

It's the most wonderful time of the year,  
**The Holidays** are here!

We all get a nice little break from school and get to spend time with relatives, far and near. (We *think* that's a good thing...right?)

We hope you enjoy the final 2011 Youth Club Newsletter — filled, just like your stockings, with lots of goodies. From learning about finances to getting out enjoying the free events Central Texas has to offer during this Holiday Season, this newsletter will help you kick off the New Year with a bang and a resolution to keep on saving!

the  
rising  
stars

Velocity**teen**

## Blue Santa 2011

Christmas is a time of sharing and receiving gifts for many. Unfortunately, this does not hold true for some families in Central Texas. This is why Velocity has been part of Operation Blue Santa for many years. During the months of November and December, Velocity branches will be designated locations to donate toys for children in need. You can make a family's holiday a memorable one. For more information on the organization or ways to volunteer, please visit [bluesanta.org](http://bluesanta.org).

## Remember to Save

December brings Christmas and Hanukkah — and during this holiday time you may want to spend, spend, spend but it's important to remember to save. Write down how much money you want to spend on gifts for each person and make it a goal not to go over your budget. You can do this by deciding how much of your savings or allowance you want to put away toward gifts for others. Make a plan and stick to it! Many family members like homemade items for gifts. Remember that during the holidays it is the thought that counts, not the amount you spend.



## “Where do you think money comes from?”

Sound familiar? Hint – it really doesn’t grow on trees.

The majority of the population gets money by **earning** it. That’s right; you work for your income. When you earn income, you trade your time and effort for money. The money you earn from work allows you to do two important things: spend and save. And we would recommend saving a little more than spending!

You’re not too young to earn your own money. In fact, when you learn to earn, you’ll get other important skills that will help you succeed in life. These may include learning how to efficiently manage your time and work with others. Want to figure out how you can earn income?



First ask yourself: What special skills or talents do you have? Do my friends, family, or neighbors need help with something? For example, washing the car, mowing the lawn, or babysitting? Once you find a need, ask if they’d be willing to pay for your help. You will be well on your way to earning some income.



1. The Greek Goddess of Corn is?  
A. Demeter B. Cornucopia C. Ceres
2. The first department store to hold a Thanksgiving Day parade was?  
A. Macy’s B. Gimbel’s C. J.C. Penny’s
3. True or False: Thanksgiving is celebrated only in the United States.
4. What is the name of the famous rock credited to where the pilgrims first landed?
5. What was the name of the ship the pilgrims came over on?
6. Which balloon was the first balloon in the 1927 Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade?  
A. Mickey Mouse B. Felix the Cat C. Betty Boop

1. A; 2. B; in 1920; 3. False; Canada celebrates; 4. Plymouth Rock; 5. Mayflower; 6. Felix the Cat

### Thanksgiving Tongue Twisters

*Can you say these Thanksgiving tongue twisters ten times fast?*

Ten tricky two-toed turkeys trotted on the table.  
Greedy gobblers grabbed the gravy.  
Floyd flipped five fine flapjacks!  
Six sick swans slurped soup slowly.

**Want to get in the Holiday spirit?  
Check out these fun free or low-cost  
activities around Austin.**

#### **Christmas Tree Lighting, Nov. 29**

*Southwestern University, 7 to 9 pm*

Come join the Georgetown folks at this fun holiday event to decorate cookies and light the Christmas tree. This event is free to the public and will take place at the McCombs Campus Center.

#### **A Christmas Carol, Nov. 30**

*Scottish Rite Children’s Theater, 10:30am to 12 pm*

After you’ve had your fill of Thanksgiving leftovers, get in the Christmas spirit by watching this classic holiday film.

#### **Holiday Sing-Along, Downtown Stroll**

*6 to 9 pm, Dec. 3*

This is a FREE family-friendly event that begins with community caroling at the Capital grounds. When the caroling ends, the Christmas tree in front of the Capitol is lit and participants stroll down Congress Avenue where they find the street alive with music, art, shopping and more.

#### **Austin’s New Year (ANY) 2012**

Come out and ring in the New Year with friends and family at this year’s Austin New Year event! This FREE event for the entire family will feature art, music, and film. So join in the fun Dec. 31 at Auditorium Shores from 5 to 10:30pm.

Happy New Year!