



Christmas was saved for a Mt. Vernon family after they lost their home to a fire on Christmas Eve night. Amy Cromer, 26 and John Wells, 24 lost their Sand Springs home to the fire. The couple also lived there with three children eight-year old Jase Cameron, six-year-old Jaden Cameron and two-year-old Dawson Cameron. The house was a total loss and only a few Christmas presents could be saved. After the fire, the family stayed the night with Cromer's aunt at her apartment in Livingston. On Christmas morning, Cromer received a call from Neal James, otherwise known as the Turtleman's friend in the Animal Planet's TV show "Call of the Wildman." James told Cromer that he had a carload of presents that Santa Claus had dropped off at his house for the children. James arrived at the apartment an hour later with a trunk load of gifts for the children. Also pictured at right is James' brother-in-law Ron Tillet.



“Fire”

(Cont. from front)

aunt at her apartment in Livingston. On Christmas morning, Cromer received a phone call around 6:30 from Neal James, otherwise known as the Turtleman's friend in Animal Planet's TV show "Call of the Wildman." James is a distant relative of Cromer.

James told Cromer that he had a carload of Christmas presents that Santa Claus had dropped off at his house for her kids.

"It was a weight lifted off of my shoulders to hear what he had to say," Cromer said. "I was afraid that my kids were not going to have a good Christmas but all of that changed with one phone call."

An hour later, James arrived at the apartment with a trunk load of gifts for Cromer's three children.

"He opened up the back hatch of his car and it was completely full of presents," Cromer said. "My kids were so excited! They immediately started going through them and digging in them."

The gifts included a Nerf gun and scooter for Jase, a pony doll and a children's vanity mirror for Jaden and an electric four-wheeler for Dawson.

"I told him I couldn't thank him enough for saving Christmas for my family," Cromer said. "He told me to not give the glory to him, but instead to give all the glory to God."

Since finding out the news about their house fire, Cromer said she has received hundreds of phone calls and Facebook messages from people who are reaching out to help her family.

"So many of our relatives, friends and former classmates have helped by sending food, clothes, toi-

leties and other supplies," Cromer said. "It's hard to lose everything in a house fire the night before Christmas, but we are thankful to have so many people who wanted to help."

Cromer said that she also received news from Sam Cornett of the National Indian Association, who told Cromer to find a trailer for sale and that he would make a down payment on it. He also told Cromer that if her family wanted to rent a house instead, that he would pay the rent for the first five or six months.

Cromer said that she and her family are very appreciative of the help they have received during their tragedy and that she couldn't thank everyone enough.

"I knew that people would want to help but I didn't know people would help as much as they have," Cromer said. "Thanks to everyone's help, things are slowly returning to normal for my family."

If you wish to donate to the family, call Amy at 606-386-0129 for more information or you can send monetary donations to Amy Cromer, P.O. Box 202, Mt. Vernon Ky. 40456.

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