



Garretson's Hometown Christmas starts tonight and continues through tomorrow. Look in this issue for more.

Blue Ink



Donations go to local Children's Miracle Network

Tina Sandbulte still contributes to CMN, nine years after passing

by Peyton Sage
staff writer

Those who knew Tina Kate Sandbulte described her as being free spirited, vibrant, fun, and most notably: having a big heart.

Tina started donating to the Children's Miracle Network after she heard about it on the radio. When Tina was not a part of the cheer team, she would go around the school with a bucket asking for donations. But when she was on the cheer squad, she and the other cheerleaders started fundraising for the network.

Tina brought in the last of her donation money to the Children's Miracle Network just two weeks before she passed away.



Tina Sandbulte, who passed away her senior year at Garretson High School, was very active with the Children's Miracle Network. She is pictured here with her mother's goddaughter, Adrian.

Photo courtesy of Norinda Sandbulte

On November 6, 2009, Tina died in a rollover accident near Beaver Creek, Minnesota after losing control and being ejected

from her vehicle. She was only 17 years old.

To carry on her daughter's passion, Norinda Sandbulte, Garretson School's administrative assistant, began accepting \$1 donations from students who wished to wear pajamas or hats to school, and would later give that money to the Children's Miracle Network in Tina's memory.

On Wednesday, for the eighth consecutive year, students donated \$1 or more to wear pajamas and hats, faculty donated \$5 to wear jeans, and employees at Alliance Communications also donated money to wear jeans.

Last year, the check written for Children's Miracle Network was \$1,036.25. This year during the local CMN Radiothon, Garretson gave \$1,177 in donations to the network, continuing Tina's desire

to make a difference.



This Week's Need to Know

FACT OF THE WEEK: The tallest Christmas tree on record was 221 feet.

LIFE HACK OF THE WEEK: Popcorn actually pops better when stored in the refrigerator

JOKE OF THE WEEK: What type of cars do elves drive? (submitted by Aftyn H.)

BRAINTEASER OF THE WEEK: If it takes 5 elves 5 minutes to make 5 toys, how many minutes will it take 100 elves to make 100 toys.

Answers to joke and brainteaser are on the bottom.

Upcoming Events

Friday, December 8

- GBB @ Tri-Valley (4:00/5:00/6:30)
- BBB @ Tri-Valley (4:00/5:00/8:30)

Saturday, December 9

- JH BBB @ Chester (10:00)
- JH GBB @ Chester (12:00)
- GBB @ Tri-Valley (2:00/5:00)
- BBB @ Tri-Valley (3:30/6:30)

Monday, December 11

- JH/JV Wrestling @ Beresford (4:00)

Tuesday, December 12

- JH GBB v. Canton (4:00)
- GBB v. Canton (4:00/6:15)
- BBB v. Canton (5:00/7:30)

Thursday, December 14

- 3rd-5th Spelling Bee (9:00)
- JH GBB v. West Central (4:00)

Worth Mentioning

Study abroad opportunity is being put together by Ms. Pliska. A 2-week trip to Great Britain is planned for the summer of 2019. There will be an informational meeting on this trip on Monday, December 11 @ 6:30 in the school library for those interested.

Congratulations to Nobel Nothstine for her Excellent performance at the State Oral Interp Contest last Saturday in Aberdeen.

JH BBB kept with their winning ways, beating Tri-Valley.

Help for holiday gift giving

A holiday gift guide for inspiration

by Heather Huether
staff writer—editorial

Not everyone has picked out the perfect gift yet and time's ticking down but you just have to have what's new and what's going to make this year better than the last.

If you have a friend who loves electronics, the best gifts to get them this year are virtual reality, because sometimes life just isn't fun enough; Echo, because everyone needs a little help here and there at home, and the new iPhoneX or Samsung Galaxy Note8.

The best gift to get a little kid would be Pie Face. I mean who doesn't love a game that gets family together plus you get to embarrass them and make a mess. Or, you could go with the new finger monkeys. They are a great way for a child to have a little fun and they can play by themselves so you don't have to worry about them bothering you.

They are flying off the shelves almost as soon as they get there which make them the toy to get this year.

If you're a teenage girl, you know you want a giant stuffed teddy bear. Not only are they fun to cuddle with and a great body pillow, but they're blowing up all over social media and you don't want to be left out. Plus you know you just have to have the best jewelry out there. Including small necklaces, chokers, and charm bracelets. Let's not forget about make up. The top products so far are Sephora's eye shadow pallets, and the Anastasia Beverly Hills contour pallet. Every girl needs a little something to help cover up every now and then. It's also a great way to express your style and add a little pop into your life.

If you like to snuggle up to a good book on a cold winter day Christmas is the perfect time. For all the book lovers out there the top books this Christmas are, "Diary of a Wimpy

Kid: A Getaway" by Jeff Kinney. It's the 12th book in the series so don't forget to buy all of them so you have a book to snuggle up and read all through Christmas. Or you could pour a cup of hot cocoa and enjoy "Wonder" by R. J. Palacio.

For those who travel, beats head phones are a good bet or while out sight seeing an Instax Mini camera may be what is needed. Take multiple pictures, that print instantly, for memories to keep for years to come.

This year if you know someone who loves the outdoors or going on adventures a great gift would be a GoPro, so they could record and re-watch all the wild thing they did. Or you could get them the perfect Nike shoes that go with every outfit for every occasion.

Christmas is right around the corner with only 17 days left to go! If you haven't found that perfect present yet you may need to hurry before they're gone.

First full month of the season has spurred new front runners

NBA seems to have a little more parity this year as Warriors and Cavs fail to make the top of the power rankings

by **Mason Hofer**
staff writer

After an insane month of November in the basketball world, we can only hope for something close for December. We are already through week 7 of the NBA, some teams have been performing above expectations and some are not meeting the hype.

Lebron James has been on an absolute tear since the Cavaliers went on their losing streak. Lebron James has carried the Cavs to a 13 game winning streak while averaging 28 points, 8.5 assists, and 7.9 rebounds. The Cavs will face off against the Pacers tonight at six o'clock.

The Celtics have taken the NBA



by storm, most of the credit of their success has gone to point guard Kyrie Irving. But, does he deserve this credit, no. Irving only averages 23 points per game, and 5 assists. The majority of the success is spread amongst the other younger players and one vet.

Jaelen Brown, rookie Jason Tatum, and veteran Al Horford.

James Harden, Houston Rockets, had the best month of November of everyone in the NBA. Harden averaged a double-double, roughly 34 points and 12 assists per game. The Rockets were also 7-0 in November.

For the 76ers, the process is beginning to shine more and more every night. Ben Simmons is easily

the number one choice for rookie of the year so far, if Joel Embiid was eligible it would be a tough choice between the two of them. Simmons and Embiid are both at near the top of their positions.

ESPN's Power Rankings

1. Houston Rockets
2. Boston Celtics
3. Golden State Warriors
4. Cleveland Cavaliers
5. San Antonio Spurs
6. Toronto Raptors
7. Detroit Pistons
8. Philadelphia 76ers
9. Minnesota Timberwolves
10. Denver Nuggets

Mason's Power Rankings

1. Houston Rockets
2. Boston Celtics
3. Cleveland Cavaliers
4. San Antonio Spurs
5. Golden State Warriors
6. Detroit Pistons
7. Philadelphia 76ers
8. Toronto Raptors
9. Minnesota Timberwolves
10. Portland Trail Blazers

Best gift ever

What is the best gift you ever received and why?



"Maxus Dragonoid because it was from my favorite TV Show."
- Clay B., senior



"Xbox One because it helps relieve stress from school."
- Dakota J., junior



"I don't think I've ever had a really good Christmas gift."
- Kendra K., sophomore



"Money because I can buy whatever I want with it."
- Bella P., sophomore



"My phone because it's bigger than the last one I had."
- Nate S., freshman

Olympics may look a little different

by **Isaiah Miles Mader**
staff writer

The world and sports superpower, Russia, has been disqualified from the 2018 Olympic Games due to a doping scandal led by their state. The International Olympic Committee will allow athletes with a clean past and regular clean testing

to participate in Pyeongchang February 2018 under a neutral flag.

The IOC is also retracting medals from Russian athletes who were caught using prohibited substances and is planning to have medal ceremonies giving the rightful contenders their medals at the 2018 games. However, many athletes are appealing the decision.

While many are used to seeing Russia on the podium, this year's absence will make for a much different feel. Although the superpower is ineligible, the Olympic Games will still feature the best athletes and should provide quality entertainment during the bleak winter months.

Flynn admits to lying

by **Isaiah Miles Mader**
staff writer

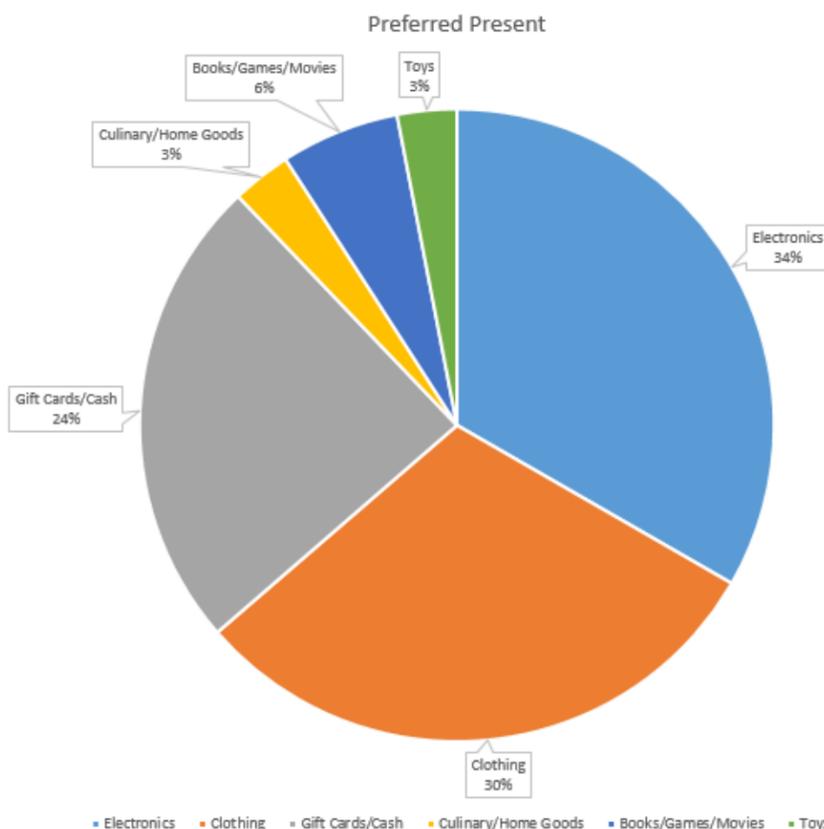
Last week, President Trump's former national security adviser Michael Flynn plead guilty to lying to the FBI about Russian sanctions among other things. Flynn has been under examination by Robert Mueller who led the investigation of Russia disrupting the 2016 election. This comes amid the push for Trump's impeachment.

According to a witness, Flynn sent a text during Trump's inaugural address that a plan, in partnership with Russia, to build nuclear power plants in the Middle East was "good to go." Flynn also guaranteed that the US sanctions would be "ripped up" by the administration promptly.

Although it is not certain what will happen next, Flynn could have serious repercussions, and spark a down hill spiral Republicans as more information concerning the Russian probe comes to light.

Present Preference Student Opinion Poll

What is your preferred type of present?



Garretson grapplers off to a good start

Varsity wrestlers compete in Flandreau Booster Club Invitational last Saturday

by **Peyton Sage**
staff writer

The Garretson wrestling team had their first tournament of the season last Saturday. Although three varsity wrestlers couldn't participate due to weight or injuries, Garretson still performed well.

The first place winners for Garretson were Chayce Schleuter, a 3-0 senior in the 126 pound weight class who took down Carter Calmus, a 6-1 junior from Howard; and Dakota Johnson, a 2-0 junior in 285 pound weight class who defeated Brandon Shaw, a 1-1 junior from Madison.

Senior Keaten Wagner got runner-up in the 195lb weight class, junior Hayden Pierret placed third in the 132lb weight class, along with Dominic Abraham in the 138lb weight class, and newcomer Jimmy

Widrig, sophomore, placed fourth in the 160lb weight class.

Overall, the Garretson wrestlers placed fourth as a team with a total of 92 points.

Just yesterday, the wrestlers went back to work travelling to Parker for a quad.

Garretson swept the competition beating their three opponents: Garretson, 51 over Mount Vernon-Plankinton-Corsica-Stickney, 21; Garretson, 70 over Sioux Valley, 6; Garretson, 48 over Parker, 36.

Newcomer Isaiah Robinson notched his first win yesterday. And after sitting out the season opener due to injuries, the Konechne brothers returned to the mat and came out of yesterday with unblemished records. The other seniors on the team, Wagner and Schleuter, were also perfect on the night.

Shrink a Nat'l Monument?

An idea typically reserved for hero/villain movies may be reality

by **Gregorio Arana**
staff writer

On Monday, December 4, the President took a trip to Utah with intentions to shrink some of Utah's National Monuments. His trip resulted in two National Monuments getting shrunk after he signed two presidential proclamations, reducing America's protected land to just 4% compared to Costa Rica's 10%.

One of the proclamations will shrink Bears Ears National Monument by more than 80%. Bears Ears will go from 1.35 million acres to 228,337 acres.

The other proclamation will shrink Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument by about 45%. Grand Staircase-Escalante, which was designated by former president Bill Clinton, will be split into three sections and go from 1.9 million acres to about 1 million acres.

These monuments were dedicat-

ed and protected primarily by former democratic presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama. This was done in hopes to preserve, culture, history, and natural beauty.

However not everyone saw it that way. Some Utah natives accused the government of controlling their land, reducing the ability for oil drilling and mining.

Furthermore some believe that the earlier administration's choice to dedicate the monument to preserve it's natural beauty really only ruins it because of a push in tourism to "experience" those national treasures. Then people will trample all over rather than just letting nature be nature.

Yet to the Navajo people, Trump's decision isn't sitting to well because he's trying to take land that their ancestors use to live on. Unless Utah politicians can figure out a deal with Trump, the 3 million acres will remain public.

Home for the holidays

Garretson's Hometown Christmas slated for this weekend

by **Sylvia Larson**
staff writer

Lights are up and snow is falling, but still things are changing in Garretson. With the opening of

getting antsy for some normalcy. That's right people, it's Hometown Christmas Time!

This year is the biggest celebration Garretson has had for awhile. Tonight, there's a murder mystery spaghetti dinner (already sold out) at the legion hosted by the Jesse James players. The Treasure Chest is open until six, with some sales going on. Rainbow Delight is having specials until five.

Saturday is the most event-filled day of the weekend. Stomp the snow out of your shoes and then kick back and enjoy a steaming cup of apple

cider at the Garretson Historical Museum from 10:00-3:00, or donate a new unopened toy to Palisades Chiropractic to earn a free treatment. The Treasure Chest, Garretson Food Center, Rainbow Delight, and Tucker's Vineyard will all be open with specials going on throughout the day. For \$1 a ticket, there are kids crafts at the Senior Center going on until five. Everyone's favorite, Santa Claus, is planning to make an appearance too.

O So Good is having lunch specials; fire truck and hay rides are also available. At the end of the night, the Jesse James Players are having a repeat performance of their murder mystery, but this time a steak dinner. Schedules available at most local businesses or online at visitgarretson.com

Senior Spotlight

Peyton Sage



SENIOR PROJECT: Tandem Skydiving

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN: Soccer, Football Cheer, NHS

WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS THE MOST: Crispitos and Isaiah Miles Mader

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR: Attend SDSU for pharmacy or move to California to become a Baywatch Lifeguard.

Senior Spotlight

Rebecca Weiland



SENIOR PROJECT: Cake Decorating

ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN: Soccer, NHS, Choir, One-Act Play, Mentoring, Girls State, TATU, FCA

WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS THE MOST: Laughing with the soccer team

PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR: Attend USD for an undecided major