

# A holiday spirit all year round

ST. GEORGE — Mary Jane Fawson has the holiday spirit — in August.

Last January, when most Christmas ornaments were packed away in the attic and fir trees had been picked up by the garbage collectors, the Fawsons were still watching the lights on their Christmas tree blink.

However, the tree took on a new “holiday” look in February when Mary Jane hung red ceramic hearts on the tree.

The Fawson “Holiday Tree” was born, and since then has been signifying the holidays — with shamrocks for St. Patrick’s Day, baskets and eggs for Easter, and red, white and blue hats for the Fourth of July.

“I always do the house up for the holidays,” explained Mary Jane, “so I just decided to call this my ‘Holiday tree.’ It’s just a little quirk.”

“In January, the kids laughed at me and said, ‘Mom this is ridiculous.’ But now that it’s a holiday tree, it’s OK,” she said.

Mary Jane’s seven children may like the tree, but laughed, Rebecca, 11, “Everyone thinks it’s funny.”

The holiday tree will be displayed in the new “Holidaze” room in the Washington County Fair beginning Thursday, along with other decorating and gift ideas for the holidays.

The Fawsons purchased the Christmas tree from the Dixie Medical Center Festival of Trees. The artificial tree was designed by Mike Andelin and was decorated with golden butterflies, garlands and poinsettias.

The tree, which has now become a standard decoration in the Fawson’s living room, receives many surprised comments, said Mary Jane.

“Some people think it’s strange, some think it’s nice. But I think it’s nice, and that’s all that matters,” she said. “It’s something to talk about when people come.”

The “Holidaze” room, to be held in the bandroom at Hurricane High School during the fair, will “daze and dazzle” people, said fair spokeswoman LaRee Jones.

“It seemed to us that people who do crafty things, usually do them for the holidays,” she said, “so it seemed a natural thing to have a ‘Holidaze’ room.”



ST. GEORGE — Mary Jane Fawson keeps the holiday spirit throughout the year with her “Holiday Tree,” decorated for each holiday.