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## Free Coffee Day!

To celebrate those employees with Birthdays in December (see Birthday Listing on page 3), there will be **free coffee** from the vending machine starting early AM on December 19th through early AM on December 20th. ENJOY!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL!**

## Improvement Idea Winner

By Scott Wagner, Plant Mgr.

**Congratulations! Ray DeHaven**, a Material Handler on the mid shift, is the Improvement Idea winner for the month of November.



Ray's idea is to repair the large carts by replacing the compressed wood with a better grade of 3/4" cdx plywood. Ray also suggests we repair or replace damaged wheels on the carts. As we are getting more orders of bar stock from different customers, the need for all our carts to be in good working order is crucial.

A total of 14 improvement ideas were submitted in the month of November. Others contributing ideas were **Brian Wingate**, with 5 ideas, **Nancy Gardner**, with 2 ideas, and **Sarah Mansuetti, Michael Jackson, Gregory Bruno, John Moss, Evelyn Chmielewski, and Derek McAlarney**, with 1 idea each. Thank you, everyone, for letting us know your ideas for improvements here at Rex.

The next Improvement Idea spin will be held on Monday, December 19, at 3:10 PM in the Induction area. Ray will be drawing the name of one lucky employee for the "Employee Appreciation" spin. Please come and join us if you can. Perhaps your name will be drawn and you'd have a turn to take a spin on the Rex Wheel of Chance.

What are your ideas to make improvements here at Rex? Write them down on an Improvement Idea form, or just a plain piece of paper, and drop them in the box outside of door of the Production office. You could be the next winner!

## Monthly Winners

By Scott Wagner, Plant Mgr.

Our Improvement Idea winner for the month of October was **Yao Kangni Soukpe**, a Straighter on 2nd shift. Yao, along with James Koester, Evelyn Chmielewski, Vindon Griffin Jr., Michael Jackson, Gregory Smith, Brian Wingate, Cory Hunter, and Nancy Gardner, who also put in improvement ideas in October, received a "Thank You" pin and a \$5 lottery ticket.



Yao Kangni Soukpe (left), the Improvement Idea winner, is congratulated by Scott Wagner, Plant Manager.

Yao drew a name for the "Monthly Employee Appreciation" reward. That lucky winner was **Cory Hunter**, Furnace Operator in the 100 Group. Cory won a reward of \$50 on his spin.



Cory Hunter (right), the Employee Appreciation winner, receives congratulations from Scott Wagner, Plant Manager.

Cory then drew slips from a bucket that contained the names of all Rex employees. Five names were drawn and the winners each received a \$5 instant lottery ticket. Those 5 lucky winners of lottery tickets were **John Moss, Fred Cherezov, Robert Feldman, Adrian Rivera, and Maria Monje**.

**Yao Kangni Soukpe** took his spin and won a reward of \$150 plus 1/2 day vacation.



Nancy Gardner (left) was the Riddle winner.

Out of all the correct guesses submitted for **The Rex Riddle**, one name was drawn to receive a \$5 instant lottery ticket. That winner was **Nancy Gardner**.

Everyone who was there enjoyed mini cupcakes, Clementines, and free hot beverages from the vending machine.

If you can, join us a next month's spin. You could be the next Employee Appreciation winner and get your spin on the Rex Wheel of Chance!



James Forbes (14 yrs), Arthur Hurt (4 yrs), and Fred Cherezov (4 yrs) receive their anniversary gifts from Scott Wagner. Vindon Griffin Jr. (8 yrs) also celebrated an anniversary.



Scott Wagner, Plant Manager, hands out "Thank You" pins and lottery tickets to James Koester, Evelyn Chmielewski, Michael Jackson, Brian Wingate, Cory Hunter, and Nancy Gardner, who submitted improvement ideas in October.



John Moss, Maria Monje, Robert Feldman, and Adrian Rivera (all on the left) were lottery ticket winners.

## United Way Campaign Begins

It's time, once again, to see what we can do to help those less fortunate in our community by making a donation to the North Penn United Way. The Campaign here at Rex will run from December 5 through December 16, and you should be receiving your packet soon. Please be sure to read all the information carefully.



### Below are just a few reasons why YOU should consider investing in the North Penn United Way:

- **Because YOU CARE!** You care about youth development and nurturing children, fostering independence for older adults and those with disabilities, providing basic needs to people in crisis, and strengthening and supporting families.
- **We hold ourselves and our partners accountable** - You can trust that money you contribute to the North Penn United Way will be granted to programs and initiatives that we and our partners know will make the greatest impact in our communities. Grant Applicants submit to a rigorous re-application process which includes careful examination of the Grant Applicant financial records, strategic plans, programs, and their work in our communities. Dedicated and conscientious volunteers make funding award decisions using a refined process, ensuring that all dollars contributed have the greatest possible impact.
- **Your investment stays here in our community** - The North Penn United Way's dues payable to United Way of America are only one percent of the amount we raise locally; in return, we receive benefits worth many times more than that small investment. This means that almost every penny of your donation stays right here in our area, helping to make our community an even better place to live for everyone.
- **It's tax-deductible** - Any donation you make to United Way qualifies as a deduction on your personal or business taxes.
- **Any one of us could benefit from our community programs** - The programs we fund aren't just for "the other guy." Funded programs serve a broad spectrum of the population, from the hungry and the homeless to hard-working employed people who just need a hand up to get through a tough time. In fact, one out of every four people benefits from the services of a United Way or funded partner program.
- **United Way collaborates with the community** - The North Penn United Way works with businesses, faith-based organizations, local school districts and local government, the non-profit sector, and many other community groups to build the infrastructure we need to proactively tackle our biggest community challenges.
- **You get a lot of bang for your buck** - When you give once to the North Penn United Way you are really joining with the entire community to invest in so many programs and services provided to people right here at home.
- **It feels good** - When you invest in your community through United Way you have the satisfaction and confidence of knowing that you, personally, are helping to sustain and improve the lives of your friends, neighbors, co-workers, and maybe even your own family members.
- **You are part of real solutions** - The North Penn United Way is interested in more than "band-aid solutions" – we know that long-term community impact comes only from forward-looking and thoughtful planning.
- **It matters!!!** - And that's the bottom line!

**We will also be taking donations of non-perishable food items for the local food cupboard.**

**Look for postings for Penny Wars, Candy Jar Guess, 50-50 Ticket Drawing, and more!**



The Holiday Goodies Exchange will take place on Monday, December 19, and Tuesday, December 20, in the employee lunchroom. Please join us for this annual sharing of goodies. Bring in your treat at the start of your shift and check out what others have brought to share. Whether you make it or buy it, whatever you choose will be appreciated and enjoyed. There will be free hot beverages from the vending machine both days.



Come share in the Good Will and good treats!

## Yearly Work Anniversaries

The following employees are celebrating their Work Anniversaries in **December**

### Over 10 Years

- Maria Monje (12)
- Andy Veneziaie (23)
- Tom Felder (26)

You will receive your annual gift at the monthly spin.

## A LITTLE HUMOR



Six-year-old Amy was helping her mother sort clothes into "save" and "give away" boxes, when she came across a garter belt. "What's this?" she asked.

"It's a garter belt," her mother said. Seeing that meant nothing to her, she added, "It's for holding up stockings."

"Ah," Amy said, carefully placing it in the "save" box, "we'll use it this Christmas Eve."

## Did You Know?



Burl Ives & Johnny Marks.

Johnny Marks (Nov 10, 1909 - Sep 3, 1985) was an American songwriter. Although he was Jewish, he specialized in Christmas songs and wrote many standards, including "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer" (a hit for Gene Autry and others), "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" (first recorded by Bing Crosby), "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" (a hit for Brenda Lee), "A Holly Jolly Christmas" (recorded by the Quinto Sisters and later by Burl Ives), and "Run Rudolph Run" (recorded by Chuck Berry).



Donner/Donder and Blitzen were named "Dunder" and "Blixem" (the Dutch words for thunder and lightning) in the original printing of "A Visit From St. Nicholas." By the time Johnny Marks wrote "Rudolph," it was "Donner" and "Blitzen" (possibly because Donder was musically awkward).



In the movie "A Christmas Story," when Flick's tongue sticks to the flagpole, a hidden suction tube was used to safely create the illusion that his tongue had frozen to the metal.

In the movie "Elf," the costumes for the elves were modeled after those used in the 1964 television special "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer."



For many years the line "You're a rotter, Mr. Grinch" from The Grinch Song was censored because it was considered too vulgar for television.

## Happy Birthday

Employees celebrating a birthday in **December** are listed below. Let's wish them a happy day.

- |    |                    |
|----|--------------------|
| 6  | Sharley Dubisette  |
| 15 | Christopher Snyder |
| 25 | Yao Kangni Soukpe  |
| 26 | Maria Monje        |

## Welcome Aboard!

*Derek McAlarney*     *Shipping*

## The Rex Riddle - #9 ?

In spring I am gay in handsome array;  
 in summer more clothing I wear;  
 when colder it grows I fling off my clothes;  
 and in winter quite naked appear.

What am I?

To submit your guess for The Rex Riddle, take a slip out of the folder in the rack in the Production Office, fill it out, and drop it in the box outside of the Production Office door. Guesses will be taken until the morning of the monthly spin.

One name will be drawn from all the correct answers to receive a \$5 instant lottery ticket.

Can you figure out the riddle?

### Answer to Last Month's Riddle

Some may not admit it without wearing a frown.

What goes up but never back down?

Answer: Your age

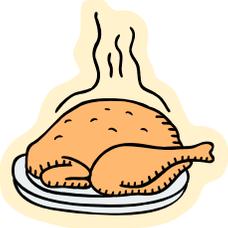


*Wishing you  
 and your family  
 a wonderful Holiday  
 Season and a very  
 Happy New Year!*

## Popular Foods That Can Be Hazardous to Your Health

With the holidays approaching, you should be aware of these popular foods that can be hazardous to your health.

- **Eggnog:** The best way to serve eggnog is to buy it in a carton. The store-sold product is pasteurized and is safe. If you make your own eggnog, use only pasteurized eggs, not raw ones.
- **Pies:** Custard-type pies, including homemade pumpkin pie, need to be refrigerated. If you run out of space in the refrigerator, rearrange items so that the pies will fit inside the refrigerator. Pies at room temperature can grow dangerous bacteria. 
- **Honey:** Never give honey to a baby under the age of one. Honey may contain bacterial spores that can cause infant botulism, a rare but serious disease that affects the nervous system of young babies. 
- **Chocolate:** Pet owners beware! Chocolate is toxic, and sometimes even fatal, for Fido or Kitty!
- **Candy canes:** Hard candies and candy canes present a choking risk. Keep out of reach of small children.
- **Cookie dough:** If you use raw eggs in the cookie dough batter, eat your homemade cookies fully cooked! Raw eggs can be contaminated with salmonella, a food-borne illness that can prove fatal if untreated.
- **Apple cider:** Pasteurization kills bacteria. If you aren't sure if a product is pasteurized, boil it for a minute. Unpasteurized products have been linked to salmonella, E. coli and listeria—all can lead to death.



- **Turkey and stuffing:** Cooking stuffing in a turkey or chicken should be avoided. The bird cooks both from the outside and the inside. When you stuff the bird, it reduces the heat penetration. Your best bet is to cook the turkey and stuffing separately. If you do choose to cook them together, make sure the temperature reaches at least 180 degrees Fahrenheit in the innermost part of the thigh, while the center of the stuffing inside the turkey reaches 165 degrees. Bacteria can survive in stuffing that hasn't reached that temperature.
- **Caesar salad:** Many recipes call for raw eggs in Caesar salad. Do not use raw eggs in the dressing. Use a pasteurized egg instead. 
- **Perishable foods:** Never leave perishable food at room temperature over two hours. Perishable foods include raw and cooked meat, poultry and seafood products. Once fruits and vegetables are cut, it is safest to also limit their time at room temperature. If perishable food is left at room temperature for over two hours, bacteria can grow to harmful levels.



- **Alcohol:** Alcohol affects children more drastically than adults, so even small amounts of alcohol can be dangerous to children. It causes a quick drop in blood sugar, drowsiness, seizures and even death. Spiked holiday punch and eggnog should be kept out of the reach of children. Remove all empty and partially empty cups as soon as possible. Store alcohol in a locked cabinet out of reach and sight of children. Don't store it in your refrigerator where a child could have easy access. Remember that children imitate adults and may drink the beverages they see adults drinking.

Now that you're armed with a few simple rules, go forth and enjoy a safe, happy holiday season!

### SAFETY SLOGANS:

**Don't overload electrical outlets or power strips.**



**Drinking and driving—There are stupider things, but it's a very short list.**



**New Year's Resolution – If it's unsafe, I will find a solution.**



**When walkways freeze—walk safely please.**