

December GT FYI

Merry Christmas and Happy New

GT students will be hosting a game at the elementary winter wonderland this year. We will also be auctioning off a Christmas tree featuring ornaments made by GT students. We hope to see you there!

Stockdale F.Y.I

Editors: Austin Akin

Lauren Donsbach

Issue3

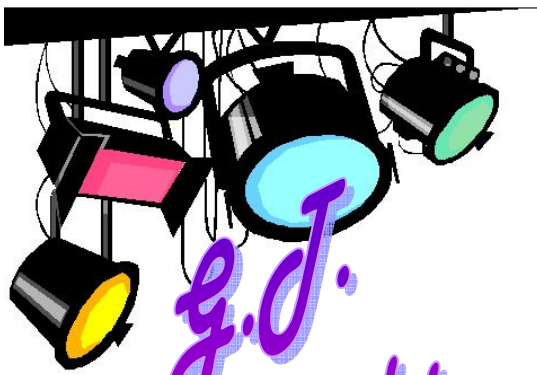
December 2008

We are still collecting tabs for tots. Please send your soda pop tabs so that they can be donated to the Ronald McDonald houses. Thanks to those that have already donated. We appreciate your support!

Check out our December spotlights on pg.2

Look at pg. 4 for an original poem by Austin Akin





G.J. Spotlight



Elementary

Written by: Lauren Donsbach

Lauren Donsbach is a 11 year old fifth grader at Stockdale elementary. She is involved in club volleyball and spurs basket ball. She got 2nd place in dictionary skills in U.I.L and is in student council and of course G.T. Her favorite holiday is Christmas .Her favorite thing to do at Christmas is visit with her family and play with her cousins. She has a mom ,dad and 1 sister in her family. Her favorite color is sky blue. She likes G.T because of all of the activities that they do. Her favorite food to eat is her mom's chicken and dumplings. Her birthday is on December 17,1997.

Erik Eisenman is an 11 year old fifth grader at Stockdale elementary . He likes basketball and his favorite subject is Science. His favorite holiday is Christmas. The thing he likes the best about Christmas is caroling and seeing family. His favorite color is Turquoise and his favorite teacher is Mrs.Luna. His favorite food is his moms ham. He has a mom ,dad, and 1 brother. His birthday is on December 17,1997

Interviewed By: Austin Bischak and Isaiah Vasquez-Flores

Junior High School

Interviewed by: Hayden Krueger

Clayton Lynn is a thirteen year old eighth grader at SJHS. He is involved in U.I.L., basketball, track, swimming, and GT. His favorite color is red, and he loves to eat sea food. Clayton's favorite holiday is Christmas because he loves getting to spend time with all his family. Clayton's passion is swimming, and he hopes to be like Olympian Michael Phelps one day. Clayton has one younger sister, and his favorite past time is hanging out with friends.

Dusty Mosier is a fourteen year old eighth grader at SJHS. He is actively involved in sports and UIL as well as GT. Dusty's favorite sport is baseball, and he loves the UT Longhorns. A few of Dusty's favorite things are the color red, pizza, and Christmas. Dusty's favorite subject is history, and he would not miss a Dallas Cowboys or San Antonio Spurs game.

High School

Written by: Tyler Soden



Interviewed by: Stephen Lerma and Andy Cano

Ronald Lankford is an athletic and intelligent sophomore at Stockdale high school. He is busily involved in track, basketball, cross country, and UIL. His favorite food is steamed broccoli with cheese. His favorite holidays are Easter and Thanksgiving, because he gets to visit his family, which he enjoys graciously. He never stops running, which is why it's no surprise that it's his favorite hobby. When he's not involved in athletic or school events, he's busy watching his favorite show "Best Week Ever".

Erika Donsbach is also a sophomore at Stockdale high school. She's an athletic and intelligent person who enjoys participating in basketball, volleyball, track, (which she went to regional's in last year) and UIL. Her favorite food is chicken and dumplings made right at home. Her favorite holiday is Easter, because she loves spending time with her extended family. Friends mean a lot to her, which is why she'd rather spend time with them then doing anything else. When she's not hanging with friends, participating in school or athletics, Erika is watching her favorite show desperate housewives

Resources for GT students and parents

- TAGT- Texas Association for Gifted and Talented
www.txgifted.org
- NAGC- National Association for Gifted Children
www.nagc.org
- Hoagies Gifted Education Page
www..hoagies.gifted.org
- National Society for the Gifted and Talented
www.nsgt.org
- Texas Performance standards Project for gifted
www.texaspsp.org
- Supporting the emotional needs of the Gifted
www.sengifted.org
- <http://www.uniquelygifted.org>

GIFTED 101

What exactly is a gifted student? According to the Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented and the Texas Education code, a gifted student is described below.

"Gifted and talented student" means a child or youth who performs at or shows the potential for performing at a remarkably high level of accomplishment when compared to others of the same age, experience, or environment and who:

- 1. exhibits high performance capability in an intellectual, creative, or artistic area;*
- 2. possesses an unusual capacity for leadership; or*
- 3. excels in a specific academic field.*

Please look on the TAGT website for a list of the characteristics of GT students, the demands of GT students and suggestions on meeting the emotional needs of a GT student.

Also, look on the TAGT website for a new list of scholarship opportunities that will be available in January of 2009.



SEASONS

by Austin Akin(5th grade)

Winter is brutal, icy and cold,
But the love of Christmas never gets old.
Spring is the season that we all love;
It's like a season from up above.
Summer rocks!, But school comes to end it,
So kids' annual problem is finding how to spend it.
Fall's the season with Halloween,
Where the leaves that are now brown used to be green.



Christmas Trivia

By : Lauren Donsbach (5th grade)

Shelby Freasier and Bethany Dewitt(4th grade)

Did you know....

- Christmas was declared a federal holiday in 1870 .
- The name Santa Claus came from the name St. Nicholas who came from Patara.(An area of Greece which is now on the southern coast of Turkey.)
- The common abbreviation for Christmas is Xmas which is from the Greek alphabet.
X is letter Chi, which is the first letter of Christ's name in the Greek alphabet.
- The Puritans in America tried to make Thanksgiving Day the most important annual festival instead of Christmas.
- Franklin Pierce was the first United States' president to decorate an official White House Christmas tree.
- The poinsettia is a traditional Christmas flower which originated in Mexico. It is known in Mexico as "The flower of the Holy Knight".
- December 25th was chosen as the date for Christmas by Pope Julius I, in the 4th century.
- "Rudolph" was actually created by Montgomery Ward in the late 1930's for a holiday promotion. The rest is history.