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By Sue Buchanan

Backstage whispers from someone who knows

First, let me wish you a Merry Christmas! Second - and you'll be thrilled with this next information - I CAN HELP YOU WITH YOUR SHOPPING. In fact, consider it done! You don't even have to leave your nice big doublewide, or your mega McMansion - whatever the case may be. You can shop online at Gaither.com from your saggy, ugly ol' shoulda-been-thrown-out-years-ago La-Z-Boy or your Louis the Umpteenth chair with claw feet like those of a lion.

Everybody, I'm saying EVERYBODY on your list - from teenagers to seniors - will love, LOVE, the new Vocal Band CD and video called "Give it Away!" Let me point out, dear faithful reader, that while I'm not above being bribed, it's not the case here - it's from my heart! And yes I'm prejudiced! I was not only in the recording studio, but also at the videotaping in Indianapolis - I've never had such fun.

Lillie Knauls is known for her beautiful smile and her interesting hats. She wore a hat to the first Homecoming video shoot 15 years ago and everyone took notice. When she would show up at her singing/speaking events WITHOUT a hat, everyone would be disappointed. "What? No hat?" Finally, she gave into it and it proved to be a stroke of genius. It not only has become her trademark - but duh! - she never has to worry about her hairdo, she even wears a hat to Curves. Lillie - a woman with a heart for God - is a recording artist and animated performer, and ... how do I say this? She has "moves!" A friend compared her to the legendary James Brown, and for Christmas one year, sent her, well, a dancing James Brown doll that sings, "I Feel Good!" I doubt James taught Lillie anything new in the "moves" department, but it did motivate her to buy a black leather hat and jacket. Lillie's new CD is "Past and Present." Buy two. Keep one for yourself ... and the other one? GIVE IT AWAY, for goodness sakes!