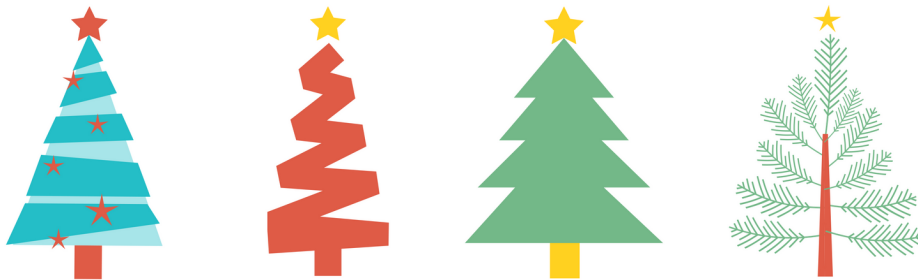


# The Roundtable

Lake Norman Charter's Official School Newspaper

## STOCKINGS OF HOPE



### BRING JOY TO CHILDREN IN NEED

LIST OF ITEMS ON SCHOOLGY!!

PACKING DATE: 12/13

BIN IN MRS. MCNEILLY'S ROOM

## Stockings Of Hope

Drive brought to you by the Interact Club

The club is holding a drive to support the 5,000 homeless and impoverished kids in our area. Please donate the following items (if you can) by December 9th: coloring books, crayons, bubbles, dolls, balls, card games, pens, pencils, markers, stuffed animals, stickers, toothbrushes, toothpaste, hats, gloves, lotions, or make-up. There is a longer, thorougher list on schoology and in Mrs. McNeilly's room.

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### HOROSCOPES

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### DIY CHRISTMAS GIFTS

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By: Jackson Porter



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## December Horoscopes

By: Savannah Bost & Sarah Greene

**Capricorn** (December 22-January 19)- live in the moment, do some winter themed DIYs (like paper snowflakes)

**Aquarius** (January 20- February 18)- don't sit on the fence, switch to that holiday music station

**Pisces** (February 19- March 20)- play an old board game and watch for ice

**Aries** (March 21- April 19)- look for love at the end of the month (if you want), be enveloped in holiday cheer

**Taurus** (April 20- May 20)- go to a holiday party and hold someone's hand ;)

**Gemini** (May 21- June 20)- pay attention to the weather forecast and keep an eye out for good gifts

**Cancer** (June 21- July 22)- make things happen in your life and dress real snazzy around the holidays

**Leo** (July 23- August 22)- put your friends and family first and build a snowman!!!!

**Virgo** (August 23- September 22)- keep your chapstick handy and organize your life

**Libra** (September 23- October 22)- do some stretches and try something new

**Scorpio** (October 23- November 21)- spend some time inside as the weather gets colder, read a mystery novel and bake something red velvet

**Sagittarius** (November 22- December 21)- wear red shoes and eat oatmeal for breakfast but avoid grumpy attitudes

## “Sports Update” By Jackson Porter

### *Charlotte Hornets*

The Charlotte Hornets are 8-6 as of Thanksgiving day and are 5th in the eastern conference right now. Their leading scorer is Kemba walker who is averaging almost 25 PPG through 14 games shooting 48% from the field. They are expected to finish with around 43 wins and 5th in the east.

### *Carolina Panthers*

The Carolina Panthers are 4-6 right now and are 4th in the NFC south. The Panthers have been plagued by injuries this season but are still looking to finish the season strong with strong players such as last years MVP Cam Newton and other players such as Greg Olson, Kelvin Benjamin, and Jonathan Stewart.



Photo from <http://www.foxsports.com/nba/story/why-the-charlotte-hornets-could-win-the-nba-title-040616>



# DIY CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Sophie Runyon



1. **Homemade Terrarium-** If you know a friend that likes plants and tend to decorate their desks obsessively, this little terrarium kit will be perfect. With a mason jar, toss some pebbles at the bottom with some real or fake plants and press it all together with some soil. Just stick some labels to the front and it's done!

2. **Peppermint Sugar Scrub-** A relaxing body scrub in a festive jar for friends or family. It only requires 3 ingredients; Peppermint oil, coconut oil, and sugar, tie off the jar with a red bow.

3. **Homemade Soap-** Nothing's more cute than homemade beauty products where you can create a personalized message through it. If the gift receiver likes lavender, make it with lavender, if they like lemon, make it with lemon! Follow this link to make the soap from scratch: <http://ahouseinthehills.com/2014/3/25/a-house-in-the-hills-home-ec-2/>

4. **Money Tree-** Everyone has that one family member who only requests cash for Christmas and no gifts, so spending some time to show them you care means a lot. Only takes some folding and patience.

5. **Homemade Jewelry Holder-** One of your friends asks for a home gift instead of your usual gift? This picture frame jewelry holder hybrid is made with a vintage frames, metal backing with holes that can be hot glued or super glued, white spray paint or another color of your choice (black would also be cool), and some small hooks or nails.

6. **Snowman Mason Jar-** I feel like this little gift is perfect for older relatives who you have no ideas what to get them. A clear mason jar filled with your choice of candy (assorted candy may be more practical), tied off with some red ribbon or yarn with a label, and hot glue or superglue three black buttons to the front of the jar.

7. **Snowman candy Painted pot-** Sending a gift to a family or neighbor and need something inclusive? This easy gift is great for a large amount of people, and it is reminiscent to a gift basket but more creative! Take a regular clay or plastic pot and paint it how you desire (snowman or something else like a Santa or an Xmas tree), get some assorted candy and wrap it and tie it off with a bow with a personalized label, and don't forget to set the bag so the top looks uniform with the rest!

Thanks for reading and have a happy holiday! 🎄🎁

Pictures and information from:  
buzzfeed.com,  
theweatheredpalate.com,  
sugarandsoul.com,  
goodhousekeeping.com,  
cardmakermagazine.com



# Restaurant Recommendations

Theme: Italian

**BY: KATIE SCHERNER**

## Alino Pizzeria

Are you looking for a thin, delicious, unique pizza that will put your taste buds in Italy? Then I have the place for you. Alino's Pizzeria at Concord Mills is the place to be for the best pizza in the area. It just opened the week of November 14<sup>th</sup>. They have a whole selection of different kinds of pizza, like Bellucci and Sorrento, which are my two favorites. The Bellucci has Fresco Creme Mushrooms, Cipolla Onions, Fresh Garlic, and Truffle Oil. The Sorrento has Pepperoni, San Marzano Sauce, Fresh Buffalo Mozzarella, Basil, and Fresh Garlic. Other options include the Bianca, Diavola, and the Pomodoro. Each piece of pizza just melts in your mouth, and if you order takeout, they can have your pizza ready in five minutes! The atmosphere of the whole place is welcoming and is huge with its white walls and Italian flags. They even sell ingredients on the back wall! When they make your pizza, they use all of their ingredients from Italy, making the pizza have a real Italian twist! Overall, Alino's is the place to go when you want fresh specialty pizzas!

Location: Concord Mills Mall, near Sun and Ski



*Pictured: Sorrento pizza*

## Antico's Italian Restaurant

Continuing our theme, Antico's is another Italian restaurant, but it offers a more than just of pizza. What you will notice first when you arrive is adorable, quaint scenery. The second thing you'll notice is the friendly service. While it's not very big in size, it makes up for in the taste of the food! Speaking of food, I recommend the Rigatoni Antico. It's made from sun-dried tomatoes and Portobello mushrooms tossed in a roasted garlic cream sauce. It was delicious, but the dessert was even better! I wish I could tell you the name of it, but they change it daily, and it was in Italian. The ingredients were chocolate mouse, pastry and Italian cream. Perfecto!

Location: 9719 Sam Furr Rd Unit C Huntersville  
NC 28078 (Near the Lowe's Shopping Center)



*Pictured: Front of Antico Italian Restaurant*

Read On

## Political Review

**By: Ricky Seyler**

Donald Trump won the recent election by a considerable margin of electoral votes. Despite not getting the popular vote, he managed to get well over half of the electoral votes that were needed. Most major media sources were shocked by the results of the election. Nearly all of their polls and predictions had Hillary Clinton winning. Because of his election, thousands of people went to the streets to protest. They believed that Trump had only won due to a broken electoral system. These protests have since died down in intensity, but many people still believe that Trump should not have won. Several petitions, all of which have large support, have been made with the purpose of getting a recount of the votes in some states and making electors change their vote. Hillary Clinton has not encouraged any of these movements so far, and likely will not do so ever. Due to the extreme controversy, Trump has tried to soothe the people who are against him, meeting with Democratic congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard and former Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney in the tumultuous weeks after his election about the possibility of them being part of the future cabinet. Putting these people in cabinet positions would pacify skeptical Republicans and Democrats. He also released a video on the Transition 2017 YouTube channel the night before Thanksgiving calling for national unity and healing. He stated in the video that Americans can accomplish anything when unified and that America will boldly face what happens in the future.

## Music Suggestions

**By: Rhea Jain**

Kevin Abstract released his second studio album on November 18th called *American Boyfriend*. The young singer toured with The Neighbourhood, best known for their single *Sweater Weather*, this past summer. This tour exposed the emerging artist to a new fan base. Fans eagerly awaited Kevin's new album after he gave a sneak-peak of some of the songs while performing on tour. One particular song that stands out is *Empty*. In fact, I got to hear it live and looked for the studio version but couldn't find it so I was happy to learn that it would be featured on his new album. *American Boyfriend*, overall, is a remarkable album and I hope you'll give my man Kevin Abstract a listen. Since we're on the topic of young artists with lots of potential, you should check out Gallant. Gallant released his first official album, *Ology*, earlier this year on April 6th. Ever since the release of the *Zebra* EP in 2014, fans were anticipating new music and his album did not disappoint. It's probably one of my favorite albums of the year. After his performance at Coachella and his hit album, Gallant might just be named one of the best new artists of 2016.



## Holiday Traditions Around the World 🌍🌍🌍

**By: Hannah Gorski**

### *United States:*

Christmas is a majorly celebrated holiday in the United States. The figure known as Santa Claus, or Saint Nick, originated from Scandinavia and made his way into the hearts of Americans as millions immigrated here over the years. Hanukkah is also celebrated in the United States along with a "melting pot" of other holidays from different cultures.

### *Poland:*

The holiday season in Poland is a time to gather with family and friends and enjoy each other's company. Traditionally, on Christmas Eve, members of a village watch the night sky for the first star of the night. After the first star has appeared, everyone exchanges good wishes upon each other and then proceed onto the traditional holiday meal. Usually, there is no meat eaten at this meal, but the traditions may vary across areas. All guests remain at the table until the meal is completed and wait for a signal from the host to rise at the same time and leave. If one is the first to rise, it is an old superstition that they will die in the coming year. Presents are then exchanged as Christmas Day arrives.

### *Israel:*

Hanukkah is widely celebrated in Israel. During this time period from late December to the New Year, families are brought together to celebrate and enjoy their company. Traditionally, nine candles sit atop the Menorah and the candles are lit one by one to celebrate their religion. Also, young children can be found playing with a traditional Hanukkah toy - the dreidel. It is a four sided top that is also a symbol of the religion. Meals consist of traditional Jewish holiday food, such as potato pancakes and jelly doughnuts.

### *Germany:*

In Germany, Christmas is the commonly celebrated holiday. Most Germans pick out a Christmas tree, but don't decorate it until Christmas Eve. Traditional tree decorations include old wooden ornaments, or blown glass figurines made all across Germany. Presents are usually opened on Christmas Eve as well, just before the traditional holiday meal. For the meal, some families roast a goose, while others prefer to order one and have it dropped at their home. Families get together for this holiday and celebrate their religion, regardless of which religion they celebrate.

### *Spain:*

Christmas is a commonly celebrated holiday in Spain. Often times, the streets are decorated with lights as well as homes all over the country. Also, trees are decorated and nativity scenes are usually placed underneath or near to the tree. In some places in Spain, there are competitions for who can create the best nativity scene. Family joins together to help decorate the home and the tree and they all have a large meal on Christmas Eve. All kinds of foods like turkey, ham, or chicken are eaten at this meal, along with some other traditional Spanish dishes. In Spain, the holidays are a time to meet together with friends and families and enjoy the festivities of the holiday.

*"Holiday Traditions." Holiday Traditions. N.p., 2016. Web. 22 Nov. 2016.*

Read On



# Book Suggestions

**By: Lindsey Moore**

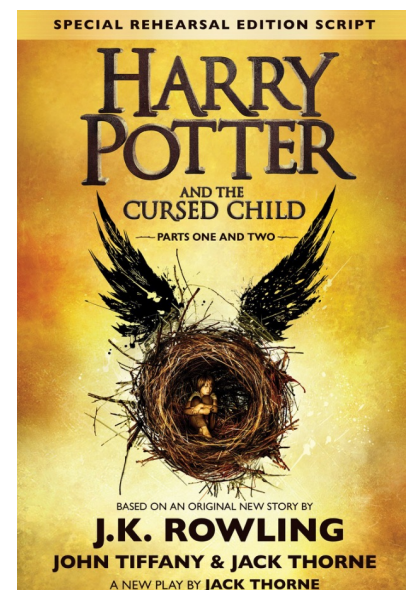
This month, we are focusing on all things Harry Potter! This year was huge for J.K. Rowling and the wizarding world. The Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them movie (which was pretty amazing by the way!) came out November 18th, and the Harry Potter and the Cursed Child play premiered in July in London. Between all these premieres and trying to figure out your Ilvermorny house and patronus on Pottermore, now is the perfect time to re-immense yourself in the world! Harry Potter and the Cursed Child is a play, but its script was made into a book for all of us who can't fly out to London to see it (\*tears\*). It takes place 19 years after the events in Deathly Hollows, the last book in the Harry Potter series, and focuses on Harry Potter and his son, Albus Severus. It is officially known as the eighth story in the Harry Potter series, which is pretty exciting after all these years. Though I have not personally read the script yet, I'm excited to hop into reading it blindly. I have heard mixed reviews about the book, but I'm sure it will be pretty great since J.K. Rowling had a hand in it. Next up is the screenplay for Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them. It takes place in the wizarding community of the 1920's and follows new characters Newt, Queenie, Tina, and Jacob as they travel around New York city. It's pretty refreshing to see a different side of the Harry Potter world, especially since it's in a completely different time period. The movie is based off a textbook of the same name which Harry Potter had to read for Hogwarts. The textbook was published as a short story in 2001. It should be a fun read if you want a little bit of background before seeing the movie. As with Cursed Child, I think its best to go into the movie and screenplay blindly. The story takes a lot of twists and turns, which are much more entertaining when unexpected. This movie is the

first in a series of five. J.K. Rowling is the screenwriter, so reading the screenplay should be just as fun as watching the movie! Go catch Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them in theaters and pick up these new books in stores. I hope you all have a fantastic Thanksgiving and a magical rest of your year. For all of us Americans, expect your Ilvermorny letter soon; it probably just got lost in the mail. 😊



<http://www.the-leaky-cauldron.org/2016/09/02/pottermore-releases-fantastic-beasts-screenplaybehind-the-scenes-book-covers/>

[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harry\\_Potter\\_and\\_the\\_Cursed\\_Child](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harry_Potter_and_the_Cursed_Child)



## Holiday Recipe: CHRISTMAS SUGAR COOKIE TRUFFLES

**By: Kirstie Moore**

Yields 18 sugar cookie truffles

Total Time: 35 minutes

### Ingredients

12 sugar cookies (about 2 1/2 to 3-inches in diameter)

3 tablespoons cream cheese, room temperature

2 cups white chocolate for melting (or candy melts)

Sprinkles for decoration

### Instructions

- ▶ Place sugar cookies in a food processor and process until cookies turn into fine crumbs.
- ▶ Add cream cheese and process again until well-combined and mixture can be pressed into a ball, 1 to 2 minutes.
- ▶ Shape cookies into balls about 1-inch to 1 1/2-inches in diameter.
- ▶ Place on a cookie sheet lined with parchment paper and place in the freezer for 15 minutes or the refrigerator for 1 hour.
- ▶ In medium bowl, melt white chocolate according to instructions. (See my tips for melting chocolate.)
- ▶ Remove the cookie balls from refrigerator.
- ▶ Using a spoon or two forks, dip and roll chilled cookie balls, one at a time, in coating.
- ▶ Return to lined cookie sheet and immediately top with sprinkles.
- ▶ Repeat process for remaining cookie balls.
- ▶ Store in an airtight container in the fridge for up to a week.

### *Notes:*

*If the sugar cookie truffle dough is not firm enough, add another tablespoon of cream cheese.*

<http://www.ifyougiveablondeskitchen.com/2016/10/31/christmas-sugar-cookie-truffles/>

<http://www.ifyougiveablondeskitchen.com/2016/10/31/christmas-sugar-cookie-truffles/>



**The End.**