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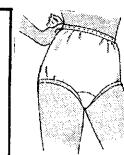


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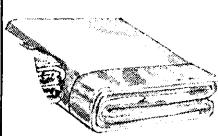
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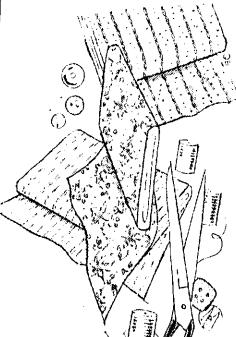


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Spool Thread

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Denim 45" wide

WE HAVE A COMPLETE LINE OF SEWING NOTIONS.

Never too old to learn — Lillian Otulakowski, 82, goes to school

One is never to old to

Just ask Lillian Otulakowski, age 82.

Thursday evenings she can be found in Mark Witczak's Polish Language and Culture class at Cass City High School.

The class, sponsored by the Cass City Community Education Department and Saginaw Valley State College's Institute of Polish Studies ran for eight weeks starting Feb. 7 and was renewed for a second eight

weeks, starting April 24.
Admittedly, Mrs. Otulakowski isn't learning a lot in the class, because she already knows a lot. She was born in Poland and still speaks, reads and writes Polish fluently. "I just like to go back and learn a little bit more," she said.

The class marks the first time she has been in a schoolroom since she left her native Poland in December, 1912, when she was 14, and came to Detroit,

Her parents had preceded her, leaving her and her two brothers with their grandparents. After their father died, their mother had them come live with her.

When her parents left Poland, she was only four or

five. When she and her city, and Stanley, St. Clair brothers, who were younger, arrived in Detroit on the train from New York, they only had a photograph with which to identify their mother, who met them. She, in turn, did not know what her children looked like.

Mrs. Otulakowski's two sisters born to her parents here before their other children arrived live in Detroit. The other sister is deceased.

MRS. OTULAKOWSKI, whose maiden name was Gorecki, was almost 17 when she was married for the first time. Her husband was killed four years later in an automobile accident.

By then, she was the mother of two children. Stella Leszczynski, who lives in Detroit, and Leo Leszczynski, of Sterling Heights.

During this period, she worked in a cigar factory and later as a parts press operator in an auto body

In 1926, she married William Otulakowski, a widower with two children, one of whom is living, in Detroit.

They had five children

together, Richard, now living in Detroit, Eugene, Cass

'Foreigners' in Polish class

Who takes a class in Polish language and culture?

Perhaps surprisingly, the majority are not of Polish According to class in-structor, Mark Witezak,

about 40 percent of those enrolled are of Polish de-

The first 8-week session, which began Feb. 7, had 40 students. The second 8-week session, which started April 24, had a little less than half that number.

Those attending the first time came from Cass City, Ubly, Harbor Beach, Port Austin, Bad Axe, Elkton, Caro, Fairgrove, Decker, Kinde, Sebewaing, Deford and Oak Beach.

As for why they took the class, the reasons varied. One consideration of students who are of Polish descent, of course, was

learning something about their heritage. One first-session student has already gone on a trip to Poland. Others were planning visits, including some as part of a church mission

A nurse employed at a nursing home wanted to be able to converse with elderly residents who only speak Polish, A doctor wanted to be able to talk to his Polish-

speaking patients. Witczak, a special education instructor in the Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port Schools, immigrated to this country from Poland at age 12. He still has a brother and relatives living there.

money gift

the Cass City Business and Professional Women's Club and two guests attended the May 21 meeting. Frances Kloc is a new member.

During the business meeting, President Mable Wright vention in Lansing. Announcement was made of presentation of a certificate to the club from the state and national organizations. recognizing the local club as sponsors of the new Bay

area club. read from Tammie McKee, Kelley Hall and Anna Osentoski for the scholarships awarded by the club.

Nina Davis reported on the bike-a-thon to raise money for St. Jude's Hospital, to which the local club had made a contribution.

Verna Mae MacRae was in charge of installation of officers for the coming year. Antoinette Stachura will be the new president.

The June meeting will The class is sponsored by feature a polluck meal.

lege Institute of Polish Studies. Local business

the Cass City Community Education Department and

Saginaw Valley State Col-

club receives

Twenty-four members of

reported on the state conthe gift of money and the

"Thank you" notes were

General Telephone honors employees

General Telephone Co. recognized 46 employees for their years of service with the company at a banquet

The service recognition banquet for the company's northeastern division was held at the Davison Country Club. Bob Kowalski, division

manager, served as master

of ceremonies. Together, the 46 employees have 585 years of telephone industry experience

at General Telephone. Those honored from the Cass City area for 15 years with the company were Iva Webb, Cemetery Road; Greg Thompson, Brenda Drive, and Ray Garety, Bay City-Forestville Road.

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Shores, and two daughters. Pat (Mrs. Joe) Walsh, Ubly, and Lillian (Mrs. Evans) Gibbard, Cass City. Mrs. Otulakowski also has 33

grandchildren. She and her late husband, also born in Poland, moved brothers and one of two here from Detroit in 1944, settling on a farm south of Cass City. He had grown up on a farm in Poland and her father had farmed and operated a water-powered grain mill. William Otulakowski died in 1969." We liked to be

grandchildren and 12 great-

on a farm," she explained. IT WAS HER DAUGHter, Lillian Gibbard, who had the idea to take the

Polish class at the high school and persuaded her mother to also take it.

Mrs. Otulakowski points out with pride that all of her children have at least some knowledge of Polish, although most can only read

Although instructor Witczak spent the first 12 years of his life in Poland, occasionally Mrs. Otulakowski lends him an assist. "I'm that old, but I still remember from my younger years and everything," she explained.

She has never been able to fulfill one dream of hers, to go back to her native country for a visit. She does

correspond occasionally with cousins who still live there and reads newspapers and other materials printed

in Polish. If she did go back to Poland, she doubts that she would recognize anything She also believes that the local or regional accents that existed there when she grew up have disappeared

She is, incidentally, especially proud of one Pole, A photograph of Pope John Paul II hangs in her kitchen.

As for whether she might take another class once the Polish class is finished, she replied, "If my daughter will, maybe I will. I really enjoy it."



POLISH STUDIES -- The Polish Language and Culture class Lillian Otulakowski (left) is taking is the first subject she has studied in school since leaving Foland in 1912. Next to her is her daughter, Lillian Gibbard. At right is Frances Kloc.

Restitution ordered

Place Hagood on probation

James Hagood was sent- April 11 at Veronica's Resenced Tuesday for malicious taurant, Cass City. destruction of property under \$100, in connection side Drive, Cass City,

160 attend

One hundred and sixty attended the mother-daughter banquet Friday evening in the fellowship hall at the Novesta Church of Christ. The meal was served by the

men of the church. The theme of the program was "A Garden of Memor-

Guests were welcomed by Mrs. Vern Lockard. The tribute to mothers was given tribute to daughters by her mother, Mrs. Harold Little.

Guest speaker was Mrs.

Hagood, 21, of 5163 Lakewith an attempted break-in pleaded guilty in district court May 9 to the charge, in a plea bargain agreement with the prosecution. He was originally charged with atladies' banquet tempted breaking and enter-

> District Judge Richard F. Kern Monday placed the defendant on probation, assessed \$100 costs and ordered him to pay \$52 resti-

If Hagood complies with all provisions of his sentence and probation, the charge against him may be dismissed in a year.

He was arrested by village police early April 11 after an by Suzanne Little and the officer discovered four windows at the restaurant had been broken.

By the time some folks get Jane Henderson of Kalready to work, it's too late.

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