

The Butte Falls

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Bulletin

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A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FOR JANUARY 2005
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Reflections of 2004- By Cory Hamann

Okay, so I didn't have anything for the front cover of this first issue of 2005 and thought I would fill it in this way. I'll try not to be too gushy or opinionated.

I turned 45 on New Year's Eve and found that this past Christmas I had a harder time than usual, which maybe wasn't a bad thing. The shopping, going here there and everywhere, and activities that are part of the season didn't really matter to me. You know the surface stuff that comes with this time of year. This is what I really noticed this Christmas Season. The people in the stores arguing about what they "had" to buy for so and so and people grabbing whatever was in front of them to give to whomever. And, the funny look I would get if I offered the person behind me in line at Costco the chance to go ahead of me since they had a couple of tired children in their shopping cart. The whole time I'm thinking- this isn't what this is suppose to be about.

On Christmas morning I told my family that I had something to say to them before we opened presents. I told them that none of this other stuff is important. It's our families that count. Anyway, I was telling my family what they mean to me and had a hard time getting it out. My daughter-in-law Marlisa even cried over her breakfast. She has a reputation for "never" crying. Yes, it probably has something to do with getting older. One day I woke up and my eyes wouldn't focus. It does happen that way. My dad died when I was only 23 (self-inflicted).

My kids never knew him. They missed a lot. I'm so thankful Tanner has his "Poppy". They are so close and Donnie has been a huge influence on him and I'm sure, will help his Mom and Dad get through the "teen age" years. I'm so thankful that we're here for our kids and grandkids.

In church on the 26th we had a visitor, Chris Shaw home from leave in Baghdad. He's the son of Mike & Roberta Shaw. He led our worship music and it was awesome! They had to say good-bye the next morning since he had to fly back to Baghdad to finish his term. You think that wasn't hard on them? Family is important.

I'll admit, sometimes I look around Butte Falls and get very frustrated. There seems to be a lot of needs around here. Some are small and some very big. Mostly, it's because of wrong choices. Self inflicted. This can be fixed. You can change things for the better. There is lots of help and people that care.

Are you here for your family (or friends) in need?

You know what they say on the TV. commercial-
"Family, it's About Time". Let's put our families first in 2005.