

A very Merry Christmas

A Christmas Poem

At a cold Chicago truck stop on a stormy Christmas Eve
 Sat a weary Iuka Trucker counting time 'til he could leave
 He'd tried three times at leaving in the same amount of days
 But the snow was just too deep and was covered with a glaze

He wanted to call his family and he longed to go on home
 But the storm had downed the lines so he couldn't use the phone
 He'd wait another day before he'd try to leave the store
 Roads were closed around him for a hundred miles or more

He didn't think too much of Christmas or the folks that he had known
 But when he knew he couldn't leave he felt so all alone
 And tonight he was so lonely he thought back when he was young
 And the simple thoughts of childhood were like honey on his tongue

A party at Mt Gilead Church was the most fun that he knew
 Hard candy in a paper sack with an orange and apple too
 All the children window shopping at the little country store
 Exchanging gifts with other kids brought surprises by the score

Lots of townfolks singing carols on the corner of the square
 Remembering things so clearly made him feel that he was there
 Mama would read the Christmas Story and they all would kneel and pray
 So as not to forget the reason for this grand and Holy day

He remembered building snowmen and eating snow ice cream
 Visions of Christmas and his family marched around him like a dream
 Of that little spotted pony that his Daddy brought to him
 And a second handed saddle with its nickle plated trim.

Later, as he knelt in prayer he gave thanks to God above
 For a mother's tender mercies and a stern old father's love
 For childhood joys and friendships and for a happy fruitful life
 For their little home in Iuka and for a kind and loving wife

He gave special thanks for Christmas and then he climbed into his bed
 With thoughts of Santa and his children drifting strong thru his head
 He slept the sleep of honest toil as the storm blew quiet and wild
 And with pleasant thoughts of Christmas he dreamed he was a child.

Merry Christmas
 Eddy Randolph
 Tupelo, MS

through the centuries with essentially the same function - to bring gifts to good little boys and girls.

Santa Claus himself is composed of many elements; he is half Saint Nicholas and half ancient yule god. St. Nicholas, the original, was a bishop of Myra in Asia Minor in the fourth century. He is supposed to have wrought miracles; certainly he was a good man. Many stories evolve from legends concerning the Bishop. One which is not as well known is told which introduces his connection with children.

Three boys were murdered by an innkeeper, cut up, and the



pieces preserved in barrels of vinegar. St. Nicholas found these truncations, fitted them together with a prayer, and brought the boys back to life. To our 20th century minds this may seem a most macabre way to bring a legend's association to children!

In Holland, St. Nicholas becomes Sante Klaas. The children put out a pair of shoes or clogs filled with hay, water and carrots for his white horse; these are placed before the fireplace, and the next morning the shoes are found filled with either sweets and little gifts - or, depending on

past behavior, birch rods.

Santa's arrival by chimney in America probably has an origin of antecedent significance. Heath gods and gods of the Yule-log went in and out by chimney - also witches, adherents of the old and earliest religion of the horned god only much later made into a satanic Christian devil-figure.

(Shades of an exorcist!) These people used hallucinatory drugs and used ointments like belladonna that made them feel like they were flying.

So it seems that the jovial, genial fellow whom we know as St. Nick or Santa Claus has had his darker side, too. All very interesting, as is most history, if

you dig deep enough.

Candle Legend....

If you burn a bayberry candle during the Christmas holidays, and the candle burns bright and clear, legend says that you will have good luck throughout the year and a long and happy life.



Jake Moore



Wishing you
 a sterling
 holiday
 season, with
 an unbroken
 chain of
 golden
 moments.



Marli Moore

Moore's Jewelry

Bill and Judy Moore

Philip & Paula Moore

Walter Wynn, Robin Glover

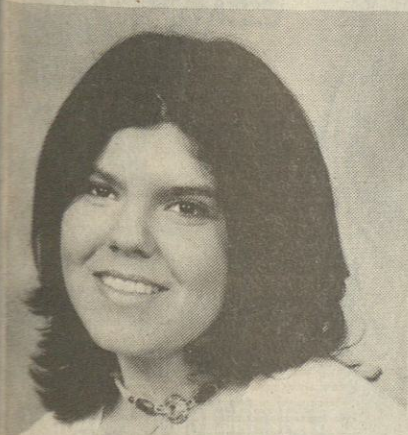
A lovable legend, bringer of gifts

Throughout history, Santa Claus has had many names, many origins. He has as many personalities as fertile imaginations through the ages can dream up.

The symbol of Santa Claus and other magical bringers of gifts is infinitely variable. In Europe the chief gift-bringers are St. Nicholas on his saint's day, the 6th of December; his Anglo-American descendant is Santa

Claus; in parts of Scandinavia dwarfs and goats take his place; there is the Christ Child of the German Xmas Eve; the white-robed girl Kolyada in pre-revolutionary Russia arrived by sleigh on Christmas Eve with attendant carol-singers; and the Epiphany gift-bearers associated with the Magi - such as the Befana of Italy, Babouschka of old Russia, and the Tres Reyes Magos of Spain - all parade down

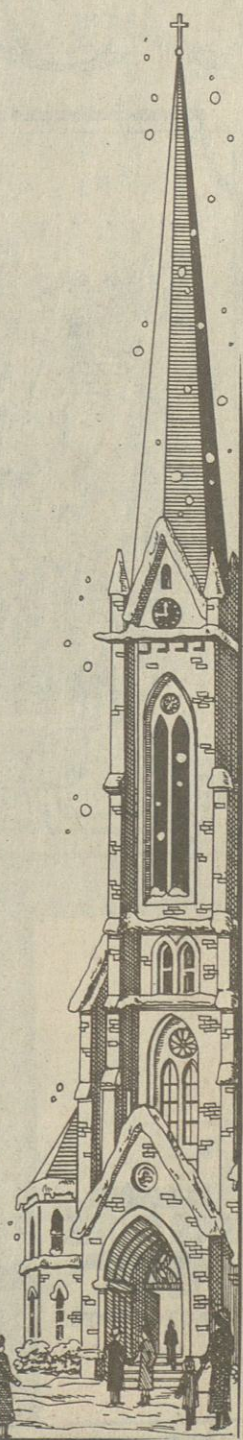
Let Us Pray For Peace On Earth



Hayley in '98

Merry Christmas!
 Daisy & Johnny Biggs

Charlotte, Jimmy,
 and Hayley McVay



The entire
 First American Family
 joins in sending

Holiday Greetings

with every good wish for the New Year!



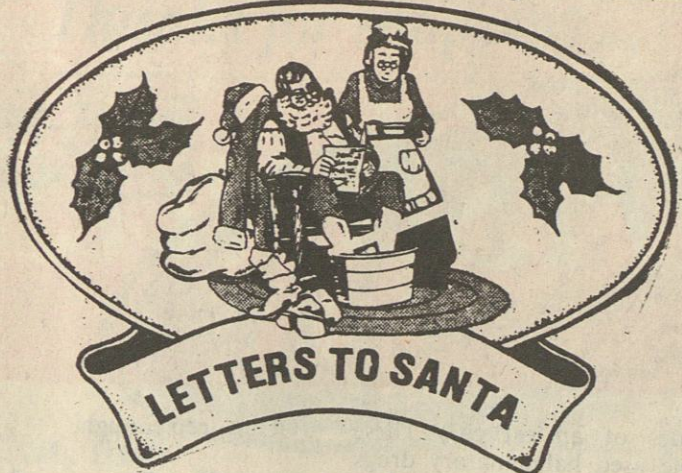
First American Branch Managers: back row: Eddie Sory, Golden branch; Steve McAnally, Belmont branch; Sam Michael, Booneville branch; Jody Dawson, Main Office. Front row: John Beavers, Rienzi branch; Gary Walker, Tishomingo branch; Denean White, Southside branch and Charlotte Orick, Burnsville branch.
 Not pictured-Mike Webb, Saltillo branch.



FIRST AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK

Member FDIC and Your Community

Banking The Hometown Way!



Dear Santa,

I have been really good this year. I like to play football with my friends. I love to Rollerblade. I would like a T.V. with a VCR for Christmas. If you can't find that I need a new football and supizes.

Your Pal, Lee

P.S. Wish everybody at the North Pole a Merry Christmas.

Dear Santa,

I have been good. Shane needs some clothes. I am 7 years old. Shane is 9 years old. My friends are Samantha, Rebecca, Ashley, and Mary. I want a Tommy for Christmas. I wish a Merry Christmas, Santa. I love you, Santa.

Your Friend, Kayla

Dear Santa,

I have been a good boy this year so I'm wondering if I can ride in your sleigh to the North Pole. By the way I would like a Nintendo 64 tape. Please.

Your Friend, David

Dear Santa,

How are you and Mrs. Claus? I hope you and Mrs. Claus are fine. How are your reindeer? I hope they are fine too. How are things doing, you know it is not long till Christmas. I'm in second grade and I'm 7 years old.

Love, Kim Murphy

Dear Santa,

I have been a good girl. How is Mrs. Claus? Is it to cold in the North Pole? I like to play kittens because I have a kitten. How are your Reindeer doing? If you think I've been good this year I would like to have a Spice Girl CD and a Furby and a Titanic poster and talking loony toons and magic dip.

Your Pal, Chasitie

Dear Santa,

It is your friend Brandi J. I would like it if you could make this a good Christmas for my little cousin because she has a bad heart and I would appreciate it ever so much. I would like to ask you a question, what is your favorite book? Mine is the Bible. What is your favorite color? Mine is purple. I would like an angel picture for Christmas and a play station with CD's. I hope you have a good Christmas.

Your Friend, Brandi

Dear Santa,

How do you get into my house when my doors are locked and I do not have a chimney. I want a phone and a big size real drum set like the men have. I am 8 years old.

Your Friend, Matt Davis

Dear Santa,

How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? Are the elves doing fine? What about the reindeer? I hope you have a good Christmas. Things are going well here. It is starting to get cool. The thing I want most for Christmas is love. Santa, thank you for all the toys you got me from last Christmas.

Your Friend, Jacob Chatham

Dear Santa,

I have been being a good girl lately. I like to play a lot of games. I like to go to school. I like to do my schoolwork. I will leave you some milk and cookies. I will leave the reindeer some carrots. How is Mrs. Claus doing? If you think I've been good enough and I deserve it I would like a horse.

P.S. How do the reindeer fly? Thank you for everything you have given me.

Your friend, Erica

Dear Santa,

How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? Are the elves doing fine? What about the reindeer? I hope you have a good Christmas. Things are going well here. It is fun at Christmas thank you for the coloring book last year. I would really like a Slurp and Burp baby doll, Santa Claus.

Love, Laura Huffman

Dear Santa,

I've been a good girl this year. How is Mrs. Claus? I got glasses December 7, 1998. And they will be in Monday. Doctor Gray said that I had to wear glasses. He took me down the hall to the glasses room. I would like a Spice Girl CD and a Spice Girl Laptop. I will leave you some milk and cookies and I will leave your reindeer some carrots. How do your reindeer fly? I like to ride my bike.

Your Truly, Beth

Dear Santa,

How are you? Good! How is Mrs. Claus? Good! What I like to do in school is to write stories. I hope you have a good Christmas. I would like to have Spice Girl stuff, a VCR and N.Sink CD. Please write back soon. I will leave cookies and milk.

Your friend, Makayla

Dear Santa,

I hope you and the reindeer are fine. I am 8 years old. I am in the 2nd grade. I would like a horse, but if you can't get me a horse and a bird. Make sure that Dakota is good.

Love, Charles Gist

Dear Santa,

How are you and Mrs. Claus? How are your reindeer and elves? How is it at the North Pole? Do you live in an igloo and make toys? I hope you aren't sick. Well, my name is Taylor, I'm 8, and I'm in 2nd grade. I like teddy bears just in case your going to get me a toy. I've been pretty good this year. And I want a nice present for Leslie, and Cameron.

Your Friend, Taylor Kirk

Dear Santa,

How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? Are the elves doing fine? What about the reindeer? I hope you have a good Christmas. Things are doing well at my house. The thing that I want for Christmas most is love. And a five inch dog that is a Fiist. Please!!!! I would like a play station and electric guiter and thanks for the toys you gave me last year. I am seven and I am in the second grade. Merry Christmas, Santa.

Your Friend, Joseph Climer

Dear Santa,

How are you doing? Are the reindeer ok? I'm living cookies and milk. Are the elves doing fine? I hope you have a good Christmas. I'm in the 2nd grade. It is cold outside. It looks rainy outside.

Love, Luke Crowell
P.S. I want a computer.

Dear Santa,

I am being good and I would like to have many friends, Santa. I want a real horse that is cute. I am going on a field trip with my class. I am 8 years old, and I have a baby sister.

Your Friend, Ashley Dixon

Dear Santa,

I have been a good girl. I would like a CD and 5 more. I would like a computer. I would like a T.V. I would like a VCR. I would like a little dog, I have been a good girl to my mom.

Love, Megan

Dear Santa,

I have been a good boy this year. I like to play baseball and soccer ball and basketball. I like to do other things too. I would like a basketball goal this year.

Your Buddy, Sterling

Dear Santa,

Is it cold at the North Pole? How are your reindeers doing? How is Ruldoph doing? I would like a gocart. I would like a stereo.

Love, Justin

Dear Santa,

What are the elves names? I would like to be Santa Claus. I want a Baby Oil. I am seven. I am going to school. I like it. I like

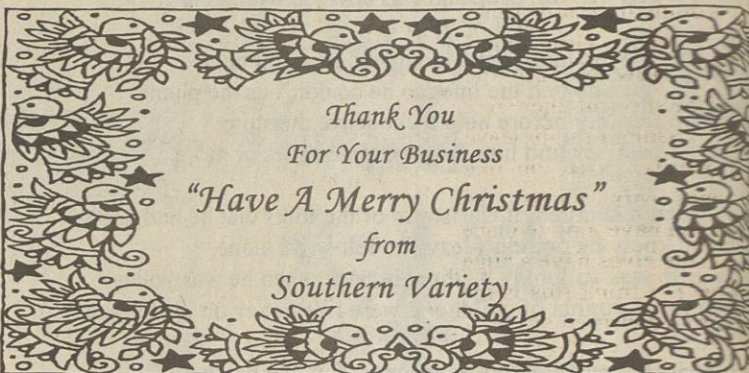
Samantha, Erica, Kayla, Monica and Matt. how many children you like. My brother is Jesse cousin is Shannon. I like her.

Your Friend, Brandy

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good this year. Wait until you see what I want for Christmas. Thank you for giving me a bicycle last year. How are your Reindeers doing? I hope they are doing good. I would like an Amazing doll, a CD player, some CD's, a strobe light, and a Magic Bus Pico Tape.

Love, Malerie



Greetings

We hope your Christmas is decorated with fun and laughter. Thank you all.

CHUCKWAGON RESTAURANT

"The Chuckwagon Gang"

Christmas Greetings

To all God's creations, both large and small, go our very best wishes to one and all.

Here's ho...ho... hoping your season is extra merry!

Southern Home Furnishings & Debz Carz

Iuka, MS

Raise YOUR SPIRITS

Our spirits are lifted by thoughts of our customers. We thank you for the privilege of serving you.

HODGE PARTS HOUSE

1015 W. Quitman St. - Iuka, MS 38852
Ph. (601) 423-9892
Glenn, Eve, Steve, Benny, Mike and Wilmer

CARQUEST
AUTO PARTS

Peace on Earth

May the beauty of Christmas be an inspiration to you and those you love. Thanks for your faith in us.

Thanks for the Memories

CAFE MEMORIES

With Appreciation At Christmastime

Christmas is a time for giving, and we'd like to give our thanks to all of you who have given us so much this past year. Happy Holidays!

Williams Service Center

Isaac, John, Todd, Clint, Tony, Kathy, Sherry, Keith, Kristy, Nikki, Dwan

Enjoy a safe and happy holiday season.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®

STATE FARM INSURANCE

Harold Lomenick, Agent
101 N. Wilmoth Street
Iuka, MS
(601) 423-1231

State Farm Insurance Companies • Home Offices: Bloomington, Illinois

Merry Christmas, Everyone!

Our Yuletide greeting to you this year, Brings every good wish for joy and cheer. We know we'll enjoy a very good season And your kind friendship is the reason. We thank you for sending goodwill our way, And hope you enjoy a great holiday!

House of Fashions

Downtown Iuka
Jennifer, Becky, Janet

May you enjoy all the best of the season, with those near and dear to you. It was our great pleasure helping you find your way home!

Grace Long Real Estate

Iuka, MS

Letters To Santa



Dear Santa,
How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? Are the elves doing fine? What about the reindeer? I really hope you, Mrs. Claus, the elves and the reindeer have a happy Christmas. I've had fun in school the past 5 months. I'm 8 years old and I'm going to turn 9 November 28th. I'm in 2nd grade now. I have two sisters and two

dogs and my mom and dad. I learn alot in school. I have fun in school at recess. I love what I got last year. If you were planning on bringing me something I would like it, but if you weren't planning on it that's ok. Merry Christmas, Santa.

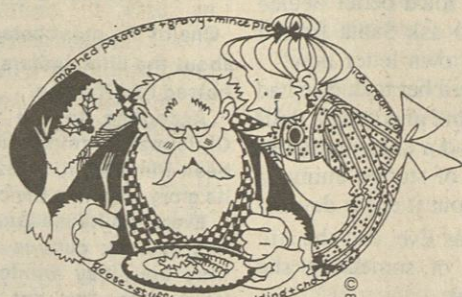
Your Friend, Cameron Kirk

Dear Santa,
I hope you and the reindeer are doing fine. My name is Sarah and I'm in the 2nd grade. Oh and please can I have a pooh coloring book, a Kendoll, a finger nail polish thing, a joke book, 10 dollers and a pooh rag.

Your Pal, Sarah

Dear Santa,
How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? Are the elves doing fine? What about the reindeer? I hope you have a good Christmas. Things are going well here. It is wonderful. May I have a boombox and a Ken doll and a Barbie to go with it! I'm going to give you a Christmas if I can.

Your Friend, Nikki Davis



MERRY CHRISTMAS

We're serving up our best wishes for a joy-filled season!

PIZZA HUT of Iuka



Merry Christmas!

May the gaiety and glee of the holiday season brighten the hearts and homes of our friends and neighbors.

Nick, Adrienne, & Casey Phillips

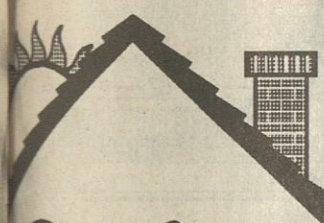
I forgot to write what I wanted for Christmas. I think I want 5 kinds of things they are a glass doll, a computer set, some new clothes, a birth stone ring, and the Lisa Frank Beany Babies, and Ramona Nell Babbling fun Patchpatch Baby.

Dear Santa,
I think you are real. Am I a good girl? If I am I will be good until Christmas. Do you know what I want? I want some bell bottoms and black boots, and a baby bubby trick and

Your friend, Rebecca

Dear Santa,
Are you and Mrs. Claus doing good? How are all the elves and the reindeer? I hope everybody is doing good. How are things going there? Things here are going well. This year I am seven and I am in the second grade. I am almost eight. I go to Iuka Elementary school. I can hardly wait to Christmas! It is just a few days till Christmas. I love Christmas. I wish every day Merry Christmas!

Your Friend, Rhiannon Ramsey



Warm Greetings

Here's hoping you and yours enjoy a really cool holiday!

We're grateful for your warm reception this past year.

Merry Christmas from
DAUGHERTY REFRIGERATION
Iuka, MS



HO, HO, HO,

Merry Christmas

Wishing you and yours a spectacular Christmas with all the trimmings.

Thanks so much for stopping in to see us, all year long!

**TISHOMINGO COUNTY
ELECTRIC POWER
ASSOCIATION**

Old-fashioned Christmas has special appeal

An old-fashioned Christmas! What wonderful memories and images that expression evokes!

In the days before Christmas, Mother would be busy at the old wood stove, baking special breads, pies, cakes and sugar cookies, or making maple sugar candy. Sister would be helping mother in the kitchen, while brother kept the wood box filled with wood.

Dad would go into the woods and chop down the Christmas tree, bringing it home triumphantly on a sled. The tree was placed in the parlor, with real candles decorating it, as well as strings of popcorn and cranberries that had been strung by the children. Popcorn balls wrapped in tinfoil, and paper cones filled with homemade candy also decorated the tree.

The Christmas season actually began much earlier in the old days, for most gifts were handmade and so had to be worked on months in advance. The boys often made wooden objects, while the girls might embroider handkerchiefs or aprons. Mother, of course, kept her needles busy as she knit or crocheted garments for the whole fa-

mily. Dad would whittle whistles or animals, or make a hobby horse or wooden doll.

On Christmas Eve, at the old country church, the tree was the biggest you'd ever seen, ablaze with candles. Nearby someone held a ten-foot pole that had a wet sponge tied on the end, should a fire start.

The bells would ring out over the countryside, bringing families in their sleighs or bobsleds, eager to worship the new-born King. What a delightful, jingling sound the bells on the horses would make, as they trotted through the snowy countryside. The bobsled or sleigh would be filled with hay, and the youngsters would snuggle under lap robes and gaze at the stars above, or hop on one of the heavy runners for an exciting ride.

A Christmas play would be performed at the church by the children, and afterwards Santa would make an appearance, rewarding the youngsters with goodies.

After hanging their stockings over the fireplace on Christmas Eve, the children would go to bed, happy with anticipation. They slept in big, fluffy beds, with feather ticks and feather comforters. If it was an especially cold night, mother would wrap a hot iron in flannel to warm their feet.

On Christmas morning, the youngsters would dash downstairs to find their stockings filled with nuts, apples, peppermint canes, hard ribbon candy, tin horns and a real orange in the toe of each stocking!

After Christmas dinner, the youngsters would go sledding or skating. Later, by the lamplight, the family might gather around the organ and sing carols, or perhaps dad would read a favorite scripture passage or a poem.

Christmas of long ago was a simple, unhurried, and happy time.

how to write, you see.

"All right," said Timmy. "What do you want Santa to bring you?" Sally thought and thought. "I don't know what to ask for," she told her brother. "That's easy," said Timmy. "Why don't you ask for a fire engine?" "No, I don't think I want a fire engine," Sally said. "Then how about a transformer?" said Timmy. "No, I don't want a transformer."

Timmy was getting annoyed with his little sister. "You'd better decide what you want to ask Santa first. I have to write my own letter now!"

Sally looked at all her toys. She had two dolls, a toy stove and sink, a dollhouse, crayons and a coloring book, and lots and lots of stuffed animals.

She thought about it every day until it was Christmas Eve, and she still had not thought of something she didn't already have.

For the first time she could remember, Sally was not excited as she and Timmy hung their stockings over the chimney.

On Christmas morning, Timmy was the first one out of bed. He dashed into the living room and soon he came running into Sally's room to wake her up. "Sally!" he said. "Come see what Santa brought you!" Sally jumped out

the living room. "Look what Santa brought me," Sally said, showing them the puppy. Sally's mother smiled. "I guess Santa knew there was something you didn't already have." "Yes, and it's the best present ever!" said Sally, hugging her new puppy.

Why the Christmas Tree Wears Icicles And Tinsel

One of the most beloved stories is about the little spiders and how they helped trim the tree.

According to the old tale, one Christmas morning after the tree had been trimmed, it reposed there in all its glory, awaiting the children.

Every old house (and many a new) has spiders; curious creatures that they are, they wanted to see the lovely tree, too...not just from the floor, but up close. So they crept all over it until they had satisfied themselves completely that the tree was indeed a wondrously beautiful thing. But as they crept, they left cobwebs...beautiful, also, to Nature's eyes, but not so attractive to mothers'.

When the Christ Child came to bless the tree, he realized that the mother of the household would be dismayed. So He touched the webs...and they all turned to silver.

Ever since that time, Christmas trees are hung with shining tinsel.

Shining icicles are also part of the pretty Christmas picture. Another old story gives a reason.

One wintry night the Christ Child was wandering through a forest. It was cold and he knew he must find shelter for the night. The trees were bare. But a pine tree with low-hanging branches offered some protection from the wind.

When the pine tree, with its prescience that is known only to God, realized it was caring for the Christ Child, tears of joy fell from its branches. As they fell, they froze into icicles.



of bed and ran to the living room. There, under the tree, was a big box marked "To Sally from Santa."

Sally ran to the box and looked in. Inside was an adorable puppy! Sally scooped the puppy up and hugged it. The puppy licked Sally's face and wagged its tail happily.

Just then, Sally's parents came into

Home Sweet Home

As the season of celebration approaches, we'd like to extend our warmest wishes to all our good neighbors. We're proud to be part of this fine community.

Smith & Son Septic Tank Service



Glory To The Newborn King
May the true spirit of Christmas bless your home on this holiest of days.

Shelia's Beauty Shop
Shelia Brown & Kerri (Bonds) Byrd

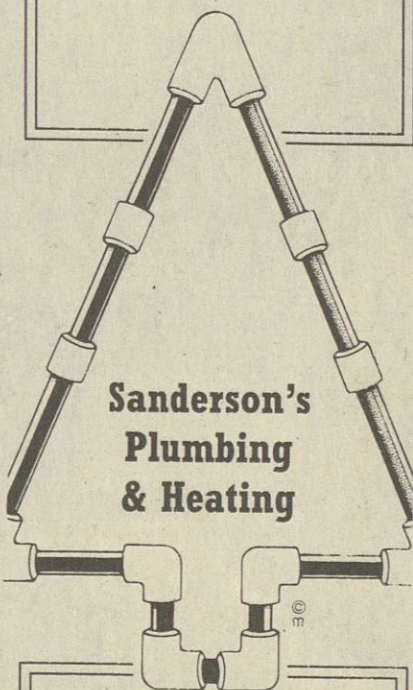
The best Christmas gift of all!

Sally's brother Timmy was writing a letter to Santa, when she asked him, "Timmy, would you write Santa a letter for me, too?" Sally didn't know

WE'RE PIPING IN...

With best wishes for a stream of wonderful blessings coming your way. Thank you for the overflow of kindness you've shown us.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Owner: Donald Sanderson
Iuka, MS

Seasons Greetings

from

Iuka Hospital



NORTH MISSISSIPPI
HEALTH SERVICES
IUKA HOSPITAL

1777 Curtis Drive • Iuka, Mississippi • (601) 423-6051



We Know It's Been Said Many Times, Many Ways...

Merry Christmas.
Enjoy the fruits of the season.

Ned P. Boston, C.P.A.

A BOUNTY OF GOOD WISHES

No matter where you spend your Christmas holiday, we hope it's overflowing with all the blessings this magical season has to offer.

HARDEES and employees

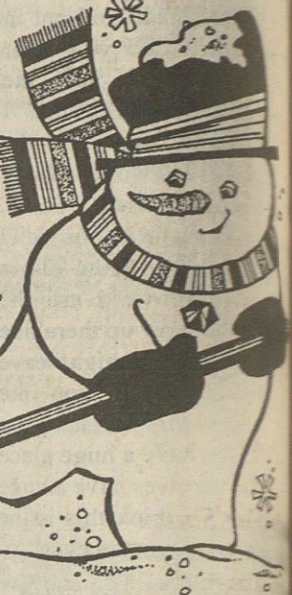


'Tis The Season!

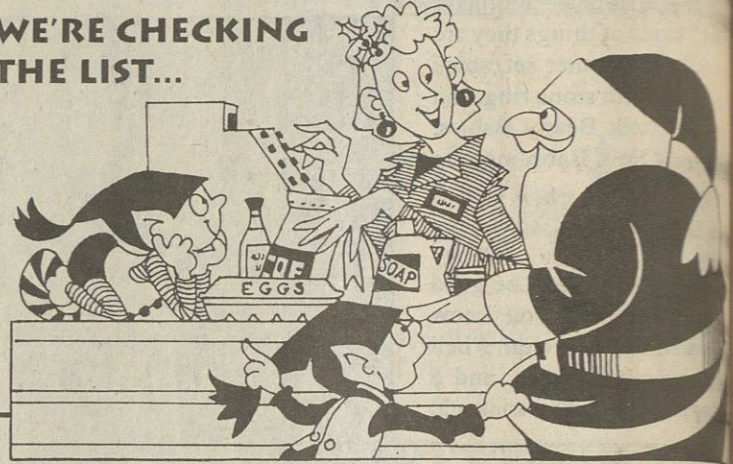
In this season of happy thoughts and warm hearts, we extend a special "thank you", to all our good friends for your confidence, loyalty and support. A very Merry Christmas to all!

SOUTHERN AIR COMFORT

1873 Quitman St.
Iuka, MS



WE'RE CHECKING THE LIST...



OF PEOPLE WHO'VE BEEN GOOD TO US!

We want to thank you for being a top-shelf customer, all year long, and we hope you and your family enjoy a very tasteful and fulfilling season!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Merry Christmas

from the management & employees of
NELSON'S SUPERMARKET



"...The stockings were hung by the chimney with care, In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there."

— Clement Clarke Moore
A Visit from St. Nicholas

Just in the "nick" of time, our warmest wishes for a bright holiday season.

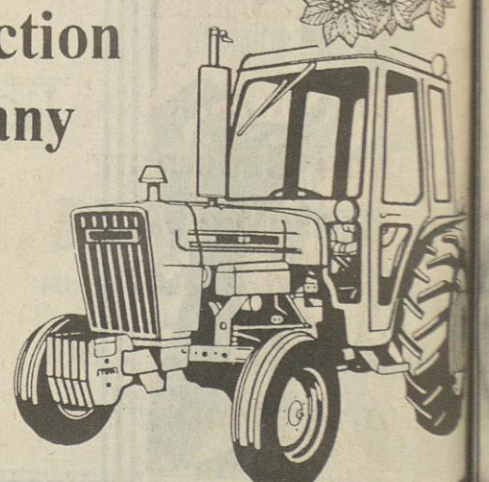
Mark Segars & Staff

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

To the most appreciated people we know — our customers:

Once again it's our pleasure to wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year!

D. B. Johnson Construction Company



IT'S CHRISTMAS!



Happy Holidays

from
Brian, Brenda,
Jayoen, & Jarrett

TRENDSETTERS

Elm Shopping Center - Iuka



Letters To Santa

Dear Santa,

My name is Madison Elizabeth Malone. I live in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. I am 7 years old. I really like Ozzie (your elf) He tells me a lot about you. He told me about when the mouse took your glasses. I would like to know if that is true. I would like to know if you can make Furby. I bet a lot of kids want a Furby. I would like to have a Furby, a real talkin' Bubba (and I'm not talking about my Daddy), Amazing Amy, a CD player, rollerblades, a doll bunkbed, a cat necklace, Jingle Berry glitter body spray, unbelievably soft baby, stuffed cat that looks like Cassie. We will leave you some cookies, coke and divinity. We will leave your reindeer some hay and apples. I would like to know if you would give me a picture of your elves, your reindeer and you and Mrs. Claus all in one picture? I have been a very, very good girl this year. I will send you a picture of me. Justin has been a kinda OK brother, please bring him a new truck so he can take Leann to see

Titanic. I love you and Mrs. Claus so give her a big hug from me. Be careful and Merry Christmas and HoHoHo to you too.

Your Friend,

Madison Elizabeth Malone
P.S. Please bring my animals something too. They are always good.

Dear Santa,

My name is Jordan Pruitt and I have been a good boy this year. Please bring me a remote control car, computer, John Deere tractor and some surprises.

I'll leave some snacks for you and your reindeers. Have a safe trip.

Jordan Pruitt

Dear Santa,

My name is Eason Pruitt and I am 23 months old. I have been a good boy. Please bring me a Disney Talking telephone, tricycle and a Tetetushu. I'll leave you some milk and cookies. Drive carefully.

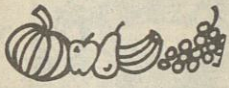
Love, Eason

Dear Santa,

I have been a good boy. And I want to ask you how is Mrs. Claus doing. Are the reindeer doing good? Well I hope they are doing good. I like to go hunting. And I like to play baseball. I would like to have a Nintendo 64. And I would like to have a desk. I would like to have another horse. And if you think I have been good and I deserve it I would like a computer.

Your Friend, Cody
Duncan

Ready For Santa—Carlina Grace Whitehead, 23 month old daughter of Carl and Tracey Whitehead of Paden wishes all a Happy Holiday. She is the granddaughter of J.L. and Evelyn Whitehead of Dennis, MS and Larry and Fay Ellen Dulaney of Fulton, MS. Great-grandparents are Carl Dulaney of Fulton and Odie and Pearl Waddle of Fulton.



Portents Of The Season

If the sun shines through fruit trees on Christmas Day, it is a sign that the trees will bear much fruit. The number of mince pies you taste at Christmas indicates the number of happy months you'll have during the coming year, according to an old English belief.

In Germany...

A procession which blends a white horse, symbolizing the horse of the pagan God Wotan, leads the parade. He is followed by Father Christmas, who is decked with ribbons and carries candy and fruit.



During the Christmas Season, May God Bless You and be a part of your life now and throughout the New Year.

Iuka Nutrition Center

9:30 - 5:30 Tues. - Friday 9:00 - 1:00 Saturday
611 Constitution Drive Ph. 423-1117

All Signs Point To A Merry Christmas

Hope your holiday is a real delight.

Iuka Scrap Metal Inc. & Woodyard
& Bobby Riley Trucking



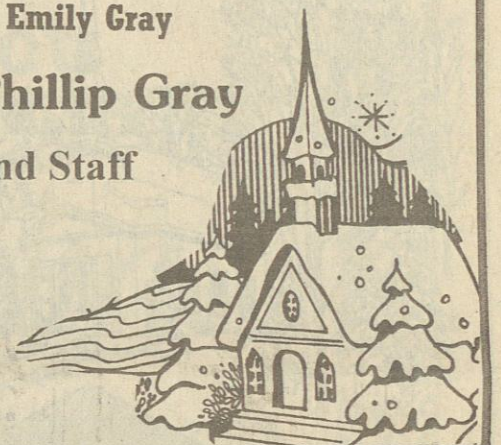
Happy Holidays

We wish you a season of Beautiful Christmas moments — lasting memories to treasure always!



Emily Gray

Dr. & Mrs. Phillip Gray
Family and Staff



Iuka Animal Clinic Staff Wishes Everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year "Thanks for 27 Years"



Dr. James Perkins with
"Annabelle"



Office Personnel - Elizabeth Floyd, Alisha Whitaker, Kay Perkins, and Jessica Perkins



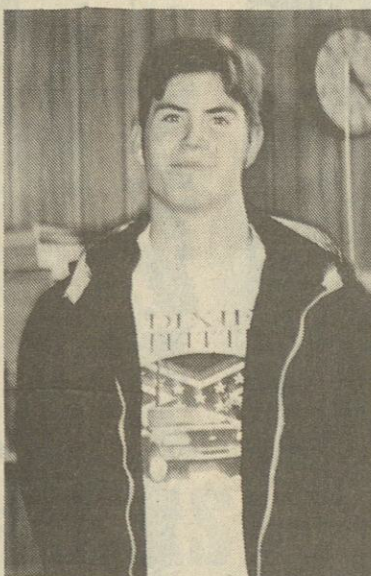
Randy Maness
Animal Technician
21 years experienced in Animal Care



Lisa Freeno
Office Manager



Hilma Pardue
Animal Caregiver



Brad Wilbanks
Animal Care Giver
Assistant



Julia Clements
Animal Care Giver
Assistant



Heida Green with "Ranger"

We Do Boarding
and Grooming
as well as
Animal Care.
Call 423-3470
for appointments.

IUKA ANIMAL CLINIC

Hwy. 25 South

OPEN
Monday - Friday 7:00 - 6:00
Saturday - 7:00 - 12:00

Manger Is Theme Of Latin Yule...

Though Santa and gaily decked trees often appear nowadays in Central and South America, Christmas is traditionally a time for religious observances.

Mass, at midnight on Christmas Eve or early Christmas Day, forms the heart of the holiday in Latin America, and the creche or manger scene marks the season throughout churches and homes, say the editors of the Encyclopedia Americana.

Bountiful feasts, processions and other special events may provide a festive note, but custom

says that gift-giving time is Three Kings' Day - Twelfth Night, January 6th, when the Wise Men brought their gifts to Jesus.

Children put their shoes under the bed or in the window, hoping to have them filled with toys and gifts. Water and hay are set out for the Three Kings' horses or camels.

While many Latin American countries share these traditions and celebrate Christmas in similar ways, each country also has its own special festivities.



CHRISTMAS, A Time To Cherish

...And a time to say "thank you" to all the cherished friends we've made this year.
Happy Holidays!

**Carpets Unlimited
& If The Shoe Fits**
Iuka, MS



SHARE THE
Glory!

We'd like to join you and your family in offering thanks to our Lord for His many blessings, and to you, our dear customers, for your kind patronage.

**Lambert's Electrical
& Plumbing Supply**
Tina and Tim Williamson and Family

Attract Winter Birds To Your Home...

More and more, homeowners are discovering that putting out the right kinds of feeders and foods can attract a diversity of wild birds to their homes, according to the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.

"If a homeowner doesn't have a bird feeder or two, now is a good time to get them," Mississippi Outdoors magazine editor David Watts said.

"Many hardware stores, seed and feed outlets, and variety stores are having Christmas sales, and you can get feeders and other bird-watching items often at reduced cost."

Watts said there are basically three kinds of bird feeders. A variety of birds can be attracted to each.

Hanging feeders filled with the black oil-type sunflower seeds often are popular for attracting smaller birds such as the titmouse, chickadee and house finch.

Thistle seed placed in a hanging feeder is popular with the colorful goldfinches, a winter resident bird in Mississippi.

Suet feeders usually are either a small wire cage or plastic mesh bag filled with beef suet and placed on the trunk of a tree or suspended from a feeder pole.

During winter, suet provides a high-energy food value to birds. Suet can attract birds such as red-headed woodpeckers, red-bellied woodpeckers, pine warblers, Carolina wrens, brown headed nuthatches and others, Watts said.

Open, platform feeders containing sunflower seed can attract larger birds such as cardinals, blue jays and a variety of blackbirds.

"You can expect some birds such as rufous-sided towhees, white-throated sparrows, mourning doves and dark-eyed juncos to primarily feed on the

ground below a feeder and clean up the seed distributed by birds eating from the feeder overhead," Watts said.

Watts explained that water should be an essential component

of any winter backyard feeding program. "Even in the coldest weather, a variety of birds can be attracted to a source of open water available for drinking and bathing," he said.

Watts offered these additional tips for attracting a greater diversity of birds to your yard:

*Place feeders and water near a source of cover so birds will have a place to escape when frightened by a predator.

*Use a diversity of seeds and suet.

*Clean out feeders and replenish with fresh seed if rain or damp weather causes seed to spoil faster than birds can use it.

*Beef suet available from

most supermarkets should be used to supplement a winter feeding program. However, during warmer months, replace this with commercially-made suet that won't spoil due to higher day-time temperatures.

an important holiday. Potted chids, anthurium or the and-blue flower called "paradise" are Hawaiian favorites.

Unique Calendar

The Moslem calendar is unique. 12 months of the year began with approximate new moon without intercalation to keep them equal to the seasonal equinoxes. The months, and New Years, retrograde through the entire year about 33½ years.

It's Too Common

In most of the United States, the poinsettia is a prized Christmas flower. In Hawaii, however, it grows so profusely that it is considered too common for such

Merry Christmas
from

DISCOUNT TOBACCO & MONEY STORE, INC.

Bring this greeting in for 50¢ off a \$10.00 purchase.



Sing We All Noel!

As voices are raised in joyful caroling, we want to throw in a chorus of thanks, and sing the praises of our many good friends and neighbors. With best wishes to all, for a truly noteworthy season. Noel!

MONOTECH OF MISSISSIPPI



GREETINGS
from the
North Pole

While Santa's getting ready to embark on his worldwide gift-giving trek, we would like to wish you the best and brightest Christmas yet.

apac
TM
APAC - MISSISSIPPI, INC.
286-3306

A Christmas Wish for You

May your holiday season be trimmed with good cheer,
And adorned with friends from far and near;
Garnished with happiness, wrapped up in love,
And enjoyed with the blessings
Of the good Lord above!

Merry Christmas!

Uncle Joe's Shell Station

Iuka, MS
Corner of Hwy. 25 and 172



Merry Christmas To All
from the Staff and Residents
of

Tishomingo Manor



Letters To Santa

Ms. Donna's Class
T.C.H.S. Child
Development Center

Santa,
My name is Phillip Meeks. I
have been a good boy this year. I
would like a lot of toys and
surprises.

Love, Phillip

Santa,
My name is Colton Howie. I
have been a good boy this year. I
would like some toys and
surprises.

Love, Colton

Santa,
My name is Logan Harris. I
have been a good boy this year. I
would like a lot of toys and
surprises.

Love, Logan

Santa,
My name is Austin Smith. I
have been a good boy this year. I
would like some toys and
surprises.

Love, Austin

Santa,
I have been a good boy this
year. I would like you to bring
me a Dukes of Hazzard car, an Ole
miss jacket, cowboy boots, an
electronic game and many
surprises.

Please bring my sister,
Kaitlyn, a baby doll, doll stroller,
and an Easy Bake Oven.

I will leave cookies and
milk for you and the reindeer.
Many hugs.

Mark-Anthony Beals
S. Could you please make it
happen?



At Christmas

Packed up lots of wishes
Wrapped 'em full of fun,
For a healthy, happy Christmas
With thanks to everyone.

Merry Christmas
from

**CATLINS
PHARMACY**
Tishomingo, MS

Merry
Christmas
&
Happy
New Year
from

**IUKA
FLOWER
SHOP**

Plan For Safe Holiday Meals

When holiday shopping and
decorating are top priorities,
neglecting to give enough time
and attention to food preparation
can result in unsafe food.

Dr. Melissa Mixon, extension
nutrition specialist at Mississippi
State University, pointed to
several mistakes that often lead to
food contamination.

Time and Temperature
"Abuse of time and food
temperature is probably the most
common mistake," she said.

Food has a temperature
danger zone that ranges from 40
degrees to 140 degrees. Leaving
food in this range for more than
two hours creates conditions
favorable for bacteria growth.

"Two hours seems like a long
time, but when you include
cooking, serving and cooling time,
it really is not," the specialist said.
"Store food immediately after
eating. Don't sit at the table while
you're food goes bad."

Refrigerate food immediately
after eating rather than allow it to

cool on the counter.

Mixon said to store food in
small, shallow containers so it can
cool more quickly. Cool thick,
soupy foods in an ice bath before
refrigerating since they can take
many hours to cool.

Take extra care in serving
from a buffet. Make sure hot foods
are kept at or above 140 degrees,
while cold foods should stay under
40 degrees.

Another rule to follow when
serving a buffet is to replace food,
not replenish it.

"If you continually add fresh
food to old food on a buffet, you
lose track of how long some food
has been out," Mixon said. "Some
food may have been out over two
hours, so always put out a fresh
tray and take up the old one each
time."

Cross Contamination

Cross contamination is
another problem that often arises
in the kitchen, Mixon said. This is
caused by failure to wash hands
and utensils thoroughly between

working with different foods.

"It is especially important to
clean utensils and hands after you
have worked with raw meat and
before you work with foods that
will not be cooked, such as
sandwiches or vegetables," the
specialist said.

Turkey Tips

Mixon also offered advice on
safe ways to thaw and prepare the
holiday turkey. She recommended
thawing the bird over several days
in the refrigerator. Allowing one
day for every five pounds or
turkey is a safe guideline.

Turkeys can also be thawed
under cold running water, in the
microwave or in the cooking
process.

Lighting The Tree

Martin Luther started the
customs of lighting the tree,
legend says.

To symbolize stars glowing
forth on a snow-filled winter's
night, he placed lighted candles
on his family's traditional
Christmas tree.

Christmas Confusion!

For three centuries following His
birth, Christ's nativity was celebrated
at various times in January, March,
April, May, September, and October
by Christian groups.

YULE LOG

Come, bring with a noise,
My merrie, merrie boyes,
The Christmas log to the
firing.

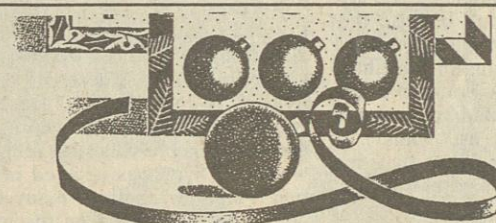
-Robert Herrick
(1591-1674)

Wrap Up the Joy!

As yet another holiday season unfolds, we are reminded
that it's what's on the inside that counts, and give our
thanks for the gift of your friendship. Thank you so much
for helping us put the wraps on a really great year.
Merry Christmas!



Country Squire Restaurant
Jimmy and Linda Norman & Family



WISHING YOU EVERY HAPPINESS AT

Christmas

May peace, joy, love, laughter and hope be yours
during this most miraculous season.

We're pleased and proud to have served you and
look forward to your continued support.

TISHOMINGO COUNTY DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

Dr. Bob Robinson, Executive Director
Theresa Cutshall, Administrative Assistant
and Board of Directors

Yuletide Cheer

May all your dreams come true this year.
Thanks so much for shopping here!

Merry Christmas From
**The Ivy House
& Gift Shop**

WE
WISH YOU
A VERY HAPPY
HOLIDAY SEASON &
A HAPPY, HEALTHY NEW YEAR

Heartfelt thanks on this joyous occasion.
We at Alliant Techsystems would like to thank the entire
community for your support of our new manufacturing
facility. We look forward to your continued support.

ALLIANTTECHSYSTEMS Ph. 423-7700

751 Bldg. 1000 CR989 Iuka, MS 38852

Thinking of you at Christmas

If we could make just one wish this holiday
season, it would be to see all of your hopes and
wishes come true, just like you helped to make
our dreams come true this past year.

Merry Christmas and many thanks.

BUSHWHACKERS

Family Hair Care

Phone 427-9730

Burnsville, MS



Plum pudding: Victorian pièce de résistance



PLUM PUDDING, the festive finale to the typical Victorian Christmas dinner, traditionally was brought to the table flaming, as in this 1856 illustration from the New York Public Library Picture Collection.

Centerpiece of the Victorian Christmas table, and dating back at least to the 17th century, the plum pudding is a holiday dessert as traditional as they come!

Enshrined in the pages of Dickens, this "wonderful pudding" is the culinary incarnation of the Yuletide spirit, and is familiar not only in England, its home territory, but around the world.

People who have never eaten plum pudding, never even seen one, still are familiar with the image of the plum pudding, carried flaming to the table, the *pièce de résistance* which naturally follows roast goose on classic Victorian holiday menus.

So, what exactly is a plum pudding? First of all, despite its name, it usually contains no plums. Rather, because the British esteemed dried plums, many other dried fruits—raisins or currants, for instance, which are copiously present in the traditional plum pudding—are, on occasion, referred to also as "plums."

Another interpretation has it that the plum in the dish's title may refer to the pudding's tendency to swell when cooking—alternately, "plump" or "plum."

Besides dried fruits, the plum pudding generally contains beef suet, brandy, almonds, sugar and eggs, and is redolent with many of the customary Christmas spices—cinnamon, nutmeg, allspice, mace and cloves—making it rich and filling, though not terribly sweet, or dessert-like, in the modern sense of the words.

Topping the plum pudding off, traditionally, is "hard sauce," a buttery, brandied sauce which is spooned over each portion.

Like King's Cake, another ages-old Yuletide dessert, plum pudding contains some "ingredients" which are distinctly non-edible. For, stirred into the batter are a handful of silver trinkets—a ring, a thimble, a coin and a button.

According to popular custom, the person whose portion contained the ring could look forward to marriage in the year to come; the thimble signified spinsterhood, and the button, bachelorhood; while the coin, reasonably enough, predicted wealth for its finder.

Another symbol garnished the top of the plum pudding when it was served: According to time-honored usage, a single sprig of holly, whose presence takes us back to Druidic times (recalling the lucky evergreen boughs whose presence pervades this pre-Christian religion), and which, in fact, was adopted into Christian Yuletide practices many centuries before its appearance on the top of the plum pudding.

Because, like fruitcake, plum pudding improves as it ages, the batter for it was begun traditionally on the last Sunday before Advent—"Stir Up Sunday."

Named for the collect read in church on that day, whose first words, strikingly, are "stir up." Stir Up Sunday was the day on which housewives across England be-

gan their Christmas culinary preparations in earnest.

The whole family took part in stirring the pudding, because everybody who took a turn at this task was entitled to make a wish.

Thereafter, the pudding was stirred weekly, until Christmas morning, when it was put up to steam, in a mold, a basin or a bag (a seven or eight-hour process), so that it would be done in time for Christmas dinner late that afternoon.

If this all sounds like a great deal of work, imagine the labors involved in creating the largest plum pudding ever made, which dates back to 1819 when, in the town of Paignton, in Devon, England, which used to make a communal plum pudding once every 50 years, a plum pudding was concocted that weighed in at 900 pounds, so heavy that it required three horses to pull it.

Exceedingly different from the Christmas desserts enjoyed today—the beef suet alone lends it a distinct flavor—plum pudding, rich as it is, continues to claim adherents. If you've never tried one, this Christmas may be just the opportunity you've been waiting for!

The recipe below, for Victorian Christmas Pudding, and the accompanying recipe for Hard Sauce, are both reproduced from Mimi Sheraton's *Visions of Sugar-plums* (Harper & Row), the classic compendium of Yuletide desserts from around the world.

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS PUDDING

- 1 pound beef suet, shredded
- 2 cups sifted flour
- 4½ cups bread crumbs
- 1 pound seedless black raisins
- 1 pound currants
- 1 pound sugar
- 2 cups mixed diced candied citron, orange and lemon peel
- 1 teaspoon grated nutmeg
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon mace
- ¼ cup blanched and slivered almonds
- ½ teaspoon salt
- Juice and grated rind of 1 lemon
- ½ cup brandy
- 8 eggs, well beaten
- Milk, only as needed
- Brandy, for flaming
- Hard Sauce

Dredge suet with a little flour. Combine with bread crumbs, remaining flour, raisins, currants, sugar, candied fruit peels, nutmeg, cinnamon, mace, almonds and salt. Toss together well until thoroughly mixed.

Mix lemon juice and rind with brandy and eggs. Stir into dry ingredients and set aside in a cool place for 4 or 5 hours. Stir in just enough milk (about ¼ cup) to make a stiff paste. Do not make pudding too wet or it will be heavy.

Turn into a well-buttered gallon-size pudding mold, or several smaller ones, dividing it any way you wish. Cover and place on rack in kettle. Add boiling water to come two thirds of the way up the side of the mold. Cover kettle and steam pudding for about 8 hours, or until firm. (Smaller puddings will take about 3 to 4 hours to steam, depending on size.) Add boiling water if necessary to maintain the level. Uncover to let steam escape before unmolding. If you want to store the pudding, uncover to let steam escape, recover and store in refrigerator. (It will keep for months. Steam for about 2 hours before serving.) Set aflame with warmed brandy and serve with sauce.

HARD SAUCE

- 1 cup (½ pound) unsalted butter
- 1½ cups confectioners' sugar
- Rum or brandy, as needed
- Confectioners' sugar and nutmeg, for sprinkling (optional)

Cream butter with sugar, adding a little extra sugar if needed to make a stiff paste. Gradually beat in as much rum or brandy as the mixture can absorb while still remaining stiff. Place in glass or china serving dish or jar. Cover and store in the refrigerator. Sprinkle with sugar and nutmeg before serving.

Makes about 2 cups.

Variation: Spices such as cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves can be beaten in with the butter and sugar, to taste. Two cups brown sugar, firmly packed, may be substituted for the confectioners' sugar, in which case add 2 or 3 tablespoons cream with the rum or brandy.

'White Christmas' Is Traditional As Plum Pudding

For a quarter of a century people have been sentimentally dreaming their way through a "White Christmas."

It was in 1941, the black-clouded war years had already begun, when Hollywood released a motion picture entitled: "Holiday Inn". The star of this movie was the ever-popular crooner, Bing Crosby. But perhaps the real star of "Holiday Inn" was the song written especially for the moving by Irving Berlin: "White Christmas."

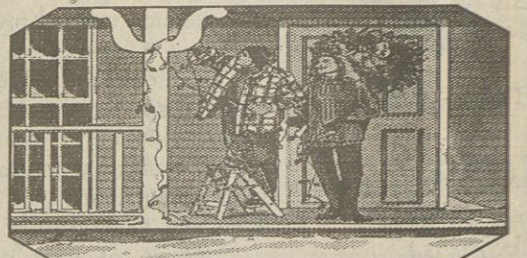
Through the ensuing 25 years, over 100 versions of the song

have been recorded by almost as many artists; yet "White Christmas" is synonymous with the name of Bing Crosby.

The poignant Christmas message that's found in the song has made it popular 'round the world. It has been translated into Italian, French, Chinese, Ger-

man, Spanish, Hungarian, the Polynesian tongues and Scandinavian languages, several Swahili.

The Spirit Is Building!



May this holiday season bring a string of glad tidings, and glow with the warmth of family and friends. With gratitude for helping us build our business.

OSWALT CONSTRUCTION, INC.



Gable Butler

Season's Greetings

May all your hopes and dreams come true this holiday season and beyond!

Many thanks and Merry Christmas!

Bobby and Ruby James and Employees of
BJ's Corner Cafe

Peace on Earth

May the age-old Christmas story bring its spirit of love and joy to you and your family during this holy season.

With sincere thanks and best wishes from all of us. Noel!

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year From The Residents and Staff Of
Southern Magnolia Estates
Retirement Community
1308 N. Pearl St. - Iuka



All That Glitters...

Cannot compare to the love of family and the warmth of good friends. Hope your season is filled with both!

Iuka Monument Co.

Owner: Lloyd Dunn
Hwy. 25 So.
Ph. 423-3203

SEASON'S GREETINGS



From our family to yours - wishing you a safe, happy Holiday Season and a prosperous New Year!



Iuka Lamination Division
1309 Paul Edmondson Drive
Iuka, Mississippi 38852

Season's Greetings

Just a note of thanks to our loyal customers and friends.

Wishing you all the best this holiday season.

Wishing you joy...

Wishing you wealth...

Wishing you love...

And also good health.

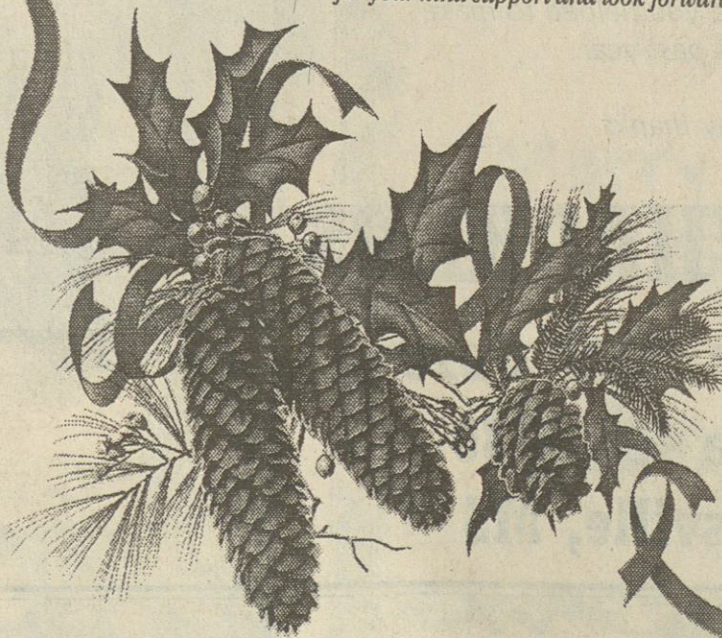
IUKA DISCOUNT DRUGS

Joe & Pat
Stan, Kathie, Carrie, Charlotte,
Chris and Brad

With Best Wishes For a Happy Holiday

May the meaning of Christmas be deeper, its friendships stronger, and its hopes brighter, as you and your loved ones revel in the magic of the holiday season.

It's been a privilege and a pleasure serving you this past year. We're really grateful for your kind support and look forward to your continued friendship.



COUNTRY CUPBOARD RESTAURANT

Norma, Mackie, Mack, Brenda,
Mark, Cindy and Staff

Coping With Stress

The holiday season can be expensive, hectic, depressing and tiresome. Bah Humbug! Where's the fun in something so stressful? The rushed atmosphere of the season often leaves people vulnerable to stress and depression. Taking time to relax and keeping expectations realistic can help keep the holidays happy.

Dr. Jan Cooper Taylor, associate professor of human development and family studies at Mississippi State University, said unrealistic expectations can play a major role in holiday depression.

"During the holidays, we want everything to be wonderful and everyone to get along, just like families are depicted in pictures and advertisements," Taylor said. "But even when we want to be together

as a family and have good relationships, things may not turn out as planned."

Usually one person is responsible for planning and hosting holiday celebrations, and while some people thrive on this stress, others feel overwhelmed.

Taylor suggested taking charge of the situation to help relieve stress and depression.

"If you feel overwhelmed and stressed, take a step back to relax and think about what is really important, then consider your limitations," Taylor said. "Encourage other family members to be involved. Often family members feel they will be meddling if they offer to help."

Working together toward a common goal can help families renew their sense of togetherness, she added.

Family members often hope that relationships will be better or stronger during family celebrations, but rarely do unresolved issues "just go away" during the holidays.

People also become more vulnerable to depression when they cannot join their families in holiday celebrations.

"Often families are separated because of job obligations, lack of money or a death in the family," Taylor said. "Anything that keeps families apart at this time of year may enhance feelings of depression and stress."

To cope with the loss of a family member during the holidays, Taylor suggested talking about your feelings with other family members.

"Don't avoid talking about that person or the memories you treasure," Taylor said. "Sharing memories about loved ones and keeping unique traditions part of the holidays helps strengthen the bonds between family members."

Gift-giving presents another opportunity for possible conflict during the holiday season. People often feel that the only way to show their love for others is by making a big display of gift-giving, Taylor said.

The hectic process of balancing budgets and frantically shopping for the perfect gift to make the right impression frequently causes undue stress.

"Remember the thought behind a gift really is the most

important thing," Taylor said. "Consider the values, meanings and joys of the season you want to express to family and friends."

Legendary Inspirations

With a holiday as beloved as Christmas, it is only natural that many legends have sprung up around it.

There is one such legend that was inspired by the small tree or shrub known as the Glastonbury Thorn.

According to the legend, Joseph of Arimathea, the disciple of Jesus, made a long pilgrimage to England. He drove his walking stick into the soil of Glastonbury, and the staff miraculously flowered into white blossoms.

The shrub produces these flowers twice yearly, in the spring and at Christmastime, adding substance to the lovely legend.

Yet another legend tells of the little drummer boy who watched sadly as gifts of great value were placed at the feet of the Infant Jesus. It seems that the boy had no gift to offer the Holy Babe.

Suddenly, it occurred to him that he did possess one thing - the ability to play his drum. Softly, he began to play for the Babe, so the

legend goes, and was rewarded with a smile from the Infant Jesus.

There is another legend surrounding the lovely poinsettia plant, so popular at Christmastime. According to the story, a poor young Mexican boy had no gift to lay upon the church altar on Christmas Eve, as was the custom of his village. Kneeling outside the

window of the church, the boy began to pray. When he rose to his feet, he discovered a beautiful red flower growing where he had knelt, blooming in answer to his prayer. Joyfully, the boy took the flower, now known as the poinsettia, and placed it before the altar.

CATCH THE SPIRIT!

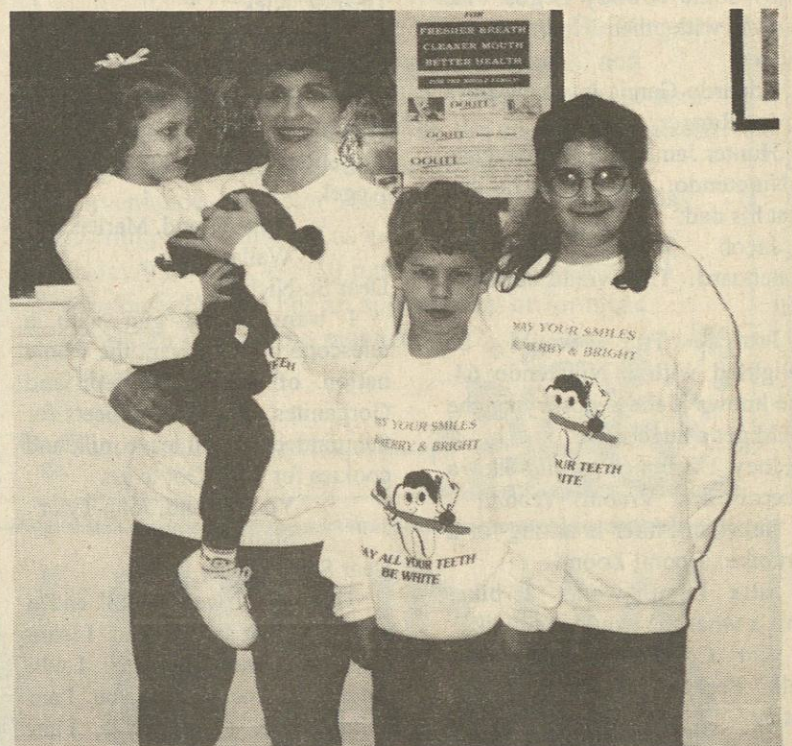
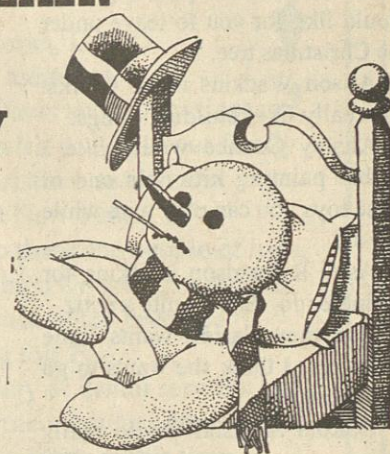
Wishing you and yours a healthy and happy holiday season!

STEPHEN H. BLAIR FAMILY DENTISTRY

Dr. & Mrs. Stephen Blair
Staff:

Dr. & Mrs. Stephen Blair
Staff:

Kathryn Voyles, Donna Boyles,
Donna Robinson - Hygienist,
Rita Breedlove, Judy Curtis,
Dennie Lambert, Pat Dexter



Cindy, Valerie, Amanda & Evan Blair

Deck the Halls!

May it be a beautiful season for all our friends and neighbors. Thank you for stopping by!

The Friendly Florist Downtown Iuka



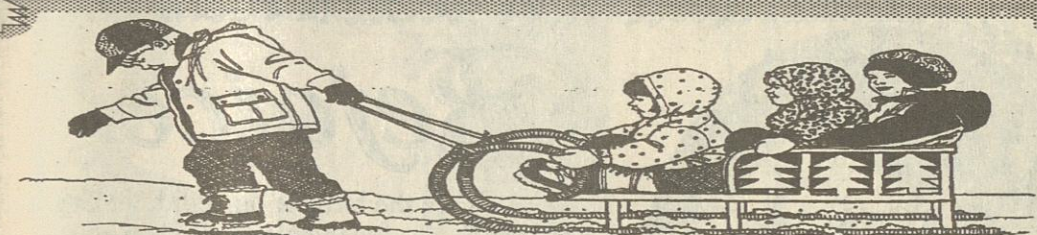
O Christmas Tree

Festive tidings to one and all.



Murray's Video
Charles & Joyce Murray
427-8343

Lily
Season's Greetings
From Everybody At
**McBRIDE'S GARDEN
CENTER**
Hwy. 25 N. - Iuka, Mississippi



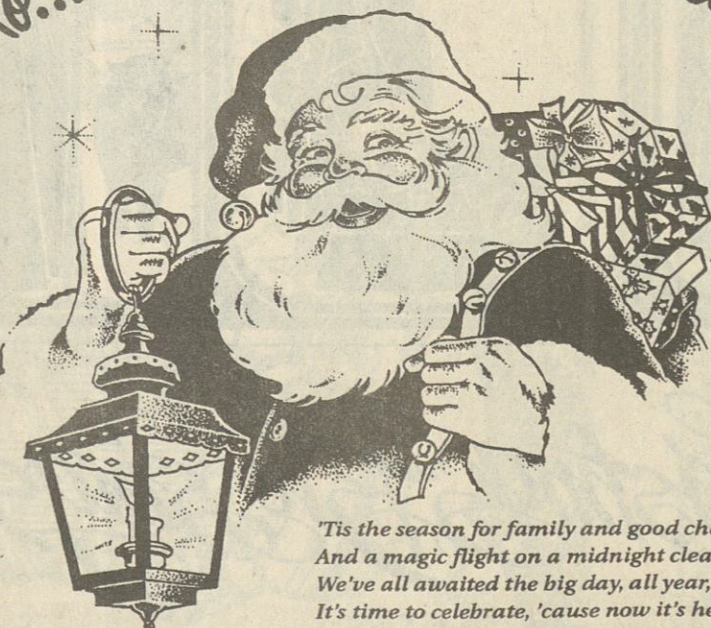
SENDING OUR BEST

May the happy hours, beautiful memories and many holiday blessings shared by your family make this your merriest Christmas ever! We're thinking of you and sending our thanks.

Trax Company, Inc.

2099 Paul Edmondson Drive - Iuka

Ho...Ho...Homespun Greetings!



'Tis the season for family and good cheer,
And a magic flight on a midnight clear.
We've all awaited the big day, all year,
It's time to celebrate, 'cause now it's here!

Many thanks to all who helped make our year one worth celebrating.
MERRY CHRISTMAS!

GOLDEN SALES COMPANY

454-3226



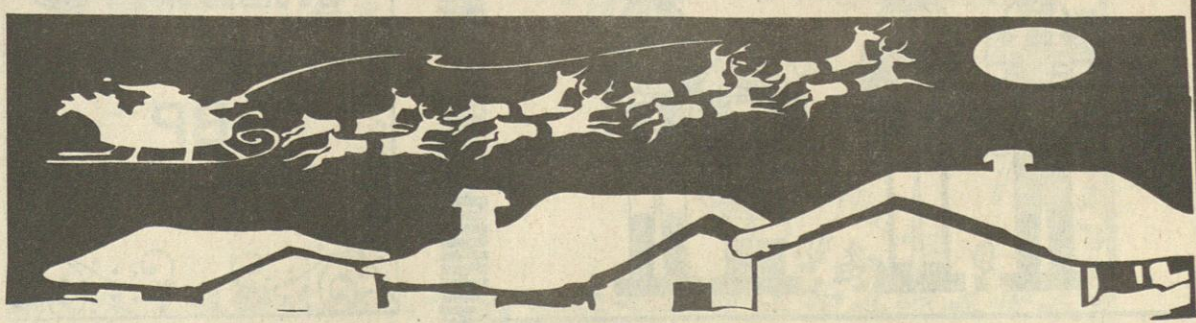
In the rush of events, we tend to overlook the important friendships that are the true basis of business relationships.

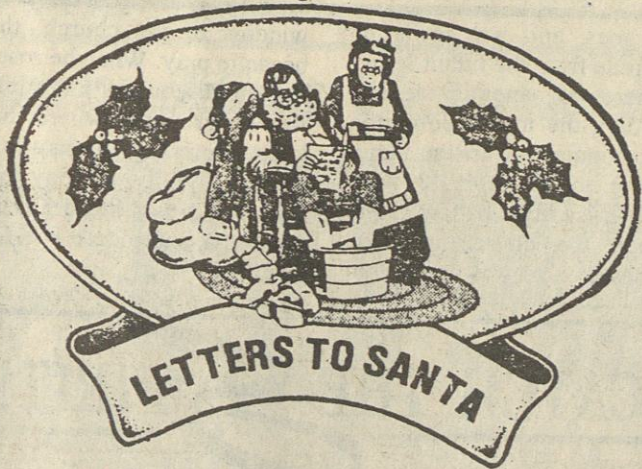
One of the great pleasures of the Holiday Season is the opportunity to exchange greetings with those whose friendship and goodwill are valued so highly.

In this spirit it is a pleasure to say "Thank You" and extend sincere appreciation for the very pleasant association enjoyed with you.

May a bright and prosperous New Year bring happiness to you and to yours.

The Segars Clinic





Dear Santa,

The children in our kindergarten class have tried to be good this year. They have also worked very hard in school. Each child named one special gift he would like for you to leave under the Christmas tree.

Alison Wadkins wants blocks. She really likes building things.

Ahsley Counce would like a Barbie painting kit. It's one of those toys you can play with while you sit.

Ashli Richardson is asking for a Ninetendo. She's quite a whiz.

Courtney Garrett wants some make-up. I think she wants to go into show biz.

Dakota Johnson would really enjoy some cowboy Legos. He knows with them there is no danger.

Edgardo Garcia is asking for a Power Ranger.

Hunter James would appreciate a Ninetendo. He thinks he can beat his dad.

Jacob Walker wants a skateboard. That would be really rad!

Jerrica True would be delighted with a Ninetendo 64. She knows if she keeps trying she could get a huge score.

Joey Lomenick would like a racecar track. Vroom! Vroom!

Jonathan Phifer is asking for a dirt bike. Zoom! Zoom!

Julia Lamp wants a bike. That's what she would really like.

Lori Casabella would like a doll. Perhaps one from another nation.

Michael Moore would enjoy the challenge of a Sony Play Station.

Nathan Gilchrist is asking for a computer.

Nick Cannon wants talking Buzz Lightyear. he's a real sharp shooter.

Ricky Bojorquez can't wait to

Skler Ray wants a firetruck. he'll be the best fireman yet.

Yumily White loves Barbie and would love to find one under her tree. Please honor her request. She has been so good you see.

The children said they would leave treats for you, and they are preparing special energy food for your reindeer too.

Merry Christmas!
Mrs. Walker and Mrs. Kathy's Class

Iuka Elementary School
Dear St. Nick,

I'm in 2nd grade. I live in Iuka. I'm 8 years old. For Christmas I would like a Game boy, Baby Hicupin' Dill, Ice Cream Angelica, and a Tamagotchi Angel.

Your Friend, Marlee Wallace

Dear St. Nicholas,

I want a BB gun with a telescope on it. I want the whole nation of Small Soldiers and Gorganites. I will leave beets for the reindeer. I will leave milk and cookies for you. Got to go.

Your Friend, John Tyler Stunley

Dear Santa Claus,

This year I want a doll and a kitten. I want a computer. I want a phone. I want a go-cart. I will put milk and cookies for you. I am in 2nd grade. I live in Iuka. I am 8 years old.

Your friend, Jamie Leigh Fisch

Dear Santa Claus,

How are you? My name is Holly Marie Henson. I am eight years old. I live on Pleasant Hill Road. I am in second grade at Iuka Elementary School. I want a Baby Dill, and a Gameboy Camera. Also some surprises. I love your presents.

Your Friend, Holly Henson

P.S. Please bring my baby sister a

Dear Santa,

How is Mrs. Claus doing? Would you tell her Merry Christmas for me. Are the elves doing their job? I would like a helmet, four wheeler, kneepads and other things.

Your friends, Jake

Borden

Dear Santa,

I want a computer and a telescope and a pack of BB's.

Your Friend, Nathan Keller

Mrs. Margie's Class At T.C.H.S. Child Development Center

Dear Santa,

My name is Luke South. I am 5 years old. Please bring a train, all the Rescuers except policemen and the truck and a Robin Hood. I have been a good boy.

Love, Luke

Dear Santa,

My name is Lindsie Horn. I am 3 years old. I have been a good girl. Please bring me a baby doll, a fire truck a bed for my baby doll and lots of surprises.

Love, Lindsie

Dear Santa,

My name is Jonathan Hudson. I am 4 years old. Please bring me a car, and lots of surprises. I have been a good boy.

Love, Jonathan

Dear Santa,

My name is Kelsey Turner. I am 3 years old. I have been a good girl. Please bring me some dress-up clothes, a Princess Barbie, some Barbie finger-nail polish, Barbie Castle and some surprises.

Love, Kelsey

Dear Santa,

My name is Haley Walker. I am 4 years old. I have been a good girl. Please bring me a doll that stands, an ice cream maker, a play kitchen and lots of surprises.

Love, Haley

Dear Santa,

My name is Johnathan Dean. I am 4 years old. Please bring a tool belt and an Nintendo and lots of surprises. I have been a good boy.

Love, Johnathan

Dear Santa,

My name is Anna-Claire Griffin. I am 3 years old. I have been a good girl. Please bring me a Super Sister like D.W. on Arthur, Barbie camera and some Barbies and lots of surprises.

Love, Anna-Claire

Dear Santa,

My name is Richie Taylor. I am 3 years old. I have been a good boy. Please bring me lots of toys and some surprises.

Love, Richie

Dear Santa,

My name is Kayla Carson. I am 4 years old. Please bring me a camera, a baby doll and some surprises. I have been a good girl.

Love, Kayla

Mistletoe Magic

Ancient followers of the Druid religion were the first to regard mistletoe as a sacred plant, say the editors of the The New Book of Knowledge. They supposed it to have panacean virtues in warding off everything from witches to disease.

Each year, about the time

Christmas is celebrated today there was a ceremonial rite which Druid Priests, using golden sickle, cut the mistle leaves from the "sacred oak" and distributed them among people.

The Saxons also valued the plant; they were the first to call mistletoe. To them, mistle symbolized everlasting peace.



HOLIDAY MAGIC

Hope your season is merry extraordinary!
Thanks for stopping by this past year.

SONIC DRIVE-IN

Happy Holidays

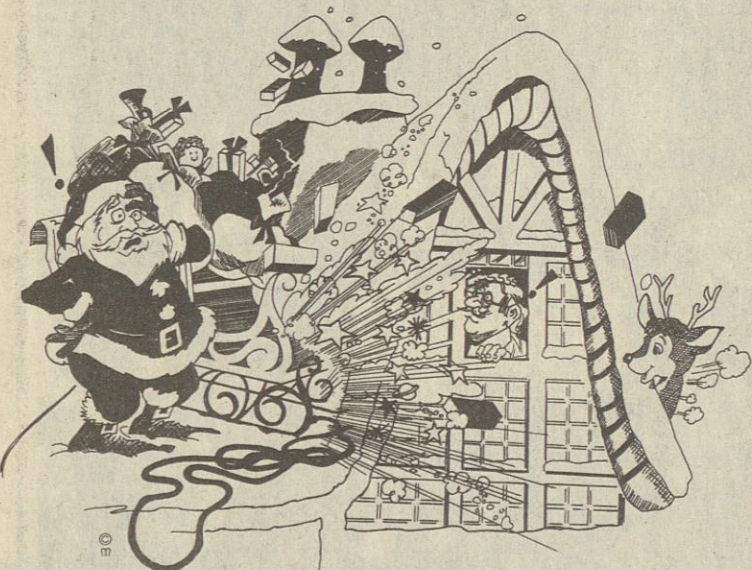
We thank you for your patronage and hope you will be surrounded by good fortune, good friends and good health throughout this festive season.

GOLDEN DREAMS JEWELERS
Belmont, MS

Allye Grisham

Have A Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year
From Elsie, Martha, & Cherry At
THE STYLE SHOP

Have A Safe Christmas!



Be assured that a premium holiday is here. We wish you all good cheer.

It's nice to know we have customers like you.

State Farm Insurance

Donnie Brown - Agent
Nancy, Amy, and Rebecca
Becky Walker - Secretary
214 E. Quitman St. - Iuka

YOUR FRIENDSHIP MEANS A LOT TO US!

We're ho...ho...hoping your holiday delivers everything you've ever wished for.
We appreciate your continued patronage.

VIDEO WORLD

Merry Christmas
from

Gary, June
Donna & Jennifer



Rejoice!

As we celebrate the birth of our Lord, let us give special thanks for the blessings shown us. Best wishes for a joyous Noel to one and all.

In Loving Memory Of Jerry Climer
From All Of Us At

B & B CAMPER SALES

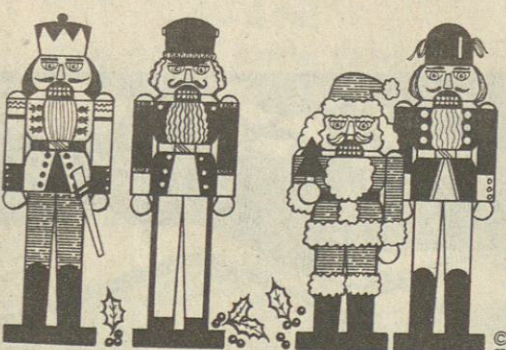
Lora, Joseph, Horace, James, Jeremy & Bobby

Enjoy The Magic Of CHRISTMAS

Christmas is a great time to get in touch with the child within each of us and revel in the splendor of it all.
Have a sparkling season!

FRED'S SUPER DOLLAR STORE

Iuka, MS



YULETIDE GREETINGS

Jackson's

BP

Tishomingo, MS

Christmas Blessings

Hearts are gladdened and faith is reaffirmed, as we celebrate His holy birth in a humble manger. May all the gifts of Christmas be yours to cherish throughout the season.

J. A. TUCKER FURNITURE COMPANY

Avon & Thelma Tucker

Rodger & Pam McMillan

The Night Before Christmas

Twas the night before Christmas, when
all through the house
Not a creature was stirring, not even a
mouse.
The stockings were hung by the chimney
with care
In hopes that Saint Nicholas soon would
be there.
The children were nestled all snug in
their beds,
While visions of sugarplums danced in
their heads.
And Mamma in her kerchief, and I in
my cap
Had just settled down for a long winter
nap,
When out on the lawn there arose such
a clatter,
I sprang from my bed to see what was
the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutter and threw up the
sash.
The moon on the breast of the new fallen
snow
Gave a luster of midday to objects
below.
When, what to my wondering eyes
should appear,
But a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny
reindeer.
With a little old driver so lively and
quick,
I knew in a moment it must be Saint
Nick.
More rapid than eagles his coursers they
came,
And he whistled and shouted and called
them by name—
"Now, Dasher! Now, Dancer! Now,
Prancer and Vixen!
On, Comet! On, Cupid! On, Donner and
Blitzen!

To the top of the porch, to the top of the
wall!
Now, dash away! Dash away! Dash
away, all!"
As dry leaves that before the wild
hurricane fly,
When they meet with an obstacle,
mount to the sky,
So up to the housetop the coursers
they flew
With a sleigh full of toys and Saint
Nicholas, too.
And then in a twinkling I heard on the
roof
The prancing and pawing of each little
hoof.
As I drew in my head and was turning
around,
Down the chimney Saint Nicholas came
with a bound.
He was dressed in fur from his head to
his foot,
And his clothes were all tarnished with
ashes and soot.
A bundle of toys he had flung on his
back,
And he looked like a peddler just
opening his pack.
His eyes—how they twinkled! His
dimples—how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his nose
like a cherry!
His droll little mouth was drawn up
like a bow,
And the beard on his chin was as white
as the snow.
The stump of a pipe he held tight in
his teeth,
And the smoke it encircled his head
like a wreath.
He had a broad face and a round little
belly
That shook when he laughed, like a bowl



'Happy Christmas To All'

full of jelly.
He was chubby and plump, a right jolly
old elf,
And I laughed when I saw him in spite
of myself.
A wink of his eye and a twist of his
head,
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to
dread.
He spoke not a word but went straight
to his work,
And filled all the stockings; then turned
with a jerk,
And laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the chimney he
rose.
He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave
a whistle,
And away they all flew like the down
of a thistle.
But I heard him exclaim ere he drove out
of sight,
"Happy Christmas to all and to all a
good night!"

Christmas Music

I do not know a grander effect
of music on the moral feelings
than to hear the full choir and the
pealing organ performing a

Christmas anthem in a cathedral,
and filling every part of the vast
pile with triumphant harmony.
—Washington Irving
(1819)

Carol Singing Still A Popular Christmas Custom

Caroling is the custom in many
countries thru out the world.
And, there are about as many
different customs connected with
it as there are countries.

Bagpipe music accompanies
the carolers in (no, not Scotland)
Italy!

In England the carolers receive
gifts for their efforts. "Gifts" of
refreshments are often the case in
America.

"Star-singers" is the name for

groups of carolers in many
nations. The term is taken from
the pole they carry, which has a
lighted star on top.

Happy Holidays



Taylor Brooke Carson

With Heartfelt Thanks

Sincere best wishes and round of good cheer to all the great folks
Who stopped by this year.

Flowers & Things

Warm Wishes

Jolly good wishes for a Merry
Christmas, to all good folks
everywhere!

**VULCAN
MATERIALS**

Eli, Hal, Dan, Corny, Barry,
Brad, Gary, Kathey, Keith, & Carol

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Sending warm
wishes for a bright
and beautiful
Holiday Season.

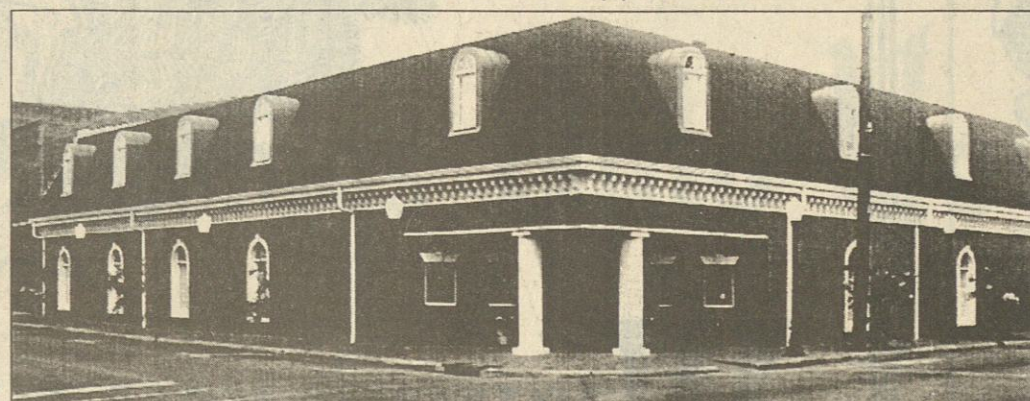
Brown Insurance Agency Iuka, MS



Clinton and Robert Brown

Langston, Langston, Michael, Bowen & Tucker, P.A.

Attorneys at Law
100 South Main Street
Booneville, Mississippi 38829



It's that time of year, when we wish you good cheer.

From our house to yours, the best this holiday season.

Christie McCoy

Daniel K. Tucker

Jay Langston

Merry Christmas

Kristina Lynn Reese

Robert Sneed Laker

Ronald D. Michael

Don't Fret About White Christmas, Put Some "South" Into Your Holidays

Forget the storybook White Christmas. Dismiss the sleigh bells, the sled rides and the chestnuts roasting on an open fire, too. In fact, put anything associated with the ubiquitous "Yankee Christmas" out of your head.

This year, when it comes to ringing in the holidays, look no further than your own roots to discover a Yuletide tradition as inviting as anything on a holiday greeting card and at least as exhilarating as a picturesque illustration from Currier and Ives, says John T. Edge, a University of Mississippi graduate student in Southern Studies.

All the popular images of Christmas aside, it was the South that put both the holy day and the holiday on the map in America, Edge said. The first Christmas worship services took place in St. Augustine, Fla., and in the colony of Jamestown (Va.), and the very first Christmas tree in America was decorated in the home of a judge in colonial Williamsburg (Va.). Later, in 1831, Louisiana and Arkansas became the first states to recognize Christmas as a

legal holiday at a time when celebrating it in Puritan New England could get one fined or thrown into the stockade.

"Christmas was and is the quintessential Southern holiday," said Edge, noting factors such as the temperate winter climate and the need for a social outlet in the then largely rural, isolated region. Although many of the early holiday customs have been lost or obscured by the wave of uniformity which, today, makes it difficult to distinguish a Christmas in Jackson, Miss., from one in Boston or Chicago - Edge said the revival of holiday traditions provides continuity with our past while enriching and differentiating the present.

One time-honored way to put some South back in your Christmas is to take advantage of the natural abundance of holiday greenery available in Southern woodlands to decorate your house. Even before Christmas trees became popular in the South in the 1850's, it was customary for families to "add color" to their homes at Christmas by hanging holly wreaths on doors and walls and trimming everything from columns and staircases to chandeliers and punch bowls with garlands of ivy or cedar.

If there was rhyme or reason to this festive holiday motif, it might have been "the more the merrier" and "the more exotic the better." Old South favorites still widely used today include orange pyracantha berries, red and white camellias - "the South's naturally decorated Christmas trees" -

yellow jasmine, pinecones, pine branches, magnolia leaves and, of course, the poinsettia, first used as a holiday adornment in Charleston, S.C.

Such outdoor excursions had practical as well as aesthetic appeal. "It wasn't possible to go to a department store and buy what you needed to deck the halls," said Edge. "And besides, gathering Christmas greenery was a wonderful excuse to take a leisurely walk in the woods."

Just as now, mistletoe also figured prominently in Southern Christmas celebrations. References to "kissing balls" of mistletoe can be found in the diaries of Southern belles and antebellum hostesses alike. But unlike modern times, our ancestors found a way around risking a broken neck to fetch it down from the branches of tall trees. According to The Southern Christmas Book (David McKay Company Inc., New York), in advance of a Christmas gathering where the loveliest belles and the dandiest beaux in the county might be expected, a party of hunters would venture into the woods, to "shoot down the mistletoe." As you might guess, the lucky marksman who succeeded was rewarded with the first Christmas kiss.

By some accounts, Southern Christmases of old could be noisy, raucous affairs filled with fiddle music, dancing, pistol reports and fireworks at midnight. To be sure, they usually began with a solemn, early-morning ride in a wagon to a nearby church for a service. Yet

as Edge points out, "Any boy at least knee high who did not find firecrackers in his Christmas stocking along with the fruit and candy canes would have been quite disappointed." Even the method for igniting them was carefully prescribed. A shovelful of coal embers, carried to a field or to the edge of the yard, did the trick nicely.

In the grand tradition of George Washington, no self-respecting Southern host or hostess should allow Christmas to pass without offering guests a toast and a cup of eggnog. In the case of the father of our country, the former was a simple "All Our Friends," while the latter involved the mixing of at least three

different spirits with egg whites, cream and spices. Significantly, the task of making this "virile" drink fell to the master of the house and was never given over to the hostess or to a servant.

To this day, "creamy drinks like eggnog and the lesser known syllabub reflect our English heritage," said Edge, the director of the Southern Foodways Symposium at Ole Miss. "These beverages were originally fueled by a strong dark ale or beer, but Southerners adapted them, adding our indigenous alcoholic beverage, bourbon."

Food also sets the Southern Christmas tradition apart. As far back as Colonial times, it was said that a Virginian could lose all his senses except the sense of smell and still know that Christmas had arrived. Any resident of the Old Dominion would have known it by catching a whiff of Martha Washington's "great cake" baking in the oven. And from Maryland to Mississippi, the scent of oranges, a rare commodity in those times, was another giveaway.

Given their wide range of

enjoyment, not even the old Southern standby of black-eyed peas and hog jowl on New Year's Day can accomplish this today. Yet thankfully, differences still remain. "To my mind, the stuffing-dressing divide is as telling as is the Mason - Dixon," said Edge, a Georgia native who would never countenance the coming of Christmas without cornbread stuffing gracing his plate.

The Southern Christmas tradition reflects the wide ethnic and cultural differences of all the original Southern settlers. In Maryland, they still serve turkey with sauerkraut, not stuffing, on Christmas Day. In Georgia, old-timers yet pay homage to their ancestor's traditional "Open


House" on New Year's. When holidays approach Natchez, Miss., little girls "tussie mussies," antique Christmas ornaments decorate the tree, just as counterparts did more than a century ago. Throughout the "land of cousins" where animals speak with the tongues, you know Christmas has arrived in December. For more information, consult Harnett T. Kane's Southern Christmas Book or Jenkins' Southern Christmas (Crown Trade Paperbacks). Merry Christmas, ya'll!




Season's Greetings

To all those near and "deer" to us, our deep gratitude and warm regards for a joyous holiday season.

BCT's Outlet
 "Your Casual Wear Store"
 Burnsville Shopping Plaza
 Next to Bushwhackers
 427-9490



**Merry Christmas
 & Happy New Year
 to our Church Family
 at
 Iuka United Methodist
 Church
 Sincerely,
 Jimmy and Judy Curtis**

Happy Holidays From All Of Us



With best wishes to you and your flock for a holiday season that's brimming with glad times and good fellowship. Your warm friendship makes us proud. Thank you!

**Bonds Video, Bonds Corner Store
 & Bait Shop
 Bonds Corner Store #2 & Video
 Loretta, Pam, Barbara, Louise, Lori, Judy, Brandy**

'TIS THE SEASON TO BE

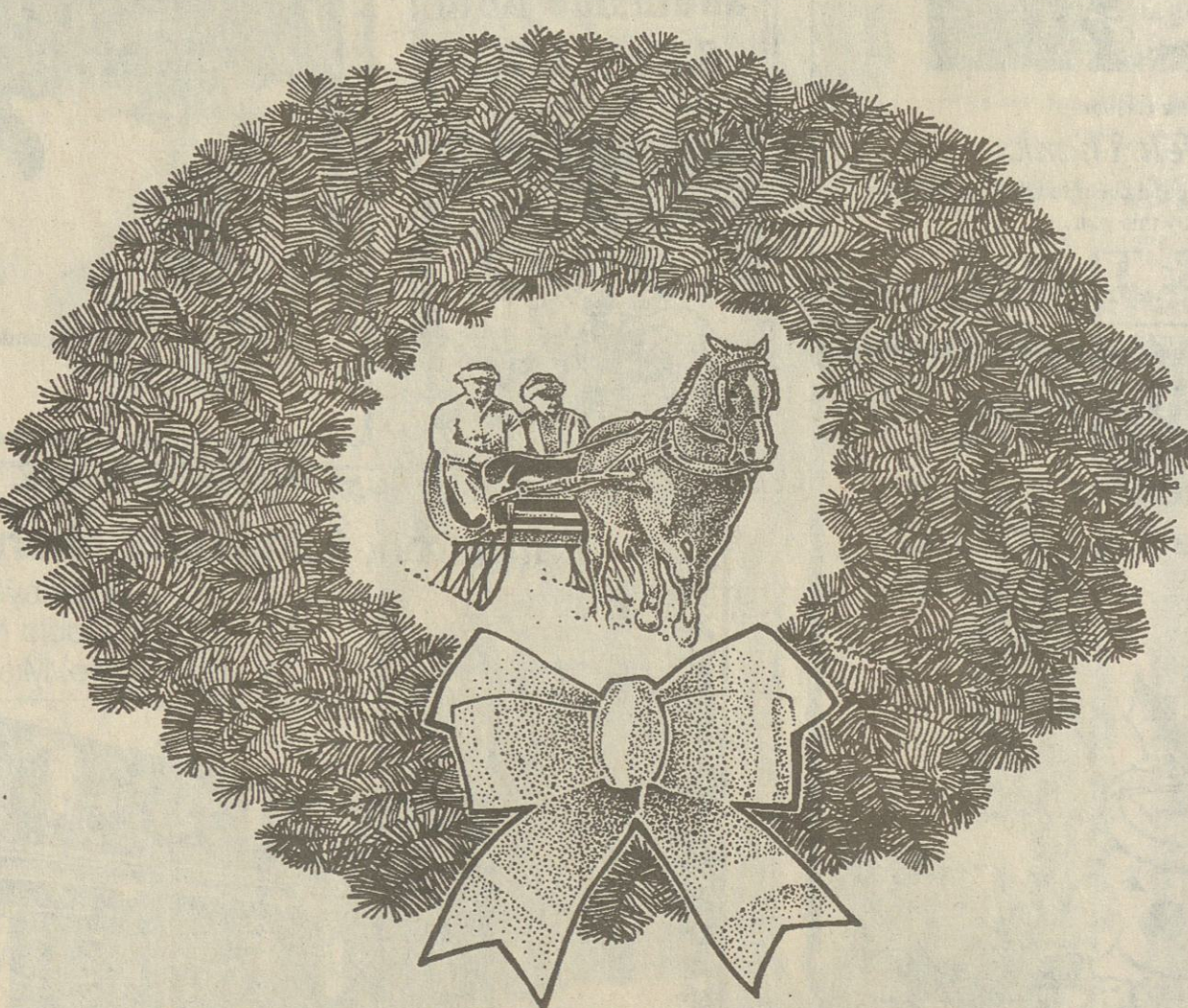
JOLLY



Here's to a season of merriment and mirth, joy and laughter, peace on earth.

We appreciate your support throughout the year!

**David's
 Auto Parts**




WISHING YOU A WEALTH OF HAPPINESS

May the holidays deposit much love and merriment in your celebration.
 Thanks for showing so much interest in us.

The Peoples Bank

Highway 25 North - Iuka

Member FDIC





FOLLOWING THEIR GUIDING STAR, the Magi travel toward Bethlehem, to worship the infant Jesus, bringing with them rare and precious gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Illustration: New York Public Library Picture Collection.

The beloved tradition of gift-giving at Christmas time began, as we all know, after the birth of Christ, when the three Wise Men, following their guiding star from the East, arrived to adore the infant Jesus, and each brought with him a precious gift.

Gold, according to tradition (not the gold which neither names nor numbers the Magi), in the form of a box containing a golden horn, was brought by Melchior, the King of Arabia.

Frankincense, contained in a jar, was brought by the youngest of the Magi, Caspar, the King of Tarsus, and myrrh, contained in a golden horn, was brought by Balthazar, the King of Ethiopia.

We all know what gold is, but frankincense and myrrh—both out of common use in this century—may mystify many people.

Both are aromatic substances, which have great value in the ancient world. Frankincense is the gum of a tree native to Arabia and the northern reaches of India.

The essential ingredient in the holy anointing oil used by the officiators at the temple in Jerusalem, it was a substance whose use was familiar only to the privileged. It was burned also as incense; therefore, its sweet fragrance was familiar to worshippers.

Myrrh, the gum of a bush or small tree which, in antiquity, edged the shores of the Red Sea, and grew in southern Arabia, was also an ingredient in the anointing oil, a blend of rare and precious substances, to be sure.

Credited with the virtue of easing suffering, myrrh was mixed with wine to make a soothing drink offered to Christ as He was on the cross—a drink He refused, choosing to remain conscious and fully aware of the suffering He was undergoing.

Myrrh often was used to ready the body for burial; it was one of the spices brought by Nicodemus for Christ, after His crucifixion. Thus Christ received the anointing after death which He was given in life.

In addition to its intrinsic value, each of the gifts brought by the Wise Men to the Christ Child had a symbolic value, as is evident today as it was in Biblical times.

Gold, one of the purest of all substances, represents virtue. Sweet-smelling frankincense, because its burning was accompanied by religious ceremonies, came to be a symbol for prayer, myrrh, with its acrid fragrance, both a pain reliever and an anointment for the dead, represents suffering.

When did the Magi arrive at the Manse? While guesses range from 12 days after Christ's birth, to two years following the event, their arrival is celebrated nationally on Epiphany, also known as Three Kings' Day, which falls on January 6 in certain countries, such as Spain and

Traditions behind the very first Christmas gifts

And it is the final day of the Twelve Days of Christmas, originally set out in the sixth century by the Council of Tours.

As such, the climax of the Christmas season, it is a time of great joy, depicted through all eternity by the image of the Three Magi, on their knees adoring the Christ Child, and symbolizing their worship with the most precious substances they knew: Gold, frankincense and myrrh.

New Year's Was Once Spring Affair

The celebration of the New Year was once a Spring affair in Egypt and Rome. Ancient Egypt used the overflowing of the Nile as a calendar and celebrated the New Year accordingly. The Babylonians began their New Year in March, and the early Romans followed the Babylonian pattern.

Bearing this in mind, the custom of invoking the goods of fertility at New Year's time -- the origin of which is lost in antiquity -- seems logical and appropriate.

ROMAN MASKS
The Romans were accustomed to hanging tiny masks of Bacchus upon trees and vines, the idea being to impart fertility to every side of the tree to which the masks were turned by

the wind.

In the old days Roman youths went from house to house singing and wishing everyone a prosperous New Year.

Scottish lads always had a howling good time going about on New Year's Eve switching the trunks of trees and petitioning "a good, howling crop."

Reflecting the fear of starvation, peasant families in various parts of the world baked a special New Year's cake which they dashed against the door; members of the household hastened to pick up a piece and eat it, prayerful that whoever enters the house during the ensuing neither hunger nor want should be that year.

Louisiana Purchase

One of the world's most famous real estate deals was completed on December 20, 1803, when more than a million square miles of the Louisiana Territory was purchased by the United States from France. The French leader Napoleon sold the land for approximately \$20 per square mile.

© 1988, PM Editorial Services

Merry Christmas From Bet's Family Restaurant

Have A Safe & Happy Holiday
Thanks for another good year - Betty, Barbara, Lou

Carmen Olivia Helton

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

from
Funland Pro Shop & Range

We Appreciate Our Customers!

Merry Christmas from Virginia's Beauty Shop

Quitman St. in Iuka -
Ph. 423-6897
Virginia, Gail, Linda, Cynthia, and Cindy

Amanda and Abby

Holy Blessings Unto You

May your heart and hearth be filled with the blessings of peace, love, faith and harmony, as we celebrate the Miracle that is Christmas.

BANK OF MISSISSIPPI

BancorpSouth

Member FDIC

SAVOR THE SEASON

Christmas cheer is all around;
Presents, stockings and laughter abound.
May joy and happiness light your way,
Not only on Christmas, but every day.

TRI-STATE INSURANCE

Front Street
Belmont
454-3304

Tree Radiates Yule Meaning

The Christmas tree, a universally recognized symbol of the merriest season, radiates the meaning of the Christmas story.

For many people, the tree recalls the atmosphere of the holiday home and thus reflects the joyful warmth of the season.

As a religious symbol, the tree with its lights and greenery represents both the story of the garden of Eden and the belief in Christ as the "Light of the world."

Although only a century and a half old in America, the custom of the tree has a history that is measured in many centuries. The forerunner of today's Christmas tree was seen in medieval miracle plays, which were produced as religious instruction for the illiterate — in an era when illiteracy was common and the ability to read a rarity.

A play about Eve's eating the forbidden fruit in the garden of Eden was enacted with only one prop on stage, a single, apple-laden fir that became known as the Paradise Tree. The play ended with the promise of the coming of Christ and was usually presented just before Christmas.

At about the same time, people also decorated for the Christmas season with pyramid-shaped frames of light, symbolizing the birth of Christ as the Light of the world.

Early efforts to combine the Paradise Tree and the Christmas Light pyramid are recorded in manuscripts from Germany dating to the 16th century, collected by the Hallmark Cards research library.

The first tree was thought to have been brought to the United States by Hessian soldiers during the American Revolution. These homesick soldiers and other immigrants carried the tree throughout the country.

A major setback almost occurred in Cleveland in 1851 when a pastor decorated



BOTH ELEMENTS THAT LED TO TODAY'S Christmas tree — the Paradise Tree and the Christmas Lights pyramid — are shown in this antique Christmas card of the 1880's. The card was published by Opbacher Brothers of Munich, Germany, and is part of the Hallmark Cards Historical Collection.

a tree in his home. His parishioners condemned the tree as pagan, but relented after an explanation of its religious aspects.

Conservation-minded President Theodore Roosevelt again nearly stamped out the practice when he banned trees in the White House. After one of his sons sneaked a Christmas tree into the White House, a forerunner convinced the President

that thinning helped forests. The tree that is common today is a combination of the religious elements. The evergreen with glass, plastic or metal balls hanging from it is the Paradise Tree with its apples. Lights, tinsel, angels,

a star on top, ornaments and other "good things" reflect the Christmas Light.



Candles

Christmas candles are left burning in windows in many countries in light the Christ Child on his way, and to draw friendly travelers in for rest and refreshment. But to make sure that no undesirable or evil visitors come in, a candle can be left burning on the hearth with salt sprinkled thickly around.



Letters To Santa

Ms. Mary's Class At T.C.H.S. Child Development Center

Dear Santa,
My name is Jackson Haines. I have been a good boy this year. I would like toys, Rugrats, Reptar, Christmas, Dollies, shoes, Blue Clues, glue, eyes and nose.
Love, Jackson

Dear Santa,
My name is Bethany Lambert. I have been pretty good this year. I would like Teletubbies and Teletubbie Tape, Lion King Tape, shoes, clothes and toys.
Love, Bethany

GET CARRIED AWAY WITH YULETIDE CHEER

Merry Christmas and many thanks for your patronage.

From The Employees

Dailey's Body Shop & Wrecker Service

P. O. Box 301
427-9234
Burnsville, MS



Holy of Holies

MAY YOUR FAITH ABIDE AT CHRISTMASTIDE AND THROUGHOUT THE COMING YEAR.

Cutshall Funeral Home

In Business Since 1935



FROM

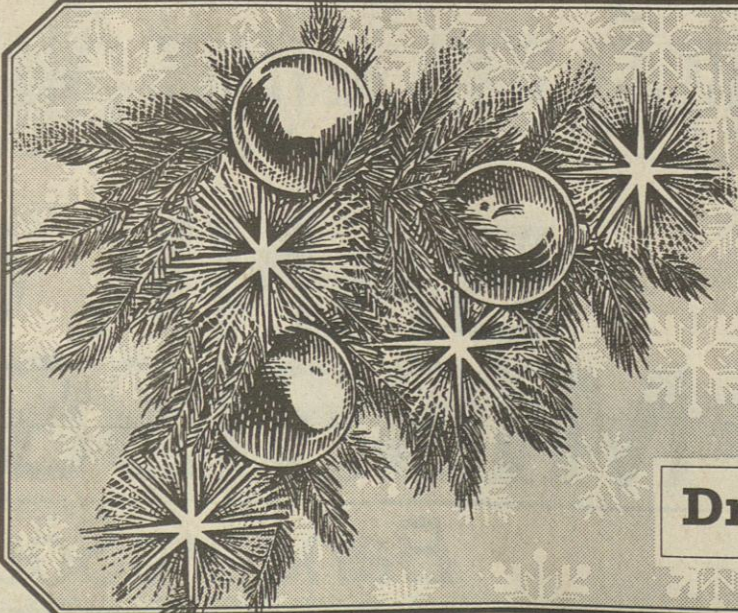
J. C. JOURDAN LUMBER COMPANY

Since 1898



Greetings of the Season

Dr. & Mrs. J. R. Sanchez



To All Our Valued Customers

We've had a great year
But we know that it's true,
That we couldn't have done it
Without all of you!

Season's Greetings!

Bargains & More
Burnsville, MS

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!

Hope you're fixing to have a good time, all through the season. You have our gratitude for helping us put together a great year!

Merry Christmas from
FAIRLESS HARDWARE
Iuka & Tishomingo Locations



At CHRISTMAS... May Your Field Of Dreams Be Ever Green...

To all our cherished friends, a very merry Christmas!

BAUHAUS USA Inc.

1509 Paul Edmondson Dr.
Iuka, MS 38852

Celebrating a Victorian Christmas

The word "Christmas" brings to mind many scenes, but the image of a Victorian Christmas is especially celebrated as traditional.

What was Christmas actually like during the Victorian era? By the latter part of the 19th century, the custom of sending cards and exchanging gifts was well established.

The robin was a popular motif of the Christmas card of the time, for Victorians saw the robin as a symbol of fire and new life — an appropriate one for the Christmas season. Postmen of the Victorian era were called "robin postmen" because of their red uniforms.

Prince Albert had introduced the Christmas tree from his native Germany to England and the custom had quickly been adopted. Trees were fancifully decorated with lighted candles, glass ornaments and small toys. Dickens described one such tree as "that pretty German toy, a Christmas tree... it was brilliantly lighted by a multitude of little tapers; and everywhere sparkled and glittered with bright objects."

Victorian youngsters didn't hang their stockings over the fireplace, but at the foot of the bed. There, they would try to sleep while awaiting the arrival of Father Christmas, instead of Santa Claus, down the chimney.

Down the lane, carolers and handbell-ringers would gather around a pole from which a lantern was hung. The sound of favorite carols of the day would mingle with the bustle of carriages and strollers as snow fell softly on the scene.

At dawn, the youngsters would rise to see what goodies their stockings held, and after breakfast, the family would attend services. Later, the adults would exchange gifts, and then all would sit down to a mid-day meal, with goose as the main attraction.

The feast would conclude when the Christmas pudding was brought forth, blazing brightly. The pudding had been bound in a cloth and cooked in a clothes copper; now it was decorated with holly. Sixpence were hidden in the pudding, to be discovered amid much merriment during the eating of this festive dish.

The kissing ball, or kissing bunch, was also popular in Victorian times. It consisted of a bunch of evergreens and holly berries, with a cluster of mistletoe suspended from it. The mistletoe was all the permission needed for a lad to bestow a kiss upon a pretty maid. No wonder that the kissing ball was the center of festivities at holiday gatherings!

Games were equally popular. Dickens

described them in his "Christmas at Dingley Dell" with appreciation: "... Mr. Pickwick, blinded shortly afterwards with a silk handkerchief, falling up against the wall, and scrambling into corners, and going through all the mysteries of blind-man's buff with the utmost relish for the game, until at last he caught one of the poor relations, and then had to evade the blindman himself, which he did with a nimbleness and agility that elicited the admiration and applause of all beholders. The poor relations caught the people who they thought would like it, and when the game flagged, got caught themselves. When they were all tired of blind-man's buff, there was a great game at snapdragon, and when fingers enough were burned with that, and all the raisins were gone, they sat down by the huge fire of blazing logs to a substantial supper, and a mighty bowl of wassail."

Christmas crackers were also favored during Victoria's reign. The cracker was a twist of colored paper that gave off a small explosive sound when pulled. Within it were novelties such as puzzles, games, printed mottoes or riddles, toys and other surprises.

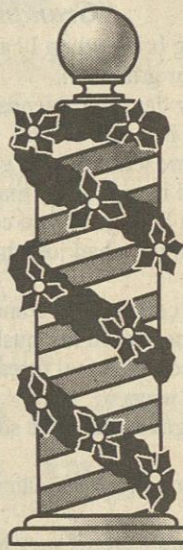
Customs such as these illustrate to us that during Victorian times, Christmas was a merry time indeed.



Eve, December 5th - riding a white donkey.

For the refreshment of the good saint's donkey, children stuff their shoes with hay and set out a dish of water. Carrots and a potato are sometimes added.

Hoping Your
CHRISTMAS
Is
"SHEAR"
PERFECTION!
The Corner
Barber Shop



Victorians Sent First Holiday Greeting Cards

Sending and receiving greetings of the season is one of the most enjoyable of Christmas chores, and we can all thank Victorian England for this charming custom.

To be more specific, we can thank a Victorian gentleman who was too busy during the holiday season of 1843 to send his customary notes to friends, wishing them the best of the season. So it was that Henry Cole asked a friend to design a printed card that he could send to friends in place of the usual handwritten note.

A friend, artist John C. Horsley, illustrated a group of celebrants raising their glasses in a toast, flanked by illustrations of others leading the poor and clothing the needy. The message read, "A merry Christmas and a happy new year to you."

It wasn't long before the printed greeting card appeared in America, designed by one R.J. Pease, a dry goods merchant from New York State, who sent out cards advertising his goods.

However Louis Prang, a lithographer living in Boston during the 1800's is known as the father of the American Christmas card. Charles Dickens is said to have sent Prang a Christmas card received from a friend. Prang printed the card for his family and friends and later began creating his own cards in 1874.

Greeting cards have changed greatly since that first card sent out by Henry Cole, and no doubt that good gentleman would be amazed at the diversity of designs sent through the mails at Christmastime.

In Iceland

Since trees are scarce in Iceland, families must use their ingenuity in creating a Christmas

tree. A pole with branches of greenery tied to it is the solution in many Icelandic homes. And the valuable real trees are saved for industrial use.

Treating The Donkey

Today's Santa relies on his reindeer for transport, but the gift bringers of yesteryear had other animal helpers, who usually

shared in the holiday giving and receiving.

In Holland, for instance, legend says that St. Nicholas arrives early - on St. Nicholas



Matt, Conner, & Brandon

Season's Greetings

Dale's Cycle Shop

Hwy. 25 S.
Iuka
Ph. 423-6699

Bless the Day

Bless the day when our Lord was born,
In the manger on Christmas morn.
Bless the day when Heaven above,
Gave us His grace and divine love.

Many blessings to you and yours
in this holy season.

From Your Friends At

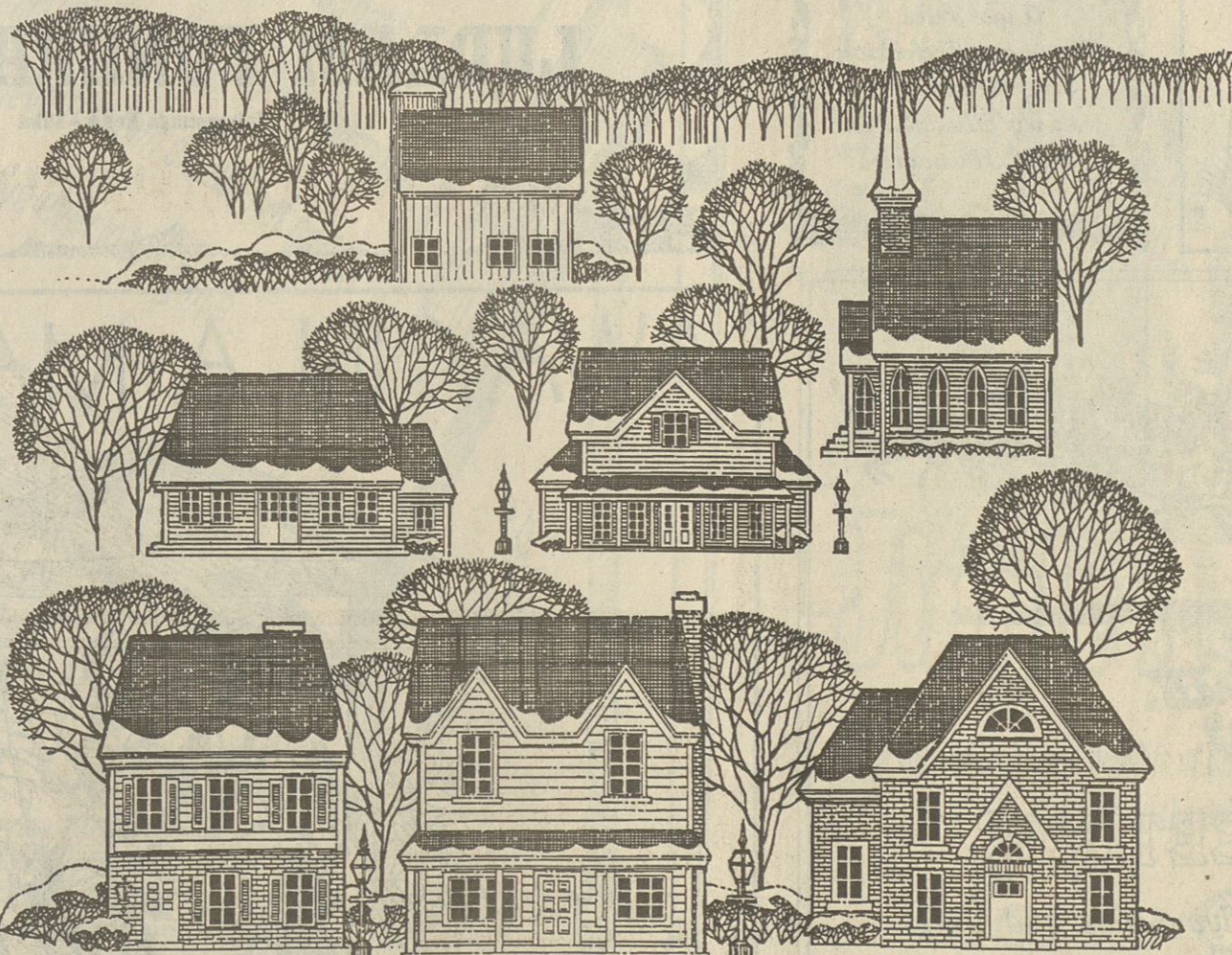
WILD ROSE FURNITURE



Rejoice
This Season

We hope this year gives birth
to new miracles, blessings
and heartfelt joy.

Janie Carson
**FASHION
FLAIR
BEAUTY
SALON**



*Merry
Christmas
from Our
House to Yours*

May the magic of Christmas unfold
within your heart and home bringing
special joys and memories. As this
season of love and cheer arrives, we
extend warm wishes for a truly
happy holiday to all.

Weather's Body Shop & Auto Glass

Best Wishes from Benny, Bonnie, Ben, Frank, Cynthia, Tosh, Kendall, & B.J.



In Memory Of My Grandmother At Christmas Bess Hurd

"Grandmother Of My Heart"

I was a young bride when I came to love you;
I married your grandson.
In those early days our friendship grew,
and we often had lots of fun.
You helped me learn to be a good wife,
as I struggled in my newly married life.
I marveled at how good you could cook;
Your home always had just the right look.

How could I cope with a grandmother
who was so perfect in my husband's eyes?
However, I couldn't feel threatened because
I understood why.
You always gave your love so unselfishly
even to me.
Your love for us I could plainly see.

Your last years weren't very happy because
you couldn't do the things you liked to do.
You couldn't see or hear the ones you loved
very well and that made you feel blue.
Now you're in a better place, and I bet your
old-age ailments are gone.
I can see you making heaven a prettier home.

I had two grandmother's by blood, one I never knew.
But you were the grandmother of my heart-
"Mama Bess" we called you.

Written by:
Becky Sanders Waddell
September 29, 1998

Many Names.....

In Greece Christmas is called "Genethia," feast of Nativity.
An Italian name for Christmas is "Nativita" from which probably
derived the Spanish "Navidad."
Noel is the term used for Christmas in France.
The likeliest derivation of our own "Christmas" is from the Hebrew
"mas" which means tribute.

CHRISTMAS

First greeting



"A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU," read the first commercial Christmas card, above, from the collection of the Pierpont Morgan Library in New York. Designed in 1843 by John Calcott Horsley at the initiative of Henry Cole, 1,000 copies of the hand-colored lithograph were printed in postcard form, to be sent to the recipients via England's recently inaugurated "penny post." This innovation allowed people to forward traditional New Year's greetings (previously delivered by hand, an arrangement which could be as costly as it was unreliable), both inexpensively and efficiently.

SX902459

Christmas Date

It wasn't until 320 A.D. that December 25th was officially designed as Christmas Day.

Before then, the celebration of Christmas was assigned to various dates, including January 6th.

Lighting Up....

Since the Star shone on Bethlehem, lights have been a part of Christmas celebrations. Today, candlelight services are traditionally held by many churches at Christmas.

Something unique in the way of Christmas lights are the "luminarias" used to decorate the city of Albuquerque, N.M. at Christmastime.

Outlining the borders of streets, sidewalks, yards and even the roofs of homes, the luminarias shine everywhere. Made of paper bags, weighted down with sand and lighted from within by a candle, thousands of luminarias all over the city offer a soft light.

With Bright Wishes



May you and your loved ones find enlightenment this holiday season.
We appreciate your kind support.

Merry Christmas
from everyone at
**Quick Clean
Cleaners**

Yule Legends Span Many Years And Many Lands

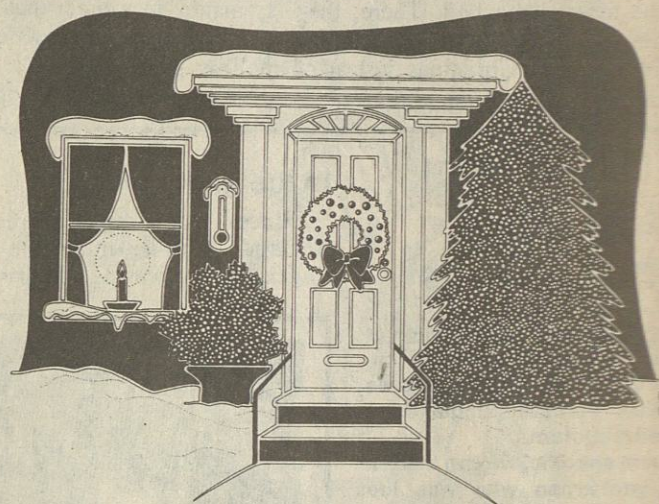
Did you know that the first Christmas tree erected in a church in U.S., in 1851 shocked its Cleveland congregation. It was

considered too healthenish! America gave the world most beloved Christmas plant, poinsettia. The plant is a native of tropical America.

WISHING
YOU
Well

Our prescription for a happy holiday season includes generous measures of goodwill and cheer along with a healthy dose of gratitude from us.
We're really thankful for your confidence and support.

**SUPER SAVE-ON
DRUGS**



All The Best!

A special "Thanks" for giving us the opportunity to serve you, and for making our year a successful one.
May your holiday season and the coming year be filled with joy and prosperity.

Ables Real Estate

Dianne Ables, Broker
Scotty Skinner

O' Little Star Of Bethlehem

We'd like to join you and your family in celebrating the Miracle of His birth during this holiest of seasons.

Thank You and Merry Christmas
from the staff at

**MAGNOLIA
RESTAURANT**

423-1480



FRED'S Pharmacy

HEALTH Caring for You!
423-3676

615 Hwy. 25 South
Iuka, MS

Thanks For Your
Patronage

Merry Christmas

from

Dawn Keeton, R.Ph.

Pharmacy Manager

Angie Price,

Pharmacy Technician

and

Larry Ellis, R.Ph.

Staff Pharmacist

In the Spirit of Christmas

May this season of spirituality and miracles bring serenity and joy to all those near and dear to you, and may Heaven shine its grace down upon you.

LUDLAM FUNERAL HOME

Fairgrounds Road - Iuka

AWAY IN A MANGER



May your home be blessed by the glory of His love this holy season, and may His good graces follow you wherever you go.
Merry Christmas and many thanks.

H & H Small Engine Repair

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Here's hoping your season gets off to a flying start, and brings much joy throughout!

The Heil Co.



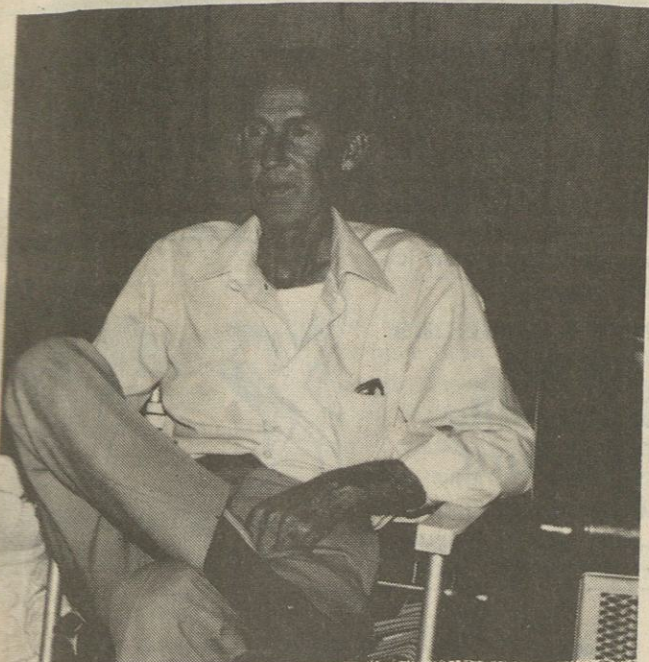
henish!
the worl
mas plant
t is a nat

ures of
us.

serve
d with

e

R

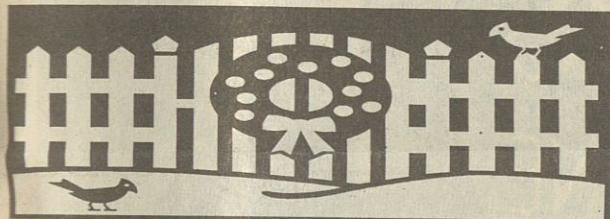


In Memory Of My Daddy At Christmas Earnest Sanders "Guardian Angel"

Daddy, I often tell my little boy a story
when he asks where his pawpaw has gone.
I tell him you are now in heaven
and that he will never be alone.
He knows that you are his guardian angel
and that you watch over him from above.
He listens to me intently, and his eyes shine with pure love.
I make sure he remembers all the good times
you two shared-the laughter and the fun.
I often continue my story by telling Shelby that
you thought you had a genius for a grandson.

I will proceed to keep your memory alive for him
as he grows to be a young man.
However, he is so young pawpaw; sometimes it is
hard for him to understand.
He knows you are free now, and he is glad that
you don't have to suffer anymore.
He looks forward to seeing you one day when
it is his turn to knock on heaven's door.
Please watch over him, and help Jesus keep him safe
until that future day.
I tell my stories to keep your memory alive,
so he will know exactly what I should say.
Daddy show me how to keep him
from having memories that are sad.
Then maybe he will always remember what a
great pawpaw he had.

Written by: Becky Sanders Waddell
September 1, 1998



Season's Greetings
from
Sanderson Ready Mix
Belmont

The Night Before Jesus Came

'Twas the night before Jesus came and all through the house,
Not a person was praying, not one in the house.
Our Bibles were lain on the shelf without care,
In hope that Jesus would not come here.

The children were dressing to crawl into bed,
Not once ever kneeling or bowing a head.
And Mom in her rocker with baby on her lap,
Was watching the late show while I took a nap.

When out of the East there arose such a clatter,
I sprang to my feet to see what was the matter
Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash!

When what to my wandering eyes should appear,
But angels proclaim that Jesus was here.
With a light like the sun sending forth a bright ray,
I knew in a moment this must be the day.

The light of His face made me cover my head,
It was Jesus, returning just like He said.
And though I possessed worldly wisdom and wealth,
I cried when I saw Him, in spite of myself.

On the Book of Life which He held in His hand,
Was written the name of every Saved man.
He spoke not a word, as He searched for my name.
When He said "It's not here," my head hung in shame.

The people whose names had been written with love,
He gathered to take to His Father above.
With those who were ready He rose without sound,
While all the rest were left standing around.

I fell to my knees, but it was too late.
I had waited too long and thus sealed my fate.
I stood and I cried as they rose out of sight.
Oh, if only I had been ready tonight.

In the words of this poem the meaning is clear;
The coming of Jesus is drawing near.
There's only one life and when comes the last call,
We'll find that the Bible was true after all.

Anonymous

May the warmth
of the season
embrace you.

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS!**

Iuka Mini Storage

Dr. & Mrs. Joe Barlow
Becky, Cindy, & Clara

St. Nick Restored

When Queen Victoria married
German Prince Albert, Christ-
mas visits of St. Nicholas (and
the gift-giving) came back to

England, three centuries after
Henry VIII had banned the
traditions when he broke away
from the Catholic faith and for-
med the Church of England.



Perfect
Peace

May you find tranquility and contentment
at this most meaningful time.
With our deepest appreciation.

Edna & Dale Tapp,
Derrick & Nikki,
Glenn, Jon, & Nick

**WEATHERS AUTO GLASS
& ACCESSORIES, INC.**
Muscle Shoals, Ala.



May Faith Guide You At Christmas

Hope your ship comes in this holiday season with
peace, joy and enlightenment on deck.
Thanks so much for providing a bright spot in our year.

From the Employees at
Iuka Ole Tyme Snowball
& Pizza
& Pier 57

God so loved the world that he gave
his only begotten son that whosoever
believeth in him should not perish
but have everlasting life.
John 3:16

We join with you
in prayer and celebration.
Our sincere thanks to each
of you for your loyal support.

CITY OF IUKA

MAYOR: David Nichols
CITY CLERK: Benny Gray
DEPUTY CLERK: Charlotte Counce
UTILITY CLERK: Rhonda Wade
ALDERMEN: Jackie Bryant, Beth Davis,
Buddy James, George Long, and
Scotty Skinner

Jingle All The Way!

May the old-fashioned delights of Christmas, makes yours a wonderful holiday.
Our sincere thanks for your kind patronage.

Merry Christmas

From

Iuka Ford & Employees
Jerry Pagitt, Tim Gann, Kenneth Windham



From St. Nicholas to Santa

Christmas and Santa Claus are synonymous in many countries, but this was not always so. The jolly old gent is actually the result of an evolving process through the centuries, although he does have his origins as a real person. To be more accurate, he is probably a combination of St. Nicholas, and an ancient yule god.

St. Nicholas was a fourth-century bishop of Myra in Asia Minor, who had won a reputation for generosity. According to the legend, the good bishop had saved three young maidens from spinsterhood or worse, by providing their impoverished father with dowries for each of the daughters. He supposedly left three bags of gold on the man's window ledge. This is why pawnbrokers, who consider St. Nicholas their patron saint, traditionally have three golden balls outside their shops.

Another legend about St. Nicholas tells of the holy man's discovery of three murdered youngsters; the saint brought them back to life, hence his association with children.

In Holland, St. Nicholas became Santa Klaas, eagerly awaited by youngsters, who would fill their wooden shoes with hay, water and carrots for the saint's horse, and place them before the fireplace.

In the morning, these clogs would be filled with sweets and small presents if the youngsters had been good, or birch rods if they had been naughty.

Santa Claus' connection with the fireplace or chimney can be traced to pre-Christian times when hearth gods and gods of the yule log were honored. In ancient times, there was always a yule figure associated with mid-winter festivals; he was seen sometimes as an old man whose head was wreathed with mistletoe or holly. The northern tribes worshipped the god Woden, who rode across frozen wastes to bring presents to his devotees in the middle of winter.

In some cultures, this pagan yule-

figure evolved into Father Christmas as Christianity took root. In Sweden, Father Christmas still retains a gnomish aspect, but the English see Father Christmas as a tall, wine-flushed reveler.

The Dutch who came to America brought with them their tradition of the benevolent Santa Klaas. It remained for an imaginative professor of Oriental and Greek literature to bring together the elements of the stately bishop of the Dutch and the elfish figures of Northern Europe.

His name was Dr. Clement Clarke Moore, and during the Christmas season of 1822, he wrote a poem for his children that brought to life his own conception of Santa Klaas, now named Santa Claus. He called his poem *The Visit of St. Nicholas*, and in it he described Santa as "a jolly old elf" with twinkling eyes and merry dimples. Interestingly enough, Moore is said to have based his description of Santa on a Dutchman who lived nearby. The man was short and chubby and smoked a pipe. Moore was certainly familiar with the writings of Washington Irving, who had described St. Nicholas, the patron saint of the Dutch colony, and the saint's annual ride over the tree tops in a wagon filled with gifts.

Clement's poem was published a year later and had immediate success with the public. It remained only for the famed cartoonist Thomas Nast to illustrate Moore's conception of Santa Claus to firmly plant that image in the public's mind. Nast's illustrations were closer to the gnome-like figures of the past than contemporary versions of Santa Claus, however. As time went on, other artists changed the furry suit and furry round hat to a red suit and a cap with a tassel.

Today, the image of a jolly and chubby Santa Claus is one that is universally accepted as a symbol of good cheer and generosity to children all over the world.

Greetings

May your holiday season be bright with joy and happiness!

**Merry Christmas
From
Burnsville
Discount
Carpet**



*This brings a wish
at Christmas time
that you always
will be blessed,
with the Peace and
Hope this season
brings and with
lasting happiness.*

Ripley Industries, Inc.

For Kissing

Secular and religious Christmas customs met in the old English, "Kissing" bunch. This evergreen ball had mistletoe, for kissing, hung from the center.

But it also contained small dolls to represent Jesus, Mary and Joseph, as well as an array of fruits and colorful ornaments.

Bulgarian Holiday

New Year's Day is a great day for Bulgarian children who receive their presents and small sums of money in return for the

gifts they ceremoniously present.

Teenagers go visiting, and wishing neighbors a Happy New Year, expect treats and refreshments. But unlike our "trick or treat" of Halloween,

should the supply of goodies run short, the situation is accepted graciously.



**DECK
THE
HALLS!**

Wishing you a bounty of good cheer this holiday season and throughout the year.

Thank you for your loyal support, which has made our year smooth sailing.

WAL-MART

Hwy. 25 South
Iuka, MS



Peace On Earth!

May universal good cheer and the spirit of brotherhood, envelop all mankind in joyous celebration.

Many thanks for your valued friendship.

Dr. T. R. Rolleigh

CHIROPRACTOR

309 No. Main Street - Iuka

Office Hours: Mon.-Wed.-Fri. 9-12, 2-6

Ph. 423-6700

Tues.-Thurs. 9-12

O holy NIGHT



May the peace of that blessed night be with you and yours this Yuletide.

**Bonds Company,
Inc.**



Merry Christmas

City of Burnsville

Bobby Johnson, Mayor

Aldermen:

**Daryl Gaines, James E. Monroe, David Nixon,
Danny Peters and Truman South**



Letters To Santa

Dear St. Nick,
What I want for Christmas is a red and black and yellow and blue cart, a teddy bear set and a house with a cat and a dog and some dolls too. I want a new bicycle and a siren with it. And the last thing I want is a new pony and a horse.

Love, Your Friend,
Shannonnel Sumler

Dear St. Nick,
I am in second grade, I live at 5 Hickman Drive. I want a Red Ranger, 2 monsters, silver Ranger, silver Ranger Mega Zord, and 10 video games.

Your Friend, Logan

Dear Santa Claus,
I am in the second grade. I live at 290 cr. 201. CR stands for Country Road. I am 7 years old. I want a Play Station, N64, BB Gun, remote control car, Sego, go-cart, bike, car convertible. There will be milk and moon pie. And carrots for the reindeer.

Love, Brad Leonard

Dear Santa,
What I want for Christmas is Barbie and Barbie shoes and the last thing I want is to see you in your suit, belt, boots, hat. you are awesome! I love you, I'm going to give you some milk and cookies and a Merry Christmas too!

Love always, Layla
Hagelston

Dear Santa,

I have been a very good girl this year. I would like a table with a chair that you sit at to fix your hair. I would also like a baby doll and some surprises. I will leave you some milk and cookies and some carrots for your reindeer.

Love, Taylor Floyd, age 4

Dear St. Nick,

What I want. I want a bike and ball and books and a baby doll set. I want some Nike Shoes and a Giga Pet a baby Rugrats toy and a big Barbie set and a boyfriend to go with it and lots of other toys and my sister and mom and dad.

Your Friend, Amber R.

Dear Santa,

What I want for Christmas is a glass doll, a taller mom, and in second grade again.

Love Victoria.

Dear Santa,

I am in 2nd grade. I live in Iuka. I am 8 years old. I want a Giga Pet, a wrestling Rino, a Nintendo 64, and a computer. I will set out milk and cookies.

Your friend, Dustin

Morris

Dear Santa,

My name is Jonathan Burns and I am seven years old. I have been good and would like some action figures, maybe star wars and others, if you could find a castle that would be good, too and some surprises.

Love, Jonathan Burns

Dear Santa,

We have been very good girls this year, or have tried to be our best. How are you and Mrs. Claus? How are the reindeer? Everyone is fine we hope. Here is a list of what we would like for Christmas:

Kalee: Spice Girl dolls, skates, T.V., Elmo, dog and a birthstone ring.

Dana: Betty Spaghetti, houseshoes, kitchen set, and surprises.

Rebecca: Boombox, two ballerina barbies, and some surprises.

Haylie: Spice Girl CD, Big Molly kitchen stuff, kite, and a Barbie Head.

Mariah: Spice Girl doll that sings, Blue Clue and some surprises.

Bring what you can and we will be happy, because we know you have lots of kids to get presents. Amanda, and Stephanie were not here when we wrote your letter, but they have been good also. We know you bring them surprises too. We love you, and hope you have a good Christmas also.

Daisy Troop #5

Dear Santa,

My name is Ansley Burns, I will be two in Feb. I have been a good girl. Would you bring me a La La, Pooh and some surprises.

Thank You, Ansley

Burns

Dear Santa,

My name is Tanner Whitaker and I am 3 years old. I would like a Godzilla and a workshop for Christmas. My mommy says I have been a pretty good boy this year, so I hope you will also bring me some surprises. I will put out some milk and cookies for you and some carrots for your reindeer.

Love, Tanner

P.S. Please bring my 3 doggies, Tay, Dakota, and Shadow something too!

We Wish You A Merry Christmas



Many thanks for your kind support.

Merry Christmas
from all the employees of

KIRK'S TIRE & BP STATION

"We Appreciate Your Business"

Hi Santa,

I am six years old and have been about 85 percent good. I would like a talking Tommy, Godzilla and small soldiers if you have enough.

Your Pal, Nathan

Gilchrist

Dear Santa,

My name is Nick, like yours. I am 1 1/2 years old so my mom and dad are helping me write to you. I would like a Bouncing Tiger, a Telly Tubby, and some car and trucks.

Your Friend, Nicholas R.

Gilchrist

Dear Santa,

I have been pretty good this year. I would like for you to bring me a Barbie Station, a Blues Clues Dog. A Talking Tommy Pickles, a Baby Dil Pickles with a Pacifier. A popsicle face Angelica, a Pooh Learning theater, a magna doodle, a T.V. for mine and Nathan's room, a Happy meal baby. A Babbling Cabbage Patch Kid, A Holiday Barbie, some earrings, a teen skipper Babysitter, some Tommy Hilfiger boots, a Pooh necklace, a Barbie Stamper, a Grocery basket with play groceries, a purse with a string, some make-up and money in it, a Lucy tin like Aunt Misty's, a Rudolph movie and a rocking

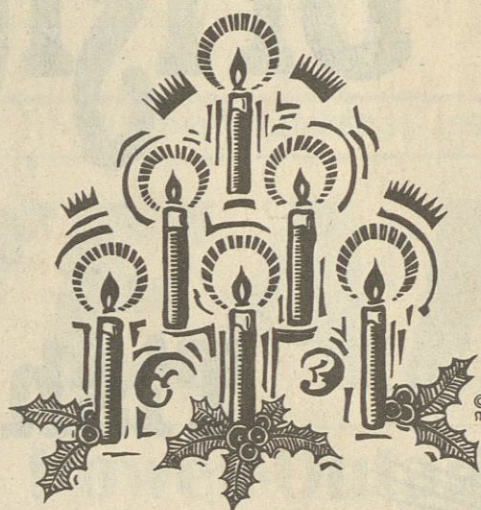
chair. And Anything else you think I should have.

Thanks Victoria Gilchrist
P.S. I'll leave you some milk and cookies by the tree.

MAGIC GIFTS

The gifts brought by the Wise Men all had magical associations: gold for the sun mystery, frankincense as the smoke-maker, and myrrh, the healer.

BRIGHT WISHES



We've been burning the candle at both ends to get ready for Christmas, and now that it's here we'd like to say "thanks", to all of you who've helped light up our lives throughout the year!

Milligan Ready Mix, Inc.

Hwy. 25 No. in Iuka, MS Ph. 423-6238

...O Come All Ye Faithful!

At this holiest time of year, we'd like to join you and your family in giving thanks unto the Lord for his never-ending love and guidance in helping each of us to find our own way.

CASABELLA DIRECT FURNITURE

Factory Direct Prices Everyday
Ph. 286-3127 - 2401 So. Harper Rd. Corinth
Hours: Mon. - Sat. 8 to 8 - Sun. 1 to 5



HAVE A JOLLY GOOD TIME!

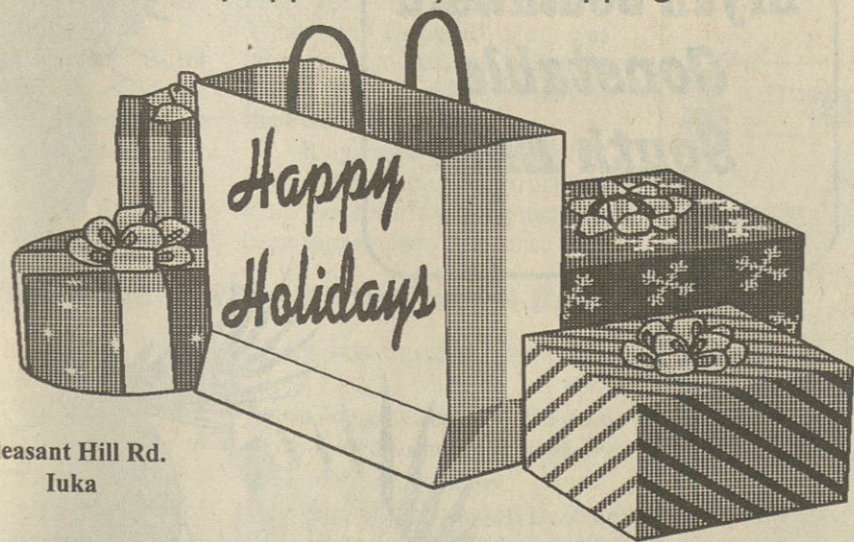
Here's hoping your holiday will be filled with all the wonderful things that spell **CHRISTMAS!** We're really thankful for all the good times we've shared with our friends and neighbors and look forward to serving you in the year ahead.

TIMBES TIRE & EXHAUST
Burnsville, MS



FILLED WITH Good Wishes

Here's hoping lots of merriment is in-store for you and your loved ones this year. We really appreciate your shopping here!



Pleasant Hill Rd.
Iuka

COTTAGE DESIGNS

Season's Greetings

May the beauty of Christmas and the splendor of God's many creations, be a source of inspiration to you at this joyous time of year.

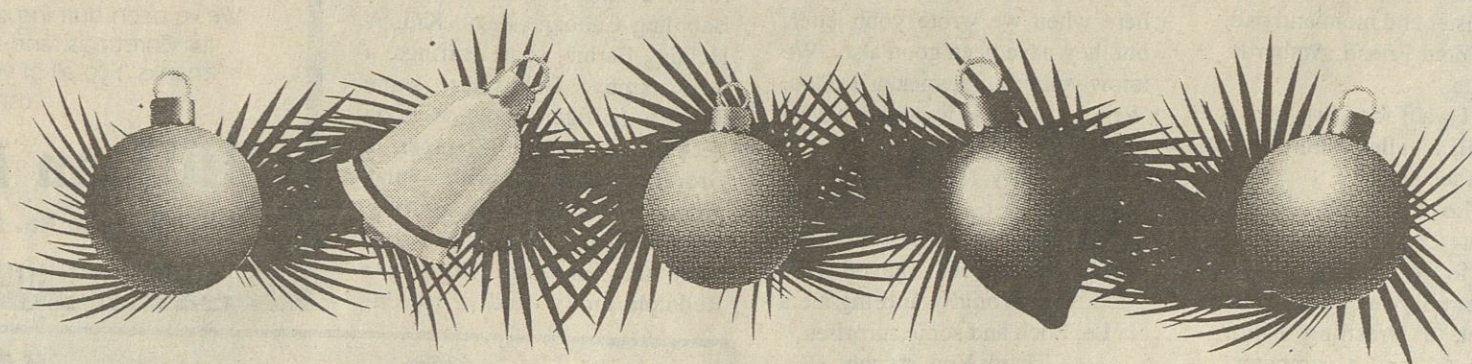
With sincere thanks and best wishes to our many fine friends and neighbors.

WILEY'S DISCOUNT TOBACCO

505 Battleground Drive - Iuka

Bright Christmas Wishes

From Your
Tishomingo County Officials



We'd like to thank all of our friends, far and wide, for all their support throughout the year.

Have A Safe and Happy Holiday

Dale Price
*1st District
Supervisor*

Arlie South
*2nd District
Supervisor*

Danny Ryan
*3rd District
Supervisor*

David Sanders
*4th District
Supervisor*

Leon Cook
*5th District
Supervisor*

Hayden Ables
*Chancery Clerk
& Staff*

Donna Dill
*Circuit Court
Clerk &
Staff*

Paul Whitlock
*Tax Collector
& Staff*

Diana Hester
*Tax Assessor
& Staff*

J. R. Blakney
*Justice Court
Judge - North End
& Staff*

Willie Joe Sparks
*Justice Court
Judge - South End
& Staff*

David Smith
*Sheriff
& Staff*

Nicholas Phillips
*County
Attorney &
Staff*

Tim Bivins
*Constable
North End*

Bryan Southward
*Constable
South End*

Dale White
Coroner