

# Blue Wave Gazette



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## Pageant Brings Christmas to Life!

By Mary St. Laurent

Christmastime is here again! Miss Felix and all the staff have been working very hard to make this pageant great. Can you believe it's been 21 years now since the pageant started? They used to have the pageant at school, but Miss Felix liked the church better because it's God's house and it's a great place to have it.

Do you know how you are chosen to be Mary or Joseph? In 7th grade you can write an essay on why you want to be Mary or Joseph. The

judges read the essays to see how you help your parish and what service projects you do.

Do you ever wonder how they choose baby Jesus? Well Miss Felix asks the staff or families that have newborn babies if they would like their baby to participate as Baby Jesus. Our pageant was held on December 16th at Saint Lawrence Church. Hope you all enjoyed it.

**Merry Christmas!**



Joseph - Lucas Pimentel  
 Mary - Melanie Franco  
 Baby Jesus - Aubrey Camara

## Mr. Houde... The Man and the Myth

By Mary St. Laurent



Mr. Houde is the school custodial coordinator who does too many jobs to list. Well Mr. Houde didn't always work at our school. He was a prison guard for 20 years

before becoming a bus driver for one year. When Mr. Murphy (our old custodian) became sick, Mr. Houde came to fill in for him. Miss Felix saw how good he was and he has been working here ever since. Mr. Houde loves his job. His favorite part of his job is being around the kids every day whether it is seeing us in the hallway or when we are at lunch, he loves getting to know us. We are very thankful that we have Mr. Houde as our school custodian.



Every year Mr. Houde does a tool belt project with the Kindergarten class. He demonstrates each tool and explains how they are used.

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## What Are You Doing During Christmas Break?

By Jack Murray



Grade 1: Sydney Medeiros

This year Sydney will be going to Toronto, Canada to visit her family. She will be going with her Mom, Dad, and sister. New Years is something else she will experience while she is there.

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Grade 2: Nicholas Vieira

When it's cold outside Nick sits by the fire and watches television. On Christmas Eve, his family comes over to his house, and they all have a good time.



Grade 3: Isabella Silva

This year Isabella is going to Mexico on her Christmas vacation. On Christmas Day she will have a family dinner of ham and fish. She also will open and give many presents.

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Grade 4: Bridget Clavell

This year Bridget hopes to go sledding. Also she is going over to her Nana and Grandpa's house. She will also be going to New Hampshire with her family.



Grade 5: Mackenzie Fillion

This year Mackenzie will spend time at her aunt's house. She will be having Christmas dinner at her Grandma and Grandpa's house. She also has another feast at her uncle's house.

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Grade 6: Cullen Costa

This year Cullen will be going sledding. On Christmas Eve he sits by the fire with his family, and they drink eggnog and sing. On Christmas day he enjoys his presents.



Grade 7: Casey Thomas

On Christmas Eve, Casey's grandparents have a party at their house, which Casey and her family are going to. On Christmas Day, Casey opens up presents and her uncle has a party at his house. Then the day after Christmas, Casey has a party at her house.

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Grade 8: Molly Shea

Molly is going to spend her Christmas vacation with friends and family. She's also going to play outside in the snow and go sledding. She also is going to spend some time on Cape Cod. Then she is going to watch fireworks on New Year's Eve!



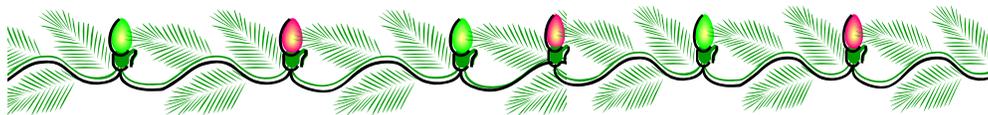
## The Stars and Promises, the Lights of Christmas

By Bridget Bagana

On December 8th, 2012, there was a magnificent show called the Stars and Promises. The Stars and Promises was a Christmas show presented by Little Flock Music and involved the wonderful talents of Peter Mayer and the Peter Mayer Group. Peter Mayer is the lead guitarist and right hand man for Jimmy Buffet. The Peter Mayer Group is made up of Peter Mayer (lead guitar/vocals), Chris Walters (piano), Mark Holland (Native American flutes), Maggie Estes (violin), Marc Torlina (bass/bass guitar), and R. Scott Brian (percussion). Sadly the talents of Maggie Estes was missed due to another tour but was filled in by Melanie Joy. There was also a special guest there too, Brandon Mayer, Peter Mayer's son, on second guitar. The show was hosted by St. Lawrence Church. Everyone was asked to bring in a donation of food for the food pantry or a donation of money to fix the Church tower.

Peter's life began in Tamilnadu, India. In India, his parents worked as missionaries for 17 years before returning to America. You can actually hear some of the music that he grew up with in his music. When he was little, his parents would hire Indian musicians to play Christmas concerts in his house. Then he went on to study formal theory and composition as a faculty member at Webster University.

The setup, while it was lengthy, turned out to be a real experience for the Church. The lighting was magnificent, the changeable colors and color combinations really made the whole show come alive. There was electrical equipment everywhere and the sound board was huge. A couple of songs were sung acoustically. Tell it on the Mountain was amazing, and towards the end of the song they each left the stage one by one. The song "Junkman Christmas" was different because they played the saw, a toy piano, an English cello, and even something found in the trash! As you can see the Stars and Promises will be a show to remember for years to come.



## Christmas Traditions Around the World

by Loredana Mello

**Australia:** In Australia it is not unusual to have Christmas on a 100°F day. One tradition in Australia is called Carols by Candlelight. Thousands of people gather in the city of Melbourne and sing their favorite carols. The clear night is lit by candlelight.



**China:** The children decorate trees with colorful ornaments made of paper in the shapes of flowers, lanterns, and chains. These trees are called "trees of light." Santa Claus is "Dun Che Lao Ren" or in English, "Christmas Old Man." Children hang stockings made of muslin, hoping that Christmas Old Man will fill them with treats and presents.



**Bethlehem:** Christians paint a star over their door. Each home displays their own homemade manger scene. People stand in the doorway and on the roof of the church to watch the parade march into the grotto. With a silver star they mark the spot where they believe Jesus was born.



"Dun Che Lao Ren",  
or in English,  
"Christmas Old Man"  
is the term in China  
for Santa.

## Meet the Track Club

by Peyton Lainey

Have you ever wanted to be on a track team? Well track is a club here at HFHN and it is a very challenging team to be on. It takes much dedication and stamina. The kids practice running (of course), have field activities, and compete in meets/races with other schools.

The track team meets after school on Fridays and on Sundays they meet around 3 or 5 o'clock depending on the season. The meets last about one hour. Usually, they run around 5-10 laps, sometimes more when preparing for a race. For warm-ups they do a lot of jumping jacks, sit-ups, push-ups, and other basic stretches. Other activities include running hills, shuttle runs and tag. Don't worry if you are in a lower grade because we also have a junior track club. The coaches are Adam and Holly Clavell and Phil Martin.

Co-coaches are Wendy Andre and Ann Sylvia. This works out because if one is busy, track practice isn't cancelled. These coaches are parent volunteers, and do this for the kids, not for themselves. Occasionally other parents help with practices.

Overall the track team is very challenging, and requires effort. So if you are up to the challenge you can join next year.

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## Holy Family—Holy Name History

By Loredana Mello



Holy Family Holy Name was originally two schools instead of one. The one school (Holy Family-Holy Name) was established in 1973 when Holy Name School (owned by Holy Name Parish) and Holy Family (owned by St. Lawrence Parish) merged. From 1973 to 1976 there were two buildings for the one school. Grades five through eight were held in buildings near St. Lawrence. The primary grades were held in the Holy Name building, located near Lyndon's Pizza.

In 1976, St. Lawrence bought the building that we use today. It formerly housed Carney Academy and Cook School. This building was across the street from the grades five through eight buildings and was in much better condition. HFHN and part of Holy Family High moved to this building. The old Holy Name building was sold. The Holy Family buildings were knocked down and the empty lot was turned into the St. Lawrence parking lot.

In 1985 Holy Family High School closed. Originally the Grades at HFHN went from kindergarten to eight. When the high school closed, the elementary school expanded into the part of the building that was occupied by it. Pre-3, Pre-4, and Extended Care were then added. Later, the music/art room, chapel, and computer lab were added. A security system was also added. Today, our school is also used for St. Lawrence Religious Education and the St. Lawrence Parish Center.



We're on  
the web!  
[www.hfhn.org](http://www.hfhn.org)