



Dear Santa.....from Clark first graders

By Tara Knutson

Continuing Christmas season in the *Clark County Courier* is a feature of first graders' letters to Santa from Clark Elementary School. Here are their answers on what they would like from Santa Claus.

Dear Santa,
Mrs. Weiseler's class

Jameson, I want new headphones, new controllers and an Xbox PS5.

Cullen P, I hope Santa brings me Pokemon cards, a (Nintendo) Switch and an electric scooter.

Maverick, The only thing I want this year is a dirtbike!

Dawsyn, Barbie dolls and a baby doll for me please, Santa.

Tinsley, I'm asking Santa for a kitty, a phone and dolls.

Akwata, I'm hoping Santa brings me an American Girl doll.

Emersynn, I want a snow globe for Christmas this year.

Taylor, I want a Lego dragon and a snow globe from Santa.

Emma, Please bring me a pet puppy and a squishy panda for Christmas.

Rachel, I asked Santa for a kitty with food and a comb.

Stella, For Christmas, I would like lots of slime!

Bruce, Please bring me two Hot Wheels cars and a remote control car.

Elijah, I'm hoping to get a nutcracker army and a hundred dollar bill from Santa.

Waylan, For Christmas, I would like Pokemon cards, a skateboard and a hoverboard.

Henry, I asked Santa for a .22 gun, a snow globe and Pokemon cards.

Andrew, Santa, I want a Nintendo Switch and a drone for Christmas.

Miss Jensen's class

In Ms. Jensen's class, the students were also asked to whom they would like to give a gift to and what they would wrap up for that person.

Layla, I want a new TV because the one in my bedroom is broken. I like to watch Lego stuff on my TV, and I can't now. I would give a gift to my 12-year-old sister. She wants a pair of Birkenstock sandals. She has been wanting them so badly.

Jed, Please bring me some Legos; any kind of Legos, just lots and lots of Legos. I have a bunch but want some more. I would give my friend Charlie something really special, maybe a football. He really likes to play football.

Colt, I want a remote control car this year for Christmas. I got one last year,



Students in the first grade classes at Clark Elementary School shared their Christmas lists for Santa Claus with the *Clark County Courier*. Mrs. Taylor Wieseler and Ms. Jennifer Jensen are the first grade teacher in Clark.

The first graders are pictured above. Back row, left to right: Nora Hagstrom, Marilee Weets, Emerson Martinez, Akwata Cronauer, Tinsley Foster, Taylor Mickelson, Stella Linneman, Jameson Marx, Henry Helkenn, Elijah Reyna and Rachel Salmonson.

but that one broke already because we didn't have the right battery for it. I would buy my cousin Beckett a shirt. He's a teenager and is so worried about fancy shirts.

Briar, I hope Santa brings me a Power Ranger toy. I have the red one already. I just need the pink, blue, green and yellow ones yet; that's all. I would get my sister Ivy a Barbie doll princess for Christmas. She wants one with a pretty pink dress.

Wyatt, I don't know what I want for Christmas yet; I'm still thinking about it. I'll know for sure by Christmas Eve, and I'll let Santa know then. I want to get my 12-year-old big brother a basketball. He practices basketball at the high school during the middle of the night. He plays at other places too. The color of the ball doesn't matter, as long as it bounces good.

Cullen F, I asked Santa for some football gloves for Christmas this year. I've played with them before, and they help me catch the ball better; they work really good. I would like to get my big brother some basketball cards for Christmas. He is 10 years old and really like the Lakers, so that's what I'd get him.

Gabriel, I want a PC5. This helps you have a better game on the TV. I want a fish and a fish tank. I really

want a shark in a big tank that likes me. I also want a Christmas reindeer and another reindeer. I want an elf for Christmas, one that likes presents. I also want a gingerbread house with gingerbread guys that fit inside. I would like a penguin so I can race the penguin down the hill on my sled. I hope Santa brings me the Grinch movie and the Grinch to keep at my house. I also want a girlfriend - it would be Emmy. I want a Christmas party with chocolate, ice cream, pizza, soda pop and gingerbread cookies to eat. I want a thousand clones of me, so when my mom is mad at me and wants to spank me for being naughty, she can't guess which one is me. I also want a little brother. I want Mr. Wookey to live with me too. I would like a Nintendo with Fortnite and YouTube and lots of battle passes and Vbucks on it. I also want one of those police officer cars that are little that kids can drive - ones that already have gas in them. I would like Spiderman webs so I can go on the ceiling, and my mom can't get me. Oh, and I want God. I would give my two-year-old little sister a drone. When she grows up, she can play with it, but I will keep it safe in my room and make sure it works for her until she gets big. For my mom, I want to give her me for Christmas. I would be in a big present and pop up and scare her like crazy!

Emerson, I want Santa to bring me those things that you throw and a magnet and stick to stuff around the house. I also would like a watch. I would give Ms. Jensen a present. I forgot what she likes, but I know it's coffee. I would also get my parents a new green car.

Rowan, I hope Santa brings me candy for Christmas - any kind; I'm really not picky about my candy. I would get my cousin Jamo a present. He said he wants a car racing video game for the PlayStation.

Charlie, I want a house for Christmas - a mansion with 100 rooms, a big swimming pool with a water fountain and a hot tub with lots of bubbles. I would like an extra \$5,000 too! I would be my friend Rowan this thing I found at Target. It shoots spears or something out really fast. He would love it.

Claire, I would like about 26 things for Christmas, but mostly I want giant Hatchimals. I love those things. A giant pink teddy bear is another thing I want Santa to bring me for Christmas. I also

want my own craft table. I love doing crafts. I would like painting, coloring and paper set so I can make some more crafts. I also hope a get a real piano; I'm really good at playing a fake one, so I think I can play a real one. I want to get my friends Paisleigh and Brynn a giant unicorn - not a real one - one that is stuffed and soft and cuddly.

Gretta, I asked Santa for an Alexa to put in my room. I want it so I can play music. I would get my cousin Brinkley a baby doll to play with.

Marilee, I want a tiny brown horse statue to put on the shelf in my bedroom; I want it to look just like my three horses at home. My horses are named Dock, Kayla and Dermax. I would get my friend Claire a new puppy. Her dog just died, and I want her to have a new one so she isn't sad anymore.

Brynn, I would like a new LOL baby doll. I would get Santa a present. I don't know what it will be yet, but I will have it wrapped pretty with a big bow next to the cookies and milk at my house on Christmas Eve. He can pick it up when he drops off my presents.

Paisleigh, I would like Santa to bring me new cowboy boots with sparkles. I want to get my mom some flowers; roses are her favorite. Her favorite color is black, so I would put a black bow on the vase.

Whatever dreams and visions fill your heads as you get tucked into bed on Christmas Eve, the *Clark County Courier* staff hope they all come true. We hope the magic and excitement of the season lasts all year long for you and your families. Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night!



With the Christmas holiday quickly approaching, many churches in the area are in full swing of holding Christmas programs and worship services.

The Plymouth Congregational Church held their Sunday School Christmas program on Sunday, like many area churches. Above, children played bells during their performance of "It Came Upon the Mid-

night Clear." The program also included a skit and a singing Christmas hymns. Pictured, from left to right, are Tren Bernard, Ryker Lamb, Callie Helkenn, Erving Roebke, Colt Begeman, Sadie Begeman and Cullen Peterson..

Photo by Karli Paulson

Clark County residents share holiday traditions

By Tara Knutson

Holiday seasons are made memorable by the unique customs and traditions they entail. This time of year looks different depending on where you live and who you're family is. This season, as many appreciate the blessings we hold dear, is also an opportunity to appreciate the differences in holiday celebrations in Clark County.

Shirley Tipton

Shirley (Schrader) Tipton recalls Christmas celebrations surrounded by family when she was young and as she started her own family. At the age of five, she remembers being "quite thankful for a week of Christmas vacation from school." This was a blessed week in which she wasn't required to walk three-quarters of a mile to and from school every day.

Tipton lived on a farm with her parents and six siblings. The holiday season brought family members to their farmhouse for a traditional Christmas meal of chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, dressing and pie for dessert. "We would begin meal preparation the day before as one would expect," she said.

After the kitchen and dining room were cleaned up, and the dishes done,

the family would partake in various board games, bingo and "a farming game of sorts my brothers would play." There would also be a gift exchange amongst the siblings. Names were drawn, and a gift in the range of \$1.00 would be purchased to give to one another. "Times were tough back then. We usually gave something that was needed, like mittens or a scarf," Tipton said. The holiday celebrations lasted from approximately 11:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. to allow enough time to travel home and complete the afternoon chores before it got too late.

After Tipton married her high school sweetheart Allen in October of 1951, she was able to begin making holiday memories for the next generation. "For 61 wonderful years, we celebrated the holidays together." The couple adopted two children, a son, Scott and daughter Sheryl. They hosted a Christmas meal for extended family at their farm northwest of Clark. "I was cooking again," she

said. The large traditional meal was followed by the exchange of gifts and lots of conversation which were the highlights in her memories. Tipton's pies were the main feature. She enjoyed sharing her blueberry, apple and cherry pies especially. She remembers, with pride, the Christmas morning her children, who were three or four at the time, opened the gift of a new wooden rocking horse that Allen and Shirley had purchased for them. "It was their favorite toy for so long," Tipton recalled. "They were so excited when they unwrapped that horse. Their smiles went on for miles."

Dick McGraw

Dick McGraw reminisced about hunting for rabbits to supply the meat for holiday meals. "I'd take my sister along only once in a while," he said. "We tended to let more rabbits get away than

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The Clark County Courier office will be closed on Monday in observance of the holiday.

If you have news stories, legals or advertising for next week's edition of the *Clark County Courier*, please email us at clarkcountycourier@gmail.com or call us at (605) 532-3654

by Friday of this week. Mailed items may not reach us in time for the next publication.

It's easier for us on Tuesday, if we can get the bulk of the work done by Friday night. News correspondents can send their info on Tuesday morning or call Tuesday morning.

Thank you and Happy Holidays!

WEATHER

Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer

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Dec. 12.....	36	11	0
Dec. 13.....	28	11	0
Dec. 14.....	41	20	0
Dec. 15.....	47	31	0
Dec. 16.....	40	29	0
Dec. 17.....	30	25	0
Dec. 18.....	37	12	0
2023 precipitation to date	19.16"		
2022 precipitation to date	20.00"		