

What to buy

2016 HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

LAST-MINUTE GIFTS

1 SHOPPING DAY LEFT

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. But since you didn't submit your list in a timely fashion, he suggests these gifts for that almost-forgotten special someone in your life. Bear

in mind that most retail outlets will close by 6 p.m. today.

— MIKE PEARSON, BLADE FEATURES EDITOR

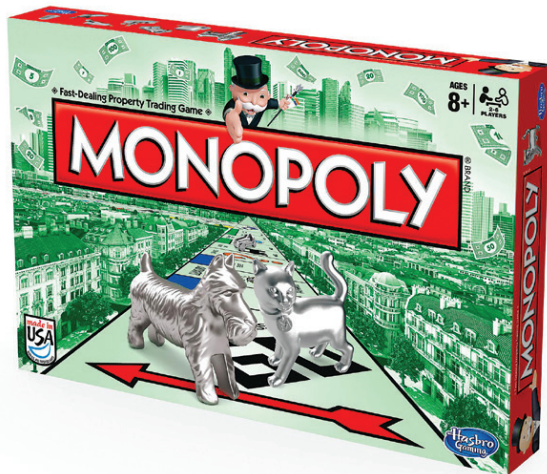
Starlight Lantern

Being open 24 hours 365 days a year is a decided plus for some CVS stores, which offer a surprising bounty for last-minute shoppers. If you need a toy for that late arrival, you'll find everything from a **Discovery Kids Starlight Lantern** that projects stars onto the ceiling, to a roll-up travel chalk board, to a wood and brass tic-tac-toe set. Lots of choices when you've got little time. Toy prices start at **\$9.99** and go up.



Board games

For the gamer who eschews video screens for old-fashioned entertainment, the options are limitless. Consider Monopoly with versions ranging from Bible-opoly to *Star Wars*, Risk variations from *The Walking Dead* to *Doctor Who*, and such nerdcore delights as *The Settlers of Catan*, frequently referenced on CBS' *The Big Bang Theory*. Most classic board games can be had for under **\$20** at Target, Wal-Mart, and other big box retailers. Find specialty games like *Catan* at Toledo Game Room, 3001 W. Sylvania Ave., for **\$19.99** and up.



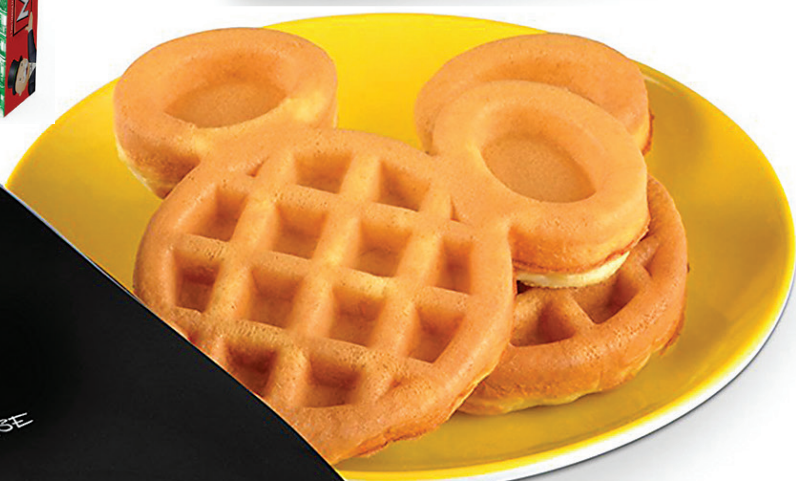
Hickory Farms

From a selection of quality chocolates or teas for under **\$20** to a towering gift basket filled with everything from nuts, to sausages and cheeses, this is the ideal last-minute gift for those who like to snack. It's too late for delivery, so try one of the Toledo-based company's walk-in locations. **\$15-\$90** at 308 W. Dussel Drive, Maumee (open until 5 p.m.) and Franklin Park Mall.



Disney Breakfast Appliances

From Elsa-inspired snowflake waffles to Captain America's Shield, Disney offers a line of small appliances sure to make waking up more special for a child. What future Jedi wouldn't feel the Force of a 2-slice Darth Vader toaster? **\$24.99** and up. Target, Kohl's, Kroger, CVS.



Gift cards

Often considered the gift of last resort (or least effort), sometimes a gift card is the perfect option for that mercurial person in your life. Choose from a wide selection of stores — retail, restaurants, amusement park memberships. This gift lets the recipient do the work of deciding what's best for him. Various amounts from Kroger, The Andersons, Meijer, Walt Churchill's Markets, and individual stores.



Star Registry

If you consider someone the star of your life, the Star Name Registry lets you go online and name a star visible from anywhere in the world for as little as **\$19.95**. Choose from standard stars, extra bright stars, and more. You can print out the gifting certificate at home, or opt for a Binary Star Gift set that includes Star Name Deed, Sky Atlas star maps, and a presentation box. The latter gets mailed to you, but you can still print a presentation certificate before Christmas. **\$19.95** to **\$124.95** at star-name-registry.org.



Sky Zone

Put a bounce in someone's step with this gift for the young and young at heart. Holland-based Sky Zone is a trampoline park that allows the user to engage in activities ranging from ultimate dodgeball, Friday night Glow Zone (sort of like moonlight bowling, only here you're jumping on trampolines), and the ever popular Foam Zone, where kids can catapult themselves into a pit filled with 10,000 foam cubes. **Jump passes** start at **\$10** (for 30 minutes) and can be ordered and confirmation printed online at skyzone.com/toledo. The physical location is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. today, 1600 Albon Rd., Holland.



Luminescence scented candles

When you're shopping on a budget, Dollar Tree is calling your name. Gather a selection of small scented candles for **\$1** each. Fragrances range from simple vanilla to apple cinnamon, pumpkin spice, and more. Pick up a small wicker basket and some tissue paper, and you've got the perfect gift for under **\$6**. Items are **\$1** each at Dollar Tree.



Seat Solution

Sometimes the simplest gifts can be the most practical. Consider an orthopedic seat cushion, perfect for anyone who spends his or her days sitting in front of a computer, steering wheel, or even a sewing machine. Soften the blow with a present that won't have recipients shifting in their seats. **\$19.99**, Walgreens, Bed Bath & Beyond, and other retailers.

* Prices and availability subject to change.

Tickets

Tickets make a great last-minute gift. Consider shows like *Jersey Boys* at the Stranahan Theater in January (etix.com); jazz singer Dianne Reeves at the Valentine Theatre in February (valentinetheatre.com); a University of Toledo sporting event (utroocketsports.com), the Harlem Globetrotters or WWE Smackdown at Huntington Center (Ticketmaster.com). Best of all, tickets can be paid for online and printed from your home computer. Prices vary and usually include a service fee.



Helping to Fill Stockings since 1917
Gift Cards available starting at \$5

Happy Holidays to Your Family from the Walt Churchill's Market Family!

