Finding a family she never expected to have

DNA test reveals local woman has two half-sisters, one in Duluth, one in Vietnam

Thanks to a DNA test, Nicole Ollila of Virginia discovered recently that she had not one, but two half-sisters and was able to connect with them. One of them, Le Thi Nguyen Thuy, lives in Vietnam, and is pictured here as a small child with her mother and grandparents. They had been searching for her family for many years.

“Ups and downs, gutters and strikes, that’s what makes it interesting”

Jesse White
MESABI TRIBUNE

I bet get started on this because I still have a lot of procrastinating to do that I didn’t finish yesterday! It’s a bit after 2 p.m. on Wednesday after noon and I’m getting ready to write my Christmas card to you (which was due at 5 p.m. Tuesday afternoon). But that’s kind of the season has gone for me. The kids would be my grandchildren, who my wife Lea and I are fortunate enough to take care of on a regular basis. With a musical animated feature film “Frozen,” for a couple of years now. With a musical Elsa doll in one hand and Anna doll in the other, she’ll stroll through the house singing along with Elsa.

The joys of being grandparents

Jim Romsaas
MESABI TRIBUNE

For anyone entering the Romsaas household on a given day, it wouldn’t be uncommon to hear a child belting out “Let It Go” or “Kumbaya, My Lord.”

The kids would be my grandchildren, who my wife Lea and I are fortunate enough to take care of on a regular basis. My grandson Tenley, 5½, has been perfecting “Let It Go” from the animated feature film “Frozen” for a couple of years now. With a musical Elsa doll in one hand and a Anna doll in the other, she’ll stroll through the house singing along with Elsa. “Frozen” videos for kids on the

Range woman shares on real life as Santa

Honoré to have family ties

Mary Tolhild

— It may come as no surprise, but there are more people in the world named Santa than the red-suited jolly man who delivers gifts on Christmas Eve.

Santa Falcone, of Chisholm, was born on Dec. 6, which happens to be St. Nicholas Day in Europe, and is one of five Santas on her father’s side of the family. The eighth of nine children born to Caroline and Henry “Hank” Falcone, she also has the distinction of being the couple’s youngest daughter.

“I was named after my grandmother — my dad’s mom,” Williamson, who is one of three remaining Santas in the family, recalled.

It’s been a number of years since Williamson has seen the two other Santas, but she holds dear a photo of all five Santas that her father took when she was a child.

The name Santa is of Spanish, Italian origin meaning “saint.”

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