

Library News

Classic and modern Christmas reading

The season brings a plethora of reading material, much of which is trying to make the sale by using the Christmas theme.

With all the Christmas "stalking mysteries," stories of the best gift ever and humorous Pageant Plays, it's difficult to find a story which actually touches the Christmas chord.

Take, for instance, James Howe's, *The Fright Before Christmas*, not to be confused with Tim Burton's movie. James Howe takes his familiar characters, Harold the dog and Chester the cat (with Bunnicula the vampire being tucked away in the background) and puts them into a Christmas setting. Enter a new character, Howie, the puppy afraid of Santa Claus and we have an interesting story, but not so much about Christmas. Rather, it's a curious comment on this annual event of a stranger entering our homes with a large sack... Actually, it does sound like exactly the kind

of situation none of us want to encounter. No wonder Howie is frightened!

Other modern-day Santa stories which are beautifully illustrated are: the Berke Breathed book, *A Wish for Wings that Work* and Chris Van Allsburg's, *A Polar Express*. People who appreciate the child-like

art of Grandma Moses will liken her illustrations to Thomas Moore's, *The Night Before Christmas*.

Then, if that special chord has still not been strummed, there are other more traditional choices such as *The Gift of the Magi* by O. Henry, and Charles Dickens' *A Christ-*

mas Carol.

A little tip here - don't cheat yourself with classic stories.


Avoid abridged or adapted versions. There's no reason the text of a story should be altered to make room for new illustrations.

Jan Pienkowski's book, *Christmas*, is a wonderful

sample of text and illustration.

This is the King James version of the original Christmas Story with black silhouette pictures trimmed with gold foil in the style of old illuminated manuscripts.


This definitely strikes a good chord.



Wishing You A Novel Noel

Merry Christmas
... and thanks for the patronage, and thanks for the good will, the laughs, and the chats, and for Sindbad, the pats.



Barb, Sarah, and Sindbad



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PEACE ON EARTH.

May the spirit of goodwill and brotherhood echo throughout the land as we celebrate this most magical of seasons.

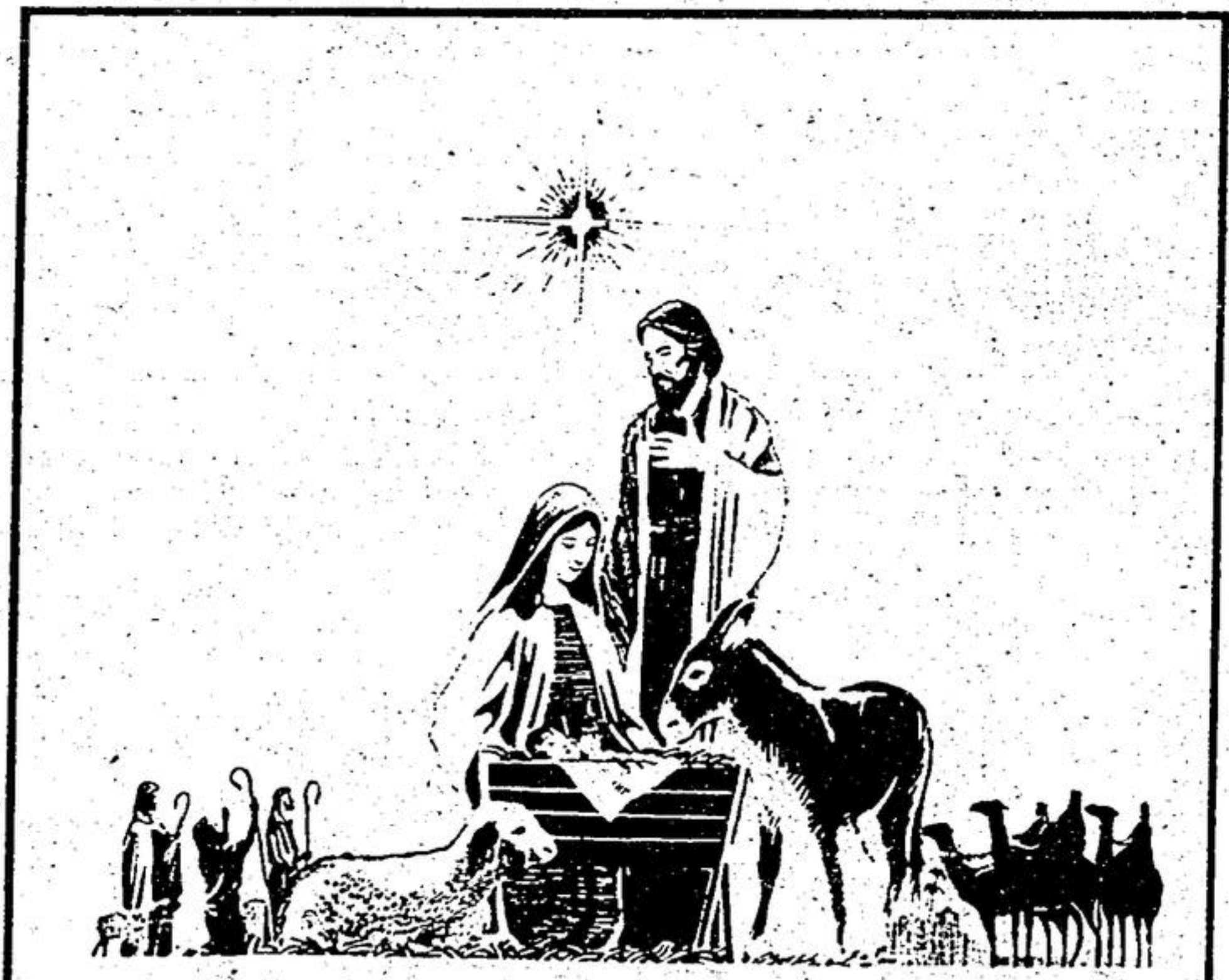
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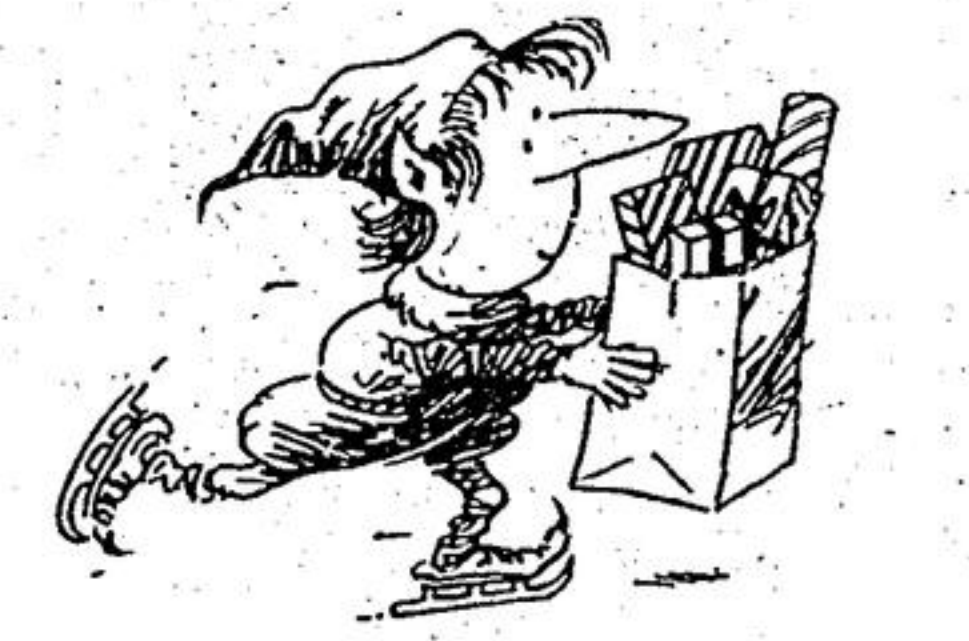
HAVE A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY SEASON!



Rejoice in the spirit of Christmas which is Peace, the miracle of Christmas which is Hope, and the heart of Christmas which is Love.



Parkview Services for Seniors



It's Christmas

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New Year's Holiday Treats for Party People

Season's Greetings
from the people at
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Christmas Eve, Dec. 24th
till 6 p.m.
Open Friday New Years Eve
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till 6 p.m.

Tasty temptations to make your holiday party unforgettable! at

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Nobody serves up a party like we do. We offer:

- Party Platters
- Vegetable or Meat & Cheese & Pastry Trays
- President's Choice Hors d'oeuvres - cheese & special occasions
- Shrimp Rings
- White & black tiger
- All The Good Snacks
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