

# Eagle's Nest



Valley Middle School

November 2019-January 2020

## Spreading the Christmas Spirit

by Kendall Wozniak

Ebenezer Scrooge was known for not having any Christmas spirit and for only being interested in making money. One evening, he was visited by four spirits—Marley, his old business partner, and the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future. He went through a metamorphosis from being uncaring and greedy to being compassionate and giving.

Christmas was in the air at Valley! Students throughout our school displayed their compassion and giving nature by helping others in need and spreading cheer. Read on to learn how Valley Middle School students shared Christmas spirit.

The VMS Student Council recently held a collection contest for Hazleton Police Department's Blue Santa Toy Drive. The response they received was unbelievable this year and so much appreciated! The homeroom that collected the most toys on the elementary side and the middle school side won a party. Congratulations to Mrs. Scatton's 1st grade class for winning on the ele-



Seventh grade students collected items for the local animal shelter.

mentary side and Mrs. Stanley's Homeroom who won on the middle school side. A special thank you to all who donated, for our event would not be possible without all of you!

Seventh grade classes also selected ways to spread cheer. One group collected items from chew toys, and cat and dog food, to paper items for the local animal shelter, while another group made paper snowflakes to brighten up a local nursing home. Some students researched and prepared seasonal projects for students with special needs on both the elementary and middle school sides. The snowflakes and snowmen looked fantastic, and students were able to take them home to share with their families. Still another class purchased books for all students in an elementary classroom; not only did the students wrap and present the gifts, a number of students also read stories to the young students.

\*Teacher's note: These examples provide only a few snapshots of the compassion and giving evidenced throughout our school. Valley students should feel proud for their part in creating memorable experiences for the good of many.



VMS students display toys donated by elementary and middle school students.

## Merry Christmas by Chloe Zellin

Some people like to go on vacation for Christmas, and maybe you're one of them. One place that is great to go to is New York! Although New York has lots of fantastic activities any time of the year, there are some really unique activities and sites to see in NYC during Christmas.

One of the most well-known sites in New York during Christmas is the giant tree they put up every year at Rockefeller Center. Something enjoyable during this time of year is ice skating at both Bryant and Central Parks. You can also go see the Rockettes' Christmas show at Radio City Music Hall.

Broadway always has amazing shows you can go see any time of the year including Christmas. A delightful show to see during Christmas time is Frozen. Some other interesting options for shows would be Wicked, Phantom of the Opera, Hamilton, The Lion King, Waitress, and more.

Whatever you choose, enjoy your visit!



## A Christmas Carol

Survey Power Point by Aiden Timmons

"Bah humbug!" Many are familiar with this phrase spoken by Scrooge in Charles Dickens's 1843 novella "A Christmas Carol." The story revolves around miserly, self-absorbed Scrooge being visited by spirits and then transforming into a caring individual. There are many versions of this well-known story from television shorts, sitcoms, and movies, animated cartoons and movies, to small-stage and Broadway performances. Seventh grade students participated in a survey to see which version was the most popular. They watched a power point on different versions and voted which they liked best. The selection included: 1992 and 2009 movies, The Muppets movie, Mickey's animated short, All Dogs movie, Flintstones show and Broadway.



The overwhelming winner was Mickey Mouse's A Christmas Carol with 45 votes out of 102. This animated short, with a run time of 26 minutes, follows the same classic story with Uncle Scrooge McDuck as Ebenezer Scrooge and Mickey Mouse as Bob Cratchit. The Muppets movie came in second with 19 votes. Created in 1992 with a run time of 1 1/2 hours, Kermit the Frog played Cratchit; Michael Caine played stingy Scrooge. In third place was the 2009 animated movie, running 1 hour 36 minutes, featuring Jim Carrey as Scrooge. There were 15 votes although these votes may be skewed because students were voting for the longest-running show with the hope of being able to watch it rather than vote which version was most interesting.

Regardless of which version is most liked or viewed, the messages are the same—be kind to others and help those who are less fortunate.



## Winter by Avatar Sing



Life is a book  
 Filled with many chapters  
 This specific chapter is called winter  
 In this chapter, there is snow, cold weather, and Christmas

When you first enter this chapter you realize  
 The mornings and nights are dark  
 Like a room filled  
 With no lights

However, as you keep reading, you realize  
 The moon bright  
 As a car's headlights  
 Blinding you from seeing the road ahead

Not only is the weather cold  
 As a cup of ice cream  
 But the hot cocoa you drink is a blanket  
 Covering you from the cold

But, when the night before Christmas rolls around  
 It feels like being excited on a roller coaster  
 As you patiently wait laying in your bed  
 While thinking about the next morning



Life is a book  
 Filled with many chapters  
 This specific chapter is called winter  
 In this chapter, there is snow, cold weather, and Christmas

## Winter Time! by Erika Laylo

Get your hot cocoa and sleds out, it's winter time! Many enjoy this season because they get to spend the holidays with their family, from Hanukkah to Christmas. Other than the holidays, the activities you can do in Winter are exciting as well! You can sled, have snowball fights, make hot cocoa, and do many more activities. I personally can't wait for cozy socks, hot cocoa, and snow days. The Winter-time food and drinks are delicious like chocolate chip cookies, egg nog, and pies. There are also great movies to watch like Elf, The Grinch, and many more. I hope everyone enjoys the holidays and the wonderful food, drinks, movies, and fun activities.



## How to make Tissue Paper Flowers

by Kendall Wozniak

What you need:

- Four pieces of square tissue paper      Stapler
- Scissors      Imagination

What to do:

Step 1: Put the four pieces of tissue paper on top of each other so that the sides align.

Step 2: Fold the papers into a fan fold.

Step 3: Staple the middle of your fan fold so that if you held the paper so that the sides are going outward, the staple will be facing up and down.

Step 4: Cut the edges of the paper to the shape you want.

Step 5: Carefully unfold the tissue paper (it rips easily) and pull apart the layers on both sides, so that it looks like a flower.

Step 6: Enjoy!!!

Despite the December holidays being over, there still is a lot to celebrate. Here is a list of everyday holidays that you can celebrate accordingly...

**January 1-** New Year's Day- Happy 2020! Celebrate by making a New Year's resolution and try to keep it. Typically pork and sauerkraut are common foods used to celebrate this day.

**January 2-** National Science Fiction Day—From Star Wars to Wrinkle in Time, everyone has their favorite sci-fi book or movie. Celebrate by reading or watching your favorite representation of science fiction.

**January 3-** Fruitcake Toss Day—Fruitcake is a dessert that is commonly not well-liked. Take this day to throw out that fruitcake that no one will eat.

**January 4-** National Spaghetti Day—Spaghetti typically served with meatballs is a favorite Italian dish. Celebrate today by eating a nice helping of this dish.

**January 5-** National Whipped Cream Day—Whipped cream is a condiment used on a variety of desserts from pies to strawberries. Celebrate today by adding whipped cream to your favorite dessert.

**January 6-** Three Kings Day/National Shortbread Day—In Christianity, this day is used to commemorate the visitation of baby Jesus by the Three Wise Men. Also, this day commemorates the shortbread cookie which are found at tea parties and are nicknamed biscuits.

**January 7-** National Tempura Day—Tempura is a Japanese dish consisting of seafood or vegetables that are battered or deep-fried. Celebrate today by eating this ethnic dish.

**January 8-** Bubble Bath Day—Bubble baths are a common way to relax after a long day. Treat yourself to the aromas of a fragrant bubble bath.

**January 9-** National Apricot Day—Apricots are a tasty tropical fruit. Celebrate today by eating this fruit that is high in antioxidants!

**January 10-** Houseplant Appreciation Day—Take this day to appreciate the plants in your life that provide you oxygen and spruce up your house in these frigid times.

**January 11-** International Thank You Day—There are many people in our lives that bring out the best in us. Sometimes life goes so fast that we don't always thank them for their encouragement. Take this day to thank the people in your life who use generous words and actions towards you.

**January 12—**National Pharmacist Day—Pharmacists and their knowledge of medicine are crucial due to the fact that they sell us medicines to benefit our health and protect us. If you are around a pharmacy today, take the time to thank a pharmacist who uses his or her knowledge to benefit the health of our communities.

**January 13-** Rubber Ducky Day—Rubber duckies are a children's bath toy created in the late 1800s that are still popular today. Celebrate today by living the nostalgia of your childhood by playing with these cute toys!

**January 14-** Dress Up Your Pet Day—If your pet is anything like my cat, this day is not appreciated. If your pet does like being dressed up, put on its favorite outfit!

**January 15-** National Fresh Squeezed Juice Day—From orange to apple, juices bring out the best flavors of fruit. Boost your immunity by drinking fruit juice!

**January 16-** National Good Teen Day—This day, designated by Congress, honors and reinforces the importance of good behavior among teens. This just goes to show that good is always appreciated by most people.

**January 17-** Cable Car Day—Cable cars were old modes of city transport typically found in cities such as San Francisco. If you would like to ride a cable car, visit Hershey, PA, where they have working replicas.

**January 18-** National Winnie the Pooh Day—Winnie the Pooh is a beloved Disney character who is a friend with characters such as Tigger and Eeyore. Celebrate by watching your favorite Winnie cartoon!

**January 19-** National Popcorn Day—Popcorn is a favorite movie theater snack. Celebrate by eating popcorn!

**January 20-** MLK Day—Martin Luther King Jr. was an inspirational figure in the Civil Rights Movement who preached for the equality of everyone. Carry on his legacy by looking at a person with your heart, not your eyes.

**January 21-** Granola Bar Day—These bars are a popular snack for breakfast or any other time. Enjoy a bar today!

**January 22-** National Blonde Brownie Day—Blonde brownies or “blondies” are a vanilla with chocolate chip version of a traditional brownie. Make some blondies today!

**January 23-** National Pie Day—Pie is a delicious dessert that can have fruits such as cherry to spreads such as peanut butter in. Go to Perkins, and get yourself a pie today!

**January 24-** National Peanut Butter Day—Peanut butter can be found in a range of things from sandwiches to chocolate. Eat peanut butter with your favorite snack!

**January 25-** Chinese New Year—Chinese New Year is a wonderful holiday in the Chinese culture. This is the Year of the Rat.

**January 26-** Peanut Brittle Day—Peanut brittle is a delicious dessert that is easy to make that you can put a range of toppings in such as sprinkles or chocolate chips. Eat some peanut brittle today!

**January 27-** International Holocaust Remembrance Day—The Holocaust was a horrendous event that happened during World War II that cost many innocent people their lives. Take this day to remember the people who died and prevent it from ever happening again.

**January 28-** National Blueberry Pancake Day—Blueberry pancakes are a delicious breakfast food. Go eat your fruits with delicious batter and syrup.

**January 29-** National Corn Chip Day—Corn chips are found in many grocery stores ranging from Tostitos to Doritos. Go eat your favorite corn chip today!

**January 30-** National Croissant Day—Croissants are a tasty French pastry that can have sweet spreads such as strawberry jam applied to them or be used as bread for a sandwich. Enjoy this traditional French pastry today.

**January 31-** National Hot Chocolate Day—Hot chocolate is a cozy way to warm yourself up after time outside. Cozy up with some hot chocolate today



### Jokes by Kendall Wozniak



- \* What do you call a pig that does karate?
- \* Why was 6 afraid of 7?
- \* Why do we tell actors in plays to “break a leg”?
- \* Why did the bike fall over?
- \* Where do cows go on Friday nights?
- \* What do you call a fake noodle?



Answers on page 6





## Top Five BEST Places to get a Burger by Jase Mumie

“Hold the pickles, hold the lettuce, special orders don’t upset us.” This jingle tells customers they can have burgers their way. If you’re like me, then you want a good burger every once and awhile, but you don’t know where to go to get it. Luckily I’ll give you my top five recommendations for the right places to go.

NOTE: The list is in ascending order with #5 being the best recommendation.

1. Mc Donald’s: I know many people eat here because of convenience and price; you get what you pay for. This is my least favorite recommendation.
2. Wendy’s: There is actually nothing wrong with Wendy’s burgers, they are just not the best I tasted. I do however, recommend their *Son of a Baconator*, a scaled-down version of the *Baconator* with all the same ingredients for people looking to try a Wendy’s burger. The prices are reasonable.
3. Perkin’s: Perkin’s has a variety of burgers including a Teriyaki Pineapple & Bacon Burger, a Jalapeno Popper Burger, along with a Classic Cheeseburger, although I think their sandwiches are also great. When you go to Perkin’s, I personally recommend the Pot Roast or Chicken Strips Melt sandwiches. They are all an average price.
4. Damon’s Bar and Grill: Damon’s burgers are delicious and just make you want to have another! Their beef is always cooked just right and they are always better with family and fries! Prices are a little expensive though.
5. Denny’s: Denny’s also has a variety of burgers including a Build Your Own Burger. When I went here, their presentation was on point, and the burger was perfectly cooked. Their service was moderate, and their price was average. This is the best place to get a burger.



- Answers to jokes
- Pork cop
- Because every play as a cast
- To the movies
- Because 7 8 9
- Because it was too tired
- An impasta



### Stay Warm by Louis Sypeck

Do you ever say **“IS IT COLD IN HERE, OR IS IT JUST ME?”** or **“ARE WE LIVING IN ALASKA?”** Do you get “tons” of blankets to just feel colder?



Then this list is for you; let’s jump right in to the warmth.

- 1) Lose the layers. Yes, I know it sounds weird, but if you take off most or all of your clothing, you can be warmer under blankets than with clothing or layers on with blankets.
- 2) Run the ceiling fan in reverse. Running it in reverse helps the hot air go towards the floor
- 3) Warm your clothing. Just run your clothing through the laundry dryer for a few minutes.



- 4) Wear thick socks; warmth contained by the socks helps to regulate a warmer temperature while you sleep.

Stay cozy and warm throughout the Winter by trying these methods.



### Winter Word Wham

O S J A N U A R Y N L S J M R  
 B L K C A N C E L L A T I O N  
 L E D F Z R W W F S C A R F J  
 I D B O O T S Z S W E A T E R  
 Z D J Z V F H Q Q D Z V I F M  
 Z I C F I R E P L A C E G A N  
 A N B O L Q D E C E M B E R P  
 R G P O L U S M C N E M W V A  
 D S F U J D V U R V A D I M R  
 S T K R S H O V E L R A N I K  
 P I P I O T K L H C M C T T A  
 Y P L W I S F B A L U O E T B  
 L B O B V N T Z T O F C R E H  
 F F W O N P G Y S H F O P N R  
 X C V I C I C L E S S A G S S

Blizzard

Boots

Cocoa

Cold

December

Earmuffs

January

Fireplace

Frosty

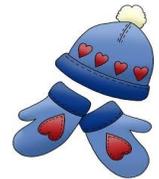
Hat

Icicles

Mittens

Parka

Plow



Scarf

Shovel

Skiing

Sledding

Snow

Sweater

Winter

