Money Since 193

... that's before there were TV Dinners.

fantastic customer service for more than 75 years. Get a GEICO has been serving up great car insurance and quote and see how much you could save today.

geico.com | 1-800-947-AUTO | Local office





PHOTOGRAPH BY YASU+JUNKO. SWAROVSKI STAR ORNAMENT COURTESY SWAROVSKI COM

CHRISTMAS STORIES Five classic tales of wonder,

66 MIRACULOUS

Cover Story

86 BABY IN THE STREAM inspire you this season. Drama in Real Life compassion, and joy to

an icy creek, the boy's family DEREK BURNETT doctor won't give up hope. unconscious toddler from When a neighbor pulls an fears the worst. But one

Special Report

96 UNCHARITABLE! donations and how to ways charities spend your ensure your giving counts A look at the shocking

DEREK BURNETT

Stranger Who

106 THE CURIOUS WORLD

me over, and a new world OF MRS. REESE The mom next door invited

beckoned, HEATHER SELLERS

112 FOREVER MEMORY

Scientists are racing to make live on long after we were gone? What if our recollections could SIMON PARKIN FROM BECCOM FUTURE that eternity a reality.

118 THE BIG ONE

National Interest

KATHRYN SCHULZ in the Pacific Northwest is FROM THE NEW YORKER long overdue. Are we ready? A devastating earthquake

nt plans and testures are not available in all states or all CEICO companies. CEICO is a registrated tervice Hunk of Government Employees Insurance Company, Washington, D.C. 20076; a Benkubne Huthawox Inc. subsidiary, © 2015 CEICO.

146 Humor in Uniform 143 Word Power 132 Look Twice

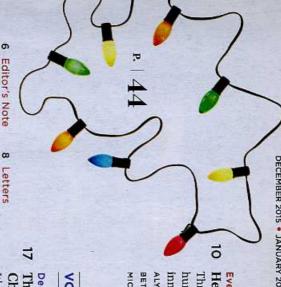
148 Quotable Quotes

VICKI GLEMBOCKI to the wrong city?



Volume 186 | Issue 1116

DECEMBER 2015 . JANUARY 2016



Everyday Heroes

Helping the Homeless humanitarians with MICHELE WOJCIECHOWSKI BETH DREHER, AND ALYSSA JUNG, BRANDON SPECKTOR, innovative solutions. Three stories of

VOICES & VIEWS

The Real 12 Days of Christmas Department of Wit

COLIN NISSAN FROM MCSWEENEY'S turtledoves. It's not all true love and

20 **Pretty Girl** Words of Lasting Interest

23 100-Word True Stories 26 Points to Ponder

READER FAVORITES

31 Faces of America

Never give up on anything, MY SOUTHERN JOURNEY RICK BRAGG FROM THE BOOK least of all a dog.

54 All in a Day's Work 32 Life in These United States

News from the

World of Medicine

24 I'm Finally Ready to ... Finish This Sentence

29 The Case of the Ticket Who should pay when Mix-up You Be the Judge

BTIME HE IAS YE HEARDOTONE

an airline sends passengers

104 Laugh Lines

Photo of Lasting Interest

94 The Moth

That's Outrageous!

78

Laughter, the Best Medicine

39

A Case Against the Clock

ART OF LIVING

TONY CRABBE FROM QUARTZ

42 What Your Holiday Eating KELSEY KLOSS **Habits Say About You**

44 How Bad Is It ...

KELSEY KLOSS

46 **Build the Perfect** Cozy Fire

KELSEY KLOSS

48 Master Your Holiday Mail KELSEY KLOSS

Health

56 Classic Health Debates SUNNY SEA GOLD

60 Festive Foods That Help You Lose

LIZ VACCARIELLO FROM THE BOOK STOP & DROP DIET

62 The Season's Germiest CAROLINE PRADERIO Greetings FROM PREVENTION



VERSIONS MEDIA IN OUR



WHO KNEW?

130 13 Things Credit Card You MICHELLE CROUCH **Companies Know About**

134 5 Celebrities Who Spied LINDA RODRIGUEZ MCROBBIE on the Side

FROM MENTAL FLOSS

7 Touchy-Feely Questions Answered by Science BRANDON SPECKTOR

140 Why We Love Superstorms MARIA KONNIKOVA FROM THE NEW YORKER