

Opinion

Let's get in the spirit - slowly

I'm one of those people who eventually does get into the Christmas spirit, but I do it slowly. I can't quite deal with the Celtic women singing Silent Night on Thanksgiving Day. Give me a couple more weeks.

Also, I can't get all cranked up to rush to malls and do my holiday shopping at 5 a.m. on "Black Friday" – but I do wish the merchants well. I'll do my buying in the off hours, if such things exist.

What does eventually get me "in the spirit" for Christmas – and less like the Grinch – is seeing the effect the Christmas season has on others. It puts them in touch with all the "blessings" they already have as individuals or as families...that they already have more than they need and that now is the time to give back to the community with donations of food, clothing and toys.

Organizations such as the Eatonville Family Agency give hundreds of bags of groceries, thousands of items of clothing and daily helping hands in many ways throughout the year. But to hear that the average citizen is pitching to local food drives and that businesses such as Arrow Lumber have been able to donate hundreds of turkeys and offer even more makes me realize what a special time of year this is, and that I need to get with it.

My compliments to all you early Christmas joy people and all the early givers who are already thinking of others, and giving from the heart.

Michael Jeffries, Publisher