

Sanford Herald

Serving Sanford, Lake Mary and Seminole County since 1908
85th Year, No. 104 - Sanford, Florida

NEWS DIGEST

No paper Christmas Day

The Sanford Herald will not publish on Dec. 25 in order that our employees may enjoy the Christmas holiday at home with family and friends.

Important sky-watch

Aircraft pilots flying in the night-time hours in the Central Florida area are urged to exercise caution this evening. It is expected that a small flying object, pulled by eight reindeer may be operating in the skies over Sanford, Lake Mary and Longwood. Some believe the object is in the shape of a sleigh.

It is not known to have radio equipment or other means of airport contact on board, and therefore may unexpectedly fly into private or commercial air space.

In case weather conditions change with the cold front moving in from the north, a ninth reindeer, with a red spotlight type nose may also be seen.

The weather service and airport radar units will maintain a constant watch beginning shortly after dark this evening, to insure the utmost in safety procedures will be adhered to during the fly-by of the special object.

The sleigh-like object and reindeer are expected to be out of the area by day-break tomorrow morning, and all cautions will be lifted.

Christmas dinners served

Two community meals will be served this Christmas for the needy in the community.

The Sanford Rescue Mission will host a Christmas dinner beginning at 11 a.m. on Christmas Day at the Rescue Mission on 13th Street. Volunteers will be serving meals to the needy until 2 p.m.

At Holy Cross Episcopal Church, 401 Park Ave., the annual Feast for the Needy will be served on Christmas Day from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The dinner is for the elderly, lonely and unemployed of the community. Everyone is welcome. The feast, which in past years has been served at the Sanford Civic Center, is sponsored by Holy Cross and the City of Sanford Community Development Office.

Christmas trees recycled

Residents in the unincorporated areas of Seminole County may recycle their Christmas trees this holiday season by placing them at the curb from Dec. 28 to Jan. 9.

Christmas trees will be collected free of charge to residents who place them at the curb on regular yard waste collection days during this two week collection period.

From staff reports



1 shopping day to Christmas

| | | | |
|-------------|-------|-----------|-------|
| Bridge | 40 | Horoscope | 50 |
| Classifieds | 55,75 | Movies | 55 |
| Comics | 60 | Nation | 5A |
| Crossword | 60 | People | 5B |
| Dear Abby | 65 | Politics | 5A |
| Deaths | 5A | Religion | 5B |
| Dr. Sam | 60 | Sports | 1B,2B |
| Editorial | 4A | Weather | 5A |
| Florida | 5A | World | 5B |

Seasonal temps return



Mostly cloudy with a slight 20 percent chance of showers. Highs in the upper 70s. Wind north 15-20 mph.

For more weather, see Page 2A

'Stop killer's release'

Local officials plead with governor today

By NICK PFEIFAUF
Herald Staff Writer

SANFORD — Seminole County's state attorney is to have met with Florida's governor today in an effort to convince him a convicted child killer should not be released from prison on New Year's Eve.

Seminole-Brevard State Attorney Norman Wolfinger is to have been accompanied by State Sen. Gary Siegel, R-Altamonte Springs in the meeting with Gov. Lawton Chiles this morning.

"We will be taking two approaches," Wolfinger said yesterday afternoon. "First, the long range plans that will bring about laws more protective

of children, and keep those involved in crimes against children in jail for longer periods."

"Secondly," he continued, "the more immediate approach we will be taking is to keep this particular individual in jail longer."

-Norm Wolfinger, state attorney

Children's advocates and law enforcement personnel are pushing hard for legislative reforms to keep child-abuse murderers such as Donald McDougall behind bars.

"To let this guy out after he committed this murder is an absolute outrage," said Sen. Siegel, who has been trying to find a legal loophole to prevent next week's release.

Wolfinger commented, "The public is outraged, and I don't blame them. This isn't a one-shot situation, it's happening every day, and we want to do whatever we can to stop it."

"The Governor can lead this fight to restrict such people as McDougall from being released."

□ See Prison, Page 5A

The night before Christmas....



Herald Photo by Richard Hopkins

Terrence "TJ" Johnson, son of Aaron and Renee Keith of Sanford, played Santa outside his parents' home throughout the Christmas season this year. He and his step-father decorated the home at 416 W. Crystal Drive with more than 6,000 lights this year.

Christmas essence touches mailman and a little girl

Editor's note: Part 1 of two parts

By VICKI DeBORNER
Herald Staff Writer

SANFORD — Essence Miles' family doesn't have much money this Christmas, but the six-year-old has a short list of things she hopes to receive for Christmas.

She knows that her family can not afford to give her the things she wants, but she wrote a letter to Santa and asked if he could bring her a few simple gifts, including a Barbie doll.

Earlier this week, when the letter carrier whose route includes the apartment where Essence lives

came to deliver the mail, he stopped to chat with her mother who was outside. The mother asked the youngster if she wanted to bring out the letter she had written to Santa in order for the post office to deliver it to the North Pole in time for Christmas.

The carrier, who wants to remain anonymous, brought the letter to Patrick J. Brennan, the new Sanford postmaster.

"I thought we had to do something for this little girl," he said.

Since the letter might not make it to the North Pole in time for Santa to process, the carrier and Brennan agreed to see what they could do to

□ See Girl, Page 5A

Local retailers report holiday sales soaring

By GEORGE DUNCAN
Herald Staff Writer

SANFORD — If preliminary reports of Christmas shopping sales prove true, then most citizens of Sanford and surrounding areas should have plenty of gifts under their Christmas trees.

A random survey of area stores show sales are above last year's, although exact figures are not yet known.

Mel Tomlin, the manager of the Sanford Wal-Mart said sales were well above last year's totals.

"Sales are exceptional, with electronics selling particularly well.

Sales are above expectations," she said.

Shoppers should have a merry Christmas this year "if they base it on presents," she noted.

Wayne Kempton, manager of the Kmart in Lake Mary, said although precise figures were not known, that sales were probably up.

"We had more early shoppers this year and more big ticket early shoppers this year, they gave themselves longer to pay off in regards to larger selections with layaways," he said.

There was a significant increase in purchases of small appliances but

□ See Sales, Page 5A

Holiday travel affected

Gas prices creeping down, trend expected to continue

By VICKI DeBORNER
Herald Staff Writer

SANFORD — While you're scurrying from mall to mall trying to get that last minute Christmas shopping done you can rest assured that the price on at least one item is going down.

Gas. Prices at the gas pump have been inching downward this holiday

season. And according to Nathalie Herbst of AAA's traffic safety department, the trend appears to be a steady one.

"I think we're going to see the price drop a little every week," she said. "At least for a while."

While the statewide price survey conducted by AAA show that the average price per gallon of regular unleaded gas is \$1.11, but that

□ See Gas, Page 5A

Holiday tourists keep roads and airports busy in Florida

By NEE FLORES
Associated Press Writer

ORLANDO — Theme parks, hotels, highways and airports are beginning one of their busiest periods in three years as holiday travelers jostle each other in and out of the Sunshine State.

Slightly lower gasoline prices and airline fares will help make the Christmas-New Year's season the most active holiday time since 1989, the American Automobile Association predicts.

Cost-conscious Americans focusing on family-oriented vacations are targeting Orlando and other Florida

cities among their favorite destinations.

An estimated 33.7 million Americans will travel 100 miles or more from home this holiday, a 5 percent increase over 1991, the AAA said. About 34.4 million took trips during Christmas-New Year's in 1989.

Many vacationers are taking shorter, more frequent trips, "and the extended Christmas holiday is an ideal time for this type of travel," said AAA President Paul R. Verkuil.

"It looks like a great season. We'll be full in the parks and hotels," said spokesman Charlie Ridgway of Walt Disney World, the giant entertain-

□ See Tourists, Page 5A

Will he get what he asked for?



Herald Photo by Richard Hopkins

Neer Shah, 3, of Lake Mary may have gotten one thing he asked for as he sat on Santa's lap earlier this week. Shortly after he talked to Santa, his mother gave birth to a little brother for him just in time for Christmas. As for the other gifts...he'll just have to wait and see tomorrow.

Man hides in lake

Longwood police arrested Billy Miller, 19, of Winter Springs, on Tuesday. According to the police report, an officer was investigating a man reported as suspicious, in a restaurant in Longwood, when the man fled. The officer chased him to Lake Gem, where he was seen apparently hiding, submerged in the lake. After a K-9 dog and officer arrived, Miller was forced out of the lake and arrested for resisting an officer without violence.

Conveyance burglary

Seminole Sheriff's deputies arrested Roger Vaughn Sebree, 43, 1740 Fountain Head Drive, Lake Mary, early Wednesday morning. Deputies located him near a pickup truck owned by Charles Appleby of Sanford, at the boat ramp at Cameron Wright Park near Geneva. When officers investigated the scene, they determined that the truck door had been opened and items moved about. Nothing was immediately identified as missing. At the time of the investigation, deputies said Sebree had a piece of coat hanger in his possession. He was charged with burglary to a conveyance, possession of burglary tools, and loitering & prowling.

Sleeping man arrested

Willie C. Deleon, 32, with no local address, was arrested by Longwood police near the intersection of Highway 17-92 and S.R. 434 Tuesday. Sheriff's deputies told police they had seen Deleon standing by the roadway yelling at passing motorists. When Longwood police arrived, they reported finding Deleon sleeping on the sidewalk. He was charged with disorderly intoxication.

Drug charge

Travis Trel Davis, 18, 4540 Gilbert Drive, Sanford, was arrested by Sheriff's deputies Tuesday following a traffic stop on Highway 17-92. He was initially charged with driving with a suspended license. Deputies reported seeing him try to hide some items behind the seat of the car, and charged him with possession of what later proved to be cocaine.

Warrant arrests:

- Farron W. Cox, 25, 435 Church Ave., Longwood, was arrested in a parking lot near his home Tuesday. He was wanted for failure to appear on a charge of driving with a suspended license.
- William Hannon Harwell, 26, 2304 Park Ave., Sanford, turned himself in at the John E. Polk Correctional Facility Tuesday. He was wanted on a warrant for failing to appear on a charge of driving with a suspended license.
- Reynold J. Difazio, 46, 440 Longwood Circle, was arrested by Longwood police at 664 Highway 17-92 Tuesday. He was wanted on a warrant for failing to appear on a charge of grand theft in Seminole County. Police said he also be held at the request of Orange County.
- Bernard Andra Fitzgerald, 59, 310 Wilson Place Drive, Sanford, was arrested by Sheriff's deputies Tuesday. He was wanted on a warrant charging him with illegal commercial dumping.
- Evonda Johnson, 23, 1603 W. 11th Street, Sanford, was arrested at her home Tuesday. She was wanted on two separate warrants for failure to appear on a theft charge, and violation of probation on a conviction of obtaining property with a worthless check.

Violence cases:

- Brandon Scott Hodgen, 19, 253 3rd Street, Lake Mary, was arrested by Lake Mary police at his residence Tuesday following a physical confrontation earlier in the day with another man on Lake Mary Boulevard. He was charged with aggravated battery.
- Michael Edward Clarity, 34, 112 Autumn Drive, Longwood, was arrested by Sheriff's deputies at 691 Hunt Club Blvd. Tuesday. He was reportedly in a confrontation with his wife. Deputies said the woman reported she had been beaten by Clarity three times in the past two months. Clarity was charged with battery-repeated domestic violence.
- Sharon Denise Rene, 30, and Ernestine Stringer Grant, 23, both of 1822 Harding Avenue, Sanford, were arrested Tuesday by Sheriff's deputies following a fight at their residence.

Incidents reported to the Sheriff:

- Criminal mischief was reported Monday night at Palm Avenue Baptist Church, 2626 Palm Avenue. A church official told deputies someone had removed mail from the church mailbox, opened a number of letters, and threw the papers out onto the roadway.
- Doris Ann Ott-Boase, 5385 Orange Blvd., Lake Monroe, reported someone had been tampering with her Christmas decorations for the past several days. She told deputies the latest incident was noticed Tuesday when someone cut Christmas lights at two locations.



Ho ho howdy

Leland and Betty Tretbar of Longwood really get into the spirit of Christmas bringing joy and laughter to children of all ages who want to see the first couple of gift giving.

Herald Photo by Richard Hopkins

Cops: Gunman kills 3, himself

By EWG NEWS/LEE Associated Press Writer

MIAMI — A despondent employee went on a shooting rampage at a Christmas party in a warehouse office, killing three co-workers before fatally turning the gun on himself after a four-hour standoff, police and witnesses said today.

A fifth person shot in the rampage underwent surgery at Jackson Memorial Hospital for gunshot wounds to the chest and was listed in critical condition early today, hospital spokesman Sam Kratis said.

Police said they did not know the motive for the shooting, but a neighbor said the gunman, who was a new employee at A&E Aircrafts, was apparently de-

spondent over the recent death of his mother.

Witnesses said an employee ran to a nearby business and called 911 shortly after the first shots were fired at about 8:30 p.m. EST.

Police arrived with crisis negotiators who talked to the gunman before officers fired rounds of tear gas about 2 1/4 hours later to force him out of the building to surrender, Metro-Dade police spokesman Juan DelCastillo said.

"There was communication," DelCastillo said. "I don't know what ... and at some point, the communication ceased."

Officers then stormed the office in a warehouse district near Miami International Airport at about 10:30 p.m., DelCastillo said.

The bodies of two men and a woman as well as the man police believe was the gunman were found on the floor. Police did not know how many people were inside the office at the time of the shooting, nor did they provide details about the shooting and what transpired during the lengthy standoff.

The identities of the victims and the wounded man, who was taken to Jackson Memorial Hospital, were not immediately released.

"We heard a shot and we then

saw three people running out of the building," Dora Luft, an employee at the nearby Xasal International Corp., told The Miami Herald.

"Then we heard a second shot," she said. "Because they were having a party, we thought they were celebrating Christmas with firecrackers."

Luft said the man who called 911 told the dispatcher, "The gun was very depressed and he started shooting. His mother died one week ago."

Sword-wielding attorney nabbed at shopping mall

By The Associated Press

PENSACOLA — A lawyer, reportedly angry that a shopping mall's gift-wrapping booth had no Hanukkah paper, has been arrested after buying a sword and threatening it at a security guard, authorities said.

Randall Aronson, 36, of Pensacola remained Wednesday at the Escambia County Jail in lieu of a \$50,000 bond on charges of aggravated assault, disorderly conduct and resisting arrest without violence.

Aronson, who works for Northwest Florida Legal Services, which represents impoverished clients, was arrested Tuesday at Cordova Mall after two other men helped the guard subdue him.

After getting upset at the wrapping booth, Aronson went into the Cutlery World store and bought a \$417 Robin Hood sword he had seen in the window, said police officer Bernd Jablonaki.

"I had a whole lot of customers and he came in and said, 'I want

that sword now,'" recalled store clerk Chris McHenry. "I told him he'd have to wait, and he said, 'Ring it up, I'll be back for it later.'"

Aronson left an American Express card and returned three minutes later with the sword, which he threatened to use on the guard.



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First female attorney general named as Cabinet rounds out

By **RON FOURNIER**
Associated Press Writer

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — President-elect Clinton is rounding out his Cabinet by selecting Zoe Baird of Connecticut to be the nation's first female attorney general and adding another black and Hispanic to key posts.

The appointment of Baird, a friend of Clinton and his wife, Hillary, was expected to be the highlight of a Christmas-evening news conference at which Clinton announces four Cabinet appointments and the U.S. trade representative.

Transition and Democratic sources, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said Clinton also would appoint:

—Former Arizona Gov. Bruce Babbitt for Interior. Babbitt, 54, is a colorful outdoorsman who sought the 1988 Democratic presidential nomination. Environmentalists pushed for Babbitt's appointment.

—Rep. Mike Espy of Mississippi for agriculture secretary. A major Clinton campaign supporter and fellow member of the centrist Democratic Leadership Council, Espy, 39, was a strong contender for the post early on. But some farm and environmental group objected and Clinton was considering other candidates as late as Wednesday.

—Former Denver Mayor Federico Pena for transportation secretary. Pena, 45, who became Denver's first Hispanic mayor in 1983, has been serving as head of Clinton's transition team studying transportation issues.

—Senior transition aide Mickey Kantor to U.S. trade representative. Kantor, 53, a Los Angeles attorney, was chairman of Clinton's presidential campaign.

With the Cabinet selections completed, policy aides had Christmas deadlines to submit option papers on a wide range of budget, policy and legislative issues. Hundreds of sub-Cabinet jobs, many of them critical federal agency heads, need to be filled.

Working himself hoarse and ragged to fill the Cabinet by Christmas, Clinton tried to appease Democratic interest groups that demanded more women and minorities, while dispelling the suggestion that he was filling political quotas.

"It's clearly frustrating to have quotas implied because the governor is not for quotas," a spokesman George Stephanopoulos said Wednesday.

Baird, 40, would be the first woman to head the Justice Department and the third woman in the Clinton Cabinet, fourth if Clinton's choice for United Nations ambassador, which he plans to elevate to Cabinet level, is counted. Espy, a Clinton campaign ally, would be the fourth black in the Cabinet, a milestone. Pena would be the second Hispanic.

Baird, a former Carter White House aide who is chief counsel for Aetna Life & Casualty Co., arrived in Little Rock Wednesday night. She could not be reached for comment.

Baird and her husband, Yale Law School Professor Paul Gewirtz, are expected to spend part of the New Year's holiday with the president-elect and his wife.

She is also a protege of some of the country's top legal power-hitters, such as Lloyd N. Cutler, President Carter's White House counsel, and Warren M. Christopher, Clinton's transition director and choice for secretary of state.

In June, BusinessWeek named her one of the 50 top women in business, describing her as a "strategic activist" who is "party to all major policy decisions at Aetna and is shaping the insurer's stance on public issues such as health care."

Prior to being hired by Connecticut-based Aetna two years ago, Baird served as a senior attorney at General Electric Co.

Babbitt was the early favorite for interior secretary but his stock appeared to fade as Clinton sought a second Hispanic, and Rep. Bill Richardson became a contender. Richardson, a Hispanic, drew fire from environmentalists, and Clinton shifted back to Babbitt, sources said.

He is an outspoken advocate of preserving federal lands and protecting the environment. Babbitt is president of the League of Conservation Voters after serving two terms as Arizona governor.

After word of Babbitt's selection became known, Richardson said: "It was an honor to have been considered. I always felt it would have been a tough decision had the position been offered to me. I would like to thank the many New Mexico residents, especially Governor Bruce King, who backed me in this effort. As chief deputy majority whip in the new Congress I look forward to serving New Mexico and the nation."

Pena launched the \$3 billion dollar Denver International Airport, which is scheduled to be

open by next fall. Pena did not seek re-election in 1990 and has been operating a Denver investment and counseling firm.

As Clinton made his final choices, the list of also-rans grew.

Brooksley Born, a liberal Washington attorney who has held senior American Bar Association posts, was thought to be a favorite as late as Wednesday for the attorney general's post.

Chicago banker William Daley, brother of Mayor Richard Daley, had been considered the front-runner for transportation.

The longer Clinton took to make his choices, the more political heat he took from Democratic constituency groups.

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Sanford Herald

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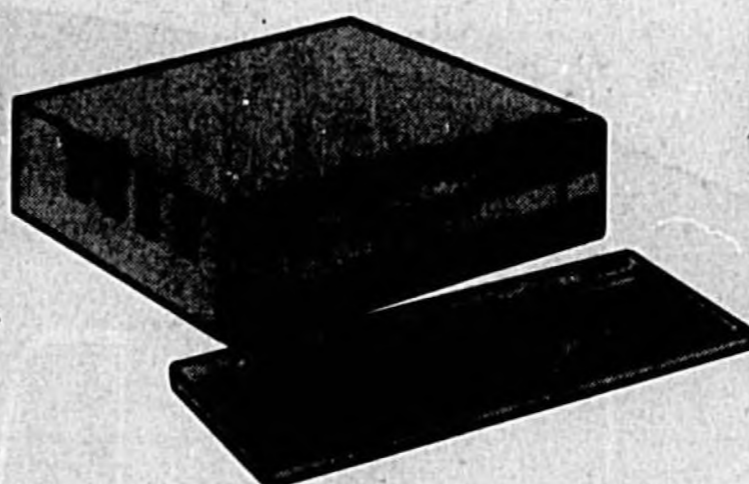
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Lake Mary kids' gifts to world

By SARABECCA ROSIER
Herald Correspondent

LAKE MARY — Recently in the auditorium in Lake Mary Elementary, the walls were filled with students' Christmas gifts to the world.

On the wall were folders made to look like boxed presents with bows, wrapping paper and gift tags. The child who made them was named on the "tag" of the "present."

Here are several students' ideas for gifts to give the world:

•Robby Martin wants to "make a light bulb that would burn for 10 minutes after the lights were turned off, so you could see where you were going."

•Sarah Beth would "open a big house where children who lived on the streets could come and have a warm room, lots of food and clothes and books to read in a library with comfortable chairs."

•Vanessa Lane would like to give the world "a cure for all fatal diseases like AIDS and cancer and horrible viruses that kill people."

•Matt Groover would like to "make everybody stop polluting the air." He would make "speeches and signs that say 'Never Pollute.'"

•Tyler Powell would "grow trees for the world to replace the ones that they chop down."

•Stephanie Meador would "like to save the few rain forests we have left and stop people from bulldozing just to make big buildings."

Motel plays Santa for area visitors

By NICK PFEIFAU
Herald Staff Writer

SANFORD — Yes, Virginia, or West Virginia, or Wisconsin, there is a Santa Claus, and he has a gift for out-of-town visitors.

The gift-giving Santa in this case, is the Super 8 Motel, on S.R. 46 near exit 51 of Interstate 4.

Here in Sanford, as well as nationwide, Super 8 Motels are offering free accommodations on Christmas Eve, to anyone visiting a friend or relative in a nursing home, veterans home, hospital or treatment center.

"We want to eliminate lodging costs as a barrier to visiting a loved one over Christmas," said Harvey Jewett, chief operating officer.

Approximately 650 Super 8 Motels nationwide will be taking part in this Rooms at the Inn program. It will be the third consecutive year of the project.

"We expect a solid increase over 1991," Jewett said. "The word-of-mouth builds with every year."

The Rooms at the Inn program was inspired by a similar program begun five years ago by Super 8 franchisee Linda Tharaldson, in Fargo, ND. "We had several family tragedies that occurred around Christmas and Thanksgiving," she said, "so those holidays were associated with a lot of bad memories for us. We decided a program like this would help us turn that negative feeling into something positive, and it has."

She added, "It really puts us and our staff in the holiday spirit."

Jewett stressed that the program owes its success to motel employees as well as the franchisees and executives. "Obviously, we would all prefer to be at home with our loved ones on Christmas," he said. "But our maids and managers have gone out of their way to make this program work."

Sanford Super 8 manager Charles Coss commented, "We are looking forward to participating in the project again this year. We believe it is a wonderful and worthwhile gesture."

Coss explained that there are certain verification restrictions that are required. "This is primarily aimed at people coming from out of town and out of the state," he said. "To visit people in nursing homes or hospitals where overnight lodging would not be available, and where the visitor might find it difficult to find a place to stay with friends or relatives."

As of Nov. 30, Super 8 had 932 properties in 49 states and Canada, with an additional 34 properties being developed. The total lodging as of that date was 57,000 rooms.



We Wish You A Merry Christmas!

May the love of home and family be a special gift to treasure throughout the season.

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Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m.

WELFA ASSEMBLY
1814 E. Highway 1
Longwood, FL 32779
Tel. 327-0777
Pastor
Org. President
CELEBRATION SERVICE 8:30 a.m.
Worship and School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
CELEBRATION SERVICE 12:30 p.m.
Worship
Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m.

Baptist
FALMOUTH ASSEMBLY
2801 Palm Bay Blvd.
Palm Bay, FL 32909
Pastor
Rev. Nancy S. Sells
Rev. Nancy Sells
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m.

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Worship and School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
CELEBRATION SERVICE 12:30 p.m.
Worship
Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m.



At last Christmas morning has arrived. A brightly colored halo of sparkling light surrounds the beautifully decorated tree. Oh, then they are... the gifts... wrapped in colorful packages and tied with festive bows! The waiting and wondering is really over. Now, where is that special gift?
It's not under the tree!
Perhaps we should search elsewhere.
That special gift was not hidden wrapped. In fact, the wrapping was that of swaddling clothes. Neither was the packaging ornate... just a manger in a stable. There was, however, a beautiful halo of light... surrounding the Holy Child.
Yes, that special gift was Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
As we worship in our chosen sanctuary this holiday season, may we thank the Heavenly Father for His special gift, the gift of Jesus.

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| 8:00 a.m. | 8:00 a.m. | 8:00 a.m. | 8:00 a.m. | 8:00 a.m. | 8:00 a.m. | 8:00 a.m. |

Congregational
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 201 S. Palm Ave., Sanford, FL 32779. Pastor: Rev. James E. Smith. Services: Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m.; Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Eastern Orthodox
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, 101 S. Palm Ave., Sanford, FL 32779. Pastor: Rev. Fr. George K. Smith. Services: Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m.; Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Inter-denominational
Calvary Christian Church, 101 S. Palm Ave., Sanford, FL 32779. Pastor: Rev. James E. Smith. Services: Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m.; Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Lutheran
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 2525 Oak Ave., Sanford, FL 32779. Pastor: Rev. James E. Smith. Services: Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m.; Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Episcopal
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 201 S. Palm Ave., Sanford, FL 32779. Pastor: Rev. James E. Smith. Services: Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m.; Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Lutheran
HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH OF LAKE MARY
700 S. Palm Ave., Lake Mary, FL 32746
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Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m.

Pentecostal
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Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m.

Presbyterian
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Pastor: Rev. James E. Smith
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m.

Methodist
METHODIST CHURCH
401 S. Palm Ave., Sanford, FL 32779
Pastor: Rev. James E. Smith
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m.

Other
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 201 S. Palm Ave., Sanford, FL 32779. Pastor: Rev. James E. Smith. Services: Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m.; Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Religion

IN BRIEF

St. Peter's plans holiday services
LAKE MARY — St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 700 Rinehart Rd., invites all to attend both its Children's Nativity Pageant with Holy Eucharist beginning at 7 p.m. and its traditional midnight service this evening.
The choir will lead choral singing beginning at 10:30 p.m. The Christmas Eve Eucharist Service begins at 11 a.m.
On Christmas Day, two Holy Eucharist services with choral singing at 10 a.m. service will be held.
The early service begins at 8 a.m., followed by Christian Education to all ages at 9 a.m.
Nursery will be provided beginning at 9 a.m. through the 10 a.m. service.
For more information call 444-LORD.

Candlelighting service set
LAKE MARY — Christian Fellowship Church, United Church of Christ, will celebrate Christmas with a community candlelighting service and carol sing on Christmas Eve at 7:00 p.m. at the Lake Mary Community Building, 260 N. Country Club Rd.
The children of the church will present a special Christmas pageant and a surprise guest will appear at the fellowship time following the service. Pastor A. Arthur Arvey, on behalf of the congregation, welcomes all in the community to join in this special Christmas celebration.
For more information, call 323-3110.

A Christmas celebration
LONGWOOD — Rolling Hills Moravian Church, 1525 W. S.R. 434, will celebrate Christmas with a Candlelight Lovefeast this evening at 4:30 p.m. and again at 7:00 p.m.
Special music will be presented by the choral choir and an offering will be received for the South Seminole Christian Sharing Center.
For information call the church at 323-8380.

Hall featured at Calvary Christian
SANFORD — Pastors Max and Susan Poole and the congregation of Calvary Christian Center, West 4th Street, invite the community to attend the worldwide ministry of H. Richard Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday at 7 p.m.
For information call 322-1516.

Holy Cross plans services
SANFORD — Holy Cross Episcopal Church, 401 S. Palm Ave., this evening will be as follows: 7 p.m. Christmas Mass; 9:30 p.m. Christmas music and 10 p.m. Carol.
One Liturgy will be held on Sunday at 9 a.m., followed by a Farewell Party for the Manne at 10:30 a.m.

Lutheran services prepared
SANFORD — The Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 2525 Oak Ave., will hold its Christmas Eve Candlelight Service this evening at 7:30 p.m. and Christmas Day festival worship is at 10 p.m. Friday.

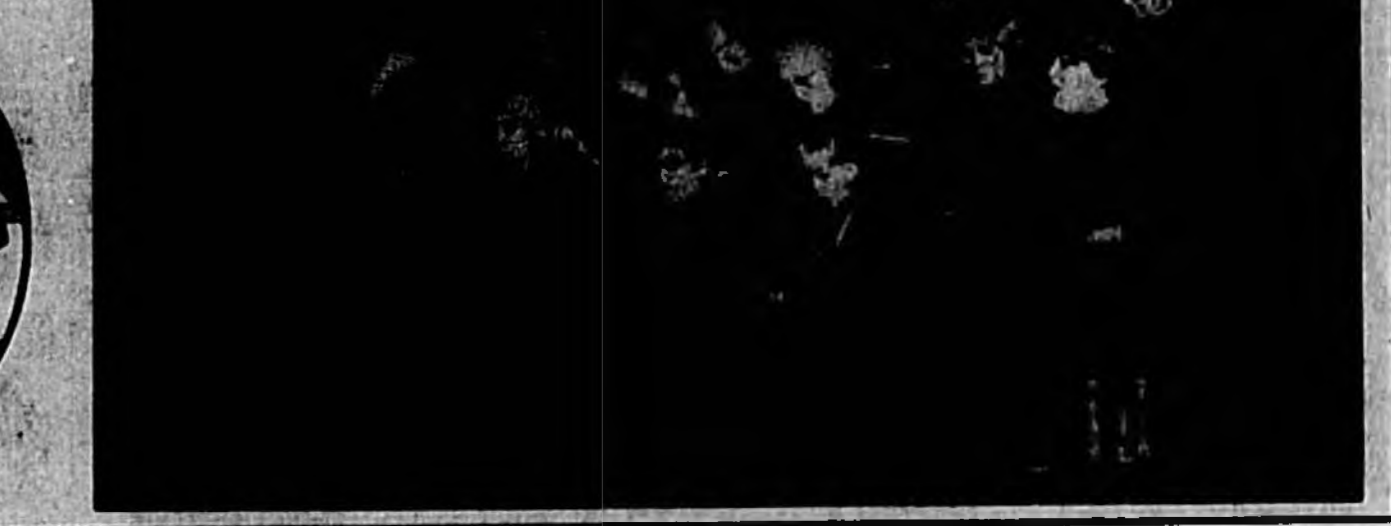
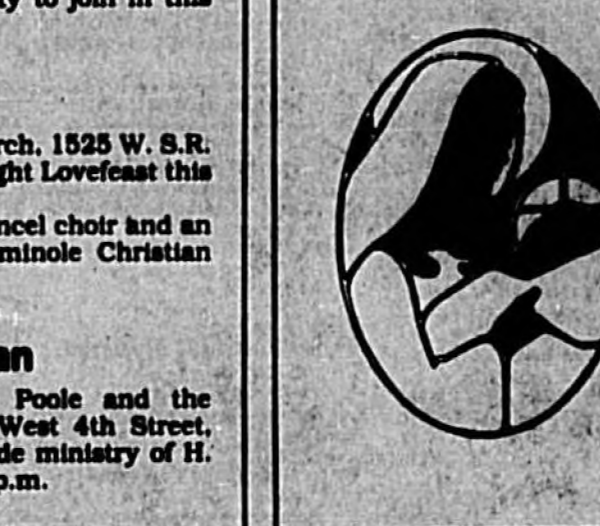
Baptists honor teachers
LAKE MARY — First Baptist Church Markham Woods, 5400 Markham Woods Rd., will hold its Teacher Appreciation Day on Sunday. All teachers will be recognized in the 10-45 a.m. service.
The evening service will be at 7 p.m.
Nursery provided for all services. For information, call 323-3065.

A Christmas Vigil Mass
DEARBORN — A Christmas Vigil Mass will be celebrated at St. Ann's Catholic Church, 36 Dogwood Trail, at 4:15 p.m. and a Mass at midnight this evening.
Friday, the Masses will be at 8 and 11 a.m.
There will be a Penance Service on Tuesday beginning at 7 p.m. in the church. Confessions will also be heard on Wednesday from 8:30 to 4 p.m. and from 7:30 to 9 p.m. and on Thursday from 3 to 4 p.m.

Keep us informed
The Sanford Herald welcomes Religion news and announcements of events available to the community.
For publication of local happenings, following suggestions are recommended to expedite publication:
All items should be typed or written legibly and include the name and a daytime phone number of a person who can be contacted to answer any questions we might have.



Richard Hall, pastor of Calvary Christian Center, is seen with his wife, Susan, and their children during a Christmas celebration at the church. (Photo by Richard Hall)



Spirit of a Christmas Carol is ours

Here are meditations based on lyrics from the Christmas carol "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (1897), by Phillips Brooks.
This seasonal favorite begins: "O little town of Bethlehem, / How still we see thee lie!
It goes on:
"Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
Let's consider two words in this line of the carol:
DREAMLESS — Where would most of us be without our dreamer? Dreams are our vision of a better life, and "where there is no vision the people perish."
We don't like to be told, however, that we are living in a dream world. That suggests we are out of touch with reality.
We want to live in the real world. But reality has come to stand for a world of violence, coarseness and cruelty, where happy endings and Cinderella stories don't exist.
Jesus was no dreamer. He lived in the real world, but he found it a world where God's power, intelligence and goodness were everywhere in evidence and available to all. No need for unreal dreams in a real world.
SLEEP — It is only when our minds are quiet, not agitated or disturbed — that the good thoughts we plan there have a chance to grow into reality in our lives.
The thoughts we place in our minds just before we fall asleep are usually the most powerful and productive. During sleep, our minds — the creative force within us — are everesting Light...
The human mind, wonderful as it is, can become truly a "dark street" if it is not lighted from above — the only way really that a street can be lighted.
It is the Star of Bethlehem that still lights the street where we live.
This is the Christmas message:
"The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light."
Or, in the words of the hymn: "The darkness shall turn to dawn and the dawnning to noonday bright." That is the Christmas promise.
"... The hopes and fears of all the years / Are met in this tonight."
All of us are made up of hopes and fears. Not only the hopes and fears we can put our finger on this moment, but "the hopes and fears of all the years" — of a lifetime.
So now we are to bring our hopes and fears to Bethlehem — to the place where Christ is born in us. And what will we find? "Well, won't we see that the things we have been hoping for and wishing for all our lives — love, abundance, health and happiness — we already have because Christ "God with us" makes all these things?
And when our fears "meet" Christ, what then? They will disappear. For as we realize the truth that Christ came to reveal — that the good life is ours for the asking — why, then, there is no longer anything to fear.
It is in the spirit of the words of this treasured carol, "O Little Town of Bethlehem" that I wish you all a very Merry Christmas.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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Season's Greetings

To the earth, peace,
to the season, joy
and to our friends
old and new,
many thanks.

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Sanford Herald
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Happy Holidays



GLAD TIDINGS

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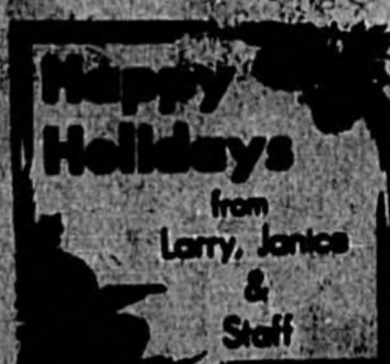
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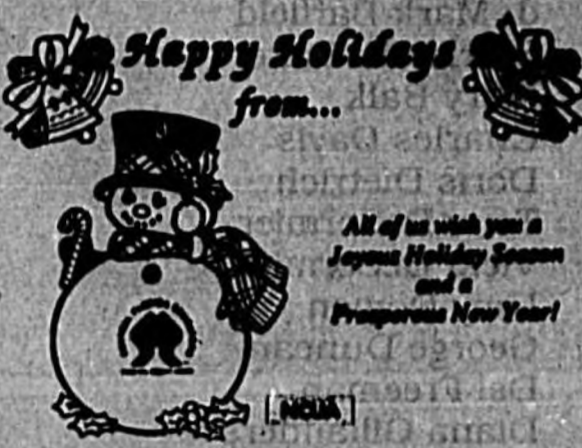
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BETTYE
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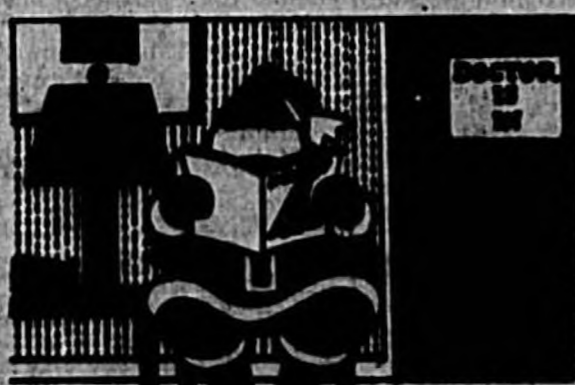
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