

---

## Artificial vs. Real: Christmas Trees

---

By: Ryan

All across the world people are going to Christmas tree farms and hand picking their trees. But a good handful of people are bringing out their fake trees. Most people want a real or artificial tree, but there are pros and cons for both of these types.



Many people think real trees are the best. They have real smell and they are a living tree. A lot of people pick a real tree because it is a tradition to pick them out and cut them down. People just do not want break a tradition that they have done for years. Also, they just might not like fake trees. Jake Ramey says, "I like the smell of the Christmas tree the most because it gives it a Christmas vibe."

A handful of people think real trees are bad because you have to get a new one each year, also they may have a scent that people may not like and they and the cost might be to much. Jonas Rodemack says, " Every year, you have to buy a new Christmas tree, and it ends up costing a lot of money." Fake trees are some of people's favorite kind of trees because you can reuse them each year. "They do not make that big of a mess when you are taking them down," says Andres.

Fake tree are not liked by some because when you don't want it any more you throw it in the trash and it take it takes about 6-10 years to biodegrade in the dump. However, some people recycle it. Most people get rid of their fake tree when they start to look a bit ragged.

What do you think? Go to the NPE Newspaper Website at <http://newspaper.luner.x10host.com/vote.html> and vote!

---

More Articles Inside: How to Save Money During the Holidays · Top Ten Toys · Holiday History · Holiday Events · Holiday Stress and how to Overcome it · Christmas Tree Confusion · North Plains Christmas Light Competition · More!

---

# Christmas Tree Confusion

---

By: Micah

One of everyone's favorite holiday traditions for Christmas is putting up a Christmas tree. But Christmas trees are facing some steep challenges. Three major diseases are hurting and killing Christmas trees. The three diseases are Phytophthora root rot and stem canker, current season needle necrosis (CSNN), and interior needle blight. Balsam twig aphids on new Fraser fir growth. These three diseases are very dangerous to Christmas trees. A way to stop this is to remove the soil from around the base and put in new soil. You can also raise the planting site. Stem canker can be confused with Phytophthora rot. Stem canker may not be recognized as it occurs, and it can kill a part of a plant or the whole plant. Current season needle necrosis (CSNN) can be caused by low calcium, waterlogging, or damaged roots. All of these are theories are contenders but not proven.



Interior needle blight is when one or more fungi infect necrotic needles that have died from other factors. It is unknown if fungi is the real cause, but it is the most common claim. The result of interior needle blight is a needle cast. Interior needle blight can be identified by rotted needles on a set of needles. Christmas trees are also facing the 4-year drought. A drought is a shortage of water, and Christmas trees do not have enough water. They are losing population, and that is why the prices are going up.

Christmas trees are really facing some diseases, and that causes shortages. So, be sure to expect that buying a Christmas tree will put a dent in your wallet.

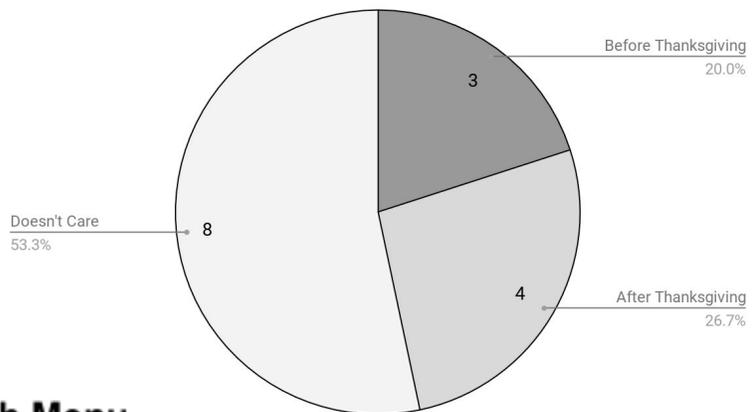
# Do People like to Start Celebrating Christmas Early?

By: Jonas

Thanksgiving is a time to feast. But some people are already setting up Christmas trees and lights. Why? Some people prefer to put Christmas and Thanksgiving together to make a super-holiday. But others prefer to keep it totally separate.

**We asked a few of the teachers. These are the results:**

When Do People Start Celebrating Christmas

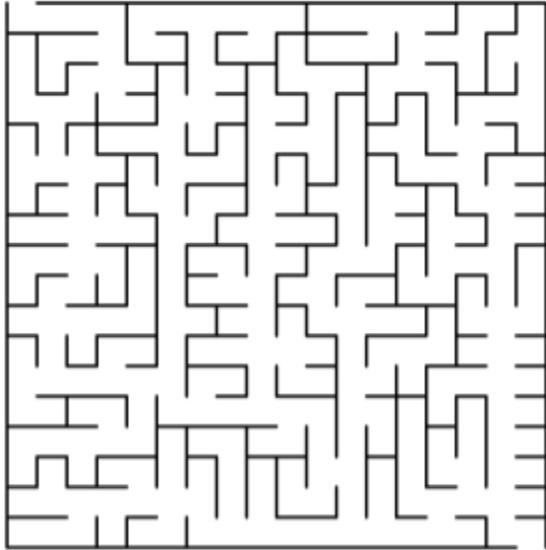


## January Lunch Menu

JANUARY 2019

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	1	2	3	4
<b>Winter Break</b>				
7 Scrambled Eggs with Pancakes Corn Dog Bites Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Pizza	8 Teriyaki Chicken over Brown Rice Chicken Nuggets Yogurt and Granola, 1 oz	9 Chicken Quesadilla Chicken Burger Cheese Stuffed Sticks with Marinara Sauce	10 Chicken Breast Filet with Mashed Potatoes Chicken Gravy and Homemade Dinner Roll Hamburger Cheeseburger PBJ, Grape Jelly or Strawberry with Goldfish Pretzels	11 Fish Sticks with Homemade Italian Breadsticks Hot Dog Grilled Cheese and Tomato Soup
14 Macaroni & Cheese Corn Dog Bites Homemade Pizza, Cheese Homemade Pizza, Pepperoni	15 Orange Chicken over Brown Rice Chicken Nuggets Yogurt and Granola, 1 oz	16 Burrito Chicken Burger Cheese Stuffed Sticks with Marinara Sauce	17 Country Fried Steak with Mashed Potatoes Country Gravy and Homemade Dinner Roll Hamburger Cheeseburger PBJ, Grape Jelly or Strawberry with Goldfish Pretzels	18 BBQ Rib Sandwich Hot Dog Grilled Cheese and Tomato Soup
21 <b>MLK Day</b>	22 Teriyaki Chicken over Brown Rice Chicken Nuggets Yogurt and Granola, 1 oz	23 Crunchy Taco with Spanish Rice Chicken Burger Cheese Stuffed Sticks with Marinara Sauce	24 Meatloaf with Mashed Potatoes Brown Gravy and Homemade Dinner Roll Hamburger Cheeseburger PBJ, Grape Jelly or Strawberry with Goldfish Pretzels	25 Tuna Sandwich Hot Dog Grilled Cheese and Tomato Soup
28 Mini Cheese Ravioli Corn Dog Bites Cheese Pizza Pepperoni Pizza	29 Teriyaki Beef Bites over Brown Rice Chicken Nuggets Yogurt and Granola, 1 oz	30 Turkey & Cheese Sub Sandwich Chicken Burger Cheese Stuffed Sticks with Marinara Sauce	31 <b>No School</b>	

# Humor



From: Wikimedia Commons

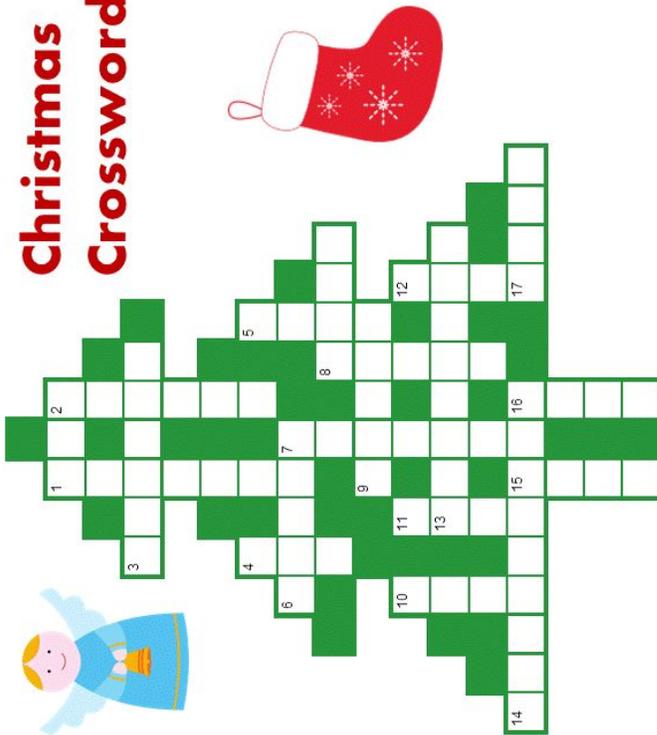
From happinessishomemade.net

O P R I N L I G G Q Q R G L U N H Z E F  
 C H Z Q E J A O R E I N D E E N R I R L Q  
 M B M O L S Z T V W U Y P E N O B N D T T V V  
 N H N J O L L Y N U Y E N M I H C C E U  
 X P M N P P S F I A G K A C L Y V H S Z  
 D L A E H X C E L B S F P G C C E T Q E G M  
 Z O M N T H E D A Y S G N I T E E R G M  
 S D Z I R V T Q P S G S B W C C P W V Q S  
 P U I Z O V A J A E O R U A C F S O G S  
 G R E H N X R L B P Y N N N H R S O I L  
 B N Z C S T B H J O M D P I M O A B V M  
 Y M I S T L E T O E Y R D E F E S M C I U  
 G O C N O R L D K C O Q O N R R T T W N B  
 W K Y Q C Z E J A G O V T D R Y S D G Q  
 L O R T K L C N I C G P N R Y L I N X S  
 J N X J I R E F B A V A P J E H R D C Z E  
 X L W O N H T A E R W V I I L E H A Y E  
 W L R D G Z G Y L D J C I N X E C M B O  
 M Y A D I L O H L S U H J A W N Z A M J  
 I X P D B T V H S K M W S E L D N A C U

- |            |          |           |            |
|------------|----------|-----------|------------|
| BELLS      | RUDOLPH  | ELVES     | JOY        |
| CANDLES    | SANTA    | FROSTY    | MERRY      |
| CANDY CANE | SEASON   | GIFT      | MISTLETOE  |
| CARDS      | SLEIGH   | GIVING    | NOEL       |
| CELEBRATE  | STOCKING | GREETINGS | NORTH POLE |
| CHIMNEY    | TREE     | HOLIDAY   | REINDEER   |
| CHRISTMAS  | WREATH   | JOLLY     |            |



## Christmas Crossword



### DOWN

1. Alternative word to 17 across
2. Christmas drink
4. Christmas dinner centerpiece
5. Dec. holiday
7. Christmas warmer
8. "Jingle \_\_\_\_\_"
10. Christmas tree
11. O. Henry's "The Gift of the \_\_\_\_\_"
12. What carolers do
15. French Christmas.
16. Snow glider

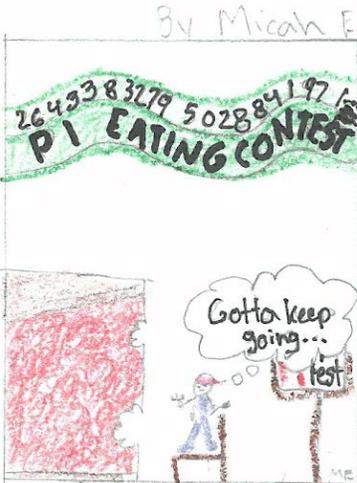
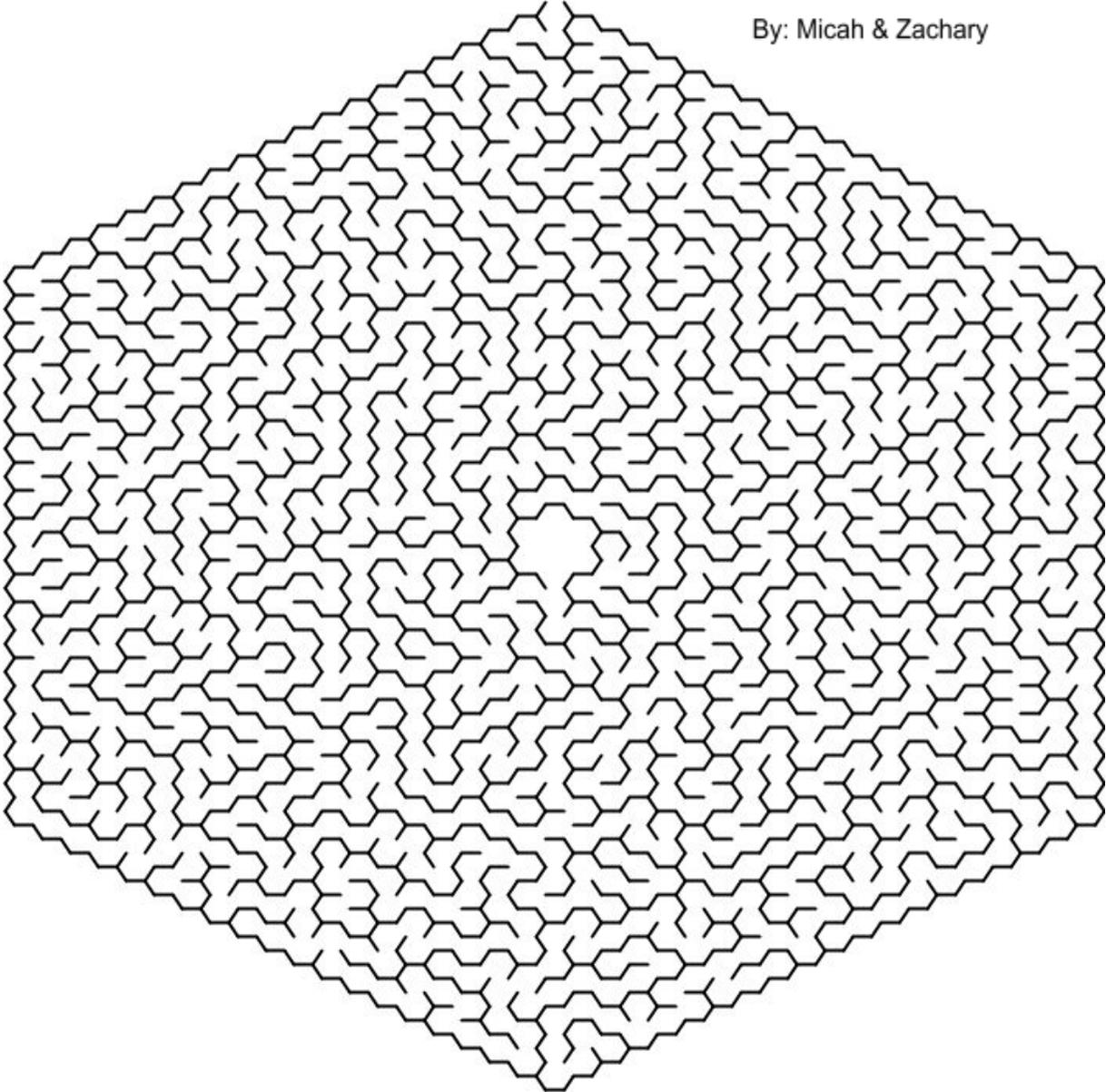


### ACROSS

1. Pumpkin or mincemeat
3. Santa's ride
6. Celebration
8. Newborn
9. Northpole crew
13. Word of praise
14. Words on a Christmas card
17. It's opened on Christmas

Copyright © Kim Steele - Puzzles to Print

By: Micah & Zachary



Need Help On The Mazes? Go to <http://newspaper.luner.x10host.com> to view the answer!

---

# Top Ten Toys for the Holidays

---

By: Maheen

Are you struggling to find a toy for your kids? These are the top toys you should get for them.

One of the top toys are drones. The cost of drones are \$50 to \$1000. There are different drones. Why it is so much is because they might have a camera or it is big or it has a great range. You can find them at places like Target™, Walmart™ or Bestbuy™.



The second top toy is TerraScout Nerf Toy RC Drone N-Strike Elite Blaster. It costs \$200 to \$300. Where can you find this beast is Amazon or Hasbro.

LEGO Star Wars Millennium Falcon is also a well liked set, with a 4.8 rating. But it costs \$200 to \$300. You can find this lego set at Amazon only because the lego set is retired.

The next top toy is the LEGO Boost which is a built robot with LEGOs. You would need a tablet to control but it is very cool. The cost is \$100 to \$200. You can find the lego boost at Target, Walmart and at Amazon. Our fifth toy is the Nintendo Switch. It is gaming console that you can take anywhere. You can also hook it up to a TV or a that tablet which it comes with. It costs \$300. You could find this console at



Costco, Gamestop, Target or Best Buy. Our sixth toy is called Hatchimals. Hatchimals are in eggs and you crack the egg then you get a Hatchimal. They cost \$50 to \$60. Our next toy is the Nintendo Labo set. What is it? Well it is a set that connects to your Nintendo Switch. But it is all made with cardboard. It comes with a steering wheel and



more. It is roughly \$70. Where you can find is Gamestop, Best Buy, Target, or Amazon. The eighth toy is LEGO Technic Bugatti Chiron. This toy is a LEGO car but this design is from one of the most expensive car in the world.

Basically you make the car with pieces. The cost of this car is \$350 and you can find this car at Target, Amazon, and the LEGO Store. The ninth toy is Anki Drive. What it comes with is track pieces and two cars. You use track pieces to make a track. After you made the track. You put the cars on the track but you need an electronic remote to steer the cars. The cars have powers like you can there is a power that shuts down cars except you for a couple seconds. It costs usually \$150. You can find Anki Drive at Target and Amazon. The last toy is Laser X. Laser X is basically laser tag. Laser X usually comes with two laser guns and a laser vest. You can also get Laser X Micro, a sniper, or fusion, as well. The challenge is to shoot the laser vest in the middle of your opponents' chests costs \$40 usually. You can find Laser X at Target, Costco, Walmart and Amazon.

\*ALL OF THESE ITEMS MAY BE FOUND AT OTHER STORES, OR YOU MAY NOT FIND THEM IF THE STORE DECIDES TO NOT SELL IT ANYMORE

---

## The North Plains Light Competition

---

By: Sophia

Every year, North Plains has an annual Christmas light competition. Houses are nominated by random citizens to take place in the competition. They announced the winners before the Jingle Parade at 6:15pm, Thursday, December 6. There were three awards: best decorated business, best lighted vehicle, and best lighted house. Maybe you could win next year!

---

## Weather

---

By: Zachary

Everyday until January 2 it is predicted to be cloudy with a 50% chance of rain. Unfortunately, it appears there will not be a white Christmas this year. On average, the wind speed will reach 6mph, with a max of 9mph. There is a slight chance that it may snow on the 23 and 24, but it is not likely. We may not get any snow this year.



---

# Recognition

---

By: Micah & Zachary

Every month, North Plains has stars of the month. This month's topic was honesty.

These are the stars of the month at North Plains Elementary this month:

<b>Teacher</b>	<b>Names</b>
Chronister	Lockey, Zachary, Brayden
McDowall	Kade
Job	Jackson, Alex
Smith	Kasey, Joseph
Monahan	Grady
Worthington	Samantha
Schwartz	AJ, Dakota
Richter	Paige, Dominick, Alexis
Phipps	Chance
Debolt	Liam
Underhill	Addie
Gale	Nicolas
Ravins	Jonathan

---

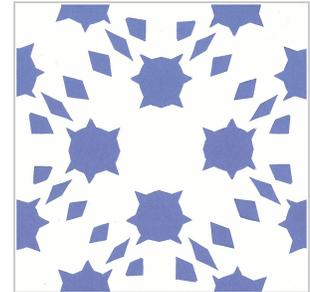
# Holiday Art

---

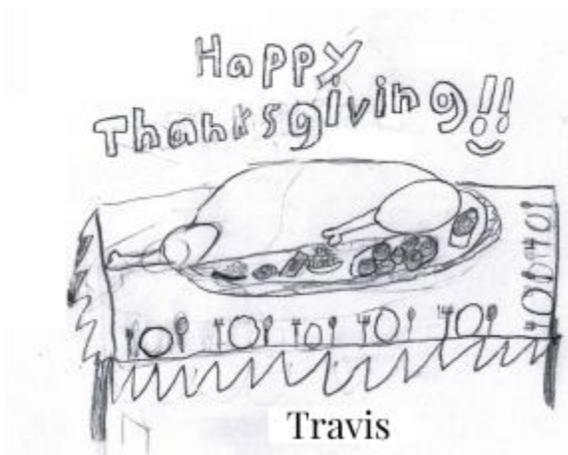
By: Micah

It's finally Christmas season, and everyone is making Santas, reindeer, snowflakes, and more. There is so much art to make, you never know when to stop! Follow the instructions below to find out how to make your very own papercut snowflake!

1. Fold a rectangular piece of paper from the top corner down to as far as possible so the lengths meet. Cut off the rectangle at the bottom. You now have a square paper.
2. Fold your triangle that you made by making the square paper in half.
3. Fold your triangle in half again.
4. Make cuts in the snowflake. You can look up templates on the Internet on where to cut. For now, turn the triangle so the long side is on the bottom. Cut a semicircle on the base of the triangle, and then cut three "horns" on the semicircle.
5. On a side of the triangle, cut three triangles going in towards your semicircle with the horns.
6. Unfold the triangle to get a true snowflake!
7. OPTIONAL: Make about 9 more snowflakes and connect them together in a circle to create a snowflake wreath!



By Micah



Montana & Natasha

---

# Holiday History

---

By: Jake

Thanksgiving and Christmas - the days we celebrate with food, presents, and joy. We have days off of work and school, but why?

It was the end of harvest season, 1621. This year, the pilgrims had lots food to feast, and feast, and feast! After a while, we continued to have feasts, every November. It became a national holiday in 1789, by George Washington from a request by congress.

Christmas is celebrated on the birth of Christ, yet there is still deeper history. The first Christmas was celebrated by the Roman Emperor Constantine, (the first christian emperor) in 336. A couple years later, the Pope, Julius the First made Christmas the birth of Jesus on the 25th of December.

---

# Holiday Events

---

By Ella

Christmas is such a busy time of the year, there is barely any time to relax with all the present picking, gift giving, decorating, and trying to spend time with loved ones. Well one way to spend time with loved ones is going to the Winter Wonderland race track in Portland it goes from November 23rd – December 26th, 2018. It's the largest light show in the North west spanning the track at Portland International Raceway. They don't allow chains or studded tires. For more information go to their website **winterwonderlandportland.com**. The victorian Belle miracle of a million lights is a beautiful house that is completely decked out with lights a decorations. Some are even for sale. More information is at their website [Victorian Belle.com/ miracle of a million lights](http://VictorianBelle.com/miracleofamillionlights). Take some time off and have fun with loved ones, and have a MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

---

# Holiday Stress And How To Overcome It

---

By Aidan

Holiday stress is very common among the U.S.A. and the world. Here are some ways to overcome it. Sometimes you don't really care about planning if your that kind of person I get it but to relieve any stress you should rethink not planning because knowing what your going to do when helps relieve stress.Or you should use real food not fake artificial food incase your stressed about people not liking your food.Also be nice and generous it always helps ,when you have people because nobody likes nobody rude on a holiday. Another thing is to sleep planty before the holiday so your relax and not cranky.

---

# Sports

---

By: Micah

Super Bowl LIII is coming close, and there are many teams trying to get that trophy. Many teams are close to the top, and none have ultimately secured a spot. The question is, who will go to Super Bowl LIII? We don't know for sure, but we can get a good opinion on who could go to Super Bowl LIII.



Most people think that the Saints are the highest contestant for Super Bowl LIII. They have a score of 12-2, the highest in the NFC South- and the whole league. The LA Chargers are another contender. Led by Philip Rivers, the Chargers stand at 11-3. The LA Rams also have a score of 11-3, and they were the main contender at the beginning of the year. After the loss at the Steelers, the Patriots have a score of 9-5, and they still are hanging in the competition. Also in the competition is the Kansas City Chiefs. The Chiefs also have a score of 11-3. Kansas City has had a good season so far.

These are the top contenders for Super Bowl LIII, and it sure is to be a good one. The Saints are trying to hold their spot at top, while the others compete for the win. Super Bowl LIII will take place in the Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta, Georgia. The game will air on NBC on February 4, 2019, and is scheduled for 6:20 eastern time. To see all teams' rankings, go to <https://www.nfl.com/standings/division/2018/REG>.

---

To see all past issues, go to <http://newspaper.luner.x10host.com/>!

Want to vote for the debates? <http://newspaper.luner.x10host.com/vote.html>!

---

## **Bonus Joke:**

How do sheep say Merry Christmas in Mexico?  
*Fleece Navidad!*

HA HA  
HA