

# Happy New Year

# THE DALLAS POST

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## Christmas is special around world

By JOAN KINGSBURY  
Staff Correspondent

Around the world, Christmas is a special holiday. Each country has its own special traditions. On Wednesday, three American Field Exchange Students living in the Back Mountain presented a program of their country's holiday traditions at St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Juan Carlos Fernandez, who is living with the Robert Vail family of Trucksville this year, told of traditions in his native Bolivia. Christmas Eve the children go to bed around 8 o'clock. They are awakened by their mothers around 11 and told that Papa Noel has brought the gifts. Children clean their shoes and place them in the doorways for Papa Noel to fill. At the stroke of 12, everyone opens their gifts. Children go out into the streets to play with their new toys.

Following the opening of the gifts, dinner is served. Turkey is always served at Juan Carlos' home. The turkey is deboned then stuffed with a combination of baked ham, beef and pork mixed with lemon juice, oregano, garlic and sherry. Juan Carlos will prepare a turkey in this way for the Vail's holiday dinner. Dinner ends at 5:30 and everyone goes to bed.

In Bolivia, Dec. 25 is a religious holiday with everyone attending church. In decorating for Christmas, the creche has a dominant place.

Christmas in Australia is hot, sometimes reaching 100 degrees. In Adelaide, Peter Johnson's home, the holiday season is kicked off by a large Christmas pageant held by a local department store. This tradition is 50 years old. At the end of the parade, Father Christmas makes his appearance. Little children follow him into the store to his Magic Cave where elves are hard at work making toys.

On Christmas Eve around 9 o'clock people meet on the big parkway to sing Christmas carols. Thousands of people, each holding a small burning candle, is a very impressive sight.

On Christmas Day everyone goes to church, then home to the Christmas dinner. Peter's mother and grandmother buy delicacies from all over the world, they also have turkey, cold ham, cranberry sauce and plum pudding.

Following a heavy dinner, Australians celebrate their Christmas Day with a swim at one of their beautiful beaches.

Peter is staying with Mrs. Mary Ann Wintersteen and her son, Robbie.

Lars Ebbeson, who is staying with



Dallas Post/Joan Kingsbury

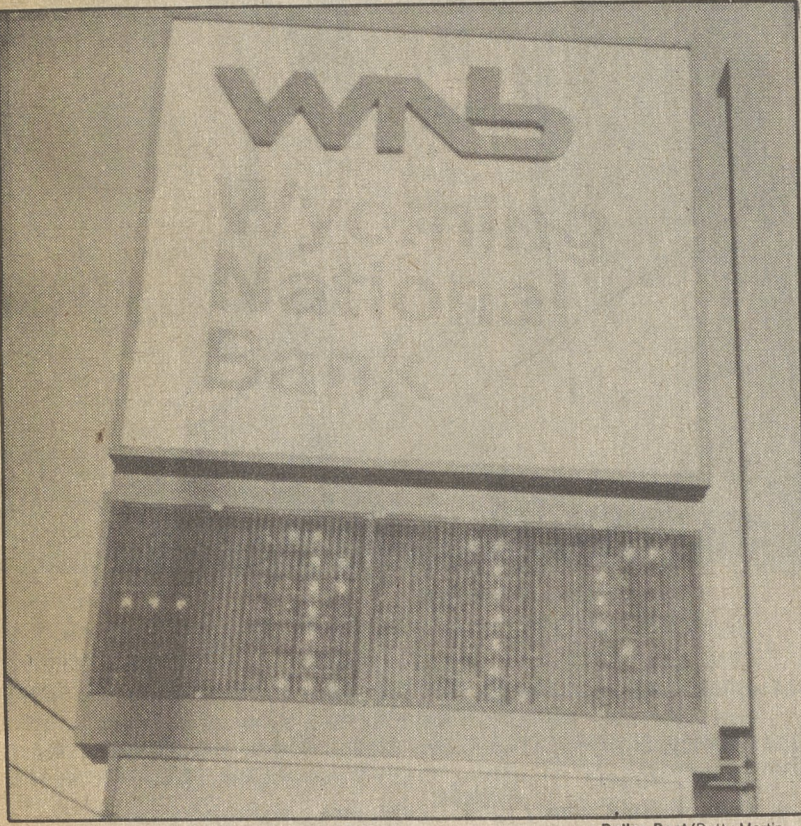
### New traditions

AFS students Peter Johnson, Juan Carlos Fernandez and Lars Ebbeson get ready to taste traditional Christmas goodies from their countries: fresh coconut cake and rice pudding from Bolivia, Pavlova, a hard meringue dessert from Australia and Finnish Bread from Denmark. Each student prepared his own traditional treat.

the John Sheehan family of Overbrook Ave., in Dallas, told of Christmas in his native Denmark.

On the second Sunday of Advent, Lars' family traditionally makes cake houses that are decorated with candies. This is a happy occasion

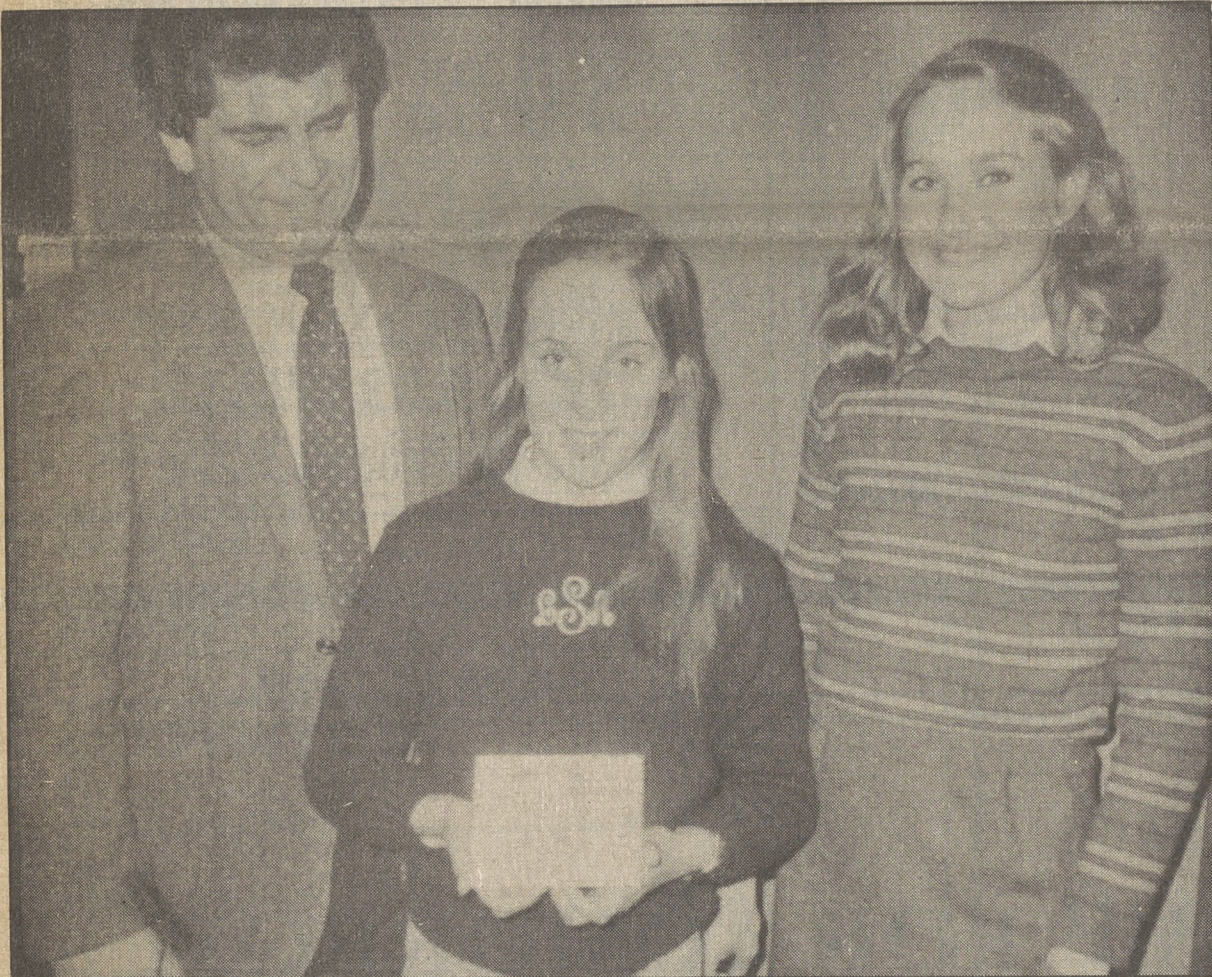
with lots of talking and good cheer. Then, although it's cold out, food is grilled and eaten outside. Three to four times during the Advent season people get together to make paper stars and angels that are used for decorating.



Dallas Post/Dotty Martin

### Winter's here

In addition to the redness of your nose and the frostbite of your fingertips, this thermometer at the Wyoming National Bank in Shavertown will remind you that winter has arrived. On this particular day, the thermometer registered -11 degrees Celsius. Temperatures, however, continued to drop as Christmas Day approached.



Dallas Post/Dotty Martin

### Hers is best

Leslie Scoble, above center, winner of this year's Christmas card contest in the Dallas School District, is shown here with Sam Barbose, principal, Westmoreland Elementary School, and Raelene Daring, art teacher, Westmoreland Elementary School.

Leslie Scoble

## Fourth grader designs school Christmas card

Leslie Scoble, a fourth grade student at Westmoreland Elementary School, this year became the first elementary student to win the Christmas card contest conducted within the Dallas School District.

The contest, conducted annually by the district, is open to all 2,500 students within the district. The students are asked to design a Christmas card and submit it to the administration.

Dr. Richard Shipe, superintendent,

along with other school administrators, then select one card as the winner. That card is duplicated and used as the official holiday greeting from the Dallas School District. It is sent to all teachers, all school board members, and all retired teachers of the district.

Leslie is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Scoble of Carverton Heights, Trucksville. Her art teacher at Westmoreland is Raelene Daring.



### Award winner

Leslie Scoble's award-winning Christmas card, featuring a teddy bear dressed as Santa, is shown here. The drawing on the front of the card was enhanced with an inside verse that read: "As educators, let us recall, during the joys of the Holiday Season, that children are precious and that each young person is the world's most shining hope for the future."

### Coming next week

The Dallas Post takes a look at the past year in "Looking Back at 1983" in next week's issue.



Dallas Post/Dotty Martin

### Contest winner

Shown here is the decorative drawing Rosemary Kravitz has hanging on the front of her home at 220 Davenport St., Dallas. The scene, entitled "Winter Wonderland" won Rosemary a \$50 savings bond as first place winner in the unlighted category of the Back Mountain Home Decorating Contest.

## Neiman, Kravitz residences win Christmas decorating contest

The homes of David Neiman, 32 Old Mill Road, Dallas, and Rosemary Kravitz, 220 Davenport St., Dallas are the winners of the 1983 Great Back Mountain Holiday Decorating Contest.

The Neiman home, which featured four perfectly designed Christmas trees each in a different color, was judged the best in the lighted display category, while the Kravitz residence, titled "Winter Wonderland" received top honors in the

unlighted display category. Both Neiman and Kravitz will receive \$50 Savings Bonds.

Homes receiving Honorable Mention in the lighted display category were "Christmas Spirit" by Ken and Charlene Cook, Market Street, Lehman; and "White Christmas Simplicity" by Walter and Mary Chappell, 57 Huntsville Road, Dallas.

The home of Duane and Sandy Sprau, 110 Church Street, Dallas,

received Honorable Mention in the unlighted display category while Jedidia's Restaurant, Route 309, Dallas, received Honorable Mention in the business category.

Other homes nominated for the lighted display category include those of Joyce Hoover, RD 4, Box 272, Dallas; Frank Neiman, 36 Luzerne Ave., Dallas; and William Rinehimer, 24 W. Center St., Shavertown.

### Believe it!

A Dallas woman was having a "blast" taking all kinds of Christmas pictures last week. There wasn't much fun left, however, when she opened the camera and discovered there was no film in the camera.

A lucky hunter from Chase got his buck, strapped it to his car and was traveling home when a doe ran into the side of his vehicle. The driver immediately reported his "road kill" to the game warden and got to keep both deer.

A Dallas woman was talking on the phone to a West Nanticoke resident whose home was threatened by rising flood waters last week. When the Dallas woman asked, "How's the water?" the reply, after a lengthy pause, was, "Both the hot and cold are running well."

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## Dallas Post sponsors 'First Baby Contest'

The Dallas Post is sponsoring its Third Annual New Year's Baby Contest and will soon be waiting patiently for the arrival of the first Back Mountain resident of 1984.

The winner will receive a one-year subscription to The Dallas Post, a \$5 gift certificate from Stapinski's Drug Store, a \$5 gift certificate from the Jean Shop, a

seven-inch cake from Carvel Ice Cream, dinner for the parents at Pickett's Charge Restaurant, and a floral arrangement from Gail's Flowers.

Parents of the winning baby may claim a certificate from The Dallas Post to present to sponsoring merchants. All gifts must be claimed before January 31, 1984.