



Home for the Holidays

Christmas Tab

2011

Mound City

NEWS



Christmas is the best time of the year

Essay from

Shawn Harper

Holt County native and member
of Craig R-III Class of 1979

Christmas is the best time of the year.

It's the time for baked goodies of all kinds, beautiful lights, and music, candles, and cards.

We display special mementos, cherished ornaments and lavish decorations, and we see some incredible stuff in some people's yards. It's the time for eggnog and evergreens, family portraits, long lines in stores, long distance phone calls, and fruit cake. Don't forget the

wrapping paper - tape - and batteries for goodness sake. We like kissing under the mistletoe - poinsettias, ribbons and bows, and playing in the snow.

The retailers depend upon and the health of the economy is measured by the shoppers' dollars, and newspapers are heavy with advertisements. It's the time for shopping and saving the receipts. UPS people work way past dark, senior citizens are thrilled when people come visit the nursing home, and Salvation Army bell ringers collect precious money for a worthy cause. Children try to be well behaved and they love to help decorate

the Christmas tree in anticipation of deliveries from Santa Claus.

A Christmas tree can mesmerize us, and hypnotize us, and hearken us back to a special memory of a certain Christmas. Each Christmas we try to make special memories to deposit into our memory bank. This is the time of the year that we look back, and look forward, and hope for a better year to come.

It seems that at Christmas time people's hearts and minds are more receptive and more open with feelings and expressions of love.

It's what we call the 'Spirit of Christmas'.

Despite the hustle and bustle in stores and parking lots, regardless of the to and fro of hectic holiday schedules we have not forgotten the reason for this season.

Jesus of Nazareth born in Bethlehem. His birth was foretold by prophets, announced by heavenly angels, and marked by a new star in the night sky. The 1st Christmas was the bell rung in the center of time - the difference between B.C.

and A.D.

As a boy Jesus taught the church leaders, the priests and the Pharisees. As a man he calmed the stormy seas and walked on water. He fasted for 40 days, and He fed five thousand people with only two fishes and 5 loaves of bread. He drove the money changers from the temple steps. He had compassion for the adulteress and brought one man back from the dead. Jesus healed the blind, the diseased, the lame, and the sick, but He died a cruel horrible death. He was convicted and killed like a criminal and buried as a pauper in a borrowed tomb - but He arose from it after 3 days.

Jesus was born as, and is known to the entire Christian world as the light, the life, and the hope of the world. Our redeemer - Our Savior.

Jesus never commanded an army or a navy, never traveled far from home, never had a computer or a cell phone, never went to college and He lived only 33 years, but His name is known worldwide.

He founded the greatest

kingdom ever known and the only blood He shed was His own.

At Christmas we celebrate the birth of the greatest hero of all time.

For Christmas and during this next New Year we can do things to make our world a better place.

We can oppose lies with truth, and counteract foolish drama with reverence.

We can oppose foul behavior with good deeds and acts of kindness, and oppose immorality with our traditional values.

We can interrupt gossip with words of cheer and goodwill, and negate selfishness with generous charitable giving. Charity never fails.

Most of all - we can heed the greatest commandment - Love one another.

Merry Christmas.



Christmas Blessings

*In this season of wonder and celebration,
we wish love and peace to all.
We appreciate the blessings bestowed upon
us, and look forward to wishing the
happiest of holidays to each and every
one of you, personally.
Many thanks and best wishes, this
most joyous of seasons.*

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'Tis the season!

Wishing you and your family moments of magic to make your holidays bright. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you in the new year.



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MERRY CHRISTMAS

Message from
Rev. Brian Lemcke, Pastor
Lutheran Tri-Parish of Holt County

It's time to celebrate, Charlie Brown! It's time to go to parties and eat cookies and drink eggnog. It's time to put up the tree and the lights and the decorations. It's time to overspend and get overworked and depressed. After all, Christmas through New Year's is the most depressing time of year for many.

But have you ever really thought about *why* we celebrate Christmas? Is it because Jesus was actually born on December 25th? Is it so we can give and receive gifts? Is it so we can have our children's pictures taken with Santa Claus? Hopefully it's none of these.

Isaiah talks about the

once great nation of God's people as a towering tree. There never was a nation like this nation—a nation which God loved dearly and dealt with in grace and mercy. But the people began to forget. They forgot the God who had blessed them by taking them through the waters of the Red Sea, through forty years in the wilderness, exile in Babylon and at many other times.

But the people forgot. They forgot to read the Word of God. They forgot to give him thanks and honor. They forgot to follow his commands. Then one day came the tree's 9/11. Like the Twin Towers, it toppled with a horrific crash. At ground zero was a stump—that's all. Nothing left. Only rubble. The people of God were not his people anymore—only a twisted mass of humanity with no hope and no peace.

Then Isaiah predicted a shoot from the stump of Jesse that would grow. The shoot would become a man. It was the divine plan of God that this man would become something

that we could never comprehend. This "something new" would become the God-man, Jesus Christ.

His greatest strength wasn't becoming a huge towering tree, but a sacrifice upon a tree. He would be despised by His own people—rejected, beaten and murdered. He would be deserted by His closest friends—the disciples. Satan would lash out at Him in the wilderness with the same temptations we face every day. But He wouldn't give up on His mission because He was loyal to those He came to redeem. Like His Father before Him, He would save those who walk in the darkness of sin. He came to redeem the tree of God's people by dying on a tree. Through His death, He became the strength of a new tree that would rescue God's people.

In *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, Charlie Brown finds himself depressed at Christmas time, searching for the true meaning of the holiday amidst the glitz and commercialism of the modern age. He screams, "Isn't there anyone who

can tell me what Christmas is all about!?" He finds his answer in Luke, chapter two:

"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 tidings of great joy, which shall be to all my people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ, the Lord.'"

"And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, 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, and goodwill

toward men."

"That's what Christmas is all about, Charlie Brown." - Linus Van Pelt

Two thousand years ago, our God came down to earth to become one of us. In this way He showed us that He wasn't ashamed of us but willing to be with us—to live the same life we live.

Why do we celebrate Christmas each year? So we never forget what God did for us! We celebrate Christmas so we never forget what happened in a small, Middle-Eastern town over 2,000 years ago. A shoot came up from a stump. A Savior came to those who had forgotten their God. Through that Savior, God made even gentiles like us His people. He gave us life. He gave us every blessing. He gave us glory and a new home. We celebrate so we would never forget. And *that's* what Christmas is all about.

**Season's
Greetings and
Best Wishes for
a very Happy
New Year!**



**Mound City
Post Office**

**GOOD TIDINGS
TO ALL**

Your friendship is what
makes the season extra
special for us.



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**SEASON'S
GREETINGS**

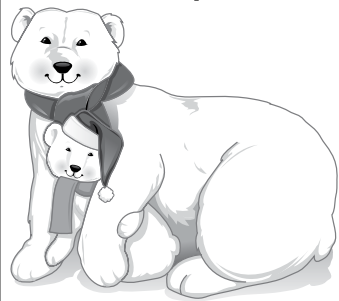
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this great holiday fill
your stocking with
joy and peace.

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This Holiday Season**



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Family traditions

Written by the Mound City 7th & 8th Grade Classes

For some reason, we always do it. You know, the whole cookies and milk thing. Well, I don't mind because it's for "Santa" and I hope my kids enjoy it too. My only concern... rotten milk. As long as I'm around, I'll always leave cookies and milk out for "Santa".

Colton Dean

Every year we open our presents on Christmas Eve. I don't actually know why we open presents on Christmas Eve. I like opening presents on Christmas Eve, but I also feel that we shouldn't because it's not actually Christmas yet.

Cooper Hollis

Every year around Christmas time, we always watch *The Christmas Story!* And even though my dad's seen it about a thousand times, he still has to laugh the whole time. I like this tradition because I like being with my family and laughing with them.

Kenzie

Every year I go over to my grandma's for Christmas. She hides two pickle ornaments on the tree and all the kids and grandkids have to find them. Whoever finds the pickle gets a jar of Kosher dill pickles, then is automatically out for the next year. Once you wait one year you can look for it again.

Kaitie Smith

Christmas. The busiest time of year. There's shopping to do, food to bake, parties to attend and to host, presents to wrap, the house to decorate, Santa Claus to prepare for, the list is never ending. However, what is the real meaning of Christmas? It's not about ribbons or bows or boxes or bells. The whole reason Christmas is celebrated is due to the birth of Christ.

One of my favorite Christmas traditions is going to Christmas Eve Mass. Christmas Eve Mass is all about the birth of Christ and the true meaning of Christmas. Christmas Eve Mass shows me how important Jesus and God are and opens my eyes to all of the wonderful things God has done for us. I love going to the Christmas Eve Mass because the service is so beautiful and spending it with my family is a blessing.

Maggie Caton

Every year on Christmas Day I love waking up to presents under the tree, what kid doesn't? I always wake up at five in the morning sometimes earlier. That's my favorite Christmas tradition and yes I know it's not much, but I know that that's something I can look forward to every year as long as I'm with my sister and her husband. When I lived with my mom we didn't have a tree or any decorations. Also our gifts were at our sister's house! I like to remember every year it's not about how much the gift or gifts are worth it's the thought that counts!

Tasha Ritchie

**Continued to
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It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas!



**FALLS CITY TRAVEL
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MERRY CHRISTMAS



*"Best wishes for a
Happy Holiday
Season, and our
sincere thanks for
your loyalty and
goodwill throughout
the year."*



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MY CHRISTMAS MEMORY

Mari Ferguson

When the girls were small, we made Christmas sugar cookies and decorated them. The girls, Kristin and Mallory, now tell how I MADE them frost the bells blue, the stars yellow AND sugar the candy canes red and the Christmas trees green - NO VARIATIONS. Of course they had to TASTE each different shape/color in case they weren't the same. Now that I'm a Grammie, pretty much anything goes when the "little girls", Kelsie and Ryann, decorate cookies - even licking the knife while frosting!

**We wish you a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year!**

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*Happy Holidays with heartfelt
thanks from all of us.*

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State Street enjoys carolers from Mound City R-2

Businesses and residents enjoyed Christmas tunes performed by students from Mound City R-2 on Friday, December 16. Students and teachers walked north from Dollar General on a closed down State Street in Mound City. The kids filled the cold air with Christmas spirit.



Merry Christmas!

We will be closed Monday, December 26, & Monday, January 2.



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Best Wishes!*

*May Christmas bring
everything you've ever
dreamed of and more.
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We will be open until 11:30 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 23. We will be closed Monday, Dec. 26, Saturday, Dec. 31, and Monday, Jan. 2.

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At This Holy Season*

For your friendship, we offer our heartfelt gratitude along with our best wishes for a truly blessed and miraculous Christmas. Thank you for brightening our year with your visits.



The Law Office of Brian Tubbs LLC

Brian Tubbs, Attorney At Law

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*Merry
Christmas*

&

Happy New Year



eat fresh.



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Family traditions

Written by the Mound City 7th & 8th Grade Classes

**Continued from
Page 4**

The best Christmas family tradition I've ever known and will ever know is my family tradition. It consists of various finger foods, egg rolls, shrimp, chicken tenders, mini tacos, chili crispitos, mozzarella sticks and more, that we put on our colored cafeteria-like plates (special for that one occasion). Then we all sit down and eat in the living room. The same every year, Christmas movies: *Christmas Vacation*, a given, *Miracle on 34th Street*, and *It's a Wonderful Life*.

Kendey Eaton

Hugs. Laughter. Food. These are all elements that are in my family tradition! Every year my family gathers together on Christmas Eve to open gifts. With a plentiful food supply and lots of presents, it is a guaranteed great time!

Hillary

Gathering of family, presents and Christmas Eve. What could this be other than my favorite holiday tradition? Every year my family gathers at my grandma's house to exchange presents. This is my favorite holiday tradition because it is a nice way to spend time together and always has been a part of my life.

Montana Kunkel

There are so many different traditions but my favorite one is opening a gift on Christmas Eve. It makes me pumped for in the morning and distracts me also. Another one is singing while my grandma, Dorothy Egbert, plays the piano. It makes her and us all happy because we get to spend time together.

Harley Garman

It was the night before Christmas and the Wedlocks were walking down the street. But to where you ask. To the midnight church service at the United Methodist Church, is where they are going. Every year on Christmas Eve my hometown church hosts a midnight candle Christmas Eve service. We attend every year. It's my favorite family holiday tradition. It makes me think about the real meaning of Christmas. One year when we were walking home from the service my family and I were almost sprayed by skunks! That was just another memory to add to our holiday tradition. This is a tradition that I hope I can carry on with my children.

Emily Wedlock

Do you smell that? Yum, it's seafood! Every Christmas Eve we go to my Grandma D.D.'s house to open presents. After we open presents, we eat. Once we have visited for awhile, we pack up our presents and go home to rest for Santa's visit. Every Christmas Eve, my family listens to my mom read *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*. After she has read us the story, we say good night and go to sleep to see what we get the next morning. When we wake up, we open presents, eat breakfast, then go to Mama's to open presents from her. Finally, we go home and play with the stuff we got and clean the house for Christmas Dinner. We eat a lot of stuff, and then we tell each other about what we got for Christmas. Those are my Christmas Traditions!

Tess Phillips

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Page 7**



Blessings Of The Season



May your faith be renewed and your spirits rekindled during this holy season.

For your support, we are deeply grateful.

Merry Christmas!

Yocum Service, Inc.

Mound City, Missouri 64470
Telephone (660) 442-3879

Family traditions

Written by the Mound City 7th & 8th Grade Classes

Continued from Page 6

Every family has a crazy family tradition, but I can assure you my family tradition is the craziest. In my family on New Year's Eve, we PLAY PITCH! The tradition started when my grandma's uncle's wife invited everyone for her house for New Year's. They were poor and had only a little. One thing they did have was cards and they all played 'til midnight. One of the games they played was pitch and everyone loved it so much! They all had so much fun that the next year they did it again. Now it's only my family and grandma's family that come together for New Year's, but it's still enough to play pitch and I hope the tradition never ends. That's my family tradition.

Rebecca Wheeler

Feast. Presents. Organizing. Laughter. Excitement. Family. Happiness. Christmas ornaments. Lights. Tree. These words are the choppy version of my family tradition, but nobody wants a choppy story so let me tell you what my family tradition is with more details.

The day after Thanksgiving my family brings out the Christmas ornaments, lights,

and tree and we decorate our house. We have an organized way of doing this. Mom puts up the tree, we kids decorate the tree and we each put our ornament from when we were babies on it last or first. Then, Dad puts up the stockings, outdoor Christmas lights, and the star on the top of the tree.

Then, on Christmas Eve, we all make cookies so my brother, Mathew Grover, and my sisters, Destiny and Rachel Grover, can put some cookies out for Santa. Then, on Christmas Day, I get the honor of organizing the presents. When I do this, I have to put everyone's presents together in a section so nobody opens a present that's not theirs. Then, before we open all of our gifts, everyone has to watch each person open one present. After everyone opens their exciting gifts, we all sit down and have the great feast made by me and Mom.

Megan Grover



Letters to Santa

Written by the Mound City Preschool Class

Dear Santa,

I got no minors. I've been good! I want a new toy box please. Bring a new baby doll for Juli.

Love, Brailey Poppa

Dear Santa,

I want a new toy please. I want a car. A remote control car. Bring my friend a toy. I've been good!

Brayden Schremser

Dear Santa,

I love you and last year I heard you when I was asleep! You are the best Santa! Please can I have a dream castle? My brother wants some tractors and trucks. I saw an ice cream maker on TV and I want it and you can eat it. I saw a microphone on TV and it can stick on a stick and you can sing in it. Please bring it to my house. We have Santa's elf in our house. He lives at the North Pole. I've been good! Please give me some presents!

Love, Jacey Rader

Dear Santa,

Please can I have a fish pillow and a hunting toy? And I want a motorcycle and I want a Wii because it got broke. Thank you! And I want a helicopter remote control and a toy snake. Please can Jacey have a princess wand and a hat and a dress. I like reindeer and I

see them out my window when I wake up. I've been good for goodness sake. Thank you and please. My Mommy & Daddy was good and Landon was good. Jacey been good. My Mommy & Daddy like presents.

Love, Lucas Nelson

Dear Santa,

I love you Santa! Please can you bring me a new baby doll? I like your reindeer! Sometimes I help my Mommy make pizza. Thank you.

Love, Reese Miles

Dear Santa,

I like you! Why do you need to climb down the chimney when I'm asleep? Why are you magic

and is Rudolph real? Why do you need to fly with reindeers instead of by yourself? I just wish I had bigger shoes. Do you know why? Because these shoes make my feet hurt! Actually I like what Santa does. Please get me a fake Sponge Bob. That is all I guess.

Vinnie Baker

Dear Santa,

I love Santa! I want new toys, cars and combines please and thank you. I have been good. I share.

Love, Jacob Hall

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Page 8



Merry Christmas!

And a Happy New Year!

Your business means a lot to us and we thank you for your friendship and support this year.



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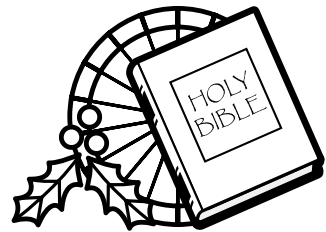
*Happy
Holidays*

From

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Kirby & Amy Miles & Family
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Kirby's Cell: 442-6085





Filled With Warm Wishes
At Christmas

**George's
Total**

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660-442-3433

*A magical, merry
and most joyous
Christmas to
you and yours.*



Letters to Santa

Written by the Mound City Preschool Class

Continued from Page 7

Dear Santa,

Thank you for the toys! Thank you and please bring me a present a Dora doll. I want you to bring Miranda a baby toy Dora cart and a Dora microphone for Miranda and me. I've been good. My mom has 5 necklaces. I like diamonds. I like doggies. Thank you!

Love, Rayla Hufford

Dear Santa,

I love presents! I love you! Please give me a Lalaloopsey doll. I love you again! Mama wants a new bracelet that has sparkles on it and diamonds on it, my Daddy wants a new lawn mower, Emmy wants a new doll that's an elephant, Kindall wants a heart picture for me to color. I really love you so much.

Love, Phoebe Morris

Dear Santa,

I like you a lot and I should get a lot of presents because I like you! You are the best and I like you a lot and I want to go to the North Pole to see you. Sometimes I be good. I am going to put you cookies and milk on the table so you can eat them and I love you! Please can I have a dinosaur and a snow globe and a pet snake, not a real one a fake one, and a CD and a lot of other stuff.

Love, Ava Portman

Dear Santa,

I like you Santa! My brother likes you too. Me and my brother likes reindeers. Santa has his reindeers. Please, Santa can you please give me a puppy dog to play with? Please Santa can you get me a baby bed for my babies? Santa can you get me a toy for Jathan please?

Love, Joslin Ungles

Dear Santa,

Please get me new cowboy boots that can fit me. Please get me a 420 tractor, my Dad

has one. Please get my sister, Emily, baby dolls. I don't know what Brendon and Trevor want. They can tell you. I am being good at home, at restaurants, at Quick Zone with my Daddy, and at school. I played with my sister. I love you Santa!

Love, Connor Tubbs

Dear Santa,

Please can I have a baby doll for Christmas? Get a tractor for my brother please. I've been good at home with my brother. And we've been good at my Nana's house. We like our Aunt Teri. We clean up our toys in all of the centers at school. I love you Santa Claus!

Love, Juli Miles

Dear Santa,

I love you Santa! I hope you bring me lots of toys! Jingle Bells! I hope you come from the North Pole quick. I've been really good.

Love, Chauncey Brown

Dear Santa,

Please, I want toys for Christmas! I love you Santa! I want you to give Grandma some toys too. She likes to play with me so I think she likes toys. I've been good all day long and sometimes I've been bad. I want to be good and get

good check marks all day. I like school and I love my friends. I love Santa and Santa loves me!

Love, Camron Felts

Dear Santa,

I love you! If you be bad you will be on the naughty list. I've been good! I want Barbie Dolls please. Santa Claus' reindeer fly.

Love, Piper Bradbury

Dear Santa,

I like you! I want a truck please. I want a toy, thank you. I like your reindeers. I like your hat. I like your shoes. I like you!

Love, Ernest Peters

Dear Santa,

Please get me a new notebook. I want a coloring book like Emma's. Even I want a new, I want my own new toys. Bring my Dad and my Mom a present. Please. I've been good.

Love, Audrey Gibson

Dear Santa,

I love you! When are you coming? I want a new clock please. Please can I have a new stamper? Nothing else. I've been good!

**Love, Nichole
Brammann**

Merry Christmas!
From all of us at
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Letters to Santa

Written by the Mound City 1st Grade Class - Mrs. Forehand

Dear Santa,

I am excited for Christmas because you give us toys! What are your two favrit elves? I have tried to be very good this year. When do you make toys? Will you get to my house? Have a good Christmas!

Love,
Elizabeth Laukemper

Dear Santa,

I love Christmas because I get presents. Why do you give bad kids coal? I have tried to be very good this year. What house do you live in? Who do you visit first? I want a sky-landers for Christmas.

Love,
Joseph Wheeler

Dear Santa,

I love Christmas because I get present and snow! I wont a pikup truk with a remote control.

From
Blake Hayworth



Dear Santa,

I like Christmas because I can get presinit! Will you giv Me Coal? I have tried tody very good htis year. Do I git presint wut am I geting this year? I wot elufun.

Love,
Alex Calkin

Dear Santa,

I like Christmas because I like you! How do you deelifier the presons? I have tried to be very good this year. Do you come to my hows? Why do you where red and wite? I love you Santa and mississ kloss. I want a hors.

Love,
Riley Lewis

Dear Santa,

I like Christmas because it is fun! What do you feed your raindeers? I have tried to be very good this year. How do you get into a house with no chimmney? I want a Snoopy for Christmas.

Love,
Chanse Summers
P.S I love you Santa and Rudolph.

Dear Santa,

I like Christmas love because I love Christmas. What do you do at your shop? I have tried to be very good this year. I wot a BB gun.

Love,
Preston Saxton

Dear Santa,

I love Christmas because I love you! What kind of things do you giv us? I have to be very good this year. Do you love me Santa and Rudolph? I want Rudolph the red nose Reindeer for Christmas!

Love,
Abigail Nauman

Dear Santa,

I love Christmas because of you! Why do some people not bleve in you? I have tried my best to be good this year. What is your rill name? Why do you give bad people coal? Have a safe trip to Mound City. Can I have a beard like yours and a hat like your a 7 size?

Love,
Bryson Tenney

Dear Santa,

I like Christmas because it's exciting that Jesus was born! What is your favrie cookies? I have tried to be very good this year. Why do you giv us toy? How is Rudolph doing? Can you giv me a airhaak mo chok?

From,
Eli Caton

Dear Santa,

I love Christmas! because I love that you give me presents! I have tried to be very good this year but my mom has bin good theis Christmas and my dad has bin good to theis Christmas. What do you at your shop? I wunt a guter for Christmas.

Love,
Rhylan Hall

Dear Santa,

I like Christmas because I am excied for you to come. What do you feed your ringdeer? I have tried to be very good this year. What kind of food do you eat? How do your ringdeer fly? How do you mack toys?

Love,
Connor Bradbury

Dear Santa,

I love Christmas because I miss you! Why do you deliver toys? I have tried to be good this year. Where do you like to go on Christams eev? Who is your reindeer?

Love,
Shailea Panning

Dear Santa,

I love Christmas because I get presents from you! How do you land on the roof so quietly? I have tried to be very good this year. How do you carey all the presents? Dus the elf slep?

Love,
Abby Gibson

Continued to
Page 10



Ring In The Joy!

Holiday bells are ringing once again, and we'd like to chime in with our thanks to you, our neighbors and friends.

Seeing you is always a joy for us, and we wish you all a happy and memorable holiday season.



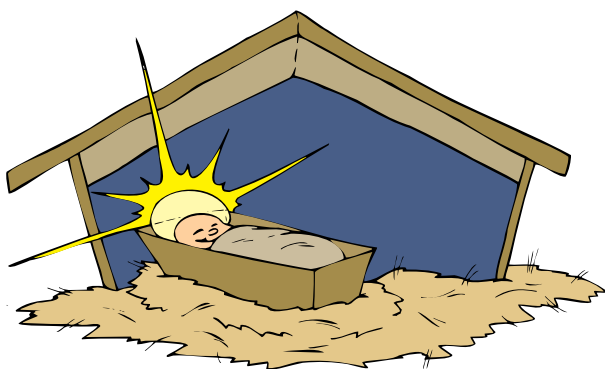
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Jesus Is The Reason For The Season



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At Christmas**

**Merry Christmas from
Larry, Troy, & Donna**



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& TOW SERVICE**

Oregon, MO

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Letters to Santa

Written by the Mound City 1st Grade Class - Mrs. Forehand

Continued from Page 9

Dear Santa,

I love Christmas because you are coming! Why do you have elves? I have tried to be very good this year. Where do you kepe your bag? What kind of music do you make when you make toys? Will you get me a Loded Diper drumset?

**From,
Noah Oswald**

Dear Santa,

I like Roudolph because his nose is red and cute. What do you like to do when you don't have to deliver presents? I have tried to be very good this year. Why do you go threw peoples chimenys to deliver presents? Who is your wife?

**Love,
Sydney Meadows**



Dear Santa,

I like Christmas because I love going sleiding! Will you bring me a gatr like Trevr's with a remote control? I have tried to be very good this year. What do you do in your wreshop? When do your elvs do stuf?

**Love,
Jathan Ungles**

Dear Santa,

What kind of music do you listen to? When do you go through Missouri? Do you have a favorite elf? Wil you bring me a Airhog? I have tried to be very good this year. Have a safe Christmas.

**Love
Quinton Brandon**

Dear Santa,

I love Christmas because I get presents from you! Can you get my an Mp player 4? I have tried to be very good this year. Where do you live? Do you like delivering prezints? I love you.

**Love,
Morgann Selleck
to Santa**

Letters to Santa

Written by the Mound City 2nd Grade Class

Dear Santa,

I wold like a know 9120. I wold like a grain cart. I wold like a jimy. I wold like a 9530 trater. I wold like a grain truck.

Love, Hunter Voltmer

Dear Santa,

I wat a tractoi and wagin and a x box 360 and a combine. Don't forget Ms Keton.

Love, Kevin Martin

Dear Santa,

How are you doing today? For Christmas I would like a DSi, An American Girl Doll named Julie and a piture of your evls.

**Love your favorite kid is
Kendall Hux**

Dear Santa,

Howare your reindeer doing what I want for crismif mp3plar, Ipodtuch and a oger-wagin with welse.

Love, Gavin Summers

Dear Santa,

I hope you have your sleigh ready? I tride to be good this year. What I want for Christmas is a bow and arrow, Transformers movie 3, Transformers movie 2, and Transformers movie 1. I hope you have a good Christmas.

From: William Rother

Dear Santa,

Can I have a peletgun 332 243 pelitgun gatar bow in arow, pockit knife, Scall p.j.s pantball gun 332. Are your elves noty?

**Love your friend,
Austin Laine Hufford**

Dear Santa,

A gun, a play station 2!, Wii and Wii game, Big Game Hunt E 2010!, and a pattyng set!, and x Box 306 Hunting Game and Fable 3.

Love, Cory Stevens

Dear Santa,

How are you and Miss Claus? I want Ke\$ha C.D., Next, a Nearf gun, Then Ama-rican girl doll Last, I want Just Dance 1,2,3.

**Love your friend,
Kindall Morris**

P.S. What kind of cookie do you like?

Dear Santa,

What kind of cookies do you like? What I want for Christmas is a Blue Nintendo DS, a paint ball gun, a sniper rifle, a 22 shotgun, all nerf guns, and the new Mario and Sonic olympic game for the Wii. Does Rudophes nose work?

**Your Friend,
William Heck**

Dear Santa,

How are you doing? Will you maket to Mound City? I want Camera and a new computer and a new phone and a new toy dog and a new barbe and a new car and a new box of chap-stick and a new North poll shirt. Don't forget my sisters.

**Love,
Kishia LaRae Panning**

Dear Santa,

Are you and Mrs. Clause doing good? For Christmas may I have a pelet gun a wii game called Big game hunter and a bell off your slay.

from, Brendan. Tubbs.

Dear Santa,

Are you having a good time? I would like a car set and DesI. is your sled ready have a good year!

Love, Mathew Grover

Dear Santa,

Are you having a good time? What I wold like for Christmas is a Nerf gun and a pelot gun Nerf sword a hunting game.

From Wil Young

Continued to Page 11





Merry Christmas

Thanks for letting us serve you.

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Letters to Santa

Written by the Mound City 2nd Grade Class

Continued from Page 11

Dear Santa,

Are your elves naughty? What I want for Christmas is a, Ipod, high heels, bangels, Fergie C.D. What kind of cookies do you like and what do the rain deer like to eat.

Love, Taylor Nicole
Quilty

P.S. Write back soon!!

Dear Santa,

is Eli the elfe doing good? So we shold talk what I want for Chirstmas I will like for Chirstmas is a America gril doll that is really want!

From: Bailey Long
to: Santa

Dear Santa,

Are you having a good time making the toys? Is the sleigh ready for all of the toys? Do you want to know what I want for Christmas? I would like a 3 pistle, X-box pocketknife, and a hunting game, for the Wii for Christmas please. Merry Christmas Santa.

Dalton Peters

Dear Santa,

Hou are you and Mrs. Claus? can I have a X box 360? and my very on gun for my dad to take me hunting with and a orange hat so my dad can have his and he dusent I hop I have been good and do not forgt to get Julia presentes. have

Corbin Miles

Dear Santa,

Am I on the nice list? What I would like for Christmas is a new nerf gun, nerf bullets and different Wii games.

Love, Carl Durrett
Carver

Dear Santa,

What do you like cookies! This is what I wold like a phone and a x box 360, a forwiller, a sword, a ginypig, video games, sniperrifle, 22 gun, food.

P.S. Love, Jesse Brian
Knapp

Dear Santa,

Have you elves been naughty. I hope you had a grate summer. I hope your slay is ready. I hope your Randeer are Icsided to go for some fun I will lay surger kooies and milk I hope you have a good time what I whant for Christmas is a Real horse.

from: Emma Long

Written by the Mound
City 3rd Grade Class -
Miss Mauderly

Dear Santa,

I want a coat and gloves for Chistmas and Xbox 360 with Call of duty moden War fare 3. Or a playstathion 3. My Cousin wants a new bow and target.

love, Kobie Plummer

Dear Santa,

How are you doing? Santa What I want for Christmas is a Nook and a X box 360 connect with Lego rock band. I want my family for Christmas. My mom wants to see her family to so please let me and my mom have a good Christmas Santa. Can you bring my whole family together because I want Trever to have the best Christmas. I want my family to have the

Letters to Santa

Written by the Mound City 3rd Grade Class - Miss Mauderly

best Christmas because this is the last year Trever will be here for Christmas.

Your friend,
James Boyd

Dear Santa,

How are your reindeers? Are they not sick so you can fly your sleigh. Woud you be able to give the solders a good Christmas? Would you also let us win the war for us? Could you give me a bike or a basketball hoop for Christmas too? How are you and Miss Clause? Do your reindears like carrots to eat? Is Roudoph still leading the sleigh? Is Roudophs nose still glowing in the night?.

From Dakota Bammer

Dear Santa,

How is your workshop coming? Well all I want is a LEGO Worthog. How are the reindeer, you, and the elves? Are you, the elves and the reindeer sick?

Your Naughtiest
Student,
Keagan Shepherd

Dear Santa,

How is Mrs. Claus doing? Is roudolph's nose still red and bright? If you have time please leave a bone for my

dogs and please leave a doll for my little sister? I would really be happy if you leave a gold ring for my mom. I would like it if you leave a tool-box for my dad. I would like a remote control monster truck.

Your nice little buddy,
Dominic

Dear Santa,

I have been a good little girl. I want to ask you how are your Elves doing? I bet they are on the good list because I know that I am, hopefully I

am. But I want to ask you for a baby kitten.

Your friend,
Alaina Poppa

Dear Santa,

I don't want much for Christmas. All I want is the Nerf Vortex Nitron, and the cutest kitten. Please. How is Mrs. Clause and the riendeer? Could you give the soldiers in Iraq strength?

Your nicest friend,
Ben Brook

Continued to
Page 14

At The Birth Of Our Savior



We'd like to wish you and your family a season of peace, miracle and joy. We sincerely appreciate your kind support. Merry Christmas from Dave, Judy and Vic at

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Catch The Spirit



Christmas is about so much more than Santa and gifts. It's an opportunity to renew our faith and to tell all the special people we know just how very much we value their friendship and support.

Merry Christmas and thanks!

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25 and counting

By Tresa Erickson

You get together with your extended family every holiday season, and now that all of your nieces and nephews are grown, the number of people in your family has nearly doubled. There are now 25 of you and several more on the way. Buying one gift for each person in your extended family has become an expensive endeavor and the price will only go up in the future as the family grows. You and your

siblings have decided it is time to put the brakes on individual gifts and find some other less expensive route.

Giving individual gifts can get costly in large extended families. One gift for 25 or more people can add up quickly. To curb this, many large extended families resort to other gift-giving tactics. Some of these include:

- Family gifts. This works well for extended families with

several members. Each of the immediate families either exchange names or buy one gift for each other. The Walkers, for example, might draw the Smiths' name and buy a gift for them that applies to the whole family, like a set of movie tickets or a gift certificate for dinner. If there are just a few immediate families, then they might just buy each family a gift. The Walkers might buy movie tickets for the Smiths,

a gift certificate for dinner for the Tripps, and a gym membership for the Stevers.

- Gift trade. This also works well for extended families with several members. All immediate families must purchase a generic gift for each member of their family and wrap them. The gifts are divided into two piles, one for adults and one for kids. Each person picks a gift randomly from the table and opens it. Then everyone begins trading for the gift they really want.

- Kids only. This works well for extended families with several young kids. The adults in the family buy gifts for the kids only. If there is a significant number of kids, the adults may draw an equal number of kids' names and buy just for them.

- Name draw. This works well for extended families

with mostly grown adults. The names of everyone within the extended family are thrown into a hat. Each person draws one name from the hat and purchases a gift for that name.

- Secret Santa. This works well for extended families with mostly grown adults. The names of everyone within the family are put into a hat. Each person draws one name and buys small gifts for that person which they deliver secretly throughout the event. At the end of the event, the Secret Santas reveal themselves.

These are just five ways to exchange gifts within a large extended family without spending a bundle. Other options are available. With some thought, you and your siblings are sure to come up with just the right one for your extended family.



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Customers \ Neighbors \ Associates \ & Friends
At The Holidays

May all your dreams come true this holiday season. Thank you for your continued patronage.

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The Mound City drive-up will be open
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May It Be Bright...



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For your generosity and goodwill,
We are truly grateful still.
So without any fuss or further delay
We wish you a joyous holiday
And hope that we've made one thing clear...
That you're all welcome back next year!

We will be closed December 26,
2011, & January 2, 2012.

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With Bright Wishes
At This Holy Season



For your friendship, we offer our heartfelt gratitude along with our best wishes for a truly blessed and miraculous Christmas. Thank you for brightening our year with your visits. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the gang at

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Letters to Santa

Written by the Mound City 3rd Grade Class - Miss Mauderly

Continued from Page 11

Dear Santa,

I would like to see if you could give me one little elf so I could have him when I need him to build a cool tree house. I would love if you can give my grandma the most special gift in the world. How are the reindeer. I will give them lots of carrots and milk for you. How meny elves do you have?

I would like to have a remote controll excavatar and where the buckut goes up and down and can dig dirt.

**Your're nice,
Tanner Wennihan**

Dear Santa,

All I want for Christmas is a reindeer bell and a football. Can you give my grandma something for Christmas this year. How cold is it up there? How are the reindeer doing? What does the house look like

I bet is awesome. How is Mrs. Clause doing right now?

**from your nice
Benton Hayworth**

Dear Santa,

This year I would like a light tan and white big stuffed bulldog. Another thing is how have you been are the elves working hard? When you are delivering presents I think the elves should take a break. How have the reindeer been are there lots of snowflakes

down there yet? One thing What does it feel like to ride in the sleigh?

**from your nice little
friend, Addison Lewis.**

Dear Santa,

How are you? I have been a good girl and I have been helping my family and the elderly people to. How are the elves? I wish that I can go to the north pole and see the elves but I can't. Do you know what I want for Christmas because I do and I will tell you I want is a real lap top. I have been a good girl.

From, Rachel Grover

Dear Santa,

How is Mrs. Clause doing is she okay? This Christmas I want a ipod shuffle and a big present. How are the reindeers doing and the elves? How cold is it at the north Pole? I think elves are cool and I think that you are cool to.

**From the nicest kid,
Chloe Kemerling**

Dear Santa,

Can you try to find Butter-scotch for me? Can you get my brother, Cobi a tractor or a car? How are you doing? I would like some squinkis, baby carriage, baby clothes, baby bed, baby carseat, some bibs, high-chair, baby covers, baby pillows and baby sacks. Can you get my sister, Kishia a barbie? Can you get my sister, Caimbre a train and a Dora cover? By the way can I have some

baby bottles that have fake milk or juice in them where it leaves and then comes back when you tip it up?

**Your nicest person,
KyRyein Panning**

Dear Santa,

How are your elves doing? Please help the soliders have a good Christmas. Santa all I want for Christmas is a cow girl hat that is purple. I have been nice to everybody but I've been a little mean to my sister sorry about that but hopefully I still get presents from you. How are you doing?

**Your little naughty little
girl, Sophie Davis**

Dear Santa,

How's the wife? For Christmas I want a lap top from Dell, you know the one with the switchable lids. Can you help the soliders in Iraq have a good Christmas? My Papa Drew has been in the hospital so can you help him have a good Christmas, too.


**Your kind of Naughty
Friend, Abigail Drew**

Dear Santa,

How is Roudolph? I have been a good boy this year. I want a lot of cars 2 Stuff this year. Can you give the Soldiers a Merry Christmas? Can you give Ella a Merry Christmas?

**Your good boy,
Zachary Smith**

Continued to
Page 15



**There's Nothing In The
World Like Christmas In
The Country**

*And we couldn't be happier than to share it
with such wonderful people. To all of you
we wish a season filled with warm fires,
good friends, and dreams come true.*

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Letters to Santa

Written by the Mound City 3rd Grade Class - Miss Mauderly

Continued from Page 14

Dear Santa Clause,

I have been a little ornery this year. Do you have the toys yet. What I want for Christmas is a Art kit, a book filled with 600 blank peices of paper, and I also want a planet frog kit.

**Love your ornery friend,
Jerisie Horseman**

Dear Santa,

How is Mrs. Clause doing? One thing for Christmas is to stop the war in Iraq. I would also want a PS3, xbox, new games for my PSP like NCAA College football 2012 and NCAA college basketball 2012. Befor I forget I hope you like the cookies and milk and another thing I want for Christmas is for you to give money to the people in Joplin so they can buy cloths and build houses. How cold is it at the north pole? And how are you and your reindeer doing.

**Your nicest friend,
Conner Derr**

Dear Santa,

All I want is to see my cousins and to keep my uncle safe. I really want you to give my family some toys. I want you to give my uncle the most presents. Well, I might want

a few presents like a basketball, Ncaa 12 or Ncaa 2k, and a clubpenguin membership. I hope you have the best Christmas ever.

**Your nicest Friend,
Lane Zembles**

Dear Santa,

How are you? I'm good. How are the elfs and the reindeer? For Christmas I have been nice so you will get me what I want. My brother has been nice too. He wants a Batman cave with Batman the Joker and the Penguin guy. I want a reall baby boy carrier and a play pad. Also I want for the soilders to have a good Christmas too. Those are all my wishes for you.

**You nice little girl,
Aviree Roup**

Dear Santa,

How are your workers and reindeer been? I hope you can make it to every house in town because you probably might get caught in the snow. I hope you can get all of the toys made in time for Christmas because theres only 13 days left until Christmas. for Christmas I want an x-box 360 with no conect because my mom will not get me one.

from, Landon Poppa

Dear Santa,

How have you been? Have you been geting toys ready for little girls and boys? I've been wanting a green diary for Christmas. Hows the reindeer

been doing? Have the reindeer been naughty or nice? My brother wants a x-box for Christmas.

**Your nice friend,
Trinity Diggs**

Dera Santa,

Are your elves at the north pole? Do you have reindeer at the north pole? I wath a DS and a Lo-boy.

**Your friend,
Spencer Martin**

Dear Santa,

Can you end the war in Iraq and make world peace? What else I would like is one of those tiny helicopters and one of those missle launching ones. I would also like the airhogs fly crane with the wrecking ball. Will you say hi to the ms. for me?

**Your nice friend,
Garrett Barrett**

Dear Santa,

How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? Are your reindeer doing fine. Could you get me some shirts because mine are getting a little small for me. That is all I want. Have a nice trip around the world.

**Your Friend,
Baileyann Hollis**

Dear Santa,

What I wish I could have on Christmas eve is a hamster, hamster cage, white MU Jerisie and Hot weels rc car. How is Mrs. Clause dowing? How are the raindeer doing?

from, Kenny Davis Jr.



from Holt County Extension

Council & Staff

Wayne Flanary, Tom Kelso, Teresa Kurtz
and Charmaine Flint

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS



Rejoicing in
the eternal gift of
Christmas, we give
praise and thanks.

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**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS**



From Joey
and Samantha

NWg

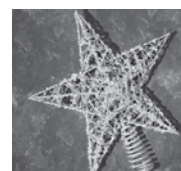
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Happy Holidays



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Merry Christmas To All From The Staff Of

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(Zook & Roecker Branch)

Oregon, Missouri
660-446-3316



Letters to Santa

Written by the Mound City 4th Grade Class

Dear Santa,

Where do the elves sleep? How many elves do you have? All I really want for Christmas is a few ds games like Ghostbusters the video game, StarWars the complete saga and sonic generations. How are you doing? How's Mrs. Claus? What do the elves do when they're not making toys? How does you sleigh work? What does Mrs. Claws do all day? What do you do all day? Where do the reindeer sleep at night? Hope to see you soon, well I probably won't see you, so Merry Christmas!

**Your Friend,
Kooper Young**

Dear Santa,

I hope you are doing swell because I am anxious for Christmas to come! For Christmas I would like a computer, a computer desk and chair. Then I would like a 12 gauge shotgun. I am looking forward to seeing Rudolph.

**Yours truley,
Parker Staples**



Happy Holidays

**Oregon Farmers Mutual Telephone
South Holt Cablevision**

www.ofmlive.net

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(660) 446-3391

Dear Santa,

I hope you are doing well. Do you have a favorite elf? I want clothes and shoes for Christmas. How is Mrs. Claus? How are the elves and the reindeer? Santa how many Christmas' were you sick for? Do you have a favorite reindeer? I have always wanted a Black DSI. Do you wish you had a new Little reindeer? How many cookies can you eat big man? I also want 999,999 dollars. Do you make presents for Mrs. Claus, the elves and the reindeer? Hope you have a Holly Jolly Christmas!!

From, Daniell Brandon

Dear Santa,

I only want five things for Christmas. They are insulated gloves, skii pants, snow boots, a new coat, and a password journal. I have been good this year so, could I have these items? please and thank you. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

From, Skyler Hufford

Dear Santa,

I hope you are doing well. Here are things I want for Christmas. I want these new things called spy glasses, some new CD's, a new football, new video games, a new camera, a guitar, hunting gear. I also have some questions. What is it like living in the north pole? How is Mrs. Claus doing? Do you live in an igloo? How hard are the elves working? Is it fun riding your sleigh?

Sincerely, Gavin Knapp

Dear Santa,

I hope you are going to have a safe trip around the world. Two things I want for Christmas is an Ipad 2 and a phone. Do you live in an igloo? I really want you to come to my house first. Can you tell me where do the reindeer sleep? I can't wait to hear Rudolph.

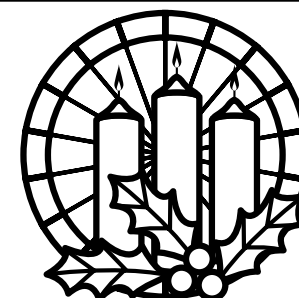
**Your Friend,
Cameron Laukemper**
P.S. Your awesome!!!!

Dear Santa,

My name is Kayne. I live on 110 Hickory Street. I always wanted everything but my mom wouldn't let me. Can you help me figure this out? Santa you are the greatest hero of my life. What do you want for Christmas? Do you have any pets or animals besides reindeer?

**Your friend,
Kayne Lawson**
P.S. Merry Christmas Santa

**Continued to
Page 17**



Merry
Christmas
from
Corbin Farms
Mitchell & Claude Corbin
PO Box 37 • Mound City, MO
660-442-3702
816-390-4537 (Cell)

Letters to Santa

Written by the Mound City 4th Grade Class

Continued from Page 16

Dear Santa,

How are your reindeer? How is Mrs. Clause? What is your favorite kind of ice cream? What is your favorite animal? What do you want for Christmas? I want a necklace shaped like a key, a pair of earrings, a sweater, the game Simone flash, a robe and a pair of slippers. Do you ever go on vacation? If you do, where do you go? What is your favorite color? What is your favorite food? Mine is pizza!

**Your friend,
Sianna Meadows**

Dear Santa,

I hope you are going to have a very good Christmas this year. How are you, Mrs. Clause, the reindeer, and the elves doing? Can you get me

a new bike, a guitar, and some crafts for Christmas? Can you please also get me some DS games and some Wii games? The last thing that I really want for Christmas is some art supplies because I love to draw, write, cut and paint. Where do the reindeer live? How do reindeer fly and learn to fly? I will leave some snacks for you and the reindeer. Have a good Christmas.

Love, Kaite Selleck
P.S. Merry Christmas!

Dear Santa,

I hope you are doing well because I want a pistol, a snowboard, an X box 360, call of duty, 2-20, a rectangular Ipod, a laptop, and the baby to come soon. How are your elves? How is Mrs. Claus doing? Have you gotten any father?

**from your pa,
Grant Nauman**
P.S. I want knew movies.

Dear Santa,

I hope you are doing well. I would like a dirtbike, a helmet and a new desk. How is your wife? Have I been on the nice List? How is Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vicksin, Comit, Cupit, Doner, Blicksin and Rudoff doing? Why do you live in the north pole. Do you have an evil twin in the south pole?

**Your friend,
Tyler Phillips**

Dear Santa,

I hope you won't be sick for Christmas. I want 4 things for Christmas. A driveable dirt bike, iPod touch, toys, and a new bike that's it. How is Mrs. Clause? How are you? How are the reindeer? Am I good or not? One year my dad got a stocking full of money. What are the Elves' names? I wish that I could have 40 million dollars. How many cookies have you ate in 5 years? I love making cookies for you. Every year I make chocolate chip cookies. I can't wait until you come to my house.

**Your friend,
Blake Hayes**

Dear Santa,

I would like an Easy Bake oven. Where do the elves sleep? How is Mrs. Clause doing? Where do you live? Why do you live in the snow and ice? I have tried to be nice this year. Will you give my dog and my cat presents for Christmas?

From, Emma Helfers

Dear Santa,

I hope you come to visit me on Christmas. I have tried to be good this year. For Christmas I want some new games, some things I can use on my vacation to Florida and I want a psp. I might need some 243 shells for my gun. How are your elves doing? How is Mrs. Claus doing? Most importantly how are you doing? Where

do the elves sleep? What elf do you like the best. I want a million dollars. Have you gained weight? Do you know I am 10 years old? I hope you get me what I want.

Your Friend, Rhett Hall

Dear Santa,

I want coal and Halo Legos. Do you have pets or other kinds of animals? I like Christmas. How many cookies can you eat and can you chug milk? Hope you have a good Christmas.

Merry Christmas, Cris

Dear Santa,

I want a new bike, rifle and call of duty mw3 for Wii plus. I want a bigger 4 wheeler, mini dirt bike, a new slider phone, and \$100. How are all the reindeer doing? Can they talk? How do they fly? Is Mrs. Clause doing good? Do you have a dog? Does any body see you ever? Do you like the cookies that I make. Do you like the good milk? I'd like to see you someday. Do you want to see me? How are you?

**Sincerely,
William Miller**

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Letters to Santa

Left at the Mound City News office for special delivery

Dec. 12, 2011

Dear Santa,

I want a little green excavator with tracks & a trailer with ramps & a bucket & a grapple. I would also like a backhoe with a dozer blade and claw. And an electric choo choo train.

Roll tide -

Kaedyn Courtney

Oh yeah, I love my mom & dad & sister & brother too.

Age 4



Dec. 12, 2011

Dear Santa,

Santa loves me with his whole heart. I want a purple jeep. New shoes & makeup. Yes & a barbie camper & more makeup. I know all your reindeer. Thanks for talking to me on the phone today.

Love, **Sissy.**

(Emersyn Courtney)

Age 2



Dear Santa,

How are you? How is Comet and Rudolph? Is it cold at the North Pole? Do you have snow? I have been good this year. Could you please bring me a Baby Alive doll and clothes for her, a My Little Pony and some games like Elefun? Could you please bring my little brother Zachary some things too? Maybe some trucks because he is a boy. He has been good, but he cries sometimes. My big sister Natalie would like some DS games and American Girl Dolls. I'll leave you some cookies.

Love,

Kiley Caton (Age 3)

December 2, 2011

Dear Santa,

Please bring me Elmo for Christmas. I've tried to be good this year, but I have started acting like my Papa Biermann. I will try to work on that.

Love,

Seth Oswald

Age: 2

December 2, 2011

Dear Santa,

Thank you for my Batman House. Please give me a Batman House. Because I love it!

Love

John

(John Oswald)

4 yrs. old

D-2

Dear Santa,

I want a laptop and a big helicopter and a Loded Dipper drums and a baseball cher.

From,

Noah Oswald

Age: 6 1/2

Dear Santa,

How is Eli the Elf. and How are you? So we should get talking about toys. I would like a Nintendo D.S.I. and a Flat screen T.V.

from: **Bailey Long**

to: Santa

Dear Santa,

My name is Sierra. I want a DS to play games on. Also some house slippers, PJ's, drawing paper and cinnamon scented candle. I have kept my room picked up and studied hard. I Love you Santa!

Sierra Nicole YoHo

My Christmas list

Dear Santa,

I want the cars 2 book, spy Mater the big one that talks, operatoin with mater, cars 2 monopoly, cars 2 wii, cars 2 D.S., cars 2 the movie, any other cars 2 toys that I don't have.

From,

Zachary Smith

PS, And can you please let me have a picture of Rudolph

Dear Santa,

I want a combine, tractor, auger wagon, and motorbike. Mom also says I need snow boots. And Sophie wants a babydoll carseat.

Thank you,

Merry Christmas

Heath Biermann (Age 3)

Dear Santa,

I want a life-sized Barbie and a life-sized horse. Logan wants tractors and race cars.

Love,

Faith Drewes



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Letters to Santa

Left at the Mound City News office for special delivery

Dear Santa,

My name is **JoJo McClain**. My mom says I've been pretty good this. I would like semi's, cars, race track, skate board like my big brother's (Zach and Jessie). And I would really like snow!

Love you Santa!
P.S. Santa, Take care of my little brother Samuel. Tell him I love him and miss him.

Dear Santa,

My name is Garrett Law. I am 5 yrs. old. I have been a good boy this year. Here are a few things I would like for Christmas.

Skateboard, motorcycle bike, tractor, trailer, combine with heads, farm animals, train that smokes.

Please don't forget my brothers, Tanner and Dawson, and my sister, Marisa, they have been good this year also.

I love you. Have a safe and good Christmas Santa.

Garrett Law
5 yrs. old
Craig, MO

Joy
Peace
Love
Faith
Hope
Cheer



With Our Appreciation At This Season Of Joy...

*As we fondly recall memories of Christmases past,
we realize that there's no time like the
present to acknowledge all the people who have
brought so much joy to us, and hope that
the Christmas to come will leave you with the very
brightest memories of all!*



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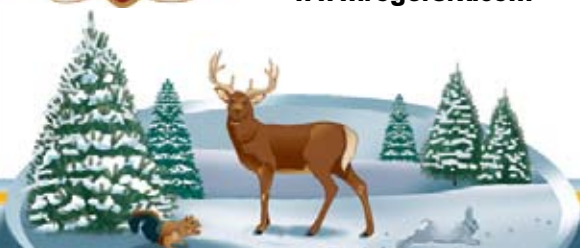
It's The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year!

In this season of hope, beauty, faith and goodwill,
we feel truly blessed to have friends and neighbors
like you, and hope that you enjoy a
holiday that's as wonderful as you are.

Merry Christmas!



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& Happy New Year*

*from
Greg and
Kathi*



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Mound City, MO

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The Season...**



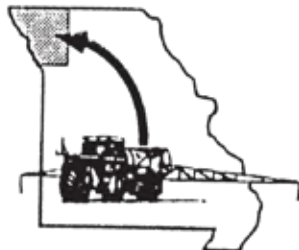
*We'd like to join you
and your family as
we give thanks for
our many blessings,
including your
friendship.
Merry Christmas!*

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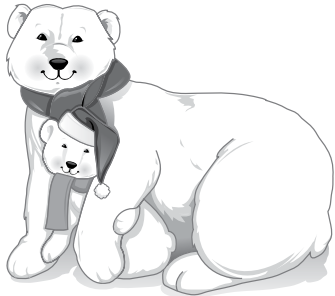


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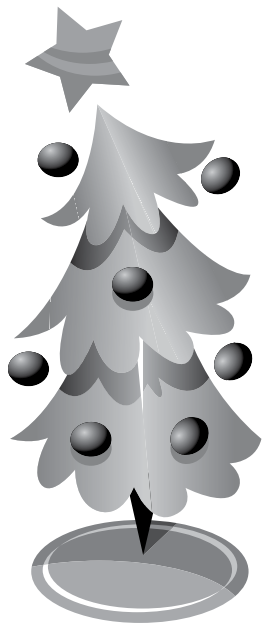
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**The following was submitted by Betty L. Chaney of Mound City.
It was on a Christmas card made in the United States written by
Lance Corporal James M. Schmidt.**

*Twas the night before Christmas, he lived all alone,
in a one bedroom house made of plaster and stone.
I had come down the chimney with presents to give,
and to see just who in this home did live.
I looked all about, a strange sight I did see,
no tinsel, no presents, not even a tree.*

*No stocking by mantle, just boots filled with sand,
and on the wall pictures of far distant lands.
With medals and badges, awards of all kinds,
a sobering thought came to my mind.
For this house was different, so dark and so dreary,
the home of a soldier, now I could see clearly.*

*The soldier lay sleeping, silent, alone,
curled up on the floor in this one bedroom home.
The face was so gentle, the room in such disorder,
not how I pictured a United States soldier.
Was this the hero of whom I'd just read?
Curled up on a poncho, the floor for a bed?*

*I realized the families that I saw this night,
owed their lives to these soldiers who were willing to fight.
Soon round the world, the children would play,
and grownups would celebrate a bright Christmas day.
They all enjoyed freedom each month of the year,
because of the soldiers, like the one lying here.*

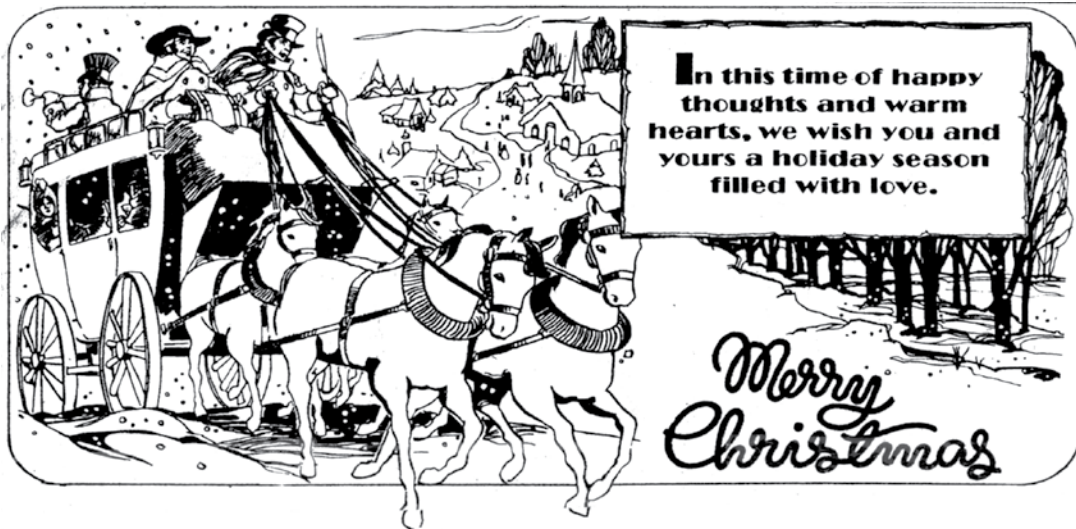
*I couldn't help wonder how many lay alone,
on a cold Christmas eve in a land far from home.
The very thought brought a tear to my eye,
I dropped to my knees and started to cry.
The soldier awakened and I heard a rough voice,
"Santa don't cry, this life is my choice;*

*I fight for freedom, I don't ask for more,
my life is my God, my country, my corps."
The soldier rolled over and soon drifted to sleep,
I couldn't control it, I continued to weep.
I kept watch for hours, so silent and still,
and we both shivered from the cold evening's chill.*

*I didn't want to leave on that cold, dark, night,
this guardian of honor so willing to fight.
Then the soldier rolled over, with a voice soft and pure,
whispered, "Carry on Santa, it's Christmas day, all is secure."
One look at my watch, and I knew he was right.
"Merry Christmas my friend, and to all a good night."*

By Lance Corporal James M. Schmidt





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- Karma Buck**
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- Sue Miller**
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- Ed Meng**
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*It's The Most Wonderful
Time Of The Year!*

In this season of hope, beauty, faith and goodwill, we feel truly blessed to have friends and neighbors like you, and hope that you enjoy a holiday that's as wonderful as you are.

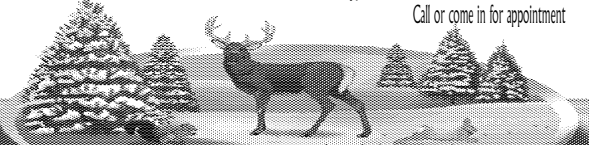
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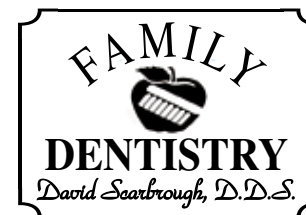
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Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel; which being interpreted is, God with us.—
Matthew 1:23

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Merry Christmas

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