

THE

EMERALD



### Food Drive

Logan Messenger '17

From December 3rd- December 17th, the Pennfield Lions Food Drive took place at Pennfield High School. The Food Drive was very successful last year.

with \$320 being donated and many canned goods being donated to needy families during the holidays. The placements last year were follows: 1st- Mr. Boyd (297 points), 2nd- Mr. Shauver (207 points), 3rd- Mrs. Nolin (159 points), 4th- Mrs. Delano (132 points) and 5th- Mr. McCafferty (129 points). The food drive this year saw student government officials coming

to first hour classes with the hope of receiving food to add to the classes total. Certain food items would give the first hour classes a certain number of points and at the end of the Food Drive, the top 3 first hour classes would receive a celebration. The student government agreed to take part in this year's food drive, because their goal is to try to get kids from PHS to participate and get active in community charities. I spoke to Junior, Student Government President Dayna Allen, to see how the Student Government feels about helping out with the Food Drive "I think it's a great opportunity to help our community and I hope the whole student body realizes how much donations can help out the community." Thank you to everyone at Pennfield that participated in the Food Drive, you should feel good for what you did!



# MERRY

## What's your craziest gift? Mikki Lovelace '15



Mrs. Swan - Ugly sweater & A Chia Pet



Mr. Grimes - Mitchell Carpenter replica gym/swim trunks



Steffen Kinne '16 - Fuzzy Socks



Ja'Maria Nobars '18 - Dog food without a dog



Amber Kemmerer '15 - Electric Fly Swatter



Niclas Schoppenhour - Trip To USA

## Gift Ideas For Your Significant Other Ainsley Haaksma '17

Giving gifts to our significant others is one of the biggest joys during the holidays. But there is a catch, getting the right gift. What if they don't like it? Could it be too much? These are the type of questions that run through our heads while Christmas shopping. It doesn't matter if you have big money to spend or not, the key to a great gift is creativity. Pay attention to what your significant other likes especially around the holidays. If you really want it to be special, you need to think about something important that will show them how much you appreciate them. Personal gifts show that you listen and care about what they like. If you're a crafty person, you can make a gift. You could also give them an experience. For instance, take your significant other out for a day and do something unforgettable. Happy gifting!

## Holiday Traditions Kadee Bechman '15

All over the world people are getting ready for the holiday season. Whether it's putting up your Christmas tree and lights, shopping for your significant other, or just planning a vacation to spend time with your family and friends, you are getting ready to experience something exciting. But it's not just all about family, friends, shopping, trees, red and green or even Santa Claus, it's mostly about your traditions during this festive season. Around the world, people have their own idea of what to do to make this holiday season a special time for them, for example: In Canada, Mumming is a tradition which takes place in the provinces of Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, people dress up in costumes and knock on someone's door and say in a disguised voice "Any mummies 'loud in?" meaning "are mummies allowed in the house? Then they sing and dance and have Christmas cake and a cup of something nice before moving on to the next house. In some places, if the host does not guess who the Mummies are, the host must join the mummies in their merry-making. But Canada is not the only place that has their own Holiday traditions, here at Pennfield High School we have some interesting traditions, Mr. Kubik tells us "Every Christmas eve I have chinese food with my family, then the next day I wake up my parents at 6:30 am exactly, then we sit in their bed and drink coffee and go through our stockings together, and then we eat a big breakfast while Christmas music and a Christmas story plays on in the background, and then at 10:30 am I fall asleep on the floor with my gifts surrounding me." Sophomore, Lark Rahn also tells us that her tradition is just going to her grandparents house every year." Christmas traditions don't have to be crazy, but they should be memorable.

## Do you Want to Build a Snowman? Madison Pete '15

The holidays are a time to share time with friends and family. With about two weeks off of school there is plenty of time to go and have some fun. A classic winter activity is to grab a group of people and go ice skating. Burn your tongue drinking hot chocolate and decorating your house. Find a new place to go to and go for a little road trip. Make a mess and make a gingerbread house. Hold a hand downtown and walk the lights. Release your inner child and go sledding! Try something new for the first time like snowboarding or skiing. Whatever it is you choose to do over the holidays, the most important part is spending time with the people you care about, it doesn't necessarily mean you have to go anywhere, just being with those people is what really counts, so why not build a snowman?

## Holiday Mice Chester Dalski '18



### What you will need:

- 1 pack of Oreo cookies with red colored christmas filling
- 1 pack of Hershey's kisses
- 2 jars of manichino cherries with the stems
- 2 small or 1 large bag of chocolate chips
- 1 pack of sliced Almonds
- 1 tube of green gel frosting
- 1 tube of red frosting (a few teaspoons) of shortening

### Directions:

-Take off 1 of the wafer sides of the oreo (and eat the discarded side)

-Unwrap one of the kisses

-Drain 1 jar of cherries onto a paper towel

-Take a small amount of chocolate chips and put them in a bowl (with a little bit of shortening) and microwave them for 30 seconds and take them out and stir. You will do this many times until it is fully melted.

-Take the cherries and dip them in the chocolate and put one of them on the oreo and quickly take a kiss and press it onto the front of the cherry.

-Put 2 slices of almonds between the kiss and the cherry, it should look like ears. Once you put that together put them in the freezer and leave them for a few minutes.

-Finally decorate the mouse and give it eyes, a nose and some "holly leaves" if you would like with some red oreo filling and berries

Chester's Family Tradition Recipe

# CHRISTMAS

## Volunteer Opportunities Erin Owens '16

With the holiday season comes the spirit of giving which means plenty of volunteer opportunities. More than 48.8 million people face the threat of daily hunger in the United States, but you can help people with this problem. Every year around the holiday season Salvation Army has their annual soup kitchen where you volunteer to feed homeless or needy people and families. Salvation Army is constantly looking for people to volunteer the time during the holiday season to help serve the people who show up to their soup kitchen every year. The people who volunteer to help out in their soup kitchen our critical to keep the program going. Almost 3.4 million people of all ages volunteered their time, talents, and resources to assist The Salvation Army's work in FY 2012. If you are ever looking for possible volunteer opportunities you can visit the website [volunteermatch.org](http://volunteermatch.org) which will give a list of possible volunteer opportunities for things that you care about in Battle Creek, MI.

## Christmas Around The World Emma Stover & DeJana Tellis '18

As we all know, Christmas is celebrated differently in different parts of the world. Some countries might not even celebrate Christmas at all. The main idea of the holiday is mainly based on religion, as it is known as the birth of Christ (hence the name) and the events that happened afterward. At least, that's how people who are of the Christian religion know it as. There are different variations of Christmas, however. Americans know Christmas as the Christmas trees, mistletoe, presents, carols, and of course, Santa Claus. But, not everyone celebrates it like this. After all, it's celebrated in places like China, Iran, Australia, France, Germany, and so on. Many people in countries that celebrate Christmas do not celebrate it the same way. Obviously, not all countries have access to the famous candy that the Germans create for Christmas, Australia celebrates by putting out forest fires because it's so hot. In a lot of places like Hungary, Saint Nicholas, who we know as Santa, leaves gifts in good children's shoes. Also, there is a special day for getting presents in some places: Boxing Day, which is kind of like the "Black Friday" of places like England and Ireland. Nonetheless, in every country that celebrates Christmas, the main idea is to give and be thankful for the family and friends that you have. Some people might tie religious customs into the holiday, but we should all honor each other and respect each other's customs. After all, however you might celebrate this time of year, it's about how to come together and love one another, and to honor each of our customs.

## Christmas Birthdays Ashley Tate '15

Having a birthday in December has its perks. Everyone likes and dislikes their birthday in December for a number of different reasons. This year in our school we only have one person with their actual birthday on Christmas, Junior Jesse Livingston! We also decided to ask other people around the school what they felt about having a birthday in December.

Jesse told us he likes being together with family on his birthday, but he is not a fan of Christmas music!

Mr. Grennes said he also likes being together with family around the time of his birthday, but he doesn't like getting gifts once a year.



## What Is Your Favorite Christmas Movie? Samantha Penland '15



Matt Crespo '17 - Elf

Trevor Sisco '15 - How The Grinch Stole Christmas



Aryn Holcomb '18 - Rudolph

Jeff Bowdidge '18 - Muppets Christmas Carol



Alison Stamper '16 - The Polar Express

## Where Did Santa Come From? Jaymee Wilber '15

Every year on December 25th, millions of people are visited by Santa Claus, who brings us gifts. You may also refer to him as Old Saint Nick or Kris Kringle. We give this guy we don't even know so much credit for what he does, but many of us don't even know who he is or where he comes from. The legendary Santa came from Southwestern Turkey in the fourth century, he was a bishop of Myra and was credited for doing many miracles. He would go around on the night of December 24th leaving little gifts outside of villagers doors to wake up to. We don't have an exact reason as to why this mystery man did these things and seems to continue to do them, but he keeps the Christmas spirit alive.

## How to Keep your New Year's Resolution Stephanie Martinez '16

With the New Year coming up people are setting themselves goals, whether to lose weight, save money, or becoming a better person. More often than not, people bite off way more than they can chew. A problem with New Year's resolutions is that people set their goals way too high, so high they would give them up. In only a month after the New Year some people might give up their resolutions because they have no time or it's too difficult. Keeping the resolution alive is easy if you apply yourself and try. There are a few ways to keep it going, such as, have friends keep you motivated, or set a reminder, depending on what it is, to keep you on top. A lower goal will also be easier to reach, and it could make future goals not seem so hard.

# THE EMERALD

Platinum (\$100)	Gold (\$50)	Silver (\$25)	Bronze (\$10)
Pennfield Lions Club	State Farm Insurance Erine Lahusky		

## Hallway Challenger

Camarie Smith '16

How many Christmas tree's are sold in a year?



Charles Hollins '15  
1,000

Steven Rant '16  
500,000



Kolten Fullenkamp '17  
20 Million

Sam Stover '16  
340 Million

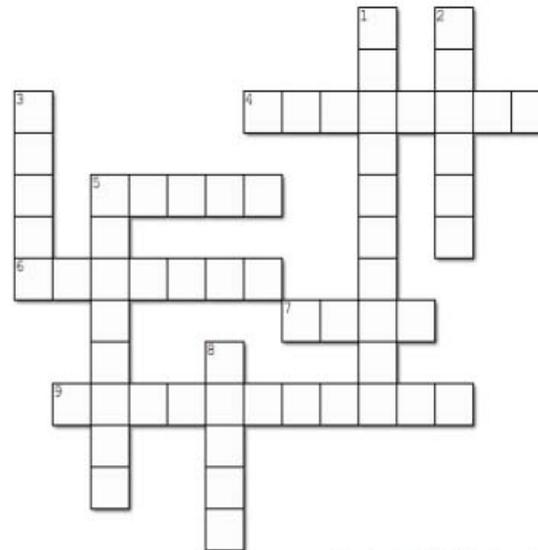


Keegan Lancaster '18  
A Million

The Answer Is:

Between 25 and 30 Million each year!  
Congrats Kolten for being the closest!

Complete the crossword below



Created on [TheTeachersCorner.net](http://TheTeachersCorner.net) Crossword Maker

### Across

- Nine of these pull Santa's sleigh.
- One who delivers presents.
- Frosty is one.
- Goes on the top of the tree.
- Cookies usually shaped as houses or men.

### Down

- Hard Candy with stripes.
- Santa's Transportation.
- Santa's Little Helpers
- Hang this from the mantle.
- 'Jingle \_\_\_\_, Jingle \_\_\_\_, Jingle all the way!'