

The Messenger

New Richmond High School, 1131 Bethel-New Richmond Road, New Richmond, Ohio 45157
Volume LXXV
November 2014



Front Street Cafe
NEW RICHMOND on the OHIO

Quaint river view cafe by day... fine-dining bistro with live entertainment in the evening... proudly located in the heart of New Richmond's historical waterfront district.

Front Street, New Richmond, OH 45137
(513) 333-4800 - www.frontstcafe.com

Send us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter



Jay Bunyan, LLC
Firewood and Outdoor Living

Jay Berry
Owner/President

Downed Trees
Onsite Work
Hauling/Grass

313-203-1997
1-800-368-1997
www.jaybunyan.com



AUTO SAVERS

430 CENTER ST.
NEW RICHMOND, OH 45157
(513) 797-9400

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED
COLLISION & INSURANCE REPAIRS
MECHANICAL, TOWING, TIRE SALES



PARK NATIONAL BANK
Southwest Ohio & Northern Kentucky



Joel P Loyd Insurance Agency

(513) 831-0045 Bus
(513) 218-5121 Cell
jloyd@amfam.com
www.facebook.com/JoelLoydAgency



Top Tops
752-6633



State Farm

Letitia Fulkerson, Agent
882 Ohio Pike
Cincinnati, OH 45245-2204
Bus 513 752 2144
Fax 513 752 7356
letitia.fulkerson.cths@statefarm.com



Lifetime Pet Centers
Jerry W. Miller, D.V.M.

1044-A Old US 52
New Richmond, OH 45157
(513) 553-9954

Jean K. Gladis, D.V.M.

Visit Us at Our Website, www.lifetimepetcenters.com



MAD ABOUT HAIR
513-734-3900



BACHMONT YACQUET & FITNESS

Attime

Cafe owner combines consulting, restaurant careers

Family, community most important to Bob Lees

Lifetime New Richmond resident Bob Lees actually has two completely different businesses. “I am in International Business Consulting (assisting US companies realize business opportunities internationally with emphasis on China, Japan and Southeast Asia, and I own and operate with my wife, Yuko, the Front Street Cafe in New Richmond,” he said.

Lees said he got into this field when he traveled to Asia in the military. “I returned to study international economics and international relations at UC and obtained an MBA in global business at the Thunderbird School of Management in Arizona and studied in Japan at the Institute of International which led to my career in international business and diplomacy.” Lees then returned to New Richmond. “I came back to my home town be-

cause I love it here. I restored a number of historic properties and opened the Front Street Cafe to provide a gathering place for our community to gather, do good things and to have fun!”

Communicating with US companies, UC, and a number of non profit organizations, are all a part of a typical day for Lees. “Some of those organizations are national, others are in Cincinnati and I consult on international issues and opportunities. In the evening, I communicate with contacts in Asia.” But the day doesn’t stop there, as Lees also has New Richmond activities on a daily basis. “I help to plan for daily activities for the Cafe and am involved in a number of New Richmond organizations including RiverStage Theatre, New Richmond Business Association, RiverArts Festival, Cardboard Boat Race and Museum and oth-

ers,” he said.

To be successful in these fields, Lees had some simple advice. “Love working with people and have a desire to make our community and the world a better place.”

When it comes to owning and operating a business, Lees said, Operating small businesses is challenging but personally so rewarding to do so “

Lees advised anyone thinking about starting their own business to understand what that takes. “Develop a business plan, expect to work hard, learn how to pick yourself up, dust yourself off and get back at it when you experience setbacks.”

There are many rewards, according to Lees, in owning one’s own business. “The independence and happiness of building businesses from scratch, seeing positive results for clients,

causing customers to be happy, having the opportunity to serve our community,” he said. And as with many of us, the worst thing about his field is the lack of time. “There don’t seem to be enough hours in the day to do all of the things that I hope to do,” he said.

When he first started the Cafe, Lees said he did make at least one mistake. “I underestimated the challenges of opening and operating a small business.”

Lees said that he wants all his customers to know one thing about his business. “That we are here to serve them the very best that we can, appreciate them and enjoy serving them!!!” And finally, Lees emphasized ideals that to him, are the most important: “Love of community, love of the work that one chooses to do, giving back to the community, love of family.”

NR graduate now owns Altimet

Don’t always depend on plan A, have a plan B

By Alexis Wilson

Altimet is one of the largest recyclers in the area, and provides total recycling for all kinds of aluminum scrap. Their clients are typically large industries. “We re-melt more than 14 million pounds of aluminium per year,” stated Chris Hamm, the owner and president of Altimet, which is located in Batavia. Hamm graduated from New Richmond High School and then from Ohio University. “I took a position with Honda Trading America as an aluminium trader,” he said.

Hamm said that his typical day includes several different activities. “Most of my day involves management meetings, problem-solving and strategy sessions,” stated Hamm.

Hamm’s advice for succeeding in business involves a couple of basic skills. “To succeed in this business you need good communication skills and organization skills are critical,” stated Hamm. After being in business for a while, Hamm learned that people are the most important asset.

Hamm gives advice to people who are starting in Altimet or interested in starting their own business. “When starting a business, be prepared to fail. You learn more from failing than succeeding. Always have a plan B and be prepared to sacrifice,” stated Hamm.

Many things go into creating and managing a business but

the most important thing to Hamm is communicating a business vision. “Everyone must be on the same page for an organization to succeed,” he said.

When you are working at a job or owning a business, an outgoing personality is an important attitude to have, according to Hamm. “Just be honest and diligent and all your customers will respect you, no matter what the issue,” he said.

Hamm stated that the best thing about owning your own business is, “watching your dreams become reality and watching people grow and develop.” The worst thing about owning your own business in Hamm’s opinion is the amount

of time involved, “If you own your own business, you are always working. You must be available 24/7. The business continues, whether you’re sleeping or on vacation.”

When Hamm started the business, he said at first he lacked a plan B. “When you write your business plan, you have faith that a start-up will follow it closely. Sometimes that happens, sometimes not.”

Hamm would like people to know that you can depend on his business. “We are honest, diligent, and nimble,” said Hamm.

American Family agent appreciates support

Joel Loyd also serves as NR volunteer coach

New Richmond resident and volunteer coach Joel Loyd has been an American Family insurance agent for 14 years.

Insurance was not the field Loyd thought he'd enter when he graduated from college. "I graduated from Heidelberg college with my BA in comprehensive social studies/education. Opportunities in the field were limited so I started working in the automotive industry to make ends meet. I pent ten years in that industry before starting my own business. I opened an American Family Insurance agency in 2001 serving Clermont County and surrounding areas," he said.

On a typical day, Loyd said he begins by opening his office around 8am. "We work with clients protecting their assets,

focusing on auto, homeowner's, commercial and life insurance. We are the front line when you need advice or guidance with your insurance needs. We close the office at 5 pm. My clients can still contact me after hours via email, cell phone, facebook etc..., if the need arises."

To be successful in this field, Loyd said being patient, hard-working, understanding, empathetic and a good listener are essential. "If you want to own your own business or just work in the insurance industry, you have to be reliable, compassionate, adaptable, ambitious, determined, honest, optimistic and self-disciplined," he added.

Loyd said he learns something new every day in his field. "The insurance industry changes daily. I have continuing education to

complete annually. I hold numerous insurance licenses and a CLF designation. If you are going to be successful in any business, you must continue to learn and grow," he said.

To anyone starting in the insurance field or just wanting to start a new business, Loyd said be prepared to work hard and work long hours. "Do your homework in the industry you want to work. Be willing to work 70-80 hrs a week for the first few years. Have a budget and do not go into debt. Be willing to put your clients first. Find a career you enjoy and have fun!!!"

Loyd has developed a close relationship with his insurance clients, which he says is his most important concern. "I provide solutions to complex/difficult situations. I protect my client's most valuable assets. I make sure my clients know I care about them and their families. I need to be at my best when they are at their worst. Claims can be stressful, I work as an advocate for my clients."

Being a small business owner has several perks, according to Loyd. "I control my own destiny, I depend on me every day! I direct the culture of my business. I develop the most positive work/life culture for me and my family. I hire and work with the people I want to work with. Finally, I get to follow my passion!"

But those perks can sometimes come with a downside. "Your time is not your own. Your office may be closed but there are things that need done at all hours. Technology has made this concern much easier to deal with, though," said Loyd.

Spending too much money on advertising was Loyd's biggest mistake when he started the business. "I purchased advertising

that was ineffective and expensive. I had no understanding that return on investment (ROI) could be measured and managed. ROI is a measurable, accountable metric to be used in all facets of small business."

Loyd said he wants customers to know that, "Insurance is a relationship business. Prices will fluctuate from year to year. We strive to develop a relationship with all our customers and develop an insurance strategy that meets their coverage and financial needs. Customer satisfaction is very important to my business. American Star measures our satisfaction numbers through random surveys. Currently we have a 9.77 on a 10 point scale. We have numerous awards for customer satisfaction over the fourteen years we have been in business," he added.

Loyd has close connections to the New Richmond school district and has volunteered in the schools for 20 years. He said he is very appreciative of the community support.

"I have three children that graduated from New Richmond school district, Heather, Bill, and Tyler. I currently volunteer coach for the wrestling team. I support the local school through advertising in the sports programs, Messenger and local radio broadcasts. I look forward to another twenty years of support! The administration, faculty and families of New Richmond have been a wonderful part of my family and business. Thank you for your support!!"



MARTIAL ARTS AMERICA

Classes for children, teens and adults




Mary Tons, owner **513.518.0872**
mary.tons@maakenwood.com
www.maududo.com

Convenient locations in: Amelia, Anderson, Eastgate, Kenwood, Milford, West Chester, Western Hills, Williamsburg, Wilder, KY, Independence, KY,

NR grad now owns, operates Mop Tops hair salon

Cosmetology more than cutting hair

Sandy Butler is the owner-operator of Moptops Hair Salon, which offers a wide variety of services to customers. "We provide facial waxing, color, highlighting, perming, acrylic nails, shellac, the newest hair cutting and styling techniques, and including all prom and wedding styles. All services are offered at affordable prices," she said.

Butler is a New Richmond High School graduate who also attended US Grant Vocational (now Grant Career Center). "I took cosmetology as my last two years of high school. I graduated from New Richmond High School and attended U.S. Grant Vocational in 1984/85. As of Feb. 1985 I worked on early placement doing hair. I then took and passed a test with the state board of Cosmetology, and have since worked as a licensed managing cosmetologist."

On a typical day, Butler said she works at the salon, and also

runs and manages the business with a partner.

Butler said the skills needed to be successful in this field include a, "good continuing education as a stylist. You also need to work well with people, to be a good listener, and above all make sure that yourself and your salon are ethical.

Over the years, Butler said she's learned there's more to being a stylist than just cutting hair. "You have to listen to your clients and what their needs and wants are. You can give a perfect cut/style but if it isn't what the person wants or what the person can recreate then is it really 'perfect'?" she said.

Butler offers a few words of advice to anyone starting in this business. "Plan for your future and don't just live for today'. As with any job, our industry is always changing. Make sure you have retirement, insurance, and benefits."

Customer satisfaction is the number one concern for Butler in her day to day business. "The most important thing that I do at work every day is to cater to my clients, and to do the very best style on every single person every single time. It's much easier to please a new client than it is your continuing client of several years. But I do strive to please all of my clients."

Being a people pleaser as well as being business savvy are the two qualities Butler said are essential to this field.

Butler's business has many assets, but she said the greatest one is probably flexibility. "You are able to create your own schedule. For many working women or men it is very hard to be a working parent. But with this job you have flexibility to schedule your clients according to your child's schedule. Also in the beauty industry, four days is

considered full time because of the need to work some evenings and weekends."

But flexibility can also be a negative aspect of the job. "Being my own boss it is very hard for me to say 'no' or 'I can't'. So sometimes the hours that you work in those four days are quite long," said Butler.

When she first started, Butler said she made two mistakes. "not planning for retirement soon enough, and making sure you have a good balance of family to work ratio."

And finally, Butler said the business she's in is enjoyable, but does demand effort. "Being a stylist can be a very fun, cool, and prosperous career. Just be willing to put in the extra time in the beginning. It is a lot of long hours to build a clientele."

Keeping customers happy number one priority

Auto Savers believes in quality work

Auto Savers is owned by Tim Nieters and is located on Sycamore Street in New Richmond, right behind the BP gas station. The shop handles general automotive repair, according to Nieters.

Nieters said he's been interested in cars for years. "I have always had a passion for cars trucks anything mechanical," he said.

A typical day for Nieters includes actually working on cars along with peripheral duties in the business. "Most days I do the hands on repairs, talk to customers both on the phone and in person, check on parts availability and pricing, deal with parts and tool salespeople, take care of office duties, such as invoicing and estimates, and take care

of maintaining our building and lot." Nieters added that communicating with customers was the most important concern in his business.

Nieters said several skills are needed to succeed in the automotive repair business. "You need a good mechanical aptitude and for today's vehicles electronic and computer knowledge," he said.

After being in the business for a while, Nieters said he has learned a few things. "Being in business is a 24/7 thing; even after you leave, there's still paperwork (although my wife takes care of most of the paper work and bill paying, thank God) and problems that must be dealt with.

As for people wanting to start their own business, Nieters ad-

vises, "Never start a business thinking you're going to get rich."

Several personality traits are important in owning your own business, according to Nieters. "I think you need to be kind of easy going and not stressed easily you can't let every detail bother you."

Nieters said he appreciates the independence in being a small business owner. "Right or wrong you get to call the shots," he said, although he quickly added that the same statement is the worst thing about being a small business owner.

In the early years, Nieters admitted he made at least one mistake. "I made plenty but I was a little too trusting with some folks early on and it cost us a few

bucks," he said.

Nieters said his basic philosophy of running his business is keeping the customer happy and making sure that customers return. "At Auto Savers we try and treat your car or truck as if it were ours and try to do the repair as cost effectively as possible even if it's not the most profitable; unlike some of the big name shops who just make the most they can not caring if the customer is happy or will ever return."

"Being in business for yourself is very hard work, but besides my family is also one of the best things I've done," Nieters said.

State Farm is the way to go

Why it's the best insurance company around

By Elise Holdsworth

Many companies advertise in *The Messenger*, and one of those companies is State Farm Insurance.

"State Farm Insurance is a multiple-line insurance company assisting our clients with their insurance and financial services program," Letitia Fulkerson, an independent State Farm agent located in Amelia, said.

Fulkerson went into the field of insurance because she grew up next door to a State Farm agent in West Virginia. "My family has always had State Farm insurance. They always did a great job for my family! State Farm is the leader in the insurance industry so when I decided that I would like to own my business I called and talked to my agent about the opportunity to become a State Farm agent. Next year will be my 25th anniversary as an agent, I continue to enjoy what I do every day!" Fulkerson said.

There never really is a "typical" day in Fulkerson's office. "Our priority is to help our policyholders have the appropriate coverage to protect their family and property should something happen. The weather certainly determines how our day will go. If there is a storm, we will spend most of the day answering questions on auto or home claims that

may need to be submitted. I also spend a lot of time meeting with policyholders to review their insurance program," she said.

Fulkerson said to be able to be a successful insurance agent, you have to enjoy working with people and getting to know their families.

"We work with families at the best of times (ex. buying a new car or home, getting married or having a baby) and at the most difficult of times (ex. home fire, car accident, death of a loved one) so it is important to be able to remain calm and clearly communicate next steps since this may be the very first claim someone has experienced," Fulkerson explained.

Fulkerson said that being an insurance agent, she continues to learn the importance of listening. "To my policyholders' explanation of their priorities, my claims partners and their expertise in claims handling, and my team members and their suggestions on how to be even more efficient in conducting the day to day business," she said.

She said that any time someone starts a new business, it is important to know that it is an incredible amount of work, energy, and commitment for it to be successful. "Find a good men-

tor to support you, their wisdom and guidance can make a huge difference in the development and progress of your business," Fulkerson said.

The most important thing that Fulkerson and her co-workers do each day is take care of their policyholders' requests and questions. "It is important to utilize the resources available to make sure correct information is given when handling these requests," she said. "Second, it is important for us to continue to learn and stay up on what's new at State Farm and the trends in the insurance industry. We have the saying that "school is never out at State Farm." My team and I take advantage of classes through State Farm and outside providers for continuing education."

Fulkerson said the best part of owning your own business is the opportunity to set your own goals to determine your own future success. "The most difficult part of owning your own business is understanding that the "buck stops with you." You are ultimately responsible for providing service to your clients, hiring the right staff members, and taking care of the office space," she said.

When Fulkerson first started as a State Farm agent in 1990,



It's Jake, from State Farm: a friend's son shows off his Halloween costume. Photo/L. Fulkerson.

insurance quotes were done on a hand calculator by referencing pages in the rate manual. "It was not always easy to make sure all the calculations were exactly right," she said.

Fulkerson explained that she wants current and prospective clients to know that State Farm is there to help people with their insurance priorities for their families. "It is important to sit down every couple of years with your agent to review your insurance program to see if anything needs to be updated or changed."

Fulkerson has a friend whose 8 year old son went as "Jake from State Farm" for Halloween this year. "He was dressed in khaki pants and a red shirt with a State Farm sticker on his pocket. Memorable advertising with a sense of humor is important for every business!" she said.

Lifetime Pet Centers

Jerry W. Miller, D.V.M.

3070 Williamsburg-Balawis Pike
Balawis, OH 45103
(513)724-2686

1044-A Old US 52
New Richmond, OH 45157
(513)553-8954

Heather K. Gladis, D.V.M.

Visit Us at Our Website, www.lifetimepetcenters.com

Wag your tail into Lifetime Pets

The most trustworthy pet hospital in town!

By Kaylee Gibbs

Lifetime Pet Center, an advertiser for New Richmond High School's newspaper The Messenger, is described as, "a full-service veterinary hospital, boarding and daycare facility, and we also have a groomer on staff. We treat cats, dogs, and exotic pets of all kinds. Our two doctors are Dr. Jerry Miller, the owner, and Dr. Jean Gladis, an associate," according to Sarah Messner, who is the center's practice manager.

Messner said she's been with Lifetime Pet Centers for over ten years. "I took a short break in the middle where I lived in California for school. I started here while I was still attending New Richmond High School, I was a kennel technician on the weekends. Over the years, I grew with the practice and was trained on-the-job. When I moved, I was an assistant. I received further training at a hospital in Lake Tahoe, California. When I returned to Ohio a few years later, I was immediately hired back by Dr. Miller and was eventually promoted to practice manager of our hospitals, the other of which is in Williamsburg," explained Messner.

No day in the veterinary practice is typical, and Messner said she has a variety of duties during the work day. "Most often, though, I arrive early with the kennel technicians and help them with hospitalized patients and do

treatments. Once that is finished I work on financial reports, our website, and our social media until surgeries and appointments start. With the help of our RVTs (Registered Veterinary Technicians), we take care of all the patients coming through the hospital. In between helping clients and their pets I sometimes find the time to work on inventory and other really boring sounding clerical duties."

Messner said she truly enjoys her job. "I love my employees and our clients, they really are the best people in the world with the best pets in the world I also love being a part of the community in New Richmond; this is a definitely a place that has been changing for the better in the last few years and I am excited to watch it continue to grow."

Messner plays an important role in the veterinary hospital. "I manage my team of doctors, assistants, RVTs, and kennel technicians so that we can all do the best possible job for our clients and our patients. Veterinary hospitals are naturally chaotic places so I do my best to keep everything running smoothly."

Just like any other normal person, Messner admits to making a few mistakes. "When I first started as practice manager, I overwhelmed myself with new projects before really perfecting my other duties. I made myself stressed without any outside

help and the first month of the job I really thought I would go crazy. Luckily, Dr. Miller saw what I was doing and encouraged me to slow down and focus on the new things I was learning and to take on new projects once I was more comfortable in my role. He was right, and now I'm much less stressed and better equipped to handle any issues that surface," she said.

Most employers look for someone with specific qualities they believe will serve their business well. In her position at Lifetime Pets, Messner said certain character traits are important to be successful, "You need to be confident, patient, and able to work with all different personality types. We have employees and clients with every personality

under the sun, so it's very important to be able to find common ground with everyone you meet," said Messner.

Lifetime Pets is a very comforting facility, according to Messner, and there isn't really anything any owner should be worried about before bringing their beloved pets to the facility. "Dr. Miller, Dr. Gladis, and our staff are really some of the best animal professionals I have worked with over the years and I am really proud of the organization I am a part of. We take a lot of pride in our standard of care for our patients and in our client service. We strive to be an integral part of our patient's lives and to make clients feel apart of a family when they come to see us," she explained.



321 AIRSOFT LLC
 707 B US 50
 MILFORD OH. 45150
 513-965-0321
 sales@321airsoft.com



Cherry Grove Lanes
 4005 Hopper Hill Road
 Cincinnati, OH 45255
528-7888

<p>Bowl Two Games</p> <p>FREE</p> <p>Pay For TWO Games At Regular Price & Bowl TWO Games FREE!</p> <p><small>One Coupon Per Customer. Not Valid For League, Tournament Play Or Other Special Offers. Discounts And Glow Bowling.</small></p>	<p>Bowl Two Games</p> <p>FREE</p> <p>Pay For TWO Games At Regular Price & Bowl TWO Games FREE!</p> <p><small>One Coupon Per Customer. Not Valid For League, Tournament Play Or Other Special Offers. Discounts And Glow Bowling.</small></p>
--	--

Bank strives to be part of NR community

Park National offers products, services for anyone, any age

By **Tristin Baumann**

Park National Bank has been around since 1886, according to New Richmond banking center manager Tammy Swisshelm. "Park National Bank now offers full-service personal banking, business banking, and trust and investment services. Park consistently earns high marks and awards for its service, community leadership, and financial performance. I manage the employees in the office, assist customers with all types of accounts and loans, and represent Park National Bank in the New Richmond community," she said.

Swisshelm described how she got involved in this field, and what any given day encompasses. "I have been in banking for 10 years. Prior to working in banking, I worked in retail and had cash handling experience. I chose a career in banking because I enjoy working with people. On a typical day, I oversee the opening and closing of the office, assist customers with

questions and problems, take applications for mortgage and auto loans, encourage and support my staff, and converse with customers that come into the branch."

"On any given day, there are a variety of tasks that I handle," said Swisshelm. "It is important to be flexible, organized, accurate, and good at problem-solving. It's also important to keep a level head when difficult situations arise. I have learned so much in my ten years with Park National Bank. I have learned to deal with a variety of people and situations. I have learned that I am capable of many things. It has given me a sense of confidence, and made me realize that I can take on new challenges and be successful."

Swisshelm said that her business, "and any business, is really all about people. Genuinely caring for people and their best interests is key to success in business. When you genuinely

care about people it shows. Even if it's just a smile or a wave, taking the time to acknowledge people and take interest in their lives makes a difference. And... it's important to pay attention in math class!"

Swisshelm shared the most important things to her in this business. "Treating my customers the way I like to be treated, supporting my staff and the wonderful team I work with, and being involved in such a great community. I have had the opportunity to teach Junior Achievement and financial literacy classes, serve as president of the New Richmond, Ohio Business Association, and volunteer at numerous events. You need to be a people person. You need to be friendly and kind, willing to empathize with others."

"It's important to be able to remain calm in difficult situations. Reassurance and confidence can go a long way toward diffusing a difficult situation. The best part of my job is being able to help people when they have problems or concerns. People trust us to take care of their money, which is very important to them. They need to have confidence that I can help them with their money. I also love getting to work with great people in a wonderful community. My job allows me to get out into New Richmond and participate in commu-

nity events and support the local schools and organizations that are so important to us."

Running a business is not without its challenges, according to Swisshelm. "I never feel 'off the clock.' Things can arise at any hour that may need your attention, so the commitment level is very high. Early in my career, when I was a teller, I gave a customer too much cash back in a transaction. I was so impressed when she returned the next day to make it right! It made my day, and I'm always happy to see her stop in the bank to this day."

Even though the New Richmond branch of Park National Bank is relatively small, Swisshelm said that customers will benefit from that. "We offer customers all the conveniences and resources of a larger bank with the feel of a small community bank. Our bankers live here and work here. We are your neighbors and friends, and we enjoy being a part of the New Richmond community."

"Park National Bank stands ready to serve you!," Swisshelm concluded. "We have products for every individual, from youth savings accounts to retirement accounts and everything in between. Stop in and talk to me anytime to see how we can help you."



The Pampered Chef
Malissa S. Cornette
Independent Consultant
Consultant #734158
Cell: 513-236-5229
malissacornette@gmail.com
www.pamperedchef.biz/coenettelmalissa

50 Cahall Bros. Ln
Georgetown, OH 45121



60TH
CAHALL BROS., INC.
JOHN DEERE
ANNIVERSARY

Amelia, OH (937) 378-6439
(513) 797-4500 (937) 378-4283



Jay Bunyan, LLC
Firewood and Outdoor Services
Jay Berry
Owner/President
Downed Tree Removal
Onsite Woodsplitting
Hauling/Groundskeeping
513-205-1907
jay@jay-bunyan.com
www.jay-bunyan.com

Lots of work, lots of satisfaction in owning business

Beechmont Racquet and Fitness emphasizes people skills

By Tristin Baumann

Lance Atkins, the owner and general manager, describes his business at Beechmont Racquet and Fitness as a Health and Fitness Club. Atkins also described how he got into this field of work. "My father ran this business and was ready to retire. I was excited about the opportunity to be my own boss."

Atkins took some time to explain just what he does on a typical day. "Wow. Everything. Sometimes you're making big decisions on purchasing equipment or club modifications, sometimes you're unclogging toilets. We try to do whatever we can to keep the business and it's reputation strong."

According to Atkins, people skills are needed to be successful at this job. "For managing employees and dealing with customers (managers need be pre-

pared that they may get five complaints for every compliment – part of the job. Most people are happy, but they're the 'silent majority'.) And you have to be willing to work hard and do whatever it takes as I mentioned in above. I don't feel like a lot of what I do is that hard, but it can be overwhelming if you let it be."

Atkins shared what he's learned from being in this business. "So much. I'm so grateful for loyal customers and it drives me for them to continue to be proud of 'their' health club and bring friends there and have them always believe that they're glad they chose us." And he then shared some advice for someone just starting in this field. "Be ready to work hard. Also it's easy to set high goals, the difficulty is identifying the steps that it takes to get there."

Atkins explained the most important things he does when he's at work. "Difficult question because there are so many things – not one. I would say Leadership kind of sums up the most important thing because you're the model on customer service, work ethic, attitude, everything. It's best to try not to be too emotional. When confronted with challenging situations or challenging customers it's easy to get frustrated, but while you might 'win the battle', you will ultimately 'lose the war'. Your employees are following your lead as well. If you don't have a customer service attitude, then they won't."

Owning a business comes with pros and cons, according to Atkins. "Owning your own business, you will most likely work WAAAY harder than if you're just an employee. But you get much more of a feeling of accomplishment when you succeed. It's a crazy thing, but you get to decide what your own priorities

are – not a boss. The business can run your life if you let it. Our business is open seven days a week 17 hours a day. The phone can ring at any time with all kinds of issues. It can be exhausting."

However, Atkins said he also some mistakes early in his career. "I took complaints too personally. It ate at me and I went home grumpy and it was very difficult. Over time I've come to realize that I really just need to listen to people as best I can, but if I'm doing my best then there's not much more I can do. I'm SOOOO lucky to have a lot of customers, but when you have a lot of customers, then that's when it's more difficult to please all the people all the time."

Atkins also wants customers to know something about his business. "We really work hard to make our business great and if they're here for a while they will see us constantly reinvesting money to make the club look great," he said.

**Grant Memorial
United Methodist Church
1600 Back St.
Point Pleasant, Ohio 45153**



Our Mission: "To plant the seed for Jesus Christ..."

*Gordon Ginn, Pastor
553-3667
jgginn@roadrunner.com
Robert Bettie, Lay Leader
553-3276
rbettie@roadrunner.com*

MOP TOPS
S A L O N

752-6633

1139 W. OHIO PIKE • AMELIA, OHIO 45102

State Farm

Letitia Fulkerson, Agent

882 Ohio Pike
Cincinnati, OH 45245-2204
Bus 513 752 2144
Fax 513 752 7356
letitia.fulkerson.cths@statefarm.com

For Emergency Road Service, call 877-627-5757

Opened in 2013 and never stopped

Mad About Hair owners provide many services

By: Jade Davidson

MAD About Hair is a full service hair salon located in Amelia. The owners are Dee Mell, Mary Jo Miller and Amanda Thompson; Miller provided the information for this article. "We are at 1836 St Rt 125 in Amelia. We opened in 2013 and haven't stopped! We are a full service salon, specializing in hair cutting, color, highlights and prom/homecoming hair. We offer permanent and semi permanent color and highlighting system designed by Tressa. This company has been around for many years and their stylist support staff is excellent. Amanda brought in her manicure table and provides shellac, manicures and pedicures," said Miller, adding that, "We specialize in hair cutting, color,

To get into this business, the owners had to go through voca-

tional training. It is 1500 educational / hands on training hours and then a State Test. "We go to training several times a year. We watch videos; look on Pinterest and in magazines to keep up with new trends," said Miller.

A typical day for the associates may include cutting, styling, and coloring hair for local women and men in the area. "We try to listen to what the client wants and incorporate that with what they need." The business is a partnership, so all three owners pitch in and keep the salon clean and manage supplies. The day includes providing the services and light bookkeeping, according to Miller.

With this job, Miller said she has developed people skills, listening skills, and reading between the lines. "One of the hard-

est lessons is that you can't please everyone," she said.

Miller has some advice for those wanting to start their own hair business. "Stick with it! You aren't rich right away. You WILL sit a lot in the beginning and be broke. If you have talent, LISTEN to the mentors in your salon and LISTEN to the client; you'll make it," said Miller.

As far as careers, the owners tell young people that the best start is to get in a salon that gives and encourages training and lots of it. As far as running the business, their advice is to read all the fine print on contracts.

Miller said she hopes to attract new clients from this area. "We understand that New Richmond is not real close, but we look forward to meeting new people and making new friends. Our wish is

for people to come and sit in our chair confident that we will make them look their best and maybe even better!"

Miller said she truly enjoys her job, even though, at times, it's hard work. "This is not as easy as it looks. It requires time and 100% of your mind while at work. We have created some beautiful hair! We are looking forward to creating many more fashionable styles to help people feel good about themselves. Remember, the complaint department is looking at you in the mirror! You need to make sure that the bills get paid and that you do not overpay yourself. You make more as an owner, hands down. You also can work the hours you choose. And being friendly, compassionate and a good listener is a must!"

Chestnuts roasting on an open fire...

Jay Bunyan Firewood makes sure the fires keep burning

By Brooklyn Parker

Flames dancing, fires crackling, marshmallows roasting; all these warm winter image share one thing in common: firewood.

Jay Berry is the owner and operator of a small business called Jay Bunyan Firewood. Berry provides firewood to customers throughout Greater Cincinnati, and he has been doing so for about four years. "I started my business when I wasn't able to find a 'regular' job."

Some skills typically needed to be successful in Berry's business are, "providing excellent customer service and building relationships with my customers." In addition, Berry said his job is very labor-intensive. He cuts, loads, delivers, and stacks firewood almost every day.

Every day is a new day to learn something new and Berry said

he has learned from his job. "Hard work pays off and anything worth doing is worth doing right the first time."

Berry has some advice for someone just starting a job or someone who wants to start a business. "I would start with a personal inventory. I would ask questions like, 'Who am I?', 'Where am I at this stage of my life?', 'Where do I want to go?' and 'What do I have to offer to help me get there?' Then I would either create a resume or draft a business plan and have them reviewed by someone I trust."

For every job there are some things that are just more important than others. For Berry, that means being safe at all times. "The bulk of my work is labor intensive. I'm always conscious of being safe during my daily

work. Aside from safety, the most important thing I do throughout the day is making sure that I have taken care of everything the customer is paying me to do."

Different personalities are an essential part of life and they are what helps make the world go round. What if everybody was exactly the same? Bad idea. Personality is a big part in different job types. Some need quiet, calm people and others need outgoing, loud people. The best kind of personality traits to have in Jay's kind of work are, "Outgoingness, creativity and to being open to new ideas."

Every job has its ups and its downs and the best thing in Berry's job is that he owns his own business. "I like knowing that I have created a product and a service that makes people

happy." But he added that there is a downside sometimes to small business ownership. "One of the biggest challenges in owning your own business is the long hours you often have to put in to make sure that your customers are taken care of."

When Berry first started his business, he said he made a mistake in not creating a very good pricing structure for his products and services he provided. "I quickly adapted my original plan to include detailed pricing that is reasonable for my customers," he said.

Berry would like his customers to know, "I am here and ready to meet all your needs with quality products and efficient service!"

◆ Blacktop Paving

◆ Excavation/Drainage

◆ Tar & Chip

◆ Demo

W_M. LIGHT PAVING CO.

752-1100

SHERRY LIGHT
President

1931 E. Ohio Pike
Amelia, Ohio 45102
sherry@wlpc.org
www.wlpc.org

Office: (513) 752-1100
Fax: (513) 752-1170
Cell: (513) 673-2783

Giving back to the community

How you can help out during the holiday season

Lions Reach Out

By: Elise Holdsworth

Sue Griffin, NRHS English teacher, is the founder of the charity organization here at New Richmond High School called Lions Reach Out. "It's a small charity that helps needy students at NRHS. We help students and sometimes their siblings at Christmas. We also help students who maybe can't afford Homecoming and/or Prom and help out with some other expenses such as athletics or fees. We provide emergency clothing in some cases, too," Griffin said.

"Last year, we helped over 50 students; this year, I'm not sure yet how many we'll help, but it will probably be close to last year's number," Griffin explained.

NRHS faculty also helps Griffin out quite a bit with the charity. "They often donate to Lions Reach Out, and they help me with events like Turkey Tuesday and the talent show."

Griffin founded Lions Reach Out in 2005. "Mrs. Parker and Ms. Cornette are now board members."

"Lions Reach Out started in 2005 with only two kids that were helped. Over the next couple of years, it grew and with some help from PTO, I registered the organization with the IRS and now we're a 501c3 official charity," Griffin explained.

"During the holiday season, Lions Reach Out can always use cash donations, gift card donations and donations of bath and body gift sets, makeup gift sets, Axe gift sets and boys' socks. Everything that is donated is tax deductible and everything is used for students and their fami-

lies--we don't have any administrative costs at all," Griffin said.

Lions Reach Out is also registered with Amazon Smile, a program in which Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price of qualified items directly to the organization. To register, go to smile.amazon.com; type Lions Reach Out in the search box on the left and click the first item that pops up. Now you're registered as a Lions Reach Out supporter and Amazon will deposit funds directly to the organization's bank account.

For more information about Lions Reach Out, contact Sue Griffin at griffin_s@nrschools.org.

Turkey Monday

By: Brooklyn Parker

Gobble gobble! The turkeys are coming! Just kidding, it's just Turkey Monday!

"Turkey Tuesday was changed to Turkey Monday this year because of the Australian basketball team being here on Monday rather than Tuesday. Traditionally, Turkey Tuesday is a fundraiser for Lions Reach Out, a small charity that helps out needy students and their families. Turkey Tuesday involves staff vs. student games and prizes for winners. This is year three for the event," said English teacher Susan Griffin, who organizes Turkey Tuesday.

According to Griffin, "Turkey Monday is a great time for students and staff to get involved in fun activities outside of the classroom. Also, it's one of the few chances students get to show off their skills and maybe beat the staff. It's for a great cause and helps out a lot of needy families over Christmas."

And the best part is everybody wins! The beneficiaries are really the families in the community who need some help at Christmas, as well as the students here throughout the school year who might need some help to participate in activities or events but can't afford to, according to Griffin. "Turkey Monday is a great chance to give back to the community and help families during the holiday season. Every ticket sold can help to make a difference for needy families."

In previous years, there has been no real theme, just a variety of different events, but this year, it's a little bit different. "This year it's a basketball theme--we'll have student vs. staff basketball games, dunk contests, free throw contests and maybe a few other little basketball skill games. We're concentrating on basketball because of the Australian team that's coming to visit," said Griffin.

Traveling from Australia to New Richmond for a scrimmage is a serious away game, but NRHS basketball coach Brian McMonigle said that there is a local connection. "Their coach is originally from the United States. He lived north of Cincinnati. He moved to Australia about 20 years ago (I believe I remember him saying). He has brought his teams to the Cincinnati area every few years to see the U.S. and scrimmage US high school teams."

The players are going to shadow our players in the classes, they are going to scrimmage us, and then we are going to have a team dinner. They are not from a high school, according to McMonigle, but a conglomeration of numerous players from around Melbourne, one of Australia's largest cities.

Australian basketball is played

in a very similar manner to what we're used to in the U.S. "FIBA (International Basketball Federation) rules are a little different from the US game, but they are minor," said McMonigle. He added that the Australian team will stay at various hotels in the area and will be here for two weeks.

Griffin said that she will be making some of her famous cupcake prizes for winners and might have homemade goodies from other staff members, too. Also there is the main prize: The Golden Turkey trophy. "The Golden Turkey trophy is awarded to either students or staff based on who wins most of the activities. The staff has won in the two year history of the event--of course."

Additional info: tickets are \$5 and will be available from all classroom teachers beginning on Nov. 17. Students who want to sign up to play basketball or play in any of the other games, you need to see or email Mrs. Griffin (griffin_s@nrschools.org) beginning on Nov. 17.

Giving Tree

By: Hunter Gilpin

In 1998, The Giving Tree was first introduced as a NRHS tradition. English Teacher Susan Griffin is the person who runs the Giving Tree every year.

Griffin had a lot to say about the Giving Tree. "The Giving Tree is an NRHS tradition since 1998. The tree is set up in the lobby and is hung with many tags, each of which represents a different kind of gift. Some tags have personal care items--soap, shampoo, toothpaste, etc., and

some have toys for different aged children.”

“Students and staff can take as many tags as they want, they buy the item on the tag and bring items to Room 204. Personal care items are split between the NR food pantry and two local churches and toys go directly to the church for distribution to needy families in the area. Many teachers offer extra credit for bringing items in for the tree, which is a great way to increase student participation,” Griffin explained.

Chemistry teacher Laura Prescott is also involved with the Giving Tree. “Last year, Mrs. Prescott’s church did personal care baskets for many needy families in the area and most of the tree items went to her. The tree is a great way to give back to the community and it’s not expensive, either. There are many needy families in our area and they truly appreciate the personal care items, which are not things usually distributed by the food pantry,” said Griffin.

Prescott said that her church (Connection Point Church) wanted a way to give back to the community. “We give gifts to children and we wanted to help with some of the needs of adults also. The giving tree helps us get household and personal needs met. We gather together everything that is donated and then we organize it all based on what it is. Then we separate it based on the number of people and who is in a family. Last year was our first year doing this and we reached out to close to 20 families in this community,” she said. “In the past, I have given out extra credit to students who bring in supplies.”

Just a reminder, the tree will go up the week before Thanksgiving and students or staff members can take tags at any time and bring items to Mrs. Griffin until the last day of school before Christmas.

Food Drive

By: Kaylee Gibbs

The annual food drive is “sponsored by Student Council and is a school wide event where students and staff donate cans and nonperishable food items” Mr Robinson, New Richmond High School’s Student Council advisor and technology teacher hosts it along with other staff members. The food drive for the 2014-2015 school year will start on Wednesday, November 19th and will go until Friday, December 12th.

“All collected food items go to the New Richmond Food Pantry and the money stays within the community” said Robinson.

Each year our goal is as many items as we possibly can, last year’s record being the highest school record in the food drive’s history with 12,525 items.

New Richmond has been hosting the food drive for many years, Robinson remembers “doing the drive with the student council since the 80’s”

Not only is Robinson a big part of the food drive, Mrs. Flamm is also a very important part. “Mrs Flamm is the champion of all champions. She is the woman amongst women when it comes to food drives. I doubt that any other teacher can top her classes in total numbers donated.”

“Additionally, I hope that we find the students in a giving mood this year. It is always nice to give to those that aren’t as fortunate,” Robinson explained.

All it takes is \$0.25 or a can from each student to turn someone in our community’s day around.

Craft Fair

By: Gage Combs

The craft fair this year will be on Saturday November 22, at New Richmond High School in the gym, cafeteria, and theater lobby, from 10:00am to 3:00pm.

Joyce Montgomery, the high school library aide, is in charge of the craft fair. “We will be displaying and selling unique artwork and crafts with multiple raffles, and it will benefit the marching band,” she said.

Montgomery also explained about the vendors. “We have a wide range of vendors from homemade candies, jewelry, handmade soaps by Spander family soap, primitive items, Little Lamb ‘N’ Ewe Woolens, holiday crafts, wind chimes, hand made dog treats made by New Richmond High School

transitions students, Tomeka’s treasures, ornaments, and greeting cards.”

Band teacher Michael McKinley said that the craft show benefits the band. “The proceeds from the craft fair are going to our uniform fund. Our current uniforms are 20 years and the typical life expectancy for marching uniforms is 12-15 years. Fortunately Mr. Bird has purchased new uniforms that will be in for next season. However, due to the high cost, we need to keep a fund going so that we are able to purchase them again in 12-15 years and we will have a wide array of vendors packed into the event. It’s a perfect time to get your holiday shopping done. You will be able to get something for everyone on your Christmas list.”

Montgomery said there was one last thing that she would like to add. “The last thing that I would like to add would be encouraging people to come out and support the band.”

GRANT CAREER CENTER

“A Great Place to Learn”

**718 W. Plane Street
Bethel, OH 45106**

Telephone: 513 734.6222

Visit our website at

www.grantcareer.com

**for all your educational needs
throughout your career.**

**Sports Gallery Restaurant
Open: Tuesday thru Thursday
11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**



**ARBUCKLE
MOUNTAIN**

Original
FRIED PIE

Located near Jungle Jims at Eastgate

**4450 Eastgate South Drive
752-PIES (7437)
arbucklemountainpies.com**

Coffee, frozen drinks, pot pies, live music, entertainment

Like us on Facebook!

**“This place rocks! The pies are fantastic
and they have a ton of flavors.**

**Trust me, I have had a few pies in my life,
just ask my shirt. These things are as good
as any you will find just short of Amish country.”**

The truth behind Black Friday

Should this chaotic day even be considered a "holiday?"

From toys and electronics to clothes and office supplies, surely everyone is driven by the natural pleasure of getting new things. Now imagine if there was just one day set aside out of the year for almost everything to dramatically drop in price and stores to open early, imagine how chaotic that would be? Boy, it would be dumb to have a holiday like that; there would be limited supply of goods and add impatience, frustration, and anger to this mixture, and it would surely lead to violence and anarchy. Wow, that would be a great idea! The problem is... it's not an idea, it's real and has been an annual holiday since 1961.

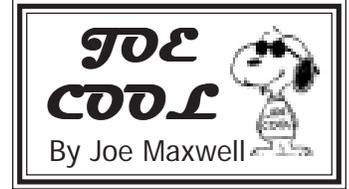
Of course, if you haven't caught on yet, I am referring to "Black Friday," annually following Thanksgiving and spurring the Christmas shopping season. If you could not tell already by my description of the holiday

and blatantly obvious sarcasm, I am not one who is too fond of this monstrosity of the holiday. For one, I am not the type of person that would want to wake up earlier than normal, especially on a day we have off school, so there's one reason you can count me out. It may also just be me, but I, again, am not the type of person who is very fond of getting pushed, prodded, punched, pricked, poked and pestered during a shopping melee. I'm sure you could imagine many other tortures that you might fall victim to in a crowd of impatient savages that are referred to as seasonal shoppers.

On the other hand, I am also not one that would like to lose my life trying to get 3% off a \$750.00 TV by being trampled outside the store or getting a broken nose due to an old lady fighting me for the last radio in stock at a Best Buy (if you think I'm

crazy, look up some Black Friday stories, they're all real, and there's a lot worse that I can't put into the school newspaper.) A lot of the "deals" are just made to woo the dense-skulled, where only a week before the item was marked up 20% then on Black Friday they advertise with bells and whistles "20% MEGA DEAL" and of course, the majority falls for it.

You don't have to take my word for it; if Black Friday shopping is something you like to do and reading a column in the newspaper isn't going to change your ways due to my opinion, all power to ya. Although, I do have a hint of advice that I feel everyone should follow if they are going Black Friday shopping this year. Be safe and be smart, simple as that. That can be taken in many different aspects. Don't be fooled by any retailers and force yourself to wake up extra



early to spend more money on something you thought you were getting a deal on. Don't hurt anyone else over saving \$10.00 on that last doll for your daughter this Christmas. Don't get yourself hurt being dumb in a crowd full of people just as irritated and angry as you are. Don't spend money on stuff you don't need or wouldn't normally have bought just because it is marked down; chances are you would've gone on just fine without buying 100 rolls of paper towels for only \$100.00. Be safe and be smart this Black Friday people, that's all I've gotta say.

Fear of needles is not an option

A reporter's view of diabetes

Trypanophobia! The fear of needles. About 50 million Americans are afraid of needles. It's America's top fear.

Sadly, diabetics everywhere are stuck (no pun intended) dealing with that fear. There is no avoiding needles. Finger pricks, and insulin shots are both done with needles. And a diabetes insulin pump is literally a needle that pushes a tube into my skin, and stays there for three days straight.

Diabetes, a typical stereotyped life. The world thinks all diabetics are fat, eat too much and don't ever exercise. I'm here to say that, that is not true. Type 2 diabetics are skinny, don't eat too much and they are not all lazy. Only one type of diabetes is caused from eating too much and that is Type 2 diabetes.

How many people would like to be told every day that they could die if they don't take enough insulin or they don't prick their fingers to test their blood sugar? Not many. I can honestly say that I hate it. I hate being told that I could get my limbs cut off if I don't take care of myself right.

What is Type 1 diabetes, really? Type 1 diabetes is when the body's immune system attacks itself and starts to produce beta cells that attack the body fat. All this is created without insulin from the body's pancreas. It creates ketones that make a person lose weight dramatically.

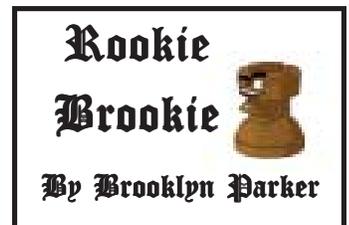
How does a diabetic control diabetes? I control mine a by taking insulin through a pump and by testing my sugar.

I like to go to diabetes groups

and clubs because they help me realize that I am not alone and that I can do this. It may be my life now but it's not everything.

I go to a one week camp during the summer called Camp Korelitz. Its held at the Camp Joy campsite. It has about 180 kids with Type one diabetes and about 38 or 40 adults with Type one diabetes also.

My life with diabetes. I take insulin through a pump and I prick my fingers a lot. This all causes me to have little pity parties that end up getting me in trouble. I once was having a really big pity party at The Melting Pot; I was mad because I couldn't eat like I wanted to, so I decided that I was not going to eat the chocolate. I also don't like to go to sleepovers because I get embarrassed by my diabetes. I



shouldn't let it get to me at all.

I am trying to take care of that. I am a cheerleader and softball player. I love to read, and I love to spend time with any little kid. I love to babysit children. I feel that my diabetes has taught me some responsibilities that help me watch these children.

I think that being positive about diabetes has helped me accept it and also it helps to think about a cure coming in the near future.

Diabetes I have learned, stinks. It's not fun, not at all, but I have to live with it. I have tried to realize that diabetes does not control my life. It's just a small thing in my giant gift of a life.

This is what I believe...

Forgiveness is the most important thing in any relationship

Forgiveness is a human trait that brings out the good in any person. In the month of September, my life took a giant tailspin down into a depression that I still haven't gotten over. All because I doubted someone very important to me to the point I called this person an ungrateful liar (there were more words, but not appropriate for a newspaper.) I was so mad at myself for it and it made my friends depressed around me, too.

Homecoming night is when my tragedy unfolded. This was also my first Homecoming in my high school life so I was looking forward to it. At first, I was just with my friends having a good time, going back and forth to my girlfriend and friends. It was a blast. Then someone danced with my girlfriend and the girlfriend of

the certain somebody came to me and only told me her side of this story. Three days after Homecoming, I called my ex and got the rest of the story. Apparently the story goes that my ex was best friends with the guy who danced with her and I assumed it was some random guy. I was so furious with my ex girlfriend because the stories of both sides were unclear, that I yelled at my girlfriend. I was so mad I didn't take into account my girlfriend's emotions. I felt so bad afterwards but it was too late for me to do anything.

I believe in a great deal of forgiveness. I was hoping for forgiveness for me, and not my girlfriend. I was selfish and wasn't considering how I was making my friends feel or how she felt. It was hard for a while and I fi-

nally apologized and forgave her. I realized I wasn't the one to need someone to forgive me, she needed me to forgive her for me assuming that she lied. Once I did that, she instantly did the same to me. I am a Catholic and pray on a regular bases. I prayed for her to accept my forgiveness and apology, and I guess God met me halfway and helped me become a better person. I thanked Him greatly and I am still not done.

Once I realized I became a better person in general because of this, I decided to change. I will never hold another grudge on somebody, I will never hurt someone in any way again, and I will work my hardest to be as honest as I can. I tolerate everyone, even the people who talk as loudly as they can during a test, but I still will tolerate them. I'm



not judgmental. I don't care who you are. I just want you to think of the ideology of forgiveness and apologize to someone who you have wronged, or judged, or even laughed at because they wore something stupid. It will change your life and maybe you'll think of yourself as a better person like I have.

Forgiveness is the most humane trait and the one that makes other people feel good. This I believe and this I will never take for granted. It is a serious thing that should be practiced by the entire world. This will be something I will die with.

Is internet consuming our lives? Responsible, safe use is key

Do you think the internet ruining our lives? I think it is.

Yes, the internet can connect us to people all around the world, but it can also consume and ruin our lives. At any moment in time, I can almost guarantee that I have my phone with me; the phone that gives me access to the internet at my finger tips.

The internet consumes our lives and I would say, without google, I wouldn't have made it to high school. If I am having trouble on my homework, I don't have to ask anybody, all I have to do is look it up. There are websites that can solve math problems for you, give you every detail of a book that you don't want to read, and can do pretty much any type of school work you have.

This may be viewed as a good thing for most people, but to me it is ruining this world. The technological advances that have

been made in the past 15 years have been insane. I feel like soon we won't be able to take any more information in.

We may use the internet on a daily basis at school, but what about out of school? At school, we have to use the internet if our teachers want us to, but why do we have to at home? At least at school we are doing something educational. At home, we don't really have any reason to use the internet outside of online homework like MathXL.

Honestly, even if it does connect you to people around the world, what about the things that happen that have nothing to do with anything but drama. If you get on any social media such as Ask.Fm, Instagram, or Twitter, you are almost bound to see a person posting a photo with a sad quote which has everybody asking her, "What's wrong?" or you will see others posting a status

or picture about how they hate someone" or how someone is starting stuff with them.

This just makes the whole situation worse. If they wouldn't have posted anything on social media, that never would have happened, but no one thinks about what they post on the internet. It is pretty much our own diary; at this point we tend to put everything on the internet, pictures, videos, things that are going on in our lives, pretty much anything is out there for anyone else to see.

The internet can also give us access to other people's private information even if the person doesn't put it out there. How do you think we have stalkers? People are kidnapped and murdered every day because people stalk them and find them with the help of the internet.

The number of people missing is so large, you would think



people would have the sense to stop putting their whole private lives on the internet. Once again, no one thinks about that kind of stuff. And honestly, that is their choice.

But what if we eliminated the internet all together? Could you honestly say that you would easily be able to move on with your life? I don't know if any of us could.

Maybe people should think about what they put on the internet before they put it out there. Use the internet more responsibly, maybe? If we just put our phones down and close the laptop sometimes, we would see more beauty in life.

Abortion is a crime

Don't punish your child for your mistake

Every person was put on this earth for a reason but every day children are killed before they even have the chance to show what their reason is. Abortion is just like murder. Whether the child is fully developed or not, it is still a person.

Many different reasons are given for keeping abortion legal, but none of them are valid.

Let me start with the excuse of not being mature enough or not financially stable. If you're not adult enough to support a child, then what makes you think you are adult enough to do adult things to make a child. If you want to be responsible and have sex, then you'd better be responsible enough to use protection to prevent offspring; if not, then you can face the consequences responsibly.

And if you are not financially

stable, maybe at this time you should be working on getting a job or going to school so in the future you can be financially stable, instead of focusing on...other things.

If you already made the mistake of getting pregnant and cannot support the child, killing it is NOT the answer. Have the baby, and give it to a family that can take care of it and love it. I know for a fact that many people in this world that don't have the ability to have children of their own, would gladly take your child and provide him or her a future, unlike killing the baby and leaving him or her with no future at all.

I absolutely understand how having the child of a rapist can be very painful, but there's a reason for everything. That child was put here for a reason. That

Ebola jokes infect NRHS

Disease is source of inappropriate laughs

"I have Ebola and you're all gonna die."

This has been a conversation starter for the past month since the first Ebola victim to become well known in the U.S. Ebola being here in America has caused many jokes to be started over social media sites, especially on Twitter. I scroll through my feed and everybody is tweeting about how Ebola has spread to Cleveland, with memes and funny pictures to make this an entertaining topic instead of something that is life threatening.

Everybody knows that Ebola is a deadly disease and that it kills many people in third world countries, and here we are all joking about it.

Everybody seems to be making a big deal out of nothing, in my opinion. If someone has Ebola and it is found, then that person is immediately hospitalized and anybody that he or she

has come into contact with is thoroughly examined. There have only been three reported cases in the past month or so and one of them, unfortunately, died. So as long as the people who could have come in contact with the virus are immediately found and taken to a hospital, then I doubt that Ebola will be a problem.

To the people that are freaking out and think they have contracted the virus, just know that you can only get it through an exchange of bodily fluids. It's not like the person sitting next to you had it and sneezed on you while you were on the bus this morning.

Getting Ebola if you live in America is ultimately next to impossible because of our medical and technological advances that will keep it contained. So, please, stop making such a big deal out of this. You're fine!

LEXY'S LECTURES

BY LEXY WILSON



child could be the light out of the dark painful event. Even if you don't want to keep the baby then at least give it up for adoption.

The list of excuses for wanting to kill your child can go on forever. But I can promise you that killing your child is not the answer to any problem. Every person on this earth has something to contribute in his or her lifetime. Don't take something that has the possibility to be beautiful out of this world early. Abortion is just like murder. It's a crime and should be illegal. Don't be a killer. Your child could change the world.

Moore is More

By Ciera Moore



The one man that recently died from Ebola in Texas, only had the virus because he was working in one of the third world countries where an outbreak had occurred. So unless you are also one of these doctors, I doubt you'll get it.

Eventually this will all blow over and it'll be something that everybody jokes about, like the whole 'swag yolo' phase. Like the swine flu epidemic a few years ago, everybody was worried about getting it and not as many people actually contracted it as everybody thought. When something life threatening like this comes into America, a very privileged country, people just assume that everything will turn out horrible because they aren't used to these foreign illnesses.

The Messenger

New Richmond High School
1131 Bethel-New Richmond Rd.

New Richmond, Ohio 45157
2014-2015

Messenger Staff Reporters:

Tristin Baumann
Gage Combs
Jade Davidson
Kaylee Gibbs
Hunter Gilpin
Elise Holdsworth
Sadie LaRocque
Joe Maxwell
Ciera Moore
Brooklyn Parker
Lexy Wilson

Adviser: Mrs. Susan Griffin

The Messenger would like to remember Mrs. Betty McKenney as we begin our 75th year, and once again, thank her for her many contributions to our paper.

We would also like to remember Ms. Diana Spinnati, for her support and encouragement of our student journalism program.

The Messenger appreciates our administrators, both past and present, who have supported both the newspaper and the journalism program at NRHS.

Opinions expressed in *The Messenger* are the opinions of the writers only and not necessarily the opinions of the adviser or administration of New Richmond High School.

The Messenger accepts letters to the editor and guest columns and will publish both at the discretion of the newspaper staff and as space permits. Both items must be signed by the writers.

The *Messenger's* regular monthly issues are now online only and are available on the high school's and district's web sites. The Senior Issue will be printed, and will be available for purchase at school at the beginning of April. The cost of a senior issue mailed directly to your home is \$8.

Please direct comments or questions about the paper or its contents to the adviser, at





**A Full Service Award-Winning
Video Production Company**

black tent[™]
productions

www.blacktentproductions.com
Check us out on Twitter @blacktentgroup
Designed by Cody Kirschner, ©2014

Transitions Program making homemade dog treats

Students helping in production, packaging, and selling

By Ciera Moore and Sadie LaRocque

Recently, the Transitions program here at New Richmond High School has started selling dog treats. “The business is the idea of Lisa Graham (parent of associate, Natalie). Mrs. Graham was looking for some type of non-profit employment that would provide vocational training for her daughter and other young adults with disabilities. Mrs. Graham stumbled upon the idea of the dog biscuits while on vacation in California. After lots of research and networking the Transitions Program, we began making the dog treats in October for Brewhaus Bakery Company,” according to Gaylynn Robinson, the Instructional Assistant in the Transitions Program.

Students in the program are actively involved in the production of the treats while learning valu-

able skills. “Transitions, along with another program at Mariemont, mixes, bakes, and packages the treats for the Brewhaus Baking Company. The associates are learning vocational skills through the mixing and filling of molds, baking, packaging and working as a team. Some participate in the selling process, the counting of funds, and banking process,” said Robinson.

There is a specific process to the making of the treats. “The associates in the Transitions Program mix the grains with other ingredients to make the dog biscuit batter. The batter is then placed in dog bone molds. The molds are then baked in a dehydration process that takes up to three hours. When the dog treats cool they are weighed and packaged in bags for sale. The prod-

uct is then picked up by Mrs. Graham to add to the inventory for businesses and events,” Robinson said.

They are using an unusual ingredient to make the treats unique. “The dog bones are made from whole grains that are sourced from the spent grains at local microbreweries. Spent grains are the waste product of the brewing process. These grains are mixed with other ingredients to make a batter that makes the dog bones,” explained Robinson.

The program will be selling treats at many local events and possibly taking orders sometime soon. “Mrs. Graham is taking the product to small venues such as the microbrewery Octoberfest, Mainstrasse Paw Parade, and has signed up for Anderson, New Richmond, Sycamore Holiday

Craft Shows and possibly the New Richmond “Rein” dog Parade. Mrs. Graham’s goal is to get enough inventory to have a display at the microbreweries that give Brewhaus Bones their spent grains. Mrs. Graham and the program are working on an order form both paper and electronic,” Robinson said.

The business plans to expand as they gain customers.

“As Brewhaus Bones grows due to a loyal customer base, Mrs. Graham envisions expansion to include treats for the equine community. This adventure has been beneficial to the Transitions Program by giving the associates an opportunity to work and be apart of a business that fits their abilities,” Robinson said.

High school class to prepare students for college

Wilkins’ Anatomy and Physiology: fun and educational

By: Joe Maxwell

Throughout the halls of New Richmond High School there are many noises, sounds, and even smells of being emitted from the many different classes taking place. Of this variety, one honors elective class that sticks out is Ms. Wilkins’s Anatomy and Physiology class. This class is notoriously smelly at times, but just as often well-known for its awesomeness.

NRHS’s Anatomy and Physiology class is very much geared towards college-bound students that plan on entering a healthcare related field. “There tends to be minimal written assignments and more homework that involves studying and reviewing new material that was learned in class,” said Wilkins.

“It is more important to me that students learn how to manage their time and take the initiative to study on their own time, especially for students that plan on continuing their education on a collegiate level.” Of the students that take or have taken this class, it is well-known students’ grades in this course reflect that philosophy.

As for the work done in the class, many have described it as a fun, easy-going, but very educational environment. “We participate in a number of labs, especially during the second semester, in which we will be dissecting specimens,” said Wilkins. “Some of these include: the heart, brain, eye, kidney, a rat, and a mink.” According to

Wilkins, these dissections will give the students an opportunity to get a first hand look at some of the anatomical body parts that are studied in class. She also apologizes for the smell (as mentioned in the first paragraph) to all students and teachers on the 3rd floor. Wilkins explained, “Dissections are some of the most fun and interesting parts of the class.”

When asked about goals for the class, Wilkins hopes that by the end of the course, students will have a true appreciation and understanding of how their body functions as a whole. “It is pretty cool when students go home and watch shows like House and Bones, then start to make connections with the technical terms

they learn and hear all the time in class,” she said. She also explained how students can relate class content to health issues they or their family members may be experiencing. Wilkins said, “this always makes for interesting and often meaningful conversations during class.”

On top of all the fun and interesting perks of the class, Wilkins believes the best part of teaching Anatomy and Physiology here at the high school is hearing of former students that have gone on to pursue education/careers in the field. She said, “It’s always great hearing students from the past are successful with their current studies or careers using all the information they learned in class.”

New Richmond Lions Marching Band proudly presents...

Annual Winter Craft and Activity Fair

Saturday, November 22, 2014; 10a.m.-3p.m.

New Richmond High School,

1131 Bethel New Richmond Road, New Richmond, OH 45157

**No admission charge! Food or cash donations gratefully accepted
for the New Richmond Food Pantry**



Featuring...

Arts and crafts vendors in the theatre lobby, cafeteria and gym

Raffle

Food concession open all day

Food drive for the New Richmond Food Pantry

**For more information, or to donate items, please contact:
Sue Griffin, NRHS; 513-553-3191x10204 or 513-535-5407;
griffin_s@nrschools.org**

**If you'd like to register as a vendor, please contact:
Joyce Montgomery, NRHS; 513-553-3191x10207 or;
montgomery_j@nrschools.org**

**Proceeds will benefit the marching band's fund for new uniforms and
Lions Reach Out**

AP Geography students give their opinions

College course class giving sophomores a challenge

By Ciera Moore

Here at New Richmond High School there are an array of AP classes for students to pick from, but one in particular is offered to the underclassmen. Recently AP Geography, which is taught by Bill Harris, was opened up to sophomores. With only eleven students in the class, and all but one being a sophomore, it's obvious the students are taking the opportunity given to them for this class.

The only senior in the class this year, Tristin Baumann, had a lot of advice for students who plan to take this college level class. "I really like this class. It's not like a lot of other classes I've been in where we are only learning something every once in a while, but rather we are actually learning something every single day. I would advise students to work

hard and pay attention, and most of all STUDY! I never study for anything in other classes, but in this class you truly need to, especially for the map quizzes. Mr. Harris is without a doubt one of my favorite teachers. He takes teaching seriously and doesn't take garbage from any obnoxious students but still makes his class fun by adding in some humor. I have learned that geography is about more than just where everything is, it's about how everything interacts with everything else. I will remember Luke's stupid comments the most, playing hangman, and the hot dog in the ceiling (another inside joke among the students)."

Sophomore, Lexi Forsee, said that she particularly likes this class. "I love the class and I have learned so much! I would recom-

mend other students to take this class, it is a great learning experience and the teacher is awesome. So far, I have learned about population geography, nature and perspectives, and a little bit about cultural geography. I will remember how great of a teacher Mr. Harris is and his lovely ways of teaching."

Another sophomore, Anna Heiden, admits that the class is not exactly easy. "The class is okay and it is not my favorite, but it's better than I thought it would be. I would recommend other students to get ready to take a lot of notes and to do a lot of work. So far we have learned the locations of many places. In this class I will remember playing hangman nearly everyday."

Joey Hammell, a sophomore here at New Richmond, describes

the class as being enlightening and enjoyable. "I would recommend that other students do all the homework fully, take understandable notes, and be prepared for carpal-tunnel. This class involves hangman and copious amounts of notes. We've learned different types of maps and perspectives, traits of populations, and types/characteristics of cultures. I will remember types of regions the most, like perceptions, distortions, links between different regions, and different scales."

Tabitha Stevens is another sophomore that is taking the class, and she likes it very much. "It is a very continuous class, there is minimal work every night but it is interesting to learn about other countries and their loca-



tion. I would describe AP Geo as being a class that requires a lot of hard work. So far we have learned where many countries and cities are located. I will always remember what happens when you assume things (an inside joke that the rest of the class will understand)."

Sophomore, Krista Reed, is another student that says the class is really fun. "Mr. Harris makes the class great and he is a fun teacher. I would recommend that students be prepared for this class, and to actually read the books for the summer assignment (Guns, Germs, and Steel). I would describe this class as being difficult, but you learn so much. If you study then it won't be so bad. We have learned about nature and perspectives, population, and cultures so far. I will remember the most how great Mr. Harris is, and his sarcastic ways."

Alex Gardner, one of the many sophomores in the class, says that AP Geo is by far his favorite class of the day. "It may be difficult but it is the only class where

I find what we're learning really interesting. I would recommend that students in the class learn to abbreviate. There are TONS of notes in the class and the only way I can keep up is to abbreviate and reduce the size of sentences. AP Human Geography is a college level class and is for people who are looking for a challenge. It is the hardest class I have ever taken, but is by far the most interesting. I have learned many things throughout the course but what I have learned is that nothing is random, everything happens for a reason (literally). I will remember it is not good to assume, it usually leads to wrong information and mistakes."

A sophomore, Taylor Harris, advises for students to stay on top of their work. "I really enjoy the class, it's one of my favorites actually. If you decide to take the class, make sure to stay on top of your work, do it early if you have to. Complaining will only make it that much harder. The class isn't really hard, it just makes you think a little more. It

is an AP course, so of course it's challenging. It's more out of class work than in class, and you take a lot of notes every day. You have to be committed to it so you don't slack off. I've learned about populations, demographic models, how to calculate certain equations related to people, types of movement and how cultures are diffused/affected around the world. Also, I've learned how humans relate and affect the natural aspects in their daily routines. I'll remember the map quizzes we take every two weeks. It's easy for me to remember places, so the map quizzes aren't all that bad. They really help you out, but you may not realize it at first."

The last sophomore in the class, Averi Hammonds, said that AP Geo is one of her favorite classes that she has. "This class is really interesting and I look forward to it each day. It's difficult but it's worth it. I would recommend that students make sure this is something they're really interested in. Make sure you can stay interested and do your work. I would describe this class as being VERY DIFFICULT. It's not as difficult if you pay attention and do what you're supposed to. Before our phones were taken, I would record the lessons and I would have notes to help me study. We've learned a lot so far, we learn so much every day. I will probably just remember Mr. Harris in general, he's been one of my favorite teachers from high

school so far."

The teacher, Mr. Harris, warns that taking this class involves taking copious notes. "I like to think that we can focus on content and higher order thinking and still have some fun. My goal is for students to get a 3 or higher on the AP exam in May. I ask them to think, work hard, and have high standards for their own work. Most assignments are not, 'find the magic phrase in the book' students have to think about what they're writing. We do several simulations throughout the year, Global Futures is a student favorite. I want students to be able to think things through and put those thoughts on paper. The best thing about teaching this class is that it deals with contemporary real world issues that affect everyone. The worst thing is that people (and I'm not limiting this to students) don't understand the importance of geographic literacy. My favorite memories are reading scores and seeing students succeed, that's the point of AP, to show our students can succeed at the highest levels."

Overall, this class is not something that you can just breeze through without trying. The point of an AP class is to challenge yourself, and if you don't do that then you won't do very well. The class has it's fun and entertaining moments, but it is still a class, so students must remember to try and put effort into it.

*Grant Memorial
United Methodist Church
1600 Back St.
Point Pleasant, Ohio 45153*

*Our Mission: "To plant the seed for
Jesus Christ..."*

*Gordon Ginn, Pastor
553-3667
jgginn@roadrunner.com*

*Robert Bettle,
Lay Leader
553-3276
rbettle@roadrunner.com*

32-Q

How do you want your butt?

**4126 Half Acre Rd,
Batavia, OH 45103
513-257-3871
Lunch, dinner,
parties, catering**



MOLECATCHERS
WE STOP MOLES. GUARANTEED.

(513) 309-6099

Rich Grogan
Rich@molecatchers.com

PO Box 54063, Cincinnati, Ohio 45254

www.molecatchers.com

Licensed By ODNR • Member BBB • Free Estimates

Contemporary Literature preparing seniors for college

English class is fun, although not an easy A

By Sadie LaRocque

According to the class syllabus for Contemporary Literature, the course is based on Ohio's Academic Standards for English/Language Arts and the Common Core State Standards for English/Language Arts. Students examine multiple genres to develop a sense of how particular genres are used today to represent ideas and events and analyze different theories and methods of textual criticism, especially current popular theories.

Contemporary Literature teacher Shelby Pride said she has a certain style of teaching. "I believe I am a demonstrator (teacher-centered) for my freshmen classes and a facilitator (student-centered) for my senior class," she said. "I like to demonstrate or provide a model for the younger students to use as an example and I like for the students to independently work for my older students."

A typical day in contemporary literature consists of many elements. "A typical day would involve reading, writing and either working on vocabulary or grammar in my class," Pride said. "It's not just all reading or all writing."

Students currently taking the class like the class as a whole and are learning enough to move on to the next level. "Overall, contemporary literature is a good class and it's fun if you enjoy reading and writing short pa-

pers," senior Kyle Gilday said.

Like every teacher, Pride has goals for the students in her class, "I want my students to be ready for the next level, whatever that may be. Whether it be getting them ready for 10th grade English or preparing for college," she said.

Along with the goals for the students, each teacher has expectations for their students. "I expect my students to give me 100% and want to better themselves," she said.

Everything that is done in Pride's class gets graded. "I give points for anything that is completed in my class; notes, worksheets, vocabulary, quizzes, tests and papers. Papers and tests are worth more points, while worksheets, vocabulary and notes worth less," she explained. If an assignment is turned in late, it is reduced by 10% of the maximum point value for each day that it is late. All work is due at the start of the class period.

According to senior Hannah Slye, the class is moderately hard. "Tests and quizzes can be hard but the classwork is very easy. For future students who are going to take this class, make sure you understand since the tests and quizzes can be difficult," she said.

Projects and fun activities really liven up the class and make

it more enjoyable. "I like to do a few group projects a year. We did a fun activity in Contemporary Lit with *The Things They Carried*," Pride said. The project started with reading the book and then we did a project, which was a choice between multiple types of projects such as poetry, drawing, creative writing, and music. Each project was centered around the theme of the book.

Learning the curriculum is the main goal for the class. "I want them to learn the standards that are set through our common core. My students need to learn how to comprehend and analyze the reading, as well as reflect and write about what they have learned," Pride said.

Contemporary Literature is an English class so it involves the main principles of any English class. "Lots of reading and lots of writing...it is English class. :)," Pride said.

The class has learned how to write and do literary analyses. "I have learned more about literary analyses and how to write them so far, since we have a few in class," Slye said. In the class, we read *The House on Mango Street* and did a literary analysis, giving us practice with them and teaching us how to write a good one. should the last sentence be a quote??"

Essays are also a large part of the class. "I enjoy the essays we do. I'd recommend this class to other people because it helps you develop a sense of how to do essays, which you'll need to know how to do in the future," senior Jasmine Thompson said. "I have learned more on how to do essays and literary analyses. We've also done Socratic seminars, which I didn't know a thing about before doing them."

The part of teaching the class

that is most enjoyed is the stories that are read. "Most of our students really enjoy the stories/novels, etc. The worst part is teaching writing. Most students don't like or feel comfortable writing. It's hard to teach it when people aren't interested," Pride explained.

Next year, writers' notebooks will probably be used more than they will be this year since it would be beneficial to students. "We are just learning a new style of writing and I think my students need the practice," Pride said. This year, writers' notebooks are being used in class to get students to write more. In our class, we have been given prompts and are required to write for a given amount of time, and then asked to share.

Senior Molly Hedrick described Contemporary Literature as a great learning experience for students. "It is an entertaining class and I learn a lot of stuff. I've learned lots of literary terms and hope to learn more," she said.

This year, students have read a few things in class and the majority of the class agrees on a favorite story. "Reading the play *Death of a Salesman* is my favorite activity we have done so far. The stuff we read in the class is usually pretty interesting," said senior Maddie McDaniel.

We just read the play *Death of a Salesman* and are doing assignments relating to it. Currently, we are doing a compare and contrast essay. The assignment is to compare and contrast a relationship with a family member to a relationship featured in the play.



Spotlight on NRHS Artists:

Senior Emily Carter

Junior William Fox



Emily's artwork



Will's artwork

William Fox and Emily Carter currently have works on display at Xavier University. Will and Emily entered works in Xavier's Juried Biennial High School Art Exhibition. Xavier had over 300 Junior and Senior student entries, and accepted a little over 100 pieces. Their work will be on display in the gallery through the end of the month. Congratulations!!



Leading through Innovation

312 Elm Street, 24th Floor
Cincinnati OH 45202
513-852-6300
877-778-8888
513-852-5555-Fax
cincinnati.usi.biz



Local

- Largest broker in the Tri-State
- Local office over 100 years legacy
- Employ 100 professionals
- In-house loss control, claims consultants

National

- 3rd largest privately held insurance brokerage in the US⁵
- More than 4,000 professionals in over 140 offices nationwide
- Local representation on all insurance carrier national advisory committees



Commercial Insurance • Medical Malpractice Insurance
Bonding • Employee Benefits • Personal Insurance

Annabelle more funny than scary

New horror film not worth the watch

By Elise Holdsworth

The movie, *Annabelle*, is the newest horror film that hit the cinemas in early October. It is the prequel to the movie *The Conjuring*, which came out in July of 2013. The film had some thrilling and jumpy scenes but that's about all you get. The movie revolves around a new mother, Mia, and her husband, John. Mia receives a doll as a gift from John and the doll goes by the name of Annabelle.

Annabelle is possessed by a demonic spirit that lives within the doll who is trying to steal the soul of their infant daughter.

Annabelle was rated a 5.8/10 by IMDb.

In my opinion, the movie was very predictable. Also, the acting in the movie was not very good. Actress Annabelle Wallis, who played Mia, was not a suitable person to play Mia's role. She did not show many emotions. When she needed to show fear, she did not look scared at all. Her emotions were not very well played out throughout the film. Other than that, though, all the other actors/actresses did a pretty good job at playing their characters.

Tony Amendola, who played Father Perez, did a very nice job in *Annabelle*, and played his character very well. The plot, in my opinion, was pretty interesting at the beginning of the movie, but slowly got very predictable. It started out very thrilling when it told the background story of how Annabelle was possessed. After that, the movie was not as good and was moving very slowly.

The movie is boring and unintentionally funny in a lot of scenes. For instance, in some of the scenes, Annabelle walks and

stands up on her own. It was meant to be horrifying, but instead it just made me laugh. While it's possible that *Annabelle* might give a few audience members goosebumps, anyone who has ever seen *The Conjuring* will tell you that it is a much better movie than *Annabelle*. *The Conjuring* was a lot scarier. It gave you chills during almost every scene and the acting was outstanding. It's a great movie to watch if you're wanting to be terrified. But *Annabelle*, unfortunately, just doesn't measure up.

American Horror Story will have you on the edge of your seat

Brand new season, same weird characters

By Kaylee Gibbs

American Horror Story is a horror television series created and produced by Ryan Murphy and Brad Falchuk. The television show first aired on October 5, 2011 on FX. There have been four seasons so far, with the latest one airing in early October 2014. Each season has a different story line. The first season was *Murder House*, second season *Asylum*, third, *Coven*, and this season is called *Freak Show*.

There are quite a few famous actors in the show like Evan Peters, Jessica Lange, and Emma Roberts. All characters are twisted and psychotic in their own way but they all have very good stories to tell and most have

good hearts. Some have killed, some have robbed stores, and all have committed some ridiculous crimes.

This year in *Freak Show*, so far in the four episodes, there have been murders, kidnappings, hangings, everything disturbing you can imagine. Most of the characters this season are in a certain demented circus called "The Freak Show". Each character has a deformity or a very weird quirk about them like the lady with a beard, Ethel, or the conjoined twins, Bette and Dot Tattler.

Peters, who plays Jimmy Darling in *Freak Show*, has a very disturbing role to play. Jimmy

has never known his dad since he walked out on him and his bearded mother a little after he was born. Being born with deformed "lobster" hands made him the perfect type to perform in *The Freak Show*. Having a hard and not so stable home life led to him to do whatever he and his mom needed to do.

In the show there is a clown, named Twisty, and no one really knows the story behind him, but we in the audience do know how scary he is. He's the typical creep with his van in the woods with a few life size cages in the back, abducted people included. He has a habit of finding certain kids; no one really knows why

he chooses who he does, and taking them back to his van. Then they are locked in the cages and have to fend for themselves for everything, especially food.

As messed up as this show is, it'll have you addicted in minutes. The plot is something mostly everyone can relate to in some way and you'll be looking forward to every Wednesday night. Twisty will give you nightmares and you'll rethink the way you treat your elders, but I give this twisted demented show a 10 out of 10 and not only because Evan Peters is smokin'.



**GEN'S
STYLING SALON**
523 Sycamore St.
New Richmond, Ohio 45157
553-2537
"Hair the Way You Want It Place"
Stylists:
Jean Williams, Jeanne Earl,
Ashley & Amber Bowers
Nails: Pat Hornschemeier



MOORES AUTO BODY AND FRAME
Complete Collision Repair
404 FRONT STREET
NEW RICHMOND, OH 45157
Robert Moore
Owner
Phone: 513-553-2331
FAX: 513-553-4300

They're just a little bit *Out of My Limit*

Australian band, 5 Seconds of Summer, comes to America

By Ciera Moore

Australian pop/pop rock band, 5 Seconds of Summer started out making videos and uploading them to YouTube. They would make covers of popular songs and continued to do so until they rose to international fame when the British boyband, One Direction, invited them on their Take Me Home Tour. Since then, they have released a few EP albums and recently they released their self titled debut album. Formed in Sydney, the band consists of Luke Hemmings, Michael Clifford, Calum Hood and Ashton Irwin.

The band was officially formed in December of 2011 when Hemmings, Clifford, and Hood, who all attended Norwest Christian College, started posting videos of themselves. Their first YouTube video was uploaded on February 3, 2011, and they were later joined by Irwin in December. The four-man line up was officially completed. I am proud to say that I have literally been with the band since the beginning. I remember watching their cover of *Please Don't Go* by Mike Posner, about a week after it was posted on YouTube.

I almost religiously followed their YouTube channel for the months to come, making sure I watched all of the videos that they made. Member Luke Hemmings is lead vocals and plays guitar, with Michael Clifford doing the same. Calum Hood plays bass for the band and also participates in vocals, with Ashton Irwin on drums and being a part of the vocals. My absolute favorite out of all the covers they made during that time would have to be *Jasey Rae*, originally performed by All Time Low. The band All Time Low is one of my favorites, and hearing them sing that just strengthened my love for them.

5 Seconds of Summer has now advanced to having their own world tour, Rock Out With Your Socks Out, and they now have a very big fan base. Because of this they recently hit the top ten on Billboard's Social 50 Chart. For the week ending May 18, 2014, the group saw more than 2.5 million mentions of their handle on



Twitter and their tweets were retweeted more than 1.3 million times (more than that of Katy Perry, Twitter's most followed account), according to Next Big Sound.

I feel like this band will be around for awhile, even though some consider them another boy band that'll eventually lose the interest of tween girls. Their songs don't have that typical pop and bubbly vibe that boy bands usually have, making their fan base go out to more than just little girls. I hope that one day I can have enough money to see this band that I've been in love with since day one.



David Kennedy
Owner

PO Box 54757
Cincinnati, OH 45254

513-553-4565 or
513-474-1168

DL Kennedy & Son/Setty's
Window & Gutter Cleaning

Family owned and operated for over 30 years

NO CONTRACTS



THE PARADIES SHOPS
CINCINNATI/NORTHERN KY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Tel (859)767-5722 ~ Fax (859)767-4876
Tracey.Bodlovick@theparadiesshops.com



**Go
Lions!
Lisa
Schroeder**

PARK
NATIONAL BANK

Southwest Ohio & Northern Kentucky

513.553.3131 • BankWithPark.com

 Member FDIC

MTC Construction, Inc.
Finishing The Future One Job At A Time

Tom Louis
Construction Manager

PO Box 221
New Richmond, OH 45157

Phone: 513-518-8593
Fax: 513-553-3669
E-mail: mtc@zoomtown.com



Ed Sheeran becoming more popular every day

Sheerio fandom growing with success of new album, sold out shows

By: Sadie LaRocque

Have you ever listened to a song and fallen instantly in love with it? That's how my Ed Sheeran obsession started. When I first heard *The A-Team* on the radio, I started listening to his music more and became obsessed. I listened to *Plus*, his debut album, which is hip-hop inspired and was done all on his own, with no band. The whole album was just him and his guitar. After discovering *Plus*, I couldn't wait for the new album to come out.

The new Ed album, *X(Multiply)* came out on June 23rd and the Sheerio fandom couldn't have been more excited. The album has received lots of positive reviews. The first single from the album to be released was *Sing*. The song is pop with R&B influences. The second single to be released was *Don't* and was released after the album itself.

Thinking Out Loud was the third to be released. This album has a different sound than *Plus*, but still appeals to many people because each song has a different sound.

The tour for *Multiply* has been a huge success and the tour dates from October 27th to November 7th are all sold out. After touring with Taylor Swift, Sheeran has become much more popular. Having been a fan since the beginning, I am extremely proud of him and how popular he has become since then.

The songs *One*, *Photograph*, *Thinking Out Loud*, and *Afire Love* all have a softer sound than the other songs. The songs each have their own meaning behind them but are, in one way or another, love songs. The same girl that was hinted at in songs on the previous album was who *One* was written about. *Thinking Out*

Loud was written about a previous love interest.

Some of the songs are more personal than the others, although most of them do have a personal connection. One of the songs was written about Sheeran's grandfather before he died. He suffered from Alzheimer's disease and Sheeran was thinking "What if he died?" when he wrote the song.

Personally, I have become more obsessed since *Multiply* came out than I was before. I love all the songs on his album. My favorite on the album would have to be *Tenerife Sea*. It's soft and sweet and lovable. My favorite

lyrics of the song are "Should this be the last thing I see, I want you to know it's enough for me, 'Cause all that you are is all that I'll ever need." Those lyrics are ones that hit me and make me feel like the song is personal and touching.

I couldn't be more proud of how far Ed has come since 2011. I see more success in his future and will hopefully be able to attend one of his concerts in the future. I've been a fan since the beginning and will remain a Sheerio to the end. *Multiply* just came out this year and I'm already anticipating the next album he's going to release.

GRAMMAS

EST. 1976

PIZZA

GRAMMAS PIZZA AMELIA, OHIO 797-4038	GRAMMAS PIZZA OWENSVILLE, OHIO 735-0500	GRAMMAS PIZZA BATAVIA, OHIO 732-6644
GRAMMAS PIZZA EASTGATE, OHIO 528-3015	GRAMMAS PIZZA MILFORD, OHIO 722-4470	GRAMMAS PIZZA BETHEL, OHIO 734-3200
GRAMMAS PIZZA WITHAMSVILLE, OHIO 753-7499	GRAMMAS PIZZA FLORENCE, KENTUCKY 525-1440	

Smile Designers

Neil Blackburn, D.D.S., Inc.
93 East Main St. • P.O. Box 230
Amelia, Ohio 45102
(513) 753-7199

BEECHMONT
★ **B** ★
RACQUET & FITNESS

STUDENT HOLIDAY PASSES AVAILABLE
THANKSGIVING TO NEW YEAR'S

Phone 513.553.2886
Ask for Rob or Cory

HUBER AUTO AND BOAT TOPS

Complete Auto and
Marine Upholstering

301 Columbia Street
New Richmond, OH 45157

"La jiggy jar jar doo... dur da dur da dur"

Carl Poppa is apparently the new trend... or something

By Hunter Gilpin

"La Jiggy Jar Jar Doo! Dur da dur dee dur." Walking Dead fans or Bad Lip Reading fans will know where that is from. Early October, Bad Lip Reading produced a Walking Dead Bad Lip Reading video on YouTube. This featured *Carl Poppa* as a minute short and it sparked up BLR to make a full song. A few days later, *Carl Poppa* released with 1.7 million views.

BLR is very talented with their videos, using the original film and having voice actors change

the audio. To write an entire song from one scene in the Walking Dead is impressive. *Carl Poppa* was meant to just be a side scene, but then turned into this fiasco and thus, the song was born. Many people viewed it as great side song to fit in the actual Walking Dead, however it does not follow the storyboard.

The song was well written for skit, but a real song, nooooooo, don't you dare. I personally like it but it's not good for a real song. It's even on iTunes for a dollar.



The song has no clear rhyme scheme and it gets off track. For instance, "No one wanted you stinking tearia, and no one wanted your sticky chair." The line here is the pre chorus. It's catchy but where does it make sense? I understand it is just for a YouTube, but I don't like how it is set up. I don't understand the lyrics or why it is important.

Carl in the Walking Dead is one of the main characters. Also apparently a rapping genius and can sing. I like the Walking Dead and the third party YouTube channel that makes fun of it. *Carl Poppa* is the internet sensation that will make me lose my remaining faith in humanity because so many people actually like it. I am not saying I hate it

though, I am saying I dislike it. The tune is catchy, yet the people took it way too far and eventually AMC might sue them for making profit off of their product. That would make me angry too because I worked hard to produce the scene. The song is a repeat of itself and it is technically copyrighted by AMC. I don't like it when someone cheats off me on a test, so I would understand if AMC took action.

Carl Poppa is the song that replaced *Ganyam Style* from 2012. So yeah, it's annoying and too catchy for it not to be in my mind when I wrote this. At least it's better than 5 Seconds of Summer... Don't hit me.

**All your protection
under one roof.®**

One call is all it takes to get the insurance you need. Auto, home, business, health, life and more, I'm ready to help.*

*Some products not available in every state.



Joel P Loyd Insurance Agency

(513) 831-0045 Bus
(513) 218-5121 Cell
jloyd@amfam.com
www.facebook.com/JoelLoydAgency



American Family Mutual Insurance Company
and its Subsidiaries
American Family Insurance Company
Home Office — Madison, WI 53703
amfam.com

© 2008 002134 — Rev. 11/08



McDonalds or McGarbage?

Has any grease showed up in your bloodstream lately?

By Alexis Wilson

Although McDonalds is loved by many throughout the country, not even their Happy Meal makes me happy. From the vulgar presentation to their bitter, aged food, McDonalds did not score high on my "places I would like to eat" list. You would happily find McDonalds placed at the bottom, along with the dumpster and downtown Cincinnati's public bathrooms.

The moment I walked in the place it smelled of grease and week old chicken. Not only was my tray slid in leftover ketchup that was on the counter by the cashier, all the tables were covered with it, too, along with mayonnaise and many other various sauces. Finding a mediocre place

to eat was like searching for a needle in a haystack.

When I opened my burger to eat, I came to find that ketchup was not the only sauce they put on my burger, but also an extra coat of grease. My buns looked like they had been used to mop up the floors, soggy with grease and God knows what else. That clearly wasn't the case because the floors looked as if they haven't seen a broom since the restaurant was built.

Sadly, I did not get the chance to try the fries. I figured if I did they would break my teeth off because of how old and hard they were. The best thing about my meal was my Coke, most likely because that's the only part of my

meal that they did not make. Although McDonalds failed in many ways to please me, I will say that I did not leave the place hungry. I completely lost my appetite after cardboard they call fries.

They also did a wonderful job at having my food ready quickly. Mostly because the food had been ready and sitting there for a week, so you can say that I was in and out fairly quickly, full and ready to go. I have never been so ready to leave a restaurant in my life. There is a reason for the

mascot of McDonald's being a clown. The only way to get someone to smile while eating that food was to paint it on.

I believe in second chances, but, I think giving McDonalds a second chance will make me gain seven pounds and possibly send me to the emergency room for grease being in my bloodstream. It would be better for me and America to forget about McDonalds, and choose another place to eat that won't give us diabetes or a heart attack after taking one bite of a sandwich.



Front Street Cafe
NEW RICHMOND on the OHIO

Quaint river view cafe by day... fine-dining bistro with live entertainment in the evening. Proudly located in the heart of New Richmond's historical waterfront district.

120 Front Street, New Richmond, OH 45157
(513) 553-4800 - www.frontstcafe.com

Please friend us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter



Caring You Can Count On



E.C. Nurre
FUNERAL HOMES, INC.

200 Western Ave.
New Richmond, OH 45157
513-553-4132
www.ecnurre.com

AUTO SAVERS



430 CENTER ST.
NEW RICHMOND, OH 45157
(513) 797-9400

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED
COLLISION & INSURANCE REPAIRS
MECHANICAL, TOWING, TIRE SALES

BRUCE O'DELL, CLU
AGENT
1-275 & BEECHMONT AVENUE
CINCINNATI, OH 45255
BUS.: (513) 528-5406
FAX: (513) 528-5408

STATE FARM
INSURANCE COMPANIES
HOME OFFICE: BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®



Beetlejuice, Beetlejuice, Beetlejuice...

1988 hit still a great watch twenty six years later

By Tristin Baumann

Ever wonder what it's like to be dead? And then what happens to your house and all of your stuff after you're gone?

Director Tim Burton answers these questions and more in this semi-horror fictional comedy called Beetlejuice. Alec Baldwin and Geena Davis take on the roles of a husband and wife who live in a house outside a peaceful small town. But then things take a drastic turn as they swerve in their car to avoid hitting dog, and drive straight off the bridge into the river.

Then they magically end up at home, but there, they discover that to their shock, they are both dead. And on top of that, a horrid family is trying to move in and renovate the place. In order to do this they consider enlisting the help of a dead "Repo" man played by Michael Keaton, known as Betelgeuse.

This movie is beyond a doubt

one of my all-time favorites. Not only because of the humorous way that the afterlife and the dead in general are portrayed, but because of the way it's all presented to the viewers. I love the idea of the town model in the attic being a "second set" inside the actual set. Not only that, but Alec Baldwin and Geena Davis are great at portraying dead people (sounds a bit odd doesn't it?). Baldwin is also a bit of an oddball, as usual, but it really seems to fit his character in the movie. Another obviously wonderful bit of acting is by Michael Keaton portraying Betelgeuse.

Keaton does a great job pulling off the slightly-insane, wild and crazy, erratic character of Betelgeuse. I actually found his character a bit ironic, considering Keaton would eventually go on to play Batman in the movie of the same name one year later. The reason I say this is because

when you compare the two, Betelgeuse and The Joker are two very similar characters. They both have the same kind of personality traits. They both love chaos. And there is actually a scene in Beetlejuice, I don't know if this was intentional or not, but without spoiling anything, there is a scene where Betelgeuse is trying to hurry something along, and as he is doing this, for a brief few moments his suit appears purple, and he looks like a dead on portrait of the Joker. This a great demonstration of just how great Michael Keaton is at changing roles and playing convincing characters on both ends of the sanity spectrum.

One other great thing about

this movie was the wonderful soundtrack created by Danny Elfman, who has always done a wonderful job when it comes to music, especially in one of his other works, *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. The music matched the flow of the movie and gave it a very creepy mood. It made the movie feel like a true horror movie, while still maintaining a bit of a fun sense to the whole thing.

Overall, I don't care if you were born in this generation or the next, this is a movie that I recommend that everyone should watch. So if you haven't seen it, borrow it from a friend, find it online, watch it. But whatever you do, if you die, don't say his name three times...



LJ Franklin
Photography

513-553-1081
LJFranklinphotography.com

Fabulous
Candid
Portraits
of
You

Call today to set up an appointment.



MAD ABOUT HAIR

513-734-3900

1836 State Route 125
Amelia, Ohio 45102



Clermont College.
Powered by UC.
Driven by You.

513-732-5200
ucclermont.edu

UNIVERSITY OF
Cincinnati

for banking with just two requirements. Thumbs.

With Virtual Wallet[®] Student, you can:

- Bank when and where you want with Mobile Banking
- See your spending habits with Spending Zone
- See what's left after bills with Money Bar[®]
- Find PNC branches or ATMs with the PNC Finder App

Visit our branch or sign up online at
pncvirtualwallet.com/college



Your nearest PNC branch:

Anderson Branch

7500 Beechmont Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45255
513-231-8317



PNC does not charge a fee for Mobile Banking. However, third party message and data rates may apply. These include fees your wireless carrier may charge you for data usage and text messaging services. Check with your wireless carrier for details regarding your specific wireless plan and any data usage or text messaging charges that may apply. Also, a supported mobile device is needed to use the Mobile Banking App. Mobile Deposit is a feature of PNC Mobile Banking. Use of the Mobile Deposit feature requires a supported camera-equipped device and you must download a PNC mobile banking app. Eligible PNC Bank account and PNC Bank Online Banking required. Certain other restrictions apply. See the mobile banking terms and conditions in the PNC Online Banking Service Agreement.

This app uses the location services provided by the device to determine your location. PNC does not capture or store any location data. Location information is used only to provide the app with "nearby" PNC branches and/or ATMs.

©2014 The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. All rights reserved. PNC Bank, National Association. **Member FDIC** UNV PDF 0613-026-147185