

The Past in Print...



80 YEARS AGO
NOV. 23, 1906

Charles Schutt has purchased the Charles Wachner residence on Main Street in Pigeon.
William Smith has moved his family from Pigeon to the Sand Ridge where he and his brother will manufacture lumber and shingles again this winter.
Dr. P. L. Fritz has leased the second floor of the Pigeon State Bank building for his dental office.
A total of 41 deer licenses, including one to a woman, were issued in Huron County this year.
Michigan raised 75% of the U.S. bean crop this year. What would Boston do without Michigan?
A syndicate of prominent citizens of Sebawaing, headed by C.F. Bach, W.F. Schmitt, Richard Martini and H.A. Fliegel have purchased "Dutcher's Point" north of Sebawaing for a summer resort.
70 YEARS AGO
NOV. 24, 1916
Pigeon suffered the

greatest fire loss in its history Saturday afternoon when the high school building was burned. Loss is about \$15,000 with \$9,000 insurance.
Henry Clabuesch, Rev. Wacher, Charley Meyer, Henry Neischtz and Gust Gueftch were in Saginaw Monday looking at church buildings and consulting an architect. The Berne Lutheran congregation will erect a new church on the site just west of the parsonage. The new edifice will cost about \$12,000.
John H. Richmond, 47, died Monday at his home in McKinley Twp. He leaves his widow, six children, his parents, three sisters and four brothers.
Mrs. Elizabeth Christner, 58, died at the home of her son, John, east of Pigeon.
Henry Stute sold his farm near Pigeon and will leave for Southern California to make his home.
60 YEARS AGO
NOV. 19, 1926
The large barn on the farm of Christ Diefenbach west of

Pigeon was destroyed by fire Sunday with a loss of about \$7,000 on barn and equipment and \$4,500 on feed, grain and machinery. The property is covered by \$6,000 insurance.
Books at the Pigeon Library have been rearranged and 100 new books added. The library will be open every Saturday from 2-5 p.m.
Pupils of the Weiss School will have a program and box social at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 24. A play, "Hans Von Smash," will also be given. Edward Dietzel, teacher, adv.
Mrs. Anna Mary Muensterer, 80, passed away at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Dietzel, Pigeon, on Nov. 13. She leaves a brother and sister.
The whistle that was familiar in Pigeon for many years when the grist mill was run by steam, is again heard four times a day. The Huron County Creamery, Pigeon, purchased the whistle and installed it at their plant. It is heard at 8 and 12 a.m. and 1 and 5 p.m.

Spence and Rev. H.E. Duffweiler.
Mr. and Mrs. Florantyne Soldan, Harbor Beach, formerly of this area, were killed in an auto accident Sunday near Bach.
Get your Thanksgiving fowl at the Feather Party at Elkton School Friday, Nov. 22, sponsored by Elkton Rotary Club. ADV.
30 YEARS AGO
NOV. 22, 1956
Pigeon High School seniors will present the play, "There Goes the Bride," Nov. 29-30 in the school gym. Cast members include Norma Steckley, Elaine Trost, John Hofiman, Joan Ruppert, Michael Wellman, Lois Haist, Paul Behm, Colleen Yackle, John Gettel, Ronald Smith, Bill Doecker and Carol Jean.
John A. Maxwell, 89, died Thursday at his home in Pigeon. Surviving are his widow, four daughters and a son.
John A. Daus, 67, Pigeon, died Thursday in Pigeon. He is survived by a sister and brother.
Area high school football players named on the 1956 all-conference football team of the Northern Thumb C Conference include: Fred Walmsley, Keith Wurst, Andy Creteur and Lynn Sturm, Pigeon; Bob Knechtel and Lew Hill, Elkton; Howard Holland, Sebawaing.

20 YEARS AGO
NOV. 24, 1966
Pigeon native, Thaddeus

10 YEARS AGO
NOV. 25, 1976
Morris Ricker, 67, Owendale, passed away Nov. 21. He is survived by his wife, a daughter and son.
A potter's wheel was recently donated to the Laker High School art

department by the Elkton Woman's Civic Club. It was accepted by art instructor Lee Deneen who said they had been trying for 10 years to acquire a wheel.
Annual Bay Port community advent service will be held at 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 28 in Bay Port Memorial Park. Elder Maynard Albrecht will direct the program. Sponsors are United Methodist Church, RLDS Church, Women's Club and Auxiliary.
Mrs. Hal Conkey was hostess to members of the Worthy Study Club Wednesday evening, assisted by Mrs. Katherine Morgan. Mrs. Roy Duffy was program chairman and Hal Conkey showed his paintings.
FROM THE ELKTON ADVANCE FILES
51 YEARS AGO
NOV. 21, 1935
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Jerome of Bay Port have moved to the Jerome farm south of Elkton.
There are 20 boys and four girls enrolled in the Farver School. Orville Snider is the teacher.
Huron County Odd Fellows Assn. will meet with the Elkton lodge at the Elkton High School Thursday evening, Nov. 21.
44 YEARS AGO
NOV. 19, 1942
Miss Joyce Wakefield, Elkton, a sophomore at Michigan State College will serve as house manager at Potter Cooperative House for the fall term.
Construction of an addition of two stories and a basement, 30 by 24 ft., at the south east corner of the Huron County court house was approved by the board of supervisors in a special session Friday afternoon.

37 YEARS AGO
NOV. 24, 1949
Funeral services were held in Detroit Friday for Rev. William E. Schumacher, 90, former Lutheran pastor in the West Huron area, who died last week after suffering a broken hip.
Tony Banek was the first successful Elkton hunter to return home with a buck. He returned Wednesday from Luzerne.

Gaschos get 1901 family news
Marie and Nancy Gascho of Pigeon learned a good deal of history about their Jantzi Family relatives while attending cousin David Gascho's funeral in Ontario Sept. 14.
Another cousin, Allen Gascho, told a story about his three Gascho cousins in Pigeon -- and showed a newspaper clipping telling of the death of their grandfather, Michael Jantzi. He gave his cousins, Samuel, Marie and Nancy, the clipping from a 1901 Newton, Ont., newspaper.
Here are more details of the story:
Michael Jantzi was born May 29, 1861 and died Nov. 4, 1901 in Newton, Ont. His wife, Barbara (Zehr) Jantzi, reached the age of 100 years, three months and 20 days -- and her Pigeon grandchildren remember her as an ambitious lady who planted potatoes, hooed and harvested them and her own garden -- at the age of 97 years.
Michael and Barbara's oldest daughter, Fannie Jantzi (mother of Sam. Marie and Nancy) later became Mrs. Moses Gascho. As a young girl, she observed a sad 17th birthday, on Nov. 7, 1901 -- when her father was buried that day.



TASTING VICTORY: These Laker fans show their excitement at a Green Machine touchdown, during Saturday's Regional Finals football contest against Detroit Country Day. The happiness was short-lived, however... See sports pages for details.

THIS WEEK'S 60 SECOND "THOUGHT IN SPIRIT"

Easier to forgive than to forget?
READ MATTHEW 18:15-22
Thou hast cast all my sins behind Thy back. Isaiah 38:17
The pastor thought that he had brought about a complete reconciliation between two of his members who had been at odds for months. They had even shaken hands as friends. But as they were leaving the pastor's study, the one was heard to mumble under his breath, "Sure, I'll forgive, but I'll never FORGET what he did!"
That is not genuine forgiveness, especially not Christian forgiveness. When our Lord forgives you and me, He "casts all our sins behind His back." In His divine mercy He forgives and He forgets. Through Jeremiah He tells His people, "I will remember their sin no more." And He means just that!
How different from some of us who call ourselves Christians, especially when we grudgingly say, "I'll forgive but I'll never forget!"
What do we really mean when we pray in the Lord's Prayer, "And forgive us our trespasses AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO TRESPASS AGAINST US?"
Are we asking the Lord to forgive but NOT forget?
What a terrible prayer on the lips of those who say that they "Forgive" but insist they'll not forget!

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Village of Pigeon will conduct its primary and annual elections on February 16, 1987 and March 9, 1987, respectively.
The following offices will be up for election at this time: Clerk (1-year term), Treasurer (1-year term), Trustee (1-year term), Trustee (2-year term), Trustee (2-year term), Trustee (2-year term).
Nominating petitions may be picked up at the Village Clerk's office for persons interested in running for the positions mentioned. Petitions must be returned to the Clerk by Tuesday, December 16, 1986 at 4 p.m.
Janet Heckman, superintendent-clerk

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MIKE POWER

50 YEARS AGO
NOV. 20, 1936

John J. Campbell, 65, prominent Pigeon businessman, died Saturday. He leaves his widow and a sister. He was a druggist, a member of the first village council, chairman of the county road commission and established the Pigeon Telephone Co.
William A. Henne, 61, a McKinley Twp. native, died at the home of his daughter in Detroit. Besides his daughter, he leaves three brothers and five sisters.
Robert H. Orr purchased the Norman Schaaf business block on Main Street, Pigeon.
George Swartzentruber purchased the George Pfaff home on East Michigan Ave., Pigeon.

40 YEARS AGO
NOV. 22, 1946

Dale E. Maxwell, 21, Pigeon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Maxwell, Pigeon, and a veteran of World War II, was killed in a car accident Thursday. Surviving are his parents, a brother, sister and grandparents. He entered the Navy in 1943, served in the Pacific area and Japan as an aviation radioman and was discharged May 18, 1946. He was employed by S.T. & H. Oil Co. Pigeon Worth White Club met Tuesday evening at the home of Mrs. Clifton Bailey. On the program were Mrs. H.O. Paul, Mrs. Robert

PUBLIC HEARING
CASEVILLE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

There will be a Public Hearing on December 3, 1986 at 7:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Village/Township Hall. The subject of the hearing will be the up-dating of the Caseville Township Master Plan. Public comment is invited. The Public may offer comment at the hearing or by letter addressed to the Caseville Township Planning Commission at 6767 Main St. Caseville, MI 48725

H. Lankey,
Chairman

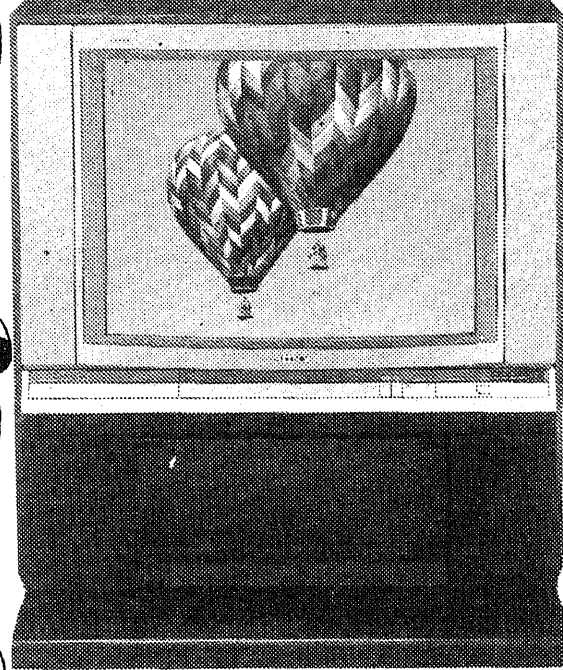
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Something To Think About
JOHN A. CHAMPAGNE DIRECTOR
THE VISITATION OR WAKE

When you have a "visitation" or "wake" or what some refer to as "calling hours," you permit family and friends to express their feelings about the deceased. This sharing experience can be important to you in your own grief. When you are by yourself, you are alone with your grief. When you are with others, you may find comfort and enlightenment. You and others should be able to express your own emotions. At the same time, it is helpful for you to hear what the life of the deceased has meant to others, some of whom you may not even know. The visitation in the presence of the viewable body provides a proper setting and climate for these expressions. There are some people

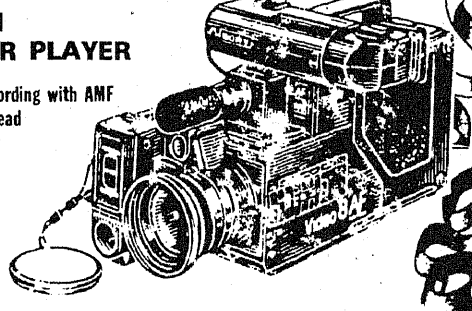
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Robert Schulz, Manager
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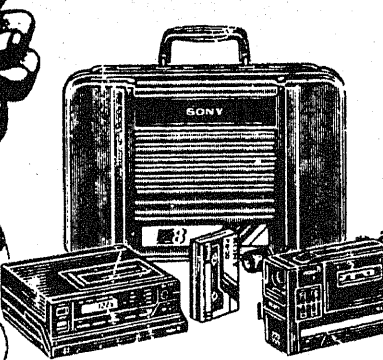


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Reg. \$1,049⁹⁵
SALE \$875⁰⁰
Optional Stand \$159⁹⁹

WORLD STANDARD 8MM VIDEO CAMERA-RECORDER PLAYER



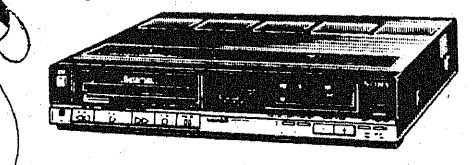
•Dynamic auto focus system
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CCDV8AFU • Reg. \$1550⁰⁰
SALE \$1,275⁰⁰
(Lower Than Highland Appliance!)
THIS IS CORRECT PRICE!



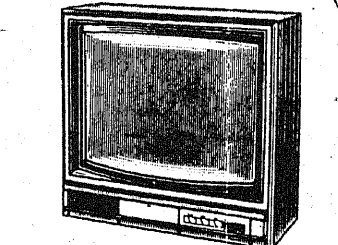
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8 MM VIDEO SYSTEM
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EZ-8 Home Deck 8MM
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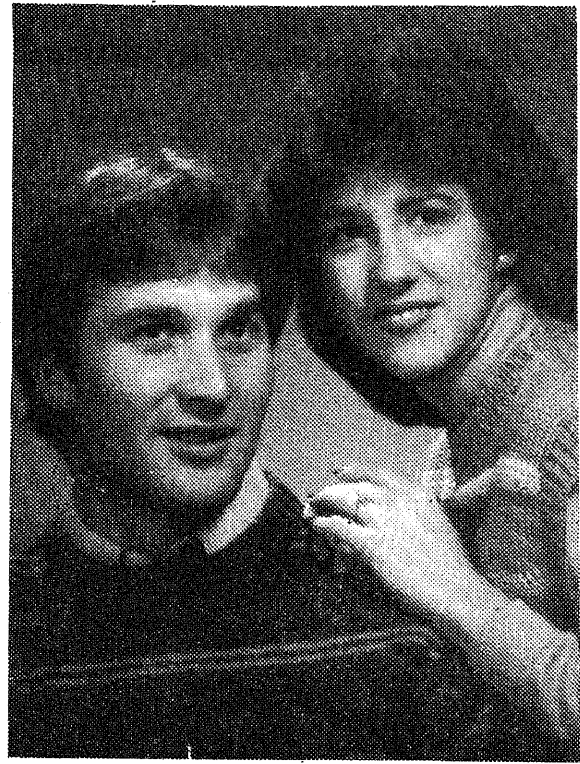
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Couple sets March vows



Kauffman - Swartzendruber

Vicki S. Kauffman and Rodney S. Swartzendruber, together with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Loren Kauffman, Lake Odessa and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Swartzendruber, Pigeon, announce their engagement.

The bride-elect is a 1985 graduate of Lakewood High School. She is employed at Michigan Chief Sales, Inc., Lake Odessa.

Her fiancé is a 1981 graduate of Laker High School and attended Hesston College, Hesston, Kans. He is a self-employed dairy-crop farmer.

The couple is planning a March 14, 1987 wedding at the Lakewood United Methodist Church, Lake Odessa.

Thumb club news

VFW LADIES AUX. 2236

The regular meeting of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary of Post #2236 met on Tuesday, Nov. 11 at 8 p.m. at the Pigeon VFW Hall. The opening ceremonies were held according to the Ritual.

Phyllis Vollmer called the meeting to order. Fourteen

Area school lunch menus

**Week of Nov. 24-28
LAKER SCHOOLS**
Second choice all week: cheeseburger.

MONDAY: Stacked ham and cheese sandwich.

TUESDAY: Lasagna.

WEDNESDAY: Pizza. No lunch-Jr. High conferences.

THURSDAY: THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY.

FRIDAY: THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY.

CROSS LUTHERAN
MONDAY: Big Macs, french fries, fruit salad, relishes, milk.

TUESDAY: Thanksgiving Dinner. Turkey Roast, potatoes/sweet potatoes, corn, cranberries, bread, pumpkin dessert, milk.

WEDNESDAY: Macaroni and cheese, green beans, relishes, jello with fruit, bread, milk.

THURSDAY: THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY.

FRIDAY: THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY.

members answered to roll call.

Initiation ceremonies were conducted for a new member, Beverly Briolet.

The 10th District Meeting will be Dec. 14 at the Gordon R. Bennet Post 1452 at Clio.

The Flint VFW Post will hold a Drug Abuse program on Dec. 4.

Amita Gettel reported that some 1987 dues are still due. She adds that the dues will be going up after Dec. 1.

Alyce Kleinfeld reported on legislative action on bills that are on the floor, including moving Memorial Day back to May 30 and other veterans' bills.

Eleanor Trost reported that the Voice of Democracy program is ready for judging. The VFW Post #2236 and its Ladies Auxiliary sponsor this program in local schools.

Bettye Horn reported that she still has some items to sell for the POW program. Buddy Poppy Chairman Ada McArdle mentioned that Buddy Poppies can be used all year around for different occasions.

A \$10 memorial was given to the VFW National Home in memory of Bea Atkinson.

The Health and Happiness was paid. A donation was given to the Department's President's Gift.

The next regular meeting will be Dec. 9 at 7:30 p.m. with a Christmas Party to follow, including a \$3.00 gift exchange and a potluck luncheon.

Thumb obituaries

ROY KREH 1920 - 1986

Roy Kreh, age 65, of Pigeon, passed away Friday, Nov. 14, at Rose City Geriatric Village, Rose City.

He was born the son of the late Levi and Maude (Baughman) Kreh on Nov. 22, 1920. He was a member of the Salem United Methodist Church throughout his life time.

He is survived by his brother, Milton of Pigeon; two sisters, Mrs. Lavina Lacey of Bad Axe and Mrs. Hazen (Mildred) Germaine of Oscoda; several nieces and nephews and an aunt, Mrs. Clarence (Mabel) Couture of Alpena.

He was preceded in death by three brothers, Arthur, Elmer and Martin.

Funeral services were conducted on Monday, Nov. 17 at 11 a.m. from the Shetler-Bussema Funeral Home, Pigeon. Rev. Timothy Hastings, pastor of the Salem United Methodist Church, officiated with burial in the Grand Lawn Cemetery, Pigeon.

Arrangements were handled by the Shetler-Bussema Funeral Home, Pigeon.

GRACE RICE SHAW

Word has been received of the death of former Elkton and Bad Axe resident Grace Rice Shaw, age 89, now of Saginaw. She passed away Nov. 16, leaving 13 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Other area deaths...

Violet M. Armstead, 67 of Snover, passed away Nov. 6.

John Graven, 83, of Fairgrove, passed away Nov. 6.

Wesley C. Schember, 90, of Unionville, passed away Nov. 7.

Edward J. Dillon, 77, of Unionville, passed away Nov. 7.

Rev. Raymond C. Oswald, 52, formerly of Harbor Beach, passed away Nov. 8.

Flossie M. Tewksbury, 98, of Caro, passed away Nov. 8.

Pearl Higgs, 93, of Akron, passed away Nov. 9.

Dennis F. Cheslock, 39, of Hudson, formerly of Filion, passed away Nov. 10.

Margaret Walters, 72, of Cass City, passed away Nov. 10.

Mario L. Holdwick, 68, of Sherman Township, passed away Nov. 10.

Albert J. Yaroch, 86, of Port Austin, passed away Nov. 11.

James J. McDonald, 59, of Verona Township, passed away Nov. 11.

Arthur J. Pohl, 94, of Delaware Township, Sanilac County, passed away Nov. 11.

Alice Wright, 98, of Cass City, passed away Nov. 12.

Richard J. Winter, 44, of Sebawaing, passed away Nov. 13.

Roy Kreh, 65, of Pigeon, passed away Nov. 14.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Must be received by 12 noon Mondays for publication in The Progress-Advance. All letters must be signed.

CASS THEATRE Cass City

872-2252 • Cass City

—THURSDAY ONLY 7:30—

"Bargain Nite"

Jack Nichols & Meryl Streep

"HEARTBURN"

FRI., SAT., SUN., THURS.

NOVEMBER 21, 22, 23, & 27

—FIRST AREA SHOWING—

FRI., SUN., THUR., - 7:30 Only

SAT., 7:30 & 9:20

A movie that soars on magic, mirth and truth



NOTE: Now on winter schedule, please check times closely!

SEE A SHOW... HAVE A MEAL!

BAY THEATRE
FRIDAY-SATURDAY-SUNDAY
Nov. 21, 22, 23
RUNNING SCARED
GREGORY HINES - BILLY CRystal RATED R
One Show Nightly - 7 p.m.
Sunday Night is Bargain Night
Caseville • 856-2676

CASEVILLE LADIES meet NORTH HURON

IN CLASS D DISTRICT BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS

Hosted at Caseville

Owen-Gage	Saturday, Nov. 22 6:30	Tuesday, Nov. 25 7 p.m.
Port Hope		
North Huron	Thursday, Nov. 20 6:30	Saturday, Nov. 22 8 p.m.
Caseville		
Akron-Fairgrove		
Bye		



Winner of this tournament will advance to Reese High School for regional action, playing the winner of the Carsonville-Port Sanilac district play-offs.

Caseville Lumber Co., Inc.
6851 Michigan Caseville 856-2211
Build a firm foundation and construct a win.

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Fresh seafood specialties
Fresh lake fish favorites
Hook your opponents and net a win

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A boating community
Harbor a win for Caseville!

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Be rough Be tough Be winners!

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We're Proud Of Our CASEVILLE EAGLES

PUBLIC HEARING CASEVILLE TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
There will be a Public Hearing on December 3, 1986 at 7:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Village/Township Hall. The purpose of the hearing is to consider the re-zoning of a parcel of land known as lot 1, except the southerly 150 feet, of Cottick's Retirement Acres. The parcel is now zoned Residential and the request is to zone the parcel Commercial.
The public may comment either at the hearing or by addressing a letter to the Caseville Township Planning Commission at 6767 Main St. Caseville, MI 48725
H. Lankey, Chairman

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COMPLETE LINE OF GROCERIES

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THANKSGIVING DAY**

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WEDNESDAY, NOV. 26, 1986.



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LIMIT 1 PER FAMILY

ADDITIONAL QTYS. 99¢ LB.

ARMOUR • GRADE A
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TURKEYS

LIMIT 1 PER FAMILY

ADDITIONAL QTYS. 99¢ LB.

GREEN LAKES • BONELESS
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MEATY
**FRYER
BREASTS** LB. **\$1.49**

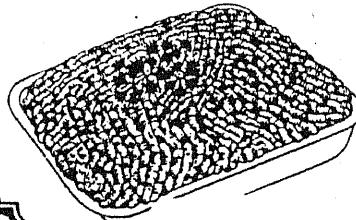
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PORK SAUSAGE

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POLISH SAUSAGE LB. **\$1.49**

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FRESH • LEAN
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PREMIUM
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RED EMPEROR
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FRESH
CRANBERRIES OZ. PKG. **79¢**

CALIF. • SIZE 18
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NO. 1
YAMS 3 LBS. **\$1**

CALIF. • NAVEL
ORANGES 5 LB. BAG **\$1.89**

KRAFT • MINI OR REGULAR
MARSHMALLOWS

2/ 10 OZ. PKGS. **99¢**

DOMINO
POWDERED OR LT. BROWN
SUGAR 2 LB. BAG **89¢**

MAZOLA
CORN OIL 64 OZ. BTL. **\$2.49**

STOKELY'S
PUMPKIN 29 OZ. CAN **58¢**

SHOWBOAT
YAMS 40 OZ. CAN **88¢**

TRUEWORTH
**CRANBERRY
SAUCE** 16 OZ. CAN **49¢**

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1986 Christmas Gift Guide





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Through the centuries, giving has been the symbol of that first — and greatest — gift of all, when The Babe of Bethlehem was given to the World by a merciful, loving Father.

Gift variations by the millions have evolved from that beginning, some overly-generous and others overly-niggardly, but residents in the Western Thumb of Michigan have long heard about a generous community that once gathered sacrificial gifts to present to their beloved, needy minister.

The community was Kilmanagh, and although no one remaining there today was a participant in that event of 1891, the memory of the spirit remains strong.

A minister was a 55-year career, who started congregations in Kilmanagh, Elkton, Pigeon, Caseville and Lincoln — as well as others in the western part of Michigan — often recalled the event that occurred as he began his ministry here, near the tip of the Thumb.

It happened in Kilmanagh, named for a community in Ireland like this one, which, was surrounded by heavy forests. Nine-

ty-five years ago, Kilmanagh was a busy crossroads town in Huron County. At the time it had a busy grist mill, 2 general stores, a pharmacy, 2 physicians, a blacksmith shop and 3 saloons.

All goods that came into town were hauled over roads that changed with the seasons. Just before Christmas, 1891, the roads that led through the woods and flatlands were so bad that the wagon that brought meager supplies of toys and ornaments from the nearby port of Sebewaing was forced to hitch a 2nd team of horses in front of the regular team, to make the last 2 miles into Kilmanagh. The shipment included nuts, candy, candleholders, a few dolls, some jackknives, a few men's and boy's suits — and that was about all.

Two weeks before Christmas, Mrs. William Schumacher, wife of the young Lutheran minister in Kilmanagh, told 2 merchant-partners in one of the stores that chicken thieves had taken every one of the preacher's hens. There'd be no more eggs for the family and no more Sunday chicken dinners.

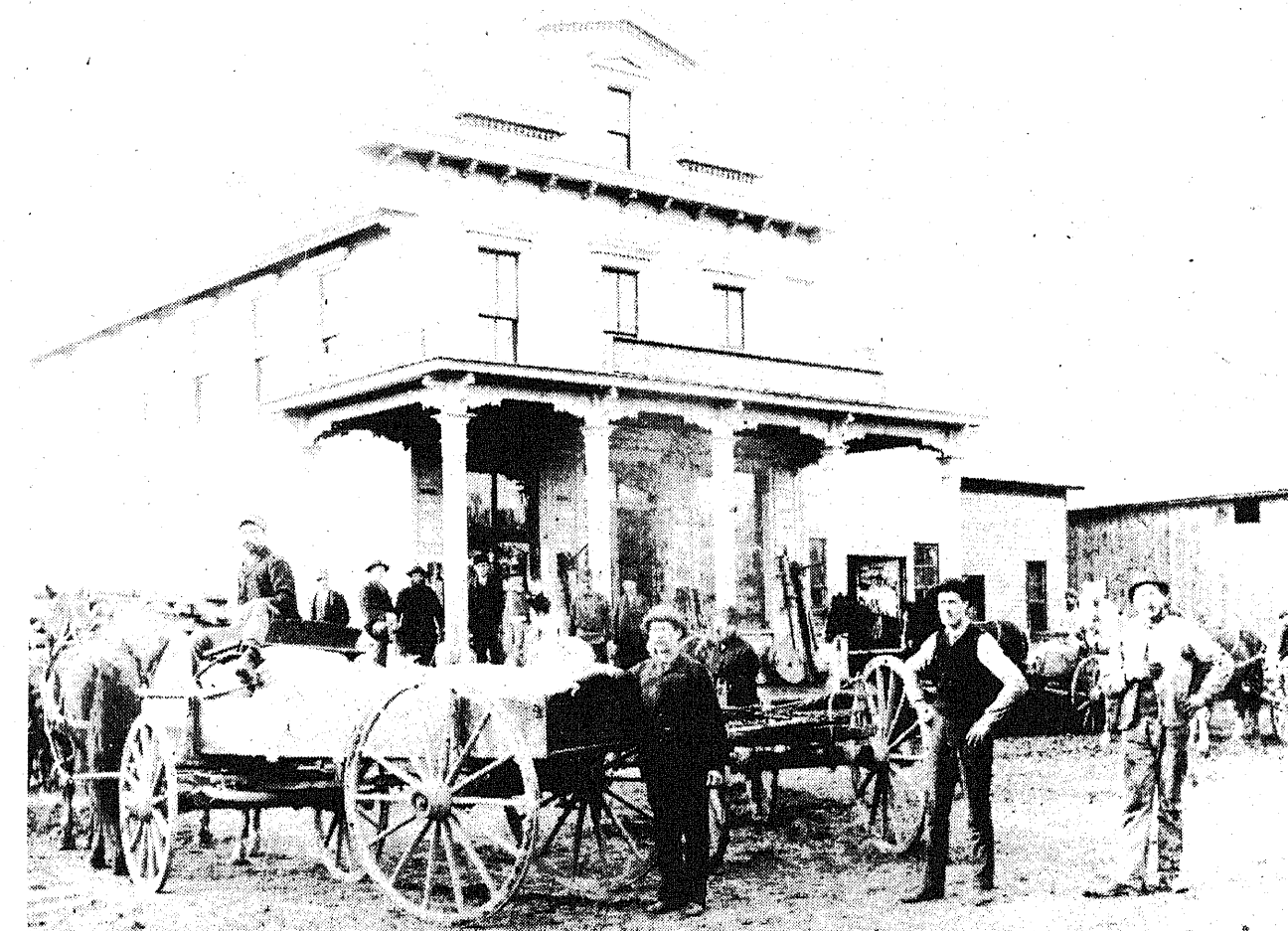
For the pastor who had founded the Kilmanagh congregation 8 years earlier, when he was fresh out of seminary, there was

more bad news to come. He was a storybook country parson, covering circuits

first on foot, then on horseback and by buggy. Frequently he encountered In-

dians and bears, sometimes wolves, on the way to conduct services for tiny

groups of settlers who came in gingham dresses
Continued on Next Page



IT WAS A BUSY DAY at the Kilmanagh store according to this photo from about the time of the 1891 Christmas story. Back then it was the Kilmanagh branch of the John C. Liken Company, which had stores and lumber camps throughout western Huron County and northern Tuscola County.

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LUKE'S MARKET

Sebewaing

A CHRISTMAS STORY
From Page 3

and homespun suits. For 30 years, Pastor Schumacher was to use Kilmanagh as a base to found other churches, several of which are still flourishing.

Those events still lay far in the future that bitter cold day in mid-December 1891, when Schumacher, returning from Elkton, encountered another problem. Shivering under the

blanket of his cutter, the minister was attempting to guide his horse, Fanny, around the worst mud-holes, freezing up rapidly and forming hard, high ruts that bumped and jarred the cutter back and forth.

Suddenly there was a single sharp snapping sound and the cutter came to a quick stop as the minister saw that the horse's saddle belt had torn, leav-

ing him stranded between farms in the swiftly-gathering nightfall. The pastor trudged to the nearest home, where an obliging farmer tied the break with rope and twine, but issued a warning, "That should get you home, but better get a new harness before you try to travel any

distance."
The Schumachers had 4 children at the time and the minister's salary was \$450 per year. "To help him out," the minister was to receive 2 cords of split stove wood from each farmer, and there was an understanding that when they butchered hogs, they

were to bring meat and sausage to the parsonage. Even the cordwood deal wasn't going well. At a church meeting, one of the members arose to point out that some farmers were bringing big chunks of wood which they themselves couldn't split into firing size. "You shouldn't

bring that kind of wood to your minister," he scolded, adding pointedly, "You're doing the same thing they did in the Old Testament when they brought crippled lambs for sacrifice."
The speaker, a woodsman himself, announced he'd tried to split some of the chunks that had been

delivered to the parsonage. "Even with my own wedge and sledge, your chunks were so big and hard that I couldn't split them," he thundered at the members.
Keenly aware of Reverend Schumacher's chicken and harness problems, the 2 young merchants offered their store as a collection center to raise money to help recover some of the minister's losses. They asked farmers to donate feed and money, but times were hard and cash was scarce. Eventually the fund reached \$8.
The merchants knew

where they could buy a harness at the wholesale price of \$10, but the fund drive was still short and each day Christmas was coming nearer. Then the Ladies' Aid got into the campaign, contributing egg money, saving a few cents here, a nickel there, even cutting their own Christmas buying. They brought coins from where they could find them, and finally raised \$4 more to total \$12.
Come Christmas Eve, and the ladies of the congregation and a committee of men finished decorating the tree in the little

18x36-foot church that doubled as a school during the week. When the children's Christmas Eve service was over the men and women took the minister and Mrs. Schumacher out to the barn behind the adjoining parsonage.
They threw open the door to the horse barn, and there stood Fanny, resplendent in her beautiful black harness, the brass rivets shining and sparkling in the reflected light of a dozen kerosene lanterns.
Surprised and full of appreciation for the generous gift, the Schumachers were then walked

to the adjoining chicken coop where they found double the number of hens they'd lost to the thief, all perched contentedly, looking up warily as the delegation entered. Besides there were bags of oats for Fanny, and wheat and corn for the chickens.
"What a Christmas gift," the pastor murmured, eyes filled with tears. His wife sobbed openly as she nodded to the members and shook their hands. "How

generous, how lovable you all are," they said repeatedly.
That was Christmas in Kilmanagh, 1891.
Just a simple outpouring of love and appreciation at a period when the richest were poor by today's standards, and yet the poorest could find a few pennies or a clutch of eggs to donate to a minister who was in even greater distress.
In 1915 Pastor Schumacher became minister

of the Holland Lutheran Church, starting young congregations in nearby communities. The Schumachers raised 6 boys and 5 girls, and some years after his retirement in 1938, the pastor moved to Detroit to live with a son, since his wife had died. He was an active minister for 55 years, and even after retirement he was strong and alert, accepting assignments to preach most Sundays.
Continued on Next Page

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Give That Special Youngster A Special Gift By Starting Him Or Her On The Path To Savings With Their Very Own Savings Account. With As Little As \$10⁰⁰ You Can Open An Actual Account In Their Name.

A CHRISTMAS STORY
From Page 5

days. In his 90th year he was injured in a fall, and after lengthy hospitalization, he passed away November 15, 1949.

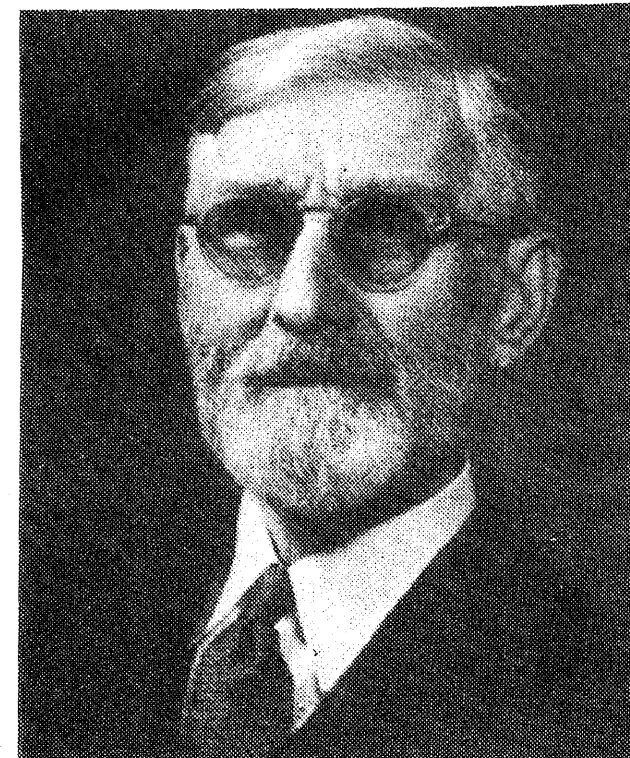
Today Kilmanagh is but a shadow of its earlier self. The 2 general stores have been closed for decades, one has been razed but the other still stands and is sometimes used as a reunion center. The grist mill is but a memory, as is the pharmacy, and the one-time hotel was torn down a quarter century ago. The bank building still stands, but is no longer used as the one-time reunion site and clubhouse to which it had been converted. Blacksmith shops exist only in museums, and the last combination gas station-service garage closed years ago. Of the 3 bars that once were social centers and community gathering places, only Kelly's Bar still operates.

The Kilmanagh Lutheran Church, known as St. Johns, is still active and a pillar in the small residential community that stands at the junction of Sebawaing, Fair Haven, Winsor and Brookfield Townships. The parochial school, known as Bach-Kilmanagh Lutheran School, is modern and well-staffed, training 38 students. One mile north stands Kilmanagh United Methodist Church, with its pleasant parsonage.

Perhaps this Christmas season, as the ministers and residents make their round of holiday visits,

some descendants of those original settlers will mention Christmas in Kilmanagh, 1891 style, as they recall hearing it from their parents or grandparents. The story should be retold

and remembered. The account will make a good topic for a sermon. It's a good topic anytime, especially when giving, or Christmas, or love, or sacrifice are remembered.



PASTOR WILLIAM SCHUMACHER was in his 80s when this photo was taken.

Men Who Made Santa

A collector of folk customs and holiday practices attributes our present-day Santa Claus to the work of three men:

Washington Irving, who wrote of the happy rural English Christmas festivities;

Dr. Clement Moore, whose poem "The Visit from St. Nicholas" gave millions of people the idea of a jolly saint;

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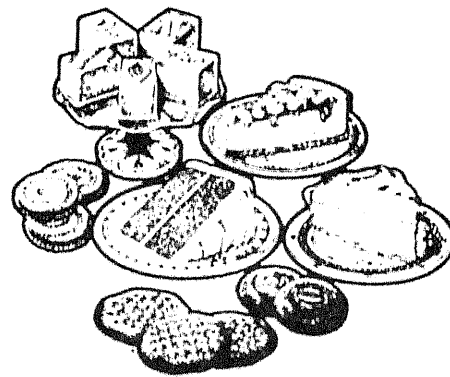
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How do folks cope when 'their day' is near Dec. 25?

When birthdays and Christmas collide...

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This story explores those unfortunate folks whose birthdays fall on or near our nation's most-observed holiday, Christmas.

Often, those birthdays are lost in the holiday shuffle -- and people are told "you'll get something EXTRA at Christmas." What they REALLY want is a normal, un-busy birthday -- as the lucky people whose birthdays are in July get, for instance.

And this editor should know. My birthday is Dec. 10! -- Mark W. Rummel)

Surprisingly, Dubey's high school and college age birthdays are remembered as the most disappointing. The day before Christmas often seemed to slip by with family members and friends busy with Christmas activities.

That can be depressing for a young person, Dubey says. "I'd mope around for about a week after that," he recalls now with a laugh.

One problem he shared with others who celebrate December and early January birthdays is fewer gifts during that time of the year.

"I often get a present and people would tell me it was for my birthday and Christmas," Dubey says. "Brother-in-law Pobanz says he experienced the same thing. Sometimes he was given a Christmas present and then informed, 'By the way, this is for your birthday too.'"

"I missed many birthdays, but that didn't bother me much because I was too excited about Christmas," Pobanz says. "I didn't put too much emphasis on birthdays. It wasn't very special since it was right after Christmas," he adds.

In the past the two in-laws got together in June to celebrate their birthdays six

months early (or late), but that practice is now only carried on by Pobanz.

"I just couldn't pass up celebrating my birthday in December," Dubey admits.

Catharine Pickering, 24, of Bad Axe was born Dec. 12 and can identify with disappointments such as being told "Here's a birthday card, and I'm going to get you an extra special Christmas present for your birthday."

"I just got fed up so I started doing the same thing to my brothers and sisters who have birthdays in the summer," she laughs.

Pickering remembers some birthday parties when she was young, but they always seemed to feature a Christmas theme with Christmas decorations, napkins, etc.

"My birthday was the traditional herald of Christmas," she notes when the house began to be decorated for Christmas.

Judy Koch, 35, of Sebawaing says her Dec. 15th birthday...



CELEBRATING TOGETHER: Brothers-in-law Jay Dubey, left, and Bob Pobanz point out their respective Dec. 24 and Dec. 26 birthdays -- wearing appropriate birthday and Christmas hats.

They're among dozens of local folks whose birthdays fall near (or on) the biggest annual gift-giving celebration, Christmas. RICH SWARTZENDRUBER PHOTO



Brian Collison

some of its significance. A pair of in-laws have a unique perspective on that unhappy situation.

Jay Dubey, 32, of Pigeon celebrates his birthday on Dec. 24, while his brother-in-law Bob Pobanz, 38, of Alma, formerly of Pigeon, easily remembers his birthday on Dec. 26.

Dubey says having a birthday on Christmas Eve has some positive aspects such as often celebrating the day with his family in church. As a child he also benefited from special attention from family members who gathered together for the

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BIRTHDAYS
From Page 8

day also marked a family Christmas tradition.

"We always went to get our Christmas tree on my birthday," she remembers.

Koch says her family rarely forgets her birthday now and her husband usually takes her out for dinner.

Dennis Diener, 45, of Pigeon is another person who automatically thinks of Christmas when birthdays



Kayla Gnagey

are mentioned. He was born on Dec. 24.

As the owner of a furniture, appliance and electrical business, he often has to work on his birthday unless it falls on a Sunday.

"We usually have to deliver some things on my birthday because people want them in time for Christmas," he says.

A tradition which has developed for Diener's each year has been to attend early Christmas Eve church service at Cross Lutheran Church, then celebrate his birthday with the Rev. Raymond E. Orth family before the late service begins. Pastor Orth's daughter, Anne, also marks Dec. 24 as her birthday.

Brian Collison, age six, of Pigeon says he likes having his birthday on Dec. 24. One

reason is his family celebrates his birthday earlier in December and then again on the day before Christmas.

Collison is allowed to open



Alta Swartzendruber

a birthday present on the morning of Dec. 24, but must wait until the following day to open his Christmas presents.

One family activity he enjoys on his birthday is atten-



Jim Ballard

ding Christmas Eve church service, then going for a drive in the car to observe the Christmas decorations in the Pigeon area.

Deb McBride, 38, of Caseville says celebrating birthdays during the Christmas season is common in her family. Not only is her birthday Dec. 13, but her daughter Kris was born on Dec. 17 and her mother Kay Ducharme marks her birthday on Dec. 15.

"Sometimes gifts that were picked out as Christmas presents end up being unwrapped from birthday paper," admits McBride.

Her parents and she make a special effort to ensure family birthdays are not overlooked.

"When I had a birthday party for Kris, I had to take



Dennis Diener

down Christmas decorations and put up birthday decorations, but the tree stayed up," McBride notes.

Having a birthday fall soon after Christmas also presents problems.

Sue Meyersieck, 37, of Pigeon remembers few birthday parties for a unique reason.

"You could never throw a birthday party because nobody would come. Your friends couldn't come because nobody had any money left from Christmas shopping to buy anything," she says.

Another disappointment was experienced as a child who celebrated her birthday when school was dismissed for Christmas vacation.

"When you're little, it's a big deal taking treats to the other kids on your birthday.

You can take them after vacation, but it's not the same," says Meyersieck.

Alta Swartzendruber, 84, of Pigeon received few presents as a child on her Dec. 27 for several reasons. Not only was she born two days after Christmas, but also birthdays were downplayed in the family with nine children.

"We just didn't have a lot of presents," she says.

One gift for Christmas and her birthday does stand out in her memory, however, because it represents a family heirloom today. A doll cradle, handcrafted by her grandfather, is still a prized possession today.

Jim Ballard, 41 often celebrates his Jan. 2 birthday with classes not in ses-

See BIRTHDAYS On Page 12

Christmas Merriments

Save a wad on a QUAD II



LT230GE

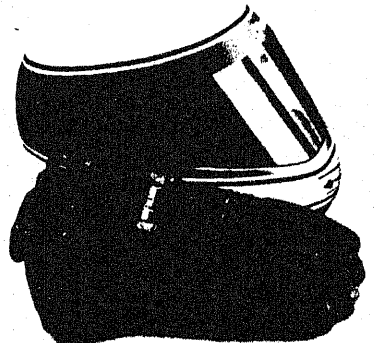
Reg. \$1995

SALE \$1695⁰⁰

If you're looking for more power and fun, the 1986 LT230GE Quadrunner is for you. This 5-speed machine is loaded with great features like an electric starter, powerful 4-stroke engine, automatic clutch, shaft drive and convenient reverse gear to help back you out of tight spots. For high-powered performance and fun, get the new LT230GE Quadrunner today.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OFFER

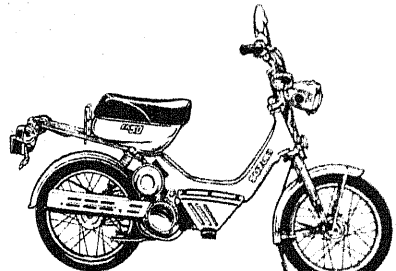
SAVE 50% on New Sport Gloves When You Buy Any Full-face Helmet



Stop in Soon!



DS80 only \$695⁰⁰



FA50 Shuttle -Moped only \$499⁰⁰



QUADRUNNERS
FOREMOST IN FOUR-WHEELING

SUZUKI HONDA SALES

Elkton

Corner of Pinnebog Rd. & M-142

375-2391

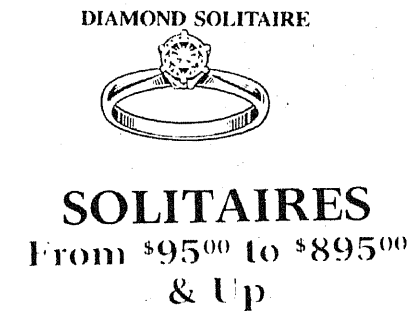
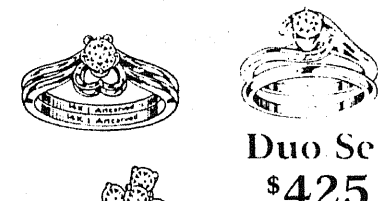
Wrap Up CHRISTMAS

with a Gift From

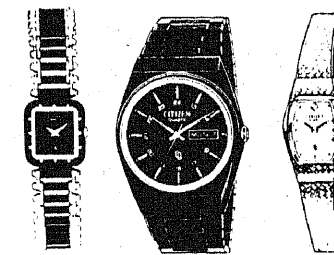
Layher JEWELERS, INC.

Downtown Sebawaing

Nothing Says "I Love You" Like a Gift of Diamonds



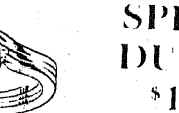
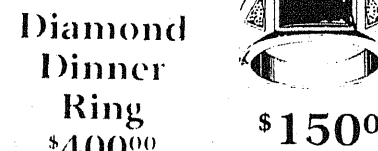
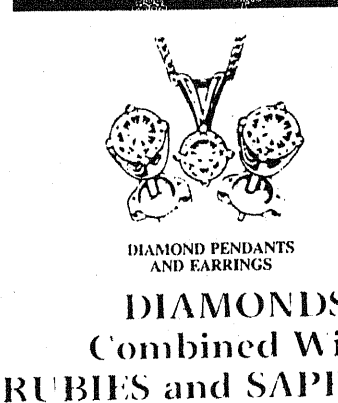
A Beautiful Dress Watch Never Had Such A Casual Price.



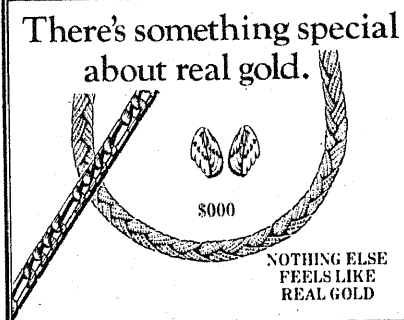
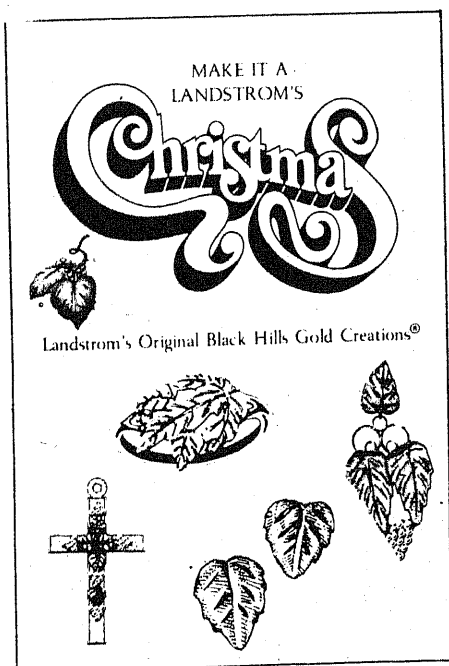
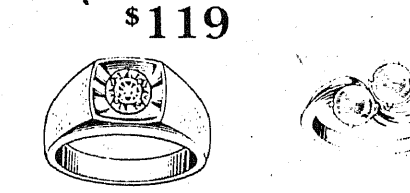
Prices Starting at \$49⁹⁵

ALL CITIZEN WATCHES MEN'S & LADIES' 20% off

CITIZEN



DIAMONDS Combined With RUBIES and SAPPHIRES

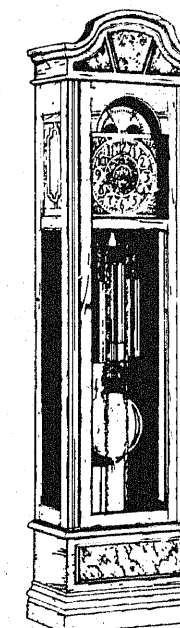


GIFT Certificates are a Most Welcomed Gift

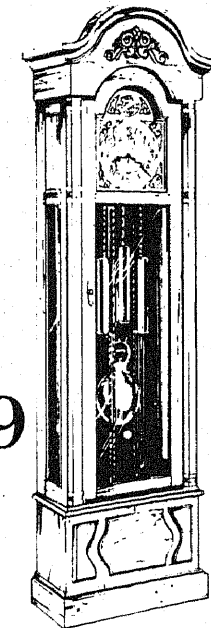


Holiday Sale

On GRANDFATHER CLOCKS



\$699 Reg. \$1150 Save \$451



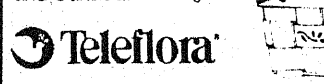
\$599 Reg. \$1025 Save \$426

Flowers-in-a-gift for Thanksgiving.

Teleflora's Harvest Basket Bouquets

Flowers or plants in real wooden country baskets decorated with a charming folk art floral design.

We can deliver your gift across town. Or wire it anywhere in the United States and Canada.



Watch for our ... CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE Fri., Sat., Sun., Nov. 28-29-30

JACKIE'S COUNTRY FLOWERS
Sebawaing 883-2402

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BIRTHDAYS-From Pg. 10 son.
"We rarely have school on my birthday, and it seems like the few years we have had school scheduled, we had snow days," the Laker High School principal says. "I've been accused of making my birthday a school-wide holiday," jokes Ballard, who also serves as Laker transportation director.

His recalls his after-Christmas birthday affected the quantity of presents he received on Dec. 25.
"Under the Christmas tree my brother would always have more presents than I

and Mom and Dad would remind me I had a birthday soon. I always envied the persons who had July birthdays because I thought they must have made out like bandits," says the principal.

He points out another humorous dilemma created by his early January birthday.

"I've been ripped off all my life because I missed being the new year's baby in Mitchell, South Dakota by only four hours. And my dad held it against me ever since," Ballard jokes.

One person is just beginning to experience the Christmas birthday situa-

tion.
Christmas Day is a busy time for Kayla Gnagey, two-year-old daughter of Steve and Tammy Gnagey of Bay Port. She is one of the few area Thumb area residents who was born on Dec. 25. Her Christmas Day includes a family Christmas in the morning and a birthday celebration with one set of grandparents later in the morning and another with the other side of the family in the afternoon.

"We probably will celebrate her birthday more than (10-month-old sister) Kendra's," Mrs. Gnagey says.

"I hope we can get it

across to (Kayla) that she's not getting cheated out of a birthday and it's pretty special to have a birthday on Christmas," she notes.
As a mother, Gnagey also points out the birth experience on Christmas Day was special for her.

"When I realized (Kayla) was going to be born on Christmas Day, I really felt God was touching us in a special way," Gnagey remembers.

The Gnageys say the Christmas celebration of the birth of Christ has special

meaning to them after experiencing the beginning of their daughters entry into the world that same day.
"I remember what Mary went through with her baby being born in a stable every time I think about Kayla's birth," says Mrs. Gnagey.

Celebrating Christmas In Paradise...

It's been 4 years since Ken Hass has received Christmas cards picturing Santa Claus in red swim trunks and riding a surfboard, but he remembers it like yesterday.

A Lutheran school teacher native to the Kona area, Hass left Aiea, KS, in 1976 with his wife, Esther, and their one-year-old son, for a one-year assignment at St. Mark's Lutheran School, Oahu, Hawaii. One year turned to four, and the Hass family

learned Christmas customs of another kind.

Never mind the fact there was no snow for Christmas or Christmas carols had to be slightly rewritten. "Walking in the winter wonderland" became "dreaming of our winter wonderland," "snowman" became "sandman," and singers of the the 12 Days of Christmas counted "4 flower leis, 3 dried squid, 2 coconuts and one mynah bird in one papaya tree."

Difficult sacrifices for a born and bred Michigander but Ken managed.

"The first year, Christmas seemed really strange with no cold or snow," said Ken shaking his head for emphasis, "but after that, it was just normal because we were used to not having any seasons at all."

Hawaiian temperatures range between a balmy 78 and 85 degrees and are accompanied by remarkably light and clean air, accord-

ing to Ken. Only the arrival of the southern Kona Winds, Hawaii's version of monsoon rains, marks the approach of the holiday season.

For Hass, preparation of the Christ Child's arrival within his 250-student body was no different than at any other Lutheran school. Because Hawaii is truly a melting pot of peoples, his wise men were varying shades of brown, and Mary might have black, yellow or red hair. Shepherds wore robes of bright floral patterns and shorts, and if a real baby were used, he definitely was not swaddled in warm blankets. But the Christmas spirit was always there.

"The thing that made Christmas in Hawaii different is that when services were over, we would go out on the beach and play in the sand," grinned Hass. "And instead of getting red snow sleds, kids would get a belly board with swim fins and a mask."

Parades are a highlight of a Hawaiian Christmas, and Santa would surely be there, complete with white, fluffy beard and red surfer's jams. But no snow usually.

"One year, some rich guy flew in a big load of snow as a commercial promotion and dumped it at the end of a parade," Ken remembered. "Kids went diving into it and played



KEN HASS shows a conch from Hawaii. Islanders drilled holes through such shells to make trumpet-like instruments for signaling and communication.

SPECIAL SAVINGS ON KRAFTMAID KITCHENS

KraftMaid cabinets have solid hard wood doors and frames. Choose from 15 door designs in oak, cherry and hickory in up to 7 finishes. See KraftMaid this week for a quotation on the kitchen you've always wanted and save!

50% OFF (Mfrs. Sugg. Price)

HOUTHOOFD BUILDERS "Building Design Specialists"

CALL FOR APPOINTMENT **691-5590**
6263 M-25 - Akron, MI

CEILING FAN
Reg. \$36 **\$31.99**

• Microwaves
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Shop Here For The Hobbyist

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X-Acto Tools, Rockets, Paints, Models, Art Supplies

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Come visit us at our new location in downtown Pigeon, next door to Kretzschmer's Hardware.

We're the cross-country experts.

See our Cross Country Ski Selection. All New Equipment For The Ski Season! Complete Packages Start At Only **\$9999**

We have the most complete line of Cross County Ski Accessories and Clothing In The Thumb.

Woolrich Sportswear
For active winter people! Large selections of jackets, coats, sweaters, wool & Flannel shirts for both men and women.

Varsity Jackets
IN STOCK FOR CHRISTMAS!!
Order Now! Lakers, USA, Caseville, OwenGage, North Huron

QUILTED NYLON SCHOOL JACKETS
For Lakers & USA!

See our selection of gift ideas... Personalized doormats, welcome signs, outdoor thermometers, duck hunters gifts and more!
See our advertisement on the back page of the Thumb Blanket Gift Guide for more gift giving ideas!!

kid's kastle Christmas Headquarters

Open In Bad Axe Sunday From 12 to 4

Dress Your Royalty For The Holidays!

For Your Baby!
Shawls, Blankets, Sleepers, Booties, Shoes, Toys, Eaton Suits and Accessories.

For Your Prince!
Suits, Shirts, Ties, Slacks, Sweaters, Belts, P.J.'s, Robes and Carter Underwear.

NOW 'TIL CHRISTMAS **FREE TIE** with the purchase of a suit & shirt

November is **COAT MONTH** **20% to 30% OFF**
Includes snowsuits, coats & wools.

Holiday Dressings For Your Princess
Party and School Dresses, Sweaters, Jeans, Gowns, Robes and Lingerie, Bows, Socks, Jewelry, Tights and Much More. **FREE PIN** now 'till Christmas with ensemble purchase.

FREE GIFT WRAPPING Use VISA or MASTERCARD
LAYAWAY AVAILABLE OPEN MON.-SAT. 9 to 5:30
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Also many Christmas Gift Ideas... from the Hair Shoppe!

Whatever that special person desires or needs...

Perm-Cut-Style
Manicure-Nails-Makeup
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Make any or all gift ideas easy for any member of your family, give a...

The Hair Shoppe
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Taster's Choice

Kern's Custom Made **GIFT BOXES or GIFT BASKETS** **\$10.00** and up

The Perfect Answer to Your "Hard-to-Buy-For" Dilemma

GIFT BOXES may be mailed to any location!

ALL IN GOOD TASTE FROM KERN'S

GIFT CERTIFICATES Available for any amount for Christmas Giving

If you prefer, you may make your own Gift Basket
• All Items on Display For Your Convenience •

A Gift Box for Whatever Amount You Want to Spend Will Include Your Choice of Sausage, Cheese, Wine, etc.

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FRANKENMUTH, MICH. 48734
(517)652-2684

Try Our Delicious Home-Cured
• Ham
• Bacon
• Sausage
• Cheese

The Toys From Christmas Long Ago

Yes, Children, there were Christmases before the days of Transformers and Rainbow Brite, before Voltron and Baby Talk. Before remote control cars and race tracks.

There were Christmases before Chatty Kathy and Thumbelina, before Barbie and Ken, before GI Joe.

Even before Lincoln Logs and Gilbert Erector Sets and Tinker Toys.

There were times before Christmas TV ads and lay-aways, before color catalogs and installment payments, before mail

orders and gift wrappings and prize drawings.

Those were the years when a word like "Toyland" was a traffic-stopper that brought shoppers hurrying to that wonderland of Christmas delights.

Those were the years when garlands of popcorn were strung over the evergreen trees, illuminated by flickering candles, when a roast goose was simmering in the oven of a wood-fired cast-iron kitchen range, when family trips meant

going to church or visiting the local village stores. That was when families traveled in a high-sided sleigh, as children huddled in loose loads of straw covered with buffalo robes.

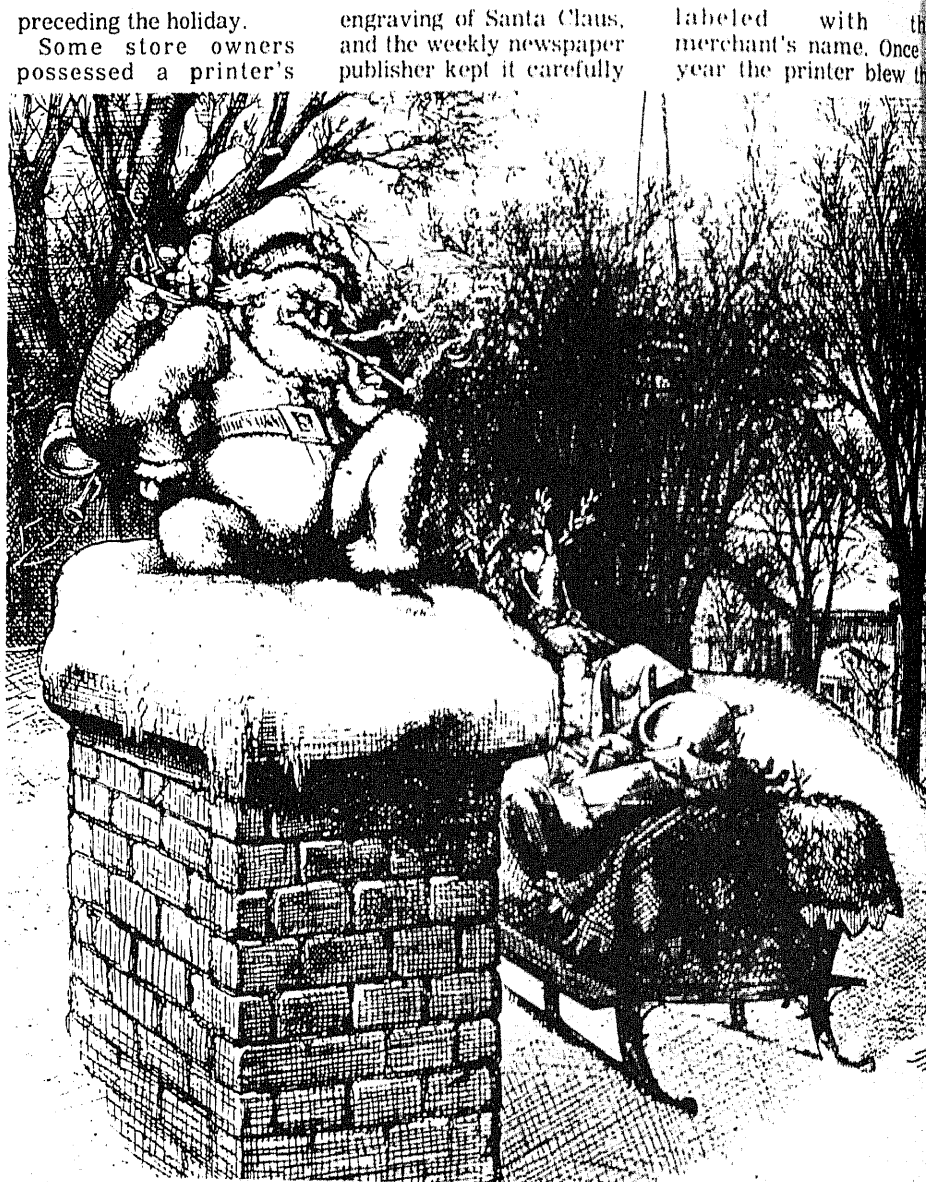
Each year the number dwindles of those who lived in those meager years, when the emphasis was on worship and family, rather than on travel and celebration.

There are still a few hardy souls left who heard—with their own ears and not by recording—the genuine bells on the bouncing sleigh or shiny horses' harnesses as they flew over the white landscape.

Small towns saw little in Christmas sales promotion and the entire programs were carried out by a few advertisements in the weekly newspaper and by a small, inconspicuous sign posted discreetly in the store.

One neighboring merchant, who had proudly proclaimed "Gift Center" in a silver-flecked banner across the display window of his store, was told flatly by more than one customer that he could expect small yuletide blessings if he persisted in profiting during the holy season.

The choice of gifts was small around the turn of the century when compared with today's standards, and those who were in town to buy did so only in the final days just



THE ARTIST and illustrator Thomas Nast gave youngsters this view of Santa Claus climbing down a chimney over 100 years ago.



THIS CAST-METAL circus wagon was part of a large play set called "The Greatest Show on Earth".

CHRISTMAS IN HAWAII - From Page 13

like crazy, throwing snowballs and feeling the cold with their bare feet until it melted.

Ken, Esther and their 2 sons returned to Michigan in 1980 after concluding that permanent Hawaiian residency was beyond their economic reach. Ken ac-

cepted a call to teach at Bach Kilmanagh Lutheran School, and a daughter was born during their first year back. This year they will again celebrate a traditional white Christmas and they won't mind the snow a bit.

HOME OF THE FREE 5YR-48,000 MILE NEW VEHICLE EXTENDED WARRANTY ASK US FOR DETAILS

<p>1986 FORD F-150 4x4</p> <p>300, 6-cyl., Stand. Trim, Heavy Duty Battery, Bright Low Mt. Mirrors, Tacklesmore, 4-Speed Manual O.D., Headliner Insulation Pkg., Handling Pkg., P.S., P.B.</p> <p>\$220.00 Per Mo.</p>	<p>1987 RANGER PICKUP</p> <p>108" Wheelbase, Custom Trim, Argent Grill, Black Moldings, 2.0L Engine, V-6 Auto. O.D., A.C., AM Radio, Bench Seat</p> <p>\$142.00 Per Mo.</p>
<p>1986 BRONCO II</p> <p>Chestnut Cloth Buckets, 3-Tone Paint, V-6 Automatic O.D., Lt. Group, Int. Wipers, XLT Trim, Priv. Glass, Speed Contr., A.C., Tilt Steer. Wheel, P/Windows, P/Door Locks, Flip Open Rear Wind. Elec. Shift 4x4 Tract, RWL Off-Road Tires, Outside Spare Tire Car, P.S., P.B., Floor Console, 4 White Sport Wheels</p> <p>\$308.00 Per Mo.</p>	<p>1987 AEROSTAR WAGON</p> <p>XL Model Trim, Lt. Group, Dual Capt. Chairs-Cloth, 7-Pass.-Cloth, Speed Contr., Tilt Steer. Wheel, AM/FM Stereo w/Clock, Priv. Glass, Int. Wipers, V-6 Auto. O.D., A.C., Roof Rack, Deluxe Tu-Tone Styled Wheel Covers, Rear Def. Wiper/Washer, P/Windows, P/Door Locks</p> <p>\$285.00 Per Mo.</p>

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Nothing down except a refundable security deposit. Purchase option available at lease end. Payment includes use tax & destination charges.

SAVE SAVE SAVE SAVE SAVE SAVE SAVE SAVE SAVE SAVE SAVE

Works hard. Plays hard.

HUNTER'S DELIGHT

A hard-working helper that plays as hard as it works — the 1986 LT250EF Quadrunner from Suzuki. Built tough with features that don't quit, like a powerful 250cc 4-stroke engine and 5-speed transmission with automatic clutch and reverse gear. Ready to haul whatever you need with large front and rear racks and a trailer hitch, too. For hard work or play, see the LT250EF today.

LT250EF Sale Price **\$1995** Plus Tax LIMITED QUANTITY

STEVENS SUZUKI 3636 M-13 • BAY CITY • 684-9872

THE 1986 SUZUKI QUADRUNNERS FOREMOST IN FOUR-WHEELING.

OPEN SUNDAY 12-4

MEN and WOMEN GET IN SHAPE! Aerobics / Weight Lifting

★ STRENGTHEN & TONE YOUR BODY!
★ SPECIAL INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE PROGRAMS
★ COME IN AND RELAX IN THE SAUNA and WHIRLPOOL

AEROBIC HOURS:
MONDAY-FRIDAY 7-8:00 A.M.
MONDAY-SATURDAY 9:30-10:30
MONDAY-THURSDAY 6-7:00 P.M.

THE BODY FIRM FITNESS CENTER
7034 PORT AUSTIN RD. CASEVILLE (517) 856-2118

dust off the engraving and inserted it into the Christmas advertisement. Newspaper ads were small, quiet and fully-packed, with as many offerings as the printer could crowd into the allotted space.

"Beautiful and Rare Toys" is how one store called its selection of "horns, toys, pianos, drums, mechanical toys, games, building blocks and picture books".

The list of names in those early ads are mostly forgotten today — Billiken Dolls, Baby Bumps, Kalamazoo Cutters and Parker Bob Sleighs — many of them found only in antique shops today.

One advertising appeal, addressed to husbands, gave 3 suggestions for wives' gifts. How they were received is another question. The ad stated, "Nothing could be more ac-

ceptable than a Washing Machine". A suggestion that was probably no more exciting was "The Universal Food Chopper commends itself". The 3rd ad was the real clincher, "When you are thinking of Holiday Gifts, remember that the Universal Bread Maker only requires 3 minutes of the housekeeper's time on bread day".

When Santa was personified in a picture, he resembled a lean and hard taskmaster, wearing a scowl, rather than today's "ho-ho" expression. His clothes were somewhat shabby, but he was loaded with gifts.

A few years later Santa had created a more favorable image — probably through a topnotch PR department. When a See-TOYS-Page 18



THE ROCKING horse has always been a favorite toy.

GREATEST COOKING AID IN YEARS!

IN-SINK-ERATOR Steamin' Hot, Hot Water Dispenser

- Keeps a constant supply of cooking hot, 190° water on hand for instant use. No more waiting for water to boil on the stove.
- Saves time, saves money.
- Works like a miniature, super-hot water heater. Mounts right at the kitchen sink.
- Ideal for dozens of foods and beverages that call for boiling water.

ONLY \$128²⁵ Plus Installation

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PLUMBING AND HEATING
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RON'S VILLAGE MARKET
UNIONVILLE 674-2681
U.S.D.A. CHOICE BEEF

Order Early for the Holidays

CHEESE & MEAT TRAYS

Gift Certificates Available

12" - 16" Round TRAYS \$8 - \$14
12" x 24" Oblong TRAY \$24

Attention KC's Lamplighter HAS EXPANDED

Extra Dining Area is Now Available For Your Pleasure

****New** HOT BUFFET SALAD BAR DELICIOUS HOMEMADE FOOD and PIES**

Non-Smoking Area Available
Private Parties Welcome
Eat in or Take Out and Enjoy Our BROASTED FOODS

Designed by: Janice Finkbeiner waitress at KC's Lamplighter

Located at Luke's Shopping Center Sebawaing, Michigan Phone: 883-3800

THE AUTOMATIC FAMILY-PLEASER GIFT

FRANTZ 375

Let FRANTZ open your garage door this season and every season with a FRANTZ 375 Garage Door Opener. Easy to install, simple to use. And sure to please the entire family. Ask for FRANTZ.

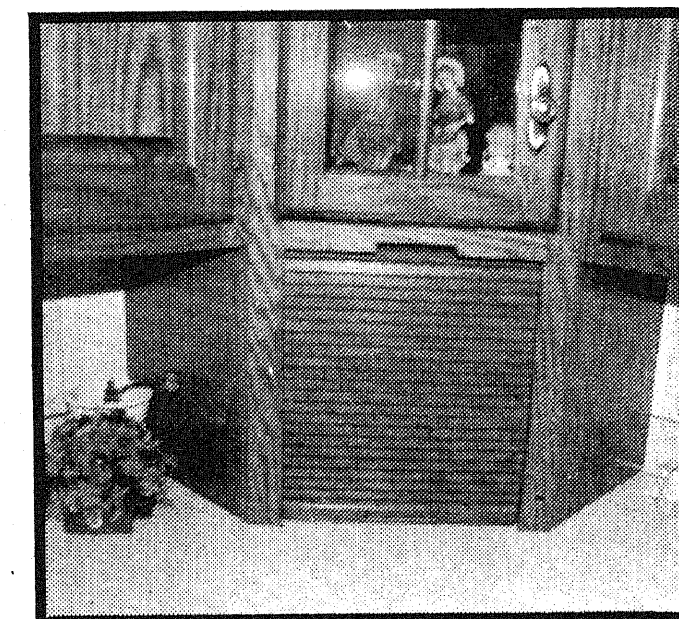
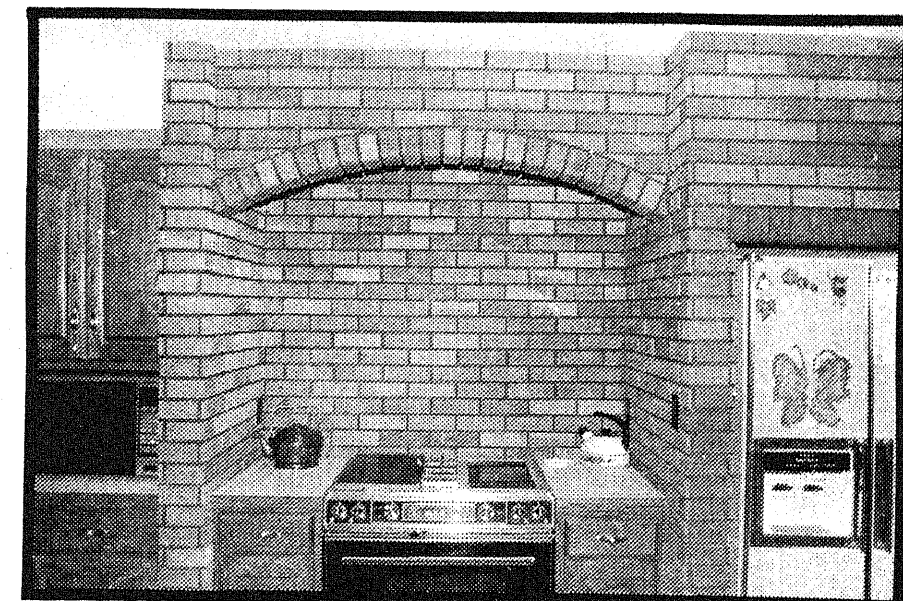
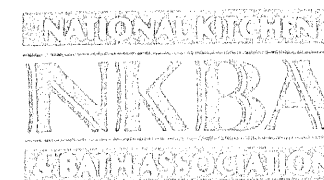
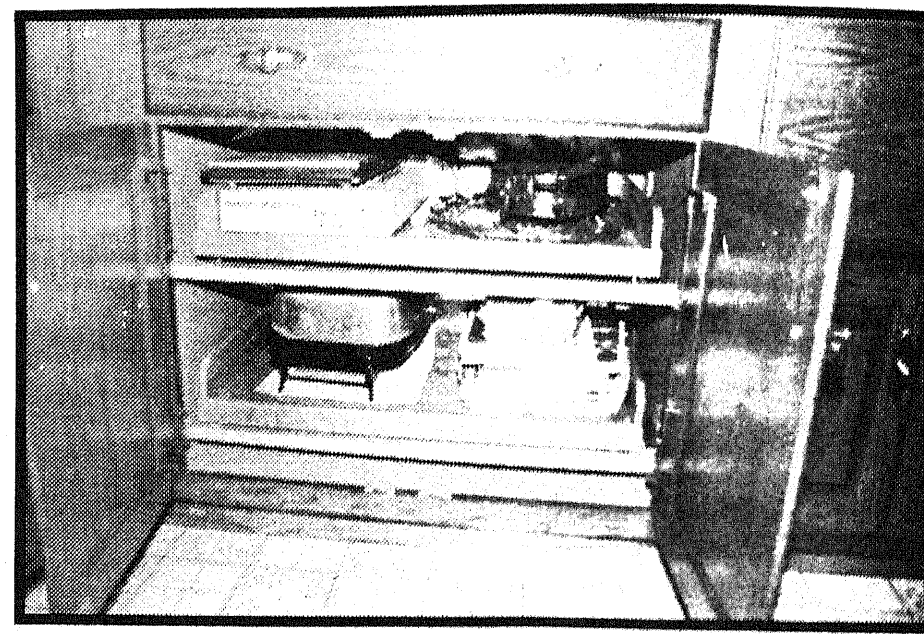
Now available at: Sale priced at **\$149.00**

Pigeon Lumber & Supply Co., Inc.
7311 W. Michigan Avenue Pigeon 453-2412

kitchens

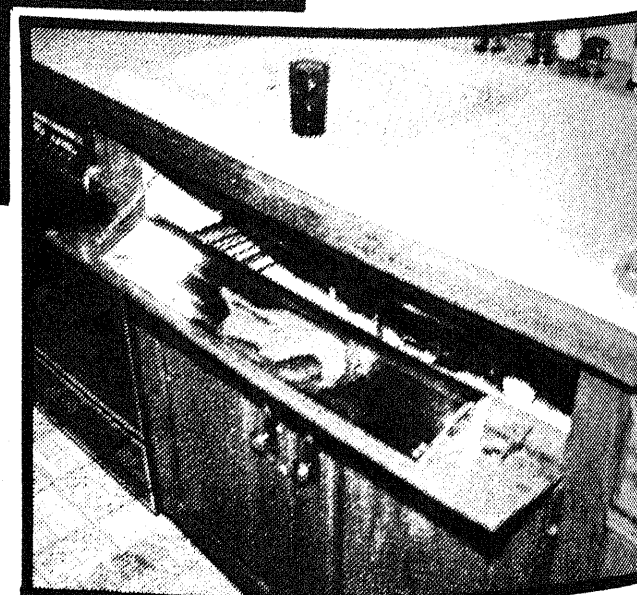
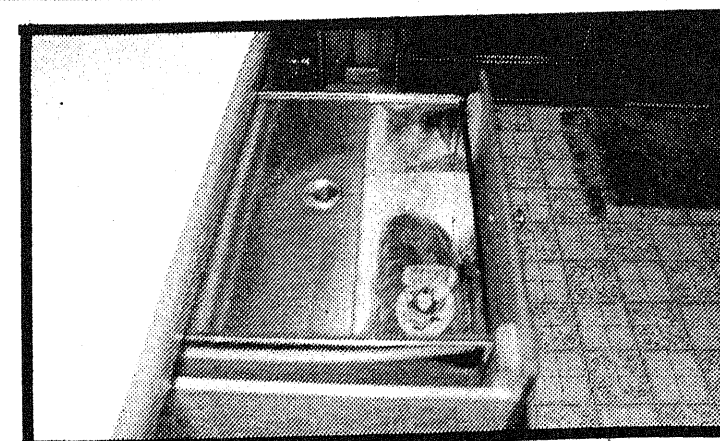
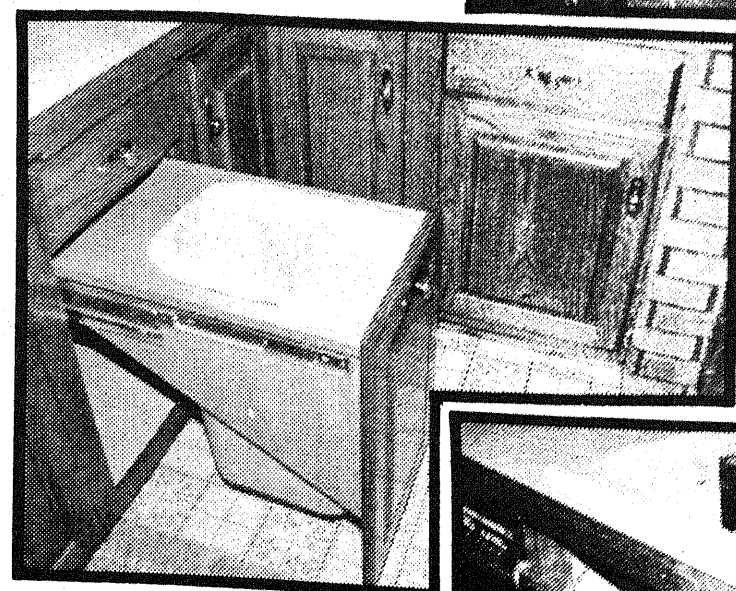
by DeChane's
CUSTOM DESIGNS

June and Russ Gotts of Caseville chose **WOOD-MODE** cabinetry when remodeling their kitchen. The cabinetry is true brown oak with Hallmark raised curve door style with square base. The door handles are country finish.



— KITCHEN FEATURES —

- Cookie Sheet Cabinet Or Tray Base
- Spice Rack
- Mullion Styled Glass And Doors
- Tambour Mixer Garage
- Lazy Susan
- Pull Out Waste Basket
- Stainless Steel Tilt Down Sink Bin
- Pull Out Towel Rack
- Sandwich Cabinet With Stainless Bread Drawer
- Divided Cutlery Drawer
- Slide Out Trays
- Appliance Garage
- Silverware Divider
- Storage Pantry
- Oak Counter Top Molding
- Spindles And Plate Rail



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M142 East

1299 Sand Beach Road Bad Axe (517)269-6321
Open Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Kitchens and Baths are our only Business, not a Sideline!

TOYS—From Page 15
newly-opened store showed Santa in 1904, he rode in on a brand new invention, the automobile. "On account of lack of snow, Santa Claus



AS TELEPHONES became common in American homes, Santa was seen using the new device.

10%-20% off
All John Deere TOYS in stock

John Deere action toys make playtime more fun. And, they're built to last. Riding tractors, miniatures, put-together kits. Come in and look over our full line soon.

Gettels, Inc.
8610 S. Unionville Rd. Sebawaing

travels by automobile this year", the ad copy announced. Any antique car collector would give his eye-teeth for that model, but alas, it exists only on the printed page.

Santa's image kept right on improving, and by 1910 the old guy had become plump and jolly, and there was joy in his eyes. He had modernized his transportation, too, arriving in an airplane, for this was 7 years after the Wright Brothers' memorable flight. That 1910 airplane was a flimsy affair that resembled a gift-laden pair of baskets with bolted-on double wings, powered by a tiny windmill prop. Children shown on ads were wide-eyed, with angelic looks, the girls with ribbons in their hair and the boys with a Buster Brown bow.

If advertising changed in the three-quarter century, prices changed much more.

There were unbelievable bargains, priced at 5c — Noah's Ark, Humming Tops and Poppuns. Dolls were "5c and upwards", and banks and whistles were a nickel, too. If you weren't willing — or able — to spend a whole nickel, you could get a set of dominoes for 4c, but if you wanted to splurge, you could go for a set of dishes at 18c or a drum at 40c.

Biggest gift offered in 1899 advertisements was a Tool Chest for 55c. In that era a long-gone company suggested a Genuine Hartz Mountain Canary Bird as a Christmas gift for the whole family. You could buy one for \$3. A bushel of choice Hickory Nuts cost \$2. "Nice fresh citron,

orange and lemon peel, shelled almonds and walnuts, herbs of all kind and anything you need", awaited the bakers. "Cranberries, sweet potatoes, oysters, lettuce and celery" were at the disposal of cooks among the shoppers.

For those with a sweet tooth, "Chocolate and Peanut Brittle, Fancy Mixed Broken Taffey, Stick and Fancy Candies, in both bulk and different sized boxes" awaited buyers.

Christmas cards cost 1c, while folders and booklets went "up to 25c".

A different pace of living at the turn of the century? A different attitude

toward Christmas and the holidays?

That's obvious, as you lounge back in the comfort of your recliner, positioned in front of a dazzlingly beautiful Christmas tree, with its hundreds of automatic lights.

As you sit back and recollect, what view do you get of those days? And as you think of those scenes and those long-gone celebrants, do you pity them for their shortages and their primitive lives?

Or is there just a tinge of envy, as you recall how great was their appreciation for the few, the simple things they enjoyed in their lives?

We Wish You A Merry Christmas!

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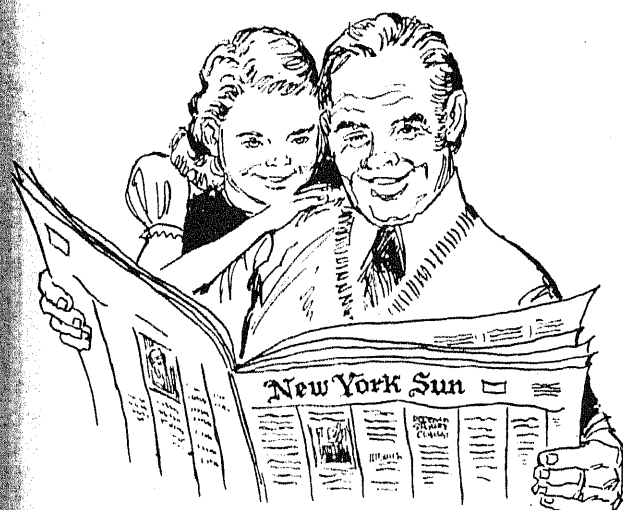
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*Yes, Virginia,
there is a Santa Claus*



One of the most famous newspaper editorials of all time has to do with Christmas. It first appeared September 21, 1897, in the pages of a leading newspaper of the day, the *New York Sun*.

Virginia O'Hanlon, eight years old, was torn between the doubts placed in her mind by playmates and her own sincere belief that each Christmas a jolly old man came to help spread joy through the world. To settle the matter, she posed the question to the editor of the *Sun*.

Francis Pharcellus Church replied as follows:
"Is there a Santa Claus?"

"We take pleasure in answering at once and thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of the *Sun*:"

Dear Editor:

I am 8 years old.

Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in the *Sun*, it's so."

Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?"

Virginia O'Hanlon
115 West 95th Street

"Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except what they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge."



"Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you

know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! How dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable their existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

"Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your Papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world."

"You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, not even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside the curtain and view and picture the supernatural beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else more real and abiding."

"No Santa Claus! Thank God he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood."



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Win this Grandfather Clock!
More reasons why shopping in Pigeon REALLY PAYS!

Good buys all over town during Sunday's Holiday Open House!
Dozens of Pigeon's stores are opening their doors this SUNDAY, NOV. 23 from 1 to 4 p.m. to give you an "early Christmas sneak preview" of what's in store for you this year. You'll find free parking right in front of the stores, plus courteous, knowledgeable clerks are ready to answer your questions. There's lots of free gift wrapping — and some stores will have coffee and refreshments, too. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be here and you'll have a chance to bring a homemade ornament for the Community Christmas Tree just south of the Village Hall, too. Official tree lighting is this Sunday at 4 p.m. Come to Pigeon this Sunday — and regularly — for small-town friendliness, good value and a surprising selection of gifts for everyone on your list. You'll be glad you did, because Pigeon offers the "good life in a small town at Christmas."

Shop Pigeon and SAVE!

...And, shopping is special in Pigeon this holiday season!
Many local stores will be open until 9 p.m. every Friday night now until Christmas. The last week before Christmas, stores will be open every night Dec. 17 through 23. That's more shopping time for you!
And, BEAN SOUP IS BACK! "Master Chef" Art Perry will offer home-made (and free) Michigan Bean Soup every Saturday from Nov. 29 through Dec. 20. The kids will love visiting Santa and Mrs. Claus — and long-time favorite, Shivers the Snowman — every Saturday, too, from 1 to 4 p.m. They're offering free candy bars and kids' tickets to win toy prizes at 4 each Saturday. Mom and Dan can win prizes each week, too, by depositing tickets earned when shopping!

It's Christmas time!

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Tour Of Holiday Ideas Offered

LINWOOD — Bay Arts Council is offering a new type of "Tour of Homes" for 1986, announcing that 7 homes in the Linwood area will be the location for "Holiday Ideas" from 1-8 pm Sunday, November 23.

Continuing with the "12 Days of Christmas" theme, started in 1982, this year's tour will feature "Five Gold Rings" as a decorating theme. Decorators, florist and merchants who work in each home are free to let their imaginations run into the directions of their choice.

Information on all 7 homes is given in the ticket booklet, plus a sketch of each home. Ticket sales are underway, with a \$5 price in advance, or \$6 on the day of the tour. In this area, tickets are available at the Blade-Crescent Office in Sebawaing. In the

Bay City area they can be purchased from the Bay Arts Council, 811 Saginaw Street, and from the Convention and Visitors Bureau, Music Center in Bay City and Saginaw, and from decorators in those cities.

Tour officials report that there will be indoor waiting areas at each home, so no one need stand in the cold. Bay Arts Council will have numerous small buses, rather than a few large ones, making the circle tour, so that visitors will not have to wait long at any stop.

Bay City and Linwood participants are decorators for the 7 homes, and florists, galleries and gift shops, numbering a dozen or more business that will combine their ideas how "to bring that special ambience to our homes."

Included in the tour will

be the Parker story-and-a-half home, Sajdak 2-story, Pashak country colonial/contemporary, Leavens country style ranch, Rychlicki Southern colonial, Spustack English Tudor and Bragiel story-and-a-half.

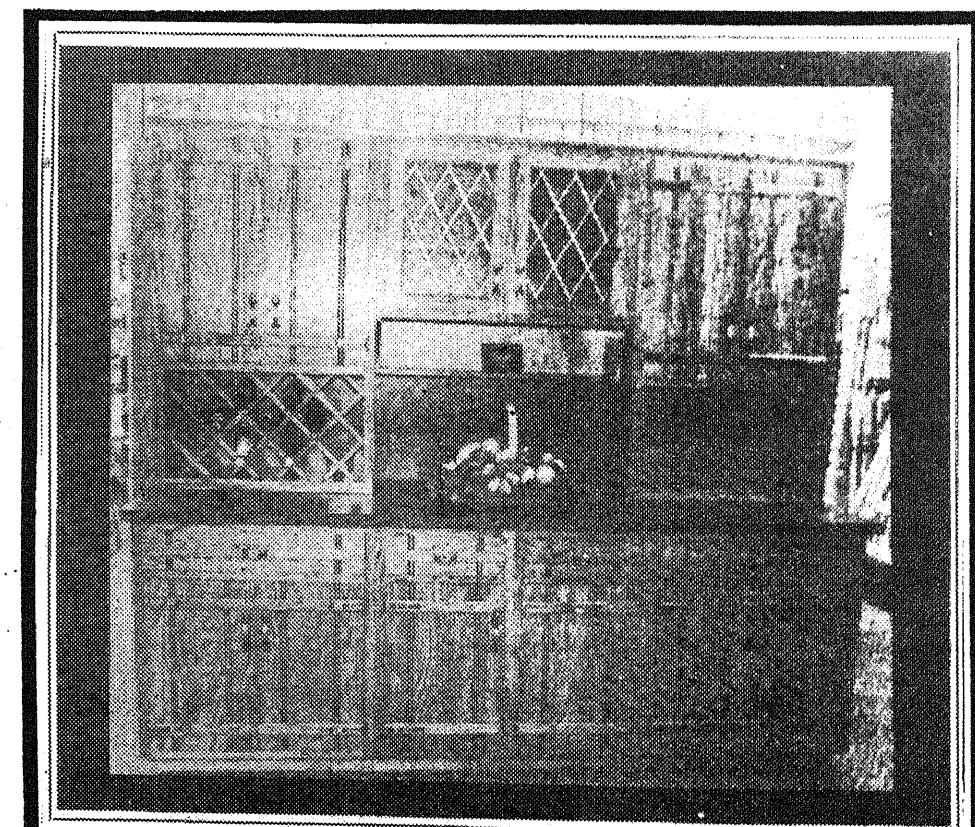
After the tour, tickets will be turned in for refreshments and prize drawing, for which prizes are donated by participating merchants. Refreshments, sample recipes, Christmas tiles and other merchandise will be at St. Anne's Church, Linwood, where there will be bell choir, pep band and choir music between 1 and 4:30 pm.

Parking is available at Linwood Bicentennial Park, Linwood Elementary School and St. Anne's Church, all located on Linwood Road. Buses will start and return to parking

lots and the church. Inside waiting is available at the church.

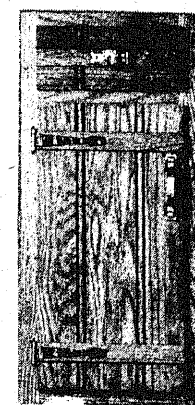


THE SPUSTACK ENGLISH TUDOR is one of 7 homes featured in the Bay Arts Council's "Tour of Holiday Ideas" scheduled to run this weekend in Bay County.



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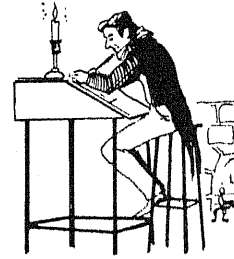
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Adapted From A Christmas Carol In Prose By Charles Dickens

The Story Of Mr. Ebenezer Scrooge



With a wife and three children to support, Bob Cratchit hardly made enough money as a clerk in the firm of Scrooge and Marley. When Marley died, Scrooge, his sole administrator, retained the firm's name and continued the business. Scrooge was tight-fisted and grasping. He was also untrusting. One particular Christmas Eve, as

Cratchit sat busily copying letters in his cold, drab little corner, he was mindful of the fact that Scrooge, in his counting room nearby, had left open the door in order to keep a cautious eye on his employee.

Scrooge, ill-tempered as usual, seemed annoyed when his nephew entered with a cheery greeting. "A Merry Christmas uncle! God save you!" "Bah," said Scrooge. "Humbbug!"

So much as the nephew tried, so hard did Scrooge resist the idea of Christmas. He denounced it and wouldn't say a good word about it or about anybody or anything.

"Christmas a humbug, uncle? You don't mean that, I'm sure."

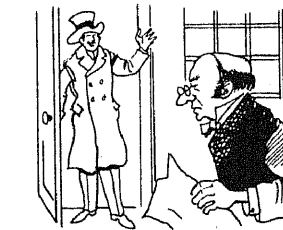
"I do," said Scrooge. "Merry christmas! What reason have you to be merry? You're poor enough."

What Scrooge failed to understand is that being rich or poor isn't the most important thing in the world.

The friendly nephew said, "Don't be cross, uncle."

But Scrooge continued: "What else can I be when I live in such a world of fools as this? Merry Christmas! Out upon Merry Christmas! What's Christmas time to you but a time for paying bills without money; a time for finding yourself a year

older, but not an hour richer? Bah! Keep Christmas in your own way and let me keep it in mine."



The friendly nephew left and went out into the fog and darkness. It was very cold. Workmen repairing gas-pipes had built a fire and stood around it to

warm their hands.

The shops were still bright and holly sprigs and berries were in the windows. Merchants were busy as everyone prepared for Christmas.

The Lord Mayor in his Mighty Mansion gave orders to his fifty cooks and butlers to keep Christmas in a proper way.

The little tailor busied himself stirring tomorrow's pudding while his wife and baby went to market to buy the beef.

When the hour for closing arrived at the counting-

house, Scrooge grumpily stopped his money counting, dismounted from his stool and told his clerk, Bob Cratchit, that work was ended for the day.

Scrooge didn't approve of the holiday, but he had to recognize that it existed. "You'll want all day tomorrow, I suppose?"

"If quite convenient, sir."

Looking the more unpleasant, Scrooge said: "It's not convenient, and it's not fair. If I was to stop

See-SCROOGE- On Page 24

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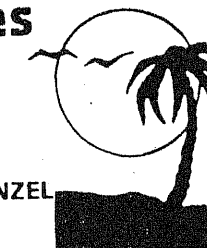
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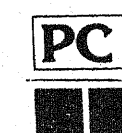
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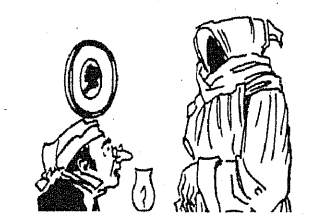
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SCROOGE: From Page 25
gane, sausages, mince pies and much more. In the center of the room, too, a jolly giant. "I am the Ghost of Christmas Present. Look upon me!"

Suddenly, the two of them stood in the city streets on Christmas morning. All the sights and sounds that Scrooge had refused to recognize were there—people in the streets, greeting one another, the smell of good food and fruits, the church bells calling good people to church and chapel. Scrooge and the jolly giant went on, invisible, through the streets, to the very door of Bob Cratchit's house. Scrooge stood in awe as the spirit blessed the small dwelling. Inside, Mrs. Cratchit, her daughters Belinda and Martha, and son Peter, awaited the return of their father. In he came, carrying Tiny Tim upon his shoulder. Tiny Tim, bearing a crutch, and his limbs supported by an iron frame.

Scrooge continued to watch as the Cratchits busily prepared their small Christmas feast. Everyone joined in preparation of the meal. Excitement mounted as they gathered about the table and Mrs. Cratchit approached the roast goose with a carving knife. A murmur of delight arose and even Tiny Tim shouted, Hurrah! A pudding, much too small for so large a family, was a wonderful treat. Dinner over, the family gathered around the hearth. Bob Cratchit raised a toast: "Merry Christmas to us all, my dears, God bless us." The family re-echoed the sentiment and Tiny Tim, the last of all, said "God bless us every one!"



Scrooge felt an interest he had never known before. He asked the Spirit if Tiny Tim would live. The Spirit

The robed spirit seemed to incline its head. It quickly showed Scrooge how his own death might be, with no one to mourn his loss; in fact, some seemed happy at his passing. It also showed him how Tiny Tim might die and leave countless

friends to mourn and sorrow for him. Scrooge assured the Spirit that he was a changed man, and that the shadows that had passed before him had altered his life. He said: "I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the past, the present, and the future. . . Oh, tell me I may sponge away the writing on this stone!"

When the third Spirit had gone, Scrooge kept the memory of the sight of his own name upon a tombstone, and no mourners in sight. When he awakened, he renewed his promise, "I will live in the past, the present and the future." Scrooge dressed in his very best and went into the

streets. People were everywhere. Many of them he had seen during the time of his visit with the Ghost of Christmas Present. Scrooge looked so pleasant that people spoke to him and, afterwards, he confessed, their voices were music to his ears. One gentleman, only days before rudely refused

when he asked Scrooge for a donation to a fund for the poor, was surprised when Scrooge presented to him a healthy sum of money. Scrooge journeyed on, to his nephew's house. He passed the door a dozen times before he had the

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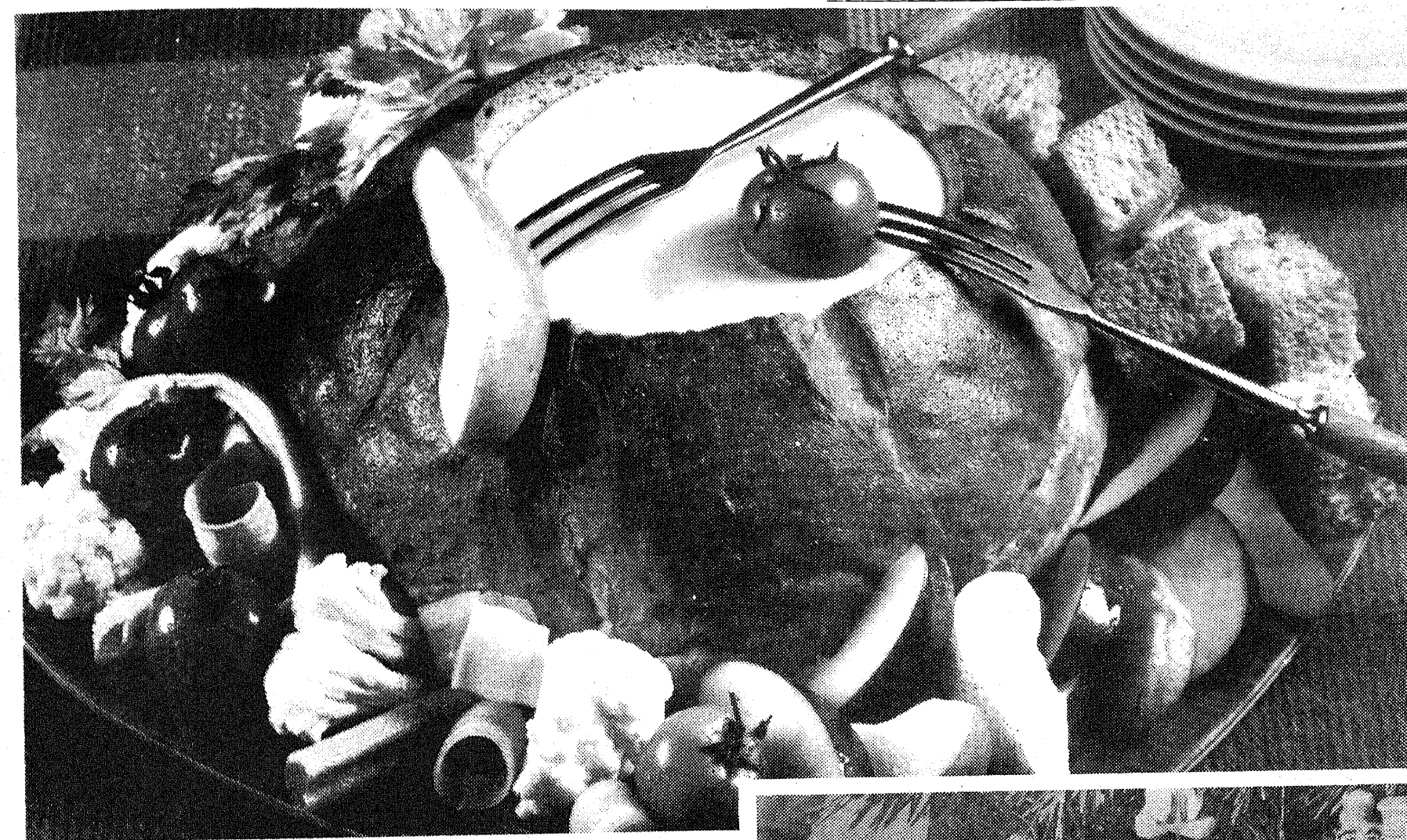


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Great Ideas For Entertaining

Holiday Hosting...



Fondue is a centuries' old favorite that's often featured at holiday parties because of its simplicity and appetite appeal.

Fondue comes from the French word, "fondre," meaning "to melt," because cheese fondue is essentially melted cheese. Variations may use 2 or 3 kinds of cheese, a soup or white sauce base.

The Swiss claim the origin for fondue, their national dish, but it was the great French gourmet, Brillat-Savarin, born on the Swiss border, who popularized it by serving and telling friends about it. Those early fondues were made with cheese from southern France and Switzerland. As fondue has traveled, many other cheese have been used with good results.

American Dairy Association has developed 2 double-cheese fondue recipes and suggests serving them from a "bowl" made from rye bread. A round loaf of bread is hollowed out and toasted. As the level of fondue lowers, pieces of the bread can be broken off and enjoyed along with the vegetable and fruit dippers.

TOMATO CHEESE FONDUE

Yield: 3 1/2 cups

- 1 can (10 3/4 oz.) condensed tomato soup
- 2/3 cup milk
- 2 tps. prepared mustard
- 3 cups (12 oz.) shredded Cheddar cheese
- 1 cup (4 oz.) crumbled Blue cheese
- 1 Tbsp. fresh chives

Combine condensed soup, milk and mustard in 3-quart saucepan. Heat, stirring constantly, over medium heat until very hot but not boiling. Combine cheese. Sprinkle cheese mixture 1/2 cup at a time over hot soup. Stir until melted after each addition. Stir in chives. Serve with French bread cubes and assorted fresh vegetables.

FONDUE IN THE ROUND

Yield: 2 1/2 cups

- 2 Tbsps. butter
- 3 Tbsps. flour
- 1 tsp. dry mustard
- 1 1/2 cups milk

- 1/2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 2 cups (8 oz.) shredded Muenster cheese
- 3/4 cup (3 oz.) shredded Provolone cheese
- 1 - 1 1/2 lb. round rye bread

Melt butter in heavy 1 1/2 quart saucepan; blend in flour and dry mustard. Remove from heat; stir in milk and Worcestershire sauce. Heat to boiling, stirring constantly. Boil and stir 1 minute. Remove from heat; stir in cheeses. If necessary, return to low heat to finish melting cheeses. (Do not boil.) Transfer to fondue pot. Serve with rye bread chunks; raw vegetables such as cherry tomatoes, celery and carrot sticks, cauliflower flowerettes; apple and pear slices.

To serve in Rye Bread Bowl: Remove top from round rye bread loaf. Hollow out inside of bread to make a bowl, leaving at least 1/2 inch all around side and bottom. Tear bread from inside into bite-size pieces. Place bread bowl and pieces on cookie sheet. Bake in preheated 400°F oven 5 to 10 minutes or until fairly dry and crisp. (Outer edges should be lightly toasted.) Cool on rack. Place bread bowl on serving tray; surrounded with toasted pieces. Pour hot fondue mixture into bread bowl. Use fondue forks or wooden picks.

CHOCOLATE-ALMOND YULE LOG

8 to 10 Servings

- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup water
- 6 eggs, separated
- 3/4 tsp. cream of tartar
- 1 cup confectioners' sugar, divided
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla
- 1/2 tsp. almond extract
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/2 cup ground almonds
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- Confectioners' sugar
- 1 Tbsp. almond or cherry-flavored liqueur, opt.
- Chocolate Fill and Frost (recipe follows)
- Optional: Sliced blanched almonds, cinnamon candies, green glace cherries

Lightly grease 15 1/2 x 10 1/2 x 1 inch jelly roll pan. Line bottom with waxed paper and grease again. Set aside. In small saucepan bring 1/2 cup sugar and water to

boiling. Reduce heat. Simmer 1 minute. Set aside.

In large mixing bowl, beat egg whites with cream of tartar at high speed until foamy. Add 1/2 cup of the confectioners' sugar, 2 tablespoons at a time, beating constantly until whites are glossy and stand in soft peaks. In small mixing bowl, beat egg yolks at high speed until thick and lemon-colored, about 5 minutes. Gradually beat in remaining sugar until blended. Beat in flavorings and salt. Stir together-ground almonds and flour. Sprinkle over whites. Add beaten yolk mixture. Gently, but thoroughly, fold yolk mixture and almond mixture into whites. Pour into prepared pan and gently spread evenly. Bake in preheated 400°F oven until top of cake springs back when lightly touched with finger, 10 to 12 minutes.

Dust a clean tea towel with confectioners' sugar. Loosen cake from sides of pan with spatula and invert onto prepared towel. Carefully pull waxed paper off bottom of cake. Trim off all edges with serrated knife. Stir liqueur, if desired, into reserved sugar syrup. Spoon evenly over bottom surface of cake. Starting from short edge, roll up cake, rolling towel in with cake. Place wrapped roll seam-side down on wire rack until cool, about 30 minutes.

Prepare Chocolate Fill and Frost. Carefully unroll cake, spread with half of frosting, (about 1 cup) and re-roll. Place on serving platter. Spread with remaining frosting, using small spatula to create tree bark effect. Garnish with sliced almonds, cinnamon candies and slices of glace cherries, if desired.

CHOCOLATE FILL AND FROST

Makes about 1 1/2 cups

- 1/3 cup milk
- 3 oz. unsweetened chocolate
- 1/4 cup butter
- 3 cups confectioners' sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1/2 tsp. almond extract

In medium saucepan, over low heat, cook milk, chocolate and butter, stirring constantly, just until chocolate and butter are melted. Beat in sugar and flavorings until smooth.

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Christmas Craft Ideas...

Children enjoy the activity of holiday preparations, such as wrapping gifts for family and friends; you can include them in these preparations by letting

them make gift tags. All that is needed are some plain index cards, short pieces of ribbon, yarn or colored string, a hole punch, and some odds and

ends of wrapping paper. Have the youngsters fold each card in half, then have them punch a hole at the top corner of the fold. Show them how to cut out motifs

from odds and ends of the holes, with the yarn making a border around the edge of the card. Tie the ends together in a knot.

these index card gift tags, you can have the youngsters punch holes about a quarter of an inch apart, along the edges of each card. Have them weave brightly colored

yarn in and out of the holes, with the yarn making a border around the edge of the card. Tie the ends together in a knot.

EBENEZER SCROOGE - From Page 26

courage to knock. Then he made a dash to the door, and did it.

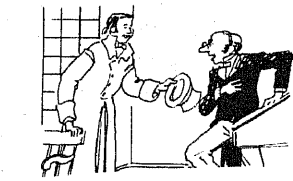
"Fred," he said when his nephew appeared.

"Why, bless my soul!" cried Fred.

"It's I. Your Uncle Scrooge. I've come to dinner. Will you let me in, Fred?"

He was made so heartily welcome. He thought his nephew would shake his arm off. He was perfectly at home within minutes.

Next morning, Scrooge hurried to the office, much earlier than usual... he wanted to be there before Bob Cratchit, to catch Cratchit coming late to work. He did. Bob was nearly twenty minutes late. He had his hat in his hand, awaiting the wrath of Scrooge. It never came.



Instead, Scrooge greeted him cheerfully—and told him that he was to receive a raise in pay. Cratchit was amazed. But he knew, finally, that Scrooge was sincere. The old man patted him on the back. "A Merry Christmas, Bob! A Merry Christmas — a merrier Christmas, Bob, than I've given you in many a year."



In the years that followed, Scrooge kept his word and his promises. Tiny Tim did not die and to the gentle lad Scrooge became a second father. He also became as good a friend, a master, and a man as the city ever knew. A few people laughed to see the change in him, but Scrooge let them laugh and paid them little heed. His own heart was laughing, with joy and happiness, and he gave joy to all who knew him.

Scrooge never encountered another spirit. And long years after, it was often said of him that he truly knew how to keep the Christmas. May that be true of each of us and, always, as Tiny Tim observed, "God bless us every one!"

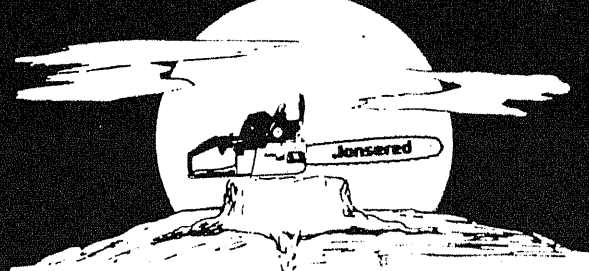


If the children prefer, they can also draw simple motifs such as trees, stars or Christmas ornaments on the cards with either crayon or felt tip pens.

These little tags also make charming decorations for a small tree.

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'Twas the Night Before Christmas

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse; The stockings were hung by the chimney with care, In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there.

The children were nestled all snug in their beds While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads; And Momma in her kerchief, and I in my cap, Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap.

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter, I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter. Away to the window I flew like a flash, Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.

The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow Gave a lustre of mid-day to objects below, When, what to my wondering eyes did appear, But a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny reindeer.

With a little old driver, so lively and quick, I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick. More rapid than eagles his coursers they came, And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name.

"Now, Dasher, now, Dancer! now, Prancer and Vixen! On, Comet! on, Cupid! on Donner and Blitzen! To the top of the porch! to the top of the wall! Now dash away! dash away! dash away all!"

As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly, When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky, So up to the house-top the coursers they flew, With the sleigh full of toys, and St. Nicholas, too.

And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof The prancing and pawing of each little hoof. As I drew in my head, and was turning around, Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.

He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot, And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot; A bundle of toys he had flung on his back, And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.

His eyes, how they twinkled! his dimples, how merry! His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry! His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow, And the beard on his chin was as white as the snow.

The stub of a pipe he held tight to his teeth, And the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath; He had a broad face and little round belly, That shook when he laughed, like a bowl full of jelly.


He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf, And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself; A wink of his eye and a twist of his head Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work, And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk, And laying his finger aside of his nose, And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose.

He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle, And away they all flew like the down of a thistle. But I heard him exclaim ere he drove out of sight, "Happy Christmas to all...and to all a goodnight!"

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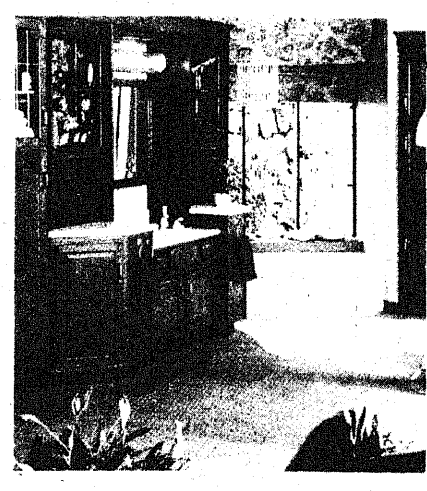
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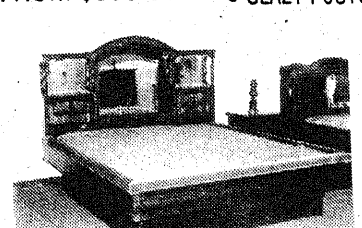

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Around The World

Christmas greetings are universal, but the languages in which they are expressed are varied indeed.

In France, for instance, you would be greeted with "Joyeux Noel!"

Spaniards and the Spanish-speaking people of Latin America say "Feliz Navidad."

If you are in Italy at Christmas time, you will be greeted with "Buon Natale."

Germans, on the other hand, will wish you "Frohlische Weihnachten."

Norwegians say, "Gledelig Jul!"

In Bohemia, the greet-

ings are expressed with "Vesele Vanoce."

In Bulgaria, it's "Chestita Koloda," Croats wish you "Sretan Bojic."

A Welshman will greet you with "Nadolig Llawen."

Both the Portuguese and Brazilians share the same greetings: "Boas Festas."

In Poland, you would be greeted with "Weselych Swiat."

The Irish say, "Nodlaig Mhaith Chugnat."

However differently it is expressed, the wish is always the same throughout the world: "Merry Christmas!"

Christmas Trees...

The Christmas tree became a Christmas tradition in America before it arrived in England. George the Third's Hessian soldiers decorated Christmas trees during the American Revolution. Earlier, still, German settlers in Pennsylvania decorated Christmas trees with colored paper, sweets and lights. The tree became an English Christmas custom only after the German Prince Albert married Queen Victoria.

For a safe holiday, while trimming your tree step up to the highest branches on a 2-step folding stepstool instead of a rickety chair. Who wants to spend Christmas broken in pieces! Make Christmas merrier by following safety suggestions!

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