

Closeup Studies Of Bears Made

Grand Marais, Mich. (AP)—Wildlife researchers have been studying bears, up close. Big bears they catch—15 so far this year—in traps made out of big steel culverts. With the bear inside, they pump some anesthetic in, then attach their ear tags, record weights and measurements and depart while brain is snoring.

But there was a demand this year for a check on little bears. Some small steel traps were put out, and soon the news came: a cub was captured.

A research crew set out, with notebook, pencils, tapes and such—all the equipment needed with one exception. No experienced bear wrestler. That's what they needed most. With a couple of toes in the trap, was a mature 315-pound black bear. And he was mad.

They managed to pin the bear, two falls out of three or thereabouts, and gather the vital statistics. But if you want an experienced bear wrestler, look elsewhere for him.

Christmas Activity Booms Since Early October at Santa Claus Land

By HERRILL SWEDLUND

Santa Claus, Ind. (AP)—Santa Claus Land, a tourist attraction the year around, has been buzzing with another year's Christmas activity since Oct. 1.

The little toy shops, grouped around the famous postoffice are supplemented by more lore for the young Santa set than most big city stores' toy departments.

Since Louis J. Koch, an Evansville manufacturer, started developing a full-scale Christmas enterprise in the quiet hill village 10 years ago, the array of showpieces has grown from dolls to national heroes.

Life-size statues of Mother Goose characters are set in eight groups in woodland glens, there's a park of live reindeer, a collection of 1,500 dolls ranging from the microscopic up to lifesize. In recent years, a Hall of Famous Americans has grown to include 40 life-size wax figures of such heroes as Abraham Lincoln, who spent his childhood just five miles away, in what is now a state park.



Jim Yellig, American Legion Santa Claus in Santa Claus, Ind., looks over the herd of deer.

A big statue of Santa stands in front of the string of quaint Alpine-style shops, overlooking a little carnival of rides, including a miniature railroad.

This year, as before, the post-office activity began picking up just when cold weather began cutting into the crowds of long-trip tourists. Postmaster Elbert Reinke, who runs the place with only the help of his wife in off season, hires a dozen helpers each Christmas season to handle some three or four million pieces of mail sent in to get the sentimental postmark.

The name was just a whimsical idea when it was chosen at a combined town meeting and Christmas Eve party in 1852. Outside the hill country, the postoffice remained almost unknown for many years until one postmaster, James F.

Martin, began answering children's letters to Santa which found their way to him.

Before another postmaster took office in 1935, the letter-answering job got so big that it was taken over by the Santa Claus post of the American Legion under James Yellig. Yellig still plays Santa every season, too.

Actually, the center of this Christmas activity, located on a blacktopped state road, was built a mile away from the original village, now almost deserted. An old "candy castle" with a Santa statue of its own operates as a rural gift and souvenir shop in the village.

The Postoffice Department refused last summer to issue a commemorative stamp in 1956 to recognize the 100th anniversary of actual opening of the Santa Claus postoffice.



Santa Claus has a lot of work these days. He's Jim Yellig looking over letters that wind up in Santa Claus, Ind.

Electronic Check
Richmond, Va. (AP)—An electronic weighing device is being tested by the Virginia Highway Department and Bureau of Public Roads. It will make it unnecessary for trucks with legal limits to pull off the highway for weighing.

But when an overloaded truck crosses the device a red light is flashed at the weighing station and the offending truck will be weighed on regular highway scales.

Chiggers are not insects, but eight-legged mites.

Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
1. Droops
 2. Holland
 3. Rectine
 4. Waste allowance
 5. Ballet
 6. Hotel
 7. French river
 8. Chilled
 9. Urchin
 10. Rise
 11. Lateral
 12. Roman date
 13. Was later
 14. Height
 15. Masculine
- DOWN**
1. Operated
 2. Odor
 3. Large oak
 4. Puts with
 5. All
 6. Large net
 7. Sea eagle
 8. Tip up
 9. Starry
 10. Anglo-Saxon money
 11. Village
 12. Military assistant
 13. Groove
 14. Scandinavian
 15. Explorer
 16. Conception
 17. Insect
 18. Network
 19. Not so much

Solution to Friday's Puzzle

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54			55					56		
57			58					59		

ACROSS

1. ACACIA
2. AGAVE
3. ALCANTARA
4. ALICIA
5. ALPINE
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31. ALPINE

DOWN

1. Asterisk
2. Vocal solo
3. Microbe
4. Chemical substance
5. Proof

Hints Offered By Home Agent

By RUTH CURRENT

State Home Demonstration Agent

Bands—Use bands for trimming Christmas aprons, cottage curtains and bedspreads. They're an excellent way of introducing contrast either of color, pattern, or texture. There are fancy bands, zigzag, scalloped and shirred bands for dressy blouses and dresses.

Do all home sewing with extreme care if you want your clothes to have that professional look. It takes time and good tools to do a good job.

Rick-Rack—All widths and colors make effective trimming. Rick-rack can be put on by stitching through the center of the trimming. It is effective on cotton, linen, or rayon materials and can be used on house dresses, blouses, kitchen curtains and aprons.

Shrinkage—Because it is almost impossible to foretell garment shrinkage, you'll find it necessary to rely on what's written on the label. The familiar Sanforized label guarantees that there will be no further shrinkage beyond a quarter of an inch to the yard in length and width of fabric. Most cottons and linens, and even mixed fabrics of cotton, silk, and wool, may be Sanforized.

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Plan Against Accident Hazards in Your Home

By VIRGINIA IHRLE
Carolina Power & Light Co.

Every good hostess nowadays considers safety when she plans for holiday parties and house guests. The Christmas season is the busiest time of the year for entertaining. Haste, crowds, confusion and fatigue may all be accident hazards at this season. It pays to plan against them.

For safety against fire, buy or make Christmas decorations that are fire-resistant. Place Christmas greens away from candles and electric light bulbs and away from heat or sparks from hearthfires. When arranging a dinner table centerpiece, remember that fires have been started by a combination of greens or paper decorations close to lighted candles.

The family Santa needs a fire-safe costume. Sometimes Santa suits of untreated napped fabric, or whiskers of untreated cotton batting have proved hazardous.

Use Large Ones

For fire protection have plenty of good-sized, steady ash trays around any room where a crowd will gather.

Most people know that it pays to buy a fresh tree and keep it fresh by keeping it standing in a container of water. But the tree also needs to be anchored firmly so that it can't topple. Place the tree out of the way of traffic lanes and doorways where people won't brush against it.

Also for fire-safety place it away from the hearth and away from any updraft such as occurs in a stairwell. Christmas trees that have toppled over in doorways have sometimes blocked exits when fire has broken out.

Check the string of Christmas tree lights before the holidays to be sure they are in good repair with tight sockets and all insulation intact. Make sure not to plug too many lights into a single wall outlet.

Falls are other accidents to plan against. The Safety Council stresses keeping walks and steps outdoors free of ice and snow or well sanded and having them well-lighted.

Light Those Steps

All steps and stairways indoors need to be well-lighted, too, and free of toys or other items that might turn an ankle or catch a heel and cause a fall. It's well to remember that visitors don't know their way around your house as your family does so they need extra protection against any possible fall hazards.

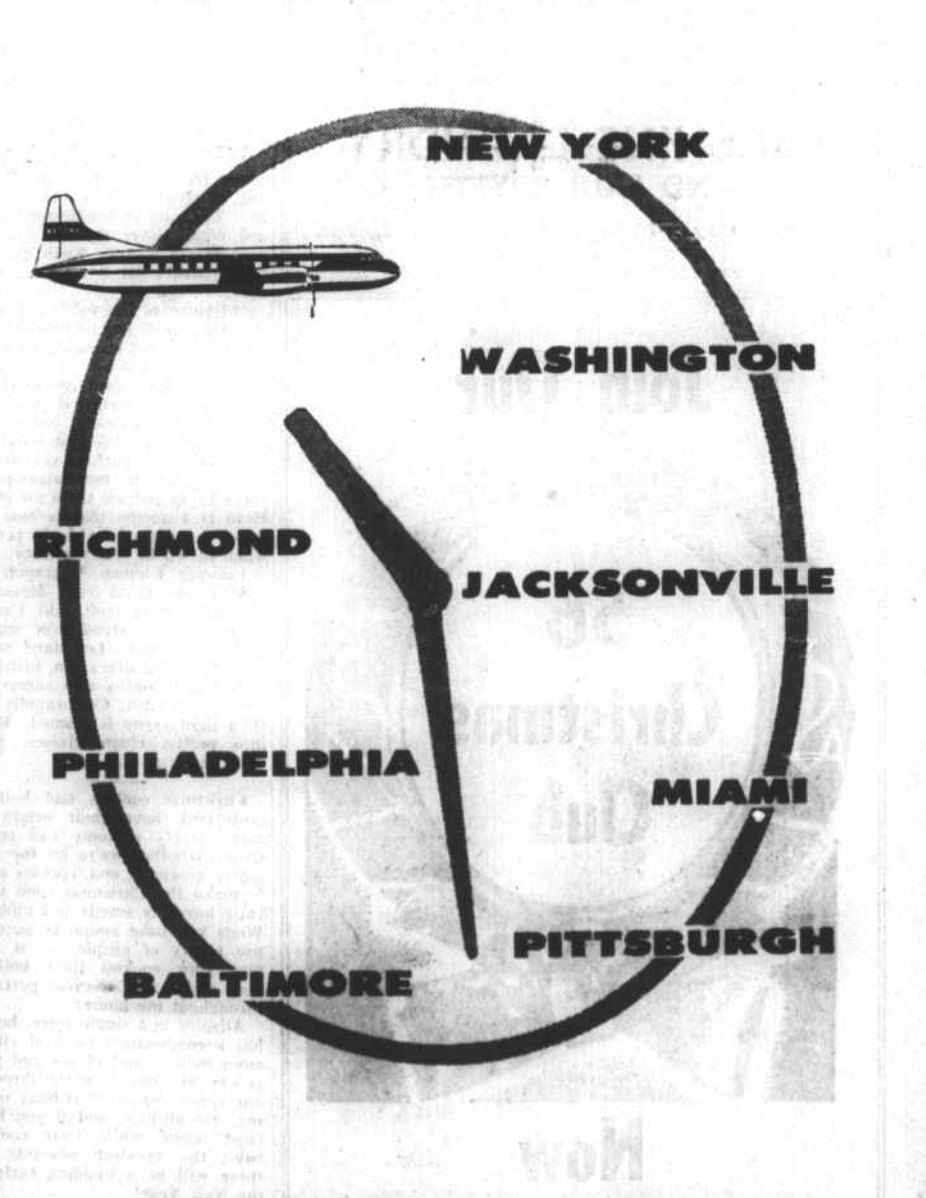
If you wax floors before company comes, use a thin layer and polish so thoroughly the floors won't be slippery. Be sure there are no skiddy rugs, hazardous especially to older people. Avoid any extension wires that can be trip hazards or fire hazards.

All the familiar rules about safety in the kitchen apply especially to the holidays when this room gets heavier use and often is more crowded. To avoid falls wipe up promptly any food that happens to

spill on the floor, especially grease.

Make sure that young children are well away from the range when the oven door is opened for the Christmas ham or turkey to come out or when there's considerable cooking on top of the range.

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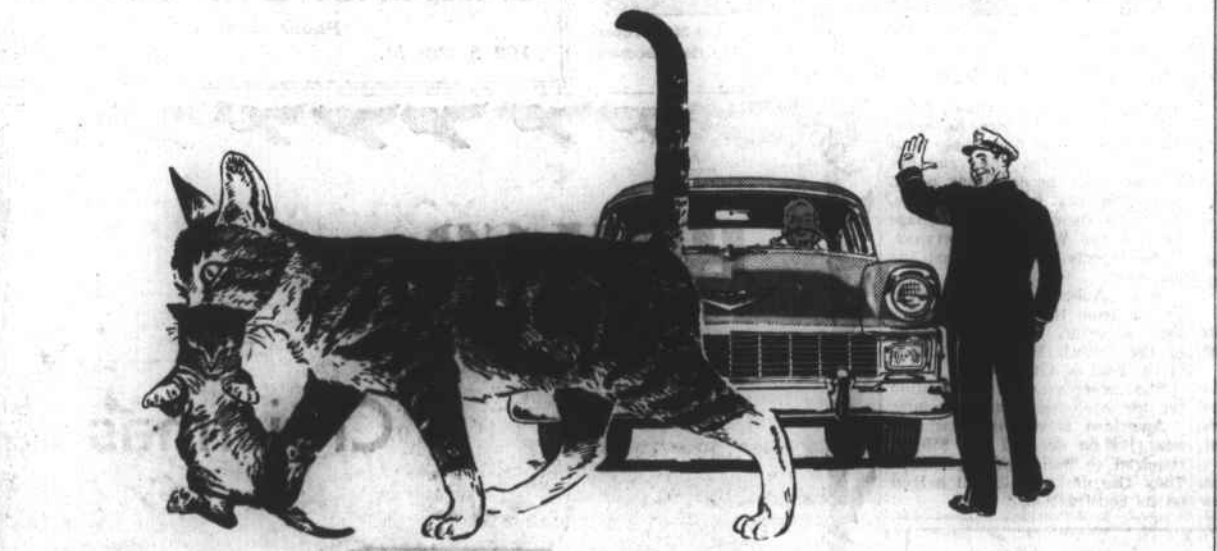


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