

Moapa Valley Honors Veterans

The crowds lined both sides of the main street in downtown Overton in anticipation of the Moapa Valley's Annual Veteran's Day Parade. The Moapa Valley Veteran's Color Guard (a combined Color Guard of the local VFW and American Legion posts) proudly led the parade to the rousing patriotic music as played by the MVHS Marching Band.

The Color Guard consisted of local veterans Darcy Bushman, Bruce Hollinger, Dan Beckdahl, Darrell Moffatt, and Joshua Slight. The local Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts of Troops No. 4, 26, 231 and 326 supported the Color Guard by carrying many of the flags of the military services including the POW/MIA flag.

The float entered by the Lake Mead Baptist Church contained the pictures and names of those military personnel who were related to the church's congregation. These veteran's had served in Korea, World War II or Vietnam. The many parade entries to follow included many local businesses and organizations as they came together to support and thank the Valley's veterans.

The Cinderella Girls were present celebrating 40 years of spreading their magic and happiness. Dyes and Dolls, Maverik, Ace Hardware, Yards by Jody, MVRP, Natl. Park Safety Boat, St. John's Folklorico and the Desert Ballet Academy were some of those that marched. The Mack Lyon Middle School Orchestra and were joined by the MV Livestock 4-H Club and the CC Fair and Rodeo Queen and Princess, Shaylynn Reymore and Casidee Jones. The huge mining vehicles of Simplot Silica as well as the Logandale Fire & Rescue Station 73 and Overton Fire Dept. Station 74 vehicles closed the parade.

The crowd that lined the street then headed to the Overton Park for the Annual Community Barbeque cooked by the members of the local Rotary Club and provided by the Moapa Valley Chamber of Commerce. Approximately 500 celebrants took advantage of the glorious weather and shared the time with family and friends.

Story and photo excerpted from the Moapa Valley Progress



Community Christmas Events in Moapa Valley

The Old Logandale School Historical and Cultural Society (OLSHACS) will hold their Festival of Trees on December 2nd and 3rd (3–7 pm on Friday and 9–5 on Saturday). This event is one of their major fundraisers and provides a delightful opportunity to place silent bids on a particular tree that catches your eye. Organizations and individuals donate completely decorated and themed Christmas trees. With free admission, folks flock to this event to enjoy the creative works of art and to support OLSHACS by bidding on their favorites. There will also be vendors offering gifts, baked goods, wreaths, and handmade Christmas delights. Oh...and Santa Claus stops by, too! Rumor has it, jolly Old St. Nick shows up the last hour or two of each day!

The Old Logandale School is at 3011 N. Moapa Valley Blvd; take exit 93 off of I-15 and travel about 6 miles; it is on the right hand side, just past the post office—a big red brick building with an easy to read sign lets you know you are at the right place.

The following weekend, December 10th, the Lost City Museum holds another local favorite. Museum docents spend many hours arranging custom baskets full of all kinds of fabulous treats. Some baskets focus on Christmas ornaments, others on bathroom accessories. Unique baskets full of delightful (and delicious) goodies are on display and attendees purchase raffle tickets in order to win these works of art. The money goes to supporting the museum, so it is another good cause as the Lost City Museum is one of Moapa Valley's finest attractions. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5.

Throughout the day, a procession of local talent performs Christmas songs and music fills the air. The docents provide light refreshments and admission is free so this is an incredible chance to enjoy all the museum has to offer as well as partake in the Christmas festivities.

The Lost City Museum is at 721 S. Moapa Valley Blvd; the Holiday Open House is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Take exit 93 off of I-15 and travel approximately 13 miles.

On December 17th at 5 pm, the Moapa Valley Revitalization Project has started a new valley tradition, "Light Up the Night with Santa". It is a family event and is reminiscent of spontaneous get-togethers where folks sing Christmas carols and walk through the neighborhoods. Lighted candles are placed along Main Street with the event beginning in the open parking area across the street from McDonalds. Santa will probably be in that area, too. Everyone is welcome to join in on this throw-back to a simple community get-together.



Events for December – 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
- **Wednesdays at the Moapa Valley Library** – Computer Topics at 3 pm; Computer logic/programming at 4:30 pm
- **Wednesdays and Thursdays at the Moapa Valley Library** – Homework Hangout at 3 pm
- **Thursdays at the Moapa Valley Library** – Tiny tots songs and finger plays for ages 0 to 3, 10:15 am
- **Fridays at the Moapa Valley Library** – Move & Groove for ages 0–5 at 10:15 am; Teen Space at 2:15 pm
- **Saturdays at the Moapa Valley Library** – English Language discussion group at 10 am; Game on at 12 noon; Crafternoon at 2 pm
- **Thursday, December 1** – Bunkerville TAB* meeting at the Bunkerville Community Center, 7 pm
- **Saturday, December 10** – Zephyr Singers and Strings concert of seasonal favorites at the OLSHACS*** 7 pm
- **Wednesday, December 14** – Moapa Valley TAB* meeting at the Moapa Valley Community Center, 7 pm
- **Sunday, December 18** – Choir concert – Moapa Valley community members gather to perform Handel’s Messiah at the OLSHACS*** 7 pm

*TAB = Town Advisory Board **For details call 702–397–2690 ***Old Logandale School Historical and Cultural Society

Moapa Welcomes the Holidays with Annual Turkey Bowling Event

More than 50 grade–school age kids gathered at the Moapa Rec center to participate in this year’s Turkey Bowl. Kids get to try their skill, or luck, at throwing a frozen turkey down a designated bowling lane at a set of pins, hoping to knock down enough to have a winning score. To make it even more fun, two of the bowling pins are decorated like turkeys and are worth extra points. This year’s event was a big hit with both the kids and the adults that came to cheer them on. The stands were as full of supporters as the gym was with turkey–throwers.



After some warm–up dances and activities run by the Parks and Rec staff, the bowling got underway. Awards were the same for all three age groups: a turkey for 1st place, a pumpkin pie for 2nd place and a bag of cookies for 3rd. Some scores were so close they required a bowl–off, which was extra fun, and the winners were all pleased with their prizes. Everyone was in agreement, however, that the real prize was the fun of just getting to participate. This was not the first Turkey Bowl for many hopeful turkey–throwers. The event is one of Moapa Parks and Rec’s favorite and most anticipated events of the year.



Story and photos excerpted from the Moapa Valley Progress.

Golden Eagles Win Class 1A State Football Championship

After a 104-game winning streak that has run since 2007, the Pahranaagat Valley Panthers were defeated 68–46 by the Spring Mountain Golden Eagles to win the Class 1A Nevada State Football Championship. The game took place on Saturday, November 19th at Clark High School here in Las Vegas. In their last 12 match ups, the Panthers had defeated the Gold Eagles, including a 36–18 loss during the past season. However, led by Senior Quarterback Eric Brooks, the Spring Mountain team fine-tuned their game and fought hard to come out victorious.



Photo credit: Elizabeth Page Brumley/Las Vegas Review/Journal

Every football season, the Spring Mountain Golden Eagle football coaches have an entirely brand new group of young men to mold into football players. Unlike your average High School, Spring Mountain High School is a part of Spring Mountain Youth Camp (SMYC). Located in the Mt. Charleston Recreational/Toiyabe National Forest Area SMYC is a 100-bed facility for delinquent males ages 12 to 18 who are placed there by the courts. So every football season is a brand new start and requires a tremendous amount of effort, hard work and dedication on the part of the coaches and the players. While at SMYC, the youth are able to participate in a number of sports and programs during their stay including baseball, football, wrestling, track & field and basketball. Spring Mountain athletic teams compete against other schools of similar size.

In addition to its various other programs, SYMC also offers a Forestry Program in cooperation with the US Forest Service. At over 40 years, it is the longest running collaborative effort between the USFS and any such program in the United States. Through the SMYC Forestry Program, youths committed to the Camp perform a variety of services for the Forest Service, such as repair and maintenance of 61 miles of hiking trails in the Spring Mountain National Recreation Area, litter removal, sign construction and snow removal in the winter months. Many thousands of dollars in savings to tax payers are realized annually from the work performed by the youths involved in this program.

Events for December – 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, December 1** – Mt. Charleston TAB* meeting at the Mt. Charleston Library, 7 pm
- **Saturday, December 10** – High Desert Seniors Christmas Potluck, 2 to 4 pm, Indian Springs Community Center
- **Wednesday, December 11** – Kids craft day at the Indian Springs Community Center, 2:45, Cost \$1
- **Thursday, December 15** – Indian Springs TAB* meeting at the Indian Springs Community Center, 6:30 pm
- **Saturday, December 17** – Indian Springs Christmas Parade of Lights. Parade starts at 5:30 pm at the old gas station and ends at the Community Center. Hot Cocoa and cookies will be served while waiting for the Special Guest to arrive.
- **Thursday, December 22** – BINGO at the Indian Springs Community Center, 7 to 9 pm

*TAB = Town Advisory Board

A Little Holiday Trivia About The Poinsettia

- Poinsettia plants are native to Central America, especially an area of southern Mexico known as 'Taxco del Alarcon' where they flower during the winter.
- The Aztecs had many uses for them including using the flowers to make a purple dye for clothes and cosmetics and the milky white sap was made into a medicine to treat fevers. (Today we call the sap latex!)
- Joel Roberts Poinsett introduced the poinsettia plant to the United States from Mexico. Poinsett was a botanist, physician and the first United States Ambassador to Mexico.
- The Poinsettia is also the national emblem of Madagascar.
- The “flowers” of poinsettias are actually modified leaves called bracts.



Worth the Trip Into Town: Family Holiday Fun

It's holiday time! Even though most of us in Clark County probably will not have a white Christmas, there are still plenty of opportunities around the valley to have some winter-time fun. This list is by no means comprehensive, but hopefully it will give you some ideas. Enjoy!

Ice Skating

The Ice Rink at The Cosmopolitan

<https://www.cosmopolitanlasvegas.com/ice-rink>

Las Vegas Ice Center

<http://www.lasvegasice.com/>

Rock Rink at Downtown Summerlin

<http://www.downtownsummerlin.com/visit/>

Sobe Ice Arena at the Fiesta Rancho

<https://fiestarancho.sclv.com/Entertainment/SoBe-Ice-Arena>

Holiday at The Park

<https://www.theparkvegas.com/en/entertainment/holiday-at-the-park.html>



Light Parades

Santa's Electric Night Parade

<http://www.chamberorganizer.com/Calendar/moreinfo.php?eventid=210918>

40th Annual Parade of Lights on Lake Mead - 12/3/16 at 7 pm

Over 50 boats from 16 feet to 75 feet all aglow with sparkling holiday lights will sail along the shore of Boulder Beach from the Lake Mead Marina to the Hemenway Launch Ramp and then returning to the Lake Mead Marina.

Holiday Light Displays

Glittering Lights at the Las Vegas Speedway

<http://www.glitteringlightslasvegas.com/>

Opportunity Village's Magical Forest

<http://www.magicalforest.org/>

Mystic Falls Winter Wonderland

<http://www.samstownlv.com/entertain/mystic-falls>

Night of Lights at St. Jude's Ranch

<https://www.stjudesranch.org/contribute/events/>

Cactus Garden Holiday Lights

<https://www.ethelm.com/category/visiting+the+factory/cactus+garden+holiday+lights.do>

Holiday Train Rides

The Nevada Southern Railway Santa and Pajama Trains

<http://www.nevadasouthern.com/>

Springs Preserve Holiday Express

<https://www.springspreserve.org/apps/event/details.cfm?id=2072>



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.
- 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).

Sandy Valley's Peace Park Bathroom Building Now A Reality

After much anticipation and planning, Sandy Valley's Peace Park has a brand new bathroom building! The pre-cast concrete structure arrived in five separate pieces on five individual trucks and were lifted and then lowered into place by a huge crane. The center of the building sections weighed 60,000 pounds and each of the roof sections weighed 32,000 pounds. The sinks, toilets and other interior fixtures were already installed, so once the prepared on-site utilities were hooked up, the finishing touches began. The finish work included windows, doors, vents, stall dividers, floor texture, and final painting.

The building consists of two stalls on the women's side, a stall and urinal on the men's side, sinks and hand dryers on both sides, drinking fountains in the front and a large storage area at the rear of the building. The building is surrounded on all four sides by a new sidewalk which continues to the west and connects to the Senior Center building and parking lot.

The bathroom building is the first of many planned improvements that will be coming to Peace Park over the next couple of years. Future project include a new well to serve all of the various uses on the site, a splash pad, a walking trail, a covered area with fitness equipment, additional lighting, improved parking areas, and additional seating.



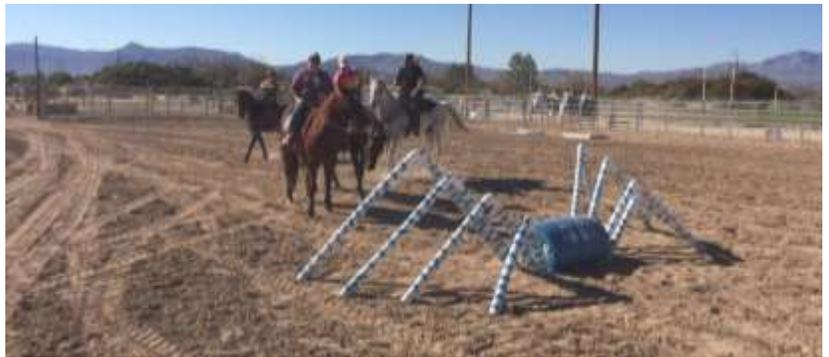
Events for December – Southwest

- **Thursday, December 1** – Holiday Party at the Sandy Valley Community Center sponsored by Clark County Parks & Rec, Sandy Valley VFD, Sandy Valley 4H, Santa's Toy Box and LVCCLD. Santa will make an appearance with a surprise and will take photos with the kids. There will be ornament decorating, story time, music, refreshments, and a raffle. 5 pm**
- **Tuesday, December 13** – Sandy Mesquite Valley Dev. Assoc. meeting at the SV Community Center, 6:30 pm
- **Tuesday, December 13** – Sandy Valley CAC* meeting at the SV Community Center, 7:30 pm
- **Saturday, December 17** – Sandy Valley Community Breakfast, 8 am to 10:30 am at the Senior Center, \$3.50 for the best pancakes & sausage or biscuits & gravy
- **Saturday, December 17** – Christmas Café Community Dinner at Sandy Valley Ranch, 5 to 8 pm
- **Thursday, December 22** – Holiday Celebration at the Blue Diamond Library with story time, crafts, movies and singing Christmas Carols. Dress warm and bring a flash light for caroling. 3 pm

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

Horse Obstacle Fundraiser in Sandy Valley

The Sandy Valley Obstacle Course was held on Saturday, November 5th at the Keystone Center's BJC Arena. Great weather, lots of fun and challenging obstacles, good food and plenty of riders made for a successful fundraising event! Proceeds from the event went to assist non-profits that serve the Sandy Valley Community.



Laughlin's Holiday Tree Lighting Event

Clark County Parks & Recreation presents

Holiday Tree Lighting

Sunday,

December 4th

4:30 p.m. (NV time)

**Mountain View
Park**



Free Hot Chocolate & Cookies

Performances by LHS Band & Chorus

Come see Santa Claus



CCPR Website



CCPR Mailing List



CCPR Facebook Page



CCPR YouTube Channel

Clark County Board of Commissioners
Steve Sisolak, Chair, Larry Brown III, Vice Chair
Susan Brager, Chris Giunchigliani,
Marilyn Kirkpatrick, Mary Beth Scow,
Lawrence Weekly
Don Burnette, County Manager
Jane Pike, Director of Parks & Recreation

Events for December – Southeast

- **Wednesdays at the Laughlin Library** – Lego Club, 4 pm
- **Saturday, December 3** – Laughlin Library’s Annual Book Sale, 10 am
- **Thursday, December 8** – Brown Bag Book Club at the Laughlin Library, 11 am
- **Sunday, December 11** – Movie Matinee at the Laughlin Library, 1:30 pm**
- **Tuesday, December 13** – Laughlin TAB Meeting at the Regional Gov. Center, 1:30 pm
- **Wednesday, December 14** – Searchlight TAB meeting at the Searchlight Community Center, 6 pm
- **Saturday, December 17** – Join Nik “Nik at Nite” Mastrangelo and his trio for a jazzy holiday party at the Laughlin Library, 2 pm
- **Tuesday, December 20** – Design and building your own graham cracker houses at the Laughlin Library, Ages 5–11, 4 pm
- **Wednesday, December 21** – Master Gardeners at the Laughlin Library, 10 am
- **Thursday, December 22** – Adult coloring at the Laughlin Library, 2 pm
- **Thursday, December 22** – Make pipe cleaner ornaments at the Laughlin Library, ages 5–11, 4 pm
- *TAB = Town Advisory Board **For more information call the Laughlin Library at 702-507-4060

Cars Under The Stars at the Laughlin Library

On November 17th, kids at the Laughlin Library got to create their own custom cardboard box “cars” with a little help from the local mechanics (aka Library Staff.) Once their hot rods were ready, the kids were able to take their creations to the “drive-in” to enjoy the movie, Cars.



4-H Voices

This month we are introducing a new regular feature to Rural Connections called 4-H Voices. This will be a place for 4H members throughout Clark County to share what's going on in their club and community. 4-H is a youth organization that is active in many of our rural communities (and within the Las Vegas Valley, too) and gives kids the opportunity to "complete hands-on projects in areas like health, science, agriculture and citizenship, in a positive environment where they receive guidance from adult mentors and are encouraged to take on proactive leadership roles." You can learn more about 4-H at <http://4-h.org/>

Sandy Valley 4-H Club

Thanksgiving Dinner at Sandy Valley Community Church

By Ericka Lovato

Sandy Valley Community Church had an awesome Thanksgiving dinner on November 20, 2016. They had a lot of turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy and all the Thanksgiving fair, not to mention the lovely pumpkin, pecan and berry pies. 234 meals were served to the community, free of charge. The Sandy Valley 4-H club served food and drinks and helped with the cleanup. Several people complimented the kids on their serving skills. It was fun working with the community! We are all thankful for Sandy Valley Community Church and their contribution to our valley. Sandy Valley 4-H Club is always looking for an opportunity to perform community service. If you have a child, ages 5-18, who would like to join us, come and join SV4-H Club the 1st Friday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Keystone center in Sandy Valley!



This Little Piggy Goes to Market: November

By OllieAnna Wadley

As many of you know, the 4-H year starts in October. So this time of year is very busy with new club business, officer nominations, and new projects selections. The Sandy Valley 4-H club offers a variety of projects ranging from cake decorating and shooting sports to Livestock...My favorite!

This year I will be showing a market pig (swine) at the Clark County Fair in Logandale. This will be my second year in livestock. Last year my pig died at the preliminary weigh-in and preshow. We learned that it is very common for show pigs to have a stress gene and can develop muscle lock during stressful situations. The body then releases potassium to counterattack the muscle cramps, which leads to dehydration and overheating and eventually heart attack. Which is what happened to my market pig last year. Fortunately, I did have an alternate and was able to participate in the Fair and auction taking fifth place in my division for Market Swine. All this being said, I have learned a lot and I will be able to use this knowledge moving forward with my market project this year.

The first task with my market swine project is selecting a breeder. Preferable confirmation traits change a little from year to year and we see trends in the market classes. It is important to stay on top of these trends and become knowledgeable with the various breeders and what type of confirmation traits they are breeding for so you can select a breeder that is breeding for the current show trends. I don't want an "old fashioned" show pig. There are many things to consider when selecting a breeder. Of course their winning history and show record is important. But I also have to consider, location, cost and farrow date (birthdate of pigs) and what type of relationship I can build with the breeder. Perhaps the most important is this last consideration. I want someone that I can learn from and is willing and patient enough to share the secrets of the trade with me. My Dad and Mom know a lot about show pigs too and my Grandma and Uncle Steve are really knowledgeable about the nutrition and proper feeding regiments. So I have a team of support.

After careful consideration, I went with a breeder in Las Vegas. We have known them for several years. They have shown with my brothers and sister and have done very well so it was a good fit. I, with the help of my Dad, selected two pigs. We will register one as an alternate just in case anything happens to my pig, I will have a backup. But if all goes well we will have one for our own freezer.

Fern and Wilbur are home and doing well. Fern weighs 69 pounds and Wilbur 94 pounds. They are eating show feed with high levels of protein and Lysine. I add Red Cell and one egg to their feed to give them a leg up and lots of fresh water. There is an old saying, "champions are fed not bred" which means that proper nutrition is essential for show winning market animals.

November marks the beginning of early morning feedings, freezing in the cold to wash out the water barrels, mucking stalls and late night story times. Yes, it's true, I read to my pigs in the evening or after school. I have to tame them so I can show them and they listen to me in the show ring. So, I start by sitting in their pens and scratching their bellies and reading them stories. I have to read for homework anyway so this kind of makes sense. I will let you know what December has in store for Wilbur and Fern in the next segment of "This Little Piggy Goes to Market."



Season's Greetings from the Editor

It is hard to believe that we are coming to the end of another year, but I am so glad that I have had the opportunity to share it with all of you. This little newsletter that I dreamed up 3 years ago has grown and developed in ways I never imagined. I continue to be amazed at all of the wonderful things going on in our rural areas.

As some of you may know, my husband and I finally fulfilled a dream and moved to the country at the end of the summer. Neither one of us has ever lived in a rural area, but in a few short months we have truly fallen in love with the rural lifestyle. The wide open spaces, starry skies, and wonderful people remind us every day that we have made the right choice. In addition to the dogs and horses we had before, we have added 2 horses, 16 chickens and 2 Nigerian dwarf goats to our family since we moved. It is quite an adventure and we are loving every minute of it.

So, from our little homestead to yours, warm wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2017!

Meggan Holzer

*Rural Towns Liaison to Commissioners Brown & Brager
Editor/Writer of Rural Connections*

