

# A Guide to the Holidays

The holiday season is a common favorite among many people. People from all different backgrounds look forward to this magical season and all the joys it brings. After an eventful year and many things still unknown, the Del.Aware staff wanted to help provide some extra joy to this time. In this speciality issue learn all about events happening in our community, popular holidays, origins of other holidays, traditions around Delaware Valley, various holiday cuisines, popular music and movies, as well as predictions for 2021!

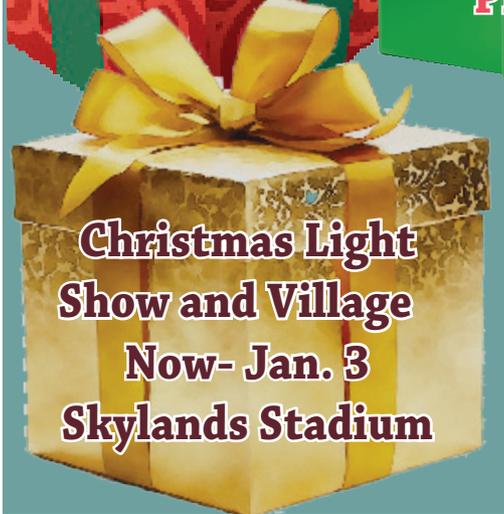
~ Kaila Dunn



**Holiday attractions**  
**Now- Dec. 23**  
**Market Square and**  
**PPG Place**



**Christmas Candyland**  
**Now- Jan. 3**  
**Hersheypark**



**Christmas Light**  
**Show and Village**  
**Now- Jan. 3**  
**Skylands Stadium**

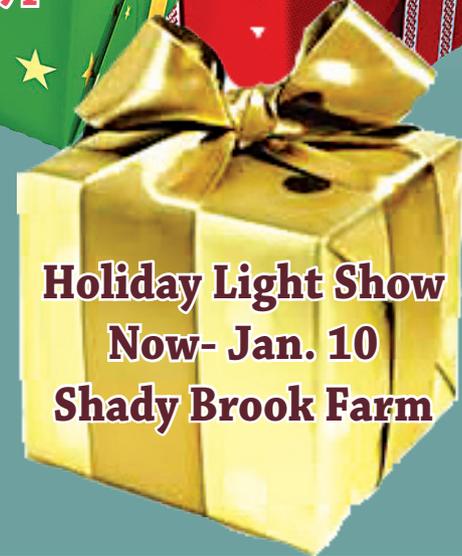


## Decorating Contest

The Del.Aware is holding our third annual decorating contest! To be entered in the contest, send a picture of holiday decorations such as lights, trees, garlands or villages to @del aware on Instagram, or email a picture to the.del aware@gmail.com by Dec. 15.

The first place winner will be awarded a \$15 Dunkin' gift card, second place winner will be awarded a \$10 Dunkin' gift card and third place winner will be awarded a \$5 Dunkin' gift card.

Check out the winners in our next issue coming out Dec. 18!



**Holiday Light Show**  
**Now- Jan. 10**  
**Shady Brook Farm**

# Holiday Origins of the World

The Winter Solstice, which is the shortest day of the year and the onset of winter, is celebrated in Ireland on Dec. 21. Celebrations of the Winter Solstice originate back to about 10,200 BC when monuments such as the Newgrange, Maeshowen and Stonehenge were built to "capture" the sun to help the days begin to lengthen. Many ancient traditions in Ireland are still celebrated, such as visiting ceremonial sites to watch the sunrise fill the tombs, which is seen as a time of renewal. Other ways people celebrate are decorating with mistletoe and holly, gathering around burning yule logs and feasting with family and friends.

## Scotland



## Norway

The Yuletide Festival, spanning from the Winter Solstice to the 11 days following, is a German pagan celebration of the god Odin. Widely celebrated in Scandinavian countries, the first record of the holiday dates back to the 15th century, especially in Norway. Originally, the holiday was a series of feasts and rituals to honor the Norse Gods and Goddesses as well as a celebration of nature. A common tradition is burning a Yule log for protection from negative energy. The festival is commonly celebrated by lighting candles and having a bonfire on the longest night, Dec. 21.



*Happy Holidays!*

## Japan

When Christmas time rolls around in Japan, it is considered to be a time to spread happiness rather than a religious celebration. Christmas Eve is more of a romantic type of night. Couples spend the day and night together exchanging gifts, going on walks, and eating out at restaurants. One of the traditional Christmas Day meals is fried chicken. It rapidly gained popularity after a campaign that KFC ran in 1974. The slogan was "Kentucky for Christmas!" Another popular Christmas food in Japan is the traditional Christmas cake. It is a sponge cake decorated with strawberries and whipped cream.

## Iran

Zoroastrians, followers of the world's oldest monotheistic religion, observe Sadeh on Jan. 29. Although the exact origins of this celebration are unknown, this day is known to be a celebration of the discovery of fire, which is thought to fight darkness and cold. Multiple priests, known as Moobeds, celebrate the climax of Sadeh by lighting a pile of wood on fire and reading texts from the Zoroastrians holy book, Avesta. Zoroastrianism was common in Iran before the Arab invasion in 633 AD. The festival takes place 50 days and 50 nights before the Iranian New Year on March 21, known as Nowruz.

## Australia

Boxing Day falls on Dec. 26, which makes it the second day of Christmastide. Christmastide is more commonly known as The Twelve Days of Christmas. Boxing day originated in England where the British aristocracy was meant to give servants the day off and a present. It is celebrated in the Commonwealth of Nations which includes Australia. In Australia, many sporting events are held ranging from a cricket match to a yacht race.

The media is dominated by sporting events on Boxing Day. In certain parts of Australia stores are opened for post Christmas sales. As a tradition, many people take advantage of this and buy more gifts for their friends and family.



# Popular Celebrations



## Kwanzaa

MADISON KELLY  
Sports Editor

- The celebration of Kwanzaa will take place from Dec. 26 to Jan. 1.
- Dr. Maulana Karenga created Kwanzaa in 1966 after the Watts Riots in Los Angeles to bring African-Americans together as a community.
- Kwanzaa's popularity declined shortly after its peak in the 1980s and 1990s but is still celebrated by millions of Americans and some in Canada and the Caribbean.
- Families who celebrate decorate with objects of art, colorful African cloth such as kente and fresh fruits that represent African idealism.
- The kinara holds seven candles which signify their seven principles: unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and faith.

## Hanukkah

DANNY ZHIVKOVICH  
World News Co-Editor

- Hanukkah was first instituted in 165 B.C.E., and the holiday always starts on the 25th day of Kislev in the Hebrew calendar.
- Hanukkah is a celebration of Judah the Maccabee's victory over Antiochus IV Epiphanes, the Seleucid King who invaded Judaea and tried to Hellenize the Jews.
- Hanukkah is also known as the Festival of Lights because of the miracle in which one day's worth of oil lasted eight nights when the Jews were rededicating the Second Temple of Jerusalem.
- Hanukkah lasts eight nights symbolically because of the miracle, and it is tradition to light one candle on the menorah each night after sundown. The menorah is a nine-branched candle stand where the ninth middle candle, known as the shamash, lights the other eight candles. Children receive one present a night during the holiday.

## Christmas

JOLIE FRAGGETTA  
Opinions Editor

- Christmas is celebrated every year on Dec. 25 and was first celebrated in the year 336 A.D. in Rome.
- The holiday is celebrated by people of the Christian faith all over the world to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.
- Santa Claus, also known as St. Nicholas, often brings children presents if they have been good.
- Many different countries around the world have different traditions for Christmas such as the festival of Las Posadas in Mexico or eating KFC Fried Chicken for Christmas dinner in Japan.
- Many people decorate their entire houses with wreaths, lights, trees, stockings, candy canes and other decorations.



# Favorite Holiday

*"We eat a lot of lamb on Christmas Day."*  
**Zach Matthews**  
Class of 2021



*"On Three Kings Day, we put a manger in front of our daughter's door, and the Three Kings bring her a gift."*  
**Mrs. Raycharlyn Krasulski**  
Staff



*"I open pajamas and we wear them on Eve."*  
**Cassidy Mullamphy**  
Class of 2021

*"We hide a pickle in the tree and the person to find it, opens presents first."*

**Henry Hamill**  
Class of 2021



*"We celebrate Christmas in July."*  
**Olivia Rowehl**  
Class of 2024



# Traditions at DV



*"My mom and I bake Russian cookies."*  
**Adam Kanterman**  
**Class of 2021**

*"I enjoy hanging out with family on Christmas."*  
**Ryan Burke**  
**Class of 2024**



*"We go to Fuji and Round 1 and whoever gets the most tickets, opens presents first."*  
**Alice Cauchi**  
**Class of 2021**



*as with my family, them on Christmas*



*"We eat the Seven Fishes."*  
**Devin Stashluk**  
**Class of 2024**





# Holiday Cuisine

## Jamaica

### Jerk Chicken

Native to Jamaica, jerk is a style of cooking where the meat is marinated with a special spice mixture. Jerk chicken is also grilled after the seasoning mixture is used.

## Mali

### Groundnut Stew

Originating in Mali, a country in west Africa, groundnut stew is a dish that is traditionally enjoyed when celebrating Kwanzaa.

## Israel

### Latkes

Latkes, fried potato pancakes, are a popular food served during Hanukkah. They are traditionally dipped in sour cream and served with applesauce and sufganiyot, a fried jelly donut.

BY MADDY FEDUN  
Science and Tech Editor

It's that time of year again. Family and friends that are far and near come together to celebrate the holiday season. These festivities are experienced through the love of food. Food is more than just a necessity to fill one's appetite. It expresses the values and traditions that have been carried on year after year. Cultural heritages all around the world are shared through different aspects of food, whether it is a simple pot roast or delicious dessert.

## Sweden

### Lussekatter

St. Lucia Buns, referred to the Swedish as Lussekatter, are S-shaped saffron buns adorned with raisins and are eaten in celebration of St. Lucia.

## France

### Yule Log

The Yule log is traditionally eaten in France during the Christmas season and is made from chocolate sponge cake, covered in cream and rolled up into a log shape.

## Spain

### Polvorones

Polvorones are crumbly shortbread cookies traditionally eaten during the holiday season. They are made from flour, sugar, milk and nuts.

# Holiday Entertainment

By MIKAYLA KRISANDA  
World News Editor

During the holiday season, holiday music and movies play a large part in raising spirits and getting people ready for upcoming festivities. Songs like "All I Want For Christmas Is You," by Mariah Carey and movies such as "Frosty the Snowman," directed by Arthur Rankin Jr. and Jules Bass bring a feeling of nostalgia to many people around the world. Holiday music and movies help people forget the chaos of the world and embrace the cheer-filled holiday season.



Scan the barcode under each song to listen to some holiday favorites through Spotify! Be sure to also scan the barcode above to listen to the Del.Aware staff's favorite songs as well!

## Famous Holiday Music

Compiled by Victoria Hoffmann

## Famous Holiday Films

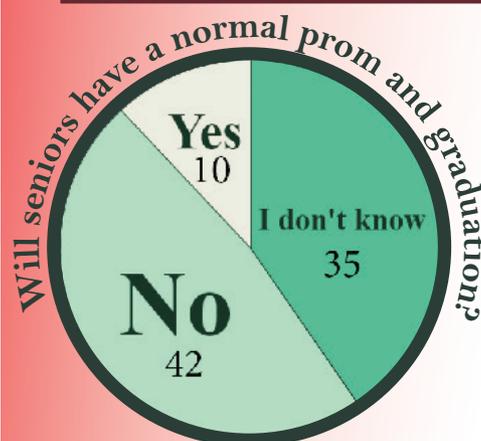
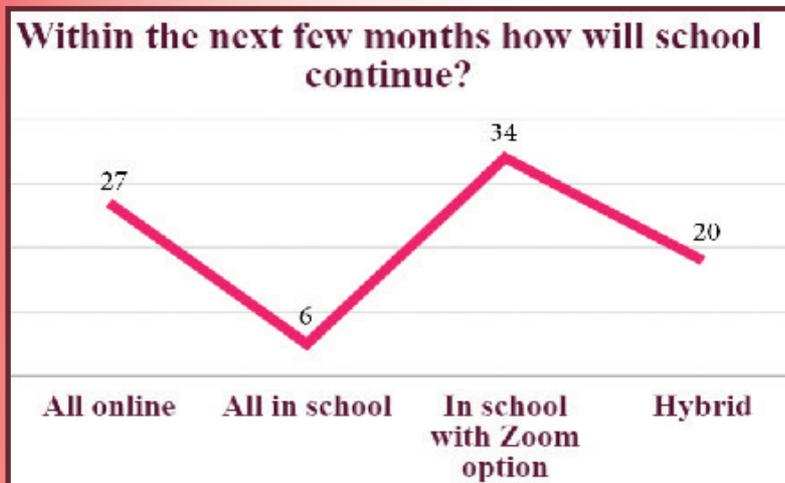
Compiled by Emily Herold



# 2021 PREDICTIONS

## Future according to student body

Data collected through a survey sent to all high school students, 87 students participated.

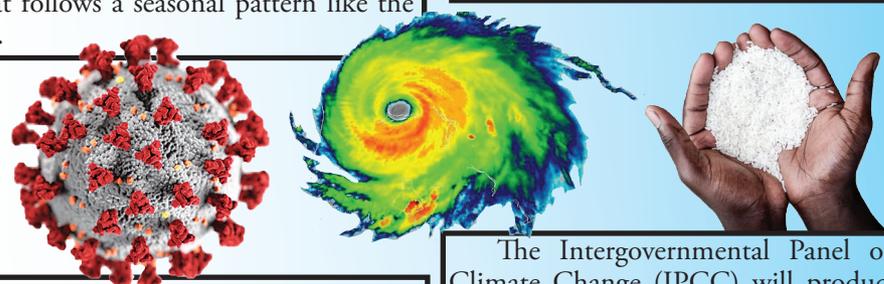


## Scientists predict future

By ADRIENNE GORDON  
Entertainment Co-Editor

According to a review in *Frontiers in Public Health*, scientists predict that once herd immunity is attained, SARS-CoV-2 may become a respiratory virus that follows a seasonal pattern like the flu.

David Beasley, the head of the United Nations World Food Programme stressed that the world is on the brink of a hunger pandemic. Without necessary resources, famine may sweep the globe.



Although scientists are uncertain if climate change will increase the number of hurricanes, there is confidence that higher sea levels and warmer ocean temperatures will intensify their impacts and intensity.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) will produce its sixth assessment report which will summarize climate change's impacts, future risks and options to reduce the rate climate change is taking place.

