WAITSBURG--Elizabeth Arebalos-Jagelski, Preston Hall Middle School and Waitsburg High School music director, hosted a Christmas concert on December 6, 2021 at 7 P.M. in the WHS auditorium.

The WHS portion of the concert began with the 8th grade and high school intermediate band, which consisted of Tyler Coulston, Sarah Daves, Jarod Hankins, Hagen Taylor, Victor Whitmore, Alyssa Byers, William Daves, Maylie Jones, Leah Long, Abbi Paolino, and Cedar Stegall, played “Hot Cross Buns”, “Symphony No. 1”, “Lullaby Suite”, “Good King Wenceslas”, “Jingle Bells”, and “Two by Two”.

The concert wasn’t just instruments: the middle and high school Honor Choir performed as well. Members of the choir are Marion Duncan, Natalie Knudson, Chastity Paddock, Natalie Teal, Olivia Duncan, Verbena McLaughlin, Ellie Teal, and Cedar Stegall. This group performed “Do You Hear What I Hear?”, and “Shalom Chaverim”.

The final performance of the evening was the high school advanced band. Members of the advanced band are Jessie Atteberry, Kairi Dahlby, Olivya McFarland, Alexis Reeves, Caleb Barron, Brandon Leroue, and Sarabeth McGowen plus Alyssa Byers, Leah Long, and Cedar Stegall, who were brought up to the next level for the performance. They played, “Jingle Bell Rock”, “Sleigh Ride”, “Frosty The Snowman”, and lastly “Carol of The Bells”.

All who attended the concert comment on how well everyone performed and how nice it was to have a Christmas concert again.
LOCAL

Retiring staff members honored

The Cardinal Staff
November 15, 2021

WAITSBURG—Long time educators, Ben Christensen and Karen Huwe, were honored this past month with tokens of appreciation from Waitsburg High School.

Mr. C, as Dr. Christensen was known to the staff and students of the school district, was given an Honorary Chapter Degree in the Waitsburg Chapter of FFA. He is currently working with the Welding class, building a green house in the Ag Shop.

Mrs. Huwe was surprised at the December 10th American Legion Essay Awards ceremony with a signed photo of the students and staff of Waitsburg High School. When Mrs. Huwe begins coaching the PHMS girls basketball team in January, she will have coached in our district for forty years.

The students and staff miss both of these staff members and wish them the best in their new adventures.
American Legion essay winner

Cindy and Ron Standring, representing the Waitsburg American Legion, presented gold $100 bills to the winners of the American Legion Essay contest at an assembly on December 10, 2021.

Waitsburg High School sophomore, Abbi Paolino, was the 9-12 essay winner for the American Legion essay contest. This year’s topic was “The American Flag.”

MERRY CHRISTMAS
FROM THE CARDINAL STAFF

Jessie Atteberry    Caleb Barron
Keon Lindley       Olivya McFarland
Brayden Mohney     Alexis Reeves
WAITSBURG--During the week of November 29th, the Waitsburg FFA chapter prepared and set out small Christmas trees in downtown Waitsburg.

The Festival of Trees fundraiser is a tradition here at WHS and an awesome way for our chapter to raise money for things like meetings, activities, and field trips. This year the FFA chapter placed about 25 trees during Mrs. Abel’s classes.

The way this fundraiser works is people in our community purchase a tree that they can decorate, then the FFA kids take the trees downtown, and set them up. By the time Christmas comes, the sidewalks of downtown Waitsburg are lit up and very festive. Be sure to go check out this year’s Festival of Trees.
Students decorate the big tree downtown

By Caleb Barron, The Cardinal
December 3, 2021

WAITSBURG--With Christmas season in the air, the Waitsburg Elementary students were in full swing making ornaments to hang on the big tree that is located downtown in front of the old Plaza Theater.

This is always an exciting time in elementary school. The kids, with so much excitement and holiday cheer, are always thinking of a place where they can hang their handmade ornaments. They want to be sure it is a place where each student will be able to take their families down and show off their handmade masterpieces.

In years past a few ornaments you may have seen on the big tree are homemade snow globes, pinecone bird seed ornaments, and Popsicle stick snowflakes. Unlike when you buy ornaments to hang on trees downtown, on the big tree you will rarely see two look alike decorations. That is what makes this week so special for the younger students, showing off all their hard work and crafty skills to the community as they walk past the tree throughout the month of December.

On Thursday, December 9th the elementary classes went to decorate this year’s tree. The 4th and 5th grade classes went to the tree at 1:30 P.M., followed by the 2nd and 3rd grade classes at 2 P.M., and finally the Kindergarten and 1st grade classes placed their decorations at 2:30 P.M.

This tree decorating activity gives students a chance to get off on the right foot this holiday season, and of course, this lets them get to do fun things during the long school days just coming off the Thanksgiving break.

So if you have time, go check out the hard work the elementary students have put into decorating the big tree downtown.

Christmas around Waitsburg and the area

By Alexis Reeves, The Cardinal
December 10, 2021

WAITSBURG--In Waitsburg Hometown Christmas is using held, including the parade, music playing downtown, and the Festival of Trees among other things. Prior to COVID-19 Waitsburg would have Christmas vendors downtown and the Chili feed after the parade. This year the Waitsburg Chapter of FFA still planned the Festival of Trees, and other community members organized a house lighting competition around town and a parade will take place on December 18th. At WHS, the seniors decorated the tree inside the high school.

Other local communities started their way to back normal, holding some traditional seasonal activities. On Friday November 26, Dayton held their annual Christmas Kickoff. This was a weekend that included many different holiday events. Main Street was very busy with a festival of trees, live reindeer, as well as wine tasting and hot cocoa at the Weinhard Hotel. Other events included Izzy the camel, the Christmas Market at the Historic Dayton Depot, and a hayride. Later that night, at 6 P.M. the lighted parade was held followed by lighting the tree and fireworks.

In Walla Walla on Saturday, December 4th, the town held the Parade of Lights which was sponsored by Nelson Construction. The winners of the Parade of Lights as well the cash prizes went to: 1st place SEATech Walla Walla $500 cash, 2nd place Adventurers $300 cash, 3rd place Clark & Young Excavation $200 cash, 4th place Walla Walla Fair & Frontier Days $100 cash. Another event that was held was the holiday driving tour that showed locations where people decorated houses with Christmas lights and other decorations.

It is great to see our local communities resume some of their holiday events.
WHS ASB sponsor door contest

By The Cardinal Staff
December 13, 2021

WAITSBURG—The WHS ASB officers sponsored a first period door decorating contest the week of December 13. ASB Advisor Shelby Gould gave staff members specific rules for the decorations. “Door Decorating will be during first period on Monday, December 13 and Tuesday, December 14. ASB is not organizing themes, but if a class would like to decorate using a theme, that is welcome. Whatever Decorations are used must be easily removed from the door without causing damage. Students are welcome to use the paper on the paper rolls for decorating. Any other decorations must be provided by students. Unless the classroom teacher would like the decorations to stay up, it will be expected that decorations are taken down on Friday, December 17 before school concludes for winter break.”

Judging took place Wednesday, December 15 and the winner was Mrs. Groom’s class with the A Christmas Carol theme. Second place went to Ms. Pradere’s class fireplace and Mr. Elder’s Christmas movie theme door. Well done to all the first period classes.
ENTERTAINMENT

December Word Search

By Olivya McFarland

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CANDYCANE</th>
<th>CHRISTMAS</th>
<th>ELVES</th>
<th>FROSTY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GINGERBREAD</td>
<td>HOLIDAY</td>
<td>JOLLY</td>
<td>LIGHTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MERRY</td>
<td>MISTLETOE</td>
<td>PRESENTS</td>
<td>REINDEER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUDOLPH</td>
<td>SANTA</td>
<td>SLEIGH</td>
<td>SNOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNOWMAN</td>
<td>STOCKING</td>
<td>WINTER</td>
<td>WREATH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Waitsburg High School Christmas Crossword

By Jessie Atteberry

ACROSS

3. A Christmas musical.
9. Santa’s ride.
10. A Christmas musical (same as 3).
12. You roast over an open fire.
15. Little kids ask Santa for….
21. Hangs on your front door.

DOWN

1. You make little men out of ....
2. Put presents under.
4. Santa comes down the ...
5. The Little Blank Boy.
6. You roast on an open fire.
7. Red and white striped candy.
8. You give someone a.....
11. A famous snowman?
13. Hung by the chimney.
16. Has a bright red nose.
17. “It’s Christmas Charlie ....”
18. Goes on top of a Christmas tree.
20. The Grinch’s dog.
FOOD

Cardinal staff share holiday recipes

Mashed potatoes

Shared by Keon Lindley

1. Peel the potatoes. Place the potatoes in a large bowl of cold water after peeling to avoid discoloration.
2. Cut the potatoes into 1” cubes.
3. Add the potatoes to a large pot and cover with cold water. Bring to a boil over high heat, then reduce the heat to low and simmer for 12 minutes.
4. In a small saucepan, bring the milk, heavy cream, and garlic to a simmer over low heat.
5. Remove the pot from the heat and strain the cream through a fine mesh sieve.
6. Drain the potatoes in a colander and transfer back to the pot.
7. Mash the potatoes with a potato masher, potato ricer, or by pushing through a fine mesh sieve with a spatula.
8. Add the cubed cold butter and salt. Stir to combine.
9. Gradually add the cream mixture to the potatoes, little by little, until fully incorporated.
10. Top with freshly ground black pepper and sprinkle with chives and serve.

Rich and creamy potatoes Au gratin

Shared by Olivya McFarland

Ingredients

- 3 pounds Yukon Gold potatoes, peeled and very thinly sliced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- ¾ teaspoon salt
- 1 cup heavy cream, divided
- freshly ground black pepper to taste
- freshly grated nutmeg to taste
- 2 cups freshly shredded Gruyere cheese, divided

Instructions

Step 1
Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).

Step 2
Place potatoes, garlic, and salt into a large pot, fill with enough water to cover, and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to medium, and simmer the potatoes until tender but not mushy, 8 to 10 minutes. With a slotted spoon, transfer about half the potatoes to a 9x13-inch baking dish.

Step 3
Pour half of the cream over the potatoes, season with black pepper and nutmeg, and sprinkle half of the Gruyere cheese onto the mixture. Top with the remaining potatoes; sprinkle again with black pepper and nutmeg. Pour on the remaining cream, and sprinkle with remaining Gruyere cheese.

Step 4
Bake in the preheated oven until the cheese topping is crisp and brown on top, about 1 hour.
Ultimate ginger cookies
Shared by Alexis Reeves

Ingredients
2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
1 1/2 teaspoons ground cloves
1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
1 cup dark brown sugar, lightly packed
1/4 cup vegetable oil
1/3 cup unsulfured molasses
1 extra-large egg, at room temperature
1 1/4 cups chopped crystallized ginger (6 ounces)

Instructions
In a large bowl, sift together the flour, baking soda, cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg, ginger, and salt and then combine the mixture with your hands. In the bowl of an electric mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, beat the brown sugar, oil, and molasses on medium speed for 5 minutes. Turn the mixer to low speed, add the egg, and beat for 1 minute. Scrape the bowl with a rubber spatula and beat for 1 more minute. With the mixer still on low, slowly add the dry ingredients to the bowl and mix on medium speed for 2 minutes. Add the crystallized ginger and mix until combined. Scoop the dough with 2 spoons or a small ice cream scoop. With your hands, roll each cookie into a 1 3/4-inch ball and then flatten them lightly with your fingers. Press both sides of each cookie in granulated sugar and place them on the sheet pans. Bake for exactly 13 minutes. The cookies will be crackled on the top and soft inside. Let the cookies cool on the sheets for 1 to 2 minutes, then transfer to wire racks to cool completely.

White chocolate puffcorn
Shared by Caleb Barron

Ingredients
puff corn
almond bark
sprinkles (optional)

Instructions
Pour your puff corn (sometimes called corn puffs) into a large bowl. Spread some waxed paper out on your counter or table.

Break the almond bark into pieces and place it in a glass bowl. Cook in the microwave at half power, stirring every 30 seconds or so till melted and smooth.

Pour the melted white chocolate over the puff corn and stir till coated evenly. Spread onto waxed paper.

Add sprinkles if desired, then let sit until hardened.