

Ackley World Journal

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Santa to arrive in Ackley Saturday

BECKY SCHIPPER
EDITOR

It's true! Santa and Mrs. Claus will be in Ackley this Saturday morning! Santa Claus himself confirmed his arrival through a call to Maggie Allen Photography last Monday morning. Santa made the call just before noon, according to Allen, wanting to confirm that she'll be available to take individual photographs of the couple and children of the community.

"They were anxious to get back to Ackley again, and to kick off the Christmas season with their young friends here," Allen reports. "I assured him that the children are just as excited as he and Mrs. Claus are!"

The event will begin with children picking up their goodie bags from the Ackley World Journal. A drive-through, as in the past two years, is planned. Drivers should enter the Park Avenue alley (in front of the Depot Museum) from State Street. Follow the alley west to Mitchell Street and pick up bags at the Ackley World Journal before proceeding to the parking area around Victory Park to greet the Claus'.

The Ackley American Legion Auxiliary doors



Santa and Mrs. Claus are excited to return to Ackley this Saturday morning at 9 a.m. Be sure to stop by to share your Christmas wishes.

ACKLEY WORLD JOURNAL FILE PHOTO

will open at 9:15 a.m. and children wishing to take part in the toy drawing should plan to be registered before the start of the festivities there at 10 a.m.

Till Woodley, who or-

ganizes the toy drawing, explains the group will be returning to the traditional event with children registering at the door and watching a holiday movie before the drawing is set to begin.

"Children must be registered for the toy drawing before 10 a.m. and must be present to take part," Woodley said. This is the 46th year for the toy drawing, and the ninth year for the Santa Goodie

Bag event.

Both are supported through the financial donations made by businesses, organizations, and individuals.

"We live in a town that values our children

and our traditions," said Becky Schipper, Editor of the Ackley World Journal. "Through very generous donations, both events are a great start to the holiday season for the children of Ackley!" ●



BECKY SCHIPPER/ACKLEY WORLD JOURNAL

AGWSR Wellsburg Center kindergarteners and first grade shared in a Thanksgiving feast after learning about how the country was settled and the friendships formed between the Native Americans and the pilgrims. A similar feast was held in the Ackley center.

THANKSGIVING FEAST with Friends

BECKY SCHIPPER
EDITOR

The AGWSR kindergarten and first grade students in the Wellsburg Center gathered together to take part in a Thanksgiving Feast of sorts last Tuesday afternoon.

Students have spent time learning about how Thanksgiving came to be and read about the first Thanksgiving shared between settlers and Native Americans. The students learned that long before settlers came to America, the area was inhabited by Native American tribes. These natives knew the land

well, having fished, hunted, and harvested the land for generations and shared their knowledge with the settlers.

Students in first grade wore very creative headbands garnished with paper feathers. They painted paper vests created by their teacher, Mrs. Amy Bear. Kindergarteners' costumes for the event were a little complex for them to make on their own, so their costumes were created by their teacher, Mrs. Candi Meyer.

The non-traditional feast of snack mix and apple juice did hold traditional meaning.

The snack mix was made of oyster crackers – representing side biscuits which were similar to the biscuits eaten as the pilgrims sailed across the sea; teddy grahams which represented the wild game which they need to protect themselves against in their new land; pretzel sticks which represented the downed trees used for their new log homes; marshmallows, to represent their first winter in the new land; candy corn and goldfish crackers to represent how the natives taught them to plant corn surrounded with fish as fertilizer; dried cranberries

representing the berries that the natives were taught were safe to eat; sunflower seeds representing their lesson in how to save seeds to plant for the next growing season; Bugle snacks representing the cornucopia of giving thanks for their bountiful harvest; and chocolate chips, representing their thankfulness for their new life, despite the troubles they encountered in their new land.

Each student was able to take home some 'leftovers' to share with their family.

A similar celebration was held at the Ackley center for classes there. ●

Mingle Jingle set in Ackley

BECKY SCHIPPER
EDITOR

The Ackley Chamber of Commerce will host their annual Mingle Jingle event this Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Dec. 1, 2 and 3. Participants will play a version of Yahtzee during the event, rolling dice at each participating business during regular business hours.

"We're changing up our game this holiday season, with players rolling dice to get the highest score possible in order to win prizes donated by the Ackley Chamber," explained Taresa Trueblood, Chamber treasurer.

Players are invited to shop at all businesses, to see what local entrepreneurs have available for the holiday season.

Businesses taking part in Mingle Jingle are the Ackley Public Library, Ackley Publishing Company, Ackley Recreation Club, Beans on Butler, Chairish Life, GNB Bank, Green Belt Bank and Trust, Grumpy's Bar, Ibeling Insurance, and Pizza Ranch.

To take part, participants should pick up a game card at their first stop and roll the dice. Please put your name and phone number at the top of the score card. Select which row you would like to roll for and get the highest score you can in three rolls. The more places you stop at, the better your chances of winning.

Completed score cards may be dropped off at GNB Bank, either in the after hours drop box, or deliver to a teller during normal business hours. Cards must be delivered to GNB Bank by Dec. 7. Three winners will be announced on Dec. 8.

"We invite everyone to take part in the game, and to support our local businesses who go above and beyond to support our community with their generous donations to events, supporting our students' and their activities, and who keep our community thriving," explains Jess Schipper, Chamber president.

Schipper notes that area businesses have much to offer shoppers – gifts, flooring, hair care products, coloring and cuts, meals, coffee, special treats, printing services, golfing, banking services, insurance services and financial services, family photographs, gym memberships, internet services, plumbing and heating and countless other services and amenities.

"It's our turn to support them during this, the largest shopping season of the year," Schipper notes. ●

