

# Thaw Holiday Bird Safely For Dinner

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If you have a turkey in the freezer—that gobbler may need time to thaw before you prepare it for the oven. And when you go to thaw that bird, leave it in the refrigerator. Temperatures there remain low enough so a turkey can thaw without rapid bacterial growth.

If refrigerator space isn't available, leave the bird in its wrapping. Then defrost it in a sink with frequent changes of cold water. Roast the cold bird as soon as it's thawed.

Or put the bird—in its wrapping—in a large paper bag. Thaw at room temperature. Then cook the cold bird promptly to prevent harmful bacterial growth.

But frozen turkey doesn't have to be thawed. You can stick the icy bird into the oven. More cooking time will be needed, but the cooked meat will taste just as good as the pre-thawed turkey.

### Holiday Buffet

If you're planning to serve cold cuts at a holiday buffet—make sure they are fresh and chilled. And don't allow them to stand at room temperature too long.

In fact, you may wish to prepare several trays of food—so that some food may be left in the refrigerator until the first tray of meats is used. Then bring on a fresh supply. This way, meats will stay cold and bacteria will not have a chance to grow.

If you're serving salads—shrimp, chicken or something similar—remember that they are highly perishable. So pack the serving dish in cracked ice—or, use small serving dishes and refill often from the refrigerator. You'll want to use the same precautions with deviled eggs, cheese and sour cream dip.

On holidays—or anytime large groups get together—it isn't unusual to run out of refrigerator space and perhaps become a bit careless in the way you handle food. But, if you keep in mind that bacteria can cause food poisoning—you can prevent errors in handling, preparation and serving.

It all adds up to this. All perishable foods—such as cream pies, seafoods and dishes made with eggs, fish, meat and poultry should be kept cold—that is—below forty degrees. And you should never let them stand at room temperature for more than two hours.

By the same token—you should keep hot foods hot—that is—at least 140 degrees. No doubt about it. Holiday food fare is fun, but careful planning is important too.



The Hawaiian alphabet has only 12 letters.



Santa gives lollipops and the Chamber of Commerce gives prizes to winners in the Warrenton-Norlina Christmas Parade Saturday. Representing first, second and third place floats, respectively, were Ardie Roddy for Vaughan Elementary School, Ronnie Marable for

Hawkins Drill Team and Walter Gardner for the Warren County Jaycees. In rear are parade chairman Butch Meek, at left, and chamber president Bill Fleming. (Staff Photo)

# Rate Hike Increases Bills By 11 Per Cent

RALEIGH — Six North Carolina Electric Membership Corporations last week began paying about 11 per cent more for bulk power supplied by Virginia Electric and Power Co., as a result of a ruling by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in Washington.

Among the six rural cooperatives affected by the ruling was Halifax EMC, serving a large portion of Warren County.

The federal agency approved a new wholesale rate schedule for VEPCO, boosting the cost of power for

electric cooperatives in Virginia and North Carolina by about \$6.7 million a year. The action gave the commission's endorsement to an agreement between VEPCO and cooperative officials on the new rates.

The agreement, which was prepared as a result of several weeks of negotiations by VEPCO and EMC representatives, reduced the level of the original rate hike from 19.9 per cent to 11.3 per cent. The higher figure applied to the original rate schedules submitted to federal authorities last June. The agreement was submitted to the commission in September.

The higher rates would have become effective Nov. 28, if the FERC hadn't acted in the case.

## Free Booklet

Want to know just what a patent is, and what can or cannot be patented? These and many other questions of interest and important to inventors, or people with inventive ideas, are answered in a 42-page United States Government booklet, called "Patents."

General information, procedures and examples are clearly spelled out in layman's language making it easy to understand the nature of patents and patent rights.

If you have an invention or an idea and want to know how to patent and protect it, send for the free booklet.

Just write, Patents, Lawrence Peska Associates, 500 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y. 10036.

# Tree That Keeps Christmas Alive For Years To Come

One kind of holiday decoration has been increasing in popularity over the past several years, and the trend promises to continue this season. It's the use by America's homes of one of nature's most enjoyable gifts—a living, growing Christmas tree.

Perhaps this is due, in part, to our deepening appreciation for more that is "natural" in our surroundings. It is certain that the beauty and fragrance of a live tree indoors for the holidays cannot be equaled by an artificial tree, or even by a cut tree.

There is an economy factor, too, even though the living tree may cost more than a cut evergreen at the outset. When the yuletide has ended, the Christmas tree continues outdoors through years to come as an investment that grows, increasing the value of its



property, adding beauty, screening out unwanted sights and sounds.

Some suggestions from the American Association of Nurserymen can help assure your pleasure from this year's living Christmas tree.

The first tip is something you can do right now. Decide where you will want the tree to take up residence after Santa's visit and prepare the hole ahead of time. The hole should be sufficiently deep and wide to accommodate the root ball with a bit of room to spare. Put some organic material, like peat moss, at the bottom, and mix some of the same material with the soil you have removed. Leave that soil right beside the hole, which you should

cover with boards so nobody will stumble into it before the tree is installed.

Plan to keep the tree in the house no more than about ten days. That is about as long as it will be happy in the dry indoor environment. Place it in some kind of container that will let you keep the root ball quite moist during those days. The nursery people say about a quart of water every couple of days may be sufficient.

Miniature lights are best for a living tree. The large ones tend to overheat, even scorch the green growth around them. The sturdy branches of a living tree permit you great freedom and imagination in your use of hanging ornaments, though.

One final recommendation. Plant the tree as soon as you take it outdoors. That's when you'll be glad you prepared its new home ahead of time.



The Warrenton Lions are lion-hearted when it comes to giving gifts. Lions Eddie Clayton, left, and Tom Gaskill were among club members who spent much of Sunday delivering Christmas boxes to needy families. (Staff Photo)

### FREE OFFER



If you want to serve a different kind of hearty and delicious salad at your next barbecue, buffet, picnic or church bazaar, write for a free leaflet on "Rice Salads" to Rice Council of America, Box 22802, Houston, Texas 77027.



An endowment fund for Warren General Hospital will be begun with a \$3,000 contribution made by Mrs. Frances Tarwater, formerly of Warrenton, in memory of her husband, the late John G. Tarwater. Hospital administrator Col. H. S. Andersen above secures a brass plate commemorating the memorial. (Staff Photo)

## Dolls Through The Ages



TURN-of-the-century catalogs show ornate doll outfits.

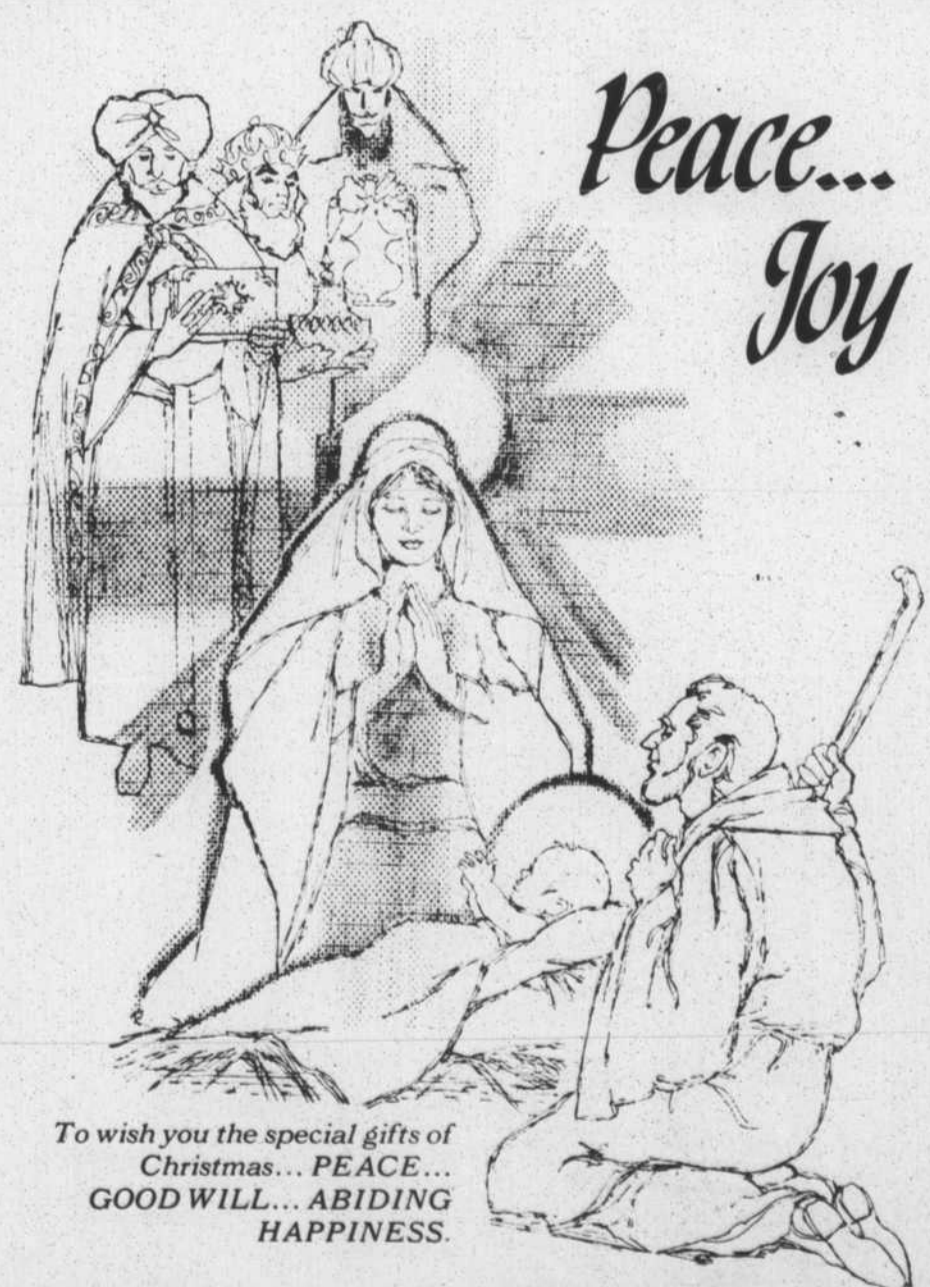
Dolls have been a favorite of little girls for many centuries. Back in Roman times, girls received these precious toys every December 17, the festival of Saturnalia. But the dolls had to be surrendered at the altar of the goddess Diana when the girls came of age.

In modern times girls don't surrender their dolls so easily. Many a grandmother has taken her favorite bisque doll from deep in the attic trunk, and wrapped it lovingly to give as a gift to a grandchild, who will cherish it for years to come. These dolls, as ones shown in the early S&H Green Stamp Catalogs, may have been wearing an "organdie dress in Nile green, lavender, blue, pink or canary."

Foreign-made dolls were prominent before and after World War I, but American manufacturers increasingly

took over the doll market after the war. Dolls evolved from passive playmates, things to be held or admired in a case, to life-like toys that could be washed, fed or hair-styled. Fifty to 75 years ago dolls had movable joints and eyes, but were so richly dressed that to really "play" with them was to destroy some of their beauty. Many had bisque or china heads and limbs.

Apparently, only the times and their modes of dress have changed, because little girls continue to be as thrilled by dolls as they were centuries ago. In fact, some 200,000 dolls and stuffed animals are taken home from S&H Green Stamp redemption centers in the weeks just before Christmas. Bright-eyed dolls dressed in calico or white gowns are quietly waiting, as they always have, for owners with lots of love to give.



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