

It's starting to look a lot like Christmas in the Winder home, and it will most likely stay that way for a few months.

Faye Winder of rural Beresford has collected many special Christmas items over the years. Once she gets them all in place throughout her six-bedroom farm home, she likes to enjoy them for as long as possible.

"No joke, it's literally a miracle if I have it all down by April," she said. "I have a picture of my son and my dad, who share a birthday in March, sitting at the dining room table blowing out their candles with Christmas stockings in the background. I usually take the tree down but leave everything else up until I decide to do my spring cleaning."

Although Faye has many decorations, she doesn't overdo it. Each room has a theme and the items seem to fit nicely without overpowering the beauty of the home itself.

The kitchen is decorated with Santas of all shapes and sizes. There are Santa snow globes, light-up plastic Santas, Santa smiling from a painting hanging on the wall, Santa covering the fridge, and Santa salt and pepper shakers.

The dining room is adorned with several antiques Faye has bought at auctions over the years and a beautiful grandfather clock she purchased in Germany when she was stationed there with the military.

"I was a private and didn't have any money, but I so wanted that clock, so I put it on layaway and paid bit by bit," she said. "I've moved that clock with me all these years."

There is also a beautiful porcelain doll Faye's mother made sitting in an antique high chair that is a family heirloom. From the dining room window hangs a personalized stocking for Faye and her husband, Pete, and each of her children and their spouses and grandchildren.

"My sister-in-law makes the stockings. It takes her eight hours for each of them, and she has made about 1,000 over the years," she said. "I don't have a mantel, so the window has to do."



In the living room, Faye has displayed an antique cradle with family heirlooms tucked inside, including Pete's grandfather's hand mirror and her grandfather's Bible. The Christmas tree is a 1970s faux tree with a rotating stand that plays music. The tree, which she bought for \$3, came with the original ornaments and lights.

"I've broken some of the ornaments over the years, so this year I added a few more that weren't original. I don't use the original lights on

HOME continued on page 20



Jeff Liudahl, MD

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