



THE MUSTANG GAZETTE

stories from the home of the
mustangs & m-ettes

The Revitalized Villa Theater

Emma Harms
MG Staff

Built in 1954 and opened in 1955, the Villa Theater has been in Malta for sixty-four years! The Villa was built by architects Harry L. Percy, and designed by Paul Evans, who was hired from Salt Lake City. Carl and Irene Veseth were the original owners of the Villa and had planned for the theater to seat 800 people. Veseth bought the land for the theater in 1928, but building didn't start until 1953. This set back caused the building to be scaled down by 300 hundred seats, leaving the theater with 500 seats when it was complete. In 1950 Veseth had proposed to make the Villa even bigger, but canned that idea and pushed on with the plans they had already scaled down. Finally in 1954 the Villa Theater was open to the public and two years later in 1956, the Veseths built the Valli-Drive-In. The drive in theater was big enough for 280 cars. Carl and Irene Veseth didn't only own theaters in Malta though, the Veseths also owned and operated a theater in Harlem and the Liberty Theater in Chester. Irene Veseth sold both the Villa Theater, and the Valli-Drive-In to a man with a delightful name R.C Pancake on June 13, 1977 due to the death of her husband two years prior. The Villa Theater is now run by Vikki Truelove. Before Truelove ran the theater, the Villa was owned by Gary Adams.

Tyler Arnold who has worked at the Villa for almost five years says when he was young he loved going to the movies and always wanted to work with his older brother, Justin Paul. In 2011 Adams passed away and the theater was left to Vikki Truelove. "When I was thirteen, Justin was home from college and talking to Vikki about needing an employee and he recommended me to her! Almost five years later here we are, and I still work there!" Being built in the '50's has its perks though. Tyler said that if he could change one thing about the Villa, it would be the heating system. He would like the theater to have a new and more efficient heating system. "The current heater is from the 1950's with a thirteen horsepower fan to circulate the air," said Arnold. The Villa is also the longest running movie theater in Montana! This sixty-four year old theater might also call for the paranormal- meaning the theater is said to be haunted. "The theater also happens to be rather haunted and one of my favorite things that happened is



ABOVE: Tyler Arnold giving change back to a customer at the Villa Theater.
 Photo Credits: Emma Harms

not too long after the death of the old owner, Vikki and my brother were in the lobby before the movie started and they heard music playing. They couldn't figure out where it was coming from until they went outside and realized it was coming from the old outdoor speakers which haven't been turned on since the 90s. They went upstairs to the projection room to turn off the music and realized that the music players switch was set to "off" and there was no tape in the tape player." This isn't the only weird thing that has happened at the theater. Arnold states that The Man in The Aisle is one of their favorite ghosts. He said that, "He is seen pretty often." The Villa being as old as it is, also has its secrets. The Villa has an underground tunnel that goes from the back of the building and comes up underneath the stage. Besides being "rather haunted" the Villa Theater is a gem to our little town. With a tradition that goes back even before Vikki Truelove took over the theater. Every year the Villa Theater shows a Christmas movie, and does a hay ride. Tyler Arnold said he is shooting for the Christmas matinee to be around December 15th or the 22nd. The matinee usually brings in a bigger audience than regular showings, so things tend to get a little messy! "The matinee can be fun to work, however, it is most certainly not fun to clean!" However for the past few years the attendance to the matinee has gone down due to the weather, but Arnold hopes that this year it

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Mrs. Gilkerson's decked out door features the amazing MHS staff. Way to go Mrs. Gilkerson and helpers on your outstanding effort.

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ABOVE: The very beautifully decorated Villa Theater ticket booth.
 Photo Credits: Emma Harms

Villa Continued

will be warm, and that lots of people will come! The theater has been pretty busy at times. *American Sniper* has been one of the most popular movies that the Villa has ever had! "We had nearly over 100 people each showing of that movie!" says Arnold. Tyler, Bonnie, and Payton all have movies that they would love to have come to the theater. Tyler wants Michael Scott's film *Threat Level Midnight* to be shown, Bonnie wants George Tillman Jr's *The Hate You Give*, and Payton would like the live action *The Lion King* to be shown.

The Villa has also had challenges over the years. One being that Trueloves don't own the theater, so they can't do anything to repair the building. Also the film industry is dying, and people prefer to watch new movies in the comfort of their homes by streaming online, but the good times definitely outweigh the challenging times. Payton Clausen stated, "The most interesting thing, is when Tyler and I wanted to put 'Go Big Blue' on the marquee, so we went and got a tractor and lifted Tyler up in the tractor bucket to put the letters on." Bonnie Jones has stated the most interesting thing for her is, "When I dyed my hair with a hose, and dried it with the projector heat."

Without the Villa Theater Malta would be, "Lame, tragic, boring, and there would be nothing to do," said Jones. If Malta didn't have the Villa, I think there would be nothing to do on the weekends in Malta. "Tyler is the heart and soul of the theater," concluded Truelove.

The film industry is dying and people prefer to watch new movies in the comfort of their homes.

2018 Snowball

Malta High School
 Class of 2019 presents

Rock the Night Away
Friday, December 28th
Mustang Cafeteria
Pictures @ 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Grand March @ 8:00 pm
Dance @ 9:00 pm - 12:00 am



Featured above Mira Heitland, Photo taken by Leslie Young

Life In Germany

Leslie Young
MG Staff

In 2018 Malta High School has experienced the coming and going of yet another foreign exchange student. Her name is Mira Heitland. She is a Junior here at Malta High. Back in Germany, Mira lives 25 minutes from the city Hannover, Germany. She has one little sister named Karolina, who recently turned 13. Her Parents names are Ute and Bjom Heitland, and they all live in a village about the size of Malta, outside of Hannover. "Hannover is pretty much in the middle of northern Germany and has around 500,000 inhabitants," states Mira. Montana is very different compared to Germany. "I do really like how much diversity the state has. You don't just have the mountains and beautiful national parks but also endless wide open spaces, the great plains. It was pretty special when I first noticed that you can really have just complete darkness here, that you can easily find a spot

where you're not able to see any lights. In Germany that's more or less impossible."

In Germany there are many different sports, but some popular ones are ice hockey, handball, tennis, cycling and maybe basketball. Mira's favorite sport to do is gymnastics, which she has been doing for eight years. She also enjoys to ski and cycle. Here in Malta, Mira decided to join cross country. When running Mira did an excellent job. She was always smiling and would tell everyone good job even if she was tired.

Germany and the US are basically the same except for some little differences such as, "The attitudes and laws regarding driving, drinking, and guns and maybe consumption behavior. Also the way you talk about politics. Driving here is especially different. Also, not only are you guys allowed to drive four years earlier, but that it is super common that a family has as many cars as members. In Germany two is probably the maximum. For you it is normal for you to go everywhere by car even if you are only 500 m away. You don't see many people walking here. Germany doesn't even have a pendant of importance of naturalness. In Germany there are not as many fatty or sugary foods. They have lots of potatoes, noodles, and rice combined with different vegetables." "I love German pastries, but american pies or cookies are also really good," stated Mira.

There are a bunch of music suggestions and the types of music that Mira listens to that may be surprising. "Most of the time I listen to current pop music. German charts actually contain more or less the songs like the american charts. Other genres I enjoy are rock, jazz and sometimes classic and I got to know some good country songs during my time here."

While Mira has been one of Malta's exchange students, she is leaving earlier than most exchange students would. "I truly wish I could stay longer besides that there is a lot of work coming up for me at my school back home, that I am not looking forward to. I would love to spend much more time with all these amazing people here! I enjoyed my stay here lots and know that I need to leave all this behind in a couple weeks makes me really sad." Mira left the 18th of December. If she would have stayed longer, she said there would have been a possibility she would have to retake the 11th grade, which Mira didn't want to do.



Mischief Managed

Submitted by Bonnie Jones

In the beginning God created man, and with man came sin.

As children, we push the envelope of sin, explore deceit, and construct mischief all at one time. When I was about four or five years old I decided I wanted to be a chef when I grew up, and to do this I would need to practice. So me and my underdeveloped brain concocted a mastermind of a plan. I would invite a friend over and we would begin our expedition of baking. Now this obviously could not be completed with adult supervision, because what would be the fun in that? My clever brain mass thought *I would wait until the time was right* when my parents were away and the kitchen was completely open.

My mom had went out shopping early one Monday morning, believing that the rest of the house was sleeping. Part of this was

true, all were sleeping excluding me and my partner-in-crime, Makayla. We arose and tip toed out into the kitchen and started to grab bowls, spices, spoons, cake mixes, flour, and anything else we could get our sticky little hands on. We started out sneaking around and being as silent as a mouse, but realized that my dad was an extremely heavy sleeper. We started mixing and creating a beautiful masterpiece, or so we thought. Pouring flour and cake mixes into bowls, mixing it with pepper, ginger, and bread. We basted, blended, beat, and battered until it looked like the kitchen was ransacked by the Pillsbury Doughboy. Dough and mysterious liquids oozed down the cabinets, hanging like goopy stalactites. The floors were covered in the soupy goodness that was our creation. Our last mission was to put it in the oven and bake it until it was the quintessential baked good, a perfect pie.

“Do you know how to use this thing?” I asked in awe looking at the forbidden apple that was our stove. “No idea.” answered Makayla in as much shock as I was. “I need my stool to reach the buttons. Let’s go get it.” as we scurried off to find it. We were in the other room when we heard the sentence you dread the most as a child, “Bonnie Ann Jones!”

It made my blood turn cold, and my body freeze up. The only time your mother says your full name is when you have done something that will forever change the course of your life. I soon realized that it was my mom as she came stomping and swearing into the room. I concluded that she found us because of the trail of food that was dripping off of our clothing. In this moment I experienced what fight or flight was, when an animal feels like it is in serious danger, and might die, either it decides to fight the predator, or flee. I chose to flee. I ran as fast as my tiny legs could carry me, leaping over spoons, empty flour containers, and an empty milk jug as I arrived at my last destination, in my dad’s arms. He grabbed me and returned

me to my mother, where she yelled at both of us for being so reckless and stupid. She then proceeded to make Makayla and I clean up our mess, and took away our brand new My Little Pony horses that were a bright pink, and vibrant orange, which I loved more than life itself. We scrubbed the whole kitchen top the bottom for a whole day, scraping the various edible condiments off the counters, windows, sinks, and off of ourselves.

That day I learned that actions have consequences, and that I probably won’t become the next great chef. I actually still cannot cook to this day without making an absolute mess, but it is okay as long as you clean it up before your mom gets home.

Christmas Word Search

It's Christmas Eve and Santa Clause is late! Help Santa find what he needs by circling the words below.

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

WINTER DRIVING WARNINGS

Izzy Markuson
MG Staff

The Winter some love it and some hate it but one thing we all do is drive. We are constantly in our vehicles no matter how far or how long we are going we constantly use a vehicle even if we aren't driving. While driving during the summer is way easier than the winter, we don't seem to realize how careless and uneducated on winter driving we truly are. Every year there are new teen drivers on the roads and while some are precautious, others are not because they are finally excited to have their license and drive to all of the places they want instead of asking their parents all of the time. During the periods we are driving, we are never fully prepared for what is going to happen or what could happen we

just get in and go.

During an interview with the Drivers' Ed teacher Mrs. Gilkerson she answered a few questions about safety and warnings for all drivers. “The worst thing you can do while driving during the winter is not being prepared for road conditions, and don't go unless you have to go,” stated Gilkerson. Winter weather can change in a split second. You need to “Expect the unexpected.” Another huge risk during the winter is ice and black ice as well. When you hit a patch of ice your car tends to slide and



or fishtail but the best thing you can do is “take your foot off the pedal and steer! Just because it is not icy in one spot, you shouldn't expect it to not to be icy all of the time,” added Gilkerson.

When you are going out driving during the winter, it is always best to be prepared such as use winter tires, change oil to winter weight, check the antifreeze, have a full tank of gas and let someone know where you are going because you might end up in danger. When you're driving on a snowy road and need to brake rapidly to avoid an object in the road four-wheel-drive and all-wheel-drive will assist in maintaining traction and getting through heavier patches of snow. Neither of these two will save if you start to get in a dangerous slide or skid. If you are speeding and hit a patch of ice, it could cause your car to fishtail and possibly roll. You have to be constantly alert of your surroundings.

After another interview with local EMT Vince Mace we discovered that typically during the winter he has seen frostbite, farm accidents, hip fractures from falls, and accidents caused by people looking at their phones.”

Some of the biggest distractions while driving are cell phones, kids, pets, food or drinks, and oddly makeup. When you are driving your full focus has to be on the road and your surroundings. You have to

worry about not only your life but others around you as well.

After asking about the possibility of danger or being stranded Mace answered with you should always have “Blankets, coats, water, granola bars, candles, hand warmers, flashlight, and lighter flares,” in case of any emergency. During winter blizzards there is a possibility of your car giving you issues and as a result you could be stranded if this does happen. “Turn your engine on to warm up the vehicle then shut it off to preserve gas if you are stranded for long periods of time.” When you are traveling you tend to sometimes have a child with you and this is even more of a concern and worry. If you have a child always “buckle them up. Keep them seated, use the proper car seat. Also do not buckle them up with a big fluffy coat on because the seat belt needs to be tight against their body and in the right placement.”

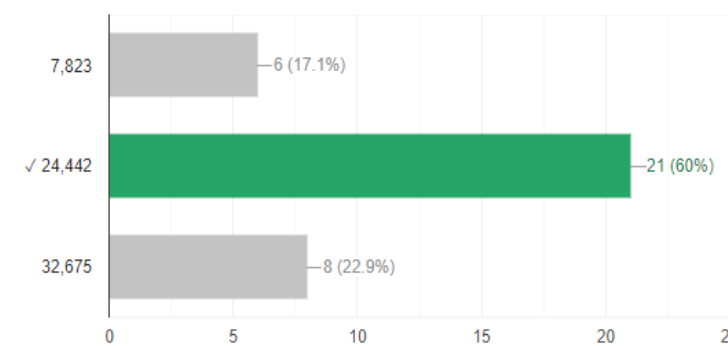
According to The Montana Highway Patrol there were 24,442 car crashes during 2017, and during the winter season alone the snow, slush, and ice caused 6,893 in total. It has been proven that winter driving is the most dangerous. Montana has its fair share of dangerous roads, but interstate I-90 is 554 mile stretch in Montana and seems to be the worst and not for animals or cellphones. It is because of drunk drivers. According to the National Safety Traffic administration there was an average of 5 drunk-driving-related deaths per 100,000 people between 2004 to 2013 along interstate 90. When you mix distracted drivers, excessive speeding, and the awful habit of not using seat belts, interstate 90 is the known for its mayhem and destruction in the entire United States.

After the Mustang Gazette staff did a student poll with the Sophomores and Juniors we has learned that out of 31 students 87.1% of them put their seatbelts on when getting in their cars. This is an interesting percentage because 69.1% of Montanans have been reported wearing a seat belt when riding or driving in a vehicle.

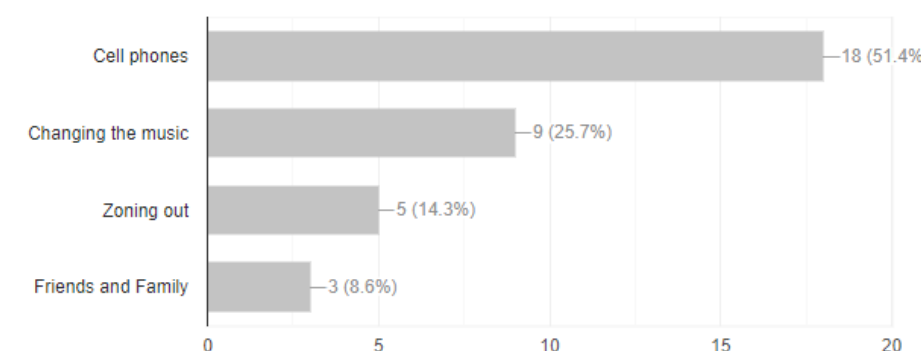
The U.S. average is 85%. Also when asking students when they are allowed to put on snow tires 32.3% had stated from October 1st until May 31st which is correct. Snow tires have their advantage because they have superior tread patterns that are designed for traction on ice and snow which makes

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How many car crashes do you predict happened during the 2017 Winter season in Montana?



What distracts you the most while driving?



The statistics reflected above are results collected from reporting MHS Sophomores & Juniors.

Citizen of the Quarter

Taylor Gilkerson
MG Staff

Our quarter two person of interest is Wylee Young of the Senior Class. Wylee is being recognized for her good citizenship. “I think the most important qualities of a good person are selflessness, kindness, and they should be hardworking.” Wylee definitely has those qualities. Wylee’s hobbies include playing volleyball and reading. Everyone knows Wylee enjoys reading because she is constantly reading something. Wylee is involved in volleyball, basketball, track, FCCLA, and ReAct. Her motto is “if opportunity doesn’t knock, build a door”-Milton Berle, “to get what we want in life we have to work hard, and opportunity doesn’t come by without a bit of work from us first” explained Wylee. Wylee’s future plans are to attend MSUB, or Minot State to become an RN. Her goals for this school year are to have fun and graduate fast.

“She is a truly hardworking and dedicated person,” said Mrs. Pankratz. “Instead of whining and complaining which are the easier options, Wylee digs in and gets the task accomplished.”

Mrs. Pankratz is Wylee’s A.P Literature teacher. “Wylee nonchalantly throws one-liners at her peers, containing hints of wit, verbal irony, and humor that often serve as a positive peer pressure. That ability in and of itself is rare,” also stated Pankratz. When asked if she has anything to say about Wylee being a good citizen Mrs. Pankratz said, “Integrity isn’t always a given; good people possess integrity and it is truly part of her character.”

Wylee is one of the nicest people I have ever known. She can make even the most serious person laugh. She’s one of those people you just enjoy being around. Wylee is very positive and bubbly. It’s hard to be angry or sad around her. She is one of the only people who can make you laugh at something that other people generally wouldn’t find funny. Wylee is

a good friend, you can talk to her about stuff and she’ll give you her honest opinion in the matter. She drove me nuts last year during Algebra II because after we would finish a lesson I would want to talk and she would be reading, but I admire the fact that she is able to read like she does. She’s just an all round good person. Keep up the good work Wylee!



brown eyes and turned away so all I could see was her long brown hair up in a ponytail. I had complained to her several times before about having nothing to do and she always had the same answer, “You have plenty of siblings you can play with,” “It’s a nice day outside, go play in the water,” or “Go down to the park and shoot around at the basketball hoop.” None of these suggestions ever appealed to me, though. Finally, a light bulb appeared above my head. I snuck into the kitchen, listening to my mom hum to herself and slice the olives as a topping for her delicious homemade pizza, made my way to the ‘junk drawer,’ and grabbed a pair of safety scissors. Looking down at the not-so-sharp pieces of metal, slabbed together with a pink handle and little purple flowers all over them, I grinned

a crooked smile and casually skipped out the back door. As soon as I stepped out onto the old deck in our backyard, the dogs came running at me. With barks, jumps, and licks everywhere, I quickly got annoyed. The stench of ‘wet dog’ rose up to my nostrils. Pushing them away, I jumped off the side of the deck. Landing on the soft, green grass beneath my feet and feeling the summer sun shine onto my back, I galloped over to the ginormous pine trees in my backyard. The relaxing pine smell and the little songs the birds sing made me more excited for my marvelous idea. I slipped under a large branch to disappear under the tree where my brother and I had our secret fort, small and unfinished. As soon as I vanished out of sight from the kitchen window, I put the scissors to my head, anxious to snip away at my long, dark hair. *If I do it in the back close enough to my scalp,*

I can’t see it, so that must mean no one else can either, I thought. Holding a big chunk of luscious locks in my tiny hand, I clipped it off without hesitation. My hair fell onto the ground, landing on the pokey pine needles that were laying everywhere. I’m going to bring these to my mom and she’ll believe we have a mystery to solve.

I gathered the pieces of shredded hair and the scissors. Ducking under the tree branch, I raced across the yard, up the creaking steps to our deck, and into the back door of the house. The aroma of homemade pizza dough filled the house as my mom and Meggan, the oldest of my sisters, rolled it out on the kitchen table. “Mom, you’ll never guess what I found outside,” I said holding out my hands. “They were under the trees. Someone must’ve cut their hair!” Meggan giggled, showing her perfect teeth. Rolling my eyes away from her I looked dead into my mothers. “Wow, Mace,” she said in a sarcastic manner, “I wonder who did that.” A half-smirk appeared on her face, looking at my sister. “I don’t know mom, but I’ll go put the scissors away for you and throw the hair in the garbage,” I offered. Mother nodded, quietly chuckling. As soon as I turned my back, a roar of laughter filled the room. Spinning on my heels back to face my family, I was annoyed. “What are you guys laughing at?” I asked, angrily.

“Nothing,” Meggan explained. “Except that you have a huge bald spot on the back of your head.” Although I couldn’t see it, I knew my face appeared bright red. It felt like a burning fire that you could roast marshmallows over. I sprinted from the kitchen straight to the bathroom and peered into the mirror, the hairless area on my head was blinding to the eye.

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"You have a huge bald spot on the back of your head."



Nice Try

Submitted by Macy Williamson

“Mom, I’m bored!” I yelled, sprawled out, upside down with my head hanging off the edge of the couch. This was my usual position back in my elementary school days. Busy preparing dinner, my mother rolled her dark

CHRISTMAS RIDDLES

1.) I come with many colors, so beautiful and bright, I turn so many houses into a beautiful sight. What am I?

2.) I get chopped, decorated and on one end you’ll see wings on top. What am I?

3.) If a lion had a Christmas music album, what would it be called?

4.) What did the Christmas tree say to the Christmas stocking?

5.) Santa was having problems with his legs and was unable to walk so he went to the hospital to ask the doctor if he could recommend something for him. What did the doctor give to Santa to help him to walk?



REINDEER SCRAMBLE

1.) Shadre

2.) Nadcre

3.) Ecotm

4.) Pcudi

5.) Rnedon

6.) Xevni

7.) Tilbezn

8.) Pnarcer

9.) Proldhru



Foreign Christmas

**EMMA HARMS
MG STAFF**

What would it be like to celebrate Christmas in January? Well in Russia Christmas is celebrated on January 7th, and not December 25th. The reason the beloved holiday is celebrated on the 7th instead of the 25th is that the Russian Orthodox church uses the old “Julian” calendar for religious days. Some Christians still celebrate the holiday on December 25th, but not many do. Christmas trees were even banned from 1923 to 1935 in Russia because they were later turned into New Years trees. On Christmas Eve people won’t eat anything all day until the first star appears in the sky. When the star does appear they eat ‘schivo’ or ‘kutia’. A porridge made from wheat or rice served with honey, poppy seeds, fruit (berries and dried fruit like raisins), chopped walnuts or sometimes even fruit jellies says Christmas Around the World.Com. For the Christmas Eve & day feast they won’t eat any meat. The Russian Santa Claus is Ded Moroz, and he is accompanied by Snegurochka, the snow maiden. Ded Moroz soon became the symbol of a Russian winter. He is also known as Father Frost. Instead of wearing a red coat and stocking cap he wears a long blue or red robe, and a blue or red fur hat. His sleigh is pulled by three horses, also on his sleigh is his granddaughter Snegurochka, and a large evergreen tree in a traditional troika.

‘Schastivogo Rozhdestva!’ or Merry Christmas! Merry Christmas is ‘Schastivogo Rozhdestva’ and Happy Holidays is ‘Schastlivogo Prazdnikov’. The Russian meaning for Christmas is the same as it is for you and me. It means the birth of Jesus Christ, except there’s only one main difference. If you ever want to celebrate the holidays in Russia be sure to go there in January, because the

Orthodox Churches religious calendar. Be prepared not to eat anything for the whole day, and remember you’re not waiting for Saint Nick, you’re waiting for Ded Moroz and Snegurochka.

Christmas in Japan is seen more as spreading happiness, than religion. In fact the Japanese celebrate more on Christmas Eve than on Christmas Day. The most famous food on the holiday is fried chicken and orders for it are often placed weeks before the holiday just to reserve it. A Christmas model ‘Cup Fuchiko’ is a Christmas edition of the toys designed to hang on the rim of a cup. Over 6.5 million of these popular trinkets have been sold through vending machines.

This isn’t the only tradition Japan has for the holiday, the Japanese have a Christmas bonsai, which is created by Japanese ceramic artist Mina. It’s made with sandalwood and gaultheria to create a beautiful Christmas bonsai. This tradition blends the Japanese essence with the spirit of Christmas in an elegant natural form. Although Christmas is not a nationally recognized holiday in Japan, the Japanese culture has adopted the season’s traditions and spirit over time.

Cities celebrate Christmas through festivals and special events. Citizens celebrate the season with sentiment, presents, and of course food. In Japanese Happy/Merry Christmas is ‘Meri Kurisumasu’. Santa Claus is often known as Santa-San or Mr. Santa. Another gift bringer is Hoteiosho, a god of good fortune, Hoteiosho is from Buddhism not really related to Christmas, but still around for the holiday. Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony and it’s final act the “Ode to Joy” says Christmas Around the World.com. The music is so famous it’s simply known as ‘daiku’. This piece of music is especially famous around Christmas and at the end of the year in Japan.



The Apple Red Candle

Submitted by Kevin Henry

It was a beautiful snowing Christmas Day and I was beyond excited to spend time with my family but mostly my short sisters.

I loved trotting into the lit up kitchen to experience the salty smell of the juicy ham, the sugary taste of the dark red cranberries, or even the sight of a sweet apple pie. Although dinner was extravagant, I had my eyes on something else. I asked my sisters who were busy at the time, "Do you guys want to play football with me?" They both responded with a quick "Not now, Kevin." I could not resist throwing and playing with this scaly piece of leather everyone calls a football.

My patience was slowly getting thinner and thinner like a piece of thread, so I had to throw the ball in the tiny three room house. One thing I did not notice was a burning bright red candle in the darkest of corners.

While I am tossing the ball from each corner of the small living room my father said to me, "Now you better not break anything," which didn't phase me in the slightest. After about five minutes of throwing the brown leather ball, it runs away out of my little hands and instantly knocks the burning bright red candle to the soft brown carpet. My small family all gasped for air as if they all had just been punched in the gut by Muhammad Ali except for me, who had taken the knockout blow to the face. My five foot ten father instantly gave me the death glare. The death glare was nothing to be played around with as it is very comparable to the stare of the monster Medusa. As I was thinking I was going to be turned to a light grey stone, I hear blasts of laughter coming from my two pleasant sisters. They both stated, "I knew that was going to happen," as if they could see the future like Marty McFly and Doc Brown, but we all know that was not the case.

As I could feel tears building up, ready to burst at any moment from my puffy eyes, an unexpected hero came out of the woodwork to rescue me from the dreadful death glare. Without my older sister and the help of the vast knowledge of Google I may have been turned into a forever still statue of stone. Although I was crying salty tears of joy, I was not out of the dark and mysterious depths of Medusa's glare just yet. With the help from Ashley, my older sister, I was able to clean up the bright red wax and escape with my life. My father's glare had disappeared as he said, "You are very lucky that your sister helped you or I would have turned you to stone." Now my father did not actually say that, but it did scurry across my mind plenty of times. Ashley was like the stunning, Greek Goddess, Athena coming to rescue me from the slithery long snakes of Medusa. All that could come out of my mouth was "Thank you so much," and I nearly said it one million times throughout the day.

That Christmas day taught me many life lessons. I learned to be to patient with everything I do because everyone has something they have to do and may not have the time to play football with me. I even learned that your family will always have your back when you make a mistake. Despite the fact I compared my father's glare to the black glare of Medusa's, he will always have my back, if I learn from what I have done wrong.

TOP HOLIDAY MOVIES

MG STAFF: LESLIE YOUNG



Home Alone (1990)

It's a wonderful Life(1946)

Miracle on 34th Street (1947)

National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989)

Elf (2003)

The Santa Clause (1994)

The Polar Express (2004)

How the Grinch Stole Christmas (2000)

Arthur Christmas (2011)

Frosty the Snowman (1969)

Scrooge (1951)

A Christmas Carol (2009)

Jack Frost (1998)

Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer (1964)



Santa Word Search

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

Chimney
 Elves
 Fairies
 Jolly
 North Pole
 Reindeer

Rudolph
 Sled
 Sleigh
 Sleigh Bells
 St. Nick
 Toys

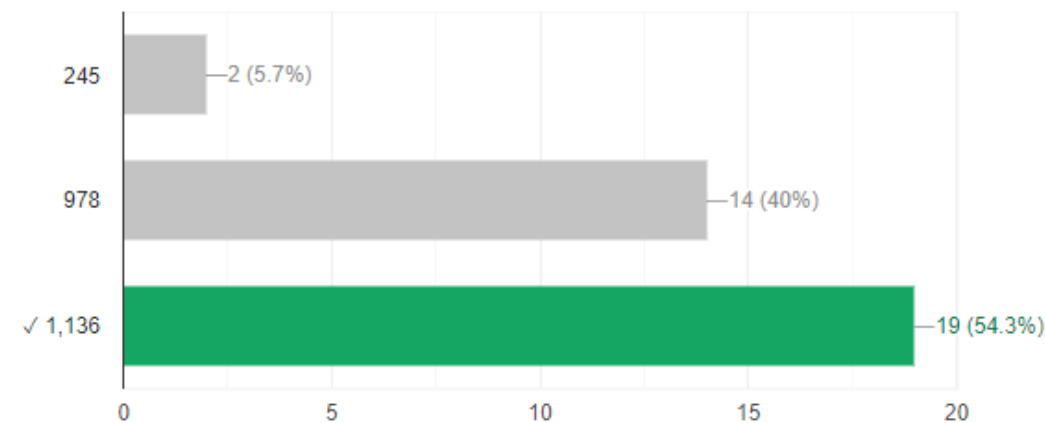


WINTER DRIVING CONTINUED

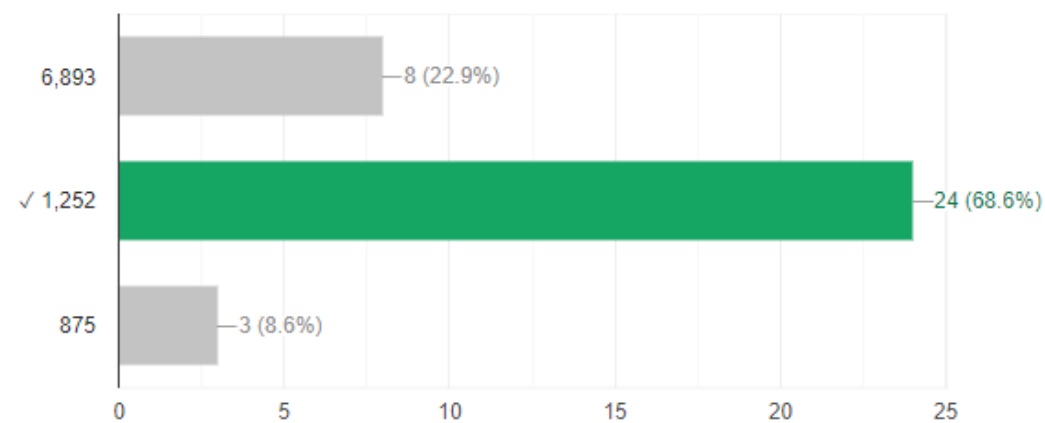
winter driving ten times easier, but these are not required for drivers. Snow chains are mainly used in mountain passes. These are another device that gives you maximum traction. Finally when students were asked what distracts them the most while driving, 54.8% said cellphones, 29% said changing the music, 12.9% are just zoning out, and finally 3.2% said that friends or family distract them as well. According to nyepost.org overall in the US, cellphones have taken the win by 90% of tested drivers admitting to using a handheld device. Finally according to teensafe.com, teens are the largest age group that reported being distracted while driving. Driver distraction is reported to be the cause for more than 58% of teen crashes.

In 2015, 391,000 injuries were caused in distracted driving related accidents. Driving everyday has risks, but how you choose to respond and take things into your own hands your choice. If you are worried about the weather and what could change, do not leave. Stay in for the day. Also when you are travelling with others, make sure that they are prepared as well as the driver. It is your responsibility to make sure everyone is safe and secure. Finally do not get distracted by your cellphone or anything around you. Focus on the road and what is around it. You may slip and slide, but remember to take your foot off the pedal and steer.

How many wrecks happened in 2017 due to Alcohol?



How many car crashes do you predict happened during the 2017 Winter season in Montana?



CHRISTMAS STAR SUDOKU

Place 1-9 once each into every row, column and bold-lined 3x3 box.

				8				
			6	4	5			
		4	7		1	8		
3	9	1				6	2	4
	5	7				3	1	
		6	1		2	7		
		8	9	7	4	2		
	3	2				9	4	
	1						8	

Advice Column

MG Staff
 Anonymous

Why is snow so cold?
 Think about snow being hot, just think about it. That's why.

How do you decorate a Christmas tree?
 Very carefully. That's how.

Do naughty kids actually get coal in their stocking?
 Ask Emma Harms. She would know because she is naughty every year.

Why do reindeer click?
 "That's a ridiculous question"- Dwight K. Schrute. What else would they do, stomp?

Why do elves have pointy ears?

Obviously, it's so they can hear little kids. How else do you think Santa knows if you're naughty or nice?

If you saw Mommy kissing Santa Claus, would you sing a song, or be emotionally crushed?

Well, you obviously sing a song in an emotionally crushed tone. Definitely not like the Jackson 5 would sing it though.

Is Bambi one of Santa's reindeer?

No, Bambi is way too small to be a reindeer.



Kitten Hunting

Submitted by Taylor Gilkerson

Sitting inside the cool breeze of the air conditioner blowing around the house, I thought of the things I could partake in on this warm calm mid-June day.

I knew my mom was going to walk down to Aunt Lori's to talk. We lived on a ranch with my aunt, and my cousin Tom. The houses were arranged in a deranged L-shape from sky view, about 200 feet away from each other. It certainly felt like a million miles away to my 5 year-old self. My house sitting on the top of the hill, and the L-shape. Outside my home was a little garden shed at the end of our plain driveway to the right. The underneath of the shed had been made home to a Mama cat. She soon had kittens, which I was infatuated with from the day I heard the tiny meows.

I designed, what I thought was a brilliant idea for what I was going to do that day. In my head I thought nothing could possibly go wrong. I was going to catch those sneaky kittens and show them to Aunt Lori, who would be equally as infatuated with them as I was. Before my mother went on her journey down to my aunt's, she asked my plans, so I told her what I wanted to do. She said to me "leave them where they are. You don't want the dogs to get them do you?" And as every little kid thinks their parents are wrong at some point, I thought *yeah right, the dogs won't get one. I'll put them in a box and keep the dogs away.* Soon my mother left, and my plan went into action. I grabbed a big black plastic storage box, took it outside and went to town catching kittens taking them from the safety of their home and putting them in the box. As soon as I caught them all, I made my way down the little hill and to my aunt's. The little meows caught the attention of my cousin Tom's dogs. Squirt, what I liked to think was the brains of the operation, was a small Jack Russell. But what he lacked in size, he made up for in personality. Then there was Pedro the brawn, the big black overweight Lab, who I would pretend was my horse at times.

Continued on Page 12.

Sprawling into the Season

MG Staff
Taylor Gilkerson

"Wrestling is a very mental sport. Work hard and good things will come," stated Kolter Schipman. The wrestling season has begun. The wrestlers have already wrestled at the Havre Mixer, Havre Invitational, Fairfield Dual, Glasgow Duals, Glasgow Invitational, Shepherd Mixer, and the Huntley Project Duals.

"I think the season will start out rough for the team because we have a young team, but they will pick it up and get the hang of it as the season goes on," says Malta wrestling senior Kolter Schipman. Schipman has been involved in wrestling for 11 years, along with watching his dad coach wrestling since he was 4. The team has hope that this season will end in their favor. "My personal goals this season are to be a state champ, and help out my team so we can all be state champs, or three time divisional champs. I am helping out the younger kids

with their technique and their mental toughness." Kolter is a senior wrestler this year, which means he really needs to buckle down and get things done. Wrestling is mostly about mental toughness, you rely on your skills and your skills only. There is no one on the mat to save you. It's you and the guy you are going against.

"I am working to improve my mental toughness, shape, and working to get higher up on the podium this season," says Kolter Schipman. Senior wrestler Andres Lopez says "The team is young, but we should do pretty good. I think this season will go by fast but it will be fun." Both of the senior wrestlers have their favorite place to wrestle in common. "My favorite place to wrestle is at the Metra in Billings for State, because it's the biggest adrenaline rush ever," stated Schipman. Lopez says "The Metra is my favorite place, because so many people watch and it's loud." Good luck to the Malta Wrestlers!



(L) to (R): Colt French, Shawn Gilkerson, Shane Soul, Zac Judd, RC Skiff, & Kaden LaBrie

MALTA HIGH SCHOOL			
SEMESTER TEST SCHEDULE - DECEMBER 20-21, 2018			
Thursday, December 20th			
Session 1 8:15 - 9:45	Session 2 10:00 - 11:30	Session 3 12:15 - 1:45	Session 4 1:45 - 3:00
Chemistry S. Estill Rm 301 - S. Estill	English 10 K. Ebert Rm 212 - B. Bruce Rm 205 - Messerly	US History S. Beth Rm 211 - S. Beth	Economics S. Beth Rm 211 - S. King Rm 212 - D. Henry
English 9 A. Pankratz Rm 210 - B. Benton Rm 212 - C. Costin	Algebra I N. Oxarart Rm 207 - N. Oxarart Rm 209 - A. Pankratz	US History T. Somerfeld Rm 209 - T. Somerfeld	Biology M. Estill Rm 305 - K. Ebert Rm 303 - B. Bruce
Geometry B. Galt Rm 208 - B. Galt	General Science M. Estill Rm 303 - M. Estill	English 12 A. Pankratz Rm 210 - K. Webb Rm 205 - M. Estill	Algebra II B. Galt Rm 208 - K. Webb Rm 201 - J. Benn
Friday, December 21st			
Session 1 8:15 - 9:45	Session 2 10:00 - 11:30	Session 3 12:15 - 1:45	Session 4 1:45 - 3:00
Geography T. Somerfeld Rm 209 - B. Benton Rm 211 - N. Murdock	Pre-Algebra B. Galt Rm 208 - B. Galt	STUDENTS ONLY COME DURING SCHEDULED TESTS.	
Earth Science S. Estill Rm 303 - M. Estill Rm 301 - G Messerly	English 11 K. Ebert Rm 209 - G. Messerly Rm 212 - B. Bruce		
Calculus/College Alg N. Oxarart Rm 207 - N. Oxarart	Business Math N. Oxarart Rm 207 - N. Oxarart		
Classes not listed -Tests can be given prior. Grades for 2nd Quarter / 1st Semester Due Thursday, January 3rd. School Dismissed at noon Friday, December 21st / School Resumes Wednesday, January 2nd.			

RANDOM THOUGHTS

Have you ever been cold but warm?

Is hair actually skin?

If Cinderella's shoe fit perfectly, why did it fall off?

Cucumbers are just giant pickles.

Are butterflies made of butter?

Why does green mean go and red mean stop?

Why do elephants have trunks?

Why is snow cold?

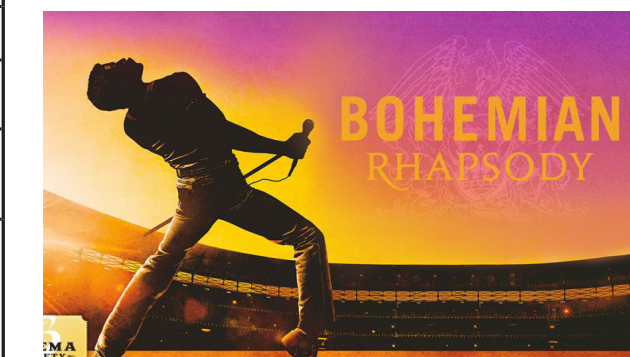
Giraffe's are just a horse, cheetah, and cow combination.

Do wisdom teeth make you wise?

Bohemian Rhapsody

MG Staff
Izzy Markuson

On November 2nd, 2018 the movie *Bohemian Rhapsody* was released in the U.S. and it arrived in Malta on November 30th until December 2nd. This is a two hour long movie rated PG-13. After releasing the movie, *Bohemian Rhapsody* is now the second highest grossing music biopic in history upon its successful opening weekend. The film grossed over \$43 million-\$45 million, surpassing Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper's beloved remake of *A Star Is Born* stated in an article by the "Altpress." Also the movie is given a total of 5 stars in the U.S as well. The movie was produced by Bryan Singer, Robert De Niro, Jim Beach, and Graham King. With Actors consisting of



Rami Malek as Freddie Mercury, Lucy Boynton as Mary Austin, Ben Hardy as Roger Taylor, Joseph Mazzello as John Deacon, and Gwilym Lee as Brian May.

The movie is about the 1970's band "Queen" consisting of lead singer Freddie Mercury, keyboardist Brian May, drummer Roger Taylor, and guitarist John Deacon. The band's top three songs were "Bohemian Rhapsody", "Somebody to Love", and "Don't Stop Me Now." During the film, it depicts Freddie and his lifestyle. The audience sees how he becomes the lead vocalist, how the band was formed, and all of its struggles as well. The members struggle with managers, family, and many other things as well, but still find a way to keep it all together.

After discovering things about himself Freddie breaks apart from the band, but soon enough they all return for a final performance at Live Aid. This movie was breathtaking as many crowds have described and definitely something to headbang to! Personally rated ten out of ten, very well written and performed. If you haven't seen it yet make sure you do. I would highly recommend this film.

Kitten Hunting Continued

That sweet, black teddy bear couldn't stop his instincts from kicking in. I was a little more than halfway when Squirt started jumping on me and scratching up by uncovered legs on his way down. While Squirt was distracting, me Pedro snuck his head into the top of the box and pushed it down to Squirt's level.

Before I knew it, they had a kitten. They ran away with the kitten, tearing his frail body to shreds. All I heard was the kitten's painful meows. Devastated at the sight of the kitten being torn apart, my heart was aching, knowing there was nothing I could do for the poor thing. I felt as though I should be locked up for helping the murder of that poor little kitten. Suddenly I felt the box being lifted out of my hands. I looked up and it was like one of those God moments when you look up and the sun is shining just right, and it takes a second to see who it is, but it feels like the angels are singing, "Ahhhhh."

It was Jasmine, "Are you alright" she asked. I thought about it, was I alright? I was but then I remembered the fallen kitten. I shakily nodded yes with tears in my eyes remembering the kitten. "Pedro - Squirty, go home!" Jasmine hollered. As the dogs came back for round two. Jasmine wasn't very tall, but to my five year-old self, she sure seemed tall, and she had pretty dark black hair. We got the kittens inside the garage and closed the door so the dogs couldn't get them. *I messed up*, I thought, *I should've listened to my mother*; if I listened, that kitten would have lived to see another day. Jasmine reassured me saying, "It's alright

everyone makes mistakes. That's how we learn."

When I walked into my Aunt Lori's house with Jasmine, her and my mom knew something was up. "What's wrong Taylor?" I instantly started crying as the guilt hit me like a wall of bricks. I told them my story and how Jasmine in her 5'5" glory saved me from the army of gigantic dogs. They told me it was a part of life and that kitten more than likely would have died soon anyway. Seeing how they would have to leave home anyway, and when it did the dogs probably would get him. I thought about it, I didn't want anymore kittens to die. So I compromised with my mom, and she said "Alright I guess you can keep the rest of the litter if you promise to take care of them." I told her I would, knowing I would probably need a little help.

That day I realized that the world isn't all rainbows and sunshine. Things in life happen and they happen fast when you least expect them. Mistakes are how we learn and grow as individuals. You should listen to people older and wiser than you. They generally know what they are talking about. I never took any animal from the safety of their home from that day forward. My heart is still heavy when I think of the loss of the kitten. I still feel horrible knowing that I was responsible for what happened to that kitten that day.



Nice Try Continued

Seconds later, my mother appeared in the doorway, arms crossed. "Nice try, Mace. I think we know whose hair you found in the trees though." Sighing heavily, I stomped out of the bathroom while my mom gathered the actual scissors for hair and went into the kitchen, knowing what was coming.

Hair fell onto the floor all around me. By the time my mom let me get up from the stool, my

hair was about half a foot shorter. I sprinted to the bathroom to see what the new me looked like. "I'm a boy!" I screamed with tears rolling down my face.

That day, I realized that we shouldn't lie about situations that we get ourselves into and we shouldn't get into situations we can't handle. I most definitely suffered the consequences and ended up looking like a little boy for a while instead of a little girl, constantly getting made fun of by my siblings because of my haircut and because of completely pointless lie I told about the situation.

SCHOOL IS DISMISSED AT 12:00 PM FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21!

MUSTANG GAZETTE STAFF

Taylor Gilkerson

Emma Harms

Leslie Young

Mrs. Pankratz

Izzy Markuson

