



## **OUR HAPPENINGS**

**Our day-to-day activities and events**

### Christmas Lights at Home

By: Jennifer V

I like my house's Christmas lights more than the festival of Christmas lights. Also, Jonathan's wedding decorations. I like the cute white Christmas lights that are around a candle. All our house decorations look pretty. Also, we have a Christmas tree and have the lights on it. We will start with decorations this week.

### December 5th

By: Mary S

Today we had lunch at Pie Five Pizza. Build Your Pie. I got a Panzano pan. I got chicken, mushrooms, ricotta, roasted red peppers and olives, and cheese. Then we went to Macy's. We saw Julie's sister Melissa. I helped Melissa. I want to see her again. I had fun with Melissa. She was online shopping for customers. I hope to see her again.

## Thanksgiving

By: Taylor H

This year for Thanksgiving, me and my mom went to Rolla, Missouri. I had a really good time with my family and my two dogs came with me and my mom. The dogs' names are Izzy and Scout. My favorite Thanksgiving food was the turkey. I went to see my horse every day. Her name is Whitestripe. She is a Missouri Foxtrotter.

## MSI

By: Chris P

We like going to the Museum of Science of Industry. We like going up the escalator. We like going onto the ground floor. We like going onto the main floor. We like going onto the balcony. We like looking at the 'L' train. We like looking at a plane. We like looking at a train. We like going down the escalator.

## December

By: Matt C

On Saturday I delivered poinsettias to people's cars. I say Merry Christmas. I ate pizza with my friends. I watched the Lego movie. I saw CROYA staff. We are excited about Christmas. I eat lunch with the CROYA staff waiting for the customers. My mom dropped off the flowers to Emerson's mom. She answered the door and she saw me drop the flowers off.

# Puerta Vallarta

By: Zach W

We went to Mexico. We went to Puerto Vallarta. It was really hot. We took a plane called United Airlines. My mom and I had Mexican food there. It was fun. We stayed in a hotel called the Westin. I did volleyball there and I hit 28 points. It was beach volleyball. We also did water aerobics together and after that, we took 2 airplanes back home. I saw Lisa, Luke, and Amy. They are family friends from Chicago. We also saw Roger and Robert there. It was fun. During my trip we took pictures. We went through security. It was quiet. We had Chinese food when we got home. I saw statues in Puerto Vallarta. It was beautiful. And we saw the sunset. After that, I went to the hot tub by myself. It was very cool. It was hot. It was beautiful weather. It was amazing. My dad took pictures of Southwest and Delta airplanes and then we saw Alaska, Frontier, and American Airlines airplanes. We also saw Air Japan! It flew across Midway. We also saw other airplanes - Air France, United, and all the others. We sat by the window.

# My Family

By: Wes G

This weekend I spent time with my family. We went to Noodles and Company. I got the Wisconsin mac and cheese. It was really good. Last week in Writing Workshop we wrote about holiday traditions. I like playing games with my family and eating treats. My mom makes good French toast during the holidays. I love my family. The holidays are great.



*Jason and Alex share a laugh in Writing Workshop as Wes and Hayley read Wes's silly story*

## My Weekend

By: Travis T

My weekend was great. I did laundry. I cleaned my bathrooms and vacuumed Sterling and Frank's room. I played my Christmas music and had brunch. I had eggs, biscuits, potatoes, and gravy. The rest of the day I watched Christmas movies. I watched Christmas Vacation, Santa Clause 3 with Tim Allen and Martin Short, and Hallmark movies and listened to Christmas music.



*Travis posing next to an ad for 93.9 Lite FM, his favorite Christmas music station*

## My Fun Card

By: Matt C

On Sunday I made a Christmas card with Joseph. Joseph was in a bunny suit. I was in a robe holding a fake gun. The lamp was in the picture from the Christmas Story. Joseph and Madeline came over to my house and took the picture in front of the tree and closet door. We put a quote on the Christmas card. I am happy that the card got done. My mom made cookies for Joseph.

## My Christmas Activities

By: Jennifer V

I had my Christmas tree and Christmas lights up. I also had decorations and a Christmas with daddy. It seems like Lightscaapes with the family. I listen to Christmas music at my daddy's house.

# Bowling

By: Chris P

We like going bowling. We like changing into some bowling shoes. We like putting our bowling shoes on. We like getting up to bowl. I like making a bowling ball roll down the lane. I like making a bowling ball knock the pins down. I like picking up a bowling ball. We like wearing our bowling shoes.

# December 4

By: Mary S

One of my Advent gifts was a movie and dinner. We saw Lyle, Lyle, and Crocodile. The movie was good. It was fun. The characters in the show are Lyle and Hector and Mrs. Primm and Josh Primm and Mr. Primm and Mr. Grumps. The actors are Shawn Mendes and Constance Wu and Winslow Fegley and Javier Bardem and Brett Gelman and Scoot McNairy Lyle is a good singer and brave. Hector loves his pet named Lyle. Mrs. Primm loves Josh and Mr. Primm. Mr. Primm loves Josh and Mrs. Primm. Josh loves him. What is the show about? This is a movie where Lyle and Hector want to be stars. I like this movie. Anything is possible. Then we went to dinner at Enchiladas Rojas. It was good. My mom got a Pollo al Chipotle. My dad got enchiladas en mole. It was good.



## Review of My New Schedule

By: Jason K

Next session at Our Place I just signed up to do one in-person thing which is Writing Workshop on Thursdays in the early afternoon. I've done it before during the fall session and am going to be doing it again in January for the winter. For the next 11-12 weeks on Wednesdays, I'm gonna do two or three Zoom programs with my friends from MNASR. I haven't done anything with them in quite some time so it'll be nice to do stuff with them like I used to before many years ago when I was much younger. I will also be doing socials with Our Place on Zoom on Saturdays.

## Christmas

By: Tim J

I liked my Christmas. I got some good gifts. I ate desserts. My brothers were there. They are Michael and Danny. Mom and Dad were there too. I love Santa. I went to church. It is Jesus's birthday. My sweet lord.

## Christmas Eve Day

By: Mary S

On December 24 I took a walk with my mom and my dad. I wore a warm outfit, but not warm enough. We took a walk at Fort Sheridan Forest Preserve. Next time I will pick a better outfit and hat and gloves and scarf. I had fun with my mom and dad. My mom had fun with me and my dad. My dad had fun with me and my mom.

# Lightscaapes at Botanic Garden

By: Jennifer V

I went to see Lightscaapes with my family. My favorite song is Carol of the Bells. I like seeing the cave stars in Pinocchio's music. My favorites are Light Cave and Firelights. I like seeing Christmas colors in the lake and the cathedral.

# December 2

By: Mary S

I went out to dinner with my mom and my mom's friend. I went to the Cheesecake Factory. We got Pretzel Bites with Cheddar Cheese Fondue and Sweet Corn Tamale Cakes. My mom and my mom's friend got water to drink. I got a diet coke. I got Lemon-Herb Parmesan Chicken. My mom's friend got Lemon-Garlic Shrimp. My mom got pasta. I like Lemon-Herb Parmesan Chicken. My mom likes pasta. My mom's friend likes Lemon-Garlic Shrimp. I like Pretzel Bites with Cheddar Cheese Fondue and Sweet Corn Tamale Cakes. My mom likes Pretzel Bites with Cheddar Cheese Fondue and Sweet Corn Tamale Cakes. My mom's friend likes Pretzel Bites with Cheddar Cheese Fondue and Sweet Corn Tamale Cakes. I got Adam's Peanut Butter Cup Fudge Ripple cheesecake. I like Adam's Peanut Butter Cup Fudge Ripple cheesecake. My mom got Warm Apple Crisp. My mom likes Warm Apple Crisp. My mom's friend got Warm Apple Crisp. My mom's friend likes Warm Apple Crisp.

# CULTURE CORNER

Our place for reviews, recipes, special interests and more

## Puss in Boots 2 The Last Wish Movie Review

By: Annie G

We went to see Puss in Boots 2 on Thursday, December 22nd, 2022 at the Golf Mill Theatre. In the beginning, Puss in Boots was fighting bad guys and he won. Then suddenly, the bell fell on Puss in Boots and he died. Then he saw the village doctor for some tests and the doctor was worried that Puss in Boots was on his last life and said he needed to retire as a lab cat to mama Luna. Puss refused and then he met death and he began to fight death. He lost his sword and Death told him to pick up the sword. He didn't pick up his sword and then he fled past Death. Then he went to the graveyard to say goodbye to Puss and Boots. Then he knocked on the door and Mama Luna was very excited to have him. She named him Pickles and then she introduced him to his roommates. Then he decided to go to the bathroom and peed in the potty, and Mama Luna sprayed him and told him it was a person's potty and he is forced to pee in the kitty potty.

It was disgusting and then he went to eat food in the kitchen and Mama Luna said he had to eat food for cats. Then time passes and Puss gets older and has a beard. He meets Perritio the therapy dog and then they become friends and his dog friend tells him to tell his story about when he was a hero. Puss and Kitty Soft Paws were a couple but then she got mad at him for leaving her at the altar of the Church of San Antonio. But then they made up and they are Team Friendship with Perritio. Then they sailed to meet some old friends, Shrek and Fiona and the Queen and King of Far Far Away. The movie was awesome and I loved seeing Puss in Boots the Last Wish and I want to see it again in the Coralville Mall with my Iowa friends on the weekend when I go back to school.



*Annie showed off her Christmas spirit right before she and her friends went to see the movie during the Holiday Session*



## Barnes and Noble

By: Chris P

We like going to Barnes and Noble. We like going up the escalator. We like going onto the second floor. We like taking a look around. We like checking it out. We like going down the escalator. We like going back onto the first floor. We loved it.

## My Mom

By: Natalie F

My mom likes sports. She likes Ohio State, Cubs, the Bulls, and the Indians. She likes to cook dinner and lunch. She likes to play on her phone. She likes to play on the computer. She talks to her friends. She walks the dogs. She does nails. She does not like disgusting things. She does not like stinky things. She doesn't like when the dogs make a mess. She does not like Trump. She does not like Tom Brady. She does not like Barney the Dinosaur.

## Jonathan's Wedding Decorations

By: Jennifer V

Color balls are cute  
Magic colors are fantastic.  
Peruvian colors of mommy's dress  
Pink flowers  
Is link showers.  
Wedding favors  
White llama  
And handmade color bags.  
Wedding decorations  
Is coronations of colors.

## Pie Five Pizza

By: Chris P

We like going to Pie Five Pizza. We like going up to the counter. I like telling the lady what I want. I like getting something to drink. We like finding a seat. We like finding a table. We like sitting at the table. We loved it.

## Holiday Social Review

By: Jason K

Last weekend Saturday we had our last and final social of the year with Our Place. It was the holiday theme night. Gabrielle was in charge. We played a trivia game PowerPoint with questions and answers. Most of them were easy and there were some hard ones but I did pretty good. Anyways then afterward we did a drawing of Santa Claus and colored them in and showed off our drawings. It turned out really nice.

Then we picked out Christmas music to play on YouTube. We each took turns playing our song before ending the social. We waved goodbye to one another.

## Me and Gabrielle

By: Natalie F

Me and Gabrielle have matching shoes. Me and Gabrielle like ice cream. Me and Gabrielle have dogs. Me and Gabrielle have green eyes. Me and Gabrielle like Matt. Me and Gabrielle think Jamie is silly. Me and Gabrielle like Corgis. Me and Gabrielle come to Our Place. Me and Gabrielle do Our Place Press and Writing Workshop.



*Natalie and Gabrielle taking a walk around the neighborhood during the Fall*