

Scandinavians Developed Idea Of Santa's Helper

Santa's little helper came down to us from Scandinavia.

Many years before Leif Erickson touched American shores, the children of the North believed that a little elf with long white whiskers—Jul Tomten—saw that the earth was abundant with good food and that the animals and birds were taken care of.

After the pagan Vikings were Christianized, little Jul became the giver of presents—just as Santa today. It became a custom for children to leave a bowl of porridge on the kitchen table for the little elf, who would give presents in exchange.

Travelers picked up the legend of Jul Tomten and carried it around the world. To us, he is the busy, jolly, good little elf who works happily in Santa's workshops.

Then Came Three Wise Men

Legend not only has identified the Wise Men as Gaspar, Melchior and Balthasar, it has crowned them and given them the kingdoms of Tarys, Arabia and Ethiopia. It has symbolized their gifts as symbolic of what Jesus was to become—gold for a king, frankincense for a high priest and myrrh for a great physician.

The Gospel text's specific wise men from the east logically identifies them with Zoroastrianism—an ancient monotheistic religion of Persia. Zoroastrian priests were called Magi; they were powerful in public and private life since they, and they alone, possessed the priestly mysteries involved in the worship of Mazda—who represented the Zoroastrian power for good.

The Magi may or may not have been fabulously wealthy. St. Matthew does not elaborate their treasures nor the amount of gold, frankincense and myrrh which they

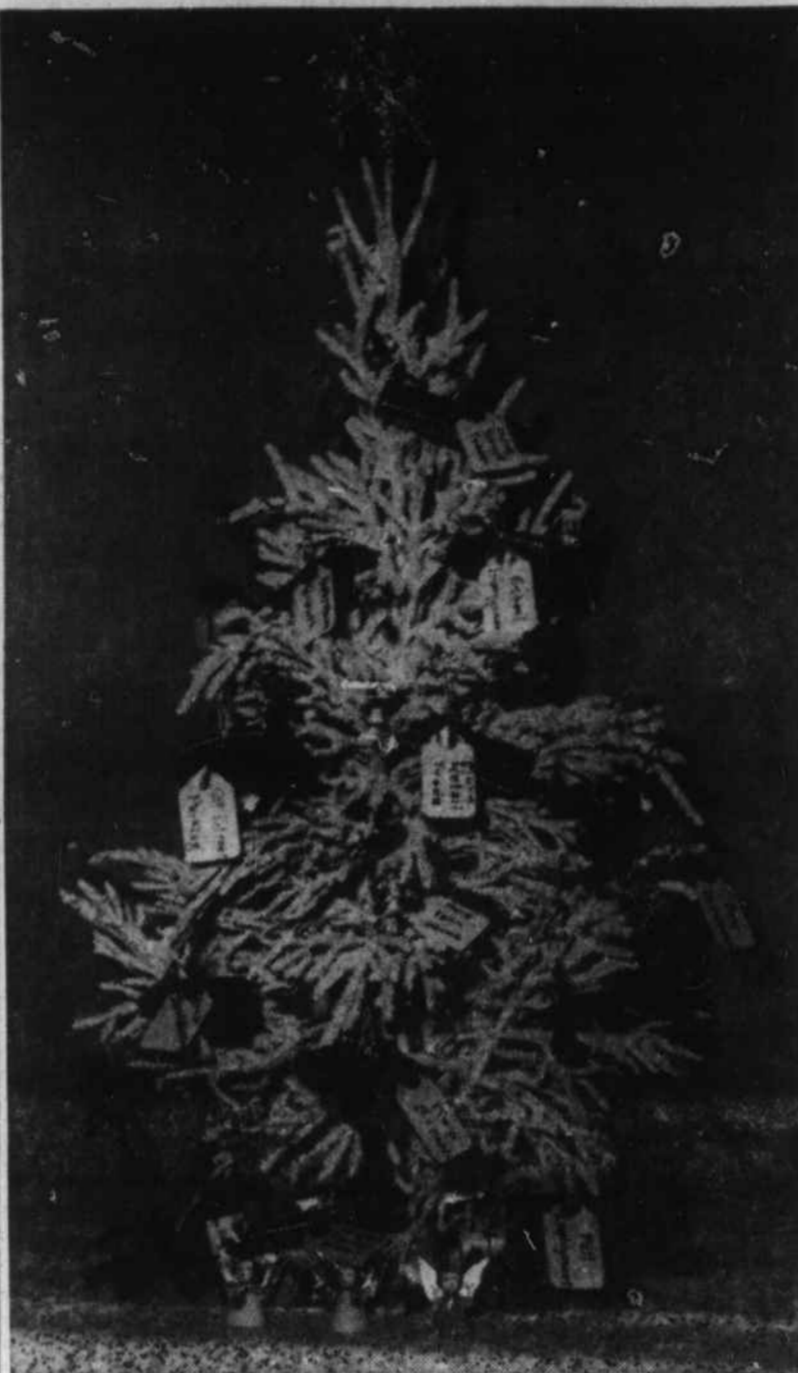
Three Famous Americans Born New Year's Day

January 1, perennial celebrated as the start of a new year, is also the birthdate of three famous Americans.

On January 1, 1735, a boy was born in Boston, Mass. He grew up to be a silversmith and engraver designed and printed the first Con-

presented to the Christ Child. The gifts may have been mere tokens of their treasures, or the sum and substance thereof.

And if they were soothsayers, mystics and possibly clairvoyants they were also truly wise—in as much as they did not return to Herod, but departed into their own country by a different route.



VALUABLE CHRISTMAS 'GIFTS' for residents of the Waynesville area can become a reality through the program of the Chamber of Commerce, according to the legends of this unique tree in the window of the Chamber office on Main St. Gift boxes on the tree bear tags such as Spiritual Growth, New Housing, Full Employment, Larger Family Income, Industrial Expansion, Area Beautification, More Farm Income, Off-Street Parking, Civic Improvement, More Retail Trade, School Improvement, New Industries, More Tourist Travel, Community Planning, Community Recreation, New Highways, Closer Rural-Urban Relations, and New Library. (Mountaineer Photo).

tinental money and the first official seal of the colonies. An amateur inventor, he discovered a process for rolling sheet copper. But he is most famous for a horse ride he made on the night of April 18, 1775. His name: Paul Revere.

Seventeen years later, in 1752, a girl was born in Philadelphia on the first day of the year. She was Betsy Ross—maker of the first American flag. On the same day was born the great poet—Philip

Freneau.

Other events that took place on January 1: George Washington at Cambridge raised for the first time the flag of the United Colonies, 1776; Florida adopted the constitution, 1887; Union of Ireland and Great Britain, 1801; de-Sousa discovered Rio de Janeiro, 1531; The United Nations Declaration signed, 1942; the first Tournament of Roses, 1889.

Found A Home

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M. (AP)—Air Force officers at nearby Kirtland Air Force Base like where they are stationed so well they are planning a retirement haven in the

area. Headed by Brig. Gen. William Canterbury, commandant of the Kirtland special weapons center, a group of officers has purchased 40 acres on the northeast outskirts of the city. Each officer plans to

build the house of his choice on his chunk of land after the acreage is sectioned.

The walrus, a land and sea creature, gets its name from a contraction of the Norse word of whalehorse.

May the true Peace of Christmas abide with you always



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Your Home-Owned Walgreen Agency

MAIN STREET

DIAL GL 6-3321

Just a good plain
MERRY CHRISTMAS

What can we say that would express all our wishes for the coming season? This is the closest thing to it we know of and we want you to believe we express these sentiments with a genuine feeling of appreciation.

May the New Year be one which will see the realization of your fondest dreams and ambitions. May it be the one in which you will be the happiest and the most content.

Best wishes to you, friends

SMOKY MTN. SELF-SERVICE GROCERY

1012 Balsam Road



May the old fashioned Christmas spirit of peace and joy embrace your home this glorious holiday season. And may the richest gifts—health, happiness and good will come to you and your dear ones.

Greetings
of the
SEASON

H. P. CLAY, CONTRACTOR

405 Railroad St.

Merry Christmas

RELIABLE JEWELERS

"IT'S EASY TO PAY THE RELIABLE WAY"

WAYNESVILLE, N.C.

DAVE FELDMAN

As a hush of peace falls over the waiting world and all eyes behold the silent, knowing stars above . . . we take time out this Christmas Eve to express sincere good wishes to you all.