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icipated in the team event were: Makayla Clyde (Gold), Calen Rohrbach (Gold), Hattie Heer (Gold), Eliza Wheeler (Gold), Kylee Heer (Silver). Also participating in the Greenhand Quiz as individuals were: Jetta Wohlk (Silver), Jaeda Wohlk (Silver), McKynlie Woitte (Silver), Stetson Brandvold (Silver), Tate Heer (Silver), Danny Kersten (Bronze), and Jayden Huesers (Bronze). Advanced Quiz placed second and received a gold award. They also advanced to the state competition in January. The participants were: Emily Fannik (Gold), Shelsey Brandvold (Gold), Gracie Hauf (Silver), Josie Wenger (Bronze), and Madison Whiteowl (Bronze). Emily Fannik participated in the Prepared Public Speaking LDE and placed second (Gold) advancing to state. Shelsey Brandvold competed in the Extemporaneous Public Speaking Event, receiving first place and will advance to LDE day. Brytin Hauf participated Employment Skills and placed silver. Our Conduct of Chapter Meetings team took first place in the district and will advance with the following members: President; Hattie Heer, Gold (“Officer of the Day”); Vice President; Tate Heer, Gold (“Officer of the Day”); Secretary: Gabe Schreskey, Gold (“Officer of the Day”); Treasurer; Calen Rohrbach, Gold (“Officer of the Day”); Reporter; Danny Kersten, Gold (“Officer of the Day”); and Sentinel Jetta Wohlk, Gold; Student Advisor Stetson Brandvold. Finally, we have the leaders of our organization; our officers competed in the Parliamentary Procedure LDE. They placed 2nd (Gold) and advanced to state January. The Max FFA Officer team consisted of President Emily Fannik, Gold; Vice President Shelsey Brandvold, Gold; Secretary Madison Whiteowl, Silver; Treasurer Gracie Hauf, Gold (“Officer of the Day”); Reporter Josie Wenger, Gold; and Sentinel Mason Smith, Silver; Student Advisor Delaney Hankel. The Max FFA did a great job representing the chapter, school, community, and organization. Congratulations to everyone!!!



Max FFA members that participated in District Leadership Back Row (L-R) Jayden Huesers, Madison Whiteowl, Brytin Hauf, Jaeda Wohlk, Tate Heer, Emily Fannik, Hattie Heer, Shelsey Brandvold, Josie Wenger, McKynlie Woitte, Gage Scheresky, Calen Rohrbach, Stetson Brandvold, and Mason Smith Front Row (L-R) Makayla Clyde, Eliza Wheeler, Danny Kersten, Jetta Wohlk, Kylee Heer, Delaney Hankel, and Gracie Hauf.



*Joel Sabarwal*



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# The Cossack Column

December 2022

Volume 1, Issue 2

*The mission of Max Public School is to encourage students to dream about their futures, believe in their abilities and assist in achieving their goals.*

## Max FFA Wreath Fundraiser Spreads Holiday Cheer Across the Community

If you take a glance around the communities that make up the Max School District (Max, Douglas, Benedict, and Ryder), you will see some very festive door hangings. The Max FFA kicks off its greenery fundraiser each year in mid-October. The FFA sells wreaths, sprays, centerpieces, garland, and much more! They are delivered right before Thanksgiving so that community members can enjoy them throughout the season. The money raised through this festive fundraiser is used by students to participate in leadership conferences, competitive events, after school activities for youth, community service projects throughout the area, etc. The fun greenery can be seen on many homes in the area assisting to bring the Christmas spirit alive. The Max FFA also donates left over items to all of the area churches and they can also be seen hanging on the front of the Max Public School. It is so great to see many area people celebrating the Christmas spirit and supporting our local youth!



## SUPERINTENDENT NOTES

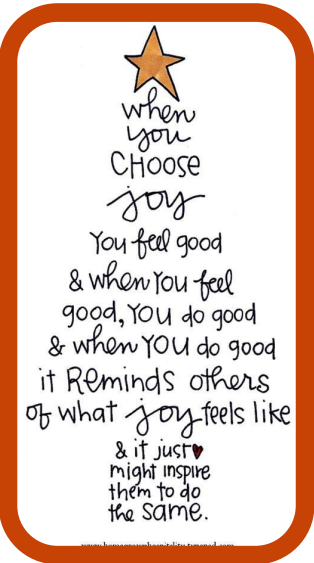
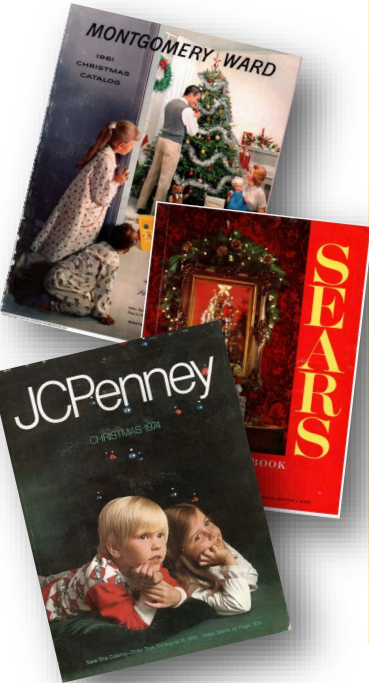
We are half ways through the month of December and planning for the second winter storm of the season. Who knows how many days of school we will have this week. In the event of school closings patrons will be informed through SWIFT via a prerecorded message, text message or an e-mail. Also, closing information will be on KMOT and KXMC.


As we let out on December 16, for Christmas vacation it is also end of the fall semester. We have transitioned from football and volleyball to boys’ and girls’ basketball. From Thanksgiving to Christmas and then onto New Years.

In the November 30, 2022, issue of the Hebron Herald, Dr. Glenn Mollette wrote a reflection called “Christmas in your heart.” For those who are old enough I am sure you can envision his recollection of Christmas. Here is a portion of his recollection.

*“ Christmas once started for me when the JC Penny and Sears catalogs came in the mail. They came early in Fall and I wore them out looking at the toy section. By December the catalogs were in shambles.*

*My mother used to order clothes and other stuff from those catalogs. I don’t remember her ever ordering toys. They usually came from the five and dime store . . . Yet the catalogs were fun and gave me ideas of the latest items for which to wish and hope.*





### STAYING WARM

Just a friendly reminder for students who ride route buses and activity busses to dress appropriately. This means wearing the appropriate clothing to keep oneself warm in the event a bus should stall. It does not take long for a school bus to cool down, and one cannot guarantee that a spare bus will arrive as quickly as one would like. While every attempt is made, families and students need to wear the appropriate winter gear or carry it along with them. To ride the bus during the winter month it is required to wear a winter coat, cap or mittens. Winter boots and snow pants are optional but recommended. If you have any questions please call the school.



*I think my mother would enjoy the Internet today. She could order online like many of us are doing. Having Internet in the country is like having an up-date Christmas catalog every day. There is always a means to shop and order. Back in the day ordering was tedious and arrival took weeks. Shipping back a dress that didn't fit was a long ordeal.*

*As a child there was always much more than I saw, dreamed of, and wished for than I ever received. Some Christmases were lean, and others were more abundant. Life is like that most of the time. We have hopes and wishes that never come true and some that do. It's nice when one or two come true.*

*We hope for good health and enough money to pay the bills. We hope for our children to have a meaningful life and to be independent. We hope for peace and to see positive results from our efforts in life. We would all like to be compensated well for the jobs we do. Being stuck in a job that is restraining with little hope of better wages is discouraging. Everyone deserves a life where internal inspiration can lead to reward and a better life.*

*The hardest part of life is when we feel hopeless. A terminal illness. Hard work with little to no reward. An empty house that isn't changing because you just buried a spouse. Failing when you may have tried hard or just decisions that didn't work out too well. All of these and more can be heartbreaking. Heartbreak doesn't do much for the Christmas spirit.*

*Those of us who have lived a few years know that Christmas doesn't come in a catalog, nor ever did. It doesn't come on Black Fridays or Cyber Mondays. The multitude of Christmas programs don't bring Christmas. Decorated houses and trees are delightful but they don't create Christmas."*

Let this season be one that is spent with family and friends. One that remembers traditions past and present. May you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



*From the desk of Mrs. Morgan*

There are many exciting things happening here at school. Staff and students are getting in the holiday spirit by having dress-up days and Meet the Cossacks Night. Some of the dress-up days include wearing red and white like a candy cane, wearing green, and wearing something that sparkles and shines. Meet the Cossacks Night is an opportunity for students playing basketball to be recognized and have some fun with their families.

The students in K-6 enjoy a monthly visit from the McLean and Mercer Regional County Bookmobile. The students like to go out in small groups to choose a book to read until the Bookmobile comes again.

Elementary students are practicing for the Max Elementary School Spelling Bee and talent show. Grades 6-8 will be participating in the McLean County Spelling Bee in February. Students participating will take a test to determine the top three students overall. The winners will be representing Max School for the county Spelling Bee in February in Washburn.

I have enjoyed being a part of the Max School community. I wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Comments from Mrs. Kersten**

By Holly Kersten, School Counselor

On November 23, 2022, Sources of Strength Peer leaders had an activity in the gym for high school students. They taught the students about the Sources of Strength wheel and had some fun playing games.

Sources of Strength is a suicide, violence, bullying, and substance abuse prevention program that uses trained peer leaders and caring adults to educate students on their strengths including family support, physical health, positive friends, mentors, healthy activities, generosity, spirituality, and mental health. Sources of Strength's goal is to spread hope, help, and strength to everyone.

Max's Sources of Strength peer leaders include Brytin Hauf, Trey Bennett-Boedicker, Dawson Bostow, Nia Wohlk, Dalen Ruhland, Carson Rockwell, Maycie Talbott, Kylee Heer, Mckynlie Woitte, Eliza Wheeler, Gabe Magallon, Makayla Clyde, and Lainey Rockwell. The adult advisers are Holly Kersten, Nyssa Stroschein, and Erin Gullickson.

# Backpack Program

## Sponsorship

**We are looking for sponsors for our Backpack Program**

- Students receive a backpack of food on Fridays for the weekend
- \$5 per student per week
- Sponsorship of one student for the remainder of the year is \$100



**Backpack Program**  
**Lord's Food Pantry**  
**Great Plains Food Bank**

Max Public School and Lord's Food Pantry are working together to start the Backpack Program for Max Public School students. Each Friday, students in the program will receive food for the weekend.

**Max Public School | 2855 Hwy 83 NW Max, ND 58759**  
Holly Kersten | 701-679-2685 | Rabbi Jo Morgan

**AD HIGHLIGHTS**

By Leslie Talbott

Along with the cold temps comes winter sports! Wrestling, Girl's Basketball, and Boy's Basketball are in full swing.



We are in a co-op with Velva and Garrison for wrestling. Competing for Max is Mason Schumaier and Cayleb Whanger. Mason is our senior and brings years of training, hardwork, and experience. When asked how long he has been wrestling, he says, "since Kindergarten." He definitely will be someone to keep an eye on this year. He is off to an excellent start taking 4th at his first tournament. Cayleb is a sophomore and in his first year of the sport.

Girls basketball is in their 2nd year of the South Prairie-Max co-op. Max has ten girls playing in grades 7-12: Lanie Rockwell, Kierra Boedicker, Brynlee Hankel, Hattie Heer, Maycie Talbott, Jaeda Wohlk, Delaney Hankel, Madison Whiteowl, and Dalaney Ruhland. Dalaney is the only senior on the team, which makes for a very young team. But don't be fooled by their age; they will go head-to-head with their competition and be a fun team to watch for years to come! Max will be hosting the Central McLean games on Friday, February 3rd, starting at 5:45. Come out and cheer them on - Cossacks style!

Boys basketball is the only sport that Max doesn't co-op in. Leading the way this year are seniors Trey Boedicker, Brytin Hauf, Cole Huesers, and Erick Talbott. These boys have played together for years. Their chemistry on the court is sure to make for an entertaining evening of basketball. Also playing this year are Dawson Bostow, Dominic Westman, Dalen Ruhland, Mason Smith, Jayden Huesers, Ace Gray, Danny Kersten, and Gabe Magallon. The Cossacks are on-the-road all of December and have their first home game on Tuesday, January 10th. While attending games, you will surely hear their battle cry, Za Veru, meaning "for the faith." Za Veru goes back many, many years to the original Cossacks. The coaches and the boys are bringing it back - once a Cossack, always a Cossack.

Visit the Max Public School website @ <https://www.max.k12.nd.us/> to see updates, calendars, and more. Many teams also maintain Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram social media pages.

Go Cossacks!

**Notes from Mrs. Bingham**

- Preschool has had a great start. Everyone is new to school. They are quickly learning how to behave in school, mastering new routines, and making friends. They have also been learning to create, image, share, and be a good friend through active play.
- One activity that we have been having fun with is feeding the birds. Feeding the birds is one of our classroom jobs. We started out by putting food in our clear acrylic window feeder and soon realized that we needed to add more feeders to the trees to sustain the many birds that have come to the school yard. The most exciting bird that we have seen is a woodpecker.
- We also have been learning about plants and how they grow. We planted a variety of seeds. We have lettuce, tomato, and pumpkin plants that have come up. The students have been graphing the growth of the plants on a chart.
- We also had a Thanksgiving feast. We made pilgrim hats and feather bands for Native Americans. We enjoyed a feast of crackers, meat, cheese, applesauce, and juice. We discussed the

first Thanksgiving and read many books about our first Thanksgiving.

Currently we have been making many Christmas ornaments to decorate our tree and give to our parents for Christmas. I was very proud of how well the preschool class performed and behaved at the Christmas concert. It has been fun to see the gains of the preschool class.

*Max students perform for the holidays*

By Mr. Starks

The sound of music filled the gym as our students performed at their Christmas Concert on December 6th. All the hard work they put into fine tuning their parts truly paid off as their voices and instruments shined. My thanks to the parents, grandparents, family and friends for your supporting the music program at Max Public School.



**FFA celebrates state FFA qualifiers at district II leadership**

By Josie Wenger, Max FFA Reporter

District II Leadership was held in Minot at the North Dakota State Fair Center on Monday, December 5th. District II came together to compete and determine who will represent our district at State Leadership Development Event (LDEs) day held on January 19th. The Max FFA had many teams and individuals compete and succeed in various Leadership Development Events (LDE's). Hattie Heer competed in the FFA Creed LDE and came in first place. She will be advancing to state competition in January. Delaney Hankel represented the team in the Demonstration event and receive a silver. In the Greenhand Quiz, the team placed second and received gold. The individuals that par-



Comments from MS. Langlais

Kindergarten this year has been nothing short of amazing for Ms. Langlais' 16 students. For Fire Safety Week, they got a visit from the Max Fire & Rescue Truck! The students really enjoyed trying on the gear and hearing all about what the fire fighters use to save those that are in danger. The last week of October, they carved their own pumpkins. The students really loved to get their hands into the slime of the pumpkins and even got to try various goodies made from pumpkin as well.

November started out with two classroom kindness elves visiting the room and challenging the students to a kindness challenge. The elves brought a chart of random things that the students were to complete that were kind. Some of the items included; Letting someone else go first, holding the door for others, doing something kind for another class, helping the teacher, helping someone make a smart choice and smiling at a stranger. There were 35 different things that the students were able to check off and complete! Not only did these elves challenge the Kindergarten students, they also brought joy to the students by turning their classroom into a winter wonderland, adding an igloo, bringing a life size connect four, and even a kindergarten size train to color and play in!! The students really enjoyed coming to school each day and seeing what the elves were up to the night before and see if they left them a treat.

Ms. Langlais is really looking forward to the spring, warmer weather, planting flowers, hatching chicks and being able to get her students back outside to run off some of their strong energy.



Kindergarten



First Grade



Second Grade



Third Grade



Pre-school



Sixth Grade



Fifth Grade



Fourth Grade

A VERY MERRY  
CHRISTMAS  
and Happy New Year!