The Progress-Advance


PIGEON PO C
PIGEON PUBLIC LIBRARY
PO BOX 357
PIGEON MI 48755

Only 50¢
TO SUBSCRIBE, CALL 482-5231

By AMY HEIDEN

The Middle East countries have been hot news items lately with continuing con-
frontations not only in Ka-
wait, but in Israel.

As the conflict between the Israelis and Palastinians continues, tourism has fallen and hotels in Jerusalem are nearly empty.

But for seven weeks this fall, one hotel in the city was occupied by students from Eastern Mennonite College, and Pigeon native Kevin Maust was among them.

He was one of 39 EMC students on a cultural tour of Egypt, Israel, Greece and other European coun-
dies. The cross-cultural program is a requirement for graduation at Eastern Men-
nonite, Maust says, with some students participating in a three-week program in the summer, and other opt-
ing for the semester-long program.

Maust says he chose the Middle East program because "it seemed like it was the most interesting. There's more happening there."

The first leg of his trip took him to Egypt, where he spent three weeks traveling through the country. While there, he visited the Great Pyramids and climbed Mount Sinai.

"The Pyramids were incred-
ible," Maust says. "The stones they used were so huge, and just for a tomb for a king.

Maust's longest stay was in Israel, where he spent seven weeks taking part in tours and lectures, learning about the Arab-Israel conflict.

Israel was once a hot tourist attraction, but since tensions have risen in recent months, hotels have stood empty. "We just about had the hotels to ourselves," Maust says.

On the second day of their stay in Jerusalem, Maust says they were startled by an explosion.

"The hotel started running around, and we found that some Palastinians had thrown grenades at some soldiers," he says. But even

HELP THE "ARMY": For the first time, the Salvation Army was represented in the Western Thumb when the Caseville Kiwanis Club sponsored a collection drive in Caseville. "People around here have really opened their hearts and donated," says Kevin Maust, a member of the Jewish community. "I hope we can continue the tradition." 

By AMY HEIDEN

The Middle East countries have been hot news items lately with continuing con-
frontations not only in Ka-
wait, but in Israel.

As the conflict between the Israelis and Palastinians continues, tourism has fallen and hotels in Jerusalem are nearly empty.

But for seven weeks this fall, one hotel in the city was occupied by students from Eastern Mennonite College, and Pigeon native Kevin Maust was among them.

He was one of 39 EMC students on a cultural tour of Egypt, Israel, Greece and other European coun-
dies. The cross-cultural program is a requirement for graduation at Eastern Men-
nonite, Maust says, with some students participating in a three-week program in the summer, and other opt-
ing for the semester-long program.

Maust says he chose the Middle East program because "it seemed like it was the most interesting. There's more happening there."

The first leg of his trip took him to Egypt, where he spent three weeks traveling through the country. While there, he visited the Great Pyramids and climbed Mount Sinai.

"The Pyramids were incred-
ible," Maust says. "The stones they used were so huge, and just for a tomb for a king.

Maust's longest stay was in Israel, where he spent seven weeks taking part in tours and lectures, learning about the Arab-Israel conflict.

Israel was once a hot tourist attraction, but since tensions have risen in recent months, hotels have stood empty. "We just about had the hotels to ourselves," Maust says.

On the second day of their stay in Jerusalem, Maust says they were startled by an explosion.

"The hotel started running around, and we found that some Palastinians had thrown grenades at some soldiers," he says. But even

KEVIN MAUST shows one of his many souvenirs from his Middle East travels, a handmade papyrus of "The Tree of Life."

"We were never the tar-
gets. We were never really scared. And it seems so foreign, but after a while you get used to it," he says.

And before the students left the country, they were reminded of the tensions in the region as Israelis were handing out gas masks to residents. Even the hotel bed had a supply for their guests, he says.

One of the most memo-
rable scenes was the Gaza Strip, which is home to thousands of Palastinians, Maust says. "It was pitiful. The people are just packed in there, with sewage run-
ning in the streets," he says.

By law, the Palastinians aren't allowed to build per-
mant homes there, so they live in shacks with no foun-
dations, he explained.

It was hard to get used to seeing soldiers walking ev-
erywhere, Maust says.

"It's so much different from here," he said, and that was the whole point of the trip, to expose the students to differing opinions and customs.

On their trips to the Wailing Wall, the students were required to wear yarmulkas out of respect to the Jewish custom.

The students studied the Jewish and Moslem religions and customs, not only in the classroom, but also by getting to know local people and reading local newspapers that give different view-
points of the conflicts.

"I got to know one Palastinian real well. He took us to Temple Mount (where in August, Israeli soldiers shot and killed Palastinians who they said threw rocks down on prayerful Jews), and we collected spent rifle shells," Maust says.

"He told us that he was in a shop and heard what was going on and ran to help. He was an ambulance helping to transport people, and they arrested him and kept him for 17 days in jail. He said they searched the ambulance be-
Even the "Grinch" can't steal Bay Port Yule spirit!

By AMY HEIDEN

Just because there's a "Grinch" doesn't mean you can't have Yule spirit!

Scott Mautz is 3rd generation Rotarian.

Scott Mautz is 3rd generation Rotarian.

The "Towns That Around Christmas" Committee plans to spread the yule spirit throughout the community. They're planning various events and activities to bring people together and create a festive atmosphere in Bay Port. People are encouraged to join in the fun and celebrate the holiday season.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:
- Tree Lighting Ceremony: slated for December 1st at the community center. There will be live music, hot cocoa, and the lighting of the community Christmas tree.
- Yule Market: on December 10th at the Bay Port Community Center. Vendors will be selling holiday gifts, crafts, and food.
- Annual Tree Decorating Contest: entries due by December 1st. Prizes will be awarded for the best decorated tree in various categories.
- Yule Caroling: groups of carolers will walk through Bay Port, spreading holiday cheer and singing traditional Yule carols.
- Yule Parade: on December 25th, starting at the community center and ending at the beach. Participants are encouraged to dress in holiday attire and bring their favorite holiday classics.

All events are free and open to the public. For more information, please contact the Bay Port Community Center at (218) 555-1212.

Caseville falls to Port Hope, 68-46

By KATHY MEYER

The Caseville Pacers were unable to contain the hot shooting of Port Hope's Alonzo McMillan and Matt Brown, as the Northmen won a close game, 68-46, on Tuesday night.

The game started off with a bang, as Caseville's Brandon Zietlow put the Pacers up 6-4 with a pair of free throws. However, the Northmen quickly regained the lead, led by McMillan's 10 points.

In the first half, Port Hope outscored Caseville, 32-18, with McMillan scoring 10 points and Brown adding 9.

In the second half, the Northmen continued their dominance, outscoring the Pacers, 36-28, with Brown adding another 10 points.

Caseville's Zietlow finished with 14 points, while teammate Jared Zietlow added 12.


CASEVILLE: Brandon Zietlow 14, Jared Zietlow 12, Drew Filbeck 6, Kurt Bahr 5, Alex Johnson 4, John Gronowski 4, David Koepke 4, Nick Varnell 2, Jared Zietlow 2, Scott Heddle 2, Matt Wiedmeyer 2.

Obituary

VERA I. BOWMAN

Vera I. Bowman, 84, of Caseville, passed away Saturday, October 27, 2018.

Vera was born on March 13, 1934, in Caseville, the daughter of James and Edith (Dill) Bowman. She married Leonard Bowman on May 7, 1955, and they were married for 63 years.

Vera is survived by her loving husband, Leonard; her daughter, Rhonda (Lee) Waggoner; three grandchildren, Matt, Eric, and Sarah; two sisters, Melba Ellis of St. Clair County and Donna (Larry) Irwin of Ohio; and several nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her parents, James and Edith; her son, James; and her grandson, James.

Vera was a long-time member of the Caseville Church of the Brethren, and was active in its community service. She was known for her kind heart and her love for helping others.

Vera will be deeply missed by her family and friends. A celebration of her life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Caseville Church of the Brethren.

The family of Vera Bowman wishes to extend their deepest gratitude to everyone who has supported them during this difficult time.

We're Open New Year Days

FOR YOUR SHOPPING EASE

New Year's Eve

Everyone

Stop by & pick up all those extra out of your business for the busy holiday season.

A BENEFACTOR FOR BLUEWATER YOUTH FOR CHRIST

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15

11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Lakeshore High School

ADVANCE TICKETS

$10.00 Child, $6.00 Adult

AT THE DOOR

$12.00 Child, $8.00 Adult

Tickets Available at Community Bank in Caseville

Call 989-382-VVC (892) For Location.

GOODBYE, ED! After 30 years of repairing everything from John Deere equipment and equipment at Gardell's Farm, to hot water tanks, taps, and faucets, Ed is hanging up his mechanic's tools. And to honor his 30 years of service to the community, don't look for Ed at Gardell's Farm for the foreseeable future.

The family of Ed Gardell wishes to extend their deep gratitude to everyone who has supported them during this difficult time.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Community Bank of Caseville.

Thank you to all of our loyal customers for their years of support.

Happy New Year!

The Gardells

The position of Chief of Police in Bay Port remains vacant. The city has advertised for the position, but has not received any applications. The Council has discussed options for filling the position, including hiring an interim chief or conducting a national search.

The council has also discussed the need for additional police officers in the city. The police department currently has 15 officers, but the city has a population of 10,000. The council is considering increasing the police department's budget to hire additional officers.

The city of Bay Port has also discussed the need for a new police station. The current police station is small and outdated, and the council is considering building a new station.

COURT PROCEEDINGS

In the District Court, Judge Bill Krug recently heard the case of Charles W. Jorgenson, 22, of Port Huron, who pleaded guilty to possession of a firearm while under the influence of alcohol.

Jorgenson was charged with possession of a firearm, reckless driving, and operating while under the influence of alcohol.

He was arrested after a car crash on the St. Clair River Bridge on November 14, 2018. He was found to be in possession of a firearm and was charged with the other offenses.

Jorgenson pleaded guilty to all charges and was sentenced to a year of supervised probation and 90 days in jail.

The court also heard the case of Richard A. Johnson, 50, of Port Huron, who pleaded guilty to driving while impaired.

Johnson was charged with driving while impaired and possession of a firearm while under the influence of alcohol.

He was arrested after a car crash on the St. Clair River Bridge on October 1, 2018. He was found to be in possession of a firearm and was charged with the other offenses.

Johnson pleaded guilty to all charges and was sentenced to a year of supervised probation and 90 days in jail.

The court also heard the case of Thomas H. Brown, 37, of Caseville, who pleaded guilty to possession of a firearm while under the influence of alcohol.

Brown was charged with possession of a firearm, reckless driving, and operating while under the influence of alcohol.

He was arrested after a car crash on the St. Clair River Bridge on November 14, 2018. He was found to be in possession of a firearm and was charged with the other offenses.

Brown pleaded guilty to all charges and was sentenced to a year of supervised probation and 90 days in jail.
Lake-Chandler news notes

By MILDERED BALLAGY
Margaret, Margaret, Margaret. Margaret Barnes of the Lake-Chandler neighborhood has been named a member of the National Research Council. Mrs. Barnes is a retired teacher and has been active in community affairs.

By WILLIAM MCCLURE
The Mountain View Community Center will host a series of workshops on December 15th. These workshops will cover topics such as cooking, gardening, and technology. The center is located at 420 Main Street and is open to all community members.

BELLA VISTA

New Year’s Eve Parties at Bella Vista

Choose Your Favorite Way To Celebrate
Monday, Dec. 31, 1990

- For A More Traditional
- Celebration, Listen And Dance
To The Big Band Sounds Of The
“Bill Denbrook Band”

RESERVATIONS STARTING AT 7 p.m., CHOOSE:
#1 Cornish Game Hen or Prime Rib - $26.95
#2 Live Maine Lobster - $29.95
Dinner Ticket Includes: Coffee, Milkshakes, Champagne, Party Favors And Snacks All Night.

- Have A Country Rockin’
- New Years Time With Live
3 Piece Country Band

Entertainment “Casper Brothers” at 9 p.m.
Party Favors And Snacks Provided All Night
Long With A Midnight Buffet - Reservations
Not Required • Cover Charge $4 single, $7 couple.
A Limited Select Menu Will Also Be Available In The
Lounge For Those Who Only Wish To Dine 5 to 10 p.m.
Don’t Forget - UFOs Landing Saturday, January 19 At The Sandpiper Lounge

BELLA VISTA INN

6024 P. Austin Road
Cassville • 1-573-856-2650

Pigeon Monday Ladies League
First Halft Standings
Orgie Gapers 27 3rd Place
Inception Impressions 25 3rd Place
The Band 25 3rd Place
Pigeon 34 2nd Place
La Faye Smith 32 2nd Place
Town & Country Beauty 25

Lake-Chandler news notes

By MILDERED BALLAGY
Margaret, Margaret, Margaret. Margaret Barnes of the Lake-Chandler neighborhood has been named a member of the National Research Council. Mrs. Barnes is a retired teacher and has been active in community affairs.

By WILLIAM MCCLURE
The Mountain View Community Center will host a series of workshops on December 15th. These workshops will cover topics such as cooking, gardening, and technology. The center is located at 420 Main Street and is open to all community members.

BELLA VISTA

New Year’s Eve Parties at Bella Vista

Choose Your Favorite Way To Celebrate
Monday, Dec. 31, 1990

- For A More Traditional
- Celebration, Listen And Dance
To The Big Band Sounds Of The
“Bill Denbrook Band”

RESERVATIONS STARTING AT 7 p.m., CHOOSE:
#1 Cornish Game Hen or Prime Rib - $26.95
#2 Live Maine Lobster - $29.95
Dinner Ticket Includes: Coffee, Milkshakes, Champagne, Party Favors And Snacks All Night.

- Have A Country Rockin’
- New Years Time With Live
3 Piece Country Band

Entertainment “Casper Brothers” at 9 p.m.
Party Favors And Snacks Provided All Night
Long With A Midnight Buffet - Reservations
Not Required • Cover Charge $4 single, $7 couple.
A Limited Select Menu Will Also Be Available In The
Lounge For Those Who Only Wish To Dine 5 to 10 p.m.
Don’t Forget - UFOs Landing Saturday, January 19 At The Sandpiper Lounge

BELLA VISTA INN

6024 P. Austin Road
Cassville • 1-573-856-2650

Pigeon Monday Ladies League
First Halft Standings
Orgie Gapers 27 3rd Place
Inception Impressions 25 3rd Place
The Band 25 3rd Place
Pigeon 34 2nd Place
La Faye Smith 32 2nd Place
Town & Country Beauty 25

Lake-Chandler news notes

By MILDERED BALLAGY
Margaret, Margaret, Margaret. Margaret Barnes of the Lake-Chandler neighborhood has been named a member of the National Research Council. Mrs. Barnes is a retired teacher and has been active in community affairs.

By WILLIAM MCCLURE
The Mountain View Community Center will host a series of workshops on December 15th. These workshops will cover topics such as cooking, gardening, and technology. The center is located at 420 Main Street and is open to all community members.

BELLA VISTA

New Year’s Eve Parties at Bella Vista

Choose Your Favorite Way To Celebrate
Monday, Dec. 31, 1990

- For A More Traditional
- Celebration, Listen And Dance
To The Big Band Sounds Of The
“Bill Denbrook Band”

RESERVATIONS STARTING AT 7 p.m., CHOOSE:
#1 Cornish Game Hen or Prime Rib - $26.95
#2 Live Maine Lobster - $29.95
Dinner Ticket Includes: Coffee, Milkshakes, Champagne, Party Favors And Snacks All Night.

- Have A Country Rockin’
- New Years Time With Live
3 Piece Country Band

Entertainment “Casper Brothers” at 9 p.m.
Party Favors And Snacks Provided All Night
Long With A Midnight Buffet - Reservations
Not Required • Cover Charge $4 single, $7 couple.
A Limited Select Menu Will Also Be Available In The
Lounge For Those Who Only Wish To Dine 5 to 10 p.m.
Don’t Forget - UFOs Landing Saturday, January 19 At The Sandpiper Lounge

BELLA VISTA INN

6024 P. Austin Road
Cassville • 1-573-856-2650

Pigeon Monday Ladies League
First Halft Standings
Orgie Gapers 27 3rd Place
Inception Impressions 25 3rd Place
The Band 25 3rd Place
Pigeon 34 2nd Place
La Faye Smith 32 2nd Place
Town & Country Beauty 25

Lake-Chandler news notes

By MILDERED BALLAGY
Margaret, Margaret, Margaret. Margaret Barnes of the Lake-Chandler neighborhood has been named a member of the National Research Council. Mrs. Barnes is a retired teacher and has been active in community affairs.

By WILLIAM MCCLURE
The Mountain View Community Center will host a series of workshops on December 15th. These workshops will cover topics such as cooking, gardening, and technology. The center is located at 420 Main Street and is open to all community members.

BELLA VISTA

New Year’s Eve Parties at Bella Vista

Choose Your Favorite Way To Celebrate
Monday, Dec. 31, 1990

- For A More Traditional
- Celebration, Listen And Dance
To The Big Band Sounds Of The
“Bill Denbrook Band”

RESERVATIONS STARTING AT 7 p.m., CHOOSE:
#1 Cornish Game Hen or Prime Rib - $26.95
#2 Live Maine Lobster - $29.95
Dinner Ticket Includes: Coffee, Milkshakes, Champagne, Party Favors And Snacks All Night.

- Have A Country Rockin’
- New Years Time With Live
3 Piece Country Band

Entertainment “Casper Brothers” at 9 p.m.
Party Favors And Snacks Provided All Night
Long With A Midnight Buffet - Reservations
Not Required • Cover Charge $4 single, $7 couple.
A Limited Select Menu Will Also Be Available In The
Lounge For Those Who Only Wish To Dine 5 to 10 p.m.
Don’t Forget - UFOs Landing Saturday, January 19 At The Sandpiper Lounge

BELLA VISTA INN

6024 P. Austin Road
Cassville • 1-573-856-2650

Pigeon Monday Ladies League
First Halft Standings
Orgie Gapers 27 3rd Place
Inception Impressions 25 3rd Place
The Band 25 3rd Place
Pigeon 34 2nd Place
La Faye Smith 32 2 B
Pigeon Rotary supports kids through P.O.P.S.

The Pigeon Rotary Club is working in tandem with local schools to implement a unique program, P.O.P.S. (Pigeon Opportunity Program for Students), to benefit local students. This program provides students with a variety of educational and social opportunities aimed at enhancing their academic performance and personal development.

Service news

Morty Fr. Thomas G. Ferrante, Morty Fr. and Virginia M. Fessenden, Pigeon has continued recent fundraising efforts at Marion Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego. During the 12 weeks in which the company raised funds, the company was able to raise the funds to purchase a new truck.

A 1940 graduate of Carver High School, he joined the Marine Corps in August 1942.

Yours truly,
Tod Biggart and Carver High School Principal Janet Maramarek, the school's principal, have expressed their appreciation for the program, highlighting its success and the positive impact it has had on the students.

Thumb club news

CASEVILLE RETIREMENT CLUB

10:30 a.m. Tuesday: The Caseville Retirement Club will meet at the American Legion Post 2, 101 W. Church St., Caseville. The annual election of officers will be held. I also would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their continued support of Thumb Weekly. The editorial page is not easy to write, and I am grateful for the feedback and support I receive.

Achieve-

ments

Shrine, Pigeon native and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Johnson, has been selected to receive the National Honor Award at the Michigan Episcopal and Catholic Schools Conference (MECSC) at the group's 10th Annual State Conference. She will be honored on Oct. 20 at the Grand Traverse Resort.

BANKRUPTCY

Chapter 7 - 13 FREE CONSULTATION Stop Foreclosures ROBERT F. BENTON Attorney-At-Law 909 Court Street, Saginaw, MI 48602 - (810) 758-7011

This review is based on our firm's perception of the facts of the case. The case was submitted to the court for consideration and approval by the court's administrative staff.

Two Women Thumb students who attended Eastern Michigan University were recently honored for their superior performances in the college's English and French language requirements. Robert J. Bauchin of Ilion earned a Bachelor of Science degree in French and Kelly A. Johnson of Pigeon received her B.A. degree in English.
India will be Pigeon man's home for month

By AMY HEIDEN

While he doesn’t expect to make an agronomist, Ebenezer Ebenezer says he may return home with a better appreciation of America’s agriculture and Indian agriculture.

He’s about to begin a trip that will take him to several countries around the world. The trip will last about a year and a half.

The team members will go on a tour of several countries, looking at the different ways of growing crops. They will be able to see how Indian agriculture is different from the way it is done in the US.

India is a country that is very different from the US. They have a different culture and way of life. They have a lot of different crops and ways of farming. They also have a lot of different crops and ways of farming.

Ebenezer will be traveling through India, visiting the different cities and seeing the different ways of farming. He will be able to see how the crops are grown and how the farmers live. He will also be able to see how the people live in the different cities.

The trip will be a good opportunity for Ebenezer to learn more about India and its agriculture. He will be able to see how the crops are grown and how the farmers live. He will also be able to see how the people live in the different cities.

Ebenzer says he will be taking a lot of pictures and writing a lot of notes during his trip. He will also be doing some research on the different ways of farming in India.

The trip will be a good opportunity for Ebenezer to learn more about India and its agriculture. He will be able to see how the crops are grown and how the farmers live. He will also be able to see how the people live in the different cities.

Ebenzer says he will be taking a lot of pictures and writing a lot of notes during his trip. He will also be doing some research on the different ways of farming in India.

Ebenzer says he will be taking a lot of pictures and writing a lot of notes during his trip. He will also be doing some research on the different ways of farming in India.

Ebenzer says he will be taking a lot of pictures and writing a lot of notes during his trip. He will also be doing some research on the different ways of farming in India.

Ebenzer says he will be taking a lot of pictures and writing a lot of notes during his trip. He will also be doing some research on the different ways of farming in India.

Ebenzer says he will be taking a lot of pictures and writing a lot of notes during his trip. He will also be doing some research on the different ways of farming in India.
Christmas Traditions... from our house to your house

By JANICE THICK, Grade 12

Caseville Public School

Every year, my family goes to my grandparents and grandpa on Christmas Eve. The whole family is there. We all get together and eat supper and then all gather in the living room to open presents. When we go home, it's usually snowing. I remember when I was little, I used to look for Santa and his reindeer in the sky.

When I got home, I went right to bed (but not without putting on my pajamas and milk for Santa). I always woke up around six o'clock and my sister and I would go and wake up Mom and Dad. After we opened our presents, we all went outside in the middle of a pile of wrapping paper playing with our toys.

On Christmas Day, my parents would haul them over to my grandma and grandpa's. There we would eat dinner and spend the day.

I've always loved Christmas (not only for the gifts), for the togetherness, loving and caring that is all around.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

By JANETTE PIONK, Grade 12

Caseville Public School

My favorite Christmas tradition is opening the presents the night before Christmas. We wake up at six o'clock and open up the gifts. My mother gets breakfast ready while we enjoy the Christmas presents. We eat breakfast and watch television. Around noon we usually eat Christmas dinner. At one o'clock we go to my grandma and grandpa's with their presents. All my relatives come to my grandma's, We all sit in the living room and talk. The children usually open their new toys. We have a great Christmas and I love it.

By MELISSA LEACH, Grade 7

Caseville Public School

My favorite Christmas tradition is when we put up the tree and decorate the house with the fake snow. Then we put the presents under the tree and bring the family in. Sometimes we get to open at least one present on Christmas Eve. Then when we get everything all nice and pretty, my mom and dad usually go and get the presents. Sometimes we have to get a present, a real white bone. Then we light the candles for Christmas, that is only once in a while. If we don't go to my aunt's my sister Celeste and I wake up grandma and grandpa.

On Christmas Day, we all sit down and eat dinner. We make a big mess. Then after we've eaten we go to clean it up. After we get done, we play with our presents.

By KARLA PITTINGER, Grade 7

Caseville Public School

We ride in the car on Christmas Day to my aunt Rita's in Clio and take her to my Auntie Mommie's in Holly for dinner. All the grandchildren get to see each other. We open the presents on Christmas morning and we play. By one by one they light the church until the whole building is filled with light.

I am not sure why, but the time when the lights are turned on is something I never forget every Christmas. It is a thing that I look forward to every Christmas. Maybe it is because it reminds me how bright my future will be. I work hard and love others. Maybe it is because it reminds me that there will always be light.

It is so important to me that I cannot put it off. I have some special feeling deep inside of me that becomes even more important to me when it comes. This feeling tells me to see the lights, think about what the lights represent, and remember the church lights on Christmas Eve.

By AMY ROBINSON, Grade 7

Caseville Public School

My favorite Christmas tradition is going over to my grandparents and grandpa's house. I have a thing that happens when I get over there. It is there's a lot of running around the house getting the tree ready. It also has to do with the smells of baking because it is causing. But after awhile everything and everyone settles down. You realize that the gifts are for you. Usually my brother and I always get and get a gift for everyone we get a gift. They all open the presents and then get more gifts. After we get done opening the presents, we watch parades on TV.

My family is the best family. The reason I am going to my grandma's is because I get to be with my family. I care about my brother and my family. He is my brother and my family. I care about my brother and my family.

By BETTER RUZ DE CASTILLA, Grade 11

Caseville Public School

My favorite Christmas tradition happens on Christmas Eve. Everyone in my family dresses up in their best and we all gather in the kitchen and make a toast to the health of the family, happiness, togetherness and whatever else is more important to you or your father to do. Then we leave for church, always 45 minutes early. Maybe we miss the beginning of the church service, but we can still hear the message and sometimes we even leave the service to hear another service. It makes people begin to gather for the special celebration.

It is a time when I can look back on what happened in my life and pray thanks for how lucky I am. I remember one specific action of this night that no matter what church the message was. It was a picture of a church by one they brighten the church until the whole building was lit with warm light.

I am not sure why, but the time when the lights are turned on is something I never forget every Christmas. It is a thing that I look forward to every Christmas. Maybe it is because it reminds me how bright my future will be. I work hard and love others. Maybe it is because it reminds me that there will always be light.

It is so important to me that I cannot put it off. I have some special feeling deep inside of me that becomes even more important to me when it comes. This feeling tells me to see the lights, think about what the lights represent, and remember the church lights on Christmas Eve.

By ALLAN McLEAN, Grade 11

Caseville Public School

My favorite Christmas tradition is to peek at my presents the night before Christmas and make sure he's not out. Then I lay down and sleep till the sun comes up. I have a dream that I am down the hall and living through the living room and the deck. In the dark there is a pair of scissors in a flashlight. Then I tip the toxic and start picking out the presents and cutting a corner from the string. Then I turn on the flashlight and look in the boxes, if I can, see what is inside. After all that, everything away and go back to sleep.

By JAYNNE UFFORD, Grade 10

Caseville Public School

When asked to write about my favorite Christmas tradition, I admit, I was a bit stumped. I mean, everyone in my family is of light was brought up with many traditions and was difficult for me to choose a favorite. I was trying to think of something unique, when suddenly it dawned on me.

How many people can say that they have a 38-year Lionel train that sets up around the Christmas tree every year? I can. This train is especially important to me because it was my grandfather who gave it to me. I do everything thing my dad and I did together just the two of us.

I guess that is what makes this tradition so special to me.

By NICOLE RUIZ DE CASTILLA, Grade 7

Caseville Public School

My favorite Christmas tradition is going over to my grandparents' house and opening the presents. Every year my family puts up the manger scenes that hang back there in the backyard. I love to see them! Except for Jesus.

When I was at Night on Christmas Eve, either one of my brothers or I gets the honor of putting Jesus in the manger. We always argue over who gets to put him in each year. Sometimes, in the midst of this argument, our family is united in the spirit of Christmas.

We will always love our tradition but some issues are worth it, and we do it in Peru. The manger scenes in Peru are huge, carved and can be so big they take up a whole room. When I was a kid, I thought they were the 'real meaning of Christmas.' A time when everyone should be happy, giving and thankful for what they have. I'm glad I had the opportunity to learn this lesson.