

The Messenger

New Richmond High School, 1131 Bethel-New Richmond Road, New Richmond, Ohio 45157

Volume LXIX

Issue 2

October 2013



“The earth is what we all have in common.” Wendell Berry

*School district commits to
energy-saving initiatives*

NREVSD continues to save energy

New ideas, projects to go green

By Josie Buckingham

The New Richmond Exempted Village School District is continuing its Energy Conservation project. In other words, the school district is going green!

As the world around us is working hard to promote the use of more energy efficient technology, buildings, and much more, NREVSD feels that it's time to step up with this movement and help out. Even the smallest changes are able to make big differences.

"The goal is to save money and energy throughout the district. We have been doing several things to start this project and will continue to do so," said NRHS principal Mark Bailey.

Every building in the district will now be using energy efficient light bulbs. At NRHS, the lighting systems in the theater and multi purpose room have been re done. The heating and air conditioning systems will be controlled by a digital system that will allow principals and head

custodians to control remotely by a computer or iPad. This also allows schedules to be computer automated to do things like turn down AC/heat on weekends or days when the building is just not being used. The steam boiler at NRHS will be replaced by a much more energy efficient boiler and system of smaller and strategically placed hot water heaters. The NRHS pool water and air will be heated with a high efficiency natural gas system. Increased use of motion sensors will be used to control lighting and heating systems when spaces are not in use.

"It is predicted right now that we will save over \$10,000 a year in energy savings just from the NRHS building with the current projects going on," said Bailey.

Aside from saving money and energy, it is a goal of this project to also educate students.

"We want to help students become more resourceful. The world around us is becoming

more green, and we want our students to see that," said Bailey.

The district will also be starting up a group called the Green Team. The group is still starting up and collecting representatives from each building in the district. Monroe Elementary teacher Adrian Hawk will be leading this group.

"I am only in the process of setting this whole thing up. This is a district-wide Green Team and the hope is to have representatives from each of the five buildings to participate," said Hawk.

Students from each building will also be a part of this Green Team.

Superintendent Adam Bird said, "Possible projects for this group will include recycling, re-

using, and finding ways for NREVSD to limit its use of electricity and other resources. I am excited to see the creative ideas that they come up with."

"It is my hope that the Board of Education's projects as outlined above in combination with the Green Team's initiatives will lead to our district being able to compete for one of Ohio's nominations for the US Department of Education's Green Ribbon School Award," said Bird.

It's simple to say that our school district is hoping to become more involved with the world's green projects and make a difference. Saving some energy and money are the main goals which are already being worked towards.

1558 ST. RT. 232
Moscow, Ohio 45153 513-404-4211

Martin's Auto Body

- COMPLETE BODY & PAINT
- GUARANTEED COLOR MATCHING
- INSURANCE WORK WELCOME
- WE HANDLE THE RENTAL CAR ARRANGMENTS AND CLAIMS



Nick Carmosino
513-482-0467
nwcarmosino@aol.com

Earning Your Trust One Job At A Time!

Licensed, Bonded and Insured Emergency Services Available

RBS
Riverview Business Services LLC
Taxes - Accounting - Retirement & Business Planning

Jane Lockwood

515 Walnut Street
New Richmond, Ohio 45157

513.553.2141 Office
513.553.2353 Fax

jlockwood@RiverviewBusinessServices.com
www.RiverviewBusinessServices.com

Are you college ready?

Little things that seem to slip your mind when looking at colleges

By: Christin Gray

Are you starting to think about college? Do you have questions piling up about all the information you need and deadlines to meet? Does the thought of going away scare you? Seniors should already have taken their ACT/SAT one or more times by this time of their senior year.

Details can sometimes slip one's mind when it comes to the application process.

New Richmond High School guidance counselor Carol Ann Coulter said, "When you have questions while filling something out, or about the process; ask questions. The more questions you ask, the more knowledge you will obtain about the process. It can be a very scary realization for seniors who

haven't started looking yet," she stated.

Deadlines seem to either creep up or somehow get forgotten about.

"Most schools have deadlines, both for the application and for scholarships. It is best for seniors to target sending in all applications by Thanksgiving. This way they will meet all deadlines and then be able to enjoy their senior year more without the added pressure of getting things in at the last second," said Interim Director of Enrollment Services at University of Cincinnati Clermont, Blaine D. Kelley.

Preparing early is always key, when having college in mind. "Sophomore year students should be looking at schools,

stepping on campus', making lists of both schools they would like to attend and schools you don't want to attend. It is so important to start taking your ACT at some point in your sophomore year of high school," said Coulter.

Taking advantage of academic classes offered in high school is important for the preparation process for high school students due to the level of in depth time and effort spent in them. "Challenge yourself! Take honors classes, and AP classes even if you don't get an A!" You will learn the skills needed to be successful," said Coulter.

AP English teacher Nicole Parker stated that AP courses here are actually more challenging than college or post-secondary courses.

"AP is more rigorous than an entry level course in college. AP also helps students by being surrounded by the kids with the

same academic goals as one another," she said.

Two of the classes offered here at New Richmond now qualify the student taking the classes to gain both college and high school credit without leaving the building. Personal Finance, taught by Maryann Dalton, and Environmental Biology, taught by Logan Minning, allow students to take advantage of a wonderful opportunity as well as having the comfort of a high school teacher helping students along the way.

"The class will remain the same with a few exceptions. I am using material from a new book and trying to incorporate more critical thinking. The reading is higher level and the assignments are geared to make the learner build on general concepts. It also helps students make connections with the real world," said Minning.

Self-discipline is a struggle

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.



**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



**Allegro
Dance Arts**
Affordable, Quality Dance Instruction
Ballet • Hip Hop • Jazz • Tap •
Scottish Highland & More
Classes in Eastgate & Mt. Orab
www.AllegroDanceArts.webs.com
513-528-5578

Allegro
DANCE APPAREL & SHOES
Supplies for Ballet • Jazz • Hip
Hop • Tap • Irish • & more

502 Old State Route 74, Cincinnati, OH 45244

for most students, but they need to be focused to succeed. "The most important detail about college learning that I would want high school students to know is that a lot of professors expect you to put the extra effort into learning the material being taught in class on your own time. That is why self-discipline and time management are extremely important," Dalton stated.

When it comes down to it, cost is sometimes the most important detail! "How am I going to pay for it? Can I get an assistance? How do I file for FAFSA?" Not knowing where the large amount of money will come from discourages some seniors from applying to schools.

"The majority of high school seniors that I meet have not had a 'money talk' about college with their parents. From the cost of turning in applications, which typically range from \$50 - \$200 each, to paying college tuition, housing, food, books and other fees, there is a lot of anxiety on how these fees can be met," said Kelley.

Looking at colleges early and having an open mind to the pos-

sibilities each campus has is key to helping make a list of the options. "To some, anxiety is the result of image and opportunity, as many want to go to a 'big name' school and think that a solid financial future can only result by attending certain schools," said Kelley.

The process of not knowing if you are accepted or not to a certain school can be nerve wracking. "If not accepted at the 'big name' school, or the family doesn't have the funding available to pay for that school, some students will feel like they have failed in the eyes of their family or friends. This is unfortunate, as there is plenty of opportunity available for a happy and prosperous career at virtually any college or university," said Kelley.

New Richmond High School guidance counselor Jim Reaker explained that students sometimes have the wrong priorities when choosing a college. "I feel looking specifically at schools and knowing what it takes to get in as well as being prepared for the workload is so important. Students are more focused on the

name of a school other than the programs the school has to offer," he said.

Students seem to get anxious and nervous when college is mentioned for a few reasons. Most representatives from the surrounding colleges visiting New Richmond tell students upfront their requirements for getting accepted.

Taking the ACT is one of the most important steps to getting ready for that next step.

"The ACT is a high stakes test, which is important based on the school a student wants to attend. The ACT more times than not is 50% of most schools decisions on acceptance. Students have a hard time NOT having

complete control over taking this test. Luckily the ACT doesn't decide total acceptance of a student. Leadership skills, a good essay, and extracurriculars are looked at as well," said Reaker.

"The bottom line is that a degree, in any area of study, opens a lot more doors of opportunity than anything else that you can do at this time in your life outside of those choosing a career in the trades, i.e. plumber, carpenter, HVAC, mechanic, etc., where a college education is not required. If I could speak one true statement to every student I met, it would be that your self-worth, perceived or actual, is not a product of the school you attend," said Kelley.

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

NRHS introduces two new classes from Grant Engineering Concepts, Introduction to Computer Science, now being taught

By: Sadie LaRocque

New Richmond High School has two new classes this year that are here from Grant Career Center. The classes are engineering concepts and math applications, and introduction to computer science.

Engineering concepts and math applications is being taught by Grant teacher Genna Schwartz. The class is offered at New Richmond to freshmen and sophomores for two periods. The class provides students with the opportunity to discover the principles of the engineering design process while doing projects to reinforce what is being taught.

"Engineering concepts is an introduction to engineering. The main goal of the class is for students to understand and use the design process," Schwartz said. "This is a full year class so we do a lot of hands-on projects that relate to some physics and engineering concepts. Some of the projects that we're doing are balloon race cars, trebuchets (which are like catapults), hovercrafts, airplanes, and mechanical robots."

Schwartz teaches engineering concepts and math applications at New Richmond and traditional math at Grant. "I don't teach the engineering lab at Grant, I just teach traditional math. However, the engineering teacher at Grant does some similar things as we do here at New Richmond. They

work really in depth with the same robots that we touch on in this class, and they use a lot of the same machinery. They also do different things, like some computer programming," Schwartz explains.

The students who are in the engineering class for math at Grant have future opportunities to help them get further into engineering. "They have the opportunity to have internships with engineering companies in the Cincinnati area," Schwartz said.

The other class offered is introduction to computer science and is being taught by Grant teacher Brian Akers. The class is designed for freshmen and sophomores to give them a taste of computer programming and computer science applications.

"I teach computer science at New Richmond and Bethel-Tate, each for two periods. The class is only offered at the home schools but, not at Grant at this time and it is only a one semester class," Akers said.

The class will be given instructions for the robot they will be making and take time to assemble it. "In our class, we will be building a Lego Mindstorm robot which resembles a three wheel car. The assembly may take anywhere from a couple days to a weeks time depending on the students mechanical ability. I do

give the students build instructions but some work through it quicker than others," Akers said.

After the robot building, the class will be taught to program it using the computer to do certain tasks and students will learn how to create computer programs of their own.

"After the robot is assembled, we use LabView software to create programs that make the robot perform different actions. Most programs only take a day or two to complete. More complex programming would take several days, but I am going to stick to the more simple tasks with my classes this year," Akers explained. "I am also teaching the students how to create computer applications using Microsoft Visual Basic to write code. These programs can range from very simple one day tasks to very detailed two week projects later in the year. I try to focus on game programming to keep it interest-

ing."

The classes are being offered here for the first time so there aren't many students in either of them right now. "Since computer science is a new class being offered, there are very few students in the class at this time. I have eight kids in one period and six in the other period at New Richmond. I am hoping to get more students in the class next semester and for years to come," said Akers.

"There are ten kids in one period and twelve in the other period for the engineering class here. Not many people are in the class because they couldn't fit another class in their schedules for first semester. I am hoping that more students will be in the class next year and will be taking the class for the for the full year so students don't miss out on any projects," said Schwartz.

Broken Wing Shirts and Things
PO Box 182
Pleasant Plain, OH 45126
513-487-0098



**Custom T-shirts,
apparel, embroidery**

CUT-N-UP SALON & SPA

LEE ANN WHITED
OWNER/MANAGER



221 FRONT ST
NEW RICHMOND, OHIO 45157

513-553-0200

TK Painting & Remodeling

1936 Lindale Nicholasville Rd.
Amelia, OH 45102
513-716-4840
513-500-3696



**Fully insured, 25 years
experience**
No job too big or too small

To Florida and beyond... Troups plan for Orlando trip in spring

By Ashley Gray

Woo Hoo! Have you heard? Our New Richmond High School Troubadours are traveling to Universal Studios, in Orlando, for the Florida National Choir Contest. "Our trip is three days; March 20-23, 2014," said teacher, Doug Heflin. Heflin and our fellow Troubadours give us some more insight about their trip.

There are 124 Troubadours attending the trip. "We plan to take three big tour buses," said Heflin.

Heflin said there was more than one option for the destination of the Troubadours trip. "We were offered to sing at the inauguration of the president and at the Olympic Games, but we chose Universal Studios in Orlando, Florida," said Heflin, "simply because we wanted to compete against other singing groups."

Heflin shares his expectations of his students. "I expect the students to work very hard to maintain the culture of the class.... and to be very competitive."

Despite all the expectations Heflin has for his Troubadours, he has a couple of things in mind he would like to accomplish from the trip.

"I hope to show the Troubadours that hard work does really pay off." Heflin said. "I hope the students get great memories from the trip, and realize hard work does pay off in real life. That is always a pleasure to watch kids discover."

Heflin mentioned that the Troubadours have already started to fundraise a little bit for their trip. "The trip will roughly cost about \$450 per student," Heflin said. "If anyone would like to help an individual student with raising money to participate in the trip, they can make money for the scholarship payable to the high school."

According to Heflin, he has not decided the songs the Troubadours are going to sing yet. "Although I do not know yet, the men's and women's choirs are also going to compete against other groups in that category" said Heflin.

In addition, Heflin shares how he is prepping the Troubadours for their competition. "We are actually already doing pre-tour practices and focusing on tone quality set and small details," he said.

"We think we are going to be performing Saturday morning, March 22," said Heflin.

Now the Troubadours gives us the scoop on how they feel about the trip.

Students share what they look forward to about the trip.

"Sharing a room with my friends," said junior Ella Nees.

Junior Tyler Davis said, "I am looking forward to everything. Singing, having fun, and visiting Florida because I haven't been there in such a long time."

"I have never been to Disney

World before, so I am really excited to go to the Harry Potter World," said junior Olivia Latham.

According to the Troubadours, they hope to have a lot of fun on the trip.

"I hope to get a good experience," said junior Carrie Stapleton.

Davis said, "Hopefully I get a little bit of a tan, a good time singing, and a good rating for competition."

The Troubadours talk about how they are going to prepare for the trip.

Latham said, "I am going to pay attention in class and make sure to concentrate on the little details like diction, rounding out my vowel sound, and getting the

crescendos right."

"I plan on fixing my voice because of its issues. I also plan to prepare by trying my best with the Troubadours and doing my part," said Davis.

Nees said, "I am trying to pay attention more and work hard on memorizing the songs."

As you can tell, our Troubadours, along with Heflin, are very excited for the trip. Although the trip is a little far away, the Troubadours are practicing and preparing very diligently for the competition. Working on all the small details, hopefully our Troubadours can bring New Richmond home a great rating.



LJ Franklin
Photography

www.LJFranklinPhotography.com
513-553-1081
LJFranklinphoto@gmail.com
New Richmond, Ohio

genuine . artistic . natural portraits

CHERRY GROVE LANES

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 Per Visit. 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 Per Visit. Not Valid For League, Tournament Play Or Other Special Offers. Discounts And Glow Bowling.</small></p>
--	--

Is the traditional way always the right way?

Home schooling becomes a controversial topic

By Claire Burns

After the long, drawn out school day, every student's wish is to spend a relaxing evening without more school work. Several individuals have arguments backing up the excessive amount of time that schooling takes out of the short human life. Many turn to homeschooling as a solution to make the education process less complex and time consuming. Homeschooling has become a more popular form of education for children over the last decade. Along with benefits, though, come considerable disadvantages with the homeschooling program such as serious future socialization problems, lack of exposure to a variety of cultures, and the lack of access to public school resources. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, the number of homeschooled students in the United States increased from 850,000 in 1999 to 1.5 million students in 2007, although this number may seem large, it really is not a significant number compared to the millions of children who are being enrolled in public schools every year. With the pros and cons of homeschooling, it is becoming a controversial topic arguing whether it is a parent's right to educate his or her children in whatever way he or she believes is best, or whether home schooling has serious deficiencies.

Information collected from a recent informal opinion poll at New Richmond High School states that 57% of the respondents believe that homeschooling is a not a productive way of learning and leads to future socialization problems which can negatively affect a student's future.

There are several arguments students have shared which explain their reasoning behind their criticism of home schooling. Many peers believe that traditional schooling provides social interactions which are a very important asset used in everyday lives.

Sophomore, Eric Rolfes stated: "Home schooling provides a decent education, but it is not as productive as traditional schooling. In traditional schooling, there are sociable interactions which develop a sense of competition, which is also present in extracurricular activities such as the participation in sports."

Students also believe that the home schooling process creates many problems which the students will encounter in their future.

Sophomore Ashley Gray shared her views on the productivity of home schooling. "I do not believe that home schooling is as productive as traditional schooling due to the lenient guidelines. The social problems that go along with home schooling are that the adolescents are not

given social experiences along with the chance to grow as individuals, such as the chance to make new friends and to make decisions on their own."

Sophomore Jacob Branson also agreed that social problems can be caused by home schooling. "I believe home schooling is helpful to some students because it allows them to work at their own pace and not feel rushed, but I do not feel like it is as nearly as productive. In traditional schooling, students are given the interactions between other students by taking part in group activities which develop social skills."

Another argument against home schooling students mentioned is the lack of concentration. Sophomore Adrianna Flood is not in favor of the environment that home schooling provides; she believes that teachers play an important role in keeping students disciplined and on one task. "Home schooling is okay, but I would not want to do it. I do not feel like it is as productive because it is easy to get sidetracked at home."

Every individual's learning style varies from person to another. Students stated that home schooling is not fit for every student due to the variation in learning techniques.

Sophomore Carter Light commented on the learning environ-

ment associated with homeschooling. "I believe that the two environments of traditional schooling and homeschooling are two polar opposites. Home schooling does not provide the social environment that some students need in order to learn. Some individuals cannot stand being alone and need other students to interact with and to communicate with."

Freshman Anna Bennett believes that home schooling does not provide students with a variation of learning levels. The home schooling program often does not allow advanced students to expand their knowledge to higher levels; instead, they remain on the same academic level as they started.

"Home schooling is not fit for all academic levels. For an example, one student who is given only an average level of education in homeschooling, may really be capable of an advanced level," she said.

Students have also presented their arguments against home schooling based on the lack of student-teacher connections. A crucial component of traditional homes chooling is the the lack of personal connections with teachers.

Sophomore Jesse Noble believes that teachers are a valuable source for student-adult relationships. "The relationship



that is formed between the student and the teacher creates a special connection that provides the student with a sense of support for not only educational struggles, but for emotional problems as well."

Another problem associated with homeschooling is that it is time-consuming for the parents of a homeschooled child. Sophomore Alec Bomske believes that this problem specifically concerns the parents of young, homeschooled children. "The young students have not yet developed enough self teaching

skills to be able to sufficiently grasp the material by themselves. As a result, the parents have to help their child comprehend the subjects."

Even though parent-child connections are a very important component in a child's life, too much connection can be defective in a child's social development. Sophomore Jenna Swormstedt believes that homeschooling shelters children to an extent which is socially unhealthy. "Homeschooling can be a blessing for students who are not physically able to attend

school for disability reasons, but at the same time, homeschooling can be harmful for those who can. I believe that children who are homeschooled are sheltered from the rest of society and spend the majority of their time with parents and siblings and are never given the chance to socially connect with anyone else. The connection between the student and their family can become excessively too strong, which in the future, can lead them to an attachment and restrict them from growing as in independent individual."

gram, "Yes, taxpayers in several school districts have the ability to participate in public sports, but students are less likely to take part in these sports due to troubling factors such as, transportation and scheduling."

Traditional schooling includes a diversity in learning techniques which are beneficial to students' development. Sophomore Morgan Huddleston stated, "I believe that homeschooling is a very unproductive way of learning, which through internet programs, can be very tedious. With the interaction skills, which are developed from traditional schooling, students are less likely to become sidetracked and in turn, more interested in the subject."

Mary Ann Dalton, New Richmond High School's business teacher, believes that homeschooled students miss out on a lot of important connections which are offered in traditional schooling. "I think homeschooling can vary from student to student, although, I do not feel like it is the "best" option (unless there is a medical need) for a student to be homeschooled. I also believe that students miss out on a lot of opportunities for interaction with peers. Along with academics, being at school allows for students to learn how to work in group situations and solve problems. There is so much more than just academics students need to "survive" the "real world"."

On the other hand, the other 43 percent of the individuals who participated in the opinion poll stated that they believe that homeschooling is indeed an effective alternative for education. There are indeed many alternatives to learning, which all have their pros and cons.

Sophomore Kelly Benton believes that homeschooling is simply just another way of learning which is perfectly fine. "I believe that the way a student wishes to receive their education

Students have also argued that homeschooled students are not only missing out on the educational and social aspect of traditional school, but also the sporting activities. Freshman Anna Bennett argued against the pro-



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

FOR DEALS, COUPONS, PROMOTIONS, EVENTS & MORE!

Get the Look!





Welcome back! Plato's Closet stores in **Dayton & Cincinnati** buy & sell trendy TEEN and TWENTY SOMETHING style clothes, shoes & accessories for **Guys and Girls**. We have great stuff to change up you look and we pay CASH on the spot for your barely used **Jeans, Tees, Fun Tops, Jackets, Guy's Stuff, Jewelry** and much more! Brands we love include hollister, pink, american eagle, true religion, miss me forever 21, sperry & many more!

Check Us Out Today!



PLATO'S CLOSET HAS 7 LOCATIONS NEARBY!



FIELDS ERTLE - 9148 UNION CEMETERY RD.
ANDERSON - 8550 BEECHMONT AVE.
COLERAIN - 10212 COLERAIN AVE.
WEST CHESTER - 8140 PRINCETON GLENDALE RD.
BEAVERCREEK - 2750 NORTH FAIRFIELD RD.
DAYTON - 8319 SPRINGBORO PIKE
HUBER HEIGHTS - 8290 OLD TROY PIKE

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PLATOSCLOSETCINCYDAYTON

should be completely up to them. Every individual knows what the best environment which they can become successful while receiving an educational experience," she said.

Many parents, including the parents of twelve-year-old Jeff Wilkins, believe that every experience can be turned into an educational one. In an article which was titled "Educational Theory" written by Robert Kunzman, Wilkins' parents stated: "Homeschooling is an endeavor that extends beyond traditional schooling boundaries of time, place, and subject areas; life provides educational opportunities, oftentimes in more authentic and powerful contexts than what traditional schooling has to offer."(75)

Several individuals agree that homeschooling is a solution for students who are experiencing social problems at traditional schools.

Sophomore Emily Belmont argues that traditional schooling is very time consuming. "I believe that homeschooling provides students with more free time, which is a major stress reliever. Homeschooled students are able to accomplish their daily assignments in a few hours, unlike traditional schooling which takes up the whole day. Homeschooling is obviously more time efficient, giving children more time to be kids and enjoy their childhood!"

Homework is a widely argued topic and is a major issue concerning traditional schooling. Former home schooled student,

sophomore Kaitlyn Williams, agreed that homeschooling is far more productive than traditional homeschooling. "I believe that home schooling provides students with a wide variety of educational experiences, while using the student's time efficiently. This results in less homework for the student and more time left to the student for themselves. I also disagree with the myth of the lack of socialization involved in homeschooled students lives. I personally believe that children who are home schooled are very social because they have various home schooling groups which they take part in as an addition to their educational experience."

Many individuals argue that homeschooled students receive lower tests scores than traditional schooled children do. This is undoubtedly incorrect based on a number of outcomes of standardized tests such as The California Achievement Test, The Iowa Test of Basic Skills and The Stanford Achievement Test in the years 2007-2008. In a recent *Washington Times* article, several pieces of data were collected; "Five areas of academic pursuit were measured. In reading, the average home-schooler scored at the 89th percentile; language, 84th percentile; math, 84th percentile; science, 86th percentile; and social studies, 84th percentile. In the core studies (reading, language and math), the average home-schooler scored in the 88th percentile. The average public school student taking these standardized tests scored

much lower in the 50th percentile in each subject area." (<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2009/aug/30/homeschooling-outstanding-results-national-tests/>)

Many students believe that home schooling is a very effective way of learning for students who are academically struggling with traditional schooling. Sophomore Kristen Savage believes that homeschooling can be used as an advantage to students who need help in specific areas. "Homeschooling can have a positive effect on children who need 1-on-1 interactions in order to comprehend certain subjects more efficiently. I believe that every child is unique and has their own particular technique which they learn best."

Parents have also reasoned that they believe that homeschooling is a way to protect children from negative outside influences. The hardest part of being a parent is watching your children grow up and to be

exposed to unfavorable experiences. An experienced parent; Linda Burns understands the struggle of seeing her kids grow up. "I can understand why parents choose to homeschool their children. All time with your children is precious and it is important to reduce their exposure to inappropriate material and experiences."

As one can see, the majority of individuals surveyed oppose home schooling due to the lack of productivity caused by lack of student-teacher connections, social interactions, and diversity of learning techniques.

Other individuals, though, argued that home schooling is not only a better educational methodology, but is ultimately, a decision best left up to individual parents and their children. Apparently, with educational choice comes educational controversy.



Peacock Pastry

Yum In Every Bite!

206A Front St
New Richmond, OH 45157
513.553.4222

Red Dog Salon
Full Service Bathing and Grooming, Cats and Dogs
513-797-7297



50% off any service to the first five new clients who call each month
****must present this ad; limit one pet per family**

Hours:
Monday: 8am till we're finished
Wednesday: 8am till we're finished
Thursday: 8am till we're tired
Friday: 8am till it's over
Saturday: 10am till whenever
Sunday: Closed for rest

Nail trims-\$5
Small dog bath and nails-\$20
Medium dog bath and nails-\$25

Quality care boarding and day care with Miss Linda
Full service grooming with Miss Amber and Miss Miranda

**We can proudly say: "Another job done
right by Wm. Light**



Wm. Light Paving Co. has been serving the New Richmond Community for over 50 years. Still family owned and operated. We are in our fourth generation of pavers. We offer a wide range of services for all your outdoor needs. We offer free consultations or reviews.

Complete design and build services.

We specialize in the following areas:

Tar & Chip: surface treatments to improve the life of your investment

Blacktop: patching, paving, sealing and striping

Building roads/parking lots/driveways: from the ground up. Dig out and base in

Drainage repairs: culvert replacement, catch basins and all storm sewer work

Demolition: any pool filled in, house torn down, building removed or pond filled in

Concrete: paving, catch basins, trench drains, dumpster pads, rolled curbs, sidewalks

Road Berming: to give the road the lateral support that it needs

Dust control: whether it be a road, a driveway or a parking lot

Erosion control: Gabion baskets, poured walls, head walls, erosion blankets, etc.

Hardscapes: retaining walls, sidewalks, patios, etc.

Phone: 513-752-1100

Email: info@wlpc.org

Fax: 513-752-1170

Address: 2049 State Route 125, Amelia, OH 45102

Advanced classes need review

Best students deserve challenging coursework

Are you a true advanced student at heart, or are you the type of student who can sit back, hardly do your work, and still seem to pass a class that is meant to be more intellectually difficult. I mean, look around, there are obviously students who are less advanced than others, yet they seem to be in the same advanced classes and get the same grades. Does anyone else see fault in this, because I do. Students who were advanced as fifth graders are still labeled “advanced” five years later as sophomores or juniors in high school, when they could’ve possibly not even been advanced in that subject any more, but were still ranked advanced due to how well they did in elementary school. There are some very obvious faults, and whether they seem to be as big of a problem to everyone else or not, I see them as problems that need to be resolved.

The question is, how much discrepancy is there in advanced ranked classes? One year, an advanced class may be very hard, then the sequel to the class could be much easier, so how effective is it for a student to be advanced if the class isn’t challenging? All advanced classes should be harder than all regular classes. If students are advanced, their easiest class should still be harder than the hardest regular class. If not, then the advanced class probably shouldn’t deserve the weighted grade students get for taking a more advanced class.

There should also be a better way of ranking students as advanced. Being an advanced student, I know that there are students in some of my classes who are struggling in advanced classes, which only a few years ago they may have easily earned good grades in. Since they may have done so well a few years ago, they believe that they are

still good in that subject and will just blame it on the teacher, or the students around them and not themselves for their struggling. This isn’t totally their fault, because I believe it should be the school’s job to see a student’s grades declining and move them down to the regular class; it should not always be the student’s job to make that decision. Students will obviously want to stay in the advanced class, struggling or not, either because they used to be good in that subject, because their friends will all be in that class, they just want a weighted grade, or any other reason they may not want to drop the class. I believe there needs to be a change in how students are labeled advanced and placed into advanced classes.

Only students who are actu-

ally exceptionally accelerated in a specific class should be in an advanced class for that subject. Many students who are “advanced” are just students who get good GPA’s and are rated as “advanced” in general: therefore, they are then just put into all advanced classes instead of being put into the specific classes they are actually above average in. Whether this placement is done based on test scores, grades, or OAA scores, I believe it would be best if students were ranked using specific abilities.

Whether you agree with me or not, I believe there is a problem here at NRHS with the advanced classes; they should obviously be more challenging to students with higher intellectual ability, where students have to earn the grade as well as the high grade point averages. They should

Today’s technology changing generations But for better...or worse

Over the last few years, advancements in technology have skyrocketed. From smartphones to laptops to music devices to the entire line of Apple products and other areas including motor technology, household technology, and healthcare technology. These advancements are changing the world and the way we live each day. We are able to do more things now than ever before, but all good things bring a few negatives as well.

I’ve heard the same statements hundreds of times, and I hear them more and more recently: “The new generation is lazy.”

It many ways, it’s true. Even being part of this generation, I can still see it. People don’t have to do as much work for things. Complicated tasks are now simple tasks taken care of with no effort at all. We can order everything online and we have machines to do work for us.

People also don’t have to think as much. Information doesn’t have to be memorized as much because it can be easily accessed or looked up on a smartphone or other device. In some aspects, this generation knows less. We are dumber. Not to say that this technology doesn’t help us and teach us more, but sometimes it gets to the point that people rely too much on this technology and not on their own minds.

I know how lucky we are to live in today’s world. We are truly blessed to have the technology we have and a lot of this technology makes the world work better. But it’s the balance between the old and modern ways of life that needs to be examined.

For some people, this may not seem like an issue at all. Some people are consumed with the things that make their life so simple and leave them not having to work to do everyday tasks.



also be ranked more precisely and not based on a student’s pasts or whether they believe they are advanced, or in some cases, if parents believe their child should be advanced. The best way to fix all of this would be for students to be placed into advanced subjects based on their specific expertise and mastery of course content. If this is done, I believe not only would grades improve, but advanced classes would be more justified and more challenging for the truly intellectually gifted.



But I don’t really think that way, and I know there are a lot of people who are on the same page as me: grateful for today’s technology, but doubtful of the new generation. I feel unsure about how some of today’s new technology has impacted the world. There are so many pros and cons to each new piece of technology, making it extremely hard to make a solid opinion.

Technology will take this world to new levels like it already has. Lives have been changed and so has the world. Different aspects of life have been enlightened and expanded. Use technology, keep creating technology; just don’t forget about the basic technology that has been behind the world for so long: your own mind

Field trips for the big kids

Shouldn't kids get more rewards?

Did you know that by the time you graduate from high school you have spent 75 percent of your life in a classroom. Doesn't it seem that maybe we should be rewarded for that? Having a little time out of the classroom and having a class field trip would not only be very educational for students, but also very enjoyable.

I believe that once adolescents hit high school, teachers overlook the value of taking field trips. Field trips give students the opportunity to get away from sitting in a desk all the time listening to a teacher lecture or reading out of the book. Field trips can give students the chance to understand abstract concepts, such as in math and science.

Taking field trips give students the opportunity to learn topics hands on. Field trips would benefit from being more specific taken to the zoo give students the chance to see the plants and

animals they are learning about up close. Also, taking a field trip to see a play can be connected to the classroom. Sitting in class and reading a play is one thing, but to go and see it is another and much easier for students to grasp the idea, meaning, and atmosphere behind the dialogue.

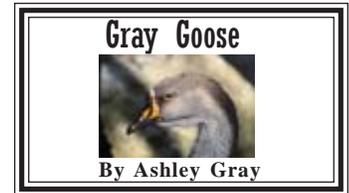
Just because students are out of the classroom does not mean they are not doing something educational. According to Exploring Family studies, "Students retain more knowledge through the type of experience-based learning that field trips provide when compared to in-class learning." (<http://www.exploringfamilies.com/>)

Taking time out of the classroom is great for students, because it exposes students to new opportunities. Experiencing new possibilities outside the classroom gives students the ability to pursue a goal they may have not considered before.

Field trips are also a great opportunity for high schoolers to get a glimpse of a future career they possibly might be interested in, such as engineering, going into the medical field or technical field. Although these fields trips may only be for students close to graduating from high school, they still would be beneficial to the students involved.

However, field trips are often overlooked due to budget cuts. Schools cannot fund field trips due to other important expenses, such as new books, technology, and sports. Field trips can be seen as bogus if it appears the class is going just to have fun, but if the teacher is scheduling a field trip based on classroom connections, then why not have one?

For possibilities of future field trips, students could fundraise. Not all field trips are expensive and it is possible for students to even pay the cost for themselves.



To avoid transportation costs, students could drive themselves. If students are not old enough, maybe the parents could drive a group of students to avoid having to pay for a bus to haul all the students to the field trip destination.

As you can see it would be useful to plan future field trips for students that are classroom related. This would give students the opportunity to look at concepts in a different way and also get a hands on feel for the topic. If transportation issues are standing in the way, just remember there is always a way around it, but field trips can be lots of fun and very educational.

"You're grounded for life!"

Why parents these days come off a little harsh

It seems that being a teen nowadays is a great challenge. I mean, why are we constantly being yelled at? We have such ridiculous role models to look up to and parents who were raised in a time when sheltering children was not only the norm but if children weren't sheltered, their parents were criticized beyond belief. Now it seems like it's just completely acceptable that kids are exposed to drugs, sex, and various other illicit activities every day. What's worse, it seems to be supported by the media, and clothing companies, and even the widely acknowledged child stars. I mean look around, doesn't it seem like the clothing

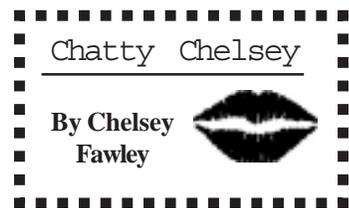
that's marketed to small children nowadays is... frankly, um, can't use the word in a school publication...let's say inappropriate?

From the ranting of Honey Boo Boo to the tongue-wriggling bear-twerking actions of Miley Cyrus, kids' heads are just constantly filled with smut nowadays.

You know what's worse than kids being allowed to dress like little Mileys and being influenced by characters such as those? The fact that parents now have the gall to yell at the children when they get caught in less-than-ideal situations. Really, what can be expected? These

kids grew up at the same time as Miley, so parents should be incredibly thankful for how their kids turned out, even if they think they are heathens. Things could be a whole heck of a lot worse. At least they're not dancing with Robin Thicke in nude bikini.

So, maybe we screw up. It just seems really unfair that parents are thinking we should be little angels when our generation was exposed to what seems like the most social craziness ever. I get it, parents need to discipline their children, but really they should take a step back and realize that their kids aren't bad. So maybe some kids get caught with PDA



or whatever it is they do. They should be punished, but parents are just too fast to hand out the 'grounded for life' and various other punishments that simply seem too harsh for the 'crime'. Punish as you please, parents, but I beg you to consider what your child grew up seeing, and remind yourself that whatever they did can't be that bad. They could be doing ridiculous things like swinging on wrecking balls and kissing hammers.

Students are stressed out with many activities

School, homework, sports, and jobs cause student frustration

The pressure is on for students with homework, projects, extra-curricular activities, and trying to keep up their grades, and some students even try to juggle work with all the other activities they do. School, homework, sports, and work all put pressure on high school students. All of these things make them stressed out, but there are ways to reduce the amount of stress.

First of all, prioritize. Put more important things first so you don't have to worry about them later. Homework can be stressful when most of your teachers give you homework and projects that are due at the same time. Do the assignments and projects that are worth the most points first because they affect your grade the most and tend to be the most stressful. Many high school students do a sport or go to work after school and don't always have time to do the homework right away. If you have any free time between the end of the school day and whatever activity you are going to, do part of the homework then and finish later because having at least a little bit of the homework done will make you feel less stressed knowing you don't have to do all of it later. Put the school work first, then go to what is next on the list of important things to do, which for most people is sports. Do the homework necessary to keep your grades up so you can play sports. Finally, do anything else you have to do in your free time after homework and sports. If you have free time on the weekends when you have no home-

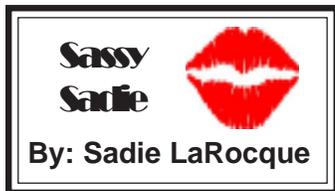
work or sports, go out and have some fun with friends.

With school, homework, extra-curricular activities, and even work, sleep has to be squeezed in there whenever it can be. Teenagers need at least eight or more hours of sleep a night but not many get that much. Many teenagers stay up late at night to play video games, get on social media, and eat, so they tend to not get as much sleep as they need. Lack of sleep results in depression, feeling hopeless and being stressed, so that extra sleep, even if it's for a few minutes will help relieve stress. If you have any time during class after you finish the assigned work and have nothing else to do, take a nap. On the weekends when you have nothing planned, just sleep in and catch up on the sleep you're lacking, or turn off your electronics, and go to bed early so you can get the sleep you re-

ally need.

Planning ahead can also help reduce stress. If you know you have homework on a certain day and have something planned for that day, plan out how you are going to take on the event and the homework. You can do the homework earlier than it is due so that you don't have to worry about it later and can do whatever you have planned for that day. If your family is taking a vacation or you are going out of town for a day, plan ahead and get the work you will need to do so you aren't behind when you get back.

With all the things students have to do for school and after school, life be pretty stressful. Prioritize your school work, projects, work, and all the other activities you have to do, go to bed earlier so you can get the eight hours of sleep you need, and plan ahead when you have homework and an event to go to. Sometimes it's even helpful to take a day of the weekend to catch up on sleep and relax to get your mind off school for a day.



Letters to the editor are always welcome and we will print them as space allows. Please submit any correspondence to the high school office or drop off in Mrs. Griffin's mailbox, or email at griffin_s@nrschools.org. Questions should be directed to Sue Griffin, x10204.

The Messenger
New Richmond High School
1131 Bethel-New Richmond Rd.
New Richmond, Ohio 45157
2013-2014

Messenger Staff Reporters:

Josie Buckingham
Chandler Cochran
Chelsey Fawley
Ashley Gray
Christin Gray
Joe Maxwell

Adviser: Mrs. Susan Griffin



The Messenger would like to remember Mrs. Betty

McKenney as we begin our 74th year, and once again, thank her for her many contributions to our paper.

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

The Messenger is a publication of the journalism one classes of New Richmond High School.

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 May. The cost of a senior issue mailed directly to your home is \$7.

Please direct comments or questions about the paper or its contents to the adviser, at 553-3191, x10204 or at griffin_s@nrschools.org



Faces in the Hallway

By: Christin Gray

Senior Laura

Huddleston

Senior Laura Huddleston says she loves this time of year! "The trees changing colors, the pumpkins, all the excitement of what everyone's dressing up like, just everything about this time of year is truly wonderful," she said.

Last year for Halloween, Huddleston said, "I went to a dress up party, where everyone was forced to dress up to one extent or another. Most of the people at the party went all out, in terms of their costumes had a lot of detail and were far from original. Very elaborate and different."

This year for Halloween she plans to attend another costume party. "I love walking in a door and seeing all the random things



people come up with for costume ideas, so you will for sure see me at a costume party this Halloween," she said.

Kit-Kats seem to be Huddleston's favorite candy. "When I was little I would go through all my families candy and mine just to sort out the Kit-Kats we had all gotten from trick-or-treating. I've loved them ever since I was a little girl," she said.



Sophomore Autumn Smith

Sophomore Autumn Smith is more than excited for Halloween, she explains. "I love Halloween because it is for everyone. No matter what age you are, you're never too old to trick-or-treat, and even adults still do with their children. It is just a fun experience for everyone," she said.

Double trouble! One Halloween Smith and her cousin dressed up as twins. "I loved being exactly alike, I wish I really had a twin, although my cousin is really close to me, so it is almost like we are really twins," she said.

This Halloween you can catch Smith on the prowl. "I will be taking my niece out for Halloween

this year, because it is her first and I promised I would go," she said.

Let me see that Tootsie Roll! "My favorite candy is Tootsie Rolls. I love them! I usually try to find as many as I can by digging through all my family's candy to get some," she said.

Junior Nick Wuest

Junior Nick Wuest enjoys Halloween every year. "I love Halloween. It is a fun time for everyone especially when you go out with friends and plan to dress up together," he said.

Wuest's favorite Halloween was back when he was seven. "My most memorable Halloween was when I was seven years old and someone played a trick on me. It scared me a lot, but afterwards it was a good laugh," he said.

This year for Halloween, Wuest has big plans arising. "I plan to make my own costume. It is time consuming but rewarding afterwards, and I plan to hand out candy to the little kids that come



to my house. I do it almost every year, and I love it," he said.

Wuest has a sweet tooth especially when it comes to candy. "I love all candy," he said. "But my most favorite candy is Butterfingers, they are so good. I usually buy myself some to eat while I hand out candy," said Wuest.

Freshman Nathan Brenneman

Freshman Nathan Brenneman explains how much he loves Halloween. "I get to dress up as whatever I want and then on top of that, I take people's candy. I stuff it in a sack and try to fill it as much as possible for an hour and a half," he said.

"My favorite Halloween was two years ago when I went trick-or-treating for 20 minutes. I went up to one house, and the lady was dressed like a witch. She had a pot brewing. My friend and I looked at her. She dumped half of her pot into my bag and the other into my friend's," said Brenneman.

Halloween this year is going to be something. "I am going to



dress up as a Darth Vader figure with red a light saber and a headless horseman basket (it's his head)," he said.

King size anything is good in Brenneman's book. "I love king size candy bars that I can eat. But my all time favorite candy are Milky Ways.

River City Express

**410 Sycamore Street
New Richmond, Ohio
513-553-3835**



Lil' Chet's *Chicken to Go!*
NOW ready for you in New Richmond

Serving Lil' Chet's fresh fried chicken and buffalo wings from 11:00 am until late into the evening including fresh fried potato wedges and array of other finger foods. Snacks or meals alike, these items double dipped in a proprietary mixture of breaking, batter dips and swing sauces topped off with premium dipping sauces are sure to entice any fried chicken or wing connoisseur the Lil'Chet's way. In a rush pickin' up the kids, gettin' to and from work, or all the activities you have to do before the day is over, stop in or call ahead and place your order and have it ready-to-go when you arrive. It's as simple as that!

Lil' Chet's *Chicken to Go!*

Now serving hot fresh breakfast sandwiches along with biscuits & gravy from 5:00 am until 10:30 am. River City Express BP in New Richmond is committed to offering and serving its customers superior value every day of the week. Look for other unique tasting items being offered in the coming months. See you there!

Proud To Be Local, American, Family Owned and Operated

Table Tableau

A closer look at the people you see every day in the cafeteria

By Chelsey Fawley

If you've walked through the halls of any school besides New Richmond High School, then you know that we have a cafeteria that doesn't really fit the status quo. I like to refer to it as a fish bowl, all those students sitting in there collected together, trapped behind a large sheet of glass much like the tropical fish at the aquarium.

Unlike the gloriously varied tropical fish that are on display in the aquarium, the only thing to be displayed in the high school cafeteria are teenagers, desperately trying to enjoy their only free thirty minutes of the school day while they try to feed their faces and get homework done.

As you enter our building and approach the fishbowl, you approach the first door on your right. If you were to be in the school during B Lunch and turned in that first door, after a few steps you would notice an (often loud) interesting collection of people that all gather at their table each day.

Occupying a table to the left side of the door sit juniors Analiese Rohdes, Ella Neess, Katelynn Nichols, Katelyn Chumley, Mariah Canter, John Buckingham, Patrick Jones, Lexi

Jump, and Kelsi Curry.

Upon spending a thirty minute lunch session at this table it seems comparing the students to tropical fish isn't fair. They're both colorful, but the students are much more lively than fish.

Miss Rohdes informed me that I was lucky to a part of their table. "Only the coolest catz can sit here," she said.

Though everyone at the table teases each other, the air they put off is quite enjoyable. These are the kind of people who you can't help but laugh hysterically at. Jones said they've stuck together since middle school, and to still be together just seems natural.

"I mean we've kind of always sat together," he said, "It's kind of like we just gravitate and feel comfortable together on the first day."

The life of the table is the ongoing battle between John Buckingham and Kelsi Curry. They don't get along, but they're definitely friends. In Jump and Chumley's attempt to come up with a fun story to share about the their group, all they could reiterate was that Buckingham and Curry are always at each other like cats and dogs. "It keeps everything lively," Chumley said.

Jump was more apathetic about their fighting, "I've kind of blocked them out by now," she said.

What are these fights about? Anything and everything seems to be a topic up for debate in this 'corner' of the lunch room.

"We just don't get along because we're both loud and stubborn," Buckingham said. "Sometimes she says dumb things and I just have to correct her, that's who I am. If you say something I don't like, you'd better be ready to rumble."

"Also she hits me sometimes and I'm a big guy, but that stuff hurts!" Buckingham added-- the last bit with the cutest puppy dog face he could muster.

Miss Curry, when speaking for herself, basically agreed with John's reasoning except vice versa. "He's so stupid sometimes I can't take it!" she said, but in an obviously playful man-



One big happy family: The Patrons of the table were too busy eating to really pose. Photo/Messenger

ner.

The patrons of this table reminded me of going to a family reunion, they bicker and sling insults like water balloons, but overall, you know they're close.

Katelynn Nichols put their closeness in words perfectly when she said, "I sit here because I hate these people a little less than everyone else."

BUFFALO JOE'S
burger & wing joint

50 cent wing nights--Weds. and Sunday

100 Front St.
513-843-4419

www.buffalojoesnr.com
facebook.com/buffalojoesnr

Now your muscles can multitask, too

Curves New Richmond
107 Market St.
553-0100
curvesnewrichmond.com

Teachers, staff, students,
join now for \$34

Curves Mariemont
7433 Wooster Pike
Cincinnati, OH 45227
MariemontCurves.com

Curves



Should school start time be changed?

Pros and cons of later or earlier beginning bell

By: Lily Cahall

BEEP BEEP BEEP! You hear your alarm clock going off and you're dreading to get out of bed and get ready for school. Most hear that alarm clock every single morning, five days a week, for a school year...how delightful...NOT! Students love to get a good night's sleep, but if the night before they had after school activities till 10pm then they had to do homework it's

kind of hard because they can be up till at least midnight. On top of that, students have to get up early for school. Would it be more helpful to students for school to start later? But what about sports or clubs after school? There are many aspects to consider when discussing a topic as important as what time school's should start in the morning. Maybe not even in the morn-

ing!

According to a recent informal opinion poll at New Richmond High School, most students believe that we should be starting school later than we already are, which is 7:40am.

Alex Morgan, a ninth grade student, said he believes school should start later. "I think school should start later than we are starting normally. Students need

time to wake up fully. If the students have a test or quiz first bell they need to know what they are writing." Morgan believes we should start at noon

believes if we start going to school at a later time, students will miss less school. "School should start later. I have a couple of friends who are always coming to school late because their alarm clock does not go off or just because they are too tired to get up." Williams believes school should start around 9:30-10am.

Many students said they wanted to start later because they just need more sleep; they are so used to getting up late over the weekend it's hard to get back in the routine of getting up early again.

"I stay up very late over the weekends on the computer and on Sunday nights, so getting up the next day is very difficult," said freshman Luke Glenn

"School needs to start later. In first period, everyone is so tired. Whenever Ms.Pride asks us questions, everyone in my class just stares at her. We are too tired to even speak, so that is why I think school needs to start later." said freshman Dakota Young. Young believes should should start at noon

Courtney Bash, a freshman, also agrees with the idea that we should start school later. " We should start school later because there are people that don't get to go to bed until late and if we start later then we have a longer time to sleep in." Bash said. "Why don't we just start school about an hour later, around 9am"

Anna Bennett,a ninth grade student said, "I am a very loud person and it's sad when I am too tired to even talk to my friends in the morning. I say that we start later so I can enjoy my time with friends and not stress." Bennett believes we need to start school at 10am

Another student, Molly Hedrick,a junior, said we should start school at noon. "I just like

Kierstin's Cozy Cuddlers

Handcrafted, original pet beds
made from repurposed household goods




Sample beds
made
from old TV's;
prices range from \$15-\$65




Pot People Planters

Call or email for
more information!
These items will be featured
at the NR Craft Fair on Nov. 23



Original artwork

Deana.Merillat@yahoo.com

513-594-3934

to sleep honestly and waking up in the mornings is a dread! Lets just start school later. PLEASE!"

Mark Bailey, principal of New Richmond High School, also agrees that the time school should be starting is later.

"I have actually considered the thought of starting later. I have looked up statistics on the subject and It said teenagers actually need more sleep than elementary students. I think school should be starting at around 8am and end at 5pm.

Carol Ann Coulter, counselor at New Richmond High School, would also like for school to start later. "Back in Scotland, schools started around 8am and I really liked that. But you also have to consider that back in Scotland we did not have sports after school," she said.

The Pittsburgh *Post-Gazette* published an article dealing with school start times. Eleanor Chute was the writer of the article and she stated many reasons why school should start later just like the students at New Richmond High school. The time the school starts that she writes about is the same the we start here at New Richmond High School.

"We are not going to have a good attendance rate for our youngsters if the time is set early." Chute said. "If schools start at a later time buses can start later and each year you could save about \$1.2 million." said Chute. (<http://www.post-gazette.com/stories/local/neighborhoods-city/debate-continues-over-starting-time-for-city-public-high-schoolers-637209/>)

So if we started later at New Richmond High School, not only would students be more awake in the morning, but the the district could save money on transportation, much like the schools in Pittsburgh.

In contrast to the majority findings, though, another group of students at New Richmond High School believe we should keep the time that school starts the same.

Brittney Bash, a freshman, said if we keep the time we start school the same, we would be able to stick with the same schedule for extra curricular activities after school. "School should definitely start at the same time because if we did start later, our extra curricular activities would end later and we wouldn't have time to do homework or eat din-

ner."

Hannah King, a ninth grade student, said the time we start school is perfect and does not think it should change. "The time we start school right now is awesome because we have enough time to get ready in the morning and we have enough time after school to do lots of things like sports and homework."

Luke Cornwell, a freshman, said, "I really do not want to start school earlier or later. Right now is just fine. People who are too tired in the morning just need to go to bed earlier. I'm usually up this early anyway, so, people just need to quit complaining."

Brittney Miller, a ninth grade student, said, "I like spending time outside of school while there is still daylight out and the time we get out now I get to hang out with friends outside. So right now the time we get out of school is perfect

The smallest group of poll respondents at New Richmond High School believe we should

be starting school earlier.

Ashley Gray, tenth grader said she likes getting school over with. "School needs to get over with during the day. I like having more evening time for sports, homework, and instagramming." Gray believes we should start school around 7 am.

Tim Akers, a ninth grade student, said he just wants to get out of school as soon as possible. "Honestly, I have a lot of things to do after school and getting out earlier would be a lot nicer than having to wait till 2:30 every day." Akers thinks we should start school around 6:30 am.

Overall, students at New Richmond High School would rather start school at a later time because they feel they will learn better if they are not falling asleep during first period, although some good arguments were made for keeping the start time the same. Maybe this is an issue that will be considered in the future.



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

AVON
Sold at
Curves
553-0100
Lee Ann Hermann, Avon Independent Sales Representative



PRIORITY
INTERNATIONAL

PACKING & PAINTING SERVICES

Martial Arts benefits many people

Karate promotes both positive physical and mental qualities

By Joe Maxwell

Martial artists and people involved in martial arts have many different reasons for pursuing their martial arts training. Some of them do it for physical fitness, strength training, or purely weight loss. Other martial artists do it to increase discipline, self control, and add other positive physical qualities to their lives. Some martial artists also do it solely based on self defense, being able to protect themselves, and being able to maintain their own safety. There are many reasons one may join martial arts, and many of these reasons are why a lot of people that join martial arts continue their training for a very long time.

Most martial artists will agree with one another, saying martial

arts contributes positively to their lives in both mental and physical ways.

Martial artist and owner of a Maududo Federation karate school called Martial Arts America: Kenwood, Mary Tons said, "After my family and kids began training in martial arts, I began training at the age of forty. I decided at that point in my life I was ready to add something different on the physical fitness side of my life and martial arts fit the role perfectly. I was also at the point in my life where I was beginning to forget and lose my memory more often and I knew martial arts helped mentally with memory and brain skills, as well as making martial artists into better people."

Many martial artists enjoy their training. Most martial artists enjoy doing karate to the point where they do it for a very long time and that is why they continue to grow in both mental and physical standards.

Martial artist and student here at New Richmond High School, Zach Neeley said, "I have been doing martial arts for almost five years now and I honestly have learned too many qualities to count. Mainly, I feel like I have learned the most leadership qualities and self-confidence to be the leader of a group instead of a follower. It makes me feel good about myself and I have the confidence to push myself and even just go up and introduce myself to someone new."

Another martial artist and student at NRHS, Nick Gilman said, "Since I have been involved in martial arts for five and a half years and train at least twice a week, I have learned many posi-

tive qualities, but the main two that contribute most to my personality are discipline and control."

"Ever since the day I started I have never stopped believing martial arts is a great thing for everyone. In my opinion, it offers many very important qualities, but all of these qualities branch off under two of the qualities I find most important: self discipline and confidence. Martial arts teaches these very important qualities very well. It teaches confidence by aiding students in finding themselves, who they are, what they believe in, what they think, and generally just express and define themselves as a person. It also boosts confidence in self defense. It allows students of martial arts learn to be more confident that they will handle a situation correctly, as well as have the confidence to know how to avoid situations involving negative physi-

1 Berry
PHARMACY

877.393.1656

**1041B Old US 52
New Richmond,
OH 45157
513-553-4131**

RiverHills
BANK

Front Street Banking Center - Phone: 553-3101

Rivertown Banking Center - Phone: 553-7350

Online Banking - www.RHB24.com

Your Community Bank Since 1904



**Go
Lions!
The Gardner
Family**

cal contact where self defense would be required,” said Tons.

Martial arts also teaches students self discipline in their training which contributes to building other great qualities as well.

“They would also use self discipline to be able to do the things in their lives they do not want to do, more efficiently. It helps many people who take martial arts to learn to take care of their problems to get them out of the way, because in the long run, it makes their life better. Being surrounded by a great environment in the martial arts schools and knowing you are being watched and looked up to just as you are looking up to others gives everyone a sense of importance and belonging in the martial arts community. This is why I believe martial arts brings out the most positive qualities in people. Although, many other place will bring out these same positive qualities I believe, out of my experience, martial arts does the

best to help people express these qualities in the most efficient way possible,” said Tons.

Martial artists tend to say that the reason they enjoy karate is because of the great communities, the sense of security it ensures, and how it helps build character.

“I have been doing martial arts for about six and half years and have loved every second of it,” said Tons. “I continue to enjoy doing it because I enjoy the natural competitiveness between peers and especially myself that martial arts creates. It forces students to want to strive to be better, to learn new stuff, and excel in their training. It’s so fun because, especially as an instructor, it is fun to make a difference in peoples’ lives, to change them for the better, and just help them get stronger in who they are in general.”

With Tons also being a certified personal trainer, she shared the physical benefits of doing

martial arts as well.

Tons said, “Doing martial arts is one of the most well-rounded physical fitness things you can do. It covers everything, flexibility, strength training, speed, and cardio. It also gives a great core workout. All the moves and stances in karate training use balance and hip movements which immensely aid in building the core. I truly believe a strong core means a strong body as a whole because your core is where all of your vital organs are anyway.”

According to the United States Ju-Jitsu Federation website, martial arts offers an amazing amount of characteristics that contribute to good performance in other physical aspects as well.

“Martial arts strengthens muscles, improves flexibility, the ability to change direction of movement and move the body quickly from one space to another, improves peripheral vision, concentration, and dynamic

energy in the human body.”

The USJJF also reinforced these facts by stating, “Martial arts also helps the lungs operate more efficiently, enlarges blood vessels, increases blood supply, promotes better sleep and waste elimination, conditions the heart, and makes the body tissue health in supplying it with more oxygen.”

(<http://www.usjjf.org/articles/health.htm>)

After all, it turns out for everyone interviewed, martial arts has made a big positive impact on their lives. To the point where many people would recommend it to any of their peers. Just as eighth grader at New Richmond Middle School and martial artist, Drew Maxwell said, “I have been doing martial arts for almost three years. It is an awesome sport to do! It is one of my most favorite things to do. It teaches me how to be a better person and helps me get into shape, on top of that it’s fun!”

Riverside

GYN

DR. KATE HEWITT AND DR. TARI ANDERSON

5777 KELLOGG AVE.
(513)232-3232

WE ARE WELCOMING NEW PATIENTS!

Drumline keeps the beat for marching band

Spark in interest increases participation

By: Chandler Cochran

Drumming is something we all catch ourselves doing on a regular basis, whether it's on a desk, our steering wheel or on a drum head, we have all done it.

Drums have been around for centuries but it wasn't until the beginning of the twentieth century that the drumline took off and became popular. Nowadays drumlines are very popular in high school and college bands, as well as in movies and for entertainment.

A drumline is a section of percussion instruments, which in most cases is a part of a musical marching ensemble. Instruments that are most commonly found in a drumline are; tenors, snares, bass drums, and cymbals. The number of each drum in the line varies between bands.

The New Richmond High School marching Lions have a drum line that is worth listening

to. Band instructor Mike McKinley describes the drumline as, "the driving force that pulls the band together."

But before you can be a part of "the driving force" you first have to get involved in percussion. Most of the drumline here at NRHS, along with McKinley, have had a lot of practice and many years to perfect their playing.

"I got really interested into drumming in the fourth grade," said senior tenor player Adam Slade. "But it wasn't until fifth grade that I played percussion in the band at New Richmond Elementary School."

Freshman snare drummer Luke Hoagland also started drumming in the fifth grade and said, "I'm glad I picked percussion from the start. I have so much fun with it and I'm glad I stayed with it."

McKinley's experience in per-

cussion has gone a long way with helping the drumline become what it is today. Even though he has 25 years of experience, he said, "It is a good idea to start young like I did. The sooner you jump into it, the better off you are." He also went on to say, "But it is never too late to start if you are willing to work at it."

Junior Charlie Spicker has been playing drums since about the seventh grade but did not join the band until this year.

"I have been interested in drumming for a while so I decided to give band a try," said Spicker.

Up until the end of football season you will hear the drumline as well as the rest of the band perform at halftime and in the stands during home and away games.

"Marching and playing at football games is my favorite part of band," explained Slade. "I get great enjoyment out of playing the fight song over and over again."

After the football season is over and snow starts falling on the ground, the band starts focusing on concert band music to play at various band concerts throughout the rest of the year. But during this time, the band also provides some good tunes to listen to during home basketball games. Pep band, which is a smaller group of band members,

also features a large group of percussionists to help fill the gym with a loud booming sound.

"Pep band for basketball games are my favorite," said sophomore Silas O'Dell. "It not that I enjoy basketball more, I just like the atmosphere a little better."

One more addition to the noise here at NRHS is the new addition of a semester long percussion class where students learn the basics of drumming on several different instruments.

"We started the class last year but it wasn't until this year that it really took off and students were interested in it," explained McKinley

The class gives anyone in the school who signs up for it the opportunity to learn a lot about drumming in just two quarters. Senior Dan West, who is taking the class explains, "Before I took the class I knew a little about drumming and could keep a beat, even after just one quarter I know so much more than I did on day one and its pretty cool."

Senior David Larkby had no prior experience drumming before the class.

"I didn't really know what to expect," he said. "I thought it was going to be extremely difficult. I mean, it was tough at the beginning but I got the hang of it pretty quickly."

Jay Staton
Associate

503-0648

BETTER WINDOW CLEANING, LTD

**Specializing in
Pressure Washing Decks and
Exterior Scrub and Rinse**

Windows	Gutters
Deck Cleaning	
Light Fixtures	Screens
Power Washing	

Piano and Guitar lessons

In-home and on Skype

\$27 per lesson

Please contact

Mike Bachelier

513-233-2200 (home)

513-258-6987 (cell)

References available



New Richmond Lions Marching Band proudly presents...
Second Annual Winter Craft and Activity Fair

Saturday, November 23, 2013; 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...

Over 70 arts and crafts vendors

Raffle--featuring handmade crafts and holiday goodies--cafeteria

Food concession/bake sale--cafeteria

Food drive for the New Richmond Food Pantry

Used book sale--second floor; \$1 per book

**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**

All proceeds will benefit the marching band's fund for new uniforms.

Where's Johnny? Oh, you know, probably at another party

Texas A&M quarterback needs to focus more on football, less on ego

Everybody knows who Johnny Manziel is, right? No? How about Johnny Football? Yeah, I bet that's ringing a bell. Manziel burst onto the college football scene last year as a redshirt freshman. A Heisman trophy and a very impressive win against Alabama equalled a very nice start to a historic collegiate career. But after winning the most prestigious award in college football, and being the face of the NCAA, you would think he would also become a positive role model for millions of fans. Although people still look up to him and want to be like him on the field, it's what he is doing off the field that should have al-

ready gotten him a heavy suspension for this season. Being the leader of a team and winning the Heisman trophy comes with lots of responsibility, something Manziel lacks.

Since the end of last season, Manziel has gotten in a considerable amount of trouble, including getting kicked out of a Texas University frat party, leaving the Manning passing academy early, and the biggest offense of all, being accused of getting paid \$7500 for signing autographs. And yes, he is allowed to party if he wants, but his, "I'm just a kid," mentality is really getting old.

If the suspension is as bad as

what happened to Jim Tressel and the players at Ohio State University, he could be facing at least a year's suspension, and frankly, I think he deserves it.

Once you are famous and the talk of college football, you have the media, fans and basically the world watching your every move. And I know he is not perfect, no one is, but I honestly think he needs to change his ways before something bad happens and ruins his football career. With rumors of him leaving College Station after this season, he also has to realize that he could be making a huge mark in history with the chance to win up to four Heismans although it is very unlikely. I know that money talks, and a big fat NFL paycheck would be nice, I would much rather play it out, especially if he wins it again this year.

I'm not saying he is a bad quarterback or criticizing his play. I mean, he did just put 42 points on Alabama, but I am saying he needs to use his head more and be a better role model off the field. When Peyton Manning entered the 1998 NFL draft, the India-



napolis Colts met with quarterback Ryan Leaf and him. During their separate interviews, they were both asked what was the first thing they were going to do if they were picked by the team with the number one pick. Manning's response was confident, and he said, "Give me a playbook, it's time to go to work." Leaf's response was that he was going to go out with friends and party, and celebrate the accomplishment.

Manning was picked first overall, is an MVP and has a Super Bowl Ring. I guarantee you have never even heard of Ryan Leaf. And I know that not every story is the same, but the chances that Manziel ends up in the same boat as Leaf are highly likely.

Manziel just has to stay focused on football and school; he already is a very accomplished quarterback, but has a long way to go, sorry Johnny.



Karen L. Workman
Owner

Metzger Hardware, Inc.

400 Front Street (513) 553-3171
New Richmond, OH 45157 FAX (513) 553-8900



Bruce O'Dell
485 Ohio Pike,
Cincinnati, OH
45255
513-528-5406

MOLECATCHERS
WE STOP MOLES. GUARANTEED.

(513) 252-MOLE
Rich Grogan
Rich@molecatchers.com
PO Box 54063, Cincinnati, Ohio 45254
www.molecatchers.com
Licensed By ODNr • Member BBB • Free Estimates

Craig Simpson Painting



497 Vinegarten Drive
513-200-5637

Call 876-4444 for carry out
Corner of US 52 and St. Rt. 222



Sandwiches, Chili, Ice Cream
Smoked pork ribs and wings every weekend

Lion Linksters capture league title

Three-peat includes Player and Coach of the Year

By Joe Maxwell

With most of the varsity golfers here at New Richmond High School graduating in the class of 2013, people may have had doubts about the team's performance this year. With a record of 38 wins and 8 losses, one thing they surely did do this season was prove anyone with those doubts wrong. They had a strong team with Coach Phil Heflin once again this year. Although this young team was underestimated, they turned out pretty well as they took the league title for the third year in a row.

Heflin and some of the NRHS golfers share some of their past in golf, how they got started, their favorite memories, and what they enjoy about golfing.

"I first started playing golf with my mom in my youth. I then continued to play golf with my buddies to fuel my enjoyment in the sport. I kept playing throughout my life anytime I could get on the green for free, I play a lot at courses such as Lindale, Elk's Run, and Friendly Meadows. With golf being a lifetime sport, I eventually ended up becoming the NRHS golf coach," said Heflin. "A lot of my favorite memories from golf also come from coaching it. These memories include winning league three years in a row, including this year, being named Coach of the Year four years in a row. Having graduate of 2013, Austin Wells qualify for districts his junior year, and having my team this year hopefully qualify for districts."

Junior Daman Abner said, "I like golf because it's relaxing. It doesn't have as much pressure as other sports do. I play golf all the time on local courses in my free time. Mr. Heflin and my friends are the reason I got into golf. I have a great team and a great coach. Coach Heflin is the best coach out there! The team is a bunch of punks that I hang out with, but it's okay because it is a great group of guys. My biggest accomplishment this year are making second team all league and that I did okay and tried my best to help the team."

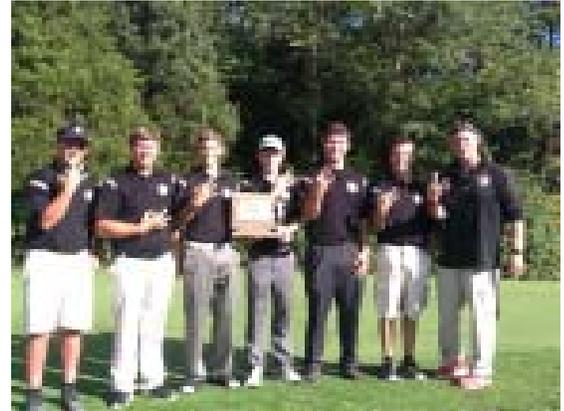
Sophomore Chase Heflin said, "In my opinion, I did not do very well this year, but I do feel accomplished that I shot a 57 in a league match and that our team won league this year. I like golf mainly because it is a game that can help take my mind off of things. I got into golf because it looked fun and my dad, the coach, wanted me to play. I play with my dad in my spare time at places like Lindale or Taylor Glen on the weekends. I think our team has pretty good chemistry and we are pretty good at golfing at the same time, but the coach is kind of hard to put up with."

The rest of the team shared their input on how they did this year as well as what they enjoy about golf and how they got started.

"I did decent this year, I shot first team all star," said junior Kyle Heidlage. "I like golf because it is very relaxing to play. I

like to play after work at Taylor Glen. I originally got into golf because of my older brother who was also a golfer here at NRHS, Henry Heidlage. This year, I think we have a great coach and a great team."

Team MVP for the year, Chris Mazzaro said, "I feel like I had a pretty good season and finished strong. My biggest accomplishment for this season was being named Athlete of the Year and Player of the Year. I enjoy golf because of its competitive side and that you are not always pressured to play well; you can rely on your team more than you can in other sports. I play golf in my free time at Stillmeadow Country Club about three times a week. My favorite memories this year include winning as a team, in cases like when we won league. My favorite memories, though, probably come from van rides to the matches with my team. I got into golf because I have always been around golf my whole life because my dad was always playing while I was growing up. Overall, I think we have a great



On the green: Zack Grissom, Kyle Heidlage, Bryce Kroger, Chirs Mazzaro, Daman Abner, Chase Heflin, and Coach Phil Heflin celebrate first place league trophy. Photo / P. Heflin

coach and an awesome team!" Heflin said, "I have been very proud of my team this year, especially with one of the golfers, Chris Mazzaro, having won the Player of the Year title, as well as having two first team all stars, Bryce Kroeger and Kyle Heidlage. On top, of that we had one second team all league, Daman Abner."

On top of his golfers placing very well and earning very prestigious titles, Heflin also is very proud of his players' character. "With golf being so enjoyable because it is a game of honesty and integrity, I am proud to have a team of good young men with lots of talent. They all have potential to play golf at the next level if they put the time and effort in. In golf, you are your own official because if you cheat in golf, the only person you're cheating is yourself."



Cardinal Lawn Care
Paul E Saunders Jr., Owner/Operator
513-378-0646
Fully Insured

Caring You Can Count On



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

Athlete of the Issue: Levi Simpson

Senior excels in both football and baseball

By: Chandler Cochran

Senior Levi Simpson is a double threat when it comes to sports. He is the quarterback for the varsity Lions football team and plays catcher for the baseball team.

Levi started playing baseball at a very early age. "My dad had me throwing baseballs about the same time I was learning to walk," said Simpson.

As a freshman, Simpson made the varsity squad and impressed a lot of people including coaches and teammates. "That was a very big accomplishment for me," explained Simpson. "I was proud and excited that I was one of the few who could say they made varsity at such a young age."

Football came a little later down the road for Levi; when asked about how he got into football he responded, "In the fifth grade, some of my friends told me that I

should sign up to play football with them and after realizing how much I liked the sport, and how much fun I was having, I decided to stick with it."

As many of you know, the varsity football team has a new head coach this season. Along with a new coach comes new plays, formations and sometimes a whole new playbook. This season we have seen Simpson, along with the other starting offensive players for the Lions, run a whole new game plan, much different than last year's.

"We are adjusting to this new offense really well," explained Simpson. "It is a faster pace than last year but it is going extremely well so far."

When asked about what he liked about the new game plan, Simpson responded with, "The

faster pace offense wears opposing defenses down, which is a good thing."

Simpson has been playing varsity sports for a while and has gained some very good memories along the way.

"The brotherly bond between my teams, and playing under the lights is truly unreal," explained Simpson. "It's an experience I will never forget."

Simpson is not only the quarterback for the football team, he is also a captain and takes pride in that position. "Becoming a captain was a great feeling, it's

something you earn, it is not given to you, and that makes me feel like I have worked hard and proved myself to my teammates and my coaches."

Some of life's greatest lessons can be learned from coaches and being with the team. "The best advice I have ever gotten is, be the best person you can be in all aspects of life."

"This is very important to me," added Simpson. "It is advice I will keep and something I will prove for the rest of my life."

MTC Construction, Inc.

Planning The Future One Job At A Time

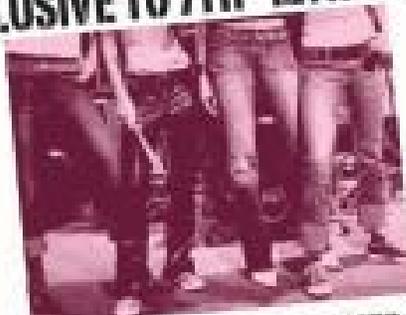
Tom Louis
Construction Manager

PO Box 221
New Richmond, OH 45157

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



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB TEEN CENTER EXCLUSIVE TO 7TH- 12TH GRADE



* GYM * ARTS * FOOD * VIDEO GAMES *
COMPUTERS * HOMEWORK HELP * COLLEGE
VISITS * SAT/ACT PREP * FRIENDS *
WHAT DO YOU WANNA DO??!
MON- FRI 3-7 PM 513.553.1948 213 UNION ST



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF CLEMMONT COUNTY

Front Street Cafe

NEW RICHMOND on the OHIO

Artisan Roasted Coffee,
Panini & Deli Sandwiches, Soups
& Bakery Goods

120 Front St. New Richmond, Ohio 45157 513-553-4800 |
www.frontstreetcafe.com

32-Q

How do you want your butt?

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



Message

University Banki...



Stay Connected At College



PNC VIRTUAL WALLET STUDENT¹ IS DESIGNED TO HELP YOU MANAGE YOUR MONEY AT SCHOOL.

- > **Access on the Go:** Online, Mobile & Text Banking¹, plus Mobile Deposit²
- > **Stay Out of the Red:** Danger Day[®] Alerts let you know when money's getting low



- > **Organize it All:** Spending Zone helps you set budgets by category and know how much you can spend
- > **Free PNC Visa[®] Check Card** to use at over 7,100 PNC ATMs

Anderson Branches at 7391 and 7500 Beechmont Ave.
513-232-4500 and 513-231-8317



¹ A supported mobile device is needed to use Mobile Banking. Standard rates may apply.

² 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.

©2012 The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. All rights reserved. PNC Bank, National Association. Member FDIC

UMV PDF 0012-820-44100

Agents of Shield doesn't live up to Avengers

Pre-season hype not exactly accurate

By Alex Gardner

Remember ABC's glory days of *LOST* and *Grey's Anatomy*? Well, those days are over. Remember last year's summer blockbuster, *The Avengers*, and how the new TV Show Marvel's *Agents of SHIELD* was supposed to live up to its predecessor? Well it doesn't.

The *Agents of SHIELD* stars Clark Gregg, Ming-Na Wen, Brett Dalton, and Chloe Bennet. They each play a part in the fictional government agency S.H.I.E.L.D., whose job is to deal with the aftermath of The Avengers revealing superheroes are real and helping the heroes and heroines overcome supervillains and even other superheros

Generic is the best word to describe the first three episodes of the premiere season of Marvel's/ABC's newest TV experiment. The cast minus Clark Gregg must

have shipped from the Play-Doh actor factory. Brett Dalton plays a 'Tough Guy' agent who's sad backstory is comical and his romantic relationship with Chloe Bennet is so pointless I cheered when they gave each other the silent treatment.

The genius twins played by Elizabeth Henstridge and Iain De Caestecker are the go-to's for the comic relief, but always fail to serve. The twins are constantly talking over each other and trying too hard to be funny, but are constantly repeating jokes which weren't even funny to begin with.

Clark Gregg is a different story; he's the only returning character from the Avengers and is one of the only things that good about this show. He knows how to crack a joke without trying too hard. He also knows how to be

dramatic without being overly dramatic, unlike Dalton and Bennet. The only problem found with Gregg is his constant reminders he was in *The Avengers*, one of those, "Ok we get it already," moments.

The show is suppose to be following its own plot separate from *The Avengers*, but it makes you wish it was the *Avengers* plot. The plot is painfully over-cliched with Bennet's character, Skye, playing both sides, but not really both sides, and the same villain back story every single time: The villain was long lost friends to one of the characters and causes the long lost good friend to choose to save the friend or the world. Frankly, I wish they saved the friend.

Joss Whedon, famous for creating the smash-hit TV show *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and directing *The Avengers* has had a hand in this show. He's famous for not working on any bad TV shows or movies like this; should we be worried about the next *Avengers* movie?

But the most recent episode, titled *The Asset*, left us with a bit of foreshadowing to think about. The character known as Dr. Franklin Hall fell into a fictional element that is able to bend gravitational pull during the climax of the episode. If you read Marvel Comics, the comics on which the entire fictional universe is based, Franklin Hall is also the real name of the villain Graviton which has similar properties as the gravity-bending element, suggesting that Graviton might break the cycle of generic villains and be placed among the *Avenger* series' great villains like Loki and Red Skull. Hopefully, for the show's sake, he returns and causes real problems for the team instead of worrying about the "Agent Turned Bad from Thirty Years Ago"

But if you liked the intriguing plot twists, interesting villains, and funny moments of *The Avengers*, then unfortunately, this is absolutely not the show for you.



**CLERMONT COLLEGE
POWERED BY UC.
DRIVEN BY YOU.**



UNIVERSITY OF
Cincinnati



DC Cleaning
1936 Lindale-
Nicholsville Rd,
Amelia, OH 45102
513-716-2901
513-716-8304

Reasonable Rates, Fully Insured



New Richmond Subway
1041 Old US 52
553-0011
Monday-Saturday:
9a.m. - 10p.m.
Sunday: 9a.m. - 9p.m.

**Present this ad for \$1 off a foot long
sub or \$.50 off a 6" sub**

Comedy and sports: is there really anything better?

The League offers laughs as well as lessons

By Chandler Cochran

Humor and sports are pretty much my life, so when you put both of those into a TV show you bet it will become one of my favorites. That is exactly what happened when producer Jeff Schaffer created *The League*.

The League, which airs on FX, is an insanely hysterical show about five guys who try to balance out life, while at the same time trying to win their fantasy football league. When the show first aired four seasons ago, I was not very interested in the advertisements or commercials for it so I didn't even bother watching it. Over the summer, I got really bored one day and ran out of *Always Sunny in Philadelphia* episodes to watch on Netflix so I started watching it. I realized I had made a huge mistake by not watching it earlier

than I did. Within the first five minutes I was laughing so hard I nearly cried.

The primary gang consists of Kevin, Taco, who is Kevin's brother, Jenny, who is Kevin's wife, Ruxin, Andre and Pete. Taco, who has the mind of a small child, is easily the funniest, and my favorite character on the show. The group, or "The League" are always going behind each other's backs, and colluding with one another to try to win the most prestigious prize known to them. The winner of the league receives the Shiva, which is the trophy named after a girl the guys went to high school with. Each season ends with a new winner and a hilarious ending.

The show does include a lot of extremely malhumorous com-

ments but it fits with the characters in the show, and the overall storyline. So at the end of the day, I guess it is just a bunch of guys ragging on each other left and right for the fun of it, and corrupting each other all because they want to win....sounds just like a fantasy football league.

One cool part about the show is that periodically NFL coaches and players make appearances. Through four seasons of the show players like Josh Cribbs, Terrell Suggs, Jason Witten and Robert Griffin III have all played a role in the collusion and backstabbing that *The League* is.

Oddly enough, after I discovered this show, I successfully helped with the naming of two cats that share names with char-

acters on the show. Taco, again my favorite on the show, and Chalupa Batman (the nickname of Kevin and Jenny's second child) now share names with two cats, thanks to my obsession with this show.

If you follow football and are in a fantasy league of your own, you might actually appreciate some of the things that go on during the show. The madness and stress that occurs on draft day and game days also happens on *The League*, so relating to it makes it so much more enjoyable. If you are ever bored and want to find a new favorite show, I highly recommend you watch just one episode, then you can thank me later.

Forward Edge

The technology edge for education.

3428 Hauck Road Suite K
Cincinnati, OH 45241
(513)761-EDGE (3343)

POINT PLEASANT

FOOD MARKET & BAIT SHOP

ICE-GROCERIES

LIVE BAIT & TACKLE
OHIO LOTTERY
553-0300

Turkey & Deer Check-In Station
KY. & OHIO FISHING & HUNTING LICENSE
Good Luck Lions' Swim Team!



MARTIAL ARTS AMERICA

Classes for children, teens and adults



1 free month
&
free uniform

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,

Passion Pit, Hoodie Allen concert with good review

Music that appeals to younger generations

By Josie Buckingham

When I was on my official college visit at the University of Minnesota, I had the chance to attend a Passion Pit concert, with special guest Hoodie Allen. The concert was performed in the TCF Bank Stadium.

Hoodie Allen is an up and coming artist who I had already seen perform twice before. He kicked off the concert and definitely got the crowd pumped up. Some people haven't really heard of Hoodie since he is a little more new to the industry. I could hear people around me talking about how surprised they were with his performance and that they were new fans after that. Hoodie is a

hip-hop artist who usually appeals to college age students. His expressive, feel-good music is easily relatable to this age group.

After an hour of performing, Hoodie finished up and set up for Passion Pit began, taking about ten minutes. When the headliners came on, the crowd went crazy, especially since they are more well known than Hoodie. Passion Pit is an American Indie Pop band and have been performing for a few more years now. This was my first time seeing them perform in concert, though.

This concert was different from

any other concert that I've been to. I've never been to a concert in a football stadium before, and the feel of it was amazing. The stadium, which was built in 2009, is huge, with a capacity of over 50,000. The stage was built on top of a section of the field, and seating was marked off to the side of the stadium that faced the stage. Over 10,000 fans attended the concert and it definitely showed. I was amazed at how alive the university was that night. It was homecoming weekend which also made the crowd more wild.

Passion Pit and Hoodie Allen made a great concert together.

Each has their own style of performing which works for their own music. If you are into hip-hip or indie pop music, these are some must sees. It's not really enough to just listen to their music online or download it onto your iPhone. The experience of seeing and hearing them in concert is something else and you just get a different feel for the music. The vibes from the crowd add to this, especially one so big. I would definitely recommend these artists and their concerts to others, especially high school and college age kids.

Miley Cyrus isn't doing it for me

VMA performance unacceptable by any standards

By Ashley Gray

Did you watch the MTV Video Music Awards this year? If you didn't, consider yourself lucky. Miley Cyrus's performance at the VMAs was absolutely absurd.

She performed a grinding- filled performance of her new hit *We Can't Stop* and *Blurred Lines* along with artist, Robin Thicke.

Miley Cyrus was the role model for many young girls because of her famous hit T.V. show, *Hannah Montana*. *Hannah Montana* helped Miley build up her career and publicity. As Miley completed her last season of *Hannah Montana* in 2010, she seems to have changed her identity.

Her performance at the Video Music Awards was repulsive. Showing up in a scanty two piece suit, nearly naked, while flaunting herself inappropriately is not an image she should be portraying on stage.

Cyrus claimed on *The New*

York Daily News website, "Madonna's done it, Britney's done it. Every VMA performance, anyone that performs, that's what you're looking for -- you're wanting to make history. Me and Robin [Thicke] the whole time said, 'You know we're about to make history right now.'" (<http://www.nydailynews.com/entertainment/gossip/miley-cyrus-people-thinking-vm-as-performance-article-1.1444246>) What could anyone gain from her wearing a nude-colored two piece, bending down, and grinding in front of Robin Thicke? The only thing being shown to spectators is behavior that should never, ever be displayed in public.

Her performance definitely sparked a lot of reactions, but in a negative way. Cyrus wanted to make history, and she sure did. She now made all parents aware of what "twerking" is. I know others, as well as I, do not want

to watch someone twerking and doing other things on stage that are completely socially unacceptable.

With the publicity Miley had from *Hannah Montana*, she has a lot of young girls dying to see her perform, and does this type of performance make her worth the anticipation?

The sad thing is Miley does not see any problem with her performance at all. "What's amazing is I think now, we're three days later and people are still talking about it. They're overthinking it. You're thinking about it more than I thought about it when I did it. I didn't even think about it, 'cause that's just me," said Cyrus on the website *Our World*. (<http://ourworldfm.com/blog/2013/09/miley-cyrus-people-are-overthinking-my-vm-a-performance/>)

We are not over thinking her

performance, we are actually thinking and using common sense. It is not as upsetting that Miley is a classless attention seeker, but that she thinks she has somehow changed the world.

All I am saying is, if Miley was expecting to make history, she obviously had thought about her performance for the VMAs. If she wanted to make history, why not make an awesome performance on stage rather than making herself look like a cheapo and portraying an overly graphic image?

Miley does not understand why people are making a such big deal about her "twerking" episode, but Miley really should be questioning where her dignity, self-respect, and morality went.

***The Fault in Our Stars* deserving five star rating**

Not your typical love story, not a tragic story either

By: **Sadie LaRocque**

If you have never heard of John Green, all you need to know is that he is a best selling author and has a youtube channel; he also does crash courses and vlogs with his brother.

Green is the author of New York Times Bestseller *The Fault in Our Stars*. The book is a romance, but it's not your typical romance because it has a twist involving both of the main characters. I'm not that into reading and very rarely do I find a book that I actually like, but I saw so many people were reading the book and giving good reviews about it, I finally gave in and decided to read it, thinking that it would be okay. Once I started reading it, I couldn't put it down because it was such a great book.

The main characters, Hazel and Augustus, are both battling cancer, but it isn't an extremely tragic book. It has those sweet, romantic parts, and also emotional

parts that make you want to cry. The book is perfect for teenagers and young adults to read because of the relatability of the plot and language.

The characters are sixteen year old Hazel Lancaster and seventeen year old Augustus Waters. Hazel was diagnosed with thyroid cancer at age thirteen and lived because of a drug she was given during her treatments. Augustus is an ex-basketball player who lost one of his legs due to his cancer, osteosarcoma. Hazel met Augustus through her friend Isaac, who also had cancer, during a support group. The two became closer and a romance budded. Hazel suggested a book for Augustus to read that was one of her favorites, and he became almost as obsessed with it as her. Since they are cancer patients, they get a wish that they can use any time as long as it is approved by "the genies." After

reading the book, both of them wanted to talk to the author of the book so they tried writing to him and never got an answer, so Augustus used his wish to go to Amsterdam to meet the author and he took Hazel along. When they came back from Amsterdam, Augustus revealed a secret to Hazel that was hiding while they were in Amsterdam. After the secret was revealed, everything was different and on a downhill roller coaster.

It was a good book and worth reading, like any best seller should be. It included language that teenagers and young adults are used to and has many good quotes that are relatable, even though it is a romance book with a cancer twist. In the book it says, "You are so busy being you that you have no idea how utterly unprecedented you are," which is relatable because teenagers are always being who they are

whether they realize it or not, that they don't know how original they are. I think the book is good for teenagers and young adults. Romance novels are very popular and usually an easy read. Also, the characters have similarities to real teenagers and some similar experiences in the book as typical teenagers do.

Green's most well-known and popular book is *The Fault in Our Stars* but he has written other books such as *Will Grayson Will Grayson*, *Paper Towns*, and *Looking for Alaska*. After reading the book, I appreciate reading more than I did before. Even though Green ripped my heart into a million tiny pieces, he did it so beautifully that I can't hate him for it. The book is even being made into a movie, so what does that tell you about its popularity? The book is definitely one that is worth reading.

Roads? Where we're going we don't need roads

As technology advances some of us would like to stay back *from* the future

By **Chelsey Fawley**

You know what everyone seems to like nowadays? Turning things into electronic versions of whatever they previously were. I mean, first it started with books. They moved to movies or pdf files. Then it was grading, writing papers, games, and by now basically everything we do is online.

I can't stand it! A line must be drawn! What is wrong with just writing down grades by hand, or holding a real book in your hand? Why does everyone feel the need to put EVERYTHING they do on phones or tablets? It's ridiculous, and expensive, and overall just enraging.

Recently, advanced English

teachers have jumped on the electronic band wagon and decided that with the help of the Sadlier company, they could make vocabulary tests 'easier'.

The newly ordered vocab books have an online version where students can perform all the tasks that had previously just been filled out in the books. Synonyms and antonyms as well as the completing the sentences part are online and can easily be accessed by any advanced English student wishing to complete them.

Also there are studying tools such as flash cards and small quizzes available. The assignments are graded and able to be viewed by students immediately.

It's seems convenient enough, right? In theory, the whole thing seems pretty awesome. In practice, this change is horrid. It's given everyone more things to complain about, as well as become highly confusing.

Yes, maybe it gets graded faster, but it's simply not worth it. The school iPads are super laggy and upon choosing answers, one must press quite hard for what seems like twenty times until it finally understands what answering you're trying to input. It's enraging.

It wouldn't surprise me if eventually this new vocab made someone go on an all-caps rage in real life and end up smashing

the iPad. The website doesn't work on Google chrome, which is the best internet browser, so everyone is forced to use Safari which generally crashes and is just frustrating. Collecting the iPads every day is also a pain. There just seems to be a lot of work required for something that's supposed to make things easier.

So, I see that the world needs to move forward, but come on guys, leave the vocab alone. The act of writing has been proven by psychologists to increase memory, so at least give us that. From where I stand, I believe the systems that were working should be left alone, and this is one of them.



Let's clean out those closets!!

Donate any great condition used clothing, bedding or bath items to Lions Reach Out

We'll sort and donate any clothing, infant to adult, to Lions Reach Out, the charity that benefits needy students at NRHS.

We are also working with the Felicity United Methodist Church to donate items that Lions Reach Out can't use. Please feel free to donate any size items--infants, toddlers, children's, teens are desperately needed this year--we'll take it all.

We're also collecting bedding (blankets, sheets, comforters, etc.) and bath linens. Please make sure items you donate are in really good shape.

Items can be dropped off any time between Oct. 7 and Nov. 14. at NRHS to Sue Griffin, room 204. Call Sue at x10204 if you have any questions.

Lions Reach Out is a 503c non-profit registered with the IRS and all contributions are tax deductible.

Thanks for your support!

Breaking Bad keeps viewers on the edge of their seats

AMC's hit TV show amazes audience for five seasons straight

By Joe Maxwell

A high school chemistry teacher diagnosed with stage IIIA lung cancer desperate to ensure his family has enough money to live a decent life after he passes away turns to making methamphetamine to make big bucks before it's too late.

Bryan Cranston plays Walter "Heisenberg" White, the main character of the hit AMC TV show, *Breaking Bad*. Although, its final half-season has just recently concluded, the show is still making money through viewers catching up on Netflix. This show is by far an exhilarating, must-watch! Anyone with the maturity to deal with a few obscene materials and references the show makes would be out of their mind to not give *Breaking Bad* a try!

The title *Breaking Bad* refers to White, a man who lives a nice home life with his wife and son, and later in the season, baby girl.

His life changes when he is diagnosed with cancer and resorts to making drugs using his knowledge of chemistry. The most tricky part about it may be the fact that his brother-in-law, Hank, is a Drug Enforcement Agency agent.

White fascinates his viewers. Every viewer of *Breaking Bad* loves Heisenberg. He is such an interesting man who he deals with his problems in the most totally Bruce Willis ways. He is so intelligent and can out-think almost anyone in the drug business, which gained him his place as a king pin who goes by Heisenberg.

Jesse Pinkman, played by Aaron Paul, then becomes White's assistant. Pinkman was escaping from White's DEA agent of a brother-in-law when White saw him. He recognized Pinkman as a former student from high school, then persuaded

Pinkman to work with him by offering to not turn him in if he helped him distribute the meth that White was making.

Later in the show, White's cancer drastically decreases in seriousness. Many would think the show would be forced to come to an end because the only reason he was in it was to make money for his family to live off of after he is gone. Oh no, that is not how the makers of *Breaking Bad* see it. White is forced to stay involved in the drug business because the crazy drug lords he ends up working for that would literally kill him if he tried to stop working. Now that he is in, he knows there is only one way out. White is forced to live the meth cooker's lifestyle till death. He made it clear he will make the best of it in any way possible, whether it involves fighting for his own life or fighting to take another person's life to save himself or his family from the drug infested side of his life.

White begins to realize he doesn't have to make money because of his cancer any more but has to make money for the drug lords so they don't murder him, the show becomes more interesting. I believe the show gets even more interesting after it strays away from its original idea. As the show enters its last couple of seasons, it is more about Walter being forced to make drugs or he will be killed, instead of wanting to make drugs to save his family before he dies.

White striving to make the most out of his life while it lasts fuels the show for five seasons. Always keeping viewers on the edges of their seats is *Breaking Bad's* specialty. Having viewers always wondering, "How's Walt going to get out of this one?" Or, "Who is going to be the next to get involved into Walter's crazy schemes to stay alive and still make money?" always keeps them tuning in every week for another thrilling episode.

As the show progresses and

Maggie's Little Consignments

312 Front St.
859-630-2549



Thrift Store and Consignments
Tuesday-Sunday: 12-8pm

Lifetime Pet Centers

Vern W. Miller, D.V.M.

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

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



Wen K. Gladis, D.V.M.

Visit Us at Our Website, www.lifetimepetcenters.com

Come in and enjoy our Home-style Cookin'
in a rustic atmosphere



1852 St. Rte. 125,
Amelia, OH 45102
513-797-8019

www.campbellsbarn.com

Campbell's Barn
restaurant & saloon

Dalton's Landscaping

276-1874

