

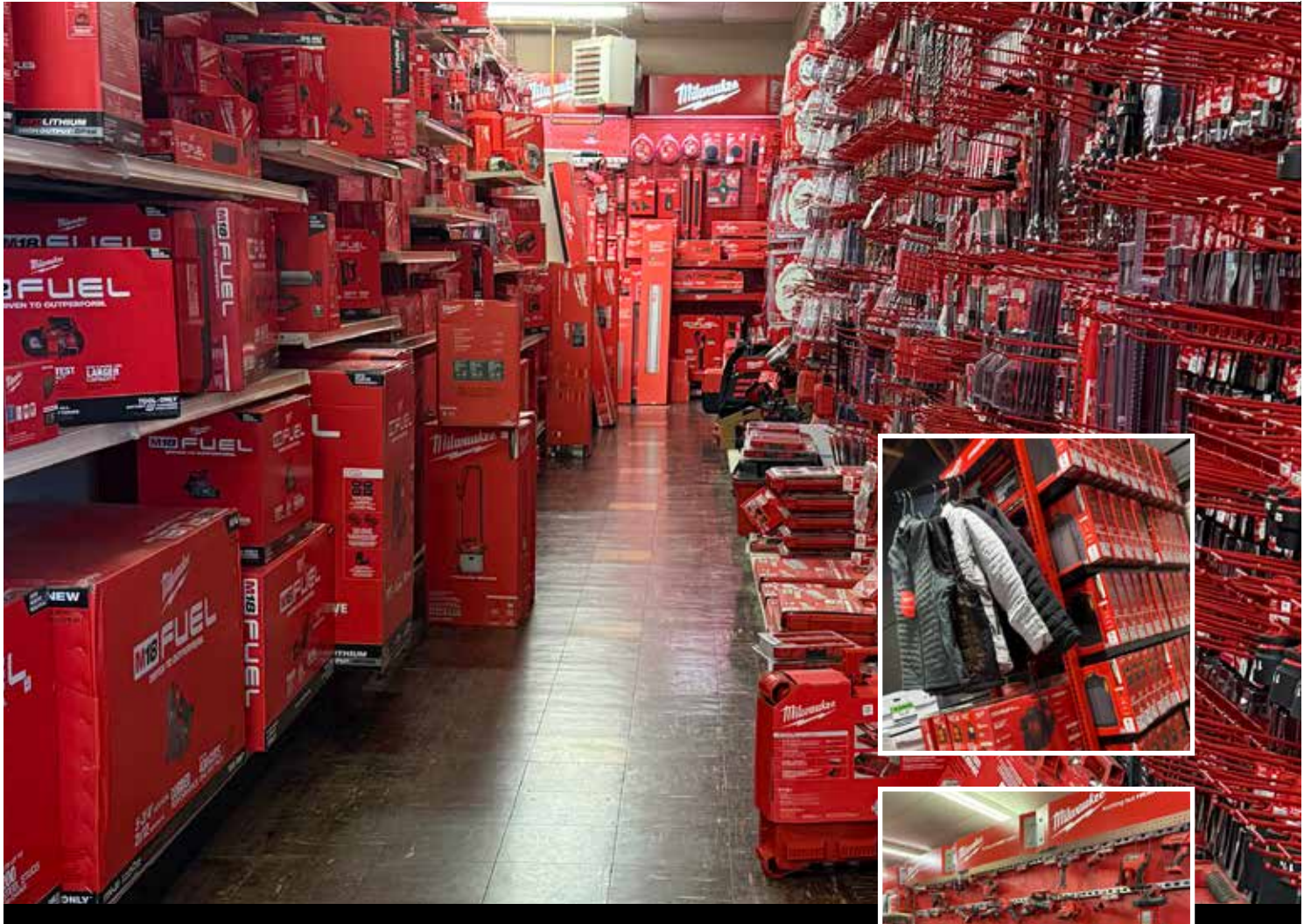
A NORTH COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

• 2024 •



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Want to help your community? Then shop locally-owned this holiday season...

Every year, we make the case on this page for our readers to shop locally. That's always an important message, and this year is no exception.

As we head into the holidays this year, our local retailers continue to face tremendous uncertainty about the direction of the economy, as well as the continuing pressure from big box stores and the giant online retailers.

The decisions we all make on how and where to spend our holiday dollars will determine the futures of many of our community-minded local businesspeople. With that in mind, we urge everyone to make their purchases with the interests of their community in mind.

Before heading to a Walmart or Target, or clicking on Amazon this holiday season, take a few moments to think about how your local retailers can meet your needs. They often provide something that's unique, as opposed to the mass merchandizing of the big retailers.

And many locally-owned retailers in our region have excellent websites, which can make your shopping experience easy and fun. You can shop locally and shop online at the same time.

Before you purchase from one of the big online retailers, ask yourself how much they contribute to your community. Do they build new stores that provide construction jobs for your neighbors? Do they maintain facilities that pay property taxes in your community? Do they hire local residents, providing wages that cir-

culate in your town? Do they contribute to your hometown sports teams or other local fundraising efforts?

If the answer to these questions is no, then why would you send your dollars to a company that doesn't return the favor?

For those who still enjoy shopping in-store, our smaller, locally-owned retailers are always your best bet. In many cases, the owners or employees there are friends and neighbors and they're going to go out of their way to make your shopping experience a good one. In many cases, they'll be happy to special order just the right gift for that special someone.

More importantly, the dollars we spend at our locally-owned shops make a difference in our communities. Main Streets struggle as retail dollars that used to be spent in locally-owned shops, restaurants, and other businesses are increasingly ending up in the pockets of huge chain or online retailers. While big box retailers do at least provide a few jobs locally, they don't provide the same community impact as retailers with local ownership. What's more, numerous studies have shown that these big chain retailers often displace as many jobs as they create. They also bring with them new demands on community infrastructure and a variety of other public services, that local property owners must pay for.

Big chain retailers don't spend much in the local economy. When they build a new store, they don't employ local architects or planners, since each store is essentially a clone of all the others. They use national suppliers for the building

materials they use in construction and for the products they eventually sell. They don't use the local ad agency, or the insurance broker on Main Street. They don't use a local accountant and they rarely advertise in local newspapers.

Locally-owned businesses do all of these things, and because they do, the money you spend with a local merchant works its way throughout the area economy, creating a "multiplier effect" that benefits all of us.

When we shop online or at big chain retailers, we also contribute to the loss of local identity. The big box stores and big chain restaurants all look and feel the same wherever you travel. It's local businesses that provide our communities with their unique flavor.

All of which makes our point. Our locally-owned small businesses contribute to the character and the economic vitality and diversity of our communities and our local economy. They absolutely deserve our support.

In the past, we've highlighted that point by stressing special events, like Small Business Saturday, set this year for Nov. 30. While it's good to focus on our small, locally-owned businesses on a special day, we'd like to encourage everyone to make a commitment to an entire holiday season focused on small business. They make a difference and we can, too, when we spend our money where it matters!

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Special area events this holiday season

Details for many of our area's traditional holiday events were not finalized by our press time, so please check the Timberjay for the most up-to-date information.

ELY – Thursday, Nov. 28: Join the Ely Folk School on Thanksgiving for a community potluck at 11 a.m. or 4 p.m. (Two different times to accommodate demand). This annual tradition is a great way to celebrate the community-centric day, even if you do not have holiday traditions in Ely yet. We would love for you to bring something to share, though it is not required. 209 E Sheridan St., Ely. 218-235-0138.

COOK- Thursday, Nov. 28: 38th annual Thanksgiving dinner at St. Mary's Catholic Church from noon - 2 p.m. For the homebound in the Cook area who would like a meal delivered contact Robyn at 952-412-0576 in advance (please do not wait until Thanksgiving Day). 124 5th St. SE, Cook.

SOUDAN – Thursday, Nov. 28: St. Paul's Lutheran Church Community Thanksgiving dinner from 2 - 6 p.m., eat in or take out, RSVP's appreciated. No charge but donations can be made to the Tower Area Food Shelf. 36 Church St., Soudan.

ELY- Friday, Nov. 29: Small Town Christmas. Shop Local and Shop Small

Businesses! Friday after Thanksgiving Nov. 29 through Sunday Dec. 1. Ely is known for it's northern flare and vibe of locally made artisanal crafts and unique products. Everything from locally made products to stores filled with Northwoods-style gifts, clothing, outdoor gear, artwork, and artist-made goods.

TOWER- Saturday, Nov. 30: Small Business Saturday presented by the Tower-Soudan Area Events Board. Local businesses will feature sales on products and services. Raffles, a possible visit by Santa, and other events are being planned so watch for more information.

COOK- Friday, Dec. 6: Fifth annual dinner theatre, "A Castaway Island

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Holiday Events

Christmas” at 6 p.m. at the Evangelical Covenant Church. Great food and fun, price per seat will be a generous freewill donation with all proceeds going to the Cook Area Food Shelf. Call 218-666-5892 for reservations.

COOK- Friday, Dec. 6: Virgie Hegg Hospice Partners Lights of Love Tree Lighting ceremony and carols at 6 p.m. at the city gazebo.

VIRGINIA- Friday, Dec. 6: Choralaires Holiday Concert at 7 p.m. at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 901 4th St. S. A freewill offering will be collected to support local churches, community projects, and music needs.

ELY- Friday, Dec. 6: Ely Folk School Holiday Arts Market and Carols, 4-6 p.m., in partnership with the Northern Lakes Arts Association. Support local artists, artisans, and culinary talents. There will be a youth craft table, fresh baked treats, and a variety of beverages. The event is free and open to all but contributions are welcome. 209 E. Sheridan St. 218-235-0138.



Barb Hegg
Associate Broker, GRI
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Holiday Events

ELY- Friday, Dec. 6: Shine Bright Ely! Ely businesses are busy decorating their storefronts and windows for our 4th annual Shine Bright Ely holiday lights event starting on Friday evening and running through the end of December. Kick-off the holidays with a walk or drive and view the festive lights. Visit participating businesses and enjoy their holiday decorations, maps available at Ely Chamber of Commerce, ely.org.

ORR- Saturday, Dec. 7: Orr Snow City Christmas Festival and Craft Show, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. at the Orr American Legion. Pancake breakfast to benefit the Orr Fire Department, lunch by Sugarlicious Cheesecakes & More, Santa, parade at noon, bean bag tournament, dinner, and live music. Visit the Orr Snow City Facebook page for more details.

COOK- Saturday, Dec. 7: Community Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner from 4 - 6:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church. Take out meals available, no delivery. Net proceeds will be donated to the Cook Flood Survivor/Preparedness Fund and the Church Parsonage Repair Fund. 231 2nd St. SE. 218-666-5965.

TOWER- Saturday, Dec. 7: Christmas Craft Show, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Herb Lamppa Civic Center in Tower.

ORR- Saturday, Dec. 7: Virgie Hegg Hospice Partners Lights of Love Tree Lighting ceremony and carols at 6:30 p.m. at the Orr Center.



ELY- Saturday, Dec. 7: Ely Community Choir Cantata "Love is Born" at 7 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 226 E. Harvey St., Ely.

EMBARRASS- Saturday, Dec. 7: Holiday Boutique and Pancake Breakfast at Timber Hall, 8-11 a.m. Toy drive and special holiday guest, bring the kids!

VIRGINIA- Saturday, Dec. 7: A Merry TubaChristmas Concert at 1 p.m. at Rock Ridge High School, 1403 Progress Pkwy. Admission is free, but in the spirit of the holiday season, a free will donation of cash or a non-perishable food

item will be donated to the Quad Cities Food Shelf.

ELY- Saturday, Dec. 7: Mrs. Claus Party, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Grand Ely Lodge. Kids can meet Mrs. Claus and participate in various activities. More details available at ely.org.

COOK- Sunday, Dec. 8: Santa's Workshop presented by Cook Friends of the Parks, 3-5 p.m., at the Cook Community Center. Santa, sleigh rides with horses, treats, activities/games, crafts-to-go, and free picture with Santa by Connie Stone Photography. Supported by donations from generous area organizations. 510 Gopher Dr.

VIRGINIA- Sunday, Dec. 8: Choralaires Holiday Concert at 2 p.m. at Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1111 8th St. S. A freewill offering will be collected to support local churches, community projects, and music needs.

EVELETH- Thursday, Dec. 12: Mesabi Community Band presents A Holiday Concert, from 7-8 p.m. at the Eveleth Auditorium, 413 Pierce St. Admission is a free will offering that will help cover band expenses.

EMBARRASS- Thursday, Friday & Saturday, Dec. 12-14: A Scandinavian Christmas at the Nelimark Homestead, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. all three days. Hand-crafted and ethnic gifts, baked goods, coffee and conversation. 4839 Salo Rd.

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Holiday Events

ELY- Thursday, Dec. 12-Saturday, Dec. 21: “Elf: The Musical” presented by Northern Lakes Arts Association as part of the 2024 Broadway in the Boundary Waters. Performances at MN North College-Vermilion Fine Arts Theater, 1900 E. Camp St. Performance dates, show times, and tickets available online at northernlakesarts.org.

COOK- Friday, Dec. 13: North Woods Elementary Concert at 1:30 p.m. 10248 Olson Rd.

BABBITT- Saturday, Dec. 14: Hayride with Santa and Mrs. Claus, 4-8 p.m., Babbitt Municipal Building. Caroling, hot dogs, cocoa. This is a free event but donations are appreciated.

ELY- Saturday, Dec. 14: Ely Folk School Holiday Party, Semer’s Park, 3-5

p.m. Free outdoor community gathering - dog sled rides, bonfire, Ojibwe snow snakes (game) demonstrations, winter bowling and more. Glögg, hot cocoa and snacks provided. More info at lucy@elyfolkschool.org or 218-235-0138.

EMBARRASS- Saturday, Dec. 14: Ice candle lighting at the Embarrass Cemetery. Holiday gathering follows at Embarrass Town Hall, 4-6 p.m. with coffee and light lunch, crafts, and goodies for the children.

TOWER- Sunday, Dec. 15: Tower-Soudan Area Singers Christmas Concert, 2 p.m. in the school gym.

ELY- Wednesday, Dec. 18: Ely Middle School and high School Band/Choir Holiday Concert. 7 p.m. in Washington Auditorium, 600 E. Harvey St.

ELY- Thursday, Dec. 19: Ely Elementary School Holiday Concert, 1:15 p.m. in Washington Auditorium.

ELY- Thursday, Dec. 19: Come fill your cookie jar with a variety of cookies this winter! Bring your best holiday cookies and join the Ely Folk School for a Christmas cookie swap from 4-6 p.m.

COOK- Thursday, Dec. 19: North Woods School Winter Band and Choir Concert, at 6 p.m. 10248 Olson Rd.

TOWER- Thursday, Dec. 19: Tower- Soudan Elementary School Winter Music Concert, 1:30 p.m. in the Tower School gymnasium.

COOK- Tuesday, Dec. 19- North Woods winter band concert, 7 p.m.

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When kindness pays dividends

In a season of giving, it's sometimes worthwhile to reflect on how our kindnesses can sometimes be repaid many times over. An interesting example of this can be pulled from the history of Tower and an individual who went on to serve as the city's mayor and one of its leading benefactors.

Martin Gundersen, who arrived in Tower in the early 1900s, was just getting his start in the logging business when Christmas rolled around and he lacked the funds to pay his workers.

He was in the process of selling the timber that would generate his payroll, but with Christmas approaching he wanted to be sure his workers were paid in advance.

Mr. Gundersen had come to Tower on the recommendation of two uncles, who had arrived in the would-be boomtown right around

the turn of the century. His uncle Nels Lee had owned a meat market in town and when Gundersen found himself short of cash to make his holiday payroll, he turned to Nels for a loan.

As the two men discussed Gundersen's request, their conversation was overheard by Jacob Skala, who was the owner of Skala's Bar, then a popular watering hole on Tower's Main Street. When it became clear that the two men together lacked the funds to pay Gundersen's workers, Skala offered to help.

"How much do you need?" he asked, according to the recollections of Gundersen's late son Gilbert. Gundersen told him, and Skala went to his cash box and loaned the funds to Gundersen on the spot. It was a gentleman's agreement, a loan made on a handshake and nothing more.

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Facing page: A view of Skala's Bar circa 1940s.

Right: A re-election card provides one of the clearest surviving images of Martin Gunderson.



It was the kind of generosity that made an impression on the young Gunderson, particularly since he hadn't been one of Skala's customers.

Gundersen, of course, repaid the sum as soon as he was able and his son Gilbert recalled that the faith and trust that Mr. Skala had placed in his father had left him with fond feelings toward both Skala and the community.

Those good feelings turned to good deeds and over the years, Gunderson repaid the community many times over. As his logging business thrived, Gunderson took on a major role as a Tower booster, eventually serving as a popular mayor, a member of the local

school board, and part-owner and superintendent of the box factory that operated for many years on Pike Bay's Mill Point. But perhaps his biggest legacy in the community was his donation of thousands of acres of forestland that he had acquired during his years in the logging business.

Over the years, Gunderson's legacy generated hundreds of thousands of dollars in revenue to the city of Tower from the sale of both land and timber.

Proceeds from the sale of the land became the corpus of the city's Gunderson Trust, which was created to provide a perpetual source of revenue to fund city operations as well as community groups.

The trust, which had recently grown to about \$1 million, was transferred earlier this year to the Duluth-Superior

Community Foundation, which is now managing the fund for the city and it is expected to generate about \$40,000-\$45,000 annually for the city.

Quite a return on Mr. Skala's investment in the young Martin Gunderson.

Editor's note: These recollections were gathered by the late Elton Olson, a long-time Tower resident and former member of the Tower City Council.

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Making holiday dinners more affordable

“Eat, drink and be merry” is a familiar refrain come the holiday season. Hosting a holiday dinner is a great way to welcome family and friends and encourage them to embrace the festive nature of the season. However, the high cost of foods and other essentials may have certain holiday hosts rethinking their menus and their guest lists this year.

Stretching holiday entertaining dollars comes down to being savvy. With that in mind, hosts can consider these meal modification strategies this holiday season.

- Replace a high-cost protein with a more affordable alternative. Sometimes a holiday meal calls for pulling out all of the stops, and that may mean spending more on a special main dish. Rather than a luxury like beef tenderloin or prime rib roast, consider a less expensive dish, such as a pork tenderloin, roasted chicken or even seafood.

- Add extra side dishes. Incorporate an inexpensive item like rice, beans or an extra vegetable side dish into the meal so that plates can be filled with the less expensive foods and fewer high-cost items.

- Shop the sales. Plan meals around a supermarket circular. While you may have had one holiday dinner idea in mind, once you see what the stores are putting on sale you can stock up on those items and build the dinner around them. If you find a good deal several



Above: Stretching holiday entertaining dollars comes down to being savvy. With that in mind, hosts can consider these meal modification strategies this holiday season.

weeks away from the holidays, buy the items and freeze them until they're needed.

- Buy generic or store brands. Chances are no one will notice if you use generic or store brand ingredients, which can be considerably cheaper than their brand-name counterparts. Many are even manufactured in the same facilities that produce the name brand stuff.

- Make an affordable drink. Alcohol costs can add up when you try to cater to everyone's tastes and preferences. Make one or two bulk drinks, like a holiday punch or signature cocktail, so you can keep alcohol costs in check.

- Stretch the snacks. Instead of a charcuterie board filled with expensive cheeses and meats, opt for dips and raw vegetables or a low-cost cheese ball made with cream cheese and herbs with crackers. Keep snacks to a minimum; otherwise, guests may fill up and then not have room for dinner.

Holiday hosts can embrace various strategies to save money on family meals this season.



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Get creative with holiday DECOR

The end of the year is upon us and that often involves decorating a home in its holiday finest.

Everyone has a different vision of a well-appointed holiday home, but there's always room to make things more unique and creative. These ideas can add a little extra to holiday displays.

- **Decorate other rooms**

Who says holiday decorating is exclusive to living and dining areas? Think about decorating unexpected places, like swapping out everyday towels and shower curtains with something festive. Swags of greenery wrapped in lights can be added to bed frames.

- **Coordinate the ornaments**

Identify a color theme and then showcase it with ornaments. Think about matching the ornaments to the presents wrapped

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under the tree as well. Purchase white package paper and color or paint the paper to be the same hues as the ornaments on the tree boughs.

•It's hip to be square

While round wreaths are traditional, make your own wreaths in a different geometric shape by using wire or another material as the frame. Square wreaths may be unexpected, and you also can turn the square on its side for a diamond shape.

•Add a spot of color

Certain holidays are known for their particular color palettes, such as red and green for Christmas. But you also can do something unexpected. Whether using a lighter shade of the same color family or adding an accent color like purple or blue, you can change things up in a creative way.

•Make an unexpected bouquet

Swap flowers for pine cones, berries and greenery in unique vessels. For example, arrange your centerpiece in a tall fountain glass or even a cocktail shaker.

•Try a different accent tree

Use a styrofoam cone as the base of a tree for a centerpiece or sideboard. Attach poinsettia branches for a vibrant red tree, or stacked lemons or oranges filled with greenery for a fresh-smelling citrus creation.



•Mix and match

When it comes to a holiday table, mix and match table settings for an eclectic tableau.

•Shift into neutral

Instead of a large holiday display in familiar colors, rely on neutral, wintry tones that will blend in with the home but add a festive touch. Natural wood, whites and creams, and muted greens can fill spaces.

Above: Here in the North Country, items from nature can be used to create pleasing decor.

Unique holiday decorations and schemes can be a great way to add new life to a home this December.



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Try holiday bazaars for unique gifts

There is no shortage of options to find every item on your holiday shopping list. Shopping malls, online retailers and mom and pop stores along Main Street can be great spots to grab holiday deals, but shoppers also can find great gifts at holiday fairs and bazaars.

Bazaars are found all over the world, but are notable to Middle Eastern and Asian countries. Bazaars are marketplaces that feature several small shops or vendor stalls. In some countries, bazaars are outdoors and covered by tents, while in others they feature several stalls set up in large rooms.

Holiday bazaars often pop up during the holiday season and mimic international marketplaces. They may be hosted by cities or towns, schools or places of worship. Sometimes they are fundraising opportunities, with nonprofit organizations charging a stall- or table-renting fee for bazaar participants. Holiday fairs and bazaars often bring together an array of different retailers, many of whom are small businesses selling interesting wares.

Shoppers should take advantage of every opportunity to visit these holiday bazaars because they will only be around for a short time. Here's a look at some of the benefits of bazaar shopping for the holidays.

- Patronize small businesses. Holiday bazaars often bring together small businesses that may not normally have storefronts. This allows shoppers to meet the



individuals behind businesses they already patronize or discover new firms they were previously unacquainted with.

- Shop unique wares. Holiday bazaars may showcase items not easily found elsewhere, from handcrafted jewelry to unique soaps to custom woodworking items.

- Develop new relationships. Shopping at holiday bazaars enables you to meet and interact with new people. This can expand your social circles and may even expand your professional network.

- Enjoy the shopping experience. Shopping away from the bustle of larger, busier retail stores gives you a break from the harried shopping experience many

experience during the holiday season. Rather, holiday fairs and bazaars typically are less crowded and engage at a slower pace. Plus, they may have a more home-spun decorating design that can have you feeling like you're shopping in a Christmas village.

- Take advantage of food vendors. Food vendors likely will be mixed within the offerings of the holiday bazaar. That gives you opportunity to take the day off from cooking and enjoy some savory and sweet bites while grabbing gifts.

Holiday shopping bazaars are great places to shop for the holidays.

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Paper bag advent calendar

What you need: 25 paper lunch bags, markers, stapler, tape, or string to secure the top.

Advent calendars are all the rage these days, and not just for children. But instead of spending money on a premade calendar, you can make your own using decorated paper bags. Have your helpers pick a theme (houses, animals,





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Facing page: Making an advent “calendar” out of paper bags can keep the kids busy for hours.

Right: A few pine cones and a little paint can make fun decor.



cartoon characters, insects, dinosaurs, etc.) and then decorate the front of 24 bags. Be sure to number each of them, 1 through 24, on the front or near the top. Then place a small treat or toy in each bag (out of the eyes of any youngsters of course), and secure the top of the bags with staples, tape, or punch a hole and secure with ribbon or decorative string. Display the bags on a windowsill or mantle, and then start opening them on Dec. 1.

Pinecone crafts

‘Tis the season to collect pinecones. Whether you are planning on making some wreaths, or looking for other fun holiday craft ideas, both the larger white

pinecones and the smaller red pinecones are out for the picking right now.

Pinecones can be used in their natural color, or can be easily painted with an acrylic, water-based paint, which creates a bright, shiny surface. Pinecones

can be decorated with small pom poms using a low-temperature glue gun (a bit messy but children could help while an adult uses the glue gun), or can simply be painted with highlights done in a contrasting color, with a single pom pom on top. For hanging, use a dab from the glue gun to attach a loop of string or wire to the top.

Freshly-dropped pinecones around my house had more sap on them than usual this year, so some are already looking “frosted.” Fingers and paint brushes might be

sticky from the sap, but it washes off with a little scrubbing with warm water and soap.

An advertisement for Advanced Optical. At the top, it says "Happy Holidays" in a red, cursive font, followed by "from ADVANCED OPTICAL Family Eye Care Center" with a logo of an eye. Below the text is a photograph of a family of four dressed in holiday costumes: a man as Santa Claus with a white beard and red sunglasses, a woman as an elf with a green hat and white sunglasses, and two children also in elf costumes. At the bottom, a blue banner contains the text "Mtn Iron/Virginia • 741-3000 • www.advoptical.com".

An advertisement for Piragis Northwoods Company. At the top, there is a logo for "PIRAGIS NORTHWOODS COMPANY" with a moose head silhouette. Below the logo is a photograph of a two-story brick building with a snowy roof and a sign that says "PIRAGIS NORTHWOODS COMPANY". The text "ONE STOP HOLIDAY SHOPPING HEADQUARTERS" is overlaid on the photo. Below the photo, it says "Find the perfect gift for everyone on your list." At the bottom, there is a list of "New Arrivals" including Patagonia, Kuhl & Vuori Clothing, Minus 33 & Terramar Baselayer, Stormy Kromer, Keen & Baffin Winter Boots, Smartwool & Darn Tough Socks, Swix Hats, Gloves & Waxes, Puzzles, Games, Local Authors, National Bestsellers, Cookbooks, Custom Knives, Canoe Gear, and Minnesota Gifts. At the very bottom, it says "Open daily including Christmas and New Year's Eve Closed Christmas and New Year's Day" and provides the address "105 N Central Ave., Ely • 218.365.6745" and websites "www.piragis.com • www.boundarywaterscatalog.com".

Treat your dog to easy DIY gifts

If you are looking for ways to keep children (or adults) busy before the holidays, what about making some presents for the dogs in their lives.

Why bother making homemade dog treats? For one, you are in charge of the ingredients, and know you are creating a healthy treat. Second, this is a fun project that is very child-friendly, and the ingredients are simple and the recipe is very forgiving, so exact measuring isn't necessary.

The dough is slightly sticky but easy to roll out and reroll. And it does smell delicious. Bake on a parchment paper-lined cookie sheet for easy cleanup.

Homemade dog treats

Preheat your oven to 300F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. This recipe makes enough treats to fill a half-sheet size pan.

Ingredients:

2 cups oats, ground in a blender or food processor into the consistency of flour. Can use old-fashioned, quick-cooking, instant, or oat flour if you have it already on hand. Can substitute whole wheat flour for the oats. If using already ground flour, this recipe can be easily mixed in a bowl.

2 medium-sized ripe bananas

½ cup natural peanut butter (no sugar added). Or can use canned pumpkin or mashed sweet potato.

Add the oats to a food processor and grind until they reach a fine powder. Add the bananas and peanut butter and blend until the dough forms, it will be slightly sticky.

Use a rolling pin on a floured surface to roll out to about 1/4-3/8-inch thickness.



Use a cookie cutter or else just cut into squares or rectangles (a pizza cutter works well). Reroll remaining dough and cut into more treats. I used a star and gingerbread cookie cutter I had at home. If you are doing this for gifts, you might want to purchase a dog bone shaped cutter, but honestly, the dog won't care what shape they are!

Bake at 300F for 25 to 30 minutes, until the treats are dry and dark brown on the bottoms. They may still feel a little soft but will stiffen up as they cool. Store on the counter for up to a week, or in the fridge or freezer for longer storage time.

Homemade dog toy

What dog doesn't get excited over a new toy? And how about a toy that is made from old clothing? This toy is good for dogs who like to chase bouncing balls and/or play tug of war.

Please note: With this or any other toy, please monitor your dog so they don't swallow any pieces if they are a tough chewer.

Old t-shirt, sweatshirt, towel, or similar fabric, cut into 4 strips, approx. 3-foot long and 4-inches wide. One tennis ball, or other dog-safe bouncy ball (large enough so it can't be swallowed!). This toy can be made without the ball.

Lay out one of the pieces, place the ball in the center, and place a second strip perpendicular. Wrap and knot both pieces to secure the ball in the center. Place the two other strips over the ball, wrapping and knotting around the center. Cut the ends of all the strips into thirds, and braid them, leaving about 3 inches at the end to knot each end securely. This will create an octopus-shaped toy. You can also make this without the ball in the center, just knotting the strips in the center to join them together. My dog was able to get the ball out of the toy (took a bit of time but he was determined), but then the ball can be stuck back into the center of the

The origins of our holiday favorites

Will you be baking gingerbread or hanging stockings by the fireplace this holiday season? Perhaps you'll be lighting the menorah or playing a game of dreidel? The holidays are steeped in tradition, some of which are older than celebrants may realize.

Individuals gather during the holidays and participate in various traditions that have withstood the test of time. Most people engage in these traditions or recognize symbols automatically, but it can be interesting to learn how these traditions came to be.

Christmas caroling

The British traditions of wassailing and mumming and the Slavic tradition of koliada were some of the precursors to more modern caroling. People would go door-to-door and recite poetry or sing with the hope of bringing about good fortune or influencing a future harvest, according to Rutgers University. Carolers spread hope and





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good tidings through song during a time of year when sunlight was limited.

Christmas trees

Pagans once displayed evergreen branches as a reminder that spring would come again, while Romans placed them around temples to honor Saturn, the god of agriculture. Eventually the evergreen was used in conjunction with Christian Christmas celebrations. In the sixteenth century, German Christians put trees inside their homes as symbols of everlasting life.

Santa Claus

Children who celebrate Christmas eagerly await the arrival of a jolly sort who goes by the name of Santa Claus. His origin story stretches back to the third century, when Saint Nicholas became the patron saint of children. Saint Nicholas was a monk in what is modern-day Turkey. It is said that he traveled helping the poor and the sick. History.com says he is believed to have saved three impoverished sisters from slavery by providing them with a dowry so they could

be married, and he also provided gifts to children.

Menorah

The menorah is a multibranch candleabra used in Jewish religious rituals. The menorah is first mentioned in the book of Exodus when the design of the lamp was revealed to Moses by God on Mount Sinai. Many menorahs are seven-branched, but during Chanukah, an eight-branched menorah is used. The Chanukah menorah is modeled after the Tabernacle menorah that corresponds to the eight-day festival. It was used to celebrate the rededication of the Second Temple. The available oil supply was supposed to light the menorah for just one day, but the candles actually burned for eight.

Mistletoe

Kissing under the mistletoe is a holiday season tradition that can lead to some red faces when couples are caught beneath the plant. Norse mythology paved the way for kissing under the mistletoe. Legend has it the gods used mistletoe

to resurrect Odin's son, Baldur, from the dead. Baldur's mother, Frigg, the goddess of love, made the plant a symbol of love and vowed to kiss anyone who passed under it. Mistletoe blooms under cold conditions, which is how it became associated with the holiday season.

Yule log

Yule logs were once part of winter solstice celebrations to bring good luck and fortune, but America is where a yule log really caught on as a holiday tradition. In 1966, the WPIX television station in New York City aired a continuous loop of a fireplace burning for three hours with holiday songs playing. It became an annual tradition, says History.com. Some people even serve a cake that looks like a yule log. The Bûche de Noël is a traditional Christmas cake that is especially popular in France.

Traditions are an endearing component of celebrations and help to unite people from all backgrounds during this special time of year.

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Operation Santa toy drive underway

Donations are needed for this year's Operation Santa toy drive. Operation Santa is a local fundraiser that purchases Christmas gifts (toys, gift cards, and warm winter items) for children whose families use the Tower Food Shelf. Last year, this toy drive has served about 200 children.

The effort is organized by the Timberjay and the Tower-Soudan Civic Club, with help from many area groups, churches, organizations, and individuals.

We are looking for donations of toys, games, art supplies, and sporting equipment for children, and gift cards to either Target or Walmart for our teenagers (\$10 or \$15). Stocking stuffer type gifts and holiday candy are also appreciated.



Cash donations are welcome and are used to purchase toys and clothing.

We also accept gently-used holiday decorations and gifts for the adults who use the food shelf. We do assemble gift bags for the senior citizens who use the food shelf, so small gifts for them are accepted.

Donations can be dropped off at the Timberjay in Tower, or mailed to: Operation Santa, PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790, and will be distributed at the food shelf on Dec. 19. Questions, call Jodi Summit at 218-753-2950.

Fun things to do with holiday visitors

Gatherings with loved ones are a big part of what makes the holiday season such a special time of year. As families grow and spread out across the map, they may not get too many chances to spend quality time with one another. But the holiday season is a time each year when families make a concerted effort to get together.

As families get together under the same roof during the holiday season, individuals tasked with hosting gatherings tend to have a lot on their plates. Memories tend to be made around the holiday dinner table, but the season also presents ample opportunities to create nights to remember outside the house as well. Hosts can keep the following ideas in mind as they look for ways to entertain guests this holiday season.

• **Take a turn as a tour guide.** Locals may not make the rounds of nearby tourist destinations too frequently, but the holiday season is a great opportunity for



hosts to show guests what makes their towns so unique. Serve as a tour guide for guests on a sightseeing day with visits to local monuments or museums. Wrap the day up at a holiday bazaar where local small business owners have set up shop. This affords guests a chance to tour a new community or a hometown they haven't visited in awhile, and also makes for a great chance for all to squeeze in a little last-minute holiday shopping.

• **Plan an ugly sweater bar crawl.** If hosts and their guests are all of age, an ugly sweater bar crawl can make for a fun night out on the town. Encourage guests to wear an ugly holiday sweater and map out a route and schedule of visits to local bars and restaurants. Hosts must prioritize safety on these types of excursions, so arrange for a bus to take guests from one spot to the next if establishments are

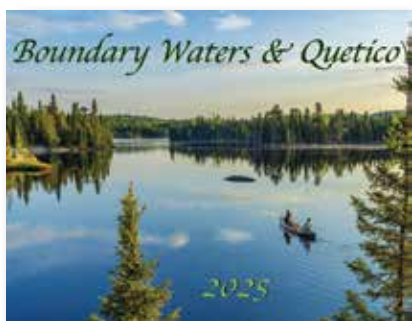
far away from one another. If Main Street has a local bar district, arrange for transportation downtown at the start of the crawl and home when the night ends.

• **Take in some local entertainment.** Whether it's a holiday lighting display show or a local theater performance of a classic holiday tale like "Elf: The Musical," a NLAA production in Ely this year, a night of

local live entertainment is a great way for hosts and their guests to get out of the house. Hosts can even book a reservation for a pre-show meal at a local restaurant so they can be free of cooking and give guests their undivided attention.

• **Host a holiday movie night.** Weary travelers who want to stay in may appreciate a holiday movie double feature. Hosts can let guests pick a pair of holiday films and then host a double feature, complete with traditional movie fare like popcorn and candy. Hosts can even offer adult guests a glass of homemade eggnog during the films to up the holiday ante even further.

Holiday hosts can embrace various ways to entertain guests during a time of year when there's no shortage of fun ways to spend a night.



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Cookies tailor-made for family baking

Baking during the holiday season is a tradition in many households across the globe. Family baking sessions provide a perfect holiday season bonding activity, and the payoff is both cherished family time and delicious, indulgent foods once the items are ready to eat.

Holiday hosts know they'll need to feed their guests over the course of their stay, and that includes snacks. This holiday season, hosts can involve their guests in family baking sessions and whip up a batch of these delicious and colorful "Christmas Biscuits" from Lines+Angles.

Christmas Biscuits

Makes approximately 24 cookies

For the dough:

1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour, sifted, plus extra for dusting

1 1/3 cups confectioner's sugar, plus extra for dusting

3/4 cup almond meal

1 cup unsalted butter, cold and cubed

1 large egg yolk

1 tablespoon cold water

1/2 teaspoon fine salt

For the icing and decoration:

4 cups confectioner's sugar

3 tablespoons meringue powder

7 tablespoons warm water, combined with 1 teaspoon vanilla extract, assorted food color (e. g., red, pink and turquoise), assorted colored sugar crystals (e. g., red, pink and white)

1. For the dough: Preheat oven to 350 F. Grease and line two large baking sheets with parchment paper.

2. Combine flour, confectioner's sugar and almond meal in a large mixing bowl. Stir well to mix.

3. Add butter, egg yolk, water, and salt, and mix well with an electric mixer with spiral attachments until mixture starts to come together as a dough.

4. Turn out onto a floured surface and



knead briefly until even. Wrap in plastic wrap and chill for 30 minutes.

5. After chilling, roll out dough on a lightly floured surface to approximately 0.25" thickness.

6. Use assorted star-shaped cookie cutters to cut out approximately 23 variably sized star shapes. Arrange between prepared sheets, spaced apart.

7. From remaining dough, cut out one teardrop and two semi-circles of dough, using appropriate cutters or working freehand with a paring knife. Arrange on one of the baking sheets.

8. Bake cookies for 12 to 15 minutes, until golden and dry to the touch. Remove to cooling racks to cool.

9. For the icing and decoration: Thoroughly stir together confectioner's sugar and meringue powder in a large mixing bowl.

10. Gradually beat in warm water and vanilla extract mixture using an electric mixer until icing is smooth and of a flooding consistency; you may not need all of the water.

11. Divide icing between three bowls. Color two bowls pink and red, respectively, by beating in enough pink and red coloring to achieve uniform colors. Leave the third bowl uncolored.

12. Spoon pink and red icing into separate piping bags fitted with small,

round-tip nozzles.

13. To ice the cookies, pipe around their perimeters with the icings to create borders. Fill in middle of cookies with more icing; you can use a damp, warm offset palette knife to spread out icing to an even finish.

14. Carefully transfer iced cookies to cooling racks, decorating with the sugar crystals in festive patterns.

15. Using same technique as in steps 13 and 14, ice teardrop cookie with red and white icing for Santa's hat and beard, respectively. Ice the two semi-circle cookies with white icing.

16. Before icings have set, carefully attach semi-circle cookies to teardrop cookie to fashion Santa's mustache.

Color any remaining white icing with turquoise coloring and then dab onto teardrop cookie for Santa's eyes. Pipe some pink icing below eyes for his nose.

17. Let cookies set and harden before serving.

Tip: Icing consistency should be similar to the consistency of toothpaste. If your icing is too thick, thin it out with some warm water, mixing it into the icing in drops

Preparation time: 1 hour, 20 minutes

Cooling time: 30 minutes





A fruitcake guests will love

Few foods garner the types of responses generated by the mere mention of fruitcake, which drives many holiday celebrants to run for the hills. But fruitcake may not deserve its reputation, particularly when individuals brave enough to prepare it serve it covered in a sugary glaze. Such is the case with this recipe for “Gluten-Free Fruitcake With Sugar Glaze” courtesy of Lines+Angles.

Gluten-Free Fruitcake With Sugar Glaze

For the cake:

4 ounces golden raisins

2 ounces chopped candied orange peel
 8 ounces candied cherries, quartered
 6 ounces raisins
 3 1/2 tablespoons sherry
 4 ounces butter
 1 cup sugar
 1 pinch salt
 1 pinch grated nutmeg
 1 teaspoon ground mixed spice
 3 eggs, beaten
 1 cup self-raising gluten-free flour
 6 ounces chopped almonds, blanched

For the icing:

1 cup confectioner’s sugar
 3 tablespoons water

1. For the cake: Place all the fruit in a bowl with the sherry, stir well, cover and leave to stand overnight.
2. Heat the oven to 325 F. Grease a loaf pan and line the base with parchment paper.
3. Beat the butter with the sugar, salt and spices in a mixing bowl until light and creamy, then gradually beat in the eggs.
4. Gently fold in the flour, followed by the soaked fruits and almonds, stirring well.
5. Spoon into the pan and bake for 2 to 2 1/4 hours until cooked through. Leave to cool in the pan.
6. For the icing: Mix the sugar with a little water, adding a little at a time, until it is thick and smooth.
7. Spread the icing on top of the cake, allowing it to run down the sides. Leave to set.

Preparation and cooking time: 2 hours and 45 minutes

Resting time: 12 hours



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How to help aging veterans

According to data from the Department of Veterans Affairs, surveys from the Pew Research Center and the U.S. Census Bureau, there were more than 18 million living military veterans in the United States by the end of 2023. Seventy-two percent of those veterans are age 50 and older, and many served during wartime.

Military personnel make significant sacrifices to protect the freedoms Americans enjoy each day, and it's vital that those efforts are never forgotten, even if it's been decades since service personnel have been on active duty.

Thirty-seven percent of living veterans are age 70 and older, and these brave individuals must face the challenges of aging as well as some, including chronic injuries, that might be traced to their time in the military. That makes helping aging veterans an especially worthy endeavor, and those interested in doing just that can consider the following ideas.

• Offer your expertise free of charge. Working professionals can help aging veterans by providing advice or services free of charge or at steep discounts. For example, accountants can offer to prepare and file aging veterans' tax returns free of charge or, if the returns are complicated, at steep discounts. Finan-



cial advisors can visit a local veterans hall or home and speak to members or residents about managing money after retirement.

• Invite veterans over for special events or gatherings. The Department of Veterans Affairs reports that veterans who served in the last 30 years make up the largest number of living veterans. Though there are still plenty of veterans who served prior to 1994, they may no

longer have extensive social networks as more and more aging veterans pass away. Social connections are vital to long-term health, and researchers at the Center for Healthy Aging at Penn State University found that adults between the ages of 70 and 90 who reported more frequent, pleasant social interactions exhibited improved cognitive performance in the ensuing days. Individuals who want to help aging veterans can invite them over for special events, such as game watches, holiday gatherings or even weekly family meals.

• Pitch in around the house.

Whether they suffered injuries during their time in the service or not, many aging veterans face the same physical limitations as others approaching or past retirement age. Offer to help aging veterans around the house. Mobility issues can make it hard to shovel snow, tend a garden or clean the interior of a home. Such tasks are made much easier when others pitch in, and these gestures can be a great way for families to show their appreciation to the brave individuals who protected the freedoms Americans enjoy each day.

There's no shortage of ways to help aging veterans, many of whom could use a helping hand as they navigate their golden years.

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The ultimate holiday playlist

Staying home for the holidays can make the season a little more convenient, saving celebrants from having to contend with the millions of individuals who take to the roads, railways and friendly skies each December. But staying home comes with its fair share of obligations, especially for individuals who are planning holiday get-togethers with family and friends.

Mood and merrymaking go hand in hand come the holiday season, and music can be used to establish a celebratory vibe this time of year. Whether you're hosting a holiday party or simply aspiring to create a festive atmosphere throughout the month of December, the following songs can help set the right tone this year.

- "Sleigh Ride," by Ella Fitzgerald
- "The Christmas Song," by Gregory Porter
- "Jingle Bell Rock," by Bobby Helms
- "Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!," by Frank Sinatra
- "Jingle Bells," by Kimberley Locke
- "Silver Bells," by Tony Bennett, featuring Count Basie and His Big Band
- "Here Comes Santa Claus," by Elvis Presley
- "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," by Diana Krall
- "White Christmas," by Bing Crosby
- "Winter Wonderland," by Louie Armstrong
- "The First Noel," by the cast of "Glee"
- "Happy Holiday," by

- Peggy Lee
- "O Tannenbaum," by the Vince Guaraldi Trio
- "Boogie Woogie Santa Claus," by the Brian Setzer Orchestra
- "All I Want for Christmas Is You," by Mariah Carey
- "Santa Baby," by Eartha

- Kitt
- "Mele Kalikimaka," by Bing Crosby and The Andrews Sisters
- "Blue Christmas," by Elvis Presley
- "Frosty the Snowman," by Gene Autry
- "Santa Claus Is Comin' to

- Town," by Bruce Springsteen & the E Street Band
- "Deck the Halls," by Nat King Cole
- "Fairytale of New York," by The Pogues featuring Kirsty MacColl
- "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," by Burl Ives

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Ho Ho Hold on a Minute...

In a season of giving, there are scammers waiting to pounce

December is a season of giving, and that charitable spirit is evidenced by the uptick in donations over the final month of the year. Perhaps inspired by Giving Tuesday, which is celebrated annually on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving, donors tend to be especially generous in December. According to Donorbox, which provides an online fundraising platform to facilitate charitable donations, 31 percent of yearly charitable giving happens in December.

Nonprofit organizations undoubtedly recognize the spirit of generosity that surfaces each December, but criminals are likely cognizant of individuals' desire to give back during the holiday season as well. Indeed, according to government sources, fake charities are one of the most common scams encountered by consumers during the holiday season. With that in mind, watch out for potential scammers who will use the internet to target unsuspecting individuals through a variety of ploys, many of which specifically target seniors.

• **Fraudulent charities:** Criminals targeting people who want to donate during the holiday season may set up fraudulent charities in an effort to trick people into giving them money. The New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs notes that fraudulent charities may feature impressive names or a name similar to one used by a reputable, well-known charity.

• **Phishing emails:** Phishing emails have been around for decades, and for good reason. Such scams are easy to implement and highly successful. The Federal Trade Commission reported receiving 358,000 reports of scammers



contacting individuals via email in 2023, and the real number is likely much higher, as few consumers take the time to report such emails to the FTC. Phishing emails typically prompt recipients to click on a link embedded in an email. These emails may seem as though they're coming from an individual's bank or credit card company, while others may indicate recipients can win a prize if they open the email and click on a link within it. Consumers are advised to never share their credit card information in an email, even if the sender claims to be from a reputable charity.

• **Pressure tactics:** Seeking to capitalize on the spirit of giving that surfaces each December, some scammers will pressure prospective donors and potential victims into making donations over the phone or via links embedded in an email. Reputable charities do not pressure donors into giving over the phone or via email, so solicitations for immediate donations are a telltale sign of a charity scam. If prompted to make donations with cash or via gift cards or wire transfers, hang up the phone, as the FTC

notes such payment methods are how scammers request donations.

• **Thank you messages:** Another common giving scam is to thank potential victims for past donations they never made. This is an attempt to trick generous individuals into thinking they have a past relationship with a charity they believe is reputable, which might make them less inclined to vet the person or organization thanking them. Scammers are banking on establishing that false sense of security and trust, particularly during a notably busy time of year when donors may feel as though they don't have the time to research organizations they want to support.

Scammers prey on individuals' generosity each holiday season. More information about giving scams and how to avoid them is available at consumer.ftc.gov.

Take hot chocolate to the next level...

People tend to think of sipping ice cream floats in the middle of summer when temperatures are soaring. Ice cream floating in a bubbling base of cola or root beer can be a welcome treat on a hot day. However, floats can be just as delicious when the weather chills, particularly when ice cream enhances rich and decadent hot chocolate.



For this “Hot Chocolate Float” from “Chocolate: Over 100 Temptingly-Tasty Dishes” by the Love Food editors, coconut- and chocolate-flavored scoops of ice cream bob and melt in creamy hot chocolate. Feel free to use your favorite flavors of ice cream to make this recipe your own, and you can even make this drink a boozy version with the inclusion of a shot of flavored vodka.

Hot Chocolate Float

Serves 4

- 2 cups milk
- 8 ounces semisweet chocolate
- 2 tablespoons superfine sugar
- 8 scoops coconut ice cream
- 8 scoops semisweet chocolate ice cream
- Whipped cream, to decorate

Pour the milk into a saucepan. Break the chocolate into pieces and add to the saucepan with the sugar. Stir over low heat until the chocolate has melted, the sugar has dissolved and the mixture is smooth. Remove the saucepan from the heat.

Put 1 scoop of coconut ice cream into each of 4 heatproof glasses, top with a scoop of chocolate ice cream, then repeat the layers.

Pour the chocolate flavored milk into the glasses, top with whipped cream, and serve immediately.

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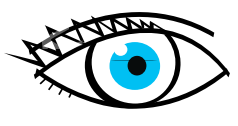


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Memories of the Early Days

A fascinating look back at the early history of the Lake Vermilion area

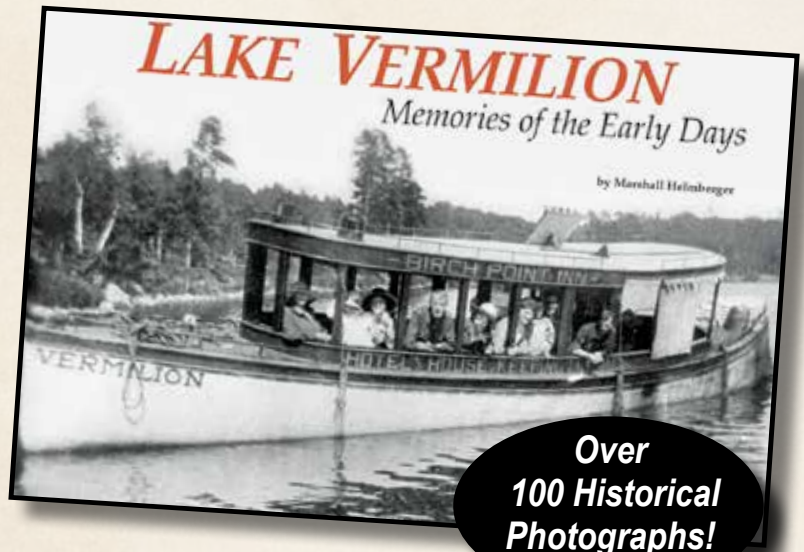
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Frazer Bay Island Log Home

COOK, MN Gorgeous custom Lake Vermilion log home on your own island in Frazer Bay! Short boat ride from mainland. Furnished yr-rnd home, 2 stall wet boathouse, wd fired sauna. Vaulted great room w/massive wd burning firepl. Cherry/granite/Wolf kitch open to great rm, dining & covered porch, all lakeside. Main flr lakeside suite & office. Upstairs, 2 beds, glass door to deck w/water views.

OFFERED AT \$998,500
DETAILS 2 BED/2 BATH 1,817 SF
 0.5 ACRES 555 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS#145479



Burntside Estate

ELY, MN Secluded estate on coveted Burntside Lake! Ideal location between the main body & the North Arm. Immaculate cedar sided home, waters edge guest cabin, sauna, boathouse. Two story great rm w/stone firepl & glass doors to lakefront deck. Stainless/granite Wolf kitch w/ island open to great rm, dining & deck, all lakeside. Luxurious lakeside primary suite.

OFFERED AT \$1,985,500
DETAILS 3 BED/3 BATH 3,710 SF
 19.7 ACRES 1,240 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS#146304



Peninsula on Cedar Island Lake

GILBERT, MN Professionally built year round beachhouse with sand beach! Cedar sided home, open livrm w/beamed ceiling, oak floors, granite gas firepl & wall of lakeside windows. Custom kitch w/newer stainless appls opens to living, dining & lakeside deck. All BRs w/beautiful water views. Economical in flr heat, heated 2 st garage. Gazebo & dock. 10 mi to Virginia or 5 mi to Giants Ridge.

OFFERED AT \$698,500
DETAILS 3 BED/1.5 BATH 1,520SF
 6.7 ACRES 440 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS#147304



Blue Water Vistas

COOK, MN Live the island lifestyle on Lake Vermilion! 4BR/1BA main cabin, log sauna guest cabin & sleeping cabin all at waters edge w/excellent privacy, seclusion & swimming. Boat to waterside restaurants, a championship golf course, even to town for shopping or take the short boat ride across calm water to the mainland. Adjoining property also available.

OFFERED AT \$749,500
DETAILS 4 BED/1 BATH 2,080 SF
 13.5 ACRES 1,385 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS#146260

Vermilion Island Preserve

TOWER, MN Secluded log home set on apx 85 acre island nature preserve! Stunning land offers extensive walking trails & adjoins 170 acres to the south also protected w/ conservation easement. Home features vaulted great rm w/ natural light pouring in lakeside windows, Vermont Castings fireplace front wood stove, kitchen w/island open to living & dining. Cedar deck, boathouse & workshop.

OFFERED AT \$798,500
DETAILS 2 BED/2 BATH 2,008 SF
85 ACRE 1,100 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS#147642



Walk In Swimming Shoreline

COTTON, MN A woodworker's own cabin w/swimming shoreline on Morcom Lake! Just 45mi N of Duluth, 25mi S of Virginia, 10mi to Cotton. 60x30 dream garage, wood-working shop, second flr & metal roof. Cabin features glass front great rm, wd burning fireplace front stove, wrap deck. Hickory kitch w/granite counters & island. Luxurious main flr suite. Open yard, firepit patio, stone walks, dock.

OFFERED AT \$644,000
DETAILS 3 BED/3 BATH 2,279 SF
3.6 ACRES 385 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS#147160



Burntside Paradise

ELY, MN Burntside Lake handscribed log home in pvt bay at the end of a pristine granite fjord! Set in acres of park-like forest w/walking trails, surrounded on 3 sides by Fed forests at edge of the BWCA. Huisman custom built home with wrap around deck. Open great room with a wood burning fireplace and a wall of windows showcasing majestic panoramic views over the lake and surrounding forest.

OFFERED AT \$865,000
DETAILS 1 BED/1 BATH 800 SF
38 ACRES 1,703 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS#141299



Frazer Bay Retreat

TOWER, MN Like new Lake Vermilion retreat! Sunset facing level lot w/excellent swimming shoreline. Beautifully remodeled cabin. Kitchen, living, dining, deck on the waters edge offer sounds of water lapping shore. Original garage & shed. Sauna/boathouse/guest cabin, dock, boat launch, RV pad. LP Smart sided cabin. Private location on dead end rd, yet close to town, golf, dining.

OFFERED AT \$574,000
DETAILS 2 BED/1 BATH 624 SF
0.8 ACRES 90 FT SHORELINE
ON THE WEB JANISCHREALTY.COM MLS#146845



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COOK, MN Lake Vermilion timber frame home w/swimming beach on beloved Frazer Bay! Stainless/oak kitch w/granite counters & copper island. 2 stall gar, 2 stall wet boat-

OFFERED AT	\$1,495,000	
DETAILS	4 BD/4 BTH	3,129 SF
	175 ft shoreline	1 acre

house w/2BR guest quarters over the water, dock.



ELY, MN Burntside private island retreat with mainland lot! Island offers 20.9 acres & 2,140 ft S & W facing shoreline, 5 cabins & 4 yurts. Short boat ride across calm water to mainland

OFFERED AT	\$2,450,000	
DETAILS	6 BD/4 BTH	2,146 SF
	2,540 ft shoreline	25.7 acres

lot-4.8 acres & 400 ft shoreline w/dock & swimming area.



MT. IRON, MN Custom cedar home on a thousand ft of riverfront, pond w/sand swimming hole & beautiful country views! Ideal location between Virginia & Hibbing. Open floorplan, stunning

OFFERED AT	\$749,500	
DETAILS	3 BD/3 BATH	5,240 SF
	1,000 ft riverfront	26 acres

kitch w/2 islands. Main flr king suite. Large att gar.



ELY, MN Secluded hand hewn log home on Clear Lake near Ely & BWCA! Gradual lot w/excellent swimming. Vaulted great rm, hardwd flr, gourmet kitch w/island. 3 car heated

OFFERED AT	\$1,150,000	
DETAILS	3 BD/2 BTH	2,335 SF
	805 ft shoreline	8.3 acres

gar w/potential guest quarters above, 2 docks, boat launch.

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Sold Sept.

Long - \$385,000



Sold Aug.

Vermilion - \$975,000

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Sold Oct.

Pike River - \$585,000



Sold Sept.

Vermilion - \$1,450,000