



In friendship and in good health,
may the days ahead bring to you
and yours a word of peace and
abundant happiness.

Marvin's In Altair

Gladys and Marvin Tyler

Christmas Get-Together
Christmas Day guests of
Mr. and Mrs. E. H.
Brethaupt were Mr. and
Mrs. W. E. Taylor of
Weimar; Mr. and Mrs. Jerry
Henke, Kevin and Tanya of
Mission; Billy Brethaupt and
Robbie Stauffer of Rockdale;
Mr. and Mrs. Billy Taylor,
Daphne and Russell of
Rockdale; Mr. and Mrs. Gus
Seaholm and Karl and Mr. and
Mrs. Ralph Gertson, Jr.,
Sunny and Ralphie of this
city.

Visitors Here
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Shaver
and son, Jack Garrett, of
Oklahoma City, Okla. left
Monday morning for their
home following a Christmas
holiday visit here with his
parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack
Shaver.

Miss Nelynn Bedingfield of
Shreveport, Louisiana and
Mrs. Bernice Roth of King of
Prussia, Pennsylvania ar-
rived Monday for a visit with
their sister and Mr. Shaver.
Mrs. Jack Shaver was able
to return home from Her-
mann Hospital in Houston on
Tuesday of last week follow-
ing surgery on Wednesday,
Dec. 9 and is getting along
nicely.

[Editor's Note: This story
about Charles P. Boggess
experiences in the Battle of
the Bulge 37 years ago
appeared in the Sat., Dec. 26
issue of the Austin American-
Statesman. It was written by
Cheryl Coggins of the
American-Statesman staff
and is reprinted in this paper
for the information of our
readers. The Charles P.
Boggess family resided here
many years when he was
associated with the former
Farmers Equipment Co.,
later Lake Motors, Inc.]

By Cheryl Coggins
American-Statesman Staff

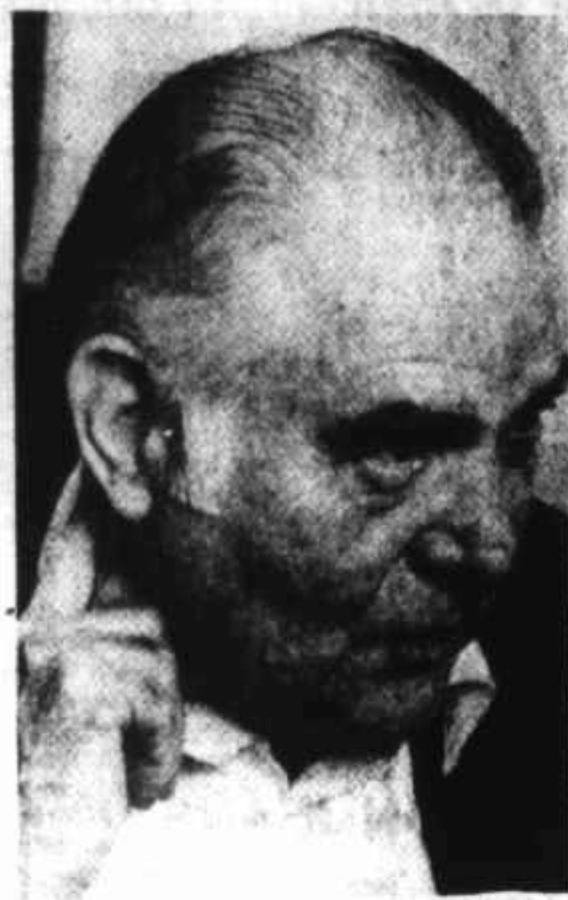
More than half his life has
passed since Charlie Boggess
stormed his way into history
books 37 Christmases ago.

But for 69-year-old Boggess,
who lives in Austin, the
Christmas season still brings
bittersweet memories of a
young American soldier peer-
ing out of a 40-ton tank, the
first Allied vehicle to pene-
trate the German line and
puncture the German line en-
circling Bastogne. The Allied
breakthrough at the tiny
Belgian village is what World
War II documentaries like to
call "the beginning of the
end."

The year was 1944 and that
American soldier was Boggess,
a first lieutenant in
General George Patton's
Third Army.

As commander of a tank
company in the Fourth
Armored Division, Boggess
and his "Cobra King" led the
line of tanks that blasted
their way into Bastogne on
Dec. 26, liberating the town
from the German troops that
had cut it off from food,
ammunition and reinforce-
ments a few days earlier.

By breaking through the
German lines that had
trapped Brig. Gen. Anthony
McGuire's 101st Airborne
Division, Boggess and the
other men in his company
punched a devastating hole in
Hitler's last great offensive of



Charlie Boggess remembers vividly the
Battle of the Bulge of 37 years ago.

Austin American-Statesman Photo

Charlie Boggess Recalls Battle Of The Bulge

Austin Paper's
Story Recounts
Experience In 1944

the war, the Battle of the
Bulge.

Boggess, who was under
the command of Col. Creigh-
ton Abrams, remembers a
desperate situation that re-
quired an unorthodox re-
sponse.

"When we started out,
Abrams had called me up on
his tank. He said, 'Look,
we're going to make a wild
dash. We've had no intelli-
gence on it, and we don't
know anything about the
enemy concentration. We've
just got to get in there,'"
Boggess recalled.

And the nine tanks, which
Boggess lined up one behind
the other in their approach
to the Germans forming a noose
around Bastogne, somehow
bolted through Assenois, a
tiny village 2,000 yards
outside the trapped town.

"We were going up speed,
I said, 'Just keep firing.' We
only had about half a load of
ammunition," he said. "We
couldn't turn around and
see where we were because
there was so much dust and
smoke."

"Three of us (tanks) got
through and then there was
a gap. We did get a lot of fire
out of three little tanks."

After clearing the wild
fight in Assenois, Boggess
looked over a field and
spotted the tank he hoped
was hiding the American
troops that had formed the
defensive line around Bastogne.

It was 4:45 p.m., four days
after the defeat of McGuire
had delivered his famous
"Nuts" response to the
German suggestion of sur-
render.

"There were just foxholes
50 to 60 feet apart with
.30-caliber machine guns
peering out. I could see to
the right and the left and I
could see that every one of the

soldiers had them trained on
me," said Boggess, who had
earned a Silver Star and a
Purple Heart the day before
he was shot in the head and
lost consciousness.

"He said, 'I'm glad to see
you,' but he kind of walked
sideways toward me and
looked at me like this," said
Boggess, looking out the
corner of his eyes. "But I
think they actually knew we
were American soldiers."

That night, medical help,
which had been limited for
the wounded soldiers and
8,500 trapped civilians, rolled
in through the Allied open-
ing.

"The infantry had come
along and chased out both
sides (of the opening).
Ambulances then started
moving thousands of people
out of Bastogne," said
Boggess.

But in addition to freeing
the trapped soldiers and
civilians, the American break-
through had a more long-
term effect on the outcome of
the war in Europe, Boggess
said.

"Bastogne was a hub for
railways and highways," he
said. "They (the Germans)
needed to take it for supply
lines. They were going on
from there to (the Belgian
port at) Antwerp. Bastogne
was their stumbling block."

After the tank company
blasted its mortal hole in
Hitler's final major offensive,
Boggess said some soldiers
tried to celebrate, both for a
Christmas lost and a battle
won.

"I guess with war as
terrible as it is, you do have
some funny things happen,"
said Boggess. "We were
supposed to be in Bastogne
Christmas night. They sent
up a bunch of turkey for
Christmas dinner. That
night came a direct shell on
the company's (turkey) truck."

"The next day you could
see turkey wings, legs, necks
everywhere, all over the
trees. And the truck was
blown to smithereens," he
said.

"There went our turkey
dinner, but we were just so
glad to get in there (Bastogne).
That was enough of a
celebration," he remem-
bered.

Every Christmas season
old Army buddies call and
write Boggess, and the Battle
of Bastogne is always on their
minds, said Boggess' wife,
Gay.

"I don't believe I've ever
had a Christmas in 37 years
where I haven't been asked
to send an account of the
battle to someone," said Mrs.
Boggess. Still, her husband
has never looked at himself
as a hero or a particularly
significant character in his-
torying the war's end, she
said.

As her husband, who won
three Purple Hearts and a
Silver Star before returning
to Austin, explains it: "I just
happened to be in the right

New Year's Day Masses Set At Catholic Churches

The Rev. Father Tom
Hanus, pastor of Our Lady of
Perpetual Help and Our Lady
of Guadalupe Catholic Churches,
announces Masses to be
said for New Year's Day,
Friday, Jan. 1st, a Holy Day
of Obligation.

A Mass is scheduled at 6:00
p.m. on New Year's Eve,
Thursday, Dec. 31st at Perpe-
tual Help Church; and on
New Year's Day, Fri., Jan.
1st, Masses will be said at
9:00 a.m. at Perpetual Help
and at 10:30 a.m. at
Guadalupe Church.

Parish Council Elected
Results were also announ-
ced in the Perpetual Help
parish council election with
Jim Wood, president-elect;
Phyllis Pensick, secretary;
Vernell Kucharka, commu-
nity life committee chair-

person. A commis-
sioning ceremony will be held
at the 9:00 a.m. Mass Jan.
10th in Perpetual Help
Church.

place at the right time at the
right circumstance."

Best wishes
for a year of
much success.

Adolph &
Isabel
Vecera
Eagle Lake

... ringing out our warmest thanks!

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wonderful loyalty.

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Robert Hicks, Owner
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Worship 11 a.m. & 7 p.m.
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County Has 3 Winners In Regional Pecan Show

[By Leroy J. Hajdik,
County Extension Agent
Colorado County had three
winners in the Texas Regional
Pecan Show held recently
in San Antonio.

Frank Koles, Sr. had a first
place entry in the Brake
Class. Brakes are in the
shelling division of the show.
An Odum entry by Law-
rence Loesslin placed second

in its class. The Odoms are an
old line variety and are
shown in the in-shell division
of the show.

C. R. Treney placed second
in the recognized class of
the native division of the
show.

All three of the above
winners reside in the Weimar
area.

Historic Theatre, A Sealy Landmark, Guttured By Fire

Texas Theatre, one of
Sealy's oldest establishments
and in almost continuous
operation since it was built in
1929, was gutted by fire
which began at 8:45 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 16th. It was
opened on December 29, 1929
in a structure built by
Charles O. Krampitz, father
of Frank J. Krampitz, Sr.,
current owner, who began his
operation 52 years ago. Frank
Krampitz is now 88 years of
age.

Sealy Volunteer Fire
Department responded to the
alarm and began immediately
to fight the fire which
reportedly broke out around
a gas heater.

The interior of the theatre
and equipment sustained

extensive damage, and the
roof over approximately 50
percent of the building was
burned and caved in.

Firemen contained the
blaze in the theatre building,
giving protection to adjoining
stores, Levine Brothers on
the right, and J. B. White
Company on the left. Levine's
sustained smoke damage and
some water damage, said
Melvyn Levine Monday
morning. Tom Cockcroft of the
J. B. White Company said his
store had much smoke
damage. Sealy News.

Holiday Guests
Holiday guests of Mr. and
Mrs. Fred R. Frnk were Mr.
and Mrs. J. J. Griggs III and
children, Joseph and Katie,
Lockhart, Mr. and Mrs. Don
Frnk and Jeff Frnk of
Eagle Lake.

Visiting Cousins Here
Daphne Taylor of Rock-
dale is here this week visiting
cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Gus
Seaholm and Karl, and other
relatives.

Each little guest received a
party favor sack including a
coloring book.

On Skating Trip
Mr. and Mrs. Rick Christ of
Eagle Lake and Mr. and
Mrs. Phil Kegler of Needville left
December 26 for a week's
skating trip to Ansel Fire,
New Mexico. The Christ's
daughter, Jennifer, is staying
with her grandparents, Mr.
and Mrs. Alvin Wiess, while
they are away.

Here's a four-folded wish for you...
health, happiness, love and peace.

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New Year!

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New Year holds
many happy
times for you
and yours.

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Hedding and local business
are cordially invited
and welcome.