

THE MAVERICK MAYHEM

BLOCKING OUT HUNGER

BY ALYSON TAYLOR

As the end of the holiday season rounds the corner, the Junior High Impact team set up their annual "Block the Door" for all junior high students. "Block the Door" is an activity where students bring food to block each teacher's door. If the door is blocked, a free day is given in that class, and if all the doors are blocked, it becomes a free day for all. The students have always blocked every door for the approximate 9 years that the event has been held, and the day is filled with video game tournaments, movies, board games, crafts, and even a Secret Santa gift exchange. 7th-grader Addison Minyard explained how she enjoys "picking the room and activities I want to do with my friends." Mrs. Pore stated how the discussions and planning between who's going to get blocked first is always an enjoyable experience. Though the day is full of fun, where does all the food go?

Well, all of the food collected from December 11th to the 15th gets boxed and delivered to the local Food Bank on 207 S. Mains Street. A group of 6-8th grade students volunteer each year to deliver and stock the food. Our delivery helps feed families for the Christmas break. Mrs. Pore said the people in charge of the Food Bank are "always surprised by the amount of food we bring." She explained how the Food Bank's shelves are empty during the holiday season, and it's nice to stock the store during such an empty time. Thanks is given to all student participants who helped block the door because it's not just a free day, it helps stock the shelves for families in need.



Top: 6th-grader Brody Hoffman helps Mrs. Pore stack the food for block the door. The doors were fully blocked, resulting in lots of boxes of food donated to the Food Bank.

Bottom: Mrs. Pore brought her gaming system for Block the Door day. Here you can see 6th-grader Bodie McDonald trying to beat 7th-grader Preston Coss at Madden.



HOLIDAY HYMNALS

BY BRODY HOFFMAN

For the holiday season, the junior high band and vocal went caroling at the Senior Center, putting on a show. The band played songs such as Jingle Bells, Jolly Old St. Nick, and Up on the Housetop, while the choir had various harmonies to sing. The folks enjoyed it and let the students know by telling the band members after the performance. Band and vocal teacher Drake Middleton harmonized the band group and the crowd loved it. The band and vocal will be putting on more performances throughout the rest of the year, so be sure to look out for upcoming productions and support the Kiowa County music programs.

Below L): The vocal class attended the Senior Center to sing Christmas melodies for community members. 8th-grader Javan Oberle visits with Sharon McDonald. R): 6th-grader Natalie Koger & 8th-grader Kenzie Banta sing in harmony.



Photos by Sebastian Favela-Clayton

DOMINATING WITH FULL COURT PRESSURE

LADY MAVS CAUSING HAVOC TO TEAMS WITH DEFENSIVE EFFORTS

BY SEBASTIAN FAVELA-CLAYTON

The Junior High Lady Mavericks Basketball team keeps working hard, fighting until the buzzer of each game. To continue their season, the ladies traveled to Ashland to battle the Bluejays on November 30th, and what a battle it was! The Lady Bluejays took an early lead, and never looked back, handing the Lady Mavs their first loss of the season. The B-team girls then had their tournament at home, taking 3rd place; first losing to Sacred Heart but making a comeback against the Minneola Wildcats. Next, the Lady Mavs faced the Hodgeman Shorthorns at home. Though every ounce of effort was given, size was against them, making this the Lady Mavs second loss. To end this half of the season, the ladies took on their rivals, the South Central Timberwolves in Protection. After the last two games, the Mavericks were determined to give it their all. The Lady Mavs ended up winning, though they couldn't have done it without their excellent defense and effective press.

The Lady Mavs are working hard, so be sure to catch them in 2024 as they continue to create a successful season.



Top L): 8th-grader Norma Espericueta looks to pass it to one of her teammates. Top R): 7th-grader Addison Minyard shoots a free throw against the Shorthorns. Bottom: The Lady Mavs huddle-up during a timeout against South Central. (photos by Sebastian Favela-Clayton)

LADY MAVS SCOREBOARD

11/20 @ Ashland
A Team (L): 22-35
B Team (L): 6-23
C Team 2 quarters (W): 8-2

12/2 B-Team Tournament
vs Sacred Heart (L): 16-22
vs Minneola (W): 32-2
Tournament Placing: 3rd

12/7 vs Hodgeman County
A Team (L): 17-31
B Team (L): 16-7
C Team 2 quarters (W): 8-2

12/14 @ South Central
A Team (W): 29-20
B Team (L): 2-19
C Team 2 quarters (W): 10-2



7th-graders Jemma Ploger and Charlee Jantz boxout the opposing Timberwolf for a rebound. (photo by Sebastian Favela-Clayton)

REBOUNding FROM SOME ROCKY GAMES

BOYS' TEAM WINS ON THE ROAD AGAINST RIVAL TIMBERWOLVES

BY BRODY HOFFMAN

The Kiowa County Junior High Boys Basketball team has been continually entertaining people, with 2 of their last 4 games within 6 points. The Mavericks are 3-4 for the season.

The Maverick's game against Ashland was an overtime thriller, with Asland squeaking out a win. The Mavericks then had their B team tournament at home. Though it had its ups and downs, winning the first game against Sacred Heart and losing the second game to South Central.

The boys then faced off against Hodgeman County, keeping the score close, though in the end, the Shorthorns came out on top, winning 37-27.

To finish the 2023 portion of the basketball season, the Mavs played their rivals, the South Central Timberwolves. The Maverick's B team had a successful rematch bringing home a win and holding the Timberwolves B team to just 9 points. The A team game was a nail-biter, but it went just how 8th-grader Keegan Blanton predicted, with a Maverick win. To continue to be successful, 8th grader Eli Roberts mentioned that "we need to come together as a team and keep all the players in line." He believes they have the potential to do great things if they work hard and play smart.

The junior high boys are always enjoyable to watch, so be sure to cheer the boys to victory in the 2024 season!



Top: 8th-grader Javan Oberle drives to the basket. Bottom: 8th-grader Eli Roberts take the ball up, resulting in two more points for the Mavericks. (photos by Faith Coss)



6th-grader Bodie McDonald defends the opposing Shorthorn. (photo by Sebastian Favela-Clayton)

MAVERICK SCOREBOARD

11/30 @ Ashland
A Team (L in OT): 19-23
B Team (W): 37-15

12/2 B-Team Tournament
vs Sacred Heart (W):
vs South Central (L):
Tournament Placing: 2nd

12/8 vs Hodgeman County
A Team (L): 27-37
B Team (W): 43-6

12/14 @ South Central
A Team (W): 34-31
B Team (W): 17-9
C Team (W): 22-18



FUN FACTS

WITH THE 8TH GRADERS

Article & Photos
by Preston Coss

NORMA ESPERICUETA



Norma loves playing basketball. Here you can see her taking the ball up the court against Hodgeman.

Q: Would you rather have the ability to see 10 minutes into the future or 150 years into the future? A: "150 years because I don't want to see into my own lifetime"

Q: Would you rather be YouTube famous or Tik Tok famous? A: "I would probably rather be YouTube famous because more people have YouTube"

Q: Would you rather be able to teleport or have a private plane? A: "I would rather be able to teleport because I could get wherever I want within seconds"

Q: Would you rather be a famous artist or a famous athlete? A: "I would rather be a famous athlete, I like sports more than art so that would be fun"

AUBREE GILCHRIST



Aubree has pep in her step as she leads the student section in cheers.

Q: Would you rather have six months of spring or six months of summer? A: "6 months of summer, because school is boring"

Q: Would you rather explore the deep sea or outer space? A: "Outer space because I'm terrified of the ocean"

Q: Would you rather have been the oldest or youngest child in your family? A: "The youngest because I can pay attention to what my siblings get in trouble for"

Q: Would you rather show your friends every photo on your phone or read out loud every text you've sent this week? A: "Read out loud every text sent this week, because my camera roll is more embarrassing than my texts"

JAMES GREENLEAF



James enjoys making people laugh. You can see him acting silly with his friends here.

Q: Would you rather have a pool in your backyard or live next to the ocean? A: "Live next to the ocean so I can fish"

Q: Would you rather be given a million dollars tomorrow or 10 million dollars 10 years from now? A: "10 million dollars in 10 years so I can learn to save the money I have now"

Q: Would you rather have only cake or only pie as your forever-birthday dessert? A: "Only pie for my birthday because there are a lot of different kinds of pies"

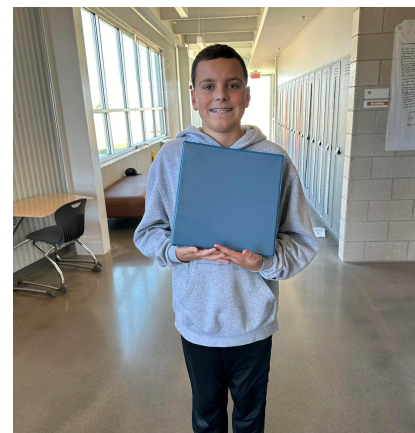
Q: Would you rather date your favorite celebrity or be best friends with them? A: "Date my favorite celebrity because she's really hot"

BEE-ING THE BEST

BY IVA BROWN

Four of our Kiowa County Junior High students, 7th -grader Truman Barnes, 7th-grader Grayson Ballard, 8th-grader Justin Slade, and 8th-grader Javan Oberle, have started their successful journey in the Geography and History Bees. Grayson has already qualified for the International & National History Bees, and is preparing to compete in Orlando in May for Nationals. He has put in a lot of time for these results, and many are proud of him and his hard work! One of their biggest supporters, and Social Studies teacher, includes Mr. Lohrding, who explained, "I would love for all of them to qualify for finals. All four kids have worked hard to make it to where they are now, and I hope their hard work pays off for them in the future." He also says, in regards to Grayson competing in Orlando soon, "I am very proud of Grayson and his success in the National/International History and Geography Bees. He has worked hard to get where he is now and I am very excited for him to compete in Orlando." Mr. L hopes that he will be able to convince more junior high students to compete in these competitions, though for now, it is clear that these four have much potential, and we hope that they will be able to prove their talents in the near future!

Below: 7th-grader Grayson Ballard shows his practice binder full of Geography and History questions. (courtesy photo)



KEEPIN' UP WITH KIOWA COUNTY

ALL THE LATEST HAPPENINGS IN GREENSBURG, HAVILAND, & MULLINVILLE

MOVING ON TO MAIN STREET

BY FAITH COSS

The Kiowa County Pharmacy started in 2012, and they have been dedicated to providing the best service for all! As most Greensburg citizens know, the pharmacy originally was located on the Kiowa County Memorial Hospital Campus until they switched their location to 112 South Main Street. Another feature that is popular with kids, teens, and even adults is the slushy machine. The slushies are offered in three different sizes and flavors. Kiowa County Pharmacist Julie Keetan explained how having a slushy machine was always a dream after having one in the pharmacy in her hometown. It was a great childhood memory that she wanted to share with the kids here in Greensburg.

As the pharmacy continues to help our community, they kindly paid a sponsor for all the Kiowa County teachers (Pre-K-12th) to have a massage for Christmas. This helped relieve the teachers of all the holiday stress!

The pharmacy has also expanded their services and offer gifts, puzzles, fidgets, spa products, games, and cards - just to name a few. They continue to offer printing photos, prescriptions, OTC meds, and include deliveries! When help is needed and sweet treats are craved, stop by the Kiowa County Pharmacy - they won't disappoint.

SLUSHY

12 oz 1.49

20 oz 1.99

32 oz 2.99



Above: The pharmacy's installation of the slushy machine has been a big hit! 6th-grader Larston Higbie is getting his. Top L): Melinda Kendall rings up 7th-grader Preston Coss. Bottom L): The students browse the selection of fidget toys, puzzles, and other items in the pharmacy. Bottom: A pharmacy employee is preparing a prescription. (photos by Alyson Taylor)

MEET THE PUBLICATION TEAM



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(Photos by InterState Studios)



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Ty Hatton
Grade 6
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Grade 6
Writer/Photographer



Brody Hoffman
Grade 6
Writer/Photographer



Mrs. Ballard
Junior High
Advisor



Addyson Lofgren
Grade 6
Writer/Photographer



Top: The junior high students were loud and proud at the pep-rally, joining in with every cheer. (photos by Mrs. Ballard)



Bottom: Mrs. Ballard played Christmas movies in her room for Block the Door day. Here are some of the students enjoying the privilege.



Left: At the home game on December, 15th, the junior high students helped cheer on the Mavs against the St. John Tigers. (photo by Marley Little)



Top: After the game at Meade, the junior high cheerleaders took a picture with the well known "handlebar moustache ref." (courtesy photo)



CHRISTMAS IN THE LIGHTS

BY ADDYSON LOFGREN

Have you ever wanted to see the beautiful lights of Christmas time but stay in the warmth of your car? Well, in Greensburg you can! Candy Cane Lane has sent joy to many families driving through. You can find this magical place at 16134 30th Ave. Greensburg, KS, just north 1 mile from the stoplight. It starts on December 16th and goes until the 26th. The lights will be on and driveable for the public from 6-9 pm each night. With no admission, it includes a display of holiday lights, animated displays, and homemade vintage decorations. You can find them on Facebook at Candy Cane Lane for more information. They will include up-to-date weather and closure information. To get into your Christmas mood, stop by Candy Cane Lane for some fun and entertainment for all ages!

JANUARY CALENDAR

BY ALYSON TAYLOR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1 New Years Day NO SCHOOL	2 NO SCHOOL	3 Teacher Workday- No Classes	4 First Day of Classes for 2nd Semester 5:00pm: KCJH BB vs. Spearville	5 ACT Registration Deadline for Feb. 10 Test Date 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed 5:00pm: KCHS BB vs. Minneola	6
7	8 3:00pm: SPIAA HS V/JV League Scholars Bowl @ Pawnee Heights (Rozel) 6:00pm: Little Pepsters Practice 8:00pm: USD 422 Board of Education Mtg.	9 6:00pm: Little Pepsters Practice	10 9:30am: SPIAA Big Read Judging 7:00pm: SPIAA Music Sponsors Meeting	11 KCJH BB @ Ingalls 4:30pm: KCHS Scholars Bowl @ Larned 6:00pm: Little Pepsters Practice	12 Little Pepsters Performance HS Art Clay Workshop 2:10pm: Pep Assembly 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed 5:00pm: KCHS BB vs. Kinsley	13 9:00am: KCJH C Team BB Tournament
14	15 KCJH BB @ South Gray	16 10:00am: Conservati Poster & Limerick Award Assembly K-8 5:00pm: KCHS BB vs. Ashland	17 11:30am: SPIAA League Meeting	18 5:00pm: KCJH BB vs. Minneola	19 SPIAA HS Girls Play-In Games @ Spearville K-5 Art 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed	20 SPIAA HS Boys Play-In Games @ Spearville
21	22 SPIAA HS BB Tournament @ Dodge City 7:00am: USD 422 Board of Education Mtg. 5:00pm: KCJH BB vs. Skyline	23 SPIAA HS BB Tournament @ Dodge City	24	25 SPIAA BB Tournament SPIAA HS BB Tournament @ Dodge City	26 SPIAA BB Tournament SPIAA HS BB Tournament @ Dodge City 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed	27 SPIAA BB Tournament SPIAA HS BB Tournament @ Dodge City KCHS Forensics @ Kinsley
28	29 5:00pm: KCJH BB vs. Bucklin	30 5:00pm: KCHS BB vs. Spearville	31 10:00am: 3rd-8th KCES/KCJH Spelling Bee			

To find upcoming events, information and more, go to usd422.org



CANDY CANE LANE

DEC. 16-26TH 6-9 PM

DRIVE THRU ANIMATED LIGHT DISPLAY

NORTH 1 MILE AT THE STOPLIGHT

Greensburg, KS

FREE!!!

Find us on Facebook for up-to-date weather & closure information: Candy Cane Lane

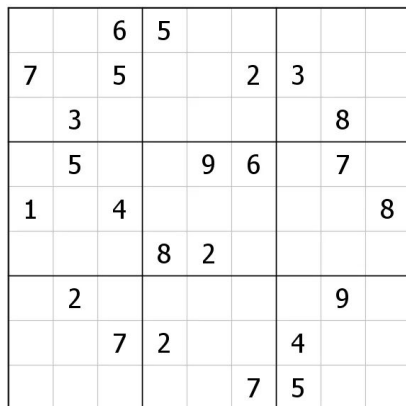


JUST FOR FUN



E
A
S
Y

H
A
R
D



Dads all year: Who left this light on?! We aren't lighting the whole neighborhood!

Dads in December:



CHRISTMAS

WORD SEARCH

X	G	N	I	K	C	O	T	S	F	L	Y	V	A	D
J	W	C	A	N	D	L	E	S	W	A	B	B	V	E
O	H	L	H	M	W	L	A	J	T	K	S	R	L	C
L	G	I	P	R	E	S	E	N	T	S	O	V	H	E
L	E	H	E	I	I	J	A	K	X	Q	E	R	J	M
Y	T	A	G	C	R	S	O	U	L	S	G	D	S	B
W	T	D	L	E	I	M	T	R	E	E	F	L	Y	E
H	F	J	R	L	A	Q	S	M	W	I	N	T	E	R
G	I	N	G	E	R	B	R	E	A	D	X	N	G	M
Q	A	M	U	B	T	N	J	E	O	S	A	E	J	Y
G	I	O	E	R	P	L	I	G	H	T	S	M	P	R
G	X	L	F	A	W	F	Z	E	Q	L	M	A	N	R
N	L	E	O	T	E	L	T	S	I	M	J	N	F	E
S	U	J	A	E	Q	H	N	O	P	A	T	R	S	M
R	R	E	I	N	D	E	E	R	X	S	N	O	W	B

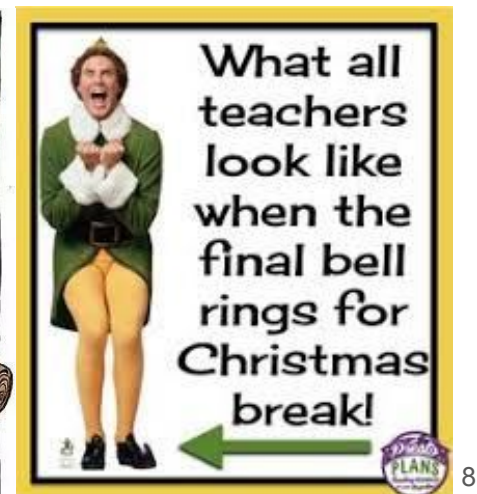
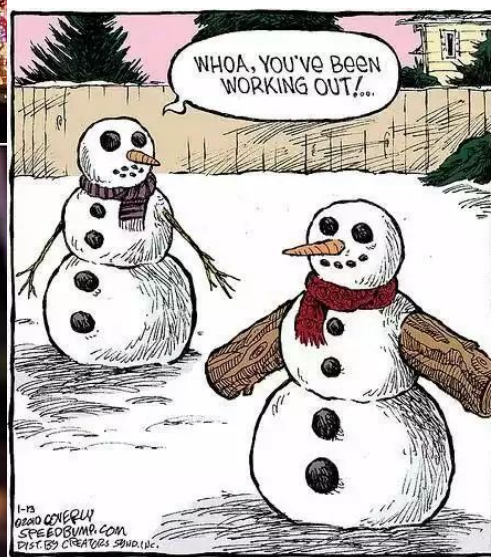
BELLS
CANDLES
CELEBRATE
CHRISTMAS
DECEMBER

ELVES
GINGERBREAD
JOLLY
LIGHTS
MERRY

MISTLETOE
ORNAMENT
PRESENTS
REINDEER
SANTA

SNOW
STOCKING
TREE
WINTER
WREATH

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