



Carson Chronicle



Carson Middle School Newspaper

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Editors: Anna Getz & Juliet Forrest

Winter 2021-2022

Traditions We Have...

COOKIE TIME!

By: Allison Guttendorf

One food tradition that my family does is making cookies around Christmas time! I especially enjoy making these cookies (and eating of course!) from Hershey!

Here's how to make them. Make sure you do this with an adult so everyone is safe!

Holiday Lights; a Christmas Tradition

By: Ellen McLaughlin

During the Christmas season, many people love to enjoy the sights of the holiday lights that decorate many parts of Pittsburgh. If you are looking for something bright and fun to do with your families this holiday season, here are some ideas.

The first place that I recommend that you visit is the PPG Ice rink in Downtown Pittsburgh. This ice skating rink is much larger than your average rink. It's just a bit smaller than a National Hockey League rink, and it's 25% larger than an original ice rink. The giant tree in the middle of the ice is

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An NA Tradition: Cross Country Dominance

By: Anna Getz

On October 6th, a historic date for the middle school XC team, they hit a total of 800 wins in a tediously close but victorious meet against Pine Richland. This incredible record is also most likely the highest amount of wins in all of middle school XC in the area. One crucial factor in this team's great success is the stability of the coaching staff over the years.

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Video on how to make the cookies!



Items Needed:

- oven
- mixing bowl
- mixer

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Around the World

By: **Sadhana Kuppuraj**

Christmas is always a magical celebration in my family. We set up a tree, have lights around the house, exchange gifts, and have a big dinner with family to celebrate the holiday. I bet you all have heard of Christmas. It is a holiday that is celebrated worldwide and depending on where you are, is known by different names.



If you're in a Spanish speaking country, you would hear people referring to the holiday as Navidad. Navidad refers to the Nativity of Jesus. It is translated into American English as Merry Christmas. Noel, in French, can be traced back to the Latin word natalis, which can mean "birthday". The word "Natale", in Italian, is rooted in the word "birth" in Latin. Therefore, by wishing each other a Merry Christmas in Italian, they are wishing each other "a good birth". Have you ever wondered how Christmas came about?

The first recorded Christmas celebration was in Rome on December 25, AD 336. Today, the holiday is known for exchanging gifts and spending time with friends and family.



As per my culture, usually near Christmas we celebrate Diwali. It is one of the biggest festivals celebrated in the Hindu culture. That day, we put on brand-new clothes, a vashti and shirt for the men, and a saari for women. The boys get a shirt and pants and the girls wear a bright dress shirt with a matching skirt. We observe this holiday to celebrate the win over evilness. For dinner, my mom makes sambar, rice, vada and sweets. At night, the sounds of firecrackers fill the streets of India. I hope you had a merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Credit: Encyclopedia Britannica

New Years Eve

By: **Grace Gavran**

A lot of people know that the New Year's Eve celebration in New York City is big, a tradition for people to watch on the television, if not in person, from all corners of our country. Have you ever wondered how much it costs to count down and drop the ball on December 31st? It's a well known fact that fireworks are a huge part of the celebration. It's kind of crazy how much is spent on fireworks each Dec 31st. The budget for the NYC fireworks alone is 1.5 million dollars, but it's a tradition that the fireworks go off as the clock strikes twelve.



As Auld Lang Syne is played and sung, and the multi-million dollar ball reaches bottom showing the end of the calendar year, thousands of fireworks light up the sky and help ring in the new year. Every major city on Earth has a celebration, from Los Angeles to Dubai, and they all shoot off fireworks to celebrate January 1.

Holiday Lights from pg 1.

how many people know this place. The tree has over 100,000 LED lights, and it is 60 feet tall. If you like to stay active, and visit new places, this is a great location that you and your families might enjoy.

The next place that I highly suggest that you see is Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens. Phipps decorates their plants, flowers, and exhibits in sparkling Christmas lights, making the whole place shine. It includes a 9 foot holiday tree, a reflective wonderland, shiny ornaments, and many more Christmas decorations.

This is an especially exciting place to visit if you are interested in plants and gardening.



Video Highlights from Phipps!

The third and final place (though there are many others) I recommend that you should visit here in Pittsburgh is Kennywood's Holiday Lights. Kennywood has more

than a million lights covering the park. Along with the lights and many decorations, they have the tallest Christmas tree in the state set up for everyone to see. They also have many festive foods and drinks along with over 20 rides to enjoy. You can also visit Santa, see model trains, and do many more fun activities.



Video Highlights from Kennywood!

I hope that this holiday season you will visit some of these holiday lights with your family that are a beloved tradition here in Pittsburgh.



A local tradition is the Gingerbread house building competition. Ellie Tang and Jenna Parker won this years event. Their winning entry is pictured here.



Cookie Traditions From Pg 1

Ingredients:

- 48 (or estimate) HERSHEY'S KISSES Brand Candy Cane Mint Candies
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine (1 stick), softened
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 - 1/2 tsps vanilla extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/4 tsp baking soda
- 2 Tbsps milk
- 1/3 cup granulated sugar red or green sugar crystals, granulated sugar or powdered sugar for rolling

Steps:

1. Heat oven to 350°F. Remove wrappers from the candies.
2. Beat butter, granulated sugar, egg and vanilla in a large bowl until well blended. Stir together flour, baking soda and salt; add alternately with milk to butter mixture, beating until well blended.
3. Shape dough into 1-inch balls. Roll in red sugar, granulated sugar, powdered sugar or a combination of any of the sugars. Place on an ungreased cookie sheet.
4. Bake 8 to 10 minutes or until edges are lightly browned and cookie is set. Remove from the oven; cool for 2 to 3 minutes. Press a candy piece into the center of each cookie. Remove from cookie sheet to wire rack. Cool completely. Makes about 48 cookies.

Holiday Cookie Bake-off Video!



January Word Find

- | | | | |
|----------|---------|----------|-----------|
| Winter | Sweater | Blizzard | Freeze |
| Cold | Skate | Coat | Penguin |
| New year | Hoodie | Snowfall | Hibernate |
| Gloves | Blanket | Mittens | Sniffle |
| Chimney | | | Frosty |



Cross Country Dominance (From pg 1.

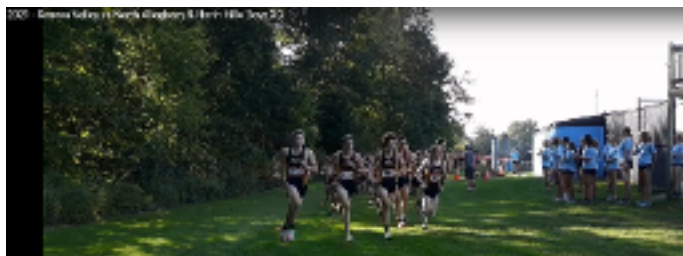
Coach Williams, a GOAL teacher at MMS, and Coach Winschel, a European History teacher at NAI, joined the coaching staff as assistants in 2000. By then NAXC had 409 wins. Then Coach McNavage, a Phys Ed teacher at NAI, joined the staff in 2002, when Coach Winschel became head coach, and just like that the coaching staff for the team was complete. These coaches have continued with the team for 20 seasons, and plan to keep leading the team for many years to come.



Video recognizing the girls Cross Country team in Harrisburg

The three core coaches took over from an incredible man named Bob Austin, a former Carson Middle School teacher. He led the team for 32 years, coaching for 320 wins and only one loss. He was an inspiration to the team, and really pushed the kids to do their best. He retired and finished coaching the team in 2001, but volunteered to coach the high school team that year, since their coaching staff came apart early in the season. So, Jim LeDonne, Austin's fellow coach, took over as head coach for the rest of the 2001 middle school season.

When asked about his most stand-out memories over the years, current head coach, Coach Winschel, replied, "I remember so much, and in so much detail, like it was yesterday.



Video from the NA vs Seneca V. Boys Sept. 2021

The stories of our kids leading an entire race the wrong way on the course of an opposing team. The opponents followed! The stories of our lead runners getting lost and us depending on the pack to save the day. The stories of ridiculous efforts made by kids at every level in their effort to bring this team to its best possible performance." He also states that he remembers all three of the team's losses over his coaching years, especially the first one, in which North Hills swept NA right in front of their former head coach.

But most of all, he states that he believes the succession of the team comes from not only the resources given to the kids, such as the Summer XC program, but also the support of their parents, and the sheer grit and determination from the athletes themselves. This team has an amazing balance of coaches, students, and parents that keep its succession alive. They already have an impressive record, and to this day, continue to strive for even more.

New Years Resolutions

For many people, New Years day brings celebrations and excitement about the upcoming year. Since the early 1800's, a tradition by many people is to make a New Year's resolution. Vowing to better themselves to improve on the previous year is some way. Whether its better grades in school, learning a new language, or the loosing weight, resolutions are not always the easiest promise to keep.

Loosing weight, which happens to be the number one resolution made by adults, also seems to be the first one to be broken. Gym memberships typically are purchased in January and the gyms are full for a month or two, but check those gyms in April or May. Many of the adults have forgotten about their resolution, or had something sidetrack their efforts.

Many of my friends have made resolutions to get more sleep, or to not procrastinate when it comes to getting school work finished. I have heard other kids say they want to make a sports team, which will require them to work out more or practice more often. I have heard some kids say they want to help more people.

The key to keeping your resolutions is to be realistic about the goal and set a plan to meet that goal. Many experts say writing the goal down so you can see it every day. The next step is to break that goal into smaller achievements that can be reached, which will lead to making your resolution a reality. For example, if you want to make sure you don't procrastinate on your school work, maybe the first step is

to buy a big white board that can you can write down due dates for long term projects. For those projects, give an extra day or two and try to get things turned in early. Another way of reaching this goal might be to change your routine when you get home. After getting a snack, because everyone knows we are hungry when we get home, sit down at the dining room table and go through each of your classes to see what was assigned and covered in class that day. Make a list of everything on a piece of paper and then as you finish each assignment, cross it off.

New Years resolutions are made around the world, and has been happening for hundreds of years. Some of the history of resolutions include the ancient Romans offering gifts to the gods, Babylonians planting crops and electing leaders, or many different religious groups having church services as a way to start the new year.

No matter where you are from, New Years resolutions are filled with hope of personal growth and improvement the world around us.



WEAR RED FRIDAYS

By: Chase Beck and Chase Dimond

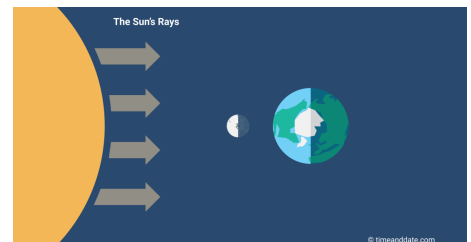
William Piocquidio, a veteran who lives in Cranberry Township, is asking people to wear red clothing on Friday's. **RED** stands for **R**emember **E**veryone **D**eployed. William Piocquidio started handing out information on route 19 in Cranberry as a way to honor those who are serving in the armed forces. This is about making people aware. It has a made a big impact on his life. He was in the army from 1957-1962. He's now 82 and living well and still having a good life, which is all that matters. This shows acts of kindness and he just wants people to take a minute and think about those who aren't with their family. When you're trying to find something to wear this week, think about supporting this cause and wear red on Fridays.



CHINESE NEW YEAR

By: Marcus Garcia and Kosta Sarris

January 1st is known to many as the start of the new year. Most cultures at one point in their history have followed the lunar calendar. Chinese New Year this year is February 1st. There is a difference in the dates of January 1 and February 1 because the Chinese calendar follows the lunar calendar. The solar calendar is the time the Earth makes its way around the Sun, or 365 and 1/4 days. The lunar calendar is the first sighting of the new moon.



The New Moon is when the Sun and Moon are aligned, with the Sun and Earth on opposite sides of the Moon.



The Chinese New Year changes every year because it depends on when the new moon becomes full. The lunar calendar bases its timings off the different phases of the moon. This years

Chinese New Year will be the year of the tiger. The tiger is known as the king of all beasts. According to nationworld.com those born during the year of the tiger will have the same characteristics as the tiger. They are vigor, ambition, courage, enthusiasm, generosity, self-confidence, commitment to help others.



Winter Fun!

