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BIG SPRING HERALD

FRIDAY

DECEMBER 23, 2011



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VOLUME 107, NUMBER 62

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HERALD photo/Steve Reagan

Emma Johnson wraps a Christmas gift at Wells Fargo Bank recently. Members of the bank's Hometown Christmas program will deliver gifts to needy families in Big Spring beginning today.

A time of good cheer, but also to beware

By **THOMAS JENKINS**
 Staff Writer

Santa won't be the only one making a list and checking it twice this season, as local law enforcement officials warn residents to be extra-vigilant against burglars and other criminals looking to cash in on the holiday.

According to officials with the Big Spring Police Department, the number of reports of burglary of a habitation increase during the holiday

season, as criminals look to fill their stockings with other people's gifts.

"We generally see an increase in the number of burglaries during Christmas," Sgt. Tony Everett, public information officer with the BSPD, said. "Criminals know shoppers are out there buying gifts for their loved ones, and they have no problem with breaking into a home or a car to make away with those items."

"You really hate to think people could be so heartless, but they can. They couldn't care less if your children have anything under the Christmas tree or not. All they care about is what they can get."

Everett said residents should make every effort to secure their homes and vehicles, not just during the holiday season, but throughout the year.

See **BEWARE**, Page 3A

Reaching out to a stranger

Youth group makes a difference

By **AMANDA MORENO**
 Staff Writer

Christmas is about more than the presents.

That's the lesson Josh Mensinger, youth pastor at College Baptist Church, was trying to get through to his youth group.

In order to accomplish this task, he issued a challenge to his students: do as the Bible says and love your neighbor as you love yourself.

In order to follow through with this task, students

were to approach their parents, find out how much had been budgeted for their Christmas presents and then ask for half of that amount. Then, they were to go find a stranger to help, not only with the money, but through testimony and prayer.

"It was really encouraging to see the youth's desire to take part in this project," Mensinger said.

He said there was about 50 percent participation from the youth. Those who took part went to Wal-Mart with Mensinger Dec. 16 and

See **YOUTH**, Page 3A



HERALD photo/Amanda Moreno

Pat Simmons looks over the items available at the Festival of Lights Gift Shop, located at the end of the Trail of Lights. Tonight is the last night for the gift shop to be open. Santa will be there to visit with children and Schooler Photography will be on hand to take photographs.

St. Nick to be at Festival of Lights Gift Shop this evening

By **AMANDA MORENO**
 Staff Writer

There is one last chance to visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Santa will be at the Comanche Trail Festival of Lights Gift Shop tonight from 6:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. before he heads back to the

North Pole.

The Big Spring Symphony Guild has teamed up with the Festival of Lights to provide items for the gift shop. Symphony Guild will offer ornaments, aprons and Nutcracker shirts. The Festival of Lights is selling poinsettia shirts, ornaments and light pins.

Schooler Photography will be on hand for those wanting to get photos with Santa. There is no charge for visiting with Santa.

"This is a great chance to get some unique gifts. We

will have dated ornaments, T-shirts and several other keepsake items," Debbie Wegman of the Convention and Visitors Bureau said.

Festival of Lights will continue to run nightly until Dec. 31 from 6:30 p.m. until 10 p.m. Admission is free, but donations are accepted and will help support the annual event.

Contact Staff Writer Amanda Moreno at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at life@bigspringherald.com



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Obituaries

Barbara Ann Hull



Barbara Ann Hull, 63, of Big Spring died Thursday, Dec. 22, 2011, at Scenic Mountain Medical Center. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Friday at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel with the Rev. Derrick Looney officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

Barbara was born Oct. 13, 1948, in Big Spring to Grace and N.C. King Jr. and lived most of her life in Big Spring. She married Randy Hull on June 9, 1983, in Big Spring. Barbara was a homemaker. She also worked with her husband at Giant Food Store and she and her mother did ironing for the public for many years.

Barbara is survived by her husband, Randy Hull of Big Spring; five children, Debbie Bynum and husband Shannon of Big Spring, Cindy Corgill and husband Rodney of Midland, Wyvett Denton of Big Spring, Rex Denton of Midland and Daniel Denton and wife Kari of Big Spring; one sister, Durinda O'Brien and husband Skeeter of Big Spring; one brother, Clifton King and wife Dana of Artesia; 10 grandchildren, Dusty Corgill, Chad Corgill, Chippy Corgill, Rodney Thomas, Timmy Thomas, A.J. Gutierrez, Brandie Gutierrez, Kaleb Denton, Kolby Denton and Kayla Holguin; and 13 great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by one daughter, Teresa Ann Denton.

Pallbearers will be Dusty Corgill, Chad Corgill, Chippy Corgill, Rodney Thomas, Timmy Thomas, A.J. Gutierrez, Kaleb Denton, Kolby Denton and Joe Holguin.

Arrangements are by Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Pay your respects online at www.myersandsmith.com

Paid obituary

Mamie Lee Perrin Roten



Mamie Lee Perrin Roten, 86, of Stanton died Thursday, Dec. 22, 2011, in a local hospital. Funeral services will be held at 3 p.m. Monday, Dec. 26, 2011, at First Baptist Church with the Rev. David Harp, pastor, officiating. Interment will follow at Evergreen Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 24, 2011, at the funeral home.

She was born Feb. 14, 1925, in Red River County, Texas, and married Robert Louis Roten on Aug. 7, 1942, in Clarksville, Texas.

Mamie came to Stanton in 1942 and was a member of the Beta Sigma Phi for more than 60 years. She taught Sunday School for many years at First Baptist Church and served the Martin County Hospital as an administrator from 1967 to 1984. She was a member of First Baptist Church Stanton.

Survivors include her husband, Robert Louis Roten of Stanton; two sons, Rodney Roten of Midland and Robert Roten of San Marcus; one daughter, Rhonda Gilliland of Midland; 16 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandsons; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mamie was preceded in death by her parents; three brothers, Thomas J. Perrin Jr., Melvin Belcher and Lawrence Belcher; a sister, Mary Virginia King; and three nephews.

The family suggests memorials be made to First Baptist Church Library, P.O. Box 1168, Stanton, Texas 79782; or Martin County Senior Citizen Center, P.O. Box 1233, Stanton, Texas 79782.

Arrangements are under the direction of Gilbreath Funeral Home of Stanton. Online condolences can be made at: www.npwelch.com

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 7 a.m. Thursday and 7 a.m. today:

- REBECCA NICOLE RODRIQUEZ, 25, of 1405 Settles, was arrested Thursday on charges of failure to identify – giving false information, dog or cat running at large and a warrant from another agency.
- THEFT was reported: In the 100 block of N. First Street in Coahoma. In the 700 block of W. Interstate Highway 20.
- ASSAULT was reported in the 2500 block of Wasson Road.

Take Note

• A fund has been set up at Myers & Smith Funeral Home for Teresa "Terry" Gonzales, who died Monday, Dec. 19, in Lubbock, to help defray funeral costs. Contact the funeral home at 432-267-8288 for more information.

• West Texas Opportunities Inc. will be closed Dec. 30 and will reopen for business Jan. 3 at its new location, 2001 Scurry.

• A benefit account for the Arguello family, who lost two family members in a recent house fire in Coahoma, has been established at Western Bank. Interested persons can contribute to the account at any of the bank's three locations (two in Big Spring, one in Coahoma). For more information, call 432-394-4256.

• An account has been established at Wells Fargo to help defray medical expenses for 4-year-old Zayde Stallings, who recently died of a rare heart condition. She was the daughter of Kenny and Renea Stallings of Big Spring. If you need more information, contact Four Seasons Insulation and Siding at 264-8610. The account number is 7938527277.

• A fund has been set up at Myers & Smith Funeral Home for Mike Williams, 39, a lifetime resident of Big Spring who died Nov. 1. He leaves behind a wife and seven children. Any donations can be brought to the funeral home office at 301 E. 24th St. For more information, call 267-8288.

• American Cancer Society will have its board meetings at noon on the second Tuesday of the month through April. Lunch will be furnished. Meetings will take place at Home Hospice, located at 111 E. Seventh.

• Every 10 years, Texas requires that marks and brands be re-registered in the county or counties in which you operate. The re-registration period began Aug. 31 and runs through Feb. 29, 2012. At the conclusion date, all marks and brands that have not been re-registered are automatically available for registration by another party. For additional information, contact the Howard County Clerk's Office at 264-2214 or 264-2213.

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

Sat 12/24	Sun 12/25	Mon 12/26	Tue 12/27	Wed 12/28
40/31 Snow showers. High near 40F. Winds N at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of snow 60%.	46/28 Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 40s and lows in the upper 20s.	53/33 Mainly sunny. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the low 30s.	58/36 Sunshine. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the mid 30s.	62/37 Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the upper 30s.
Sunrise: 7:44 AM Sunset: 5:47 PM	Sunrise: 7:45 AM Sunset: 5:47 PM	Sunrise: 7:45 AM Sunset: 5:48 PM	Sunrise: 7:46 AM Sunset: 5:49 PM	Sunrise: 7:46 AM Sunset: 5:49 PM



Texas At A Glance



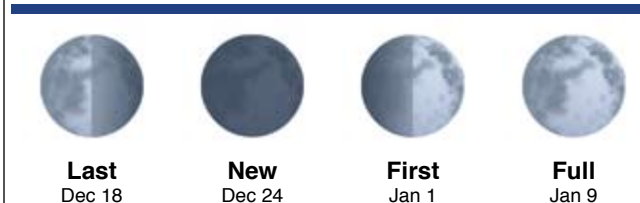
Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	39	32	mixed	Kingsville	52	44	rain
Amarillo	44	27	cloudy	Livingston	49	40	rain
Austin	44	35	rain	Longview	49	38	rain
Beaumont	51	44	rain	Lubbock	40	28	mixed
Brownsville	59	45	rain	Lufkin	50	40	rain
Brownwood	44	34	rain	Midland	40	32	snow
Corpus Christi	51	45	rain	Raymondville	53	44	rain
Corsicana	47	37	rain	Rosenberg	49	44	rain
Dallas	47	37	rain	San Antonio	47	39	rain
Del Rio	44	36	rain	San Marcos	45	36	rain
El Paso	42	27	mixed	Sulphur Springs	50	37	rain
Fort Stockton	38	32	sn shower	Sweetwater	39	31	mixed
Gainesville	46	32	cloudy	Tyler	48	37	rain
Greenville	48	34	rain	Weatherford	45	33	rain
Houston	49	44	rain	Wichita Falls	48	33	cloudy

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	60	44	mst sunny	Minneapolis	39	29	mst sunny
Boston	34	23	mst sunny	New York	40	31	pt sunny
Chicago	39	31	sunny	Phoenix	58	37	sunny
Dallas	47	37	rain	San Francisco	62	42	sunny
Denver	43	22	sunny	Seattle	48	38	rain
Houston	49	44	rain	St. Louis	48	32	sunny
Los Angeles	71	45	sunny	Washington, DC	46	35	sunny
Miami	81	71	pt sunny				

Moon Phases



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The Big Spring Herald is a member of The Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce, Texas Press Association, West Texas Press Association, Texas Daily Newspaper Association, The Associated Press.

Published afternoons Mon. thru Fri. and Sunday mornings, except July 4, Memorial Day, Labor Day and Christmas Day, except if Christmas Day falls on a Sunday. All materials copyrighted.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, TX 79721. Periodicals postage paid at Big Spring, Texas.

USPS 1431-48 USPS 0055-940 ISSN 0746-6811
BY THE MONTH HOME DELIVERY: \$8.85 monthly; \$95.58 yearly (includes 10% discount). MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$14.58 monthly Howard; \$18.33 elsewhere.

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Readers,

During this holiday period, the *Herald* will adjust its schedule and hours in order to allow employees to enjoy time with their families and friends.

The *Herald* will publish a paper today — obviously — and Sunday as usual (though Sunday's edition may arrive a bit earlier than normal) but will not publish a Monday edition. The newspaper office will be closed Saturday through Monday.

The staff of the *Herald* wishes you a very Merry Christmas.

Support Groups

MONDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, noon-1 p.m., 615 Settles.
- PEP — Parent Education Program for CPS participating and non-participating parents, single parent, grandparents, adoptive or fostering parents. Every first and fourth Monday of the month from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Northside Community Center. Classes are free. For information, call 263-2673.
- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting, 8-9 p.m., fourth floor, VA Medical Center.

- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5:30 p.m. at the First Christian Church at 10th and Goliad for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. Call 213-1342 or 263-6819.

TUESDAY

- Big Spring Parkinsons Support Group meeting at the Big Spring Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month. This is a group for those with Parkinson's Disease, Young Onset Parkinson's, caregivers, and those interested in learning more about the illness. There is time for socializing and information. For more information about the support group or about Parkinson's Disease, contact Jody at 432-699-6640 or midlandparkinsons@yahoo.com or Jo Bidwell at the

Lubbock APDA office at 806-785-2732.

- Special Parents for Special Children support group meets the first Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at Elbow Elementary. Contact Kerri Rosenbaum at 432-816-3320 or kerriroosenbaum9488@msn.com
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

- RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at (432) 517-9207 for more information.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; open 12 & 12 study meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

THURSDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, open discussion noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.
- Spring Tabernacle Ministries has a

faith-based support group for those who need help finding and continuing to walk down the path God has for each of us. Meetings are at 11 a.m. until noon and again at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.. The classes take place at Spring Tabernacle Ministries, located at 1209 Wright St.

FRIDAY

- AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.
- Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program, is held at Cornerstone Covenant Church, 706 E. 12th St. at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call at 264-0015 or visit www.cccbigspring.org

SATURDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m. Covered dish supper at 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous closed meeting from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 7 p.m. until 8 p.m.

To submit information to Support Groups, bring it to the *Herald* at 710 Scurry or by email to editor@bigspringherald.com

BEWARE

Continued from Page 1A

"Criminals are going to go after whatever is the easiest for them to get to," Everett said. "So, if you leave your purse lying in the front seat of your car, don't be surprised if you find the window broken and it missing. The best thing to do is not leave any kind of valuables in your car at all. However, if you have to leave them in the car, be sure to put them in the trunk, or out of sight.

"The same principle applies to your home. If you leave your window shades open so criminals can see everything you have, chances are they are going to choose your house or apartment over one where they have no idea what's inside. Double check the locks on all your doors and windows. Dead bolt locks are much more effective at keeping out would-be burglars than locking doorknobs." Relationships with neighbors can also help spoil burglars' chances of pilfering through homes, according to Everett.

"Talk to your neighbors. You would be surprised what they notice, whether its a car driving by slowly to case the home, or a lookout standing outside," he said. "If you see something suspicious at a neighbors home, call the police immediately. It's much better to err on the side of caution

YOUTH

Continued from Page 1A

found several strangers to help. One story in particular stuck out in Mensinger's mind.

"One of our youth, Jessica Moss, said she was going to find an older lady, thinking it would be less intimidating to offer help and minister to her," Mensinger said. "Instead, she ended up finding a 19-year-old who had just gotten off work."

The 19-year-old had a 2-year-old at home and was wondering how she was going to get Christmas for her child when Moss approached her. Moss and four others combined their efforts in order to provide even more assistance.

"She (Moss) knew the amount of money she had wouldn't go as far as if they came together.

than to find out later a neighbor's home has been burglarized." Everett said holiday shoppers can also find themselves in the crosshairs of criminals, but, by following some simple rules, can reduce their chances of becoming a victim substantially.

"Be aware of what's going on around you," he stressed. "If you'll sit up at the front doors of Wal-Mart or the mall, you'll see people walking up and down the parking lots just looking in cars. After a minute or two you can tell they're not looking for their car or headed for their car. What they're doing is scoping out the inside of your vehicle to see if you have any packages or purses or

side their box of faith and impact strangers.

"It's the strangers who really need us. They are the ones watching us to see if we are devoted in our faith or if we are just going to church."

As Mensinger said, if five youth can come together and make an impact, then maybe five families can come together and make an

anything laying loose like that.

"We also suggest that people keep their doors locked whenever they go inside a store, and make sure you take your keys with you. If someone gets into your car to steal a radio or wallet and they find the keys, you're probably going to lose your car. We generally recover the cars that get stolen around here, but a lot of time they're not in any kind of condition to be driven."

Everett said it may seem downright unholid-like to be so suspicious this Christmas, but it's much safer to err on the side of suspicion than to be caught unaware.

"A lot of people will walk outside and in be-

even bigger impact.

"There are still a few days left before Christmas. There are so many of us who can do without and we should really each do our part," he said.

Contact Staff Writer Amanda Moreno at 263-7331 ext. 234 or by e-mail at life@bigspringherald.com

tween cars and really not be aware of what's going on around them," said Everett. "You need to pay attention to whether or not people are there or they seem to be watching you. I would rather have someone be suspicious of me if I'm standing out in the parking lot than to not even notice me.

"Also for the ladies with purses, we suggest that they don't just hold them by the strap and just leave them hanging. That makes them really easy to take. If they have straps on them we suggest you keep them over your shoulder so you can keep one arm over them and keep them se-

cure. Also be sure that you don't leave money that's in your purse visible."

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

MYERS & SMITH FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL

24th & Johnson 267-8288

Teresa "Terry" Gonzales, 49, died Monday. Funeral services will be at 10 a.m. today at Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Burial will be at Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Barbara Ann Hull, 63, died Thursday. The family will receive friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. tonight at Myers & Smith Funeral Home. Funeral Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Myers & Smith Chapel with Rev. Derrick Looney officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memorial Park.

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Pastor

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EDITORIAL

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

-FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

Bill McClellan Managing Editor	Ron Midkiff Publisher	Steve Reagan Staff Writer
Amanda Moreno Staff Writer	Thomas Jenkins Staff Writer	

We salute:

Each week, the Herald salutes individuals and groups from our community and area who have been recognized for special achievements or accomplishments.

We recognize these special people for working to help make our region a better place to live, work and play

This week we salute:

- Xiled Motorcycle club for gathering donations and distributing toys to children in need this holiday season.

- Amy Jacobs for accepting the position of superintendent of Coahoma Independent School District.

- Big Spring Police Association for hosting Shop with a Cop this past week and serving 16 children in need this Christmas.

- St. Paul Lutheran Church for hosting Sharing Our Talents Bazaar and offering last minute, homemade crafts to the community.

- Two Secret Santas who made a trip to Wal-Mart this past week and made the generous donation of paying off several layaways and offering an early Christmas present to more than 25 families.

- Timing Specialists.com for donating \$400 to the Big Spring State Park.

- West Texas Rodeo Queens for taking time to stop by the Heritage Museum and have a book signing and offering a few of their recipies for those attending to try.

- Kiwanis Club for hosting their annual Christmas party for West Side Day Care Center children at Baptist Temple Church.

- West Side Day Care students for stopping by Canterbury South and offering Christmas carols to the residents.

Is there an individual or organization in our community that you feel should be saluted? If so, please send us their name and why you think they should be recognized. We must have your name and telephone number and you must provide it in writing.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions.

In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor Bill McClellan at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Steve Reagan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

- The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.
- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
- Sign your letter.
- Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
- We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
- We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
- Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
- Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

Finding myself missing my T.I.

I never thought I'd find myself saying this ... but I actually find myself missing my Air Force training instructor, Staff Sgt. Astudillo.

Don't get me wrong, I'm still terrified of the man. My buddies in basic training and I were all convinced he was immortal, not due to something silly like vampirism — I can just imagine him scoffing at the idea of sparkling vampires — or demonic possession, but simply because the powers above and below both feared he would take over.

No, I suppose what I miss about him is the same thing I miss about that particular time in my life, something that seems to be missing from the world as we know it today, especially from our younger, patchouli-oil selling, new-age 20-somethings entering the workforce and the newspaper industry these days.

However, to understand what I mean, you first have to understand a little about basic training and how our nation's department of defense teaches its most basic skills to the fighting men and women of the military.

First of all, basic training — at least when I attended training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio in early 1993 — wasn't all that different from the movies. You hear some of the most profane and, eventually, hilarious things you'll ever encounter in your life, you get to jump over stuff and swing across stuff, and you get yelled at a lot, by a lot of different men and women.

Except for Staff Sgt. Astudillo. He never yelled. In fact, I clearly remember that was one of the first things he told us. Bear in mind, he simultaneously split our ear drums while he was telling us.

"You see, this is my natural speaking voice," he said in a timber I can only imagine melds those of Fred Ward with the voice of God, literally causing the windows in our barracks

to shake with the pressure. "I never yell. I don't see the point in yelling."

Obviously.

And with that, each of us set out with just one goal in mind: Not to make that man angry. Unfortunately, that goal, as most of you veterans out there already know, is pretty much impossible in basic training. However, that didn't stop us from trying, and try we did, over and over ... and over ... and over. I imagine you're catching on at this point.

Astudillo would show us how to do something, and we would try to do it. Unfortunately, as you can well imagine, we fell short of the level of mastery he was looking for. Looking back, however, I understand he expected us to fail because that was part of the process. Sometimes, you have to fall down to know how to get back up.

His method of teaching was simple. He explained the process in detail, then he showed you how it was done. He applied that same process to pretty much everything, whether it was shining your boots or jumping over an obstacle. If you were running, he was right there, running beside you. If you were making up your bunk, he was right there, tweezers and ruler in hand, folding right alongside you.

He was curt. He didn't hold your hand or pat you on the back. He didn't feel the need to "cry with you" when you got it wrong like some of these patchouli-oil, new-age, nut-bar, youngsters who seem to be crawling out of the woodworks these days. He didn't have a special needs class or classes in different languages.

He was, at least in my opinion, a good teacher. He was preparing us to go out in the world and face God-only-knows-what, and he knew that. When he criticized our work, he didn't hold our hand and ask us "how that made us feel?" And, we, as soldiers, appreciated that.

As professionals, we often find ourselves in positions where we must choose between opening ourselves up to constructive criticism so we can grow, or closing ourselves off and becoming petty

and stagnant. For example, an experienced photographer — with more than 15 years in the industry — working with someone more than a decade their junior offers some tips on taking photographs.

The younger photographer has two choices before them. The first choice is to scoff and let their ego get the better of them. I mean, what could an old fogey like that possibly have to teach them? Right?

The second — and much more mature — decision, however, would be to set their ego aside and listen, because those years of experience are, and always will be invaluable when it comes to learning any industry. Unfortunately, it seems like this decision is being chosen less often these days, and wisdom is being tossed to the wayside all too often.

One of my favorite photographers of all-time is Bruce Schooler. I think just about everyone in Big Spring knows Bruce and what a great guy he is, not to mention a fantastic photographer. No matter how busy he is, he's always willing to take a few minutes out to talk photography, and his tips truly are invaluable.

Being that I have more than 15 years in photography, do you think I just sit around with Bruce and talk about how knowledgeable I am with cameras when we see each other? Do you think that's what Bruce does? Not a chance. We both jump at the chance to learn from one another, because both Bruce and I have figured out one indelible truth to life: You never, ever stop learning. Ever.

So, the next time someone tries to offer you a tip, trick or suggestion, perk up your ears just a bit more and listen. And, when they are done and you've really considered what they have to say without your ego jumping up to punch you in the nose, ask yourself if you're not just a little bit smarter for the experience.

I'm willing to bet you will be.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com

Reality can sometimes bite

The Gingrich balloon is leaking air. He is beginning to look more and more like Howard Dean.

The latest Rasmussen caucus poll shows him dropping three points behind Mitt Romney (23 to 20) after leading him by 13 points (32-19) just a month ago.

I won't say I told you so, but I did. The nomination process is controlled by ideologues, but even ideologues — and sometimes especially ideologues — want to win. Newt Gingrich didn't do a Rick Perry or a Herman Cain in the past month; he didn't mess up on which cabinet departments he wanted to eliminate or which Libya he was being asked about. He faded because the bright lights got too bright. The stories of his finances, some of his wackier ideas and his notorious temper started making the rounds that count, in turn making it far more difficult for his supporters, let alone the undecideds and the leaners, to mount a convincing case that he could beat Barack Obama.

And so Romney, whose numbers have hovered between 17 percent and 21 percent in Iowa for the past five months, jumped to 23 percent. Conservatives who swallowed hard to accept the nouveau conservative John McCain last time around may have to do the same thing with the born-again Romney.

But the fat lady isn't singing yet. If you look at where Gingrich's 12 points and Cain's 10 points went, it seems significant that only three went to Romney.

Perry picked up four points. But the biggest "surge" — if you can call it that — went to Ron Paul, who picked up eight points.

President Paul? I don't think so. Paul is about to be held under the same bright lights that burned Gingrich, and he's not likely to fare very well when he does. Gingrich may be off the beaten track, but Paul isn't even in the same forest.

Paul is a member of the House of Representatives. No one has been elected president from the House in my lifetime. This is his third run for the presidency. He ran as a Libertarian in 1988 and as a Republican in 2008. According to a scoring system created by the American Journal of Political Science, Paul is the most conservative member to serve in Congress between 1937 and 2002 — of all 3,320 members.

It's not hard to understand why. Among other things, and this list could get really long, Paul argues that the United States should withdraw from the United Nations. He wants to totally abolish the income tax. He thinks the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was an unwarranted intrusion into the labor market. As a doctor, he didn't accept Medicare. As a member of Congress, he refuses a pension. He thinks NAFTA didn't go far enough in promoting free trade.

Running against Paul for president is a Democrat's dream come true. Having him run as a third-party candidate is almost as good. Believe me, Paul won't be taking votes from Obama.

I certainly can understand why some conservatives, frustrated with Romney's moderate record in Massachusetts and uncomfortable with Gingrich's political soft spots, would look at Paul as the

"true" conservative alternative.

Equally important, the press needs Paul as much as conservatives do. A nominating campaign that takes days or weeks on the Republican side and doesn't exist on the Democratic side is hardly a way to sell papers, win ratings or keep legions of political reporters and talking heads employed and engaged.

At the end of the day, the question is less about who will be left standing (that would be Romney) and more about who can stand with him for longer than a few weeks. Gingrich has stumbled. Perry fell flat. Michele Bachmann, well, Bachmann's candidacy died almost immediately after it came to life in the Iowa straw poll. Now it's Paul's chance to see his balloon inflate and then flatten.

And then what?

America's political press will not go gently into the night. They need a two-man race, at least, but Republicans are having trouble finding that second man. Will Gingrich re-surge? Will the press give Perry a second chance? Will Paul be able to hang in once the kitchen gets hot?

It would certainly be good for Romney to wrap up the nomination early. But if he does so because the rest of the field is viewed as ridiculously weak, he will be unable to claim the mantle of true triumph over a worthy opponent that propelled Obama last time around. Being the biggest dwarf is not the same as being big enough to be president.

To find out more about Susan Estrich and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.



THOMAS JENKINS



SUSAN ESTRICH

Church News

Chapel of Faith

Chapel of Faith will celebrate the birth of Jesus on Christmas Eve with a special candlelight communion service. All are invited to come share this special time with us. The service will be Saturday, at 6:30 p.m. Worship service and Sunday school classes will be canceled Christmas morning.

Chapel of Faith is located at 14th and Goliad. The regular schedule of worship service Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. and Sunday school classes at 9:30 will resume Jan. 1, 2012. The pastor is the Rev. Joel Miller. Adult Sunday school is led by Paul Miller and Sharon Cofferen has the children's class. Music is under the direction of Bob Rainwater.

Birdwell Lane Baptist Church

Christmas service will be from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. Birdwell Lane Baptist Church is located at 1512 Birdwell Lane.

Spring Creek Fellowship

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone in our community a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Candlelight service is Saturday, Dec. 24. We will also have Christmas morning service at our regular time, 10:45 a.m. Pastor Derrick is presenting a sermon series titled "Keep the 'mas' in Christmas."

Christmas Day and New's Year's Day schedule will be "Holy Grounds Café" at 10:15 a.m. and worship at 10:45 a.m. No Sunday school classes.

Regular activities will resume Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2012, with a meal at 5:30 p.m. Bible study, youth and children's activities at 6:15 p.m. and praise team practice at 7 p.m. Youth meets Wednesday evenings for junior high and senior high students.

A weekly Men's Prayer Breakfast and Fellowship is scheduled at 7:30 a.m. Saturday in the dining room at the church.

"Between the Lines" Women's Ministry will meet Saturday, Jan. 18, 2012.

"Manna House" food pantry is low on supplies. Please do what you can to help us stock up for the winter and spring. Contact Casie Fillingim and Jennifer Boyd for more information.

"Free Indeed," a ministry of Spring Creek Fellowship, is in need of donations of new underwear, socks, coats, etc. for the cold months ahead. Monetary donations would be greatly appreciated, as well.

If you would like any further information regarding any of our ministries or events, contact the church office.

Spring Creek Fellowship meets at the College Park Shopping Center at 501 Birdwell Lane. Contact us at 432-714-4584 or visit our website at www.springcreekfellowship.org

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

First Christian Church is located at 911 Goliad. Sunday starts with fellowship at 9:30 a.m. and Sunday school at 9:45 a.m. No Sunday school will be held Christmas Day or New Years Day. Worship service is at 10:50 a.m.

Christmas Day, the Rev. Kenneth McIntosh will deliver the message "The Cost of Christmas" from John 1:1-14.

The Carols by Candlelight service will be Dec. 24 at 6 p.m.

Isaiah 58 will be closed Monday, Dec. 26 and Tuesday, Dec. 27. There will be no youth meeting Dec. 28.

For questions or further information, call the church office at 432-517-4821, email fcbs125@yahoo.com or view the website at www.fccbigspring.org.

Alive in Christ Lutheran Church LCMS

We are located at 2805 Lynn Drive. Our church phone number is 432-264-7818. Our website is http://www.m2ctexas.org/chweb/aliveinchrist/. Our e-mail address is aliveinchrist@crcom.net.

Sunday service is at 9 a.m. Sunday school is at 10:15 a.m. Pastor Carroll Kohl will be preaching Sunday. George von Hassell will be reading the liturgy. The readings are Isaiah 52:7-10, Psalm 2, Hebrews 1:1-6 (7-12), and John 1:1-14 (15-18).

The poinsettias on the altar are given in Glory to God and in Honor of Jesus Christ's birth by the members of Alive in Christ Lutheran Church.

Christmas Eve service is scheduled for tomorrow at 6 p.m. Pastor Carroll Kohl will be preaching.

Christmas Day service will begin at 9 a.m., followed by a joint Sunday school.

This past Wednesday was our Children's Christmas Program. Thank you to all who participated in this presentation.

The LWML ladies had a great time at Jeanie Knocke's home Dec. 15. Thank you, Jeanie Knocke, for inviting us into your home.

The Christmas salads and desserts were delicious and the ornaments/decorations exchange items were beautiful.

Scheduled 7 p.m. meetings at the church for January include: Jan. 9, the LWML will serve coffee/juice/refreshments at the VA. The Board of Education will meet Jan. 10. The LWML will meet Jan. 12.

The elders meet Jan. 19. The Board of Assimilation will meet Jan. 24.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Christmas Day Eucharist will be celebrated at 9 a.m.

St. Mary's Christmas Eve Celebration is Saturday at 7 p.m.

The Daily Grind with God — Coffee Hour and Family Fun Night will not meet this week.

For more information about St. Mary's Episcopal Church, call 267-8201. St. Mary's is located at 1001 S. Goliad.

First Methodist Church

Saturday evening at 6 p.m. First Methodist will have their Christmas Eve Candlelight service and communion. Pastor Bill Ivins will bring the message. There will be music by the chancel choir, praise team, bells and instrumentalists. The Advent Candle will be lit by the Chuck Bagwell Family.

Christmas morning there will only be one service of worship at 10 a.m. Pastor Bill will bring the message and Eddie Vandewalker, our director of music ministries will lead the chancel choir in Christmas music. There will also be music by the praise team, bells and instrumentalists.

Sunday school classes will not meet Christmas Day. Poinsettias can be picked up following Sunday morning's service.

The church offices will be closed Dec. 26 and again Dec. 30 through Jan. 2. There will be no Children's Day Out program, Noon Bible Study and Luncheon as well as Real Life Wednesdays this week.

Joan Beil, worship chairperson, asks for volunteers to help take down the Christmas decorations Thursday, Dec. 29 at 1 p.m.

EPIC youth will be sponsoring a New Year's Eve Party Dec. 31. It will be for Sixth through 12th grade, 8:30 p.m. until 12:30 a.m. There will be food, games, dancing and fun. For additional information, call Beau at 806-316-0969.

Congregation-wide covered dish dinner in Garrett Hall will follow the late service New Year's Day.

Senior Adult Ministry, with Chuck and Bonnie Miller as new chairpersons, will be sponsoring the event.

"SAM" will furnish the black eyed peas, ham and cornbread.

We remember the single candle on the altar table burns each service to remind us of those serving in

the armed forces, away from loved ones to protect our freedoms.

First Presbytrian Church, Coahoma

We meet at 11 a.m. Sunday led by Commissioned Lay Pastor Tom Koger. The lectionary Bible study, led by Tom and Craig Holstedt, at 5:17 p.m. at First Presbyterian in Big Spring meets Wednesdays.

We will have our traditional Christmas Eve service at 11 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 24.

The lectionary for Christmas Day/the Nativity of Jesus Christ is Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1:1-12; John 1:1-14.

First Presbyterian Church, Big Spring

The Lectionary Bible study, led by Craig Holstedt and Tom Koger, at 5:17 p.m. in the church library has resumed weekly meetings. The children's choir and the chancel choir practice Wednesdays, at 4:30 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Our traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight service in the sanctuary will be at 7 p.m. Saturday.

Liturgist is Danny Kennemur.

Ushers for the month are Susan Holstedt, John Yater, Jamie and Baylor Walker.

The lectionary for the Nativity of Jesus Christ/Christmas Day is Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98; Hebrews 1:1-12; John 1:1-14. The Rev. Craig Holstedt will deliver the sermon.

Listen on KBST 1490 AM at 11 a.m.

To have a printed bulletin for Sunday services, call the church office at 263-4211.

You may also see what's happening at the church by visiting our website www.fpcbs.org. On our website, you can find a link that will enable you to listen to several recent sermons by the Rev. Craig Holstedt.

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Worship is Sunday morning at 9 a.m. in our sanctuary at 810 Scurry.

Sunday school, led by Pastor Don Rosentreter, is in the parish hall after worship.

Wednesday noon Bible study studies "Held in High Esteem." Bring a brown bag lunch.

We continue to collect supplies for the Candalaria Medical Mission and a complete list is available at the church.

Remembering the first Noel

A few Christmas seasons ago, I spoke with a young woman who had been invited to the home of a friend for dinner. The gracious hostess had decorated her home beautifully, and she served a delicious festive meal.

Every room in the house seemed to have been decked out for the holiday season. There were even Christmas-colored alphabet blocks spelling out the name "LEON" on a window sill above the kitchen sink.

However, since no one in the hostesses' immediate family seemed to be named Leon, the guest pondered all evening about who this special person might be. Finally, as she was helping her hostess with the dinner dishes, the young guest couldn't contain her curiosity any longer. "Who is Leon?" she asked.

The puzzled hostess didn't know who Leon was either, but she laughed when her guest gestured toward the blocks above the sink. Intending to spell "NOEL," she had hastily placed the letters backward on the window sill.

At this busy time of the year, perhaps we all are guilty of hastily slinging decorations up and singing words with little meaning. We mindlessly sing "Noel" without giving thought to the

words we sing or the new born king that we sing about. We might as well be singing about Leon.

Actually the word "Noel," also spelled "Nowell," is a derivative of Latin, French, and English roots. It means Christmas or Christmas carol.

The familiar, traditional carol known as "The First Nowell" is rich in meaning. Based on the Scripture, it is an account of an angel's appearance to a small group of shepherds who were watching their sheep at night. As the song continues, the shepherds looked up and saw a star that led them to a manger in Bethlehem.

Although the carol points to the birth of the King of Israel, the Bible gives a full account of the events that happened that first Noel. An angel of the Lord suddenly stood before the shepherds and the glory of the Lord shone around them causing them to be afraid. Then the angel spoke: "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2: 10-11 NASB).

This year, as the shopping days dwindle and the preparation time gets shorter, let us remember "Leon" and all the other special people in our lives, but let us also remember the first Noel.

Bonnie Wheat is an author and a minister's wife. She can be contacted at brwheat@suddenlink.net.



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The Great Christmas Giveaway, the gift goes on



Courtesy photo

Hillcrest Baptist Church children presented their Christmas musical "The Great Christmas Giveaway, the Gift Goes On!" on Dec. 11, 2011.

Reader's Corner

For this cause

For this cause I bow my knee
To draw closer to thee
O that there
Be no distance between us
Leaving no room in my life for sin
That would separate me
from your love
Keep me close to thee Lord
As I am tested and tried
Hold on to me for I am desperate
Keep my heart soft
My conscience opened
For daily
My faithfulness is tried
And have come so short
Of thy glory
My heart yearns
to give thee back
The life
You have given me
For who can I cry out to
At the seat of Mercy
In desperation
whose love is so deep
Covering a multitude
Of Sin
When I stumble and fall

JoElle Ludington

Early December

Decembers here,
we've started the race
We're stringing up
lights all over the place
They're ringing bells
at some of our stores
Everyone's busy, try-
ing to do more

But the Christmas
spirit has eluded me
Can't figure out why,
I just can't see
It seems out of place,
not the beautiful sea-
son
Seems phony and
flat, now what is the
reason?

And then I heard it
and all was well
"Away in a Manger"
had broken that spell

Ramona Harris

Reflections

The Birth

God's heart beating in an infant breast,
God's breath breathing in a child at rest.
Life itself is a miracle. Hours before my mother died at the age of eighty-nine, she was able to hear the heartbeat of her great granddaughter in my daughter's womb. Two months later, I sat outside the delivery room at the hospital and heard my grand daughter's first cry. Sunrise and sunset cannot compare with the mystery and the beauty of birth.



BILL TINSLEY

Our greatest efforts at language, music, art and theology fall short of describing the miracle that lies beyond our comprehension. John described it this way, "In the beginning was the Word, and the word was with God, and the word was God. He was in the beginning with God. ... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us. And we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth." (John 1:1,2 14).

The Apostle Paul tried to capture it with these words: "In the fullness of time, God sent forth His son, born of a virgin, born under the law." (Gal. 4:4). "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or

dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him." (Col. 1:15-16).
Birth and life is not about logic and reason. It is about passion and love, about hopes, dreams, aspirations, struggle, pain, healing and forgiveness. All of these are bound up in the birth of Christ. It is here that we see God's passion and God's love. In the life of Jesus God lifted our aspirations and our dreams to their highest potential. When Jesus was born, God embraced our struggles, our weaknesses our sufferings and our sins. In Jesus God made known His character and His nature in terms we can understand. "He that has seen me," Jesus said, "has seen the Father."
As miraculous as every birth is to every parent, the birth of Jesus was far more so. The Scriptures are clear that He was born of God, not merely man. He was fully human and fully divine. The Bible says that all the fullness of God was embodied in Him. "For God so loved he world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16).

Bill Tinsley reflects on current events and life experience from a faith perspective. For more information and his books visit [HYPERLINK "http://www.tinsleycenter.com"](http://www.tinsleycenter.com) www.tinsleycenter.com. Email [HYPERLINK "mailto:bill@tinsleycenter.com"](mailto:bill@tinsleycenter.com) bill@tinsleycenter.com

Religious briefs

Christian candy cane pens dispute to high court

PLANO, Texas (AP) — A Dallas-area religious group's fight over allowing Christian-themed holiday items in schools and the accountability of educators has reached the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Plano-based Liberty Institute filed an appeal Thursday.

A federal appeals court in September ruled that two elementary school principals in Plano are immune from liability for stopping students from handing out the religious items in late 2003.

Four families sued in 2004, claiming their youngsters were banned from giving away pencils saying "Jesus is the reason for the season" and candy canes with cards describing their Christian origin.

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decided Lynn Swanson and Jackie Bomchill had qualified immunity from facing court damages. But the court ruled that the principals may have violated the children's free-speech rights.

Parishioners, strangers restock stolen food

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Families in need of food won't go hungry this Christmas after goods stolen from a church's food pantry were restocked with abundant donations from parishioners and strangers.

Hundreds of pounds of food to be given away on Christmas Eve at the Camden Promise food bank disappeared Friday when a driver delivering the food from a staging studio to Gethsemane Lutheran Church in north Minneapolis never showed up. Rev. Jeff Nehrbass says he was heartbroken and angry that the volunteer driver would do such a thing. But, Nehrbass says his anger turned to amazement when boxes and bags of replacement food began arriving. Volunteers stocking shelves could hardly keep up with arriving donations.

Nehrbass tells the Star Tribune that single mothers, the unemployed and underemployed use the food pantry.

Greek church promises to boost charity meals

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — The leader

of Greece's Orthodox Church on Thursday promised to boost its campaign to provide free meals to the poor and homeless, amid the country's deepening financial crisis.

Archbishop Ieronymos visited a central Athens food bank with members of the country's national football team, to promote a campaign launched this week allowing supermarket shoppers at 10 chains and some 300 stores to donate food to church charities.

Ieronymos said the church was handing out 10,000 portions of food per day in greater Athens, with requests for a greater amount growing "every day."

"It is very saddening to see a scene like this. Thousands of people each day line up for food. That is a sad fact," Ieronymos said, as scores of immigrants waited in heavy rain for foil parcels of macaroni and meat sauce.

He also said in a radio interview: "Every day, the message we get is that more food is needed ... we must take care to consider people's dignity and that of their families."

Greece has taken harsh austerity measures since late 2009 to cut its huge budget deficits and in exchange for rescue loans from other eurozone countries and the International Monetary Fund.

The cuts have caused a sharp decline in living standards, with unemployment hovering at 18 percent and the U.N. International Labor Organization warning in a recent report that 20 percent of the crisis-hit country's population is facing the risk of poverty.

Athens Mayor Giorgos Kaminis said the city was helping feed 200 school children of unemployed parents, following a spate of reports of malnourished students and even children fainting in class.

"There is an alarming rise in the number of homeless and people who are malnourished — and we have found cases of that in schools," Kaminis told state-run NET radio.

"In a very discreet way, the city is handling their meal — there are about 200 children. I hope that number does not increase."

Church volunteer Father Andreas, an Orthodox priest, said more young people are seeking help.

"The number of people needing help is growing every day ... We get every kind of person. Lately there are more young people who have lost their jobs," said the priest, whose small Athens parish hands out 65 food-rations per day, cooked in the church basemen by volunteers.
"We have chicken, meat and fish every day, except on days when the church observes a fast."

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Soup kitchen at New Life Ministries

- New Life Ministries Church of God In Christ is holding a soup kitchen every second and fourth Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 204 N.W. 10th. The meal is free. Call 264-0771 for more information.

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News in briefs

Congress hopes to wrap up work on payroll tax cuts despite serious opposition from some

WASHINGTON (AP) — Capping a full retreat by House GOP leaders, Congress will convene Friday in hopes of approving a stopgap measure renewing payroll tax cuts for every worker and unemployment benefits for millions — despite serious opposition among some tea party Republicans.

Friday's unusual session, if all goes according to plan, will send a bill to President Barack Obama to become law for two months and put off until January a fight over how to pay for the 2 percentage point tax cut, extend jobless benefits averaging around \$300 a week and prevent doctors from absorbing a big cut in Medicare payments.

Those goals had been embraced by virtually every lawmaker in the House and Senate, but had been derailed in a quarrel over demands by House Republicans for immediate negotiations on a long-term extension bill. Senate leaders of both parties had tried to barter such an agreement among themselves a week ago but failed, instead agreeing upon a 60-day measure to buy time for talks next year.

The decision by House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, to cave in to the Senate came after days of criticism from Obama and Democrats. But perhaps more tellingly, GOP stalwarts like strategist Karl Rove and the Wall St. Journal editorial board warned that if the tax cuts were allowed to expire, Republicans would take a political beating that would harm efforts to unseat Obama next year.

Friday's House and Senate sessions are remarkable. Both chambers have recessed for the holidays but leaders in both parties are trying to pass the short-term agreement under debate rules that would allow any individual member of Congress to derail the pact, at least for a time.

Review of NYPD's spying programs shows successes, failures

NEW YORK (AP) — When New York undercover officers and informants were infiltrating a mosque in Queens in 2006, they failed to notice the increasingly radical sentiments of a young man who prayed there. Police also kept tabs on a Muslim student group at Queens College, but missed a member's growing anti-Americanism.

Ever since The Associated Press began revealing New York Police Department spying programs on mosques, student groups, Muslim businesses and communities, those activities have been stoutly defended by police and supporters as having foiled a list of planned attacks.

Recently, for instance, when three members of Congress suggested an inquiry into those programs, Republican Rep. Peter King of New York rallied to the NYPD's defense.

"Under Commissioner Ray Kelly's leadership, at least 14 attacks by Islamic terrorists have been prevented by the NYPD," King said.

But a closer review of the cases reveals a more complicated story.

Pakistani army rejects U.S. investigation into airstrikes that killed 24

ISLAMABAD (AP) — The Pakistani army on Friday rejected a U.S. investigation that concluded mistakes on both sides led to American airstrikes last month that killed 24 Pakistani soldiers and severely damaged the already strained relationship between the two countries.

The response indicates the report will do little to ease tensions, a worrying development for the U.S. because Pakistan's cooperation is critical for the Afghan war. The Pakistani army has said its troops did nothing wrong and claimed the attack was a deliberate act of aggression.

Pakistan has retaliated by closing its Afghan border to supplies meant for NATO troops in Afghanistan and kicking the U.S. out of a base used by American drones. NATO officials have said the closure of the supply route has not affected operations so far, but it would eventually if not reversed.

The army "does not agree with the findings of the US/NATO inquiry as being reported in the media," the force said in a short statement sent to reporters shortly after midnight Friday. "The inquiry report is short on facts."

The army will provide a detailed response after officials receive the report, it said. Pakistan refused to cooperate in the investigation.

Why do kids have faith in Santa? Because parents do; 8 in 10 grown-ups believed as tots

WASHINGTON (AP) — Why do kids believe a chubby guy in a flying sleigh can deliver joy across America? Because their parents do. A whopping 84 percent of grown-ups were once children who trusted in Santa's magic, and lots cling to it still.

Things are changing fast these days, with toddlers wishing for iPads, grade schoolers emailing their Christmas lists and moms wrestling over bargain toys at midnight sales. Despite all the pressures on the rituals of the season, an AP-GfK poll confirms that families are sticking by old St. Nick.

"It's important for kids to have something to believe in," says great-grandmother Wanda Smith of Norman, Okla.

And so they do. Year after year, Santa Claus survives the scoffers and the Scrooges and the 6-year-old playground skeptics. He endures belittling commercials that portray him shopping at Target or taking directions from an iPhone. He shrugs off scolds who say his bagful of toys overshadows the reason for the season.

Two-thirds of parents with kids under 18 say Santa's an important part of their celebrations this year. Moms, especially, have a soft spot for the man in red — 71 percent of them say he's important, and that's a big jump from 58 percent just five years ago.

Shoppers walk out of stores without paying for Christmas gifts

(AP) — More than spirits are being lifted this holiday season.

Shoppers may be grabbing lots of things off shelves, but many are leaving stores without paying for them.

During the four weeks leading up to Christmas, an estimated \$1.84 billion in merchandise will be shoplifted this year, according to The Global Retail Theft Barometer, a survey of retailers worldwide. That's up about 6 percent from \$1.7 billion during the same period last year.

"They shoplift for Christmas gifts, they steal for themselves, for their family," says Joshua Bamfield, executive director of the Centre for Retail Research and author of the survey.

Some people always get sticky fingers during the holidays. After all, the crowded stores and harried clerks make it easier to slip a tablet computer into a purse or stuff a sweater under a coat undetected. But higher joblessness and falling wages have contributed to an even bigger rise this year, with people stealing everything from necessities (Think: food)

to luxuries they can no longer afford (Think: Gucci handbag).

No major disruptions expected as holiday travel starts; more Americans going far from home

NEW YORK (AP) — More Americans are expected to take long trips this holiday season — and in many parts of the country it looks to be smooth sailing.

About 92 million people will travel 50 miles or more from Friday through Jan. 2, an increase of 1.4 percent more than last year, according to AAA.

The federation of motor clubs said 90 percent will travel by car. Drivers will find gasoline prices higher than last year, but well below this year's peaks.

Air travel will be down about 10 percent.

When there are problems with air travel today — be it weather, mechanical issues or computer glitches — they are much worse than just a few years ago.

Airlines have trimmed the number

of flights and are packing planes fuller than ever before. That means if something goes wrong, there are fewer options to rebook stranded passengers. There are just no spare seats.

Cuban-Americans continue to stream to island for holidays

MIAMI (AP) — Deborah Labrada was giddy as she stood in line at Miami-Dade International Airport, waiting to fly to the town of Guantanamo, Cuba.

It is the place she visits roughly once a year to see her grandfather, aunts and uncles and cousins. She still considers it a second home, even though she has lived nearly all her 17 years in South Florida.

Labrada was among thousands of Cuban-Americans flying to the island this week to celebrate the new year. These types of annual pilgrimages would have been sharply curtailed if two South Florida, GOP Cuban-American congressmen had succeeded in returning to the Bush-era limit of once every three years.

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Colts find win streak, defeat Texans

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Reggie Wayne followed the script Thursday night.

And just like his previous 11 seasons in Indianapolis, he had it down.

Wayne made one of his trademark moves to outmaneuver a Houston defensive back with 19 seconds left, freeing himself for a 1-yard touchdown catch that gave the Colts a stunning 19-16 victory over AFC South champion Houston. The five-time Pro Bowler celebrated by flinging his hands into the air, pointing toward the fans he loves and hugging his teammates before heading to the Colts' locker room for possibly the final time.

"I said if this is going to be

the last game, I want to go out with a bang. It was great," Wayne said. "It was a great feeling to go out. Hopefully, I'll be back but you never know."

Wayne, whose contract is up after the season, certainly made a strong case to return with the Colts in 2012.

The five-time Pro Bowler finished with eight catches for 106 yards, the biggest, of course, giving Indianapolis (2-13) a second win in five days. It was Wayne's third 100-yard day of the season and put the Colts' No. 2 all-time receiver in position to match another franchise record with eight straight 1,000-yard seasons.

Indy's suddenly strong finish could jeopardize the Colts'

stronghold on the No. 1 overall draft pick, having tied the league's other two-win teams -- St. Louis and Minnesota.

But Wayne and his teammates could care less about that chase. They wanted a win, and some of them wanted to win for teammates such as Wayne, Robert Mathis and Jeff Saturday, who were cornerstones of one of the league's model franchises. All of them have expiring contracts.

"I was kind of in my hotel room thinking today and kind of know it's the last home game of the season here and there's question marks about what can happen in this future, and I was thinking if it ever got to the point

in the game where somebody needed to make a play, it wasn't probably going to go anywhere but (Wayne)," quarterback Dan Orlovsky said. "I think he deserved that opportunity."

Orlovsky finished 23 of 41 for 244 yards with the one touchdown and won his second straight after losing his first nine NFL starts. Even sweeter, he beat the team he played for the past two seasons.

For Houston, it was a bitter reminder that they hadn't completely swung the balance of power in the AFC South.

Having already clinched the franchise's first playoff berth and still playing for a first-round bye, the Texans (10-5)

seemed poised for a playoff tuneup in Indianapolis.

Instead, they looked anything but playoff-ready.

Houston settled for two field goals in the red zone, didn't convert a third down until getting a lucky bounce late in the fourth quarter, its running game was stymied late and the defense helped the Colts with three penalties on the decisive drive.

"The last two were absolutely unnecessary on my part," rookie defensive end J.J. Watt said after being called for two of the penalties. "That's on me. I can't do that. I can't hurt our football team

See **COLTS**, Page 2B

A&M player dies in wreck

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Texas A&M senior offensive lineman Joseph Villavisencio has been killed in a car accident, according to the university.

Witness reports say that Villavisencio swerved to avoid a buzzard and veered head-on into the path of an 18-wheeler near the town of Normangee about 40 miles from College Station, on Thursday.

Villavisencio spent part of Thursday with the team delivering gifts to families at a local shelter after the Aggies finished their last workout on campus in preparation for the Meineke Car Care Bowl. Villavisencio was heading to his home in Jacksonville, Texas, at the time of the crash.

Villavisencio saw very limited action in his career with the Aggies, but touched many involved in the program. Former coach Mike Sherman says everyone will remember him as a person "who would do anything for anybody."

The 22-year-old was a three-year letterman whom athletic director Bill Byrne says "epitomized selfless service" to helping the Aggies improve as a team.

Beltran signs deal with Cards

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Carlos Beltran and the World Series champion St. Louis

Cardinals agreed to a two-year contract pending results of a physical, a move that would fortify the team's lineup following the departure of Albert Pujols.



AP file photo

Carlos Beltran runs down a fly while playing for the Mets. Beltran signed a two-year deal with the Cardinals.

The team disclosed the agreement Thursday night and said it expects to make a formal announcement shortly after the holidays.

KMOX, the Cardinals' flagship radio station, reported the deal is for \$26 million over two years — the same figure cited by a person familiar with the negotiations who spoke to The Associated Press. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because financial details of the agreement were not announced by the team.

The 34-year-old Beltran batted .300 with 22 home runs, 84

RBI's and a .385 on-base percentage for the New York Mets and San Francisco Giants this year. He likely will be the opening-day right fielder for the Cardinals next season. Lance Berkman is expected to move to first base, taking Pujols' spot.

Beltran and Berkman are switch-hitters, giving new manager Mike Matheny lineup flexibility.

Earlier this month, St. Louis resigned shortstop Rafael Furcal to a two-year, \$14 million contract and added left-handed reliever J.C. Romero with a one-year, \$750,000 deal. The Cardinals appear to need only a few spare parts to finalize the roster.

After Pujols signed a \$254 million, 10-year contract with the Los Angeles Angels, Cardinals chairman Bill DeWitt Jr. said he expected his team's payroll

See **BELTRAN**, Page 2B

Fine accuser talks openly about abuse

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP) — Bobby Davis was a basketball-crazy teen who was handed a virtual all-access pass to the world of big-time college hoops by Syracuse assistant coach Bernie Fine. As a ball boy for Hall of Famer Jim Boeheim's squad during the 1980s, Davis heard halftime locker-room tirades from the legendary coach, took shots at practice, sat courtside, hit the road and ate nice dinners.

Davis, now 39 and the prime accused in the sexual abuse scandal at Syracuse University, says the indebtedness he felt toward Fine made it hard to break from the man he claims molested him throughout his teens and into his late 20s.

"I wanted to be around basketball so bad," Davis said in an interview with The Associated Press.

"As I got older, I understood more that Bernie had this power. You almost feel it's like a cult in a sense. You don't know how to get away," he said. "And as more and more time went on, you feel indebted to him. You feel like you owe him. He'd always remind me of all the good things he did for me: 'I'm the first one who got you to steak dinner. ... I took you to these restaurants. I took you to these hotels.'"

Davis and his stepbrother Mike Lang claim they were repeatedly forcibly touched in the 1980s by Fine, who has since been fired. Davis

and Lang last week filed a defamation lawsuit against the university and Boeheim, who initially called Davis a liar and opportunist looking to cash in on the publicity surrounding the Penn State sex abuse scandal.

Fine has denied the allegations. He has not spoken publicly in the month since the allegations were raised, and his lawyers declined to comment Thursday.

During an interview Wednesday night with the AP, Davis said the abuse would sometimes occur in Fine's campus office with secretaries just beyond the closed door, in Fine's home, at Syracuse University basketball camp and at a fraternity house. After he became

a ball boy around age 11, Davis said, he went everywhere with Fine. He fetched cookies for news conferences and shadowed the team.

"I was in there during halftime speeches when Boeheim was kicking over chalkboards and screaming and swearing," Davis said. "I was part of everything for a long time. He's (Boeheim) seen me everywhere."

Davis' claim that he was always hanging around is crucial to his defamation lawsuit, which contends Boeheim "knew or should have known" about the alleged conduct of his assistant.

Davis said Boeheim saw him lounging on Fine's hotel

See **ABUSE**, Page 2B

Boise State takes down Arizona State in MAACO Bowl

LAS VEGAS (AP) — The MAACO Bowl Las Vegas might not have been the capper No. 8 Boise State quarterback Kellen Moore wanted for his college career, but the NCAA's winningest passer got to end his run the way he wanted — with one more win.

"You got to finish things off," Moore said after leading the Broncos (12-1) to an easy 56-24 win over Arizona State on Thursday night.

He threw for 293 yards and two touchdowns, though he also had two interceptions and lost a fumble. The turnovers won't matter as fans in Idaho remember their greatest star, who's set school records for passing yards, touchdowns,

completions and total offense, and finished fifth all-time among NCAA quarterbacks for passing yards while racking up 50 total wins.

"We always talk about finish seasons or finish games," Moore said. "You're talking about finishing careers, so there's no reason to settle or relax."

Boise State was able to rest easy from the game's start.

Doug Martin returned the opening kickoff 100 yards for a touchdown, giving No. 8 Boise State a lead 14 seconds into the game. Martin rushed for 151 yards and another touchdown and was voted the game's MVP.

Arizona State (6-7) never seriously threatened

the Broncos (12-1), even though Moore had three turnovers and allowed a 97-yard kickoff return for a touchdown by the Sun Devils to start the second half.

"It spread the word about Boise State," Moore said. "We took advantage of opportunities to elevate this program."

Coach Chris Petersen said the program will miss Moore.

"I have no idea what we're going to do without Kellen Moore — so don't even ask," Petersen said before reporters could ask a question during a news conference after the game.

Boise State finished seventh in the BCS standings, but wasn't

invited to one of its big-money bowl games. The Mountain West and Pac 12 conferences each received \$1.1 million for the MAACO Bowl.

Arizona State missed on several opportunities to make the game closer, wasting a bowl-record 241-yard receiving effort by Gerrell Robinson, who caught a touchdown in the fourth quarter after the Broncos had already scored 49 points.

Moore — the NCAA's winningest player at the position — played well enough in his last college game to keep his team scoring, despite some missteps.

"When you're at a good place with good people, good things happen," Moore said.

Petersen said it was important to put a stamp on the careers of Moore and his fellow seniors.

"These guys took it up a notch or two," Petersen said. "It was extremely important to the coaching staff and this team."

Martin finished with 301 all-purpose yards, breaking a bowl record set in 1997 by Air Force's Pat Johnson. His touchdown return also set a record for the longest kickoff return in MAACO Bowl history. It was the first time the opening kickoff had been returned for a score in any bowl game since Ted Ginn Jr. did it in the 2007 BCS title game.

Boise State finished with a bowl record in

points scored by a single team, and the teams combined for the highest scoring game in the bowl's 20-year history.

The most costly mistake for Arizona State came in the third quarter, as the Sun Devils tried to capitalize on a fumble by Moore — his third turnover of the game. The Sun Devils drove 49 yards to Boise State's 1-yard line, but quarterback Brock Osweiler's fourth-down pass was intercepted by Jamar Taylor, who returned it for a touchdown to make the score 35-10.

Moments before the play, Arizona State

See **BOWL**, Page 2B

BELTRAN

From Page 1B

to perhaps exceed this year's total of \$110 million.

Allen Craig, coming off an impressive postseason, gives the Cardinals another strong option in the outfield but will miss at least the first month of the season while recovering from knee surgery.

A six-time All-Star, Beltran began his career with the cross-state Royals in 1998, three years after Kansas City drafted him in the second round. The switch-hitter has a .283 career batting average with 302 home runs and 1,146 RBIs.

"Beltran is a proven outfielder who obviously has been a tough opponent against the Cardinals for many years," St. Louis general manager John Mozeliak said in a statement. "It is going to be nice to have his bat and competitive nature working for us instead of on the other side of the field for the next couple of years."

Beltran faced the Cardinals in a pair of NL championship series, in 2004 with Houston and 2006 with the Mets. St. Louis won both series despite several big hits by Beltran.

Decision day for Barkley

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Southern California quarterback Matt Barkley believed he was prepared to play in the NFL and the draft prognosticators agreed with him.

He had skillfully guided the program through two years of NCAA sanctions, put up big numbers to add his name to the list of great Trojans quarterbacks.

Barkley just wasn't ready to leave. He still had some unfinished business at USC.

Setting off a round of cheers at USC's Heritage Hall, Barkley announced Thursday that he's returning for his senior season, putting off the NFL for a chance to lead the Trojans from under the cloud of NCAA sanctions to a BCS bowl.

"I am staying so I can finish what I started," Barkley said.

At 6-foot-2, 220 pounds and with a game that matured over three years at Troy, Barkley was projected as a high first-round pick in the NFL draft,

an enticement that had lured his predecessor, Mark Sanchez, after his junior season.

Instead of following Sanchez's footsteps, Barkley took the route of former USC quarterback Matt Leinart and Stanford's Andrew Luck.

Leinart returned to USC after winning the Heisman Trophy and a national championship, and led the Trojans to the 2005 BCS title game, where they lost to Texas. Luck came back this season after being

the Heisman runner-up last year and took the Cardinal to the Fiesta Bowl while finishing second to Baylor's Robert Griffin III in this year's Heisman voting.

Like those two, Barkley felt as though he still had goals he wanted to accomplish after leading the Trojans to a 10-2 record and a No. 5 ranking in The Associated Press poll. Barkley let USC coach Lane Kiffin know about his decision with a Christmas ornament.

ABUSE

From Page 1B

room bed in New Orleans in shorts and a T-shirt during the 1987 Final Four. He said Fine had gotten up to answer the door and was exchanging some paperwork when Boenheim spied him.

"I just remember him ... kind of itching his head and looking, glancing at me, and I just felt like an uneasiness, an uncomfortableness," Davis said.

Boenheim has denied going to Fine's room or seeing Davis there.

Davis and Lang went public with their allegations on ESPN last

month. District Attorney William Fitzpatrick said earlier this month that Davis was credible, but he couldn't investigate under state law because the statute of limitations had expired. Two other men, Zach Tomaselli of Lewiston, Maine, and Floyd VanHooser, who is in prison on a burglary conviction, have also accused Fine, though Fitzpatrick has said that there is evidence that undercuts Tomaselli's claim and that a "fourth accuser" he did not identify lacked credibility.

Federal prosecutors are investigating.

Boenheim, in his 36th year coaching Syracuse, vehemently supported his longtime assistant when the accusations broke and said Davis was lying. "The Penn State thing came out, and the kid behind this is trying to get money," he told the Syracuse Post-Standard.

Amid criticism from victims' rights advocates, Boenheim later apologized and said he spoke out of loyalty and was basing his com-

ments on a 2005 university investigation that failed to corroborate Davis' claims.

Davis met Fine in the early 1980s at a park that was a basketball hangout for neighborhood kids in a working-class section of the city.

"I was up at Sunnycrest playing and Bernie was up there playing, and he got me on his team," Davis said. "They never would let me play because I was young. And he goes, 'Oh, you can play with me.' ... And Bernie was a big guy and they respected him up there. I remember he was actually pretty good."

Afterward, Fine invited him over for a barbecue dinner with others.

Davis said Fine began abusing him around the time he became a ball boy in 1983. Fine turned into a father figure, and as Davis spent more time at the older man's house — actually living there sometimes — the abuse escalated from touching outside the pants to inside, according to Davis. Some of the abuse would occur in Davis' bed in

Fine's basement while Fine's wife, Laurie, was home, Davis said. During the summer or holiday breaks at Syracuse, Fine and Davis would stop at the house of the fraternity he advised, Davis claimed.

"He would always say, 'Bobby, come in here. Come in this room. I'm up here.' And I'd be like, 'OK,' and I knew what was going to happen. He was going to try to do something," Davis said.

Fine's house has been widely described as a place where team members, program staffers and kids were constantly coming and going. People came by for dinner or to lounge on the big couch to watch TV. The refrigerator was stocked with Gatorade, and his attic was packed with sneakers, basketball shorts and other gear that kids would often try to raid, Davis said.

Davis said he never saw another boy being abused but claimed he saw Fine rubbing the legs of other youngsters.

Fine would promise

to give Davis the same type of orange sneakers worn by the team if he kept his grades up — a promise he delivered on every year Davis was a ball boy.

Davis recalled Fine asking another boy for his report card.

"That's the only things that I've ever put two and two together — that I saw him do similar things like that, that he did to me, to other kids," Davis said.

Davis said the sexual contact continued until his late 20s. He said it was eating him up and he eventually got tired of being controlled by Fine. His last contact with Fine was after Davis moved to Utah in 2003, after he tried to interest Syracuse police in his case. He called Fine to confront him.

"I called him and I said, 'Bern, you need to get help. I'm doing this because I want you to get help, you know,'" Davis recalled. "And he just said, 'Oh, you're trying to hurt me and my family. Just stay away.' He got mad at me."

Davis hung up.

sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats. That means no number is repeated in any row, column or box.

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

BOWL

From Page 1B

coach Dennis Erickson tried to call a timeout as his team was late to the line of scrimmage, but his attempts weren't acknowledged by the referees.

"I should have just called a timeout," said Osweiler, who threw for 395 yards with two touchdowns in defeat.

Osweiler said his team had some confusion before the play, with the wrong players on the field and a delay in communicating what they wanted to do.

The Broncos led 28-3 at half-

time with Martin's kick return, Moore's passing touchdowns and another by wide receiver Matt Miller on a trick play in the second quarter.

Arizona State didn't score after its first interception and failed to pick off a lofty, poorly-aimed toss from Moore's brother, receiver Kirby Moore, that hit a Sun Devils defender in the chest during a trick play. Boise State scored its fourth touchdown later in the drive.

"In a game like this, momentum is everything, and we didn't capitalize and they did," Robinson said.

Erickson was coaching his last

game for Arizona State, which let him go in November after the Sun Devils finished the regular season on a four-game losing streak.

Erickson said he doesn't think his career is finished.

"I'll be involved in football some way — I'm not sure exactly what," he said.

Moore said he's not sure where his future in professional football may go.

"I focused on this thing first. (I'm) looking to the opportunities ahead of (me)," Moore said. "We've been playing well for four years and you want to see where you can go from here."

COLTS

From Page 1B

like that."

Houston is now 0-10 in Indianapolis and hasn't scored more than 20 points in a game since T.J. Yates took over as the starting quarterback.

Yates was solid, 13 of 16 for 132 yards with a rating of 101.0, and Arrian Foster had a big day rushing 23 times for 158 yards.

But when the Texans had to sustain drives or punch it into the end zone, they squandered away scoring chances.

"We make one play offensively at the end, the game's over," coach Gary Kubiak said. "We make one stop at the end, the game's over."

At the start, the game certainly looked as if it would be a repeat of the Texans' 34-7 season-opening blowout when Brian Cushing beat the Colts blockers on the game's first play, sack-

ing Orlovsky and stripping the ball. Foster ran for 8 yards on the next play, then scored on a 9-yard burst off the left side to give Houston a 7-0 lead.

The teams traded five field goals over the next 58 minutes, but the Colts never had the lead.

Then somehow Orlovsky got rolling. He connected with Pierre Garcon for 11 yards and Jacob Tamme for 10. After a 3-yard completion to Donald Brown, Wayne caught a 34-yard pass

on third-and-7 to keep the drive alive with 51 seconds left. Houston's three penalties moved the ball to the Houston 1, and on first-and-goal, Orlovsky lobbed the pass to Wayne, who hauled it in for the momentous catch.

"It's big," Wayne said. "For one thing, not knowing what my future's going to be, just wanting to get a win, couldn't get anything better than this."

NOTES: Before the game, Colts owner Jim Irsay told NFL Network that if Peyton Manning plays next year, it will be in Indianapolis. ... Wayne also moved past Rod Smith for No. 18 on the NFL's career receptions list. Smith finished with 849. Wayne now has 854. ... Houston's four-game winning streak came to an end. ... Adam Vinatieri missed a 42-yard field goal just before halftime, ending his streak of 33 consecutive field goals made at Lucas Oil Stadium.

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Bidding Quiz

You are South, and the bidding has gone:

North	East	South	West
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
2NT	Pass	?	

What would you bid now with each of the following four hands?

- ♠AJ97♥52♦18♣KQ843
- ♠AJ865♥10♦5♣AQ9852
- ♠KJ92♥Q84♦7♣AK763
- ♠KQ74♥Q7♦2♣AJ9654

1. Pass. There comes a time when you've shown all your values and there's nothing further to show. True, partner opened the bidding, but he has now signed off twice opposite your two forcing bids. Obviously, he must have a dead-minimum opening bid. He presumably would have shown more interest in game (such as bidding three notrump instead of two) if he had more than a dead-minimum. Since you have no values beyond those already indicated, it's high time to put a stop to the proceedings.

Another way to approach the situation is to apply the general principle that it normally takes at least a minimum opening bid to make a game opposite another minimum opening bid. Partner seems to have a minimum, and you have less than an opening bid, so the combined total comes to less than game.

2. Three spades. The purpose of this bid is to tell partner that you have 6-5 distribution. Partner knows you would not repeat your spades with only a four-card suit, so he will credit you with five spades. At the same time, he will realize that you must have at least six clubs, since you would have bid spades first with two suits of equal length.

3. Four hearts. Game is certain despite partner's two weak rebids. However, there's still a good chance for slam, and you can suggest this by jumping to four hearts, implying extra values while at the same time completing the description of your 4-3-1-5 distribution.

4. Three hearts. It is still not clear whether the best game contract lies in hearts, notrump or clubs. The best way of pinpointing your shortage in diamonds is by now showing heart support, which, in conjunction with your two previous bids, should make it easier for partner to choose the best final contract.

Ordinarily, Q-x is not adequate support for a suit partner has rebid only once, since the rebid might occasionally be based on only five cards. But in the great majority of cases, partner is far more likely to have a six-card suit, so a trial bid of three hearts (forcing) is clearly the best choice at this point.

Tomorrow: Assertiveness to the nth degree.

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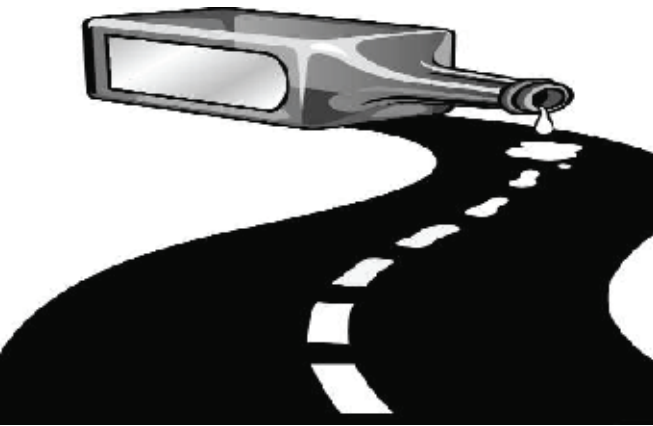
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Legals

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The Colorado River Municipal Water District and Garney Companies are soliciting General Contractor, supplier and subcontractor participation including those that qualify as SWMBE's for the following: Bid Package 6, Above Slab Construction for the Ward County Water Supply Expansion Project. Bid Deadline is February 23, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. Bids will be received at CRMWD 400 E. 24th Street, Big Spring, TX 79721-0869 For more information contact Marcus Grace at (816)536-6485 or email mgrace@garney.com Garney Companies, Inc is an Equal Employment/Opportunity Employer.
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Tomorrow's Horoscope

Tomorrow's new moon in Capricorn will be a lucky time for making wishes, though this is the best time to dream those wishes up, as the moon is in open-minded Sagittarius. There also will be a sense of urgency under this passionate influence, and it will seem as though this is the last chance to make a play for a certain outcome.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll immediately identify what's in the way of you and a certain situation you want to create for yourself. Using your amped-up powers of charm and persuasion, you will effectively eradicate this obstacle.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Regular feedback will be your magic success ticket. Arrange to check in with a supportive person, preferably a mentor type who has experience with what you're doing.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). This will be an ordinary extraordinary day. In many ways, it's like yesterday. And yet you notice your moments differently, experiencing the uplift of a thousand

interesting details.
CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your eyes and ears are wide open, and wonders will be revealed to you. You'll use all you learn to gain greater clarity about your world, especially your immediate environment.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your day will have an element of glamour to it. There will be a victory of sorts, and you'll know that you have caused a change that would not have happened were you not involved.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Though you are in the process of instilling new habits, you may need to take a break from your efforts to do what's necessary to overcome other challenges of life. Rest assured, you are still moving forward.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll solve problems quickly. You might not find the fix that will last through the centuries, but what you come up with will do for now. And your ingenuity will be admired by those who can help you with more permanent solutions.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The help of a socially supportive network will make a difference for you. With an enthusiastic team in place, you'll be able to accomplish far more than you thought

you would.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You have a jolly and flexible attitude, and that will bring you luck. You may have to push your plans around a bit to accommodate the realities of changed circumstances in your life.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You have much to accomplish, and you'll be busy all day. The moment you check something off of your list, you'll want to move down to the next item. Pause to pat yourself on the back between tasks.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There are about 500 reasons to smile. Then again, you'll only be as happy as you let yourself be. So remind yourself that you deserve to feel content. You really do!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your astute observations will allow you to see financial opportunity. You'll determine how you might offer something better and different from that of the competition.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY: (Dec. 23). You'll come to understand your unique gifts. Every week you'll spend time developing your talent. You'll be applauded in April. Through the spring, you will focus on the needs of your loved ones, and somehow your own needs will be addressed in the process. In June, you will embark on an astonishing adventure. Taurus and Pisces people adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 49, 18, 24, 31 and 23.

WEEKEND LOVE FORECAST: **ARIES:** You'll stroke a loved one's ego. Your love is a safety zone. **TAURUS:** Ever the independent, you will be

annoyed by anyone who comes to your rescue when you don't really need it. **GEMINI:** The person who works to get your attention will appreciate it all the more. **CANCER:** You'll gain greater control over your emotions and direct them in a way that brings a loved one near. **LEO:** In the eye of an emotional storm, you will be the gentle, calm refuge that a loved one needs. **VIRGO:** You'll simplify your life so that you have more to give to someone else. **LIBRA:** You'll love the surprise that your love brings to you. **SCORPIO:** You'll seize the chance to make a memory and take pictures to solidify the moment. **SAGITTARIUS:** You have just the kind of humor that someone finds devastatingly attractive. **CAPRICORN:** Your willingness to melt the ice with a stranger will lead to an interesting opportunity. **AQUARIUS:** You'll share your dreams with someone who will someday help them come true. **PISCES:** You feel that you've been too giving and trusting in the past, but you're not about to change that now. You'd rather believe the best of people.

COUPLE OF THE WEEKEND: Sagittarius and Capricorn may be next-door neighbors on the zodiac wheel, but they are unfamiliar in so many ways that they could spend a lifetime learning about each other. Capricorn believes that love is usually as strong as its demonstration. What matters to this sign is what you do in the name of love. Sagittarius is prone to taking the kind of action that lets Capricorn feel love for certain.

If you would like to write to Holiday Mathis, please go to www.creators.com and click on "Write the Author" on the Holiday Mathis page, or you may send her a postcard in the mail. To find out more about Holiday Mathis and read her past columns, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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6	4	9	5	3	7	2	1	8
1	8	3	9	4	2	7	6	5
2	5	7	1	8	6	4	9	3
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5 :PM	News ABC	Alma	Big Bang	News CBS	Noticias	News	King	Bible	Charlie Rose	'Til Death	Gold Rush	diers, Greg Kinnear	(4:46) Gang-land	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Shake It Good	NFL32	SportsCenter
6 :PM	Jeopardy!	Una Familia con Suerte (SS)	Two Men Two Women	News CBS	Pelicula: Dinosaur	News	Seinfeld	Dr. Denis Upd	PBS News-Hour	Seinfeld	Gold Rush	(5:57) Gang-land	Law & Order	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live	Jessie	College Basketball	NFL Kickoff	
7 :PM	Shrek Christmas	Fuerza-Des-tino	Kitchen Nightmares	A Gifted Man	Pelicula: Cars, Bonnie Hunt (SS)	Chuck	Payne	Door-Wis-dom	Wash. Need	Olive-Rein-deer	Gold Rush	Movie: Young Guns, Lou Diamond Phillips	(:07) Gang-land	Law & Order	Movie: Things Fall Apart	The Search for Santa Paws	College Basketball	Basketball Studio
8 :PM	Prep & Panda	Rosa de Guadalupe	Simpsons How I Met	Blue Bloods	Grimm	Dateline NBC	Payne	Best of Light of the Southwest	Christmas at St. Olaf	Cops	Flying Wild Alaska	(:18) Movie: The Scorpion King 2: Rise of a Warrior	Movie: A Christmas Carol (DVS)	Movie: Holi-day Heart	ANT Farm Good	College Basketball	College Basketball	
9 :PM	20/20	Impacto	How I Met	News	Noticias	News	Movie: Call Me Claus	Upd	Charlie Rose	King	Gold Rush	Movie: Young Guns II, Lou Diamond Phillips	(:07) Gang-land	Movie: Deck the Halls	Jessie	College Basketball	SportsCenter	
10 :PM	Nightline	Noticiero	Raymond	Letterman	Noticias	Titulares	Jay Leno	Alewine	World	South Pk	Flying Wild Alaska	(:16) Gang-land	Movie: The Legend of Zorro, Rufus Sewell	Movie: Holi-day Heart	Jessie	College Basketball	SportsCenter	
11 :PM	Jimmy Kimmel Live	Hasta-Dinero	Law Order: CI	Late	Decisiones (SS)	Late Night	(12:05) Movie: Last Holiday, LL Cool J	Yohanani (Off Air)	World	T. Smiley	Roseanne	(:26) Gang-land	Movie: Cujo, Daniel Hugh Kelly	Movie: The Legend of Zorro, Rufus Sewell	Wendy Williams	Austin Austin	NFL Live	SportsCenter
12 :AM	Extra Paid	Mañana-Siempre	Raymond Fam. Guy	Insider	Pagado	Holiday Gift Guide		CCM	Best of Light of the Southwest	Passion					Jessie	Basketball Studio	SportsCenter	
1 :AM	Paid	Par Ases	TMZ	Paid	Pagado	Today									Jessie	Basketball Studio	SportsCenter	

DENNIS THE MENACE

"I'VE DECIDED ALL I NEED IS ONE OF THOSE ATM MACHINES FOR MY ROOM."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

"An old-fashioned Christmas means like they had back in the 1990s."

HAGAR

"AFTER WE'RE MARRIED, DO YOU PLAN TO MAKE YOUR LIVING AS A MUSICIAN?"

"I SURE DO! PROVIDING..."

"PROVIDING WHAT?"

"PROVIDING YOU GET A FULL-TIME JOB!"

BUCKSHOT

WILEY'S DICTIONARY

RUDOLPH'S PREFERRED LIBATION.

WILEY'S DICTIONARY

WIZARD OF ID

DIG DIG DIG DIG

FREEDOM

WHAT WAS THAT NOISE?

WHAT WAS THAT NOISE?

AGNES

HELLO? ARTHENA? WE AREN'T GOING TO MAKE IT TO YOUR CHRISTMAS PARTY.

WE ARE STUCK IN A FILTHY FLEABAG MOTEL, THERE'S A BLIZZARD, THE TRUCK WENT BELLY-UP, WE HAVE NO MONEY AND NO FOOD, AND THE ATM IS BROKEN HERE.

YES... AS USUAL, IT'S ALL ABOUT ME.

GRANDMA! I WASHED MY SOCKS IN THE SINK WITH CONDITIONER, AND THEY FEEL THICKER!

HI AND LOIS

AFTER I FINISH MY CHRISTMAS SHOPPING I LIKE TO STAND HERE AND GLOAT.

I NEVER KNEW YOU HAD SUCH A CRUEL STREAK.

THE OTHER COAST

FOR MY NEXT EXTREME CHALLENGE, I'M WALKING TO THE SOUTH POLE!

BIG DEAL... SOMEONE JUST DID IT WALKING BACKWARDS THE WHOLE WAY.

BUT I'M BRINGING A SAXOPHONE WITH ME TO PLAY WHEN I GET TO THE POLE.

YEAH? LAST WEEK A GUY DID THE SAME JOURNEY DRAGGING A GRAND PIANO.

AH, BUT I'LL BE TRAVELING UNSUPPORTED, CARRYING ALL MY OWN PROVISIONS.

HE SURVIVED THE WHOLE TRIP ON TWO TWINKIE BARS.

ARE THERE NO IMPOSSIBLE CHALLENGES LEFT ON THE PLANET?

YOU COULD TRY FINDING A PARKING SPOT AT A MALL THIS AFTERNOON.

SNUFFY SMITH

CAN I BE A WISE MAN IN TH' CHRISTMAS PAGEANT, PARSON?

SHORE, JUGHAID, WHY NOT !!

RECKON TH' LORD DON'T MIND A LI'L CASTIN' AG'INST TYPE !!

BETLE BAILEY

I KNEW IT WAS A MISTAKE TO BRING OTTO TO THE ZOO

YEAH

I GUESS HE REALLY MISSES HIS MOTHER

GREG+MOOT+WALKER

I KNEW IT WAS A MISTAKE TO BRING OTTO TO THE ZOO

YEAH

I GUESS HE REALLY MISSES HIS MOTHER

BLONDIE

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS... HERE'S A CUP IF YOU WANT TO TIP US

WE KNOW WHERE YOU LIVE... SO BE PLENTY GENEROUS WHEN YOU GIVE!! HO! HO! HO!

HAVING MY WALLET PICKED CLEAN WAS NEVER SO ENTERTAINING!

REALLY...

This Date In History

Today is Friday, Dec. 23, the 357th day of 2011. There are eight days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Dec. 23, 1941, during World War II, American forces on Wake Island surrendered to the Japanese.

On this date:

In 1783, George Washington resigned as commander in chief of the Continental Army and retired to his home at Mount Vernon, Va.

In 1788, Maryland passed an act to cede an area "not exceeding ten miles square" for the seat of the national government; about 2/3 of the area became the District of Columbia.

In 1823, the poem "Account of a Visit from St. Nicholas" was published anonymously in the Troy (N.Y.) Sentinel; the verse, more popularly known as "Twas the Night Before Christmas," was later attributed to Clement C. Moore.

In 1893, the Engelbert Humperdinck opera "Haensel und Gretel" was first performed, in Weimar, Germany.

In 1928, the National Broadcasting Company set up a permanent, coast-to-coast network.

In 1948, former Japanese premier Hideki Tojo and six other Japanese war leaders were executed in Tokyo.

In 1968, 82 crew members of the U.S. intelligence ship Pueblo were released by North Korea, 11 months after they had been captured.

In 1975, Richard S. Welch, the Central Intelligence Agency station chief in Athens, was shot and killed outside his home by the militant group November 17.

In 1986, the experimental airplane Voyager, piloted by Dick Rutan and Jeana Yeager, completed the first non-stop, non-refueled round-the-world flight as it returned safely to Edwards Air Force Base in California.

In 1991, fire destroyed a house in Corsicana, Texas, killing three young children; their father, Cameron Todd Willingham, was convicted of starting the blaze and was executed in 2004, although some experts raised questions about whether the fire had been deliberately set.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Gerald S. O'Loughlin is 90. Actor Ronnie Schell is 80. Emperor Akihito of Japan is 78. Pro and College Football Hall of Famer Paul Hornung is 76. Actor Frederic Forrest is 75. Actor James Stacy is 75. Rock musician Jorma Kaukonen is 71. Rock musician Ron Bushy is 70. Actor-comedian Harry Shearer is 68. Gen. Wesley K. Clark (ret.) is 67. Actress Susan Lucci is 65. Singer-musician Adrian Belew is 62. Rock musician Dave Murray (Iron Maiden) is 55. Actress Joan Severance is 53. Singer Terry Weeks is 48.

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Answer to previous puzzle

SLAW	SLAB	WASTE
TELE	PINA	ABOUT
RAKES	INTHE	DOUGH
ISA	UKES	GEAR
DELIVER	SORRELS	
EDIT	SCAT	DDAY
	CDS	OGRE OWN
	SHOVELS	SITIN
MOC	NERD	PAL
ALOT	LASS	LAMS
DETESTS	PITSTOP	
SATE	BONE	HRE
HAMMERS	OUTADEAL	
SWEEP	ALSO	BELL
TENDS	STEW	ALES

Newsday Crossword

SEE 56 DOWN by S.N.
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

- 1 Symbol of approval
- 6 Sorts of shoes
- 11 Books examiner
- 14 Succeed
- 15 Sound of contempt
- 16 Lord's Prayer start
- 17 Short-winded
- 18 Exotic instrument
- 19 "Bravo!" cousin
- 20 Parts of '70s stereo systems
- 23 Mary, Queen of Scots successor
- 24 Unscrupulous approach
- 26 Columnists' page
- 27 Hardwood tree
- 30 Digital-camera setting
- 31 Pothook shape
- 32 Ostrich or kangaroo
- 34 Ancient Mexican
- 35 Appalachian entertainment
- 37 Box-score stat
- 40 Imply
- 41 UK legislators
- 44 Appear suddenly, with "up"
- 45 "Calling all cars" announcement
- 46 Three Musketeers plot element
- 47 Salon stuff
- 51 Surprise-ending specialist
- 53 La Mer composer
- 56 Frat letter
- 57 Document amendment

DOWN

- 1 USMC rank
- 2 Shoe reinforcements
- 3 Chalet styles
- 4 Gathered in great numbers
- 5 Be insistent
- 6 Certain conversation starter
- 7 Self-storage rental
- 8 Travel-guide listing
- 9 Home of 140+ Goyas
- 10 Scatter
- 11 Summer get-together
- 12 Beat
- 13 Take place
- 21 Kiddie-song refrain
- 22 Short-lived fashion
- 23 Coffee, so to speak
- 25 What Bugs calls Elmer
- 28 US Women's Open organizer
- 29 Intervening agencies
- 32 Diner order
- 33 A bit wet
- 34 False front
- 35 It's a Wonderful Life director
- 36 Powerful person
- 37 Oskar's "Oh!"
- 38 Larynx-lungs link
- 39 Really angry
- 41 French cheese
- 42 Annually
- 43 With a hidden agenda
- 46 Studio that green-lighted Star Trek
- 48 Wise advisors
- 49 Name on the cover of Age of Innocence
- 50 Caused suspicion
- 52 Sneaking
- 54 Heartfelt
- 55 Goes away
- 56 Music _____ (theme of the puzzle)
- 59 Messy place

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Dear

This

have

good

Send

dear sa

i have b

been a go

girl. i wa

*A keep sake section
of holiday wishes from
children who can't wait
for Christmas*

Coahoma Elementary School

Mrs. Best

Third Grade Class

Dear Santa,
I want a real live rabbit for Christmas, Santa. I want a dog and a kitten for Christmas. I want a book for Christmas. I want a puzzle for Christmas.
— *Your Friend, Hannah B.*

Dear Santa,
I would like a keyboard for Christmas. I've been good this year.
— *Love, Aubrey G.*

Dear Santa,
I want a book that is Hank Zipzer and a nice Christmas and more snow on Christmas morning and have a nice Christmas.
— *Love, Blaine M.*

Dear Santa,
I have been good. All I want for Christmas is a iPad2 and a cd from skillett and a new stuffed animal.
— *Your Friend, Brianna C.*

Dear Santa Clos,
I want a new supper Mario Bros. For Christmas, and my brother wants a DS. That's all, I do not want anything, all I want is my family.
— *Your Friend, Isaiah*

Dear Santa,
I want a d rex, a action replay, a 3 ds and call of duty mw 3. Santa have I been good for Christmas?
— *Your Friend, Bryden F.*

Dear Santa,
You know what I want for Christmas? I want an ipod! I also want 5 aerapostle shirts, and a remote control boat to put barbies in.
Love, Olivia W.

Dear Santa,
I want a new x box 360 game. And a puppy that comes with a cage and some food. And to see if your real.
— *Your Friend, Issac O.*

Dear Santa,
I have bin a good boy and I want to see your elves in a picture and a book of what's happening there and picture of everything there. The workshop, your raindir, roudof and your other raindir.
— *Love, Ethan B.*

Dear Santa,
I would like a bike and a x box 360. A wii an a Chisam Book.
— *Your Friend, Steven E.*

Dear Santa,
I would like a play station 3 for Christmas. My brothers would too. I have been a good girl, oh thank you for soccer present. That was a really nice gift.
— *Love, Layla O.*

Dear Santa,
I want for Christmas is a ipad and a touch screen 4 fone Drex. A trained puppy and a flat screen tv. A playstation and a new x box. I want to live 20 years and I hope you are real.
— *Love, Hunter R.*

Dear Santa,
I want a flat skrean tv for Christmas. An x box 360 and a playstation 3.
— *Your Friend, D'Kota H.*

Dear Santa,
What I want for Christmas is a Optimus Prime skate board and a Transformer t-shirt.
— *Your Friend, Brance W.*

Dear Santa,
This is what I want for Christmas, a Dsi. I am a good girl. I also want a girl doll and a doll house. Even a cute cupcake shirt and a angel doll.
— *Your Friend, Embry F.*

Dear Santa,
I want a Nook and 8 year old bord games. I have been a good girl and I want you to come to my house on Christmas Eav.
— *Love, Alana W.*

Dear Santa,
What I want for Christmas is a bracelet and a best friend necklace. I want high hills and a laptop. I also want makeup.
— *Love, Meagan L.*

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a D-rax because I have been good. I also want a lego niniago skull truck.
— *Sincerely, Alex G.*

Dear Santa,
I want for Christmas is a lego Star Wars book and a lego Star Wars toy. Also a Star Wars movies 1-6. I was a good boy.
— *Your Friend, Sammy P.*

Dear Santa,
The 3 things I want is a laptop, a bunney, and a signal phone. Thanks for everything.
— *Love, Bailie A.*

**Mrs. Wolf's
First Grade Class**

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the toys your brought me last year. I love you. How are the elves? This year I would like Call of Duty 3. It would be cool if you brought me an Xbox or a toy truck too. Stay safe on your trip.
— *Love, Nicolas*



Dear Santa,
Thank you for the toys you gave me before. I love you. How are the elves? Thes year I would like a puppy. I want a Ghost Eyeball or Wii game too. Stay safe on your trip.
— *Love, Lance*

Dear Santa,
Thanks for what you brought me last year. I love you. How is Mrs. Clause? This year I would like a puppy. A doll or video game would be cool too. Stay safe on your trip.
— *Love, Makayla*

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the toys you brought me last year. I love you a lot. How are the reindeer. This year I would like a Barbie. It would be nice to get an Xbox or a bike too. You are really nice to everyone.
— *Love, Kaley*

Dear Santa,
Thank you for toys I got last year. I love you. How are the elves? This year I would like a Wii. It would be cool if you could bring me a wii game or ghost eyeball too. You are the best!
— *Love, Austin*

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the toys I have. How are the elves? This year I would like a Wii game. It would be nice if you brought me an Xbox or MP3 player too. You are the best!
— *Love, Jacoby*

Dear Santa,
Thenrk you for the toy you brought me last year. How are the elves? This year I would like a puppy. It would be good if you got me a ipod or Justin Bieber! Love, Gabby

Dear Santa,
thank you for the toys I got last year. I love you! How is Mrs. Clause? This year I would like Justin Bieber tickets. You are the best!
— *Love, Jasmine*

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the toys you brognt me last year. I love you. How are the elfs? This year I would like Justin Bieber tickets. It would be cool to get a wii or shoes too. You are the best!
— *Love, Codi-Lynn*

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the toys I have. I love you. How are the elves? This year I would like a cat. You are the best!
— *Love Junior*

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the toys I got last year. I love you. How is Mrs. Claus? This year I would like a ipod. It would be cool if you bought me a DS and Justin Bieber tickets too. You are the best!
— *Love, Shae*

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the toys. I would like a wii game, Xbox, and a puppy for Christmas. How are the elevs? Hope you stay safe on your trip.
— *Love, Maggie*



Dear Santa,
Thank you for the toys you brought. I love you. How are reindeer? This year I would like a learning laptop for \$29. It would be cool if you brought me Rudof or an iPod too. I hope you stay safe on your trip.
— *Love, Boy on the good list*

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the toys you brought me. I love you? How are the elves? This year I would like books. Stay safe on yer trip.
— *Love, Reagan*

Dear Santa,
Thanks for the toys you brought me. I love you. How is Mrs. Clause? This year I would like a gost eye boll. It would be neat to get Justin Bieber tickets too. Your are the best.
— *Love, Girl on the Good list*

Dear Santa,
How is Mrs. Clause? I love you. You are the best Christmis. I want a rootoff toy. You are the nicest to everyone. Everyone loves you. I love you too. For Christmas, I want a rootoff toy and a puppy. I have this note for you, Santa.
— *Love, Natalie*

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the toy. I love you. How are you doing? This year I would like an iPod. It would be cool if you brought me Rudolf or Justin Bieber too. You are so cool.
— *Love, Girl on the Good List*

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the toys you brought me last year. I love you. How is Mrs. Claus? This year I would like you to bring me an Xbox and a Wii. I would like a DS too.
— *Love, Jessica*

**Mrs. Hallford's
First Grade Class**

Dear Santa,
For Christmas this year I want a cat.
— *Love, Rachel*

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want for in bieber micrfon.
— *Love, Alexia*

Dear Santa,
For Christmas this year I want a pool, puppy, x box 360.
Love, Matthew

Dear Santa,
For Christmas this year I want a bike, shoes, jewelery.
— *Love, Kaydence*

Dear Santa,
For Christmas this year I want 3 DS.
— *Love, Jordan*

Dear Santa,
Fo Christmas this year I want a bike and a pool and that is it.
— *Love, Serenity*

Dear Santa,
For Christmas this year I want a bike.
— *Love, Colton*

Dear Santa,
For Christmas this year I want a x box 360 and a 3 DS and a pool and a 4 wheeler.
— *Love, Katelyn H.*

Dear Santa,
For Christmas this year I want a puppy.
— *Love, Rylee*

Dear Santa,
For Christmas this year I want jewelery.
— *Love, Addie*

Dear Santa,
For Christmas this year I want a X box 360.
— *Love, Ricardo*

Dear Santa,
For Christmas this year I want biri cloud.
— *Love, Joseph*

Dear Santa,
For Christmas this year I want a submarine shark.
— *Love, Rance*

Dear Santa,
For Christmas this year I want flin rider.
— *Love, Lily*

Dear Santa,
For Christmas this year I want a X box 360.
— *Love, Ruby*

Dear Santa,
For Christmas this year I want new tube.
— *Love, Timothy*

Dear Santa,
For Christmas this year I want a 4 wheeler, x box 360, pool ,puppy, jewelery, motorcycle, airplane.
— *Love, Chloe*

Dear Santa,
For Christmas this year I want a pool and a puppy and a bike and a jewelery.
— *Love, Amber*

Dear Santa,
For Christmas this year I want a 4 wheeler, wii, games for DS, a vereye good time.
— *Love, Christopher*

**Mrs. Henson's
First Grade Class**

Dear Santa,
Is it cold at the North Pole? I have been good for Christmas I would like a dog. Don't fall off your sleigh. I hope you have a Merry Christmas.
— *Love, Girl on the good list*

Dear Santa,
How is Rudolph doing? I hope I have not been naughty. For Christmas I would like a princess to fix her teeth. Don't fall off your sleigh. I hope you have a Merry Christmas.
— *Love, Paige*

Dear Santa,
How is Rudolph? I've been good. For Christmas I would like an ipod, clothes, things to make stuff with. Don't fall off your sleigh. I hope you have a Merry Christmas.
— *Love, Sierra*

Dear Santa,
How is Rudolph doing? I did good. For Christmas I would like a doll. I hope you have a Merry Christmas. Don't fall off your sleigh.
— *Love, McRinzy*

Dear Santa,
How is Rudolph doing? I been good. For Christmas I would like slap bracelets and a new bike. Don't fall off your sleigh. I hope you have a Merry Christmas.
— *Love, Madison*

Dear Santa,
How is Rudolph doing? I've been good. For Christmas I want a halo helicopter. I love you Santa.
— *Love, Tristan*

Dear Santa,
How is Rudolph doing? I am being good. For Christmas I would like a phone and candy and a pillow pet. Don't fall of your sleigh. I hope you have a Merry Christmas.
— *Love, Serena*

Dear Santa,
How is Rudolph? I have been really good. For Christmas, I would like a I Pod. Drink lots of hot chocolate. I hope you have a Merry Christmas.
— *Love, Zoey*

Dear Santa,
How is Rudolph? I have been good. I need a bike. I want a dart gun. I want a puppy. Don't run over grandma. Merry Christmas.
— *Love, Lance*

Dear Santa,
How is Rudolph doing? I've been really good this year. For Christmas I want a verizon phone. I also want a I pad. Do not wake my dogs they will bite you! Ps I want a jet pack! I hope you have a Merry Christmas Santa Claus! Have a Happy New Year!
— *Love, Braden*

Dear Santa,
How is Rudolph doing? I have been good for the hole year and I have been extra good. For Christmas I would like a Santa doll and one more thing don't forget don't drink lots of hot chocolate and I would like the cat in the hat doll. Hope you have a Merry Christmas.
— *Love, Christian*

Dear Santa,
How is Rudolph? I've been good this year. For Christmas I would like horses and cows and tractors and a little puppy and a bike and a new sweter and don't wake Dolly my dog she will bite you. And give my cats same thing please. I hope you have a Merry Christmas and Drink Lots hot chocolate.
— *Love, Sterling*

Dear Santa,
How are you? I've been really good. For Christmas I would like a I pod touch. My sister wants 900 dresses. Don't fall off your sleigh. I hope you have a Merry Christmas.
— *Love, Neely*

Dear Santa,
How is Rudolph? I've been good this year. I want a psp and a 3DS and I want a DS. Don't run over grandma. I wish you a Merry Christmas.
— *Love, Blake*

Dear Santa,
How is Rudolph? I've been good this week. For Christmas I want a I phone for Christmas. Drink lots of hot chocolate. My brother wants Harry Potter books. My mom wants jewelery. My dad wants razors.
— *Love, Nikolas*

Dear Santa,
How is Rudolph doing? For Christmas I would like play dough. I hope you have a Merry Christmas.
— *Love, Kira*



*Wishing You The Best
During The Holidays!*

Heritage Museum

510 Scurry
432-267-8255



Santa Letters

Continued from Page 2

Dear Santa,
Is it cold at the North Pole? I've been good this year. For Christmas I would like a dog. Be careful. I hope you have a Merry Christmas.
— *Love, Jocelyn*

Mrs. Morton's Third Grade Class
Dear Santa,
I have been good. I would like a stuffed bear for my collection. Thank you.
Your friend,
— *Greenlee C.*

Dear Santa,
I want a dog, orbys, books, clothes, shoes, more sensstys, a coloring books, and crayons.
— *Love, Ariana V.*

Dear Santa,
I have been good. i would like an Ipod, ipad, iphone, anew laptop, a puppy, a new pair of shoes, a bee bee gun, a shot gun, a new dirt bike, a four wheeler, and a three wheeler.
— *Love, Dusty*

Dear Santa,
I have been good. I would like an ipad, ipod, iphone 4, lego Harry Potter years 5-7, and to play in the snow.
— *Love, Jake W.*
P.S. a 4 wheeler

Dear Santa,
I have been good. I would like a horse but I would also like call of duty mordern warfair 3.
— *Love, Seth B.*

Dear Santa,
I have been good. I would like a cage for my hamster and some more bubble gum for my gum machine that you gave me.
— *Love, Kacie H.*

Dear Santa,
I have been good. I would like a 30-6, Xbox 360, dirt bike, 2 more remote controles for my wii.
— *Love, Kolt R.*

Dear Santa,
I have been good. I would like a 2 seater go cart and a bunch of duck tape and pet cow.
— *Love, Nick B.*

Dear Santa,
I have been good. I would like an xbox, and a leather jacket that's green and boots.
— *Love, Chase S.*

Dear Santa,
I have been good. I would like star wars legos, a hot wheels camira car, a new vertex gun, some vertex bullets, a new board game and some new fun psp games.
— *Love, Colin D.*

Dear Santa,
I have been good. I would like the Hugs and Kisses baby doll for Christmas or a nerf bebe gun. I hope you can have a great Christmas with Mrs. Clause.
— *Love, Victoria H.*

Dear Santa,
I have been good. I would like a pogo stick, a skateboard, a bottle of candy, a trampoline, and a new pair of roller blades.
— *Love, Brook C.*

Dear Santa,
I have been good. I would like a yankee chair and a yankee jacket, a dune buggy, skateboard, and a whip slammer, an xpolders gun, and a hot wheel steatth ride, a remote control airplane, and also a hot wheel laser stunt chaser, and some throwing knives, a remote control motorcycle, blow gun, and a basketball, a super big nerf gun, moonshoes, convertible push dagger.
— *Thank you Santa, Kyler S.*

Dear Santa,
I have been good. I would like a bubble gum machine and some duck tape and a raindeer from the north ple, Ipod, and I hope you have a great Christmas.
— *Merry Christmas, Taylor C.*

Dear Santa,
I have been good at school. I've never ever got in trouble. I want a real shpard dog, a Barbie, and a cross of Jesus and a movie any kind of movie and that's it.
— *Love, Karina G.*

Dear Santa,
I've been very good. I want a Barbie camper and lots of makeup and 4 mathcng outfits.
— *Love, Abigail L.*

Dear Santa,
I want a laptop for Christmas and a cell phone and for my sister I want a Barbie.
— *Love, Jordon H.*

Dear Santa,
I have been good. I would like a wallet, a kitten that is trained. I also want my mom and dad to get back together, and a good Christmas.
— *Love, Elizabeth D.*

Dear Santa,
I have been good. I love you Santa. I hope I get presents and get some things I want because you are cool.
— *Love, Isaiah M.*

Dear Santa,
I have been good. I want Bowser Castle for Mario land.
— *Love, Corbin B.*

Dear Santa,
I was good all year. The only thing I want for Christmas is my tooth to grow back and lots of legos.
— *Love, Alfonso R.*

Mrs. Pitchford's Third Grade Class
Dear Santa,
I would like a phone, a doll that walks, an iPad, a golden retriever, a baby doll that talks, a dirt bike, an iPod Touch, and lots of other things.
— *Love, Tara B.*

Dear Santa,
I think it is cold in the North Pole. You are the best. I'm always nice. I help my dad and mom clean. I hope you have a good Christmas. You can deliver all the presents. I want a toy for Christmas.
— *Love, Ashley R.*

Dear Santa,
What I want for Christmas is a baby pig. I also want to spend time with my family and make you cookies. I like Rudolph's red nose.
— *Love, Macey G.*

Dear Santa,
Have a great Christmas. For Christmas, I want a yo-yo and a Play Station 3, dirt bike gear, and a new dirt bike.
— *Your friend, Luke C.*

Dear Santa,
I've been good this year. My mom and dad think I'm good but for Christmas I want a new bike, a new puppy, a picture of your elves, and a picture of each reindeer. Taht's all I want for Christmas.
— *Love, Sophia S.*

Dear Santa,
I am 8 years old, and I have been good this year. Can you send me a picture of Rudolph?
— *Love, Hayden*

Dear Santa,
I have been good. Well, I tried at least. How have you been this year? Have you enjoyed this year? Well, I just want to tellyou what I want like an iPad 2 and a lot of other stuff. That's all I want for Christmas. Merry Christmas!
— *Love, Makynlee O.*

Dear Santa,
Hi Santa! I'm excited about Christmas! This year I would like the Wii game Wipeout, the Xbox Fusion Frenzy game, and a new basketball. Merry Christmas, Santa!
— *Your friend, Hannah S.*

Dear Santa,
I have been tryig my best to be good this year. When you come, I hope you enjoy the cookies. All I want for Christmas is joy.
— *Love, Kaden M.*

Dear Santa,
I want an Air Soft gun for Christmas. I've been trying to be nice to my sister.
— *Your friend, Sean S.*

Dear Santa,
I'm 9 years old. You have been checking your list. I have been good this year. For Christmas, I want my cousin to be nice all year.
— *Love, Xander*

Dear Santa,
I want a Ds and its games with it. I was good this year but my sisters made me mad. I don't listen to them when they are mean to me. I just go with my dad and mom and then my dog names Cookies.
— *Your friend, Rosario G.*

Dear Santa,
I'm 9 years old, and I'm trying to be nice to my brother but it does not work out. I would like some presents and hope my brother and my dad will do a Christmas program with my mom and me. So here is what I hope to get. Some iTune cards, paint, paint brushes, some new games on my ipod, and a globe. Merry Christmas!
— *Love, Kaylee K.*

Dear Santa,
I have been trying to be good and nice and I have been trying not to fight. Well, I have been trying so this is what I want for Christmas. I really want a DS and a globe. Thank you.
— *Your friend, Richard T.*

Dear Santa,
My mom said I was good this year. This is what I would love yo-yo, koi fish, toy guns, and a bed. Thank you Santa.
— *Love, Ethan B.*

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. For Christmas, I would like a shotgun. I hope you have a Merry Christmas.
— *Your friend, Tony H.*

Dear Santa,
How are you? How is everything in the North Pole. I have done my best this year to be nice. I love writing a letter to you an Christmas Eve and leaving it by the cookies and milk. I wake up in the morning and find on the backside of th epaper hour hand-written letter back to me. What I want for Christmas is an iHome, laptop, a picture of each individual reindeer, a picture of you and Mrs. Clause, a picture of all the elves, the Xbox live Let's Cheer game, and the Holiday Shoulder buddies. Merry Christmas Santa.
— *Your friend, Jayden B.*

Garden City Kindergarten

Dear Santa,
My name is Aurora. I have been very good this year. I am in kindergarten at Garden City. I would like for you to bring me a bike, a zebra lamp, and a pink umbrella. I hope you have a safe trip, and enjoy the flowers and cookies that I am going to leave out for.
— *Love, Aurora*

Dear Santa,
My name is Nathan. I am in kindergarten at Garden City Elementary. I have been good this year. I would like for you to bring me a Spiderman toy, Batman toy, and a Batman Car. I am going to leave some milk and cookies out for you. Are your reindeer ready fly?
— *Love, Nathan.*

Dear Santa,
My name is Laura. I am in kindergarten at Garden City Elementary. I have been good this year. I would like for you to bring me a DS and a new Barbie. I hope you have a safe trip. I love you.
— *Love, Laura*



Dear Santa,
My name is Alondra. I am in kindergarten at Garden City Elementay. How is Rudolph? I have been very good this year. I would like for you to bring me a dolly, a coo-coo bird, and a race car. I hope you have a safet trip.
— *Love, Alondra*

Dear Santa,
My name is Janine. I am in kindergarten at Garden City Elementary. I have been very good this year. I want you to bring me a car, some books and a telephone. I hope you enjoy the milk and cookies that I left out for you.
— *Love, Janine*

Dear Santa,
My name is Evan. I love you Santa. I am in kindergarten this year at Garden City elementary. I have been good this year. I would like for you to bring me a small collectable train, a remote control gorilla that knocks over bowls of popcorn, and a new John Deere tractor. I hope you have a safe trip and enjoy the cholocate chip cookies I am going to leave out for you.
— *Love, Evan.*

Dear Santa,
My name is Skyler. I am in kindergarten at Garden City Elementary. I would like Lightening McQueen 2 for the WII. Wipe out for my DS, and Donkey Kong for my DS. I also want Star Wars with lasers and Transformer. I hope you have a safe a trjip and enjoy the Christmas tree cookies that I'm going to make for you.
— *Love, Skyler*

Dear Santa,
My name is Briana. I am in kindergarten at Garden City Elementary. I would like for you to bring me a Barbie house, a Hello Kitty house, a new puppy and some books. I hope you enjoy the gingerbread cookies and milke that I am going to fix for you.
— *Love, Briana*



Dear Santa,
My name is Mason. I am in kindergarten at Gaden City Elementary. How is Rudolph doing? Can I have a real 4-wheeler, a toy Rudolph, and a Leapster. I will leave you chocolate chip cookies and hot chocolate. I love you.
— *Love, Mason*

Dear Santa,
My name is Brody. I am in Kindergarten at Garden City Elementary. I would like you to bring me a Mario Kart game, a toy combine, a new belt and belt buckle, and some Cars coloring books and crayons. I would also like some new building blocks. I hope you enjoy the cookies and milk that I am going to leave out for you.
— *Love, Brody*

Dear Santa,
My anme is Dalley. I am in Kindergarten at Garden City Elementary. I have been very good this year. I would like you to bring me a yo-yo, a shell bractlet, and a laptop. I hope you enjoy the chocolate chip cookies that I am going to make for you. Hope to see you soon!
— *Love, Dalley*

Dear Santa,
My name is Weston. I am in kindergarten at Garden City Elementary. I have been good this year. I would like a helicopter that has two propellers on the side, a remote control airplane that flies in the sky, speedy fast, and a remote control rocket that goes 20 miles an hour. I hope you enjoy the surprise that I am going to leave for you.
— *Love, Weston*

Dear Santa,
My name is Jared. I am in kindergarten at Garden City Elementary. I have been good this year. I would like a tractor, an excavator, and a train. I am going to leave some milk and Santa cookies out for you.
— *Love, Jared*

Dear Santa,
My name is Jacob. I am in kindergarten at Garden City Elementary. I have been good this year. I would like for you to bring me a scooter, a flashlight and a laptop computer. I hope you enjoy the truckey that I left out for you.
— *Love, Jacob*

Dear Santa,
My name is Idaly. I am in kindergarten at Garden City Elementary. I have been very good this year. Please bring me a Barbie doll, a Barbie car, and pet turtle. I love you Santa. I hope you enjoy the Christmas cookies and milk that I am going to leave out for you!
— *Love, Idaly*



See, **Santa Letters** Page 4



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Santa Letters

Continued from Page 3

Dear Santa, My name is Jose. I am in kindergarten at Garden City Elementary. I have been good this year. I want you to bring me a new bike and a toy robot. I hope you enjoy the milk and cookies.

— Love, Jose

Dear Santa, My name is Alejandro. I am in kindergarten at Garden City Elementary. I have been good this year. I want a go-cart, a toy pickup with a trailer, and a new bike. I hope you have a safe trip and enjoy the cookie tree and marshmallows that I left out for you.

— Love, Alejandro

Dear Santa, My name is Julio. I am in kindergarten at Garden City Elementary. I have been good this year. I want a blue bike, a toy astronaut, and a little motorcycle. I also want a yellow car. I hope you enjoy the cookies and milk that I am leaving out for you.

— Love, Julio

Dear Santa, My name is Blain. I am in kindergarten at Garden City Elementary. I have been good this year. I would like for you to bring me a pocket knife, an iphone, and some dirt bike clothes. How is Rudolph? I hope you have a safe trip and enjoy the Oreos and milke that I am going to leave out for you.

— Love, Blain

First Grade
Dear Santa, How are the reindeer. This year I have been good Will you bring me an Xbox I hope you will enjoy the cookies

— Your friend,
David C.

lo ho ho Merry Christmas

Dear Santa, How is Rudolph doing This year I have been good. Would you bring Mea-Dsi and a MariW. I am going to leave a cookie out for you I hope you have a Merry Christmas,

— You friend,
Jessica M.

Dear Santa, How is the wather at the North Pole? This year I have been very good. Will you bring me a PSP and a Dsi? I hope you enoy the cookies and the reandeer enjoy the carrots.

— Your friend, Jorda
S.

Dear Santa, How is Rudolph doing? I am doing very good. Will you bring me orbeez? I hope you enjoy some cookies and milk and some carrots for Rudolph. I hope you have a good trip.

— Your friend,
Priscila C.

Dear Santa, How are the reindeer Dear at the North Pole? I was good this Year. Would this you bring me a karaoke machine?

— Your friend,
Kara R.

Dear Santa, How are you Santa? This year I was kind of good. Santa I want a PS3 and some games I hope the reindeer enjoy carrots. I hope you have a Merry Christmas.

— Your friend,
Callos B.

Dear Santa, How is Rudolph. Thiyear I was very good will you bring me pussinboots and laopsy Dsi game. I hope you enjoy my cookies that and shaped like the tree and milk. Doe Rudolph enjoy me carrots? I hope you have Merr Christmas

— you best fried,
Celeste P.

Dear Santa, How is Rudoph doing? I have been very nice this year wold you bring me a football wii gan and a maden 12? I hope Rudoph enjoys the carrots. santa please have a safe trip to everybodys house.

— Your friend,
Brock B.

Dear Santa, How is Rudolph behaving? I have been verry nice this year. Would you birng me some Star War legos and the Puss in Boots Ds game? I hope you like the Texas Tech shaped cookies we made for you. Merry Advent!

— Your pal,
Mason W.

Dear Santa, How is the weather at the North Pale? I have been vevy good this year were you good Santa?

Dear sant, can you bring a princess barbie and a computar. I am leaving Cookies

— your frind,
Angela R.

Dear Santa, How is Rudolph and the reindeers? I am very good at school. Will the elves make me a dsi and an Xbox? I hope Rudolph will enjoy the carrots. I leave him I hope you have a Merry Christmas

— your friend,
Kamdyn

Dear Sant How is Rudolph? Is Rdolph ready? for christmas! This year I have been good. Can the elves make me an air soft gun and a remote control helioper. I hope Rudolph loves the carrots. Ho Ho Ho I love you

— your best friend,
Owen S.

Dear Santa, I like Christmas. Do you like cookies? Please bring me a Pelow Pet and Pop The Pig I will leve you caris. I am staing at my hose.

— Love, Leslie P.

Dear Santa, Santa, I had Sno bau fight. How can you go in my hos Please bring me ha heliciopter and a playstation E. I will lev hot coco for you.

— love, Hector A.

Dear Santa, I Lov you. Haisufrs there. Pleae and Dom and foM new camera and bag for it, I will leave milk and cookies for you.

— Love, Sebastian

Dear Santa, Thocce you for giving me prizis last Christmas. How are you doing Santa Claus and Miss Claus? Please bring me a fjit and a new easy bake oven. I am going to go git cookies for you. I am going to my Mimis.

— Malaki V.

Dear Santa, I im exsided for my DeS3 Are you sick Santa? Plase Bring me a DeeS3 and Soopr Morio 3D and I put hay for Deer and I put milk and cookies for Santa

— Love, Ethan C.

Dear Santa, I miss you! How is Rudolph doing? Please bring me a new stoking and a poohbear game for my wii. I will try to leve feed for the raindeer and milk and cookies for you.

— Love, Barbara W.

Dear Santa, I Love you Santa. How are you and Miss Claus? Please give me sum baby sisters. Come in my haus. ther will be cookees.

— Love, Gracie G.

Dear Santa I had fun last Christmas. Is Rudolf doing fine. Please bring the same Collectable tran and I want Cars2 in 3D. I will leve you some iceing cookies.

— Love, Blake S.

Dear Santa, I luv you Santa. Is Rudolf the red nose Happy. Please bring me a toy hors. Come too my house ther is cookies.

— Love, Jeweliza G.

Dear Santo, Thank you for making my bebe gun in sercint. Please tell sam to make me a Plste Stashine 2. Santo do you like all kinds of cookies?

— Love, Logan S.

Dear Santa, I hope you have a good Christmas. Are you tied up there? Please bring me the game Wii cars 2 and Wii star wars. I will put cookies on the table for you.

— Love, Dylan O.

Dear Santa, Thank you for giving us presins merry Christmas! Do you git tird of making toys? Places bring Pictures of the North Pole and or babe kittes. I will give you kerits and some milk.

— Love, Shelby B.

Dear Santa, I love you Santa and I waqnt to be like you. Haw do you get around the world in one nite? Please bring a baby buny and sum star wors stuf. I will leave milk and cookies for you and aerits for the randere.

— Love, Tres S.

Lakeview
Headstart

Miss Alisha and Mrs. Jessica's

Classes
Dear Santa, I want a race cars, trains, a house, a car, a garden, a movie, legos and transformers. I will make you some eggs and milk.

— Love, Brandon

Dear Santa, I would like a barbie, a house, bounce balls, a guitar, a cooking, a bus, hello kitty, monster high, a bike and a car. I will make you some cookies and water.

— Love, Tatyonna

Dear Santa, I want two trains, scooby doo, a robot, star wars the clone wars, lego nijago two of them, mario, a glowing car thing, transformers, thundercats, and a wrestling game and dagedar. I will leave you some milk and cookies.

— Love, Aydin

Dear Santa, I would like a leap pad, a barbie, a baby and a truck for my brother.

— Love, M'Kenzie

Dear Santa, I want a Vtech like Ashlyn my sister, a red DS for me and a blue DS for my daddy. And a sword and tools. I will give you some noodles and milk.

— Love, Adrian

Dear Santa, I want barbies, trucks, choo choo trains, a house and an elephant and a computer and candy. I will leave you some chicken and apple juice.

— Love, Natasha

Dear Santa, I want a pirate ships, a green lantern, a man with music, a power ranger, a thing to make the cars flip over and a colorful with games. I will give you a potatoe sandwich and juice so you wont be hungary.

— Love, Jeremiah

Dear Santa, I want a house, barbies, a paint, play dough, some clothes and a phone for my sister. I will make you some chili and kool-aid.

— Love, Serenity

Dear Santa, I would like batman, a scooby-doo, mario games and a DS. I will make you some corndogs and cherry juice.

— Love, Leland

Dear Santa, I want Lala Loopzy dolls, a barbie, a kitchen, games for my daddy, a mermaid barbie and Monster High. And Justin Bieber. I will leave you some pizza.

— Love, Lillian

Dear Santa, I want a castle with all the princesses, a Dora kitchen to make everything and a brush for Dora, a doll house, legos, Olivia couch and Olivia house. I will give you some cookies and water.

— Love, Savannah

Dear Santa, I would like Dora, a princess, games, princess colors, a castle, babies, a kitchen, a chair, a tree, Hello Kitty music, and a bike. I will give you some ice cream and milk.

— Love, Lucinda

Dear Santa, I want you to bring me a kitchen, a folder, a barbie you can see with, Hello Kitty and a dog. I will feed you pancakes and chocolate milk.

— Love, Carmen

Dear Santa, I want a Cookie Monster, Mickey Mouse Microphone, a game, legos, glow glow, nerf or nothing and motorcycle. I will make you some chicken and milk.

— Love, Cloud

Dear Santa, I would like a barbie that drives a car, a kitchen, a Dora kitchen, a computer, Tangled movie, a video game and house that you can put everyone else. I will leave you chicken an coke.

— Love, Analicia

Dear Santa, I would like Scooby-Doo, a barbie house, a princess dishes, and a bike. I will give you papa and milk.

— Love, Delilah

Dear Santa, I want Monster High, Hello Kitty purse, make-up, Justin Bieber, a scooter and a truck. I will make you some cereal and milk.

— Love, Mia

Dear Santa, I want a toy to pick dirt, a house, a scary one and legos. I will leave you some fruit and milk.

— Love, Izaiah

Room 105
Dear Santa, I want a dinosaur and a race car.

— Love, Edward

Dear Santa, I want a DSI.

— Love, Jadon

Dear Santa, Me want a Dora Kitchen.

— Love, Aracella

Dear Santa, I want strawberry shortcake.

— Love, Alina

Dear Santa, I want make-up and a green car with a strawberry, and Dora princess.

— Love, Alyzza

Dear Santa, I want a bike and a barbie and want a car for barbies and a house for barbies and Dora kitchen.

— Love, Abigail

Dear Santa, I want a video game.

— Love, Gary

Dear Santa, I like princess makeup, and a princess Dora.

— Love, Nissa

Dear Santa, I want cars and toys.

— Love, Patrick

Dear Santa, I want a Dora and a bike.

— Love, Jeanette

Dear Santa, I want a Dora and a bike.

— Love, Javen

Mrs. Kristy's Class

Rm. 111

Dear Santa, For Christmas I want, my own room in my own house a farm to feed the hicken, Six Barbie dolls, some nail polish with these colors, Purple, Blue, Pink, and Orange. I really want to meet you Santa.

— Love, Justine

Dear Santa, For Christmas I want a Batman house, Spider man video game with all the super heroes in it. I also want a Batman game to, oh and I have been good to.

— Love, Aaron

Dear Santa, For Christmas I want a toy air plane, a Batman house. A superman and I want a hug form you Santa.

— Love, Joe

Dear Santa, For Christmas I want some real nail polish the colors I want are Pink, Purple, and Blue. A Barbie doll with a play house. I have been a good girl and will have cookies on the table when you come bring my presents.

— Love, Macie

Dear Santa, For Christmas I want a Purple Dog, some Dora dollars. New boots since I'm growing I need new ones to wear, lots of toys so I can play with them.

— Love, Juanita



Dear Santa, For Christmas I want a little puppy that his colors are purple and blue. I want different color nail polish like purple, blue, red and pink.

— Love, Raelyn.

See, Santa Letters Page 5



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Happy Holidays!

Santa Letters

Continued from Page 4

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a little cute dog that has white and purple for fur. A small purse with puppies on it, and Hello Kitty outfit I wear size 5. I can't wait to see you.

— Love Bre'Asia

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a Dora Blanket, a lot of different books and toys so I can play with them. I want some baby dolls and clothes to. I have been a good girl.

— Love, Shelbie

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a Batman house and video game. A motorcycle to drive, and a black and white dog. A bunch of Cars books and I want a real Fireman Hat. I will make you come cookies and milk.

— Love, Jeremy

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a real puppy and real lady bug for my pets. Pretty princess and little mermaid clothes and some baby dolls to. I'm a good girl.

— Love, Mariah

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a Barbie Doll, a new doll house for her and her friends. I have been a really good girl. I will leave chocolate cookies with milk for you.

— Love Forever,

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a Big Lighting McQueen Car a Tomator Truck. I want Cars 2, some super heroes and more cars.

— Love, Xavier

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a Spiderman, Superman, and Green Lantern games. A Batman house, I want all of the super heroes. I really want the Green Lanter ring so that when I wear it I say "Black and White, the Green Lantern lights, wear my sing in green Lantern lights.

— Love, Ke'Andre

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a Tinkerbell Ipod, a Tinkerbell Wii with games. I want lots of animals, and a Barbie iht a doll house and her car. I'm a very good girl.

— Love, Emily

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a black and brown puppy, a Barbie doll, and some different color nail polish. Lots of toys, and books so my mommy can read them to me.

— Love, Teresa

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a Lighting McQueen remote control car with the red controller. A Spiderman and Batman house. A Crown that is made out of tires. I want to see you, and I will give you cookies.

— Love, Joshua

Marcy Elementary School

Mrs. Yanez's class

Dear Santa,
How are you? I want an Xbox. I am good. I want games and toys. I go to school.

— Thank you, Carlos

Dear Santa,
How are you? I work haerd and I raed. I'd like pink glitter please. And a princess castle. I like a camera, toys, flashlight, a DS, a pool and a puppy.

— Love Leane.

Dear Santa,
how are you? I would like a princess doll with clothes and a castle.

— Love, April

Dear Santa,
I want a PSP, a motor cycle and some games. I will give you cookies.

— Love Augstin

Dear Santa,
How are you Santa? I want an Xbox with games, I want a DS3.

— Thank you, Alex

Dear Santa,
How are you? I work haerd and I have a graetteacher and I love my class. I am reading and I am doing math. I do my homework to. I want a doll,

— Thank you Ammi

Dear Santa,
How are you? I have been good. I work hard. I would like a remote cotrollmotorcycle and it has a guy on it. I want a remote cotroll soldie that has gear.

— Love Joshua

DerSanta,
How are you? I am a good student at school. Where do you live? Santa, I want some cloths for my doll.

— Thank you Lizbeth

Dear Santa,
would you get me presents? I have been good this year.

— Love Mason



Dear Santa,
I want barbies. I want glitter, flowers, a rabbit and books.

— Love Miranda

Dear Santa,
I want a trampoline, a microphone and play doh.

— Love Adela

Dear Santa,
How are you? I work hard. I play good and I want a remote airplane and a boardgame.

— Thank you, John

Dear Santa,
How are you? I am good. I hope you are good. I have a good clas and I have good frends to, and I have a good techrto. We work hard to. My techr techs a lot. I want a phone and a DSI and a santa suit and a microfoneok.

— Love Kaisza

Dear Santa,
How are you? I work to learn. I've ben bood. I love games and toys. I wat a microfone.

— Thank you, Adolfo.

Dear Santa,
I have bingood. howare you? You are my best friend. Can you put me on the good list plis? I want an Xbox and a DS.

— Love Jonyce

Dear Santa,
I want a DS. I want glitter, crayons, convrs shos. I like my school. I like Mrs. Yanez. I want presents for my dad, my mom, my brother and Gracie.

— Thank you Santa. Maria

Dear Santa,
How are you? I work hard at school. I will give you a list that I want from you. I will give you the list soon and how do your elfsmake the toys. Do you like your job?

— Marco

Dear Santa,
I am good. I want presents for my mom and dad and me.

— Thank you, Juan Pablo

Dear Santa,
How are you? I want the shark and Zombeland.

— Love Abel

Dear santa,
How are you? I work hard and I read a lot. I have a graetteacher. I am doing my studing. I want a blue truck and toy story toys.

— Thank you, Peyton

Dear Santa,
How are you? I work hrdand I would like a lot of toys.

— Thank you, love lexie

Ms. Berringer's Kindergarten Class

Dear Santa,
Merry Christmas! This year for Christmas I want a Ben Ten watch, Ben Ten clothes and shoes. I want a Ben Ten Mask. I want some Ben Ten toys and SpongeBob Toys with Squid wards house and SpongeBob's house and Patrick's House. I also want a Monkey toy.

— Thank you, Brandon B.

Dear Santa,
This year I would like some cars, a skateboard and some walkietalkies. I also want a play gun and a guitar. I also want a big Pool and an Xbox 360! That's all! Thank you.

— Merry Christmas, Isaac C.

Dear Santa,
Merry Christmas! This year for Christmas I would like a swimming Barbie, and Xbox, Justin Bieberblanket, a Barbie that twirls in the water that looks like Cinderella. I also want a pool, coloring book and new crayons and lip stick. I love you!

— Thank you, R'Lonie C.

Dear Santa,
Merry Christmas! This year for Christmas I would like two BB guns with BB's, a karate belt with karate clothes, Race track with Race cars and a Wiiwith a Karate game. I would also like some Xmentoys, Batman toys and a bow and arrow.

— Thank you, Dakota D.

Dear Santa,
Merry Christmas! This year for Christmas I would like a real horse that is black and white. I also want a diamond ring, a lot of earrings rainbow earrings and ones with all different colors, and a heart necklace and a butterfly necklace. I would also like a frog toy, and a flamingo. I also want it to snow so I can make some snowmen.

— Thank you, Mayna G.

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. I would like you to bring me a Barbie that swims, a slip and slide, a Magnadoodle, an Ipodthat plays music, and a pool that you can air up. I would also like a baby doll that talks.

— Thank you, Miranda G.



Dear Santa,
I love Mario and Luigi games and Legos. I would like a Wiiwith Mario Car 7. I would like an Xbox with a Mario and Luigi game for it. Also, I would like Mario and Luigi toys to play with. I also want a game chair to sit in and play video games.

— Merry Christmas, Joseph G.

Dear Santa,
I have been really good this year. I would like you to bring me a Lala loopsydoll, a dog and a little baby doll. I would also like a brother and that's all.

I love you Santa.
Merry Christmas, Marray G.

Dear Santa,
I kindathink I have been good this year. I would like a Power Rangers Wiigame and DS game. I would also like aStar Wars Drone Wars DS game. I would also like a flash game, a Spiderman, a Superman and Batman DS game. Batman, Superman, Flash, and Star Wars Coloring book with new crayons on it. I would also like a new lunch box that is metal with Cowboys on it and a Nintendo DS with Cowboys too. I want stickers and some Chipmunk's movies and a Mario and Luigi t-shirt and a Donkey Kong shirt.

— Merry Christmas, Ezekiel H.

Dear Santa,
I put up my Christmas tree and my Santa Claus. I would like a Barbie car for Christmas and a Barbie with pink clothes. I want a toy house and tree house. I would also like an Xbox 360 and a Cell phone. I would also like fake fingernails and some fingernail polish and a computer.

— Thank you, Jazmine J.

Dear Santa,
I have been a little good this year. This year for Christmas I would like some Spiderman toys, a game chair and Spiderman Movie. That's all.

— Thank you, Jacob M.

Dear Santa,
I have been really good this year. This year for Christmas I would like a Wiiand a Mario game for it. I would also like a Barbie princess with Barbie clothes, a scooter, a fairy coloring book with new crayons and some play dough.

— Thank you, Julie O.

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year! I would like a Nintendo DSI and a Barbie game and a Mario game to go with it. I would also like a Baby Alive and a Barbie with a pink dress. I also want a puppy dog. That's all.

— Thank you, Mia O.

Dear Santa,
I have been really good this year. I would like a Superman toy, a Green Lantern Costume, a bow and arrow toy, a power ranger toy and a Power Ranger Red Ranger toy. I would also like a blue fish so he can keep me company because my orange one died. I also want a Ben Ten black jacket and Ben Ten shoes.

Have a Merry Christmas Santa,
— Jonathan R.



Dear Santa,
I have been real good this year. I would like a Nintendo DSland a PSP. I also want a Barbie girl Santa, a Justin Bieberdoll and that's all.

— Merry Christmas, Addison R.

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. I would like a teddy bear, make up, markers and paper, a stapler, scissors and tape, lots of teacher stuff so I can play school and a desk like a teacher. I want a Justin Bieberdoll, a Barbie car, a bike, paint and paint brushes and new coloring book and crayons.

— Merry Christmas, Shelby T.

Dear Santa,
I have been good like this one time this year. I have a green face and purple happy face in my folder. I would like a new Bat Cave and a new Xbox because ours is broken. I would also like the new Super Mario Sports and that's all.

— Merry Christmas and thank you, Petelo T.

Dear Santa,
I have been really good this year. I would like a pink Barbie car, a Nintendo DSI 3D and Indiana Jones 2 video game for the DS. I would also like some new clothes, Barbie toys and clothes, a pretty dress and some make up.

— Merry Christmas, Angalena V.

Dear Santa,
I have been good. I am on green and purple at school. I am on purple today and that's good. I want a Motorcycle that's red and blue with a remote control so meand CJ can race each other. I also want a remote control race car that can race on a bumpy road. I want a Nintendo DS with a Batman game and a racing game. I also want a Bumblebee Transformer Robot, a video game with a racing game on it and an army toy, and Lego's Star Wars Video game.

— Merry Christmas, Nathan V.

Dear Santa,
I have been kind of good this year except my sister hit me in the back five times and it was not me. I did not hit her back. So that was good. This year for Christmas I would like a Spy watch, a gun that shoots deer with a telescope on it so I can see, a Batman and a Batman Car, some race cars, an Xbox 360 and a toy dog. I would also like Toy Story 3 toys, Star Wars Light Saber and some Star Wars toys. That's it.

— Merry Christmas, Rylan S.

See, **Santa Letters** Page 6



Merry Christmas!

Choate Well Service, Inc.

Happy Holidays!

87 Auto

210 Gregg 263-2382 111 Gregg 267-8787 203 Gregg 714-4787

Happy Holidays!

Big Springs Independent School District

EXCELLENCE IS EXPECTED OF ALL

Santa Letters

Continued from Page 5

Dear Santa,
I have been really good this year. I want a Barbie toy with a Barbie house, a doggy toy and a dress for my Barbies. That's all.
— *Merry Christmas, Samaura M.*

Mrs. Erwin's Kindergarten Class
Dear Santa,
I would like a computer and an iPad for Christmas.
— *Thanks, Diego G.*

Dear Santa,
I would like an iPad and an iPod and that's all.
— *Thanks, Kevin K.*

Dear Santa,
I would like a Justin Bieber Toy and a Monster High Toy, a coloring book and that's all.
— *Thank You Santa, Marlynn B.*

Dear Santa,
I would like a Karaoke, a bike, a Christmas phone. I want for Christmas is a coloring book with crayons and a Hello kitty Christmas hat, paint and brushes and that's all
— *Thank you Santa, Aumaris B.*

Dear Santa,
I would like a woody toy and a painting thing, and a banana
— *Thank you Santa, Xavier M.*

Dear Santa,
I want a Christmas phone and a walkie talkie, a Hello kitty book and a snow globe, a small computer and a touch iPhone, different colored paper, a purple shirt, a calendar, lotion, couch for my bedroom, a toy monkey, a clock, a coloring book with Santa colors and a necklace like Mrs. Erwin, and a purple bucket, a dog pad, a teacher pointer to help my brother to learned his ABC's and ABC Flashcard and Numbers too, and a monkey puppet, and I want all the teachers stuff.
— *Thank You Santa, Nyema M.*

Dear Santa,
I want Fake Handcuffs and a Fake Gun and a Fake Toy car that I can drive, a bike, bouncy ball, a Green Bucket, a toy Helicopter, and something for my Grandpa like a shirt. I would like a Wii like my sister. Monopoly, and the game Sorry sliders, and a Toy snow man if you have them, a fake phone and a small Toy car with a remote control thing, a new backpack and Lego's, blocks, the ladder things in Mrs. Erwin classroom and something for my sister and a Toy monkey and a chair and a X Box Connect.
— *Thank You Santa, Timothy U.*

Dear Santa,
I would like an iPod phone, paint, and a crayon box, a monkey, dolls, books, a necklace, a butterfly, a purple folder and a clock, and a computer.
— *Thank You Santa, Adelina G.*

Dear Santa,
I want a girl and a boy and a puppy Barbie, and a toy house to play in, new clothes, stuffed animals, and Video games, and a Xbox connect.
— *Thank You Santa, Aislin S.*

Dear Santa,
I want play dough for Christmas; also I would like a bike, a Barbie, Zombie barf and Zombie brains and that's all.
— *Thank You Santa, Faith F.*

Dear Santa,
I want a real guitar, and a Spiderman, and a game boy, Lego's, a Spiderman game, Mario game, X box connect, and a mask, a DS, clothes and Tennis shoes, walkie talkie, boots and a Spiderman mask.
— *Thank You Santa, Qben L.*

Dear Santa,
I want the toy wrestlers, spooky buddies the movie, X box, wrestling match and a wrestling shirt, Cell phone, I pod, more shirts, rock wrestlers, Lego's, computer, coke, color pencils, Christmas shirt, Pretzel Dips.
— *Thank You Santa, Jesse C.*

Dear Santa,
I want a computer, a new backpack, race car, Santa hat, X box, Lego's, blocks, a toy motorcycle, new shoes, and a green folder.
— *Thank You Santa, Juan L.*

Dear Santa,
I would like a be be gun, boots, Lego's, a big racing car.
— *Thank you Santa, Steven F.*

Dear Santa,
I would like a Toy gun, black gloves, shoes, nut cracker, race cars, walkie talkie, a toy spider, Iron man, a toy motorcycle, a toy gun that you can turn into an alien, a Toy snake, a robot dinosaur.
— *Thank You Santa, Jonah M.*

Dear Santa,
I would like a be begun, joker house, a secret hid out, trampoline, Zombie barf and Zombie Brains, Zombie bugs, all the Zombie toys and candy.
— *Thank You Santa, Jacob T.*



Dear Santa,
I would like all the Zombie toys and the Zombie candy, a toy motorcycle, a video game, CD player, CD's to play in the player, a toy computer, a scooter, and another scooter for my brother, and movies.
— *Thank you Santa, Ryan N.*

Dear Santa,
I want a game, a bear, a little bit games, four games, necklace, new pencils, DVD's, candy canes, candy bears, play dough and crayons, a pirate ship toy, new clothes, markers, crayon pencils.
— *Thank You Santa, Elijah M.*

Dear Santa,
I want monster truck toy, dinosaur, an alligator, Christmas tree, a snake, a bear, a volcano, monkey, clothes, race cars, a toy spiders, and a new swing set.
— *Thank You Santa, Michael P.*

Mrs. Prichard's Kindergarten Class Santa List:

Roman M. — wants an Optimus Prime Transformer
Reagan P. — wants a new bike and new clothes and lots of toys!
Jason O. — wants a Ben 10 toy
Clara B. — wants a Barbie Doll and a bike
Marco S. — wants a motorcycle to drive on and a cool phone so that he can call his mom or dad.
Ezekiel C. — wants cool cars with motors and motorcycles.
Keira O. — wants baby dolls and a kitchen set
Zack L. — wants a soccer ball and books
Lainee B. — wants some dip n dots, a play house, a monster high doll and a doll to dress up.
Leila F. — wants a singing doll with a microphone for youtube and a monster high doll.
Cloe V. — wants a Brat doll and a play Barbie house
Jeromie V — wants clothes, a soccer ball and toys
Jonathan P. — wants a little puppy and a motorcycle
Lexy M. — wants a monster high nail set and a walking puppy with a leash.
Reece H. — wants a remote control car and a fake motorcycle
Ryelen G. — wants some race car walkie talkies
Tyra H. — wants a Barbie car and a purse.
Rocky Z. — wants a motorcycle, car and a monster truck.

Dear Santa,
My name is Zoey G. This year has been good for me. I have behaved well. For Christmas I would like to have a Princess doll. I will leave out some cookies and a glass of milk for you.
— *I Love You Santa, Zoey G.*

Dear Santa,
My name is Kyle G. I have tried to be really good this year. I want a dog for Christmas. I have never had one before. I would also like to have a dirt bike; I'm O.K. with them.
— *I Love You Santa, Kyle G.*

Dear Santa,
Please bring me some presents this year. I would like to have a fire truck, a helicopter, and a motorcycle.
— *Merry Christmas, Erineo S.*

Dear Santa,
My name is Kimberly. This year for Christmas I would like to have a Baby Alive doll, a play kitchen, and some stuffed animals. I will only leave some milk out for you because I don't have any more cookies.
— *Love, Kimberly G.*

Dear Santa,
I am saving some milk and cookies for you. I have been good all year and I do good in school too. For Christmas, I would like to have some clothes for my old Barbie dolls, some new Barbie dolls (some princesses and a prince), and a palace for them all.
— *Merry Christmas Santa, Ally B.*

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl. I would like you to bring me a Barbie doll with her own car, house and dog. I would also like to have a play kitchen, a Mickey Mouse movie, a play telephone, a computer and some new crayons to color with. I Love You Santa Claus.
— *Merry Christmas, Yoselyn Go.*

Dear Santa,
I saw three things I like at Wal-Mart. One was an army play set. The other was a police play set. And the last one was a shark boat thing. I've been good and bad so I hope I can still get these presents from you. I will leave some milk and some cookies out for you.
— *I Love You Santa, Ryker G.*

Dear Santa,
I would like to have a BeyBlade Battle Set this Christmas. I have been very good this year so I think I have a good chance at it. I would also like to have some Leap Frog movies, a computer, a play telephone, and an alarm clock. A Power Ranger Samurai would be nice too.
— *Merry Christmas, Tucker B.*

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a 101 Dalmatians movie. I also want new books and new pencils. I have been good this year.
— *Merry Christmas, Delaney M.*

Dear Santa,
I have been very good this year. I would like to have a Letter Factory DVD from Leap Frog to learn all the letters and their sounds too.
— *Merry Christmas, Kaleb V.*



Dear Santa,
For Christmas this year I want to have The Letter Factory DVD from Leap Frog so I can teach my little sister the letters of the alphabet and their sounds too. I also want a Barbie with a dolphin. I want the Barbie to have a skateboard and some clothes with matching shoes. I need some shoes for myself too. I love you Santa and I hope you have a great Christmas!
— *Love, Violet C.*

Dear Santa,
This year for Christmas I want some toy army men with tanks and jeeps. I would also like some construction site toys. Sometimes I get a little bit mad but I have been good throughout the year.
— *Merry Christmas Santa, Aaron L.*

Dear Santa,
I love you! I want a bike, two army men, and a computer. I have been a lot of good and only a little bit bad.
— *Merry Christmas, Kavien F.*

Moss Elementary School

Mrs. Crisp's First Grade
Dear Santa,
I im goyen yo mok u kuces and I yut to prezit. A pichrui mi cat and a prg and makup.
— *Your Friend, Eliza*

Dear Santa,
It is snowing outside. I want make-up, nail polish and a DS.
— *Your Friend, Jahzail*

Dear Santa,
Hi! I want a pupe. I want a fon. How are the elvz?
— *Your Friend, Erica*

Dear Santa,
How is roobod? I wot a skatboerd. I wot a sligshot.
— *Your Friend, Colby*

Dear Santa,
I want a little pupy. Come too our chercous is called family fath center. I want a I-pod. How is Mrs. Closs?
— *Your Friend, Genesis*

Dear Santa,
I lic my presi. I wut a scatbrdi. I wat a scyth. I wut a bic.
— *Your Friend, Edlisor*

Dear Santa,
Haw are the I wont a DS. I wont Krs. Randr!
— *Your Friend, Chris*

Dear Santa,
Hi santa. My name is Olive This is what I wont for crisme. A doll and a fone and a new hose. How is roodlf?
— *Your Friend, Olive*

Dear Santa,
For Cismistim I wot a doll and a brbedoll for cismis. Mer cismis.
— *Your Friend, Phoebe*

Dear Santa,
Hi! I lika Your elvz. I wont a X-box. I will lev you milk.
— *Your Friend, Jedian*



Dear Santa,
Haw is roodof? Haw is Mrs. Clos? Haw are the elvs? I want a tededere and a laplop and a dol.
— *Your Friend, Kylin*

Dear Santa,
I love you santa. Santa. I wont a laptop and bik and foln. Thank You.
— *Your Friend, Ricky*

Dear Santa,
Haw is roodof? I wut a noow room I wunt it to be a music room.
— *Your Friend, Jayda*

Dear Santa,
I wont a toy motrslkl Ar you doing ok santa.
— *Your Friend, Noah*

Dear Santa,
Haw are you? Haw is roodof? I wot a doz too dvd and a croz too wii and a skatbrd.
— *Your Friend, Isaac*

Dear Santa,
Haw ib roodof doinu to day? I wut a I poad. I like my prabib that you gave me last year.
— *Your Friend, Sara*

Dear Santa,
I santa kumputer I wt a x-box 360. I wt a toy gun.
— *Your Friend, Jacob*

Dear Santa,
Can I ples have a Ds and a game to go with it ples? How are the elfs dooeng?
— *Your Friend, Weston*

Dear Santa,
Isrllodf Hape totly Fvvtuta for wilr. I love you.
— *Your Friend, Braxton*

Dear Santa,
Thanks for thows presints. I loved the psp and I love you. I rilee love you and I will give you milk and cooces. I wont a I pod and grii pupp and laptop.
— *Your Friend, Joshua*

Dear Santa,
How is rootof doowe? I wunt a breby haos. Make sh that you breeg my bruthr a toy.
— *Your Friend, Kailie*

Dear Santa,
Hi! Haw is roodof? I wut a cooputr. I wut a I-pod
— *Your Friend, Nicolas*

Mrs. Loreda's Class

Dear Santa,
I hope yow can burney me a dog.
— *Your Friend, Ivanna*

Dear Santa,
I hav the pe sip for ceaqz toe.
— *Your Friend, Alanna*

Dear Santa,
I wood like to have a 3D dsi and I wood like a toy car. Cood I have a new bike for my moms house. Can I have a grate Christmist.
— *Your Friend, Heartley*

Dear Santa,
I want a glo staf. Noo shuz and a 3-D Dsi.
— *Your Friend, Meadow*

Dear Santa,
I will liked teleskop for Christmas!
— *Your Friend, Cebastion*

See, **Santa Letters** Page 7

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays!

HBC

True Value
1900 E. FM 700 • Big Spring, TX
432-263-7441

Santa Letters

Continued from Page 6

Dear Santa,
I want a rayndeer.
— *Your Friend, Matthew*

Dear Santa,
I want a fluffee white puppy and a kitin and motrsikl.
— *Your Friend, Talyn*

Dear Santa,
I want a bird and a toy stay and a dog but I reeley want a baby star.
— *Your Friend, Jaycob*

Dear Santa,
I hope you can get a stuf cat.
— *Your Friend, Ellie*

Dear Santa,
I hop you can get me a xspoodr and a nrf gun and one of thos floting shrxe.
— *Your Friend, Zabian*

Dear Santa,
I hope you're doing well. For christmas I wold like 3D-Ds and a pegbl table and DSIXL.
— *Your Friend, Nathan*

Dear Santa,
I want a new eze bak uvin.
— *Your Friend, Brooke*

Dear Santa,
I will hav a dog and I hav a xll and hav a big robots.
— *Your Friend, Jay*

Dear Santa,
I love you satue I will plese pese. Wute a nooe cat plese plese and I wute a doprin and a me dsixls pamsead. A 3D-S and DS gamse.
— *Your Friend, Tanner*

Dear Santa,
I would like a fake tools set and a hot bok.
— *Your Friend, Markus*

Dear Santa,
I hope your doing well. For christmas I would a hors for christmas.
— *Your Friend, Ella*

Dear Santa,
I want a Gizmo, perry doll and Jake and the neverland pirates.
— *Your Friend, Jon*

Dear Santa,
I would like a DS.
— *Your Friend*

Dear Santa,
I hope you are doing well. I want a cat for christmas and a dog.
— *Your Friend, Kodi*

Dear Santa,
I want a 3D-DSI and a bicke and a phone and happy merry christmas. I love you Santa, and miss claus.
— *Your Friend, Monica*

Mrs. Best's

Second Grade

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? Are you doing good? I would like a phone and computer. I would like some makeup and monster high dolls. Are you reindeers doing ok? Are you doing ok? I would like some toys. Are your elves doing ok? I would like a toy computer.
— *Your friend, Melanie A.*



Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I am doing good. Say hello to the reindeer for me please. I want a Cars 2 set that has a book in side of it and a mat, little cars, Lego's, trampoline, skateboard and a little ramp and a good Christmas.
— *Your friend, Ruben B.*

Dear Santa,
How are you doing Santa? I clean up my room and I pick up the living room. I have been awesome this year. Could I please have Just Dance 2?
— *Your friend, Angelica C.*

Dear Santa,
I love you. Are you great? How do you deliver all the presents all over where the reindeer go? Do you know Spanish? Do you know Chinese? Do you know Japanese? Can I have a DS and a Sonic and Mario at the Olympics game and an electric guitar?
— *Your friend, Max C.*

Dear Santa,
How are you doing today? Are you doing good? I hope you have a good Christmas. Can you see if you can bring an Xbox 360 and I want a PS3 and for the game Madden 12. I would like gold and Lego's Cars 2. How is Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer?
— *Your friend, Jonathon C.*

Dear Santa,
Merry Christmas! I would like Lego's, Cars 2 toys, a car and an airplane.
— *Your friend, Brandon C.*

Dear Santa,
How are you? I hope that you are ready to give presents on Christmas. I already put up my Christmas tree. I hope I get presents. I wish I was you so I could just get all the presents. I wish I had a phone or a DS. If I had a DS I would want it to be pink. If it was a phone I would want a touch phone and the color to be white.
— *Your friend, Karen C.*

Dear Santa,
I hope we have a good Christmas. I wish you a Merry Christmas. I want a bunch and bunch of presents. You are the best Santa ever. I would like a black Wii, playstation for my brother, makeup for my mom and my dad a new house.
— *Your friend, Diego E.*

Dear Santa,
Merry Christmas! I would like a Christmas toy and an airplane.
— *Your friend, Morgan G.*

Dear Santa,
Are your elves big or small? I would like a race car set, bike, Lego, trampoline, skateboard with ramp, doombugy, stencils, Cars 2 set, G.I. Joe, Wii, Xbox 360 and games.
— *Your friend, Gavin G.*

Dear Santa,
Could you give me some presents? Please Santa for my family. Thank you Santa. I love you. What do you do? What do your elves do? Do they make the toys for us? I like your reindeer. Where do you live Santa? I would like a big doll house and Wii.
— *Your friend, Maliah H.*

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? What do the elves look like? Will you please bring me Transformers, Nintendo dsi, video games and a toy puppy? Thank you Santa.
— *Your friend, Alex H.*

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I would like a doll and Just Dance 2.
— *Your friend, Shelby L.*

Dear Santa,
How are you? Are you great? Are you happy that Christmas is almost here? I can't wait for the presents under the tree. I love Christmas very much. It is my favorite holiday of the year? I love you Santa because you are nice and kind. I want a Monster High Doll and a makeup kit. I can't wait to see you this Christmas. I hope it is going to be great. I hope you have a great Christmas.
— *Your friend, Karicia P.*

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I want a Ben 10 watch when he's a kid, Skylanders for PS3, Shockwave from Dark of the Moon, a doombugy and an ultimate Optimus Prime.
— *Your friend, Greyson P.*

Dear Santa,
Thank you for the presents. I would like a bike and a hat.
— *Your friend, Ty Q.*

Dear Santa,
Tell everyone I said hi. This year I want my family to get what they want. Could I please have a Go-Go puppy?
— *Your friend, Delia R.*

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I want a four wheeler, motorcycle, phone and Nike socks for Christmas.
— *Your friend, Malachi R.*

Dear Santa,
My name is Hunter. For Christmas I would like a toys Cars 2 Carlo Veloso. Please bring my mommy a present.
— *Your friend, Hunter S.*

Dear Santa,
How is Mrs. Santa? How is your day going? Santa, I am going to sing a song We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Yeehaw! Can you bring me a picture of reindeers and elves? Santa I would like a little bit of presents. For Christmas, get me anything.
— *Your friend, Xilanae W.*

New Hope Christian School

Mrs. Patsy Barton

Pre K 3

Dear Santa,
I've been a really good boy this year, I would like a Dragon toy that flies in the air and blows fire, I would like a bird also, I would like the yellow, pink, green, and red and blue power rangers (all the color ones), I would like a race car that goes really fast with an orange (anaranjado) remote control, A rock, Alien that get a green lantern, and get something real nice for mom and daddy. Oh and a hulk.
— *Love, Jacob C.*

Dear Santa,
I want a princess car. Lenny, Tuk, and Ming Ming too, save the unicorn and a big guitar. Also a Christmas Blues Clues Book. Thank you Santa.
— *Love, Hailey C.*

Dear Santa,
I want a princess for Christmas and a bracelet, candy, and more more toys.
— *Love, Kayleigh D.*

Dear Santa,
I would like a submarine boat, a motorcycle and two dragons.
— *Love, Keller E.*

Dear Santa,
Please bring me lots of Dinosaurs.
— *Love, Alvin G.*

Dear Santa,
Please bring me a little ball and another kitty. Thank you Santa.
— *Love, Gracie R.*

Dear Santa,
All I want for Christmas is a scooter, and LOTS of guitars, a horn, and a piano.
— *Love, Travis S.*

Dear Santa,
I want a baby doll, a bike and a dump truck.
— *Love, Bree T.*

Dear Santa,
I would like a princess.
— *Love, Makenna W.*

Dear Santa,
Please bring me some legos, a bouncy ball, and a jumping house. Thank you and I love you.
— *Love, Shiloh W.*

Washington Elementary

Wendy Mayes

Third Grade Class

Dear Santa,
hi sante will you please can you gave me a bike and if I'm good can you give me a pupe and am I noty or nice I don't like bing ming but drathers are brothers and thay mack me so mad That I'm am gowin to plate my hate out What Do you think I shod Do
— *Love, Valerie A.*

Dear Santa,
I want these things please here the tings I want skylanders lcose remmotcontrol net legoingagothe fol in jest for golden eyes and the four dragons transformers and streetracers white blue and red and highlighted green yellow highten highter street backed x michel jorden shoews and michel jorden jacket and call of duty motanofair part 3 and 3 kick off blitz and a football games and a motamofairshirt
— *Love, Louis*

Dear Santa,
I won't Dallas cowboys Tony Rometshirt and I won't a PSP and I won't a PSP3 I want 4 Nike Shoes I won't I wont mad more fairs 3 and thousand dolls and I woan't a guns
— *Love, Joe'li*

I want a call of Doote Manuwor Farm 3 and black opps and a rifle that is the guns all of the guns to the oovsin dalers.
— *Love, Justin*

Dear Santa,
I whon't thes thing Pleas I will tell you what I whon't a wii for Christmas and I whon't a remotconcontrol for christmas and I who't transfrmers for christmas andtwhon'tstreet racers and I whon't mischeljordansyshoes
— *Love, Darren*

Dear Santa,
Hi! How are you and the elves. I have been pretty good. have i been notey my mom is thinking about taking me and my brother to Poler express! what kins of cookies and milk would you like? Is roodofes nose still very bright? Could you pleas bring me a aropostle jaket and shift Pleas? Please stop by my house. I hope it is not to much to ask for Santa.
— *Love, Brianna S.*

Have a verry Merry Christmas!



Dear Santa,
I want to ask you How do you go all around the wold in one Whole night? Oh I want a kindle for christmas. I want a ds 3d relly relly much Can you get it for me please. Can you get me a wii and a wii game with it to it does not metter.
— *Love, Mia G.*

Dear Satna,
Please can you get me my last toy wich is the white lego niji on ninuago and santa im going to give tow of my toys a way.
— *Love, Joshua J.*

Dear Santa,
I pls can I have Legos for me and my Brother and some school slaplis own a new toy and some gran glovs and a wafte boths for me and my Brother and sister and new cloc and a new Book crasr
— *Love, Isaiah*

Dear Santa,
I want to Ask You How Do You Delever All of the toys Any Way? I want To Get A new Horse. Oh! And Make Sure to look on the Kichin table. And I want a Crib A Stroler, A baby Doll. But the most Most Most Most Most Most Most Most Most Most Most Most Most Most Most thing I want is my mom back. And I want a secret Present.
— *Love, Breelsn*

Dear Santa,
I want to ask you if I fould get a justin Bieber song. Because I really wanted it. I didn't get it last year. Oh and I think you nice. I really believe in You. I wish you were my great great grandpa. Have a holly, jolly Christmas even.
P.S. tell Jesus I Love My Mom
— *Love, Lexi*

Dear Santa,
is it cold in the north pole? I want a DS and a justen bever doll that has all sirem And a phone and a comperter. Sleepign Bag A book time night before Christmas A Xbox360 Dsi and a baby doll math toys.
— *Love, Emma S.*

Dear Santa,
Would you please get me desrtocan he from transformers. And a new bike. Would you birng me a ceneke control spay car. and a toy truck full of face cars and a remoke controll robot that could spy on people This iis my address Oh an make sure you look at the kichen table.
— *Love, Joshua D.*

Dear Santa,
I want a puppy and a xbox 360 mortel combat kinda granttuxdot read durt bike and rollerskates and17micketjordan shoos and guns and 18 nike and a four wiler and some new close and shoos and a fripike and a remote control oieair bane
— *Merry Chirstmas, Raul*

Dear Santa,
Hi can i Pleas Have a blue bike a skate board, a star wars Pillow, a scooby-doo shirt, a new skateboard vest & shirt and that and shoes George browna book a fluffy, a chaih to put on my walet and pants What cooys do you like, oh and aminottoy or nice yea or no
— *Mearry Christmas, Gaege*



Dear Santa,
Hi santa have you ben busy Well Have I Ben natyn or nice. Well I get any Presents. Santa can you belive we have presents under are tree. And it snowed. is roodu of still good. what kind of cokies Do you lke Do you like Choclote chip. Can I Please have a PSP. And a Aeroposle Shirt that's just what I want for Christmas Make sure to leave me a letor
— *Love, Kaydence*

Berry Berry Christmas

Dear Santa,
Hiw do yo get the presen to the kids in one night? Dear Santa, I want a ipoud and a cores and a xbox360 with games and the games ore month NFL II and cassa bonblaket
— *Love, Jeffrey*

Individual Letters

Dear Santa,
I been good most of the time and I will tried not to fight with my Brother and Sister and my Brother Marcos I Would Like please a angry Birds glass and a new Backpack and a Christmas hat and a new nail polish and a puppy
Thank You!!
— *Love Cruz.F*

Dear Santa,
I want a teecup puppy and a bike a new CD (Doesn't have to be lil wayne) Clothes (pants, shirt and (Bras=34A or 36A) and shoes and panties (no toys) new stuff for blanket sheets and stuff and a new sweater
— *Love, Brandi*

Dear Santa,
I would like a new game and I would like the game to be Mortal Kombat VS DC, a remote control car. a new watch. Phone, pants, shirt, and a pair of shoes.
Pleas and thank you
— *from Esequiel F.*

P.S.
I want to now you new phone number.

Dear Santa,
My name is Jennifer P. I'm 3 yrs old. Bike to be purple, bouncing Dall, Doll house, playdough, mickey mouse clubhouse, scooter, minnie bow and movies
— *Jennifer P.*

Dear Santa,
I would like a pillow pet, a piggy bank, a Dora toy, a barbie and some clothes.
— *Love, Olivia Rose A. 6 years old*

Dear Santa,
How's your wife? This is what I want for Christmas, Rise of the planet of the apes dvd, a blu-ray dvd player, dude diary 2 with a lock, James Camerons' Avatar dvd and X-men Origins wolverine dvd. Tahnk you Santa Claus,
— *Your Friend, Owen P. T-R. 8 1/2 years old*

Merry Christmas



Santa Letters
Continued from Page 8

Dear Santa,
Why do you wear a red sweater. And how do you get to all the children in one night. I wonte be at my house this Christmis i will be with my mom and my nana. When you are done reading this letter thar will be a pitsher on the back of this peper for you and do not throw this paper away please I want you take this paper hang it up on your wall. please give me evrything i want. Bey santa see you next year. One more thing show me the raindear next year.
— Love Bryson

1. cars
2. tent
3. jupin monkeys.
4. pool table
5. cars 2 c haracter lighting McQueen,
6. cars 2 barrell blowout tract set.
7. Hot Wheels.
8. Bop Bag.

9. Thomas.
10. 22 samiotamtixk pitle.

Dear Santa,
I want a PSP and a skateboard
— From, David, H. 5-years-old

Dear Santa,
I want a Buzz Light Year Lego, a Buble Bee Lego, A Batman 2 Lego Playstation 2 Game, A Batman computer, Avatar Fire Nation 3, Baord Game Lego Adventure and Spongebob Halloween Movie.

This is what I want from you SANTA!!
From, Shaun E.
To: Santa
P.S. Merry Christmas Santa!!!
P.P.S. I also want Where is Gary-Spongebob Moive



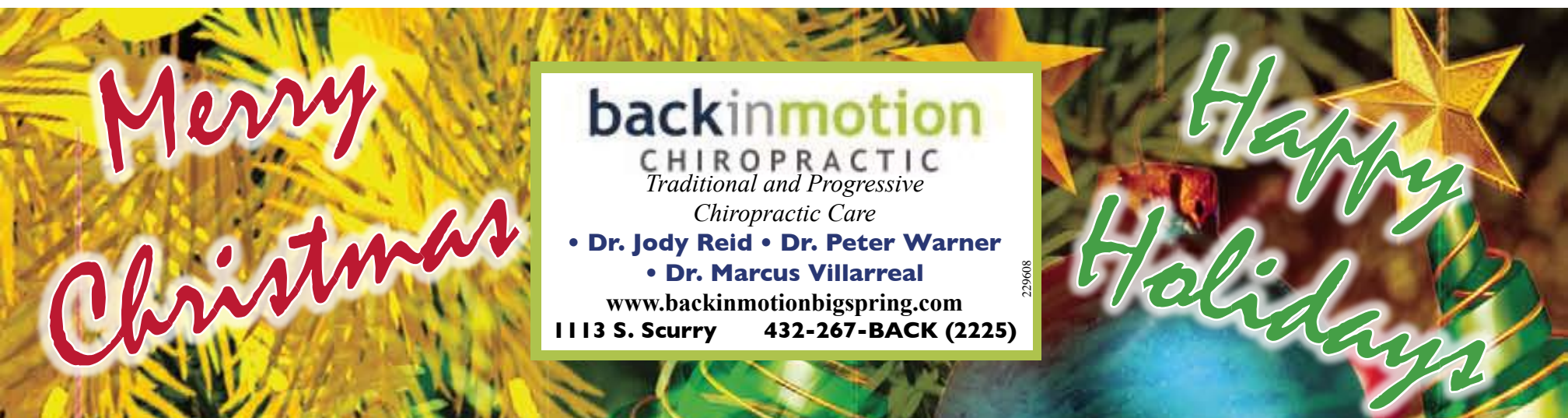
Dear Santa
Merry Christmas I want everyone to be happy and have peace on Earth I also want to have a NintendoDSI Barbie Doll, beautfiul makup, beautiful clothes, disney books, Peace on Earth and toys for kids that doesn't have none. I want also clohtes, shoes and books.
— Myaliyah S. Age 7

Dear Santa,
I want a 3dds I want a game for my ds, a touch screen phone and a labtop and easy bake oven, dairy queen blizzard and new bike with sum pegas and play-doo set and a xbox 360 and will and new clots and new shoes could get tose for me.
Sincerely,
— your Chrismass baby, Mireya O. Age 7

Dear Santa Claus,
My name is Luveah M., I am 4 years old and I live in Big Spring, Tx which is very long way from the north pole. I have tried to be good all yaer and hope that you and your reindeers will be able to deliver me a present. At the momet my special toy is dora mermaid doll but I would really like a robot puppy or a Ds game to play with next year! I know that you and our helpers must be very busy at the moment and hope that you will also have time to deliver some nice gifts for my family. I will leave you a glass of milk and some cookies next to our chirstmas tree and there will also be some carrots for Rudolf and the other reindeers.
— Love, Luveah M.

Dear Santa Claus,
My name is Larry M., I am 5 years old and I live in Big Spring TX which is a very long way from the norht pole. I have tried to be good all year and hope that you and your reindeers will be able to deliver me a present. At the moment my special toy is super mario toy but I would really like a Call of duty hat and shirt and also a dice board game to play with or a Ds game to play with next year! I know that you and your helpers must be very busy at the moment and hope that you will also have time to deliver some nice gifts for my family.
I will leave you a glass of milk and some cookies next to our christmas tree and there will also be some carrots for Rudolf and the other reindeers.
— Love, Larry M.

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would like to have pillow pet, benlo watch & toys, Dragon Ballztoys New Shoes, Nintendo DS3 Clothes, Cowboy boots super why toy, hats, Santa, house shoes, pencils I want to be good, I slept by meyself, coloring book, football Peace on Earth I have been so good in saying my prayers. I love you Santa
— Bailey S. Age 6



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