

# *Wishing You a Beautiful Season*

We wish you every happiness as you  
celebrate Christmas & ring in the New Year  
among cherished family & friends.

We appreciate the support  
& friendship of good folks like you.

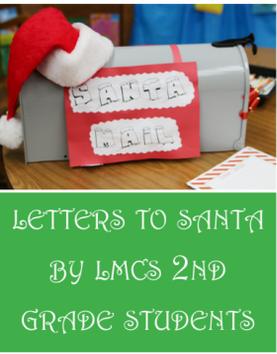
Your visits mean so much to us,  
& we thank you for your loyal patronage.

*Happy Holidays!*

*Terry Gasper, Sherylee Gasper, Marissa Gasper  
& Bonnie Kay Baldwin*



# **Lake Mills Graphic**



LETTERS TO SANTA  
BY LMCS 2ND  
GRADE STUDENTS

Nov. 30, 2017  
Dear Santa,  
I hope your 8 reindeer are feeling well for the long trip and I hope you are too and I want a control car and I want more Chief stuff. Have a Merry Christmas!

Sincerely,  
Kachous Whiting

Nov. 30, 2017  
Dear Santa,  
How are the reindeer?  
Can you give me a four wheeler, and a baby turtle, and a tablet? If you can't you can give me a Fortiisse. Merry Christmas!

Sincerely,  
Angel Ramirez Vazquez

Nov. 30, 2017  
Dear Santa,  
What kind of cookies do you want? I would like a music box that sings a Christmas song!!! I would also like for cats and dogs to get homes and one more thing, I would love to have kids get homes just like my cousin Mira!!! Thank you!

Sincerely,  
Halle Peterson

Picking a real Christmas tree

When I was a kid, a bunch of short-necked Christmas trees were thrown off a truck unceremoniously in the alley behind our local grocery store. Word of the tree delivery would spread through my small town and people would rush to find the perfect tree for their family.

Everyone had pine sap on their hands by the time the tree was successfully placed in a tree stand. It's hard to get those tiny screws on the tree stand to penetrate a tiny tree trunk. You have to be inventive and wrap cardboard around the trunk sometimes so the screws can hold the tree straight.

Gerri Hunter  
Humor Writer

Children usually get the honor of adding water each day to the tree stand. Moms are usually nagging the children daily so this chore really gets done.

Putting lots of wrapped gifts around the tree will stop the family dog from drinking the water in the tree stand. Cats don't seem to care about drinking that water. They are fussy animals. But they do love to climb the tree to get a better view of the living room. Beware. That \$20 ornament your great-aunt gave you might be broken soon.

History tells us that bringing a live tree into our home for Christmas is a tradition from the German people. Bless them and this tradition. Nothing smells as nice as pine needles at Christmas.

Decorating your tree with ornaments from dusty boxes that belonged to your grandmother is a treasured moment for many families.

Enjoy Christmas, Christians. And good luck getting that sap off your hands.

December 1, 2017  
Dear Santa Claus,  
I hope your flight goes okay. For Christmas I would like a pair of ice skates and an American boy doll. If I don't get an American boy doll I would like another American girl doll!

Sincerely,  
Kenlie Greenfield

Nov. 30, 2017  
Dear Santa Claus  
Do your reindeer want some carrots? This year I would like a lot of Fidget spinners and Fidget cubes. I would also like a tractor and equipment. Have a Merry Merry Christmas

Sincerely,  
Damian Villela

Nov. 30, 2017  
Dear Santa,  
How is Mrs. Claus? Should I give the reindeer some carrots? I would like a few LOL dolls and Hatchimals please. It's ok if you just give me one or the other. Thank you!

Sincerely,  
Maya Loverink

November 30, 2017  
Dear Santa,  
I would like a Peppa Pig car and house. How are the reindeer?

Sincerely,  
Caden Carlson

Nov. 30, 2017  
Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? How are the cookies? Are they sweet? Can you please bring two games? I would like Madden 15! Merry Christmas!

Sincerely,  
Jayden Torres

Nov. 30, 2017  
Dear Santa,  
Is your sleigh ready? I hope your reindeer are ready for this Christmas. I would like a Cars 3 race track. I hope you have a merry Christmas!

Sincerely,  
Kaden Lee

Nov. 30, 2017  
Dear Santa,  
How are you doing? For Christmas you should get rested for this year. This year I want slime and a mermaid tail blanket and a Diary. Hope you have a great Merry Christmas.

Sincerely,  
Tatyana Linnen

Nov. 30, 2017  
Dear Santa,  
Has Mrs. Claus been making cookies? I'd like a Fidget cube. Can I please have some Hatchimals, and I would like some Flexible Barbies. Merry Christmas Santa!

Sincerely,  
Faith Stone

Nov. 30, 2017  
Dear Santa,  
I hope every girl and boy gets presents. I would like the American girl doll whip cream cooking set and Gabriela's cat and little Hatchimals. Have a Merry Christmas Santa!

Sincerely,  
Gabby Brandenburg

Welcome to Christmas

We hope your holiday is jolly in every way.

**NAPA**  
AUTO PARTS  
Lake Mills

Merry Christmas to All

and to all a good night!  
We're over the moon with joy to have great friends and customers like you.

**LAIR'S 66**  
Emmons, MN

Merry Christmas!

May the spirit of Christmas bring you peace,  
The joy of Christmas give you hope,  
The warmth of Christmas grant you love.

**CORPORATE FARMER**  
1307 6th St. SW  
Mason City, IA  
800-472-6931  
CorporateFarmer.com

Help Yourself To Our Gratitude!

We'd like to thank you for dining here, As we send glad tidings your way, To wish you a Merry Holiday; For one that that we know is true, It's been a pleasure serving you!

**TELUWUT**  
GRILLE HOUSE & PUB  
Corner of Main & Mill St.  
Lake Mills  
641-592-3303

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

With deepest gratitude from all of us to all of you, along with best wishes for the brightest holiday season, ever!

**NORSEMEN**  
106 E. Main, Lake Mills, IA • 641-592-5060

Nov. 30, 2017  
 Dear Santa,  
 Is Rudolph doing good? What kind of cookies do you want? I would like a boy wallet and a fourwheeler and have a Merry Christmas Santa and Mrs. Claus!  
 Sincerely,  
 Lloyd Heggestad

Nov. 30, 2017  
 Dear Santa Claus,  
 How are your reideer and your elves? Are you ready for your busy day? I would like some NFL football cards and College football cards.  
 Sincerely,  
 Lane Helgeland

Nov. 30, 2017  
 Dear Santa Claus  
 How is Mrs. Claus? I hope you're ready for your big night, this year I want a fitbit and a new tablet and a desce robot 2 stocking. I hope you have a Merry Christmas!  
 Sincerely,  
 Brynna Mannes

Nov. 30, 2017  
 Dear Santa, Mrs. Claus?  
 How is Mrs. Claus? Does Rudolph want some carrots? Are the elves doing good? Santa can I get some blue snow boots Santa's katebaart, Merry Christmas!  
 Sincerely,  
 Abraxas Byrnes

Nov. 30, 2017  
 Dear Santa,  
 How are the reindeer doing at the North Pole? Are they doing good? I want a gun for Christmas! If you bring it please? The elves will pack it up so they can bring it. All of the people in the world leave cookies and milk and carrots for the reindeer.  
 Sincerely,  
 Rylan Keough

November 29, 2017  
 Dear Santa  
 Thank you for the gifts you gave me last year. This year I would like two wolf stuffed animals. Thank you very much.  
 Merry Christmas  
 Petra

Nov. 30, 2017  
 Dear Santa Claus  
 Santa Claus, what pop do you drink? I want transformers. I want a figetoin. I want a neffgun.  
 Sincerely,  
 Alex Krueger

November 29, 2017  
 Dear Santa,  
 How many elves do you have? This year I want an American girl doll and the new iphone, the big hatchimals, and the little hatchimals. I would like a mattress for gymnastics. Can you give me squishies? Thank you for everything!  
 Merry Christmas,  
 Alonita

# CHRISTMAS services



**ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
 Pastor Rob Lanphere  
 107 East Main, Lake Mills  
**Christmas Eve, Dec. 24**  
 5 p.m. Candlelight Service  
 6:30 p.m. Candlelight Service @ Northwood  
*Rejoice at Christmas*

**BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 Vinje  
**Christmas Eve, Dec. 24**  
 10:30 a.m. Candlelight Worship  
*Join Us in Christmas Prayer*

**BETHEL LUTHERAN BRETHREN CHURCH**  
 Pastor Kevin Olson  
 2-1/2 Miles south of Joice on S14  
**Christmas Eve Worship, Dec. 24**  
 10 a.m. Sunday School Christmas Program  
 5 p.m. Candlelight Service

**EMMONS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 Rev. Christopher Martin  
 490 Pearl St., Emmons, MN  
**Christmas Eve Worship, Dec. 24**  
 5 p.m. Candlelight Service w/Holy Communion  
**Christmas Day Worship, Dec. 25**  
 9 a.m. Worship w/Holy Communion  
**NOEL**  
 BORN IS THE KING OF ISRAEL

**FERTILE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 Lay Minister David Halverson  
 602 W. Washington St. Fertile  
**Christmas Eve Worship, Dec. 24**  
 4:30 p.m. Candlelight Service  
*Rejoice in the Reason for the Season*

**ONE IN CHRIST LUTHERAN PARISH**  
 Pastor Bill Peters & Pastor Randy Baldwin  
**Christmas Eve Worship, Dec. 24**  
 9 a.m. Immanuel Lutheran, Scarville No Communion  
*Celebrated w/Holy Communion*  
 9 a.m. Bethany Lutheran, Joice "Away in a Manger"  
 9 a.m. Silver Lake Lutheran, rural Northwood  
 10:30 a.m. Lunder Lutheran, rural Albert Lea  
*Celebrated w/Holy Communion & Candlelight*  
 4 p.m. Immanuel Lutheran  
 4 p.m. Winnebago Lutheran, rural Lake Mills "Away in the Manger"  
**Christmas Day Worship, Dec. 25**  
*Celebrated w/Holy Communion*  
 10:30 a.m. Winnebago Lutheran "Come and Behold Him"

**SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 401 S. Lake St., Lake Mills  
**Christmas Eve Worship, Dec. 24**  
 5 p.m. Candlelight Worship  
 10:30 p.m. Candlelight Worship

**SCARVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 411 Logan St., Scarville  
 Pastor Thomas Rank  
**Christmas Eve Worship, Dec. 24**  
 5 p.m. Christmas Eve Vespers  
**Christmas Day Worship, Dec. 25**  
 9 a.m. Christmas Festival Service, Sacrament of the Altar  
*Celebrating OUR SAVIOR*

**SION LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 Pastor Steve Bang  
 4525 Finch Ave., Lake Mills  
**Christmas Eve Worship, Dec. 24**  
 11 a.m. Worship  
 7 p.m. Joint Candlelight Service w/Holy Communion at West Prairie

**ARCHANGELS CATHOLIC CLUSTER**  
 Fr. James Dubert, Fr. Paul Lippstock  
**Christmas Eve Mass, Dec. 24**  
 10 a.m. Reconciliation, Forest City  
 4 p.m. St. Patrick, Britt  
 4 p.m. St. James, Forest City  
 4 p.m. St. Boniface, Garner  
 6 p.m. St. Wenceslaus, Duncan  
 6:15 p.m. St. Patrick, Buffalo Center  
 Midnight Mass, St. James, Forest City  
**Christmas Day Mass, Dec. 25**  
 9 a.m. St. Patrick, Lake Mills  
 9 a.m. St. Patrick, Britt  
 9 a.m. St. Boniface, Garner

**WEST PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 Pastor Steve Bang  
 40041 150th Ave., Leland  
**Christmas Eve Worship, Dec. 24**  
 7 p.m. Candlelight Service w/Holy Communion

## Wishing You a Joyous Season!



### Happy Holidays from the City of Lake Mills!

Front row (L-R): Fran Vulk, Teri Clough, Julie Evenson, Stephanie Stevens, Megan Smith, Doreen Holstad and Lori Eekhoff. Second row: Justin Kester, Cameron Edgerton, Don Holtan, Jim Olsen, Ross Hanson and Scott Hagenson. Absent: Justin Byars, Doug Bacon, Rod Stene.

**CITY OF LAKE MILLS MUNICIPAL UTILITIES**



### Merry Christmas from the City Council!

Front row: Tony Sorenson, Stephanie Steffens and Mayor Candy Hanna  
 Back row: Atty. Richard Schwarm, Scott Flugum, Bill Clark and Nathan Ostrander

November 29, 2017  
 Dear Santa,  
 How is Rudolf this year?  
 This year I would like a trampoline,  
 an iPhone, and a new tablet.  
 Thank you Santa.  
 Merry Christmas,  
 Chase

November 29, 2017  
 Dear Santa,  
 Thank you for the gifts you gave to  
 me last year. This year I would like a Minecraft  
 LEGO set: The Ender Dragon, Wii U, and an iPad. If  
 the Minnesota Vikings make the Super Bowl, I'd like  
 some tickets for the Super Bowl because the  
 Vikings play at their home state.  
 Merry Christmas,  
 Asher

November 29, 2017  
 Dear Santa,  
 How is Rudolf? Thank you  
 for the gifts last year. This year  
 I would like a Lego set and teacher  
 stuff, a computer with the game  
 Knack on it. I also would like a  
 stuffed animal giraffe and stuffed animal  
 Rudolf and some flash cards.  
 Thank you!  
 Merry Christmas  
 Emersyn



## Creating gingerbread houses

The Lake Mills Public Library had several crafts available for youngsters during the Holiday Festival held Dec. 9, including making gingerbread houses, ornaments and writing letters to Santa.

Clockwise from top left: Charlie DeVries, Betsy Byars, Kalli Budach (with assistance from Grandma Beth Nelson), and Jaselyn Islas all work on creating colorful gingerbread houses, with lots of frosting and candy pieces.



**With Appreciation At The Holidays**

As 2018 approaches its end, we want to thank the businesses, organizations, & individuals for their generous support. We also want to thank the community for supporting the local businesses.

From  
**THE LAKE MILLS CHAMBER DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION BOARD & DIRECTOR**

With a blizzard of best wishes to you & yours this holiday season.

Your friendship & support make it all worthwhile for us. Thanks!

Have A One-of-a-Kind Christmas!

**CAVETT'S**  
 LAWN & GARDEN EQUIPMENT  
 605 North Mill Street, Lake Mills  
 641-592-2141

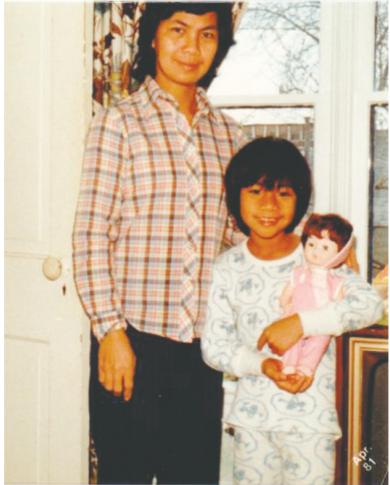
# THE SPIRIT IS BUILDING!

All around the area, north, south, east and west, we're sending our neighbors all of our best! With wishes so warm and merry and bright, we hope your holiday is a sheer delight!

**Larson Contracting**

Thanks for your support in making 2017 a great year for us. We appreciate the area's trust in us, and we look forward to building together in the future.

# Greetings to All of You!



I am not sure how many, if any, of you remembered me. It does not matter, for what's important is that I remembered. My name is Whey, and I grew up in this small town 36 years ago. My stay in Lake Mills may have been brief, but the memories of the townspeople have long stayed with me. I send my best wishes to all of you. This time of the year is especially important to many of us. The season conjures up many fond memories of our family and friends celebrating the most joyous season . . . Christmas!

Most of the time, it's all about the presents and our full stomachs that bring us those happy thoughts of Christmas. But it's more than that for me. I believe it's the best time to reflect on our lives and realize all of God's blessings, especially all His blessings upon me. I would like to share with you my own story called "The American Dream." At this stage in my life, I feel I have been blessed with just enough wisdom to realize what this "American Dream" meant to me. We tend to celebrate only our achievements, but forget about where we began and those who helped us on our journey there. So, here's my Christmas-like story, in short, my "Dream."

You see, my family and I are refugees, so called "boat people," torn by war. My father had first sent my oldest brother to sea to escape the communist regime. Thereafter, my second and third brother were next to escape. My parents and I were the last ones to leave. Those of us who've never been torn by war, being "sent out to sea" does not mean vacationing at sea. You escape with whatever is on your back, you accept whatever Mother Nature throws at your feet, and you will endure whatever circumstances that occurs in order to survive. Survival is your goal when you step onto that shabby boat. I remembered asking my father why we are trying to escape Vietnam, and his reply to me was, "I want my children to be free, and should death come, then die at sea, but die free." It has stayed in my mind since. I want to remember those words, that way, I will not forsake what I have been given.

Our journey to America began with the gracious sponsorship from Arnold and Ramona Moe, who came to rescue my oldest brother by being his foster parents. I am grateful for their first step in helping unite our family. Their sponsorship of him cemented our stay in Lake

Mills. Secondly, my special thanks to Forrest and Helene Iverson, without any hesitation on their part, opened their home and their hearts to my second and third eldest brothers. Last, but definitely not least, my gratitude to Salem Lutheran Church, in sponsoring my parents and I. I remembered attending Sunday services and wondered why it had to be so early? As a child, I never really understood about Faith and God. I was just doing what I was told by showing up to services, although the sermons sometimes did strike an interest in me. As an adult, I understood. The Faith we hold and the gratitude we feel is because we believe in God's love and His power to heal and forgive. Therefore, I feel a great sense of gratitude to the whole community in coming together to welcome us as a part of your townspeople, it is as if your embracing of us is Godsend.

For me, growing up in Lake Mills provided the most sought after childhood anyone could hope to have. Some of you may not even realize the impact you have made on me as a child. The neighbors watched over one another, the children grew up together, and well, it takes a whole village to raise a child mentality was well played out here. I knew I was different from everyone else; my skin color, my hair color, even my broken English. But, never did I once felt unwelcome or unloved because of it. All of you opened your homes, your hearts, and your friendships to me. And for that, I'm truly grateful. This was the America my father spoke of, it is a dream! Your simple acts of kindness and loving manners helped made me who I am today. I strive to be more kind and compassionate because this was shown to me. I believe it helped made me a better person.

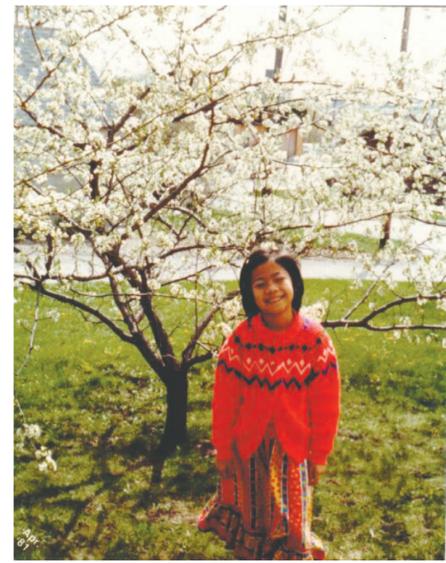
Today, I am working in my family's restaurant business which we started since we left Lake Mills. We've been in our business for more than 30 years. I am married to my high school sweetheart whom I've been in love with since the young ripe age of sixteen. God blessed us with two wonderful daughters. I am consistently surrounded by thoughtful friends and family who are always there for me. I feel as if I am one of the few who received this abundance of blessings, for I have encountered others less fortunate than I. But, I believe it was our beginning here in America, in Lake Mills, that gave us that edge from the start. Self reliance, hard work, and adapting to our new country where we can all take pride being who we are, regardless of our color have offered us unforeseen opportunities. However, the people we have had the good fortune in meeting were the ones that showed us the meaning that we are all God's children.

So I thank everyone who had a part in lending a helping hand to us; by bringing us food, getting a home ready for us

upon our arrival to Lake Mills, welcoming us into your lives. Everyone joined in teaching us English, allowing us to integrate into your community. The coming together of Lake Mills community changed my whole family's lives. It reflects the true spirit of kindness, and generosity of what we are all capable of showing to others. I have never forgotten your kindness. May this kind of spirit carry through in all of us not only during this holiday season, but in all our daily lives.

I wanted to share my story with all of you to show that any small acts of gracious offering we give can have a monumental impact on another person's perception, their lives, and possibly our own self worth. I am the testament to those gracious people, no, to those gracious friends who have shown me a lifetime of love and support. My brief stay here in Lake Mills had the greatest impact on how I should live my life better. In the end, it is not what we achieved in life that matters most, but the people whom we are surrounded by most matters. Thus, whenever I miss "home," I drop by in town to reflect on how wonderful my life has been blessed. I have never forgotten where I came from...a small town called Lake Mills. Again thanks to all the people who knew nothing of us but who came together to help us make our first transition in America a dream come true. It is the true American spirit of giving your heart to those less fortunate and following God's teachings. We are the fruits of those good fortunes.

I wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year! May God bless all of you!



With warmest regards,  
Whey

Dear Santa,  
I would like to visit the deer and see if they are ready to fly. This year I want the LOL Big surprise. If it is just half of a ball and it has fifty surprises in it. And I want the live tiger. And I want a stuffed animal Rudolf.  
Merry Christmas  
Leighton

November 29, 2017  
Dear Santa,  
How old are you? I would like part of a beam and a couple of mats. If you can I would like a bar too for gymnastics. I would also like a hand spring timer. I'd also like some chapter books. Thank you!  
Merry Christmas,  
Alana



The fifth grade band performed several short pieces during their concert Monday, Dec. 11, including Christmas tunes "Good King Wencelas", "Jingle Bells," and "Jolly Old St. Nicholas."

Pictured above, front to back: Brynn Rognes, Roland Chartrand, Bryce Budach, Isabelle Schoonover and Garrett Hamm.

Pictured left, front to back: Maddie Mannes, Kendall Dahle, Carter Christianson, and Elijah Smith.

**THRIVENT FINANCIAL**

**BLESSINGS OF THE SEASON TO YOU**

Wishing you a merry Christmas!  
Warmest wishes from Thrivent Financial.

**Beth R. Nyguard**  
MBA, FIC  
Financial Associate  
205 N. Mill St.  
Lake Mills, IA 50450  
641-592-0064  
beth.nyguard@thrivent.com

Appleton, Wisconsin • Minneapolis, Minnesota  
Thrivent.com • 800-847-4836  
28409 R9-16

*Deck the Halls!*

Boughs of holly, bows and snow,  
mistletoe, music & lights all aglow.  
May the sights & sounds of this special season fill your heart & home with the magic of Christmas. Best wishes to you & yours!

**State Farm**<sup>TM</sup>

Jeremy Rogstad, Agent  
88 8th St. N., Northwood • 641-324-2141

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

In the spirit of the holiday season, we'd like to share our best wishes for a very Merry Christmas.  
May you & yours enjoy a festive season of peace, joy & goodwill.

**Winn-Worth Betco**  
(Winnebago-Worth Counties Betterment Council)  
203A North 1st Avenue West-Lake Mills  
641-592-0800

silent night  
holy night

Wishing you peace,  
harmony & joy at this  
magical time of year.

**Turf Trimmers Plus  
HANSON LP GAS  
ADVANCED FOAM SOLUTIONS**

Scott & Carrie Hanson  
Brian & Krishna Hanson

**Merry Christmas from All of Us at FCIS!**

Seated (L-R): Renae Hopp, Courtney Wooge, and Mary Peterson.  
Standing: Shannon Wooge, Twyla Stenzel, Jody Wooge, Marissa Mason, Jenny Christ, Jen Conrad, Jake Brunscheon, Jackie Kieffer, Monica Solberg, Nicole Sturm, Keila Buffington, Robin Nelson, Tony Reynolds, Josh Pagel, Jess Engquist, Stuart Fleming, and Bob Isbell.

**FCIS Insurance** ★★★★★

145 S. 4th St., Forest City  
106 E. Main St., Lake Mills  
1-800-331-1520  
www.fcisinsurance.com

**TRIMMED WITH A WISH**

May your holiday be as bright  
As the Christmas tree with all its light  
And when the holiday is through,  
May the spirit of the season remain with you!

**Merry Christmas!**

**VIKING REALTY**  
Harris Honsey, Broker  
Erich Stene, Sales  
24582 Lakeside Dr.  
592-1036  
See our listings on www.NIowaRealty.com

**God Jul**

John, Kermit, Curtis, Kobe & Kris

From all of us, to all of you,  
go our very best wishes for a holiday season  
that's made to order.  
For your generous support,  
we are truly thankful.

**SINGELSTAD'S HARDWARE**

**Do it Best**  
202 N. Washington  
Lake Mills, IA

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**  
from Lake Mills Community School

"Through our collective efforts, we are committed to teaching and learning for all."

**2017-2018 LMCS SCHOOL BOARD**  
Kathy Christianson, Ryan Joynt, Don Knudtson, Kristi Smith,  
Teresa Fritz & Superintendent Chad Kohagen



The fifth grade chorus sang "Feliz Navidad," "On A Starlit Night," and "Jingle Bell Rock" at their concert held Monday, Dec. 11, in the auditorium.

Pictured above, front to back: Tara Lee, Kaylee Taft, Ethan Lawson, Charlie Jensen, Aiden Jochumsen, Jonathan, SanMartin, Kaleb Rogstad, Landon Ingledue, Ryan Skellenger, Kade VanRoekel, Stephan Howell, Hannah Sterrenberg, Shelby Mattern, and Jeremiah Johnson.



Pictured right: Alise Wallin and Maddie Mannes.

Dear Santa November 29, 2017  
 Thank you for the Star Wars Battlefront last year. This year I would like Star Wars Battlefront 2. Thank you Santa!  
 Merry Christmas  
 Brynlyn

Dear Santa, November 27, 2017  
 Thank you for all the gifts that you gave me all these years. How old are you? This year I would like a typewriter, bunny, American doll with a dog, wrestling Mat, a trampoline because ours broke in a storm last time please!  
 Merry Christmas,  
 Afton

Dear Santa, November 29, 2017  
 What kind of cookies would you like this year? This year I would like a John Deere 4 wheel drive Lego set and a combine Lego set. I would also like a phone and a toy crossbow.  
 Merry Christmas  
 Chase

Dear Santa, November 29, 2017  
 How is Rudolf? This year I would like an American girl doll and Hatchimals and boots, stuffed animals, Christmas clothes, Rudolf, stuffed animal, net puppy and a guinea pig, I pad, high heels.  
 Sincerely,  
 Baelynn

Dear Santa November 29, 2017  
 Thank you for the present last year. How is Mrs. Clark? How are the reindeer? May I have the wine Romy toy and Lego star wars sets? I would also like a trampolene and a play station.  
 Merry Christmas,  
 Jaeron

Dear Santa, November 29, 2017  
 Thank you for the gifts you gave me last year. This year I would like an American Girl doll. Also a toilet for Christmas. Have a great Christmas.  
 Your Friend,  
 Joralice

Dear Santa, November 29, 2017  
 Thank you for the gifts from last year. I still have the soccer ball. This year I would like a Hatchimal. I would like a big Stuffedie panda and legs.  
 Merry Christmas,  
 Amelia

**Happy Holidays!**

**Your kindness & generosity have made doing business in this community a real joy for us!**

Gayle Peña & Kevin Sprecher  
 Chris Adams, Mark DeLawyer & Scott Arnold. Not pictured: Jeff Fields  
**RON'S LP • 800-590-4206**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

Our hearts are filled with gratitude as we wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We value your patronage and look forward to the opportunity to serve you again, soon.

**Duraclean by Doug**  
 1003 South Washington, Lake Mills  
 641-592-5772

**Merry Christmas!**

Shelly Hagenson, Jenna Hauan, Carrie Peterson, Dr. Michael Mehlhoff, Dr. Thao Mehlhoff, Crystal Price, Heather Schulze, & Emily Toresdahl

Words can't say just how much we appreciate your kindness and friendship. May your holiday be filled with the abundance of happiness and good fortune you deserve!

**LAKE MILLS**  
 Family Dental  
 206 E Main St, Lake Mills, IA • 641-592-2200  
 www.lakemillsdental.com

**The staff at Farmers Trust & Savings Bank in Lake Mills**

Wishes you & your families the Most Happy & Blessed Christmas!

Lory Groe,  
 Laura Hemingsen,  
 Montanna Dodd,  
 Julie Mabus,  
 Christi Grothe,  
 Al Hagen

**FARMERS TRUST & SAVINGS BANK**  
 Buffalo Center • Lakota • Britt • Lake Mills • Bricelyn  
 www.ftsbank.com

**Happy Holidays**

With our thanks for your valued patronage at this special time of year. It's been both a privilege & a pleasure serving you.

**OUR OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED DEC. 23 & DEC. 26**

**Heartland**  
 POWER COOPERATIVE

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative  
 www.heartlandpower.com

216 Jackson St., Thompson • 641-584-2251 or 888-584-9732  
 605 East 4th St., St. Ansgar • 641-713-4965 or 800-349-2832

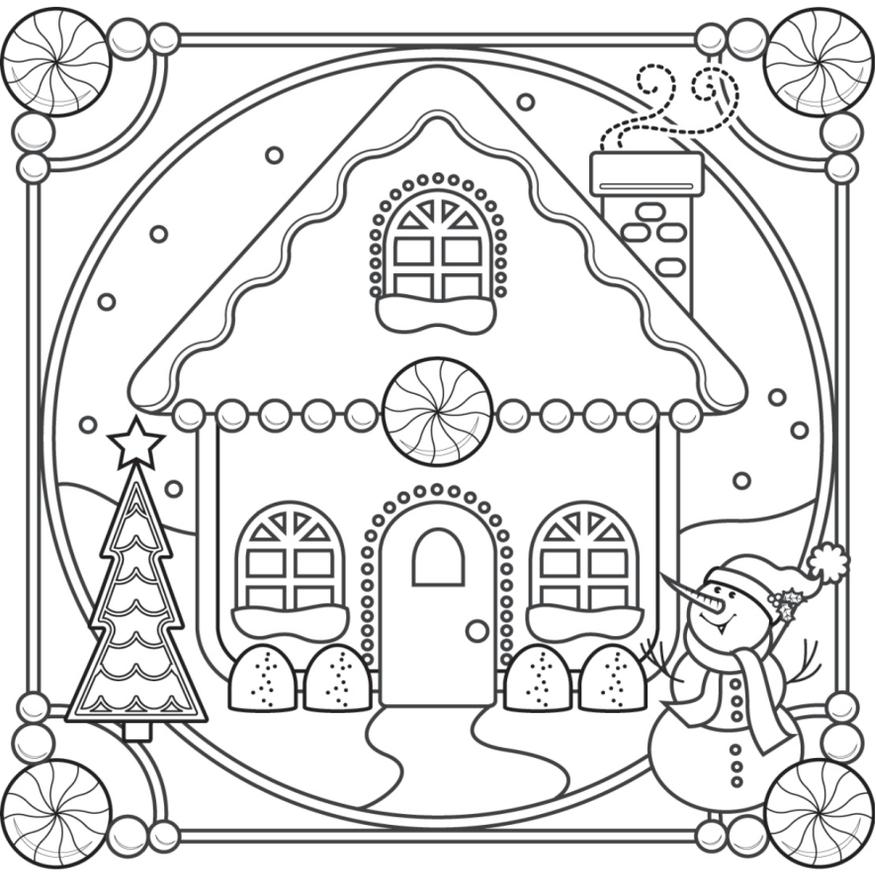
**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**

Thank you for letting us be a part of your recovery this past year!

Brian Budach, Chelsea Singelstad & Emily Helgeson

**Physical Therapy**  
 STRONGER • FASTER  
 FARTHER

115 N. Mill St.  
 Lake Mills  
 641-592-3500



Bryce Eden curls a ribbon for the ornament he made at the library during the Holiday Festival, Dec. 9.

Dear Santa \_\_\_\_\_ November 29, 2017  
 Thank you for the gift last year. This year I would like a TMNT's and a Hot Wheels track. Also I would like a Batman Bot.  
 Merry Christmas, Elijah

Dear Santa \_\_\_\_\_ November 29, 2017  
 I'm 7 years old. This year I would like a Hatchimal. I would also like a Nerf gun. I also want a box full of Legos. Thank you.  
 Merry Christmas, Josiah

Dear Santa \_\_\_\_\_ November 29, 2017  
 Thank you for the gifts you gave me last year. This year I would like a video game called Mine Craft, I also want a big sprayer and a little sprayer.  
 Ho Ho Ho  
 Scott

Dear Santa \_\_\_\_\_ November 29, 2017  
 Thank you for the gifts you gave me last year. This year I would like an X-box and I want rollerblades. I also want a roller course to rollerblade on.  
 Merry Christmas, Presion

Snow and lights are in the air,  
 joy and laughter everywhere!  
 As we celebrate this blessed season,  
 we count you among the many reasons  
 that gratitude fills our hearts and minds  
 all year long and especially at Christmastime.  
**BEST WISHES TO YOU AND YOURS!**

Merry Christmas

**WILKINSON TOOL & DIE, INC.**  
**MIDWEST METAL STAMPING**

**With Festive Tidings at the Holidays**



Hope it's merry... Hope it's bright... Hope it's festive...  
 Hope it's light... Hope it's special... And joyous, too...  
**That's Our Christmas Wish for You!**

Kathleen Peterson, Megan Davis, Fran Peterson, Steve Peterson,  
 Paula Yocom & DeAnn Peterson

**Three Oaks Greenhouse  
 Floral & Gift**

704 West Main, Lake Mills, Iowa • 641-592-4468 or 888-833-6257  
[www.threeoaksgreenhouse.com](http://www.threeoaksgreenhouse.com)

**happy holidays**

From our entire team



With gratitude, we thank you for your business!

**Hearing ASSOCIATES**

250 South Crescent Drive, Suite 100  
 Mason City, IA 50401

hearingassociatesmc.com  
 1-888-927-2549 • 641-494-5180

Merry Christmas



**& Happy Tooth-Year!**

From Dr. Scott Bosacker & Staff—  
 Donica Arneson, Heidi Honsey, Joyce Hauge, Dr. Scott Bosacker, Danielle Van Gundy & Stacy Tritch



**SCOTT BOSACKER, DDS**  
 206 E. Main St.  
 Lake Mills, IA 50450  
 641-592-1100

[SensibleDentallowa.com](http://SensibleDentallowa.com)



**Merry Christmas!**

May the spirit of Christmas shine in your heart and  
 light up your days.  
 Thanks for being such wonderful friends and neighbors.

Front: Joel Christianson, Wyatt Spitz, Laura Burke, & Brian Abele  
 Back: Robert Greenfield, Craig Christ, Brandon Smeby,  
 Matt Holstad & Matt Hershey

**MT Midway Tooling  
 Technologies, Inc.**  
 804 N. Lake St., Lake Mills, IA 50450

Providing Quality Custom Tooling, Machined Parts,  
 Fixtures & Design since 1964  
[www.midwaytooling.com](http://www.midwaytooling.com)

**With Best Wishes & Gratitude**



May you enjoy a very merry season  
 & a joyous New Year.

**PETERSON SANITATION**



Submitted photos

## Logan Loganeers celebrate Christmas

The Logan Loganeers 4-H Club held their Christmas party earlier this month. They played games—trying to open presents while wearing mittens (above right); and collected Toys for Tots. Pictured above left with the toys they donated (L-R): Abbey Bray, Lindy Brekken, Emily Bray, Sonja Rygh, Allison Rygh, Carson Rygh and Justin Rygh.



Santa and Mrs. Claus stopped by the Lake Mills Public Library, Thursday evening, Dec. 7, to visit with area children. Some children were happy to see Santa and tell him their Christmas wishes. Others couldn't even be bribed with sweets to sit on his lap.



Sisters, Carlie Christianson Fritz (left) and Cassie Christianson Johnson (above), make lefse at the Ethnic Kitchen during the Holiday Festival held Dec. 9.

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

"I heard the bells on Christmas Day  
Their old, familiar carols play,  
And wild and sweet the words repeat  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!"

~Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

## SPREAD JOY ALL AROUND!



*Good Luck Lake Mills Basketball Players & Wrestling Team  
& Happy Holidays to All!*



**CENTRAL DISPOSAL SYSTEMS**

HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Closed weekends.



Wishing you all the trimmings of a beautiful season. Thank you for making our year sparkle with your visits!

**THE MILLS THEATER**

216 W. Main St., Lake Mills  
www.themillstheater.com

*Merry Christmas!*



Wishing you a season filled with lots of love, laughter and joy. For all your support, we are deeply grateful.

**HELGESON APPRAISAL & REALTY**  
Scott Helgeson, Broker  
641-592-2775

HIGHWAY 105 STORAGE



## “ Oh Holy Night”

The fifth and sixth grade combined choir performed the traditional “O Holy Night” at their concert, Monday evening, Dec. 11, in the auditorium. The choir is pictured above with director, Molly Holtan. Fifth grade choir students include: Tressa Adams, Lacey Clark, Mikayla Clough, Kyeisha Cooper, Kendall Dahle, Judy Gallardo, Wyatt Hanna, Carter Helgeson, Stephan Howell, Chike Ikefuama, Alexia Jurgena, Tenley Kesler, Ethan Lawson, Maddie Mannes, Merari Rodriguez, Katelyn Rogstad, Aiden Stensrud, Kaylee Taft, Kade Van Roekel, Jamison Wolff, Aiden Benny, Donovan Burbank, Carter Christianson, Bailey Dagestad, Joa Gilbertson, Keely Joynt, Kane Koch, Grace Lampman, Tara Lee, Natalie Nyguard, Karelys PerezRentas, Ellie Redig, Elijah Smith, Alyzae Soley, Austin Stene, Emma Taft, Alejandro VazquezPerez, Alise Wallin, Keaton Wempen, Kevin Wesenberg, Abrienne Butler, Cody Cox, Cadence Dutcher, Avery Eastvold, Landon Ingledue, Charles Jensen, Jeremiah Jensen, Aiden Jochumsen, Birtany Leibeg, Claire Levine, Shelby Mattern, Kaleb Rogstad, Jonathan SanMartin, Ryan Skelleger, Alayna Steele, Annaston Stene, Hannah Sterrenberg, Bailey Stevens, and Fransheskalee VazquezRoldan. Sixth grade choir members include: Bailey Albert, Alexis Anderson, Emma Aschenbrenner, Madison Berg, Alaina Bidne, Dalton Bidne, Dottie Byars, Alexis Clark, Katie DeVries, Sydney Hagen, Domanick Haggman, Garrett Ham, Hailey Herr, Becca Holtan, Aiden Hurley-Schaper, Kyla Johanson, Aaron Kelly, Jordan Kelly, Scout Kohagen, Evan Langfald, Bradlee Laugen, Ava Moen, Ryleigh Nelson, Sophia Nelson, Madeline Paton, Jolie Rice, Christian Rodriguez Diaz, Brynn Rognes, Isabella Schoonover, Emily Severson, Morgan Tyson, Laurian VanCannon, Taylor Vanek, Olivia Walton.



*For the hospitality & goodwill you've shown us,  
we are deeply grateful.*

*We will always be proud to call this town "home"  
& wish all of our neighbors, business partners  
& customers*

***A Very Merry Holiday Season!***

***Proud employer of more than 200  
Lake Mills area employees***



Kids of all ages—from five weeks old to teenagers—visited with Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Lake Mills Public Library, Dec. 7.



# MERRY CHRISTMAS!

from the staff at MBT-Lake Mills

Seated (left to right):

Brenda Hennigar, Rebecca Roethler, Jessica Breuklander, Annie Hanson, Becky Bartusek & April Smith

Standing (left to right):

Brian Knudtson, Dan Langerud, Troy Hall, Brad Skinness, David Taft, Lee Lambert, Drake Abbey, Scott Drexler & Doug Gust

*Nearly 200 years combined banking experience ready to serve you. Thank you for the opportunity to handle your financial needs.*

Serving the Lake Mills Community is the right thing to do. This past year we donated over 1,500 hours of community service to the following:

- Church Boards or Councils
- LMCDC
- Lake Mills Lions Club
- City of Lake Mills Revolving Loan Fund

- July Jubilee
- LMCPD Board
- Relay for Life

- Township Trustee
- Volunteer Youth Coaches
- WinnWorth BETCO Revolving Loan Fund

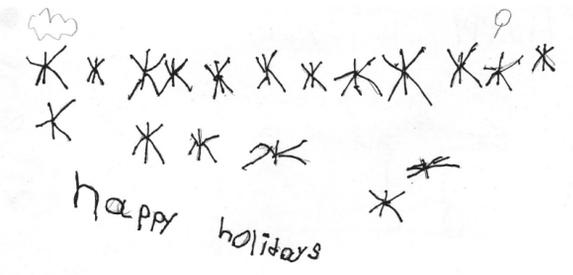


106 West Main  
Lake Mills, IA  
641-592-0041

Member FDIC



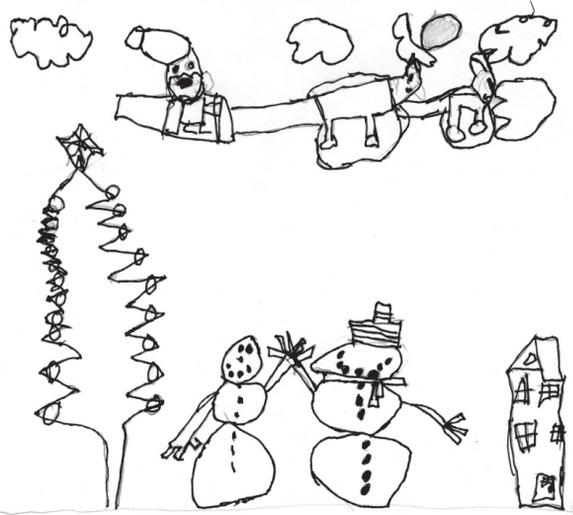
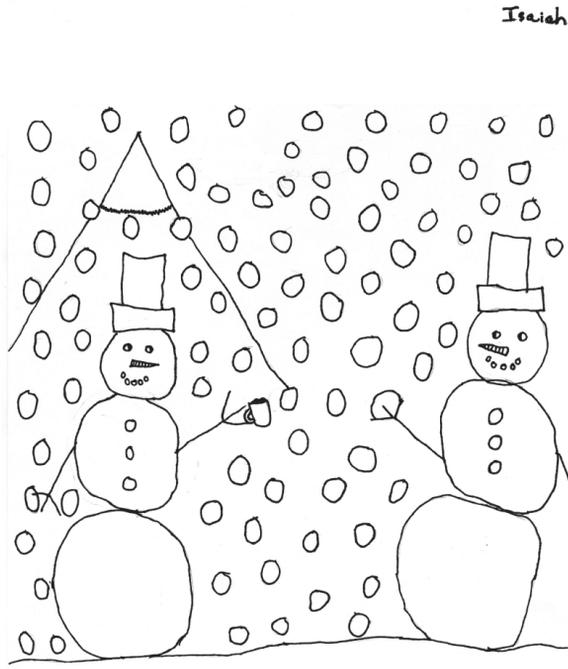
CHRISTMAS DRAWINGS  
BY  
LMCS 4TH GRADE  
STUDENTS



Season's Greetings

With warm thoughts of the many good people we've had the opportunity to serve this year.

Black Hills Energy



Front row: Chris Martinson, Denise Westcott, Al Zabel, Tim Krebsbach, Chuck Wangness, Mike Hook.  
Second row: Marty Saxton, Brenda Ross, Deanne Green, Mary Hinderaker, John Van Ryswyk, Bridget Hanson, Nic Stangler, Amanda Ulferts, Ashley Hacker  
Third row: Jason Kraft, Lance Frank, Dennis Krouth, Logan Conley, Bob Somnis, Steve Boyken, TJ Hauser, Ron Larsen, Mike Kalkwarf, Nate Kuiper  
Fourth row: Darcy Hauser, Mark Hulsing, John Ohm, Lee Holst, John Kuiper, Jody Sens, Dave Hacker, Josh Plattum  
Absent from photo: Andrew Lauen, Sandy Moretz, Brian Rothmeyer, Nikki Saf-Sanders, Dave Tiedman

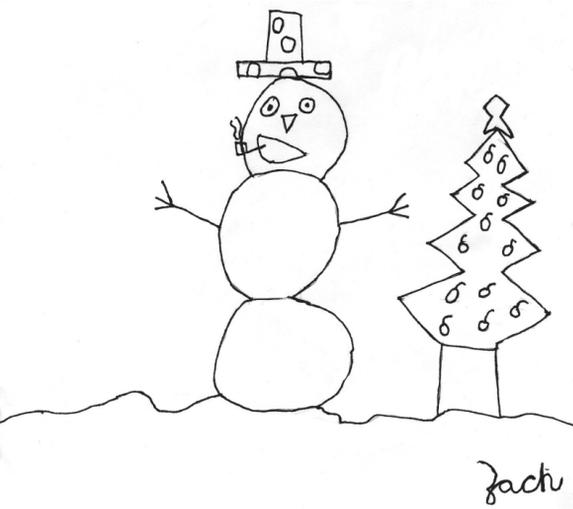
Merry Christmas

DRAS Cases  
880 N. Lake St.  
Lake Mills, IA

**HOLLY, JOLLY HOLIDAY WISHES**

Hope your season is merry and bright in every possible way!

**ALBERT LEA PUBLIC WAREHOUSE**  
Lake Mills, IA • Albert Lea, MN • Clear Lake, IA • Garner, IA • Omaha, NE



**May Your Home Be Blessed!**

To all good friends far & near, I wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

**Marisa Koppen**  
250 N Clark St  
Forest City, IA  
641-590-0465

**1st Choice Realty**  
FCR The "Right" Choice

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
from **CENTRAL AUTOMOTIVE**

**STEVE JOHNSON**  
209 North Western • Lake Mills • 641-592-4255

SEASON'S GREETINGS MERRY

Best wishes for a happy holiday season and our sincere thanks for your loyalty and goodwill throughout the year.

**NEXT GENERATION TECHNOLOGIES**  
www.ngt.net | 641.592.2700

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

AND

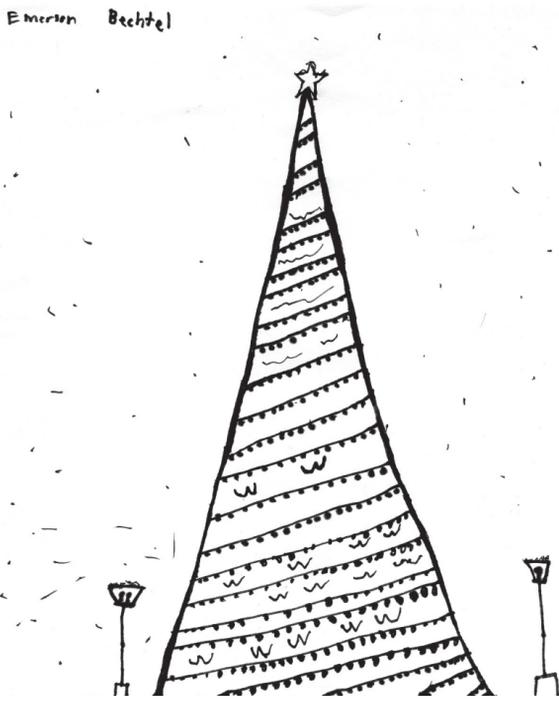
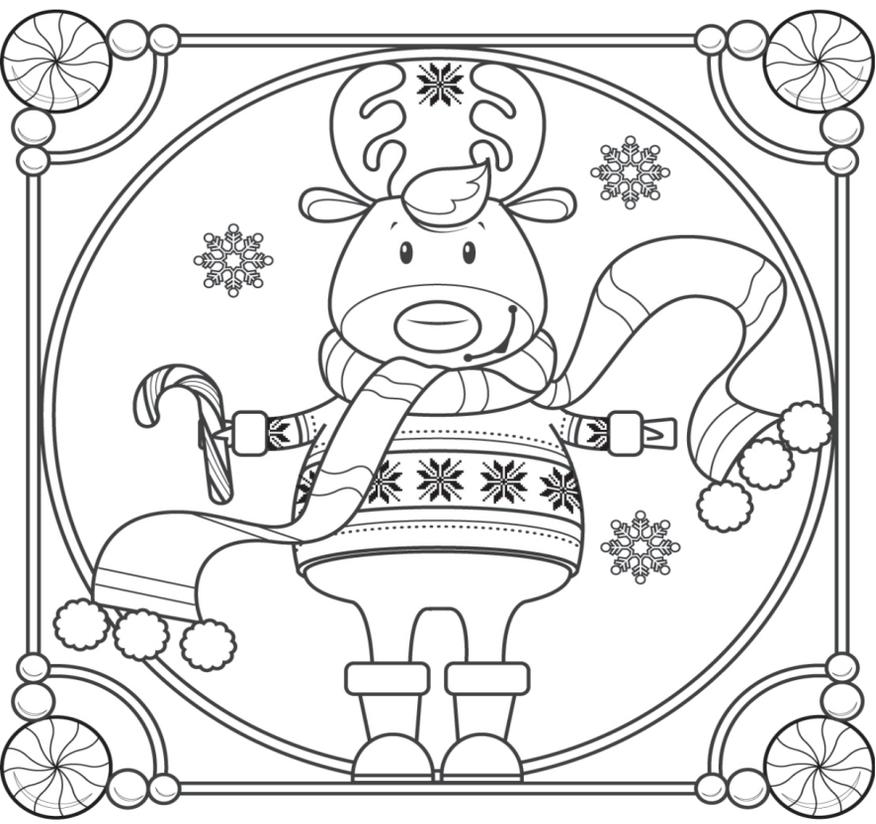
**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

FROM DIAMOND JO CASINO

Thank you for your patronage over the past year!

Must be 21 or older. If you or someone you know needs gambling treatment, call 1-800-BETS-OFF.

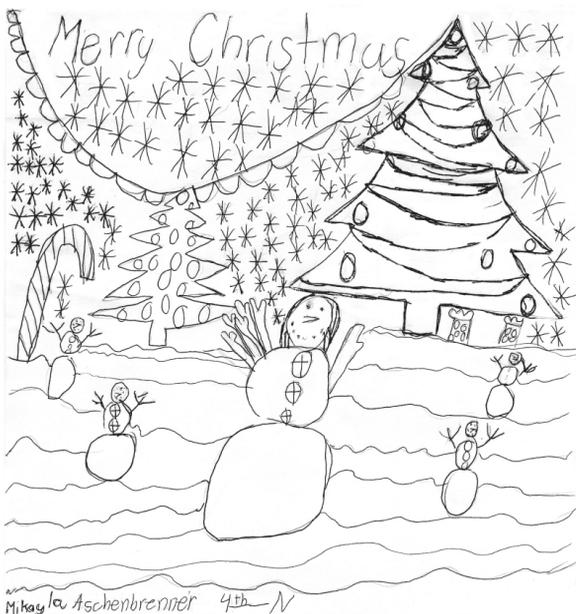
DIAMOND JO CASINO  
777 Diamond Jo Lane, Northwood, IA | DiamondJoWorth.com



**CHEERS TO YOU!**

We're overflowing with gratitude this holiday season, And good folks like you are the reason That we'd like to lift our glasses and say, We wish you the merriest holiday!

**Gene's Place  
North Branch  
Mill St. Liquor**



*At This Season  
Of Wishes*

Dreams do come true. How do we know? Because your kind friendship Has made it so! Here's hoping your season is filled with magic.

**HASSEBROEK  
REFRIGERATION  
& APPLIANCE**  
619 N. Main St., Buffalo Center  
641-562-2592

**Merry  
Christmas  
from all of us**

May the coming year bring peace, joy and enlightenment to you and those you cherish. For all the joy you've brought us, we will always be grateful.

**Weaver's Leather  
Store, Inc.**  
112 N. Main St., Buffalo Center  
641-562-2992

**Jolly Happy  
Christmas  
Wishes**

Thank you for your kind and generous patronage!

**Eddy's  
glass & door**

147 West K St., Forest City, IA  
641-585-4241 or 800-343-2788

*At This Blessed Season*

For your friendship & support we feel truly blessed, & wish you & your family all the very best at this joyous time of year.

**AG ADVANTAGE  
SYSTEMS INC.**  
GRAIN  
HANDLING  
EQUIPMENT  
THOMPSON, IOWA

11600 Hwy. 9  
Thompson, IA  
641-584-2600

**NORTH...  
SOUTH...  
EAST...  
WEST...**

We're Sending You Our Very Best!  
To all our good friends everywhere, go our sincere thanks & warm wishes for a very, merry holiday season!

**LAKE MILLS SEED HOUSE**  
502 N. Lake St. Lake Mills  
641-592-6900

**Merry Christmas**

All the best to you & yours wherever you go this holiday season.

Thank you kindly for your loyal support.

**Freeborn  
Lumber  
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Designing Your Dreams  
Family Owned Since 1946

971 Plaza Street  
Albert Lea, MN  
507-377-4284  
[www.freebornlumber.com](http://www.freebornlumber.com)

**SING!  
LAUGH!  
SMILE!  
REJOICE!**

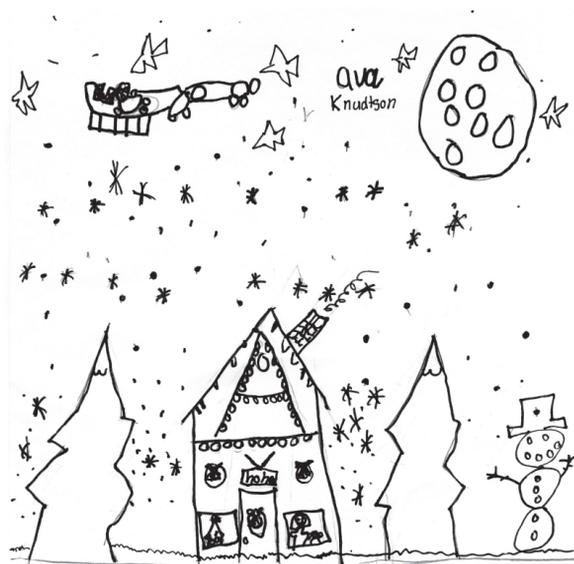
*In other words,  
"have yourself a merry little Christmas!"  
With best wishes and gratitude  
from all of us.*

**Dielectric  
CORPORATION**

Lake Mills, IA  
592-4300



by Eyla Arana Van Heiden



## Iowa's Secret Santa Spooks still going strong

It all started about 135 years ago in the small northwest Iowa hamlet of Quom. It was Christmas Eve of 1882 and a group of local merchants and businessmen were discussing how tough the times were for some of their friends and neighbors. According to written accounts years later, those store owners knew just what to do and how to help. They took immediate action.

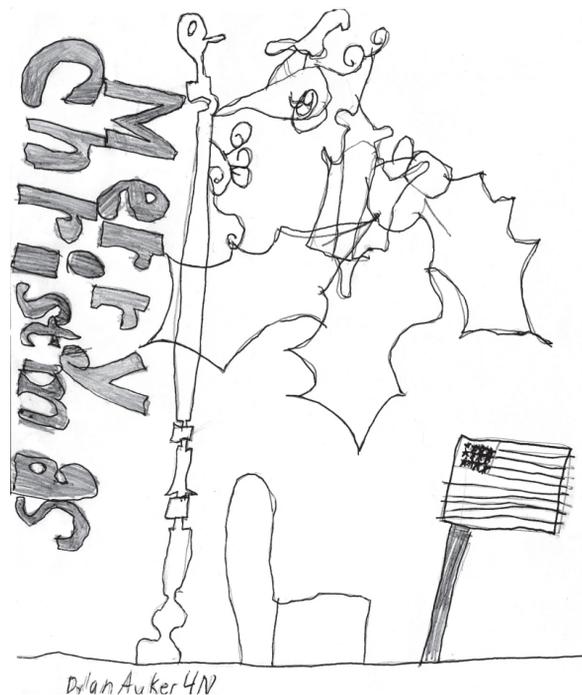
That night the shopkeepers went to their respective stores and came back with a variety of items to be delivered, incognito, to their neighbors in need. Boxes were left on doorsteps followed by a quick knock on the door and a dash through the snow so the donors would remain anonymous. On this night was born the Quom Spooks, which in the coming years became the Kingsley Spooks when Quom, Iowa no longer existed. Quom is now long gone, but not so the Spooks. It's an Iowa Christmas tradition that lasts until today and is still shrouded in mystery.

In Kyle Munson's Des Moines Register article in 2014, Kingsley Mayor Rick Bohle acknowledged the existence of about a dozen "Spooks" who were the latest incarnation of unknown benefactors to the citizens of his town:

"It's kind of a good-guy organization that's been going on since the town started," said Bohle, who runs his family's construction firm. He grew up in Kingsley, a town that now revels in its own special Christmas tradition—where gifts suddenly appear without someone having to slide down a chimney to make a delivery. "It's kind of hard to talk about when it's supposed to be a secret organization, or whatever," Bohle said. "You get kind of hesitant about bringing it up."

About a dozen of these secret Santa Spooks endure today in the town of 1,400. The gift-and-run exploits of the Spooks isn't limited to just Kingsley these days. Residents in Merville, Lawton, Pierson and other nearby communities of Plymouth and Woodbury Counties are also visited by the gifting ghosts.

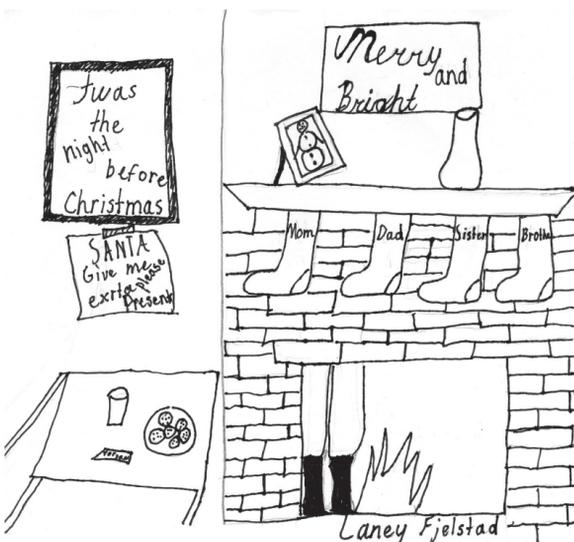
Much like other secret organizations, the Spooks follow their own time honored traditions: No photographs are allowed, they all wear Santa masks and only one person in the group knows the names of the other members. Then finally when all the gifts are delivered, the spooks feast on a treat of . . . no, not cookies and milk like the real Santa, but sardines and crackers. Don't ask why. Only the Spooks know the reason, and they're keeping it a secret.



**PEACE ON EARTH**

... And Merry Christmas to our many good neighbors & friends!

**DON'S MOTOR MART**  
—Now offering blended fuel—  
Owned & Operated by Don & Ila Grothe



*In This Season Of Caring*

We're dispensing a large measure of good cheer along with our best wishes for a happy & healthy holiday season to all our neighbors. We appreciate your trust & we thank you for choosing us.

**REDINGER PHARMACY**  
219 West Main, Lake Mills • 592-0141

*wishing you a Merry Christmas*

May you find everything you want under the tree, & in your heart this holiday season. For the gift of your friendship, we are sincerely grateful.

**Storby Seeds**  
MATT STORBY • 641-592-9000 • 45057 Hwy. 69, Lake Mills, Iowa

**CUSTOMERS  
NEIGHBORS  
ASSOCIATES  
FRIENDS**

**You make it all worthwhile!**  
With best wishes for a happy holiday season from our entire staff.

**WAGNER TIRE**  
Highway 69 West • Lake Mills, Iowa



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

Counterclockwise from left:  
Marcus Elvebak, Michelle Hepperly, Alison Bailey, Eugene Aukes, Shane Brock, Leslie Kofron, Dustin Schulze, Al Laake, Josh Bruckhoff, Ben Peterson & Pete Gau

**Forest City FORD**

745 Hwy. 69 North  
Forest City  
641-585-5555  
www.ForestCityFord.com

"Where Our Customers Send Their Friends"

**Season's Greetings**

At this festive time of year, we like to display our gratitude to our good neighbors and friends.

Have a great holiday!

**ROGNES BROS. EXCAVATING INC.**  
205 N. Mill St.  
Lake Mills, Iowa

**Tis the season to say Thanks!**

In this season of goodwill, we thank you for the gift of yours

**YOUNG PLUMBING & HEATING**

107 West Main, Lake Mills • 641-592-5611

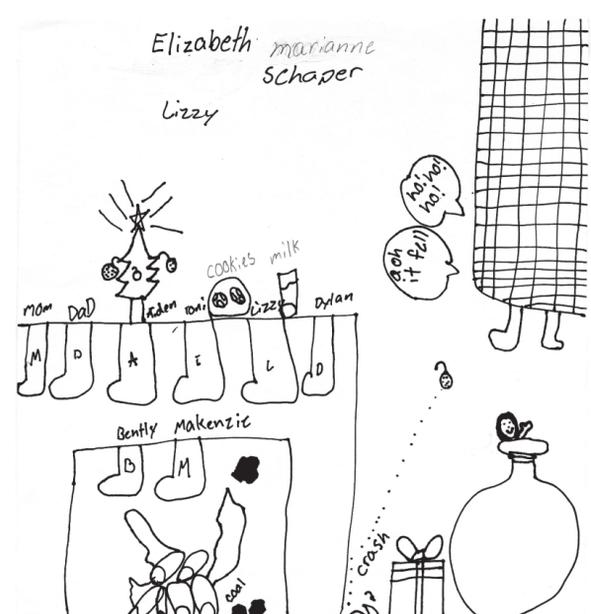
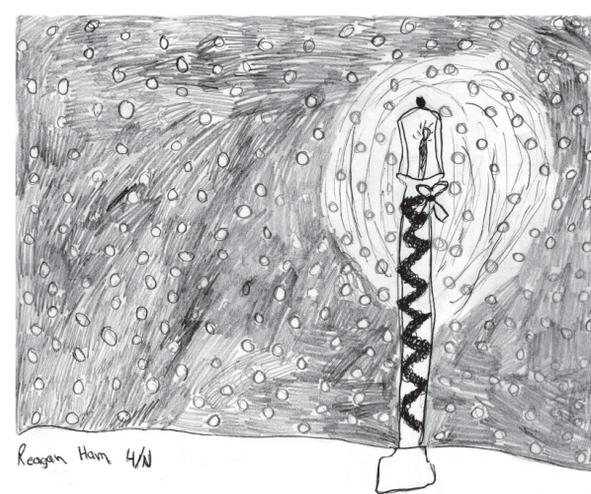
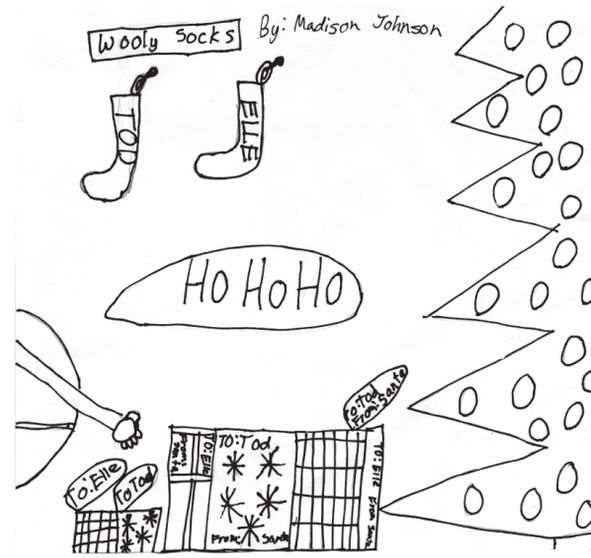


The fifth and sixth grade students held their annual Christmas concert, Monday evening, Dec. 11. Pictured above are a few members of the fifth grade chorus, front to back: Brittany Leibeg, Sheka Vazquez Roldan, Tara Lee, Abrienne Butler, Ana Stene, Bailey Stevens, Cadie Dutcher, Claire Levine, Alayna Steele and Avery Eastvold.

By Royce Peterson



Merry Christmas



Dr. Gene Fjeld, Dr. Krystal Ranes, Becky, Kim, Heidi & Mary would like to wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas!  
**FOREST CITY VET CLINIC**  
 Gene Fjeld, DVM & Krystal Ranes, DVM  
 35058 180th Ave., Forest City • 641-585-2211

**WISHING YOU ALL  
 A VERY  
 MERRY CHRISTMAS  
 &  
 AN INCREDIBLE  
 NEW YEAR!**

From  
**Dr. John & Ann**  
 at  
**Lake Mills Family  
 Chiropractic**

WE TRULY APPRECIATE YOU  
 TRUSTING US WITH YOUR  
 CARE & LOOK FORWARD TO  
 SERVING YOUR CHIROPRACTIC  
 & WELLNESS NEEDS  
 IN THE FUTURE!

LAKE MILLS FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC  
 Dr. John D. Leegaard  
 209 N. Washington, Lake Mills  
 641-592-2600

**Wishing You A  
 Gifted Season**

Friends. Food. Fun. Festivity.

May your holiday season deliver it all,  
 along with our best wishes and gratitude.

**EPLAND TRUCKING**  
 Lake Mills, IA • 641-592-5787

**The Spirit Is Building!**

Of all the big and  
 little jobs we do,  
 our favorite is  
 giving thanks  
 to you.

**Merry  
 Christmas!**

**PRICE IS RIGHT CONSTRUCTION**  
 Lake Mills, IA \* 641-592-8416  
 Andy & Erich Stene

# The Gold Wrapping Paper

Once upon a time, there was a man who worked very hard just to keep food on the table for his family. This particular year a few days before Christmas, he punished his little five-year-old daughter after learning that she had used up the family's only roll of expensive gold wrapping paper.

As money was tight, he became even more upset when on Christmas Eve he saw that the child had used all of the expensive gold paper to decorate one shoebox she had put under the Christmas tree. He also was concerned about where she had gotten money to buy what was in the shoebox.

Nevertheless, the next morning the little girl, filled with excitement, brought the gift box to her father and said, "This is for you, Daddy!"

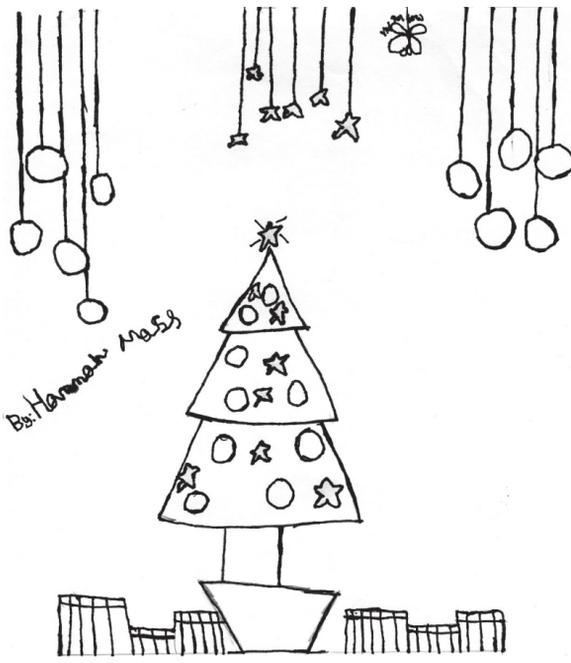
As he opened the box, the father was embarrassed by his earlier over-reaction, now regretting how he had punished her.

But when he opened the shoebox, he found it was empty and again his anger flared. "Don't you know, young lady," he said harshly, "when you give someone a present, there's supposed to be something inside the package!"

The little girl looked up at him with sad tears rolling from her eyes and whispered: "Daddy, it's not empty. I blew kisses into it until it was all full."

The father was crushed. He fell on his knees and put his arms around his precious little girl. He begged her to forgive him for his unnecessary anger.

An accident took the life of the child only a short time later. It is told that the father kept this little gold box by his bed for all the years of his life. Whenever he was discouraged or faced difficult problems, he would open the box, take out an imaginary kiss, and remember the love of this beautiful child who had put it there.



*Get Ready, Get Set...*  
**CELEBRATE!**

From All of Us to All of You...  
**Happy Sledding!**

Matt Hauan  
Matt Leuwerke,  
Nick Kunkel,  
Cody Meyer,  
Earl Cavett, &  
Mike Hauan

**Lake Mills Motor Sports**

Snowmobiles • ATV's • Lawn & Garden

45563C Hwy 69 West LAKE MILLS, IA 50450  
641-592-2145  
Fax: 641-592-2143  
lakemillsmotorsports.com

**TO OUR FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS**  
At The Holidays

Without your support, we wouldn't be here... without your friendship, it just wouldn't be Christmas!  
Merry Christmas and many thanks!

**AgVantage FS**

Lake Mills: 102 N Lake St • Lake Mills, IA 50450 • 641-592-0011 • Northwood: 916 Central Ave • Northwood, IA 50459 • 641-592-0011  
Waverly: 1600 8th Street SW, P.O. Box 828 • Waverly, IA 50677 • 319-483-4900

**All the best!**

With warm wishes & gratitude for your continued patronage.  
Bob & Mary Peterson

**PETERSON'S AUTO SERVICES**

LAKE MILLS, IOWA

*Wishing You Peace at Christmas*

May your home be blessed and your heart filled, by the beauty and spirit of this inspiring time of year. We know you inspire us in so many ways, and we are truly grateful to have neighbors like you.

**SHROPSHIRE LUMBER, INC.**  
Thompson, Iowa  
641-584-2555 • Toll Free 1-866-352-2555

**Merry Merry Merry Merry Merry Christmas!**

Hope it's very merry in every way.

We thank you for your patronage & look forward to seeing you again, soon.

Joel Twedt ~ Matt Twedt  
Karen Wangsness ~ Carla Leegaard  
Mandee Smith

**TWEDT FINANCIAL SERVICES**  
402 West Main, Lake Mills • 641-592-5200

**How to cut back on holiday waste**

The holiday season is a joyful time of year. But the weeks between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day also tend to be very wasteful. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that household waste increases by more than 25 percent during the holiday season.

Reducing waste come the holiday season does not mean celebrants have to forgo big family meals or beautifully wrapped gifts. In fact, there are several ways to reduce waste without spoiling the spirit of the season.

- Give eco-conscious gifts. The environment may not be the first thing that comes to mind when holiday shoppers are looking for gifts for their loved ones. But giving reusable gifts can have a positive, long-term impact on the planet. Reusable coffee mugs or water bottles can dramatically reduce waste over time, and such items make great stocking stuffers. Shoppers also can look for items made from recycled materials, which run the gamut from home furnishings to calendars to clothing, as eco-friendly alternatives to gifts produced without the environment in mind.

- Reuse holiday-specific items. Many people only use gift wrap, gift boxes and gift bags during the holiday season. Such items are oftentimes discarded after Christmas morning. But these items can be reused to cut back on holiday waste. Reusing wrapping paper from year to year can be especially beneficial to the environment. That's because wrapping paper tends to be dyed or laminated, and many wrapping papers contain non-paper additives that cannot be recycled. Reusing wrapping paper, purchasing only recyclable paper or wrapping gifts in old newspapers or magazines can help holiday celebrants reduce their carbon footprints.

- Prepare less food and donate any leftovers. The Worldwatch Institute notes that, during the holiday season, celebrants generate three times as much food waste as they do during other times of the year. Large family meals are a tradition of the holiday season, but hosts who routinely find themselves discarding leftovers can plan on preparing less food this year. Consider how much guests are likely to eat and plan meals accordingly instead of buying enough food to feed a small army. Donate leftovers to nearby shelters so nothing goes to waste.

- Recycle live Christmas trees. According to the National Christmas Tree Association, 25.9 million real trees were sold in the United States in 2015. Trees put out on the curb for collection after the holiday season has ended typically end up in landfills, but some communities recycle Christmas trees each year. Real tree enthusiasts can contact community officials to determine if they can recycle rather than discard their trees.

The holiday season is a wasteful time of year, but there are ways for celebrants to dramatically reduce their carbon footprints between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day. TF17C572



Jasmine Schwartz 4N



By Sam Grotke 4N



by Stephen Brandenburg 4-N



Kate Bechtel 4-nen



Hoyden 4-nen



**Welcome The Season!**

To all our good friends far & near, We wish you a **Merry Christmas!**

**ADVANCED DOOR SYSTEMS** 605 East J Street, Suite 100, Forest City 641-585-1900 • www.ads-doors.com

**Happy Holidays!**

We've enjoyed your visits the past year, And hope to see you all again -- For one thing that we know is true, Is we wouldn't be here without all of you! So without any fanfare or further delay, We'd like to wish you all a happy holiday!

**ALBERT LEA SEED HOUSE**  
Garden Center  
1414 West Main • Albert Lea, MN 56007 • 507-377-2372



Mya Peterson 4N

**Happy Holidays from your friends at Viafield**

Serving your Agronomy, Energy, Feed & Grain needs at 18 locations throughout northern Iowa and southern Minnesota

**Viafield**

Area Locations  
Northwood • Manly • Grafton • Carpenter  
www.viafield.com

Wishing you all the gifts of this special time of year. For the gift of your friendship, we are deeply grateful.

**Citizens COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION**  
106 S. Mill St. ~ Lake Mills, IA 50450  
www.citizenscu.com

**Merry Christmas**

**Best Wishes**

Rolling out our best wishes to our good friends and neighbors all around town! Thanks for your patronage.

**Dr. Korthals & Associates** ...for everything in sight

213 West Main Street, Lake Mills, IA • 641-592-1801  
www.mikekorthalsod.com

**Christmas is almost here**

Renee Ingledue, Dorothy Fjelstad, Terry Olsen, & Christopher Griffin  
Kim Soost, Kelsey Griffin, Caiby Bernhard, & Tyler Andersen

And we just couldn't wait to wish our customers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We appreciate your business and look forward to serving you in 2018.

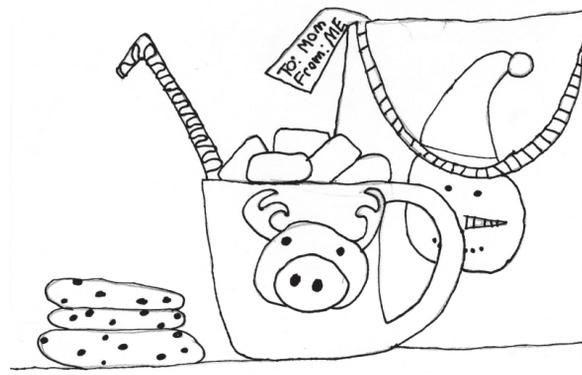
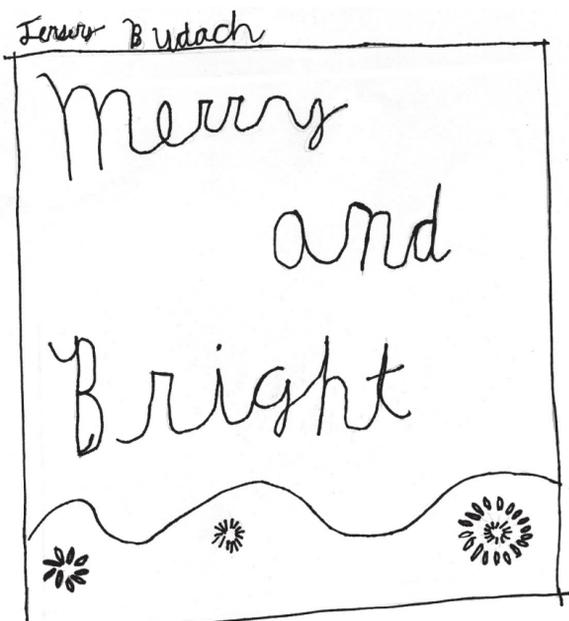
**Discover GRINNELL MUTUAL**

**WINNEBAGO MUTUAL INS. & WINNEBAGO INS. AGENCY**  
Lake Mills, Iowa • 641-592-1271  
Rake, Iowa • 641-566-3545

with **BRIGHT WISHES**

Wishing you all things merry & bright as we prepare for another spectacular holiday season. Thank you for lighting up our year with your business.

**GROE ELECTRIC**  
102 South Iowa • Lake Mills, IA  
641-592-8282



**Friends and social connections are important**

The importance of friends cannot be overstated. Maintaining a healthy group of friends can help relieve stress by enabling a person to have a go-to network of close companions with whom to share the ups and downs of life.

The Mayo Clinic says that friends can increase one's sense of belonging and purpose; help one cope with trauma; encourage change, including avoiding unhealthy lifestyle habits; and help one improve his or her self-confidence and self-worth. The medical group also says that people with strong social support systems have a reduced risk of depression, high blood pressure and unhealthy weights.

While friends are important, some people find that making new friends—particularly in adulthood—can be challenging. That's because making friends may not be too great a priority compared to caring for families or tending to work responsibilities. Those resolving to broaden their social circles can explore these tips for making new friends.

- Start at school. School is often the first place children make friends, but school also can be a great place for adults to meet new people. By attending school functions, you will be thrust into a circle of people similar to you. Parents who get to know their children's friends' parents may find that they have more in common than just their children.

- Join groups. Kids find it easy to make friends due to consistency. They see the same kids each day at school and through sports teams and clubs. Adults can replicate this consistency by joining groups that spark their interests, finding like-minded people who meet week after week.

- Go on a blind "date." Have a friend set you up with a mutual friend and see if there is a connection there. You may be able to make new friends simply from an introduction.

Continued on page 19B

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

At this special time of the year, we wish you the best!

**TOP OF IOWA WELCOME CENTER & REST AREA**

Located at I-35, Exit 214, Northwood, IA • 641-324-3184

**Merry Christmas!**

Hope your holiday season is decorated with every happiness!

Thanks for your massage & tanning business. I look forward to seeing you again!

*Myotherapy Specialties*

**Connie Rupp, LMT**  
106 N. Mill St., Lake Mills • 641-592-3200



*Hallelujah!*

May the many blessings of the season be yours to have & hold this Christmas.

152 Jackson St., Thompson, IA • 641-584-2900

**A Most Welcome Season**

There's no place like home for the holidays, especially when they're people like you for neighbors! Merry Christmas & many thanks.

**REINES REAL ESTATE & REINES RENTALS**

VIRGEAN REINES, Owner/broker  
CARRIE REINES MOEN, Salesperson  
Office 641-567-3700 Home 641-567-3318

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

from the  
**LAKE MILLS AMBULANCE SERVICE**

Wishing all a Blessed & Very Merry Christmas from Jeff & Lee

Not the BIGGEST - Just the BEST  
3390 Welch Ave.  
Forest City, IA  
641-581-4604

**It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas**

... and that means it's time to say thanks to our many loyal customers and friends here in the community. Your support means the world to us.

We wish you a very Merry Christmas!

**Lake Mills Lumber Co.**  
313 North Washington, Lake Mills  
641-592-2721

We'd like to say in all sincerity, That we wish you much joy & prosperity; And when the holiday is through, May our best wishes remain with you!

We're proud to serve this fine community & surrounding area & we thank you for your trust in us

**MITTELSTADT**  
Funeral Home and Cremation

Bonnie Rodberg, Medara Winter, Connie Sabin, Anita Levorson, Amy Edgerton, Steve Knudtson, Bart Winter & Jim Thompson

may your days be

**MERRY & BRIGHT**

We hope your holiday is special in every single way. Thanks for adding some sparkle to our year. We appreciate your support & friendship.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

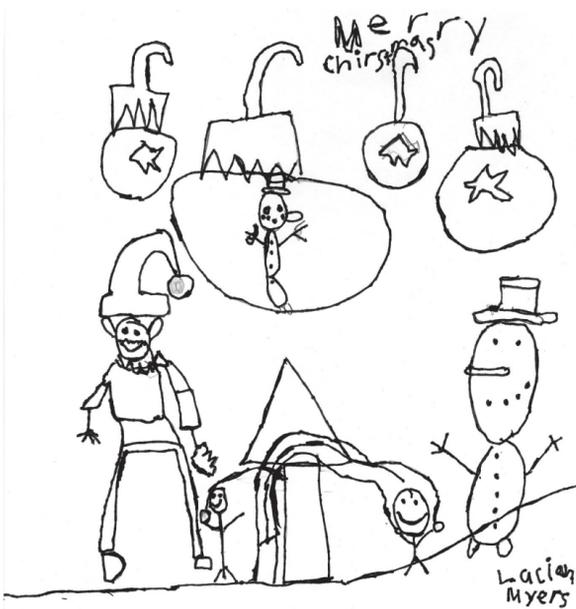
**Security Bank Minnesota**

201 Main St., Emmons, MN 507-297-5461  
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From Page 18B

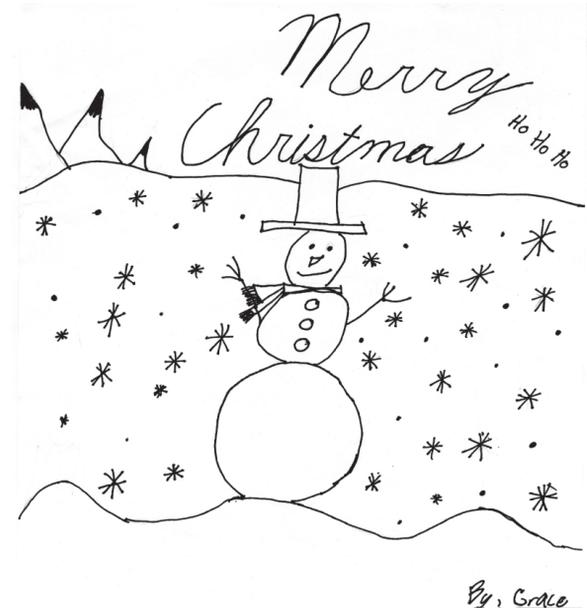
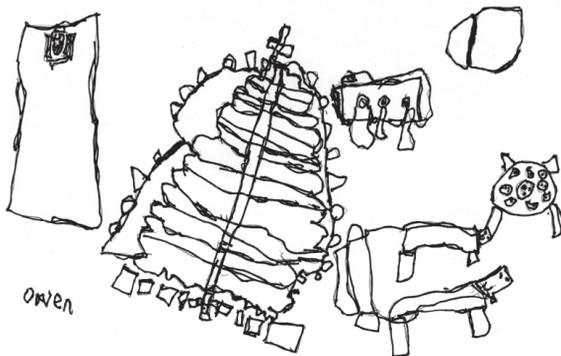
- Take the lead. Pursue a new friendship by taking some initiative. Invite someone out for coffee or over to your home for a glass of wine. Follow up afterward to say you had a good time.
- Be positive. Be conscious of what you are adding to a potential friendship. Start off the relationship adding value and joy to the other person's life, and he or she may be more inclined to do the same. Over time, you can have conversations about rough patches in your lives, but wait until the friendship is firmly established to get so serious.

There is no magic number of friends a person should have, but individuals should value quality over quantity. Making friends may seem complicated, but it is actually easier than adults may think when they put themselves out there and shows a willingness to build relationships. TF17C540



**Twilight Tour of Homes**

Bailey Stevens greeted visitors to her home during the Twilight Tour of Homes held Friday evening, Dec. 8. Bailey is the daughter of Steph and Brandon Stevens. Over 60 people enjoyed the tour of homes that were decorated for the holiday season.



**DAVE'S**

Have a "Jolly" Holiday!

from All of Us at

**DAVE'S AUTO SERVICE**

641-592-9951

Front (L-R): Jackie Villela, Joe Jamtgaard, Dave Anderson, Rachel Bye, Luke Hershey, Barb Thompson, Ray Harang, Nick Peterson, DJ Skellenger. Back: Beau Kirschbaum, AJ Carter, Hunter Tritch, Clint Hagen, and Droe Love. Out Towing: Zach Knudtson, Cory Mathahs and Nate Orban.

Season's Greetings

Happy Holidays

Merry Christmas

Feliz Navidad

Joyous Noel



Lund Food Holdings is a company filled with a history of innovative ideas and services. Behind these innovations are people who have contributed to its past, created its present, and helped build its future.

**LUNDS & BYERLYS**

LUNDSandBYERLYS.com

"Together we will continue to exceed our customers' expectations."

Russell "Tres" Lund III

**Merry. Magical. Magnificent.**

May your holiday be trimmed with joy, good fortune & wonder.

Thank you for being such an important part of our happiness & success. We appreciate your kindness & support.

210 W. Main, Lake Mills  
641-592-3400



**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

from Your Friends at

**BRAKKE IMPLEMENT, INC.**

17551 Killdeer Avenue  
Mason City, IA  
641-423-2412

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**

from the staff at

*Wilson Dental Clinic*

145 North Clark Street, Forest City, IA • 641-585-5431  
www.wilsondentalclinic.com



*“The Little Drummer Boy”*

The sixth grade chorus sang “Little Drummer Boy” during their concert Dec. 11. Pictured above, small ensembles standing in front: Evan Langfald, Dalton Bidne, Christian Rodriguez, Aiden Hurley-Schaper, and Domanick Hagmann. Choir, front row (L-R): Hailey Herr, Dottie Byars, Olivia Wlaton and Alaina Bidne. Middle row: Becca Holtan, Katie DeVries, Emma Aschenbrenner, Ryleigh Nelson, Morgan Tyson, and Jolie Rice. Back row: Kyla Johanson, Alexis Anderson, Scout Kohagen, and Laurian VanCannon.

*Customer Service & Marketing*



L-R: Jayne Ringham, Deb Chodur, Evan Fritz, Julie Ritter, Heather Buhmann, Heidi Obermeyer, Melanie Henderson, Katie Peterson, Angie Thompson

*Regulatory Administration & Accounting*



L-R: Eileen Schissel, Eric Thoreson, Chris Eaton, John Kroger, Sarah Hagen and Marty Pins

*Staff & General Manager*



L-R: Marty Pins, Jayne Ringham, Neal Sletten, Mark Thoma, Rob Renneker & John Kroger

*Merry  
Christmas*



From all of us at

*Engineering*



L-R: Bob Klebsch, Jamie Smith, Neal Sletten, Dave Arneson

*Outside Plant Department*



Front: Jason Holtan, Greg Johnson, Jeff Pederson, Ryan Joynt, Steve Savoy, Ryan Kesler, Austin Theisen, Chad Kloster, Rob Renneker Back: Jay Hagen, Chad Ducommun, Tom Eastvold, Travis Tegland, Ron Arends, Kris Belica, Eugene Walz, Josh Rentz, Ross Boysen, Scott Thompson, John Hanna, Clay Caylor, Jason Lucas, Randy Miller, Aaron Johnson, Mike Piper & Dylan Nitcher