



# Merry Christmas

From

## The Christys



*Special events in our  
(family name goes here)  
family's life:*

Clever news flash goes  
here

Add a highlight from your  
family's life

Heartfelt wish goes here



**This is our perfect family**

If we had a perfect family

*We don't even know these people*

### *A time to reconnect with friends and family!*

This is the time of year when you think about friends and family, if only to consider if they will be sending you a present or if they will be disappointed not to get one from you. These thoughts have actually led to actions this year. We are reaching out to reconnect with you.

A lot has happened since you last received a Christmas card from us.

### **2006**

Some of you (mostly the smart and cool ones) have followed our family's exploits and foibles on our web site.

[www.thechristys.net](http://www.thechristys.net)

I will try and give you the "Readers Digest" version of the past year because that is as far back as I can remember. When recounting our life experiences

Katie no longer wears diapers, Sarah has overcome her fear of grass, Linda has discovered spinach enchiladas and teenage boys are all required to wear a pair of Fat Albert's jeans in public.

I of course am 100% the same as I was yesterday. Oddly enough, just last week, I put on 50lbs, half my hair fell out and I can no longer remember where to find my socks.

I hope you have fared as well or better.

becomes too much, (for me) I will include a link to the web site so you can get more excruciating detail.

The world gets blurry, the hands on the clock are spinning backwards, . . . cows fly by . . . it's 2006 . . . you know, earlier !

# Highlights of 2006



Presenting – Miss Sarah Christy

## Presentation

## January

This was a big deal. Linda and the girls are part of the National Charity League (NCL). It's a mother-daughter philanthropic organization. They start when the kids are in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and finish in the winter of their senior year of HS. This was Sarah's year. Did I say it was a big deal? It's like 23 simultaneous weddings, catering, flowers, seating charts, and of course

the DRESSES. The girls are involved too. There are meetings to decide "short gloves or long gloves?" The dad's aren't left out. We get lessons on how to waltz and look the other way while our wallets are emptied. In the end Sarah looked beautiful, had a wonderful time and can feel good about her participation in this worthwhile organization

## State Champ

## February

Katie is our little 4 string thumper. She has been playing Bass (not the fish) since 5<sup>th</sup> Grade. In 2005 she competed in the Texas Music Educators Association with thousands of other students for the honor of being among the best players in their region, area and state. Thanks to an extremely proud mother, most of the free world knows that Katie made the group that was best in the state. In

fact she was first chair. Numero uno. The convention was held in San Antonio in February '06. It was very cool, the school district paid for her trip. She stayed in a nice hotel and roomed/hung out with kids from all over the state who were also excellent musicians. I wonder if she could make it again this year?



Katie and her Orchestra Director on her way to State

## Spring Break, Ski Trip - March

Last year Sarah and I went skiing while Katie and Linda went to NY/Carnegie Hall over spring break. This year it was Katie and I who hit the slopes (literally). It made us laugh, it made us cry, it was one of those adventures that makes for great story telling. In fact there is a Homer's (Simpson) Odyssey style recount of the experience [here](#), it spans March and April.



The first time shredder takes a break.

## Milestones

## April-May

Sarah and Katie hit two significant age milestones this year, 18 and 16 respectively. These are the full frontal nuclear teenage years. Hormones, boyfriends, lobotomies, and decimated bank accounts, it's all there, laid bare for your horror and amusement.



# Highlights of 2006



Happy to clear this milestone

## Graduation

May 27

We can hardly believe it, but Sarah, or baby of 2½ when we first moved to Texas graduated from Klein Forest High School in the top 5% of her class. Her graduating class had more than 800 kids in it (we do everything big in Texas) and the ceremony lasted less than an hour and a half. It was a good thing we had high speed film in the camera.

The night before graduation, we had a big party for Sarah. Many old and new friends, neighbors and former teachers were in attendance. A good time was had by all and Sarah was thrilled with all the attention and of course the bounty of graduation gifts.

One down, one to go.

## Orchestra Camps

June - August

This summer Katie (and her parents) traveled the state of Texas attending various orchestra and Jazz camps. We went to FIVE at 4 universities around the state. Univ. of Houston, Univ. of Texas, Univ of North Texas and Texas Tech in Lubbock which is about 9 hours one way. But it's great exposure for Katie and her music and she has more dorm experience than most freshman in college.



## Texas A&M

August

Because Sarah graduated in the top 10% Texas allows her to attend the state university of her choice (if you provide the funds) within the great state of Texas. Sarah chose Texas A&M. This was a shocking choice just 2 years ago when the goal was to live a bohemian lifestyle in downtown Manhattan while attending NYU. But after a campus visit to College Station her junior year she fell in love with

the place and made up her mind. A&M was not just her top choice it was her only choice. The move-in experience started around Jan. of this year with purchases and planning, and purchases. It culminated with a convoy of vehicles leaving before dawn, moving several tons of toiletries and incidentals. A more in-depth account can be found here



She's an Aggie now.  
And a ZTA

## Recruitment (AKA Rush) August

Anyone who knows Sarah knows she was born to be in a Sorority. The week before school starts at A&M is formal recruitment for sororities, but don't let this fool you. The process really starts in April of their senior year as the girls put

Together packets for each of the 12 sororities and obtain recs for each one as well. Suffice it to say, Sarah had an exhausting, but fabulous time and got into her first choice, Zeta Tau Alpha. ZTA's symbol is a crown, could it be more appropriate!

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*A favorite family phrase  
or slogan can go here.*

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:  
<http://www.thechristys.net/>

## *Season's greetings!*

There is so much more fun and excitement to recount like Katie making All-State in Orchestra for the second year in a row (as well as Region Jazz), parties, and a plethora of minor crisis and breakdowns.

So in this time of joy and reflection (not necessarily related) we are grateful for our friends and family and hope all is well with you and yours.

All kidding aside, we hope this letter finds you doing well and you and your family are happy. **Merry Christmas** from Katie, Sarah, Linda and Bob and a Happy New Year.

If you got the paper version of this letter then we don't have a valid email address for you. Please send us one so our stamp licking days will be over.

Our kids' favorite  
Christmas joke:

What do you call a person  
who is afraid of Santa Claus?

Claustrophobic!



Our Family's Name  
Address line 1  
Address line 2  
City, ST ZIP Code



*Friend's Name*  
*Street Address*  
*City, State Zip Code*