

LIFESTYLE

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not be much difference in making either choice. Quite frankly, neither 1521 or 2521 are on my Bucket List of time-traveling destinations.

Looking back, MDXXI seemed kinda wild from what I remember in Father Donnelly's freshman World History class at Marquette back in the day, with 1521 offering up the bloodshed of the Spanish conquest of Mexico, the wars of Suleiman the Magnificent, and the Italian "Four Years War," the stuff of harquebus muskets, lances and Toledo steel swords.

On the other hand, it would be a novelty to step back into a world where people socialize with each other instead of being glued to the screens of their handheld electronic devices, fingers a-flyin'. The year 1521 would be a great opportunity to shoot the breeze and down some beers with excommunicated outlaw cleric Martin Luther during his yearlong hideout at Wartburg Castle, assuming I spoke fluent German beyond singing "Stille Nacht" on Christmas Eve.

Looking forward to the 26th Century with a pessimistic glass-half-empty view, the prospect of leaping ahead 500 years gives me pause, given the decade long year of 2020 and all its pervasive wonkiness and wokeness, stepping out into the fifth masked dystopian century of "two weeks to flatten the curve."

But taking a glass-half-full outlook, I'd have my fingers crossed for an optimistic "Star Trek" future as Star Fleet lays the groundwork for the 2540 commissioning

of the latest iteration of the *Enterprise*. I could seriously get into replicating thick charcoal grilled steaks, immersing myself in a virtual reality Nero Wolfe detective mystery on the holodeck, and instantaneously beaming to a Martian vacation at the Hilton Olympus Mons on Elon Musk Boulevard. Hello, universe, here I come.

In some respects, both scenarios have their appeal, albeit as a bewildered Darin Stephens stand-in in a "Bewitched" episode gone awry.

Go back 500 years and I could out-Nostradamus French astrologer and reputed seer Nostradamus and his 1555 book of predictions, "Les Prophéties." Fast forward 500 years from what animated cartoon brainiac Lisa Simpson has presciently called the current age of "The Dumbening" and I could well be living the storyline of the 2006 sci-fi comedy film "Idiocracy," arriving to a future so incredibly moronic that I'm easily the most intelligent person alive as the Albert Einstein of 2521.

But on the other hand, I like my indoor plumbing, air conditioning, antibiotics and sliced bread. I also can't imagine enduring another 500 years of social distancing and the steam punk vibe.

Ultimately, the grass is not always greener on the other side of the space-time continuum. If I can't come back from time traveling, I'll stay put where I am, being made, as the Good Book says, "for such a time as this," such as it is.



Some of the volunteers at St. Theresa Thrift Shop in Three Lakes recently presented Toni Ruthven, coordinator of Warm The Children, with a \$600 check. Taking part in the check presentation

are, from left, Ruthven, Bridget Gross, Barb Borek, Marlene Harbough, LuAnn Maternoski, Linda Hausser, Susan Bauer and Jerry Schwanebeck. —Contributed Photo

WTC: 337 vouchers sent out this year

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the program, you have made an impact on that family this holiday season," she said.

Vouchers for approximately 337 children have been sent out this year, said Ruthven. Shopping will end mid-December and applications are still being accepted in the front lobby of the News-Review office, located at 425 W. Mill St. in Eagle River.

All donations are used to purchase clothing for the children and the News-Review picks up all administrative costs. Monetary donations

are tax-deductible.

"Donations, no matter how large or small, is appreciated. Donations can be made in memory of or in honor of loved ones," said Ruthven.

For more information, call Ruthven at (715) 479-4421.

Checks can be made out to "Warm The Children" and mailed to the Vilas County News-Review, P.O. Box 1929, Eagle River, WI 54521 or dropped off at the News-Review office. Online donations can be made at vnewsreview.com on the home page.

In addition to many anonymous donors, donations

were received as of Nov. 26 from residents in the following communities:

Conover: Tom and Lynn Steinbach, also of Germantown.

Eagle River: Veterans of Foreign Wars No. 8637, Dale and Karen Thyne, Mike and Sandra Mettler, Nick and Cindy Vugrinec, Art and Beth Sheffele, Debra Petrie, Jerry and Barb Stadler, and Lynda Bolte.

Land O' Lakes: Daniel Sauer.

St. Germain: Mary Beth Koenen, and Sherry Stecker.


Star Lake: Jim and Vicki

Haberle.

Three Lakes: Congregation of St. Theresa of Avila.

Other Wisconsin cities: Patrick Hietpas, Kaukauna; Steve and Judy Szpak, Mequon; Anthony and Kathleen Mattson, Mount Pleasant; and Gerald and Karen Switalski, New Berlin.

Other states: Michael Neylon, Geneva, Ill.; Edwin Kuhrt, Huntley, Ill.; Bob and Barb Pondelick, Maple Park, Ill.; Jacob Mattson, Maple Grove, Minn.; Joseph Mattson, Maple Grove, Minn.; and David and Susanne Brown, Piqua, Ohio.

The Northwoods Singers
under the direction of
Dr. Pamalyn Lee
present
Carols by Candlelight
Linda Brainard, piano
Beth Hassler, violin
4 pm, Sunday December 5, 2021
Ely Memorial Church
Co. Road B, Land O' Lakes
Admission free.
Free-will donations are gratefully

www.northwoodssingers.org

KIDS DESIGN AN AD WINNERS

 Taylon Nelson Land O' Lakes Elementary	 Charlie Duquaine Phelps Elementary	 Paisley Logan Eagle River Elementary
 Josiah Kleinhaus Three Lakes Elementary	 Chase Seeger St. Germain Elementary	 Nolan Haas Montessori
 Rayden Anderson Sugar Camp Elementary	Thank you to the area businesses for participating in this year's 3rd-, 4th- & 5th-grade Kids Design an Ad educational program!	



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