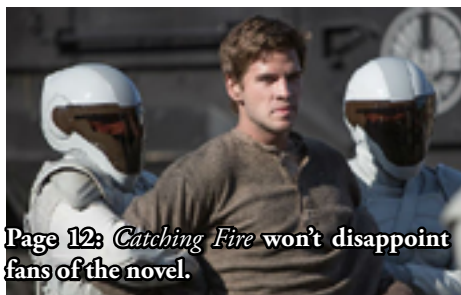
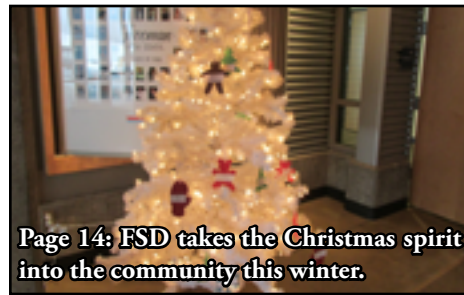


Page 5: FMS students helped decorate the National Christmas tree in DC!



Page 12: *Catching Fire* won't disappoint fans of the novel.



Page 14: FSD takes the Christmas spirit into the community this winter.

The Bagpiper

December 20, 2013

Reporting Freeman's news since 2009

Volume 5, Issue 3

Pete Metzelaar: a hidden child speaks out about the truth of WWII

By Taylor Walker
Staff Writer

"It's not just a story I'm talking about, it's an experience," said Holocaust survivor Pete Metzelaar to an attentive crowd. "It's the same story, but each time I share it, it's almost like a new story."

On November 13, 2013, the Freeman Scotties welcomed Metzelaar. Joined by Freeman Middle School and Liberty High School, the FHS blue gym was full of students waiting eagerly to hear the story of Metzelaar's WWII experience.

In 1942, the Nazi's captured his entire family starting with his aunt and uncle, followed by his grandparents, and finishing with his father. The only two remaining from Metzelaar's family were his mother and him. Knowing it was only a matter of time until the Nazi's came for them as well, Metzelaar's mother contacted the Dutch Underground and was told to go to a small farm owned by an older couple named Klaas and Roefina Post.

"The Posts were a very nice and Christian family," Metzelaar explained. "Mr. Post used to put me on his knee and read me stories every night. He treated me and gave me the love that a father would give."

Metzelaar and his mother stayed at this ¾ acre farm for two and a half years and were treated with the respect and love they

knew the Metzelaar's were lacking. Soon the Nazi raids were becoming more and more common and the Posts were unsure of whether or not the small area cut out in their closet would be enough to hide Metzelaar and his mother much longer. So one night at dusk, Klaas handed Metzelaar a shovel, and they went to a forest that was a couple hundred feet away from the house.

A few nights later, Metzelaar and Klaas had successfully dug out a hiding area in a pile of dirt, complete with a branch door that helped to blend in the secret place with its surroundings. This little cave served as the line between life and death for many surprise Nazi raids.

Eventually, the time came when Metzelaar's mother worried about the Post's safety. They had risked the Posts' lives each day of the two and a half years they stayed there, and she felt like they needed to move. Some-

how, Metzelaar's mother got ahold of the Dutch Underground once again, and they were given a new address to go.

They arrived in The Hague where they stayed with two women. Right off the bat, there were a few differences between these ladies and the Posts that Metzelaar is still able to recall.

"The women were different from the Posts," Metzelaar explained. "If there was cleaning that needed to be done, they always made my mother do it. They didn't have



Metzelaar begins to share his compelling story of how he survived WWII.

the same kindness that the Posts had. They wouldn't share their food stamps with us either."

Along with a new place to hide Metzelaar and his mother were given new IDs. This way, they could go out in public to walk around and still be okay if they were stopped by a Nazi soldier. His new name was "Peter Pelt", and he was enrolled into public school as an 8th grader. Fitting in was one of the most difficult things for Metzelaar. After spending the last few years of his life in hiding, it was hard to be able to walk around pretend to be like every other kid that was there.

On January 20, 1942, high-ranking Nazi and German officials met up at a conference that lasted roughly an hour and 20 minutes long. It was at this conference that they made a decision on the "Final Solution". This "Final Solution" was to kill every Jewish person. After this happened, Nazi trucks were going around on raids 24/7, and the two women who were hiding Metzelaar and his mother were getting nervous of getting caught, knowing they'd be sent to a death camp for hiding Jews.

Continued on page 2



Metzelaar shows how an officer grabbed him by his shirt collar and pressed a gun to his head.

2

What's happening?

Holocaust survivor speaks to Freeman about his experiences



Pete Metzelaar takes a few one-on-one questions from sophomore Liam Doloughan after his presentation.

Continued from page 1

When Metzelaar’s mother heard word that the two women were going to turn them in, she knew she had to do something. Once more, she contacted the Dutch Underground in need of a new place to stay. They were indeed able to find another place but there was a small problem; the place they needed to get to was in Amsterdam. The only way to get to Amsterdam from The Hague was to go through a tunnel which was only accessible by Nazi convoys.

Around one or two in the morning, Metzelaar woke up to see his mom sewing white sheets by candlelight. Confused, he watched to see what she was doing when she started to put her creation around her body

and on top of her head. When she was finished, the image was clear: she had made a Red Cross nurse’s outfit. Unsure why she had done this, let his mom grab his hand and lead him out the door into the dark, cold, snowy night.

After a few miles of trekking in the snow in the middle of the night, Metzelaar realized where his mom had led him: the highway that was only occupied by Nazi soldiers. Scared and nervous, Metzelaar began to question why they were there as tanks and trucks full of Nazi sol-

diers were all over the place. His mother just silenced him and stuck her thumb up and out; she was hitchhiking! No sooner had she done that, a big flatbed truck pulled over and out came a German soldier who began to yell at his mother. Luckily, his mother spoke fluent German and was able to make up a story that she needed to take this little boy to an orphanage in Amsterdam because a piece of shrapnel had blown up his apartment, killing both of his parents. Falling for the story, the soldier helped his mother up into the cab of the truck, seated between two German soldiers, and placed Metzelaar on the back of the truck. Once they safely reached Amsterdam, they found their way to another apart-

ment area to stay at for a little while after. May 10, 1944, Canadians liberated Holland but nobody in his family returned. Receiving the news through different letters, Metzelaar was informed that his grandparents, aunt and uncle, and his father had all been killed at Auschwitz. He and his mother moved to New York in March of 1944.

Metzelaar didn’t return to Holland until 1992, when he was invited to go visit by his son. Metzelaar was looking forward to going back to the old farmhouse and other places he stayed for protection when the Nazi’s were taking over Holland.

When Metzelaar finally found the little farmhouse, he was sadly informed that the Posts had both passed away 7 ½ years prior to his visit. To this day, Metzelaar kicks himself for not returning sooner to thank them for all that they did.

The reality and cruelty of WWII is something that still affects us all, especially as we recognize that genocide still happens today. Metzelaar’s story of survival comes with a message for us all to not make the same mistakes that led to the Holocaust.

“Don’t become a sheep,” Metzelaar said. “Think for yourself. Narrow mindedness and bullying are weapons of mass destruction.”

The Bagpiper Staff 2013-2014

Section Editors

Isaiah Crane

Ruby Falciani

Madi Groves

Anna Lee

Ali Tesch

Staff Writers

Jake Hansen, Katie Ophus,

Isaac Stokoe, Taylor Walker

Adviser: Pia Longinotti

Principal: Jim Straw

Superintendent: Dr. Randy Russell

Bagpiper Editorial Policy

The Bagpiper is published by students in the journalism class at Freeman High School. Content is determined by the staff and does not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of Freeman High School’s faculty, administration, adviser or student body. Students are protected in their exercise of press freedom by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. Signed editorials and columns reflect the views of the writer. Letters to the editor, guest commentaries, and submissions of art or photography are encouraged and must be signed, although anonymity can be granted on a case-by-case basis. The editorial board reviews letters to the editor, advertising and guest commentaries and reserves the right to edit and refuse material. Reasons can include length, clarity, libel, obscenity, material disruption of the educational process at Freeman High School or violation of copyright law.

A black and white illustration of a dog, possibly a Scottish Terrier, sitting on a newspaper.

What's happening?

3

NHS helps Christmas Bureau give back

By Madi Groves
Editor

The Catholic Charities’ Christmas Bureau has been giving back to Spokane since 1954. In order to make the Christmas Bureau successful, the Catholic Charities, the Spokesman Review, and the Spokane community help by providing gifts and donations to the charity.

“It was super fun to work together with people from a number of schools,” said senior Peter Underhill. “I was surprised at how much we were able to get done. It was a great experience to get to bless families from our community.”

The Christmas Bureau provides holiday assistance for the families in need. They give each household a grocery store certificate ranging from \$15-30, based on the number of children in the family, as well as books and toys for each child. The Bureau provides a toy for each child up to 18 years old and books for each child up to 14 years old.

“This is the second year I’ve done this, but I still get excited thinking about all the little kids who will have presents under their trees this year because of the people who spent the time buying, and because of us for unloading and organizing them,” said senior Kirsten Fuchs, who volunteers on set-up day as part of Freeman’s National Honor Society.

NHS works with the Christmas Bureau Volunteer coordinator Brigid Krause to help with the event. Krause added in the position to her other duties as volunteer coordinator for the Catholic Charities because she loved working with the event.

“[My favorite part is] the energy that the volunteers bring to the event,” said Krause. “They interact with their recipients with no judging. This is the volunteers’ Christmas tradition; everyone is positive and shows love to the people they are serving.”

They have special people that spend a lot of time going through catalogs and picking out toys. Picking out the toys takes a lot of time and energy; they start looking in February and don’t have the orders



Senior Peter Underhill is filled with joy as he helps to make people’s Christmas holiday better.

done until June.

“It is such a good feeling to help other people who are struggling during this time of the year,” said Judy Lee, who’s in her fourth year as the Christmas Bureau Coordinator.

The Christmas Bureau’s main source of funding the presents they provide is the Spokesman Review’s Christmas Fund, as well as donations that are given to them by other donors. Last year’s donations allowed the Christmas Bureau to help over 32,000 adults and children, with over 400 volunteers there to help out.

“It was a really good time and to help out the community was fun,” said junior Jake Phipps.

The Christmas Bureau runs for a nine day period December 11-20, giving to all the families in need. One of the many volunteers said the most humbling thing is a person with no children can stand in line for up to 3 hours to get a \$15 grocery store certificate.

“I love taking my NHS students to help organize the gifts for the Christmas Bureau,” said NHS advisor Pia Longinotti. “I think it’s important to take some time during Christmas, which has become so focused on getting stuff, to remember and help those who have so little. It’s amazing to see all those gifts stacked up, filling the Ag building, knowing that we helped make someone else’s Christmas a day with gifts under the tree.”

This year was NHS’s third year helping out at the Christmas Bureau. 17 juniors and seniors helped unload semi-trucks delivering toys and books that were bought thanks to generous donations. They organized the mountains of gifts in the back warehouse, and then helped setup the tables and computer stations that will be used when the Christmas Bureau doors open.

“I think it’s a great program, makes my heart swell with joy,” said senior Beth Primmer. “It makes me feel like the Grinch, my heart grows three sizes.”



Juniors Jesse Shmidlkofer and Braden Aller help unload goods off the truck.

Brereton’s love for music, undeniable

By Ruby Falciani
Editor

In the music room of a 16 year-old-boy, the sweet tunes of one of his favorite songs, “For You Blue” by The Beatles, rolls off the strings of a guitar. More chords are played, picking up pace, leading up to the chorus when he starts to sing. He can play non-stop for as long as he wants; here is nothing he needs or wants to do other than relax in a jam session. Just a normal evening spent for junior Drew Brereton.

Brereton has loved playing guitar since fifth grade when he first learned to play. He decided to pick up the skill because his dad



Brereton has an assortment of musical instruments he regularly plays.

played when he was in high school. Brereton continued to learn many different instruments including saxophone, piano, bass, and drums.

“His abilities to independently interpret music have grown,” band teacher Carol Wichmann said. “He has shown excellent skills both as a composer and as a performer. He has developed as a musical leader.”

Brereton is very passionate about his music and anyone who has met him could deduce that rather obvious fact. Brereton has been in the school band since middle school and can see a future in music for himself.

“There are a lot of careers aside from being a rock star that I could see myself doing,” Brereton said. “I’ve thought a lot about a career in teaching music.”

Brereton is obviously a major fan of The Beatles; however, that is not his only inspiration.

“Pete Townshend of The Who is another big inspiration,” Brereton said. “I love his guitar playing, and he’s one of the best songwriters of the last 100 years in my opinion. He’s a role model for me musically.”



Drew Brereton playing his guitar with the band for students and staff.

Although many of Brereton’s classmates know how much he loves music, not many are aware of how it has affected his life on ways other than a hobby.

“Music is an outlet, and a way to express myself,” Brereton said. “I’ve grown more through music than anything else, and it’s become a central part of my life.”

From Guam to Spokane

By Isaiah Crane
Editor

“Surfing is life,” sophomore Eugene Paulus said as he reflected on what he missed most about his life back in Guam. Moving to Spokane from Yigo, Guam this school year, Paulus has settled into life as a Freeman Scottie.

“I came here to get a better education,” Paulus explained.

Paulus is currently playing for the Scottie’s basketball team and plans to play baseball. As a new student, Eugene hasn’t had any trouble finding friends and fitting in.

“He’s a pretty solid guy,” freshman Koby Kent said. “I look forward to playing baseball with him; he will be the team clown.”



The transition to Spokane has been a great experience for Paulus.

“Spokane is cold but I like it,” said Paulus.

Named one of the seventeen Non-Self-Governing territories by the United Nations, Guam is the largest and southernmost Mariana Islands.

“I love Eugene, he’s my second favorite person from Guam,” junior Ben Sharpe said. “Eugene has fit in quite well at our lovely school.” Sharpe and Eugene can be heard cracking jokes down the hall.

Eugene is dead set on bettering his education and making friends. While Paulus focuses on his high school career, he still reminisces about life in Guam.

“Guam’s better than Hawaii,” Paulus said. “It’s the real word for tropical.”

Middle school participates in Capital Christmas Tree

By Katie Ophus
Staff Writer

After a hard selection of trees, an 88 foot tall Engelmann spruce tree was cut from the Colville National Forest in Washington State. This spruce tree is now Washington DC’s Capital Christmas tree. This tree and several

others designed for offices traveled around the country, until they reached their final destination in Washington D.C.

The trees were decorated with over 5,000 ornaments, all made by kids aged 5- 19, including those

made by Freeman students. Each ornament maker submitted his or her ornaments to win a trip to Washington D.C. to light the Capital Christmas Tree with House Speaker John Boehner. All of the Freeman Middle School students were entered; the winner has not been announced.

Freeman seventh and eighth graders

had the opportunity to make their ornaments in class with art teacher Ken Spiering. The kids worked diligently for three weeks to finish their master pieces. The students used aluminum wire recycled from electrical transmission lines and colored Mylar and cellophane wrap.

“I decided to do this because it gave the students an opportunity to



Garrett Williamson’s piece that will be put on the National Christmas Tree.



Another piece of art that will be hung on the National Tree in Washington D.C. made by Odie Landoe.

have their work showcased on the national stage,” art teacher Ken Spiering explained.

The students designed a lot of crosses for this Christmas tree, but some of the ornaments stood out. Eight grader Joe Rockus designed a three-dimensional jewel. Eighth grader, Brigeta Briggs designed a car. These pieces stood out with their uniqueness from the groups.

FHS has big resolutions for 2014

By Ruby Falciani and Anna Lee
Editors

On a calendar, New Year’s Day is just the start of a new year. However, for people all over the world, it is a time to make New Years resolutions, or promises to yourself on things that you would like to do better, or things you would like to change. Here are some of the resolutions that the Freeman student body have come up with for the new years.

School:

- “Get that fat state ring.” – junior Billy Sims
- “Accepting that my locker will never stay clean.” – freshman Anna Gallagher
- “School revolutions- Create a nap time, maybe some recess. No more hard classes, let’s have fun!” – sophomore Olivia Griffith
- “Get A’s on Thacker’s tests.” – freshman Annabelle Schweiger
- “Become taller than Mr. Allen.” – freshman JJ Iltz
- “Get into my locker at least once.” – freshman Madie Boyd

Home:

- “To get that mouse out of my freaking car.” – junior Kalista Mettler
- “Finish 90210.” – junior Hope Mathews
- “Bee keep.” – junior Emma Sheldon
- “I like my dog.” – freshman Ryan Maine
- “High level in Skyrim (60+)” – freshman Madie Boyd
- “Level 70 in Skyrim.” – freshman Riley Flack

Personal:

- “Start driving-I am a junior for heaven’s sake.” – junior Abbie Denmark
- “Less accidentally insulting people... sorry.” – senior Kate VanVoorhis
- “Stop punching people.” – freshman Anna Gallagher
- “Stay sane.” – junior Kyle Miler
- “I want to get my lifeguarding certification.” – junior Bethany Williams
- “Be able to eat 6 saltines in one minute and the cinnamon challenge.” – freshman JJ Iltz
- “Get a girl.” – freshman Ryan Maine
- “Write more original music.” – freshman Matthew Henson

What is Senior Civics for and why do we need it?

By Ruby Falciani
Editor

Graduation requirements are pretty difficult to fully remember. Not all seniors have finished their classes required by the state and district for graduation. Due to such a large group of kids who haven't met their credit needs, Freeman needed to do something to help them out. That is why the Senior Civics course started, yet there still seems to be a great deal of confusion as to why it is needed.

Many students questioned whether or not they need to take Senior Civics. If students already completed three social studies credits and one of those credits was a civics course, then they do not need



Photo by Ruby Falciani

Class began and the seniors are ready to learn more about the government.

to take Senior Civics. For example if a student took U.S. History and World History, they would have two of the three social studies credits, and if they took Mr. Thacker's Law or Poli-Econ class (the civics courses) then they would have completed

the required credits. Thus, as a senior, they would not be required to take the class.

"We looked at the junior class last year and found that only 14 juniors had completed three social studies credits," counselor Laura Hamma said. "We made Senior Civics required so that everyone who needed their civics credit, would meet that requirement."

Senior Civics was made to help seniors achieve their needed civics credit. Many are consumed by the idea that this class is specifically made for senior projects but that is not the case. Students do not spend much time working on their projects; however, they do a lot of presentations which help them develop the skills needed for presenting their project at the end of the year. There is so much miscommu-



Photo by Ruby Falciani

Due to Senior Civics, the majority of the senior class is now completing the required civics credit.

nication about Senior Civics such as if it is a class made to help you with senior projects or not. Senior Civics was not created around senior projects; this class is a civics class.

As Hamma said, there is no way to know for sure if Senior Civics will be required next school year. The schedule next year will be made according to credit needs. It is very important that it is made clear that Senior Civics is not a class devoted entirely to help with senior projects. Senior Civics is a civics class for seniors who didn't have a civics credit; thus the name Senior Civics. If Senior Civics is offered next year, and you are currently a junior who has not and is not taking a civics class, you will need to take Senior Civics.

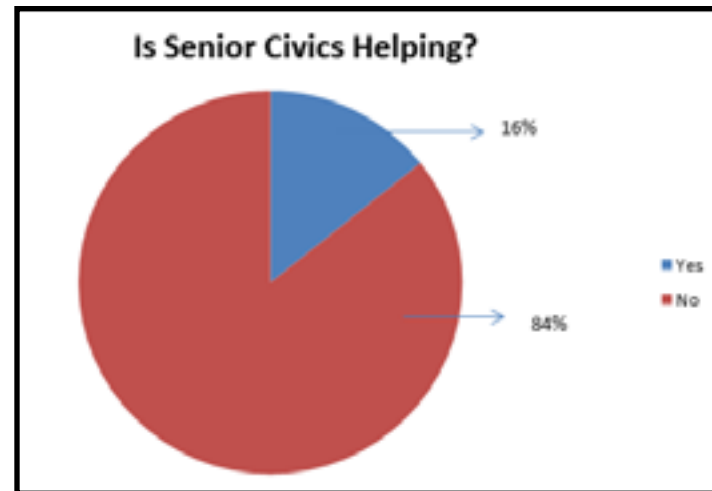


Photo by Ruby Falciani

Most seniors were told that Senior Civics would be to help them with their Senior Projects; however, they are now learning mainly about government.



Photo by Ruby Falciani

First period Senior Civics starts off with students getting ready for another day with Mr. Thacker.

Winter driving hazards hard for new drivers

By Katie Ophus
Staff Writer

Accidents are more common among teenagers than any other age group. But when the road gets slick, even more accidents happen, teenager or not. Winter driving is not only scary, but dangerous. According to forbes.com, drivers are 14 percent more likely to get in an accident on a snow day than a non-snowy day.

Teenagers tend to push the limits when driving. When it starts to snow teens tend to fail to adapt to the harsh weather conditions. Winter driving requires drivers to slow down and take their time. In order to get to school on time, leave earlier to allow for slower driving conditions, letting you get safely to school on time.

"Leave earlier for school than you normally do," FHS secretary Raelyn Davis suggested.

Driving slower is not the only thing you need to do to stay safe in the winter. You should also have snow tires and avoid dangerous roads the best you can. Snow tires can help you stay on the road and keep you from sliding around. Dangerous roads include back roads and less frequently used roads, because the snow can build up and ice can be formed under the snow, and if you do get in an accident it's harder to get help.

In the case of a skid or hitting an ice patch, you need to steer in the direction you

want your back tires to go, steering against the front wheels will cause you to continue sliding.

"Steer with the swerve," said athletic director Brian Parisotto.

In the case of an accident or getting stuck, you should have a back-up plan and a winter survival kit in your car. Having a kit in your car can help you if you get in an accident. This survival kit should contain many things, including, an ice scraper or snow brush for your windshield, extra footwear and warm clothing, you should have non-perishable foods and bottled water, a blanket and a first aid kit. There is more information about what you should have in your kit, and other helpful safety tips at www.colorado.aaa.com/automotive/car_care_kits.asp.

Finally, you should always have gas in your car, especially in the winter when you don't know if you could be stopped for a while. You should also keep your antifreeze levels up, to keep your gas lines from freezing.

Winter driving is unavoidable, and can be very dangerous if you don't take the necessary precautions. Making sure you have good snow tires, keeping up with weather conditions is important. Also making sure you know of road closures and unfrequently used roads can help you get around safely and quickly.

Things to have in an emergency kit

- Bag of abrasive material (sand, salt or cat litter)
- Ice scraper
- Cloth or paper towels
- Small snow shovel
- Booster cables
- Snow brush
- Blanket
- Traction mats
- Warning flares or
- Flashlight triangles
- Window-washing solvent
- Cellular phone
- Gloves or mittens



Photo by Ruby Falciani

A safety kit you should have in your car during the winter



Photo by Ruby Falciani

A few of the things you should have are a water bottle, gloves, flash light, jumper cables and an extra jacket.



Photo by Taylor Walker

Nick Harris, Anna Lee, Isaiah Crane, and Taylor Walker help to mix up the dough and prepare it to be rolled out.



Photo courtesy of Shawna Walker

Now that the cookies are cut out and baked, it's time to decorate them!



Photo courtesy of Shawna Walker

Juniors Isaiah Crane, Nick Harris, Anna Lee, and Taylor Walker pause to show off their decorated sugar cookie snowmen.

Christmas in the kitchen

By Taylor Walker
Staff Writer

As the cold weather blows in, along with it comes Christmas time and all of the goodies it has to offer. Among all of the holiday traditions, baking Christmas cookies is a common favorite. With this in mind, it only seemed fair to test out a couple recipes that are bound to satisfy your taste buds this holiday season.

"My favorite cookies are sugar cookies," junior Nick Harris shared. "The recipe we used was really straight forward and easy to understand. They were easy to make and I had a lot of fun while doing it."

Sugar cookies are a fun recipe for multiple reasons. Not only are they delicious, but they are easy to decorate for any occasion. Additionally, they are easy to make into a variety of fun shapes.

"My only tip is to make sure you use the right ingredients and measure them out correctly," Harris said. "Also, remember to refrigerate them as long as the directions tell you to otherwise the dough becomes really sticky and hard to roll out."

Another favored holiday treat is Peanut Butter Hershey Kiss cookies.

"Making Christmas cookies is an annual fun thing I do," junior Anna Lee said. "My personal favorites are Peanut Butter Hershey Kiss cookies. I make Christmas cookies every year with my sister, mom, and grandma. The only tip I have about these recipes is to make sure that you have enough flour to use on your hands, table, and rolling pin to help the dough not stick to everything when you are trying to manage it."

With the perfect mix of peanut butter and chocolate just 40 minutes away, why not make a fresh batch of them to munch on while watching the snow fall outside?

"Oh these are my favorite cookies," junior Isaiah Crane said. "They're so good!"

With warm, fresh baked cookies, snow falling outside, and houses covered in twinkling lights, it's bound to make you feel like the holiday season has arrived. So, next time you have a sweet tooth or have some spare time on your hands, I recommend you invite a few friends over with their favorite cookie recipes or give these simple but delicious recipes a whirl. I hope you enjoy them as much as my friends and I did!

Easy Sugar Cookies

Ingredients:

2 3/4 C. all-purpose flour	1 1/2 C. white sugar
1 tsp. baking soda	1 egg
1/2 tsp. baking powder	1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 C. butter, softened	

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees. In a small bowl, stir together flour, baking soda, and baking powder. Set aside
2. In a large bowl, cream together the butter and sugar until smooth. Beat in egg and vanilla. Gradually blend in the dry ingredients. Roll rounded teaspoonfuls of dough into balls, and place onto ungreased cookie sheets.
3. Bake 8 to 10 minutes or until golden. Let stand on cookie sheet two minutes before removing to cool on wire racks.

Peanut Butter Kiss Cookies

Ingredients:

1 C. white sugar
1 C. peanut butter
1 egg
18 milk chocolate candy kisses, unwrapped

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Combine sugar, peanut butter and egg.
3. Shape into 1 inch balls and place on an ungreased cookie sheet. NOTE: If dough is too sticky, refrigerate 1/2 hour or until easy to handle.
4. Bake 10 minutes. Remove cookies from the oven. Press a chocolate kiss into the center of each warm cookie.

Santa Claus, a Christmas tradition around the world

By Jake Hansen
Staff writer

For years, kids of all ages make the trek down to River Park Square to meet Santa and tell him what they want for Christmas; but what is Santa's story?

Santas.net claims that Santa was born in what is present day turkey in the year 280 AD. Before he turned 12, he lost both of his parents. He decided to use his inheritance to help the sick and poor. Word of his acts spread all over the world, and Nicolas was soon associated with gift giving.

In the year 340 AD, Nicolas became a saint, and it is said that God gave him the gift of immortality. Nicolas has used his gift to

benefit the entirety of the world, through being Santa and giving gifts to children.

Throughout the years, the traditions have changed, such as the common misconception of Santa putting Christmas presents under the tree. In early stories, Santa always left the presents next to the fireplace where he entered.

Christmas has many unique traditions around the world. Such as in Africa, it is impossible to have a "white" Christmas because, when December 25 rolls around, it is in the heat of summer. Also that famous Christmas dinner next to a fire just doesn't happen. The dinner is actually held outside.

According to santas.net, England's Christmas traditions have changed little throughout time. They still perform murmurs, or small plays, that were commonly performed

late in the 1000's. England's Santa has a different name, Father Christmas. Father Christmas wears a green robe, fills the stockings and gives presents.

Christmas in India is much more colorful than the bland colors of red and green here in America. Indians commonly use banana or mango trees as their Christmas tree. The whole of the Christians give gifts not only to family but to charities and strangers.

In Japan, there are very few people who actually believe in Christ. However, they seem to celebrate Christmas, as many shops will be decorated with evergreens, the exchanging of gifts and a Buddhist monk, Hotei-oshō that acts like Santa.

Around the world, in many vastly different cultures there is almost always a constant; in this case, it is the celebration of Christmas. Although it is celebrated in many different ways, there is always that one generous old St. Nick.



Photo courtesy of Megan Prentice

Better luck next year Santa! She'll still take her presents though...

Our images of Santa may have changed over the years, but kids still can't wait for Jolly Old St. Nick to arrive with presents on Christmas Eve. Here are a few vintage pictures of Santa from over the years.



Photo courtesy of publicdomainclip-art.blogspot.com



Photo courtesy of e-vint.com



Photo courtesy of reusableart.com

The festival of Hanukkah, a long-standing celebration

By Isaac Stokoe
Staff writer

Once in every 89 years, Hanukkah (which means dedication in Hebrew) falls in November. Also known as the Festival of Light, a November Hanukkah is an event that many do not get to experience.

Hanukkah commemorates an event in Jewish history that took place in 200 B.C. Legend has it, the Jewish people rededicated a second-century temple after the Maccabean Revolt. The Jewish people revolted against their Greek-Syrian oppressors. The miracle of this holy day is that when the Jews were in their rededicated temple and the priests were ready to light the menorah, they only had one day's worth of olive oil but it burned for 8 days while they made more oil to burn.

The traditions revolving around Hanukkah are the lighting of the nine-branched menorah, singing Hanukkah songs, and giving

gifts throughout the 8 days. Traditional Hanukkah food is also cooked and eaten throughout the week.

"You light the middle candle and then use the middle candle to light the others while saying a special prayer," explained junior Aaron Ray, a Jewish student at Freeman. "One of my family's traditions is eating brisket and potato latkes for dinner on the last night of Hanukkah."

Other traditions during Hanukkah include long games of dreidel, which is a game played with gels (chocolate wrapped in foil made to look like a coin) and the dreidel. Then, there is the giving of one gift every day and spending quality time with the family.

"My favorite part is beating everyone at dreidel because there is no one better than myself," said Ray proudly.

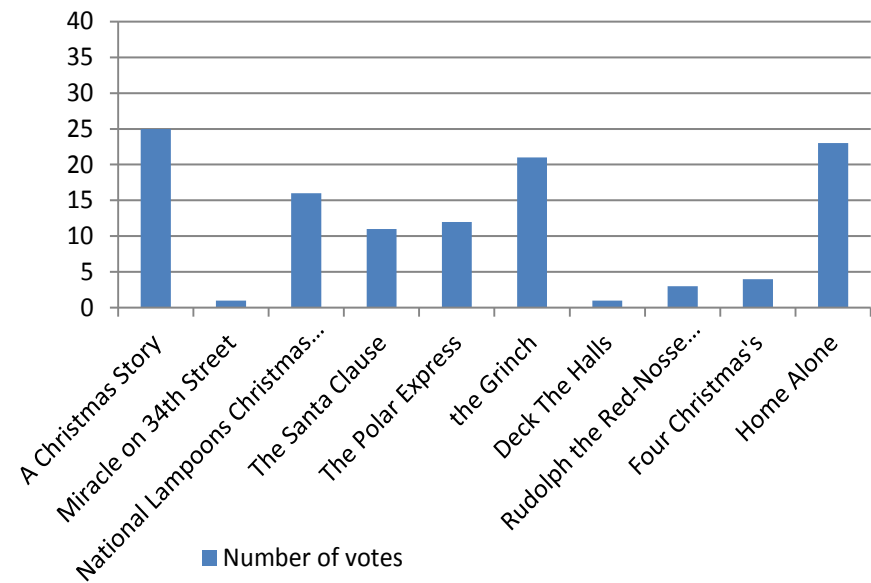
Hanukkah is all about a time of being with your family, eating amazing food, and an important prayer about asking the ancestors for a blessing.



Photo courtesy of Whitehouse.gov

The White House celebrates Hanukkah by lighting the menorah.

Favorite Christmas Movies



Catching Fire catches the audience's attention

By Madi Groves
Editor

The newest edition to The Hunger Games series, *Catching Fire*, was, by far, a success. It didn't only catch attention, but it ignited more love for the characters—old and new. The movie was amazing and closely followed the novel, leaving audiences spellbound with all of the costumes, characters and setting.

The movie opens with the winners of the 74th Hunger Games, Katniss Everdeen (Jennifer Lawrence) and Peeta Mellark (Josh Hutcherson), going on a “victor's tour” to all the districts. While on their tour, they saw signs of rebellion throughout the districts. In hopes of stopping the rebellion, the capital announced that previous Hunger Games victors would be the contestants of the 75th annual Hunger Games, The Quarter Quell. With every tribute a former winner, the games are like nothing Panam has seen before. After a less than desirable departure, from Cinna (Lenny Kravitz), Katniss finds herself on a platform in the middle of a large body of water, surrounded by tropical rain forest. At the end of

the countdown, the tributes rush to the weapons at the center of the pond. The 24 tributes split off into their group of allies, and as tributes turn on one another and lives are lost, friendships are formed as Katniss and Peeta try to survive a second Hunger Games.

“[*Catching Fire* was] sad, amazing, accurate, funny, enticing and wonderful,” said junior Lexi Saeger. “The costumes were my favorite part, they were really well made and well thought out and I think portrayed the images from the book very well. I also especially liked the scenes showing the tributes at the capitol where we see who they really are.”

The movie and the book were very similar; the movie had just as much action as the book did. For example, when the two groups of allies battle on the cornucopia island, the movie not only shows the fighting, but the confusion of who was where. The movie brought more clarity to certain parts that the book didn't have. Facial expressions and body language helped viewers better understand how the characters acted; however, the movie was missing some de-



Katniss and Peeta show off their signature clothes on fire .

tails that would have made more sense to the plot line, like when President Snow (Donald Sutherland) was drinking at the party and spit blood into his cup. The reason behind that is ever since he got his job, he was poisoning his competitors, but the only way he could poison them was to become immune to the poison himself. He had to drink the same thing they drank in order for them to unknowingly take the poison.

“I thought *Catching Fire* was a really good movie,” said junior Connor McVay. “I liked how they made everything almost exactly how the book does, most movies don't do that. The costumes were extremely ridiculous, but really good. It is definitely a good idea

to read the book first, because then you can really appreciate how good the movie was.”

The costumes were really amazing. They matched Collin's book descriptions bringing her vision to life. Arguably, the best costume was Katniss' wedding dress transformation during her interview with Caesar Flickerman (Stanley Tucci).

The acting was very good also. The casting was spot-on, with new characters feeling true to their book counterparts. Lawrence's Katniss captured the struggle of acting like she was in love with Peeta to make President Snow happy.

Another thing Director Francis Lawrence did well was the graphics. The computer graphics, such as creating the dome where the Hunger Games, took place were made so realistically. Special effects like the monkeys and the fog that they used during the game were actually computer graphics; they were done so well, I actually thought they were real. Overall, every computer graphic they created looked realistic.

Fans of the book will think that the movie was so much like the book that they will definitely enjoy the movie and will want to see it again.

Catching Fire definitely leaves audiences wanting more, catching them off guard if they haven't read the book. Because the movie ultimately left quite a bit off-screen, it might be a better experience for book fans, but will satisfy most viewers, especially action and romance fans.

“It was amazingly accurate and wildly fascinating,” said junior Patric Rokus. “My favorite part was when Katniss shot the arrow at the dome and electrocuted it. I always hated the

Continued on page 13



Photo courtesy the Hunger Games Explorer

Katniss shows off her wedding dress to the Capitol before she enters the games.

Popular tech gifts for under the Christmas tree

By Jake Hansen
Staff writer

Every year, that fabled day comes around: December 25... Christmas. It is that one day, you can count on a little kid, waking up his parents so he can see his presents. However; the type of presents given change every year, such as a 16 year-old boy wouldn't want a Barbie® or even a GI-Joe®. What he might want could be the new PS4, or Xbox one. Those, however, are not the only things that might be on your list to Santa.

The iPhone 5s should be a popular choice this year. Brand new to the smartphone community, is packs a punch in its sleek metal and glass body. The punch comes from the 64-bit specialized operating system, and “a camera system ahead of its time,” Apple stated on their website.

If you want to talk more about things

ahead of their time, take a gander at the Samsung Galaxy Camera. It is the first dedicated camera to be able to sync and post directly to the web. With its 16MP camera, it is just like a normal

camera, with a twist. Running on Android 4.1 Jellybean, users can download all their favorite apps and picture editors.

Nokia's Lumia 1020, rivaling Apple's iPhone 5s, is a brilliant combination of pleasure and sobriety. Running on the new

Windows Amber operating system, the Lumia uses exclusive camera software making the 41Mp camera even more insane. However what really rivals the 5s is Nokia's



Photo courtesy of ibtimes.com

4.5 inch 1280x768 screen and its 1.5GHz processor. With its huge screen, its unmatched durability, battery life and speed, Nokia hopes to dominate the market with its new creation.

Maybe you're looking for something else. Instead of buying a solid keyboard, why not buy an infrared keyboard? Laser projected onto a surface you can begin typing without having to lug around keyboard. Even iPads and other tablets work with this tiny device.

Maybe you are in the market for a new computer console, how about a new Ouya system? FFDor a company who has just started up with the release of this system, it is a wonder how they haven't struck gold yet. The Ouya is a 2.95 inch cube, small but powerful. In those 2 inches it packs an ARM Cortex 2 Quad core rated at 2.3GHz. To give you a better perspective, that is about two times faster than the iPhone 5. Users are encouraged to root it, or change it, to whatever they want.

“For \$100, it's truly a revolutionary system.” Junior Aaron Ray said, about the Ouya.



Photo courtesy of www.dailytech.com

Hunger Games survivors fight again in the 75th games

Continued from page 12

costumes they wear in the capital because it accents their stupidity and carelessness, but the rest of the movie prep was fantastic. The graphics were almost perfect throughout the whole thing; it all looked so real, like I was really there.”



Photo courtesy imdb.com

Gale fights back as the Peacekeepers take him away to punish him.



Photo courtesy imdb.com

District 11 shows their love for Katniss and Peeta before they continue the tour.

Another great year on the field!

By Anna Lee
Editor

It was another great for season for the FHS girls soccer team. Ending with a record 7-9, they made it to the bi-district tournament, where they lost 0-3 to a tough team from Cascade High School.

“I’m going to miss getting to play with my two favorite seniors

Sierra McGarity and Mikeala Pilant,” senior Haley Burke said.

“I am going to miss the team bonding, it was really fun,” senior Courtney Cahill said.

This 2013 season was one that none of the girls will forget. Great job ladies, we can’t wait to come out and support you during next year’s season!



Volleyball team league champions, 3rd in state

By Anna Lee
Editor

The Freeman volleyball team has always been very successful and this year was no different from any other.

The girls won the league championship, and from there, won both of their Northeast District games. They went 1 for 2 games in bi-districts, which got them a spot in the state tournament. The state tournament was November 16, where the girls placed 3rd in state.

“It was a very successful season, the best we’ve had since I’ve been there,” said coach Eva Windlin-Jansen. “We won our own tournament and ended up as league champions. We came within a hair of the state championship. Overall, I have no regrets or complaints.”



A season to remember

By Anna Lee
Editor

Both the boys and the girls cross country teams had one of the most successful seasons they’ve had in the past few years as a team.

The boys’ team got to bi-districts and placed 9th as a whole.

The girls’ team also made it to by-districts, placing 4th which qualified them to go onto the state finals- the first time the girls team has qualified for state in 10 years.

At state, freshman Alyssa Zimmerman had a time of 19:53.55, placing 17th. Right behind Zimmerman was sophomore Tati Foster who had a time of 19:54.34, earning her 18th place. The girls team placed 6th overall, which is the best the Freeman girls cross country team has ever done!



Freeman Scotties take first in state at the Tacoma Dome

By Anna Lee
Editor

Not many football teams get the chance to play in the Tacoma dome for the State Championships. Freemans’ football team hasn’t seen the Dome since 2004, but this year changed that.

The Dawgs had an overall record of 13-0 and a league record of 6-0. They headed to state on December 7 where they beat Mt. Baker with a score of 35-13.

“The best part was how focused the boys were and how dedicated they were to go over there and come out with the ultimate goal,” said coach Jim Wood.

We are so proud of our boys this year and what they have accomplished. This was a season that no one will ever forget!



Scotties football celebrates their first state championship, a perfect 14-0.

The Dawgs are back in the house

By Anna Lee
Editor

The Dawgs opened up their season with a record of 1-1. Their first two games were rescheduled to allow time for the boys playing football to join the team.

Coach John Graham is back for his fourth season heading the boys’ program.

“I expect them to do as well as they are capable of,” said Graham. “Every year, we are looking for a league and district championship.”

The boys take on the Cheney Blackhawks tonight at 7:30. On December 27-28, Freeman will be hosting the Larson Memorial Winter Classic. Come out and support your boys this weekend and for the rest of the season!



One, two, three...pin!

By Anna Lee
Editor

This year 37 kids turned out for Freeman High School’s wrestling team which is the most the program has ever had. They have three returning state placers: junior Teigan Glidewell (4th place), junior Markus Goldbach (5th place), and senior transfer Josiah Thompson (7th place for Newport High School).

The team has a lot to work ahead to defend their league and district champions, according to coach Chad Ripke.

“I expect the boys to work hard every day, continue to get better every day, not be content with winning a league and district championship last year,” said Ripke. “It’s going to take even more for us this year to maintain that. We’re no longer the hunter; we’re the hunted in our league. I expect them to bring it every day in practice, so when they get on the mat, they put on a good show.”



Lady Scotties, new coach, same goals

By Anna Lee
Editor

Ending last year as league champions, the Freeman High Schools girls basketball team has been working hard to earn the same title as last year.

The first four games this season have given the Lady Scotties a record of 2-2, led by new head coach Chad Kimberly.

“I’m excited for playing with this group of girls,” said senior Sierra McGarity. “It’s a really fun atmosphere this year, and I’m looking forward to what the season will bring.”

A copy of the schedule is posted on the Freeman High school website. Check out the girls tonight when they take on Cheney at 5:45, or at the Larson Memorial Winter Classic is December 27-28 in the Freeman High school red and blue gym. Make sure to come out and support the girls’ basketball team next weekend and throughout the season to show your school spirit!



Freeman School District lends a hand to our local community

By Ali Tesch
Editor

According to Webster's Dictionary, the definition of community service is "Voluntary work intended to help people in a particular area." Freeman School District is a prime example of this definition; within the last year, FHS has been lending a helping hand to the community in many different ways including donating blood and running food drives. Not only have students been actively involved with these service projects, but many students have volunteered on their own time to be an active part of our community.

"Community service is taking your own time off from your own life and helping someone else out," explained senior Samm Strothman.

Between November 14-20 FHS held a food drive in order to donate food to North Palouse Food Bank which serves Rockford, Freeman, Rosalia, and

Tekoa. Classes competed to bring in the most food in order to help out the local community. The junior class won a half day movie for their win. An impressive 2500 items of food were raised during this competition.

Another way Freeman volunteered was by holding a blood drive. Seniors Grace Rudy and Robin Faulkner coordinated the event where more than 30 students donated blood to the Inland Northwest Blood Center. Donating blood is vital to our community because it helps hospitals meet their needs during events like surgeries and natural disasters. There are some requirements when donating blood. You must be 5'3 and weigh over 120 pounds. Giving blood is a great way to give back, and a small price to pay to save lives.

"Holding the blood drive at school taught me how to take leadership and responsibility of something," stated Faulkner.

In order to ensure a safe supply of blood the Inland Northwest Blood Center needs more than 200 donors. If you're interested in donating blood, call (800) 423-0151 to gain more information.

Freeman is extending their giving into the holiday season through two more events focusing on our school community. Every year, FHS holds the Fifteen Days of Giving and the Giving Tree.

From December 2-18, the Fifteen Days of Giving will be held. During this



Photo by Ruby Falciani

Leadership wrapped all the presents donated by the high school for the Tree of Giving so they could be delivered in time for Christmas.

time, the whole district focused on donating clothes, food, and toys back to our community, so everyone can enjoy this holiday season.

The Giving Tree, located in the foyer of the high school, is hung with tags that have gift request for Freeman families who can't afford presents for Christmas this year. The students and staff who purchased items helped create happy holidays for our Freeman families. The gifts are distributed to the community by counselor Laura Hamma. If you have any questions about distribution or need any extra help this holiday season please contact Mrs. Hamma.

"The Giving Tree gives students a reason to give back to the community," stated senior Katie Vold, who is organizing the FHS tree for Leadership Class.

Community service hasn't just been school-centered; some students have also been volunteering on their own time. Junior Kyla Wright has been teaching dance classes, and sharing her passion for dance.



"I enjoy volunteering at my dance school because I enjoy giving back to the community," said Wright.

Being involved in our community and giving back to our community is a valuable trait to learn. Freeman High school is an excellent example of a school that is always ready to lend a helping hand. Not only does Freeman give back to the community, but more importantly Freeman has taught students to be active members of our community.

Photo by Ali Tesch



Freeman's annual Tree of Giving will spread Christmas cheer to some Freeman families who need a little extra help for the holidays.

**Merry Christmas everyone! See you in the new year.
Your Bagpiper Staff**