During the holidays, our lifestyle becomes quite a bit more hectic, and a lot more festive. There's so much fun and togetherness to prepare for, this being a season of celebration, a time when friends and loved ones join one another in a spirit of joy and giving.

Entertaining is at its best during the holidays, from formal Christmas balls and elegant office parties, to Christmas Eve tree trimmings and cozy gatherings by the hearth for hot cider and gingerbread men.

Many an hour is spent in the kitchen as eager hosts and hostesses prepare some of the season's bestloved treats for their guests.

Often, preparing for those special events is reason in itself for a festive gettogether. Friends bake together in one another's kitchens, sharing recipes and cookie cutters for their favorite holiday sweets,

while others gather to make ornaments before a tree trimming party.

## Welcome arrival

Families travel from near and far, arriving at a favorite aunt's or grandma's house with their arms full of presents a few days early, just to help prepare for the holiday feast.

Children are at the center of much of the gaiety that is enjoyed during the holidays. Whether it's standing on line in the local department store so that the kids can sit on Santa's knee or taking them to a performance of the Nutcracker ballet, giving them a thrill seems to be what this season is all about.

With all of the parties and festivities to look forward to, either getting together with old friends or meeting new ones, everyone wants to look their best. Whether it's a

formal office party of hundreds or a romantic Christmas Eve for two, this is the time for a bit more glamour.

A new hairstyle or fragrance could be just the thing to put you in a festive mood. You might even try to diet a bit before this season of merriment begins, so that no only will you look and feel great in your holiday best, but you won't have to worry too much after the holidays about the few pounds that we all tend to gain at this time.

If you're wondering just how, through all of the hustle and bustle of shopping for gifts, taking the kids to see Santa, spending late nights wrapping and baking, and planning your own parties as well as going to everyone else's, you'll possibly manage to look your best, the trick is to pace yourself.

Try to get shopping done ahead of time and gifts wrapped and ready to place beneath the tree, as the days just before Christmas seem to pass all too quickly.

Fruitcakes and mincemeat pies may be prepared well in advance, as they are at their best when begun a month or two ahead of time, and the dough for many of your favorite Christmas cookies can be prepared and then frozen for a few weeks, thus saving time when you are ready to bake.

## Pace yourself

Another holiday time-saver would be to have greeting cards written and ready to go ahead of

Let the carols of

Christmas ring

throughout the

year, warming

hearts and lifting

spirits with joy.

We wish all of our

patrons a Very

Merry Christmas

Also an extended

greeting to our

time so that, when the holidays approach, you can just drop them in the mail and spend your time enjoying family and friends.

After an especially hectic day, perhaps one where you've been rushing about cleaning the house and preparing food for a party of your own that evening, take time out for yourself.

Relax in a warm bubble bath, listen to soft music, and pamper yourself a little bit so that you'll be able to totally enjoy the evening's festivities, because, in this season of togetherness and merrymaking, sharing joy is what it's all about.

## Letters to Santa Claus

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Dear Santa,

I would like a Grader, a pound puppy, a Hulk Hogan puzzle and a 4 x 4 truck.

I'm working on being a good boy and can't wait 'till you come to my house.

Love, Darrell Kay, age 3, Schreiber.

Dear Santa,

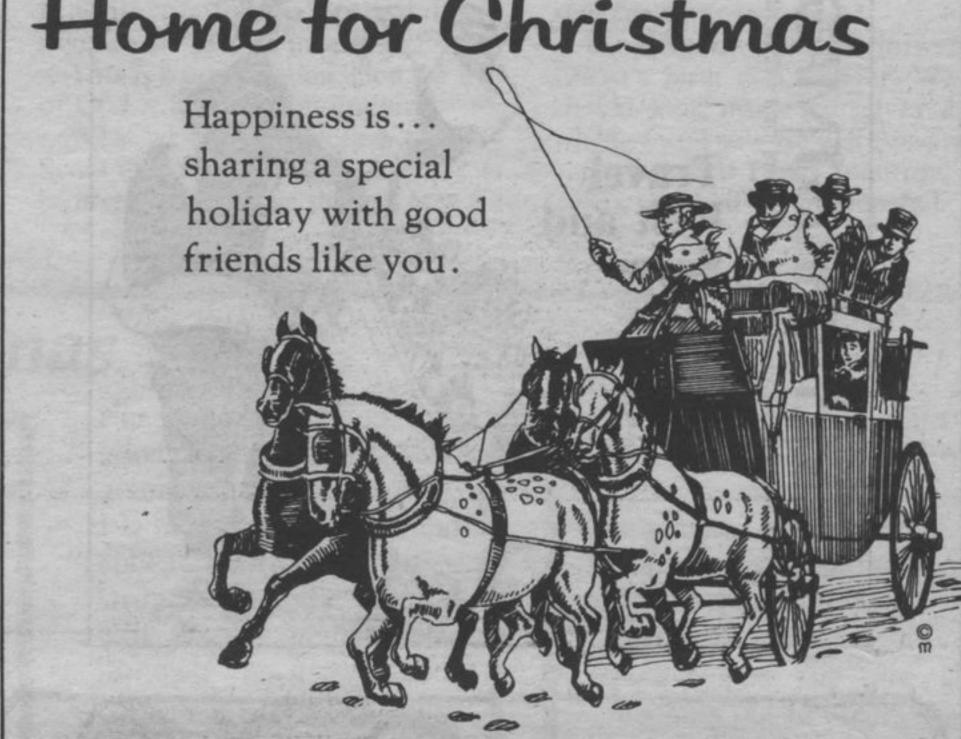
Thank-you for my toys you brought me last year.

This year I would like Teddy Runpin, and a bear, also a chipmunk. My little sister, Laura, would like a

doll and a doggy that winds up.

I will leave you some milk and cookies and some gum for your reindeers.

Ian Murray, Terrace Bay.



GARTH MORRIS TRUCKING & FAMILY





## Spruce up holiday gifts

If you're having trouble finding the right gift for the man who has everything, remember that it's not always what you give, but how you give it that counts. Add some sparkle to your holidays by selecting gifts that are not only practical, but add some imagination and fun.

Instead of wrapping a gift and putting it under the tree, for instance, hide the gift in his bathrobe or put it under his pillow on Christmas morning.

You can also disguise the gift. If you've decided to give him two tickets to his favorite basketball game, buy him a basketball and tape the tickets to the side of the ball. The more imaginative you can be, the more he'll enjoy the gift.



Thanks to all my AVON CUTOMERS SHIRLEY MAJOR

Your AVON REPRESENTATIVE

