

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL



Christmas 2013

Second grade children write questions to Santa

Shirley Swihart's second grade class was asked what questions they had for Santa?

Addy Christensen asked Santa how is Rudolph? How is Sally and Burt? How are you? How are your elves and your wife? Am I on the nody list? How is the reindeer?

Hazy Tolentino wanted to know how Rudolph dooing giding your slay? Haw is banswer pranse bescen doing? Am I on the nody list?

Skye Feldman asked Santa how are your reindeers? What do your raindeers eta? How are you and your wife? I like you Santa!

Seth Tumbleson would like to ask Santa how are the eveffs? Is mrs. Clase ok? How is Jack frost?

Deija Kabureck would like to ask Santa for Christmas can you get me a I-Pad? How many elves and toys do you have? How are you doing today? Good or bad and why? Am I on the notty list? Am I on the good list?

Dawson Rose asked Santa how is Rudolph? Am I on the naughty list? How are the evils doing? How old are you?

Jacki Milliken wanted to know are you getting reddy for Christmas? Am I on the good list or the bad list? Do you like are tree?

Jacob Rath would like to ask Santa when was Rudolph born? When where you born? How is misses cluas? When were Rudolphs parents born? How long has Rudolph been on the sleigh team?

Aiden Fernandez asked Santa how is Rudolph is he ok? How are your elves? How are you Santa?

Jordan Smull would like to ask Santa are you and Mrs. Claus doing well? What kind of cookies do you want? What would your raindeer like to eat?

David Espino wanted to know do elfs really exist? How much money do you spend on Christmas presents? Does it ever get hot at the North Pole?

Rhonald Neitzel would like to ask Santa do you like cookies more then anyone? Is it realy coldi n the North pole? Are you happy at the North pole?

Dodge Fromholtz asked Santa how are your elfs? How is misses clause? How are the rain deer? Do you like cookies?

London Breese has some questions for Santa Why does Rudolph's nose gloe all the time? And why doest he uthter raindeer make fun of Rudolph? How are you doing Mrs. Santo Cloas and mr. Santa Cloas. Is jack frost real? What is real and what is not. How is Rudolph. Are you getting ready fore Chrismas.

Makaila Matthies would like to know how is Rudolph? Are your elves making toys? How are your Reindeer? When is your birthday? When is your birthday? How old are you? How is Mrs. Claus? Who are your stable elves?

Colton Raile asked Santa who are your stabl evelfs? How miney evelfs do you have? Do you have a dog? Dos Mis. Clos no how to nit?

Oakley Hamilton would like to know do you realy have elves? Is Rudolph real? Do you realy have a slay? Am I on the naughty list? Do you have a majic bag?

Kaylee Moberly asked Santa how are you? How is Mrs. Claus? How long does it take to get to my house? Merry Christmas!



Santa answers letters

Dear children,

I am so glad that you are wanting to know how I am feeling as well as Mrs. Claus and how the elves are doing. I am happy to report that we are great, although, we are a little busy because Christmas will be here in just a few days. That means that we are still working late hours trying to get everything made and wrapped. At well over 100 years old, I am doing quite well but, then Mrs. Claus makes sure I am eating well and not eating too many of my favorite chocolate chip cookies. My head stable elf is making sure the reindeer are getting fed plenty of grain and alfalfa and, as a treat they get a carrot once a day. We have wondered if a red beet would help Rudolph's nose glow a little brighter.

Jack Frost lives just over the mountain from our home, factory and stable. The last time I talked to him, he was a little blue as it is always cold up here. As for if he and the elves are real, it is all about believing!

Most of you children appear to be wondering if you have been naughty. I know that sometimes it is hard to be good all the time, especially around the holidays when everyone is busy and parents and grown ups don't seem to have a lot of time to talk to you. You need to be patient with them and understand that it is important for you to be extra good and help around the house. As I went down my Good and Naughty list, I see that most of you have been good and I will try to fill your "want" list. However, I can't promise you that you will get everything you want.

I am so glad I had time to answer your questions. You are very important to me and



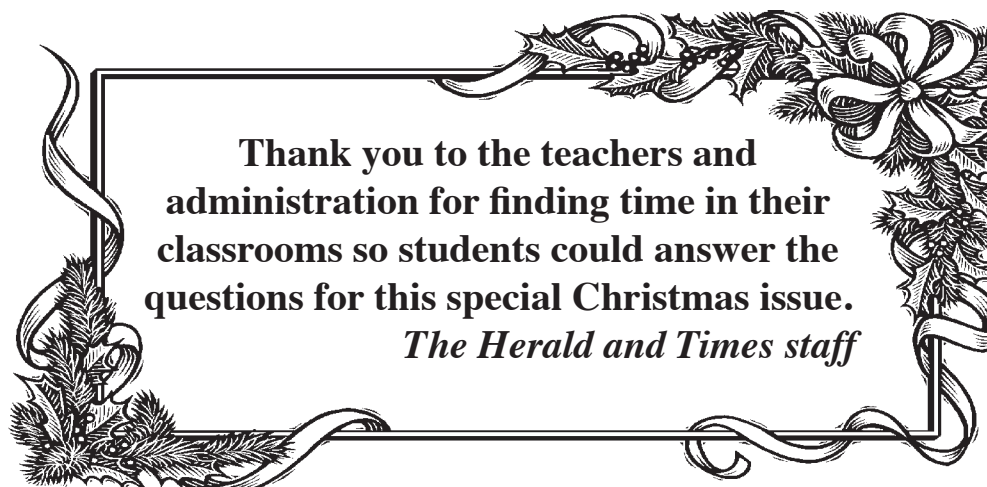
everyone here at the North Pole.

I must get back to the factory and stables as it is time to start getting my sleigh ready and filling my magic bad for the long flight on Dec. 24.

When I get home on Christmas Day, which, by the way, is my birthday, Mrs. Claus will have a delicious snack (I won't be very hungry because of all the milk and cookies I have eaten).

I wish each of you a very merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Love, Santa Claus



Thank you to the teachers and administration for finding time in their classrooms so students could answer the questions for this special Christmas issue.
The Herald and Times staff

Season's greetings

Skip, Betty, Robin, Preston, Brett & Gary



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On the cover —

On the front is Santa visiting with the children of Chris and Christina Zimmerman, St. Francis. Pictured left to right: Ryder, Santa and Kash Zimmerman.



Sixth graders talk about their favorite Christmas

The sixth grade class of Amy Christensen was asked two questions. What was your favorite Christmas and why was it special? If you could be Santa for one day, what special good things would you do for someone?

Brady Dinkel said he would think last year was his favorite Christmas. I got a new gun and an Xbox 360. If I was Santa I would give my class a smartboard. I got a new gun because I was needing a new one. The Smartboard because we need one.

Cassidy Busse said her favorite Christmas was the first Christmas in her new house. It was a very special Christmas because it was just my family and we had a great big breakfast, and I got a guitar. If I was Santa for one day I would make sure that everyone got to spend Christmas together as a family, and all the little kids in the world would get a gift.

Kaitlin Patton said her favorite Christmas was in 2010 because she got a DS. And I got lots of candy. If I were Santa for a day I would help as many people as I could. If I were Santa for a day I would give out lots of presents.

Seth Hilt said his favorite was with his cousins. That Christmas my cousin's gave me and my family tickets to New York and Connecticut they lived in Connecticut we saw Statue of Liberty and we went to Washington, D.C.

Aaron White said his favorite Christmas was when he was nine years old. I liked that Christmas because I got a computer. If I could be Santa for a day I would bring presents to all the good boys and girls. I would make sure I checked the list twice.

Hannah Zimbal said her favorite Christmas was probably last year. My cat Maude climbed into the Christmas tree all the way at the top! If I was Santa Clause I would give food to the starving kids and families. She also drew a great picture of Christmas tree with Maude her cat in it.

Italia Gutierrez said her favorite Christmas was in 2012. Because I spent the night with dad's family. And because celebrating with family is super. And my cousin say to come to play and turn on the candles. If I'm Santa for one day I would give food or toys for the kids and I would give thousands of smiles. I try to help the kids that have some sickness and they bring back their happiness.

Alonda Gomez said her favorite special Christmas was here in St. Francis. Why well because it was the first Christmas I had in this lovely town. I really like St. Francis so that's why. If I was Santa for one day I would go everywhere in the world to give gifts. Would go to China, to give present to all the children. I would go to Mexico, and gives lot's of presents. I would go to St. Judes, and all that places that need love.

Christina Stafford said her favorite Christmas was when she was six. Because I got my favorite bike ever. It was bright blue and I wanted it so bad I wasn't very happy because it wasn't under the tree but my dad told me to go outside to get wood and there it was I was so happy!!!! I would give food and presents to the children that need it because they could have never had a present there last meal could have been 3 days ago.

Seth Mills said his favorite Christmas was last Christmas. It was so special because I got my Ipod touch :) If I was Santa I would give all the kids who do not have shoes I would give them all shoes and toys.

Marlo Jensen said if I was Santa for a day I would give presents to kids that had nothing. My favorite Christmas was when we had a Chinese Christmas.

Perla Yanez said her favorite Christmas was last year's. It was special, because we were with all my Family. We all played games and opened presents. If I could be Santa for one day, I would give an extra present for every kid in the world, And make them believe in me.

Zach Koger said his favorite Christmas was when he got candy, money, and he got to spend time with his family,. If I was Santa would give every kid lots of presents.

Chandler Hamilton said his favorite Christmas was when he got his first bike. It was cool. I rode it everyday and it was fun. If I was Santa I would give my mom money so we can live at our Farm again. That's what I would do If I was Santa.

Gabbie Hafer said her favorite Christmas was the one when all her family came down. My cousin's and Grandpa and Grandma came too. We played games and watched Christmas movies. My Christmas was awesome I love Santa Clause The End. I would give my mom

money so she could pay our bills.

Sierra Robbins said her favorite Christmas was last year's. Because it was super fun. If I was Santa for one day hope it would be on Christmas Eve, because I want to deliver cool presents for everybody in the world.

Isaiah Lee said his favorite Christmas was last year. Because I got an iPad mini. If I were Santa I would give everybody the best Christmas they could have.


Karly Bandel said her favorite Christmas was when she was 9. My grandma came to our house for Christmas. If I was Santa I would give

everyone the best Christmas they've ever had.

Jayden McGinnis said his favorite Christmas was two years ago. I got everything I wanted. I got a camera, a new bike, and a lot more it was fun. After we went to my grandmas and we draw names. And we get a 10 dollar gift for who we draw. If I could be Santa I would give everyone the best Christmas.

Audrey Meyer said her favorite Christmas was when I got my dune buggy. The next summer I took all my grandparents for a ride. If I was Santa for one day I would bring all poor children in world gifts. I would probably bring the real Santa a gift too!


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Cheylin second graders have questions for Santa

Hannah Louderbaugh's second grade class was asked what questions they had for Santa?

Matthew Hendricks asked Santa how do reindeer fly? What are you giving me for Christmas? Are you magic? Do you have grandchildren?

Brady Ketzner asked Santa how fast do you think you elves wrap presents? How many people do you think are on the nice list? Do you have any grandchildren? Have you gone down a chimney while the fire was burning?

Pablo Bermudez wanted to know how do the reindeer fly that far? How do you get around the earth? How do you make toys? How do you watch us all the time?

Logan McCarty asked Santa how do you go all around the world in one night? How do your reindeer fly? How do your reindeer know what house to go to? Do you have any grandchildren in the North Pole? How did you become Santa; was your name Santa when you were little?

Ian Taylor would like to know how the elves are this year? How do the reindeer fly? How are you this year? How is Mrs. Clause this year?

Taos Dale asked Santa who what the first reindeer? What are the names of your reindeer?

What are the names of your elves? How do you know when people are awake?

Lauren McQuigg asked Santa how do you get around the whole world in one night? How do your reindeer fly? Is it cold up there? Are you real?

Connor McPherson asked Santa how do you go around the whole world in just one night? How do your reindeer fly? Do they fly by flying dust or magic corn? How are your elves?

Hayden Lennox asked Santa how do you get in our house? How do you get around the world in one night? How do you fit all those presents in one little bag? Do you like our Christmas trees?

Jackson Boyson wants to know where do your reindeer live in the North Pole? Is it cold at the North Pole? Does Mrs. Clause make you dinner? Does it take a long time to get to the North Pole?

Oscar Granados asked Santa will we get presents? Where do the reindeer live? Is it cold at the North Pole? What do you ride to deliver the presents?

Victor Hernandez wants to know where do you live in the North Pole? Where do your reindeer live? Where do your reindeer sleep? Where do you sleep?

Santa writes to students

Dear children,

Christmas is a magical time of the year. I love it! It is so fun to be able to believe in me, my reindeer, elves and my magical sack of toys and games.

My elves are an amazing bunch of workers. They make toys and games, wrap presents and take care of the reindeer. They make sure the reindeer have plenty to eat, especially since those who will fly my sleigh that night. They need to be able to stand the long flight and fly fast as I have many places to be. However, the time changes throughout the world and that helps me get where I need to be on time.

The weather has been extremely cold here. We needed to crank up the heat so the elves would be comfortable as they worked. Mrs. Claus was also complaining as she needed more heat while she was fixing my dinner as well as a large dinner for the elves (there are just too many elves to count). We all need to eat good healthy food.

The reindeer live mostly in the barn but, when it is a little nicer, they go outside to get some sun.

One of you asked how I became Santa. Well, that was many, many years ago but I was born on Christmas Day and my father, who was also Santa, said when I grew up, I would be Santa. I had to practice my "ho! ho! ho!" and, at first, I didn't really like milk - I wanted chocolate milk - but, now I like milk and I love chocolate chip cookies.

As far as knowing if children are asleep when I come - I trust that all good children are asleep. I have had some "toasty" trips down chimneys when the fire is roaring but now I have a special magic dust that puts out the fire long enough for me to deliver the presents

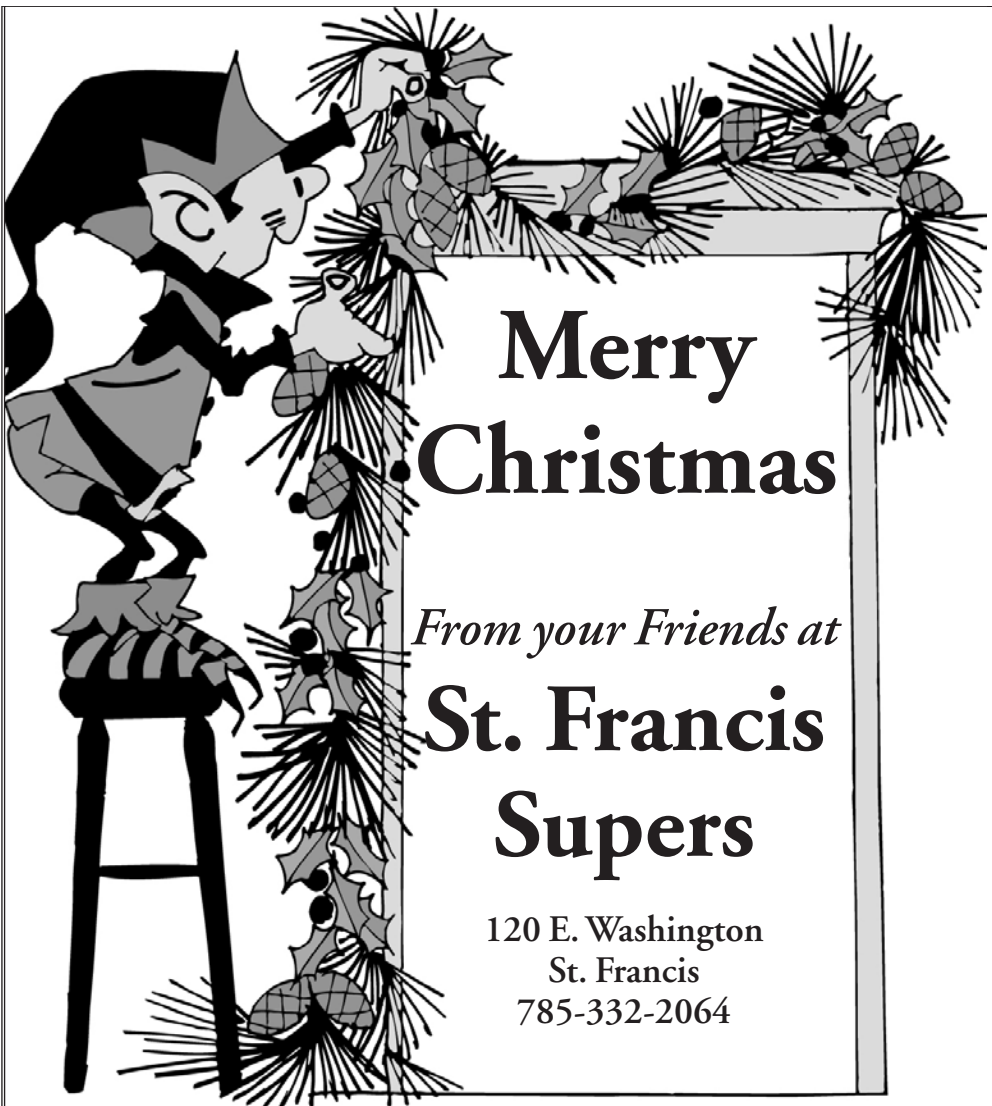


and, then magically, it starts back up.

The magic also helps me keep an eye on all children (my elves also help). If I told you how I knew if you were naughty or nice, then you might not be trying to be good all the time.

Well, children, the elves are calling me. Rudolph's nose is not working quite right. I suppose he ate too much grain. A carrot should help him. Better get going.

Love, Santa



Merry Christmas

From your Friends at

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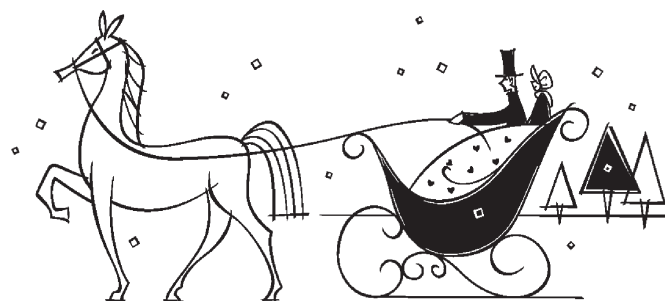
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St. Francis kindergartners write letters to Santa

Lori Rieger's kindergarten class had great letters to Santa. They wanted a variety of presents and were going to leave Santa cookies and milk.

Dear Santa,

I would like an American Girl Doll. I would also like a real fuzzy snowman. Would play it all the time. I want to know how Mrs. Clause is and how all the elves and reindeer are? I am going to make you some gooey brownies. Rodalph the red nose reindeer is my favorite reindeer. I love you Santa, and all your reindeer, and all the elves. I want to give you a present. I want a lot of jewelry.

Love Breck Lohr

Dear Santa,

I would like a monster truck, guitar and cars. I would like to ride in his sleigh. I would like to sit in Santa's lap. How do you go around the world in one night? I would like to ride on Rudolf. I would like to leave Santa cookies and milk. Merry Christmas! PS. I'm excited for my gifts!

Love, Kody Moberly

Dear Santa,

I wanted to know, if I could have a dirt bike for Christmas. I also wanted a airsoft shotgun for Christmas to. If you get these gifts I will be good forever. And never be bad. Will also leave cookies by the fireplace and carrots for your reindeer to thank you for all that you have done and what you do. Merry Christmas.

Love, Joel Gilliland

Dear Santa,

I would like a cd that is abc mouse for my computer. I would also like a Lala Loopsie castle. Would also like a little Tinkerbell. I will leave you some cookies, milk, and some carrots for the reindeer, and some apples. Do you stay up making toys all night?? Why do you eat cookies a lot? I love you Santa Claus. I'm very good!! I believe in you Santa Claus! You are the best Santa ever! Merry Christmas Santa!! I love you the most Santa!

Love, Avery Jensen

Dear Santa,

I would like by 2 front teeth. I would like some kids bops songs. I would like a monster high dolly. Dear Santa, how are the reindeer doing?

I am going to give you some chocolate chip cookies. I have been good for 2,100 days. I hope you can make it to my house. It is 426 S Denison.

Love, Naomi Straub

Dear Santa,

I want a toy combine, because I would play with it and I really like combines. I also want a train, and I would also like a bunkbed, because I would like to share with my brother Garrett, and my other brother Joani. I would like to be in your sleigh when you drop down the present. I would like to see Rudolph one of the best reindeer you have. I would like to see where your elves work to see where all the toys goes. I would like to the jingels.

Love, Brayden Helton

Dear Santa,

I would like a teddy bear, to keep my scary dreams away. I would like two princesses with dresses, and with pretty shoes. I would like some Mario dolls. I would love to see your reindeer. I want to see your sleigh. My sister and I would like to leave cookies with cold milk for you. Would like some earrings that match my Mom's. I want a blanket for my cat. My sister would like a teddy bear also.

Love, Kylee McWilliams

Dear Santa,

I want a barbie house for Christmas. I'm going to play house with my barbies, in my barbie house. I would like a Sofia the First dress. I'm going to play that I'm a princess. I also want a pbs.com, I'm going to draw and learn. I want to learn how to make puzzles. On Christmas night I'm going to leave you some chocolate cookies, and milk. Does the reindeer live in the forest? I will wait for you, while I'm sleeping. Merry Christmas!!

Love, Kaitlynn Calderon

Dear Santa,

I want a dora cash register and a volleyball. Want a Dora doll. I want a sponge bob blanket. Want a stuffed zebra. I want a Tinkerbell bed. I want a stuffed cat and horse. I want a hello kitty coloring book, Santa.

Love, Ashley Hafer

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I would like an ice cream shop! I really love ice cream! I also want a brown, warm, fuzzy blanket. I would snuggle with my blanket every night. I also want snowflake earrings! I just got my ears pierced! When you come to my house I will have chocolate chip cookies and hot chocolate waiting for you! I love you Santa!!

Love, Madison Seigfried

Dear Santa,

For this Christmas would like little trampoline for in my house. I would like a stuffed zebra. Would like to have a r/c truck. I want a spider-man coloring book.

Love, Julius Jackson

Dear Santa,

I want a BB gun, new shoes, a bow and arrow and a toy gun. We are going to give you milk and 8 cookies. How many reindeer do you have? We will give you gifts. I've been good this year.

Love, Dayton Fromholtz

Dear Santa,

I want a car game and a BB gun. A motorcycle game. A small motorcycle. I will give you chocolate cookies and milk. I have been good!

Love, Luis Fernandez

Dear Santa,

I want a toy punching bag to punch it. I want a control puppy. I want one because I like to play with them. I want a control rocket because I will make it go sky high.

Love, Jaxon Nelsen

Dear Santa,

I want a fireman set and a truck. I want them because I can play with them. I also want a police dog cause I like to pet, play and race them. I want a remote control robot. I want a robot because I can control them and run them down.

Love, Carter Matthies

Dear Santa,

I want a thing that goes in your palm, it's an Iron Man thing. I want that cause I want it as a gift to play with I want a mask of Iron Man. I want it cause I will play with the palm thing, and the mask. I want the costume of Iron Man, so that I could play with the mask and palm thing. Santa I will leave you some cookies for you to eat.

Love, Julio Yanez

Dear Santa,

I want a monster truck because I like to play with other cars with it. I want a dinosaur because I love dinosaurs. Want a motorcycle too. I really do like motorcycles. I will also leave you some cookies that my mom will make.

Love, Diego Mendoza

Dear Santa,

I would like a guitar, I would also like a boom box, and a scooter. Also forgot would like a play kitchen with a play phone. I am going to make you gingerbread cookies in the shape of your reindeer. How is Mrs. Clause doing, and how are you doing? How is your reindeer, and is Rudolph's nose still lighting up?

Love, Kaylee Doyle

Dear Santa,

I would like a Barbie cash register with pretend money. I would also like to have FurReal Friend Puppy. I would like the puppy to be either pink and purple or black brown. A Lala Loopsy Doll would be fun too! If it was pink and purple I think it would be very pretty. Here are some for you Santa! How are the reindeer? How is Mrs. Claus today? How are you, Santa? Is your favorite reindeer Rudolph? Would you like me to leave you brownies?

Love, Cheyenne Labarge

Dear Santa,

I want a dirtbike. I would also like a crossbow. I would like a 4 wheeler for Christmas. My favorite reindeer is Rudolph. I'm going to leave you chocolate chip cookies. How are you and Mrs. Claus? Will leave some carrots for all of your reindeer. I forgot I would also like a shotgun. Bye Santa.

Love, Lucas Raile

Dear Santa,

I would like a toy cat, a Lala Loopsy, a castle to play with, and some pom poms. How are your reindeer? How are you? For you I will make a cake and for a drink yo will have some milk. Oh and how is Mrs. Clause? Have a merry Christmas!

Love, Audrina Fernandez

Dear Santa,

My name is Paola. What I want for Christmas is a remote control motorcycle, a barbie doll, and a robot puppy. I am going to set out milk and cookies for you. My favorite color is red, what is your favorite color? My best friend is Madison, who is your best friend? I like my teacher Mrs. Reiger. I am six years old and in kindergarten. What is your favorite cookie, mine is chocolate chip. What is your favorite food? I have two dogs, ten cats and fifteen sheep. I love my mom and dad.

Love, Paola Ramirez

Dear Santa,

For Christmas if possible I would like you to bring me a castle off the movie Frozen. With Frozen included. And also a Monster High Designer house. I been good this year. So I will ask you one more thing a butterfly Barbie if possible to be pink. Pink is my favorite color. If you can't get me that one there's another one that flies in a hand. I understand that you have a big job, if you can't bring me this it's ok I'll take whatever you'll get me. My mom will make cookies for you and I will get the milk. Merry Christmas and take care.

Love, Janeli Perez-Medina



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*May love, peace
and contentment
by yours during this
holiest of seasons.*



Sainty fourth graders talk about traditions

Becky McAtee's fourth grade class was asked two questions. What are your family's Christmas traditions? What was your favorite Christmas and why?

Jordyn Falkender said my traditions are we go to my Grandma's house and open gifts. Another tradition is to go to my other Grandparents house the day before New Year's Eve. Another tradition is we go to a hotel in Denver on new Years' Eve. My favorite Christmas is when my brother got a car. He is now able to drive me anywhere I want!

Jordyn Bryan said my family traditions are that we go to my Grandparents house. This year we are going to celebrate Christmas at my house. My favorite Christmas was when sister was going to be born on that day and I felt so happy on that day. We open presents on Christmas day.

Alvaro Fernandez said for Christmas I play playstation 2 every Christmas with my family. We play hide the wii and we hide the presents from my dad and act normal when my dad gos to work. We drink all the eggnog before my dad gets home. When he gets home by brothers and sisters and I hide under our beds at night. We scare our dad then we go upstairs and get coffee and bring it downstairs to our dad.

Joani Fuller said my family puts up the Christmas tree and all of us decorate it. This year were going to Estes park. But sometimes I go to my dad's house. I think my favorite Christmas is probably this years Christmas because I have never been to Estes park. We are unwrapping presents before we leave so when we come back Santa might have left stuff at our house. Sometimes my dad sends me the presents he buys me on christmas. Thats about what we do so I'm done.

Taiya Hicks said my family tradition is putting up the Christmas tree and docrating it with the ornaments. Every Chrictmas my Grandma wuldlet us help put on the Christmas ornaments. My favorite Christmas was a few years ago because i got the best presents in the world!

Shannon Semler said Mom, Dad, Ty and Brittany and I go to grandma and grandpa Semler's house open presents and play wit them. Then we go home to open presents we play with them. We go grandma grandpa we eat and open presents it is fun.

Benjamin Nelson said my family's traditions are we have shrimp, we also drink egg nog and we also open our gifts on Christmas eve. My favorite Christmas was last year's Christmas because everyone but my brother Matt Nelson (Who works at the equity now). We had shrimp and cheese and crackers. I got a coat. It was fun.

Caleb Todd said my family always opens one present on Christmas Eve. On Christmas we open our presents. We go to church in Goodland with our Grandparents and then we go to their house. We open our presents and then we play with our presents and have a fun time playing with our cousins and then we eat. The end.

Hadleigh Hilt said my family's Christmas tradition is that we get to open ONE present on Christmas Eve! A few Christmas's ago it was my favorite because it was the first year to celebrate Christmas in our new home!

Lyden Lampe said one family tradition we have is we have a great time at my Grandma and Grandpa's house. My favorite Christmas is when I was seven. I got my favorite movie The Muppets. I was so happy! Have a Merry Christmas!

Elijah Mills sad we open our gifts Christmas morning! What fun. We go to church on Christmas Eve. We have our Christmas program at Salem Luthern church.

Dawn Rice said my family traditions is every Christmas eve everybody opens pajamas and put up a tree. My favorite Christmas is the first one here .The first one from when I was adopted. It was my favorite because I gave my first Christmas present.

Hailey Robbins said Mom, Dad, Asher and I bake cookies, some for santa and some for us. We always put up a Christmas tree to decorate

with lots of ornaments. In the morning we open our presents from Santa and one present from Mom and Dad. My favorite Christmas is a normal Christmas with all our family traditions and my family.

Mia Morrow said our family's traditions are to celebrate Christmas and usually have some type of yummy desert - like ice cream or cookies or something good. My favorite Christmas was when I was two or three years old. My cousins came to Papa Norman and Grandma Mary Morrow's house. My cousins and I played a lot. That Christmas was funny because when I opened my presents, I looked like a puppy trying to dig a hole in the presents! I had two little piggy tails in my hair that looked like puppy dog ears. The end.

Kara Maybury said my family's Christmas tradition is we go to my Grandma and Grandpa's house. We eat a meal on Christmas Eve. I love all my christmas holidays because I get to see my friends and family.

Vladimir Chinik said my family drinks bubbly drinks and we open all of our presents but we usually don't have presents to open.

Bailey Workman said my family's Christmas traditions are, going to church on Christmas eve and staying home and drinking hot coco. My favorite Christmas is all f them! It's my favorite because I love my family. They are the most important thing in the world and my horses too!

Dani Broughman said my favorite family Christmas traditions are when we sit down as a family to watch Christmas movies every Christmas Eve. I really like it when I help my mom make Christmas candies. I also enjoy hanging up decoration on the Christmas tree. My favorite Christmas was when I was 8 years old, because that was when I got my electric scooter!

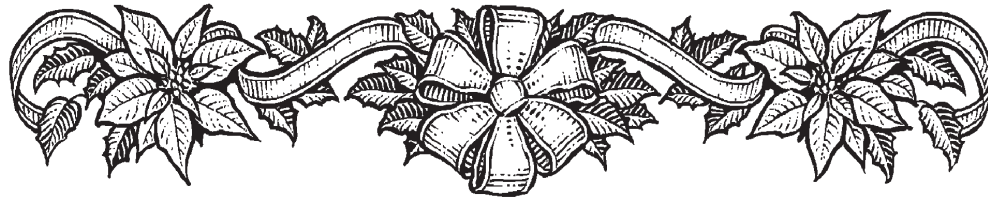
Amanda Neitzel said my family Christmas traditions are when I go to my Grandma's house and have a Christmas exchange. Another one is when I wake up on Christmas morning and open one present! My favorite Christmas is going to be this one because I get my room redecorated!

McKenna Poling said we open most of our gifts on Christmas Eve. The gifts that are left over we open on Christmas day. My favorite Christmas was in 2012. It was my favorite because I got an Ipod 4. Every Christmas my mom like to trick me by putting he gifts in bigger or smaller boxes. It always works!

Cutter Neitzel said my family Christmas traditions are when every Christmas morning we go to my grandma's house. I get to see my cousins house this year. My favorite Christmas was last year because got cool stuff! The end.

Isaac Hathaway said one of my family traditions is we go to my Grandma's house. First we open the gifts that are for us. The adults have a gift exchange. While the adults do the gift exchange we play with our presents. My favorite Christmas was when I went to my Grandma's house and stayed over night.

Logan Hamilton said sometimes my family like to give out silly gifts. One time my mother gave my brother a 1/2 cut onion. One time my sister got a phone book and I got a princess book. Sometimes we like to make gifts for each other. We make Christmas cookies together as a whole family and they are fun to make. I made a Christmas tree and decorated it. I like to leave that cookie out for Santa. My family likes to put a Christmas Star on the tree every year for one of our traditions. We go to church as a family to celebrate Christmas. We open gifts in the afternoon and sometimes we open one in the morning.



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How long is Santa's sleigh? Third graders have answer

The Cheylin third grade students of Janice Churchwell were asked five questions: "How big is Santa's sleigh?" "What does Mrs. Claus do while Santa is delivering presents?" "How old is Santa?" "When is his birthday?" "How does he celebrate?" and "What do you think Santa would want for Christmas."

Eduardo thinks that Santa's sleigh is 11 inches. He said Mrs. Claus does cookies while Santa is delivering presents. Santa is 31 year old, his birthday is Christmas. He celebrates by giving presents. Santa would want cookies, jingle bells and hot milk for Christmas.

Kayten Flanagan said Santa's sleigh is really big for the presents. Mrs. Claus helps the elves while Santa is delivering presents. Santa's birthday is on the 24 of April. He celebrates with candycans and he is 62 year old. He would like the laughter of kids for Christmas.



Cheylin sixth graders tell of a favorite Christmas

Kale Schields' Cheylin sixth graders were asked what was their favorite Christmas and why was it special? They were also asked, if they could be Santa for a day, what special good things would they do for someone?

Miguel Gonzalez said his favorite Christmas was when I was three. I got my first bike. If I were Santa I would give kid with zero toys a lot of them.

Guienevere Burr said her favorite Christmas is when I woke up at 1:40 a.m. I went upstairs to see if Santa came. He did. I was so excited I couldn't sleep. So I watched A Christmas Story. I watched it over and over until 5:00 a.m. Then I fell asleep. I woke up at 7 and asked my dad if we could open presents. He said yes. So we went to my grandma's house and spent our Christmas day there. That's my favorite Christmas. If she were Santa she would give presents to the needy kids.

Loren Mellinger said my favorite Christmas was the year that I got my xBox 360. It was my favorite because it was the year that I finally got the video game station that I always wanted since first knew that it was out. If I could be Santa for one day I would go door to door at peoples houses in a big Santa costume handing

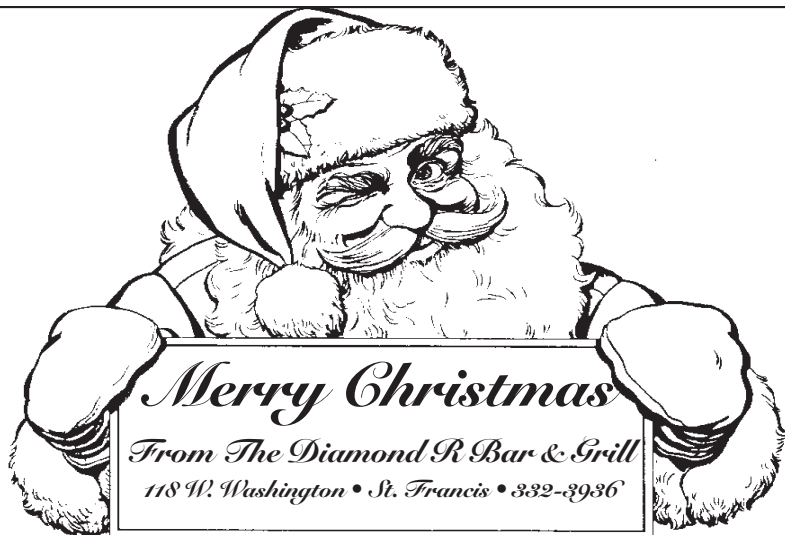
out presents for everyone while yelling merry christmas!

Kimberly Velazquez said her favorite Christmas was when I spent it with my family and friends. If I could be Santa for a day I would give out gifts to the poor. And the gift I would get from them is seeing their smile!

Jayden Boyson said his favorite Christmas was 5 years ago. The reason why is because I got an electric humvie. If I were Santa I would give people 1,000,000 dollars.

Luis Reynoso said his favorite Christmas is when I got my go kart and if I was really fun driving it. I would help home less people that are starveing.

Kaylynn Hendricks said my favorite Christmas was when I got a scooter at my Grandpa Greg's house. I was spending the night at my Grandpa's house with my family and my mom's sister's family, all the kids woke up early to get their presents, the first thing I saw under my stocking was a new scooter. If I could be Santa for one day I would give presents to the kids and their parents. I would also give presents to the homeless people.

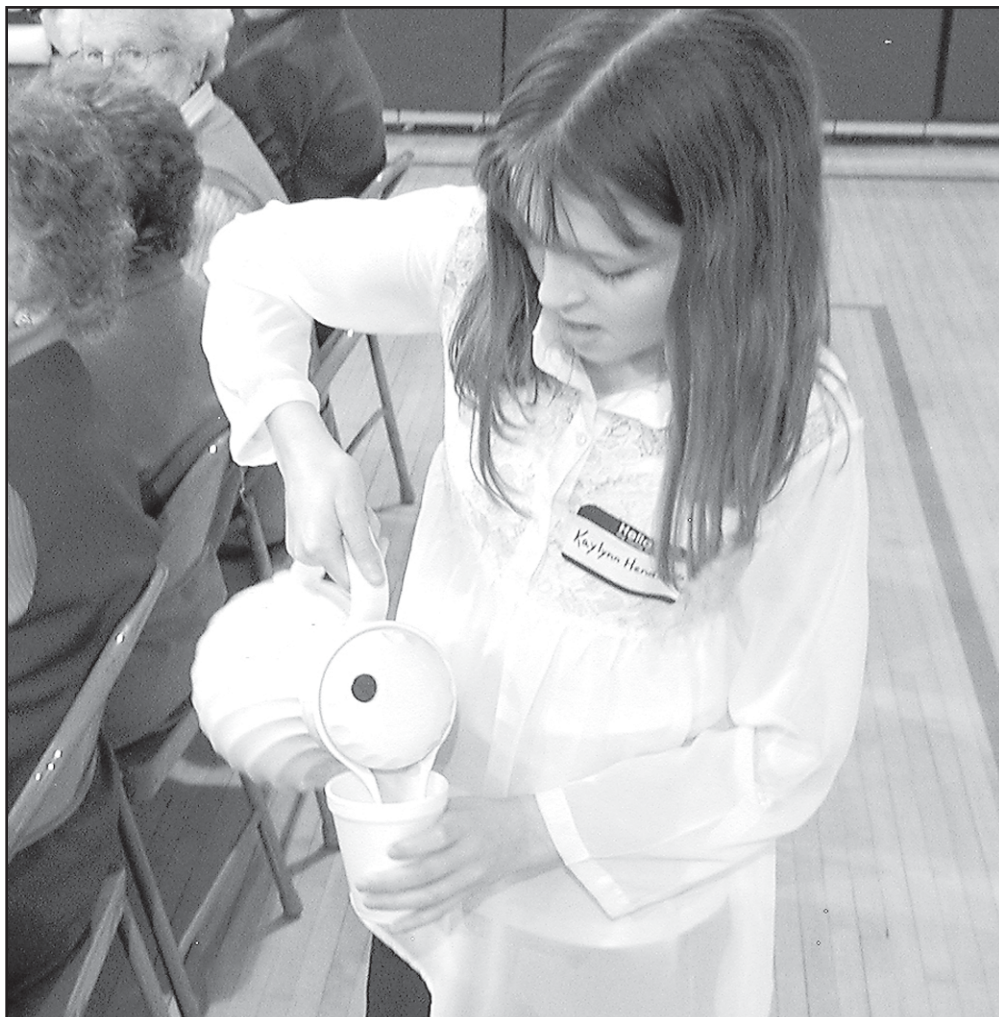


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KAYLYNN HENDRICKS poured water at the Senior Luncheon held at the Cheylin School on Wednesday, Dec. 11.



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Cheylin fourth graders tell what they want

Dear Santa,
I hope I get to do fun stuff on both sides of my family. For Christmas at my dad's I wish for a Wii U and I hope to get a new iPod skin for my iPod. I hope at my mom's we get to see Victoria, my big sister, a little while during Christmas. My sister lives in Loveland, Colorado. Instead of using my mom's laptop, I wish I had one of my own. I would do my homework and play games afterwards. Also want a Duck Dynasty board game to play with family. Merry Christmas to you!

Christian Gabaldon

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would like a computer so I could play games and listen to music wherever I go. I would also like a Fathead. The kind I would like is a puppy fathead because they are cute and I want to put the Fathead in my room. I hope that I can have that. I want to go to celebrate Christmas in Nebraska with my family.

Karol Garcia

Dear Santa,
What I want for Christmas is to have a wonderful time with my family and friends. I would enjoy being with my little cousin Isaac. What I really want is to go back to Mexico with my dad, mom, sisters, and brother that would be a wonderful gift. But my mom, sister and brother want to go to California to see my mom's sister, but my dad and I want to go to Mexico. For Christmas I want to get an iPad, iPhone, and two tickets to Mexico.

Jennifer Granados.

Dear Santa,
I wish for Christmas I could have a scarf and gloves. For my mom a cooking set. My dad a new bible. Gus a football. Max a new truck. Isabelle a new doll. Also want a doll. For my family a big Duck Dynasty blanket. Want a yellow iPod and laptop a polka-dots laptop a purple Kindle Fire. I want a lot of snow this year like 10 feet, because I had 10 feet of snow two years ago. Merry Christmas!!!

Nellie Hespe

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a mini iPad so I can download a lot of apps like Minecraft, dirt bike games, and Flow. I also want a Fathead; a Fathead is a life sized sticky sticker that goes on your bedroom wall. I want it to be a Chiefs football player Fathead. I wish to have a PS3 so I can get Skate 3. In Skate 3, all you do is ride around town and do tricks on a skateboard.

Mitchell Howard

Dear Santa,
I have a lot of things I want for Christmas and what I really want is a Wii U. It is a new game system and has very fun games. I also want Sonic and an Xbox 360 so I can play Sonic with my friends and I want a tablet also. I want a poster of Duck Dynasty with Uncle Si on it and would put it in my room. I hope I get a new basketball goal and basketball with it. I hope we get to go to my Grandma Linda's house for Christmas and eat lunch.

Dylan Ketzner.

Dear Santa,
I would like to go see my family in Colorado this Christmas. My grandma loves shopping when we come. For Christmas we go to Christmas shops. I would like to get a new TV for Christmas. Our other TV is really heavy. I would like to get a new Windows Tablet too that would be fun to play on. If I go to Colorado I would like to see my nieces. They like playing with me. I would like to see my sisters too. My sister has moved 3 times so I hope they are happy with their new place. I would like to get a bulldog or a pug for Christmas. Would like a Duck Dynasty blanket for my bed. I would like to go to my Grandma Linda's, I haven't been to her house in Florida. I can't wait to see her if I can go for Christmas which we most likely will.

Sarah Mellinger

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I wish for trail hoof boots for my horse. I also wish for a volleyball net set, because I like volleyball. I would like a new case for my iPod I would like the one that you can attach different polka-dots, and I'd love to have a Duck Dynasty blanket to wrap up in while I watch Duck Dynasty. Last, I would like a puppy that's really good and doesn't herd cattle, but he needs to be a farm dog. I do hope that my family can be together, Merry Christmas!!!

Audrey Moore

Dear Santa
This is what I want for Christmas. Would like a Kindle Fire, and pair of new boots, a new tire for my bike, a new volleyball, and a volleyball-net, and new clothes for my dog, and a new Duck Dynasty case for my iPod. On Christmas we open our stockings and we go to my Grandmas and Papas house.

Brooke Porubsky

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I really want an iPod. I want it so I can play games on it and so I can listen to music. I can also carry it in my pocket. I really hope I will get it. I want a Fathead. I want a horse Fathead. It is like a big poster. I want it so I can add color to my room. I want to spend more time with my family. I love them so much! I want to see my cousins this Christmas. I hope to see my whole family! Your good girl,

Grace Wright

Dear Santa,
I would like a tablet that is light blue and some pink hearts because pink and blue are my favorite colors and makeup. I would like you to give my sister a tablet that is pink and a Dora computer that is also pink but with purple. For my aunt, an iPhone that is light blue and high heels. Would like a cooking set for my mom. I would like some new tools for my Dad. I would like some clothes for my rabbits that are at home really cozy. Merry Christmas Santa!

Vivian Yanez

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St. Francis fifth graders give special gifts

The fifth grade children in Seth Swihart's class were asked three questions. If you could give a very special gift to someone, what would it be, who would it go to and why would you give it to that person? Also, What is your favorite thing to do during the Christmas holiday? What are you going to do this year?

Tyson Poling said if he could give a very special gift, he would give a warm coat to a kid in Canada. I like to decorate the Christmas tree during the Christmas holiday. I am going to get gifts and give this year.

Garin Cooper said if I could give a special gift to some one, it would be money. Who would I give it to, someone who is homeless and doesn't have much. My favorite thing to do is, go to grandma's and grandpa's house and have a treasure hunt for our gifts. Also, to get good, good, good beef jerky. I'm going to ride four-wheeler with my cousins this year.

Kattie Wurm said she would give to her family a elf because the elf can help my parents on work and my sister and me can have a snowball fight. My favorite thing to do on Christmas is waking up in the morning to open Christmas presents with the family and seeing my family. I'm going to do this year is setting on the couch watching movies while drinking hot chocolate.

Tylor Snyder said I would give over \$2,000.00 to Doyle Easter to help with his house. I am

hoping to go and see family and celebrate in traditional ways.

Yamilet Derma said she would give my neighbor from Mexico a set of Barbies so that she could play. Her mother died when she was little her dad does not want her and she is poor. She loves to play but has no toy. My favorite thing to do on this holidays is to spend time with my family. This year we will spend our Christmas at my sister's new house.

Cheyenne Yardley said the special gift would be anything the person would need. That person would be a hobo. My favorite thing to do during Christmas is giving. I am going to stay home for the holidays.

Rylan Doyle said I would give my gift to Shadryon, he is a nice person and a great friend. My favorite thing to do in Christmas is a exchange. What I am going to do this year in Christmas break is my friends and I are going to have air soft wars.

Brody Kaup said if I can give a gift to some one I would give it to my dad! I'll give him a new tractor from Yost. And I will do that cause my dad has always been everywhere for me and taught me to be tougher than I am. My favorite thing to do is spending time with my family and saying thanks. And I will possibly go to the Confer Mountains for Christmas.

Shadryon Blanka said I would give a pair of earrings to my Mom, because she does everything to make my life better. My favorite thing to do on Christmas is open presents with my cousins. My family is coming to my house for Christmas and to eat a Christmas breakfast and lunch.

Doyle Easter said if I could give a very special gift to someone, it would be a big halo lego set, and that person would be Keigan Talor, my best friend, he helps me, I help him, and he was my first friend I had. My favorite thing to do during Christmas break is going to Denver with my mom and playing with my cousins. I'm going to do exactly that.. and open presents.

Adam Krien said I'd give a warm hat and warm gloves to the people in India. Because some kids don't have as much stuff as us. My favorite thing to do is open gifts. For Christmas, I am going to play with my cousins.


Ashtyn Jenkins said I want to give money to move. It would be for my sister Torey and is for her to go to Colorado. My favorite thing to do is see family during the holidays. What I'm doing is going to my family's house.

Colton Neitzel said I would give kids in India presents because they don't get gifts. My favorite thing to do during the Christmas holiday is go to my grandmother's house on Christmas day and open presents. I am going to my aunt's house in Texas.

Kobe Tice said I would give my dad a gift because he takes me hunting and to ride my dirt bike. My favorite thing to do during Christmas is to be with my family. This year I am going to Hoxie to my grandpa and grandma's house.

Jesse Baxter said I would give my mom 3 tickets to the Chiefs and the Broncos game. The reason is that she loves the Chiefs. My favorite thing to do for Christmas is eat ham and spend time with family. My cousins are coming down to visit for Christmas.

Emma Johnson said I would give a gift to my mom because she is sweet and special. My favorite thing to do at Christmas is spend time with my family. What I will do this year is bake cookies and decorate the Christmas tree and spend time with my family.



Warm Christmas Wishes

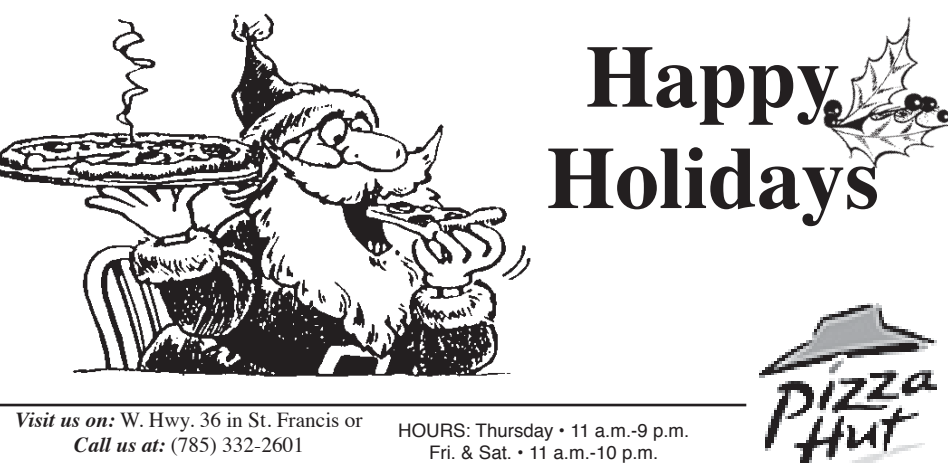
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Cheylin fifth grader wants to spend time with family

Amy Moree's fifth grade class at Cheylin wrote Santa some letters about what they want for Christmas!

Dear Santa,

I would like to spend my Christmas with my friend Bubba. Then we could play Wii together and have a blast together and beat a video game. Then we would have dinner and then have sweets like pie and cake. Then we will play a little longer and then leave.

Joseph Melton

Dear Santa,

I want a 10 gauge shotgun. The reason I want a 10 g is because I like to hunt. My dad said that you can kill a deer with a 10 g. also want a tackle box for fishing. The reason want a tackle box is that I have no room for any more stuff. Make sure to get one that is big. I also want a big feast after all the hunting. If you now me you now I like food. Really. Food is everything to me.

Gus Hespe

Dear Santa,

I want Mario Cart it would be so fun to play because you can race go carts. You would have so much fun because there are so many racers to choose from all the people to be. You can also play multiplayer with other friends and you can also play online.

Andrew Schields

Dear Santa,

I would like Just Dance 2014 for my Wii. I want it to use it with my brothers. We can dance and play with our cousins. Another thing I would like for Christmas is wealth for my family. If my family has wealth they can help me with some stuff. Another thing I would like is a laptop. Can use it for homework. I can also use to chat with my friends.

Alondra Perez

Dear Santa,

All I want from Santa is to spend time with my family and friends. We could have a family dinner and all the cousins can go sledding and we could have snow ball fights. All the cousins the night a could also stay at grandmas house and we could drink hot cocoa and watch movies. We could also eat popcorn and stay up late playing video games.

Keigan Taylor

Dear Santa,

I would like a furby for Christmas. I would like one because they are soft and adorable. The ones that talk are especially cute when they talk back. I would also like an iPad for Christmas. IPads are kind of large but still easy to travel with. If I had an iPad I would not have to go on a computer to do things. I also would like a new iPod 5th generation. I could listen to music and play games on it to pass time. I could also use it to look things up and talk to my friends all while listening to music. Those are the things I want for Christmas.

Schuyler Lennox

Dear Santa,

I would like a Wii. The reason is because if I like to be active and dance, also I can be easily entertained. I can play with my siblings and my parents, and especially my niece because she likes to dance and she would look so cute doing it. Also when I have friends over we can play each other at a game in Just Dance. That's what I want for Christmas, one of the things I want.

Claudia Cobos

Dear Santa,

What I would like for Christmas is an Xbox 360. Also some games for it. It would be so fun to play it. Or I would like an Xbox 1. They are really fun because you can watch football games and play lots of games. Another thing I would like is a laptop. It would be fun to play games. It would be cool to do snap chat with my friends.

Alex Dart

Dear Santa,

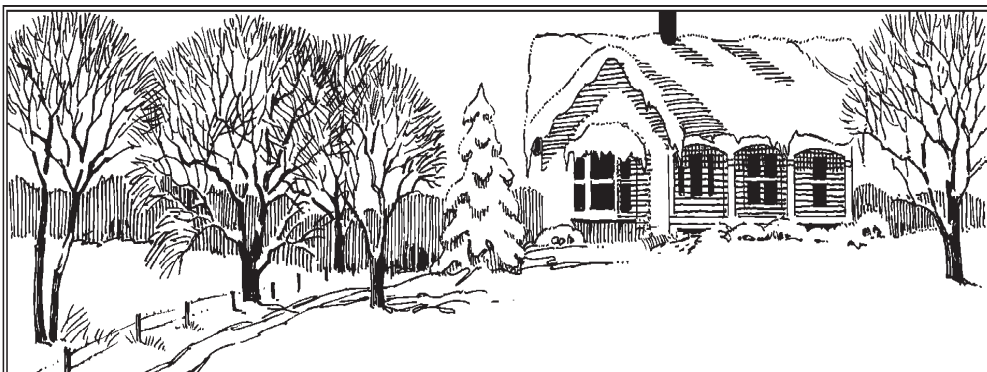
I want a touch screen laptop. The laptop will help my school work, entertain me when I bored, and watch videos. I also want a laptop to see and chat with people in Mexico. You can bring it if you can or if you want to.

Soledad Bermudez

Dear Santa,

I want a One Direction CD and front row concert tickets to see them. Back stage passes would be awesome so I could meet them. I also want an autographed picture. I also want an iPad and iPod. I want the iPod to have all of One Direction's music. One Direction wallpaper in my room would be great. Look for cookies at my house!


Hollie Nichole Trail

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First graders know why reindeer have antlers

Meghan Kinen and Marian Ochsner's first graders were asked why do reindeer have antlers? How do reindeer fly? Why does Rudolph have a red nose?

Cristian Silva said reindeer have antlers because it looks like a reindeer. Reindeer can fly because they have magic. Rudolph has a red nose because he was cool.

Jenae Moberly said reindeer have antlers because they need them. They have magic pills to fly. Rudolph has a red nose because he was different.

Matilynn Smull said reindeer have antlers because it helps them fly. They have magic to fly. Rudolph has a red nose because he was born that way.

Ashton Vaughn said reindeer have antlers because all big. They fly because they have magic. Rudolph has a red nose because of magic.

Aspen Tieg said reindeer have antlers because to help them here. Reindeer fly because it has magic. Rudolph has a red nose to give the sled for Sato.

Dallas Laten said reindeer have antlers because it makes them cool. Reindeer fly because they are so good this year. Rudolph has a red nose because he was a special reindeer.

Sophie White said reindeer have antlers because they were born. They have them from birth.

McKenzie Kinzer said reindeer have antlers because they were born like that. Reindeer fly because of Santa's magic. Rudolph has a red nose because he was born like that.

Shane Todd said reindeer have antlers because they're reindeers. How do reindeer fly they are magic. Rudolph has a red nose because Rudolph can't see.

Maggie Hingst said reindeer have antlers because they are like deer. Reindeer fly because of Christmas spirit. Rudolph flies because his



name is Rudolph.

Arionna Tipton said reindeer have antlers because so it can fly. How do reindeer fly because all is magic. Rudolph has a red nose because he needs to see in the night and it glows.

Zoey Hankins said reindeer have antlers because he has a magic pill for them. Rudolph is for fun. He has a red nose because he can glow.

Asher Robbins said reindeer have antlers because they are magic. Reindeer fly because so Santa has magic powers. Rudolph has a red nose because of his magic.

Mahra Padgett said reindeer have antlers because it just has. They can fly because they have magic. Rudolph has a red nose because he is special.


Kike Yanez said reindeer have antlers because it is magic and it has a nose because he is like Rudolph.

Ethan Caldwell said reindeer have antlers because they are deer. They can fly because they are magic because he is light.

Mika Killingsworth said reindeer have antlers because do you know reindeer. Reindeer fly because. Rudolph has a red nose because Rudolph has the red nose because he is special.




WAITING WITH SANTA before the parade of lights on Nov. 29 were his helpers, Jade Ketzner, Brady Ketzner, Dylan Ketzner and Joslyn Ketzner.



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Santa Claus' sleigh may be at least 5-feet long

Cindy Wiley's third grade class were asked "How big is Santa's sleigh?" "What does Mrs. Claus do while Santa is delivering presents?" "How old is Santa and when is his birthday?" "How does he celebrate?" and "What do you think Santa would want for Christmas?"

Jesslynn Houtman thinks Santa's sleigh is 5 feet long. Santa I would like an ipad please.

Garrett Helton thinks Santa's sleigh is about eight feet long. I want to donate my presents to kids that dont get any gifts so when you go to deliver and dont give me any gifts just to kids that dont get any presents thanks.

Piper Hamilton thinks that Mrs. Clause makes clothes for Santa or the kids while he is gone on Christmas Eve. For Christmas I would like a kindle fire like I had. And cowgirl clothes a new ipod case a new pair of miss me jeans with a pair of cowgirl boots a coloring book crayons and markers sticky notes.

Ben Busse thinks that elves are as big as humans. I think that Mrs. Claus would be cooking when Santa is gone. I want an iphone 5c for christmas.

Rian Zimbal thinks Santa's sleigh is a foot long. I think you would like an I-phone for Christmas. I want a minor and elves. Along with a surprise.

Molly Gilliland said Mrs. Claus, if your reading this I think you get the elves settled down. In the mean time, I'll get started on my Christmas List. Here is what I want... Kansas City Chiefs Blanket, iPhone 5, Clothes, Donate food, toys, love, a good Christmas. Thank you!

Bree De Waal thinks that Santa is 70 years old. He looks like he is 70. Santa I want a new American girl doll. And I also would like a make up set. And last but not least I would like a iphone 5.

Talexa Weeter thinks Santa wants some good hot cookies, cold milk for Christmas. Will start with my letter. Santa you are a nice old man. And your reindeer are so pretty. I know I have't seen them but I know they are pretty! And your wife is so pretty and I have never seen her but I know she is pretty. Thats the end of my story! What I would want for Christmas. 1. I phone 5. 2. cowgirl boots. 3. clothes. 4. art supplies. 5. I want God to watch over us! Merry Christmas

Liberty Velazquez thinks that Santa's sleigh is very large. But it can't be to large or it can't land on the roof. I think Mrs. Claus makes cookies while Santa is gone on Christmas Eve.

Preston Witzel thinks that Santa's sleigh is very big. Santa I would like for you to bring me a 22 rifle and an I phone 5. I also would like a new wii game. I hope you have a good Christmas.

Javier Yanez thinks that santa sleigh is very big. I think Mrs. Claus makes cookie. 64 year old in December 31. I think Santa will celebrate his birthday with Christmas majic. What do you think Santa would want for Christmas? Lots of love. Christmas List: a i phone, a i pad, a boe, a i tab, a toy farm.

Brayden Kaup thinks while Mr. Claus delivers gifts Mrs. Claus cooks with the elves. I want a metal detector and a twenty gauge and a scope for it. And a coat.

Tiauna Hafer said Santa's sleigh is as thick as a boat. Han mah mont an a phone. Deer Santa I want it to snow today so that I can have recess inside and Santas birthday is special.

Ellee Krien thinks Santa wants a nice cup of milk for Christmas. For Christmas I want an ipod or ipad. I want the case the be blue. But if you can't get that, that is ok. Anything is great. Please write back. From Ellee




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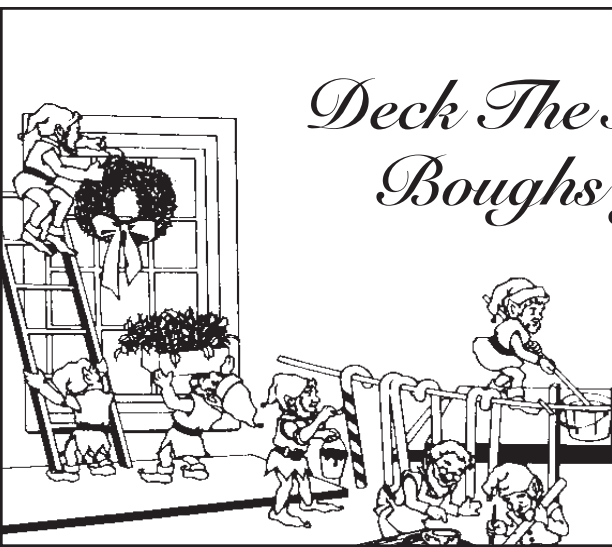
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First graders talk about reindeer and how they fly

The Cheylin first grade students of Morgan Kauten were asked "Why do reindeer have antlers?" "How do reindeer fly?" and "Why does Rudolph have a red nose?"

Kendy Gonzalez said reindeer have antlers so they can hear. They fly with majick form Santa. Rudolph has a red nose so it can led the way.

Kinley Havel said reindeer have antlers because win they are babies they start to grow. Then they're big and their antlers grow big. Reindeers can fly because they are majick. Rudolph has a red nose so Rudolph could fly up in the air.

Isabelle Hespe said reindeer have antlers because they nid thim. They fly by air. Rudolph has a red nose because he can see in the dark.

Cooper Paugh said reindeer have antlers because it lets them hear. They fly because of magik. Rudolph has a red nose because he could lead the way.



Harley McPherson said reindeer have antlers because reindeer can fly betr with them. They fly because they use magick to fly. Rudolph had been born with a red nose.



ALEX DART, right, escorted Donna Johnson into the Cheylin Senior Christmas Luncheon. Andrew Shields (in back) waits to escort Pastor Tom and Debbie Bailey.

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Preschool children talk about the cranberry

ABC Preschool children in St. Francis were asked four questions: "What is a cranberry?" "Where does Santa take a vacation?" "What do you want for Christmas?" and "What does your mother and dad want for Christmas?"

Zarik Enfield said a cranberry is where I want to go. Santa takes a vacation here. He wants a baler for Christmas, and his mommy wants a pillow and daddy doesn't want anything.

Maci Workman said a cranberry is red. She said Santa takes a vacation in his chair. She wants a karaoke machine, make-up kit and a chair. Mommy wants a ring and daddy wants a pop.

Aiden Meyer said a cranberry is blue. He said Santa takes a vacation at someone's house. He wants a black horse with a saddle for Christmas. His mommy wants a brown and white shirt and daddy wants a black shirt with polka dots.

Camille Luncsford says a cranberry is a raisin.

Santa takes a vacation at the north Pole. She wants an arrow for Christmas. Mommy wants a new shirt and daddy wants some candy.

DJ Hoard said a cranberry is an apple. Santa takes a vacation at the North Pole. He wants a power ranger for Christmas.

Reagan Milne said a cranberry is pink. Santa takes a vacation at work. She wants a purple horse and a purple Hello Kitty bracelet. She said mommy wants a little sunflower and daddy wants a blue acorn.

Dailey Rose said a cranberry is a cranberry. Santa takes a vacation in New York. She wants a Sophia blanket. She said mommy and daddy want kisses and hugs.

Andrew Andrist said a cranberry is like a blueberry. He said Santa takes a vacation at the North Pole. He would like a monster truck for Christmas. He said mommy wants a Christmas decoration and daddy wants a real pick up.



DANCING TO 'LET IT SNOW' at the Yuletide program in St. Francis on Sunday, Dec. 8, were Alexis Zimelman and Maci Workman.

Merry Christmas

Happy Holidays



Schultz's
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114 W. Washington • St. Francis



PATIENTLY WAITING during the Cheylin Senior Luncheon program were (l to r) Alayna Brewer, Kyla Howard and Gabby Pochop.

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Seasons Greetings

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PLUM CREEK 4-H'ERS donated toys to Toys for Tots. Andy Beikman at Bumper to Bumper, St. Francis, had a box for toy collections. Pictured, back row: Matthisen Witzel, Shadryon Blanka, Jesse Baxter, Seth Grice, Andy Beikman (back), Cody Baxter, Brice Hays, Kaleb Hays; front row: Hadleigh Hilt and Bailey Workman.



Merry
Christmas
To All

Wishing you
a Happy Holiday Season

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Preschool children know where Santa vacations

Cheylin Preschool teacher Bridget Pochop asked the children in Bird City four questions: "What is a cranberry?" "Where does Santa take a vacation?" "What do you want for Christmas?" and "What does your mother and dad want for Christmas?"

Natalyn Bursch said a cranberry is purple. She said Santa takes a vacation everywhere! Natalyn would like jelly beans for Christmas. She wants to get her dad a new telephone and her mom make up.

Joia Chmielewski said a cranberry is a present. Santa takes a vacation in his sleigh. Joia would like a fire truck for Christmas. I want to give my mom a nice glass of water.

Alex Garcia thinks a cranberry is something you play with. Santa takes a vacation at the beach. He would like a car for Christmas. Mom and Dad do not want a thing.

Landon Hendricks said a cranberry is a fruit snack. Santa takes a vacation in Kansas. For Christmas, Landon would like a train set. Dad wants the kids to mind. I would give mom a nice, soft heart pillow.

Hayden Ketzner said a cranberry is kind of like a grape. Santa takes a vacation on all of the houses when he delivers presents. My mom would like a new hoodie. I would get daddy a rope.

Lucas Linner thinks a cranberry is something at Christmas. Santa takes a vacation in Bird City, Kansas. He would like a ball with stars for Christmas. Mom wants clothes and dad wants

a picture.

Taylor McCarty said a cranberry is a carrot. Santa takes a vacation when he delivers toys. She would like an American Girl Doll. She wants to get mom and dad a big card.

Arturo Medina thinks a cranberry is a fruit. Santa takes a vacation somewhere that it is hot. For Christmas he would like a monster truck. I think mommy wants make up. Daddy wants a tool kit.

Daniela Navarrete said a cranberry is fruit. Santa takes a vacation in Mexico. She would like a toy top for Christmas. Mom would like a movie. Daddy would like a game.

Justine Poore said a cranberry is like a blueberry. Santa takes a vacation at the North Pole. Justine wants a new wagon for Christmas. Daddy wants lots and lots of money!

Ashlyn Schields said a cranberry is a bouncy ball. Santa takes a vacation at the beach. She would like a jump house for Christmas. My mom wants shoes and dad wants a Broncos shirt.

Abigail Wright thinks a cranberry is a clam. Santa takes a vacation at DisneyWorld. She would like a Barbie Dream House for Christmas. She would get more tape for Mom and boots for Dad.

Andrew Wright said a cranberry is a snap. Santa takes a vacation he thinks at the beach. For Christmas he would like fake pokey bombs. He would get a game for Mom and nothing for Dad.

Kindergartners write letters to Santa Claus

Kayla Bursch's kindergarten class had great letters to Santa. They wanted a variety of presents and were going to leave Santa cookies and milk.

Dear Santa,
I want a barbie with a camera in it. I have been good this year. I love you Santa.
Love, Emily

Dear Santa,
I want a barbie with a screen on it. A robot dog named Zeus. I also would like a flying fairy. I want more movies.
Love, Alayna

Dear Santa,
I want a My Life Doll that is a cowgirl with blonde hair. I want hair chalk and a dresser and a cowgirl sweat shirt that says "Just Ride."
Love, Gabrielle

Dear Santa,
I would like a puppy named Zeus. How is your reindeer?
Love, Kyla



*Silent Night
Holy Night*

Cheyenne County Hospital
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St. Francis Clinic 785-332-2682
Bird City Clinic 785-734-2200
Chey. Co. Health Dept. 785-332-2381

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Seasons Greetings

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Headstart children know where Santa takes his vacation

Cheyenne County Headstart children were asked four questions: "What is a cranberry?" "Where does Santa take a vacation?" "What do you want for Christmas?" and "What does your mother and dad want for Christmas?"

Samuel Olivares said a cranberry is a fruit that you eat. Santa takes a vacation with the deers, he said. He would like a car for Christmas. Mom wants a car and Dad wants a bus for Christmas.

Caiman Jensen thinks a cranberry is a bear. He said Santa takes vacations at the beach. For Christmas, he said he would like to be with Daddy. He said his Mom wants an orange and his Dad wants a cake for Christmas.

Jesus Fernandez said that a cranberry is a game. Santa, he said, would like to take a vacation far away. He would like a race car game for Christmas. Mommy wants a race car game, too.

Manuel Calderon said a cranberry is a cranberry. Santa, he said, takes a vacation in his home. He would like a dog for Christmas, and said his Mom and Dad want a sheep.

Derek Rodriguez said he didn't know what a cranberry was. He said Santa takes a vacation at his house. He would like a motorcycle that looks like a scooter for Christmas. Mom and Dad would like a bed.

Landen Laten said that Santa takes a vacation on ice. He would like a rocket and a rocket booster for Christmas. Mom wants Santa's toys, letters, gummibears and she wants boxes and clips and all sorts of stuff. Dad wants a toolbox and a phone and he wants some of our Head Start toys.

Brecken Tiegs said that Santa takes a vacation to her house. She would like a real life mustang for Christmas. Her Dad would like paint, and her Mom would like new earrings.

Michal Warford said tht Santa takes a vacation to the farm with his Mom. He would like a basketball for Christmas. He said Mom wants a puzzle and Dad wants a basketball, too.

Jencarlos Tolentino said Santa takes a vacation at his home. He would like a car for Christmas. He said his Mom and Dad want clothes.

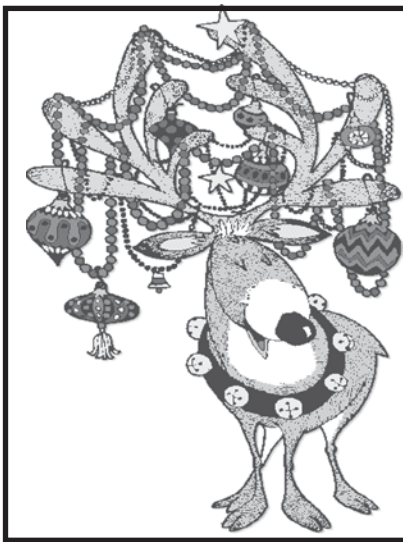
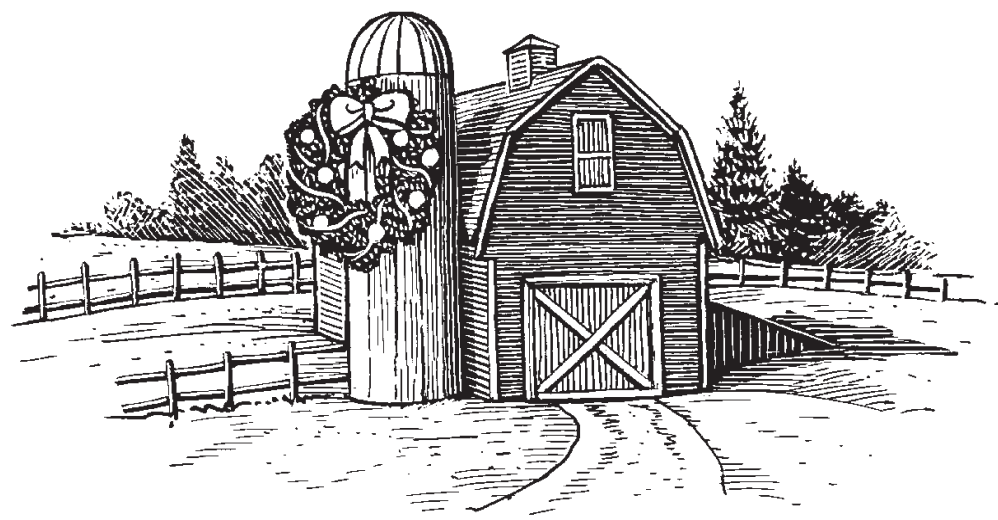
Luis Talamantes said Santa takes a vacation at his home. He would like to be home for Christmas. He said Mom wants something big. Dad would like a cow.

Mairyn Yanez thinks Santa takes a vacation at his house. She would like two toys for Christmas. She said Mom wants a car and Dad would like a truck.

Amy Yanez thinks that Santa goes to his Mom's house for Christmas. She would like a pony for Christmas. Amy said her Dad wants a surprise and a pony and Mom doesn't want anything.

Eduardo Sergura said he thinks Santa goes to the prison for vacation. He would like a Nintendo DS from Santa. He said his Mom and Dad want flowers.

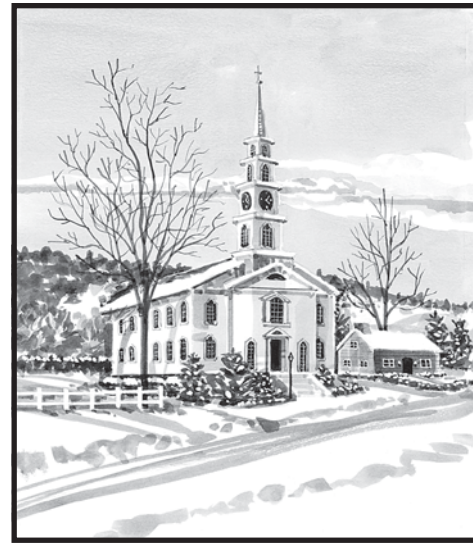
Fabian Zavala said that Santa takes a vacation at his house. He would like Hulk hands for Christmas.



As the magic of Christmas unfolds, it brings joy and wonder to young and old alike. May the extraordinary spirit of this very special holiday fill your hearts now and forever.



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Merry Christmas

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of Christmas inspire
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Christmas Holiday Recipes

Sweet-and-Spicy Pecans

Ingredients

- 1 large egg white
- 2 cups unsalted pecan halves
- 2 cups unsalted roasted cashews
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon ground cumin
- 3/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- Kosher salt

Directions

Preheat the oven to 250 degrees F. Beat the egg white with 1 tablespoon water in a large bowl until foamy. Add the nuts, sugar, cumin, cayenne, cinnamon and 1/2 teaspoon salt and mix well. Spread the mixture on a parchment-lined baking sheet. Bake until the nuts are mostly dry but still slightly sticky, about 40 minutes.

Remove the nuts from the oven and stir. Reduce the temperature to 200 degrees F. Return the nuts to the oven and bake until crisp, about 30 more minutes. Stir to loosen the nuts from the baking sheet; cool completely on the sheet.

Sausage Balls

Ingredients

- 1/2 pound bulk pork sausage
- 2 cups shredded sharp Cheddar cheese
- 1/4 cup milk
- 1 1/2 cups buttermilk pancake mix
- 2 tablespoons dry onion soup mix
- 1/8 to 1/4 teaspoon ground hot red pepper

Directions

Mix together sausage, cheese, milk and egg in a large bowl. Add buttermilk pancake and waffle mix with onion soup mix and ground red pepper. Blend well. Pinch off bits of dough and shape into 1-inch balls. Place on lightly greased baking sheets, spacing 1 1/2 inches apart, and sprinkle lightly with paprika. Bake 10 to 15 minutes at 375 degrees until deep golden brown, turning the balls over at halftime. Remove from baking sheets and serve.

Chocolate and Peanut Butter Fudge

Ingredients

- Unsalted butter, softened, for brushing
- 1 14-ounce can sweetened condensed milk
- 2 cups bittersweet chocolate chips
- 2 pinches salt
- 2 cups peanut butter chips

Directions

Line an 8-inch-square baking pan with foil, pressing it into the corners and up the sides; leave an overhang on 2 sides. Brush the foil with butter.

Combine 3/4 cup condensed milk, the chocolate chips and a pinch of salt in a medium saucepan. Combine the remaining condensed milk, the peanut butter chips and a pinch of salt in a separate saucepan. Put both pans over low heat and cook, stirring occasionally, until the chips are melted and smooth.

Spoon the chocolate mixture into the prepared pan, leaving spaces between the spoonfuls. Spoon the peanut butter mixture into the gaps. Brush an 8-inch square of parchment paper with butter and lay it directly on top of the fudge; press to flatten evenly and fill any gaps. Refrigerate until firm about 45 minutes. Lift the foil to remove the fudge from the pan and cut into 1-inch squares. Store up to 1 week in an airtight container.



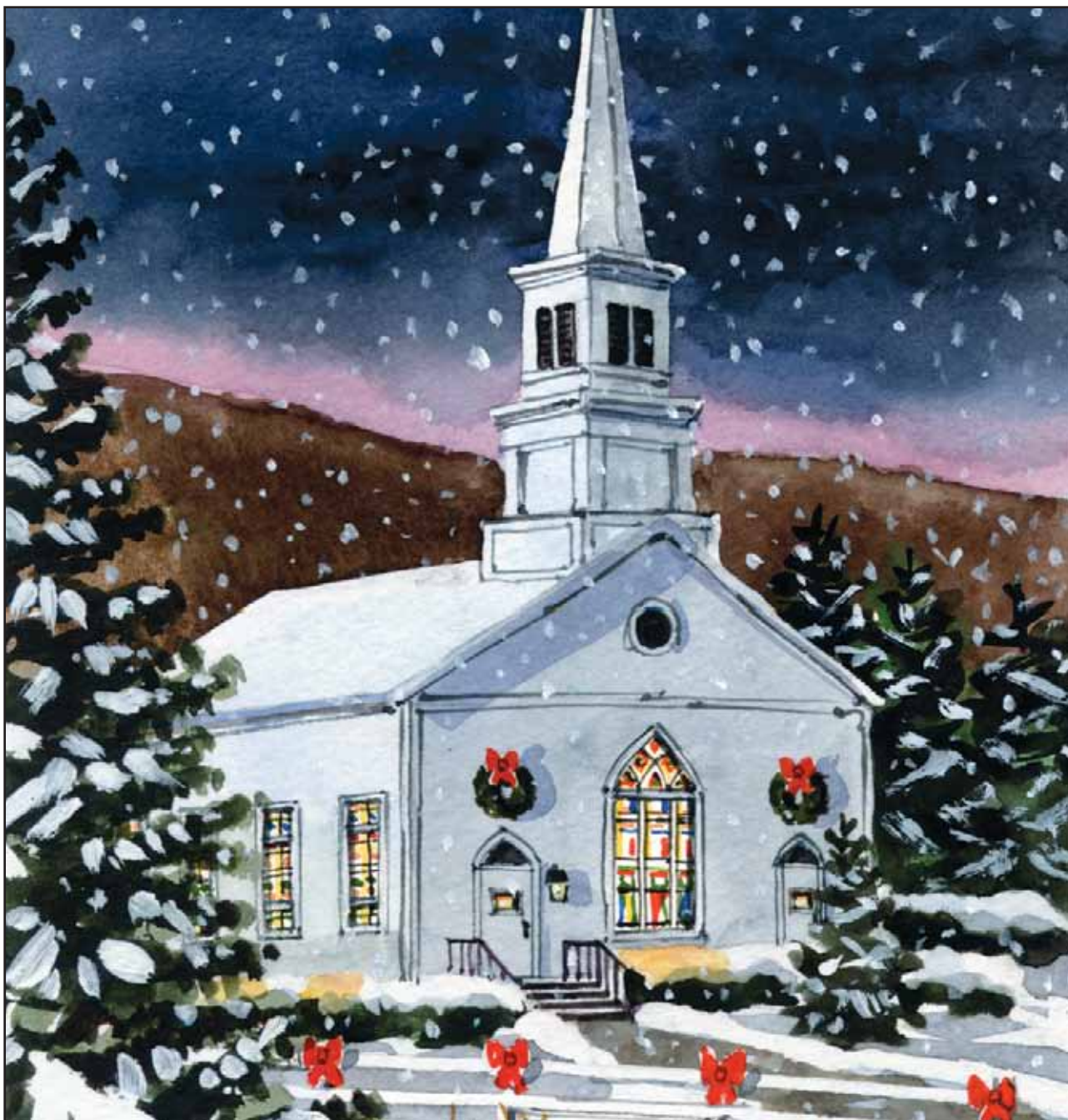
The Saint Francis Herald
785-332-3162 • 310 W. WASHINGTON • ST. FRANCIS
Bird City Times
785-538-2289 • BIRD CITY

Merry Christmas



CHRISTMAS PHOTOS include Aiden Meyer, top left, who was a little in awe of Santa; clockwise, Shelby Wolff rode on the St. Francis Equity's float; Connor Hazuka sang at the Yuletide program; Sydney Sundstrom played her trumpet during the St. Francis Christmas opening.

In the Spirit of the Season



St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

Father Carlos Ruiz Santos
785-332-2680
625 S. River • St. Francis
Call for Christmas Service Information

St. Joseph Catholic Church

Father Carlos Ruiz Santos
785-332-2680
Bird Ave. • Bird City
Call for Christmas Service Information

First Christian Church

Pastor Jeff Landers
785-332-2956
118 E. Webster • St. Francis
Call for Christmas Service Information

United Methodist Church

Reverend Warren Cico
785-332-2292 • 785-332-2254
512 S. Scott • St. Francis
Christmas Eve Services 7 p.m. & 11 p.m.

Peace Lutheran Church, AFLC

Pastor Randy Nelson
202 N. College • St. Francis
785-332-2928 • 785-332-2312
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - 7 p.m.

Wesleyan Church

Pastor Dan Carson
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W. Hwy. 36 • Bird City

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Immanuel United Methodist Church

Pastor Tom Bailey
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Christmas Eve Service 6 p.m.

Seventh-Day Adventist Church

Pastor James McCurdy
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Church of Christ

Minister Norman Morrow
785-332-2380 • 785-332-3424
502 W. Spencer • St. Francis
Call for Christmas Service Information

St. Francis Community Church

Pastor David Butler
785-332-3150
204 N. Quincy Street • St. Francis
Call for Christmas Service Information

Salem Lutheran Church

Pastor Chris Farmer
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on Rd 9 (8 mi. NW of St. Francis)
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Solid Rock Baptist Church

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Living Water Fellowship Ministry

Pastor Terry & Tiffany Glasco
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