

## **The jolly man in red makes appearances Saturday**

Written by Wauneta Breeze  
Wednesday, 18 December 2013 20:12 -

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**By Sheri Hink-Wagner**

### **The Wauneta Breeze**

Holiday spirit could be felt in the air in Wauneta and Palisade last Saturday, Dec. 14 when both communities held their annual Christmas celebrations.

#### **Wauneta's Santa Saturday**

In Wauneta, the festivities started with a free matinee showing of the movie "Free Birds" at the Chateau Theatre where approximately 115 attended. The Wauneta Women of Today sponsored the movie and provided volunteers to operate the concession stand.

After the movie the Wauneta Chamber sponsored a Kids-Only drawing where 15 movie posters and a Sony Walkman Mp3 player were given away to kids under 17 who attended the movie.

The Wauneta Volunteer Fire Department gave Santa a lift around town Saturday, first stopping at Sunrise Heights of Wauneta to share holiday goodies with the residents. Then, they brought Santa down Tecumseh in a bright red fire truck to visit children young and old.

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Santa, portrayed by Russ DaMoude with Regier Equipment, with help from WVFD members, handed out sacks of goodies to the crowd downtown. Santa took time to sit and visit with children about what they wanted for Christmas at the gazebo.

While Santa was occupied with the children, the Wauneta Chamber members took a turn at gift giving by holding their annual Christmas drawings.

A total of 39 prizes were donated by Wauneta Chamber businesses this year to help Wauneta celebrate Santa Saturday. A list of winners is included inside.

Mercy Meals of Southwest Nebraska hosted a fundraising bake sale at the Mercy Meal house in the morning and into the afternoon.

### **Palisade's Old Fashioned Christmas**

Holiday cheer was also abundant in Palisade last Saturday. The day included a craft fair at Mihm Hall as well as a lunch of soup and cookies. That afternoon the CS Club sponsored bingo at the Legion Hall.

Later that afternoon a very special visitor dressed all in red made his appearance at the Palisade Auxiliary Hall to greet children young and old.

The husband and wife team of Chuck and Susie McKinney portrayed Santa Claus and his elf.

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Santa gave children special Christmas stockings full of holiday treats and all children in attendance were given a gift. After the drawing for gifts several grand prizes were awarded, including the “grand prize” of a portable DVD player, which was won by Beth McKinney.