Home town Christmas

By Alyssa Segraves, The Cardinal
December 9, 2022

WAITSBURG—In Waitsburg Washington, we have a three day event jam packed with fun activities and places to go. In order to get into the Christmas spirit and come together as a community, we, in the small town of Waitsburg, gather for Hometown Christmas.

Hometown Christmas began on Friday December 2nd with three events lined up. From 9 AM to 5 PM Nancy’s Dream Garden was open, from 11 AM to 5 PM Gaudy Gals was open at Town Hall, and at 5 PM the doors were opened at the Waitsburg Elementary Multipurpose Room for a Veterans Benefit Bingo, which began at 6 PM.

On Saturday December 3rd, in the midst of our celebration there were seven events that occurred. There were shopping and vendors open at Town Hall, breakfast and snacks in the kitchen of Town Hall, and Nancy’s Dream Garden was open. All of these events occurred from 9 AM to 5 PM. From 11 AM to 5 PM Gaudy Gals was open at Town Hall, from 12 PM to 5 PM there were pictures with The Grinch at Ten Ton Coffee Shop, from 12 PM to 3 PM JJ from Cocomelon and Encanto characters were at Town Hall and Main Street, and at 1 PM there was Children’s Cookie Decorating at Town Hall.

As Hometown Christmas concluded on Sunday December 4th, there were shopping and vendors open at Town Hall and breakfast and snacks in the kitchen of Town Hall from 9 AM to 5 PM. Nancy’s Dream Garden was open from 9 AM to 5 PM. From 11 AM to 4:30 PM Gaudy Gals was open at Town Hall, from 12 PM to 4 PM there were Pictures with Santa at Ten Ton Coffee Shop. Visitors were entertained with live music from Waitsburg Talented Youth on the stage at Town Hall from 12 PM to 3 PM. At 3 PM the FFA Tree Decorating Winner was announced. At 3:15 PM winners for Door Prizes were announced, from 4 PM to 7 PM there was a parade of Holiday Liberations at the Royal Block, at 5 PM there was a Lighted Christmas Parade on Main Street, and at 6 PM there was a Chili Dinner at American 35.

Our Hometown Christmas event brought our little community together this year, as it has many years prior. There were laughs, smiles, and hugs everywhere you looked. It was beautiful and will always be a fond memory to look back upon. As always, have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Happy Holidays from the 2022-2023 CARDINAL STAFF

Dia Adkins
Alex Dahlby
Kylee Henry
Andrew Rosenberger
Bailey Standring

Aubriahna Araya
Hendrix Groom
Brandon Leroue
Alyssa Segraves
LOCAL

Santa came to Waitsburg Schools

By Aubri Araya, The Cardinal
December 9, 2022

WAITSBURG--With Christmas Break right around the corner, December 21 - January 3, students were looking forward to their annual visit from Santa. Tuesday, December 20th was our last school day of the 2022 season, but on Friday, December 16th, our traditional hot chocolate with Santa began at 7:30 AM and concluded after the 8:30 AM bell in the elementary cafeteria.

Hot chocolate with Santa has been a tradition here at the Waitsburg School District for as long as one can remember. If you have siblings at the Preston Hall or at Waitsburg Elementary, they enjoyed some hot chocolate and visit with Santa.
Heaps of the Month

Amy Bly’s Ford F-150
By Andrew Rosenberger, The Cardinal
September 22, 2022

WHS PARKING LOT—There are many different cars in the Waitsburg High School parking lot, but if you’ve noticed there’s one truck that’s five different shades of red and looks like it barely makes it out of the parking lot without falling apart. This truck is normally parked in places it’s not supposed to be and has been the reason for a few incidents in the parking lot. The owner of the 1995 ford f-150 is Amy Bly, a Waitsburg High School junior, who said she bought the truck because she “thought it had character.”

Students of WHS were not very kind when asked about Amy’s pick-up. They said that they thought the truck was “trashy” and “that it shouldn’t be allowed to park at school.” Other students also said that it had hoses falling off and that it amazes some students that it is even street legal. Now you know why Amy’s F-150 was selected as a “Heap of the Month” for The Cardinal

Mrs. Abel’s Ford F-150
By Kylee Henry, The Cardinal
December 20, 2022

WAITSBURG – In Journalism we like to do this thing called “Heap of the Month.” This truck has been around for as long as we can remember, and there is no way to forget it as we have not stopped hearing about its problems since school started.

Nicole Abel, also known as our favorite Agriculture Education teacher, drives a Ford F-150 pickup truck every day to school. On those days when it is broken, we get to hear about every class.

She bought this pickup truck in 2013. Mrs. Abel said she would rather have a pickup truck because she needs to haul things for herself and as our FFA advisor. She also said, to her, a pickup is a normal car. She also likes having the pickup truck because it has a lot of room and it has four doors. She upgraded to this truck from a single cab GMC. She also likes that it is paid off.

Some things she hates is that it is going to blow up and that it has a short bed. She was the one who told us to make her heap of the month so she can make Gabe buy her a new truck. Stay tune for the further adventures of Mrs. Abel’s Ford F-150 pickup.
ENTERTAINMENT

Top video games of December 2022
By Alexandyr Dahlby, The Cardinal
December 14, 2022

WAITSBURG--This article is a list of the top five video games released or being releasing in December. I will rate this list based off of my opinion on trailers and gameplay, if any is available at the time.

At the top of my list I have Blacktail, which is a game about a pair of twin sisters exiled and separated. You play as a young girl by the name of Yaga, who was exiled from a medieval Slavic settlement for witchcraft. You can choose to be vengeful and manipulative, or honest and compassionate to the creatures of the forest, while mastering the bow and potion brewing to uncover your past. The game looks really pretty from the trailer and seems to have an interesting story.

The next game I have is Marvel’s Midnight Suns, an action card based strategy RPG based in the darker side of the Marvel Creative Universe (MCU). You play as a custom character known as a Hunter, a legendary demon slayer with a mysterious past. You will lead a team of legendary Marvel heroes as you attempt to stop the Mother of Demons from completing an ancient prophecy to summon her ancient master, Chthon. From what I’ve seen, the gameplay looks smooth and faster paced for being strategy based, and I am happy to see that there is a superhero game out with a customizable protagonist.

My third game on this list is The Callisto Protocol, a horror third person experience. The game is based on a prison known as “Black Iron Prison” on the moon Callisto. You play as Jacob Lee, a wrongfully incarcerated cargo pilot, who has survived and must survive the outbreak of the mysterious virus that is causing the convicts to revolt. This game is full of gruesome and graphic jumpscare with a mix of ranged and melee combat. Along with all the squelches and squishes from walking on festering biomass from said virus. There are some complaints of awkward and messy controls, but otherwise, the game to me looks pretty good and I am excited to play it myself.

Dragon Quest Treasures, a continuation of Square Enix’s siblings Erik and Mia, who live on a Viking longship. They try to sneak out to go find treasure, and as a result of that they are transported to Draconia, a legendary place full of treasures waiting to be found. There is a whole “gang” system, meaning you can build up and become stronger with the treasure you find. I have always been a fan of Dragon Quest games, so I am excited to see what this one brings.

And the last game is High on Life, an action adventure first person shooter game, where you play as a bounty hunter who is answering a hero’s call. Other information is not school friendly, so we will leave it at that. But otherwise, the gameplay looks smooth and the story seems good, it just doesn’t peak my interest as much as the others on this list, leading to the lower position on this list.

I encourage you to try these new games, even if the genre and play style are not your favorite. Give them some of your time.
Over a decade later, and *Megamind’s* still the “Incredibly Handsome Criminal Genius and Master of all Villainy” We know and love

By Simon Andersen, *The Cardinal*
December 8, 2022

WAITSBURG--Considered a Dreamworks classic by many, *Megamind* is still bringing laughs to families 12 years after its release. It received low ratings on its release because it was released between two much more popular Dreamworks movies, *How to Train Your Dragon* and *Kung Fu Panda 2.*

*Megamind* features such prolific actors as Will Farell, Jonah Hill, Tina Fey, Brad Pitt, David Cross, and J.K. Simmons. It was directed by Tom McGrath, who is known for directing the *Madagascar* movies, as well as the *Boss Baby* movies. It is rated PG, and receives an IMDB score of 7.3, as well as a Rotten Tomatoes score of 72%.

The movie centers around Megamind, a villain with super intelligence, who finds himself bored after killing Metro Man, and sets out to make his own hero. He falls in love along the way, and realizes that maybe being bad isn't for him. With plenty of memorable laughs along the way, this movie is perfect for family movie night.

Entertainment is the purpose of this film, and it does a stellar job of it. With a multitude of funny moments, alongside just as much action, this original story is sure to keep the audience entertained throughout the entire film.

In his efforts to make a hero to fight, Megamind ends up making a super-powered villain, who he must then face in order to save the city. He must use all of his intellect, and all the help he can get, to defeat his new-found enemy of his own creation.

I would highly recommend this movie for families. It is a perfect movie for audiences of all ages to enjoy.
December Word Search

By Bailey Standring

Carol
Family
Nutcracker
Cookies
Tree
Stockings
Mistletoe
Chimney
Gifts
Elves
Snow
Grinch
Cozy
Jolly
Santa
Nice
Cold
Northpole
Christmas
Naughty
Eggnog

F Y S L M I S T L E T O E H
Y L A Y E L O R A C C Y O N
E I N Z S E A Y A L Z R H O
N M T O S T O C K I N G S R
M A A C T L Y G E O V H C T
I F I O N N I S N O W T Y H
H S T Y R F E G G N O G Y P
C E N U T C R A C K E R R H O
U I S S C H R I S T M A S L
I K W R O N I C E E C I E E
G O G E R T R E E E M D C M G
I O I T E E G R I N C H K R
O C N A U G H T Y J O L L Y
A R E L V E S G O G C O L D
Top Ten Christmas Songs of 2022
By Brandon Leroue, The Cardinal
December 6, 2022

WAITSBURG—Christmas is the time of year where we get to hear music that relates to the holiday. Christmas music dates back to the 4th century with the Roman Empire when they started to sing Christmas songs but it didn't become popular until the 13th century.

After some research on Google, here are the top ten songs for the 2022 Christmas season.

10.) Heartbreak Holiday by Debbie Gibson and Joey Malntuer
9.) Everyone Love Christmas by Chord Overstreet
8.) Amazing Grace By Dvsn
7.) So Much Wine by Phoebe Brigers
6.) Santa Claus is coming to town by Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band
5.) Single On The 25th by Lauren Spencer Smith
4.) Christmastime is Here by Jody Watley
3.) Last Christmas by the Backstreet Boys
2.) I’ll Be Home For Christmas By Camila Cabells
1.) Someday At Christmas by Lizzo

That concludes the top ten songs for the Christmas season for 2022.

FOOD
By Bailey Standring, The Cardinal
November 5, 2021

WAITSBURG—Here are two of our family favorite holiday recipes.

Christmas Fudge

Ingredients
Cooking spray
2 3/4 cups chocolate chips
1 (14-oz.) can sweetened condensed milk
2 tablespoons heavy cream
4 tablespoons butter
1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
1/4 teaspoon salt
3 tablespoons Christmas sprinkles

Directions
1. Line an 8”-x-8” baking pan with parchment paper and grease with cooking spray. In a medium saucepan over medium heat, melt chocolate, condensed milk, butter, cream, vanilla, and salt together. Stir until smooth then pour into the prepared pan.
2. Top with sprinkles and refrigerate until set, 2 hours.
3. Cut into squares and serve.
Christmas Cookies

**Ingredients**

- 1 ½ cups plus one tablespoon all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ½ cup unsalted butter
- ½ granulated sugar
- ⅓ cup brown sugar
- 1 large egg
- 2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
- 1 ½ cups M&M’s or half M&M’s and half chocolate chips
- ¼ cup holiday sprinkles

**Instructions**

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper.
2. In a bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt. Set aside.
3. In a separate bowl, using hand mixer or stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, beat butter and both sugars for 1-2 minutes, until light and fluffy. Add egg and vanilla extract, mixing until combined, scraping the sides of the bowl as needed. On low speed, add in flour mixture and mix until just combined.
4. Gently stir in M&M’s and chocolate chips. I usually add about 1 generous cup into the batter, and the rest get pressed on top of the cookies before baking.
5. Place the sprinkles in a shallow bowl.
6. Scoop balls of cookie dough, between 1 ½ and 2 ½ tablespoon portions. Gently press a few M&M’s onto the top of each ball into the bowl of sprinkles. You can bake the cookies right away (they’ll be on the thinner side) or chill the dough balls in the fridge for about 15 minutes at this point. This makes sure they bake up with a nice thickness.
7. Place dough onto prepared baking sheets leaving an inch or two for spreading. I like to make sure the dough balls are mounded higher rather than wider so that the cookies aren’t too thin.
8. Bake for 8-11 minutes, until the edges of the cookies are set but the center is still slightly underdone; this will create a soft cookie.
9. Place the baking sheets on wire racks and allow the cookies to cool completely. They will firm up as they cool.
TRAVEL

Christmas destinations

By Andrew Rosenberger, The Cardinal
December 8, 2022

WAITSBURG--Are you looking for something different to do this Christmas season? Perhaps a vacation is just the thing for you. If you want to stay close to home, Leavenworth, Washington is a fun place to visit. If you are looking for a destination a bit further, Solvang, California may be the right place for you.

Leavenworth is a Bavarian style village located in central Washington surrounded by the Cascade Mountains. With Main Street being made up of alpine style buildings and restaurants that serve German food, Leavenworth has many museums and shops selling Christmas merchandise. There is also a ski resort just outside of town.

A little warmer destination is Solvang, a city in southern California's Santa Ynez Valley. It's known for its Danish style architecture. Solvang can be explored on horse drawn street cars or the Solvang Trolley. Danish bakeries and boutiques line the streets offering something to do. Things really kick off with the annual tree lighting ceremony at Solvang Park, which also features dancing ballerinas, live music, and caroling.

For next Christmas, think about putting Leavenworth, Washington or Solvang, California on your list of destinations for your entire family.
Christmas Game Night Parties

Christmas is a special time of year to spend with family and friends. So much goes on during this time of year even if you’re not a big Christmas person. Christmas parties are a great way to bring everyone together, either in a big group or a small one. Christmas parties can be as simple as a Christmas movie night or even a little more interesting like decorating a gingerbread house or cookies. However, a Christmas Game Night Party is a good way to go for a fun night.

For the people who have a small group, a Christmas game night might be for you. Games such as Christmas charades, Christmas movie trivia, and a gift wrap relay, just might be for you. You could even get on the more creative side and decorate cookies, make gingerbread houses, or even create special ornaments.

Larger groups could also do the same thing as smaller groups. It’s just twice the fun for everyone. For Family Feud lovers this is for you. For a large group, there is a Christmas Family Feud edition that you can set up to play with your group, (website for guide below). Another classic party game played is a White elephant gift exchange that’s fun for everyone, its a gift exchange in simple terms. Set a price limit for presents and have everyone bring one, everyone will end up with a random present by the end of the night! (White Elephant gift exchange rules below)

Christmas parties would spread joy to everyone if any of the games catch your eye all of them have simple instructions if you just look up the title and have the best time!

By Hendrix Groom

Christmas Family Feud: https://gatheredagain.com/christmas-family-feud-questions/

White Elephant: https://www.whiteelephantrules.com/