

Holiday Gift Guide

*November 22,
2017*

A Special Supplement to The Grandview Herald and The Prosser Record-Bulletin

Cocoa and Carols Coming Soon

Following your feast of turkey and all the fixings, Grandview will be preparing for the Christmas Season with their Annual Cocoa and Carols event which takes place in the heart of Downtown Grandview.

Cocoa and Carols will be held Friday, Dec. 1, starting at 6:30 p.m. at Stokely Square located on West Second Street.

Santa will be bringing candy canes for the children and several singing groups from the local elementary schools will perform, providing us with their renditions of Holiday Carols. Hot cocoa and cookies will be provided for everyone to enjoy!

Prior to the lighting of the Stokely Square Christmas tree, which will occur at 6:30 p.m., the children in attendance will get to decorate the tree with handmade ornaments.



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Night Before Christmas

Courtesy of the Poetry Foundation
By Clement Clarke Moore

'Twas the night before
Christmas and all thro' the house,
not a creature was stirring not
even a mouse; The stockings were
hung by the chimney with care,
in the hopes that St. Nicolas soon
would be there, The Children
were nestled all snug in their
beds, While visions of sugar
plums danced in their heads, And
mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in
my cap, had just settled our brains
for a long winter's nap, When out
on the lawn there arose such a
clatter, I sprang from my bed to
see what was the matter. Away to
the window I flew like a flash, Tore
open the shutters and threw up
the sash. The moon on the breast
of the new-fallen snow, Gave a
lustre of midday to objects below,
When what to my wondering eyes
did appear, But a miniature sleigh
and eight tiny rein-deer, With a
little old driver so lively and quick,
I knew in a moment he must be
St. Nick. More rapid than eagles
his courses they came, And he
whistled, and shouted, and called
them by name:

*"Now, Dasher! now, Dancer! now
Prancer and Vixen! On, Comet! on
Cupid! on Dunder and Blitzen! To
the top of the wall! Now dash
away! Dash away! Dash away all!"*

As leaves that before the wild
hurricane fly, when they meet with
an obstacle, mount to the sky, So
up to the housetop the courses
they flew with the sleigh full of
toys, and St. Nicolas too - And
then, in a twinkling, I heard on
the roof the prancing and pawing
of each little hoof. As I drew in
my head, and was turning around,
Down the chimney St. Nicolas
came with a bound. He was
dressed all in fur, from his head to
his foot, and his clothes were all
tarnished with ashes and soot; A
bundle of toys he had flung on his
back, and he looked like a pedler
just opening his pack. His eyes -
how they twinkled! His dimples,
how merry! His cheeks were like
roses, his nose like a cherry! His
droll little mouth was drawn up
like a bow, And the beard on his
chin was as white as the snow;
The stump of a pipe he held tight
in his teeth, And the smoke, it
encircled his head like a wreath;
He had a broad face and a little
round belly That shook when he
laughed, like a bowl full of jelly.
He was chubby and plump, a right
jolly old elf, And I laughed when
I saw him, in spite of myself; A
wink of his eye and a twist of his
head Soon gave me to know I had
nothing to dread; He spoke not
a word, but went straight to his
work, and filled all the stockings;
then turned with a jerk, And
laying his finger aside of his nose,
and giving a nod, up the chimney
he rose; He sprang to his sleigh,
to his team gave a whistle, and
away they all flew like the down of
a thistle. But I heard him exclaim,
ere he drove out of sight -

*"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a
good night!"*

The History of Nutcrackers



By Magicofnutcrackers.com

According to German folklore, nutcrackers were given as keepsakes to bring good luck to your family and protect your home. The legend says that a nutcracker represents power and strength and serves like a trusty watchdog guarding your family from evil spirits and danger. A fierce protector, the nutcracker bares its teeth to the evil spirits and serves as the traditional messenger of good luck and goodwill.

“Don’t be afraid, my beard is long, my head is large, my look is grim but that matters not. I won’t bite you. In spite of my big mouth and grim appearance, I look with my heart for your happiness.”

•Nutcrackers embody the ‘Cycle of Life’, As the seed of a nut falls to the ground, it grows into a strong tree, living over hundreds of years nourishing the woodcutters and woodcrafters. The legends tell of a feast celebrated just before harvesting the logs of the Elder trees, where nuts and fruits were eaten as if to pass on the magic and mystery of this eternal cycle . . . and so on to the collectors of these exquisite wooden nutcrackers.

•Nutcrackers reflect ancestral dining customs where amusing or unusual nutcrackers were part of the social setting adding a whimsical conversation piece as guests lingered over the desert course which included sweetmeats such as pecans and hazelnuts.

•Writers, composers and artists sang and danced the praises of the legend of the Nutcracker beginning with the novel “The Nutcracker and the King of Mice,” written sometime between 1776 and 1822, by E.T. Amadeus Hoffman. This novel became the basis for Tchaikovsky’s magnificent “Nutcracker Suite”, which debuted as a ballet in St. Petersburg in 1892 and lives on as a holiday tradition throughout the world.

“If you sit down under one of these trees you might hear the rush and rustle of the tops, telling you about the German legends and the history witnessed by these trees,” says Herr Steinbach.



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Great Holiday Gifts for Hunters



and Outdoor Enthusiasts

StatePoint - Will you be shopping for any hunters or outdoor enthusiasts this holiday season? Thoughtful, useful gifts will be well-appreciated.

"When it comes to hunters, think lightweight and packable," says Louis Chalfant, director of product development at Smith's Consumer Products.

Here are a few ideas to consider:

Sharpen their Game

Those who hunt, fish and go on outdoor expeditions know just how important it is to keep tools sharp. You can hone gamesmanship with essential gear like a knife sharpener.

For instance, a versatile is quick, safe and easy to use whether one is in the field,

back at camp, or at home. It functions both to set the edge on a dull or damaged blade and to achieve razor sharpness. Plus, the scissors sharpening slot is large enough to accommodate game shears as well.

Lightweight enough to be a stocking stuffer, consider a stone, which has a groove for fish hooks or pointed tools, and when one is finished sharpening; he or she can store the stones in the handle for safekeeping.

These tools are available at various sporting goods, outdoors and hardware retail stores.

Get them Prepared

Those whose adventures take them off the beaten path need certain lightweight,



compact tools to be prepared for a variety of situations. A fire starter is a must-have for any avid outdoorsman, hunter or backpacker.

Other handy items to consider for gifts are a high-quality first aid kit with all the essentials, a multifunctional pocket knife

or even an IOU promising to cover the cost of this seasons' hunting and fishing licenses.

With some careful consideration, you can make the holidays special for the hunters and outdoor enthusiasts in your life.

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Cranberry Popcorn Balls

Recipe Ingredients:

2 cups sugar
 1 (10 oz.) package (1 cup) frozen cranberry-orange relish
 1/2 cup cranberry juice
 1/2 cup light corn syrup
 1 teaspoon vinegar
 1/2 teaspoon salt
 5 quarts unsalted popped popcorn



Cooking Instructions:

Combine all ingredients, except popcorn, in a heavy saucepan. Bring to a boil; lower heat and cook to 250 degrees Fahrenheit on a candy thermometer. Mixture will bubble up in pan, so watch to keep from boiling over. Pour slowly onto hot popcorn and mix until well-coated. Let stand 5 minutes or until mixture can easily be formed into balls. Butter hands and form into 3-inch balls.
 Makes 18 popcorn balls.

From A Charlie Brown Christmas - 1965 TV Short
 by Charles Schulltz



Charlie Brown: Isn't there anyone who knows what Christmas is all about?

Linus Van Pelt: Sure, Charlie Brown, I can tell you what Christmas is all about. Lights, please.

[a spotlight shines on Linus]

"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, 'Fear not:' *[Linus drops his security blanket on purpose]* "for behold, I bring unto you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.'" *[Luke 2:8-14 KJV]* *[Linus picks up his blanket and walks back towards Charlie Brown]* That's what Christmas is all about, Charlie Brown.



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Sunnyside Lighted Farm Implement Parade



One of the most highly anticipated parades in our county is the Sunnyside Lighted Farm Implement Parade.

This parade kicks off the Christmas season for many of us in the lower Yakima Valley.

The Lighted Farm Implement Parade is one of the best attended parades in the area, with about 25,000 spectators lining the streets to see all kinds of farm machinery decorated in holiday lights.

The parade pays homage to the agriculture heritage of Sunnyside and is the oldest farm implement parade.

The annual parade takes place on the first Saturday in December. This year it happens to fall on December 2, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in downtown Sunnyside.

There is also a fun one mile Jingle Bell Run that starts immediately prior to the parade.

Runners are encouraged to wear their most festive attire from jingle bells to Christmas lights. Check-in is at Harrison Middle School beginning at 5:30 p.m.

and a judgment of costumes will happen at 6 p.m. The run will end at the gazebo (Edison and 6th).

The parade is now in its 29th year, making it the longest-running farm-implement parade in the nation.

The Sunnyside Lighted Parade has been featured on the Travel Channel and X-treme Christmas.

The parade was also voted one of the top 10 lighted Christmas parades in the nation by A&E TV.

The parade route starts on Warehouse Avenue and proceeds to 6th Street, heading south to Edison Avenue.

At Edison, the parade heads east until it reaches the Mid-Valley Mall parking lot. If you stand close you might get some candy or a trinket.

Other activities that accompany the celebration are a breakfast with Santa and Christmas caroling.

So bundle up the kids and join in an evening of fun. Start a new tradition for your family and create memories of small-town Christmases that your kids will talk about for a lifetime.

For more information about entering or viewing the Lighted Farm Implement Parade, call (509) 837-5939 or go to www.lightedfarmparade.com.

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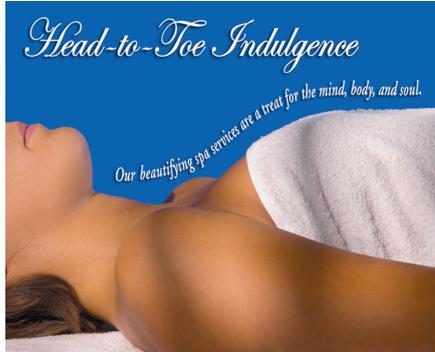
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I heard the bells on
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~Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

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Santa's Elves Facts for Kids



By [kidsplayandcreate](#)

Ever wonder about Santa's Elves? Who are these helpers to Santa, what do they like to eat, where do they live? For the answers to these questions and more check out these facts about Santa's Elves below!

- Santa's Elves are small magical creatures that help Santa throughout the year.
- Elves are also known as Santa's helpers and Santa's Magical Elves.
- The Elves live in the North Pole with Santa and Mrs. Claus.
- Did you know that even though it's always cold and there is always snow at the North Pole the Elves never get cold! Their elf clothing keeps them warm and cozy.
- The Elves live in tiny colorful cottage houses throughout the North Pole.
- Elves decorate their houses

with Christmas lights all year round. They also decorate with candies and gingerbread.

- All of Santa's Elves are under 4 feet tall.
- They have pointy ears and rosy cheeks. Their hair can be a variety of colors.
- Santa's Elves come from all different ethnic backgrounds to represent all the different children from around the world.
- Elves have many jobs at the North Pole. Many of them work in Santa's workshop making toys, some take care of Santa's Reindeer and others bake cookies and make candies. There are schools for Elf children so some Elves are teachers. One of the biggest jobs at the North Pole for an elf is working in the mail department. The Elves go through all Santa's letters from children



RaisingOurKids.com

and make sure that each and every one is read by Santa. On Christmas Eve Santa's Elves also help prepare Santa's sleigh for his long journey ahead. Some elves are chosen to ride with Santa to deliver presents.

- Elves favorite things to eat are cookies and candies. Mrs. Claus looks after the Elves to make sure they also eat fruits and vegetables.
- Elves make toys throughout the

entire year not just during Christmas. Making toys keeps the Elves busy throughout the year.

- Santa's Elves live for a very long time. Children's happiness and belief in the magic of Christmas keeps Elves alive and well. So remember to never lose the Spirit of Christmas.
- Popular boy Elf names are: Jingle, Buddy, Charlie and popular girl Elf names are Nellie, Elfe and Trixie.

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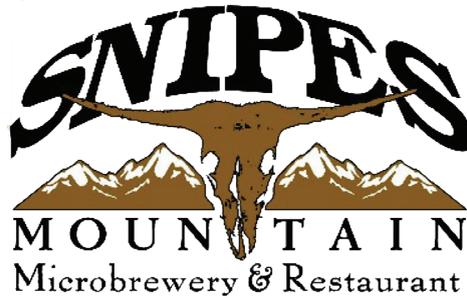


Do you want to track Santa's progress this season?

NORAD has provided a website where you and the kids can go and see what Santa is up to. Enjoy!
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