



The Wildcat Crier

Winter Issue 2017



Students Fundraise for Local Hospital



TFIM members visited Children's Hospital to deliver toys and breakfast to parents after the drive. Photo courtesy of Mr. Stahurski.

by Madi Jarnot and Abby Delisi
 The Future Is Mine (TFIM) held a toy drive and fundraiser for the kids at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. They received 400 toys and \$300 in donations. The fundraiser was held from November 27th to December 7th. With monetary and toy donations combined, TFIM raised over \$2,000. To participate, students donated \$1 and got to decorate an ornament to hang on the tree in the front of the school. The money raised went towards buying breakfast for the parents of the patients in the hospital. All of the toys that were donated were delivered to the hospital and



TFIM President Starr DeJesus decorated the toy display at the front entrance of the high school.

handed out to the kids by hospital staff.

TFIM is a group of students that focus on bettering their futures, their community, and inspiring the younger generation. Students in grades 10-12 are voted in by other members and the sponsor, Mr. Stahurski.

TFIM's President Starr DeJesus loves the toy drive because "everyone [at Children's Hospital] gets a Christmas." TFIM is also Starr's favorite club, because they "get the chance to get younger kids involved and make a difference." In addition to this fundraiser, TFIM often attends field trips and seminars with other schools' groups to learn about leadership and careers. East Allegheny's TFIM group spends most of their time at Logan Elementary speaking with younger students.

"We love to help and be the change we want to see," Starr DeJesus said.

Teachers' Winter Formal Top 5!



Photo courtesy of 2017 Winter Queen, Jessica Stevenson!

by Trevor Ulichnie and Aona Williams

1) There's a New King in Town

Social studies teacher Mr. Edwards' favorite moment was when Winter King, Jason Grubbs, gave Josh Dininno his crown to wear on the dance floor.

2) The Selfie Bandit

Freshman English teacher Mrs. Gaskell decided to show off her selfie game by taking photos on phones left on tables.

3) Break it Down

DJ Jam Master Mr. Lorenc's favorite moment was when Josh Dininno showed off his moves in the middle of the dance floor.

4) Is This the Real Life, is This Just Fantasy?

Mrs. DeMedio, math teacher and National Honor Society sponsor, loved when "her girl" Jessica Stevenson won Winter queen and grooved to the sound of Ignition by R. Kelly.

5) The Chaperone Grinch

Social studies teacher Mr. Miller enjoys nothing more than chaperoning dances! So, of course, his favorite moment was "when it ended lol."

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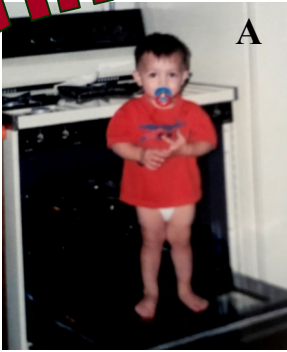


Left: Photo courtesy of 2017 Winter King, Jason Grubbs!

Right: Gaskell's selfie game is on point! Photo courtesy of Jessica Stevenson.

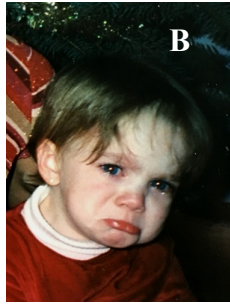


Winter Court Guess Who!



A

by Abby Delisi and Madi Jarnot
Match the members of winter court to their baby photos! How many can you get right?



B



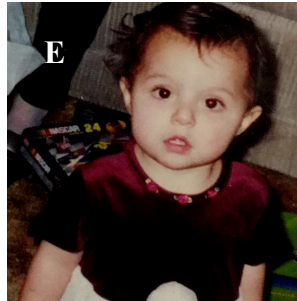
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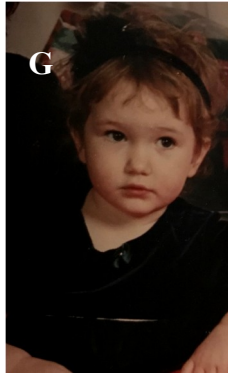
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F



E



G



H



I

Have Two Holly Jolly Christmases!

ANSWER KEY

- A- Jason Grubbs
- B- Alia Genovese
- C- Evan Antes
- D- Marissa Haley
- E- Savannah Crooks
- F- Jessica Stevenson
- G- Hannah Grice
- H- Shayna Smith
- I- Josh Drimino

by Haley D. Novak

Imagine Christmas day: all the presents, food, and quality family time, but twice a year! This is the case for some of East Allegheny's Orthodox Christians! EA's Orthodox teachers and students celebrate two days of Christmas. December 25th is the day most commonly known for good cheer and jolly old grandpas and grandpas showing love to the little ones, but to EA's Orthodox Christians, it's just any other holiday. The official day of Orthodox Christmas is January 7th, which means church services, fasting, and traditional meals are just some things that Orthodox Christians do to celebrate.

Having two Christmases could also mean getting two gift opening days, and that's exactly what that means to sophomore Stevan Bultovic. That exciting experience of peeling of the red and green wrapping paper is familiar to Stevan. On December 25th, Stevan opens half of his gifts and opens the rest on January 7th. While December 25th is his day for having a jolly time, January 7th is a day that consists of up to 4 hours of church service and big dinner meals.

Eating those big dinner meals is a blast for band and chorus teachers, Mr. and Mrs. Rosco. Since Mrs. Rosco is not Orthodox, December 25th is time to spend with her family, but January 7th is a day for Church and, of course, food. Their morning revolves around church services, but when they get home, elaborate meals are the center of their attention. These meals, made by none other than Mr. Rosco's mother, consist of traditional Russian non-meat meals, fish, and other vegetarian foods. There's nothing like mama's cooking to warm a heart and stomach during the holidays.

Food isn't the only thing that can warm someone's heart. Sometimes old traditions are all that is needed. This is the case for Christmas loving civics teacher, Mr. Miller. On December 25th, Miller spends his time doing typical holiday things such as going to parties with his friends, but January 7th is important and serious to him. This day consists of many traditions that Miller calls "old school." This includes placing straw throughout his house, placing a small coin inside bread for good luck, and even fasting from meat for up to 40 days.

On the other end of the spectrum, some Orthodox Christians don't pay that much attention to December 25th. That day is just any other "secular holiday" to Mrs. Sippey. Christmas day doesn't really mean anything to her. Instead of stuffing her face with cookies and milk on Christmas Eve, she follows a strict fast. On this day she prepares a big meal to eat before her church services. While December 25th is treated like any other day, January 7th is imperative to her.

Imagining a world where Christmas is celebrated twice might seem far-fetched, but for some of EA's Orthodox Christians, it really isn't. They get all the parties and fun of Christmas with their own unique twists.



Winter Horoscopes



by Tyler Getsy and Riley Nedz

Aries: Your courage and bravery will be tested soon. When you have the decision to go out with friends and snowboard or stay inside in your warm comfy bed, make sure you keep your bravery. Go have a good time!

Taurus: If your old neighbor needs you to shovel their drive way, make sure you do it! You are kind, caring, and dependable.

Gemini: Don't be stressed when you have to rush to get gifts. You can adjust to it, and you will find your way around any hurdles.

Cancer: Make sure you get the people you love gifts for the holidays because you have the compassion to do so.

Leo: Don't be stressed during the holidays. Instead, move forward with positivity. You have the confidence and energy to push through it.

Virgo: Make sure when you go Christmas shopping, you think more deeply about the gifts you want to get. You are very intelligent, and you can think outside the box (like making a gift for someone in woodshop!).

Libra: If you make a mistake like start a family fight or getting a wrong gift, don't let it bring you down. You know how to take responsibility for your actions by saying sorry to Uncle Charlie.

Scorpio: If you miss a family member that has passed during the holidays, always remember that they are still there and remember the good memories; they would love your sensitivity.

Sagittarius: Make sure that you try something new during the holidays like trying a new food or going snowboarding.

Capricorn: You have been patient, and now the New Year is close. Make sure you make your New Year's resolutions, such as staying away from the cake.

Aquarius: Use your energy to brighten someone's day. If your Aunt Carly is mad at Uncle Charlie, make sure to use your positive energy to make them happy.

Pisces: Use your imagination to think of a gift you want. You don't know, maybe it can be a snowman!