

"It is Our Nature to Nurture"

# The Clare Woods Academy Voice

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## Principal's Forum

### Top

The excitement surrounding the holiday season is palpable. Just walk down the halls or into a classroom and see the many signs of the season. Lights, decorations, smiles and good cheer are all abundant throughout the school. The students and faculty have been busy preparing for the annual holiday program. This year, various soloists will be featured. Once again, we are very pleased to be performing in the Immaculata convent chapel. Being able to celebrate Christmas and all of the holidays in the chapel makes the season even more special. We are all looking forward to seeing you at this very special event.

There is also much excitement over the continued progress of the capital campaign. It is an honor to announce that we now have a capital campaign chairman, Richard Francis. Richard and his wife Marion have a son in our high school department and have been very involved in pre-campaign task forces. Richard worked on the Policies Task Force and Marion continues to be a vital member of the Communications Task Force and Speakers Bureau. We also have an honorary chairman for the capital campaign, Ken Lahner, General Manager of Elmhurst Chicago Stone. Ken and his wife Lois have a grandson in our vocational department. The Lahner's have been long-time supporters of Clare Woods Academy. Please join me and the faculty in thanking both Richard and Ken for agreeing to take on such important roles.

We are all eagerly looking forward to 2007 and continuing our journey towards a new school, continued educational enhancements and being a part of your Child's life. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all.

Peace

Anne

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# Student Council Thanksgiving Food Drive

The Student Council fall food drive was the most successful one yet. Clare Woods Academy collected over 1,000 cans of food!! G8 was the school winner (although every class is a winner), and they were awarded a pizza party.

Student Council wishes to thank everyone for donating so generously. The Hanover Township food pantry was the beneficiary of our efforts. Happy Holidays!



# Thanksgiving Assembly



# CWA Survey: What's Your Favorite Stuffing?

Right after Thanksgiving we posed the following question to CWA staff members: "What is your favorite stuffing?" What we didn't realize is that stuffing is subject to several different interpretations. Here are some of the responses:

- |                  |  |   |
|------------------|--|---|
| <b>Jeanine</b>   | My mom's because it is made with love, and I don't have to make it!  | and seasoned. Just add water and butter—then stuff!   |
| <b>Val</b>       | My mom's was the best!! It brings back many happy memories of helping my mom in the kitchen!   | <b>Rose</b>   |
| <b>Pam</b>       | Down—it's warm, soft and light.  | Bread stuffing! I love the taste—celery, onions, poultry seasoning, and sage. It's the old-fashioned bread stuffing.  |
| <b>Toni</b>      | Stove Top stuffing with some add-ins: breakfast sausage, apples, and dried cranberries.  | <b>Becky</b>  |
| <b>Bill T.</b>   | Yes.   | My favorite stuffing is Greek Stuffing. The ingredients are ground beef, English chestnuts, onion, raisins, tomato paste, oregano, and cinnamon (recipe available upon request).  |
| <b>Loretta</b>   | Gramma's dressing—French bread, white bread, sautéed onions and celery, salt, pepper, parsley, thyme, and ginger.  | <b>Marcia</b>   |
| <b>Mary Anne</b> | I like to be "stuffed" with the good times spent with family and friends; I like my turkey "stuffed" with bread stuffing; I like to be "stuffed" with pizza, dark chocolate truffles and/or cheesecake.                  | My favorite stuffing used to be made by my grandmother, who has since passed on. She made her stuffing with the giblets of the turkey (all the organs except the stomach, I think), ground up and mixed with parsley and bread cubes (fresh ones, of course). She always made it perfectly moist with a lovely green tinted color from the parsley, and then topped it off with her tasty giblet gravy. |
| <b>Susan L.</b>  | My sister-in-law's cornbread stuffing! She makes cornbread the night before and then crumbles it with the other ingredients on Thanksgiving Day while the turkey is roasting. She adds vegetables and sometimes sausage. | My father has tried to replicate it since, but has said, "It's too much work." Mmmmm....  |
| <b>Sarah</b>     | I love all kinds of stuffing, especially the kind you find in your stocking! My favorite stocking stuffers are chocolate, rock candy, and nail polish. Of course, I'm always up for a surprise! Happy Holidays!          | <b>Colleen</b>  |
| <b>Janice</b>    | My favorite stuffing is, of course, mine! It's the same kind my mom makes. There is no recipe—it's all to taste. We use the giblets, celery, onion, bread, and seasonings.   | I love stuffing! It is my favorite part of the meal. I use Brownberry stuffing with chicken broth, celery, onions, mushrooms, Italian sausage, and bits of apple.   |
| <b>Sally</b>     | Sock, toilet paper, hairbrush....whoops, wrong stuffing! I am a no frills type of person. I use Pepperidge Farm cubed herb   | <b>Anne</b>   |
|                  |  | My mom's—family secret recipe.  |
|                  |  | <b>Michelle H.</b>  |
|                  |  | My favorite stuffing is my mom's.   |
|                  |  | <b>Moisette</b>   |
|                  |  | My sister makes the best stuffing. It has chopped apple, sesame and millet seed, fresh basil, white wine, and most of the other usual stuffing ingredients.   |
|                  |  | <b>Michelle J.</b>  |
|                  |  | Godiva chocolate and diamonds.  |
|                  |  | <b>Anonymous</b>  |
|                  |  | Ick! Why would <i>anyone ever</i> eat stuffing? Use it for mortar or caulking. Tsk, tsk, tsk. *   |

**\*Editor's note:** This person has never even cooked a turkey— what does she know?

# Primary Department

## Room G2



G2 has an annual tradition of creating a Christmas morning scene in their classroom, complete with tree and winding train set and little village.

G1 has an illuminated Christmas village.



## Elem. G1

G1 took a trip to Goebbert's Pumpkin Farm .



## Tree Decorating in Bartlett



Room G2



Room G1

Room G8



# The Library And “Reindeer Games”

## Library

It is the season to discover the many wonders of reindeer. These beautiful, gentle creatures reside in the far north, mainly in Scandinavia, Alaska, Canada, Greenland, and the former Soviet Union. In North America, reindeer have been given the name caribou. They are always on the move, searching for food, escaping poor weather, and fleeing from predators. Most other types of deer never go far from the place where they are born. Every spring and fall, reindeer gather in large herds. In spring, they travel north, and in fall they return to the scrubby forests of the south looking for food and shelter from the bitter winter. Reindeer migrate up to 1,600 miles each year. Long ago, tribal peoples of the north believed that both humans and animals had magical powers. They told tales of people flying off to other worlds on sleighs drawn by reindeer. No one knows if the idea for Santa's nighttime journey came from these ancient stories.

The source of the information came from *Reindeer* by Emery & Durga Bernhard. There are also many fiction books about reindeer. A few that are being read in the library include *The Wild Christmas Reindeer* by Jan Brett, *Where's Prancer?* by Syd Hoff, and *The Reindeer Christmas* by Moe Price. Peace on Earth!

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## Did You Know?

- The famous poem, *Twas the Night Before Christmas* was first attributed to Clement Clarke Moore. Arguments now exist that it may possibly have been written by Henry Livingston and that Moore was first to publish the poem with other works of his own.
- In Henry Livingston's *Night Before Christmas*, the original names of the reindeer were Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Dunder and Blixem.
- Dunder and Blixem????? Yep. Dunder and Blixem was Dutch for Thunder and Lightning.
- When the Christmas poem first appeared in the *Troy Sentinel* in 1823, the reindeer names lines read, "Now! Dasher, now! Dancer, now! Prancer, and Vixen, On! Comet, on! Cupid, on! Dunder and Blixem"
- As time passed, *Blixem* became *Blixen* in 1825, and by 1837, *Dunder* morphed into *Donder*. Poor *Blixen's* name underwent another change to *Blitzen* in 1844.
- Although he is a good friend of Santa's, Rudolph was not one of the original reindeer. He came later with the popular Christmas song, *Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer*, based on the 1939 book by Robert L. May. Then came the Johnny Marks song "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" changing *Donder* to *Donner*, German for thunder.



## Intermediate Department



**Caption:** Students from 209B enjoying the great outdoors and special activities at Sunrise Lake Outdoor Education Center.



### Int. 209B

Room 209B had a fantastic time at Sunrise Lake Camp. Our class experienced the great outdoors. We took a nature walk, grilled hot dogs on an open fire, and best of all, ate s'mores. In the craft lodge, we discovered first hand what deer antlers really feel like.

We went Christmas shopping at Target. What a great experience! We had so much fun finding gifts for family and friends. I'm sure Santa was proud of us! Afterward Ms. Terri treated the students to a lunch at Wendy's.

On a final note, we attended the "Christmas Carol" play at the Hemmens Theatre. What a delightful way to celebrate the coming Christmas season. The children really enjoyed themselves.

Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night! Ho-ho-ho!

### Int. 209A

On December 6<sup>th</sup>, 209A went to Charlestowne Mall for its 10<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas shopping adventure. We had a very nice day buying presents, having lunch, and enjoying each other's company.

We hope everyone has a very Merry Christmas and that the New Year will be filled with new and fun times.

## Int. 269

Staff and students in 269 really got into the Christmas spirit taking a field trip to Charlestowne Mall. We loved eating lunch at the food court, and saying "hello" to Santa. Some of us rode on the carousel and went to the dollar store, too. The mall decorations were beautiful and riding the elevator and escalator was fun, too.

We decorated a small tree in our classroom and we are enjoying playing Christmas music while we work on Christmas crafts. We wish everyone a very blessed Christmas!



## Int. 267

Each week our class partakes in a cooking extravaganza! To prepare for this festive event we first need to decide what we are going to sink our teeth into. After the tough decision is made our class has to develop a grocery list to satisfy all our mouth watering needs. Then, it is time to load up in the CWA van and begin our adventure to Dominick's. The students work together to make the task of shopping run as smoothly as possible. One person controls the cart while the others sift through the aisles grabbing the necessary food items on the list. On Fridays you may smell the intoxicating aromas wafting through the hallways. Those are our students showing off their culinary expertise which utilizes many important skills like decision making, team work, measurement, manners, sanitation, and creativity. Our cooking excitement



will come to a brief halt at the end of January because we will be going to the Light Center. We are anxiously awaiting our turn at there. We have heard many wonderful things about the center and cannot wait to experience it ourselves! We will begin cooking again in February.

# Gingerbread Houses in 209A





Musicians At Work: Crafting Choral Notes and Acoustic Chimes

# Vocational Department

## Voc. 102B



## Holiday Gift Shop

The Holiday Gift Shop program was available to CWA students again this year. It is sponsored by the PTO.



# Friday's Clubs

## The Blog Club – Bringing Journaling Into the Computer Age

By Frank Zito, Educational Technology Services

Every Friday from 1:40 to 2:40 the students at Clare Woods Academy have the opportunity to participate in what we call Friday Clubs. One club Clare Woods offers is called the Blogging Club. For those who may not be familiar with what it means to blog, blogging is computer journaling. It gives students a chance to express their thoughts and ideas through a computer based forum. The CWA blog is internal. It has no contact with or input from the world outside Clare Woods. Students in the Blog Club post their comments on any number of subjects from if the Bears will make the Super Bowl to what they plan on getting people for holiday presents. Once a student makes a post to their blog, other students in the Blog Club and CWA staff can respond. Students and staff alike enjoy this technology based form of communication. Blogging not only gives students another way to express ideas and thoughts, but it also helps them learn how to use the computer and allows them to practice putting their ideas into words. It is great to see the students so excited about what they have to say and eagerly await responses from classmates and staff.

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## The Craft Club

The Craft Club has been very busy making Christmas crafts and ornaments. Our very first project was three-dimensional penguins. They all turned out great. Our final project will be decorating Christmas bags. We wish we had more Fridays left so that we could do more holiday crafts.

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## Drama Club

By Angela Federici

Last session we did a short skit called "South Pole Adventure." The students made penguin masks, penguin eggs, a baby penguin and fish to use as props. The skit was about a day in the life of a penguin. My little actors and actresses did great work acting like penguins. Next session we plan on doing a winter sport skit. We will act out fun winter sports, including making snowmen, sledding, skiing, and ice skating. We plan to make props for this skit ourselves, also. We will make mittens, hats, and ice for skating. We are having fun with our festive skits!



## Junior High/High School Department

Classrooms 110A, 110B, 102A and 208A have been studying the Earth's oceans and its fresh water. We created waves in the classroom with a stream table and a shop vacuum. We were able to measure wavelength and wave height. Some students enjoyed being able to "accidentally" spray water droplets into the teacher's face. We are going to explore the contamination of our fresh water with pollution (food coloring hidden underground) as it seeps into streams, rivers and eventually oceans.

The World History classes are studying ancient Greece. They are learning how Greece had the first democracy. Ancient Greece was the first civilization that gave ordinary people a voice in their government, much like the British Parliament and the American Congress of today.

The high school students have been working together on the Christmas Play. They have been practicing in small groups and together in the chapel. Ms. Anita has been working with the students. She has also been coordinating the efforts of many staff members throughout the school. We look forward to playing for you on December 19<sup>th</sup>.

## Santa and Local Police Visit CWA Students



# CARDINAL CLASSIFIEDS



This is a unique service for those who wish to advertise goods and/or services or search out the same. If you have something to buy or sell or trade, please leave a message with Terri Mertz in either her mailbox or by calling the school. (Note disclaimer below!)

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**Free to good home** – large 2007 dry erase calendar suitable for mounting on wall. Also, two posters depicting the rain forests and large cats of Africa. If interested, please contact Joyce Polcyn, Room 209B.

**For sale** – eight harnesses, bells included; suitable for large dogs, dangerously large cats, or pet reinder. Used only once. [www.sclaus.hohoho](http://www.sclaus.hohoho)

**FREE**—to be given away 1 DVD player & 1 VCR player to be given to another classroom; 1 CD player that needs a plug See Susan Lugo

**FREE**—to be given away 1 small black & white TV, and 1 colored TV, also small

See Sally, Room 202B

## WANTED

**Donations for the School Store:** We need action figures, DVD's, VHS movies, and any toys that are new or slightly used. Thank you.

## Rare opportunity!

Many of you may not be aware that there is only one **fruitcake** in existence, but it seems like more because it is passed from one lucky person to another at Christmas. Mr.

B. Johnson is the current holder of said fruitcake, and if you would like to be the recipient for 2006, please contact him in the art room.

## Your Ad. Here—for free!

Contact Terri Mertz by campus mailbox, or call the school at 630-289-4221, or fax 630-289-4390

**Disclaimer:** CWA is not responsible for items or for arranging trade. CWA is held harmless and will not release confidential information.

By the Students  
and Staff of

Clare Woods Academy

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"Do you hear what I hear?"



## ***2006-2007 Calendar of Upcoming Events***

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| December 19 <sup>th</sup>     | Clare Woods Academy Holiday Show (10:30)          |
| January 3 <sup>rd</sup> ('07) | Classes Resume                                    |
| January 15 <sup>th</sup>      | Martin Luther King Day – No Classes               |
| January 26 <sup>th</sup>      | Institute Day for Teachers – No Classes           |
| February 2007                 | 1 <sup>st</sup> Annual Pheasant Run Theater Event |

## **Music Performances**

### **Make Plans to Support our Students in their Musical Endeavors!**

Clare Woods Academy's Annual Christmas Program will be held on Tuesday, December 19, 2006 (please note the date change) at 10:30 a.m. featuring all four departments and the CWA Choir.