Redding

Bobbi Bainum

Gary and Linda Hosfield went to the lighted Christmas parade, library open house and the Poe Hollow lights on Saturday night in Mount Ayr.

Connie Allen has been helping Gladys Jones with chores and shopping this week.

Ginny Quick helped at the Worth County R-III Elementary School (Grant City, Mo.) on Tuesday and then went out for lunch with retired teachers to the Dusty Cowgirl restaurant. She went to the Garden Club Christmas party in Afton on Friday and to the lighted Christmas parade in Mount Ayr on Saturday night and had supper at the Christian church.

Get well wishes are sent out to Dale Walkup who has a broken ankle due to a fall.

Bobbi Bainum had lunch and visited with Lena Hunt and Ian Hargrave on Friday.

Senior Citizen Activity Center

Definitely a cold December day. Everything uptown is very festive for the Holidays. The lighted poles, the Old-Fashioned Christmas Cards in the courtyard, the Shelter House decorations and the big tree. It takes a lot of work to get all of this ready for our community's enjoyment. We have Chamber, Ringgold Outdoor Alliance and many individuals in other organizations and privately help with this every year. Take time to thank them and appreciate their efforts.

We had our Steering Committee meeting this morning at 10:30 a.m. We are having our annual New Years Party on December 31 from 1 to 5 p.m. We are going to try the afternoon instead of the evening to hopefully increase our attendance. Hopefully if people do not have to be out on the road after dark, more will attend. The Senior Center will provide food. Just come and enjoy social time with your friends.

December 9, is usually our Potluck. We're canceling the Potluck, but will have Bingo at 2 p.m.

Wednesday, December 10, at 6:30 p.m. is the Safe Harbor Grief Group meeting. The Holidays are very difficult for so many that are needing support through this season. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Closure schedule for the Holidays. Closed December 24-26 for Christmas. Closed January 1 for New Years. December 31 is our New Years Party from 1 to 5 p.m. Let me know if you are attending, so we'll have plenty of food/snacks. Call 641-344-9985 or sign up at the Senior Center.

Library Leafings

Mary Kathryn Gepner

The Library and the Community celebrated "Christmas in the Ayr," on Saturday, December 6. Despite the challenges of the weather, a large number of people attended the celebration which included "A Very Special Vintage Christmas" baked potato supper sponsored by the First Christian Church, the tree lighting of the festive and beautifully decorated community Christmas tree, a "Tour of Trees" and Santa and Mrs. Claus in the Courthouse. The highlight of the celebration was the lighted Christmas parade.

For a number of adult watchers, the place to be was the library — where you could watch the parade in comfort and sip a cup of Bobbi's delicious hot cider. The library was open from 5 to 7 p.m., serving hot cider and a variety of Christmas goodies.

Thanks to Bobbi for making and serving the cider and thanks to Bobbi and the Board members for supplying the goodies. I have it on good authority (from the children) that the library has the best Christmas goodies. At least 82 people (adults and children) signed the library's guest book. This event gives us the opportunity to showcase this beautiful and historic Carnegie Library and to thank the community for their continued support.

New to the Library in large print fiction: "Exit Strategy," a Jack Reacher novel by Lee Child and "The Boxcar Librarian," by Brianna Labuskes, a Depression era mystery about a librarian who used a converted mining car to bring books to isolated Montana communities. Thanks to Mary Jane Thompson for donating this book.

Coffee With The Girls

Linda Bell

News from Clearfield

I couldn't get out on Monday to get this to Kristen at the bank; she sends it to Lenox and Mount Ayr for me. My chimney had deep snow on it and at the end of the driveway, the snowplow had left big boulders of snow. For the first snow of winter, we sure got it.

Thursday and Friday nights, did you see the moon? I learned it was called the cold moon, and it was huge, white and cold.

There will be a live Nativity scene at the Methodist Church this Sunday. Also, an auction and soup supper. It's always a lot of fun. Santa will make a visit there.

They got the decorations up on Main Street, so I guess we are ready for Christmas. Every community it seems has an event of some kind to celebrate Christmas; so, you could go to one every weekend for sure, and Santa is surely busy. I heard he will be in Clearfield on December 20 — more details later.

Closing with "I've learned that a good friend is better than a therapist."

Hickory Grove

Vickie Jeanes

Linda Hesse from Norwalk spent Saturday to Monday with Rose James. On Sunday evening, Rose, Linda, and Joe, Lindsey, Adrian and Joslyn Catanzareti were supper guests with Joe and Susie Catanzareti to celebrate the birthdays of Rose James and Adrian Catanzareti.

Walt and Beverly McGinnis enjoyed "Christmas in the Village" in Allendale, Mo. on Sunday night. They reported a good crowd and very good food at the soup supper.

Joshua and Emerie Waske were supper guests with Jo Kaye Shields and Cricket Waske on Wednesday night. Jo Kaye joined Jake Dailey, Diane Wood, Alyce Mattis, Lisa Jackson, Jeff and Brenda Woody and Joshua Waske for supper at Rumors on Thursday evening. Jo Kaye accompanied Pete and Amy Shields to the JV and varsity boys' games at Martensdale-St Mary's on Friday night. Jo Kaye, Cricket and Joshua Waske went to Bethany, Mo. for lunch at Toot Toot and shopping on Sunday. In the evening, Diane Wood and Jo Kaye went to the Christmas program at Wishard Chapel. Maggie and Riley Waske were participants in the program. On Thursday, Cricket went to her granddaughter Riley's ballgame.

Charlie and Vickie Jeanes took his sister, Pat Hunt, to Des Moines for medical appointments on Thursday and Monday.

Mount Ayr Health Care Center

Wow! How we have enjoyed the snow, fully thankful we don't have to get out in it. We have been staying warm indoors and busy with activities.

Monday started with Trivial Pursuit. Bingo filled the afternoon. Winners for Monday include Teresa Buchanan, Linda Jackson, Sue Hall, Jo Ann Maguire, Irene Freeman, Mary Owens and Jerry Trenkle. Blackout winners were Leland Jones and Margaret Hulse with a tie. Phyllis Sickels joined in for the fun and help things run smoothly.

Kickball filled our Tuesday morning, helping us move and stretch. We started a new book for Iowa Stories called It Happened in Iowa. It is several short stories of things starting as early as 1788. Seth Denney then joined us to lead us in Bible Study.

On Wednesday church was led by Tim Maxa. Camille Jackson played the piano to accompany us singing. Nails were painted after lunch. And we read the Record News to keep up on what is happening in our community.

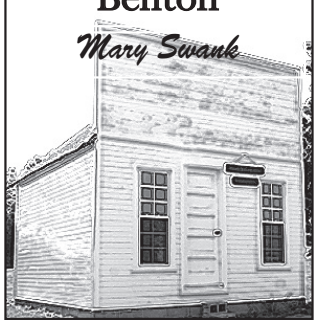
The beautician was here on Thursday refreshing several people's hair. We read more from our book, It Happened in Iowa. Bingo finished off the afternoon. Winners for Thursday were Jo Ann Maguire, Leland Jones, Loren Winemiller, Linda Jackson and Margaret Hulse. Teresa Buchanan was our blackout winner.

We tried Word Ladder for the first time on Friday. Being new, we struggled a bit learning the idea, but we will definitely be trying it again. And to finish the week, we got our tree up. It is so enjoyable to sit and look at the lights. Now we can consider ourselves ready for Christmas.

That completes our week here at our home. We hope our family and friends stay healthy, happy, and safe. And we hope to see you soon.

Benton

Mary Swank



Mike Gepner and Mary Kathryn Gepner went to Creston shopping on Wednesday.

Cathy Kilgore was a Friday visitor of Ann Baker.

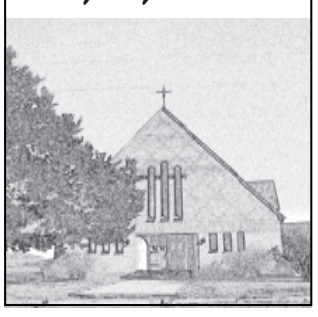
Saturday night, the Mt. Ayr Public Library was open during Christmas in the Ayr. Lots of treats and homemade apple cider were served.

Richard Swank visited several times during the week with Junior and Mary Swank.

Sunday, Mary Kathryn Gepner and Kay and Don Hove attended church at Mt. Ayr First United Methodist Church.

Maloy

Joan Jackson



Joe and Donna Warin attended a 60th birthday party for Steve Jennett at his home on Saturday night.

Dick and Joyce Weehler gained another great-grandchild Sunday. Asher James Heilman was born early Sunday morning. The little guy is welcomed by parents James Heilman and Allison Marks of Grinnell. Proud grandmother is Becky Weehler Heilman of Swisher.

Melanie Jackson and Linda Murphy went to Des Moines Thursday to watch the Sparks dance team compete at the state contest. Their niece and granddaughter is a member of the team. Kevin and Melanie took in an early Christmas by attending a concert in Kansas City on Saturday.

Joan Jackson went to Maryville Sunday to attend the Christmas program at the Laura Street Baptist Church. Her grandson, Seager, was in the choir and had a part in the pageant.

Brian Terrell is traveling in the Holy Land. On Sunday, he went to Mass at the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. He is traveling with a group of American peace folks hosted by a Palestinian ecumenical Center.

County Dems donate to Matura

Pictured Left to Right Chuck Estrada, Martha Landphair, Lynne Wallace, Joana Putvain, Jim Uhlenkamp. Front l-r Amanda Hanisch, Mary Estrada

On Monday, November 17, the Ringgold County Democrats donated a check for $1,000 to the Matura Neighborhood Center. The donated funds were raised with the help of the community through support of the Ringgold County Democrats' bake sales. The Matura Neighborhood Center serves between 100-150 families in the community each month.

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