



[Subscribe Today](#)

SOUTH WASHINGTON COUNTY

Bulletin

Your online connection to South Washington County, Minnesota

Buy a Photo

Wednesday, December 20, 2006

Autumn Bounty™ [Click Here for Free Tourism Map](#)

Attractions Arts Activities Accommodations Agrotourism Antiques

Pierce County Wisconsin

[Log In](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Advertise](#)
[Register](#) | [News Tips](#)

search:

News



[Classifieds](#)
[Home News](#)
[Weather Minnesota](#)
[News Business](#)
[Opinion Sports](#)
[Education Religion](#)
[Community](#)
[Entertainment](#)
[Obituaries Public](#)
[Records Outdoors](#)
[Photo Galleries Talk](#)
[Traffic & Roads](#)
[Local Links](#)

[Place Classified Ad Submissions](#)

[Worship Directory](#)
[2006 Bridal Guide](#)
[Home](#)
[Improvement Child](#)
[Care Directory](#)

[Subscribe](#)
[Newsstands](#)
[Advertise Archive](#)
[Buy A Photo](#)
[Marketplace](#)

[Contact Us Member](#)
[Center Affiliates](#)
[Careers With Us](#)
[Company Site](#)
[Yellow Pages](#)

[XML](#)

Editorial: For the person who has it all...

[Patricia Drey](#) South Washington County Bulletin
 Published Wednesday, December 06, 2006

It's not a new advertisement observation that the Christmas season's origins and the way we practice it seem inconsistent.

To celebrate the birth of a homeless guy who wandered around in sandals, and was known to have asked others to sell all their belongings and follow him, we spend lots of money on sweaters, toys and gadgets that fill our already cluttered homes.

Even for those who prefer a more secular view of the holiday, most see it as a season of giving and general goodwill to others, well, that is, except in crowded mall parking lots.

For someone who just passed the quarter of a century mark, I'm still pretty spoiled when it comes to Christmas presents. When the day

RELATED CONTENT

[Article comments](#)

HotJobs [jobsHQ](#)

Capital Safety, home of the DBI/SALA & Protecta brand...

REGINA MEDICAL CENTER, Caring for Life. RN...

ACCOUNTANT. Niro Inc., est. in 1974, offers en...

NURSE. LOOKING FOR A NEW ADVENTURE? Come explore Cor...

BREMER BANK. Lead Teller. Bremer has an immediate op...

CHILD CARE. YMCA. The Southeast Area YMCA in Woodbur...

YMCA CHILD CARE.. The New Richmond Area YMCA is seeki...

OFFICE POSITIONS. Tired of a long commute? Want to wo...

[All HotJobs >>](#)

Search JobsHQ

Ads by Google

[Swim Training Videos](#)
 Quality instruction for athletes and coaches at all levels.
www.sportsnationvideo.com

Ads by Google

[Prepare to be Shocked](#)
 You may be younger than you think. Take the RealAge test and find out.
www.RealAge.com

after Christmas comes around I usually can't help feeling guilty that I've ended up with so much stuff I don't need while lots of people don't even have the stuff they do need.

As a compromise to this common problem, there are more and more options out there every year for gifts that also serve a greater purpose. If you're looking for a present for someone who said "oh you shouldn't have" last year — and you know they really meant it — here are a few ideas for gifts that help support charitable causes:

n You can use Charity Checks (www.charitychecks.us) to give your recipient what amounts to a gift card that can go toward any nonprofit of their choice.

n Many people who attended the Empty Bowls event sponsored by School District 833 Community Education saw the movie "Invisible Children," (www.invisiblechildren.com) a documentary on children in Uganda who must run from the villages they live in to nearby towns each night to sleep so they can avoid being kidnapped by rebel troops and forced to be soldiers. There are a variety of items such as bracelets handmade by displaced Ugandans, T-shirts and DVDs on the organization's Web site. Proceeds from the products go toward education for Ugandan children and related causes.

n Trees for Life (www.treesforlife.org) plants fruit trees in developing countries such as India, Haiti and Brazil as a source of food that can be sponsored for \$1 each. T-shirts are also available for \$18, and each shirt pays for 10 trees to be planted.

n On the World Wildlife Fund Web site (www.worldwildlife.org), you can choose from 40 animals to "adopt" in someone's name. The gift recipient gets an adoption certificate, a full-color photo and other items. If you donate \$50 or more, they also get a stuffed animal of the chosen species. The money goes toward fighting habitat loss and poaching of endangered species.

n Ten Thousand Villages (www.tenthousandvillages.com) has items for sale online and at a store on Grand Avenue in St. Paul made by artisans from around the world who are disadvantaged or lack resources. The organization pays fair wages to the artists so they can meet their own needs such as buying food and clothing or sending their children to school.

n Heifer International (www.heifer.org) seeks to help end hunger by providing animals such as goats,

sheep and chicks that can provide a sustainable source of food. You can purchase animals or shares of animals that go to people in developing areas of the world in the name of someone on your Christmas list.

n Gap has a line of clothing called Gap (Product) Red (www.gap.com/red) where half of the profits from the clothing go toward The Global Fund (www.theglobalfund.org) to help women and children affected by AIDS and HIV in Africa.

n World Vision, (www.worldvision.org) a Christian relief organization that seeks to serve the world's poorest children and families in about 100 countries, has more than 100 gifts in its catalog ranging from wheelchairs to shares of a well to food for hungry African children. You can purchase them in honor of someone, and they'll receive a gift card with pictures and information about the cause that the money went toward.

Would you like to comment on this article?

[Create a account](#)

Already have an account with us? [Log in](#)

[News](#) | [Weather](#) | [Sports](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Business](#) | [jobsHQ](#) | [carsHQ](#) | [apartmentsHQ](#)
[Comments/Questions](#) | [Advertising Information](#) | [FCC Careers](#) | [Privacy Statement](#) |
[Terms & Conditions](#)
[Archives](#) | [Make Us Your Homepage](#)

[Forum Communications Company](#)

© 2006 Forum Communications Co. Fargo, ND 58102 — All rights reserved

South Washington County
Bulletin
7584 80th Street South
Cottage Grove, MN. 55016