

Maddy Van Dussen

Take The Plunge and Give a Toy

Whether you like it or not, winter is peering around the corner here in Marblehead. Hopefully snow will be falling, if you exclude the factor of global warming (in which we may get a Sandy 2, but that's another discussion). When this winter blanket settles around Marblehead for the season, new things appear. In addition to the bitterly cold Atlantic Ocean, there is the upcoming holiday season, which emphasizes the giving and receiving spirit. This takes us to a more somber note. Winter can be, for some, a difficult time. Families struggling with money are pressured to make the holiday season worry-free for their children. For some children, this holiday season will have no presents and maybe even little food.

'Tis' the season of charity. The Interact Club, here at Marblehead High School, is a division of Rotary, dedicated to community-based service. This season, they are involved in the local Polar Plunge, which raises money to find a cure for Polio, a viral disease. This event takes place on Saint Patrick's Day. Participants will run headlong into the icy ocean! Ok this might not sound very appealing, but when you are doing it with a BUNCH of other people, its exhilarating, fun, and rewarding. Or so I'm told.

In addition to the Polar Plunge, the Interact Club will be starting a canned food drive as well as a toy drive. The canned food will be brought to the Marblehead Food Pantry, where food is provided to families who need it. The toy drive will collect toys that will be given to less fortunate children this holiday season.

With winter comes a spirit of warmth and kindness. It is the giving season. Not to be cliché, but giving is much more rewarding than receiving. Look through your closets for toys not used anymore, and buy an extra can at the grocery store. I can guarantee someone will need it. And if you're feeling a little *too* warm and cozy, don't forget to take a dip in the ocean.

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