

Good morning, Bobcats.

I hope each of you enjoyed a well-deserved Thanksgiving break and found time to rest and reconnect with loved ones. As we return to campus and move toward the close of the semester, let us carry forward the spirit of gratitude that this season inspires.

I want to congratulate our football team on their second-round win in the NCAA Tournament last weekend defeating CalU 23-21! FSU will play this Saturday in Kutztown, Pa., at noon, and I know that Bobcat Nation will be cheering them on to victory. Go Bobcats – keep the momentum going!

Now, as you know, one of Frostburg's most beloved traditions returns this Saturday with the 22nd Annual Storybook Holiday celebration hosted by our very own Children's Literature Centre. I simply cannot wait to see Frostburg transformed into a festive winter wonderland filled with the spirit of the season.

Guests of all ages are welcome to enjoy a full day of festive activities, from Breakfast with the Elves to the evening showing of *Miracle on 34th Street* – the day offers something special for everyone.

The community will be treated to storybook readings, craft vendors, cookie decorating and opportunities to meet with Santa and children's author Kristin Kkadstrup, who will share her delightful tale *The Gingerbread Pirates*. There will even be a parade – and you know how much I love a good parade!

This cherished community event celebrates literacy, imagination and the magic of the holidays – all made possible through the dedication of our FSU students, faculty, staff and community partners. I can't think of a more wonderful way to show our Bobcat pride and connect with families throughout the region.

I encourage everyone to come downtown on Saturday to enjoy the festivities and experience firsthand along with me the warmth and creativity that make Frostburg such a special place. A full schedule of events and ticket details can be found on our website [HERE](#).

Thank you to all who had a hand in making this year's Storybook Holiday possible – especially our students and volunteers who bring the magic of the holidays to life year after year.

I look forward to seeing you on Main Street this weekend as we celebrate another joyful Storybook Holiday together!

With FSU pride,

Darlene Brannigan Smith, PhD