



Midvale High School student Ben Holmes (right) wears the Bronze and Silver Congressional Award Medals he was presented at a Nov. 19 ceremony in Boise. Pictured with him is proud grandma Glenna Schiedel, Weiser.

Ben Holmes receives two Congressional award medals

by Elsie Coburn
Ben Holmes, a student at Midvale High School, was awarded the Bronze and Silver Congressional Award Medals during a presentation in the Mountain View High School in Boise, Nov. 19.
One of 200 young people from all over Idaho to be honored, Ben had completed 100 hours of public service, 50 hours of personal development, 50 hours of physical fitness and an overnight star expedition to qualify for the awards.

came up to receive their medals, Master of Ceremonies Carolyn Holly of Channel 7 read the biographies that they had written, some rather lengthy. But Ben's one-lineer brought down the house: "I learned to persevere through all the paperwork!"
Ben's parents, Dennis and Tonya Holmes, grandparents Tom and Claudia Holmes of Midvale and his Grandma Glenna Schiedel of Weiser were there to see the presentation.

Midvale News

by Elsie Coburn
Thanksgiving is hopefully only one day out of the 365 days a year that we give thanks to God for the many blessings we enjoy, not the least of which is living in such a beautiful valley. And prayers of thanks as well as prayers for safety are offered for the special men and women serving in our military.
A hardy group of folks turned out last Saturday to give thanks to the town of Midvale for the Christmas season. Many thanks to Brenna, Karly, Shelly, June and David Craig, Kendall Duggan, Ken Baroschek, Wayne Curtis, Patty and Calvin Fuchs, Andy Miller, Jack and Joan Wright, Shannon Williams and anyone else that we've missed! Shannon was the director of the crew, but describes herself as more of a "bossy old witch." The lights will be turned on and the inflatables set up the day after Thanksgiving, and Shannon says that anything that is stolen this year will not be replaced, as it is just too costly. Jars were placed at the Midvale Store, Library and Broken Shoe Bar so that citizens

can contribute to the fund to replace bulbs, cords and other such items needed for next year.
Siri and Dave Christmas report that their son Chris was in his final motorcycle desert race last Saturday at the National WORCS (World Off Road Championships Series) held in Payette at Clay Peaks Cycle Park. SIDRA riders rode with this organization for the first time. Since it was a national event, there were riders from all over the state riding Saturday and Sunday. Chris rode at 1:30 p.m., some participants rode at 8 a.m. on frozen ground. Chris rode 36 miles and they're not sure of his placement yet. He was happy just to finish! The previous two races of the season were at Pleasant Valley near Boise Oct. 24 and Little Gem in Emmett, Nov. 7. Pleasant Valley was for flat points and very muddy after a night of rain. At Emmett he placed first in his class, where it was foggy and 38 degrees. Dave, Siri and Chris' girlfriend Felicia, have been pit crew and photographer. We're thankful that the season ended well and injury free. Chris says next year he'll ride more for fun than competition. Chris is attending college at CSI in Boise. Dave and Siri Christmas purchased the "little white house" next to Tom and Claudia Holmes' from Gordon Russell. It was formerly the home of Genevieve Anderson, who was an "adopted grandmother" of the Christmas family years ago. Dave and Siri are very thankful to I.D. Riddlehoover and Ralph Eguisiva for all their help as they moved this last weekend.
Kody and Paul Williams attended the Midvale Store, Library and Broken Shoe Bar so that citizens

Phyllis and Jerry Widner. On Saturday, Cody, Paul and Phyllis went to Meridian where they met Phyllis' parents, Dean and DeLores Williams, who came from Mountain Home for a visit.
Everyone who turned out for the first Bingo night of the season last Saturday, sponsored by the Midvale Lions Club, had a great time and enjoyed the lovely newly painted and lighted meeting room of the Veterans Memorial Hall. Maxine Hawkins, who is in charge of organizing the Bingo nights this year, said that there were a lot of other events going on the same evening, and that they are looking for a bigger turnout on Dec. 18.
The ABW ladies from the Midvale Baptist Church met at the home of Carol Wolfe Nov. 17 and for several of them it was their first time to visit her lovely home in the country. Carol served a wonderful lunch. Laura Downey, Evelyn Evans, Maxine Fox, Kathryn Hopper, Barbara McLay, Elaine Rogers, Laurel Sherman and Gerie Sutton, the Baptist Church had a busy Sunday, with missionary Yamu Sackman sharing with the adult Sunday School class, the "Cowboys on Fire" singing during church, and a church dinner afterwards.
Mary Kline and daughter Paula Kline and Roma Herriott, all of Boise, also attended services at the Baptist Church on Sunday. June Craig, who went to school with Roma, said it was sure good to see her again.
On Saturday, Nov. 13, Toni Schwartz's daughter Kerry came and took her to Orofino to spend the week. While there, Toni attended a school program put on by the 57 third-grade students (from three classes) in which her grandson Matt had three singing solos. Matt, who turned nine on Thanksgiving Day, had earlier gone to see the magician David Copperfield as part of his birthday celebration. On Saturday, Kerry held a party for him with brother Kolby and 18 friends. The theme, "It's Magic" was carried out complete with magic tricks done by the guest of honor using a new magic kit. That night, Kerry served a lovely birthday dinner for both Kolby and Toni. On Sunday, they attended the Children's Mass, and a proud Grandma Toni watched as Matt read part of the epistle. That afternoon, Keith and Matt brought her home, after a "lovely week of celebration!"
Dean and Ethel Jessup's daughters, Jeanne Albright and Jill Caver and granddaughter Carmella Caver, came down from Kirkland, Wash., on Wednesday, Nov. 10 and stayed until the following Monday. During that weekend, Ethel counted 19 in their home, when friends and family came to see the visitors. Included were Chelsey and Josh Hellwedge and Joshua's brother, Pete, from Salt Lake City. Everyone enjoyed hearing all about Chelsey's trip earlier in the fall to Germany.
Jody Jessup picked up Yamu Sackman, a missionary in India, at the airport in Boise on Nov. 13 and brought her to Midvale for an eight-day visit. Yamu stayed with Nancy and David Coats until Monday, and then moved to the Jessup home. During her stay in the Upper Country, Yamu spoke at the Indian Valley Church Sunday morning at Cambridge Bible Church that evening and with their Indian Bible study group on Tuesday. On Thursday, when Ethel shared about

the Crisis Pregnancy Center with the quilting group in Indian Valley in the home of Ruth Reeder, Yamu came along and spoke also and had one of the ladies model a sari. On Saturday evening, she prepared a rice and meat curry dinner for Dean, Ethel, Dave and Nancy, and Jo and Paul Freeman of Cambridge. After meeting with the Midvale Baptist folks Sunday morning, Jessups took her to Emmett for a gathering at the home of Dr. Gerald and Lori Wilkins, where she spent the night before flying out on Monday. Yamu's husband, Dick, has been in Dallas, Texas, for medical appointments.
Do you need some boxes to send those Christmas gifts off to? Midvale librarian Myrna Weikal says that they have boxes of all sizes at the library, plus some packing materials, so be sure to stop by.
Ten children, one mom, one grandma and one big sister attended the combination Story Hour/Family Reading Day last Thursday. Librarians Myrna Weikal and Anna Piper and Story Lady Elsie Coburn were on hand, as well as library board chairman June Craig. Karly and Jack Hansen's baby sister won the book drawing, much to their delight.
On Monday, Maxine Hawkins, Evelyn Evans and Eva Neckles, picked up Ruth Ross from the Weiser Care Center and all four ladies went to Ontario to celebrate Ruth's 84th birthday with a Chinese dinner followed by some shopping. Ruth's niece came from Cambridge to the center to visit and bring a gift, and later Ruth was seen enjoying a game of Bingo with other residents, despite her very busy day.
Maxine reports that they also visited with Otis Pot-

ter at the care center, and he is doing very well. He and Dennis stayed in Boise for the weekend to celebrate their 25th anniversary, doing some Christmas shopping and relaxing. When asked if she got something silver for her Silver Anniversary, Tonya said, "No, but we test drove a silver Dodge." However, it didn't come home with them.
Our Upper Country Singers Spotlight is on Johnny Piper this week. He says that his "Mommy started him taking piano lessons in the fifth grade" in Boise, and that same year he started playing the clarinet. In junior high in California, he played first and second chair in an orchestra, along with 15 to 20 other clarinet players. In high school, he played clarinet and alto, tenor and baritone saxophone, as well as learning the guitar and singing in the choir, all the while participating in sports and maintaining a place on the honor roll. His two brothers and three sisters also all played instruments in school. His wife Karen played the flute in the high school marching band, but most enjoyed her time with the flag, rifle and saber team. Their five kids all play musical instruments, some of them more than one. They have two grandkids and one more due next summer. Johnny directs the choir and congregational music in their church, and this is his second time to be a part of the Upper Country Singers.

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Good w/ kids. \$300. 549-1935. fs-85-3p 1985 MERC MOTOR, 7.5 horse, very few hours, \$350.00. 549-1890. fs-84-1f 1973 DATSUN PU. \$400. 1 overhauled camper, refrig., stove inc., \$200. 1 utility trailer, \$100. 549-0522. fs-82-4p KITCHEN REMODELED: Good condition appliances surplus. 24" double self-cleaning wall oven, dishwasher, 4 burner cooktop, Corian kitchen sink, wall mount microwave, garbage disposal. All for \$450. 549-0480. fs-84-3p WOOD STOVE, PAPA SIZE, w/stone hearth, stove-pipe. 549-2872. fs-78-1f QUEEN PILLOWTOP MATTRESS set. Brand new, still in plastic, with warranty. Must sell. \$129. 866-7476. fs-61-1f BEDROOM SET, 7-PIECE cherry set. Brand new, still in box. List \$2,280, sacrifice \$450. 886-1404. fs-61-1f ITALIAN LEATHER COUCH and loveseat. Brand new, still in plastic. Retail \$2,450, sell \$895. 866-8888. fs-61-1f	Wanted POSITION AVAILABLE: Controller/CPA midsize construction company in eastern Washington state. 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Christmas Parade

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Friday, Dec. 3
Santa's Twinkling Magic

18th Annual Festival of Trees

Vendome Events Center
Thursday, Friday & Saturday
Dec. 2, 3, 4
Gifts We Treasure

Santa's Twinkling Magic

Join Your Friends and Neighbors For All The Holiday Fun In Weiser, Idaho

Weiser Signal American
Monday, Nov. 29, 2004

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Hometown Motors Dealerships with your help has raised over \$13,000! That is going to help those who need us during this Holiday Season! We are thankful for your support of our dealerships the last 15 years and your continued support of the Hometown Dealerships Benefit Tournament & Auction. Just think of the smiles that you helped bring to our area families this Holiday Season!

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2005 Toyota Corolla CE Fully Equipped #1516 \$14,999	2005 Toyota Avalon XLS Fully Equipped #1519 \$31,986
2005 Toyota Tundra 4x4 Access Cab, SR5 #1512 \$27,888	2005 Toyota Prius #1539 \$25,387
2004 Toyota Tacoma 4x4 X-Cab, SR5, Loaded, Fully Equipped #1331 \$21,588	2002 Acura RL 3.5 Every Option, Like New, Like New, 4-Doors of Luxury \$25,588
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2004 Dodge Durango SLT 4x4 #83220 V8, AT, Aluminum Wheels, Traction Control \$299 a month*	2005 Dodge 2500 SLT Quad Cab 4x4, Cummins, AT, Loaded #83490 \$359 a month*
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2004 Chrysler Crossfire #C74000 \$283 a month*	2005 Chrysler Town & Country LW #C73960 \$259 a month*
2005 Chrysler PT Cruiser #83660 \$179 a month*	2005 Ford 500 SEL #35920 \$279 a month*
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2005 Ford Explorer Sport Trac XLT 4x4 #F91860 \$285 a month*	2004 Ford Explorer XLT 4x4 #F91110 \$307 a month*

"Elders" Wish List

Members of Soroptimists International of the Snake River Valley with the help of Santa's elves have compiled a list of Christmas Wishes from residents living in long-term care facilities within our area. As anyone wanting to help make these wishes come true should call Lynda at 549-4887 or Barbara at 452-5700 and designate the number of the resident you would like to be Santa for this year. Gifts may be dropped off, unwrapped, no later than Dec. 18th please, at Hilecom State Farm Insurance, 1301 SW 4th, in Ontario, or BP Financial, 411 S. Whitley, Suite A, in Fruitland, or 547 W. First St. in Weiser. Pickup can also be arranged. Items such as stationery, 100 piece puzzles, lotion, gum, sugar free and regular candy, colognes, fans, clocks, hair accessories, etc. would be welcome.



1. female - Sweat suit (M), slippers (M), socks, radio/cassette player (German music?).
2. female - Warm top, pull on pants (XL), stuffed animals, snacks, newspaper subscription.
3. female - Sweat suit (Lrg.), slippers (M), candy, undershirts (Lrg.), socks.
4. female - Nice tops and shirts (4X), yarn, color pencils & markers, crochet hooks.
5. female - Long sleeve shirts, sweat suit (M), slippers (M), socks, warm undershirts (plain).
6. female - Warm top, pull on slacks (M), cardigan sweater, gospel music (cassette).
7. female - Warm non-skid slippers (8), twin comforter or fleece type throw.
8. male - Man's cardigan with pockets (M), white long-sleeved shirt (15%).
9. female - Country theme wall hangings, pretty comforter (twin), fleece throw.
10. female - Dark slacks (S), stationery and stamps, still-life scenery wall decor.
11. male - X-large print Bible, strong magnifying glass, non-slip slippers (10).
12. male - Suitsuit (1X, tall), large faced clock with batteries, masculine pictures for walls.
13. male - Suitsuit (M), radio/cassette player, electric razor.
14. male - Suitsuit (Lrg.), electric razor, radio/cassette player.
15. male - Suitsuit (XL), slippers (L), candy, radio/cassette player.
16. male - Suitsuit (1X), undershirts, candy, country or hunting magazines.
17. male - Western shirt (Lrg.), suitsuit (Lrg.), electric razor, hunting magazines.
18. male - Suitsuit (2X), socks, radio/cassette player with country cassettes.
19. female - Suitsuit (Lrg.), top and slacks (Lrg.), Cardigan sweater (Lrg.), candy, cookies.
20. female - Suitsuit (M), socks, stuffed farm animal, snacks.
21. female - Tops and pants (9), suitsuit (M), socks, jewelry (pierced ears), Pepsi, popcorn.
22. female - Suitsuit, cardigan sweater (XL), slippers (L), candy.
23. female - Suitsuit (XL), slippers (L), stuffed bear, jewelry.
24. female - Warm top (M), slacks (S), candy, cardigan sweater (M).
25. female - Pretty suitsuit (M).
26. female - Non-skid slippers (8), fleece throw or twin comforter.
27. female - Floral wall pictures, pretty comforter or fleece throw.
28. male - Flannel shirt (2X), horse theme wall pictures.
29. male - Suitsuit (4X), hand-held poker game (large buttons), large number wall clock, speaker phone.
30. female - Slacks and blouse (M), pretty comforter, floral wall hanging.
31. male - Suitsuit (LL), undershirts, socks, candy.
32. male - Suitsuit (XL), slippers (Lrg.), DVD's - western, shaving lotion.
33. female - Suitsuit (Lrg.), cardigan sweater, slippers (M), socks, stuffed dog.
34. female - Suitsuit (M), slip-on tennis shoes (7), chocolate candy, stuffed dog.

Lindsay's Jewels

- Turquoise
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- Stainless Steel Stretch Bracelets
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Thursday Dec. 2
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Festival of Trees:
Thursday Dec. 2 -
Saturday Dec. 4

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Holiday Tour of Homes Dec. 4 benefits Heritage Center

The Snake River Heritage Center's annual holiday fund-raiser, the Holiday Tour of Homes, will again feature city as well as country homes. The tour is set for Saturday, Dec. 4, from 1 to 6 p.m. Tickets are priced at \$8 and are available at all Weiser banks, the Chamber of Commerce office, Weiser Public Library, and from Heart to Hand. The tour may be started at any location and tickets need to be shown at all homes. The tour concludes at the Realty World office, 618 East Main St., for refreshments and a door prize drawing. The Realty World office, a 1904 home, was built for the S.D. Ford family. Houses included in the Weiser Flat area are Mrs. Vern Gardiner's home at 863 County Road 70, and the home of Jim and Jean Ledford, 813 Island Road. The tour's in-town stops are at: 253 W. Main St., Dr. and Mrs. Steve Iwasas home that Dr. Iwasas terms "a work in progress" (with the Iwasas themselves performing the work); 541 W. Third St., the 1900 home of Kurt and Shauna Kessell; Vickie Thomas' home at 820 W. First St.; Jim and Darla Harberd's home at 85 Phyllis Court; 953 W. Third St., the home of Mike and Linda Carpenter; and 30 McGinnis Dr., the home of Tom and Marge Anderson. The tour also includes two homes in the Sunnyside area: that of Harold and Patty Davies, 1545 Ross Road, and the home of Troy and Randi Davies at 1526 Sunnyside Road. For more information about the tour, contact Pat Harberd at 549-1344. Current members of the museum board are Harberd, Patty Davies, Wes Higgins, Lynn Isaacson, Cheryl Karnes, Jeri Kleppin, Lisa McKnight, Skip Rathbun, Byron Scott, Sharon Widner, and Pat Womack.



Expert cooks Sally Baker and Carol Adams were the volunteers in charge in the kitchen during the Community Thanksgiving Dinner last Thursday.



Samantha Kingsland, Jerome (a visitor in the home of the Soulier's of Weiser), helped Wayne Fuller and Jeri Soulier (not pictured), in serving up the excellent Community Thanksgiving turkey dinner Thursday at the Weiser Elks Lodge.

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AmériTitle

SHARE THE SPIRIT!
Happy Holidays from your friends at Weiser's Wells Fargo Bank, front row, from left, Kim Kautz, Brook Jones, Chelsea Wood and Branch Manager Deb Nakamura. Back row, Kay Wyss, Missy Way and Stephanie McDaniel.
WELLS FARGO
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SHOW US YOUR SMILES
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Dr. Robert Agnew DDS, DSA, DSA, SPECIALIZING IN ORTHODONTICS
The staff at Dr. Gudmestad's office wishes you a happy holiday season. From left, Kristie Stone, Lindi Rodman, Dr. Tom Gudmestad, Mary Ann Yamamoto and Joyce Roundtree.
NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS
Good dental care begins at home and lasts a lifetime. We're your family dental clinic fully staffed to handle all your dental care needs.
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• cosmetic dentistry
• root canal therapy
• periodontal therapy (gum disease)
• crowns/bridges • dentures
• oral surgery
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Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Evelyn Stover (pictured here to the left and in the center below) helps organize the wide array of desserts donated to the Community Thanksgiving dinner at the Elks Lodge last Thursday. Offering a helping hand in washing dishes were local youths, Jesse Porter and Cody Rogers. *Photo Photos*



Weiser resident Lee Daniels was one of the many who shared in the annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner at the Weiser Elks Lodge Thursday.

Top picture: Ron Frank and Aunt Jo help a young man in making a decision as to which of the many tasty desserts to have at the Community Thanksgiving Dinner. *Photo Photos*


When you give blood
you give another birthday,
another anniversary,
another day at the beach,
another night under the stars,
another talk with a friend,
another laugh,
another hug,
another chance.



American Red Cross

Please give blood.

Friday, Dec. 3, 11 AM- 3 PM
Weiser Christian Church, 1299 E. 2nd
Call 549-2154 or 549-2293 For Appt.



Holiday Parade

Friday, Dec. 3 • 5:15 PM — Theme: *Santa's Twinkling Magic*
Special Guest: Santa Claus

Parade Route: Line-up begins at the Weiser Middle School at 4:45 p.m. The parade will start at 5:15 p.m. Parade route: Starting at the Middle School, proceeding south on East 4th, turning right on Park Street, turn left on State Street, continuing south to the Weiser Depot.
For more information call the Weiser Chamber of Commerce, 414-0452.

18th Annual Festival of Trees

Gifts We Treasure

PRESENTED BY WEISER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION
Thursday thru Saturday, Dec. 2, 3 & 4
at the Vendome Events Center

This is a great event for the whole family!

Thursday, Dec. 2
6:00-7:00 p.m. Social Hour - Open to the Public
7:00-7:30 p.m. "Stubby Pringle's Christmas"
7:45 p.m. Tree Auction & Gala


Friday, Dec. 3
10 a.m.-9 p.m. Open to the Public
1:00 Golden Boot Scooters
1:30 Pianist Lila Harper
2:00 Gem State Fiddlers
3:30 Pianists Katie Hafer, Jordan Zeller and Brianna Carr
4:00 Pianist John Hoff
4:30 WHS vocal group
5:00 Weiser Junior Fiddlers
5:30 Singer Jeri Stocker
6:15 Spontaneous vocal group

Saturday, Dec. 4
Festival Family Day
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Open to the Public
10:00-11:00 a.m. Pictures with Santa
Childrens Activities
Throughout the Day:
Gingerbread Man Decorating Contest
Children's Store
Face painting
Friends of the Hospital Arts & Crafts Table
Gingerbread Houses
Sweet Shoppe

Features:

- Decorated Tree Auction
- Children's Store
- Sweet Shoppe
- Entertainment
- Santa
- Gingerbreadmen decorating contest for kids
- Gingerbread Houses
- Silent Auction:
- Wreaths and Arts & Crafts

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Certificate Dollar (\$) Amounts: _____ Total Amount Paid: _____
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Mon.-Thurs. 11 AM - 9 PM
Fri. & Sat. 11 AM - 11 PM
Sun. Noon-6 PM

Cook's Corner

Submitted by Anita Ward
TRIPLE DELIGHT BROWNIES

1 Cup quick-cooking rolled oats
1/2 Cup flour

1/2 Cup Packed brown sugar
1/4 tsp. Baking soda
1/4 tsp. Salt
6 Tbsp. Melted butter or margarine

1 Cup Chocolate chips
1 - 19-oz. Box of fudge brownie mix
Fudge frosting
1/2 Cup Walnut pieces.
Combine oats, flour, brown sugar, soda, salt and butter. Pat into well-buttered 13x9x2 baking dish. Bake 10 minutes at 350 degrees. Cool. Cover

with chocolate chips. Prepare brownie mix according to package directions; pour over chocolate chips. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes, or until test done. Cool. Frost with a fudge frosting. Cover with walnut pieces. Approximately 2 dozen.

TREAT COOKIES
1 Cup Finely chopped nuts
1/2 Cup Finely chopped dates
1/2 Cup packed brown sugar
1 Cup flaked coconut; divided
1 Egg, lightly beaten.

In a bowl, combine nuts, dates, brown sugar and egg. Shape into 1-inch balls and roll in remaining coconut. Bake at 350 degrees, 10 to 12 minutes, or until lightly browned. Remove to wire rack to cool. 1 1/2-Dozen.

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10 - Weiser Signal American

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This early 1900s downtown Weiser photograph captured the beautiful winter wonderland scene.

How mistletoe came into the holidays

By Jeff Westover
Two words: parasite and dung.
One today can hardly believe the association of these two words with something so romantically quaint as mistletoe is now in our Christmas traditions. So let the reader beware. What follows may cause you to reconsider a symbol of the

season so lovingly cherished by many.
Mistletoe, in a clinical definition, is a parasitic plant. It grows in the tops of oak trees and has roots that dig under the bark of its host, slowly sapping it of nutrients and life.
The common name of the plant comes from the ancient belief that mistletoe propagated from bird droppings. In ancient times it was a widely accepted principle that life could spring spontaneously from dung. "Mistel" is an Anglo Saxon word for "dung" and "tan" is the word for twig. Thus, the translation for the word today is the decidedly unromantic "dung-on-a-twig".
Given the unique nature of its existence, mistletoe has long been associated with the magical and mysterious. It was thought to be a bestower of life, a promoter of fertility, a guard against poison and, appropriately, an aphrodisiac.
~ From Bad to Good ~
Viking beliefs of Mistletoe's powers were rooted in the myth of the resurrection of Balder, the god of the summer sun. As the story

Mistletoe plant. In her joy at Balder's resurrection, she reversed Mistletoe's poisonous reputation, kissed everyone who passed beneath the tree on which it grew and issued a decree that should one ever pass beneath the Mistletoe, they should have a token kiss and no harm would befall them.
~ A Merry Tradition ~
In the Middle Ages, branches of mistletoe were hung from ceilings to ward off evil spirits. It was placed over entrances to homes and doorways to stables to prevent witches from entering. It was even believed that mistletoe could extinguish fire.
In some areas of England, farmers would give the Christmas bunch of mistletoe to the first cow that calved in the New Year, thinking it would bring fertility and luck to the entire herd in the coming year.
Mistletoe has always been symbolic of peace and love. In Scandinavia, mistletoe was considered a plant of peace, under which enemies could declare a truce or warring spouses kiss and make-up. The Greek festival of Saturnalia featured kissing under the mistletoe and it was included as part of marriage rites in ancient times to bless a couple with fertility.
In some parts of England the Christmas mistletoe is burned on the night of the 12th Day of Christmas, lest

all the boys and girls who have kissed under it never marry. And for those who wish to observe the correct etiquette: a man should pluck a berry when he kisses a woman under the mistletoe, and when the last berry is gone, there should be no more kissing!

11 - Weiser Signal American, Monday, Nov. 25, 2004

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