### <u>Bresaylor Heritage Museum Association Inc</u>

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LOCATED IN BRESAYLOR - SASK - CANADA - MAILING: Box 33, PAYNTON, SK. SOM-2JO

2008

MUSEUM HOURS: 1-5 P.M. SUNDAY & WED - FRI &
BY REQUEST WHEN POSSIBLE MAY TO OCT (306)895-4813

Dear Supporters of Bresaylor Heritage,

While working on this Newsletter, May has given way to June and we are already into another Museum season. There is always so much to do, but I do enjoy sitting down and putting together the Newsletter, gleaned from your kind words and thoughts - and news. It's always a bleasure.

What a year it has been. The twinning of the Yellowhead Highway is complete. And Bresaylor has been duly rearranged. Our Museum buildings now sit along the highway "escarpment", looking rather ... well ...exposed. New landscaping challenges are evident, and bound to be a priority this summer. Luckily, we have obtained a Young Canada Works grant so I will have a student helper.

Sadly, we mourn the loss of many supporters. We lost dear friend June Taylor, whose contribution to the Museum will not be forgotten, nor will that of another old friend, Yvonne Carpentier. Both will be honoured in the landscaping we will start this year. And they will be thought of often as we seek to make wise choices for fencing and tree planting and so on. Your input of ideas is welcome.

Once again, special thanks to our many supporters. Your generosity and encouraging letters mean so much. And so, late as it is, we send greetings to all. Have a safe summer, and don't forget to pay a visit. Remember, entrance is from the east road - in case the sign isn't up yet. On behalf of our Board of Directors who are Ross and Margaret Currie, Don and Marie Ferguson, Helena Caplette, Marion McDougall and Ted Bugg, I am yours Sincerely, Velma Foster.

#### WAVERLEY OLLENBERGER WON \$62. IN THE EARLY-BIRD HALF-THE-POT DRAW • 2007 •



HELENA CAPLETTE AND BIRTHDAY CAKE WITH MARION McDOUGALL, MARGARET CURRIE AND VELMA FOSTER

#### 2007 POT LUCK SUPPER - BRESAYLOR's 125th

Although uncertainty about the state of the highway by and road into Bresaylor gave many pause about attending the Annual Pot Luck Supper, a nice sized gathering of people attended. There was much visiting and the usual abundance of food. Helena Caplette's special 125th Birthday Cake was quickly devoured, completing the meal. And music by the Currie brothers, Ross on the violin and Lyle on keyboards, was appreciated by all, and thoroughly enjoyed even when the visiting was loudly intense. Thanks to Janet Shimek we have photos, sent with Christmas eetings, available for this printing. She also wrote "Thanks to all for making the 125th Birthday Pot Luck so much fun. We sure enjoyed ourselves and all the visiting", Jim and Janet Shimek, White Rock, BC. We hope Janet speaks for others who were there, some who were also from quite a distance: Jim and Helen (Massie) Perry from Edmonton; Lyle and Joan Currie from Cranbrook, BC; Alvin Sayers, Calgary; Liz (Sinclair) Jensen, Winnipeg, MB.

As usual, the day was rounded out with the Quilt Raffle.

The SPECIAL WINNER of the 2007 QUILT RAFFLE - was the now late Mrs. YVONNE CARPENTIER, who enjoyed receiving the quilt, but, sadly, only lived a short while afterward. But let her family explain...""Mom was at the Museum from the beginning... scraping, cutting and painting.

"We thought in her memory (as she enjoyed working there so much) we would have the quilt raffled again. The money could go toward the upkeep and any improvements. Whoever wins now can enjoy the quilt in her memory. Mom would have wanted it that way." from the family of the late Mrs. Yvonne Carpentier.

This is truly a special gift from the Carpentier family, and, now, those many people who wanted to win the "Cherries" Quilt will have another chance to do so. It will be raffled again - this July 20, 2008, at the Annual Pot Luck Supper.

CONSOLATION PRIZES: \$25. cash prizes were won by Alice Hendersen, Yvonne Carpentier and Carol Wells. Gift Certificates for the Museum Gift Shop went to Connie Tarleton, Morris Woytiuk, Sharron Walker and Huguette MacGregor. Ten complimentary tickets for the 2008 Summer Raffle will be entered for Betty Churchman, Jeannette Kam, Bert Corbeil, Mel Sundin, Grace Woodcock, Donna Blanche, Lois Spence, Glenys Oliver, Michelle Van Huizen and Emily Schellhorn.

A \$20. Gift Certificate to someone present at the Pot Luck Supper was won by **Rachel Currie**.

• THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the raffles, which netted 3940 for the Museum. ALSO, quilt tickets sold by the Paynton Library and by the Paynton Seniors raised a few dollars for those organizations. Thanks again to the quilters who were Margaret Currie, Marie Ferguson and Faye Falcon.



JIM
SHIMEK
&
ROSS
CURRIE
SHOOTING
THE
BREEZE

## Summer Hattles-2008

EARLY-BIRD HALF-THE-POT DRAW - JULY 1, 2008 DEADLINE. \$1. ticket enclosed · More tickets entered by

"CHERRIES" QUILT RAFFLE • • • • • As usual, a book of tickets is enclosed for those who wish to participate. If you'd like more tickets we can fill them out for you.

#### SOME CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER:

First, belated congratulations to Bud and Yvonne Regnier of Salisbury, England, who celebrated their 60th anniversary on March 9, 2006. They are pictured here with a Best Wishes card from Queen Elizabeth. Bud always sends greetings to all of us at Christmas time. Sadly, in his last letter he mentioned that Yvonne's poor health has meant that he is restricted in his activities as he has to be close by to care for her. Thanks, Bud, for your many kind words of encouragement, and we wish health and comfort to Yvonne



Congratulations to Grace (Dobie) Woodcock who celebrated her 90th birthday in September, 2007. Irene (Land) Jenny will be 90 this July. We hear that Edna Marynowski celebrated her 85th last July. (Edna's grand-daughter Jenna Marynowski earned two scholarships from Augustana Faculty of the U. of A., located at Camrose, AB.) Don Light's family and friends held a come-and-go tea in Battleford to honour his 75th birthday. Col. Gil Bellavance was named Citizen of the Year by the North Battleford Lions Club. Around Battleford there has been some effort made lately to have Campbell Innes recognized for the enormous contribution he made to Heritage in this area, and especially for his efforts to "save Fort Battleford." It seems a road will be named in his honour, a good start anyway. • And another posthumous acknowledgement - the late Phoebe (Wesson) Cutbush's photo to the Frontier Mall Hall of Fame - for her "enduring value to the community through music." (note her item "Helping Teacher" in the Bresaylor history Book, p.428). • And congratulations to Fort Battleford National Historic Site which was awarded the "Land of Living Skies Award" by Saskatchewan Tourism for "being the first Parks Canada site to incorporate green technologies in producing power for site use". And, while in Battleford, Mayor Chris Odishaw is keen to see the historic Opera House restored More about that as time goes by we hope.



 Mentioned before, Jim and Helen Perry attended last summer's Pot Luck Supper. Helen, whom we did not know about, nor her of us, when doing the Bresaylor history book, would like to hear from anyone who might have known more about her father, James Massie, or her half-brother Bill Massie. The late Phyllis (Stephens) English gave us the information we do have and, of course, now she is gone. It may be too late now but someons but someone might remember seeing a photo of either of the two women pictured here. They are, Helen believes, James Massie's first wife Helen Mann, mother of Bill Massie, and her sister Mary Mann who came to Bresaylor to work for Mr. and Mrs.Cubby Taylor, owners of the hotel at that time. Mary married **James Taylor**. She died in the 1918 flu epidemic.

#### **YOUR VISITS, YOUR LETTERS...**

Once again Carmen Sperling and her class of grades 2 & 3 were our first visitors of the season. Divided into 4 groups children took turns touring the Museum, playing "telegraph other games outside with Vinessa Currie, and doing hands-on activities in the Living activities activiti activities in the kitchen preparing ingredients for a rhubarb cake to be halved in the to be baked in the wood stove. Also, scrubbing socks in a washtub with washboard and homemade soap. This task had proven popular are proven popular on a previous visit (everything is fun when it isn't a "chore"). a "chore"). But, it was noted that some of the children did not know what a clothes pin was. So we made sure that, this time, after the scrubbing and rinsing, socks were hung out to dry on a chothes line. chothes line. How easy it is to forget that children born only 7 or 8 years and have a service of the service o 8 years ago have no knowledge of some very basic skills. For instance, politically included the same political inc polisher, given to the Museum by the family of the late Maherie Waterhouse, and with woolen socks pulled over shoes (Marie Ferguson supplied the old fashioned, not self-polishing wax, for that demonstration that demonstration). After a whirlwind visit and just before disappearing back onto the bus, the children and parents enjoyed a piece of rhubarb cake and real lemonade. (Helping the curator with the tour were Marion McDougall, Margaret Currie, Helena Caplette and Fay Falcon.)



I invited Christine Pike and Vinessa Currie to each contribute an item to our insert page as, in this issue, I thought it timely to dedicate it to The Mouth of the Big Gully Creek/ Pine Island and the David Thompson Canoe Brigade. I have wanted for some time to cover the area - where the Big Gully Creek runs into the North Saskatchewan River and where Pine Island is located - at the pointy tip of the R.M. of Paynton. Having been for a few years the location of four fur trade posts, the island likely played a role in the lives of some of the fur trade descendant people of the Bresaylor Settlement. The area was also special to ancestors on both sides of my own family. cont'd> ▶ ०००००

#### PINE ISLAND/ MOUTH OF THE BIG GULLY CREEK

#### CHERISHED. PROTECTED?

Often unknown, unappreciated, unprotected, such is the situation of many of the most beautiful sections of the North Saskatchewan River and its tributaries, and the human history which has unfolded along

Few of these sites have escaped the scars inflicted by human kind, in greed or ignorance or todays version of fun.

One of the most striking areas is where Big Gully Creek enters the North Saskatchewan River almost below the historic, intriguing Pine Island, now a Dominion Protected site.

In 1786 the Island became the site of four fur trading posts. This was the first link in a chain: men and women - furs - trade goods - canoes vovageurs - dissension - pemmican - horses - explorers - rivalry - York boats - adventures - privation - triumph - failure - destruction of buffalo and a way of life - North West Mounted Police - steamboats - Rebellion - homesteaders - plows - bulldozers.....

Famous names, to those who know our history: David Thompson the Mapmaker, Captain William Francis Butler and the formation of the North West Mounted Police, Riel, and those whose names are known but locally, the River knew these men, and it knew the aboriginal men and women long, long before.

Artists, photographers, fishermen, picnickers, some ranchers, canoeists, writers, they did little harm.

But bulldozer operators, oil companies, ATV runners, these care little for our beautiful or historic areas, and thus are they doomed to disappear?

The land around the Mouth of Big Gully Creek has some protection now but who can say what the future holds?

The mysterious, brooding fresh-water fens unique to the area, are among the reasons the area was named in the International Biological Program. The area could be a paradise -- a haven for birds, plants and animals. So-called "progress" is allowed to continue like an uncontrolled juggernaut, disfiguring the Big Gully length and breadth. destroying everything once unique and special to the area.

Will the 700 acre Nature Reserve around the Mouth of Big Gully Creek escape final annihilation?

-- Christine Pike







BIG GULLY CREEK A

ROAD TO MOUTH OF THE BIG GULLY - WHERE IT RUNS INTO THE NORTH SASKATCHEWAN RIVER

PINE ISLAND

(continued from other side)

Christine was pivotal in having the area around the Mouth of the Gully Creek set aside as a Protected Natural Area - a stellar achievement to say the least - and I asked her for thoughts on that. Vinessa was pivotal in organizing the welcoming gathering for the David Thompson Brigade - also a stellar achievement given the time limit - and I asked her to report on that. I appreciate both contributions and am grateful to have had a small part in both events. Velma Foster



ISLAND PINE

On May 20th, 2008 about three hundred and fifty folks gathered at historic Pine Island and the Big Gully Nature Preserve to welcome the voyagers for supper and entertainment. The voyagers started to arrive at about 4:30pm with some arriving as late as 7:00pm due to high winds on the North Saskatchewan. With the help of many volunteers we delivered a free supper of hotdogs, homemade baked beans, coleslaw, and angel food cake to the voyagers and the locals. Entertainment was provided by the Yellowhead Ramblers who braved the high winds to deliver an excellent performance enjoyed by all. Presentations were made by Dr. Linda Haverstock, Christine Pike, Don Ferguson, Garry Taylor, and the Brigade Organizers. Dr. Haverstock gave everyone a treat with an inspirational speech on the value of tourism in our province and preserving our history. The Brigade organizers would like to thank everyone who came out to volunteer and support the

The Brigade was appreciative of our efforts and loved the pristine beauty of our site. They were also excited about the history of Manchester House on Pine Island. Manchester House was one of David Thompson's first postings with the Hudson Bay Company and he spent some time on the banks of the North Saskatchewan. Some of the paddlers in the Brigade were also participants in the Canadian Centennial Canoe Race of 1967 and were very pleased to be back at Pine Island which was one of the host communities during the race.

This event was an opportunity for the area to promote our unique place in Canadian History and the natural beauty of the North Saskatchewan River.

by Vinessa Currie



BRIGADER BROTHERS ENJOYING SUPPER photo courtesy of Ellery Russell

MOUTH OF THE BIG GULLY CREEK

#### THE DAVID THOMPSON BRIGADE 2008

May 10, 2008 over two hundred voyagers embarked on a journey starting at Rocky Mountain House and to end in Thunder Bay, July 21. This journey is a tribute to David Thompson's skills in mapmaking and his adventure in Western Canada.

"Wherever David Thompson traveled, so did the voyageurs engaged by him. Just as the voyageurs were the backbone of the fur trade, the voyageurs under Thompson, in many respects, were the backbone of his explorations. For over 200 years, the use of the canoe from the beginning of the fur trade era until near it's end was a vital part of the transportation network of goods and also provided a mode of transportation for David Thompson in many of his explorations. Following his crossing of Howse Pass in June of 1807, David Thompson began his return trip in the spring of 1808 to report his findings to the partners of the North West Company.

This 2008 bicentennial commemoration event is an opportunity to bring to the forefront a way of life that no longer exists and in turn, re-ignite interest in our rich history, and the importance of the rivers that link Canadians all across the country." David Thompson Brigade 2008



 It wasn't always easy to gain access to Bresaylor last summer, but some visitors were persistent. Two brothers, Darwin and eryle Generous, paid a visit. Later in the summer, Darwin eturned bringing with him his mother Jannet (Foulds) Generous [daughter of Oliver and Beatrice (Sayers) Foulds]. She enjoyed the reconnection with the Bresaylor area, having attended Battle Bank School. • Later in the season, two more descendants of Herbert Chapman Taylor, from Montana, paid us a visit. They were Vicki J. Reynolds of Columbia Falls and her daughter Marie Marguerite Taylor of Helena. We had a nice long visit as they were very interested in their ancestors in this area.

SOME NEW ACQUAINTANCES: Another Bremner connection, this time a descendant of Ellen (sister of Charles and James), Fay Lekopoy, paid a visit last season. Also, Nels Bremner found out about us through Pam Erickson who first visited a few years ago. Pam's story, which perhaps we can include in a future Newsletter, was so moving, and I know would have meaning to many of our readers. Of how she found her half-brother. Vance, and their connection to Charles Bremner. She writes: "We got together this past end of May/June. We went to Bon Accord and found where Charles and Emily Bremner are buried and we flew to Winnipeg to meet Nels Bremner, a descendant of one of Charle's brothers. We went to Headingly where they lived before Bresaylor. Got a few more pics of Bremner grave sites."

Quoting some more of your letters:

Ross and Eileen Innes write: "Aches and pains have dictated the change from our house to a condo"...in November of 2007. Now enjoying "an abundance of amenities in the condo..."

Louise Shermerhorn suffered the loss of a brother (Jimmy obie) and sister (Mildred Creegan) during the past year. Louise (and sister Mildred too) has maintained an ongoing interest in Paynton history, and a hope of seeing a history book. As does Naden Hewko, knowing that we have collected quite a bit of history on the Paynton area. Don't give up yet. We do have an archive at the Paynton Library. • Don Rahrick remembers spending summer holidays with his grandmother, Elizabeth Taylor Setter, in Paynton. He writes, "I recall visits to the Taylor's Store and to relatives in Bresaylor. My grandmother taught me much of the early history of our family and the area and in later years here in Victoria I was able to learn more from Joe Sayers and his wife. • Sid Jones has sold his home in Paynton and moved to the Senior Apartments in Maidstone. Marguerite (Bowes) Scott : "There are not many names that I am familiar with anymore, but find the general news interesting....can't help wonder about the future??? when the old 'guard' is gone, who takes over!"etc

\* Azelia Tesolin: "Names mentioned brought back memories. May and Neil Kamp...good friends of Uncle Red's (Beaudry) family. I can remember...Oliver (Foulds) who played the violin and Mr. Alex Inkster, who had a game leg, who used to step dance and he always had candy in his pocket for the kids." Aselia is involved in the Cut Knife Museum and has nothing but praise for the people involved, some of whom are Lucille Bullerwell, Noreen Foisy, Rena Weikle, Lori Paziuk and new willing worker Marcy Holden - are really doing great work and also the maintainance men are doing wonders." • Mel Sundin, Writes that "only now in my fourth year as a college professor am finding any spare time to dabble some more into my family history...once again venturing out on a trip to the Orkney's...Now

I have contacts over there with whom I correspond on a regular basis...we'll be staying with a cousing in the Taylor line - at her Guest House." Anyone "interested in <u>Taylor</u>, <u>McDonald</u>, <u>Inkster</u>, Ferguson/Farquarson, Tait, Brown, Merryman or the native connections with these and other families" might like to contact

Mel at sundim@aol.com. He writes that "I'd be delighted to share what I have with my cousins..." • Anne Stephenson speaks for many when she writes: "We are keeping quite well, considering the years creeping up." She goes on to say we "still drive and enjoy our own home, though not this big city (Calgary, that is) - growing too fast." From Mundare, Margaret Web writes that husband Randy and son Ryan have been farming the Web family farm back at Paynton, land "broke by Randy's Great Grandfather". Margaret enjoys visits back to the area. Irene Jenny writes that she moved to St. Louis, SK, to be near her son Keith and daughter-in-law - her "most wonderful daughter-in-law...I'm very lucky to have her." Irene suffered a stroke after moving but certainly was able to write a good letter." · Some of our other supporters who wrote with appreciation for

the Newsletter and with kind wishes for the future of the Museum: Pat Smith, Georgina Scott, Waverley Ollenberger, Peggy Fidler, Bert and Lois Sayers, Joy Shimek, Marg Murray, Wynne Richards, Merrill Taylor, Doreen Williams, Mary Siferd, June Cote, Vivian Metherell, Barbara Greig, Sharron Lamont, Bob and Gerry Waterhouse, Barbara Housen, David Taylor, Clara (Bowes) Sulz, Jeannette Ennis, Margaret Wilson, Frank Hunt, Howard and May Wakelin, Vilda Laing, Karen Krein, and

AT THE POT LUCK SUPPER - DENNIS AND ALICE DOUVILLE AND THERESE SAYERS.

MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

more

New word: "STAY-CATION" meaning stay around home for your vacation, saving on gas and being easier on the environment NEW TO THE MUSEUM COLLECTION:

· First World War Honour Roll from the Anglican Church, Paynton, courtesy Vinessa Currie.

· From Cathy Dryhorub: Copy of the Ribbon, with community names, given to the Sinclair family for flowers when Robert Sinclair passed away in December 1947; copy of the "Going Away" card presented to Mrs. Sinclair when the family left Bresaylor in 1948.

· LOST TO POSTERITY: The EDWARD PETTY house, e. of Paynton, built in 1916, burned

down mid May,2008 · "BRESAYLOR" sign: The Hwy. dept. is not keen on putting the

Bresaylor sign back up. In any case, we would like to have the road e. of the hamlet named and labeled "BRESAYLOR ROAD". • CEMETERY MARKER. The person who was supposed to do the marker finally admitted to not being able to handle the job. After wasting a year they may be done this month - this time by a different company.

The Cemetery needs work done on many of the stones, mostly straightening and such. Relatives of those buried there are encouraged to help if possible.

#### MUSEUM GIFT SHOP

SOME of the ITEMS AVAILABLE:

- "THE RIVER" books 1,2,3,& 4 by Don Dobie. [We are pleased to have had more copies made of these accounts of Donald's (and companion's) trips on the N. and S. Saskatchewan Rivers.] \$20. for set of 4.
- "THE OTHER SIDE OF REBELLION" by Margaret Stobie. \$15.
- "SAYERS FAMILY COOKBOOK" 2003 version. \$14.
- "TWO MONTHS IN THE CAMP OF BIG BEAR" by Theresa Delaney & Theresa Gowanlock (intro. by Sarah Carter) \$20.
- "PETER FIDLER, CANADA'S FORGOTTEN EXPLORER 1769-1822" by G. MacGregor \$17.
- "EXPLORING THE FUR TRADE ROUTES OF NORTH AMERICA" by Barbara Huck. A travel guide. \$20.
- "READING THE RIVER, A Traveller's Companion to the North Saskatchewan River" by Myrna Kostash with Duane Burton...\$25.

(Prices as listed - No sale tax · mailing extra!) ASK FOR A MORE COMPLETE LIST OF ITEMS IN OUR GIFT SHOP!

--BOOKS TO ORDER **FROM THE AUTHOR**--

· NEW > "THE 'WORDS' OF THESE HANDS" At 90 years of age Gwen Zweifel's father, John K. Weinhandl, sat down to write the story of his life. He had never written much (his recently deceased wife did the writing) nor had he much school learning. English was not his first language, nor, at the time, did he read much. But, he had an incredible memory. And he had a lot of neighours and friends. and he wrote the story of all of them. Gwen set about typing (and interpreting) the shakily written story. The result, with photos added, is almost 600 pages of local history (and, indeed, Mr. Weinhandl was interested in history) of the Paradise Hill/ Frenchman Butte RM area. An interesting read even if you don't know the characters. \$75. plus shipping. Write to Gwen Zweifel, Box 217, Paradise Hill, SK, S0M 2G0 · "THE SANDS OF TIME", a reprint of pub'n. "The Cree Rebellion of 1884" ed. Ross Innes. \$18.50. Order from Ross Innes at 102 - 29 River Ridge Drive NW. Medicine Hat, AB, T1A 8V3 (rneinnes@shaw.ca)

#### **DONATIONS**

TO THE
BRESAYLOR
HERITAGEMUSEUM

ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.
A DONATION OF \$5. OR
MORE ENTITLES YOU
TO BECOME A
CARD-CARRYING

SUPPORTER OF

BRESAYLOR HERITAGE AND TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER.



As has become tradition (ahem)

I had meant to offer some thoughts on the future of the Museum...

It's future to me is a given - the how of it is not clear yet.
Whether to dream large, medium or small is the query, the pondering of which needs more time. Meanwhile, there are some housekeeping/ yard-keeping chores to be dealt with. That's where this summer's energy will be spent - all going well.

Note the rearranging





#### **OBITUARIES**

Leonard Sayers September 6, 1913 - 200?

Peter Hrycyna December 9, 1928 - June 11, 2007

June Margaret Taylor June 30, 1929 - July 23, 2007

Florence Carpentier deceased August 4, 2007 at 95 years.

John Leslie Millhouse October 26, 1917 - August 10, 2007

Murray Boyd Sack December 15, 1962 - August 30, 2007

Yvonne Flore Emma Carpentier
June 23, 1919 - September 15, 2007

James A. "Jimmy" Dobie d. September 2007

Louise Elizabeth Lavigne July 9, 1923 - September 25, 2007

Bertha (Kuhn) Dwyer September 6, 1962 - November 22, 2007

Mildred E. (Dobie) Creegan deceased December 9, 2007 at 79 years.

Muriel E. Sack May 2, 1925 - November 28, 2007

Lily (Groseth) Liefso February , 1916 - December 16, 2007

Marie Eva Carmen Prince August 14, 1957 - March 2, 2008

Vernon Wayne Sayers January 24, 1944 - April 22, 2008

Robert Andrew Lennie October 26, 1943 - April 13, 2008

Eva (Land) Scott August 8, 1920 - April 30, 2008

Mike Malinowski April 4,1930 - May 16, 2008

Two men whose lives were influential in this area of the province, recently deceased:

<u>Dr. Teddy Lee Marfleet, serving Maidstone</u>
and area for many years.

Born November 30, 1919 - deceased April 12, 2007. and <u>William (Bill) Warwick</u>, former owner of and hundreds of local history books in the area, deceased December 13, 2007 at 81 years.