

Hoping that Christmas and the New Year bring you joyful hours, pleasant memories and much happiness.

NEW RICHLAND AUTO REPAIR

Isaac, Julie and Matt Phone: 463-3261



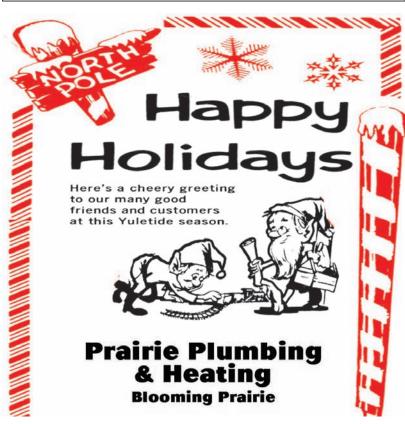
Peace & Prosperity in 2014!

From your friends at the Waseca Co. Historical Society!

We are so grateful for New Richland
community-wide support--from the City, the Township
Board, and many Members, Donors, Volunteers & Visitors.

Please extend your support for the New Richland
Historical Society, too!

Visions of Sugar Plums" exhibit on through December 27, Tues-Fri, 9-5.





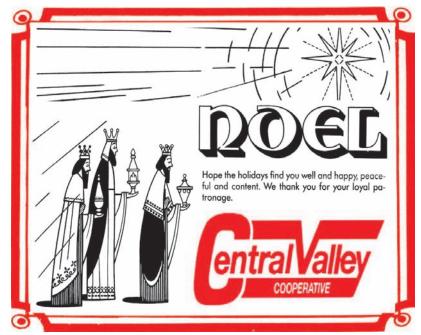
Wishing you a

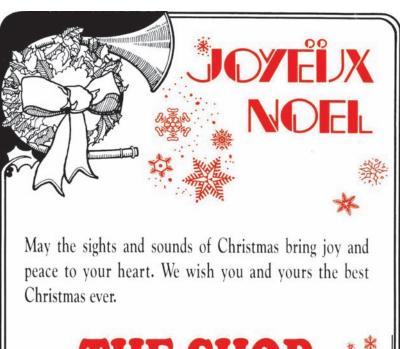
Merry Christmas

from

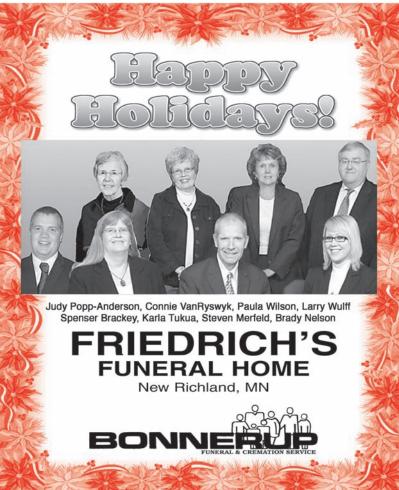
Nancy Jane's Bakery

Nancy Klecker Harry Klecker Franklin Klecker Teresa Scott





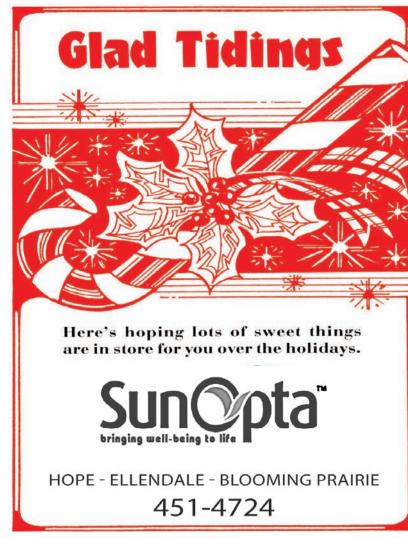


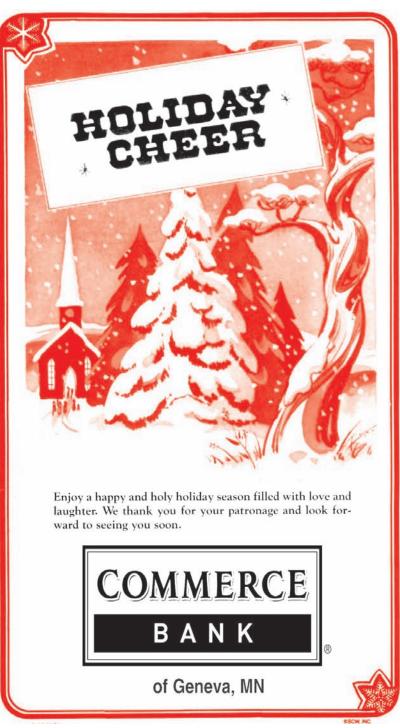












Twelve Days of Christmas

"On the Twelfth Day of Christmas My true love gave to me...."

The verses are among the most popular of the season. They date back to 567 A.D., when the church proclaimed the period of twelve days, between Nativity Epiphany, a period of celebration. It goes from St. Stephen's Day (or Boxing Day), Dec. 26, to the day before Epiphany, Jan. 6.

Twelfth Night

The night of this day, or Twelfth Night, was a special celebration frequently accompanied by a big banimmortalized

the same name. It is in fact the big holiday of the year in most Christian countries.

In the Middle Ages, a minstrel had to be a talented fellow. One of these, in listing his accomplishments, after noting the many instruments he can play, says: "I can sing a song well and make tales and fables. I can tell a story against any man, I can make love verses to please young ladies, and can play the gallant to them if necessary. Then I can throw knives into the air and catch them without cutting my fingers. I can do dodges with a string most extraordinary and amusing. I can balance

Shakespeare in his play of chairs and make tables dance. I can throw a somersault and walk on my head."

> This English minstrel had his counterpart in Europe, where the twelve days were celebrated too, with feasting, pageantry, and song.

In England some of the "pretty devices" preceding the banquets in the big halls of the Twelfth Night are unbelievable - sounding confections which included castles with cannons and shops with guns which, at the proper moment, were fired against each other in resemblance of a rousing battle.

The song

origin in an 18th Century the four Gospels. French child's game. The goal of the game was to add each item onto the song without forgetting the items that proceeded it. Rewards the six days of creation. included candy, and losers forfeited either a sweet or a

What do the "gifts" symbolize?

My true love represents

The **partridge** is Jesus.

Two turtle doves are the Spirit. two Testaments of the Bible.

Three French hens refers either to Paul's theological triad of faith, hope 11 faithful apostles. and love, or to the Trinity.

The song probably had its colly birds, blackbirds) are

Five golden rings symbolize the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Bible). Six geese-a-laying are

Seven swans a-swimming are the seven sacraments.

Eight maids a-milking represent the eight beati-

Nine ladies dancing refers to the fruits of the

10 lords a-leaping are the Ten Commandments.

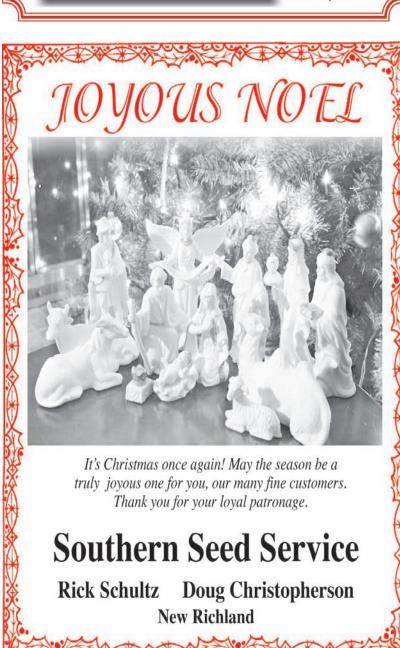
11 pipers playing are the

And the 12 drummers Four calling birds (or drumming are the 12 points of the Apostle's Creed.







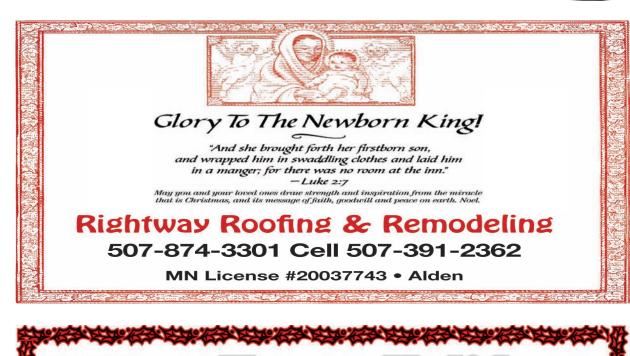






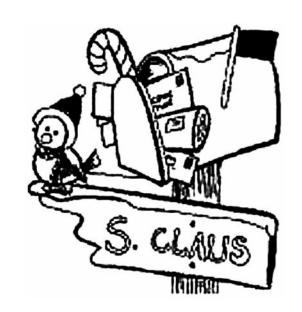














What do you want from Santa this year? Second grade students at NRHEG Elementary school speak out in their letters to the Jolly Old Guy.

2nd Grade - Mrs. Dutton

Dear Santa,
Hello How are you doing? Is Rudolph
the red nose reideer real? I hope you have
a pair of iceseates for me. I hope you do not have
coal for me. I have been good this year.
Your friend.
Annabelle?

Dear Santa,
Hellol How are you? I hope you have
matchbox cars! I want a farm set for
Christ mas! I want a happy Christ mas.
I have been a good boy How is Mrs.
Claus! I hope you do not have coal
For me.
Love,
Carter J.

Dear Santa,
How are the elves doing? Is Rudott
real? Please may I have a phone, atablet, I pads
toy car, aremote helicopter, a magiciball; a flower,
and a toy elephant for Christmas.
Love,
Dacoda M.

Dear Santa,
Hi! How is Rudolphe and how are your
elves? Can I please get an I pad 2
for Christmas? What is your favorite
reinder?
Love,
Daltyn H.

Dear Santa, Helb I How is it in the North ple All I want for Christmas is to be with my tamily and play with my brother Love, Devin M.

Dear Santa.
Hello! This Christmas I want the game
Run Your self Ragged, a girls Bow and arrow,
Disney intinity, and Skylanders, Swap Force How
do the Reindeer fly? How do the elives make
toys? Are you doing good at the North Pole?
Love,
Elsie S.

Dear Santa,
Hi! What I really, really twant for Christmas is a kindle fire HD. Is Rudalph real? How are the reindeer? I am going to make cookies and hot cocoa. I also want a Jumbo Tummy Stuffer.

Merry Christmas!
Love,
Erin P.

Dear Santa,
Hello! How are you? What
is your favorite cookie? Can I
please have an ipad for Christmas?
From,
Garett D.

Dear Santa.
Hi! How is Comit? My doos name is Comit! My fovorite reindeer is Comit! Do you have a fovorite reindeer? I like sugar cookies for Chistmas I just want a few things. i and Mini. an i pod Mini case, and coast guard lego set.

Your friend,

Graden K.

Dear Santa,
Hello. How are you? I am doing great. How is Rudolph doing? What is your favorite cookie? My favorite toy I want is a DSi with ten games. How many ranedeer do you have? How can the ranedeer fly? My favorite toy I want is a Barbie too. My best favorite toy I want is an i pad and an i pod too. Love, Haylie G.

Dear Surfa,
Do you have a dog? How is Rudolph and
the rainder? I want to have a good time with
my new baby sister for Christmus.
Love, B.

Dear Sunta, the elves I would like some fashion boots with fuzzy inside of them. I also want a horse with a cowgirl hat and some cowgirl boots. I want a lot of skylander giants, a DS, ipod, and an imperican girl doll school clothes, and really. I mean really cute clothes.

Love, Khara P.

Dear Santa,
Hello! How is Jack Frost? Is he being good or bad? Do you know what! Please bring me the new Barbie house, the new Barbie princess castle, and an I phone prease Merry christmas.
Love.

Dear Sonta,

thi! How are the 8 reindeer? How is Missibous and
the elves? Sonta, I don't care what you get
me for Christmas. I'm hoping you will not break
our door for the chimney this year. Could you tell everyone
I like them?

Love,

Dear Santa Hello! I want an i pad and my family, friends, class, brothers and God to have a good Christmas. I want a good Christmas too. Are your elves ok? Love, Payden L.

Dear Santa.
Hi!How is Rudolph? For Christmas I want a Barbie horse and a snow globe maker please. I will leave cookies and milk.

Ove,
Pauton B.

Dear Santa,
Hello How are you? For Christmas I want
a Moropoly Cars I game for Christmas.
I want a bike took Nerry Christmas!
Love,
Samuel H.

Dear Santas
Hil How are you and the elus?
I want an I pad. Brave and her horse, and please a toy called Honey the baby pony for Christmas. How many toys do you have to make in one Christmas?
How many elves do, you have!
Loves
Sydney L.

Dear Santa,
Hello. How are you and your wife? Can I please have am i pad and a pair of slippers and an NFL football game for Christmas this year. Thanks.
Love,
Zander F.





These letters are from the second grade students of Mrs. Dutton, Mrs. Ihrke, Mrs. Radtke, and Mr. Beynon.

2nd Grade - Mrs. Ihrke

Dear, Santa, How are you this year? I think you might want to see my Christmas tree. How are the reindeer? I would like a hamster and a xxx360. For Christmas. What is your favorite reindeer? Can I also have an Ipad? Merry Christmas!

Your friends Hunter

Dear Santa Clos,
Please Santa I want a IRod for
Christmas, flarp, a pet rabbit and a pet
Squirrel How is Rudolph, is Rudolph
good? I hope he didn't get hurt. Have a Merry christmas! Gage H.

Dear Santa,
Merry Christmas! What Kind of
cookies do you want? I have been a
good girl this year. How are Kudolphand
Mrs. Claus? Please bring me Orbeez
and an Ameican Girl doll. Howare the
elves? I hopetcan make cookies for you.
Please sive me some condu Please give me some condy.

> pove, hyral.

Dear Santa,
Are you happy about Christmas?
What do you want for Christmas?
Have I been good this year?
Can you please bring me an XBox 360 and an Infinity. I will put cookies,
milk, and carots out for you and your
reindeer.

Daxter L.

Dear Santa,
Merry Christmas How are you doing? Are
the elves working hard this time of year?
How do you deliver all the presents all
in 24 hours? Sorry I have so many
questions for Christmas I want Ivy the
American Girl doll and all the accessing Amer.
pleeose
Love,
Tayler S.

Dear Santa,
How are you? My name is Brian. How is Rudolph? Do you have any pets? How is Mrs Claus? What as you like to do for tun? I have been agood boy this year. What time of the year is your birthdays. What kind of cookies do you like I would like a new helicopter for christmas. I would like a new helicopter for christmas. I would like a marker maker. Have a Merry Chniet mas.

Christ mas!

Brian

Dear , Santa, kind of cookies do you like to eat? Please put, a & Box 360, bike, and a remote control helicopter in your bag for me. By the way, I don't have a chimney. Do you have any animals? I almost forgot can you make snow! I wish you a Merry Christmas!

-rom,

Dear Santa Claus,
Howare your elves? I have so many questions to ask you. Lets get started. By the way, my name is Gracie. Would you like a cookie or two for Christmas? I would like a Bells Dog and an Easy Bake oven. Mia blew up the other one I want a desk too, lease pleas please. I'm going to make a craft for you on. Christmas. Merry Christmas Santa! Please get my family something nice. nice.

Love, Gracie

Dear Santa Claus,
How are you? You might want an
extro coat because it cold here. Are
your rindeer being good? What is your
favrit, cookie! Can I please have a
X tox 1, a remote control car, and a
hamster with the food please? Have a
Marry Christmis!

Your triend, Reese R.

Dear, Santa Claus, ,, How are you? I'm doing great!
What kind of cookies should I give you?
My name is Madison. How is Rudolph?
How is Mrs. Claus? My tree is not decorated on the bottom because my and Drake grabs the ornaments and chews, them up. I would like a Monster High High School, a DS game and a big screen TV for Christmas.
Love.

Madison M.

Dear Santa Claus,
Merry Christmas! How are you?
My name is Clay. I have been a good boy.
How are your reindeer? What do you do
for fun? What are your favorite cookes?
Is it fun up in the North Pole? I'm doing fine.
For my MoM please give Her flowers. For my dod
please give him new boots. For presents I want
a XBOX.

Love, ClayR.

Dear Santa;
My name is Natas. What do you
like to do for fun? I like to play
video pames. I have been a good
boy all year. Please put a 2DS
prod the Will game called Super
Mario 3D World in your bag
for me, take a Merry
Thristmas.

From

troms Natos D.

Sincerely, Hallie S.

Dear Santa Clause.

Merry Christmas I have been a good girl
this year Guess how much presents I have
under my tree? Would you like me to
beave milk and cookies for you, or
would you like to lay off them at my
house? Ok, now let's get to business. For
Christmas I would love a Furby
Boom and a basketball in your bag
for me bease. for me please.

Doar Santa My name is Kaeden. I'm doing a good How are the reinder? with my list want to spend Christmas family. What do you want for Christmas Please put a 315 under the tree for me Love, Kaeden

Dear Santa Claus,
how is Rudolph? What do you want for
Christmas? Is Prancer still dancing? Do you want
another reindeer? How many cousing do you have
Do you still like your elves? I would like an
I pad and remote control car. What is your
favorite in 1 : cookie? Tell Mrs Claus Merry Christmas.
Itow are all of your reindeer? I have been a
good girl this year!

Sincerly. Emilea D.

Dear Santa, How are you? I'm doing grat! Shold I leve bubblegum for Rudolph? I have been a good girl this yare. I want a puppy if you can. That is all. I relly wont it! Thanks!

Love, Isabel S.

Dear, Santa How old are you? Do you wear glasses? Why do you wear a red and white suit and black boots? I'm 8 years old and I'm a triplet. My sisters names are Faith and Hope Can I have a basketball, a slea, or a sleigh bell? Thank you love, P.S what's your real name?

How do you get to every house in one night? Why are your Ef's so small? Are you Magic? How do you get through the chimney if the tireplace is on or Will it bum your tush? I want a giant pink fluffy bear. My favorite color is pink. I am 8 years old and I'm. a triplet. Dear , Santa Love,

Dear Santas I have been a good girl. I want a Amrican girl doll for Christmas, What kind op cookies would you like. Why is your bead-so, fluffy? Why do you ware ret. Why do your elfs ware green? Why are your elfs small? I mai triplett. My sisters names are Faith and Preglie. Love W.

De at SANHAS
HOW IS RYLOPH? MY name is
BOOLY. HOW are your reingelr?
To would Like a BB Guns My Two
From Heethsa & BOX 360s a Rock
crawkr, and a mild tryck.
HOW IS Mrs. Clays? Have a Metry
shristmac! Thristmas! LOVES

MORE RETTERS

2nd Grade - Mrs. Radtke

Dear Scinta,

I hope you are excited for your big trip.

I hope you will have fun. What I want for Chistmas is an not ford F150, and a 5. Pack of HotWheels, and a car charger for my iphone. Happy trails.

Love, Jackson C.

Dear santa,
L believe in you. For Christmas I unuld, like a Nert Rebel Bow and Arrow,
Flutter fly Fairy, and a Fat head cheer leader. Thank you Sonta!
Love,
Tidlison L.

Dear Santa,
I hope you are excited. For Christmas I would like 449 dollars, a baby bunny, and a kitten Hope you have a good time!
Love, Ned B.

Dear Santa I hope you are safe For Christmas I would like an Ipad Iphone, a farm game, Also a dirtbike and Under Armour Merry Christmas! Dylan F. O

Dear Santa,

I hope you are really ready for Christmas
For Christmas I would like a big stuffed
elephant, a bunny, a snowmobile, and a blarket. If
you go to my Grandma she will have cookeis
for you. Marry Christmas.
Love
Grace. B

Deam Santa.
Christmas is my favorite holiday.
For Christmas I would like a cat
and a dog for my dog named Jasmine
to have a friend. I will leave some
cookies for you on the counter. Merry
Christmas!

Pear Santa,

My elf is fun and funny! I like him.

I want a glow in the dark Monster set,

spy set, Star Wars set, and an I pad. Hope

you have a good flight.

pove,

Parker B.

Love Love a safe trio Santa.

I want a black cat for Chrismas with fluffy fur and It likes people.

Merry Chrismas!

Aubril

Dear Santa,
I hope you are excited for your big trip. I was good. II want a babiedoll. and an Ilaa for Christmard Love Kuli I

Dear Santa, How are your reindeer? How Is the weather? I want an iPhone 4 for Christmas and a spy drone. Have a very Merry Christmas Love, William T.

Dear Santa
I hope you are ready for Christmas. Make sure you feed your reindeer for me. Can you make one an air soft gun and an i pad and an X box 360 for Christmas.

Merry Christmas.

Love
Sam O.

Dear Santag

What's it like when ar new reindeer is born?

I bet cute! Plus how do you make 200000

stops in I night? For Christmas I would like a tummy stuffer, nert Rebel bow and arrow, trampoline, and lots of white paper to draw on. Oh I almost forgot... and a cute baby puppy for my 2 dogs, my family and me! I'll leave out cookies for you. Herry Christmas!

Love,

heira L

Dear Santa, I want to know, is Rudaph feeling, good? I want a Indian, Cowboy, Soy, and Millatory Set, a St. Bernard, a Laptop, an XBOXLive, and a Minecraft, video game.

P.S. Did you really come to my dads house early?

Love, M

Dear santaThu are volumed your reindeer? Are you ready?
I would like an X Box One and a remote control police car from smash contleat, and a 3 DS and Hand cutts and a Black remote control Spy Prome with a cam ra and I phone 5 in white.

And a Dog.

Eiler

Dear Santas
I hope you are ready for the big
day Sonta. I would like an American
Girl Doll, some accessories for it
and a dog for it. I will leave a mote
foryou. I hope you have a good trip of

Love, Kaydance.S.

Dear Santa,
Lhope you have a fun time
and check if you have your 8 reinders
L would like a hot wheels floor mat.
A note from me is coming to you.
Love,
Trey

Dear Santa How are you? Please bring coal for me, real coal. You be good please. Bring three Hot Wheels please. I want a Napi for Christmas. Happy Holidays! Love, Rose P

Dear Santa.
How are the reindeer? For Christmas I would like some new wrestlers, some lego sets, and I would like a new bike. Merry Christmas!

Love. Jayden

Dear Santa,

I hope your elves are working had on your toxs fleose make me a nort mean nort gun, the tox fleos, one tox of Santa and a tox of a house Merry chrismis.

Love, Ethan





2nd Grade - Mr. Beynon

Dear Santa Am I one the naughty list on the nice list? For Christmas I wont a America girl adds 3DS Taylor Swift ornament disneyinfiniti and XBOX360. I will see you on Christmas Eve. wont a American

How old are you? I'm I on the nody list? for Christmas, I wanta beylade game, X box 360, Str. Skylander svat forcegame. I hope you don't eat a poison cookie.

Dominic

Pear Santa, How are you? I am I on the node list. A moken chrocar and a Kindie a shavul a fake bonaron bore Jordan

Dear Santa, How do you make toys? For Cristmas I want the most pretyest barbies tablet a pet cheetah cupak, and the cuter to a stuffed animals. I hope you be safe. Love Jordis

Dear Santas thow are you and misclasedois! For Christmas. I. want a wil game of want a toy dog. See you on Christmas +Lev

Love Kattlin

Dear Santa, How are you and Miss, "(Lause doing? tor (hristmas, I want a Kindke fire, American girl doll trave bag, lego friends, and Mike and Ikes. See you on Christmas. Dear Santas

noty or nice, I want a Thor Christmas, I want a on the self, X-box, Wii-u o and her. Fly safe. Love, Lagorge

Dear Santa, How mutch Elfs do you have? For Christmas I want Americangril doll, Art stuff lego friends, close for my Americangril doll, Kindel fire. See you on Christmas Eve.

Dear Santa, How Lo Christmas, L, want a Ipodall the Clementine books, DS/All the Judy Moody Laura Ingalis Wilder books and for my doll a new head Retriever. Golden the reindeer hope you. listen to Your friend

Brenna

Dear Santa, How many lingle bells do you have? For Christmas I want a ipad please, and I want, a want a li opd pleaser and a kindle plassy Warm. Love Malonna, hope you stay

Dear Santa, am I on the nice list this years, For Christians I want is, some new parts and some new shows places and a new tooth brush, and some tooth poest, and a phone, with a new phone case. See you on Christima eye. Seansearly (Tracie

Degr, Santa How are you doing? For Christmas, I want a Monster Hi dolls and a barbie. See you on Christmas. Love Kyra

Dear Santa,
Am I on the naughty or
nice list? For Christmas, I want
the movie stomp out load, a neckes
from Washington DC, a Amarken
girl doll, Amarken girl doll horse,
Amaken girl doll close and show
Have a very safe trip Santa.
Senserly, Evelyn

How old are you? For Christmas, I want a toy Monster truck, and Nascar. I hope you hon't fall off you're slay. Love Jason.

Pear Santa, How are the reindeer doing? For Christ mas, I want a x box three sixty, Sky landers, a quiter, a pennie, a dime, a nichel, a doaller, a box, a doaller coin. I hope you fall off your slay.

Love colo

Dear Santa,
thow much toys have you made this
year? For Christmas, I want a DVD player,
Elf on the Shelf, two balls so my rats
can crawl on the flour in them, the cat
Monster Hi doll, a globe, and a Clementine
book. Make sure notady sees you.
but friend Debra

Dear Santa Lan Rodoph talk? For Chrismas I want Mincraft touse Elfon the shelf in ever let elfon the shelf get out of his package. Your triend Hunter Milly ett

Dear Sonto, am Ion the nice list? Christmas/ I want also and a Kindles Et ap no won ser House stan ate Love brake

Dear Santa. 99000 years old?

for Chrismas I want Skylander

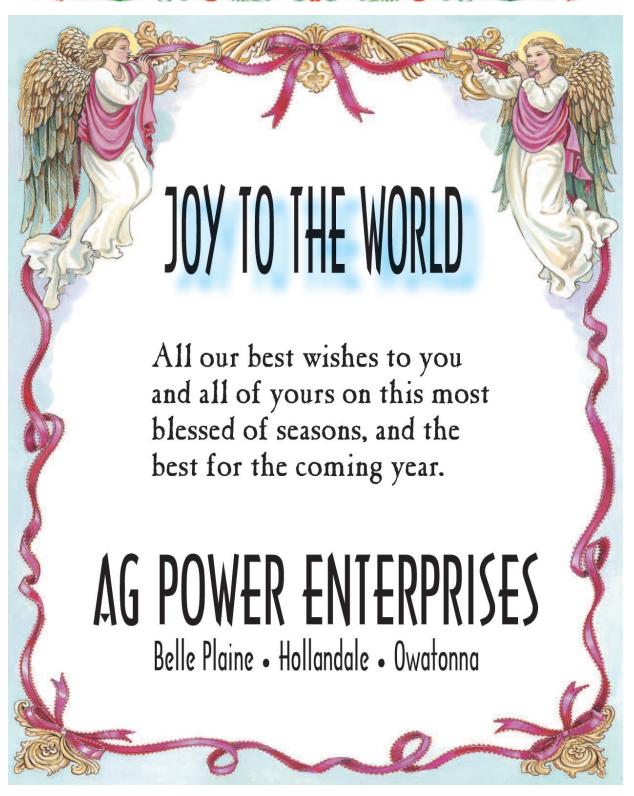
Swol force, Halo Casos, XBOXI;

and XBOXI video sames

don't foll down the chemny, LOVE Gavin



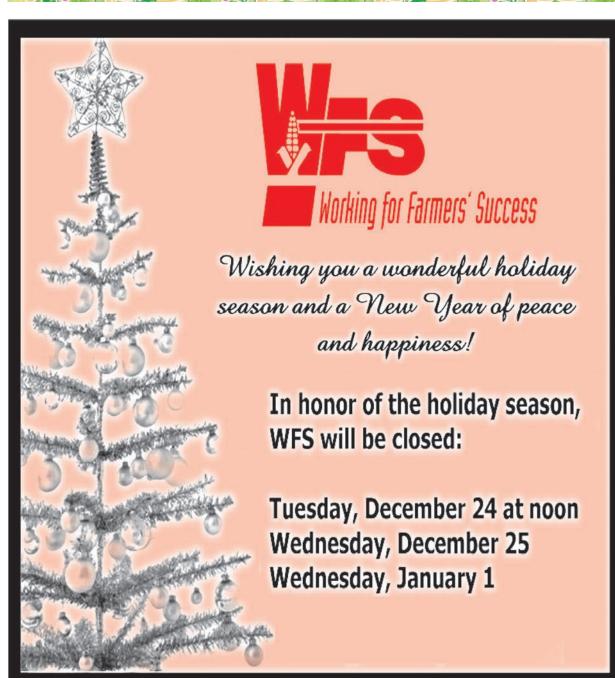




MERRICAS CHRISTMAS

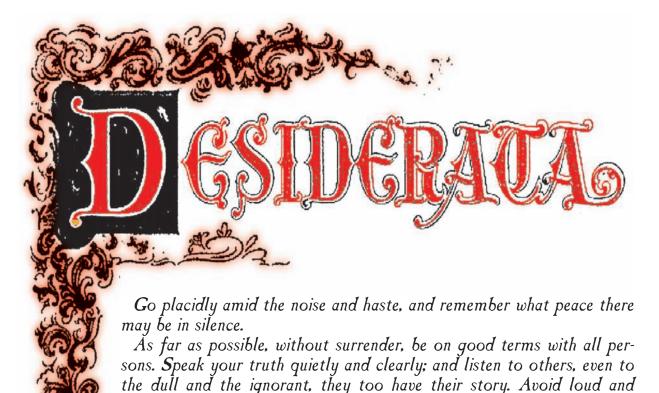






Merry Christmas

Thursday, December 19, 2013



aggressive persons, they are vexations to the spirit.

If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain and bitter; for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself. Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time

Exercise caution in your business affairs, for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals, and everywhere life is full of heroism. Be yourself. Especially, do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love, for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment it is perennial as the grass.

Take kindly to the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth. Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. But do not distress yourself with imaginings. Many fears are born of fatique and loneliness.

Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself. You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.

Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be, and whatever your labors and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life, keep peace in your soul.

With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world.

Be cheerful. Strive to be happy.

Max Ehrmann

Max Ehrmann's inspirational poem - Desiderata

The common myth is that the Desiderata poem was found in a Baltimore church in 1692 and is centuries old, of unknown origin. Desiderata was in fact written around 1920 (although some say as early as 1906), and certainly copyrighted in 1927, by lawyer Max Ehrmann (1872-1945) based in Terre Haute, Indiana. The Desiderata myth began after Reverend Frederick Kates reproduced the Desiderata poem in a collection of inspirational works for his congregation in 1959 on church notepaper, headed: 'The Old St Paul's Church, Baltimore, AD 1692' (the year the church was founded). Copies of the Desiderata page were circulated among friends, and the myth grew, accelerated particularly when a copy of erroneously attributed Desiderata was found at the bedside of deceased Democratic politician Aidlai Stevenson in 1965.

Whatever the history of Desiderata, Ehrmann's prose is inspirational, and offers a simple positive credo for life.

Desiderata myth and trivia

- Max Ehrmann was born in Terre Haute, Indiana, on September 16, 1872. His parents were German immigrants. Ehrmann graduated from DePauw University in Greencastle in 1894, after which he studied law and philosophy at Harvard University.
- Ehrmann returned to Terre Haute to practice law, following which (early 1900's) he began writing, apparently obsessively. Max Ehrmann was known as the 'Poet Laureate' of Terre Haute.
- Ehrmann wrote many poems, although none became well known until after his death. Aside from Desiderata his most famous poem is A Prayer, written in 1906.
- Max Ehrmann originally copyrighted Desiderata in 1927 as 'Go Placidly Amid The Noise And Haste'. The copyright number was

- 962402, dated 3rd January.
- Ehrmann included Desiderata in a Christmas message to his friends in 1933, and significantly never added any copyright notice, a factor which featured strongly in legal considerations in the 1970s about Desiderata copyright (more below).
- U.S. Army psychiatrist Merill Moore wrote in 1942 to Ehrmann that he used the Desiderata poem in his therapy work, and also wrote to Ehrmann in 1944 suggesting that the poem should be bottled and sold as 'Dr Ehrmann's Magic Soul Medicine.' Communications between Moore and Ehrmann featured strongly in legal considerations in the 1970s about Desidarata copyright.
- Max married Bertha three months before his death in 1945. Bertha Scott King Ehrmann was from New York; she graduated from Smith College, wrote, taught, and published a book called *The Worth of a Girl*. Three months after Max Ehrmann's death, Bertha published four of his books.
- Max Ehrmann's widow Bertha published the Desiderata poem with some other of his work in 1948, in a collection titled *The Poems Of Max Ehrmann*. She rerenewed the Desiderata copyright in 1948 and 1954.
- Bertha Ehrmann died in 1962, upon which the copyright ownership passed to her nephew Richmond Wight. Wight later sold the copyright for an undisclosed amount to Crescendo Publishing Company in 1975.
- Seemingly in 1959 (some say 1957) Reverend Frederick Kates produced around just 200 copies of his inspirational works collection featuring Desiderata, which sparked the confusion and myth that endures today. By the late 1970s Old St Paul's Church was receiving 40 enquiries a week as to the origins of the Desiderata poem.
- A copy of the Desiderata poem (a version linked to 1692 and The

Old St Paul's Church) was found on Democratic politician Adlai Stevenson's bedside table after his death in 1965 - supposedly Stevenson was intending to use what he believed to be the ancient poem in his Christmas cards, and this much publicised discovery did much to increase the fame and myth of Desidarata.

- Star Trek creator Gene Roddenberry kept a copy of Desiderata in his office.
- The Desiderata verse was a big selling Athena poster during the late 1900s.
- Desiderata is Latin and means 'things that are yearned for,' which in the context of the poem more closely means 'essential things.'
- Inspired by an Athena or similar poster, singer Les Crane used the Desiderata words in his 1971 hit pop record, for which he received a Grammy award for the best spoken word recording. Supposedly Les Crane saw the Desiderata verse on a poster and believed the words to be in the public domain, but then (so the story goes) had to share his royalties with the then Desiderata copyright owners.
- Amazingly there is some doubt today as to whether Ehrmann's final line of Desiderata began 'Be careful...', or 'Be cheerful...' Most modern interpretations, including the one here, use the latter.
- In August 1971 the poem was published in *Success Unlimited* magazine, again without authorization from Ehrmann's family. In a 1976 lawsuit against the magazine's publisher, Combined Registry Company, the court ruled (and subsequently the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld) that copyright had been forfeited because the poem had been authorized for publication without a copyright notice in the 1940s and that the poem is therefore in the public domain.

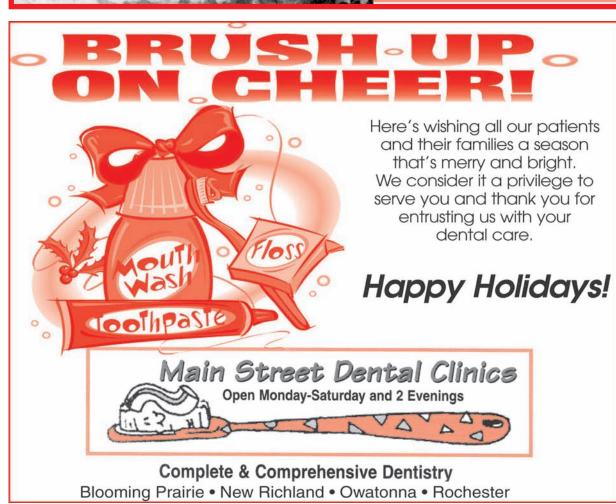


May faith be your guide and may His good graces follow you wherever you go during this season of enlightenment.

We wish all of you a Merry Christmas with our heartfelt thanks.

Brian Wayne

Pioneer Brand Products
Ellendale, MN





Origins of popular Christmas symbols revealed

toms. Year in and year out, you decorate a Christmas tree, sip eggnog, and enjoy a candy cane beneath the mistletoe. But do you have any idea how these customs came about? To fully appreciate a holiday, you should understand its roots. This guide will help you get to the bottom of this festive and sacred holiday.

Advent calendars: The first calendar counting down to Christmas dates back to the 19th century. People counted down 24 or 25 days until Christmas (with the last day being Christmas Eve or Christmas Day), by using chalk lines to mark off the days. Later on the tradition of lighting a candle each night was born. Today, Advent calendars vary. Some have drawers or doors that are opened every day to reveal a religious icon, piece of candy or you may even find ones with cartoon characters like Mickey Mouse.



Candles: The first use of candles at Christmas was in the Roman festival of Saturnalia where tall tapers of wax were

to Saturn as a symbol of his light. As Christianity spread, candles were placed in the front window of homes to guide the Christ Child as he went from house to house on Christmas Eve.



Candy canes: According to the National Confectioners Association, in the 17th century, the choirmaster at the Cologne Cathedral in Germany gave his young singers sugar sticks to keep them quiet during ceremonies. In honor of the occasion, he had the candies bent into shepherds' crooks. In 1847, a German-Swedish immigrant decorated a small blue spruce with paper ornaments and candy canes. By the 1900s, the candy cane got its red and white stripes and peppermint flavors. They were mass produced by the 1950s, eliminating the their popularity spread.

Christmas tree: Germans would decorate fir trees, inside and out, with roses,

apples and colored paper. The hit tradition England and America via the immi-German grants Pennsylvania in the 1800s. course, Christmas tree

isn't complete without ornaments. Decorating trees dates back to the Victorian times. Woolworths department store sold the first manufactured Christmas tree, and the trend spread.

Mistletoe: The Scandinavians thought of mistletoe as a peaceful and harmonious plant. And they linked Frigg, their goddess of love, with mistletoe. The combination of these two schools of thought brought about the custom of kissing under the mistletoe. Those who kissed beneath the mistletoe were thought to have happiness and good luck the next year.

Poinsettias: America's ambassador Mexico, Joel Poinsett, is the namesake for this native Mexican plant which he brought to

Christmas is a holiday steeped in cus- given as gifts to guests and as an offering laborious task of making the treat, and America in 1828. The plant was likely used by Mexican Franciscans in their 17th century Christmas celebrations. Mexicans thought the plants symbolized the Star of Bethlehem, leading to its association with Christmas.

> **Stockings:** A man was so sad over the death of his wife that he spent all his Unfortunately, this habit left his three daughters without money for wedding dowries. Nicholas wanted to help the poor girls' cause, so he anonymously threw three small pouches of

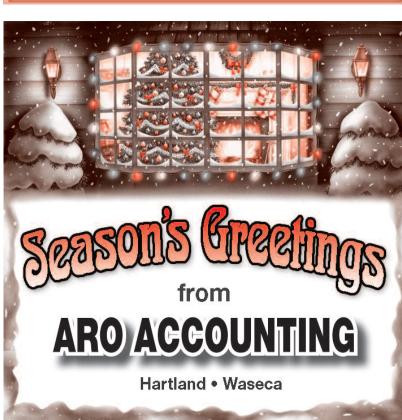


gold coins down the chimney of the their home. The coins landed in the stockings of the women who had hung them by the fireplace to dry.

Solution to Christmas Crossword

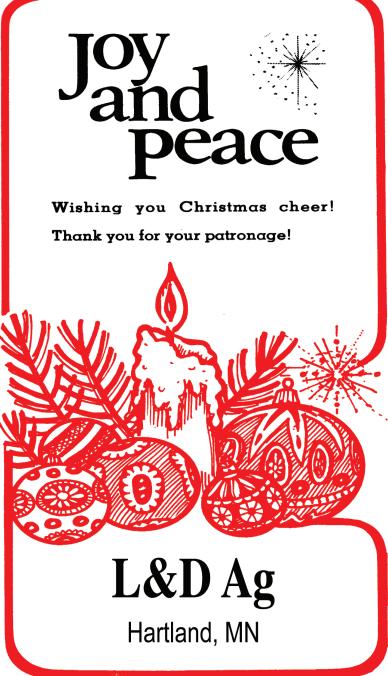
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S	С	R	1	Р		L	0	0	Т		L	Е	٧	1
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Α	С	Α	D		S	U	R		0	0	D	L	Е	S
С	Н	R	1	S	Т	М	Α	S	W	R	Е	Α	Т	Н
Н	Е	1	S	Т	S		Ν	Н	L		S	1	R	Е
Е	R	Α	S	Е		Α	Ζ	0	Ι	С		Ν	Α	Ν
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L	Α	Ν	Е		Е	Ν	G	R		-	В	Α	R	S
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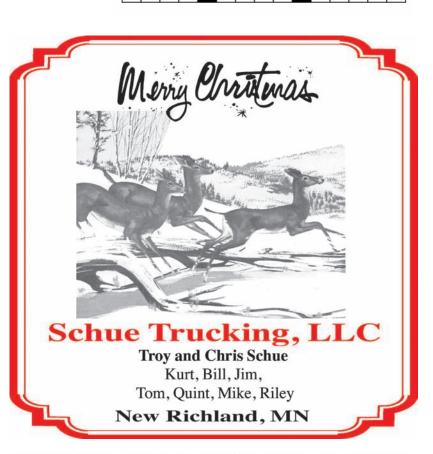


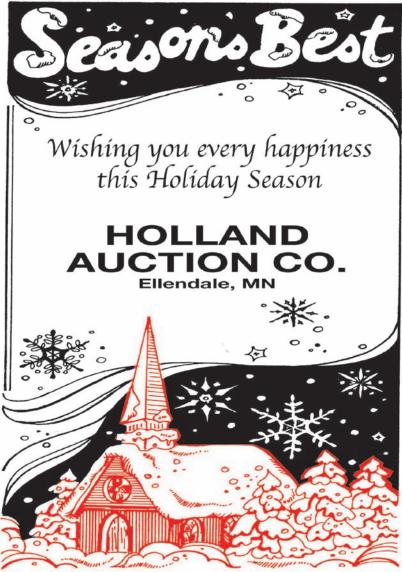












What does the Bible say about Christmas?

Test your Bible knowledge with these questions about Jesus's birth

1.	Which	Gospel(s)	speak of	the
ev	ents si	urrounding	Christ's	birth?

- Mark and John
- Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John
- Luke only
- Matthew and Luke

2. How many magi visit Christ after his birth, according to the Bible?

- Three
- An undisclosed number
- One
- None

3. Where is Christ when the magi come to visit Him?

- In the womb
- In the manger

In the temple

- In a house
- 4. The magi ask Herod where Christ is to be born. Herod summons his
- priests and scribes, who know the location of the birth because of the prophecy of this man.

on January 1st (eight days after the traditional

cumcision. The "Feast of the Circumcision" falls

raunchy rituals of the pagan winter testivals and

tion was probably intended to displace the more

unlikely to occur in winter. The Christmas celebra-

their flocks in the open fields by night, something

shepherds were, according to Luke 2:8-9, feeding

Some argue that it is an unlikely date because the

old, which became the customary time for the cir-

Isaac was the first to be circumcised at eight days

See Luke 2:25-35.

14. At eight days old

13. An angel appears to them

See Luke 2:8-9.

worship of the sun.

15. Simeon

- Micah
- Amos Jonah
- Joel

5. In a dream, an angel tells Joseph to name his child Jesus, for it was prophesied that a virgin would give birth and call her son Immanuel. What does

Immanuel mean?

- Jesus saves God with us
- God in flesh
- God is born

6. Herod's slaughter of the children two and under, according to Matthew, fulfills a prophecy uttered by what man?

- Micah
- Jeremiah
- Jonah
- Joel

7. How much vounger was Jesus than his cousin John the Baptist?

holiday in the 4th century by the Catholic Church.

The December 25th nativity date was set for the

is a feeding trough for animals, which Mary used

been kept on the first floor of a house. A manger

have been kept safe in a covering hewn out from

10. His earthly father went to Bethlehem for a

praise, which begins, "My soul magnifies the Lord,

And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior."

This is the name given to Mary's spontaneous

porn in a cave, perhaps because animals may

Many non-biblical traditions have Christ being

rock. Animals may also have, in many cases,

12. False

as a cradie.

11. A feeding trough

(See Luke 1:46-55).

See Luke 2:1-6.

(Luke 1:28).

- One year
- Twelve days
- Two years Six months

- 8. Who speaks words to the pregnant Mary that have become a part of the Catholic Church's "Hail Mary"?
- Anna
- Elizabeth
- Simeon Zechariah

9. Where do we find "the magnificat"?

- Matthew
- Luke
- Mark John

10. Why was Jesus born in Bethlehem, according to the Gospel of Luke?

- His earthly father went to Bethlehem for a census
- That's where both his parents lived
- His mother went to visit Elizabeth
- He wasn't; he was born in Nazareth

11. Christ was laid in a manger. What

- A barn
- A cave
- A feeding trough

- 12. The Bible tells us Christ was born in December.
- True
- False

13. How do the shepherds learn of Christ's birth?

- They see a new star in the sky
- There are no shepherds in the Biblical account
- The magi tell them
- An angel appears to them

14. When was Christ circumcised?

- At eight days old
- At 13 years old
- At birth
- He wasn't

15. Who prophesied to Mary that Christ was "destined for the fall and rising of many" and that "a sword" would "pierce" her "own soul also"?

- Anna
- Simeon
- Elizabeth
- Gabriel

is a manger?

- A type of inn

that art highly favored; the Lord is with thee" comes from Gabriel's greeting to Mary: "Hail, thou womb!" (Luke 1:42). Part of the Hail Mary also thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy When Elizabeth sees Mary, she says, "Blessed art 8. Elizabeth

whom Mary visited while she was pregnant with See Luke 1:36. John's mother was Elizabeth, 7. Six months

See Jeremiah 31:15. 6. Jeremiah

See Matthew 1:23. 5. God with us

See Micha 5:2 and Matthew 2:6.

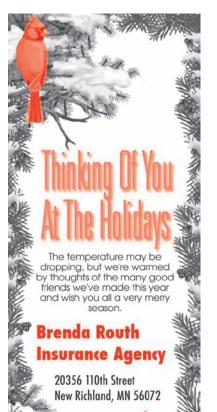
to him in a house. (See Matthew 2:11.) visit Christ until he was a "young child" and came place the magi at the manger, they did not, in fact, Though our traditional manger scenes usually 3. In a house

does not disclose the number of magi who visited Kaspar, and Baltazar. However, the Bible itself even given names to the wise men-- Melchior, (gold, frankincense, and myrrh.) Tradition has three, probably because three gifts were given Christian tradition has numbered the magi at 2. An undisclosed number.

God in the beginning.

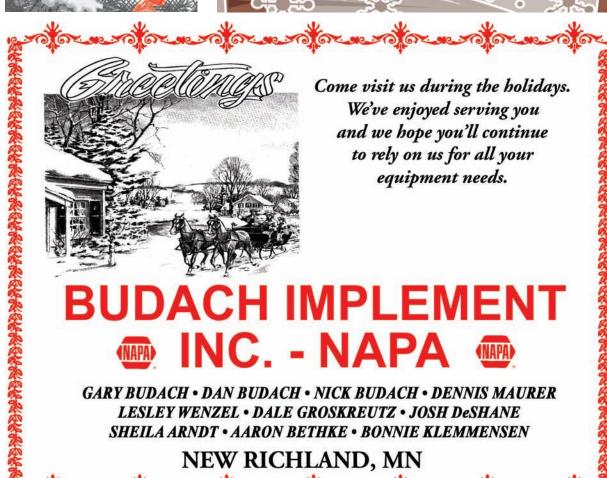
does too, after first describing Christ as being with in medias res, with Christ's ministry, and John Elizabeth during her own pregnancy. Mark begins John the Baptist, and of Mary's visit to her cousin includes the details of the birth of Christ's cousin, told in chapter two of his Gospel. Luke alone Matthew alone includes the story of the magi, as 1. Matthew and Luke.

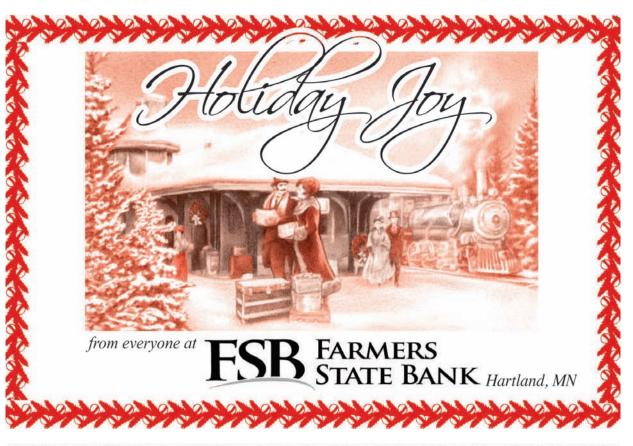
ANSWERS

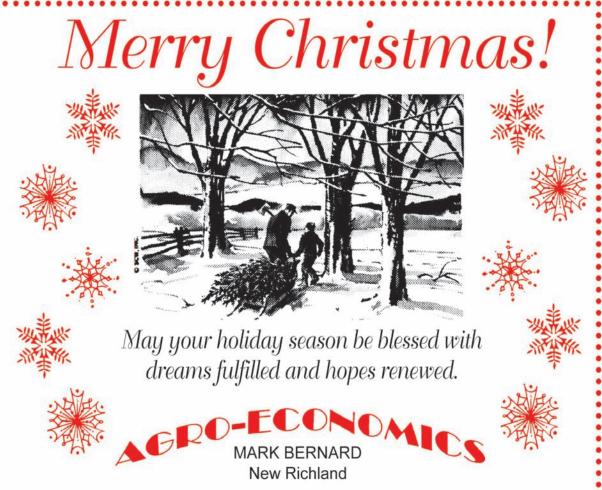












Christmas is a time for joy all around the world

Christmas customs are as varied as the many cultures that encircle our globe, ranging form parades in the Philippines to love offerings in the Congo.

In the Congo, Christmas Day begins with groups of carolers going about the villages. Later, a worship service is held, during which a love offering is made by each worshipper to the Infant Jesus. However humble, no person would dream of attending Christmas services without bringing a birthday gift to Jesus.

In Austria, emphasis is placed on Jesus as the light of the world in a beau-tiful ceremony held in the home. On Christmas Eve, three large wax candles are prepared. As the family gathers around, singing hymns, the father lights the first candle. On Christmas Day, the second candle is lit and the third candle is lit on New Year's Day.

In this country, children receive their gifts from Knecht Ruprecht, a Santa - like figure who rewards good behavior.

Christmas is the occasion for a parade in South Korea. Christians in this country hold parades on Christmas Eve, during which they carry paper lanterns decorated with red crosses. "These paper lanterns also adorn Christian homes on Christmas Eve.) As they march, they sing Christmas carols. Later, they attend church services, which are followed by a late - night supper. Gift - giving is an important part of the festivities here.

French Canadians begin their Christmas with a midnight mass on Christ-mas Eve, after which the Reveillon, an



elaborate dinner, is held in the home. Here, the holiday season does not end until the 6th of January, feast of the Epiphany. It is a time of merriment, in contrast to the religious aspect of Christmas itself.

In the Philippine Islands, children wear colorful wreaths and chains made of tropical flowers as they parade and sing after services on Christmas Day. Here, homes are decorated with flags, bunting, palms, flowers and candles. Family dinners follow the parade, with dancing and music adding to the festivities.

Down under, in Australia, the warm December days are the reason for that uniquely Australian custom, the Christmas Day picnic. Another tradition on this continent is the big community sing, when huge crowds gather outdoors to sing carols from nightfall to midnight, by the light of torches and candles.

In Italy, children eagerly await the coming, not of Santa Claus, but of La Befana, a witch who rides her broomstick from house to house, leaving pre-sents of coal for any misdeeds. Every home in south Italy has its presepio, or creche, while in the north, Christmas trees are central to holiday celebrations.

On Christmas Eve, Italian children traditionally write a "Christmas Letter," wishing their parents a happy holiday and promising to be good.

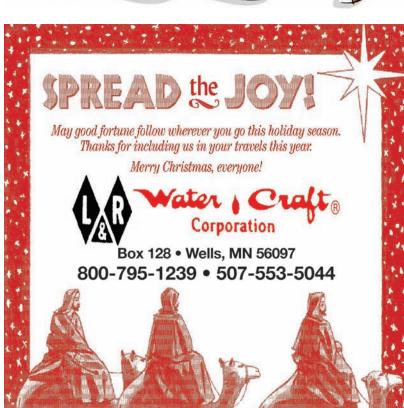
As one would expect, singing is an important part of Christmas in Wales. This is reflected in the Eisteddfoddes, where townspeople and caroling choirs gather in the market-place to sing carols. Contests are held during the Eisteddfoddes, with the winning song performed by the winner's choral group. Plum puddings and mince pies, and Christmas stockings hung at the foot of the bed are the other Welsh traditions at Christmas.

Although customs may differ from land to land, throughout the world the spirit of Christmas is ever the same -- one of joy and goodwill to all!

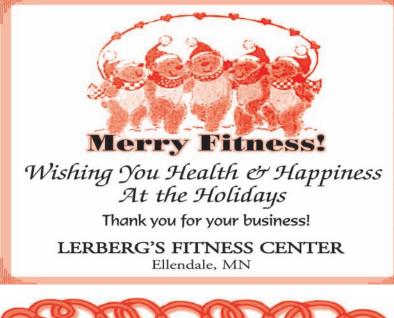




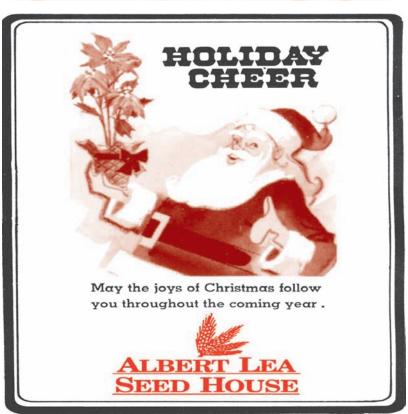












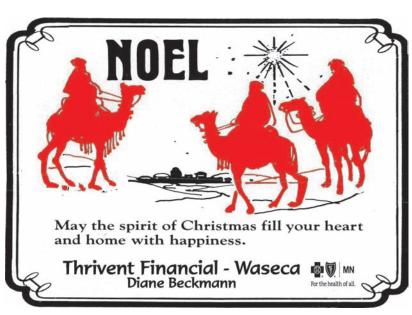






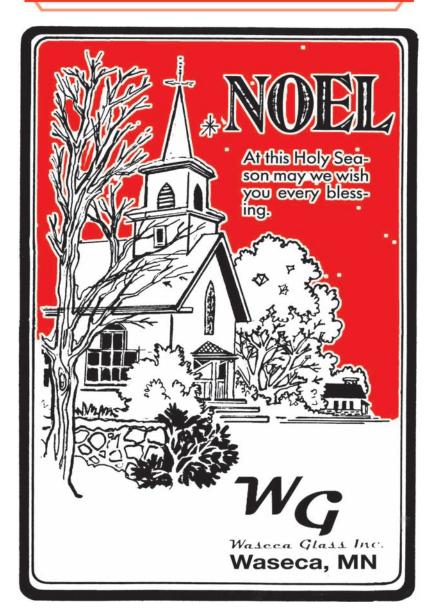








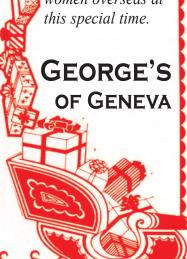






Best of **HOLIDAY SPIRITS** We really appreciate your patronage and wish you a happy holiday season!

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Christmas Crossword Puzzle by Dave Fisher

Across

1. Holiday pie

6. Santa's load 10. With 'the', syndrome causing missed putts

14. Key or corner 15. "Holiday In Harlem" singer

16. Young land? 17. Paper money 18. It may be found in 25

down 19. Blue-collar name? 20. Creche figures 23. Longest division of geological time

(var.) 24. No ice 25. Dot's follower, often

28. Homeless ones 30. Panorama 34. West Point, i.e. (abbr.)

36. Big __ (Cal.) 37. Lots

38. Holiday decoration

41. Holdups 42. Rangers' org.

43. Dam's opposite 44. Wipe out

45. Time before life 47. Indian bread

48. Organic compound 50. Anthem opener 52. Holiday song, "Oh, little..."

59. Go over a manuscript 60. Big name in detergent 61. Mountain ridge

62. Penny_ 63. Tech. grad.

64. Girders

65. One who ogles 66. Negatives

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1. Attention getter 2. Engrave

3. Heart 4. With 53 down, singer

from Chicago 5. Sibling's son 6. Element found in

photocells 7. Succulent plant 8. Performers with a lot

of makeup 9. "Dawson Creek" actor, Holmes

10. Holiday seasons

11. Detail

12. Coat

13. Tibia locale 21. Good natured teasing 55. Slight advantage

sessions 22. Enjoy

25. Place for 18 across 26. Earthy color

27. West Side Story gal 29. _ Kafka

56. Miami hoopsters

57. French 101 verb

31. Killed

33. Very pale

35. Objector

32. Aquarium fish

39. Office worker

40. Quick drinks

46. Chunnel town

plant)

52. Distant prefix

54. Kir ingredient

53. See 4 down

58. GI's chow

49. Many times

45. White elephant, for

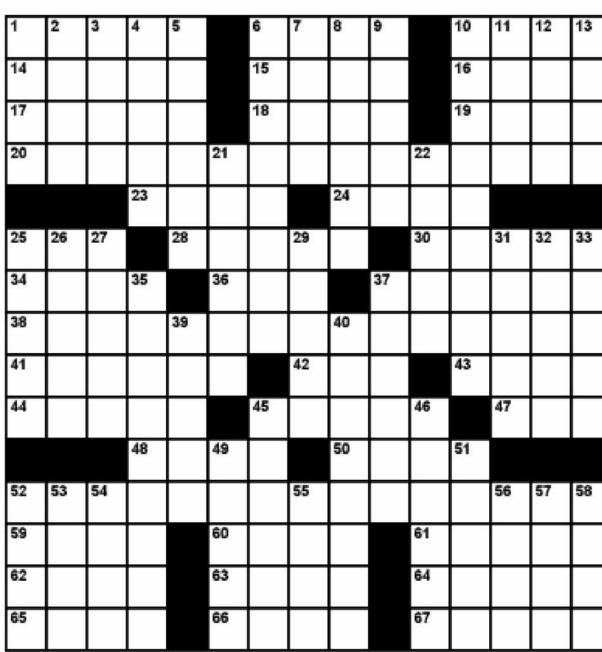
instance

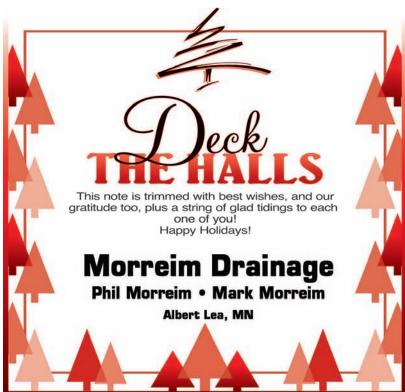
51. _ Buena (evergreen

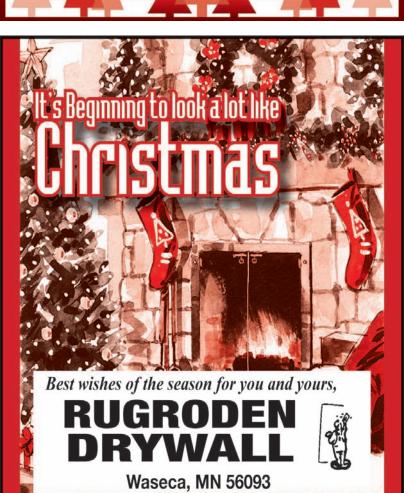
37. Wise-looking (like Harry

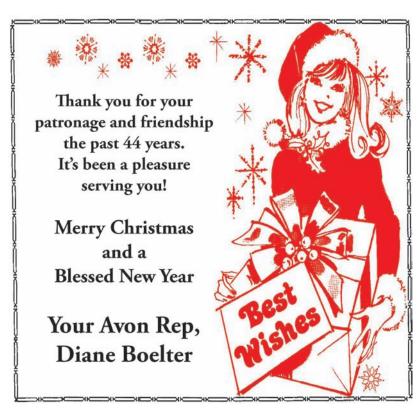
Potter, perhaps)

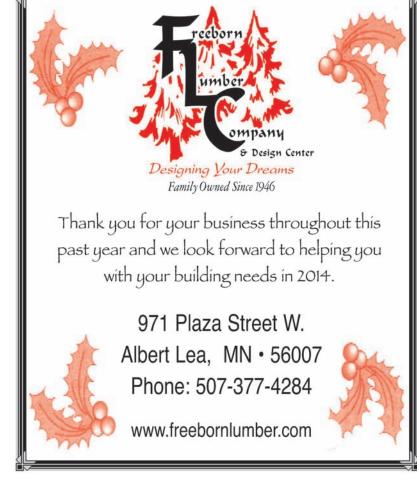
SOLUTION on page 10







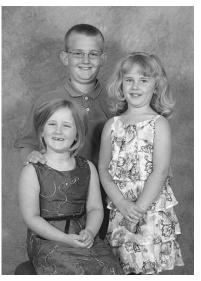




THE RIPLES



Kendra (14), Ashton (9), and Breckyn (8 mos.) Moen, children of Josh and Jackie Moen.



Dylan (10), Addison (7), and Alexis (6) Loken, children of Dallas and Nicole Loken.



Tayler (7) and Brendan (4) Schmidt, children of Dan and Tina Schmidt.



Cambria (10), Charlie (8), and Calvin (3 ½) Nissen, children of Ryan and Holly Nissen.



Braeden (13) and Kaylei (6) Thompson, children of Mitch and Missy Thompson.



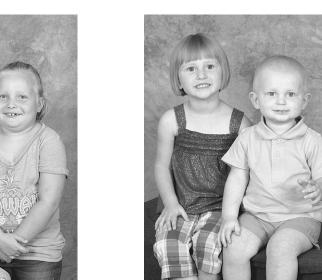
Carson (14), Canon (13), Connor (12), Anna (2), and Benjamin (8 mos.) Dobberstein, children of Courtney and Dustin Dobberstein.



Jacob (22) and Joshua (21) Naser and Maci (14), Jadyn (12), and Jaren (2) Surat, children of Lisa Surat.







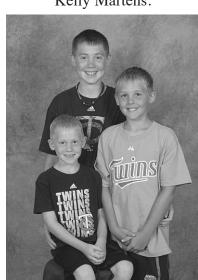
Ellie (3) and Dakota (1) Clark, children of Eric and Jennifer Clark.



Jaycie (3 ½) and Hadley (1 ½) Routh, daughters of Andrew Routh.



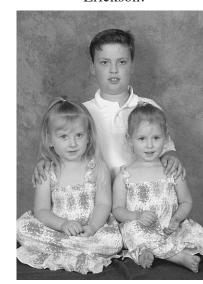
Carter (6) and Corbin (4) Martens, children of Tony and Kelly Martens.



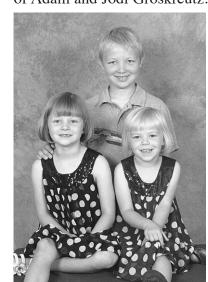
Evan (13), Alex (9), and Alden (6) Dobberstein, children of Luke and Brenda Dobberstein.



Samantha Erickson (1), daughter of Wade and Karen Erickson.



Wyatt (8), Mallory (3), and Alayna (2) Groskreutz, children of Adam and Jodi Groskreutz.



Clay (9 ½), Aspyn (6 ½), and Ciara (4) Stenzel, children of Douglas and Amy Stenzel



Taytum (14) and Jace (7) Ihrke, children of Mike and Amy Ihrke.



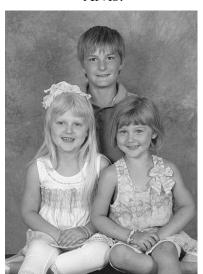
Tyler (13), Anna (11), and Erin (8) Jacobson, children of Erik and Heidi Jacobson.



Katelyn (16), Brianna (10), and Jayden (7) Purdie, children of Dave and Lana Purdie.



Eric Arvis (10), son of Christina Arvis.



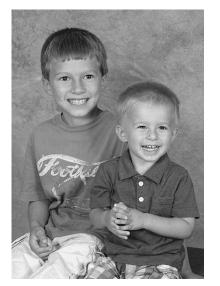
Robert (12), Olivia (5), and Paige (4) Johnson, children of Jeff and Jennie Johnson.

CHRISTINAS



Photos provided by Thompson Photographics

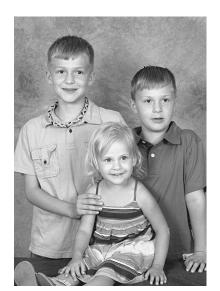




Ashton Johnson (10), and Owen Schlaak (2), children of Tony and Cassie Schlaak.



Kordell (10), Gabrielle (5), and Dakota (3) Schlaak, children of Justin and Kim Schlaak.



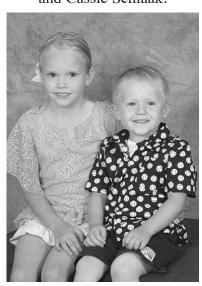
Zachary (10), Kaeden (7), and Brynlee (2) Nietzel, children of Chad and Elizabeth Neitzel.



Alec (2) and Jade (6 mos.) Wyrum, children of Jens and Jennifer Wyrum.



Brock (10), Avery (8), Brynn (6), and Cooper (3) Routh, children of Jesse and Krissy Routh.



Kyra (7) and Kendrick (2) Spies, children of Eric Spies.



Kenley (3), Kashton (8 mos.) and Kaeson (8 mos.) Gehrke, children of Ryan and Angela Gehrke.



Levi (20), Dylan (16), Clay (7), and Aiden (3) Routh, children of Kim and Chan Routh.



Aidan (6) and Ryan (4) Schlaak, children of Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Schlaak.



Kyera Eustice (5), daughter of Craig and Rachael Eustice.



Jason (7) and Julieann (2) Wobbrock, children of Kayla Wobbrock.



Alexia (5 ½), Jackson (3 ½), and Jonathan (2) McGannon, children of Angela McGannon.



Desiree (13), Destiny (11), Cole (6), and Isaiah (4) Schutrop, children of Chad and Monica Schutrop.



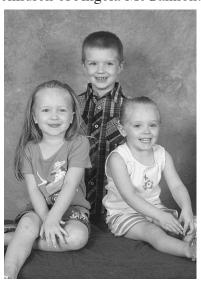
Holden Podratz (16), Brianna Podratz-Waters (15), Jacob Kohnert (14), Dakota Neste (10), and Samantha Kohnert (18-not pictured), children of Terry Kohnert and Christy Podratz.



Isabel (7), Adalyn (5), and Emilia (2) Stadheim, daughters of Darrin and Linda Stadheim.



Brock Ziemke (6), son of Brian and Vanessa Ziemke.



Autumn Baseman (4), Aubrey Baseman (2), and Christian Cully (5), children of Karen and Brett Cully.



Lillian Muff (19 mos.), daughter of Larry and Michelle Muff.







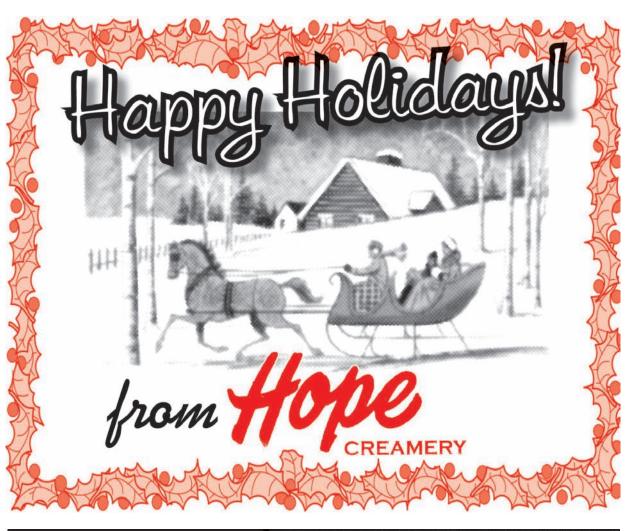


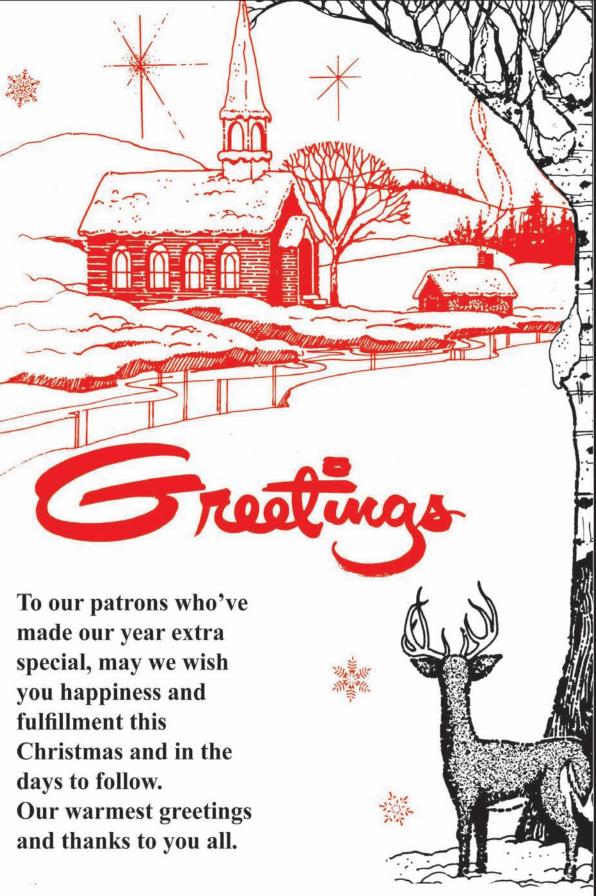


We wish you an old-fashioned holiday filled with love and laughter and all the special delights of the season.

Gary & Pam Strenge & family

New Richland, MN







Bernie Cindy Kristi

Jean Ann Gary Christian

Sandy Nik Kathy Vanessa

Jenny Ronda Karen Mary

Chris Matt Evan

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