

HOMETOWN

Holidays



A publication of The New Guard

GOOD TIDINGS



A tradition from when we were kids — we would eat our huge Thanksgiving, Christmas or New Years Day dinner with extended family. Aunts, uncles, cousins. Any and all who could and would come. We alternated houses for these events. Not too long after dinner us kids were looking in the newspaper for the list of shows that were on at the theatre. Then one of the dads would drive us to the show but before we left the house we were given money from our parents for popcorn, pop and candy!

Once the kids left, the cards came out. Kansas City pitch was the game they always played. As we got older, married with our own children of our own, there were so many of us that we retreated to individual gatherings. With Grandma Lou and Grandpa Bill, it was always a meal together then presents on Christmas Eve. Grandpa Bill was always the first one to get everyone into the living room to open presents. Christmas Day was always church first, then a huge dinner cooked by Grandma Lou. And with belly's full, the many many games of Kansas City pitch! Oh how I miss those days.

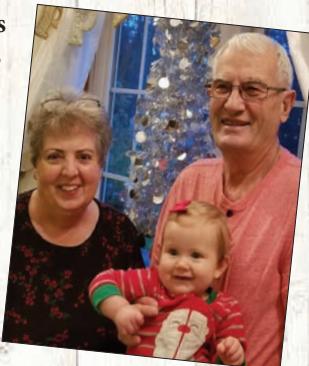
— Joanne



COMFORT & JOY

Although we both have beautiful memories of Christmas past of large family gatherings, so much food, happiness and laughter abound. Our most favorite of all was 2020 when we welcomed our first grandchild, Ainsley Lou Friedman. We had our first child in our mid-30s and our son, Chris, and his wife, Andrea, had Ainsley in their mid-30s. That made us grandparents at 74 and 71. Ainsley is truly a gift from God and we are so thankful for her everyday.

— George & Joanne



My best memory was being with family on Christmas Eve. My grandma on my mother's side and my dad would take us to the Baptist Church on Christmas Eve. We sang songs — it was a candle service — and I loved it. Afterward my dad would take us back home and presents would be under the tree. One of the presents barked! It was my present! When I picked it up, there was silence, and no barking. When I opened it up there was a puppy! Best Christmas Ever!

- Cheryl, the Egg Lady

I have created a large holiday comedy movie collection book. Each year I expand and enlarge it. I include daily prayer, scripture and daily jokes from a Christmas joke book. I have placed all the movies in a large black fabric storage movie case with and favorite cards from the past. One card to enjoy each day even if I do not receive a card in the mail that day. We are mostly homebound seniors and this is erases any depression and gloom! Happy and Grateful 2023.

- Betty-Anne McMullen Mussman

My Best holiday memories were Christmases of the past — the '70s and '80s. They were nostalgic times — safe, serene, family, holiday specials, everyone was together and knew the value of togetherness. (We) didn't have to worry about a pandemic, money, anything.

- Mike Wilson



How very Olaf
Happy Merry Holly Jolly!

- Sarah Mendivel



We love to decorate the outside of our
RV that we live in.

- Sabrina Mckinney



Grateful. Thankful. Hopeful.

Seasons Greetings from our family to yours.

May peace, joy, hope and health fill your hearts and homes.

Cheers to YOU in 2023 and Happy New Year!

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THE NEWS Guard

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BAKING CHRISTMAS CHEER

Their Memory Stays

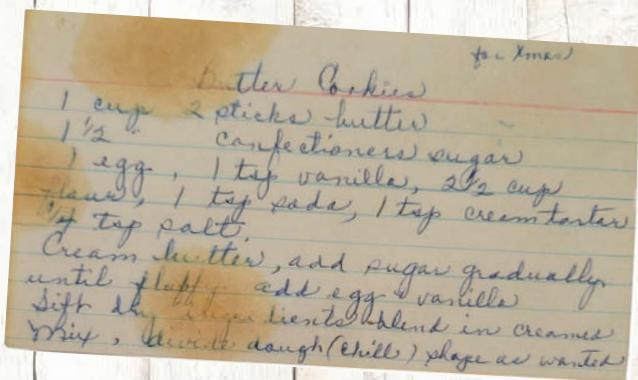
Although they have passed on, their memory forever stays.

Remember how they smiled, and the joy they always gave.

We'll miss them all the time and think of them every day. Their love filled the world – love that will never fade.

Butter Cookies

1 cup - 2 sticks butter
1 1/2 cup confectioners sugar
1 egg
1 tsp vanilla
2 1/2 cups flour
1 tsp soda
1 tsp cream of tarter
1/4 tsp salt



Cream butter.

Add sugar gradually until fluffy.

Add egg and vanilla

Sift dry ingredients, blend into creamed mix, divide dough and chill.

Shape as wanted.

Bake in preheated 400° oven until light golden edges about 8-10 minutes

Divinity

2 cups sugar
1/2 cup light syrup
1/2 cup water
All of these, stir until sugar dissolved.

Cook without stirring until very firm boil forms in water.

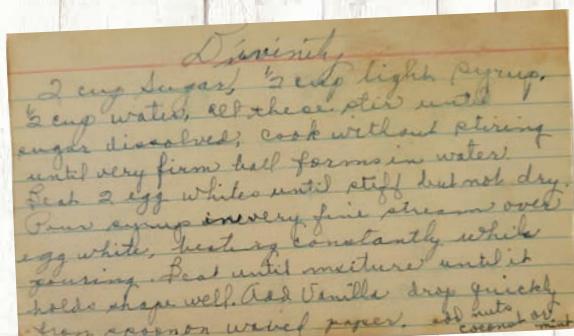
Beat 2 egg whites until stiff but not dry.

Pour syrup in a very fine stream over egg whites, beat ~~as~~ constantly while pouring.

Beat until mixture holds shape well.

Add vanilla, drop quickly from spoons on waxed paper.

Add nuts, coconut or mint.



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DECK THE HALLS

For the better part of 48 years, Christmas Cottage in Lincoln City has delighted residents and travelers with the holiday spirit year 'round.

Opened in May of 1974, Christmas Cottage was the first all-year Christmas store in all of Oregon. Owner Barbe Jenkins-Gibson opened it hoping to learn about business and carve out a niche of her own.

"I had a chance of not only learning business but being unique," Jenkins-Gibson said. "I didn't want to be like somebody else, so that's why I did something that nobody in the state was doing."

Christmas Cottage has become one of the staples of the Lincoln City community, doing steady business all year long. The store has become a destination for folks from out of town, too. According to Jenkins-Gibson, the holiday weekend after Black Friday was the biggest weekend in the businesses' history.

As a local business with seven employees to support, Christmas Cottage relies not only on the local community but also the customers from out of town, who return year after year to uphold their holiday traditions.

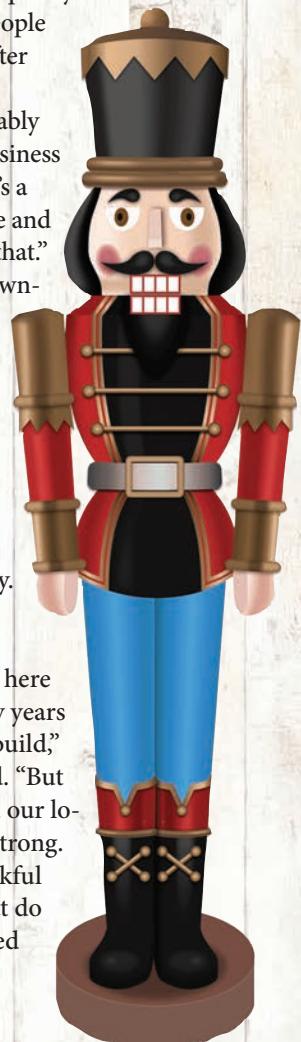
"People drive down here over from Salem, or down from Vancouver or Portland or Eugene; they come over here just to get the Christmas stuff," Jenkins-Gibson said. "They've gotten their ornaments here for 30 years for all the children. We personalize everything free, and that's what people really love."

Christmas Cottage offers customized ornaments and a variety of imported and domestic items, from German nutcrackers to hand-carved Santas from Russia. Jenkins-Gibson's dedication to finding products that will last year after year makes her store unique from more prominent holiday outlets. The quality and authenticity keep people coming back year after year as well.

"I would say probably 75 percent of our business is return business. It's a very high percentage and we're very proud of that."

Though out-of-towners give Christmas Cottage a lot of business, Jenkins-Gibson also noted that without the support of the local community, they wouldn't be where they are today.

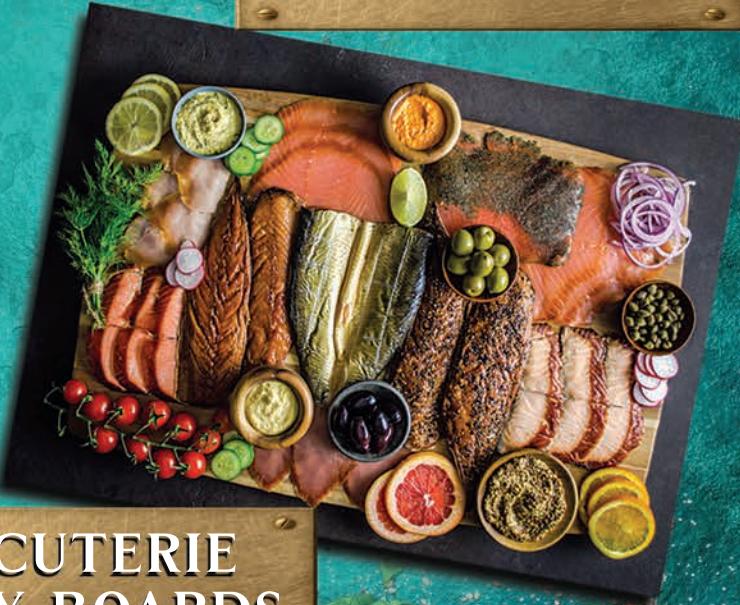
"It took a long time for people to realize that we were here to stay. It took many years for that support to build," Jenkins-Gibson said. "But now we're there and our local support is very strong. And we're very thankful for those people that do that, because we need communities."



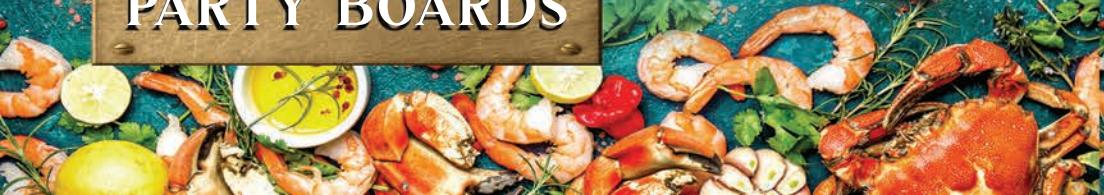
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HEIRLOOMS & MEMORIES

For Dave Folsom of Folsom Frames and Art in Lincoln City, helping people preserve the art and artifacts they hold dear is the name of the game. When Folsom moved into the area two years ago, he thought the town needed a good frame store, so he decided to open one himself.

In high school, Folsom had always enjoyed crafting and woodworking. Once the owner of a plumbing company, when Folsom moved to Lincoln City, he reigned his passion as a craftsman.

Since the beginning, Folsom has always tried to ensure that folks get the best quality when they come to Folsom Frames and Art.

“We only use acid-free materials so it won’t stain your artwork throughout the years and then UV-protective glass,” Folsom said. “They’re not Amazon or Walmart frames; they’re meant to last generations.”

Folsom explained that the UV-protective glass prevents sunlight from damaging the art, and not only that, the glass is almost invisible. Folsom puts so much energy into providing quality so people can preserve the things that are important to them.

“They have artifacts that they want to get framed and preserved,” he said. “Parents have their first child’s shoes or a pacifier, sentimental things that they’ve kind of scavenged up during the pandemic because they are stuck at home; they got to see what was important and valuable.”

Folsom Frames and Art doesn’t just do work with pictures; they can frame about anything folks want to put on display.



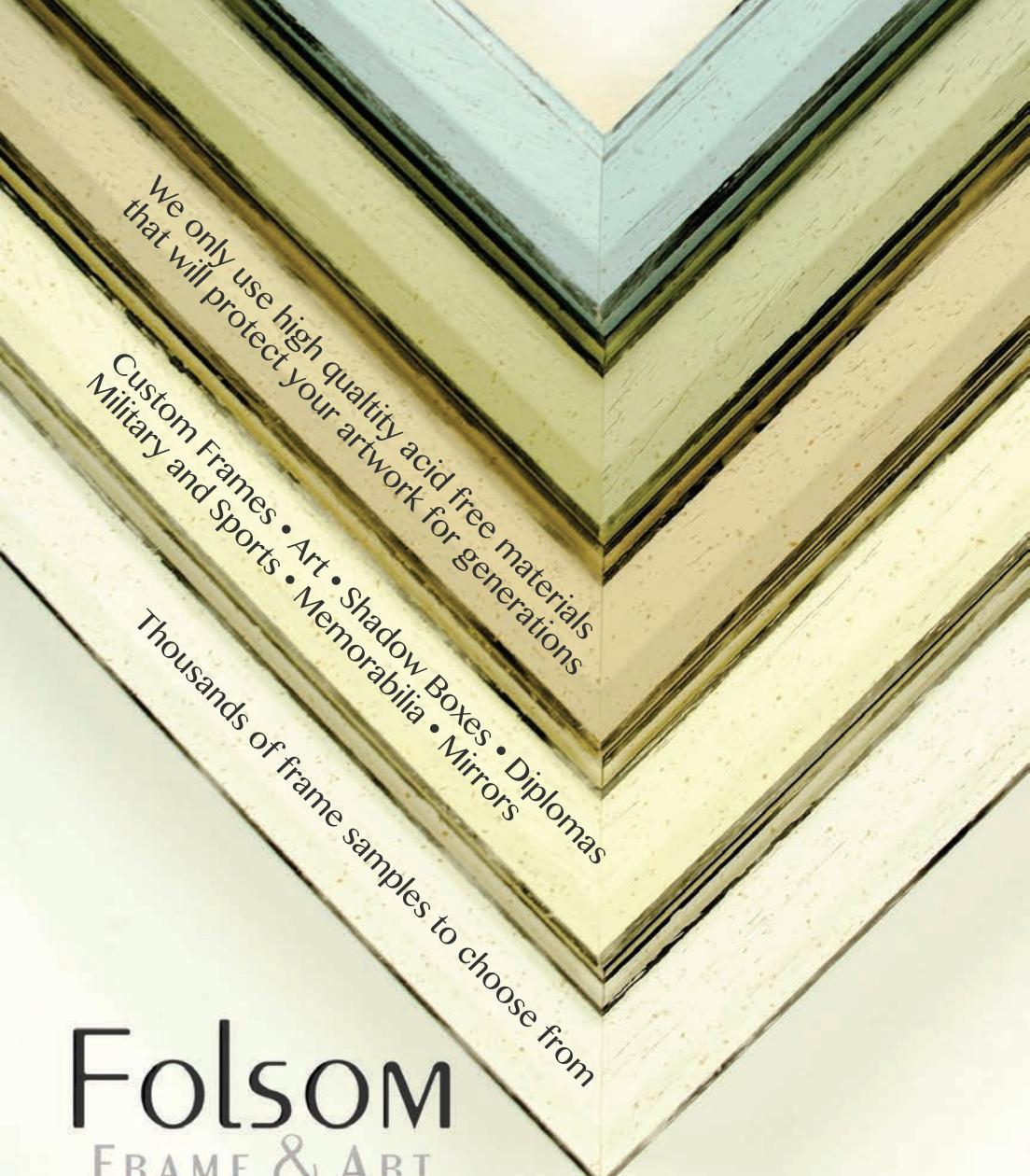
Contributed Photos

Shown above are some of the unique items Dave Folsom has been asked to frame. They a collection of Willy Wonka items and a sword of Zelda.

Folsom has crafted pieces that include a firefighter’s patented sprinkler stop valve, a Gene Wilder-signed Golden Ticket and Wonka Chocolate Bar, and even a sword from the Legend of Zelda with a map of Hyrule (the fantasy land in which the Zelda videogame is based).

While Folsom Frames and Art is still trying to get the word out in Lincoln City, Folsom has appreciated becoming part of the community and is excited to give people ways to preserve what they hold dear.

“Different business owners and people in town all have their shared stories of how and why they ended up in Lincoln City,” Folsom said. “And it’s good to meet with everybody and then to preserve the artwork that they cherish so much.”



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SHINE BRIGHT

Geoffrey and Nicole Petersen moved to Lincoln City six years ago to start a business. Thanks to the generous support of the community their business has thrived.

"We had this idea where all of our marketing dollars were going to go to the community and we would let our community know that with them supporting us, we're supporting them back," Geoffrey said.

Nicole and Geoffrey have roots tied to Lincoln City. Their grandparents had once lived in Lincoln City and the Petersens' move was a welcome change from Portland.

Both grew up in Tigard, Ore., and met at Beaverton High School. They owned and operated some businesses in Portland but decided to move because of rising housing prices and to be closer to family.

"We were looking to make a change, and her family out here was getting older and needing some help. So it kind of seemed like a good thing to do, be closer to family and get away from the big city."

The idea for their gift shop came from the popularity of crocheted jellyfish Nicole's mother made and sold at community garage sales. Those same jellyfish were some of the staple products of Lincoln City Gifts' early days.

As the business has grown stronger so have the Petersens' ties to the community. Geoffrey was named 2022 Volunteer of the Year for North Lincoln County and Nicole was named Volunteer of the



Year for the Kiwanis Club in Lincoln City.

The Petersens said The Kiwanis Club in Lincoln City works with Doernbecher Children's Hospital, the school district and offers leadership programs. Kiwanis also helps organize community events, like the Spooky Spectacular, a Halloween event for children in the city.

Geoffrey joined Kiwanis to become more involved with the community. Nicole's grandfather had been a part of the organization for 20 years, and they decided Kiwanis would be an excellent way to give back.

"I joined Kiwanis and that's where a lot of our giving back comes from," Geoffrey said. "I worked the equivalent of a part-time job just doing community service."

When COVID-19 appeared, Lincoln City Gifts shifted gears to help deal with the pandemic. Nicole said the store sold around 10,000 facemasks. The store also began to deliver board games and products locally to accommodate folks staying at home.

Through the pandemic community support hasn't wavered. While both Nicole and Geoffrey are always looking to give back, the community has made it easy to do so.

"As a family, we're very, very proud of the mark we've made on our community and we're happy to continue to do so. The reception we've received from this community has been phenomenal."

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