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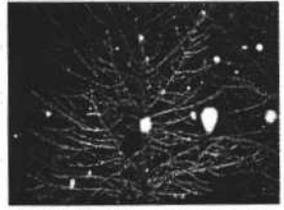
Tuesday, December 30, 2003

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White Christmas for County Kids

By PATSY STODDARD, Editor



The freshly falling snow is a welcome sight for the county.

Photos by Patsy Stoddard

Emery County awoke to a white world on Christmas morning. Snow continued throughout the day making travel less than fun, but the children of the county were delighted with the white stuff. It was the heaviest snowfall in recent memory as the county still sits on a six year drought. Snow totals in the mountains are listed on page four.



The snow totals in the valley were approximately six inches and up.

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Benefit Held for Local Fire Victims

By COREY BLUEMEL, Staff Writer

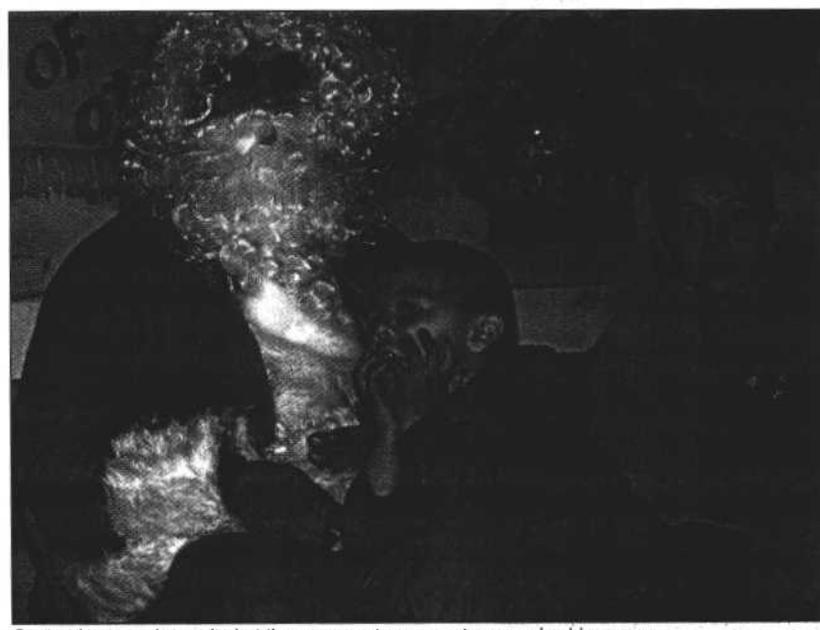
The Canyon View Junior High School students and staff hosted a benefit for the Ryan Schade family of Cleveland, who recently lost their home in a devastating fire. Schade, who was in the home asleep at the time of the fire, received burns while escaping from the burning home.

Schade, his wife Peggy and their two children, Tyler and Megan, received some help after the total loss of their home from the community. Junior high students organized a dinner and auction to raise money to help the family during this time of tragedy.

The dinner was prepared by the lunch workers, Jolene Stevens, June Sherman and Diane Farley. Susan Dorsch, Thelma Livingston, Shirley Baltzer and Roma Brotherson also helped in the preparation and serving of the meal.

During dinner, Sarah Jensen, Jessica Jensen, Scotty Phillips, Ryan Stream, Chyanne Nichols and Tamra Luke, sang to the diners as they had dinner. After the song, Stream played and sang a song that he had composed.

Mark Justice, auctioneer, began the auction with a half pork from the Meat Club. The auction continued as the



Santa tries to go incognito but these youngsters seem to recognize him anyway.

COAL MINERS CHRISTMAS

Christmas Party Held for Striking Miners and Families

By PATSY STODDARD, Editor

Striking Co-op miners who might otherwise have had a bleak Christmas were treated to a party recently. The retired miners of East Carbon and the union members of UMWA 1759 at Deer Creek mine along with union locals of PACE and the AFL-CIO in Salt Lake City contributed to presents

for all of the children of striking miners. Many local people, firefighters and the United Way also sent toys to the effort. The Trading Post in East Carbon also contributed gifts. The party was held at the Mission San Rafael Catholic Church just south of Huntington.

Twenty-five families and approximately 50 children benefitted from the kindness of others. Ana Marie Sanchez, one of the striking miners was instrumental in bringing the party together. Sanchez and interpreter Bill Estrada addressed those gathered for the party. Sanchez told everyone who had contributed to the

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INSIDE



Band Concert
Held in Castle

BRIEF

Earth Nears the Sun

Despite Utah's frigidures this time of year, the 4th of January, MST, Utah and the earth will be as close as we're going to get. Astronomers refer to in earth's orbit as "While it may seem intuitive that we're closer to the sun, there is a simple reason," says NASA's Solar System Ambassador to Utah, Wiggins. The difference between the earth and the sun is actually quite small. A change in distance of just one foot on temperature. Earth is the tilt of the earth.

Many might remember earth globes are used in classrooms. That's the way it is viewed from Earth. The earth is tilted 23.5 degrees from straight up. This time of year, Wiggins, "we in the Northern Hemisphere are tilted towards the sun, meaning the sun is pretty low in our sky. It stays up nearly as long as in the summer. This is short, frigid days."

On the other hand, the summer months of July and August are actually the furthest from the sun. But at that time we're tilted away from the sun, so the sun is higher in our sky and the days are longer.

"Happily," jokes those who don't like winter, "there is a silver lining. We need only head for the Southern Hemisphere where it is just the opposite. We have here so it's pretty warm there just now."

For additional information log on to the solar system website at <http://plane>

Christmas

Continued from PAGE 1A.



Tain Curtis, far left, and Lou Shelley, far right, and their families seem to enjoy the Christmas party with the striking Co-op miners.

party and the crowd expressed their appreciation with shouts and loud clapping.

Lou Shelley, president of local 1759 from Deer Creek Mine addressed the audience. Shelley said, "Ho, Ho, Ho, Merry Christmas, I am happy to be here. We have worked hard to support the Co-op miners and we hope all of the children enjoy the holiday...it's their holiday."

Shelley presented Sanchez with a check for \$1,000 contributed by the Deer Creek miners. Tain Curtis, safety committee chairman for Deer Creek said, "It was good to see those miners at Deer Creek throw in a hundred dollar bill without knowing who it was going to. We had six-seven families we bought gifts for."

The children gathered outside at the beginning of the party with the traditional breaking of the pinata. The wives of the striking miners prepared a tamale lunch for the party goers and the UMWA contributed cakes.

Of course, no Christmas party can be complete without the appearance of Santa and this party was no different. Santa arrived and helped give out the sacks of presents to the families. The families were called up one at a time and the children sat on Santa's lap and when they were done they were also given large sacks of candy to take home.

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Co-op miners gather for a Christmas party with family made possible by donations from around the state.



Striking Co-op miners gather at the Mission San Rafael Catholic Church. Local businesses and charities contributed the brightly wrapped packages to the families. These miners gather in the kitchen at the beginning of the party to catch up on news.



Carrying the presents was sometimes a big job.



The children are eager to greet Santa.



This boy has a handful of surprises.



Santa has a special hug for all the children.



Parents and children gather to celebrate Christmas.



Everyone seems to get into the festive spirit.



This young man picks up his gifts.



The pinata was a popular event for the children.



Bill Estrada and Alyson Kennedy speak at the party.



The father, the mother, the child...

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Christmas

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UMWA local 1759 President, Lou Shelley speaks to miners and their families and voices the support of the Deer Creek miners for their cause.



The children visit with Santa.

Photos by Patsy Stoddard



The families seem to enjoy their time together.



The families gather for food and fun together.



Rosario Leon speaks to miners and families.



Watching the pinatas appears to be fun for all.

Emery County Commissioners close 2003 and set 2004 budget

By COREY BLUEMEL, Staff Writer
In a recent meeting of the Emery County Commissioners, Chris Hatch of Avator Corporation explained several wording changes in the contract that the

Steve Barton then presented three items for the commission's consideration. The first item was from Ferron City concerning property that city had purchased on which to

throughout the county. Attorney Blackwell added that Emery Telecom has agreed on a reduced rate for each access line in that system. Commissioner Hatch informed the group that beginning next legislative year, Em-

proved to advertise for a replacement. This replacement will need to be hired before Feb. 1, 2004

Emery Water Conservancy District requested the commissioners to advertise for three

