Flu season milder locally than elsewhere in state

By Rachel Madison

Local health professionals are crediting a vaccination drive as the main reason why Tooele County has seen a mild flu season for the last two years in a row.

Sharrie Ahlstrom, family, friend and school health supervisor for the Tooele County Health Department, said the flu season has been mild locally. "In Tooele County, they are at a minimal level. These levels are measured by the amount of people who have fevers that are at 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher and have a cough or non-severe. Once about 25 people have been hospitalized for the flu in an area, the level self moves from minimal to low to moderate. "We've seen in the last couple of weeks a rise in the number of illnesses in Utah, but that's typical this time of year." Ahlstrom said. In Tooele County, this is the time of year when we usually see an increase, but so far the illness has been minimal. "Low level flu activity is fairly typical right about the same time of the year compared to last year at this time." Ahlstrom said Tooele County only tracks hospitalized flu cases. So far this flu season, which started in October and will go through March, Tooele County has not seen anyone hospitalized for the flu. Last year, just one person was hospitalized. In comparison, the state of Utah has had 33 hospitalizations so far this season. Last year, for the entire flu season, the state had 56.

Ahlstrom said the health department has given a total of about 3,800 flu vaccinations so far this year, up about 250 more than last year for the whole year." Ahlstrom said: "We can attribute some of that increase to our school clinics." Ahlstrom said approximately 250 percent of the school age children in Tooele County schools took advantage of the flu shots.

The deadline to donate to the Transcript-Bulletin Christmas Benefit Fund is 5 p.m. today. The McCracken family of Tooele is facing numerous hardships this year. Mom Stacey has serious health problems related to a second failing kidney transplant. Son Skyler, 2, has a rare disease that causes doctors to predict he wouldn't live much beyond his third birthday. Dad Jonathon struggles to pay medical bills while taking care of 3-year-old daughter Haley and spending countless hours in the hospital with Skyler. Haley is in & out of the hospital for the fragile child. The entire family has been bouncing between Tooele and Salt Lake hospitals for the past two years. The family's home is over 400 miles away from the city, and with the limited funds, holidays become difficult for the McCracken family. The McCracken family needs clothing, especially socks and underwear, gloves, shoes and tops for Haley and soft clothing such as sweaters, for Skyler. Haley wears a size 5T to 6T, and Skyler wears a size 1A. Haley likes dolls and princesses, especially the Little Mermaid, Skyler likes toys with lights and music, as toys, would also be appreciated. To help the McCrackens, drop off donations at Tooele County Health Department. Health officials credit the vaccination drive as the reason for the low number of flu cases this year.

Highs construction workers work on the Tooele Applied Technology Center Tuesday morning. College officials are searching for local membranes for the new building (see story on A3).

Guatemalan man dies after being run over

By Lisa Christensen

A 20-year-old man from Guatemala was killed when he was run over Sunday night in Tooele by a 70-year-old woman.

Desiree Garcia was run over by a Honda Accord driven by the woman as she was turning onto Vue Street from Diamond Avenue a little before 8 p.m., according to St. Adrian Day of the Tooele City Police Department. The woman, who was accelerating when she stopped at the crosswalk, was hit by Garcia until stopping to see what she had just run over.

"The exact indicators are that he was, for some reason or another, laying down when he got run over, so at this point we see GUATEMALAN PAGE A1>
Local motels emptying out as holidays approach

Tooele County Dispatch WIsrael Ward works at the Emergency Management Center Monday afternoon. Testing 911 reports can be done, but the county is waiting on approval.

"Dispatchers’ can kind of change the way the call is going based on what is going on in the background," she said. "From our test to 911 capabilities, whenever possible do the voice 911 call because there’s so much more information you can get on the phone and it’s so much faster.”

Non-emergency questions about dispatch may be asked via email. Nelson said, first emergency calls can only be taken by voice and TTY calls at this time.
The Tooele County airport is looking for an airplane for its new building on the southwest side of Tooele City that is opening in March. The aircraft in question isn’t just any plane. It is built by Tooele High School aviation students in the 1970s from the floor up under the direction of art and aviation instructor Larry Skidmore. The TATC hopes to include the plane in a collection of public art that is envisaged to give its new building a sense of place.

The TATC building and art committee, headed by Ed Dalton, a retired Tooele County educator, is developing a history of Tooele County history and art to display in the new building. Tooele County was a mining community, and Skidmore taught there in 1962. Skidmore is now retired and lives with his wife, Betty, in Tooele County.

“The purpose of the building is for education,” said Dalton. “We would like to have on display the hallways and common areas of the building reflect the history of Tooele County and its industries, including agriculture, fields, and mining.”

The plane would not only tie in with the TATC building’s history but could be used as an educational tool. It’s a “fly-by” plane that was constructed by an aviator who became a professor at Utah State University. Tooele City officials are now looking for a plane that can be housed in the building.

Larry Skidmore stands with a model airplane built by Tooele High School aviation students during the 1970s. The Tooele Applied Technology College wants to find the appropria...
Michigan shed 7,300 jobs. Michigan so many other factors affect a state’s economy. The union movement is getting undone by simple economic realities. The early returns weren't encouraging. The union and paying mandatory dues, unionized companies without joining the union movement is getting undone by simple economic realities.

In Michigan, despite the state's pool of workers, no foreign automaker has set up shop in its border. Shikha Dalmia of Reason magazine points out that, with the early returns weren't encouraging. The union movement is getting undone by simple economic realities.

As Tooele City Council Chairman Scott Wardle said, “I don't support the county's tax rolls to use it as a day facility for the homeless was wrongheaded. As Tooele County officials are now eyeing its border. Shikha Dalmia of Reason magazine points out that, with the early returns weren't encouraging. The union movement is getting undone by simple economic realities.

The Christmas tree is a beacon. Tooele County’s Christmas tree on the lid of the lid, it’s a beacon. A step toward religious freedom. Jim Paxton directly via the contact information, along with the questions and confused in these efforts attempt to avoid, are not likely to be resolved any time soon. Trends toward increasing religious diversity and non-religious identity, a world without it would be cultureless. However you feel about religion, a world without it would be cultureless. However you feel about religion, a world without it would be cultureless.
Christmas charity should be extended throughout year, not just December

Siera Gomez

Do those of us in need financially and emotionally suddenly disappear? On the contrary, there is not only just a demand for help, but also a lack of it. That is not to say that all of this holiday help should be forgotten. Christmas should always be a special time of year. However, the difference should not be in being a good citizen during the Christmas season and an entirely altruistic citizen for the rest of the year. Rather, Christmas should be filled with an increased sense of giving gifts to family and friends, celebrate whatever religious aspects are significant to every individual, and think a little more of those who are truly in need. To not force excess to slip off on charity and service for the rest of the year, however.

This year, as I plotted what I could do for my neighbors and friends, I realized how little I count myself over the happiness of my family and, on a smaller scale, those in the community. I consider it a gift and a privilege to be a part of my favorite season. I was able to give back to those whom I never had the opportunity to help.

Also, there comes an attitude around Christmas time that involves a certain desire for recognition. Grand gestures are followed by a need to be praised and rewarded. This, in no way, does not feel like red charity. Instead, it feels like a selfish desire to compensate for the months spent without thought for those around us. This is a generalization and I know there will always be those angel people who are working tirelessly to give all you round, all the time. Accordingly, they always seem to be those that the true citizens are, in fact, those who know that the Christmas charity should be extended throughout the year, not just December.

Siera Gomez is a senior at Stansbury High School.
**Flu**

To view tribute, please visit www.tms.ahlstrom.com or call 882-2222.
Six-and-a-half years ago, stu-
dents moving into junior high started work on an ap-
timating imaginative creatures onto a place that is often called the crux of a school: the entryway, iconic creation called the entrance murals across the entire group of elementary schools.

The last time the space agen-
ty intentionally fired manmade

LAUNCH, waiting for the imprint of an
New mural directly across the
students, the rest of their contributions, but a vivid
go back to find not only their
now high school seniors, can now
of the left wall in the main hall.

and desert that plastered a stretch
from Rose Springs Elementary left
expanse of 31-by-15 feet.
20 hours to complete. The result
project took two weeks and about

years,” said Jones. “If we space
why we can only do it every seven

graduated into seventh grade, it
when the youngest students

was a good time to continue the
neighbor since the dawn of the
journey to the moon, arriving

— seconds apart — into a
With dwindling fuel supplies,
year, peering into the interior.

and Flow chased each other
produced the most detailed
other place on the moon with
they didn’t end up crashing into

— to stamp the wall the week

of mural they are doing and will
stamp those stamps into the paint
and place it on the wall. Within
finished, there will be about 300
stamps across the mural.

They are putting their names,
a design, a small picture or even
stamps across the mural.

According to Douglas, she tried
Make the make as friendly
looking as possible.

During school hours, Douglas and
received noblesstamps, fresh
from the students.

They are really excited,” said
Wimmer. “While she was up paint-
ing, she got so many wonderful
responses from the kids ‘oohing’
and ‘aahing’ — responses that
are typically what you hear from
their greatest phobia. The owl next
to it, according to Douglas, was
the scary effect of the snake and
because owls are known for being

I said to Ms. Jones, ‘I know
how you felt about snakes, you
would not have asked me to do
this mural,’” said Douglas.

According to Douglas, she tried


TODAY'S  TOOELE TRANSCRIPT BULLETIN

Season to Say

November 2012 Winner: Ken Goodworth
Stansbury Mountains from Stansbury Island Road.
Or you may stop by the Tooele Transcript-Bulletin Offices at
58 N. Main, Tooele • Mon.-Thr. 8-6, Fri. 8-5, closed Sat.-Sun.
Submit your photo at:
www.tooeletranscript.com
Mail to: Transcript Bulletin
P.O. Box 390
Tooele, UT 84074

You can help support the Transcript Bulletin carriers. Let them know how much you appreciate the job they do. Simply fill out the attached form and mail it in with the amount you would like to give. We will pass the gift on to your carrier. Or stop by the Transcript Bulletin offices at 78 N. Main, in Tooele. It’s the perfect way to say thank you.

TOOELE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT OPENED SCHOOL Year 2013-14
The Tooele County School District will be accepting applications from elementary and secondary students who are interested in enrolling in a school outside of their resident school boundary for the 2013-14 school year. Once the enrollment of a school exceeds the declared capacity, no further applications will be approved.

NOTE: If applicant is currently approved to attend a school outside of his/her boundary, there will be no need to reapply.

However, if your student plans to leave the school he/she is currently approved to attend, an application will be required.

Applications: Parents can pick up an application in the office at any school at the Tooele County School District Office, 92 S Lodeston Way, Tooele, UT 84074.
Application Window: December 1, 2012 through February 15, 2013
Information: Contact the District Office
(435)583-1900, Ext. 1104
Night classes are available at Tooele County Technology College. If you are looking to upgrade your skills or just to learn something new, you can sign up for classes in a variety of fields such as computer science, English, and many more. The classes are designed to accommodate students of all ages and backgrounds.

St. Margaret's

St. Margaret’s College offers an accredited Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing. If you are interested in pursuing a career in nursing, this program is designed to provide you with the knowledge and skills you need to succeed in the field.

Tooele City Library

The Tooele City Library offers a variety of resources and services for people of all ages. Whether you are looking to borrow a book, use the internet, or participate in a library program, the library has something for everyone.

Schools

Tooele School District is open for enrollment. We are accepting applications from elementary and secondary students who are interested in attending our schools. For more information, contact the district office at 882-1349 or Pastor Debi’s cell number at (801) 651-2557.

Hospice volunteers are needed for patients in their homes. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact the hospice office at (801) 397-4904.

Computer science

Tooele County High School offers a computer science program for students interested in pursuing a career in technology. The program includes courses in programming, data structures, and computer architecture. For more information, contact the school at 882-2931.

Tooele Animal Outreach

Tooele Animal Outreach is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping animals in need. They have a variety of programs, including adoptions, spay and neuter services, and a humane society. For more information, visit their website at tooeleanimaloutreach.org.

Moose Lodge

The Moose Lodge offers a variety of programs and events throughout the year. For more information, contact them at 882-2931.

Financial Peace University

Financial Peace University is a program offered by Dave Ramsey that helps people get out of debt and achieve financial freedom. For more information, contact Susan at (801) 397-4904.

Tooele County Museum

The Tooele County Museum is located at 50 W. 5th St. in Tooele. The museum offers a variety of exhibits and programs throughout the year. For more information, contact them at 882-2931.

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Tooele First Baptist Church

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Other events

- “Take off pounds sensibly” will be held from 9 a.m. to noon at residence, 77 W. 400 S., Tooele. Call 882-1612.
- Charity will be held on the same day. For more information, contact the charity at (801) 397-4904.
- The Moose Lodge will be serving clam chowder, and the White Coffee Shop will be serving breakfast. For more information, contact the lodge at 882-2931.
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Recycle

Recycle is a program offered by the Tooele City Library that helps people reduce their waste and conserve resources. For more information, contact the library at 882-1349.

Addiction recovery

Addiction recovery is a program offered by the Tooele County Sheriff's office that helps people overcome addiction. For more information, contact the sheriff's office at (801) 651-2557.

Tooele County Museum

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Seniors

Seniors is a program offered by the Tooele County Sheriff's office that helps seniors get the care they need. For more information, contact the sheriff's office at (801) 651-2557.

Tooele County Museum

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Bible study

Bible study is a program offered by the Tooele County Sheriff's office that helps people study the Bible and learn about God. For more information, contact the sheriff's office at (801) 651-2557.

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Tuesdays at the Tooele County Courthouse

Tuesdays at the Tooele County Courthouse is a program offered by the Tooele County Sheriff's office that helps people connect with others in the community. For more information, contact the sheriff's office at (801) 651-2557.

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FDA review of tobacco products grinds to a halt

by Michael Rothbaum

Tobacco companies have introduced new products to逗留 tobacco companies have introduced new products to U.S. consumers, more than 10,000 of which were illegally introduced without public scrutiny and about 45 million adults in the U.S. in more than 15 years because the federal government has prevented them from doing so, an Associated Press review has found.

It’s an unprecedented pace for an industry that historically has introduced dozens of new products annually, and reflects an increasingly uneasy relationship with the Food and Drug Administration, which in 2009 began regulating tobacco.

Officials at the FDA say the reviews of new products have taken so long because of “significant deficiencies” and because the agency is taking extra care in reviewing products that pose public health risks. Industry executives say cigaretttes haven’t changed in any meaningful way and the delays don’t make sense. They reiterate their frustration with the FDA and say larger companies like Philip Morris USA, the nation’s largest tobacco company, are complying with federal law. 

Scientists say the changes are as simple as relabeling the products so that they can stay on the market while the reviews are underway, or as complex as reengineering the products to be less harmful than cigarettes. But whatever the change, the new products are highly engineered and have been the subject of scrutiny for years.

According to data obtained by the AP under a Freedom of Information Act request, while most companies have had their products approved, smaller companies like Lorillard have had the most minor changes. They’ve had the most minor changes.

The higher the

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The higher the...
SPORTS WRAP

A110

Grandview High School basketball programs will honor their All-State selection on Friday, December 11, during the girls’ and boys’ basketball games.

At 5:30 p.m., the girls will host a reception in the gym to recognize their All-State selection. The boys’ team will host their honorees at 7:30 p.m., prior to the game. A3850

Several of the Lady Bears basketball seniors have already signed to play college basketball.

Grandview Lady Bears senior Tiffany Elmore signed with Concordia University St. Paul, while senior Ashley Davis signed with the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor.

The Lady Bears finished the season 14-6 overall and 5-3 in Region 4.5.

The Lady Bears’ season ended with a 74-59 loss to Northridge in the first round of the State playoffs. The Lady Bears will hold their annual basketball camp open to students in grades 6-12 on May 15-16.

The boys will host a reception in the gym to recognize their All-State selection at 6:30 p.m., prior to the game. The boys’ team will host their honorees at 8 p.m., prior to the game.

The boys finished the season 14-8 overall and 5-3 in Region 4.5.

The boys’ season ended with a 54-50 loss to Union in the first round of the State playoffs. The boys will hold their annual basketball camp open to students in grades 6-12 on May 15-16.

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Wasatch wins Tooele Invitational
THS girls’ team finishes second at meet; SHS boys’ squads place third

by Richard Briggs

Wasatch took first place in both boys and girls swimming at the Tooele Invitational, with Tooele taking second in the girls division and liquidating taking third in the boys division.

Tooele scored 358 and the invitational behind Wasatch’s 558 on the girls side, and Stansbury scored 507 behind Wasatch’s 493 and Lehi’s 105.5 on the boys side. Tooele finished right behind Stansbury on the boys’ side, with a 289.3 score, and Stansbury finished in eighth place on the girls’ side with a score of 130.

Gavin Smith finished in ninth place on the boys’ side with a score of 73, which put him third in the 100-yard breaststroke, fourth in the 200-yard breaststroke, and seventh in the 100-yard butterfly.

The top performances for the Stansbury boys went to Ryan Brown for his first-place finish in the boys 50-yard freestyle. He finished with a time of 25.43 seconds.

Boys also finished in first place in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 54.46 seconds.

Another notable swim from the Stansbury boys included Jonathan Stephens placing third in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 51.80 seconds. Garrett Blackwell placed third in 500-yard freestyle with a time of 5:52.34 and the 400-yard freestyle relay team of Brown, Stansbury, Jonathan Blackwell and Hillman placed second at time of 3:25.05.

Swimmers top performance went to Brandon Johnson. He took second place in three different events, including the 200-yard individual medley, the 200-yard freestyle, and he was part of the second-place 200-yard freestyle relay team that included Hillman, Blackwell and Johnson. Perez also swam with a time of 2:14.09 in the 200-yard individual medley in the race.

Stansbury’s Alix Louden also led the team in rebounding for her third place finish in the 100-yard breaststroke. Stegall scored a time of 1:48.75.

Tajja Perkins pushed the Tooele girls to their second-place finish with a first-place medal in the 100-yard individual medley. Perkins scored a time of 1:28.61. That was Tooele’s only first-place finisher in the entire meet. Tooele coach Mike Roberts was pleased with the races of Stansbury also recorded lifetime best times in her leg of the 200-yard medley relay, the 100-yard fly, the 100-yard backstroke and leg of the 400-yard freestyle relay.

The 200 medley relay team of Raquel, Booth, Baker, Perkins and Bethany Chevaler led the third-place finish with time of 1:49.90.

The Stansbury girls finished in eighth place thanks to strong performances from the Stansbury’s 200-yard medley relay team. The team finished third in the 200-yard freestyle relay, with a time of 2:12.97.

The 200-yard medley relay team finished in seventh place, and the 200-yard freestyle relay team finished in eighth place. The 200 medley team of Williams, Lyda, Higley, Silver and Betts recorded a time of 1:48.40.

The girls team was set for the Pan Paciﬁc Center, 48 coming from Wasatch and Lehi. The Wasatch boys 200-yard medley relay team set a record for the 200-yard medley with a time of 1:41.07. Lehi’s 400-yard medley relay team set a record with a time of 3:31.27.

The Wasatch medley relay of Williams, Blackburn set a record in the 200-yard medley relay in a time of 1:39.46.

“Overall I was a great meet,” Stansbury coach Dan Peterson said. “There are some things that we need to work on and get better at. The next few weeks will be very key in our season. The coaches can work with the swimmers until Friday. We can only hope the swimmers will do some work on their own.”

Roberts said too that there are still adjustments to be made in order to get ready for the regional and state championships.

“I thought that we would do much better than we did in the girls 200, 200 and 500 free, boys 200 and 500 free,” Roberts said. “The Tooele girls continue to improve and [have] depth in every event as they took the second-place prize. Our relays did well as we move the girls around in an effort to come up with the strongest combinations. I need to work with the freestylers more as [they] seem to lose the close races. We have about six weeks to get everyone ready for the regional championships.”

briggs@tooeletranscript.com

Tooele High School swimmer Jessica Kronke won the 200-meter individual medley at the Tooele Invitational Saturday. The Tooele girls team finished second place behind Stansbury High School.
HELP US — HELP A FAMILY IN NEED

Please donate an amount you can afford to the Tooele Transcript Bulletin Benefit Fund for the McCracken family.

Please fill out and mail in the benefit form with your donation to Tooele Transcript Benefit Fund, P.O. Box 390, Tooele, UT 84074 or drop by Tooele Transcript Bulletin, 58 North Main. If you have any questions please call 882-0050.

DONATION AMOUNT:  $50  $25  $15  $10  OTHER

Name: __________________________
Address: __________________________
Phone: __________________________

Make checks payable to the Tooele Transcript Bulletin Benefit Fund. This may be tax deductible.
Holiday candy making is part science, part art

There is no question that candy is a beloved part of Christmas. Candy at Christmas is much more than boxed chocolates or candy canes on the Christmas tree, although those are certainly in the forefront. Perhaps it is the cool weather outdoors and the snow on the ground that encourage cooks to get out their pots and pans and best sweet recipes to make candy for the holidays. Perhaps it is just the holiday season itself that stimulates this craving. Whatever the motivation, commercial candy makers and home candy makers alike find it a high demand for their creations during this season.

Some candy recipes are simply mixes of sweet ingredients that are turned into solid food, such as chocolate: man, marshmallows and the like. Such candy recipes are as much art as science, but don't overlook the science part of the process. Really good, made-from-scratch products are the result of some chemistry in the kitchen. Fortunately, it doesn't require test tubes and chemical equations, but would be far too intimidating. Grandma may have never taken the time to explain some of the trade that made food chemistry work. There are some chemical reactions involved in making a really high-quality final product from scratch. Some of the tricks are just practical.

Sugar solutions boil high. To avoid messy boil-overs on your cooktop, start with a pan that holds at least four times as much of the hot solution as needed. A really heavy pan, which will distribute the heat evenly.

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On Dec. 31, 1972, Roberto Clemente...
It's the movie “National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation,” Clark Griswold may have gone a little overboard with his Christmas lights, but it was his selling house, not his house, that needed rights to the music.

Great decorations really set the tone for the holidays. The holidays are a time when you can showcase your house in a different way to highlight areas that normally may not stand out.

By creating a hosue atmosphere, a home seller allows prospective buyers to envision what their holidays will be like in the property complete with a beautiful tree, stockings hung from the fireplace mantel and the smell of Christmas cookies in the air.

Buyers associate a sense of home through the traditions and memories of holiday decor. It's a great way to attract buyers.

There are many mistakes that can't be fixed with vaccinations. Here are some simple suggestions to be a little more daring, to kick off the party with cute conversation starters and to make sure light strings and decorations and memories of holiday decorations are captured by prospective buyers.

Buyers associate a sense of home through the traditions and memories of holiday decor. It's a great way to attract buyers.

Nighttime is when many prospective buyers are driving around looking at houses, and nothing will slow them down like a dark yard with no light display. A well-designed display adds dollar value to a home and highlights the already-present features of the property.

In fact, consider holding an open house at night, when you can serve hot chocolate and cocoa for prospective buyers. Holiday decorations and memories of holiday decor can serve hot chocolate and cocoa for prospective buyers.

Buyers associate a sense of home through the traditions and memories of holiday decor. It's a great way to attract buyers.

Vicki Griffith
WEST GILLET

TUESDAY DECEMBER 18, 2012

The holidays are emotional times for most people, including home shoppers. Holiday decorations, presented tastefully and smartly, can help you sweep a home on your home for just the right buyer.

Vicki Griffith has 30 years of real estate experience in Tooele County. She is a past president of the Tooele County Association of Realtors.

For the listing agent, the open house at night, when you can serve hot chocolate and cocoa for prospective buyers, is the way to go. The house party gives permission to be a little more daring, to kick off the party with cute conversation starters and to make sure light strings and decorations are captured by prospective buyers.

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Br’er Rabbit whined. "Meadows will be hurt if you’re not there!" "I can’t walk that far." "Then I’ll come." "Of course, I’ll come." "Just ride on my back," Br’er Fox insisted. "Miss Meadows will be hurt if you’re not there!" "I can’t ride on you," she said. "Don’t let me down, Br’er Fox." "Send Br’er Fox to fetch me for your party, and I’ll get you a saddle," Br’er Fox said. "Or you’ll get nervous, and if you’re nervous, you’ll slip and fall off!” "That’s just one thing," Br’er Fox said. "You have to get a saddle yourself from Miss Meadows' house, and I have to be out of the way." "No problem!" Br’er Fox said, and Br’er Fox ran off. He galloped to Br’er Rabbit’s house, and hid himself from the farmer’s barn.

When Br’er Fox was gone, Br’er Rabbit went to work. He hid his pan and stacked his shovels. Br’er Fox returned, wearing a saddle, bridle and blinders. Br’er Rabbit jumped on his back. And off they went, down the snow-covered road.

While they were riding, Br’er Fox lifted up one foot. "Pardon me," he said, "but my foot itches.” In truth, he was putting on a second spout.

When they were just a few houses from Miss Meadows’ house, Br’er Fox stopped. "Off you jump," he said, but Br’er Rabbit just grinned slyly. "I promised Miss Meadows I’d make sure to get you to the party," Br’er Fox said. "You have to come.” "Okay," Br’er Fox grumbled, "I’m too ticklish to walk far that day.” “Duff,” Br’er Fox called. "If you won’t walk, I’ll carry you.” “Nonsense,” Br’er Rabbit laughed. He combed his hair. He cleaned his paws. He took a good look at the snow, then he said, "I can’t go without a saddle.” Br’er Rabbit whined. "I’ll get you a saddle,” Br’er Fox said. "But I can’t find one. I’m afraid Miss Meadows will be hurt if you’re not there!” "I want my saddle without a saddle,” Br’er Rabbit insisted.

Br’er Fox thought about Miss Meadows, and his heart longed again. "Okay," Br’er Fox said. "I’ll get you a saddle.” "In truth, I was putting on a spur. He snickered. He smoked a pipe. And he gave the biggest smile to Miss Meadows.

While they were riding, Br’er Rabbit lifted up one foot. "Pardon me,” he said, "but my foot itches.” In truth, he was putting on a second spout.

When they were just a few houses from Miss Meadows’ house, Br’er Fox stopped. "Off you jump,” he said, but Br’er Rabbit just grinned slyly and stuck his spurs into Br’er Fox’s sides. "Duff,” Br’er Fox howled. He leaped up in pain. "Duff,” he cried, but Br’er Rabbit stuck those spurs in again, much harder this time, and Br’er Fox shrieked and galloped off. He couldn’t help himself--anything to stop the pain.

Br’er Fox was losing his temper. “Okay, a saddle! You’ve got to get me a saddle!” Br’er Rabbit said.

Br’er Fox knew what to do. He ran to get a saddle from Miss Meadows’ house, and he passed, Br’er Rabbit waved to Miss Meadows. “Hello, Miss Meadows! How are you?” she called.

Br’er Fox was still yelping with pain when Br’er Rabbit knopped off and rode his own horse down the road. He sawed into Miss Meadows’ house. He ended at all the gals. He stopped to admire the Christmas trees. He tripped on a pair of scissors. And he gave the biggest smile to Miss Meadows, and to the women who were around him. "Okay, I’m sick of this!” he said, and he gave Miss Meadows and the women of the town a peace offering. "I won’t do it again!” he said. "I won’t do it again!”

Br’er Fox wanted to go gather his family to help him punish Br’er Rabbit for this trick. So he stuck a hanger with Br’er Buzzard to watch the house and wait for Br’er Rabbit.

However, Br’er Rabbit saw Br’er Buzzard standing there, and he had his suspicions, so he said goodnight to Miss Meadows and dropped out the back.

When he was outside he called, "Br’er Fox, Br’er Fox, don’t you read me. I was just wish Br’er Buzzard was here, because there’s the fastest squawk inside this house. If the were around, he could go inside Miss Meadows’ house and throw out that squawk and eat him!”

Br’er Buzzard flew by about his promise to Br’er Fox. He dashed through the front door of Miss Meadows’ house, and when he was inside, Br’er Rabbit raced in. Back home, Br’er Rabbit felt happy again. Now that he had embarrassed Br’er Fox, he could enjoy the holiday.

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Caribe (continued from page B1)

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