

The Messenger

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NEWSIES



NRHS Drama Club presents:

Newsies

April 22 and April 23 at 7pm

Middle schoolers join high school musical

Newsies challenges cast with choreography

By: Brooke Donley

The spring musical has captivated audiences for the past several years at New Richmond High School. This year's musical is going to be a little bit different from years past with the production of *Newsies*.

"A lot of thought went into the choice to do *Newsies*. I had actually settled on and ordered a different musical. However, a large group of kids unexpectedly decided to audition, and Ms. McConnell and I decided to invite the middle schoolers to audition because they were not going to have their own musical, so we had to make a change. *Newsies* allows for a large cast and for us to use male and female performers in almost every role, so it was ideal. The biggest difference between *Newsies* and other musicals is the dancing expectation. There are a few large dance numbers that are going to be so much fun, and we have the amazing Michele Heiden coming in to help us choreograph them," said director Kelly Merritt.

There are many cast members

that enjoy the songs in *Newsies*.

"*Newsies* is filled with catchy songs and has an amazing brotherhood that is shown through all of the characters. I appreciate all of the dances and performance choices that are left to make for the actors," said senior Lily Adams.

"My favorite part about the musical is the music, but I didn't enjoy learning it," said sophomore Georgia Kahrs.

"I feel like everyone will agree that the music for this is top tier. The show is interesting and good, but would be nowhere without the songs," said senior Kylie Cox.

There are some people that like the storyline of the musical while others would change it.

"I like the humor and the storyline. It's a serious topic, but it doesn't go so deep into it as to make it sad," said sophomore Dallas Shirey.

"Personally, I just love the musical. The songs are amazing and there are moments of harmonies that make me cry (literally). I think it's going to be a

lot of fun for the cast and crew. To be honest, I would change a bit of the love story. I'm not a huge fan of the way it develops through the character Katherine. There are certainly some of her lines I would change, but that is just a personal preference and I'm sure no one agrees with me," said Merritt.

Many of the actors enjoy their characters and wouldn't change anything about them.

"I have always played the comedic relief character in musicals. Crutchie is still that archetype, but also has a sad moment in the show, which is refreshing as an actor to portray. It makes me excited for the show. Of course, Crutchie has a messed up leg that he can barely use, hence his name. One challenge that I have faced playing Crutchie is wanting to dance, but having a crutch makes that much more difficult," said Adams.

"My character doesn't have lines or a name, but I like my character for that reason. I don't want to change my char-

acter," said sixth grader Jenna Edmondson.

"My character's name is Albert. Albert is a comic relief character. He's both funny and tough and he is a little bit of a bad boy; however, like the other *Newsies* he is young and stupid. He doesn't really think about his actions and can be a little mean," said Shirey.

"Katherine is an ambitious reporter and a hard worker. She's quirky and funny. She always has a joke or snarky remark. My favorite thing about Katherine is how independent she is," said Kahrs.

All of the cast members agree that their favorite memories come from the people they are surrounded by.

"I have made so many new friends through being a part of the musical. I enjoy spending time with them," said Edmondson.

"It was very strange to work with middle schoolers. At first, I hated it. It took a good month for everyone to adjust, but I grew to like them a lot. It is fun to see the future drama kids and watch them get better every single day. I grew to love their personalities and I hope they continue to have fun performing," said Adams.

"My favorite memories from the musical come from the people. I joke around a lot with the people my character is close with. My favorite memories come from us all being stupid in between practicing scenes. Every day brings a new laugh and it's never boring," said Shirey.

Newsies will be performed on April 22 and 23 at the high school theater. Performance time both days is 7pm and tickets will be available at the door; \$5 students and \$8 adults.

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New Richmond shows its artistic side

Art Classes allow students to express themselves

By Dallas Shirey

New Richmond school offers many classes to better prepare and help students. Art classes are offered in all years of schooling. Art classes are meant to teach students to use their own creative mindsets to solve problems. "Art teaches creativity, problem solving, and builds an avenue for self expression," said Locust Corner art teacher Tim Cook.

"We are all innately creative and need a space to play with our creativity without fear of failure. Additionally, not only does art feed this part of us but it helps us to learn ways in which to solve problems creatively. Art naturally uses some of the highest levels of cognitive ability such as strategic and extended thinking," said Mon-

roe art teacher Kelly Langdon. "Art class is essential to a well-rounded education. Students increase critical thinking, observational and technical skills and expand their knowledge of the visual world in which they live. Sometimes students who struggle in other core classes but shine when they are given the opportunity to create and imagine in art class. Many of these students go on to careers in the visual arts," said middle school art teacher Amy Cholkas.

"Art classes are more tailored, improving your artistic skills, creative thinking, and self confidence. I am passionate about teaching every student, and my goal is for all students to improve from where they are, plus

we get to work with so many fun materials and have a great time creating art," said NRHS art teacher Amy Hauserman.

New Richmond's art teachers want kids to learn to appreciate themselves and what they make. "I hope that my students can learn and grow as people and develop a more well rounded education," said Cook.

"My biggest hope is that students leave class every day feeling accomplished about what they did in class, anxious to come back for more, and realize that with hard work they can do great things," said Hauserman.

"I would like them to have a sense of accomplishment and appreciation for their work along with the work of their peers. I would like them to be self-sufficient and confident in their choices. I would like

them to leave wanting to create more. There are eight studio habits that I would like them to utilize: develop their craft, explore, persist, observe, connect, envision, reflect and express themselves," said Langdon.

"Middle school is a time of great change and increased stress for students. Art class offers them the opportunity to express their ideas and concerns through hands-on activities," said Cholkas.

Students will learn to comprehend and create many different styles and types of art.

"We spend time creating, viewing and analyzing visual images, something that no other class does. In a world of images all around us, skills in image awareness, and image creation are quite valuable," said Cook.

"Students learn to use various tools, materials and techniques

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and then apply the art elements and principles of design as they create art," said Cholkas.

"Art is such a big subject and involves everything from techniques, color theory, proper use of loads of materials, art history and even social skills. Not everyone's learning is the same. Each class, different students get different things out of each class. At the end of class we meet together to share what we learned and what we are working on," said Langdon.

"At NR we have so many course options for students in visual arts- that students can really choose a path to focus upon, or take a variety of courses to help them build confidence in many visual art media. Students learn to think for themselves, work with materials they aren't used to using, become more confident in their art skills, ability to speak to others, and make art that they

can feel good about when they work hard," said Hauserman.

Students are graded by how closely they follow instructions and how much thought and effort they put into their art. "In middle school art, students evaluate their own art using rubrics and checklists. They learn what makes a quality piece of art based on specific criteria," said Cholkas.

"Students are graded on specific criteria for each lesson. Grades are centered around the requirements of the lesson, tenacity of effort, originality, craftsmanship," said Hauserman.

"Students are graded in two ways, " said Langdon. One and most importantly is how they choose to spend their class time. Are they working consistently and challenging themselves? The second is that I ask that they turn in at least one masterpiece work per quarter

which is completed work that has taken at least two full art classes."

Some of the art teacher's favorite moments are when the kids are excited and energized to do art.

"When students take ownership for their work- they come in fully charged and ready to go! Like today- the kids were all self driven! I gave them the tools, tips, and expectations, and they dive in with excitement and hard work. Not just a few students- ALL of them! WOW! What a great feeling as a teacher- to see everyone working toward their own goal- their own vision for a solution to the challenge!" said Hauserman.

"I love to see kids get excited about what they are making especially when another artist gets excited and inspired to create something similar. I love when they make mistakes

and see it as an added challenge rather than freak out. I also love when the littlest artists say funny things. Those little guys get so excited about everything you can't help but want to spend time with them," said Langdon.

"I love teaching art and working with my students. The variety of ages at the elementary school is always interesting. I really enjoy seeing the creative solutions the students come up with, in ways I might never have thought ,with our projects," said Cook.

"Over the years, I have watched students carefully sew a pillow for a loved one, wrap a classmate in plastic wrap to create a group sculpture and develop their own art lesson about a famous artist and then teach it to the class. Students amaze me with their ideas and skills," said Cholkas.

The hope for this year's art show is that it stays open to



the public longer, and displays some specially selected artwork.

“This year’s district art show we are hoping to set up at the school board office in a manner that we can leave up for a week or two, unlike the two day event we have had in the past. We are hoping this allows for more folks to stop by when they have time. This will be a great time to celebrate our hard working artists and view a collection of work that represents a year of learning in our art classes!” said Cook.

“After several years of digital district art shows due to COVID 19, the art educators of New Richmond are excited to return to an in-person art exhibit for students and community members. The venue will feature a refined group of outstanding art pieces from each New Richmond school,” said Cholkas.

“This year we are trying something new in which the art show will be curated. This

means all the work shown will be highly selected. This is going to be a challenge. There has been so much great art made this year yet 60-100 pieces will be shown from each school. I’m looking forward to it having a bit more of a professional feeling to it. It will also be in a new space at the district head offices and be up for a longer amount of time. We plan to have an opening and closing ceremony,” said Langdon.

“We are having a display at the Central Office this year! It will be a collection of elite works from the year as well as the portfolios honoring our senior advanced art students- Ellie Arkus and Trey Wentzel. The opening will be April 22nd, and the work will stay up for a full week- for teachers, students, and families to come and enjoy,” said Hauserman.

Students’ art is selected for the art show based on talents as well as ambition and growth. “Some will be chosen for skill and others will be chosen for

persistence and sheer creative ambition,” said Langdon.

“Each art teacher in the district determines the works that will be on display. We all have a little bit of a different approach to selecting. For me, I look for works that reflect student growth in every area of the project lesson,” said Hauserman.

After several years of digital district art shows due to COVID 19, the art educators of New Richmond are excited to return to an in-person art exhibit for students and community members. The venue will feature a refined group of outstanding art pieces from each New Richmond school,” said Cholkas.

People should attend the art show to encourage the artistic creativity of students as well as enjoy some beautiful art. “Students and their art teachers work hard to achieve excellence- their work is inspiring, accomplished, and wonderful to see in one location!” said

Hauserman.

“I think people will really be impressed by the range of work shown. We are really trying to make it a special event and change things up a bit. These select artists will be representative of all artists in the district. Hopefully, folks will come down and leave feeling inspired to make art. I hope that the show sparks some good conversations between families and friends,” said Langdon.

The art teachers of New Richmond say the thing they enjoy most about the art show is seeing the proud smiles on their students’ faces. “I love seeing artists excited to show their work. I also like to see my past students and what they are creating,” said Langdon.

“The satisfaction of students feeling accomplished- seeing them sharing their work with others- the smiles, the laughter, the way art brings people together,” said Hauserman.



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AP classes look towards next year

High school offers several new classes

By: Brooke Donley

There are many Advanced Placement classes offered at the high school already from Advanced Placement Calculus to Advanced Placement American Government. Many students have benefited from taking these classes in the past. Advanced Placement courses allow students to take classes at the high school and take a test at the end of the school year to attempt to receive college credit. In the next school year, they hope to add more Advanced Placement courses for students.

There are many differences between a high school level class and an AP class, said AP English teacher Nicole Parker. "Expectations, accountability, independence, and pace all increase from one level to another. AP classes contain college-level material and thereby require a maturity that might differ from regular and advanced classes."

Many teachers believe that there are many benefits to taking Advanced Placement classes.

"The biggest benefit is that you have AP on your transcript. It shows that you take the toughest class at your school. It is a standardized class so they know what the content of the class is. As with an advanced class, it can vary from school to school. AP on your transcript

shows colleges that students have taken challenging courses. These are classes that students wouldn't normally take so it opens up a whole new world to them. Normally, in a school this size there wouldn't be these kinds of courses offered," said AP Psychology and Human Geography teacher, Bill Harris.

"The most important benefit is that AP students are more prepared for college classes. Students improve their critical thinking and analytical skills, become more well-read and well-rounded, and learn how to take responsibility for their own learning. Of course, AP classes are also nice additions to college applications and for the students who earn college credits from the AP exams, the benefit is obvious," said Parker.

"The tougher road you take, the more you grow. As people we tend to want to take the easier route, but most times that leads to less result," said AP American Government teacher, Brian McMonigle.

Students also believe that there are benefits to taking AP classes as well.

"I think that AP classes tend to be more engaging and cover more interesting subjects than regular classes. It has also been a worthwhile experience for me. Psychology has definitely helped me prepare for college,"

said senior Ellie Arkus.

"Honestly, the class isn't that much harder than a regular class, but if you pass the AP test you can get college credit," said senior Kylie Cox.

"The feeling that taking the class will actually benefit me in college is the best thing about the class," said senior Logan Crooks.

While there are many benefits to taking AP classes, students believe that there are some disadvantages as well.

"The workload and College Board are a couple things that I disliked. I think AP classes are a scam because of the test score averages from last year," said senior Cadence Deitsch.

"It's a lot of pressure to do well on the AP test because if you don't pass you just wasted \$80 and three hours of your time," said Cox.

"You have to expect more homework in AP classes because they cover more topics. It's not that bad though," said Arkus.

Teachers and students both have advice for students looking to take AP classes in the future.

"I would tell them that if you want to prepare for the next level. These classes are able to prepare you the most for a four year college. It is different from what you get in regular classes.

AP prepares students for working alone. It is a great way to build your college resume. It allows you to remain in the classroom here at school and you are more involved in school. You get to have classmates and you don't get that relationship on a college campus," said Harris.

"The class is a good mixture of discussion and notes. I also liked that we got more independent work rather than group projects," said junior Allison Riggs.

"I liked being able to go more in depth about what we are learning and having people in the class who actually want to learn. The class has a lot of work and we went through units really fast," said senior Kaelyn Simpson.

"I encourage students to try an AP course if they are willing to put in the work. I think all students can benefit from these courses whether they are college-bound or not. Especially English because everyone needs to be able to think, analyze, read, write, speak, and listen," said Parker.

While AP Literature is not a new class to the schedule it will be added again next year along with AP Comparative Governments and AP Statistics. Students are encouraged to try some of the new classes.

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New PE teacher also NR football coach

Brian Pitzer plans to push team to be as great as possible

By Conor Johnson

Recently New Richmond High School has had the addition of Mr. Brian Pitzer, the new PE teacher to the already amazing faculty.

Along with teaching PE, Pitzer is the football coach for New Richmond and he plans to have a successful season with the team next year. "I am going to push our players to be elite academically, athletically, and socially every single day."

Pitzer has enjoyed starting mid-semester. "It was refreshing to me as a teacher and everyone has been great at adjusting, which has made it much easier."

Pitzer offers 20 points a day for grades in class, which totals to 100 points per week. The students are graded on participation and dress, he wants them

to have a voice in class.

"I want my students to have 100% participation in class all the time. I want students to feel empowered to have a voice in class, and to respect the students in class and myself as a teacher."

Pitzer likes to have a relationship with his students, he likes to be able to get to know them and form a connection.

"I am very relationship-based with students. I will teach every student differently, they have different learning styles and I want to be able to help them and accommodate that."

Pitzer has always been a history fan; in fact, had he not become a PE teacher he would have been a history teacher. He enjoyed school and became a PE teacher, though, because he

wanted to develop the mental and physical health of students every day.

"I want to teach them lifelong activities that they can continue to do once they leave high school."

Pitzer has some fun projects planned for his classes this year as well. "We are planning to learn and play cricket with Mr. Wessner at some point."

The football team will have to face some challenges next year and Pitzer believes the most difficult challenge will be consistency.

"Our biggest challenge next year will be the league schedule because it is a very tough league but a very winnable league. We have to be the most consistent team in order to accomplish our goals for next year."



Pitzer would describe his coaching style as fast-paced and energetic. "I look to bring a lot of energy to not only the football team but to the school as well."

One wish Pitzer has is for social media to not have any negative comments. "I think social media should only be able to push out positive comments."

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New Richmond high school home to many clubs

Chess Club brings enjoyment and community to many students

By: Lily Staton

New Richmond High School houses many extracurricular activities for students to participate in. One of these clubs is led by math teacher Andrew Helton, and has made its journey from New Richmond Middle School to New Richmond High School.

Helton mentioned that his favorite part of the club is just playing chess with the club members.

Helton also mentioned that Chess Club isn't an easy club to participate in. "It's not that difficult. It's pretty low-key. It's not like a regular club. You can just show up and play chess or card games. It's more of a game club now," he said.

Chess club started six years ago during an ordinary math class according to Helton. "I was teaching an algebra class and I was using chess as an analogy when we were solving equations. Some of my students said they liked chess so we started a Chess Club," he explained.

Helton shared consistency is something he'd like to see in his club. "Kids kind of come

and go now. It'd be nice to have a core group of kids that come. It'd be cool to compete against other schools."

Helton shared some of his favorite memories from chess club. "In the past we always had a tournament. We had a whole bracket printed out. We'd see who was champion. At the Middle School, I had a kid paint a chess piece silhouette outside my room. We'd also watch a chess movie," he said.

The members of the club mentioned some of their favorite memories while participating.

"I love the chill cool down after school; it's a very good environment," said sophomore Kelsey Freeman.

"I enjoy inclusiveness and variety. Anybody can join and everyone will happily play together. It's also not just about chess, as a group we've learned some new games that somebody else will teach," said sophomore Arienne Kerans.

"I really enjoy the sense of community and friendship," said sophomore Area Ladd.

"Seeing my friends is a really fun part of the Chess Club," said eighth grader Carson Corbin.

Members of Chess Club mentioned what history they might have with chess and the club itself.

"I've come to Chess Club since eighth grade with a few friends. I wanted to learn about chess more and sharpen my skills, not that I'm any good," said Freeman.

"Other people wanted to play, so I played them online and learned how the pieces moved. Also, how I got into Chess Club, was I went to math and I saw a sign up sheet on the door and wanted to be in it," said eighth grader Joe Colonel.

"I'd learned chess at a young age and loved its complexity; and Mr Helton offered to let me join the Chess Club," said sophomore Myles May.

Gaining more members would be a goal that current members of Chess Club would like to achieve.

"I would like for the middle school to have a club that way when those kids come to the

High School they have a passion for chess and will join the Chess Club," said May.

"I think it would be better if we got a few more people in here who are more serious about growing; we normally have around six or eight people," said Freeman.

Students also mentioned their favorite memories from Chess Club.

"We played a game called 'liar's dice,' the game lasted the whole time, it was also rather confusing but we still found it very fun, and were probably a little too loud," said Kerans.

Chess Club has impacted the members' lives positively.

"I like playing chess and I get to end the day with a fun game of chess, so it makes me happy at the end of the day," said Colonel.

"It's taught me many new games that I will play with friends a lot of the time, and it's genuinely helped me find another thing to enjoy doing in my spare time," said Kerans.

Jane Lockwood

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Girl Scouts teaches young women life skills

Leadership, community involvement, empowerment all part of group

By Dallas Shirey

Girl Scouts is a fun activity that prepares girls for the future. It allows them to experience new activities, and feel accomplished by what they do. New Richmond resident, RaeJean Boggs, leader of troop 47601, who manages the Girl Scout Service Unit for New Richmond, Bethel, and Felicity says, "Girl Scouts is about learning new life skills, stepping out of your comfort zone, being a sister to every girl scout, and taking action in the community to make the world a better place."

One benefit of Girl Scouts is that it allows girls to explore their hometown and the people who live in it. "This is a great way to get involved in your local community, make new friends and learn early leadership skills all which will prepare girls for later in life," said

Boggs.

Girls participating in Girl Scouts will learn leadership. Boggs says. "Girls need to learn they can empower themselves early on to tackle challenges. They can learn public speaking skills and how to speak to adults without their parents' assistance."

Girl Scouts can earn patches and badges through participation in Girl Scout activities. Boggs tells us, "Badges are earned through a specific series of tasks designed by the girl scout council. Girls can make their own movie, build a robot, cook food from a different country, go geocaching, sleep under the stars, write a book of short stories, plant a garden, etc. These earned badges are always placed on the front of the Girl Scout vest/ sash to symbolize their efforts. Patches do not

have specific requirements to earn and can simply be given to girls for participating in an outing, such as a sleep over, bowling night, etc."

The type of activities Girl Scouts do depend on their troop. "Each leader of a troop can design activities around the interest of their girls; in a very rural area like New Richmond/ Bethel, girls may enjoy horseback riding, camping, archery, etc. Troops that are in city areas may enjoy activities such as computer coding, cooking, dancing, etc" said Boggs.

Boggs' favorite activity with her troop was geocaching. "We started by learning how geocaching works, then we would travel around to local parks and public areas in New Richmond and locate new ones. It is something that some of the girls still enjoy doing in their free time."

One of Boggs' favorite memories is her troop's trip to the Girl Scout birthplace. "This was so much fun; the girls had to research and plan the entire trip from researching hotels, costs, how many vehicles we would need, cost of gas, mileage calculations, number of meals etc. They had to come up with how much this trip would cost per girl and raise the money them-

selves through cookie sales. Once on the trip, they had to ensure we did not overspend as we were on a budget."

Boggs' encourages girls to join no matter what grade they're in. "You can join Girl Scouts at any age to learn the skills and enjoy the benefits. But to encourage girls to join young, we try to drive participation in kindergarten. This way, they can grow up learning the Girl Scout Way. But if girls are currently in high school and interested in joining, we have troops in the area that would be happy to have you. It is never too late to want to get involved in the community and better yourself."



Troop leader RaeJean Boggs and her daughter, NRHS junior Joli Boggs enjoy a Girl Scout activity. Photo/R. Boggs.

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A capella group creates fond memories for students

Fermata Nowhere offers singers unique chance to perform contemporary music

By **Conor Johnson**

In addition to the Troubadours and Concert Choir, vocal music director Lizbee Hannah created the a capella group Fermata Nowhere, which performs at several school concerts and other venues.

The group was created because Hannah had several students who wanted to work in smaller groups and perform more contemporary music.

"I also had someone who was a very talented beatboxer and I wanted him to have an outlet for that. I held auditions for anyone interested and chose members for the group who had the best auditions."

Senior Lily Adams wanted to join Fermata Nowhere because she loves singing. "There were also people in the group that I looked up to. I wanted to be part of such a cool group of people."

Junior Ciara Meece has want-

ed to join Fermata Nowhere since she was in middle school. "We would watch videos of the high school choir. I was mesmerized and wanted to be part of it."

Junior Garrett Hoskins' favorite memories of Fermata Nowhere would be when they sang Christmas songs down in the village. "It was so much fun and my favorite memory of the night was when Nathan ripped his pants after taking a picture sitting on the wall on Front Street.

Senior Nate Rodgers wanted to join Fermata Nowhere because he loves to sing. "It allows me to be with a bunch of great friends. It also pushes me to break my limit."

Senior Logan Crooks has learned to become comfortable while performing with Fermata Nowhere. "The group has helped me a lot with building

up my confidence while performing on stage."

Senior Laney Ringhand's favorite memory of Fermata Nowhere was going caroling in the village. "Being able to spread joy to others was an amazing feeling."

Junior Maddy Rudy wanted to join Fermata Nowhere because she really enjoys singing. "Fermata Nowhere is an extremely creative way to sing and express yourself through music."

Senior Ella Bird has learned to be able to pick out certain parts in songs because of Fermata Nowhere. "It has helped me in other singing opportunities to find different harmonies in music."

Junior Abby Houck has wanted to join Fermata Nowhere since middle school. "I saw Fermata Nowhere perform and I thought it was the coolest thing. I had always known that I loved to sing, but was too afraid to put myself out there. I thought joining or even trying out would help me get out of my shell. It did and I have no regrets."

The biggest challenge for the group, according to Hannah, is arranging the songs creatively. "It's important that everyone feels comfortable contributing ideas and that the different voice parts work well together. This group has done an amazing job of being inclusive and working together to create great arrangements."

Adams' favorite memories

were of practicing songs while Hannah was on maternity leave. "My favorite moments all come from Logan and Nathan; they are amazing musically, and made practice fun."

Bird has several favorite memories of Fermata Nowhere. "One of my favorite memories is singing in the stairwell before concerts. The harmonies sound so beautiful."

Crooks wanted to join when he saw the group perform his freshman year. "It inspired me and made me want to join and hopefully have same effect on the new underclassmen."

Fermata Nowhere has helped Rodgers with singing out and being more confident. "It has also helped me with creativity for the music we learned."

Hoskins wanted to join because he was in the chamber choir in middle school, known as the Rolling Tones. "I really enjoy singing and choir in general. I didn't make it in my sophomore year but I still really wanted to do it so I tried out again."

Rudy's favorite memories are of every concert. "It is when we all come together and show the hard work we've put in and the fun we have on stage together."

Performing is obviously one of the highlights of being a part of this group for Hannah. "Honestly, every rehearsal is so much fun. I don't think I laugh harder anywhere else than in Fermata Nowhere rehearsals."



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Scholarship applications add stress to senior year

CommonApp would make process easier

Senior year is hectic, to say the least. The fall is spent on college applications and now that is over, seniors have the next challenge ahead of them: applying for scholarships, a tedious process that takes up a lot of time. Every waking second is spent trying to fulfill the many different requirements for each and every scholarship. Having an app where all of the applications can be submitted would be the most ideal. It could be like a CommonApp for scholarships instead of applying to college. It would solve the most important problems with applying for so many scholarships. First, it would allow for the application to be completed once as opposed to multiple applications. Secondly, the application

would allow for everything to be online and in the same place.

Completing multiple applications for different scholarships takes a lot of time. Each scholarship asks for the same information but you have to fill it out the same information many times. The CommonApp for scholarships would be best because we wouldn't have to fill out the same application multiple times. Each scholarship does require different items such as essays or letters of recommendation but those things could easily be attached to the CommonApp.

Another aspect of applying to scholarships is finding out the specific requirements for each one. These requirements for each scholarship are different

and all the scholarships are not in the same place. I have spent hours looking for requirements for scholarships because the websites are not user friendly. If there were a CommonApp, it would make life easier. Each application would be listed with a due date and list of requirements such as essays and letters of recommendation. With all the information in an easy to read format and in one place, it would save students a lot of time.

Another negative aspect of the current scholarship process is that teachers are slammed with writing recommendation letter after recommendation letter then, they have to figure out what to do with each letter. If there were a CommonApp, it

Runner's Talk

By
Brooke
Donley



would be the same every single time. Teachers would log in and submit the letter. There wouldn't be a question where recommendation letters or essays go.

Scholarships take up a lot of time in an already busy time of year for seniors. They are deciding what they want to do with the rest of their lives and where they will attend college next year. Having a CommonApp for scholarships would take a lot of stress off of seniors' plates as well as simplify the process for teachers.

Definition of hero can change over time

Many different people can inspire, impact us

There are many definitions for the word hero, and many ways we perceive them. When we were young we saw a hero as a white knight on a noble steed or a person in bright colors with incredible powers. As we mature however we learn that we see heroes everywhere in the world, that there are many different ways to perceive the word hero.

I personally believe that anyone can be a hero in many different ways, because there are many different kinds of heroes. A hero can be anyone from a police officer or your parental figure.

A hero can be someone you can count on to do the right thing and know when to take a stand for what they believe in. They will stand up for others who might not have the cour-

age to do so.

They may have fear but they know that there is something more important. They want to make a change for good in the world.

A change can't be brought around by just talking about it or waiting for it to happen. Someone needs to make it happen. The courage to make a change or to protect someone even if it seems impossible is what makes someone a hero.

A hero will know when to stand down, even if they don't want to they should know when it will be better to fight or stand down. A hero can make mistakes as no one is perfect and to make mistakes makes us human. What makes a hero different is that they don't let their mistakes bring them down, they will learn from them.

You can be a hero too, in many different ways. One way could be standing up for yourself or for another. Thinking of others instead of yourself is another way, a selfless act is one of the most heroic things someone can do.

As we grow up our heroes change, for example when you were young your hero was probably a parental figure or comic book hero, but now your hero might be someone who has many notable achievements. One thing stays constant, though, your heroes always inspire you to want to make a change.

One case where someone was a hero for me personally was when a few of my classmates were saying not the best of things, they have been forgiven, one of my friends had decided

Conor's Corner



By
Conor
Johnson

enough was enough and stood up for me when I couldn't. They were my hero and took a stand to stop the bullying.

The way you see someone can change over time, at one point they could be the villain in your eyes, but as you learn more about them and your ideals change and evolve they could be the hero. Everyone can have different heroes and ideals.

There are so many quotes about heroes and how to define it but personally I think this one says it best, "I think a hero is any person really intent on making this a better place for all people." -Maya Angelou

Everyone should audition for a show at some point

Acting helps you learn more about yourself

There are many reasons to audition for a play or a musical and everyone should audition for one at least once in their life.

One reason to audition is that it can be a confidence booster. You may think that you can't do it, but just wait until you are on the stage reading the lines and maybe singing a song. Once you are auditioning or even playing the role, you will no longer be afraid and you will show yourself that there is more that you can do. You will never know what could have been if you don't try. Your confidence will rise the more you try things and conquer your fears and you will believe in yourself and that you can do so many things in life.

I have gained confidence by acting because if you think about it, the actors must have a lot of confidence to stand in front of an audience and act. Don't get me wrong, we are still terrified but we have learned to be able to put on a brave front and face our fears by going out there and doing our best performance of the role we have been rehearsing for months. It is even more terrifying for us when we have to go out and sing, but when the song ends and the audience cheers, you wonder why you were afraid in the first place.

Another reason to audition is that you can learn new things about yourself. Acting is different for everyone, everyone has different styles of doing things. You can learn a new way of memorization whether it be lines, songs, or stage cues, and learn more about yourself and how you memorize things or how you work as an actor, you can learn what works best for you to become a better actor and play the character in the best way possible.

Personally, through auditioning and acting in general, I have learned more about myself. I have learned that I can memorize things in short amounts of time, and that I can do things in roles I didn't think I could, it gives me chances to branch out and explore different emotions and feelings in these roles.

Acting in a musical or play can also better your communication skills, which are important in almost every aspect of life. Most career fields that you will go into today need you to be able to communicate to your coworkers and sometimes people will not get the job because they lack the communication skills necessary to perform the job fully.

From acting, I have learned to project my voice to the back of the theater and interpret the emotions of a character from their lines alone. I can convey the emotions of someone else

with my voice. How you interpret the lines is different for each person, but the emotions these lines make us feel and how we think the character would say them is what we have to do. In the past, I have done monologues, which was the only scene the character was in for the show, the character didn't really have a name so as I learned the monologue I had to try to think of the questions the character was being asked. This character was a security guard being interviewed for a newspaper, and I had to think of what was being asked. We can make the character our own in shows like these.

To end it all, acting is something everyone can do, and by auditioning for a play or a musical you can open so many doors to new possibilities by trying and learning new things about yourself. I have more experiences to come from acting, and after this, I hope that you will too.

Conor's Corner



By
Conor
Johnson

The Messenger

New Richmond High School
1131 Bethel-New Richmond Rd.
New Richmond, Ohio 45157
2021-2022

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The Messenger would like to remember Mrs. Betty McKenney as we begin our 80th year, and once again, thank her for her many contributions to our paper.

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

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

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

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

The Messenger's regular monthly issues are now online only and are available on the high school's and district's web sites. The Senior Issue will be printed, and will be available for purchase at school at the beginning of March. Please direct comments or questions about the paper or its contents to the adviser, at 553-3191, x10314



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Mikayla Feldkamp spends time with friends

Sophomore also enjoys Young Life

By: Brooke Donley

One of sophomore Mikayla Feldkamp's core values is working hard. "I believe this because you learn so many new things by working yourself and always trying your best. No one is going to do things for you so you might as well do it yourself."

In her free time, there are a couple things that Feldkamp likes to do. "I like to dance and

spend time with my family. We like to play cards a lot."

Feldkamp's biggest role model is her mom. "She is the strongest and most hard working person I know. I hope to be like her."

Her family is dysfunctional, said Feldkamp. "We are crazy. My family includes my mom, dad and my older brother and sister."

Growing up, Feldkamp spent a lot of time with her siblings. "Being the youngest I always had my siblings watching me when my parents were working. I also spent a lot of time dancing and cheering."

A couple of Feldkamp's biggest accomplishments come from dancing and cheering. "I was top ten in the world for dance and top five in the nation for cheer."



of my life and the others are my new friends. My favorite memories are everytime I get to spend time with them and get closer to God with them."

Feldkamp's most important possession is her phone.

"I have so many memories on my phone. Another important possession is my Nana's vanity that is very special to me."

Some of Feldkamp's closest friends are from Young Life. "Sammy, Carly and Jill, I have known for most

of my life and the others are my new friends. My favorite memories are everytime I get to spend time with them and get closer to God with them."

There are a couple qualities that Feldkamp looks for in a friend. "I look for someone that is loyal and has a sense of humor. Without a sense of humor, they can't be my friend."

The best advice that Feldkamp has ever received is: "Get comfortable with being uncomfortable. This has stuck with me because everyone will be in uncomfortable situations and we have to be able to get through them."

Something that has changed Feldkamp's life is her mother having 21 surgeries. "She has had many struggles with her leg. This has affected my life and my family's life financially and emotionally."

If Feldkamp had tons of money, she would help people who need prosthetics. "My family has had many struggles with the financial costs of buying prosthetics as well as surgeries and amputations. It would mean a lot to me to help someone else going through the same thing."

Feldkamp knows what she wants to do after high school. "While the end of high school is kind of far away. I would like to be a physical therapist after high school."

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Madison Hoskins respects people's opinions

Sophomore wants people to see past her tough exterior

By Dallas Shirey

Sophomore Madison Hoskins said she is a good natured and considerate person. "I would describe myself as a relatively kind person. I think that because I don't feel a need to be mean or rude to people without reason. I often find myself questioning this though; questioning if I present the way I want to."

Those close to Madison would describe her as non-judgmental, she said. "I think that people describe me this way because I don't feel like I have the right to judge others. I know that nobody is perfect and we're all human."

Madison respects and values the ideas of people with different beliefs. "One major belief or value of mine is that everyone is human and everyone has a right to an opinion, though I don't have to agree with them. I believe that nobody should be treated differently based on their religion, gender identity, sexuality, race, or culture."

One of Madison's beliefs is accepting things that you can't control. "My favorite quote is 'It's a metaphor, you see. You put the thing that does the killing right between your teeth but you never give it the power to kill you.' I like it not only be-

cause it's from a book written by one of my favorite authors but also because I enjoy the idea of the false sense of security-controlling what you can when things feel out of control."

Madison describes her family as crazy but loving. "We are all very stubborn but at the end of the day, we all care about each other. My favorite memories with my family are just us having fun. We don't really do big things like vacations or anything like that but I really enjoy going to the movies or just watching movies at home."

When looking for friends, Madison says she looks for someone she can laugh and joke with. "I typically prefer for my friend to have similar beliefs as me, but that doesn't mean I'm opposed to other people befriending me. I have so many good memories with my friends. One of my favorites are my birthdays when I can get nearly all of my friends together and do stupid things for fun, like the time we got security called on us twice when staying at a hotel. Also, we dared my friend to flirt with my mom, mostly when we're having senseless fun."

Over the past few years,

Madison has discovered things about herself. "I've

changed dramatically over the past few years. A lot has happened

to me including discovering my gender identity and sexuality along with finding a style that makes me happy.

To Madison, a hero is someone who puts others above themselves, among other things. "To me, a hero is just someone who overcomes an extremely difficult challenge. I believe that anyone is capable of being a hero. I look up to a few people, my mom is one of those people. She has always been as supportive as she can of me and I admire her emotional strength."

Judgment and close mindedness are two things Madison dislikes in today's adults and children. "Something I don't like about kids today is the amount of judgment that people



emit. I particularly don't like "cancel" culture and "cringe" culture. I think it's useless wasting your time worrying about other people's actions. I think the close-mindedness of some people, especially the older adults. I don't think that everyone has to agree but I do think that we should at least keep a somewhat open mind about the opinion of others."

Madison wants people to know she's not as stern or oblivious as she seems. "I have some mental disorders that set me back socially, despite being academically inclined. So I think people may see me as arrogant, but I would like them to see that I'm not just what people are able to see on the surface."

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Nathan Marx talks of overcoming challenges in life

Sophomore deals with challenges surrounding grief

Sophomore Nathan Marx shared stories about himself, his life, and his family when interviewed.

Marx talked about his greatest achievement so far. "Overcoming grief. I was able to overcome grief by having people who supported and cared for me 24/7, even when I didn't help they were still there for me and constantly supporting me. Some of the obstacles of getting over grief I have faced is the feeling of loss. It's an overwhelming feeling that takes time to recover from, but once I did, I felt a lot better," he explained.

Playing video games is important to Marx. "My favorite hobby is playing video games. Video games are special to me because I grew up playing video games. Video games are part of my childhood. Video games

helped me understand the difference between reality and fiction. And I also developed an interest in history by allowing me to travel to the places where such history occurred."

Marx talked about one of his closest relationships. "The person who knows me best would be my girlfriend. My girlfriend just understands me better than anyone else ever has. My girlfriend and I have a lot in common too! We can relate to each other a lot, so we can understand each other better," he said.

Marx describes himself as funny, lazy, smart, nice, and artistic. "I chose these adjectives to describe myself because I would describe myself as a person who likes art, literature, and comedy," he shared.

Marx mentions that he procrastinates and this allows him

to relate to an animal closely. "The animal I would relate to the most would be the grizzly bear. I think the grizzly bear is most relatable to me because I like to procrastinate, but also procrastinating allows me to have more time to come up with a more creative answer to the problem I face."

Marx would like to see changes within the US Government. "One problem in the world currently that I wish to change would be political parties in the American government. I believe that there should be more than two parties. One way that I could help solve this is by spreading the idea of multiple political parties around the U.S.," he said.

A respectful nature is something that Marx and his family all have in common. "One trait that all my family members and I have in common is that we all respect each other in every way. What I mean by this is that we respect each other's opinions and values no matter what those values may be," he stated.

Marx describes himself as a "morning person." I wake up in the morning early and I'm ready to take on the day. In my family, I am usually the first to wake up in the mornings. One thing that I will always remember was the first time I started waking up before sunrise was



just the beauty of watching the sun rise in the mornings," he explained.

Marx talked about his hero. "My hero would be my mom. This is because every day since 2005 my mom has gotten up in the mornings, dealt with a company who doesn't respect her, spent all of her money on clothes, games, and expenses, just to make sure I had a better life than her. The amount of respect I have for my mom is huge; she has done everything for me with nothing expected in return," he stated.

Marx shared that he lives with his parents and two siblings. "My parents are both currently working. My mom works for an insurance company, and my dad works for a company that fixes the robots that assemble cars. My siblings are both in elementary school."



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Jack Thompson is an aspiring musician

New Richmond student tries to always treat others kindly

By:Conor Johnson

There are many great things about the students of New Richmond. Jack Thompson is someone who likes to chill out with his friends.

Jack wants to be a musician when he finishes school. "I grew up in a very musical family and I have been playing drums for 12 years, so I want to be a part of that."

The possession that means

the most to Jack are his drums. "Drumming has been my main hobby for a long time, I have been playing drums since I was little."

When Jack typically gets home he likes to practice drumming. "I like to hang out with my friends because you just want to chill out and relax after doing school work the whole day."

When looking for a friend Jack looks for someone who is fun. "I want my friends to be someone I can mess around with but I should also be able to be serious with them. I also look for someone who has integrity."

A few of Jack's favorite memories are of all the fun times he has had in football. "Some of my other favorite memories are also going on vacation with my family during summer."

Jack's typical day is pretty simple. "I usually wake up and go to school, then when I get home I practice drums and just chill out."

I would describe myself as a nice and hard working guy. "I'm always nice to people and I believe in working hard to get what you want."

The best advice Jack has ever



received is to treat others the way you want to be treated. "I truly believe in being kind to others and helping each other when someone needs help."

Jack's personal heroes are his mom and dad. "A hero is someone who you can look up to and want to make an impact as they did."

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Disney in the 50's teaches theme of time

Lady and The Tramp a worthwhile watch for anyone

In June of 1955, Disney released a tale of a young King Charles Spaniel that would win the hearts of kids and adults for years to come. This movie is, *Lady And The Tramp*.

In the movie, it shows the lead character, Lady, and her life trying to get to her love, Tramp.

The movie includes a theme of time, as we watch the young dog grow older and we watch as time passes while she's finding Tramp.

The movie also possesses a theme of redemption along with a theme of lifestyle differences, as many times Lady and Tramp are separated or they come across obstacles in their journey to finding each other; and the Tramp and Lady live very different lives. Tramp

lives out in the streets as a stray dog, surviving off of leftovers while avoiding the dog catchers, while Lady lives in a home with her owners.

In the movie, there are many different social issues which are presented. The movie, though cute and a classic, involves topics of classism, racism, and cultural stereotypes. These stereotypes have caused issues in the past few years.

In the movie, the viewers are faced with the art styles of Disney, along with bright colors and detailed images depicting New Orleans.

Later on, in 2019, Disney made a live action version of the family favorite.

The movie eliminated the social issues found in the original,

and while still capturing the colorful scenery and the themes found in the original.

It is important to show our children these films because the themes are important to understand. Time, redemption, and lifestyle differences are all difficult topics to understand, and these themes are presented in a way that makes it easy.

In life, there are going to be differences in people we meet, as well as differences between ourselves and others. That's normal. Being able to see in the movie how two different lifestyles were able to come together and love each other can teach young children acceptance and tolerance.

As far as time, it is inevitable that we age. Seeing Lady grow

The Write Up



By: Lily Staton

up, and seeing time pass, can help children understand that aging is normal and not to be feared.

The theme of redemption is important in life because it can teach children to pursue their goals and what they believe in, which is a very important life skill. This can lead the young viewers to success, determination, and teach problem solving skills.

Overall, there are many benefits to watching *Lady and The Tramp*, and many reasons why you should watch this film. The cuddly yet suspenseful film is sure to brighten your day, and make children happy.

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