

A Look At The Holiday Season - Through The Eyes Of Potsdam's Children

LAWRENCE AVENUE SCHOOL

CHRISTMAS

Christmas, Christmas, Is it Christmas yet?
Christmas ribbons, Christmas boxes,
Christmas should be twice a year!
by Carrie Ault
Grade 5

CHRISTMAS

Sleigh bells, sleigh bells ring tonight.
Santa, Santa come tonight.
Glowing star, show your light.
Santa is coming, be bright, be bright!
by Whitney Darmstadt
Grade 3

A CHRISTMAS TREE

We don't have a Christmas tree.
Poor old me, we don't have a
Christmas tree. Everybody has a tree,
but we don't have a Christmas tree.
When we're driving at night, you can
see all the Christmas tree lights. They
all are lit and all are pretty, but
we don't have a Christmas tree.
by Susan Baxter
Grade 5

THE BIG PRESENT

On Christmas Day Jayce and Germ
got up real early to look at their
presents ahead of their parents. They
ran 'round and 'round the tree. Then
Germ saw a big present and said to his
brother, "Ooohhh look, Jaycey."
"What?"
"There's a big present from Sant,"
Germ said.
Jayce said, "His name isn't Sant,
it's Santa."
The boys were full of gape. They
wanted to find out. But it was too
early. They went back to their room.
In two hours they went back down
to their parents. The big present was for
Jayce, it was two gerbils. Since Germ
would not stop crying Jayce gave him
one.
They had some bad and some good
times with them but most were good.
by Eric Nagel
Grade 4

SANTA AND THE SNOWMOBILE

The reindeer were getting tired of
their job. They were going to quit.
"Santa said: "You can't quit. How
can I deliver the presents?"
Dasher said: "Zencut sells the best
kind of snowmobiles."
"O.K. I will buy one," said Santa.
So he did. And he polished and oiled
it and checked the motor every day.
Dasher and Dancer had to work at a
hot dog stand. Prancer and Vixen
worked in a grocery store. Comet sold
newspapers. Cupid and Prancer
helped the elfs. Blitzen was a bell. But
on Christmas Eve the snowmobile
didn't work.
Santa said to the elfs: "We must

find the reindeer."

Two minutes later the reindeer
came back. They hated their new job
and wanted the old one back.
Santa said: "Thank God you came
back. The snowmobile doesn't work
and you could pull the sleigh."
by Jason Murray
Grade 4

THE MYSTERY OF THE SMEARED RECIPE

A few days before Christmas Mrs.
Claus was in her kitchen anxiously
looking for her favorite Christmas
recipe. At last she found it. It read:
1/2 cups milk, 3 sticks of butter, 10
cups of pure white sugar, 1 cup of
brown sugar and 1/4 cup of powdered
milk, and then?
The rest of the recipe had been
smeared and Mrs. Claus couldn't read
it, the most important ingredient!
That afternoon Mrs. Claus thought
and thought. She suddenly overheard
Santa telling his reindeer to make
sure they were kind on Christmas
Eve. Ah, thought Mrs. Claus, that's
the missing ingredient. She dashed in
to the kitchen, added 3 handfuls of
kindness, and after that they had the
best Christmas ever!
by Shannon O'Flaherty
Grade 4

A CHRISTMAS REMINDER

It's Christmas Day, oh joy! Whoopee!
As I jump out of bed at 4:03
When I start down the stairs with
My brother behind, Hark! In the
Living room, what do we find...

Oh look! It's here! The Christmas
Tree, with exactly 26 presents for me!
I tear open the wrapping, and look at
This stuff! A digital watch, and a
Snake stuffed with fluff...

I won't say much more, it really
was great! With our presents we
got to stay up really late.
But people forget of the first.
Christmas Eve, and presents and
money
Almost always deceive; but Jesus'
Birthday should always remain, in my
Heart a reminder again and again.
by Phillip Raino
Grade 5

CHRISTMAS

Christmas has snowflakes,
Christmas has louds,
Christmas has streets and shops,
And crowds.
The best thing about Christmas
is that it is almost here!
by Tracy Burkum
Grade 5

THE CHRISTMAS THAT WAS ALMOST CANCELLED

Santa said to the elfs: "We must

One night Santa was going up and
down. "What will I do!" He explained.
Rudolph's nose would not light up.
"Oh, Santa, have some chicken
soup."
"Chicken soup! That's it! I want
some chicken soup for Rudolph."
On the third day his nose lit up
bright.
"It's Christmas and I am ready to
go!"
by Thomas MacDonald
Grade 3

IT'S ST. NICK

Hurry! Hurry! Go to sleep,
And do not weep.
St. Nick is coming,
So go to sleep.
He'll fill your stockings,
And your stockings,
When you wake up,
You'll see in surprise,
St. Nick will be gone
Oh me! Oh my!
by Kristine Conto
Grade 5

Christmas is a time for joy
A time for gladness not madness.
Christmas is a jolly time
Halls are filled with holly
All the time.
Christmas is a bright time
At home is the right time.
by Sarah Pickard
Grade 5

CHRISTMAS TIME IS...

To love
To be filled with joy
Christmas altogether is to
Be filled with joy
To love each other
And to care for each other.
by Stacey Burkett
Grade 5

LILLY LEARNS ABOUT CHRISTMAS

Once upon a time in a little village
there was a girl named Lilly. Lilly
was born deaf. She was ten years old.
She didn't know what Christmas was.
She had never heard of it.
On December 9th her parents decided
to teach her about Christ. They
showed and worked. Finally she knew
almost everything about Christ. Then
on December 12th her parents decided
to teach her other things about
Christmas. On December 20th Lilly
knew all about Santa Claus and knew
why there is a Christmas.

On Christmas Eve, Lilly and her
family went to church. When they got
home Lilly went right to bed. In the
morning she was wide awake. Her
mom came in her room and took her
downstairs. Under their tree were
presents. Lilly rushed right under the
tree. She saw a package that said
"Lilly" on it. She opened it, and inside

there was a tiny, adorable puppy!
Lilly raced upstairs and pulled out
two small packages from under her
bed and gave them to her parents.
They were pictures that she had spent
all her time on. She saw the happy
looks on her parents' faces. She had
learned all by herself that giving to
others is the most important part of
Christmas.
by Ann Stottle
Grade 3

THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

Oh Christmas is a happy time.
Presents, snow, trees and wine.
But don't forget that eventful day,
When baby Jesus did lay on the hay.
That's the reason we still celebrate
This glorious season today.
by Jennifer May
Grade 5

A NEW KIND OF CHRISTMAS

Once there was a boy and girl who
had no parents so they went to live in
an orphanage. It was Christmas time
at the orphanage. All the kids were
kind-hearted. The orphanage mother
was nice too, but all the children had
always had unhappy Christmases.
However this year, all the kids went
out in the middle of the night to a
store. This is what they did. First one
child would go in and buy a gift for
another child so on. When they got
home, they each found a place of their
own. One by one they'd come in while
the others closed their eyes. They put
it in the place that the person they
bought the present for said was his or
hers!

The next morning was Christmas!
They all rushed downstairs! They
were all happy with what they got!
One of the oldest girls said "We ought
to do this every year!" They did!
Ever since that day, the orphanage
had happy Christmases.
by Elizabeth Coleman
Grade 3

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

Christmas, Christmas is so bright.
Christmas, Christmas come tonight.
Presents, presents under the tree
Waiting for my friends and me.
by Kristin Gravander
Grade 3

SANTA'S NOT COMING

It was Christmas Eve, but all was
gloomy for the little children. It was
storming so badly that if you were to
look out the window all you would see
was snow zipping by. It was cold and
the wind blew so loud that even if you
had your TV on full blast you couldn't
hear it.
Parents did everything to cheer
their children up, but they couldn't,
the children moped around all day

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

Once there was a poor family called
the Weebles. They had a boy named
Henry. Henry went to school like all
little boys. His mother's name was
Pat and his father's name was
Charlie. The story takes place in New
York around Christmas. Now you
think with all the snow and Santa
Claus coming a kid would be happy

saying "If this storm holds up
Santa can't come." Whenever they
said this tears would run down their
face.
Even worse! The children kept say-
ing "Take down the Christmas tree.
Without Santa, Christmas is nothing."
The children lost their appetite
for the big turkey dinner. The parents
couldn't stand the children so sad.
With children like that it made the
parents' Christmas gloomy too.
Now everyone was asleep, at least
until there was a loud voice heard.
Everyone was awakened, but puzzled.
The loud voice was heard again,
everyone looked out the windows.
They saw a large, brown sleigh with 8
reindeer and one big fat man dressed
in red. The sleigh kept getting further
and further away. The people stared
in amazement.
After this sight they was a big com-
motion, and best of all, there were big
bright smiles on every child's face.
The children were ashamed that
they doubted Santa carrying out his
responsibility.
Since that big storm on Christmas
Eve and Santa came, they never
again worried about not seeing a pre-
sent under the tree signed "Santa."
Chris Charlebois
Grade 5

but no. Right after school Henry was
crying on his front steps.
His dad came out and said, "Why
are you crying?"
Henry said, "All the kids tease and
say I won't get much."
"Henry, don't listen to them.
Remember the Christmas spirit."
Henry was confused. Then he
remembered the contest. You had to
write a poem. All Henry now could
think of was the prize. A trophy and
\$20 was the prize. His poem is:
Christmas is the
Best time of the year.
You drink soda
And your parents drink beer.
Christmas is really fun.
Especially watching the
Christmas sun.
Christmas is the
Best time of the year.
One week later Christmas Eve.
Henry won the contest. In the gym he
recited his poem. Then he turned hap-
py, not about the prize, but he realized
the spirit of Christmas.
by Andrew Sanford
Grade 5

SANTA AND ME

Hi! I'm Roric, one of the mice that
hangs around Santa's house. One
year, ten days before Christmas, 51 of
his elves were sick with the flu. Well, I
decided I would give him a hand. The
other mice thought I was crazy and
they said things like; "you ant brain-
ed fool, you will get smashed while
you are loading some 1,000,000,000
odd bags! But I did it anyway. I even
asked Santa if he needed some help.
At my surprise he appointed me his
head elf, on mouse, whatever you
might call it. Once we got the sleigh
loaded we took off. We got through
Siberia without a hitch. Oh no!
Reindeer trouble. "Darn you anyhow
Blitzen, when will you learn to tie your
hooves," said Santa. "Hold your
reindeer," I said. "I'll tape it up." We
got back at 1:59 a.m. I told the whole
story to my friends.
by Roric Broderick
Grade 5

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL
A CHRISTMAS POEM
Christmas is a joyful time
People opening presents and
having a good time. People
having Christmas feasts.
Cookies, cakes and candy is what
they eat. Oh Christmas is
wonderful.
by Ellen Craig
Grade 4

WHAT CHRISTMAS MEANS TO ME

Christmas to me means joy, loving
and giving. It also reminds me when I
open my presents that Jesus is being
born in my heart.
by Sarah McGowan
Grade 4

A CHRISTMAS POEM

Christmas is a very special day.
For it is Christ's birthday.
The wise men to each other say,
"That bright star is not far away."
And to their new born king,
Songs of praise to him they sing.
by Anne Del Borgo
Grade 4

ALL THE JOY AT CHRISTMAS

There's lots of joy at Christmas.
There are lots of things to do. There's
lots of joys and candy for me and for
you. There are light and trees galore,
happiness and thankfulness and more!
In a manger Christmas morn the baby
Jesus was born. The Savior was born!
by Tom Sullivan
Grade 2

TOYS: Always A 'Bear' Market

Stocks go up and stocks go down,
but in toyland, there's always a bear
market. Primarily responsible for
this state of affairs is an almost-
octogenarian bear cub named Teddy.
In a fast-paced, fad-oriented and
fickle-minded society, the forever
young teddy bear remains one of
America's all-time favorite toys.
"Never in the history of Wall Street
was the country more at the mercy of
bears than it is today," cried the toy
industry's trade magazine,
Playthings, in 1906. "Stuffed plush
Teddies are fairly rampant, and in-
dications show prospects of a long and
continued reign."
How right they were. Fleeting fame
has come to other stuffed animals.
Lions and tigers have tried on occa-
sion to push Teddy off center stage in
the toy store window. One year,
unicorns, true to type, tried to horn in
on Teddy's act. Nonetheless, "our
retailers tell us the teddy bear is still
number one." Donna Leceese,
Playthings' current associate editor,
said, Douglas Thomson, president of
the Toy Manufacturers of America,
agreed. "There's no decline in this
species. The Teddy is on the in-
crease."

executive director of the Smithsonian's
National Philatelic Collection, who
personally brought this Teddy to the
Smithsonian in January 1964. Presi-
dent Theodore Roosevelt's grandson,
Kermit, his wife and their children
had been presented with the teddy
bear, one of the originals from the
Ideal Toy Co., by Benjamin Michtom
son of Ideal's founder. Michtom dated
the bear to 1903, the year his parents
went into the toy bear-making
business. The Roosevelts decided that
the teddy bear, named for the presi-
dent, should go to the Smithsonian.
He almost didn't make it. A letter
from Mrs. Roosevelt to Michtom ad-
vised: "I was about to get in touch
with the Smithsonian about present-
ing them with the original bear when
the children decided they didn't want
to part with it yet." Happily, Mark
and Anne Roosevelt, the president's
great-grandchildren, changed their
minds. Several months later, the
Smithsonian and the American people
got their bear.

Theodore Roosevelt, however,
didn't always get his. On Nov. 14, 1902,
the president was on a hunting expedi-
tion in Smedes, Miss., and had had no
luck. Anxious that the president bag a
bear, some of his party chased down
and skinned a 235-pound black bear.
The hunters roped the bear and tied it
to a tree. A messenger was dispatched
to summon the president so that he
might shoot the animal and go home
with a trophy. When the president ar-
rived, he refused to shoot the ex-
hausted and tethered creature. A
Washington Post article the next day
informed its readers in turn-of-the-
century style:
"President Called After the Beast
Had Been Lassoed, but He Refused to
Make an Unsportsmanlike Shot."
The shot not fired was heard around
the land. Three press association
representatives were with the hunting
party and a small army of reporters
was following the president's train. On
Nov. 16, 1902, a cartoon by Clifford
Berryman illustrating the incident ap-
peared on the front page of the
Washington Post. The American
public immediately responded to the
story and the cartoon, presumably fin-

ding in them the heroic and sport-
smanlike qualities it saw in its presi-
dent.

Shortly, however, the whole matter
took on a more whimsical tone. A
subsequent Berryman cartoon of the
same hunting episode, dated 1902,
depicted the bear as smaller than the
one in the first cartoon — a worried-
looking and very appealing cub. Ber-
ryman's little bear was a great suc-
cess and appeared in his cartoons of
Theodore Roosevelt for years after-
wards. In fact, Teddy's bear was
everywhere. Observed historian Mark
Sullivan:

"The 'Teddy Bear,' beginning with
Berryman's original cartoon, was
repeated thousands of times and
printed literally thousands of millions
of times...Toymakers took advantage
of its vogue; it became more common
in the hands of children than the woolly
lamb."

Legend and family oral history have
it that Ebrolyn candy store owners
Rose and Morris Michtom, gave
America its first stuffed bear toy and
named it for Theodore Roosevelt. Ac-
cording to their son, Benjamin (who
died in 1980), Morris Michtom was in-
spired by the Berryman cartoon and
wrote to the president, asking his per-
mission to make a small bear cut and
call it "Teddy's Bear." As Benjamin
Michtom heard the story from his
father, the president agreed, although
T.R. was said to have expressed doubt
that his name would mean much in the
toy bear business.

Firewood On State Land To Be Sold By Lottery

Roger Hutchinson, associate
forester with the New York State
Department of Environmental Con-
servation has announced that there
will be standing firewood on state land
in St. Lawrence county in 1983. This
firewood will be sold through a lottery
system. There will be 400 names
drawn for 1983.

Those persons wanting to cut their
own firewood must fill out an applica-
tion for the lottery which can be ob-
tained at the DEC office, 30 Court St.,
Canton. Applications can be mailed if
you provide a self-addressed,
stamped envelope. Sign up until close
of business on Dec. 30. The drawing
will be held on Jan. 4.

All persons drawn will be notified
and will receive five standard cords of
standing wood at \$10 per cord. Since
the wood is not readily accessible, the
cutter must have access to a tractor,
dozer or horses. All parties planning
to work on the project must meet with
the forester when the wood is shown.
They will have until Oct. 16, 1983 to cut
and remove the wood from state land.

For further information contact the
DEC office at 30 Court St., Canton, or
telephone 386-4546.



SCOUTS SING — Potsdam Girl Scouts and Brownies sang carols in the village on Sunday, stopping first at Midtown Apartments to sing for senior citizens there. They were to end their caroling at the Potsdam Museum, where Santa Claus was expected to visit. (Betsy Baker photo)

Three Fined On Drunken Driving Charges

Three persons were fined on driving
while intoxicated charges in Potsdam
Town Court recently, before Justice
Theodore Malek.
Sophie Hughes, 22, DeKalb Junc-
tion, pled guilty to driving while abili-
ty impaired reduced from DWI and
was fined \$250 with a conditional
discharge. Terry Deonichie, 35,
Massena, pled guilty to DWAI reduced
from DWI and was fined \$250. An-
drea Van Duyn, 60, Norwood, pled
guilty to DWAI reduced from DWI and
was fined \$250. She was also fined \$35
for speeding.
In other court action:

The following were fined for speeding: Daniel Dix-
on, 20, Ontario, \$25; Mark Frotman, 20, Ontario, \$20;
Vernon Weston, 42, Norwood, \$20; Michael Ginn, 22,
Norwood, \$20; Dennis Elliott, 31, Bombay, \$20;
Thomas Delaney, 20, Oswego, \$20 plus \$20 for passing
on light; Hugh Horton, 33, Colton, \$20 plus uncondi-
tional discharge for open container and unregistered
motor vehicle dismissed.
The following had their charges dismissed: Leo D.
Simone, 47, Colton, one headlamp; Alain Beaurgard,
20, Quebec, crossed solid line; Daniel B. Elbert, 23,
Canton, one headlamp; Lloyd Currier, 19, Norwood,
expired inspection; Michael Ferrario, 34, Jameville,
operator without financial security; Steven Shampine,
18, Box 723 Potsdam, operator without financial
security; Mary Embury, 51, Norwood, no tail lights;

Man Fined \$250 In Village Court

A Hicksville man was fined \$250 for
driving with ability impaired in
Potsdam Village Court, Village
Justice Leon Penell presiding.
Fined for charges of DWAI was 21
year old Robert J. Steen. Steen was
also fined \$15 for failure to stop at a
stop sign.
In other village court action:
James J. Halstead, 32, of Massena received a condi-
tional discharge for failure to obey required traffic
laws.
Joseph J. Mungillo, 24, of Alexandria Bay was fined
\$15 for failure to stop at a red light.
John M. Parent, 43, of Malone had charges of
operating a motor vehicle without license dismissed.
Ronnie T. Latremore, 20, of Carthage received a
conditional discharge for parking in a prohibited area.
Patrick C. Reynolds, 18, 28 Washington St., was
sentenced to time served for disorderly conduct.
Joseph F. Thomas, 21, May Road, had charges of
driving with no insurance dismissed with proof.
Richard Cross, 22, Clarkson College, was fined \$15
for failure to keep right.

Rickey Morgan, 24, RD.2 Potsdam, uninsured
operator; Richard Casara, 41, Canton, operator
without financial security, unregistered motor ve-
hicle, insufficient headlamp.
Cheryl McGregor, Potsdam, received an uncondi-
tional discharge for failure to license dog. Leonard
Page, 38 Market St., Potsdam, received conditional
discharge for dog running at large, and failure to iden-
tify dog, fined \$50 for failure to license dog. Agnes
Todd, Canton, received conditional discharge for
failure to identify dog, fined \$50 for failure to license
dog. Sally Belmonte, Norwood, fined \$50 for failure to
license dog.
The following received unconditional discharges:
Steven J. Mitchell, 31, Syracuse, insecure plate; Larry
Rheume, 17, Pine St., Potsdam, no insurance; John
Rosario, 25, Pleasant St., Potsdam, unlicensed parking
dog; Margo Taylor, 36, Parishville, expired inspec-
tion.
R.P. Marchesseault, 29, N. Lawrence, insufficient
headlight, fined \$10.
Thomas Vlav, 29, Syracuse, no mud flap fined, \$25,
insurance dismissed.
Daniel Morriano, 22, DeKalb Junction, drive over
left side of pavement markings reduced to required
obedience to traffic law, fined \$20.
Dana M. Meers, 21, Greenfield, unlawful possession of
marijuana, fined \$10, civil penalty \$15, operator
without insurance dismissed, insufficient tail lamp
dismissed, inadequate stop light dismissed.
Christopher Landi, 20, RD. 4 Potsdam, expired in-
spection fined \$10.
Robert Gilbo, Rd. 3, Potsdam, parking violation fin-
ed \$10.
Leland Page, violation family court action, transfer-
red to St. Lawrence County Family Court.
Robert Potts, 20, Norwood, criminal possession of
weapon 4th received one year conditional discharge.

penalty assessment waived.
Charles Holcombe, 19, Baldwinsville, petit larceny,
fined \$50, \$40 penalty assessment.

Public Record

Thomas A. Brown, 20, Brentwood,
N.Y., was charged Monday with a
stop sign violation.
Darrell B. Nelson, 17, Potsdam, was
charged Saturday with speeding and
no insurance card.
Ala H. Al-Humadi, 30, Buffalo, was
charged Friday with failure to turn as
required.
Glenn A. Nichols, 22, Massapequa,
was charged Friday with failure to
use sidewalk.
Bethany A. Rogers, 21, 105A
Lehman North, was charged Friday
with failure to use the sidewalk.
William L. Weber, 22, Suffern, N.Y.,
was charged Thursday with failure to
turn as required.
Thomas G. Siegel, 20, Essex, Vt.,
was charged last Wednesday with
failure to turn as required.

Potsdam Village Police reported a
burglary, a larceny and a break-in
last week at three locations.
Last Wednesday, police reported a
burglary at Kacel Systems, Inc.,
Potsdam Industrial Center. Among
the items taken were a calculator,
tools, electric tools and an electric
typewriter.
Also on Wednesday Mrs. Roberta
Culver, of Family Fabrics, reported
that after unloading a rocking chair,
beside her store on Market Street she
left the chair, went into the store brief-
ly and returned to find the chair gone.
Police also reported that someone
attempted to enter Herbert's Men's
Store on Market Street last Wednes-
day and had broken in the outside
back door.

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5 pm - 9 pm

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