

Credits

HIS special holiday gift guide appearing in all 12 Observer & Eccentric Newspapers was coordinated by Marie McGee. special sections editor.

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and to Jennifer Phillips.

Ouestions should be directed to McGee at 591-2300, Ext. 313.



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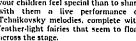
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across the stage.
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JAY ASQUINI/phot

Always a favorite

No need to stuff it in a box — just hang it in the closet and watch the reaction to this natural full-length cross-fox coat with horizontal sleeves.

Holiday customs

Continued from Page 53

would like to receive in order of importance. They can draw pictures of the gifts, too, Keep the letters to put in a scrapbook to show them when they're

St. Nicholas was a much-loved bishop who lived in part of the Roman Empire during the 4th or 5th century. He was famous for his love of children, for whom he performed miracles of healing. He also was known for giving gifts

In the early 1800s, Professor Clement C. Moore described St. Nicholas in a poem he wrote to entertain his children, titled "The Night Before Christmas." The poem became so popthat since then, Americans have thought of St. Nicholas as "a jolly old elf" with a round belly, a white beard and twinkling eyes.

WHAT BETTER WAY to make your children feel special than to share with them a live performance of Tchnikovsky melodies, complete with feather-light fairies that seem to float

Nutcracker" story line. Brightly pointed wooden nutcrakers that looked like soldiers were popular toys in Russia 150 years ago. Two children, Clara and

Fritz, receive one on Christmas Eve. The dolls come to life and lead the toy soldiers to win a battle against the Mouse King. Afterward, the nuteracker turns into a handsome prince who takes Clara into an enchanted king-dom where they find the Sugarplum

TRADITIONALLY, THE Jewish holiday of Hanukkah is celebrated by lighting a candle on the many-branched menorah each night. In many families, children receive one with after angle angle to the light of the control of the control

gift after each candle-lighting.

Elaine Bierbaum of Georgia became concerned that the eight-day holiday was turning into "an orgy of gift-giving." She makes a tradition of having her oblides a dealer of their new her children donnte one of their new Hanukkah toys to the children's ward at a local hospital.

Hanukkah is older than Christmas. The word means "dedication," to commemorate the dedication of the temple in Jerusalem after the Jews successfully fought to reclaim it from their ene