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block talk

McGinnis Center

December 5, 1988



CHRISTMAS MEMORIES

by Angie Ganster

Christmas is probably everyone's favorite holiday because it brings families together to celebrate and share good times. Also, Christmas gives people an excuse to buy presents for loved ones as well as receive them. But the way people celebrate Christmas and exchange gifts is unique within each family.

Overzenia Robinson, a law student, said her family gathers around the kitchen table and reminisces about their family's life together. They say many thanks and express their love for one another. Overzenia's favorite gift was a framed poem given to her by her best friend. Not only is Overzenia thankful for her family, but her thoughtful friends.

Overzenia's family isn't the only family that gathers around the kitchen table during Christmas time. People are either eating, decorating cookies, or writing Christmas cards at the kitchen table. Gina Antonelli, a senior, said her older sister wakes everyone up at 7:30 Christmas morning and her family gathers around the kitchen table. They hug, kiss and tell each other how much they love one another. "Then the six of us tear open our presents," Gina said.

For some families wrapping the presents is as much fun as tearing them open. Mary Beth Beggy, a senior, can't wait to see how uniquely her family wraps the presents this year. It's a contest between her dad and the kids. "The best wrapped gift was a small gift that has about 10 boxes around it," Mary Beth said. "It took my dad forever to get to the last box." Mary Beth's mom is the most unique. She puts the presents under the Christmas tree unwrapped with the price tags still on.

Whether the gift is wrapped or not doesn't matter, it's the thought that counts. For example, Dave Potocar, a sophomore, puts his brothers and sisters names in a hat and they each choose the name of the person they will buy for. This game of secret names adds a surprise to Christmas.

Surprising people during Christmas shows warmth and love. Just giving someone a gift makes any person feel better. Ellyn Votruba, a senior, and her family rent out a gymnasium in town for the celebration. They invite others they know don't have families to spend Christmas with. Ellyn said it's fun with more people at the gym because they play volleyball and basketball all day. One year Ellyn took her favorite present to the gym, her rollerskates. "I shared them with the others," Ellyn said. "The skates not only made me feel happy, but many others also."

Christmas is always filled with love and sharing, but as everyone knows a scrooge can sometimes be found. One year, Jim Kunz, a senior scrooge, replaced his three younger sisters stocking stuffing with hard black coal. That was the same year Jim received his favorite gift, a bicentennial Tyco train set. He must have been good the other 364 days to receive that present.

Every family celebrates the holidays in their own way. No matter how your family spends this Christmas, remember the love, joy, and good times you've shared with them.

Crime Prevention Hotline

Campus Security now offers the Crime Prevention Hotline for students. The purpose of the hotline is to increase safety awareness and to educate students about securing their property. The hotline will have 2½-minute messages with safety tips. The messages will be changed weekly. Upcoming tips will include: securing valuables for the Christmas House Check Program.

The Crime Prevention Hotline number is CRIME for those on-campus and 229-CRIME for off-campus.

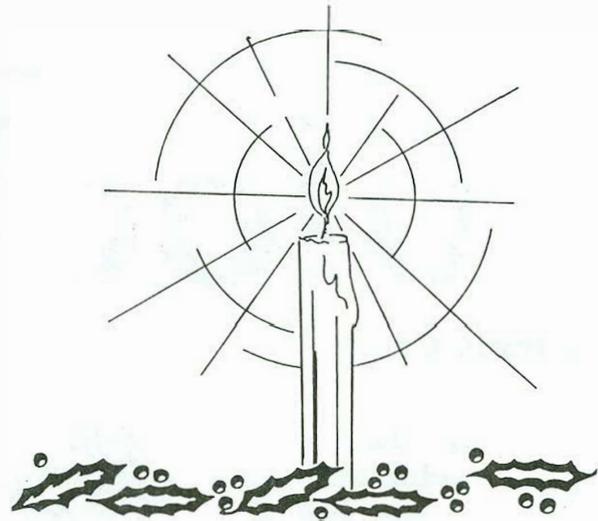


Christmas on Campus

Christmas on Campus is fast approaching. This annual celebration at the University of Dayton is held on December 8. It is the day we open our homes and hearts to the spirit of Christmas.

The University invites special guests to share in this celebration. These guests are adopted by students for the evening. A live Nativity scene, the lighting of the tree, and the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Claus officially start the evening. Throughout the campus, exhibits, shows, and performers entertain the crowd. After the festivities, the pace slows as we gather for a special Christmas Mass.

This is the twenty-fifth anniversary of Christmas on Campus, so it promises to be extra special. You can participate in several ways. You can begin this special evening by joining other students in a candlelight procession. It will begin at 6:00 p.m. from various locations on campus. After the procession, you can adopt a guest and take part in the festivities. Be a part of it all this year at Christmas on Campus.



Let There Be Light

McGinnis Center Block Representatives, Campus Ministry G.E.T.T.O. Reps, and Greek fraternities and sororities will join together on December 8th to light up the area with luminaria.

Luminaria are small, white bags filled with sand that hold a lit candle. These will be placed on the sidewalk throughout the ghetto. You can help with this project by moving your car from the area to "E" lot on this day. Campus Security will not ticket cars in "E" lot that day.

Lock It Up!

The McGinnis Center has put together a few tips that should be checked before the last resident leaves your house. Following just one or two of the guidelines will decrease the likelihood of your house becoming a target for a thief:

- Make sure all doors and windows are locked and secured tightly.
- Stop all newspaper and mail deliveries for the period you are away.
- Leave several lights on inside your house. Also leave the porch light on. (Free porch light bulbs are available at the McGinnis Center.)
- Make the house look lived in. Keep drapes and blinds partially open.
- Engrave all your valuables left behind, then store them in a closet.
- Complete the enclosed form and return it to the McGinnis Center prior to your departure.

DECEMBER SPOTLIGHT

“TAKING A CHANCE”

By: Angie Ganster

After Betty Lemke's divorce in 1968, she took a chance and started her own costume business. She worked in her home because her two children were still young. Her shoestring business, and lifelong dream, opened on Halloween in 1968 and brought in \$119 over the original investment. Betty, now the owner of Mad Hatter on Brown Street, knew this wasn't much, but her strong will urged her to expand and grow. It did. Soon the business was so successful that the neighbors complained of all the cars in the street.

The business was soon too big for her home. She first moved it into a commercial location on North Main Street in a three-room apartment. The costume store grew so rapidly that Betty moved to a larger building on Wyoming Street. This was Betty's introduction to the University of Dayton. In 1977, she moved to the present location on Brown Street

A good business is always backed by a good mind. Although Betty doesn't have a college degree, she believes she has a college education through experience. After graduating from high school in Missouri, she was a retail seller in California. Soon after, she took a chance to be a buyer. But her heart took over and she got married and had children. Her training in California gave her enough experience to start, own, and run her own business, the Mad Hatter. Betty celebrated her 20th Halloween anniversary in the costume business this past October.

In 1975, Betty bought the House of Magic on Brown Street. Her husband runs it and they share stock between the stores to supplement each other.

People wonder how a costume business can do so well. The three busiest times are Halloween, Christmas, and Easter. Betty said they are still busy year round due to advertising agencies, modeling agencies, churches, and schools. Betty found a niche in the Dayton market that people wanted and filled it.

Betty, the president of Brown Street Business Association, sees many opportunities for Brown Street and the University area. "I feel Brown Street is a showcase for Dayton," Betty said. "Look at all the opportunities for businesses." She pointed out the assets Dayton already has which aren't promoted enough: NCR, the historical Woodlawn Cemetery and Miami Valley Hospital.

"I want people to look up at Brown Street, not down," Betty said. "We are determined to accomplish this." When the Brown Street Business Organization started in 1981, Betty took a chance to improve Brown Street. She started as Treasurer and then was elected Vice President before she became President. She had to take this chance because she felt Brown Street could be improved when she first moved there. The organization's goal is to improve the area running from Irving Avenue to Buckeye Street.

Since her presidency, she organized a marketing group to seek businesses they'd like to bring to the area. "This marketing idea is a must," Betty said. She is extremely proud of the Brown Street area and hopes for shops to open that are student-oriented.

At first she had a bad impression of UD students. "They were too rowdy and undisciplined," Betty said. "They've changed completely and are dignified, proud of the area, and treat Brown Street businesses with respect.

Future businesses Betty thinks would be helpful for students include: a pharmacy, bank, ice cream shop, bookstore, vintage clothing shop, bakery, clothing stores, gift shops, and a comedy club. She doesn't want Brown Street to be "a ghetto with bars." She wants nice restaurants and more parking for students and the city.

Betty has seen UD's Environmental Design Plan and believes a new University of Dayton entrance will be the beginning of a better Brown Street area. The entrance will be an identification sign that this is a University and a student-oriented area.

Betty's "chance taking" and strong will brought her success. She never thought a small hometown shoestring business could make her the businesswoman she is today.

Greek Happenings

- Greeks light up the ghetto—December 8 at noon at the McGinnis Center.
- Officer's Brunch—Presidents, Vice-Presidents, and Council Reps—December 10, Virginia W. Kettering, 11:30 a.m. Please R.S.V.P. to Greek Life Office.
- Newly initiated rosters are due immediately.
- Please turn in Community Service Forms.
- Remember rush starts January 8 through January 22. Formal rushes are January 21 and 22.
- Rush Open Houses are January 8. Fraternity Open House is in Virginia W. Kettering—Time TBA. Sorority Open House is in O'Leary Auditorium from 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.
- The Office of Greek Life would like to thank you for your support this semester and wishes you a happy and healthy holiday season.

Join in the Christmas Spirit and win \$\$\$

All houses in the UD neighborhood are invited to join in the Christmas spirit by decorating the outside of their house. On December 6 at 6:00 p.m. all houses entered in the contest will be judged. The winning house will be awarded \$100 for their efforts. Second prize is \$50.

You may want to pick up decorations while at home for Thanksgiving. Now is your chance to help make the area look festive for Christmas and win \$\$\$.

To enter, fill out the entry form below and return it to the McGinnis Center by December 5. This event is sponsored by McGinnis Center Block Representatives.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING CONTEST

ADDRESS _____

NAMES _____

PHONE NO. _____

**Have a safe and happy holiday.
Best wishes December graduates from the
Office of Student Development.**

Upcoming Events

December

- 8 Christmas on Campus (No Classes)
- 9 Study Day (No Classes)
- 10 Exams for Saturday classes.
- 12-16 Exams
- 17 Commencement, UD Arena, 10:00 a.m.
- 25 Christmas Day

January

- 1 Happy New Year!
- 4 Classes begin—8:00 a.m.
- 9 Law classes begin.

The McGinnis Center will have extended hours beginning December 5 through December 15. It will remain open until 2:00 a.m. on Sunday through Thursday. It will be open Friday and Saturday until 1:00 a.m. These extended hours are for the purpose of studying during finals.

Mass is celebrated at the McGinnis Center every Sunday at 9:00 p.m. If you would like to assist with Mass in some way, contact Father Jerry Chinchar at 229-2825.

Aerobics are being held at the McGinnis Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. It is free for all students.

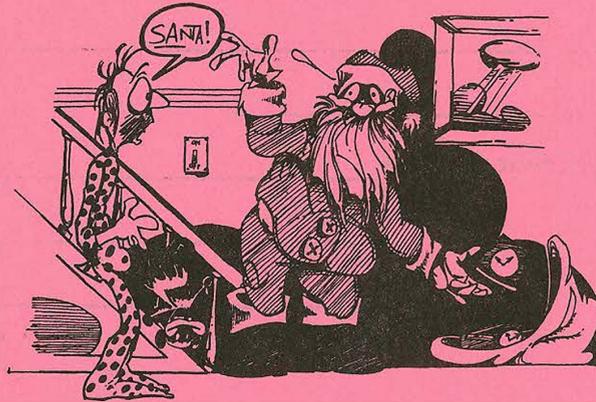
Block Talk is published monthly during the academic year by the McGinnis Center Office of Community Relations, 301 Lowes Street, Dayton, Ohio 45409, 229-2047 or 2531. The McGinnis Center and Student Development Staff welcome your comments regarding the newsletter.

Judy Raines
Coordinator, McGinnis Center

Joseph Belle
Assistant Dean of Students

Clyde Wisch
Associate Dean of Students

DON'T LET THE "HOLIDAY SPIRIT" RIP YOU OFF



Help the Campus Police and Dayton Police protect you against thefts: Take a few minutes to better secure your valuables.

As you know, during the Christmas Holiday, the off-campus area has few or no student residents. This is an invitation to burglars and thieves.

In the past we have experienced burglaries during Christmas break due to the residents not taking a few minutes to secure their valuables and houses. By following the precautions listed below, you can better secure your valuables, and also assist the Dayton Police and Campus police in patrolling the off-campus area.

1. Turn on all front and back porch lights.
* Porch light bulbs can be obtained from the McGinnis Center.
2. Leave all blinds and window shades open.
3. Leave an inside light on, preferably in a hallway.
4. Lock all doors and windows (use window pins).
* Window pins may be obtained from the McGinnis Center.
5. Place all valuables left in the house out of view; use closets or upstairs attics.
6. Stop all deliveries, or have a friend pick up newspapers, mail, etc. on a daily basis.
7. Fill out the form on the reverse side and return it to the McGinnis Center (301 Lowes) before you leave.

Thank you for your cooperation and have a safe and fun-filled Christmas Holiday!!!!

Dayton Police Central
Crime Prevention Unit

University of Dayton Police
Crime Prevention Unit

Christmas Break 1988

Address _____

Phone _____

Residents Names _____

Any Authorized persons with access:

Name _____ Phone _____

Purpose _____

In Case of Emergency, Contact: _____

Phone: _____

Last Person to Leave: _____

Date and Time: _____

First Person to Arrive: _____

Date and Time: _____

Area where lights are on: _____

Any Problems in Securing the House: _____

**** Light bulbs and window pins may be obtained at the McGinnis Center
(301 Lowes St.)