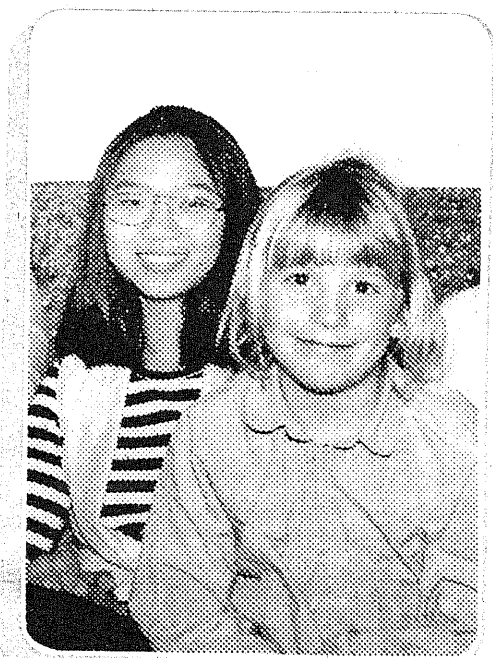
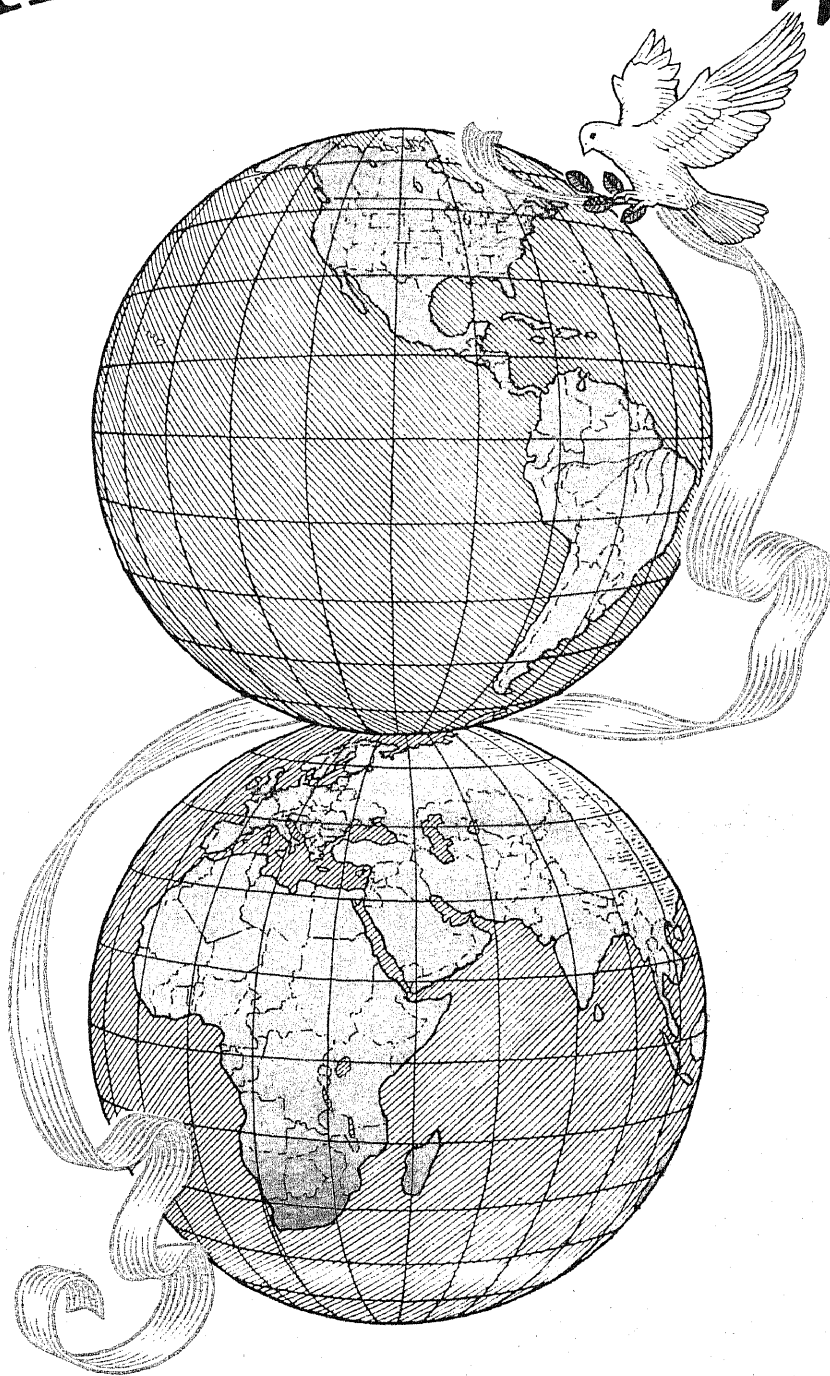


# Christmas 1995

## Around The World



Nani Hartono, Indonesia &  
U. S. Sister - Stephanie Reinhardt  
USA High School



Anna Junker, Germany  
Laker High School

### *Looking At Christmas Traditions Near & Far!*



# Newsweekly



# 1995 Gift Guide



# Indonesian Exchange student finds snow interesting...

By DUANE GUENTHER

Nani Hartono, a Rotary exchange student from Bali, Indonesia, saw snow for the first time last week—and the sight caused her to remember a conversation she once had with her mother.

"It was a particularly hot day in Bali," she recalled,

"and I was so overcome with the heat I told my mother I wish I could go to the North Pole."

"Now," she continued with a bright smile, "it looks like the North Pole is coming to me."

Although Hartono is having little trouble adjust-

ing to the cold, she has adapted to sweaters and jackets very well. Michigan's climate conditions are a far cry from the tropical climate of her home province of Bali.

Located in the south Pacific, very near the equator, Bali's temperatures are in the

80 to 90 degree range year around.

"There aren't any seasons," she says, "and if the temperature drops to 70 degrees, we think it is cold."

Hartono is spending a year in the United States, and more specifically Sebawaing, as part of the International Rotary Exchange Program.

"My father is a Rotarian," she says, "and he encouraged me to apply for the program."

Hartono had already graduated from high school in Bali and the Rotary Exchange is a pleasant break before she begins university education on the island of Java, another province in Indonesia, where she will study business management.

Her high school, and the home where her family resides, is in Denpasar, a city of 120,000 people. Shops and offices dominate the metropolitan area while fields of rice and corn dot the landscape surrounding the city.

A unique feature of the city is that they have a building code disallowing any structures to be built with a height more than 40 feet. Bali is a tourist mecca, and the code is invoked in order to keep the island as pristine as possible.

"Most farmers have a large field where they raise their rice," Hartono says, "and next to their homes, they will have a small garden plot to plant

fruits and vegetables for sale and their own consumption."

A picture of the Hartono home shows their dwellings to be modern and very much like a ranch home in the U.S., even to the satellite dish mounted on the roof.

One of the big differences

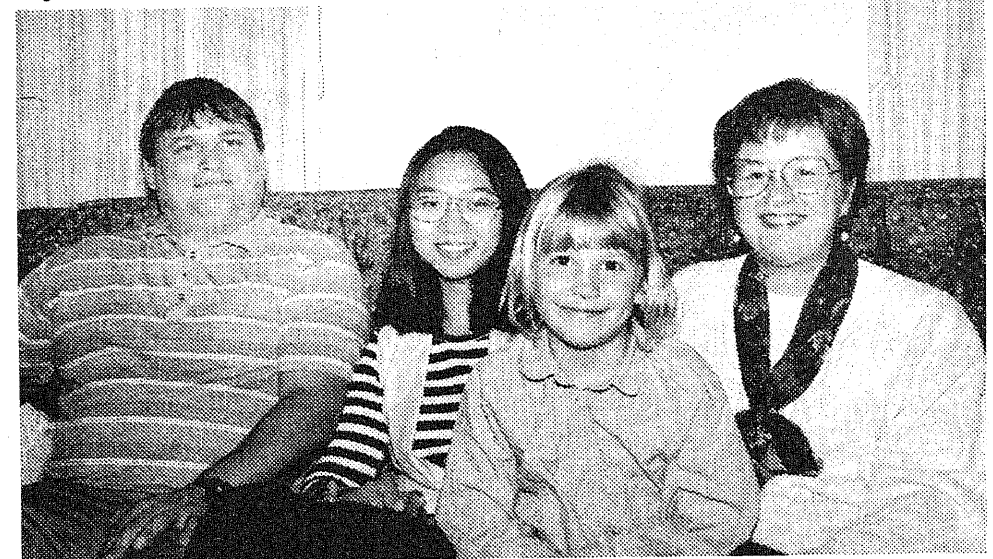
is that the Hartonos grow bananas, mangoes, papayas, and jackfruit right in their house.

The jackfruit, or nangka, is a very popular fruit which can be baked into a biscuit or

into a fruit cocktail.

Hartono can make presentations of her country to any outside group which is interested.

"She has a beautiful set of slides of her country," Reinhardt says, "and would be most happy to share them with the people of Sebawaing."



NANI HARTONO relaxes with her American family, Brian, Deb and 7-year-old Stephanie Reinhardt of Sebawaing.

## Classic Petites

Bay City 904 Washington Ave. 895-7447  
(Across From Herman Hiss)

Sizes  
2-18

Sweaters  
Slacks  
Dresses

Sizes  
2-18

Casual Wear by Northern Isle  
Coordinates Accessories

✓ Free Gift Wrapping ✓ Layaways  
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HOLIDAY HOURS  
Mon.-Thurs. 10-6  
Fri. 11-8  
Sat. 10-5 • Sun. 12-4

## Amy's

in Pigeon Looking For A Special Gift?

We Have:

- 'Holiday' Sweaters & Vests
- 'Golf' Sweaters & Vests
- 'Nautical' Sweaters
- 'Ice Skaters' Sweaters
- 'Teacher' Sweaters & Vests

Also 'Cozy Contours' ~ (nylon outside w/ combed cotton inside) Tops & Bottoms to Wear Under Clothes to Keep You WARM! S - 2X

Special: Isotoner Warm-Lined Gloves  
Reg. \$30.00 Sale \$24.00 - Black, Navy, Taupe, Bone, Camel

7266 Michigan Avenue  
**517-453-2515**

Holiday Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:30-5:30; Fri. 9:30-8:00  
Sat. 9:30-4:00; Sun. 1:00-4:00

## TOYTOWN SALE NOW IN PROGRESS

**Multi Clear or Solid**  
50 ct. LIGHT SET ..... **\$1.97**

**Multi Clear or Solid**  
100 ct. LIGHT SET ..... **\$2.97**

All  
**LEGO & DUPLO SETS** ..... **20% off**

**Sunday Special**  
Anyone Mailing A Letter  
In Our Mailbox On Any  
Sunday Till Christmas Will  
receive A Letter From  
Santa!

Large Selection of **POCAHONTAS & BARBIE DOLLS & Accessories**

**OPEN EVERYDAY TIL CHRISTMAS!**

OPEN SUNDAYS 12 NOON- 4 PM  
• Laminating Available For Those Important Documents  
• Layaway Now For Christmas (At No Charge)

**PITCHER'S**  
**Ben Franklin**

Downtown Sebawaing  
**883-3624**

# Sebawaing her new home

Continued from Page 22

into a fruit cocktail.

Hartono lives with her mother, father and a younger sister. Her father owns a computer business which develops networks for business and industry and then maintains them. The business employs 80 people.

Her mother helps out with the family business, but spend much time as a homemaker.

The Hartono family are members of the Catholic faith, but the majority of people in Indonesia profess to be Islam. In the province of Bali, Hindu is the leading religion, with Christians being second and Buddhists third.

A picture of Hartono's school revealed a building surrounded by beautiful gardens. "My principal loved gardening," she says.

Another picture shows uniformed students in well-equipped classrooms. "I liked the uniforms," Nani says, "You never had to worry about what you were going to wear to school."

Hartono will spend this school year as a senior at USA High. In June, she and other Rotary students from around the world will take a four-week tour of the east coast. Then she will return to her tropical paradise on Bali.

She is living with Brian and Deb Reinhardt and her American sister, 7-year-old Stephanie, of Sebawaing.

Brian Reinhardt, former president of the Sebawaing Rotary, explained that

Hartono can make presentations of her country to any outside group which is interested.

"She has a beautiful set of

slides of her country," Reinhardt says, "and would be most happy to share them with the people of Sebawaing."

## Club News

### OWENDALE WOMEN'S CLUB

Nine members of the Owendale Women's Club gathered at the Owendale School to do their annual cheeseball-making recently. Profits from the sales is used for community projects.

Members have a few left over from orders so interested persons should contact any of the club members.

During a brief business meeting conducted by President Joyce Sheldon, the ladies gave a donation to the local unit of the Boy Scouts of America. A memorial in memory of Art Hughes, husband of Jean Hughes, was also given.

The October meeting was a fall walking tour through the nature trails at the Huron County Arboretum near Oak Beach. Four members braved the cooler temperature to enjoy the colors.

Door prize was won by Arlene Enderle and auction item purchased by Joyce Sheldon, both brought by hostess Pat Enderle.

Christmas meeting will be at the Brian Gaeth's home.

### WORTHY STUDY CLUB

The Worthy Study Club met at the Country House in Caseville Nov. 8. Emma Potter was hostess and dessert lunch was served.

President Mona McBride opened the meeting with all members repeating the Collect and the Pledge to the Flag. Roll Call followed "Labels - Nutrition Values."

Cards were sent to Dolores Lukasiak at St. Mary's and Hazel Simmons.

Opal Dufty had the program on health and hints of what foods to eat that are good for people. Good sources of potassium include tomato juice, melons, dried apricots, baked potatoes and milk and bananas. Members gave their ideas on healthy foods to eat.

A poem was read by Martha Wilson about the Church at the corner of Elkton and Limerick Roads, explaining how it came to be built and traveling ministers who came to get it started.

The Social Committee will announce where the Dec. 13 Christmas meeting will be.

## THE Clothes Basket

Bay City 906 Washington  
(Across From State Theater)

893-6020

NEW HOURS  
Mon. - Thurs. 10-6:00 Fri. till 8:00 Sat. till 5:00 Sun. 12 noon - 4:00

Missy Sweaters,  
Coordinates  
Sizes 4 - 20

Casual Wear  
by  
Northern Isle  
Coordinates  
Accessories

Women's  
Sweaters  
Coordinates  
Sizes  
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Free GIFT WRAPPING / Check Our CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

## Festive Favorites

From Your **IGA**

# HOMETOWN PROUD

## Fruit Baskets

Make the Perfect Holiday Gift!

All Sizes & Price Ranges

Call To Order...

## Meat Trays Veggie Platters

CALL 517-453-2800 to Special Order

- Full Service Meat Counter
- Fresh Produce • Daily Lunch Specials
- Beer & Wine

From Our Deli

- Broasted Chicken • Salads & Desserts

Homemade Soup ~ Made Fresh Daily  
Monday thru Friday.

# PIGEON

15 N. Caseville Road

517-453-2800 • FAX 517-453-3776

Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Fri. 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
Sat. 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Sun. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

## They eat nothing but frosted flakes.

Save up to \$110\*

Right now, save up to \$110 on select John Deere snow blowers and snow throwers. Chew up snow and spit it out with the choice of seven models from five to ten horsepower. Visit your John Deere retailer today to satisfy your hunger for one.

90 DAYS\*

NOTHING RUNS LIKE A DEERE!

## GETTEL & COMPANY

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\*Subject to approved credit. Monthly payment based on John Deere Credit Revolving Plan. 10% Down Payment required. After promotional period, finance charge will begin to accrue at .54% APR. A \$3.50 per month minimum finance charge may be applied to unpaid balances. For non-commercial use only. Manufacturer's suggested retail price, prices may vary by retailer. Offer ends November 27, 1995. \*Take \$40 to \$110 off depending on snow blower model.



# It's guaranteed to be 'green-white' Christmas for her...

**By SALLY RUMMEL**  
Whether it's a "green" or "white" Christmas this year as far as the weather is concerned, it will be a "green and white" Christmas for Laker High School German exchange student Anna Junker.

That's because this 17 year old from Bielfeld, Germany, a city of about 350,000, is thoroughly enjoying all the school spirit at Laker - something she is totally unfamiliar with back home. Hosted by the Dwight and MaryAnn Gascho family of

Pigeon, Junker attends Ratsgymnasium in Germany, where they go to school from about 8 until noon, then have clubs and activities in the afternoon. She plans to go to university when she completes her schooling. "I'll have to repeat this year back home," says the petite, smiling Junker. "We have 13 grades back home, so I'll still have to complete two more years."

Junker's German Christmas traditions also revolve around church and family as they do here, but Christmas

is celebrated more than Christmas Day. "We go to church with my grandmother and family, then come back home to open gifts on Christmas Eve," says Junker. "Then we have a big Christmas buffet with lots of fondue and salads and listen to Christmas music. "Christmas Day is the occasion for spending time and exchanging gifts with friends."

Coming from a large city, near Hanover, Junker is especially enjoying the friendliness of small-town living.

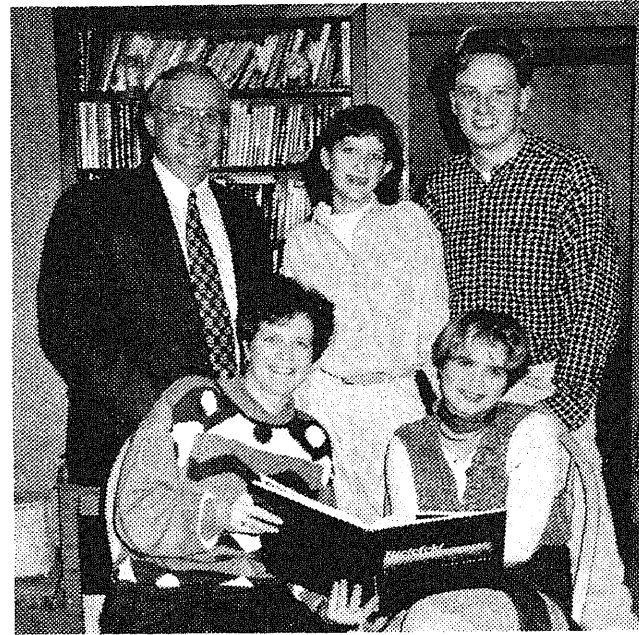
"Here, when you drive by other kids, everyone is waving and saying 'hello,'" says Junker. "I miss my family and friends back home, but I like it here and am not the least bit homesick."

**Back home in Germany,** some of the legal ages for certain activities is different than it is here, Junker notes. The legal drinking age is 16, but the legal driving age is 18 and "it costs \$1,000 to get your license," she adds. "Most families only have one car or two at the most, and only 'snobs' get their own cars while in school."

**How does a typical teenager** spend his/her time in her hometown in Germany? "Parties, discos, meeting in pubs, going to the theatre, movies - these are all popular activities back home," says Junker.

The pace may be slower here, but Junker is taking in all the pleasures of small-town living. She hasn't been to Frankenmuth yet, but hopes to see it soon so she can see what the U.S. impression is of Germany.

"Back home, no one really wears leidehosen!" she says with a laugh.



**NEW FAMILY:** Anna Junker, seated on right, looks over a German travel book with her U.S. family, MaryAnn Gascho, seated. Standing are Dwight, Kimberly and Chad Gascho. Missing is other daughter, Vicki Gascho, at college.

**Happy Holidays!**

Oh Baby!



**Happy Holidays**  
Stay tuned for upcoming news.  
From **Dave Burrows** Photography  
674-8738  
Unionville

It's The Caseville Chamber of Commerce

**Christmas Tree SALE**

Trees Starting at...  
**\$1500**  
each

Our Christmas Tree Sales lot is located between the Bay Window Restaurant & Caseville IGA

**KIDS... WIN A New Mountain Bike!**

Visit Santa from 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Santa will draw the winning ticket at 1:00 p.m. on Dec. 2 at the Tree Lot.

**Open House**

**December 4th - 8th**

*Signature*  
**BANK**

at

**DAILY DRAWINGS** held at each office Monday through Thursday for \$50 U.S. Savings bond and a grand prize drawing Friday for a \$500 U.S. Savings bond.  
*25 chances to win!*

**REFRESHMENTS!**

**MYSTERY TELLER GAME** will again be played whereby 5 customers at each office, EACH DAY, will win a prize just by being at the Mystery Teller's window at specific times throughout the day, but the tellers' identity and the times are a secret!  
*150 chances to win!*

**5 BIG DAYS!**

at

*Signature*  
**BANK**

Member FDIC

Bad Axe  
Harbor Beach  
Port Hope  
Sebewaing  
Ubyly

**PRIZES!**

**CHILDRENS' DRAWING**, for a variety of toys and games, to be held at 5pm Friday, with 10 winners selected at EACH OFFICE from tickets collected during the week.  
*60 chances to win!*

**GAMES!**

As you can see, this year's celebration will be **BIGGER** and **BETTER** than before, and include free gifts and refreshments all week long! So **MARK YOUR CALENDAR** and plan to attend! We look forward to seeing you the week of December 4 - 8th!

## 20 YEARS AGO NOV. 13, 1975

Voters in the Elkton, Pigeon, Bay Port School District narrowly approved a three-mill additional school tax for one year in balloting Monday. Final count was 550 Yes, 515 No.

John A. Champagne as jointed James A. Colgan in ownership of Huron Memorial Chapel, Elkton.

In a unique event, Paul Clabuesch was inducted into Pigeon Rotary Club by his grandfather, Ernest Clabuesch, a charter member, and Paul's father, E.J. Clabuesch, attached his membership pin to make a three-generation Rotary family.

## 10 YEARS AGO NOV. 6, 1985

The beet haul is on and Gus Dembowske, a year-round driver for Buchholz Trucking, drives long hours during beet campaigns.

Gerald Wiegert, a 1963 Caseville High School graduate drove out of the fast lane

last week to visit family and friends in Caseville. He brought along is Vector W2 Twin Turbo which is California car-designing company promises is the "world's fastest, most technically-advanced sports car."

About 120 persons participated in the first "Adventure

in Dining" Sunday, to benefit Scheurer Hospital Equipment Fund. Sixteen homes were opened to five couples who paid for a mystery dinner. The dining place and fellow diners were chosen for participants, and about \$3,000 was raised.

### From The Pages Of The Sebewaing Blade

## 80 YEARS AGO NOV. 11, 1915

Editor Blade: They talk about the tractor being above horses. First, it can't cultivate crops; it can't hand or lift beets when it's wet; it can't skid logs in the woods, scrape a ditch with a side scraper or plow stump ground, besides lots of other things. J.H. Menzel, Unionville.

William Rievert has purchased the Conrad farm and moved on to the place with his family.

Camilla Fliegel was the victim of a birthday surprise by the Y.N.K. Club.

## 70 YEARS AGO NOV. 12, 1925

G.F. Gremel, Herman Denner, with Newkirk Maynard of Gagetown and C. Aumann of Detroit left this morning on their annual deer hunting trip. Charles Beckman, Charles Siegart, Karl Braun and Edward Rievert also left this morning.

The barber shop and pool room of Matt Kling was broken into Sunday with a loss

of about \$150. Esther Kuisel entertained the Campfire girls at her home Tuesday evening.

## 60 YEARS AGO NOV. 8, 1935

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Paul C. Umbach, a daughter. Born to Mr. and Mrs. Norman Cramer of Kilmanagh, a son. Kendrick Kimball, sports writer for The Detroit News, spent last week at Tim Lambert's hunt club at Bay Port.

## 50 YEARS AGO NOV. 19, 1945

First Lieut. Donald Hofmeister, son of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Hofmeister, is missing on a search flight in India. L.H. Denner has resigned his position as bookkeeper at the Municipal Light and

Water Plant because of health reasons and Abby Eberlein, who has been assisting him is now bookkeeper.

PFC Clarence H.E. Weisenbach, brother of Mrs. Joseph Bang of Sebewaing, who was reported missing in China, is now safe and stationed deep in that country.

## 40 YEARS AGO NOV. 10, 1955

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gaeth will observe their 55th wedding anniversary Saturday evening with a family gathering. Mrs. Gaeth is the former Elizabeth Schweitzer and was born in Linkville in 1879 while Mr. Gaeth was born in Venezuela, South America in 1872. The Gaeths had seven children, six of whom are living.

Shirley Ann Weisenbach and Charles A. Gaeth, both of Sebewaing, were united in marriage Friday evening, Oct. 28 in New Salem Lutheran Church by Rev. Fred Schroeder, pastor of Berne Lutheran Church, Pigeon.

Patricia A. Sharpsteen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Sharpsteen and Albert T. Donahue were united in marriage Saturday evening in Sebewaing Assembly of God Church by Rev. H.O. Boese.

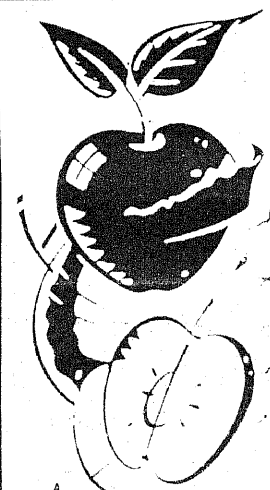
## 30 YEARS AGO NOV. 11, 1965

Mr. and Mrs. David Schaus and family returned recently from five years of missionary service in New Guinea.

Scheurer Hospital of Pigeon is negotiating for purchase of the hospital building, a transaction for which the non-profit corporation

Please turn to Page 35

# Just In Time For The Holidays We Make - U Bake PIE SALE



Over 3,000 Apple Crunch Pies are being hand prepared in a joint project by the Pigeon Rotary Club & Bluewater Thumb Youth for Christ to raise money for Community Youth Projects.

**To Place Your Order**

**CALL 453-3239**

or Contact Any Pigeon Rotarian, YFC Staffer or Teen or Fill out the Form Below

Deadline: Monday, Dec. 4th  
Pie Pickup: Saturday, Dec. 9th from 10 to 3 at Thumb National Bank Lobby in Pigeon

## Bluewater Thumb YFC - Pigeon Rotary Club 4th Annual We Make - U Bake Pie Sale

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
No. of Pies \_\_\_\_\_ x \$6.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

The pies are unbaked and packaged to be frozen for use whenever you choose. Baking instructions included.  
**Pie Pickup: Saturday, Dec. 9th ~ 10 to 3 at TNB, Pigeon**  
Deadline by Monday Dec. 4, 1995 Drop this form off or mail with payment to:  
**Bluewater Thumb YFC  
7484 W. Michigan Ave.  
Pigeon, MI 48755**

# GIVE TO A CHILD

Through the  
**Giving Tree**

To participate, visit our Bay Port or Pigeon office and

- 1) Select a gift tag from our "Giving Tree."
- 2) Purchase and wrap a gift for the child you've chosen, & place it under our tree with the tag on by Saturday, December 18th.
- 3) You will receive a gift of appreciation from us.

Your Thoughtfulness Is Appreciated.

## BAY PORT STATE BANK

Member F.D.I.C.

9840 Main St., Bay Port • 517-656-2231  
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★ Coming Soon...796 N. Van Dyke, Bad Axe ★



# Sebewaing Library Corner

## THANKS FOR LIBRARY DONATIONS

Thank you for remembering the Sebewaing Township Library during the holidays and all year.

Did you know it pays to give to your library?

Many of you give generously to the library through memorials and donations. These gifts benefit you, your family and your community. Your gift — large or small — will be a big help to the library at little cost to you.

Contribute before Dec. 31 and reduce your taxes. Donations are used to purchase books, library equipment, children's services and periodical subscriptions.

The library has greatly appreciated the continued support of the community through your gifts.

How to contribute? Checks may be sent to the Sebewaing Township Library, 41 N. Center, P.O. Box 627, Sebewaing, MI 48759 or they may be turned in at the library during regular hours.

## WHAT'S NEW AT THE SEBEWAING LIBRARY?

**JUNIOR:** Disney's Pocahontas; Clown-Arounds-Cole; Killer in the House-Carroll; Teeny Weeny Zucchini-Delton; Halloween Party-Jakab; Turkey That Ate My Father-Mamey; Karen's Monsters-Martin; Kristy's Big Day-Martin; Welcome the BSC, Abby-Martin; Stacey and the Haunted Masquerade-Martin; Claudia and the 1st Thanksgiving-Martin; Karen's Turkey Day-Martin; Fright Night-Packard; Evil Elizabeth-Pascal; Halloween War-Pascal; Deadly Voyage-Pascal; Save the Turkey-Pascal; Secret Path-Pike; Howling Ghost-Pike; Haunted Mask 2-Stine; Deadly Fire-Stine; Attack of the Aqua

Apes-Stine; Stepsister 2-Stine; Mystery Bookstore-Wamer.

**FICTION:** Southern Exposure-Adams; Wicked-Maquire; Crossing Guard-Rabe; Enigma-Harris; Puerto Vallarta Squeeze-Waller; Love Me Forever-Lindsey; Blue Lonesome-Pronzino; Powder River-Ballas; Cripple Creek Sarsbird-Dalton; Jinglebob Man-Kammen; Shadow of the Gun-Quarles; Elizabeth by Name-Cook.

**NON-FICTION:** Illustrated Rules of Baseball-Healy; Bully Father-Roosevelt; Teenagers With ADD-Zeigler; Overcoming Chronic Fatigue-Chopra; Chicken Soup for the Soul Cookbook; Stories and Recipes-Canfield; Boston Stranglers: The Wrongful Conviction-Kelly; Wild Animals of North America; After All-Moore; Praying: My Soul's Adventure With God-Schuller; Coin World Guide to U.S. Coins Prices.

**VIDEOS:** Free Willy II; Gordy; History & Pioneers of Sebewaing 1853-1953 "The First 100 Years"; Apollo 13; Power Rangers: The Movie.



**SEE THE REINDEER!** Several hundred people watched Pigeon "come aglow" Friday night, at the new Thumb National Bank Mini Park in Downtown Pigeon. The tree-lighting ceremony followed a display of Nativity animals, including several reindeer, shown here. Winners of children's toy prizes on Sunday included: Brandon Damm, Emily Bailey, Adam Damm, Dan Sting, Kate Gettel, Chase Webber and Cody Graf, all of Pigeon; Paige Funk of Clarkston; Kayla Smithers of Elkton, and Kelsey Fritz of Bay Port. Santa drawings will continue Saturdays, Dec. 2, 9 & 16 at 3 p.m. for children, sponsored by the Pigeon Chamber of Commerce.

*The portraits were hung by the chimney with care, in hopes that the holiday feeling would always remain there.*

As your family celebrates this holiday season, preserve the precious memories with a professional portrait.

Call or visit our studio to make an appointment to capture your family's special moment in time.

**GREEN'S PHOTOGRAPHY and FRAMING**  
749 NORTH VAN DYKE • BAD AXE • 517/269-6084  
HOURS: Tues. - Fri. 9 to 5:30 • Saturday 9 to 3

## Pigeon Lumber & Supply Company's Hand & Electric Tool Sale

**Hand Tools 20% off**

**Sale Until December 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Electrical Tools 5% off**

### Pigeon Lumber & Supply Co. Inc.

VISA MasterCard Pigeon Don Dast, Manager 517-453-2412

Talk of the Thumb!

## Thumb Cellular

# Helps you ring in the Holidays!

With **FREE** calls for **ALL** Thumb Cellular customers! Make your calls and airtime is **FREE** ALL day Christmas Eve and Christmas Day!

With the **NEW** Motorola Contour Phone for only **\$39\*!**

With **The Thumb Cellular Guarantee!** If you are not completely satisfied within 90 days of activation, get your money back...**No hassle!**

With a donation to Toys for Tots! Bring in a new unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots, and we'll match it!

Call 1-800-443-5057 in Mich., or see an authorized agent.  
15 South Main Street, Pigeon • Above Main Street Cafe • M-F 8-5 • (517) 453-4333  
1103 East Caro Road, Caro • Near Dairy Queen • M-F 8:30-5 • (517) 673-4303

\*Certain restrictions apply.

Ron Johnston, Account Executive 517-558-8552  
 AUTHORIZED AGENTS  
 1110-544-5552  
 LeAnne Truitt, Harbor Leanne (517) 359-5224  
 Patsy's Book Shack-Bad Ax 617-269-9311  
 Thumb Radio & TV-Bad Ax (517) 269-6120  
 Key Radio/Video (517) 448-2300  
 Richard, TV-Caro (517) 673-7223

# Christmas around the world...

## BRAZIL

The Christmas fiesta season is solemnly heralded by an open air mass at midnight on Christmas Eve. Under the brilliant tropical sky, in midsummer weather, a colorful altar is set up in the Cathedral churchyard, where the worshippers reverently pray and chant religious hymns in a fiesta atmosphere of banners and religious trappings.

After devotions, the families have Christmas Eve supper in their homes.

## CHINA

Christmas in China is the climax of many days of Lenten preparation. Before church on Christmas Eve, the people dress in their most colorful costumes, carry their best lanterns and parade up and down the winding streets singing Christmas carols to the accompaniment of the mandolin.

This singing is stopped by the burst of firecrackers announcing midnight mass, at which time the people yearly recognize the gift of the trust of children.

Chinese children call their tree the "Tree of Light" instead of a

Christmas tree. Their tree has no candle but is decorated with brilliant paper flowers, colored paper chains and cotton snowflakes.

## SWEDEN

St. Lucia, dressed in white with a brilliant red sash about her waist, and wearing an astonishing crown of pine boughs haloed with the light of seven candles, awakens the members of the household by bringing them coffee and cakes on a tray, thereby proclaiming the arrival of the Christmas Season on Dec. 13.

## Here are some more ways to help others...

■ Thumb National Bank & Trust Co. is continuing its tradition of a "Giving Tree" at its Pigeon location. Persons interested in helping Santa provide gifts for needy area children are invited to pick a tag off the tree and purchase a gift, then return it wrapped in time for Christmas giving on Dec. 20. Last year's Giving Tree helped about 16 families and 47 children.

■ Thumb Cellular is again sponsoring its Toys for Tots program. Just bring in a wrapped toy to any Thumb Cellular location.

■ Bay Port State Bank, at both its Pigeon and Bay Port locations, is offering customers a chance to help the less fortunate this Christmas season with their own "Giving Tree." People can pick a tag off the tree and return a wrapped gift by Saturday, Dec. 18.

A belief of Sweden is that ancestors come back to their former homes on Christmas Eve; and so, according to tradition, the living behave as intruders for the night.

— COMPILLED BY SARAH RUMMEL

## Memories

Continued from Page 33 has been preparing for the past two years.

### 20 YEARS AGO NOV. 13, 1975

This week's edition of the Blade-Crescent was printed in the spacious new home of Thumb Web-Offset, just southwest of Caro at 1521 W. Caro Rd.

At a double-ring ceremony conducted in Immanuel Lutheran Church, Sebewaing, Saturday, Oct. 4, Sally Schweitzer was united in marriage to James Brandenburg.

### 10 YEARS AGO NOV. 12, 1985

Sugar beets are 90% finished in Sebewaing and activities are moving to corn harvesting.

Trinity U.M. Church Bazaar-Bake Sale is Nov. 23.

Repeating her drive to help raise money for Huron County Unit of American Cancer Society, Sally Beers of Sebewaing raised \$1,540 by raising and selling mung plants this fall.

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Closed Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>



# Thanks A Million!

## If the shoe fits, don't let anyone know

DEAR MR. ROSS:

I'm 40 and live alone. I never sleep well at night because of the heat in this low income apartment. However, my dreams are very positive. I want to be a TV talk show host.

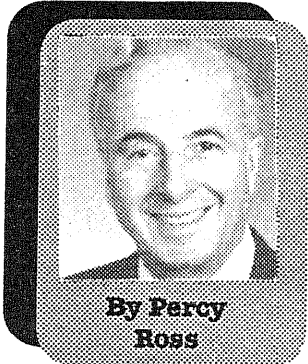
My goal is to interview celebrities who have made an impact in my life. I want to do what I enjoy and I enjoy talking with high-energy, creative-minded people.

I'm employed and earn about \$300 a week for my labor. However, common jobs aren't right for me. You see, I have outgrown them. Also, I have outgrown most of the people I work around.

Mr. Ross, it will be easier to sleep at night if I have work suited for my personality. Will you please help me become a TV talk show host? P.S. Please reply before May 28, 1997. — Mr. P. W., Honolulu, HI

Dear Mr. W.:

Your letter is either (a) a gag, (b) the by-product of your insomnia or (c) the symptom of a functional mental illness. The irony is, if it's all the above, you'd probably make



By Percy Ross

an excellent TV talk show host.

Although there's nothing I can do to help, a good psychologist or casting director can probably steer you in the right direction.

\$\$\$\$\$\$

DEAR MR. ROSS:

Same song, different verse. That's the story with my attempts at weight loss. I'm a single parent of two young girls. I work full-time and am very proud I'm not on welfare.

I receive no child support because the father of my girls is basically a low-lying boozier. We split up before my second baby was born. Now back to the real problem.

After the girls were born I

had acquired post-pregnancy chunkiness and no matter what diet I try, I fail.

My supervisor at work has convinced me that the only way to lose weight is through proper diet and exercise. I can't join a gym because that would mean more time away from my kids.

For where I'm at right now, an exercise machine in my apartment would make the most sense. If you'll provide me with \$200 for the machine, I'll supply the motivation it takes to get on it every day. — Ms. D. K., Virginia, MN

Dear Ms. K.:

DiETING does not mean a crash course in food reduction. It should be a lifestyle change, whereby you eat sensibly and take pounds off over time.

And yes, exercise is very important in weight loss and it also helps to tone muscle. In time, not only will you feel great, but you're going to look great. My \$200 is on the way, along with my best wishes for maintaining a positive approach toward life.

\$\$\$\$\$\$

MR. ROSS:

Please overlook any mistakes I might make as I have never done this before. I'm 62 years old and have two sons. I'm separated from my husband who is an alcoholic.

One of my sons has a bone disease and is not able to work. He lives with me.

I work a full-time and a part-time job to support us and my son receives Social Security disability. The problem is he mentally and physically abuses me.

When he started getting disability he got a large sum of money. He let me have enough to pay some back taxes I owed.

He never let me forget it. I

need enough money to get a place to live and get my power turned on.

The way I get paid I can never save enough to make a deposit, plus make monthly rent.

I would like a loan of \$500 to get set up I'm not on drugs or alcohol. I work seven days a week and have been on one job for 22 years and the other for 17 years.

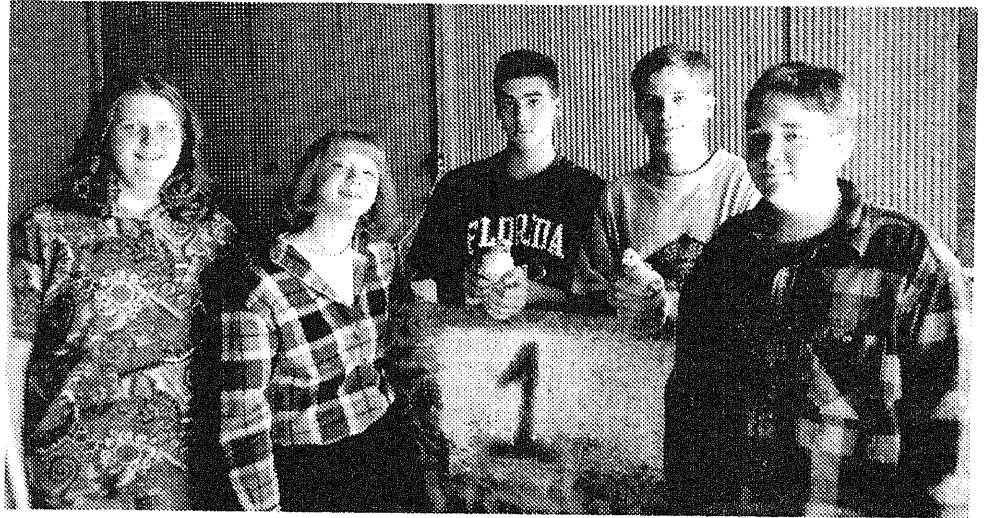
— Mrs. N. W., Charlotte, NC

Dear Mrs. W.:

Given your concerns in life, I can't help but think a drink before bedtime would do you more good than hindrance. Independent living sounds like an excellent idea, especially because you'll be away from the abuse.

Take the \$500 I'm sending and get yourself into a safe haven. And remember what I said about a little nip before bedtime. It's just one of the things in life you're missing.

\$\$\$\$\$\$



LAKER FFA FRESHMEN are raising chickens this year for the Michigan State University Poultry Contest. This year they have 150 broilers and 30 Cornish Game Hens.

This Friday, Dec. 1, Lakers will take 43 different groups of chickens down to MSU, where they will be judged on weight, feed efficiency and composition in competition with FFA chapters from all over the state of Michigan.

Don Wheeler is the Laker FFA advisor.

AMY HEIDEN PHOTO

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