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Tuesday, December 9, 2003

a letter from the editors

Who doesn't have reasons to celebrate this season? School is almost out, exams are going to be over, stores are having sales and the holiday spirit is upon us. There's something about the holiday season that makes us grateful for family, food and friends.

Every year, there is undoubtedly a long line of excited children waiting to see that special person as you finish last-minute shopping in the mall. If you have ever wondered what the life of Santa is like, read about the experiences and impact a mall santa can have on a child's life.

For all of you who have been inspired by the

UNWRAP THE HOLIDAYS
THE BATTALION

giving spirit, discover ways to pass it on with volunteer opportunities in the Bryan/College Station area.

You may find yourself hoping to hear a certain song this holiday season or flipping through the channels on television looking for your favorite holiday movie. Turn to the back page for suggestions on creating the ultimate holiday mix CD and reviews of your favorite holiday classics.

Our goal in creating this holiday guide for a journalism editing and production class was to help unwrap the holidays for you and yours.

the editors

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Tuesday, December 9, 2003

Top 20 Resolutions



New Year's Eve is a time to look back on what has happened over the past year and look forward to what we want in the upcoming year. The idea of resolutions are thought to come from ancient Babylonians who believed that what a person does on the first day of the New Year will effect him throughout the entire year.

The best way to keep your resolutions is to make one or two that you've thought about for a while rather than a bunch that you thought of at your New Year's Eve party. You can always add new resolutions to your list later in the year.

Once you've chosen your resolution or two, word it with care. Keep it gentle on yourself, not forceful. Instead of wording it, "This year I am going to eat healthier" it should be, "This year I'm going to explore different ways to eat healthier." That way, it's more of a plan to find ways to eat better instead of just commanding yourself to eat better all at once.

Which of these popular New Year's resolutions will be on your list for 2004?

1. Exercise.
2. Stress less.
3. Take time out for yourself.
4. Volunteer.
5. Save money.
6. Eat healthier.
7. Be nicer to friends and relatives.
8. Smile.
9. Sleep more.
10. Get a new job or career.
11. Watch less television.
12. Surf the Internet and e-mail less.
13. Balance the checkbook.
14. Diet.
15. Relax.
16. Quit smoking, drinking or coffee consumption.
17. Get organized.
18. Work less.
19. Contact an old friend.
20. Pay off debt.

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1.19	H	VS ₁	5570 ⁰⁰	EGL Cert.	1.25	I	VVS ₂	4650 ⁰⁰
1.06	F	SI ₃	2900 ⁰⁰	EGL Cert.	1.00	G	VS ₁	5460 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
1.03	H	VS ₂	4575 ⁰⁰		.92	F	VS ₁	3500 ⁰⁰
1.00	H	SI ₁	4350 ⁰⁰	EGL Cert.	.90	I	SI ₂	2500 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
.99	F	SI ₂	3300 ⁰⁰	EGL Cert.	.87	F	SI ₁	3100 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
.95	I	VS ₁	3450 ⁰⁰	EGL Cert.	.82	F	VS ₂	3075 ⁰⁰
.92	G	SI ₂	4327 ⁰⁰	IDEAL CUT EGL Cert.	.73	E	VS ₂	2920 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
.92	H	VS ₁	3875 ⁰⁰	EGL Cert.	.72	E	VS ₂	3100 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
.85	G	SI ₂	2400 ⁰⁰	EGL Cert.	.71	H	VS ₂	2270 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
.78	E	VS ₂	2575 ⁰⁰	EGL Cert.	.70	H	VS ₂	2100 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
.73	F	SI ₁	2235 ⁰⁰	EGL Cert.	.66	E	SI ₁	1625 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
.55	E	SI ₁	1525 ⁰⁰	EGL Cert.	.616	G	VS ₁	1450 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
.54	D	SI ₁	1575 ⁰⁰	EGL Cert.	.60	H	VS ₁	1400 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
.52	F	VS ₂	1175 ⁰⁰		.602	G	VS ₁	1375 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
.51	F	VS ₂	1685 ⁰⁰		.591	G	VS ₁	1500 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
.45	I	SI ₂	475 ⁰⁰		.572	E	VS ₁	1545 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
.42	I	VS ₂	575 ⁰⁰		.56	E	VVS ₁	1600 ⁰⁰ GIA Cert.
					.56	H	VS ₂	1250 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
					.54	D	SI ₂	1250 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
					.524	G	VS ₁	1170 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
					.51	D	VS ₂	1350 ⁰⁰ GIA Cert.
					.51	D	SI ₁	1275 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
					.50	D	VS ₁	1400 ⁰⁰ GIA Cert.
					.50	E	VVS ₂	1500 ⁰⁰ GIA Cert.

MARQUISE DIAMONDS

1.37	I	SI ₃	3150 ⁰⁰		.84	E	VS ₂	3150 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
1.21	K	SI ₃	3450 ⁰⁰		.83	D	VS ₁	3375 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
.48	H	SI ₁	875 ⁰⁰		.81	E	VS ₂	3040 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
.31	K	VS ₁	395 ⁰⁰		.72	I	SI ₂	1595 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
					.54	H	SI ₂	950 ⁰⁰
					.52	G	SI ₂	750 ⁰⁰
					.32	H	SI ₁	550 ⁰⁰

ASHER DIAMONDS (SQUARE EMERALD CUT)

1.07	H	VS ₂	4100 ⁰⁰	GIA Cert.	.84	E	VS ₂	3150 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
1.02	I	VVS ₁	4100 ⁰⁰	GIA Cert.	.83	D	VS ₁	3375 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
1.01	F	VS ₂	4930 ⁰⁰	GIA Cert.	.81	E	VS ₂	3040 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
					.72	I	SI ₂	1595 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
					.54	H	SI ₂	950 ⁰⁰
					.52	G	SI ₂	750 ⁰⁰
					.32	H	SI ₁	550 ⁰⁰

ANTIQUÉ CUT DIAMONDS

1.98	I	SI ₃	5750 ⁰⁰		1.18	H	SI ₃	3300 ⁰⁰
1.88	J	SI ₂	4950 ⁰⁰		1.07	K	VS ₂	2250 ⁰⁰ EGL Cert.
1.81	I	SI ₂	5270 ⁰⁰		1.03	I	SI ₃	2400 ⁰⁰
1.72	I	I ₁	3950 ⁰⁰		.91	I	I ₁	1850 ⁰⁰
1.71	J	SI ₃	4500 ⁰⁰	Cushion Cut	.46	H	SI ₁	675 ⁰⁰
1.63	G	SI ₂	6800 ⁰⁰	Cushion Cut				
1.03	I	SI ₂	2950 ⁰⁰	Cushion Cut				
.98	I	SI ₃	1850 ⁰⁰					
.93	K	VS ₁	1950 ⁰⁰					
.82	H	SI ₂	1900 ⁰⁰					
.76	I	SI ₂	1475 ⁰⁰					
.74	J	SI ₂	950 ⁰⁰					

OLD EUROPEAN CUT

PEAR CUT

.92	H	SI ₁	2945 ⁰⁰					
.91	I	I ₁	1095 ⁰⁰					
.64	I	SI ₁	1250 ⁰⁰	EGL Cert.				
.45	I	VS ₁	560 ⁰⁰					

EMERALD CUT DIAMONDS

1.52	I	VVS ₁	6490 ⁰⁰	EGL Cert.				
1.12	E	SI ₃	2950 ⁰⁰					
.58	I	SI ₁	1150 ⁰⁰					

RADIANT CUT

1.06	D	SI ₁	4600 ⁰⁰	GIA				
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