

# Sunday Morning Local

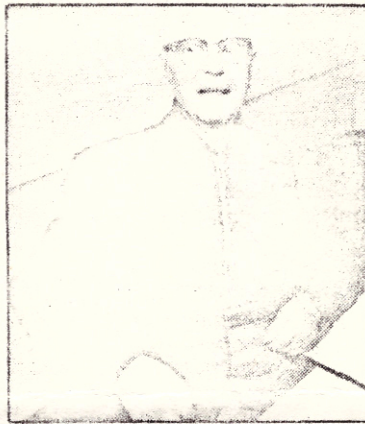
## Mainly About People

IT'S GETTING SO the mere celebration of the 100th anniversary of a person's birth is not the unique event it once was. The uniqueness is in the person so honored. Obviously, each has a long skein of experiences and some still are adding to it when that milestone is reached.

Such a man is Anton Stomsvik.

Anton is an avid pinochle player and joins other seniors for a weekly game at the Community Center. Anton lives in his own home, cooks for himself and until very recently drove himself to the center. He's very much the active man.

Thursday's gathering of pinochle and bridge players laid on a celebration of Anton's centennial with brief speeches, cakes, ice cream and music by the Blackberry Jammers.



Anton, raring to go

This followed an all-out weekend family reunion to honor him on the day of his birth, Jan. 9. His two daughters in Tumwater, Bonnie Shedd and Alma Mitchell, and son Orville from Tacoma, were there of course. Another daughter, Evelyn Sanders, and son Ernest journeyed from Montana and two other sons, Milton and Don, came up from California. And grandchildren and great- and great-great-grandchildren from all points of the compass rounded out the party. Fitting for a man who'd come a long way himself and spun a varied career.

Anton was born in 1883 in Norway on the homestead in his family since the 17th century and still owned by a nephew. (One of his birthday cakes was iced to depict his birthplace, fjord and village against a mountain backdrop.) He came in 1903 to the Dakotas where he was a gold miner, on to Hoquiam where he was a logger and then to a creamery school in Minnesota to become a licensed buttermaker. In Minnesota he met Ellen who was to be his wife until her death five years ago.

On to Montana they came where Anton ran a creamery. Then in 1940 it was work in the Bremerton shipyards. The Stomsviks came to Tumwater after the war and Anton ran a motel until his retirement at age 85. But he never stopped traveling — to Hawaii, Alaska, Mexico and back to visit in Norway. Now he delights in trips to Reno with his daughter and son-in-law for a little fling at the slots.

Now that's a unique life

## Happy Birthday

### CENTURION DRAWS ENTIRE CLAN

On January 9, 1883, Anton Stomsvik was born in the family home in ~~Christensen~~, Norway. On January 9, 1983, Anton and his 40 descendants had a big party at the Tye to celebrate his 100th birthday.

The old family home in ~~Christienson~~ has been in the family since the 17th century. It was occupied by the Germans during World War II, and a nephew is still living there today. Anton left there in 1903 to come to America.

Many occupations have been held by Anton. He worked gold mines in the Dakotas, logged in Hoquiam, and went to creamery college in Minnesota to be a licensed buttermaker. There in Minnesota, he found his bride and later, with three babies, moved to homestead in Montana. With the beginning of World War II, the Stomsviks moved to Washington where Anton worked at the Bremerton shipyards. Later, they moved to Tumwater where a motel business was run until his retirement at 85.

Anton lives by himself and had a drivers license until his eyes would not let him pass the test last week. He has two daughters and a son here in western Washington who were joined by family members from as far as Los Angeles and Minneapolis for the big bash.

Happy birthday, Anton!