

THE ROAR

Volume XI Issue III

WARSAW COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

December 21st, 2021



A Christmas Story Edition

KEEPING UP WITH THE WCHS ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB

BIG PLANS ARE BEING MADE IN ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB

BAKE SALES

RECYCLING

COMPOSTING INITIATIVES

TRASH CLEANUP

AND MORE

FOLLOW @WCHSENVIRONMENTAL ON INSTAGRAM FOR
UPDATES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

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The Roar 2021-2022

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The Roar's mission is to consistently provide Warsaw Community High School and the surrounding community with compelling content that is passionately crafted through hard work in a professional environment focused on its audience.

2 COOL 4 SCHOOL

-ALYSSA PENA



Dania Preteguin

-how would you describe your style

About 85.3% is dark academia-inspired style, but I somewhat altered it. I just really like brown since I'm brown. I would like to credit Kim Taehyung for his impeccable taste, he is the person I go to for inspiration. Also, I think my style is a more feminine, elegant look. I really enjoy wearing skirts to school even if it's -10 degrees F.

-who inspires you

Hwasa, a Korean artist, really inspires me. Not too long after her debut as an artist, she was criticized for her looks because she didn't fit the beauty standards. "If I don't fit the beauty standards. I'll set my own standards" -Hwasa

-favorite outfit

Fit Check: White baggy sweater vest(H&M), lace turtleneck(YesStyle), baggy dress pants(YesStyle), dressy moccasin-looking black shoes(Pitaya), and earrings with a few finger rings.

-Favorite genre of music/books/tv-shows

I love K-Pop. I absolutely adore the choreography, music videos, and of course the music itself. For my favorite book, I don't have one since I have to read anyway for school. I can say that my 5th-grade favorite book was *The Maze Runner*. I like almost any anime, but my favorite show is definitely *Banana Fish*. I cried at least 8 times throughout the whole show. I really recommend

it, it's very touching. I also really like *Attack on Titan*. I can promise that it's not as bad as it looks.

-hobbies

I don't have any interesting hobbies. When I have free time, I spend time on my phone. You can find me watching videos on Instagram or TikTok.

-after high school plans

I will go to college to get my bachelors' of science in biology and potentially minor in Korean. And yes, I would like to study abroad in South Korea. After college, I'll then go to medical school to become a general surgeon.

♥ 2021 in music ♥

Bo Burnham, *Inside*

After a 5 year hiatus due to his anxiety, Bo Burnham was finally ready to perform live again, this was until Covid-19 hit in early 2020. Luckily, Burnham's creativity was able to shine through in a whole new way with his Netflix special, *Inside*. Burnham is a musical comedian who has been performing since he was 18. His off-kilter comedy and unique musical capabilities keep the Bo Burnham brand alive. After the release of the special, Burnham released the album on all music streaming platforms, and created a vinyl record for the album. The album goes from lighthearted and hilarious to the sad inner workings of Burnham's brain in an instant. My personal favorite from the album, "That Funny Feeling", was also covered by indie rock artist Phoebe Bridgers.

Taylor Swift, *Fearless (Taylor's Version)* and *Red (Taylor's Version)*

After fans learned that Swift doesn't own the master recordings to any of her albums released before her 2019 album *Lover*, and therefore is not making any money from her old albums, they were fully on her side. Both re-released albums were chart toppers that included the old songs re-recorded, new songs from the vault, and special renditions like a 10 minute version of "All Too Well". *Red (Taylor's Version)* was also accompanied by a short film entitled *All Too Well* starring Sadie Sink and Dylan O'Brien. The story and the album as a whole is based on her tumultuous relationship with actor Jake Gyllenhaal.

Tyler, The Creator, *Call Me If You Get Lost*

Tyler, The Creator has released an album every other odd year since his first album, *Goblin*, in 2011. Fans were expecting an album this summer and were not disappointed by *CMIYGL*. The style of the album was different enough from his past albums while still encompassing Tyler as an artist. Other artists like Lil Uzi Vert, Pharrell Williams, and Lil Wayne were also featured on the album. I listened to the album over the summer on a rainy day while driving through Winona Lake and it was definitely a good vibe. Next time you want a good rainy day activity, definitely take a drive and listen to some Tyler.

Doja Cat, *Planet Her*

Doja Cat's music career really began to take off in 2019 and many of her songs have gone viral on Tik Tok in the past few years. Her concept for the new album was heavily influenced by the solar system and she wanted to convey a fresh take on that aesthetic. One interesting thing about Doja Cat's music is that everyone can and does enjoy her music. I personally am not usually into mainstream pop/rap, but I find her music to be very enjoyable and super easy to listen to. She is definitely on track to be one of the most influential artists of our generation and *Planet Her* was received very well by fans and critics alike.



REVIEWING ANNA KARENINA



RATING

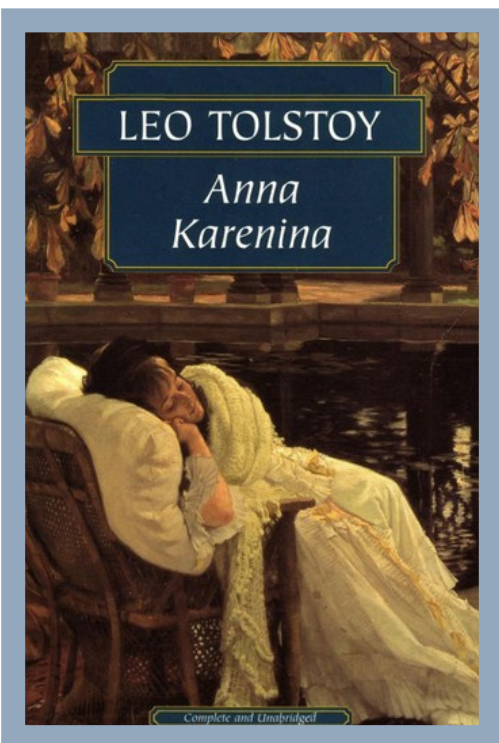


GENRE

Fiction, Family Drama,
Romance, & Tragedy

“If you look for
perfection, you’ll
never be content.”

-Leo Tolstoy, *Anna Karenina*



Maybe it's the snowy landscape of Russia or maybe it's the subtle elements of elegance in the settings that draw me to this book in the winter months, but whatever it is, I highly recommend reading *Anna Karenina*. This piece of Russian literature, by the infamous Leo Tolstoy, depicts a story of love and tragedy that is sure to impart on you the importance of being yourself and not conforming to the views of society.

BOOK BABBLES

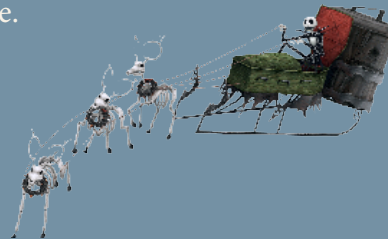
<https://www.kobo.com/us/en/ebook/anna-karenina-146>

The Nightmare Before Christmas

Tim Burton is typically a halloween mastermind, but there are quite a few films of his; that seem to be a little outside his box. One of the highest rated Christmas movies and most renowned, *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. A movie ridden with easter eggs, hints, and surprises. Most people don't understand the blueprints behind the movie, or all the work that went into designing the film.



The Nightmare Before Christmas was actually based on a poem, with just three characters: Jack Skellington, Zero, and Santa Clause. Burton also pitched the movie idea in 1983, but Disney had other plans. The film's soundtrack was made and recorded, way before the stop motion movie had even made its way into production. The movie took just a little over three years to make.



Being a stop motion movie, all the characters were carefully chosen and designed to fit the script. Although, "Oogie Boogie" took about four months to design; because he has no overall shape to his body. Sadly there would never be a sequel, as Tim Burton said, "You know, 'Jack visits Thanksgiving world' or other kinds of things, just because I felt the movie had a purity to it and the people that like it. Because it's not a mass-market kind of thing, it was important to kind of keep that purity of it. I try to respect people and keep the purity of the project as much as possible."



The Nightmare Before Christmas is a very intricate movie, making it a true article of virtue; especially with all of its hidden clues. Jack is obviously taking on the role of Santa, Zero his dog takes on the role of Rudolph and leads their sleigh (coffin) in the night. "Jack's Lament," is actually a play off of Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. Throughout the movie, there are several odes to Disney like multiple Mickey Mouses popping up in particular scenes. Oogie Boogie's lair is casino themed, Who would have thought of that? One of many all time favorites for the Christmas season, and very much worth the watch.

CHRISTMAS CREATURES

We've all heard Christmas folklores like Santa Clause, Jack Frost, or even Frosty the Snowman. All of which are super cute, fun, and friendly. But, what about the dark side of Christmas folklore? What happens to all the bad kids on Christmas, do they all really get coal? Or do they get an unexpected visitor and maybe a not so holly jolly Christmas day.

Krampus is a folklore that originated in Austria and Germany in the late 1800's. Krampus is half demon, half Goat man. Not only is he an evil creature, he has quite a menacing look. Styled with fangs, a long forked tongue, hairy (very hairy), and typically black or brown in color. He snatches bad kiddies, and doesn't treat them quite as sweet; as good ol' sweet Saint Nick.



Frau Perchta comes from the Alpine Regions of Germany and Austria. She is also known as "Spinnstube Frau," or spinning room lady. Although she is a holiday witch, she comes right after Christmas to make sure the lady's have done all of their weaving. Our clean holiday witch can be a little gruesome might I add. If your house isn't spotless nor you have your holiday weaving done, she will disembowel you and keep you for herself and her army of lost souls. Get to Cleaning!

Last but certainly not least, Gryla of Iceland. The mother of all thirteen gigantic Yule Lads. The Yule Lads are known for their spontaneous acts towards children. Such as: stealing candles, sausages, slamming doors, and weirdly licking spoons. According to tradition, Gryla will throw bad kids in a satchel, and save them for a little afternoon snack (power move?)



Weirdest Christmas Movies

Complete with Rotten Tomatoes Ratings

- Santa and the Ice Cream Bunny (12%)

- Santa with Muscles (22%)

- Silent Night, Deadly Night (44%)

- Lady in the Lake (60%)

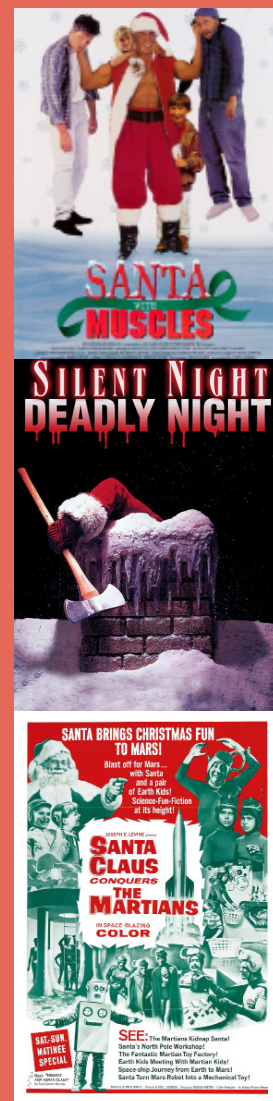
- Grumpy Cat, Worst Christmas Ever (27%)

- Santa Clause Conquers the Martians (22%)



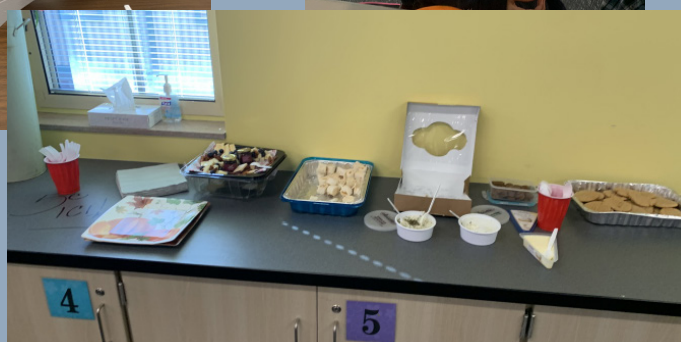
We
all have
our favorite
Cheerful Christmas
movies, here are a few movies
that are quite on the opposite spectrum,
so bad it makes them the best. Watch at your own
risk!

-Emma Hall



FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

FRENCH-GIVING AND QUESADILLA DAY



Competition Cheer Team

By, Emma Ferguson



Team Shirt.

The WCHS cheer team placed 5th at state on November 6th! This is the highest any team has earned at state in WCHS history!

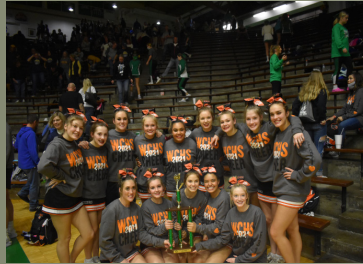


2021 comp cheer team signing out.

These cheerleaders are coached by Kari Doty, Ashley Nordmann, and Racquel Tucker. They are accompanied by Abigail Federico and Sarah Kendrick



Cheer team right before competing.



Shayne Smith, Madilyn Bradley, Reagan Meadows, Kiersten Gagnon, Aleya Hunt, Hailey Booher, Kaelyn Thompson, Lenoire Prieshoff, Erin Rivich, Raleigh Meadows, Cadence Gibson, Brystal Hill, Taya Johnson, Kendall Hepler.



Abigail Federico, Sarah Kendrick, Racquel Tucker, Kari Doty, Ashley Nordmann.



JROTC Places 3rd



Raiders walking information led by Commander Selah Lewis.



Talia Kelley and Elisabeth Josellis posing.

Commander Selah Lewis and Major Josellis holding JROTC trophies.



Vinny Shilling, Brody Hains, Charlie Sexton, Jordance Jamison, Victor Johnson, Frank Sexton, Jamal Puckett, Selah Lewis, Saphrin Boschert, Araceli Cobaxson, Talia Kelley, Mariana Conde, and Elisabeth Josellis.

On October 30th, The JROTC program at Warsaw community high school placed 3rd at the competition.

This is the first time JROTC has placed since the program was offered at WCHS. These cadets are challenged to the fullest extent. The competition consists of various precision and exhibition military drills.

Congratulations to the WCHS Raiders!

By, Emma Ferguson

MEDIA CENTER SETS UP CULTURE HOLIDAY



DIWALI



HANUKKAH



KWANZA



DAY
OF THE
DEAD

-ALYSSA PENA



ice skating locally

With the new ice skating rink being constructed in Winona Lake, now is the perfect time to learn the history of ice skating as well as where to practice this charming sport.

Places to Go:

- Headwaters Park Ice Rink (Fort Wayne, IN)
- Carmel Ice Skadium (Carmel, IN)
- The Ice Box Skating Rink (South Bend, IN)
- Merrifield Ice Rink (Mishawaka, IN)

history of ice skating

Gracefully gliding across the ice in shoes fixed with surprisingly thin blades at the bottom has been a sport for centuries. According to the Encyclopedia Britannica, this sport was developed in Scandinavia around 1000 BCE. In those days, animal bones were used as the blades for the skates.

Additionally, until the nineteenth century, a wooden base was used to connect the blade to the actual shoe with leather straps holding the entire piece together. A recent innovation was the addition of a “closed-toe” blade, allowing a skater to stop more efficiently. The sport of ice skating has evolved into something competitive and remarkable as figure skating and hockey have emerged. Ice skating reached new heights in the Tokyo Olympics, where figure skaters executed gravity-defying leaps and superhuman spins all on dangerously slick ice, and hockey players barreled down the ice, hoping to score a goal. So next time you go ice skating, remember to thank the Scandinavians.



ALL ABOUT

ice skating

Madison Cawthorne



<https://www.citizen-times.com/story/news/local/2021/11/13/wnc-representatives-senate-house-congress-voted-madison-cawthorne/8590301002/>

By, Emma Ferguson

Congressman, Madison Cawthorne, has become one of the most talked-about young Republican politicians of today.

Childhood:

According to Madison Cawthorne's biography, Cawthorne was born on August 1st, 1995 in Asheville, North Carolina.

He was homeschooled for the majority of his life and received a full-ride ROTC scholarship to NC State. In 2014 he was also nominated to the U.S. Naval Academy by Rep. Mark Meadows.

Tragic Accident:

Cawthorne wanted to serve in the U.S. military; however, he was derailed later in 2014 due to a tragic car accident that nearly killed him.

The accident resulted in Cawthorne being partially paralyzed leaving him in a wheelchair. Cawthorne was able to move past the tragedy and believes his accident has made him who he is today.

Family:

Cawthorne later married his now-wife, Cristina Bayardelle, on April 3rd, 2021. Cawthorne stated the date was significant because April 3rd, 2014, was when he was in the car accident that paralyzed him from the waist down.

April 3rd was a very hard day for Cawthorne to get through; however, he explained Bayardelle picked the date "so it kind of changes that history in my mind — to where it's not my saddest day, it's my favorite day."

Business Career:

He later became a motivational speaker, talking about his accident and how he used the trauma to "[make] him stronger". He also is the owner/CEO of SPQR Holdings, LLC, a real estate investment firm in Hendersonville.

Political Career:

Cawthorne ran for the U.S. Congress in 2020. On November 3rd, 2020 Cawthorne was sworn into the U.S. Congress after winning North Carolina, becoming the youngest Republican in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Comparison:

Cawthorne is often heavily compared to congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, also known as AOC. This is due to their political careers.

Despite their contrasting beliefs, many group them together due to their young age and impact on today's society.

They both have strong values and are not afraid to express them. This results in them frequently clashing heads. However, they are both highly respected in their political parties and are influencing other young people to pay attention.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



**ashton
mcguire**



Ashton McGuire is our Senior Spotlight for December. We asked him about his time at WCHS and what his goals in life were as a Senior.

"I love to cook and have been taking classes since 7th grade. I'm currently in my second year at Blue Apron. I will be continuing my education at the Culinary Institute of Michigan. I plan to start a semester late because I plan to travel. I will be going to Toronto, New York, New Orleans, and Oaxaca. I plan to take that time to travel around North America

and learn more about food and culture.

I love to learn about other cultures all over and have enjoyed learning about the French very much. I also have tried to learn about sustainability and do my part as a cook to work on reducing food waste in restaurants. At the time being, I am working at Noa Noa as a cook and sushi roller, but I hope to have my own restaurant later in life. I've always had a love for cooking.

My love for cooking started

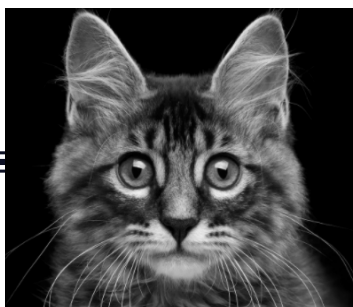
while working at my mom's bakery as a kid, cooking at home with my dad, and helping my grandmothers out around the holidays. Cooking for people is something that I have always enjoyed because it truly brings people together in today's world where it seems that we cannot agree on much. However, if we sit down and enjoy a meal together we can have an appreciation for the food we share and being together."

-Alyssa Pena

GIFT GUIDE: What TO and What NOT to buy people *for Christmas*

Not To Buy:

Live pets are probably not the best option for a gift. Remember that they're stuck with them forever, what if the person finds out they actually don't want one? A stuffed animal would be a good alternative.



<https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/578211/cat-facts>

Re-gifted gifts (Just don't...they will be able to tell.)



<https://www.today.com/home/sloppy-gift-wrapping-might-actually-be-beneficial-study-shows-t169378>

Cleaning supplies (Even if you like cleaning a lot, it might make people wonder what you're really trying to say...)



<https://www.averett.edu/about-us/news-events/averett-coffeebreak-05-1-19/cleaning-supplies/>

Knives are a category you definitely want to avoid. A set of nice kitchen knives might be nice, but one giant steak knife as a gift? That's a little creepy.



<https://www.amazon.com/DALSTRONG-Butchers-Breaking-Knife-Devastator/dp/B07H38W9YM?th=1>

To Buy:

Fuzzy socks are worth considering for sure. You pick them out yourself making the gift seem more personal, and your not over doing it either.



<https://www.overstock.com/Clothing-Shoes/TeeHee-Christmas-Holiday-Cozy-Fuzzy-Crew-Socks-3-Pack-for-Women/16105485/product.html?opre=1&option=26789821>

If you pick out the right pair, a pair of pajamas is always a good way to go. You can also make this gift funny by picking out a pair that obviously isn't right for that person or is ironic in some way.



<https://www.iffci.com/product/deer-matching-family-christmas-pajamas-with-plaid-pants>

If all else fails, who would reject their favorite snack as a gift? You can never go wrong with food (unless they're allergic).



<https://www.amazon.com/Chocolate-Caramel-Crunch-Grand-Basket/dp/B004D9XYWU?th=1>

Along with adults, a fitness watch is a great gift for kids. Features include counting how many steps have been taken along with tracking their heartrate, keeping an eye on the time, and, depending on the type of watch, blood pressure. Many are also waterproof.



https://www.amazon.com/More-Pro-Pressure-Waterproof-Pedometer-Smartwatch/dp/B09J7ZN35F/ref=sr_1_25?keywords=Kids%2Bfitness%2Bwatch&qid=1637504869&sr=8-25&th=1

Winter Survival Guide

Winter is the most cruel of our four changing seasons. During this icy time, it's important to stay safe and cautious. 'Tis the season to stay ahead, prepare, and stay aware. Here are just a few important ways to stay safe. This winter will be the first time most of you will be driving in these dangerous conditions. Out of this winter season, we should all use a little compassion. People will drive at the speed they feel safe, a lot of new drivers may be anxious or a little scared. This season patience is key, have patience for: new drivers, people with children, older folks, because everyone deserves patience.

Winter driving tips 101:

- Stay low and slow
- Never go over the speed limit, stay slow; to keep you and others around you safe.
- Stay prepared
- Keep a blanket (or even extra clothes), water, storable foods, a portable charger, & a flashlight in your car.
- Make sure your car is ready for the winter season
- Always be mindful of your surroundings, check tire pressure, tire tread, never let your gas go farther than halfway (to prevent gas line freezing), most importantly, don't go out unless completely necessary.

Winter safety tips 101:

- Stay warm
- Indiana winter's are no joke, make sure to stay bundled up and keep outdoor time to a minimum.
 - Stay stocked
- Keep plenty of canned goods, water, extra blankets, or maybe even heating packs.
- Winterize your home
- Check heating systems, fire alarms, insulate pipes, and remember to be cozy this winter season.

-Emma Hall

Holidays On a BUDGET

With the holidays just around the corner, people are scrambling for deals, grabbing their money, and spending. This time of year is not only a time to celebrate the holidays, but it's also when all our pockets mysteriously go empty.

We often forget there are options to buy your friends and family gifts, while still saving your hard-earned cash... Here are some quick and cheap gift ideas for everyone!

1. Card
2. Homemade Dessert/ Food Items
3. Giftcards
4. Arts and Crafts
5. Candy
6. Fuzzy Socks
7. Books
6. Cheap Accessories



By, Emma Ferguson

A Fatal Christmas for a Beauty Queen

Christmas night, a night normally filled with joy and peace, is a night after which you would not expect to wake up to a ransom letter on your stairs.

December 26th, 1996, at 5:30 am John and Patsy Ramsey woke up to find a ransom letter on the staircase to the first floor of their three floor house. The letter was asking for \$118,000 in exchange for their six year old daughter, JonBenet Ramsey; the kidnappers claimed they would not harm her but would also not hesitate to as well. The ransom dollar amount is significant since that year, John Ramsey got a work Christmas bonus of that exact amount.

Mrs. Ramsey called the police frantically believing her daughter was kidnapped. When police arrived there were already family and friends in the house trying to help find JonBenet which is a problem because they could have touched items that could have been important evidence.

JonBenet's father was the one to find her body which wasn't until 1:30pm. It was reported that after his discovery, he was hugging her body still having hope she was still alive. It was also reported that one of the first police officers to come in the room said, "I knew it, the Ramseys did it."

JonBenet had been tortured before she was killed, her cause of death was determined to be a completely cracked skull which killed her instantly. They determined this cause of death due to evidence on her body. It appeared she was fully aware while everything was happening to her and if her skull cracking didn't kill her instantly she would have been brain dead.

When JonBenet was found there was a Hi-tech boot footprint by her, a peanut and leaf by her, a rope around her neck, duct tape on her, and two stun gun marks. Many people across the country including police instantly believed the Ramsey's killed their daughter, but in 2008 they tested DNA found in her underclothing compared with other DNA that was on her and it all matched a man who couldn't be identified. That did, however, rule out the possibility of the Ramsey's killing their daughter.

One investigator who was on the scene believed there was a break in since the basement window was open and there was a suitcase under the window with a mark on the wall above it. According to this investigator's perspective, police refused to even consider his theory certain that the Ramsey's did it. One reason many believed that the family did it was because John and Patsy's bedroom was right above JonBenet's. With such close proximity, how could they not hear their daughter scream, a scream even a neighbor heard?

One explanation for this lack of notice is that the Ramsey's bedroom had soundproofing in the walls, another explanation is next to where JonBenet's body was found there was a pipe that would lead to the outside which would not only allow you to hear the scream but even elevate the volume of the scream similar to a megaphone. Police claimed that this sound manipulation was impossible but there is video evidence of investigators not only showing how the sound would be increased outside but how a grown man could easily fit through the basement window which is something else police claimed was impossible.

Why JonBenet?

Child Beauty Pageants have always been very controversial but this was something JonBenet was extremely involved in.

These pageants have also been associated with abuse from parental figures making one of the many theories believable.

One person theorized that since JonBenet was a bedwetter, Mrs. Ramsey woke up mad at JonBenet for wetting the bed and hit JonBenet too hard. While plausible, this also wouldn't explain the other items found by JonBenet. JonBenet's bed was dry when police got there as well and it was impossible for the bedsheets to have been changed because fibers of JonBenet's pajamas were on the bed sheets. Had they been new sheets, those fibers would not have been present.

Many people believe that theory and others about the family's involvement in her murder more easily than the intruder story. Some more reasons why they find it more likely is because of the infamous spider webs in the basement window which seemed to be completely untouched. If the spiderwebs were untouched, how could someone climb through a window without disturbing them? Well, it only takes a spider an hour to rebuild a web and it took eight hours for them to discover JonBenet's body in the basement.

Another reason many claimed it had to be the family was because the rope around her neck was tied in a slip knot which is a simple knot, but it's taught in Boy Scouts. JonBenet's brother was a Boy Scout which means he would know how to make the knot.

Photos of the front of their house during the crime showed snow outside but no footsteps were in the snow. What people forget to add while discussing these theories is that there was no snow on the side of the house. In 1998 a grand jury investigation was formed but later called off because there was not sufficient evidence to indict any of the Ramseys for the death of JonBenet.

This case is still open. Patsy Ramsay died in June of 2006 but the rest of the family still do interviews and they are working to get the DNA retested, they believe if the DNA is retested they will be able to find JonBenet's killer.



<https://www.teenvogue.com/story/jon-benet-ramsey-what-happened/amp>

WINTER HOLIDAYS AROUND THE WORLD

CHRISTMAS

Celebrated on December 25th, Christmas is celebrated by many people despite its origins in christianity. The holiday marks the birth of Jesus Christ who christians believe is the son of God/ the messiah. Today, Saint Nickolas is a prominent part of christmas celebrations. After decorating and placing presents under the tree, a tradition in most families is to expect Santa to come and leave presents and fill our stockings. After enjoying some cookies, he rides his sleigh to the next house.

Hanukkah

Hanukkah, often called the Festival of Lights, is an eight-day Jewish celebration to commemorate the rededication during the second century B.C. of the Second Temple in Jerusalem. This was a time when the Jews rose up against their Greek-Syrian oppressors in the Maccabean Revolt. The holiday begins on the 25th of Kislev on the Hebrew calendar, this year Hanukkah begins on November 29th. The holiday is celebrated with traditional foods, games, gifts, and the lighting of the menorah.

KWANZA

Kwanzaa is a harvest festival that signifies the first fruits of the harvest. Kwanzaa begins on December 26th and continues through January 1st. The celebration of African-American culture ends in a feast called Karamu on the final day of Kwanzaa where people give thanks for their fortune. Celebrations often include singing, dancing, storytelling, and poetry reading. The kinara is a seven branch candle holder used in the celebration. Each candle stands for a different principle, these principles are unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity, and faith.

Winter Solstice

Winter Solstice, otherwise known as the shortest day of the year, is often a day of celebration and festivities. This year, the Winter Solstice will occur on December 21st. To Pagans, Winter Solstice is a sacred day called Yule to celebrate the birth of a new solar year. There is often a Yule altar, prayer and meditation, cleansing rituals, and traditional foods like festive meats, winter vegetables, and preserved fruits. Other traditions include bonfires, decorating, and gift giving.

TRY THIS RECIPE!

Sweet Potato Souffle



Makes: 8 servings
Total: 1 hr 55 min
Prep: 15 min
Cook: 1 hr 40 min

<https://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/trisha-yearwood/sweet-potato-souffle-recipe-2125230>

Ingredients:

Souffle:

-1/2 cup butter (1 stick), at room temperature, plus more to grease pan
-5 medium sweet potatoes
-2 large eggs
-1 cup granulated sugar
-1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
-1/2 cup milk
-Pinch of salt

Topping:

-1 cup finely chopped pecans
-1 cup brown sugar, packed
-1/2 cup all-purpose flour
-1/4 cup butter (1/2 stick), softened

Directions:

For the souffle: Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Grease a 2 1/2-quart baking dish with butter. Wrap each sweet potato with foil, poking each with a fork a few times and bake on a baking sheet until they are soft, about 1 hour. When cool enough to handle, peel the potatoes, place the flesh in a large mixing bowl and mash until very smooth. Add the eggs, sugar, butter, vanilla, milk and salt. Combine well with an electric mixer or hand mixer. Turn the mixture into the baking dish.

For the topping: In a medium bowl, stir together the pecans, brown sugar, flour and butter until thoroughly combined. Spoon the mixture over the sweet potatoes, making an even layer. Bake the casserole until slightly browned, 40 minutes. Let the casserole sit for 5 minutes before serving.

Tips:

For the souffle: grease the inside of the foil with olive oil in an even layer before baking the sweet potatoes in order to keep them from sticking. If you don't have any oil, an alternative would be to try using parchment paper in place of foil

A great recipe to pair with this:

Southern Spiced Pecans

<https://www.tasteofhome.com/recipes/southern-spiced-pecans/>

Worst Snow Storm

Of all time

It's hard to judge what would be considered the worst snowstorm of all time because different parts of the world view weather differently. In Mississippi, 2 inches of snow would bring the whole state to an immediate halt with school and work cancelled, but in Russia, no one would even give it a second glance. This is notably why a scale for snowstorms was created similar in effect to hurricane and earthquake scales.

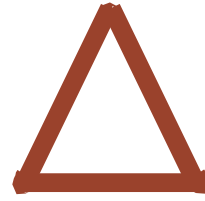
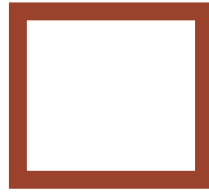
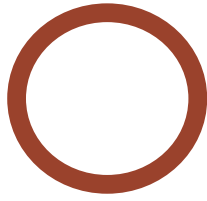


The 504-foot steel bulk freighter Isaac M. Scott disappeared during the storm, with a loss of 28 lives.

Of these crazy snow storms, one stands out clearly above them all, and it was named "White Hurricane." This storm occurred on November 7-10 in 1913 near the Great Lakes area. Captains out on the water that could not see the shoreline were completely unaware of the oncoming storm because of the lack of technology in this time period and because of the storm's sudden appearance. Warnings were not posted in preparation for the storm until the day it was going to hit, but at this point, many boats were already out on the water unable to see warning flags posted along the shoreline. For those who were out on the water during the storm, they faced 90 mph winds and 35 foot waves in a complete white-out due to the snow. Meteorologist Richard Wagenmaker of NWS Detroit once described, "The Storm of 1913 was one of the deadliest maritime weather disasters in North American history." While many other storms may qualify as disastrous, this one certainly makes the top of the list.

media: international

SQUID GAME



Squid Game is a South Korean drama about incredibly in debt people who agree to participate in childhood games for a handsome prize, but these games take a deadly twist. As mesmerizing and intricate as this series truly is, I will not be going into detail on the series itself but rather its influence in the media. This South Korean Drama had its first debut on Netflix this past September. Within just the first 28 days of its release, *Squid Game* was viewed by 111 million ac-

counts surpassing *Bridgerton* which earlier that year was viewed by 82 million accounts in the same amount of time. Not only that, *Squid Game* is the first South Korean drama to hit No. 1 in the united states including 94 other countries. This craze seemed to have come out of nowhere and it wasn't just online.

I watch a wide variety of television and love to recommend tv shows to people who may not have heard of them. So to recommend

a show to people I knew who had shown no previous interest or had ever watched a South Korean drama and have all the responses be the same was shocking. I asked several of my peers if they had ever watched a k-drama before and most responded saying this was there first. Many of them seemed to shy away from not just South Korean television but "anything with subtitles". however, when asked if they viewed the gory drama in English they all said no. I found this quite amusing.



I think it is a great thing that people are branching out and giving new things a try. And it was due time that this was to happen with the growing popularity of K-pop and large access to K-dramas on Netflix and other popular platforms. But my question is Why squid game?

I don't see anything inherently wrong with the series but I will say it's not the best South Korean drama I've seen. So why did it get so popular? While watching *Squid Game*, the plot reminded me of a Japanese drama I had watched a year prior called *Alice in Borderland*. *Alice in Borderland* is about a young man and his friends who find themselves in a parallel Tokyo where they have to compete in deadly games to survive. Although the plots are not the exact same, they do fall in the same genre categorizing and plotline. Yet *Alice in Borderland* did not gather much attention in comparison. I find this very interesting and am fascinated to see how this will affect further media in the United States.



-Alyssa Pena

A Christmas in Flames

History Mystery: Holiday Edition

On December 24th, 1945, the Sodder family was asleep when a fire broke out around 1:00am.

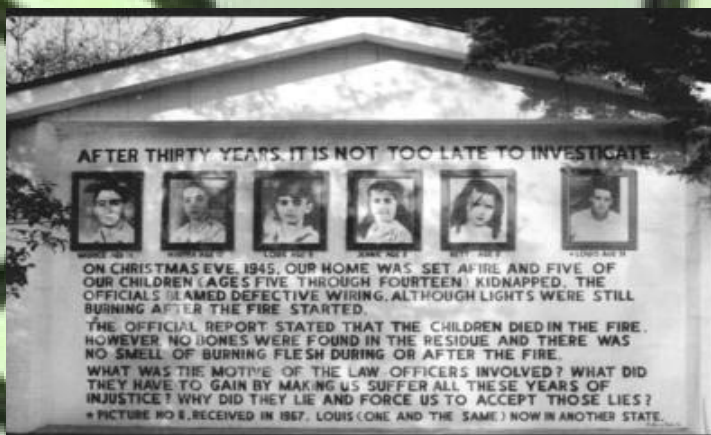
A large family, only four out of the nine children made it out of the fire, Sylvia, Marion, John, and George, Jr.

George Sodder, the father of the children, broke a window to try and save the remaining five children but when he got in the house the staircase was on fire. He searched for other options to get in and when he looked for a ladder his ladder was missing. He also tried to pull his truck up to get in the house by balancing on it but none of the cars the family owned would turn on.

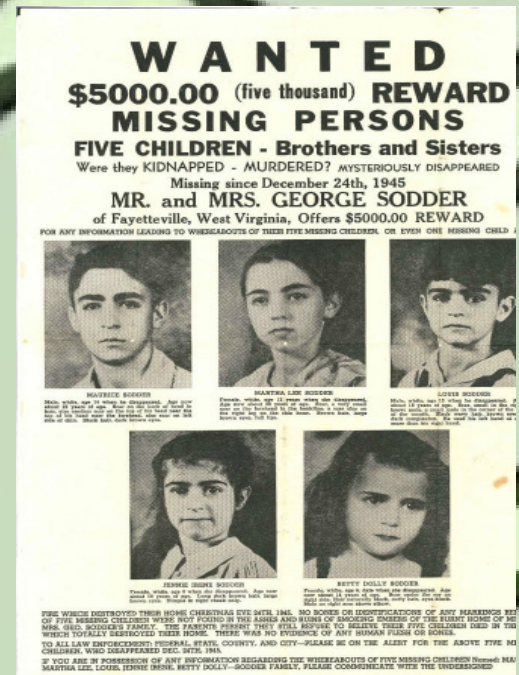
While Mr. Sodder was trying to get into the house Marion, one of the kids that made it out, ran to a neighbor's house to borrow the phone, but when they called the fire department, nobody answered since it was Christmas Eve. The neighbor then ran to the fire department which was only 2.5 miles away, to get the fire chief F.J. Morris, but it wasn't until seven hours later that the fire department showed up. The house was almost all ashes.

When the property was excavated in search for the remains of the five missing kids, no remains were ever found. The children were presumed dead. The same week the children were presumed dead, F.J. Morris claimed to find a "heart" in the fire but when the "heart" was examined it ended up just being beef liver. Morris claimed he told people he found a "heart" in hopes of giving the family closure.

The fire was supposedly caused by bad wiring though neither George Sodder nor his wife ever believed that claim. That fall Mr. Sodder had the house's wiring checked making it unlikely for the fire to be caused by bad wiring. In 1947, the Soddors wanted to get the FBI involved believing their children were still alive, but local authorities stopped the FBI from getting involved. In 1950, after calling hearings the governor of West Virginia, Okey L. Patterson declared the case as officially closed making it a cold case. George and Jennie Sodder then put a billboard on Route 16 with photos of all the children, their names, descriptions, and ages when they disappeared.



https://www.registherald.com/news/sodder-mystery-holds-national-appeal-continues-to-baffle-community/article_2c6a06ad-c788-5e1b-83c1-031e65061f8.html



<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/the-children-who-went-up-in-smoke-172429802/>

The billboard has remained on Route 16 for the past 40 years. Jennie and George Sodder hired two private detectives in 1968, one was C.C. Tinsley, who later completely disappeared himself.

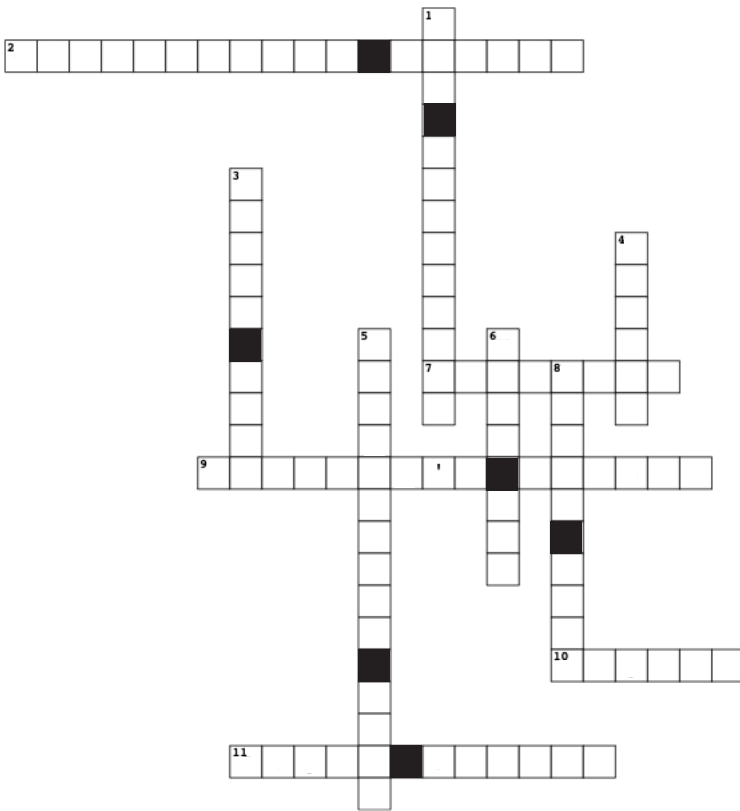
F.J. Morris suggested that the children's bodies may have been cremated in the fire, but a crematorium employee claimed that a body sitting in 2,000° for two hours would still leave some bones and the Sodder house was only on fire for 45 minutes. George Sodder had immigrated from Italy and had very controversial views of the Italian prime minister Mussolini.

He also never revealed why he left Italy making people think he may have been into a "shady" business.

Many theorized that the house could have been caught on fire by someone and that person could have taken the children. To back up this theory, many people have claimed to see the missing children over the years some even saying they saw them with two Italian men and two women. Jennie Henthorn daughter of Sylvia Sodder is still searching for her missing family members asking anyone with information to post it on websleuths.com.

By Kelaney Barden

CHRISTMAS DELICACIES CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS: 2) gingerbread cookie 3) candy cane 4) toffee 5) peppermint bark 6) yule log 8) fruit cake
DOWN: 1) hot chocolate 7) truffles 9) hershey's kisses 10) eggnog 11) sugar cookie

ACROSS

- 2 classic cookie used to build houses & create cookie families
- 7 small ball-shaped delights usually with creamy, gooey filling often seen in chocolate boxes
- 9 famous chocolate seen in advertisements ringing to jingle bells
- 10 thick, creamy drink combining milk, eggs, & sugar
- 11 main ingredient in this cookie is sugar & often is made using fun cookie cutter shapes

DOWN

- 1 warm drink often coupled with marshmallows & whip cream
- 3 peppermint candy with white & red stripes in shape of cane
- 4 brittle candy made by caramelizing sugar & includes nuts & chocolate
- 5 thin treat usually has layers of dark chocolate, white chocolate, & crushed peppermint sprinkled on top
- 6 sponge cake famous for its swirl & often decorated to look like log
- 8 cake made with fruits, nuts, & spices (some people love it & others hate it)

merry christmas



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