

# Gift Giver's Guide

December 2025



A Norwich and Sidney Pennysavers Publication • December 2025

 **PENNYSAVER**



# HOLIDAY SCHEDULE



## Open Skate & Skate-n-Dance Hours

Friday, December 26  
12PM-4PM & 7PM-10PM  
Saturday, December 27  
1PM-6PM & 7PM-10PM  
Sunday, December 28  
1PM-5PM & 6PM-8PM  
Monday, December 29  
12PM-4PM  
Tuesday, December 30  
12PM-4PM  
Friday, January 2  
12PM-4PM & 7PM-10PM

**Wednesday, December 31**  
**2-5PM & 8PM-1AM**  
**NEW YEARS EVE PARTY AT THE RINK!**  
**Thurs. January 1, 2025 - CLOSED**  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**  
Fri. January 2      12-4 pm & 7-10 pm  
Sat. January 3      1-6 pm & 7-10 pm

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20 • 1-6 PM**  
\$11 includes admin & sk8 rental.  
**SANTA'S SLIDING IN FOR A VISIT!**  
Every kiddo gets a special gift and a chance to snap a pic with the big guy himself!

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# Holiday shopping tips you can't afford to miss

The festive and fun nature of the holiday season can make it easy to forget the benefits of being frugal. Many people go overboard on holiday spending, making this time of year costly for consumers. Sales between the beginning of November 2023 and Christmas Eve 2023 climbed 3.1 percent from the year earlier, according to the Mastercard SpendingPulse. The National Retail Federation reported in November 2023 that holiday spending was expected to reach between \$957 and \$966 billion. Trading Economics, a financial market indicator and forecast provider, said personal spending in the United States only rose 0.2 percent in May 2024 from the previous month, which marked the lowest increase since January 2024.

Shoppers who want to spend less and stick to a budget for holiday entertaining and gifting can keep these budgeting tips in mind.

- Set a value to gift recipients. It may sound harsh, but certain people on holiday shopping lists may be assigned a higher value than others. For example, you wouldn't necessarily spend the same amount on a gift for a child's teacher as you would for a grandmother. Putting a dollar figure next to each name on the shopping list helps you identify your expected spending and where you can cut back, if necessary.
- Establish your overall budget. Once you have an idea of your potential holiday expenditures, set a firm budget. Avoid the temptation of impulse buys, which can make it easy to go over budget.
- Begin shopping early. Start scouring ads and looking for deals prior to Thanksgiving or Black Friday. Keep a running list of gift ideas and when the price is right, purchase those items.
- Price check "perfect gifts." If you've spotted the perfect gift for someone but it's beyond budget, see if you can find a better price elsewhere, says

BRING OUT  
THE KID IN  
EVERYONE



UP TO  
**\$50 OFF** \* CASE IH  
TOYS

\$20 OFF purchases of \$100-\$249 | \$50 OFF purchases of \$250 or more

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315-697-2214      315-376-0300

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[WhitesFarmSupply.com](http://WhitesFarmSupply.com)

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Better Money Habits. There are apps that allow users to scan barcodes and check items across various retailers. Many stores also have price-match policies that can save shoppers money.

- Look for deals all of the time. Many people get hung up on perceived deep discounts from Black Friday and Cyber Monday offers. However, industry experts say there often isn't a huge difference in markdowns between these promotions and those during other sales. Some retailers even increase prices on goods only to mark them down for Black Friday to make it appear that there is a discount. Only by knowing the average price for items can you know if a sale is legitimate.
- Sign up for store rewards. If you don't want your regular email inbox inundated with offers, set up a separate email account for in-store and online shopping. Then you can sign up for the rewards programs at checkout. Utilize the coupon codes and advertisements for sales to save money without having your primary email data shared with other marketers.
- Track spending carefully. If you don't know how much you're spending, then you cannot possibly stick to a budget. After each purchase, keep a running tally of all holiday spending to see how far you are from the finish line.

The holidays can be expensive, but with smart budgeting and dedication to savvy shopping, it's possible to stay out of financial trouble. GG249250



# All Day Special Holiday Buffet

**On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day  
New Year's Eve and New Year's Day**  
from 11:00 am - 10:00 pm

*YES... We will be open these 2 Wednesdays and Thursdays to celebrate the holidays!*

**FEATURING:**

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*Adults - \$16.99; Kids ages 3 to 5 years - \$9.99  
Kids ages 6 to 10 years - \$11.99*

Please call 607-336-2227 to reserve a table for more than 10 people.

**~GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE~**

See our menu online at: [norwichbuffetny.com](http://norwichbuffetny.com). Follow us on facebook



## NORWICH BUFFET

In our new location at  
**6142 Rte. 12, North Plaza, next to Aldi, Norwich**  
**607-336-2227**



1 Main St.,  
Oxford, NY  
607-843-5255  
Monday-Saturday  
11 am to close;  
Sunday noon to close

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- Appetizers like;
- Nacho's and Loaded Fries
- Wraps
- Wings
- Chili
- Clams

**Just to Name a Few**

**Kids Menu Available**

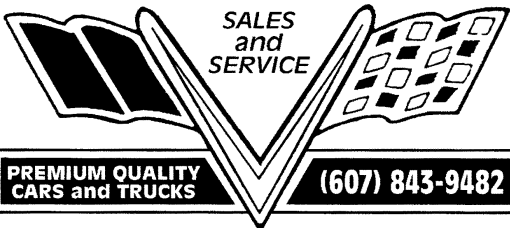
Expanded Seating for Your Comfort

**Takeout Always Available**

Monday-Saturday  
11:00 AM to Close  
Sunday  
Noon to Close



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# Why supporting local small businesses matters

The holiday season is a time of year when shopping takes center stage. While online giants and big box retailers seem to be everywhere, offering an endless array of products with the convenience of low prices, small businesses provide a range of benefits that go far beyond the ease of a mouse click or mountains of merchandise. Shopping local retailers is more than just a transaction — it is crucial for maintaining the economic foundation of local communities. Let's take a look at the many ways it pays to shop small businesses during the holidays and all year long.

- **Strengthen the local economy:** A large percentage of the money spent at small businesses stays in the community. That's because these businesses often are owned and operated by local residents who are invested in the community themselves. Various studies indicate that for every \$100 spent at a small business, roughly \$70 stays in the community.
- **Enhanced customer service:** Owners and employees of small businesses have a keen interest in keeping customers happy. They often do so by providing superior customer service. Tailoring recommendations, exhibiting a willingness to accommodate special requests, offering a more engaging shopping experience, and being more friendly and connected with regular customers sets many small businesses apart.
- **Support the community:** Small businesses serve the community through the products and services they offer, and many give back in other ways as well. Small, locally owned businesses often sponsor schools, sports teams and charities. This helps foster a sense of belonging in the community.
- **Innovative offerings:** Small businesses are not beholden to corporate policies or franchise restrictions, so they can more readily bring new life to existing ideas and trends. Small businesses can offer customers different

## “The Perfect Gift Idea for Two Great Eateries!” A Gift Card From Fred's Inn or Park Place.

Surprise Someone with a Gift they can enjoy year round.

Now till Dec. 31, 2025...  
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with \$100 Gift Card Purchase



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options that larger retailers cannot match.

- Job creation: Small businesses employ a significant percentage of the workforce and frequently provide jobs that might not be available in larger corporate settings. The U.S. Small Business Administration Office of Advocacy says small businesses have generated 12.9 million net new jobs over the past 25 years, accounting for two out of every three jobs added to the U.S. economy. Keeping residents working helps strengthen local communities.

There are numerous benefits to shopping at small businesses this Small Business Saturday and throughout the year. Such firms help to establish a more resilient, diverse and bustling local community. TF24B448


this year  
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**HOLIDAY SHOPPING HOURS:**  
Open Saturdays, 10am - 5pm • 12/6, 12/13 & 12/20  
Open Mondays, 10am - 5pm • 12/15 & 12/22  
CLOSING AT 3PM CHRISTMAS EVE 12/24;  
CLOSED DECEMBER 26TH & 27TH

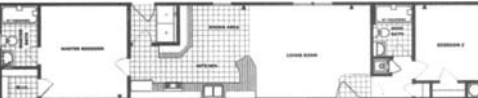


# Home for the Holidays...


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# Have A Truck Cover On Your Christmas List?



## Fiberglass Truck Caps & Tonneau Covers

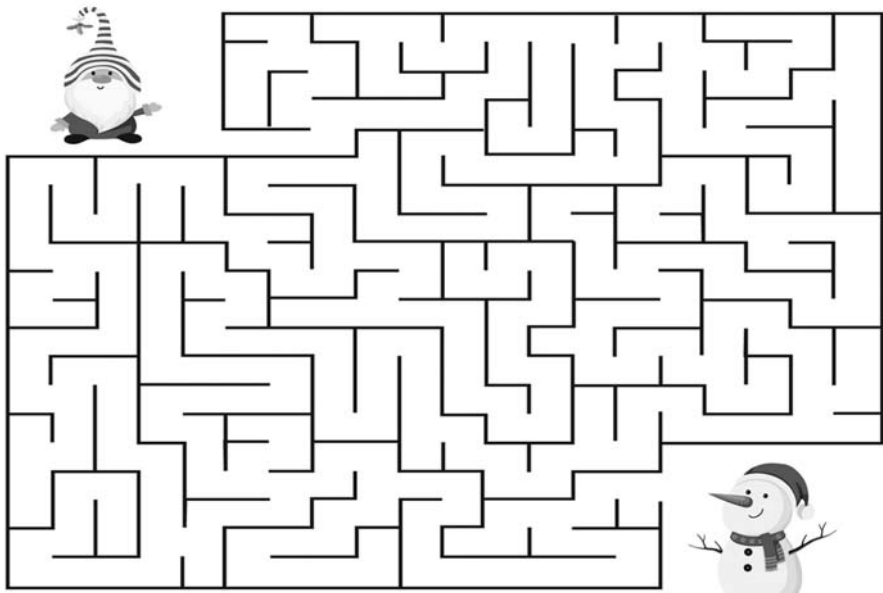
- Aluminum Truck Caps
- Tonneau Covers - Soft & Hard
- Step Bars
- Bedliners
- Accessories

# SEAMAN'S

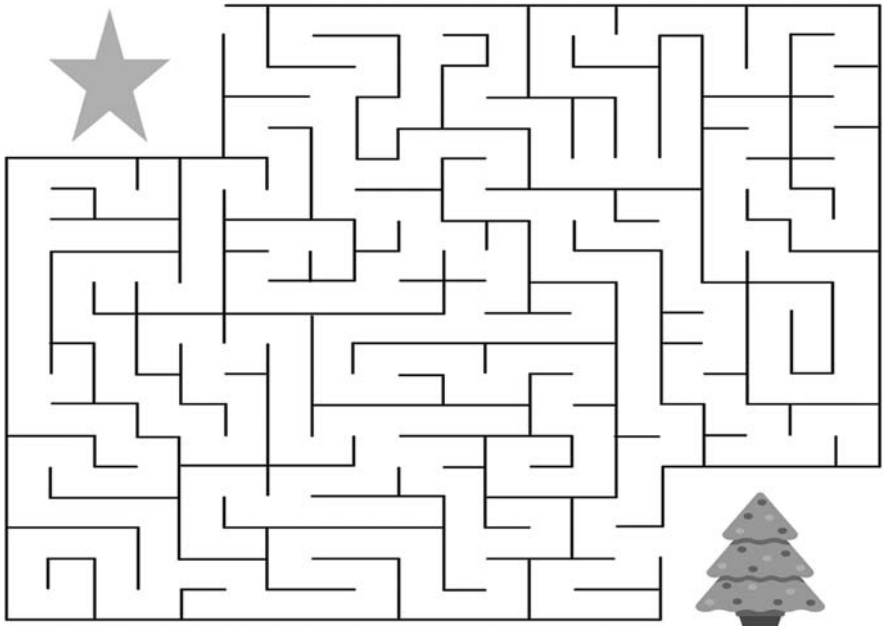
Rte. 12, Norwich, N.Y. 13815 L.L.C.  
(607) 334-7834

# HOLIDAY MAZE

Help Lucky the Gnome reach his friend!



Help the star reach the Christmas tree!



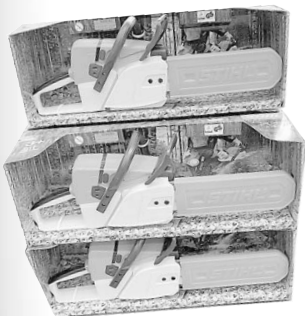
# This Year Buy a Gift That Keeps On Giving...



Full line of  
**Toro Snowblowers**  
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little wood cutter  
this holiday  
season.

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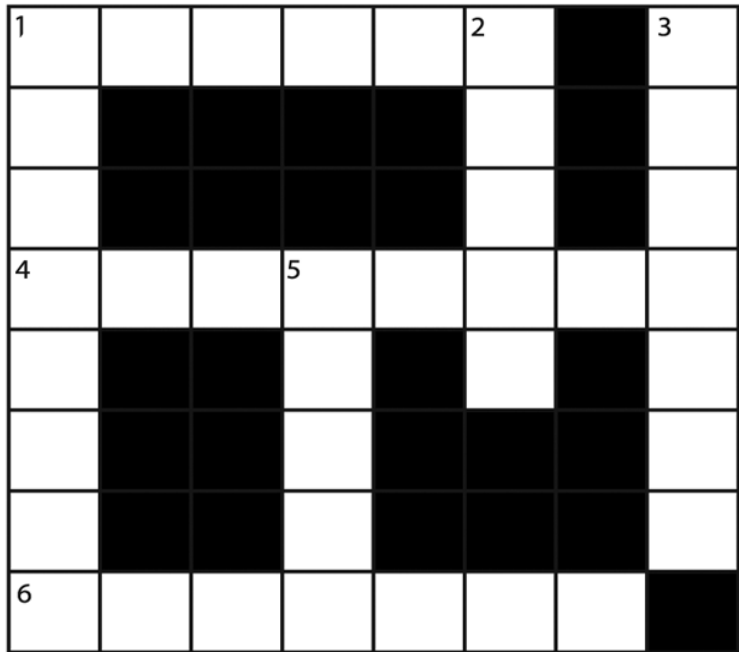
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M-F 10-5; Sat. 10-2; Sun. 9-1 (December-March)

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Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1. Retail locations
- 4. Put off doing
- 6. Offering presents

DOWN

- 1. Looking for items to buy
- 2. Taste and enjoy
- 3. Proof of purchase
- 5. Raise a cup to health

Answers:  
Across 1. Stores 4. Postpone 6. Gifting  
Down 1. Shopping 2. Savor 3. Receipt 5. Toast



EARLVILLE OPERA HOUSE PRESENTS  
HOLIDAY MAIN STAGE PERFORMANCES!!

A Celtic Christmas with Cassie and Maggie MacDonald  
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Shows Start at 7pm



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\$27 Members



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12th Annual  
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Tickets available at: [earlvilleoperahouse.com/315.691.3550](http://earlvilleoperahouse.com/315.691.3550)

Please minimize use of fragrances in the 1892 theater.

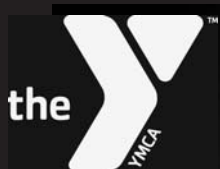


Council on the Arts

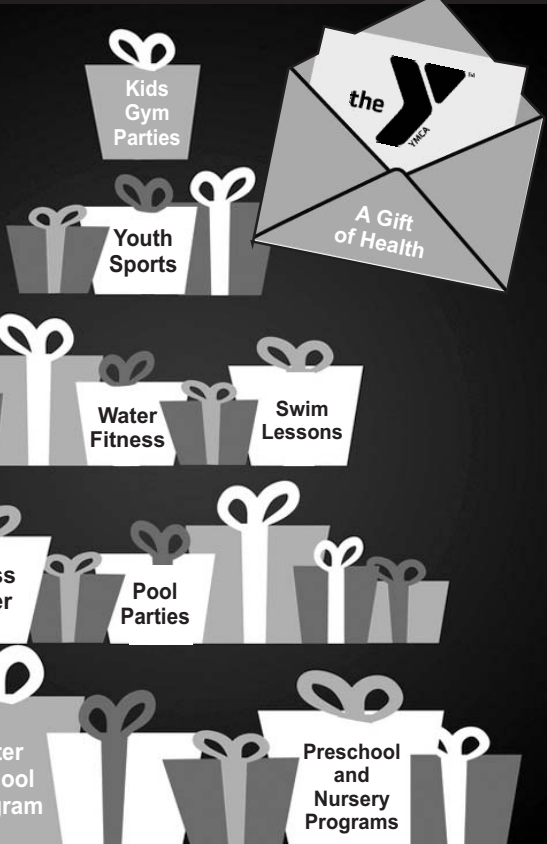
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2. <https://norwichymca.org>  
3. Venmo@NorwichYMCA



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# Santa's Word Search

Y	I	E	R	Y	F	V	R	W	F	B	W	S	K	V	M	M	Y	P	I
G	C	D	I	T	F	O	I	U	R	E	A	Y	F	A	J	D	D	N	P
O	K	C	A	D	F	B	D	F	D	N	E	C	M	I	T	J	Y	N	U
G	R	W	T	S	B	L	C	O	T	O	R	P	K	W	S	D	H	A	H
A	F	S	O	U	G	N	Y	A	R	E	L	K	U	G	A	J	G	U	S
O	O	A	S	R	W	P	E	I	E	W	E	P	N	W	D	R	J	G	G
L	E	G	N	V	K	I	R	R	N	V	C	I	H	O	W	E	D	H	D
T	D	L	P	N	B	S	T	F	E	G	K	F	V	G	I	E	D	T	R
Y	R	S	O	I	O	F	H	I	K	C	R	J	I	T	N	D	V	Y	A
M	T	S	D	P	J	B	L	O	O	Y	O	F	E	M	T	N	A	U	E
F	N	B	A	B	H	E	P	T	P	A	T	M	C	J	E	I	V	F	B
H	R	T	G	M	B	T	S	K	T	S	A	G	I	E	R	E	E	L	N
O	S	S	S	G	T	W	R	H	T	Y	R	C	N	I	G	R	K	H	D
O	B	T	C	H	D	S	G	O	K	W	A	D	A	Y	W	D	A	L	D
S	S	O	R	R	G	I	I	P	N	Y	E	N	M	I	H	C	L	Y	J
U	H	O	A	T	N	I	U	R	A	E	Y	Y	R	S	L	Y	F	T	V
A	C	B	G	D	O	D	E	Y	H	L	L	A	K	H	D	J	W	H	J
L	L	U	I	A	B	Y	E	L	L	C	T	V	K	Y	F	N	O	U	L
C	M	M	F	E	O	T	S	O	S	R	M	G	E	T	H	V	N	U	M
C	R	A	U	Y	B	E	J	M	W	D	S	G	G	S	V	E	S	V	U

## WORDS

- BEARD
- BELIEVE
- BOOTS
- CHIMNEY
- CHRISTMAS
- CLAUS
- ELVES
- FLYING
- GIFTS
- JOLLY
- MIDNIGHT
- NAUGHTY
- NICE
- NORTH POLE
- REINDEER
- RUDOLPH
- SANTA
- SLEIGH
- SNOWFLAKE
- STOCKINGS
- TOYS
- TREE
- WINTER
- WORKSHOP

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.





## Your Outdoors Store For Great Holiday Gifts

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### GUNS

- Rifles • Shotguns
- Handguns • Scopes
- Accessories



### ARCHERY

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• PSE • Elite • Bear • Mathews

Fully Stocked Archery Pro Shop



### AMMO

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for long guns and handguns  
in the area



### CLOTHING

Camo  
Clothing



### BOOTS

Hunting / Work

- LaCrosse
- Muck



### GIFT IDEAS

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- Sling Shots
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# How to create a durable gingerbread house

Gingerbread cookies and houses are one of the many symbols of the holiday season, alongside Christmas trees and twinkling lights. In fact, few confections symbolize the holidays more so than gingerbread. Many a child (or a child at heart) has spent hours carefully trying to create decorative gingerbread houses. Although gingerbread recipes span various cultures, gingerbread houses originated in 16th century

Germany. The fairy tale “Hansel and Gretel” helped solidify the popularity of gingerbread, which became part of Christmas traditions.

Even though gingerbread houses can be fun to make, there’s no denying it can be exacting work — especially for those who strive for perfection. Prepackaged kits attempt to take some of the guesswork out of the equation, but

**Cut out templates  
using cardboard or  
posterboard for  
various gingerbread  
pieces.**

those who are crafting from scratch can employ these tips as they build their gingerbread houses.

- Go for form and not flavor. Few gingerbread houses ever get eaten, so focus on finding a dough that will bake up rock hard as opposed to one that tastes good.
- Get the right icing texture. Pastry artist Catherine Beddall says royal icing is the preferred “glue” to adhere gingerbread pieces. Beddall says icing should be thick like peanut butter and not runny.



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- Mind the dough. Do not roll out the gingerbread dough too thin or it may become brittle after being cooked. Always cut out shapes before the gingerbread is baked. Let the baked pieces sit overnight to cool completely before using them to build.
- Patience is key. Allow the icing to dry for at least a couple of hours after adhering each piece and before moving and handling the house, says Beddall. Work in stages so that individual items can be decorated and allowed to dry. Then the walls can be put together, followed by the roof pieces.
- Kids likely will need help. Children may not have the patience or steadiness to handle complete gingerbread construction. They can decorate the separate pieces of the house while the components are laying flat, which is easier for kids. Adults can do the main assembly later on.
- Utilize a template. Free-handing may not be easy. Cut out templates using cardboard or posterboard for various gingerbread pieces. One of the most important tips is to have fun. Don't take gingerbread house making too seriously as a novice. Rather, enjoy the experience and the centuries-old tradition. TF19C530



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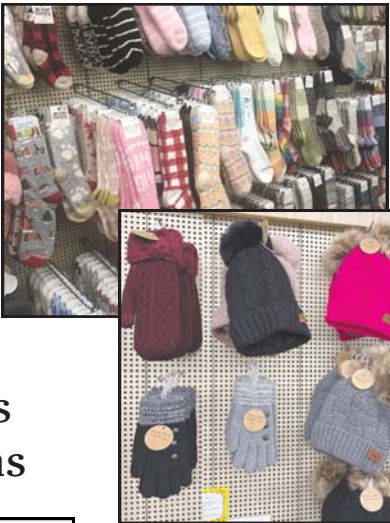


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