

# RESPECT

## PATRIOT PRIDE



# the courier

the appleton east student newspaper

# Santa's Helpers

## Patriots March in Downtown Appleton Christmas Parade

Christmas is a time for family and friends to celebrate. Whether you like the presents, the food, or just being with family, most everyone finds joy in Christmas. Even if you don't celebrate this holiday, there's still joy within the winter season. Yet, here in Appleton we like to have a bit of fun when it comes to this time of the season.

Did you know that the Downtown Appleton Christmas Parade is the biggest nighttime Christmas parade in the Midwest?

The 52nd Downtown Appleton's Christmas Parade hosted approximately 80,000 spectators! This year's parade featured 85 units, which included colorful floats, animals, decorated vehicles, and other great entries that get everyone in the Christmas spirit! There are also more than twenty high school marching bands from Wisconsin, Upper Michigan, and community bands. Our own high school marching band took part.

Raissa Kampel, senior at Appleton East High School, shared her experience in the flag corps. "Despite it being my first year taking part of color guard, I quickly grew a strong love for it. From the start, I've tried to make sure that not only myself, but also my teammates will be able to deliver the best performance in order to show others what I like so much about color guard." Even though Raissa states this is her first year in the flag corp, she found a strong love for it. Flag corps is something that you pass down to people, so when we were homebound due to Covid that tradition was lost. Thankfully, that tradition is now restored as we have twelve people in the flag corp this year for our school.



The leader of the band and the flag corp is Ms. Margaret Lafleur. "This was my 16th Santa parade. Every year I am excited to bring in the spirit of the season" Lafleur stated. " And every year, as this happens when I see the students working with each other, I enter Thanksgiving grateful for the blessings this job gives. There are a few different aspects to preparing for Santa. When you watch the parade, there is so much more than the pretty lights and uniforms. There is lots of dedication and hard work from each and every member of the band to put on this performance."

Lafleur continues to be passionate about the band. "Part of the process is getting the music ready, the other part is getting the marching perfect. Each year, the way I teach is a little bit different depending on the students in band. For example, some years I have lots of percussion (my most was 41!) and other years I have very few (lowest was 11). The drumline and the bass line (tubas and bari saxes) are really the foundation for the music - so they get need to be strong! This year we have six wonderful tuba players, and three excellent bari saxes- and since the temperature looks good, all of them will be able to perform. If the temperature is too cold, the instruments freeze up tight and can't play!"

She explained, "Other parts of the process are seeing who works well with whom so the lines and diagonals look good for the parade. Every individual 'tests out' on the parade music - playing the entire song from memory before the final week of the parade. Students help each other memorize, upperclassmen come down and work with the underclassmen. It's absolutely heartwarming to see all of them working together! They have always done a fantastic job. I hope everyone is able to see them!"

If you saw the Downtown Appleton Christmas Parade, you saw how much work the band and everyone in the parade had to do to make this be an entertaining night to get us all ready for this holiday season!

- Jo Buck & Cynthia Vang



*Click the logo to watch the 52nd Downtown Appleton Christmas Parade on YouTube.*



# CHOCOLATE CRINKLE COOKIES

During the holiday season, sharing a new cookie recipe is a great way to bring friends and family together, so I thought I would share one that I really enjoy: chocolate crinkle cookies! These delicious desserts are brownie-like with a powdered sugar coating; I have yet to meet someone who doesn't love them!

## Ingredients:

- 2 cups white sugar
- 1 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- ½ cup vegetable oil
- 4 large eggs
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ cup confectioners' sugar



## Directions:

- **Step One:** Gather all of your ingredients
- **Step Two:** Combine sugar, cocoa, and oil in a medium bowl. Beat in the eggs one at a time until thoroughly mixed. Add vanilla extract.
- **Step Three:** Mix flour, salt, and baking powder together in a separate bowl. Gradually add this flour mixture to the cocoa mixture prepared in step three until thoroughly combined. Cover the dough with plastic wrap and refrigerate for four hours or overnight.
- **Step Four:** Preheat your oven to 350 degrees F. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper.
- **Step Five:** Scoop and roll the chilled dough into one-inch balls. Pour some confectioners' sugar into a small, separate bowl, and coat the balls of dough with the sugar. Place one inch apart on the prepared baking sheets.
- **Step Six:** Place each cookie sheet in the preheated oven for ten to twelve minutes. Let the cookies sit on the baking sheet for a few minutes after removal from the oven before transferring them to a wire rack to cool.

- Lila Bornemann

# Q&A: Monica Clare, St. Joe's

We are now in the midst of the holiday season, only a few days away from Christmas. Christmas is hard for some with the loss of family members or for those struggling financially. However, there are community organizations that help out the best they can. St. Joe's Food Pantry is one of our community's more established food banks. They serve many families with supplemental food weekly. The Courier had the opportunity to interview the Executive Director, Monica Clare.

## ***What is St. Joseph's primary purpose?***

- "As it does all throughout the year, we provide supplemental nutrition for those suffering from food insecurity."

## ***What is St. Joe's role in distribution around the holidays?***

- "For Thanksgiving, we also provide turkeys and other holiday meal items for our families. Usually, there is Turkey or ham available for Christmas as well as other special items."

## ***Are there any special volunteer events for the holidays?***

- "There are no special events, mainly our volunteer days and hours are currently consistent throughout the year with the volunteer schedule."

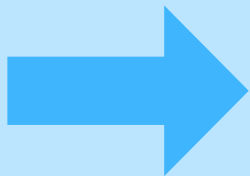
## ***What is your favorite thing about St. Joe's?***

- "The volunteers and staff are here because they believe in the mission of St. Joe's. They want to help community members meet their nutritional needs. This unity of purpose provides a positive environment for all who come to work or be served."

Overall, St. Joe's puts good into our community, which makes us proud and grateful to have an organization like St. Joe's Food Pantry in our community.

- Delaney Lehman

**Click here to donate!**



Fighting Hunger. Sustaining Hope.

# Happy New Staff! Welcome to East!

## What did you do before coming to East?

-Before Appleton East, I was a math teacher at Lincoln High School in Wisconsin Rapids.

## What is your role at East?

-I am a math teacher here at East.

## What were your first impressions of East and the student body during the first week of school?

-My first impression of East has been great! East is a very welcoming school where the student body is full of school spirit!

## What is a fun fact about you?

-I am coaching basketball here at East!



Mr. Pecha

## What did you do before coming to East?

-Before coming to East, I taught high school Spanish and served as computer support. I hold seven certifications, one of which is in computer science. Before teaching, I was the technology expert within my company.

## What is your role at East?

-I teach Introduction to Computer Science at East, then I travel to North and teach ICS and AP computer science principles, as well as at the FCLA.

## What were your first impressions of East and the student body during the first week of school?

-My first impression of East was positive. The staff has been friendly and helpful, especially the Tesla teachers. The students behave better than at my last school and are genuinely interested in learning computer science.



Ms. Westmoreland

**What is a fun fact about you?** -A fun fact about me is that I am a diehard Dallas Cowboys fan. I went to Mississippi State at the same time as Dak Prescott. I watched him beat the Packers at Lambeau during his rookie season!

**What did you do before coming to East?**

-Before coming to East, I attended the University of Wisconsin La Crosse. I earned degrees in Physical Education, Health Education, and Adapted Physical Education. Furthermore, I have my Master's degree in Adventure Education and Outdoor Pursuits. This is my first full-time teaching position, and I am incredibly proud to call myself a Patriot!

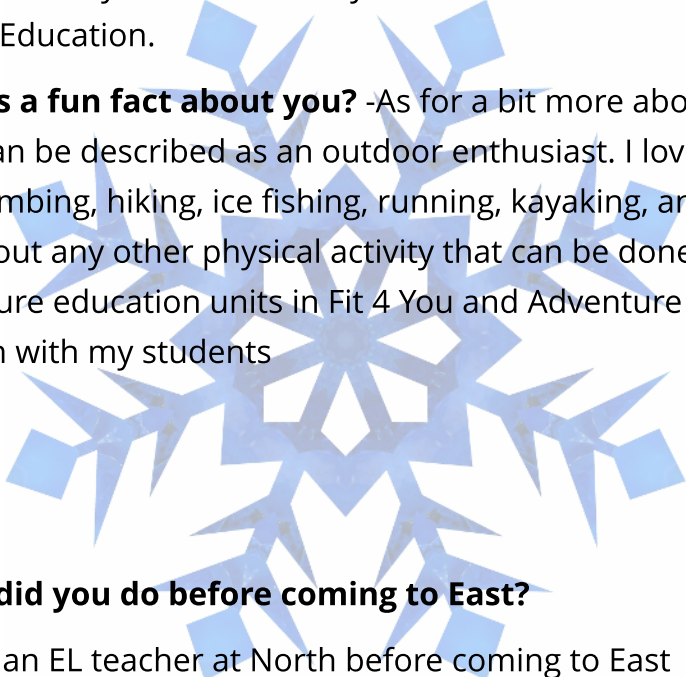
**What is your role at East?**

-I am currently a teacher of Physical Education and Health Education.

**What is a fun fact about you?** -As for a bit more about me, I can be described as an outdoor enthusiast. I love rock climbing, hiking, ice fishing, running, kayaking, and just about any other physical activity that can be done outdoors. I am lucky to teach our adventure education units in Fit 4 You and Adventure Education, as I get to share this passion with my students



**Mr. Friday**



**What did you do before coming to East?**

-I was an EL teacher at North before coming to East this year.

**What is your role at East?**

-I teach EL, which stands for "English Learners." I teach and work with multilingual students and learning English as an additional language.

**What were your first impressions of East and the student body during the first week of school?**

-My first impression was that the students here at East are very friendly and down to Earth. East is a great place to be.

**What is a fun fact about you?** -I used to teach German!



**Ms. Combs**

**What did you do before coming to East?**

-Before coming to East, I was a Paraprofessional at Appleton Public Montessori.

**What is your role at East?**

-I am the new Career Advisor here at Appleton East. I work with Fox Valley Technical College to help Appleton East students with any questions and information they need regarding FVTC and their future path. I am located in the Launch Studio. Students are welcome to come down and see me or email me with questions or help they may need.

**What were your first impressions of East and the student body during the first week of school?**

-My first impression at East was lots of positive energy! Everyone is welcoming and willing to help!

**What is a fun fact about you?** -An exciting fact about me is I had the privilege and honor to be a guardian for two Vietnam Air Force Veterans on the Old Glory Honor Flight in 2019. It was a day I will never forget!



**Ms. Crozier**

- Delaney Lehman



2023-24 AASD End of Semester Schedule		
Monday, Jan. 15	Thursday, Jan. 18	Friday, Jan. 19
NO SCHOOL	Period 1 7:55 - 9:10	Period 6 7:55 - 9:10
<b>Tuesday, Jan. 16</b>	Period 2 9:20 - 10:35	Period 7 9:20 - 10:35
Regular Schedule	Period 3 10:50 - 12:00	Period 8 10:50 - 12:00
<b>Wednesday, Jan. 17</b>	LUNCH	LUNCH
Regular Schedule	Period 4 1:00 - 2:15	Period 5 1:00 - 2:15
	Make-Up Period	Make-Up Period



**Mr. Wallace**



**Ms. Rickman**



**Ms. Sherry**



**Ms. Schwoerer**



**Ms. Lara**



**Mr. Hallstrom**



**Mr. Winkler**



**Mr. Marquez**



**Mr. Rebman**



**Mr. Herrmann**



**Ms. Verhagen**



**Mr. Kringle**

# VETERANS DAY 2023 APPLETON EAST PATRIOTS HONOR ARMED SERVICES

On Friday, November 10, Patriots gathered together in order to honor the people who bravely fought for this nation. Veterans Day was celebrated with a gauntlet, where students could cheer the servicemen and women, and a heartwarming ceremony that takes place every year to recognize to their service.



Appleton East High School, decorated in red, white and blue, hosted the veterans of our city who joined together to commemorate the hard times they have been through alongside family members and the school's community. This was a time for us to show our appreciation, but also to grieve those who lost their lives for the people of this country.

East thanks all the students who invited their relatives to join on this emotional day, and we hope to see our patriots displaying the same respect when it comes to our veterans in the years to come. Even though the high school hosted veterans of all ages, we could see how no matter the fight they had to bear, their common experiences unified them as one.

On this day we mourn with those who lost someone who gave their life for the country's cause, and we thank those still fighting with the scars of war or standing with someone struggling with them. Every day should be veterans day, and let us hope that in the future these people will enjoy more than decorations and blue ribbons once a year in return for everything they did for us.



- Amira Abugararah

# Providing Pages for Readers in Need

Reading has always been both a source of enjoyment and an outlet for coping with difficult situations in my personal life. The ability to escape and experience the world through someone else's eyes has helped me to develop as an individual: I find myself more easily able to empathize with others and understand walks of life that differ from my own.

For this reason, among others, it is important to me that all people have access to quality reading materials regardless of their life circumstances. As a result, I was beyond excited to organize a school-wide book drive in December. Formally titled *Providing Pages*, the drive accepted both new and used books, which will benefit the Salvation Army. Donations were accepted seventh-hour classes earlier this month.

In total, we collected 581 books this year! Mrs. Lonechild's seventh-hour class came out on top with 337 books, which is crazy! Her class received donuts just before winter break.

I encourage you to look through your home and consider contributing any unwanted books so that someone else may find enjoyment in them.

- Lila Bornemann



## Angel Tree: Everyone Deserves Joy

In a typical year the Salvation Army's Angel Tree program puts new clothes and toys under the tree for one million children who usually go without Christmas gifts. The Angel Tree program was started by Majors Charles and Shirely White in 1979. They worked with a Lynchburg, Virginia, shopping mall to provide clothing and toys for children at Christmas-time. The way it works is once a child or senior adult has been registered and accepted as an Angel, their Christmas wish list is shared with donors the community purchases gifts of new clothing and toys. These lists not only include things that children want, the items on the list for their needs too. You can go to a Walmart and pick "an angel." The Appleton/Menasha Walmart center offers this. Hopefully, we can make a difference for some less fortunate kids this year.

- Lorelei Graf

# Student Journalism Exchange

## **RSA RENT DUE in JAN**

This article comes from The Talisman, the Appleton West student newspaper, as part of the East-North-West journalism exchange.

Have you heard of Renaissance School for the Arts? What about the musical *Rent*? This January, Renaissance School for the Arts will be putting on *Rent: School Edition*! If you haven't heard of Renaissance, Renaissance is an arts charter school that aims to aid every student in their creative endeavors, offering classes in a variety of subjects such as visual art, photography, music, dance, theater, writing. Renaissance has never put on a musical on its own, until now. During the first semester of the school year, Renaissance students have been working in their classes to rehearse, develop sets, and much more to make the show the best it can be.

Renaissance has taken an unusual route in creating this musical by taking class time to produce and perfect the production of *Rent: School Edition* the Musical. In the first semester, Renaissance had eight different classes to work on the many different aspects of putting together a musical. *Rent: School Edition* classes include actors, dancers, and musicians who are working toward the performance of *Rent: School Edition*. Scenic painting and theater production are working on the backstage aspects of the production. Finally, there's dramaturgy, documentary, and marketing that all work to advertise and promote the musical. Having these eight different classes allows for students of all mediums of art to participate in a school-wide project.

Student actors at Renaissance are excited to showcase the work they have been doing this semester with audiences. Amelia H. is an actor, playing the character Roger, in *Rent: School Edition* because, "I love singing and I love rent, and I want to be a part of something so new to Renaissance." Kaelyn B. plays the character Maureen and she is, "Excited to be a part of something really important, something that tackles a lot of difficult situations." The student actors at Renaissance believe that *Rent: School Edition* is an important musical, one that they are excited to perform and bring alive for their peers. Another important part of the musical for Kaelyn is "the community that we've built and grown together as actors and as friends."

Ms. Whittle, who is in charge of the production of *Rent: School Edition*, loves "that every kid has a part." For Marta L., that part is coordinating the music tracks. Marta likes "how it's a different experience, something I've never done before, but I'm learning a new skill. It's a lot of us figuring stuff out together." Mr. Dempster, who is in charge of music, believes that Renaissance's production is "distinctive from other musicals where I'm not running it. I find it cool that two students [Robbie and Marta] will be running it." *Rent: School Edition* is a student-run project, where all students have the opportunity to contribute.

*Rent: School Edition* has been a learning experience for many Renaissance students. Ms. Whittle says that *Rent: School Edition* has “given kids a chance to see how a set can come together.” As Mr. Dempster says, the student musicians are learning how to make the music “sound more natural and not too mechanical.” Kaelyn also says that the actors have been learning how to “bounce off one another.” *Rent: School Edition* truly is a collaborative project that has taught many students new things about what it means to produce a musical.



January will be the culmination of all the students' hard work, and everyone at Renaissance is excited to either perform in or view the musical that they have contributed to. Students from all high schools are invited to come and view the musical and support student art in Appleton. Renaissance students come from all high schools in Appleton, so in January, head over to Appleton West to support your classmates!

- Meagan Skarda & Addison Thomson

Renaissance School for the Arts  
presents

**RENT**  
SCHOOL EDITION

January 19th @ 7pm  
January 20th @ 7pm  
January 21st @ 2pm  
in the West Auditorium

Tickets- \$10 general admission

# New Voices: The FIGHT FOR Freedom of the Student Press

On November 7, 2023 the Wisconsin State Assembly passed AB 551, also known as the New Voices Bill. New Voices is a nonpartisan, student-driven grassroots effort to restore and protect the freedom of the student press.

Students and young people have been fighting for their voices to be heard for a ceaseless amount of time. Students' voices are constantly censored and/or put down. Young people have First Amendment rights, which state freedom of speech and the press just as much as adults. The New Voices law defends this, "Student media can only be censored if that media is libelous or slanderous, contains an unwarranted invasion of privacy, violates state or federal law, or incites students to disrupt the orderly operation of a school. New Voices laws also prohibit retaliation against advisors who refuse to censor student journalists." This means that individuals in positions of power over students cannot restrict their speech simply because they do not support or agree with it.

The state assembly passed the bill with a unanimous 98-0 vote. The bill will now go onto the Senate Committee on Universities and Revenue where a hearing must be held for a vote to approve to put it in front of the full Senate. From there, it must pass to get onto the governor's desk for his signature. There will not be another Senate committee meeting until January, so it is imperative that we keep the heat on this issue high until then, to ensure it is taken up.

This issue is history in the making, and you can be a part of it. As students, our voices on this issue are the loudest and most impactful. You can support your student journalists by following @newvoiceswisconsin on Instagram, contacting your legislators in support of the New Voices bill at this [link](#), and emailing [newvoiceswisconsin@gmail.com](mailto:newvoiceswisconsin@gmail.com) to get involved or ask questions. The bill is already backed by strong support, but hearing from the students themselves will only help drive this further forward. Our voices as students matter, so let's make sure we're heard.

- Makayla Jones



# Puzzles & Games

- Mats Riddlehoover

## Wordle: [Play here!](#)

Try to guess the hidden word in six guesses or less!



= the letter does not appear in the word



= the letter does appear in the word, but in a different spot



= the letter appears in the word in that spot

## Connections: [Play here!](#)

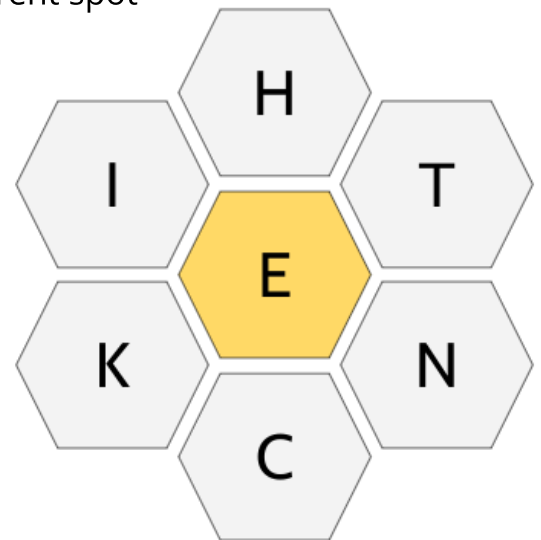
Make four groups of four connected words!



= easiest



= hardest



## Spelling Bee: Make as many words as possible with the letters above!

- All words must contain the center letter
- Words must be at least four letters long
- Letters may be used multiple times within one word
- Four-letter words are worth one point, any words longer than four letters are worth the number of points equal to the number of letters in the word
- There is at least one word that can be made using all seven letters, called a pangram. A pangram is worth seven bonus points plus the word's length, so a seven-letter pangram would be worth 14 points. (See next page for answers.)

*It's Not Unusual*



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## Contributors

**Amira Abugararah:** Veterans Day

**Lila Bornemann:** Book Drive, Holiday Recipes

**Jo Buck & Cynthia Vang:** XMAS Parade

**Lorelei Graf:** Angel Tree

**Makayla Jones:** New Voices

**Delaney Lehman:** St. Joe's, New Staff

**Liliana Monson:** Comics

**Mats Ridlehoover:** Games

**Addison Thomson and Meagan Skarda:** Rent

(From West)

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Delaney Lehman

Lorelei Graf

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## Special Thanks

The Lantern Photogs

HAPPY  
New Year

2024

See you January 2! GO EAST!