

## Lein holders buy hospital equipment

Only one bid was received at the sheriff's sale of Murphy Medical Center, Thursday, Dec. 7 and that bid was by lien holders — First National Bank of Warsaw, Irmischer and Sons, Inc., Fort Wayne and Archonics Corp., Terre Haute — eight minutes before the bid closing at 11:15 a.m.

The \$100,000 bid for the hospital equipment was announced by Richard Robinson, the attorney representing Archonics Corp. On October 26, the MMC building was purchased for \$500,000 by the lien holders.

MMC and its president, Hazel J. Murphy, still owe the lien holders, \$720,635.82 in funds. The original judgment was for \$1,320,635.82 which was rendered on November 2, 1977, in the Fulton Circuit Court, Rochester.

**Three Dates For Sale**  
The first sale date was set for October 26, but was delayed because of a disagreement of how the hospital property should be sold.

The next date for the sale was set for November 16, but was again delayed because both sides could not reach an agreement on the manner of sale. The case was taken back to Fulton Circuit Court when no agreement could be reached.

Judge Wendell Tombaugh of Fulton Circuit Court, ruled that all personal property would be sold in one lot to the highest bidder for cash, all the rights and title and interest of MMC and Mrs. Murphy.

Others present included attorneys Herbert Bent, representing First National Bank; Phillip Carson, attorney for Irmischer and Sons; Rick Snodgrass, vice president of First National Bank, Robert Keene,

attorney for MMC from Duval, Tabbert and Lalley of Indianapolis; Kosciuszko Sheriff John Hammarsley; and Kosciuszko County Police Radio Dispatcher Forrest Bouse.

## Across seas —

(Continued from page 1)

The Finnish believe the best gifts are those that are handmade. Clothes and toys are often fashioned from wool and wood and then placed under the tree.

The Finnish also believe Christmas is a time to give to the needy. Cloaks and money are given to the Salvation Army. A group of men and boys, called "Star Boys," will sing and dramatize a traditional Finnish play for donations to the needy.

Eija commented her favorite part of the Christmas holiday is visiting with her family and friends. December 24 and 25 are the days to stay at home while December 26 is used to visit with friends. Everyone goes to church on Christmas Day.

What are her impressions so far of an American Christmas? "I'm curious about it."

**Likes To Ski, Skate**  
Eija has many interests she is sharing with her American family. She says skiing and skating are perhaps her most favorite. In Finland, one week of each year is spent in a sports vacation.

Eija also likes art and history and plans on combining these into a career. She comments, "I'd like to go to a university in Finland. Maybe become an art therapist or a person who studies old Finnish art."

First, she will have to finish two years in high school when she returns to her country next July. How does she like school in America as compared to Finland? "It's harder in Finland. Everybody almost has the same subjects." Students start school at the age of seven and attend nine years. They then have the choice of going on to high school for three years or going to a vocational school.

"High school is very hard," she said of Finland, "It's almost like the first couple of years in an American college. That's why many kids don't go to college."

The way of life in America is also different for the Finland girl. "People here are more open. They talk in a little different way."

Eija finds that people here have more in the way of material possessions as cars and homes.

Most of the people in Finland live in apartments and condominiums and have one car.

She is enjoying the eating customs in America, too. She said, "I think it's very neat that here in America there are so many little restaurants like McDonalds and Wendy's that aren't terribly expensive."

Eija lives near the town of Helsinki in Finland and has one brother and three sisters.

**"Tannenbaum"**

The tree, said Jan who is a junior at Wawasee High School, always a real one, is put up and decorated Christmas Eve. Real candles as well as paper gold and silver stars, apples and sugar candies are placed on its branches. A star or angel is placed on top.

Most of the ornaments are made in school and brought home. Some gifts are also made in school for parents and friends.

Another popular Christmas custom, said Jan, is the lighting of red candles in a window. Each candle, which is placed underneath a wreath, is lit on one of the four Sundays before Christmas.

A nativity scene is often placed under the tree as a decoration, too.

Gifts are opened on December 24 after the "Christmas Man" arrives. This man, who resembles Santa Claus, comes with reindeer and elves and wears a red and white suit. He also lives at the North Pole and receives many cards and letters from German children.

Christmas music is either sung or heard after a light dinner. The main Christmas dinner of duck or goose is served on Christmas Day after the family returns from church.

The three days of Christmas, December 24, 25 and 26, are spent with family. Jan comments, "Christmas is more of a family thing. You stay with your family all three days."

German families believe in the giving of toys at Christmas. Candies and treats are also given to loved ones.

How is Jan enjoying American Christmas customs? "It's more obvious it's Christmas; more like you really want Christmas and like Christmas. It's more fun for little kids here with Santa Claus and decorating. I think I learned a new way to have Christmas."

**Enjoys Music**  
Jan has a variety of musical hobbies he is sharing with his fellow classmates at Wawasee. He plays the guitar and drums. He also enjoys drawing and writing letters.

What are his impressions of the country? "When I first arrived here, everything was so strange with the fast food places, cars. But, people are so nice here, they talk to you."

Jan is finding American schools a bit different, also. "School is much shorter in Germany, you don't have the same schedule everyday. Not too much homework, also."

Children in Germany take 11 different subjects from grades five to 10. Grades one to four are spent in Real School. After completing grade 10, a student graduates and then has the choice of going on to Grammar School (high school) for three more years before receiving a diploma.

When Jan returns, he will have to take three more years of schooling at the high school level.

What are his future plans? "I'd like to work in a newspaper as a journalist. Maybe go to college to study language and politics."

Jan lives in the city of Hamburg with his parents and two brothers.

**Slim crowd —**

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Beatty also said he has repaired a few meters and has unclogged a few sewer lines. The restrooms at the town hall, which have been vandalized, are being repaired and Beatty will lock

them up each night.

Deeter said he would like to have some blueprints of the town's water system put up at the street and water building. He and Beatty will draw some up.

Finally, Mrs. Brooks thanked all those who were so helpful when she read the meters recently.

## Merchants —

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Christmas. Christmas shopping so far has only been moderate at Fee's, but all evidence indicates it will pick-up. Leonard commented, "We're trying to hold our own from last year. We're hoping to do the same as last year."

What are shoppers buying for Christmas at Fee's? "They're generally buying across the board," said Leonard.

Phil Rinker of Rinker's Togs and Awi says sales in his store are "great." He added, "Our December is just super. I'm very happy. We're definitely going to do better than last year." Rinker attributes the good sales with more people shopping locally. "People seem to like the selection, prices. People are spending money. They seem real satisfied."

He went on to say, "I think people are getting a little smarter. They're using good judgment. They're saving money if they shop locally." Some of the biggest sellers at Rinker's this holiday season are all leather items, insulated boots, corduroy items and sweaters.

Rinker's Department Store is also having a good Christmas shopping season, reports Alice Rinker. She comments, "It's been very good. We have no complaints. If you can hold the prices in line, you get the people in."

Mrs. Rinker added, "We're running way ahead of last year." Big selling items at the store are cold weather items such as kids' snowmobile suits and insulated underwear.

Bob Merchant, manager of Thornburg Drugs, says people have been shopping at his store this season, too. "Yes, it's going pretty well," he said, "So far this year, there have been more people in." He commented shoppers are buying basically the same items as last year including appliances.

Is he expecting more shoppers to come into Thornburgs as Christmas approaches? "It usually peaks up steady to the day before Christmas."

**At Syracuse**  
Love Furniture and Appliances, with stores in both Syracuse and North Webster, is having a record Christmas this year says Dinah Hubart. She said, "We have a lot of stuff in lay-away. We're satisfied. We're ahead of last year by quite a bit."

Mrs. Hubart added that shoppers are coming into both stores. "People are shopping locally. They're buying quality instead of quantity." Popular items at Love Furniture this season are microwave ovens and upholstered goods.

Bob Marion of Ben Franklin reports Christmas sales at his store have been "very, very good." He said, "It's been going real well, better than last year." Probably the main items being requested this year are electronic games, said Marion. He added most items are selling good.

Also having a good Christmas is My Store. Mim Speicher says, "I think we're up from last year. We've had some real good days. It's very encouraging."

Mrs. Speicher added people seem to be making gift items and said fabrics and yarn goods are selling well. Linens are another big seller at My Store.

This is the first Christmas season for the Anchor Man, so Dick Myers doesn't know how his sales are rating. He did say, however, that people are coming into his store. "It's been going real good."

Myers added he doesn't have any one peak selling item, but said slacks, shirts and sweaters seem to be selling well.

Larry Harter, manager of Hook's Drugs, says his Christmas sales "seem to be going real well." He added, "There definitely has been an increase." Harter attributes the good sales to the weather. "As long as the weather holds out, I think they're going to shop around a little this year. They were a little late in getting out. I think they're taking a little time."

Popular items at Hook's this season seem to be small appliances and "cook quickers," such as quick fryers.

Thornburg Drugs is reporting an increase in sales during the 1978 Christmas season, also. John Kroh comments, "It's going very well." Most gift items seem to be selling well at Thornburgs, with no one or two big sellers.

Jean Rogers of The Stout Boutique, with stores in both Syracuse and Elkhart, says Christmas sales have been "keeping us busy." She notes sales have been "just beautiful" and is expecting an increase over last year.

The Stout Boutique has been selling most clothing items for Christmas, but the biggest seller seems to be coats. "We've sold more coats this year than ever before."

## Revamp —

(Continued from page 1)

Christmas vacation, saving the board approximately \$10,000. He said enough funds were available and if the board paid in full the cost would be \$21,305.04. Otherwise they would be making payments of approximately \$273 a month over the next 10 years.

Approval was also received from the state on the curbing at the North Webster school.

The curbing will be a total of 408 feet starting in an area south and continuing to the north edge past the gymnasium. The work will be done in the spring.

Lakeland schools procedures for the minimum competency test, which is mandated by the state board, also known as B-C-1, have been completed for reading, composition and spelling and have been submitted to the Department of Public Instruction. Don Arnold presented the procedures to the board.

Arnold stated the overall objective of the corporation is to evaluate student progress and give remedial assistance as needed. The Lakeland schools will be using a continuous program of evaluation and remediation in grades one through 12. The state only requires a testing program in grades three, six, eight and 10.

Other business discussed was payment to the North Central Co-Op for special students at Cardinal Learning Center, Warsaw and payment for transportation, provided by Cardinal, for 11 students.

In separate motions the board voted to pay the second payment to North Central Co-Op of \$19,935 and to pay for the transportation of students for the second semester of the 1977-78 school year of \$2,458.60.

Philip Payne questioned the lateness of the later bill and how the co-op operated with such a great sum unpaid. Arnold stated the problem was because of resigning new personnel taking over and the center receives government aid. Arnold also mentioned the last payment was made in April 1978 for the first semester of 1977.

A letter was received by Lantz on the new rates set by Havel Brothers, Inc., with whom the school has a maintenance agreement. The letter stated that service rate schedules increased August 1 but would not affect the schools contract until January 1, if accepted.

The board moved to continue with the contract service.

Marion Lantz presented the board with an update on the new addition to the high school. He commented all equipment is coming in and all work should be

completed by the second semester of this school year.

All areas are on schedule except for those dealing with the hardwood floor material. This material has not arrived but is expected during Christmas vacation. Other preparation needed before the hardwood floor needs to be placed have been started and are near completion.

Original deadline for completion of the entire project was January 1, but Lantz foresees the project to be completed between January 20 and February 1.

Other actions taken by the school board were approvals for the leave of absence for reading specialist Nancy Nelson and for North Webster Junior High math teacher Stephanie Szyal. Both teachers wish to leave for child bearing reasons.

A letter was read to the board members by Don Arnold from the Wawasee High School band members. The letter thanked the board for furnishing funds needed for the new band uniforms.

Minutes from the November 15 meeting and extra curricular reports were approved by all members present.

Financial reports for the month of November, claims and certificates of payment for Project Number 6878 Wawasee High School were also unanimously approved.

## Personal Gifts They'll Love!

**Men's 4-Pc. GIFT SETS**  
Set contains After Shave, Cologne, Talc and Soap in choice of scents.  
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**BATH OIL, BEADS and CRYSTALS**  
Perfect for gift-giving! Wonderfully scented, beautifully packaged.  
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Choose "Madam Jo- van," "Sex Appeal" or "Musk Oil" scents.  
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**MEN'S GIFT SETS**  
Set contains 4-oz. Skin Bracer and 2 1/2-oz. Speed Stick Deodorant.  
**Just 200 each**

**BLUE JEANS SPRAY COLOGNE**  
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**Only 200 each**

**Deodorant GIFT BATH SETS**  
To make her bath wonderfully fragrant! Choice of sets.  
**Now 300 each**

**Deluxe TRAVEL KIT**  
Extra durable travel kit with top zipper and carry handle. Tan or brown.  
**Only 400 each**

**Folding KNITTING STAND**  
With sturdy wood frame and print fabric cover and inside pocket.  
**Choice 597 each**

**Bubble Bath PUP-PETS**  
Charming characters with Bubble Bath! Perfect for kids!  
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**IMPERIAL Pocket KNIVES**  
Values to \$4.50! Choice of blade sizes and styles. Top Quality!  
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**SEWING BASKETS**  
Choice of woven baskets with fabric tops and trim. With removable tray.  
**Just 897 each**

**Maybelline KISSING STICK KISSING KANE**  
Choice of 3 super-flavored Lip glosses in each Kissing Kane!  
**Now 200 each**

**Old Spice GIFT SETS FOR MEN**  
Choose the Jet Set Kit with lotion, talc and shampoo or gift set with after shave and roll-on.  
**Just 300 each**

**STANLEY Screwdriver SET**  
Set includes 1 and 2 pt. Phillips, 4 and 6-in. standard and 3-in. cabinet screwdrivers.  
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**The Pet Heads COLOGNE**  
A 4-oz. bottle of cologne with a plush head of a pet for a top!  
**Only 200 each**



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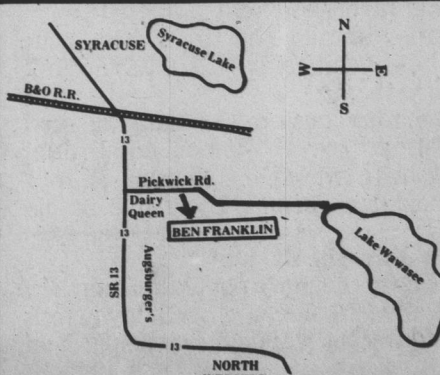
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**We wish you a Merry Christmas**

Songs of praise echo through the yuletide. As we share the old fashioned delights of this warm holiday, we carol our thanks to one and all.

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Division Of Stanray Corporation  
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**GROPP'S FAMOUS FISH OF STROH**  
Located Next To Maxwell Clubhouse — Syracuse

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