

R. Sherwood Nelson  
Route 18 Box 208  
Helotes, Texas 78023

9/76

# HELOTES ECHO

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HELOTES, BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS — 10 CENTS PER COPY

DECEMBER 19, 1975

## Person-to-Person



Mrs. Grace Posey, 92, a longtime Helotes resident and the mother of Mrs. Gwen O'Hara, has suffered a broken hip. She is in Southern Manor Nursing Home. Mrs. Posey is the only remaining member of a set of identical girl triplets. Her friends here wish her progress in recovering from her recent injury.

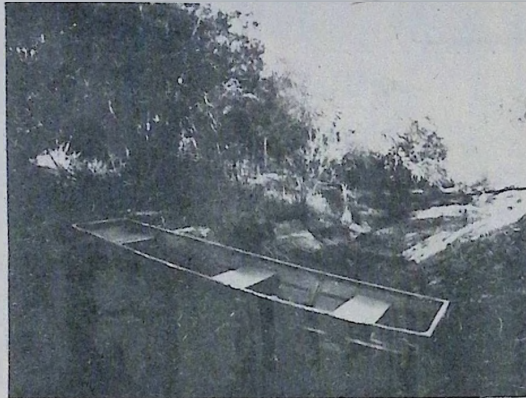
Mr. and Mrs. Leo McKinney from Madison, South Dakota, recently arrived here to visit their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. William Mansfield of Sunset Road in San Antonio. They are staying in the Helotes area during their visit—as they find this party of Texas lovely country. They say also that they are small-town people and like the friendly people here.

Mrs. Jack Doyle of Grey Forest had as her co-hostess, Mrs. Gus Schnabel, for a luncheon meeting of the Terrace Garden Club at Mrs. Doyle's home which was decorated for Christmas. The ladies wore Bi-Centennial costumes for the occasion.

Eddie and Gloria Anderson's Christmas letter describes their 11,500-mile trip to Alaska and back last summer in their Ford Bronco. They were gone five weeks—and slept 25 of the nights in their deluxe tent complete with shower and bathroom. It's a delightful account of the trip—and so typical of these two really great citizens.

Minnie Bennett is retiring this week—after working nearly two decades at Floore Country Store and nearly another decade at Ted's Hickory Pit. But Minnie had her 62nd birthday last week and now begins a much-deserved retirement. The first thing she is going to do, she said, is give her house in Grey Forest a good cleaning. Then she's going fishing. We'll all miss Minnie at Ted's, but we're happy that she is going to be doing just whatever she wants to do.

## Grey Forest Lake Mysteriously Drained



A beached boat—which once stood in the exact spot anchored on the famed fishing lake of Grey Forest—is mute testimony to the absence of the once fresh spring-fed waters. Oldtimers have never seen the lake empty in more than forty years before. The fish that didn't die managed to get downstream or were caught by those who saw their plight.



The Roosevelt dam—which was built by WPA labor during the Depression and finished by 1932—backs up the Helotes Creek Lake in Grey Forest which was given the name "12-Foot" by oldtimers. The concrete dam was estimated to be 40 feet tall when built. This is not the swimming pool—but its larger mate—the fishing pond. Together they lured settlers to the Scenic Loop Playground in the 30's, 40's and 50's.

## UTSA

### Studies Salado Artifacts

In 1973, when San Antonio's city workers were laying a sewer line along north Salado Creek, prehistoric relics were turned up—evidence indicating human occupation in the area dating back to 6000 B.C.

UTSA anthropology undergraduates, working with graduate students Thomas Kelly and Gene Griffin, are investigating artifacts excavated from the site.

Dr. Thomas R. Hester, UTSA associate professor of anthropology and director of the University's Center for Archaeological research, is supervising the study.

Hester believes the site was once inhabited by ancestors of the Coahuiltecan or Tonkawa Indians and may have been occupied over a period of several thousand years.

The top three or four feet of excavation reveals artifacts from around 2000 B.C. to 500 A.D., Hester said. Below this level artifacts have been found which indicate occupation from 4000 to 6000 B.C.

"The artifacts at this site represent a period we know very little about," Hester related.

The different periods of occupation can be determined by the change in design of projectile

points used by the inhabitants for hunting and as weapons, Hester explained.

The local prehistoric peoples were small groups of seminomadic hunting and gathering Indians who lived in camp sites along the banks of rivers and streams in South Texas and Northeastern Mexico. They can be traced back more than 10,000 years.

The native people at the time of historic contact—Coahuiltecan and Tonkawas—became extinct under Spanish civilization during the 1700's.

Hester stated that Salado Creek was once a flowing stream with plenty of fish, wildlife and foliage along its banks. The stream is believed to have been spring-fed from a head water above Camp Bullis, Northeast of the UTSA campus.

Artifacts at the Salado Creek site include chipped stone debris, cutting and scraping tools, projectile points and other instruments used by these ancient people.

Through analysis of the flint flakes, the UTSA students hope to find how the stone tools were made and how these methods changed through time. They will also investigate the purpose of the site which may have been used for



Only a stream of the creek runs over the piled up silt in the lakebed Who opened the dam? Officials of the Playground Club say that they did not know, and that they have no plans at the moment to close the dam and let it fill up the lake until major rains come.

different functions at different times.

"At certain periods it may have served as a camping locality," Hester observed. "At other times it could have been a flint working site, or may have served as a hunting camp or butchering site."

This site is not the oldest archaeological site excavated in the area, however the oldest is near St. Mary's Hall where materials have been uncovered indicating

human occupation dating back to about 9,000 B.C.

The excavation includes part of what is known to be a much larger site. The archaeological deposits go down more than 13 feet.

"From this research we expect to learn more about the culture history of Salado Creek," Hester related.

The archaeological project will be completed this Spring, he added. The findings will be published by the UTSA Center.

# Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



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## Grange Youth To Have Party

Leon Valley Grange Hall will be the place for all Grange youth and their guests for a Christmas party on Saturday, Dec. 27, beginning at 8 p.m. Mrs. Barbara Pizel, youth chairman, and her daughter Molly are in charge of the arrangements.

Molly Pizel is Youth Representative to the State Youth meetings. She and her family attended the State youth meeting recently held in Blanco. Also attending were State Master James Kiles and Mrs. Kiles, who recently returned from Ohio, where they attended the National Grange session. They brought back news that Mrs. Flo Carter, State Women's Activity Chairman, placed third in the Nation with her annual report.

Kiles stated that 637 resolutions were considered by the National delegates. The agriculture committee to which he was assigned had 167 resolutions to

work. All the resolutions submitted by Texas were adopted.

Members of the Leon Valley Grange held their Christmas party on Dec. 18. A gift exchange was among the entertainment for the evening.

Twelve members plan to attend the all-day Leaders' Workshop which will be held at Cibolo, Texas, on Jan. 3.

Plans are being made for a

chartered bus to Arkansas in March for the Tri-State Grange Conference. Ten Leon Valley Grange members are making plans for the trip.

Deadline for recipes for the Texas State Cookbook is January 3.

Members are busy working on the National Grange quilt contest co-sponsored by Poly-Fil products by Fairfield. The contest will close

on May 30, 1976. There are three classes, ages 5 through 14; ages 15 through 21 and Class C for ages 22 and over.

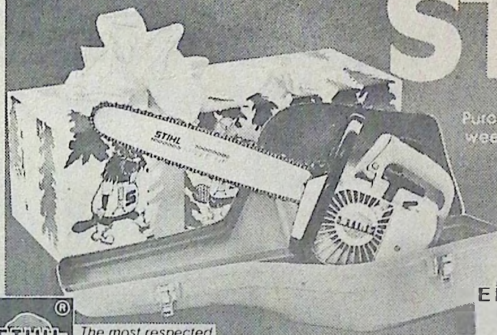
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## Perkins - Brock Marry In Austin

St. Ignatius Catholic Church in Austin was the setting for the recent marriage of Miss Susan Kaye Brock, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Brock of Austin, to John Douglas Perkins, son of Mrs. Douglas S. Perkins of San Antonio and the late Mr. Perkins, well-known journalism teacher at Marshall High School here.

The bridegroom is also the nephew of Mr. and Mrs. Charles O. Brown, Jr. of Helotes, and of Mrs. Drusilla Perkins Kazen who attended from here.

The Rev. Peter Lodgson, pastor of St. Ignatius Church, officiated at the evening nuptial service which took place, Saturday, December 6.

The bride, given in marriage by her father, wore a Victorian satin brocade gown—designed by Priscilla of Boston—with a pearl encrusted lace overlay and petal lace sleeves. The cathedral train of her gown was softened by her illusion veil draped from a Juliet cap. She carried a bouquet of

gardenia, stephanotis and fern.

The bride's twin sister, Miss Donna Brock of Austin, was maid of honor. She and the other attendants wore matching gowns of beige chiffon accented with lime green. Matrons of honor were Mrs. Larry Collier, also sister of the bride, and Mrs. Robert Delaney, both of Austin. Each bridal attendant carried a floral cascade of lime-green spider mums and pheasant feathers.

Junior bridesmaids were Sherry and Shelly Whitehurst, twin nieces of the bridegroom. They wore lime green empire gowns enhanced with antique beige lace and brown velvet bows. Both are from San Antonio.

The bride's mother chose a gown of chocolate brown crepe with a chiffon butterfly cape for the occasion, and the bridegroom's mother wore a light brown empire-styled gown with a beige panel accented by topaz stones.

Serving as best man was Steve Perkins, a University of Texas at Austin student, younger brother of the bridegroom. Groomsmen were David Weynand of San Antonio and Manuel Pena of Austin. Ushers included Richard Perkins, older brother of the bridegroom of Corpus Christi, and Larry Collier of Austin and Joe Jennings of Dallas.

Approximately 200 persons attended the wedding ceremony and the reception which followed in the Embassy Room of the Sheraton Crest Inn in Austin. Assisting at the reception hosted by the bride's parents were Mrs. Joe Jennings of Dallas, Mrs. Larry Beggs of Plano, and Miss Cindy Whitehurst and Miss Julie Whitehurst, both of San Antonio. Guests included relatives and friends from throughout Texas.

The bride, who was employed by the Texas Railroad Commission at the time of her marriage, is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Brock of Eastland and the late Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Wood, also of Eastland.

The bridegroom is grandson of Mrs. Robert Runyon of Brownsville who attended the ceremony, and of the late Mr. Runyon, former Brownsville mayor. The groom is also grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Julien Perkins of San Antonio and of Sioux City, Iowa, where Mr. Perkins was an editor and publisher of the Sioux City Journal, a daily founded by the bridegroom's great-grandfather, George Douglas Perkins.

The bridegroom is a graduate of Antonian High School of San

Antonio and of The University of Texas at Austin with a bachelor of journalism degree awarded in 1974. While a senior at the University, he was also capitol correspondent for the ECHO. He is employed by the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association as field editor for Cattleman's Magazine, with headquarters in Fort Worth. Following a wedding trip to Ruidoso, New Mexico, the couple will reside in Fort Worth, Texas.

## Christmas Blessings



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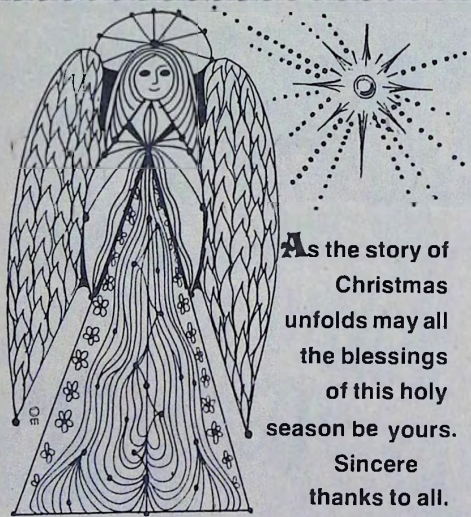
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Merry Christmas Happy New Year



## HELOTES ECHO

"Ye shall know the Truth"  
VOLUME X, NUMBER 24  
DECEMBER 19, 1975

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Our Lady of Guadalupe Church was the setting for the age-old observance of the Patron of the America's feast day on December 12. Shown here with Father Trawalter, pastor, center second row, at the concelebrated mass are six of the 10 little girls who carried flowers and the young boy—holding the flowers—this year, Larry Montez—representing Juan Diego. The Church was opened in Helotes on December 12, 1943, and the ceremony is observed annually marking the appearance of the Virgin in Mexico in the 17th century to Indian Juan Diego.



Shown at the Eagle Award Ceremony of Troop 401 held recently at Helotes Hills Methodist Church are, left to right, front row, Donald Gorden, advancement chairman; Nelson Wolff, district chairman and guest speaker; Paul Allen, Eagle Scout; and far right, Jim Wilson, committeeman.

In the back row, also left to right, Charles Beckmann, committee chairman; Fred Montez, assistant scoutmaster; and Bob Allen, father of the newly inducted Eagle Scout. Others taking part in the ceremony also included James Reed, committeeman, and Bill Barker, scoutmaster.

### Paul Allen Receives Eagle Scout Award

At the Troop 401 Eagle Award Ceremony held recently at the Helotes Hills Methodist Church, Paul Wayne Allen received the rank of Eagle Scout with appropriate ceremonies.

Paul is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Allen of Lazy F Trail here

In keeping with tradition, the Eagle Scout award was presented by his mother who pinned it on her son. The candidate received a miniature pin to present to his mother, also.

Opening ceremonies were conducted by Michael Griffith, senior patrol leader, followed by

invocation offered by Rev. Collin Furr, pastor of the Methodist Church.

After introductions by Fred Montez, assistant scoutmaster, and Charles Beckmann, committeeman, progress awards were given by Don Gorden. Assistant Scoutmaster Montez then conducted the Scout investiture.

Trail of the Eagle included: Scout, Larry Montez; Tenderfoot, James Reed; Second Class, Jeff Widner; First Class, Troy Hartmann; Star, Eric Beckmann; Life, David Beckmann; and Eagle, Russell Wilson.

Honor escorts were Eagle Scouts Russell Wilson and Michael Griffith.

Guest speaker was Nelson Wolff, chairman of District One, who was introduced by Committee Chairman Charles Beckmann.

Citation of the Candidate was given by James Reed, senior committeeman.

Following the Eagle charge and presentation by James Wilson, committeeman, the retiring of the colors by Honor Guard Jeff Widner and Mike Whelan com-

pleted the ceremony.

Refreshments were then served in the fellowship hall by a committee including Mrs. Jean Arndt, Debra Smoot, and Jeanne Allen.

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To Plan Festival '76



Three-and-four-year-olds now go to high school daily.

Two little ones attending the Day Care facilities at Holmes High School are enjoying a snack in a creative environment which also gives high school students an opportunity to learn Child Care, under accredited supervisors. The little ones were in Christmas plays before the holidays, also.



In December, Textbook Author Vernal Hildebrand, of Michigan State University, toured the Holmes Day Care Center, and plans to write about it in a forthcoming book.

Henry Brauchle, the ECHO's meteorologist, said November, 1975 was the driest November in the history of Helotes according to his records that go back 90 years. And December was beginning to look like it would be about as dry until a good shower fell Monday night.

## Trail Riders Plan For 1976

Plans are underway for the 1976 Cowboy Capitol Trail Ride to celebrate the opening of the San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo February 13-22, 1976.

The 7th Annual Cowboy Capitol Trail Ride will leave Bandera at 9 a.m. Tuesday, February 10th, 1976, and horsemen and trail riders are invited to join the ride arriving in San Antonio at the Joe Freeman Coliseum February 12th, 1976. The 1976 Bicentennial Year ride promises to be the best ever.

A Trail Queen will be selected to represent the Cowboy Capitol Riders along the trail and at the San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo and in the Parade. Young ladies eligible to be nominated for Queen should be in high school and have had some experience in horseback riding. She should be able to participate in the ride on a partial or complete schedule and

to be present for special activities in San Antonio February 12th and 13th.

The Cowboy Capitol Riders are invited to take part in a "Publicity Trail Ride" planned for January 17th in San Antonio sponsored by the San Antonio Livestock Show Trail Riders Association. More details on this event later.

A local ride for the kick off at the Cowboy Capitol Trail is planned for January 31st starting at Twin Elm Ranch in Bandera. Applications for the 1976 ride will be mailed out soon. For information on the ride and for applications please write Cowboy Capitol Trail Ride, Frank R. Anderwald, Trail Boss, Box 117, Bandera, Texas, or Call 796-3628.

The Cowboy Capitol Trail Ride is a member of the San Antonio Livestock Show Trail Riders Association and is one of the 9 official trail rides of the San Antonio Livestock Show. The Trail Rides, official goodwill ambassadors of the Stock Show, promote the Livestock Show and Rodeo and the towns which they represent and the other communities they ride through.

The Helotes area is always a stopping point for the Cowboy Capitol Trail and we look forward to having all our friends from the Helotes, Grey Forest, San Geronimo, and North San Antonio communities with the trail in 1976.

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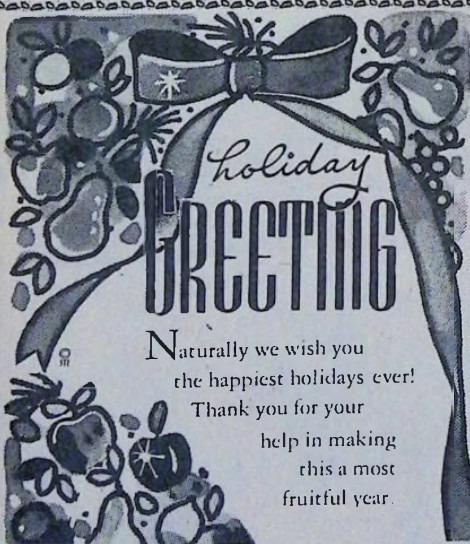


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UTSA President Peter T. Flawn has appointed Dr. Marjorie Smelstor, S. C., assistant professor in the division of English, classics and philosophy, as chairperson of the UTSA Advisory Council on Equal Opportunity.

Dr. Smelstor will serve as UTSA's equal employment officer and the University's liaison with

Sciences, \$45,000; Dr. Herbert Silber, assistant professor of inorganic chemistry, \$45,000; Dr. M. (Mike) Synek, associate professor of chemical physics, \$48,000; and Dr. Philip L. Stotter, associate professor of chemistry, \$42,000.

Helotes Artist Nora Nelson, not only took part in the Helotes Art Guild's successful annual sale this month but also was the December artist chosen to hang 20 of her pictures at the San Antonio Savings and Loan in Central Park Mall. Her work includes also batik, woodblock prints, and water colors. And she favors abstracts, although she also likes missions.

Four UTSA professors recently received grants totaling more than \$180,000 from The Robert A. Welch Foundation. They are: Dr. B. S. Thyagarajan, director of the Division of Earth and Physical

## LOST AND FOUND

Lost—Yellow striped Cat, yellow eyes. Has flea collar and bell. Last seen on fence behind Helotes Car Wash, evening of Dec. 7. Small reward. 695-3308.

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## O'Hara Opens Car Sales Lot

Mike O'Hara well-known as an automobile sales manager in this area, has opened a sales office—Highland Auto Sales No. 2—in Helotes handling various makes and models of new and used cars. His lot is located at 14743 Bandera Road in downtown Helotes. He is

affiliated with Highland Auto Sales in San Antonio on Austin Highway.

O'Hara was formerly sales manager for automobile companies in Boerne and San Antonio, and has many past customers from Helotes, Pipe Creek, Bandera, Leon Valley and Leon Springs, who can consult him regarding the type car they wish to buy. He says also that he will offer top dollar for used cars.

Mike has recently undergone surgery, but is making excellent recovery, and he says he's ready to go to work. An experienced mechanic also, he can spot Christmas bargains for his customers. Having lived here for 20 years, he knows the value of dependable transportation. Some good buys are on the lot at this time, he says.

The community is pleased to have Mike O'Hara as a local businessman as well as long-time resident. He and Mrs. O'Hara live nearby and welcome new as well as old friends.

**SAY YOU SAW IT  
IN THE ECHO!**

## Christmas Spirit Is Same

In Zambia they say Chaka Chitya To Filipinos it's Maligayang Pasko. The Germans say Frohliche Weihnachten, and in French it's Joyeux Noel.

Here in the U. S. we know it better as... what else but Merry Christmas?

The Austrians have their Klaus and Krampos, while Belgians are familiar with Black Peter. For Spaniards, there's San Nicolas, and in France he's Pere Noel, whom the Scottish know by the name Father Christmas.

Of course, we Americans are visited by... who else but Santa Claus?

Christmas is celebrated in different ways and even at different times in countries around the globe.

For instance, in Venezuela streets are blocked off during the evening beginning in mid-December and youths roller skate until the wee hours.

And in most Spanish-speaking countries, the Three Kings day, Jan. 6, is the day of traditional gift giving, while Dec. 25 retains a primarily religious significance.

In the East African nation of Zambia, there is no Santa Claus, but there are Christmas trees, presents and cards. The traditions are very similar to those in America, but the gifts don't come from Santa Claus. Whenever a baby is born, people give gifts to the mother, so the Zambians exchange gifts on the day of Christ's birth.

Another Venezuelan custom is the "Aguinaldo," where small groups playing typical South American musical instruments pass from house to house caroling.

In Thailand, New Year's Day—celebrated Aug. 13—is a much bigger holiday than Christmas. Different churches in Thailand celebrate Christmas on different dates in December, and this choice of dates even extends to various groups within a church.

Probably providing the greatest outside influence in San Antonio are the customs of Mexico, where both Dec. 25 and Jan. 6 are special days.

The influence of the U. S. has changed things some, though in the old days Dec. 25 was

religious—there were no gifts, etc. Now gifts are exchanged on Christmas, and Jan. 6 is the day they usually have a small dinner and eat the "Rosca de Reyes" (Cake of Kings).

The cake is baked with a tiny infant Christ figure lodged somewhere inside. When the slices are cut, the person who gets the figure is, by tradition, required to throw a party in March.

Another longtime Mexican custom is the procession of singers known as the "posada." Groups wander through a neighborhood singing a traditional Catholic song, searching for a place to stay—just as Mary and Joseph did nearly 2,000 years ago.

### NOTICE

In order to give our staff more holiday time, we will publish the Echo in January on the second and fourth Fridays. We shall resume our regular schedule of the first and third Fridays each month, in February.



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Happy Holidays as  
Christmas lights  
the world! Thanks all.

From  
**THE TERRY FAMILY**  
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**Merry Christmas**

**and Happy New Year**  
**We'll Be Open**

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Fresh from Nashville—  
DARRELL MC CALL—a recent  
resident of Helotes and big  
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annual New Year's Eve dance  
party at Floore Country Store,  
Dec. 31.

McCall is known for his ability to  
entertain—and has records on the  
C&W top listings which include  
"Face to the Wall," "I'll Break  
Out Tonight," "Cold Beer Signs,"  
and "Rainbow at Midnight."  
Darrell has many personal friends  
here as well. It should be a big  
South Texas night in Helotes for  
those seeing in the Bi-Centennial  
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Seasons

*Greetings*



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the festive New Year

**NEW YEAR'S EVE**  
**PARTY AND DANCE**

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 31, 9 P.M. TO 2 A.M.

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**GREETINGS**

As hills and valleys echo the wonderful sounds of  
Christmas, they echo too, our sincere gratitude  
for your warm and valued friendship.

Happy holidays!

**AT THE HELOTES ECHO**