



**Merry Christmas**  
To the young and young-at-heart. Our holiday wishes... heartfelt appreciation.  
**HILLSIDE BARBER SHOP**  
Cass City



**THE TABLES AND CHAIRS** these Cass City Pre-School Nursery students are using were paid for with a \$175 donation to the nursery from the Cass City Jaycees. The adults are Jaycees President Jim Turner and Pre-School Nursery President Susan Chappel.



We'd like to say thank you for your graciousness in all our dealings and for the opportunity to be of service.

**Have a Great Holiday**

**L & S Standard Service**  
6553 Main Phone 872-2342

**Tradition of kissing under the mistletoe is of Druidic origin**

The quaint and agreeable custom of kissing under the mistletoe has its origins in ancient Celtic tradition.

In ancient Britain, mistletoe was regarded by the Druids as a sacred and mysterious plant. It was the symbol of life and the sun, protector against disease, and, some believed, an aphrodisiac.

Each year at the winter solstice, the Arch Druid and his fellow priests would perform elaborate rites which centered around the mistletoe.

These forest worshippers would gather in the woods to seek out the oak tree upon which grew the most mistletoe. Clad in white robes, the Arch Druid climbed the tree until he reached a bough laden with the semi-parasitic plant.

He next cut the plant with a golden sickle, being careful not to let the sacred branch fall to the ground.



Some legends have it that he caught the branch in his flowing white robes; others hold that it was caught by virgins holding a white cloth at the base of the tree.

With great celebration, and prayer to the gods, the branch was divided among the Druids as a symbol of peace and prosperity. The people then took the

mistletoe home to hang over their doors, as it was believed to ward off evil spirits and to ensure fertility.

It is not clear how the actual custom of kissing under the mistletoe evolved, although it is believed to have stemmed from the Druids' belief in its powers of fertility.

According to tradition, each time a young maiden happens beneath the mistletoe whether it's suspended from a chandelier or hanging in a doorway, a lad may claim a kiss from her.

For each kiss claimed, a berry is picked off the plant and given to the maid; once all the berries are plucked, there is no more kissing. And, the hapless young maid who receives neither kiss nor berry will not marry that year.

**Flare used to extinguish chimney fire**

Elkland township firemen Friday night for the first time used a carbon dioxide flare to extinguish a chimney fire.

The fire, reported at 10:15, was at the home of Thomas Peruski on Maple Street at M Street. Creosote inside the chimney, which led to a Ben Franklin stove, had ignited.

Fire Chief Jack Hartwick said the flare is inserted inside the stove or fireplace, ideally close to the damper, and the carbon dioxide gases released smother the flames. The flares came on the market last year.

Smoke damage to the home was estimated at \$100.

**TIRED OF TURKEY? WHY NOT VARY HOLIDAY MENU?**

Are you tired of turkey? We begin to look forward to the big bird somewhere around October when the fall harvest of pumpkins, squashes and cranberries titillates our taste buds as we anticipate Thanksgiving.

We shoot our bolt on that last Thursday in November with a table that should rightly be called a groaning board.

Then, with Christmas shopping, decorating, parties and all the other preparations for the season, we give little thought to a Christmas feast that could be a shade different.

Not only is it traditional to present the turkey with all its trimmings, it's easier.

But, really, a crown roast of pork or lamb, stuffed in the center with its own ground meat, nuts and cranberries and decorated with spiced apples on each point, is not difficult to fix.

A German sauerbraten marinated in ginger snaps, an English standing roast of beef accompanied by Yorkshire pudding, a French breast of veal stuffed with ground pork, rice and olives may require a little more time, but each is well worth the effort.

Recipes for all these treats are available in any good basic cookbook.

For those whose families would go into shock without the traditional turkey and trimmings, throw them a curve on appetizer or dessert.

Try an elegant, light cream of watercress soup (canned chicken broth, watercress put through a food processor and a dash of nutmeg), a molded pate of beef, pork and liver, or a quiche made with Edam cheese and sliced tomatoes.

And, for that last sweet course, dispense with the pie and turn your pumpkin into a cinnamon-perfumed brandied flan (custard) or stack miniature cream puffs into a pyramid held together and drizzled with caramel syrup.

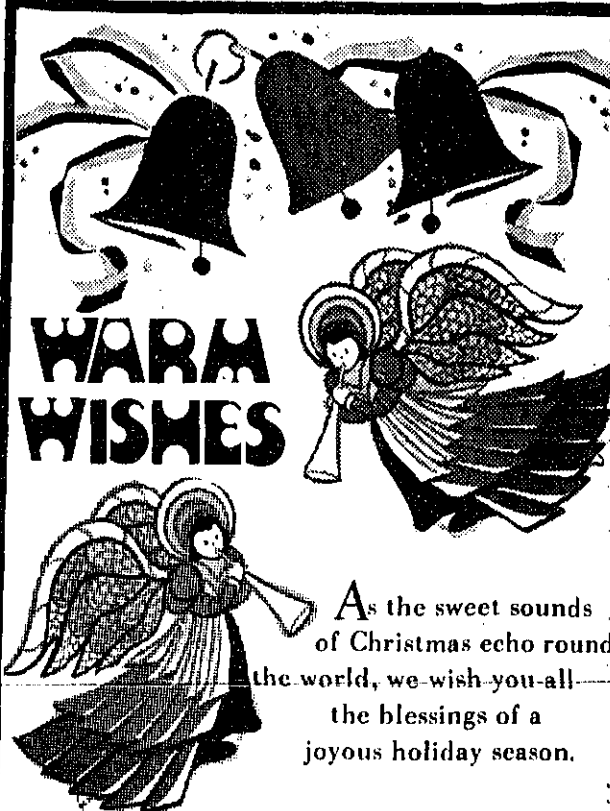
Surprise the family, a little or a lot—they just might love you for it.

**THE TWELVE DAYS TWO WAYS**

Quick, do you know what gifts were given on the twelve days of Christmas, according to the popular old song?

They are: a partridge in a pear tree, two turtle doves, three french hens, four colly birds, five golden rings, six geese a-laying, seven swans a-swimming, eight maids a-milking, nine pipers piping, ten drummers drumming, eleven lords a-leaping, and twelve ladies dancing.


Whew! According to *Christmas Customs and Traditions*, by Frank Muir, another version of the song, originating in Western France, counted out as the gifts: one boneless stuffing, two breasts of veal, three joints of beef, four pig's trotters, five legs of mutton, six partridges with cabbage, seven spitted rabbits, eight plates of salad, nine dishes for a chapterful of canons, ten full casks, eleven bosomy maidens, and twelve musketeers with their swords. Just try putting that to music!



**WARM WISHES**

As the sweet sounds of Christmas echo round the world, we wish you all the blessings of a joyous holiday season.

From All The Staff  
**Cass City Steel Supply, Inc.**  
Cass City



**PEACE ON EARTH**

May the radiance and gift of His love light your way to everlasting peace and contentment. Best wishes for a joyous Christmas.

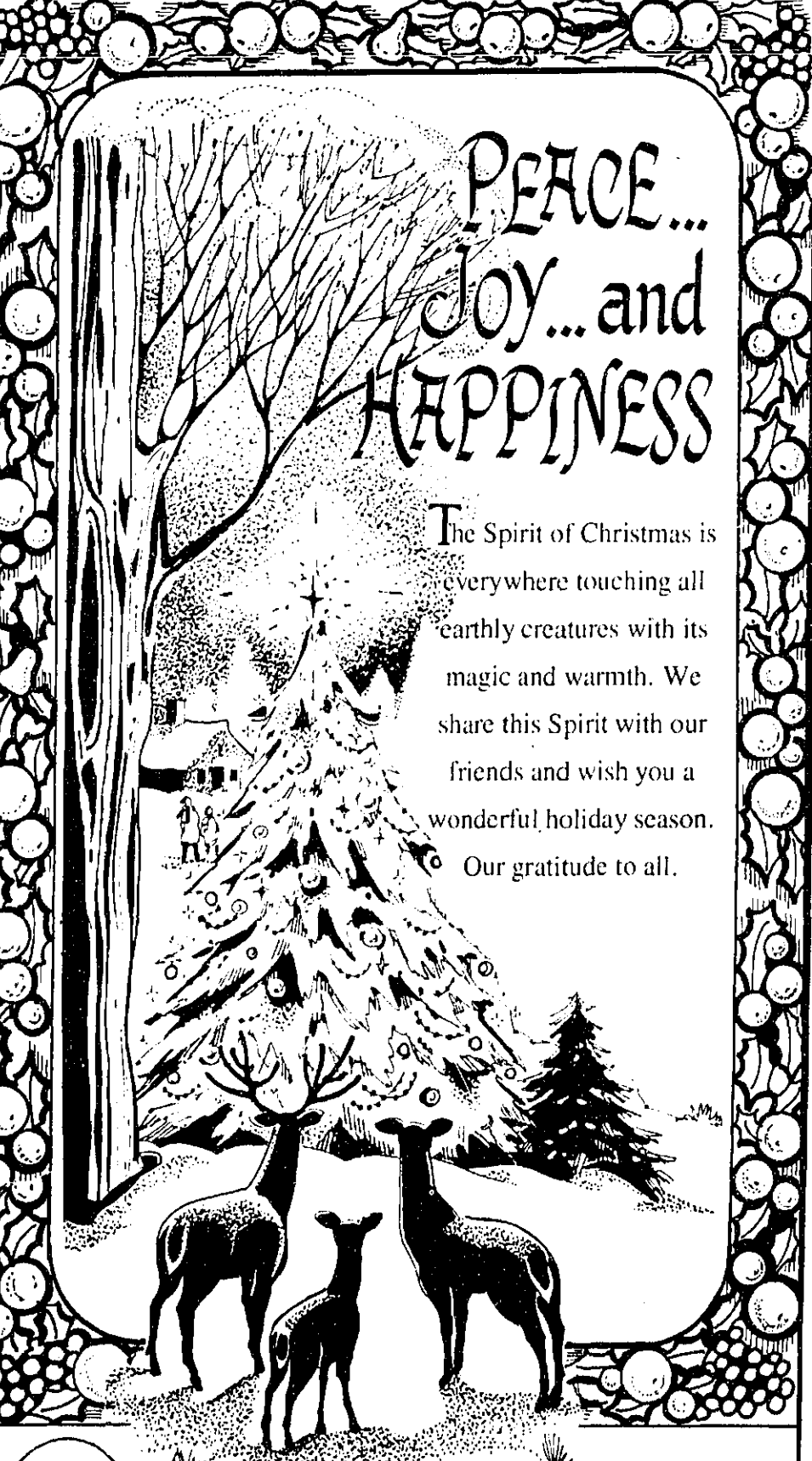
From The Family & Staff  
**MARTIN ELECTRIC**  
Cass City



**GREETINGS**

Glad voices ring out with every good wish for a glorious Yuletide. We chime in with our thanks.

**GEIGER-HUNT FORD, INC.**  
Cass City



**PEACE... Joy... and HAPPINESS**

The Spirit of Christmas is everywhere touching all earthly creatures with its magic and warmth. We share this Spirit with our friends and wish you a wonderful holiday season. Our gratitude to all.

**A FULL SERVICE BANK** FDIC

**THE PINNEY STATE BANK**  
Frederick H. Pinney, Robert Keating, Philip Keating, Jude Patnaude, Beverly Perry, Glennola Root, Don Greenleaf, Josephine Ardler, Karen Ouvry, Kris Wills, Melissa Toner, Ellen Schmidt, Marlene Langmaid, Marge Dickinson, Annette Pinney, Donna Adams, Marge Tuttle, Gladys Toner, Kelly Pobanz

**Fireplace or no fireplace, fill stockings with family favorites**

Whether or not you have a fireplace on which to hang them, one traditional Christmas treat that is a pleasure for all, is a row of Christmas stockings brimming with goodies.

However, for the Mr. or Mrs. Santa that sets about filling all those stockings, it may be more of a chore than a pleasure, as novel ideas for stocking stuffers are rapidly exhausted.

This year, why not try themed Christmas stockings?

For the family gourmet, stuff a stocking with delectable edibles from fine Swiss or Dutch chocolates through some hunks of favorite cheese through a small jar of imported caviar, and some packets of unusual tea. Top it all off, of course, with some chocolate balls wrapped in bright foil and a few candy canes.

If Mom is a sybarite, she might enjoy a stocking filled with pleasant scents. Slip in a

bottle of her favorite cologne, a bar of soap to match, perhaps body lotion in a new scent you think she'll like. To sweeten her dresser drawers, a few flower sachets might be in order and, to hang in her closet, a pomander ball.

A little boy who collects miniature autos, planes, etc., would certainly be thrilled to receive a stocking stuffed with additions to his collection.

A little girl whose pride and joy is her dollhouse would be tickled to find furniture and accessories for her miniature home in her stocking.

If Dad is a pipe smoker, stuff a stocking with several varieties of tobacco, his favorite plus some exotic types for him to try and, of course, a pack or two of pipecleaners.

Once you've begun, the possibilities are endless... for one of the merriest Christmas your family will ever celebrate.



**Merry Christmas**

The Friendship of those we serve is the Foundation of Our Progress

**HELEN'S BEAUTY SALON**

- Helen Agar
- Leota Anthes
- Mary Ann Opanasenko

6469 Main St., Cass City Phone 872-3535



Have a **Jolly Holiday**

The specialty of the house is our wonderful patrons! In your honor Santa's cooking up a special order of joy and contentment... with our compliments.

**Sherman's Restaurant**