

Money Talks December 2021

By David Helscher

Tw'as a winter's night during the pandemic  
When tasked with a poem iambic  
Avoid debate, divisive issues and political thrills  
What follows, I hope, fits the bill.

Tw'as a month before Christmas  
To recall the year and its events canvassed.  
Which caused this writer to be startled  
Compose in verse and not be garbled.

The Lumberkings played in a new league  
It ended the stay-at-home fatigue  
Different rules, for no good reason  
Even with a shorter season.

We've had bitcoin, ethereum and diem galore  
Ever rising, but we want much more.  
Markets rebound and set record highs  
This time is different. Old timers just sigh.

A year of supply disruption and shortage of labor  
Just as the Fed is beginning to taper  
Missing items and empty shelves  
Heard of a new strike, this time by elves.

All through the virtual workspace  
We cannot meet face to face  
Managers focus on their business  
Hoping that more revenue soon would surface.

Inflation is in the headlines  
It depends on how one defines  
The Fed says its transitory  
I hope it's not inflammatory.

Shopping resumed as we opened our purse  
Seeing gas prices, some of us cursed.  
Incomes rose and savings declined  
Pent up demand, I dare to opine.

The River Hawks finish at #2, exciting  
In a year otherwise frustrating  
The Hawkeyes were fun ranked #2, for awhile

Winning games with their own defensive style.

The Showboat started the year in the park  
Waiting for sunset, so the stage goes to dark.  
Then moving the venue, returning indoors,  
A job well done by cast and crew. Encore!

A variety of vaccines were offered  
To curb the Covid-19 monster.  
A sore arm and fatigue to reduce herd danger  
And give immunity and economy a booster.

Go Doctors, Go Nurses, Go grocery store clerks  
On teachers! On truckers! On all frontline workers  
Flatten the curve, bend it down small  
Jab away, jab away, vaccinate all.

Headlines carry signs of climate change  
With fires, melt and storms, it is certainly strange  
Change plans for stuffers for what stockings will hold.  
Find something else and eliminate coal.

We finally got our infrastructure week,  
To fix the bridges, roads and pot holes in the street.  
Debt ceilings and budgets still on hold  
Shouldn't compromise be our goal.

These lines had to rhyme, which was so simple  
As no one would mind if I fudged it a little.  
Others might struggle to stick to the meter  
But the English was good and consider the reader.

Say goodbye to 2021, give it a cheer.  
Despite everything, glad you were here.  
But not just yet, the end is in sight,  
Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good night.