

# Morgan County Today

Psalm 100:3

Volume 07 Number 50

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Your Community. Your News.

75¢

**Inside:**  
**Santa Letters**  
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**History**



**Gingerbread**  
**Cookies**



# Morgan County Today

Your Community. Your News.

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# I'D RATHER BE READING.

#mocotoday

## MORGAN COUNTY WEATHER THIS WEEK

Tue 14	61°/42°	
Wed 15	60°/50°	
Thu 16	62°/53°	
Fri 17	62°/57°	
Sat 18	61°/32°	
Sun 19	48°/40°	
Mon 20	51°/34°	



  
MoCo Adventures

# TRAVEL IN THE MOUNTAINS

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Farhaz Nooralli has applied for a permit  
to sell beer ON premise at the location known as:

Rite Stop  
6687 Morgan County Hwy  
Lancing, TN 37770

Anyone having reason to believe that this permit should not be  
issued, must appear before the Morgan County Beer Board on the  
21st day of December 2021 at 5:30 pm in the Office of the County Clerk.

### American Legion Post 149 December Events

December 31, 2021 – Our New Year Gala. Come roll in the New Year with us from 7:00 pm until 12:30 am. Tickets are \$45.00 for one person or \$80.00 per couple. We will have Bill Shannon and his band Chill Factor for live entertainment, door prizes, along with your choice of either prime rib or chicken with an abundance of sides and desserts. We have 96 available tickets so if your interested please call Mark Keck at 423-215-1734.

The Last and Final Reading  
of Ordinance # 111-21-AN  
ORDINANCE OF THE  
CITY OF SUNBRIGHT,  
TENNESSEE REPEALING  
ORDINANCE NUMBER  
23:

“PROCEDURES FOR  
SLUM CLEARANCE” AND  
ADOPTING THE UNI-  
VERSITY OF TENNESSEE  
MUNICIPAL TECHNICAL  
ADVISRY CODE ORDI-  
NANCE ON PROPERTY  
MAINTENANCE  
REGULATIONS

Together Morgan County will  
have their December meet-  
ing Thursday, December 16  
at Morgan County Schools  
Central Office. This will be  
a “Drop in at your Conve-  
nience” meeting between 5:00  
p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Guests and  
their “Plus 1” will be treated  
to a delicious meal catered  
by John Boy’s BBQ. Please  
RSVP to [heltons@mcscd.net](mailto:heltons@mcscd.net)  
so we can get an accurate  
head count for the meal.

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## In Loving Memory

### Cheri Lynn Sexton Bible, 56

Mrs. Cheri Lynn Sexton Bible, age 56, of Wartburg went to be with Jesus, Sunday, December 5, 2021 at Parkwest hospital. Cheri was born February 26, 1965 to her late parents William "Bill" Sexton and Carol Mason Sexton. She graduated from Central High School in 1983. She was a nurse for over 30 years. Cheri loved her family. She was a wonderful wife, mother, sister and an amazing grandmother. She had a heart of gold and was good to everyone who crossed her path, regardless of who they were. Cheri will be missed tremendously.

She is survived by her Spouse Roy Bible. Daughters - Megan (Barion) Spratling and Shasta (Wayne) Bedford. Son- Ethan (Brandi) Bible. Grandchildren: Tyran, Tyvaeh, Taylen, Gavin,

Maci, Jalyynn, Bralynn, Adalynn

She is survived by her siblings: Karen (Joel) Seaton, Regina Webb (Ronnie Phillips), Garold (Kim) Sexton and Derrick (Tina) Sexton. Brother-in-laws: Jimmy (Karen) Bible, Coy (Jane) Bible, Doug (Trish) Bible, Donnie (Bethany) Bible, Roger (Beth) Bible.

A host of aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews.

The family will receive friends Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 5-7 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 7:00 p.m. with Bro. Buster Armes officiating. Graveside services will be Thursday, December 9, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at Lane Cemetery in Lancing.

### Jaxon David Morrow

Jaxon David Morrow, precious baby boy of Faith Davis and Caleb Morrow was born into the arms of angels on December 5, 2021. Born at 39 weeks he weighed 7 lbs 9 oz and was 21' long. Although Jaxon never spent any time with us on earth he was very loved and touched many lives. Our little angel will never be forgotten.

He was preceded in death by his maternal great grandmothers Marilyn McMahan and Dori Conlon.

In addition to his parents and big sister, Cambree, he is survived by maternal grandparents - Phillip & April Holder of Harriman; Ja-

son Davis of Oak Ridge. Paternal Grandparents - Megan Berry Isbell of Oak Ridge; Jessie Isbell of Oak Ridge; Steven Morrow Jr. of Seattle, WA. Great grandparents -Richard Conlon of Clinton; Ken & Anne Holder of Harriman; Dean & Gary Davis of Petros; and Robin Fleming of Coalfield. Uncles: Timothy Holder, Kenny Holder and Aunt: Hope Davis.

Family will receive friends Monday, December 13, 2021 at Boswell Chapel Church in Oakdale from 1:00-2:00p.m. with the funeral to follow at 2:00p.m. with Bro. Kerry Ruppe officiating. Interment will follow in the Crab Orchard Cemetery.

### Stanley Douglas "Doug" Cavin, 79

Stanley Douglas Cavin, 'Doug', also affectionately known as 'Pop', aged 79 years, of Huber Heights, Ohio, and a longtime resident of Deer Lodge, Tennessee, joined our Lord on Saturday, December 4th.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Dorothy 'Dottie' Wheeler, and father, Clyde Jackson, sisters, Bonnie Lee, and Holly Marston, and great granddaughter, Maria Schumann.

Doug had a strong opinion and one always knew where they stood with him. His opinion was always heard and firm. He was a top notch coach in Ohio to many of youth in football and baseball because of these same traits. He managed Kroger stores for many years in Ohio, was an award winning leader as an insurance agent in Ohio and Florida, and cared for his soulmate, Linda Hittle, since 2001 when she was unable. He was a dedicated man

and expert historian. When with Doug, your conversations would be endless; whether discussing guns, politics, history, mechanics, groceries, sports, world news, or any subject - his knowledge was endless and bright blue eyes mesmerizing.

Doug is survived by his brother and sisters, Bob Cavin, Connie Schommer, and Mikie Walhay, and will forever be loved by his soulmate, Linda Hittle, and has been since they went to middle school together. He leaves behind his children Kelly Cavin, Scott Cavin, Beth Cavin, Tina Sowers Shanley, Tracy Sowers Smith, and Tim Hittle, along with many grandchildren and great grandchildren. He is no longer struggling and will live in our hearts forever.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Stanley Douglas Cavin.

Chancery Court Morgan County Wartburg, Tennessee	<b>NOTICE TO CREDITORS</b>	Case Number <u>P-59-21</u>
In the matter of the Estate of <u>LANDEL COLIN LAYMANCE</u> Deceased		
<p>Notice is hereby given that on the 1<sup>st</sup> DAY OF DECCEMBER 2021, Letters of ADMINISTRATION in respect to the Estate of LANDEL COLIN LAYMANCE who died on the 28<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST 2021 were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court Clerk of Morgan County, Tennessee. All persons, residents and non-residents, having claims, matured or unmatured against her Estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claim will be forever barred.</p> <p>(1)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication (or posting) as described in (1)(A); or</p> <p>(2)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.</p> <p>This the 1<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER 2021.</p> <p style="text-align: right; margin-top: 20px;"> <u>MELISSA LEANNE LAYMANCE</u>                  ADMINISTRATOR   <u>ANGELA R. ANDERSON</u>                  Clerk and Master   <u>TALLESSE ALLEY</u>                  Deputy Clerk             </p>		

Chancery Court Morgan County Wartburg, Tennessee	<b>NOTICE TO CREDITORS</b>	Case Number <u>P- 60-21</u>
In the matter of the Estate of <u>ROLETTA L. STORIE</u> Deceased		
<p>Notice is hereby given that on the 6<sup>TH</sup> day of DECEMBER 2021, Letters of Testamentary in respect to the Estate of ROLETTA L. STORIE who died on the 28th day of SEPTEMBER 2021, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court Clerk of Morgan County, Tennessee. All persons, residents and non-residents, having claims, matured or unmatured against her Estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claim will be forever barred.</p> <p>(1)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication (or posting) as described in (1)(A); or</p> <p>(2)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.</p> <p>This 6<sup>TH</sup> day of DECEMBER 2021.</p> <p style="text-align: right; margin-top: 20px;"> <u>VERONICA C. STORIE</u>                  Executor   <u>ANGELA R. ANDERSON</u>                  Clerk and Master   <u>TALLESSE ALLEY</u>                  Deputy Clerk             </p>		

Sandra Helton's weekly column

Oakdale Area News

email: kvhelton@highland.net



Morgan County Schools will dismiss at 11:30 Friday, December 17. Students will return to school Tuesday, January 4. The afterschool program will resume January 10.

The Afterschool program at Oakdale School had their Christmas Celebration on Friday, December 10th. Students performed a reader's theatre of "The Grinch Stole Christmas" and sung several favorite Christmas songs. Many family members were able to attend and there were even guest appearances by the Grinch and Santa Claus. The Afterschool staff sends a big thank you to everyone who has been a part of the Afterschool program during the first semester and looks forward to January 10th when Afterschool will kick off for the second semester. It's not too late to enroll. If you are in Kindergarten to 6th grade and wish to enroll, please contact Valerie Mathis at Oakdale school or let your child's teacher know they wish to sign up.

Speaking of the Grinch, I had never seen the original Grinch movie until Saturday night. Clara, Hattie and I went to the Princess Theatre to see the 1966 Dr. Seuss original version of the Grinch. I enjoyed the show and I especially enjoyed making memories with my granddaughters. On Thursday, December 23, "It's a Wonderful Life" will be shown at the Princess Theatre at 7:00. There is no admission charge. I highly recommend the popcorn!!

There will be caroling in the hallways at Life Care Center of

Morgan County Sunday, December 19 at 2:00. Everyone is welcome to attend and sing for the residents.

Bunt and I attended the annual Candlelight Service at Camp Austin Lutheran Church last Wednesday night. It was a beautiful service. There was a sweet, sweet spirit as the congregation sang songs about our Savior's birth. Thank you to everyone who put so much work into making the service so special. The fresh greenery decorations and the candles in the windows were beautiful. Reflections of our German Heritage via song were wonderful. I like what Pastor Graves said when he was talking about how different our lives have been over the last couple of years and the changes we have experienced and he said "This season will never be dead." Isn't that a wonderful thought?

First Baptist Oakdale will have Christmas music Sunday, December 19 at 11:00 a.m. followed by a message brought by Pastor Mike Winters. Everyone is welcome to join them as they sing about that Beautiful Star of Bethlehem.

White Oak Baptist Church will have their Christmas Program Sunday, December 19 at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

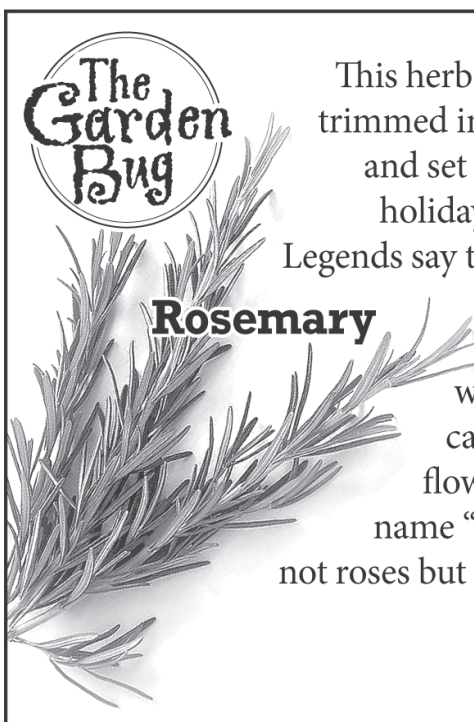
Robert Hutcherson,

age 91, of Hixson, passed away on Friday, November 12, 2021. Bobby was born in Oakdale, Tennessee to the late Sim and Nancy Hutcherson and was married to the late June Mathis Hutcherson. He is survived by 2 sons and daughter in laws, several grandchildren and great grandchildren and a host of other relatives. Services were held Wednesday, November 17.

Our community is so saddened by the passing of everyone's buddy, Greg Langley. Greg went home to be with his Heavenly Father Thursday, December 9. When talking about Greg, most everyone says "He was always smiling." He is survived by his wife, Phyllis, children Travis and wife Robyn Langley and Stacy and husband Matt Ruppe and his mother, Lena Langley Basler. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Carson, Addy and Ella Ruppe and Lorelai and Josiah Langley and his sisters Sheila (Kenny) Potter and Tammy (Joe) Miles and his brother in law and sister in law John and Jan Roddy along with a host of other family members and friends. Services were held Monday, December 13 at

Piney Baptist Church. During this special season, please remember all those who are going through difficult times. Many are ill or caring for family members, many are grieving and many are going through other challenges. The holidays can make these times even more difficult. Please join me in praying for those who don't understand the true meaning of this season and don't celebrate Christ's birth. The precious gift sent to earth many years ago can be received by all who will accept Him.

*Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable Gift. - 2 Corinthians 9:15*



This herb has many uses and traditions. When trimmed into the shape of a tiny Christmas tree and set in a festive pot, it is very popular as a holiday table decoration, or to give as a gift. Legends say that as Joseph and Mary fled to Egypt with the infant Jesus, they sheltered next to this plant. When Mary was washing her linens and threw her blue cape on the bush to dry, its small white flowers turned to blue; thus it gained the name "rose of Mary," though the flowers are not roses but like those of mint, to which this herb is related. - Brenda Weaver  
Source: University of Vermont pss.uvm.edu

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# Around The World and Back Again

with Zack Ballinger



## The Perfect Christmas Gift

Christmas spirit is in the air. Many people have their indoor decorations out, Christmas trees decorated, and outdoor lights hung on their homes. Kids are getting excited about Santa Clause coming to visit later this month. Local churches are celebrating the birth of Christ through services and plays. Many of you are anticipating the time off of work for the holidays.

The dreaded Christmas shopping begins for a lot of you out there. It's difficult to buy certain people Christmas gifts. What do you buy people who already have everything they want? I am sure everyone has a couple of people on their list that are a challenge to buy for. I wanted to give my readers some ideas for these people on your list. I hope this helps with your Christmas shopping.

**Smoke or Carbon Monoxide Detectors:** You can give the gift of safety and peace of mind this holiday season. Many families don't keep a regular or routine maintenance schedule of their smoke detectors. The best way for you to get your family to check is gift them a nice set of smoke alarms. The key is to buy some really nice ones so they will replace their old ones. I would guess most homes don't have carbon monoxide detectors. Why not buy a smoke alarm that also detects the presents of carbon monoxide?

**Thermacell:** The pest of east Tennessee especially in the summer is mosquitos. I hate putting on bug spray because of the smell. This interesting device actually repels mosquitos within a certain radius of you. You do have to keep buying replacement cartilages for repellent and fuel. The cost of the device and replacement cartilages aren't that expensive. I think this works pretty well and you don't have to deal with applying and reapplying bug

spray.

**Books:** Why not give the gift of knowledge? We all could learn more. We need guidance and knowledge to help improve our lives. Give the gift of a non-fiction book that may help improve a loved one's life. I am a little biased. Do you know someone struggling in their career? Buy

the Yeti cup is the best for maintaining the right temperature for your beverage of choice. You can never have too many yeti cups. I enjoy drinking my coffee from my mug. It keeps it warm for many hours and they are dishwasher safe.



**Games:** 2020 was the year of stay-at-home orders or lockdowns. Most of us at one point a year ago had to stay home for a certain period of time. Give the gift of an old fashion board game or digital game. I bought a family of four a Catch Phrase game and they loved it. It helped them pass the time during the holiday. You are also spending time together as a family and bonding. Consider buying a family an old fashion board game for Christmas.

*Zack graduated from Wartburg Central High School in 2001 and from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 2004. Since*

graduation he has become a TedX Motivational Speaker, Author, and Career Consultant. He travels the world giving back and hosting seminars teaching people on various topics. Zack has established an ongoing annual scholarship at his Alma Mater, Wartburg, which has inspired others to give back as well. Visit [www.zackballinger.com](http://www.zackballinger.com) for more of Zack's travels and events.

**Don't be a Zombie:** How to Find a Career you Love.

**Yeti Cups:** You can never go wrong with this gift. I have at least 6 of them and I think most of them were gifted to me over the holidays. Whether you enjoy piping hot coffee or enjoy an ice-cold beverage,

them a copy of my newer book, Don't be a

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from Our Family to Yours!  
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# Davis Funeral Home's Veteran of the Week

By Tom Redmon

Rob Dryman is the son of Donna and Mike Maples. Rob grew up in Roane and Morgan Counties. He spent some time with his grandparents, Jim and Rose Schubert in Wartburg. My son Scott got to know him on the many camping trips that Jim and Rose took. When I saw Rob (Robbie, we called him) I thought what a nice kid; Donna his mother has to be really proud of him.

Rob graduated from Roane County High School in 1988 and in 1989 he volunteered for the Air Force. He stayed in the Air Force for twenty years and retired in 2009. He did three tours in Iraq. His job was Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD). In 2006 his mother emailed him asking what his job involved in Iraq.

This is what Rob sent back. Our job here is to support Coalition Forces (CF), Iraqi Police (IP), Iraqi Army (IA), and Local Nationals (LN). We support them in several ways. First, by disarming IEDs set out by the insurgents; we average two a day in our area of operations (AO) which is about sixty square miles in Northern Iraq. Second, we ride in convoys that are searching for IEDs and help spot them. Third, we destroy caches of any and all explosives we find. The stuff is everywhere here.

I can't get into details on how we do the disarming, but we use remote techniques when possible.

While riding in the convoys, we destroy any hazards that pose a threat to supply convoys that will be using that same route. When applicable we try to nail the people responsible for placing the hazards. Today while one of our teams worked on an IED a man stopped his car and set a bag on the road close to the convoy. Then he looked up and saw one small helicopter hovering nearby. He grabbed the bag and sped away. Well, the convoy chased the vehicle, the helicopter fired warning shots over his hood until he stopped. The security detail detained the man while his vehicle searched. The bag contained three cats and the interpreter told us the man was releasing the cats because they were eating all of his chickens.

We work as an emergency service like the Fire Department. We sit in our shop (a hardened aircraft hangar) until a mission comes in. Then we go to the site with a security element and go to work. Every call is different, you never know what you'll find.

We have the best equipment, people and support that money can



buy – trust me on this. After seeing how the people over here live, we are truly lucky.

To me and probably to his mother this job appears to be dangerous, but Rob said while in Iraq he didn't lose any of his men.

I know most of you have seen the Tunnel to Towers Foundation ads on T.V. and you see veterans who have lost both legs and one arm by IEDs in Iraq or Afghanistan. A lot of times their buddies were killed. What a horrific thing to happen to men who could have families back in the states. For the rest of their lives, they will have to make it without legs and maybe arms. A few came back with burns all over their bodies.

Rob and his crew, no doubt, prevented more of these horrendous things by destroying many of these IEDs.

MSgt's wife Kristi also served ten years in the Air Force. She would have stayed for twenty years but when she got her orders for overseas duty, she didn't want to leave her two children. You can't blame her for that. Altogether the Dryman family gave over

thirty years of their lives to serve their country.

Today Rob and Kristi live on their farm in Texas in which they enjoy tremendously. One child is enrolled at Texas A&M and the other will be there soon.

Rob is an example of a young man who wanted to make something of himself and at the same time serve his country.

Rob was discharged from the Air Force in 2009. But every year he is reconnected with a buddy he met in Iraq. He was not in Rob's team but he was in an EOD team that did the same job and he got his legs blown off by an IED. Every year Rob and his buddy go bird hunting in North Dakota. Rob has to carry him a distance to where they can shoot at pheasants. What a great thing to do with a veteran who sacrificed his limbs in Iraq. Military men get close to their buddies. They might be from a state over a thousand miles from their home state but that doesn't matter.

Rob, the veterans here at American Legion Post 149 want to thank you for your service. We also want to thank Kristi for serving her country. It is men and women like you who keep our country free.

## Law Enforcement Officer of the Week

Presented by Jerry Duncan Ford

Corrections Officer Robert Daniels with the Graves County Jail, KY was killed when a large tornado struck a building he was working in while supervising inmates on work release in Mayfield, KY.

Officer Daniels was supervising seven inmates who were participating in the work release program at the Mayfield Consumer Products Candle Factory at 112 Industrial Drive. A large tornado that had tracked over 200 miles across multiple states struck the city of Mayfield, completely destroying the factory and a large portion of the city.

Officer Daniels and numerous factory employees were killed when the building collapsed. All seven inmates were rescued from the rubble, however, one escaped after being treated at a local hospi-

tal. Regarding the tornados, the death toll from the series of tornados that roared across five

states rose as somber rescuers picked through the rubble of shattered buildings and communities, searching for survivors and remains.

More than 30 tornadoes were reported late Friday and early Saturday, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Kentucky was hardest hit, with 50 confirmed fatalities early Sunday, but scores more people were missing and feared dead after



a tornado here destroyed a candle factory where more than 100 people were inside.

In Illinois, at least six people were killed when a tornado ripped through an Amazon warehouse

north of St. Louis. Four deaths were confirmed in Tennessee and two each in Arkansas and Missouri.

Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear said Sunday more than 100 people probably died in his state alone, including at least two of his own relatives. Entire towns were flattened

by the twisters, he said. Emergency responders went door-to-door looking for survivors – although in some cases “there aren't doors,” he said. He said several children were among the dead.

“I know we lost a number of kids,” Beshear said on the CBS show “Face the Nation.” “This tornado did not discriminate. Anybody in its path, even if they were trying to be safe.”

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Tom Redmon  
Columnist

## Other Adventures with the Mud Creek Boys

When winter came, we couldn't ride our boats on the coal pits. We couldn't play football in the pasture or fish. But we sure didn't give up our activities outside just because of cold weather and snow.

All four M.C. Boys tried to make a sled. It wasn't easy because we didn't have a lot of material and tools. Just like the boat builders, Kelly and Allen seemed to excel in putting together the best sleds. Kelly's dad was a sometime carpenter and I guess Kelly came up with more skill than Glen and I had. Sometimes we had to ride a piece of tin down the hill.

Our hill was at Grandpa Redmon's house; not far from any of our houses. When it came a big snow, you would find all four of us, plus some sisters standing at the top of the hill looking down at the three apple trees trying to figure out how we were going to miss them with our sleds.

On one particular day we had over six inches of snow and a cold north wind was blowing. We always tried to dress as warm as we could, but we knew we would have to go into Grandpa and Grandma's house when our hands and feet got too cold. I remember us going into their house many times but I don't remember Grandma ever complaining about us tracking through her house. Their house was built back in the early part of the 1900's and it had three fireplaces, but most of the time they only used one of them. I don't think the big two-story house had any insulation in it and I'm pretty sure it was built by Raney Potter, Grandma's half-brother. Raney did a pretty good job, but his

materials were limited. Grandpa at one time had a mill located on his property on what would one day become Highway 62 and where Mud Creek bridge was located. He made wooden shingles that were used on roofs for many homes back in those days. Grandpa even made shingles for the first Liberty Church.

Grandpa was always sitting by the fireplace when we went in. Sometimes he would talk to us and at other times he just sat there. Sometimes the wood he cut for his fireplace would pop and send coals out in front and sometime we would

our house we called Dave's Pond. It was shallow and it usually froze solid every winter. Our winters back then were fiercer than what we see today.

Sometimes other kids would join us on the pond and we would drum up some games to play. Our Aunt Meg at age 80+ joined up one time.

Boys and girls today don't really know what having fun is all about. I never see, on a pretty day, boys playing football in a field. I never hear of them making their own boats and sleds, but I do see a lot of overweight children. Playing games outside will help you stay slim and healthy.



help it out by throwing little crackers into the fire. Grandpa would laugh and say "by Jack that wood really has the spirit."

Most of the time we would stay outside and tough it out. I don't remember having many colds, but I do remember the hay fever and allergies were gone.

I guess I was the first one to hit an apple tree at the bottom of the hill and before I went home, a lot of times, I managed to hit all three trees.

Another activity we really enjoyed in the winter time was ice skating. There was a pond near



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# Disappeared: Chapter 15

## Nick & Chris-Day 4



**Carol Hall**  
Author

Daybreak came just as Nick was crawling out of his tent. Chris was already up and out by the fire pit. He had coffee on by the time Nick joined him.

“Morning,” Chris said. “I heard we are heading down toward the river today.”

Nick filled his mug with the steaming hot coffee and sat down beside him.

“Yeah, that’s what I hear.” He took a sip of

his brew. “What are we going to do, Chris? Seriously, what are we going to do? We have no idea where the girls are and no idea where to search next. Ted wants to go to the river, but I think he is more interested in refilling the water bottles and taking a bath than he is looking for Maggie and Evie.”

Chris downed the last of his coffee and set his mug aside. He pulled out a map he had tucked into his back pocket. Opening it up, he laid it out on the ground in front of them.

“Last night while you were out by the fire, I started marking on the map all the key locations so far. Here’s base camp. Here is where Maggie disappeared. This is where we found her boots. This is where we are right now. This is where the river is at.” He pointed to each consecutive spot he mentioned. “Do you notice anything?”

Nick studied the map. “Everything seems to be in a direct line.”

Chris nodded. “Exactly.”

“What’s beyond the river? Where does that direct line lead too?”

“The cliffs on the far side of the park.”

Nick looked at the map and traced his finger along the line of locations, then on past to the area where the cliffs were.

“Why didn’t I think of mapping all this out?” he asked Chris.

“You were too concerned about Maggie to think about it, I guess.”

“Well, I’m glad you are on top of things, my friend. Have you showed this to Ted and Walter?”

“Not yet. You and I are the only ones up.” Chris folded up the map and stuffed it into his back pocket. “Let’s get the others up and get this show on the road.”

Nick was impressed with Chris. He had never witnessed him in a crisis situation before and his levelheadedness and ability to think clearly was something Nick wished he had. The map was an ingenious idea. He wished he had thought of it.

When Ted, Walter and Les finally joined them around the fire, Chris showed them the map. Ted looked at it and whistled.

“I wish I had thought to do that. Good thinking, Chris.”

“So, does that mean we are headed toward the cliffs?” Walter asked.

“No, we’re still going to the river first,” Ted said. “We need to refill our water, then we will head toward the cliffs.”

“What happens when we reach the cliffs?” Les asked. He was usually quiet and didn’t speak up much, unless it was something he had an opinion on.

“What do you mean?” asked Ted.

“If we reach the cliffs and haven’t found the women yet, what do you plan to do then?” Les asked.

“I don’t know, Les,” Ted said. “One step at a time, ok?”

“I’m just thinking that if we reach the cliffs and the women aren’t found between here and there, that only leaves the cliffs. Remember the case where that woman’s boots were found on top of the cliff? How did they get there? She was found 12 miles away in a valley.”

“Yes, I remember that case,” Ted said. “We never figured out how her boots got way up there, but when she was found, the bottom of her feet were still clean. It made no sense.”

“Are you saying that the women are being held in the caves?” Nick asked. “How would anyone climb up there. Those are straight up and down. You would need rock climbing gear for that.”

“We don’t know if that is where they are. We are just speculating right now, but the line of locations leads right to them. It can’t be

coincidence,” Ted said.

“Let’s just head to the river and get the stupid water and go from there. We can sit here all day and speculate, but that isn’t helping us find them. Let’s go,” Chris grabbed his map from Ted and stuffed it into his pocket again. Grabbing his empty coffee mug, he dropped it into his backpack.

Nick jumped to his feet, grabbed his backpack and followed after Chris who had started off into the woods. The other three men grabbed up their gear and quickly followed after them.

They could hear the river long before they saw it. The heavy rains had filled it to capacity and the water was roaring down it’s pathway.

The air was heavy and humid, making trekking through the woods downright miserable.

Sweat was rolling off Nick as he forced his way through thorn bushes, low hanging limbs and thick patches of ferns. He was glad they would be stopping for water. His bottle ran out shortly after they left camp.

A quick dip in the river would feel great as well. The thought of plunging into the icy cold water that flowed down from the mountains tempted him more than he imagined it would. Maybe Ted was right, a quick clean up was in order.

Chris was silent as they made their way. He hadn’t spoken since they left the campsite. Nick reached out and caught his shoulder to slow him down for a minute.

“Hey,” he said. “You okay?”

“Yeah, I was just thinking that stopping at the river might be a great idea after all. I just polished off the last of my water.”

“I was just thinking the same thing. I was also thinking that taking a quick dunk in the water would feel mighty nice about now.”

“Couldn’t agree with you more.”

“I hear the river. We must be close,” Nick said. “Ready for that plunge?”

Chris put his hand on Nick’s chest and shoved him back a step. “Beat you to it,” he said, laughing over his shoulder as he ran ahead.

“No you won’t!” Nick called after him. He took off running after Chris, leaving the other three behind.

The sound of the river was getting closer as Chris and Nick raced to be the first one there. The other three had picked up the pace and were close behind. Nick could hear the dogs yipping.

“Hey guys,” Ted called to them. “Wait up, will you?”

Nick slowed down and called out to Chris. “We better not lose them. We don’t need anyone else going missing.” He was bent over and laughing, trying to catch his breath.

He knew he could beat Chris, but figured it was probably not a good idea for the group to separate.

Chris slowed down and waited for them to catch up. “I would have beaten you, old man,” he said to Nick.

Nick just laughed and fell into step beside him.

The other three men were just behind them when Nick and Chris stepped out of the wood line and onto the river bank. Nick had stepped down toward the water when he heard someone yell his name from somewhere downstream. He swung his head toward the sound, just as Maggie was grabbed up by the biggest ape-man Nick had ever seen and whisked away into the trees.

He only saw her for a second, but he knew it was Maggie. The Bigfoot had grabbed her so quickly and disappeared that he almost thought he had imagined it.

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*Carol Hall was born and raised in Chester, West Virginia, but she currently lives in Lansing, TN with her husband and three cats. Her writing career began with her first book, Disappeared in November 2019. Since then she has written several more books including The Journey North, The Inheritance, Full Moon Rising, The Witch of Broenwyck and Saving Grace. Her love of writing began at an early age when her father would tell her and her sisters fun, adventurous stories he created out of his own imagination. These stories sparked an interest in Carol to tell her own stories.*

*Carol’s love of writing has spread across several different genres including, action/adventure, mysteries, horror, and drama.*



# NOW HERE'S A TIP

By JoAnn Derson

- 
- \* Save the peel on oranges and grapefruits. You can toss them on a fire for a nice smell.
- \* Fold and snip a coffee filter into a paper snowflake. Lay over an iced cookie or cake to sift a sugar design on top.
- \* "When planning to visit my hometown for the holidays, I set aside a few hours to take the kids to the park or a nice playground. I message all my old friends and classmates with kids (Facebook is great for this) a few weeks ahead of time and let them know when I'll be there. It's great to catch up while the kids play, and even if no one shows up, we still have a fun break." -- F.L. in California
- \* "When there are big family jobs to be done (like getting ready for the holidays), we write all the tasks down on slips of paper and put them in a hat. We

# STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- \* In Germany, you are allowed to drive your car naked, but not get out of it naked.
- \* A high-school principal once disciplined a student by making him sit in the basement while reading the U.S. Constitution. The punishment must have taken effect, because said student (who also memorized parts of the document) was Thurgood Marshall, who grew up to become the first Black Supreme Court justice.
- \* Male orb-weaver spiders give back rubs to their mates so they don't get eaten.
- \* "Mbuki-mvuki" is a Bantu word for the irresistible urge to strip off your clothes while dancing.
- \* In 2002, Saddam Hussein's campaign theme song for re-election was Whitney Houston's "I Will Always Love You."
- \* For a single day in August 1998 and another in October 2018, Topeka, Kansas, re-named itself "ToPikachu" to mark the release of different Pokemon games.
- \* Pule, the world's rarest cheese, is made from donkey milk, something that was widely believed impossible since the liquid doesn't coagulate. However, Serbian cheesemaker Slobodan Simic discovered a solution and now sells his cheese for over \$500 per pound.
- \* The Saturday falling closest to April 1 is International Tom Hanks Day.

- take turns choosing tasks until all the paper is divided out. Sometimes we trade, but we all get a fair chore list." -- V.O. in Oregon
- \* Make a holiday cheese ball simply: Combine a package of cream cheese with a cup of finely shredded cheese (your choice) and 1/3 cup sour cream or plain Greek yogurt. Form into a ball, roll in coating of your choice (dried fruit pieces, chopped nuts, spices, etc.) and chill. Wrap in a pretty cellophane bag and bring with pita chips, crackers or pretzels as a hostess gift.
- \* "Wax drippings from candles can be scraped off of most hard surfaces with the side of a credit card." -- T.E. in Kansas

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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- \* MLB pitcher Turk Wendell, "baseball's favorite oddball," would not only brush his teeth every inning, but at the start of same, would turn and wave to the center fielder and wait for him to wave back before proceeding.
  - \* There are more English speakers in China than in the United States.
  - \* In 1994, a man was arrested for dressing as the Grim Reaper and standing and staring into the windows of a home for the elderly.
- \*\*\*  
Thought for the Day: "The best teacher in the world is someone who loves what he or she does, and just loves it in front of you." -- Fred Rogers

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		2		4		8		
	5		3					2
4					7		1	
	9			5				4
1			2					3
		8			4	1		
	4			6		7		
		7			5			9
9			8					2

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate    ◆◆ Challenging  
 ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!  
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# King Crossword

**ACROSS**

1 PC port

4 Roast VIPs

7 — cheese dressing

8 Some tides

10 Coffee-break hr.

11 Mistakes in print

13 Mitch Hedberg and Margaret Cho, for two

16 Standard

17 Cyber-commerce

18 To and —

19 Greet

20 "Roots" author Haley

21 Racing shell

23 Red-tag events

25 Poker variety

26 \$ dispensers

27 1040 org.

28 Mideast peninsula

30 Mimic

33 "Don't slouch!"

36 Spud

37 Thin nails

38 Brick worker

39 Used car sites

40 Med. plan option



41 Away from WSW

9 Repress

10 Recipe abbr.

12 Farm units

14 Gas co., for one

15 Boston team, for short

19 Paul Newman film

20 Gore and Franken

21 Vegas area

22 Convention

23 Luminary

24 Good-natured

25 Venus, to Serena

26 Playwright Chekhov

28 Tic

29 "Life — short ..."

30 Marble type

31 Profs' degrees

32 UFO crew

34 Hexagonal state

35 Press agent?

**DOWN**

1 Of an arm bone

2 Writer O'Casey

3 Unfair treatment

4 "Thank you, Henri"

5 Yule tune

6 Pesky email

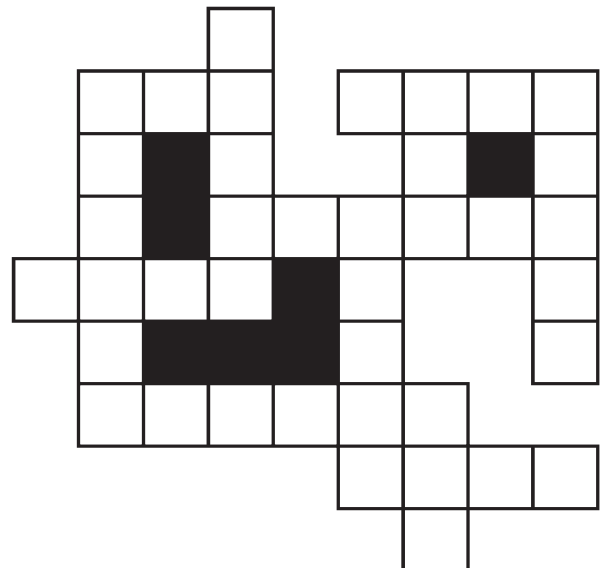
7 Alpha follower

8 Himalayan

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- PAH
- HOSNIP
- ♥ EHL SA
- FOUT
- LICELO
- WSO
- DHNA
- PEDUN
- ♥ WLO
- ♥ HEWSIN
- TICEW
- ♥ OSHE



Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

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# THE RICH LOWRY COLUMN

By Rich Lowry

## The IOC Is a Craven Handmaid of Beijing

It should be a rule of thumb that the Olympic Games shouldn't be held in countries that operate concentration camps.

If this strikes you as a reasonable demand, you aren't suited to serve on the International Olympic Committee. The IOC has doggedly defended Beijing as the host of the 2022 Winter Olympics even as the Chinese Communist Party pursues its campaign of unrelenting barbarity against the Uyghurs.

The Biden administration just announced a so-called diplomatic boycott of the games, a gesture of disapproval that won't dent the propaganda coup the IOC is handing the most dangerous regime in the world.

The IOC is the World Health Organization of sports. When China disappeared female tennis star Peng Shuai for the offense of making an accusation of sexual assault against a former high government official, the IOC happily assisted in the regime's crisis PR, lest the shocking incident derail the games.

The president of the IOC, Thomas Bach, had a video call with Peng where she said all was well and Bach pretended to take her assurances at face value. Of course, Peng wasn't free to speak her mind, but part of Bach's job now is to look the other way at China's blatant abuses.

China has the great fortune to deal with international organizations -- except the Women's Tennis Association, which is suspending tournaments in China -- that lack all self-respect.

The IOC is following in the well-trod footsteps of corporations, financiers and sports leagues that start out wanting to do business with China and end up complicit in the regime's crimes by staying silent or explaining them away.

The difference is that the IOC claims to be acting in support of high ideals. Bach likes to quote the Olympic charter that says Olympism exists "to place sport at the service of the harmonious development of humankind, with a view to promoting a peaceful society concerned with the preservation of human dignity."

Placing sport at the service of China does the opposite on all counts. China's autocrat, Xi Jinping, has been open about the political importance of the Olympics, "Hosting an excellent 2022 Games is a major task of the Party and the country, and it is a solemn commitment to the international community." Here, the interests of the CCP and the IOC -- as well as the corporate sponsors of the games -- coincide.

The last time China hosted the Olympics, the Summer Games in 2008, it used the opening ceremony to stage a gigantic and memorable regime-enhancing spectacle. Beijing promised reforms to get awarded the games and then, true to form, engaged in yet more heavy-handed repression.

If the 2008 Beijing Games were ill-advised, next year's Winter Olympics are a complete travesty. The atrocities in Xinjiang province are a matter of public record and the quashing of Hong Kong proceeds apace. No one who crosses the regime is safe from imprisonment or worse. China openly menaces Taiwan with an invasion. Indeed, China could conceivably be in a shooting war with the United States within a year or two of using the presence of our athletes, among others, to enhance the rule of its dictator-for-life.

Bach insists that the IOC must always be politically neutral. As Michael Mazza of the American Enterprise Institute points out, though, the IOC banned apartheid-era South Africa from the games. There is no such thing as neutrality when dealing with an all-encompassing police state for which politics is a life-or-death matter. The games aren't being hosted by Switzerland or Norway -- nice, law-abiding countries with good ski slopes -- but a revanchist power that tramples on human dignity and is a clear and present danger to international peace.

The IOC could have taken an off-ramp from these games at any point. Instead, its attitude is going to be, "Enjoy the snowboarding, never mind the concentration camps."

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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# Donna's Day

Creative family fun

by Donna Erickson

## Home-Cleaning Tips for the Holidays

"It's dirty work, but someone has to do it!" Now that we're in the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, with guests coming and going in our homes, here are some practical and easy cleaning strategies for busy families:



**Cleaning the house is easier when everyone gets involved. Keegan and her brother Trey step outside to shake rugs.**

Start with the front door

To keep dirt and grime out of the house before it gets tracked in, remind kids to leave their boots, shoes, and wet and muddy winter gear at the entryway. When guests pop by, I like to add a bit of humor and suggest that they do the "Cha, Cha, Cha" on the

entry mat when they arrive. After a few steps, wiggles and laughs, their shoes are clean before they step inside.

Think of cleaning as exercise

It can be hard to get everything you want done during these busy days, so make cleaning do double duty when you can't squeeze in time at the gym. An active 30 minutes of cleaning can get the blood pumping and heart racing. Add music to the mix, and it will be done before you know it.

Get kids to help

You don't have to do all the tasks alone, especially kid-friendly jobs like shaking rugs, taking out the trash and cleaning the bathroom mirrors.

Clear the clutter

Just before guests arrive at a dinner party, wash and put away mixing bowls and utensils, and be sure the counters are sparkling clean. A clutter-free kitchen makes you feel organized and relaxed.

Save the night with candlelight

Perfection isn't everything. If you throw a last-minute get-together, don't worry about dusting every corner. Simply dim lamps and light candles. There is something about candlelight that makes everything glow.

Helpers ring in the new year

When packing holiday decorations in boxes until next year, make it a family affair. Laugh together, tell stories and share cups of cocoa while you get another cleanup job done!

\*\*\*

Find more family fun at [www.donnaerickson.com](http://www.donnaerickson.com). Write to Donna at [Info@donnaerickson.com](mailto:Info@donnaerickson.com)

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# VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves  
**Veterans Village Opens**

We were all there the day Veterans Village officially opened: Sarge, the older veterans brought out in a van borrowed from the senior center, the dormitory crew and even the mayor came, along with a few members of the press and a photographer.

The gravel road had been smoothed, several lots had been cleared and two tiny homes had been installed, complete with a few shrubs and potted flowers next to the steps of both homes. A communal brick barbecue grill, surrounded by a concrete patio and lawn chairs, had been inaugurated into its first service to cook piles of burgers and hot dogs. Voluntary Services up at the Department of Veterans Affairs hospital had sent baskets of household stuff like dinnerware and detergent to get the two veterans started. And Sarge's granddaughter had skipped school to be there and to sing "America the Beautiful" as part of the opening ceremony.

ny.

And it was a ceremony.

Short speeches were given by those who had never done any of the work, but David, the homeless veteran whose idea Veterans Village had been, gave the shortest speech of all. He merely turned to the two veterans who would now live there and said, "Welcome home."

With input from social services in town, a list of other interested veterans had quickly grown, leaving Sarge and David to wonder just how many homeless veterans there were in town.

"This could end up being pretty big, almost beyond my capabilities," David said later, looking around the acreage, his voice shaky until he felt Sarge's hand on his shoulder.

David took a deep breath and let it out. "OK, I guess I better hustle up a few more homes," he said, pulling a folded site plan out of his back pocket and a pencil from behind his ear. Sarge smiled, patted David's shoulder and sauntered over to the grill to grab a burger before they were all gone.

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# BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. The main Christmas story about the birth of Jesus is paraphrased from what two New Testament books? *Mark/John, Acts/Romans, Matthew/Luke, Jude/Revelation*
  2. Approximately how old was Jesus when the wise men (Magi) arrived with their gifts? *1 day, 2 weeks, 2 months, 2 years*
  3. Where did the angel Gabriel appear to Mary, saying, "Blessed art thou among women"? *Nazareth, Tyre, Ninevah, Gazi*
  4. How many times does the word "Christmas" appear in the Bible (KJV)? *Zero, 1, 2, 7*
  5. In what city of Judaea was Jesus born? *Damascus, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Gezer*
  6. Who plotted to kill the baby Jesus? *Archelaus, Herod, Pontius Pilot, Caesar Augustus*
- ANSWERS: 1) Matthew/Luke; 2) 2 years; 3) Nazareth; 4) Zero; 5) Bethlehem; 6) Herod

"Test Your Bible Knowledge," a book with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in stores and online.

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## Comfort foods

Made fast and healthy

by Healthy Exchanges

### Amaretto Macaroon Cheesecake

If you're hosting Christmas at your home this year, here's a very special, yet very festive and traditional recipe. Happy Healthy Holidays to you and your loved ones!

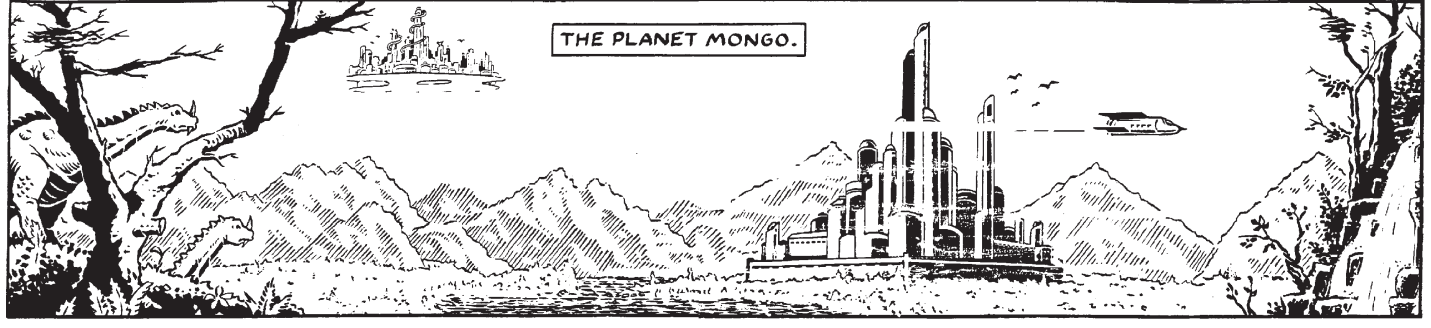
- 2 (8-ounce) packages fat-free cream cheese
- 1 (4-serving) package sugar-free instant vanilla pudding mix
- 2/3 cup nonfat dry milk powder
- 1 cup water
- 1/4 cup reduced-calorie whipped topping
- 1 teaspoon almond extract
- 1 teaspoon coconut extract
- 1 (6-ounce) purchased short bread piecrust
- 1/4 cup flaked coconut
- 1/4 cup slivered almonds

1. In a large bowl, stir cream cheese with a spoon until soft. Add dry pudding mix, dry milk powder and water. Mix well using a wire whisk. Blend in whipped topping, almond extract and coconut extract. Spread mixture into piecrust.

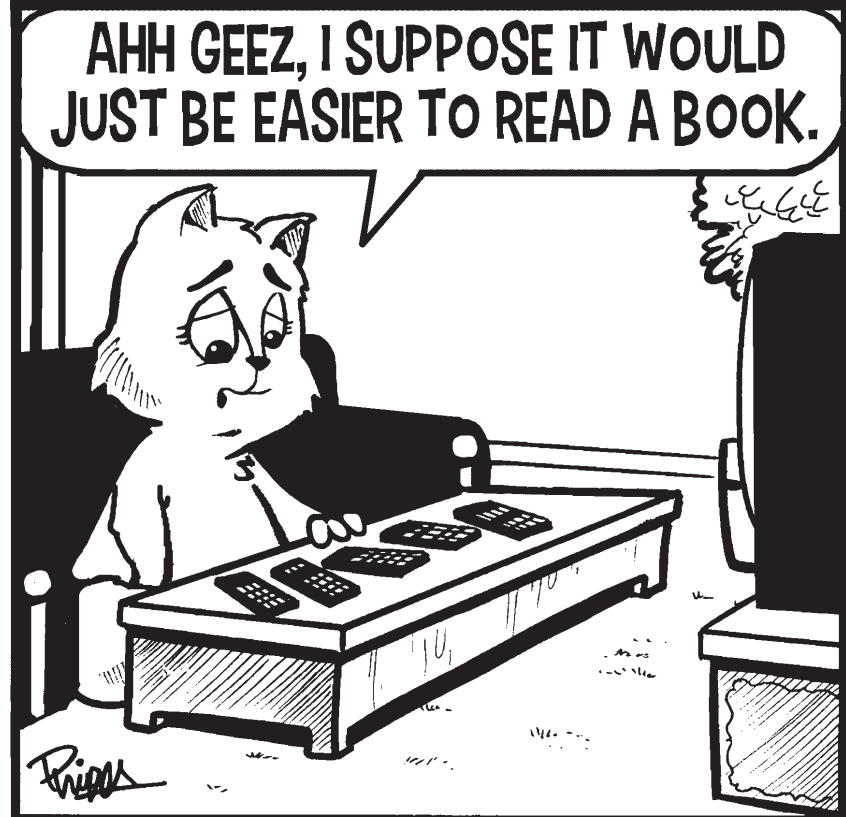
2. In a small skillet sprayed with butter-flavored cooking spray, lightly toast coconut and almonds over medium heat. Sprinkle mixture evenly over top of filling. Refrigerate at least 1 hour. Makes 8 servings.

• Each serving equals: 223 calories, 7g fat, 12g protein, 28g carb., 572mg sodium, 1g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 1/2 Starch, 1 Meat, 1 Fat.

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### Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



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# Historically Speaking

## Explore Oak Ridge history and future

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

The Oak Ridge Convention and Visitors Bureau was formed by City Council on June 1, 1981. The purpose of the Bureau was to market and promote Oak Ridge as a travel destination, promote the City's natural resources and sports facilities and unique history. The CVB promotes all events that happen in the City as well as the museums, Manhattan Project National Historical Park and attractions in town.

The activities and promotions of the Visitors Bureau are funded from a portion of hotel occupancy taxes. That means that no tax dollars are used to promote tourism because our hotel guests pay to help promote the city to future guests. The other sources of revenue for the CVB are state tourism grants and proceeds from the Secret City Half Marathon.

In June 2015, the CVB began using the name "Explore Oak Ridge" to market the attractions and outdoor activities within the City and increase hotel occupancy and local spending. The Oak Ridge Breakfast Rotary Club paid to design and trademark the Explore Oak Ridge logo and it has been incorporated into all promotion of Oak Ridge Tourism.

My first interaction with ORCVB was in 2006 when Keith McDaniel involved me as a co-producer for the Secret City documentary films. Joe Valentino was the director at that time as was also being interviewed by Keith for the documentary. Those documentaries are still currently used today to help promote Oak Ridge and can be found here: <https://www.y12.doe.gov/about/history/video-gallery>

Over the years since, I have remained closely associated with the efforts of the organization to promote Heritage Tourism in Oak Ridge. Many opportunities for involvement have been enjoyed ranging from the Secret City Festival to other city-wide events. I have been pleased to be asked to be a step-on guide for tourist buses as well as a tour guide for families and individuals visiting our city. Often, I was able to interact with travel writers and tourism professionals.

These interactions with people in the tourism industry are very important as often they write for national tourist travel publications and websites. It is important to have Oak Ridge featured in these publications and media to spread the word about the great things we have to offer visitors of various ages and interests. Whether it our unique history, our world class rowing venue, or the amazing outdoor activities we offer, Oak Ridge can fill up several days full of fun and activities for most visitors.

The Explore Oak Ridge website and social media presence are also important elements that help promote Oak Ridge. The website was re-designed 18-months ago to make it easier to navigate and provide a location where all events in the City can be located for both visitors and residents. I am glad to have been included in the content development of these key media outlets. Videos and blogs are among the many features of the website, and I have been able to offer content that provides information about our history, hiking, photography and much more.

"The social media presence of Explore Oak Ridge allows for the ability to tell the story of the Manhattan Project and our unique history in a way that encourages the viewer to search for more information and dig deeper into planning a trip to a one-of-a-kind location," said Katy Watt, Explore Oak Ridge President. "The staff of New Frame Creative has been instrumental in enhanc-

ing the online presence of Explore Oak Ridge in a fun and exciting manner."

Most recently, a new series of short films featuring Katie the Calutron Girl, began being created to provide a spokesperson to "Share the Secrets" of the Secret City. See Episode 1, located on the Explore Oak Ridge home page, introducing the K-25 History Center: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aF5VHiz1iWQ>

The idea of Katie the Calutron Girl as a spokesperson was the brainchild of the staff at New Frame Creative. They thought putting a face with the story was a way to bring the past and present together in an informative and engaging way. After working with the Oak Ridge Playhouse to locate an actress to fill the role, Kadi Brazil was selected to be Katie the Calutron Girl.

Explore Oak Ridge in partnership with the Manhattan Project National Historical Park are responsible for the many interpretive historical wayside markers located at historically significant structures and sites. Again, I have been pleased



*Katie the Calutron Girl. Photograph provided by Explore Oak Ridge (Photo Submitted)*



*Chapel on the Hill is an example of one of the interpretive historical markers. Photograph provided by Explore Oak Ridge (Photo Submitted)*



*Clara Culnon, who has a goal of running a half marathon in each of the 50 states checked off Tennessee by running the Secret City Half Marathon (Photo Submitted)*

to be asked to help support this effort as the Oak Ridge City Historian. These wayside markers help our visitors quickly understand the various aspects of the amazing story of Oak Ridge's rich heritage and assist in telling the story of the Manhattan Project. See the interpretive markers here: <https://exploreoakridge.com/wayside-markers/>

According to the State of Tennessee, Tourism is the second largest industry in the state and Explore Oak Ridge provides an element

of economic development that creates jobs and generates tax dollars for the City of Oak Ridge and Anderson County. In 2020, each household in Anderson County saved \$326 in taxes because of tourism dollars that were spent in the county.

So next time you have visitors come to town or you are looking for something to do one weekend, be a tourist in your own hometown. Visit the Explore Oak Ridge website at [www.exploreoakridge.com](http://www.exploreoakridge.com) and check out the attractions in town that help tell the history of Oak Ridge or get out and enjoy the great outdoor activities around town like the 14 Greenways around the City or bike trails around town.

Oak Ridge has so many secrets that are ready for us to share with the world, so we all need to start telling everyone about our city that was born in war and abundant in natural beauty, unique shopping, great food, and numerous family activities.

Here is what one Oak Ridger told me after choosing to explore Oak Ridge rather than take his college friend from Minnesota somewhere else. He was so impressed with his experience that I asked if he would record a video for me. He agreed. You can see that short video here and you just might find yourself interested in exploring our city: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EjepuRlj-b2Y>

There are several videos on the video gallery of Explore Oak Ridge's website that might help you learn about our history, and you might share them with visitors who are coming your way before they arrive to whet their appetites for exploring our city, our "Secret City" which is becoming more and more well-known in the East Tennessee region. See: <https://exploreoakridge.com/video-archive/>

Oak Ridge is among several Heritage Tourism destinations located within short driving distances such as: Green McAdoo Cultural Center in Clinton, Museum of Appalachia in Norris, Coal Mining Museum in Rocky Top, the Temperance Building/Harriman Heritage Museum in Harriman, and of course, the East Tennessee History Center in Knoxville.

We are also on the Tennessee Top Secret Trail: <https://www.tnvacation.com/articles/uncover-top-secret-trail> You may have noticed the small brown signs along the roadways.

Should you want to know more about Explore Oak Ridge from Katy Watt, Explore Oak Ridge President, I had her as a guest on a recent Oak Ridge Institute for Continued Learning class of More Stories from the Secret City. She begins at 12 minutes into the class and continues until 58 minutes doing a presentation on Explore Oak Ridge and answering questions from the class members. See Katy here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vPFCn3itBFE>

Keith McDaniel and I produce a video podcast, Hidden History: Stories from the Secret City. We produce the program every other Saturday and usually have a guest on the program. Katy was our guest some time ago. You can see her on that program here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r3\\_Y-bj5mas&t=88s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r3_Y-bj5mas&t=88s)

If you want to see other episodes of Hidden History: Stories from the Secret City, see: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC52Ainl\\_FiRCGMvtZdLEvWg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC52Ainl_FiRCGMvtZdLEvWg) Keith and I have done this program for over a year and a half now every other week and collected them on a YouTube channel. There are 37 episodes, all of which focus on some hidden history and have special guests.

And finally, let me come back to the most recently launched video series, Katie the Calutron Girl. Be on the watch for more episodes of this short video series featuring Kati Brazil that will help promote the heritage of our Secret City.

### Coalfield Football Players Among East Tennessee Stats Leaders

As reported by 5Star Preps, the following Coalfield football players are among the leaders in East Tennessee across all six classes of play. (Teams not reporting cumulative stats include Oakdale, Sunbright, and Wartburg.)

**Rushing TDs**

33. Landon Lowe – 10 touchdowns

**Passing Yards**

24. Cole Hines – 1504 yards

**Passing TDs**

9. Cole Hines – 23 touchdowns

**Receiving TDs**

12. Landon Galyon – 9 touchdowns

**Tackles**

16. Landon Lowe – 112 tackles

23. Coalton Henry – 104 tackles

**Tackles for Loss**

11. Isaiah Sheldon – 18 tackles for loss

17. Landon Lowe – 16 tackles for loss

31. Coalton Henry – 12.5 tackles for loss

**Punting**

12. Haden Hicks – 35.9 yard average

Photo By Kathy Bird

**Kicking Points**

12. Luke Treece – 46 points



# High School Basketball Roundup

**Coalfield Girls (6-2)**

Dec 7 – Defeated Lenoir City 63-29

Dec 10 – Defeated Oneida 69-66

**Oakdale Girls (0-5)**

Dec 7 – Lost to Oneida 27-61

Dec 10 – Lost to Midway 34-43

**Sunbright Girls (8-2)**

Dec 6 – Lost to Cumberland Gap 40-45

Dec 7 – Defeated Monterey 70-37

Dec 11 – Defeated Rockwood 70-20

**Wartburg Girls (3-5)**

Dec 7 – Lost to Midway 42-43

Dec 10 – Defeated Oliver Springs 55-32

**Coalfield Boys (1-5)**

Dec 7 – Lost to Lenoir City 57-71

Dec 10 – Lost to Oneida 17-53

**Oakdale Boys (1-4)**

Dec 7 – Lost to Oneida 50-72

Dec 10 – Lost to Midway 81-97

**Sunbright Boys (4-5)**

Dec 6 – Lost to Cumberland Gap 43-45

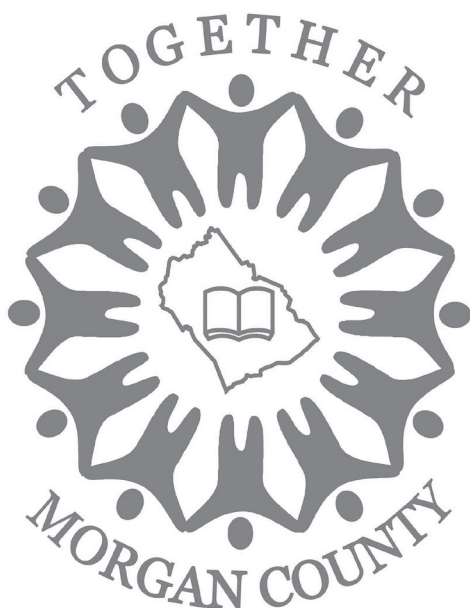
Dec 7 – Lost to Monterey 36-52

Dec 11 – Defeated Rockwood 40-25

**Wartburg Boys (3-5)**

Dec 7 – Lost to Midway 93-94

Dec 10 – Defeated Oliver Springs 72-64



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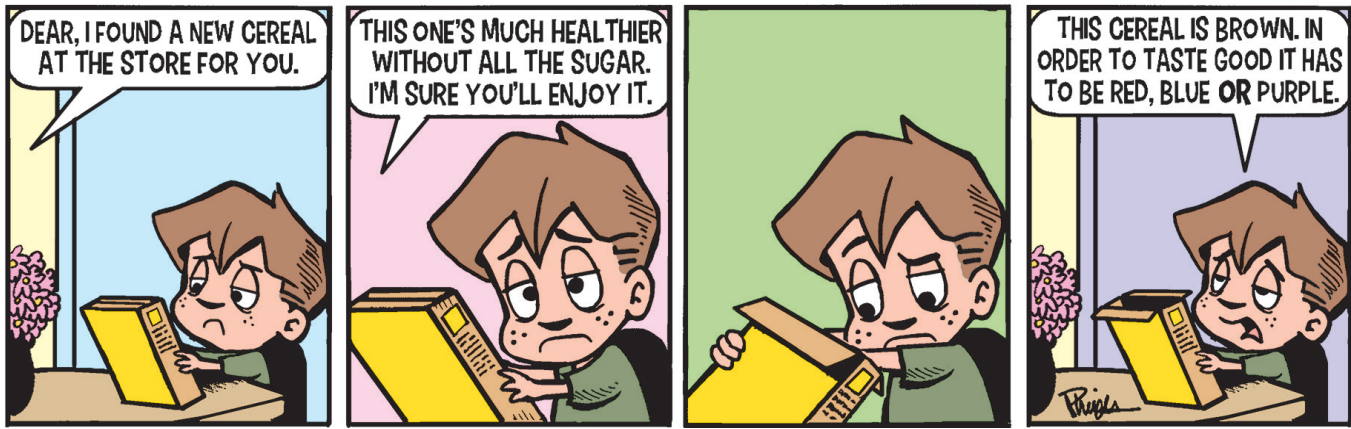
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# Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



# Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



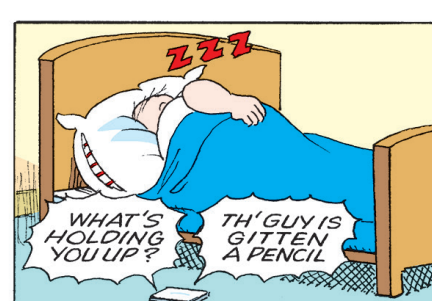
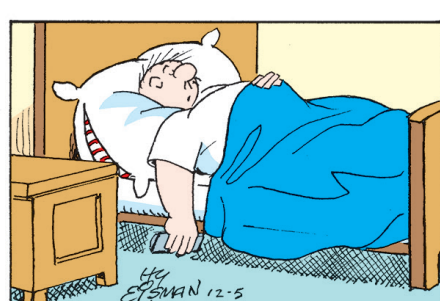
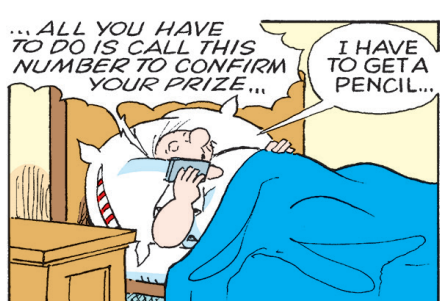
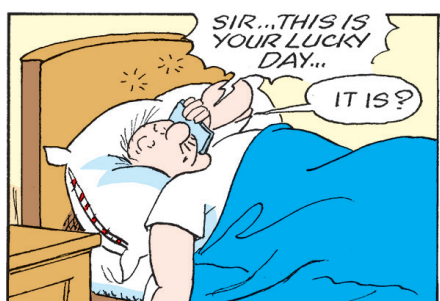
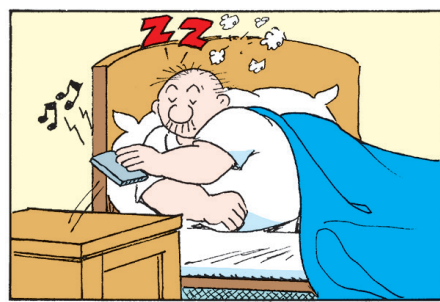
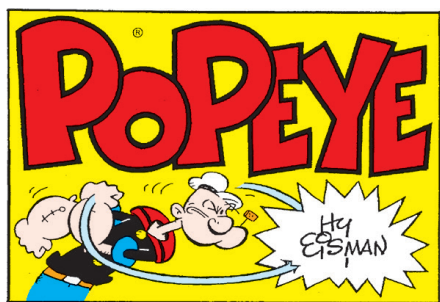
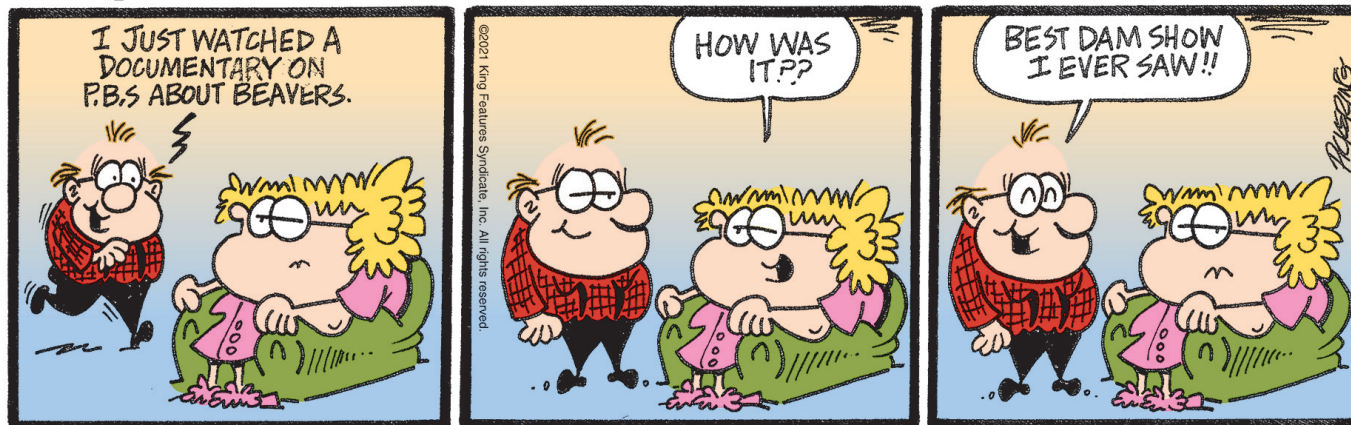
# R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



# The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



# MOMENTS IN TIME

The History Channel

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 \* On Dec. 30, 1803, Francis Lewis, signer of the Declaration of Independence, dies in New York City at age 90. Lewis' patriotism came at a high cost: The British army destroyed his Long Island estate and took his wife prisoner in 1776.

\* On Jan. 1, 1863, farmer Daniel Freeman submits the first claim under the new Homestead Act for a property in Nebraska. By the 1890s, many homesteaders found that farming 160 acres of such dry land was nearly impossible, and at least half the original claims were abandoned.

\* On Dec. 27, 1944, during World War II, President Franklin Roosevelt gives orders to seize properties belonging to the Montgomery Ward company because it refused to comply with a labor collective bargaining agreement. Roosevelt said strikes in wartime cannot be condoned.

\* On Dec. 29, 1956, the New York Times leaks news that the United States is preparing a major policy statement on the Middle East. The Eisenhower Doctrine would proclaim that the U.S. would use force in the Middle East to contain Soviet aggression.

\* On Dec. 31, 1968, the Soviet Union's TU-144 supersonic airliner makes its first flight, months ahead of the Anglo-French Concorde. In 1965, the French had arrested Sergei Pavlov, head of the Paris office of the Soviet airliner Aeroflot, for illegally obtaining classified information about France's supersonic project.

\* On Dec. 28, 1973, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn's "literary investigation" of the police-state system in the Soviet Union, "The Gulag Archipelago, 1918-1956," is published in Paris. On Feb. 12, 1974, Solzhenitsyn was arrested, stripped of his citizenship and deported.

\* On Jan. 2, 1980, in response to the December 1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, President Jimmy Carter asks the Senate to postpone action on the SALT II nuclear weapons treaty. Carter feared that the Soviet invasion could lead to its gaining control over much of the world's oil supplies.  
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# 1 Corinthians: Chapter 14

(1 Cor. 14:1-19) The relative value of certain gifts: The way of “love” was to be pursued---generally in life and particularly in the matter of spiritual gifts. Spiritual gifts were to be desired, not for personal glory, but because they enhanced one’s ability to serve Christ. Apparently some excessively gloried in the use of tongues (miraculously speaking a foreign language). The fact was, however, prophecy (foretelling or forthtelling) was more utilitarian. Why was that the case? Because if a man had the gift of a certain language, yet was in an audience of a different one, he could not employ his gift unless someone present had the gift of interpretation (translation 12:10). The prophet, on the other hand, spoke to those of his own vernacular. In the former case, the words would be a “mystery” to the audience with no translator; only God would understand. But he who prophesied could edify, exhort, and console (v. 2-3).

Thus, he who speaks in foreign language to an audience without a translator edifies himself alone. On the other hand, the one who prophesies in a language understood by the church edifies them all (v. 4). Ideally, Paul suggests, “I would like for all of you to have the gift of languages; but since that is not the case, it would be more productive if one could simply prophesy and thus able to be understood. The one who prophesies has the advantage over the person with the language gift---unless, of course, the one with the language gift also has the gift of translation, in which case the church would be edified” (v. 4-5).

“What good would be accomplished if I, Paul, came to you speaking in foreign languages (which you could not understand); indeed, what profit would there be in that, unless my speaking revealed to you knowledge, prophecy, or teaching of some kind?” (v. 6). The apostle then employs illustrations to make his point. “If a musical instrument simply makes a sound, with no real conveyance of melody, where is the appreciation?” (v. 7). If trumpeter in battle just blasts a sound (with no distinction between ‘charge’ and ‘retreat’), who would know what to do (v.8)? Even so, those of you who insist on using your foreign-language gift (with no translator) are doing nothing but speaking to the air” (v. 9).

“There are many languages in the world, and each has its significance. But if mere unintelligible sounds are made, he who so speaks might as well be a foreigner (v.11). Since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, why not seek something by which you can effectively communicate (v.12)? If, therefore, one has the gift of a foreign language, let him not attempt to use it recklessly; rather, let him ask God for the accompanying gift of translation (v. 13). One might be able to lead a prayer by means of his language gift, but if there is no translator for his alien audience, his words will not be fruitful” (v. 14). Consequently: “If I lead a prayer or a song, I will not do so except that my words are ‘fruitful’ to the audience (v. 15). If your direction is not meaningful to the group, how could they possibly say, ‘Amen’?” (v. 16). Our worship must not only be directed to God, others must be edified as well (v. 17). (The term “sing” (v. 15) does not suggest instrumental accompaniment, as some allege. In New Testament times, it signified unaccompanied singing.)

Paul says, “I am thankful to God that he has honored me with the gift of being able to speak in various languages to diversified audiences. I have been blessed in that regard more than all of you. But I will not abuse my gift, as many of you are doing. I had rather speak a mere five words, conveying my understanding to others, instructing them, than to utter ten thousand words that no one can comprehend” (v. 18-19).

(1 Cor. 14:20-25) An admonition regarding gifts: A sharp rebuke follows” “Brothers, stop acting like children, ambitious to show off your gift. This exhibits a malice (unkind disposition) that should not be in mature people” (v. 20). To make a point, Paul cites from the book of Isaiah (28:11), where Jehovah attempted to teach southern Judah by the example of the Assyrians (“men of strange languages”), who invaded and conquered northern Israel. But Judah refused to profit from that lesson. It was an incomprehensible message to a stiff-necked people. In just such a manner, even if the whole church assembled and all spoke with foreign languages (each in turn), and outsiders entered the assembly, hearing only confusing sounds (with no sensible translation), would they not say, “You people are insane!” (v. 21-23)? The doctrine of attempting to teach with words (or sounds) that no one can possibly understand is crazy! (This condemns Pentecostalism’s “ecstatic utterances.”) Miraculous languages were a “sign” to convince unbelievers of the authenticity of the gospel (Acts 2:1-13). They were not for putting on a show in church (v. 22).

On the other hand, if the gifted were merely prophesying (which required no translator), and the unbeliever enters the assembly, he might well be convinced of the truth of the message, and gospel truth would compel him to pronounce judgment upon his sinful condition. His evil life thus is acknowledged, and he yields to God, seeking pardon via the plan of salvation (v. 24-25).

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MELVIN HOWARD



## THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



Biblische Geschichte, Germany (1859)

Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. LUKE 2:4-7

Melvin Howard's Weekly column is sponsored by

## The Lord's Church

102 Paxton Road, Lancing



# The Word of My Patience



**John Burns**  
Opinion Columnist

Is there anything specific we should have patience for in the present Gentile Church age? Does Christianity understand Messiah's future? Have you ever learned about Levirate marriage and, the paradigm God established as a typology to help us understand our future? Have you been betrothed to one day rule and reign with Messiah as his virgin bride?

Jesus Christ was promised a bride as a reward for enduring the cross. He will one day inherit his kingdom in Jerusalem to rule over all the nations of the earth, and his virgin bride will reign with him. She is the bride God finds for his son during the gentile church age. The Holy Spirit sent to humanity one human at a time asking one specific question. Do you believe I became the Son of God in the womb of a virgin Jewish woman for the purpose of dying on a cross to pay the sin debt of any human that would answer yes? We are all sinners. Yesterday, today and tomorrow sinners. We all need God's eternal mercy over our lives. We all fall short of the glory of God. It is our present condition in this earthly tabernacle. It does not change our condition. It does change our status in the eyes of our Messiah.

We are justified by faith alone in the Gospel of Paul found in 1 Corinthians 15 Vs. 1-5. We are saved when we accept that Jesus Christ died, Jesus Christ was buried, and Jesus Christ rose from the dead. And he did it all according to the scriptures found from Genesis to Malachi. Those were the scriptures Messiah preached out of. Every writer of the New Testament quoted, and is the only authorized concordance according to God who wrote it.

The Old Testament is in the New Testament concealed. The New Testament is the Old Testament revealed. The Old Testament is Christ in Prophecy. The Gospels are Jesus Christ in history. The Acts are Jesus Christ in the early church. The Pauline epistles are Jesus Christ in practical application. Revelation is Jesus Christ in glory! We need the entire Bible to understand God's plan for our own Christian life.

We have an anointing from God when we believe our sin debt is paid. It is real not counterfeit. We do not need any man to teach us. We must become a Berean and begin to study the entire Bible ourselves. Every day. It is the authorized way to relationship with Jesus Christ. Without Bible understanding, no one will see God.

In Levirate marriage, the father of the bridegroom determines when his son is ready to marry. Generally, around the age of 30. The father would meet with the elders of the eligible brides usually a near kinsman. When he offers his sons hand in marriage to a father of a proposed bride, a dowry would be negotiated. A purchase price for her hand. This proves the loyalty of the father of the groom to fulfill all obligations for provisions of the bride forever.

When the price is agreed upon, the proposed bride is immediately veiled. Her proposed father -in-law then initiates the shoe covenant. The fathers exchange one shoe, for if the shoe fits, wear it. If it doesn't fit, it must also still be worn until the marriage is consummated. But not yet.

The son then returns to the home of his father to build a room addition, our Messiah is building us a mansion! The virgin bride eagerly awaits the bridegroom to retrieve her unto himself. They are betrothed to each other from that day forward, once the purchase

price has been paid. The bride waits patiently for the return of the bridegroom.

When the time determined by the father of the bridegroom is finished, a trumpet sounds to announce to the friends of the bridegroom it is time to retrieve my bride! The bridegroom returns to the house of the bride with the first-fruits of family, and friends, to witness the consummation of the marriage after returning to the father of the bridegroom's house, the room addition becomes the new home of the virgin bride. To be forever married to the bridegroom.

This is the underlying story undergirding our entire understanding of faith in Jesus Christ.

A virgin bride does not commit fornication with the gods of this world. Her bridegroom is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. She is betrothed to him, and she patiently awaits the sound of the trumpet. Her bridegroom will return to receive her unto himself. Her lamp is trimmed, and, her oil run-eth over.

She is a blessing to every one she comes into contact with, she practices mercy and grace with every person she meets. She alone fulfills God's great commission. She never misses an opportunity to share the reason for all the Joy within her. Are you the virgin bride awaiting your bridegroom?

Jesus Christ promises in John 14 that he must go to the Father's house and prepare us a mansion in heaven. He promises that because he left, he will return and receive us unto himself. Are you waiting patiently upon Messiah to receive you unto himself? Are you existing behind the veil as a virgin bride?

When Messiah returns to get his bride, she will be raptured and taken to heaven while the world endures the time of Jacob's trouble. She will receive her crowns in heaven, her marriage will be consummated in heaven. There will be a seven-year marriage supper celebrated in heaven with the first-fruits resurrected with Messiah in Judea on the 17th of Nisan in the year 32 AD.

At the end of seven years the bridegroom returns to the Mount of Olives to receive the Kingdom of David promised to Mary while Messiah was in her womb! Hallelujah!

He defeats the enemies of God's plan who surround Israel in the last three-and one-half years of gentile government on earth. Where the carcasses lie, there the eagles shall be gathered.

The Kingdom of our God once again becomes the kingdom of men on earth.

He was crucified upon a cross of wood, yet he created the hill upon which it stood.

Even so come Lord Jesus Christ.

RLTW John Burns 12-4-2021

*Staff Sergeant John Burns enlisted into the United States Army on September 23, 1987 as an 11C Infantry Mortarman. He graduated from the 7th Infantry Division, Ranger Class 11/89 and served in the invasion of Panama, Desert Storm and the Battle of Mogadishu while assigned to the 75th Rangers.*

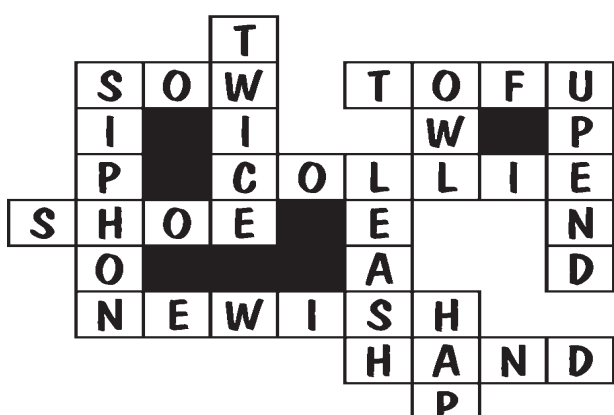
*Some of his many decorations, awards and badges include; Bronze Star Medal for Valor, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Sniper Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Combat Infantry Badge and Expert Infantry Badge. Throughout his prestigious military career, he traveled to forty-five countries on five continents and all but two states while serving in the military.*

*He currently serves as the Chaplain for the Special Operations Warrior Foundation. His devout faith demonstrates to all he comes into contact with that he believes nothing but the blood of Jesus Christ can cleanse us from all unrighteousness. He enjoys writing and teaching God's Word while sharing his faith with a dying world.*

Opinions expressed by readers and columnists do not necessarily reflect those of Morgan County Today



answer



## Weekly SUDOKU

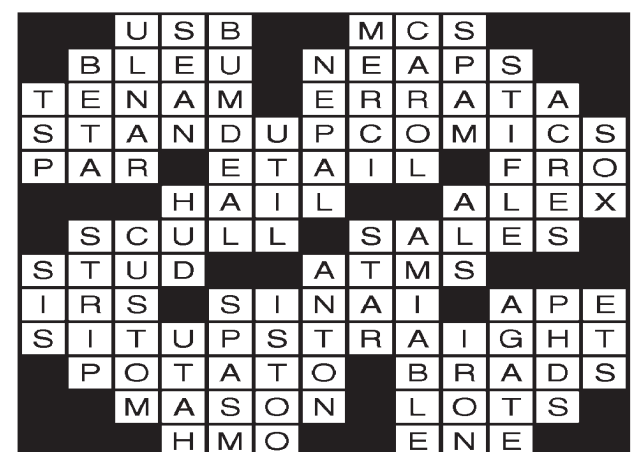
Answer

3	1	2	5	4	9	8	6	7
7	5	6	3	8	1	9	4	2
4	8	9	6	2	7	3	1	5
6	9	3	1	5	8	2	7	4
1	7	4	2	9	6	5	3	8
5	2	8	7	3	4	1	9	6
8	4	1	9	6	2	7	5	3
2	3	7	4	1	5	6	8	9
9	6	5	8	7	3	4	2	1

## King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.





## Savor Holiday Morning With Bake-Ahead Quiche

Before the morning erupts into chaos while the kiddies (and kids at heart) unwrap everything under the tree, give a gift that everyone is guaranteed to love. Start your holiday celebration with a delicious quiche Lorraine.

Named after the Lorraine region of France, classic quiche Lorraine (keesh loh-rain) is the queen of quiches. A buttery, flaky crust is filled with a rich, savory egg custard, crisp bacon and Swiss cheese, and baked in a pie or tart pan. What's not to love?

Quiche is one of those dishes that everyone should know how to make. They're perfect for holidays because they can be prepared in advance and refrigerated or frozen, then quickly reheated. Quiche is wonderful served hot, warm or cold, for breakfast, lunch or a light dinner. It's quite elegant but surprisingly quick and easy to throw together.

Another reason to love quiche this time of year is because most of the ingredients go on sale for the holidays. Historically, prices are great on eggs, bacon, heavy cream and pre-made pie crusts. Of course, it's even less expensive to make the crust from scratch, but if you've got enough on your to-do list, buy a frozen one.

Quiche recipes are extremely adaptable. To be completely accurate, in France, there are three kinds of quich-

es. Quiche Lorraine, made with bacon or lardons only (modern preparations of the dish usually include Swiss cheese); Vosgienne, with bacon and cheese; and Alsacienne, with bacon, onions and cheese. The French are exceptionally protective of these distinctions. Of course, you can use whatever ingredients you have on hand. Quiches are also a great way to use up leftovers.

Favorite side dishes for quiche include a bowl of mixed fruit for breakfast or brunch. For lunch or dinner, add a green salad or tomato soup and a nice glass of white wine.



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**Quiche is an easy and elegant breakfast.**

Hopefully, this recipe will inspire your own custom quiche creations. Since you've baked it ahead, you can save your energy for making memories and mimosas.

### CLASSIC QUICHE LORRAINE

**Yield:** 6 servings **Time:** 1 hour

- 8 slices bacon (cooked crisp and crumbled)
- 1 cup whole milk
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 4 eggs (beaten)
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- Dash black pepper
- Pinch ground nutmeg

- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- 2 cups Swiss cheese, shredded
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 (9-inch) unbaked pastry shell

1. Preheat oven to 375 F.
2. In a mixing bowl, combine the milk, cream, eggs, salt, pepper, nutmeg and thyme, and beat well with a whisk or eggbeater. In another bowl, toss the cheese with the flour. Sprinkle cheese and crumbled bacon into the unbaked pastry shell.

3. Now, carefully pour the egg mixture into the pie shell.

4. Bake the quiche for 40 to 50 minutes, until egg mixture is mostly set and slightly puffed, and the top is golden. Let rest for 10 minutes, then slice into wedges to serve.

To Make Ahead: Bake the quiche and let it cool completely, then cover with plastic wrap and store in the refrigerator for up to three days, or freezer up to three months. Reheat loosely covered with foil in a 325 F oven for 15 to 20 minutes, or until warmed through.

TIP: Don't use half and half as a substitute for the

heavy cream and milk. Heavy cream is 38% fat and milk is 4%, so that the result is 21% fat. Half and half is only 12% fat, and while still delicious, gives a different end result.

\*\*\*

Lifestyle expert Patti Diamond is the penny-pinching, party-planning, recipe developer and content creator of the website "Divas On A Dime — Where Frugal, Meets Fabulous!" Visit Patti at [www.divasonadime.com](http://www.divasonadime.com) and join the conversation on Facebook at [DivasOnADimeDotCom](https://www.facebook.com/DivasOnADimeDotCom). Email Patti at [divapatti@divasonadime.com](mailto:divapatti@divasonadime.com)

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## Americanisms



“Christmas isn't a season.  
It's a feeling.”  
— Edna Ferber

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## Year-end strategy defer revenue and accelerate expense



David Zubler  
Columnist

If you have made a profit projection for the year and your taxes will be more than you had anticipated, this is a strategy that you may want to consider to reduce your taxes.

If you are using the cash basis for your tax return, revenue is determined by the date you receive it. For businesses using the accrual basis, revenue is determined based on when it is earned. The vast majority of small businesses are on the cash basis can have the ability to defer revenue. The accounting basis of your business is reported on your tax return. However, contact a tax professional if you aren't sure where to find it on the return.

If your business is currently using the accrual basis, you can change to the cash basis by filing Form 3115 to change the accounting method with the IRS. However, it would be a good idea to consult with an expert tax professional before making the change.

You will need to quit billing customers and patients near the end of the year. Customers and patients won't pay you if you haven't sent a bill. By postponing the December bills and sending them in early January, you can reduce your taxes by reducing your income.

Use the IRS Safe Harbor to pay your expenses in advance. IRS Regulation 1.263(a)-4(f) contains a safe harbor rule that enables cash-basis taxpayers to pay and deduct qualifying expenditures up to 12 months in advance without challenge by the IRS. Qualifying expenses include lease payments on vehicles, rent payments on offices, and business insurance. Prepaying

office rent and lease payments for up to a year can enable you to significantly increase your deductions. Consequently, taking advantage of this rule can have a huge impact on your tax liability.

If the advance rent paid payment will cause a problem for your landlord, the advance rent can be mailed on December 30. By mailing the advance rent payment on December 30, you can deduct it in the current year. This will keep your landlord happy since he will receive the rent in the year he expected it. He won't have to report the rental income a year early since he won't have received it until January. Use certified mail for the payment in case you need to provide proof of the date you mailed it to the IRS.

Before using this strategy, you should determine whether prepaying expenses makes sense. This will depend on your tax rate this year and your rate in future years. Keep in mind future changes in tax laws that might raise your taxes. If your income increases substantially next year, you could be better off not prepaying expenses and instead maximizing your deductions for next year.

*David Zubler is a tax accountant and Enrolled Agent in East Tennessee representing clients before the IRS and has over 25 years of tax experience. He is the author of four tax books and is the founder and president of Your Tax Care. The company provides business and tax education to the public at its website, YourTaxCare.com. David can be reached at (865) 363-3019 or contacted by email at zublerdavid@gmail.com.*

## SENIOR NEWS LINE

By Matilda Charles

### Christmas Dinner Happens on the Sly

The annual Christmas dinner at the senior center was a wonderful event, mostly because it didn't happen at all.

The original plan -- seniors sitting in a cold parking lot outside the center to eat food that would stay hot for maybe one minute -- was ditched by means of a petition to board members. That petition mentioned the absolute folly of the whole outdoor dining idea. The board's second plan was to host the dinner indoors, but for only one-third the number of guests, with clear Plexiglas shields on the tables, which would interfere with conversation.

There was a snap, an awakening, an audible collective click -- and the seniors said NO.

The former recre-

ation-center supervisor, who had quit after too many snarling meetings about yoga classes masked versus unmasked, was brought back to open the rec center. He'd fled to his cabin in the woods, tossing the keys to others, to sit out the insanity, at which point the town changed the locks. Once brought back, he quickly jimmed open the rec center door and installed a new lock, smiling the whole time.

Organizers came together in secret with not a word said to senior-center board members (or the town council). Tables and chairs were borrowed. One of the town's finer restaurants (the owner himself a senior) was coaxed into providing finger foods and drinks and two bartenders. A half dozen seniors who were in a band years ago regrouped to provide the music and play songs we actually knew.

The annual Christmas dinner turned dance party was a major hit, and just what we needed after this long pandemic lockdown. We ate and we mingled and we drank and we laughed and we danced. And long after what should have been bedtime for most of us, we were still there dancing.

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## FLASHBACK

By Mick Harper

1. Who first released "Hold Me, Thrill Me, Kiss Me," and when?
2. Name the group that had a hit with "Ms. Grace."
3. How many Billy Joe Royal songs topped the charts in the U.S.?
4. Belinda Carlisle was the lead singer for which band?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "Cause I have wandered through this world, And as each moment has unfurled, I've been waiting to awaken from these dreams."

### Answers

1. Karen Chandler, in 1952. However, it was Mel Carter's 1965 cover that topped the charts, spending 15 weeks on the Billboard Hot 100.
2. The Tymes, in 1975. The song was a hit in the U.K. while not getting much notice in the U.S. -- until it was discovered by Carolina beach shag dancers and became a popular staple.
3. None. "Down in the Boondocks," however, reached No. 1 in Canada.
4. The Go-Go's, the only female group to write their own material and play their own instruments.
5. "Doctor, My Eyes," by Jackson Browne in 1972. The song was written with a third verse that wasn't recorded but can be found on bootleg copies of the demo.

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# Santa Letters

## Coalfield School

### *Ms. Paula Melhorn* 2nd grade

Dear Santa, I've been very good! I want the Titanic submersible model. I also want a kitten. I want to see all my family for Christmas!  
Love,  
Elisha Corbin

Dear Santa, For Christmas, I want a new phone for my mom, to play outside, and I want snow for Christmas. Santa can you give my sisters American Girl Dolls? Give my stepdad the best Christmas. I would like a puppy. I hope you have the best Christmas.  
Love,  
Greyson Davis

Dear Santa, I've been good this year! I want a stuffed animal bunny, a Barbie, a toy dog, an art set, and American Girl doll stuff. A necklace, a toy ring, and a new tablet, please.  
Love,  
Haven Ferguson

Dear Santa, I would like a puppy, a kitten, orbeez squish balls, electric 4-wheeler, stuffed animal whale, a rose, a kite, a pop it, and an umbrella.  
Love,  
Phoenix Fritts

Dear Santa, I want a RC Boat for Christmas. I want a bunny RC car, a pop it, a RC truck, and money.  
Love,  
Teal Hamby

Dear Santa, I would like to ask for a Nintendo switch, chopper teeth, remote control spider car, and a mystery egg.  
Love,  
Leyland Hoggard

Dear Santa, I want a puppy and a \$100.00 gift card.  
Love,  
Malachi Justice

Dear Santa, I would like a bow and arrows, fitbit, a puppy after Christmas, Orbeez squish ball, stuffed animal, a dirt bike, a baby Yoda, a dimple, pop its, slime, a white board and leopard stuff, and an Ipad please. I've been good Santa!  
Love,  
Corbin Kring

Dear Santa, Can I have an American Girl doll, clothes and shoes for my doll and to see my Granny and my Grand Nana?  
Love,  
Alyna Lyles

Dear Santa, How have you been? Are elves real? I have been good this year. This year I want a model Titanic

Queen Mary and Britannic Ships. I will leave you milk and cookies and carrots for you reindeer.  
Love,  
Avery Lyles

Dear Santa, I want a 4 wheeler, a kitten, a skateboard for my mom and dad. I have been good at home.  
Love,  
Xander Shelley

Dear Santa, For Christmas I want a Barbie set, a horse set, a baby doll, and a real kitten.  
Love,  
Emory McMinn

Dear Santa, I have been good. I want American Girl doll stuff, five and below gift card, orbeez squish balls, an electric 4-wheeler. I want it to snow on Christmas Eve. Just make sure I get something, please.  
Love,  
Loralei Stubbs

Dear Santa, I wish for a bunny, a lego set, and play in the snow.  
Love,  
Rusty Tuggle

Dear Santa, I want a bike, orbeez squish balls, dimples, pop its, lava lamp, chromebook, ripped jeans, white sneakers, jumbo butterfly pop it, jumbo pop its, jumbo dog pop its, jumbo flamingo pop its, leopard phone case, black pop sock- et, barbies, Robux, dolls, new clothes, dog, spinner chair, books, new car, white paper, scented markers and highlighters, candy, play dough, and crayons.  
Love,  
Paisley Walls

## Oakdale School

### *Pre-K*

Gracie Barger- A Barbie  
Adilynn Beeler- Hello Kitty  
Sweet Food Truck  
Jaxon Northern- Transformer Action Figure  
Kali-Ann Connell- Barbie  
Dream House  
Oliver Disney- Spiderman and his Spy Vehicle  
Kade Hawes- Hot Wheels  
Remote Monster Truck  
Abel Honey- Among Us  
Action Figures  
Brayden Potter- Auto Pilot  
Stunt Drone  
Briar Redmon- Little Tykes  
Outside Cottage  
Kara Redmon- CoComelon  
Musical Yellow School Bus  
Adriel Rivera- A Baby Doll  
Hunter Snow- Paw Patrol:  
The Movie Deluxe Vehicle  
Adalynn Stafford- Hoverboard  
Daniel Tupper- Baby Yoda  
Stuffy  
Jay Wallace- Paw Patrol:  
Ultimate City Tower  
An Angel Friend- A Playdough Set

### *Mrs. Amber Kirby's Class –* 1st grade – Oakdale School

Dear Santa, Hey! I am Nolan. Is it snowing at the North Pole? I love Christmas! I want Pokémon cards and a Mewtwo figure, Xbox 5, and Legos. I love you Santa.  
Love,  
Nolan

Dear Santa, I want a hoverboard. I love the presents you gave me last year. I love reindeer. How do you make presents?  
Love,  
Brinley

Dear Santa, It is Cam. How is Rudolph doing? I've been thinking, how is Mrs. Claus doing? I would like an Xbox 5, Mine Craft, Mewtwo figure, Pokemon cards, a Pokemon set, light saber, and a Baby Yoda.  
Love,  
Cam

Dear Santa, How do your reindeer fly? I am six. I am in first grade. Thank you for all of the presents last year. Please get me a Hoverboard. How old are you?  
Love,  
Melina

Dear Santa, I am 8 years old and I love you. Thank you for last year's presents. How do you make your reindeer fly? I want a hoverboard for Christmas. I want a cozy puppy for Christmas. I want a LoL for my sister. I want a brand new black bike.  
Love,  
Kamden

Dear Santa, My name is Heavenly. I am 6 years old. I want a hoverboard. I want Legos. How do you make toys? I will make cookies.  
Love,  
Heavenly

Dear Santa, Merry Christmas! Thanks for all of the presents. I am Colton. And how do your reindeers fly? May I have a Halo water bottle? Can I have a dog?  
Love,  
Colton

Dear Santa, My elf is crazy. I do not like when people call you fat. And I do not know why Maverick touched the elf. So sorry about that. Santa, tell my elf to stop getting in candy!  
Santa, I want a doll for Christmas.  
Love,  
Ella

Dear Santa, Do you want to know how old I am? I am 6 years old. What does the North Pole look like? Well I guess this will be fun. So it will be so much fun!  
Love,  
Jaedin

Dear Santa, How do your reindeer fly? I am Lakynn and I am six years old. I love Santa. Thank you for the presents from last year. You make children happy. My family is happy because you give them presents. I love Mrs. Claus. You make people happy. I want a four wheeler.  
Love,  
Lakynn

Dear Santa, Merry Christmas! How is it in the North Pole? Santa how many reindeers do you have? I am seven years old. I would like an ipad. I would like a monster truck.  
Love,  
Cameron

Dear Santa, How do you ride reindeer? I am 7 years old. My name is Ashton. Thank you for all of the toys last year. I love you Santa. Can I have an RC car? Can I have a monster truck?  
Love,  
Ashton

Dear Santa, I am 7 years old. Merry Christmas! I liked the presents and Baby Yoda stuff. How old are you? Can I have an RC car and 10000000000000000 Hot Wheels, a PS5 or PS6, and a four wheeler?  
Love,  
Stacy

Dear Santa, Merry Christmas! How do you fine reindeer in the North Pole? How old are you? Can I have an r.c. car? Right now if you don't give me a RC car, I will be mad.  
Love,  
Tanner

Dear Santa, I love you. Santa I wish for my family to celebrate with me. I wish for a RC car for Clay. How do your reindeer fly? My name is Cartie and I am 6 years old. I want a doll. I want a hoverboard.  
Love,  
Cartie

### *Mrs. Kayla Walls's 1st* Grade

Dear Santa, How are you doing? How cold is it in the North Pole? I would like a Mincraft lego set. I'd also like a Mario leg set. Thank you Santa! Hope you have a great day!  
Love,  
Bruce T.

Dear Santa, How are you doing? Are the elves working hard? I want a dollhouse and a baby Alie. I would also enjoy a 100 piece Elsa puzzle. Thank you for all the presents. Love you Santa!  
Love,  
Liz P.

Dear Santa, How are you doing? How is Mrs. Claus? I also want lots of makeup. I want a rainbow bike. Thank you for building and giving everybody presents.  
Love,  
Leigha S.

Dear Santa, How are you doing? How is Mrs. Clou? How are the reindeer? Are the elves working hard? I would like a gray pair of Hay Dudes. Thank you!  
Love,  
Sawyer S.

Dear Santa, How are you doing? How is the reindeer? I want Pokemon cards but I promise I will not bring tem to school.  
Love,  
Brylee M.

Dear Santa, How are you and the reindeer doing? I would like you to bring me sets of fake nails. Thank you Santa! I hope you have a wonderful Christmas.  
Love,  
Clara R.

Dear Santa,How are you doing? How cold is it in the North Pole? I would like Minecraft legos and GXS Pokemon cards. I hope you have a great Christmas.  
Love,  
Dominic W.

Dear Santa, How are you doing? How cold is it in the North Pole? I want a lot of Pokemon cards. And I want a little bit of Nerf guns. I hope you have a good vacation! Thank you for making Christmas a great holiday!  
Love,  
Elijah M.

Dear Santa, How are you doing? How are the reindeer doing? I would like a Michael Myers doll. I also want a toy dog. Thank you for delivering toys! Have a great Christmas!  
Love,  
Vivian B.

Dear Santa, How are you doing? How is Mrs. Claus? Are the elves working hard? Are you having fun at the work shop? I want Pokemon cards and Pokemon figures.  
Love,  
Branson H.

Dear Santa, How are you doing? How are the reindeer doing? I want a Minecraft gun with targets. Thank you for giving presents to all the world.  
Love,  
Damine L.

Dear Santa, How is Mrs. Claus? How are the reindeer doing? I wanna mermaid doll. I would also like an American Girl doll.  
Love,  
Callie M.

Dear Santa, How are you doing? Are the elves working hard? I want a mermaid rockstar doll. Bring me a dirt bike too! Thank you for giving everyone presents. I love Santa.  
Love,  
Brynleigh B.

Dear Santa, How are you doing? How are the reindeer doing? I would like a white guitar. I also want 1000 Pokemon cards.  
Love,  
Kylar G.

Dear Santa, How are you doing? My question is do you know how to make roller skates? Do you know how to make make-up kits? I would like roller skates, make-up kits, and a unicorn toy. Love you, Santa!  
Love,  
Emily V.

### *Mrs. Kristi's 2nd* Grade Class

Dear Santa Claus, My name is Callen and I am 7 years old. What time do you think you are going to set the presents out? Can you please bring me a tree stand and hunting clothes. I will leave you milk and cookies.  
Love,  
Callen Bird

Dear Santa Claus, My name is Kaiden and I am 7 years old. What cooky do you like? Do you remember what I want? I would like a robot dinesor and lots of clothes. Will you bring everything I want? I hope you have a nice Christmas.  
Your friend,  
Kaiden Connell

Dear Santa Claus,My name is Neyland and I am 7 years old. Thank you for my fornite nerfgun last year. This year I want a iphone pro 13 and a tablet and hunting gear. How is Prancer and Dasher? Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Neyland Hamby

Dear Santa Claus,My name is Calem and I am 8 years old. Thank you for my elf on the shelf last year. I would like a basketball and a football. Thank you for last years presents. Merry Christmas!  
Your friend,  
Calem Helton

Dear Santa Claus,My name is Cian. I am 8 years old. Thank you for my gifts last year. I want an ipad for Christmas. Could you get me an elf pet this year? Would you please bring baby brother a toy that he likes? Merry Christmas!  
Love,  
Cian Kirby

# Santa Letters

Dear Santa Claus, My name is Aubrey Langley. I am 8 years old. I really want stuf for my room. I would like a horse lamp. I also really want some blue haire die and a shelf for the wall. Also a skateboard. What kind of cookies do you like? I will leave you some. Merry Christmas!  
Love,  
Aubrey Langley

Dear Santa Claus, My name is Truly and I am 7 years old. I would like a tablit for Christmas. Will the elves be comeing with you? My favorite present last year was a baby doll. Merry Christmas!  
Love,  
Truly Lee

Dear Santa Claus, My name is Ava and I am 7 years old. Thank you for my Christmas gifts last year. Is Rudolph coming with you? This year would you please send an elf to clean my room. I would also like a new pair of boots.  
Love,  
Ava Nelson

Dear Santa Claus, My name is Jonah and I am 7 years old. Thanks for the gifts last year. Is Rudolph coming? Can I please have a Roblox giftcard with the most robux possible? Can I also have a battery powered car that I can ride in and a hot wheels suitcase.  
Love,  
Jonah Norris

Dear Santa Claus, My name is Caroline and I am 8 years old. I loved the gifts last year. Do you like pepper-mint pies? I would like a Amazon Tablet and a Jumbo Cat Squishi. How old is Mrs. Claus? Will you get me Aden the cat? Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Caroline Pehrson

Dear Santa Claus, My name is Alex. I have 2 elves at my house. They are in my stocking. This year would you please bring me a LoL house, rainbow high doll, and a baby alive that grows. Merry Christmas Santa!  
Love,  
Alex Pineda

Dear Santa Claus, My name is Wyatt and I am 7 years old. Thank you for my gifts. This year please get me a robot to do my stuf at home. I would also like a Nintindo Switch and a Nintindo Switch charger. How is Rudolph? Merry Christmas!  
Sincerely,  
Wyatt Poore

Dear Santa Claus, My name is Elizabeth and I am 7 years old. How is Rudolph? Is he shy? Can you get a

Elsa doll can you Santa? Can the elves come to my house and clean it? Can I have a puppy for Christmas? Merry Christmas  
Love,  
Elizabeth Potter

Dear Santa Claus, My name is Brooklyn and I am 7 years old. Thank you for all my gifts last year. This year I would like a baby with some extra clothes for her. Do you have any kids? What are they asking for this year? Merry Christmas!  
Sincerely,  
Brooklyn Sexton

## *Melissa Langley's 2nd grade*

Dear Santa, I want a phon for Christmas and a tablit. I wude like a dog, new cowgrli boots, a new cowgrli hat, and toys. Have a safe trip.  
Love ya,  
Paisley Simpkins

Dear Santa, I would like a phone. I would also like some books. I would like some shoes to.  
Love,  
Isaiah Grizzle

Dear Santa, I would like squishies and fidgetes, and karoce cds. I would also like makeup and mini brands and a lego set. Have a grate Christmas.  
Sincerely,  
Zoey Summers

Dear Santa, I would like a PS4 for Christmas and mariocart sets and the new one. I would also like a pool and a rocket set. Santa thank you for my gifts last year. Santa I would also like v-bucks.  
Love,  
Leland Hamby

Dear Santa, My name is Noah. I would like a forwealer and a Fortnite Battle Royale figure. How are you guys doing at the north pole? Is my elf Budy ready to see me yet? All I no is that I'm ready. Can you send my sister a girl elf cause she is cumplaning cause we only have a boy one, but keep Budy coming?  
Love,  
Noah Gemignani

Dear Santa, Thank you for the presents you've given me. I would like a rc plane. I would also like donkeykong. I would appreciate it if you would also bring riders republic.  
Love,  
Easton Myers

Dear Santa, I would like to have some fidget popets and a trampalene and two pairs of Nike shoes. I want a new xbox and a new pc. I want

three fooballs and I want a new ornage baseball bat.  
Love,  
Malachi McGee

Dear Santa, Thank you for my gifts last year. I would like a x-box and a game for it. I would olsow like a art set. I would like the game Minercraft and I wont eny books.  
Sincerely,  
Nate Stafford

Dear Santa, How is Ms. Clos? I would like a new set of make-up and barbies. Ouh and I wat a puppy to. Thank you for my gifts!  
Love,  
Emery Redmon

Dear Santa, I would like some fidgets and some pollypocket. I would like some squishies Santa. Can I have makeup too and some minibrands?  
Love,  
Abbi Mathis

Dear Santa, I want a pool for Christmas. I want V-bucks for Christmas. I love Christmas.  
Love,  
Noah Powers

Dear Santa, How are you doing? Thank you for the gifts last year. I want 12 mini-brands. I also want a bunch of fidgets. I want some glass pigs. I also want glass horses. I also want a cage for my dog. I want dog blankets for when it gets very very cold. I want a robux gift card.  
Love,  
Aubree Smith

Dear Santa, I want a plushe for next Christmas. I would like a cat to. I want a secret basmint. You are the best Santa ever.  
Your friend,  
Emma Lowe

## **Petros-Joyner School**

### *Mrs. Margie Branstetter PreK Class*

Dear Santa Claus, This year I have been very nice. Please bring a black remote car for Owen and me, a Subscribe Channel, chocolate candy bar, Zoo Phonics Alphabet Cards, and a white car. I will be very nice to my sisters.  
Merry Christmas,  
McKinley

Dear Santa Claus, I have been very nice this year. Please bring me a Barbie Camper, a new blue helmet for my bicycle, a new big Barbie, a Barbie for Mary Lou, big kid makeup for Madeline and toy makeup for me. I will leave you cookies and milk.  
Merry Christmas, Morgan  
Dear Santa, I have very nice this year. I would like a nerf

gun, a water gun sniper, a train, and a teapot. I will leave cookies out for Santa.  
Merry Christmas,  
Case

Dear Santa, I have been very nice and I would like a motorcycle, blocks, a tablet, truck or a racecar, a flying thing you can catch Olike a helicopter) and a motorcycle I can ride. I will be good and love them.  
Merry Christmas,  
Carson

Dear Santa, I have been kinda nice. Please bring me a racetrack, cars and a Christmas Tree. I love you Santa. I will be a good boy at school and try to be nicer to my brother and sister. I will leave cookies, milk and a sea shell for you Santa.  
Merry Christmas,  
Zachary

Dear Santa Claus, This year I have been very nice. Please bring me some JoJo stuff, baby doll stuff, a baby doll, 101, OMG dolls, Barbies, some mini brands, big and little LOL Dolls. I would like 20,000 dollars, 1,000 dollars, and \$20,016. I will buy stuff for Santa Clause. I will help everybody for life and I will leave you some milk and cookies. I can't wait to see you!  
Merry Christmas,  
Abrie

Dear Santa, I have been very nice. I would like a Big T-Rex, a Spiderman Web Shooter, and nerf guns. I will be good and leave cookies and milk for you and carrots for your reindeer.  
Merry Christmas,  
Zyan

Dear Santa, I have been nice this year. Please bring me a Mario Game, my size roller skates, and dinosaurs. I will also like a Dinosaur Halloween Costume for me and a new doll for Ava. I will leave cookies and chocolate milk for you Santa and carrots for your reindeer.  
Merry Christmas,  
Ezra Harvey

Dear Santa Claus, I have been very nice this year. Please bring me a puppy, a kitten, and a robot toy. I will leave good cookies with milk for lots of days.  
Merry Christmas, Emory Heidle

Dear Santa Claus, I have been very nice this year. I would like a Barbie, roller skates, some gymnastics stuff, and a Baby Doll Alive so I can feed her. I will be a good girl.  
Merry Christmas,  
EmmyLou

Dear Santa Claus, I have been very nice this year. Please bring me Rainbow High Dolls, Girl skateboard, and a Build a Bear gift card. Please bring my brother a Hot Wheel and my Mom a

new ring. I will do good in school, go to church, say my prayers, and clean my room.  
Merry Christmas,  
Brooklynn

Dear Santa Claus, I have been kinda nice this year. Please bring me a pop it, Mini Brands, Surprise Eggs, and Ryan's World Refrigerator. I will be nice to others.  
Merry Christmas,  
Colton

Dear Santa Claus, I have been very nice this year. Please bring me a Barbie Dream House, a baby doll, Mermaid Tail, a Baby Yoda, and a toy phone. I will be waiting. I love you.  
Merry Christmas,  
Cashlyn

Dear Santa Claus, I have been very nice this year. Please bring me a remote-control car, a toy robot, a Red Power Ranger Toy and a remote-control blue car for my brother. I will be quiet when it's nap time, help clean up and eat all of my food.  
Merry Christmas,  
Isaiah

Dear Santa Claus, I have been very nice this year. Please bring me a Squeekz, Squeeke Mini, kid makeup, and a Pop It. Please bring a baby toy piano for my brother and a toy head for Maddie to put make up on and one for me too. I will leave cookies and milk for you Santa and carrots for Rudolf.  
Merry Christmas,  
Freya

Dear Santa Claus, I have been very nice this year. Please bring me a Minnie Mouse Store, Chapstick, and presents wrapped in paper. I will leave you milk and cookies.  
Merry Christmas,  
Norah

Dear Santa Claus, I have been kinda nice this year. Please bring me a Rainbow High Doll, a scooter, a Rainbow High Doll House, and my Mommy a watch. I will be very nice at school and not potty in my pants!  
Merry Christmas,  
Maurlena

Dear Santa Claus, I have been very nice this year. Please bring me a squishy stuffed animal, an owl chair, a new Elsa with her Ice Horsey, Elsa and her sister, Elsa House, and a chocolate backpack. Please bring a firefighter toy for my brother. I will leave out carrots for the reindeer and cookies for Santa.  
Merry Christmas,  
Ava Vann

Dear Santa Claus, I have been very nice this year. Please bring me a toy banana squishy, chalk board with chalk, a Unicorn glitter slime, a slide, a big tram-

poline. Please bring one squishy toy tractor for my little brother and a dinosaur toy for my cousin. I will be good and listen to Mrs. Margie and Ms. Gay.  
Merry Christmas,  
Raylee

Dear Santa Claus, I have been very nice this year. Please bring me a big master truck, a big Ole racecar, Big Ole Squish Mallows, LeBron James Hoodie, Space Jam PJ's, Space Jam toys, Drone Captain America toy, LeBron James Coloring book and a riding toy for my little brother. I will keep being good and give Santa money and leave some cookies and milk on a tray for you.  
Merry Christmas,  
Silas

## *Ms. Claudia Howard Kindergarten*

Dear Santa, I have been a very good girl this year. I would like a barbie lego set. I would like some more toy food for my dolls, barbie clothes and accessories.  
Merry Christmas Santa!  
Love,  
Alydia-Kait Duncan

Dear Santa, I would like to have a big Barbie dream house and with new Barbie dolls and LOL dolls and if you could bring my little brother Mayson a black venom. We want a real puppy. I have been a good girl this year. I will leave you some milk and cookies.  
Love,  
MaHayla Nunley

Dear Santa, I want a Barbie camper, a Barbie house and an LOL bike. Love you Santa. I've tried to be good. I am sorry if I wasn't. Please put me on the nice list.  
Love,  
Aria Davis

Dear Santa, I have been a very good girl. I would like to have my very own big Barbie house. And a huggy wuggy plushie. And a makeup set. Thank you.  
Love,  
Lilly Taylor

Dear Santa, My name is Gauge and I am 6 years old and I want a farms and a pop it. I want a cowboy hat too. I have to be good and nice.  
Thank you, Gauge Jones

Dear Santa, This is Jayden. I want a hoverboard, skateboard and a mincraft game for the nintendo switch.  
Thank you, Jayden Ramsey

Dear Santa, I've tried real hard all day long to be a good girl so can I please have a Furreal friend that is a kangaroo with a baby roo for Christmas.  
P.S. Please tell Rudolph that I think his nose is cool.  
Love, Winter Mize

# Santa Letters

Dear Santa, Merry Christms! I would like army legos please!  
Love,  
Deklan Briggs

Dear Santa, I would like toys for Christmas. I want a monster truck, a race track and clothes.  
Thanks,  
Thomas (TJ) Davis

Dear Santa, I want a suicide squad plushy, hoverboard, bike, basketball, wrestlers and adidas clothes.  
Love,  
Xaiden Hensley

Dear Santa, I've been a good boy this year. I think and I really want a dirtbike like my brother Waylynn but will settle for a camo real-tree bike 16 inch at Walmart if you think I'm too small for the dirt bike. Thanks and please take care of my cousins Gunnar, Austin, Willow, Emory, River, Carson and Gab.  
Love,  
Harlynn Bunch

Dear Santa, I have been a somewhat good boy this year and I would really like to have a dirt bike but if you think I'm too small for that I will take a 16 inch bike camo real tree one at Walmart. And more than anything please take care of my little cousins Gunnar, Austin, Willow, Emory, River, Carson, and Gab.  
Thanks.  
Love,  
Waylynn Bunch

Dear Santa, I have been a really good boy this year. I love my mom and dad and everyone else in my family. And I hope all my family and friends get everything they asked for, for Christmas. All I want for Christmas is XBOX games, action figures, a blue bicycle and money to buy what I want and for everyone to have a "Merry Christmas".  
Love,  
Braydon Turpin

## ***Ms. Sarah Stout's First Grade Class***

Dear Santa Claus, I have been good. I would like a gas powered late model, a marble track, and pop its.  
Love from,  
Kamdyn

Dear Santa Claus, I would like LOL Dolls, Hey Dude Shoes, and a fake car. Love from,  
Adilyn

Dear Santa Claus, I want a stuffaloons, Just Dance 2022 for my Switch, Lol Dolls, and a frog puppet. PS I've been very good. Love from,  
Lily

Dear Santa Claus, I love you. This year I want a rainbow high doll house.  
Love from,  
Haley

Dear Santa Claus, For Christmas I want a LOL Doll House and a karaoke machine. Love from,  
Maysea

Dear Santa Claus, I want a hover board, a Playstation 5, and a piggy bank. Hot wheels, too! Love from,  
Liam

Dear Santa Claus, I want a race car book, hat, and stuffed animal toys. Love from,  
LJ

Dear Santa Claus, I want a cheerleader pom poms and a camera. Love from,  
Raelynn

Dear Santa Claus, I want to feed the reindeers. I would want a Paw Patrol toy. I love your reindeers and you. Thank you for letting me feed your reindeers. I love you forever. Love from,  
Malia

Dear Santa Claus, I want a water gun, some fidgets, big popits, some crayons, markers, a mini black board, and a maze ball. Love from,  
Mavrik

Dear Santa Claus, I want a big playground, Lambo hotwheels, and a pellet gun.  
Love from, Kolt

Dear Santa Claus, I want a nerf gun, air hockey, popits, and paper. Love from,  
Ashtyon

Dear Santa Claus, Please bring me some car. I will leave you some cookies.  
Love from, Keegan

Dear Santa Claus, I would like a X-Box with games like Batman and Robin, Lego game for my Nintendo and fortnite for playstation. I also would like any kind of racecar set and a remote control monster truck. Please bring my sister Paisley 2 babies and lipstick. My sister Aubree wants scentsy for her room. Love from, Levi

Dear Santa Claus, My name is Bryce. I want a lego set for Christmas. I have a brother and a sister. Please can you get them a present? Thank you. Love from,  
Bryce

Dear Santa Claus, I want some stuff on toca boca. I want a reborn silicone. I want a new iPad. Love from,  
Nevaeh

Dear Santa Claus, I want a PS5, a wrestling ring what characters, a hot wheels

track, and a swing set. Please bring my sister some baby dolls. Love from,  
Bo

Dear Santa Claus, I want a slime doll, lol doll, slime maker, baby yoda, and a camera. Love from  
Bentley

Dear Santa Claus, My name is Maleena. I want paints, Na! Na! Surprise, mini brands, stuffed toys, coloring books, Harry Potter stuff for my brother, paint pens, and some color pencils. I would also like to have some color chalk. I also like LOL toys. Love from,  
Maleena

Dear Santa Claus, I want a PS5, baby yoda leggos, uno shooter, and a game for my Nintendo switch. Love from,  
Brently

Dear Santa Claus, I want polly pockets, fort nite, rodbloxx, fidgets, wooden blocks, new shoes and a football. Love from,  
Millie

Dear Santa Claus, I would like a giant stuffed unicorn, a gymnastics mat, and a snow globe. Love from,  
Daisy

Dear Santa Claus, I want my ears pierced and earrings, LOL dolls, fidgets, and a stuffed bear. Love from,  
Dorothy

Dear Santa Claus, I would like a Black Panther mask, Forky, Hulk, monster trucks, Hulk Buster, Spiderman doll, Batman car, and a Batman toy. Love from,  
Junior

Dear Santa Claus, I want a hover board, LED lights, a giant unicorn pop it, and 10,000 mini brands. Love from,  
Karma

Dear Santa Claus, I want 10,000 shopkins, a heart pop it, a giant mermaid pop it, a big toy car, and leggos. Love from,  
Trinity

## ***Stephanie Wright's Class***

Dear Santa, I would like a basketball. I would also like a Minecraft dungeon character.  
Love,  
Jake

Dear Santa, I want a basketball. I would like Adidas clothes.  
Love,  
Sebastian

Dear Santa, I would like Airsoft toys. I want the

game, War Zone. I want Nerf guns, please. I also want V-bucks.  
Love,  
Easton

Dear Santa, I want a Farming Simulator 22. I also want new shoes. I want some new long-sleeved shirts.  
Love,  
Colt

Dear Santa, I would like a toy kitten. I would like a PlayStation. I would also like a bicycle that looks like a reindeer. I would like a four-wheeler and helmet.  
Love,  
Zoe

Dear Santa, I want a chicken plush animal. I also want a real chicken. I would like a Nerf gun.  
Love,  
Chase

Dear Santa, Can I have a football? Can I have a basketball?  
Love,  
Dakota

Dear Santa, I want an X-box. I want an Apple Watch. I want Madden 2020 for the X-box.  
Love,  
Isaac

Dear Santa, I want a hoodie that has a cat on it. I want a new pair of shoes. I want an LOL toy. I also want a basketball.  
Love,  
Martha

Dear Santa, I would like a four-wheeler and helmet. I would an RC lifted-up monster truck. I would also like a football.  
Love,  
Leeland

Dear Santa, I want a basketball. I want a stuffed animal. I want an RC toy truck. I also want a bike.  
Love,  
Issac

Dear Santa, I would like a basketball. I want a trampoline. I would also like a pop-it.  
Love,  
Mary Lou

Dear Santa, Can I please have a Christmas bear? Could I have one of those Scentsy stuffed animals that you brought me last year? Could you bring me a kid-sized playhouse for outside? Would you make sure my brother gets a dinosaur and that Mommy, Daddy & Ezra have a Merry Christmas?  
Love,  
Ava

Dear Santa, I would like a four-wheeler and helmets for my family. I would like a dirt bike (with helmet). I have wanted one my whole life. I want a basketball hoop. I would like a Nerf gun. I would like a motorcycle (with a strong

helmet).  
Love,  
William

Dear Santa, I would like a unicorn necklace. I would also like matching earrings. I want a unicorn retractable leash. And could I have a pack of markers.  
Love,  
Maddie

Dear Santa, I want a RC car. I would like some Nerf guns. I would like some V-bucks.  
Love,  
Jase

## **Sunbright School**

### ***Mrs. Tasha and Mrs. Amber - Pre K***

Dear Santa, I want a doll that walks and talks and some candy.  
Love, Peyton Moberly

Dear Santa, I love you Santa Clause! I want a Doc McStuffins glitter set, princess beauty salon that has hair things and a Minnie Mouse playset with a Minnie Mouse car and Daisy Duck.  
Love, Navaeh Howard

Dear Santa, I want a BB gun Ghostbusters gun that collects ghosts and a big robot.  
Love, Liam Murray

Dear Santa, I want a baby doll, Barbie Dolls, toy reindeer, and a nail polish .  
Love, Waylon Adkins

Dear Santa, I want a lot of Legos, a big truck, a remote controlled semi truck and a remote controlled rocket. I want some farm toys and a tractor.  
Love, Van Carter

Dear Santa, I want big boy Hot Wheels thing that has a dinosaur. I also want a toy train and some new headphones. All of the Fortnite toys from the video game.  
Love, John Ryker Spurling

Dear Santa, I want a real phone, nail polish, lipstick, and make up. I want a glitter gaming chair, chocolate candy, and the Pie Face game. I want some baby dolls and a unicorn toy.  
Love, Sophia Evans

Dear Santa, I want some Gingerbread, make up, baby dolls and a unicorn toy.  
Love, Bella James

Dear Santa, I want more Love Diana toys, adventure set and the Love Diana Superhero girl.  
Love, Caliope Freeman

Dear Santa, I want lots of makeup, nail polish, and hair stuff  
Love, Maci Durham

Dear Santa, I want some hair bows, make up and some nail polish and a prin-

cess beauty doll.  
Love, Natalie Hall

Dear Santa, I want a Big monster truck, Lego sets, and a football.  
Love, Jaxson Keeton

### ***Mrs. Amanda Kennedy's Kindergarten***

Dear Santa, Thank you for joy! I want a computer, a hoverboard, a phone, and I want the new Barbie dream camper. I am going to leave you some cookies!  
Love,  
Kylee

Hi Santa! Can I have a skateboard and a Barbie dream toy camper please! I want us to have a good day! I miss you!  
Love,  
Lyla

Dear Santa, Hi! I want a kid's camera! I left you something in the Santa mailbox.  
Love,  
Ariana

Dear Santa, I want some roller skates, a robot toy, and a puzzle.  
Love,  
Landyn

Dear Santa, Will you bring me a toy racecar and a Barbie house?  
Love,  
Bethany

Dear Santa, How are you? What I really want is a big wolf and it is really fluffy. There's a cafe by all of the toys!  
Love, Amelia

Dear Santa, I love you! I want a dirt bike for Christmas, a monster truck, a toy house, and a playstation 5.  
Love,  
Elijah

Dear Santa, Hi Santa! What are you going to bring me for Christmas? I want you to bring me a bike with no training wheels and a hoverboard and a Barbie dream house. I want a little mini four wheeler and a snow globe. I am going to leave you some cookies and milk and chocolate with mint and a mint candy cane.  
Love,  
Braellee

Dear Santa, What are you doing? I want an Ipad and an electric car. I am going to leave you a present!  
Love,  
Bryce

Dear Santa, I want a motorbike and a real rocket ship and a real phone and a toy Rudolph!  
Love,  
Aaron

Dear Santa, Will you bring me a camera?  
Love,  
Hudson

# Santa Letters

Dear Santa, I like LOL's!  
Love,  
Josallynn

Dear Santa, I would like an Optimus Prime! I want a toy truck and a real phone but not a toy one! Is Rudolph going to pull your sleigh?  
Love,  
Aslin

Dear Santa, Will you bring me a baby Yoda and I want a Rudolph! And I want a real fox! I am going to leave you a piece of candy!  
Love,  
Addison

Dear Santa, I would really like a toy horse! I got a Christmas list at the house!  
Love,  
Maci

Dear Santa, I want a real unicorn with magic! I want a picture with Santa Claus!  
Love,  
Rose

Dear Santa, I would like a kid size motorcycle and a toy stove and a donut. I am going to leave you some cookies and milk!  
Love,  
Coda

Dear Santa, I want a sling-shot and a RC car.  
Love,  
Lincoln

Dear Santa, I want LOL dolls, tennis shoes, and a baby alive.  
Love, Abigail

## ***Deanna Keeton - Kindergarten***

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas, I would like a bow and arrow. I would also like a Barbie. Please bring my sister a baby doll and my baby sister some baby toys. My mom would like a new soft blanket and my dad would like some new headphones. Thank you Santa.  
McKinley F.

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas, I would like a Planet Simple Dimple Fidget Toy. My sister would like some more Mini Brands. Please also bring my mom and dad some gifts. I love you Santa.  
Konnor

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas, I would like a Present Pet. I would also like a basketball goal and a basketball. Please bring my brother a phone. My mom wants a laundry shoot and please bring my dad something also.  
River

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas, I would like a Barbie house with some

Barbies. I also would like a toy unicorn and Legos.  
Thank you Santa.  
Adalyn

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas, I would like a some Mario Games. I would also like to have a new basketball. Please bring my mom a shirt and my dad a new hat. Thank you Santa.  
Ben

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas, I would like a basketball and a Christmas Lamp. I would also like a third cat. Thank you Santa. I love you.  
Keara

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas, I would like a lot of Dinosaur toys. Please bring my sister some unicorn toys and my mom a new tea pot and my dad some presents. My grandma would like a new teacup.  
Thank you Santa.  
McKinley N.

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas, I would like a Tiger Happy Napper and a toy unicorn that I can ride on and also a Mini Mouse Kitchen. Thank you Santa.  
SarahNaomi

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas, I would like a basketball that lights up and a basketball hoop. I also would like a bow and arrow. Please bring my little brother a toy computer and toy jet. Thank you Santa.  
Kenny

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas, I would like a bunny and a lunch box. Please bring my sister some toys and a unicorn. I love you Santa. Ryder  
Dear Santa, This year for Christmas, I would like some toys and a toy lion. Thank you Santa.  
Johnny

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas, I would like a make-up playset and pretend scissors. Please bring my sister a toy horse. Thank you Santa.  
Payton

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas, I would like a dirt bike and a dog. Thank you Santa.  
Parker

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas, I would like a doll and a doll house and paw patrol toys. Thank you Santa.  
Kyriee

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas, I would like some stuffed animals and some cars. I also would like some Pop Its. I love you Santa.  
Conner

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas, I would like a bike, blocks and some toys. I would also like a cake. Please bring my sister a Barbie Doll. Thank you Santa.  
Waylon

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas, I would like some Neverland toys, a ball and some more toys. I love you Santa.  
Bradley

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas, I would like a soft blanket with unicorns on it and a unicorn toy. I would also like a doll and a dollhouse. I love you Santa.  
Emma

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas, I would like a Star Wars Barbie Doll, Walkie Talkies and a baby doll. Please bring me and my sister some little live pigs also. My mom and dad would like some Christmas Candy. Thank you Santa.  
RaeLynn

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas, I would like a baby doll and a doll house. Please bring my mom, dad and brother some presents also. I love you Santa.  
Cheyenne

## ***Mrs. Luara's 1st Grade***

Dear Santa, I want a baby doll stroller and a baby crib with a kitchen.  
Love Faith

Dear Santa, I want a Barbie car, and I would love a poppit. I want a fish. I want a cat.  
Love Pailsynn Romine

Dear Santa, I would like a mermaid tail.  
Love Sapphira

Dear Santa, I love you. I want a bat and ball and I miss you.  
Love Elijah Hanners

Dear Santa, I want LOL dolls and lots and lots of toys. Oh and 2 horses.  
Love Shyann Reed

Dear Santa, I want an Elf of the Shelf.  
Love Luke Artech

Dear Santa, I want a sheriff costume and an Elf on the Shelf.  
Love Kellin Starkey

Dear Santa, I want a cat and candy please. I've been good this year.  
Love Clyde Krause

Dear Santa, I want a doll box, and a LOL work baby.

Love  
Casey Burchfield

Dear Santa, I want a horse. I want Brennan to get better. I want a unicorn, cat, dog, and doll.  
Love  
Karlie Weaver

Dear Santa, What I want for Christmas is a whole bag of LOL surprises, and a barbie dream house, and 15 LOL dolls, 17 my little ponies, and 99 pops surprises.  
Love  
Brennan York

Dear Santa, I would like an LOL doll, and a robot dog. I want a grinch doll. I want a play house.  
Love  
Alyssa Mason

Dear Santa, I want a cat, rabbit, and unicorn.  
Love  
Ivy Daniels

Dear Santa, I want a toy cat and dog. I want a real dog and a real cat.  
Love  
Victoria Jones

Dear Santa, I wish you would get me an Xbox or a PS5 or a nerf sniper rifle. Please get me a 4wheeler or a dirt bike. P.S. I want a rifle  
Love  
Lincoln Griffith

## ***Paula McKinney-Davis 2nd Grade***

Dear Santa, I have been good this year. I have done my chores. Please bring me a four wheeler, trampoline, and a big Chrome book. Thank you, Braxton Barnes  
Dear Santa, I was good this year. I did chores and took my dog out. Please bring me makeup, food for my kitchen set, baby doll clothes, baby's house, and hot cocoa for my elf. Thank you,  
Jayme Massey

Dear Santa, I have been good. Please, can you bring me a cap pistol, Camo pants, shirt, boots, gloves and toboggan?  
Thank you,  
Jaden Chambers

Dear Santa, I have been good. I did my chores. Please bring me a Chrome book, Rubix cube, and a giant humongous puppet. Thank you,  
Gabriel Miller

Dear Santa, I have been good this year. I did my chores and I have been helping my Nana. Will you please bring me a four-wheeler, a go-cart, and a trampoline?  
Thank you,  
Chanelle Webb

Dear Santa, I have been doing my homework and getting good grades this year. Please bring me a rainbow

bike, Barbie house, Pop-its, art kit, and a trampoline.  
Thank you,  
Taylei Harris

Dear Santa, I've been a good girl. I've done my chores. I'm wishing for a video game, baby fox, baby wolf, VR set, and a puppy for Christmas.  
Thank you,  
Sara Todd

Dear Santa, I have been good. I did my homework. Please bring me a LOL, a puppy, a game, a mini brands, and an elf on the shelf.  
Thank you,  
Addison Schwartz

Dear Santa, I've been good this year. I helped my little sister. Please bring me a baseball and a bat, a horse, a VR set, and a new hat.  
Thank you,  
Gavin Chapman

Dear Santa, I have been pretty good this year. I have got my homework done. Please bring me a baby fox, a baby wolf, a fur suit, a VR set, and a baby cat.  
Thank you,  
Victoria Brown

Dear Santa, I have been very good this year. I help my mom and dad. I wish for a bunny, rainbow high dolls, a giant Pop-It, an LOL doll, and a drone.  
Thank you,  
Sirrenna Hatmaker

Dear Santa, I have been so good. I help my mom and dad. Please bring me some Camo boots, cowboy hat, and a cowboy belt.  
Thank you,  
Bentley Kennedy

Dear Santa, I've been good this year. I've gotten almost all A's in school. I've been nice and kind of mean to Konnor. I wish for a Hoverboard, medium guitar, and doll outfits.  
Thank you,  
Haydin Goad

Dear Mom and Dad, I've been good this year. I've gotten good grades. Please bring me a go-cart, baseball bat and glove, and clothes.  
Thank you,  
Jonah Henry

## **Wartburg Central Elementary**

### ***Mrs. Rebecca's and Mrs. Tiffany's Pre-K***

Dear Santa, He loves me. I want a gun and a hoverboard. I also want some candy. I want Meme.  
Chasen Williams

Dear Santa, Thank you for Santa and Jesus. I want Santa to bring me legos. Mommie said she would tell Santa what I want for Christmas. I love you.  
Brynlee Williams

Dear Santa, I would like a Spongebob, a puppy dog, a sucker, sissy one too, and I would like a new baby doll. I love you. Brooke

Dear Santa, I want an orange LOL box, squishy pops and a big doll house. I will leave milk and cookies when you come. Love,  
Addie Mae

Dear Santa, . I'm 3 years old. For Christmas this year I'd like to have sea animals and dinosaurs. My favorite sea animal is an orca and my favorite dinosaurs are T-Rex and Spinosaurus. Me and my baby sister will play with them. Also, what I really want for Christmas is my new baby sister to be big and healthy just like me so we can go to Sea World and watch orcas splash and see the sea lions. Trey Sawyer West

Dear Santa, Ho ho ho, Merry Christmas Santa. I love you dear Santa. For Christmas I want a prince and a queen and a yo-yo and I should always get a fun thing for Stevie (little sister). And can we get Stevie a fun thing? Can I also get a lady for Stevie. Love,  
Marley

I want Santa to catch a big fish and a little fish to bring to me and I want a monster truck. Love, Grayson Mason

### ***Ms. Jessica Armes' PreK***

Dear Santa, I have been nice this year. Would you please bring me a dirt bike and a bike for Christmas?  
Love,  
Neyland

Dear Santa, I have been nice this year. Would you please bring me a golden bike and a rainbow bike for Christmas?  
Love,  
Carter

Dear Santa, I have been trying my best this year. Would you please bring me glow in the dark gloves and a bike with a horn for Christmas?  
Love,  
Waylon

Dear Santa, I have been nice this year. Would you please bring me a barbie and Frozen dolls for Christmas?  
Love,  
Addison

Dear Santa, I have been trying my best this year. Would you please bring me a rainbow bike, kinetic sand and a doll house for Christmas?  
Love,  
Wayleigh

Dear Santa, I have been nice this year. Would you please bring me a Barbies, LOL Dolls and a Barbie house for Christmas?  
Love, McKenna

# Santa Letters

Dear Santa, I have been trying my best this year. Would you please bring me a rainbow hair doll for Christmas?  
Love,  
Jaxon

Dear Santa, I have been trying my best this year. Would you please bring me Frozen dolls and magnets for Christmas?  
Love,  
Blakelynn

Dear Santa, I have been trying my best this year. Would you please bring me a race car track and race cars for Christmas?  
Love,  
Mason

Dear Santa, I have been nice this year. Would you please bring me Sonic toys for Christmas?  
Love,  
Brenton

Dear Santa, I have been trying my best this year. Would you please bring me a teddy bear, a bike and coloring book for Christmas?  
Love,  
Le'ila

Dear Santa, I have been nice this year. Would you please bring two Barbies for Christmas?  
Love,  
Kendall

Dear Santa, I have been nice this year. Would you please bring me a Barbie, a spiny thing and crayons for Christmas?  
Love,  
Kassidy

Dear Santa, I have been trying my best this year. Would you please bring me a train set, a doctor set and a police car for Christmas?  
Love,  
Gavin

Dear Santa, I have been nice this year. Would you please bring me a Barbie Food truck and a Barbie for Christmas?  
Love,  
Emmaire

Dear Santa, I have been nice this year. Would you please bring me a dirt bike, a robot and remote for Christmas?  
Love,  
Kaleb

Dear Santa, I have been nice this year. Would you please bring me a spinner spinner with ten balls for Christmas?  
Love,  
Niko

Dear Santa, I've been a good boy this year. On a scale of 1-10 I've been a 5. I want a hunting bicycle that's Camo, A calculator, And new bb gun to shoot a big buck, And a real John

Deere skid steer so I can dig holes for my uncle Keith, Tell Rudolph the shiny nose hi for me.  
Love,  
Reece Thacker

## *Ms Cindy Maden's Kindergarten*

Dear Santa, I want a LOL doll for Christmas. I have been a very good girl.  
Lyla Landrum

Dear Santa, I would like a skateboard and a WW slam motorcycle. Please bring my friend a makeup set I also want a nerf gun I also would like a playhouse  
Love  
Kendyl Gouge

Dear Santa, I've been a good boy this year. I would like red headphones, Paw Patrol toys, soft Paw Patrol chair, new shoes like red ones, Red BB gun. Is it cold in the North Pole? I want a paw patrol phone, PJ masks bed like a sleeping bag. That's all!  
Love  
Bentley Seay

Dear Santa, I've been a good boy. I would like a razor. A santa toy. A toy car with controller. Spiderman that shoots webs.  
Tyson Lecomte

To Santa, real dog, 3-D pen, popits, American girl doll kitchen  
Telylee Dagley

Dear Santa, How do you make the presents? What kind of wrapping paper do you use? This year I would like these presents, art kit and a hair styling kit Thank you Santa. Carollynn Staples

Santa I hope I am on the nice list. I want popits clips clips, necklaces, ring, bracelet and art machine. 3-D pen, pretend glasses, dog, candy.  
Jonalyn Dagley

Dear Santa, I really want a yo-yo, a pooping flamingo, new pajamas, new backpack, Feather earrings, new clock, a new dress, a water bottle, a really soft blanket. I will make you cookies and milk. And food for the reindeer  
Love,  
Tinsley Vann

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas I would like:  
1. pencils  
2. puppy toy  
3. Carhart jacket  
4. Cow picture  
5. Headbands!  
Love,  
Southern G.

Santa, Crown wand, Barbie

playhouse, Barbie make up set unicorn stuffed animal a princess toy phone.  
Love,  
Tessa Hall

Santa, I would like a baby lion a gaming computer hover board and another gaming computer with computer desk for Christmas this year thank you.  
Callan Lee

Dear Santa, for Christmas I want shirts and shoes. I also want hot wheels. I have been very good  
Love,  
Peyton Renee

Dear Santa, I have been a good boy this year. I would love a PJ mask HQ toy. I love hot wheels cars too. There are several race tracks I have seen that look cool too. I can't wait for you to come visit me! Love,  
Heath Roop

Dear Santa, I have been a good girl all year here is my Christmas list please!

1. LOL doll
  2. Stuffed dog
  3. Stuff that lots up
  4. Dress and with flowers
  5. Boots
  6. and a hover board
- Thank you with lots of Love Laylah Wilke  
Dear Santa, I want a unicorn for Christmas, cat and shirts, I also a notebook to write letters.  
I love you,  
Paisley Green

Dear Santa Please bring me a moana dress, bath robe.  
Love  
Andi Kate

Dear Santa, My name is Eva Duncan I am five years old. I live in Lansing Tennessee, which is quite far from your place in the north pole. Are you and your ales busy getting ready for the holidays? My family sure is! I'm looking forward to your visit in our house. You see, I tried my best to be nice this year. The Nice things I did for my teacher is helping her. This Christmas, my wishes are rollerskates, skateboard, and laptop. I also wish for a play unicorn for my friend Brinley. They've been really nice this year. Merry Christmas, Santa!  
PS say hi to Mrs. clause and Rudolph for me.  
Your pal,  
Ava Duncan

## *Mrs. Robyn Bunch's Kindergarten*

Dear Santa, I've been good. I want a dirt bike, a RC car, an Indominus Rex toy, a building playset and that's it. I haven't baked your cookies yet.  
Love,  
Andrew Seiber

Dear Santa, I've been good. I want a BB gun, another gun, Legos, play dough, and puzzles. I'm leaving you milk and cookies.  
Love,  
Payton Seiber

Dear Santa, I've been good, so I want Barbies, a poppit, a Santa Claus poppit, jingle bells, a Barbie set, and Barbie clothes. I want real baby chickens because mom won't buy them. Mom might get mad at you. I'm gonna laugh!  
Love,  
Aubree Lester

Dear Santa, I've been good. I want a set of big monster trucks, a big set of race cars, a race track with 15 cars and another car set. I want a swing set too. I'm leaving you and the reindeer cookies and carrots.  
Love,  
Matthew Winters

Dear Santa, I want a mask, a rope, a remote control airplane and I want a scope for BB guns. My sister wants a big fluffy unicorn. I'm leaving milk and cookies and carrots.  
Love, Jesse Clark

Dear Santa, I've been good! I want a teddy bear for Christmas. And get my doggie a nice present. Mommy and DaDa want a gift card and make moms present a secret gift. I'll leave milk and cookies.  
Love,  
Camryn Swint

Dear Santa, I've been good. I love my mom. I want a Barbie house, a new Barbie doll, and clothes for my Barbies. Then I want new bedsheets for my bed. My mommy needs more bedsheets.  
Love,  
Paisley Shepherd

Dear Santa, I've been good. I want a toy kitchen, a toy phone, and a toy refrigerator. I want some toy food. Noah wants a kitchen door and a rock star guitar. I got you carrots for the reindeer.  
Love,  
Xander Landrum

Dear Santa, I hope you get me a nice present and my sister Zoria a nice present too! I want a JoJo Siwa backpack and hairbow. Get my teacher a cellphone. I'm leaving candy canes and cookies and milk.  
Love,  
Avyanna Hamby

Dear Santa, I've been good. I love you! I'm gonna give you a present. I would like a cute baby walrus, he is so cute. My daddy is silly, he wants a toy T-Rex dinosaur. Mommy wants a little bear stuffie.  
Love,  
Veronica Conovali

Dear Santa, I've been nice.

I've been good. I want a stuffie dog that shakes its booty. I want a Barbie. I want some clothes on my Barbie and a coloring book. I'll leave cookies and milk.  
Love,  
Langston West

Dear Santa, I've been good. I want a baby poodle. I want sand. I want slime. I'm gonna leave you cookies and carrots. I won't ask for my brother because then he will get more presents than me.  
Love,  
Mallory Sexton

Dear Santa, I love you. I have been good. I would like a Nintendo game (Super Mario). That's all.  
Love,  
William Matheson

Dear Santa, I want a little kitty. I want a lalaloopsy doll. I would like a NaNaNa surprise.  
Love,  
Chloe Ball

Dear Santa, I want a stink bomb to stink my mom's room up. I want a giant sucker, a box of soft sand, a belt, and a baby cat for my sister.  
Love,  
Asher

Dear Santa, I want a toy animal with a collar, a Barbie with a tattoo, a squishy cat, a toy reindeer and a toy piggy.  
Love,  
Sydney Hamby

Dear Santa, MERRY CHRISTMAS! Ho Ho Ho! I want a dog and that's all!  
Love,  
Kennedy Burnette

Dear Santa, I want an electric RC, I also want a power wheels tank with one missile and a gun on the back, a giant lollipop, and a weed eater because you give the best gifts.  
Love,  
Liam Melton

Dear Santa, Happy Christmas Day. I want a baby set for my baby and Playdough for my house.  
Love,  
Jenia Mitchell

Dear Santa, I want a snow-globe. I want a Sonic the Hedgehog. I would like legos and a lamp.  
Love,  
Dalton Pickard

Dear Santa, I've been good. I want toy cars and books. I want fish and a pool.  
Love,  
Noah Potter

Dear Santa, I've been good. I would like a big kid's house. A big TV, a kids Christmas tree. I'm leaving milk and cookies.  
Love,  
Kingston Baker

Dear Santa, I would like Pop-its, Barbies, shoes, clothes, slime, big girl cups, and a blanket to snuggle with mommy,  
Love,  
Brinlee Strand

## *Mrs. Molly - Kindergarten*

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like: LOL house, Baby Alive girl, Bluey playset, Barbie, Gabby's Playhouse.  
Love, Irelynn Armes

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like: Dinosaurio Megadonon, Velociraptor Blue, (Pelota) Big Balon. Aaron Gonzalez

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like: Baby Doll, dishes for my kitchen set, make-up, clothes, LOL stuff, blanket, JoJo baby doll, baby stuff for my baby dolls. Merry Christmas Santa Claus.  
Love, Myla

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like: football, Baby Yoda stuff animal, drone, basketball, fishing pole.  
Love,  
Noah

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like: Barbie Dreamhouse, Barbies, Baby dolls, clothes, squishes. I love you.  
Love,  
Brynlee Bunch

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like: Xmax Rc car, 4 wheeler, a .22, football, new shoulder pads.  
Love,  
Kamden Shannon

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like: Pooping Turtle, Wubble Bubble, Doll Backpack, Stuffed Wolf, New shoes  
Love,  
Lyla Escolar

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like: horse barn, LOL dolls, coloring book and pencils, new rainboots, Dr. Barbie, a whole family of toy deers.  
Love,  
Madeline

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like: Baby Doll, Barbie dolls, food for the homeless, drinks for the homeless, gifts for my daddy, mommy and brother.  
Love,  
Chloe

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like: a Mal doll, a kitchen, a frozen game, bluey doll house, a baby jay jay doll.  
Love,  
Jolene

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like: Toy motorcycles, Hoverboard, Big race track, Big Monster Trucks, Gold  
Love,  
Sawyer Melhorn



# Santa Letters

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like:

New truck, a new house, a microphone, a T-Rex, and a blue book.

Love,  
Jack

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like: Race-car, dragon toy, puppy toy, kitten, Hair Bows and Head Bands.

Love,  
Silvia Gallagher

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like: A Barbie dreamhouse castle, I want my barbie's to walk and talk, a phone, a toy puppy, a slime kit.

Love,  
KyLee Liles

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like: Twin baby dolls, Jasmine doll, Pink Surprise Puppy, and a toy train for my little brother Connor.

Love,  
Natalie

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like: Huggy Wuggy doll, Huggy Wuggy backpack, Kissy Missy, Trampoline, Big swimming pool with a whale and a slide.

Love,  
Kayden

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like: Barbies, my ears pierced, Build a Bear, snow.

Love,  
Arine Morgan

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like: A Kitty, New clothes, a big Barbie set, New lava lamp, A new picture of my daddy.

Love,  
Maci Laymance

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like: PC, Pop it, dinosaur, PS5, Gaming light.

Love,  
Sylas Susak

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like: Clifford Big Red Dog Puppet, Superhero cape, toy gun, remote truck, tablet, light up ball.

Love,  
Payton Anderson.

Dear Santa, I would like Paw Patrol: The Movie toys, Legos, Miraculous's Ladybug/Cat Noir action figures, and a cook set.

Love,  
Liam Melton

Dear Santa, I would like : a Remote Control Car, a book that has all kinds of animals inside, art supplies, kenetic sand, playdough, movies, winter clothes, and a pair of cowboy boots.

Love,  
Logan Drake

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like:

PlayStation, bike, pop its, fidgets, nerf guns, remote control cars/truck, stuff to make slime and do experiments.

Love,  
Bentley Morgan

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year I would like: a toy Unicorn, a real bunny – my Mama will take care of it, hopping bunny toy, a frog toy.

Love,  
Cordelia Watson

## ***Mrs. Carmen Ward's First Grade***

Dear Santa, I want a go kart, a dog, a big slime, some clothes and shoes, some poppers, the big poppers and a new elf!

Love,  
Maci Bedford

Dear Santa, I have been very good. I would like a sonic toy and a new video game. I will leave you milk and cookies.

Love,  
Oakley Brashears

Dear Santa, I would like to have an indoraptor, ghost-buster toys and a Nintendo switch. I have been good. I will leave you cookies.

Love,  
Cannon Davis

Dear Santa,I would like a RC car and some Army toys, a wiggle car, and Pokemon cards. I will leave you milk and cookies. I love you Santa.

Love,  
Thomas

Dear Santa, I want a baguette, I want a basketball, I want a pocket knife. Tell your reindeer hello.

Thank you,  
Riley Goss

Dear Santa,I want a shiny notebook with a fluffy mermaid tail in the middle.

I want a mermaid pop it and I want a big heart pop it. I also want a mermaid tail for the pool. And can I get a mermaid Barbie and a toy phone and a wallet. I love you Santa.

Love,  
Dakota Green

Dear Santa,Please bring me a dirt bike, a remote control car, a camera, and a paint collection. I leave you milk and cookies in my kitchen.

Love,  
Jacob Hall

Dear Santa,I have been good this year. I want a Magic Mixie. Please bring my baby brothers something nice too. I will leave cookies and milk for you.

Love,

CharLee Hill

Dear Santa, What I want for Christmas is a sleeping mask, American girl doll, slime, a remote control bird, glass what nots, a phone, a microphone and for my family to be happy!

Love,  
Jaedyn Jackson

Dear Santa, I want a power wheel black truck, Army guys, guys mega Godzilla, Mega King Kong, robot spider, hot wheels, golden nerf gun, a PS 2, Madden 22, Ninja turtle game, Thanos, Jordans, Nikes, Avengers game, Sonic game, and controllers.

Thank you,  
Silas Lick

Dear Santa, I want a unicorn paint set with glitter and some squishies. Could you bring my brother some dinosaurs and animals?

Love,  
Emily Mehlhorn

Dear Santa, I would want everything in the world for Gunnar Bun.

Love,  
Memphis Melton

Dear Santa, I like monster trucks and I want a Mickey Mouse, and a space jam shoot with Bugs Bunny and the guy.

Love,  
John Osborne

Dear Santa, What I want for Christmas is a sewing machine, lemonade stand, spaghetti bike, desk and a gigantic pop it.

Love,  
Kennedy Phillips

Dear Santa, Please bring me a remote control car and a book about bones and dinosaurs and a diary to write in, and a pairs of clothes and a race track and that's all. I will leave you milk and cookies or a cake because I know you eat cake sometimes.

Love,  
Tucker Quinney

Dear Santa, I love you. All I want for Christmas is an art set and for my Nana Lynn to come in from Mississippi and see me and my family. I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas.

From,  
Rane

Dear Santa, I want boats, a trucking hat and a RC Car.

Love,  
Kaylub Seay

Dear Santa, I would like a bling bling necklace, a Ps5, a puppy, hey Dude shoes, 50 Pokemon cards, a go cart, a mini race car, Tennessee basketball, and money for Christmas.

Love,  
Kyler Shannon

Dear Santa, I want some LOLs and some Barbies and a little lives, and dinosaurs and horses and hula hoop, and a crybaby and a jump rope. I left some candy canes for the reindeer.

Love,  
Harlee Shields

Dear Santa, This year I want a remote control car, hot wheels, a new pair of boots, and a nerf gun.

Love,  
Bentley Wells

## ***Ms. Patty Bouton's 1st Grade***

Dear Santa, I would like a Lego Dimensions, and X-Box, Lego Jurassic Park, Lego Batman & #D Super Heroes, Minecraft, Sponge Bob, and a Pete the Cat with clothes. I have been good this year.

Love,  
David Shoffner

Dear Santa, It would be super nice if you could bring me these things this year: Light Fury, and a Light Fur Yard and their baby's toy wolves. Please tell Mrs. Claus and the Elves Merry Christmas for me.

Love,  
Emori Ann Diamond

Dear Santa, I live in the great town of Wartburg. This year I've been really good and it would be super fun if you could bring me these things this year: a toy pig that oinks, a plushy toy, magnet tiles, winter cowboy boots, a cowboy hat, a box of chocolate marshmallows and playdough. Thank You" You're the best Santa ever!

Love,  
Gavin Drake

Dear Santa Claus, My name is Leelynn. This year I've been really good and it would be super cool if you could bring me these things this year. A kite, a necklace, and a little pup. Thank You!

Love,  
Leelynn Johnson

Dear Santa, I live in the great town of Wartburg. I've been really good this year and it would be super fun if you could bring me these things: a Nintendo Switch, a remote control car, a new game for Playstation, and toys for my brother and sister. Please tell Mrs. Claus and the elves I like them for me.

Love,  
Braxton Culbertson

Dear Santa Claus, This year I've been really good and it would be super fun if you could bring me these things this year: a remote control car, Lightning McQueen car set, PJ Mask set and a monster truck set.

Thank You! You're the best Santa ever! P.S. Please tell Mrs. Clause and the elves you are pretty nice for me.

Love,  
Noah Barber

Dear Santa, I live in the great town of Wartburg. This year I've been really good and it would be super great if you could bring me these things this year: a new football, a new baseball, a new toy car, lots more of bedtime socks, Vols football cleats, Titans football helmet, and Titans sweat pants. Please tell Mrs. Claus and the elves Happy Holidays for me.

Love,  
Ben Freytag

Dear Santa, I like my elf-Mitzy. Can you please bring me a monster truck. I will leave you milk and cookies.

Love,  
Memphis Wilson

Dear Santa Claus, My name is Brooke. I live in Wartburg. This year I've been good and it would be super nice if you could bring me these things this year. A unicorn plushie, a Nintendo Switch, the camping Barbie, a small bell for my bike. Thank you! You're the best Santa ever!

Love,  
Brooke Morton

Dear Santa, This year I've been really good and it would be super amazing if you could bring me these things this year. I would like some Fingerlings, shoe, clothes, a camera, dinosaur happy napper. Thank you Santa, I can't wait to see you.

Love,  
Shane Branham

Dear Santa Claus, This year I've been really good and it would be super cool if you could bring me these things. A tablet, Mermaid tail, good grades, clothing, slime, and every one to be Happy. Thank You!

Love,  
Alivia Gibso

Dear Santa Claus, This year I've been really good and it would be super nice if you could bring me these things this year: the new light tower, a basketball, and a teddy bear.

Thank You! Tell Mrs. Claus and the elves bye for me.

Love,  
Noah Landrum

Dear Santa, This year I've been really nice and it would be super cool if you could bring me these things this year: A Baby Alive doll, Kiddie make-up, some LOLs, cute jeans, some awesome shirts, LEDs for my room, a panda bedding set, some pink light up sketchers, some bug socks, a new water bottle for school, a very cool drawing set, a jewelry making set, cute hair accessories, cute purses, some fidgets like(stressballs, squishies).

Love,  
Danielle Phillips

Dear Santa, This year I've been really good and it would be super awesome if you could bring me these things this year: Got2Glow fairy finder, Blue Magic mixes, a Magic Cauldron, Bluey Shadowlands Board game for me and my little brother to play. I love the mini brands toys and food, Cra-Z-Art Magic Movin' pottery wheel. And we'd really like play-doh slime Dino bones Island playset. Thank You,  
Arial Rich

Dear Santa Clause, I live in the great town of Mossy Grove. This year I've been really good and it would be super awesome if you could bring me these things this year: Robotic Velociraptor, dinosaur puppet, a long neck toy, helicopter toy , dragon robotic, pet fish and sea creature wild.

Thank You! You're the Best Santa ever! P.S. Please tell Mrs. Claus and the elves Christmas is really about Jesus for me.

Love,  
Ora Phillips

Dear Santa, This year I've been really good and bad and it would be super happy if you could bring me these things this year: an old record player and records, I really want the brass monkey record. Toy monster trucks that is a Spinosaurus. My own stuff to cook with and a stove for Elliot. A basketball, A toy dinosaur that my tablet scans the foot, Blue from Jurassic Park. An artist easel and paint. Tickets to the Aquarium for me and my family.

Thanks. Please tell Mrs. Claus and the elves thank you for all the presents that you make for me and all the hard work for me.

Love,  
Jedediah Carroll

Dear Santa, My name is Arianna. I live in Wartburg. This year I've been really good and it would be super happy if you could bring me these things this year: a Frozen doll, LOL Surprise and Pop-its. Thank you! Tell everybody hi at the North Pole.

Love,  
Arianna Isabell

Dear Santa Claus, I live in the great town of Wartburg. This year I've been really good and it would super cool if you could bring me these things for Christmas: dirtbike riding gear, a Nintendo Switch, hoodies, a catfish.

Thank You! You're the best Santa ever!

P.S. Please tell Mrs. Claus and the elves Merry Christmas for me.

Love,  
Parker Heidle

# Santa Letters

Dear Santa, This year I've been really good and it would be super fantastic if you could bring me these things this year: an I-Phone 13 and a hoverboard and a tree home and a cat and a puppy. Please! Thank You! Please tell everybody at the North Pole hi for me.

Love,  
Bella Reynolds

Dear Santa, This year I've been really good and it would be super nice if you could bring me these things this year: Jo Jo headphones, markers, snow globe, Jo Jo toothbrush, a light up scooter. Thank you. We love you.

Love,  
Kinslee Dyer

Dear Santa, This year I've been really good and it would be super great if you could bring me these things this year: a tablet, a doll, a dollhouse, and some slime and a Jack in the box. Thank you! Tell everybody hello for me.

Love ,  
Anna Vanwizenburg

## *Ms. Anna's 1st Grade*

Dear Santa, I want a toy cat, a toy dog and a blue pony. I also want a baby doll doctor set. I LOVE Christmas! From,  
Lucy Bobinski

Dear Santa, I have been good all year. For Christmas, I want a PS3 Viking game, Uno, tv, bean boozled, a guinea pig, and a fake spill to Prankdad. I will leave you milk and cookies.  
From,  
David Long

Dear Santa, I have been a very good boy this year! Please bring me a minecraft character set and some villagers from minecraft. I also want a fortnite shark toy, a triceratops plush (blue and red). I would also like a bouncy ball. I love you Santa! I will leave you milk and cookies!  
From,  
Hunter Redmon

Dear Santa, I want a Barbie doll, pop its and a necklace. I also want a friend to come over, I will leave the reindeer some carrots.  
From  
Oaklie Harding

Dear Santa, I want a Big RC car and a nerf gun. I have been extra good this year! Also, can you bring my mommy and daddy a big teddy bear? They have had a tough year and it would make them really happy!  
From,  
Miles Shepherd

Dear Santa, I would like muzzleloader, transformers,

new muckboots, coloring books, endominus re, new tennis shoes, hunting cloths and goo jit zu. Be careful and God Bless

From  
Jayden Human

Dear Santa, I want a don't step in it game. I will leave you a chocolate chip cookie and regular milk.  
From,  
Peyton Phillips

Dear Santa, I would like minecraft, vr headset, hot wheels city, fortnite and nerf guns. I will leave milk and cookies in my bedroom.  
From,  
Trestin Latham

Dear Santa, I would like a toy cat, a chrome book, a desk for me to sit at, a plushy key chain, a dog squish mellow pillow, diapers and bottles for my baby dolls, colorful nail polish, and last I want flying fairy. Thank you, love from,  
Chloe Williams

Dear Santa, Mrs. Anna says that I work hard in class and am quiet in class. I have been good all year long. This year I want a magic mixie and roller skates.  
From  
Mila Fritts

Dear Santa, I have been very nice. There are a few things I would really like. They are a LOL doll, bath toys, some socks, and three BIG pop its.  
From  
Hayzleigh Parker

Dear Santa, I loved my gifts from you last year. This year I would like some more lego sets. I'm thankful for all the things tht you bring for me. I love you so, so much!  
From,  
Zoe Adams

Dear Santa, I want a toy Barbie car and a toy dog and a barbie doll. I want a different toy car, also. I want perfume. I will leave mild and cookies at the chimney.  
From  
Raegan Kennedy

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year, I want a Barbie Airplane, Barbie jeep and more barbies, please. I've tried to be good this year. I'll leave you milk and cookies, Merry Christmas!  
From  
Kinsley Sampsel

Dear Santa, I want a Nintendo switch. I want a pop it. I want a gummyworms. I want a marshmallow. I love Santa. I want it to snow. I want a present. I like snowmans. I will love you.  
From  
Addilyn Phillips

Dear Santa, Thank you Santa. I want a magic mixie. I will leave you some chocolate chip cookies in the dining room.

From  
Logan Sandlin

Dear Santa, I would like a hover board for Christmas. I would also like camera film for the camera that Rylie got me last year. It's been hard to be good all year, but I did my best to stay on your good list. I will leave you cookies and milk. Thank you!  
From  
Kailynn Throneberry

Dear Santa, I want a toy box, a fidget countdown calendar, a minecraft set, a squiggle position. I want a massive big popit. I want a Nintendo popit, Santa popit, red stress ball, a soul mate and fidget basket.  
From  
Kayos Martin

Dear Santa, I want a shark pillow and a lifesaver for Christmas. I will leave you milk and cookies by the door. Can you bring presents to my house underneath the three trees?  
From  
Tyler Hinds

## *Ms. Skylar's 1st Grade*

Dear Santa, Can you please bring me barbies, magical unicorn, spirit horses, make-up, Bluey house, crafts and a popit.  
From,  
Kennedy Akins

Dear Santa, This year for Christmas I would like my very own tv and a game system. Also I would like a giant pop-it like as big as our carpet, and a drawing set. Please and thank you very much.  
Love,  
Colten Appleby

Dear Santa, I want a tablet and case for it. I want toys. I want makeup. I want a baking set. I want show boots. I want my family to be happy.  
From,  
Kinsleigh Fisher

Dear Santa, Will you bring me a red air dancer with a blue blower?  
From,  
Gavin Guy

Dear Santa, For Christmas, I would like a remote control semi truck.  
From,  
Wyatt Hamby

Dear Santa, For Christmas I want a doll, books, Baby Yoda, a blanker, and fairy finder.  
From,  
Brooklyn Henry

Dear Santa, I want a cat. I want a LOL doll. I want a hoverboard. I want a dog. I want an elf on the shelf. I want more fidgets. Tell Mrs. Claus, the elves, and the reindeer Merry Christmas.  
From,  
Gabriella Jones

Dear Santa, I want a bike. Get my sister a baby yoda. Get my sister Alivya a barbi doll.  
From,  
Ryan Landrum

Dear Santa, I would like an Optimus Prime and hot wheels.  
From,  
Andrew Lemons

Dear Santa, I have been a good girl this year. I have been helping with my baby sister a lot. I would like a new tablet for Christmas or a toy big truck. I will leave your cookies and milk out.  
Love,  
Ava Miles

Dear Santa, I want a Spiderman Tower, iPhone. I want a Batman lego tower and a ring for mommy. I will leave cookies and milk.  
From,  
Cameron Roysden

Dear Santa, I want a phone and if you don't get me one it is fine. I like a tablet and PS5.  
From,  
Shaylyn Simmons

Dear Santa, I have always wanted a rainbow high, a pop it, , a pop tube, a tree house, a swing set and all my friends and family to be happy and healthy. LOL doll.  
Love,  
Skylah Taylor

Dear Santa, I've been good this year. I would like a dirt bike, iPhone 13, money, Rabbit, PS5, gold chain, dirt bike game, boots, and last thing American Flag phone case.  
From,  
Kaiden Wagner

Dear Santa, I want a PS5, VR Head set, racecar, bobblehead, marker, dog toys for Alfred.  
From,  
Landon Wilson

## *Miss Boyd's 2nd Grade*

Dear Santa, I really want a camera and a hamster. I would like a surprise. How are the reindeer doing?  
Love,  
Koraline Zaborski

Dear Santa, I would like a ps5 and a few candy canes, please. How is Jack (my elf) doing at the North Pole? What is Jack's job?  
Merry Christmas,  
Carson Blalock

Dear Santa, I would like a PC, a ps5, another dog, and a cat. How are the reindeer?  
Merry Christmas,

Elijah Hopper

Dear Santa, How is my elf Chippy doing? I want a toy sheep. I also want from Pokemon, a Vulpix and an Oddish. Thank you Santa. How are Mrs. Claus and your reindeer? I will leave carrots and cookies for you and your reindeer.  
Sincerely,  
Dalton Lane

Dear Santa, I want a scooter and a 4-wheel dirt bike. I have been wanting a dirt bike and a 4-wheeler all of my life. I will leave you milk and cookies. I hope you will come to my Grandma's house, like you do every year.  
Sincerely,  
Jericho Whaley

Dear Santa, I want a Pop-it. I also want decorations for my room. I would like curtains, a lamp, and pictures. Are you doing okay? Tell me how Mrs. Claus is doing. Are the reindeer okay? Are my 3 elves okay? They can't talk to me. I asked them to write a note, but they didn't.  
Merry Christmas,  
Brylee Baker

Dear Santa, How are Mrs. Claus and the reindeer? I am going to leave cookies for you and Mrs. Claus. I will leave carrots for Prancer, Blitzen, Dancer, Vixen, Dasher, Comet, Cupid, Donner, and Rudolph. I do not want to ask for everything I want. There is one thing a really want. I really want a realistic baby doll that can open it's mouth and has a pacifier. The doll is soft and kind of squishy. It comes with extra pacifiers and clothes. I hope that you liked the picture that Sparkle gave you.  
Merry Christmas,  
Hayden Shannon

Dear Santa, How are Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, and Rudolph? For Christmas, please bring me a reindeer bell, a pop-it, fidgets, and a Minecraft Oscelet. Please bring food for people who don't have any. Also, bring a lot of snow for my Mom.  
Love,  
Grace Seavers

Dear Santa, I want skates, a wolf, candy canes, and a telephone. Are you good?  
Love,  
Jazmine Potter

Dear Santa, This year I want my own elf to play with. I also want a telescope, Brio trains, train sets, and my very special present is a Minecraft Lego set. How are the reindeer? How is Mrs. Claus?  
Merry Christmas  
Eli Hughett

Dear Santa, How can elves fly? How can reindeer fly? Where is the North Pole? How do you have magic?

How can your sleigh fly? How do you wrap presents? What I want you to bring me the most is xbox 5.  
Your friend,  
Kinsley Combs

Dear Santa, I want a bike, a skateboard, and a ps5. How are the reindeer? I will leave you milk and cookies.  
Merry Christmas,  
Gage Dishman

Dear Santa, I love Christmas. I want a Playstation 5, a phone, and my family to have a good time, a good birthday, a good year, and have a holly, jolly, Christmas this year. I want a new dog for my pet dog. His name is Loocke. Can you come to my house? Send something back please. I love Santa!!! Have a great Christmas. I will leave you some cookies. Merry Christmas!  
Love, Emmett Cooper

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year, I want an xbox and a lot of Pokemon cards. I want Pokemon figures. I want a super cool Monster Truck Hot Wheels and lots and lots of books. What I want most of all are VR goggles. How are Rudolph, Blitzen, Donner, Dasher, Prancer, and Dancer, Vixen, Comet, and Cupid? Merry Christmas.  
Your friend, Mason D. Potter

Dear Santa, I hope you are a helper. I believe in you, Santa.  
Merry Christmas,  
Coraline Monhollen

Dear Santa, I want a Lego Creeper Mine, Minecraft mini figures, a Minecraft Fortress, Fort Night Game, an iphone, VR Goggles, an apple watch, and Pokemon cards. How can reindeer fly? What is your favorite animal? What kind of cookies do you like?  
Merry Christmas,  
James Sexton

Dear Santa, I want a dinosaur toy. It has to be the one that when you put dinosaurs in its mouth they go down inside its body and when you open its tail they come out. What I really want is an xbox 360 and VR goggles. How are the reindeer?  
Love, Paxton Burgio

Dear Santa, I need a dog toy, an xbox 5, my own elf, a lot of books, a skateboard, a computer, My Life Doll, and a Baby Alive. I want to see you. I promise I will be good. I will leave cookies and carrots out.  
Your friend, Jaycee West

Dear Santa, I want a Barbie Doll set for Christmas. I want a Unicorn stuffed animal for Christmas, a fidget set, and a kitchen set with food. I will leave you milk and cookies.  
Merry Christmas,  
Brooklyn Phillips

# Santa Letters

## *Mrs. Starr Adcock's 2nd Grade*

Dear Santa, I would like a ton of clothes and a book and some fancy shoes. I would also like a baby doll. Please bring it on Christmas and tell the elves hello!!  
Sincerely,  
Cherish

Dear Santa, I like my grandparents to get all better!! I would also like a real baby reindeer and an iPhone. Please bring me some Barbie's and the sets that go with them. I would also like a Nintendo Switch with pink and red handles on it for Christmas. I would appreciate a tablet to do my schoolwork on. Please and thank you.  
Sincerely,  
Abby

Dear Santa, I would like a stuffed animal Cheetah and some Poppets. I want 2 Barbie dolls, 4 friendship bracelets and a stuffed Santa. Happy New Year to everyone at the North Pole!  
Sincerely,  
McKenna

Dear Santa, For this Christmas, I want some LOL toys, a stuffed dog a Juicer and some play makeup. Tell Mrs. Claus hello.  
Sincerely,  
Bralynn

Dear Santa, I would like a hover board, some additional Poppets, an Elf on the Shelf, an iPhone and a golf cart. Thank you.  
Sincerely,  
Khloe

Dear Santa, I would like a Nintendo Switch, a monster truck, a new controller for my game system and a new bike. Tell the elves Merry Christmas and thank you.  
Sincerely,  
Waylon

Dear Santa, I would like a Nintendo Switch and some games. I would also like an Army set with soldiers, tanks, and all that stuff. I would also like some Hot Wheels and a racetrack.  
Sincerely,  
Jaxon

Dear Santa, I want a Nintendo Switch for Christmas. I would like some extra controllers to go with it. An Xbox would be nice too. I also need a TV to play all the games on. I do not have one. Thank you very much.  
Sincerely,  
Leeland

Dear Santa, I want a remote control boat and some LED lights. I would also like a remote control car and a PS5, a hotdog without a bun and a baseball bat. Please and thank you.  
Sincerely, Kyron

Dear Santa, I would like some Army men to play with and stuff to go with them. Invasion Beach would be nice. I would like some Legos to build stuff with and Super Mario Odyssey for the Nintendo Switch.  
Sincerely,  
Oliver

Dear Santa, I want a Magic 8 Ball and some Legos. I would also appreciate a massager for the feet. Please bring me my very own Elf and the new iPhone 13. Please and thank you.  
Sincerely,  
Cameron

Dear Santa, I would like Minecraft for my Xbox and a new Nintendo Switch. I would also appreciate a motorcycle. Tell Mrs. C I said HI,  
Sincerely,  
David

Dear Santa, I want a Hover Board and an American Girl doll and clothes for her. I would also like to see your reindeer this year. Tell Rudolph I will leave carrots for them!!!  
Sincerely,  
Annabelle

Dear Santa, I would like my family to be happy and have fun and spread Christmas joy, but my sisters and I always seem to fight. I very sorry but I promise to be good on Christmas.  
Sincerely,  
Kenleigh

Dear Santa, I would like a gaming chair to sit in and a new TV and PS5. Thank you for the presents you decide to send me.  
Sincerely,  
Cayden

Dear Santa, I would like a new go-cart with a windshield and mud tires and a toy mud truck with 4 doors and a flat bed with white paint. Tell the elves hello.  
Sincerely,  
Gage

Dear Santa, I would like a go-cart with an old Chevy body with a lift and off road tires. I would like it to be 4-wheel drive. I would like it to white with black rims, please.  
Sincerely,  
Cole

Dear Santa, I would like an Easy Bake oven, a Barbie school set and a Barbie nursery. I would also appreciate a guitar. Please tell Mrs. Claus I said hi!  
Sincerely,  
Molly

Dear Santa, I would like a name brand necklace and a bracelet to match. That is really all I want. Have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Sincerely,  
Lyn'Daija

## *Mrs. Morgan's 2nd Grade*

Dear Santa, My name is Ty. I'm 7 years old. I would like to have a PS5, a VR game, gum balls for my gumball machine, and a pet goldfish. If you can please bring my family some presents too.  
Love,  
Ty Kidd

Dear Santa, For Christmas, I want a pet turtle, Charizard plush, and Lego Pokemon. I believe in you Santa.  
Love,  
Easton Blair

Dear Santa, My name is Tate and I want a Chrome book, a VR game, and a Nerf Ultra 4. I have tried to be good this year. I would also like super big hot wheels. Can get my family something too.  
Love,  
Tate Smith

Dear Santa, I don't want that much for Christmas. All I want is a new sports Bible case, x-box, pitcher's mound, a Madden game and a Colt's football helmet. Have a Merry Christmas. If you can get my mom and dad something, that would be good.  
Love,  
Carson Armes

Dear Santa, My name is Rhys. I want a Doge Shiba Inu dog for a pet, a Lego Mario set, a PS4, and a Pokémon game. Hope you have a Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Rhys Peddicord

Dear Santa, I want some Pop Its, cars, and Legos. I wonder what it is like up there where you live. I hope my family gets gifts. I am going to put some cookies out for you. And Merry Christmas this year.  
Love,  
Preslyn Dagley

Dear Santa, I want an i-pod, an i-pod case, a computer for home, and a pop socket. If you could bring my Dad a PS5 and my Mom a necklace with a picture of my Dad, Shepard, and me that would be great!  
Love,  
Berklee Ryans

Dear Santa, For Christmas this year, I would like a remote controlled car, PS 5, and more Legos. I would also like a pair of VR glasses. Have a Merry Christmas. In addition, can you get my Mom and Dad a present too?  
Love,  
Grayson Bunch

Dear Santa, Merry Christmas. I want a laptop, i-phone case, and a pop-socket for Christmas. Can you please get my mom and dad something too?  
Love,  
Skyla Crites

Dear Santa, For Christmas, I want a real baby kitten, a robot elephant, and a new fish and tank for it to live in. If you can maybe, get me a snake or lizard that would be good too. You will have to get me a tank for them to live in. Please get my family something too.  
Love,  
Anna Ledbetter

Dear Santa, I would like a real kitten for Christmas. I would really like a real horse, too. I want a Frozen 2 doll, the Elsa with a blue dress and the horse.  
Love,  
Gracelyn Newport

Dear Santa, Merry Christmas Santa. My name is Jackson. I am 7 years old. For Christmas, I would like a real Calico Kitten, PS4, and a Marvel Spider-Man game. Can you bring my family some presents too?  
Love,  
Jackson Imhoof

Dear Santa, For Christmas, I would like a VR game, Barbie Dream house, LOLs, and a Beta Fish.  
Love,  
Lucy Nance

Dear Santa, I want a guitar, cowboy belt with a buckle, cowboy hat, a football with a tea, a Peyton Manning poster, Pokémon cards, a cross necklace, a Tennessee football poster, and a Tennessee shirt.  
Love,  
Braelynn Shannon

Dear Santa, I would like a PS5 and a personal computer. I would like you to get my Mom a Christmas shirt and my Dad a Christmas shirt too.  
Love,  
Sawyer Howard

Dear Santa, I would like a Valkyrie Beyblade. I would also like a Mario Party game. How are things going? I like your reindeer Dancer. I would like a Sonic Plush also. Merry Christmas.  
Love,  
Jessie Young

Dear Santa, This year I want snow and spy x gadgets. If you can, could you try and give my mom, dad, and sisters some presents too. I hope you have a Merry Christmas. My name is Elizabeth and I am seven years old. I live in Wartburg, Tennessee.  
Love your friend,  
Elizabeth Webb

Dear Santa, My name is Cami. All I want you to

get me for Christmas is a suitcase. I would like you to get my family some presents too.  
Love,  
Cami Foxworth

## *Mrs. Alanna Jones 2nd Grade*

Dear Santa, How are you doing? My name is Avalynn Aaron Aslinger. I want a 4-wheeler, a pencil sharpener, a couple of LOL dolls, and things for my family. For my dad tools. For my mom Pioneer Woman stuff. And for my sister cool girl stuff. That's all for Christmas Day. You have a good day, sir. Say hi to Mrs. Claus, okay. I am going to get you some egg nog to drink and one candy cane to eat when you get home.  
Sincerely,  
Avalynn Aslinger

Dear Santa, How are you and Mrs. Claus and the reindeer and the elves doing? I would like some candy and slime please and thank you.  
Love,  
Aleah Hamby

Dear Santa, How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? I am doing great. For Christmas can I have a skateboard, knee pads, elbow pads, go cart, and horse please. Thank you!  
Love,  
Whitely Carroll

Dear Santa, I want a fake elf and a little Christmas tree for my room. And coloring pencils please.  
Sincerely,  
Riley Miller

Dear Santa, How are you doing? I am doing great!! For Christmas, I would like a garter snake (actual animal), and Minecraft ender dragon with purple armored Steve and bow with arrow, and a trillion dollars for my family. Thank you!  
Your friend,  
Vincent Young

Dear Santa, How are you doing? I have a question: how do your reindeer fly and what do you have at the North Pole? And what I want for Christmas is a puppy picture, cat statue, and art set please. Thank you!  
Sincerely,  
Avonlea Crozier

Dear Santa, How are you? For Christmas I would like a PS5, dirt bike, and a shot gun please. Thank you!  
Sincerely,  
Mr. Jaxen Chilton

Dear Santa, How are you feeling? I am feeling great. For Christmas I would like a mossaurus toy, some digging stuff, and a dinosaur coloring book please. Thank you!  
Your friend,  
Sawyer Dolan

Dear Santa, How are you doing? And can I please

get a PS5, and a bike and scooter.  
Sincerely,  
Luke Jeffers

Dear Santa, How are you doing and Mrs. Claus? I am doing so well. For Christmas I would like a DVD called "Trolls World Tour," a gravity rover. My brother will like a monster truck race track. Thank you, Santa!  
Sincerely,  
Chelsy Green

Dear Santa, How have you been, Santa Claus? Just surprise me with whatever you want to give me, Santa Claus. I am going to just tell you one: I want some books. You can give me two more.  
Sincerely,  
Zoie Isabell

Dear Santa, I want an allosaurus. My mom wants horse toys. My dad wants a new gun. Please and thank you!  
Sincerely,  
Bryce Austin and Mom and Dad

Dear Santa, Are you doing fine? Is Mrs. Claus doing fine? Can I please have a Fortnite rocket launcher, and a big stretchy thing, and an action figure please.  
Sincerely,  
Levi England

Dear Santa, I hope you and Mrs. Claus are doing good. I am doing fine. For Christmas I want two Barbie dolls please. Thank you for the presents!  
Sincerely,  
Aarya Dholu

Dear Santa, How are you doing? Good. I want a Hot Wheels racecar and a remote control car please. How is Mrs. Claus? Thank you.  
Your friend and love,  
Evan Shannon

Dear Santa, How are you doing and the elves? I am doing fine. For Christmas I would like some books, a dog, and some fidgets.  
Sincerely,  
Sophie Dolan

Dear Santa, How are you doing? I am doing good. Is Jack Frost real? If he is real, is he your brother? And I will please like 3 things right now. I will like an Xbox and a controller and a set of Legos.  
Sincerely,  
Jackson Hall

Dear Santa, How are you and Mrs. Claus? For Christmas I want a baby elf to touch and an elf pet dog. And one more thing, a Paw Patrol Tower for my brother please. Thank you, Santa!  
Sincerely,  
Kennedy Adkins

## Midway Takes Two from Wartburg in Last-Second Thrillers

By Terry Futrell

*Small town and country living is about as exciting as watching grass grow!* While that might be the opinion of some folks, no basketball fan who watched two intense battles unfold in the Midway High School gymnasium Tuesday evening could possibly agree. It hasn't been a stellar year for area basketball teams, and as Wartburg made the trek South of the River to take on Midway, one could only wonder about the level of play that would soon take place. Each of the four teams would take the floor with a losing record.

No one could have accurately predicted what was about to happen. Who could predict that all four teams would play as if this was their last opportunity on earth? Who could predict that fans would be treated not to games but to open warfare with all the strategy and intensity that could be brought to bear? Yes, it was warfare – bodies were strewn here and there, and blood literally flowed. Each game concluded in the same way – Midway hit free throws in the last seconds to earn hard-fought victories by only one-point margins. But fans of both schools were the real winners by being treated to some of the best basketball witnessed in this area in the past several years.

### Midway Uses Strong Defense to Defeat Lady Bulldogs 43-42

“Never underestimate a Mike Hayes team.” Even I did not fully understand the implication of these words that I spoke to Wartburg Assistant Girls Coach Michael Poland as I entered the Midway gym. I had a good basis for my comment – both of my daughters played basketball at Oakdale 30+ years ago and Hayes' Midway teams were always some of their most formidable opponents. Two hours after I spoke with Poland, a dejected Wartburg Lady Bulldog team left the court as Hayes' Lady Wave celebrated their 43-42 victory.

Midway came into the game with a 2-3 record, averaging less than 39 points per game. Good on defense, the Lady Wave have been challenged when it comes to offensive performance. The Wartburg Lady Bulldogs were 2-4 on the season with a scoring average of 43 points per game, but once scored 60 points in a victory over Loudon. Notably, Wartburg has relied heavily on 3-point shooting for their scoring and can sometimes make it appear as if it is raining threes.

Put all these factors into Hayes' basketball brain and out comes a strategy that proved to be highly effective for the Lady Wave - use a full-court, pressure defense to force Wartburg turnovers and to take away 3-point shooting opportunities.

Hayes' strategy worked to near perfection in the first quarter of play as the press forced several Wartburg turnovers and the Lady Bulldogs made only one 2-point basket. The Lady Wave led 10-2 after eight minutes of play with Abbie Parks scoring five points in the quarter.

Midway quickly advanced their lead to 12-2 as the second quarter began. With 6:58 on the clock, Wartburg's Olivia Davis drove through the Midway defense for a layup that sparked the Wartburg offense. In just over one minute, the Lady Bulldogs put seven more points on the board to trim Midway's lead to 12-11 at 5:41. Defense continued to dominate play and Midway led 18-16 at the half. Sara Beth Nickell and Stella Tilley each hit 3-point baskets for the Lady Wave. Elizabeth Keathley scored five points for Wartburg, and Olivia Davis added four points.

Midway expanded their lead to 23-16 at 5:19 of the third quarter. With almost four minutes elapsed in the quarter, Wartburg finally got on the board with a free throw with 4:12 on the clock. With another scoring spurt, the Lady Bulldogs closed the gap to 23-22 at 3:33. Midway pulled ahead 29-23 with 25 seconds remaining in the third quarter. Wartburg's Olivia Davis then electrified the crowd with a 3-point shot from near half court as the buzzer sounded to trim Midway's lead to 29-26. Davis led Wartburg with seven points in the quarter.

Wartburg's Davis closed the gap to 29-28 with a 2-point shot near the circle early in the fourth quarter. Wartburg then took the lead 30-29 on a shot under the basket by Selena Byrge at 7:01. The teams swapped the lead twice before Wartburg went ahead 34-31 on a drive to the basket by Cynthia Daugherty. Midway tied the game 36-36 with 2:44 on the clock, and again at 39-39 with 1:36 remaining as the teams battled back and forth. Midway once again took the lead 41-39 with 35 seconds on the clock, but Wartburg regained the lead 42-41 when Elizabeth Keathley sank two free throws with only three seconds left on the clock.

These three seconds turned into minutes as the coaches called multiple time outs to plot strategy. Finally, Midway put the ball into play under Wartburg's basket with only three seconds in which to move the length of the court and score. It was a play that will long be remembered in Midway basketball lore. Midway threw the ball in half the length of the court to a breaking Stella Tilley who drew a foul with 1.8 seconds to go. Tilley coolly stepped up to the line and buried two free throws to give the Lady Wave a hard-fought 43-42 victory over Wartburg. Tilley led Midway in the quarter with nine points, while Sierra Cowell added four points. Keathley led Wartburg scorers, shooting 5 of 6 at the free throw line.

Tilley led Midway's balanced scoring for the game with 14 points. Parks and Cowell added nine points each, and Sara Beth Nickell contributed eight points. Marissa Stakely scored two points for the Lady Wave.

Wartburg's Davis led all scorers with 15 points, Keathley followed with 10 points, Byrge scored seven points, Edye-Ann Williams added four points, and Madison Shadden and Daugherty each scored 3 points.

As for Hayes' strategy, Wartburg connected on only two 3-point shots the entire game.

## Midway Survives Wartburg Comeback for 94-93 Barnburner Victory

In a torrid, hard-fought battle that gave fans hardly any opportunity to breathe along the way, the Midway Greenwave toppled the Wartburg Bulldogs 94-93 when Emmett Hegland sank two free throws with only 3.9 seconds left on the clock. The number of points scored by both teams belies the fact that each applied defensive pressure throughout the game – very few shots were uncontested.

The uniqueness of the game is exemplified by the superlative 38-point performance of Wartburg's Tanner Johnson being eclipsed by the school record 50-point performance of Midway's Ethan Parks. The game was not what one would expect from two teams with losing records, but instead was a game that will long be remembered by the fans who witnessed the almost unbelievable performance by both teams.

Wartburg took an early 8-5 lead after three minutes of play. Midway went on a 12-0 scoring run for the next four minutes, taking a 17-8 lead with 1:07 on the clock. Wartburg then outscored the Greenwave 8-2 in the final minute to close out the first quarter with Midway leading 19-16. Ethan Parks scored 10 points for Midway, with Emmett Hegland adding five points in the quarter. Blaine Blalock had the hot hand for Wartburg, sinking two 3-point shots.

Midway went on a scoring rampage in the second quarter, outscoring Wartburg 27-19 and taking a 46-35 halftime lead. Ethan Parks continued his hot hand and added 17 points to his total. Emmett Hegland and Dalton Cowell added four points each. Andrew Goode kept Wartburg in the game with eight points.

Midway began the third quarter with a 7-0 scoring run, extending their lead to 53-35 with 6:36 on the clock. Enter one Tanner Johnson, who had remained largely dormant for the Bulldogs up to this point with only four points. Johnson took leadership of the Bull-



Bulldog Tanner Johnson hits for two of his 38 points in the game. Johnson scored 34 points in the second half of the game and spearheaded Wartburg's comeback from a 15-point deficit. [Photo by Terry Futrell]

dog offense and scored 17 points in the remainder of the third quarter. Meanwhile, Parks poured in 15 more points for the Greenwave. The pace of the game accelerated to the point of being breathtaking just to watch as the teams scored a combined 51 points in the quarter and Wartburg trimmed Midway's lead to 71-61.

Midway extended their lead to 76-63 with 7:11 on the clock in the final quarter. Meticulously, the Bulldogs chipped away at the Greenwave lead, pulling within six points at 5:28. The dizzying pace of the game continued. The Bulldogs pulled within one point, 89-88, with 2:07 on the clock and then took the lead 91-90 at 1:05. Tension mounted within the gymnasium. Brennan Reed scored a layup on a fast break to put the Greenwave ahead 92-91 with 47 seconds remaining.

Not to be outdone, the Bulldogs regained the lead 93-92 at 31.9 on the clock. Midway had an opportunity to go ahead at 4.8 on the clock but missed the front end of a one plus one free throw. Emmett Hegland snagged the rebound and was fouled as he attempted a shot underneath. Hegland stepped to the free throw line and sank both shots to put the Greenwave ahead 94-93 with 3.9 seconds to go. Wartburg was unsuccessful in getting the ball into play and the Greenwave closed out with a 94-93 victory.

Wartburg and Midway combined for a remarkable 55 points in the final quarter. Tanner Johnson Led the way with 17 points. Ethan Parks led Midway with eight points and Brennan Reed added seven points.

For the game, Parks scored an astounding 50 points, which included only one 3-point basket, and which set a new Midway school record for single-game scoring. Hegland added 18 points for the Greenwave and Reed scored 15 points.

Johnson was Wartburg's high scorer for the game with 38 points. Elijah Heinze added 13 points, followed closely by Goode and Blalock with 11 points each.