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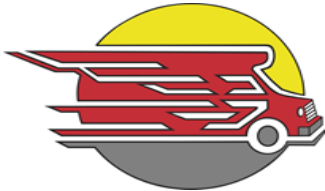
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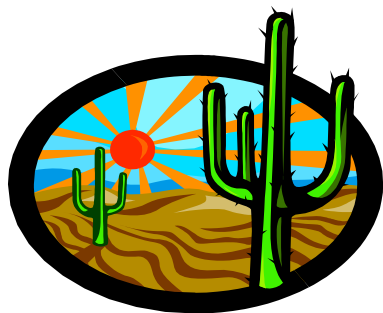
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CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS AND A LITTLE HISTORY....



Celebrating Christmas without a richly decorated Christmas Tree would not seem right today. But why do we have a Christmas Tree, and how did it originate?

Back in the 7th century a monk from Crediton, Devonshire, traveled to Germany to spread the Word of God. Legend has it that he used the triangular shape of the Fir Tree

to describe the Holy Trinity of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit to the German people. The German people started to revere the Fir Tree as "God's Tree". In the next 5 centuries, the tree became a symbol of Christianity, and was being hung upside-down from the ceiling as a sign of Christianity.

The first known decorated Christmas Tree was at Riga in Latvia, in 1510. Martin Luther decorated a small Christmas Tree in 1535 with candles for his children, to show them how the stars twinkle through the night.

In the middle of the 16th century, Christmas started already to turn into a business as the German people at the local market sold everything from gifts, food and also more practical items such as knife grinders to sharpen the knife to carve the Christmas Goose. At these fairs, bakers sold gingerbreads and wax ornaments for souvenirs to take home for use to decorate their Christmas Tree.

This has been recorded by a visitor to Strasbourg in 1601, which he stated: "...a tree decorated with wafers and golden sugar-twists (Barley Sugar) and paper flowers of all colors". Earlier trees were more biblically symbolized as the "Paradise Tree in the Garden of Eden" -- the many food items were symbols of

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**Plenty, the flowers originally were only red
(for Knowledge) and white (for Innocence).**

**Tinsel were invented in Germany around
1610. Only silver was used at that time and
machines had been invented to pull the silver
into the wafer strips for tinsel. Later they at-
tempted to use a mixture of led and tin to
eliminate the tarnishing of the silver, espe-
cially with candlelight. This attempt failed as
the tinsel became too heavy and branches
started to break under the weight. Therefore,
silver was used for tinsels right up to the mid-
20th century.**

**The first Christmas Tree came to England
with the Georgian Kings who came from Ger-
many. At the same time, German Merchants
living in England decorated their homes with
Christmas Trees. The British people were not
fond of the German Monarchy, did not copy
the fashions at Court, which is why the
Christmas Tree did not establish in Britain at
this time. Although, a few British families did
have Christmas Trees, probably more from**

**influence of their German neighbors than
from the Royal Court.**



**CHIMNEY SWEEPS)
In the good old times,
Chimney Sweeps
used to go from door
to door on New Years
day to wish people
Good Luck. Ever
since, they are con-
sidered as 'The ulti-
mate bringer of Good Luck'.**

**A Chimney Sweep is a sign of good luck,
wealth and happiness. There are several leg-
ends why a Chimney Sweep is said to be
"The" harbinger of good luck. One version of
the legend has its origins in old England,
where King George was riding horseback in
a royal procession. A dog ran from the
crowd, barking and nipping at the King's
horse. The horse reared, and to the horror of
the crowd, almost threw the King! A lone fig-
ure, shabbily dressed and filthy, stepped into**

(Continued from page 4)

the road. He caught the horse's halter and calmed the animal.

As quickly as he appeared, the man faded back into crowd. The King, wanting to reward the man, asked his name. No-one knew the man's name, but many told the King that he is just a Chimney Sweep. The King declared that from that day that Chimney Sweeps should be regarded as Lucky!

The chimney has been a part of family life since the early Romans first realized that it was better to live in a nice, fire-warmed home than in a chilly one. They needed a way to funnel off the smoke the fires caused. Centuries later, in medieval times, fireplaces were invented to heat individual rooms and provide a safe place for indoor cooking. They soon learned that fireplaces and their chimneys needed a cleaning as a house full of soot and fumes is unhealthy. And so, chimney sweeping developed into a necessary profession. People liked having the chimney sweep pay a visit as he brought clean, fresh air back to the home. Sweeps are associated with hearth and home, and thus domestic bliss. Chimney Sweeps became a sign of good health and prosperity.

CHRISTMAS "SUPER" STITIONS

It is said :

- "The child born on Christmas Day will have a special fortune."
- "Snow on Christmas means Easter will be green."
- You will have as many happy months in the coming year, as the number of houses you eat mince pies in during Christmastime.
- In Greece, some people burn their old shoes during the Christmas season to prevent misfortunes in the coming year.
- To have good health throughout the next year, eat an apple on Christmas Eve.
- The gates of Heaven open at midnight on Christmas Eve. Those who die then go straight to Heaven (an Irish beleif).

(Continued on page 6)

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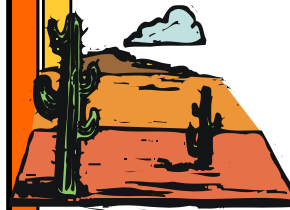
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- Christmas candles should be left burning until Christmas morning and should rest undisturbed from time of lighting until they are snuffed.
- Singing Christmas carols at any time other than during the festive season is unlucky.

- The yule log should be lit by a piece of the log used on the previous Christmas. Once that is done, no evil spirit can then enter into the house. The remains of the Yule log were also considered lucky, and would be a protection against lightning or fire.

THE OVEREATING ELF



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Once there was an elf named Frez that would get so nervous during Christmas time that he would eat two lunches at the elf cafeteria. He tried to be just too perfect in toymaking and never thought they were good enough for the children. The

dolls' eyes never sparkled enough, thought Frez, and the wagons were not as shiny as last year. Nothing seemed to be going right and the time for delivery of the presents was getting closer.

It was beyond anybody's understanding why Frez was getting so particular and asking for an elf suit larger than his size. Then, one day Santa found out what the problem was and decided to solve it. It seemed that Frez was not a young elf, but elves never looked their age by the virtue of being ever cheerful and happy. Frez needed to feel he was special, so Santa assigned him his own project called "special toys." These were the toys that were broken and needed to be repaired with love. Frez was so glad to be in charge of such a project that he had only one lunch that day because he had to hurry back to his tasks.

There is a lesson to be learnt from what Santa did for the elf. Sometimes we have off days when we just don't feel positive. Someone's smile or invitation to join some friends can make our whole day worthwhile.

Frez is now content with assembling the broken toys and transform them into something new, and he has stopped being a voracious eater that he once used to be because he is

(Continued on page 7)

happy. He even wears his old suit now, and his new suit is taken in for his smaller waist.

Its wise for us to try and do something worthwhile everyday so that a "Frez Attack" will never get us. We all have special talents and potentials and we can definitely help someone out if he is feeling a bit low. It takes only a few seconds to be able to know why someone is not feeling happy. Take out that time from your usual day and listen. Most importantly, we are here to help each other and all of us have that hidden talent to do it. Start to make use of that talent today.

THE JOY OF GIVING

Reggie's brother gave him an automobile as a Christmas present. On Christmas Eve Reggie came out of his office, and saw a street urchin admiring his shiny new car. "Is this your car, Mister?" he asked.

Reggie nodded in affirmation, "My brother gave it to me for Christmas." The boy was surprised. "You mean your brother gave it to you and it didn't cost you anything? Boy, I wish..." He hesitated. Reggie knew what he was going to wish for. He was going to wish he had a brother like the one Reggie has. But what the lad said was far beyond Reggie's expectation. "I wish," the boy went on, "that I could be a brother like that."

For a few seconds words failed Reggie and then he impulsively added, "Would you like to take a ride in my automobile?" "Oh yes, I'd love that."

After a short ride, the boy turned towards Reggie. His eyes were glowing and he said, "Mister, would you mind driving in front of my house?" Reggie smiled a little. He thought he understood what the lad wanted. He wanted to show it off to his neighbors that he could ride home in a big automobile. But Reggie was wrong again.

"Will you stop where those two steps are?" the boy asked. He ran up the steps. In a little

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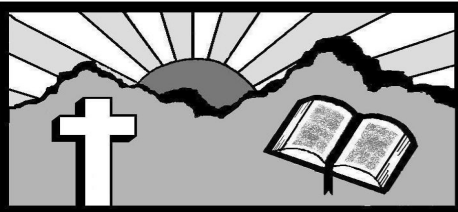
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12/22
Richard & Mary
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12/30

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while Reggie heard him coming back, but he was not coming fast. He was carrying his little brother who was physically challenged. He sat him down on the bottom step, then sort of squeezed up against him and pointed to the car. "There she is, Buddy, just like I told you upstairs. His brother gave it to him for Christmas and it didn't cost him a cent. And some day I'm going to give you one just like it...then you can see for yourself all the pretty things in the Christmas windows that I've been trying to tell you about."

Reggie got out and lifted the lad to the front seat of his car. His brother whose eyes were gleaming with joy climbed in beside him and the three of them embarked on a memorable holiday ride.

That Christmas Eve, Reggie learned what Jesus meant when he said: "It is more blessed to give..."

THE GIFT OF THE MAGI

One dollar and eighty-seven cents. That was all. And sixty cents of it was in pennies. Pennies saved one and two at a time by bulldozing the grocer and the vegetable man and the butcher until one's cheeks burned with the silent imputation of parsimony that such close dealing implied. Three times Della counted it. One dollar and eighty- seven cents. And the next day would be Christmas.

There was clearly nothing to do but flop down on the shabby little couch and howl. So Della did it. Which instigates the moral reflection that life is made up of sobs, sniffles, and smiles, with sniffles predominating.

While the mistress of the home is gradually subsiding from the first stage to the second, take a look at the home. A furnished flat at \$8 per week. It did not exactly beggar description, but it certainly had that word on the lookout for the mendicancy squad.

In the vestibule below was a letter-box into which no letter would go, and an electric button from which no mortal finger could coax a ring. Also appertaining thereunto was a card bearing the name "Mr. James Dillingham Young."

The "Dillingham" had been flung to the breeze during a former period of prosperity when its possessor was being paid \$30 per week. Now, when the income was shrunk to \$20, though, they were thinking seriously of contracting to a modest and unassuming D. But whenever Mr. James Dillingham Young came home and reached his flat above he was called "Jim" and greatly hugged by Mrs. James Dillingham Young, already introduced to you as Della. Which is all very good.

Della finished her cry and attended to her cheeks with the powder rag. She stood by the window and looked out dully at a gray cat walking a gray fence in a gray backyard. Tomorrow would be Christmas Day, and she had only \$1.87 with which to buy Jim a present. She had been saving every penny she could for months, with this result. Twenty dollars a week doesn't go far. Expenses had been greater than she had calculated. They always are. Only \$1.87 to buy a present for Jim. Her Jim. Many a happy hour she had spent planning for something nice for him. Something fine and rare and sterling—something just a little bit near to being worthy of the honor of being owned by Jim. There was a pier-glass between the windows of the room. Perhaps you have seen a pier-glass in an \$8 flat. A very thin and very agile person may, by observing his reflection in a rapid sequence of longitudinal strips, obtain a fairly accurate conception of his looks. Della, being slender, had mastered the art.

Suddenly she whirled from the window and stood before the glass. her eyes were shining brilliantly, but her face had lost its color within twenty seconds. Rapidly she pulled down her hair and let it fall to its full length.

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Now, there were two possessions of the James Dillingham Youngs in which they both took a mighty pride. One was Jim's gold watch that had been his father's and his grandfather's. The other was Della's hair. Had the queen of Sheba lived in the flat across the airshaft, Della would have let her hair hang out the window some day to dry just to depreciate Her Majesty's jewels and gifts. Had King Solomon been the janitor, with all his treasures piled up in the basement, Jim would have pulled out his watch every time he passed, just to see him pluck at his beard from envy.

So now Della's beautiful hair fell about her rippling and shining like a cascade of brown waters. It reached below her knee and made itself almost a garment for her. And then she did it up again nervously and quickly. Once she faltered for a minute and stood still while a tear or two splashed on the worn red carpet.

On went her old brown jacket; on went her old brown hat. With a whirl of skirts and with the brilliant sparkle still in her eyes, she fluttered out the door and down the stairs to the street.

Where she stopped the sign read: "Mne. Sofronie. Hair Goods of All Kinds." One flight up Della ran, and collected herself, panting. Madame, large, too white, chilly, hardly looked the "Sofronie."

"Will you buy my hair?" asked Della.

"I buy hair," said Madame. "Take yer hat off and let's have a sight at the looks of it." Down rippled the brown cascade.

"Twenty dollars," said Madame, lifting the mass with a practiced hand.

"Give it to me quick," said Della.

Oh, and the next two hours tripped by on rosy wings. Forget the hashed metaphor. She was



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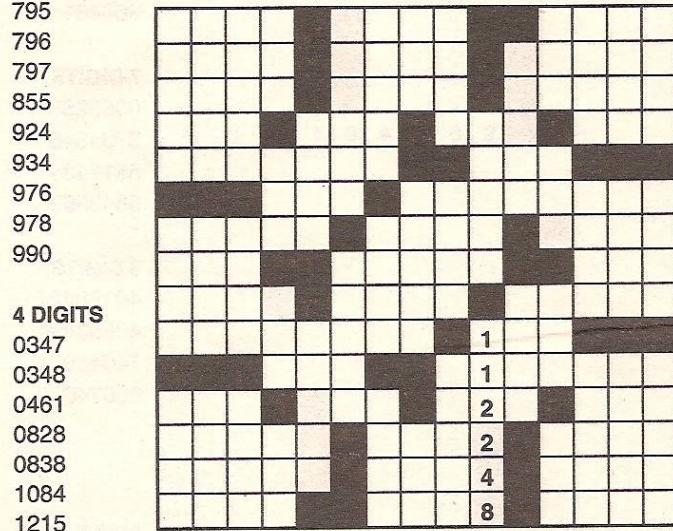
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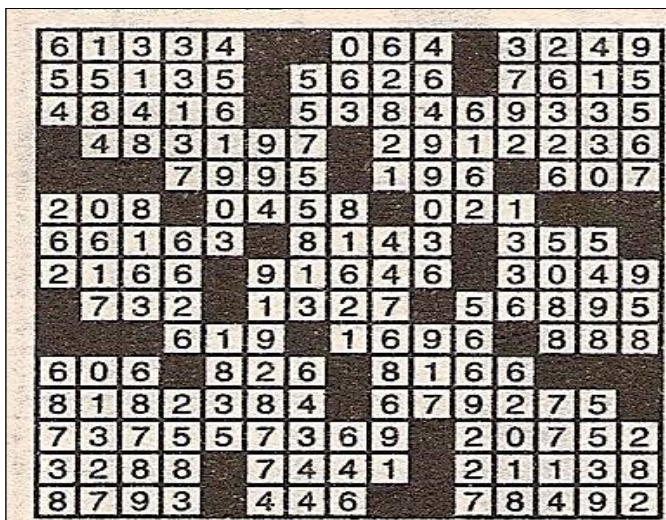
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716	6364	03079	70065	

Answer on page 112



ransacking the stores for Jim's present. She found it at last. It surely had been made for Jim and no one else. There was no other like it in any of the stores, and she had turned all of them inside out. It was a platinum fob chain simple and chaste in design, properly proclaiming its value by substance alone and not by meretricious ornamentation--as all good things should do. It was even worthy of The Watch. As soon as she saw it she knew that it must be Jim's. It was like him. Quietness and value--the description applied to both. Twenty-one dollars they took from her for it, and she hurried home with the 87 cents. With that chain on his watch Jim might be properly anxious about the time in any company. Grand as the watch was, he sometimes looked at it on the sly on account of the old leather strap that he used in place of a chain. When Della reached home her intoxication gave way a little to prudence and reason. She got out her curling irons and lighted the gas and went to work repairing the ravages made by generosity added to love. Which is always a tremendous task, dear friends--a mammoth task. Within forty minutes her head was covered with tiny, close-lying curls that made her look wonderfully like a truant schoolboy. She looked at her reflection in the mirror long, carefully, and critically.

NUMBER-871



"If Jim doesn't kill me," she said to herself, "before he takes a second look at me, he'll say I look like a Coney Island chorus girl. But what could I do--oh! what could I do with a dollar and eighty- seven cents?"

At 7 o'clock the coffee was made and the frying-pan was on the back of the stove hot and ready to cook the chops.

Jim was never late. Della doubled the fob chain in her hand and sat on the corner of the table near the door that he always entered. Then she heard his step on the stair away down on the first flight, and she turned white for just a moment. She had a habit for saying little silent prayer about the simplest every-



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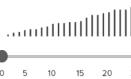
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day things, and now she whispered: "Please God, make him think I am still pretty."

The door opened and Jim stepped in and closed it. He looked thin and very serious. Poor fellow, he was only twenty-two--and to be burdened with a family! He needed a new overcoat and he was without gloves.

Jim stopped inside the door, as immovable as a setter at the scent of quail. His eyes were fixed upon Della, and there was an expression in them that she could not read, and it terrified her. It was not anger, nor surprise, nor disapproval, nor horror, nor any of the sentiments that she had been prepared for. He simply stared at her fixedly with that peculiar expression on his face.

Della wriggled off the table and went for him.

"Jim, darling," she cried, "don't look at me that way. I had my hair cut off and sold because I couldn't have lived through Christ-

mas without giving you a present. It'll grow out again--you won't mind, will you? I just had to do it. My hair grows awfully fast. Say 'Merry Christmas!' Jim, and let's be happy. You don't know what a nice-- what a beautiful, nice gift I've got for you."

"You've cut off your hair?" asked Jim, laboriously, as if he had not arrived at that patent fact yet even after the hardest mental labor. "Cut it off and sold it," said Della. "Don't you like me just as well, anyhow? I'm me without my hair, ain't I?"

Jim looked about the room curiously.

"You say your hair is gone?" he said, with an air almost of idiocy.

"You needn't look for it," said Della. "It's sold, I tell you--sold and gone, too. It's Christmas Eve, boy. Be good to me, for it went for you. Maybe the hairs of my head were numbered," she went on with sudden serious sweetness,

"but nobody could ever count my love for you. Shall I put the chops on, Jim?" Out of his trance Jim seemed quickly to wake. He enfolded his Della. For ten seconds let us regard with discreet scrutiny some inconsequential object in the other direction. Eight dollars a week or a million a year--what is the difference? A mathematician or a wit would give you the wrong answer. The magi brought valuable gifts, but that was not among them. This dark assertion will be illuminated later on.

Jim drew a package from his overcoat pocket and threw it upon the table.

"Don't make any mistake, Dell," he said, "about me. I don't think there's anything in the way of a haircut or a shave or a shampoo that could make me like my girl any less. But if you'll unwrap that package you may see why you had me going a while at first."

White fingers and nimble tore at the string and paper. And then an ecstatic scream of joy; and then, alas! a quick feminine change to hysterical tears and wails, necessitating the immediate employment of all the comforting powers of the lord of the flat.

For there lay The Combs--the set of combs, side and back, that Della had worshipped long in a Broadway window. Beautiful combs, pure tortoise shell, with jeweled rims--just the shade to wear in the beautiful vanished hair. They were expensive combs, she knew, and her heart had simply craved and yearned over them without the least hope of possession. And now, they were hers, but the tresses that should have adorned the coveted adornments were gone.

But she hugged them to her bosom, and at length she was able to look up with dim eyes and a smile and say: "My hair grows so fast, Jim!" And then Della leaped up like a little singed cat and cried, "Oh, oh!"

Jim had not yet seen his beautiful present. She held it out to him eagerly upon her open palm. The dull precious metal seemed to flash with a reflection of her bright and ardent spirit.

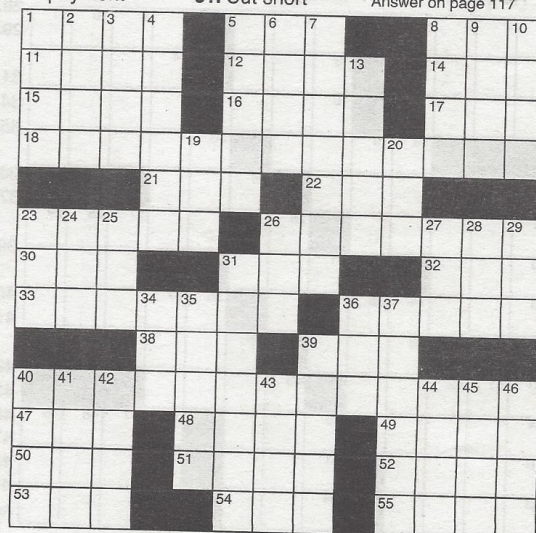
WORD 861

ACROSS

1. Tax times (abbr.)
5. Director Lupino
8. Presidential initials of the '60s
11. High shoe
12. Cairo's river
14. Bullfight cry
15. Isaac's son
16. Like Satan
17. Golfer Trevino
18. Moody
21. Kix grain
22. Lone
23. Blueprint
26. Caught
30. Ventilate
31. Slyly hesitant
32. Rage
33. Tie the knot again
36. Sheets of glass
38. Simon and Garfunkel, once
39. Map marking (abbr.)
40. Getting something done
47. Letters on a marker
48. Unlock
49. Motorcyclist Knievel
50. Unruly crowd
51. Russo of "Outbreak"
52. "___ That Tune"
53. Place for mud baths
54. Actor Haggerty
55. Unknown author (abbr.)
8. Shock
9. ___ market
10. Actor Howard
13. "Maria ___"
19. Patronize a diner
20. Darkroom item (abbr.)
23. Train component
24. Get a move on
25. Weapon
26. Tofu base
27. Tonic's partner
28. Bard's "before"
29. ___ Plains
31. Cut short
34. "Much ___ About Nothing"
35. What travels on a grapevine
36. Fathers
37. Goddess of wisdom
39. Flax product
40. Aspirations
41. Chicken's home
42. Havana's land
43. Olin of "Havana"
44. Tennis's Lendl
45. Verne captain
46. Narrow valley

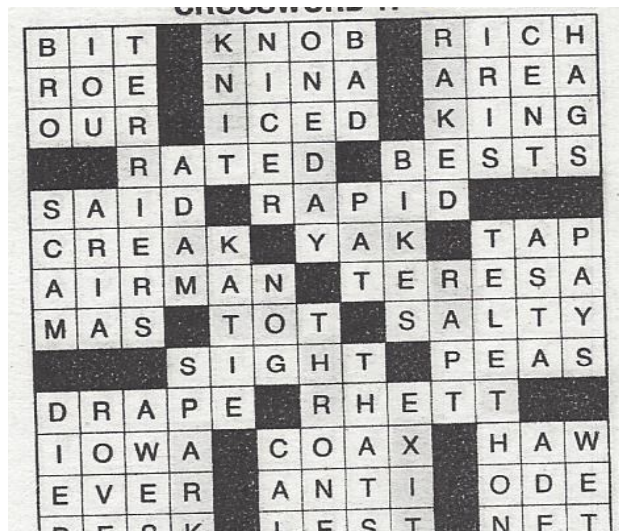
DOWN

1. Aid and ___
2. Sit for a photographer
3. Emulate a nomad
4. Dazed condition
5. Lifeless
6. Opera performer
7. Divorce payment



Answer on page 117

WORD 860



"Isn't it a dandy, Jim? I hunted all over town to find it. You'll have to look at the time a hundred times a day now. Give me your watch. I want to see how it looks on it."

Instead of obeying, Jim tumbled down on the couch and put his hands under the back of his head and smiled.

"Dell," said he, "let's put our Christmas presents away and keep 'em a while. They're too nice to use just at present. I sold the watch to get the money to buy your combs. And now suppose you put the chops on."

The magi, as you know, were wise men—wonderfully wise men—who brought gifts to the Babe in the manger. They invented the art of giving Christmas presents. Being wise, their gifts were no doubt wise ones, possibly bearing the privilege of exchange in case of duplication. And here I have lamely related to you the uneventful chronicle of two foolish children in a flat who most unwisely sacrificed for each other the greatest treasures of their house. But in a last word to the wise of these days let it be said that of all who give gifts these two were the wisest. O all who give and receive gifts, such as they are wisest. Everywhere they are wisest. They are the magi.

by O. Henry

Holiday poems

**'Tis is not sad in that Dad works so hard for his money?
Spends two weeks pay — toys for his boys
Mommy frugal and bright, plans so Christmas will be right
Preparing for that special day, keeping two little boys at bay.**

**Then late Christmas Eve — there are thieves
To steal in the night everything in sight
When the deed was discovered it was too late to recover
All the stores shut up tight, Dad's wallet now very light!**

**When one opens one's gift it is thought the gift was bought with on self in mind.
Christmas a happy time — when there is crime?**

**What preserves pleasures is felt by the pilfering person as he rips packages and bags he has stolen. When he stares.
Then did he chuckle or brag?**

**I think the kids had fun that holiday
Love, health, each other together
And as Carly Simon would say;
"With every situation anticipation is the best sensation"
The thief can't take that away!**

Christmas

**Hustle and bustle and hurry and run
looking for gifts that bring so much fun.
A visit to Santa we also must make
because of our children for all of our sakes.**

**The food preparations must get underway
like cookies and candies for our special day. Gifts must be wrapped and bows must be ties and trees must be trimmed and lights hung outside.**

**Cards must be bought and then must be signed And addresses and mailed to reach friends on time.
The kids must be bathed and tucked into bed where they will wait to hear Santa's sled.**

But when morning comes midst all the squeals, faces depicting what our children feel; it makes all the hustle and hurry and run so very worthwhile for these little ones.

Now let's remember the child in our lives given to us when God's son arrived to teach is to love each other and then to die on the cross to save us from sin.

A Christmas Greeting

Sure hope you don't think this greeting is late Cuz the Spirit of Christmas we cele-

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12/31

**brate With joy in our hearts, as we ponder
the love Our God and Father was sent from
above.**

**Jesus is the reason we create such a fuss
our Emmanuel is born, yes, God is with us
This joy can't be contained in one day only
So Christmas has 12, that we might savor it
slowly!**

**Born this night a world of sin, The prince of
Peace the Redeemer of Men.
This child of God, that was sent from on
High. To be born of Mary to suffer and die!**

**Rejected by men from the day of His birth;
To suffer and die on Calvary's tree.
For the sins of the world to set me free.
From Bethlehem to Golgotha, he never com-
plained, Laughed at! Spit on! Mocked in
shame!**

**He was born of a women, but He knew no
sin, This babe in the Manger the Savior of
Men!**

2022 Dec 21

A Letter From Santa Claus

**Tons of happiness filed Ronnie's head,
as he read what Santa had said.
For he had sent him a letter that night,
which filled his little heart with delight.**

**And as he read that letter more,
Santa walked right through the door,
He filled Ronnie with lots of joy,
as he handed him a new toy.**

**Santa was the jolliest of them all
His nose was like a little red ball
He had a beard that was flowing long,
he looked perfect, nothing was wrong.**

**He didn't want Santa to go
He went up the chimney, and a kiss he did
blow.**

**After Santa shouted goodbye,
Ronnie smiled and began to sigh.**

The Eve Of Christmas

**Two thousand years have almost gone by
Since Jesus was nailed on a cross to die
His teachings were done by words and deed
And thousand would listen, and thousands
would heed.**

**The words of His wisdom, and that of God
As many miles on foot would he trod
Let Peace be on earth, would be His com-
mand, And nothing less than this should we
demand!**

**On the Eve of His birth let us all be blessed
And thank our God as we see the end of our
quest.**

**Let us all stand together, as brother and
friend And pledge our love, and respect to a
world without end.**

**Together we stand, in joy and in sorrow
and praise the birth of Jesus with the light of
tomorrow!**

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"A Christian Man"

**There once was a man who was plagued with
sin,
He didn't know what horrible shape he was
in.**

**One day he decided to give his life to the
Lord,
Because he wanted to be with one accord.**

**Soon the Lord heard his humble cry,
he said, "My child I will not pass you by."**

**Jesus took away the sin and shame,
he told him to cherish his new given name.**

**Now go out and serve me as much as you
can,
I'll always be around to help you stand.**

**As the trial and tribulations come and go,
Don't stop calling on my name,
for these things come to help us grow!**

**If at anytime you think you can't make it,
Remember my words and speak it out bit by
bit.**

**My word will be there to help you stand,
you can't go without it, if you want to be
grand.**

**Today He is still in the Christian race,
For someday he will see the Lord face to
face.**

The Cross

**Up a hill one lone man walks
and all around Him is sadness
He can hear loud cries as the guards talk
But in the crowd there is madness!**

**There is a cross that stalks Him
Thee are guards who shove Him
There is his father above Him
And all those who love Him.**



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**Finally He reaches the top
One nail, two nails, three nails...
But he never tells them STOP!!
For He knows His Father's plan won't fail...**

**Up on the Cross the man hangs
Father forgive them, for they know not what
they do!!
Those are the words of my idol in pain
And with this HE slipped into the new!!**

Merry Christmas!

**It's a wonderful feeling made all the more
specials because I know this is just the be-
ginning of the understanding and trust we
will share, for with the time.**

**Sometimes I feel like a flower, opening up
beneath, the golden warmth of your love,
responding to the sunshine that the very
sight of you brings I want to know you com-
pletely...**

I want to give all of myself to you.

2022 Dec 21

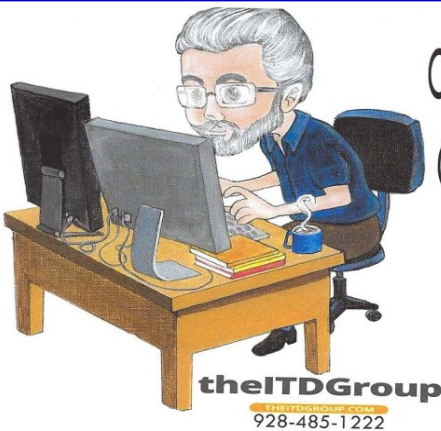
**Holding nothing back
Except for the mystery that
Allows us to be separate people~
Joined by one beautiful love.
Merry Christmas with all my love.**

Christmas in the air!

**It's Christmas in the air!
Snowflakes in December
Children site with Santa's toys
Their gloves wiping crystalline ice,
Off shiny plastic
Our breath thick like fog
Mingles in oneness
As we stand back to
Look upon the completion
Of our Christmas trees
Giggling from heady wine
And feelings shared
It's Christmas in the air!**

Dear Mom and Dad

Of the favorite memories of our family,



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**So just because you're
Far away, don't think
For a moment that you're forgotten.
I'm thinking about you because loving
thoughts travel far,
And wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a
New Year
Full of wonderful things.
Wish we could be together**

**Mom and Dad, Christmas rekindles all the
best we've ever had~
The wonderful traditions you taught us,
And we kept from year to year
Added to each Holiday
To make it's meaning clear.
Your warmth, smiles and laughter
Kept us eager to believe
In the magic and wonder
That was part of Christmas Eve,
And though Christmas
Have come and gone,
It seems that wishes did come true,
In the lasting love our family shares
Because of the caring by both of you.**

**Wish we could be together
Thinking of you
Makes the miles disappear,
Together we're looking at bright decorations,
Enjoying what we like to do,
Thinking of you makes the miles disappear~
For you're missed very much
All year through...**

The First Christmas

**This very first Christmas
It's just like before
It's the first in this new Century
and there will be more
The only difference we will see
and at first does not seem true
why the tree getting shorter
and what happened to you?**

**Each year we get wiser, the older we get
we still think of Santa, and
we are not finished with him yet.
we still get excited,
Like we did Christmas's before
You see there is no difference,
it's just your height in the door.
So we take a moment this time far and near
to wish you a merry Christmas
and a happy new Year.**



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ASK about our drink specials!!!



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Sunday-Thursday . 11AM - 8PM
Friday-Saturday. 11AM - 9PM

Please note: As we continue to grow and strive to provide the best customer experience possible, we will no longer be serving breakfast as of Monday, Nov. 29, 2021. Our lunch service will begin at 11AM

We are still offering Take-Out / Curb Side service!

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Wednesday-Wing
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The True Spirit of Christmas

Lots of people
Crowds everywhere
Rushing and pushing and shoving,
Going nowhere.

It's Christmas time again
Have to get all those things done
Hustle, bustle, quickly,
We must beat the sun.

Must get this and must get that
Maybe this nic, maybe that nak
When did it happen?
When did we lose track...

It's a race, yes it is
We are running, yes we are
But lets not forget
Before we get too far-

What is really, really important
Doesn't take much to figure out
Take time to love
and love from the heart.

The Christmas Present

I heard a knock on my door one Christmas
Eve,
As I looked out my window a man I could
see,
he was cold and seemed so lonely and up-
on a bended knee
he asked can you spare anything for me to
eat...

I opened up the door and as I helped him
in,
he looked up at me with such a peaceful
grin,
As he drank down some coffee and had a
bite to eat,
I put more wood on the fire so he could
warm his feet...

Over there by the fireplace he warmed his
tired hands,
I wonder where did he come from, this qui-
et white haired man,

but I wasn't at all afraid of his peaceful ways
you see,
this man dressed in poor, almost as poor as
me...

As he left he turned and thanked me for all I
had done,
but he forgot to take his gloves, so out the
door I run,
He was gone in the blizzard and I couldn't
hardly see,
so I took his ole glove's back to the house
with me...

Just a little after midnight I awoke in the
dark,
there wasn't a bit of fire just glowing cinders
in the dark,
and where I'd placed his gloves by my little
christmas tree,
there laid a brand new pair, and a Christmas
Card for me...

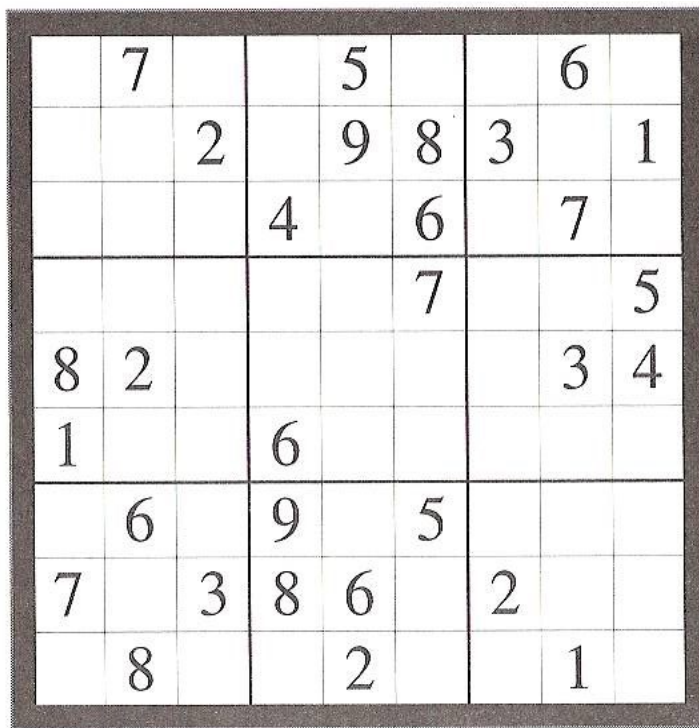
and it read....
You gave me shelter and food to keep me
warm,
you even tried to bring me my gloves in the
storm,
so here's you a new pair,... the finest ever
seen...
as an angel of the Lord

I'll be sure to tell the King....Merry Christ-
mas.....

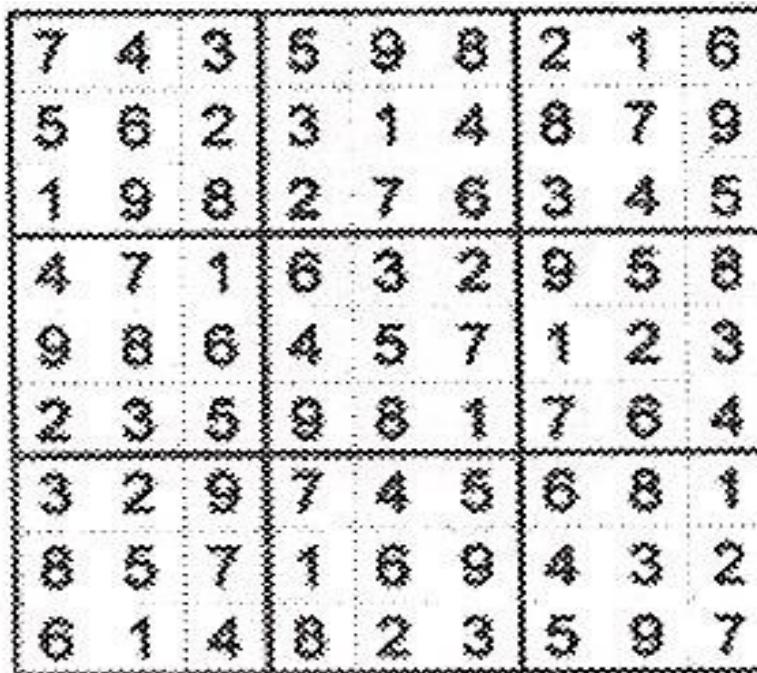
JINGLE TILLS, JINGLE TILLS

Rushing and fussing I race all round town,
Trying and buying, I drag bags around;
Would Jackie like this? Would Sarah like
that?
If I get it wrong, then I'll look like a prat.
My blood pressure rises, my wallet grows
thin,
I hate Christmas shopping; I'd so love a gin...
This is the season of hope and good cheer -
I'll be glad when it's over, at least for this
year!

Sudoku 861



Sudoku 860





District 2 Gila County Supervisor
Tim R Humphrey

Tonto Basin Community Meeting,

Jan 3, 2023 at 5 PM,

Tonto Basin Chamber

State Route 188 & Rattlesnake,

Tonto Basin,

Updates, information, and upcoming events will
be discussed at this meeting.

For more information call:
District 2 Supervisor Tim R. Humphrey
(928) 425-3231 or toll free 800-304-4452

Teddy Bear Sleigh

**Snowflakes fly around the sled,
Some teddy bears love adventure on their
sleds.**

**Daddy Bear holds the ropes to guide his
flight, Mama and baby bear sit together tight,**

**Laughter rings out when they curve over the
hills, Teddy bear sleigh rides are a winter
thrill.**

**Scarfs of red and green plaid surround their
furry necks,
Hoods of fur are keeping the winter air out-
side.**

**Riding in the sleigh makes a fun day,
That's the teddy bear way.**

Heaven's Gift

**Heaven's gift has come to man.
Mortal fate rests
Within tiny hallowed hands.**

**Shepherds singing, a shining star,
Angels proclaiming,
Kings bearing gifts from afar.**

**A scene of serene glory,
The weight of a holy hush,
The meaning of heaven's story,
'Twas God's first CHRISTmas gift to us.**

**Who would recall the power of that day,
At the time when He was led away,
Bearing a crown, a robe, and fateful wounds?
Was He not the gift from heaven's womb?**

**Shall we turn from that holy day
And walk away unchanged?
Will we allow it to envelope our souls
Only to let it slowly slip away?**

**Through plastic, tinsel, parties and gifts,
Shopping, planning, and Christmas lights lit,
Can the simple gift be heard or seen,
Or does it quietly fade behind holiday sheen?**

Let us not forget that He loves us so.

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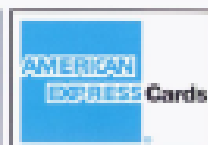
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**He loves us too much to let us go.
He sent a plan with His sacrifice
To forgive and cleanse and give us life.**

**Embrace the greatest gift of all;
Don't let your sense of the manger wane.
The gift of heaven is yours to receive.
It was the true reason He came.**



HO HO HO

**What happened when
the snowgirl fell out with
the snowboy ?
She gave him the cold
shoulder !**

**What do snowmen wear
on their heads ?**

Ice caps !

**What do snowmen eat for lunch ?
Icebergers !**

**Where do snowmen go to dance ?
Snowballs !**

**How do snowmen travel around ?
By iceicle !**

What sort of ball doesn't bounce ?

2022 Dec 21

<u>Flag Display Days</u>		
Feb.	President Day	3rd Monday
May	V.E. Day	May 8th
May	Armed Forces Day	3rd Saturday
May	Memorial Day	Last Monday
May	Memorial Day	May 30th
	<i>(Memorial Service at Cemetery)</i>	
June	Flag Day	June 14th
July	Independence Day	July 4th
Sept.	Labor Day	1st Monday
Sept.	V.J. Day	Sept. 2
	<i>(Formal Surrender)</i>	
Sept.	POW-MIA Day	3rd Friday
Nov.	Veterans Day	Nov. 11th
Dec.	Pearl Harbor Day	Dec. 7th

A snowball !

**How do you know when there is a snowman in
your bed ?
You wake up wet !**

**What do you get if cross a snowman and a
shark ?
Frost bite !**

**How do you call an Eskimo cow ?
An Eskimoo !**

**What do monkeys sing at Christmas ?
Jungle Bells, Jungle bells.. !**

**Why are Christmas trees like bad knitters ?
They both drop their needles !**

**What's Christmas called in England ?
Yule Britannia !**

**What did the bald man say when he got a
comb for Christmas ?
Thanks, I'll never part with it !**

**Why is a burning candle like being thirsty ?
Because a little water ends both of them !**

**What do you get if you cross an apple with a
Christmas tree ?
A pineapple !**

What do you give a train driver for Christmas ?

More local **CARE.**
More local **TIME.**



cvrmc.org  



Platform shoes !

What did the big candle say to the little candle ?

I'm going out tonight !

What happens to you at Christmas ?

Yule be happy !

How long does it take to burn a candle down ?

About a wick

Knock Knock

Who's there ?

Mary

Mary who ?

Mary Christmas !

What did one Angel say to the other ?

Halo there !

How to cats greet each other at Christmas ?

"A furry merry Christmas & Happy mew year" !

What do elephants sing at Christmas ?

No-elephants, no elephants !

What does Father Christmas write on his Christmas cards ?

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

(No-L !!) !

*I'm taking a holiday
break so*



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NEW LISTING 297 S Wade
Schandley: Motivated Seller. This 2008 custom Fleetwood home features 1620 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, custom kitchen cabinets, island breakfast bar, walk-in pantry, split floor plan with walk-in closets in each bedroom.

New appliances, newly remodeled bathrooms, new wood laminate flooring. Detached oversized garage (needs work) w/bathroom. Private well & storage tank. Views of Four Peaks and surrounding mountains. Property borders open ranch land, horses OK. MLS 87733 \$265,000



NEW LISTING 170 W Boulder Ave: This beautiful site-built home features open floor plan, 3 bedrooms (2 Master Suites) and two bathrooms, 10' ceilings, 18" ceramic tile floors except in bedrooms, and panoramic views. Master suite has french doors that open up to a

covered patio, jetted tub, double bathroom sinks, and walk in shower. Living room features large picture window and French door out to rear patio. Stainless steel appliances, walk-in pantry, large island, and lots of cabinet space in the kitchen. 609 sq ft oversized garage with built-in shelves, and rear access door. MLS 87778 \$330,000



NEW LISTING 205 S Rio Salado Ln: Fixer-upper, or tear down this 12x50 mobile home w/Add-ons and move in your new manufactured home, or build your new home. Nice views of all surrounding mountains.

Only 10 miles to the Indian Point boat launch at Roosevelt Lake for great fishing and water-sports. MLS 87610 \$72,000



NEW LISTING 255 E Rainbow Lane: Perfect Lake House Retreat, all set up and ready for all your toys. This singlewide has been completely remodeled on the inside; sheetrock walls, dual pane windows with wood blinds,

laminate flooring, kitchen cabinets, refrigerator, dishwasher, built in microwave, & stove, custom bathroom tile floors, showers & vanities, 4 AC window units & wired for mini split system, electric wall heater units, recessed lighting in kitchen and master bathroom, Covered front deck with swamp cooler, back covered deck & paver patio. Covered RV parking (12x45x13.3'/15'at peak), tons of uncovered concrete parking, fully fenced with chain-link fencing with RV gates, and large storage shed. MLS 87509 \$172,000

SOLD- 100 A-B N Mining Company Road: Secluded 3.20-acre parcel with large pecan trees, capped well, partially fenced. Borders Tonto National Forest on the east. Great RV lot with lots of shade, creek access on the northeast corner.

MEETINGS & EVENTS PLUS IMPORTANT NUMBERS FOR TONTA BASIN,

For Situation updates & Non-Emergency
messaging, call the Gila County HOTLINE
(928) 402-8888 or toll free 800-304-4452.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

emsdept@co.gila.az.us

Emergency: 9-1-1

Road Conditions: 5-1-1

APS

Ashley Bunch

602-448-2482

ashley.bunch@aps.com

TONTA BASIN POST OFFICE

(928) 479-2210

GILA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Don Engler

928-961-0272

dangler@gilacountyaz.gov

USFS-DISTRICT RANGER

Jeremy Plain

602-225-5395 work

928-595-0865 mobile

jeremy.plain@usda.gov

GILA COUNTY ROADS DEPT, TB SUPERVISOR

Mark Cline

928-978-4209

GILA COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Anthony Puskaric

apuskaric@gilacountyaz.gov

ADOT, HWY MAINT SUPERINTENDENT

George W. Collaco

928-402-5619 work

928-200-6452 Mobile

gcollaco@azdot.gov

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE meet the 3rd Thursday of every month at 9:30 A.M. at the Chamber building. www.tontobasinchamber.org

FORT RENO VFW POST 8807 meets 4th Saturday of the month 9 AM

FORT RENO POST 8807 TONTA BASIN AZ
CHARTERED JUNE 1983, SERVING OUR COMMUNITY & SURROUNDING AREA FOR 39 YEARS, IS HONORED TO HAVE THE VFW AUXILIARY AS PART OF POST 8807 TONTA BASIN CHARTERED AUGUST 13, 2022. ANYONE INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR GREAT ORGANIZATION CALL KANDIE 928-514-8532 OR VICKY 623-337-3039 FOR MORE INFORMATION. MEETINGS AT POST 8807 THE 4TH SATURDAY OF THE MONTH 11AM

MENS CARD CLUB Every Monday Noon—5PM held at the Tonto Basin Chamber bldg. Call Ron 928-970-0148 for information

SIERRA ANCHO LADY CARD PLAYERS: come join us to play/learn CRAZY CANASTA Wednesday 9AM-3PM at the Chamber of Commerce Building - Break for lunch @ 11:30AM

TONTA BASIN LIBRARY

PHONE: (928) 479-2355

HOURS: MON. - FRI. 8:00A.M.- 4 P.M.

ALSO OFFERS OTHER SERVICES: FAX, COPIES, & PUBLIC COMPUTER/PRINTER FOR NOMINAL FEE.

PUNKIN CENTER BAR'S FLEA MARKET IS HELD every other week on SATURDAY Stop by Punkin Center to sign up for your "FREE" Space.

TONTA BASIN KIWANIS CLUB

KIWANISTONTOBASIN@GMAIL.COM

NOTICE

◆ **KIWANIS MEETINGS ARE HELD EVERY FRIDAY AT 8AM AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER, NEXT TO THE THRIFT STORE.**



◆ **KIWANIS THRIFT STORE IS OPEN EVERY THURSDAY, FRIDAY, AND SATURDAY 9:00AM TO 2:00PM. DONATIONS ACCEPTED 9:00AM TO 1:30 PM. WE NO LONGER ACCEPT COUCHES, OR MATTRESSES.**

◆ **BINGO STARTS SEPT. 8TH. DOORS OPEN AT 5:30, CARD SALES BY 6:15, GAME STARTS 6:30 PROMPTLY. DOOR PRIZES TWICE EVERY NIGHT! GAMES START AT \$10.**

◆ **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED AT THE THRIFT STORE, IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, PLEASE FILL OUT A VOLUNTEER FORM AT THE THRIFT STORE, OR FEEL FREE TO ATTEND A MEETING. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A MEMBER TO VOLUNTEER IN THE PROCESSING ROOM. ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT US AT: KIWANISTONTOBASIN@GMAIL.COM**

TRASH/ APPLIANCES/JUNK

PRICE \$1.00 FOR 1ST 1,000 POUNDS!!!

Regular price over 1,000

2nd Saturday every month.

Buckhead Mesa Landfill, Payson, AZ:

North from Payson on Highway 87, across from the Natural Bridge, mile post 263. One mile east to site. 1321 E. Buckhead Mesa Landfill Rd.

Summer and Winter Hours - Monday through Saturday 8:00am to 4:00pm. Closed Sundays and Holidays (928) 476-3350

Russell Gulch Landfill, Globe, AZ:

Between Globe and Miami, close to Little Acres. West on US-60 on Russell Road, 1.6 Mile to site 5891 E. Hope Lane

Winter Hours - Monday through Saturday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Closed Sundays and Holidays

Summer Hours - Monday through Saturday 6:00 am to 4:00 pm. Closed Sundays and Holidays



Rambo Realty & Investment
Margaret Rambo, Broker 928-978-0260
 email: margaret@ramborealty.com
Curt Rambo, JR, 623-570-6221 Kari Rambo,
602-565-5701



Go to: www.ramborealty.com for ALL Local MLS LISTING Or just Google the property address for all details!

LOTS-ACREAGE

NEW TO MARKET- RR131 E Freedom Ln Great Investment! .67 ac lot has septic installed & water meter. Permit for electric ready for your RV, Manufactured home or site built. West boundary is 231 ft of HWY 188 frontage \$99,500 MLS87449

NEW TO MARKET RR63 Four Peaks Rd Fantastic Views .29 ac Lot R1. County maintained paved road, util to lot line. Manufactured or site built 1034 sq ft. Call for more information \$44,900 MLS87488

RR84C W Ocotillo Prime 1/2 acre lot in "site built homes only" area. Water & elec to lot line. GU zoning w/deed restrictions for 1500 sq ft site built home w/matching gar. Close to TNF trails! \$48,900. MLS87068

RR#1 N Bethel Ln. First time offer for sale! Beautiful .75 acre parcel Zoned GU. Access from Bethel Ln. 119.47 ft HWY frontage. Water & power available from Bethel Ln Close to Roosevelt Lake & TNF trails. \$74,900 MLS86768

RR A. 5531 S. Burton Ln Beautiful View! 1.29 ac level parcel. GU zoning, water lines at lot line, APS elec avail. RV use OK \$129,000 MLS87020

RR105 J S Bobcat Trl Fantastic views in area of nice homes. GU zoning 1.61 acres surveyed into two parcels, No restrictions! \$195,000 MLS87008

RR E 5531 S Burton Dr South Panoramic views! This 5 acres has it all. Level w/ desert vegetation Plus canyon views overlooking Tonto Creek. Water, Phone & Elec aval. \$259,000 MLS87016

RR #5 N. Bethel Ln. Beautiful .75 acre parcel Zoned GU. Access from Bethel Ln. 119.47 Hwy frontage. Water & power available \$74,900 MLS86771

RR #4 N. Bethel Ln. Ideal central location! .75 acres 283 ft of HWY frontage w/access & utilities from Bethel Ln \$74,900 MLS86770

MANUFACTURED-SITE BUILT HOMES

PENDING-RR517 W Desert Breeze Lane Prime location for any use. GU zoning. White vinyl fencing along 156' Hwy 188 frontage, wood privacy fencing across back. Currently an RV lot w/septic, power & water on lot. Tall RV-port, two RV hook ups. Drive in and plug into utilities! \$109,900 MLS#

RR172 N Cordova St. 3bd/3ba 2772 sq ft double carport, RV Parking, partially fenced 1.37 ac Spacious mn'd home w/split floor plan, island kit., garden tub in master, cov'd patio & lush landscaping. \$399,900 MLS87773

REDUCED-RR225 E Rainbow Ln Great Price! Totally remodeled in 1995 full Trusse roof w/add on Living, laundry & 1/2 bath. Drywall & upgraded kitchen dining, living rm. Enjoy oversized 432 sq ft screened patio outdoor family/game rm. Fenced back yard. Storage bldg., steel carport. RV hook-ups. Garden plot & BBQ area. \$169,900 MLS87718

RR169 W Ironwood. You'll LOVE the View and quiet location of this 2020 Fleetwood MH 1,056 sq ft., 3bd/2ba. On .33 oversized lot w/plenty of room for lg garage Fenced back yard, open paver patio, all ppl including w/d Must See! \$349,900. MLS87545

REDUCED RR359 W Raven Cliff. You'll love all the upgrades to this site Built home! .50 Ac. 1,520 sq ft 3bd/2ba., spacious living rm & island breakfast bar. Concrete counters, stained concrete flooring. Oversized laundry & pantry. Fenced Back yard, full RV hook ups, storage att to dble car garage, extra parking in rear. \$409,000 MLS87540

RR183 W Forest PL Peaceful quiet setting! .54 acres fenced garden area, fruit trees, she trees, private well. Two story garage w/finished full upstairs living quarters. 1 1/2 bath. Home has open great room. 2/bd/1ba, covered front porch & rear patios. 2 stor bldgs. Much more. A Must see! \$419,000 MLS87571

RR171 N Greenback Dr. .83 acres 1,795 sq ft 2005 Fleetwood MH. Beautifully updated home in nice neighborhood. Large fam. Rm w/space for office, split floor plan, 3bd/2ba., pantry & all appliances. DBL gar+parking for RV & extra toys. Lg shop & rear cov'd patio \$345,000 MLS87333

RR176 E Shelby Ln. Private setting on 1.36 ac 1,896 sq ft 3bd/2ba 1996 Redman MH., w/,metal roof. Front cov'd patio w/hot tub, storage w, elec., ATV carport. Shared well, Backyard fenced, stone insulated garden shed, Chicken



2022 Dec 21

30 coop. Quiet living 10 min from Roosevelt Lake. \$350,000. MLS86300 Just For You Publication Issue: 901