

# Legends Remembered in Christmas Wreaths

BY KIMBERLY HERR

**MEDIA** — As legend has it, there was a robin silently keeping watch in the stable when the Baby Jesus was born. The robin noticed that the Child was cold, so it flew to the fire to fan the flames and warm Baby Jesus. But the small bird got too close to the fire and burned his breast, causing it to become red in color. And since that time, the robin has had a flame-red coloring.

Symbolizing this legend and many others are more than 50 wreaths on display at Linvilla Orchards, Media, Delaware County.

"I love them. I absolutely love them," Peg Linvill said, of the wreaths.

And it shows as she explains the legends behind some of the other wreaths.

One section of a wall is covered with wreaths symbolizing past and present Christmas gift bringers. One wreath depicting the three wise men, the original gift bearers, boasts real frankincense and

murr. Another wreath illustrates the lovable little Tomten or Nisse that is said to bring gifts in Scandinavia.

"It took three weeks of good solid research, which we did in April," Peg said. "We came up with the legends first and then made the wreaths to match the legends. We started making the wreaths at the end of October."

This is the second year that the Christmas legend wreaths have been on display. But for those interested in doing more than just observing, Linvilla Orchards, located on Knowlton Road, offers wreath-making classes, which run from the end of September to the end of December.

Although the wreath-making season is limited, the business season at the Linvilla Orchards is not. In addition to the wreaths, which are done through the efforts of the Weed Shop, which is run by Peg and contains a wide variety of dried flowers and arrangements, there is also a large direct market



These women were are involved in constructing their rose-spice wreaths, offered at the Weed Shop.



Peg Linville is responsible for the Weed Shop, which offers wreath-making classes, dried flowers and other decorating tools, such as these ribbons.



These carollers welcome visitors into the market area of Linvilla Orchards, Media, Delaware County.

and a Christmas shop, run by Karen Knudsen, on the premises.

Peg and Paul Linvill, along with Paul's brother, Larry, and Larry's son, Kenny, are responsible for running the businesses.

Since it has always been a family business, Peg was able to give a rundown on the history of the farm and the business.

The barn, where the market, Weed Shop and Christmas Shop are located, was built in 1898. It is

an octagonal barn and was designed so that the cold air comes in at the bottom and exits at the top. This was done in hopes of preventing barn fires, which often resulted when the hay stored in barns got too hot.

Peg explained that after the Civil War, the Linvill land was made into a dairy farm.

"They were trying to make the

farms into factories," Peg said, explaining that the barn was built in an octagonal shape because it was believed that shape would hold the most cattle.

They had about 40 cows and 20 horses. According to Peg, her husband grew up on the farm.

"Dad (her father-in-law) didn't like the responsibility of having to

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The market, the Weed Shop and the Christmas Shop are located in this octagonal barn of the Linvilla Orchards. According to Peg Linville, this barn was constructed in 1898.



This giant rag doll is on display outside the market of Linvilla Orchards. Constructed by Peg Linville, the doll stands about 38-feet high and is made of old sheets.