

# Holiday Decorating Increases Risk Of Fire And Accidents

The number of shopping days are decreasing, holiday songs play intermittently on the radio, twinkling lights begin to appear all over town—Christmas is fast approaching.

Decorating your home for the holiday season can increase the risk of fire and accidents, cautions the Insurance Information Institute.

Christmas trees, decorative lighting, gift wrapping—all part of the Yule spirit—can pose special safety hazards.

The Institute offers the following safety tips to keep in mind while decorating for the holiday season:

- Purchase only Underwriters Laboratories (UL) listed lighting strings. The UL label indicates which light strings and extension cords are suitable for indoor and outdoor use.

- Check all new and used lighting strings carefully. Each should be checked for frayed or bare wires, cracked sockets and plugs and loose connections. Be on the safe side and discard all unsafe equipment.

- Do not overload the electrical circuits. Electrical wiring that is forced to carry more than it is intended to handle may overheat and result in a fire. Check the wire capacity listing and follow the manufacturer's recommendation.



A partridge... a pear tree... a sincere wish for your happiness... all sure signs pointing to a **Merry Christmas to All!**

E. G. HECHT & SONS  
U. S. Hwy 1  
Norlina, N. C.  
Phone 456-2121

- Never place electrical lighting close to flammable materials.

- String lights should never be used on a metal tree. A short circuit in the insulation could make the tree electrically "live," resulting in severe electrical shock. Use spot lights to illuminate a metal tree.

- Remember...always turn off lighting when leaving home or retiring for the evening.

The Institute reminds that the selection of a Christmas tree, whether natural or artificial, is an important matter. Artificial trees should carry a flame resistant label. A natural tree should be checked for freshness. Remember fresh trees dry out rapidly in heated rooms. Make sure you keep the base holder full of water by checking it daily.

When trimming the tree and fireplace mantel, use only noncombustible and

flame-retardant materials. Never place trimmings near open flames, heat or electrical connections. On Christmas day remove all wrapping paper immediately after presents are opened. Place paper in covered metal trash containers or burn them in an incinerator. Do not burn them in the fireplace. A flash fire may result since wrapping paper can ignite suddenly and get out of control.

**In Case Of Fire Be Prepared**  
The Institute recommends sitting down with your family and drawing up an emergency escape plan, selecting a common meeting place outside.

- Keep a fully-charged fire extinguisher handy. Every member of the family should be familiar with its location and how to operate it properly. Don't place it next to the tree; you may not be able to get it if needed.

## Education Center Available

Superintendents, principals, teachers, supervisors, counselors and other educators from across the state have at their fingertips a storehouse of information that can be utilized to answer their most specific questions on current educational topics and questions.

The Education Information Center, a section within the Instructional Services Area of the Department of Public Instruction, assists educators with professional educational information from one of the most comprehensive storehouses of educational material in the state.

The Center houses a collection that includes hundreds of educational journals and pamphlets, thousands of books, and hundreds of thousands of microfiche documents from the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC). ERIC is an ever-growing national data bank of educational information so comprehensive that it could not be contained in the Center if it were on paper. The Center receives 1500 microfiche each month which provides the library with the most up-to-date information.

Personnel in the Department of Public Instruction

and educators throughout North Carolina utilize the resources of the Center requesting information on such topics as competency-based graduation requirements, the latest system of reporting grades to parents, or alternatives to school suspension. Using the varied resources of the Center, the staff researches the question and sends an information packet to the requester.

The Center can also be used as a library free of charge to persons wishing to come in and take advantage of the reference materials, journals, and newspapers. The Center maintains an impressive number of back issues of educational journals on microfilm. For more information contact Mrs. Vergie Cox, Education Information Center, Room 581, Education Building, Raleigh, 27611, telephone (919) 733-7904.

The way to a man's heart can be a way that will protect him from heart attack. For practical suggestions on heart-healthy food for the whole family, write for a free copy of "The Way to a Man's Heart" from the North Carolina Heart Association, 1 Heart Circle, Chapel Hill, N. C. 27514.

# NOTABLE CHRISTMAS BIRTHDAYS

What do Clara Barton, Evangeline Booth, Maurice Utrillo and Sir Isaac Newton have in common? Something very special! These famous people all share the same festive birthday... December 25th!

Clara Barton, best known for helping found the American Red Cross, served as its president for many years. She was born on Christmas Day 1821, in Oxford, Massachusetts. In 1854 she became the first woman clerk in the U.S. Patent Office, a fact which does no doubt please feminists today. Soon after the outbreak of the Civil War, Clara Barton began the work of carrying supplies to soldiers and nursing wounded men on the battlefields. Her deeds attracted national attention and she was known as "The Angel of the Battlefield." It was Miss Barton who realized that the Red Cross could be helpful to civilians as well as to soldiers in times of calamity.

Evangeline Booth, born on Christmas Day 1865, was the seventh child of William Booth, founder of The Salvation Army. She gained recognition as a musician, composer and orator in her native England. Miss Booth became national commander of The Salvation Army in the United States in 1904 and served until 1934. During World

War I the Salvation Army Lasses, under her guidance, spent Christmas as well as many other days, ministering to the needs of American Doughboys in France.

Sir Isaac Newton, English scientist, astronomer and mathematician was born on Christmas Day 1642 at Woolsthorpe, Lincolnshire. As a boy at school he made many youthful inventions, though considered a poor student. Newton, a modest man, made many significant discoveries. By passing a beam of sunlight through a prism, he showed that white light is made up of the rainbow's colors. He constructed a reflecting telescope to use in his studies. And he was the first to state the laws of gravitation.

Maurice Utrillo the French painter, a Christmas child, had little cheer or happiness in his life. He was born December 25, 1883, son of an unknown father and a mother who was a model for many of the painters in Montmartre. Utrillo was very shy and withdrawn both as a child and adult. The streets and buildings of Paris furnished much of the subject matter for his best paintings. Reproductions of many of his works, particularly those of the sparkling white dome of the Montmartre Church of Sacre Coeur, are used by the thousands every year on Christmas cards.

# Head To Toe Beauty Hints For A Special Radiant Holiday Look

You'll surely want to look your best for the holidays! Here are a few tips to help you look radiant and glowing from start to finish.

- \* Splash or spray your favorite eau de cologne on the nape of your neck, wrists and other body pulse points. You'll create your own aura of fragrance.

- \* After your tub massage baby oil into your skin with a dab of cotton. The excess oil can be blotted off with a tissue moistened with toilet water.

- \* You'll feel relaxed and refreshed after a tiring day if you take a few minutes to lie down with your feet higher than the rest of your body.

- \* While you're lying down reviving your spirits for a fun evening, place thin slices of cucumber on your eyelids. Your eyes will feel marvelously refreshed.

- \* A handful of oatmeal mixed with just enough water to make a paste, is a natural, effective skin cleanser. Spread on your neck and face and let dry. Wash off after 10-15 minutes, then rinse with cool water.

- \* Using a pale beige cream or cream stick to cover under-eye circles will brighten your face noticeably. After applying, pat the area gently with your fingertip for a more natural look.

# Christmas tree safety trimming

Look for this new Christmas tree trimming that has just begun to appear in the stores. A decorative rust colored star that is actually a battery-powered fire alarm! This bright ornament sounds a loud buzzing noise that warns of fire. During the holiday season many household fires start from faulty wiring of tree lights. This colorful star could prove to be a real life-saver as well as a handsome way to top your tree.

# Colorful Wrap-Up Shows Individuality

A gift expresses you as uniquely as the way you sign your name. Your taste, creativity, even your sense of humor combine to make each gift a personal creation.

Wrapping your gifts needn't leave you at loose ends. Here are some basic guidelines for your Christmas wrap-up.

Use a large, flat surface that will hold gift wrap supplies, in an area that you can work in undisturbed. If you have a dining table, use it and try to keep inquisitive prowlers away. Gather paper, ribbons, trims, stickers, double sided tape, scissors and gift tags together before you start.

Before wrapping, cut the paper to the right size. Cut paper wide enough to overlap slightly on girth of package and long enough to overlap again when ends are turned down. Center the gift upside down on cut paper. Turn the overlapping piece under and tape securely. Fasten ends by folding sides in, the top flap down and the bottom flap up. Secure with tape, seals or gift trim.

For odd shaped items such as tricycles, portable televisions, and doll houses, slip them into colored plastic gift bags and dress up with a big bow and candy cane.

For gifts you will be mailing, it is important to double-wrap. To protect your gift, place it in a larger cardboard box surrounded by crumpled newspaper. An inverted box lid will keep the bow from being crushed. When mailing a small, breakable item place it in a well padded metal tin which can then be placed in a padded cardboard shipping box. Wrap the shipping box with decorated parcel post paper and parcel post gift labels. Tie securely with twine or cord, wrapping the twine around the package twice in both directions. Tie twine at each intersection.

Wrap large packages first, then use leftover papers and trims for smaller gifts. Other leftover pieces and scraps can be used for children's crafts, collages.

# a Child is Born

Exult at the Blessed Birth of the Prince of Peace! We send wishes for Holiday Blessings to all our friends.



Warrenton Freezer Lockers, Inc

Warrenton, N.C.

# JOYOUS CHRISTMAS



As the Heavens rejoiced when Christ was born, so let us rejoice too, in peace and brotherhood. At this holy holiday we say thanks to our warm and loyal friends.

McPherson Beverage Company, Inc.

Littleton, N.C.

# Merry Christmas



Adding our warm thanks to Santa's list of holiday treasures for you, our friends.

BOWERS & BURROWS OIL CO.  
Warrenton