

The LIMELIGHT

Limestone Community High School

Bartonville, IL 61607

Volume 46, Issue 2

Christmas Special Issue. Inside!

Holiday Spirit alive and well at Limestone

Student Council Food Drive helps feed the hungry

By Marlana Bussey

This year's Limestone Community High School Food Drive was incredibly successful. "Every year, the food drive gets better and better," says Mr. Gordon Wassell, advisor of the student council.

The annual food drive has been around since the early 1960's, and the student council has always played an integral part in the success of the drive. The idea, originated by student council members, continues to grow

in popularity and allows students the opportunity to



help with the direction of the drive. The activity was

advertised through publicity within the student body, throughout the school district, and district schools.

About 5,000 food items including 600 pounds of turkey were given to needy families. According to Mr. Wassell, the supplies were distributed among 163 people from 39 different families. Food baskets were packed according to the number of adults and children in each family. The baskets were then delivered by student council and Limestone students who volunteered their time and energy to help out the needy.

The charity doesn't stop here, either. Many members from the student council will be visiting the 5 most needy families during the Christmas



.....
"Every year, the food drive gets better and better."
-- Gordon Wassell,
Student Council Advisor

holidays. Again, volunteers, along with the student council, will deliver more food to these selected families to enjoy during the holiday season.

Besides student council's role in the food drive, there are many others who contributed in giving away food for the needy. Bartonville Women's Club, Monroe Grade School, and Oak Grove Schools also played a role in this year's food drive.

Student council and other volunteers did a wonderful job, and received a feeling of satisfaction for helping those less fortunate than themselves.

LCHS spreads Christmas cheer to senior citizens

By Rose Rickard

Preparations are in full swing for the 25 Annual Senior Citizens Christmas Party.

The Family and Consumer Science department, along with Key Club and Student Council, are expecting about 600 seniors citizens on December 16.

Events of the day will include dinner, a concert with Limestone's Jazz Band and

Choir, a Shrine Clown, and a visit from Santa.

Gift bags, prepared by the parenting class, will be distributed. Local businesses and the community donated small items, from coupons to key chains.

Over 200 door prizes, from a microwave oven to gift certificates, were also donated for the senior citizens.

Limestone's cooks and cafeteria workers are donating

their time to prepare the turkey dinner.

Elder Care and Parenting Classes will be busy Tuesday decorating for the upcoming events. The decorations include 30 poinsettias donated by Student Council.

The long standing tradition of hosting a Christmas Party for the seniors is one way that we honor our elders and bring the community together.



Christmas Cultures around the Globe

From Arabia to Japan, Christmas has many different traditions

By Chad Wys

Christmas is a public holiday for Christians that is celebrated worldwide. Christmas is at least one day out of the year that almost everyone shares in common, unlike Thanksgiving, Veterans Day, Columbus Day, or any Presidents Day, which are celebrated only in the United States. Some religions do not celebrate Christmas, however, three quarters of all religions celebrate a holiday related to Christmas. No other holiday

comes close to the amount of money that goes into preparation, gifts, cards, various charities, and decorating. Of course, it is typical in most Northern Hemisphere countries to have a tree somewhere in the house as a decoration, with many ornaments and decor in the Christmas style. Lights, ornaments, tinsel, pine trees, and even certain foods are all products that are manufactured by individual companies and experience most (if not all) their business around Christmas time. Many companies only come out during the Christmas seasons to manufacture certain novelty products.

Eggnog and fruitcakes are two food products that sell so well in the Christmas seasons that they are only available for about a month to two-month period of time. Even record labels solely rely on Christmas time to sell novelty music. More CD's, cassettes, and records are bought during the winter months than any other times of the year combined.

How do you say "Merry Christmas" in Dutch? How do you say it in French? German? Hebrew? You probably wouldn't be able to determine it if someone said it to you unless you know that language. Here is a chart to show you how

differently every country and culture says, "Merry Christmas."

AFRICAN: Rehus-Beal-Ledeats

ARABIC: Idah Saidan Wa Sanah Jadidah

CHINESE (Cantonese): Gun Tso Sun Tan'Gung Haw Sun
DUTCH: Vrolijk Kerstfeest en een Gelukkig Nieuwjaar! or Zalig Kerstfeest

FRENCH: Joyeux Noel

GERMAN: Froehliche Weihnachten

GREEK: Kala Christouyenna!

HAWAIIAN: Mele Kalikimaka

HEBREW: Mo'adim Lesimkha. Chena tova

IRISH: Nollaig Shona Dhuit, or Nodlaig mhaith chugnat

ITALIAN: Buone Feste Natalizie

JAPANESE: Shinnen omedeto. Kurisumasu Omedeto

SPANISH: Feliz Navidad

Christmas can range from a sweltering 110+ degree fiesta, to a frost bitten -75 degree deep freeze. There are over 100 different cultures that celebrate Christmas in their own special way. Christmas in Australia is often very hot. While the Northern Hemisphere is in the middle of winter, Australians are sun bathing in summer heat. It is not unusual to have

(see Culture on P. 3)



Mike Troutman

The film *Jingle All the Way* is the story of a father who will go to any length to make his son's Christmas great, simply by getting a toy that the child wants. The only problem is that every other kid wants the same toy. As a result, the father must compete with other parents to get the elusive toy. Arnold Schwarzenegger stars as the father, with guest appearances by Phil Hartman as the nosy next door neighbor, and Sinbad as another guy looking for the toy. In the attempt to be funny, this movie fails miserably. Schwarzenegger is simply not a good comedy actor. This film is more of a little kids type of movie.

The next film I reviewed was *Scrooged* starring Bill Murray as Scrooge in a modern day version of the Charles Dicken's classic *A Christmas Carol*. While the film had its moments, I think this movie marked the start of Murray's downhill streak of bad movies. In this version, Scrooge is the owner of a huge company and, of course, gets a little greedy around Christmas. The funniest parts of the movie were at the beginning when Murray was just flat out

Lights! Camera! Action!

Christmas Cinema Commentaries

mean to everybody. As the movie dragged on, it got worse and worse.

It's a Wonderful Life is probably the most well known Christmas movie of all. Jimmy Stewart plays George Bailey, a man who has become despondent during the Christmas season and wishes he had never been born. An angel grants George's wish, and the two compare George's real life world against a world that never knew a man named George Bailey. Getting this chance to see how his family fares without him makes Stewart realize what an impact one person can make on the lives on many. Film director Frank Capra created a holiday classic and rightfully so. Stewart's believability as a character is touching, especially when he realizes the true worth of friends and family.

I saved the best film for last. In my opinion, this is the greatest Christmas movie ever written. It is the story of Ralphie, the boy that only wants a Red Rider BB gun for Christmas. The film is *A Christmas Story*. This film provides lots of laughs as

Ralphie tries everything in his power to convince his parents that he needs a Red Rider BB gun, but gets the same response every time, "You'll shoot your eye out." This movie is a classic, every Christmas you can probably catch this film on TV.



Ryan Closen

Jingle All the Way is a hysterical movie. It is about a father that will go to the ends of the earth to get his son a toy called "Turbo Man" for Christmas. There is only one problem—the toy his son wants is the most wanted toy in America. The star of the movie is Arnold Schwarzenegger who plays the father. Also starring in the movie are the late Phil Hartman as the nosy neighbor, and Sinbad, as another dad who wants the toy. It was a good movie, but it is mostly for kids to watch.

Scrooged, today's version of *A Christmas Carol*, is another funny movie. This film stars Bill Murray as Scrooge, the boss of a major television channel that is very greedy and sour. It is a typical Scrooge movie, with the main character being mean to everyone at the beginning and the nicest person alive at the end. Just like the original Scrooge, he gets visited by three ghosts during the night which change his personality. This movie is a great for the whole family to watch.

It's a Wonderful Life is



a well known classic that everyone should like. The 1950's star Jimmy Stewart is the star of the movie. The film is about a guy who wished he was never born and an angel makes it possible for him to see what it would be like if he had never been born. Later, he realizes what life would be like without him. The best part of the movie comes at the end when he goes back to his family and his daughter says the famous line, "everytime a bell rings, an angel gets it's wings."

A Christmas Story is another well known Christmas classic. This movie is on TV very often during the Christmas season. Anyone who would do anything to get a certain present for Christmas like sneaking an ad in their mother's magazine, or write a school report on a desired present will understand this movie. This is a movie the whole family could watch and enjoy it.

Rent any of these movies and enjoy, for they are four of the best movies a family should watch this Christmas season.



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The Top Ten Most Unwanted Christmas Gifts

By Chad Day

Every year teenagers all around the world get stuff they really don't want for Christmas. Well, this year that's not going to happen. This year things are changing. I asked many LCHS students what they hated getting the most at Christmas and this is what they said. Parents don't miss this! Save for future reference!

1. Ugly Sweaters
2. Socks



3. Underwear
4. Sweaters with Christmas pictures that you can only wear at Christmas or you'll look stupid

5. Cheap jewelry that turns your skin green

6. Cheap candy in my stocking

7. Oranges and Apples in your stocking

8. Cheap cologne and perfume that turns your skin green

9. Sticker albums or stamp collections

10. Blankets or sheets

Brighter,

You'll Find It at
Hallmark.

Create shining holiday memories and festive celebrations with items sure to bring the magic of Christmas to your house. We've got everything from Broose the Moose to ceramic teapots to Sparkles the Bear and much more—everything to make your season bright.

Nancy's Hallmark
1399 W. Garfield
Bartonville, IL 61607

Hallmark



("Culture"-from page 1)

Christmas Day well above the 100 degree Fahrenheit mark. A traditional Christmas dinner includes turkey, ham, and pork. A Christmas plum pudding is added for dessert. During the Australian gold rushes, Christmas puddings might have contained a gold nugget. Another special Australian treat is Mince Pie.

On the Eve of Christmas in Egypt, everyone goes to church wearing a completely new outfit. The Christmas service ends at midnight with the ringing of church bells, and then people go home to eat a special Christmas meal known as *fata*, which consists of bread, rice, garlic, and boiled meat. On Christmas morning, people in Egypt and other parts of the Middle East visit friends and neighbors. They take with them, *kalk*, which is a type of shortbread, which they give to the people they visit and eat with a drink known as *shortbat*. Christmas Day is a public holiday for Christians.

Christmas in England began in AD 596, when St. Augustine landed on

England's shore with monks who wanted to bring Christianity to the Anglo Saxons. Today the English enjoy beautiful Christmas music. They love to decorate Christmas trees and hang up evergreen branches. One of England's customs is *mumming*. In the Middle Ages, people called mummers put on masks and acted out Christmas plays. These plays are still performed in towns and villages. The English gift giver is called *Father Christmas*. He wears a long red or green robe, and leaves presents in stockings on Christmas Eve. However, the gifts are not usually opened until the following afternoon.

In France, children leave their shoes by the fireplace to be filled with gifts from *Pere Noel*, on Christmas Eve. In the morning, they also find that sweets, fruits, nuts, and small toys have been hung on the tree. In Southern France, a log is burned in people's homes from Christmas Eve until New Years Day. A long time ago, part of a log was used to make the wedge for the plow as good luck for the coming harvest.

In Italy, a huge feast is carried out for 24 hours before Christmas Eve, and is followed by a celebration meal, in which a light Milanese cake called *panettone* is eaten. Presents and empty boxes are drawn from the *Urn of Fate* - luck dip, which always contains one gift per person. By twilight, a process called *Presipi* takes place, this is when candles are lit around the family home, prayers are said, and children recite poems. At noon on Christmas Day, the Pope gives his blessing to crowds gathered in the huge Vatican square.

Every country and every culture have similarities and differences in the ways they celebrate the Christmas holiday. Some cultures are more humble than others, and do not spoil the Christmas spirit with large amounts of presents and decorations. Intricate detail with decorations, heaping stockpiles of hot food, and lots of presents are great on Christmas Day. But if all of those things keep you from remembering and understanding the real meaning of Christmas, then simple is better.

Editorial

Dear Editor,

Faculty and students who care about the future of Limestone High School, this is something you should read.

Many of the students here are not aware of the latest news at Limestone. The weighted grades were voted on and passed at the last board meeting. If you are not aware of what this is listen up!

As of next fall, every enriched class will be weighted. The standard classes that are offered will not be, even if they are the same class only one is a little more challenging than the other is. In short, the students in enriched/weighted classes will have a 5.0 GPA. and the standard with the regular 4.0 GPA. In other words someone in an enriched/weighted class gets an A, I get an A in standard,

my A looks like a B to their enriched/weighted A. Another downfall to this is elective classes. Electives include bands, choirs, Limelight, Amulet, creative movement, etc. Enrollment will go down in these classes because they are not weighted/ enriched. If they choose to take electives and enriched/weighted classes, they have so not a good chance at not making valedictorian their senior year. That student who is active in the community and with their school deserves that honor at graduation. In my opinion and the opinion of the majority of the student population is that weighted grades is a terrible thing.

Name withheld at student's request



Art by Tim Mason

Santa Claus Parade a big hit with young and old alike

The Nation's longest running parade continues its Christmas tradition in Central Illinois

By Shannon Moore

So much for hot chocolate and woolen mittens! November 28 was a comfortably warm day to celebrate the annual Santa Claus Parade in downtown Peoria. Unknown to many, this particular parade is the longest running celebration in the entire country. Following a route across Monroe, Main, and Jefferson streets, the parade festively marked the start of the Christmas season for Central Illinois. The police sirens wailed, and the downtown streets were lined thickly with parade watchers. Everyone, from the very young to the young at heart was there, to feast their eyes on colorful floats, and cheer on Santa's sleigh.

To start the parade, the local branches of the Army and Navy Corp. marched by holding their respected flags high. Next came the Tazewell County fire department, and the Peoria

County Police. Shiny vintage cars drove by, and candy was thrown to the children waiting at the very edges of sidewalks. Brett Lonteen from WMBD, and the new 98.5 WEEK also made appearances. Floats ion the parade included Crimestoppers, represented by McGruff, the crime dog, the Hollidazzle float, full of song and dance by Zellmer's Dinner Theater, fairy tales such as "The Little

Mermaid", "Cinderella", "The Old Woman in the Shoe", "Three Men in a Tub", and many more.

Even if there was no need for a coat, there were sure chills when Santa arrived last in the parade line. On such a warm day, the annual Santa Claus parade brought home feelings of Christmas, and carried on a time honored Central Illinois tradition.

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January Coming Events



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Happy New Year! 1	2
3	4 GBball(F)@IVC 6:15pm BBball(F)@IVC(H)6:15pm Aerobics Cafe 6:00-7:00pm	5	6 Key Club mtg rm66 7:15am GBball(F)@Pekin 6:00pm Aerobics Cafe 6:00-7:00pm	7 GBball(S&V)@IVC6:00pm Wres(V)Wash&Mor(H)	8 BBball(S&V)@IVC6:00pm	9 Spch@Geneseo H..S. GBball(S&V)Rich(H)11:00 BBball(F)@ND 9:00am Wres(F)WoodruffTourn9:00 Wres(V)I.B.Tourn 9:30
10	11 GBball(F)Canton(H)6:15pm BBball(F)@Canton6:15pm Begin Individual Registration Aerobics Cafe 6:00-7:00pm	12 GBball(S&V)Canton (H) Bld Comm 7:00pm	13 CurrComm mtg Lib 3:00pm GBball(F)@Lincoln6:15 Femmmes UnirLib 7:00pm Aerobics Cafe 6:00-7:00pm	14 BBball(F)@Pekin 6:15pm GBball(S&V)@Met6:00pm Band Boosters 8th Grade Night Cafe 6:30-7:30pm	15 BBball(S&V)Canton(H)6:00	16 Jr.High VBallTourn1:00pm Spch@ICC Wres(V)Urban Inv. 9:30 GBball(F)@Met9:30am Wres(S)ND Tourn.9:00pm Child Miracle Net Chili Sup. BBball(S&V)Wood(H)5:00
17 Jr High VBallTourn4:00pm Soccer Banquet Cafe	18 BBball(F)Metamora(H)6:15 GBball(F)@Metamora 6:15 No School Martin Luther King Jr. Day	19 Mid Illini Spch Tourn Wres(V,S,&F)@Wood6:00 GBball(S&V)Wash(H) 6:00 Brd Mtg 7:00pm	20 Tech Prep mtg Rm18 3:00 GBball(F)@Central6:00pm Key Club mtg Aerobic Cafe 6:00-7:00pm	21 GBball(S&V)Dun(H) 6:00 39 at 11:45pm	22 Foreign Lang Orientation Program Aud 10:45-11:30 BBball(S&V)@Met 6:00pm	23 Spch@Morton BBball(F)@ Wash 9:30am GBball(F)Wash(H)9:30pm Wres(F&S)Mid Illini tourn @Metamora 10:00am BBball(S&V)Wash(H)5:00
24 30	25 Health Department Clinic Cafe 8:30-11:00&1:10-2:10 BBball(F)Dun(H)6:15pm GBball(F)@Dun 6:15pm Aerobics Cafe 6:00-7:00pm	26 Consumer Education Profile Exam Wres(F,S,&V)@Rich6:00pm Talent Show Rehearsal 3:00 GBball(S&V)EP(H)6:00pm	27 School Improvement Early Dismissal@ 11:15 GBball(F)@Rich 6:00pm Talent Show Aud 7:00pm	28 Band/Choir to grade schools IMEA all state Preview Night Aud 7:00pm GBball(S&V)@Mortan6:00	29 IMEA all state BBball(S&V)Dun(H)6:00	30 Spch@ Eureka H.S. IMEA all state Wres(V)Mid Illini Tourn GBball(S&V)@Man. 12:00 GBball(F)@Canton9:30am BBball(F)ND(H)9:30am BBball(S&V)@Olympia6:15

Rocket Activities

Winter Activities

On Monday, November 30 winter activities recognition week begins. On Friday, December 4 there will be a winter activities in the gym to honor and recognize the people who contribute and participate in winter activity.

LAA Articulation

The LAA Articulation meetings will be held on Tuesday, December 1 and Thursday, December 4 and Friday, December 3. These meetings will be held in room 15 at 9:00-11:30am and 12:30-3:00pm

Choir

The Limestone Choir will have its annual Christmas Choral Concert on Sunday, December 6. The concert will start at 3:00pm in the auditorium. Afterwards drinks and cookies will be served in the snack bar. It is a chance for all the Limestone choir groups to perform their favorite Christmas songs.

Madrigals

The Madrigals are here again. Every year, the Madrigal singing group puts on a great show and serves a terrific meal. This year, the madrigals will take place on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, December 10, 11, and 12 at 7:00pm, and on Sunday, December 13 at 5:00pm.

Basketball

It is a big month for the Limestone girl's and boy's basketball teams. The conference games for the Varsity boy's basketball team include the East Peoria Raiders on Friday, December 4 at 7:15pm here at Limestone, the Morton Potters on Friday, December 18 at 7:30pm here at Limestone, and a holiday tournament in Pekin on the 28, 29, and 30 of December. The conference games for the Varsity girl's basketball

team include the Morton Potters on Tuesday, December 8 at 7:30pm here in Limestone, the East Peoria Raiders on Tuesday, December 15 at 7:30pm at EP, and a holiday Tournament at Manual on December 28, 29, and 30. The conference games for the Sophomore basketball team include the East Peoria Raiders on Friday, December 4 at 6:00pm here at Limestone, the Morton Potters on Friday, December 18 at 6:00pm here at Limestone, and a holiday tournament at Washington on December 21 and 23. The conference games for the Sophomore girl's basketball team include the Morton Potters on Tuesday, December 8 at 6:00pm here at Limestone, the East Peoria Raiders on Tuesday, December 15 at 6:00pm in EP. The conference games for the Freshman boy's basketball team include the East Peoria Raiders on Saturday,

December 12 at 9:30am here at Limestone, and the Morton Potters on Tuesday, December 14 at 6:15pm in Morton. The conference games for the Freshman girl's basketball team include the Washington

Panthers on Saturday December 5 at 9:30am in Washington, the East Peoria Raiders on Saturday, December 12 at 9:30am in EP, and the Morton Potters on Tuesday, December 14 at 6:15pm here at Limestone.

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