

## Holiday Greetings from the Huntingtons

What a treasured time of the year it is. A time to count our many blessings bestowed upon us. I've just decorated the cabin and I'm enjoying some mulled wine with Maisy on my lap to share this past year with all of you.

**Theresa:** I'd say my year was rather uneventful, but after last year, I'll happily notch a plain year in the stick. Jack and I celebrated our 4 year anniversary in June. He jokes that we have 2 years to go before we're headin' to the old divorce court given that my previous three marriages all ended after seven years. Hahahahaha, what a jokester that guy! I'm still working in the bakery at the local Jewel-Osco. I've been there 5 years, as many of you know that's where Jack and I met. I joined the choir at church. I've been getting into the holiday spirit by going caroling with the other choir members. I finally got Jack to go to Seneca Falls for their annual "It's a Wonderful Life Festival". So expect a photo Christmas Card in 2024 featuring an angel who has yet to get his or her wings.

**Jack:** Jack's still working at Water Works Plumbing, LLC. This is his 10th year. He's working with Herb to take over the business when Herb is ready to retire. Business is good. Everyone has a toilet and kitchen sink. That's what he says when he has a hard day. I think it keeps him grounded knowing that the work is steady. I'm not sure I could enter other people's homes everyday. The hoarding, the bugs, the trash, but when you're fishing brown logs out of the piping I don't think much of the other stuff phases him. Jack's mother broke her elbow playing pickleball this summer, so she moved in with us for 8 weeks while she had her cast on and subsequent physical therapy. Jack got an 8 point buck this hunting season and he was very excited about it, especially after not bagging a buck last year. All that meat is in the freezer and if you make an appearance at the annual Huntingtons' Holiday Bazaar you'll be able to sample his famous venison jerky on the charcuterie board I'm planning.

**Savannah:** We sent Savannah off to Iowa State this fall. After working so hard in High School she entered college with enough credits to give her Sophomore standing. She's on the pre-med track and taking a lot of required courses. It keeps her really busy but somehow she's found the time to get "stretchers" in her ears. I didn't even think the kids were doing that anymore. Savannah was going to room with her friend Ashley from High School but Ashely had a change of heart and decided to enroll at the local community college, but everything works out for a reason, she and her roommate, Bryna, get along great.

**Sophia:** Sophia hasn't talked to me in 3 months after I told her that we wouldn't be getting her an iPhone 15 Pro for Christmas. Apparently, all her friends have one. I was also reminded that Uncle Tom and Ryan's dog Dolly has the iPhone 15 Pro that she carries with her in her Eddie Bauer jacket. Jesus where did I go wrong. We got her G - K of the Encyclopedia Britannica. She cried. I'm still not sure if they were tears of joy or disappointment, but given that I've yet to see her utilize them *and* she wrote that paper about Hurricane Katrina in first semester this year, I'm going with disappointment. I even think I heard her say something about encyclopedias being

pointless and something about the entries can't be modified as needed. She also discovered Jeff Goldblum this year. Anything Jeff Goldblum related she pines over and thinks is hilarious. So, if you got Sophia's name in the Christmas exchange at Thanksgiving, just get her anything Jeff Goldblum related and you'll be great. I casually leave my photo albums open to the photos I have with thee Jeff Goldblum when the two of us would play jazz gigs in the city. Me on the sax Jeff on the keys, oh those were the days. If you see her talking to me at Christmas chances are she noticed my old photos.

**Sydney:** Sydney has finally moved out of her pink and purple everything phase. She wanted to redecorate her room for her birthday and wanted a more subdued "Agreeable Gray" color. Sydney is going to New York City for a band trip in the spring. Let me know if you'd like to support her by purchasing some frozen pizza, fruit baskets, or chocolate bars to help fundraise for the trip. She's really excited to see Hamilton on Broadway. Sydney, our kind and warm-hearted baby has gotten more active in the youth group at our St. Paul United Church, once a month she assembles hygiene care packages for those less fortunate. By gosh, could I stop time, she's getting so big.

That the Huntington recap this year. I hope you can all join us at the Huntington Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, December 23 at 7:00 pm. We'll be doing an ornament exchange, so please bring an ornament and Sydney has asked that everyone consider donating a winter coat, mittens, boots, or other item to donate to the less fortunate.

Merry Christmas,

The Huntingtons