

Christmas, 1987

# Christmas Greetings

Supplement to the Lac du Bonnet *Leader* and the Winnipeg River *Review*



THE PREMIER OF MANITOBA

## A Christmas message from Premier Howard Pawley

Another year has come and gone, and as the holiday season approaches it brings with it the promise of peace and good will which we all seek.

In a world still filled with poverty and strife, we can give

thanks for the blessings which most of us are fortunate enough to have. While we gather with family to share the richness and warmth of the season, let us not forget those without family or loved ones, those who are not as blessed as we.

May your holiday season be the best one possible and may the coming year be filled with comfort, joy, fulfillment and peace for all!

Howard Pawley



## Lieutenant-Governor's Christmas message



the great example of love and friendship to the family unit and, by extension, to the whole family of nations.

Christmas is a time of giving. The best gifts we can bestow on our children are the gifts of time with them, of love, of interest and the sense of hope. And the best gifts we can give to each other and to all the families who share this globe are the gifts of peace and friendship. Let us be true to one another, and let the spirit of Christmas be with us every month of the year, every season.

The great family festival that is Christmas draws people together in a renewed spirit of hope, with the time-honoured message of peace on earth and goodwill to all.

It is, and always has been, a true family event, bringing

It is against this background of hope that my wife and family join me in wishing each of you a joyous season and a new year filled with friendship and peace.

George Johnson

## A Christmas message from Gary Filmon

This holiday season, as family and friends gather, let us remember to try to reach out beyond the warmth of our own homes to touch our greater family — mankind.

Let us touch those who are alone and lonely; those who are less fortunate; and those who are separated from their loved ones by sickness or distance.

Above all else, let us make every effort to touch the hearts and the minds of the children of the world so that we may fill their futures with compassion and hope.

From my family to yours, may you enjoy the warmth of this Christmas season and find peace and happiness in the days ahead.

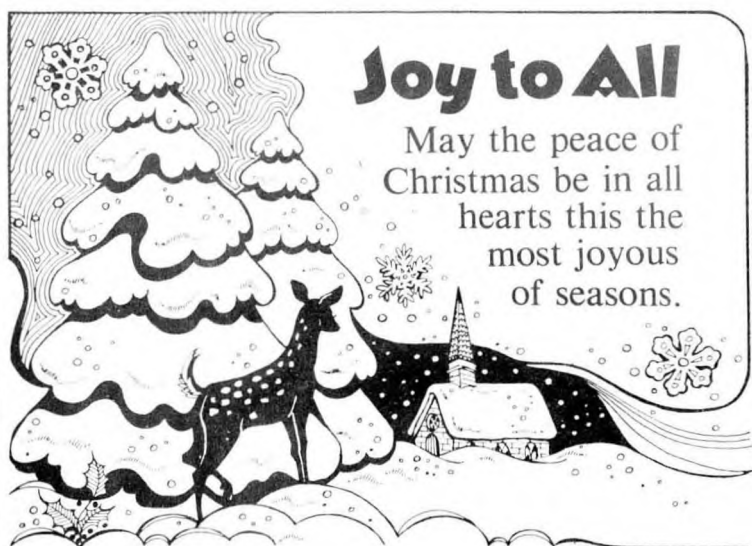
## A Christmas message from Sharon Carstairs

The birth of a child in a manger almost 2000 years ago is celebrated as a symbol of a new beginning. For those of you who are parents, you will recall that wonderful moment of birth of your own children and the love and hope you shared along with your best wishes for that special human being.

Christmas is a time when families gather, sing carols

and break bread together. It is also a time when we count our blessings and hopefully think of those less fortunate than ourselves. My family and I extend our best wishes to all of you in the hope that a part of the joy, love and friendship of this special season will be carried with you throughout 1988. Have a happy Christmas!

Sharon Carstairs



## Joy to All

May the peace of Christmas be in all hearts this the most joyous of seasons.

**ABITIBI-PRICE INC.**  
PINE FALLS, MANITOBA

*Best wishes  
for a  
Safe and  
Happy  
Holiday  
Season*



A GROWING COMMITMENT  
TO THE FUTURE.

# Season's Greetings

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** This special Christmas issue has been dedicated to the seniors in our area. They were asked to tell about Christmas when they were children growing up in their parent's home. With such a rich resource of information available through our seniors, it was no surprise when several very interesting stories were collected. Readers will be brought back to a time when money was scarce, spiritualism ran high and traditions were formed.



On behalf of the Lac du Bonnet Liberal Association, my wife Heather and I wish you a Safe and Happy Christmas, and we look forward to meeting you in the New Year.

**A Very Merry Christmas  
and  
A Happy New Year**

Peter Raymond, Liberal Candidate

God sent us a

*Saviour*

**M**ay the  
blessings of  
Christmas  
abide with you

If our greatest need had been information  
God would have sent us an *educator*  
If our greatest need had been technology  
God would have sent us a *Scientist*  
If our greatest need had been money  
God would have sent us an *economist*  
If our greatest need had been pleasure  
God would have sent us an *entertainer*  
But our greatest need was *forgiveness*  
So God sent us a Saviour  
"For unto you is born this day  
in the City of David a Saviour,  
which is Christ the Lord"  
(Luke 2:11)  
Praying for God's blessing on  
you at Christmas, and His divine  
guidance for 1988.  
Rev. and Mrs. Wm. Pipke and  
the Abundant Life Chapel



**CLARENCE BAKER, M.L.A.**

*May the wonder and joy of the First Christmas  
always be with you!*

**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**

# Adult daycare share Christmas stories

**Best Wishes**  
 May the joys of this festive season be yours!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The members of the **POWERVIEW ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION** would like to wish everyone the best in 1988!

Several adult daycare members were present at the annual Christmas dinner and party. Santa arrived about 1:30 p.m. after a delicious full-course meal was served and gifts were exchanged. A card party followed.

It was during this gathering that many Christmas stories were told by the daycare members in attendance.

**Mrs. Annette DiBrito**

On Christmas Eve we would always fast from supper until midnight, then everyone would go to midnight mass. We would come home and have a big lunch called a "reveillons", then we would open gifts.

We always made all our decorations for the tree and we used candles because there was no electricity.

I was raised in Letellier and I remember more the New Year's party than the Christmas party. Over 50 family members gathered at Uncle Joe's house for the big party. A 30 lb. turkey was cooked and there was plenty of tortiere (meat pie).



Mrs. Annette DiBrito (left) and Mrs. Amy Mulligan (centre) enjoy a visit from Santa at the adult day care Christmas party held at the Pineview Senior Citizens' Home.

The older people sat down at the dinner table first. The younger folk would do the dishes and then eat last.

**Mrs. Amy Mulligan**

I grew up in Roblin and we too made most of our decorations. I remember going to the local store and collecting the coloured hand-bills which came out at that time of year. We would cut the coloured paper in strips and make paperchains from them.

At least one day of the week would be spent making cookies which would hang on the tree.

I remember the favourite activity on Christmas day was pulling taffy. Mom would whip up a batch and put it in the snow to harden then the kids would pull it and pull it.

**Mrs. Ruth Dansereau**

We decorated with tissue paper and sometimes a paper fan bell was purchased.

We lived on a farm and truly believed in Santa Claus because I remember seeing him in the moon.

Usually my dad would go to town the week before Christmas to buy food and maybe a gift or two.

We had no tree then, but we always hung our stockings, which were filled with food items.

I remember one year receiving a red and white toque. It was one of the most treasured gifts I ever received.

**Mrs. Muriel Hills**

We used to make our own decorations too. I remember stringing popped corn to hang on the tree.

*continued on next page*

**PEACE on EARTH**

A bright and happy holiday season to you and yours!

**VILLAGE OF POWERVIEW**  
 Mayor Elia Trudell  
 Daniel Gelinás, Richard Lagasse  
 Allan Tardiff, Roger Tardiff  
 George Harbottle, Secretary-Treasurer

**JOYEUX NOEL**

May the sights and sounds of Christmas bring joy and peace to your heart. We wish you and yours the best Christmas ever.

**PAPINEAU MOTORS**  
 — Your Ford Dealer —

Phone 367-2884 Powerview  
 CLOSED SATURDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.

**We wish you a Merry Christmas**

A sleighful of thanks and good wishes to everyone at Christmas.

**POWER FALLS AUTO BODY**  
 Powerview  
 Ph. 387-2877

## YULETIDE CHEER



Hearts are mellow, spirits light, at this Season of Good Fellowship!

Herb and Jan Harbour

**LEN'S FINE FARE**

754-2397

## Adult daycare share Christmas stories

*continued from previous page*

### Mrs. McOatt

When I was ten years old I remember a miniature typewriter I received as a gift. I treasured that gift for many years.

We attended a one-room country school which housed Grade 1-8. I remember practising for weeks for the school Christmas concert and each child would have to perform.

dishes were perogies, holopchis, headcheese, and fancy braided bread, with the first plate being wheat and poppy seed. Songs were sung throughout the meal.

*continued on next page*

### Mrs. Annie Patterson

We made our decorations for the house and tree. I remember making chains from paper coloured with crayons and then glued together with flour and water paste.

At our school concert I still recall the solo I had to sing. I was very nervous, but I did alright.

On Christmas Eve we would always wait for Santa to come. While we waited we ate Christmas pudding and mince tarts and drank milk. We never could manage to stay awake long enough to watch old Santa, but sure enough by morning he'd come. I remember I always got a doll.

Christmas day was spent playing games. We would later have a big Christmas dinner and nuts and candies.

### Mrs. Sawchyn

We made crepe paper decorations for the tree and around the house. We made all kinds of crepe paper flowers, then we would weave them together to make garlands which would be strung from every corner of the living room and something would be hanging in the middle of the room.

On Christmas Eve, we could not eat supper until the first star came out. Us little ones would keep our eyes out for that first star then run and tell mother. Mother would then light the candles and we would eat the 12 traditional dishes. There was always hay placed under the tablecloth symbolizing Jesus born in a manger.

The two spoons mother used to make the first dish with were given to the younger girls in the family. The girl would run outside and hit the spoons together. Whichever direction the dog barked that would be the direction a husband would come from. Sometimes the dog would bark from several directions and the girl would still not know the answer to where husband would come from. She would try again the next year.

After supper, eight or nine children would go door-to-door Christmas carolling. The oldest child in the group would hold the coal oil lantern. We would sing by our neighbours' window until the mother would call us in. We were given an orange, or candies and sometimes a nickel. This was the most fun of Christmas.

### Mrs. Peter Pasuloko

We always had the traditional 12 different dishes on Christmas Eve. Each family member would take a spoonful of this and spoonful of that. Some of the

## JOYOUS NOEL

Season's Greetings from the

**PINE FALLS UNISEX SALON**

A. DeGagne & Staff  
367-2412 Pine Falls



## WARM wishes

Sending a message that brings us all a little closer:

Merry Christmas and Season's Greetings  
**OPEIU LOCAL 216 (office workers)**



## O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL



May this sacred season bring its finest blessings to you and those you cherish. Joyeux Noel!

*Joy and Peace from the Boyko's and Staff at*

**Boyko's Pro Hardware**

Pine Falls

Phone: 367-2380

## JOY

Our joy is having wonderful folks like you as customers and friends. Merry Christmas!

Season's Greetings from Lucille and Claire at the flower shop

**Pine Florists**

Pine Falls Ph. 367-8754



## MERRY CHRISTMAS



Best Wishes

May the joys of the festive season be yours. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Henry, Lil and Family  
**HENRY'S TOWING**  
Powerview, 367-2417

## SEASONS GREETINGS



We're delighted to have the opportunity to say "Thank You" to our many fine patrons and to wish you the very best of the season. We've enjoyed serving you in the past...we hope to serve you again in the future.

**CLARK'S CORNER**

Bob and Marlene Jackson and Staff

# Adult daycare share Christmas stories

*continued from previous page*

We also had sheaves of wheat standing in the room which was our Christmas tree.

**Mrs. Angel Cyr**

We always used to travel to town in our dad's sleigh, covered with fur robes. Dad used to go shopping and leave the Christmas presents in a special hiding spot on the sleigh. The girls got dolls as a rule. My sister Mary's first doll was a negro doll. She cherished that doll forever. I was more of a tomboy and was not always excited about dolls.

When I used to have to stay home with the girls it was a penance. I loved to play baseball and games with the boys.

My mom was a good cook. Our Christmas dinner was always good with meat pies and the like.

We never had a tree in the house, but we always hung our stockings. They would be filled with food — oranges, candy canes and nuts.

In later years, I remember a Christmas we spent at my daughter, Beatrice Marusyk's in Atikokan. She had a big fireplace with windows in the front. When I woke up Christmas morning I said, "Bea, your windows are dirty." She said, "It can't be I just cleaned them yesterday."

A big mallard duck had flown down the chimney and was still caught in the fireplace. We couldn't let him out because it would dirty the whole room. Bea's husband, Al, got a hold of him from behind and pressed the wings against its sides. Al carried the duck outside, but it was quite a job because it was strong like an ox.



Mrs. Souka got a surprise visit from Santa in her suite at the Pineview Lodge.

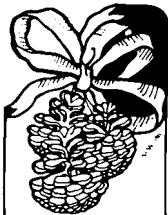


To wish you the special gifts of Christmas: Peace, Good Will and Abiding Happiness.

**LUCY'S BEAUTY SHOP**

Fort Alexander

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from your family hair care centre.



**NOEL**  
Christmas Greetings from  
**Dave's Used Furniture**

POWERS  
Monday to Saturday  
1:00 to 5:00 p.m.  
367-2460

**Mrs. Souka**

I lived on the mission at Fort Alexander with my parents, two brothers and three sisters. We always had a tree and on Christmas Eve, we would place our shoes under the tree. Our shoes would be filled by morning when we woke up.

The family would go to midnight mass, but us younger ones would stay home and our father would read the gospel story to us. He would explain that Jesus was so poor that was why there were so few gifts at Christmas time.

We were anxious to grow up

and go on the dog sled ride to church with the rest of the family.

For our Christmas dinner we had chicken. The priest and nuns would send pudding and milk.

When the kids were old enough on Christmas day they would play cards and everyone would go for a dog sled ride. I remember the word "mush" so clearly, we would yell that at the dogs as they sped along.

Because our family lived alone on a little island on the mission, New Year's was more of a celebration for my family. We used to have friends in and have Christmas pudding, and neighbours would come to visit.

New Year's was more of a time to gather with neighbours — Christmas was more for our own family.

*continued on next page*

**Best Wishes**

Remember the true meaning of Christmas.

**PAUL DUBE**  
Sanitation Engineer — General Trucking  
Ph. 367-2724 Pine Falls

*A Merry Christmas to All*

May you have a candy-cane Yule, so bright and so gay, With each joy remembered past Christmas day!

From the management and staff at  
**CHICKEN DELIGHT**  
Pine Falls Ph. 367-8315

**Joyous Holidays**

Christmas is a special time of year and we want to thank our very special friends and wish them a happy and holy holiday season.

Manitou Rapids Adult Day Care

**With BEST Wishes**

**FOR CHRISTMAS**

Holiday prescription: lots of family happiness, warmth, fun. Our gratitude for your patronage.

**Pine Pharmacy**  
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Welsh & Staff  
PINE FALLS

# Mrs. Lalor reflects on past

**Mrs. Myrtle Lalor**

*Mrs. Myrtle Lalor was visited at the Pine Falls General Hospital and she had many interesting stories to tell:*

We always received a parcel from the old country (England and Ireland) at Christmas time. It contained plum pudding, knit goods like socks and scarves, and some games. Tiddly Winks was one game I liked.

We lived on a farm in Saskatchewan on old Moose Mountain Trail, which ran from Fort Ellice to Pipestone about 12 miles from Moosemin. We lived miles from anyone else and when it stormed, weary travellers would stop at our house for a rest and sometimes they stayed the night.

I remember one Christmas season a storm pulled in and about 5:00 p.m. along came a peddler, they used to walk in those days. Then an Indian family from Ft. Ellice came, they were going to Moosemin to get work. The wife was called "Big Mary" and she was big alright!

Last of all, a man came with his two little children. They had come from Moosemin where



*Mrs. Myrtle Lalor has many interesting stories to tell about Christmas. She is presently a patient at the Pine Falls General Hospital.*

catalogue order we would wait and celebrate Christmas at a later time.

Our Christmas gifts consisted of pencils, erasers, pencil boxes and warm clothes. These items were needed for everyday life, but we didn't know any better and treasured them as gifts back then.

One of the items most treasured that was found in our stocking was a solid chocolate animal about one inch square. We'd save it and save it until the very last moment because it was so special.

I lived in a big log house — it was the nicest house I ever lived in.

## GREETINGS

Here's wishing you the best of holidays with friends and loved ones all around you!

Merry Christmas!  
from  
Elie and Dess  
Trudell





## HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year  
To all our friends...  
Thank you for your past patronage. We wish you a bright and happy holiday season.

Gerry and Dorothy Hollins

## PINE FALLS SPORTS SHOP

367-2810



they were visiting his wife who was dying of cancer. One of the little girls was about five years old and a real doll!

My dad told me, "Make Christmas for the children and you'll enjoy it too." I suggested we could make the little girl a dress as I had some material which was sent from Ireland. Mother cut out the material and had us kids basting. We stayed up until 2:00 a.m. sewing that dress. Dresses were worn to the ankles in those days. It was a lovely tartan dress with white lace.

In the morning little "Gracie" got her parcel. You should have seen her face. It made all the work worthwhile — she was just beautiful. I went to see her when I returned home years later — she grew up to be a beautiful lady.

We never had an evergreen for our Christmas tree, but we would go out to the bluff and get a poplar tree. We had saved all the coloured paper and tinsel and even the tea lead (metal wrap around the tea leaves). Each limb and twig was covered with decorations. We made all our own ornaments, the kids would spend evening after evening making articles. We even attached red rosehips to the tree.


A big magazine came in by mail from Montreal called the *Family Herald and Weekly Star*. We learned to cook by the articles in that magazine and it had lots of Christmas ideas.

We always had a Christmas concert, a couple of families would get together and put it on. My dad was always the Santa and he always told the same old joke of getting stuck in Billy Duffin's chimney (Billy was an old bachelor with no children).

If the weather was nice, a place on the slough was cleared and we skated on Christmas day.

There were no snowplows and the horses could only take a certain depth of snow. If there was a storm everyone was house-bound. If dad couldn't get to town to pick up the Eaton's

## If you drink... don't drive!



According to statistics:  
Three out of every four traffic deaths are alcohol related."

### DON'T BECOME A STATISTIC

*Drive carefully and enjoy a  
happy holiday season*

**Sobering Funeral Chapel**  
Beausejour 268-3510

# Peace & JOY

Our sincerest prayer at this holy season, is that we may live in harmony with others.

Reeve, Councillors & Staff

## Local Government District of Alexander

St. Georges, Manitoba



The beautiful nativity scene at Foyer Chateauguy Home

**JOY AND PEACE**  
 Joyeux Noel  
 Bonne et Heureuse  
 Année  
 Best Wishes  
 throughout the  
 Holiday Season  
**La Caisse  
 Populaire**  
 St. Georges  
 367-8268

*This beautiful nativity scene now adorns the roadway to the Foyer Chateauguy Home. The creche was built and donated by Rene Vincent, the people were built by Aphrem Vincent, and Paul Dupont helped them assemble the pieces. A large star situated on top of the seniors' home and lighting the way to the nativity was also donated this year by Paul Boulet.*

**Christmas Blessings**  
 Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for the new year  
**WYNNE'S PLACE, Bissett**

**Warm Wishes**  
 Season's Greetings from  
**POWER ENTERPRISES**  
 Pine Falls, 367-8412

**JOY TO ALL**  
 Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for 1988!  
**George Guimond Care Centre**  
 Administration and Staff  
 caring for the elderly, disabled and infirm, 367-2245

**GOOD TIDINGS**  
 We hope your home and heart are filled with laughter, joy and good will this glad holiday season.  
 It's been a pleasure serving you.  
 Merry Christmas and all the best in 1988.  
**Wolfram Kraft  
 Hillside  
 Power Products**  
 Traverse Bay 754-8655

**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS**  
 We hope this Yuletide brings all the joys of a beautiful holiday season.  
**Bill Kaatz and  
 Louis Desautels**  
**GULF OIL AGENTS**  
 Pine Falls 367-8336  
 or toll free 1-268-2630



**Best Wishes**  
and Merry Christmas from  
**A & B AUTO**  
367-2889 or 367-8893 (inexpensive parts)

## St. Georges seniors share their memories

An informal afternoon was spent visiting residents of the Foyer Chateauguay Home in St. Georges. Many of the seniors living there have Christmas stories to share.

### Mrs. Corona Cure

Our dad always went in the bush and got a Christmas tree. A few little candles were put on the tree and some ornaments were bought which we kept year after year.

Everybody made food and brought it to our house for lunch after midnight mass. Family came from Lac du Bonnet and other communities to St. Georges for the celebration. In those days, women nursed their babies, so even the youngest ones came to midnight mass.

Dad would travel to Lac du Bonnet to buy apples, candies and nuts to give us as presents. There was no muss or fuss in those days, everyone was poor, not very much was spent on Christmas.

### Mrs. Mabel Bruneau

I grew up in Great Falls, our family moved there in 1925. Dad worked in the powerhouse, looking after the tools.

We had a Christmas concert and we were all in choirs. We even performed in the Santa Claus workshop play.

My mother was a good cook. We had pies, and most likely chicken because turkey was too expensive to buy.

Not too much money was spent, we had apples and oranges and some candy.

My older brother and sister did some babysitting for other families in the townsite and I stayed at home with my parents mostly.

There were no roads then to Great Falls, just the railroad track. There was a trail, a rather poor one then, that ran from Pine Falls to Great Falls.

There were hard times then, so not many visitors came.

We only stayed there about four years. We moved to Crescent Bay, six miles this side of Lac du Bonnet. We worked hard on the farm there and Christmas was about the same there as it was in Great Falls.

### Mr. Elie Martel

Our family came to St. Georges in 1902 when my dad bought a homestead from Clophese Vincent. I was born in 1906 and was raised on that farm.

On Christmas Eve, we always went to midnight mass. After mass we'd hang our socks by the chimney. If we found an apple in our sock, that was a delicacy.

We travelled to Lac du Bonnet by horse drawn sleigh with a load of peas, beef or pork, whatever we had to sell, and bring back a load of groceries and fruit for Christmas.


For our Christmas meal we had turkey or chicken and a big roast of pork. We'd eat our meal after midnight mass. We were the only family of Martel's in the community so our Christmas was usually amongst our own family.

I always remember the first thing my dad did when we came home from midnight mass. He would pick all the best feed for the cattle so they would be having a treat the same as we were. It became a family custom he started.

The funniest thing I remember on New Year's day was something my mom did. It was the custom in those days for full sleighs of men to go house to house for a drink. They would start on New Year's day and travel for five days. Mom saw them coming and said, "I won't stand for that too long." She filled the box stove full of wood — tamarac — next thing the men were complaining "it sure is hot



Mr. Elie Martel, resident of the Foyer Chateauguay Home in St. Georges, recalls many interesting Christmas stories from the time when he was a lad of 10 years.



**Glad Tidings**

On behalf of the  
**EXECUTIVE OF LOCAL 1375  
UNITED PAPERWORKERS  
INTERNATIONAL UNION**

we would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.



**Happy Holidays**  
Warmest greetings of the season to all our fine patrons.

Watch for our spring specials!

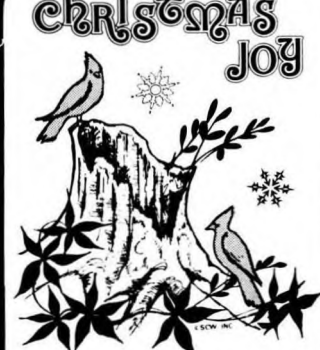
Thanks  
**B. Wood Builders**  
367-2122



**Christmas Blessings**

May you know His peace at Christmas.  
Many thanks to all of my customers for their continued patronage over the past year.  
May you have a Merry Christmas and continued good health and happiness in the New Year.

**SANDY FOX, Postmaster  
Powerview, Manitoba**



**CHRISTMAS JOY**

Rejoice in the beauty of this Holy Season.

Season's Greetings from the dentists and staff at

**Main Dental Group**  
Powerview, Man.



**Joyous Noel**

Merry Christmas from all of us at

**EINFELD BAKERY**

Victoria Beach — Phone 754-2533  
Powerview — Phone 367-8019

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## Glad Tidings

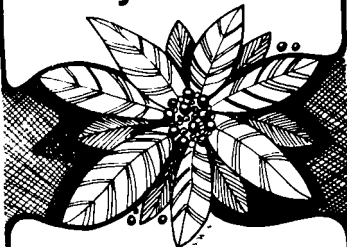


*Awaken again to the joys of  
Christmastime!*

*Thanks for your business and support  
Compliments of Gary Berthelette*

**Berthelette's Cabinets**  
367-8710

## Greetings of the Season



Merry Christmas and all the best in '88  
from the Board of Trustees  
and the Executive of the  
**Pine Falls Recreation Association.**

## season's best



May all the blessings  
of the Holy Season be  
yours in abundance!

**MANITOU RAPIDS  
ARTS COUNCIL**

From the Beaches to the Falls 367-8785

# St. Georges seniors share their memories

*continued from previous page  
in here". They didn't stay too  
long.*

*"See, I told you," Mom said.  
Mrs. Flora Dube and Miss  
Simone Vincent (sisters)*

*When we were young at  
Christmas, we'd go to midnight  
mass and then straight to bed.  
There was no Christmas tree or  
gifts. The mass service was the  
central part of Christmas.*

*Our dad would wake up at  
four in the morning and do all  
the chores. Then he would wake  
the family and we would be off  
to Grandmother's for the tradi-  
tional Christmas breakfast.*

*Each house we passed on our  
way to Grandmother's, we  
would yell as loud as we could  
"Merry Christmas" to  
everybody. We used to go in a  
little sleigh our dad had built.*

*Grandmother would make all  
the food for that Christmas  
breakfast. We'd have meat pies,  
pork roast and beef roast. I  
remember especially the brown  
potatoes — they were cooked in  
the gravy from the pork roast,  
they were the best!*

*Our parents would go visiting,  
but us kids would stay at grand-  
ma's all day and almost all night.*

*We did a lot of entertaining of  
people who came visiting and  
served grandma's homemade  
wine. Sleds of men would come  
for a drink with big, frozen  
moustaches looking for a kiss.  
We younger girls would run and  
hide under the bed.*

*We really enjoyed our  
Christmas in those days, even  
more than our Christmas today.  
Mrs. Delina Challe*

*Our family really prepared for  
the midnight mass. At  
Christmas Eve day we would fast  
and from 8:00 p.m. on we would  
keep silence until midnight. After  
the mass we would have the  
reveillons.*

*The grandmother of my dad  
would come and the other uncles  
and aunts. We lived across the  
river where Cyril Dupont, my  
brother, now lives. There were 12  
children in our family.*

*Our big meal consisted of two  
kinds of blood sausage, grey and  
red, and a stew made from pork  
hocks, and chicken. There was  
also doughnuts and cookies and  
fruit pies.*

*We would hang our stockings  
and in the morning they would  
be filled with candies, apples and  
oranges. Sometimes we'd find  
chocolate, which was a big treat.*

*On Christmas Day we would  
play cards and later when we  
were older we'd go to dances.*

*On Christmas Day we would  
celebrate with father's relatives  
and the next day we would go  
and celebrate with mother's  
family.*

*Miss Elizabeth Houston  
We lived across the river where  
Dufours are now living. We were  
a large family. Our Christmases  
were very quiet as mother was  
sick a lot of the time.*

*We attended midnight mass  
and had a lunch after church —  
whatever food there was  
available.*

*Mother used to make knit  
stockings and hang them for us.  
We would get fruit in the stock-*

*ing, but there was never enough  
money for candy.*

*We made lots of paper decora-  
tions for the house. Mother had  
coloured paper at Christmas time  
and we would make different  
things — chains and we'd hang  
them about our stockings.*

*Mr. Louis Granbols  
I can remember good from  
1914-1918, I was about 10-years-  
old then.*

*We lived near Dauphin at  
Makinak, Manitoba on a farm,  
a mixed farm with lots of dif-  
ferent animals.*

*We had no money, but we  
always had lots of food on the  
table because we grew most of it  
ourselves. If you had 10¢ you  
thought you were rich.*

*We'd always hang our stock-  
ings, we'd get a clean one for  
this. We'd usually get apples and  
a few little candies. I remember  
one year, I wanted a pair of  
pants for the holidays and on  
Christmas morn there was a pair  
of pants in my stocking.*

*When I was nine years old, I  
caught Santa Claus putting stuff  
in our socks. I was a very light  
sleeper and I heard noises  
downstairs. I woke up and there  
was my mom and dad filling the  
stockings. My dad yelled "get  
back to bed!" but then he  
thought better of it and called me  
back down to tell me the secret  
of Santa. He asked me to keep  
it to myself, and I did.*

*Mr. Alida Palardy and  
Mrs. Felician Cattelier*

*(Alida) I remember on  
Christmas Eve we had to get  
ready and take a bath in the big  
washtub — that was special  
before Christmas, everyone had  
to take a bath. We got on our  
prettiest dress and went by horse  
drawn sleigh to midnight mass.*

*(Felician) To keep warm we  
would heat up a large stone on  
the woodstove, then the stone  
would be wrapped in a blanket  
then a horse blanket. This would  
be put in the sleigh and the kids  
would put their feet on it for  
warmth.*

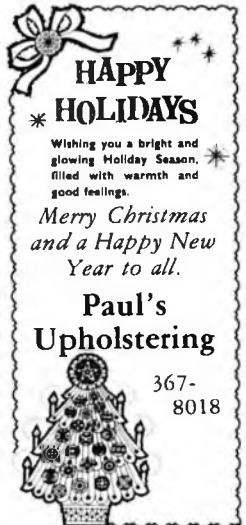
*After mass we would come  
home and have the reveillons —  
a big meal with meat pies and  
turkey and all the trimmings and  
also a bottle of homebrew (for  
the adults).*

*We would hang the biggest  
stocking we could find before go-  
ing to bed. In the morning we  
would wake up early and find  
our stockings filled with fruit and  
candy. A case of apples would be  
bought only once a year.*

*(Alida) One year my brother  
went to a Christmas concert and  
won the draw prize. I was only  
10 then and he gave it to me for  
Christmas. It was face powder  
and rouge. I sure treasured that  
gift.*

*(Felician) One year I  
remember a little sleigh that my  
parents had bought. I used it all  
one Christmas day to slide from  
the house to the barn.*

*The first time my brother went  
to Winnipeg with a school  
outing, when he got back we asked  
him what he saw. He said, "I  
didn't see anything, I just saw  
houses."*



**HAPPY  
\* HOLIDAYS**

*Wishing you a bright and  
glowing Holiday Season,  
filled with warmth and  
good feelings.*

*Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New  
Year to all.*

**Paul's  
Upholstering**

367-  
8018



May all the blessings  
of the Holy Season be  
yours in abundance!

**J & L  
Green-  
houses**

John and Linda  
Poitras

St. George  
367-2151

# MERRY CHRISTMAS



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from  
**ST. GEORGES COMMUNITY CLUB INC.**

Directors, Clubs, Tenants and Affiliates

*St. Georges Community Club board members: back row (left to right) Diane Dube, Peggy Boyle, Lucy Berthelette, Flo Windsor, and Roger Bouvier; front row (left to right) Fern Vincent, Brenda Vincent, Jerry Cavellier and Fran Thompson. They all wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Missing are Marc Dupont, Willie Lavoie and Gillis Boulet.*

Wishing you serenity and happiness each day of the coming year.

## Winnipeg River Historical Project

Meetings held second Tuesday every month at Library Allard.

Call 2581 or 8239 to order your book.

Let us renew the spirit of peace and joy in our hearts.

## Safe and Happy Holidays Management and Staff

### Fran's Accounting

14 Baie Caron, St. Georges

*Le Cafe Francophone Chateauguay vous Souhaite un Joyeux Noel et une Bonne Heureuse Annee*

*Hope this Yuletide brings all the joys of a beautiful holiday season.*

## CLUB RENDEZ VOUS FITNESS CENTRE

For more info call 2988

*May your Christmas be filled with good will, abundance and the tranquility of faith.*

## LIBRARY ALLARD

St. Georges PHONE 8443

Yuletide Greetings to one and all! May your holidays be prosperous and blessed with joy!

## Oreste Gallery and Frame Shop

Xmas Greetings from MAX and MONA BOSSI

May the spirit of Christmas fill your heart and home with happiness.

## Winnipeg River Women's Institute

wishes you MERRY XMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

Meetings held third Tuesday every month at Library Allard. PHONE 8215

*Enjoy a terrific holiday season filled with laughter and good spirits.*

## Winnipeg River 4-H Club

wishes you Xmas Greetings

Meetings held first Monday every month at Library Allard. PHONE 2157

*The Winnipeg River Recreation District Commission wishes all Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*

Peter Raymond Leone Pommer Bob Breton David Chown Roger Tardiff



### LE PETIT SOLEIL

held an "afternoon with Santa" and their Santa says, "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year — Joyeux Noel et Bonne Annee" to all the communities from their organization.

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

# Fort Alexander seniors reflect on Christmas as a child

It was the intent of this reporter to visit at the George M. Guimond Care Centre, Fort Alexander, and gather some informative Christmas stories from a few of the senior residents there. Perhaps some native traditions would be revealed.

Of the 28 personal care patients that reside there, only a handful are from the Fort Alexander area. Many of the patients come from as far away as Little Grand Rapids.

Interviews were done with four seniors, three of whom were born at Fort Alexander, one born on the Swan Lake Reserve. Each one of them agreed to the interview and gratefully shared stories of Christmas in their childhood days, but the stories were told mechanically, without joy or excitement. Three of them grew up in boarding schools, spending from November to April at the school, not even a day home at Christmas with their parents or family.

These stories are shared with you now, not to sadden or dishearten, but to realize the great gift our family is to us. Also, these stories are a reminder for us to visit our seniors and shower them with the love they so greatly desire...



George L. Fontaine was born at Fort Alexander and remembers some hard times at Christmas when he was a boy.

"After mass we would have Christmas dinner. We'd kill chickens in the fall and keep them frozen, to use for the meal. We had a garden during the summer, so we would have vegetables from that garden."

"At that time and today is a big difference. I remember the oldest uncle lived not far from us and all his family was grown up. He used to hire us to go weed his garden in the summer from June to August, and pay us five cents a day. We couldn't spend that money, we'd give it to our mother and she would put it away until just before Christmas. She would buy things for us for Christmas. The ones who didn't work would get the same things as us, but that's the way it worked then."

"I'm not sorry that I did all the things my parents asked of me."

"I never had much time to play, as soon as I was old enough to work I would be doing chores. In a way, that's when I learned to work."

### Jeanne Meeches:

"I was born at the Swan Lake Reserve and lived there till I was nine, then they put me in a boarding school at Portage la Prairie."

"I used to go home only in the summer months. There were nine in our family — older sister and brother, one younger sister and I had five little brothers. I had lots of work when I was at home."

"At the boarding school there would always be a Christmas tree in the dining room. We went to church, it wasn't a Catholic church, but we'd go during the day on Christmas. Our school would sing and do a concert."

"The school was run by a principal and a matron, they were a married couple."

"We just got a few things at Christmas, maybe a doll or a book. I missed not being at home with my family. My older sister went to a day school at home."

*continued on next page*

**Blessings to All**

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

**Powerview Restaurant**

Chinese and Canadian Food  
Dine in or take out orders **367-2117**

**Happy Holidays**

The peace of Christmas touches even the most humble of His creatures

Christmas Greetings to all the members of the **Southeast Region of the Manitoba Metis Federation**

from Joyce, Rhonda and Lionel **367-2258**

**JOYEUX NOEL**

Wishing all a holiday season full of life's best

**The Co-operators Insurance**

Canada's Leading Property Insurers

**EMMANUEL J. BOUVIER**

3 Caron Bay North, Box 22, St. Georges, Man. 367-2573

**Merry Christmas**

Peace and Good Will to all throughout the Holiday Season. Thank you for your past patronage. Best of Wishes for 1988.

**VIDEO 1001**

Pine Falls

**YULETIDE GREETINGS**

Wishing everyone Peace, Happiness and Good Cheer throughout Christmas and the New Year!

**MANIGOTAGAN DEVELOPMENT LTD.**

Rudy Simard, manager; Bruce Boulette, president; Dale Boulette, vice president; Fred Wood Jr., secretary-treasurer; Victor Koop, board director; Howard Woods, director; Elaine Simard, employee.

**NOEL**

Season's Greetings from

**ATEAH Construction Company Ltd.**

Victoria Beach **754-2404**

## Christmas at Fort Alex

continued from previous page

Marianne Starr  
(nee Guilmond):



Marianne Starr spent most of her childhood in a boarding school until the age of 21. Although she missed her family, she does recall some Christmas festivities at the school.

"I was born on the Fort Alexander Reservation. When I was old enough I lived at the boarding school with my sisters and brothers. The nuns and the priests ran the school and I stayed there till I was 21. My dad was crippled and my mom had to work.

"Sometimes we would go home for Christmas, but not all the time.

"We used to knit and sew at the school and cut out the boys and girls clothes. The nuns taught us how to sew and knit and cook.

"We used to have a Christmas tree in the school and put some socks on the wall, and fill them up with candies, oranges and fruit like that.

"The school would have a stage and all the boys and girls would put on a Christmas concert.

"It wasn't a rich school — we had mostly homemade gifts. Them days we were poor, nobody was rich.

"We were all brought up together at the school — the girls different and the boys different."

### William Fontaine:

"I was born at Fort Alexander. We were a family of four boys and two girls. I was the third born son.

"I lived beside the church. I went to the day school, then I went to a boarding school for 11 years.

"We didn't go home for Christmas, we had our Christmas at the boarding school. There was a Christmas tree and we had concerts and singing. Christmas dinner was pretty much the same as we usually had."

O Great Spirit

Whose Voice I Hear In The Winds  
Hear Me! I Am Small And Weak, I Need Your  
Strength and Wisdom.

Let Me Walk In Beauty, And Make My Eyes Ever  
Behold The Red And Purple Sunset.

Make My Hands Respect The Things You Have  
Made, And My Ears Sharp To Hear Your Voice.

Make Me Wise So That I May Understand The  
Things You Have Taught My People.

Let Me Learn The Lessons You Have Hidden In  
Every Leaf And Rock.

I Seek Strength, Not To Be Greater Than My  
Brother, But To Fight My Greatest Enemy — Myself.

Make Me Always Ready To Come To You With  
Clean Hands And Straight Eyes.

So When Life Fades, As The Fading Sunset  
My Spirit May Come To You Without Shame.

An Indian Prayer

*Best Wishes for the Holiday  
Season and the Coming Year...*

*Ki-Mi-Nen-Da-Min, O-Des-Sa-Ba-Da-Ming,  
Manitou-Ki-Shi-go*

*From the "First Nations Government" and  
"Staff of the Fort Alexander Indian Band"*

CHIEF: Ken Courchene

COUNCILLORS: Mary Starr, Bill Prince, Paul Guilmond, Garry Swampy

#### STAFF:

Band Controller — Len Gendre  
Director of Operations — Felix Boubard  
Assistant Director — Marlene Courchene  
Secretary — Darlene Starr  
Lands/Planning Co-ordinator — Doug Boyd  
Band Membership Clerk — Ruby Sinclair  
Welfare Administrator — Rita Guilmond  
Welfare Aide — Colleen Twoheart  
R.R.A.P. Co-ordinator — Ron Fontaine

Band Constables — Stanford Fontaine  
Carl Fontaine  
Herman Hope  
Band Plumbers — Don Cook  
Allan Courchene  
Paul Courchene  
Larry Guilmond  
Fine Option Representative — Tracy Guilmond  
Janitor — Viola Courchene  
Band Electrician — Ralph Bruyere

**Papertown Motor Hotel**



*wish you all  
Peace, Joy and Friendship  
Merry Christmas  
and  
Happy New Year*

from the Raymond's  
and Staff



## Memories of Christmas from Powerview residents

A visit was made to the home of Stan and Helen Lazaruk, who reside in Powerview. Their story was full of old country tradition...

### Stan and Helen Lazaruk:

Helen: "Both Stan and I grew up in Rossburn, Manitoba. My dad was Polish; he immigrated from Poland with my mother who was Ukrainian."

"On Christmas we kept the Polish tradition. Around 7:00 p.m. we had a big supper — the traditional 12 different meatless dishes. All close friends and family who were living in the area would be invited to take part in the meal."

"After the meal nobody would go to sleep, we'd sing Christmas carols, play cards, or just visit until 4:00 a.m. At that time another big meal was served with all the meat dishes (turkey, ham, pork and headcheese) and all the trimmings."

"Gifts, which were peanuts, candies, oranges, apples, pop-

corn, or sometimes a chocolate bar, would be exchanged when friends and family arrived before supper. I always remember the horse's bells; when we heard the bells we knew the guests were coming. The horses would have nice top collars on, they were all decorated in those days and each family would have different sounding bells on their horses."

"When it was Ukrainian Christmas on January 7, all the Polish people would be invited to the Ukrainian relatives to celebrate the occasion. Meals would be the same."

"Hay would be placed under the oil and table cloths and also under the table. This reminds us that Jesus was born in a manger. They would keep that hay in place until boxing day; then it would be taken outside and burned."

"Staying up late was another treat we as children enjoyed and singing of the Christmas carols."

Stan: "When the guests arrived, we boys would go out with a lantern to the barn and unhitch

the horses and help them put them into the barn."

"I remember always being excited when our one sister, who lived 20-30 miles away, would come. She always brought some goodies for us children. There was 11 of us, seven girls and four boys. I was the third boy."

"The dogs would let us know someone was coming, they'd be barking and barking."

"Both my parents were Ukrainian, so in the early years we only celebrated the Ukrainian Christmas in January, but as the family grew up and some of the kids married into Polish families, we began to celebrate both Christmases. My older sister married Helen's older brother, so our two families began to celebrate together. We would go to their place for Polish Christmas, they would come to our place for Ukrainian Christmas."

Stan and Helen: "The meal, singing, and getting together were the memories of Christmas we remember most."

**SILENT NIGHT**



*O Holy Child, be remembered in our hopes and in our hearts this Christmas!*


**KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS**  
Pine Falls  
Council No. 4244

**NOEL**



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the management and staff at  
**THE POWERVIEW HOTEL 367-4317**

**O Holy Night**



*Wishing you joy!*

**Mel's Jewellery**  
Phone 367-2682 Powerview

**PEACE**



Let us strive for lasting friendship with our fellow men, now and after Christmas.

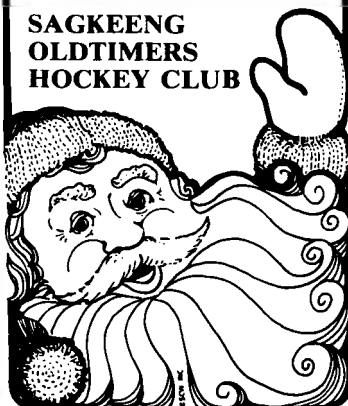
Christmas Greetings  
We wish you all the joys of a beautiful holiday season.  
From all the members of the  
**WINNIPEG RIVER LIONS CLUB**



**Ho! Ho! Ho!**

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the

**SAGKEENG OLDTIMERS HOCKEY CLUB**



**JOY**



A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Staff at **SEARS CANADA INC.**

## Mary Martinuk remembers celebrating Ukrainian Christmas



Mary Martinuk, resident of Pine Falls, has many recollections of Christmas as a young girl.

A lunch was enjoyed with Mary Martinuk, who resides at the Manitou Lodge in Pine Falls. Mary grew up in Manitoba and remembers celebrating the Ukrainian Christmas...

**Mary Martinuk:**

"I grew up in Manitoba near Beausejour. There were six children in our family, four girls and two boys. I am the second girl.

"I helped with the cooking. I started baking and cooking when I was 14. My father always praised me. "Now Mary, you sure made good bread!" That always made me feel good.

"We always had a Christmas tree. I remember we children would run home from school so we could go with father to get the tree, but it was always dark when we arrived home and father had already gotten the tree. We used to put peanuts and popcorn on the tree and candles that were in little clip holders.

"My parents were both Ukrainian, so we always celebrated Christmas on January 7. On Christmas Eve we ate fish and we'd have people in, whoever could come. You know, we lived in the country and sometimes it would be stormy at that time of year.

"There was never such a thing as Santa Claus then; we always got things we needed when we needed, not wait until Christmas for it. We did get popcorn, licorice, candies and different fruit.

"On Christmas Day we would go out skating or playing in the snow. We also had school when it was our Christmas in January."

*Season's Greetings*



Season's Greetings from the Lagasses at **PINEVIEW SHELL SERVICE STATION**  
367-2393

**Glad Tidings**

All joy and happiness be yours this Christmas!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year




**Plourde's Hardware and Craft Ltd.,** Manigotagan, Man.  
Hardware, wooden crafts, household items, toys  
Customer Ordering 363-7342

May the peace of Christmas be in all hearts this the most joyous of seasons.

**Joy and Peace**

Season's Greetings from Children, Staff & Board at the **THREE BEARS DAY CARE**




**Best Wishes**

Hope your Yuletide season is filled with joy, peace and happiness.

**Riverview Self-Service**

Powerview, Man. Ph. 367-2473  
• Gene • Susan • Staff

*Noel*

Have a warm and wonderful Christmas. We are delighted to have the opportunity to thank you for your patronage throughout the year.

**NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE**

Mel & Terri Zuk  
367-8926



**Joy to All**



Best wishes to all Santa's helpers! We've enjoyed serving you this Christmas!

Management & Staff  
**SHINDRUK'S FOOD TOWN**  
AND Great River Patro Canada

# Christmas reflections from seniors at the Beaches

Thanks to the efforts of Laurie Danwich, several interesting senior's Christmas stories are brought to this issue from The Beaches.

**Phyllis Martin  
(Traverse Bay):**

"As children we were always as good as gold before Christmas. We washed dishes and did as we were told."

"One of the best things of Christmas was the concert that was held at Hillside Beach School. My mother, Gladys Martin, was Santa Claus for two or three years. I only recognized her when I saw her wedding rings. We all got a bag of candy, a small gift and an orange. Sometimes a basket social was held earlier in the year to help buy some of the goodies for the concert."

"We always got up early on Christmas morning and looked in our stockings that were hung on the fireplace. The opening of gifts did not begin until all the chores were done. Mother would hand out the presents, after which we would listen to the king give his Christmas message. Both parents, Bill and Gladys, had come from England and were very loyal to the monarchy. To

this day, I still listen to the royal message.

"For dinner, in the early years, we had roast chicken and the traditional plum pudding. We lit the candles on our tree in the evening as there were no electric lights as we have today. Decorations for the tree were handmade."

"One of the best memories of later years was when my brother Harold was on the roof and he called down to David, who was quite young at the time, and asked him if he was good. He replied, "Oh Santa, sometimes I'm good and sometimes I'm bad!"

"Christmas was the best time of the year for our family and today we still spend many hours preparing for it."

**John Ateah  
(Victoria Beach):**

"When we were young, we hung our stockings at the end of our beds. In them we found mixed nuts, hard candy, an apple and orange. There were no presents, but sometimes my older brother would make us a spinning top. Our family always had a big dinner of turkey and all the trimmings."

**Eileen Sutherland  
(Hillside Beach):**

"At our home in St. Vital, our family always got up early on Christmas morning and opened our gifts. As my parents came from England, we had a great allegiance to the English royalty and listened to the king broadcast his Christmas message. At 11:00 a.m., we attended church and had our dinner in the afternoon."

**Christmas long ago by  
Mrs. Minnie Anderson,  
aged 82 years:**

"When I was a little girl we would start getting ready for Christmas in the late fall by whitewashing our home inside and out. Our house was made of logs, most homes were in those days. Whitewash is lime mixed with a stone mix and fired in a kiln outside. Washing bluing was added to make it whiter. The floor was wood boards. We would get down on our hands and knees and scrub the boards perfectly white and clean for Christmas (in fact we scrubbed them every week). To get them clean and white we used ashes from the wood stove, put them in a pot and poured boiling water over them and let it stand overnight. We would then pour the water which had settled onto the floor and scrub. We would have every inch of the house cleaned and sparkling."

"Christmas decorations were colored paper chains which we made. We hung them around the walls, windows and doors. We also had tinsel and a tree."

"We hung up our stockings on Christmas Eve. Santa always came. Dolls, mitts, socks, and

scarves were the main gifts, all made by my mother. She made beautiful dolls. I especially remember the Eskimo girl doll and my sister Winnie (Mrs. John Anderson) got one, too. They were beautifully made, dressed in buckskin."

"We would have a turkey dinner at my grandfather Philip Monkman's house. The family all gathered there, each bringing something for the festive meal."

"My grandfather made his rounds to all his children's homes on Christmas morning. He had a fast team of small horses and a cutter with a buffalo robe on the seat and floor and another buffalo robe to cover with. Everyone had buffalo robes in those days. He would be dressed in his fur coat and fur hat. He had a long beard and was kind and loving to all and a dear friend to everyone who knew him. We would hear the sleigh bells and we would know grandpa was coming."

"We usually went to church on Christmas Eve. We all grew up knowing the real meaning of Christmas."

"Plum pudding was the dessert at Christmas, put in a cloth and boiled four hours. I still make them today and one for each of my family."

"We all get together on Christmas Eve, first we go to church at St. Michael's to the carol service, then all the family comes over — the children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren."

**Oscar Olafson  
(Victoria Beach):**

"As a boy, Christmas dinner was a big family gathering consisting of a roast goose and homemade pudding. Presents were ordered from the Eaton's catalogue and as the post office was in Hillside Beach, they were sometimes not received in time."

"One present I remember was a wagon which was a board with wheels nailed on. Another Christmas, my father bought six dolls as our presents, even for the boys. I wasn't that happy."

"Our stockings were hung around the stove and one time I can remember that they had to be dried before the official hanging."

"Over the Christmas season, a bunch would come over and we would go sliding on the sandhills. There were no fancy sleds back then, but a piece of cardboard box worked just fine. We also made skating rinks on the lake. I remember we made an oval track which was the width of a shovel and skated around on that."

"The big thing at Christmas was the concert. It was a time for the whole area to get together and all the children got a bag of candy."

**Nellie Danwich  
(Traverse Bay):**

"Our family would celebrate the traditional Canadian Christmas (December 24) with others. As a child in Melek, we celebrated Ukrainian Christmas on the 7th  
*continued on next page*

**Joyous Holidays**  
Hope your Christmas holidays are happy and healthy.  
Sherwood Groceries — Gas Bar  
Gull Lake, 655-2171

**Holiday Greetings**  
Santa's on his way with a sackful of presents and best wishes for a cheery holiday.  
Season's Greetings from Omer, Lucille and Staff  
**MIDWAY FOODS**  
Grocery, Meats, Produce, Custom Cutting  
Many in-store Christmas features! 367-2276

**Silent Night**  
Merry Christmas to All  
May the Joys of the Season be Yours  
Staff at  
**EAGLE AVIATION LTD.**  
Silver Falls, Man.

**Merry Christmas**  
Merry Christmas to all May the joys of the holiday season be yours  
From Lil & Bonnie at  
**L & B SECOND HELPINGS**  
Powerview, Man

Best Wishes for 1988 from  
**KLARA'S TRAVEL**  
367-8063

**HAPPY YULETIDE**  
Wishing you bright holidays as Christmas lights up the world!  
Season's Greetings from  
ZASTAWNY'S, Steve Zastawny, Shell bulk agent  
and KUTCY GENERAL STORE, Steve and Edie  
Beaconia, Man. 754-2753 or 635-2210



William Guimond sits in front of a nativity he built a few years ago. Once he gets the light working it will go in the living room of the George Guimond Personal Care Centre. William built the nativity in the shop located beside the care centre. William, his brother George, and other volunteers built the shop so some of the care centre residents could work on projects there.

**Glad Tidings**  
 Through each moment of your holidays, may happiness be yours.  
 Season's Greetings  
**TRAIOR TRUCKING**  
 754-2701

**GREETINGS**

To the young and to the young at heart... a merry, merry Christmas!  
 Season's Greetings from  
 Ken and Carol at  
**TRAVERSE BAY CORNER**  
 754-2366

*Christmas stories from the Beaches*

*continued from previous page*

of January. On Christmas Eve, we had our feast of 12 traditional Ukrainian dishes. Later we attended midnight mass. We opened our gifts the next morning.

"My mother ordered clothes from the Eaton's catalogue for us and I can remember sleeping with these under my pillow since I liked it so much.

"In the house, hay was scattered over the floor and placed underneath the table cloths. As we did not have stockings hung, nuts were scattered through the hay and we would look for them. Later, we all sang carols in Ukrainian. All the neighbours were invited and mother always had plenty of food for all. My family tells me I make enough food to feed an army, but it is a tradition that has been passed on from my mother.

"These celebrations could last up to three or four days. Also with the celebrating, hay would be taken outside and formed in the shape of a man to signify Jesus Christ. The hay would be burnt and this would leave an imprint on the snow.

"On New Year's Day (the 14th of January), we would put wheat in our pockets and travel to all the neighbour's houses. A small portion of wheat would be thrown at each house and we would recite a verse wishing them health and that their crops would grow in the coming year. Fifteen to twenty-five cents would be given to us by the owner."

**Joyous Holidays**

Every good wish for Happiness at this Christmas Season and throughout the coming year.  
**Pine Falls Five Pin Bowling League**

**JOY TO ALL**

The bells ring out the happiness of the season. May you share in its joys.

I wish to extend Season's Greetings to everyone from your Electrolux Representative

**ROLAND DUVAL**  
 367-8324

**Blessings**

May Peace dwell within your hearts, bringing joy to you and yours this Christmas season.

**St. Croix Cycle and Marine Ltd.**  
 St. Georges 367-2219

**Joy to the World**  
 Season's Greetings from  
**Anderson's East Side Sewage Service**  
 LORNE ANDERSON  
 Victoria Beach 754-2460

**NOEL**  
 Christmas Greetings to our friends & customers  
**LESOSKY'S GENERAL STORE**  
 Stead, Man. 635-2155

**JOY**

Joy to all throughout the Christmas Season.  
 Dennis and Laurie Danwich

**D.M.D. ELECTRIC**  
 Traverse Bay

# Music fills the air with richness

by Noreen Ostash

Every Christmas the music of Handel's "Messiah" fills the air with the richness of musical voices and the words of the New Testament. Bing Crosby sings of a "White Christmas", Rudolph appears with his nose so bright and the Oak Ridge Boys "Thank God for Kids".

Music is so much a part of man's nature that even the Christmas hating Puritans could not completely subdue the song that waits inside to express the joy and celebration over the good news that the Christ Child was born to bring peace and good will to all men.

In the 1800's, traditional favorites like "Adeste Fideles", "Joy to the World", "What Child is This", "O Little Town of Bethlehem", and "Silent Night" were written.

"Silent Night" has become the world's favorite Christmas song. Written by Franz Gruber in an obscure Austrian village in 1818, it has been translated into 90 different languages and dialects.

Johann Sebastian Bach has given us the gift of the "Christmas Oratorio", really a series of six cantatas to be sung in Lutheran church services on Christmas and the two days following, on New Year's Day, the Sunday following and the last on Epiphany. The six separate works are tied together with chorales which provide a unity of subject and design. The first three parts tell the complete story of the Nativity, the fourth tell of the naming of Jesus and parts five and six tell the story of the Magi.

The "Messiah" was first in-

roduced in Ireland at a benefit performance where it was received with great delight. Not so in London where the audiences were scandalized to think that performances of dubious character were singing about the life of Christ. This was for the church, not the theatre.

Handel rarely produced his masterpiece as a result, although it did become an annual event as a benefit for the London Foundling Hospital. Questionable reputations or not, the singers were performing for a charity that could not be disputed.

Manitobans, as do ballet lovers around the world, flock to the Christmas production of Peter Hich Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker". For years it was performed annually by the

Royal Winnipeg Ballet, but now enchants audiences every second year.

So appealing is the music for this tale, children find it woven into cartoons and other Christmas stories produced for television.

More recently, gifts of music have come in popular songs like "The Little Drummer Boy". The roll of the drums pealing forth from the radio or television signal the call to the mystery and joy of the manger in Bethlehem almost 2000 years later.

Long before children have learned their catechism, they will tell you without missing a single one, the names of Santa's reindeer. Who will ever forget that it was Dasher and Dancer, Prancer and Vixen,

Comet and Cupid, Donner and Blitzen, who needed Rudolph with his nose so bright to guide Santa's sleigh through a stormy Christmas Eve. Created in 1939, Rudolph didn't become popular until cowboy movie star Gene Autry brought Johnny Marks' soon to be classic to millions of children throughout North America in 1949.

Irving Berlin's "White Christmas" was written during World War II, expressing all the longing and hope in the hearts of men separated from their families and friends at Christmas. Berlin said years later that the song had become "a peace song in wartime", an observation not likely to be challenged. Over the first 25

*continued on next page*



## Blessings

May His Word inspire you at Christmas and in the days that come..

At this Holy Season may we wish you every blessing.



Tony Kozak



Vernon Wilson



Ed Kanarowski

### Russell Funeral Homes

437 Park Avenue, Beausejour

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### season's best



PINE FALLS GENERAL HOSPITAL GOVERNING BOARD and STAFF join in wishing all the residents of the area we serve — a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year.  
*People Caring for People.*

### BEST WISHES



May the spirit of the season carry over and enrich your lives every day of the coming year.

### GREAT FALLS COMMUNITY CLUB

# Music fills the air with richness

continued from previous page



**Joy and peace**

It's the season to greet friends old and new with Christmas greetings of joy and happiness.

**POWerview AGENCIES**

Best wishes from Kim, Joan, Bridgette, Louise, George and Vincent Harbottle.

Drive safely during the holiday season and always.

years it was adding its special appeal to Christmases, it sold 135 million copies, making it the number one best seller of any song ever written.

As much as Lac du Bonnetians were enjoying the mild weather, the spectacular beauty of the hoar frost in early December was a popular topic of conversation for the three days it covered everything with its jewel-like magnificence. When the blanket of snow arrived well into December, even the most determined snow haters found it hard to suppress the exclamation, "Now we'll have a white Christmas".

For those of us old enough to remember the Elvis Presley of the early 1950's, you will recall that many people felt that this pelvis swining singer should not be allowed to desecrate Christmas by being allowed to perform his music. Radio stations were pressured into banning Elvis's renditions of the classics while record stores had to choose between offending a stern adult audience and trying to meet what appeared to be an endless demand for copies of Elvis's Christmas long plays.

The Kenny Rogers and Dolly Parton Christmas special has become a television classic. Conservative Canadians are slow to adapt new Christmas music, preferring instead to rearrange traditional songs, but the declaration that "Christmas is my favorite time of year" will be around for a long time.

What parent has not stood at the bedside of a sleeping child, filled with the wonder of new life, nostalgic for the innocence of youth, full of hope that life will be better for this "Flesh of my flesh"? What parent has not looked into the manger and seen a bit of their own child in there or looked at Mary and known that as a parent we all ponder these things in our hearts? What parent has not uttered fervent prayers that life dealt out a gentle hand for this vulnerable generation that will follow in our footsteps, picking up our mistakes and taking advantage of our accomplishments?

All of this is summed up in a fairly new song recorded by the Oak Ridge Boys, "Little One". Let us share some of that song with you here.

*Mary lay and pondered till her eyes became too heavy  
And she finally found the rest she struggled for.  
Joseph sat in silence and watched the baby sleeping  
And wondered what the future held in store.  
Angel voices whispered in his ears,  
Reaching down he drew the baby near,  
Little One, in the morning when You waken  
The world will find that God has taken form  
There'll be joy and the earth will have new life  
Because of You, You are love,  
Little One.*



**Blessings to All**

Heartiest greetings of the season! It's always a pleasure to wish our friends the very best!

We wish you Happy Holidays Best in 88!

Visit & Lounge at


**CARLSON'S HONEY FARM**


**Peace on Earth**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

All the Staff at the **SOUTH INTERLAKE CREDIT UNION**



**O holy NIGHT**



May the blessings of the season be yours in abundance!

The staff at

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**Season's Best**

**BISON TRANSPORT**

would like to thank all their customers for their support over the past year. We wish you all the best during the festive season, and peace and prosperity in the New Year.

# Viola Campbell remembers Swedish-tradition Christmases

"We lived in Winnipeg when I was a girl, at the corner of Charles and Flora. Ours was the first house built in that area. We were a family of five girls and one boy, and also an uncle lived

with us.

"Our family Christmases were absolutely beautiful. We stayed together under all circumstances. We wouldn't think of going away for Christmas; we wouldn't think of going away for New Year's. We always stayed home and made our own fun.

"Christmas started in November, our mother would have a dressmaker come in and make our new "Sunday dress" for Christmas. There were five of us girls and one son, we'd each get a new Sunday outfit.

"During that month, my mother would be preparing food — fish to Swedish breads, including rye crisps and cookies. Enthusiasm was felt throughout the house. In December, very early, we started to decorate the house. Two candles burned at each window as soon as it would get dark. Our tree would also have candles. We children each would be designated a job for fire safety, nothing ever happened all the many years we were together.

"My dad would go out in the afternoon of December 24 and buy a present for each one of us on his own, a fun present.

"On the 24th, the Swedish people celebrated Christmas Eve as well as Christmas Day. We had two Shetland ponies and my older sisters delivered Christmas parcels by pony to neighbors' houses around the area. The custom was that we had to be out of sight when the gift was delivered. We'd put the gift in the door and ring the bell, then run and hide somewhere. I was usually given this job, because I was the youngest. The parcel was supposed to come from Santa Claus.

"At 5:00 p.m. on the 24th, we would have the traditional Swedish supper of luta fisk, potatoes and rice for dessert. From the king to the poorest could afford this meal, so we all had it.

"Guests would arrive after supper, about 7:00 p.m. There

would be about 25 of us, then there would be a social time. We would have a happy conversational time, happy to be with each other. Two sisters played the piano and we would dance around the Christmas tree, and also around the house, upstairs, downstairs, every room — always holding hands, making a chain.

"Then about 9:00 or 10:00 p.m., my parents would have a smorgasbord. Everything under the sun would be on that table. My mother would get in help to prepare the food, we'd help serve.

"After dancing and before midnight, we'd sit in a circle and each person

would be handed their gift. It was orderly done, nothing would get broken or lost.

"Activities stopped at midnight, we respected the 25th as Christmas Day and we kept it sacred. We went to church service at 6:00 a.m. and we all went to church, by half past five we would be on our way. We walked, both ways, to and from church. The church window had candles, too.


"We regarded Christmas Day as a sacred day, so it was quietly, but pleasantly spent in the home. We had the Canadian traditional Christmas dinner on that day with friends invited to share the meal."



**Rejoice**

*Unchanging and cherished are the traditions of the Christmas season, uniting all men of goodwill in harmonious brotherhood.*

**The Management & Staff  
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**Noel**

Let us all rejoice in the glow of a warm and loving Christmas season. Thank you for your past 30 years of support.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**H.A. DESAUTELS & SON**

**season's best**



Season's Greetings from Ike & Darlene

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**Warm Wishes**



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**Happy Holidays**



Season's Greetings to Meals on Wheels' Volunteer Drivers from the committee and recipients of

**MEALS ON WHEELS**

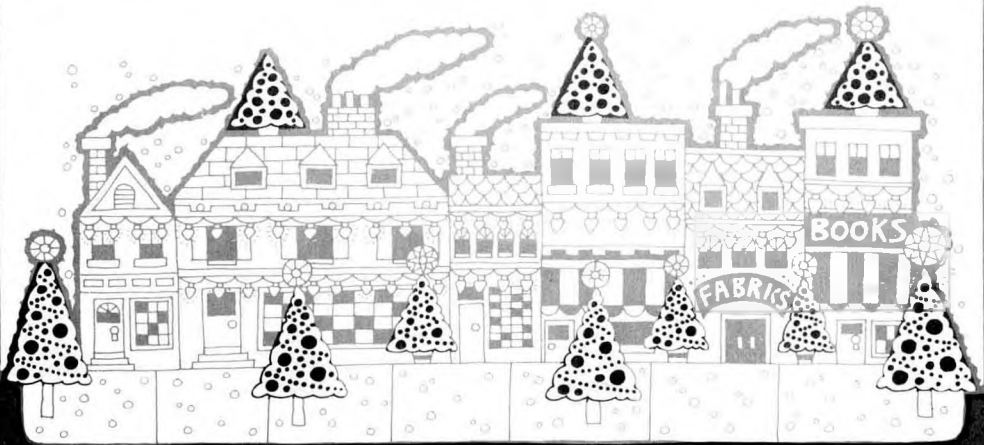
# Season's Greetings



*Extending warmest holiday greetings to you during this happy season. May future Christmases always bring the joys of laughter, good will and song.*

## ***Best wishes from all of us...***

- Russ Preston
- Aline Preston
- Gwen Veilleux
- Daryl Preston
- Ken Nelson
- Dess Trudell
- Pat Nixdorf
- Lil Nichiporick
- Angie Scheel
- Marlene Watson
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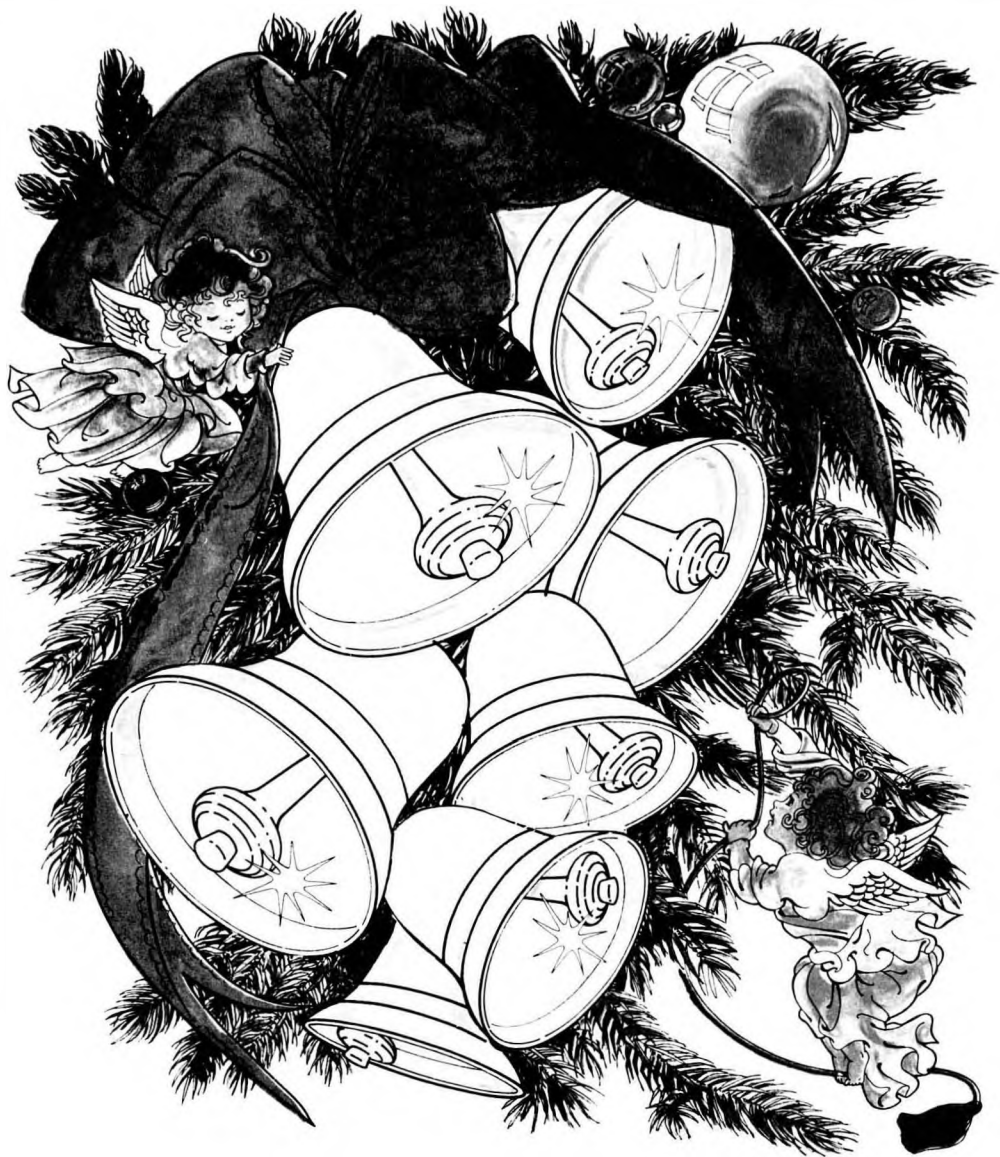
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**Winnipeg River  
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Lac du Bonnet

CHRISTMAS EDITION 1987, THE LEADER, LAC DU BONNET, MANITOBA



Christmas bells resound with cheer, for the season of joy and laughter is here, bringing to us a special glow of bright festive colors and mistletoe.

As our hearts and homes abound with good feelings, we'll revel in the church bells peeling, and the spirit of love that's in the air when Christmas joy is everywhere. With thoughts of thanks and appreciation to our many friends and loyal patrons, **Have a Merry Christmas, All!**

*Best Wishes from the Management  
and Staff of*

the  **Bay**

**Hudson's Bay**  
NORTHERN STORES

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