

# ◆ Niehaus News ◆

December/January 2003-04

Volume 42, Issue 12

*Merry Christmas Happy New Year*

*from our family to yours*



*The Niehaus 5th Generation - See page 2.*

*To friends old and new, we extend our warmest wishes for a very Merry Christmas. May the light of love and understanding that bathed the world on the night of His birth shine upon you and bring you everlasting peace, joy and contentment. Let each of us rejoice in our hearts as we share the blessing of this holy season...and may we share kindness and good will with our fellowmen.*

## Niehaus Children - Then and Now



**33 years ago the five Niehaus children reenact the Nativity.** From left to right: David, Anne, Eric, Butch and Catherine.

Front Page: Live Nativity Photo

The children of:

**Anne and Bob Pratt:** Brennan, Julia, Alec and Kevin.

**Butch and Tina Niehaus:** Nicholas, Mallory, Molly and Megan.

**Catherine and Steve Lawless:** Jensen, Johnny, and Mickey.

**David and Maggie Niehaus:** Emily, Ben, Katie and Abbey

**Eric and Teresa Niehaus:** Bailey, Jackson, Natalie and Charlie.

Mary - Mallory Niehaus

Joseph - Brennan Prqtt

Baby Jesus - Charlie Niehaus

Three Angels on high - Natalie Niehaus Jensen Lawless, Megan Niehaus

Three Kings - Alec Pratt, Nicholas Niehaus and Ben Niehaus

Three Sheep - Molly Niehaus, Katie Niehaus, Mickey Lawless

Three lower Angels - Bailey Niehaus, Julia Pratt, Emily Niehaus (holding Abbey Niehaus)

Three Shepherds - Jackson Niehaus, Kevin Pratt and Johnny Lawless

Merry  
Christmas  
and

## GREAT HOLIDAY BREAKFAST Casserole

1 (16 ounce) package ground pork breakfast sausage  
12 eggs  
1 (10.75 ounce) can condensed cream of mushroom soup  
1 (10.75 ounce) can milk  
1 (4.5 ounce) can sliced mushrooms, drained  
1 (32 ounce) package frozen potato rounds  
1/2 cup shredded Cheddar cheese



- Place sausage in a skillet over medium-high heat, and cook until evenly brown. Drain, and set aside.
- Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Lightly grease a 9x13 inch baking dish.
- In a large bowl, beat together the eggs, condensed cream of mushroom soup, and milk. Stir in the sausage and mushrooms, and pour into the prepared baking dish. Mix in the frozen potato rounds.
- Bake in preheated oven for 45 to 50 minutes. Sprinkle with cheese, and bake an additional 10 minutes, or until cheese is melted.

Makes 12 servings

## ROASTED POTATOES WITH CREAM CHEESE AND SUN-DRIED TOMATO FILLING

Can be prepared in 45 minutes or less.

Great hors d'oeuvres,

1/2-pound russet (baking) potato  
1 tablespoon olive oil  
3 tablespoons cream cheese, softened  
2 tablespoons minced drained bottle sun-dried tomatoes in oil  
1 tablespoon minced scallion greens

Cut twelve 1/4-inch-thick rounds from the middle of the potato, discarding the ends, pat them dry with paper towels, and brush them on both sides with the oil. Roast the potato slices on a baking sheet in the upper third of a preheated 500°F oven for 6 minutes, or until the undersides are golden. Turn the slices, roast them for 6 minutes more, or until the undersides are golden and crisp, and let them cool until they can be handled.

While the potatoes are roasting, in a bowl stir together the cream cheese, the tomatoes, the scallion, and salt and pepper to taste. Spread the filling on half the potato slices, top it with the remaining potato slices, pressing the slices together to form sandwiches, and halve the sandwiches.

Makes 12 hors d'oeuvres, serving 2.

## The Gift That Just Keeps Giving

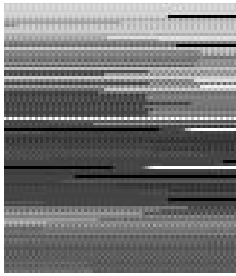
"Thanks for the harmonica you gave me for Christmas," little Joshua said to his uncle the first time he saw him after the holidays. "It's the best Christmas present I ever got."  
"That's great," said his uncle. "Do you know how to play it?"



"Oh, I don't play it," the little fellow said. "My mom gives me a dollar a day not to play it during the day and my dad gives me five dollars a



## Splinters by Bernie Niehaus Chairman of the Board



### Father Bob

Last month, November 17, I lost a good friend and the pastor of my parish church. Father Bob Bultman was a priest's priest - someone they could talk to and seek council from. He served on the priest's personnel board for many years. The fact that he was well liked by his fellow priests was attested to at his funeral - over 60 priests participated at his funeral on November 20th.

At the funeral, the Bishop told the story about a recent letter Father Bob had written to his family. . .

Jesus says:

"I am the light of the world, and whoever believes in me, even though he should die, will live forever."

"I do believe."

Robert Bultman

Father Bob was also an avid supporter of St. Meinrad where he attended all 12 years of his schooling. (4 years of high school, 4 years of college and 4 years of theology.)

I attended St. Meinrad for 3 years and Father Bob came the year I left. Just this past summer, he worked with me on our St. Meinrad campaign and he had such a love for his alma mater.

Father Bob had a great sense of humor and was very quick witted. One Saturday night mass the folk group sang what sounded like the Sons of the Pioneers. As soon as they finished, Father stood up and said "Did anyone see Roy Rogers ride through?" Well, the congregation broke into laughter and then applauded.

Our family has known Father Bob and his sister, Betty, all of our lives. My father knew his dad and uncle, Pete Bultman. My mother grew up in the north end where his family lived. His sister Betty was at his bedside when Father Bob was close to death. He noticed tears streaming down her face. Father couldn't talk, but immediately asked for a pad of paper. He scribbled out the words "No tears - I do believe."

Reverend Robert S. Bultman  
1941 - 2003

*Bernie*

### Old Tavern Club Cheese - A Tradition

Old Tavern Club Cheese was first introduced to the Vincennes area in the 1950's by Ingham Strong, who managed the Saiter Morgan business located at 7th and College. We are not sure about the Strong family's history, but believe they were from Wisconsin and went back to the Waukesha area where they are still running the Old Tavern Food Products Company with Jill Strong as President.

Bernie started purchasing the cheese for the lumber company to sell during the holidays in the late 60's. It has since become a tradition that every year around Thanksgiving the first order arrives for the holidays. We have customers that start calling as early as

October inquiring as to when the first order will be arriving.



On weekends and special events, we offer customers a taste of the delectable cheese spread on crackers. The cheese is purchased for personal gifts, corporate gifts, holiday recipes like cheese balls and hors 'd oeuvres, or just family snack time. It is packed in small, medium and large cups and small, medium and large jars as well as a collectible Christmas jar.

### Santa Makes His Annual Appearance At Niehaus Home Center



Santa visited Niehaus Home Center on December 13 to listen to the children's wish list and pose for free photo's.

## Birthdays

In December and January the following employees will be celebrating their birthday!

### December

William Wait	Dec. 2
Susan Sanders	Dec. 4
Dean Franz	Dec. 5
Dale Nash	Dec. 10
Mike Cavender	Dec. 16
Butch Niehaus	Dec. 16
Chad Clem	Dec. 20
Larry Puent	Dec. 12
Neil Fillingim	Dec. 23
William May	Dec. 26
Rick Daniel	Dec. 31

### January

Doug Vantlin	Jan. 1
Phil Cutshall	Jan. 4
Ralph Ross	Jan. 5
Candy Walls	Jan. 6
George Unsworth	Jan. 6
Evan Davis	Jan. 9
Sue Fox	Jan. 10
John Kent	Jan. 12
Shannon Grantham	Jan. 12
Michael Gormley	Jan. 14
Beth Kays	Jan. 15
Deborah Dunn	Jan. 15
Steven Nicholas	Jan. 19
Ginger Welton	Jan. 21
Bill Egbert	Jan. 23
Casey Otten	Jan. 28
Mary Beth Robinson	Jan. 28
Chris Bennett	Jan. 30

*Happy Birthday*

## New Employees

We want to welcome the following new employees to our company.

Sam Reese - Niehaus Home Center  
 Ali Salhani - Niehaus Home Center  
 Mike McIntyre - Big Buck, Terre Haute  
 Ethan Huey - Big Buck, Terre Haute  
 Adam Weisbrod - Niehaus Home Center  
 Travis Lewis - Niehaus Home Center  
 Janice Cary - WBM - Vincennes  
 Jane Deal - WBM - St. Lewis

**Welcome!**

## Anniversaries

December and January will mark the anniversary dates of employment with our company for the following employees.

### December

Helen Smith	8 Years
Lisa Ridgeway	6 Years
Dennis Bilskie	5 Years
Rick Henry	4 Years
Kevin Toole	4 Years
Mike Glenn	1 Year

### January

Juanita Lamparter	5 Years
Jerry Stanley	2 Years
Larry Simison	2 Years
Alyson Piper	1 Year
Lorie Hansen	1 Year
Dan McElroy	1 Year

*Congratulations!*

Merry  
Christmas



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Building  
Supply  
Association

## Niehaus News

This newsletter is the official publication of events and activities of Niehaus Home Center, Wholesale Building Materials (Vincennes, St. Louis, and Nashville), Big Buck Building Centers (Terre Haute & Robinson) and is published 12 times per year.

Editor/Photographer/Writer:  
**Sherry Cummins**

Niehaus Home Center

# NIEHAUS Companies

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- Vincennes, IN

- Vincennes, IN
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## **Twas the Night Before Xmas - Dieter's Version**

Twas the night before Christmas and all round my hips  
were Fannie May candies that sneaked past my lips.  
Fudge brownies were stored in the freezer with care  
In hopes that my thighs would forget they were there.

While Mama in her my girldle and I in chin straps  
Had just settled down to sugar-borne naps.  
When out in the pantry there arose such a clatter  
I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter.

Away to the kitchen I flew like a flash  
Tore open the icebox then threw up the sash.  
The marshmallow look of the new-fallen snow  
Sent thoughts of a binge to my body below.

When what to my wandering eyes should appear:  
A marzipan Santa with eight chocolate reindeer!  
That huge chunk of candy so luscious and slick  
I knew in a second that I'd wind up sick.

The sweet-coated santa, those sugared reindeer  
I closed my eyes tightly but still I could hear;  
On Pritzker, on Stillman, on weak one, on TOPS  
A Weight Watcher dropout from sugar detox.

From the top of the scales to the top of the hall  
Now dash away pounds now dash away all.  
Dressed up in Lane Bryant from my head to nightdress  
My clothes were all bulging from too much excess.

My droll little mouth and my round little belly  
They shook when I laughed like a bowl full of jelly.  
I spoke not a word but went straight to my work  
And to all of the candy then turned with a jerk.

And laying a finger beside my heartburn  
I gave a quick nod toward the bedroom I turned.  
I eased into bed, to the heavens I cry  
If temptation's removed I'll get thin by and by.

And I mumbled again as I turned for the night  
In the morning I'll starve... 'til I take that first bite!

## **Christmas Quickies**

When you stop believing in Santa Claus is when you start getting clothes for Christmas.

It was Christmas and the judge was in a merry mood as he asked the prisoner, "What are you charged with?" "Doing my Christmas shopping early," replied the defendant. "That's no offense," said the judge. "How early were you doing this shopping?"

"Before the store opened," countered the prisoner.

## Merry Christmas . . . . from all of us

### Niehaus Home Center - Vincennes, Indiana

Mark Ashcraft  
Jason Campbell  
David Cole  
Rick Daniel  
Mary K. Edgin  
Ian Gilmore  
Carl Hensley  
Travis Kohrman  
Kathy McCreary  
Tim Nash  
Mary Smith  
Wayne Sullivan  
Phil Wehrman  
Brian Zellars  
Ali Salhani

Chris Bennett  
Mike Cavender  
Sherry Cummins  
Evan Davis  
Keith Fox  
Britini Goldman  
Brienne Howell  
Mike Leydet  
Steve McNew  
Casey Otten  
Brad Snider  
Kyle VanMeter  
Ginger Welton  
Travis Lewis  
Ryan Marszak

Donna Bishop  
Chad Clem  
Phil Cutshall  
Ken Doades  
Sue Fox  
Dan Harrington  
John Kent  
Lisa Litherland  
Doug Mikiska  
Andrew Rice  
Lloyd Stangle  
Richard Walls  
Amanda Wyche  
Adam Weisbrod



Dan Martens  
Sam Reese  
Larry Simison  
William Stevens  
John Wallace  
Cathy Yochum  
Chris Bechman



### Wholesale Building Materials - Vincennes, Indiana

Jerry Burch  
Todd Donovan  
Ron Gaines  
Chris Hamilton  
Antonio Jamero  
Paul Kopp  
Connie Lockhart  
Troy Michler  
Darrell Myers  
Gary Orames  
Roy Roach  
Susan Sanders  
Dana Smith  
Andrew Swing  
Doug Vantlin  
Michael Worland  
James Noble

Diana Adams  
Dennis Bilskie  
Matt Carter  
Eric Feagley  
Mike Glenn  
Lorie Hansen  
Michael Jones  
Stephen Lanning  
Paul Martin  
Mike Montgomery  
Dale Nash  
Don Pea  
Damond Roark  
Craig Sims  
Kim Smith  
Steve Taylor  
Larry Vantlin  
Clete Yochum  
Scott Ramsey

John Adams  
Kyle Blubaum  
Tracy Catt  
Neil Fillingim  
Michael Gormley  
John Harrison  
Beth Kays  
Brian Lett  
Dan McElroy  
Tim Morris  
James Neikmirk  
Tim Ramsey  
Fred Robinson  
Alan Smith  
Helen Smith  
Kevin Toole  
Jill Warren  
Stephanie Zachary  
Janice Cary

Mike Adams  
Shawn Brothers  
Judy Detty  
Jean Fox  
Kevin Grostefon  
Richard Henry  
Doug Klumpp  
Joshua Litherland  
Kevin Michler  
Debra Moyes  
Robert Neal  
Lisa Ridgeway  
James Russell  
Brian Smith  
Randy Stephens  
George Unsworth  
Carla Wingert  
Lawrence Vaughn

*Bernie Niehaus  
Eric Niehaus*

*Butch Niehaus*

*David Niehaus  
Naomi Niehaus*

***Big Buck Building Center - Robinson, IL***

*Gary Chillingworth  
Larry McCoy  
Ray Reynolds  
Michael Welsh*

*Dean Franz  
Steven Nicholas  
Betty Tuttle*

*Albert Lepsi  
Rebecca Taylor  
William Wait*

*Lynn McCleave  
Don Mendenhall  
Candy Walls*

***Big Buck Pro Building Center - Terre Haute, IN***

*Richard Bailey  
Molly Crabb  
Mary B. Robinson  
Ethan Huey*

*Tim Boone  
Timothy Hensley  
Ralph Ross  
Michael McIntyre*

*Brad Bowen  
Delbert Marlar  
Wiley Walters*

*Russell Cook  
Jack McCullough  
Mark West*

***Wholesale Building Materials - Nashville, TN***

*Shannon Grantham  
Alyson Piper  
Kim Terry*

*Don Kirby  
Steve Rooker*

*Reginald Maddox  
Christina Shafer*

*Martha Olker  
Donna Stephenson*

***Wholesale Building Materials - St. Louis, MO***

*Brian Childs  
Bill Egbert  
Juanita Lamparter  
James Roe  
Joy Whiteside*

*Michelle Clinard  
Darryl Frame  
Tim Murray  
Janice Warren*

*William Davis  
Steve Gerdeman  
Dominic Pendino  
Andy Westerman*

*Deborah Dunn  
Barbara Jones  
Larry Puent  
Trina Wulfert*

***Karran USA - Vincennes, IN***

*Mark Webster*

*Paul Martin*

*Lorie Hansen*

*Brian Lett*





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## Niehaus Home Center

1023 Main St. Vincennes, IN

## Big Buck Building Center

501 S. Howard St. Robinson, IL

## Keep kids safe around electric toys

If you're giving electric toys for gifts this year, there are several things to keep in mind for choosing, using, and storing toys.

- Don't buy an electrical toy - or any toy - for a child too young to use it safely. Always check the age recommendation on the shelf package. And remember that this is only a minimum age recommendation: not every 8-year-old is necessarily able to safely handle a toy for children of that age. Keep the specific child in mind when you choose a gift.
- Read the toy's instructions carefully and then read them again with any child who will be playing with the toy. Be sure that the child knows how to use the items safely, understands all the instructions and warning labels, and is aware of the hazards of misusing the toy. The instructions should be kept with the toy or in a safe place where they can be found easily.
- Always supervise children when they're using any electrical product.
- Be sure that the plug of an electrical toy fits snugly into wall outlets or (if they must be used) extension cord receptacles. Teach children always to disconnect an electrical appliance after use by grasping the plug, not by pulling on the cord.
- Keep infants and toddlers out of the area in which an electrical toy is being used.
- All electric toys should always be in a dry storage area out of the reach of younger children immediately after use.
- Check the condition of your child's electric toys often. Look for any broken parts, frayed cords, or other damage. Have the toy repaired or replaced if you notice any damage.
- Only an adult or a responsible older child should replace a light bulb on an electrical toy; it is extremely important that the replacement bulb be the proper wattage and that the plug is disconnected when the bulb is changed.
- It's best to plug electrical toys and children's products into a GFCI-protected circuits.
- Children's electrical toys are covered by several regulations; to check on these requirements, go to the Consumer Product Safety Commission Web site at [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov). You can check any toy you're considering for your children against these requirements to be sure it meets current safety standards.



Consumer Product Safety Commission

Best Wishes For The  
New

## Holiday Humor

### Ways To Confuse Santa Claus

Instead of milk and cookies, leave him a salad, and a note explaining that you think he could stand to lose a few pounds.

While he's in the house, go find his sleigh and write him a speeding ticket.

Leave him a note, explaining that you've gone away for the holidays. Ask if he would mind watering your plants.

While he's in the house, replace all his reindeer with exact replicas. Then wait and see what happens when he tries to get them to fly.

Leave a note by the telephone, telling Santa that Mrs. Claus called and wanted to remind him to pick up some milk and a loaf of bread on his way home.

While he's in the house, find the sleigh and sit in it. As soon as he comes back and sees you, tell him that he shouldn't have missed that last payment, and take off.

Leave a plate filled with cookies and a glass of milk out, with a note that says, "For The Tooth Fairy. :)" Leave another plate out with half a stale cookie and a few drops of skim milk in a dirty glass with a note that says, "For Santa."



Take everything out of your house as if it's just been robbed. When Santa arrives, show up dressed like a policeman and say, "Well, well. They always return to the scene of the crime."

Leave out a copy of your Christmas list with last-minute changes and corrections.

Leave lots of hunting trophies and guns out where Santa's sure to see them. Go outside, yell, "Ooh! Look! A deer! And he's got a red nose!" and fire a gun.

Leave Santa a note, explaining that you've moved. Include a map with unclear and hard-to-read directions to your new house.

## Things Not to Say When Hanging the Lights

*Did you know that hanging lights on a Christmas tree is one of the three most stressful situations in an on-going relationship? Six's Psychiatrist claims the other two danger zones are teaching your mate to drive and wallpapering. (He is rarely wrong on these things.) We rush to print with an emergency prompt list of Things Not To Say When Hanging Lights on the Christmas Tree.*

"You've got two red lights right next to each other, dummy. You're supposed to go yellow, green, red, blue, not yellow, red, red, green, blue..."

"Up a little higher. You can reach it. Go on, try."

"What the hell do you do to these lights when you put them away every year? Tie them in knot?"

"Come away from that aluminum ladder, kids. I'm going to fry that sucker."

"If you're not going to do it right, don't do it at all. Don't just throw them on, like you do the icicles. You're worse than your father."

"Give me that!"

"You've got the whole thing on the tree upside-down. The electric pluggee thing should be down here at the bottom, not up at the top."

"I don't care if you have found another two strings, I'm done!"

"You've just wound 'em around and around - I thought we agreed it shouldn't look like a spiral this year?"

"Have you been drinking?"

"Where's the cat?"

## A Matter Of Morals

Two sisters were given parts in a Christmas pageant at their Church. At dinner that night, they got into an argument as to who had the most important role. Finally the 14 year old said to her 8 year old younger sister, "Well, you just ask Mom. She'll tell you it's much harder to be a virgin than it is to be an angel."

## The Candy Cane

Candy canes have been around for centuries, but it wasn't until around 1900 that they were decorated with red stripes and bent into the shape of a cane. They were sometimes handed out during church services to keep the children quiet. One story (almost certainly false) that is often told about the origin of the candy cane is as follows:



In the late 1800's a candy maker in Indiana wanted to express the meaning of Christmas through a symbol made of candy. He came up with the idea of bending one of his white candy sticks into the shape of a Candy Cane. He incorporated several symbols of Christ's love and sacrifice through the Candy Cane. First, he used a plain white peppermint stick. The color white symbolizes the purity and sinless nature of Jesus. Next, he added three small stripes to symbolize the pain inflicted upon Jesus before His death on the cross. There are three of them to represent the Holy Trinity. He added a bold stripe to represent the blood Jesus shed for mankind. When looked at with the crook on top, it looks like a shepherd's staff because Jesus is the shepherd of man. If you turn it upside down, it becomes the letter J symbolizing the first letter in Jesus' name. The candy maker made these candy canes for Christmas, so everyone would remember what Christmas is all about.

## The Miracle of the Poinsettia

The poinsettia or "Flower of the Holy Night" as the Mexican people call it, bears bright red flowers at Christmas. The legend behind the Christmas flower is about a young girl who wanted to take a gift on Christmas eve to lay before baby Jesus at midnight mass. She had nothing and no money. Angels appeared to her on the way to mass and told her to pick a bunch of weeds. As she walked into church everyone laughed at her but as they mocked the end of each branch burst into beautiful red flowers.



### Bits of Wisdom

- When you take responsibility on you shoulders, there isn't much room left for chips.
- The best thing parents can spend on their children is time - not money.

2000 Randy Glasbergen



*It looks like everyone will be getting what they want this year . . . somebody posted my credit card number on the internet."*

## Cheesecake Brownies

1 package (20 1/2 ounces) brownie mix-do not use syrup pouch  
 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened  
 1/3 cup sugar  
 1 egg  
 1/2 teaspoon vanilla



Prepare brownie mix as directed on package; spread in greased 13x9 inch baking pan. Beat cream cheese with electric mixer on medium until smooth. Add sugar, egg and vanilla and mix ONLY until blended. Pour cream cheese mixture over brownie mixture. Cut through several times with knife for marble effect. Bake at 350 degrees for 35-40 minutes or until cream cheese mixture is lightly browned. Cool and cut into squares.

**A Christmas Gift**

A guy bought his wife a beautiful diamond ring for Christmas. After hearing about this extravagant gift, a friend of his said, "I thought she wanted one of those sporty four-wheel-drive vehicles."

"She did," he replied. "But where was I going to find a fake Jeep?"

**Signs of Christmas Everywhere**

- Bridal boutique: "Marry Christmas."
- Outside a church: "The original Christmas Club."
- At a department store: "Big pre-Christmas sale. Come in and mangle with the crowd."
- A Texas jewelry store: "Diamond tiara's -- \$70,000. Three for \$200,000."
- A reducing salon: "24 Shaping Days until Christmas."
- In a stationery store: "For the man who has everything... a calendar to remind him when payments are due."

**Three Wise Women?**

Do you know what would have happened if it had been Three Wise Women instead of Three Wise Men?

They would have asked directions, arrived on time, helped deliver the baby, cleaned the stable, made a casserole and brought practical gifts.

- It isn't your position but your disposition that makes you happy or unhappy.
- Profanity is the effort of a feeble mind to express itself forcibly.




**A Nice Smelling Christmas**

The little girl was SO proud of her Christmas presents, her first watch and her first perfume. She really made a pest of herself throughout the morning, going up to all the relatives and sticking that watch in their ear and insisting that they smell her perfume.

The preacher was coming for lunch, but before his arrival, the girl's mother had said, "If you mention that watch or that perfume just once more, I'm going to send you to your room for the rest of the day."






The meal went rather well, and the little girl held her tongue until just when the desert was being served. She wanted to make sure that the preacher, too, knew about her new watch and her perfume:




"If you hear anything or smell anything ... it's me!"




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## Niehaus News

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