

## Holiday Happenings

By Jasmin Rosario, Stephanie Ruiz, and Abigail Santos\*  
Junior Reporters

HEMS students are hoping for a wonderful Christmas holiday. Many are already planning what they are going to be doing with their family and friends.

Sixth grade teacher **Mr. Shafer** said, “I enjoy spending Christmas with family in West Virginia.” He goes to church and plays outside if it snows.

Seventh grade teacher **Mrs. Force** said, “I like spending Christmas with my family.” She likes to bake cookies with her mom, too. She tells Eddy the Elf to visit her daughters and make sure they behave!

Seventh grade teacher **Mrs. Mooney** enjoys making Christmas cookies with her brothers and celebrates at her house.

Sixth grade teacher **Miss Stauffer** goes to her grandparent’s house for Christmas. There she “exchanges gifts and eats a lot.”

*Castle Caller* editor,



**Mrs. O’Donnell** attends midnight mass on Christmas Eve with Mr. O’Donnell. “I can’t miss Mr. Kassick singing *O’ Holy Night*. It’s beautiful.”

The teachers aren’t the only ones who have holiday plans and traditions. The students do, too.

**Eme Espinosa**, seventh grade, said she “sits at the dinner table with her family and prays.” Then they start eating.

Eighth grader, **Cindy Jimenez**, celebrates with her family. On Christmas Eve they open their gifts

at midnight.

**Kiara Johnson**, eighth grade, celebrates with her family on Christmas day. That’s when they all open their gifts.

Seventh grader **Kadias Murdaugh** said he celebrates Christmas with his family and his dog. He celebrates at his grandma’s house.

**Nayani Jimenez**, seventh grade, celebrates with her family. They eat and open gifts on Christmas day at their house.

Sixth grader **Kiany Gutierrez** bakes cookies

on Christmas Eve and plays in the snow.

**Leisha Abreu**, sixth grade, said, “I put baby Jesus out on the table and we light up candles and ask for what we want.”

**Nicolle Garcia**, sixth grade, said, “Our Christmas tradition is we have a big dinner on Christmas Eve and when the clock strikes twelve we open all the presents, which is very irritating to he kids because we can’t wait.”

No matter what your tradition is, have a great time doing it!

**Holiday Hunt: FIND the hidden Santa Claus head. It is hidden somewhere in this newspaper. When you find it, make a Christmas wish!**

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# HAPPENINGS



## Harvest Dance Memories



**CHEESE.....Pizza that is!**



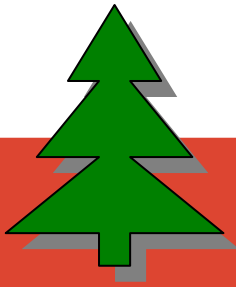
**How low can you go?**



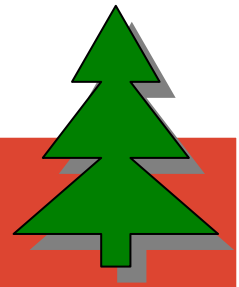
**Below: Students and teachers dance to "The Cupid Shuffle."**

**Below: Some HMS students take a moment to pose for a photo at the Harvest Dance given by student council on November 15, 2013.**





# HOLIDAY FEATURES



## *All I Want for Christmas Is...*

By Kylie Gerhart, Amya Torres, and Fatima Tomax\*  
Junior Reporters

Everyone has that one item on their Christmas wish list they really hope they get. What is yours?

**Britney Paulino**, seventh grade, wants an Ipad so she can stay connected with friends and family.

Eighth grader **Cassidy Lugo** wants a PS4 to play games. She said, "Everyone has one, and I don't."

Lady Mount **Kim Bellard**, seventh grade, wants neon basketball sneakers to use at basketball practice.

Seventh grader **Yelisa Lora** wants an iphone 5c because of its color and features. She said, "I want to show my mom I am responsible enough to have an expensive item."

**Isabel Colon**, seventh

grade, wants an itunes gift card so she can put more music on her ipod. She said, "I want it because it is something that is not expensive and it's something I like."

Seventh grader **Nanyeli Santos** wants to go to DR for Christmas to spend time with her family. She said family is the most important thing.

**Jose Perez** and **Tyler Sayerwine**, both eighth graders, want quads so they can ride them everywhere.

Seventh grader **Damire Faison** wants money so he can spend it his own way and not get the wrong present.

**Shaylin Panco**, seventh grade, wants a new laptop so she can do different things that she can't do with a regular

iphone.

Sixth grader **Kimberly Ventura** wants a piano for Christmas because she enjoys playing music.

Several kids want the ps4 gaming system. Eighth grader John Stan said it's crazy and cool. **Edgar Pena**, sixth grade, wants a ps4 because it's the newest gaming system and it's way better than any other.

Sixth grader **Euris Minyetti** said he also wants a ps4 like his friend Edgar because he doesn't want to be the only one not having it.

We hope everyone gets

exactly what they want this year. Remember, Santa knows if you've been bad or good. So be good for goodness sake!



## Name That Holiday Tune

By Nancy Bucci and Autumn Gunn  
Junior Reporters

It's that time of year again when there are Christmas songs on repeat on most radio stations. What is your favorite Christmas song? There are so many to choose from. If you had to pick just one, what would it be?

When we interviewed most people, it took them a while to figure it out. Some people couldn't even decide!

Eighth grader **Seidy Bobadilla** said *Mistletoe* by Justin Bieber was her favorite song.

**Stephanie Gable**, seventh grade, said *The Twelve days of Christmas* gets her in the Christmas spirit.

Eighth grade history teacher **Mr. Shifano** said his favor-

ite song was *Mr. Hudock Got Ran Over By a Reindeer*.

Hmm haven't heard that one!

**Nina Martini**, eighth grade, said her favorite Christmas song is *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*. This song really gets her into the Christmas Spirit because of his red nose!

Seventh grader **Sera McManus** said her favorite Christmas song is *I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas*. I think we have a good chance of having a white Christmas this year, Sera.

Eighth grade science teacher **Mr. Hudock** said his favorite Christmas song is

*Silent Night* and *Silent Day*. Yet another original song?

**Mrs. Shebelock**, seventh grade science teacher, said her favorite song is *Jingle Bells*, even though she changes the words when she's in the car.

**Nelson Perez**, eighth grade, also chose *Jingle Bells*.

Seventh grade reading teacher **Mrs. Dudeck** says her favorite Christmas song is *O' Holy Night*.



Be sure to listen to your favorite Christmas song as much as you can. Some radio stations play them round the clock. Once the holiday is over, you won't hear it for another year!





# HOLIDAY FEATURES



## Mounts Holiday Chat

By Yulimar Abreu, Jenifer Arias, and  
Nisel Florentino  
Senior Reporters

(Sing along if you know the words) *You know Dasher and Dancer and Prancer and Vixen. Comet and Cupid and Donner and Blitzen. But do you recall, the most famous reindeer of all?*

Rudolph, of course.

The Holiday Edition of Mounts Corner Chat asked sixth thru eighth grade HEMS students and teachers if they could name all nine of Santa's reindeer.

Most of the students and teachers couldn't do it. Many named four or five. Some only two! There were, however, some who were able to name them all!

Sixth grade student **Johana Arias** was only able to name three - Dasher, Prancer and Rudolph.

**Brandon Perez**, seventh grade, knew only

two. He actually thought one of the reindeer was named Mercury. Ah, no.

A few of the teachers were able to name all nine reindeer.

Seventh grade teacher **Mrs. Shebelock** broke into song in order to name all of the reindeer. She was able to do it too!

**Mr. Sedon**, eighth grade history teacher, named all nine reindeer. He said there was a tenth reindeer that is young and changes every year. His job is to make sure no toys fall from Santa's bag. His name is Tim.

We've never heard of this reindeer before.

## mount's Holiday CHAT

By: Yulimar Abreu, Jenifer Arias, and Nisel Florentino  
Senior Reporters

Can you name all 9 of Santa's reindeer?

35% Yes

65% No

\*Poll based on answers from approximately 100 teachers and students at HMS.



Fifth grade teacher and Castle Caller advisor, **Mrs. O'Donnell** was able to name all Santa's reindeer.

"When I was little my mom read me *The Night Before Christmas* every year. It names all the reindeer, except Rudolph. He wasn't around when that story was written," said O'Donnell.

We did find it very impressive, though, that some students were able to do it. **Ashley Flores**, eighth grade, knew all nine reindeer by heart.

Everyone tried their best to name all of the reindeer. Even though most couldn't, we named them at the top so you



could learn them too!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



# HOLIDAY FEATURES



## 2014 Resolutions

By Yondra Del Rosario and Lisa McDonough\*

Junior Reporters

3...2...1...

Happy New Year!!

It's finally the time for holiday cheer and a brand new year to leave our mark on. New year's resolutions are a popular way to make promises to yourself about what you want to accomplish through out the new year. We asked some 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students, as well as teachers, what their resolutions were for 2014.

**Anselmo Jimenez**, eighth grade, said his resolution is to help out his family around the house more.

**Mrs. Sallemi**, eighth grade math teacher, said she wanted to try to drink more water and have a lot more fun.

**Marialis Ortis** and **Noeys Villar**, eighth and sixth grade, respectively, want to have fun and try not to get into trouble.

**Mrs. Dudeck**, a seventh grade reading teach-

er, said she will not be making a resolution because she finds it easier to make smaller goals, instead of making one just because of a new year.

Some kids like **Oscar Gonzalez** and **Moesses Chez**, sixth and seventh grade, respectively, don't make resolutions because they don't know what they can promise to do.

**Viannela Ramirez** and **Jennifer Borrero**, both eighth grade, said

they might make a resolution, but they don't know if they would be able to keep a promise so big for the whole year.

Finally, **Nelson Perez** and **Mrs. Molosky**, an eighth grade student and sixth grade teacher, respectively, both planned to make resolutions, but didn't know what yet.

Whether you make a resolution or not, promise yourself to do and be the best you can every day.



# SPORTS

## Girls' Basketball Begins

By Jacqueline Dominguez and Yelisa Lara

Junior Reporters



Go Mounts!

Basketball season is here! On Monday, December 9, 2013, the Lady Mounts had their first game against Freeland. The game was home at the Castle gym.

Seventh grader **Stephanie Ruiz** is not very nervous for the season. She said the coach trained them very well. She is ready.

This reporter, **Yelisa**

**Lora**, is nervous for the season. Though the coach has them ready to go, she is anxious to get started.

New to the Castle, **Mr. Campbell** is a 4th and 6th grade Math teacher here. He is taking on the challenge of coaching the Lady Mounts this season.

Mr. Campbell expects a lot from his players. He plans to work on fundamentals basketball skills. He believe the girls are ready. Go get 'em, girls!

### Lady Mounts

#### *8th Grade Members*

Kim Bellard  
Rebecca Rossi  
Jessica Cusatis  
Mariah Coles  
Ashley Flores  
Diofranny Correa  
Kiara Johnson  
Brittney Wendell

#### *7th Grade Members*

Makayla Kerrick  
Alexis Kulish  
Isabella Nika  
Acacia Bermudez  
Yelisa Lara  
Stephanie Ruiz  
Brittney Paulino  
Jenelise Roman  
Sabrina Elghwalaymi

12/9 - vs. Freeland  
12/11 - @ Berwick  
12/17 - @ West Hazleton  
12/19 - vs. Holy Family  
1/6 - @ Drums  
1/8 - @ MMI  
1/14 - @ Heights  
1/16 - vs. Valley  
1/22 - @ McAdoo  
1/27 - @ Freeland  
1/29 - vs. Berwick  
2/4 - vs. West Hazleton  
2/6 - @ Holy Family  
2/10 - vs. Drums  
2/12 - vs. MMI  
2/18 - vs. Heights  
2/20 - @ Valley  
2/24 - vs. McAdoo

## What's Your Elf Name?

A- Perky  
B- Nipper  
C- Bubbles  
D- Happy  
E- Squeezy  
F- Sunny  
G- Merry  
H- Tootsie  
I- Kringle  
J- Puddin  
K- Cookie  
L- Tinker  
M- Twinkle  
N- Buddy  
O- Elfie  
P- Jingle  
Q- Snowflake  
R- Jolly  
S- Elvis  
T- Sugarplum  
U- Peaches

V- Gingerbread  
W- Frisbee  
X- Evergreen  
Y- Pinky  
Z- Tinsel



Jan.- Angle Pants  
Feb.- Floppy Feet  
Mar. - Plum Pants  
Apr. - McJingles  
May - Peppermint  
June - Toe Bells  
July - Superplum  
Aug. - Sugar Socks  
Sept. - Pickle Pants  
Oct. - Sparkley Toes  
Nov. - Monkey Buns  
Dec. - Pointy Toes



### TO FIND YOUR ELF NAME:

1. Find the first letter of your first name.
2. Find the month you were born.
3. Put them together and you have your Elf name!

Example: Cookie McJingles

## The Castle Caller Staff

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\*Denotes Mrs. O'Donnell assisted with the article.



*From your friends at The Castle Caller*

