunday at CMC Hospital. He was 52.

Funeral services were held at 2 p. m. Wednesday at the Stinson-Helms Funeral Home in Mt. Pleasant, with Rev. Marvin Eldridge officiating. Interment was in Memorial Gardens in Mt. Pleasant.

He was born March 17, 1926, the son of Arthur and Dorothy Chaffee, and was a lifelong resident of this area.

He is survived by his wife, Lucille; four daughters, Mrs. Robert Bywater of Grand Rapids, Mrs. Alan Brickner of Shepherd, Mrs. Chris Buck of Flint, and Rachel Chaffee of Weidman; two brothers, Donald Chaffee, Jr., of Weidman and Kenneth of Grand Rapids; and six grandchildren.

He is also survived by three sisters, Mrs. Ray Price of Mt. Pleasant, Mrs. Jerry Hall, Mrs. Adrian La Marble of Riverdale, and a brother, Charles, of Cedar Springs.

The family have the sympathy of their many friends.

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Local Items

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Pitts spent last Thursday evening and Friday with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Barbour, at Grand Ledge.

In the Editor's Mail

Dear Connie

We arrived safely in Florida after a good trip down. We had beautiful weather all the way.

Here is our new address:
Carl Embrey, 2704 27th SE
14th Ave., Lot 4, Ruskin,
Florida 33570.

We will be looking forward to getting the paper.

Thank you.

Daisy Embrey
---0---

West Gilmore

Lena Cole, Reporter

The Paul Coles didn't have their choice last Wednesday as they were returning from Mt. Pleasant. Suddenly, several deer dashed out in front of their car. One was too close for comfort (either for the Coles or the deer) and took out our left headlight. A friend offered to get him for us, as he was hurt; and Dick Bell got him. We left as they shot it, right by the road, in Dick's pines, where he went after the collision.

Tony Masiwchuk called on the Paul Coles last Wednesday.

Paul Cole called on his sister, Mrs. Hilda Sampson, last Thursday.

Our friendly deer hunters, Richard Mahon and Willie, stopped in for coffee and donuts last Thursday.

Mrs. Helen Allbee spent several days last week with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Allbee.

Little Ronnie Mahon has been

suffering from strep throat.

Colleen Shaner is on the gain. We were sorry to see in the Farwell News and Review that our cousin, Percy Van Buskirk, had

passed away. His family have our sympathy.

Mr. and Mrs. Bess Pfannes and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Kripa called on the Paul Coles Saturday. Bess is not feeling well these days.

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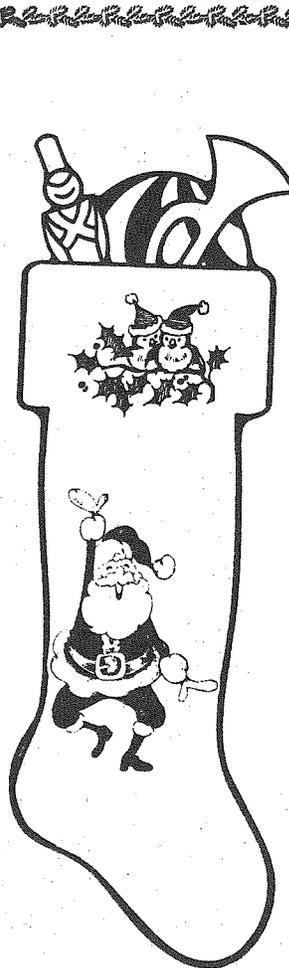
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OPERATION ALOHA
(Continued from Page 1)

family scheduled to arrive in Mt. Pleasant this week, under sponsorship of Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Sowle Mayflower, at 200 Walnut Street in Mt. Pleasant, again will serve as the collection center for donations.

The Cambodian family of eight is in need of new clothing: small and medium sizes for the men and women; clothing for an 18-months-old girl, and a seven-year-old boy.

In addition, canned goods, pots and pans, bedding and household furnishings are needed.

Included in the needs are a gas clothes dryer and a television set, a sewing machine, and a vacuum cleaner.

Christmas gifts of all kinds will be welcome.

Items may be dropped off at the Sowle Mayflower place during business hours, Monday through Saturday.

Arrangements can be made for picking up furniture and large appliances, by calling Sowle Mayflower at 772-2951.

Bill Sowle asks that all wrapped packages contain a note on the outside indicating contents, and the name of the donor.

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BEAL CITY GERMAN-FOOD SMORGASBORD A GALA SUCCESS; EVERYONE PLEASED

The German-food smorgasbord feast prepared and served by the ladies of St. Joseph the Worker

Council of Catholic Women was a huge success, according to word from Beal City.

A great crowd enjoyed the authentic German-cooked or baked delicacies, and the ladies' bazaar was sold right out.

Bad weather and road conditions notwithstanding, the dinner Sunday and the bazaar were an overwhelming success.

All kinds of delectable German food items were devoured by an appreciative crowd.

Sister Mickeala of Beal City did the printing and art work for desk calendars and other items, all in script writing.

Proceeds from the highly successful event will be used for playground equipment for St. Joseph's School at Beal City, a donation to the Jaws of Life project, and church-related programs.

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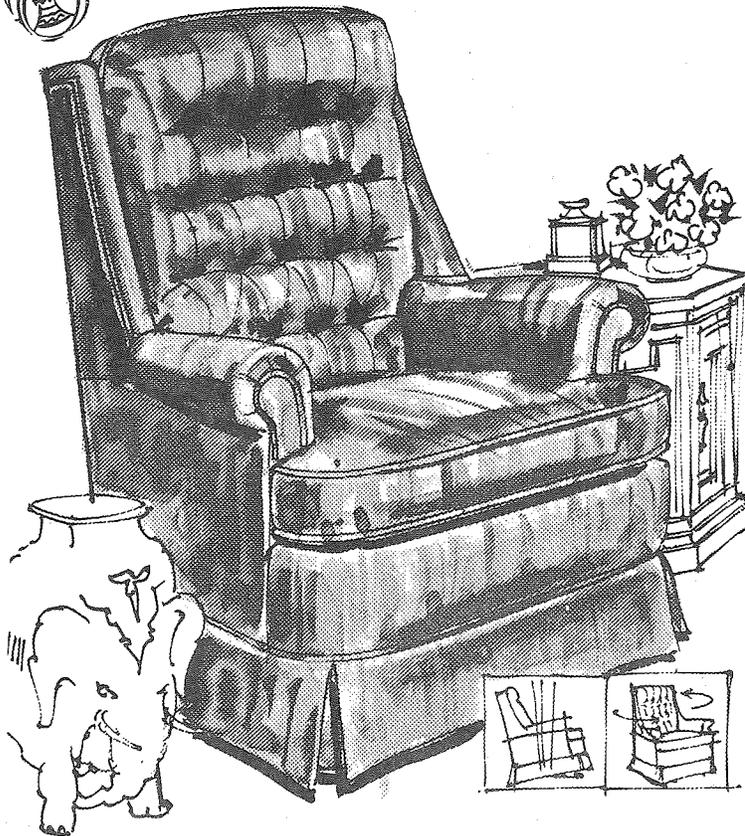
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