



Promenade right staff photo by Colin Valentine

Federal marshals seek collector in Dallas false appraisal case

United Press International
DALLAS — Federal marshals were searching Saturday for an antique collector who failed to appear in court for arraignment on fraud charges.

An attorney for Janiece Christner, 64, of Harlingen, said Friday a letter from Christner hinted she would not appear for arraignment before U.S. District Judge Sarah T. Hughes in Dallas.

"I know that this letter will disappoint you," the letter said, "but after seeing the indictments that are certainly false, I feel that I am being persecuted."

"I know that I cannot get a fair trial by the courts and certainly not the press."

Christner was indicted Jan. 26 by a federal grand jury on charges that she gave false appraisals to First Texas Savings

Association in Dallas to obtain loans of more than \$12.5 million in 1977 and 1978.

Federal prosecutors charge Christner, a collector of silver and porcelain art, with obtaining the loans to purchase more antiques and with faking a robbery to help pay off several million dollars in outstanding debts.

Hughes issued a warrant when Christner failed to appear Thursday, but her attorney and federal marshals said they have been unable to locate her.

Police charge that in 1978, Christner, then living in the posh Dallas suburb of Highland Park, faked a robbery at her mansion to collect insurance money on art works. Christner maintained the robbery report was legitimate.

Lloyd's of London, the insur-

er on the art works, sued Christner over the matter. A settlement was made, but Christner would not disclose the terms.

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Dr. Marcin Sar, a Polish political scientist enjoys his first square dance at a Friday night party at the Brazos Center for participants in the Student Conference on National Affairs. His partner was Sara Alpern, assistant professor of

history at Texas A&M University. Sar, who is a visiting research fellow at the Rockefeller Foundation, spoke Friday morning to SCONA delegates on the Polish crisis.

Arkansas pair married after 40 years apart

United Press International
HOT SPRINGS, Ark. — This Valentine's Day was a special one for two high school sweethearts who have been separated and married to others for about 40 years.

Ruth Padgett and Otto Davis were married Sunday in Hot Springs, marking the first Valentine's Day spent together since they dated during their high school years in the early 1940s at Mountain Pine, Ark.

After graduating from high school in the small town north of Hot Springs, Davis joined the Army and fought in World War II. Padgett married a Hot Springs man who followed a

construction job to Pennsylvania.

Both Padgett and Davis thought they'd never see each other again. But Davis, whose wife, Ella Jane, died of cancer in 1977, decided last year he would contact Padgett.

"Her brothers live here in Hot Springs," said Davis, 55, a native of the Hot Springs area. "Last December I called one of them. He told me Ruth's husband had died in the spring. I expressed my condolences and decided to call her."

"I had said to myself after my wife died that I would never marry again unless the Lord showed me the right woman. Well, he did."

Padgett said she was surprised when she heard from her sweetheart of years past.

"When he told me who he was, I simply couldn't believe it," she said. "I kept saying, 'Is this really Otto?' I suppose I had the same feeling about it as he did, so I decided to come to Hot Springs for Christmas."

The reunion led to the couple deciding to get married in a traditional ceremony on Valentine's Day. But the newlyweds do not plan a honeymoon.

"When you reach our age, you're really not concerned about things like that," Davis said. "We're just thankful and happy we have each other now."

MSC

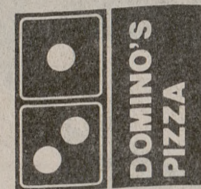


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★ TONIGHT ★

Beta Beta Beta
with the

Pre-med/Pre-dent Society
presents

Dr. Curtis Chubb

Asst. Professor at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center in Dallas

Topic: Blood supply to the testes and an introduction to the graduate program at the UT Health Sciences Center.

Time: 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 15
Room: Rudder #401

Everyone is Invited