



# BLUE JAY CORNER

Alivia Baucom goes for the rebound during the Mound City Tournament. Alivia has a lot of varsity time as a freshman. Photo by Riley Vogler



Aubrey Watkins takes a shot during the junior high basketball game against East Atchison. Photo by Ashley Cue

Jarrett Hunter goes for the ball during the junior high basketball game against West Nodaway. Photo by Abby Bradley



Alex Burke plays defense against the Mound City Panthers during the championship game of the Mound City Tournament. Photo Riley Vogler



Micah Makings, seventh grader, shoots a free throw during Rock Port's first game of the junior high 275 tournament against East Atchison. Jarrett Hunter and Phillip Herron line up in the lanes getting ready to box off for an offensive rebound. Caption and photo by Makenna Farmer

## Christmas Traditions By: Abbie Hale

Christmas is an annual festival commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ, taking place every year on December 25 as a religious and cultural celebration among billions of people around the world. Christmas is the most merry time of the year and a great time for families and loved ones to come together to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Along with Easter, Christmas is one of the most important events and holidays on the Christian calendar.

Christmas traditions vary from country to country, maybe even family to family. Some Christmas traditions include the following: lighting up your Christmas tree, hanging stockings above the chimney, candy canes on the Christmas tree, Elf on the Shelf, Christmas music on Christmas eve, white elephant gifts, mystery Santa, gag gifts, decorating sugar cookies, etc. Christmas carols are sung all around towns, and cards and gifts are exchanged with loved ones and friends.

cracker every year."

Preston Jones, Junior- "We wake up every year before our parents to look at our presents. After my parents wake up, my mom makes homemade french toast and then we open presents."

Kalen LaHue, Sophomore- "White elephant [gift exchange]."

Rachel Jenkins, 7-9 Science Teacher- "Make sugar cookies and decorate them."

I interviewed a few of our students and faculty here at Rock Port High asking them what traditions they celebrate every year during Christmas with their family.

Amy Skillen, Librarian- "We always go to the Christmas Eve service and have a birthday party for Malachi afterwards."

Makenna Barnhart, Junior- "As a family we go to Winter Park in Colorado and go skiing."

Rachel Vogler, Freshman- "Riley and I get a new nut-

Every year as a school, for the last day before break we hold activities and games for the students each year as a celebration of our academic achievements the year before. Classrooms activities include movies, snacks, crafts, and baking. In the gym students play games such as dodgeball and matball. This is a school Christmas tradition that is held and taken place each year not only fun for students, but faculty as well.

This year students have the added option of attending the new *Star Wars* movie in Auburn.

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