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Volume 25

DECEMBER 2010

Number 12



The annual Newark Valley Holiday Magic Festival will be held on Saturday, December 11, from 2:00 to 9:00 pm. Pictured from last year's festival, Santa arrives in Newark Valley. For more details and supporting merchants, see page 9.



Hundreds turned out to watch as Santa flipped the switch to turn on the lights in Owego for the third annual "Lights On The River Festival" held Friday, December 3. Following the lighting ceremony, the crowds strolled through downtown Owego, shopping, listening to musicians, taking a walk on the new river walk, and watching a demonstration of ice carving on Lake Street.

Kids Can Call Santa 625-HOHO



Although he is very busy this time of year, the Apalachin Lions Club has persuaded Santa Clause to take phone calls for three nights in early December. Santa has been happy to do this for the children in the area for many years and is looking forward to again talking to his many young friends so he will know what they want for Christmas.

To talk to Santa call 625-HOHO (625-4646) between 6 PM and 8 PM on December 6th, 7th, or 8th.



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O'Tannenbaum Holiday Showcase



Don't miss the O Tannenbaum Holiday Showcase at the Tioga County Historical Society (TCHS) Museum, 110 Front Street in Owego. There is still time to place a bid on your favorite item. All proceeds from this annual fundraiser directly benefit the museum. There are more than 100 trees up for auction, as well as wreaths, carvings, quilts, jewelry and many exciting raffle items available to buy a chance on.

While at the museum, be sure to see the "Trains of Yesteryear" exhibit and the "Teddy Did It - History of the Teddy Bear" display. The O Tannenbaum auction ends Dec. 18th at 8pm. All holiday raffles will be drawn that night at 8:30pm. There will be a small reception from 5-7pm on Dec. 18th, featuring the talents of local pianist Vanessa LaDue. Refreshments will be provided. Check the web site www.tiogahistory.org for all the other children's events and musical performances happening during O Tannenbaum. There is something special going on almost every night.

Some of the featured trees this year are the Best Buy tree, a "Vera Bradley Christmas" tree donated by the Goat Boy, Tioga Garden's tree, which is exquisitely decorated and presents the winner with 12 months of flowers from the Tioga Garden's florist, a wonderful "Cocktail Tree" from the Treadway Inn, and the Chemung Canal "money tree."

The museum is offering extended hours from now till December 19. They are open Tuesday through Saturday 10am to 7pm and Sunday 1 to 5pm. Admission to the museum is free, but donations are always appreciated. Call the museum at 687-2460 if you have any questions or email info@tiogahistory.org.

TCHS would like to thank all the individuals and businesses who participated this year. They'd also like to thank the Platinum Level O Tannenbaum Museum Supporter - Visions Federal Credit Union.

Dinner Theater in Lounsberry

The Community Care Network of Nichols and TAG will be presenting a Christmas dinner/theater show Friday, Dec. 10, at 7pm and Saturday, Dec. 11, at 2pm at the Lounsberry Methodist Church, with the presentation of "Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some!)" a comedy by Michael Carleton, Jim FitzGerald, and John K. Alvarez

CCNN board members: Robin Benesh (565-9849), Sandra McCoy Cleveland & David Cleveland, Barb Crannell, Jody Cooley, Nancy Glasgow (699-3393), Neil Hall, Kem Hart-Baker, Corinne Moshier, Sharon Mullen, Dot Richter (699-3395), Shirley Tiffany, Dianne Zelaska Tickets will be sold at the door, but there is no guarantee seats will still be available. Please contact Robin Benesh 565-9849 if you have any problems obtaining a ticket.

Tickets are \$10, which includes a chicken dinner. You may purchase tickets with cash or check made out to the Community Care Network of Nichols. Tickets can be purchased from any CCNN board member.

Wine & Beer Tasting

The annual Wine & Beer Tasting and Silent Auction hosted by the OA Foundation for Excellence in Education will be Friday, Jan. 14, 2011, at the Owego Treadway Inn from 6 to 9 pm.

Tom Westcott and Bob Jensen from Bad Weather Blues Band will entertain, and refreshments will be provided by local restaurants. Buy advance tickets at Lawler's Liquor Store and Scott Smith & Son for \$35/couple or \$25/person. Tickets at the door will cost \$40/couple and \$30/person. Designated driver tickets are available for \$10.

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Dec. 4, 5
 Dec. 10, 11, 12
 Fri. & Sat. 8:00pm
 Sun. 2:00pm
 Sat., Dec 11, 2pm & 8pm

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Campville Fire Wire



Campville gave a special salute to all Veterans on Veterans Day

November seems to have flown by. Our members have been busy with training and projects. Our water rescue team was out on the water training with Vestal training on a Sunday morning. The team will be doing an ice rescue training session with Apalachin FD in preparation for the winter months. Our younger members are preparing for the upcoming NYS Firefighter I course that will be start in January. Congratulations to Wesley Mogzawa on his completion of the NYS EVOC course. Congratulations to John Hickey on his completion of the

NYS Introduction To Fire Officer course.

We welcome our new apprentice, Bill Adams. Campville is always accepting applications for membership. Feel free to stop in on Tuesday evenings and join our family. Campville Station 1 will be hosting a Certified First Responder Course in January. Anyone 16yrs and older is welcome to join our squad and complete this course to be certified to run. We need volunteers for our 24/7, 365 day shift.

All our members would like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy New Year.

New Church Opens in Little Meadows

Three and one half years ago, a group of people from the Little Meadows/Warren Center area wanted to start an independent Bible church. They contacted Pastor Dale and Linda Anschuetz of Hillsville, VA, who were running a group home for female juvenile delinquents called Joy Ranch. The pastor and his wife agreed to relocate to our area and plant a church that adhered to the word and teachings of the Bible. The Warren Center Independent Bible Church was formed, and began holding services in the lodge at Abell's Pond. The congregation outgrew this lovely facility and moved to the Warren

Township Community Building. Recently, the opportunity arose to purchase the former St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church in Little Meadows. Services have been held in this facility, now known as the Community Independent Bible Church of Little Meadows, since November 7th. Service times are as follows: Sunday School -9:30 AM, Church - 10:30 AM, Wednesday Bible Study - 7:00 PM. All are welcome. On Sunday, December 12th, the Church will be holding a dedication service at 10:30, followed by an open house from 12:00 - 2:00, with refreshments in the church hall. Please join us!

K2's Christmas Party

You're Invited! All children ages K to 5th grade are invited to K@'s Christmas Party 2010 on Saturday December 11 from 11 am to 1 pm at the Gathering Place, 12

Main Street Newark Valley. Contact Vicky DeSanto at 607-343-3462 so they can reserve a place for your child.

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Chamber Collecting Toys

The Tioga County Corrections Association and Tioga Opportunities are sponsoring the 6th Annual Community Christmas Party and they are in need of toy donations for boys and girls, ages 12 and under.

The event will take place December 10, 2010 at Tioga Opportunities, 9 Sheldon Guiles Blvd. Dinner will be from 4 to 7

pm, Santa will also be there to pass out toys to the children.

The Tioga Chamber will help out by collecting toys for this event. The unwrapped new toy donations can be dropped off at the Tioga County Chamber of Commerce, 80 North Avenue, or the Tioga County Sheriff's Office. Deadline for drop off is December 3, 2010.

SECURE OUTDOOR FENCED STORAGE: for R/V, boat, trailer or car. 6mo. \$150 call 607-625-5279 12/10

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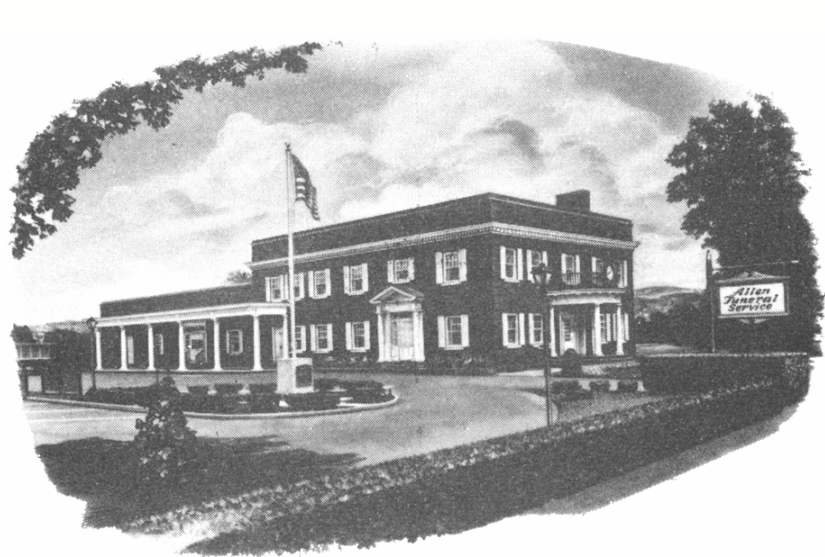
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The Community Press goes to press on the first Monday of the month. Your classified ad should be received no later than the fourth Wed of the previous month.



The Youth Groups at St. Margaret Mary's wish to thank the Religious Education program and parish community for items and postage money donated to make Operation Christmas Child a success again this year.

Eagle Scout Award

David Dempski, age 16, of Apalachin, was awarded the rank of Eagle Scout in a court of honor ceremony on November 22 at St. Margaret Mary's Catholic Church as the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) celebrates its 100th year anniversary.

The BSA award was presented by Scoutmaster, Matt Lewis, of Troop 60 which is sponsored by the Church of Latter Day Saints of Owego. In addition, the Vietnam Veterans of America, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, a representative for the Owego Town Supervisor, and the Knights of Columbus presented David with certificates. David received 28 recognition letter/certificates from the Roman Catholic Church, the US government, the Military, the NY State government, the local government and businesses.



David is the son of Bill and Terri Dempski. David is the grandson of Bill and Joan Dempski of Mountain Top, PA, and Gunther and Arlys Petersen of Zumbro Falls, MN.

Food Distribution

The Mobile Food Pantry will be in Owego with free food for those who need it. The food distribution will be on Wednesday, December 15, from 10:00 to 11:30 am, at 143 North Avenue in Owego, rain or shine. Bring bags or boxes to carry your items.

NASDAR Meeting

The Beulah Patterson Brown Chapter of the NASDAR will meet December 11, at 1:00 pm at the Owego Methodist Church, 261 Main Street in Owego. Good Citizen Awards will be presented to local students who participated in the DAR Good Citizens essay contest.

There's Music in the Air

The Owego Christian Women's Club will hold a luncheon on December 15 from 11:30am to 1:30 pm at the Owego Treadway Inn. They will feature an old fashioned sing along, a Holiday Serenade with Bev Beach. Their

speaker will be Lasting Tales by Jenny Hammond sharing tales from the Norwegian Woods. For information contact Carol at 607-785-3101 or cgg350@aol.com

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BUSINESS NEWS



A ribbon cutting was held last month to celebrate the grand opening of TOPS Friendly Markets, Route 17C in Owego (former P&C store). Above: Town of Owego Supervisor Donald Castellucci (left) and TOPS assistant store manager Tom Knapp (right) cut the ribbon.



Marty Borko, Chair of the Community Foundation for the Twin Tier's (CFTT) Tioga County NY Advisory Board presents a check to Laurie Ennis winner of the Ben Franklin scholarship given by the CFTT. Marilyn Bok, CFTT CEO, looks on.

Ti-Ahwaga Players Auditions

Auditions for the Ti-Ahwaga Community Players' production of "Art" are scheduled for Wednesday, December 15th and Friday, December 17th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. "Art," written by Yazmina Reza and translated by Christopher Hampton, is the winner of the 1998 Tony Award for Best Play and the 1996 Olivier Award winner for Best Comedy. It asks the question "What is Art," and reveals the humorous and moving reactions of Serge's two best friends, Marc and Yvan, when he purchases a large painting that is all white with white di-

agonal lines. The resulting banter is funny, stylish and stimulating, and according to "Newsweek," "Art sounds like a marriage of Moliere and Woody Allen." Parts are available for three males. Auditioners should prepare a monologue at least 2 minutes in length and be prepared to do a reading from the script. Rehearsals begin December 27th. Performance dates are February 11-13 and February 18-20. Please call Sandy Knapp-Dunbar at 687-2130 to schedule an appointment.

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"A Christmas Story"



The Parker family of the Ti-Ahwaga Community Players' "A Christmas Story" (L-R) Jason Spear (Ralphie), Kathy Harris (Mother), Jamie Cornell (The Old Man) and Camden Dyer-Decator (Randy)

The Ti-Ahwaga Community Players will present Philip Grecian's adaptation of Jean Shepherd's "A Christmas Story" for the ninth year in a row on Dec. 4, 5, and December 10, 11, 12 at the Ti-Ahwaga Performing Arts Center, 42 Delphine Street in Owego.

"A Christmas Story" portrays the riotous trials and travails of young Ralphie Parker, played by Jason Spear, on his quest for the one thing he wants for Christmas: a Red Ryder BB gun.

His requests for the gun keep getting reproved with a "you'll shoot your eye out" by his parents and even his teacher so he's not real sure he's going to get it. On top of that, his skirmishes with his brother Randy, played by Camden Dyer-Decator, and the school bully leave him wondering if he'll ever make it to Christmas at all.

This play has become a Christmas tradition for many families in the region, and this year the show is a real family affair. Jamie Cornell plays The Old Man and his two sons, Liam and Brendan, play Scut Farkus and Shwartz.

Nichole Langton plays Miss Sheilds and her son, Jonathan, plays Flick. Kathy Harris plays Mother and she is Jonathan's aunt and Nichole's sister.

Shows start at 8:00 pm on Friday and Saturday and at 2:00 pm on Sunday. There will also be a 2:00 pm show on Saturday, December 11. General admission is \$18 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under. The senior Sunday admission is \$15 for those 60 and over. Fine wines and beers, in addition to snacks, are available to enjoy at your table during the show, and there isn't a bad seat in the house.

The show is underwritten in part by Dr. Christian Aumock, DDS; Bud's Place; Peak Performance; Tioga Trails Café and The Haircolor Café.

It's produced through special arrangement with The Dramatic Publishing Company of Woodstock, Ill. For more information and to reserve seats, call the Ti-Ahwaga Performing Arts Center at 687-2130, or log on to www.tiahwaga.com

Tioga Downs Wraps Up Successful United Way Campaign

Tioga Downs wrapped up its 2010 United Way campaign for Tioga County and thanks to the gratitude of the employees, they were able to exceed their 2010 goal. Tioga Downs' employees donated in excess of \$8,000 to the local community led by Tioga County Campaign Chairman for the United Way, Jason Settlemoir. Tioga Downs as a company will also be matching the money donated by employees, and Jeff Gural, Chairman of American Racing and Entertainment is personally donating \$5,000 for more than \$21,000 going to the local United Way campaign in Tioga County.

"Tioga United Way is thankful and grateful to our neighbors at Tioga Downs. They have proven over time to be excellent corporate citizens for Tioga County, and have really stepped up for the United Way. A special thanks from all of us at the Tioga County Untied Way to Jason Settlemoir for leading the way and Jeff Gural and the Tioga Downs employees for their generosity" said Fred Trzcinski, Executive Director of the Tioga United Way.

"We all are very proud of the things that our employees have been able to accomplish over the past years here at Tioga Downs. Anytime these charities come calling on our employees every-one steps up and helps in anyway that they can, and we are happy that we were able to exceed our goal this year" said Settlemoir.

In addition to raising money for the United Way, Tioga Downs also hosts a promotion every Monday in November where guests bring in two canned food good items to donate to the local food bank and they receive \$5 in free play for the gaming floor.

Breakfast with Santa

On December 18, enjoy Breakfast with Santa and Burnie the Clown from 8:00 to 11:00 am at the Newark Valley Fire Station. The event is sponsored by the Newark Valley Fire Department. Free will offerings will be accepted.

Soups and Hoops

Weekly Tuesday Soup and Chili Suppers throughout the Candor Basketball season, 4 to 7pm at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 17 Main St., Candor. Good will donations. Eat in or take out. Local delivery (659-7479).



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Christmas Party - Saturday Dec 18th

Name That Tune Trivia
Karoke—First Saturday of the Month
TRIVIA—Last Saturday of the Month

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
Season Greetings




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Holiday Music

Tioga County Historical Society is proud to host the talents of many local musicians and musical groups this holiday season. As part of our O Tannenbaum Holiday Showcase and Fundraiser, the following musicians will be performing at the museum on 110 Front Street, Owego, NY 13827. Dec. 7th – 6pm – 6:30pm – Owego Elementary School Choir, Dec. 8th – 6pm – 6:30pm – Owego Elementary School Chimes, Dec. 9th – 6pm – 6:30pm – Owego Elementary School Choir, Dec. 10th – 5:15pm and 6:15pm – Valley Four

Men's Quartet, Dec. 12th – 2pm – 3pm – St. Patrick's Church Youth Choir, Dec. 12th – 4pm – 5pm – Zion Lutheran Youth Choir, Dec. 18th – 5pm – 7pm – Pianist Vanessa LaDue Be sure to save these dates. Stop by to see the showcase, bid on the trees, look at the Teddy bear and Train exhibits, and of course, listen to the sounds of the season. For more information, feel free to contact us at 607-687-2460, info@tiogahistory.org, visit our web page at www.tiogahistory.org

Owego's Art Walk

Owego's 3rd Friday ArtWalk ArtTalk is always offering something new! Join us on December 17 to explore the businesses and galleries in Owego that welcome you to our small town. Many of the galler-

ies offer music, and refreshments in addition to the wonderful artwork. Have a lovely dinner and a stroll along the River Walk. Shop for that special Christmas present!

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The Baby Will Be Back

Empty Religion Stinks. The Baby will be Back, Baby. Not Exactly Naked. A Promise Actually Kept. Your Sign Isn't in the Stars. These are the topics you will hear about during Advent at Apalachin Alliance Church. This message series, entitled "The Most Amazing Thing about Christmas," will be given every Sunday until Christmas beginning November 28 following inspiring music that begins at 11 a.m.

Apalachin Alliance Church is located on 293 Tobey Road, just off of Old Owego Road (from 434), just over the Tioga County border. Pastor Tom Briggs would be happy to give you more information if you call him at 607-625-2013. Come as you are and enjoy The Most Amazing Thing about Christmas. Experience the joy of belonging, we have a place for you!

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It's time for Newark Valley's annual ...

HOLIDAY MAGIC FESTIVAL

Saturday December 11th 2 pm to 9:00pm

Once again Newark Valley will come alive to celebrate the Holiday Season with the annual event of Holiday Magic throughout the village

Santa's Workshop will be at the Depot with hands-on crafts for the kids.

Santa is scheduled to arrive around 2:30. Listen to live music from Grasanova and Dan Drewry from 4:30 to 7:30 while enjoying delectable foods from the kitchen. Outside of the Depot there will be a live nativity program each hour. Kids are encouraged to write letters to Santa while at the Depot. Letters will be forwarded to the North Pole and the kids will receive a reply back from Santa.

In the Municipal Building the Noble Room will sparkle with a Candy Cane Christmas display, gingerbread houses and music both inside and out. Enjoy delicious soups, cakes, pies and other goodies while listening to favorite local musicians. Try your luck on wonderful raffle baskets and support village events. Also the Newark Valley Middle School PTS will also be offering a keepsake ornament of the Holiday Magic Festival. Profits from these sales will help support educational activities.

Ice carver, Mark Watson will demonstrate his skill on the Municipal Lawn between 4:30 and 7 pm. He has been doing ice carving for years for The Travel Channel, The Late Show and many large and local festivals.

Santa will be arriving at the Village Green around 6 pm. There will be a wine tasting at the Village Wine and Spirits Shop, and a book sale the library. Enjoy a horse and wagon ride between the Village Green and the Depot. Warm yourself while talking with friends around cozy fires at the Depot and the Village green. View the Candyland character displays on the Green and enjoy Dickens' Christmas characters all around the village.

Don't forget to join the Gingerbread house contest, by entering one of your own creations. Why not enter one and start a family tradition at the same time. If that doesn't strike your fancy, at least enjoy marveling at what others have done and cast a vote for your favorite.

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WEBO High School Basket Ball

High School Basketball Returns to WEBO for 2010-11 Season!

The Radigan Broadcasting Group is pleased to announce that News Radio, WEBO will again broadcast high school basketball this season.

WEBO will broadcast both boys' and girls' basketball games from both Owego Free Academy and the Union-Endicott High School, featuring several different Southern Tier Athletic Conference teams.

The high school basketball schedule on WEBO...is:

Fri 12/10 Norwich at Owego (Boys) 7:45pm

Wed 12/15 Johnson City at Owego (Boys) 7:45pm

Fri 1/7 Seton at Owego (Girls) 7:45pm

Fri 1/14 Windsor at Owego (Boys) 7:45pm

Fri 1/21 Binghamton at Union-Endicott (Boys) 7:45pm

Fri 1/28 Ithaca at Union-Endicott (Girls) 7:45pm

Fri 2/4 Johnson City @ Owego (Girls) 7:45pm

Schedule Subject to Change

All games will be broadcast live on 1330AM, 107.9FM and online for out-of-town alumni, family and friends at www.newsradiowebo.com.

Once again this year, the "High School Game of the Week" will be a companion to WEBO's coverage of the Syracuse men's basketball team as a member of the Syracuse Sports Network.

Chamber Food Drive

The Tioga County Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce a month-long non-perishable food drive will be held at the Chamber Office to benefit Tioga County residents in need. In partnership with Tioga Opportunities, Inc., the Chamber will be collecting non-perishable food donations to help support our local food pantries throughout the holidays.

Donations can be dropped off weekdays between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm at the Tioga Chamber office, 80 North Avenue, Owego, NY. The collection will run now through December 16, 2010. For more information call Gwen Kania, Director of Operations at 607-687-2020.

Give the gift of food this holiday season!

Blood Drive

On December 21 from 1:30 pm -6:30 pm, Supervisor Donald Castellucci, Jr., Town of Owego, will be sponsoring his 14th annual Red Cross Blood Drive. It will be located at the Elks Lodge in Owego.

make this drive a success. Our goal is to get 50 donors again this year.

As in the past, there will be a rigatoni and meatball dinner served to all donors. After having a bite to eat you can enjoy the shops in downtown Owego and finish up your Christmas shopping.

Castellucci started sponsoring blood drives during his father's final days battling cancer. For the last thirteen years during the month of December he has dedicated the drive to his dad's memory. He died on December 25th. "This has become the tradition that I use to honor my dad's memory. I have helped raise awareness of the importance of donating blood over the last 13 years. I have done that by sponsoring blood drives in my father's memory recruiting over 400 donations since his death on December 25, 1997."

We encourage donors to bring in food donations that will be collected for the Tioga County Rural Ministry or cash donations to the Ministry in Don Sr.'s and Grace's name. The donations collected last year along with the several boxes of food was much appreciated.

There are many ways to make a difference in people's lives. Using just an hour of your time you can save a life. Can you think of a better way to make difference? Perhaps you have donated in the past or maybe you have never donated. Now is the time to give that early Christmas present to a stranger you will never meet! Give it a try and see how great it feels to save a life.

Sadly this year it will be in memory of Donald and Grace Castellucci, Sr. Grace passed away in May of 2010. Also a victim of 2 cancers, she received blood during her 4 year battle. Castellucci stated, "It is comforting to know that many people are willing to give an hour of their time and a pint of blood to help others. I have witnessed both the help and the generosity first hand."

To make an appointment please feel free to contact Don at 607-687-0965. You can also call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE. Thank you for taking the time to consider this opportunity. It means a lot to me that you have been there in the past. Thanks again and I look forward to seeing you on the 21st!

Each year a different combination of donors, young and old, help continue to

Christmas Gift Ideas



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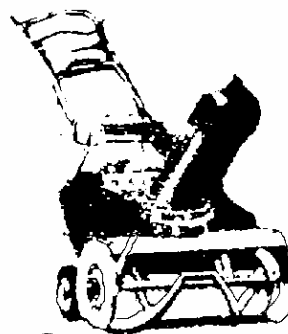
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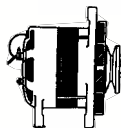
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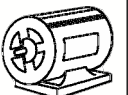
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By. Susan Littlefield

Getting ready for Christmas



MERRY CHRISTMAS FORM THE LITTLE PEOPLE



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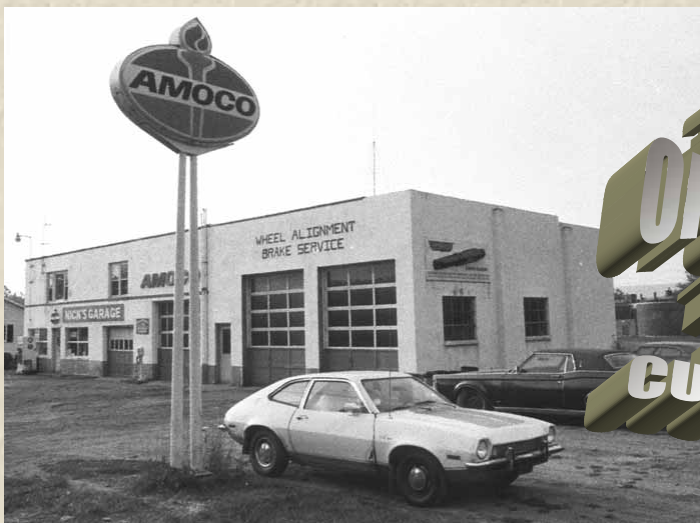
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