



Weare in the World

Volume 4, Issue 19

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Page 1

Wishing Weare a Happy and Safe Holiday Season

Potential 60 New Homes in Duck Pond Subdivision

By Tom Clow

Are you ready for a lot of new neighbors? As one leaves Weare Center heading south on Route 114, it's hard to miss a large sign off to the right announcing the arrival of Duck Pond Estates. The original subdivision plan approved in 2006 called for up to 60 single-family dwellings units. Except for the roads and some underground utilities that were put in several years ago, the parcel has sat vacant for over a decade. According to Land Use Coordinator Kelly Dearborn-Luce, there are presently only two active building permits, and there would have to be a water storage cistern installed on the site before any occupancy permits could be issued.



A sign at the entrance to Duck Pond Estates advertises the 60-lot development (Tom Clow photo)

The subdivision is a cluster development, which allows for smaller lot sizes than the two-acre requirement (depending on soil classifications) in a residential zone or the five-acre requirement in the rural agricultural zone. Article 27 in the Town of Weare Zoning Ordinance, which can be found on the town website, spells out the requirements for a cluster development. Perhaps most important is that at least 50% of the total tract area, exclusive of public rights of way and buffer strips within lots, shall be set aside as open space to be maintained as permanent conservation land. This coincides with a stated purpose of cluster development: to promote the conservation of natural resources and the natural environment.

According to Dearborn-Luce, the houses under construction have approximately 2,420 square feet of living space with three bedrooms. The contractor is Pro-Line Construction. A sign at the entrance to the See **DEVELOPMENT**, page 2

Holiday Revelers, Start Your Engines: Let the Christmas Light Hunt Begin!

By Sharon Czarnecki

Get ready to jump in your car and enjoy the efforts of all of our neighbors!

To bring cheer to your holiday, the Weare Friends PTO is organizing a map of town residents who wish to share their festive light display with the community. The activity is free and a great way to get in the holiday spirit safely.

For your very own map of lights, go to the Weare Friends PTO Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/SAU24PTO/>



"Talk" To Us



Send Pictures, Short Poems, or Recipes:

About Christmas Eve Traditions 

weareintheworldnews@gmail.com

Deadline – Friday December 18



First houses in the Duck Pond development are under construction (Tom Clow photo)

DEVELOPMENT, continued from page 1

development indicates that the home prices start at \$429,900. The developer is NBAC Corporation of Londonderry. The development will be phased in at no more than 12 homes per year.

Chase Park Parking and Boat Fees Increased for Non-Residents

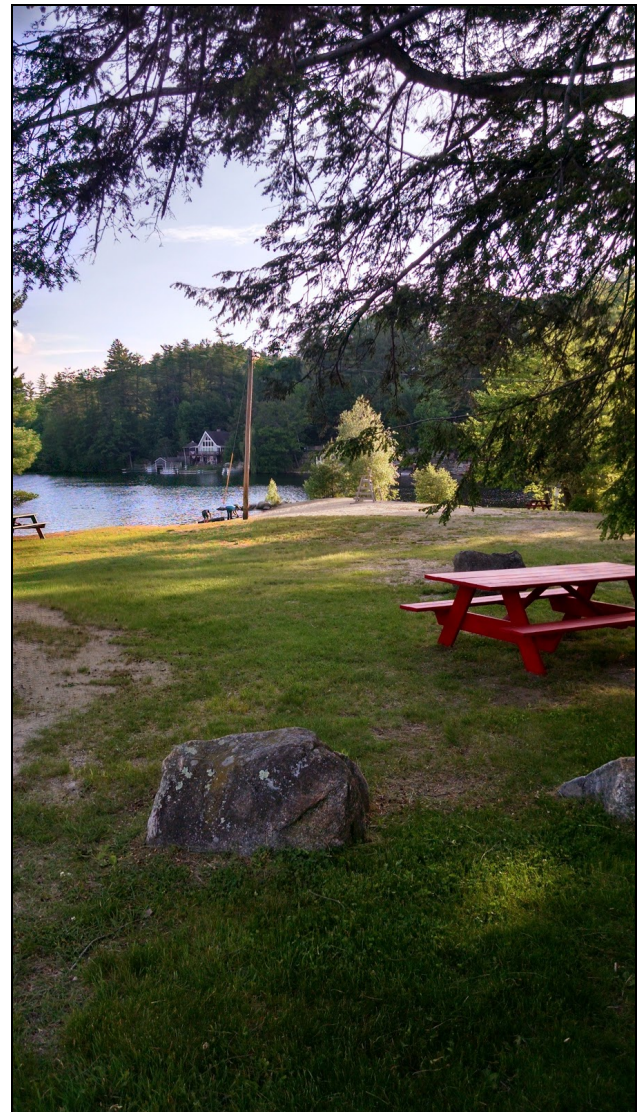
By Tom Clow

Following a public hearing on Nov. 30, the Weare Board of Selectmen voted to increase parking and boat ramp fees at Chase Park for non-residents. Parking fees will be increased from \$20 to \$40 per day and boat ramp fees from \$45 to \$50. The boat ramp fee applies to boats or jet skis. The changes will take effect on opening day in the spring of 2021.

A public hearing on fee increases was originally held on July 27; however, the issue was tabled at that time because selectmen wanted more data before making a decision. At the November hearing, Parks and Recreation

Commission Chairperson JaNeen Lentsch presented some of that data the board had been looking for. She said that during the summer, residents were at times being turned away because the park had reached capacity. She was concerned that some were just not coming back at all for that reason. The board had asked about having a different fee structure for weekends and weekdays, but Lentsch said that didn't seem to matter. She added that non-residents do have an alternative at Clough State Park.

Fees for Weare residents will remain the same, with a season car pass available for \$10 or a day pass for \$5. A season boat pass stays at \$20 for residents. There are also special rates for seniors (60+) and veterans. A complete list of fees for the park can be found on the Town of Weare website by clicking on Parks and Recreation under Boards and Committees.



A view from Chase Park this summer. Non-resident fees for the park will increase in 2021 (Tom Clow photo)



Tragic Graphics

By Clay Kriese, Weare Public Library Director

If spring and summer are the seasons of rebirth and growth, then fall and winter must be the seasons for decay and death – and, that may be perfectly normal and okay, depending on your perspective. So, while the library is full of tales of victory, romance and happy endings, here are a few graphic novels for those cynics who are more in the mood for something dismal and dreary.

Why, one only needs to flip through a history book to find several stories that simultaneously shock and sadden. One chapter of the **Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales** series cleverly brings the tragic story of the **Donner Dinner Party** to life - err, to death.

While the details are vivid, historically accurate and packed in panels at a feverish rate, the injected humor and cartoony expressions soften the blow of the downward spiral. The grim reaper and his skeletal victims are almost cute. And, ironically, one of the narrator's greatest outrages comes not with the cannibalism, but when one of the party's ponies is left in the desert to die.

Japanese Manga may have a reputation for stylized violence, but most of the death in **Death Note** (by Tsugumi Ohba) takes place off the page. Left is a brainy noir that's half gritty crime mystery, half urban fantasy, and full-bloodedly a morality tale.

Conversely, the heroes and villains are not as clearly defined. While it is more difficult to empathize with the central character, the depicted modern-day masses steadily revel in his results. Readers may, likewise, find themselves swerving between utilitarian and deontological extremes.

Speaking of extremes, there are few other works that combine the cuddly and the crude more pertinently than Fabien Velmann and Kerascoet's **Beautiful Darkness**.

As stylized as the apple-high inhabitants of this tale may be, the naturalism of their surroundings adds a huge heft to their plight. In this anti-fairy tale, there's no sense in practicing selflessness nor wishing for the intervention of cosmic justice. It's a dog-eat-dog micro-world out there – full of ravenous birds, rodents and insects.

For years, zombie-based horror and dystopian themes have become increasingly prevalent on the Young Adult

shelves. But what could be bleaker than a mindless army of 50-foot-tall man-eating giants? With dark shading, the manga series **Attack on Titan** by Hajime Isayama paints such a dour scenario.

It is the future, and the normal humans (like you and me) have developed sophisticated apparatuses of war (grappling hooks – propelling soldiers about like darting dragon flies). Yet, the giants who plague the earth have efficiently reduced humanity down to a single walled city.

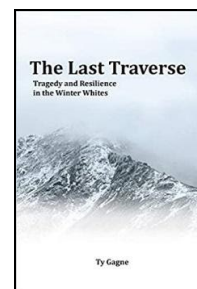
In the first few volumes, we follow a small brigade of volunteers who undergo five years of titan-killing training, only to turn into blubbing weaklings upon their first real-world experience as defenders.

The mystery behind the titans – their nature and origin – could be the foremost motivations towards checking out another volume. Or it could be that, under a setting so bleak, we're rooting for someone, anyone, to liberate humanity from its fortress walls - from the darkest of dark ages towards a dazzling new world.

Book Recommendation

If COVID-19 has you looking for some adventuresome reading, you might try "The Last Traverse: Tragedy and Resilience in the Winter Whites," by Ty Gagne. You will enjoy this book either way, but definitely if you have hiked Mount Lafayette in New Hampshire's Franconia Notch. It is the true story of two friends on a winter hike that goes awry, and the search and rescue efforts that keep it from becoming a bigger tragedy. What makes it especially relevant for this moment is the insight into how we make high-stakes decisions and manage risk in uncertain situations. I recommend it. It's a great read!

-Submitted by Steve Arwine



Eve and John Lovett enjoy the first flakes of the big snow on Dec. 5 (Karen Lovett photo)



Merlin is my Name

By Clay Kriese

The Weare Public Library has a new mascot!

After conducting a local contest, library users chose a name for the taxidermied owl that lives behind our circulation desk.

The three finalist names were *Owly*, *Barry the Bard*, and *Hootie & the Molefish*.

The winning name was *Merlin*, which was suggested by Rachel Burbee. She kindly accepted her prize and then immediately donated it back to the library – for the purchase of a book for teens.

Thanks to Rachel and thanks to the citizens of Weare! And, look out for Merlin. I have a feeling he has only yet begun to speak. “Hoot, hoot!”

“The Soup that Won the War”

By Connie Evans

It's the winter of 1777-78 at Valley Forge and George Washington has his own personal battle: how to keep morale up when his troops are hungry, exhausted and freezing. Congress has failed to supply funds for food and clothing. Some men are even barefoot, leaving bloody footprints in the snow. More men would be lost at Valley Forge than in any single revolutionary battle; two thirds of those killed would die of disease, exacerbated by poor sanitary conditions. Eleven Weare men are among those suffering: David Bryant, John and Jacob Flanders, John Powell, John and Benjamin Swett, Thomas Tuttle, Abraham Kimball, John Roberts, Samuel Hutching and Sam Caldwell.

According to the National Day Calendar, on Dec. 29, 1777, Washington asked the army's chef to prepare a meal to boost morale and warm the soldiers. The result? Pepper Pot Soup. Washington's greatest achievement during the eight-year war was keeping his army alive and functioning and pepper pot soup must have helped. So it is that Pepper Pot Soup Day is one of the national days to celebrate every Dec. 29th.

The recipe can be found here: <https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/13136/authentic-pepper-pot-soup/>

Tips for Families and Friends of Caregivers

By Marge Burke

Caregivers are often reluctant to ask for help. It is important for family members and friends of caregivers to offer to help. Here are some simple ideas.

-Offer to grocery shop or do other errands.

-Offer to sit with the care recipient so the caregiver can go shopping, take a nap, go for a walk, or do other outside-the-house activities.

-Drop in with something to eat, like cookies, muffins, bowl of soup, or a plant or a bouquet of flowers. Offer to stay for a “coffee or tea break” so the caregiver can rest for a few minutes and have a conversation. Caregiving for a loved one at home can be lonely; it is isolating. Friendship visits are welcome.

-Play an instrument? One that transports easily, that it is. Drop in and play music for the care recipient. The arts are the last senses we lose and music is the very last. Or perhaps your instrument is your voice; sing for the recipient.

-Have a user friendly pet? Drop by so the recipient can pat a pet. This is a very soothing activity.

-Send e-mails regularly with uplifting messages. Let your friend or family member know that you care about them and their situation and are thinking about them.

-Be a listening, confidential ear and let the caregiver use you as a sounding board to release thoughts, tension or cry on your shoulder (if necessary).

In other words, be the friend you would want if you were in the same situation. Create what works best for everyone involved in a caregiving journey.

Here's the Scoop

By Marek Rivero

Work on the consignment market is well under way. We have final approval from the town. There is some construction still to finish and some purchases to make before the store is ready. We are going to be contacting all our vendors soon to get contracts and agreements in place and really going through what products we will have available. If there are any basics missing, we'll be tracking down some more vendors for those items.

Given the time of year, we will likely officially open in January. However, we are still working with Full Circle farms selling turkeys to help them with clearing their inventory for this year.

We look forward to seeing everyone again in January.



Lookin' For Love

By Cathy Bailey

If you'd like to adopt any of the pets pictured here, please complete an adoption application at <https://www.heartsandtails.org/adoption-application>

Taz, Lilah and Lucky are new arrivals and we will have more information on them in our next issue.



Also available:



Cocoa: This beautiful brindle low-rider loves to be loved! She is an intelligent, active girl who enjoys going for walks and playing. And at the end of the day, she is eager to snuggle and loves to be loved!



Tyler: This dapper, gentle boy loves to go for walks, and he's good on a leash. And when the day is done, you can count on lots of snuggles from this sweet guy. He has a shiny dark brindle and white coat, with glittering gold stripes that interweave through the black. His fur is slightly longer than it looks in the photos, adding to his style.

For more information on these and other dogs, visit the adoption website at: <https://www.heartsandtails.org/petfinder-list/>

Senior Cafe

By Karl Messner

We at the Café hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. This year we did something a little different. One of our dedicated volunteers, Ms. Shirley Higgins - along with her son, Jim, and two granddaughters,

Brynne and Piper - helped prepare and deliver Thanksgiving dinner to the elderly. My son, Andrew, assisted as well. We served 17 meals on Thanksgiving Day and had a blast doing so. In all, we cooked 37 pounds of turkey, three gallons of gravy, 12 pounds of mashed potatoes and several homemade pumpkin pies. There was enough food for me to make my famous Thanksgiving dinner soup for this past week. Always a hit! But more importantly, we included three generations to pull it off as a team. Watch for our next upcoming event for Christmas Day.

As we round the corner into the final month of the year, we mark the 79th anniversary of the day that will live in infamy: Dec 7. On this day, those brave Americans known as the Greatest Generation are our seniors. For me, this marks a touching moment in time, as my father enlisted with the Coast Guard to serve his country with honor following the attack on Pearl Harbor. I recall the stories of the harrowing moments at sea while patrolling the Pacific Ocean. Some three decades later, I followed his footsteps and took the same oath to serve. Ironically, my dad passed away on Dec. 7, 1998. We should never forget this generation who preserved our freedom.

And now onto the culinary delights we have in store for the upcoming weeks.

Dec 9: Mac and cheese with cold cut sandwich

Dec 16: Chili con carne with hot dogs

Dec 23: American chop suey, garlic bread

Dec 30: Raspberry glazed chicken with rice

We look forward to seeing everyone stop by for pickup or delivery. Our suggestion is to call ahead and place your order to ensure we have plenty to go around. Please call 603-529-4263.

Christmas Memories

Pieces of time gather at Christmas
to be embraced as memories.

From afar they come – changed
along the way in our minds.

Others, from too near to cherish,
will be tomorrow's gifts.

They are ours, and we are theirs,
to carry to other Christmases.

-T. Clow

A Grief Observed: An Advent Service of Healing

The anticipation of Christmas opens us to God's light and comfort, and also when we open ourselves to griefs that might have been hiding away in our hearts.

God is great enough, and close enough to us in the Spirit, to bear these griefs with us. And we can bear them together. This year, our service of healing will be outside for safety, but will continue to offer spoken prayer, quiet, candle lighting and even song as we bring our full selves to God's presence. This year, we'll give particular attention to the griefs of pandemic.

Please join in on Dec. 13 from 4 to 4:30 p.m. at the Contoocook Bandstand. [There will be a](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkUclmcyviKlhAO6x-yhX-A/videos) recording posted for 5:30 p.m. that day on the St. Andrew's Youtube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkUclmcyviKlhAO6x-yhX-A/videos>

Please also share with a friend for whom this might be just what they need from Advent.

-Submitted by Marge Burke

Not as Hard as It Looks

By Sharon Czarnecki

"How do you do that?" "It looks so perfect!" I still marvel at the Martha Stewarts of the world. (Let's not forget – she cheats. She has staff.) But I grew up in a family that somehow found the time for wrapping contests and bow wars. I learned a few tricks along the way.



So why not have a little fun with at least one or two packages this year? (But I warn you, it can be addictive.)

How about something like this?

Use wire ribbon and cut the two diagonal pieces of ribbon to the correct length. Then secure them in the back with packing tape or gift wrap tape. The beautiful coil ribbon on the front is exactly that: a coil that you secure on one end and turn around and around until you like the look of it. Tape it down, and you are done, and your gift recipient is sure to feel special.

What to do with that tall skinny cylinder? Wrap it so the paper overlaps itself on one end. Tape it shut. Twist the other end and tie it with a simple curling ribbon. Now take some of those silver or gold floral enhancements that are much taller than your package. Use packing tape to

secure them at the base and they make the package look elegant and fussed over. But in reality, you just took one extra step.



Bags are truly wonderful, especially if it is late at night. But you can still have fun



dressing it to go to the ball. Once again, it's wire ribbon to the rescue. Cut several pieces that are about 25% longer than your bag. Use packing tape to secure one end inside the bag. Form it gracefully into loops and twirls until you like the look. You are done and your gift is an "Oh My!"

The next one is "Fun for the Whole Family" LOL. Actually, if you are running late, it is a lifesaver. The kids are happy to help with a sparkly project and you get done in half the time. Levels of supervision will depend on the ages of the children, of course. I admit this could take more time than it saves, depending. Cut pieces of foil ribbon to length, hand out a roll of tape to the most responsible and have your children build a chain. (Also works with plain old aluminum foil.) Drape the chain on your wrapped package, taping the ends inconspicuously. The little ribbon at the top is a wide piece cut several times and taped on. You can also use tinsel for this accent.



Lastly, don't forget that ordinary can be made to stand out with some tiny adjustments. If you are tired of wrapping oblong boxes in a horizontal plane, stand it up on end. Lay a piece of ribbon on top and let it trail over both sides. Do the same for the other sides, taping it at the top. Use a diagonal cut on the ends of the ribbon on all four sides. Almost done. Place a matching simple bow on top. Now, to dress it up, either tape or glue another bow on top of that one. (Or if you want to be clever, you can put a fancy pinecone or other item on top.) Have fun! Get creative!



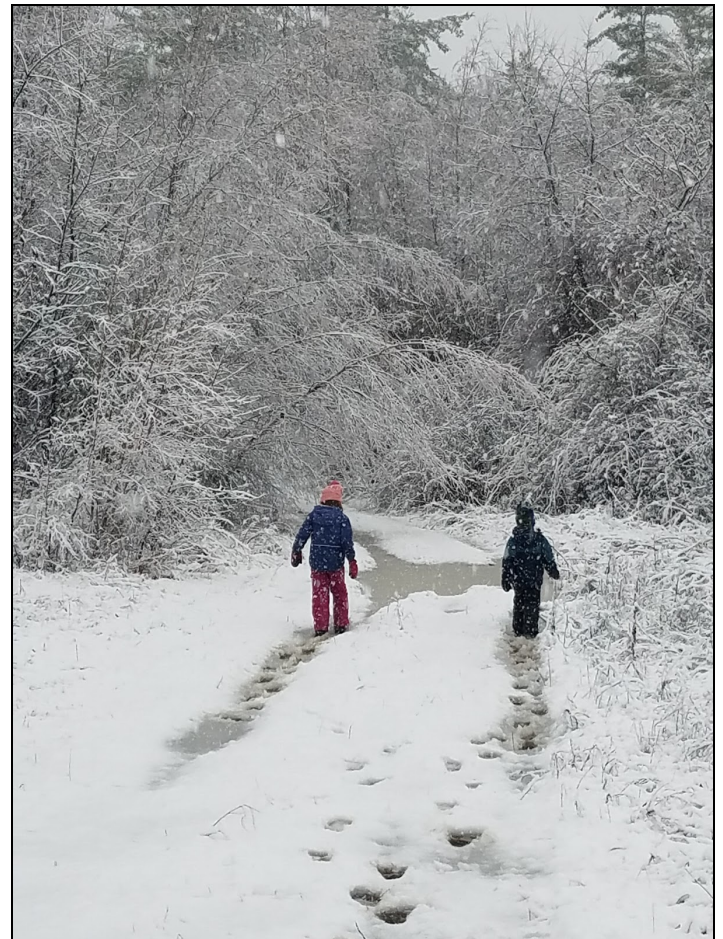


There is Hacker Help Available

By Madison Costa

With all the recommended cyber defenses in place why are hackers still successful? Do you trust your employees to protect your business from hackers? Have they been trained to know what to look for?

Summit Computer Services is rolling out an email phishing and training program to do just that, educate employees to know how to detect a phishing email. Phishing emails are emails that look legitimate, but if sent from a hacker would contain malware. Luckily when we send a phishing email, and the employee clicks, we don't steal your data, instead, we call this a training moment. If the employee fails to recognize the fake email, they will be sent a small quiz or a short video to educate them on how to detect a phishing email. If you want to know more about this program, give contact us at 603- 513-1805 or visit our website at: <https://www.summitcomp.net>



Exploring the winter woods during December's first snow
(Alyssa Small photo)

Cailynn
and
Avery
Czarnecki
build a
snow
family on
Dec. 5
(courtesy
photo)



Road Signs

In my small town, towering oaks and maples arch over the road

I travel across last spring's frost heaves, now dormant, quiet

On a summer day, passing a pink-lettered sign: **Free Kittens**

Over a hill, by a mailbox, a blue cooler holds a sign:

Fresh Eggs

Another mile, in a driveway, a *Lazy Boy* sits with a sign:

Free

Around a corner, a barn door ajar, jugs on a shelf: **Maple Syrup**

My car slows, my heart quickens, then, by the next white house

Leaning against an attached barn, a large sign in spray can script

Masks are a Lie!

On my way home with eggs, a quart of syrup (no kittens) I ponder

The sign about masks. Social distancing is distant as are the voices

of my grandchildren who stay safe, stay away. What is the lie?

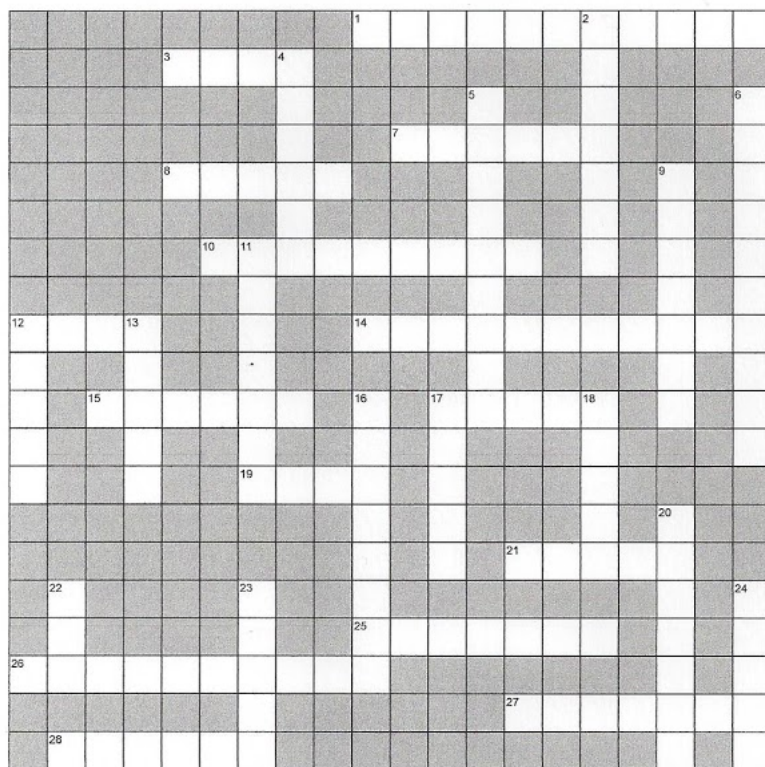
The mask that covers up the kiss I store for another day
The hug I keep behind my back, the breath that warms the good will, the longing in eyes above the mask I wear
Or the doctor in the interview, patient, weary with data
Or the scientist bent over her microscope searching for clues

in a sea of microbes masking the one that threatens the world

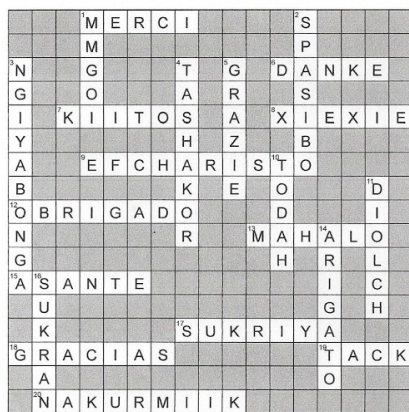
If masks are a lie, then where is the face of truth?

-Jeanloretta

Crossword by Alyssa Small and Karen Lovett

Fa la la la la la la la

EclipseCrossword.com

A World of Thanks

EclipseCrossword.com

Across

1. Soon you will hear these on Christmas Day (2 words)
3. The "Sleigh Ride" birthday party is held at this farmer's house
7. She rides along in "Jingle Bells;" Miss Fanny ____
8. This "Santa Baby" item is deemed to be "not a lot"
10. Mr. Grinch is compared to this reptile
12. "Holy infant so tender and ____"
14. The feeling you get when you hear "let's be jolly"
15. "Mix and a-____ in the jingling beat"
17. "Last Christmas, I gave you my ____"
19. We strike this instrument to "Deck the Halls"
21. In "Holly Jolly Christmas," enjoy a cup of this
25. "Feliz ____"
26. Thy leaves are so ____

27. Hang a shining star upon this bough
28. He's a fairytale, they say

Down

2. Vixen and this reindeer are featured in "Here Comes Santa Claus"
4. What friends are calling (2 words)
5. A turkey and 'this' make the season bright
6. "Here we come a- ____"
9. Dreaming of a Christmas where the treetops do this
11. All the other reindeer used to laugh and call him names
12. Who was caught kissing Santa Claus?
13. The fire is slowly doing this
16. These kind of boots are wished for by Barney and Ben
17. "Deck the halls with boughs" of this
18. When Santa comes to town, he checks his list this many times
20. This little boy played pa-rum pum pum pum
22. How many lords-a-leaping?
23. Bring us this kind of pudding
24. Who very soon will come our way?

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