



TERMINAL PROGRESS SLOW, BUT STEADY

“The weather and the holidays have definitely slowed down progress here on the Westby grain terminal,” stated Nancy Wassenaar of Vigen Construction. “I remember being here last year and pouring concrete a couple days after Christmas. We would never be doing that here this year!!!”

Also, according to Nancy, a very small crew has been working on the facility over the holidays. Eight of our people are still out celebrating with their families in Illinois, Texas, Mexico, Iowa, and Minnesota, but the entire crew is expected back to work on Jan 12th.

The finish work has been completed on the two offices (rooms located in the terminal, itself), the transitions in



This picture from September 2008 shows the construction still under way.

At that time, the engineers will have specifications on how to properly load each bin. First off, a couple of loads of grain will be dumped into the bins to run the "kanal system". This is the system designed to do the final cleanout of the bins. When this checks out, the exterior quadrant points will be re-recorded with the facility empty. They will then begin loading the end bins, opposite ends, opposite sides, 25% full. Followed by the center bins, opposite bins, opposite sides 25% full. All stice (middle) bins will be filled as desired, but also only at 25% full. The exterior quadrant points are again recorded. Now, they go to 50% full on all the bins, this time starting with the bins that are closest to the smallest amount of settlement and then filling the rest of the bins 50%, always

the pit have been finished as well as the indent separator (sizes the grain). Much of the cleaner has also been installed and both of the scales have already been calibrated. There is still about a month of work to do before the go ahead and instructions given on properly loading the facility.

making sure opposites are filled. Any settling that will occur needs to be done in a uniform measure; to allow the facility to settle evenly if it is going to settle at all. They finish by proceeding to 75% and 100% following the same measures.

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Randy's Restaurant

Chocolate & Vanilla Soft Serve



Chicken to go (potatoes included)
2 pc – Barrel 20 pc

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Randy & Bonnie Matzke Owners

We Serve Extra Lean
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MONDAY – Chicken Strip Dinner w/ coleslaw & fries
TUESDAY – Waffle Special
WEDNESDAY – Halibut, Shrimp or Walleye w/ baked potato, toast, choice of salad
THURSDAY – 2 pc Chicken or Pork Chop Dinner w/ baked potato, toast & salad
FRIDAY – Chicken Fried Steak w/ fries, toast & salad
SATURDAY – Hamburger Steak w/ baked potato, toast & choice of salad

Happy Holidays! Governor Brian Schweitzer and First Lady Nancy Schweitzer invited all Montana schoolchildren to make decorations for the 56 County Holiday Trees that adorn Montana's Capitol Building this December. Students from more than 100 classrooms responded, sending a wonderful array of creative and beautiful ornaments and garlands.

Below: Sheridan County's Christmas Tree decorated solely by students from Westby.



CHAFFEE

Martha Chaffee of Westby, Montana passed away at Sheridan Memorial Nursing home in Plentywood Saturday afternoon, December 27, 2008. Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Plentywood at 11:00 AM Tuesday, January 6 by Father Marcel Vogel. Interment will be in Plentywood Memorial Cemetery.

Martha was born June 23, 1915 in the Elkhorn Township, North Dakota just East of Westby. She was the second of seven children born to Olaf and Elisabeth Gunderson. Her dad was a section foreman for the Soo Line Railroad in Westby. Martha was preceded in death by her mom, dad and her sisters, Clara (Listoe) Bernice (Micheletti) and her four brothers, Oscar, Paul, Glen, and Roy. Her sister in law Doris Gunderson lives in Plentywood.

Their mother died when Martha was fifteen and she then quit school to take care of her younger brothers and sister. She met Norman (Nim) Chaffee and they were married on July 5th 1934 in Plentywood. Nim was a railroad worker and Martha worked as a bar tender and waitress in Whitetail and in Westby. She worked for Hugh and Cliff Meyer as a bar tender for 20 years. Hugh said that he never had a more reliable and hard worker and she was never a problem.

Martha and Nim had three children, Phyllis Sawrey, (Bob), Luella Meyer, (Charles) and Ronald (Bobbie). Luella and Ron live in California and Phyllis passed away a year ago from a brain tumor.

Nim died in 1976 and Martha has spent her time taking care of her friends that had grown old and needed help. She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, The Alter Society and was a member of the Senior Citizens group. She loved playing cards and visiting with her friends. She chose to continue to live in Westby to be with her friends even though all of her kids, grandkids, and great grandkids lived in California.

Martha had been a resident of the Sheridan Memorial Nursing home since January, 2002. Her friends, Beatie Petersen and Enid Kittleson were at her side when she passed away.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be made to the Sheridan Memorial Hospital Association.

Fulkerson Funeral Home of Plentywood has charge of arrangements.

Ron's daughter Rhonda wrote Ron an e-mail which proves just how important grand parents are. It is on page 7.

New Century Ag

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*Danny Moore
Westby Manager*

2008 Elementary Christmas Program



Elves—Jack Solberg & Zackery McCall



Jager Westgard as Santa



Some of the participants in the elementary Christmas program entitled "Santa's Holiday Hoedown."



Here we are well into the year of Twenty-o-nine, (Don't you like the sounds of that? Better than two thousand and nine, like something out of a futuristic sci-fi movie we've all been beamed to.) and if you are anything like me, by the time you read this the resolutions have been made, broken, and forgotten so no sense to dwell on them, but better to think about the excitement a new year brings with thoughts of a fresh start and new beginnings. A reprieve-the chance to start over with a clean slate. The desire to forget, if even for a moment, the housing crisis, the energy crisis, the economic crisis and whether the "big three" are going to make it, and dream of new possibilities. It may be thoughts of a new "you" in the form of a healthier lifestyle or a different hairstyle; maybe images of things to come - a lilac colored hillside bursting forth with crocuses- with the first sign of spring and the promise of new life we dare to believe things are going to be different (new, easier, better) in Twenty-o-nine. At the same time, we remember most of us have been truly blessed and are thankful for what we have rather than what we don't. As the old saying goes, "Be careful what you wish for...."

The thought of a new beginning is, however, what gets us through the long, ugly month of January which started out with a bang, weather wise, I might add and allows us to think about warmer weather and know, it may not be "just around the corner", but spring eventually will come.

We had a wonderful Christmas in Red Lodge and enjoyed every minute we were together. We had enough food to feed the entire community and will have to rethink the proportions before our next visit, but since that would be the only problem we encountered, I think it was quite a successful gathering. As for the recipes, I promised to share some of the best from our menu and decided to start with "Pizza Night" as they may give some inspiration for the upcoming Super Bowl festivities. The pizzas were all very good, but had to draw the line with these three.

Tomato Basil anything is always good and one of my favorite pizzas so I wanted to include it. Fresh basil makes you forget about the store bought tomatoes and the smell of the garlic cooking makes the juices start flowing way before the cooks ever ring the dinner bell.

TOMATO BASIL SQUARES

- 1 pkg refrigerated pizza crust
- 2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese
- ¼ cup grated fresh parmesan
- 2/3 cup mayo
- 2 Tbsp snipped fresh basil
- 1 garlic clove, pressed
- 4 plum tomatoes, sliced

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Roll pizza crust to fit pizza pan. Sprinkle with one cup of mozzarella cheese. Mix mayo, parmesan cheese, remaining mozzarella cheese, basil and garlic. Mix well. Slice tomatoes, arrange evenly over crust. Scoop cheese mixture over tomatoes and spread evenly over pizza. Bake 15-20 minutes or until crust is brown. Cut into squares, serve warm.

Now, I have to admit I had never had or heard of "Bisquits and Gravy pizza", but it was very, very good. A real hearty, man (and woman, too) pleaser. A great comfort food and perfect for these cold January nights. See what you think.

BISQUITS AND GRAVY PIZZA

- 1 pkg refrigerated pizza crust
- 1 pound pork sausage
- 3 strips of bacon
- ¼ cup flour
- 1-1 & 1/2 cups milk
- 8 ounces mozzarella cheese
- Salt and pepper

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Spread pizza crust to fit pizza pan. Par bake pizza crust 7-8 minutes or until crust is set. In large frying pan over med-hi heat, fry bacon until crisp, remove, cool and crumble. Add sausage and brown well, adding salt and pepper to taste. Push sausage to side of pan, reduce heat to med-low. Add flour to drippings in pan and stir to make roux. Gradually add milk and continue stirring, cook until thick and gravy is made. Add salt and pepper to taste. Spread sausage and gravy on crust. Sprinkle with crumbled bacon and cheese. Bake 15 minutes or until lightly browned. Slice and serve. 8 servings

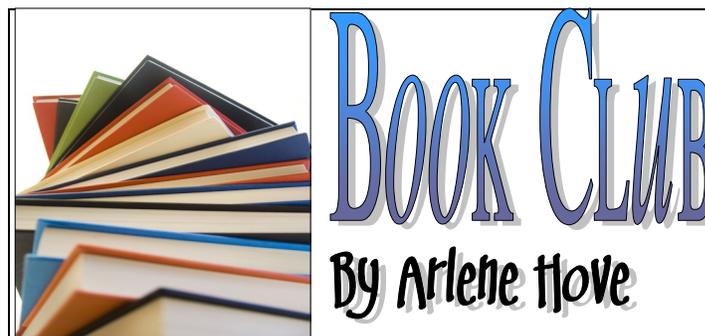
The dessert pizza we enjoyed was as eye appealing as it was tasty. A perfect finish to a wonderful night.

FRUIT TOPPED TRIPLE CHOCOLATE PIZZA



1 pkg refrigerated chocolate chip cookie dough
 2 squares (1oz each) whit baking chocolate
 2 Tbsp milk
 1-8oz pkg cream cheese
 ¼ cup powdered sugar
 1 cup frozen whipped topping, thawed
 Assorted fruit-strawberries, kiwi, raspberries, blueberries work well
 ¼ cup semi sweet chocolate chips
 1 tsp vegetable oil
 Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spread cookie dough to cover round pizza pan and or until app. 1/4 "thick. Bake 12-15 minutes or until edges are set (do not over bake). Remove from oven-cool 10 minutes. Place white chocolate and milk in small bowl, microwave on Hi for 1 minute, stir until mixture is smooth. Combine cream cheese and powdered sugar-mix until smooth. Gradually stir chocolate mixture into cream cheese mixture, mix until smooth. Fold in whipped topping. Spread evenly over cookie. Arrange fruit over cream cheese mixture. Mix chocolate chips and oil. Microwave on Hi 30 seconds or until melted. Drizzle over fruit. Refrigerate 30 minutes or until chocolate is set.

Hope you ENJOY
 for
 Life is Good!



The CrazyLadies of Pearl Street

Author: Trevanian

Hostess: Lorna Lagerquist

This autobiographical novel opens in Albany, NY. The year is 1936 and America is in the throws of the Great Depression. Six year old Jean-Luc (the author), his younger sister and his mother Ruby, a health-wise fragile woman, prone to excessive mood swings (one of the CrazyLadies, for certain), are given a nugget of hope. The father and husband who abandoned them twice before has written claiming that after a stint in the slammer he's straightened out his life and wants them to come live with him. So Ruby packs up her children and heads to Albany to the run down, shoddy apartment that's waiting for them on Pearl Street. Jean-Luc's father, however, is nowhere to be found, and Ruby is forced to go on welfare to support herself and her children.

At school, Jean-Luc comes under the tutelage of a kindly teacher, who nurtures his potential (an IQ test reveals a score of 200) and encourages him. He does very well, that is, until this teacher leaves the system and Jean-Luc loses his interest in learning and flounders on many levels. He has the weight of the world on his shoulders, trying to help support his family with two paper routes and nursing his sickly mother. They scrimp and save to buy a radio and look forward to each evening gathered around this most important contact with the outside world.

This story is more of a collection of short stories rather than your typical novel with a formal plot. After all, isn't that how we all remember our own early childhoods? Our memories are rather fragmented but none-the-less rather amazing in details. Such is the case here. We were amazed at Jean-Luc's imagination as he plays his childhood games, usually by himself. These were incredibly tough times for Jean-Luc and his family and perhaps these games took him away from his daily life, if only for a short time.

We went into this book with the idea that it was going to be our "light" book for this year but it is anything but. It is a serious coming of age look at what life was like during the depression and through WWII. While we feel that the author didn't fully develop the crazy lady characters that the book is named for, it was still a worthwhile read.

HOVET

Funeral services for Donald Hovet will be held at 2:00 PM Monday, January 5. Pastors Ron Martin-Dent and Barbara Westhoff will officiate at the service at Plentywood Lutheran Church, interment will be in Antelope Creek Cemetery. Don died at Sheridan Memorial Hospital Tuesday, December 23; he was 86.

Don was born July 18, 1922 on the family farm of his parents, Gunder and Marie (Dahl) Hovet, northeast of Antelope. He graduated from Antelope High School, and, except for a period of time working for the Civilian Conservation Corps in Western Montana, has lived and farmed in the Antelope community all his life. He married Carol Ming in June 1974 and became "an instant dad" to her family of 7 children. In later years, he especially loved being a grandpa to his sixteen grandchildren, Kristen, Donald, Carmen, Lyle, Andrew, Erin, Stefan, Jared, Justin, Josh, Lexi, Levi, Lucas, Jessica, Becca, and Zoey, and two great-granddaughters, Christine and Sarah Ming. Don was very close to his nephews and nieces: his late brother Gordon's kids, Kevin, Jim, Tim and Karen; Dennis' kids Judy, Dennis, Jr. James Michael, and Kristine; and his late sister Sigrid Skully's children Father Richard, Sharon and Patricia.

Don was an avid reader especially of history and current events. He devoured whatever was available, including the Billings paper and a variety of news magazines, and loved to finish crosswords puzzles. C-SPAN was usually on the TV, and Don was cussing about what those *%#@##** congress critters were doing now!! He maintained spectacular flower gardens, especially zinnias, lilies and gladiolus; and raised quantities of vegetables; the corn usually seemed to end up deer fodder; but he always had pumpkins, and even tried out his family once on squash (but not too successfully!) A super cook and baker, he was known for his apple pie. He loved farming, and most of the family pictures he took seemed to feature expanses of golden wheat! In a questionable year for area farmers, Don was blessed this year with the best crop ever harvested on his farm.

Don is survived by his wife, Carol, at Sheridan Memorial Nursing Home; and their six children: Earl Ming and his wife Karen, of Sandy, Oregon; Bill Ming and his wife Marie, of Tigard, Oregon; Dennis Ming and his wife Maureen, of Bismarck, North Dakota; Laurie Delfino and her husband Sherman, of Roy, Washington; Darryl Ming and his wife Tracy, also of Sandy, Oregon; and Lynette Powers, of Westby. He is also survived by a brother, Dennis Hovet, of Igo, California; Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by a son, Harry Ming, whose wife, Marilyn, lives at Westby; and by his brothers Harold and Gordon, and a sister, Sigrid Skully.

Friends may call at Fulkerson's in Plentywood.

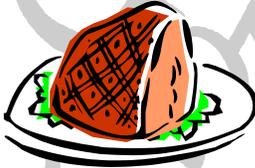
Al's Meats

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1/2 Grain Fed Beef
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**Check out our Extra Lean Hamburger
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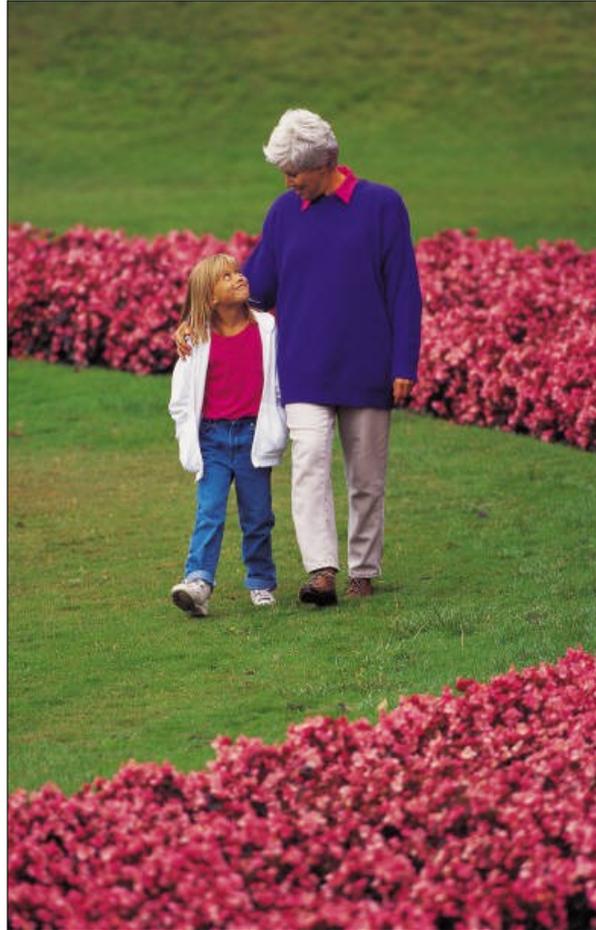
The Importance of Grand Parents

Dear Daddy,

No man could have ever been such a

I remember when we got to take her camping with us. I think we went to C.O.W.

wonderful son as you were to grandma. And you know ... maybe she didn't know how to be that "perfect" kind of mom every kid wants (there aren't too many that are, I just got lucky) but you have to thank her because she was a loving grandmother to your babies. I know how important that is as a parent, to have your children be loved by their grandparents.... and she did her job. I always felt loved by grandma. I remember how excited Mike and I got when she would come stay. We couldn't wait to wake up in the mornings and



(The name of a campground) If I remember correctly, she was quite the trooper, no? I always told her she had the softest hands and she said it was because mom never let her do anything when she visited. (like help out with chores) I remember she would send money for Christmas for us and mom would buy us presents with it. And every Christmas eve you and mom let us open one present and we always picked the one from grandma Chaffee. I know we would have had a lot more memories if only

go in to my room where she stayed and play board games. We knew grandma would be up early like us and ready to play. I remember all the slippers etc. she knitted for me and how special I felt that she made them for me. And how she would sit in the green chair and watch Sesame Street with me over and over. Of course, we will never forget her homemade buns and how she would put the dough on yours and moms bed to rise, because that's where the sun came in.

she had lived closer but at least the memories I have are filled with love and very real. So for that, we should be thankful right?? I love you Daddy and hope you are doing ok. I just wanted you to know my feelings.

Love, your baby girl, Rhonda

Upcoming Events

January

- 6th SENIOR NIGHT**
BB games vs. Fairview at Westby
GV—6:00 PM
BV—7:30 PM
- 8th** Varsity Girls vs. Divide Co. at Westby—7:00 PM
- 9th** Boys BB at Savage
JH—5:00 PM
BV- 6:30 PM
- 10th** JH Boys BB at Culbertson
Varsity Boys at Lambert—7:30 PM
- 12th** W/G GV vs. Plentywood JV at Westby—7:00 PM
- 13th** BB vs. Burke Co. at Lignite
BJH-4:45PM
GV-6:00 PM
- 14th** LYO Meeting—7:00 PM
- 15th** Varsity Boys at Circle—6:00 PM
Girls BB vs. Trenton at Westby
GV-6:00 PM
- 16th** JH Boys at Plentywood 2:00 & 3:00
- 17th** Varsity Boys at Lambert—7:00 PM
JH Boys vs. Bainville & Fairview at Westby

RUST ON TO STATE HOOP SHOOT

Kevin Rust, 5th grader at Westby Public School, placed first in the boys 10-11 age group at the local Plentywood Elks Hoop shoot on November 23rd. This earned him a birth at the district competition at Glendive on December 7th. After hitting 13 out of 25, Keven again won his age group and qualified for state competition to be held in Livingston on February 7th.

TERMINAL PROGRESS SLOW, BUT STEADY

At the time of the fill, the employees of New Century Ag will be guided by Vigen and Hope Electric employees, as well as representatives from Cimbria Bratney (supplier of the indent separator and cleaner) on operation of the facility by means of a computer. When the facility is full, the rail loadout system will be tested next. Nancy said, "Vigen will not leave town until the facility has operated every gate, leg, air system and all other working parts."

WESTBY ON THE MAP

As a side note Nancy mentioned, "We were contacted by Van Sickle, Allen and Associates of Plymouth, MN, last week for photos of the facility. VAA are the structural engineers responsible for designing this facility will be using the photos on their advertising for the coming year. It will be noted in the ad this terminal is owned by New Century Ag; Westby, MT."

Westby Manor, Inc. has one-bedroom apartments for rent in Westby. Very nice, utilities paid, and free laundry. Eligible tenants will not pay more than 30% of their adjusted income. The Westby Manor, Inc. will be temporarily renting apartments to all persons without regard to income restrictions.

Call Brenda at 385-2577.

Equal Housing Opportunity

A Day in the Life...

By Sandy Elm

Recently I received a call that Hulda Thorpe, former Westby resident will be celebrating her 95th birthday on January 7th. Hulda still lives in her own home in Minnesota. Birthday cards may be sent to 7908 Aster Drive, Brooklyn Park, Minnesota 55428. Hulda's daughter Cynthia thought this would be a nice surprise for her mother. Thank you all.

On December 11th the Senior Citizens met at the Westby Community Center. The hostess was Shirley Quam. Progressive whist winners were Rene Stageberg - first and Eileen Overgaard - second. Marvin Nelson won the door prize. Mark Nordhagen and Arnie Nordhagen were guests.

Recently going on Amtrak to visit Tiana Weiler in Chicago, Illinois were Mavis Weiler, Westby, D'Ette Erickson and Tammy Northagen, Fordville, North Dakota, and Linda Talley, Lansford North Dakota. While there, they visited the Chicago Art Institute, attended the Broadway productions of "The Jersey Boys" and "Wicked" and shopped at Oprah Winfrey's store "O". They also visited with Stan Sorenson, and Sara, Troy, and Sabrina VenHorst from Gurnee. Tiana Weiler is the daughter of Jim and Mavis Weiler of Westby, and she is the Manager of the Events Excellence Department at the McCormick Place Convention Center in Chicago, Illinois.

Thanksgiving day guests at the Mavis and Jim Weiler home were Tiana Weiler, Chicago, IL, Perry, Laura and Hannah Sorenson, Billings, Granddaughter Kallie Erickson, Dervils Lake, ND, Jeremy Sorenson, Moorhead, MN, Borgny Haroldson, Edwin and Dorothy Fransen all of Plentywood, Daryl and Donna Sorenson and John Harmon, Westby. Perry, Laura and Hannah and Tiana and Kallie were all guests staying with Mavis and Jim. Jeremy was home visiting with his parents Daryl and Donna.

Teresa and Clifford Johnson hosted an early Christmas dinner for Shannon and Mike Gebhardt and Cole and Rylie, Rose Frickson, and Ruth Brown on Tuesday, December 16th.

Charles and Frankie Christy hosted their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren on Christmas eve to celebrate Frankie's landmark birthday. Those in attendance were Dana and Lincoln Finnesgard from Ambrose, ND. Sissy, Jim, Shylo and Skyler Witkowski of Medicine Lake. Carla, Doug, Derek, Dustin and Heather Mangel, as well as Heather's friend, Dustin Wirtz, all from Plentywood. Shauna, Brad and Alexis Ordahl of Dickenson, ND. Zandy, James and Jaiden Ball of Cass Lake, MN and Ryan Bakke of Westby. Christmas Day Charles and Frankie left for Bismarck to spend a few days with their son, Johnny, and his family.

Robert & Lorna Lagerquist spent Christmas Eve in Williston with Gary & Shirley Nelson. Returning home Christmas morning, Bob and Lorna hosted Robert & Regina Forrester and family of Bromberg, Saskatchewan, for the day.

Gene, Joan, Kevin, Austin & Hunter Olson spent Christmas Eve at the home of Kelly & Shari's. Christmas day was celebrated at Gene and Joan's with Kevin and boys, and Kelly, Shari, Samantha, Brady and Cooper.

Christmas Eve dinner guests at Marlys and Allan Ekness' included Jeff, Lynette and family. Kim and Rob Rust of Alkabo entertained Marlys and Allan, and Gerge and Elaine Leinger on Christmas Day.

Jerry and Anna Herman were guests of Gene and Arlene Herman on Christmas Eve. "Guitar Hero" rang throughout Jerry and Anna's home after Darrin, Darci, Matthew, & Jackson finished opening presents Christmas Day. Daren and family returned home to Fargo on the 27th.

Wade & Lori Bjorgen went to Minneapolis for the December 28th Vikings game with the New York Giants. Accompanying them were Joyce McCann of Plentywood, Season Slade of Malta, and Jason & Amber Soine of Minot.

Donna Sorenson's Mother, Edna, sister, Tammy, and brother-in-law, Tim, were in Westby to spend the holidays with Donna's family as well as their son, John, who is presently living with the Sorenson's. Also, home for the holidays were Jeremy & Nichole of Fargo. Jeremy left on the 26th to attend the December 28th Giants/Viking game in Minneapolis.

VETERAN HONORED

Audrey Anderson, wife of World War II Veteran Orris Anderson, was presented with an American Flag at his funeral service on December 27th. The Flag was presented to her by her granddaughter's husband, Jason Browne. Jason's wife, Ashley, is Jay's oldest daughter. Jason and Ashley live in Waytertown, New York where he is stationed.



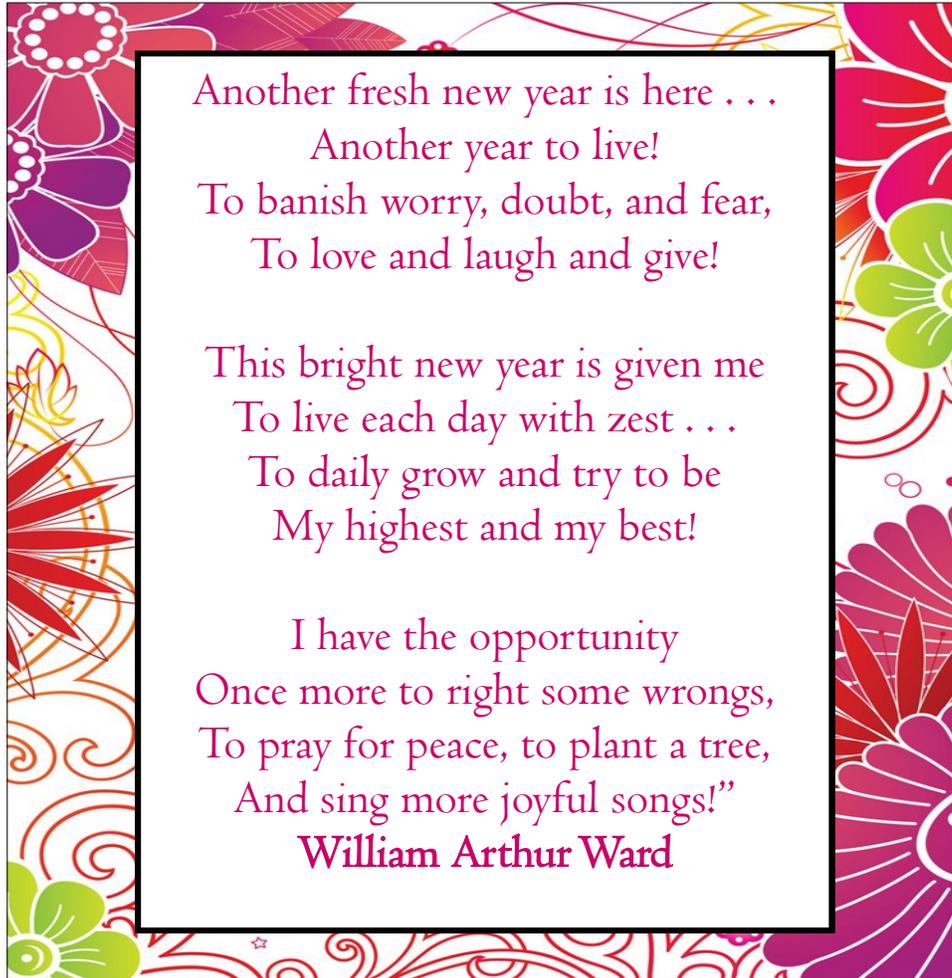
Pictured with Audrey and Jason are Westby Legion members Erwin Olson, Elton Tangedal, Floyd Kaul, and Marvin Nelson.

WEILER PROMOTED

Tim Weiler has been promoted to Service Manager at Wenzel Downhole Tools in Casper Wyoming. Tim has been employed by WDT, drilling technology specialists, for four years. A 2000 graduate of WHS, Tim is the son of Jim and Mavis Weiler.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME BUT MUST BE SIGNED.