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The Woodland Arrow

December

Woodland Middle School

Holiday Edition

Filling in the Blanks

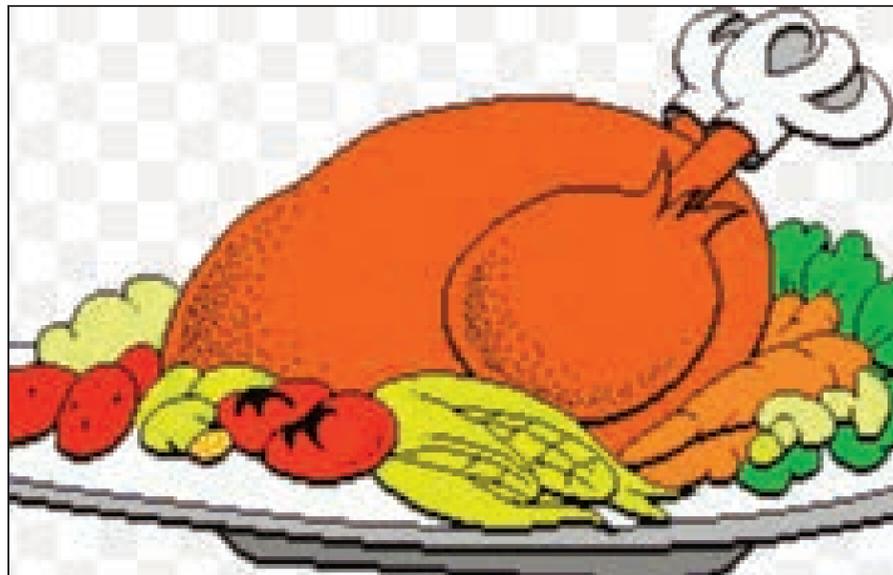
By: Ava Crossley

I always thought that family wasn't that important. I mean, it's just people who are related to you. What's the big deal? But for this Thanksgiving, everything would change.

"May! Family's here!" My mom called up the stairs. I rolled my eyes. Yay, let the cheek plucking begin! I walked down the stairs, peering over the railing to see who was here. Grandma Christy was here, but that was it. I slipped into the family room and plopped on the couch. My phone buzzed, and I happily scrolled through all the texts I had.

My mom strolled in and I immediately froze. She saw me and sighed. "May...please come in and say hi to you grandmother. She needs to talk to you. Better yet I'll send her in." I groaned in full disgust. Grandma walked in like a crippled old woman. Oh wait...she is.

She sat down and croaked, "I have a story for you..." This is going to take forever! "Long ago, my great-great-grandmother was just like you. Lavish, posh, and pretty. She didn't care for family or friends at all. On Thanksgiving, she was forced to spend time with her family. She hated it so much she ran away. For three days her family looked for her.



Night and day. She finally realized an important lesson. Family is the most important thing in life. So she came back to her family. Got to know them. She said it was the happiest moment in her life." Then Grandma hobbled out the door.

I realized I was my great-great-

grandmother. I didn't want to be her. I just was. I sighed. I am going to try. Get to know them, before they're gone. I walked in there. Then my life brightened.

Sixth Grade Teacher of the Month

By: Kalia Liuchan and Erika Robertson

Congratulations to Ms. Gilliland for winning Sixth Grade Teacher of the Month for our Winter Edition of the newspaper! She has definitely earned this for her hard work and patience with her students. Ms. Gilliland brings a smile to the students faces when they walk in the door; she always greets them in a kind way, which does nothing but brighten their day. She is an inspiration to try harder and work your way through the troubling times. She is a role model to many and always sets a good example. Congratulations again, Ms. Gilliland, on winning Sixth Grade Teacher of the Month!

Titans Have a Two Game Streak Under Their Belt

By: Christian Torres and Kaushik Sathyandrakumar

Marcus Mariota can certainly do it all. The Quarterback from Oregon who is now a Titan performed immaculately. He threw for a whopping 228 yards, 2 Touchdowns, none of those pesky interceptions, had 66.7 completion percentage, and had a QB passer rating of 125.0%. Phew, that's a lot of good stats! The No. 1 defense in the league, which is the Titan defense, definitely played like it On November 11th. Corey Davis showed exactly why the Titans drafted him. No. 5 overall in the 2017 draft with his nine-catch, 161-yard outburst in Week 4. Although he has been quiet these past few weeks, on Sunday, Davis finally approached what he showed in that Week 4 game against the Eagles. He had seven catches for 125 yards and a touchdown. He had more yards and less catches, even a touchdown, which was a one hander while being held. The #5 pick from Western Michigan certainly is a good pick from the top of the draft board. Now after the Patriots game, Colts game the Titans are 5-5, third in the AFC South, right behind the Texans who are 6-3 and tied with the Colts who are also 5-5. They would be in the wild card if the playoffs started now. They are tied with the Bengals for the same record and the 6th seed in the playoffs. They go on a easy stretch now. They play the Houston Texans, the New York

Jets, the Jacksonville Jaguars, the New York Giants on the road, and finish with 2 games at home, which is Nissan Stadium, by playing the Washington Redskins, and the Indianapolis Colts again. The stretch will go good if the Titans get some pressure and some interceptions along the way. Malcolm Butler has performed pretty well in this last game, even though the ball almost never went his way, when it did though, he blocked it. He performed mediocre these few weeks leading up to Week 10. He made some big plays in man coverage. These past few weeks though, he given up some big plays, but now he is back on track. Derrick Henry has established himself once again as the Titans come closer to officially beating them with a touchdown to end the game. Kevin Byard and Kenny Vaccaro have combined for 3 interceptions while the rookies Harold Landry and Rashaan Evans have played phenomenally well. The Defence have sacked opposing quarterbacks 23 times already. Marcus Mariota has put on a show against opposing defenses. The O-line has performed very well, ranked 22 in the NFL in sacks allowed because of the Ravens 11 sacks on Mariota in week 6, but that is the only bad game the O-Line has recorded. The rest have been either good for the O-Line, or mediocre. Mariota has found help when coverage downfield is very good, which is Dion Lewis, the free agent who signed with the Titans this past offseason. Dion Lewis is basically, at least the way Marcus Mariota has used him, a slot receiver and a running back who is a real home run hitter. The



Play of the Game: In the Patriots game, Jonnu Smith catches a wonderful pass by Mariota, to gain a Touchdown and start things off.

Titans have gone from 5-4 to 5-5 because of a road loss in Indianapolis. The Titan's do not deserve to be counted out of the playoffs, though. The Titans are known to get the job done in urgent situations. I (Christian) believe that the Titans can get the job done, and I believe in them. I still think they can do this and believe they will. Although if we lose to the Texans, hypothetically speaking, then it would seem to be impossible for us to get to even the Wild Card, but it still would be barely possible for us, in a situation where the Texans lose the rest of

their games and we win the rest, which would be arguably the greatest comeback ever. The Texans losing the rest of their games is highly unlikely, as the Texans also have a pretty easy schedule as well. The Titans must win this game against the Texans to even think about the playoffs still. The Titans have it easy the rest of the year, and they are definitely capable of doing this and we believe that it can happen! Titan Up!

Ask Waldo

By Waldo

Dear Waldo, Why is fortnite such a disease?-Anonymous

Dear Anonymous, Fortnite is a battle royale game. Mental nicotine?-Waldo

Dear Waldo, What is your favorite color?~MW, 8th grade

Dear MW, 8th grade, My favorite colors are red, white, and blue.~Waldo

If you want advice, write your question down and give it to Ms. Plate (Room 206).

Jokes

By Azariah Cherukra

1. What happens to elves when they behave naughty? Santa gives them the sack. 2. What kind of music do elves listen to? Wrap. 3. What is a snowman's favorite breakfast? Ice Crispies. 4. Who hides in the bakery at Christmas? A Mince Spy! 5. What says 'Oh Oh Oh'?

Santa walking backwards! 6. What do you call a greedy elf? Elfish. 7. What do zombies eat with their Christmas dinner? Grave-y. 8. Who delivers presents to baby sharks at Christmas? Santa Jaws! 9. What did one snowman say to the other snowman? "Can you smell carrot?" 10. What is the best Christmas Present? A broken drum - you can't beat it.

Snow Storm

By: Dharshini Saravanan and Manasa Velagapudi



You will never believe it! Let me just start from the beginning. Violeta and I were walking home from school when suddenly a little bit of snow fell from the dark and gloomy sky. We ignored it and continued walking home. Suddenly, the snow became denser. The dim sky howled, and the snow began falling in swirls. There was a spooky house in the distance and it was our only choice and our hope. We knocked on the door but nobody answered, I looked at Violeta and she said, "Let's just try to open it." We opened the door and heard some eerie noise. When we entered the house we saw a gigantic picture of a sinister phoenix, and suddenly an evil laughter spread across the dark, haunted house. "Welcome," said an old woman in a creepy tone. To be continued.....

Cookie Monster's Birthday!!

By: Anonymous

This character is a cookie eating machine. He eats a cookie in every episode he is in! Who is this character? If you guessed Cookie Monster, you are correct! On November 2nd, the beloved character, Cookie Monster, had his 46th birthday!

On Sesame Street, Cookie Monster had his original song "C is for Cookie" aired on many of the episodes. Believe it or not Cookie Monster isn't even his original name. From 1971 to 2010 his name was Sid. When he sent out a Twitter post saying "Me wasn't born with the name Cookie Monster", many people were shocked!

We'd like to think that Cookie Monster spends his birthday blowing out candles on a big cookie. On November 2nd Cookie Monster was seen, on an episode, being sad because he ate all



his cake before his party started. Little did he know that all his friends were bringing cake for him.

So, let's all give a warm "Happy Birthday" to our dear friend Cookie

Monster, who is 46 years young! Happy Birthday, old friend!

Nashville Predators News II

By: Jake Lapinsky

Entering the holiday season, the Nashville Predators are currently in 1st place in the NHL, 1 point ahead of the Tampa Bay Lightning, and 2 points ahead of the Minnesota Wild, with only 3 losses. They are also on a streak of 8 consecutive wins on the road with only playing 8 road games (as of November 12th, 2018). Surprisingly, their 3 losses were from teams at home. Strange as it sounds, last year in the playoffs the Predators had lost 3 out of 4 of the games they played at home in the

playoffs and barely won the 1 game against the Winnipeg Jets by 1 goal in overtime. Entering the first games of December, the Predators have a tough schedule ahead of them. Out of the remaining November road games, the Preds play the Anaheim Ducks, the San Jose Sharks, the Arizona Coyotes (who are currently 4th in the Pacific division with 16 games played and 17 points as of November 12, 2018), and the St. Louis Blues. The Predators have an equally hard schedule at home as well. For the remaining games in November, they play the LA Kings, the Tampa Bay Lightning, the St. Louis Blues, the

Anaheim Ducks, the Colorado Avalanche, and the Arizona Coyotes. However, loyal fans have hope that they can still be dominant and on top. The NHL is about 2 months away from the NHL All Star Game on Sunday, January 27th, 2019 in San Jose, California. Entering the holiday season, it is the true time of hockey with the Winter Classic games and the NHL All Star Game coming up, and much more hockey to come in the coming months of Winter. Happy Holidays and Happy Hockey!

Condiment Chaos

By: Ashley Kalvala and Erika Robertson

Don't get me wrong, school lunches aren't bad, but the condiments throw me off. Not the taste of them, but the price of them. They have us paying for condiments that many believe we shouldn't have to. It should come with our meals that we pay for. We get a nice mountain of fries but only two tiny ketchup packets, and if we want more, we have to pay for it. It's unfair. "It drained my lunch account because of how expensive some of the food is," one student said. "We have to pay for everything!" another added. This is why condiments should not have to cost extra. This problem isn't just in the school cafeteria, this problem consists in restaurants too. Some McDonalds for example, charge for extra ketchup. Not only is condi-

ments like ketchup or mayo a need for many foods, it is eating away our money little by little. This problem should not be this consistent. It may not seem like a big deal, but it could be. For years and years restaurants and fast food places have found little ways to take our money by charging for extras that shouldn't even be classified as an extra. And it's not just ketchup that we have to pay for but it's cheese and sour cream too. In conclusion, many students are complaining about this issue. And it shouldn't be this consistent. What do you think about this problem? Is it a concerning issue or not a threat at all. Tell us, what do you think about this issue? Is this problem really that bad or is it not important?

Death Defying Continued

By: Alli Voyles

Recap: Elizabeth and Michael were walking down the street on a normal New York night when they discover something that will change their lives..... "There are always drunk and merciless people that go around this corner threatening people. Maybe they could have done this," Michael says taking a closer look at the man and adds with, "This dude looks familiar, I think he might go to ERHS. He sort of looks like...Bryan Adams." "There's only one way to find out," I say reaching my hand out to move the man's hair out of his eyes and get a better look. But as soon as I touch him there is a sudden gust of wind. I jump back into Michael's arms and squeeze him like I am being pulled into a portal. Then the wind stops and all we hear is the most terrifying voice that seems to be coming from nowhere saying, "The dead man before you needs revenge, so do as much as you can because in exactly three days he will strike for you and another." We both stand silently, shaking with fear until finally, the voice

goes away. I think for a moment. "Hold on," I say, still shaken from the incident but starting to recover, "in three days it will be Halloween, and this dead guy's spirit is out to get me." I pause. "And another. What if it's you?" I think about how another perfect Halloween could go wrong. We always meet each other in one neighborhood, then we meet up with others for thirty minutes. Some people at school usually have a party so we swing by. Then it is about eleven when Michael and I go around and race to collect the leftover candy and see who has the most. After that we are normally worn out so we go home, change, and watch about five Halloween movies until we drift asleep. This has been our plan for three years and I would never want to change it. "Hey," he says trying to calm me down, "it will be alright. We'll take care of whatever this is. This may just be a trick." "You could be right. But what if it isn't a trick?" "Hey, we'll get through it together," he says, hugging me. "Oh, this is all very death defying."

To Be continued.....

WINTER WONDERLAND

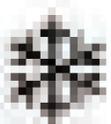
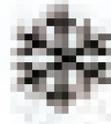
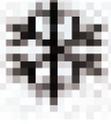
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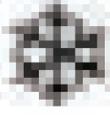
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 Gloves
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 Ice
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 Snow Ball

Snow Ball Fight
 Snow Flake
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 Snowman
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