

# The Weekly

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## For Christmastime babies, birthdays are a challenge

BY EMILY BURNHAM  
OF THE WEEKLY STAFF

By religious definition, Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. For many, that's the most important birthday of the year, and the reason for the season.

But for those people who were born on Christmas themselves, or in the few days before or after Dec. 25, it can turn their special day into an afterthought. While all the other kids get birthday parties, presents and other special treatment on their birthdays, Christmas babies tend to get overlooked.

Some Christmas babies have resigned themselves to the fact that for them,

birthdays are always going to be overshadowed by other holiday events — but in most cases, they've also figured out other ways to enjoy themselves, and to help others in the spirit of the season.

Nevertheless, when you get a birthday present wrapped in red and green paper, it can be a bit irksome for birthday boys or girls.

"I'm the oldest of seven kids. Every other sibling was so excited for Santa to get there. They could care less about my birthday," said Shane McCarthy, owner of State Street Wine Cellar in Bangor, who was born on Christmas Eve. "I used to get gifts that said

Happy Birthday and Merry Christmas on them. I used to say that the right mitten was for my birthday, and the left was for Christmas."

"I hated my birthday as a kid because I didn't have parties with other kids because everyone was doing family stuff. And my locker never got decorated in high school," said Clare Davitt of Bangor, who's birthday is on Dec. 26. "We tried half birthdays for a few years, but that was lame. But my parents were great about trying to make a distinction between the two days, different wrapping paper, different presents."

See Birthday, Page 2

Reported by Emily Burnham

### THE WEEKLY QUESTION

Reported at Bangor Parks & Recreation

"How much do you think Santa weighs?"



"950 pounds."  
ELIZABETH, AGE 11, BANGOR



"15 pounds."  
KEITH, AGE 5, BANGOR



"860 pounds."  
EVA, AGE 8, BANGOR



"893 pounds."  
ZACH, AGE 8, BANGOR



"891 pounds."  
GAGE, 6, BANGOR



"1,001,000 pounds."  
MOLLY, AGE 7, BANGOR



PHOTO COURTESY LAURA GEORGE

Kailee Soucia of Orrington (right) and her friend, Olivia Healy, also of Orrington, bought presents for children on the Angel Tree at the Brewer Walmart, in lieu of Kailee receiving her own presents for her December birthday.

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