



Jackson County Food Service Newsletter

Have a Safe and Wonderful Holiday!!

Candy Cane Christmas Did You Know?

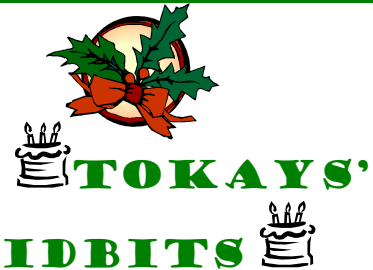
-  The first candy cane was made over 350 years ago.
-  The original candy cane was straight, all white, and hard.
-  The red and white striped candy canes were first made around 1900.
-  National candy cane day is celebrated on December 26 in the U.S.
-  Over 1.76 billion candy canes are made each year.
-  Nearly 2 billion will be sold in the four weeks before Christmas and Hanukkah.
-  To make your very own candy canes visit:
http://www.candycanefacts.com/candy_cane_recipe.html

Do You Know the 12 Days of Christmas?

- The partridge in a pear tree
- 2 Turtle Doves
- 3 French Hens
- 4 Calling Birds
- 5 Golden Rings
- 6 Geese A-laying
- 7 Swans A-swimming
- 8 Maids A-milking
- 9 Ladies Dancing
- 10 Lords A-leaping
- 11 Pipers Piping
- 12 Drummers Drumming

And a Few interesting Facts about Christmas

- Alabama was the first state to recognize Christmas as an official holiday in 1836. Oklahoma became the last in 1907.
- Hallmark introduced its First Christmas card in 1915. Now more than 3 billion Christmas cards are sent each year, with the average household sending 28 cards.
- During the Christmas shopping season, Visa cards alone are used an average of 5,340 times every minute and more diamonds are purchased (31 percent) than any other time of the year.
- Santa's reindeers are Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner and Blitzen - and the most famous reindeer of all - Rudolph.
- According to the National Christmas Tree Association, Americans buy 37.1 million real Christmas trees each Year.
- Franklin Pierce was the first U.S. president to decorate an official White House Christmas tree.
- The day after Christmas, December 26, is known as Boxing Day, and it is estimated that 400,000 people become sick each year from eating tainted Christmas leftovers.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:
1ST - BETTY SNELL - GHS
8TH - DEBORAH GATES - CHS

Pay Student's Meals Online

Tired of writing checks or sending cash for your child's meals? You now have the option of paying online. Using the web page, www.mealpayplus.com, you can set up an account for your students and you can make standard payments or auto-payments right from your computer. You will need your student's ID number. If you do not know your child's student's Id number, you can contact the child's school or the Food Service Office. With **Meal Pay Plus** you can keep track of your balance and set it up to notify you by email when the balance of each of your students' account goes below the set limit.

What's happening in a School Near You!

- o Remember, School will be out for Christmas break starting December 21st. Students and Teachers will return January 4th.
- o New items appearing on the menu this month include: tangerines and broccoli with cheese.

Reminders

You can visit www.jcsb.org and click on the Food Service Link, to access the following Links:

- > The Sodexo School Food Service Home Page
- > Free and Reduced Lunch Application Information
- > The Sodexo Wellness Policy
- > Nutrient Information
- > Cartoons for Kids
- > All Monthly Newsletters

Christmas Safety Tips

Now is the time we start decorating: lights, trees, garland, stockings, and so much more. But during this time we must also remember to keep safety foremost in our minds. You can help keep your family safe by following these simple tips:



Trees:

Look for a tree labeled "fire resistant."
When you buy a live tree, always check for freshness.
Only use flame-resistant materials and avoid sharp or breakable decorations when you trim your tree.



Lights:

Check all lights, new and old, for any that have broken or cracked sockets, frayed wires, or loose connections, and throw away all damaged sets.
Please make sure any lights you use outdoors have been approved for outdoor use.



Fireplaces:

Remove all decorations from your fireplace before you light a fire.
Check to make sure the flue is open.
Don't burn wrapping papers in your fireplaces as they ignite quickly and may cause a flash fire.



Toys:

Always read any instructions for any gift that your child receives to ensure that it is age appropriate, it poses no safety hazards to your child and so you can show your child the proper way to use that toy.



Outside:

Make sure your child does not get too cold and if their clothing becomes wet, have them change immediately.



Visiting:

Keep an eye out for danger spots when visiting homes that may not be childproof.
Keep a list of all important numbers: doctor, fire and police, and the national poison hotline (1-800-222-1222)



Food:

Wash your hands often.
Keep hot foods hot and cold food cold.
Always follow cooking instructions to insure proper cooking times and temps.

Visit this website for more safety tips:
<http://www.rd.com/christmas-safety-checklist/article15322.html>



For some great holiday themed activities to do with your child visit:
<http://www.dltk-holidays.com/xmas/index.html>

Or

<http://holidays.kaboose.com/christmas/>

For more interesting facts about Christmas visit:

<http://www.history.com/content/christmas>



Christmas With The Kids



Jackson County Food Service Cafeterias will be serving Christmas lunch on December 10th. The Menu will include Turkey & Gravy with Mashed Potatoes, Cornbread Dressing, Dinner Roll, Cranberry Sauce, Green Beans, and Red Velvet Cake. We would like to invite all parents* to come and eat with their child and make some wonderful memories.



*Adult meals are \$3.00 and include a tray and a tea.

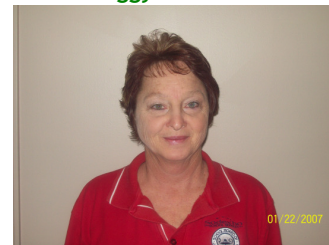


S.S.S.



Sodexo Staff Spotlight

Peggy Couliette



This month's staff spotlight member is Peggy Couliette, manager of Riverside Elementary School. Peggy has been with the Jackson County Food Service for 14 years and the manager at RSE for the last 7 years. She says she loves everything about her job, from her great co-workers to the kids that she gets to serve everyday. You can tell that all her staff, whom lovingly describe her as a great boss, understanding and caring, and saying they wouldn't want to work for anyone else, like Peggy. For those who know Peggy you will all agree that she is a people person, funny and outgoing, and shows a tremendous love for all things in life.

This shows in her personal life also, she has been married to Eddie Couliette for 25 years and they have 3 children, Johnathon, Timothy, and Alisha, and 2 grandchildren, Shiley and Gabe, whom she likes to spend all her free time with. During the Christmas season this year, her whole family will meet at her house to celebrate the holidays, good food, and a great time.

We would like to say Thank You for all that Peggy has done for us, and we can't wait to work with her for many years to come.