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Volume 107 · No. 215

FODAY IN SPORTS

75¢ Daily • Weekend \$1.50

Over \$500 stolen from Good Samaritan's

MOLLIE BRYANT mbryant@thepampanews.com

Thursday, December 22, 2011

On Tuesday morning, amid a busy week for Good Samaritan Christian Services, volunteer Executive Director Joy Bivins discovered that her office had been broken into.

"Someone pried the desk open, and messed the locks up," she said. "He found petty cash, and he took all of my change except for three pennies and a nickel in the back of the drawer. I had all of the cash donations that were in here. I put all the mail in the drawer, and he took all the church bulletins and even my bills that came."

Bivins said that she could account for \$530 that was stolen, but is not sure exactly how

much money was taken. The money would normally have gone towards providing services to the Good Samaritan's clients.

"We're supported by 22 churches here in Pampa, and all the people in Pampa support us withdifferent food drives, money, clothes, and household items, said Bivins. "We also help with utility bills of \$50 once every six months, a prescription of \$50 once every six months, and in an emergency, we will help with a hotel.'

Families in need can also pick up food at the organization every two weeks. During the Christmas season, families of one were provided with canned ham, families with two to four people got a SAMARITAN cont. on page 2



staff photo by Mollie Bryant

Neta Clark takes inventory at Good Samaritan Christian Services on Wednesday. The food bank was victimized by a burglary and left with at least \$530 missing.

SEASON FOR GIVING

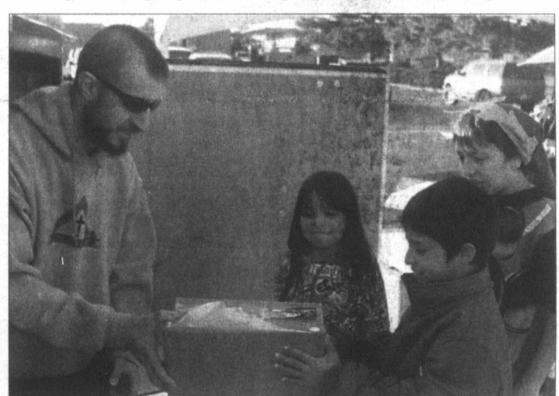


photo courtesy Lion Bros. Marketing

Daniel Passini, associate pastor at Paint This Town Red, hands out presents to 8-year-old Teresa Mejia, 12-year-old Jose Blanco and 9-year-old Ivan Mejia on Wednesday. The church handed out presents to local kids at its Project Red event at the Coronado Center parking lot.

Project Red inspires pair of sister outreaches

ARNIE AURELLANO editor@thepampanews.com

One Pampa church's outreach efforts have been noticed - not just within Texas, but also 1,200 miles from the Panhandle.

Paint the Town Red (PTTR). started in Pampa by brothers Ryan and C.J. Frazier, has earned a loyal and earnest following in Gray County with its "Project Red" missions, touching lives within the area by helping rebuild needy families' homes and wrapping Christmas presents for local children. Spreading word of the fruits of their labors online through social media - the brothers Frazier have a marketing background - the technologically savvy outreach program has RED cont. on page 2



Campbell

What I want most for Christmas is: "A bulldog puppy" My favorite Christmas song:

"Feliz Navidad" My favorite Christmas character: "Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer"

Pampa eighth grader delivers presents to Amarillo children

MOLLIE BRYANT mbryant@thepampanews.com

With the help of family and friends, Bryan Calderon, 14-year-old eighth grader at Pampa Junior High School, delivered 42 presents to children at the Presbyterian Home for Children in Amarillo over

this past weekend. Calderon said that the act of altruism was done through a school proj-

Calderon

"I'm in National Junior Honor Society, and we do projects for the community, and I've seen all these

commercials for kids who never have Christmas, and I just wanted to give them a Christmas they'd never forget," said Calderon.

Along with his parents, Sonia and Alberto Calderon, Bryan rounded up people to donate presents to the children's home.

"We actually talked to friends and family to see if they wanted to help out with the kids and buy them a present according to their age. and whenever all the presents were picked up, we went to Amarillo, and threw them a party," Calderon said. "We made hamburgers and made some cakes, and then we gave them some presents."

This was Calderon's second year to undertake this project, and he says that he is interested in repeating it in the future.



THIS ISSUE:









High 33 High 29 Low 15

High 39 Low 21 Low 18

Today: A slight chance of snow and freezing drizzle after noon. Cloudy, with a high near 33. Wind chill values between 7 and 17. Windy, with a north northwest wind between 15 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20 percent.

Tonight: A 20 percent chance of snow before midnight. Cloudy, with a low around 15. Wind chill values between 2 and 12. Blustery, with a north northeast wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 29. Wind chill values between 1 and 11. Blustery, with a north northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 18. Northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 39. Northwest wind around 5 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 21. Northwest wind between 5 and 10

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last Minute

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PAMPA SENIOR Citizen's Center is closed Friday Whole & pieces still left. Call Dec. 23rd for the Christmas 4-H Office 669-8033. Holidays, we'll reopen Mon. Dec. 26th.

HEARD Healthmart will be closed Shop Monday Dec. 26. for the Christmas holidays. Call Shop- Register to Win 1/2 669-7478 early for prescrip- Ct. ctw. Blue Diamond

IF YOU are not subscribed to The Pampa News "Deals," you have already missed a Downtown Pampa. chance for a free fountain Coke or a free coffee cup! Sign up by texting "pamleft out!

KEYES PHARMACY will be closed on Monday Dec. 26th. Call early for prescription refills! Merry Christmas 669-1202

4-H PECANS for sale.

RHEAMS DIAMOND Shop Open Mon thru Fri til 8pm! Merry Christmas from JONES the staff at Rheams Diamond

RHEAMS DIAMOND Necklace, valued at \$995!! We'll give it away Dec. 22nd Need not be present to win. Open late Mon-Fri til 8pm,

SPECIALS- LOTS of clothes & home decor marked down! Lots of stockpadeals" to 35350. Don't be ing stuffers! Will close early on Christmas Eve. Carousel Expressions, 665-0614

B&B PHARMACY will Samaritan be closed Monday Dec. 26th. Call for prescriptions 665-

EPA to dirty plants: Clean up or close

WASHINGTON (AP) — Clean up or shut down

That's the decision facing hundreds of the nation's oldest and dirtiest power plants under an Environmental Protection Agency rule announced Wednesday that will force plants to control mercury and other toxic pollutants for the first time.

The long overdue national standards rein in the largest remaining source of uncontrolled toxic pollution in the U.S. the emissions from the nation's coaland oil-fired power plants, which have been allowed to run for decades without addressing their full environmental and public health costs.

The impact of the ruling will be greatest in the Midwest and in the coal belt Kentucky, West Virginia and Virginia — where dozens of units likely will be mothballed, according to an Associated Press survey. The majority of facilities will continue to run, and find ways to reduce pollution.

About half of the 1,200 coal- and oilfired units nationwide still lack modern pollution controls, despite the EPA in

1990 getting the authority from Congress to control toxic air pollution from power plant smokestacks. A decade later, in 2000, the agency concluded it was necessary to clamp down on the emissions to protect public health.

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At a news conference Wednesday at Children's National Medical Center in Washington, EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson said the regulation was the Obama administration's "biggest clean air action yet", trumping a landmark agreement to double fuel economy standards for vehicles.

Red

inspired Project Red programs in a pair of new communities.

"We now have a Project Red in Tampa, Fla., and now we have one in Ennis, Texas," said Ryan, PTTR's associate pastor. "Actually, the guys from Ennis came here a few weeks ago to visit with (head pastor) C.J. and talked about how to make that work. Of course, we've got the one here. What we're doing is we have a website for each one: we have ProjectRedPampa, ProjectRedTampa ProjectRedEnnis, and they're all .org. We're sort of just like sister ministries, I guess you could say, and we're helping one another by

work guy, so he's helping us learn how to do some of the networking. We're just kind of pooling all of our resources to make this work." "The guy at Ennis" is Mike Colvill, a resident of the Dallas suburb who contacted the Fraziers after learning

of Project Red through the Pampa

utilizing technology — C.J. and I

have the ability to do marketing, and

actually, the guy at Ennis, he's a net-

ministry's Facebook presence. "They started following us on Facebook and our website and we didn't know they existed," Ryan said. "One day, they called up C.J. and they said, 'Hey man, we absolutely love what you're doing. We want to come up and we want to start one, too. Show us what to do.' We just started kind of creating a relationship through the Internet, via e-mail and things like that.'

"It's very humbling, because I met up with this team of guys from Ennis and they were just blown away with what we're doing," added C.J. "They were just like, 'Man, we just appreciate your boldness and we want to be a part of it.' I told them, 'Man, it wasn't us. We're just along for the ride with what the Lord is telling us to do.' It's very humbling that anybody would really want to be streamlining even the same vision or the same thing that we're doing in other cities.

The weeks-old Ennis program is still in its formative phases, although Ryan said that its online material has been published and it will begin planning its first project in February.

The Tampa outreach, on the other hand, was started by Wilson Clark, who worked with the Fraziers at the Crossing Church in Tampa before the brothers came to the Panhandle

"(Clark) was a part of (Crossing Church's) internship program, and when he graduated, he figured out what he wanted to do with his life, and what it seemed to be was that he wanted to start a Project Red because he saw what we were doing at the same time. We sort of took him under our wing and we've been helping him ever since.'

According to Project Red Tampa's website, the group has already completed five projects since October, with more already in the works.

While PTTR continues to operate in Pampa, the Fraziers said that the other Projects Red are unaffiliated with any specific churches within their communities and are cooperating with any groups willing to make others' lives better through God.

"The other groups, they're just purely outreach," said Ryan. "They want to connect with any churches in their area that might want to connect with them, and then they can do outreach together."

Ryan emphasized that the spread of Project Red is not coupled with the spread of any particular religious dogma or exchange of funds, and that the only sharing between the separate Project Red groups has been of computer files (graphics for the groups' promotional material, for example) and experience.

"We're not a denomination, and there's no money that's being crossed around," Ryan said. "These guvs have chosen to come under our leadership in a sense, because we're the ones with a little bit of experience now. They'll submit to some things that we ask them to do, because they do use our name and we don't want people around the country all of a sudden seeing the swirl (Project Red's logo) and then thinking something negative. We do try to protect ourselves in that sense, but we're just letting the church be the church here and let people help other people and do good work.

cont. from page 1

"This (expansion) was not our intention, really it wasn't," he continued. "Our intention is just to be out here and be committed to this community. We love to see growth and progress, but not so quickly because sometimes that can be a double-edged sword. We haven't pushed this at all. Actually, we've. had a few other people ask us (about starting other ProjectReds) and in one way, we've just always said that we're not ready to do that. These other two guys, though, man, they were just so passionate about it that we went along with it, and what's neat about it is they've really taken it upon themselves. C.J. and I, all we've had to do is we've just spent time on the phone with them and encouraged them that way.

While the Fraziers agreed that the quick spread and success of their mission-based ministry has been an encouraging blessing, they reiterated their commitment to Pampa for the long haul and said that it was great to see something that started in the area move into other cities.

"I'll tell you, that gives us a lot of life," Ryan said. "I'm a big city boy, so just to know that what we're doing in a smaller community is having an impact in a bigger city, that's great. ... It's like a flip-flop here. Normally, the big city is influencing the smaller communities, so I think it's cool that a small community is influencing a major met-

'I just like that it's not one person," said C.J. "Yes, it was started here. Yes, it was a vision that we had, but it's not 'ours.' We've always said that Paint This Town Red would start in Pampa and be a hub here, but it will go further than the boundaries of one city. It's crazy to see that it's already happened twice. It's just coolto be doing this and getting people excited about it, loving people with no strings attached."

four-pound cooked ham and larger families received a turkey.

"We had trouble getting turkeys, because they were so expensive this year," said Bivins. "For Christmas, they were 99 cents a pound. We bought 40, and that was \$588, and then the food bank finally got some in. We got 30 from them last week, and we

We're (closed Thursday), but we'll still use them. And we had one lady that donated 200 hams."

"We had a lot of churches contribute," she added.

This year, Good Samaritan's gave 83 families assistance with toys for Christmas.

"We just finished up the last four orders (Wednesday), and we only have six

them up yet," said Bivins. Volunteers worked seven days a week revamping toys and wrapping presents

for the families in need.

"We had a doll doctor that took all these dolls, and gave them shampoos and haircuts and made clothes for them, because last year, we ran out of dolls for little girls," said Bivins. "This year, every girl that asked for assistance got a doll.

We did get some new toys this year. Both the Dollar Generals put out two big boxes, and people donated new toys, and then Games Incorporated had a lot of toys left over that they

cont. from page 1

brought down." Gently used toys, Bivins said, often just need a little love to work like new.

"A lot of our stuff is electronics that the batteries have run out in," said Bivins. "People give them to their kids, and the battery dies, and they never play with them. So they're like new. You can put batteries in them, wash them off and kids love them."

Volunteers during the Christmas season included high school and junior high students, as well as church groups.

"We have wonderful volunteers here, and I think it's a great place," said Bivins. "I think we do a lot of good. You have to believe in it to keep coming back, because there are some really sad stories, and things you can't change and you can't help very much. But, if you can keep the kids fed, then you've done something."

Donations of money, clothes, shoes, household items or food can be dropped off at the Good Samaritan's office at 309 North Ward Street. They are open Monday through Thursday from 2 to 5 p.m.

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Doc: Standford not competent

HOUSTON (AP) - Medical experts for jailed Texas financier R. Allen Stanford continue making their case that he is not competent to be tried next month on charges he bilked investors out of \$7 billion in a massive Ponzi scheme.

A neurologist testified at a competency hearing Wednesday in Houston federal court that Stanford has difficulty with speech and his memory due to a "significant traumatic brain injury" the financier suffered during a September 2009 jail fight.

But federal prosecutors contend Stanford is mentally stable. They want Stanford's Jan. 23 trial to proceed.

Stanford had been declared incompetent in January due to an addiction to an anti-anxiety drug he developed while jailed in Houston. Doctors that treated Stanford at a North Carolina prison hospital say he is now competent.

Richards subject of new play

WASHINGTON (AP) - A new play about the memorable former Texas Gov. Ann Richards is opening at the Kennedy Center in Washington.

"Ann" is written and performed by actress Holland Taylor who spent three years developing the project to create a portrait of Richards. Taylor used Richards' personal and public papers at the University of Texas and interviewed those who knew the former governor to develop her character for the stage.

The play runs through Jan. 15 at the Kennedy Center's Eisenhower Theater.

Gingrich: Congress derelict

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) - Republican presidential candidate Newt Gingrich says Congress's failure to extend a payroll tax cut for millions of workers is an "absurd dereliction of duty." His chief rival, Mitt Romney, declined to comment.

Gingrich especially faulted the Senate, saying its decision to adjourn without extending the tax cut for a full year is an example of why the public is sick of Washington and sick of politics.

The Democratic-controlled Senate had voted to extend the tax cut for two months. But the Republican-led House killed that bill and called for opening negotiations on a yearlong extension of the tax break.

Campaigning in New Hampshire, Romney said he wasn't going to "get into the back and forth-of-the congressional sausage-making."

The tax cut is set to expire at the end of December.

Texas gas prices slip 4 cents

HOUSTON (AP) - Retail gasoline prices across Texas have slipped 4 cents this week as travelers prepare to hit the road for the holidays.

AAA Texas on Wednesday reported that the average price at the pump is \$3.05 per gallon. The association says gasoline prices nationwide are down a nickel, to settle at \$3.21 per gallon.

AAA Texas says Texarkana has the highest average price statewide for gasoline, at \$3.07 a gallon. El Paso has the cheapest gasoline, at an average \$2.95 per gallon.

The association says, with a recent drop in crude oil prices, retail gasoline is at its lowest point since February

AAA has predicted that as many as 6.9 million Texans plan to drive to their holiday destinations, from the period starting Friday through Jan. 2, 2012

RNC fundraising tops in Nov.

WASHINGTON (AP) - Republicans collected more money than Democrats in party fundraising in November, as the two parties race to build strong war chests heading into next year's elections.

The Republican National Committee raised \$7.1 million in November while the Democratic National Committee brought in \$6.7 million during the month.

The DNC fundraising included \$2.7 million for the Obama Victory Fund, a joint fundraising account by the DNC and President Barack Obama's re-election campaign.

The RNC has \$14.1 million in the bank through the end of the month, compared with \$10.5 million for Democrats.

Republicans are carrying \$13.9 million in debt, compared with \$7.8 million in debt for the DNC. The RNC had \$24 million in debt when Chairman Reince Priebus took over the committee.

12 years for Medicaid fraud

HOUSTON (AP) - A Houston businessman has been sentenced to 12 years in federal prison and must repay nearly \$1.5 million over Medicaid fraud.

Prosecutors say 34-year-old Benjamin Essien was sentenced Wednesday. He owned two durable medical equipment companies, Logic World Medical and Roben Medical.

Investigators say Essien used the identities of Medicaid beneficiaries to file false claims. Essien earlier pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit health care fraud, five counts of health care fraud and two counts of aggravated identity theft in cases since 2004.

His father, 60-year-old Bassey Essien, was convicted in April of 19 counts including conspiracy, health care fraud and aggravated identity theft.

His sister, 31-year-old Rose Essien, was convicted of 11 counts of health care fraud and five counts of aggravated identity theft. Both face sentencing next month.

Grinches steal toys, get caught

BROWNWOOD (AP) - Two Central Texas men on probation and doing community service for a holiday gift program have been accused of stealing donated toys.

Both face probation revocation after allegedly taking items from Toys For Kids in Brownwood.

The Brownwood Bulletin reports 20-year-old Bubbba Thomas Vannoy of Brownwood and 19-year-old Cory Evan Lyon of Rising Star were arrested Tuesday. Bond has been set at \$50,000. Jail records Wednesday

did not list attorneys for Vannoy and Lyon.

Records show the men were accused of burglary and engaging in organized criminal activity after 2009 breakins at some schools. Each was sentenced to 10 years of deferred adjudication probation.

Texas rejects Valero tax break bid

HOUSTON (AP) - The Texas environmental agency has rejected a request by oil giant Valero to get a large tax break at six refineries, exemptions that could have triggered refunds of up to \$92 million that would have come out of the budgets of cashstrapped school districts and municipalities.

The Associated Press on Wednesday obtained letters dated Dec. 14 that were sent by Mark Vickery, executive director of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, to Valero's six Texas refin-

eries. The letters state the agency has rejected the request for a partial tax exemption on equipment that removes sulfur dioxide from crude oil.

A TCEQ review of information provided by Valero Energy Corp. "does not demonstrate that the hydrotreating equipment provides a partial environmental benefit at the site" as required by Texas rules, Vickery wrote.

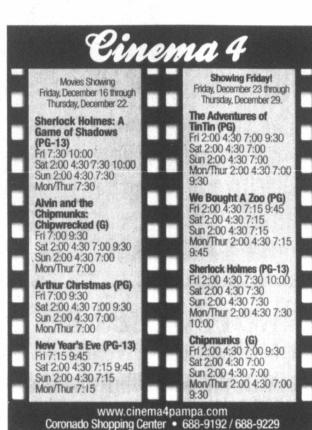
The agency's move indicates it will also reject 10 other similar requests. An AP analysis of the applications and tax information

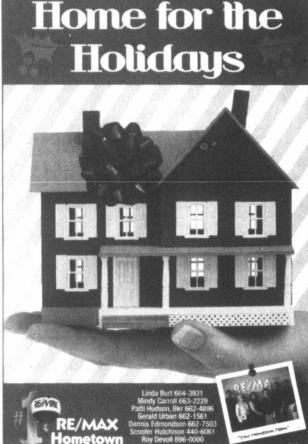
indicated that if granted, Texas school districts and municipalities could be forced to refund up to \$135 million. Some county officials estimate that if granted, the tax breaks would have resulted in a loss of revenue of about \$100 million to regions where the refineries are located.

Valero has 20 days beginning on the date of the letter - to appeal the ruling. Company spokesman Bill Day did not immediately respond to phone messages and emails seeking comment, but has in the past argued that the tax break and refund would not be as large as the AP analysis indicated. He did not, however, provide an estimate as to how much money the company would save or be refunded if the tax exemption were to be granted.

Valero argued it should be granted the tax exemption under a Texas rule that gives such breaks to

VALERO cont. on page 5







Viewpoints

Today in History

Today is Thursday, Dec. 22, the 356th day of 2011. There are nine days left in the year. Winter arrives at 12:30 a.m. Eastern time.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 22, 1941, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill arrived in Washington for a wartime conference with President Franklin D. Roosevelt. On this date:

In 1775, Esek Hopkins was appointed the commander-in-chief of the Continental Navy

In 1808, Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 in C minor, Op. 67, Symphony No. 6 in F major, Op. 68, and Piano Concerto No. 4 in G major, Op. 58, had their world premieres in Vienna, Austria.

In 1864, during the Civil War, Union Gen. William T. Sherman said in a message to President Abraham Lincoln - "I beg to present you as a Christmas-gift the city of Savannah.'

In 1894, French army officer Alfred Dreyfus was convicted of treason in a court-martial that triggered worldwide charges of anti-Semitism. (Dreyfus was eventually vindicated.) In 1910, a fire lasting more than 26 hours broke

out at the Chicago Union Stock Yards; 21 firefighters were killed in the collapse of a burning building. In 1944, during the World War II Battle of the

Bulge, U.S. Brig. Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe rejected a German demand for surrender, writing 'Nuts!" in his official reply.

In 1968, Julie Nixon married David Eisenhower in a private ceremony in New York.

In 1977, three dozen people were killed when a 250-foot-high grain elevator at the Continental Grain Company plant in Westwego, La., exploded. In 1984, New York City resident Bernhard Goetz shot and wounded four youths on a Manhattan subway, claiming they were about to rob him.

In 1991, the body of Marine Lt. Col. William R. Higgins, an American hostage slain by his terrorist captors, was found dumped along a highway in Lebanon.

Ten years ago: Richard C. Reid, a passenger on an American Airlines flight from Paris to Miami, tried to ignite explosives in his shoes, but was subdued by flight attendants and fellow passengers. (Reid, who later pleaded guilty, is serving a life sentence in federal prison.)

Five years ago: Rape charges were dropped against three Duke University lacrosse players, but kidnapping and sexual offense charges remained. (Those charges were later dropped as well.)

One year ago: President Barack Obama signed a law allowing gays for the first time in history to serve openly in America's military.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Hector Elizondo is 75. Country singer Red Steagall is 73. ABC News anchor Diane Sawyer is 66. Rock singer-musician Rick Nielsen (Cheap Trick) is 65. Rock singermusician Michael Bacon is 63. Baseball All-Star Steve Garvey is 63. Singer Robin Gibb is 62 Golfer Jan Stephenson is 60. Actress BernNadette Stanis is 58. Rapper Luther Campbell is 51. Country singer-musician Chuck Mead is 51. Actor Ralph Fiennes is 49. Actress Lauralee Bell is 43. Country singer Lori McKenna is 43. Actress Dina Meyer is 43. Actress Heather Donahue is 38. Actor Chris Carmack is 31. Actor Logan Huffman is 22. Rhythm-and-blues singer Jordin Sparks is 22.

Thought for Today: "Winter is not a season, it's an occupation." - Sinclair Lewis, American author



Newt rewrites his Reagan connection

In 1995, when Newt Gingrich first became speaker of the House, Bob Dole was already on the threshold of becoming the longest-serving Senate Republican leader in U.S. history. Relations between the two GOP leaders, which were never chummy, were not helped by Gingrich's openly disparaging Bob Dole as "the tax collector for the welfare state."

Barely two years later, after having been chosen Time magazine's Man of the Year, Gingrich had plummeted in public esteem to where, in a CBS-New York Times poll, just 14 percent of voters had favorable personal feelings toward the speaker.

This prompted an apocryphal Washington exchange between a perplexed Gingrich and Dole. "Why do people take such an "instant" dislike to me?" asked a perplexed Gingrich, to whom Dole bluntly explained: "Because it saves them time."

Watching the last televised candidates debate before the Jan. 3 Iowa presidential caucuses, and hearing Newt Gingrich once again invoke the name and record of President Ronald Reagan as well as his own close relationship with Reagan, reminded me that Dole wasn't the only one on the receiving end of Gingrich's barbs.

At the Reagan presidential library this fall, Gingrich boasted of how "I helped Reagan create millions of jobs while he was president." And after modestly acknowledging his own less significant role than Reagan's, added, "We helped defeat the Soviet empire." Unmentioned by Gingrich then, or in any of the 2,414 debates during this campaign, was his

1985 criticism of President Reagan's historic meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev as "the most dangerous summit for the West since Adolf Hitler met with (British Prime Minister) Chamberlain at Munich in

MARK

SHIELDS

In an interview on CNBC, Gingrich recently emphasized his close identification with the nation's 40th president: "I've done a movie on Ronald Reagan called 'Rendezvous With Destiny.' Callista and I did. We've done a book on Ronald Reagan. You know I campaigned with Reagan. I first met Reagan in '74. I'm very happy to talk about Ronald Reagan.'

Just like when Newt went to the Huse floor during the Gipper's second White House term and declared the president's Soviet policy a "failure." Here is what Gingrich said: "Measured against the scale and momentum of the

Soviet empire's challenge, the Reagan administration has failed, is failing and without a dramatic, fundamental change in strategy will continue to fail. ... The burden of the failure frankly must be placed first upon President pollut ment a is des them

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This was after Gingrich, as reported in the Congressional Record, had found Reagan responsible for our national "decay": "Beyond the obvious indicators of decay, the fact is that President Reagan has lost controlof the national agenda." Students of-Newt-speak will recognize that by: "decay," Gingrich was generally referring to factors such as crime, illegitimate births and illiteracy

These blatant contradictions betweenwhat Congressman Gingrich actually said at the time about President Reagan and what Candidate Gingrich now offers as fictitious reminiscences of his unwavering allegiance to-Reagan remind me of one of the former speaker's own broadsides against Washington, D.C. "In this cold and ruthless city," he once said, "the center" of hypocrisy is Capitol Hill." Newt-Gingrich is quite obviously an experton both subjects.

Mark Shields is a nationally syndicated

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MEMBER 2011

EXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION



We welcome your letters

To ensure publication, please adhere to the following guidelines:

· Letters should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity · All letters must be signed. Submit your name, address and telephone number with the letter for verifica-

tion. Only your name and city will be published. · Defamatory comments will not be published.

· E-mail submissions are welcome

• The views and opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of The Pampa News or its staff.

Valero

companies that install pollution-control equipment at its plants. The rule is designed to encourage them to make expensive upgrades at old, dirty plants and refineries.

School district and municipal officials have long opposed the requests. School districts were especially concerned because if a refund had been granted it would have come on the heels of a \$4 billion cut in state funding to public schools.

Porte ISD Superintendent Lloyd Graham, who serves as a school district representative on the TCEQ's tax relief for pollution control property advisory committee, called the agency's decision "very sound."

"The executive direc-

tor's decision to limit multi-million dollar property tax exemptions to only those times when exemptions are fully supported by the statutes and rules is greatly appreciated, especially at a time when schools, junior colleges, cities, and counties have already had to face and manage severe budget shortfalls that directly affect the citizens of this state," Graham said in a statement provided to the

Valero's request has been pending since 2007, when Valero first asked for a full exemption on hydrotreater units it installed at its six Texas refineries. It argued that the units reduced pollu-

But the hydrotreat-

The items will be part

of a sale to benefit the

Bastrop Public Library,

which was not damaged

during wildfires that broke

out Labor Day weekend.

Officials say some of the hundreds of homes that

burned had books checked

out from the library.

ers were installed after the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 2006 began requiring refineries to remove sulfur dioxide from crude oil.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

stating the pollution reductions were being enjoyed in other regions, not where the refineries are located. Valero appealed and the commissioners asked the agency's staff to consider

rejected Valero's request, a partial rejection. That is what has now been turned

"The Executive Director's decisions are appropriate, well-reasoned and legally supported by the applicable statue and

cont. from page 1 agency rules" said David Hodgins, attorney from Thompson and Horton LLP, who serves as legal counsel to several school districts and community colleges directly affected by the refineries' requests.

PET OF THE WEEK Sponsored by The Pampa News

Your local animal shelter needs donations of the following items: **Bleach and Paper Towels**

Animal #13495

"Lacey" Female Pit Cross

Animal #13574

"Elvis"

Male Terrier Cross

Animal #13507 Allie" Female Lab Cross

Animal #13441

"Maxie" Female Cat



"Candy" Female Poodle Cross

Animal #P8

"Chico" Chihuahua Cross

If you're looking for a "forever friend," call or visit us today! The Shelter is open to the public Mon. - Fri. from 3-6 pm and Sat. & Sun. from 3-5 p.m.

For more info about these pets or any other questions, call 806-669-5775 or visit us at the Hobart Street Park. All photos of animals can be viewed online at www.cityofpampa.org.

7,000 books given to Bastrop

KERRVILLE (AP) -A Central Texas library is donating about 7,000 books and other learning items to a community devastated by wildfires.

Movers in Kerrville on Tuesday picked up the boxes of books, periodicals and DVDs bound for Bastrop.

The Kerrville Daily Times reports the items had not been checked out of the Butt-Holdsworth Memorial Library, which is being renovated, in at least four years. Library director Dan Schwartz says his staff had to inventory the 154,000-piece collection, for the overhaul, so he suggested the Bastrop donation.

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Subscribe Today! Call us at 806-669-2525



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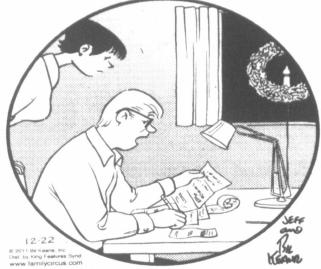
the Christmas lights!

25% OFF 25% OFF FREE 25% OFF Diamond Men's Diamond Diamond Earrings **Bracelets** Rings 20% to 50% 25% OFF OFF Seiko Watches 25% OFF Diamond Given away 7 pm Gemstone Fashion Thursday, Jewelry Rings December 22 Santa's Gift List Ameleon Tewelry Fossil Watches - UT & OU Bracelets and Charms Gold Roses Wids Tewelry Seiko Music & Mantel Clocks Open till 8 PM Mon-Fri till Christmas III N. CUYLER Good Boys . Good Girls 665-2831 Come downtown and look at

TO COMPANY AND A PRINCIPLE AND A PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF A PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF THE P

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"According to my calculations, their Christmas lists should REALLY help stimulate the economy."

Non Sequitur

With 3 days before Christmas Hopes were beginning to fade. To rescue the reindeer, A boat had to be made But none of them knew How to build one from scratch So thinking out of the box A bold plan they did hatch It was risky at best, But success not remote By turning the sleigh Into a boat! Then just as they thought A loss might turn to a win, Up from the water Came an ominous fin. Will will be WILEYLYKE ENETHUPE, NET GO COMICS.

Nest Heads



HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday,

Dec. 22, 2011: nine lives this year. Don't push Lady Luck too far. An element of excitement also runs riot in your next year. Flex, detach and maintain a sense of humor. Stay grounded and realistic. If you are single, you could meet someone very important to your life's history. After this year, look at this two of you really care about each other. Domestically, one element could shake up the status quo. SAGITTARIUS makes a great doctor for you!

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ A lot happens quickly, before you can even run interference. The community understands your strong leadership, whereas your personal circle often experiences your kindness. You communicate unusually well with an expert or a distant friend. Tonight: Go caroling.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

one person who you can count on. Together as a team you accomplish more. An unexpected insight occurs because of this relationship. Your optimistic ways make a big difference. Tonight: Enjoy the one you any side. Tonight: Your wishes count. are with.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

their ideas. The unexpected runs through your plans, especially those involving groups and/or friends. Generally you follow your intellect, yet today your intuition is right-on. Tonight: Plans change rapidly.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) ** Keep a steady pace. Enjoy what is happening. You might need to make a special effort toward a co-worker or someone you care about. Though you cannot change this person's mood, you can make naturally support you, especially a roomhim or her grin more easily. Tonight: Lastminute holiday details.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

*** You are in the mood for celedecisions. Spontaneity seems like the right path. Tonight: Act like a teenager.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Your mind is on family and You might remind others of a cat with hearth. You could be distracted, while at the same time, a friend or loved one at a distance might need attention. Excitement surrounds a child, friend and/or loved one. You are in the holiday mood. Tonight: Head home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

**** Your words make all the tie more seriously. If you are attached, the difference to key loved ones. Even coworkers appreciate your ideas and potential. A key person in your life adds to your already good humor. Discussions about plans invigorate everyone. Tonight: Just

be available. You don't need to go far. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Be aware of someone's possessive streak. You laugh, and another person relaxes. Someone could act in a surprising manner and throw you off balance. You could find that plans dissolve, but the day takes a potentially more interesting twist. Tonight: Finish off as much as you can.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

*** Put your efforts where they *** You have an intense bond with count. You don't always have the kind of control you might like. Today might be an example. Use good sense with spending. Your instincts guide you more than your intellect. You can make an argument for

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

*** You know what works. The **** Encourage others to express problem is that you might not be up for putting in the effort. You see situations far differently than in the past. A friend proves to be unusually supportive, allowing you to be less uptight. Tonight: Get some extra zzz's if you can. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

*** You probably know a little too much. The trick is to be discreet. A meeting points in the correct path. Use your resilience to move in a new direction. Others mate or loved one. Tonight: Where your

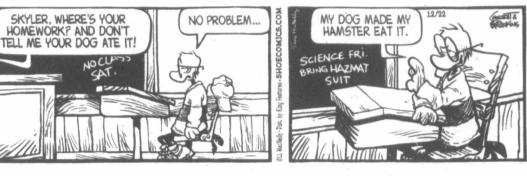
friends are PISCES (Feb.19-March 19)

*** Your sunny manner attracts bration and good times. Others encourage many people. You do need to be willing you to go with your whims, as that gives to establish boundaries, even if you don't them permission to do the same. The un- want to. Reach out for others at a distance, expected plays a big role in your plans and making sure you have time for a chat with this person before Christmas. Tonight: Take the lead.

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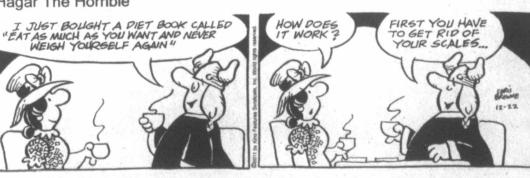
Marvin



WHAT LIST OF YOURS



Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Sports

PHS grad Mickley brings Texas flair to Okla. volleyball

ANDREW GLOVER aglover@thepampanews. com

2001, Lindsay Mickley and her freshman volleyball teammates looked wide-eyed at head coach Shannon Stroud when they were told they would be running 200s.

"I remember thinking, Oh my gosh, you aren't supposed to run in volleyball," Mickley, a 2005 Pampa graduate, said.

Ten years later, Mickley received the same look from her players as she started her first year of coaching at Elgin High School in Elgin, Okla.

Mickley said she was exposed to sports at a young age.

"My dad Ammons) coached a long time," Mickley said. "I was constantly in the gym and on the field. I enjoyed

Mickley worked as an assistant coach for two years before taking over this season. She said she was going to bring her "Texas flair" to the pro-

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2.22

"I had them run seven 200s like I did in high school," Mickley said. "We stayed on the track until everyone made it. I put my expectations in early so they knew what I wanted."

Mickley said the most important thing she had to teach her players was to not dwell on their mis-



Lindsey Mickley (First row far right) poses with her team after winning a tournament. MIckley is 2005 Pampa graduated led Elgin to the state semifinals in her first season.

"I hope I was the player that listened and wanted to get better at something," Mickley said. "I'm teaching my players to get over the play. That's really important in volleyball because the

next play is going to come

The 2005 Pampa graduate said her first season was nerve-wracking.

"I don't look if it's close," Mickley said. This year, Mickley men and one senior."

guided Elgin to a state tournament appearance, where it finished third.

"It's a big deal to make it to state," Mickley said. "I had a really young team. I started three fresh-

Mickley said she is already looking forward to next season.

"All of them are comback," Mickley "Hopefully, their work ethic will be twice as much than last year.

Hopefully, their trust in me is twice as much. Last year, we just went with the flow. Next year, we are going to be expecting those results. Hopefully, this year raises the bar.'

Cowboys running out of options at RB, as injuries pile up

Cowboys are running out of running backs.

tice Tuesday because of hamstring tightness, leaving the NFC East-leading Cowboys with Sammy Morris and Chauncey Washington. Neither was even with an NFL team at Thanksgiving.

Coach Jason Garrett is hopeful that Jones will be able to practice this week and play in Saturday regular-season home finale against, Philadelphia (7-7).

If not, Morris would be the likely starter a week after the 12-year NFL veteran was signed and made his season debut behind Jones with 12 carries for 53 yards against Tampa Bay.

"Sammy is the most logical choice, so he got a lot of the work (Tuesday), and we have another young back on our practice roster

right now, but we hopeful that Felix will be able to practice as the week goes on."

Garrett didn say which hamstring was bothering Jones, who wasn in the locker room when it was open to reporters.

feels good," "He Garrett said. "He just had this little tightness in his hamstring, so we didn think it was a good idea to have him practice."

But Jones being out of practice was a reminder of just how thin the playoff-chasing

earlier with a hamstring injury

Washington, whose only four NFL carries came as a rookie for Jacksonville in 2008, was signed to the Cowboys practice squad Nov. 30. He had been out of football since being cut by St. Louis during training camp on Aug. 4.

Morris was home in New England when he got a call last week from the Cowboys and Garrett, his former teammate and coach in Miami. Morris

IRVING — The Dallas (Washington), so he get after Phillip Tanner, ting, I guess as far as the first 13 games. putting on pads," Morris said Tuesday. "The soreness was next, so I got to work my way through it

and get back out there." Asked what he expected his role to be if Jones isn able to go, Morris insisted it will be the same as last week in Tampa Bay.

"Help the team win. It not really complicated," Morris said. "Whether it five carries, or 25, it help the team win."

The 34-year-old Morris played in all 16 games for New England last season, but hasn started

a chance to do some of another rookie running like reacting to some- "Nah, the fresh legs that too," Garrett said. back, had been put on body to cut, then it was went out the window like "That kind of the plan injured reserve a week on game day actually five years ago," Morris said. "I really just trying to just make the most and do whatever I can to stay on top of the soreness, or tiredness, whatever it may be. ... But there was just a general sense of something being new

> Especially considering that before the Cowboys called he was resigning himself to the thought that he had maybe played his last NFL game.

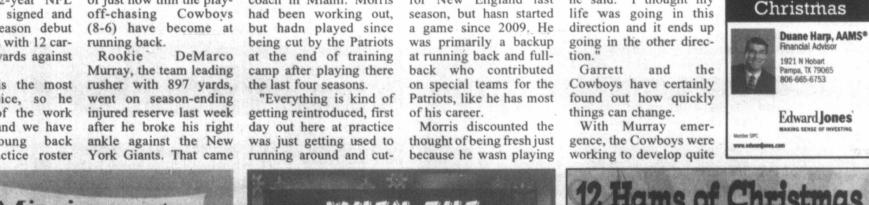
again."

"It just shows you how fast things can change," he said. "I thought my life was going in this rookie and Jones.

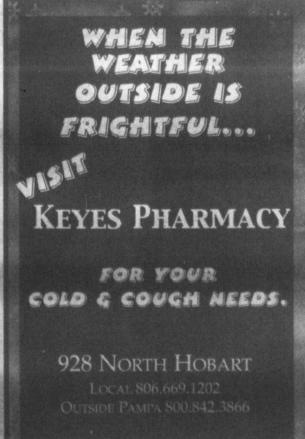
They may play their next game with Morris and Washington.

"It part of the game, why there are so many running backs in this league, said Washington, who shared time with Morris in practice Tuesday. "It a good opportunity, to get a rhythm with the first team. ... It feels good, the coaches are putting back there just to step in, give Sammy some rest."

Merry









Study: People moving south, west

ST. LOUIS (AP) - If migration trends tracked by the nation's largest moving company are any indication, the South and West are getting more crowded and people are moving away from parts of the Northeast and Midwest.

But the study by suburban St. Louis-based United Van Lines also indicates those trends that have been around for many years may be slowly changing.

United Van Lines has been tracking moving trends since 1977. Its study released to The Associated Press on Wednesday looked at all moves that involved either going to or leaving a state or the District of Columbia.

The study over the years has accurately reflected migration trends in the U.S., said Carl Walter, vice president of United Van Lines. The data is so accurate that real estate firms, financial institutions and others use United's data for planning and analysis, he said.

For 2011. United tracked 113,916 interstate moves from Jan. 1 through Dec. 9. For the fourth year in a row, Washington, D.C., had the highest percentage of inbound moves, 62.2 per-

Other top inbound states were in the South - North Carolina (60.6 percent of moves were inbound), Arkansas (55.4 percent), South Carolina and Texas (both 55 percent) - and in the West - Oregon (60.6 percent) and Nevada (55.6 percent).

But the trend of migration to the West seems to be slowing because several states with high inbound numbers over the past decade are now relatively stable, Walter said.

Illinois and New Jersey tied for the largest outbound migration, with 60.5 percent of moves involving those states heading out.

The study looks only at numbers of moves and does not seek to determine why people are moving to or away from any particular states, Walter said.

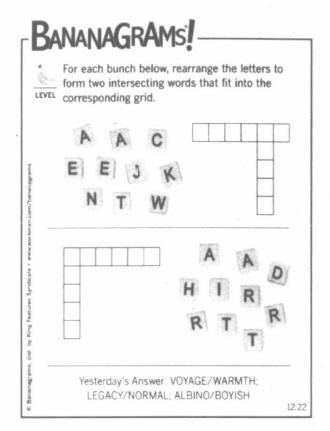
Several states in the Northeast saw more people moving out than in - New York (58.1 percent), New Hampshire (56.7 percent), Rhode Island (56.5 percent), Connecticut (55.2 percent) and Maine (55.1 percent) were all among the top 10 for outbound moves. Michigan (58.1 percent) was fourth for outbound moves after being third last year and first each year from 2006 through 2009.

In fact, Walter said the study indicates the long of people moving away from states in the northern Midwest seems to be turning around.

"For more than 10 years, states bordering Lake Michigan have experienced high outbound migration in large numbers," he said. "While Michigan and Illinois still appear on the list, migration out of the region has slowed considerably."

Ohio and Missouri, Pennsylvania all had high outbound moves in 2010, but all were relatively balanced this year.

Not all of the southern states were proving to be destinations. West Virginia (56.2 percent) and Kentucky (55.7 percent) had high outbound moves in 2011



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Dear Abby...

By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: On Oct. 19 you printed a letter from "Bruised and Abused," a man who is dating a woman who go to jail. Men are too often Domestic Violence Hotline becomes physically violent ashamed to call the police (800) 799-7233 or SAFE when they argue. I know this is a touchy subject. I have heard from authorities that about half of domestic violence occurs when a woman need. - JOE IN MISSOURI throws the first blow

that her attack on him isn't violence because she's a woman and he is a man. As to talk about the role women play in the domestic violence cycle as well as the responsibilities of men. I'm saving remind me. - DONALD, A CALIFORNIA DENTIST

DEAR DONALD: Since I printed that letter I have heard from readers telling me my answer didn't go far enough. (I advised him Among those who wrote to me were doctors, members of law enforcement and mental health specialists as well as former victims. My newspaper readers for everything that happened.

abused. I was abused by my forbid he ends up dead. - former wife and an ex-girl- BATTERED IN ARIZONA friend before I recognized it else was there for me.

has marks on him, SHE will should contact the National because men think it reflects (Stop Abuse for Everyone) at on their manhood. However, they need to put that shame DIA, Ph.D., LONG BEACH, aside and get the help they CALIF

DEAR ABBY: I'm a re-Most women believe, as tired cop. "Bruised" asked to leave "Carmen." But the abusive girlfriend said, you if what his girlfriend something he wrote in his letis doing is domestic abuse. ter concerns me. He said, "I Your reply did not mention don't want to end the relationthat his girlfriend hitting him ship, but I think it's the only difficult as it may be, we need IS domestic abuse. It doesn't way I can make her see things matter if the abuser is male or from my perspective.' female, nor the size of the vic-

the letter from "Bruised" to cops and report this before she her, and that this would stop goads him into a response that her behavior. That would be gets him arrested. The courts a huge misconception on his can mandate the therapy she part. apparently needs. - RUSS IN HELENA, MONT.

victim. People asked me why something that will require to end the relationship.) I didn't fight back. I wasn't intense counseling to correct,

raised to hit women. me in the hospital twice and things for good - and run left me blind in my left eye. like the wind! - BRUCE IN She spent nine months in jail HOUSTON

DEAR ABBY: Because gardless of who is throwing on-female. It is very often we are bigger and stronger the punches. Tell that man female-on-male, and partnerdoes not mean we don't get he needs to get out now! God on-partner in homosexual

for what it was and got myself matter if he is a boy and she and stay away. - STUDENT the help I needed. Nobody is a girl, or that he is bigger NURSE IN CHAPEL HILL and stronger. Women do

If she is hitting him, he abuse men. It's a crime that needs to call the police. If he too often goes unreported. He www.safe4all.org. — CLAU-

DEAR ABBY: I agree with you that the man needs

This indicates to me that he thinks he can "teach her a "Bruised" should call the lesson" by breaking up with

Carmen's behavior isn't something that can be modi-DEAR ABBY: I was a fied through a breakup. It is if it can be corrected at all. In the end, my wife put The boyfriend needs to end

DEAR ABBY: Domes-Violence is violence re- tic abuse isn't just malerelationships. "Bruised and Abused" needs to notify the DEAR ABBY: It doesn't police, get a restraining order

Holiday pet boarding

The holiday season is a time when many family and friends come together. If you'll be going home for the holidays, that trip may or may not include the family pet.

For people with a pet at home, it might not always be possible to bring the pet along during holiday excursions. Therefore, arrangements must be made for the animal while you will be away. From pet sitters to boarding facilities, pet parents must decide where to turn.

According to the American Pet Products Association, Americans spend roughly \$3.5 billion on grooming and boarding their pets every year. Boarding is common during vacations or holiday travel.

When preparing a pet for boarding, there are some suggested tips for making the process go smoothly. The process begins even before you're bringing your pet to the boarder. Finding a boarder

Most animals are like extended members of the family. Therefore, pet parents want to find a facility that will take good care of the animal and ensure its comfort and safety. Word-of-mouth recommendations are one of the best ways to get a feel for a particular boarder if you haven't used one before.

When visiting facilities, look for certain things, including cleanliness, the number of employees available, the appearance of the animals, the areas where the pets are allowed to go and things of this nature.

Ask certain questions, including how

pets are housed and exercised. Find out if you are allowed to bring in food for the pet and his or her own treats to minimize stomach discomfort. Investigate how a health issue is handled, including whether your veterinarian will be called or if the facility has a relationship with another vet.

Steer clear of facilities that do not offer satisfactory answers to all of your

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questions or seem opposed to your ideas and concerns.

Preparing the pet Many boarding facilities require that pets be vaccinated prior to their stays. The boarder may have specific immunizations that are required. Be sure to update vaccinations a month

prior to boarding the animal. Sometimes the vaccination can produce minor symptoms of the actual illness, which the boarder may mistake as a sick dog.

There are also other things that you can do to prep a dog or cat prior to its stay. Get a vet check-up just to ensure your pet's health, especially if the animal is old and has chronic conditions. At this point, double-check medications and get extra supplies for the boarder.

Bathe the pet and keep up with flea/ tick prevention so the animal will be protected when in close proximity to other animals. Inspect the dog or cat to ensure that the pet does not have an infestation.

Checking in

Bring your pet to the boarder early and pack along some of the animal's comfort toys or belongings, including a piece of clothing that has your scent. Clearly mark bags of food and any items you bring so they will be identified for your dog or cat.

Leave contact information with the boarder and review the information on how long the stay will be. Inquire as to what times are best to phone in and check up on the pet. Some high-tech boarding facilities may have cameras in the building that you can access via the Internet to see the goings-on while

Leaving the pet may pluck at your heartstrings, so it's best not to linger, otherwise you could add to your anxiety and also the dog or cat's level of nervousness. If you do your homework researching facilities, chances are you have found a boarder that will provide adequate care for your pet and you'll return to find a pet who is healthy and happy to see you.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH **ACROSS** 2 TV's

1 Zorro accessory

5 Church services

Paton 12 Skiing

11 Writer

variety 13 Fellow

14 Good witch of Oz

15 Effort 17 Kicker's

aid

18 Cardiff's land

22 Rubber source

24 Snoozed

25 Gold (Sp.)

26 Garden

visitor

27 Dancer's

boss 30 Crooked

32 Sword material

33 Frat letter 34 School

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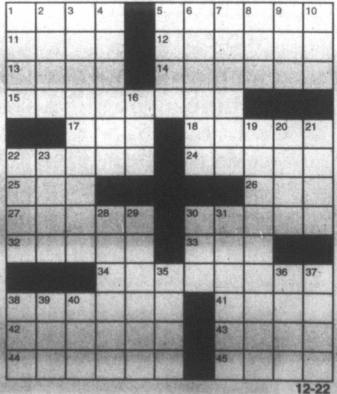
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38 Nile snake 39 Stephen

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Economy ends tough 2011 on a surprising upswing

PAUL WISEMAN
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) - The economy is ending 2011 on a roll.

The job market is healthier. Americans are spending lustily on holiday gifts. A long-awaited turnaround for the depressed housing industry may be under way. Gas is cheaper. Factories are busier. Stocks are high-

Not bad for an economy faced with a debt crisis in Europe and, as recently as this summer, scattered predictions of a second recession at home. Instead, the economy has grown faster each quarter this year, and the last three months should be the best.

"Things are looking up," says Chus Rupkey, chief financial economist at the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi

When The Associated Press surveyed 43 economists in August, they pegged the likelihood of mother recession at roughly one in four. The Dow Jones industrial average was lurching up or down by 400 points or more some days.

There was plenty of reason for gloom. A political standoff over the federal borrowing limit brought the United States to the brink of default and cost the nation its top-drawer credit rating.

Most analysts now rule out another recession. They think the economy will grow at an annual rate of more than 3 percent from October through December, the fastest pace since a 3.8 percent performance the spring of 2010.

Many economists still worry that the year-end surge isn't sustainable, in part because the average worker's pay is barely rising. And Europe may already be sliding into a recession that will infect the United States.

The outlook could darken further if Congress can't break the impasse block-

ing an extension of a Social Security tax cut for 160 million Americans and emergency unemployment benefits.

Yet for now, the economy is on an upswing that few had predicted:

*JOBS: The number of people applying for unemployment benefits came in at 366,000 last week, down from a peak of 659,000 in March 2009. Even in good economic times, the figure would be between 280,000 and 350,000.

Employers have added at least 100,000 jobs five months in a row, the longest streak since 2006. And the unemployment rate fell from 9 percent in October to 8.6 percent last month, the lowest since March 2009.

Small businesses are hiring again, too, according to the National Federation of Independent Business.

•SPENDING: The holiday shopping season has turned out better than anyone expected. Sales from November through Saturday were up 2.5 percent. Americans have spent \$32 billion online, 15 percent more than a year ago. Retails sales were up in November for the sixth month in a row.

• C O N S U M E R CONFIDENCE: Americans felt better about the economy in November than they had since July, according to the Conference Board, a business group that tracks the mood of consumers.

The board's consumer confidence index climbed 15 points to 56 in November, the biggest one-month jump since April 2003. During the Great Recession, the index fell as low as 25.

• GAS: Falling prices at the pump have freed more money for consumers to spend on appliances, furniture, vacations and other things that help drive the economy.

• INVENTORIES: Businesses are restocking shelves and warehouses, more confident that customers will buy their products. In October, their inventories were up 8.7 percent from a year earlier. An increase in inventories is expected to account for perhaps a third of growth this quarter.

The battered housing market might be showing signs of recovery. Home construction rose more than 9 percent in November from October, driven by apartment building. And the National Association of Realtors said Wednesday that sales of previously occupied homes rose 4 percent in November.

But housing is climbing out of a deep hole: The existing homes sold at an annual rate of 4.4 million - well below the 6 million that would signal a healthy housing market. Once they

peer into 2012, economists, turn cautious. Bernard Baumohl, chief economist with the Economic Outlook Group, says that stronger consumer spending "is absolutely unsustainable.

.... Wages have not kept pace with inflation all year."

The government says that once you adjust for inflation, weekly earnings dropped 1.8 percent from November 2010 to last month. Consumers have used savings or credit cards to finance their purchases. Once bills come due in early 2012, Baumohl foresees a cutback in spending.

sees a cutback in spending.
Baumohl is so pessimistic that he expects the economy to shrink at a 0.2 percent annual rate in the first three months of 2012 and to end the year with no more than 1.8 percent growth.

Europe is almost sure to slide into recession, even if its policymakers find a solution to the continent's debt crisis. In the worst case, a chaotic breakup of the euro currency could ignite a worldwide financial panic.

Another worry - again - is Washington. President Barack Obama and Republicans in Congress still had not broken their impasse Wednesday on how to extend a Social Security tax cut. Without an extension, taxes will go up \$1,000 in 2012 for someone making \$50,000.

Failing to extend the tax cut, combined with the end of long-term unemployment benefits and other federal budget cuts, could shave 1.7 percent points from growth in 2012, warns Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's

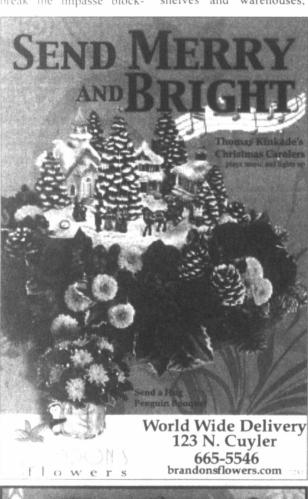
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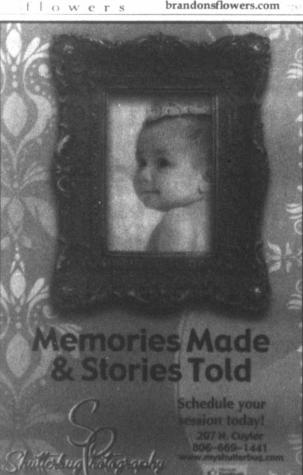
Forecasters are also chastened by the past two years. Since the Great Recession officially ended in June 2009, the economy has stalled twice just when it appeared to be gaining momentum.

But Joel Naroff of Naroff Economic Advisors says he thinks the fears about next year are overblown and the economy will grow 3 percent in 2012. Next year will be all about jobs. If job growth keeps accelerating, the economy is much more likely to meet Naroff's predictions than the pessimists'.

In addition, Naroff says, that's because consumers and businesses have grown more confident.







Erom: The kids of Wilson E

I would like you to get me a American Girl. With a bed and a dog for her Baileigh, age 7

I want a comctores fun, eny thang Carolyn, age 8

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All I want is a pink guitar and makeup and zozo babys zozo pet and all the toys with it and therr wishis and a wii and daces 3 Esmeralda, age 8

I have Been a Good gril this year am Wishing that you can Bring me a real Hamster and comeputer and a flip fhone thake you for Brening Crismis I love trolly santa Michelle, age 7

I want a Barbie and a puppy. I want a penguin, hig hills, computer, 3DS, cat, dog, frog. I want toys for cloes, fox, shoes. I want toys for my brother. Cars, cloes for my brothers. Samantha, age 8

I would like the Just Dance 3 game and a Control for my Wii. I would like a beenbag too I hope you have a good day in Christmas. You are my best hero.

Yullinsa Ponce, age 9 Here is my Christmas present just 2 here thay are a bed and a bed set thats 1 now here is the

2ed one purple robot too thats all i want. Devin Hipronymus, age 10 DSI and DS Laptop comuter plees drumset I

pod camera plees mom baketrom flora plees Cayla, age 7

I want a 3ds and some make up. Jacie, age 7

I want please I want a rod of there I want a kell arm truk I want a psp. I want a ipod Walker, age 7

I waber set I want a drumset I wifrenth I wunt apsp I wunt 100 presers I wunt I wunt I wwult a looo loooo toer Tuler

I want a Lap top computer plise Skyler, age 7

I want a Helicopter please santa, I love you Kendell, age 7

can i please have a camera and a big barbie House and sum makeup and a storbok Shylan, age 6

can you please breng me a I-pod can you please bhing me computer can you please breng me a camera and now dog Ebony, ge 7

can you please bring me a bog fool of make up and a big barbie house and a wololupedoll for cristmas mere christmas santo cos Ruby, age 7

I wot a Robot an a x-box 360 an play station 3 wii an a control car an a lot of present Jose, age 7

Can you please gev me make up and house. Natalie, age 6

I want a I-pad and a fack pony and laptop and a new garmun shepard please Heather, age 6

I want a x-box 360 and areamot and a DSi and a Drum set and a teddy bear and a laptop and a robot and a 3DS. Devon, age 7

Please kood I git a Psp2

I want a toys of TRAnsFormers. Damian, age 6

I whot doll closs and doll hieels and doll dres and snrs gaeme and Will Melanie

Make up high. Big barbie house psp2 xbox Natasha

I was wondering if you could give me a friend Kyley Berry a necklace that says "best friends forever." The reason why I ask this is because she came to Ulysses Kansas from Colorado when I was in 4th grade and I was the first one to become her friend. In 5th grade I moved to Pampa Texas and now I barely get to see her and that's another reason I ask. Thank you! Jordan Bowers, age 11

All I want for Christmas is my teacher Mrs. Lash to be given a vacation to Hollywood. Because she helps others and I would like to help her. Robert Carroll, age 11

What I want for Christmas is for my family to be together.

Mercedes, age 10

What I want for christmas is for my family to have a great Christmas we all want to be together as a family. and to wish my sister good

Julianna Silva, age 10

I would like a new car for my dad because all of them don't start that good. He works hard and drives for a living.

Paige Richards, age 10

For my Christmas I would like for my mom to get something special, such as my dad getting his job at the railroad. She would be so excited to have him get the job. Rose Noyes, age 11

My mom would love a new diamond ring and I'd appreciate it if she got one. It would mean a lot to her if she got one. So I hope you get this

Joshua Fuller, age 10

My mom wants some things for her house, I would appreciate it if you would please give her some rugs or mirrors. I wuld like to do something for her.

Michelle Carver, age 10

LET HEAVEN AND NATURE SING!



Please join with us and all the heavenly hosts as we celebrate the birth of our Savior

Christmas Eve - 7 pm Festive Choral Eucharist Christmas Day - 9 am Eucharist with Christmas music

> St. Matthew's Episcopal Church 727 W. Browning | 665-0701

Could you give gifts to the kids and families who don't have the money or family. To buy gifts for their friends and family. I would really appreciate it

if you do this Sheylah Arreola, age 10

My pawpaw realy wants to stop having problems and to stop going to the docter. He realy just wants to be with us. So please let him not have to go to the docter.

Brandon Whinery, age 11

For Christmas I would like for my family to understand that I appreciate all they do for me, and how graetful I am that they love me. Shea Johnson, age 10

I wish the best for my new baby brother. I hope that he will be like me and have AB honer roll. I wish that by the time he's my age he's good student. Love your brother.

Trenton Richey, age 11

I would like my mom to have a chinese pug because she alway wanted a dog like that. Zerick Arnzen, age 10

For Christmas my mom would appreciate if, she had a vacation,, my mom needs the vacation. Leticia Urrutia, age 10

I really want to get my mom a snuggie. I will be so grateful if you would get it for me. Preferably a blue snuggie.

Jakob Wilson, age 10

I would like you to give my mom a vacation to some where nice because she takes care of us. Christian Franco, age 11

Please give my mom a vacation. I know she needs it and I really want her to have it. She has been working very hard to get stuff for me. Please give her a vacation.

Alex Mejia, age 10

Please if you can get my mom a Jeep for Christmas because she needs a new car. She works hard and she deserves it.

Fayth Lesher, age 11

I truly wish for my parents to have a good christmas. My mother would most likely want her internet back and my dad would like to get to have a christmas vacation. I hope you understand. Kallie Harding, age 10

I wish you give me mom and Dad somthing special for christmas, they work so hard every day and all night for me and my brother and sisters living. Jesus Soto, age 10

I love my parents and my parents love me and my siblings. My parents have 7 kids and one of those kids is a baby. They love us and we do too but they need a day off.

Brittney Cueras, age 10

I just relized that Christmasisn't just about presemts or toys, Christmas is about spending time wit family members, and the only thing my mom realy wants is a nice place for us to live, where everybody to visit in Pampa, TX

Desmariah Martinez, age 10

Will you please send my mom to Fort Worth, Tx that's where her family and friends live. She went to school there too, and she really misses all of them. Arianna Hart, age 10

I know Christmas is not for presents but it is to be with friends and family and to be nice to each other and to be special to your parents. Yanira Hinojos Vazquez, age 12

All I want for christmas is for my fanily to have the best Christmas ever. Thank you. Ethanieal Palma, age 10

Please help my mom she really needs a car. It dose not matter what kind of car she just needs to get around.

Jaden, age 11

All I want is my family just like my mom she wants everyone here so that we can have the christmas that she dreamed of all of us together. Raven Hernandez, age 11

Can you get my mom and dad a money machine. Antonio Mercado, age 10

I would like to tell you how nice my techer Mis lasl is she is a breast cancer surviver and I would like to get something for her being such a good techer. Brian Perry, age 10

I would like for my dad to go and take a break from work. He is always at work Hard and take's care or us so does my mom. I wish them a merry christmas. Jennifer Rios, age 10

All I whant for Christmas is... for my wonderful mom to go on vacation. She is always so caring and Dedicated to others. So I think it would mean alot to her to get to go on this vacation for christmas. Thank you.

Macadam .c. Madewell, age 11

All i would like is my family to have a good Christmas

Austin Robinson, age 10

All I want for christmas is to get my grampa a new watch. Shandon Sith, age 11

All I whant for Christmas is that me and my family

to have a vary good christmas. thank you Annel Segouia, age 11

I know christmas is not about presents its about giving and the birth of Jesus Christ. would like to send my mom to Florida to see my sister. She left at 16yrs and is 22 now.

Tyler Justen, age 10

All I want to say is that you don't have to get me anything, you do to much already, for other people and kids. My opinion is that since you do too much for us, we should do something nice for you santa. Cassie Rodriguez, age 11

What I want for christmas is for my church's music director and his wife to get good jobs when they move. Another is for Cheryl Moore's second son to stay safe when he leaves for the army. Carter Sprinkle, age 11

All I want for christ, as is for Christian Hart to go to forthood to see Cynthia Cowan and go to see her huband in Iraq.

Alyssa Hart, age 11

All I hope for Christmas is Christina Hart to see her family in Forthood. Also for Cynthia Cowan to see her haband that is in Iraq. Jennifer Olaquez, age 11

All I want for christnas us for my parents to go on vacation because they work realy hard for me so please they diserve it. Brain Meyia, age 11

I wish my dad a merry christmas because he works so hard for us to live. Austin Hayden, age 11

All I want for christmas is for my mom to have a safe trip coming from San Antonio. Thank you. Rylee Parks, age 10

All I want is my family and my friends to enjoy christmas and have a hood tie celabrating the true meaning of chrstmas. Angel Herrena, age 10

All I want for Christmas is for you to Let my family have the best christmas ever because this is the first christmas we've spent together. It would mean the world to me.

Micah Rich, age 11

I want a phone, a doll, and a puppy toy Also a Ds with a camra and the game on the DS I want a princess on the catle.

Anai Garcia, age 8

I hope you are having a good time at the north pole. I really want the Doctor Dreadful zombie lab. I bet it is hard work to pull the sleigh. Xochi Anchondo, age 8

I want a homemade wooden tow truck and I want it painted red, white and blue. Brayden Haigood, age 8

I want a intendo 3Ds, a mario 3d land, a Mario cart 7 and legend of Zoda. Juian Lopez, age 8

I want a DSI, an Ipad, a Justin Bieber T-shirts and a doll, a tumling tower, a victory box, a Hello kitty p.j.s, new shoes, and a new bike.

Kylee Perez, age 8 I would like an xbox 360 game and a PSP system. I want 4 video games and a real mockingbird with

food for christmas. Dakota Thomas, age 8.

I want a DSI for christmas Joshua Smith, age 8

I want a BaBy doll that can eat and drink and change its diper and brush its hair. Also I want some American girls with a poster of them and cloths and shoes. I also want some stuffed animals. Nakia Delatorre, age 7

I want a DS and this is my favorite thing that I always wanted. I want a cellphone touch screen and a clock of santa so thats what I want for chrismas. Itzell Perez, age 8

I want a phone in pink. I want a zhu zhu pets. I want an American girl doll. And I want a lala loopsy silly hair doll.

Avery Botello, age 7

I would like a DS2, a lightsaber and a touch screen phone a rocket alarm clock and a samurai toy phone.

Malachi Williams, age 7

I want a bike an American girl And I want Josefina because she is pretty I like her santa and a dog. Lanna McCarley, age 7

I like christmas. There is 8 more days until christmas. christmas is the best holiday ever. For christmas can I have a Sonic vs mario Troy Lamb, age 7

I want a xia-xia pet hermit crab figur and a computer and a phone, zha zha pet. Erin Allen, age 8

I hope you have a good christmas. I want a zhuzhu pet and some new cloths. Ceirra Ham, age 8

I want an Ipad for Christmas. And an xbox 360 for Christmas too. Santa will you get me that please. I want a puppy dog also. Sierra Rodrigez, age 8

I want a build a bear kit. I want my family to have the best christmas ever. Merry christmas santa Ho Ho Ho

Chancely Madeull, age 7

I want a ps3 and a black cops 4 on xbox 360. That's all I want for christmas. santa you are the greatest of all.

Antonio Trevizo, age 8

I want an xbox 360 connect for Christmas and a scooter Mason Smith, age 7

I want a bron bear. I want a Lighting McQueen race car. Please can I have rainbow pencils, and a ifight Shelby Marx.

Robert VanBuskirk, age 8

Can I have a Wii and a Nintendo DSI and WWe wrestelers and hot wheels and a radio control car. Edmar Hernandez, age 9

I am Kevin and I wan't a Lego Book thats calld the Lego Ibeas and a have cookies for you Kevin Olivas, age 8

Yo quiero una cumputadora y un Wii. Y yo quiero un 3DS.

Erick H., age 9

Yo quiero una casa pra Barbis También quiero un "pillow pet" de un uniconio en su casa. Janeth, age 8

Yo quiero un perro, un collar y un muñeca bonita. Jenniife Bamiez, age 7

Yo quiero una bateria yun volanta que viene con pedoles y un juego de la wii. Fabian, age 7

Yo quiero un juguete que sea un pillow pet. Y quiero un 3DS Nintendo que el color sea negro. Yo quiero un trampolin. Ivan, age 8

Quierounus botas y unasesposas de juyue te y una cadena.

Ramiro, age 7

Yo quiero para La Navidad una bicicleta Tambien quiero una muñeca Bebé. Eso es todo. Julissa, age 9

Lo que yo quiero para La Naidad es un juego de Mario "Carro" para e 3DS. También quiero un trampolin.

Yahir, age 8

Yo quiero un Fast Lane. Es una moto que tiene llantas bien suaves pare que haga trucos bien chidos. Va a estar en el "toys R us" ¡Va a estar tán grande! Abel, age 7

¿Me puedes tracer un juguete de unn bicicleta y un Nintendo 3D azul que viene con un juego de Sonic? También quero unos monitos de solado. Ebner, age 7

Yo quiero un par de zapatos y unos pantalones azules con brillo. Lizbeth B., age 8

Yo quiero un par de zapatos y ropa. También quiero muchos pulceras.

Jimena, age 8 I want a tool box a DSXI a sxate bord and a dip n dots maker

Kay, age 6

I like at nas B megarcon atnas is nis it Edva Rdic, age 7

I want a doll the Ciis and I wish you a mary christmas do you. Adrian, age 6

I wut a teno and a boe horse and a bow Ana, age 6

I want a pet gining pig a blue dess with no slevss a cat a kpouder a pone Camerr, age 6

I want a football and a fathead and madden 2012 and ncaa 2012 and a backutball. Michael, age 6

I wut a shid fuor chisims a chubhesu in a modoeochostom in a fosde Antonio, age 6

Isplsman toys bmamant toys Imrman toys psr Jesus, age 6

I want a skatbord so i can ton the sad wok! Merry Christmas Jr,age 5

I wart a DS. Merry Christmas. Manissa, age 5

I want a snowmah plez I want to hug santa. Landon, age 6

I want a KumputR Ryan, age 5

I Want a mAkUP SET. Samantha, age 5

I want o leth dog and 3D DS. I will kev youl milk.

I want a dog and a 3DDS. I WILL gIV you COKI. Sebastian, age 6

I wanna makeover! Destiny, age 5

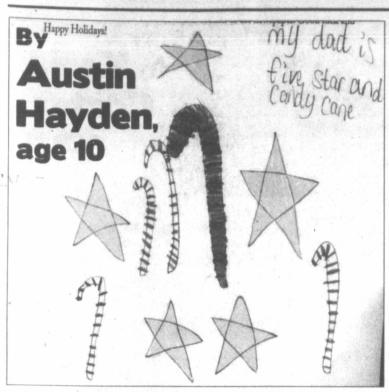
I want a Spung BOBCAR HaPPY CHRISTMAS Hector, age 5

I want a SET UV MRKERS. IM GOING to LeV YOU

I WANT A WENY DOG. I AM MAKING COOKES FR

Zade age 5

Elizabeth, age 5



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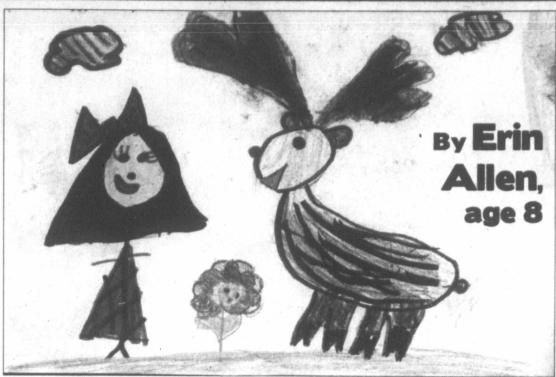
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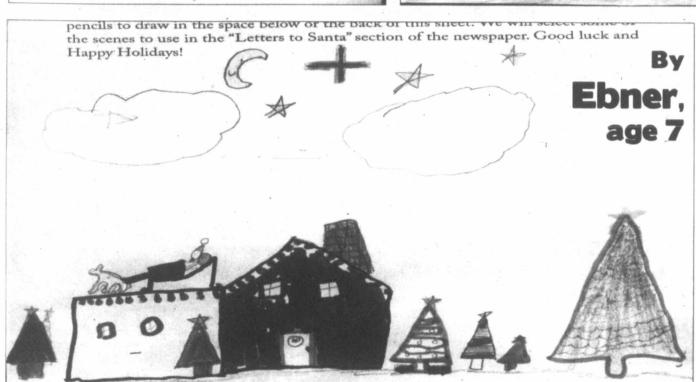
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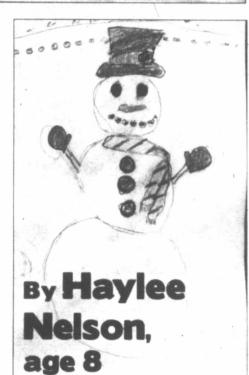
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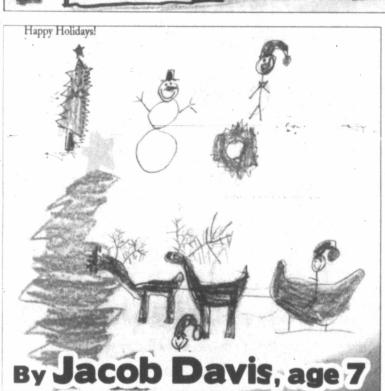
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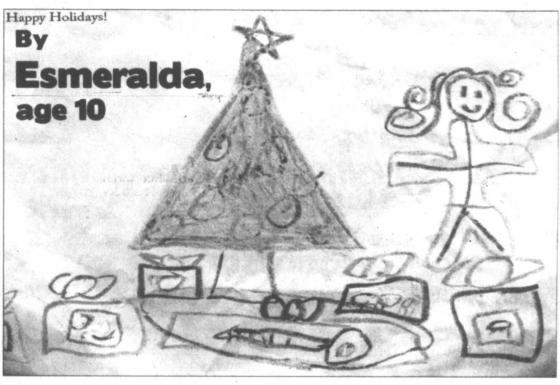
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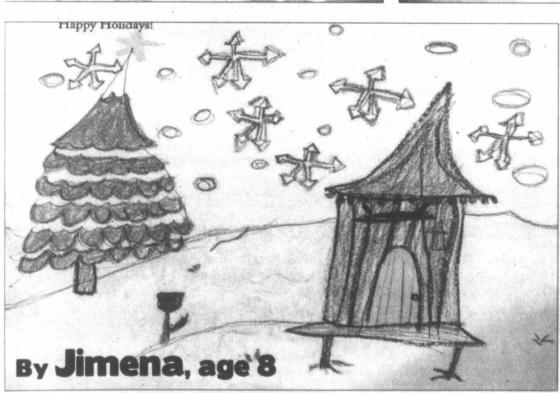


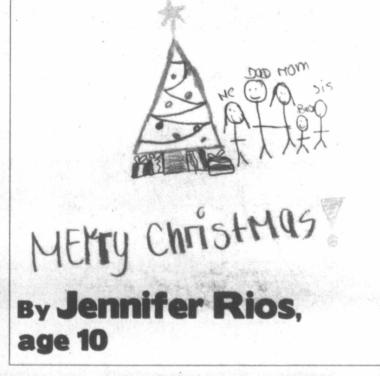


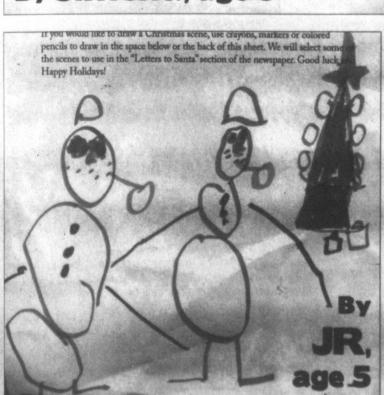




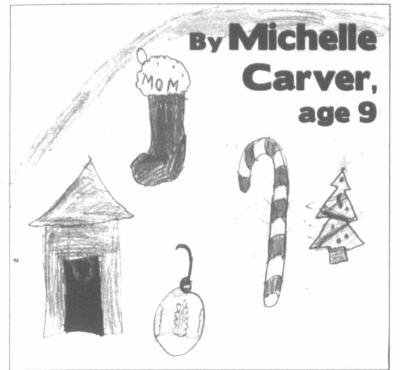


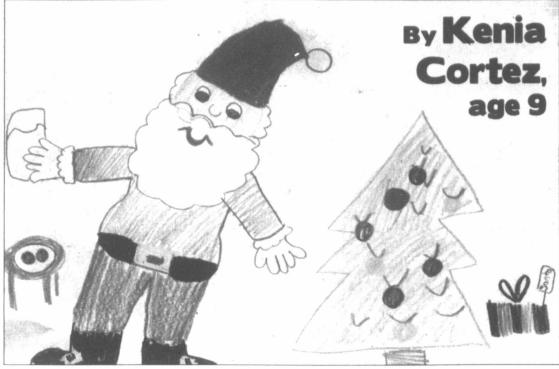


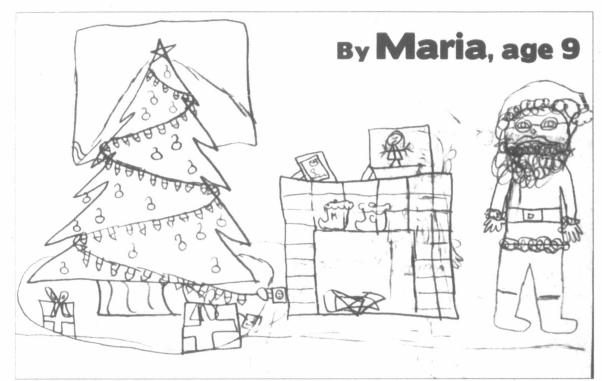


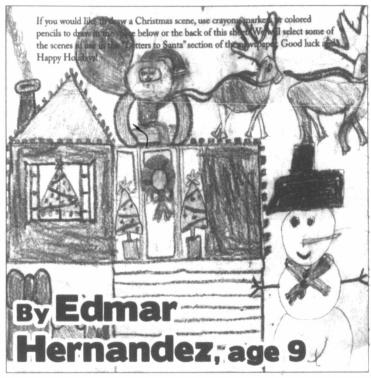


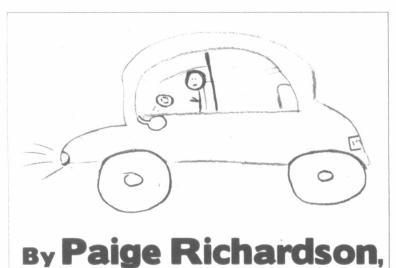












age 10 I want a christmas snowman plez. And a FAK I wo

tREETO PLAY WITH.

Madison, age 6

I want ABC Christmas Ethan, age 6

I want a BUTY AND the Best DOL. I will giv you milk and kooks.

Zaraha Peng, age 5

I want a horse. Kira, age 5

I love your Raindeers. I wan't a Big Monster truck I wan't the Best cristmas ever.
Randy, age 8

for christmas all I want is the best merry christmas forever.

rever. Ulices Guardado, age 9

what i want for christmas is the video game WWe 12 for Wii

Michael, age 9

For Christmas I want to... Ride on your Special beulifl Sleigh.

eigh. Irya, age 8

I want to have the best christmas ever and I wate thes things, dolls, toy dog and a toy hoas and staf for macking Neclises and nikpolis and mackup and coll clos and new shows for my doll Janeth Ventura, age 8

I want a toy hase and I want doll clous and I want a tv and I want aI do not know yet. I want some clous and shous too.

nd snous too. Lillian Palomares, age 8

I want a bike for Chrismas and a phone and a doll to play on chrismas day and laptop to pod puppy thank you santa

you santa Luvly, age 8

I wish fure a Babe sit can you Braning That to mePlese Santa I like youre sote santa closBiey Harley, age 9

I would like beyblades; wishbone books; a baby alligator; a skateboard; a ipod; a puppy; a play station 3; a new bike; An atv; a wli and walkie talkies Isaiah, age 8

I wat a toys and gams a movie inclose. William, age 8 I would like you to give me a new seat of tekdeks. and I would like you to give mea xbox 360. Derrick, age 8

I would like a belt and a camo shla hat. I would love this tings.

gs. Bryson, age 8

What I want for cristmas is a lalaloopsy play set and a monster high girl and my family.

Isabella, age 8

I would like a 3ds case it makes everyting pop out. Angie, age 8

What I realy want is a newclock like the hello Kitty Kind and make shore you give me a puppy not a kitty! and a good famaly and new shoes a house and a flat screen tv

Lilly, age 8 for crismias I want a laptop and a pinglvin an a eagle and a cell fone.

Taylor, age 8

I would like a secardt diren and a little lape top and I Pade you can play games.

Raschell, age 8
I would like a "32" inc at my mom's like I have at my

dad's I would also like a christmas merical for a new baby puppy from bella and we will name her losie but if it's a boy I won't know what to do! McKennzie, age 8

I wod like a habetcalley. bot a jet habetcalley. I wod Like 2 habetcalleys. army wons. Kaydon, age 9

I want a D.S., cole chopen and a babad oh! Don't ferget 1 poer exprexs Ticit. Austin, age 8

Para la navidad quiero... myñecas, wii cumPLabara Pero. Lizbeth, age 7

Para la navidad quiero un uesbax kanec. Eric Castillo, age 6

Para la Navidad quiero una cariols paroc un dédé Richelle Soto, age 7

Traime una bee be gun un nintendo diez un wii. con amor Manuel Fuerte, age 7

Quirido Santa, me puedes dar 3 cosas un wii y un patin y un perito.

Sarahi Ramirez, age 6

Para la navidad quiero yo un wii y una camputadora Pedro Adoytes, age 6 quiero un expox y un juego de los pawer engers y un juego de alvin y un juego destawers y una bibi

By Zaiden, age 5

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so be bil

Miguel, age 7

para navidad yo querido bacones uso sas siete Araseli Saucedo, age 7

Matrais por wii y me voya portar bien laes cuelay tambien en me ra say espe race tepa tabien, Evelyn, age 6

Metrais un vestido. y wii y una bratz grande. y una cosinita. y un trampolin y un qerito Ashley Glaindo age 7

santa para la navidad quiero Muchos Squinkies y un Kinct con X-box 360 y x-box Life. Luis Montelan, age 6

para lanvidad quiero un xbox 306 y un wii porfavor Juan Elizonado, age 7

Para La navidad Quiero metra gas un playstation Y un xbox 360 Y un avion Y un avion be control Y un cara de control

Mauricio, age 6

Para La navida Quiero Ashli Bryan i tavian richeLL un Wic unecives santa. MiMaesth. Luis Garcia, age 7

Para La navidad quiero... unas barbies Itzel, age 6

I want Lego starwars. I want the clomwars avichrs wif MiisQonDow. I wat Lego hotatore Rocka xL. Aaron Allen, age 7

I wot a nrfgon and a acxdox epetheepplar vedyo-

Guadalupe, age 6

All I would like for Christmas is some boots. And I would also like to get my family a gift. And I would like you to give everyone the best Christmas ever.

Gabby Lopez, age 8

I would like a blanket with a picture of Christ. I want my family to have a great Christasi Lizzy Thompson, age 7

I would like an iPad. I would like my family to get a gift. I have been good and this will be the best

Christmas ever.
Abigail Crain, age 7

I would like a Christmas with my family and friends and I want you to have a nice Christmas, too. Ryan Coleman, age 8

I would like a cell phone I would like a toy for my little sister.

Erick Reyes, age 8

I would like an ipone. My brother would like an iphone, too.

Natalea Worley, age 7

On Christmas Eve I would like a stuffed wolf. For my family, I would like the best christmas ever.

Jaidyn Harris, age 7

I love you, Santa and I love christmas. I would like a stuffed bear I want my family and friends to have a great christmas.

Emmanuel Rodriguez, age 8

I would like a Doctor Dread Zombie Lab. I would like my mom to have a happy christmas. Kaia Gasaway, age 7

I would like my dog to come back on Christmas Eve. I would like my mom to have a clarinet and my dad a new game. I want everyone to have fun and be happy.

Alyssa Robinson, age 8

My dad would like a dog and my sister would like a doll house and my brother woud like toy cars also I would like an xBox 360.

Jacob Davis, age 7

Can you please bring something fun for my sisters and me. Happy Christmas Eve!

Marquise Williams, age 7

I would like an x-box 360, please. I want my friends and family to have a great christmas. Mozes Pineda, age 7

I would like a Hello Kitty scrap book for Chrostmas. I would like all things for my family.

Isabella Hernandez, age 8

I would like a new video game. I would like my big brother to have the best Christmas ever. Ian Blancas, age 7

I would like any thing you can bring. My cousin would like a new Call of Duty or Star Wars game. I know that Christmas is about Jesus and giving, not getting.

Gregory Lang, age 8

I would like Legos for christmas I wish my mom could get anew car. Patrick Freeman, age 8

I would like a crayon maker for christmas I would also like a big teddy beat for my baby sister. Keyla Segovia, age 8

I would like an ipod tough for christmas. I would like om to get an iphone 4. Armando Miranda, age 8

I would like my family to stay all Christmas Eve, so we we can spend time together. Hayden Henson, ahd 8

I would like a Lego Cop Station. I want my family to have a Merry Christmas. D'Andre Brown, age 7

I want a laptop and ipod more toys for the poor people and hope for sic kids and more thing. Daniela, age 10

I want clothes so I can give it to the people who need it.

Jesus Venzor, age 10

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de. y una

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boots. And

tmas ever.

And I would

Christ. I want

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en,

I want cothes and shoes to give to people poor that don't have clothes ad shoes. Kevin Quezada, age 10

This Christmas i want a camera digital, a dog toy, and a notebook to design dresses.

Kenia Cortez, age 19

I want a Ipad2 I wan a Iphone and I wan a PSP WWe big ring Brian Bedolla, age 9

I want an xbox 360, an ipad. And I want to be a millionare. I also want a jet pack and a motorcycle, and a four wheeler. A gokart. And don't bring me any clothes. I want a lot of video games, and electronics.

Guillermo Mier, age 9

I want a xbox 360 connect and 2 game that are called call of duty MW3 and the game need for speed the run. And a ipad2.
Ismarel Olivas, age 10

I want three Nintendos a Nintendo DSI and a Nintendo 3DS and a Nintendo DSI XL. Thank you santa. Emmanuel, age 10

I want a Karaoke wirh microphone real Alandra Chavez, age 10

I want a ipod for christmas and a touchphone, and some black boots, some clothes, and a big bike because i have a bike but it' little so i want a big bike now.

Yaritza Madrid, age 10

I want a good christmas and a ipod and a phone and a Alma, age 11

I whant a remot control car, a now phone, Roman Castillo, age 10

I want a remote control car and a ipod. Migues Tinajero, age 9 I would love it if you woud get me a new art set with an easil, markers, paint, and crayons. How is mrs. claus and the reinder doing. I hope you have a good christmas. Happy Holidays. Rylee Nicoe Waters, age 9

I am happy because your coming to town I would like for Christmas a wii and with the games I put at my house. Thankyou for bringing me that. Kaylee Cortez, age 10

I am happy you get to give little kids presents. All I would want for Christmas is for all the kids to be happy and to make their moms to be happy. Thats all I want.

London Rowell, age 9

For Christmas I want a drumset because I have drum stikes but no drums. I want the Elfves make it shine. Say hi to mrs. Claus for me. Trae Long, age 9

Is what I want for christmas ia a gotcurt or a furweeler.

Dusty Blullie, age 10

What I want for christmas is powerwing scooter and dirt bike shoes but most of all I just want you to have in awesome christmas too. Fernando Perez, age 9

gurtair. That's what I want thats all. Lexie Grice, age 10

What I want is, A power scooter. And a bike too. A

I want for Chrismas is a couple of things. This is what I want: art utencils, to see family, and most of all is to have a great year with my family. This is all I want.

Morgan Beller, age 9

I will love to see you, but I know I can't. So what I really want for Christmas is to see my dad who is in L.A. But I'm not going to lose luck.

Andrea Eulloqui, age 9

I no there are a bunch of things I want but I can only ick 1. So for chistmas I would like to have a dog that really nice and sweet dog I would want a golden sheperd

Layne, age 9

How are all of your reghindeer? Scince I have not told you what I want for Christmas yet, I am going to tell you in this letter. Here are some of them, a comuter, and a lime green bike.

Avery Sprinkle, age 9

The only thing I wont for christmas is just a great time with my family and I hope my family has a great time.

Manuel Mendes, age 10

What I want for Christmas is Jesus' birthday to be the best day of the year and a tougch phone. Rebecca Ellis, age 9

Everyone needs Love. so on Cristmas Eve and Cristmas. day i'm going to show love to everyone.

Zachari age 10

I would like to have a phone for Christmas and to spin time with my family and to see my dad. Kaylee Ham, age 9

I loe christmas because santa bring christmas presents for children all ages and all I won't for christmas is some toys and be with my family. I love you santa and I love jesus so tell happy birthday when your in the sky.

Colley, age 10

I want my playstion I want a dancng robot. Logan, age 6

I want a guitar. I want a doll. I want a dollhouse. Andrey, age 5

I wood like sum makup and sum princess charm school.

Topanga, age 5

I want a dog. Payton, age 5

I wnt a hlecptr, boomarg, newshrz, trnsformr, cl pdjms. I love you. Keon, age 5

I do toys THAN I Wont to gIV santa CEZ. Kadyn, age 6

I wat a christmas chare htant prese Brendan, age 5

I WANT A Monsler TRUK and adn BIK. Jessey, age 5

I WAnT A G goglli Anoeles

I Wta XBOX. A truck. tran. MrEo7. Lynyrd, age 6

I wot a XBX 36D DRB I Wotam rr SIKO. I WS BUCEICS Nathan, age 6

I want pasa tine anbalnia boebs I wil guto u sim ces Zaiden, age 6

i want A XBIX 360 AND I WAnt A PriNeSS CHArm cchool house. Katherine, age 6

I want a barbie princess schlool and babries Xitlaly, age 5

I WANTO DG. CJLSKTO. SRTLSTS Alexis, age 5

I hope you are having a fun time and what I want for christmas is a X-Box, Wii with games, a nintendo 3DS and a wappy dog. Mercedes Gonzalez, age 9

I would like anything but The only thing I want is spending more time with my family to play Games and drink hot coco.

Cesar Jaime, age 10

I want a xbox 360 and a playstation3. The best thing I want is a new bike I want a bike because, my other bike broke so I want a new one.

Fabian Enciso, age 9

How are you doing I hope you are Ok and I want a bike and a Laptop. but the thing I really want is a phone and a ripstick and. a sckewter and that is all I want for Chistmas.

Ezekiel Scoggin, age 9

I hope you have fun in north pole. This are the special things I want a Ipad Laptop, phone, and my family to love me. If you don't bring stuff that's ok I will be happy whith my family.

Liliana Rodriguez, age 9

for christmas I want anything but most of all I want a Phone. An I woud love to have my computer at home.

Sierra Long, age 9

I would love to have High heels and a barby house wirth elavater and A monster high Doll, Jues and clothes, shoes I will like to have the Wii and a hores and squickies and a barby car with a stareyo and a family.

Jamie Applegate, age 9

Are you having a great time in the north pole? Can you bring me a puppy and make my dad want to keep him also let my cat stay at my house. Santa thank you for the presents.

Tori Gosselin, age 9 1/2

I would like a Ipad, pellowpet, ds I3. The thing that i most of all is my two best friends Tori and Sierra to stop fighting. I don't like seeing that. Ashlyn Hill, age 9 1/2

I want a wii for christmas and ipad for Christmas to. Maria, age 9

I wut a xbox 3600 or a Kneu Kameron, 9...168

This year I want for christmas is a phone I really really whant one my mom side I am to little for one and I asked her if I can have it she thought about it she told me yes but if I was good.

Victoria Lopez, age 9

I don't want eney thing for crismas. Becaes, I all ready have presints. Dreyton, age 9

for christmas I would like a electric scooter that gos

15 mph. Why can't I see the north pole when I look on google earth? ps. MERRY Tyson Crain, age 10

What I want for Christmas is A Lava Lamp that is green and blue or pink and blue anything with blue.

Mariah Campos, age 9

I just want the best christmas is the World. and a xbox 360 kinknt.

Jaydon G. Shook, age 11

I wish you coud give me a wii with 3 games. That is all I ask for. Thank you
Lesslie, age 10

I want thritythrity and a 410 pump action or 20 gage. I also hope that you lose wait so you can get me more presents. I alsp want a fourwheeler, goKart, and a knew dirtbike. Ramps a dirtboard and a knife with a sheeth.

Cash, age 9

Quiero yo una muñeca Yasmin, age 5

Quiro un vestido Jannet, age 5

quiero telefono Luis, age 6

Quieo un estuoroj. Diego, age 5

Quiero un telefono. Angel, age 6

Quiero dinero Victor, age 6

Yo quiero collares. Kiara, age 5

Quiero un caboro. Andres, age 5

Querido Santa, qu Nutcroke Adrian, age 5

Quiero bumlbee teaune Julian, age 7

Yo quiero una computadora. Dayana, age 5

Yo quiero una computadora y una cama y una tetle de musica. Selena, age 6

Quiero un tiweon Juan, age 5

Quiero un gaio. Karina, age 5

Quiero una bisi. Adan, age 5

Quiero un caro.

Joshua, age 5

Quiero yo i cac. Landon, age 6

How are you'r raindeer and if you get hungry there are some cooky's on the tabl and if my dog bark's give him some food so he won't bark at you. Ismael, 9

Merry Christmas how are you? And your reindeer. beacuse I was planning on giveing you cookies and milk. I'm going to give your reindeer oats and can I have a TV for my room? Happy Holiday! Jaden McDowell, 9

I plan on leaving Christmas cookies on the tabel by the Christma tree I would aprisheate if you would please git me a laptop Beacase my firnds have laptops and thav play games together But I can't Please git me a laptop Dewey Damord

Do your elfs get hunger? because I was plan- Could you bring me oion too. Thank You ning to give some food to the Elfs. in can I get something for my 009 because my dog in me was trying to be good. Happy Holi-

DO you like presents? I think that I could leave you a really nice one. I am really sick and I just want you to cure it before I go to Dallas because i'll get the baby sick. Happy Holidays! Valerie Cano, 9

I wonder how white your berd is. and how long, if you can I would like A new play forwelr for the back yard and bigger because it it to small. oh and be carful. Haylee Nelson, 8

I want no present because I go all I need and I might not belive but it dosen't mean I still can't belive in happyness. And on more thing have a Merry Christmass.

How old are you Santa? I'm planning to leave you cookies this year. I want a mp3 player for Christmas because I never got one they would give me the same stuff. I'm trying to be good at school every day so I can be on the nice list Merry Chrismas. Luzhetie Niat, 8

I want a breaclit maker, Plato ice creme. Picer frame, and a hair cut mecin. Lexi Watson, 8

Well do your raindeer's eat candy cause I am going to sit some out for them so that thay dont get hegre i wish that i can see them and i was going to ask you can you get a cat for Christmis i might set out cook's fro you and will you get me a little competer, shos, clohes i will be happy with this stuf thank you Happy Holidays thank you for being to nice to the people here. Jessica Willhite, 8

I wonder how do you travel all around the world? But with your raindeers you will make it. I know your better than magic. Your so magicel. And for Chrismas I would love a phone beause my sister and my brothers have one and I love to text, please can you give me one. Merry Chrismas. Daniella Rosalez, 8

Do you have magic to get in our house if we don't have a chimny. I'm planning to put cookies and milk on the table. I will aprishiate clothes because I need some, a skate board board because mine is tarring up and a paer of purple and white And I's wish you a merry Cristmas! Thank you! Jose Urrutia, 9

How do you travel the world in one night? I planned to leave you cookies and milk. Can you please leave me the new Skylanders Game for wii because i help my Brother take care of my sisters and Merry Chirstmas. Jacob Salcido, 8

I woul'd like to leve cookies and milk for you. If you loved the the cookies an milk. you mite like to put me on the nice list. I woul'd love to have a paper air plane so I coul'd have fun with my famliy. The Ipod is a thing I like to have a grate chismas thanke you. Aaron Mayberry, 8

Do you get hungry on Chrismas' day? I'm planning to leave some cookies and milk for you. I allwas wanted to know if raindeers can fly. I allwas wanted a gocart for Chrismas because I can race my friends. Have a Marry Christmas Trinidad Mata, 9

are you bigr then me santa? do you ride on rané dear? all I want is a Ipod pless good Aiden Pickrell, 9

Hi I'm Rebecca Marker. I really can't wait for Christmas. I plan on leaving milk and cookies. May I please have Mokey beding because I'm the biggest Mokey fan you've ever seen. I hope you have a good Christmas and a Happy New Year. Rebecca Marker, 8

Do your elvs ehlp with the toys? I will levy plenty of cookies and maby two glasses of milk. For Christmas can you please levy me a

DS I have always wanted a DS and plesas bring me a ipad. Happy Holidays. Haven Jenkins, 8

Do you get hungry on Christmas Eve Santa because I going to leve Christmas cookse and milk on the tably, and on Christmas I wate a dog and Happy Christmas Jose Lopez 8

What kind of cookies do you like? I would like to put carrots on the roof for your reindeer. I would like a doll house for Christmas. I hope you have a merry Christmas. p.s. Do your elves make the toys? What do your elves do? I hope you have a happy new year too. Rebekah Meadows, 8

Could you bring me a Justin BiBer Blanket. Thank You. Arryella, 6

Could you bring me Ipod Thank You. Linda, 6

Zion, 6

Could you bring me wand. Thank You. Jerry, 5

Could you bring me Bryan Thank you

X Box 360 Thank Yu. Sarah

Could you bring me X Box 360? thank you. Hector, 5

Could you bring me a prisese Thank You. Maudi, 6

Could you bring me a X Box 360. Thank You. Bethany, 5

Tpevdo jui Jniio. Ui os sodato Julloo Ullo, 6

Could you bring me i nank can you pnps Thank Lily, 5

Ap pgeou vdaaao it suim Orako, 5

Cou jou badrto medust Thank You Jostan, 5

Could you bring me Thank you Roberto, 5

Could you bring justin bebbir Courtney, 6

