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Honey Creek School Pupils Prepare for Christmas Season



Mrs. Jane Hammer, teacher at Honey Creek, is readying her 19 pupils for the Christmas program to be given December 22. Her class will enact the "Christmas Carol." Letters to foreign embassies in the United Nations are being sent by her students as part of their social studies course. Mrs. R. Schwartz, primary teacher, is spending her second year at the local school. Busy with Christmas exercises for the program, her pupils are also making a booklet about the origin of Christmas.

Mrs. Jane Hammer, teaching grades 4 through 7 at Honey Creek school, is busily preparing her students for the Christmas program which will be held at the school on Thursday, December 22. Mrs. Hammer's class will enact the ever popular Dicken's Christmas Carol. Proud parents and grandparents will make up the audience.

To aid in her social studies, English and penmanship, Mrs. Hammer is using a novel and interesting approach to a sometimes dull series of lessons and drills. The entire class is sending letters to all the foreign embassies which are represented in the United Nations. The project began during United Nations Week and will continue for an indefinite period. In conjunction with the letters, the class is making booklets on the UN countries. Pictures and information about the customs, language, food, architecture and other interesting aspects of the various lands will be featured in the booklets.

Nineteen pupils make up the class of Mrs. Hammer who is spending her first year at Honey Creek. She formerly taught in rural schools in Jackson county.

The kindergarten and first three grades at Honey Creek will also be well represented in the Christmas program. Mrs. R. Schwartz, primary teacher, stated that her youngsters will give recitations for their parents also present a tableau entitled "The Life of Christ". A play called "Christmas Spirit" will be another contribution from Mrs. Schwartz' class.

Besides the usual class work,

Christmas customs from other lands are being "studied" by the primary group. They are making a booklet with pictures and stories about Christmas, its origin, the part Santa Claus plays in this and other countries, and in general, are learning why this holiday is celebrated so widely throughout the world.

She believes that proper reading habits are very important and accordingly is spending a great deal of time with her class in this phase of education. Two or three times a week the class enjoys group singing and the piano gets a good workout.

A rock collection, growing spontaneously from specimens brought in periodically by the pupils, occupies a separate shelf of the bookcase. Many unusual shapes and colors are featured and the young geologists are proud of their display.

Teaching positions in Mattoon, Ill., Niles, Grand Rapids and Escanaba, provide an excellent background for Mrs. Schwartz' work at Honey Creek. This season is her second one at the local school.

RED CROSS FIRST AID COURSE AT MARTIN SCHOOL

Anyone interested in taking the Red Cross First Aid Course to be held at Martin School beginning in January is asked to call Mrs. Gordon Yaeger, GL 83697. The course will be held once a week for 6 weeks.

Dig! Dig! Dig!

Three ACE area deer hunters figure they have shoveled more than their share of the state's snowfall this winter. On a hunting trip in the upper peninsula, near Seny, Ivan Marsman, Willard Marsman, Harold Mulder and another member of their party discovered, when it was time to head for home, that it was easier said than done.

Their camp, eight miles from a road, and accessible only by an abandoned logging trail, was snow bound. In camp for eleven days, the trail had drifted full of snow and was impassable for the average car. The party came to the half hearted, but only solution possible. DIG. And dig they did. For three miles, inching their way along, the men made a path for their car.

After six hours of backbreaking work, they came to an empty cabin and decided to spend the night. One of them, scouting ahead a bit discovered that the trail was passable a short distance farther on. Needless to say, the party elected to continue their homeward trek. Any deer? Heh, Heh.

NO MEETING

There will be no December meeting for the Ada Coffee Group.

Love seems to be the most fun you can have without laughing.

OES Dinner is Attended By ACE Residents

Saturday evening, Dec. 3, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hall of Ada dr., were host and hostess at a potluck dinner, dance and bazaar sponsored by the Peninsular Chapter No. 65 Order of the Eastern Star at the Masonic Temple. ACE residents that attended were Mr. and Mrs. Robert Crandell, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. James Byerly, Mr. and Mrs. Vern Morse, Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Gaskell, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Heaven, Mr. and Mrs. Bert VanderWerff, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Afton Jr., also Mrs. Ethel Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Cool and Mr. and Mrs. Reichmeyer of Grand Rapids.

State Approves First Step In School Merger

Last Friday, December 2, the office of Lynn Clark, county superintendent of schools, received notification from Dr. Clair L. Taylor, superintendent of public instruction in Lansing, that preliminary approval for the proposed 10 district consolidation in the ACE area had been granted by the state reorganization council. The districts are: Ada, Carl, Strong, Gove, Cascade, Collins, Martin, Knapp, Orchard View, and Murphy.

According to Clark, it is now necessary to present petitions in each district for the circulation of signatures. These petitions will appear in the next 30 days.

Township clerks must send to Clark's office, the certified number of registered voters in each of the 10 districts.

Clark stated that a minimum of 50% of the registered voters, plus one, must sign the petitions from each affected district. "The petitions must then be filed with me, and if they meet the requirements, I will certify that they have been met and notify Dr. Taylor to that effect," Clark said.

The next step taken would be a general election, with a majority of votes from the entire area necessary to pass the proposal.

The steps towards future consolidation were begun two years ago. President of the group favoring consolidation is Russell Jensen, secretary of Cascade school. Meetings and discussions on the merger have been held in the various schools throughout the ACE area and were open meetings to which the public was welcomed.

Eastmont Guild Holds Christmas Workshop

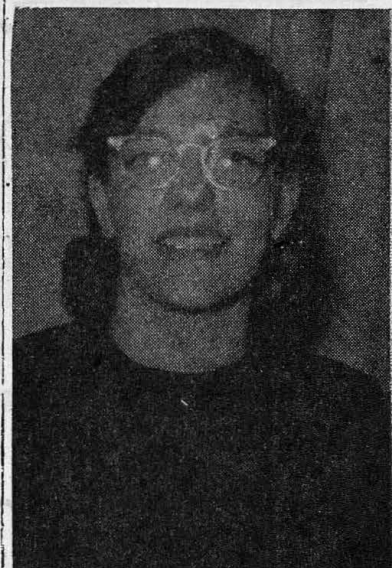
To get into a gay Christmas spirit early the members of the Home 16 Guild Extension Group held a Christmas Workshop at the home of Mrs. Pleune Lock of 4691 Ada dr., Tuesday evening, Nov. 29 to display their handmade projects and exchange ideas with one another. A few projects on display were beautiful Christmas center pieces for the tables, and many Christmas decorations.

Everyone forgot their calories that evening when the graham cracker fruit salad, coffee Kringel Christmas roll, homemade candy, nuts and coffee were passed around for refreshments.

YOUNGSTER BREAKS LEG

Sandy Yaeger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Yaeger, of Custer Parkway had the misfortune Monday afternoon of breaking her left leg due to a fall. Sandy is a 5th grade student at Martin school.

Judy Wedemeier Is Among Top High School Pupils



Judith Gray Wedemeier, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Wedemeier, Dogwood dr., Ada, and a senior at Lowell High School, received notification this past Monday, December 5, that she is one of the semi-finalists in the \$20,000,000 National Merit Scholarship Foundation's search for top U. S. high school students to be awarded four year college scholarships.

The corporation, set up last summer with a \$20,000,000 grant from the Ford foundation and a \$500,000 sum from the Carnegie corporation, is seeking to find the nation's most brilliant secondary-school students. Purpose of the search, the biggest independently financed college scholarship program in the history of American education, is to provide scholarships for students whose talents might remain undeveloped because of inability to afford the cost of higher education. The winners will receive from \$100 to \$2,000 a year to attend any college of their choice. The variation in amounts depends on financial need, rather than position in which exams are completed.

Judy, chosen with three others from her class, by Norman Gottschall, her counsellor at Lowell, was one of 50,000 youngsters who took the two hour, 115 question test. Ten thousand public and private schools took part in the quiz and only the top 5% of the seniors were eligible entrants. The questions, difficult enough to make BA's and PHD's squirm uncomfortably in their chairs were mastered by 4,000 of America's most brilliant young minds.

Next month, Judy and the other winners of the first test, will compete in a second exam on the 14th. Results of this quiz will determine the 350 winners for the scholarships. The names of 1,400 runners-up in this final quiz will be submitted to colleges and scholarship agencies for consideration for other scholarship awards.

Judy, when asked about her chances in the finals, expressed doubt that she would be among the winners. Modestly elated at the news of her chance for the top award, she said, "I was thrilled, proud, surprised and glad, all at once."

In the event that she should be one of the top winners, Judy would like to attend either Western Teacher's College in Kalamazoo or the University of Chicago. She would seek her B. A. in Literature.

About one thousand ships enter (and leave) New York harbor each month.

Suburban LIFE

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Ada Athletic Ass'n. Holds Successful Auction

Community spirit was very much in evidence this past Wednesday evening at the auction sponsored by the Ada Township Athletic Association and held in the town hall. A large crowd packed the big room and bidding for the goods, all donated by individuals and merchants, was very spirited.

Geo. VanderMeulen, well known auctioneer, kept the crowd in a gay mood with his quick humor. VanderMeulen offered his services for the evening and helped bring the total profit for the evening above the \$600 mark. As this paper goes to press, the complete figure is not known as all returns have not yet been turned in to Bob Hand, secretary of the association.

Aprons, hay, turkeys, canned goods and dozens of other items, down to the blue hat that "Eph" Cook backed out on, went for a good price.

As far as we know, every merchant in Ada, several from Cascade and many from Lowell donated items for the sale.

The association is now one step nearer its goal of lights for the Ada ball field. It was pointed out, before the auction began, that the ball field will be available for everyone in the Ada area. The project will help the entire community, especially the youngsters, enjoy recreational facilities at home instead of seeking it elsewhere.

BROWNIE TROOP NO. 128 PRESENTS AWARD PINS

Brownie Troop No. 128 held an investiture ceremony at the regular meeting, December 5. The mothers of the girls were invited to attend. A tea followed the ceremony.

The following girls were presented with their pins: Melissa Krueger, Pat McDuffee, Verle Jean Vosburg, Cathy Walma, Susan Ward Susan Kersting, Kristin Butts, Cathy Fuller, Sheila Sharpe, Sandra Bier, Andrea Morse, Cathy Reyburn. One year pendants were presented to the following: Linda Boomers, Janet Engen, Karen Fryover, Maryanne Somerville, Norma Wride. Mrs. Glenn B. Morse and Mrs. David McDuffee are the leaders of Brownie Troop No. 128.

4H HANDICRAFT CLUB REORGANIZES IN ADA

After a year of inaction the 4H handicraft club of the Ada Christian School reorganized under the direction of new leaders. Ralph and John DeVries are the leader and assistant leader respectively.

The club, composed of seven first year members and six second year members, meets at the home of its leader. The following officers have been elected: President, Pete Kramer, vice president, Ken Sytsma and Secretary-Treasurer, Tom Korhorn. The boys chose as a name for the club, "The Blue Water Boys".

Ralph Kirch, the Kent County 4H supervisor, briefed the members on the 4H program and gave several helpful suggestions for a better club.

INVITE PRIMARY GRADES TO CHRISTMAS PARTY

Ada Intermediate Girl Scout Troop 47 wishes to extend an invitation to all boys and girls in this area from Kindergarten through third grade for a Christmas Library party which they are sponsoring. The party will be from four to five o'clock on Tuesday, Dec. 13 at the Ada Town Hall. The Girl Scouts who are planning the story hour, songs, games, and treats are: Sandra Steketee, Sheila Fitzgerald, Candace Rich and Mary Jane Kennedy. The leaders are: Mrs. Wm. E. Fitzgerald and Mrs. Warren R. Rich. Mrs. Grace Whaley is their Christmas book advisor. Do try to come and have fun with the Girl Scouts at their Christmas party.

People who pull their own weight have little to throw around.

HOSPITAL GUILD HOSTS BLODGETT STAFF, FRIENDS

Members of the Aid-A Hospital Guild of the Blodgett Memorial hospital entertained the interns and residents and their wives of the hospital with a buffet supper Saturday night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Gillard, Jr., of 9133 E. Fulton. Mrs. Gillard was assisted by Mrs. Edgar Woods, Mrs. John A. VanDongen and Mrs. Carl F. List. Among those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Yaw, Supt. of Blodgett; Miss Mary Patterson, Assistant Supt.; Dr. and Mrs. William Fuller and Dr. and Mrs. Luther C. Carpenter Jr., Chief

Thanksgiving was the day of arrival of Carol Anne Todd, brand new daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Todd, Spaulding ave. Blodgett was the hospital, and the baby's birth weight, eight pounds, three ounces.

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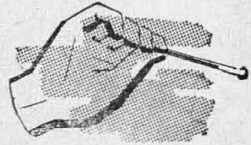
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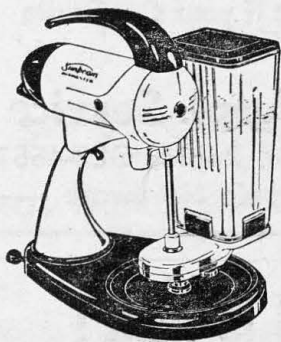
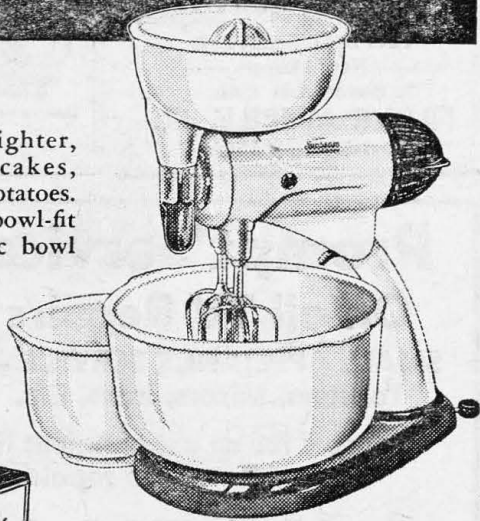
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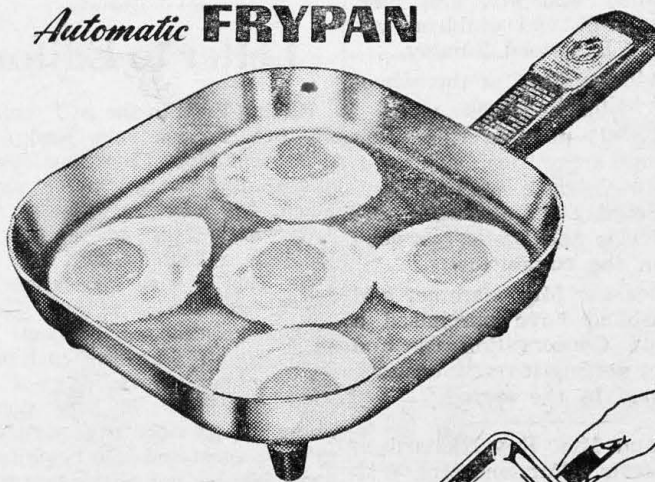


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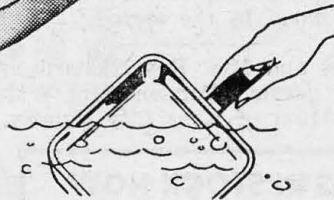
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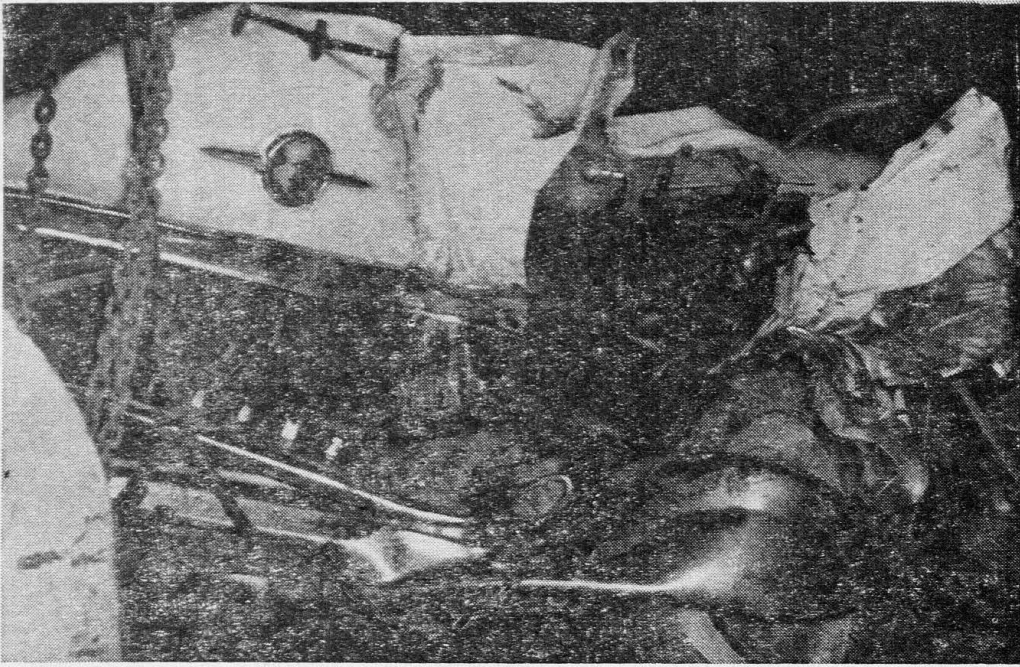
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Crash at Ada dr.-M-21 Intersection Injures Four Last Friday



Pictured above is one of the cars involved in an accident at Ada dr. and M-21, last Friday evening. A Grand Haven woman in the car above, is still hospitalized and only in "fair" condition. The crash occurred when a truck, driven by an Oklahoma man, mistook Ada dr. for the main highway. A Lowell couple was also injured.

Four persons were injured in an accident at the intersection of Ada dr., and M-21 last Friday evening, December 2. Mr. and Mrs. William A. Collins, Lowell, and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Mich-

aels, Grand Haven, were hospitalized as a result of the crash. Mrs. Michael is still listed as being in only "fair" condition. The other persons have been released.

According to a Sheriff's Department report, the accident occurred when a semi-trailer truck, driven by James V. Bagwill, Tulsa, Oklahoma, which was traveling west on the highway, struck the car driven by Michaels. After striking the Michaels vehicle, the truck demolished the Collins auto which was waiting on Ada dr., at the stop sign. Bagwill, unfamiliar with the road, mistook Ada dr., for the highway and thought the Michaels vehicle, approaching from the west, would have to stop for traffic. Bagwill pleaded guilty to a reckless driving charge.

The tandem wheels of the trailer were torn off and both cars completely wrecked.

Industrial Accident Severs Lower Arm

David Schneider, 28, Thorncrest dr., suffered amputation of his lower right arm several inches below the elbow Sunday morning after catching his arm in a die cast at the Jervis plant where he works. Ironically, he was handling his last piece of work before going home at the end of the night shift when the accident happened.

Mr. Schneider is married, and father of two small children.

Name Frank VanderMaas To Head Ada Lodge

Frank VanderMaas was elected Worshipful Master of Ada Lodge F. & A. M. Friday night in the Masonic Temple. Other officers elected for the 1956 term were. Wayne Cookingham, S. W.; Leland Christensen, J. W.; Howard Butts, Treasurer; Homer Morris, Secretary; Irving Alexander, S. D.; Donald Stites, J. D.; and Walter Hayes, Tyler.

Those appointed to office are John Verhil, Chaplain; Max Souzer, Marshall; Stewards, Neal DenBoer and Darwin Nellist. Paul VanderMaas was elected a member of the Ada Masonic Assn. Mr. VanderMaas and his officers will be installed, Saturday December 10th at 8:00 p. m. and the installation ceremony will be open to the public.

Letter to Editor

Having lived in the ACE area all my life, I have very fond memories of outdoor Christmas decorations, that were "home spun". Since the war everyone in this area has let the job, and it is a job, slip a little farther way each year. This year th Thornapple Valley Lions Club is making Christmas decorations a project. The Lions are offering three cash prizes for the best three original outdoor creations. We hope that as many as possible will participate in the contest and help beautify our area. We are not attempting to get great competition, but rather we are trying to get the Christmas Spirit back in our area. In the Suburban Life next week there will be more instructions and an entry blank.

—Gordon Svoboda

The O. E. S. Booster club will have their Christmas party and potluck supper Thursday, Dec. 8 at 6:30 in the Masonic dining room. All Stars and Moons and their families are invited. Bring a 25c gift to exchange. Mrs. Ruth Bates and Barbara Coger, hostesses.

Bernard Rooker returned home from Burton Heights Osteopathic hospital Monday after spending a week there under observation.

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At Cascade

Honey Creek News

Mrs. Leona Hunt

Attending were Jack and Judy Nowack, Marilyn and Patricia Wilson, Susan and Mary Jervis, Judy Boone, James Russ, Gerald Roarke, Maynard Baer, Martha Stiff, Elizabeth, Steven and Ronnie Osborne and Leslie, Linda and Lloyd Norwood and Dorothy Hunt.

Mr. and Mrs. Morris Osborne and family and Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Hunt and children visited near Stanwood Sunday.

The blinker light at the school is now being installed.

At the 4H meeting this week the food committee surprised Elizabeth Osborne with a beautiful birthday cake. Susan and Mary Jervis and Leslie Norwood were on the committee.

Our teacher Mrs. Hammer and her husband have purchased a home on Conservation rd. and are busy getting it ready to move into early in the spring.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Richardson were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Afton of Kent City Sunday.

CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS —



Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Averill Lynda and Dawn and David Hill were Sunday dinner guests of Mrs. Pearl Averill.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ward were Saturday overnight supper guests of his mother, Mrs. Alice Ward of Grand Rapids.

Mrs. Josie Kamp and Mrs. Johanna DeGood spent last Thursday with Mr. and Mrs. Martin Hoekstra in Grand Rapids.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Henthorn and Kendra were Sunday supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Wride.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Weil of Lowell and Mrs. Webb Ward were Thursday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Hubert DeVries of Greenville.

Mrs. Blanch Loveless spent last Wednesday and Thursday with her daughter, Mrs. Eddie Dunneback and family of Peach Ridge.

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Issue 4 permits

Building permits for four dwellings were issued by Cascade township in November. Two were to Modern Real Estate, Inc; one, to Frank Westveer, and one to Cornelius Vander Jagt.

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**YOUTH TO LEAD
FAMILY FELLOWSHIP NIGHT**

Family Fellowship Night at Cascade Christian church Sunday evening at 6:30 will be in the charge of the Junior to Adult classes of the Sunday school. They will present a program, "The Characters of Christmas Meet Christ." Special music will be sung by the CYF quartet, Nina Charters, Barbara Heaven, Don Kleinhans and Kenneth Oakes, and by the Chi Rho trio, Sylvia Dykhuizen, Susan Keck, and Karon Snyder. Mrs. Clare Coger is in charge of refreshments which will be furnished by the Hearthstone and Adult classes.

Cascade Christian church will have a Dedication service for babies and little children and their parents this Sunday, and a second service next Sunday, during morning worship at 11 o'clock.

Mooseburgers?

Mooseburger will be the Thornapple Lions Club fare at their dinner meeting Monday evening at Cascade school No. 4. Beavers group of the Mothers' club is serving the dinner. The meat is being contributed by Mrs. Fred Burger, whose husband shot the moose. Mrs. Grover Fase is group chairman.

**Ada Christian Reformed
CHURCH**

Morning Worship...9:30 A. M.
Sunday School...11:00 A. M.
Evening Worship...7:15 P. M.

**Cascade Christian Ref.
Church**

Morning Worship — 10:00 A. M.
Sunday School — 11:15 A. M.
Evening Worship — 7:15 P. M.
Pastor — Rev. Jacob P. Boonstra

**First Congregational
CHURCH OF ADA**

..Morning Worship...9:30 A. M.
..Sunday School.....9:30 A. M.
Nursery Provided
Pilgrim Fellowship...6:30 P. M.
Pastor—Rev. Williams P. Reynders

**ADA COMMUNITY
Reformed Church**

Morning Worship...10.00 A. M.
Sunday School...11:20 A. M.
Evening Worship...7:30 P. M.
Pastor—Rev. C. A. VanderWoude

Eastmont Reformed Chapel

Meeting in Martin School

"The Church Where There Are No Strangers"

10:00 A. M. Morning Worship 7:00 P. M. Evening Worship
11:00 A. M. Sunday School NURSERY PROVIDED

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**Explorer Scouts Plan
Old Style Town Meeting**

Cascade-Martin Boy Scouts of Explorer unit 334 are inviting all the community to an old-fashioned Citizenship Night Monday at 7:30 p.m. at Cascade Christian church. Purpose of the affair, which will be patterned on the New England Town meeting, is twofold: to introduce the scout troop to the community, and to stir citizens' interest in their community.

The project is a requirement of the Citizenship merit badge, on which the scouts are working. The badge stresses citizenship in the home, community, and nation.

There will be five minute talks by members of the community. Carl Kerekes will speak on Citizenship in Relation to the Home; Rev. Herbert C. Barnard, to the church; Dale Charters, president of the board of Cascade school No. 4, to the school; Cascade Township Supervisor Gerrit Baker, to the community; O. B. Snow, to Industry. Chief Metalsmith Bob Massey, USN, will talk on Citizenship and Our Military Obligations.

There will also be an advancement ceremony.

Everyone is invited. The scouts hope to fill the church to capacity. James Pryor is Explorer advisor.

**Mrs. Joseph Stepek, 38
Dies Suddenly Friday**

Cascade was saddened by the death Friday morning of Mrs. Frances H. Stepek, 38, wife of Joseph, at her home on Cascade road. Death came suddenly of cardiac failure due to pneumonia.

Mrs. Stepek only this summer had undergone a rare and extremely serious heart operation in Philadelphia. Her courage in submitting to the surgery was truly admired, and her recovery a matter of great concern to the community. She was gaining strength slowly but steadily until the onset of what she thought was a severe cold.

Surviving beside her husband are four children Patricia, Richard, Joseph, and John, all at home; one sister, Margaret Smith of Bangor; one brother, Lester Woolner. Funeral services were held Monday afternoon, with burial in Cascade cemetery.

Births

Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Marsman 28th st., are the parents of a baby girl, Laurie Sue, born at Burton Heights Osteopathic Hospital November 21, with a weight of eight pounds, two ounces.

Executive Board of MacDonald-Osmer post 451, American Legion Auxiliary will meet Monday evening at 8 o'clock at the post clubhouse.

use the Want Ads

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 Dick Sytsma Phone 4811

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ACE reports
 by Ken Ezinga

When we read the news in Suburban Life or any other paper, we expect to find out exactly what is happening in the community or the world around us. To a great extent we do. And yet, every paper, be it large or small, only tells half the story. Oftentimes the best and most interesting news never reaches the reader. Oftentimes the tragic, humorous and serious side of the news is never mentioned.

There is a logical reason for this omission of news. The job of a paper is to bring the facts before it's readers. To tell a complete story about any news event would be an impossibility. In every bit of news there are dozens, hundreds, sometimes thousands of factors as to it's cause and it's result. The average paper would never be able to get all the facts.

The accident near Ada last Friday is a case in point. Four people injured, two cars demolished and a man guilty of reckless driving. You read the story—the facts are there—date, names, cause and place of accident. Now you know what happened. Or do you. Look at the rest of the story. Do you know how the Lowell couple felt when the huge truck crashed into their car? The terrible ripping sound of metal and the screech of rubber on the pavement, can you imagine that? It's part of the story. How about the Grand Haven woman who is still suffering in a city hospital. Just a moment before the crash she was sitting comfortably in a nice new car. Do you know how her husband feels? Her family? It's part of the story. How about the truck driver—hundreds of miles from home, charged with a serious offense? What of the intersection where the accident occurred? Many times in the past other crashes have happened at the same spot. It is evident by this time why a complete story would be an impossibility. We are hoping by this bit of journalistic rambling, to make our readers realize that even though the wreckage has been hauled away and most of us have forgotten the event, any accident is never really over for the people involved. In short—Drive Carefully.

 Ace area residents will have the opportunity to enjoy a bit of friendly competition in the next couple of weeks. The Thornapple Valley Lions club is sponsoring an outdoor Christmas decoration contest and we understand that prizes will be given for the best displays. We are eager to see what the results will be and promise you we will have pictures of the winning Holiday decorations. We hope it will be a yearly event.

The school consolidation issue has passed the talking stage. Of course there will be discussion, both pro and con, even after the final vote has been taken. That is only natural. But from now on, action will be the key word. For some of us perhaps, it is hard to realize that our community has reached the point where the present schools are inadequate. Yet that is the pattern all over the country. According to reliable reports, the city of Grand Rapids has reached the saturation point as far as home building goes. Lots for residential building purposes have been filled. No more are available.

We are bound to see, in the next few years, an unbelievable building boom in the ACE area. Without a doubt, the school problem will have to be faced, if not now, next year, or the next.

We will continue to keep our readers informed on the latest developments regarding the school issue.

MacDonald-Osmer American Legion post 451 is selling Christmas trees. Proceeds will go toward the post building fund.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE CITIZENS RESIDING IN THE GOVE SCHOOL DISTRICT

A recent issue of Suburban Life carried a story of an action by Gove school board refuting a petition signed by interested citizens of the District in which the County School Superintendent was asked to include the Gove District in a preliminary request for consolidation with nine other school districts.

The signers of that petition wish to make their feelings known to other residents of this district and reply to the four reasons given by the Gove school board for their non-support of the proposed consolidation.

1. The board stated that their children would not feel at home in a suburban high school. A rapid influx of new families moving into Gove and other districts will necessitate a change in school plans. Three families from our district have already succeeded in transferring their lands to Cascade No. 4, and eight other families are sending 11 children to that school, paying their own tuition and transportation because they feel that their own school in Gove is inadequate. It would seem that the people moving into this district do not hold with the opinions of their board. These new residents which are steadily moving into this district will soon completely outnumber the farm residents and they are young people with children to educate. They will look towards the city as the seat of their economic, cultural and social life. Then why should this district be seeking a rural agricultural high school for these children? It seems to us that if Gove school children will not feel at home among other suburban children in the proposed high school the Gove board is admitting that their present school system is adequate in preparing them for high school and college.

2. There is no question that people with more property would be subject to heavier taxation. That is the principle of American taxation and applies to the matter of income as well. It is not anticipated

by anyone, however, that the school taxes from a consolidated district will be confiscatory or even close to confiscatory. In the Chambers report, it is stated that the school taxes would be approximately the same as those in Cascade district at the present time—\$26.32 per thousand dollar valuation. An improved school system would cost more, but it also renders a greater service.

3. The board stated that the people moving into Gove should have settled in a high school area. This leaves little country to move into—Grand Rapids, East Grand Rapids, Caledonia, Lowell or Rockford. No, it isn't that easy. We moved in because we liked the community as a whole and knew that in this day there would be few people who would want to be reactionary in the matter of improving the school system. It was expected that this section of suburban Grand Rapids would be equal with other areas in keeping up a high standard of education. We are sure that the views of the board are not the views of the majority of the electors of Gove district in this matter.

4. The board states that they are satisfied with the present school system and hold that it will be adequate for many years to come. We do not doubt the first contention but we do the second. New property owners bringing families into this district will soon make changes necessary. Let's be ready for them—let's be known as a forward district—not a reactionary one.

We are sorry that it was necessary to petition the county office for this preliminary approval. We would rather have had the request by resolution of the school board. The board chose not to act—therefore we did act for the future welfare of our children.

Twelfth Birthday
 Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bentley of Ada entertained with a party and hayride Friday evening in honor of their daughter Barbara's 12th birthday.

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