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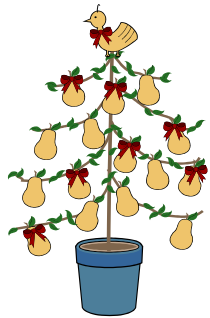


Our office is conveniently located at the intersection of Routes 626 and 608 at the White House Corner..

Lake Retreat Properties, Inc.



Memories of Christmas Past by Jeanette Childress
In this issue of our newsletter we are bringing favorite Christmas traditions to mind. Singing Christmas Carols is my all-time favorite thing to do during the holidays. I was an elementary school teacher from 1975 to 1982 (oh, I'm telling my age) and we practiced for weeks ahead of time and walked around the halls caroling and went into the classrooms singing and carrying candles (!!). It was such great fun and I still miss that today. Of course singing at church was something I loved. I sang in our church choir and we started preparing for the Christmas program around the 1st of November. Today I just sing in the car or at home, it's not nearly as much fun. But I can't help singing, it doesn't matter if I'm in the right key, usually I'm not. There are too many beloved songs to pick one, but I enjoy leading a group in "The Twelve Days of Christmas". Here's all you need to know:



- A Partridge in a Pear Tree
- Two Turtle Doves
- Three French Hens
- Four Calling Birds
- FIVE GOLDEN RINGS
- Six Geese a'Laying
- Seven Swans a'Swimming
- Eight Maids a'Milking
- Nine Ladies Dancing
- Ten Lords a'Leaping
- Eleven Pipers Piping
- Twelve Drummers Drumming

Christmas Eve falls on Saturday this year, what a wonderful time for caroling.

As a boy, not a Christmas passed without my mother reading *T'was the Night Before Christmas*. Visions of sugar plums danced through my head as the story was read. Every word so carefully chosen to invoke my own Christmas memories. I'm not sure I have a favorite part. Maybe the belly that shook like a bowl full of jelly, or settling in for a long winter's nap or the miniature sleigh with eight tiny reindeer that appeared. Now, my grandchildren are captivated by this tale and rush off to bed in hope that St. Nicholas soon will be there. Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night.—Bobby Mays



My favorite Christmas tradition is decorating our tree. My wife unwraps all of the ornaments we've collected through the years from vacations and trips we have taken. We recall where we bought each and smile as we wander down memory lane. Our favorite is a simple white glass Christmas tree that hangs by a red satin ribbon bought in Old Town Alexandria.—Bob Gasparo



At Christmas time, I always look forward to my mother-in-law's goodie box. A few days before Christmas she stops by with apple cake, coconut cake, cheeseball, and her famous custard along with a bottle of vanilla to add just before serving! This builds the anticipation for a great holiday yet to come. My husband grew up with these treats and they have become part of a special tradition for our family. This custard recipe has been handed down for



- Ingredients:**
12 Large Eggs
1 Gallon Whole Milk
3 cups Sugar
Vanilla
2. Heat milk and sugar on low heat in double boiler until it is steamy but not
 3. Slowly pour some (about 2 cups) of the hot milk mixture into the eggs whisking
 4. Then slowly pour egg mixture into the milk that remains in
 5. Cook for about 1 hour **stirring constantly**. (Cook time can
 7. Add vanilla to taste just before serving. (Appr. 1/3 teaspoon per cup)



What's Christmas without the tradition of gift giving? My favorite thing to do at the holidays is to present my loved ones with their gifts, hoping that they will just love what I picked out for them (that's the hard part of course). And along with the gift giving comes the gift wrapping, which I actually look forward to each year. As much as I hope they will love my gift, I hope they will think that it looks beautiful before they even open it. Here are some ideas for making your gift wrapping extra special. Tie one of these items onto the outside of the gift with your ribbon:



- Small photo frame (can double as a gift tag)
 - Ornaments
 - Children's mittens
 - Candy canes
 - Cinnamon sticks
 - Small toys
 - Jingle bells
 - Faux berries or greenery
- Enjoy your gift giving (and wrapping) this season!---Tiffani Villeneuve



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\$469,000.00

2350 sq.ft

4-level end unit waterfront
townhome. Gas fireplace in
living room and nice kitchen
w/ Corian island. 2 bed-

rooms on 2nd level and 3rd level studio w/ skylights. 3
baths. Lower level with 3rd bedroom and sitting room,
workshop and laundry room. Open decks on main and
second levels, covered, protected patio on ground level.
Front door is just steps away from parking area connected
by bridge overlooking a garden space. Property lines extend
15' from building into the woods. Shaded, beautiful
view. Townhouse sits very
close to the water, short walk
to covered deeded boatslip
w/hoist and locked storage
area. POA dues \$100.
monthly approx. A wonderful
opportunity to own a place at
the lake!



Introducing...Southbranch

Route 122 south of Bedford. Horse Lovers Paradise. Rolling
pasture land, quiet setting, several branches running through
property.

	Acreage	Price
Tract 1	3.046	49,950.
Tract 2	3.000	49,950.
Tract 3	3.000	49,950.
Tract 4	22.465	180,000.
Tract 5	3.000	49,950.
Tract 6	3.007	49,950.
Tract 7	22.326	180,000.

- **Huddleston**- 25 acres on Carters Mill Road. Almost completely wooded. **\$48,000.**
- **Huddleston**- 7 acres in South Bedford County on Old Fire-trail Road. Private setting. Mixed hardwoods. Stream on back of property and spring. **\$17,900.**
- **Goose Creek Estates**- Rural community living. Private roads. Large lots. Less than 1 mile to Highway 122 near it's intersection with Route 24. 20 acres tract. **\$99,000.**