

WEST TEXAS TIMES

Dedicated to Informing the Citizens of West Texas

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Sixteen Pages

Hospital District Survey May Hint Changes

by Cliff Avery

The decision Monday by the Hospital District Board of Managers to invite a hospital management consulting firm to survey the local teaching hospital crisis could pave the way for operation of the controversial facility by just such a firm.

For that to happen, the district managers and Texas Tech officials would have to agree to turn over operation of the facility to the firm.

Managers and Tech regents have been haggling over who will do what for whom for several years. The two groups haven't yet set down in writing precisely what their obligations are. Until the managers Monday set back the opening date of the facility to

February, 1978, opening day was less than ten months away.

Hiring a consultant to operate the hospital district has been mentioned as a possibility, but hospital district staff members — particularly Executive Director

Analysis

Harold Coston — are upset with the possibility.

Management firms for hospitals come in varied shapes and sizes, but if you're going to be a patient at the teaching hospital you may notice the difference if a firm handles the entire operation.

For example, hospital experts note that management firms have a reputation with being "tight with a buck." Says one expert who's opposed to any manage-

ment firm for the teaching hospital, "They have nurses aides doing what a registered nurse should be doing."

Another expert says that if a management firm handles a hospital, profit will probably be main management philosophy. As a result, management firm executives may cut back in any of three different areas.

—They may reduce hospital personnel. According to persons in the field, hospitals are usually somewhat overstaffed anyway, and a management firm, to increase the profitability — or decrease the loss — of an operation, may trim the fat. This may not work at a teaching hospital, however, since more support personnel may be needed when students are involved.

—They may reduce supplies on hand. Rather than carrying two or three months of inventory, the executives of a management firm may find it more profitable to carry only one month backlog.

—Most importantly, a hospital management firm in control of the teaching hospital may exercise stricter control over admissions, requiring extensive documentation of insurance, for example. That way the executives could "cull out bad risks" to assure a minimum of bad debts.

The problem is that the teaching hospital, built by taxpayers, has to take a variety of patients and illnesses. One of the philosophies of medical education is that med students can learn by treating on poor people, since the

poor will be grateful for anything they get.

And for proper accreditation, a med school has to expose students to a certain number of illnesses and injuries — some of which may be a drag on the hospital's profit-loss statement.

The Board of Managers, as a public board, has shown some of the same signs one sees on the national scene — a thrifty approach to spending tax dollars — as the crisis has worsened. The feeling seems to be that as stewards of public funds, the managers have to insure the taxpayers with a proper return on their investment.

Board Chairman Pro Tem Jack Strong reflected that feeling after the managers authorized the

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Federal Grant Could Send Ambulances Into Region

by Mary Alice Robbins

An effort is underway to expand the Emergency Medical Services System throughout the 15-county South Plains region.

During this week's board meeting of Lubbock County Hospital District, the group gave the go-ahead to the district's staff to prepare an application for a regional grant for expansion of EMS.

EMS coordinator Stuart Haggard explained that grant money is available through the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. About \$5 million is available in grant research funds for the five-state area (which includes Texas) in Region 6.

If the hospital district's grant application is okayed, it could bring from \$500,000 to \$600,000 into the region for development of EMS systems in the 14 counties surrounding Lubbock. Haggard said the grant would require either matching local funds or in-kind contributions.

The money would be used for training emergency medical technicians in the area, gathering groups of physicians to offer medical direction, buying equipment and establishing a regional communication system, Haggard noted.

LCHD administrator Harold Coston said the grant sought by the district would be a companion grant to one Texas Tech Medical School is applying for to provide emergency medical training for physicians.

According to Coston, expansion of EMS would be an excellent opportunity to acquaint other counties with the med school and teaching hospital — which, he said, could lead to their cooperation on care of their medical indigents. This could pave the way to future agreements on the funding of out-of-county indigent care in the teaching hospital here.

Coston said expanding EMS also would serve as a forerunner for expansion of the med school clinics, additional manpower in the outlying areas and to assist those counties that likely will not have full-time availability of physicians.

Hospital District Manager Joe Stanley said at the Monday

meeting that the EMS expansion could also be the forerunner of an expanded hospital district.

Stanley said he has approached South Plains Health Systems with the idea of expanding the ambulance service and "There is some interest. If we solidified a regional we could earn our spurs with other counties to expand the district."

State Rep. Joe Robbins is preparing legislation to expand the district to a 15-county area to enlarge the tax base and ease the woes of the financially-plagued teaching hospital, presently under construction.

Most importantly, Coston added, expansion of the system

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Abandoned Dogs Roam Through Ferra Estates

It's not that Ferra Estates area is going to the dogs, just that there are packs of dogs—which were probably abandoned by their owners outside the city limits—that wander the south-west Lubbock neighborhood.

The dogs aren't particularly wild, although they reportedly attacked one dog belonging to a man living in the area. Still, it has caused some concern among the residents in the area.

About six months ago, Mrs. Gail Thompson walked out on her front porch to pick up a newspaper. She picked up the paper. There, staring her in the face, were several dogs, which probably looked like they hadn't eaten in a while.

She said she was "frightened," adding that the dogs look strange with gray and black and white mottled coats. "I call them stumpy dogs," she laughed.

Ted Boyd said that last summer—"It's worse in the summer than in the winter"—a stray dog acting "kind of sick" took refuge between his and his neighbor's houses. Boyd had to call the animal shelter because he was afraid to approach the

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TOPPING THE TREE—Ornaments are essential for every Christmas tree, and the Brenner family takes decorating seriously. Don Brenner has collected over 500 ornaments from across the country. His son Jerry, admires a few of this year's additions.

Ornament Collection Family's Hobby Just Hanging Around

by Janice Jarvis

Walk into the Brenners' home around Christmas time and you may think you're seeing double — at least when you spot the Christmas trees.

About a month before Christmas Don Brenner begins his day-long search for two identical trees, to display his collection of over 500 ornaments.

Brenner, who began collecting ornaments 20 years ago, said the collection grew out of a desire to have something different from the standard store-bought ornaments.

"About twelve years ago we decided to buy ornaments in the same color," Brenner said. As the collection grew, the family discovered they needed two trees to display their decorations.

Today one tree is decorated in green while the other is adorned with silver and white ornaments. Standing side by side, the trees mirror each other.

Buying ornaments is not limited to the Christmas season for the Brenners. They're always on the look-out for unusual

ornaments from all over the world as well as the country.

Year-round ornament shops make the search easier than in past years. "Frankenmuth, Mich. is the mecca for anyone interested in ornaments," said Brenner because of a specialty store there. The mail order business specializes in all kinds of decorations, also.

But you don't have to look in an ornament shop to find ornaments. The Brenners have found ornaments in art and craft shows, interior decorating and gift shops, and open markets. Museums also have a good selection of unusual ornaments around Christmas time.

Mrs. Brenner recycles worn out ornaments by adding felt, glitter, sequins and other materials. "I also make a few wooden ones to match the tree," she said.

The trend toward personalized tree decorating is contagious, Brenner said, "People used to be satisfied to buy a box of ornaments yearly but now people want something more individualized."

There are also more decorations to choose from now. Brenner said some people are decorating trees with a theme, for example the bicentennial tree is supposed to be popular.

"I prefer a variety of ornaments and the only requirements for ours are that they are green or silver and they must be unusual," Brenner explained.

And unusual they are. The collection includes ornaments made from walnut, shells, mirrors, tin cans, and beads. Some have figures hiding inside them, while others are as simple as glass balls.

Since friends are aware of the collection they send ornaments from around the world.

Every year the family looks forward to seeing their favorite ornament displayed on just the right branch.

While still enjoying this year's display, the Brenners are looking forward to another year's search for the most beautiful ornament for the top of the trees.

EDITORIALS

Times Requests Hospital Document

The West Texas Times has formally requested — pursuant to the Texas Open Records Act — a Hospital District document withdrawn from the District Board of Managers Dec. 20 public session.

Hospital District attorney Charles Galey started to discuss the document with the managers, and District public information officer Mary Lou Mulch ordered photocopies of the tentative contractual agreement with Texas Tech University for distribution for the press. The managers handed a copy to Dr. Richard Lockwood, Tech's vice-president for health sciences centers.

Lockwood apparently wasn't part of the meeting. He sat in the section reserved for the public, didn't participate in any discussion and like the press, was excluded from a secret session the Board held later in the meeting.

When the managers asked Lockwood if he'd like to comment, he said he hadn't seen the document. Oh. Well, the managers said, maybe we ought not to make this draft public until Galey can talk to the Tech attorneys. Right. Good idea. Forget that, folks. Reporters were barred from the copies Mulch had ordered, and one copy was taken away from a reporter who got there too early.

Unfortunately, The Times doesn't think that's exactly how the game should be played. Either a document is public or it's "confidential" — read "secret." A document presented in open session of a public hospital board is public.

We recognize that some of the negotiations over the costly and controversial teaching hospital are delicate, and require some secrecy so that public officials can speak their minds. But the managers have a history of playing fast and loose with the Open Meetings and Open Records Act.

This affects you two ways: first, it's acknowledged that the teaching hospital controversy is the "biggest problem that this city and county has ever faced."

The outcome could affect Lubbock for decades. But by shutting the public out, the managers are turning the public off. And when some product of all these closed-door sessions is trotted out one of these days, it would be hard to blame the public for saying "Nuts to you" to the hospital district. The managers and the Tech hierarchy are going to have to depend on public support for the solution eventually. They might as well start now.

Second, how the managers and Tech officials divvy up the costs and revenues of the Teaching Hospital has a lot to do with whether Lubbock taxpayers face a tax increase or a vote to expand the district or a prison farm in the middle of the city — an idea which, according to one local radio station, a state legislator is toying with right now.

You see, radiology (X-ray), laboratory and pharmacy fees are the bread-and-butter of a lot of hospitals. That's where they make the money, not on room-and-board. But Texas Tech will provide some of those services, and maybe take in some of the revenues. If the district loses the revenue from those services, the entire project could be in jeopardy.



That's why the public needs to know what the managers have in mind. That's why the Times has asked for the document to be made public.

The Hospital, under the law, may either turn over the document or request a ruling from Atty. Gen. John Hill on whether the document is public. If the district doesn't request an opinion within 10 days, the document is presumed to be public. We'll be waiting. And we hope you will be too.

New Myths

You can blame it on Clement Moore.

Moore wrote the poem, "A Visit from St. Nicholas" which is better known by its first line — "Twas the night before Christmas" ...

That did for Santa Claus what Wednesday night did for Charlie's Angels. All of a sudden, there were Santas on street corners and in the stores. But somewhere along the line we lost Santa Claus.

Sure his face and chubby body is around, selling everything from toys to cars to videotape recorders. In fact, he's become something of The Great Salesman in the Sky, a product of the way we live. But his spirit of giving without receiving — for the pure joy and love of the Christmas season — seems to have been lost or forgotten.

Maybe it's time for parents to create their own private myths. It is not written in stone that Santa Claus has to be the only symbol of giving at Christmas, and it seems that there's little any of us can do to reverse the trend of treating Santa like a used-car salesman.

Think about it. But no matter which symbol of Christmas love and giving you adhere to The West Texas Times hopes there is plenty of it to go around at your house this year. Merry Christmas.

JACK ANDERSON'S WEEKLY SPECIAL



Ford's Farewell Gift to Big Oil

by Jack Anderson with Joe Spear

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WASHINGTON—President Ford has already announced plans to remove price controls from gasoline. This is a last-minute maneuver to benefit the big oil companies before he leaves the White House.

Now we've learned that Transportation Secy. William Coleman may be on the verge of granting the oil companies still another multi-million-dollar bonanza.

The oil conglomerates want to build two deepwater ports in Louisiana and Texas. These would accommodate the

largest supertankers. They would also benefit the oil companies, at the expense of their customers.

The federal government would license the deepwater ports, but the oil companies would own them. The smaller, nonparticipating companies could be locked out by the oil oligarchy.

This could give the oil giants a marketing monopoly. They would own and control the best oil transportation facilities on the Gulf of Mexico. The greater efficiency of the superports would tend to eliminate all real competition.

These same companies not only would get a stranglehold on the flow of oil in the South, but in the North as well. For these companies also control the Alaskan pipeline.

We've had access to a Justice Dept. study of the proposed superports. The study warns that the deepwater ports and the Alaskan pipeline have the same "monopolistic characteristics."

This means simply that the big oil companies could wind up tightening their control over the petroleum market in this country. That's always bad news for the customers who, invariably, wind up paying higher prices.

The oil companies contend that the deepwater ports would produce huge savings in transportation costs. But the Justice Dept. warns that the "cost advantages will be pocketed" by the oil companies "as an excessive return for investment."

Coleman may be all set to grant the deepwater port licenses before the Democrats take over the Transportation Dept. on January 20th. But hopefully, the Justice Dept. report will deter him.

Goodwill Gesture: The Soviet Union is allowing more Jews to emigrate to Israel. For the first 10 months of this year, they left Russia for the Jewish homeland at the rate of 1,000 a month.

Suddenly in November, the exit permits were increased to 1,700. This easing of restrictions is viewed as a goodwill gesture to President-elect Jimmy Carter. But behind the scenes, the Soviets are tightening the screws on Jewish dissidents. The Jews who dare to stand up for their rights are hounded and harassed.

The Jews hope to call attention to their plight by holding a symposium on Soviet Jewry in Moscow. The Soviets don't want to stop the symposium openly for this would cause international embarrassment. But they are doing their best to wreck it quietly.

The dissidents, for example, sent invitations to eight American scholars. All eight were refused visas. Others

who might attend the symposium have had their visas denied or their trips canceled.

The dissidents have written an urgent letter to President Ford. The letter, signed by 95 Jews from six Russian cities, reports that the secret police broke into the homes of symposium leaders and conducted midnight searches.

The Jewish dissidents appealed to Ford to raise the issue at the United Nations. They contend it violates the Helsinki accords. The State Dept. has raised the issue with Soviet representatives in Washington and the Helsinki Commission is also investigating.

No-Shows: The defense ministers of the Atlantic Alliance held a secret session in Brussels earlier this month. Yet less than half of the ministers showed up.

This upset the American Defense Secy. Donald Rumsfeld, who will be leaving office next month. He delivered a parting lecture, which was supposed to be strictly secret. But we can tell you what he said.

Rumsfeld acknowledged that the missing defense ministers had good excuses for their absences. But he suggested bluntly that the allied governments should make whatever arrangements are necessary for their defense ministers to attend the bi-annual meetings.

Otherwise, he warned, the Atlantic Alliance would deteriorate. It has survived, he said, for 26 years. Problems had been solved in the past, but there are new problems, he said.

The Soviet military capability is growing at an alarming rate, he reminded them. He pleaded that the Atlantic Alliance must remain strong to deter Soviet expansion. Peace and stability, he said, are at stake. And peace, he warned, wouldn't come free.

Assassination Probe: A special House committee has been established to investigate the assassinations of John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr.

The investigation was sought by two unheralded congressmen. Thomas Downing of Virginia and Henry Gonzales of Texas. At first, it looked as if they would get nowhere. They needed the authorization of the powerful House Rules Committee. But the committee chairman, Ray Madden, told us that he would never approve it.

So Downing and Gonzales went over Madden's head to House Speaker Carl Albert. But Albert was retiring and lacked the political clout to overrule Madden.

Suddenly, Coretta King, the widow of the slain civil rights leader, appeared on Capitol Hill. She quietly implored the black caucus to press for an investigation. The black caucus turned on the political heat and, overnight, the House voted to form the select committee.

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She Decorates Tree With Help of Oven

by Janice Jarvis

If you find Yvonne Greene in her kitchen kneading dough, don't look for bread in the oven—you'll find Christmas ornaments on the tree instead.

Mrs. Greene started making ornaments out of dough when she taught grade school. Seven years later she not only makes ornaments for her family but she makes special orders for friends and customers.

"The recipe is simple," Mrs. Greene said. "You mix two cups water with four cups flour and one cup salt." The dough is kneaded like bread, then baked at 350 degrees for an hour.

Although bread dough is used for many other projects such as salt maps in grade school, Mrs. Greene uses the dough to make gaily painted ornaments and for tennis players, Mrs. Greene makes sporty ornaments resembling the player requesting the ornament.

She paints the "dough boys" with acrylic paint, then adds yarn, material and other ric-racs to complete the ornament. Teddy Bears are her favorite decoration, she says.

In addition to her yearly batch of Christmas ornaments, Mrs. Greene also makes rabbits for Easter, the King of Hearts for Valentine's Day and various high school mascots. In honor of the Bi-Centennial year, she made Betsy Ross sewing the flag.

This yuletide she made a manger scene from bread dough. "You can use basket or bowls to help shape large objects," she explained. Wreaths can also be shaped with dough, to serve as an all-year decoration.

Each year, she encourages her son to help her make ornaments to hang on the tree. When children make bread dough ornaments it's best to let them decorate with yarn rather than paint, Mrs. Greene advises. Although she shapes her own ornaments, children often find it easier to use a cookie cutter.

Anyone interested in making dough ornaments should be wary of using too much water, explained Mrs. Greene, and if

ornaments are too large or too heavy they fall off the tree, she warned.

"It's best to use acrylic paint for the ornaments," Mrs. Greene said. If you paint the ornaments with a beated egg you get a golden finish, she added.

Painting varnish on the completed ornaments tops them off with a shiny finish and preserves the decorations for future use. "Without varnish the ornament may dissolve if it gets wet," Mrs. Greene said.

Dough Christmas tree ornaments gives the tree a more natural look, as opposed to a tensil tree. "We always make our ornaments," says Mrs. Greene, "because we don't like glitter."

Not only do you have something handcrafted you also have something meaningful for years. When you make your own Christmas ornaments, they are that much more special.



DOUGH BOYS—Mrs. Yvonne Greene shows her daughter Rachal several of the ornaments she made this year. The Christmas decorations are kneaded from dough and baked, before being painted with bright colors.

Med Association Says

Don't Let Christmas Hazards Put You Up A Tree

Christmas trees pose a fire hazard by their very existence in the home but people can do a lot to decrease potential problems, the Texas Medical Association says.

Natural trees need to be as fresh as possible. Brittle branches and shedding needles not only increase fire hazards but they make a tree less pretty quicker. Keeping the bottom of the tree in water or damp dirt will help keep it fresher longer.

The tree also needs a sturdy base. Holders can be bought or a fairly secure base can be made by packing and bracing the tree in a large container of damp dirt. A holder can be covered with wrapping paper or a cloth for a more pleasing effect.

Christmas trees present a very subtle danger to some people. Allergy sufferers may have to have an artificial tree if they find the trees trigger wheezing, sneezing and red eyes.

The most important requirement for artificial trees is that

they be fire resistant. Labels on the tree or packaging clearly should state their safety. Artificial trees also need sturdy bases.

Trimming a metal tree with electric lights can be very dangerous so safety authorities recommend using colored floodlights aimed at the tree. These lights must be placed so they can't possibly burn people, packages or furnishings.

Other types of tree lights can be dangerous if the wires are broken, cracked or exposed. Loose connections, broken bulbs and bulbs touching branches also can create problems. Even lights with the Underwriters Laboratory (UL) safety seal can be dangerous if they are old and in bad shape. All Christmas lights

(on the tree or elsewhere) need to be turned off when people leave home.

Ornaments also can pose problems if they are not fire-resistant. However, the biggest danger is to children who

grab and break the baubles if they are not placed high enough on the tree. In fact, children and Christmas trees can be an unbeatable team for trouble unless youngsters are taught to admire but not touch.

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Dec. 24	Broiled calves liver served with onions and your choice of two garden fresh vegetables. . . . \$1.59
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Saturday	CHRISTMAS DAY
Dec. 25	(Closed All Day)
Sunday	BONELESS CHICKEN BREAST DINNER
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Lab Animals

Help Study

Human Ills

by Janice Jarvis

A covey of Japanese quail, a Chilean toad, and some mud puppies live in the laboratories at Texas Tech School of Medicine — and they may be the key to life sustaining drugs.

Comparative Pharmacology is emphasized at TTUSM, and scientists study all sorts of bizarre animals hoping to find characteristics similar to humans, Dr. Alexander Kenney, Pharmacology and Therapeutics chairman, said.

"The characteristics in animals are not always identical to humans but they are often exaggerated," Kenney noted.

In the labs, scientists study evolution using a primitive approach because primitive animals serve as a simplified model, explained Associate Prof. of Pharmacology Dr. Peter Pang. The animals are studied for various reactions that may also occur in humans.

The unusual animals are selected for several reasons, Kenney noted. Japanese quail make good laboratory animals because they are small and have been inbred.

"Japanese quail are not normal in a biological sense because they lay an egg a day," said Kenney.

Quails lose and replenish 10 per cent of their calcium everyday, while it takes pregnant women 18 months to lose 10 per cent of their calcium.

Vitamin D and calcium are associated with each other (milk has vitamin D and "builds strong bones"), and in the studies they have discovered that men don't produce the vitamin. Women on the other hand secrete the vitamin as a hormone.

The scientists are trying to find what mechanism clicks and makes women secrete this hormone. When they know what mechanism causes the secretion then they can find out which drugs will

trigger the secretion. When they can trigger the secretion they can correct vitamin D deficiency.

A person with chronic kidney failure has a low blood calcium. When you can cause the kidney to produce vitamin D in the form of a hormone you will correct the low blood calcium.

Another animal studied at the lab is the Chilean toad, an extremely primitive animal, according to Pang. Fossils estimated to be 250 million years old were found to have the same characteristics as the toad living today.

Most animals are modified and improved through the years, but the Chilean toad is interesting because it has remained the same," explained Pang.

Mud puppies are also interesting to study because they never mature. "The animal has distinctive features while retaining tadpole characteristics," Pang said.

Pang explained that fish may have something in common with humans. A hormone found in human fetuses is identical to the same hormone found in certain fish. However, that same hormone is not found in men.

Experimenting on animals is nothing new, but the animals used at TTUSM are not the standard animals, explained Kenney.

Although the animals are bizarre and often primitive they serve an important purpose — not only in the discovery of new drugs, but as the key to unanswered questions concerning the evolution of man.

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Merry Christmas



AS NATURE
SPARKLES IN HER NEW WHITE
RAIMENT, OUR THOUGHTS TURN TO THOSE WHO
HAVE GLADDENED THE PAST SEASONS FOR US.

Furr's

SPORTS

by Joe Kelly

MERRY CHRISTMAS! In a few short hours, Santa Claus will have come and gone, families will have been excited and, kids will have had the thrill that only Dec. 25 can bring to youngsters.

For the rest of us it will be a matter of sitting back, smiling, giving pleased oh-boys and counting the hours until we can exchange that Christmas tie for something we really wanted, or taking those slippers, or slip, back, and yet showing our pleasure.

Cynical? Oh, no, just age showing. Christmas is for the kids and, in their excitement and joy, you relive your own Christmases of the past. It doesn't matter if there's three feet of snow outside, or if the firecrackers are popping on a dry, sunny day. It's Christmas, and nothing can equal it.

The years flood in on me and I can remember so many, all of them joyous. I don't care where it was, or with whom, there is only one Christmas—and no day in the year is like it.

My youngest, who is in Houston, said that he probably wouldn't come home. He had only Friday through Sunday off and 550 miles is a long way to drive, back and forth.

Nonsense! I can remember four Christmases that I was not with my folks, or my family. And if there had been any way that I could have changed it and been with my family, I would have. The miles would have made no difference.

I tried to remember the first one or two and age has made them fade. The first was in 1938. I was in Emporia, Kan. My folks had moved to Washington, D.C. I was a reporter for the Emporia Gazette, the paper that William Allen White had made famous.

There was no way I could be with them. No one asked me to join them for Christmas, a really family event. I don't remember what I did. I'm sure I opened presents in my rent room. I don't remember having dinner. But, like everything else, the day passed.

There was no TV in those days, no football game to watch on the tube or in person. It was Dullsville, USA.

The next Christmas was in 1940, in Watertown, N.Y. I had just taken a job with The Times the first of the month. There was no time to go home. Again, a lone room. I don't remember dinner or being with friends. Also, no TV in those days.

Somehow or other I survived. In fact, it probably strengthened me, although it isn't something I'd recommend.

Christmas of 1943 and 1944 was spent in New Guinea. I wasn't alone. I had thousands, literally, of khaki-clad company, amidst the swaying coconut palms, the kunai grass, the headquarters hut PA bringing forth Christmas Carols.

I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas, polluted to "I'm Dreaming of a White Mistress," etc., was sung by the troops, individually and in numbers. It echoed our feelings at that time.

Packages received from home were dutifully opened and acknowledged, those that got through, that is. It seems that the Army PO also liked goodies from the States and not all the packages arrived.

A long time later I was queried about the Scotch I never received. It had been packaged carefully in a maple syrup can to hide the contents. It would have been welcomed, not only by me, but others with whom I shared packages, like everyone else. That was in 1945, and we were on an LST, loaded for the invasion of Lingayen Gulf.

But that Christmas, like the others, passed. In 1946 I was to go into the woods in Northern New York and cut my own balsam tree for Mary, Frances and me.

And, from that time on, Christmas was a family affair, as it will be this year. Our kids are coming up from Houston with the grandkids, Joe and Wanda will be here. We hope that Jack will decide to come, too. That will make our Christmas, to have them all here.

I hope that Christmas will be the same for all of you, that it is a time for you to be with your family. If it isn't, you won't be alone. All of us have gone through it at some time or another and it has passed.

But Christmas is a special time. It's a time when most activity stops. Even the sports world is stilled, for the most part, with little activity. And then, suddenly, it bursts forth anew—and we're back to normal.

So, with the world stilled and silence setting in on the sports world, what better time is it to offer our own greetings to coaches, players and friends?

So, Christmas greetings to such people as Steve Sloan, Ralph Carpenter, Keith Samples, Louis Kelley, Corky Oglesby, Gerald Myers, George Davidson, Kal Segrist, oh, to heck with trying to single out individuals. There are far too many to mention.

So, for all our readers and all our friends, from the bottom of a grateful heart, MERRY CHRISTMAS! I hope that all your hopes and dreams come true.

How to Get Over Your Hangovers

Medical research shows why a hangover can feel like someone tap danced on your tongue and made you swallow a dozen dirty tennis shoes. During the holiday season, many people will be doing their own informal research on hangovers. The Texas Medical Association points out both scientists and laymen come to the same conclusions though. Hangovers hurt.

The main reason they are such a pain is that all sorts of things are thrown out of balance. A hangover can cause irritated stomach and intestines, altered body fluid balance and blood acidity, too much potassium and lowered levels of a male sex hormone. As the alcohol breaks down and the body expels it, everything generally returns to normal — except for alcoholics whose body is only further hurt by the drug.

People have been trying to prevent and cure hangovers for thousands of years. More than 2,500 years ago a Hindu writer described a selection of symptoms such as vomiting, loss of appetite, heartburn, thirst, dizziness, shaky hands, and sleeplessness. He also mentioned sweating, fatigue, headache and depression but didn't say what to do about the problem. A Greek doctor 1,900 years ago recommended eating roasted hog lungs to keep from getting drunk and hung over. More modern concoctions of raw eggs and hot sauce are in the same category, says an article in "The Practitioner," a British medical journal.

The same journal says taking a large drink of water, lemonade or lime juice and a couple of aspirin before going to bed will help the next morning. Some researchers contend there is no cure for a

hangover except time. Some people have a drink to drive off hangovers. One article said this action marked a growing dependency on alcohol. Of course the best, and most ignored, advice is not to drink too much.

There is a lot of debate on whether some types of alcohol give worse hangovers than others. An article in the "Quarterly of Studies on Alcohol" says bourbon gives more of a hangover than vodka. The theory is that "congeners," materials such as sugar, colorings and

preservatives, in alcoholic beverages increase hangovers. Vodka is low in congeners and bourbon contains a lot of them. The article also mentions a theory that allergies to certain ingredients in some types of alcohol can increase hangover for some people.

Researchers also believe that smoking, bright lights, activity, noise, lack of sleep and all the other factors in a night on the town help bring on hangovers.

No one has been arrested lately for going to church.



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There's No Business Like Snow Business, Local Skiers Say

by Janice Jarvis

Every year it happens. The temperature drops and on cue, novices to "hot doggers" challenge the slopes to another season of skiing.

"Skiing is the sport for every age," according to downhill racer Tyrone Porter. And it's not the expensive sport it's made out to be, he added.

Beginners should always rent skis a few times before they ever consider buying their own, Porter advised. All one really needs to ski is thermal underwear, gloves, a water repellent garment and something to protect the eyes, he noted.

Those necessities are enough to get anyone on the slopes — but if you ski in Colorado you may be outnumbered by those flaunting \$100 plus ski wear. "In Colorado, they look at what you are wearing before they ever look at how you ski," Porter said.

To avoid any awkward situations, it's best to check out the resort before you arrive in your Scotch-guard jeans.

Every resort has its own personality and appeal and with a little planning you can select the best slope for you. Taos has the most challenging slopes in the area, while Ruidoso caters to intermediate skiers, Porter said.

Red River offers a traditional winter wonderland while Vail offers a fantasy land setting. There aren't as many places to go in Red River at night, but the beginner may be attracted to the resort because there are fewer trees on the trails. "It's not as pretty, but it's a lot safer if you are just learning to ski," noted Porter.

Snow is going to be different at every ski resort, and if you plan to ski during the tail-end of the season, it's wise to make sure the slopes have a snow-making machine.

To avoid any hassles on the first day, rent your skis in Lubbock, advised Porter. That way you can avoid long lines, boots that don't fit, and skis in poor condition.

If you plan to stay at a resort, it's best to make reservations in advance. During the busy season, anyone who doesn't plan ahead may find himself in the snow without a place to sleep.

It's advisable to prepare for the slopes with a few exercises. Jumping jacks and knee bends loosen tight muscles and condition the beginner for the first run. "Take some Ben-Gay along, too, because after that first day, you'll need it," Porter said.

Once all these details are taken

care of, the novice is ready for the first run. Of course, you can't zip to the bottom until you've struggled to the top.

A skier has several options on methods to get to the top. Gondolas sweep skiers to the top via enclosed cars, while chairlifts seat two people and both must slide themselves off the chair at just the right moment. Unsuccessful attempts may result in multi-person collisions and other embarrassing mishaps.

Novices may benefit from using T-bars that push or paumas that pull the skier up. Both are usually found near the "baby slopes."

Lessons may eliminate some of the problems the newcomer to the slopes will encounter. Learning to fall and get up properly are essential. After a few instructions, the beginner may find himself zipping to the intermediate level.

The most important thing to keep in mind while skiing is to keep calm. "Getting scared and making mental mistakes are the biggest problems for skiers," Porter observed. Skiing is actually a relaxing sport — if the person uses his head, he added.

Confidence also makes skiing easier, even if the beginner is lacking in skill. Ignore the feeling that everyone is watching you make a fool of yourself. More than likely everyone is watching you — but only because there isn't much else to do riding up the chair lift. Take heart that you can watch them during your next ride.

Any newcomer to the slopes

will probably envy the children skiing rings around them. But remember children are closer to the ground, have less fear of falling and practice more.

Older skiers also find the slopes an enjoyable form of recreation. "People in their 60's are sometimes better skiers because they've had more time to practice than anyone else," noted Porter.

The inexperienced skier should become acquainted with trail codes before he unknowingly attempts the expert slope. Circles are the best place for a beginner to be, while squares are for intermediate skiers and diamonds

are for experts.

A standard rule for skiing is when you get tired, quit. More than 50 per cent of all accidents occur during the last run.

Skiing is something you have to psyche yourself up for, Porter said. Beginners can expect to fall often, but with proper precautions, accidents can be avoided.

If all else fails, and the skier finds himself headed toward a cluster of trees, he can always sit down, remove his skis and slide down the slopes.

The ski chalet may not be as chic or exciting as the slopes, but it is a lot safer and warmer.

'Outstanding Young Man' Nominations Due Jan. 5

Lubbock Jaycees are taking nominations for the "Outstanding Young Man of Lubbock" award for 1976, and nominations are due Jan. 5.

Men between 18 and 35 are eligible to be nominated by any organization, club or individual. The winner of the award will be announced at the Jaycee's Distinguished Service Award Banquet Jan. 15 at the Lubbock Country Club.

Previous winners included now-City Councilman Alan Henry, 1968, and former Republican gubernatorial nominee Dr. Jim Granberry. Four Lubbock winners went on to be named Outstanding Young Texans in the

year they were selected — Granberry, Dr. William Banowsky, Don Workman, and Dennis McGill.

Applications are available at the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce, 902 Texas Ave., and from nine until noon Monday, Wednesday and Friday, the Jaycees Office, 1306 Ave. O, Suite B.

Hogan to Handle Food and Fiber PR

Mike Hogan has been named public information and media specialist at the Food and Fiber National Institute of Achievement.

Hogan, who has worked for Lubbock newspapers, was formerly documentation editor for Texas A&M's data processing center.

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SANTA WHO?—A toddler visiting South Plains Mall seemed somewhat mystified by the jolly white bearded man in the red suit. Youngsters all over the city will be anticipating a visit from Santa Claus late Friday as Lubbock readies for Christmas. (Times Photo)

You'll Need Rules for Cool Yule

by Cliff Avery

One reason that it is "more blessed to give than receive" is that it's a lot harder to give than receive.

Still there are some helpful hints for those who don't like the season.

1. FORGET CHRISTMAS: This is a tough act to pull off, but you can do it (a lot easier than pawing off some bad candy).

When they wake you up in the predawn hours of Dec. 25, plead temporary amnesia or say, "Gee

is it Thanksgiving already?" When you're told that Thanksgiving has come and gone, respond with "Durn, I thought those lights at Texas Tech were part of a UFO experiment." Then turn over and go back to sleep. Preferably until Independence Day.

2. USE THE OLD "MATERIALISM" PLOY: When gifts are being opened, turn up your nose and with all the elitist fervor you can muster, say, "I tried this year to reject all the materialistic

urges that the mass media tries to push on to us."

3. SHOP AS LATE AS POSSIBLE: Wait until most stores are closed on Christmas Eve, before venturing into the cold, commercial world. That narrows the selection somewhat. Like you may only be able to get one shoe. In the wrong size. For the wrong sex.

If all the stores are closed, you may be forced to hit those businesses that hold out and stay open. Truck-stops are an idea.

Abandoned Dogs . . .

Continued From Page One

animal. "It kind of breaks your heart to see the officers get the dog. They put a loop around its neck and everything," he said.

One of Boyds neighbors complains that the dogs chase her when she rides her bicycle. "They annoy small children, too," she says.

She adds that in cold weather, the dogs make "pitiful sights."

"I'm no great dog lover," she said, "but it's sad to see those dogs."

Mrs. John Cooper said that the dogs look like strays—not the neighborhood dogs one learns to associate with neighbor's houses. "Mostly they look like dogs that have been dumped."

"We have a lot of houses under construction out here. Of course, the workmen feel sorry for the dogs and feed them."

Most of the residents of the area said that they haven't had

too many problems with the dogs lately, but did note that they have had problems with the city's animal shelters.

"I don't know if they feel like we're too far out," Mrs. Cooper said, "but we have trouble getting them (dogcatchers) out here."

"I feel like we're out so far, the city doesn't know we're out here," Mrs. Thompson said.

Animal Shelter Director Jim Robinson said the Ferra Estates problem is a common one anywhere close to the city limits.

"Anywhere you go on the edge of town you're going to have that problem," he said. "The people from the city take their dogs out of town to dump them, and the people from the country bring

theirs to the city limits to dump theirs."

Robinson said there are several problem areas in the city—on U.S. 87 south of the city and on West 19th St. going to Reese Air Force Base.

Robinson said that his officers concentrate in one of the problem areas for one or two days. Whether that is the solution for the problem may have to wait until warmer weather to be seen.

Cliff Avery

Hospital District . . .

Continued From Page One

invitation to a management firm when he said, "We just want the taxpayers to know that we're looking at every means available."

The invitation has irked some of the district's staff who feel the managers don't have faith in them.

Coston seemed particularly upset at Monday's meeting and stressed as the board went into secret session that the matter was of "an intimate personal nature" regarding personnel.

When the managers reconvened into open session, the motion to invite the consultants had been drafted by Manager Jack Flygare. The managers stressed that they intended no offense to the staff, but wanted only to keep their options open.

The options as to management firms are varied. Some specialty firms concentrate in one area of hospital service. For example, St. Mary's and Methodist Hospitals use a consulting firm to operate the dietary departments.

And even if a management firm is brought in to operate the hospital, the terms could vary from a permanent arrangement to a temporary assignment.

One thing is certain: the expertise of a management firm isn't cheap, and with all the problems the hospital is facing, the management firm will likely want its fee paid first.

Government Grant . . .

Continued From Page One

would significantly improve the quality of emergency care and transportation of patients to hospital emergency rooms throughout the region and to Lubbock when necessary.

A dearth of medical facilities and physicians exists in most of the South Plains counties. King County has no physicians and its neighboring county — Dickens — has only a part-time doctor.

Haggard said the grant application — which is due April 1 — probably will be coordinated with South Plains Health Systems, Inc., the designated health planning agency for the region.

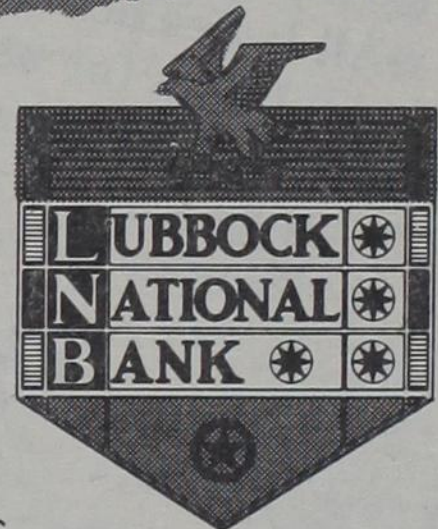
If the hospital district receives the federal grant, it also would require coordination with Lubbock Christian College to provide the EMT training and with the med school and local physicians in private practice. The hospital district would serve in an administrative function and provide the necessary technical assistance, Haggard said.

The man who gives advice to others rarely knows how to advise himself.

CHRISTMAS MORN IS COME AGAIN



Christmas morn is come again,
 Infant in a manger laid,
 Christmas morn is come again,
 With His blessed Mother Maid,
 Angels with their harps are nigh
 To sing their Master's lullaby,
 For Christmas comes again,
 Peace on earth, good will to men. Slovak Carol



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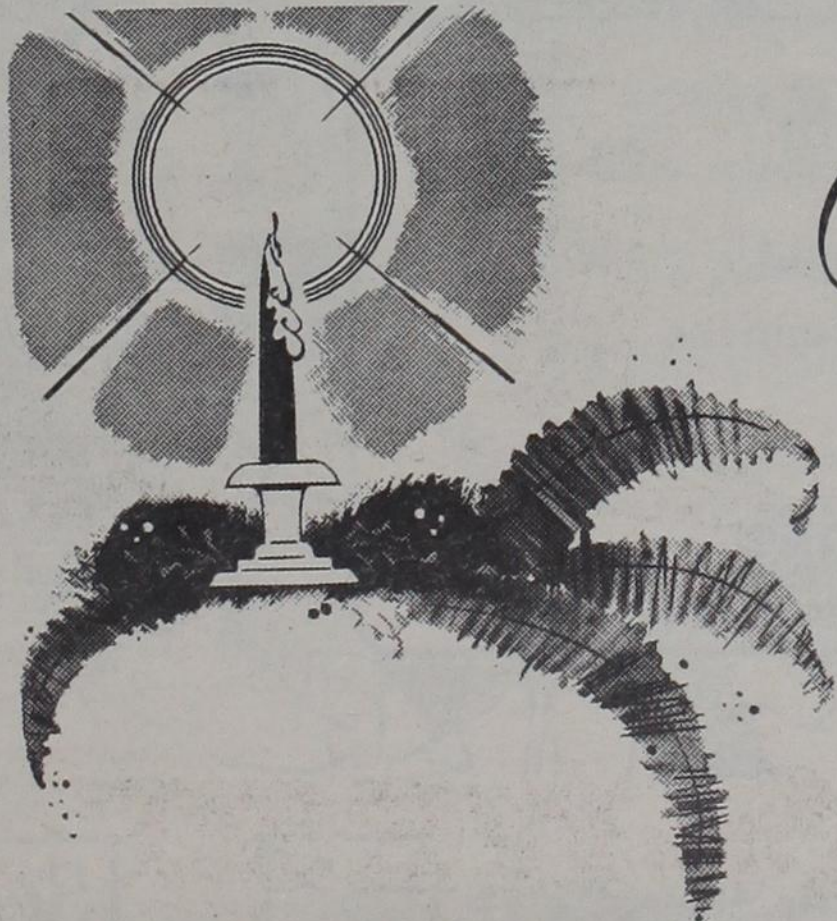
Traffic Deaths

In 1975 there were 4.1 people killed for every 100 million miles traveled — compared to 3.9 in 1974. The trend seems to be increasing, the Governor's Office for Traffic Safety says.



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Local Author Finds Writing Difficult Yet Rewarding

by Wanda Walser

The average person says, "I'm going to write a book someday." Wanda Evans sits down and does it. And, gets the book published.

That, of course, is the difference between the person who wants to write "someday" and the writer, which is what Wanda Evans is. Her book, a biography of U.S. Rep. George Mahon, is scheduled for publication by Staked Plains Press in early 1977.

Besides her book, Mrs. Evans is currently at work on several shorter pieces, among which is a profile of country singing star Charlie Pride whom she interviewed recently in Dallas.

Well, it's a glamorous life — writing. Except when there's a

deadline to meet and the paper in the typewriter stares back as though the only thing it will ever contain is space; except when there's a deadline and the only way to meet it is to chain yourself to the typewriter while everyone else skips out to a party or whatever; except when someone says, "Well, yes, you write. But, do you work?"

The truth is, writing is one of the most difficult, demanding professions. The writer must always remember that it's up to him to market what he produces and the competition is stiff. If success is to be achieved, diligence is necessary, both at the typewriter — or, with pen and paper — and in training the mind to think and to consider thinking as real work.

Solitary confinement is an occupational hazard. It's necessary also if a writer is ever to see his name in print or on a screen.

"It's important that the writer see his name in print," says Mrs. Evans. "That's the stimulus that keeps you going." Mrs. Evans has seen her own name in such publications as Reader's Digest, Home Life, Southern Living and Texas Parade.

According to Mrs. Evans, she was a closet writer — one who writes secretly — until she was



NOT THE TYPE—Wanda Evans pauses to think out a sequence in the book she is scheduled to complete in early March.

about 28 or 30 years old. Then, she began attending writers' workshops and discovered that she could make her talent pay. She "broke" into print, as writers say, with a confession story based on an incident in her own life. The story centered around parents whose child must have open heart surgery. Her purpose in writing the story, she explained, was to give other parents encouragement to be unafraid to give their children chances to live, even when there might be danger. Mrs. Evans believes this is a power the writer has: to uplift, to convince, to help.

Mrs. Evans teaches her craft as

well as practices it. She currently holds classes for writers in Lamesa and will begin a writers' course in January at Lubbock's Garden and Arts Center.

Mrs. Evans writes because, "You should do what you're equipped to do — not necessarily educationally, but emotionally and spiritually." To this end, she offers advice to aspiring writers. "Read. Write, even if you don't know how. Don't be afraid to write. Study."

Many people feel that writers must be "inspired". They are not inspired so much as they are self-disciplined, Mrs. Evans noted. A writer learns that he must

face the typewriter or a blank piece of paper each day and put words down without waiting for the immortal idea to descend. Mental exercise, like physical, loosens muscles, pulls out kinks and eventually smooths all processes, so it's important to put thoughts on paper.

"A writer must be a listener, too," Mrs. Evans explained. "Because you get at least one-half of your ideas from the things people say."

Which is harder to write — fiction or non-fiction? "Fiction", says Mrs. Evans. "The writer must make it true-to-life, but we can't make it exactly like life, because then it's not fiction. We create fiction from nothing, whereas, non-fiction has a starting point."

Incidentally, the contrast between the average person and the writer is, perhaps, unfair. Writers are average persons, just as are electricians, doctors, clerks, or anyone else in any other job or profession. In addition to her work, Mrs. Evans is also the average, busy mother of four.

Dr. Weber to Preach On 'Baptist Hour'

FORT WORTH (Special)—Dr. Jaroy Weber, pastor of First Baptist Church, Lubbock, Texas, will assume preaching duties on "The Baptist Hour" in January.

His first sermon, "How To Travel Through The New Year," will be heard the week beginning January 2.

"The Baptist Hour" is produced and syndicated by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission. It is a half-hour modified worship service for radio.

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Sheridan's Ride

by Jack Sheridan

It has been my intention in this column to talk about such Christmastime movie fare at the local film houses, such as "King Kong," "The Pink Panther Strikes Again," "The Silver Streak" and others, but then the thought came to me that this writing will be read, I trust, on Christmas Eve. So, let me ask you to indulge me a few personal moments while I pay tribute to the Season and to my many friends over the years through a few reminiscences of Christmases Past in my life.



Christmas is time, for most of us, of special meaning and importance. It is a time for reflection, for joy and reunion with friends and family, a time of dignity, beauty and spiritual reaffirmation. Despite the shocking and crass commercialism that man has turned the Day, a veritable merchandising "rip-off" of gifts and acknowledgements, the Christmas Day has for some 2,000 years been a much deeper, a fundamental and needed time of hope in that "peace on earth and good will to men" will someday come to be just that in this troubled and confusing world of man's making.

In the old days when I was a little, scrawny only child in San Francisco, my parents worked very hard to make this Day a fairy tale of delight for a sensitive, imaginative child. For example, there were no Christmas decorations or tree erected somewhere around Thanksgiving. No sir, those parents waited until I had been put to bed on Christmas Eve and then, poor dears, they worked like beavers all night to put up the tree, fill the lone stocking (always with a fresh orange at its foot). Thus, when I excitedly came awake on Christmas morning, lo! Santa Claus had truly been there during the night and left the tree and the presents. You see, we didn't have a Santa Claus or his wizard or assistants on every corner. He was "real" and my parents kept that myth alive until I was a pretty big boy. You know, I think they were right; I still kinda believe in Mr. Claus, even today in my jaded middle age!

There was that grim Christmas when my shipyard mechanic father had been on strike for months and there just wasn't any money for toys or gifts. No tree, either. But, bless them, they decorated the apartment with red and green crepe paper and made do with whatever was at hand to keep that Christmas spirit alive.

Time passed and that little boy came to manhood. Christmas began to mean other things, as well, beside Santa Claus. The spiritual side now shared with the material and it has been so ever since.

I remember a Christmas Eve in San Francisco's Curran Theater watching the late, incomparable Tallulah Bankhead performing her greatest and most important role, that of Regina in Lillian Hellman's "The Little Foxes."

I remember the long 1942-45 period, living in a draughty tent in the middle of a damp and chill Norfolk sugar beet pasture in England, a spot desolate that was the site of my Air Force unit those years. At Christmas winter was in full effect, with the hoarfrost painting the woods and the pastures with a true white Christmas. And the sound of the old and beloved Christmas carols being played over the tiny loudspeaker system, lonely sounds filling the emptiness of that home away from home.

It was during those years that other Christmases saw me enchanted at the Covent Garden Royal Ballet performing the famed holiday ballet, "The Nutcracker."

Perhaps, the most memorable of those years' Christmas Days was my attendance one Christmas Eve in Britain's great Westminster Abbey at a midnight service. It was made singularly memorable by the singing of the huge children's choir and those time-honored nooks and crannies that are the final resting places of so many of the nation's great rang clear with the treble voices in the great hymns of praise on that night.

Then came peace and a return to the more familiar Christmases at home. Yet, there was to be another Christmas on foreign shores, a memorable time in itself. I was again in England, in London, for the release of a new book of mine and a broadcast appearance with the British Broadcasting Corporation right during the Christmas season. It was a cold, bitter time, as only English winters can be. But, I was not alone. I had scurrying people all around me in Picadilly Circus and I stood with the crowds in Trafalgar Square, chilled but moved with the mass singing of carols.

That year, 1952, I also went to Paris for a couple of days and saw the City of Lights gleaming with Christmas decorations and lights, brightly and gay and moving. It had only been seven years, remember, since the lights had been turned on again in a war-weary Europe.

Then my family passed away and, with my parents gone, I came still a loner, to "adopted" parents in Wichita Falls, where I had been stationed during World War II's basic training period. It was at Christmastime, broke and needing a job, that I picked up the phone, secured a job in Lubbock and — here I have been, many Christmas later, ever since.

It has been in Lubbock that so many of you have been my family, my mainstay and my reason for the deepest affection and gratitude. For what I have received here is the love and generosity of so many that, in truth, I have never spent Christmas "alone."

It is with these few memories of Christmas Past and my joy and my gratefulness and humbleness at being in the midst of Lubbock and Texas Yule that I extend to all of you the most heartfelt wish for a truly happy Christmas Day and season and the deep and sincere hope that you, each and everyone of us, has a meaningful and productive, prosperous New Year for 1977. God bless you all.

Study Shows Damage from TV Ads

Children who are "moderate" television viewers are exposed to

Hospitality Includes Safety for Guests

Warm, friendly holiday hospitality is a tradition in Texas.

But the responsibilities of being host or hostess go beyond providing comfort, good food and good drinks, according to the Texas Safety Association.

For those who serve alcoholic beverages, hospitality also includes the safety of guests who drive home and those who "weren't invited to the party," but share the road.

Some of these responsibilities include:

- Slowing down pre-dinner cocktails,
- Not forcing drinks on people,
- Providing plenty of non-alcoholic drinks for those who may prefer them,
- Making sure that any who might have had "one too many" get transportation home instead of driving themselves,
- Serving coffee and dessert before your visitors have to drive home to allow that extra time toward sobering up.

TSA reminds you to add this item to the top of your holiday party list: responsibility to guests who may drink and drive.

Xi Xi Tau Hears Talk on Television

The Xi Xi Tau Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi heard Mrs. Maggie Crump and Mrs. Frances Mitchell discuss "TV: Something for Everyone" at the chapter meeting Tuesday at the home of Mrs. Lynda Moore. Mrs. Sally Cooke was co-hostess.

HALLIE'S THRIFT STORE
Bargains in Better New
and Next to New Clothing
3510 Ave. Q 744-6772

approximately 200 hours of commercials in a year, says Claudia Mitzel, a consumer information specialist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

During this time, 22,000 ads are aired to toys, floor polishes, cereals, soft drinks, beer, detergents, vitamins and drugs. One advertiser estimates that \$400 million per year is spent on television commercials directed at children. And it's an investment that pays off, Miss Mitzel said.

"Research shows that mothers who were surveyed spent about \$1.66 weekly extra at the grocery because of requests from their children for special products or brands. This adds up to \$1.5 billion per year on grocery store retail sales.

"Parents and teachers are becoming increasingly concerned over the effect of advertising on children. Consumer activists argue that advertising takes unfair advantage of a child's lack of sophistication, produces misinformation about nutritional needs and increases tension between parent and child," the specialist noted.

Preschool children are not capable of establishing priorities, determining the relative importance of certain items, evaluating the quality of a product or assessing their own nutritional needs — yet children continue to be the focus of millions of advertising dollars, she continued.

"There has been some action to reform the advertising directed at

children," the specialist said.

"Two consumer activist groups, Action for Children's Television (ACT) and Council on Children, Media and Merchandising (CCMM), are pressuring the Federal Communication Commission and the Federal Trade Commission to enforce guidelines on advertising directed at children. The National Association of Broadcasters has developed a code governing advertising to children. But the problem continues.

"What can parents do? First, become familiar with commercials by watching television for four or five hours one Saturday morning. Carefully listen to what is being said and what may be implied. Evaluate what your child is learning from the advertisements — are these the values you are teaching?

"Next, write to the manufacturer of any product whose advertising you do not approve. Many companies are sensitive to criticism, and just a few letters may encourage them to change their approach. Look for the manufacturer's address on the product packaging or labeling or ask a retailer to help you find it," she suggested.

Finally, if you do have a complaint about deceptive advertising, file it with the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580. Or if it is a local advertiser, write to the Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Division, Capitol Station, Austin, Tex. 78711, the specialist said.

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SINCE 1916

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TTU Yell Squad Quick on Feet

Ten women brought with them a combined total of more than 50 years of dance education to the 1976-'77 Pom-pom Squad at Texas Tech University.

Freshman Toya Fikes, squad member and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jay Fikes of 6105 Knoxville Drive, has accumulated seven years of ballet, 10 years of jazz dancing and two years of tap dancing education. She also has performed in choreographed style shows.

Pat Northington of 4813 14th St. is the squad supervisor, and the group is sponsored by the Spirit Coordinating Committee.

Other members of the squad are squad captain Joni Hunt, sophomore from Brownwood; Ginger Gurss, sophomore from El Paso; Tamara Stark, freshman from Amarillo; Mari Bennett, junior from Littlefield; Glenda English, freshman from Carrollton; Patti Rountree, freshman from Richardson; and Julie Fischer, junior, Diana Dyer, freshman, and Fran Beaty, freshman, all from Dallas.

Supported by local businessmen, the Tech squad performs at all local Red Raider basketball games.



TECH'S POMPON SQUAD—Texas Tech University has 10 women who entertain Red Raider basketball crowds with dance and drill routines at all home games. They are, left to right, front row, Mari Bennet of Littlefield, Toya Fikes of Lubbock, Julie Fischer of Dallas and squad captain Joni Hunt of Brownwood; center, kneeling, Glenda English of Carrollton; and back row, left to right, Fran Beaty of Dallas, Tamara Stark of Amarillo, Patti Rountree of Richardson and Ginger Gurss of El Paso. Not shown is Diana Dyer of Dallas. (Tech Photo)

Bureaucrats Get Taught At Tech

Special to The Times

Bureaucrats may get a bad rap from just about everybody, but one program at Texas Tech is dedicated to seeing that government administrators don't deserve it.

The Tech Center for Public Service tries to train graduate students and government officials who've returned for more education how to make the decisions that affect your daily life.

Established in 1973 to administer the Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) degree, the center and its programs are designed to improve the administration of government agencies and institutions.

To meet its obligations, the center conducts research in a variety of administration and policy fields for government agencies. The center also sponsors seminars and workshops to help the public and public officials understand the intricacies of laws with which they're involved.

Graduate students enrolled in the M.P.A. program generally go to work for the government upon graduation. Students can specialize in city management, personnel management, criminal justice administration, public health administration and planning, and fine arts management, among others.

The M.P.A. program also includes internships for students who are new to the field. Interns spend three or more months in a government agency such as the U.S. Civil Service Commission in Washington or NASA in Houston or several municipal governments.

Advisory committee for the center consists of faculty members in political science and business administration and a public administration practitioner.

In conjunction with the Division of Continuing Education last year, the center developed and conducted 30 local government workshops in five West Texas cities. Topics included personnel administration; complying with the Affirmative Action requirements; Human Resource Development; treatment and disposition of juvenile offenders, alcoholism and drug abuse and manpower; land resources; water resources and land resource planning; and local government services: budgeting, taxing and transportation planning.

The center also sponsors projects such as the series of community discussions on health and aging policy held in Lubbock during the fall of 1975. The eight weekly seminars involved university faculty, health personnel and public administration practitioners on ethical issues in health and aging policies.



WHAT BETTER TIME TO WISH ALL OUR GOOD FRIENDS AND PATRONS THE HAPPIEST OF HOLIDAYS AND THE BEST OF EVERYTHING! A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!

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Just One Day At A Time

by Pat Nickell

The most impressive statement I have ever heard I heard a couple of years ago during a club meeting.

I was, at that time, a member of the group, and they were sitting around discussing a date for their annual bash. Right behind me, a woman spoke up and said "I am busy every night for the next year." I decided, after some reflection, that she meant it.

It is horribly embarrassing to have such a clean social calendar as the one I own. I could always truthfully tell someone I am busy on Tuesday nights, because I like to watch "Rich Man, Poor Man," and I also like to see "the Six Million Dollar Man" on Sundays.

As busy as that keeps me, however, that leaves me five nights weekly to occupy, not to mention the hours after 8 p.m. on Sundays.

During the holidays, it is always more glaringly apparent just how few friends I have and those I have are such clods they never have any parties to which I could be invited.

When I go into a store between September and January, some salesclerk always hands me a garment and a line about how nice this would be for the "holidays." I always agree and wish Steve Austin could admire me back.

To me, an evening dress is a nightgown. My at-home lounge-wear is a warm robe and fuzzy slippers.

My husband owns a small business and employs a few "hands" for whom he pays out-of-town expenses. Since they are usually out-of-town, that is usually.

I decided this year we should host a Christmas party for his employees at a local restaurant.

When I suggested this, however, he replied (with his usual perfect grammar), "What? Are you crazy? I already feed them turkeys three times a day!"

I once had a really successful social season. I distinctly remember being invited to three parties in 1972. Since I did not realize that I had reached my social pinnacle, I did not fully appreciate it at the time.

Back when I was young, I used to occasionally skip parties for some stupid reason, such as being too tired. If I had any idea of the downhill skid my social life would take, I would have gone anyway, just to store up memories for my declining years (which began about three years ago).

I have often wondered if my lack of invitations had something to do with my lack of reciprocity, or the fact that I would rather walk barefoot in the snow to Sierra Blanca than give a party. I hate cold weather and was something of a dud when I tried to ski, so I would walk in the snow to Sierra Blanca only under extreme duress.

I did give a party once, at which I had fun, but I am afraid to try to repeat the event, since that also was probably a pinnacle.

While the rest of the world is out carousing on New Year's Eve, unless there is an especially good late movie on television, I will go to bed early, as usual.

If what one is doing at midnight on New Year's Eve is a harbinger of the coming year's events, I can at least expect to sleep soundly in 1977.

Be as anxious to help others as you are to accept favors.



A HARD HIT—It only took a few hard blows before children at Carver Heights Day Nursery had this pinata in pieces. The pinata and candy was donated to the Nursery by students at Struggs Junior High School. As this little girl takes a whack at the candy-filled pinata, the other children watch in anticipation. (Times Photo)

Make Your 'Thin Year Resolutions' Now

This is the time of year when people toting around excess pounds grit their teeth and determinedly pledge to make the New Year a "thin year."

"Unfortunately," said Adele McGinty, area director for Weight Watchers in West Texas, "the tune has been sung many times before, by many people, but

invariably, it ends on a discordant note.

"A pledge to lose weight is one that is made perennially by overweight people, but regrettably, it is the one most often broken," Mrs. McGinty commented.

For 1977, though, the overweight can make that "thin year" resolution stick, provided they follow these "resolutions" recommended by the Weight Watchers organization:

- During the upcoming holiday celebrations, never arrive at a party hungry. Surrounded by all sorts of "goodies," you're bound to be trapped by temptation.

- When the host or hostess tells you that "you must eat...", be polite, but be firm in saying "No" to a morsel you know can snowball into a banquet.

- If you're invited to a holiday celebration that features an elaborate smorgasbord, wear white gloves. It's a sure-fire way to avoid an hors d'oeuvre binge and soiled gloves.

- Pay no attention to the rest of the family at the Christmas or New Year's dinner table. Eat only what you really want or should.

- Keep a "slim outfit" hanging on the closet door. That will surely bolster your determination to get rid of excess pounds.

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and

A Happy and Prosperous New Year!





LHS LEADERS—Student body officers at Lubbock High School this year are, from left, Israel Garcia, vice president; Rosa Lara, secretary; Mary Quade, president; Carol Kelly, treasurer; and Kent Hicks, head cheerleader.

Medical Association Gives Yule Driving Prescription

The 55 mph speed limit may have decreased deaths due to auto accidents but fatality rates are climbing again. Many factors are involved but carelessness, especially on country roads, unsafe cars, bad weather and motorists who don't wear seat belts all contribute to accidents that could be prevented, the Texas Medical Association (TMA) says.

A National Safety Council study shows country roads produce nine times as many deaths and 14 times as many property damage accidents as do controlled-access superhighways. Blind intersections and reduced vision on curves and hills contribute to many crashes. Being alert and prepared to stop in

these situations can save many lives.

A quick check of the car also can help avoid trouble. Check tire tread and pressure, windshield wipers, accessibility of seat belts, de-fogger or rags to wipe off fogged windows, and hoses, belts and fluids under the hood. Problems with many of these could mean being stranded on the highway in winter weather — which can be very dangerous. Even for a short trip, it's wise to toss in a coat and adequate shoes in case there is car trouble.

CB radios not only help spot smokies but they also are useful for passing on weather and road condition information. Even AM or FM radio weather forecasts can give valuable information about what's coming.



Greetings

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each and every one a
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Kin Searching

by Marleta Childs

This week we will begin abstracts from Guilford County, North Carolina Will Book A, 1799-1801. The first date given is when the will was written; the second date is when the will was probated.

Page 1—Will of James Archer; names wife Catherine and children David Archer, Sara Archer, John Archer, Mary Hamilton, Thomas Archer, and Elizabeth Hamilton. Executors: John Hamilton, Richard _____, and Carolus Judkins. Witnesses: Carolus Judkins (Jurat [i.e. a sworn officer or magistrate]); Joel Judkins (Jurat); John Stevens. Jan. 2, 1799; August Court, 1799. John Hamilton, CC (i.e. Clerk of the Court).

Page 2—Will of James Anthony; names wife Mary and children Obed Anthony (to receive "land on the waters of hickory [sic] Creek"); Jonathan Anthony ("to receive tract of land which I bought of John Wilfon"); Charlotta, Phebe, Merab, Ruth, and Judah. Exec: son Obed and friend Stephen Gardner. Wit: Abigail Gardner; Stephen Gardner Jr.; Stephen Gardner (Jurat). Jan. 25, 1796; August Court, 1799.

Page 3—Will of Isaac Armfield; Names wife Elizabeth and children William and John (two oldest sons), Sarah, Isaac, Ann, Joseph, Jacob, and Elizabeth Armfield. Exec: son William and brother William Armfield. Wit: Enoch May and William Armfield. Dec. 20, 1784; no probate date.

Page 4—Will of Jonathan Armfield; names wife Elizabeth, brother Solomon Armfield (to receive "tract I purchased of John McBride"), "Sarah Standly son Jonathan Standly". Exec: wife Elizabeth and Solomon Armfield. Wit: John Rossen (Rosser?) (Jurat); Henry Stuart, Thomas Newlin (Jurat). Jan. 24, 1801; February Court, 1801.

Page 5—Will of Charles Ahear; names wife Margret (sic) ("to raise my eight children"): Mary, Charles, Elizabeth, Sarah, William, Jane, John, and Margret Ahear. Also names "my fore (sic) children by my first wife": Ester, James, Ellner (sic), and Cathren

(sic). Exec: wife Margaret and John Rudduck. Wit: Joseph Brown and John Rudduck. Jan. 16, 1785. For probate, see minutes of February term, 1786, minute docket no. 1, from 1781-1788, page 182.

Page 6—Will of Martha Allison; names legatees Major Samuel Forbis, Isabala Finley wife to John Finly (sic), Martha Welky wife to James Welky, Samuel Allison, John Allison, Isiah (sic) Allison's son and daughter Samuel and Martha (when they come of age) Esther Grims (sic) daughter to Jain (sic) Allison. Exec: Samuel Allison. Wit: Isiah McDill (Jurat) and Joseph McBride. June 23, 1810. Codicil dated Dec. 9, 1810—names Jane Britton, Ann S(H?)ard, James Allison, Esther Grimes, Martha Allison daughter of John Allison, Mary Forbis, Jane McDill, Elisebeth (sic) Allison, Mary Allison, and Ann Allison. Wit: Robt. C. Gilmer (Jurat). Probated February term, 1811.

Mr. Allen Pendergraft, P.O. Box 1079, Sedona, Ari., 86336, needs any information on the family of Samuel Nelson Sturdevant, b. 1845 in Marion Co., Ill.; d.c. 1890, Ben Franklin, Delta Co., Texas, and his wife Rebecca E. Pendergraft, married 18 April 1866 in Polk Co., Mo. They moved to Delta Co., Texas, after the 1880 Dallas Co., Mo., census which shows them with children Mary A., aged 11, b. Mo.; Cora? E.O.E., aged 10, b. Mo.; Edwin O., aged 6, b. Mo.; and Louis C., aged 4, b. Mo.; Pendergraft needs dates of death, who children married, names of grandchildren, etc., to finish book on descendants of Jobe Pendergrass of Orange Co., N.C.

Remember the holidays provide an excellent opportunity to find out more about your family by interviewing relatives. Have a very Merry Christmas!

Send your queries to Marleta Childs, 2308 21st St., Lubbock, Texas, 79411.

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Greetings



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KFYO

790

A Personal View

Only Memories Remain in The Christmas House Now

It was the Christmas House. Where the cousins showed off their newest acquisitions from Santa. Where the presents were unwrapped. Where we were together.

by Cliff Avery

Memorial Day cleared the traffic from the street as I drove up to the house for the last time. It was a bright, Sundayish sort of day, but there was little rest in my grandmother's house. After 47 years, the house tonight would be vacant. The movers were coming.

personal or too fragile for the back of a moving van was just being carried out, and as always,

my grandmother offered me the run of the refrigerator. I took a cup of coffee, and sat with my grandmother and my aunt to wait for the movers.

Her glance fell on a delicate pink bubble, a shade for an antique lamp. "I remember when you came home on a date," she said to her daughter seated across from her, "and you caught your glove on that and broke it."

"Mama, I didn't break that," my aunt replied. Then she blinked away the years and smiled. "Why I did. I didn't remember that."

"Yes, you did and ol' Miz King had to make a new one for us." The women laughed. For my aunt the pink glass bubble took on a new luster. She would be a bit more careful loading it, now. Perhaps she would take care to notice its arrival and its place at the new house.

It was the only bit of memory I heard from my grandmother that morning. When she came to West Texas a half century ago, it was a harsh and unyielding place, and she knew that you dare not tarry too long with the past lest the present overwhelm you. The luxury of reminiscence was left to

us who were more remote from the blood and the land.

It was a house whose place was secure in the bright West Texas Sundays. The sturdy red brick welcomed us with the dignified smile of a long-time servant. The kitchen held treasures denied us for the rest of the week.

To our small eyes, the house was laced with corridors and cubicles tailor-made for the romps of the young. The family legends—the first meetings of husbands and wives, the departures of young men for war, the wall-hung plaques and certificates that attested to our place in the community—were enshrined there. Though we did not live at the house, we loved and we grew.

In the front yard, I learned to run and hear the wind whoosh beside my ears and even in my flat-footed waddle, I knew I must surely be the fastest person on the earth. Or, at least, the block.

In the spring my grandfather would don his Bonham Blue Clipper baseball cap from the days when he played with the East Texas club, and we would play catch underneath spreading trees. Maybe at the end of the

session, my grandmother would scoop up a sumptuous bowl of banana pudding, rich with chunks of bananas and vanilla wafers.

On the family holidays—Christmas and Thanksgiving and sometimes, Easter—the family would feast at the great dark wood table. In the classic separation of the sexes, the men would retire to ball games and naps in front of the television while the women cleaned up. Cousins scampered to the outdoors for their children's games, crawling through the slots between the stumpy brick columns that formed the fence around the front porch.

As the eldest of the third generation, I outgrew the children's games first and faced the always difficult transition into the adult's world of parlor talk.

During my grandfather's last illness, I visited the house. While I sat in the living room, my grandmother came out of the grandfather's bedroom. She whispered to me: "Will you help him get out of bed, please?"

In the bedroom, my grandfather, wan and thin, was enrooted in a thicket of wrinkled white sheets.

A medicine smell hung in the dark room, and I sobbed inside for the family's father who needed help to leave his bed.

The old man clasped knobby fingers behind my neck. Face to face, I half-carried, half-dragged him out of the bed and over to the chair.

"Put me down here, sonny," he said. The tone stung me. I feared I had hurt him or that my awkwardness had annoyed him.

It would be several years before I understood that he was not annoyed so much at me as he was at himself—for growing frail, for leaving things undone, for fear the Bonham Blue Clippers would surely pull him from the line-up if they could see him now.

Soon, the house would give up one of its charges.

The memories ran through my head, fitting on that Memorial Day. My grandmother's memories were undoubtedly more numerous and more clear. But like all pioneers, she saved the ancient stories for another time. Look ahead. There're things need doin'.

The new house in a nicer, less decayed part of town had to have four bedrooms before she would buy it. For the children and the grandchildren, she said, when they come to visit. Like, now. At Christmas.

Perhaps she needs the room for the memories she packed in her heart and took with her from the Christmas House.

More likely, she needs it for memories yet to come.

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Best wishes for a jolly holiday from our entire staff!

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