

# Christmas greetings to all readers

This will be the last column before Christmas Day. I was wanting to make it a joyful Christmas greeting to all of the readers of the paper and my column. But I'm writing this with a sad heart as I was notified of the death of Mac Been early on Friday. He was my neighbor's, the McClung's, father and grandfather.

The irony of it all is the fact that he was showing some major improvements. He was able to be up and doing a bit of walking. I visited him briefly last Monday evening when I went with Laura McClung, his daughter, to the hospital.

He seemed to know who I was and even said a few words to me. He was very tired as they had walked him late in the afternoon. He was up and fed himself and was ready for the sandman. I didn't stay but a few minutes, but Laura was with him for about an hour.

Each day he seemed to be showing improvement and the family was starting to make plans to get him transferred to Goodland. Now it is all over. Such a sad thing to happen just days before Christmas. My deepest sympathy to Nila, Laura and family and Kent and family, along with Mac's brothers and sisters. His service was to be held at 10:30 a.m. Monday at the United Methodist Church.

My joy is just a mite dulled, but I'll try to do what I had in mind. My friend, Leila Sturrock, spent a couple of weeks at Wheat Ridge Acres Assisted Living Center while her family members were gone. During that time, she got a card with a poem that her niece from Bazine had written to her. She wanted me to share the poem with you readers, so here goes.



jan  
zwetzig

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## A Christmas Poem

Christmas is near and I'm feeling quite blue

I can't think of a poem to write for you

I put up the lights and decorated the tree

But still the words won't come to me.

The Santa Claus candle I put in its place

But my empty mind was still the case

I got out the reindeer and hung up my sock

I think I've been stricken with writer's block.

Hearing "White Christmas" might just do the trick

But it didn't work and it makes me sick

Christmas is something worth writing about

But now my mind is filled with doubt.

I got out my Bible and started to read

There in Luke was all that I'd need

It's not about Santa, lights or reindeer

It's about the night that God came near.

God threw open the heavens to all the earth

Angelic voices proclaimed Christ's birth

Fulfilled prophecy will be my reason

For writing my poem this holiday season.

by Gayle Antenen

I really needed to write this poem to help clear the

cobwebs out of my mind. It not only gives the reason for the season, but maybe it will help us all to understand the reason for Mac's death.

Birthdays this week include Terry and Marilyn Imel, Lucille Nash, a friend, and Mary Brady. Happy birthday to these plus any others who will be having one before Christmas. My friend, Mary Kay Brown of Casper, Wyo., will also be having one around the holiday. She and Dorothy, my late sister, used to discuss the disadvantage of a birthday so close to Dec. 25.

I remember Dorothy was always trying to guess which package had the best gift in it, as mom would always have a big one and a little one. How I don't know, but she never got the better one on her birthday. She had to wait for Christmas.

Enough remembering of the past, as it only makes me very sad and tearful. One anniversary that I know of is that of Richard and Sidney Rasure. Best wishes to them and any others I'm not aware of.

My mood continues to get more and more tearful, so I will close with holiday wishes to one and all.

May the joys of the season fill you hearts with love that can be shared with one another. I'll have just one more column in 2000. Until next week, take care, stay warm and bring a smile and a little love into the heart and face of someone less fortunate.

# Commission buys ad in visitors guide

CITY, from Page 1

Chamber office and anywhere else where people might be likely to pick up a copy, as well as being distributed in the paper.

"I don't know why the people who live here would need a copy in their paper," said Commissioner Rick Billinger.

Ron Harding, executive director of the Goodland Chamber of Commerce and the visitor's bureau, explained that he was hoping the people who lived here would be the best sales people for the area.

"When people come to visit you," he said, "I would hope you would show them the guide."

He said the *Daily News* had offered to distribute the guide for free with their papers.

The city decided to buy an ad on the inside of the guide with color for \$560. Commissioner Curtis Hurd voted against it, saying if the commission was willing to pay \$560 for the ad, why not spend \$140 more to get an ad on the

back page where it would be more visible.

Commissioners approved a home occupation/special use permit for Kathy Collins for her home baking business at 1405 Caldwell Ave., with Hurd voting against the permit.

Hurd said that at the last meeting the commission wouldn't pass the incentive proposal the Chamber presented for a new grocery store, or any new business, because it is an unfair advantage to the new businesses over the existing ones.

The proposal would have given a discount on new businesses utility bills, with the discount amount dependent on how many people the business employed.

Hurd said granting a home occupation permit is doing the same thing.

"My feelings on that is everyone has to make a living," said Mayor Lutters — who had argued against the incentive proposal because he thought it would create unfair competition for existing stores.

Commissioners also:

- Approved a contract with John Collett, president of Butterfly Aviation Inc., for the running fixed base operation at the airport.

- Appointed Danny Barker to the airport board to fill the position left open when Kevin Roth resigned after taking a position at the airport which he thought would create a conflict of interest.

- Approved beer license renewals for Pizza Hut, China Gardens, Gambino's Pizza, Q's Inc., Bowladium and Safari Steak House.

- Approved carry-out beer license renewals for Travel Shoppe, Presto Convenience Store, Wal-Mart, Metro Oil, Cowboy Loop, and Vista Stores (Coastal Mart).

- Renewed a contract with the Sixty Plus Club to provide drivers for their bus.

- Heard from Pickman about rescheduling the next meeting for Tuesday, Jan. 2, since their regular meeting would have fallen on New Year's Day.

# New noise law might interfere with races

FAIR, from Page 1

to call the city about changing the name on the account.

He also gave the commissioners the proposed dates for the stock car races next year. They want to try to start the races at 6:30 p.m., instead of 7 p.m., to try to get more drivers from the Central Time zone.

Frankenfeld asked if the new noise ordinance passed by the city would have an affect on the races. The ordinance calls for quiet in the city limits during 11 p.m. to 7 a.m.

Snethen said it wasn't a problem on the one-day races, but would be on the two-day races. He said the association would like to extend the time to midnight.

Frankenfeld said he would need to talk to the city about that because the fairgrounds are in the city limits.

Snethen said the racing association was having a problem with the speaker system in the grandstand area. He said people in the grandstands complain that they can't hear the announcer.

He asked if it was something that they needed to get and take down.

"Is this really old equipment," Frankenfeld asked.

Snethen said the association had installed new wiring to the speakers.

"Would you be willing to put some money into this, if we upgrade?" Rasure asked. Snethen said he would need to check with the rest of the board members.

"Who else really uses the PA?" Tiede asked.

McKnight said it is used during the fair for other events.

Frankenfeld said that maybe the commissioners would need to look at it.

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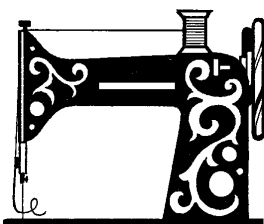
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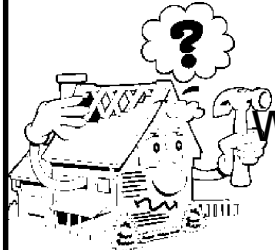
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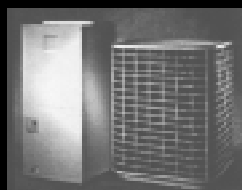
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