

January 2017

# Christmas Excitement in Indian Springs

Santa was busy in Indian Springs again this year. On December 16<sup>th</sup> he delivered early Christmas presents to excited girls and boys. His reindeer got the night off since he rode around town on the Fire Engine escorted by members of the Indian Springs Volunteer Fire Department. Then he then came back the next night to ride in the community's annual Parade of Lights. After winding through town, the parade ended at the Community Center where everyone shared cookies and visits with Santa.



RURAL CONNECTIONS



# Lee Canyon's Avalanche Rescue Dogs

Here in the Mojave Desert, most of us don't spend much time worrying about the possibility of avalanches. But, high in the Spring Mountains, where many of Southern Nevadans head to for snowplay and where the Lee Canyon Ski Resort is located, avalanches are a major concern. There are many ways that Emergency personnel on the mountain and at the Ski Resort respond in the event of an avalanche, but definitely the cutest and furriest of the future first responders are the 1 year 9 month old Lida and 9 month old Carson, Mount Charleston's very own Avalanche Dogs. They are a part Bristlecone Avalanche Rescue K9's (B.A.R.K.), a nonprofit 501c (3) organization established in 2015 to provide rescue dogs in avalanche situations for the Mount Charleston area.

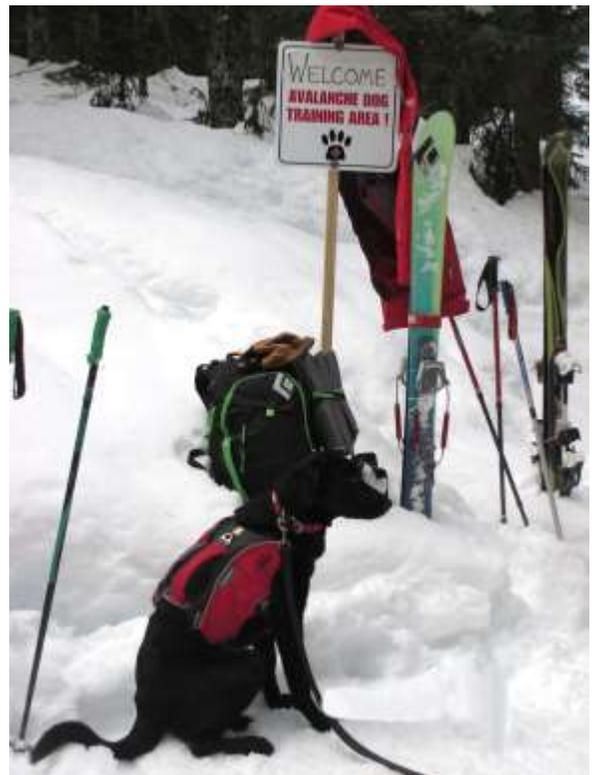
B.A.R.K. was founded by ski patrollers from the Lee Canyon Ski Patrol. Their goal is to have dogs based at the Lee Canyon Ski Area, which any of our trained ski patroller handlers can take to an avalanche scene and work effectively. Many ski areas in the U.S. have similar programs.

Speed is crucial in avalanche rescues, with minimal chances of survival if victims are buried for 30 minutes or more. A trained avalanche dog can search an area the size of a football field in five or ten minutes. It would take a probe line of 50 people using poles a couple of hours to search the same area. When 30 minutes can mean the difference between life and death to a skier lost on a snowy mountain, most people would bank on the dog.

Last fall, Lida and her handler, Michelle French, did some training with helicopters in Colorado where Lida was able to find the victim in less than 2 minutes. She has been selected to attend the Wasatch Backcountry Dog School in Salt Lake City this month. This is not an easy school to be accepted to and the goal is for Lida to receive her certification which requires Lida and Michelle to find three victims within 35 minutes. They fly in a helicopter to the avalanche scene, get dropped off and time starts at that point. Lida is deployed using her nose to locate human scent and Michelle will use an avalanche beacon to locate a signal on the victims. Carson will be attending his first puppy school this year to begin working towards his certification.

For more information about B.A.R.K. and to learn how you can help contribute to their continued training and certifications, visit:

<http://barkleecanyon.com/>



## Events for January – Northwest

- **Wednesdays at the Indian Springs Community Center** – The doors will be open and the coffee will be on, so stop by for some good conversation, 10:30 am
- **Monday thru Friday at the Indian Springs School** – Safekey Program for children in grades K – 6 after school. For more information call 702-879-3890 or stop by the Safekey room next to the playground
- **Thursdays at the Indian Springs Community Center** – The Pathway to Sobriety 12 Step Addiction Recovery Open Meeting, 6 to 7 pm, call 702-375-5758 for more information
- **Thursday, January 12** – Indian Springs TAB\* meeting at the Indian Springs Community Center, 6:30 pm
- **Saturday, January 14** – Camping 101 at the Mt. Charleston Library – a fun and education program about the essential of camping and protecting the Spring Mountains. Conducted Outside Las Vegas Foundation. Registration is required; space is limited to 15 children, 11 am and 12:30 pm, call 702-872-5585 for more information.
- **Saturday, January 14** – High Desert Seniors Potluck, 2 to 4 pm, Indian Springs Community Center
- **Monday, January 16** – “Storks” Movie and a craft at the Indian Springs Community Center, movie starts at 1 and the craft starts at 2:45, Cost for the craft \$1
- **Thursday, January 26** – BINGO at the Indian Springs Community Center, 7 to 9 pm
- **Thursday, February 2** – Mt. Charleston TAB meeting at the Mt. Charleston Library, 7 pm

\*TAB = Town Advisory Board

## High Desert Seniors Welcome New Board Members

Indian Springs' High Desert Seniors are proud to announce their new Board for 2017! President: Glenn Thompson, Vice President: Terry Mille, Secretary: Carolyn Thompson, Treasurer: Jim George, and Trustees: Matt Pinkerton and Candace Ross. Indian Springs residents aged 50 or older are welcome to join the High Desert Seniors and partake in their activities and trips throughout the year. Their first potluck of 2017 will be on January 14, 2017 from 2 to 4 at the Indian Springs Community Center.



# New Restroom Facilities Coming to Logandale Trails

Logandale Trails is the premier trails system in Southern Nevada, featured annually in national and international media publications. Nestled just west of the rural communities of Overton and Logandale, the trails system was literally a backyard treasure unbeknownst to the rest of the world until the Nevada Land Coalition, a club of OHV enthusiasts from Las Vegas, NV, discovered it in the late 1980s. Soon, they decided to adopt and name the area Logandale Trails and began working with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the RecTrails program to create a trailhead with restrooms and picnic facilities.

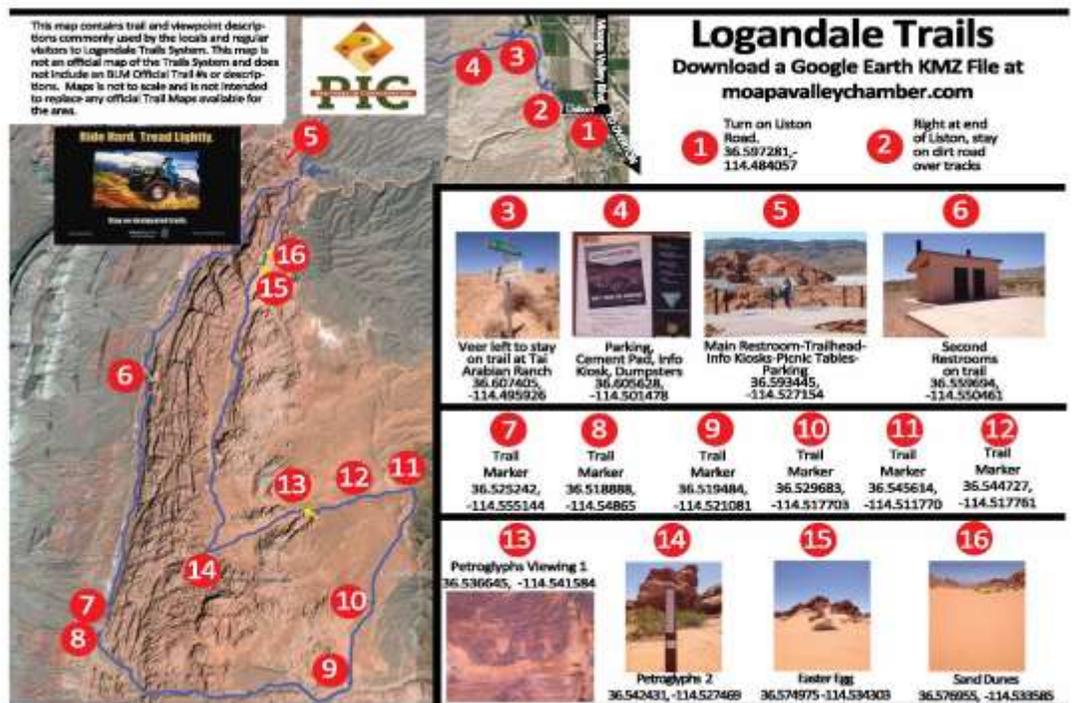
The original restrooms, funded through RecTrails grants in the early 1990s, have lived their 25-yr life cycle and are deteriorating rapidly. Partners In Conservation, PIC, wrote and submitted grants and is very pleased to announce that the very first grant (from the NV OHV Commission) to improve recreational facilities was awarded for replacement of the main trailhead restroom at Logandale Trails. The NV OHV Commission is charged with administering the grants from monies raised through the OHV Registration Program. 60% of registration fees are required to fund on-the-ground projects featuring trails and trails-related facilities.

The second set of restrooms, equally old, will be replaced through a grant from the RecTrails Program, administered through Nevada State Parks. The RecTrails program is a 25-year-old program wherein a percentage of federal gas taxes is given to each state to use for motorized and non-motorized trails and associated projects. The Nevada OHV Commission Grant was leveraged to secure the Federal Recreational Trails Grant. This is a prime example of NV OHV registration dollars being used in Nevada on the ground to benefit the users, keeping Nevada dollars in Nevada!

Partners include the Nevada OHV Commission, Nevada State Parks' RecTrails, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Partners In Conservation (PIC), Valley of Fire State Park, and volunteers from a myriad of local and regional organizations: Vegas Valley Four Wheelers, Moapa Valley Chamber of Commerce, Moapa Valley Rotary Club, Moapa Valley Revitalization Project, Dunes and Trails ATV Club, Mesquite Kokopelli ATV Club, Rjeeps, many other organizations and businesses, especially local businesses. <https://www.facebook.com/logandaletrails/>

From I-15, take exit 93, south which becomes Moapa Valley Blvd. Travel approximately 6 miles south; when you see the US Post Office on the right-hand side of the road, take the next side street, Liston Ave. and proceed about 1/2 mile until the pavement ends. Turn right onto dirt road, cross railroad track and follow the main road (with signs) for about 3-4 miles until reaching a large trailhead with fencing, shade structures, and the old restroom.

Article courtesy of Elise McAllister



## Events for January – Northeast

- **Mondays at the Moapa Valley Library** – ABC Kids: Nursery rhymes, songs and dances for ages 3–5, 11:15 am; Computer Basics at 3 pm; Hands–on Computer Help at 4 pm
- **Tuesdays at the Moapa Valley Library** – Lego Club (ages 6 & up) 4 pm
- **Wednesdays at the Moapa Valley Library** – Computer Topics at 3 pm; Computer logic/programming at 4:30 pm
- **Thursdays at the Moapa Valley Library** – Tiny tots songs and finger plays for ages 0 to 3, 10:15 am; Discovery Lab, open, non–structured, hands–on explorations of various science materials, projects and experiments, ages 8–14, 4 pm
- **Fridays at the Moapa Valley Library** – Move & Groove for ages 0–5 at 10:15 am; Teen Space at 2:30 pm
- **Saturdays at the Moapa Valley Library** – English Language discussion group at 10 am; Game on at 12 noon; Crafternoon at 2 pm
- **Wednesday, January 11** – Moapa Valley TAB\* meeting at the Moapa Valley Community Center, 7 pm
- **Saturday, January 14 and 28** – Recipe swap at the Moapa Valley Library, 10:15 am
- **Saturday, January 21** – Shakespeare Reading Party, *Winter's Tale*, at the Moapa Valley Library, 10:15 am
- **Monday, January 23** – Fantasy Book Club, *The Lie Tree*, at the Moapa Valley Library, 4 pm
- **Friday, January 27** – Winter Wonderland Storytime at the Moapa Valley Library, 4 pm
- **Monday, January 31** – Moapa TAB\* meeting at the Robinson Justice Court & Community Center, 7 pm
- **Thursday, February 2** – Bunkerville TAB\* meeting at the Bunkerville Community Center, 7 pm

\*TAB = Town Advisory Board \*\*For details call 702–397–2690



# Winter Safety Tips from the Winter Alliance

- Before heading to the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area (SMNRA), please check driving conditions, chain requirements and road closures. For real-time road information, dial 511 or visit [www.GoMtCharleston.com](http://www.GoMtCharleston.com).
- When traveling to the mountain, start with a full tank of gas. There are no gas stations on site. Always carry with you: tire chains/tow strap, cell phone, flashlight, ice scraper, jumper cable, snow shovel, blanket/sleeping bag, first aid kit, compass, maps, bag of sand/kitty litter for traction, spare batteries, non-perishable foods and water.
- Dial \*NHP (\*647) in case of a roadway emergency or 911 to report a serious accident.
- Wear appropriate outdoor clothing including light, warm layers, gloves, hats, scarves and waterproof boots.
- Anticipate higher traffic volumes during weekends and holidays. Weekdays, early morning and non-holiday times may provide fewer crowds and better access. Go early, be patient and abide by traffic laws. You may have to wait to go up the mountain if traffic is too congested or conditions are unsafe.
- When parking off road, all wheels must be to the right of the white line to allow for emergency vehicles to pass. Illegally parked vehicles may be fined and towed. There is no roadside parking on Nevada State Route 156 between Lee Meadows and the Lee Canyon ski area. Roadside parking is also prohibited in Kyle Canyon past the intersection of Nevada State Routes 157 and 158.
- Don't sled in areas with less than 12 inches of snow, and avoid traffic and dangerous objects like trees and rocks. Use sturdy sleds for snow play, not makeshift items like cardboard boxes.
- Please help keep the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area beautiful for everyone to enjoy. Take trash home or put it in provided trashcans or dumpsters.



## Snow Play Areas

### Lee Canyon

- Lee Canyon resort the largest recreation area and offers skiing and tubing for daily and annual fees.
- Lee Meadows for sledding (Crowded on weekends and parking is limited).
- Bristlecone Trail for snowshoeing.
- Various pullouts on Deer Creek Road (Nevada State Route 158) and Lee Canyon Road (Nevada State Route 156) for touching snow.
- Foxtail Day Use Area (sledding permitted with enough snow is \$20 per car, up to four people, \$5 per additional person in vehicle, \$5 per person walk-in); Old Mill Picnic Area (\$10 per car) and McWilliams Campground (\$10 Day Use/\$21 for single site (\$38 for double site) are managed areas only opened as weather permits.

### Kyle Canyon (no designated snow play areas)

- The Spring Mountain Visitor Gateway is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. seven days a week for visitor information.
- Kyle Picnic Area is (depending on picnic area size and day of the week, ranges from \$12 to \$54 to reserve a picnic area for the day).

## Events for January – Southwest

- **Tuesdays at the Sandy Valley Senior Center** – Games, 1 to 4 pm
- **Thursdays at the Sandy Valley Senior Center** – Pinochle, 1 pm
- **Fridays at the Sandy Valley Senior Center** – Crochet and Knitting, 1 pm
- **Monday, January 2 and 16** – Coffee and Donuts at the Sandy Valley Senior Center, 8 to 10:30 am
- **Tuesday, January 3** – American Legion Meeting at the Keystone in Sandy Valley, 6:30 pm
- **Friday, January 6** – General meeting and potluck at the Sandy Valley Senior Center, 1 pm
- **Saturday & Sunday, January 7 & 8** – Little Britches Rodeo at the Keystone's BJC Arena, 9 am
- **Saturday, January 7, 14 and 28** – Puzzles at the Sandy Valley Senior Center, 3 to 6 pm
- **Tuesday, January 10** – Sandy Valley CAC\* meeting at the SV Community Center, 7:30 pm
- **Wednesday, January 11** – Mountain Springs CAC meeting at the Mountain Springs Fire Station, 6:30 pm
- **Thursday, January 12 and 26** – Soup and Quackers at the Sandy Valley Senior Center, 1 pm
- **Thursday, January 12** – Garden Club at the Sandy Valley Senior Center, 6 pm
- **Saturday, January 14** – Keystone Enrichment Foundation Meeting, Keystone Center in Sandy Valley, 9 am
- **Tuesday, January 17** – Winter Fun at the Blue Diamond Library with stories and a craft, ages 6 to 11, 3 pm
- **Saturday, January 21** – Sandy Valley Community Breakfast, 8 am to 10:30 am at the Senior Center, \$3.50 for the best pancakes & sausage or biscuits & gravy
- **Tuesday, January 31** – Goodsprings CAC meeting at the Goodsprings Community Center, 7:30 pm
- **Wednesday, February 1** – Red Rock CAC meeting at the Blue Diamond Library, 7 pm

\*CAC = Citizens Advisory Council    \*\*Contact Shawna at 702-723-5040 for more information

## New Year, New Board Members at Sandy Valley Senior Center

The Sandy Valley Senior Center is kicking off 2017 with new Board Members which will be seated at their General Meeting and Potluck on January 6<sup>th</sup>. The new board members are: Vice President Wanda Van Dyk, Secretary Susan Van Ausdal and Trustees Peg Pennington and Debbie Stiefel. As you can see on the schedule of events above, the Senior Center is continuing to provide fun classes and activities throughout the week, but they are always on the lookout for new things to do and see. If you have ideas for classes, activities or outings, come to the General Meeting and share your ideas.



## Searchlight Parks and Recreation December Events

Searchlight Parks and Rec had a very busy and fun December. Our parade of lights was wonderful with 23 entries and lots of spectators. The party afterwards was fun with Santa Clause (Stan Colton) visiting with all of the children and handing out gloves and candy canes to each child. Cookies and hot cocoa were served to all. Judge Richard Hill was the speaker at the tree lighting, telling of some of the events held in Searchlight in 2016 and wishing all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

One of the highlights of 2016 was the tie blanket making classes held in our multipurpose room. This took place the end of November and the first week in December. The total was 135 tie throws made and distributed to infusion clinics and hospitals in Las Vegas, Henderson, Laughlin, Bullhead City AZ. and one in Lake Havasu, AZ. The ladies did such a wonderful job and the patients were so happy to have something warm to throw over them as they are receiving their chemo or dialyses treatments. We will try and do another class in the near future as we have had requests for more. These ladies bought the material for the tie blankets, made them and gave them.

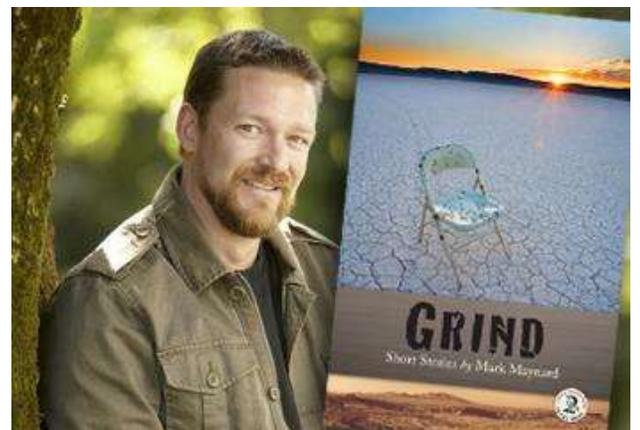


*Article and Photos Courtesy of Sandra Walters*

## Book Discussion featuring author Mark Maynard

Nevada Reads is the state's first "one read" program, encouraging readers from throughout Nevada to come together to discuss a work at lectures, book clubs and various panel events. The 2016-2017 Nevada Reads novel is *Grind*, by Mark Maynard, a writer from Incline Village, NV. The author will be appearing at the Laughlin Library on Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 2 pm to discuss the book in depth. This event is free and open to the public.

*Grind*, Mark Maynard's debut collection of stories examines the characters of a town whose means and meanings are eroding and are searching for the next big thing, or at least the next thing. Each of their lives are interconnected in surprising ways and the book examines the idea of "occupations" and how much what we do defines who we are. These linked stories play out within sight of the Mother Lode hotel and casino, a glass monolith that looms over downtown Reno and whose peeling façade represents a dwindling past and the uncertain future in all their lives."

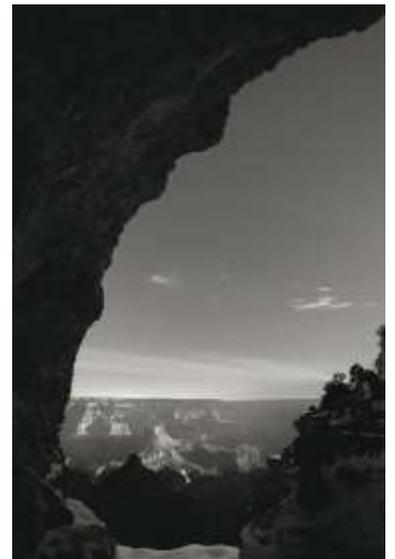


## Events for December – Southeast

- **Tuesdays at the Laughlin Library** – Club Tuesday offers a variety of crafts, games activities and stories for ages 5 to 11, 4:30 pm
- **Wednesdays at the Laughlin Library** – Lego Club, ages 5 to 11, 4 pm
- **Sunday, January 8** – Origami Paper Folding class at the Laughlin Library, 1:30 pm
- **Sunday, January 8** – Tea at Three – sample new teas at the Laughlin Library, 3 pm
- **Tuesday, January 10** – United Blood Services Blood Drive at the Laughlin Library, 11 am to 3 pm
- **Thursday, January 12** – Craft and Create at the Laughlin Library for ages 5–11, 4 pm
- **Thursday, January 12** – Brown Bag Book Club at the Laughlin Library, 11 am
- **Friday, January 13 and 27** – Movie Matinees at the Laughlin Library, 2 pm
- **Sunday, January 15** – Movie Matinee at the Laughlin Library, The Secret Life of Pets, 1:30 pm\*\*
- **Tuesday, January 10** – Laughlin TAB Meeting at the Regional Gov. Center, 1:30 pm
- **Wednesday, January 11** – Searchlight TAB meeting at the Searchlight Community Center, 6 pm
- **Thursday, January 19** – Pokemon Club at the Laughlin Library for ages 5–11, 4 pm
- **Thursday, January 26** – Stuffed Animal Sleepover at the Laughlin Library, bring your favorite stuffed animal to a special story time & slumber party! Your stuffed animals will spend the night at the library, but will they go to sleep? Find out what happens when the lights go out & your animals go wild in the library! 4 pm
- \*TAB = Town Advisory Board \*\*For more information call the Laughlin Library at 702-507-4060

## Down the Colorado Photo Exhibit

An exhibition featuring photographs of the Grand Canyon captured while rafting along the Colorado River will be on display at the Laughlin Library from January 8 through March 25, 2017. The photos are the work of Geri Kodey. Living in Las Vegas since 1967, she had always wanted to raft the river and photograph it up close. The opportunity presented itself when she was offered a chance to teach on a UNLV Education Outreach trip in 2009.



## 4-H Voices: Sandy Valley 4-H Club

### Christmas Café serves up food and fun in Sandy Valley Erika Lovato

The Christmas Café, held at Sandy Valley Ranch on December 17, 2016, was exciting. They had dinner, karaoke, and Santa Clause giving out presents to the children. There was 320 people fed. I served tons of people and I was happy to serve them. I always love serving and helping because it gives me an opportunity to give back to my loving community. The karaoke machine was a fun new addition. There were a lot of people singing and having fun. The dinner was amazing. We had mashed potatoes with brown gravy, corn, ham, rolls, and pulled pork. I would like to thank Charlotte Owens, of the Sandy-Mesquite Valley Development Association (SMVDA), who planned the whole event. SMVDA has

put this event on for many years now. I'd also like to thank The 4-H Club, The Sandy Valley Volunteer Fire Department, the Sandy Valley Senior Center, Shawn Ealy, and the Aranaydo Family for helping with the Christmas Café. Thanks goes out to Ken Dershan the president of SMVDA as well. Hope you join us next year!



### Sandy Valley Christmas Ornament Decorating Contest Isabela Gonzalez

On December 1, 2016 the Sandy Valley ornament decorating contest was held. The Sandy Valley volunteer fire department, the Sandy Valley 4-H club, and the Clark County parks and recreation all teamed up together to put it on. It was a very cold night. There was a delicious dinner provided by the volunteer fire department. Santa made a visit and kids were able to talk to him and sit on his lap and he gave them goody bags. Mrs. Claus read a story to the kids as well. The ornament decorating was done in the fire station. 75 kids participated in the contest and there were winners in 1st 2nd and 3rd place in all age categories. The 4-h kids were in charge of the contest. They kept track of all the kids that participated and helped the kids with the decorating. I interviewed a couple of kids and asked them what their favorite part was and they said the decorating and Liliana Gonzalez said "the winning". She won 1st place in her age category and got an awesome prize. The ornament decorating contest was a big hit and everyone is looking forward to it next year.



**This Little Piggy Goes to Market: December**  
**OllieAnna Wadley**

December has been cold, especially at 5:30 in the morning. Fern and Wilbur squeal for their breakfast every day. Sometimes I can talk my Mom and Dad into feeding for me but then I have to trade off with an extra chore or something. So, I might as well just do it myself. As I stated in my last segment of "This Little Piggy goes to Market" I have been busy with feedings, exercising and working with Fern and Wilbur.

I haven't changed the feeding routine. We are still giving them Show Master and Red Cell. They are not getting an egg with every feeding because Moms chickens have quit laying. Dad says if they don't start laying he has a special shelf reserved for them, right next to the bacon. They are converting even without the eggs and weight gain ratios are good. Fern weighs 107 and Wilbur weighs 125 pounds.

We exercise them three days a week for now. They need to weigh a minimum of 230 pounds by fair. These pigs are a little older and less muscled than our pigs last year. This gives us much more flexibility with their exercise and conditioning. We can work them without fear of them losing too much weight or becoming overly stressed out. They move very freely and the conditioning is really good for them. This also gives us an opportunity to build the desired muscle through exercise and nutrition. Through the workout they also build stamina, which is really important in the ring. Some judges will keep us out in the ring for an hour or so, depending on how big the class is and whether or not we get held over. This extra work out also gives us a chance to practice our showmanship skills.

As you know I have to read for homework, so I read to my pigs after school or in the evening. I have gotten them to lay down when I read. I think they are beginning to enjoy our story time. It gives me a chance to become failure with them and for us to be comfortable with each other. I want them to be calm around me so we can all perform well in the show ring. I do not want another stressful citation as I had at the pre-show last year!

We are preparing for our preliminary weigh in on January 21. We register our animals and get a beginning weight. This weight is used to measure weight gain ratios at fair time, just one of the additional competitions at fair. I will keep you posted on all these and our progress in the next addition of This Little Piggy Goes to Market.

