

THE NEW DAWN: REVIVING OUR VOICE

We're Back!

Written by: Allison Noggle

After a long break of over 20 years, we are thrilled to reintroduce our beloved newspaper, The Tracer. This revival marks a significant moment in our school's history as we aim to bring fresh perspectives, vibrant stories, and a renewed sense of community.

The Tracer has been a platform for students to express their thoughts, share their achievements, and engage in meaningful discussion. We strive to provide a voice to every student, celebrating their diverse talents and interests. The Tracer's mission is to provide members of the Wayne Trace School District with informative, representative articles that nurture natural curiosity.

Echoes of Ink: Our Legacy

Written by: Cayla Noggle

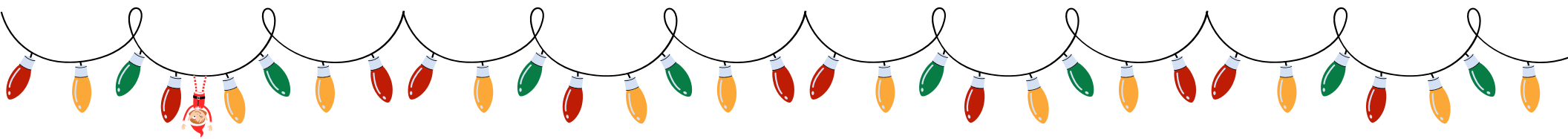
The last official paper to be printed for The Tracer was in 2018, but only one was printed. The last full year of publication was 2003 with bimonthly additions. Over the years, the advising position transferred among staff members, but the last person to fulfill the role was Sarah Kiehl. The reason the publications ceased was due to the shift from being a

credited class to becoming an extracurricular. In the end, students did not want to continue participating, so the advisor made the executive decision to halt publications.



Natalie Stoller
Senior Studio





Christmas Interview

Written by: Anna Manz

With Christmas just around the corner, I had the pleasure of chatting with Mrs. Holly Jones, the vice principal at Wayne Trace High School. During our conversation, she shared her heartfelt thoughts about the holiday season. For her, Christmas is about “seeing the magic that happens in the human race.” She loves how “everyone is a little kinder, nicer, and more generous around Christmas.” However, Mrs. Jones did share a common concern that many people feel: the overwhelming focus on gifts. She believes it is far more meaningful to “share experiences rather than gifts.” Mrs. Jones wished that during the holiday season, people would take a moment to be thankful for what they already have, instead of stressing over new things or worrying about what they can not afford. When I asked about her favorite holiday meal, she surprised me by saying she would much rather prefer a delicious steak, juicy cheeseburgers, or crispy french fries over the traditional turkey or ham. It seems like Mrs. Jones has her own special way of celebrating the season!

Alumni Story

Written by: Allison Noggle

Matt Noggle, a 1999 graduate of Wayne Trace High School, kindly agreed to share his heartfelt memories from his high school years. During his high school years, he was involved in both baseball and basketball. When it came to baseball, he played as a first baseman and pitcher, eventually earning a spot on the team at Tri-State University, now known as Trine University, where he pursued a degree in computer science. Reflecting on his basketball journey, Matt expressed, “I loved Raider basketball; I always wanted to be a Raider basketball player.” He spoke fondly of the communal spirit surrounding Wayne Trace basketball, noting how the stands were always filled with enthusiastic fans – a tradition that brought everyone together.



Faculty Feature

Written by: Trista Evans & Allison Noggle

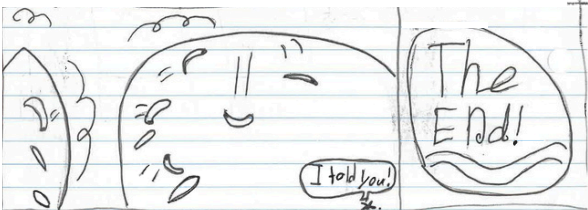
For this month’s Faculty Feature is Mrs. Jessica Holden, a history teacher at Wayne Trace. When asked why Mrs. Holden decided to pursue a teaching profession, she promptly responded that teaching is a passion that drives her, rooted in the profound belief that she can make a difference in the lives of her students. Mrs. Holden’s students might be astonished to discover that her family has deep connections to South America because her cousins were born and raised there, bringing stories and cultural richness that add a unique layer to her experiences and

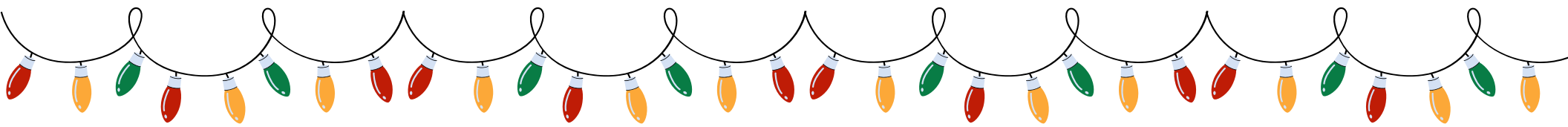
worldview. Beyond the classroom, she has a remarkable ability to play the piano, filling the room with beautiful melodies. In her downtime, she indulges in the world of literature, often found lost in the pages of captivating novels. Reading allows her to escape into different realms, exploring diverse perspectives and narratives that enrich her understanding of the world.



Natalie Richie, AP Studio Art

Matt vividly remembers a varsity game where the fans got so loud he “actually had to plug [his] ears because [they] were hurting and ringing from how loud the fans were screaming.” Matt shared another vivid memory from a tournament game in 1998. When the time came for Raiders to walk onto the court for a shoot-around, Matt described the moment they looked toward the stands and saw a sea of fans, all crammed together, overflowing with support. The contrast was striking; the opposing fans were few, highlighting just how special the Raider community really was.





Employment Reflection

Written by: Kahlee Fore

Mrs. Karen Seigman, a biology teacher at Wayne Trace, was interviewed to obtain the inside scoop related to job satisfaction at Wayne Trace High School. When asked if she felt welcomed in the learning community, Mrs. Seigman enthusiastically replied, “Yep! Everybody here has been really nice, whether it has been the other teachers or the administration.” While she conveyed her enjoyment in redirecting her career toward a position at Wayne Trace, she discussed one thing she desired Wayne Trace to improve for the amelioration of teachers’ mental health: camaraderie. She went on to detail this

companionship as a safe place for teachers to assemble and confer about various topics from classroom activities to students for the betterment of their lesson plans. To finish out the interview, Mrs. Seigman was asked about her most cherished memory from teaching in Lima, OH, to which she communicated the satisfaction she received every time she was able to teach students not only science but life lessons as well. Overall, Mrs. Seigman disclosed her pleasure in taking the final step in switching from a high school in the city to a high school in a rural community.

Triple-A

Written by: EmmaJane Benschneider

Are you finding it challenging to keep up with your assignments or facing difficulties in a class? Look no further than the Triple-A program, designed specifically to assist students like you. This invaluable resource offers after-school support, running for one hour from Monday to Thursday. During this time, students can receive individualized attention with their homework, missing assignments, and projects, or prepare for upcoming tests. Triple-A is more than just a tutoring service; it provides a nurturing environment that boosts students' confidence. By participating, you will not only receive the academic assistance you need but also develop essential time management skills. Remember, this program serves as a supportive resource rather than a requirement. You have the flexibility to attend as often as you need, making it easier for you to get back on track and succeed in your studies.

Down

- 1. A type of cookie used to build holiday structures
- 2. A green circle hung on the front door
- 3. Green plant with berries
- 4. Found under the tree on Christmas morning
- 9. Placed at the top of the Christmas tree

Across

- 5. Leads Santa’s sleigh
- 6. Commonly hung to decorate Christmas trees
- 7. The item hung by the fireplace
- 8. Usually decorated with a scarf, hat, mittens, and coal
- 9. Vehicle used to deliver presents on Christmas Eve
- 10. Red and white hook

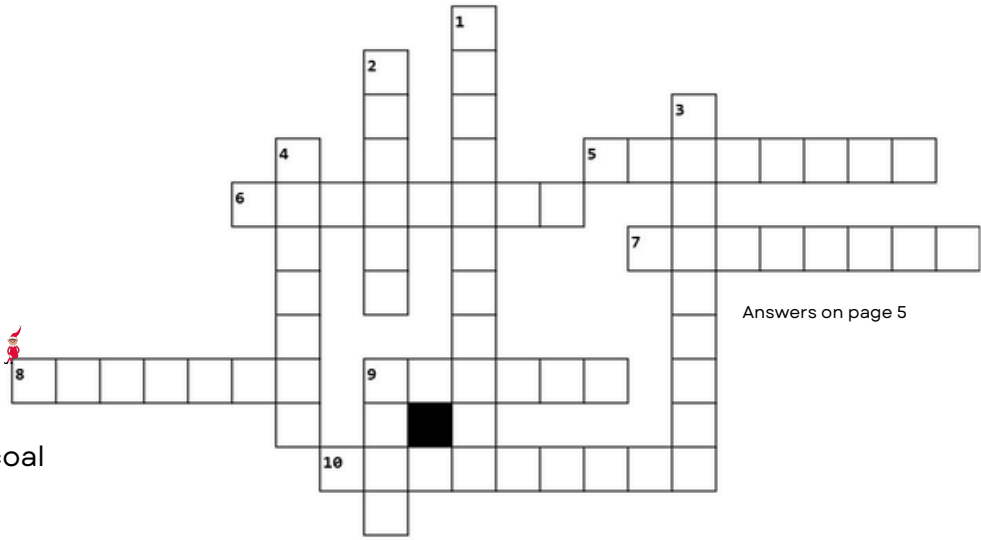
Residents Have Spoken

Written by: Cayla Noggle

The approximately thirty million dollar performing arts center and community center bond for Wayne Trace School District did not make headway on the ballot for the November fifth election. The only performance auditorium in the district was constructed in 1938 in what is now called Payne Elementary School. As can be expected, the facility began showing its old age, creating restrictions for performers. By adding the community center, which would house STEAM classrooms and a wrestling room, additional classrooms would have been placed in the high school to efficiently excel learning. While these facilities would have equipped students and members of the community with a convenient place to improve physically and academically, the residents found a primary deposition in the bond issue, the tax levy. Although some of the benefits of this bond issue would have included spacious parking lots and a higher public image of the school, ultimately, the bond did not pass; 694 votes approved and 1,854 opposed the issue relating to the performing arts and community center.

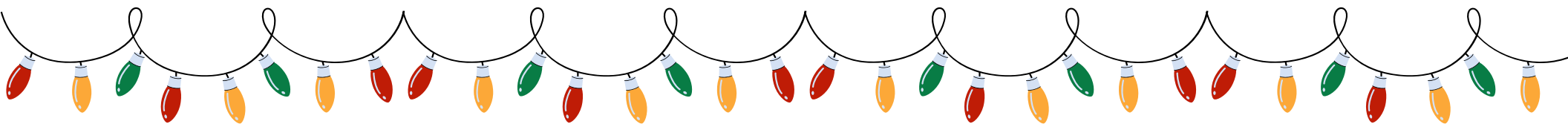


Natalie Stoller, Senior Studio



Answers on page 5





Aiden Lee & Bella Knowles, Senior Studio

Hoops and Dreams

Written by: Jericho Guyton

As the season progresses, the Lady Raiders continue to cultivate a sense of unity and determination. Each game begins in the locker room where they gather to strategize offensive and defensive techniques. This preparation is crucial, allowing them to mentally align and familiarize themselves with their opponents. Once the game plan is set, they take a moment to come together, reflect by saying the Lord’s Prayer, and reinforce their shared purpose. This ritual not only grounds them but also instills a sense of gratitude and teamwork that carries into the game. Reflecting on Tianna Sinn, Harper Myers, and Kathleen Stoller’s senior journies, it is clear that their time together – nearly four years – has significantly strengthened their trust and confidence in one another. This familiarity is invaluable; it allows them to anticipate each other’s moves during games. This year it feels particularly promising to the Lady Raiders; the seniors believe they have one of the strongest teams they have ever fielded, one that has the potential to claim the conference title. The Green Meadow Conference is known for its tough competition, but the girls are confident that their hard work will help them rise to the challenge. With each passing day, they grow stronger together, and they cannot wait to see what the rest of the season has in store for them. Their journey is just beginning, and the prospect of winning the GMC title is within their reach. Together, they are determined to make this season one for the books.

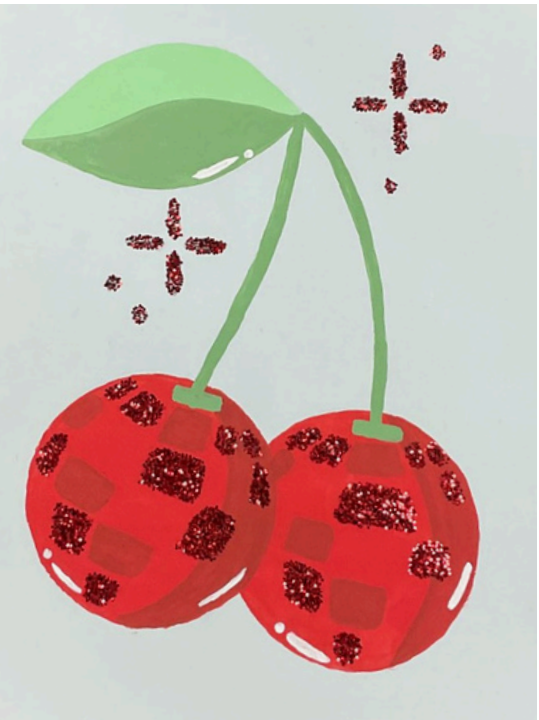
Learn a Language

Written by: Jericho Guyton

One of the benefits of learning a foreign language is the opportunity it provides to understand and appreciate different cultures. Language serves as a vessel for cultural expression, carrying unique nuances, idioms, and traditions. By learning a new language, people gain insights into diverse values, history, and social dynamics. Moreover, knowing a foreign language can allow individuals to connect with non-native speakers and form relationships that would otherwise be inaccessible. Lastly, studies have shown that bilingual people tend to have improved problem-solving skills, better memory retention, and enhanced multitasking abilities. The process of learning a new language challenges the brain, encouraging mental flexibility and creativity. So, if you have ever pondered learning a new language, take the next step.



Stefany Lopez-
Castillo
AP Studio Art



Natalie Stoller, Senior Studio

Winter Safety

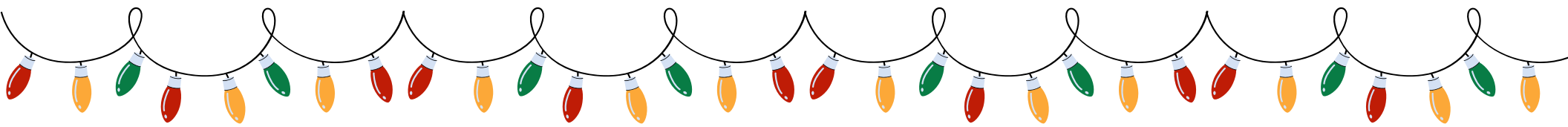
Written by: Allison Noggle

Have you ever contemplated the hazards of driving during the winter months? Graham Law, an Ohio personal injury law firm, highlighted a concerning statistic that underscores this issue: “Last winter in Ohio, there were over 15,600 crashes and 27 tragic fatalities resulting from conditions involving snow, ice, or slush-covered roads.” If this alarming figure has you reflecting on the importance of safety behind the wheel, you are not alone. To navigate roads safely, it is essential to prepare yourself before hitting the road. Start by allowing plenty of time for your journey. Once you are on the road, remember that the essence of safe winter driving lies in the smoothness of your movements. Abrupt actions can easily lead to tires losing traction, increasing the risk of skidding or losing control. Always remember, your time on earth is limited, so do not shorten that span due to lack of preparation or irresponsibility.



Ava Stoller, Senior Studio





House Bill 250

Written by: Allison Noggle

The introduction of House Bill 250 by Governor Mike DeWine has sparked a wave of dissent among many students in Ohio, yet this policy is rooted in a variety of benefits that could significantly enhance the school environment. Set to take effect by July 2025, this legislation aims to strengthen students' focus by allowing them to immerse themselves in lesson plans without constant distractions. Mrs. Jessica Holden expressed her approval of House Bill 250 saying she has noticed an improvement in her students' coursework due to decreased distractions in the classroom. One of the key advantages of implementing House Bill 250 is its potential to mitigate phone-related bullying by reducing the opportunities for harassment that can thrive through social media and messaging apps. This reduction in bullying could enhance academic performance, as students feel more secure and confident in their learning environments, ultimately leading to improved self-esteem. Additionally, the regulations surrounding cell phone usage in schools are poised to address pressing mental health concerns. By limiting screen time and promoting healthier habits, House Bill 250 may lead to greater student engagement and positive social-emotional development. Parents, while understandably concerned about their children's ability to communicate in today's fast-paced world, may find comfort in the proposed benefits of this legislation.

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ELVES
GINGERBREAD
GREETINGS
HOLLY
ANGEL

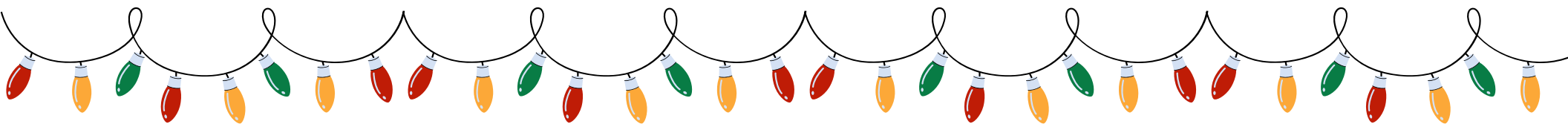
CAROLING
CLAUSE
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SANTA
SEASONS
SNOWFLAKE
SNOWMAN
TINSEL



Ava Stoller
Senior Studio





Broken Records

Written by: Allison Noggle

On Wednesday, November 27, 2024, the highly anticipated sequel, Moana 2, graced theaters worldwide, captivating audiences with its vibrant animation and enchanting story. The film achieved a staggering opening weekend, grossing \$386 million, which not only set a new record for the highest global opening ever recorded for an animated feature but also marked the largest earnings for any film on Black Friday and Thanksgiving Day in history. Furthermore, Moana 2 secured the title for the biggest opening day revenue for a Disney animated movie, showcasing its immense popularity. Experts predict that Moana 2 will exceed all previously set expectations, positioning it as the most-watched film of 2024. Fans eager to experience the magic from the comfort of their homes can look forward to streaming the film on Disney Plus in March 2025.



Natalie Richie
AP Studio Art

Laugh a Little

Written by: Kahlee Fore

I would tell you a joke about pizza, but it would be too cheesy.

Why are Christmas trees so bad at knitting? They always drop their needles.

Why do cows wear bells? Their horns do not work.

What was the Christmas tree’s favorite subject in high school? Treegonometree!

From Ashes to Art

Written by: Cayla Noggle

Axel Bidlack recently secured the runner-up position in the Ohio State University Sijo Korean Poetry Contest. As a reward for Axel’s outstanding and creative poem, he received \$150. In an interview, Axel shared that the best part of writing his poem was connecting with a living form of art. Axel expressed a deep love for poetry, noting that emotions play a significant role in conveying meaning through the words on the page. Axel enthused, “I want to share my writing and hope to make something of it.” Upon receiving the news of the magnificent achievement, Axel said, “I had to call my mom.” He believes the judges selected his poem because of its connection to the charcoal media art project. When asked to describe his poem, he proclaimed excitedly, “I wrote about how the charcoal formed a woman who has an aliveness that is managed to be expressed through the poem.”

The Girl in Time

After crumbling in my hand, the charcoal is now on the page
The shapes start to form and her eyes show a soul that stares out
She's watching and waiting for her completion in the artist's life

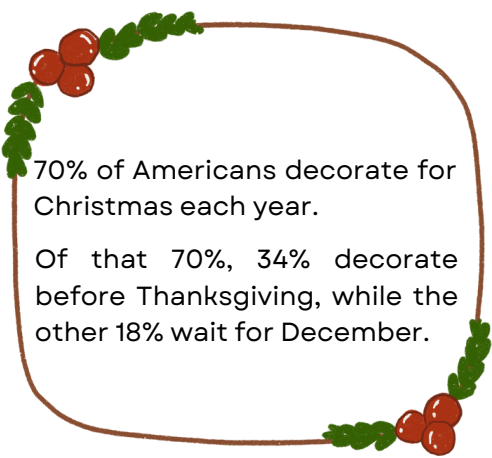


Estrella Martinez-Sandoval
AP Studio Art

’Tis the Season

Written by: EmmaJane Benschneider

Christmas is around the corner and houses are brimming with bright, celebratory decorations for this holiday season. Some students at Wayne Trace have had their decorations up since Halloween, while others’ decorations went up after Thanksgiving. A big question has arisen: When should the Christmas decorations be put out?

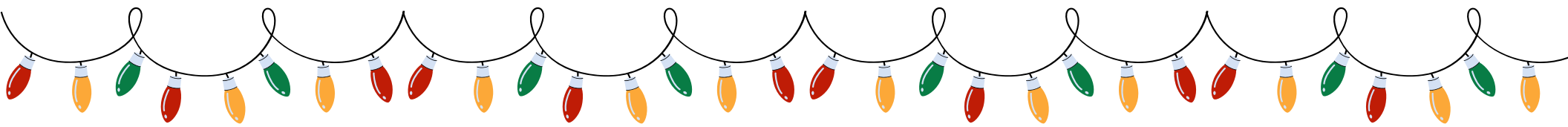


According to NewsNation, more people like to decorate before Thanksgiving rather than after. Many people catch the holiday fever after Halloween and throw up their tinsel before giving Thanksgiving a second thought. Besides these statistics, the question still lingers: When is the appropriate time to decorate for Christmas?



Ava Stoller
Senior Studio





Remembering Our Past

Volume 21, Issue 3, December 1993
Written by: Jamie Canfield, Class of 1996

Santa Claus is a legendary American figure who traditionally brought gifts to children at Christmas. The popular image of Santa Claus originated from Saint Nicholas, a fourth-century Bishop of Myra. Little is known of his life, but there are many legends who tell his story. One story about him is that he secretly provided three bags of gold as a dowry for three sisters, who were the daughters of an impoverished merchant. One of the bags of gold, which he tossed through a window at night, fell into a stocking. The tradition of hanging stockings for Santa to fill originates from this tale. In the West, Saint Nicholas became known as a patron Saint of children because of his kindness to the three sisters.

There are many different names for Santa Claus. The Dutch call him Sinterklass, and they are responsible for his introduction into the American scene. Washing Irving described him as a rotund, jolly figure who wore a wide-brimmed hat and smoked a long-stemmed pipe. The current image of Santa Claus owes much to Clement C. Moore’s poem, “A Visit from St. Nicholas.” It was he who added the reindeer and sleigh, the twinkling eye, and “Laying of the finger aside the nose,” to the legend of jolly ol’ St. Nick. The fur suit was contributed by Germans who pictured Saint Nicholas as a furry imp called “Pelz Nichol.” Interestingly enough, the wide-brimmed hat became a soft furry cap thanks to Thomas Nast and his cartoon of Santa Clause in “Harpers Illustrated Weekly” in 1863.

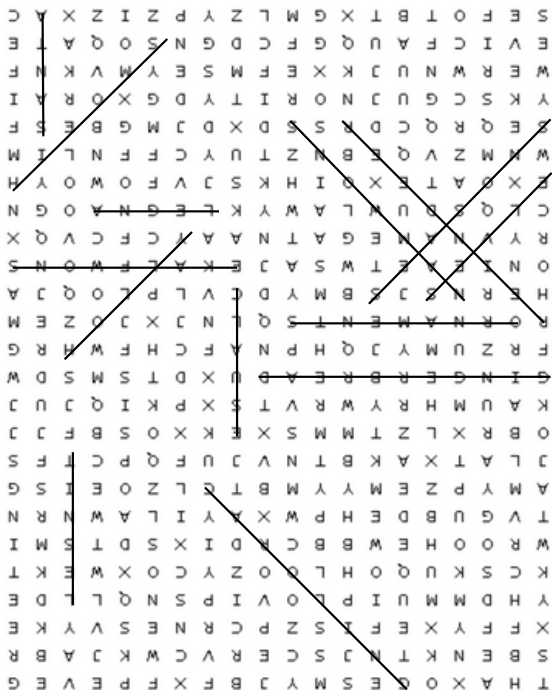
The idea of Santa Claus has parallels in other countries. The reformation influence downgraded the role of Saints, so in Germany, the image was replaced by the Christ child, who in particular legend because of Kris Kringle. Father Christmas, was the English variant although the American Santa Clause has spread to England as well as to Canada and Australia.



Aiden Lee
Community Arts Capstone



Chloe McClure
Art Studio



Answers to wordsearch



Reece Olwin,
Carter Baumle, and
Ben Gurney,
Fiber Arts





Written by: Allison Noggle

Staff Photo

