

GREENWOOD NEWS

Grace Young, Reporter

KEEP CHRISTMAS — "MERRY" !! An Editorial

A man's home may be his castle — but during the Christmas holidays, it is more susceptible to fire than at any other time of the year.

Because of this intensified fire hazard created by holiday decorations, all families should have an escape plan worked out and rehearsed for use in case of fire. Parents are urged not to leave children unattended for even a short period while shopping for last minute gifts.

Last year's death toll from fires in December was over 825, with the property loss accompanying these deaths running way up in the millions.

Part of these staggering losses could be directly attributed to Christmas Trees and Decorations. Thus in order to at least eliminate this source of fire during the Christmas Holiday Season, here are some suggestions that should be followed:

When buying a Christmas Tree — shop around if necessary — but buy only a fresh tree! Stroke the needles on a branch of the tree you are planning to buy with your hand. If the needles drop from the branch, the tree is not fresh — so pick out one that doesn't do this.

A tree kept out-of-doors will stay fresh much longer than one in the house. So, if possible, keep your tree outside until before Christmas — and be sure to put it in a pail of water as soon as you get home with it. The tree will "drink" water, and the water will help keep the tree fresh and green.

When you bring the tree inside the house to decorate it, put the tree in the coolest part of the room — away from radiators, hot air ducts, and fireplaces.

To help keep your tree fresh longer, you should use a tree stand with a metal container that can be filled with water. The container should be filled with water immediately, and then re-filled daily until the tree is taken down.

Only tree decorations made of glass, metal, or some other non-combustible material should be placed on the Christmas Tree.

White plastic foam, a popular material for ornaments and centerpieces may seem fireproof, but in fact, burns easily and can be ignited by a spark. Another fire hazard is created by mixing angel hair and snow spray on a tree. Both items are advertised as non-flammable, and are essentially safe when used alone; however, in combination they become so flammable that a mere touch of flames sends them into a burst of fire.

Check Christmas tree lights before placing them on the tree to be sure they are in good operating condition. Strings of lights with frayed wires or faulty sockets should be replaced with new ones. (We find it most economical to buy a new string of lights right after Christmas when they are on sale — and then throw the poorest string of lights away when taking the tree down).

Christmas tree lights should be turned off at night — and — NEVER leave lights on when everyone is away from home.

If you have a metal tree, do not decorate it with Christmas lights as they could cause a short circuit — instead, use an off-the-tree lighting arrangement.

And last — but not least — when the needles start dropping off the tree, take it down even though you had planned on leaving it up a few days longer.

Christmas wrappings should be removed as quickly as possible, but they should not be burned in the fireplace.

Then after following all these suggestions, have a "Merry Christmas" — without fear of a disastrous fire over the Holidays !!!

"You're a Good Man Charlie Brown" sponsored by Greenwood Central School Yearbook and Band was a good production. The cast included:

Charlie Brown — Sue Dennison
Lucy — Debby York
Linus — John Edwards
Patty — Patty Mills
Schroeder — Daune Losey
Snoopy — Denise Smith
Advisors putting on the musical — Mr. Kickbush, Miss Wadeck and Miss Wright.
Special thanks was given to assistant Custodian Shine Cook.

The engagement of Catherine Ann McCormick to Earl L. Perry of 10 East Avenue, Andover, has been announced by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Neil McCormick of Greenwood, R.D. Mr. Perry is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Perry, Sr. of East Valley, Andover.

The bride-elect and her fiance both were graduated from Andover Central School. She is employed at the Minute Man Station in Wellsville. He served with the U. S. Air Force in England and is employed by Alfred Atlas Sand and Gravel. No date has been set for the wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Doland of Liberty, came Friday and spent the week-end with her sister, Mrs. Roy Woodworth, Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. Doland, Mrs. Woodworth, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Sherman, Mr. and Mrs. Harlon Sherman and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Runge of

Canaseraga, went to Emporium to attend the wedding of their nephew and cousin, Duane Price son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Price of Genesee, Pa.

The Christmas Party and Turgen dinner sponsored by the Youth Fellowship at the United Methodist Church, Sunday night, was a success and attended by about 60 youth and adults. The Rev. Ray Albaugh led in singing, accompanied by Miss Wadeck at the piano. The dinner netted \$33. Members of the church held a short meeting after the party to elect the Officers for 1974 and accept the 1974 Budget of \$7,425.00.

Principal Charles Wright sent out a letter last week to tell the people what the school was doing about the energy crisis. For instance classroom thermostats have been set back to 67 degrees and parents are advised to dress their children warmly. The Board was meeting in the Cafeteria December 10 at 8:00 P. M., and parents were invited to attend and express their opinions.

He also reported that there have been seventeen applicants for the Supervising Principal position. The Board of Education is in the process of cutting this down to five candidates to be interviewed. It is hoped that the new Principal will be available by January 1, 1974. If this is not possible the Board of Education has an alternate plan arranged for the interim

period.

Bus drivers have been attending a series of in-service workshops to point out safety items to all drivers. These sessions have included: first aid; driver responsibility in bus maintenance and state laws regarding buses.

The departmentalized middle grade program appears to be working very well. Some adjustments have had to be made but the benefits gained have so far outweighed the disadvantages.

Cafeteria Menus at Greenwood Central School for the week of December 10 - 14 are:

MONDAY — Soup, Crackers, Peanut Butter Sandwich, Jello, Brownie, choc or white Milk

TUESDAY — Barbecued Beef with Bun, Buttered Peas, Apple Sauce, choc or white Milk

WEDNESDAY — Baked Chicken Potato Salad, Buttered Carrots, Rolls, Fruit, choc or white Milk

THURSDAY — Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Tossed Salad, Italian Bread, Fruit, choc or white Milk

FRIDAY — Juice, Tuna Burger, Buttered Green Beans, Fruit, choc or white Milk

The Basketball Team lost the opening game to Andover 45 - 50.

Mr. Kickbush will present a Musical Program next week.

The OES had their annual meeting and Christmas Party at the Lodge Rooms, Monday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Orland Higgins arrived at Leesburg, Florida last week for the winter. They left in

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Energy Conservation

We have been asked by the Power Authority of the State of New York to develop measures to reduce energy consumption.

YOU CAN HELP BY:

1. NOT USING OUTSIDE DECORATIVE LIGHTING
2. KEEPING LIGHTS & ELECTRIC APPLIANCES OFF WHEN NOT NEEDED

If supply of Electric in the Village Electric Department is reduced, more serious conservation methods may be needed, such as voltage reductions, rotating brown-outs or black-outs. The Village administration is developing contingency plans to handle this type of situation.

We certainly hope these will not be needed.

THE VILLAGE BOARD
VILLAGE OF ANDOVER, N.Y.