





December 20, 2018Vol. 44, No. 51



The Story of Christmas

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country, shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.,

And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a saviour, which is Christ

the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying; Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came in haste, and found Mary, Joseph, and the babe lying in the manger.

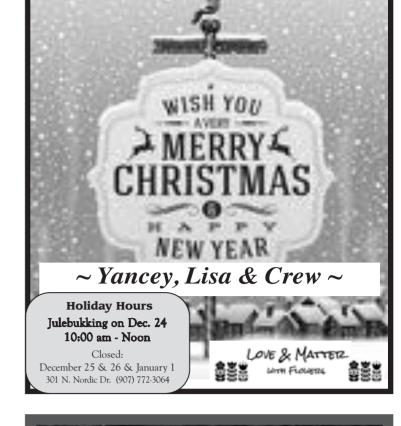
And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Chapter 2, St. Luke











OLA RICHARDS / Petersburg Pilot

Mrs. Pawuk's 3rd grade class all brought their letters to Santa on Wednesday, December 12th.

Dear Santa

My name is Fyscher I am 10 years old. This year my sister Cryssie would like a new truck I would like some fairy lights, a stuffed animal peacock, and some new ice skates. What is your favorite cookie? I will leave some carotts for the reindeer. Just so you know I will be in Ugene, Oregon for Christmas. Have a safe flight! Love you to the North Pole and back!

-Miss Fysch (Fyscher) P.S. I belive

Dear santa

I love my elfs there awesome there is 1 thing I want for Chrstimas can I please have the LPS 10-pack Bobble Head Set if

I can have that that whould be amazing

> love cadum

DEAR SANTA,

I Love you SANTA. I'm excited about lots of things for Christmas. Heres a list of things I like:

- -toy far wheeler
- -lego dragon buggy
- -Spiderman action figure
- -Jack Jack doll
- -elastigirl doll
- -mini mouse doll
- -Cookie Monster
- -Pj mask action set -Ninja turtle Bike hug
- -Bin 10 Delux omnitrix
- -drum kit

- -trampoline mini
- -Basketball hoop
- -Go Kart

Basically I like a lot of things. Thank you & elves for all your hard work. I will thankful for family & Christmas day

> love **Cooper Kandoll**

Dear Santa,

If youll gratously agree I have been very (If not a little) good. If I may be so bold, I would like two things Christmas. Number one of those jackits that gose down to ones ancks and an event in the day that will really surprise

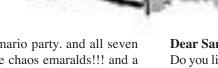
sincerely ariston warmack

ps. please write back.

Arrowhead LP Gas

Dear, Santa, for Christmas I want: a five nithts at fredys 2 lego set: paper pals party! I also want a sonic unleashd video game. and a netendo swish system with soper mario party. and all seven real life chaos emaralds!!! and a five nites at fredys 4 lego set: nitmare boniey with grand fathers clock

coleman bradly Lyons.



sincerely



Dear Santa,

Do you like hot chocolate? I'm a little scared of you, but I think you're cool. For Christmas I would like a

Chainsaw

Stuffed Elf

Magic disappearing elf

Elf that delivers popcorn Diving guy with a mask

> Love, Soren (3 years old)

Dear Santa, I want a discoe Ball Drone and the Deep cit and a LEgo set and stuft animal.

Santa What bo your reindeer

love HAKON.

11-26-18 (6 years old)

Dear Santa

Is it cold where you are? I wanna meet your reindeer someday. Please, can I have a Heatwave Dinobot, a book with toy robots in it and a toy with chocolate for my stocking?

> Thank you! Love, **Nick Hammer** $(4 \frac{1}{2} \text{ years old})$

Hammer ho! ho!! ho!!! Dear Santa, hi!

I want a snow globe, and a baby doll with accessories. also a sparkly ornament that i can make! marry christmas

Love, Isabelle Continued on page 4



GOD BLESS ALL LIVING CREATURES at CHRISTMASTIME

Our best wishes are with you and yours as we celebrate the Miracle of His birth. May your spirits be lifted by the beauty of the season, just as ours have been by the privilege of knowing good people like you. Happy Holidays and many thanks.

City of Kupreanof

Dear Santa...

Continued from page 3 SANTA,

I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS A OPTIMAS AND A NEW BUMBLEBEE. I REALLY LIKE YOUR ELVES.

DUNCAN

(Duncan Durst, Age 5)

Dear Santa,

I love your tree! And I love presents & I love the grinch. Been a good girl, and would love a sparkly dinosaur, a sparkly unicorn, Oddbods and the Raiders to with a game for daddy.

Love, Linda Carnes (4 years old, Head Start)

DEAR SANTA,

Can I please have a swiss army knife? A spot light, the board game sorry, walkie-talkies a SPhero SPRK

First order destroyer Legos, macnete, telescope.

Christpher says hi!

Thank you Love NOAH Larson

Dear Santa

I Want a base ball and some star Wars toys. I would also like some legos too.

> Your Friend Tristian H

Dear Santa

My name is Destiny, I am Nana's daughter. My favorite book is The Twelve Days of Christmas. I have a little sister and her name is Hayden. We are putting up a Christmas tree and we will leave cookies out for you. Could I please have a new swimming pool with a water slide and a remote control spider. Please tell the reindeer hi from me.

Your Friend Destiny

Dear Santa,

My name is Joshua Whittaker. I live down the water on Wrangell Narrows. For Christmas I would like an airplane with a remote control.

Santa, I want you to bring my Mom a monkey, that you hit it and it plays music, I want my grandmother to have a Hello Kitty. I want a real dog with spots so I can call him "Spot." I also want a toy tablet, and a remote control car!

> Thank you, JOSHUA

(6 years old)

Dear Santa,

My name is Peyton Whittaker, for Christmas I want a real horse. I want another toy tablet; please. I want a barbie, a remote control horse, a barbie house, to have my fingernails done by Celeste. I want a watch and a pair of flip flops.

> Thank you, Peyton

(8 years old)

Dear Santa

My name is Carter and I am 3 years old.

Can I please get a Giant car I can drive, a Race boat with a trailer, a small car for my sister and a snack drawer.

I have been a nice boy this year Santa! Merry Christmas.

Love Carter

Dear Santa,

My name is Ruger. I wanted to thank you for the present you gave me last year. This year could you get me a four-wheeler. And a New Door for my Dad,

Love, Ruger

Lolah!

Dear Santa. I only want one thing for christmas. But it may be a littel complicated. This year I wood-like an American Girl doll Maguseen! It had all the car's eksesery's and every-thing. P.S. marry christmas Santa! And if you call sante I would really like an American boy doll Pleas. To go with the American Girl car and to be more spesifick I would really like the American boy doll to hav blond hair pleas!

Dear Santa,

My Name is Kade I wanted to thank you for the present last year. This year would you bring me pokemon, ipad. And a fansy hat for my mom.

Love Kade Continued on page 5





OLA RICHARDS / Petersburg Pilot



Art by Fyscher

Merry Christmas To All, And To All A Good Flight.

Here's our best wishes to you and yours, for a happy, healthy and prosperous Holiday Season.



From the crew in Petersburg: Darcey, Eunice, Gayle, Jody, Laura, Mali, Sebastian, Skyler, Scott, Kenny & Angel.

2017 GENERAL EXCELLENCE FIRST PLACE NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION AND NAMED BEST WEEKLY NEWSPAPER IN 2013 & 2015 BY THE ALASKA PRESS CLUB





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Dear Santa...

Continued from page 4

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Daphne B I am 5 years old & my birth day is may 13th & I <3 math. How do your raindeer fly? I've been realy good this year I was realy hoping for a toy raindeer, a real pet kitty, & a rainbow unicorn neckless & I hope my auntie can spend christmas with me.

I hope you can make it to all the houses

Sincerely Daphne

Dear Santa,

My name is Duncan I wanted to thank you for the Bumblebee last year. this year will you bring me optimiss prime. And a gun for my dad.

from Duncan

Dec. 7, 2018 Dear Santa,

My name is Liam. I want to thank you for the present last year! This year will you Bring me a Megalodon shark toy and a ATM for my grampa please?

> Love, Liam

Dear Santa,

My name is ELLIA I wanted to thank you for the present last year. This year would you bring me a prinses set, dresses, headbands and earings. And a unicorn Stuffies for my Sisters and flowers for my mom. And I hope you enjoy the cookies and milk I set out. I Love you santa!

> Love, **ELLIA**

Dear Santa,

My name is Brea. I wanted to thank you for the trycicle I got last year from you. This year, II would like, toy reindeer or a toy jeep I can ride in. I will leave you cookies and milk. I hope you are having a good time up there. And a Seahawks pillow for my Dad

> Love, **BREA**

Millie

Dear Santa,

My name is MIliie I wanted to thank you for the toy unicorns I got last year. This year would you bring me a fluffy unicorn. And a remote control dinasour for my brother. This year I'm going to leave cookies and carrots for you and your reindeer.

> Love, mellil

Dear Santa, My name is Aalthea

Can I have a Doll car and ashopkin car. Can you get makeup for my mom.

> Love, Aalthea

Dear Santa,

My name is Gabe. I wanted to thank you the presant last year. This year would you bring me 2 diamands and Poke'mon.And a fishpole for my brother, and my mom makeup.My little sister a new teddy bear. Also a new blanket for my big sister

> Love, **GABE**

Dear Santa,

My name is CALI I wanted to thank you for the present last year this year would you bring me a jack frost Doll and a snow globe and a perfect pair of glasses for my sister and we will leave you cookes and your Raindear carrots

Love, CALI

Dear Santa,

My is Adriana and i'm five years old. What are are your favorite cookies? Mine are chocolate. For christmas I want an elsa castle with Elsa and Anna and Olaf. I want some food for my dolls. I also want a snowglobe. I hope a good Christmas!

From, AdriANA

Dear Santa, My Name is Graig for christmas i'm going to have a snowball fight with my mom.I have 6 cats and 2 dogs and I Love them.I would like a drone and Batterys and more shirter morvie one please. Have a safe trip santa and I will leave you milk and a couple cookies. How is mrs. clause and the raindeer doing. Thank you for giveing us all of our presents every year. And i want a candy bar for my mom.

> sincerly, Craig

Dear Santa claus,

My name is Gage and I am 5 years old. I have 1 fish and 1 dog. I have 2 sisters and 1 brother. I have been good this year I want an electric toy car, pretend kitchen with food, Ipad. I would also like some new shirts for my mom, I want myfriend Koven to get what he wants for christmas. Thank you for the Nerf gun you got me last year. Do you like chocolate cookies?

Sincerely, Gage

Dear Santa Claus

My name is Ryder and I'm 5 years old. I live with my grandparents and my mom. What kind of cookies do you want? Do you like the snow there? For Christmas I want a big puffy cat. Also I want a puzzle. The last thing I want is to see you the Santa Claus. I have pretty good this year. Thanks for the toy Darth Vador last year thank you for every thing you give me

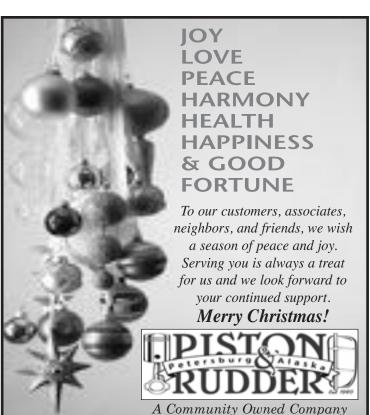
Continued on page 8



We look forward to your continued friendship

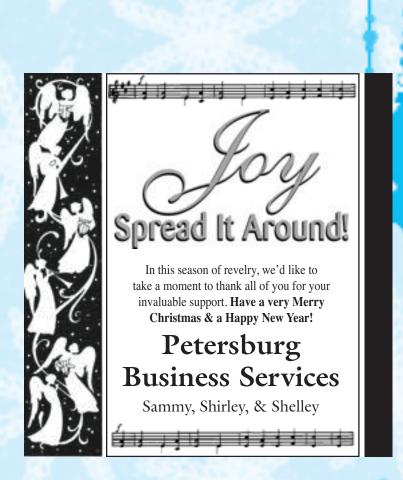
Merry Christmas from Sarah, George & Joey

Petersburg Properties LLC





Page 6 Pilot December 20, 2018 Page 7





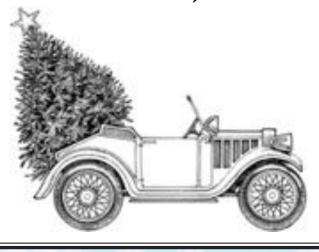
Have a Vintage Season

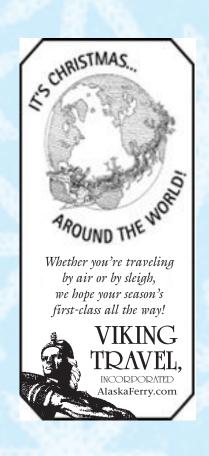
Here's hoping your holiday season is a truly memorable one, We know we're filled with fond memories as we recall the many kind people we've had the privilege to serve this year.

Merry Christmas!

From the gang at

PETERSBURG MOTORS, INC.





Bring On the Merry!

Friends, family and festivities...
Light, love and laughter...
Gifts, gratitude and goodwill...

We hope this Christmas season treats you to all the best.

Doing business with you has been our pleasure, and we look
forward to seeing you again soon.

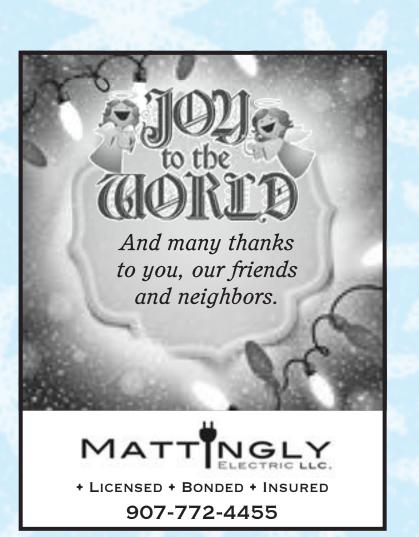
Happy Holidays!

From Barry Morrison, President, General Mgr.; Staff, Management and Board of Directors of

THE TRADING UNIONING



Mill Creek Bookkeeping
Eloise Whitethorn



Dear Santa

Continued from page 5 Dear Santa,

How are you? I'm hoping for a giant teddy bear, a squishie, and nutella for Christmas. How old are you? How are the reindeer?

> Love, Savina Pawuk

From: Lucia to Santa Petersburg, Alaska

Lucia

Dear Santa Hows the to have tree laers. like a casell and about this big reapunzul

Pink wings

With her very own brush and

eaindeer Dasher practser coment and cuped Doner blictsin vixen Donner and Rudolph? Have you and mrs. clus eaten much cokeis? Oh yeah! I was going to tell you what I want for christmas. I want a noo Barbie house with it's own Barbie dall and the Barbie house

Dear Santa.

Christmas is coming soon. I wanted to tell you what I want for Christmas. The first thing that I want is a parrot to keep me company. The second thing that I want is a tablet. My tablet is kind of out of shape.

and a a univorn with wings

From, Jonathan

Dear santa.

Christmas is coming Soon and there are a few things that i would like. I would like the Hulk, Black Panther and spider man. I like Hulk because he is strong. Black panther is my favorite merry chr christmis christian

Dear Santa & Mrs. Claus,

I hope you are doing fine, I love you. I hope your reindeer are doing good. I hope they don't get sick. I would like a real dog for Christmas, one without any buttons. I've got a lot of toys, you can come play with me anytime. I want to come to your house Santa & Mrs. Claus.

> Thank you, I love you! **Tula (age 3 ½)**

Dear Sata

I wish a for new Bob gam6 LOL Dolls PrPle ugss

LVOE Daisy

A suft New Dache **SliPPers** E000 44 DOrs A elf on the shef

Dear Santa,

I don't have much to say. But this is what I want for Christmas. I want 2 things for Christmas. My

first thing I want is slime. My second thing I want is a loving family just like the old times. I'm lucky because I already have that.

> From. Madaline

Dear Santa,

I'm writing this at school. Christmas is coming soon so I'm going to write now. I want three things this year.

The first thing I want is a pair of blue Extratuffs because winter is coming and my pairs of boots are getting really tight.

The second thing I want is a Harry Potter lego set.I haven't played with legos in a really long time and I find Harry Potter very exciting. The third thing I want would be fuzzy yarn. I want fuzzy yarn because I really like finger knitting.

Those are the three things I want for Christmas. I almost forgot to say 'hello' from me to the reindeer, thank you!

> From. Samantha

Dear Santa,

For this Christmas I want a puppy and a kitty. (a real puppy) I know why I went a real puppy because I want a pet of my own. I want the new Spyro Game. Please get that new game. Also I want a BIG TEDDY BEAR so I can be warm from the cold. I want a car for my brother and for my sis she wants a horse. I want an Elf on the Shelf and a robot horse and a doll.

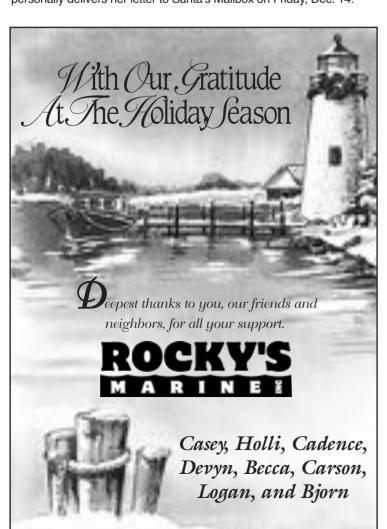
> From. Heileigh

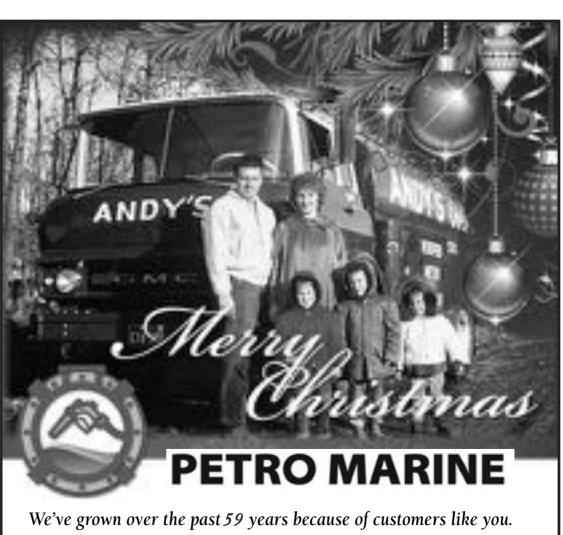
Merry Christmas! Hohoho! Continued on page 9





Duncan Durst waits for his turn behind Lily Scrimsher as Ellia Stewart personally delivers her letter to Santa's Mailbox on Friday, Dec. 14.





Thank you for your business and continued loyalty. We wish you a blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Dear Santa





Continued from page 8

Dear Father christmas

I don't write letters much but I want to tell you what I want for christmas.

I hav three things I want. My first is an American girl doll electric CAr even though its 1,000 or 200 DOLLERS but to you its zero dollars. Anyway my Second thing is a microscope. My third is a telescope. okay I'm going too tell you about that microscope I wanted. I can see blood through the microscope. And the teloscope Hmmmmmm? OOOO! I got it! A teloscope can look a shooting star

> Sincerley, Sophia

> > Dec 3rd

Dear Santa,

Christmas is coming soon. I want to take a moment to write 1 thing I would like for Christmas: a Bike with a Fender and a softseat please. I want it Because my bike is very old and the chain is rusty.

> Sincerely, Drew

Dear Santa,

Christmas is coming soon cheer and happiness too. There are 3 things I want for Christmas. The first is a nut cracker with gems and white hair. The wood will be painted red. The second thing is a big unicorn poopsy slime surprise. I don't care what one it is. I want a small shamy for Christmas. I don't care what color it is.

Sincerely, **Emilia**

Dear Santa,

Christmas is coming soon and I want to take a moment to write to you. There are three things I would like for Christmas. The first thing I want is a puppy because I have been wanting a dog for a long time and I want an animal to take care of.

The second thing I want for Christmas is an American Girl doll because I want to have more to play with and me and my friend have a collection. The third thing I want for Christmas is Num Num Silly Shakes because when I mix it up it turns into slime.

> From, Amelia Dec. 3,2018

Dear Santa,

I would really like three things for Christmas. The first is a nutcracker because I'm in the nutcracker dance. The second is an American girl doll set because it would get me more into American girl doll stuff. The third is an iPod touch because it can play games and it doesn't take much room.

From, Kaija

p.s. make sure I don't get coal

Dear Santa,

My name is Traezja and I'm 5 years old. I'm a gingerbread in the nutcracker! I have six sisters and one cat. What are your favorite cookies? My favorite cookies are chocolate chip cookies.

For chrismas I want a bouncy house. I also want a baby doll with a cradle and fake food. I want to give my mom a sparkly rainbow neckless. I want my grandma and grandpa to come home for christmas.

From TRAEZJA

Dear Santa

My name is Nikkole. I wanted to thank you for the present last year this year would you bring me a beachball and a stuffed bear. And a toy truck for my little brother. I hope you enjoy the cookie and

> LOVE, NIKKOLE

Dear Santa,

My name is kaitlyn, How are your reeindeer? For Christmas I would like a bunch of MandMs, and alot of candy and A splat sock. Also

it snows for Christmas. Thank you for bringing me presents last year. I love watching Christmas movies.

> From, Kaitlyn

December, 3, 2018

Dear Santa,

Christmas is coming soon and I want three things for Christmas.

The first is American girl doll clothes. I want them because my doll clothes. I want them because my doll doesn't have that many clothes. She will ware new clothes every day.

My second is a little toy robot. I want it because it can move. And it can talk to me. It will play with me.

The last thing is a giant candy cane. I will lick it all day. I'll save some for the next day.

I hope I get those things for Christmas.

Sincerely, Arielle

Dear Santa Claus,

My name is Midori and for christmas I would lik a bath bom maker. What kind of cookies do you like? I'm a gingerbread in the nutcracker. Please wish Mrs. Claus a happy chistmas and please wish my sister a happy chistmas. Hope you can come to my dance.

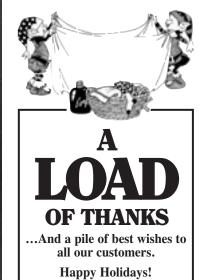
Nathan steel

Dear SANTA CLAUS,

My name is Mason, and I am 5, I live in Petersburg Alaska. Also I have a mom and dad and 2 dogs and a cat. Also I have been good this year and I have been nice to my parents.

Santa I have one quetion how many elves do you have. For Christmas I want a video game for Christmas.

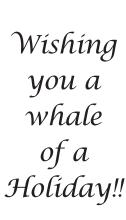
> From MASON REETJ Continued on page 10



Glacier

Laundry







Dear Santa...

Continued from page 9 Dear Santa Clause,

My name is Maya and I am 5 years old. I am in Kindergarden. I live in Petersburg Alaska. What is your favroit raindeer. I want a big box of Sour Patch kids. I want a toy Trinket from Nelle the Princess knight. I would like a big box of candy for my dad. Thank you for last years presents my favriot one was all of them.

Love, MAYA

p.s. Have a good Christmas

Dec, 7, 2018

Dear Santa,

My name is Lily. I wanted to thank you for the presant last year. This year would you bring me, another Pinky (Pink Teddy Bear). And some big bulding blocks, for my Baby Brother. And a brown Teddy Bear, for my little sister.

From, Lily

Dear Santa,

My name is Brett. I wanted to thank you for the Dino Trucks you bought me last year. The game Tick Tack Tounge. This year would you bring my dad a new phone. I will also remember to leave out cookies and milk for you.

Love, Brett

Dec. 7 2018

Dear, Santa

My name is LORA

I wanted to thank you for the presents last year. This year I want you to Bring me light up shoes and A ipad for my Brother. Also I will leve you milk and cookies

Love, LORA

Dear Santa,

My name is Koven and am 5 years old. Santa do the elves play

gaytar? Santa do raindear have lights on there antlers? F or Chistmas this year I would like a pair of gloves, a pretend airport and a pretend candel that lights up with a switch, and for evrey one a 2018 20 foot light house. Safe tria;s delivering presents.

Sincerely, Koven

Dear Santa,

My name is Ivy I am 5 years old. I have 1 sister. I am in the Nutcracker this year. Do you want choclate chip cookies this year? For Christmas I would like an American girl doll because it's magical and when you press a button it light up. I would also want world peace. Thank you for all the prents last year I loved playing in my Barbie Dream House. I love watching Christmas movies. Hope you will an amazing Christmas this year.

Ivy

Dear Santa,

My name is Liam and i'm 6 years old. How are you doing in the North Pole? I'm doing great! For Christmas I want a wooden sword for christmas. I also want a bumble bee transformer. I want my family to have a good time at Christmas.

From LiAM

Dear Santa

christmas is coming soon. I want to see my Littleoma. The second thing i want For christmas is a ps4 game called Batman Arkham Asylum. The Third Thing is a monitor For my ps4. I wish that i can get theses things

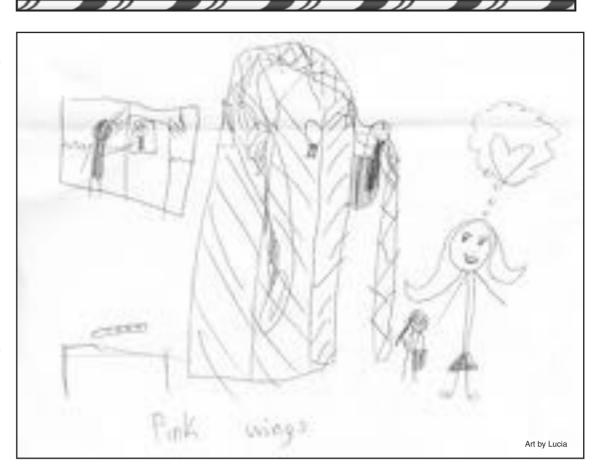
marry christmas Your Friend Dan Stocks

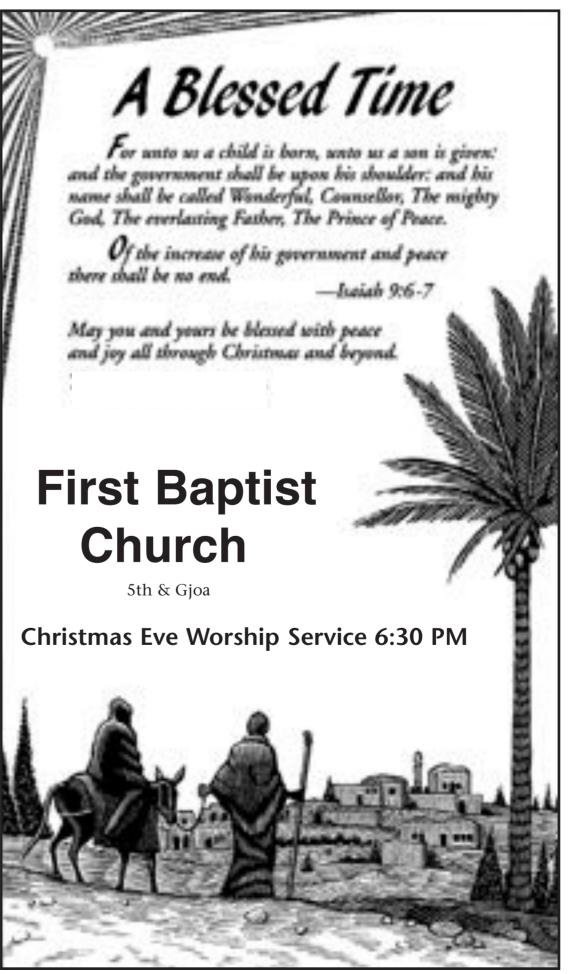
December 3, 2018

Dear Santa,

Christmas is coming soon and I would like three things for Christmas please. The first thing is an American girl electric car









Evan and Colette Boggs pose with Santa and Mrs. Claus in their pajamas, along with their mother Kathleen Boggs.



Continued from page 10 because I have an American girl doll.

The second thing is a little robot called Dot.

The third thing is a telescope because I love stargazing.

> Sincerely, Cadence.

Dear Santa,

My name is Aubrianna. I am 4, I have been good this

Dear Santa,

I'm writing from school to you and I want to tell you what I would like for Christmas.

A Barbie Dreamhouse

Doctors to make my daddy

Aubrianna Wright

Love,

Age 4

The first thing I would like is the Hogwart's great hall lego set because I like building lego sets and playing with it.

The second thing I would like is a tool kit because I need a lot of different kinds of tools in my tree houses.

The third thing I would like is an electric pencil sharpener because it makes a cool noise and sharpens pencils very fast.

Christmas is coming soon and those are the three things I would like for Christmas.

> Sincerely, Calder Hyer.

Dec. 3, 2018

Dear St. Nick,

Christmas is coming and There are five things I want. The first thing I want is a real live pomeranian.

The second thing is a pair of earrings that have pink flowers. The third thing I would like is a heated blanket and a real sleigh bell and a telescope.

Sincerely, **Bareal or Moochie**

Dear Santa,

Christmas is coming soon and I wanted to take a moment to write to you about three things I would really like for Christmas.

The first thing I would like is: A baby alive doll. I want one that poops and pees. And it comes with diapers and a water bottle. I want it because my little sister is coming soon so I want to train myself.

The second thing I want is: a bunny. I want a bunny because my dad is allergic to cats and my cats live in the basement so I don't get to see them a lot.

The third thing I want is: an American girl doll camper. I want a camper because I have a red camero and it might be able to attach.

Sincerely, Jillian December 3 2018

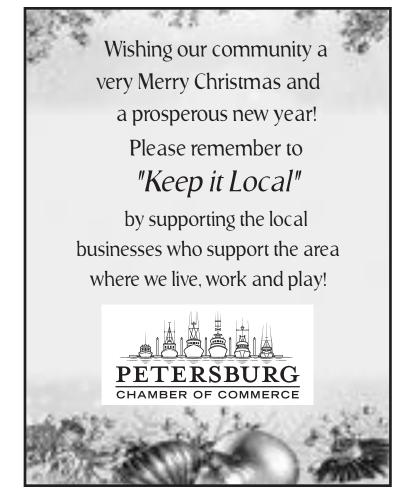
Dear Santa Claus,

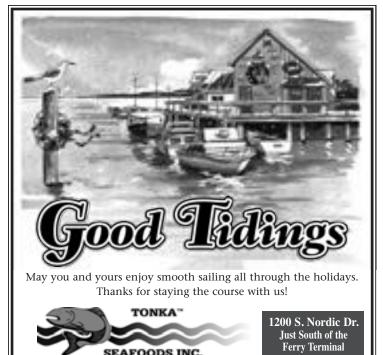
Christmas is coming soon and I hoped you could make these toys please.

The first toy I want is an American girl doll. I want it because have none at my house. May I have nine pairs of pants, socks, 3 hats, shoes, 1 pear of ice skates, and a few jackets please!

The second toy I want is a lego set. I want the lego set because I love building lego sets.

Continued on page 12





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Dear

The third toy I want is a play phone. I want the play phone because I don't play with any of he play phones that I have.

The third toy is a play computer. I want the play computer because I use books for play computers.

Christmas is COMING!!!! How old are you? Does Rudolph have a red shiny nose?

> From, **Aria Swanson**

Dear Santa,

Christmas is coming soon and I wanted to take a moment to write to you about three things I would really like for Christmas.

The first thing is a gaming computer.

I really want it so I can play all my games.

The second thing is the book called Hilo, I really like it. The last thing is a Fortnite hoodie.

I really want it because it goes with the game I play.

Sincerely, Jacob Tagaban **December 4, 2018**

Dear Santa,

My own xbox account is one thing I want. Why? Cause I don't want to play on my friend's account.

The second thing I want is a new baseball bat. The brand is Easton and the color I want is yellow and black.

The third thing I want is a hover board because I can get to my destination faster in my house. Those are the three things I want for Christmas.

> Sincerely, Edgar O. December 3, 2018



Santa and Mrs. Claus admiring Aubrianna Wright in her white dress.

Dear Santa,

Christmas is coming soon and I wanted to take a moment to write to you about three things I would really like for Christmas.

My first thing I want is a mountain bike with brand new gears and have oiled chains already. And because my old bike has scratches all over it and has a rusty chain and flat tires.

The second thing I want is a new remote control car with a top speed of 20 miles an hour because my other old one has hair and a broken antenna on the top. My third thing I want is a new bed because my old one has a broken board and it makes a lot of noise when I wake up.

> From, Mason

Dear Santa,

My name is Liam. I am 5. For Christmas I would like a baby brother, A atomic Blast shin godzilla, and a Jason with 2 heads.

Love, Liam Jackson

Dear santa claus,

My name is Laramie I am 5 years old. I have 2 dogs thair names are abby and Donimo. I a gingerbread in the nutcracker. How is mrs. claus and the raindears. I have bean

very good and I have obayed my pairents. I whant a unicorn whanch, a whistle and a toy gutar. Thanks for the nerf gun you gave me last year. Do you whant a Raindear cookies Santa have a safe trip orand the world.

Sincerely, LARAMIE Louer Dec, 4, 2018

Dear st.Nick christmas is coming soon. I want 3 things the first one is one of your rein deer bell if you can't write me back

if you can put it on my desk I would like it from comet. My second is a jurrasic lego set because all of my lego sets get destroyed. My third is a elf-onthe shelf

Flip to back

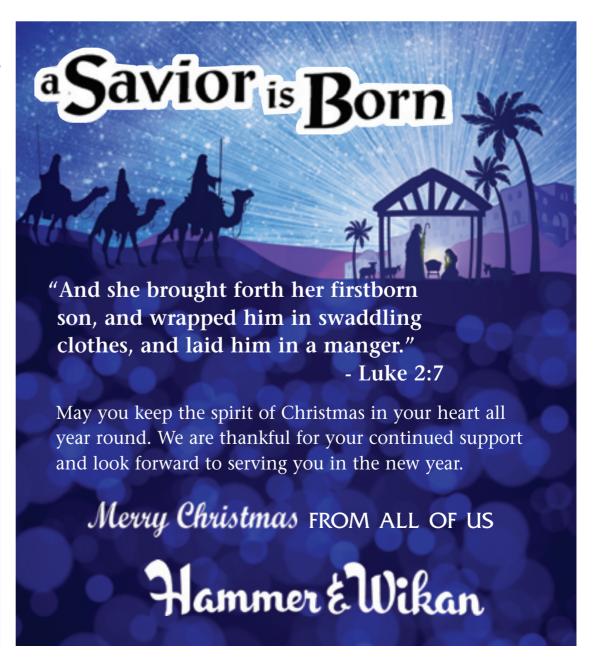
Pet St. Burnard so I can have something to love if it moves write me back

From madelyn

p.s drop off at school look for the name madelyn move books if you have to room 4

Continued in Section 2, on page 13







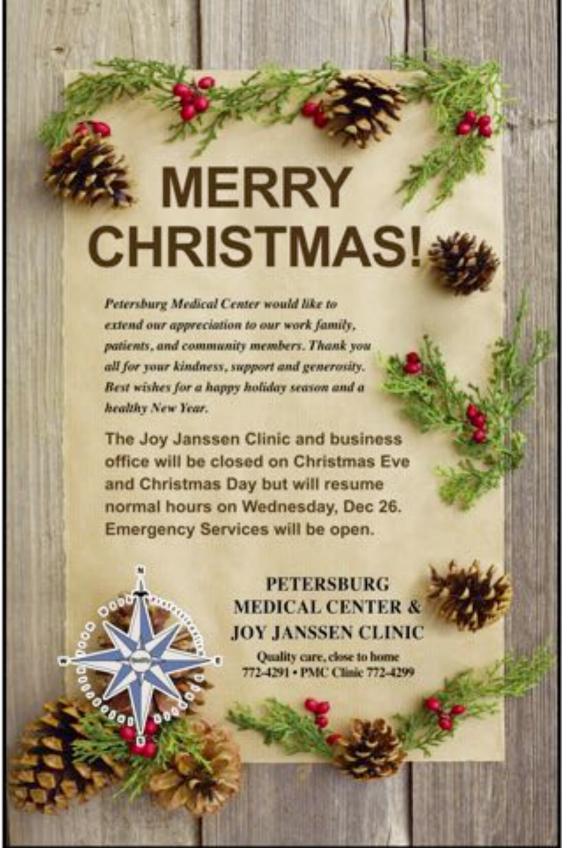
Dear Santa... -

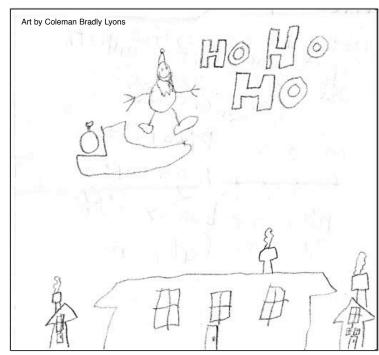
Continued from page 12

Dear Santa, I am not realy sure what I want for Christmas but I have one thing in mind Littlest pet shops. Other than that I don't know. I have been pretty good this year. I was hoping you

could choose for me and if you can that would be great. Thanks. Mail me back if you have a chance. Tell the elves I say hi. **Sincerely Maelle**

Dec,9,2018





Dear Santa,

This year for Christmas, may I please have, a hoverbord, a camera, legos, A Two By Two Rubix cube, 2 Canveses, More 3 by 3 rubix cubes for my school, an ordiment from 2018, and a little swedish person. And thank you for my loom from last year.

From, Heidi

Dear Santa,

This Christmas could I please have a big KiKi, a Luna and my little Ponies, and could I please have a big Panda. I HAVE BEEN GOOD. LOVE, DAPHNE

Dear Santa,

I would like a kitty cat, chickens, ladder for people

Love, Svea

Dear Santa

I want a bouncy house. And a Iphone xs and slim



stuff. And a tree house.

Love Brandt

DEAR SANTA,

I HOPE YOU HAVE A GRATE CHRISTMAS AND HAVE FUN NIGHT. WHAT I WANT FOR CRISTMAS IS 6 GALLONS OF GLOW IN THE DARCK GLUE AND WHAT ELSE I WANT IS NUMNUM SILLY SHAKES, AND UNICORN POOPSIE SLIME SURPRISE. THANK YOU. I HOPE YOU HAVE FUN DELIVERING.

LOVE AMELIA BATES

DEAR SANTA,

THANK YOU FOR THE PRESENT LAST YEAR. I LOVED THEM. I'VE BEEN A VERY GOOD GIRL THIS YEAR. HOW ARE YOU? HOPE YOU'RE DOING GOOD. THESE ARE THE PRESENTS IM HOPING FOR THIS YEAR. A LOL BIG SUR-PRISE, AND A LOL CONFET-TI POP, A MAGGIE AND BIANCA SET, AND A POP THE PIG GAME AND A SET INCREDIBLES PLAY DOH. THANK YOU SANTA, AND HAVE FUN STAY WARM DELIVERING PRE-SENTS ON CHRISTMAS AND ENJOY THE COOKIES WE LEAVE OUT FOR YOU.

LOVE ADDISON BATES

Dear Santa HOW are you HOW is ^r **Sa**udolph I want for christmas a big pick mi pop a jelly dream and a Red Fox merry christmas

From Gillian O'soup See you next year!

Dear Santa

Please can I have A Hatchimal.

Thank you =)

Dear Santa

Can Ethan have a big nerf Gun and a hatchimal.

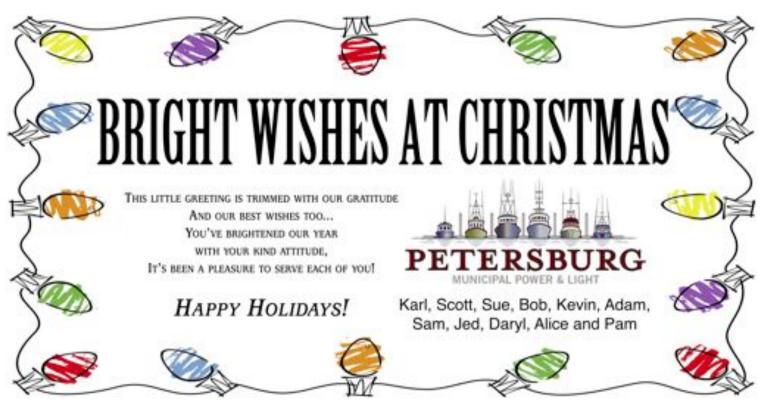
From Freya Fenner and Ethan Edwards

Deer santa how are you? How are the randear? I'm good. I'm seven

I Wood like a stuft lezzrd sInseerly Delan

P.s can you plees Bring my littl bruthr oskara Dinusor costoom

Brandt Continued on page 14



Dear Santa...

Continued from page 13

My name is Zayden. I live in petersburg AK. Christmas is my favorite holiday. How are the elfs?

For christmas I want a doll with long hair. The doll will have black hair and red eyes. Also I wanta pig, the pig is black with gray stripes. A pritty santa cookie would be great for my mom. I want my aunty to be safe for cristmas. Thank you for giving everyone presents. I will leave you some cookies

Sincerely, Zayden

Dear SAnTA

THIS YEAR I HAVE BEEN: Naughty Nice

xReally Nice

I NEED: ATAT

I'LL ENJOY: something from dragon ball z

I'll READ: star wars Book I'll Wear: A really nice green shirt

Love, KADE.

My Wishlist

Dear Santa

THIS YEAR I HAVE BEEN: Naughty

Nice

xReally Nice

I'LL ENJOY:X box4 nurf gun snipper

Love, Aldric

My Wishlist

Dear Santa

THIS YEAR I HAVE BEEN: Naughty

Nice

xReally Nice

I NEED: Hamer nails wood I'LL ENJOY: christmas I"LL READ: book

I'LL WEAR: Shirt underwear soks pants

Love, cedar

Dear SANTA,

THIS YEAR I HAVE BEEN: Naughty Nice

xReally Nice

I NEED: Bumble bee I'LL ENJOY: Base I'LL READ: Minecraft

I'LL WEAR: Sweater



Dear SANTA, THIS YEAR I HAVE BEEN: Naughty Nice

xReally Nice

I NEED: IT the clown I'LL ENJOY: playing I'LL READ: Jaws

I'LL WEAR: IT costume Liam

Dear SANTA,

THIS YEAR I HAVE BEEN: Naughty

X Nice

Really Nice

I NEED: Swim things when Kindergarten is over

I'LL ENJOY: Barbie Doll

I'LL READ: books

I'LL WEAR: swimsuit costume because I like swim

Love, Zayden

Dear Santa,

THIS YEAR I HAVE BEEN Naughty

Nice

x Really Nice

I NEED: a Pensal I'LL ENJOY: everythenG I'LL READ: all Books I'LL WEAR: Jens

Love, Adrian

Dear SAnta,

THIS YEAR I HAVE BEEN:

Naughty

X Nice Really Nice

I NEED: I heeDA CLOThes I'LL ENJOY: A Foort I'LL READ: eesee chaptrs

I'LL WEAR: footee BJA-

Love, Declan Continued on page 15

Art by Evelynn







Hope you have a wonderful, happy season with all the trimmings.

Petersburg Fisheries A Division of Icicle Seafoods, Inc.

CELEBRATING 53 YEARS IN PETERSBURG







All around town, north, south, east and west, we're sending our neighbors all of our best! With wishes so warm and merry and bright, we hope your holiday is a sheer delight!

Thanks for your support in making 2017 a great year for us.

ALASKA

2.74 Mile Mitkof Hwy. **AkFibre.com** • 772-2173

FIBRE INC. Mon-Fri 8am — 5pm Sat - Sun 10am — 4pm

Dear Santa

Tyler, Cole, Scott, Ken, Sarah, Maura & Heidi and the Crew at I





We appreciate your cooperation this past year!

Petersburg

Port Authority

Advisory Board & Harbor Crew

Dear santa,

THIS YEAR I HAVE BEEN:

Naughty

X Nice

Really Nice

I NEED: love and support I'LL ENJOY: atine cotin candy muchen thet maks rell cotin candy

I'LL READ: gredudns culec-

I'LL WEAR: nise close

Love, Jozlyn

Dear Santa,

THIS YEAR I HAVE BEEN:

Naughty

X Nice

Really Nice I NEED: toy crowns I'LL ENJOY: Butterly fans I'LL READ: princess books I'LL WEAR: Dresses

Love, ELLIA

Dear Santa,

THIS YEAR I HAVE BEEN:

Naughty

x Nice

x Really Nice

I NEED: New Das shoes I'LL ENJOY: New glus I'LL READ: New Books I'll WEAR: New pchamus

Love, Daisy!

Dear santa,

THIS YEAR I HAVE BEEN:

Naughty

X Nice

Really Nice I NEED: Family I'LL ENJOY: life

I'LL READ: afosin dak

I'LL WEAR: Dreses

Etolyn

Dear SANTA

THIS YEAR I HAVE BEEN:

Naughty

Nice

x Really Nice

I NEED: a toy doggy robot I'LL ENJOY: playing with my friends

I'LL READ: a book

I'LL WEAR: clothes

Dear Santa,

THIS YEAR I HAVE:

Naughty

X Nice

Really Nice I NEED: cubes I'LL ENJOY: the cubes I'LL READ: my fravrit book I'LL WEAR: a suetr

Neil

Dear SANTA,

THIS YEAR I HAVE BEEN: Naughty

Nice

x Really Nice

I NEED: eat food

I'LL ENJOY: candy

I'LL READ: books; Cat in

the Hat

I'll WEAR: pajama Love, KAitlyn

Dear SANTA,

THIS YEAR I HAVE BEEN:

Naughty

Nice

x Really Nice

I NEED: toys

I'LL ENJOY: another stuffed

I'LL READ: a coloring book

I'LL WEAR: a dress

Love, AALTHEA

Dear SANTA,

THIS YEAR I HAVE BEEN:

Naughty

X Nice Really Nice

I NEED: Light up shoes I'LL ENJOY: sledding I'LL READ: christmas book I'LL WEAR: clothes LorA

Dear santa,

THIS YEAR I HAVE BEEN:

Naughty

Nice

x Really Nice

I NEED: snow I'LL ENJOY: presents

I'LL READ: Magasine

I'LL WEAR: redshrt

Love, William

Art by Maelle

Dear Santa,

As usual I have been really good this year most of the time.

If you could bring a stuffed lepord and a goldfish with a

Please keep BAby Jesus Animals saFe.

> Love JAZZ K. SpECK 6 yeARS



Нарру **Holidays**

A little bird told us it's time to say "thanks" and we couldn't agree more!

Your friendship and support mean a lot to us.



"We do it all" 772-4270



thank and your name is on it! We hope you get everything you've wished for this Christmas, and we thank you for being so good to us this year.

Kinder Komfort

Linda, Linda, Mary & Willi

The history of holiday lights

Holiday celebrants employ holiday lights in various ways. Certain individuals may be content to hang lights on their Christmas trees and call their decorating complete. Others may get their holiday jollies by making sure each square inch of their home is covered in twinkling lights. Still, other people prefer the more subdued effect of lights framing one picture window of the house.

The tradition of Christmas lights stretches back to early modern Germany when people used candles to decorate Christmas trees in Christian homes. Those candles were harbingers of what would come when electric lights replaced gas and other open flame illuminating devices that were commonplace prior to the 20th century.

Thomas Edison, the inventor of the first successful prac-

tical light bulb, also created the first strand of electric lights that would be used in holiday decorating. By 1880, Edison had standard incandescent light bulbs well sorted out and desired a way to better advertise his invention, so he decided to make the most of the holiday season and put his light bulbs on display. According to a 2003 article in American Heritage magazine titled 'The Wizard of Your Christmas Tree,' Edison strung incandescent bulbs all around the compound of his Menlo Park, NJ, laboratory. Edison constructed an eight-mile underground wiring system in order to power this grand light display. Because the laboratory was situated along the railroad that passed between Manhattan and Philadelphia, thousands of people were able to see the display.

The concept of electric holi-



Last year, Andy & Katie Yeckley's Christmas display won the Single Family category in the Petersburg Chamber of Commerce Christmas decorating contest.

day lights took a bit of time to catch on. Edison's friend and associate Edward Johnson was tasked with stringing together colored lights in 1882 and placing them on an evergreen tree. Johnson hand-wired 80 red, white and blue light bulbs. In 1895, President Grover Cleveland requested the White House family Christmas tree be illuminated by multi-colored electric light bulbs.

In 1903, when General Electric began to offer preassembled kits of holiday lights, stringed lights were reserved for the wealthy and electrically savvy. For example, in 1903 a single string of electric lights cost \$12, or around \$300 today.

It would take several more years before holiday lights became a national tradition. On Christmas Eve 1923, President Calvin Coolidge began the country's celebration of Christmas by lighting the National Christmas Tree on the Ellipse located south of

the White House with 3,000 electric lights.

Today, illuminated strands of lights have become a large part of holiday celebrations

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

and have even been adopted for use during various yearround events. Such lights can be a beautiful and festive addition to many celebrations.











Ideas for making holiday memories

down Christmas Day means many different things to people across the globe. Although

to families likely have several different traditions they anticipate each year, it can be fun to incorporate some new merrymakers

into the festivities. Here are some festive ideas to include in the days leading up to Christmas - a special family calendar of fun finds.

1. Annual memento: Have the kids or adults make one new handmade ornament each year. This way the tree is always evolving, and everyone can track milestones.

2. Cookie day: Devote one day to making Christmas cookies. Invite friends or family members over. Distribute some cookies to elderly neighbors.

3. Holiday classic: Spend a night in and watch a classic Christmas flick you've never seen before. Streaming movie services often put classics and obscure titles into rotation during the holiday season.

4. Christmas concert: Host a gathering of children where they can sing or perform their favorite tunes for an audience. Take it on the road to a nearby nursing home.

5. Dine out: Take a break from cooking, shopping and hosting and stop into a restaurant you've been meaning to try. Keep it local to support nearby businesses.

6. Adopt a child/family: Volunteer with a charitable organization that provides for less fortunate families. Answer the Christmas desires of a needy child or family by purchasing an item on their wish

7. See the sights: Pack the children into the family car to look at Christmas light displays. Bring along cookies and hot chocolate.

8. Trim a tree: Get together with adult friends at a treetrimming party. Rotate the hosting house each year.

9. Play dress-up: A gentleman can dress up as the man in red and pop into a friend's holiday gathering.

10. Wilderness walk: Enjoy the crisp air and snow and see a local park from a winter perspective.

11. Acts of kindness: Choose

any act of kindness and make it happen this Christmas. It can include feeding the hungry or helping a disabled person shop for the season.

12. Kids' Secret Santa: Spread the joy of giving by having the kids choose a sibling or friend's name from a hat and purchasing or making a gift for that person. 13. Hand out hot chocolate:

Make a big thermos of hot chocolate and give it out to shoppers or workers who have been out in the cold. 14. Read religious stories:

Understand the true meaning of the season by reading Biblical passages. 15. Camp-in: The first night

the tree is decorated, allow the kids to sleep beside it under the glow of Christmas lights.

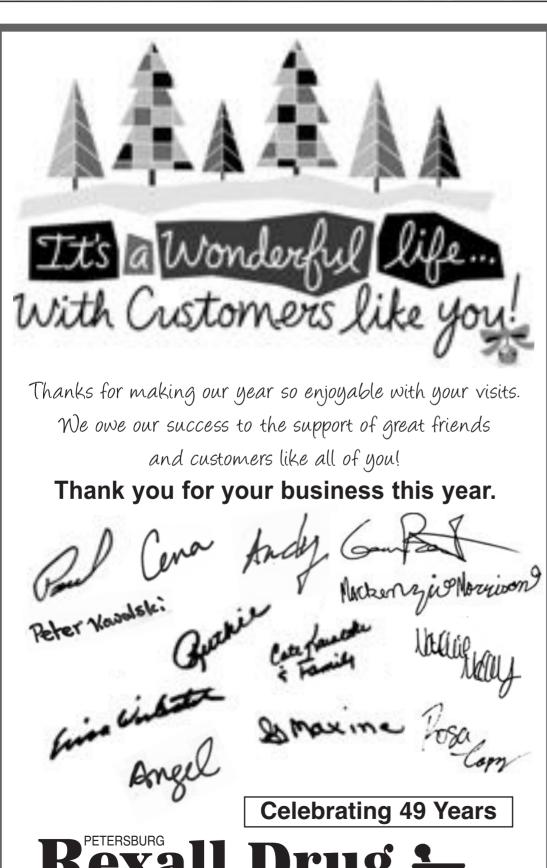
16. Scavenger hunt: Plan holiday-themed trivia questions and hide small trinkets for children to find.

17. Surprise box: Put a gender and age nonspecific gift into a box. On Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, the person who finds a hidden gift tag under their chair at dinner gets to open the box.

18. Family portrait: Wear your holiday finery and pose for a portrait that actually will be printed and framed.







"We treat your family as we treat our own."

772-3265

On Main Street



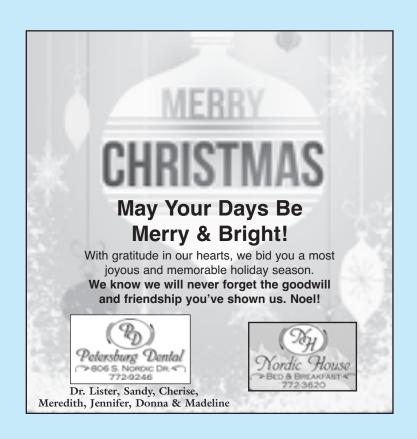
Down by the sea,

And all the gifts were wrapped and put 'neath the tree, But the rule of the bouse was to wait until dawn, When Santa had been there already and then sone, And we send you our thanks and we wish you great joy!

From Dave, Gene & the gang at



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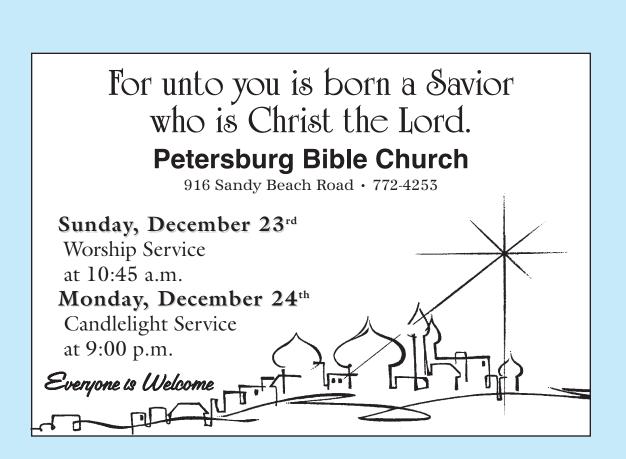


















MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL...2018

by Sue Paulsen (to the tune of Jingle Bells)

Dash to the PO, beware that mercury
No humpies to be seen, or a salmon derby
The dungeoness were fine, the black cod hard to get
Next year be sure you're there in time outside Crawfish Inlet!
Jingle on Dunleavy, he'll swell the PFD
He'll cut those big state budgets, please NOT Southeast Ferries!

Dashing off indictments, Mueller off to court

We'd really like to know, what's in that famed report

Some things were done down low, at EPA by Pruitt

A 43,000 dollar phone booth was one way he tried to do it

Oh, Manafort, and Cohen, Papadoupolos, and Mike Flynn

The testimony shows the trouble that our (REDACTED) is in....

Dashing round the world, dissension everywhere
Turn off the ads on Facebook, so elections will be fair
Finland's the happiest country, it has been so before
They sweat inside the sauna and they rake the forest floor!
Teresa May, Angelica M., can the EU take much more?
Just keep the tariffs off the fish and out of this trade war!

Dash on Lakers now, LeBron will turn the tide Electorate and stock market are taking a wild ride Get ready for the new year, it's probably just the same And when you make the salad do not put in the romaine!

No climate change, no border wall, who's next to get the axe? I guess if we don't like it we can find some ALTERNATIVE FACTS!

God often comes where we least expect it

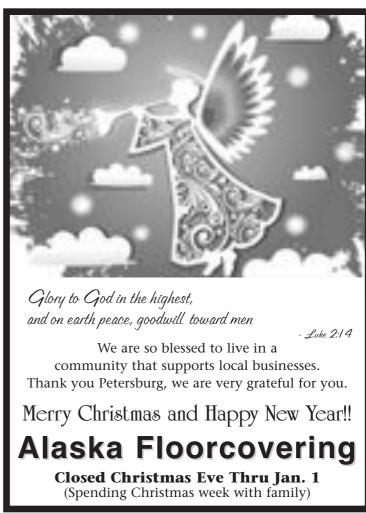
Pastor Eric Olsen,
Petersburg Lutheran Church

Jesus birth isn't just a "long ago and far away" sort of story. We celebrate God's Advent among us as a baby in a manger. But God continues to be made known among us, through words of hope and encouragement, through the gifts and talents of band and choir students, through watching a performance of Nutcracker, through prayers with someone in the hospital, through worship and Bible study, in the midst of a community gathered to entrust one who has died to God's mercy.

God's Advent among us in Jesus was grounded in history and continues to take root in our lives and community today. May you sense God's presence and promise showing up in your life. Perhaps even where you least expect it: family gatherings, folks on the street or dock, over a cup of coffee downtown, a service project. God's presence shows up in those places where each person is seen and valued for who they are because each of us is a child of God.

God often comes where we least expect it. A prophet in the wilderness dressed in camel hair, a babe born to an unwed teenage mom, the figure of one convicted as a criminal hanging on a cross. I don't know when or where you will sense God's Advent to you these days, but as you open yourself to that possibility, you will not be disappointed.





CELEBRATE THE MIRACLE



MAY THE JOY AND WONDER OF CHRISTMAS FILL YOU WITH CONTENTMENT. THANK YOU FOR BEING SUCH AN IMPORTANT PART OF YEAR. YOUR FRIENDSHIP AND SUPPORT MEAN A LOT TO US.



Sandi, Phil, Stuart, Rod, Lana & Israel

Christmastime is here. The presents are being purchased and wrapped. The stockings will soon be hung on the fireplace mantle. Mistletoe is pinned above the front entryway, and poinsettias add rich

NOTE Of **THANKS** chorus of best wishes to our many noteworthy customers and friends



Happy New Year!

Thanks For Your Support!

Winter Hours 9:30 am - 3:30 pm

color to home decor.

Tradition is integral come holiday the season. Throughout the month of December, traditions fill people's days and comprise the many reasons why individuals decorate, celebrate and dine the way they do this time of year. But few may know the origins of some of the most beloved holiday traditions.

Christmas stockings

The Christmas stockings of today may be a byproduct of various traditions. One such tradition dates back to a Dutch custom in which children would leave shoes full of food to feed St. Nicholas' donkeys, and then St. Nicholas would leave small gifts in return.

Another origin story of Christmas stockings can be traced to the 12th century, when nuns would leave socks full of nuts, fruit and tangerines for the poor. This is why some people still put tangerines in Christmas stockings.

Christmas tree

Christmas Trees are everywhere this time of year. The use of evergreen trees predates Christmas and is associated with the pagan festival of Saturnalia, which celebrated the agricultural god Saturn with partying and gift-giving. During the winter solstice, green branches served as a reminder that spring would arrive anew. Germans are credited with first bringing evergreens into their homes and decorating them.

Santa Claus

Have a

We're wishing our friends from far and wide all the best of the season.

George, Nancy & all the Staff

Santa Claus' origin story can be traced to St. Nicholas, a Christian bishop who lived during the fourth century. St. Nicholas was very generous and gave away his fortune to help the needy. He also did various other good deeds. St. Nicholas became infamous and began to be known by various names around the world. The Dutch called him Sinter Klaas, which was eventually transformed to Santa Claus. The jolly persona came later when 20th century advertisers - especially the artists responsible for Coca-Cola ads - portrayed Santa in a red suit with a big smile.

Mistletoe

Mistletoe is hung in doorways, and couples who stand

beneath are encouraged to share a kiss. The tradition of hanging it in the house goes back to the times of the ancient Druids. Mistletoe was thought to bring good luck to a household and ward off evil spirits. The custom of kissing under mistletoe can be traced to England. Originally, a berry was picked from the sprig of mistletoe before the person could be kissed. When all the berries had gone, there could be no more kissing.

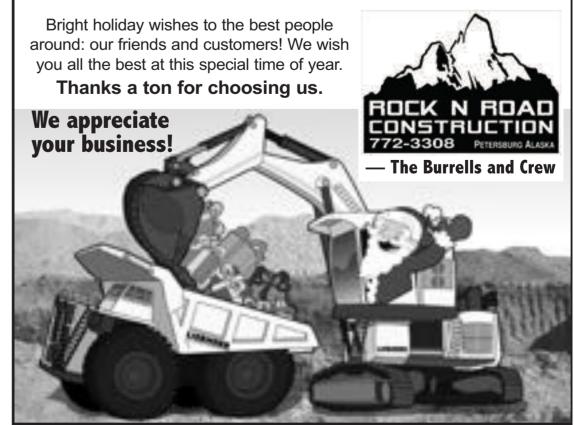
Christmas bells

Church bells ring for many special services, including Christmas mass. During Christmas midnight mass in the Catholic Church, the altar bells may be rung while the priest says the 'Gloria.' Bells are part of caroling, and jingling bells are associated with sleighs and Santa's reindeer.









Behind the scenes of two beloved holiday films

Holiday movies have a way of making audiences laugh and cry while inspiring those warm and fuzzy feelings that perfectly complement the season of family and giving. Depending on the individual, favorite movies may include old classics or new releases.

A lot of work goes into making movies, and holiday films are no exception. Fans may be surprised by some of the events that went on behind the scenes of their favorite holiday films, as well as background information about the actors and settings

of the movies.

Get into the festive spirit by learning about the following beloved holiday films.

'It's a Wonderful Life'

Anyone who has ever wondered what life would be like if they took a different path or made different decisions can relate to this classic Christmas film. It's difficult to make it through the holiday season without seeing 'It's a Wonderful Life,' and many people make it a point of to view it every year. The following are some interesting tid-

bits about George Bailey and the film that put savings-andloan managers on the map.

- The movie began as a short story titled 'The Greatest Gift.' Writer Philip Van Dornen Stern was unsuccessful at shopping the story and turned it into a Christmas card for 200 friends and family. A producer at RKO pictures got a copy and purchased the movie rights for \$10,000.
- Many now agree that Jimmy Stewart was the perfect choice to play lead character George Bailey, but studio heads originally had Carey Grant in mind for the lead. The role went to Stewart when Frank Capra signed on to the film and named Stewart his leading man.
- Although Donna Reed was a seasoned actress prior to the movie, 'It's a Wonderful Life' marked her first starring role.
- Bedford Falls, the fictional town in the movie, is reportedly based on upstate New York towns Bedford Hills and Seneca Falls. Nearby cities like Rochester and Buffalo are referenced in the movie. However, the movie was not filmed on location. It was filmed in the summertime on a back lot in the San Fernando Valley section of Los Angeles.
- The movie received a technical Academy Award for the snow effects, which were created by using a 'snow' mixture of water, soap and a firefighting chemical called Foamite.
- The movie was not well received upon its release in 1946. The film received mixed reviews, which might surprise those who consider it a cinematic classic.

'A Christmas Story'

An equally beloved holiday film and a cult favorite, 'A Christmas Story' follows a 1940's Indiana family anchored by Ralphie, the cynical but lovable schoolboy played by actor Peter Billingsley. The movie was based on autobiographical tales penned by author and radio personality Jean Shepherd, who narrates the film.

• The movie was a lowbudget film that used virtually no special effects. It also used tracking shots instead of

All the

best!

With warm

wishes and

gratitude for

your continued

patronage.

FLEET REFRIGERATION

& HEATING
Wally, Larisa, Rob, Branden

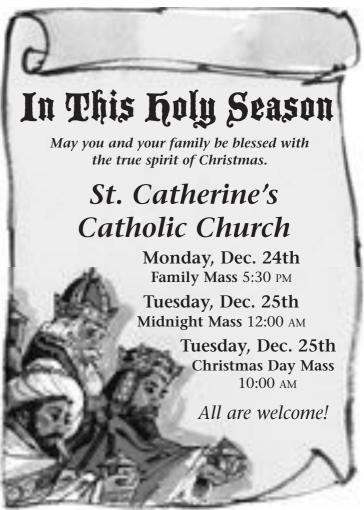
Steadicam.

- The setting for the movie is based on Shepherd's hometown of Hammond, Indiana. Shepherd grew up on Cleveland Street and went to Warren G. Harding Elementary School. However, the movie was filmed in Cleveland, Ohio, and Toronto, Ontario, Canada. The house from the movie still stands in Cleveland. Part of the decision to film in Cleveland stems from the willingness of Higbee's department store to allow crews to film inside the
- Darren McGavin played Ralphie's father, a role he won over Jack Nicholson. McGavin might have won the role because of Nicholson's typically large salary demands.
- SEASON'S GREETING S
- For the scene in which 'Flick's' tongue sticks to the flagpole, a hidden suction tube was used to safely create the illusion that his tongue had frozen to the metal.
- Three leg lamps were made for the movie, and all three broke during filming.











Santa letter writing secrets

At the tip of the North Pole resides a jolly man who collects letters from children asking him to deliver all of their hearts' desires. Although Santa Claus does a thorough job of making sure children's treats are delivered on the same night, sometimes he needs assistance with reading and responding to the thousands upon thousands of letters sent to him each year. That is why he often relies on an extensive list of helpers to handle much of his holiday

correspondence.

According to Smithsonian, the practice of writing to St. Nick dates back more than 150 years. Early depictions of Santa show him as a disciplinarian. The Christmastime Santa letters were actually sent by Santa, rather than the other way around. Such letters encouraged children to be good boys and girls. Eventually, an illustration by Thomas Nast depicted 'Santaclaussville, N.P.' as Santa's address, providing children with a place where they could send their correspondences to the big guy in red.

The Postal Universal Union, an intergovernmental organization that coordinates postal policies across 192 member nations, indicates that 1,350,000 letters to Santa were sent by Canadians, while Americans sent more than one million and Britains mailed roughly 800,000 such letters in 2012, the most recent year from which figures are available. To account for the staggering number of letters sent, various post offices and postal programs were established to

help Santa with the task of tackling children's wish lists.

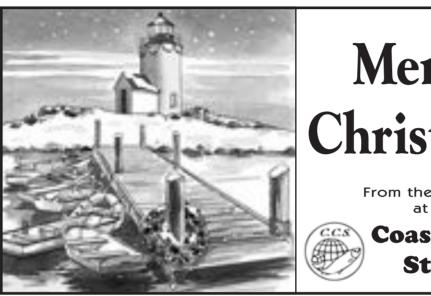
In 2016, the USPS instituted a new letter-writing option that enables parents or guardians to include a personalized response letter back to children who address letters to Santa. The package can be postmarked to: North Pole Postmark Postmaster, 4141 Postmark Drive, Anchorage, AK 99530-9998.

Many other letters to Santa end up routing to various post offices where thousands of volunteer 'elves' can adopt letters and make children's wishes come true. A 'Letters to Santa' program enables children in serious need to get items that can help keep them safe and happy.

Parents may also investigate a number of services that will provide letters from Santa, Mrs. Claus or elves for nominal fees. These letters can be personalized with details. Santa has even gone high-tech with personalized videos and pictures as well. A quick web search can yield the instructions on how prospective helpers can get started.

Children can improve their chances of letters being read and received, with these tips.

- Identify who is writing the letter and share some details about your life.
- Make sure you've been nice and well-behaved.
- Ask Santa how he has been and engage in some polite conversation.
- Politely ask for the toys you'd like. Understand that Santa is busy, so keep the list
- Thank Santa in advance for his kindness. Hopefully, he'll have time to reply.
- Write and mail the letter as early as possible, as things tend to get busy as Christmas

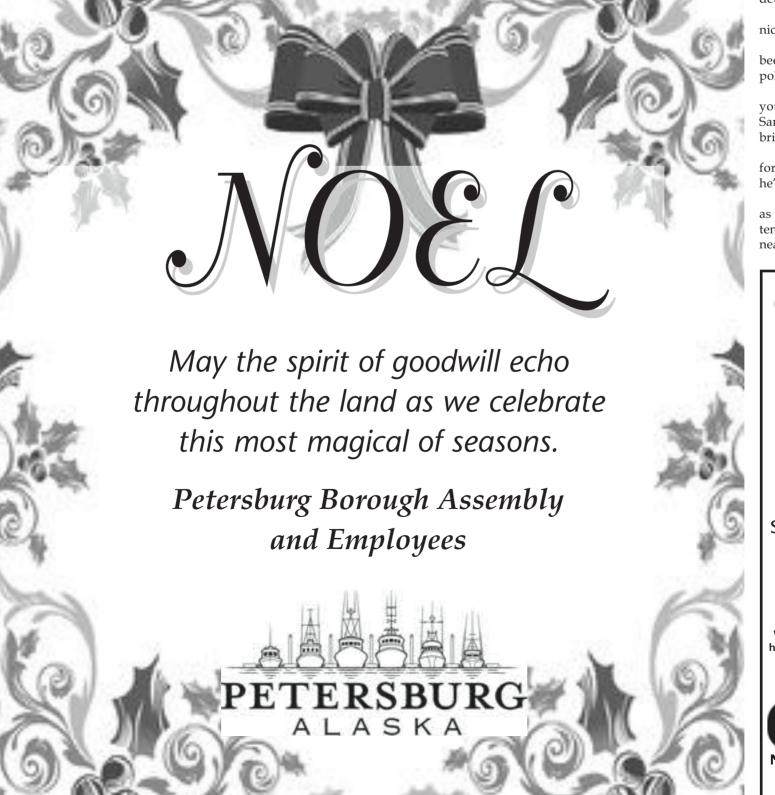


Merry Christmas

From the Crew



Coastal Cold Storage





Merry Christmas! Happy Holidays!

AND MANY THANKS!

With best wishes for a joyous holiday and a happy New Year. We appreciate your visits and look forward to seeing you again, soon.



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Because of Christmas Earl Midkiff, Pastor Emeritus, First Baptist Church

"And she will bring forth a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save his people from their sins." So all of this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: 'Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel' which is translated, "God with us." (Matthew 1:21-23).

At Christmas we celebrate "God with us" which is His Son Jesus. What does the coming of Jesus mean for us? Take time to meditate on these three truths.

Because of Jesus, we have forgiveness. "You shall call his name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21b).

Because of Jesus, we can have the peace of God. "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men." (Luke 2:14). "And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:7).

Because of Jesus, we have salvation. "For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16).

"Then the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:11).



Christmas is a time to not only give but to receive

Fr. Steve Gallagher, St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church

Christmas is a story about the helplessness of God. All of us are aware of the power of God to create. He created the world, he created the depths of the ocean, he created the dark recesses of space and he created you and me.

But there was a moment in time when this omnipotent God of creation deliberately made himself helpless. That moment began in Bethlehem on Christmas when Jesus Christ, who is both human and divine, was born an infant in less than ideal circumstances.

This helpless, tiny baby had nothing and he was completely dependent on his mother for everything, just like we were when we were helpless and dependent.

God allowed himself to be born as a helpless child to show us that Christmas is a time to not only give but to receive. Anyone who has can give and give gracefully. To whom much is given – much is expected.

Our Lord once said, after he had grown up: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven . . . the child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 18:2-4).

When we "conform our lives to the pattern of this world" we lose our "childhood innocence." We are called to be "childlike," not "childish."

The souls of children are pure and unspoiled, let us strive to be helpless, to be young again. May our prayer always be: "Jesus meek and humble of heart, make our hearts like unto Thine."

A Holy Christmas to all.

Delivering Our Best at Christmastime

o all of our valued readers and friends go our sincere best wishes for a merry and bright holiday season filled with peace, joy and contentment.

We are so proud to be a part of this fine community, and

we consider it an honor to be the local and trusted news source you turn to throughout the year.

Thank you for your readership and support.

Happy Holidays!

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