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Children's Village is included in the price of the show, is open nightly, and features pictures with Santa (one print per family, additional photos available for purchase), hot chocolate, cookies, a train model display from the Danville Model Railroaders, Inc., and various activities.









2 · Piedmont Shopper® DECEMBER 12 - 18, 2024





ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Don't be sheepish about asking more questions before making a major decision at your workplace. Meanwhile, your personal relationships continue to improve.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You might be rushed into renewing an old, cold relationship. But do you really want a reheated romance when there's a chance to warm up with someone new?

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Someone tells you something that could lead you to rethink your plans for the holidays. Get the full story before you make a decision.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A financial matter that had you in a dither is finally being sorted out as more facts become available. A perplexing personal matter also clears up.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You

face a slew of new tasks at home and work. So, as much as you love being a social Lion, be careful not to overdo it at those preholiday parties.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Unexpected news could cause some minor adjustments in your holiday planning. Defer a decision about a financial matter until you have more

LIBRA (September 23 to October

22) A project might not be bringing you the results you'd hoped it would by now. But stay with it - things will soon begin to turn around.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) A budding personal relationship continues to develop. Things also improve in your career, although some problems still need close atten-

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Mercury is finally stationing direct in your sign after a few weeks in retrograde. This will give you motivation to take care of any outstanding tasks before the holidays.

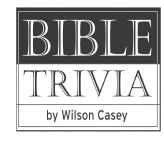
CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Allowing a misunderstanding to go unchallenged could jeopardize the plans you've made for the upcoming holidays. Clear the air

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) While you should be open to suggestions on how to plan for the holidays, you should also be firm in saying "no" to anything you disagree

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Get out from under all those holiday preparations and immerse yourself in a world of music. You'll soon feel refreshed, revived - maybe even

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You believe in the truth and have little patience for those who try to hide it. You would make an excellent judge.

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- 1. Is the book of Bethlehem (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
- 2. Where did the angel Gabriel appear to Mary saying, "Blessed art thou among women"? Nazareth, Tyre, Ninevah, Gazi
- 3. With perhaps two different biblical answers, who was the father of Joseph? Jacob/ Heli, Gideon/Ishmael, Solomon/Nahum, Samuel/Pilate
- 4. Which Old Testament prophet predicted Jesus would be born in Bethlehem? Amos, Obadiah, Micah, Nahum
- 5. For the journey to Bethlehem, how did Mary and Joseph travel? Bible not specific, Cart, Rode donkey, Small raft
- 6. Which of these wasn't a gift from the wise men (Magi)? Silver, Myrrh, Gold, Frankincense

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Nazareth, 3) Jacob/ Heli (Matthew 1:16, Luke 3:23), 4) Micah, 5) Bible not specific, 6) Silver

Comments? More Trivia? Gift ideas? Visit www.TriviaGuy.com.

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How is your December going?









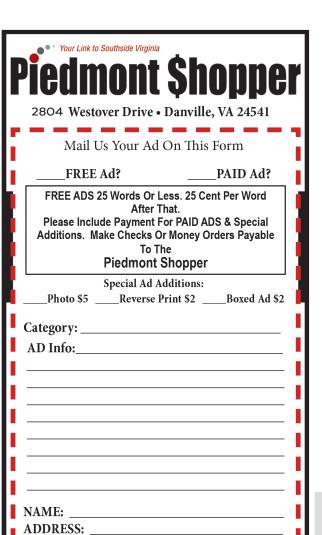
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**Kathy Crumpton** 

**Chasity Curtis** Advertising Manager Email: ads@piedmontshopper.com

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Kathy Crumpton Owner/ Publisher

Email: info@piedmontshopper.com

Joey Van Pelt Graphic Design

### **December** 2024

1 2 3 6 7 8 9 11 12 13 10 14 16 **17** 18 19 30 31 3

### Holidays

21st - Winter Begins 25th - Christmas

Hanukkah Begins at sundown

### Community Events

The Bible Reading Club will Continue to Meet on Wednesdays at 6pm in the CTK Fellowship Center, 1172 Franklin Turnpike. Bring your Personal Bible, All Welcome! Join Us!

Dance Every Friday. Ballou Center (lower level), 760 West Main St. Danville, 7:00pm 9:30pm. Facebook: BAL-LOU PARK FRIDAY NIGHT DANCE for Band Schedule. \$8.00

Bible Study every Tues. 10:30am Will End on December 17th. Everyone Welcome! Trinity United Methodist Church 409 Arnett Blvd. Danville For info call 434-793-4196

Christ the King Lutheran Church Invites you to Join our Sunday Morning Service Sunday's at 11am. 1172 Franklin Turnpike. Free Books Available on Post Next to Driveway

Recreation Schedule for Missionary Cherrystone Association of 5551Tom Fork Road, Ringgold Va. Recreation Schedule: 1.The Danville Church & Community Based Tutorial Program 4:30 - 6:30 Every Monday 2. Sit and get Fit Classes, 1st, 2nd. and 3rd.Tuesdays of each Month, all ages. 3. Bingo, every 4th Tuesday, all ages 4:30-5:30 4. Every 1st. and 3rd. Thursday Circuit Walk, Indoor walk/ Out door Track, 5:30 - 6:30. 5. Every 1st Sat. Open Gym Activities, 2:00 Outside Recreation Ministry Program Basketball; Oct., Dec., Jan., and April /Board Volley Ball, Nov.& Feb, Flag Football, Dec., Tee Ball, March. 6. Family Night every 4th Friday - 5:00- 7:00. 7. Recreation Meetings The third Thursday during the months of Sept., Oct., at 6:00. The remainder months will be on the second Thursday at 6:00. 8. Fun Day Nov. 23, (all ages) 2:00- 4:00. 9. Unity Tea, Dec.7, 4:00 - 6:00. All age groups are welcome to attend. Contact Kathy B. Ramsey at 434-251-0379 for additional information.



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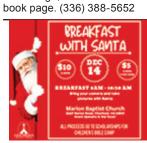
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BREAKFAST WITH SANTA. Pelham Community Center will have BREAKFAST WITH SANTA on Saturday, December 14. from 8:00-11:00 am. Santa will arrive at 9:00 am. Enjoy unlimited pancakes & coffee, plus bacon or sausage, scrambled eggs, and orange juice. Adults are \$10 each, children age 3-12 are \$5 each; children 2 and under are free. Tickets will be available at the door. There will also be a 50/50 Raffle drawing at 11:00; raffle tickets will be available for \$1 each, and you do not have to be present to win. Pelham Community Center is located at 161 Community Center Drive, Pelham, NC For more information call 336-388-5652 and leave a message, or visit our Face-



Breakfast with Santa Fundraiser. Come Enjoy a Pancake Breakfast and take a picture with Santa! December 14th from 8-10:30 am. \$10 Each, \$5 for 3 and under. Marion Baptist Church, 2669 Marion Road, Chatham. All proceeds go to scholarships for Children's Bible Camp, childrensbiblecamp@gmail.com

O'Holy Night Drive Thru at Mt. Calvary Church, 350 A.L. Philpott Hwy 58, Axton. The Life That Changed the World. Friday December 20th & Saturday December 21st 6:30-8:30pm. 276-650-2376.

CHRISTMAS SPE-CIAL, FREE TOYS, Food, Clothing, Drinks, Chips, Household Items, Bedding, Etc. Sponsored by God's Final Call & Warning! Registration at the Door. The GFCW Warehouse, 402 Wilson Street, Danville. Bring your OWN **Heavy Duty Large Bags** & Help Carry Them! Sunday December 15th, 3pm-5pm. Arrive Early for the Best! PLEASE Invite your Family, Friends & Neigh-MUST EITHER Bring ALL your Children or Have Absolute Proof of your Children to get Toys!

Free Community Hotdog Lunch! Saturday Dec. 21st 12-3pm at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 1172 Franklin Tpke. Bonus-Large Selection of Free Books Available at Little Free Library Container on driveway. All Welcome!!





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**Christmas Eve Community** Cookout Announcement! Christmas Eve Community Cookout Announcement The Redemption Center Church, the Temporary Relief and Counseling Center, and True Holiness Church invite you to a Christmas Eve Community Cookout! Location: 625 Shelton Street, Danville, VA Date: Tuesday, December 24th, 2024 Time: 12 PM - 4 PM Join us for a day of fellowship, delicious food, and holiday cheer as we celebrate the season together. This event is free and open to everyone in the community. Let's come together to spread love, warmth, and the spirit of Christmas! For more information, contact Pastor Willis J. Ferrell or the TRCC office at 434-710-6126. "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given." - Isaiah 9:6



Falls

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### Amber Waves



TIGER











The Spats

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# HOCUS-FOCUS HENRY BOLTINOFF

3 8 4 Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆

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Weekly SUDOKU

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♦ Moderate ♦ ♦ Challenging

♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Differences: I. Pillow is larger. 2. Picture on wall is moved. 3. Mouth is different. 4. Mecklace is added. 5. Apron is different.

8. Mobile, Alabama; 9. Mercury; 10. "Full House" 4. Thurgood Marshall; 5. Mitosis; 6. The Kringle 3000; 7. The blue whale; I. 'The Hunchback of Notre Dame"; 2. Eight maids a-milking; 3. Southern Africa; Trivia Test A nswerst

by Dave T. Phipps **ACROSS** 



pencils 15 Nose and mouth cover-

14 Worn-down

17 Move like a butterfly 18 Short sock 19 Curved fas-

teners 21 Shoe width 22 Tropical tree 23 Santa's help-

26 Highland hat 55 Sailor 28 Prettify 31 Painter Joan

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slangily 38 Bro's kin 40 Compass dir. DOWN

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5 French vinevard estate 6 Math ratios

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# **King** Crossword

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9 Spectacular lunar phase 10 Last write-up 11 Bygone fliers

16 Bump into 20 Sheepish remark

23 German river 24 Sass 25 Comp for a

foodie

"- Miniver" sor

"Skyfall" singer 29 LBJ's succes- 49 Type 30 Formerly known as

Spencer of "Hidden Figures"

CSU by Fifi Rodriguez

9 7 9 8 8 8 2 18 7 8 2 4 9 8 8 7 1. LITERATURE: Which Victor Hugo novel 7 8 9 8 1 9 2 7 8 1 2 8 3 6 4 5 9 7 1 8 8 2 4 2 8 3

was made into an animated Disney movie? 2. MUSIC: In the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas," what was the gift on the eighth day?

3. GEOGRAPHY: Where is the Kalahari Desert located?

4. HISTORY: Who was the first African-American justice on the U.S. Supreme Court?

5. BIOLOGY: What is the process called in which a nonreproductive cell divides in two?
6. MOVIES: In the movie "Elf," what is the

name of Santa's sleigh? 7. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is the largest mammal on Earth?

8. U.S. STATES: Where did the first organized celebration of Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday) take place in the U.S.?

9. ASTRONOMY: Which planet is the smallest in our solar system?

10. TELEVISION: Which 1980s-1990s TV family sitcom had a holiday episode titled "A Very Tanner Christmas"?

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Solution time: 24 mins.

**STOWERS** — King Crossword — Animals &

**Accessories** 

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ceive their first shots at 6

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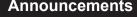
at 11am or Wednesdays at

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Juicing with Kim! To Busy her Angel Juicer which is Superb to Fix you or your Aunt

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for Sale. Asking \$85. (434) Fmeagan1994@

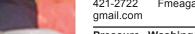
Join us at Pleasant Grove Christian Church on Sundays 7pm. Christmas Play, December 14th, 7pm. More Info 434-270-9235 434-470-2117 or

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made by GE. Call 434-713-

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Serve Alcohol. Please Call

abled Vet. Call 434-822-8577. In Need of a Repairman for a Turn Table in a Stereo Cabinet

## Piedmont Pets

December 12, 2024 By Paulette Dean

We are convinced that one of the best things dog and cat owners can do for their beloved companions is to microchip them.

Millions of lost dogs and cats enter shelters each year, and relatively few are returned to the owner, unless that owner has been diligent about providing an easy way home for the animal.

What is the best way an owner can help ensure their lost animal (dog, cat) can return home?

The answer is a simple one - microchip that animal. Shelters and veterinary clinics scan for microchips and many animals are reunited with their owners.

A tiny transponder, called a microchip, the size of a grain of uncooked rice may solve many of these problems. This is a permanent identification system implanted under the animal's skin and read by a chip scanner. Implantation is done with an injector that places the chip under the loose skin between the shoulder blades.

The advantages are numerous. The process is quick and no more painful than a vaccination. The chip does not get lost, and a simple procedure with a scanner alerts a shelter that a microchip has been inserted. The owner's name and address can be registered on a national or regional database.

A registered microchip can be a way to help your animal





996 South Boston Rd., Danville, VA 24540 Phone: (434) 799-0843

come home, and it can also be proof that the animal belongs to you.

Currently, microchips do not function as a GPS device, although it would be wonderful if they had that capability.

We are thrilled to let you know that we are having another free microchip clinic through the courtesy of the John B. and Elizabeth Hall Animal Rescue Fund at the shelter from 11 a.m-2 p.m. on Saturday, December 14th. We even register the chip

This will be for residents of Danville and Pittsylvania County and there will be a limit of four per household. You will need to sign a statement that this is your animal and you are not going to advertise it for sale or giveaway.

No appointments are necessary. Santa will also be at the shelter for pet photos during that same time. The 4 x 6 photos come with a holiday cardboard frame and cost \$5.



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GREAT Antique/Vintage Christmas Gifts Sat. Dec. 17 at REWIND ROOM 2321 Riverside Dr. starting at 11am!.... Best Prices in town!

Looking for Firewood. 301-466-6404.

In Memory of Kim Murphy on her Birthday on December



Merry Christmas from The Jarretts! Otis, Linda & Gabby Lee.



**Community Federal Credit Union** 

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**\$6,588** 



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Antique/Vintage Christmas Gifts Sat. Dec. 17 at REWIND ROOM 2321 Riverside Dr. starting at 11am!.. Best Prices in town!

### Apparel, Jewelry, **Clothes**

Alterations. Wedding Gowns, Bridesmaids, Mothers Dresses, Mens, Women's and Children Clothing. Reasonable Rates. Don't Wait! Call 434-770-8787. Leave Message.

Harley Davidson Ladies Helmets-XS. Black Half Shell: Pink and Purple Flowers or Purple with Gray Design. Very Good Condition. Cash. Text/ LMOM (434) 554-7071

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Harley Davidson Ladies Leather Vest. Vest Never Worn. Tags Still Attached. Black Large Sliver-Gray Angel Wings Embroiled on back. Text/Call/LMOM (434) 554-

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### Santa Figures

Santa Claus comes in many forms. While he is ultimately inspired by the historical St. Nicholas of Myra (today Demre, Turkey), a fourth-century Greek bishop, he is influenced by British, German, Dutch and Scandinavian folkloric figures.

According to today's traditions, he lives at the North Pole. So it might seem odd that the country store Santa figure pictured here, which sold for \$441 at Garths' Auctioneers & Appraisers, holds an American flag. But the Santa Claus we know in the

United States was developed here. European immigrants brought their Christmas traditions with them. In 1823, American poet Clement Clark Moore published "A Visit from St. Nicholas," probably better known as "Twas the Night Before Christmas," establishing the image of Santa Claus as "a right jolly old elf."

Cartoonist Thomas Nast cemented this image in popular culture with his illustrations for Harper's Weekly starting in the 1860s. L. Frank Baum, who set out to write a quintessentially American fairy tale with "The Wizard of Oz," published "The Life and Adventures of Santa Claus" in 1902, depicting Santa as a foundling child raised by fairies and granted immortality after a lifetime of good deeds.

One of the most enduring images of Santa comes from the Coca-Cola advertisements designed by painter Haddon Sundblom starting in the 1930s. From Europe to the Americas, and from history to folklore to advertisements, Santa can make himself at home anywhere.

Where can I find the value of a set of Peter Pan Records sung by the Caroleers?

. The Caroleers were a group of A mostly unknown vocalists who recorded children's music for several companies during the 1950s, '60s, and '70s. They recorded for Peter Pan Records beginning in 1952. The Caroleers recorded several Christ-



Merry Christmas! There's a version of Santa Claus for everyone who celebrates.

mas albums in 78 RPM, 45 RPM, and LP formats. Millions of their records were sold. Many sell on eBay for \$5 or less today. A few sell for about \$10. Some sites ask much more. Rarity and condition determine price. Go to a local store that buys and sells vintage records to see what your set sells for in your area.

TIP: Never leave salt in a silver saltshaker. It quickly can damage the silver.

### CURRENT PRICES

Bicycle, tricycle, figural horse, ride on, plaster, painted saddle, multicolor, hair tail, 33 x 31 inches, \$120.

Christmas, candy dish, lid, Santa finial, sleigh, milk glass, molded scrolls, scalloped, holly sprig, hand painted, Westmoreland, 6 x 3 1/2 x 4 1/2 inches, pair, \$225.

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Toy, wagon, delivery, newspaper, Detroit Times, white bed, red frame, four wheels, restored, child's, \$480.

For more collecting news, tips and resources, visit www.Kovels.com © 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.



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### by Dana Jackson

• I just read that Robert De Niro is going to star in a TV series soon. Has he ever done one before or just movies? — K.E.

A. According to TV Guide, two-time Oscar winner Robert De Niro was "pretty much Hollywood's last A-list holdout" when it came to starring in a regular television role. The series that lured him away from motion pictures is "Zero Day," a six-episode miniseries that will premiere on Netflix on Feb. 20, 2025. It also stars Emmy nominee Connie Britton ("Nashville") and Oscar nominees Jesse Plemons ("The Power of the Dog") and Angela Bassett ("Black Panther: Wakanda Forever").

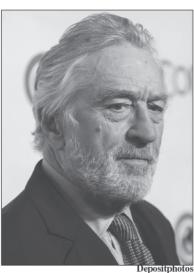
While the conspiracy/political thriller will be De Niro's first contract role in a series, he has guest-starred on a few others, playing himself on the NBC sitcom "30 Rock" and the British series "Extras." In "Zero Day," which he also produces, De Niro will play the former leader of the free world, who faces a global cyberattack.

One of the creative minds behind the series is Michael Schmidt, who won a Pulitzer Prize for his reporting on the sexual harassment case against Bill O'Reilly. He also wrote the book "Donald Trump v. The United States," which was published in 2020. "Zero Day" is his first TV script.

• I love watching "A Christmas Story" marathons when they show it every year on TBS. I know the actor who played Ralphie has gone on to do other things in show business, but whatever happened to Ralphie's younger brother? — M.S.

A • Peter Billingsley, who played • young Ralphie in "A Christmas Story," is one of the few success stories involving a child actor in Hollywood. As an adult, he's gone on to produce and direct several projects, even making (and starring in) "A Christmas Story Christmas" — the 2022 sequel to the original. Melinda Dillon and Darren McGavin, who were both brilliant as Ralphie's parents, have since passed away, but their characters live on each year when "A Christmas Story" airs on TBS, TNT

Ralphie's younger brother, Randy,



Robert De Niro (Upcoming in "Zero Day")

who ate mashed potatoes like a "little piggy," was played by Ian Petrella. He continued working as a child actor in the 1980s and most recently worked in animation and puppetry, according to Entertainment Weekly.

Petrella reprised the role of Randy in "A Christmas Story Christmas," along with actors Scott Schwartz as Flick (whose tongue infamously adhered to an icy pole in the original) and R. D. Robb as Schwartz (who laughed at Flick's predicament).

Is "The Night Agent" return-• ing for another season? My wife and I really enjoyed the first one. — K.A.

· Yes, "The Night Agent," an A action-thriller series based on the novel of the same name by Matthew Quirk, proved to be a big hit on Netflix during its first season. Starring Gabriel Basso ("Hillbilly Elegy") as an FBI agent working in the basement of the White House, it's already been renewed for a third season before the second has even premiered. Look for season two on Netflix, beginning on Jan. 23, 2025.

Send me your questions at NewCelebrityExtra@gmail.com, or write me at KFWS, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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### **REFUSE AND YARD WASTE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE CHANGE**

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**CHRISTMAS DAY, Wednesday, December 25th** will be collected on Saturday, Decdember 28th **NEW YEARS DAY, Wednesday, January 1st** will be collected on Saturday, January 4th

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### Thursday, 12th

- Trivia Night @ Ballad Brewing
- Christmas Pajama Party @ Factory Street Brewing Co.
- Game Night @ Scuffle Hill Brewing

### Friday, 13th

- Pottery Wheel Try-It Sessions @ Impotters Clayworx
- Live Music by Glass Heart @ Cascade Community Center
- College Night @ Ballad Brewing
- Live Music by Gypsy Soul @ The Golden Leaf Bistro
- Live Music Skyway 61 @ 2 Witches Winery & Brewing Co.
- Pictures and Cheers w Santa @ Mountain Valley Brewing
- 90s Rock Night @ Scuffle Hill Brewing Co.
- Live Music by Jake Earles & pic w Santa @ Renewal Brewing
- Live Music by The Brown Brothers @ Factory Street Brewing

### Saturday, 14th

- Wine Tasting @ Vintages by the Dan
- Total Body Workout Class @ Urban Fitness
- Victorian Garden & Flower Show @ The Langhorne House Museum, 117 Broad Street
- Book Signing @ The Langhorne House
- Christmas at the Farm @ The Gentry Farm
- Christmas Pajama Jam @ Chatham Library
- Holiday Retail Show @ Danville Community Market
- Holiday Beerfest @ Ballad Brewing
- Live Music by Matt Page @ River District Social
- Live Music by Gary McCullough @ 2 Witches Winery & Brewing Co.
- Matt Crowder @ Walker's Roadside Grill
- Live Music by Ray Eanes @ The Golden Leaf Bistro
- Live Music by Tyler Millard Duo @ Scuffle Hill Brewing Co.

### Sunday, 15th

- Open Mic hosted by Matt Crowder @ 2 Witches Winery & Brewing Co.
- Thirty Six Thirty Christmas Music @ Woodbine Vineyards
- Dungeons, Dragons, & Drafts @ Scuffle Hill Brewing Co.
- Sips & Santa @ Factory Street Brewing Co.





### **Kiwanis Club Citizen of the Year**



Described as a "Servant Leader", Don Merricks is the 2024 Danville Kiwanis Club Citizen of the Year. Merricks--a former representative in the Virginia House of Delegates--received the 92nd Citizen Award at the Danville Golf Club. Merricks was described as an "individual of faith and servant leader" before being named the club's Citizen of the Year. Pictured with Merricks is Carolyn Smith, President of the Danville Kiwanis Club who praised the nominating committee--composed of Jeff Haley, Julie Brown, Dean Hairston and Buddy Rawley--for the 2024 selection.

### Odds & Ends

### Anchors away

California constables ordered Etienne Constable of Seaside, CA to build a fence to hide the fishing boat he keeps in his driveway, apparently because it was an unappealing sight. So, with the help of a neighborhood artist, he built a fence featuring a life-like, detailed painting of his vessel. Neighbors and passers-by approved his solution as did the town's City Manager, Nick Borges, who told reporters: "I thought, 'Wow, that's pretty creative.' I laughed at it. The only action I'm going to take is a high five."

### But they couldn't prove it

It may seem unfair, but the gathering was so large that the Guinness World Record's judges had to pass when evaluating the attempt of Drumheller, Alberta to gather the world's biggest crowd of folks dressed as dinosaurs. Town officials said no less than 3,000 participants showed up for the event, but they couldn't prove it, saying that "we could not obtain an exact measurement to officially break the record." Notwithstanding the judges' decision, the numbers attending the Alberta event were obviously so much larger than the 252 people who showed up in costume in Los Angeles in 2019 to win the event.

Why do people say "Tuna Fish sandwich?" Nobody says "Chicken Bird sandwich!"

# OBITUARIES "For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's." - Romans 14:8

### **Kasie G Williams**

January 22, 1989 ~ December 7, 2024 (age 35)



Kasie G. Williams, born January 22, 1989, daughter of Angela E. Hudgins and Ralph Geistel Jr., went to be with her Lord and Savior on December 7, 2024.

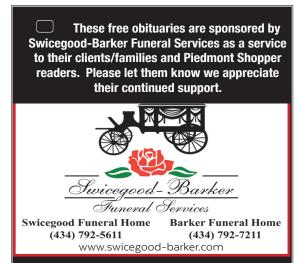
Kasie graduated from Liberty University and worked as a special education assistant at Tunstall High School. She also

worked in the Pharmacy at Walmart on Piney Forest Road.

Kasie is survived by her daughter, Katelyn D. Geistel, and son Kaleb R. Williams, both of the residence, as well as her life partner, Christopher Logan. Kasie is also survived by her mother Angela Hudgins and her stepfather David Hudgins of Ringgold, three sisters, Brandi Richardson (Brandon), and Megan Barker, both of Ringgold, and Rebecca McDaniel (Bradley) of Charlottesville. In addition, she leaves behind a niece Abigayle Geistel, two nephews, Brandon Richardson Jr. and Alexander Barker, all of Ringgold, and several fur babies.

Kasie was a loving daughter, dedicated mother, devoted sister, and friend. She had a beautiful smile that could light up a room. She was always ready to help others in need. Her love for her niece and nephews extended far beyond family ties, with memories that will be cherished forever. Kasie will always be remembered for her fun-loving spirit and love for people. She will be deeply missed.

A memorial service will be held Wednesday, December 11, 2024, at Swicegood Funeral Home on West Main Street. Visitation will be from 1-2 P.M. with the service following. The service will be officiated by Dr. Danny Campbell. The family will receive friends at other times at the mother's residence in Ringgold.



### MAGIC MAZE



 Q O X
 U R
 R P M J G D A X V C S

 Q N O K I F D A X V T O Q U O

 M J H L O O T T T A T O F C A

 Y W O O D R A K C U B O U R K O

 P N H O L E J H M O O D D O O V

 F A D B R Z T A B A L O D Y O P Q

 O M K I B H G F W D L D O M B

 Z Y W O K B O O Z A K I H A H F

 D C A Z X W V B S K U S W S R

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally Unlisted clue hint: AN INK DESIGN ON THE SKIN

BallyhooCuckooShampooWahooBambooHullabalooSkidooWaterlooBuckarooKangarooTabooYahooBugabooKazooVoodoo

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### Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from  $M\underline{A}STER$  for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

1. Rowland's Potter		R	Hale	D
2. Lone Ranger's steed	_ '		Serving tray	_ A
3. Thirsty cloth		L	Steeple	R
4. Baseball hit man	_ A		Toast topping	_ U
5. Sticky tag	B		Boutonniere location	P
6. Use one's ears		_ E _	Boxer Sonny	0
7. Make a call	_ H		Inclined to	_ R
8. Silent		E	Homemade blanket	L
9. Heap	_ T		Hovel	_ H
0. Hand gun		L	Engine cylinder	N

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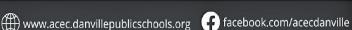
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1. Name the original title of the Beatles film "Help!

2. What was a deuce coupe in the Beach Boys' song?

3. "(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction" was a big hit for which group?

4. What was Jesse Belvin's biggest hit? 5. Name the song that contains this

lyric: "All we need is a drummer, for people who only need a beat."

### Answers

1. "Eight Arms to Hold You." In the 1965 musical comedy, a sinister cult (complete with mad scientists) is after Ringo, who has a special ring they want.

2. The deuce coupe was a 1932 Ford Model 18. The same model car also appeared in "American Graffiti" in

3. The Rolling Stones, in 1965. The song topped the charts in the U.S., but in the U.K. it was played on pirate radio stations at first because it was considered to be too suggestive.

4. "Goodnight My Love" in 1956. Belvin died at the age of 27 in a suspicious car accident after playing a concert in 1960.

5. "Dance to the Music," by Sly and the Family Stone, in 1967. It was their first song to get into the Top 10. Thirty years later the song was inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame.

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- \* The expiration date on bottled water is for the bottle, not the water.
- \* In 2004, farmers in India used Pepsi and Coca-Cola instead of pesticides because they were cheaper and got the job done just as well. Not surprisingly, Pepsi and Coca-Cola strongly disagreed.
- \* After eating a large meal, lions can sleep for up to 24 hours straight.
- \* People used to use bread to erase pencil marks, until Edward Naine accidentally picked up a piece of rubber instead of breadcrumbs in 1770 and -- voila! -- decided to start selling rubber erasers.
- \* Two Bosnians had been talking in online chatrooms for a while when they decided it was time to meet in person. They discovered they were a married couple who had been cheating on each other with each other. They ended up divorcing.
- \* One French cafe, La Petite Syrah, charges 7 euros for a coffee to rude customers but only 1.40 euro to patrons who are polite to the waitstaff. The cafe is located, perhaps unsurprisingly, in Nice.
- \* Penguin egg whites turn clear when they're
- \* Michael Jackson was said to request that his wine be served in Diet Coke cans whenever he was on a flight. He didn't want his kids to see him drinking alcohol.
- \* Saudi Arabia once held a Women's Rights Conference that didn't include a single woman attendee.

\*\*\*

Thought for the Day: "A good conscience is a continual Christmas." --Benjamin Franklin

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## by Ryan A. Berenz 1. What business-

man is the founder, chairman and CEO of Monumental Sports & Entertainment, which owns the NBA's Washington Wizards, the NHL's Washington Capitals and the WNBA's Washington Mystics?

- 2. The Cyclone Taylor Trophy is awarded annually to the MVP of which NHL hockey team?
- 3. Name the Las Vegas Aces player who tied Liz Cambage's single-game WNBA scoring record with a 53-point performance in August 2023.
- 4. Pro softball pitcher, LPGA Tour golfer and U.S. Women's National Basketball Team player Joan Joyce coached softball (1995-2022) and women's golf (1996-2014) for what college team?
- 5. Name the Los Angeles Dodgers first baseman who hit the first walk-off grand slam home run in World Series history.
- 6. Ed Anzalone, better known as "Fireman Ed," is a superfan famous for leading cheers at what NFL team's home games?
- 7. During a 2015 Indianapolis 500 practice session, what driver was critically injured in a crash when a piece of his car's suspension impaled his left thigh?

Answers

- 1. Ted Leonsis.
- 2. The Vancouver Canucks.
- 3. A'ja Wilson.
- 4. The Florida Atlantic Owls.
- 5. Freddie Freeman, in 2024 World Series Game 1.
- 6. The New York Jets.
- 7. James Hinchcliffe.
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# KNOWING THE CHRISTMAS STORY VERSUS TRULY UNDERSTANDING IT ARE VERY DIFFERENT THINGS.

By J. Basil Dannebohm

Author Barbara Robinson's popular novel, The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, which was recently made into a major motion picture, begins: "The Herdmans were absolutely the worst kids in the history of the world. They lied and stole and smoked cigars (even the girls) and talked dirty and hit little kids and cussed their teachers and took the name of the Lord in vain and set fire to Fred Shoemaker's old broken-down toolhouse."

Set in a small, provincial community where even the most infinitesimal detail of one's life is subject to the scrutiny of the often-quixotic townsfolk, the six obstreperous Herdman children - Imogene, Ralph, Claude, Leroy, Ollie, and Gladys, are nothing short of taboo.

Then one day, the rag-tag group of miscreants show up at church for Sunday School and find themselves intrigued by the announcement that casting for the annual Christmas pageant is to commence. The roles of Mary, Joseph, the Magi, and the Angel of the Lord were typically played by the same students year after year – that is, of course, until the Herdmans decided they wanted to play the parts. Not a single student dared to raise their hand in an expression of interest to portray one of the pageant's lead characters knowing that doing so might result in some form of Imogene's much feared wrath.

Suffice it to say that a gaggle of pearl-clutching parents were mortified by the news that the Herdman children were slated to lead the pageant, which had been an annual tradition in the community for decades. Such a catastrophe, they knew, would have been avoided had the longtime director not suffered an injury, leaving the production's fate to an inexperienced mother from the periphery of popular social circles.

I'm not going to give a sesquipedalian outline of the entirety of the story. If you've not yet read the book or seen the film, I suspect you can imagine that hijinks and uncertainty follow as the children, led by the unorthodox new cast members and an inexperienced director, set forth to pull off the highly anticipated, albeit dreaded, production.

One common scene throughout the story is a concerned Beth Bradley, the first-person narrator, frequently asking her mother, the newly appointed director, how things will unfold. The answer remains the same: "I don't know."

Though she didn't know, Grace Bradley remained hopeful that her inaugural production would go down in history as the best Christmas Pageant ever. In the end, it was indeed a success. For their part, the townsfolk discovered that while they knew the Herdman children, they didn't truly understand them.

Theoretical physicist Richard Feynman once observed, "Knowing is easy, understanding is hard."

More often than not, we tend to think we "know" an individual, a family, a group of people – but we rarely take the time to authentically "understand" them. Content in our assumptions, we are satisfied with the easy work of labeling and carrying on. Understanding is indeed hard. Often it makes us uncomfortable, even vulnerable. Generally, it challenges our long-held beliefs and perspectives. Thus, we remain in our clouds of unknowing and our bubbles of social coddling.

The story of the Nativity itself is largely known, though somewhat misunderstood. Many of us are content with our fairy tale notions of a gentle manger, a dainty Mary, and a picturesque porcelain silent night. To understand the story, however, is to realize that the newborn Savior represented "the least of these" from the very moment He took His first breath. Indeed, Emmanuel was an olive skinned, persecuted, known but largely misunderstood refugee. His mother was hopeful, yet uncertain, of how all that would soon come to pass was going to play out in His life. To genuinely embrace the authentic Nativity isn't easy. It requires us to set aside that which makes us comfortable and to realize that much of what the holy family faced during the infancy of the Christ Child is still endured today by people we would rather not have to think about during "the most wonderful time of the year."

Dietrich Bonhoeffer once raised the question, "Who will celebrate Christmas correctly? Whoever finally lays down all power, all honor, all reputation, all vanity, all arrogance, all individualism beside the manger."

Like the Nativity story, The Best Christmas Pageant Ever should be revisited annually. To celebrate the holiday season without understanding what it truly represents is easy but disingenuous. Such superficial pageantry is the antithesis of everything that came to pass on that most holy night.

J. Basil Dannebohm is a writer, speaker, consultant, former legislator and intelligencer. His website is www.dannebohm.com. He writes from the Washington DC metro in the Commonwealth of Virginia.





### by Matilda Charles

Our challenge for 2025

"Your mission, should you choose to accept it ..." Remember that quote, from the "Mission: Impossible" TV show? The show (1966-1973) tasked members of the team with stopping enemy forces, a job that seemed to be impossible but really wasn't. That's our challenge for the New Year, to stop the "enemy forces" who are the scammers that want to steal our money, our identification and our peace of mind.

Some ideas for staying safe:

Ask your senior center to host a seminar about scams aimed at seniors.

Don't click on links in email or text messages.

Don't answer the phone if you don't know who it is. If a caller says they're from your bank, hang up and call the bank to see if they really did call you.

Don't give out any information over the phone, no matter who it is. The IRS, Medicare or Social Security aren't going to call you to ask for your account numbers or threaten to have you arrested.

If a caller asks, "Can you hear me?" never say "yes." That one word will be recorded and give them permission to authorize charges on your credit card, or to make a payment. Just hang up.

If a company claims you're having a virus problem with your computer and wants access to fix it, just hang up.

Never announce on social media that you're going away on vacation. It alerts thieves that your house will be empty.

Go online and search for scams against seniors. Become familiar with all the tricks thieves use to get you to let down your guard. Learn about the red flags for the grandparent scam, the lottery scam, the counterfeit check scam, the undelivered package scam ... there are just so many of them, and they rob seniors of billions of dollars each year.

Make your goal for 2025 to not fall for any scams. It's not impossible.

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### Christmas Cookie Bars



### ½ cup (113g) unsalted butter 2 cups (400g) packed brown sugar 2 large eggs 1 teaspoon vanilla extract ½ teaspoon salt 1 teaspoon baking powder 2 cups (248g) all-purpose flour 1 cup Christmas M&Ms or your favorite color 1/2 cup Christmas sprinkles use jimmies for best

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

results

Preheat oven to 350°F. Line a 9x13" metal pan with foil and spray well with cooking spray. Do not use a glass pan.

Mix butter and brown sugar with a stand or a hand mixer until crumbly. Mix in eggs and vanilla until smooth. Mix in salt, baking powder, then flour. Stir in M&Ms and sprinkles.

Spread in prepared pan. The mixture is wet so it's best to spray your hands with cooking spray and then smooth the dough with your hands to get an even layer. Top with remaining mix-ins.

Bake for about 22-25 minutes until they start to turn golden. Err on the side of under baked with these - they'll finish baking as the cool and you don't want them over baked. Slice into bars. Store in an airtight container for up to 4 days or freeze for up to a month.

### Notes

Store in an airtight container and they'll last up to a week, making them perfect for shipping. Jimmies are the long rod-type sprinkles (not the little round balls).

People are reporting that these are "raw" after cooking. Having made this recipe countless times with different add ins and for this post (it's even in my book), this is NOT the case. They will get golden brown around the edges and on top, no longer be glossy and will be a bit under done in the center when you take them out of the oven. They'll continue to cook/set as they cool. The center of these will be quite fudgy looking (like the center of a brownie). That is intentional to keep them rich and soft. They should not be liquid in the center after cooling. They will look like the center in the pictures - if you're expecting a fluffy sugar-cookie like center then these are not the bars for you.

The type of pan matters: I normally use a metal 9x13-inch pan to bake these. Metal conducts heat more evenly - a glass pan takes longer to heat up causing things to over bake on the outside and be under done in the center. I hadn't thought about this because all my 9x13-inch pans are metal. So use a metal pan, not glass! Make sure to use real butter (not margarine or imitation) and make sure your oven is the proper temperature when baking.





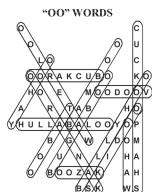
### **Yard Sales**

Yard Sale December 8th-14th. Sun Dec 8th - Sat Dec 14th, 11am-4pm. 153 Sunset Place. Inside Sale. Call for 434-728-4982. Christmas, Shirts, Sweaters, Bows, Santas, Snowmen, Angels, Ornaments and More!!

**Everything Must Go.** Sat Dec 14th, 2024 from 08:00 AM - 01:00 PM. Large Yard Sale. All Kinds of Stuff Everything Must Go. (434) 250-1448 sjg4unc@gmail.com







### **Even Exchange**

6. Listen, Liston

1. Harry, Hardy

2. Silver, Salver

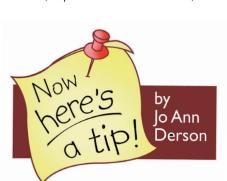
7. Phone, Prone

Towel, Tower 4. Batter, Butter

Quiet, Quilt Stack, Shack

Label, Lapel

10. Pistol, Piston



- \* To stretch your laundry budget, cut fabric softener sheets in half. They work just as well. Also, save them after they come out of the dryer. They make excellent dusters in the home.
- \* Love Sudoku? M.K. of Montana suggests that you might love it even more if you color code your grid. Each number 1-9 is assigned a color, and you solve the puzzle as normal, except you color in the box to denote your answer. When it's all finished, she says, "It looks like a colorful quilt."
- \* If the vegetables you are cooking give off an unpleasant smell, grab a small saucepan and simmer a bit of plain vinegar while cooking. It will negate the smell, and leave your house smelling pleasantly like mealtime afterward.
- \* "Cornstarch is great for itchy, rashy skin. This is true for babies' bottoms and for doggy bellies, which is what I use it for. My pup is allergic to grass but loves to romp. Sometimes his belly gets red, and I clean it with a mild soap and water, then give him a cornstarch rub. It sure helps." -- T.W. in Ohio
- \* Want to keep your cut flowers fresh longer? Add a teaspoon of chlorine bleach to the water and change it out every few days.
- \* Spruce up indoor greenery with a little mineral oil. To get your green plants' leaves shining and healthy, wipe them down with a clean cloth dipped in mineral oil. Rub off any excess.

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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