

December 2006

Inside this Issue

- 1 Word from the Man
- 1 Seven Gifts that Don't Cost a Cent
- 1 Wacky Christmas Facts
- 1 Letters to Soldiers
- 2 Basketball Schedule
- 2 Teachers' Wish Lists
- 2 Student Honors and Recognition
- 2 Events and Announcements

Meek High School
6615 Hwy. 41
Arley, AL 35541
U. S. A.

Word from the Man

Danny Stallings

Ho, Ho, Ho! Can you believe it's Christmas already? It seems as if we just started school a month ago. Seniors, half your final year with us is gone. Have you "made your list and checked it twice" to make sure that you're ready to go to the next phase of your life?

THE HALL PASS

Seven Gifts That Don't Cost a Cent

author unknown

<http://homepage.mac.com/cohora/ext/giftnomoney.html>

As we begin this holiday season, take the time to consider some gifts that do not cost anything to give. These gifts are the ones that, oftentimes, mean the most, but we take them for granted every day. Find opportunities this month to give at least one of these gifts, and make it a habit that will last a lifetime.

The Gift of Listening

But you must REALLY listen. No interruption, no day dreaming, no planning your response. Just listening.

The Gift of Laughter

Clip cartoons. Share articles and funny stories. Your gift will say, "I love to laugh with you."

The Gift of a Written Note

It can be a simple "Thanks for the help" note or a full sonnet. A brief, handwritten note may be remembered for a lifetime, and may even change a life.

The Gift of a Compliment

A simple and sincere, "You look great in red," "You did a super job," or "That was a wonderful meal" can make someone's day.

The Gift of a Favor

Every day, go out of your way to do something kind.

The Gift of Solitude

There are times when we want nothing better than to be left alone. Be sensitive to those times and give the gift of solitude to others.

The Gift of A Cheerful Disposition

The easiest way to feel good is to extend a kind word to someone. It's not that hard to say "Hello" or "Thank You."

Let me challenge you to make 2007 the very best, most productive year of your young life. You are responsible for you. Be sure you have spent enough time planning for your future because as the saying goes, "Tomorrow will be here 'in a blink of an eye'." I wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Wacky Christmas Facts

<http://www.20ishparents.com/holiday/cfacts.shtml>

Winter was a time of celebration to pre-Christian Romans and they decorated fir trees in honor of this seasonal change.

Real Christmas trees are an all-American product, grown in all 50 states, including Alaska and Hawaii. Most artificial trees are manufactured in Korea, Taiwan, or Hong Kong.

In 1836, Alabama was the first state in the USA to declare Christmas a legal holiday.

Due to the time zones, Santa has 31 hours to deliver gifts? This means that he would have to visit 832 homes each second!

For every real Christmas tree harvested, 2 to 3 seedlings are planted in its place. Each hectare provides the daily oxygen requirements of 45 people.

In America in 1822, the postmaster of Washington, DC, complained that he had to add 16 mailmen at Christmas to deal with cards alone. He wanted the number of cards a person could send limited by law. "I don't know what we'll do if this keeps on," he wrote.

Letters to Soldiers

Three Meek High School graduates are currently serving overseas and two will be away for Christmas. Johnathan Ferguson (Air Force) is serving in Iraq and Roger Langley (Air Force) is serving in England. James Dickey (Army National Guard) is serving in Iraq but will be coming home on leave. The following are their addresses. They would appreciate Christmas cards, letters, and notes of encouragement.

Johnathan Ferguson
332 AE W/CJSOAC
Unit #2B
APO AE 09315

Roger Langley
PSC 36 Box 525
APO AE 09456

SPC James Dickey
186th EW. CO. (CSE) 3rd PLT
APO AE 09330

Basketball Schedule

Varsity and B-Team Schedule

Mon., Dec. 4th Addison @ 5:00 (H)
Fri., Dec. 8th Speake @ 4:00 (A)
*Tues., Dec. 12th St. Bernard 5:00 (H)
Fri., Dec. 15th Mt. Hope @ 4:30 (A)
*Mon., Dec. 18th Cordova @ 5:00 (H)
*Tues., Dec. 19th Brilliant @ 4:00 (H)
Christmas Tournaments TBA
*B-Team will play these dates.

Jr. High

9th grade teams
Thur., Dec. 7th Addison @ 4:30 (H)
Fri., Dec. 8th Speake @ 4:00 (A)
Tues., Dec. 12th St. Bernard @ 4:00 (H)
*Boys only
Fri., Dec. 15th Mt. Hope @ 4:00 (A)
Tues., Dec. 19th Brilliant @ 4:00 (H)

8th grade teams

Mon., Dec. 4th Sumiton Chr. @ 4:00 (A)
*7th boys will also play
Tues., Dec. 5th Sipsey @ 4:30 (H)
*7th girls will also play
Thur., Dec. 7th Addison @ 4:30 (H)
Mon., Dec. 11th DSMS @ 4:30 (H)
*7th and 8th grade teams will play
Thur., Dec. 14th Sumiton Chr. @ 4:00 (H)
*7th boys will also play
12/28-12/30 Sum. Chr. Tourn TBA

Teachers' Wish Lists

Compiled by Nathan Chaney and James Fillmore

Mrs. Ganey—Cracker Barrel Rocking Chair (hint, hint Mr. Ganey)

Mr. Ganey—Boker Applegate Commando fighting knife

Mrs. Murrrah—A live-in housekeeper and time with family

Mrs. Farmer—12B to pass ALL graduation exams

Mrs. Ergle—Money to shop at after-Christmas sales

Mrs. Rohde—For everyone to have a safe and happy Christmas

Mrs. Andrews—Awfully strong paddle

Mr. Waldrep—Plasma TV with surround sound system

Coach Guthrie—Plasma TV and a new hunting rifle

Mrs. Guthrie—To lose 25 pounds

Mrs. Archer—A new piano

Mrs. Price—A George Foreman grill, a stuffed hippopotamus, money for shopping, and new books

Mrs. Taylor—House finished

Mr. White—For Santa to lift the restraining order

Mrs. Frith—Cattle prod and for 8A to get promoted to 9th grade

Coach Edwards—a bundle of switches and a sack full of coal

Mr. Stallings—To stay healthy and for all people around me to stay happy

Mrs. Hiller—ALL the students to do ALL their work ALL the time

Coach O'Gwin—All types of cordless power tools and ladders

Coach Poe—A foreign sports car

Mr. Youngblood—To have a happy and healthy holiday with my family

Mrs. Neal—To have all my family home and in good health

Mr. Williams—A vacation to Cabo San Lucas

Student Honors and Recognition

Congratulations to Zach Cleghorn, Kella Jackson, and Tiffany Marchman for making UAB Sr. High Honor Band. UAB Sr. High Honor Band will be Dec. 7 - 9. Alisha Barber, Mariah Martinez, and Paige Watkins participated in the UAB Junior High Honor Band on Nov. 30th - Dec. 2. Paige Watkins made 2nd chair Festival Band, Alisha Barber made 3rd chair Festival Band, and Mariah Martinez made 4th chair Gold Band. Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following county winners of the sweet potato cookoff:
Casserole Division—Emily Brooks, 1st place; Justin Pullins, 2nd place
Pie Division—Alex Murray—2nd place
Bread Division—Anna Mauldin—3rd place

Mrs. Frith's 12 Days of Christmas

On the 12th day of Christmas,
My true love gave to me

Twelve Trombones Blaring
Eleven Trumpets Tooting
Ten Drummers Tapping
Nine Ladies Dancing
Eight Clarinets Trilling
Seven Flutes Shrilling
Six Assistants Working
Five Golden Horns
Four Saxophones
Three Baritones Blasting
Two Tenors Honking
And a Tuba in a Pear Tree

This Month's Events:

AARP Driver Safety Program
December 7-8 from 1:00 to 5:00
Traders and Farmers Bank in Arley.

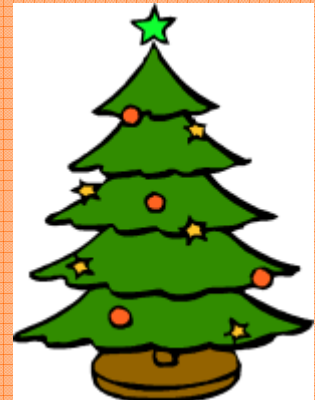
This eight-hour classroom refresher course is designed for drivers age 50 and over. For more information contact Becky Wilson at 205-221-5520.

Semester Exams
December 19th-20th

Exams for 1st-3rd periods will be administered on Tuesday. Exams for 4th-7th periods will be Wednesday. Students who have to take exams on either day must come to school for the entire day. Check-ins and check-outs will be allowed only for doctors' appointments or emergencies as deemed by Mr. Stallings.

Christmas Holidays

December 21st-January 3rd
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Teachers will attend an in-service on January 3rd. Students will return on January 4th.



Announcements

Football workouts for next year have started from 6:30 to 7:30 A.M. and 3 to 4 P.M. Monday-Friday.

The Book Fair is December 4th-8th. Support the library by making a purchase!

All school personnel: In-service will be January 3rd from 8:30-11:30 at Looney's Tavern Indoor Theatre on "Healthy Living." Check your e-mail for details. The location could change.

Football players wishing to purchase shorts, t-shirt, hooded sweatshirt and pants with pockets for \$50.00 should see Coach Guthrie by Thursday. Anyone who has equipment must turn it in this week!