



Titan Chronicle



Twin River High School Christmas Edition 2008 ~ Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

CONSTRUCTION CLASSES BUILD ADDITIONAL WELDING SHOP

By Courtney Cave and Kelsey Cherry

Thirteen students in Building Construction I and II have constructed a welding shop under the supervision of shop teacher Mr. Sempek.

The construction started about three weeks before Thanksgiving.

Mr. Sempek decided to build the welding shop because they needed more space for welding.

The old welding area in the shop room will be converted into a finish room and will also be used for project storage.

With only a limited amount of time per day to work on it, this project has to be organized. Mr. Sempek gives a plan of action at the beginning of each class period. There is an assigned schedule to tell the students what they will be working on for the day.

Mr. Sempek said, "They just kind of scatter and help each other out when they need it. They even share hammers, but also drop them too."

The outside of the shop will be brick to match the rest of the school building. Mr. Sempek said that the brick wouldn't be put on until spring, though, because cold weather won't allow the brick to set properly.

Garage doors will be put on before Christmas, which will allow the heat to be turned on, and the shop will be ready to work in.

Some of the jobs that the students have to do include scooping snow off of the roof, sheeting the ceiling, insulating the roof, and tinning the roof. They all took turns doing each job.

According to Tyler Sock, "The worst job was putting in tresses."

SODAS YOUTH GROUP COLLECTS MORE THAN 850 CANS FOR CHARITY

The note SODA sponsor Ryan Sidwell sent out said it all.

"Thank you from the bottom of our hearts! We smashed all of our goals by raising over 850 cans! Getting that many cans, over 850, is truly remarkable. It is truly a TITAN-like total."

SODA donated 25 cents for every can collected up to 200 cans.

The money went towards cash prizes for the poker/pitch tournament held on December 13.

The donated food will be given to the Platte County Food Pantry.

Sidwell said the SODA Pitch/Poker night drew a large crowd of students.

"There were approximately 75-80 students who attended. I would say it was a complete success. It seems as though the students had an amazingly fun time."



A sample of the food collected during the SODA's canned food drive. The food was donated to the Platte County Food Pantry.



ADVANCED MEDIA CLASS VIDEOS READY TO VIEW

The Advanced Media class at Twin River High School and has unveiled the first three videos they produced, and they can be found on the school website.

There are 10 students in the class and they have worked hard on these projects. The object is to "sell Twin River" using marketing principles in video.

Titan Football was the project of Mitch Reed, Jonathon Anson and Matt Nissen. They mixed game footage with interviews and practice footage to create their video.

Katie Starostka, Jordan Lincoln and Tabatha Ronnfeldt produced a video entitled "Our School", which focuses on Twin River and all the school has to offer.

Taylor Eggli, Kylee Gee, Samantha Bishop and Denni Mitchell teamed up to produce a video about the Twin River softball team, which includes game footage, interviews and still photos in a creative composite.

Each group is currently working on their second project, one for each the boys and girls basketball teams and one on the school's Pre-K class.

The class is also responsible for the yearbook, and that will take the focus of most of the second semester.

To view the videos, you will need to have Windows Media Player on your computer (there is a link to download it if you do not.) The school website is <http://www.esu7.org/~trweb>. Click on the Advanced Media tab in the left column. Once on the webpage, you can select which of the videos you want to download and view.

Titan Chronicle

is published bi-weekly and is free of charge to all patrons of our district. You can also read the Titan Chronicle online by visiting our school website and clicking on the Chronicle link in the left column.

The Chronicle is written by the Journalism Class under the direction of Mr. Morris. The students also serve as photographers.

Editors

Casey Olson, Denni Mitchell, Paige Eaton & Lorna Boyd.

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It is the intent of Twin River Public Schools to comply with both this letter and spirit of the law in making certain discrimination does not exist in the policies, regulations and operations of our District.

Complaints can also be filed with the Office of Civil Rights, as follows: Region VII Office of Civil Rights, Department of Education, 10220 No. Executive Blvd., 8th floor Kansas City, MO. 64153 (Phone 810-891-8026)

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

College Planning Bulletin A monthly college planning guide for Nebraska high school students

January 2009

It's time to prepare for the FAFSA!

Preparation is the key to successfully completing and filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA is the application for state, federal and college-specific financial aid. Even if you don't think you'll qualify for need-based financial aid, you should complete the FAFSA to qualify for low-interest student and parent loans.

Follow these steps to complete the FAFSA and the financial aid process:

Contact the college(s) you applied to and ask for their FAFSA priority filing date. Because some types of financial aid are awarded first-come, first-served, it's important that you submit the FAFSA before that date.

Request a Personal Identification Number (PIN) for you and one for a parent at pin.ed.gov. The PIN is your signature for the online FAFSA.

Complete your 2008 taxes early as the FAFSA requires current tax information.

Gather these student and parent items:

- 2008 federal income tax forms and, if applicable, Schedule K-1 (Form 1065)
- 2008 W-2 forms
- Student's driver's license number
- Social Security numbers
- Birth dates
- Date parents were married, separated, divorced or widowed
- Current cash, savings and checking account balances
- Current investment values (stocks, bonds, mutual funds, CDs, etc.) excluding retirement accounts
- Value of business (if more than 100 employees)
- Value of investment farm (Do not include the value of a family farm that you or your parents live on and operate.)
- 2008 child support (paid and/or received)
- 2008 Workers Compensation
- Other untaxed income in 2008 such as veteran's benefits, housing/food/ living allowances for military and clergy
- Alien Registration Number for eligible non-citizens

Be prepared to answer these FAFSA questions which relate to grant eligibility:

1. Did your student or anyone in the household receive any of the following federal benefits?

- § Supplemental Security Income
- § Food Stamps
- § TANF
- § Free or Reduced Price Lunch
- § WIC

2. Did your student complete at least two Advanced Placement courses with a passing test score of 3 or higher?

3. Did your student complete and pass the following high school courses?

- § 4 years of English
- § 3 years of math (Algebra I and above)
- § 3 years of science (2 of 3: Biology, Chemistry, Physics)
- § 3 years of social studies
- § 1 year of a language other than English

Complete and file the FAFSA electronically at fafsa.ed.gov before your college's priority date. For user-friendly clarification of any FAFSA question, see the FAFSA Tutorial at EducationQuest.org.

Expect a Student Aid Report acknowledging that your form was processed.

Submitted by Mr. Dan Koziol TRHS Guidance Counselor

Expect Financial Aid Award Notifications in the spring from the colleges you listed on your FAFSA. The notifications will detail the assistance the colleges are offering (could be a combination of scholarships, grants, work-study and student loans).

Apply for student and parent loans (if necessary) in the summer through your college. **Check out these free FAFSA tools and resources.**

Visit the "Completing the FAFSA" section at EducationQuest.org where you'll find:

- § **FAFSA Checklist** – provides a complete list of items you need to gather before you complete the FAFSA
- § **College Funding Estimator** – estimates your FAFSA results
- § **FAFSA Tutorial** – provides user-friendly clarification of each FAFSA question
- § **Financial Aid Video** – explains the types of financial aid and how to apply

If you are filing a FAFSA for the first time and would like free personal help, call the EducationQuest location nearest you to make an appointment. Contact the Kearney office at 308-234-6310 or 800-666-3721; Lincoln at 402-475-5222 or 800-303-3745; or Omaha at 402-391-4033 or 888-357-6300.

January "To Do" List

Complete these tasks during January to stay on the right college planning track.

Seniors:

- ___ Ask the college(s) you applied to for their FAFSA priority date.
- ___ Attend the Financial Aid Program at your school or in your area.
- ___ Apply for FAFSA Personal Identification Numbers at pin.ed.gov.
- ___ Complete your taxes early as you'll need that information for the FAFSA.
- ___ Continue to apply for scholarships.

Juniors:

- ___ Attend the Financial Aid Program at your school or in your area.
- ___ Register by January 4 for the February 9 ACT
- ___ Continue to research colleges.
- ___ Start setting up college visits.

For free help with college planning, contact EducationQuest Foundation:

Kearney
308-234-6310
800-666-3721

Lincoln
402-475-5222
800-303-3745

Omaha
402-391-4033
888-357-6300

EducationQuest.org

Facts About Bullying

(From: Voices for Children)

What is 'Bullying'?

- . Bullying is a form of inter-child aggression
- . Bullying behaviour is a combination of power and aggression.
- . Bullying may be physical; verbal; relational; or reactive.
- . Many victims of bullying are different in some way.

Why care about bullying?

- . Bullying is a pervasive problem.
- . Most bullying goes unreported
- . Boys and girls engage in bullying at approximately the same rate.

- . Bullying has an enduring effect on both victim and bully.
- . We do not know, yet, however, whether bullying is predictive of later aggressive behaviour
- . Research on aggressive children shows that their prognosis for healthy development is poor.
- . Children who become established in the role of victim are often rejected by their peers.

Strategies to stop Bullying

- . Don't Bully Others
- . Help Others
- . Speak Out
- . Ignore It
- . Get Adult Help
- . Include Everyone
- . The power of peer intervention
- . Peer Intervention by Adolescents: Why it Works
- . What can children and youth do now?

What can adults do?

What works?

- . The best intervention is one which addresses the social context in which bullying occurs.
- . The first step in such an effort is a school policy with clearly stated rules against bullying.
- . Classroom discussions serve to sensitize children to the problem
- . Increased adult active supervision of playgrounds.

Bullying Prevention:

Recommendations for Schools

(From the Center for The study and Prevention of violence)

The Role of Schools in Preventing Bullying

- The school should be a safe and positive learning environment for ALL students

Recommended General Rules for Improving Overall School Climate

- Two general conditions must exist in order to prevent bullying:
 - . adults at schools should be aware of the extent of bully/victim problems in their own schools
 - . these adults should involve themselves in changing the situation.

Consequences of Bullying Behavior

- . Establishing rules against bullying necessitates creating positive or negative consequences for following or violating rules.

School-Level Interventions

- . Designed to improve overall school climate

Classroom-Level Interventions

- . Designed to improve an individual classroom's social climate

Individual-Level Interventions

- . Designed to change or improve the behavior of students in general

SCHOOL CALENDER AT-A-GLANCE

By James Noecker

December 19

JV/Varsity GBB/BBB at Fullerton at 4:30/6:15/8:00

December 20

JV/Varsity GBB vs. Norfolk Catholic –Genoa – 6:15/8:00
JH GBB at Fullerton 9:30/10:30 a.m.
HS Wrestling at Loganview invite –9:30
JH Wrestling at Seward Invitational –8:30

December 22

JH/HS Music Concert at Genoa –7:00

December 23

Early out –1:30

Have a GREAT Christmas break



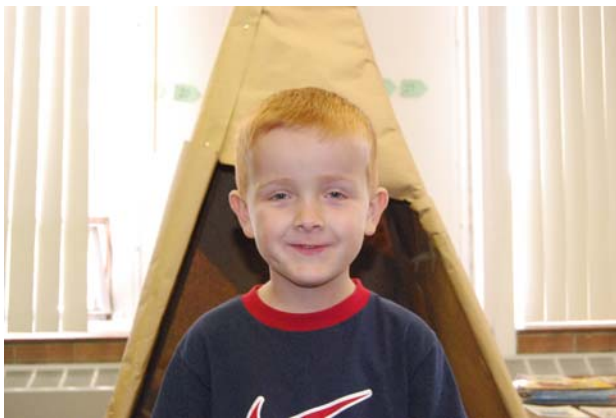
Mia Gatson

Name: **Mia Gatson**
 Parents: **Theresa Martinez**
 Birthday: **September 6**
 Favorite food: **Pancakes**
 Favorite color: **Red**
 Favorite subject in school: **Centers**
 Hobbies: **Ride bike**
 What is a cool talent that you can do? **Play with my sister Ann**
 Do you have any pets? **Dog—Rocky, Cat—Cookie, crab, and frog**
 What is a game you are good at? **T-ball**
 What is the funniest looking animal? **Giraffe**
 Why did Humpty Dumpty fall off the wall? **He broke his head**
 What is something your parents always tell you to do? **Clean up my room**
 If you were a king/queen, what would your crown be made of? **Paper**
 What would you do with \$1 million? **Save it**



Nicholas Euse

Name: **Nicholas Euse**
 Parents: **Thad and Marge**
 Birthday: **May 14**
 Favorite food: **Mac n' Cheese, steak, and grilled cheese**
 Favorite color: **Blue and red**
 Favorite subject in school: **Art**
 Hobbies: **Baseball**
 What is a cool talent that you can do? **Racing on DS**
 Do you have any pets? **No**
 What is a game you are good at? **Football**
 What is the funniest looking animal? **Giraffe**
 Why did Humpty Dumpty fall off the wall? **He was sitting on it**
 What is something your parents always tell you to do? **Read books**
 If you were a king/queen, what would your crown be made of? **Metal**
 What would you do with \$1 million? **Buy a dog**



Children make you want to start life over.

~Muhammad Ali

Preston Gembica

Name: **Preston Gembica**
 Parents: **Dave and Brenda**
 Birthday: **December 31**
 Favorite food: **Steak**
 Favorite color: **Yellow**
 Favorite subject in school: **Centers**
 Hobbies: **Ride bikes**
 What is a cool talent that you can do? **Reading**
 Do you have any pets? **Dog—Nipsy, Cat—Meow Meow, Bunny—Buster**
 What is a game you are good at? **Hockey**
 What is the funniest looking animal? **Opossum**
 What is something your parents always tell you to do? **Go to bed**
 If you were a king/queen, what would your crown be made of? **Metal**
 What would you do with \$1 million? **Buy food**



Ross Hebda

Name: **Ross Hebda**
 Parents: **Ray Jr. and Denise**
 Birthday: **January 20**
 Favorite food: **Macaroni**
 Favorite color: **Green and yellow**
 Favorite subject in school: **Reading**
 Hobbies: **Play football**
 What is a cool talent that you can do? **Flip my bike**
 Do you have any pets? **Dog—Lucky, Cat—Batman**
 What is a game you are good at? **Bingo**
 What is the funniest looking animal? **Monkey**
 Why did Humpty Dumpty fall off the wall? **Because he wasn't paying attention**
 What is something your parents always tell you to do? **Go to bed at 9:00**
 If you were a king/queen, what would your crown be made of? **Metal**
 What would you do with \$1 million? **Spend it on hundreds of trains**



Children seldom misquote. In fact, they usually repeat word for word what you shouldn't have said.

~Author Unknown

Tyler Kula

Name: **Tyler Kula**
 Parents: **Steve and Amy**
 Birthday: **December 30**
 Favorite food: **Jakes supper**
 Favorite color: **Black**
 Favorite subject in school: **PE**
 Hobbies: **Kickball**
 What is a cool talent that you can do? **Football**
 Do you have any pets? **Snake named Turtle**
 What is a game you are good at? **Checkers**
 What is the funniest looking animal? **Dinosaurs**
 What is something your parents always tell you to do? **Eat**
 If you were a king/queen, what would your crown be made of? **Metal**
 What would you do with \$1 million? **Keep it**



Weston Graham

Name: **Weston Graham**
 Parents: **Todd and Lisa**
 Birthday: **August 3**
 Favorite food: **Donuts**
 Favorite color: **Blue and red**
 Favorite subject in school: **Computers**
 Hobbies: **Play tag**
 Do you have any pets? **No**
 What is a game you are good at? **Football**
 Why did Humpty Dumpty fall off the wall? **Because he was sitting on it**
 What is something your parents always tell you to do? **Go to bed**
 If you were a king/queen, what would your crown be made of? **Wood**
 What would you do with \$1 million? **Buy a car**



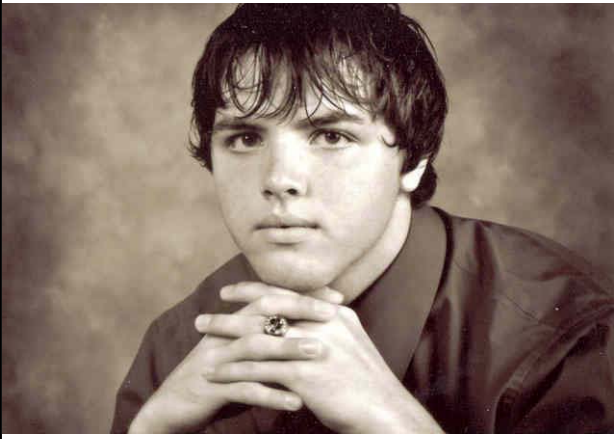
KIDS SAY...

Grade school teachers will tell you that from the mouths of babes comes some of the funniest lines...here are a few examples:

The future of "I give" is "I take."
 The parts of speech are lungs and air.
 The inhabitants of Moscow are called Mosquitoes.
 A census taker is man who goes from house to house increasing the population.
 Define H2O and CO2. H2O is hot water and CO2 is cold water.
 A virgin forest is a forest where the hand of man has never set foot.
 The general direction of the Alps is straight up.
 The spinal column is a long bunch of bones. The head sits on the top and you sit on the bottom.
 One of the main causes of dust is janitors.
 A scout obeys all to whom obedience is due and respects all duly constipated authorities.
 One by-product of raising cattle is calves.
 To prevent head colds, use an agonizer to spray into the nose until it drips into the throat.
 The four seasons are salt, pepper, mustard and vinegar.
 The climate is hottest next to the Creator.
 In spring, the salmon swim upstream to spoon.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

The Class of 2009



Blake "Bubba" Kruse

By Casey Olsen

Blake Kruse is the son of Paul and Kathy Kruse of Genoa. He has four siblings who are Lance-15, Megan-21, Jenna-25, and Angela-27. For pets, Blake has 1 1/2 dogs whose names are Mercedes and Cricket. Blake said, "Cricket only counts as 1/2 of a dog."

Blake's hobbies include sports, hunting, fishing, and cruising in his 2000 Camaro Z28. When asked what he does when no one is watching, Blake replied, "Steal people's stuff; pencil bags, pens, etc."

Blake has gone "snipe hunting" many times, and about his experiences said, "It was funny; we had some good laughs." Also, Jake Sawatzky getting mad is his biggest phobia.

Blake's childhood nickname was Bubba, and his favorite word is "sphincter." A strange talent that he has is stuffing 16 jumbo marshmallows in his mouth. When asked who was his hottest teacher in school, Blake replied, "Roxanne Olson."

Blake's advice for underclassmen is, "Don't drink energy drinks at 10:30 on a school night."

After high school Blake plans to graduate college, get a good job, get married and have kids.

*For those who don't know, Cricket is a small Pomeranian.

*If you don't know what snipe hunting is, ask around and you'll see.

Blake's Favorites:

Ice Cream: Chocolate Marshmallow

Candy: Laffy Taffy

Color: Orange

Movie: Never Back Down

Subject in School: PE

Teacher: Mrs. Kuntz

Saying: "Do you know who won the race?"

Drink: Purple Rockstar Juiced

Food: BBQ Wings

Number: 33 or 51

Clothing: Hats

Gum: Stride Forever Fruit

Holiday: Christmas

TV Show: Manswer

Scott "Petey" Morton

By Denni Mitchell

Scott James Morton was born January 4, 1991. His parents are Brad and Janet Morton of Monroe. He has two siblings; Ryan is thirteen and Megan is eight.

Scott has been called Petey since seventh grade. No one, including Scott, is sure why.

His most memorable year was seventh grade in Silver Creek. "It was a lot of fun." Scott's most embarrassing moment was eating a dog treat his mom gave him. Not realizing that it was a dog treat, he ate it. "It was really nasty."

Sue Micek and Jim Liebig have had the most influence on him. "They gave me something that will be with me my whole life."

Scott plans to finish high school strong, get a job, and go to college. He plans to attend Wayne St. His advice to younger students is to get involved early and a lot. "It looks good on all applications."

Scott's Favorites:

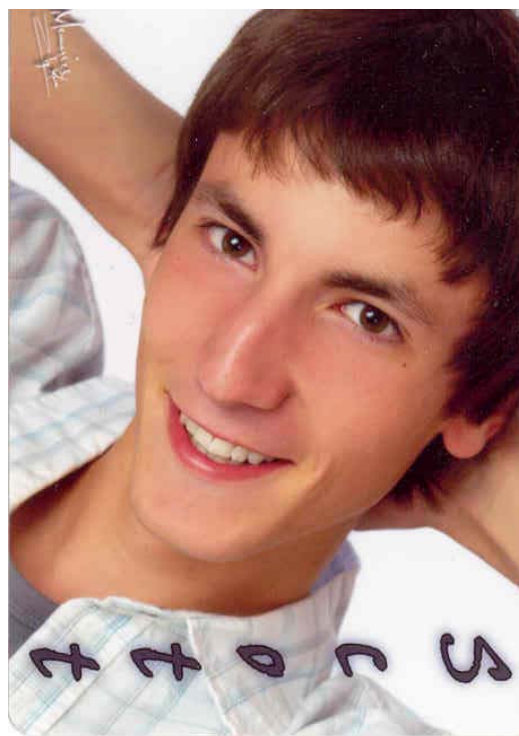
Favorite Fruit: Citrus fruits

Where would you love to live/vacation at: I would love to tour Italy. There's a lot of history there and I heard it's amazing.

Night or day person: Definitely nocturnal.

Favorite quote: The difference between 'involvement' and 'commitment' is like an eggs and ham breakfast: the chicken was 'involved', the pig was 'committed.'

Favorite pastime: Facebook/Myspace and hanging out with my best friends.



Elementary Thanksgiving Project

By Kelsey Cherry and Courtney Cave

The Twin River Genoa site elementary students participated in a Thanksgiving project headed by secretary, Chris Parry.

Each class had their own color and subject. Chris Parry said, "We gave them a certain category so they would have to think about it, and so we would get a bigger variety of answers."

Kindergarten's subject was family and their color was yellow. The first grade's color was light green and they had to write about being thankful for food. Second grade got the color orange, and were thankful for fun things. Third graders wrote about being thankful for city offices and businesses and had the color dark green. Mrs. Strain's fourth grade class was blue and their subject was school. Mrs. Stankoski's fourth graders wrote about being thankful for the weather and had the color purple. Fifth graders were thankful for things inside of your house with the color red. The sixth graders were magenta and wrote about being thankful for clothes. The elementary teachers also participated in this project. They wrote about being thankful for anything and had the color gray.

Chris Parry also said, "Many of the kids came up with good thanks. My favorite was Kate Mohr's which was being thankful to chase calves."

Here are some examples of what the students and teachers wrote about being thankful for. Erin in second grade was thankful for "hunting with dad every Sunday." Monica in first grade said she was thankful for "cake and cupcakes." Charlie in fourth grade was thankful for "computers because they give people knowledge." Chelsea in third grade said she was thankful for "Police Station because they help us stay safe." Mrs. Bosak was thankful for "family, friends, my faith, fun times, **good** jokes, and of course chocolate."



County Government Day

On Wednesday, November 19, 2008 the Twin River High School Junior Class went to the Nance County Courthouse in Fullerton, for County Government Day. The Fullerton Junior Class was also present.

At the beginning of the day the Juniors learned about how and why County Government Day was started. After watching a presentation about that, students went with their designated groups to learn about different areas in the courthouse. A few of these areas were the County Attorney, the Sheriff and the Extension Office. Each area spoke to the students for about an hour of what they do for the government and state and also the community.

After learning about the various courthouse areas, we walked down to the American Legion Club and ate lunch. Then, after lunch we walked back to the courthouse and watched a mock trial competition. During the mock trial, Twin River was the Prosecution and Fullerton was the defendant. Both sides gave good arguments and had very thought out points. In the end the jury couldn't decide who had one, because there were six jurors from each school, so a juror from each side did rock-paper-scissors to determine the verdict. Fullerton won rock-paper-scissors, making them the victors.

Shortly after the mock trial competition, each school had a battle of "Friendly Feud." Twin River started off by getting the first few points when Fullerton made a comeback. It remained very close throughout Friendly Feud, but in the end Twin River won by one point.

Kammie Kelly, a Twin River Junior stated that, "Overall the day was very fun and exciting. It was also very interesting!"

Mitch "The Nail Biter" Reed

By Kammie Kelly

You may just find Mitch pigging out on Skittles, or even downing Mint Chocolate Chip ice cream.

If he's not doing that, he's probably lifting weights or working on his latest Advanced Media movie. He keeps busy, and that keeps him out of mischief.

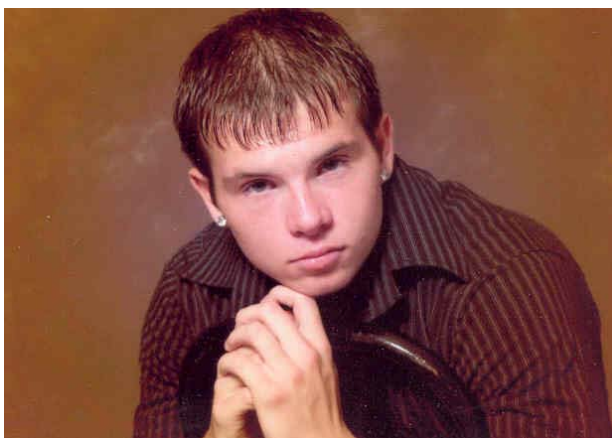
Mitch Reed is the son of Doug and Janet Reed. Mitch has three siblings Jason, Frank, and Kenny.

You will more than likely find Mitch shopping around at JC Penny's.

Mitch named family, friends, girls, and football as things he cannot live without in life.

Mitch has a few favorites in life and he named them to be monkeys, P.E. and the Rolls Royce Phantom.

When asked what celebrity he would love to



meet he responded, "Larry the Cable Guy."

Mitch shared that when he was elected as a homecoming candidate it didn't go as well as he planned. He named dancing for the talent competition for homecoming as his embarrassing moment.

After graduation Mitch plans on going to college to play football.

Preparing Before Winter Storms and Extreme Cold

By Rebecca Johnson
Twin River FBLA Reporter

The past couple of weeks have shown us how winter storms can impact our area. Weather can change quickly and unexpectedly. Twin River FBLA has been an active partner with the Nance County Disaster Team for three years. A mission of the Nance County Disaster Team is to promote safety to community patrons. Here are some winter safety tips to follow:

Add the following supplies to your disaster supplies kit:

- **Rock salt** to melt ice on walkways
- **Sand** to improve traction

Snow shovels and other snow removal equipment.

Prepare your Home and Family

• **Prepare for possible isolation in your home** by having sufficient heating fuel; regular fuel sources may be cut off. For example, store a good supply of dry, seasoned wood for your fireplace or wood-burning stove.

• **Winterize your home** to extend the life of your fuel supply by insulating walls and attics, caulking and weather-stripping doors and windows, and installing storm windows or covering windows with plastic.

• **Winterize your house, barn, shed or any other structure that may provide shelter** for your family, neighbors, livestock or equipment. Clear rain gutters; repair roof leaks and cut away tree branches that could fall on a house or other structure during a storm.

• **Insulate pipes** with insulation or newspapers and plastic and allow faucets to drip a little during cold weather to avoid freezing.

• **Keep fire extinguishers on hand**, and make sure everyone in your house knows how to use them. House fires pose an additional risk, as more people turn to alternate heating sources without taking the necessary safety precautions.

• **Learn how to shut off water valves** (in case a pipe bursts).

• **Know ahead of time what you should do to help elderly or disabled friends, neighbors or employees.**

Hire a contractor to check the structural ability of the roof to sustain unusually heavy weight from the accumulation of snow - or water, if drains on flat roofs do not work.

Prepare your car

• **Check or have a mechanic check the following items on your car:**

○ **Antifreeze levels** - ensure they are sufficient to avoid freezing.

○ **Battery and ignition system** - should be in top condition and battery terminals should be clean.

○ **Brakes** - check for wear and fluid levels.

○ **Exhaust system** - check for leaks and crimped pipes and repair or replace as necessary. *Carbon monoxide is deadly and usually gives no warning.*

○ **Fuel and air filters** - replace and keep water out of the system by using additives and maintaining a full tank of gas.

○ **Heater and defroster** - ensure they work properly.

○ **Lights and flashing hazard lights** - check for serviceability.

○ **Oil** - check for level and weight. Heavier oils congeal more at low temperatures and do not lubricate as well.

○ **Thermostat** - ensure it works properly.

○ **Windshield wiper equipment** - repair any problems and maintain proper washer fluid level.

○ **Install good winter tires.** Make sure the tires have adequate tread. All-weather radials are usually adequate for most winter conditions. However, some jurisdictions require that to drive on their roads, vehicles must be equipped with chains or snow tires with studs.

○ **Maintain at least a half tank of gas** during the winter season.

○ **Place a winter emergency kit in each car** that includes:

- a shovel
- windshield scraper and small broom
- flashlight
- battery powered radio
- extra batteries
- water
- snack food
- matches
- extra hats, socks and mittens
- First aid kit with pocket knife
- Necessary medications
- blanket(s)
- tow chain or rope
- road salt and sand
- booster cables
- emergency flares
- fluorescent distress flag

Dress for the Weather

• **Wear several layers** of loose fitting, lightweight, warm clothing rather than one layer of heavy clothing. The outer garments should be tightly woven and water repellent.

• **Wear mittens**, which are warmer than gloves.

• **Wear a hat.**

Cover your mouth with a scarf to protect your lungs.

Plan ahead for the safety of you and your family.

CERTIFICATES FROM AMERICAN LEGION

By Lorna Boyd

The Genoa 6th grade class received certificates of commendation for inviting Veterans to the Veteran's Day Program on November 11, 2008.

The certificates were awarded by Stan Tarnick of the Edward H. Larson Post 144 and Mary Lee Konz.

This year was the first year Twin River students invited Veterans. Close to 100 Veterans were invited, but only 28 of the area attended because a lot were out of state.

Mr. Tarnick and Ms. Konz also awarded the Twin River High School Band and Choir certificates of commendation.



ADVICE COLUMN: *Three Blind Mice*

Q: My friend spits a lot when he talks. How do I tell him this without hurting his feelings?

A: I'm sure that you and everyone else has an embarrassing habit too. Don't let his spitting problem affect your friendship, because it is probably something that he can't control. If the spitting gets out of control, just casually take a couple of steps back. Maybe your friend doesn't realize that he is spitting when he talks. Before you say something to him, think about how you would feel if a friend confronted you about an embarrassing issue that you can't control. Don't ruin your friendship over something silly. Bottom line: think of the other person's feelings before you say something.

Three Blind Mice Reminder

We are here to answer your questions. There are three boxes at three different locations throughout the school. They are the highschool library, highschool office (Sandy's Office), and the central office.

Anybody can drop questions off. You don't even have to state your name. If you have questions, don't hesitate to drop them off. You can ask personal questions, relationship or even random day questions. So, drop your questions off, and we'll answer them the best we can.

STUDENT PLAYLIST OF THE WEEK

By Brandi Ray

Every week I do someone's playlist and this week I have decided to do my own.

I like to listen to music, draw, and hang out with people.

I listen to a lot of different music so here is my list. I hope you enjoy it.

1. Breath- Breaking Benjamin
2. The Flood- Escape The Fate
3. Famous in A Small Town- Miranda Lambert
4. Ellsworth-Rascal Flatts
5. Room 409-Bullet For My Valentine
6. Once in Awhile-Akon
7. Slow Burn- Atreyu
8. Breakdown- Breaking Benjamin
9. Here without You- 3 Doors Down
10. Beautiful- HIM
11. The Kill- 30 Seconds to Mars
12. Animal I Have Become- 3 Days Grace
13. Empty Walls- System of a Down
14. 10,000 Fists- Disturbed
15. Hypnotized- Gemini

Tune in next week for a whole new playlist.

OPINION ABOUT MCDONALDS

By Brandi Ray

The new McDonald's in Columbus opened on Thursday at 6:00 am. Were you one of those crazy people who sat in line for a delicious Big Mac? Some waited forty minutes, some even longer. Well I was one of those crazy people. The thing that bothered me was that when I got my food everything was good but the buns were hard and it was gross! Some cool things about McDonalds was that they got touch screen game computers, a big screen television, and they also updated the seating and it has a very modern look to it.

There is table seating and booth seating. The booth seating is very comfortable. The service is also very nice. Well, we forgot to order something so when we pulled up we told them that and they gave us a free McNugget even though it was our fault. I hope you enjoy your visit to McDonalds. Have fun and don't vandalize.

SPORTS

TITAN GIRLS IMPROVE TO 2-0 WITH WIN

The Twin River girls basketball team held Shelby scoreless in the first quarter enroute to a 62-15 win here Friday night.

Defensive pressure bothered the Huskies and forced a lot of turnovers.

"The girls really played hard. Our communication on the defensive end was good." Coach Morris said. "But we have areas to improve on, like every other team, and we have a tough, tough week next week with Boone Central, Fullerton and Norfolk Catholic all waiting for us. These wins were nice (Heartland and Shelby) but we cannot rest and be satisfied."

With a 36-6 lead at half, Coach Morris said he was worried about a let down. That didn't happen, as the Titans outscored Shelby 20-2 in the third.

Tanya Snyder led Twin River in scoring with 16 points. Kirstin Cromwell had 7 points, and Alyssa Stankoski, Kayla Mohr, Courtney Czapl, Courtney Cave and Jackie Bosak each had 6 points.

TWIN RIVER BOYS WIN SEASON OPENER

Big second quarter propels the Titans to victory

The first quarter was evenly played. Heartland had two three pointers to keep it close, 10-6.

The second quarter was all Titans, as Twin River went on a 10-0 run to start the stanza and they ended the quarter with another 8-0 run to take a 43-19 lead going into the fourth quarter.

"I was very pleased with the way we played in the second quarter." Coach Tod Heier said. "I think it shows the type of basketball this team is capable of playing. Good shot selection, we took care of the ball, and we played solid defense."

The defense for the Titans was aggressive, and forced the Huskies to rely on three point attempts for most of the game.

Grant Engel led Twin River with a game-high 16 points. Dustin Graham added 12 and Fowler had 10.



Evan Fowler and Grant Engel battle for the rebound.

"The only difference between a good shot and a bad shot is if it goes in or not."

- Charles Barkley



Kayla Mohr and Alyssa Stankoski trap the dribbler.

TITAN GIRLS WIN BIG TO OPEN SEASON

Defensive pressure the key for the Twin River Girls

The Twin River defensive pressure forced Heartland into turnovers and mistakes, as the Titans rolled to a 56-21 win in Henderson.

Despite being pressed for most of the game, the Titans committed just 9 turnovers on the night.

Titan Coach Jeff Morris said he thought the Titans did a good job for an opening game. "We did a nice job in taking them out of their offense with our defensive pressure, and we did a good job taking care of the ball while they were pressing us. Those two things are critical for us to be successful."

The Titan defense held Heartland to single digits each quarter, leading 28-10 at half.

The Titans came out in the third quarter and went on a 17-4 run to pretty much put the game away. Twin River led 45 to 17 after three periods. Reserves played almost all of the fourth quarter enroute to a 56-21 victory.

"Their defensive pressure really bothered us," head coach Jason Arbutk told the York Times after the game.

Twin River was led by Alyssa Stankoski with 10 points and 3 assists. Courtney Cave grabbed 11 rebounds and 9 points, while Kayla Mohr contributed 8 points, 3 steals and 2 assists in the effort.

"This was the first game of the season and we made some mistakes...but it was a great effort from everyone who played." Morris said.

8th GRADE GIRLS FALL SHORT

by James Noecker

The 8th grade girls played the Central City girls in Monroe. The final score of the game was 21-20, in favor of Central City.

Amber Priester had 8 points and 8 rebounds. Allyson Sutton had 4 points as well as Nicole Andreassen.

Libby Wilcox had 6 rebounds 4 steals and 1 block. Sydnee Brandenburger had 1 block and Brooke Ware had 6 rebounds.

"We are improving each game we play. The girls played very aggressive throughout the entire game. To get our first win we will need to make our free throws." said Coach Andreassen.

JUNIOR HIGH 7th GRADE GIRLS PLAY LAKEVIEW

By James Noecker

The Twin River Junior High 7th grade girls traveled to Lakeview and came back with a disappointing 25-13 loss.

"Lakeview's girls were tall and talented. We just couldn't keep up, and none of our shots were falling." Coach Swanson said.

In the first half, the girls had a tough time scoring points. At the end of two quarters the girls had four

points. In the third quarter, the Viqueens were playing some tough defense and the girls scored nothing. In the fourth quarter, the girls bounced back by scoring nine points. The final score of the game was 25-13 in favor of the Viqueens.

B TEAM LOSES CLOSE ONE

The Junior High 7th grade girls traveled to Lakeview and came up short of the win. In the first quarter, the

viqueens played some serious defense and the titans scored nothing. In the second quarter, the girls bounced back by scoring four points to end the half.

In the beginning of the second half, the titans opened up with a bucket by Annie Sawatzky. In the fourth

quarter, the titans scored six points. The final score of the game was 14-18 in favor of the Viqueens.

"The girls were tired after a rough 'A game' and I think we ran out of gas! Plus, shot still wouldn't fall

for us," Coach Swanson said.

7TH GRADE GIRLS BATTLE OSCEOLA

By Kelsey Cherry

The Twin River 7th grade girls basketball team lost to the Osceola Bulldogs 23-17.

The Titans kept it close the entire game, but in the end the Bulldogs pulled away with the victory. Coach Swanson said, "They went on a scoring run in the second half that we couldn't catch up to!"

The Titans were 50% from the free throw line. Coach Swanson also added, "Free throws are still a struggle for us, too. Overall, the girls are learning and improving!"

Cassie Arlt and Alissa Paczosa led the Titans in rebounds with five each. Alissa Paczosa also added two steals. McKenzie Cuba led the Titan offense with seven points.

TWIN RIVER 7TH GRADE GIRLS VICTORY OVER DAVID CITY

By Taylor Hellbusch

The Twin River 7th graders traveled to David City and came home with a big victory.

The score was 35-16. Same Wattier scored 4 points, 3 rebounds, 7 steals and 2 assists. Alissa Paczasa scored 3 points, 1 rebound, and 2 steals. Kenzie Cuba scored 4 points, 3 rebounds, 2 steals, and 1 assist.

Amy Mohr scored 2 points, 5 rebounds, and 1 steal. Annie Sawatzky scored 15 points, 5 rebounds, and 1 steal.

Tori Sliva scored 2 points, and had 1 steal. Halie Anderson had 8 rebounds, 3 steals, 1 assist and 1 block. Riley Otto had 1 steal. Cassie Arlthad 1 rebound and 5 steals.

"A very nice start to the season. Some girls really surprised me with their effort and talent," said Coach Swanson.

TITANS MAKE STATE PLAY-OFFS

It was a season of firsts for the Twin River Varsity football team.

For the first time in school history, the Titans made it to the state play-offs. Unfortunately, the Titans grappled with the eventual State Champs Pierce in the first round game.

The Titans ended the regular season with 4 wins and 4 losses...the most games a Twin River team has ever won in a season.

And, for the first time in many years, the Nance County Shoot-out between rivals Fullerton and Genoa resumed. Genoa won that contest, and with it the bragging rights for the year.

"This year was a success." Titan Head Coach Jeff Linden said. "They players worked hard this past year and the evidence of that showed through. We were bigger, faster and stronger this season than last year. Making it to the state play-offs was a great accomplishment."

The Titans were led by a strong senior class that stepped up and met the challenge the season brought. Mitch Reed was the teams leading rusher this season, gaining 605 yards on 116 carries for just over 5 yards per carry. Dusty Graham carried the ball 71 times for 587 yards. And Tyler Sock gained 218 yards on just 30 carries.

Junior Mark Peterson completed just over 55% of his passes this season, connecting on 75 of 136 attempts for 792 yards. Dusty Graham spent time behind center for the Titans this center, and was able to complete 13 of 30 tries for 181 yards.

Dusty Graham was the leading receiver for Twin River with 42 catches for 447 yards. Cory Pilakowski caught 16 balls for 218 yards and Tyler Sock had 18 receptions for 186 yards.

Defensively, the Seniors led the way again. Blake Kruse led the Titans defensively this season with 76 Tackles. Dusty Graham recorded 70 tackles and Zach Czrnick recorded 60 stops from his linebacker spot. Grant Engel had 6 sacks on the year to lead the Titans.

"We had some good play from our underclassmen in both the Varsity and JV games, so we are looking for those guys to step up in the off-season and next year." Coach Linden said. "We will miss this bunch of seniors, they left their mark and can always be proud of their season. Now it's up to the younger guys to continue this success with hard work."

SODAS PICTURES

Delivering the goods...

Mr. Sidwell and helpers Steven Theim, Jose Gonzales, Gage Boswell and Scott Morton took the donated food to the Platte County Food Pantry Wednesday, Dec. 16. *More photos on page 8.*



MERRY CHRISTMAS IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

By Denni Mitchell

Have you ever wondered how to tell a foreigner Merry Christmas? These are fifteen different ways to greet someone during the holidays.

Dutch: Vrolijk Kerstfeest en een Gelukkig Nieuwjaar! Or you can say Zalig Kerstfeest!

French: Joyeux Noel!

Greek: Kala Christouyenna!

Lithuanian: Linksmu Kaledu

Philippines: Maligayan Pasko!

Spanish: Feliz Navidad!

Welsh: Nadolig Llawen

Samoan: La Maunia Le Kilisimasi Ma Le Tau-saga Fou!

Korean: Sung Tan Chuk Ha!

Japanese: Shinnen Omedeto! It's also said:

Kurisumasu Omedeto!

Italian: Buone Feste Natalizie!

Albanian: Gezur Krislinjden

Chinese: (Mandarin) Kung His Hsin Nien Bing Chu Shen Tan! (Catonese) Gun Tso Sun Tan'Gung Haw Sun!

Eskimo: (Inupik) Jutdlime Pivdluarit Ukior-tame Pivdluaritlo!

Hawaiian: Mele Kalikimaka

Have fun with your new knowledge and Merry Christmas!

HISTORY OF RIDDLES

By Lorna Boyd

What runs, but has no legs? What goes around the world, but never leaves the corner? These two questions are both riddles that may make you think or laugh, just like many riddles, but have you ever wondered why or when riddles came about?

Riddles are a type of folklore that are considered a modern form of entertainment, but are usually associated with the Middle Ages. They consist of text with a question to answer from the clues that are given.

Back in the "ancient times," riddles were mainly about the sun, the moon, rainbows and the wind. The Greek Gods took their riddles a lot more serious than we do today. In Greek mythology, riddles were Sphinx territory. Sphinx was a female monster who challenged passersby to answer her riddles. Those who failed to guess her riddles, were devoured! There was also a Greek poet named Homer that apparently died of humiliation because he couldn't answer a riddle.

There are two different kinds of riddles, conundrums and enigmas.

A conundrum is a type of riddle with a solution that relies on a word pun. An example of this would be, "What is black, white and red all over?" This uses puns on red and all over to clue the solution (a newspaper).

An enigma is a type of riddle that employs a metaphor to pose a question. An example of an enigma would be, "What yesterday was and tomorrow will be." The answer for this is today.

With that said, below are some riddles you can try and solve!

1. What can you catch but not throw?
 2. I run, yet I have no legs. What am I?
 3. The more there is, the less you see. What is this?
 4. If a rooster laid a brown egg and a white egg, what kind of chicks would hatch?
 5. He has married many women, but never married. Who is he?
 6. The more you take, the more you leave behind. What are these?
- ANSWERS: 1. A cold 2. A nose 3. The dark 4. Roosters don't lay eggs 5. A priest 6. Footsteps

REMINDER!

Questions for the Three Blind Mice

By Taylor Hellbusch

We are here to answer your questions. There are three boxes at three different locations throughout the school. They are the highschool library, high school office (Sandy's Office), and the central office. Anybody can drop questions off. You don't even have to state your name. You can ask personal questions, relationship or even random day questions.

GOOGLED

By Casey Olson

Have you ever Googled yourself? When you type in your name and press "search", you will see that there are some pretty interesting results. You would not imagine how many people have the same name as you. I was curious to see what the results were for names of people at Twin River High School. So, I logged on to www.google.com, and this is what I found:

*Stars indicate results that are true matches

Out of about 36,200 results, these are the matches for the search "Mr. Heier":

1. Junior Member in the vBulletin SEO Forums
2. Nebraska Democratic Party
3. Founder and Chairman of Trinidad Energy
4. Ubuntu Forums Profile
5. Immigration Lawyer
6. Reverend Heier
7. Mr. Heier 7-12 Principal*
8. American Journal of Neuroradiology
9. Tod Heier: ZoomInfo Business People Information profile*
10. Obituaries—*washingtonpost.com*

Out of about 284,000 results, these are the matches for the search "Blake Kruse":

1. Blake Kruse—Twin River High School Football Stats 08-09 Max Preps*
2. Spoke Profile—Walnut Street Christian Child
3. Financial Analyst at The Renaissance Center
4. Track Athlete for Amarillo Palo Duro Team—Discuss 138' 5", Shot put 44' 2.5"
5. Toon Doo—The Cartoon Strip Creator
6. Names Directory
7. Palo Duro Track—Discuss 138' 5", Shot put 45' 11.5"
8. Kruse Family Genealogy Form
9. Palo Duro Track—Discuss 137', Shot put 43'
10. Class C High School Meet @ Doan—55 Meter Dash 7.5 seconds, Shot put 40' 4.5"*

Out of about 155,000 for the search "Kirstin Cromwell":

1. TRHS Honor Roll With Distinction 07-08 First Quarter*
2. TRHS Honor Roll With Distinction 07-08 Second Quarter*
3. Viqueens fall to Twin River at Madison Triangular—Kirstin Cromwell had 12 kills*
4. Volleyball Sub districts—Kirstin had 12 kills against David City and 5 against Scotus*
5. Names Directory
6. Volleyball Summary—Kirstin Cromwell 3 kills*
7. Volleyball Roundup—Kirstin had 10 kills against Madison and 12 kills against Lakeview*
8. Twin River Girls Basketball Team*
9. FBLA Keyboarding Knowledge 2nd place at Nebraska State Conference*
10. Knights of Columbus Raffle Winner \$50*

If you ever wonder what is on the internet about yourself or people who have the same name as you, just check it out.

CULINARY SCIENCE CLASS MAKES DESSERT FOR ONE ACT

By Lorna Boyd

The Twin River Culinary Science Class made desserts for the 2nd year in a row to be served at the One Act Play production.

All week of November 17-21, Mrs. Konwinski's ten Culinary Science students prepared for the dessert serving. The students that made (baked) these desserts were Samantha Bishop, Gage Boswell, Lorna Boyd, Taylor Hellbusch, Kammie Kelly, Zach Lewis, Erin Marker, Sadie Rosno, Tyler VanWinkle and Curtis Wyman. The desserts that were prepared were cheesecake and a chocolate pudding dessert. The students also got graded on this activity.

There were 6 cheesecakes made which made a total of 48 pieces to be served and 6 chocolate pudding desserts which made a total of 72 pieces to be served. The dessert ingredients are paid for out of the admission fee which is split between the One Act and the Culinary Science class.

Mrs. Konwinski was asked what the past turnout for people was and she said, "Approximately 130 people last year. This year," she added, "there were about 110 people present."

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST INFORMATION

By Lorna Boyd and Kammie Kelly

The Twin River Journalism Staff will be hosting a photography contest. In this contest students can submit their photographs to Lorna Boyd or Brandi Ray for a chance to have their photograph published in The Titan Chronicle. (Lorna or Brandi will scan your photograph and give it back to you).

Your photographs can be anything you want as long as it is school appropriate.

Below are a few tips for improving your photos, so don't be afraid to take them!

-Use all the space in your photo. Sometimes it's good to have only a little background showing.

-Find good angles to photograph from.

-Using contrast of colors adds creativity.

-Get close to your subject and close the distance gap.

-For photographs in the night, use enough light to bring out what you are photographing.

-Last, but not least, study your camera manual.

To make the publication you need to beat the deadline. The next deadline will be the second or third week in January. Once again, if you would like your photographs published, get them to Lorna Boyd or Brandi Ray before. Thank you!

TOP CHRISTMAS SONGS

By Denni Mitchell

Looking for some great holiday songs to get you into the holiday spirit? Here are twelve of the best Christmas songs:

1. "I Heard The Bells"
2. "It Came Upon A Midnight Clear"
3. "Joy to the World"
4. "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen"
5. "Carol of the Bells"
6. "We Three Kings"
7. "Away in a Manger"
8. "Do You Hear What I Hear?"
9. "Angels We Have Heard on High"
10. "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
11. "Silent Night"
12. "O Come All Ye Faithful"



CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD

In Australia, the holiday comes in the middle of summer--it's not unusual for some parts of Australia to hit 100 degrees Fahrenheit on Christmas day. In Sydney, thousands of families prepare their Christmas dinner and take it to Bondi Beach for a picnic. Australians decorate with Christmas Bushes, plants with little red-flowered leaves that are native to Australia.

Christmas in Ireland lasts from Christmas Eve to the feast of the Epiphany on January 6, which is referred to Little Christmas. Ireland's Christmas is more religious than a time of fun.

Lighted candles are placed in windows on Christmas Eve, as a guide that Joseph and Mary might be looking for shelter. The candles are usually red in color, and decorated with sprigs of holly.

YES VIRGINIA, THERE IS A SANTA CLAUS

A famous letter from Virginia O'Hanlon to the editor of The New York Sun, first printed in 1897.

We take pleasure in answering thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

Dear Editor, I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in The Sun, it's so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus? Virginia O'Hanlon

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The external light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real?

Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives and lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Blast this Christmas music. It's joyful and triumphant. - Grinch

Santa, don't forget the Grinch. I know he's mean and hairy and smelly, and his hands are cold and clammy, but I think he's kinda sweet. - Cindy Lou Who

Irish women bake a seed cake for each person in the house. They also make three puddings, one for each day of the Epiphany such as Christmas, New Year's Day and the Twelfth Night.

After the Christmas evening meal, bread and milk are left out and the door unlatched as a symbol of hospitality.

The lucky children of Poland receive presents twice. On St. Nicholas' Day, the good saint himself brings presents. On Christmas Day, it is the Star Man.

Though Christmas in Poland is officially known as Bozz Narodzenie, it is most often referred to as Gwiazdka, which means "little star." Once the star appears, a special rice wafer blessed by the parish priest called oplatki, is broken into pieces and shared by all. Finally the meal can begin.

The feast consists of twelve courses, one for each Apostle. The table is always set with one extra seat in case a stranger or the Holy Spirit should appear to share the meal.

SECRET ADVENTURES OF THE JOURNALISM TEAM

By Brandi Ray

Have you ever wanted to know more about the journalism team?

Have you ever wondered what crazy secrets they have? What they do in their spare time?

Have YOU ever wanted to be on the journalism team, and know the journalism team??

Every week I've decided to find someone on the Journalism team and ask them random questions. This week, I am going to tell you all about Lorna Boyd.

Once upon a time in a magical land called Nebraska, there was a girl named Lorna Elizabeth Boyd.

She wished she could dye her hair orange so she set off to find some dye. She walked over to her favorite car, a 1974 Corvette. She drove and she drove. While she was driving she tried to find her favorite singer but decided there were just too many she liked. As she was driving to get some dye she saw a movie store and had to stop by.

She looked and she looked for her favorite Disney movie "Beauty and the Beast," but they didn't have it. So she got back in her car and drove to the store.

She got to the store but they had no dye so she decided to leave and go to her friend's house. As she was driving to her friend's house, she saw a dark alley and she began to shout. "I don't want to go down there I'm scared of the dark. Just then her friend Kiley came and rescued her.

She asked if she was alright and she said she was fine. Timmy decided he wanted to go cow tipping and Lorna wanted to try. So they went cow tipping and pretended to be pirates. Lorna's name was Mulletto and Kiley's was Jamime.

After Lorna's exciting day she went home and slept the rest of the day.

Well there you have it. That is Lorna's magical secret adventure. I hope you enjoyed it. Tune in next week for another secret adventure of the journalism team!

More pictures from the SODA delivery...



FBLA 'SEEING ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN ACTION'

One of the competitive events FBLA members can compete in is the American Enterprise project. This project is designed to promote an awareness of some part of the American enterprise system within the school and/or community and be designed to enhance member's knowledge about the economic system under which they live and then to share the information learned with others inside and outside of the school.

Rachel Clausen and Jackie Engstrom will be competing in this event at the 2009 State FBLA Leadership Conference. They have chosen to interview several new business entrepreneurs in Genoa and to share the knowledge learned with others. Over the next several issues of the *Titan Chronicle*, Jackie and Rachel, will be publishing articles on Donna Connelly of Connelly's Floral and Gifts, Mary Kay Johnson of Genoa Leader Times, Carol Fuehrer of Carol's Cutting's Creations, Tony Matthes of Tony's Food Town, Christina Schumacher and Corie Miller of It's All You, and Misty Oberhauser of Country Mile Catering.

The information learned from interviews with these entrepreneurs will be incorporated into a business report where desktop publishing concepts will be applied to produce a quality document with pictures to support the project.

Rachel and Jackie said, "We have learned a lot about new businesses in our community and what it takes to operate a business. We encourage students to look into entrepreneurship opportunities. It is interesting as we work on the project the new business concepts we learn. It has been fun to learn about what inspired these people to pursue their entrepreneurial dreams."

DONNA CONNELLY USES HER CREATIVE TALENTS AS A LOCAL ENTREPRENEUR

Donna Connelly grew up five miles northwest of Genoa on the Swanson Farm. She has been married more than thirty years to Mike Connelly. She has five sons, Jeremy, Brian, Benji, Jaymen, and Billy. She also has 6 grandchildren Tyler and Brianna, Olivia and Gracin, and Blake and Logan.

She was inspired by her mom to start this business because she liked doing all sorts of crafts. She started quilting at 10 years of age. She was always making something. She started her business on her farm in the milk barn which was a seasonal boutique with Deb Dannelly. She was there for four years before she decided to move into town. Then she began doing weddings, fresh flowers, and funerals. She always wanted to work from home and wanted her own hours for the boys. Some activities growing up that helped her realize that she wanted to start her own business were that she enjoyed painting and making things, along with art classes with Ms. Dannelly.

When asked how the economy is effecting her business Donna replied, "It's hasn't really had an effect. Staying in town to shop because of the high gas prices has helped her business. The Caring Rose Week was great for her business because people from the community supported the food pantry very well." The only thing she wishes she would have done different in opening her own business was building on bigger, earlier on.

Some things she would like to share with young adults looking to open their business is, "Being your own boss is great! In the gift industry you pick and chose what you think people would like also you get to set your own hours."



Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no hope at all.

- Dale Carnegie

TWIN RIVER FBLA SUPPORTS MARCH OF DIMES STATE AND NATIONAL PROJECT

By Rebecca Johnson
Twin River FBLA Reporter

The March of Dimes Nebraska chapter owes each Nebraska FBLA chapter and member a gigantic THANK YOU for supporting our mission of preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. The March of Dimes is honored to be associated with such a wonderful organization. Special congratulations go to the Twin River FBLA Chapter who has been the Mission Triangle Award recipient for the past three years. Twin River has received this prestigious award because of their commitment in educating people within their schools and communities about the mission and important work performed by the March of Dimes and for over \$20,000 raised through the organization of the Twin River FBLA over four years in support of premature babies.

By raising over \$5,000 this school year through the volunteer efforts of Twin River FBLA members, FBLA continued to truly make a difference in the lives of Nebraska babies and their families. Each Twin River FBLA member and March of Dimes supporter can be proud of their efforts. Here is how your support helped:

- \$10,000 could provide 1,000 families of babies in newborn intensive care with information and support to ease their fears and uncertainty
- \$10,000 could provide online continuing education about preterm labor for 30 nurses
- \$10,000 funds 20 programs to help pregnant women quit smoking
- \$10,000 educates 350 low-income women on how to reduce the risk of premature birth and birth defects
- \$10,000 trains instructors for 60 prenatal courses for pregnant women and their partners

Equally important as the funds that were raised is the awareness factor you brought to the problems of premature birth in your community. With the help of FBLA, March of Dimes is able to spread the message of this crisis in each of your communities. Hopefully each FBLA members realizes how important FBLA is for all Nebraska babies.

Again thank you to all Twin River FBLA members and advisers for all your time and effort you have put into the FBLA/March of Dimes partnership. The March of Dimes is a much stronger organization because of FBLA.



TWIN RIVER FBLA MEMBERS ARE BUSY WITH CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

Twin River Future Business Leaders of America members have been busy working with different groups in preparation of Christmas activities. On December 5-6, the Down Home Christmas festivities were a great success. FBLA members enjoyed working with Mrs. Carol Green on different tasks. FBLA members put their desktop publishing skills to work in designing tickets and promotional flyers for the Christmas teas which were held at 6 and 8 p.m. on Friday evening. FBLA members also assisted Mrs. Terri Lab and Mrs. Carol Green during the two Christmas teas at the Genoa Historical Museum.

FBLA members also designed the tickets and promotional posters for the Tour of Homes which was held on Saturday, December 6. People on the Tour of Homes enjoyed the beautifully decorated homes of Brad and Lacie Andreasen, Andy Johnson, Darren and Trish Bloomquist, Greg and Jennifer Hill, and Jeff and Trish Wadsworth. as well as the Genoa Historical Museum. Flyers and tickets for the Wine Tasting and Cheese Party at the Genoa Museum were also designed by FBLA mem-

What Message Are You Sending?

By Rebecca Johnson
Twin River FBLA Reporter

Today, e-mail is dominating the way we communicate with others. Instead of talking in person or on the phone, we tend to send e-mails because it's easy and efficient. Although it seems to be a more competent way of communication, is your message really saying what you want it to say? Your attitude it reflected in the conversation by what you say or write. When going into the workforce, it is important to think about your contact style and always focus on being professional. With e-mail, there is an absence of gestures, eye contact and facial expressions. Without these, the message may be misinterpreted. You should always make sure you are being considerate in messages. Using polite forms of address, words like please and thank you and courteous closings help to limit those misunderstandings.

In e-mails, you should always make sure you are getting your point across. In the workforce, you always want to be professional and give the impression that you want to get ahead in your career. Making your messages short and clear helps make your message more understandable and appropriate.

You should never use text lingo in professional e-mails. You won't be able to get your point across if you use incomplete sentences, cryptic abbreviations, and fragmented messages. This may also reduce your credibility. Being cute in e-mails by using smiley faces, winks, or cutesy graphics are too casual for work. The subject line or header should sum up what your message is about. Being specific helps you to keep organized. Never send a message while you are working that you wouldn't want others to read. Business e-mails are public documents. If you send a personal message, there is a good chance that it may be misinterpreted. Professional messages should never be used as a way to vent your anger. This can create even more conflict. Avoid typing in all caps. It makes it look as though you are shouting. Also, avoid writing in all lowercase letters. Doing this makes you look lazy or weak. Make sure your tone is good throughout the message and cannot be misinterpreted. When you have finished writing your memo, re-read it to check for grammar, spelling and punctuation. Company e-mails on company computers are company property. Pay attention to any policies that your company may have regarding e-mail. Keep all memos concise. If you pay attention to all these rules about e-mailing, you can keep what you are saying professional. Make sure you know what you are sending before you send it.



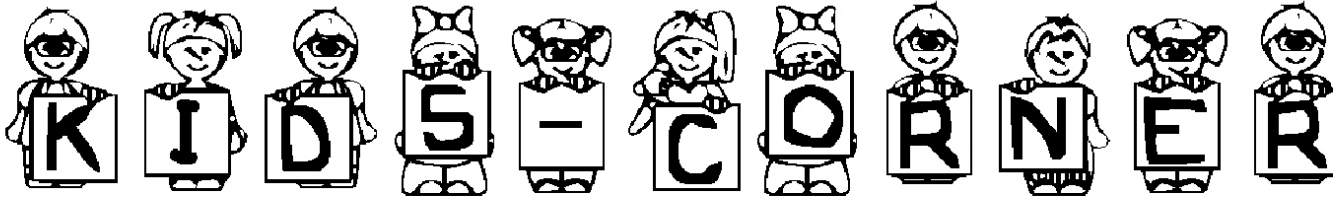
bers.

FBLA members prepared a March of Dimes tree for the Festival of Trees held in the City Hall from Friday evening through Saturday. FBLA members also served as hosts and hostesses for the Festival of Trees on Friday evening.

Another project Twin River FBLA members have been working on is the designing of Christmas cards for residents of Genoa Haven, Hoffmeister Home, and the Genoa Medical Facilities Assisted Living and Long-term Care units. A Christmas poster was also prepared for each resident that could be displayed on individual doors expressing Christmas greetings from Twin River FBLA members.

Christmas cards were also designed for people who will be patients of the Genoa Hospital during the month of December.

You can see that Twin River FBLA members have been busy with several community activities. Twin River FBLA members would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a special thank you for the support shown to our chapter.



FUN PAGE

By Tabatha Ronnfeldt
and Kammie Kelly

CHRISTMAS JOKES

Here are some jokes to make even Santa Claus smile...

Q: What goes "oh, oh, oh"?
A: Santa walking backwards

Q: Why does Santa always go down the chimney?
A: Because it suits him

Q: Who looks after Santa when he's ill?
A: The national elf service!!

Q: Who gives presents and bites people?
A: Santa jaws

Q: Who is Santa's most famous elf?
A: Elfvis!

Q: What do you call a man who claps at Christmas?
A: Santapplause!

Q: What do you call Santa Claus when he doesn't move?
A: Santa Pause!

Q: Why was Santa's little helper depressed?
A: Because he had low elf-esteem!

Q: What do you get when you cross a vampire and a snow man?
A: Frost Bite!

PAPER BAG REINDEER

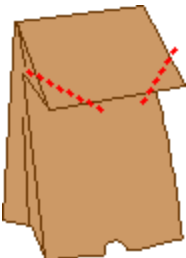
You can make a very simple reindeer puppet using a small paper lunch bag. The antlers are made from handprints traced on construction paper.



- Paper bags
 - Deep red (or another color) construction paper
 - Glue
 - Scissors
 - Markers or crayons
- Optional - googly eyes

Trace two hands on construction paper. Cut them out. These will be the reindeer's antlers.

Fold the two square edges of a paper bag under (at the dotted lines), to form the reindeer's head.



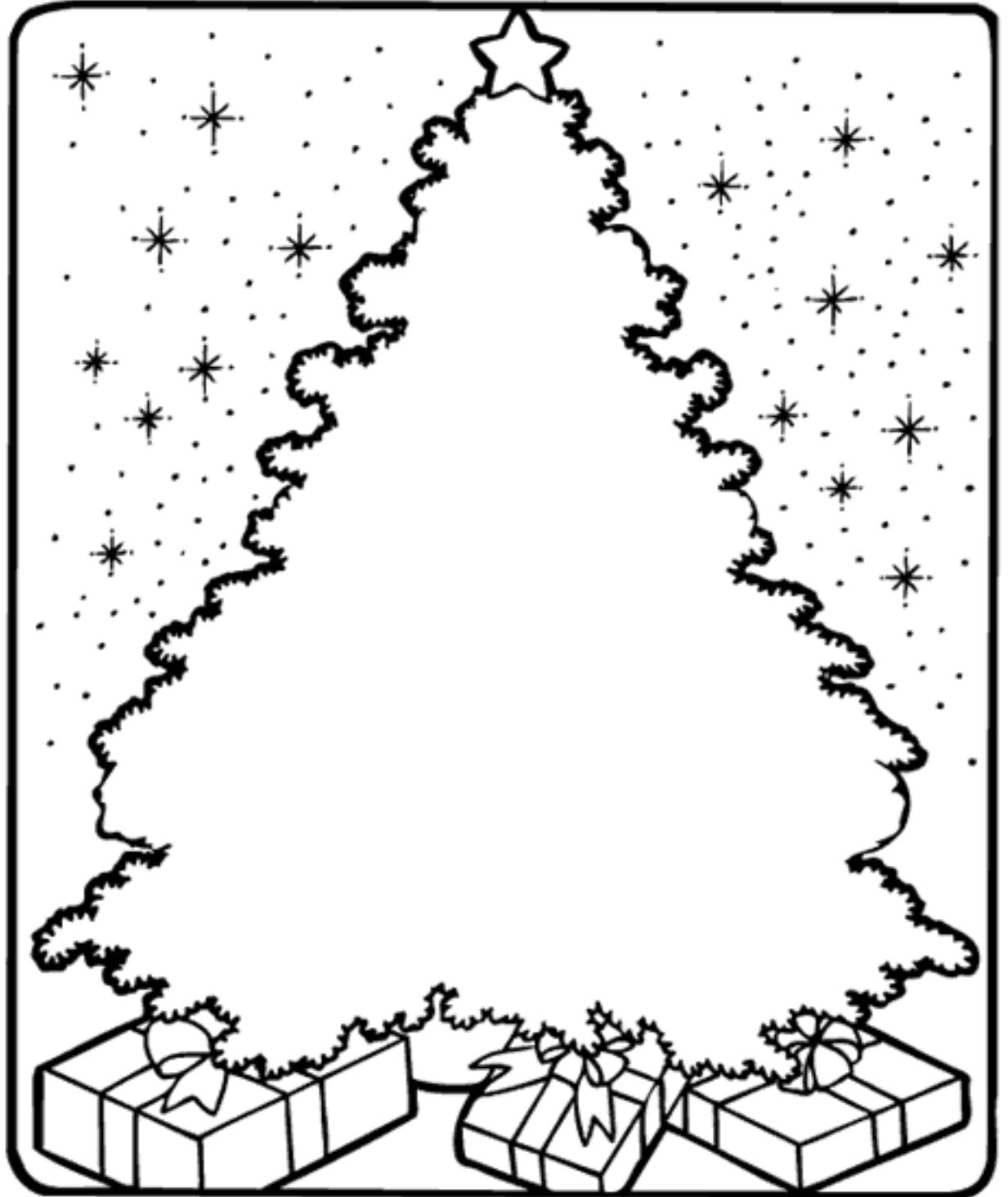
You now have the shape of the reindeer's head for the puppet.

Glue, tape, or staple the handprints behind the reindeer's head.

Cut out eyes from construction paper (or glue on googly eyes). Using red paper, cut out and glue on a large red nose. Glue them the reindeer's face. Draw a mouth with a marker or crayons.



Crafts like these are quick, easy and fun for everyone in the family.



Decorate the tree and color the packages.

HOT APPLE CIDER

Nothing tastes better on a cold winter's day than warm, homemade apple cider. You can make your own...just follow the recipe.

Ingredients

- 2 quarts apple cider
- 1 cup Pure Vermont Maple Syrup
- 1 stick cinnamon
- A few whole cloves

Lemon slices, cut in half, for garnish

Preparation: Combine cider, syrup, cinnamon and cloves and heat thoroughly, but do not boil. Remove cloves and serve hot, garnished with a half lemon slice.

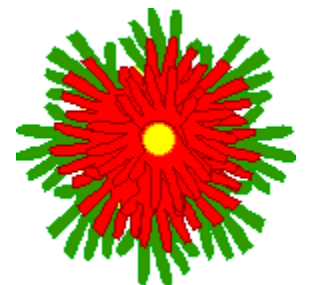
You can always count on apple cider to help take the chill out of a cold winter's afternoon and bring a smile to the faces of those enjoying a cup full.



PAPER PLATE FLOWER CRAFT

This simple-to-make poinsettia is made from a paper plate and a child's handprint cutouts.

- A paper plate
 - Red, green and yellow construction paper
 - Scissors
- Glue (or a stapler)



Trace a child's hand on red and green paper construction paper. Cut out the hand tracings.

Glue or staple a circle of green handprint tracings (fingers pointing outwards) around the outside of the plate.

Glue or staple a second circle of red handprint tracings (fingers pointing outwards) just inside the first circle, then a third circle of red hands inside that one...

Finally, glue a small paper circle in the center of the flower and there you have it...your very own paper plate poinsettia.