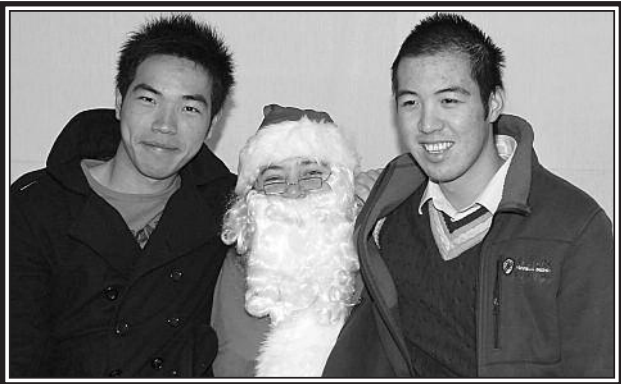




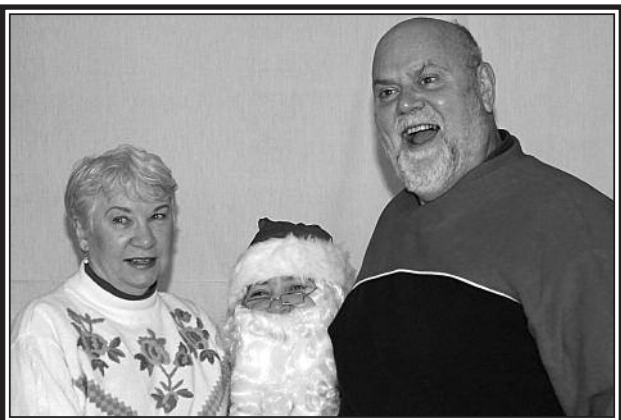
Edith Rutherford serves up a tasty pancake breakfast at Masstown United Church. (Harrington Photo)



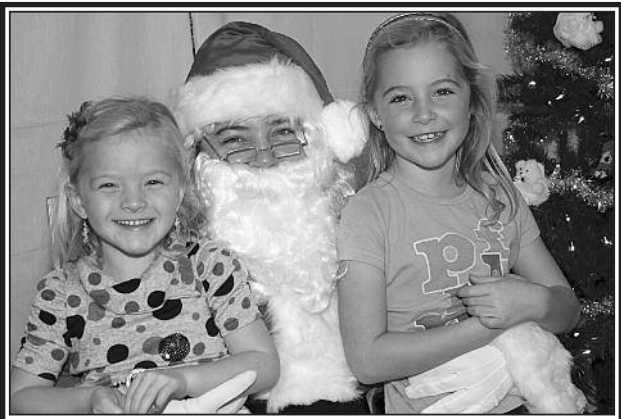
Santa had a visit from nine month old Alex Cameron and his 5 year old brother Bobby at the Masstown United Church Breakfast with Santa on Dec. 1st. (Harrington Photo)



Michael Liu and Shawn Lin, students at the Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture, take a turn on Santa's knee. (Harrington Photo)



Doc Livingston looks quite surprised with what Santa had to tell him (naughty list maybe??), as he is joined by Marilyn Livingston at Santa's Breakfast. (Harrington Photo)



Ava and Emma Purdy will be topping off Santa's "nice" list. (Harrington Photo)



You can put away the apron, Elizabeth Yorkston has all the Christmas baking you will need. The bake sale was held during Breakfast with Santa on Dec. 1st, at Masstown United Church. (Harrington Photo)

PHOTO FEATURE

Santa arrived in fine style at the Bass River Fire Hall on Dec. 15th. (Harrington Photos)



Five year old Sloane Turner-MacLean gets a big hug from Santa.



Santa's reindeer were getting rested up for the big night and fortunately Gordon Lewis's team of horses were free to bring Santa to the Fire Hall. Ava Brown and her mom fed Santa's helpers a carrot as a thank you.



Daphne McMullen takes a turn visting with the Santa.



Five year old Trent Gallant and his two year old sister Teegan were happy to climb up on Santa's knee.

Keep a Live Christmas Tree Watered

By Chris Urquhart

It will soon be time to get your Christmas tree if you don't already have one up! Remember if you are using a live tree to keep it well watered, and away from open flames. Never leave small children or young pets alone with the tree.

Keep the tree tied up to save it from falling over. It is especially important not to put edible items on your tree if you have a young dog in the house. Even small children may wish to "climb the tree" to get that tasty candy cane! Too much sugar is not good for anyone and chocolate is deathly for pets. Keep these items out of reach as much as possible.

Your cat may wish to climb your Christmas tree as well, but it will probably be wanting to "play" with those shiny, dangling items we call ornaments! A small spray bottle of

room temperature water will deter your cat from continuing this "method of fun", at least while you are in the room.

To get a great "live" Christmas tree this year, just come out to Masstown. You can get one at Folly Mountain Trees & Wreaths or at the Masstown Market.

Christmas can be a stressful time of year for everyone, not just you. The more stressed out you get the more this reflects on your household and work place. Take time to sit down with a nice cup of tea and relax.

Christmas will come and be gone and if you never did find the time to make that special pie or decorate the whole house, the world won't end. You can always plan to do it next year! It is much more important to make time for the people in your lives than the items in your lives.

Refundable Drive January 19TH

By Chris Urquhart

The Masstown United Church will hold a refundable drive on Saturday January 19th in Masstown. The money raised should be enough to finish the church's roof. The congregation has been raising money to replace the old shingles come spring. Currently the roof leaks.

Workers to sort bottles and drivers to pick up bottles are needed for this. If you can spare some time helping It would be gratefully appreciated. Just a quick reminder - refundables are those items on which you have paid a deposit, such as pop, juice and alcohol. Milk cartons are not refundable but they are recyclable.

I heard it at the Company Store

By Wendy Cox

Do you know what I heard...I heard that the village is starting to look a lot like Christmas. The Heritage Park is all lit up for the season once again this year. It looks nice driving through the village.

We have had some nice mild weather to be out getting ready for Santa's arrival. I hear the morning coffee club at the store has been busy in their spare time getting all their packages ready and their homes fixed up for the season. It's so nice to hear all their stories and views on the subject.

I heard there were a couple of birthdays worth noting in December...one was a big happy birthday to Christopher Robin of Wharf Road and another to Mrs. Cox

of Portapique Mountain. Also to Mr. R. Grue of Maple Ave. and to our new resident of Edgewood, Mr Owens. Welcome Mr. Owens and hope you all have many more.

I was reading the other day and thought I would pass these two quotes on to you.

Christmas Gift Suggestions: To your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance .To a friend, your heart. To a customer, a service. To all, charity. To every child, a good example. To yourself, respect. - Oren Arnold

Gifts of time and love are the basic ingredients for a true Christmas gift. -Peg Bracken

Wishing everyone a safe and happy Christmas and remember the reason for the season and enjoy yourself and the love ones around you.

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