

Pilgrims flock to Bethlehem

BETHLEHEM, Occupied West Bank (AP) — Thousands of Christian pilgrims were arriving today to celebrate "tidings of great joy" with bells, carols and a solemn Mass in the town where Christ was born.

Some 20,000 visitors were to arrive here Christmas Eve on buses that have to have special passes to come

near the cramped and winding streets of this hilltop town. Strict military security has been imposed by Israeli soldiers to guard against terrorist attacks.

Once here, according to Mayor Elias Freij, the pilgrims will have almost as much trouble getting a hotel room in the town of 30,000 as did

Joseph and Mary 2,000 years ago.

The religious ceremonies were to start with the motorcade of the Roman Catholic patriarch, Msgr. Giacomo Giuseppe Beltritti, making the five-mile trip from Jerusalem to Bethlehem.

Escorted by mounted police with lances, the patriarch was to make a

ceremonial stop at the tomb of Rachel on the edge of Bethlehem, be greeted at Manger Square by local officials, then go to the 800-year-old Church of the Nativity.

Descending from the main part of the church, he was to enter the richly appointed Grotto of the Nativity and worship at the place hallowed in

tradition as the stable-cave where Jesus was born.

Choirs and orchestras from the United States, Israel, Australia, Sweden, South Africa and Britain take over the stage in Manger Square after nightfall. Their carols and hymns will resound in the Church of the Nativity on the north side of the square, a

Moslem mosque on the south side, and other denominations' churches nearby.

Pilgrims and tourists arriving on Thursday suffered several hours of delays because of a brief strike by flight stewards at the airport.

Mayor Freij, an Arab Christian, took note in his Christmas message of the tensions underlying the busy tourist scene in Bethlehem, which is part of the Israeli-occupied West Bank of the Jordan River.

"We send greetings from the Christmas city of the world," Freij said. "We hope that all countries will join hands to secure peace between Arabs and Jews and to guarantee the basic human rights of the Palestinian people."

Merry Christmas

First family plans resort holiday

VAIL, Colo. (AP) — President Ford, limping from a skiing injury, plans to celebrate Christmas by attending midnight services tonight and will carry on a gift-exchanging tradition with his family on Christmas

morning. Ford remained off the ski slopes on Thursday, and there were two different versions about why.

Reporters noticed that Ford was limping Thursday and asked his press

secretary, Ron Nessen, if Ford had taken a fall. Nessen, who was irate last Christmas over suggestions that Ford might take more than his share of falls on the ski slopes, replied that his boss was limping because he had aggravated an old knee injury.

Ford had skied extensively the first three days of his holiday here, despite a shortage of snow, but Nessen said the President stayed off the slopes Thursday because he was "just tired and stiff. It's no big deal."

Later, Ford's personal physician said the President actually had bruised his hip in a tumble on the slopes.

"He took a couple of rough spills and he bruised his hip and he's pretty stiff," Dr. William Lukash said. Skiing conditions have been poor at this snow-scarce resort.

Ford was limping noticeably as he headed for a private dinner on Thursday night. Asked about the limp, Ford said: "I haven't hurt it. Anybody who skis once in a while falls."

Lukash said he recommended that Ford stay off skis today and Ford shrugged. "I've got about six hours work to do and I want to get it done before Christmas."

He is working on his State of the Union message and on work relayed to this vacation resort from Washington.

The Ford family planned to attend Christmas Eve services tonight at the nondenominational Interfaith Chapel in this Swiss-style Rocky Mountain village. Earlier in the evening, they will be serenaded by carolers outside their rented chalet and have dinner with friends.

Earlier this week, following a years-old custom, each member of the Ford family drew a piece of paper bearing the name of another family member for whom he or she must buy a small Christmas stocking gift.

The exchange of the small gifts will be done after Christmas morning breakfast beside the Christmas tree, with a roaring fire in the fireplace, an aide said.

With the President and First Lady are their four children, Michael, 26, Jack, 24, Steven, 20, and Susan, 19, and Michael's wife, Gayle.

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Water ruling favors district

A hearing examiner for the Public Utility Commission of Texas has ruled on a long-term dispute between the city of Coahoma and the Howard County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 when he said that the water district could best provide water service to residents outside Coahoma.

Hearing examiner T. Paul Buhlmann has issued an opinion that "...based upon a review of the entire record that the entity best able to provide for the expanding needs of Howard County outside the city limits of Coahoma is Howard County Water District."

Presently, the water district buys water from Big Spring and sells it to the city of Coahoma, which in turn sells it to city residents and also to residents in the unincorporated community of Sand Springs. About 60 per cent of the water sold is outside its city limits.

Both the city of Coahoma and the water district applied to the Utilities Commission for certification to provide service to Sand Springs residents.

A spokesman for the water district said that "without a doubt" it would begin providing water service to those residents living in the district but outside Coahoma. He also said that the district is looking into establishing

a sewer system for the same area.

In issuing the opinion, the examiner cited the lack of planning on the part of the city of Coahoma in allowing individuals and developers to tap into six and 12-inch transmission lines; the possible deterioration of cast iron pipe as evident in the iron content of water samples; and the fact that six or more connections have been made on a three-quarter-inch line in the system, when the Texas Department of Health Resources' maximum number of connections on a one-inch line is two.

The Water District sent a letter to the city of Coahoma in March, 1975, advising that the district was going to begin furnishing water service to customers residing within the district, but outside the city of Coahoma, and also expressed a willingness to purchase parts of the water system.

Coahoma filed an injunction on March 24, to prevent the move.

Spectators joke while man dies; gunmen escape

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Witnesses say spectators joked and continued to munch their hamburgers and french fries as a man mortally shot at a crowded drive-in lay on the pavement waiting for an ambulance.

Joseph Romero, 33, died later Thursday night at San Francisco General Hospital, police said.

During a 30-minute wait for the ambulance, while his wife looked on, customers "stood around like it was a sideshow," said Carol Peppers, a cook at the Tie-Tock drive-in. "They were laughing." Other employees agreed.

Investigators said Romero was returning with food to his car in the parking lot when three men surrounded him and apparently demanded money. Officers said Romero may have resisted because a fight ensued and four shots were fired. The gunmen escaped by car.

Post office clears mail

Despite a heavy holiday mail volume, the Big Spring Post Office will be clearing Christmas mail today, Postmaster Frank Hardesty said.

"I want to commend the 61 employees of the Big Spring Post Office for their extraordinary job of processing and delivering an avalanche of Christmas mail with dispatch and efficiency," Hardesty said.

"Big Spring postal customers also help make possible efficient mail operation by using Zip Codes and mailing in accordance with a series of suggested mailing dates announced earlier in the year."

"This public cooperation has enabled all Big Spring postal employees to be off on Christmas Day so they may enjoy the holiday with their families. The Post Office will be closed on Christmas Day," Postmaster Hardesty said.



CHRISTMAS HUG — Frosty the Snowman had a big Christmas hug for Nicholas Larsen, aged 2½, at the Lloyd Center here on Christmas Eve in Portland, Ore.

California man will be home for holidays

Go west, young man. That's what the legend says. But for Jesse McDuffie, 47, it wasn't quite that easy.

McDuffie is apparently trying to get to California, to his family, for Christmas. He was apparently riding in a car westward through Howard County Wednesday night when he was separated from his ride around midnight at a roadside park. He wandered to the Coahoma football stadium park, where he was picked up by sheriff's deputies at 5:30 a.m.

McDuffie was driven to the 66 Truck Stop to try to get a ride on west. At 4:30 p.m. Thursday, the sheriff's department received a call from Laverne Stewart in Los Angeles. She wanted to find McDuffie. She was a member of his family.

A car went out to pick up McDuffie at the truck stop, but he had vanished again. An hour later, McDuffie was found, still diligently headed somewhere, one mile west of the Prairie View Baptist Church. McDuffie was again brought into town, and today arrangements are being made through Sheriff Standard

for his family to provide bus fare to get McDuffie home for the holidays.

No white Christmas

Santa is going to need wheels for his sled instead of runners this year in Big Spring. Despite last year's healthy coating of snow, there is no chance of a repeat performance this year. It's going to be a green holiday season.

Saturday's temperature will fall on the warmer side of the records for Christmas. The hottest Christmas ever recorded was 78 degrees in 1942, but we can only expect a high in the 50s. The most frigid ever recorded was a frosty nine degree celebration in 1924. Last year's snow set a record at 1.03 inches on the 23rd, some of which lingered long enough to make the frosting on last year's holiday.

You won't need mittens, sleds, or ice skates, but it is unlikely any disappointment will be heard over the rustling of paper and the general good cheer.

Focalpoint

Action/reaction: Santa lives

Q. A small lad called the Herald and asked, "Is there a Santa Claus?" A. No one at the Big Spring Herald wrote the beautiful words of the editor that once answered a little girl with his now famous, "Yes, Virginia there is a Santa Claus." But we here on the editorial staff of the Herald, who are probably the most cynical persons in the community through years of covering hard news, still firmly believe that there is a Santa Claus and that Santa is real in the hearts of all who believe in him and help to make him a true spirit of giving and love. Merry Christmas.

Calendar: Christmas services

TODAY

St. Paul's Lutheran Christmas eve service, 7 p.m.
Christmas Eve Mass in Webb Chapel, 11:30 p.m.
Christmas Caroling and Candle Service, First Presbyterian at 7 p.m.
Service of Camels and Carols, First United Methodist Church, at 6:30 p.m.
Christmas Eucharist Service at St. Mary's Episcopal Church at 11:30 p.m.
Christmas Eve Service at First Christian, 11 p.m.
Christmas Communion at First Presbyterian, 11:15 p.m.
Vigil Service at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church at 7 p.m. followed by a Midnight Mass beginning at 11:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

St. Paul's Lutheran Christmas morning service, 10 a.m.
Big Spring Commandery No. 31 Knights Templar Christmas program at 11 a.m. at the Masonic Temple, 3rd and Main.
Christmas morning service at St. Mary's Episcopal, 10 a.m.
Masses at all three Catholic Churches at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Offbeat: Live turkey

Rashid Quadri, the physical therapist at Malone-Hogan Hospital, is a Moslem and does not observe Christmas as a church holiday.

However, he was caught up in the duty of passing out frozen turkeys at the hospital Christmas party this week. Rashid never accepts meat unless he kills it himself or watches it slaughtered because he believes that the bird or animal must be facing east when it dies.

He wasn't expecting a turkey, but they brought his turkey out last. It was a live turkey in a box and it immediately escaped. Norman Knox, administrator, caught it and had a little bit of difficulty in the process.

Knox discovered that bird in the hand is worse than two in the bush. Charles Armstrong, who works at the hospital, took the turkey home for Rashid because Armstrong lives in the country. As it was ended up, Rashid will kill the turkey. Mrs. Armstrong will cook it and the two families will enjoy Christmas together — in a typical West Texas style.

TV's best: 'White Christmas'

CBS news correspondent, Charles Kuralt, takes us on a journey through various states, in the Bicentennial year, in search of each state's enduring values and character, at 9:00 p.m. on CBS.

And, in all good Christmas consciousness, you should not miss Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye in the yuletide classic, "White Christmas" at 10:30 tonight on ABC.

Inside: Her third set of twins

BEATING ODDS of 512,000 to one, Margaret Murphy has done it again. The 36-year-old woman has delivered her third set of fraternal twins. See p. 11B.

COAST GUARD officials predict that a shift in winds will push a 100-mile-long splotch of oil away from fishing grounds and farther out to sea, but they don't know where it will end up. See p. 2A.

THOUSANDS OF youths protesting the arrest of Communist leader Santiago Carrillo clash with police in Madrid's central Square. See p. 11B.

Classified ads ... 9, 10, 11B
Comics ... 6B
Editorials ... 4A

Police beat ... 2A
Sports ... 1B
Weather map ... 3A

Outside: Colder

Christmas will be fair and clear and a little bit colder this year. High tomorrow is expected in the low 50s, low tonight in the upper 20s, and high today in the mid 60s. Gusty winds may threaten to upset Santa's sleigh, blowing from the SW today and tonight at 15-25 miles-per-hour.



Blue laws draw attention

By MARJ CARPENTER

The Texas Supreme Court upheld the Sunday blue laws in Texas by a 5-4 vote to keep the present laws across the state.

In the parts of the state where there are not city ordinances on beer sales, you can buy beer on Sunday but not diapers for the baby.

You can buy nonpower driven hand tools but not other tools. You can buy groceries but not the plates to put them on, or the pot to cook them in.

You can buy film, but not the camera to put it in. You can buy a toy which is a novelty or souvenir item, but not a toy for your child to play with.

You can buy a house but no furniture, stove, refrigerator, air conditioner, electric fan or home appliances.

You can't buy patio furniture or furniture for your office either, or lamps, draperies, curtains, floor coverings, bed coverings, mattresses, household linens or blinds.

You can go to the laundromat, but you can't buy a washing machine or dryer. If you're watching the ballgame and the television goes out, you have to wait until the next day to buy another.

The law takes into consideration merchants who might be Seventh Day Adventists. Merchants can sell on either Saturday or Sunday, but not both.

Herb Gibson Jr. of the



THIS AND THAT — Herb Gibson Jr., head of the vast Gibson chain of discount stores, is shown pointing to a six pack of beer which can be sold legally on Sunday in many Texas towns while a box of diapers or a baby doll cannot be sold. The store had a discriminatory lawsuit filed on the Texas Sunday blue laws which was voted down by the state supreme court this week.

Gibson's chain considered the laws discriminatory against some merchants and Gibson's filed the lawsuit which was voted down in the action of the Supreme Court this week.

Al Stephens manager of the local Gibson's store, said "One thing that is particularly interesting is the fact that some Texas towns uphold the blue laws and some do not. As close as Midland and Odessa, nobody pays any attention to stores being opened on Sunday, but locally the county attorney upholds the Sunday Blue laws. All this does is make customers drive a few more

miles for merchandise.

"At one time, we considered staying open on Sundays and roving off the items that we could not sell. However, that just got too complicated," Stephens added.

One local merchant who preferred not to be named said that actually "Some stores that are open on Sunday often go ahead and sell items such as diapers, which is against the Sunday Blue Laws but really get up tight if somebody tries to buy a six pack of beer, which is a local ordinance."

Another storekeeper who definitely wanted to remain

anonymous, admitted that "Once in a while, an item of clothing such as a cap or a pair of socks will get sold at my store when headwear and footwear are on the list."

Actually, if a golf shop sells a golf cap or golf shoes, they have violated the blue laws.

On the other hand, there are merchants who feel very strongly about holding on to whatever Sunday sale laws that we have.

Sam Schulze, manager of J.C. Penney, said, "I just do not want to work on Sunday and do not want our store to be forced into staying open on Sunday due to com-

petition."

The sentiments of C.R. Anthony were very similar. He said, "I hope they continue to uphold the law that keeps us from selling on Sunday. I'm against Sunday sales."

However, one convenience store operator said, "Grocery stores being open 24 hours a day have become a way of life in America. Nobody thinks anything about running to the grocery store on Sunday."

There also is the possibility that the laws will again be brought to the attention of the state legislature at the next session and that they might be changed.

The Supreme Court simply upheld the law in the vote this week. The law itself may receive another review by the state solons.

Pot plane duo being sought by officers

AMARILLO, Tex. (AP)—Texas Panhandle authorities are looking today for two Tucson, Ariz., men in connection with the crash of an ancient World War II aircraft that had its bomb bays converted into marijuana storage tanks.

A 26-year-old Tucson, man was charged Thursday with felony marijuana possession in connection with the discovery of the B25 bomber loaded with almost two tons of marijuana that crashed landed near Vega Wednesday.

Department of Public Safety narcotics unit chief Bill Sneed said an arrest warrant was forwarded to Arizona authorities.

Authorities also are looking for a second man, a former Texan now living in Tucson, Sneed said.

Oil threatens fishing grounds

BOSTON (AP)—Marine experts are hoping that an expected wind shift will keep a 100-mile long carpet of heavy oil from encroaching on the rich fishing grounds of Georges Bank. But that's all they can do—hope.

Forecasters said the wind would reverse from southeasterly to northeasterly today and could hold off the oil slick, which is spreading from the tanker Argo Merchant, wrecked on the shoals off Nantucket Island.

The U.S. Coast Guard said winds will almost certainly keep the oil from any U.S. shore, and they predicted that if it comes ashore anywhere, it might be across the Atlantic.

"In a few months, if it sticks together, it might come ashore somewhere—Iceland, Great Britain, who knows?" said Coast Guard Capt. Lynn Hein.

The spill, which began shortly after the vessel ran aground Dec. 15, has developed into one of history's worst. Nearly the entire cargo—7.6 million gallons of No. 6 industrial oil—is coating the ocean.

The Coast Guard said water samples taken Thursday, five miles from the ship in the thickest part of the spill, showed that almost all the oil was concentrated within a few feet of the surface, and that little or none was found at a depth of 150 feet.

The bow section of the Argo Merchant was still afloat. But divers opened hatches Thursday to let seawater into the hull. A Coast Guard spokesman said the bow will probably sink in the first heavy weather. He said the Coast Guard wanted to prevent the wreck from causing any other accidents.

The middle section of the 640-foot vessel has settled to the bottom, and the stern is firmly grounded in the sandy shoals, with only its topmost parts visible.

Meanwhile, the ship's captain, George Papadopoulos, was giving depositions on the circumstances of the grounding. He and the ship's owners are being sued for \$120 million by Cape Cod fishermen for anticipated damages to fishing grounds.

Fishermen from New Bedford have reported hauling up dead, oil-soaked birds in their nets, and bird clean-up stations have been set up on Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard and Cape Cod.

But the Coast Guard said only 17 birds—five of them dead—were brought to stations on Nantucket Thursday.

Norman Burkhardt, 1506 W. 6th, was the winner of the VFW draw for a \$100 food certificate. The drawing was held Dec. 22.

Hot checks increase prices

EDITOR'S NOTE — Hot checks affect everyone. Merchants who take the checks have to increase their prices to offset the loss. The following is the first of a three-part series examining local hot check problem.

By BOB BURTON

This is the Christmas season, when Big Spring merchants look toward the east and wait for their financial star to turn to gold. The selling boom during the last two months of the year can make or break a small shop, and can bring tears to the eyes of the most hardened chain store manager.

A hot check is the quickest way to cut some of that profit completely out. It is, sixty per cent of the time, a clean loss. And it is becoming an

increasingly sore point.

"Don't ask me about checks," said one harried grocery store manager. "If we used our card system religiously we should be able to eliminate repeats, but we handle 3,000 checks each week, and there is no way we can check that cleanly."

Al Stephens manages Gibson's one of Big Spring's largest department stores. His store also handles around 2,800 checks each week.

"It takes a fool to make the same mistake twice," said Stephens. "We keep a book of the check-out counters of our store. If someone bounces a check here, it goes in the book and they'll have to explain what happened to me before they can write one

here again.

Stephens said the system worked very well for him. "We handle half of our merchandise in checks," he continued. "We avoid payroll or counter checks, and our cashiers are instructed to get a Texas driver's license, address, and phone number."

Ralph Brooks manages Blum's Jewelers, an independently owned store. He said he doesn't have too much problem with hot checks because he is careful about whom he accepts checks from.

"We don't get an exceptional number," he said. "The total amounts to about one per cent of our gross sales. But the checks are almost always a complete

loss. From insufficient funds up to 'out-and-out' forgery, there is only a slim chance for recovery."

Each of the merchants lays the blame for the problem at a different doorstep. The grocery store manager believes most bad checks could be stopped if local merchants would take care about the checks they accept. Al Stephens said that the problem behind the checks lies with the repeat offender, and his book system goes a long way toward stopping that problem. Brooks lays the blame directly on the judicial system, calling for higher penalties and stiffer enforcement.

Next: Hot checks and the JP court.

Deaths

Gus White Sr.

LAMESA — Services for Gus White Sr., 80, of Lamesa will be at 3 p.m. today in First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Alvis Cooley, pastor, and the Rev. Bill Hardage, pastor of First Baptist Church, officiating.

Burial will follow in Lamesa Memorial Park under the direction of Branon Funeral Home.

White died at 11:45 a.m. Thursday in Medical Arts Hospital following an extended illness.

The Comanche native was a 54-year resident of Dawson County where he farmed and ranched. White served as the county's tax assessor and collector for four years and as sheriff eight years. He was a semi-pro baseball player in the 1920s and later was captain of a Lamesa polo team.

White was a member of a Lamesa Masonic Lodge No. 909 and a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite Mason of El Paso. He was married to Willie Garrett on Jan. 9, 1921, in Aspermont.

Survivors include his widow; a son, Gus White Jr., of Lamesa; three daughters, Mrs. Gene Tyra and Mrs. J.D. Borland, both of Lamesa and Mrs. Guinn Gross of Red Wing, Colo.; two sisters, Mrs. Russell Martin and Mrs. John Banta, both of Lamesa; two brothers, Bailey White of Lamesa and Teaver White of Hermleigh; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

McSpadden

LAMESA — Funeral services for Terrell Williamson McSpadden, 91, of Lamesa will be at 3 p.m. today in Branon Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Dick Schmidt, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, officiating.

Burial will follow in Lamesa Cemetery. McSpadden died at 4:30 a.m. Thursday in Medical Arts Hospital after a lengthy illness.

He was a native of San Saba who moved to Dawson County in 1902. McSpadden lived in Old Chicago until Lamesa was formed as the county seat in 1905. He owned and operated McSpadden Tool Service until his retirement five years ago.

McSpadden was married to Josephine Gaines on Nov. 3, 1915, in Lamesa.

Survivors include his widow; a son, Willard McSpadden, of Tulsa, Okla.; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Roy Casady

Roy Carlos Casady Sr., 67, brother of Raye Carter of Big Spring, died at 4:15 a.m., Wednesday in Clovis, N.M. The former resident of Abilene was living in Clovis at the time of his death.

Services will be at 2 p.m., Monday at graveside in Rosehill Cemetery in Merkel. He was a retired truck driver.

Other survivors include his widow; a son, Willard McSpadden, of Tulsa, Okla.; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

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Leland Wagy

LAS VEGAS, NEV. — Leland Levere Wagy, 64, brother of Mrs. Cecil McDonald and Mrs. Lucille Kelly, Big Spring, died Friday, Dec. 17 here.

Services were held Monday and his body was cremated. His ashes will be buried in Big Spring.

Wagy was born July 12, 1912 in Dawn, Mo. and lived in Big Spring in the early 1940s. He had lived here the past 12 years.

Other survivors include his wife, Dolores, and a stepson, Ronald Brown, Las Vegas.

Mrs. Fritts

Mrs. Sarah Mae Fritts, 84, died at 4:50 p.m. Thursday in a local nursing home following a two-month illness.

Services will be at two o'clock Monday afternoon with the Rev. Roy Honea, pastor of Grace Baptist Church presiding.

Burial will be in Trinity Memorial Park. She was born March 29, 1892 in Carber's Ridge, Ill. She came to Big Spring in 1947 from Fulton, Kentucky, and was employed at Webb AFB from 1952 to 1960. She was a member of the Baptist Church.

She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Frank (Ruth) Gibson; Big Spring, and Mrs. Morris (Evelyn) Gerow, MacArthur, Calif.; seven grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ezra Dean Fritts, August 29, 1968.

Palbearers will be M.H. Gibson, John L. Gibson, Harvey Harris, Bob Greene and Reuben Tranham.

Salazar in jail

Gilbert Arthur Salazar, 24, is in custody today in the Howard County Sheriff's Department on a warrant issued for his arrest by Winslow, Ariz., for assault with intent to rape and fleeing and eluding a police officer. Salazar is expected to waive extradition.

Police beat Accident causes power blackout

An International Castorag Dumpster, driven by C. O. Aguil, Coahoma, ran into a pole and guy wires belonging to the Texas Electric Service Company, 6:52 a.m. today, disrupted electric service to parts of town for up to two hours. The pole is located at the corner of Ridgeroad and Settles.

According to reports from

Jack Redding, Texas Electric manager, the collision caused a feeder at the Big Spring West Station to "lock out," plunging a fourth of the downtown area into darkness for 18 minutes. The blackout affected 2,000 local customers, said Redding.

After the company had isolated the damage, repairs

were begun, and approximately 100 customers were without power for two hours. Redding was unable to estimate how much the accident had cost the company.

The Bollinger Grocery, 300 N.W. 3rd, reported a theft, 2:10 p.m. Thursday.

According to reports, a man entered the store around 2 p.m., and asked the manager to come to the rear of the store to look at some eggs. While the man and the manager were occupied, an accomplice opened the cash register and made off with \$20 in cash.

C. N. Newton, 411 N. W. 8th, reported that someone entered his home through the boarded door of an adjoining apartment, and ransacked the residence. The incident

occurred sometime Thursday morning. Missing were a 25 caliber pistol and a tape player, valued at \$120.

Vandals drove a car over three metal trash cans and homemade trash holder at the home of David Escobedo, 500 N. Nolan, 12:45 p.m. Thursday. Damage was estimated at \$40.

Ruth Stickert, 1506 Oriole, reported that burglars entered, and rummaged through her home sometime Thursday morning. Nothing has been reported missing at this time.

A three-car pile-up sent a Coahoma man to Cowper Clinic with one broken wrist, and one sprained wrist, 5:26 p.m. Thursday.

Reports state that cars driven by Jimmy Headrick, Silversaddle Motel, Harold L. Harrington, Coahoma and Odell Domino, 3122 Calvin, collided on the 500 block of East Third. Harrington's vehicle was in the middle of the melee, and a passenger in his car, C. S. Harrington, Coahoma, was the only one injured in the accident.

Mandy Jean Clayton, Fort Worth, a passenger in a car driven by Barbara Rawls Clayton, 622 State, was treated and released following a collision at the corner of Eleventh and Goliad, 9:24 p.m. Thursday.

Clayton's car collided with an auto driven by Dan Lee Manuel, Escondido, Calif.

Four other mishaps were reported Thursday.

Cars driven by Deborah G. Carter, 1216 Lynn, and Colin Roy Peddicord, 1006 W. 6th, collided on the 200 block of East Fourth, 3:06 p.m.

Cars driven by Julia S. Puga, 207 N. Austin, and Robert L. Turner, Baytown, collided at 1100 Goliad, 5:16 p.m.

Cars driven by Terry M. Cervantes, Houston, and Virginia M. Kosas, 4105 Dixon, collided at Seventh and Gregg, 1:19 p.m.

A car driven by Melinda Sue Garrett, 715 Edwards, collided with a road sign on the 1600 block of FM 700, 1:39 p.m.

Tipster probably needs \$21,000

DALLAS (AP)—A Vidor woman whose retired husband has been ill and "probably needs the money" is in line to receive \$21,000 as a reward for providing information that led to the arrest of a man charged with the slaying of a Dallas police officer.

Don Maddox, police chief in the Southeast Texas town, said the woman tipped Vidor police about a 16-year-old youth who had been talking about the fatal shooting of officer Robert Wood on Nov. 28. Police picked up the youth who, under questioning, revealed he had been with the man who shot Wood in Dallas.

Police later arrested Randall Dale Adams of Fort Worth and charged him with capital murder. The youth said Adams was a hitchhiker he picked up while driving a stolen car from Beaumont to Dallas.

Dallas police had mounted an intense manhunt and several organizations, including the Dallas Police Association, offered cash rewards amounting to \$21,000 for information leading to the arrest and indictment of the suspect.

The case broke open Tuesday when the boy talked to police.

Maddox said the woman did not want to give her name because "this is a small town and she doesn't

want any kids throwing eggs at her."

Maddox said the boy at first did not volunteer any information to police. "We first thought that the boy had done the killing. We picked him up on Monday, after recovering the gun Sunday. We questioned him and thought he did it, until he made a statement which implicated another individual."

Chief Maddox said he didn't learn there was a reward in the case until he read it in the newspaper Wednesday.

Meanwhile, in Dallas, the widow of the slain officer was expected to receive at least \$75,000 in benefits in addition to regular payments from other sources.

Ed Heath, a spokesman for the police department's legal liaison division, said Mrs. Wood would receive \$20,000 from the state, and around \$50,000 from the Law Enforcement Assistant Administration under Title 42 of the U.S. Code.

He added the police department will pay Mrs. Wood 25 per cent of his salary for the rest of her life and another 45 per cent salary supplement may come from the federal government under Title 5 of the Code.

Wood was shot five times when he approached a car he and his companion, officer Teresa Turko, had stopped for a traffic violation.

Two Healthy Stocking Stuffers

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After announcement

Everyone mobilized for Webb

The candidacy of Webb AFB for closure is the single most important issue of the year for Big Spring. Since the candidacy was announced in March, 1976, the citizens have mobilized, the Air Force has mobilized, and the politicians have mobilized.

At the end of the year, it remains clear that nothing is clear. The public hearings provided a forum for public commentary, but failed to introduce any tangible Air Force opinion, other than the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Big Spring Mayor Wade Choate found himself in for an unexpected battle when the candidacy was announced March 12, 1976.

"It was a real shock to us," Choate said. "We had understood from our legislators that Webb, because of its capabilities and record, was safe. By January, 1976, however, we heard the rumors of a Pentagon list."

Leading the opposition to the Air Force candidacy was the Legislative Action Committee of the Century Club. The committee club, with the approval of area merchants and citizens proceeded to challenge the draft EIS. They undertook the massive job of researching and refuting the 204

page statement.

Their effort culminated at the public hearings when an organized series of speakers attacked the draft statement before a board of examining officers for over six hours.

Members of the committee are: Wade Choate, Jimmy Taylor, J. Tom Graham, Winston Wrinkle, Ben Bancroft, R. H. Weaver, Jim Gray, Ralph Brooks, and Adolph Swartz. Ex officio members are Roger Brown and J. D. Nelson.

The public hearings held Nov. 4 and 5 at the high school were to provide citizens a chance to reply to the draft EIS. Present to participate in the local answer to Air Force figures were Senator John Tower, Cong. Omar Burleson, and representatives from Sen. Lloyd Bentsen and Gov. Dolph Briscoe, as well as over thirty local speakers.

"I will not relent in my efforts to persuade the Department of Defense to keep Webb AFB in operation, with its solid record of accomplishments and efficiency in pilot training and a level of public support here in this community that is unmatched anywhere in the world," Tower said.

The most serious charge was leveled at the Air Force by Mayor Choate during the public hearings.

"The question arises, is the final decision on Webb still not made, as the Air Force contends, and as the law requires? Or is the Air Force simply going through the motions required by law before carrying out a decision obviously made one and one-half years ago?"

Choate was referring to rumors of a base draw-down. The substance of the rumors became evident in Air Training Command (ATC) figures which showed the rapid decline of Webb from

March, 1976 to the fall.

The loss of Webb activity was attributed to the December, 1975 announcement of a mission change at Webb. The change, intended as a load-leveling measure, dropped Webb from first in the ATC in March in programmed flying-hours to fifth in September. The loss of the Undergraduate Pilot Training program (American pilots) was to have occurred naturally through the year as the classes graduated. As the classes graduated, the Webb figures declined.

A major bridge will be crossed with the release of the final EIS, due before the decision. How effective the year-long campaign by Choate and the committee has been should be obvious in the report.

After that, and due next year by Feb. 8 at the latest, is the final decision.



(AP WIREPHOTO) TEN GALLONS FOR A FORD — President Ford, sporting a ten-gallon hat, and his wife, Betty, arrive at a Vail, Colo., restaurant for a dinner Thursday night. Ford said that his sons Mike and Jack talked him into wearing the headgear and Betty had no comment about it.

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Steer baseball team came close to crown

One of the first sporting events of the year saw perhaps the largest crowd in the history of Hawk gym

watching the Howard College Hawks defeat Panola, 106-90, to capture the championship of the ABC Olympic Classic on Jan. 10.

That statistic was dramatically offset 11 months later when undoubtedly the smallest crowd in the history of Big Spring High School watched the Steers and the San Angelo Bobcats battle each other and a snow-covered, wind-swept gridiron on Nov. 14. The Steers, after leading early, lost their ninth game in 10 starts for the season 20-6.

Head Coach Don Robbins, coming back to Big Spring after a 10-year absence, announced his plans in the early spring to coach again at BSHS. Plagued with inexperience and injuries, the Steers only beat Hobbs, 9-0, and finished in the

District 5-4A cellar.

The biggest area story was without a doubt the amazing performance of the Forsan Buffaloes, who won their district championship going away, only allowed six points scored against them in regular action, were barely nipped by Groom 7-6 in the Class B quarterfinals, and finished with a remarkable 13-1 record.

The Big Spring Steer roundballers lost a half dozen contests by one or two points during the 75-76 season, and finished with a disappointing 14-18 season record. Already at the end of 1976, and going into 1977, the Steer roundballers are 9-6, and are on their way to a fine season.

In the late winter and early months of 1976, the district 5-4A baseball coaches gave BSHS the nod for the league crown. They came within one hit of that title. The Steer diamondmen ended the season with six straight victories, finishing the second half district slate at 6-1, overall district at 11-3, and a remarkable 21-7 season record.

Unfortunately, however, they were nudged out of the play-offs by Abilene High, who went undefeated in the second half of play. Coach Larry Horton was later to step down as the head man for the Steers.

The Big Spring Steerettes, the powerful local volleyball team, had an exceptional season, finishing district play at 12-2 and tied with Midland Lee for the championship. Despite a hard-nosed effort they lost to that Midland team in a district play-off and were knocked out of post-season action.

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Season's Greetings

A special thank you to all of our friends. May your holidays be bright and happy. We look forward to seeing you in 1977.

Burger Chef

Lloyd Kelley, Manager

Weather Santa facing nippy journey

By The Associated Press

Parts of South Texas, Southeast Texas and South Central Texas may have a rainy Christmas as a cold front is expected to move through the state tonight and Saturday.

The remainder of the state, however, is expected to have clear to partly cloudy skies and crisp temperatures for Christmas in the wake of

the weak frontal system, which should reach the coastal regions by Saturday evening.

Forecasters are calling for a slight chance of rain in the lower Rio Grande Valley, South Central Texas and along the coast, where some light rain and fog was reported this morning.



WEATHER FORECAST — Milder weather is forecast today for the East and the West with colder weather expected most inland areas. Showers are expected in the central Gulf turning to snow in eastern Oklahoma and Kansas and the lower Midwest.

All the Joys of Christmas

We hope the Christmas promise of a bright future is fulfilled for you and your family.

If Santa goofed — we'll be happy to exchanged gifts by December 31st. We'd like to take this time to thank one and all for your valued patronage. In making this a prosperous year for us — we look forward to continued service to you in the new year.

TOM BOY

220 Main

May the spirit of the Christmas season linger on and brighten all your days.

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Publisher's corner

What a difference a few lights make

Remember how dreary was the Christmas of 1973?

That was the one where Christmas lights were dimmed as part of an energy crisis program nationwide.

Until the lights did not go up that year, I had not realized how much they add to the Christmas spirit.

THE LITTLE COLORED lights around houses and bushes make it seem more like Christmas than any other single thing, and a year without them was a less cheerful holiday season indeed.

Actually, says Texas Electric Service Co. District Manager Jack Redding, lights are very efficient

users of energy, so the program to dim Christmas lights probably didn't save that much energy.

But I suppose it was important during the crisis to make the point that Americans must become more energy conscious.

Big Spring is one of the most colorfully lighted communities I have ever seen. Parts of it this year are absolutely stunning when it comes to Christmas lighting.

This is especially true of the Highland South area, as one can see from FM 700, where the majority of the houses are outlined in Christmas

lights.

AS FOR MY HOUSE, the question of Christmas lights is a sore point. We wanted lights so badly, and I spent the better part of a day placing our two strings.

Unfortunately, however, our lights are the made-in-Taiwan variety which are cheap to look at but not cheap to buy.

AFTER GETTING THE lights in place, I could not make them burn. For several hours I tried, then in a very un-Christmaslike manner, I ripped them from the roof and windows and threatened to buy an airline

ticket to Taiwan so some Chinese light maker could eat them.

I plan to try again before Christmas day, but I would advise those who want to see lights not to count on my house too heavily.

There are a number of places in College Park, however, where the lights are outstanding.

And, of course, the magnificent drive down Highland Drive where almost every house is gaily decorated. For getting in the Christmas spirit, I think a family cruise around town to see the lights in this cheerful community is a top way to spend Christmas Eve night.

—J. TOM GRAHAM

Promise kept

Around the rim

Bob Burton

"Twas the night before Christmas, When all through the house, Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse . . ."

Thus begins the famous description of what really goes on downstairs on Christmas Eve. The immortal words are not, however, as old as the Christmas tradition. In fact, according to Henry Kurtz, the poem was written in 1822 by Clement Clarke Moore, a "classical scholar and part-time poet" who lived in Manhattan, New York.

MOORE'S SIX CHILDREN all looked forward to the Christmas celebration that fateful year, and one part of it in particular with great appetite. Moore, as his part of the tradition, and in keeping with his line of work, had promised them a Christmas poem.

According to tradition, Moore was returning to his house on Christmas Eve, driven by a Dutchman, Peter, whose ruddy face seemed always smiling.

Moore was racking his brain for the opening lines of his promised poem when Kurtz says, "suddenly his eye fell on Peter's face, illuminated by the soft beams of the moon. The handyman's cherubic features, the pipe clenched firmly between his teeth, and the stocking cap pulled over his head provided Moore with his inspiration."

"The stockings were hung by the chimney with care, In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there . . ."

Moore quickly penned the lines, and presented them to his family that night. It was an immediate success

with the family, and became a local tradition, but without any great notoriety. It was first printed publicly in the Troy Sentinel in 1823, but Moore did not receive public acclaim for the work until 1837.

MOORE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY be depressed to learn that the lines which came so easily that night would eclipse his ponderous "Compendious Lexicon of the Hebrew Language," but his words provided the first definitive glimpse of the spritely patron saint of children.

Santa's description remained vague, however, until the 1860's. Most considered the elusive S. Claus to be a tiny elf until the etchings of Thomas Nast, a political cartoonist, established Santa firmly as a jolly, obese, white-haired, red-suited gentleman.

"And Mama in her kerchief, And I in my cap, Had just settled down for a long winter's nap . . ."

Moore is also responsible for the hitherto unknown bit of information about the eight reindeer, and their names.

"Now Dasher! now, Dancer! now, Prancer and Vixen! On, Comet, on! Cupid, on! Donder and Blitzen . . ."

Once again it is Christmas Eve, and the children are snuggled all warm in their beds. Tomorrow is the day with enough joy in it to light the whole year, and Clement Moore would certainly blush to discover his part in it.

"And I heard him exclaim, as he rode out of sight, 'Merry Christmas to all, and to all, good night!'"

New info uncovered

Jack Anderson

WASHINGTON — House investigators have uncovered dramatic new evidence that the accused killer of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. may not have acted alone.

THE MURDER was pinned on James Earl Ray, an escaped convict, who used phony passports to slip out of the country. According to the investigators, he got as far as Portugal, where he received "further instructions" from a secret conspirator. Ray finally was tracked down in London and extradited to the United States for trial. His activities in Portugal, meanwhile, have been concealed from the authorities for eight years.

Not until a few weeks ago did the House investigators learn about Ray's Portugal connection from "a witness who had never previously been interviewed by any investigative agency."

The investigators reported this startling development confidentially to the Select Committee on Assassinations. "Ray contacted another person from whom he received further instructions," they disclosed cautiously in a preliminary report.

They didn't mention in the report where the contact was made, except that it was "out of the United States." We have established that the location was Portugal.

The investigators also have uncovered some intriguing new information about Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assassin of President John F. Kennedy.

According to the report, the committee staff "spent seven hours questioning an ex-CIA agent who had come forth to relate his personal knowledge of the contents of conversations between Lee Harvey Oswald and personnel within the Cuban and Soviet embassies in Mexico City."

OSWALD'S CONVERSATIONS, according to our sources, were monitored by the Central Intelligence Agency. Immediately, staff members "were dispatched to Mexico City where they conducted further interviews," the report discloses. No evidence has been uncovered so far, however, that Oswald discussed the Kennedy assassination at either embassy.

The committee will probe deeply into any connection between the CIA and Kennedy's assassination. The agency, we have learned, has more than 60 cartons of top-secret documents "relating to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and the activities of Lee Harvey Oswald prior to that assassination."

Meanwhile, the committee staff is anxiously awaiting congressional approval of their request for a record \$6.5 million to investigate the assassinations. Behind closed doors, Richard Sprague, the panel's brilliant staff director from Philadelphia, dramatically laid out his plans, and persuaded even the most stubborn members of the committee that the money was necessary.

Different drummer

Evans, Novak

WASHINGTON — The most revealing aspect of President-elect Carter's unexpected selection of Griffin Bell as Attorney General was that it stunned and dismayed his own advisers even more than outsiders.

Not only had Bell's name been absent from the Attorney General lists meticulously prepared by Carter's huge transition staff, but key aides actually recommended against him (including one written memo). "I think Jimmy missed the boat on this one," a Carter insider confided to us. "He missed a chance to make a really innovative selection that would go over with women and blacks."

BUT CARTER was marching to a different drummer, seeking a tough legal administrator and an Attorney General he could trust. Ignoring black complaints that Bell was insufficiently pro-integration as a U.S. appeals court judge in New Orleans, Carter discussed the appointment with Sen. James O. Eastland of Mississippi. Eastland, a near legendary hate-symbol for liberals, warmly applauded the choice.

This selection process for the Justice Department, plus similarly twisting paths in reaching his Treasury and Defense selections, adds up to cabinet-making lacking both ideology and system. Behind the facade of his expensive transition system methodically searching out

cabinet members fitting preconceived needs, Jimmy Carter was working out of his hip pocket on instinct and personal perceptions.

Griffin Bell's name was excluded from those early lists, mainly because the list-makers took seriously Carter's campaign proposal for a non-political Attorney General completely removed from the President. Bell, a Georgian and law partner of Carter intimate Charles Kirbo, could not seem further from that description.

WHAT'S MORE, Carter aides believed that the President-elect intended to shatter recent precedent by naming a total stranger, well outside his political circle, as Attorney General. Accordingly, the list included blacks, women, federal judges, district attorneys, former Kennedy administration officials — sharing two common characteristics: all were strangers to Carter and all were acceptable to his important black constituency.

The list began shrinking, with Carter striking off some names and others declaring their own unavailability. A few Carter insiders, however, feel the President-elect, like John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon, always wanted an Attorney General intimate enough to protect his interests. Whatever the reason, Carter by mid-December had turned on Griffin Bell.

Ideas on giving

William F. Buckley, Jr.

Guess what Shirley Temple is doing right now? As chief of protocol, she has to decide whether William Simon should be permitted to buy from the United States government some of the gifts he was given while Secretary of the Treasury, or whether that would be opposed to the "spirit" of the law. The gifts Mr. Simon desires to hang on — to are those that "mean something special" to him, namely a Russian shotgun, a cigarette box from Saudi Arabia, a set of matched pistols from Argentina, a wristwatch from Leonid Brezhnev with Brezhnev's name engraved on it, a porcelain sculpture from Spain.

THE LAW SAYS that any gifts from foreign officials worth more than \$50 must be turned over to the United States Government. What then happens to them, if you were the president of the United States, is that they end up decorating those shrines ex-presidents and their friends build to preserve their sacred memory; or, if you are a lesser light, they are quietly auctioned off a few years down the line by the General Services Administration.

Mr. Simon is a gun collector, which explains in part why he wants to hang onto the shotgun and to the pistols. The silver necklaces apparently have sentimental value (they alone are valued at less than \$50, so there is no problem there). The porcelain sculpture from Spain presumably has nostalgic as well as artistic value. It isn't plain why he wants to hang onto the watch. The only gift I would accept from Brezhnev is an urn containing the ashes of the Brezhnev doctrine. On the other hand, if every time you look at your watch you see Brezhnev's name, that's not a bad idea either, since it is good to remind ourselves that life is nasty, brutish and short, thanks substantially to Brezhnev.

Still, William Simon being one of the world's exemplary libertarians, there are no grounds for suspecting any alienation of affection. If Mr. Simon goes back to Wall Street, he will no doubt want to be the only guy in the board room who tells the time by looking at Brezhnev's watch.

WHEN I was a little boy, though not so little I shouldn't have known better, a lady at a souvenir shop in Stratford-on-Avon gave me, after I and my sisters had loaded up on Shakespeareana, a miniature Hamlet — the whole play, reduced to a book the size of a passport photograph. I was delighted, and fished out of my grubby pocket a shilling, which I insisted on giving the lady, in turn. With us was an old friend who taught me music, but has had no other failure during her lifetime, and later she told me I must learn to accept gifts, any methodical attempt to requite which has the effect of squinting cold water on acts of spontaneous generosity.

One supposes that the law binding William Simon was written on the assumption that foreign officials are not engaged in spontaneous acts of generosity, but rather in formalities, or even cynicism. The exchange of gifts between heads of state is a ritual that began with the beginning of history. The question arises whether it is possible for a foreign leader to make a spontaneous gift. Sadat, for instance, is clearly attached to Henry Kissinger, not the Secretary of State. Will he wait until Mr. Kissinger is out of office, and then make him a gift? Not To Be Opened Until Your Resignation?

MERRY Christmas



Body's 'back-up' system for spleen

Dr. G. C. Thosteson

Dear Dr. Thosteson: Could you please explain to me how the body works after the spleen has been removed? My husband had it out four years ago. What effect does this have on the body? — S. Y.

The spleen is still one of the mystery organs. We know much about some of its functions, less about others. It is generally accepted, however, that the body functions pretty much as before when the spleen is removed.

It's about six inches long and located under the ribs in the upper left portion of the abdomen. Before we are born the spleen produces red and white blood cells. This work is taken over by the bone marrow afterwards.

The spleen continues performing two main functions for the adult — screening blood for worn-out cells and other unwanted components, and producing antibodies to fight infection. In destroying the old red blood cells the spleen also collects the residual iron and stores it for later use.

Spleen enlargement is one of the major reasons for its removal, because the enlarged organ may be taking too many important blood components from the blood. Purpura (easy bruising) may result if the enlarged spleen removes too great a quantity of clotting elements from the blood. Rupture of the spleen is another indication for splenectomy (removal), as would a tumor or other abnormalities.

The spleen apparently becomes involved in various other blood disorders. In some, when conservative treatment fails, the spleen may be removed in hopes that this will have a desired effect. Because of the high degree of success in this operation, and because the body can do nicely without it, removal of the spleen is considered worthwhile in many such cases. A study of patients who have had splenectomies indicates no serious after effects. There may be temporary loss of some infection-fighting ability, but this is usually corrected in time. Other organs and

body tissues apparently take over the spleen's duties.

It seems to be a case of nature providing a "back-up system," in the phrase popularized by space age technology.

Dear Dr. Thosteson: I am a man of 62. I have high blood pressure and also varicose veins. I have been wearing elastic stockings for three years on the advice of my doctor, who now advises me to have the veins operated on. I was wondering if there are any side effects on the legs after the operation, like stiffness. — P. T.

There shouldn't be. It may take a while for the circulation in the legs to adjust and this might cause some temporary discomfort. Much of this would depend on the condition of circulation in the deeper-lying veins. The elastic stockings are not a cure — they just help keep things under control a bit and make you more comfortable. The stockings should be put on first thing in the morning, preferably before getting out of bed, if there is someone to help you do it. Surgical correction should not affect your high blood pressure.

Dear Dr. Thosteson: At what age should a child be able to sit alone? — N. G.

Anywhere from the ninth to the 12th month.

Infants may turn from the stomach to side at about the third month, turn from the stomach to the back by the fifth month, from the back to the stomach at about the sixth month. They should be able to crawl by the eighth, or ninth month, perhaps stand up by the eleventh.

All of these developments can come

normally a month or two later than the times suggested above. Infants may first walk anywhere between the 13th and 21st months.

Again, all of these are general norms. Just because an infant doesn't fit into one of the categories doesn't have to mean something is radically wrong. Much has to do with the parents' encouragement during the first year and a half of life.

Troubled with varicose veins? To make sure you are doing all you can, write to Dr. Thosteson, in care of The Big Spring Herald, for a copy of his booklet, "How to Deal with Varicose Veins." Enclose a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope and 25 cents.

Dear Dr. Thosteson: I have heard that coffee adversely affects the body's ability to deal with blood sugar. Is this true? — M. L.

Excessive coffee (or tea) drinking provides a high caffeine content. This may tend to lower the blood sugar, slightly.

How to get rid of leg cramps and foot pains? The answer may be simple — write to Dr. Thosteson, in care of The Big Spring Herald, for a copy of his booklet, "How to Stop Leg Cramps and Foot Pains." Enclose a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope and 25 cents.

Dr. Thosteson welcomes reader mail but regrets that, due to the tremendous volume received daily, he is unable to answer individual letters. Readers' questions are incorporated in his column whenever possible.

My answer

Billy Graham

DEAR DR. GRAHAM: I am a Christian. I have a good friend who is an atheist. He does not try to persuade me, but do you think I am doing wrong by remaining his friend? — M. B.

DEAR M.B.: No, certainly, not! As long as he is not dragging you down spiritually (by tempting you to sin, for example), you should thank God for this opportunity to be a witness for Christ. Let Jesus Himself be your example here. Unlike many of the self-righteous religious leaders of His day, He associated with the unbelieving people who needed God, and He sought to win them to repentance and faith. "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10).

You mention elsewhere in your letter that your friend is very intelligent. This may be so, and perhaps you will not always be able to answer

his arguments. If he asks you serious intellectual questions, you may want to ask your pastor or local Christian bookstore for some reading suggestions.

I find, however, that many people who claim to be atheists have never really thought about it as much as they think they have. Atheism actually requires much more "faith" than Christianity, since the atheist has no way of proving that God does not exist. The Christian, on the other hand, points to the historical resurrection of Jesus Christ as proof not only that God exists, but that He loves us and wants to save us.

However, the real witness to your friend will probably be how you live, rather than what you say. When he sees the way that Christ can give purpose and peace to a life, he will want to find out more about Christ.

Big Spring Herald

"I may disagree with what you have to say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." — Voltaire

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Sniper kills retired editor

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) — Police have urged residents here to stay away from windows and keep their drapes drawn through the holiday season because of a series of sniper assaults that killed two persons and injured two others.

"We are dealing with an extremely dangerous, homicidal person," Police Chief Jon P. Kindice said Thursday. He said police have several suspects, but none is in custody.

The latest victim was Herbert C. Bradshaw, 68, a retired newspaper editor, who was killed Wednesday night. The bullet that struck him in the head went through a kitchen window where he was standing, washing dinner dishes with his wife, police said.

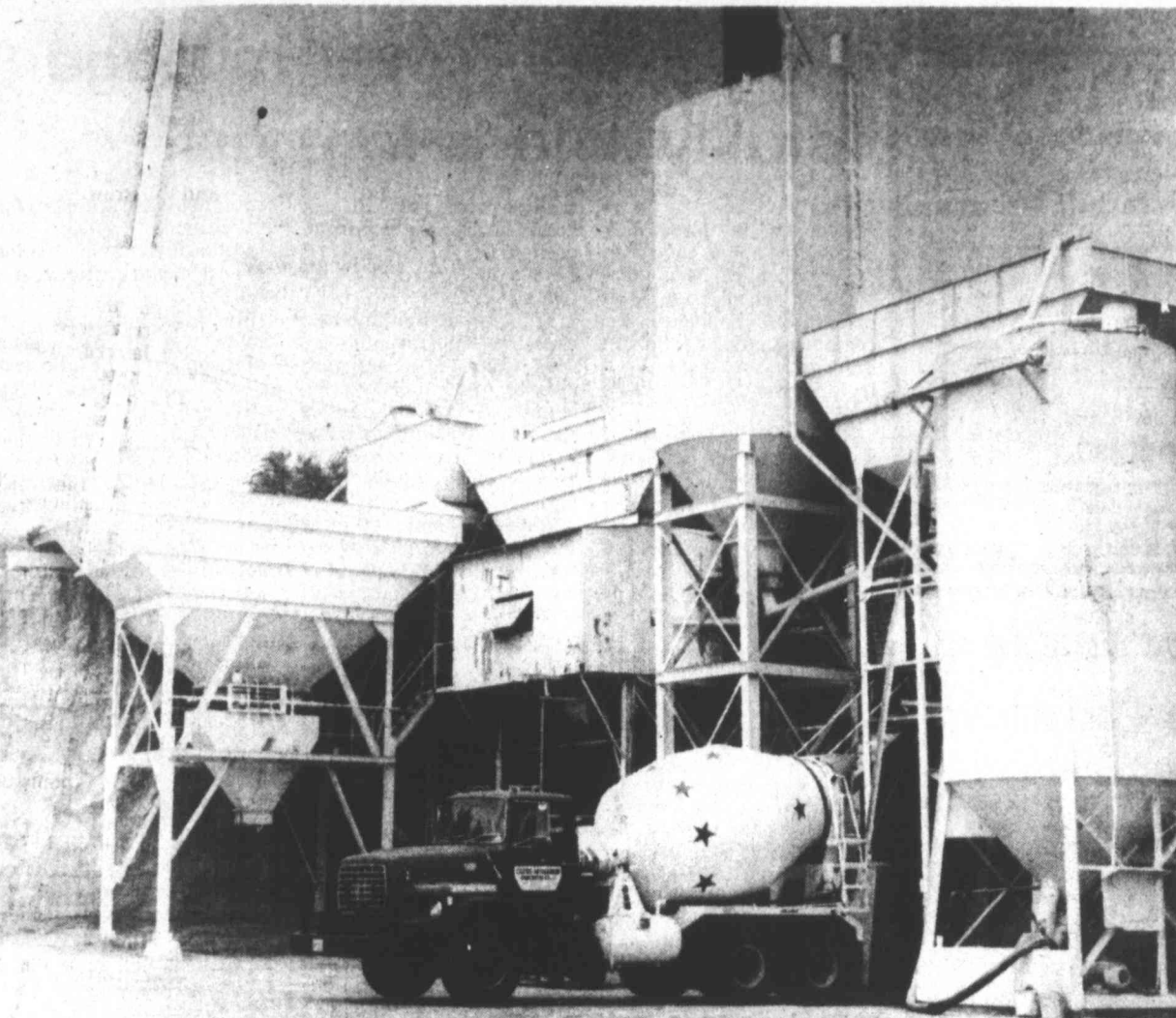
"We're not panicky, but we're concerned," said Mrs. J.R. Marshall, a neighbor of Bradshaw. Her husband said robbery attempts and break-ins are nothing new in the neighborhood of large, mainly old homes, and the family has always closed their drapes after dark.

Kindice urged the city of 110,000 to remain calm, but to exercise extreme caution and report any suspicious activity. He said police think the killer acted without motive and did not know any of his victims.

The first shooting, Dec. 10 at a carwash, left one man injured. The second, eight days later, wounded a service station attendant. In the third incident, Herbert Medlin, 26, was shot to death while walking along a city street with his girlfriend Sunday night.

A number of other shootings were reported Wednesday night in Bradshaw's neighborhood, including one assault on an ambulance crew. No one was injured, Kindice said.

The FBI and State Bureau of Investigation have been called in and police have taken "extraordinary measures," Kindice said. He declined to elaborate. A reward of at least \$1,000 has been posted for information leading to an arrest and conviction in the case.



(Photo by Danny Valdes)

EVERYTHING WAS — To pick a typical Bicentennial picture, it could have been a flag raising, a play, a song, a dance, a patriotic number or a painted fireplug. But

the fact that the Bicentennial even spread to the trash trucks and local cement trucks tells the story of 1976 in Big Spring.

Women played big role

Heavy emphasis on Bicen

By MARJ CARPENTER
How could anybody forget that 1976 was the year of the Bicentennial.

Big Spring celebrated it from can to can't starting with the big Campus Review '76 in January with Big Spring's own teenaged Uncle Sam in Paul Ruiz and going all the way to the Bicentennial Armed Forces exhibits in December.

In between these were so many activities that nobody can remember them all. Most were directed by Mrs. Johnnie Lou Avery and Mrs. Janelle Davis, co-chairmen of the Bicentennial activities in the city.

People got enthusiastic about it and the city painted a garbage truck red, white and blue, individuals painted all the fireplugs to look like Bicentennial people, and Bicentennial flags waved from the light posts downtown.

Individual businessmen got into the spirit of the thing with everything Bicentennial from cement trucks to pet rocks.

The big July Fourth celebration in the park expanded into the town with square dancing in the streets, veterans marching proudly down to the courthouse and little children tromping up

and down Highland South.

The summer festivals in the park were Bicentennial. The big Spanish Heritage week was Bicentennial. The rodeo and all of the accompanying fol-de-rol was Bicentennial.

As a special gesture, the rodeo directors got around to honoring Toots Mansfield, one of the best known ropers in the United States.

The programs were many. The churches had Bicentennial revivals and old-time camp meetings and the clubs all held special events such as the area square dance festival and the annual rock show.

All were under the cloak of the Bicentennial Commission. The Garden Clubs dedicated a new city park and encouraged planting azaleas as the local flower.

The historical survey commission marked the Fisher store, the Potton House and the Bud Roberts ranch.

The schools held all sorts of activities including special flag raisings at each school, including Howard College. Many of their programs were dubbed Bicentennial.

The area got into the act and Grady had a Bicentennial Settlers day, Stanton added Bicentennial to their annual event and Gail outdid themselves with the biggest celebration in all of West Texas and ran buffalo, wagons, senoritas, and all kinds of history down the street for 5,000 visitors in a two-day celebration.

A herd of Longhorns walked down the streets of Midland during the Bicentennial year and Lamesa had all kinds of games and contests in the city park.

Colorado City, one of the most historical cities in West Texas, held numerous celebrations and held special plays all year at the Old Opera House.

Sterling City held an Old Settlers day in August and the Big Spring Old Settlers gathered as usual in early August at Comanche Trail Park.

Coahoma dedicated a museum. Big Spring's Heritage Museum Bicentennial ended up their annual Chuck Wagon event and held numerous special displays during the 200th year.

Patriotic music abounded in the city and the Howard College Choraliers, the Meistersingers at the high school, the Big Spring Steer Band, church choirs and a college musical group brought in by the Mormon Church, as well as the Nuts 'N Bolts from First United Methodist Church, presented excellent patriotic numbers throughout the city.

Those who heard Janet Ivery do "The Battle Hymn" or Marilyn Newsom sing "This Is My Country" or saw David Trim play Benjamin Franklin will remember the Big Spring touch in the Bicentennial year.

Mayor Wade Choate proclaimed himself into a Bicentennial fog as he proclaimed event after event after event.

The Webb Air Force air show in May was special with a Bicentennial touch. Everything turned out to be red, white and blue and "God Bless America" but the real meaning of the celebration kept coming through — over and over during 1976 in Big Spring.

A Merry Christmas

Hoping you will have an old-fashioned holiday with all its joy, contentment, peace... and sending you heartiest thanks!

Closed Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

The Casual Shoppe
1004 Locust

In the Spirit of Christmas

It's the season of His birth. Let us rejoice in loving adoration as we celebrate and remember the true meaning of Christmas.

Coahoma State Bank
COAHOMA, TEXAS

BEST WISHES

Serving up a portion of love with hearts of gladness and a cup of good cheer for a spirited Christmas season.

VERNON'S LIQUOR STORES

602 Gregg Dial 267-6444 3009 W. Hwy 80 Dial 263-3032

MAY THE JOY AND PEACE OF CHRISTMAS BE WITH YOU TODAY AND ALWAYS

MALONE-HOGAN HOSPITAL, INC.
Affiliate of Hospital Corporation of America

Big Spring (Texas) Herald, Fri., Dec. 24, 1976 5-A

Cleaning out your garage easier than you think.

Just phone 263-7331, and list the things you no longer want in the Big Spring Herald Want Ads. Let someone else carry them off for you, and put money in your pocket!

When The Season Is Upon Us—

We Look Back And Are Really Grateful For Having All The Wonderful Customers We Serve—

Felis Navidad y Un Prospero Año Nuevo—de

Carlos Restaurant y "La Ganga"

308 NW 3rd 267-9141

Christmas... a time to pause and reflect upon the good things which have been granted unto us... may the joys of the season be yours in fullest measure and may the coming year bring peace and happiness to you and yours.

Dorothy Ragan's TOT N' TEEN
901 Johnson

O come, let us adore Him! May the newborn King bless each and everyone at Christmas.

RIVER-WELCH FUNERAL HOME

"Member of the Order of The Golden Rule"

610 Scurry 267-5511

MERRY CHRISTMAS
Thanking all of our loyal customers for doing business with us. We enjoyed working with you and we look forward to seeing you again. Have a wonderful Christmas.

We are open all day today!
Continuous Servings
until 6 p.m. for the
convenience of holiday shoppers!

Western Sizzler
208 GREGG 267-7644

From our Families to Your Family
We Wish You A Merry Christmas
and A Joyous New Year



Rev. & Mrs. Terry Wilson & Kim

Evangel Temple Assembly of God Church
2205 Gollad, Big Spring, Texas
Tune In
Sounds of Sunday — KBST Radio 1490
Sunday, 11 P.M. till 11:55 P.M.



May the glad tidings bring joy into every heart at this holy season. And may every home be blessed with all the warmth and cheer of Christmas — from all of us.

We Thank Our Customers for Your Patronage the Past Year

Maurine
Thelma

Mary Jo
DRESS SHOPPE
Where Fashion is a look. Not a price.

Clarie
Eloise

901 Johnson

Owner, Kay Allen; Mgr. Jackie Allen

267-6974

GREETINGS

from our outfit to yours



Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year

More travel, lower mileage fatality rate is forecast

The Highway Users Federation is forecasting that by the end of this year, there will have been more highway travel than ever before in U.S. history, accompanied by the lowest mileage death rate since traffic records have been kept.

Based on analysis of routine statistics gathered from federal, state and nongovernmental sources through September, 1976, the Federation estimates that by the time New Year's Eve rolls around, Americans will have driven almost 1.4

trillion miles on all our roads, streets and highways, compared to about 1.3 trillion miles in 1975, a 4.9 per cent increase.

At the same time, the best guess is that the mileage death rate — a standard measurement meaning the number of traffic fatalities for every 100 million miles driven — will be down to 3.33, a 3.5 per cent reduction from 1975.

However, total fatalities are expected to rise by 0.9 per cent to 46,400 because of the additional accident exposure as a result of increased travel.

Overall highway fuel consumption is expected to be up to about 115 billion gallons, an increase of between five and six per cent over 1975. The biggest increase will be in diesel fuel use, up by about 15 per cent, with gasoline use up by about four to five per cent.

The Federation pointed out that these are estimates based on information now available, and that the final data may show minor differences. However,

tabulation of all statistics for a calendar year are traditionally unavailable for several months after year's end.

The 1976 statistics on travel, fuel use, and traffic safety appear to be following a long-range pattern which will see travel almost doubling by the end of this century, the Federation said. However, more fuel-efficient motor vehicles will allow this travel to occur with little or no increase in total highway fuel use over the long haul.

Although total fatalities are expected to continue to increase slightly, the mileage death rate will probably continue to decline. The Federation expects its established safety goal of no more than three deaths per 100 million miles driven by the year 1980 to be achieved.

The Highway Users Federation is a national, nonprofit organization supported by 600 businesses, industries and highway user groups to promote traffic safety and improved highway transportation efficiency.

Lightning bolt fatal to man

Probably the most unusual and tragic story of the year in 1976 in Big Spring occurred April 12 when Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gibson of Abilene were struck by lightning as they were walking up to the front door of a local family.

They had come to Big Spring to attend an infant's funeral and were struck by lightning outside the home of Mrs. Gibson's sister, Mrs. Bob Bradbury.

Mr. Gibson died as a result of injuries. The two were both holding an umbrella as they approached the house. The umbrella handle showed burn marks and apparently the lightning struck the tip of the umbrella.

Love didn't like jail

Hershel Floyd Love, 21-year-old Big Spring, created an excitement during 1976.

He had escaped jail in Big Spring in 1975 and made a swing across the Hill County allegedly stealing cars and other items. He was recaptured at Johnson City.

He had escaped the Big Spring jail by making a pointer he obtained out of corporation courtroom into a key and he walked out. In Johnson City, he kicked out a cement block and crawled through a small hole.

He was recaptured in Fredricksburg Feb. 6 from an escape from the Johnson City jail. In Fredricksburg in March, he apparently went out an air conditioning vent in the roof. A few months later, he was recaptured in Abilene, sitting at the swimming pool at a motel.

Back to basics

WASHINGTON (AP) — The three Rs — rough, rutted roads — are costing American motorists \$7.4 billion more to drive each year, says The Road Information Program TRIP.

It costs 6.39 cents to drive on a mile of good road versus 8.44 cents per mile on badly worn pavement.

Put Your Tools Away! Need help on your yardwork or gardening? Check the Who's Who for Service Directory in the Big Spring Herald Classified Section.

TRANS REGIONAL AIRLINES

(Howard County Airport — Texas Hwy 350)

Big Spring — Dallas-Fort Worth

2 Non-Stop Flights Daily — except Tues.

Travel Assistance, Call: 263-8389
263-1591

Office Open 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Daily

Arrive & Depart American Airline Terminal at D-FW

Other Services Available:

Air Charter

Air Ambulance

Cessna Dealership

Flight Instruction

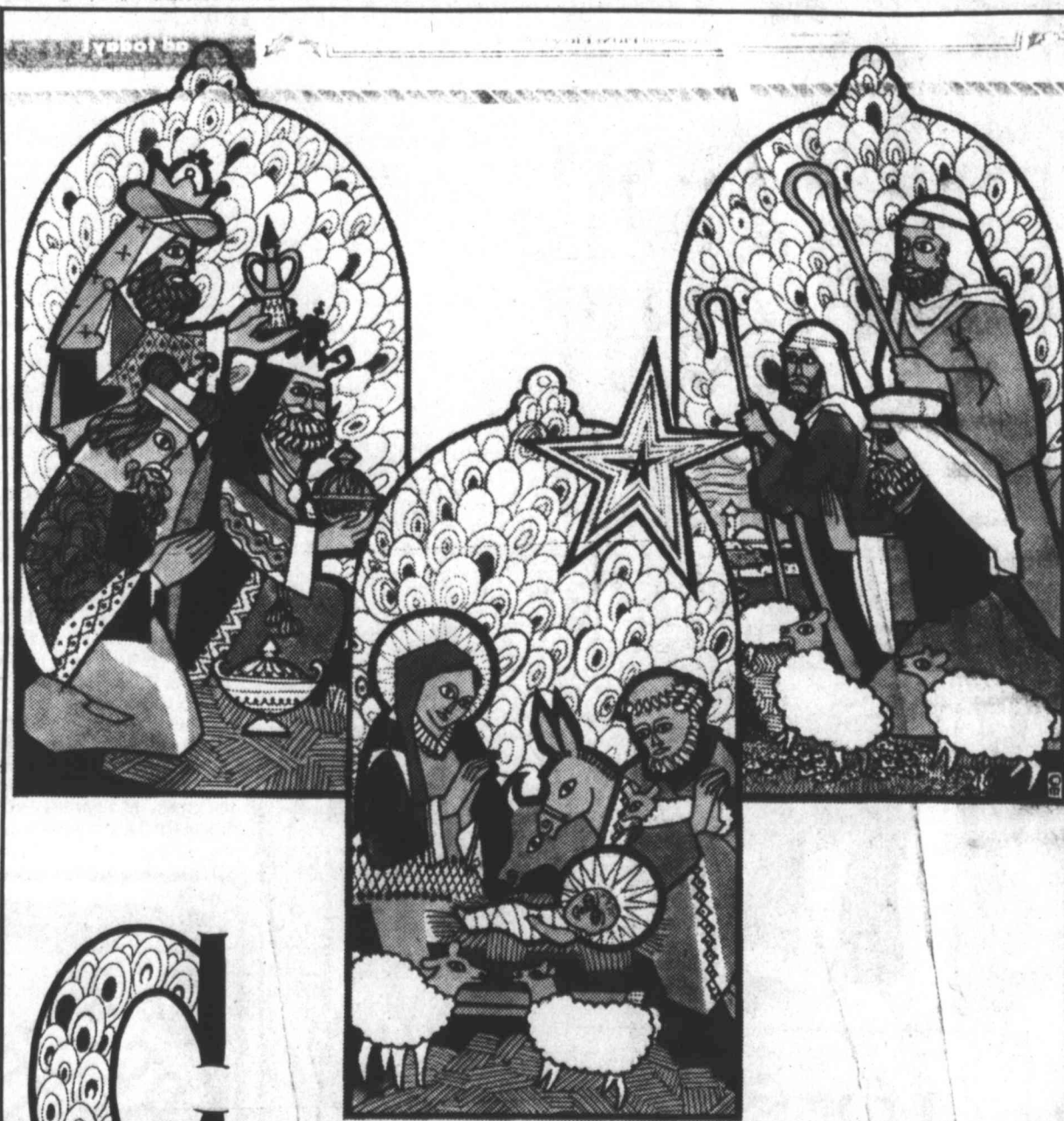
Aircraft Maintenance

Aircraft Fuel

Thrifty-Rent-A-Car

May the peace that Comes from this joyous Season be yours as We Celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Carter's Furniture
202 Scurry



CHRISTMAS...

A time for spiritual rededication.
A time for sharing memories and renewing cherished friendships. A time for joy and peace.



First Federal Savings
500 Main Big Spring
THE SAVINGS SPECIALISTS

Chr

FOND DU
Bernice
says her C
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Turkish jail
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them on a
Wermes said
Kathryn 2
Lancaster,
Anne Marie
Coos Bay,
arrested Dec
Turkey-Syria
were convict

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Christmas card campaign

FOND DU LAC, Wis. (AP) — Bernice Wermes, who says her Christmas card campaign helped release a man from a Czech prison 14 years ago, has begun another drive, this time for two American women in a Turkish jail on drug charges.

"We feel that once the Turkish officials know there are people interested in the girls they may open their hearts and maybe release them on amnesty," Mrs. Wermes said.

Kathryn Zenz, 30, from Lancaster, Wis., and Jo Anne Marie McDaniel, 29, of Coos Bay, Ore., were arrested Dec. 10, 1972, at the Turkey-Syria border. They were convicted of smuggling

hashish. Originally sentenced to death, they had their sentences reduced to life and then to 24 years in a general amnesty.

They denied knowing the hashish was aboard the trucks they drove across the border at the request of an acquaintance. Robert Hubbard, 26, of San Diego, who is with them at the prison in Adana and has taken sole blame for the offense.

"Beginning in October, we asked everyone we knew to send Christmas cards to Kathy and Jo Ann," Mrs. Wermes said. She said she has spread her campaign through friends around the country.

"We've gotten word that cards were sent to the girls via the American consulate from Minnesota, Illinois, Washington, D.C., New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Oregon and Wisconsin," she added.

Mrs. Wermes and her husband, Frank, say they're praying "that we get a contact in each of the 50 states during 1977."

A former teacher who describes herself as civic-minded, Mrs. Wermes said her previous letter-writing campaign helped free Jaromir Zastera, a political prisoner in Prague.

"We learned how to work through the Foreign Service and the U.S. State Department," she said.

"Now the State Department says nothing can be done. They said the same thing 14 years ago when we started the campaign for Zastera."

Mrs. Wermes said Zastera, who had never been in the United States but was the son of a naturalized American, was unfairly jailed as a spy by the Czechoslovaks.



(Photo By Danny Valdes)

ONE OF THE BEST — Josh Owusu, an engineer at Cosden, was considered one of the best broad jumpers in the world and was to compete in the Olympics with an African national team. However, when he arrived, his team was withdrawn from competition due to political decisions among the African nations.

Big Spring olympian spectator at games

Big Spring had its own representative at the 1976 World Olympics in Montreal, but he did not get to compete.

Joshua Owusu, who was representing one of the African nations, moved into Big Spring in the spring as an engineer at Cosden refinery.

He had competed in the prior Olympics as a broad jumper and was considered one of the best in the world.

He worked out during the spring in Big Spring and, then on a leave of absence, met his team and worked out several weeks prior to the Olympics.

When the decision was

made that his team would not compete, Owusu was very disappointed and said that he would probably never again try for the Olympics. He returned to his job in Big Spring.

Classified ads

get RESULTS

Call 263-7331 and place your ad today!

Bird park will close

HOUSTON (AP) — Anheuser-Busch Inc. has announced that Houston's Busch Bird Park will close immediately.

The Thursday announcement said the closing will allow the company to redirect its marketing dollars into more mass media advertising.

The bird park, part of the company's brewery complex here, has drawn nearly 700,000 visitors a year.

Big Spring (Texas) Herald, Fri., Dec. 24, 1976

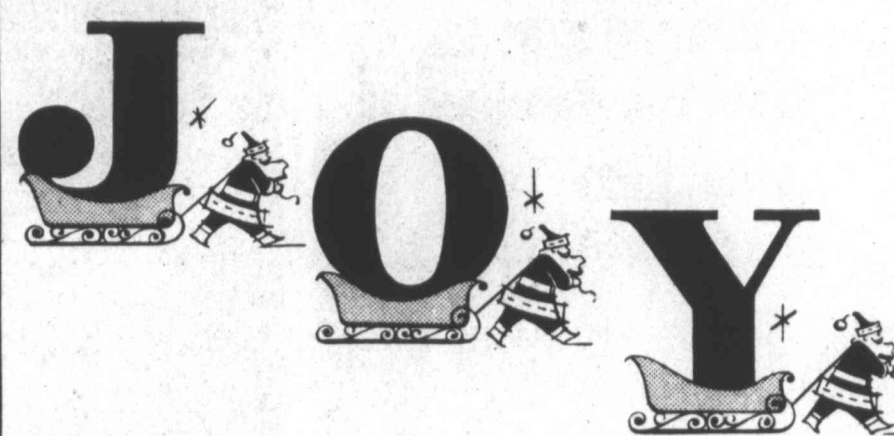
7-A



We thank you for your patronage.

Tommy Gage Oil Co.

15-20 East 263-7324



It adds much to the enjoyment of the season

to extend to our friends and customers

our best wishes for a MERRY CHRISTMAS...

THE etc SHOPPE
905 1/2 Johnson 267-8239

The Episcopal Church Welcomes You

SUNDAY SERVICES
8 A.M. and 10:30 A.M.

Church School 9:30 A.M.



10th at Goliad
267-8201

THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN
The Rev. H. B. Birdwell, Rector



Seasons Greetings
FROM

PRIMEER NATURAL GAS COMPANY
(A Division of PRIMEER CORPORATION)

O HOLY NIGHT



May the guiding star of Christmas light your way.

That first Christmas, when shepherds watched over their flocks on a lonely hillside, near Bethlehem, seems a far cry from the busy, noisy season at Gibson's Discount Centers, where 15,000 men and women labor frantically in 660 stores to help load untold carloads of gifts onto Santa's sled, but the same Christmas message rings out now as then.

The miracle of Christmas finally covers and subdues the frantic hubbub of the shopping rush, and once again we hear the angel's song! For many in the Gibson Discount Centers, that message of Peace and Good-Will shines through all of the rush and clamor, with cheerful friendliness and helpfulness. They are the happiest, most blessed in our Gibson family.

The employees and management of Gibson's wish you a

VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
and a
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!



Medical Arts Clinic & Hospital

710 Gregg

Remember non-drinkers at your holiday party

Having a party? Planning on serving drinks? Don't surprise your guests by serving them doubles. Many folks count and pace their drinks. With doubles, they'll be drinking twice as much as they planned. And that isn't hospitality on your part; it's downright inconsiderate.

This is some of the information that the Department of Health, Education and Welfare has included in a new booklet, "Drinking Etiquette — for Those Who Do and Those Who Don't." You can get a copy by sending 40 cents to the Consumer Information Center, Dept. 34E, Pueblo, Colorado 81009.

Plan your party so that none of your guests feel uncomfortable if they're nondrinkers, or just aren't in the mood to drink.



Joyous Tidings

As we celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace, let every heart find His peace within... and let every heart rejoice! Best wishes to one and all from

PHILLIPS TIRE CO

311 Johnson



Wonderful wishes come in lovable bundles. A joyous holiday to everyone. And, true gratitude for your loyalty.

The Laddie & Lassie Shop

124 East 3rd

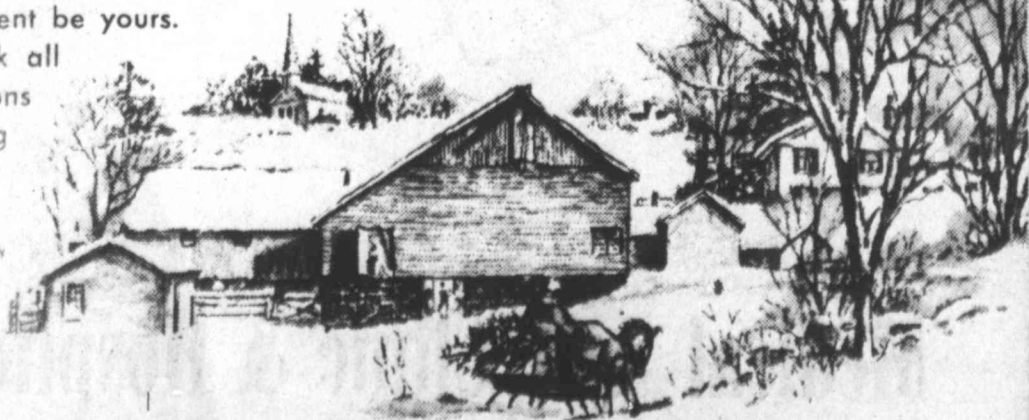
9:30 - 5:30

267-1300

Christmas Greetings

A winter landscape of yesteryear best expresses the peace and contentment of Christmas. May that peace, contentment be yours.

We thank all our patrons for letting us be of service.



TEXAS DISCOUNT FURNITURE

1709 GREGG BIG SPRING, TEXAS



ON NOV. 15 — The Fina Terminal burned with close to a quarter million in damage at this blaze. In other years, this would have probably been the major fire of the season.

Some big ones occurred here 1976--year of fire

By MARJ CARPENTER

The year 1976 was the year of the fire in Big Spring. Three big fires occurred during the year up to this date, including the cotton compress fire, the Cosden blaze and the Cosden garage fire.

Unlike the previous year, citizens were not plagued by numerous grass fires during the summer and autumn months due to the moisture which fell regularly throughout the year.

However, the year was young when one Friday afternoon in a high wind on Feb. 20, a fire began near the south service road of IS 20 which quickly spread to the compress yard and burned

rows and rows of bales of cotton.

The fire then jumped to threaten homes in the area and developed into a major holocaust that threatened some 11 blocks of vacant lots and homes on the north side and threatened Broughton Implement Co. as the flames leaped into the equipment yard.

Big Spring firemen were joined by firemen from Webb Air Force Base, all the volunteer units, and fire departments from all over this part of West Texas who fought the blaze for over eight hours, and prevented an even worse catastrophe.

Then on a Sunday night in July, Big Spring citizens were startled when the eastern sky turned bright with flames and Cosden Refinery was on fire. It was July 18.

Again fire departments called upon other fire departments to help fight the blaze.

The blaze lasted most of the night and involved several explosions and over \$12 million in damage to the plant.

Injuries were surprisingly low and involved a broken arm and firemen overcome by smoke.

Then in November, the Fina Truck Terminal, where Cosden trucks were kept in shipshape across IS 20 caught afire with damage estimate \$200,000 including one tank truck and other vehicles inside the building. The date was Nov. 15.

Fire Chief Alvie Harrison and Fire Marshall Howard Dodd both stated, "Sooner or later, every city gets a year like this one."

However, they were quick to point out that despite the ferocity of the fires, there were no fatalities and injuries were kept at a minimum.

Caller fails to make hit

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Sarah Hert grew increasingly annoyed at the anonymous telephone caller. Now she has a new number — unlisted.

This was no ordinary annoyance caller. When she answered her phone, he would sing — soul or rock music.



May the world find true peace!

MERLE NORMAN COSMETICS

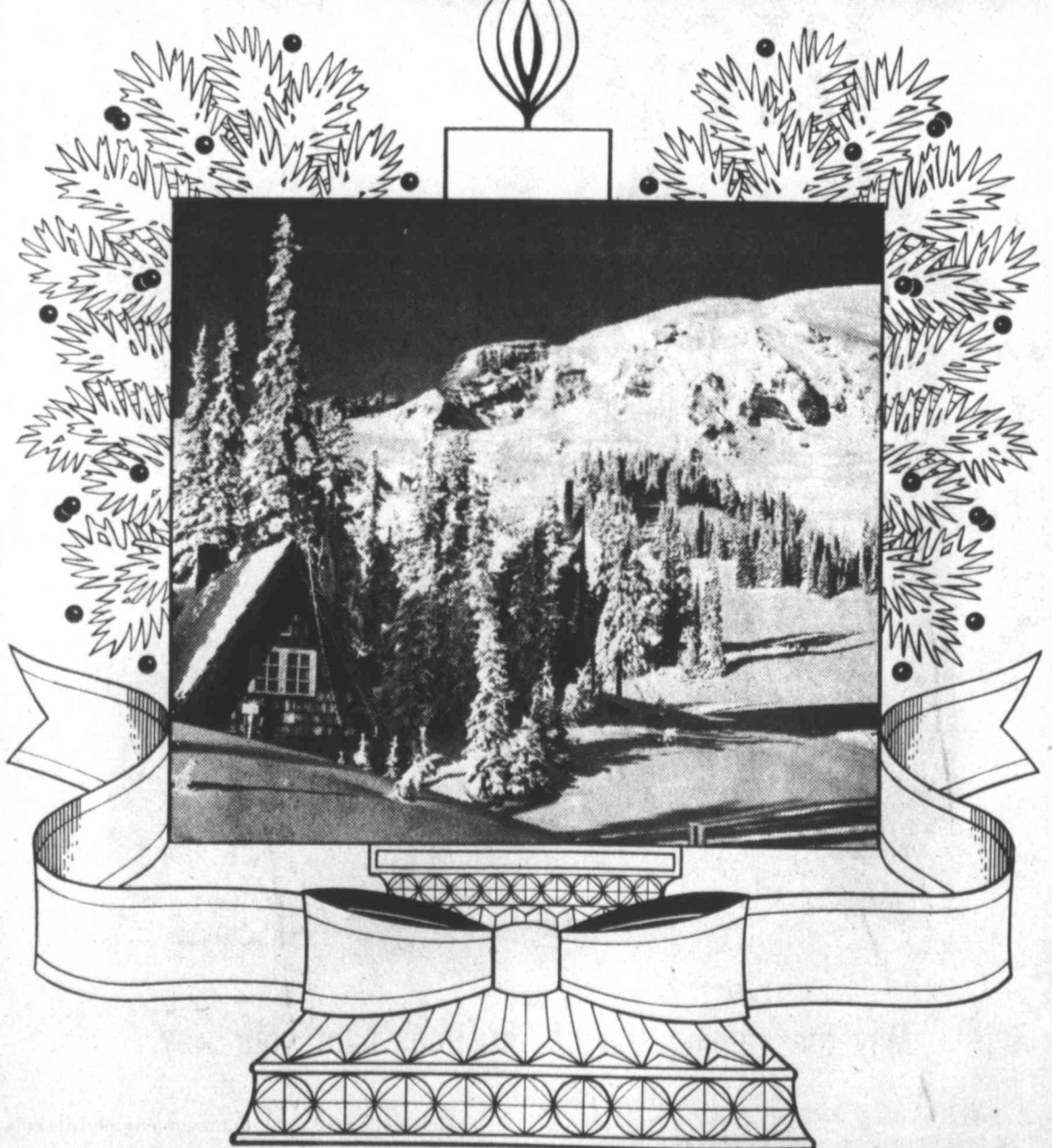
Anna Bell Stallings
1010 Gregg 267-6161



TO ALL OUR FRIENDS FROM

Cowper Clinic And Hospital

NOEL



Stay warm and happy this holiday enjoying family and close friends. We consider you our dear patrons and warm friends. We hope that you have a wonderful holiday season.

Anthony's
YOUR FAMILY STORE

Bell, Lance will quit clubs

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two top-level Carter administration appointees say they will quit private clubs that have no black members and do not routinely accept women. But the membership status of three other Carter nominees in similar organizations remains unchanged.

The five are men named by President-elect Carter to be secretaries of defense, state and Treasury, the cabinet posts — and the director of the White House Office of Management and Budget.

Carter said Monday that he personally would not join

private clubs that discriminate on the basis of sex or race. He said he hoped his cabinet members wouldn't join such clubs but that he would not tell them what to do.

By Wednesday, Atty. Gen. designate Griffin Bell and Thomas "Bert" Lance, named to head the OMB, said they would drop their memberships in private clubs in Atlanta and Savannah, Ga. None of the clubs have black members.

The chairman of one club refuses to say if women are allowed to join, and a spokesman for another says a few women who are widows of members are allowed. Another of the clubs does allow women members.

Three other Carter cabinet nominees and the President-elect's choice for deputy

secretary of defense have similar memberships and have not announced any intention to resign.

The Carter transition office said it did not know whether the three cabinet nominees — Michael Blumenthal, named to be Treasury secretary; Dr. Harold Brown, secretary of defense-designate; or Cyrus Vance, Carter's choice for secretary of state — planned to retain their club memberships or resign.

None of the three could be reached for comment.

Blumenthal is a member of the Barton Hills Country Club near Ann Arbor, Mich. The country club said Blumenthal was a non-resident "social member."

Asked, "Is the club open to blacks and women?" a club employee who said she had the membership records

replied, "No, it is not."

Brown, president of the California Institute of Technology, belongs to the Cosmo Club in Washington and the Bohemian Club in San Francisco, both clubs confirmed that women are barred from membership and, at the Bohemian Club, must enter by a side door when brought as guests.

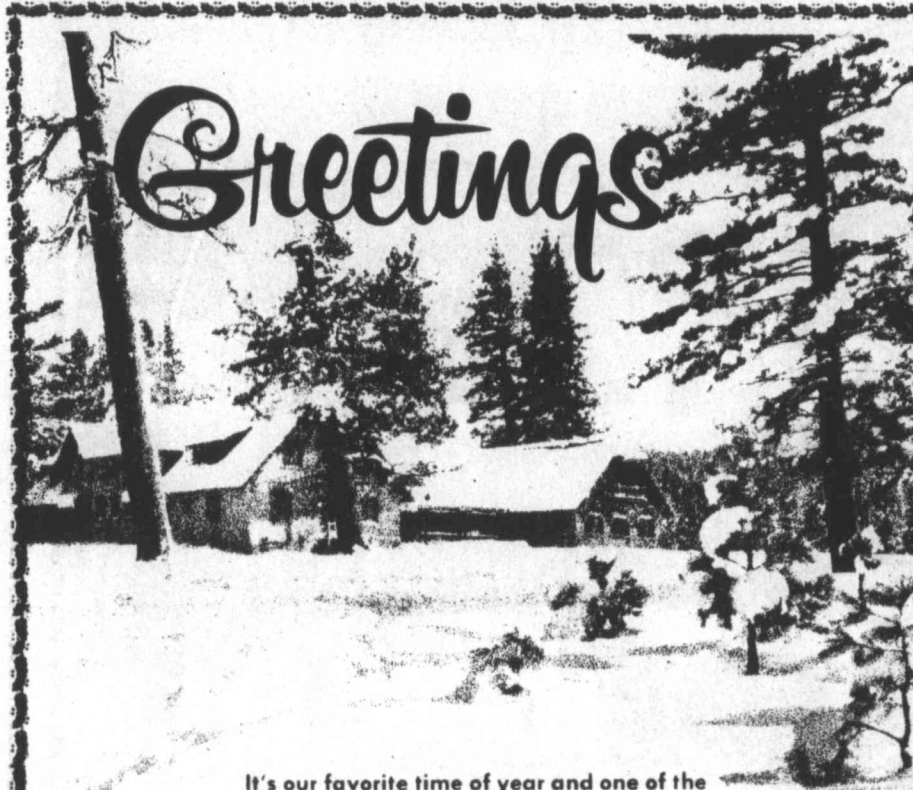
Vance is a member of a New York City men's club, the Links Club. A club spokesman said the club has no black or women members. Vance also is listed in Who's Who as a member of the Metropolitan Club in Washington, another club that doesn't allow women members.

Carter's choice for deputy defense secretary, Charles Duncan, is a member of two all-white country clubs near his home in Houston, according to his office.

The State National Bank



Greetings



It's our favorite time of year and one of the most enjoyable customs of the season is greeting our many good friends and patrons and wishing them the best that life has to offer. Merry Christmas to you all!

Keaton Kolor
Photographic Products & Services

1309 GREGG ST.
263-1208
Mon.-Fri. 9:00-5:30
Sat. 9:00-1:00



Tickled to death to have her home

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Her last two Christmases were spent in a hospital, as most of her life has been while she underwent six major operations. But this Christmas, 2½-year-old Hillary Shiflet will be home.

Doctors say Hillary suffers from a rare intestinal disease that does not allow her to digest food or excrete her body wastes.

"I have her today and if I'm lucky I'll have her tomorrow, that's the way I have to learn to live with Hillary," said her father, John E. Shiflet, 30, a restaurant manager in Stillwater in northern Oklahoma.

"I never gave up hope, a lot of people thought she wouldn't make it," Shiflet said.

During Hillary's last operation in August at the UCLA Medical School, doctors created an opening in her chest, Shiflet said.

Now, Shiflet and his wife attach a tube to the opening each evening, and while Hillary sleeps a high-protein liquid mixture of sugars and vitamins is pumped through her body.

It is her only food source and Shiflet said the fluid

costs up to \$3,000 a month.

Hormones have also been used to stimulate Hillary's gastro-intestinal tract, and she uses a catheter for excretion.

"We're tickled to death just to have her home," Shiflet said. "She's now walking and crawling, laughing and talking. Four months ago she wouldn't say hardly anything. She's a contented type, very happy."

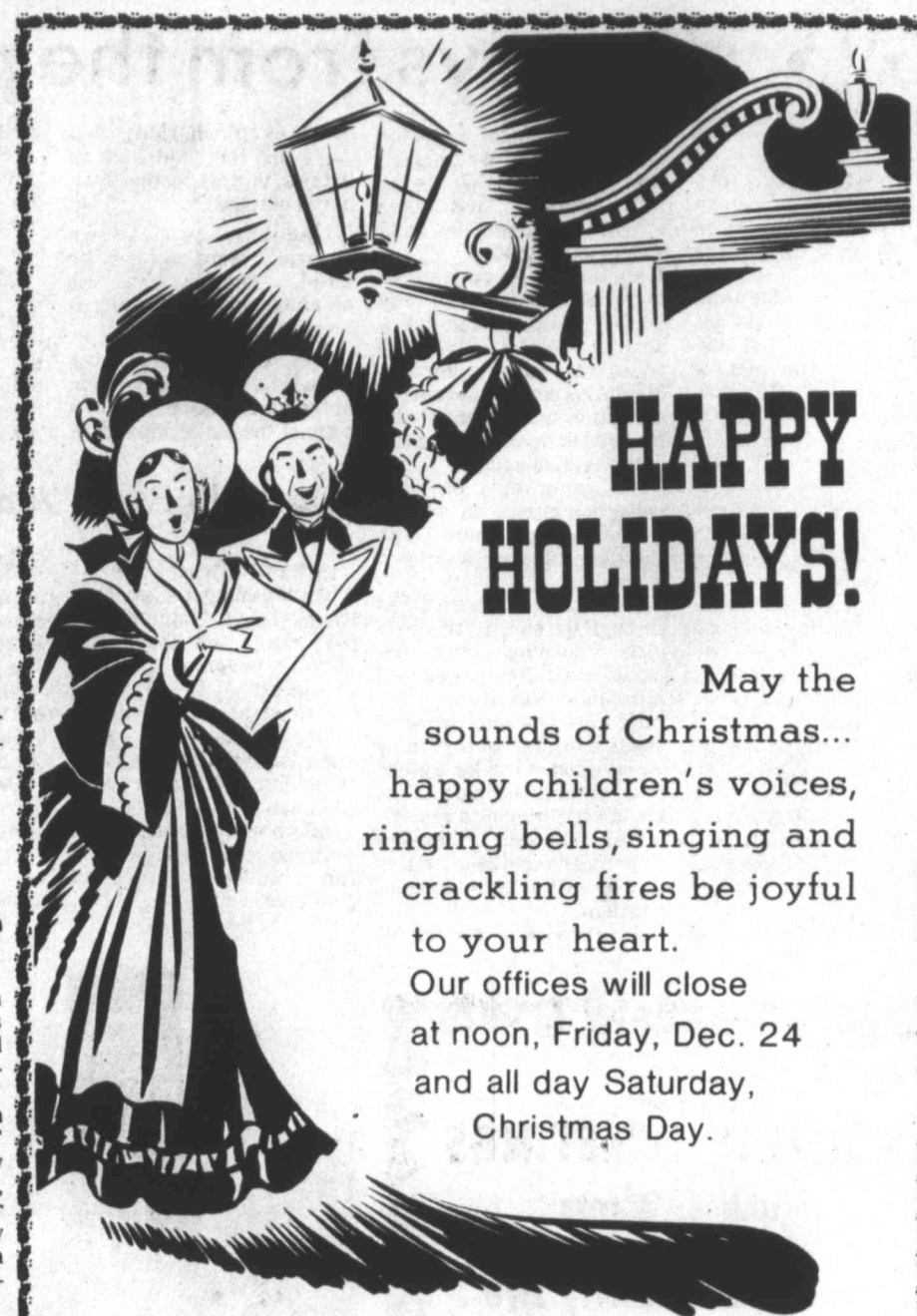
Hillary's weight has gone from 15 pounds four months ago to 26 pounds now.

Shiflet said Hillary's doctors have told him that "chances are good that maybe one day her bowel just might start working."

But he said Hillary's disease, called a pseudo-intestinal blockage, is so rare that doctors can not give him any definite answers.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

May the sounds of Christmas... happy children's voices, ringing bells, singing and crackling fires be joyful to your heart. Our offices will close at noon, Friday, Dec. 24 and all day Saturday, Christmas Day.



TEXAS STATE OPTICAL

Convenient credit is available. Consult your telephone directory for the TSO office nearest you. OPTHALMIC DISPENSERS 120-B East 3rd St., Big Spring, Texas



This is the time of year when we look forward to thanking our great friends and patrons for doing business with us. We are thinking of you and we hope that you will have a wonderful Christmas season filled with friendship.

FOODWAY DISCOUNT FOODS



MERRY CHRISTMAS

To All Our Friends & Customers
BIG SPRING HARDWARE CO.

HARDWARE-APPLIANCES

115 - 119 MAIN

267-5265

FURNITURE

110 MAIN

267-2631

Collecting toys from the past

HOUSTON (AP) — The smile and the wide-eyed wonder of a child seeing toys under a decorated tree on an early Christmas morning is one of the great joys of the holiday season.

The smiles and the wonderment of the child have not varied with time, but the toys of yesteryear and of today are far different, reflecting the changes in clothing styles, modes of transportation and architecture.

Preston and Rosemary Weatherred of Houston began in the 1960s collecting toys from the past.

"What started as a hobby," Weatherred said, "soon took more and more of our time until we were spending our summers driving thousands of miles."

"We found the toys in antique shops, in junk yards, and from friends who knew of our project. We found many in the New England states right in the backyard of many of the top collectors in the nation," he said.

The collection, now in the

hundreds, includes a fashion doll which Mrs. Weatherred said "Could be as old as the 16th century," and some miniature automobiles from as late as the 1940s.

Many of the toys are stored by the Houston Heritage Society, awaiting the day a structure can be found to house the entire collection. Mrs. Weatherred said such a collection could never be assembled again, regardless of the available funds.

A sampling of the collection is now on display in the Houston Natural Gas Building in the downtown area.

Children and adults stroll through the exhibit, the little girls squealing over the handcarved doll houses and miniature furniture; the little boys amazed that once you had to push the toy trains along wooden tracks, rather than putting the plug in an outlet and throwing a switch.

The older adults remember receiving similar toys on a Christmas morning long ago.

Weatherred, a retired oil

company official, said, "You can't find the handwork in today's toys as in those we have collected."

Decorations then generally were applied by hand. There was no assembly line cranking out toys made of plastic."

The Christmas display includes a friction toy made at the turn of the century — a copy of the battleship U.S.S.

Maine.

Reflecting the days of a rural America, there was the old red barn with the miniature animals, and hand carved plows, hay rakes and wheelbarrows.

There are child-sized china dolls, dressed in the long dresses and plummed hats of the late 1800s with hand-painted facial features. But none cry "Mama", nor walk, nor burp, nor wet.

Due to become 'Mr. President'

OLYMPIA, Wash. (AP) — When Washington Gov. Dan Evans leaves political life next month, he apparently will become "Mr. President."

Officials at Evergreen State College here said Wednesday that the outgoing Republican governor was the unanimous choice of the 15-member presidential search committee to become the college's second president.

The governor had no immediate comment on the report, but through his press secretary, the governor told The Associated Press he "will have something to say in a day or two."

The current president, who is resigning, now makes \$43,000 a year, slightly more than the \$42,150 the governor earns, and the job also carries state pension benefits and includes a huge waterfront home.

1976 HOLIDAY GREETINGS
Frank E. Wentz
 Representing
American Security Life
 Specializing in
 • Group • Hospitalization
 • Life Insurance
 For information, call 263-6285

Season's Greetings

We're serving up best wishes to all our wonderful patrons... we hope the holiday season brings you the best of everything!



We thank all our old and new customers for your patronage during the past year. We are looking forward to serving you in the future.

We will be closed for the holidays Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 24, 25, 26.
 Will Re-Open Monday, Dec. 27.

COLE'S SANDS RESTAURANT
 2900 W. HWY. 80



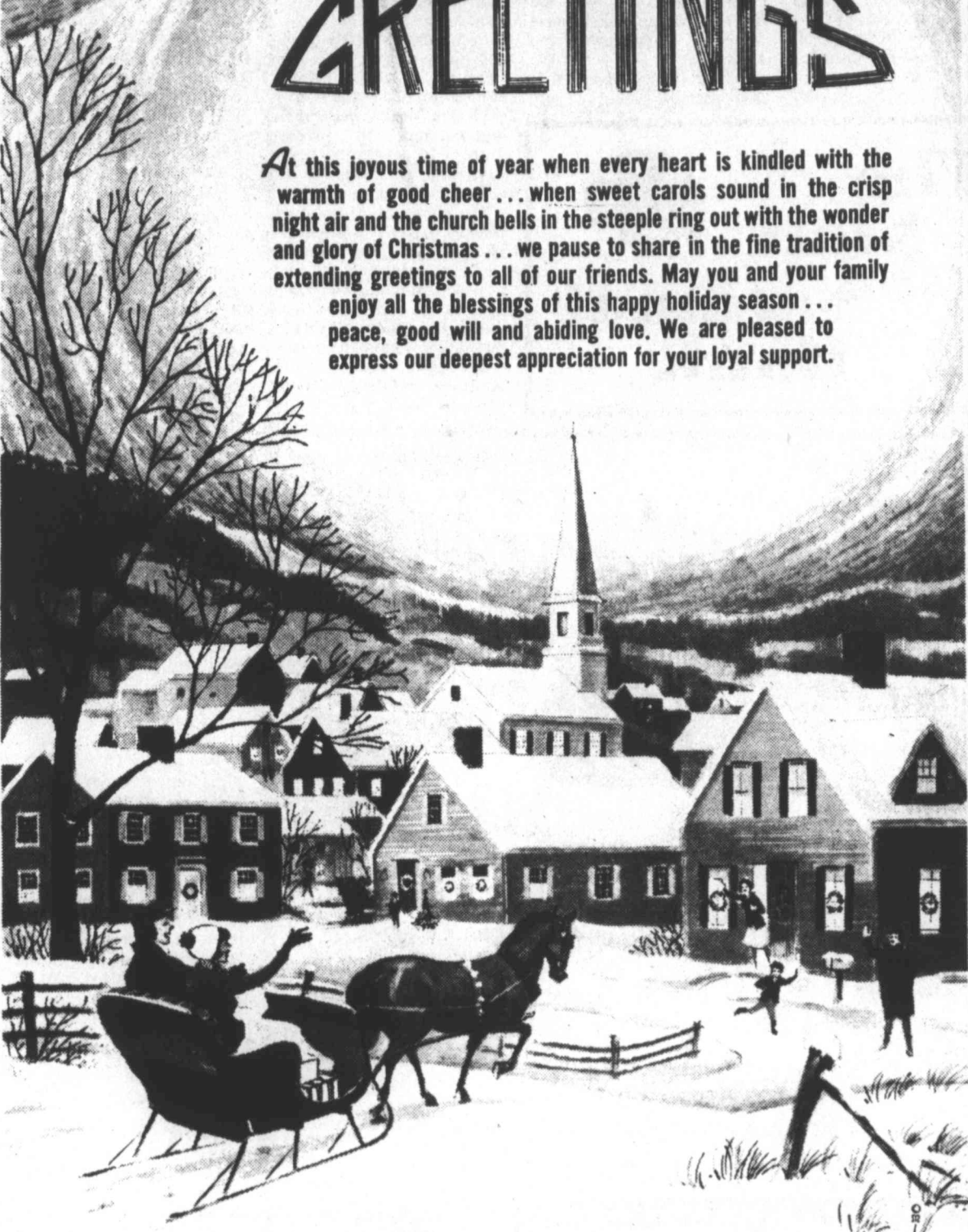
CHEERY Greetings

We put aside our business to greet all our fine patrons with sincere best wishes for a Merry Christmas and to express our deepest appreciation for your continued friendship and many kindnesses.

SMALLWOODS WESTERN WEAR

GREETINGS

At this joyous time of year when every heart is kindled with the warmth of good cheer... when sweet carols sound in the crisp night air and the church bells in the steeple ring out with the wonder and glory of Christmas... we pause to share in the fine tradition of extending greetings to all of our friends. May you and your family enjoy all the blessings of this happy holiday season... peace, good will and abiding love. We are pleased to express our deepest appreciation for your loyal support.



College Park Beauty Salon

263-6671

Diane Clinton — Manager **Oma McCown — Facials**

OPERATORS:

Sue Holquin **Jeary Tubbs** **Betty Bruton**
Angie Hernandez **Virginia Lujan**

HIGH OVER MANHATTAN — In his red and white hot-air balloon, Ronald Di Giovan, 23, moves north along the Hudson River, Thursday. The twin towers of the World Trade Center are in the background. Di Giovan's balloon came down in the Astoria section of Queens and he was issued two summonses for violation of air traffic rules.

Pot ring leader draws eight years in prison

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — A New Mexico man has been sentenced to eight years in prison and fined \$1,000 for his part in a marijuana distribution ring that was broken up last summer, court records show.

Stephen Kinnard Trotter, 19, of Albuquerque, was sentenced Wednesday by District Court Judge William Means after a non-jury trial.

Trotter was arrested last June after Tulsa police were tipped that a shipment of 200 pounds of marijuana was being brought in by another New Mexico man.

The tip came from New Mexico police, who had stopped a car for speeding near Tucumcari and discovered a trunkload of marijuana. The driver said it

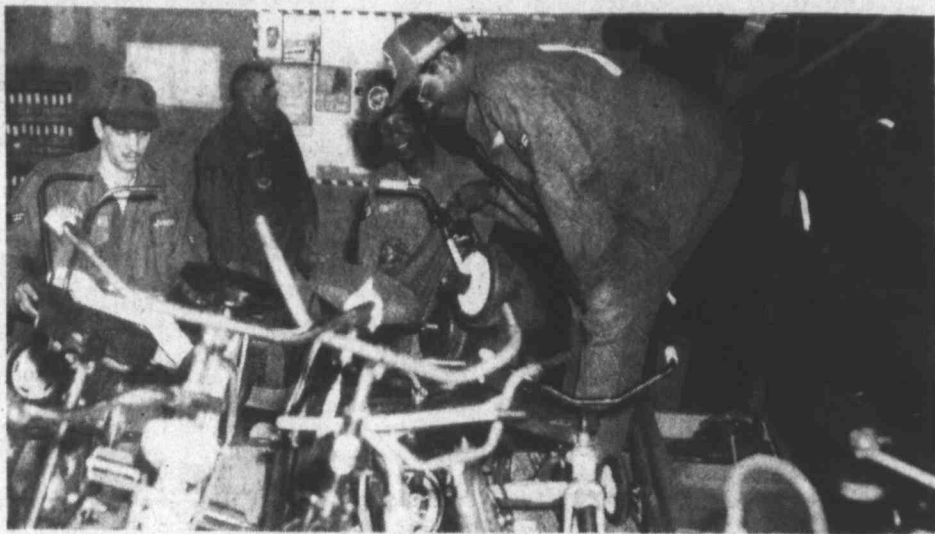
was his fifth trip with a load of marijuana for Trotter.

The driver, Barry C. Jenkins, was granted immunity from prosecution by New Mexico and Oklahoma authorities after he agreed to complete the delivery to Broken Arrow, a Tulsa suburb, police said.



The officials and staff of Webb Federal Credit Union would like to wish you and yours a safe and enjoyable holiday season. We have enjoyed serving you during 1976 and hope to have the opportunity to continue serving you during 1977.

WEBB FEDERAL CREDIT UNION



FMS TOY PROJECT — Personnel of the Field Maintenance Squadron at Webb AFB load toys which squadron members donated and repaired to benefit about 100 children named as recipients by the Big Spring Northside United Methodist Church. Shown above, left to right, are: A1C Leo Schafer, SMSgt. Charlie Hazzard, Sgt. Edward Foster, A1C Victor York, TSgt. Charlie Beck and Robert M. Salmon. Workers in the nondestructive inspection shop began the project Nov. 1 as all squadron members contributed. Toys repaired, painted and put in good working order included bicycles, tricycles, wagons, organs, stereos, games, puzzles, dolls, cribs, piano and stuffed animals.

Some toys can produce grave hurts to kids

No one would purposely buy a toy which could injure the child for whom they plan happiness, but thousands of Texans this Christmas may be doing this unknowingly.

If the wrong toy falls into the hands of a child, this toy could produce a serious injury, says the Texas Department of Health Resources. When buying toys this year, think toy safety, advises Dr. Fratis L. Duff, director of the Texas Department of Health Resources.

A few months, or a year or two, in a child's development can make quite a difference in that child's ability to cope with toys. "That's the reason manufacturers are required to place precautionary labeling on toys," says Harold Ray, director of the Department's Division of Product Safety.

"Consumers should look for the warning label on a toy which states that the toy isn't recommended for a child under a certain age," Ray said. "If such a label warns that the toy is too advanced for the child in mind, the purchaser should heed the warning and find one to fit the child."

Ray noted that a testing process has been used in determining the right toy for the right child. Last year the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission issued final regulations for use and abuse testing of toys. While not banning toys, the regulations provide tests of impact, bite, flexure, torque, tension and compression — all of which stimulate normal and reasonably foreseeable use, damage and abuse of toys, games and other articles by children for whom the toys are intended.

What can you as an individual do to prevent this mis-match of toy and child?

First, be aware of how the toy is built, says Ray. Toy buyers in the family should reject those with obvious hazards — sharp points; rough or unfinished surfaces; small, detachable parts that may be swallowed; brittle plastic or glass that breaks easily and leaves sharp edges that may cut; poorly constructed toys with sharp spikes or pins that are exposed when the toy is pulled apart by a curious child; toys with triggers, gears, or other parts activated by a spring or motor.

Missouri Pacific will show record earnings

Missouri Pacific Corporation will report record earnings for 1976. Each subsidiary is expected to achieve excellent operating results and consolidated net

income will be substantially ahead of the \$49.3-million earned in 1975.

The Corporation's overall ownership of the Missouri Pacific Railroad System was

increased from 62 per cent to 92 per cent as a result of an exchange offer completed in June. More than 80 per cent of the publicly held shares of MoPac and its two principal subsidiaries were received in exchange for newly issued Missouri Pacific Corporation common stock.

Another important long-term objective was achieved in October by effecting the merger of the Texas and Pacific Railway and the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad into the Missouri Pacific Railroad.

Missouri Pacific Railroad, the Corporation's chief subsidiary, will finish well ahead of the previous record of \$49.7-million consolidated net income earned in 1974. Railroad revenues are expected to exceed the \$1 billion mark for the first time. MoPac's improved performance reflects the economic strength of its 12-state service area, modern physical plant and diversity of its traffic mix.

Reduced grain and metals traffic was offset with strong gains in chemicals, automobiles and automobile parts, foods, lumber, piggyback, coal and paper.

Commemorative stamps generate some sales

Some believe the Postal Service spends money unnecessarily in the printing of commemorative stamps. They argue that these issuances — rather than just regular stamps — only add to the financial woes of the Service.

This, however, is not the case.

Issuance of commemorative stamps does not, in any way, contribute to the Postal Service's deficit. Actually, each year substantial revenue is generated by such sales.

Let's look at the facts more closely.

For many years, postage stamps have served as a means of communication. Many people actually consider stamps to be the "calling cards" of nations.

In 1893, the old Post Office Department began issuing special stamps honoring important subjects and events connected with American history. Today, commemoratives still focus attention on our nation's history, achievements and cultural assets.

Approximately 26 billion stamps, of all types, are

printed annually at a cost of \$40 million. Of this total, about 2.5 billion are special issues. The average printing of a commemorative totals about 140 million stamps. This produces a gross revenue of approximately \$325 million annually for the Postal Service.

How?

Stamp collecting is the world's largest hobby with some 16 million collectors in the United States alone. Stamps purchased by collectors are used mainly for placement in albums, not for postage. When retained in this manner, they provide additional revenue since the Service does not perform delivery and other services normally involved when stamps are used for mailing.

Collectors retain commemoratives at the rate of about 16 to 20 per cent. Therefore, it is economically advantageous for the Postal Service to promote stamp collecting and to provide philatelic services to collectors.

In keeping with this tradition, the Service will make available during 1977 at least 16 new commemoratives.

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

10TH AND GOLIAD
PHONE 247-7851

9:45 Church School
10:50 Worship
5:00 Youth Meetings

WILLIAM H. SMYTHE

MINISTER



Season's Greetings
May your Christmas be everything you've been hoping for!



Best wishes for a jolly holiday from our entire staff!

TG&Y
family centers



Cap Rock Electric Cooperative

Stanton



Season's Greetings

FROM ALL OF US TO ALL OF YOU,
THOUGH IT'S BEEN SAID OFTEN BEFORE,
COMES A WISH THAT'S OLD YET EVER NEW —
"MERRY CHRISTMAS, FRIENDS ... MANY, MANY MORE!"

THE STATE NATIONAL Bank

Clubhouse

State officers to visit Big Spring in February

Mrs. Katie Spivey, Commander of the D.A.V. Auxiliary, announced that the State Officers and Regional Commanders of the Auxiliary would be in Big Spring February 1, at the V.A. Hospital. The local chapter will hold a reception that morning and a banquet at Coker's that evening.

The D.A.V. Auxiliary met Tuesday December 21, at 7:00 p.m. in the V.F.W. in Silver Heels for their Christmas party.

The chapter and auxiliary all joined hands and Mrs. Myrtle True, chaplain, offered prayers for Christmas. Following this they sang carols and exchanged gifts, then had refreshments and lots of Christmas goodies.

Mrs. Nelda Burkhardt reported that the auxiliary served 80 patients cake and coffee on December 11 at the V.A. Hospital. The treats were served by Mrs. JoAnne Rhone, Mrs. Katie Spivey, and Mrs. Oletha O'Neal.

Mrs. Katie Spivey then held a drawing, passing out 20 campaign books donated

by Johnnie Wilson, Commander of Borderland No. 10 in El Paso.

Reports were given on the Christmas parties given at the Mountain View Lodge and the Parkview Manor. All residents received gifts, fruits, candy, and entertainment from the auxiliary. The parties were big this year and will be even bigger next year.

The auxiliary met on December 20, at the V.A. Hospital and passed out gifts to all the patients, from the Department of Texas, VAVS, headed by Mrs. Gertrude McCann and her deputy, Mrs. Gladys Miller.

Mrs. Nelda Burkhardt, and Mrs. JoAnne Rhone took gifts to the veterans at Parkview Manor and the Mountain View Lodge on December 22.

The auxiliary wishes everyone a Merry Christmas, and health and happiness in the coming new year.

The next meeting of the auxiliary will be at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 17, 1977, at the VFW Hall in Silver Heels.



Send married lover home to nest

DEAR ABBY: A year ago I fell in love with a married man who has three children. We didn't plan for this to happen, it just did. It's not one of those fly-by-night affairs; we genuinely love each other.

Lately the subject of leaving his wife keeps coming up. He is all for it, but I'm not so sure. I would love to marry him, but I don't want to cause his family any grief. From what he's told me, his wife is a lovely person and a good mother, and I know he's crazy about his children.

I feel like a homewrecker, but I don't want to lose him. I had almost given up on the male species before I met him. Abby, he is by far the sweetest and most loving man I've ever known, and I'm sure he really loves me.

Any suggestions you might have would be greatly appreciated. I'm terribly mixed up and don't know what to do.

FEELING GUILTY

DEAR FEELING: Send your married man home to his wife and children and tell him to stay there.

You can't build happiness on the misery of others, and that's what you'd be doing were you to allow him to leave his wife and family for you. And by the way, nobody "falls in love." They dig their way into it.

DEAR ABBY: How do you feel about a male teacher in a public school telling his sixth grade students dirty jokes? I don't mean cute little off-color suggestive stories; I mean jokes in which he used vulgar four-letter words.

My 11-year-old sister came home from school one day with one such joke that her teacher had told the class. She said the kids thought it was "neat" that their teacher treated them in such an "adult" manner. He also said, "And if you tell anyone I've told you these jokes I won't tell you any more."

My mother and I are very angry with this teacher and wonder what action we should take, if any.

CONCERNED

DEAR CONCERNED: Get in touch with the teacher and tell him what you've heard. If he denies it, you may need supporting evidence from at least one other student. The offending teacher should then be reported to the principal.

DEAR ABBY: You wrote: "Hitting a child hard enough to hurt him will only teach the child that violence is the answer to all conflicts."

Your words caused me to recall a quote from the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s book, "Why Can't We Wait?" "Man was born into barbarism. He becomes endowed with a conscience. And he has now reached the day when violence toward another human being must become as abhorrent as eating another's flesh."

ARTHUR H. PRINCE

DEAR ARTHUR: A beautiful quote from a "Prince" by a "King." Thanks for sharing.

Everyone has a problem. What's yours? For a personal reply, write to ABBY: Box No. 69700, L.A., Calif. 90069. Enclose stamped, self-addressed envelope, please.

Miss Taylor

is honoree

Miss Cindy Taylor, bride-elect of Gerry Bohmfalk, was honored this week with three more pre-nuptial parties prior to her wedding, Dec. 30.

Mrs. Dewey Ray and Mrs. Jerry Worthy hosted a recipe party at the home of Mrs. Dewey Ray.

Refreshments were served from a polished wood table decorated with a Christmas centerpiece. Brass appointments were used.

Recipes were shared with the bride-elect and the hostesses presented Miss Taylor with a Corningware cook and bake set.

Mrs. O.B. Cave, aunt of Miss Taylor, was an out-of-town guest.

Miss Cindy McAlister and Mrs. Jack Cathey Jr. from Monahans, hosted a rice bag party on Dec. 20 at the home of Miss McAlister.

Mrs. Jim Bill Little and Mrs. Pete Cook hosted an old-fashioned pounding at the home of Mrs. Little on Dec. 22.

The hostesses presented Miss Taylor with a crock-pot. Refreshments were served from a table highlighted with Christmas holly. Crystal appointments were used throughout.

Are kitchens

a safe place?

A federal survey reveals that 63 per cent of American home kitchens are high risk zones for the two to ten million estimated cases of food poisoning annually.

The risks are higher if the cook is under 50, educated and part of a family with an income of \$15,000 or more. Some of the causes of poisoning include eating hamburger rare, leaving meats at room temperature for more than two hours after cooking, leaving tuna or chicken or other salad-type sandwiches at room temperature for more than two hours, stuffing a turkey a day or more in advance, storing stuffing in the left-over turkey or cooking the turkey partially in one place and finishing it later.

Got any such examples you can line up for shots? What about tasting food to see if it is spoiled? This is a sure way to get poisoned.

FHA'ers take on Santa role

MIDWEST CITY, Okla. (AP) — Some Christmas stories are to be remembered. This is one.

It comes from the Future Homemakers of America at Midwest City High School. For four years it has warmed them, inspired them. It has, for them, buried the cold din of commercialism beneath the spirit the season seeks.

It happened because of a letter from a 9-year-old girl named Debbie. She addressed it to Santa Claus and to that other, often-forgotten figure for whom the holiday was named.

So unselfish was Debbie's letter, so elemental in its faith and hope and love, that it propelled a schoolgirls' project into a community endeavor.

In Midwest City, no big newspaper or well-heeled civic group organizes yuletide almsgiving. But a group of 62 young ladies operate out of a high school classroom filled each afternoon with clothes, canned goods and laughter.

And it doesn't end when the tree comes down. The girls follow up their "families" through the year.

"It sounds trite," said their moderator, Marilyn Butler, a bubbly blonde woman with more energy than all her charges combined, "but I believe the girls see the truth of what Christmas is supposed to mean, not just a one-shot deal to make you feel good."

"They've learned how to help their fellow man without damaging his sense of dignity. We know the families we help. By name."

The Future Homemakers, with the agreement of the Post Office, four years ago took on the job of answering the mail addressed to Santa Claus.

It was fun — still is; they haven't given up the project, and still thrill at opening letters addressed like this:

"To Santa Claus, North Pole or South Pole. I can't remember which."

Or opening a letter from 8-year-old Melissa, who sent Santa a picture and wanted him to do the same, figuring the ones she sees all look alike and couldn't be the "real" Santa.

Or from Barbara Stevenson, who wanted to get better acquainted: "Wake me at midnight."

Among the letters, each year, are voices like Debbie's, small cries for help — "A blanket" ... "a tree with lights" ... "a job for my

mother."

These are the ones the Future Homemakers search out.

The first year they found

Ornaments

invented

in Germany

Christmas tree ornaments were invented in central Germany approximately a century ago, says Hallmark researcher Sally Hopkins. German and English immigrants brought them to the United States. The latest development in ornaments is the creation of commemorative decorations by Hallmark. The ornaments bear a seasonal scene and a notation of the year. The '76 Bicentennial decorations are expected to become collector's items, Miss Hopkins said.

BETTER LATE: The first Christmas card was the result of procrastination, says Hallmark Cards researcher Sally Hopkins. In 1843, Henry Cole, an English businessman, realized he had let the holiday slip and neglected to send his personal best wishes to friends — the custom of the time. He turned to an artist friend, John Calcott Horsley, who designed a card and started a tradition.

Classified ads

get RESULTS

Call 263-7331 and place your ad today!

16 families. The second, 20. The third, 35. That's about all their resources can manage, 35. They raise money themselves, buy necessities, see to the families' welfare throughout the year.

They ask other groups to help — civic clubs, social clubs — and if anybody is too busy to listen, they can show them Debbie's letter, the letter that started it all.

Here it is. Clip it out. Pin it to the Christmas tree.

"Dear Jesus and Santa

Claus, "My name is Debbie and I am 9 years old and I have a little sister Tina she is 3 years old and a new baby brother James he is 3 months old. Jesus tell my little brother hi for me the one you took with you last year. Tell him we still love him and will

see him soon and you too Jesus."

"Tell Santa Claus we need food and clothes and bed-clothes to keep us warm this winter and our baby brother needs some milk and food and bed clothes too."

"Santa if you have any toys left after all the other kids can we have some. Do you think your sled is big enough to bring us a Christmas tree so it will be a real Christmas for us."

NOTICE

Change of Meeting date from Monday, Dec. 27, 1976 to Tuesday, Dec. 28, 1976 of the Big Spring Assembly No. 211 Social Order of Beauceant. Masonic Temple, 7:30 P.M.

Mrs. Lee Porter, Recorder

RITZ THEATER OPEN 12:15 Rated G
LAST SHOWING TONIGHT BEGINS AT 7:45

A SUPER FORMULA FOR FUN!

SUPERBUG
Super Agent G

RITZ THEATER STARTS TOMORROW
OPEN 1:15 Rated G

IT'S A JOYRIDE INTO FANTASY!

WALT DISNEY
presents **THE Gnome-Mobile**

Starring **WALTER BRENNAN** TOM LOWELL MATTHEW GARBER KAREN DOTRICE
and ED WYNN ELLIS KADISON JAMES ALGAR ROBERT STEVENSON

Technicolor

R/70 THEATER HELD OVER
2nd GIGANTIC WEEK!!
OPEN DAILY 1:30 LATEST SHOWING TONIGHT 7:30

The most exciting original motion picture event of all time.

King Kong

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Dino De Laurentis presents
a John Guillermin Film
"King Kong" PG

Starring Jeff Bridges Charles Grodin Introducing Jessica Lange

JET DRIVE-IN
TONIGHT & SATURDAY
OPEN 6:30 Rated PG

NOT SINCE LOVE STORY.

The true story of Jill Kinmont. The American Olympic ski contender whose tragic fall took everything but her life. And who found the courage to live through the love of one very special man.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN PG

"THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN" Starring MARELYN HASSETT as Jill Kinmont and BEAU BRIDGES as Dick Burk • MELINDA J. MONTGOMERY • NIAN MARTIN

A MERRY CHRISTMAS

TO ALL OF YOU FROM ALL OF US AT

COKER'S RESTAURANT

E. 4th at Benton

COKERS WILL BE CLOSED ALL DAY FRIDAY, SATURDAY, AND SUNDAY DEC. 24-25-26 SO THAT OUR EMPLOYEES MAY ENJOY CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS WITH THEIR FAMILIES

Phone 267-2218

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

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The First
Church of God
in Big Spring
is a non-
denominational
Christianity. We
have a program
of worship,
fellowship and
activities for
the whole
family.
You are in-
vited to
come by and
worship with
us.

7-6807

RCH

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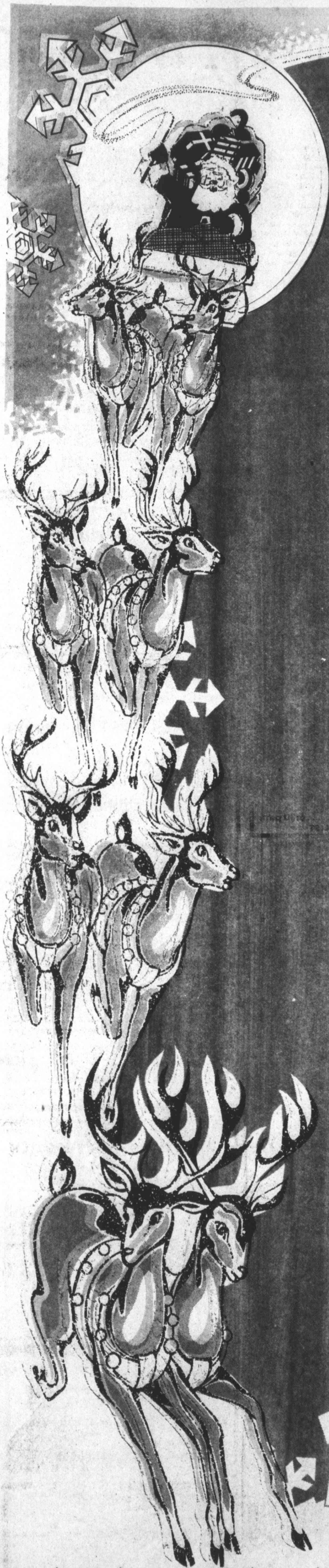
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the magic of Christmas

Nowhere can the magic that is Christmas be seen more clearly than we have at Highland Mall Shopping Center:

We have seen the magic in the faces of little boys as they looked up into Santa's peeking eyes.

We have seen it in the joy of young girls as they walked through the wonderland of things that Christmas might bring just for them.

We have seen it in the smiles of mothers as they selected cards of greetings and good cheer for friends far away.

We have seen it in the faces of fathers as they painstakingly sought just the right expression of love and devotion to their families.

For that is what the magic of Christmas is all about: a time for love and sharing, a time for family and friends, a time for telling others how much they mean.

And this magical time of unselfishness is celebrated on the birth of Christ who brought love and hope and peace to the world.

At Highland Mall, it has been our honor to serve you in this season and all others. May the magic of Christmas find its wonderful way into your lives and warm your hearts during this holiday season.

The Merchants of HIGHLAND SOUTH SHOPPING CENTER

Wish You A Merry Christmas And "Thank You"

For The Opportunity Of Serving You.

Austin Shoes

Caudill's Speciality Shop

Fabric Mart

Fashion Pants

Furr's Cafeteria

Gray Jewelers

Highland Barber Shop

Highland Card & Party Shop

Highland Coiffures

Creative Arts

J&K Shoe Store

Margaret's

Miss Royale & Royal Draperies

Montgomery Ward

Nick's Togs

Piggly Wiggly

Singer Sewing Center

T.G.&Y.

Highland Center Owners & Management



WHILE VISIONS OF SUGARPLUMS DANCED IN HIS HEAD...

Christmas is a time of
special wonderment for little
ones . . . we wish for them and all of you the
true blessings of the season . . . peace,
happiness and contentment now
and throughout the New Year.

COSDEN OIL & CHEMICAL COMPANY

wholly owned subsidiary of American Petrofina, Incorporated

Military

Thirty-eight promotions

Thirty-eight sergeants, including three senior airmen, were selected for promotion to staff sergeant, as announced today. Senior airman is the new Air Force designation for those in enlisted grade four (E-4) in apprentice status until they

She reports for duty

Navy Aviation Maintenance Administrationman Third Class Verena L. Gonzales, whose husband Juan is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Remigio Gonzales of 1411 Oriole, Big Spring, has reported for duty at the Naval Air Facility, Misawa, Japan. She joined the Navy in October, 1973.

Braun draws duty in Germany

SPANGDAHLEM, Germany — Now serving at Spangdahlem AB, Germany, with a U.S. Air Force unit in Europe is Air Force Staff Sergeant Jenell J. Braun, son of Mr. and Mrs. Orie Braun, Rt. 1, Fredericksburg, Iowa.

Sgt. Braun, an aircraft maintenance technician, previously served at Randolph AFB.

The sergeant is a 1968 graduate of Fredericksburg High School. His wife, Betty, is the daughter of Mrs. Vivian Jones, 4202 Muir, Big Spring.

complete required training. The senior airmen promoted to staff sergeant are: Edward J. Gorman, Field Maintenance Squadron (FMS); Charles W. Bromm and Keith M. Stevens, Supply Squadron.

Others selected are: Pamela A. Campbell, Air Base Group; Wesley M. Franklin, Richard Grumet, Modesto L. Perez, and Bruce T. Roy, RMS; Joseph L. Smith III, Hospital; Sherod G. Bailey Jr., Rene B. Baza, Clifton C. Carlton, Alan M. Schrantz, Abner K. Sirmans, James M. Smith, Leon Taylor, and William B. Best.

Richardson outstanding

Staff Sergeant Floyd A. Richardson, whose parents are Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Richardson of Alamo, Tex., has been named Outstanding Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter in his unit at Webb AFB.

An aircraft maintenance technician, Sgt. Richardson was selected for leadership, professional skill and duty performance. The sergeant is assigned to the 78th Organizational Maintenance Squadron, a part of the Air Training Command.

Sgt. Richardson is a 1967 graduate of Donna High School and attended Pan American University, Edinburg. His wife, Paula, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Marsalis of 3604 Boulder Drive, Big Spring.

Organizational Maintenance Squadron; Stanely J. Churchill and Spencer T. Drake, Wing (Supply); Bobby J. Frederick, Michael D. Haynes, Ernest V. McFarland and Nelson Miranda, Wing (FMS).

Also: Larry W. Kelley, Wing (Student Squadron); Randy A. Barr, Supply; Richard E. Black, Edwin F. Carbin, Carl G. Dockery and Raymond T. Griffin, Civil Engineering; Donald L. Richards, Weather; Allen L. Glasgow, Harry O. Johnson III, James R. McCrary, Milo E. Moffit, James R. Pringle, Enoch C. Rhoden, Beatrice L. Shingleton, 2050th

Participated in Midlink

SPANGDAHLEM, Germany — Captain Jackie L. Thomas, son of Mr. and Mrs. George M. Thomas of 1762 N. 18th, Laramie, Wyo., recently participated in Midlink 1976, a Central Treaty Organization (CENTO) maritime exercise held in the Northern Indian Ocean near Karachi, Pakistan.

A 1962 graduate of Laramie Senior High School, he received his B.A. degree in 1967 from the University of Wyoming at Laramie. He was commissioned in 1968 through the Air Force Reserve Officers Training Corps program.

Capt. Thomas' wife, Rose, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. King of Rt. 1, Big Spring.

12 promoted to major

Twelve Webb AFB officers were selected for promotion to temporary major by Air Force boards which convened in October at the Air Force Military Personnel Center. Two who will attend intermediate service schools were chosen by a nomination board for those schools:

As announced today, captains selected for promotion by the regular board are: Joseph R. Brown Jr., Operations; Percy D. Leonard Jr., Standardization-Evaluation; Harold N. Hansen and Jerry G. Shugars, 83rd Flying Training Squadron (FTS); Ernest W. Lloyd III, Walter L. Solak Jr., Leroy Titus and Ronald J. Valine, 3389th FTS; William R. Sherman, Staff Judge Advocate; and Charles R. Strain, chief of administration, Air Base Group.

Those selected for promotion who will attend the intermediate service schools are: Bruce W. Sharer, Supply Squadron; and William B. Taylor, 83rd FTS.

Communications Squadron, and William F. Smith, 2050th Communications Squadron.

Sergeant graduates

RIVERSIDE, Calif. — U. S. Air Force Sergeant Jaime Sorola, son of Mrs. Feliz Sorola of 302 N.E. Third St., Lamesa, has graduated from the Strategic Air Command Noncommissioned Officer Leadership School at March AFB, Calif.

The sergeant, who was trained in military management and supervision, is an aircraft maintenance technician at Castle AFB, Calif.

Sgt. Sorola is a 1971 graduate of Lamesa High School.

Col. Reaves gains Legion of Merit

OSAN, Republic of Korea — Colonel Donald R. Reaves, son of Mr. and Mrs. Vera Reaves of 601 E. 12th St., Big Spring, has received the Legion of Merit, one of the Nation's highest decorations.

Col. Reaves was awarded the medal for outstanding service to the U.S. as base civil engineer at the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colo.



GETS MEDAL — Air Force Colonel Donald R. Reaves is congratulated upon receiving the Legion of Merit at Osan AB, Republic of Korea, by Major General Don D. Pittman, commander, Air Forces in Korea, 314th Air Division.



GREETINGS

To our friends and neighbors, all best wishes for holiday happiness.

WHEAT

Furniture and Appliance Co.

115 East 2nd

267-5722

Season's Greetings

May the joys and blessings of Christmas be with you through this season.

Hall-Bennett Memorial Hospital

DON CRAWFORD
PONTIAC-DATSUN

Where Good Service is Standard Equipment

504 E. 3rd 263-8355

Best Wishes for Christmas

We Will Be Closed Friday, December 24th
Thru Wednesday, December 29th.
We'll Re-Open Thursday, December 30th.
"We Will Be Open New Year's Eve."

KC Steak House

1-20

Have Furniture Will Deliver

Carter's Furniture

202 Scurry

Silent Night

"All is calm, all is bright."
The glorious message of that Silent Night spreads its calm peace, its bright promise throughout the world, at Christmas. May it bring you comfort and joy.

Gibbs & Weeks

NOEL

We would like to wish all of our wonderful patrons a joyful Christmas holiday. We have enjoyed working with you and we hope that you will return to us in the future. We value your friendship and your patronage. We hope that you enjoy your holidays during this wonderful, festive season.

Security State Bank

1411 GREGG

HOPE
INSTITUTE

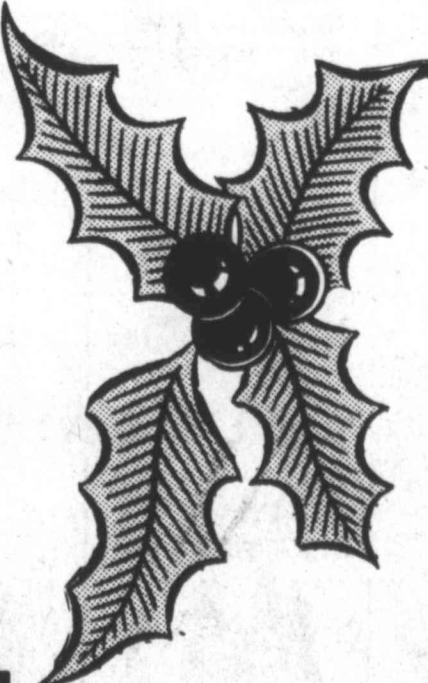
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IT'S OUR FAVORITE TIME OF THE YEAR . . . WHEN WE WISH ALL A

MERRY CHRISTMAS

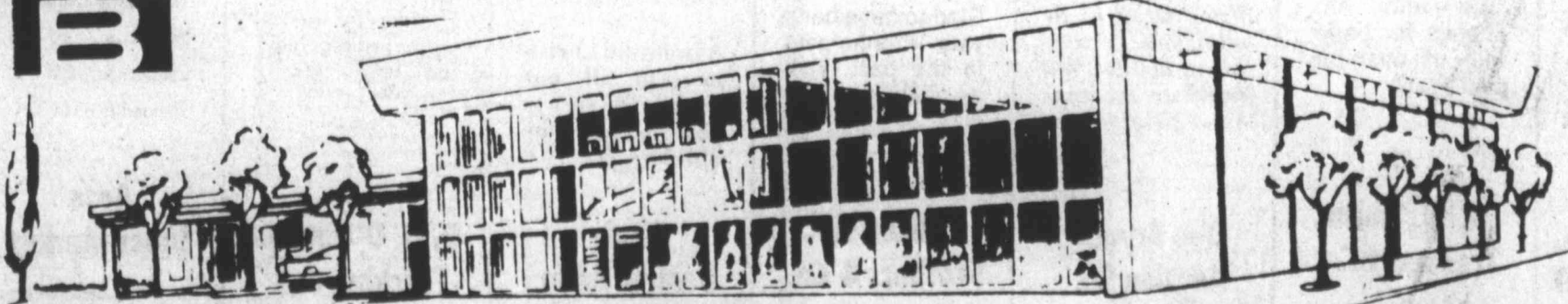


To all our friends and neighbors, sincere best wishes for the holiday season. May your Christmas be bright with good cheer, warm with the affection of those you love, and merry with the sound of laughter.



FROM ALL OF US TO YOU . .

The Symbol of Banking in Big Spring



THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

400 Main St.

MEMBER F.D.I.C.

267-5513

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4

Merry Christmas



Hark! The herald angels sing. Glory to the newborn King! Greetings from

Bill Reed Agency

211 Johnson 267-6323



Peace on Earth

May your holidays be filled with peace and joy. Thanks for letting us serve you.

Kentucky Fried Chicken

(Finger Licking Good) 2200 Gregg 263-1031



If we could, we'd go around carolling to all our friends: "Merry Christmas and thanks!"

River-Welch Funeral Home and Staff

610 Scurry 267-5511



The jacks of all trades want to wish you the best Christmas ever.

Big 3 Auto Salvage

N. Birdwell 263-6844



'Tis the season to be merry! We're particularly happy about your patronage.

Big Spring Health Food Center

1305 Scurry 267-6524



May the 12 days of Christmas be filled with joy for you and your family.

Meads Auto Supply, Inc.

421 Main 267-5245



May all our friends in the community enjoy the best... they deserve it, always!

Western Kawasaki and Staff

200 W. 3rd 263-1396



The holy spirit of Christmas reaches out with our good wishes.

Area One Realty

Pat Medley & Levene Gary
Wishes you a Merry Christmas!
302 11th Place 267-8296



Greeting You and Yours at Christmas
May your holiday be bright with blessings, aglow with good cheer.

Jay's Farm and Ranch

600 E. 3rd 263-1383



From our family to yours... the season's best wishes.

Trailways Bus System

James Warden, Mgr.
311 E. 3rd 263-1331



Wishing you and yours a wonderful Christmas. Serving you has brought us great joy.

Schaefer Waterwell Service

263-8592 or 267-4983



Wishing you a very merry Christmas. Thanks for helping us over the humps in the past year.

McKinney A-1 Plumbing Service

"We're A-1!"
1403 Scurry 267-2812



The Lord is come! Have a very blessed and happy holiday.

Clawson Lumber Co.

Cashmere
394-4214 or 394-4649



A sleigh full of good wishes for our friends!

Nalley-Pickle Funeral Home and Staff

906 Gregg 267-6331



Have a glistening holiday filled with old-fashioned good cheer!

Big Spring Cable T-V

2006 S. Birdwell 263-6382



... to you, our customers. We thank you for your patronage and wish you a joyous holiday!

Curiosity Antique Shop

500 Gregg 267-9055



Wishing you the happiness of Christmas today and throughout the year.

Ponca Wholesale

Borden Mullins, Mgr.
1206 W. 3rd 263-7551



Ring in the best Christmas ever! Greetings to all our customers.

Dutchover-Thompson Furniture

106 S. Golland 263-4014



And to all... a very happy holiday season. We're proud to have served you.

McMillan Printing & Office Supply

1712 Gregg 267-7471



Time to think of the true meaning of Christmas and thank all our customers for their patronage.

Barber Glass & Mirror Co.

214 E. 3rd 263-1444



Your patronage is the best gift you can give us. Thanks, and have a beautiful holiday.

Tomco Oil Company

502 W. 3rd 267-5870



Holiday Best Wishes
We extend to you our thanks for your loyal patronage the past year.

City Body Shop Madewell Used Cars

Mr. & Mrs. Art Madewell
And Staff
306 Young 811 E. 4th



We're glowing with good wishes for you and your family.

Castle Realtors Wally & Cliffa Slate



Happy holidays! You've made our Christmas the best ever.

E. P. Driver Insurance Agency and Staff

213 Remond 263-7678



This - the eternal message to the world - rings out at Christmas!

CLASSIFIED AD DEPARTMENT

J.O., Fern, Ann, and Dot.



...Be with you. Thanks for being with us over the past year.

H. W. Smith Transport Co.

Arnold Marshall
And Employees



From all of us to all of you... A very happy holiday. We hope we can continue to serve you.

Dub Bryant Auction Co.

1008 E. 3rd 263-4621



Glad to have been your little helpers in the past. Visit us again soon.

Rockwell Brothers & Co.

300 W. 2nd 267-7011



A beautiful Christmas to all our friends. Be sure to visit us over the holidays.

Circle Beauty Salon

98 Circle Dr. 267-8983



Thanks for being such angels over the year! Merry Christmas!

O. D. O'Daniel Trucking Co.

1-20, Cashmere 394-4216



May your Christmas be filled with good will, abundance, and the tranquility of faith.

Auto Super Market

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Williams
And Staff
905 W. 4th 263-7448



We're happy we had the opportunity to help you celebrate the holidays.

Home Real Estate

103 Persimmon Building 263-4663

SAVE SAVE SAVE SAVE SAVE SAVE SAVE SAVE

THE VERY BEST LOOKING FOR A NEW, LOW-MILEAGE USED CAR?

JACK LEWIS HAS JUST THE CAR FOR YOU

1976 CADILLAC COUPE DeVILLE, low mileage, extra nice car, has all power and air, last of the big Cadillacs, one you will be proud to own

1976 BUICK LIMITED 4-door, hardtop, silver over silver, beautiful interior, loaded with all power and air, only 26,000 miles

1976 BUICK LeSABRE CUSTOM 4-door, hardtop, beige and gold, cloth interior, low mileage, one owner, loaded all the way

1976 CAPRICE CLASSIC 4-door, cream with buckskin vinyl top, power windows, AM-FM stereo, cruise control, this car is extra clean, save hundreds of dollars

1976 BUICK REGAL 2-door, yellow with buckskin vinyl top, very low mileage, extra nice

1976 CHEVY MALIBU CLASSIC 2-door, 350 V8 engine, air, power steering and brakes, deluxe trim, bargain

1976 CHEVROLET SILVERADO SUBURBAN, 9-passenger, gold in color, cloth interior, all power and air, new Michelin tires, just right for large family

1976 BUICK SKYLARK 4-door sedan, silver with silver vinyl top, all power and air, console, bucket seats, tape deck, only 7,000 miles, this car is just like new

1976 CHEVY CAMARO, pretty blue with white vinyl roof, very low mileage, automatic, power steering and brakes, air cond., very sporty car

1974 BUICK LIMITED, 4-door, beautiful burgundy and white, matching interior, full power and air, split seats, only 30,000 miles

1973 PONTIAC GRANDVILLE 2-door, loaded, power seats and windows, stereo radio, tilt wheel, cruise control, burgundy and white, low mileage

1976 OLDS CUTLASS coupe, green with green vinyl roof, vinyl interior, full power and air, only 12,000 miles, like new in every way

1976 CHEVROLET MONTE CARLO, beige with beige vinyl roof, vinyl interior, only 12,000 miles, power steering and brakes, air cond., you can buy it for only

1976 BUICK REGAL sport coupe, silver with silver vinyl roof, vinyl interior, full power and air, a beautiful car with only 18,000 miles

1976 BUICK ELECTRA LIMITED 4-door, light blue with dark blue vinyl roof, one owner, 9,000 miles, loaded with all the equipment you can get

**NEW AND USED CARS
ARRIVING DAILY... CHECK OUR LOT EACH DAY!**
If you don't see the car you are looking for... ask one of our salesmen, more than likely he can find just the right car for you!!!

JACK LEWIS BUICK-CADILLAC-JEEP

"JACK LEWIS KEEPS THE BEST...WHOLESALES THE REST"

403 Scurry Dial 263-7354

SAVE SAVE SAVE SAVE SAVE SAVE SAVE SAVE

NICKEL CHRYSLER PLYMOUTH
Main and Florida
Midland, Texas
682-5734

Attention working men and women. We specialize in helping you with your transportation needs.
We have low down payments and easy weekly or bi-weekly.
No credit check if you're working.
TRY US, YOU'LL LIKE US!

**DON'T FORGET
YOUR
FIREWORKS!**
**BILL'S
BEER DEPOT**
10 miles North, East side Hwy 87
Open Christmas Day for your convenience.
Gifts of all kinds.
**Merry Christmas
To All**
Jean & Bill Loving

WHO'S WHO FOR SERVICE

To list your service in Who's Who, call 263-7331.

Appliance Repair BUY—SALES—SERVICE All major appliances. Heating & cooling. Work guaranteed. Preston Myrick. Call 267-2413. Delivery Service CITY DELIVERY: Move furniture and appliances. Call Tommy Coates, 263-2225. Will move almost anything. DO YOU NEED your Christmas tree hauled away? Pickup and delivery service. For price and information, call 263-0726. Dirt Work DOZER AND Blade work, back hoe and ditching. Sand and gravel delivered. Call 394-4972. Home Repair STORM WINDOW & DOOR CO. 210 Main St. Insulating—Doors—Windows Energy Saving—Crime Deterrent Phone 267-4267 After 5:30 p.m. Call 263-7445 263-0765 267-3944	Home Repair HOME REMODELING & REPAIR SERVICE Paneling, doors—windows 263-2503 after 5:00 p.m. Maintenance  Collect cash fast. Sell good things you don't use with a Want Ad. Dial BIG SPRING HERALD 263-7331 Monument Sales MONUMENTS GEORGIA MARBLE— GEORGIA GRANITE S.M. SMITH CO. 301 North Gray Phone 267-5961	Painting-Papering JERRY DUGAN PAINTING COMPANY TAPE, BED, TEXTURE, AND SHOT ACOUSTIC COMMERCIAL—RESIDENTIAL FREE ESTIMATES CALL ANYTIME 263-5374 PAINTING, PAPERING, taping, flooring, taping, free estimates. D. M. Miller, 110 South Nolan, 267-5493. Yard Work GENERAL CLEANUP Pruning, trimming, & pruning, also tree removal. Johnson Landscaping & Nursery 267-4993—After 5, 263-8216 Vacuum Cleaners ELECTROLUX SALES, Service and Supplies. Free demonstrations anytime, anywhere. Ralph Walker, 267-0878.
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**POLLARD CHEVROLET
USED CAR DEPARTMENT**
1501 E. 4th 267-7421

"BIG CAR BARGAINS"

1976 CAMARO, 6-cylinder, standard shift in floor, power steering, AM-FM cassette tape, heater, factory air, only 4,000 miles factory warranty Stk. No. 582 \$4890

1975 CHEVY MALIBU CLASSIC, V8, radio, heater, power steering and brakes, factory air, automatic, vinyl roof, 40,000 miles, Stk. No. 576 \$4189

1976 CHEVROLET IMPALA LANDAU Coupe, V8, radio, heater, automatic, power steering and brakes, factory air, cruise, tilt wheel, vinyl roof, 11,000 miles, Stk. No. 599 \$5390

1974 CHEVROLET NOVA 2-door coupe, radio, heater, V8, factory air, automatic, power steering and brakes, vinyl roof, 26,000 miles, Stk. No. 561 \$3290

1973 FORD GRAN TORINO Sport, V8, radio, heater, factory air, vinyl roof, power steering and brakes, 23,000 miles, Stk. No. 628 \$2880

1972 PONTIAC LeMANS Coupe, power steering and brakes, V8, radio heater, factory air, automatic, 49,000 miles, Stk. No. 657 \$2580

1974 FORD LTD, 2-door coupe, V8, radio and heater, automatic, power and air, vinyl roof, 38,000 miles, Stk. No. 470 \$3580

1974 CHEVROLET IMPALA custom coupe, V8, automatic, power steering and brakes, factory air, 45,000 miles, Stk. No. 469 \$3480

"SMALL CAR BARGAINS"

1975 CHEVY VEGA Stationwagon, automatic, air, tilt wheel, 9,000 miles, Stk. No. 568 \$3160

1974 MG MIDGET-CONVERTIBLE, radio and heater, 4-speed, luggage rack, Stk. No. 528-A, AS IS \$2360

1973 DATSUN 610 Stationwagon, 4-door, radio, heater, 4-speed, 60,000 miles, Stk. No. 647 \$2380

1973 SUBARU 2-door, 4-speed, radio and heater, 54,000 miles, Stk. No. 569 \$1860

PICKUPS

1976 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1/2 ton, V8, automatic, power steering and brakes, factory air, radio and heater, 16,000 miles, Stk. No. 541 \$5390

1975 CHEVROLET 1/2 ton pickup, Silverado, V-8, radio and heater, power steering, power brakes, factory air conditioning, automatic transmission, 54,000 miles, Stk. No. 453 \$4180

**On these cars
we offer a 12-month or 12,000 mile
100% ** WARRANTY on the Engine,
Transmission and Differential. (Limited.)**

RUSS MAULDIN
OF
BOB BROCK FORD
500 W 4th — 267-7424

I want to thank all my customers for a fruitful year and wish them a Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year.

POSTED POSTED
NO TRESPASSING

Beginning September 1, 1976 positively no hunting or fishing will be allowed on the RANKIN RANCH in Howard and Mitchell counties. Violators will be prosecuted.

Bud Rankin

SEASON'S GREETINGS

The spirit of the Holiday Season is here, may it bring joy to you!

Jerry Cuthbertson
of
Pollard Chevrolet
1501 E. 4th 267-7421

Help Wanted F-1
CUMMINS DIESEL Truck mechanic needed: Experienced only need apply. Must have knowledge of complete engine electrical systems, complete drive train, and have experience in welding. New shop, company benefits. Furr's Cafeteria, 1001 East 33rd, Lubbock, Texas. Contact: Johnny Bates, 806-747-2777.

HELP WANTED To work in meat market. Apply in person to: Bill Henkel, Super Save, 212 North Gregg.

SALESPERSONS NEEDED in Big Spring. Full time and part time. High immediate earnings, excellent opportunity. Send resume to: Vamco, Box 249, Snyder, Texas, 79549. You will be contacted for interview.

NEED EXPERIENCED Licensed plumber: Standard wages, plenty of work. Write Box 890-B in care of Big Spring Herald.

From Houses to Campers and Travel Trailers. Check The Big Spring Herald Classified Ads.

WOMAN'S COLUMN J

Child Care J-3
NEED BABYSITTER? Call "Kathy's Playhouse" Open daily and weekend evenings. State approved. Phone 267-1821 or 263-7893.

Cosmetics J-2
MARY KAY Cosmetics: Complimentary facials given. Try before you buy. Emma Lee Spivey, 267-5077, 1301 Madison.

Miscellaneous J-7
WATER HEATERS GAS-ELECT. & LP 10-90 Gallon J.B. HOLLIS SUPPLY 100 Air Base Road 267-8591

FARMER'S COLUMN K

WALL HEATERS 25-50 & 100-BTU J.B. HOLLIS SUPPLY 100 Air Base Road 267-8591

Grain, Hay, Feed K-2
ALFALFA HAY For sale. Extra good large ball. For more information call 394-4487 or 394-4376.

Livestock K-3
HORSE AUCTION
Big Spring Livestock Auction Horse Sale, 2nd and 4th Saturdays 12:30. Lubbock Horse Auction every Monday 7:00 p.m. Hwy. 87 South Lubbock. Jack Austin 806-745-1435. The largest Horse and Tack Auction in West Texas.

BULLS FOR Sale: Two registered Herefords and Charolais. Call 267-7442 after 6:00 p.m. 299-4402.

Farm Misc. K-6
TREFLAN \$12.75. SNYDER Farm and Ranch Supply, 573-0767.

MISCELLANEOUS L

Building Materials L-1
COMMODORE LAVATORIES BATH TUBS J.B. HOLLIS SUPPLY 100 Air Base Road 267-8591

Dogs, Pets, Etc. L-3
CHIHUAHUA PUPPIES: Merry Christmas for a loved one. Will deliver. Reasonable. San Angelo, Texas, 949-8310.
BEAUTIFUL, Two Months old Irish Setter puppies. Phone 267-8134 for more information.
FREE TO Good home: Eight week old kittens. Weaned. Call 263-3036.
FOR SALE: English Springer Spaniel puppies. Eight weeks old. The most playful Christmas gift. 263-4920.
PUPPIES To Give Away — 1/2 Springer Spaniel and 1/2 Cocker. Six weeks old. Call 263-4256.
FOR SALE AKC Miniature male Bassett hound puppy. Phone 267-2483 or see at 1014 Baylor Blvd.

Pet Grooming L-3A
COMPLETE POODLE grooming \$7.00 and up. Call Mrs. Dorothy Blount Grizzard, 263-2889 for an appointment.

IRIS'S POODLE Parlor and Boarding Kennels, grooming. Call 263-2409, 263-7900, 2112 West 3rd.

We groom all breeds. Poodles our specialty. Call 263-9921 for Appointment.

CATHY'S CANNINE COIFFURES
LOUISE FLETCHER OWNER

Household Goods L-4
SINKS—FAUCETS & SUPPLIES
Good selection, sizes & colors. J.B. HOLLIS SUPPLY 100 Air Base Road 267-8591
MODERN Five Piece living room suite, \$200. Modern five piece dining room suite \$199. 267-4242

Holiday Cheer

to all
of the
friends
we hold
so dear!

Here's hoping your Christmas holidays are happy and blessed with peace. We enjoy your patronage and we look forward to seeing you soon. It has been our pleasure to serve you.

BOB BROCK FORD

Howard County's Leading Volume Dealer

500 W. 4th 267-7424

Christmas Greetings

Folks in these parts call me just about everything
--- But usually it's The Old Man!

Could be because I've been here so long right on the same corner — selling Oldsmobiles for 43 years.

It's a friendly, family way of selling. WE LIKE OLDS --- selling 'em and servicing them.

IF YOU HAVE AN OLDSMOBILE
Let us service it ---

IF YOU DON'T —
It's time you owned one!

SHROYER MOTOR

424 E. 3rd Oldsmobile—Starcraft—GMC 263-7625

MERRY CHRISTMAS

HEARTIEST GREETINGS of the season! It's always a pleasure to wish our friends the very best!

HUGHES TRADING POST
2000 W. 3rd 267-5661

Buster Davidson
Pollard Chevrolet Used Cars 1501 E. 4th

ONE OF THE FIRST COLONIAL BANNERS TO APPEAR IN THE southern states, this dark blue flag flew over fort Sullivan in a victorious battle

Don't Buy Your Christmas Presents Here

1976 FI power st very nice 1975 FO automat 1971 C and air 1974 PO power ar 1971 GR vinyl to priced at 1973 PO with all 1971 PO loaded 1974 DA 1972 DA

PO 504 E.

CH TC CU AN BER BOB BI 50

Household

GOOD U dinettes. R Sale FOLDING chairs USED Bo chest NEW 9X12 MATTRES springs: Twin Regular Queen King

S M ROLL AI MAI'LE

Visit Our BIGSPRI 10 Main

May yo be bl a di E Barl 1702 Marcy

than and

1301

Don't Take A Chance, It Sure Won't PAY.
Buy Your Next Car, Our Guaranteed WAY.

- 1976 FIREBIRD FORMULA**, 400 engine, 4-speed, power steering, air cond., AM radio-stereo tape player, very nice. \$3295
- 1975 FORD GRAN TORINO Sport**, 2-door hardtop, automatic, power and air, extra nice car. \$3795
- 1971 CHEVROLET MONTE CARLO**, automatic, power and air. \$3650
- 1974 PONTIAC LE MANS** 2-door hardtop, automatic, power and air. \$2495
- 1971 GRAND PRIX**, fully loaded, maroon with black vinyl top, maroon bucket seats, this car is special priced at. \$3650
- 1973 PONTIAC CATALINA** 4-door, nice car, loaded with all extras. \$2450
- 1971 PONTIAC CATALINA** 2-door hardtop, nice car, loaded. \$1295
- 1974 DATSUN PICKUP**, 4-cylinder, 4-speed. \$2795
- 1972 DATSUN PICKUP**, 4-cylinder, 4-speed. \$1595

DON CRAWFORD PONTIAC — DATSUN

504 E. 3rd. 263-8335

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL MY CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS

BERT HILLIGER
of BOB BROCK FORD
509 W. 4th

- Household Goods L-4**
- GOOD Used (2) wood dinettes. Regular \$99.95. Sale. \$75.00
- FOLDING Table and two chairs. \$29.95
- USED Bookcase bed and chest. \$95.95
- NEW 9X12 carpet. \$79.95
- MATTRESSES & Box springs:
- Twin. \$64.95 each piece
- Regular. \$79.95 each piece
- Queen. \$189.95 set
- King. \$259.95 set
- SPECIAL MAN SIZE ROLL TOP DESK ALL WOOD MAPLE OR WALNUT** \$229.95
- Visit Our Bargain Basement
BIG SPRING FURNITURE
10 Main 267-2631

MERRY Christmas

ringing out good wishes

Christmas bells toll the joys of His Birth!

May you and yours be blessed with a day of joy.

Edith's Barber Shop

1702 Marcy 263-1435

Sonic

1200 Gregg 263-6790

GREETINGS

It's such a pleasure to say thank you to our many friends and customers at Christmas.

Whitefield Plumbing, Inc.

Mr. & Mrs. J. O. Whitefield and Family
1301 Settles 267-7276

Garage Sale L-10

GARAGE SALE: Bobbie's Nearly New (Junk) Shop. Open 8:00 till 4:00, six days a week. 1628 East 3rd Street.

BEEBE'S 201 EAST 2ND

NAME BRAND LADIES JACKETS \$28.00

Value \$12.00

PAINTS to \$22.00

Value \$9.00

SHELLS \$5.00

Also size 34 to 46 1-3rd off

Miscellaneous L-11

GARBAGE DISPOSERS

The Original IN-SINK-ERATOR J.B. HOLLIS SUPPLY 100 Air Base Road 267-8391

FORK LIFT RENTAL

The towable, rough terrain 21 ft. lift.

Day or night call 267-7741 or 263-7473

1972 MODEL PORTABLE Lincoln gasoline welder. For more information, call 263-7978 after 4:30 p.m.

VI BELL CERAMIC JUTE KING MACRAME CERAMIC BEADS FOR MACRAME ALL SIZES CERAMIC POTS

1009 E. 4th 263-0051

Household Goods L-4

(1) ZENITH Console color TV set. \$100

(1) KITCHEN AID trash compactor, perfect condition. \$250

(1) REPOSESSED Zenith 19-inch color TV. Take up payments.

(1) REPOSESSED 17 cu. ft. Westinghouse refrigerator w/ice maker, 2 year warranty. \$350

(1) WESTINGHOUSE repossessed washer, 6 month warranty. \$260

(1) HOOVER vacuum cleaner, 30 day warranty. \$300

Wanted To Buy L-14

I WILL Buy any coin you have that is dated 1969 or older. I am just starting a coin collection for my son and will pay you a profit to help. Call 263-7063.

WANTED TO Buy: Good Oriental rugs. Call 267-5431 or 267-8094.

Good used furniture, appliances, air conditioners, TV's, other things of value.

HUGHES TRADING POST
200 W. 3rd 267-5661

AUTOMOBILES M

Motorcycles M-1

1975 HONDA 450. Only 800 miles. Live new condition. Call 267-2774 after 5:00 p.m.

Trucks For Sale M-9

1975 1/2 TON FORD. 12,000 miles. speed, new CB radio. \$3,995. 1975 Luv. Pickup. 15,000 miles, radio. \$2,700. 398 5565.

Autos M-10

1976 CHEYENNE BLAZER. 8,000 miles, four speed, power and air, AM, FM 8 track, Goodyear AT'S, orange and white. \$5,900. 267-8446 or 263-7114.

1974 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX. Silver and maroon. 3,000 actual miles. \$4,000. Call 267-1054.

1974 MALIBU CHEVROLET. 1903 cubic engine, less than 40,000 miles. Excellent condition. \$2,700. 7514.

1974 MONTE CARLO. New tires, good condition. \$2,700. Call after 5:00 p.m. 267-1054.

1973 TOYOTA CORONA Deluxe. Four door, automatic with air conditioning. \$1,800. Call 267-5969.

1974 DODGE VAN V-8. Carpeted and paneled. Excellent condition. Only 1,000 miles. Call 263-8882 or 263-2054.

Musical Instruments L-7

BAND INSTRUMENTS, sheet music, guitars, amplifiers, repair, supplies. "Quality Service to School Bands." We can fill your needs for beginner or professional. ACR Music Company, 113 Main Street, 263-7491.

PIANO TUNING and repair. Immediate attention. Dgo Telle, Music Studio, 2104 Alabama. Phone 263-8191.

Sporting Goods L-8

FOR SALE: Smith and Wesson model 8 highway patrolman. 4 inch blue, as new. Model 66, stainless steel 4 inch, as new. Call 263-8735 after 6:00 p.m.

1976 CADILLAC ELDOADO

(1) Owner, 10 months warranty, loaded, Sun roof and G.M. CB radio. Pale yellow gold with matching leather upholstery and padded vinyl top.

Dewey Ray
"Big Spring's Quality Dealer"
263-7602

1968 VOLKSWAGEN VAN in good condition. Good gas mileage. Good engine. \$850. Call 267-6729.

HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

QUALITY GUITARS
Excellent for beginners, advanced or professional musicians. All are professionally adjusted & tuned. Lessons available.

Ideal Christmas gifts.
DON TOLLE MUSIC CO.
2104 Alabama 263-8191

WESTERN AUTO

Get your home ready for the holidays. Do a professional carpet cleaning job with the

RINSE-N-VAC
Rent at
WESTERN AUTO
501 Johnson

BIG SALE

Lots of glassware, china, copper, brass and jewelry. Also new gift items from \$1.00 and up. Shop both shops for good buys for Christmas. Will be open 10:00 to 6:00 p.m. daily. Thursday night till 8:00 p.m. and Sunday afternoon till Christmas.

CURIOUSITY SHOP
500 and 501 Gregg

TO LACE YOUR AD IN THIS GUIDE
CALL 263-7331

Autos M-10

MOST DEPENDABLE USED CARS IN TOWN

74 BLAZER, 4 cyl. loaded.

73 DATSUN, B. 210, 4 speed and air

72 JEEP Commando, V8 & power.

74 FORD Ranger, red, sharp.

73 ALDI, 4 speed, loaded, sharp.

72 TRIBE, loaded.

74 GRAND PRIX, loaded.

74 FIREBIRD, loaded, with tape air wheels.

JACKIE GASS AUTO SALES
1505 W. 4th 267-1212

1973 MONTE CARLO. Loaded, all power, new tires and much, much more.

1974 VOLKSWAGEN BEETLE. 26,000 Miles, excellent condition, radio, new tires, sport wheels, red with black interior. \$2,000. 267-8446 or 263-1806.

1971 PLYMOUTH WAGON. Good condition, air, new tires, shocks and battery. \$600. Call 267-2511, extension 2689 days; after 3:00; 2579; ask for Wayne Sturgeon.

LEGAL NOTICE

NO 22-78

IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF JOHN D. SMITH AND MARY JENELL SMITH AND IN THE INTEREST OF: KELVIN LAMONT SMITH and JONICIA RENEE SMITH IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS.

TO: MARY JENELL SMITH, Defendant, and to all persons interested in the above styled suit.

Notice is hereby given that JOHN D. SMITH, Plaintiff, has filed and propounded written questions in the office of the Clerk of the District Court, Howard County, Texas, in a cause of action described above, to JOHN D. SMITH, Plaintiff, a party and witness in said cause whose address is Dellbrucker Hauptstrasse 132, 5000 KOLN 80, Germany. This written deposition will be taken by Captain Timothy D. Gillette, Commanding Officer, 33rd U. S. Army Field Artillery, Detachment, at Hyazin Henweg 31, 5000 KOLN 80, Germany, and will be taken by such officer on or after the 14th day after the first publication of this notice.

Witness Peggy Crittenden, Clerk of the District Court of Howard County, Texas.

Given under my hand and seal of said Court at office in the City of Big Spring, Howard County, Texas, on the 21st day of Dec., 1976.

SIGNED: PEGGY CRITTENDEN, DISTRICT CLERK, HOWARD COUNTY, TEXAS.

Issued this 21st day of Dec., 1976. DECEMBER 24, 1976

Boats M-13

1976 15 FOOT DEL magic bass boat and trailer, 40 horsepower Evinrude motor. Call 263-5293.

Campers & Travel Trls. M-14

1973 BALBOA MOTOR Home: Central air, heat, all hook ups. Dodge Chassis. 25,000 miles. \$8,700. Call 263-0743 after 5:00 p.m. for appointment.



POLICE CHILDREN GATHER — These children from the families of Big Spring policemen gather around Santa Claus at the annual Police Association dinner here this week.

Beats odds of 512,000 to one with third set

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Beating odds of 512,000 to one, Margaret Murphy has done it again — she's had her third set of fraternal twins.

"I guess my reaction was I really wasn't too surprised since it happened before. At least I wasn't as surprised as I was with the other sets," she said Thursday, one day after the twin boys were born.

Mrs. Murphy, 36, said her doctor had not anticipated the third set.

"I guess he walked out into the hall, threw up his hands, and told Jim he'd done it again," she said.

"Jim is just in seventh heaven," she said about her husband, an electrical lineman at Commonwealth Electric Co.

The Murphys, who have two other children, Jim, 7, and Ann, 5, say they will probably name the newcomers Pat and Mike.

Their first set of twins — Jennifer and Theresa, who was stillborn — were born in 1973. On Thanksgiving Day 1974, Daniel and David were born.

James Eisen, genetics professor at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, said the chances of having one set of fraternal (not identical) twins is one in 80. The chances of two sets are one in 80 times 80 and for three sets it is one in 80 times 80 times 80, or one in 512,000.

Mrs. Murphy said that unless it happened many generations ago, the couple

is the first in both their families to be parents of twins.

"Sometimes it gets a little hectic," she said of having seven children. "You just kind of get into a routine. I am thinking about having a girl live in for a few months

until the new ones are on a schedule and sleeping nights.

"We originally thought we would have three children. These may be the last, but the last time I was here (Bergan-Mercy Hospital) I said I wouldn't be back."



THIRD SET — Jim and Margaret Murphy of Omaha, Neb., show off their third set of twins who were born Wednesday. A genetics expert says the chances of having three sets is one in 512,000.

Desegregation decision

EL PASO, Tex. (AP) — Lawyers for a Mexican-American organization and the El Paso school district have expressed satisfaction with a desegregation plan announced by U.S. District Court Judge William Sessions.

The comprehensive desegregation plan announced Thursday involves redistricting of school attendance zones and reassignment of students and teachers, but no massive busing of students in El Paso.

The ruling was viewed favorably by attorneys for both the El Paso school board and the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF), a California-based organization that had prosecuted the suit on behalf of a group of parents.

"I'm deeply proud of the ruling and the courage and decency shown us by Judge Sessions," said Albert Armendariz, MALDEF's El Paso representative.

"I think it's great," said Morris Galatzan, one of the attorneys representing the school system. "I think we would have been pleased with any ruling that didn't involve massive busing. What little busing the judge prescribed is essentially voluntary. It may be that through redistricting we can eliminate the need for any busing at all."

Sessions cited what he termed "convincing evidence" of "past intent to maintain and foster a dual school system" for Anglo

and Mexican-American students in the El Paso Independent School District.

The judge ordered the school district to begin immediately to remedy specific areas where he found discrimination had occurred.

In his ruling, Sessions ordered implemented by next Aug. 15:

— Establishment of a free, voluntary transportation system for students of a predominantly Mexican-American high school in South El Paso who wish to attend predominantly Anglo schools.

— Redrawing of school attendance zones at nine elementary schools to foster ethnic balance.

— More aggressive recruitment and more equitable assignment of Mexican-American teachers, principals, counselors and other administrators throughout the school system.

— Equalization of air-conditioning in schools. Sessions said he found that a disproportionate number of the district's air-conditioned schools had predominantly Anglo student bodies.

U.S. patent milestone

WASHINGTON (AP) — The four millionth U.S. patent was expected to be issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in late December, according to Intellectual Property Owners, Inc. IPO, a non-profit public educational organization dedicated to preserving the patent system as an incentive to invention and innovation throughout the nation.

Among the 11 million documents which have been assembled into a patent file by the Patent and Trademark office can be found the disclosure of nearly every major technological advance which has occurred throughout the world during the 186 years since the first U.S. patent was granted. Also available are over 9 million patents of other nations and 1 million pieces of nonpatent, technological literature.

The file is used primarily by government patent examiners and the public as the principal resource in determining the novelty and patentability of inventions.

Hayes, wife ask bankruptcy

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Academy Award winning singer-composer Isaac Hayes and his wife have filed personal bankruptcy petitions in federal court, indicating debts of \$6 million, an attorney said.

Attorney Gary Plotkin of Los Angeles said Wednesday that Hayes has given up his own business ventures, including Hot Buttered Soul, Ltd., in Memphis.

Hayes, whose Oscar-winning score for the movie "Shaft" made him an international star, now records for ABC Records in Los Angeles.

No drugs found at murder scene

FORT WORTH, Tex. (AP) — A homicide detective says there apparently was no cocaine, marijuana or illegal drugs confiscated by police who searched the Cullen Davis mansion Aug. 3.

Detective Claude R. Davis also testified Thursday that no drug enforcement agency was asked to work with Fort Worth police to investigate a double slaying at the mansion.

Claude Davis made the statements at a hearing on 129 defense motions in district court before the trial of multi-millionaire Cullen Davis for the slayings of 12-year-old Andrea Wilborn and Stan Farr, 31, boyfriend of Davis' estranged wife.

It was the fourth day of hearings on motions by Davis' lawyers, and the detectives' comments were in response to questions by defense attorney Richard Haynes, who said this week the slayings were drug-related.

"Were any cocaine, marijuana or pills of any sort found at the scene?" Haynes asked.

"I have no knowledge of any of those substances being turned over to anyone," Davis replied.

The pretrial hearing will resume at 9 a.m. next Tuesday.

At that time, Judge Tom Cave said, the possibility of a

Youths protesting arrest of Carrillo

MADRID, Spain (AP) — Thousands of youths protesting the arrest of Communist leader Santiago Carrillo have clashed with police in Madrid's central square for a second night.

An estimated 3,000 to 4,000 young people threw rocks, raised clenched fists and hoisted red flags in front of police headquarters Thursday night. Police chased the demonstrators through side streets and threw smoke bombs to disperse them. No arrests or injuries were reported.

About 2,000 persons took part in similar demonstrations Wednesday night in the square.

Protests also continued to come in from abroad against the arrest Wednesday evening of Carrillo, who had been living underground in Spain for much of the past 10 months following 37 years in exile.

Carrillo, 62, was arrested along with seven other Communist party officials after a secret meeting. He reportedly was being questioned at the Carabanchel prison on the outskirts of Madrid.

No charges have been filed against Carrillo, but legal

sources said he could be charged with an illegal meeting or illegal entry because he has no passport.

Carrillo had been sought by police since he held a clandestine news conference in Madrid on Dec. 11. He told reporters he had returned to Spain on Feb. 7 and had traveled in and out of the country since then.

The Communist leader said that despite an official ban, his party would challenge the government by running candidates in the parliamentary elections promised for next year. The Communist party has been barred from all political activity in Spain since the 1936-39 civil war.

Communist party members scattered hundreds of thousands of leaflets in the capital Thursday urging protests and branding the arrest of Carrillo and the others as "an attempt on the liberty of all Spaniards."

The liberal Spanish daily El Pais said the jailing of Carrillo "would be an unnecessary scandal, political foolishness and a threat to the democratic credibility of the government."

'Youth on the Move' to share

DALLAS (AP) — When a South Dallas youth center recently appealed for Christmas food, toys and treats for about 1,000 neighborhood youths, the response was overwhelming.

So overwhelming, in fact, that officials of "Youth on the Move" now plan to share in their good fortune by donating items to needy children in other neighborhoods.

"We have received enough

offers of food and money for treats to take care of our people, and we are now extending an invitation to others to share our blessings," said Willie James, director of the center that is headquartered in a low-income housing project.

James had been campaigning for two weeks to secure funds and gifts sufficient to provide each of the youths participating in the center's programs a Christmas dinner and a basket containing fruit, a toy and an article of clothing.

"The response was tremendous," James said. "We have more than we need, and we want other children whose families cannot provide Christmas treats to come to our party Friday so we can share ours."

Hayes, wife ask bankruptcy

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I never cease to be amazed at the people who volunteer to serve as Santa Claus across the nation because they know in their heart there is a Santa Claus.

In my list, I scratch off those who do it for money although it is necessary for stores to have these — I suppose.

But the volunteer Santa Clauses who take the time to wade in and listen to the little children, who alternately cry and draw back or clutch Santa with sticky hands and lunge forward grabbing him

by the nose and shaking loose his workers, I admire.

I followed along this year when one local fellow (Good old Bob) who plays Santa quite often, went to the Westside Day Care Center and then the Community Center.

When he got inside amongst the little ones at the Day Care Center, one small boy decked out all in yellow was so delighted that he seized upon Santa immediately and began to claim him for his own. He literally grabbed Santa

by his left leg and hung on. When Santa Claus began to stumble, one little girl offered help by saying, "Santa, you're falling down."

We went from there to the community center where 200 children began to pour into the building. Kiwanians and ABC members combined to lead singing, hand out packages and dole out the fruit and candy.

Somebody panicked and sent for more fruit and out in the kitchen was a duke's mixture of people hurriedly sacking more fruit and candy — including such a variety as a radio disc jockey, a lawyer, two women school bus drivers, the adult probation officer, an assistant principal at the high school, the manager of the local gas company and this reporter. We didn't exactly have an expert assembly line but we got the fruit sacked.

Last year, when there was a downtown Santa, (good old Walt), I stood and listened in awe to that old cynic of a reporter sit for hours and listen carefully to each tiny request, ho-ho-ing with the best of them.

What is it about Santa Claus that brings out the best

Yeggs kick door down

Thieves apparently intent on some interior decorating broke into Kaufmann Interiors some time Tuesday night and absconded with furnishings including five framed pictures, two mirrors, and a matching ashtray and cigarette lighter. Total value of the missing merchandise was set at \$150. The thieves apparently gained entrance by kicking in the front door.

New airport grant okayed

STANTON — The City of Stanton got a Christmas present this week when they received word from Congressman George Mahon that a Federal Aviation Association grant in the amount of \$263,000 has been approved for the construction of a new airport.

The FAA funds will be utilized along with a Texas grant and city and county money to build a new airport on the site of the present dirt airstrip north of Stanton off Highway 137.

Bids have already been taken on the project with work expected to begin in January.

Yes, Virginia, there is....



LET'S SEE NOW SANTA... what do I want

in all of us? Once in a while, we run across somebody or some religious group who emphatically denies Santa, claiming that it confuses children about the real meaning of Christmas.

That it does not do. Children are smarter than all of us. If they ever get a chance to participate acting out the story of the First Christmas or singing in a choir in the background...

It's our own responsibility to get our children to some house of worship and to be sure that they learn the true meaning of Christmas.

But Santa Claus is sym-

bolic of that great big birthday party around the world, because the Christ Child was born at Christmas.

Santa Claus is that spirit of love that makes us stop complaining and help others. It's that spirit of giving that is behind Christmas.

It's that moment when your heart stops when you see a little child with his eyes big and round and radiant look up into the face of somebody that may seem like a real old cynic the rest of the year.

And that child says in good faith, "Santa I've been good..." I hope that all the wonderful people in Big

Spring who have helped with Christmas trees at the Day Center, Christmas parties for needy children at the base, the Shrine crippled children's event, and the events during the holidays at the nursing homes and the senior centers — have already had their reward.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus — in Big Spring and all the counties around — He's showed up in every gift at the State Hospital and the VA Hospital and in every invitation that has been extended to somebody who would be alone tomorrow.

Out where I'm riding fence — there's a Santa.

Greetings



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