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# News from The Mount

## Psalm 121:1 "I lift my eyes to the mountain"

Volume 2 Issue 4

Edition: Dec. 2024

# Students give thanks and give back

## Mount Carmel hosts day of service, Thanksgiving meal

By Aleyah Hamilton  
High-school News Team

For the past three years, students at the Mount Carmel campus have celebrated Thanksgiving together with a traditional meal. This year, in addition to the Thanksgiving meal, students also spent the day performing service projects for community organizations.

Groups completed service projects at CC's Closet, the Clark County Animal Shelter, the Roland Arts Center, meal preparation at Mount Carmel, Rose Mary C. Brooks Place assisted living facility, and delivering cookies to local fire departments.

According to 10th-grader Isaac Messer, the projects were fun and rewarding.

"For my service project, I volunteered at the Roland Arts

Center, where I had the opportunity to move antique furniture between different floors. While there, I also had the chance to browse through a collection of old books, which added to the experience. It was a truly unique and rewarding experience, giving me a deeper appreciation for history and service. I would definitely recommend it to others, and rate it 10 out of 10."

Paul Whitworth said helping CC's

closet was great and more people should think about volunteering there.

"I went to CC's Closet and helped sort and hang clothing. I also helped cut out price tags for their charity thrift store. It was a fun and interesting learning experience, and I believe that everyone should consider helping out a local charity in their area.



**Photo submitted/ Mount Carmel students, from left, Maddy Powers, Reagan Wills, and Madeline Hollenbach played games with residents at Rose Mary C. Brooks Place**

SERVICE, from page 1

“It was nice to show our appreciation for those that serve,” Masters said.

Students at the Clark County Animal Shelter bagged dog and cat food, washed dog cages, and even had the opportunity to pet some of the animals.

Maddie Edge, 10th-grade, said she enjoyed helping out, and visiting the dogs and cats.

“I went to an animal shelter and we bagged dog and cat food and we washed dog cages and at the end they brought a dog and cat out for us to see and pet.”

Aleyah Hamilton, 9th-grade, also helped at the animal shelter.

“We split into two different groups, and then one group bagged cat and dog food for homeless people’s animals or people who couldn’t afford food. It was a lot of fun and I enjoyed it.”

At Rose Mary C. Brooks Place students and Mount Carmel teacher Teresa Cowan played games with the residents and spent time getting to know them. They were also accompanied by Mrs. Cowan’s husband, former Mount Carmel teacher Jim Cowan.

“Our kiddos did a great job!” Teresa Cowan said.

Mount Carmel Vice-Principal Caston Masters accompanied students to four local fire stations.



**Photos submitted/Top picture, from left: Livy Kate Caudill and Kylie Rader and teacher Teresa Cowan play games with residents at Brooks Place. Bottom picture, from left: Madeline Hollenbach, Livy Kate Caudill, Kylie Rader, and Teresa Cowan.**

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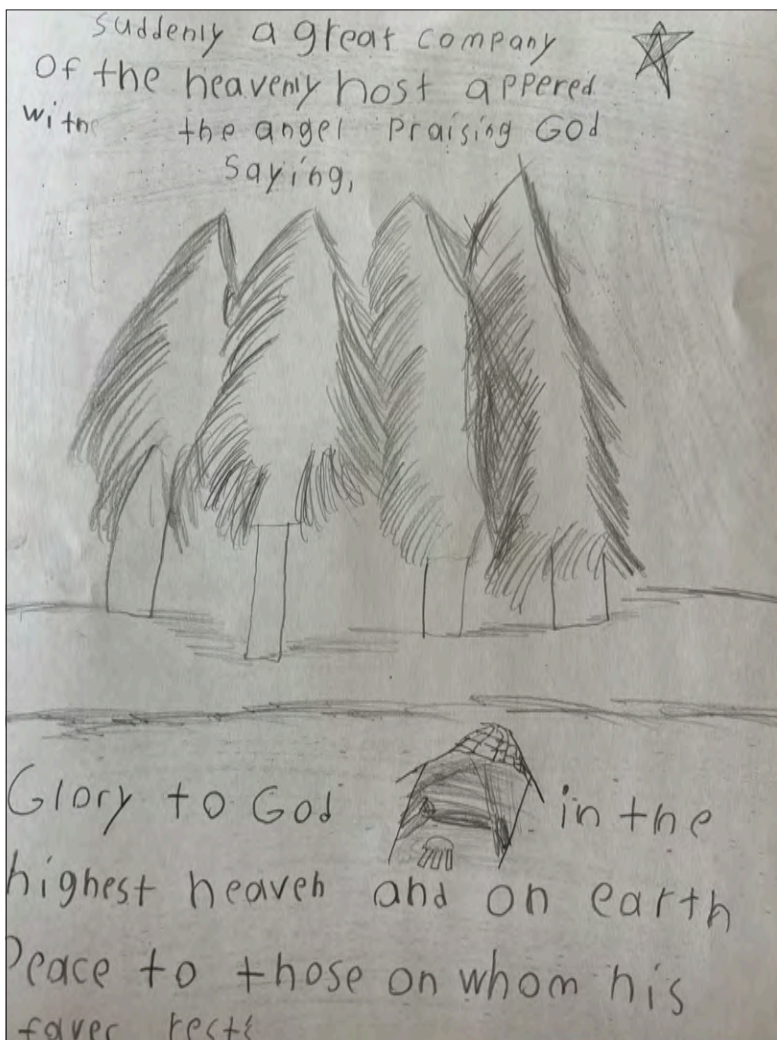
# December Remember: Holiday Favorites

## Students and staff share holiday memories and traditions

"When me and my mom wake up at 3:00 in the morning and open presents and convince my dad to get up and he does!"

-- Riley Watts, 6th grade

Drawn by Keaston Faughn  
6th-grade News Team



"Every year for Christmas, my family does what we call secret Santa. We get a gift that costs roughly \$10, and put it into a bag, for Secret Santa. One time during Covid-19, toilet paper was insanely expensive, so someone put two rolls of toilet paper in a bag as their gift.

The rules of the game are, once a gift is opened, it can only be stolen two times. After the second steal of a gift, the gift is 'dead,' meaning it can't be stolen again, and the person in possession of the gift is its new owner and gets to keep it.

You can steal a gift on your own turn. If your gift is stolen, you can choose to get a new gift, steal someone else's gift, or steal your gift back if it is not already dead.

One year, we played this game, and my great-great-uncle opened a gift, and it was a light. It had many cool features. Then, my great-great-aunt said, "Didn't we bring that?" and he said "Yea, and I liked it, so I plan on taking it back." No one took it, so he got to keep it.

Now he has been dead for almost four years. We miss him, and we will never forget about him, and all of the funny things he did."

-- Kimber Wills, 6th grade

"My kids only ever got three gifts for Christmas at our house. Jesus received three gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Why should they/us get more than Jesus? That's our tradition."

-- Kelli Stevenson, middle-school English teacher

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**To support News from The Mount, contact Rachel Gilliam at  
[rachel.gilliam@ccschool.net](mailto:rachel.gilliam@ccschool.net).**

## Levi's Fun Facts

December is National Pear Month. Other holidays in December include International Mountain Day (Dec. 11), National Violin Day (Dec. 13), National Day of the Horse (Dec. 13), Underdog Day (Dec. 20), and National Candy Cane Day (Dec. 26).

## Dad Jokes: Christmas Edition

Why don't you ever see Santa in a hospital? Because he has private "elf" care.

What kind of motorcycle does Santa ride? A "Holly" Davidson.

What do you call a kid who doesn't believe in Santa? A rebel without a "Claus."

How much did Santa pay for his sleigh? Nothing, it was on the house.

## 50 Years Ago December 1974

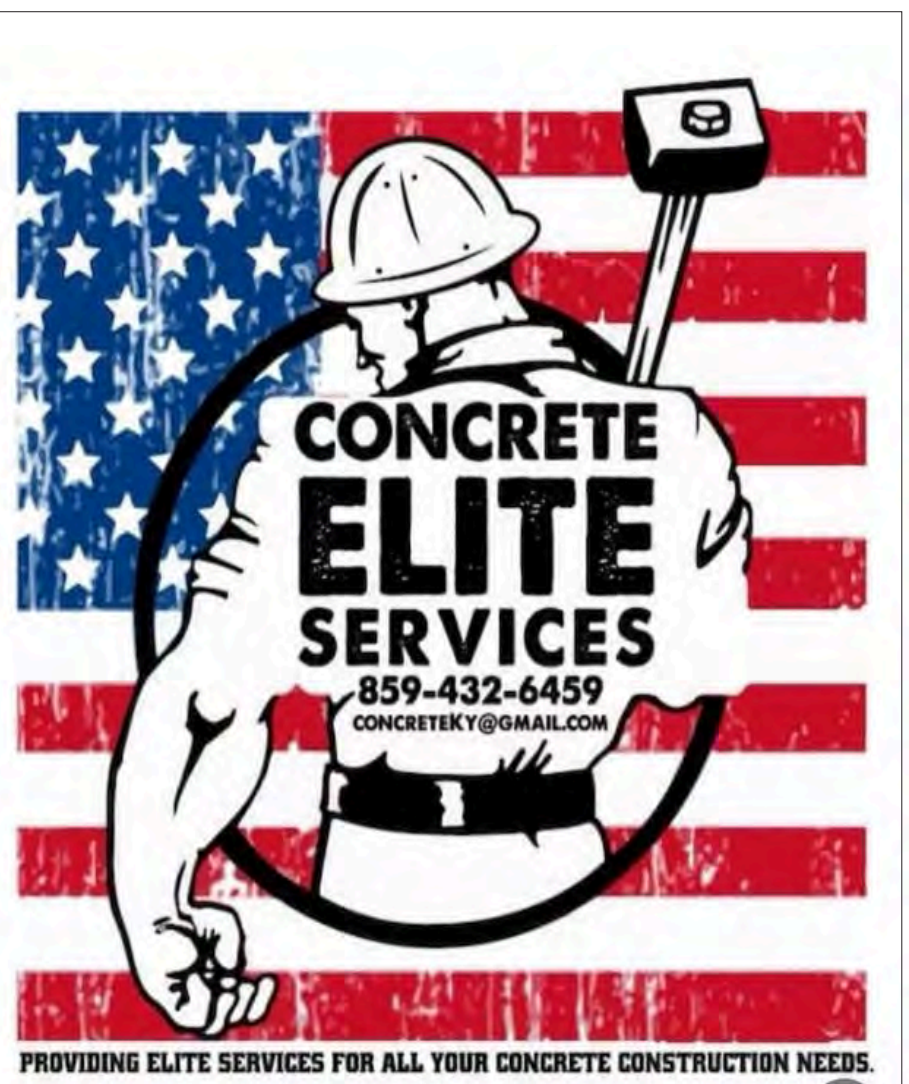
Apollo 8 became the first manned spacecraft to orbit the moon on Dec. 24.

The Beatles officially dissolved their contractual partnership.

Francis Ford Coppola's *The Godfather Part II* was released in the United States.

An investigative report by Seymour Hersh of *The New York Times* revealed that the Central Intelligence Agency had been conducting espionage in the United States against American citizens.

American television host, producer and radio personality Ryan Seacrest was born in Atlanta.



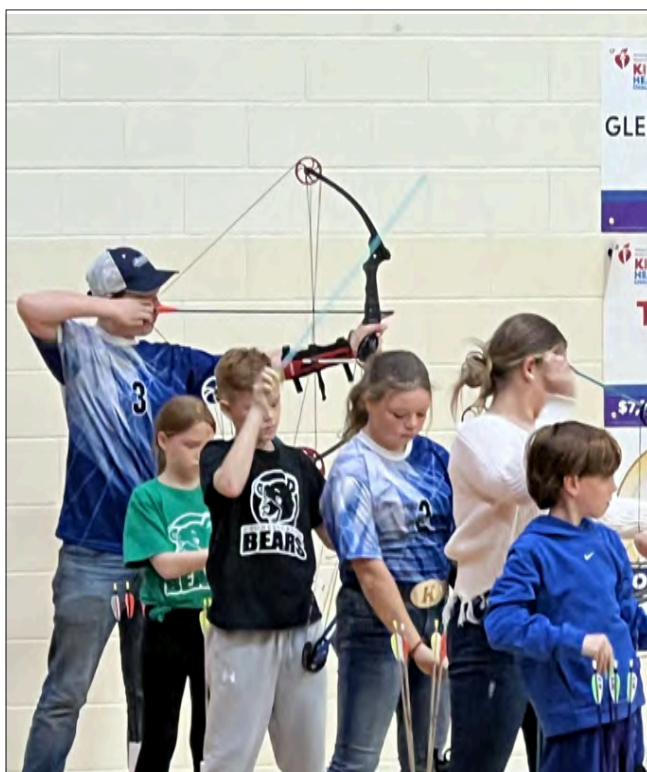
# Archery update: Madison Central Tournament

Photo submitted/Pictured below Mount Carmel archers Madeline Hollenbach and Aleyah Hamilton shoot at the Nov. 22 tournament, held at Madison Central Elementary School in Richmond. The team's top male shooter was sophomore Isaac Messer, with a score of 273, also his season best and the The top female shooter was freshman Livy Kate Caudill, with a score of 267. Caudill and Messer have consistently been the top shooters for Mount Carmel throughout the season so far, with Caudill taking the top place Nov. 1 with a score of 269, also her season high. Coach Shane Henry said the team has improved significantly since last year, and the team is working on qualifying for the state tournament. Individual shooters may also qualify, which Henry said he is hopeful will happen this year, as well.



## Final scores (Nov. 22)

- |                          |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Isaac Messer- 273        | Will Freeman- 212      |
| Livy Kate- 267           | Keaston Faughn- 197    |
| Madeline Hollenbach- 258 | Lydia Whitworth- 194   |
| Kayla Oliver- 244        | Alaya Hamilton- 190    |
| Hudson Messer- 240       | Maddie Edge- 168       |
| Jasper Humphrey- 239     | Parker Montgomery- 165 |
| Addison McCrocklin- 234  | Chloe Messer-155       |
| Alivia Isaacs- 222       | Kimber Wills- 154      |
| Aiden Marcum- 221        | Kaylee Jernigan- 149   |
| Mia Grzanka- 217         | Lea Morgan- 131        |



**Photos submitted/Pictured far left, archers Hudson Messer and Addison McCrocklin prepare to shoot at a recent tournament at Madison Central. Pictured near left, Thomas Wills, end, and Kimber Wills, fourth from left, prepare to shoot. Tournaments are scheduled for Jan. 31, Feb. 14, and March 7.**

# Cold-blooded Conversations

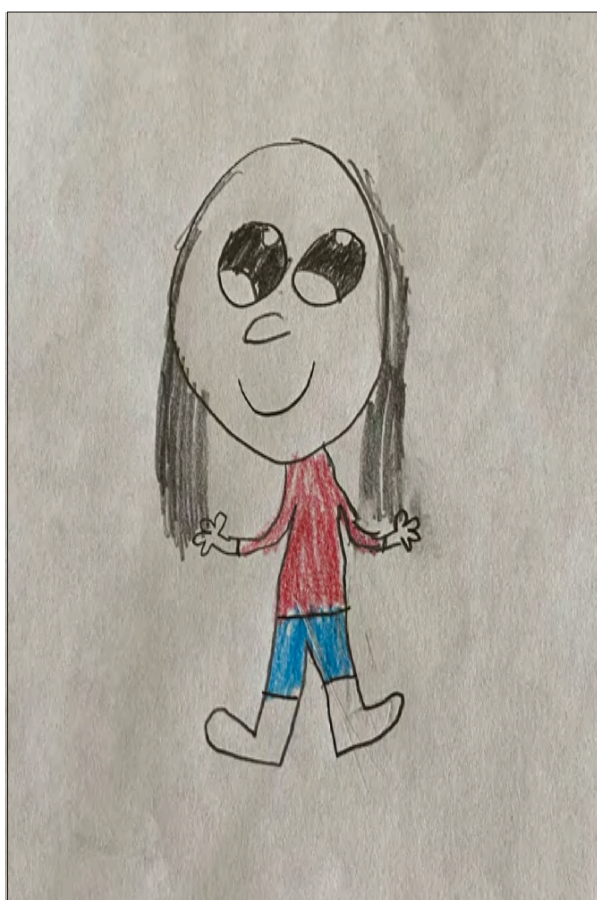
Isaac Messer shares his knowledge of venomous snakes and reptiles in Ky.

The pygmy rattlesnake, while small in size, should be treated with caution due to its venomous nature and unpredictable behavior.

Native to the southeastern United States, these snakes are typically less than two feet long, making them harder to spot in their natural habitat, which includes forests, grasslands, and wetlands. Despite their size, pygmy rattlesnakes possess a potent venom that can cause severe pain, swelling, and, in rare cases, even death if not treated promptly.

Their small rattles are often difficult to hear, and they tend to remain motionless when threatened, which can increase the risk of accidental encounters.

Additionally, they are known to be more aggressive than larger rattlesnakes, striking quickly if provoked. It's crucial to be aware of their presence when hiking or spending time outdoors in areas where they are found. Keeping a safe distance and avoiding disturbing them is the best way to prevent bites and ensure personal safety.



Drawn by Ryleigh Bush  
4th-grade

A friendly reminder

## **Baker Backpack Donation Drive**

The following items will be collected throughout the year:

Microwaveable Ramen noodles	Sandwich crackers (cheese or peanut butter)
Savory crackers or chips	Granola bars
Assorted fruit gummy pouches	Toaster pastries
Cookie packs	Individual cereal packages

# Fourth-graders look to the future with Mount visit

## Redwing Campus fourth-graders spend day with middle-schoolers

Students in Jordan Dixon's fourth-grade class at the Calvary Redwing Campus recently spent the day shadowing fifth-grade students. The younger students were divided into groups and visited the campus over the course of three days, getting a glimpse of life as a middle-school student. Here is what they had to say about the experience.

"My day at Mount Carmel was awesome. I met a new friend named Kinley. She is awesome and funny. The best part of my day was PE. We played volleyball. It was awesome. I loved today. And by the way my name is Sadie."

-- Sadie Pasley

"My favorite part of the trip is the trip on the way to the mount. The principle of letting us outside and the gym was fun. Science was interesting. We learned not to put a pig's heart in a human's body. It was all interesting."

-- Blake Sechrist

"My favorite thing about visiting Mt.Carmel was going to gym class and playing volleyball with the 5th graders. It was really fun. I can't wait to go there next year! It was really cool getting to experience what it's like. I wish I could do it all over again! Really the best part was getting to hang out with everyone. It was so much fun. This was the best school day ever!"

-- Livvy Gilliam

"I like Mount Carmel because at lunch breaks, we can play volleyball."

-- Ryleigh Bush



**Fourth-grader Livvy Gilliam plays volleyball during P.E. class Monday, Dec. 9. All fourth-graders at the Redwing Campus were invited to participate in a shadow day to prepare for the transition to Mount Carmel in fifth-grade.**



Drawn by Keaston Faughn  
Sixth-grade News Team

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Drawn by Parker Montgomery  
Fifth-grade

Drawn by Chloe Messer  
Fifth-grade News Team

