



# The Bulldog Reporter

Machias Memorial High School News

December 19, 2018 – Edition

## **DAR Good Citizen McCartney Blake**

This year, Smita Martin was chosen by the faculty of Machias Memorial High School to be the DAR (Daughters of American Revolution) Good Citizen for the Senior Class of 2019. To be chosen for this award you must exhibit the qualities of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism. Additionally, the recipient is a good citizen at school and in the community. Smita had to submit an activities resume for the local award and an additional essay to be entered in the contest to win a DAR Scholarship. Mr. Black recommended that she apply for the scholarship as he knew that she would do a fine job on the essay and encouraged her along the way.

Smita's essay placed her in the state scholarship competition by winning for Washington County. She said, "I chose to write the essay to be in the running because it would be a wonderful opportunity for me if I did end up winning the scholarship. I would love to have the scholarship because it would help me pay for college. I also decided to write the essay because whether I win or not, I have the satisfaction of trying my hardest for it. I plan to attend the University of Maine at Machias in the Elementary Educational Teaching program, possibly Pre-K through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. "



The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution is a non-profit, non-political, volunteer women's service organization comprising 3,000 chapters and over 185,000 members. The Hannah Weston Chapter was organized on February 12, 1901, with 15 charter members. The Hannah Weston Chapter was named for the Revolutionary War heroine, who carried ammunition through 16 miles of wilderness for the men who were engaged in the first naval battle of the war, which took place in the waters of Machias Bay.

In April, Smita and other DAR Good Citizen recipients from Washington County will be honored for their achievements in a small ceremony. Besides being recognized for her efforts in the community, she will receive a cash prize, a pin, and an official certificate from the Hannah Weston Chapter of the DAR. Congratulations to Smita for receiving this tremendous honor!

## **Polar Dip**

### **Samantha Cox**

On Friday, December 7, 2018, the Close Up group held a polar dip fundraiser at Roque Bluffs State Park beach at noon since it was an early release day. Students had pledge sheets that they filled out with sponsors. Friday was the warmest day of the week but it was still cold. Five fearless participants Samantha Cox, Matti Conlin, Jason Weaver, Marc Michaud, and Joseph Moores arrived to brave the chilly Atlantic Ocean. Some participants made over \$100 and the others who didn't raise that much still went completely underwater. Most of us brought blankets and a change of clothes and a fear of what we were about to do!

We started at the top of the shoreline waiting for someone to say go. As we waited, Mr. Roy video recorded our experience. When someone said go, we ran into the ocean and dived in. We ran out of the water cold, wanting to get dry and warm, immediately grabbed towels and blankets as the adults laughed and cheered. Being one of the participants, I can confirm that it was freezing, and I don't know why I decided to participate. We didn't like going into the cold water and some promised to never do that again.

## **15 Christmas Movies**

### **Smita Martin**

1. Rudolph
2. How The Grinch Stole Christmas
3. A Christmas Story
4. National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation
5. The Polar Express
6. A Year Without Santa Clause
7. Elf
8. Frosty the Snowman
9. Home Alone
10. The Santa Claus (1, 2 and 3)
11. A Christmas Carol
12. Jack Frost
13. Nightmare Before Christmas
14. I'll be Home for Christmas
15. A Charlie Brown Christmas



## **What Do You Want For Christmas?**

### **Ashley Norman**

- Clothes- 8%
- Money- 30%
- Toys- 8%
- Crafts- 8%
- Personal Items/wants- 26%

The percentages above are based on asking 80 students at Machias Memorial High School what they hope to receive at Christmas. As you can see the biggest percentage is money. I wouldn't go about saying that the students are poor, but most teenagers would rather have money and spend it on themselves and get exactly what they want rather than having someone else buy stuff for them. Personally, I'm the same way. It's not a bad thing, I'd just rather have the money for myself to go to a store or go online and shop myself and see things I really want or need to have.

The lowest percent is a mix of clothes, toys, and crafts; all different gift items, but for some people that's everything. Growing up I would receive clothes as a gift rather than just toys. I've always been okay with having clothes as a gift. It's something I can use daily and feel confident in the style I like. Crafts are something I enjoy doing; for some people it helps with anxiety and stress. Coloring, knitting, DIY's and so much more can help soothe your mind.



## Christmas Things

### Rebecca Burgess

#### 10 Best Gifts Under \$25 on Amazon.com

1. Hyseas Velvet Throw (\$16)
2. SoundBot HD Water Resistant Bluetooth
3. Shower Speaker (\$15)
4. MignonandMignon Rose Gold Initial Heart Necklace (\$15)
5. Mr. Coffee Mug Warmer (\$11)
6. Samsung Gear VR (\$25)
7. Velvet Scrunchie Bobbles (\$11)
8. My Bleeping Family Mad Libs (\$5)
9. Leyoudy Bluetooth Headphones (\$19)
10. Senders Floating Globe With LED Lights (\$22)

#### 10 Gifts You Shouldn't Give

1. Air Freshener
2. Fly Swatter
3. Anything Re-gifted
4. A Calendar for a Year That Already Happened
5. Toilet Paper
6. Wrinkle Cream
7. Cleaning Supplies
8. Ugly Sweater
9. Fruit Cake
10. Souvenirs

## Gingerbread Houses

### Abby Hooper

Have you ever wondered where the Christmas tradition of the gingerbread house came from? The gingerbread house originated in Germany in the 16th century, and became especially popular after the story of Hansel and Gretel was written by the Brothers Grimm. The first gingerbread recipe came from Greece in 2400 BC. These cookies were a staple at Medieval fairs in England, France, Germany, and Holland. Gingerbread arrived in the New World with English colonists, and was sometimes used to sway Virginia voters to favor one candidate over another. Originally, gingerbread houses were decorated with gold leaf, they are now

typically covered with icing and candies.

Gingerbread houses are a Christmas staple in many households around the world. If you want to make your own gingerbread, here's a recipe;



#### Ingredients

- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup unsulphured molasses
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup butter
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup dark brown sugar
- 4  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups flour, plus more for rolling surface
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp baking soda
- 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp ground ginger
- 2 tsp cinnamon
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- Royal Icing (optional)
- Sprinkles, cinnamon candies, or any other decorations of your choice (optional)

#### Directions

1. In a medium saucepan, heat the molasses to the simmering point. Remove from the heat and stir in the butter until it melts. Stir in the brown sugar. Allow to cool.
2. In a large mixing bowl, sift together the flour, baking powder, salt, baking soda, ginger and cinnamon. Add the cooled molasses and the egg to the flour mixture and mix very well until a dough forms. You may need to use your hands to really incorporate the wet mixture into the dry mixture.
3. Wrap dough in wax or parchment paper and chill for 1-2 hours, or until firm enough to roll.
4. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Transfer chilled dough to a lightly floured rolling surface and roll out the dough to one-quarter inch thickness. Roll out a quarter of the dough at a time.

5. Cut cookies with your choice of cookie cutter.

## 12 Days Of Christmas

Smita Martin

What are the 12 days of Christmas?

The 12 days of Christmas is the period that in



Christian theology marks the span between the birth of Christ and the coming of the Magi, the three wise men. It begins on December 25 (Christmas) and runs through January 6 (the Epiphany, sometimes also called Three Kings' Day). The four weeks preceding Christmas are collectively known as Advent, which begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on December 24.

Some families choose to mark the 12-day period by observing the feast days of various saints (including St. Stephen on December 26) and planning daily Christmas-related activities, but for many, after December 25 things go back to business as usual.

"The 12 Days of Christmas" is also a Christmas carol in which the singer brags about all the cool gifts they received from their "true love" during the 12 days of Christmas. Each verse builds on the previous one, serving as a really effective way to annoy family members on road trips. The lyrics to "The 12 Days of Christmas" have changed over the years

The version most people are familiar with today begins with this verse:  
On the first day of Christmas,  
my true love sent to me  
A partridge in a pear tree.

The song then adds a gift for each day, building on the verse before it, until you're reciting all 12 gifts together.

## Origin of Christmas

Samantha Cox

Christmas is well known for being the birth of Jesus. The precise day that Jesus was born is unclear, but we assume that it was on Christmas Day. People assume Christmas Day is Jesus' birthday because of the spring equinox or the day the world was created. It is also known that March 25 is called the day of Jesus' conception, ninth months before his birth.

Christmas widely spread in the 9th century but wasn't as important as Good Friday or Easter, the other two major Christian holidays. Roman Catholic churches first celebrated Christmas at midnight with a candle light service called "lessons and carols". The light service was played year after year turning into a tradition along with the scripture reading intertwined with caroling.

Christmas is often celebrated by putting up a tree, but does anyone know why? It is known that the first Christmas trees were fir trees decorated with apples, recorded by a Silesian duchess in 1605. The gift giving didn't start until the 15th century when Christians were reminded of God's gift of Jesus to mankind when the wise men gifted things to him. They believed that the holiday was a special day to focus on family and friends. Most of the smaller traditions like singing carols and card giving were established in the 10th century in the countries of Austria and Germany.

The most known tradition was created by a man named St. Nicholas, a bishop who lived in Myra in Asia Minor, or Turkey. He was a rich man but a kind man who was known for helping the poor and giving secret gifts to the people who needed it. He was named a Saint for all of the kindness he had given people. He was called St. Nicholas, and was not only a saint of the children but also sailors. The reason being that he helped sailors in a terrible storm. He appeared on the dock of the ship and called out for the ocean to be calm. The ocean did calm, and he sailed the ship to land.



People all over the world have developed lots of different names for Saint Nicholas. In northern Europe, he was named “Father Christmas” or “Old Man Christmas”. In the USA we took the old stories and made our own name for him- “Kris Kringle.” The Dutch people who came to the USA also gave him a name, Sinterklaas or how we know him Santa Claus. Many people keep adding on to the story over the years. In some versions he had reindeer that helped him get all around the world to give the children their gifts.

### **Upcoming Events McCartney Blake**

December 15 - Girls/Boys @ Deer Isle  
Stonington  
December 18 - Girls/Boys v. Narraguagus  
December 20 - Christmas concert  
December 22nd Girls/Boys v. Bangor  
Christian  
December 28 - Girls/Boys v. Narraguagus  
January 2 - Girls/Boys v. Jonesport Beals  
January 7 – Girls/Boys @Woodland  
January 9 - Girls/Boys game @. Stearns  
January 12 - Girls/Boys v. Schenck  
January 14 – Girls/Boys v. Woodland  
January 17 - Girls/Boys @ Bangor Christian  
January 19 - Girls/Boys v. Deer Isle  
Stonington  
January 21 Girls/Boys @ Schenck  
January 23 – Girls/Boys v. Woodland  
January 26 - Girls/Boys v. Greenville  
January 28 Girls v. Shead  
January 29 – Boys v. Shead  
February 4 - Girls/Boys v. Stearns  
February 6 - Girls/Boys @ Jonesport Beals

### **Birthdays McCartney Blake**

December 2 - Tyler Look  
December 9 - Andi Seeley  
December 22 - Connor Mattox  
December 23 - Tyler Faulkingham  
December 24 - Ayden Arthur

December 28 - Brady Hatt, Grace Preston,  
Megan Preston



Have a Merry Christmas and a wonderful  
New Year! Enjoy the holidays and stay  
safe everyone!



*Happy 2019!*



# CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH



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BELLS  
CANDLES  
CANDY CANE  
CARDS  
CELEBRATE  
CHIMNEY  
CHRISTMAS

RUDOLPH  
SANTA  
SEASON  
SLEIGH  
STOCKING  
TREE  
WREATH

ELVES  
FROSTY  
GIFT  
GIVING  
GREETINGS  
HOLIDAY  
JOLLY

JOY  
MERRY  
MISTLETOE  
NOEL  
NORTH POLE  
REINDEER



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