

# The Norse Code

DECEMBER 2012

West Chester East High School

## HOLIDAY ISSUE 2012 EAST KARES

Did you ever go down to Philadelphia, or even West Chester, and see hungry families? They're hungry in the sense that Christmas joy did not spread their way.

The parents struggle to provide meals, let alone a few Christmas gifts. The parents have to lie to their kids that Santa might not come their way this year. The kids who might pretend to believe them. The kids who might lie to their hearts to ease the jealousy of not being able to receive gifts.

Imagine yourself in their shoes. Can't you live without that pair of shoes, or headphones, or laptop? How about we all gather to donate a little joy to these kids.

That is what motivated the students in KARE. Their goal was to gather much needed gifts to the kids. They did not want to crush the hopes that Santa was not coming their way this year. Hence the students walking from homeroom to homeroom to collect few gifts. Gifts that may seem very basic to us, but they make the biggest difference in those kid's eyes.

These gifts bring joy to the families. After collecting these gifts, KARE handed them off to Salvation Army who were going to distribute them. Not just distributing materials, but materials embedded with well wishes for the new year.

After all, isn't Christmas the season of giving? This just goes to show that we have not lost the true Christmas spirit. How happy are the kids going to be when they see gifts under their tree? Tremendously. Not only are they going to be happy that they received something, they are going to be thankful. Thankful to whoever gave them these gifts. Thankful that there was a moment of pure-hearted joy in their families' eyes.

Let's remind people that the true meaning of Christmas is all about giving. So why not take a step forward and start giving until every family has a gift to give to each other.



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# Q: WHAT ARE YOU DOING OVER WINTER BREAK?



A: Invite the whole family to Christmas, exchange gifts, bang pots and pans on New Years.

-Erik Venuti, 12

A: Going to a concert, opening gifts on Christmas Eve.

-Shannon McMahon, 12

A: Playing Dreidal

-Brooke Schram

A: Hitting the slopes, leaving cookies for Santa.

-Ellie Danjolell

A: Spending time with friends, brother, and girlfriend, watching 24 Hours of a Christmas story.

-Vuk Petrovic, 12

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# THE PRESCOTT ALLEY ART SHOW



November 30th was not only the night of the Old Fashion Christmas Parade in West Chester, but also it was the night of Prescott Alley. For those who do not know what Prescott Alley is, it is an art show that the National Art Honor Society puts on every year. This year's show was fantastic.

There were hot beverages and delicious treats and sweets to snack on while enjoying the awe-inspiring artworks of East students. If that was not already enough, there was astounding musical entertainment including from Alexander Saddic, an East alumni.

One could feel the energy buzzing in the room. It was a wonderful event where people could hang out together and have a great time. Without the help of the NAHS members and the art teachers, this amazing event would not have been possible.

-Mia Peters



**"IT WAS A GREAT TURN-OUT. I HAD ENJOYED SEEING MY CLASSMATES THERE. IT SEEMED LIKE NO ONE WANTED TO LEAVE, AND I DIDN'T WANT TO EITHER."**

**-BRIAN KIRN**



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OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS FEATURING

# WEST CHESTER EAST MARCHING BAND

It's amazingly that time of the year again, and people are getting out their winter hats and Christmas-themed mittens in preparation for the unforgiving cold! Despite the weather, citizens of West Chester gathered around the streets on November 1st to see a parade featuring many local schools including our very own East Viking marching band. With all of the commotion, I had to see it for myself.

“Crowded” would be an understatement to describe the numbers of people attending the event. The parade closed down streets for miles. One could hear the dissonant sound of a crowd of 30,000 people from far away, and the looks of excitement and joy on the faces of passerbys' added to the already present rush of adrenaline and dopamine. The sheer size of the crowd condensed on the size walks of West Chester created a knit closeness between people.

The East Viking marching band made me proud that day. Despite the excitement of the parade, each

and every member of the band remained cool, calm, and collected. The look of confidence in their eyes really inspired me; I couldn't believe these were the same people I knew and saw every day at school. They were a family. The marching band drum line threw down the beats hard and I could see the families gathered on the sidewalk dancing to the rhythm. Ok, I admit it, so was I. In between the band played Christmas Carols on Parade and Tribute to America.

The Christmas Parade in West Chester was a wonderful experience and I recommend it to anyone who likes to have fun.

**AN INTERESTING  
THING ABOUT  
THE CHRISTMAS  
PARADE I MUST  
NOTE: THIS IS THE  
ONLY  
PLACE I'VE SEEN  
COMPLETE  
STRANGERS ACT  
LIKE FAMILY,**

**-VUK PETROVIC**

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# A CLOSER LOOK AT THE BAND

## & ORCHESTRA

“Yes, at times the whole experience can be nerve-racking. Situations occur when if one small thing goes wrong, the whole performance could collapse. But you have to go on, and in the end, it all works out perfectly with a life-lasting memory.”

“My experience was totally worth all of the effort. Seeing that so many families and people came to see them encouraged me to execute a better performance. The only thing difficulty I had was playing on the uneven ground but other than that, it was an amazing experience for everyone!”

- PROVIDED BY  
DEBALINA MAJUMDER



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# *Dear Santa,*

As you grew older, did Christmas change for you? When I was little, I used to be so excited for the month of December. I would help my family decorate the tree, even though I'm sure I got in the way more than I helped, and I would be "Mommy's Little Helper" as she made Christmas cookies.

Now that I am older, Christmas is not the same. I used to be so excited when the Christmas boxes came out, but now I dread the sight of the multitude. Instead, I would rather spend time watching Christmas movies and spending time with my family; I do not enjoy the rushing around.

At the heart of the ordeal, I have always enjoyed the idea of "Christmas spirit". I love being around loved-ones and joining together in one room with the

fireplace lit, movies on, and warm beverages in hand. Christmas has shifted from a time of childhood excitement to a time of relaxation.

Has the same happened to you Santa?

Sincerely,

*Santa's Little Helper*





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# THE ANNONYMOUS CRITIC

# BREAKING DAWN

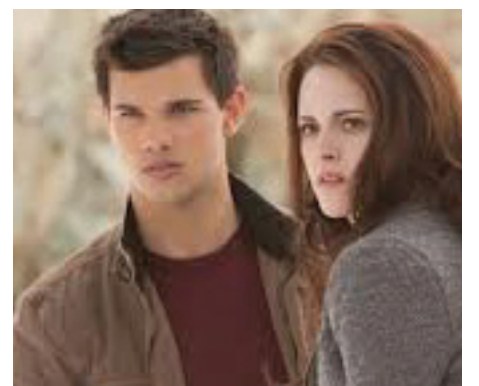
## REVIEW



The fifth and final installment of the Twilight Saga will leave fans wanting more. This movie introduces new vampires who align themselves with the Cullens to challenge the Volturi- a fight fans have waited for since 2008.



Even for a non-fan, seeing all the new vampires, each with his or her own special powers was cool.



This highly anticipated battle scene will leave some crying, some speechless, but what comes afterward will make everyone's jaws drop. Luckily, the action and suspense overshadow some of the downsides. There is a poorly animated baby (Reneesme) and Taylor Lautner, who plays Jacob, makes several failed attempts to act.



"OUR DAY WITH TAYLOR"

EAST PHOTO STUDENTS.

Men will moan and groan about the whole "eternal love" thing, so ladies, try to bring a friend for a GNO!

Breaking Dawn Part II is worth every penny...





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# BEST BUDDIES FOLLIES

DECEMBER 7, 2012



EAST STUDENTS GIVE BACK DURING THE  
HOLIDAY SEASON!

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# Winter Wonderland

This monster word search includes more than 50 winter words going in every possible direction. Can you find them all?



avalanche  
blanket  
blizzard  
chimney  
Christmas  
coat  
cold  
December  
earmuffs  
February  
fireplace  
freeze  
freezing rain  
frigid

gloves  
hail  
Hanukkah  
heater  
hibernate  
hockey  
holidays  
hot chocolate  
ice fishing  
ice skates  
icicles  
igloo  
Jack Frost  
jacket

January  
Kwanzaa  
lunar new year  
melt  
migrate  
mittens  
New Year's Day  
quilt  
scarf  
shovel  
skiing  
sled  
sleet  
sleigh

slippery  
slush  
snowball  
snowboard  
snowdrift  
snowflake  
snowman  
snowmobile  
snowplow  
snowstorm  
sweater  
vacation  
Valentine's Day

# KARE PROJECT

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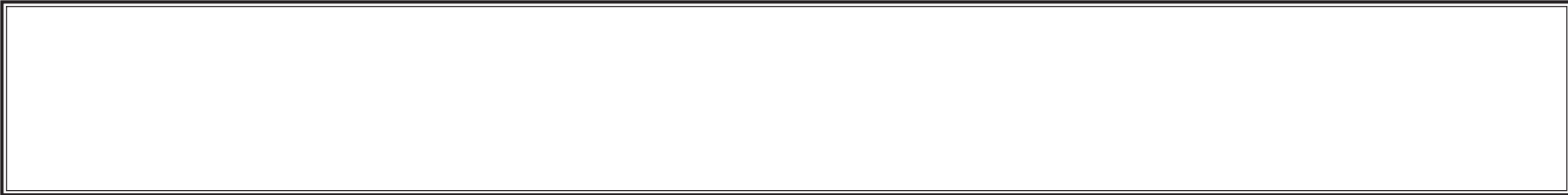
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