

SEDALIA DEMOCRAT

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EPA tells Sedalia to get the lead out

By Chris Howell
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An EPA requirement for an expansive drinking water survey was brought to the attention of the Sedalia City Council Monday night. Concerned with getting lead out of the water supply, the EPA is requiring municipalities like Sedalia to inventory their water supply lines. Public Works director Brenda Ardrey explained the federal requirement to the council during her Fiscal Year 2024 strategic planning presentation. “AWIA, the American

Water Infrastructure Act lead-lined replacement will be required through an inventory,” Ardrey said. “The city has to inventory all of our service lines going into homes, business, or other commercial structures by Oct. 16, 2024.” The most overwhelming part for Public Works was the government’s demand that the city develop a plan to replace all lead service lines by 2034. “The threshold for replacement is any line 10% of which is lead,” Audrey said.

See | EPA 7A



The Environmental Protection Agency is requiring an inventory and ultimate replacement of lead-contaminated water supply lines which may affect over five thousand Sedalia residences.

PHOTO BY CHRIS HOWELL | DEMOCRAT

Snow blankets Sedalia for Christmas



A Christmas wonderland lights up the night on Par 4 Drive and looks perfect with a layer of freshly fallen snow.

PHOTOS BY CHRIS HOWELL | DEMOCRAT



Downtown Sedalia looks inviting with the Christmas lights, but few brave the frigid temperatures hovering below zero degrees.



Snowmen at Liberty Park seem pleased with the snow and the attention they get from those viewing Christmas lights in the park.

See SNOW | 6A

American Legion to host Christmas meal

By Faith Bemiss
fbemiss@sedaliademocrat.com

American Legion Post 642 will host its 10th annual Christmas Day meal this Sunday. April Niceswander, the Post public manager, said the meal is free to the public and it is open to everyone. She added It will be hosted from 1 p.m. until the Post runs out of food. “We do this every year, and all we ask is for all of our members and all of our workers to bring a dish,” she noted. “We have people who donate turkeys and hams, and potatoes, and

yams. I mean, people donate stuff like that to us every year.” Post Cmdr. Jane Stewart noted the Post Auxiliary provides a free meal on Thanksgiving and the Post provides a meal for Christmas. Both meals are free and open to the public. She added although the meal is free, they do accept freewill donations. “It’s our way of giving back to the community for all that they do to support us,” she said. “We have ham and turkey and homemade noodles and dressing. A traditional Christmas

dinner.” She added they couldn’t provide deliveries, but if someone is homebound, they can help. “If someone knows of someone homebound, they need to call us and get that done before one o’clock,” Stewart noted. The 10th annual American Legion Christmas Day meal will be served at 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 25, at the Post, 2016 W. Main St. For more information, call the Post at 660-827-2750. Faith Bemiss can be reached at 660-530-0289 or on Twitter.

Whittier receives Christmas from local businesses

By Skye Melcher
skym@sedaliademocrat.com

For Christmas this year, Whittier High School students got to enjoy the holiday thanks to local businesses in the area. Whittier High School Social Worker Chase Johnson said since he started working at the school Christmas has been a special time. “We like to provide gifts for our students,” Johnson said. “Give them a good Christmas, a lot of students don’t get that.” This year, Whittier received \$6,650 in gift donations and \$2,500 in gift card donations. This is the biggest Christmas monetary donation the school has received.

The school received these donations from McDonald’s and the Marshall Family, RCL Wiring, Lions Club, Jud Kindle (State Fair Community College Baseball), W-K’s Shop with a Cop and Gardner Denver. Each student at Whittier received a \$25 gift card from McDonald’s to help buy a couple of meals over the holiday break and the rest of the donations were split between the students based on their needs and who wanted to accept gifts.

See LOCAL | 7A



From left stands two unnamed State Fair Community College baseball players , William Franklin, Joshua Fleischman, Madi Martin and another unnamed player outside of Kohl’s. The team took the three Whittier students shopping to purchase \$250 of clothing.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CHASE JOHNSON



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1 More Day Til Christmas

Summer Insurance



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Light Up Liberty!

Light Up Liberty is back and expanded for 2022! Displays will be on nightly starting at 5:30pm – Midnight November 24th – January 1st.

It is FREE to drive thru. However, we will have a bucket for donations if you would like to donate. All money will go directly back to adding more lights for years to come. Thank you to our generous sponsors for helping create this fun holiday tradition!

Our 2022 sponsors include: Tyson Foods, Sacred Heart School Foundation, Bothwell Regional Health Center, Simmons Bank, and REMAX of Sedalia.

Heckart Community Center – Holiday Hours

The Heckart Community Center will be open 7am-3pm on Christmas Eve, December 24th.

We will be closed on Christmas Day, December 25th.

New Year’s Eve, we will be open 7am-5pm and New Year’s Day our hours will be 10am - 7pm. Child Watch and Aquatics hours may differ.

Happy Holidays from all of us at Sedalia Parks and Recreation!

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OBITUARIES

Tammy Sue Hartley

Tammy Sue Hartley, 64, of Sedalia, MO, passed away Thursday, December 22, 2022, at Sylvia G. Thompson Residence Center in Sedalia. She was born on March 18, 1958, in Frankfurt, Germany, the daughter of Donald Warren Baldwin and Elizabeth Ruth Vardeman, who preceded her in death.

Tammy loved riding Harley motorcycles and coloring. She enjoyed chatting with customers when she was working. She loved all her grandbabies but mostly spending time with them.



Tammy is survived by three children, Heather Jetmore (Nathan), Larissa Boone, and Sarah Williams (Johnnie); seven grandchildren, Sadie, Isaac, Amyra, Journi, TJ, King, Jay; two brothers, Dee Baldwin (Nina), Tracy Baldwin; one sister, Lynn Davis, several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at Christ Trinity Lutheran Church on Wednesday, January 4, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.

Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel.

Iris M. Jones

Iris M. Jones, 94, of Sedalia, died Thursday, December 22, 2022, at Golden Oaks Assisted Living in Marshall.

She was born August 19, 1928, in Foston, Minnesota, daughter of Carl and Pauline (Ada) Iverson.

Iris was an avid quilter and donated several quilts to CASA. She attended Epworth

United Methodist Church. Surviving are five children, and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



Inurnment will be held in the spring at Glendale Cemetery, Des Moines, Iowa.

Cremation arrangements are in the care of Heckart Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

DEATH NOTICE

Parkhurst

John Wesley Parkhurst, 85, of Hughesville, died Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2022, at his home. There will be no formal service held at this time. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel.

FUNERALS

Wilken, Judith Carolyn “Judy,”

noon Thursday, Dec. 29 at Heckart Funeral Home. Arrangements are under the direction of Heckart Funeral Home.

Hartley, Tammy Sue

3 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 4 at Christ Trinity Lutheran Church. Arrangements are under the direction of Rea Funeral Chapel.

CRASH REPORTS

Two hurt in Benton accident

Samantha J. Blankenship, 24, of Urich sustained minor injuries, and Preston R. Rose, 28, of Butler sustained minor injuries at 6:20 p.m. Thursday in a Benton County accident.

According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol report, Rose was driving a 2004 Ford Ranger north on CR 12753 when he traveled off the roadway, struck an embankment and overturned.

Neither occupant was wearing a seat belt, they were transported by Bates County EMS to Bates County Memorial Hospital in Butler.

California woman hurt in Moniteau accident

Marlene C. Almacan, 37, of California sus-

tained minor injuries at 11:53 a.m. Thursday in a Moniteau County accident.

According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol report, Almacan was driving a 2012 Toyota Highlander north on State Highway 179 north of Moniteau Creek Road when she lost control due to weather conditions. She went off the west side of the roadway and overturned.

Almacan was not wearing a seat belt, and was transported by ambulance to Saint Mary’s Hospital in Blue Springs.

Information is taken from preliminary Missouri State Highway Patrol reports, which do not necessarily contain statements from all parties involved.

Compiled by Chris Howell.



Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy holds an American flag that was gifted to him by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of Calif., after he addressed a joint meeting of Congress on Capitol Hill in Washington, Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2022. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of Calif., left, and Vice President Kamala Harris, to her right.

AP PHOTO | J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE

Pageantry evoking Churchill greets Zelenskyy in Washington

By Chris Megerian

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — At a time of grave consequence, a wartime leader crossed the Atlantic to arrive at a White House decked in holiday decor to consult with the American president about a war in Europe.

The moment was Dec. 22, 1941, as British Prime Minister Winston Churchill landed near Washington to meet with President Franklin D. Roosevelt just weeks after the attack on Pearl Harbor. Almost 81 years later to the day, the pageantry of that trip was echoed on Wednesday as Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy arrived for a surprise visit with President Joe Biden and an address to Congress.

Zelenskyy is a changed leader since he last came to the White House more than a year ago, when Russia’s bloody invasion of Ukraine was still over history’s horizon. The former comedian was somber, even grim, in a black suit as he spoke about threats to his country’s security. Now perpetually dressed in army green fatigues, he evokes comparisons to Churchill for his fierce defense of a country facing an existential crisis.

His heightened stature on the world stage was reflected as soon as he entered the White House grounds, where he was greeted by a color guard lining the driveway on a brisk winter day. A red carpet was waiting for him, and Zelenskyy shook hands with Biden and first lady Jill Biden.

Together, they posed for pictures before ducking into the building.

The two presidents walked to the Oval Office, where they sat in armchairs in front of a portrait of Roosevelt. There was a roaring fire in the fireplace and a Christmas garland draped over the mantle, giving the room a cozy holiday ambience despite the grim reason for the meeting.

Biden told Zelenskyy that the Ukrainian people “inspire the world” and said that “you are the man of the year in the United States of America,” referencing Zelenskyy’s recognition from Time magazine.

Zelenskyy, speaking in English, thanked Biden with “all my heart” for the American support. He presented Biden with a medal that had been awarded to the Ukrainian captain of a HIMARS battery, a rocket system provided by the U.S.

“He’s very brave, and he said, give it to a very brave president,” Zelenskyy said.

Biden called the gift “undeserved but much appreciated.”

The war in Ukraine is the largest conflict in Europe since World War II, but it’s often been discussed in abstract terms in Washington as officials debate how to help Ukraine.

Zelenskyy’s presence eliminated that distance, if only for the several hours that he spent here. At a news conference with Biden at the White House, he ruminated on the potential for a “just peace” when the war ends.

As a national leader, he said, he wants to protect the “sovereignty, freedom and territorial

integrity of my country.” But he also wondered about parents who have lost children.

“The longer the war lasts, the longer this aggression lasts, there will be more parents that live for the sake of vengeance,” he said in Ukrainian.

He briefly struggled to find “the proper language” to describe the Russian invaders before settling on “these inhumans.”

Still in his brown boots, Zelenskyy toured the U.S. Capitol rotunda with legislative leaders and addressed a joint meeting of Congress. Some lawmakers wore the Ukrainian colors of blue and yellow.

Zelenskyy received a standing ovation, and appeared almost bashful when he began speaking.

“It’s too much for me,” he said.

Speaking again in English, Zelenskyy’s voice was gravelly and defiant as he insisted that Ukraine “will never surrender” in the face of Russia’s “primitive” tactics.

But the creases on his face betrayed fatigue from months of war and the whirlwind journey to Washington. He traveled under American protection, accompanied by the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine on a train to Poland. Then he was whisked to a U.S. government plane for the flight.

Security was tightened around the White House, with pedestrians barred from Pennsylvania Avenue. A privacy screen was erected at the entrance to Blair House, the traditional lodging for visiting dignitaries, to camouflage Zelenskyy when he

arrived to prepare for his meeting with Biden.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., drew a connection between Zelenskyy and Churchill. Her father, Thomas D’Alessandro Jr., was a member of the House at the time of Churchill’s 1941 visit. The British leader addressed Congress on the day after Christmas.

“Eighty-one years later this week, it is particularly poignant for me to be present when another heroic leader addresses the Congress in a time of war — and with Democracy itself on the line,” Pelosi wrote in a letter to colleagues.

Ukraine has astounded the world with its ability to stave off the invasion, and it recently reclaimed some of its territory from Russian troops.

There are fresh concerns, however, about the future of a conflict approaching its second year. Russia has continued its aerial bombardment of Ukrainian cities, and Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said his country’s military would expand from 1 million to 1.5 million personnel.

At the end of his speech, Zelenskyy presented a Ukrainian flag, signed by soldiers near the front line, to Pelosi and Vice President Kamala Harris.

Pelosi returned the favor by gifting Zelenskyy a folded, framed American flag that had flown over the Capitol earlier in the day.

Zelenskyy held it aloft, then carried it with him, lawmakers patting him on the back as he rushed toward the exit, headed back to war.

Photo Submissions

We invite readers to submit photos for “Community Snapshot,” which features images of local residents and events. Images must be current, in JPEG format and must be the property of the person submitting the photo. Please include your name, city and a contact telephone number with your submission (phone numbers will not be published). Please also include the names of all persons in the photo and any additional information. Email your submissions to news@sedaliademocrat.com.

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SFCC students receive Gulstad Achievement Scholarship

Three State Fair Community students have been selected by the Central Methodist University (CMU) College of Graduate and Extended Studies to receive the Gulstad Achievement Scholarship for the 2022-2023 academic year.

Abigail Lewis of Clinton was awarded \$1,000. Jake Wheatley of Windsor was awarded \$1,000, and Ashley Smallwood of Camdenton was awarded \$500. This scholarship is available to students who have graduated from SFCC with an associate degree and are interested in continuing their studies at CMU's extended sites, of which SFCC is one, or online. The scholarship award is applied toward tuition and is renewable for up to two years based on successful completion of academic coursework at CMU.

CMU and State Fair Community College have collaborated for many years because of a mutual commitment to serve students by providing high quality educational programs and services. These two institutions seek to assist students in making a seamless transfer from the associate to the baccalaureate degree by clarifying transfer policies and procedures between programs.

The Gulstad Achievement Scholarship is named after longtime CMU Provost Dr. Rita Gulstad. The scholarship is specifically designed for community college students who want to complete a four-year degree. It became available in January 2018 and is one of the largest private institution-provided scholarships for community college transfer students.

"The Gulstad Achievement Scholarship is named to honor an outstanding CMU educator



Abigail Lewis



Jake Wheatley



Ashley Smallwood

who has done so much to provide degree completion opportunities for community college students," said CMU President Roger Drake. "It provides a pathway to a great education and a life well-lived for students who have earned an associate degree at a partner institution."

To learn more about CMU's programs and services at SFCC, please contact Crissina Kemp, CMU Sedalia Site Coordinator at ckemp@central-methodist.edu or 660-596-7276. Kemp's office is in Fielding Technical Center, Room 232.

Release courtesy of State Fair Community College.

Loved or hated, Fauci's parting advice: Stick to the science

By Lauran Neergaard
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Long before the bobbleheads and the "Fauci ouchie," Dr. Anthony Fauci was a straight-shooter about scary diseases — and "stick with the science" remains his mantra.

Fauci steps down from a five-decade career in public service at the end of the month, one shaped by the HIV pandemic early on and the COVID-19 pandemic at the end.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Fauci said he leaves excited by the prospect of advances such as next-generation coronavirus vaccines — but worried that misinformation and outright lies mark a "profoundly dangerous" time for public health and science.

"Untruths abound and we almost normalize untruths," Fauci said. "I worry about my own field of health, but I also worry about the country."

Fauci, who turns 82 on Christmas Eve, has been a physician-scientist at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases for 54 years, and its director for 38 of them.

Because he candidly puts complex science into plain English, Fauci has advised seven presidents, from Ronald Reagan to Joe Biden, about a long list of outbreaks — HIV, Ebola, Zika, bird flu, pandemic flu, even the 2001 anthrax attacks.

"Stick with the science and never be afraid to tell somebody something that is the truth — but it's an inconvenient truth in which there might be the possibility of the messenger getting shot," Fauci said. "You don't worry about that. You just keep telling the truth."

He added, with characteristic understatement: "That's served me really quite well with one exception that, you know, the truth generated a lot of hostility towards me in one administration."

For all his prior influence on national and even global responses to infectious diseases, it wasn't until COVID-19 paralyzed the world in early 2020 that Fauci became a household name — giving the latest updates at daily White House press conferences and in frequent media interviews.

But eventually, Fauci found himself having to contradict then-President Donald Trump's attempts to downplay the severity of the viral threat and promote unproven treatments. Trump and his allies began attacking Fauci, who even received death threats that required a security detail for his protection.

As the world enters another year of COVID-19, Fauci still is a frequent target of the far right — but also remains a trusted voice for millions of Americans.

Under his watch, researchers at the National



Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases, is sworn in before a House Subcommittee on the Coronavirus crisis hearing, July 31, 2020, on Capitol Hill in Washington. Fauci steps down from a five-decade career in public service at the end of the month, one shaped by the HIV pandemic early on and the COVID-19 pandemic at the end.

FILE PHOTO BY KEVIN DIETSCH | POOL VIA AP

Institutes of Health laid the scientific groundwork for the speedy development of powerful coronavirus vaccines. An analysis released by the Commonwealth Fund last week found the shots saved 3.2 million lives in the U.S. alone and prevented 18.5 million hospitalizations.

With another winter uptick underway, Fauci's disappointed that just 14% of people eligible for the updated COVID-19 boosters — shots that add protection against omicron strains — have gotten one.

"That doesn't make any sense at all, when you have a vaccine that you know is life-saving," he said. But he's also looking forward to next-generation vaccines that do a better job of preventing infection, citing promising leads like nasal vaccines.

For all the political attacks, the public did struggle to understand why some of

his and others' health advice changed as the pandemic wore on — such as why masks first were deemed unnecessary and later mandated in certain places.

Fauci said one of the pandemic's lessons is to better convey that it's normal for messages to change as scientists make new discoveries.

"That doesn't mean you're flip-flopping. That means you're actually following the science," he said.

Fauci has had a hand in life-saving scientific advances for decades. As a young researcher at the National Institutes of Health, he helped develop highly effective therapies for rare but once-fatal blood vessel diseases known as vasculitis syndromes.

Then came the AIDS crisis and days that Fauci, treating patients in NIH's hospital, recalled as "very dark and very difficult."

"As a physician you're trained to heal people. And

we weren't healing anybody. Everybody was dying in front of us."

Fauci created an AIDS division that, together with drug companies and universities, led research into drugs that eventually transformed HIV into a manageable chronic disease. Later, under President George W. Bush, Fauci helped develop PEP-FAR, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, to bring those HIV medications to poor countries. The program is credited with saving more than 20 million lives over the past 20 years.

But it took years to get even the first anti-AIDS medications — and in the late 1980s and early '90s, furious activists protested what they saw as government indifference. Fauci brought the activists to the table, making it standard practice for patient advocates to have a voice in government decisions about drug research.

Grinches arrested after local package thefts

A Sedalia Police Department press release announced that on Nov. 18 they received a report of people stealing packages off a front porch. Through investigation it was found the suspects stole packages from other homes as well.

Investigators from the Latent Crime Investigation Unit and Crime Resolution Unit executed a search warrant Wednesday at 1011 S. Harrison Ave. Several stolen packages were located in the original boxes as well as drug paraphernalia and gun accessories including magazines and ammunition.

Jessica Collins was arrested on a probation

violation warrant, felon in possession of a prohibited weapon, and possession of drug paraphernalia. Dustin Galloway was arrested on a failure to appear warrant.

Police encountered a dog which had been previously declared to be vicious and had to be banned from the city limits. The dog was turned over to Animal Services.

Additional property was seized from the residence that is believed to have been stolen but not reported. If you have been the victim of porch piracy recently, contact Detective Kirra Pappert at 660-827-7823 extension 1250 to check recovered property.

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Boy who got new heart inspires tribe to boost organ donation

By Felicia Fonseca
Associated Press

Greyson Parisien's time on earth was short. But the boy with dark-rimmed eye-glasses who was enchanted by the music in "Frozen," the sound of ripping paper and his dad playing the guitar is having an outsized impact on his tribal community in the far reaches of North Dakota.

His journey to correct an irregular heart led the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians to add an organ donation box to tribal IDs, which it unveiled during a November ceremony.

The rate of organ donations among Native Americans is much lower than other ethnic groups. For some tribes, cultural beliefs are a factor. In rural communities, time, distance and spotty internet access can hinder the process.

"You don't think about donation and how many people are not donors," said Greyson's grandmother, Joan Azure. "I was thinking, 'There has to be more donors.' When you're going through this personally, you don't want someone to die but you also want your child to live."

Fewer than 1% of the 100,000 people nationwide waiting for organ transplants are Native Americans, who make up nearly 3% of the U.S. population.

The figures are higher in some states, including New Mexico where 1 in 5 people on the waiting list are Native American. In South Dakota, North Dakota and Minnesota, nearly 5% of patients awaiting an organ donation are Native American.

Greyson had surgery at 5 months to correct a heart problem, and then he needed an external device to pump blood through his small body. A heart transplant allowed him to leave the hospital after a year and return to the Turtle Mountain reservation, headquartered in Belcourt, North Dakota.

Tribal members followed Greyson's treatment through updates his family posted on social media. They saw him hooked up to medical equipment and dressed sharply in boxy eyeglasses, bow ties and khakis, his hair combed in a mohawk.

When he died suddenly



This photo provided by ReeAnne Parisien shows her son, Greyson, relaxing at home in Belcourt, N.D., in August 2019. Greyson's journey to correct a heart defect led the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians to designate a spot on tribal IDs for organ donation.

PHOTO BY REEANNE PARISIEN VIA AP

of pneumonia in September 2019, the community sought understanding and assurance that it wasn't because of his new heart. He was 21 months old.

Greyson's story and spirit live on in parades, powwows and conversations. Joan Azure also highlights her grandson during a week devoted to children born with congenital heart problems.

The Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians honored Greyson this year with a resolution to add an organ donation box to tribal IDs. The tribe unveiled the IDs in November, waived the \$10 fee and encouraged tribal members to check the box.

"Today is a monumental day that people will remember, especially Native nations, for decades to come," tribal Chairman Jamie Azure said, standing next to Greyson's photo, was taken after he got a new heart — smiling with arms stretched to the sky.

The tribe believes it could be the first of the 574 federally recognized Native American nations to designate a spot on tribal IDs for organ donors.

Susan Mau Larson, the

chief strategy officer for LifeSource, part of a network of nearly 60 organ procurement organizations, said she hopes other tribes follow suit. Several are working with tribal communities to raise awareness of organ donation and transplant.

Those conversations can be tough, especially when personal or traditional beliefs don't align with Western medicine. They happen in tribal communities, at events and in hospital rooms as someone nears the end of their life. And there are guidelines: Identify the decision maker in a family. Tell a story, don't explain the process. Give the family time to discuss. Be comfortable with silence. And comfort families, regardless of the decision.

In the Southwest, Darryl Madalena encourages tribal members to think about becoming organ donors by making a connection between kidney disease — which afflicts Native Americans at higher rates than the U.S. population — and organ donation and receipt.

He talks about tribes' increasing reliance on Western medicine and asks, hypothetically, if members would be prevented from

journeying on if they had a pacemaker or an artificial hip. If not, why not donate or receive an organ?

"So much of westernized medicine is in the fabric of our communities, our lives, our culture," said Madalena, the Native American liaison for New Mexico Donor Services. "If you pull one string, that may be very detrimental to the health of Natives."

Madalena's work is partly driven by the memory of his partner, Mylia Phouamkha, a Hopi woman who died within a week of being hospitalized with liver problems in 2019, without enough time to seriously consider a transplant.

She and Madalena had a son together, Micca, who was 2 years old at the time.

"If your heart tells you and you have it within yourself to have a transplant if you need it ...I would say yes, do it," said her father, Myron Ami, as Micca sat on his lap.

Madalena has faced criticism for mentioning death, which can be a taboo topic. His community of Jemez Pueblo in New Mexico believes that people enter this world physically and spiritually whole, and that they should leave the same way.

"That's what we're taught, that's what the beliefs still are," he said.

The Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians doesn't hold the same beliefs, Joan Azure said. About 40% of people in Rollette County where the tribe is based have signed up to become organ donors, compared to 65% overall in North Dakota.

Education, means or opportunity are big factors, said Mau Larson. Simply getting a driver's license means traveling 80 miles (130 kilometers) from the Turtle Mountain reservation. But tribal IDs are renewed every two years, giving tribal members a more frequent opportunity to choose organ donation.

Studies show that organ recipients are best matched with donors of similar genetic makeup, Mau Larson said. Kidneys are especially needed in Native American communities, where one-quarter of the population is diabetic, she said.

Greyson and his family spent much of his life in Rochester, Minnesota, for his medical care, hundreds of miles from the rolling hills and lakes of the Turtle Mountain reservation. His heart came from a girl

named Coralynn, whose picture on a puzzle piece was interlocked with Greyson's on a parade float banner reading "Not all Heroes Wear Capes!"

After Greyson died, his family asked a Turtle Mountain elder to to bestow a traditional name upon him, through their creator. The elder was in a sweat lodge praying when it came to him: "Waasizo Gichi Anong Ningaabii' Anong," or "Shining Big Star in the West," said Joan Azure.

"Even in his worst moments, his smile shined brightly, his presence brought happiness and light to everyone he came into contact with," she said. "And he provided guidance to many with that bright shining light through his bravery and strength."

Fonseca reported from Flagstaff, Arizona. Fonseca covers Indigenous communities on the AP's Race and Ethnicity Team. Contributing to this report were Associated Press writers Susan Montoya Bryan in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Dave Kolpack in Belcourt, North Dakota.

Adnan Syed hired by Georgetown's prison reform initiative

By Brian Witte
Associated Press

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP) — Adnan Syed, who was released from a Maryland prison this year after his case was the focus of the true-crime podcast "Serial," has been hired by Georgetown University as a program associate for the university's Prisons and Justice Initiative, the university said.

Syed started working this month for the initiative, which advocates for others in the criminal legal system, the university tweeted Wednesday.

day.

In his new role, Syed will support Georgetown's "Making an Exonerée" class, in which students reinvestigate decades-old wrongful convictions, create short documentaries about the cases and work to help bring innocent people home from prison, the university wrote in an online announcement.

"PJI's team and programming has so much to gain from Adnan's experience, insight, and commitment to serving incarcerated people and returning citizens," the organization tweeted.

Syed had been one of 25 incarcerated students at Georgetown's inaugural Bachelor of Liberal Arts program at the Patuxent Institute in Jessup, Maryland, during the year leading up to his release, the university said.

"To go from prison to being a Georgetown student and then to actually be on campus on a pathway to work for Georgetown at the Prisons and Justice Initiative, it's a full circle moment," Syed said in the university's announcement. "PJI changed my life. It changed my family's life. Hopefully I can have

the same kind of impact on others."

Syed, 41, hopes to continue his Georgetown education and eventually go to law school.

After spending 23 years in prison, he walked out of a Baltimore courthouse in September after a judge overturned his conviction for the 1999 murder of high school student Hae Min Lee, Syed's ex-girlfriend.

Baltimore Circuit Court Judge Melissa Phinn ordered his release at the behest of prosecutors who said they had recently uncovered new

evidence.

Prosecutors said a reinvestigation of the case revealed evidence regarding the possible involvement of two alternate suspects. The two suspects may have been involved individually or together, the state's attorney's office said.

The suspects were known persons at the time of the original investigation and were not properly ruled out nor disclosed to the defense, prosecutors said.

Baltimore State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby's office also cited new results from DNA

testing that was conducted using a more modern technique than when evidence in the case was first tested. The recent testing excluded Syed as a suspect, prosecutors said.

Syed always maintained his innocence. His case captured the attention of millions in 2014 when the debut season of "Serial" focused on Lee's killing and raised doubts about some of the evidence prosecutors had used. The program shattered podcast-streaming and downloading records.

Our Savior LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our Christmas Eve Service of Lessons & Carols is at 7 P.M. on the 24th

Christmas Day Worship 9 A.M. on the 25th

New Years Eve Services at 7 P.M.

New's Years Day Service at 9 A.M.

3700 W Broadway in Sedalia

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

7:00pm December 24, 2022

Christ & Trinity Lutheran Church

2101 W. 32nd St • Sedalia

Calvary Episcopal Church

Corner of Broadway & Ohio

Christmas Eve Service

December 24th at 5:00 p.m.

Come as you are. All are welcome.

The Rev. Anne Meredith Kyle, rector

12/20/24

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O' COME LET US

Adore Him

CHRIST the LORD

For unto us a child
is born, unto us a son is
given and His name shall be
called Wonderful, Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting
Father, Prince of Peace.

ISAIAH 9:6

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To download a free Bible for your phone, go to www.mardel.com/bible.

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672966c1



The white stone of the Carnegie Library on Third Street is a match for the snow on the expansive lawn.

PHOTOS BY CHRIS HOWELL | DEMOCRAT



Santa waves from a porch on Par 4 Drive as frosty chills-out in the yard.



The Christmas tree at the Heckart Community towers over the facility on West Third Street.



Reindeer accurately proclaim 'Tis the Season' at Liberty Park. Winter scenes grace the island on Liberty Park pond.

THE WEATHER

 AccuWeather | Go to [AccuWeather.com](https://www.accuweather.com)

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
17 1	22 12	29 7	29 25	51 46	60 46	55 42
						
Breezy in the morning	Cold with clouds and sun	Cold; flurries in the morning	Cold with clouds and sun	Mostly cloudy; breezy, warmer	Cloudy, a shower; milder	Some rain and a thunderstorm

SUN AND MOON

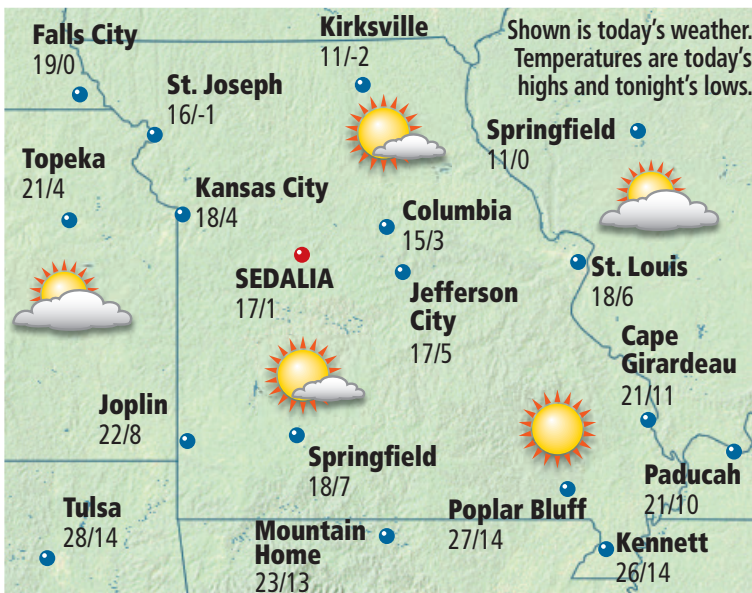
Sunrise today	7:29 a.m.		
Sunset tonight	4:56 p.m.		
Moonrise today	9:05 a.m.		
Moonsset today	6:21 p.m.		
First	Full	Last	New
			
Dec 29	Jan 6	Jan 14	Jan 21

WEATHER HISTORY

From AccuWeather, we send you this greeting: Happy Holidays to all and we hope it is not sleeting! At the North Pole, we trust that jolly old St. Nick will plan the best route that he can pick.

ALMANAC

Sedalia Regional Airport Thursday	
TEMPERATURES	
High	35
Low	-6
Normal high	41
Normal low	22
Record high	66 in 1957
Record low	-21 in 1989
PRECIPITATION	
Thursday	Trace
Month to date	1.69"
Normal m-t-d	1.63"
Year to date	39.06"
Normal y-t-d	43.02"
HEATING DEGREE DAYS	
Index of energy consumption indicating how many degrees the average temperature was below 65 degrees for the day.	
Thursday	50
Month to date	623
Season to date	1520
Normal season to date	1732
Last season to date	1126
RIVER LEVELS	
In feet as of 7 a.m. Friday	
Blackwater	Stage Chg Fld Stg
Blue Lick	7.16 -0.04 24
Valley City	2.95 -0.16 22
Lamine	
Otterville	1.23 -0.10 15
Missouri	
Boonville	2.96 -0.14 21

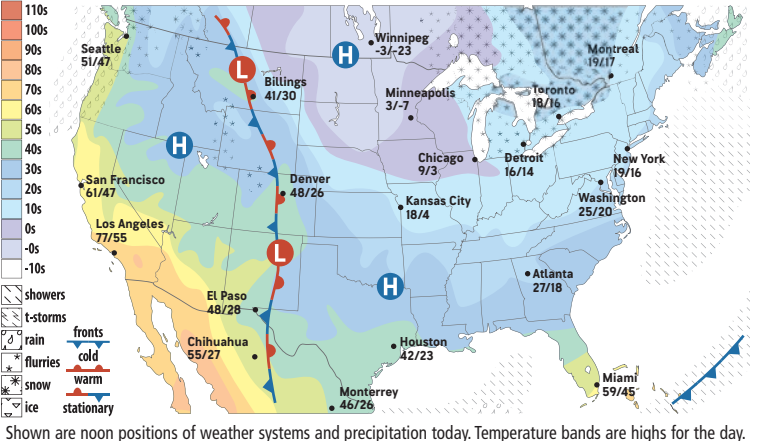


BRANSON
High: 23. Low: 10. Mostly sunny today. Partly cloudy tonight. Coldest Christmas Eve in years; bundle up. Mostly sunny tomorrow.
KANSAS CITY
High: 18. Low: 4. Partly sunny today. Partly cloudy and bitterly cold tonight. Cold tomorrow with clouds and sunshine. Monday: a couple of flurries.
ST. LOUIS
High: 18. Low: 6. Partly sunny and breezy today. Frigid tonight. Coldest Christmas Eve in years; bundle up. Mostly sunny tomorrow.
NEW YORK CITY
High: 19. Low: 16. Breezy during the morning; otherwise, partly sunny today. Very cold tonight. Plenty of sunshine tomorrow.
LOS ANGELES
High: 77. Low: 55. Warm today with plenty of sun; a warm Santa Ana pattern for Christmas weekend. Partly cloudy tonight. Brilliant sunshine tomorrow.

NATIONAL WEATHER

	Today	Sunday
Atlanta	27/18/s	34/20/s
Baltimore	21/15/pc	28/16/s
Billings	41/30/pc	47/27/sh
Boston	22/16/pc	29/22/s
Buffalo	17/14/sn	25/16/c
Charlotte	33/17/s	37/18/s
Chicago	9/3/pc	14/7/s
Cleveland	12/10/sf	17/7/c
Dallas	38/24/s	45/28/s
Denver	48/26/pc	55/25/pc
Detroit	16/14/sn	22/11/c
Honolulu	83/68/pc	82/68/pc
Houston	42/23/s	49/24/s
Indianapolis	13/3/c	16/11/s
Las Vegas	64/43/s	63/44/s
Milwaukee	12/3/c	13/7/s
Nashville	23/15/pc	26/16/s
New Orleans	37/29/s	44/30/pc
Norfolk	29/22/s	36/22/s
Oklahoma City	28/12/s	40/25/s
Orlando	47/29/s	47/33/c
Phoenix	69/45/s	71/45/s
Pittsburgh	11/8/c	15/9/pc
Portland, ME	21/14/pc	26/19/s
Portland, OR	52/45/r	53/47/c
Sacramento	56/41/pc	56/43/pc
St. Louis	18/6/pc	21/19/s
San Francisco	61/47/pc	60/49/pc
Seattle	51/47/r	50/47/sh
Washington, DC	25/20/s	33/21/s

Weather (W): s - sunny, pc - partly cloudy, c - cloudy, sh - showers, t - thunderstorms, r - rain, sf - snow flurries, sn - snow, i - ice



Summary: As much of the nation stays in a deep freeze today, high winds and heavy lake-effect snow will lead to blizzard conditions near the Great Lakes. A storm will bring rain, ice and snow to the Northwest.



EPA

From Page 1A

“We are estimating that in the city of Sedalia between lead service lines, galvanized lines which have been lead contaminated, and lead-joined pipe, we likely have somewhere between five to six thousand customers that will be impacted by this project.”

Unlike any project Ardrey had ever seen, the federally mandated requirement differs from normal operations as it includes a requirement on the public water supplier to replace impaired service lines on the customer side of the meter.

“To get that number accurate,” Ardrey said. “We have to go in and look at any homes that have service lines placed before 1986.”

“Is there any federal funding for that?” asked City Administrator Kelvin Shaw.

“Grant funding,” replied Ardrey.

Mayor Andrew Dawson asked how far the line replacements would go into resident’s homes and

who was responsible for the costs.

“According to the EPA, it is a shared responsibility,” Ardrey answered. “For the first time EPA has placed on the public drinking water provider the responsibility to inventory on the private side of the meter. So, this is a first-time federal event in drinking water.”

The EPA is requiring the city to know if the lead supply on the homeowner’s property may be contaminated. An issue that may bring concerns of property rights and municipal duties to the fore.

“So, do you know if we can just knock on the door and go into the basement and see galvanized pipe in the basement and say it’s here?” Dawson asked. “Or are we going to have to dig from the meter back to the foundation anyway?”

“I don’t think we’ve got the answer for that,” Ardrey admitted.

Though the EPA’s deadline to get the lead out is 12 years away, Ardrey said she will need to immediately hire up to six additional workers for the lead supply line inventory due in less than two years.

Chris Howell can be reached at 660-530-0146.

Local

From Page 1A

Johnson did encourage students who didn’t want to accept gifts to do it.

“I go off of need,” Johnson added. “It depends on their living situation and the amount of income the family may make. I kind of assess each student and family’s life situation and then I make a determination on which students get more and which student still gets something but not as much.”

Students received gifts from RCL Wiring and were very in awe when they saw the trailer outside the school filled with gifts. Each student who participated in Shop with a Cop received \$100 that they could use to purchase things from Walmart.

The SFCC Baseball team and Coach Kindle were able to take three students, who needed it the most and purchase \$250 worth of new clothes.

Johnson added that having these donations come in allows the students to see that their community supports them.

“And that means a lot of them,” Johnson said. “Them being able to see someone help them, in turn, we hope that when they leave here it sparks

something in them to help others. That whole cycle of giving back.”

According to Johnson, The students love that they are receiving this support from the community.

He had received a text message from a student who thanked him, that they love the gift and it was the best Christmas gift anyone has given them.

“It’s good that we’re able to provide that to the students,” Johnson added,

One of the reasons that Johnson loves to participate in this project is grounded in his social work soul, he’s in it to help others and help the students reach their goals and become better people.

“I’m in it mainly to teach them those qualities,” Johnson added. “What it takes to be a good human, you give, you help out. By being the example and showing them those things, in turn, hopefully, they will take that with them when they leave.”

Words can’t describe how Johnson feels about all the support the school has received from the community.

Johnson said that the staff at the school hopes to get more donations next year so they can provide more to the students.

Skye Melcher can be reached at 660-530-0144.



Monsignor William Lynn arrives for a preliminary hearing in his retrial of his child endangerment case at the Center for Criminal Justice in Philadelphia, March 28, 2017. Lynn, the longtime secretary for clergy, was accused of sending a known predator, named on a list of problem priests he had prepared for Cardinal Bevilacqua, to an accuser’s northeast Philadelphia parish. Lynn served nearly three years in state prison before appeals courts threw out his felony child endangerment conviction, and he pleaded no contest in November 2022 to a misdemeanor charge of failing to turn over records to the 2002 grand jury.

AP PHOTO | MATT ROURKE

20-year church abuse probe ends with monsignor's quiet plea

By Maryclaire Dale

Associated Press

Twenty years after city prosecutors convened a grand jury to investigate the handling of priest-abuse complaints within the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia, the tortuous legal case came to an end with a cleric’s misdemeanor no contest plea in a near-empty City Hall courtroom.

Monsignor William Lynn, 71, had served nearly three years in state prison as appeals courts reviewed the fiery three-month trial that led to his felony child endangerment conviction in 2012. The verdict was twice overturned, leaving prosecutors pursuing the thinning case in recent years with a single alleged victim whose appearance in court was in doubt.

In the end, they said Lynn could end the two-decade ordeal by pleading no contest to a charge of failing to turn over records to the 2002 grand jury. A judge took the plea during a short break from her civil caseload last month, and imposed no further punishment.

“He lost 10 years of his life, 10 years of his priestly life,” said defense lawyer Thomas Bergstrom, speaking of the decade since Lynn’s conviction. “It’s a travesty. It’s an absolute travesty.”

“You’re fighting an uphill battle because the public at large misunderstood what he was convicted of. They thought he was an abuser,” Bergstrom said.

Lynn was the first U.S. church official ever charged, convicted or imprisoned over their handling of priest-abuse complaints.

His trial attracted a packed courtroom full of press, priest-abuse victims and outraged Catholics, along with a few church loyalists. Lynn, the longtime secretary for clergy, was accused of sending a known predator — named on a list of problem priests he had prepared for Cardinal Anthony Bevilacqua — to an accuser’s northeast Philadelphia parish.

The trial judge allowed nearly two dozen other priest-abuse victims to testify about abuse they had suffered in the archdiocese over a half century. An appeals court later said their weeks of testimony over uncharged acts were unfair to Lynn — who some saw as a scapegoat for the church, given that the bishops and cardinals above him were never charged.

“This is one defendant, one count of endangering the welfare of children, with one group of children,” Judge Gwendolyn Bright said before his retrial was set to start in March 2020. “We’re not bringing in the

so-called or alleged ‘sins of the Catholic Church.’”

The pandemic closed the courthouse, and the case against Lynn stalled yet again until the recent plea offer.

A spokesperson for District Attorney Larry Krasner, who inherited the case from his predecessors, called Lynn’s unannounced Nov. 2 plea “the appropriate path for bringing finality and closure to the victims, who have endured retraumatization throughout the legal process for years” and said they did not want to face another trial.

The archdiocese did not immediately return a message seeking comment.

Lynn, who remains a priest, has been saying Mass for retired nuns and hopes to assume more duties, according to Bergstrom, who declined to make his client available to the press on Wednesday.

At his trial, Lynn said he had made a list of 35 suspected predator priests so Bevilacqua would address the matter, only to have the list be destroyed.

“I did not intend any harm to come to (the victim). The fact is, my best was not good enough to stop that harm,” Lynn testified.

In recent years, prosecutors were not sure they could get the trial accuser — a policeman’s son who

testified to his long struggle with addiction — back in court for the retrial, complicating their trial strategy. Assistant District Attorney Patrick Blessington, the lead trial prosecutor in 2012, had said he could try the case without a victim by arguing that Lynn had placed “a bomb” in the parish, whether or not it went off.

Blessington is now retired. And, ultimately, District Attorney Krasner decided not to try that strategy.

“The victims in this matter expressed to the commonwealth that proceeding (with another trial) ... would cause irreparable harm and further victimize them,” his office said in its statement.

The trial accuser said that he had been abused by two priests and his Catholic school teacher. One of them, defrocked priest Edward Avery, took a plea offer days before trial. The Rev. Charles Engelhardt, who said he had never met the accuser, was convicted at a 2013 trial and died in prison. Teacher Bernard Shero was released in 2017 after his conviction was overturned and, like Lynn, pleaded no contest to lesser charges.

The priest-abuse scandal has cost the Roman Catholic church an estimated \$3 billion or more, and plunged dioceses around the world into bankruptcy.

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SEDALIA DEMOCRAT

CONTRIBUTING COLUMN

Time for a little Christmas magic

*“Some say that ever ‘gainst that season comes
Wherein our Saviour’s birth is celebrated,
The bird of dawning singeth all night long:
And then, they say, no spirit dare stir abroad;
The nights are wholesome; then no planets strike,
No fairy takes, no witch has power to charm,
So hallow’d and so gracious is the time.
So have I heard and do in part believe it.”*
-Marcellus and Horatio, Hamlet



Liz Schleicher
Contributing Columnist

to dull as the decades pass. What science has not uncovered and dispelled, marketing has packaged and sold. Our own era is clean and fast, high-tech, and safer than ever. We have roundly defeated the incredible. We aren’t on the lookout for fairies or spirits or even the baby Jesus at Christmas time. Just our mass-produced Amazon packages encased in plastic, which we will place under a fake fir tree, then pretend a jolly old man from a 1931 Coca-Cola advertisement has left them there. Most of us, Christians included, won’t even follow it up by going to church.

We might call ourselves The Age of the Predictable. But even this fictitious replacement magic we’ve produced, this kind of Christmas kayfabe, is enough to make children squeal and gladden the hearts of young and old. We revel in it. We find true joy in watching our kids excitedly shred the wrapping paper, in meeting our grandchildren at the end of the sidewalk as they pull into the yard. We recognize that something special is happening this time of year that doesn’t happen any other time, even if we can’t quite put our finger on the reason why it should be any different than a birthday or a graduation or a civic observance like the Fourth of July.

Christmas magic. Old magic. The holy and haunted and numinous things of life. These are still with us, obscured as they might be under hundreds of years of wrapping paper and plastic and ridicule and science. We can find them in the arts and in nature, in family and friendship and especially in church. The only modern things you must give up to access them are your skepticism and haughty pride. Lay those aside, and you may find that in this time of the Savior’s birth, birds sing all night long. Animals talk, wise spirits visit Earth to give advice to the living, and saints give special blessings to good little children.

So I have heard, and do, in part, believe it.
Liz Schleicher lives in Green Ridge and is a wife, stay-at-home mother, writer and rare cancer survivor.

In Shakespeare’s time, everyone from simple night watchmen to educated nobles believed in these legends. Their world was a numinous and haunted place — terrifying, but also filled with magic. Fairies stole children from their cribs. The vengeful and jealous could cast curses with the power of a glance. The stars and planets directed the fate of kings and paupers alike. Anything could happen, people believed, and it often did. Especially on Christmas.

We might call it the Age of the Incredible. But a thought revolution was already rumbling, and soon, the Age of Enlightenment would begin. The brightest minds among us would spend the next four centuries examining and building and deconstructing, each new discovery seeming to an uneducated populace like its own kind of sorcery harnessed and tightly controlled by men called “scientists.” Little by little, the new magic replaced the old. The specters of witches and fairies gave way to bacteria and viruses. The planets lost their power. We became ruled by heredity and genetics instead. The holy and haunted could not be proved by this new system, so they were ridiculed or relegated. Ghosts and evil are now mostly confined to horror stories. The sacred has been boxed and diluted and neatly packaged to be delivered to those who attend church.

Of course there were brief breakthroughs of the old magic, especially in the arts, and especially at Christmas. Romanticism and the Victorian Era brought us a resurgence in folklore, ghost stories, high religion, and general merry-making. This was the age of both Frankenstein and Sleepy Hollow. It was also the age of A Christmas Carol’s ghosts and the revival of the phrase “Merry Christmas” itself.

For the most part, though, our sense of wonder has continued



CONTRIBUTING COLUMN

Themes for writing abound at Christmas time

Themes for writing abound at Christmas time. The obvious is the birth of Jesus, the Promised One, who taught us that loving our God and loving our neighbors as ourselves are paramount to living the kind of life we are asked to live. Following that theme, however, leads me to crab about how we seem to shove those lessons aside in favor of giving gifts, forgetting that the innkeeper was kind to the family of refugees, forgetting that in his ministry, Jesus exhorted us to feed the hungry (even if we don’t like their lifestyles), visit those in prison (even if we don’t like what put them there), and clothe the naked (even if we think they ought to help themselves a little more).

I’d rather reminisce. Most of the Christmas Eves in my lifetime, even those of my childhood, have been marked in the same way: We make food presents for our friends and others we hold close. We deliver the gifts. We realize that we are running late. We go to church – maybe twice. I participate in each service by using the gifts that have been generously bestowed



Deborah Mitchell
Contributing Columnist

upon me – either I play or sing music, or I present a story that is designed to make us think a little more deeply about why we celebrate this day in this way. We go to some friends’ homes to share Christmas joy with them. We come home, happy and exhausted, and then we listen to music before we collapse in sweet sleep.

In the old days, I could open one gift on Christmas Eve, and I chose what I knew was the Nancy Drew book. In the nearer old days, I picked the one I expected was the cool sweater I had hoped for. In the even nearer old days, we let Emily pick out one present to open on Christmas Eve or, even nearer in time. Max went to pick her up at the airport.

I hold all those Christmas Eves close, even though I say my favorite holiday is Thanksgiving. They are more filled with tender memories than is any Thanksgiving I have experienced.

But the Christmas Eve that stands out in stark bas-relief is the one I spent in Kabul.

Perhaps it’s that I did nothing traditional, or that I was, in the most basic sense of the word, alone, though 20 of my closest friends (at the time) were with me, making the best of it. I simply know that I can recall with remarkable clarity most of that evening.

No one gave anyone presents. I didn’t get to cook, and I didn’t deliver food gifts. I didn’t play any music. I was unable to talk to any of my family when it was 11 my time – they wouldn’t have been awake. It should have been a dismal evening.

And yet, it was not. A group of us went to a French restaurant owned by an Afghan man, his Afghan wife, and his French wife. They tried to make us merry by feeding us good food and serving us one of three cocktails: Our waiter,

who was a true Muslim and had no idea about the ingredients in the cocktails, tried valiantly to offer us our choices, and I think most of us ordered the vodka and what was a little better than Hawaiian Punch.

Many of my cohorts that evening were dyed-in-the-wool American expats and had not lived in the United States for decades, missing Christmas Eve with their families every year, so they didn’t feel as I did – like a fish out of water, as they say, and a little like the kid who doesn’t fit in at the school lunch table.

Regardless, I had a lovely dinner, and then we were transported back to the base and our barracks rooms. What remains most clearly in my heart, however, is that as I walked from the heavily guarded gate to my little room, I looked up and saw a star – kind of like the shepherds in “The First Noel.” And at that moment, regardless of my loneliness, I felt peace.

Author’s note: You can read my expansive blog about that night at <https://bit.ly/3vdZLXe>
Deborah Mitchell is a Sedalia attorney.

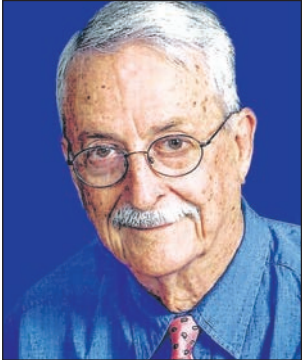
CONTRIBUTING COLUMN

The FBI keeps piling up abuses

I’ve written about disturbing trends in our country that have more in common with despotic governments than democratic ones. But nothing has prepared me for what the FBI did to Mark Houck and Paul Vaughan.

Houck and his son, 12, were peacefully demonstrating at an abortion clinic in Philadelphia in October 2021 when a male escort for a woman seeking an abortion began harassing Houck’s son and shouting obscenities in his face. Houck did what any father would do and came to his son’s aid, shoving the escort away.

In late September — nearly a year after the incident — some two dozen FBI agents armed with automatic weapons and carrying a battering ram descended on Houck’s home, where they shackled him while his terrorized children



Doug Kneibert
Contributing Columnist

screamed. No arrest warrant was produced until Houck’s wife demanded to see one. Houck was taken away and jailed, but the Philadelphia district attorney declined to file charges, which should have been the end of the story but wasn’t.

Almost the same scenario played out last October when Vaughan was arrested in his Tennessee home in front of his children. Both men were charged with violating the federal Freedom of Access to Clinic

Entrances (FACE) Act. They could be sentenced up to 11 years in prison and fined up to \$350,000.

Since when does a “shove” justify such draconian penalties? I have no problem with the FACE Act per se, but the range of sentences needs to be adjusted downward.

The FBI used to be the most respected law enforcement agency in the nation. But those days are gone. Its role in the “Russian collusion” lies, designed to bring down Donald Trump in the 2016 presidential campaign, badly tarnished its reputation.

The FBI’s invasion of Trump’s home in Florida in August in search of classified documents — an unprecedented act against a former president — was another case of the FBI run amok.

Last July, the FBI sought from Sheriff

Brad Anders a list of 14 Pettis Countians having concealed carry permits, which Anders rightly refused to provide. Why did the FBI want that?

The huge number of FBI agents, well beyond what was needed (if any were justified at all) that invaded the homes of Houck and Vaughan, brandishing their weapons, had nothing to do with fighting crime but everything to do with terrorizing and intimidating pro-life Americans from demonstrating in front of abortion clinics.

Rep. Kevin McCarthy, the next speaker of the House of Representatives, has a list of things he wants to investigate. The shocking treatment of Houck and Vaughan — and learning who issued the FBI’s orders — should head his list.

Doug Kneibert is a former editor of the Sedalia Democrat.

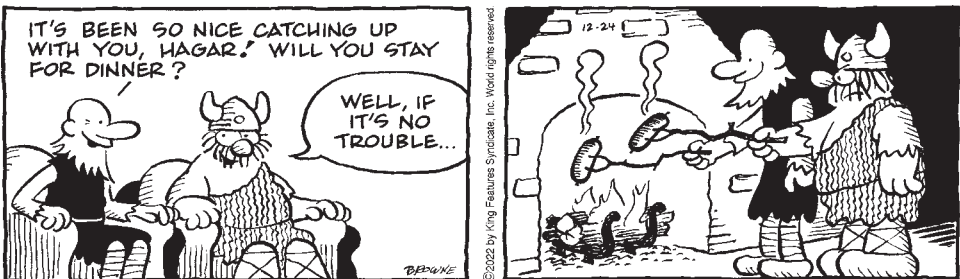
BLONDIE



BEETLE BAILEY



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



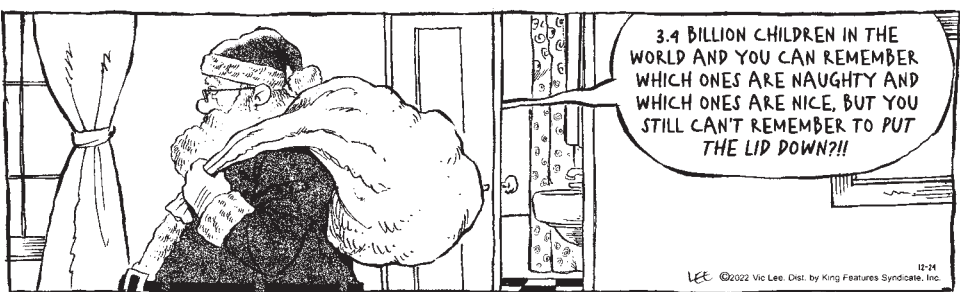
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HI AND LOIS



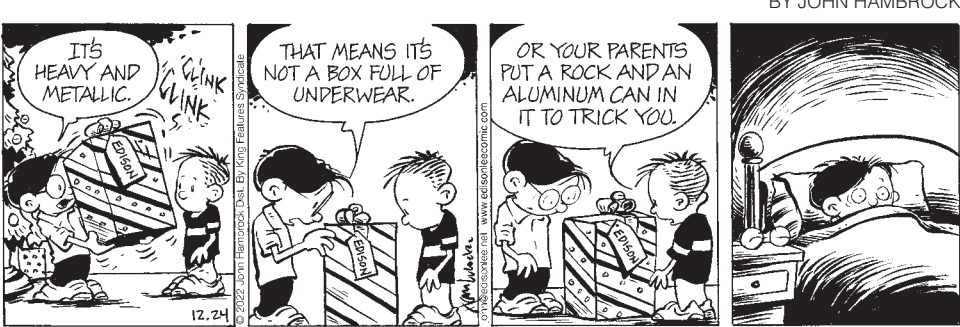
PARDON MY PLANET



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



THE BRILLIANT MIND OF EDISON LEE



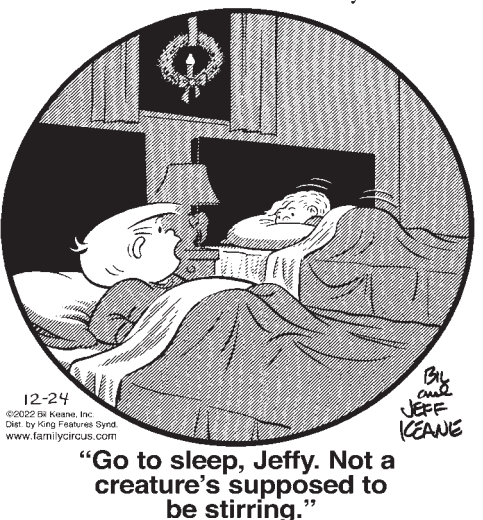
DUSTIN



DENNIS THE MENACE



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Thailand, once
5 Spheres
9 Broad comedy
10 Brutish ones
12 Steer clear of
13 Scatter
14 TV's Bergen
16 Pitcher's stat
17 Freud topic
18 Moulin Rouge performances
20 Muscle connector
22 Verdant
23 Custom
25 Singer Redding
28 Arboreal sleepers
32 Bach creation
34 Cool, to jazzmen
35 Secreted
36 Cheese-filled dessert
38 "The Waste Land" poet
40 One of Santa's reindeer
41 Rascal

42 Chris

- of "The Avengers"
43 — rage (result of juicing)
44 Pert talk

DOWN

- 1 Untamed
2 Patch type
3 Litmus reddener
4 Healers, in slang
5 Elizabeth of "Wanda-Vision"
6 Nonsense
7 Agency
8 Boat backs
9 Gem side
11 Letter flourish
15 Two-deck game
19 Singer Laine
21 Do some house-work
24 Quick looks
25 Earthy color
26 Suit expert

L	A	C	K		S	T	E	P	
A	G	A	I	N		T	E	N	O
S	A	N	T	A		A	N	G	L
E	T	A		T		U	R	T	L
R	E	D	W	I	N	E		I	R
	S	I	E	V	E		P	S	S
		A	L	E		R	A	H	
B	O	N	D		G	E	R	M	S
O	R	B		T	E	A	C	U	P
O	N	A	R	O	L		F	R	O
T	A	C	I	T		M	A	F	I
S	T	O	N	E		S	L	I	N
	E	N	D	S			A	N	T

Yesterday's answer

- 27 Rainbow color
29 Poet Dylan
30 Mount St. —
31 Barbecue rods
33 Took steps
37 Tele-scope sight
39 Anjou answer

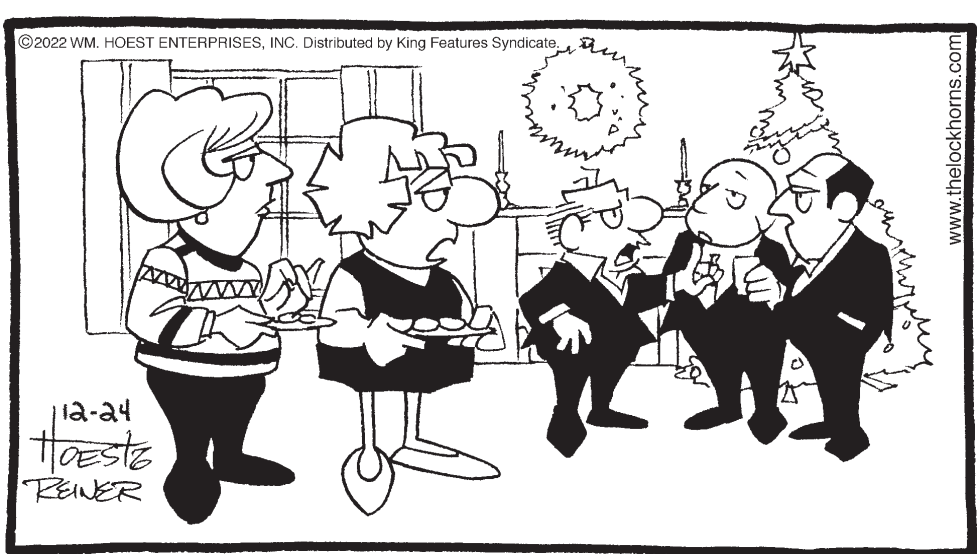
	1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	
9						10				11
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32				33				34		
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41						42				
	43					44				

12-24

MARVIN



THE LOCKHORNS



SUDOKU

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concepts Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Concepts Sudoku

By Dave Green

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

12/24

Answer to previous puzzle

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

12/23



Cole Camp’s Harrison returning from broken arm

By Bryan Everson
bryane@sedaliademocrat.com

Before the pain set in, Cole Camp junior running back Reid Harrison recalls the definitive early touch he received in the district championship football game against Lincoln on Nov. 11.

“It was a counter play, and I knew I was getting the handoff and had space,” Harrison said. “I was one tackle away from breaking it, he barely tripped me and I had my legs taken out from under me.”

After using his arm to cushion the fall, it was left in the shape of a letter of the alphabet that wasn’t quite natural.

“I knew something was wrong, but my brain hadn’t comprehended [my arm] broke,” Harrison said. “I immediately signaled to the athletic trainer because it hurt, but I had so much adrenaline that it was really painful, but maybe not as much as it could have been.”

Bluebirds head coach Kevin Shearer ran to check on Harrison after that play that happened during the team’s second offensive series.

“[Reid’s] upset and apologizing; he wanted to play in that football game as much as anybody,” Shearer said. “As a coach, I was thinking the game-plan’s gotta change, but I needed to calm Reid down, and that’s why I got on the ground and started talking to him, reassuring him that it would be OK. As I saw [the injury], then it’s, ‘OK, there goes 30, 45% of our playcalling, and one of the most critical defenders I have. It was about the team then.’”

Harrison remembers Shearer, also his coach for the basketball season on the horizon, telling him to breathe. He said he couldn’t open his eyes. It’s possible the experience of breaking his shoulder before allowed him to provide some comic relief in such a moment.

See BROKEN | 15A



Cole Camp junior Reid Harrison, left, reacts after scoring a touchdown in a home game against Tipton on Sept. 9.

FILE PHOTO BY BRYAN EVERSON | DEMOCRAT



Kansas City Chiefs running back Jerick McKinnon (1) runs for a touchdown against the Houston Texans during overtime in an NFL football game Sunday, Dec. 18, 2022, in Houston.

PHOTO BY ERIC CHRISTIAN SMITH | AP PHOTO

Chiefs eyeing AFC’s playoff bye, Seahawks a postseason spot

By Dave Skretta
AP Sports Writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The Kansas City Chiefs can’t climb into first place in the AFC and secure that coveted first-round playoff bye with a win over Seattle on Saturday, nor can the Seahawks slip into the postseason by knocking off the West Division champs.

But a loss for either of

them? That might ruin both of their chances.

The Chiefs, who are tied with the Bills at 11-3 for the conference’s best record, could be out of the hunt for the top seed if they fall at Arrowhead Stadium. Buffalo has the head-to-head tiebreaker by virtue of its win earlier this season.

The playoff hopes of the Seahawks, who are 7-7 and have lost four of their last five, are hang-

ing by a thread.

“The guys know. They’ve been though this so they understand it,” said Chiefs coach Andy Reid, whose team has hosted the past four AFC title games. “The only thing I have to say is we’ve got a quarter of the season left and very important games, so we’ve got to take care of our business, and that’s where our focus has got to be.”

See CHIEFS | 13A

Trevor Bauer reinstated by MLB’s independent arbitrator

By Ronald Blum
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Trevor Bauer was reinstated Thursday by Major League Baseball’s independent arbitrator, allowing the pitcher to resume his career at the start of the 2023 season.

The 31-year-old Los Angeles Dodgers star was given an unprecedented two-season suspension without pay by baseball Commis-

sioner Rob Manfred on April 29 for violating the league’s domestic violence and sexual assault policy after a San Diego woman said Bauer beat and sexually abused her last year, an accusation the pitcher denied.

The players’ association filed a grievance on behalf of the former Cy Young Award winner, and a three-person panel headed by independent arbitrator Martin Scheinman started hearing the case on May 23.

See MLB | 15A



Los Angeles Dodgers starting pitcher Trevor Bauer pauses while working against the San Francisco Giants during the fourth inning of a baseball game May 21, 2021, in San Francisco. Bauer was reinstated Thursday, Dec. 22, 2022, by Major League Baseball’s independent arbitrator, allowing the pitcher to resume his career at the start of the 2023 season.

FILE PHOTO BY D. ROSS CAMERON | AP PHOTO

Michigan’s Oluwatimi endured a heavy heart in standout year



Michigan award-winning center Olusegun Oluwatimi plays during the second half of an NCAA college football game, Saturday, Sept. 3, 2022, in Ann Arbor, Mich. Oluwatimi lost three friends and former teammates at Virginia and four days later, his father had surgery to remove a brain tumor. Oluwatimi endured the heartache and finished off a season that was better than his dreams.

FILE PHOTO BY CARLOS OSORIO | AP PHOTO

By Larry Lage
AP Sports Writer

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP) — Standout Michigan center Oluwatimi had a season that was even better than his dreams.

The graduate transfer from Virginia wasn’t surprised the Wolverines had a successful season, which earned them a matchup with TCU in the Fiesta Bowl in a New Year’s Eve semifinal for a berth in the national title game. It also didn’t stun the AP All-American to win the Rimington Award as the college football’s best center.

Oluwatimi was thrilled — and surprised — to

become the first player in school history to win the Outland Trophy that recognizes the top interior lineman on either side of the ball.

He would, though, like to forget a five-day stretch in November.

Oluwatimi lost three friends and former teammates at Virginia in a shooting attack that shocked the Cavaliers and prompted the cancellation of the last two games of their season.

“They will always be my brothers even though they’re no longer with us,” Oluwatimi said quietly in a recent interview with The Associated Press. “I know they’re definitely looking

down on me, and hopefully they’re proud.”

Four days after the tragedy, his father had surgery to remove a brain tumor a year after having major heart surgery. “It was a tough week,” Oluwatimi said.

Oluwatimi endured the emotional trauma without missing a beat, drawing praise for his mental toughness from Wolverines coach Jim Harbaugh.

“I think back to being that age and there’s no way I could have handled that,” Harbaugh said. “But he has the strength of 10 men and thank God that that was a successful surgery.”

See HEAVY | 14A

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HOROSCOPES

By Georgia Nicols

Moon Alert: Avoid shopping or making important decisions after 10 p.m. EST today (7 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. PST). After that, the Moon moves from Capricorn into Aquarius.

Happy Birthday for Saturday, Dec. 24, 2022:

You are loyal, reliable and considerate of others. People know they can count on you. You think things through carefully. This is a year of service to others, especially family. Take care of yourself. Take time to personalize your home to make it warmer and welcoming.

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Warm vibes make today a wonderful day to get in touch with parents and authority figures. Your dealings with bosses, even the police, will be pleasant and mutually beneficial. You find it easy to talk to others today. In turn, others will admire you. Tonight: Friendships.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ This is a wonderful day to travel, because you will enjoy the stimulation. You will enjoy talking to people from other backgrounds and different cultures. It's a great day to learn something new; you're keen to broaden your horizons. People will be friendly and supportive. Tonight: You are noticed.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ This is an excellent day for financial negotiations, especially regarding the wealth and resources of partners or other people. It's also a good day to negotiate a loan or a mortgage. People are generous to you today. Keep your pockets open and say, "Thank you!" Tonight: Explore!

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ All your interactions with partners and close friends will be warm and friendly today. In fact, these relations will be so mutually positive, you might feel inspired by someone. Perhaps they will introduce you to a new way of thinking or beliefs about something. Tonight: Check your finances.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ This is a lovely day for those of you who are working. Relations with co-workers will be warm and mutually supportive. Conversations will flow freely, and there will be good feelings with everyone. Some of you will derive great joy from the past. Your health will feel revitalized. Tonight: Cooperate.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ This is a wonderful, playful day! Meet friends for lunch or later in the day. Enjoy happy hour and party with loved ones. Playful activities with children, as well as anything related to sports, will be a fun-filled experience. Enjoy your day! Tonight: Get organized.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Everything related to home and family is fabulous today! Enjoy schmoozing with family members and entertaining at home. You also might be busy with repairs, errands and upbeat conversations. People will feel kind and sympathetic to each other. Tonight: Play!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ This is a marvelous day to socialize, especially with siblings, relatives and neighbors. Enjoy talking to younger people. You have a strong need to communicate, which is why you will reach out to others. Short trips will be fun. It's a peachy day! Tonight: Cocoon.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Financial matters will go your way today. You might see ways to boost your income. You also can attract money to you. If shopping, you want to buy beautiful things for yourself and loved ones. Be careful about being extravagant and going overboard. Save your receipts -- and the box. Tonight: Seek company.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ This is a lovely day! The Sun is in your sign, and the Moon is lined up with Mercury and Venus also in your sign. Yes, it's raining horseshoes! You feel happy, relaxed and enthusiastic when talking to others. Generally, holiday seasons have challenges. Not this year. Tonight: Count your money.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ This is a quiet, gentle day that will bring a smile to your face. You might enjoy time alone because you want to ponder profundity. You also might choose to work behind the scenes or in a low-key way. Nevertheless, you're eager to socialize and be involved in competitive sports. Tonight: You're happy.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ This is a truly social, fun-loving day! Relations with friends as well as your interaction with groups, clubs and organizations will be rewarding and fun-filled. Things are so cozy, a friend might become a lover. Enjoy the company of younger people! Tonight: Solitude.

BORN TODAY

Business magnate, pilot, philanthropist Howard Hughes (1905), producer, director, screenwriter Lee Daniels (1959), author Mary Higgins Clark (1927)



Los Angeles Chargers running back Austin Ekeler, top, runs against Tennessee Titans cornerback Greg Mabin (32) and safety Kevin Byard (31) during the second half of an NFL football game in Inglewood, Calif., Sunday, Dec. 18, 2022.

PHOTO BY MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ | AP PHOTO

Colts still playing to win as Chargers chase playoff spot

By Michael Marot
AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The Indianapolis Colts haven't changed the game plan.

They're still trying to run first, still relying on a stout defense and still trying to win games despite their ever-changing circumstances.

Indy has played most of this season without three-time All-Pro linebacker Shaquille Leonard, will be missing 2021 NFL rushing champ Jonathan Taylor for the final three games because of an ankle injury and heads into Monday night's matchup against the Los Angeles Chargers with its third starting quarterback, Nick Foles.

Interim coach Jeff Saturday made the move for one simple reason.

"It's no secret, we haven't converted in the red zone and ultimately, you've got to make plays in the NFL and we're not making nearly enough explosive plays and not making plays in the red zone," he said when announcing Matt Ryan was getting benched again. "I feel like Nick will give us a better chance to go win these last three games."

It's an odd move. Indy (4-9-1) was mathematically eliminated from playoff contention with Jacksonville's win over the New York Jets on Thursday,

before taking the field for its third and final prime-time game of the season. Plus, Saturday went with the 33-year-old Foles over 24-year-old Sam Ehlinger, who went 0-2 as the starter earlier this year.

The Chargers (8-6), meanwhile, have climbed to sixth in the AFC standings and are closing in on their first postseason appearance since 2018 and second since 2014. By Monday night, they'll know if they can clinch a spot with a win or if they must wait another week.

And the Chargers might be playing their best defense of the season as they prepare to face a quarterback who has not thrown a pass all season or made a start since Dec. 26, 2021. LA's last three opponents have scored a total of 51 points and no foe has topped 24 since Week 5.

"I feel like you have to be able to match up with a lot of different styles in the league," coach Brandon Staley said. "Miami and Tennessee could not be more different, but your defense has to be able to change and still perform at a high level. I think I've been able to see more of that."

Now they're taking on a team in flux.

Saturday hasn't decided how he'll split carries between Deon Jackson, Zack Moss and Jordan Wilkins or

if there will be any significant changes with Foles running the show.

What he really wants is the Super Bowl 52 MVP creating a magical final run for the Colts.

"He's come in at different times in his career and has been fantastic," Saturday said, noting Foles' title-winning run with Philadelphia following the 2017 season. "I think he's very comfortable in this position."

A WORK IN PROGRESS

The Chargers' offense is getting closer to resembling what many expected when the season began. With the return of receivers Mike Williams and Keenan Allen, Justin Herbert has topped the 300-yard mark in three straight games and has excelled in making plays on the run.

Still, one problem remains — second-half droughts. Los Angeles has no third-quarter touchdowns in its last nine games and has been outscored 175-109 in the second half and overtime this year.

"We have to get the explosions, stay away from negative plays and score in the red zone," Staley said. "That is the formula. Our guys have to really attack with that mindset."

ON THE REBOUND

Indy has lost four straight since Saturday won his coaching debut and the

reason is no mystery — its inability to finish.

Philadelphia and Pittsburgh rallied from fourth-quarter deficits to win, Dallas scored 33 points in the fourth quarter to turn a two-point lead into a rout, and last week, the Colts blew a 33-0 halftime lead as Minnesota won 39-36 in overtime — the largest comeback in NFL history.

The key to rebounding this week just might be finding Taylor's replacement.

"We did some good things (at Minnesota)," Moss said. "There's obviously some things we could have cleaned up but you know, I think it was a good step for us as a team on the offensive side."

MAKING HISTORY?

Taylor and Chargers running back Austin Ekeler shared the league lead for total TDs (20) in 2021, and Ekeler is back on top of the AFC this season with 14. Ekeler also is closing in on a historical milestone. He needs five receptions to record the sixth 100-catch season by a running back in league history.

The Colts know all about Ekeler. When these teams last met in the 2019 season opener, he had 154 scrimmage yards as the Chargers won 30-24 in overtime.

AP Sports Writer Joe Reedy contributed to this report.

Chiefs

From Page 11A

The Chiefs have been squeaking by the past few weeks, hardly looking like the juggernaut that's been to two of the past three Super Bowls. They lost at Cincinnati, barely held on against downtrodden Denver and needed overtime last week to beat one-win Houston and maintain their hopes of the No. 1 seed.

The biggest issues for Kansas City have been self-inflicted: The Chiefs had 10 penalties for more than 100 yards against the Texans, and they have committed at least one turnover in nine consecutive games.

"The biggest thing," said Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes, who is riding a streak of 20 consecutive completions, "is that you just focus on getting better as a team. You want to be playing your best football as you get to the playoffs, and we have stuff we need to clean up. That will be important this week."

The Seahawks have things to clean up, too. More important, they desperately

need to get healthy. Wide receiver Tyler Lockett is out with an injury while running back Kenneth Walker III continues to deal with a sore ankle.

"Let's just start with this game. We've got to play really sharp football across the board," Seattle coach Pete Carroll said. "We have to take advantage of all the opportunities that we get. We've got to catch the interceptions, we've got to stay on sides and not give them things. We have to make them have to work and play a championship-style game."

"If we can do that," Carroll said, "now we are getting to our capabilities."

BROKEN LOCKETT

Lockett will miss just the second game of his long career due to injury after breaking a bone in his left hand last week against San Francisco; he had surgery to stabilize it this week and hopes to return this season.

Lockett and DK Metcalf have been a dangerous tandem, the former with 78 catches and eight TDs and the latter with 79 and six. And while Marquise Goodwin has been a nice addition, and former first-rounder

Laquon Treadwell could see some snaps, Lockett's absence is going to mean Metcalf gets more attention.

"It's always going to be strange whenever Tyler is not playing, or somebody has been there for so long and not playing," Metcalf said. "It's just another challenge along the way that we've got to overcome."

RUN TO DAYLIGHT

Seattle showed improvement in stopping the run against San Francisco. Even though it still allowed 170 yards, it held the 49ers to 3.5 per carry until a long run late in the game. The performance was especially encouraging given the Seahawks didn't have nose tackle Al Woods and backup Bryan Mone hurt his knee in the first quarter.

"Some execution things were pretty good, but again, we are not into the whole moral victory thing," said coordinator Clint Hurtt, whose defense is allowing 161.1 yards per game on the ground, better than only one team in the league.

BANGED-UP BACKFIELD

Walker is still dealing with a sore ankle that the

Seahawks rookie first injured earlier this month against the Rams; he had 12 carries for 47 yards against the Niners but was still sore days later. And backup DeeJay Dallas is still trying to come back from a high ankle sprain. That could mean another opportunity for Travis Homer in the Seattle backfield.

SPEAKING OF INJURIES

The Chiefs expect wide receiver Mecole Hardman to play for the first time since Week 9, when he landed on injured reserve with an abdominal problem. He had scored in three straight games with five TDs total before getting hurt.

"Yeah, there's a good chance," Reid said. "We'll see if we can't get him in there a little bit."

COVER YOUR COUGH

An illness swept through the Chiefs defense this week, sidelining Pro Bowl defensive tackle Chris Jones, run stuffer Khaleke Hudson, pass rusher Mike Danna and safety Deon Bush for practice. Jones was noticeably ill during last week's win over the Texans, playing just 40 of 63 defensive snaps.

Packers sign OL Elgton Jenkins to 4-year contract extension

By Steve Megaree
AP Sports Writer

Green Bay's Elgton Jenkins has signed a contract extension that assures the Packers won't lose one of the NFL's most versatile offensive linemen to free agency.

The Packers announced the deal Friday. Terms weren't disclosed, but a person familiar with the situation says Jenkins received a four-year extension with a base value of \$68 million that could go up to \$74 million.

"It's a great day for us, a great day for Elgton," Packers coach Matt LaFleur told reporters before Friday's practice. "Obviously he's earned it and he does it the right way. It's always fun as a coach to see guys that get rewarded for not only their performance but what they do in the locker room and the leadership he brings. I can't say enough great things about him."

NFL Network and ESPN first reported the extension. Jenkins' contract had been set to expire at the end of the season.

"Since the moment he walked into the building, Elgton has been a core



Green Bay Packers guard Elgton Jenkins (74) watches during an NFL football game against the Detroit Lions in Detroit, Sunday, Nov. 6, 2022. A person familiar with the situation says Green Bay Packers offensive lineman Elgton Jenkins has agreed to a four-year contract extension worth at least \$68 million.
FILE PHOTO BY PAUL SANCYA | AP PHOTO

member of this franchise while displaying an uncommon versatility, unselfishness and toughness," Packers general manager Brian Gutekunst said in a statement. "He's a tremendous leader and teammate, and he

has earned everything that has come to him."

Jenkins has played his entire career with the Packers, who selected him out of Mississippi State in the second round of the 2019 draft.

The 2020 Pro Bowl selection has started multiple games at every position on the line other than right guard.

"I don't think there's a position up front he can't play," LaFleur said.

Jenkins primarily plays left guard, but he took over at left tackle for eight games last season to fill in for the injured David Bakhtiari. Jenkins played only those eight games last season before a torn anterior cruciate

ligament knocked him out for the remainder of the year.

The knee injury caused Jenkins to miss the Packers' opening game this season, but he has started all 12 games in which he has played. He started at right tackle for his first five games and has played left guard in his seven games. He missed a game on Oct. 30 against Buffalo with a foot injury.

"It obviously took him a little bit for him going I would say this year, which is to be expected, but he's gotten better and better and better," LaFleur said. "I think you've seen that as of late. Each and every week, he seems to get a little bit better."

Jenkins has 33 career starts at left guard, eight at left tackle, six at right tackle and three at center. His performance on the line helped the Packers win three straight NFC North titles from 2019-21.

The Packers (6-8) are seeking their third consecutive victory Sunday at Miami (8-6). The Packers probably will need to win their final three games and get plenty of help to earn a fourth straight playoff appearance.

Heavy

From Page 11A

Michigan, until this month, had not dipped into the transfer portal much and Harbaugh is thankful he did a year ago.

The 23-year-old Oluwatimi, who is from Maryland, was on Air Force's team as a freshman before transferring to Virginia, where he started in 35 games over three seasons and was a finalist for the Rimington Award in

2021.

He wanted to transfer again to take advantage of an extra season of eligibility the NCAA gave athletes enrolled during the 2019-20 school year because of the pandemic. The 6-foot-3, 307-pound Oluwatimi wanted to join a program that would put him in a better position to pursue his goal of playing in the NFL.

"I knew I wanted to be here before I hit the portal," Oluwatimi said in an office on the second floor

of Schembechler Hall. "It was here or Clemson, but it wasn't close. Michigan is so prestigious, the program is ascending and needed a center."

"When I watched them play and saw the physicality of the offensive line, as a lineman, it was the perfect culture to try to be a part of for my last year."

Over the last two seasons, Harbaugh has had award-winning offensive lines that allowed him to implement his preferred

run-heavy offense. The Joe Moore Award recognizes college football's best offensive line and Oluwatimi helped the Wolverines win it for a second straight year — a first for any program.

"He's very powerful," said Michigan tight end Joel Honigford, who played on the offensive line before switching positions two years ago. "If he gets his hands on you, it's pretty much over for you that play. He's a really good communicator and he allows the guys around him

to play thought-free and just play football."

As rough as November was for Oluwatimi, there was a lot to like this month with a Big Ten championship along with the various awards.

"When I committed to Michigan, the only thing I didn't expect was to win the Outland," he said. "I don't say that in a cocky way, but I was a finalist for the Rimington last year and I expected us to be 13-0 with a chance to compete for the national

championship."

Oluwatimi and his teammates, though, are far from satisfied.

"If we stop here, we're not any better than last year's team that lost in the playoff," he said. "It all starts with TCU, which has a Hesiman finalist at quarterback and an unorthodox defense with a three-man front that can present problems. We're really good, too, and we're trying to be immortal as one of the best teams in college football history."

WISHING YOU

PEACE

MUCH

Joy

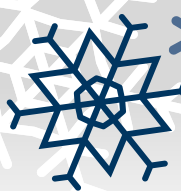
AND

GOOD

HEALTH



Sedalia | Cole Camp | Warsaw | Lincoln



At this special time of the year, we thank you for your continued support of our hospital and clinics and for allowing us to care for you and our community.

So our teams may spend the holidays with their families, most of our clinics will be closed on Monday, Dec. 26, and Monday, Jan. 2.

The Bothwell Walk In Clinic will be open:

- Saturday, Dec. 24, 10 am – 4 pm
- Saturday, Dec. 31, 10 am – 4 pm
- Monday, Jan. 2, 10 am – 4 pm

Our Emergency Department is always open 24 hours a day.

Merry Christmas and a Healthy New Year from the Bothwell Regional Health Center team

brhc.org

Bills try to clinch AFC East against Bears, eye No. 1 seed

By Andrew Seligman

AP Sports Writer

LAKE FOREST, Ill. (AP) — The Buffalo Bills still have a few important goals to achieve before they turn their attention toward the biggest prize of all.

They can clinch their third straight AFC East title this week, and a No. 1 seed playoff seed is in sight.

For all the prizes out there, coach Sean McDermott insisted the focus is simply on beating the struggling Bears when his team visits frigid Chicago on Saturday.

"We're facing a Chicago Bears team that is playing really good football right now and they play extremely hard," he said. "I think Coach (Matt) Eberflus has done a great job of changing that culture, perhaps, at least from the outside looking in, in terms of how they're playing."

The Bills (11-3) clinched their fourth straight playoff berth with last week's win over Miami and would lock up the division with a win or tie against Chicago (3-11). A loss or tie by the Dolphins against Green Bay would also do it.

Buffalo has the inside track toward the top seed in the AFC — and the first-round bye and home-field advantage through the conference championship game that come with it.

The Bills and AFC West leader Kansas City have identical records. But Buffalo has the tiebreaker after beating the Chiefs in October. The Bills are also a game up on Cincinnati, with the teams scheduled to meet on Jan. 2.

As for Saturday's game, it won't be easy. And that's not just because Buffalo will have to deal with Justin Fields.

The National Weather Service was predicting a high of 10 degrees with gusting wind — and that's after heavy snow on Thursday and Friday. The Bears' coldest home game by temperature was 2 degrees with a minus-13 wind chill against Green Bay on Dec. 22, 2008. The coldest by wind chill was minus-15 against the Packers on Dec. 18, 1983, when the temperature was 3.

The Bears have dropped seven straight — one shy of the franchise record — after a narrow loss to Jalen Hurts and the NFL-leading Philadelphia Eagles last week. But Fields continues to dazzle.

He has 1,000 yards rushing and is closing in on the single-season rushing record for a quarterback. He joined Michael Vick (1,039 in 2016) and Lamar Jackson (1,206 yards in 2019 and 1,005 in 2020) last week as the only QBs to reach 1,000.

WINDY CITY MEMORIES

Bills defensive coordinator Leslie Frazier is more

than familiar with windy conditions.

He spent his five NFL seasons in the Windy City, playing cornerback on the the Bears' famed 1985 defense. Now in his sixth season on Buffalo's staff, Frazier has become accustomed to the gusts blowing in off Lake Erie that create havoc during Bills home games.

"Whooooo. I've played in some very, very windy games at Soldier Field. I don't know if I played in one quite like the one we had against New England a year ago," Frazier said, referring to a 14-10 loss to New England in which Patriots quarterback Mac Jones attempted just three passes because of the conditions. "It would be close between the two."

LEAVING EARLY

The Bills are getting ahead of Mother Nature and a winter storm set to hit Buffalo on Friday by leaving for Chicago a day early. The team planned to fly out of Buffalo after practice on Thursday.

McDermott said the decision to leave Thursday would not disrupt the team's preparation. The Bills have become accustomed to revising their schedule. Last month, a lake-effect storm, which dumped seven feet of snow on parts of western New York, led to the team traveling to Detroit to play a "home" game against Cleveland.

Broken

From Page 11A

"I told him that I'd have to learn to shoot left-handed," Harrison said.

Fortunate that there was no stress fracture, Harrison, who otherwise would have had to go to Columbia, was headed to Bothwell. He asked to turn on the radio to listen to the game, though admitted the pain quickly became too much to even focus on that. It's impossible to say how the game might have turned out with him for its entirety, but without what Shearer calls a once-in-a-coaching career athlete who was critical to the Bluebirds on both sides of the ball, Lincoln lifted the district trophy that night.

Luckily, the resulting injury wasn't a compound fracture, and from both the player and coach's understanding, the amount of muscle in Harrison's arm may have prevented it from being worse.

"I'm pretty thankful, because I couldn't even look at my arm, let alone [seeing] bone, so I'm glad it didn't go through," Harrison said. "Very thankful."

Thankful for everyone who did and have continued to support him, the rehabilitation process have been a relatively swift one for Harrison. He sported a soft cast for two weeks, then began physical therapy and began range-of-motion

work. At the four-week mark, he was allowed more range and began to focus on building back strength with small dumbbells.

"It's starting to resemble a functional arm, and the size comparison, it's gotten better," Harrison said. "Now, Coach Shearer's got me going in every day with [teammate and senior] Ethan [Shearer], shooting and running so I can get back in shape. That's been a struggle. I've never been so out of shape in my life, but I'm slowly getting there."

As the seasons changed, without Harrison the Bluebirds have had to tinker on the hardwood.

"We made a transition last year and made Reid our point guard and moved [Ethan] back to off-guard," Coach Shearer said. "That worked pretty good, but with Reid going down, we had to move [Ethan] back over to be that primary ball handler. He's done a great job with that."

There's been some benefits. Junior Gentry Dieckman has been pushed into more of a scoring role, and both Grady Strathman and Tyler Howard, also juniors, have been contributing outside shooting, too. But Harrison's talent is in some ways irreplaceable.

"Defensively, Reid is unbelievable on that side of the ball," Coach Shearer said. "I want to say we averaged over three steals a game last year with him.

He's a primary defender like [senior Owen] Ives], so that's been a big loss. But other guys have risen up."

It's also allowed Harrison that perspective of seeing things differently while sidelined. "It's been hard not to play, but we're so deep that it's been cool watching everyone develop," he said. "And it gives me another aspect of seeing the coaching side. I always see Coach Shearer get frustrated at little things where I'm like, 'This doesn't have a purpose.' Then you sit on the sideline, and I get it now."

Despite suffering another loss at the hands of Lincoln, 34-32, in the final of the Warsaw Tournament, the Bluebirds are still 6-2 entering the holiday break. When they come out on the other side for the Stover Tournament, beginning against Holden on Jan. 2, they're expected to have Harrison back. He'll be released to practice again as soon as school resumes.

"[When I was injured] I definitely thought 'there goes part of my season', but I didn't really think I'd miss the whole thing," said Harrison, who knows his body is still adjusting as the basketball fundamentals return to full functionality. "It's definitely one of those 'one step back, two step forward' deals. It's definitely gonna get better. It's fun to see those guys stepping up."

MLB

From Page 11A

Scheinman upheld a 194-game suspension rather than Manfred's intended 324-game penalty but reinstated Bauer immediately, assigning 50 games to cover part of the lengthy time Bauer was put on administrative leave while MLB investigated during the 2021 season and early this year.

"Can't wait to see y'all out at a stadium soon!" Bauer wrote on Twitter.

Bauer will lose more than \$37 million in salary for the final 144 games of last season and for the first 50 games of next season, through May 23. The lost salary next year is effectively a clawback from part of his administrative leave, when he continued to receive pay.

MLB said Scheinman affirmed that Bauer violated the domestic violence policy.

"While we believe a

longer suspension was warranted, MLB will abide by the neutral arbitrator's decision, which upholds baseball's longest-ever active player suspension for sexual assault or domestic violence," MLB said in a statement. "We understand this process was difficult for the witnesses involved and we thank them for their participation."

While Scheinman issued his award to the parties, a full written decision is not expected until later. The panel included MLB Deputy Commissioner Dan Halem and union assistant general counsel Bob Lenaghan.

"While we are pleased that Mr. Bauer has been reinstated immediately, we disagree that any discipline should have been imposed," Bauer's representatives, Jon Fetterolf, Shawn Holley and Rachel Luba, said in a statement. "That said, Mr. Bauer looks forward to his return to the field,

where his goal remains to help his team win a World Series."

The players' association declined comment on Scheinman's decision.

Bauer was never charged with a crime. His accuser sought but was denied a restraining order against him, and Los Angeles prosecutors said in February there was insufficient evidence to prove the woman's accusations beyond a reasonable doubt.

Bauer, who hasn't played since the allegations surfaced and MLB began investigating, repeatedly has said that everything that happened between him and the woman was consensual.

An email sent after business hours Thursday seeking comment from the woman's attorney, Bryan Freedman, wasn't immediately returned.

Bauer sued his accuser in federal court, a move that came less than three months after prosecutors decided not to file

criminal charges against the pitcher. Bauer named the woman and one of her attorneys, Niranjan Fred Thiagarajah, as defendants in the lawsuit. The Associated Press does not typically identify people who say they have been victims of sexual assault.

The lawsuit said that "the damage to Mr. Bauer has been extreme" after the woman alleged that he had choked her into unconsciousness, punched her repeatedly and had anal sex with her without her consent during two sexual encounters last year.

The pitcher has said the two engaged in rough sex at his Pasadena home at her suggestion and followed guidelines they agreed to in advance.

Another woman, from Columbus, Ohio, told The Washington Post that Bauer repeatedly choked her without her consent and sexually assaulted her over the course of a years-long relationship. Bauer, in a statement through his

representatives, said their relationship was "casual and wholly consensual."

The suspension will cost Bauer \$37,594,233 from his \$102 million, three-year contract: \$28,131,868 of his \$32 million salary in 2022 and \$9,462,365 of his \$32 million salary in 2023.

Under Major League Rule 2, Bauer will not count against the Dodgers' player limits for 14 days, giving the team until Jan. 6 to decide whether to cut ties. If the Dodgers jettison Bauer, they would remain responsible for the roughly \$22.6 million he is owed next season and he would be free to sign with any club.

"We have just been informed of the arbitrator's ruling and will comment as soon as practical," the Dodgers said in a statement.

The money not paid to Bauer will be reflected on the Dodgers' luxury tax payroll, cutting the amount of tax they must pay this year and are pro-

jected to pay in 2023.

After winning his first Cy Young with the Cincinnati Reds in 2020, Bauer agreed to join his hometown Dodgers. He did not pitch after June 29 in 2021 and finished with an 8-2 record and a 2.59 ERA in 17 appearances.

Bauer was placed on administrative leave on July 2, 2021, under the domestic violence policy, a leave extended 13 times.

Among 15 players previously disciplined under the policy, the longest suspension was a full season and postseason for free agent pitcher Sam Dyson in 2021. None of the players previously disciplined under the policy appear to have challenged the penalty before an arbitrator.

Bauer's suspension was the longest of any MLB player since pitcher Jenrry Mejia was given a lifetime ban in 2016 for a third violation of the drug agreement. Mejia was reinstated for 2019 and returned in the minor leagues.

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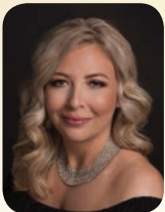
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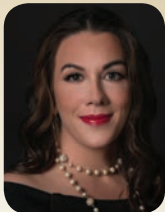
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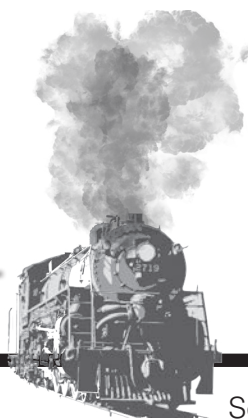
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Christmas

is what you make of it

Christmas weekend is finally here, but it feels like it took a lot of work to reach Dec. 25 on the calendar. Between finding the perfect gift to making countless trips to the store to all the unexpected issues that pop up along the way, it's easy to feel exhausted when we get to Christmas Day.

I know I'm guilty of trying to do the most, and then I actually feel guilty when I come up short. It's all in an effort to give my loved ones things they'll use and enjoy and spread a little Christmas spirit. But sometimes the pressure feels like too much. I even struggled to come up with a Christmas column that could match or top my string present column from last year, which is a totally unnecessary bar I set for myself.

Along with the ups and downs we've experienced the previous 50 weeks of 2022, the last two have felt like one problem after another.

Last week, my boyfriend and I were out of work due to various winter-season viruses. His symptoms began Monday, so when I felt fine on Tuesday, I thought maybe I'd be lucky and make it out unscathed. Then came Wednesday, and I felt like I'd been hit by a truck. No such luck was to be found.

I had planned to finish up my Christmas shopping for stocking stuffers and wrapping presents for my family. Instead, I spent several hours at the walk-in clinic and many hours lying on the couch as I tried to decide if I had the energy to walk into the kitchen for some food.

After many years together, I'll be spending my first Christmas with my boyfriend's family, which meant Cooke Christmas was scheduled for this past weekend. My parents and sister would spend the weekend at our house so we could have an early Christmas dinner, watch Christmas movies, and exchange gifts. Or at least that was the plan. Instead, my family stopped by our house for a few hours after we had spent the morning disinfecting every surface, hoping we wouldn't spread our germs.

While it didn't turn out the way I had hoped, we still spent an abbreviated Christmas together. Gifts were exchanged, stories were told, compliments were given about our new Christmas tree, and my sister brought her world-famous red-and-green sprinkle sandwich cookies.

This week, our good health has returned, but so has Mother Nature with her first snow delivery of the season. While I can appreciate the beauty of a white Christmas, I think those who make that particular holiday request forget how inconvenient it can be to make holiday travel plans in the middle of "blizzard-like conditions."

I haven't done any holiday baking; let's be real, I'm not much of a baker, but I enjoy making a batch of cookies and a loaf or two of banana bread every year. My family barely had anything in their stockings and at least one planned gift wasn't purchased. A few things I hoped to pick up over the last week for my boyfriend's family remain on retail shelves because I ran out of time. As of writing this column, our travel plans are still up in the air due to the weather.

Continued on 4B

Nicole Cooke
Democrat Editor



A 1966 photo shows the late military veteran James "Smitty" Smith, of Smithton, with little Me, who would soon be adopted by Smith and named Teresa.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF TERESA SMITH

Coming full circle at Christmas

Adopted Asian-American finds her roots

By Faith Bemiss
fbemiss@sedaliademocrat.com

The importance of fathers is not greater than that Christmas centuries ago when Joseph searched to find a place for the birth of God's only son. And just as Joseph searched to find a home for an infant, an American soldier in Vietnam found an orphan baby girl, adopted her, and brought her back to the states. This season her story has come full circle.

Smithton veteran James M. "Smitty" Smith, 87, passed away on Dec. 6, but his daughter Teresa Smith, of Indianapolis, Indiana, remembers her father fondly for giving her a second chance.

"I read a quote somewhere once that struck me," she noted in her eulogy. "It said, 'no matter who your father is or was, whether a great man or someone who left a lot to be desired, there is something in him that will make you a better person.'"

"Smitty" found Teresa, known at the time as "Me," which means America, in 1966, in Saigon, Vietnam. He took her out of the French-run Association of the Children's Friends orphanage after



The late James Smith and an unidentified Vietnamese woman bathe Teresa while she was at the Association of the Children's Friends orphanage in Saigon in 1966.

he found a rat had bitten her. "He rented an apartment off base. He couldn't keep me on the military air base at Tan Son Nhut, and hired a lady to stay with me while he was working," Smith said. "During a three-month period in Vietnam, from when I was 6 months to 9 months old, while my dad was working to get me adopted, my parents wrote back and forth to each

other almost every day. My mom (Jenna Smith) kept the letters and transcribed parts of them which I captured in a booklet I made and gave to my dad for Father's Day in 2005."

She read a portion of a March 25, 1966, letter penned from Saigon.

"Teresa is sure a cheerful girl," her father wrote. "She will lay there and coo up a storm and just give everyone big smiles. She cheers me up all the time."

"I'm so happy we have such a beautiful daughter," he continued. "I know that she will give us much enjoyment out of life, darling. I want so much to get home, and us all be together."

"I want to tip-toe in before we go to bed and make sure the blanket is up snug and everything is all right," he added. "Then you and I can stand there and watch her sleep. I love to sit on the edge of my bed and watch her sleep. It makes everything in the world seem right."

For many years Smith, who now works for Homeland Security, thought her mother, Truong Thi Leo, abandoned her in Vietnam; it was years later she learned the truth. Her mother was single, and her father was an American special forces soldier from Tennessee. When her mother was ready to deliver, she went to the Hung Vuong hospital, Teresa was born,

and her mother returned to her village of Ben Tre. But, when she returned to pick up her daughter, she was already gone.

Smith noted her mother spent years looking for her. She eventually immigrated to the U.S. to live in South Dakota in 1991. Unfortunately, she died in 2004 before she and Smith found each other.

"When I was in France in 1997, my mother was living in South Dakota with my sister and my little brothers," Smith said. "All these years she was looking for me... she never found me."

In the meantime, Smith had been searching for her family as well. During her search, she found a photo of her biological father and, in the same week, a picture of her birth mother, sent from a half-sister. In addition, she found in the 60s that her mother was working in Saigon and overseeing 100 members of the service staff for the American military.

Smith soon learned she had many family members and, in November, visited Ben Tre, Vietnam, met her older brother, and visited her mother's grave.

"He (God) allowed me to find my biological family," Smith noted. "And now we're building a house in Ben Tre, and when I retire, I'm going to spend two or three months there."



Teresa Smith, of Indianapolis, Indiana, now works for Homeland Security and credits her adopted parents, James and Jenna Smith, for giving her a chance to grow up in America.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Pettis County Recorder of Deeds Barbara Clevenger recently issued marriage licenses to: John Clayton Robinson, 25, of Center, and Ali Rose Chamberlin, 25, of Maumee, Ohio.

DIVORCES

These people were recently granted divorces in Pettis County Circuit Court: Cozetta A. Chalfant and Robert E. Starke; Nichole L. Sei and Steven Sei; Julia A. Vitales and Sergio A. Martinez Bautista; Kierra L. Drexler and Shea T. Archibeque; Jennifer Edwards and Shane L. Edwards; Patricia Chavez and Diego Chavez-Portillo.

BIRTHDAYS

Bishop
Norman Bishop will observe his 81st birthday Dec. 24. He was born Dec. 24, 1941, in Texas. Before retiring, Norman worked at the Sheltered Workshop and was a janitor at Price Chopper and the Pettis County Health Center. His hobbies include mowing grass and doing yardwork. Birthday cards may be sent to Norman at the Sylvia G. Thompson Residence Center, 3333 W. 10th St. Sedalia, Mo. 65301.

Randall
Kathleen “Kathy” Randall will observe her 79th birthday Dec. 30. She was born Dec. 30, 1943, in Pettis County. Kathleen was married to the late Larry Randall. Before retiring, she was a factory worker and her hobbies include reading, bingo, and playing on her computer. Kathleen has four children, Terry Randall, of Cole Camp, Lorrie Rogers, of Mora, Lisa Jnes, of Missouri, and Mikey Randall, of Sedalia. Birthday cards may be sent to Kathleen at the Sylvia G. Thompson Residence Center, 3333 W. 10th St. Sedalia, Mo. 65301.

NEW BOOKS

Sedalia Public Library Fiction
“Wicked Dreams,” by Lisa Jackson (suspense).
“The Serpent in Heaven,” by Charlaine Harris (science fiction).
“The Lipstick Bureau,” by Michelle Gable (historical fiction).
“One Last Secret,” by Adele Parks (suspense).
“Night Shift,” by Rob-

in Cook (suspense).
“Devil’s Delight,” by M.C. Beaton (mystery).
“Find Him,” by Jake Hinkson (mystery).
Nonfiction
“The Book of Jose,” by Fat Joe (biography).
“Elizabeth Taylor,” by Kate Andersen Brower (biography).
“G-Man,” by Beverly Gage.
New Movies
“Ticket to Paradise

POPULAR BOOKS

Boonslick Regional Library Fiction
“The Magic Kingdom,” by Russell Banks.
“The Lemon,” by S.E. Boyd.
“All the Broken Places,” by John Boyne.
“Racing the Light,” by Robert Crais.
“Paperback Jack,” by Loren D. Estleman.
“The Prisoner,” by B.A. Paris.
“The Perfect Assassin,” by James Patterson and Brian Stitts.
“Even Though I Knew the End,” by C.L. Polk.
“Before I let Go,” by Kennedy Ryan.
“Now is Not the Time to Panic,” by Kevin Wilson.
Nonfiction
The Last Campaign:

Sherman, Geronimo and the War for America,” by H.W. Brands.
“The Last Hill: The Epic Story of a Ranger Battalion and the Battle That Defined WWII,” by Bob Drury and Tom Clavin.
“Defend Us in Battle: The True Story of MA2 Navy Seal Medal of Honor Recipient Michael A. Monsoor,” by George Monsoor.
“Pride of a Nation: A Celebration of the U.S. Women’s National Soccer Team,” by Gwendolyn Oxenham.
“Do Let’s Have Another Drink: The Dry Wit and Fizzy Life of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother,” by Gareth Russell.

CLUB NOTES

Sedalia Photo Club
The Sedalia Photo Club held its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, Nov. 17. A new meeting time was announced. The photo club will meet every third Wednesday at 3 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Parish Center in Sedalia. The monthly photo theme for Jan. 18 is natural or manmade arch. The photo theme for Feb. 15 is camera/s or camera part/s. The meeting was adjourned.
Beta Alpha Chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa
The Beta Alpha Chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa, international honorary sorority for women educators, met Monday, Nov. 28, 2022, at Christ & Trinity Church and via Zoom. President Mary Beatty called the meeting to order. Thirty-four members were present.



Osage Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution met Dec. 17 for their annual Christmas tea in the home of Cheri Heeren with Betsy Wiley as co-hostess. From left are Carolyn Miller, Jean Gallagher, Regent Arthea Wasson, Jeanean Longan, Loretta Klein, Mary Wood, Cheri Herren, Betsy Wiley, Susan Parker and Susan Rouchka. Osage Chapter will meet again in March, location TBA, visitors are always welcome.
PHOTO COURTESY OF OSAGE CHAPTER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

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Chance the Rapper to bring free concert, festival to Ghana

By Johnathan Landrum Jr.
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — When Chance the Rapper visited West Africa earlier this year, he initially thought his trip with fellow Chicago hip-hop artist Vic Mensa would be just another vacation getaway. Instead, the Grammy winner connected with Mensa's father's family in Ghana and other natives from the Motherland on a deeper level. He saw Ghana's beautiful ocean coastline and waterfalls, engulfed himself in the musical culture and art scene and learned more about the country's rich history of being the first sub-Saharan African country to free itself from colonialism.

After a couple more trips to Ghana, Chance decided to create a free concert series and visual arts show so others could experience the country's vibrant culture just like he did. During the summer, Chance and Mensa brought eight students from Chicago to Ghana to learn more about Africa.

"I felt so free in Ghana... and I want others to feel the same way," said Chance, who along with Mensa will host the inaugural Black Star Line festival in Accra, Ghana, in 2023. The weeklong festival will feature events, panel discussions and a free concert on Jan. 6 with performances by Chance, Mensa, Erykah Badu, T-Pain, Jeremih, Sarkodie, Tobe Nwigwe, Asakaa Boys and M.anifest.

The event will be held in Accra's Black Star Square, a monument to the political freedom that was won by Ghanaians in 1957. The festival's title was inspired by civil rights leader Marcus Garvey's Black Star Line, which was founded in 1919 and operated by Black people who helped link global shipping and tourism opportunities

between America, the Caribbean and Africa.

Garvey inspired Chance's music video "YAH Know," featuring King Promise, and his upcoming album "Star Line Gallery," which is expected for release next year. He's already released a few other new music videos — such as "Child of God," "A Bar About a Bar" and "The Highs & Lows" with Joey Bada\$\$ — in which he calls "album art" to highlight popular artists in Africa.

Chance said Naila Opiangah's art piece for "Child of God" will be on display at the festival. He said his new "songs are candid realities of Black life."

"Artists have amazing graphics and album covers and single artworks that are made by great artists every day that's released," he said. "But the only time you get to see it is on this little inch-by-one inch depiction of it. These pieces are painted by world class artists. The ability to go see those pieces and interact with them in real life kind of adds people's understanding of the music."

Through his festival, Chance says he wants to bridge the gap between Black people abroad and Africa.

"I think that specifically the story of the founder's independence is something that all black people should know," he said. "There are no free sub-Saharan African countries until 1957. I think they should know about the revolutionary leaders on the continent and abroad. I think that if we had this connectedness and this interaction, people will actually have a chance to see this."

Initially, it was tough gaining commitments from big-name music artists to travel and perform in West Africa. With few sponsors, much of the expenses to fund the free concert were out-of-pocket.



Having come full circle, Teresa Smith, center, found many of her biological family members, including a half-sister now living in Las Vegas, Nevada.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF TERESA SMITH

Roots

From Page 1B

She added her life had come full circle; she now has a half-sister, Mai, and family living in Las Vegas.

Smith gave a word of wisdom about fathers and their importance to their children.

"If men knew how important they are in their children's lives and how much they can impact them," she explained. "They never, first of all, would get divorced, and they would never allow themselves to have illegitimate children. Because you basically create orphans — and it affects them their entire life."

She added that in the Vietnam War, many children were left behind, and many were killed.

"And if they weren't killed, they had this primal wound," she noted. "They tried to find their fathers..."

She added she was "favored" that she found a loving family but was still affected, and her biological mother was affected.



Teresa Smith recently returned to her biological mother's village, Ben Tre, Vietnam, and met her older brother.

"Nothing is lost forever; nothing is hidden forever; the truth comes out in the end," Smith said. "My life was saved because I was adopted early."

Smith said in her eulogy, the last three hours she spent with her father, "Smitty," "him in his bed, and me reclining in an armchair to his right, he would keep looking over

at me. I would reach over, rub his arm, and touch his marvelous Superman hands.

"The truth is: it's men that cause civilization to advance; it's men that move the world forward. It's THEIR superpower," she continued. "And it's Dads who introduce us to this larger big (and often scary) world; not only

that, they have the power to cause us to embrace it, to throw ourselves entirely in, with gusto, and great expectations and even bravado. We know that when they're at our sides, we can be fully confident and at peace, knowing that all is still well in the world."

Faith Bemiss can be reached at 660-530-0289 or on Twitter @flbemiss.

Krasinski's 'Jack Ryan' returns to TV after 3-year wait

By Alicia Rancilio
Associated Press

Season three of "Tom Clancy's Jack Ryan," starring John Krasinski, returns to Amazon Prime Video with a storyline that may feel familiar.

We meet Ryan, now stationed in Rome, as he discovers an underground plot by Russia to invade surrounding countries and

recreate the Soviet empire.

The episodes were written three years ago, and production wrapped long before Russia invaded Ukraine.

Filming "Jack Ryan" was delayed when the pandemic forced everything to shut down. Krasinski turned his focus to a weekly home-made newscast called "Some Good News," sharing positive stories during a

dark time. Like many, he wasn't focused on diet and exercise while in quarantine.

Kraskinski jokes his "Some Good News" shape was ideal because you never saw him standing up as he was always seated like a newscaster. "You didn't even see the bottom half of me. That's where I felt most comfortable," he said.

When it was time to

buckle down, Krasinski said he was motivated by the idea that the show would be a reason for many to finally resume working after months of waiting.

"It was actually a very cleansing thing," said Krasinski, who is also an executive producer and helps write the episodes. "I took a great responsibility with all these hundreds of people who were brave enough to put their lives on the line to bring back our industry in some small way."

"It was almost like getting into my best possible shape and self, both physically and mentally,

to prepare for something that we knew would be much more different and much more harrowing, but hopefully that much more worth it."

In the new episodes, which began streaming on Wednesday, Ryan's attempts to alert the CIA to his discovery about Russia result in the agency turning on him and issuing a Red Notice calling for his arrest and extradition back to the U.S. to face charges. Ryan's former boss James Greer (played by Wendell Pierce) assists as much as he can from the inside, and Ryan seeks out his old pal Mike

November (Michael Kelly), who left the agency at the end of season two, to help thwart Russia's plan.

Krasinski and Kelly's relationship on screen provides some moments of levity, amid all the action and looming catastrophe. Kelly, who is known for serious roles such as "House of Cards," says it's a fun departure to have those lighter on-screen moments.

"John will write a lot of those one-liners for me on the day and I'm so grateful I get to have the humor. To get to play something a little closer to myself was such a treat," said Kelly.



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Cooke Column

Continued From Page 1B

Other people have similar struggles with wanting to create the perfect Christmas. Maybe you didn't get everything done. Maybe a loved one won't be opening gifts with you this weekend, whether due to work or illness or loss. Maybe the snowy weather threw a wrench in your travel too. Maybe it's been a challenging year and the holidays offer a painful reminder of all that is not lining up with the picturesque holiday card we have in our heads.

On a bigger scale, the country is stuck in endless culture wars as an actual war unfolds halfway across the globe. While I'm complaining that we might not leave on time due

to snow, some in our community are making use of the warming shelters due to dangerously cold temperatures. And there are volunteers sacrificing their time and money to operate those shelters 24/7 to keep fellow citizens safe.

And yet, it will still be Christmas when we wake up Sunday morning. The big day will arrive whether we're ready or not.

So maybe this year's Christmas won't be the best one, but it's far from unpleasant. When I look back, I doubt I'll remember any of the gifts I opened or wrapped and in the end, I'm sure we'll make it to our gathering destination. Holiday magic is what you make of it, and it's OK if you don't make it perfect.



Janelle Monáe, the not-so-secret weapon of 'Glass Onion'

By Jake Coyle
AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — To get a sense of Janelle Monáe's powers of transformation, look no further than her Instagram photos of past Halloweens. Monáe doesn't just throw something on. When she turns into the White Rabbit from "Alice in Wonderland" or Diva Plavalaguna from "The Fifth Element," Monáe looks legitimately ready to step onto a movie set.

"I am indeed a self-proclaimed transformer," Monáe says, smiling. "I love going outside of what I think I know about me."

Monáe, who grew up in a working-class Baptist family in the Quindaro neighborhood of Kansas City, Kansas, first re-made herself in music as a retro-styled dynamo. Performing in a tuxedo and a vintage pompadour, she fashioned herself as a time-traveling android alter-ego named Cindi Mayweather. Acting was probably inevitable for Monáe, who studied musical theater at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy before dedicating herself to music.

"It is that character building that I love," Monáe said in a recent interview. "I love just getting my body into discovering a new way to talk and to breathe, and, hopefully, being a reflection for other folks. Go outside of who you think you are every day."

But as much as Monáe has been a natural, full-body entertainer and a red-carpet head-turner – a self-evident movie star – it has sometimes seemed since her two 2016 big-screen debuts in "Hidden Figures" and "Moonlight" that Hollywood hasn't known quite how to fully harness the wide-ranging talents of such a self-propelled, mold-breaking Black female artist.

But in Rian Johnson's



This image released by Netflix shows Jessica Henwick, from left, Kate Hudson and Janelle Monáe in a scene from "Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery."
PHOTO BY JOHN WILSON | NETFLIX VIA AP

whodunit sequel "Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery," which debuted Friday on Netflix, Monáe may have found a film to suit her proclivity for shape shifting. In Johnson's puzzle box of a movie, Monáe's character is the most mysterious and enigmatic of a colorful ensemble. If "Knives Out" gave Ana de Armas a chance to shine, "Glass Onion" is a revelation of Monáe's many layers.

"It's been an incredibly transformative experience for me as an actor," Monáe says. "I got an opportunity to show range. This character goes from comedy to the deep emotional, heavy-lifting dramatic scenes all the way to action, where I found myself working with a stunt coordinator at five, six in the morning in Greece after eating baklava."

The less said about exactly how Monáe fits into

"Glass Onion," the better. In Johnson's film, which had a one-week theatrical run in late November, Edward Norton plays a tech billionaire, Miles Bron, who invites friends to his private Greek island. Detective Benoit Blanc (Daniel Craig) is on hand for a murder mystery that spins out of control and a plot that, in dredging up Bron's past, skewers a social media mogul not so unlike some of today's real-world tech tycoons.

"I got an opportunity to honor those women who are the minority in the majority in those spaces, who have their ideas taken from them, who are not given credit for their work, who have to deal with these alligators, deal with these tech bros, deal with these geniuses who in fact haven't done anything except for cause confusion," says Monáe.

Monáe is something of

a futurist, herself. Earlier this year she published a collection of sci-fi stories titled "The Memory Librarian," adapted from elements in her 2018 album, "Dirty Computer." In it, Monáe depicts a future world where human desires are controlled by an organization called New Dawn and the identities of LGBTQ people can be wiped by a drug called Nevermind.

Monáe earlier this year said on "Red Table Talk" that she identifies as non-binary. Her pronouns, she has said, are her/she, they/them and "free-ass motherf-----." The film industry, especially this time of year when awards are given to actors and actresses, can be more codified in its classifications. Monáe, herself, was named best supporting actress for her performance in "Glass Onion" by the National Board of Review.

The multidimensional characters of "Glass Onion," Monáe says, has given her more hope that she can find films that authentically connect with her. "I just want to tip my hat off to those writers and directors who are thinking about dynamism when they're writing these characters," she says. That includes Johnson, who she's been a fan of since seeing his 2012 science-fiction film "Looper." Says Monáe: "I was like: Who is this guy who likes time travel as much as me?"

Johnson, for his part, felt he was working with "a true artist."

"It's not like she has a tremendous artifice to her, but I've never met her where she doesn't look better than I will ever look in my life," he says, laughing. "She's an entertainer but she's also an artist. It's not a facade that she just puts on for attention.

All the stuff that she does comes from a place that's really close to her heart."

Through her Paisley Park-like creative hub Wondaland in Atlanta, Monáe is trying, she says, to "tell radical, rebellious, smart stories." With A24, she's developing a TV series on Josephine Baker, the French dancer and WWII resistance fighter. She's eager for more.

"As timeless as I like to think I am, time waits for nobody," Monáe says.

But regardless of future roles, for Monáe metamorphosis is more of a habit. On a weekend during shooting, Johnson sent out hand-written invitations to the cast to gather for their own murder mystery. Monáe arrived decked out as Sherlock Holmes, complete with top hat, beard, mustache, cane and cape. Or as Monáe says, "Ready to play."

Paul Bettany explores being art star Andy Warhol on Broadway

By Mark Kennedy
AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Paul Bettany has long been an admirer of art superstar Andy Warhol, from a distance, like an art lover wandering a favorite gallery. But when he was initially offered a chance to get much closer and play his hero on stage, he declined.

"I don't know how you get underneath the wig and the glasses and the carefully curated public persona. I don't know how to do it," Bettany recalled thinking. "I think there might be a reason that Andy is always a cameo in films."

Persistence on the part of a producer and reading Warhol's diaries convinced Bettany that he might at least try. Now he finds himself on Broadway eight times a week underneath a wig, wearing glasses and making the very art onstage that he long admired.

Bettany stars in "The Collaboration," Anthony McCarten's fictional account about the real period in the mid-1980s when Warhol was compelled to work with new sensation and potential rival of the New York art world, Jean-Michel Basquiat, played by Jeremy Pope.

They were different men — one white, one

Black; one older, the other younger. Warhol, 58, was a conceptional artist whose Pop Art explored household brand objects like Campbell's soup cans and celebrities like Marilyn Monroe, while Basquiat, in his late 20s, was a neo-Expressionist, concerned with colonialism and racism. "We speak different languages," Basquiat says in the play.

The work explores what may have been their dynamic as both men try to figure the other out and visit each others' studios, and deals with race, commercialism, police brutality, addiction and the artist's soul. The audience watches them paint together, too.

Long before the role came along, Bettany had been a fan of both artists and visited a remounting of their collaboration at the Whitney in 2019. He hopes audiences go home after seeing the play and think about each man in a different way.

His Warhol is droll yet vulnerable, needy and yet sometimes haughty, curious and also competitive. He is threatened by the younger artist and feels old. "I am afraid. Not of death, of life," he says in the play.

Bettany is filled with praise for his subject. "If Warhol hadn't existed, it

would be like the Beatles not existing. Music would just sound different now and things would look different — magazines would look different, the posters would look different, design would look different," he says.

The way Bettany shades his performance is clever, giving the audience at the beginning a glimpse of what they came in expecting — a clipped, chilly Warhol in a turtle-neck who then gradually unwinds as the play progresses into a fluid, fully fleshed-out person.

"Paul did this brilliantly as an actor, I think. We introduced the Andy that we know, and then he just opens more doors and more doors and more doors into the land of imagination," says Kwame Kwei-Armah, the play's director.

While no one knows what was the exact dynamic of the two men — Warhol died in 1987 and Basquiat a year later — the play tries to stay as true to what we know of the art superstars.

"This is our version. Nobody really knows. But I do think that's the wonderful thing about drama," says Bettany, quoting McCarten as saying that "documentary can get you so far. It can get you to the front door, but it's never going to invite you in for

a cup of tea. Drama and imagination can get you there."

Critics have had mixed reactions in New York, but Bettany's performance has been praised, with the Daily News saying he "treads lightly and wisely through a tough assignment given all of the pre-existing Warholian preconceptions."

The play, which crossed the Atlantic after having played London's Young Vic Theatre this spring, was made into a film before it landed on Broadway, mostly shot in Boston. It opens the play up — adding more scenes, introducing audiences to Warhol's mother and showing Warhol and Basquiat on the streets making graffiti art. Filming it added even more depth to the Broadway production.

One thing Bettany shared with Warhol was that the play shows the artist gingerly returning to painting after 25 years of making reproductions — roughly the same time Bettany has been away from stage work.

In the meantime, he's been noticed for playing android superhero Vision in the Marvel Cinematic Universe. Bettany, 50, earned an Emmy Award nomination last year for his role in "WandaVision."

Doing theater at 50 is very different from doing



This image provided by Jeremy Daniel shows Jeremy Pope as Jean-Michel Basquiat, left, and Paul Bettany as Andy Warhol, in a scene from "The Collaboration," Anthony McCarten's fictional account about the real period in 1984 when Warhol was compelled to work with Basquiat, a new sensation and potential rival of the New York art world.
PHOTO BY JEREMY DANIEL VIA AP

it at 25, he says. When he was younger, he'd finish a play and be so buzzed he'd be unable to sleep, winding down in a club or a pub until the wee hours.

"Now I've got kids. Six o'clock in the morning, I'm up," he says laughing. "By the time I've left the

theater tonight, I'll get home at 11, and I will have electricity running through my body. All I want to do is be with people and get it out of me. So I'm not sure it's the healthiest thing in the world for me, frankly, but I love the doing of it."

Projects examining Richmond's history win \$16M in funding

By Sarah Rankin
Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — The former Confederate capital has secured an \$11 million grant to build an interpretive center that city officials hope will someday be part of an ambitious, long-envisioned memorial campus honoring the memory of enslaved people.

Richmond's grant is among more than \$16 million in total funding The Mellon Foundation is providing to recipients in Virginia's capital city for projects that are "examining, preserving and reimagining" its "rich historical narratives," the New York-based nonprofit told The Associated Press ahead of a formal announcement Tuesday.

Among the other grant recipients are a public art project, a museum and an initiative uplifting the story of a historically Black neighborhood. All are part of a push in Richmond — which recently removed its massive collection of Confederate statuary — to highlight other parts of its history.

"Richmond has been the site of many stories that have shaped our understanding of who we are as Americans, but public commemoration in Richmond historically has been limited to only a few," Elizabeth Alexander, president of the Mellon Foundation, said in a statement.

"Today, the people of this city are lifting up the collective memory of its historic Black communities, unflinchingly addressing the city's past as the capital of the state with the most enslaved people prior to the Civil War, and participating in the reimagining of the city's public spaces to better reflect the fullness of its history," Alexander said.

City officials said in an interview and in written plans



Work crews work to remove the statue of confederate general Stonewall Jackson, Wednesday, July 1, 2020, in Richmond, Va. Richmond, Virginia, has secured an \$11 million philanthropic donation to build a new interpretive center city officials hope will someday be part of an ambitious, long-envisioned memorial campus honoring the memory of enslaved people. Richmond's grant is among more than \$16 million in total funding The Mellon Foundation is providing to recipients in the former Confederate capital for projects that are “examining, preserving and reimagining” its “rich historical narratives:

AP PHOTO BY STEVE HELBER

shared with AP that the \$11 million grant will fund the creation of an "interpretive center" in 12,300 square feet of space in the first floor of the sleek, glassy train shed of historic Main Street Station, a landmark visible to motorists cutting through the city on Interstate 95.

Officials hope the center will be a space to welcome and orient visitors to Shockoe Bottom, one of the oldest neighborhoods in one of America's oldest cities. The neighborhood was once a hub in the domestic slave trade, though that history is barely visible now.

Hundreds of thousands of men, women and children were jailed, bought and sold in Richmond, and shipped across the South in the decades preceding the Civil

War. For a time, Richmond was second only to New Orleans as a slave-trading center.

Community activists have long pushed for a public site in the neighborhood telling that history and honoring enslaved people, but the initiative has moved forward in fits and starts.

The preservation of Shockoe Bottom rose to national attention in 2014 when former Mayor Dwight Jones proposed a baseball stadium-centered economic development project in the area that was ultimately scuttled in the face of outrage from community members who said Shockoe Bottom was sacred ground.

Today, modest remembrances to the neighborhood's slave-trading past are

tucked away in a hard-to-find area adjacent to I-95, a parking lot and rumbling train tracks.

In 2020, Richmond officials joined by community activists outlined plans for a Shockoe Bottom heritage campus that would include a museum and a park for reflection. The state has chipped in funding and the city has set aside almost \$28 million for the project, including the museum planning, which is in its earliest stages, faces flooding-related zoning hurdles and will require significant additional money.

The interpretive center will offer "a space to educate and immerse audiences in the history of Shockoe and is one of the first steps in bringing the larger Heri-

tage Campus to fruition," Mayor Levar Stoney said in a statement.

Officials say the center will provide educational and artistic content about Richmond's role in the slave trade, and space for visitors to Shockoe Bottom to escape the elements and orient themselves to the neighborhood, which includes other historical sites, including the Virginia Holocaust Museum.

Among Mellon's other Richmond grantees is The Valentine Museum, which is dedicated to the city's history, and plans to use the money in part to "reimagine" the studio of Edward Valentine, a sculptor of Confederate figures.

The foundation is also backing The JXN Project, an

initiative aimed at telling the story of the role Richmond, and especially the historically Black Jackson Ward neighborhood, played in the Black American experience.

Also receiving support are Reclaiming the Monument, a public art project that captured national attention for its projections on the now-removed base of an enormous Robert E. Lee statue; Untold RVA, an existing project that aims to tell hidden histories; and Cary Forward, which plans a "multidisciplinary arts space, interpretive center, artist/scholar residency, and archival library."

The foundation said its award to Richmond was the first ever grant to a municipal government from its Monuments Project, a \$250 million funding commitment launched in 2020 that aims to reimagine history-telling in public spaces.

In an interview, Alexander said the project had supported initiatives including the Kansas relocation of an approximately 25-ton stone considered sacred to the Kaw Nation, and the Irei project, an effort to build a memorial to people of Japanese ancestry incarcerated in camps during World War II.

In Richmond, which Alexander said she visited over the summer, the foundation found a city unusually eager to "contend and grapple" with its past.

"The only way to move forward anyplace is to really look truthfully at our past and to envision a better future that is based on truth-telling and reckoning," Alexander said.

The foundation, which was established in 1969 by the children of industrialist, statesman and philanthropist Andrew W. Mellon, bills itself as the nation's largest supporter of the arts and humanities.

An Iranian masterwork opens with its director behind bars

By Jake Coyle
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — After being arrested for creating antigovernment propaganda in 2010, the Iranian director Jafar Panahi was banned from making films for 20 years. Since then, he's made five widely acclaimed features.

His latest, "No Bears," opens soon in U.S. theaters while Panahi is in prison.

In July, Panahi went to the Tehran prosecutor's office to inquire about the arrest of Mohammad Rasoulof, a filmmaker detained in the government's crackdown on protests. Panahi himself was arrested and, on a decade-old charge, sentenced to six years in jail.

Panahi's films, made in Iran without government approval, are sly feats of artistic resistance. He plays himself in meta self-portraits that clandestinely capture the mechanics of Iranian society with a humanity both playful and devastating. Panahi made "This is Not a Film" in his apartment. "Taxi" was shot almost entirely inside a car, with a smiling Panahi playing the driver and picking up passengers along the way.

In "No Bears," Panahi plays a fictionalized version of himself while making a film in a rural town along the Iran-Turkey border. It's one of the most acclaimed films of the year. The New York Times and The Associated Press named it one of the top 10 films of the year. Film critic Justin Chang of The Los Angeles Times

called "No Bears" 2022's best movie.

"No Bears" is landing at a time when the Iranian film community is increasingly ensnarled in a harsh government crackdown. A week after "No Bears" premiered at the Venice Film Festival, with Panahi already behind bars, 22-year-old Mahsa Amini died while being held by Iran's morality police. Her death sparked three months of women-led protests, still ongoing, that have rocked Iran's theocracy.

More than 500 protesters have been killed in the crackdown since Sept. 17, according to the group Human Rights Activists in Iran. More than 18,200 people have been detained.

On Saturday, the prominent Iranian actress Taraneh Alidoosti, star of Asghar Farhadi's Oscar-winning "The Salesman," was arrested after posting an Instagram message expressing solidarity with a man recently executed for crimes allegedly committed during the protests.

In the outcry that followed Alidoosti's arrest, Farhadi — the director of "A Separation" and "A Hero" — called for Alidoosti's release "alongside that of my other fellow cineastes Jafar Panahi and Mohammad Rasoulof and all the other less-known prisoners whose only crime is the attempt for a better life."

"If showing such support is a crime, then tens of millions of people of this land are criminals," Farhadi wrote on Instagram.

Panahi's absence has been acutely felt on the



This image released by Sideshow and Janus Films shows filmmaker Jafar Panahi during the filming of "No Bears."

AP PHOTO BY JANUS FILMS

world's top movie stages. At Venice, where "No Bears" was given a special jury prize, a red-carpet walkout was staged at the film's premiere. Festival director Alberto Barbera and jury president Julianne Moore were among the throngs silently protesting the imprisonment of Panahi and other filmmakers.

"No Bears" will also again test a long-criticized Academy Awards policy. Submissions for the Oscars' best international film category are made only by a country's government. Critics have said that allows authoritative regimes to dictate which films compete for the sought-after prize.

Arthouse distributors Sideshow and Janus Films, which helped lead Ryusuke Hamaguchi's Japanese drama "Drive My Car" to four

Oscar nominations a year ago, acquired "No Bears" with the hope that its merit and Panahi's cause would outshine that restriction.

"He puts himself at risk every time he does something like this," says Jonathan Sehring, Sideshow founder and a veteran independent film executive. "When you have regimes that won't even let a filmmaker make a movie and in spite of it they do, it's inspiring."

"We knew it wasn't going to be the Iranian submission, obviously," adds Sehring. "But we wanted to position Jafar as a potential best director, best screenplay, a number of different categories. And we also believe the film can work theatrically."

The Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences

declined to comment on possible reforms to the international film category. Among the 15 shortlisted films for the award announced Wednesday was the Danish entry "Holy Spider," set in Iran. After Iranian authorities declined to authorize it, director Ali Abbasi shot the film, based on real-life serial killings, in Jordan.

"No Bears" opens in New York on Dec. 23 and Los Angeles on Jan. 10 before rolling out nationally.

In it, Panahi rents an apartment from which he, with a fitful internet signal, directs a film with the help of assistants. Their handing off cameras and memory cards gives, perhaps, an illuminating window into how Panahi has worked under government restrictions. In "No Bears," he comes

under increasing pressure from village authorities who believe he's accidentally captured a compromising image.

"It's not easy to make a movie to begin with, but to make it secretly is very difficult, especially in Iran where a totalitarian government with such tight control over the country and spies everywhere," says Iranian film scholar and documentarian Jamsheed Akrami-Ghorveh. "It's really a triumph. I can't compare him with any other filmmaker."

In one of the film's most moving scenes, Panahi stands along the border at night. Gazing at the lights in the distance, he contemplates crossing it — a life in exile that Panahi in real life steadfastly refused to ever adopt.

Legal Notice

ees within sixty (60) days of beginning work on the construction project. A certified or cashier's check or a bid bond in the amount of 5% shall be submitted with each proposal. The project will be awarded to the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder. Pettis County Commission reserves the right to reject any or all bids. No 2nd tier subcontracting will be allowed on this project.

RESOLUTION NO. 2006 - A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEDALIA AUTHORIZING THE NAMING OF AN UNNAMED STREET WITHIN LIBERTY PARK TO LIBERTY STADIUM DRIVE.
WHEREAS, Sedalia, Missouri, as a city of the third classification, may change the name of its streets pursuant to §77.220, RSMo; and
WHEREAS, the City desires to name an unnamed north-south road within the grounds of the City's Liberty Park to "Liberty Stadium Drive."
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEDALIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:
Section 1. The City Council hereby proposes that the unnamed street that bisects the City of Sedalia property at 1700 West 3rd Street near the Heckart Community Center (Parcel ID 153005110001000) within the City's Liberty Park and runs north-south between Liberty Park Boulevard and West 3rd Street be hereby named "Liberty Stadium Drive."
Section 2. As required by §77.220, RSMo., the City will publish notice of the new street name in the Sedalia Democrat newspaper for one week and then wait at least four weeks from the date of publication before bringing an ordinance adopting the new street name before the City Council for enactment.
Section 3. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval as provided by law.
PASSED by the Council of the City of Sedalia, Missouri, this 19th day of December, 2022.
7x-12/24, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 2022; 1/3, 2023

Legal Notice

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PETTIS COUNTY, MISSOURI AT SEDALIA, MISSOURI
In Re: MINNIE ELLEN RODGERS, Deceased.
Case No.: 12PT-PR00207
NOTICE OF FILING OF FINAL SETTLEMENT AND PETITION FOR DISTRIBUTION
(Sec. 473.587, RSMo)
You are hereby notified that on **January 6, 2023**, or as may be continued by the court, the undersigned personal representative will file in the Probate Division of Circuit Court of Pettis County, Missouri, at Sedalia, Missouri, final settlement and petition for distribution of the estate and for determination of the persons who are successors in interest to the personal and real property of the decedent and of the extent and character of the interests therein. Any objections or exceptions to such Final Settlement and Petition for Distribution or any item thereof must be in writing and filed within twenty days after the filing of such settlement.
/s/Keli Rodgers
Keli J. Rodgers,
Personal Representative
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- Five years or more in same or similar position with local government or similar employer.
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- Knowledge of administrative procedures, personnel management, and Microsoft Office applications.
- Advanced interpersonal skills to handle sensitive and confidential situations and documentation.
- Analytical ability to gather and summarize data for reports, solve problems, and prioritize work.
- Make independent judgments that have highly significant impacts on the City.
- Basic knowledge and experience with automotive and mechanical repair.
- Sufficient experience to safely operate heavy equipment.

Working conditions are inside and outside year-round. Some evening and/or weekend work may be required for special events and/or emergency response situations. Physical requirements are those that would be considered normal for hearing, vision, mental acuity, and general physical dexterity.

Resumes and applications may be submitted to the City Administrator by postal mail or by email at the addresses below. A detailed position description is available upon request.

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Letters to Santa



Dear Santa,
What I want for christmas. I want a ps5 and a jark my kitten. I want you to bring me money please. Sincerely, sterling.
Sterling, 8

Dear Santa,
I hope you don't get cold and eat lots of cookies. I want you to make all the kids happy. I want pokemon cards and a rc cyber truck.
Max, 8

Dear Santa,
What is your favorite color?
Guadalupe

Dear Santa,
Usually. All I want for christmas is new clothing. I cant wait to see my elf Lala! And. my presents Now I will tell you what I want for christmas. Mama surprise. Smelly stickers and color pencils. Thank you! I love you so much!
Aliyah, 8

Dear Santa,
Christmas is my favorite holliday and the best. Santa likes cookies and milk. I want a go-kark for christmas. Sincerely, Kaiden.
Kaiden

Dear Santa,
I want for crismis a unicorn. a toy catzpilar. lots of candy. pet dog and Hart Pilow.
Lydia, 7

Dear Santa,
I want christmax.
Trace

Dear Santa,
I want a real monster truck.
Jonny

Dear Santa,
Why do reindeer eat carrots?
Blake

Dear Santa,
This year I would like these things Please: squish-mellow, bunk bed, Baby Alive that eats and poops, some clothes, barbie doll house and barbie dolls.. Thank you santa for these things.
Mary, 7

Dear Santa,
For christmas I want a popit, backpack, a rainbow one. I also want a cat, swoshamill and one squishy. I want it to be a cat one, and I hope my wish comes true. I think chistmas is the best.
Camilla, 7

Dear Santa,
I wut a free from ren-bow. I wut a sonic. I wut a conic.exe.
Dom, 7

Dear Santa,
I want a monster truck.
Cole

Dear Santa,
I want a watch.
Makena

Dear Santa,
What is your favorite cookie?
Yeva

Dear Santa,
I want 8 dogs, 7 football jersey and winter gloves. Thank you, santa.
Shane

Dear Santa,
I want a ps5, christmas is the best I also want a go-kart. Sincerely, Gabriel.
Gabriel, 8

Dear Santa,
I wut a phone.
Corey

Dear Santa,
I want a monster truck.
Kob

Dear Santa,
Is rudolph real? Are elves real? I like your sleigh. I want crystals and a Sally doll.
Love, Mia
Mia, 8

Dear Santa,
What is your fav cookie, I want a sledhammer.
Trent

Dear Santa,
I always want a big doll house, a toy shark, a pink pop It backpack and a lot of squishies. Please!! Thank you. I love you santa clause.
Azzy P, 6

Dear Santa,
this is what i waritt, for chritmas:
1. A mellisa and dug toy
2. coloring Book please.
3. I want a color pencil set,
4. And a toy for my baby bhothor
Thank you, valeria.
Valeria, 8

Dear Santa,
crn, uelel, lPid.
Broelyn, 7

Dear Santa,
I want a phone.
Gabe

Dear Santa,
I want dominoes.
Sophia

Dear Santa,
How are the reindeer? I want dinosaurs!
Grey

Dear Santa,
I want for christmas:
1. Xodox,
2. \$2,900,
3. Nerf gun,
4. Fortnite game,
5. Dog and cat,
Thank you!
Emmett, 8

Dear Santa,
Can you give me the game of Poppy Playtime? And can you give me the game of super Mario maker two? I love the video games you gage me last year. I will give you good cookies!
Andrew, 8

Dear Santa,
I want a macpuset. I want a lakebox safe. I wuand a lol in a box. I want a iyf. I want a cotingcanol.
Audrina, 6

Dear Santa,
I want a unicorn.
Hamley

Dear Santa,
I want a doll.
Mirah

Dear Santa,
How are the reindeer? I want a book!
Mark

Dear Santa,
I want my own.switch, and Forthite toys. I also want some minecraft pLushes. Thank you.
Fynn, 7

Dear Santa,
I Love you.
Liam, 6

Dear Santa,
Fon, chypodr, boc, wodrbodr, blacefgrq, fac-showbols, lemadsof.
Breaisha, 6

Dear Santa,
I want a talking unicorn.
Iris

Dear Santa,
I want to be black panther.
Rere

Dear Santa,
What is fav cookie, I want a LOL Dol.
Zoey

Dear Santa,
I lov christmas I want a robot stingray, a bocugun, and a shake keing Toy, slim.
Please
Rowdy, 8

Dear Santa,
I Love you Satu. I Wot A Plushe and Lego Machin.
Lasehyeligun

Dear Santa,
Can I have a laptop and anuthr cat. Ples! I <3 u.
Elenor, 6

Dear Santa,
I want plushies!
Blake

Dear Santa,
I would like a doll.
Retna

Dear Santa,
I want barbie dream house, how are reindeer?
Ally

Dear Santa,
I want a LOL Dol, how are the reindeer?
Estev

Dear Santa,
I Love you Satu. I Wot A Plushe and Lego Machin.
Lasehyeligun

Dear Santa,
I wut. RelllIF DOG. lpBOX.
Odin

Dear Santa,
I want a phone!
Bailey

Dear Santa,
How do your reindeer hold the sled?
Morgan

Dear Santa,
What is your cookie? I want a sweng
Rayden

Dear Santa,
I want my own.switch, and Forthite toys. I also want some minecraft pLushes. Thank you.
Fynn, 7

Dear Santa,
A goo, A toy cat, A scarf. A Hat. Gloves.
Luke, 6

Dear Santa,
I want OMGdols and LOL dolls and cribabes and a skool awfit.
Elvie, 6

Dear Santa,
I want a phone!
Niek

Dear Santa,
I want a doll house.
Hans

Dear Santa,
How are the elves? I want pige and ele book.
Sophia

Dear Santa,
I lov christmas I want a robot stingray, a bocugun, and a shake keing Toy, slim.
Please
Rowdy, 8

Dear Santa,
I Love you Satu. I Wot A Plushe and Lego Machin.
Lasehyeligun

Dear Santa,
I want ifunint mech. I want a Lanke xbox. I want nekes.
Ethan, 6

Dear Santa,
I want christmas poop that shoots out candy.
Keylea

Dear Santa,
I want a kindle fire.
Nicholas

Dear Santa,
Can reindeer fly?
Maddie

Dear Santa,
I lov christmas I want a robot stingray, a bocugun, and a shake keing Toy, slim.
Please
Rowdy, 8

Dear Santa,
A goo, A toy cat, A scarf. A Hat. Gloves.
Luke, 6

Dear Santa,
I want ifunint mech. I want a Lanke xbox. I want nekes.
Ethan, 6





Dear Santa,
I wot a woch for chris-
mis mis ples. I wot a fon
for chismis mis ples. I wot
sum hedlis for chis-
mis mis ples.
Rebekah, 6

Dear Santa,
I want a phone for
christmas.
Zoey, 6

Dear Santa,
I wot a piez cat and a
howeth ack.
Gavin, 6

Dear Santa,
Der sant clos, I wot a
how friends at my has and
a pup and a dog.
Gabby, 6

Dear Santa,
I waunt ploy-doh for
christmas.
Brithany, 6

Dear Santa,
I wont too yuo, San-
tacloz gav, Me a big dol,
haws a loval bol, haws uov
the, alol sooproys.
Milana, 7

Dear Santa,
I waunt boyblades for
christmas.
Nicolas, 6

Dear Santa,
I want to hav hazal back
she is my favit cat evr.
Mila, 7

Dear Santa,
What I want for Christ-
mas is some makeup, fake
nails, a wig, markers, a
colering book, new books,
a puppy, a dress and
a crown. Thank you so
much for all the presents
you gave me. Sincere-
ly, Serena.
Serena, 7

Dear Santa,
Hpb, I have ben good.
Help feed the pets and the
babes. I would like to have
Legos and telestope.
Cuxtis, 7

Dear Santa,
Hi! I bin good this year
your elf was woching me
today. I helped my dog. I
want a lpad for Christmas
and a pocmoeon. Thank you!
I Love you you Aer thu best.
Harmony, 6

Dear Santa,
Hi! I have been nise
this year.
Avery, 6

Dear Santa,
Hi I been good bi doing
the laundry! I also did dishes.
I would like to have chrzord-
cord and chransformr.
Brantley, 7

Dear Santa,
I have been good. I like
doing What IM goT told I
helped my friend up. I do
dishes. I wid love fone and a
highheels. I love you!
McKayla, 7

Dear Santa,
I ben nope and nise. I hav
ben geteing frezrbox. I Held
clean the Batnrom. TwiL Like
a New Shoes.
Jacob, 7

Dear Santa,
wud like a play set wif
hrs. I ben good. I klen up
the hous and I help klen
up the dog.
Milusia, 7

Dear Santa,
Hello I have been good
this year I helped me xame
be a I would like a new toy.
Straien, 8



Dear Santa,
Hello! I Hav ben good at
setting up laundry and feed
pets. I would like to haved
iPad and a headphone and
erbuds. Thank you!
Andy, 7

Dear Santa,
Hello! I have been cleen-
ing my room. I helped cleen
at schooll. I helped with
the laundry. I would Like to
have LOL dolls and Barbes.
Thank you!
Nayamoie, 7

Dear Santa,
Hi! I have been good
this year. I helped clean the
house and my littl sistr. I
make my bed. I wud like to
have a kitin and a lot of dols.
I Love You!
Josie, 6

Dear Santa,
Hello Santa! i have been
good this year. I helped do
laundry and I feed my pet
and I clean my moms bed. I
would like hot whels and bid
meck toy. Thank you.
Isaac, 7

Dear Santa,
Hi! I have ben good! this
yer! I have fed the pets. I help
fed lizrd! I would like to have
pokemn that pref ples cha
fomo! Thank you!
Jaxon, 8

Dear Santa,
Hi I been good this yer.
I do not paut. I finish my
homework in two days. I
would like ot have a remote
can and a lego car. you
are the best!
Corbin, 6

Dear Santa,
Hi! I have been good. I
helped pick trash. and i take
car of my pets. I would like
to have a Barbihows and a
BarbiKampr. I love you!
Emsley, 6

Dear Santa,
Your the best. I lishn at scol.
I wash dishes. I help clen the
hous. I help feed the dog
and the cat food and wodr. I
clen my room. I clen the yrd.
I help pepl I wud lik to have
a box en toy and yede and
spaghete. I luv you.
Oliver

Dear Santa,
Hi! I have been good this
yer. I did all of my hmwrk. I
would like to have a buggy
and a rel live pupe dog.
Elliott, 6

Dear Santa,
I have been good this
year. Are you ready for this
year! I would like gloe on
nels, and a blue beny bag
char, and a mack up kit for
christmas thank you for
the elves. have a safe flight
love stella.
Stella D., 7

Dear Santa,
I have been good this
year. Racer. your the
best have a safe flight.
Love, Mason.
Mason P., 7

Dear Santa,
Dear Santa, I have been
good this year. For example, I
helped my frnat with clehes.
I would like sum lagos for
christmas. love Nevaeh.
Nevaeh, 7

Dear Santa,
I have been nice! I played
vlebol wif sistr. I wud like a
motrsikl a toy pleg. Merry
Christmas! Love, Efrain.
Efrain, 6

Dear Santa,
I wut a valol. I wat a I wat
a lov dophs. I wat a pefps
5. I wat a fron firp pat pol.
From Keyshia.
Keyshia, 9

Dear Santa,
I want a scooter. can I
have a bike?
Kiril, 6

Dear Santa,
Pleas a geem labrogene.
Omar, 8

Dear Santa,
can I have some
Pokemon? and a shieumoko.
Thank you.
Bella, 6

Dear Santa,
I Wot is a nuxxv bik. I Wot
a nuVV QoSke. Thank youy
Merr chrestmas!
Avianna, 6

Dear Santa,
Pokemon Sotu. cat to
spider to. coocoo to.
Kinnick, 6

Dear Santa,
Can I glees hav gokemon
cords for crismis.
Ava, 6

Dear Santa,
A dds, Acttr, A snow-
man, A Chair, A Chelf, A
NutehdoSwich.
Olivia, 6

Dear Santa,
Legos, Robox, battle leg,
bands, litsaber, legos.
Reid, 6

Dear Santa,
Pocket woch, litsabr,
pokymon book, swich,
bockoogon.
Braelynn H., 6

Dear Santa,
Barbys wit outfits.
Faith, 6

Dear Santa,
I want a.Panda bear
stuffy, mermaid books, care
bear stuffy, domamnoss, toy
clock, barbeys.
Audrey, 6

Dear Santa,
You are so nice thank you
for spreading the cher to the
Whole World nad Love To
The Whole World.
Bella, 6

Dear Santa,
you are so Nice you are
the Best prsin ever Becuse
you give me toys. I Wish for
a toye RC.
Keegan, 6

Dear Santa,
Pup Cat.
Natali, 7

Dear Santa,
Lots of Toys PLESE AND
THANK YOU. MERRY
LOVE MATTEO CHRIST-
MAS HOHOHO.
Matteo, 7

Dear Santa,
I want a Balnk perer, ipad,
trains, nintedo switch, candy
canes for christmas.
Owen, 6

Dear Santa,
I barbie car.
Dahiela, 6

Dear Santa,
I want barbie car. I want
chrimas lits. AND ToyS.
MagAGy

Dear Santa,
I WANT presents FORC
chrimus present.
William, 6

Dear Santa,
I LOVE YOU.
Emily, 6

Dear Santa,
I wut a Jorbot and truck
and soldgers and train.
Mennet, 6

Dear Santa,
Heles, books, skatbard,
dog, poster, iphon 14, huver-
bord, drum set.
Brynley, 7

Dear Santa,
POKEMON cards, 4
GOLD cards, Mewtwo.
Stetson, 7

Dear Santa,
Peperony, Candy, nets.
Ellie, 6

Dear Santa,
City, CAT, food. Ples and
thank you.
Grace, 7

Dear Santa,
I have been good/bad
this year. I helped MY baby
brother. I would like same
toys. love Leyton.
Leyton, 6

Dear Santa,
I have been good this
year. I helped my mom I
would Like a Slim for Christ-
mas. Love Cassidy.
Cassidy, 7

Dear Santa,
I have been good this
year. For example I helped
my grandma.
Jayden, 7

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to All

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Dear Santa,
I have been good This year. I would like a Micro-Fone Witha SPeaker.
Kinleigh, 6

Dear Santa,
I want nintendoswitch for christmas I need it.
Ramisah, 7

Dear Santa,
I wana worm and acat and two dogs. Fum, Jaylanni. Jaylanni, 7

Dear Santa,
I need food I want a phone I want a tree house. From Apis.
Apis, 7

Dear Santa,
I want art stuff for chrismus.
Vanessa, 6

Dear Santa,
I want a motorcycle for christmas.
Elliott, 7

Dear Santa,
I want for christmas i need a Beat.
Derek, 7

Dear Santa,
PS3, PS4, PS5, RCCAR, NerfGun, LAPTOP, XBox, SWITCH, DirtBike.
JaBari, 7

Dear Santa,
Lego, Telephone Smsung, Candies, PS5, Nerf, HOT WHEELS CAR.
Fypyis, 8

Dear Santa,
Dirt Bike, NERFGUN, PS5, I Phon, Switch.
Easton, 7

Dear Santa,
apple woch, Xbox, phon, PS5.
tristan, 9

Dear Santa,
What is your fa- vorite color?

Dear Santa,
Where is the North Ploe?

Dear Santa,
What is your favor- ite cookie?

Dear Santa,
What is your fa- vorite color?

Dear Santa,
Do you like kittens?

Dear Santa,
Why don't you come when it snows?

Dear Santa,
Do you like pink and purple?

Dear Santa,
R U santa?

Dear Santa,
When will you come to my house?

Dear Santa,
i wrld like a vr and a play stashin. thank you.
Jeremiah, 8

Dear Santa,
I wish I was not sick. I want a hub. I want a blanket. I want a lander. I want money.
Leyaiana, 8

Dear Santa,
I bin Good. for christmas I want SLim.
Love Rasika Raska, 6

Dear Santa,
I been good. I WANT A BabE Doll. love Khloe.
Khloe, 7

Dear Santa,
I have benn good, I want doll clothes
Chloe, 7

Dear Santa,
I helped my mom. Love you.
Atikis, 7

Dear Santa,
Merry Christmas!!!
Dylan, 7

Dear Santa,
I want lots of DOGMAN BOOKS.
Wesley, 7

Dear Santa,
Apple Pen, Sand, makeup.
Talkyan, 8

Dear Santa,
Lego semi truck, Lego trailer, Lego jeep, luigis game card.
Ashton, 7

Dear Santa,
I want dinosar and candy. I want money thank you.
Jordan, 8

Dear Santa,
I wood like a phone and makeup. A big BAG.
Sophia, 8

Dear Santa,
2 PS5s, Dumbells, trampelen, dog and cat.
Bradly, 8

Dear Santa,
Skatbard, football and PS5 Hoovboard.
Gage, 8

Dear Santa,
I been good, I help MOM. I want som stuff.
Brenda, 6

Dear Santa,
I want Phone and cat.
Miannah, 6

Dear Santa,
Why do you eat cookie.

Dear Santa,
How are you Im doing wll and How are Mrs. claws and rudolph I really want everyone to be happy on every day ! I now its alot but please santa
Love, Alaina.
Alaina, 8

Dear Santa,
How is your Advent, how is all of your deer? I love christmas and SNOW! I love the day of christ was born.
Auggie, 9

Dear Santa,
I like the elf we got at our hous I like to find him when I wake up. He always hides in good places. Please say hie to Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Comet, cupped, Donner, dixon, blitsen, rudolph. And for christmas I would like a nintendo Switch with games and I want the sky walkr saga for it all of the starwars movies and the all the pirates of the caribbean and xbox 360 games cats food for our cats and cat toy for our cats 3 ds game and is all I want for christmas. I hope you have a good christmas santa.
From Corbin B, To santa.
Corbin, 9

Dear Santa,
This year has been grat being in 3rd grad and I cant Belive that Christmas is alredy hear. I hope that evryon has happy holidays and a happy New year you too! 2022 is lamost 2023! Can you believe it. Have Jolly Jolly CHRISTMAS - resa, 2022.
Eden, 8

Dear Santa,
Santa how is your work- shop going? I hope its going good. Has Mrs. Claus been making lots of cookies? I can tell you what I want for christmas I want smash bros, squishmollow, go cart, cristal rock kit, PS4.
Limlee, 8 and a half

Dear Santa,
I have been asking for a pc and a Iphone and 400\$ roblox gift card Silver pokemon and joradans cloths painting piano boos crss globe cubs hats paja- mas plants candles candy. Love gabe.
Gabe, 8

Dear Santa,
how is rudolph is he fine or is he sick? What I really want for Christmas is a high slime kit, pokemon toys, pokemon cards, 3ds, and all pokemon. Nintendos witch games if you can. Also before i do where is myself sparkle let me know! Love Jabari.
Jabari

Dear Santa,
How is rudolp downing? Do you like chocolate cause we have a bungch. Can you gire me the lamo lego mincraft build for christmas and a lond on dary pokemon cit! And say i to the reindeer for me santa pleas. Stay cold, James WE LOVE YOU SANTA.
James, 8

Dear Santa,
How are you and Mrs. clause doing? For christmas I would like to have a new bike, munchkin bars, snow, and new friends, Low a durt- bike and nikes. Love lorelei.
Lorelei, 9

Dear Santa,
hello, say hi to rudolph and Mrs. Claus and the elf. Santa can you give me a ty teddy bar. I hope you have a merry christams.
From mariana.
Mariana, 8

Dear Santa,
how are you? I'm good. Can I tell you what I want ok I want a Iphone14, schish- melow, a dog, a snake, a nitio switch, Stoff for it. I'm sorry I'm asking for so much. I just want it all. How is Rudolph? Merry is so funny she want- ed to play tictacto. I hope you like my cookes when you come to our home how is mrs. Clause.Love mia.
Mia, 9

Dear Santa,
I want a book about dino- saurs a mighty pups charged up DVD, a Might pup rocky and chase. How are you doing? Im doing grat. Please bring me a Nentendo switch.
Nicholas, 8

Dear Santa,
How are the randeer re they good. How are are you redy for you flint around the world this yere. The thing I want for christmas is a fast rc boat.
Thomas, 8

Dear Santa,
Will you get me a Pres- ent? I want an Ipad thats all because I can play games on it and I can call people like my friends maily mem- bers or like other people I re- ally sooperdooper like other people and I want a ipad like really really bad. So can you get it form me please. Thank you Love isabella.
Isabella, 9

Dear Santa,
I want a phone for my siter har name is ryleigh but you can give it to me to give to har it can frum both of us. Can you get me matt and re- becas hot choclate can give me of them 3 for me and the other 3 for ryleigh ples. Can you get my mommy and daddy bac to gether Ple- assssssssssssss Can I get a watch to of them plesss santa can I get a vr head set but pink for me and ryleigh and I to shar ples santas also you are very cool.
Ashlyn K, 9



Dear Santa,
Huver bord, Skates, Salt gun/bug gun, Dirt bike.
Kaiden, 9

Dear Santa,
I don't want any thing for I just want to be with my famil. Oh i want want a watch thats it.
Meleena, 9

Dear Santa,
I would like an oculus for christmas and I got all A+ in school i am very good.
Elias, 8

Dear Santa,
I want a grabby's doll house please make shere it has evoreything in it. Have a grate day oh make sher you tell Mrs. Claus it have a grate day too.
Grayclyn, 9

Dear Santa,
This year I have been real- ly good! For christmas i sould like a puppy blante, a magic 8 ball, a soccer blanket, a hover 1, and a I phone 13 pro- with a puppy phone case.
Madi R, 8

MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

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Dear Santa,
This year I have been rally good this year for christmas. I would like a kitten, new cloths, and new shoes.
Keegan, 9

Dear Santa,
Hello i would like a new phone case with Gold ronning down the back it would be so cool.
Charlotte, 9

Dear Santa,
Santa you are the best! I dont want a lot for Christ-mas, This christmas on my wish list is new clotes, and a mini frige. Santa you are amazing! Sincerely Hannah.
Hannah, 9

Dear Santa,
Im so glad you are com-ing this year. My sisters are so exited for you coming. Do you relly have neigh-deer that fly. What i really want for christmas is to spend time with my family.
Derek, 9

Dear Santa,
How are you? Im goud. For this christmas I want a laptop with a case, a skin care set, a tablet and fire-stick case, and a squich-mellow. I hope you have a goud christmas. Yours truly hadley.
Hadley, 10

Dear Santa,
How are your elves. Are they making lots of presets. I know something i want from you. I want clips fir my hair to keep off my meak and out of my face.
Emery, 10

Dear Santa,
I wnat the nue iphone 2,758 pleas and a vr.
Arturs, 10

Dear Santa,
I want a puppy for chrestmus.
Harley, 10

Dear Santa,
I would like to get a new basketball hop and 285 sized baskeitbill, And for it to snow on 12/28/2022.
Jase, 9

Dear Santa,
I wish that you cah make slalida fun please. And new or has all of the fun on fair.
Raleigh, 11

Dear Santa,
Some people say thst uor fake but i donut that so can i have a ps5 mike, iphone pro max.
Jackson, 9

Dear Santa,
I have been nice.
Javian, 7

Dear Santa,
I have been good and good and helpful. Are you making lots of toys? I what robbux, and i what a footbloll and i what baxitbloll.
Simon, 7

Dear Santa,
Phone somsung and a pokemon box and lego box and mincraft set.
Yarik, 8

Dear Santa,
What i want for christmas is pokemon packs, pokemon pages, xbox, teddy bear, 3 mini brands, bean bag chair, iphone 14, rainbow wa-ter bottel.
Haven, 8

Dear Santa,
I wich four a top hat and. Taping shoes and a butin up-shirt a black one. And a undr shirt. Your frend bryce.
Bryce, 8

Dear Santa,
I dont want that much all i want is for everyone to a awesome day. Your friend casein.
Casin, 9

Dear Santa,
It is nice to meet you santa i have i have been good and bad but i always hold a dream to get a dragon custom and another set of the ender drangon with the ender dragon uits self and steve. I also wanted to get a leafon and silveon plush. Your friand kali.
Kali, 9

Dear Santa,
I am going to ask for4 things something i need, something I want, somth-ing to wear and lastly somthing to play with.
From bria.
Bria, 9

Dear Santa,
Marble run, robot transformr.
Callowa, 5

Dear Santa,
Repunzel stuff.
Raven, 5

Dear Santa,
Car toys.
Emily, 5

Dear Santa,
Pumpkin.
Pedro, 5

Dear Santa,
Stuffy dog.
Victoria, 5

Dear Santa,
Golden hover board, Nintendo switch.
Ford, 5

Dear Santa,
Dog and makeup.
Lolertes, 5

Dear Santa,
Car toys.
Aiden, 5

Dear Santa,
Pencil bag.
Arcely, 5

Dear Santa,
Nintendo switch.
Anolerson, 5

Dear Santa,
Baby sea turtle.
Clayton, 5

Dear Santa,
Elsa stuff.
Zaylie, 5

Dear Santa,
Unicorn stuffed animal.
Alyse, 5

Dear Santa,
I wnat a lot of stuff but if it is t much you don't have to get me all of it but i am going to tell you want i want and what i need, i want to have a desk. I need some food we are running low, i wnat a big stuff animal of stich.
Jazzlynn m, 9

Dear Santa,
All the stuff i wnat. First, my mom to momney. Next, my dad to have tme with me. Then, new shoes and cloths, last, a phone.
Love riley.
Riley, 8

Dear Santa,
I want two new games called pokemon scarlet and kirbys dream buffet.
Ezra, 6

Dear Santa,
I wat a makeup and lols an! Barbes.
Kalia

Dear Santa,
I love decemder decas i love c.
Paisley, 4

Dear Santa,
Obez, jron, yonukorn, pixflir fon ipat.
Remi, 6

Dear Santa,
I wut toys.
Charles

Dear Santa,
I would like pokemon cords and i ned toys ples and thank you merry christmas!
Elijah W., 7

Dear Santa,
I would like a kaft. I would we ned me mark-ers please and thank you merry christmas!
Layla, 7

Dear Santa,
Merry christmas! I want playdoh please.
Giovanni, 6

Dear Santa,
I would like a skabod. I would also like a now cnpotr. Please and thank you.

Dear Santa,
I want a x Box I want sum x Box gamse I wunt Legos.
Clayton, 7

Dear Santa,
I wut video gams.
Cohen, 6

Dear Santa,
Merry Legos. Christ-mas show R-C car. Shark. Fish tank.
Boston, 6

Dear Santa,
I want dinosures.
Miya, 5

Dear Santa,
I want a dog.
Mareo, 6

Dear Santa,
I want dinosaurs.
Tim, 5

Dear Santa,
Merry christmas! Santa I want a pigeon teddy bear. I want a bounsy house. I want a teddy bear grinch. I want a teddy bear duckuling. I want a book the pigeon has feling too. Happy holidays.
Jayden, 6

Dear Santa,
Merry chaistmas! For chaistmas i wood wut ere-ings. Thank you Ho Ho Ho.
Nora, 6

Dear Santa,
Battleships, Sirin hed, Lit hed.
Jage, 6

Dear Santa,
Dear santa I wish that i git gifts and play in the snow.
Demazyon, 8

Dear Santa,
I love you santa i wish I cud have a big bed merry christmas.
Grace, 7

Dear Santa,
Can I have a squishy and slime and a fone?
Eliana, 6

Dear Santa,
Can i have a scaotr what is your favrit cakes. Gessshuo grcukes. mer ry christmas santa.
Kylie, 7

Dear Santa,
Can I plez a fieik box. Merry christmas.
Mia, 7

Dear Santa,
Merry christmas I waint ascooter.
Kai, 6

Dear Santa,
Thank you. Merry christmas. Can youbay mea squishmallow.
Rrylynn, 6

Dear Santa,
I wont the morsh-melcostom.
Gabriel, 7

Dear Santa,
Raxr pokemon goblin.
Royce, 7

Dear Santa,
I want a gond dnen pokeman kards. I want a huvrbord set.
Samuel, 7

Dear Santa,
Can i have pokemon cards x box 360, elekche scobtes, i phone 12, toy's for my younger brother, nintendo switch game card's, 10000 robux, \$1,100 squshmallow, basket ball's, nacuto book's, nintendo switch lite, 1000 subscribe's on youtube ukulele, led comutec, led kexbord, piano, two no school day's red hoverboard, chick, lo stcluberry's donut's.
Seth, 7



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Dear Santa,
Bdmdocav coc e toce
noBotdasie e iv ie.
Noah

Dear Santa,
Imin with a rad bow
and a poaching bag a frid
lago sont.
Vivian, 7

Dear Santa,
Lhoein menenemisikl
ehobotbinisroe 4 spinmeloo.
Roel

Dear Santa,
I basing fo elot 2rde bot.
Isaac

Dear Santa,
1. Atx
2. Asren ptetrl
3. Nincraft gamescrd
4. Bobby you
5. cremshen
Jaxsan, 6

Dear Santa,
Ners books pokemon a
stufahuml and godinpoack
mohcrs thos tiens you can
stik onr widdow ihihers
mrcsrs nebfoh nine brehs
foxy boxy lojrfrjuhs.
Penny, 7

Dear Santa,
Godin Polemon nti-
doswich for hit 4 godin
lamdogeue dog trable
soko pecchoo.
Jake, 7

Dear Santa,
I wunt a cace. Famule
pix or I wunt a danta wif
mx I wunt a barbes I wunt
a sistor I wunt a pipe I wunt
a haws for burbes I wunt
santa poxor.
Masha, 6

Dear Santa,
Omg doll new tustke
hoodie new vens hietop
new flwrsope new flups
new lol doll skin ker loshine
new fox book a fable peloe
blushpdlit.
Zoey, 7

Dear Santa,
I wunt a magik, Mix-
ey, I wunt borbes, I wunt
headphone 5, I wunt babesy
dols, I wunt bosel i wunt
bublegmbls.
Lennox, 6

Dear Santa,
Hi santa what I wunt for
crismi is a pupy that dose
chicks whin I tel it to.
Norah, 7

Dear Santa,
Terdnich your radau-
dolph we will lef cookies
santa claus our.
Jeremiah, 7

Dear Santa,
I want a tuik rudo and
I wuta tue bloon x box
stufanmol everett and a
angpanoa dogge wen lad-
gerne your.
Cory

Dear Santa,
Santa Clous can I ples
hav a gift and burke elf my.
Charlotte, 7

Dear Santa,
Thank you for all the
presents. I want a goo git zu
for christmas please.
Kevin, 6

Dear Santa,
I luv santas now n your af
boe can I hav a lulvd fam-
ily can I hav some mor hot
wheel cors.
Kellen, 7

Dear Santa,
HoHo HO Ho. Dear santa
can I hav a ifon. Ind I wut
a fonind I wut marrs in a
curling dock.
Keegan, 6

Dear Santa,
I wont a life sizd robo
fredz toy.
Treveon, 7

Dear Santa,
I want a present. I wants
tufted animals. I want a
present for my mom and for
my dad. I want a tree.
Varvara, 6

Dear Santa,
We wish you can have a
good cristmiss! Santa I wunt
a pack of clothes I wunt a
grookey hat I wunt a neth-
er brother.
Camden, 7

Dear Santa,
I wut a copdr: I wut Mi
uom play showman. I wut Mi
uom crismis chrey. I wut a
now toblit. I wut a hamster. I
wut macup.
Harmony, 6

Dear Santa,
I wut a Camera pispisa
and fayou.
Gemma, 7

Dear Santa,
I like you you are cool
bring me a X box books and
wach I pad makens.
Kinnley, 7

Dear Santa,
Mr. can I have can i git
figes can i have los cam I
hav gifts for aviona and a
giftfouh Brokin.
Edith, 6

Dear Santa,
I would like a toy tractor
and a toy farm and a toy
Simiy truck and cris Miss liss.
Merry chrisMis.
Mavrick, first grade

Dear Santa,
I would like a intindos-
wich I hed a noo fing-
grord. Thank Q.
Paxton, first grade

Dear Santa,
I would like a wege mat.
I would like some chapstick
because my lips get verydry
in winter. Please and thank
you. Merry Christmas!
Quinn, first grade

Dear Santa,
I would like some socks.
I wot a atendow please and
thank you. Merry christmas!
Damiah Sims, first grade

Dear Santa,
This year I have four
things That I want for christ-
mas number one I want, play
food for dolls. I need, more
art supplies for my pictures.
one thing, I want to wear is
a Justice outfit and a cheer
outfit. The last thing I want
to read is Junie b. Jones
books. I also want my want
my grandpa to come back
to life because he died on
10/27/2022 ten days after
my b-day. Mary christmas.
Rhianna, 9

Dear Santa,
Hi Santa I want a cat
and a corgiso so much.
I want that my dad can
come. I want a good day.
Thank you bye.
Ava, 9

Dear Santa,
I want more lululemon
for christmas. And I want
coco chanel prufam, And
I want thes spora hantizer.
I also want some makup.
And I want preppy breclits.
And I want necleses. Anew
hevbord. And a puppy. And
squish melof. And I want
new cute close.
Veronika, 9

Dear Santa,
Can you plz give me a
lego set and new shoes and
winter gloves a nd a legos
that glow dark. Thank You.
Sage, 9

Dear Santa,
Can I have
100,000,000,000,000 dal-
las. And a merry Chirsmas.
Joseph, 10

Dear Santa,
I need a phone for me
and a toy for my Baby and
I Want a Cat and a book
for ABCD and a fish pet
and a kite.
Mariah, 9

Dear Santa,
Can you my mom win the
lottery ticket and can i have
a iPhone12 and a big or little
box of slime and a bluetooth
hoverboard and a giant
sqioshmellow and head-
phones and new books to
read like chapter books and
picture books so i can read
to my mom and my brother.
Kamauriona, 10

Dear Santa,
Hello! This Christmas I
want a new gover board
and I also want a neck-
lace with my name on it.
Somthing else, I want is a
book serie of Laura Ingalls
Wilder's book's im reading
one right now but I would
love to read more! One
other thing is some clay



bead's to make bracelets. I
also want some sqishmel-
low's and I want some toys
for my pet guinea pig. One
last thing I want is a pack of
sticker to put on my water
bottle. That's all I want this
christmas, I hope you have a
wonderful christmas! Thank
you for reading.
Kenia, 9

Dear Santa,
Thanks for everything
you do! Most people dont
belive in you. But osomeone
told us "This class belives,
so we will belive. You also
bring so much Joy! To kids
and other people. We have
a chimey but, it's very hard
to see. And small. But we
have a door you can us.
P.S. one night I saw my dad
wrapping gifts but I didnt
see ANYTHING!! Hope you
enjoy this letter!
Kailyn, 9 almost 10

Dear Santa,
1. Lego
2. Game on my nitido
3. Candy
4. Pokemon
5. To be atracctive
6. Phone
7. Mindcraft
8. Laptop
9. Hat
10. Chiefe
Jaxson, 9

Dear Santa,
I've been good this year.
Are you ready for Christ-
mas? I would like a Titanic
and a toy car and a my
frafritivr set up! Thank your a
the best. Love Rustam.
Rustam Radacoenco, 7

Dear Santa,
I have been kind this
year. Are youre byfon this
year. I weob like afoh.
Raberss have a safe flight.
Love Lilliah.
Lilliah Thomas, 7

Dear Santa,
I have been good thank
yeur. Are you ready for this
year? Snaglob and a now
set of shozz and closzz. Thak
ILYC for making twetous.
Love Daniel.
Daniel, 7

Dear Santa,
I have been this year. I
am nice. Are you ready for
this year? I would like kar,
and HELLO ELVES for
cknistmas. Thank you for
the elves. Have a safe flight.
Love Angelina.
Angelina Maksimov, 6

Dear Santa,
I have been kind this year.
Have there been many good
kibs this year? Thank you
the elves.
Rosalyn Bond

Dear Santa,
Thice knid goohd this
year. Are hoods for no. I want
a toy for Chvlatmas. I lve the
reindeer Have a safe flight.
Jesslynn

Dear Santa,
I hav ben goud this. Santa
rae you rede for ckismas?I
would like a mogro gell
haws. Some a lols. Far
krismas you rae the best.
Love Alaina.
Alaina Hurlbrut, 6

Dear Santa,
I have been kind this
year. Are you ready for this
year? I would like a arctick
fox snoglod and a great
chvanva pokemon set. And
a swetr. Yor elves are veve
kind. Have a saff fligt. Love
Bryhlee Moon.
Bryhlee Moon, 6

Dear Santa,
I have been good this
year. You rdi for crismas. I
want daynson and see you
for crismas. I like yor alf and
you toys. Love Erik.
Erik Komarov, 6

Dear Santa,
What do you eat?
Love Mason.
Mason

Dear Santa,
I want a yoyo. I like make
up. Love Enca.
Enca

Dear Santa,
I want a snoglob. I want
a robot. I want a borbi haos.
Love Sunnie.
Sunnie

Dear Santa,
I want a robot.
Love Oliver.
Oliver

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and
Happy New Year*

T Tyson

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Dear Santa,
I want a bike. I want a flying toy. Love Sauriti. Sauriti

Dear Santa,
I have been good this year. Are you ready for this year? Thank toys, elves. Asia Anett

Dear Santa,
I am having a good time are you? I want a Rccar that can go on water. Have I been good? I want to take a picture with you. May I tak to you? From Kade hostetler. Kade, 8

Dear Santa,
A Patrick Mahomes Squishys? May I have box-es, wood, a safe. I love you! Harper, 8

Dear Santa,
I would like to have a dog for christmas I would like to have a sqishies, slims, and orbis. From Leah. Leah, 7

Dear Santa,
Are you ready for Christmas? What is your favorite food? Can have a min brah toys please Thank you so much. Can I have a real bunny? From, Lizbeth Alvarado-Ruiz. Lizbeth, 7

Dear Santa,
May I have fortnite, NerF gun and dinosaurs please? How are you? Alan, 8

Dear Santa,
Have I been good? May I Please have LOL dolls and Play dough and alot of plants please? Thank you! Delilah, 8

Dear Santa,
Can I please have a skateboard. Have I been good. Can I please have electric bike. Can I take a picture with you? What is your favorite food? Have you been goo. Are you rede for crismes. How many presents do I get? Victoria, 8

Dear Santa,
Can have a pet puppy for christman, a pet fish any cind of fish will do. Kate, 7

Dear Santa,
I want a car and a robot. And I want a wond and a dragin ballz toys. And one piec toys. And a spy nijay gadgets. Richard, 9

Dear Santa,
I want a squishmallow. And rekis and a diary. Hope you are having a good day! And candy! Oh 1 omopre thing is a porit. Peyton, 8

Dear Santa,
I want mqrior qq track. Mj, 6

Dear Santa,
I wnat a newps4 game. Theo, 5

Dear Santa,
iwanta wnrc omni canr i de. Kimber, 5

Dear Santa,
I wnat asonic racing game. Juno, 6

Dear Santa,
I want elf on the shelf toys. Hadlee, 6

Dear Santa,
I wnat a candy cane from santa. Leah, 5

Dear Santa,
I wanta an elf and unicorn. Betty, 5

Dear Santa,
I wnat a live no-bot dinosaur. Thatcher, 6

Dear Santa,
Merry christmas! I hotherboards christmas bjmozor barbie paintset toy panbo. Olivia, 6

Dear Santa,
Merry christmas! Tue gamse, chris glufs for muke bloe up caboose house chrane chracke fat for chrismis. Jordy, 6

Dear Santa,
Santa i eut my lonlu i wux a i 5k rem truck i lov you. Evelyn, 7

Dear Santa,
Merry christmas i hope i am on the good fot christmas i want a barbie and legos or paint by naber an new scooter an chapter books dolls crowns and colening books a piccher of are elf ceven! I love are elf eleven THANK YOU! Eleanor, 6

Dear Santa,
Merry choistmas nvd like a m cre, and a you badltle ship. Thank you. James, 6

Dear Santa,
I would liek bingoand roly plushies. Merry christmas. Craelynn, 7

Dear Santa,
Grinch tedbeaer merry-chistmas! Tha go. Laimiwoke, 7



Dear Santa,
Santa i hope you arre not sick santa i hope your reindeer are ready for christmas because they maybe carrying present in the sleigh i want for christmas in a fake house, fake house, puppy surprise, kitty surprise, pony surprise sugary. Surprise bunny surprise lama surprise mama surpris. Emma, 9

Dear Santa,
May i have squishy how are you? Can i please have balls, sand, playdough your teh best! Kolby A., 7

Dear Santa,
I hope you have had a wonderful year.can i have at least one or two lego sets for christmas? Can you take a picture of you and your reindeer please? From elias. Elias A., 8

Dear Santa,
Can i please have a big and small scwoshamel os, an bunny that is real please? A real mon-key please? Braelynn B., 7

Dear Santa,
Are you ready for christmas? Can i please have all of the pokemon cards dor christmas? Can i also please have ly careo and charmunder stction figures? Also can i have the pokemon card game bord? From emmett. Emmett S., 7

Dear Santa,
for christmas i would lille magical mixey,i would alos like organizers fommy-bedroomanda newspaper of headphones,key board and mousefor a computer. Love Kennedy. Kenedy, 9

Dear Santa,
I would like a nintendo switch game please and five nights at freddys characters. I hope you have a great holiday. Alison, 9 ¾

Dear Santa,
You are one of my favorite people and you have one of the most famous holidays i know of. I wish i ted something for christmas, but i dont know what. I hope c. Kjay, 10

Dear Santa,
Plese give me a phoen with a case plese. Thank you! Adelynn A., 7

Dear Santa,
You are the best. I like you. I sing your song. I have bin good at school today. Anthony, 7

Dear Santa,
I bin good. I will put cookies and mick. How are your elfs doe. By the way lets get to the man potent. I want to hav fox toy. Hi Miss class. Cate, 7

Dear Santa,
I like you bcus you are nis. Ples hav me a giff. Zayden, 6

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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Dear Santa,
I reley want a pupey. But moldepoo because i am ulrgick. I like you because ou are so nin olsoiw I want a intndow swich. I olsoiw want a lol demhaws.
Isia K., 7

Dear Santa,
I wish you a goo day and happe new yer and i liked boll set.
Trinity B., 7

Dear Santa,
I hop you hav a gid new yer. Hay ear yor lf. I wont a toy cr.
Isaiah, 7

Dear Santa,
I am good can I have cool stuf I love.
Jacetynn, 6

Dear Santa,
Can i ples hav a play circhin for crismis. thank you.
Bristohm, 6

Dear Santa,
I want a plastic eat like lowgin.
Tanya F., 6

Dear Santa,
I wut a nentendoe switch and a that is all I wut.
Ayla, 6

Dear Santa,
I like you santa. I wut a lol spis. I wut toy tree ples and dec you. Ho ho ho.
Arantza, 6

Dear Santa,
I want a cat and I want toys cars and I want a rain-
bow unicorn stuffed. I want a hamster stuffed animal.
Aris, 6

Dear Santa,
I wut a basbat. I wut a popit. I wut a blaba. I wut a pesin for mi mom dad.
Lorenzo, 7

Dear Santa,
I wut a psfive. I wut a now kinchrer.
Miles, 6

Dear Santa,
I wut a plush and I wut macup and LOL that is a tot and ples and thacyo.
Harper, 6

Dear Santa,
I wish i can have a toy puppy.
Addilyn, 7

Dear Santa,
I love santo treer good cookies bow hgwh-ferdooelf.
Aviona, 7

Dear Santa,
I want a rainbow stuffed animal anda and a hamster stuffed animal and a cat too. Penguins.
Olivia, 6

Dear Santa,
hello my name is Joce-lynnne, I want the pokemon game sword and shield, a new pokemon handbook, a new nintendo switch, and the vital hero wristband. Also I need long socks for winter, new clothes, coats, shoes, hats, and gloves. I also want a phone, science clothes, potions, and lab.
Love Jocelynnne.
Jocelynnne, 8

Dear Santa,
I would like a woch. I would a bus. Merry Christmas!
Zerayah A.

Dear Santa,
I need a car for my mom. I want a nerf gun. Merry Christmas!
Konrad

Dear Santa,
I would hav toys. I want a dinoaur. Merry Christmas.
Zayne G.

Dear Santa,
I would like a dog. Merry christmas.
Alisha V.

Dear Santa,
I would like a viper snake to, Merry Christmas.
Zayne A.

Dear Santa,
I would like Batmen toys. Please and thank.
Curtis B.

Dear Santa,
I would like Pokemon cards. I also need clothes. Chapstick plates and thak you merry christmas.
Aiden R.

Dear Santa,
I wish you wold send a leter to me. I want a hunting game.
Kenton, 9

Dear Santa,
Hello my name is anhelina I want clothes and paint. I would like to take a trip to Ukraine. I would like to white cat.
Anhelina, 8

Dear Santa,
Santa I Need some coach and some food and some mack. Love chloe.
Chloe C., 9

Dear Santa,
I need shoes. I want PS5. I want a puppy. I need new clothes I want unside down challige.
Addicuss, 9

Dear Santa,
wnat I need for chris-
mas are cloths. What I wont for christmas is rejected pokemon and the Goled pokemon. Your Frend Breck.
Breck, 9

Dear Santa,
Jackobe, 9

Dear Santa,
Klos Shoos Jakit kook Maskcemo hat glofs.
I luv you MOM

Dear Santa,
Santa can I have cloth, shos,soks,magnit. your frend markez.
Markez A., 9

Dear Santa,
I need a new pare of shoes. another thing I want is a game. and can you get my sister a phone. your friend Jayce.
Jayce, 8

Dear Santa,
Cocn you get me a dirt bike for wheeler a four mil-
lion doller house a phone a tr a privat chef and pleas some pizza a 4 privat hous-
es and a ps5 and a private Jet. your friend, Anthony.
Anthony, 9

Dear Santa,
What I really need for xmas is another pare of shoes but I can they be Poppy playtime style. your freind, Amelia.
Amelia, 8

Dear Santa,
For christmas I need a shelf, to steore some of my stuf, and I need some stuff for cat, in the back yard. and I want a hore mal nintendo Switch, a mincraft game, more treashurex aliens ahd robots adition.
liam N., 9

Dear Santa,
I want a watch that has games on it and you can take pictures on it. I want one cat a husky that has blue eye and grey and white fur and it got to be a girl and boy. I want a Iphone and a Ipad to. A TV in my room and I want a entendoeswich. your friend Arinna N.
Arinna N., 8



Dear Santa,
I hope you are having an awsome time and I have been a great kid, mayby a few mad times but that happens. Anyways I love you so much, bye!
Lemi, 9

Dear Santa,
I want a conpater be-
cause I want to research about stuff. I want a desk be-
cause I will be able to store me stuff like my write stuff. I want a rockpaper Because it is water proof and tearerezits.
Cruz, 8

Dear Santa,
For christmas i would like a fidget spinner, some nice clothes, a artbook, a muti-color penjand a guide a great art.
Bentley B., 9

Dear Santa,
For christmas some food clothes shoes and books and squish mellowes. Please and thank you. Love serenity.
Serenity, 8

Dear Santa,
For christmas I want 10,000 because i want to buy a car, and V bucks.
Isaac L., 9

Dear Santa,
We hope you have a good christmas. Thank you for all the gifts. This is what I wont for christmas I need new cloths shoes. what I want is a new computer. New bike an a hoverboard. Another thing is a new a Iphone. your friend Derronta.
Derronta, 9

Dear Santa,
I would like an origomy kit, mack up, close,shoes,bar-
by dall Squishmoloe, and a mood neckis for bff.
Love ,Nvada.
Nvada L., 9

Dear Santa,
I want a Barbie because I what To play with it, I need new clothes because I don't want TO be need, I what a fox toy, I need new shoes, I what a sououshmel-
low. Love, Av.
Ava, 9



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Dear Santa,

How you doing? How's the elves doing? Santa how's our elf doing? I hope he/she are not sick. Are you ready? Here's my list. I want a girl baby doll and thank you for baby Salor. He was a cute little one. I'm not saying that because his leg off. It's because I love babies so much.

Savannah, 8

Dear Santa,

You are my best friend and don't forget Mrs. Claus. This is what I want for christmas a drumset and green roller blades.

Sophia, 9

Dear Santa,

This year I want a Macbook Hir, 10 buffalo stuffed animals, 1 box of Brilliant sars, 1 box of Hidden facts, and a replica of the lombrardy trophy. Have a good Christmas Santa Clause. Love, Owen C.

Owen C., 8.5

Dear Santa,

How is Rudolph doing? I will leave carrots out for all of the reindeer. I don't want any presents I just want family. from Gabe.

Gabe, 8

Dear Santa,

I hope you had a nice summer, and I know Mrs. Clause is busy making cookies. Speaking of cookies I'm going to leave some suger cookies out for you, and carrots for the reindeer. Can I have, some air pods, a new American

girl doll, a slime kit, a stress ball kit and world peace.

Thanks Love Mj.

Mj, 9

Dear Santa,

How are you doing? I hope your Reindeer have been resting. Thank you for the presents last year. I've been good so I could get present this Christmas. For Christmas I have a list. The first thing I want is new shoes, legos, a new bike, and scooter!

Jude, 9

Dear Santa,

Hi!! I hope you and everyone are doing well! And that everyone is ready for the big day! (christmas) You, the elves, your Reindeer do so well getting around to everyone, and giving what everyone asked for. That I can't even decide what I would wish for! Everything you've done was perfect. I don't even care what you give me because of how good you are! Anyways, I hope you are doing well! Sincerely, Evie.

Evelyn, 9

Dear Santa,

I have been good. I hope you have fun delivering presents, I want a rp;er coaster lego set, a drum set, and maybe some foot ball action figures, If you want to you can bring more but that's all for my list from, Samuel.

Samuel, 8

Dear Santa,

Hi my name is Leo steeves. I hope you and your Reindeer are ready for the winter? Thank you

for giving kids all over the world presents, This year for Christmas I would like gray Dude shoes in a size 3 please. Thank you I live in Knob Noster White man AFB, Missour.

Leo, 9

Dear Santa,

I hope you are not freezing in the North Pole. I hope your Reindeers are ready for christmas! I will start with what I want most I want that my dad to walk again to play with me my mom and sister! For my mom I want her to have energy for us to clean. I also want a elf on the shelf one for me and one for my sister. You can choose something else you want us to have. Have a meary christmas Santa!

Evelin, 8

Dear Santa,

Thank you for all the gifts you have given from me and how are the reindeer doing? Now I am going to tell you wat I want fro christmas. Please can I have paint pens because when I grow up I want to be a Artist. Also can I have a note book because charlotte keeps steeling mine. Can I have a pink cow squish mellow? Can I have an America girl doll and baby clothes? And I would love some twistables. Love Allie.

Allie, 9.5

Dear Santa,

Hey santa what are the reindeer names? We hope you have Safe travels are Earth. Are you tired after your done giving presentes to children? What is like to live in the North pole? I like missouri. How are you doing clause and elves, we might leave out cookies. I hope you have a safe night. I been good this year. I want lego star wars sets, lego star wars ships and guy named cody.

Nate, 9

Dear Santa,

I want a new iphone, I also want a BFF necklac-es, I want candym and I want a stuffed animal. Thank you santa.

Edith, 8

Dear Santa,

Lego blocks Legos sibese set I will be good gives good.

Rylee, 8

Dear Santa,

I want a vital hero and a phon please and a eler's glue squish's kit to with a vr head set and Pokemon with a Nerf hun and art things with a magic mixe christleball please and a warrior cat books and toy's and dog man books and a mary x mas to all!

Leah, 8



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Dear Santa,

Did you get your magic? I want a new stuffed animal. I would also like a new note book. Love, Kinley.

Kinley

Dear Santa,

i want a spider man det-bike i want a nerf gun with a nerf mask. Love, Kamryn.

Kamryn

Dear Santa,

new water bottle, new basketball, play doe, a gingerman ordmant, a christmas tree, christmas lights, slime ball, snowman that lights up, markers, nerf gun. Love Matt

Mattnew

Dear Santa,

Hi santa can you by me rainbow legos and do you have maigic santa and I want play doh please I am a good boy and I want slime and blue toys and pepaing toy and pawprtle toy. Love Andy.

Andy

Dear Santa,

I want
1 A guineeapig
2 I want a five surprises
3 hee boh
4 LOL dolls
5 Slime
6 Clothing
Ryder, 10

Dear Santa,

I want a popit and I want to have a L.O.L dolls. I realy want a needoh cat. Have a merry christmas santa!

Aoife, 11

Dear Santa,

What I want for christmas is Roblox gift card because I never get hacked and I want a french bull dog and a bob cat and more art supplies and wendey's I also want more sweat pants more hoddies squish mellow Two more things I want coach Hinna to be my future Basketball coach and I want more friends.

Quinn B, 10



Dear Santa,
I like your Raindeir the are cool you are nice because you give us presents and you workvery hard so does your elfs to. Thank you for working hard and making the present.
Landon, 8

Dear Santa,
This yaer i would love if you could give my dada a vucashun so he can get more sleepin.
Athena, 7

Dear Santa,
I want my bff back to school. And new bedsetting. Game cube. Netendo meadow to come back in my class.
Lucy, 8

Dear Santa,
Hi santa how are your reindeer i hope you can get me a dog i love Dogs so muhc i hope you are feeling good today i save my evl chicken P.S. i love you santa.
Mena, 7

Dear Santa,
For christmas I would like some more toys. A new pillow for my bed. A super small chocolate fountain toy. And lock star toys.
Natalie, 7

Dear Santa,
Huverbord ocelis qwest one ocelis qwest two. Ps5, hug from santu, new lunch box, new backpack, a naw a naw play staysinch.
Maleik, 8

Dear Santa,
I have beber. I want are dirtbike and sooprgrl. Iphone fortan and a bike and skate bod. Sowme pokemon, psfiv and a noow erpods.
Weston, 7

Dear Santa,
I watd rc cer and a vedo gam and my lost toy a noow mincrat lago set and a nerf gun.
Chris, 7

Dear Santa,
I want a lol and OMG doll, i want a dream house. I want a doll horses. And i want a pool. And a trampoline. I want a LOL hat i want a lol hat and a water Bottle.
Abigahin, 7

Dear Santa,
I wish for a microscope and a sloth spishmellow and a fanny pack that is pink a iphone 13. And a puffy coat like my moms. And earpods.
Joeyna, 7

Dear Santa,
this year i would like a soing mooing and fake glasis. Your friend laurel.
Laurel W., 7

Dear Santa,
I want barbie doll dreamhouse and a i phone.
Christine M., 7

Dear Santa,
I wunt 111,000000000 000000000000,00000 000000000000\$\$\$\$\$ and a iphone.
Chad, 8

Dear Santa,
This year I have been really good! For christmas I would like hew clothes, loung board, basect ball shoes, Eathen who is in the air forec, phion, go to a concert of willow smith, picer of my two brothers, fack nails, makeup, and teacher cup.
Jayden, 9

Dear Santa,
This year I have been really good! For Christmas I would like new bike seat, magic 8 ball, Girl freind, Paper, and Phone.
Bryce, 8

Dear Santa,
This year I have been really good! For christmas I would like new dirt bike gloves, new cleats, new dirt bike strticers, a Iphone, a new girl friend, new teck decks, a hoodi blanket and a skate bord.
Cash, 8

Dear Santa,
this year Ive been good! For christmas I would Like a new bikie magic 8 ball, squishmellow, figits, soft banket, and slimekit.
Emmlynn, 8

Dear Santa,
For Christmas I would like, new clothes, Baby ol-ive, hoverboard, long board, hoodie blanket, white Nike shoes, new clothes.
Emma, 8

Dear Santa,
This year I have been good! For christmas I would like a pocket locket heart necklaces.
Carley, 8

Dear Santa,
This year I have been good this year I want a new puppy, a snake, xbox ni my room, and a long board.
Dylan, 8

Dear Santa,
I ben god I need a toy car and I need dowing spil I wound doll and doll hoss I wut a makeup box I wut a pluyang tabl.
Shayda, 6

Dear Santa,
I like your elves. I would like a droun. Love, Axel.
Axel, 6

Dear Santa,
This christmas I want a vr headset and some shos and iPhon 14 por max and a PS5. I want xbox a puppy. I want a macbook and apple tv and a ticket to maxicon. I want a chira to play games and pira of hedphons. Your friend, Emi.
Emis, 9

Dear Santa,
This year I have been good! For christmas I would like some now cloths so I have something to wear, America Girl doll so I have someone to talk to, a magic eight ball so I can kown something, aq calculator to mimeris numbers, to see my boy-frind his name is talk. And I hope you have a good Christmas.
Annalise, 9

Dear Santa,
I would like a magic mixie, and coconut hand sanitizer from bath and body works. A kids make-up set. How are the reindeer Santa? I hope their being good. Love Audrey.
Audrey, 6

Dear Santa,
I hope that the reindeer are safe. I would like a scooter, dolls and a doctor's set. Love Lexie.
Lexie, 6

Dear Santa,
I hope you have had a goud year. I would like a drone with a camera.
Love, Mason.
Mason, 7

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I would like a stuffy. I would like a doll. Love, Addi.
Addi, 6

Dear Santa,
I would like a fluffy blanket that has unicorns on it and a barbie. I love you, santa! Love, Emma.
Emma, 7

Dear Santa,
I hope yuo have a good Christmas this year. I would like a guitar. I also would like a car that can drive on water, and a nerf g un. Love, Adler.
Adler, 7

Dear Santa,
Ho ho ho Dear Santa, For christmas it would be good if I got a guitar and I would like a pet bunny.
Love Charlotte.
Charlotte, 6

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I wanta Squish-mallow and a black blanket.
Love, Audra.
Audra, 6

Dear Santa,
I hope your elves are ok. I want a stuffy penguin. Love, Chase.
Chase, 6

Dear Santa,
I wut a lunr X Box psfive 40 fun Xbox gamn-set loptop.
Kameron

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? For Christmas, I would like a mermaid phone, purple hair dye, and purple glue nails that glow. Love Landyn.
Ladyn, 7

Dear Santa,
How do you fly? I would like Pokemon card, Mon-ster trucks, I want elf on the shelf and toy binoc-ulars. Love, Ayden.
Ayden, 7

Dear Santa,
I love you. I would like a football helmet and 1000 Pokemon cards.
Love Josua.
Josua, 7

Dear Santa,
I hope you have a good day. I would like a rosary and a fidget and a board game. Love Millie.
Millie, 7

Dear Santa,
I would like a singing flamingo. How are you santa? Love, Leelay.
Leelay, 6

Dear Santa,
I would like an Lol doll, I would like a water bottle and a toy reindeer. Loe Anna.
Anna, 6

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? Santa, how are the reindeer doing? I would like lady bugs for Christmas.
Love Sarah.
Sarah, 7

Dear Santa,
Have you been busy? I've been busy too. For christmas I want a paint ball gun and pokemon and an elf on the shelf.
Love, Jacob.
Jacob, 7

Dear Santa,
How is Pudolph? How is pete? I will be really good! I would like drums, a guitar, a piano, five surprise eggs, a pool with a side, diving board, 2 gocarts and a goecart truck xoxo
Love, Colt.
Colt, 8

Dear Santa,
I'm sure that you are busy! How is Mrs.Clase? I would like a Ipod? Watch the young elf! My elf got caught by 2 sneaky young elves. Love, Addilyn.
Addilyn, 8

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Dear Santa,
How are you doing? How is Mrs.Claus? Are the reindeers doing good? Are the elves working hard for Christmas? I would like new shoes, Also a kids phone, new pajamas, and some Barbie accessories. I Love you santa! Love, Ximena.
Ximena, 7

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl, Thank you for the gifts last year! How is Mrs.Claus doing? I would like Rainbow High dolls and a Radio of Little Drummer Boy by Pentatonix I want a Horse and a Horse Phone. Love Brooklyn R.
Brooklyn, 8

Dear Santa,
Are the elves doing good? Is Mrs.Clause doing good? Could you bring me and my brother an iphone 14 pro for Christmas? Love Greyson.
Greyson, 8

Dear Santa,
How are you? Can you tell the elves I said Hi please? Are you good? I am Looking for ward for Christmas! I Hope you co me. Love Mayela.
Mayela, 7

Dear Santa,
What are you doing? Can I go to the North Port- al? Could you bring the gifts I want? Could I see an elf? Love, David.
David, 7

Dear Santa,
How are you and Mrs. Claus? How do your reindeer fly? Are the elves working hard? Can I please have an iphone 14 a X-box, a TV, and a lock for my door? Love Elijah.
Elijah, 7

Dear Santa,
Dera Sants, I wish for a dream kroose or a lol doll. mabe you can get me 5 more. let me see What I want 5 dall than is all. Your friend, Desteny.
Destiny, 7

Dear Santa,
I want a bike, games, scooter, rc car a veryyyy big Football, Football gloves, mine bike, dirt bike. Your friend, Daniel.
Daniel, 8

Dear Santa,
You might know what I want from Jonny but I want to add two more thang can I have a ps5 and a gta5 game, because I have been working as hard as I can all year. Love, Brett.
Brett B., 8

Dear Santa,
I would like LOL's, fidgets, Pop it's clothes. Shoes, money for mommy. Sqishmalius barbies barbie doll dream house. Phone. Your friend, Kameron.
Kameron, 8

Dear Santa,
I wunt to ask how meny reindeer you have. I wunt a Wupey CoShon I want electric water gun. I hope you have a Safe Christ- mas! Love Gunner.
Gunner

Dear Santa,
I woulf like to go to my baby cousin house. I want a new helmet for my bike. Merry Christmas. Love, Jenson.
Jenson

Dear Santa,
I love you Santa I want a remote control robot and arcar and I want a robot sonic and a sonic lego set if you get me those things thank you.
Dylyn

Dear Santa,
I want barbie dolls. And. I want to see Sant. Love amelie.
Amelie

Dear Santa,
This year I been bad five times but I hope i'll get presants, Will I want, american girl doll suplies and shouse and clouths, candy, makeup, hover- board, new born baby, new shouse and clouths, and nail polish.
J'vionna, 9

Dear Santa,
This year I have been really good! For christmas I would like a magic 8 ball,shoes,clothes, and a telescope.
Felipe, 8

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I cant even wait for christ- mas! I would likea guitar.
Huylee

Dear Santa,
This year I have been really good! For christmas I would like new clothes, note pad, a american girl doll, hoverboard, a baby doll, and a swimming suit.
Acacia, 9

Dear Santa,
This year I have been really good! For christmas I would like white nike shoes, a tablit, a float- ing, a nike backpack, a nike set pans.
Broden, 8

Dear Santa,
I have been really good! For christmas I would like a hover board tree hoses.
Jayden, 8

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? For christmas this year i would liek a pockoball with with a mystery pokemon inside.
Jacsun, 7

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I would like a xsox.
Max, 7

Dear Santa,
How are you doing San- ta? I would like the mighty pupst would also litk the night castle with the pups and the flip and fly pups and vehicles.
Henry, 7

Dear Santa,
What I want for christ- mas is squshmelos I need cloths at my moms.
Corbin, 8

Dear Santa,
I wish for christmas is Hlabor lechrskat and nice shoe a puppy sum toy for my Brultd figt andB ike lechrpeano a tilapia Phone cas a waterbat Pokmakscas.
Ashley, 9

Dear Santa,
In this yeas I was work- ing rilly hard at school so I think I nid a present it is a game were you can play with wour family it calls pie-in-the-face I want this game because it is rilly fun and I can have some time with my family I don't have any game to play at home thats why am asking for that plese can you gat me that. I dont nid anythec else I love you rilly much Bye Santa.
Maria, 9

Dear Santa,
I dont riley know what for christmas but I can thinkk of a fuyow things. #1 my famly is happy. #2 art book. #3 a rambof- rends plushy #4 a sonic lago set#5 evrey one to be happy.
Rylan, 8

Dear Santa,
I fit 10-12 in sheets and I fit 8-9 in pants these thing are stuff that i need I would like some new clos- ing some new shoes like boots and tenish shoes, some food, some books, pensel so i could give to my teacher so the class can use done with thing i need. Now thing I hope I can git animals, some pil- lowsandblanket pokemon, a bord game.
Makinzie, 9



Dear Santa,
This year I want a book about all the natinal parks. I also want new hiking boots.
Elsie, 9

Dear Santa,
Why does nothing happen in sedAlia? Why does new york get all fun. Not even kansas city is that cool.
Allan, 10

Dear Santa,
What I want for Christ- mas is a Samsung Flip phone, Nintendo Switch, Mario Kart, a lot of skin- care, bath & body works and JVN products and a waver. Also an autobrush for kids. Have a wonderful Christmas Santa!!! Sin- cerely, Layla.
Layla, 10

Dear Santa,
It been long but I just want an Xbox and a new scooter and a soccer ball is all I want.
Chris, 10

Dear Santa,
I have been kind thai year.. Have there been many good kids this year Thak you forheeles have a safflight. Love Elena.
Elena, 6

Dear Santa,
How do you get to the north pole with out magic. I want a clock I also want a alex. How do you fine the north Pole. How do you get magic.
Cheryl

Dear Santa,
What dow your hous look like I Whus a good boy I whuot a bage OF Cande I Want now Plado I miss you santa. lpands

Dear Santa,
I'm probably on one list of your so this is what i want: cute sweaters and shirts, cute skirts. 2 more shelf elves. Theennn, cute headbands, 10 cute squishmallows, Cinnamord- sll bedse and sheets, pretty ring for,mom baby yoda pants for paul. Beauty & the beast for k j and clothes and shoes for the babys. Ps, I want magnetiles 2. Sin- cerely Mla H.
Mia H., 9

Dear Santa,
I WANT A NEW WA- TERBOTEL THA'S Ried. I like a good litel coW. I Want Playdo.
Mike

Dear Santa,
I want a toy car for christ- mas. I want a Elsa doll for christmas how old is comet.
Lydia

Dear Santa,
Thi year I wad love to have a switch. And a plaser of god. How do your elf's got magic?
Roy

Dear Santa,
How old aryou saNta? I would like a lol mom. I would like POPichrGame I also would Like some Slim.
Kinsley

Dear Santa,
I would like a new bed for christmas I would also like a puppy. Have a good christmas.
Norah

Dear Santa,
I want a cat I wantT a yoooy. I want a podlo Liliana

Dear Santa,
When is my elf coming? How is mrs. claus doing? Ill make you cookies. Please can i hace a rainbow high doll and raindow high socks abd car? I would like makeup and nail polish. I would like rainbow high clothes too. I also want shoes, beanies, gloves and a scarf.
Angelica, 7

671822H

Happy Holidays To You & Your Family!

Season's Greetings

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Dear Santa,
how are the elves doing they have hard workiknow! Is the bag heavy with the presents!!!! we will give you milk and cookies i want a mini hoop and basketballshoes shoes love, jett.
Jett, 7

Dear Santa,
howarethelives?when will my elfcome?santa i moved into a new house. Does myself know imoved intoahouse? Can you please get meanew google pixefon please? I lost my fan can you please bring the new google pixe fon for my dads house please?
Gigi, 8

Dear Santa,
how is rudolph? Thank you for the gifts last year santa! Can i go to the north porta; with you? Cosmo come back! I want a lock for my room a phone aaaa x box and earrings please santa for christmas can i get wat 1 want christmas santa. Love scarlett.
Scahlett, 8

Dear Santa,
Weboyodbreny s add yuobrecyr sac??? Pesiinstu.
Amelia

Dear Santa,
Santa Someone touch one of your elf. I would like to have a cat hiding Spot. one baby puppy.
Madyson
Dear Santa,
I want a dog. I want a cds.
Mathew

Dear Santa,
I want a games.
Larreus

Dear Santa,
I like make up. I like a cat. I like a pizza.
Payton

Dear Santa,
I like a ctn. I like a dog, I like a barbies.
Victoria

Dear Santa,
How are there reindeer? I want a toy watch.
Bell

Dear Santa,
How are the elves n I Waht a doll house.
Simon
Dear Santa,
I want 14 pro max and an ipad a doll and i want to have a sale and candy cae. And a big surprise!
Solomia, 8

Dear Santa,
Pok'e'mon Phone + headphone candy pooter skateboard candy.
Omari, 8

Dear Santa,
How are the reindeer I want a puppy dog.
Zora

Dear Santa,
What is your favorite cookie? I want a hunting set and an ipad.
Luke

Dear Santa,
What is your favorite cookie? I want a LOL doll.
Serenity

Dear Santa,
What is yoUR Favor-ite Cookie?
Yaroslav

Dear Santa,
My name is Briggs and my age is 8 and I theck you are the so cool. You are the best Santa ever I wnut a google pixel 7 pro and a ps5 VR headset and I also want a bunch of fitgets. LoVe briggs.
Briggs, 8

Dear, Santa,
This december I would like Mini desk, bullet Journal, iPhone, and leds. Your friend, Scarlett.
Scarlett, 7

Dear Santa,
Can I have goart and a ipod.the reason I want these thing's is because so I bont have to wastegas on the ranger atmy house. Also the reason I want the ipod is because so I bont have to use my sisters old ipod. This last two things I, want is 5 Baroys and a si-derman pillow. From, kiara.
Kiara, 8

Dear Santa,
This year I would Like A iPhone 14 and PoPit's and Monet for mommy. TOY'S and New Friends and Booksand JoJoand Lay Lay to Santa closs From Kennedy.
Kennedy, 7

Dear Santa,
I wut... Demen slar Fuko pop. midcror a f Bee. a pomuranein a Nutcra. A skat bord.
Ariya, 8

Dear Santa,
I whant a pony.
Jenn, 7

Dear Santa,
I was great time I lover year rain deer I want a fox Plosh I want a big sqishmell Fox I want a big boots and Foxt oat and Fox and Fox car and Fox miennt and BaBy squish-mellhat Fox and Fox books and Fox shoos and table and Fox chair and toys.
Ella, 8

Dear Santa,
please Ken have a doell for christmas Ples.
Ayslyn, 8

Dear Santa,
how are you doing? What have the elves making? How is Mrs. claws doing? I would like to have dresses a coloring book, and fancy shoes.
Love Harper.
Harper, 7



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

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