

Christmas Trees

Can Be Dangerous

Christmas trees can be as dangerous as they are beautiful, and you need to treat them with extreme care.

This is the advice of Mecklenburg County Fire Marshal John Knowles, who offers these suggestions for making your home safer during the holiday season.

Select a freshly cut Christmas tree—a small one is safer—and keep it outside until you are ready to decorate it. Cut the trunk diagonally about an inch above the original cut and place it in a container of water.

It is recommended that you wait until December 20 to put the tree up, then take it down by December 27 or 28.

The following solution, if placed in the base container for your tree, will help preserve its freshness and reduce the fire hazard:

- 1 gallon boiling water
- 4 teaspoons Clorox
- 2 cups light Karo syrup
- 4 tablespoons micronized (may be purchased at any garden supply center).

Knowles advises against attempting to flameproof your trees with any aerosol product. In addition, he offers the following advice:

If you buy an artificial tree, be sure to select one marked "flameproof." Be sure to read any tags or stickers that give you directions about the lights. Never place lights on a metal tree, as this might create a shock hazard.

Select lighting sets or fixtures and bulbs which have

the UL (Underwriter's Laboratory) label. Discard old sets that have frayed wires, loose connections, or broken sockets.

Be sure there is some method for turning the lights off several feet from the base of the tree.

Don't try to repair the lights or electrical decorations yourself.

Be sure all lights are turned off before going to bed or leaving home.

Check from time to time to see if the lights are turning the sockets brown. If they are, move the lights to another position.

Avoid handling electrical cords or equipment when your hands or the floor are wet.

Check the fuse box to be sure only 15 or 20 amp fuses are used.

Never pick up a frayed wire, as it could be electrically charged and produce dangerous shock.

When you purchase toys, select those which are safe. Some plastic dolls are flammable and extremely dangerous. Also toys which are operated by gasoline, kerosene, etc., are hazardous.

Always use a screen on the fireplace.

For additional information, contact the Mecklenburg County Fire Administrator, 300 East Seventh Street, Charlotte, telephone 374-2154.

12 Noon Tuesday is the deadline for placing your news items and photos in the Charlotte Post.



MISS EASTERN STAR PAGEANT

Thelma M. Hunter, Miss Eastern Star of 1977-78, crowns Catherine McNear as Miss Eastern Star of 1979 in a recent pageant held November 29, 1978, at the Greenville Neighborhood Center. This is an annual event sponsored by Golden Hue Chapter No. 15 O.E.S. The contestants were Catherine McNear, first runner-up, Nellie Kennedy, second runner-up, Gwendolyn Diane Wingard, Catherine Ford, Mary Richardson, Sarah White, and Sarah Wilson. Officers of Golden Hue Chapter No. 15 O.E.S. are as follows: Deputy-Sister Jessie McCain, Worthy Mat-

ron-Sister Gladys Henderson, Worthy Patron-Brother Lewis Jackson, Associate Matron-Sister Mary L. Sherrill, Treasurer-Sister Gwendolyn Wingard, Secretary-Sister Nellie Kennedy, Conductress-Sister Edith Henderson, Associate Conductress-Sister Dorothy Hinton, Marshall-Sister Elizabeth White, Warder-Sister Lula Watson, Sentinel-Sister Annie Campbell, Adah-Sister Naomi Torrence, Ruth-Sister Sarah Wilson, Esther-Sister Virginia Erwin, Martha-Sister Juanita Lowe, Electa-Sister Thelma Hunter, and Chaplain-Sister Annie Garvin.

Mint Museum Accepting Enrollment

Limited enrollment is now being accepted for the 10-week winter term of the Mint Museum-NCSA Performing Arts School.

Classes in voice and speech, movement, acting, improvisation, scene study and acting techniques are available. Classes begin Jan. 8 and end March 15, 1979.

The Mint Museum's Performing Arts classes, taught by Dorothy Masterson, are scheduled for Tuesdays. Afternoon classes for ages 11-16 will be from 4-6 p.m., and evening classes for ages 17 and up will be from 7-9 p.m.

NCSA classes, taught by NCSA staff from Winston-Salem, are offered Mondays,

Wednesdays and Thursdays. Afternoon classes for ages 15-18 are scheduled from 4-6 p.m. and evening classes for ages 19 and up will be from 7-9 p.m.

All classes will be held at St. Mary's Chapel, Fourth St. and Kings Dr. Class fee are: one ten-week class \$75.00; two ten-week classes \$150.00; and three ten-week classes \$175.00.

Government Internships Made Available

If you're a college student from Mecklenburg County home for the holidays, you're probably already planning for a summer job. You may just be eligible for one of about 150 state government internships being made available by two different programs for next summer.

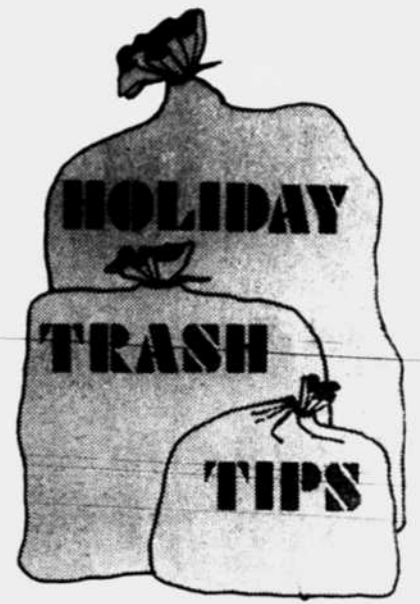
"Thousands of students have gained better insight into the workings of government through the internship program over the years," said Frank Eagles of Wilson, chairman of the North Carolina Internship Council which was created by the General Assembly in 1977. The council approves projects and also screens and selects students for the Summer Internship Program sponsored by the Department of Administration's Youth Involvement Office.

This program will place about 125 students in 13 different state agencies for 10 weeks, from June 4 to August 10. To be eligible, a student must be either a North Carolina resident who has completed two years of study in a college or university or one year of study in a technical institute or community college, or an out-of-state student having completed the same studies in a North Carolina educational institution.

In addition to a regular 40-hour week, interns will participate in seminars to learn more about state government and how it works. Application deadline is February 29. For more information, contact the Youth Involvement Office, Room 115, 112 West Lane Street, Raleigh, N.C. 27611, 919-733-5966.

Another summer internship

program, sponsored by the Institute of Government in Chapel Hill, will place 24 college juniors and seniors in state government internships. The 11-week program, from May 29 to August 11, is open to any college or university junior or senior who is a resident of North Carolina.



Follow these week by week collection tips from the Sanitation Division.

DEC. 25-30

Christmas Week

December 25 and 26 are municipal holidays. There will be no refuse collection service on these days.

- Each residence in the City will receive one garbage collection during the week.
- Areas normally served on Monday/Thursday will receive collection on Wednesday or Thursday morning.
- Areas normally served on Tuesday/Friday will receive collection on Thursday afternoon and Friday.
- Curbside trash will be collected on Saturday, December 30 or the following week.
- Loose leaves will be collected from curbside by vacuum truck Wednesday through Friday.
- The York Road Landfill will be open from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

JAN. 1-6

Week After New Year's

January 1 is a municipal holiday and no refuse collection service will be provided.

- Each residence will receive two garbage collections during the week.
- Areas normally served on Monday/Thursday will receive collection on Tuesday/Thursday.
- Areas normally served on Tuesday/Friday will receive collection on Wednesday/Friday.
- Curbside trash will be collected with the garbage on Thursday and Friday.
- Loose leaves will be collected from curbside by vacuum truck Tuesday through Friday.
- The York Road Landfill will be open from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday.



Christmas trees will be collected from curbside January 2 through 4. After this period, trees will be picked up with regular Wednesday curbside trash collection.

CLIP AND SAVE

Last Minute Gift Ideas



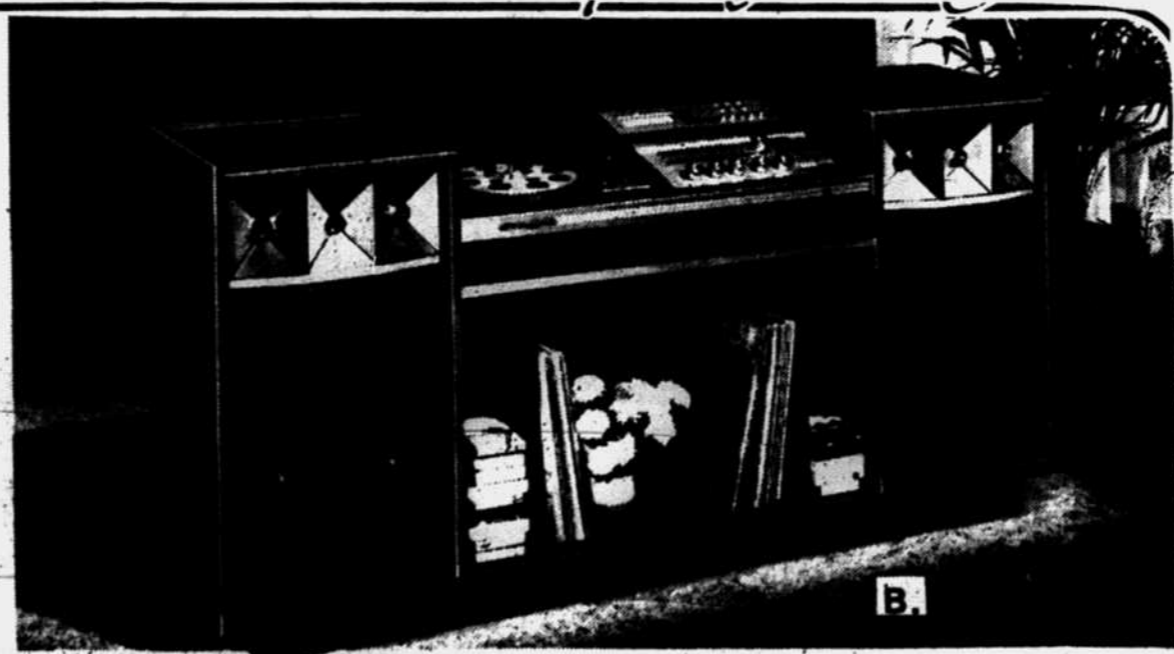
SHOP 9 A.M. 'TIL 9 P.M.

Christmas Gift Sale!

SAVE ON FURNISHINGS FOR THE FAMILY AND HOME DURING THIS GREAT HOLIDAY SALE! SPECIAL SAVINGS! SUPERB QUALITY! FREE DELIVERY!



A.



B.

Save \$100! HI BOY DISCO JUKE OR CONTEMPORARY 8-TRACK TAPE/RECORDER

A. Features multi-colored psychedelic lights, 4 out front see through speakers, AM/FM stereo radio, record changer and 8-Track Tape Player. Terrific buy!

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