

The Lawn and Garden Gazette

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"Happy Holiday, Happy holiday, While the merry bells keep ringing, May your ev'ry wish come true"... **TIVO made mine come true** by letting me to skip thru all those obnoxious holiday commercials... **All the worse this year** because they've already been running for a month now. Pretty soon Black Friday will be right after Labor Day...**I continued my tradition** of not shopping on Black Friday. I figure anything on sale today will be on sale again before Christmas-- sometime, somewhere. Thought I'd try getting the newsletter out on time for a change... "**City sidewalks, busy sidewalks**, Dressed in holiday style, In the air there's a feeling of Christmas"... **Call me a traditionalist** (otherwise known as old foggy), but there's something about walking downtown or even the malls this time of year that just can't be replaced with Internet shopping...**If I close my eyes**, I could swear I can still smell yesterday's Turkey cooking What's that dear? Oh, turkey again? No, I'm not complaining... **Buy Local, support local** business whenever possible. The money stays in the area and helps our economy, not China's. This message has been shamelessly brought to you by a local business near you... **The Be Local Holiday Farmers Market** at the Opera Galleria in downtown Ft Collins, Dec 10 (10-3) is one opportunity to support local business and farmers. I think you'll be surprised by the quantity and quality of the products you find there..



Did you realize there's a web site to tell you how many shopping days left until Xmas. Down to the second? Must be for the folks who can't tell when their beer cans are cold. There's a Jay Leno joke there somewhere...

Speaking of web sites, some of you might have noticed that mine was a little less than up to date much of the year. Not sure where the time always goes. Hopefully I'll be able to rectify that this winter. Who knows, maybe even make a few improvements...**We are still around**, so if you get tired of looking at those leaves the snow hasn't covered or you still have branches falling, give us a call... **Last month's winner? Why that would be Thelma Smith...Well, I did get the carrots and beets dug**, but otherwise the garden looks the same as it did a month ago. Someone should really get out there while its dry and put it to bed for the winter. Turn the soil lightly, just enough to expose the clods to the sun and wind. If only that wind would stop howling. Maybe a nice elf will take notice. Not sure where to leave the cookies, tho... **The quote at the bottom comes from the wonderfully sappy ending of the movie Scrooged.** The name of the actor speaking them will win this month... "**It's the most wonderful time of the year!**" **Such a wonderful time of year**, what with the food, family, friends and spirits. If only it all didn't also tend to add back the



pounds it took me all year to lose. Maybe Santa will bring me a little restraint this year along with the coal...**As usual, this month's newsletter** also doubles as my Christmas card to all of you. So Ryan and I and our families want to wish all of you

and yours a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday season! Until then: **We wish you a Merry Christmas; We wish you a Merry Christmas; We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

"It's Christmas Eve. It's the one night of the year when we all act a little nicer, we smile a little easier, we cheer a little more. For a couple of hours out of the whole year we are the people that we always hoped we would be."