

# Congrats to our Norwalk Truckers on Week 13 #RISEUP

**NORWALK  
HIGH  
SCHOOL**

**TRUCKER IMPRINT**

Volume 17, No. 2

350 Shady Lane Drive, Norwalk, OH

Friday, November 16, 2018

## Vazquez runs road to state

By Morgan Risner

Senior cross country runner Robert Vazquez placed 125th out of 186 runners at the state cross country competition held last weekend in Hebron.

"I ran 17:32. I knew I was capable of running way faster. I had another race that day in Indiana at NXR and totally redeemed myself. I ran 16:32 and got 11th out of 1,250. For back-to-back races, I was happy about it," he said.

Vazquez is a second-time qualifier for state. He also qualified for state his sophomore year.

"It has been a privilege to coach Bobby over the last four years. To see him finishing his senior year by running at state makes it all worthwhile," Coach Drew Karnehm said.

Before the event, Vazquez said he was excited about qualifying.

"I get to end my senior year of cross country on a high note," he



Seniors (from left) Bobby Vazquez, Chris Mohr and junior Jad Oglesby lead the way during the state sendoff for Vazquez on Nov. 9.

said, adding that he knew he was capable of making it to state.

Vazquez said the best thing about cross country is the support he gets from the team.

"At the beginning of the season, you start out as nothing -- no communication -- and at the end of the season you end as a family," he said.

At the line, Vazquez does drills and his team forms a huddle to say inspirational words and ending their huddle they yell, "Nut up or shut up."

Vazquez said he started running cross country in eighth grade because in seventh grade when he played football, Vazquez and Brandon Haraway collided helmets and he cried, so he began running cross country instead.

Photo by Morgan Risner

## Veterans, teens connect on Honor Trip

By Olivia Schaffer

The 2018 Huron County Honor Trip was an experience I will never forget. I had the opportunity to connect with veterans in a way not many people get to have.

To be able to go on the trip, I wrote an essay about appreciating veterans. I applied to go on the trip because I had never been to Washington, D.C., and I wanted to experience it with the bravest people in the world.

Along with four other Norwalk students and three St. Paul students, I rode a bus with veterans to D.C. to visit monuments and war memorials. Visiting monuments after hours was almost eerie and a completely different feel than what it would have been during the day. The war memorials we visited the next day also gave me a different perspective because we visited them with the people they were made for.

Pushing a Vietnam veteran in his wheelchair along the Vietnam Veterans Memorial was an honor and I am so glad I got to share that experience with him. I took an etching of the name of someone from Norwalk on the wall, and even though I did not know him, I felt connected to him and his sacrifice for us.

On the way home, everyone on the bus shared their thoughts about their experience. Something that stuck out to me was a veteran saying that the students who went on the trip changed his mind about teenagers today. Another veteran was kind enough to give me two of his combat pins which I will keep for the rest of my life. Before I went on the trip, I knew that the veterans would make a mark on me, but I never thought that I would have an impact on them.

Two students, sophomore Braden Lloyd and I, were selected to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. I was nervous going into it and even more nervous after I saw the changing of the guard. Only watching the ceremony in person can give the full effect and show how powerful it is.

I'm honored to have been able to go on this trip and do things that not many people get the opportunity to do. I see veterans and memorials with new eyes now that I got to experience those with them. I respect veterans even more after spending a weekend with some amazing ones, and I continue to always thank them for their service. The next time you see a veteran, make sure to shake his or her hand as a thank-you for the sacrifices they have made.



Photo by Olivia Schaffer

Sophomore Chasse Raymond pushes a veteran around the World War II Memorial in Washington D.C. "It was a very heartwarming experience to be able to witness stories and emotions with veterans at memorials," Raymond said.

## Little earns big academic honor for score

By Sydney Smith

Senior Anna Little has achieved the honor of National Merit Semi-Finalist. Little has the potential to become a finalist, which has been a rarity in NHS history.

"I feel excited and humbled," Little said.

Guidance counselor Sandi Stewart used these words to describe Anna: "Anna is an ambitious student. She has been working really hard."

Little said she has been striving to become a National Merit Semi-Finalist for her whole high school career. She wanted the



*"Being a great student means sacrificing social life."*

*-Anna Little*

achievement partly to beat her brother Noah, who was commended in 2015. Being commended is one step below being a semi-finalist.

In the state of Ohio, only 663 students are chosen to be semi-finalists out of 45,122. Nationally, 16,516 students are named semi-finalists out of 1,636,658.

The National Merit Scholarship is based on junior year PSAT scores.

Little has test-taking tips for students who are planning to take the PSAT.

She believes that it is important to only spend time on the questions one knows.

"While taking the test, I went through and if I don't know how

to solve it by looking at it, I skip it," she said.

Another piece of advice Little has is to produce "word vomit" when writing essays.

"It's important to write everything that you are thinking. You can sort it out later," she said.

Khan Academy, an online study source, is the best way to study for standardized tests, according to Little.

Little is not just defined as a National Merit Semi-Finalist. She also participates in many extracurricular activities.

See HONOR on page 3.

### Book reviews in bathrooms



Librarian Lucy Hokes has been putting book reviews in the bathrooms. Read why on page 7.

### Crossword completion



Take some time to do our crossword on page 9 and turn it in during lunch for a chance to win a Stomping Grounds gift card.

### Post-season playoffs



Read about how the Trucker football team has advanced to week 13 of the playoffs for the first time on page 11.



# Staff Editorial

## Bookbag policy questioned

Everyone at NHS has an opinion on the new bookbag policy, which states that students are not permitted to carry their bookbags from class to class during the school day. The effectiveness of the policy is still up for question.

Most students do not feel any safer with the change. We are only one quarter into the school year and there has already been a threat. Taking away bookbags does not take away the dangers that can occur at school.

If people have the intention to harm students, they will do it at any cost. It does not matter if they have a bookbag or not.

The main reason the bookbag policy is irrelevant is because we see students all over school wearing them. Two editors went undercover and wore their bookbags for a day; neither got told to put their bags away.

If the main reason for taking away bookbags is for safety, the policy should be enforced. Every student should have to follow

the rule. Certain students should not get a pass when it comes to the safety of everyone.

If the administration is this worried about safety, we believe more changes should be made. Instead of taking away bookbags, we could install metal detectors. This would ensure that no weapons are being brought into school.

The new bookbag policy does not make us feel safer; it is just another band-aid that is put onto a much bigger problem.

## Students need to know, too



By Kristina Toczek

School threats used to be something we only heard about on the news. Everything seemed fine in our little town until parents of students in our school district got the call earlier this year that a student had threatened one of the schools. The superintendent ordered a two-hour delay and then we went on with our school day without any school official addressing the situation by talking to students.

Assistant Principal Patrick Kania said that we have less violence compared to our neighboring schools, but he also said violence has become more of a problem in the school this year than in the past.

Personally, it's not that I don't feel safe; I just feel like I have no idea what's going on. It's a serious subject and I feel that stu-

dents are not informed enough about what happens after the school is threatened.

Other than school threats, violence in Norwalk High School still happens in little bits and pieces. It might be entertaining and even funny to watch, but our school has had its fair share of fights in the lunchroom and even in the hallways.

In past years, English teacher Leah Schuster and science teacher Janet Koch have had to pull fighting kids apart right before class started. Acts of violence like these are dealt with behind closed doors, but is the solution process working?

"We haven't had any repeats," Kania said.

With more than one threat in the past two years, I find myself confused with what happens to those kids who threaten and how it is handled.

Kania explained that when the police authorities get involved,

they make the decisions on how to handle the situation.

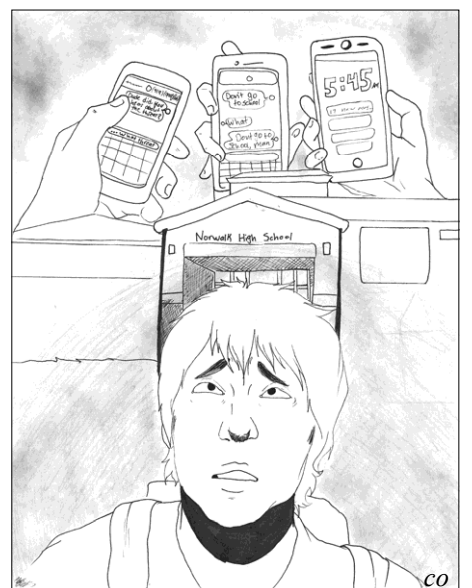
This school year we have a new drug free club. Rather than drugs being our only focus, it should also be violence. School shootings and acts of violence are happening more and more throughout the United States, yet we haven't addressed it collectively with students and staff. Parents receive one-calls and are informed about threats, but they don't go to school with us and therefore it should be explained to us at school.

We spend most of our time in the building and therefore we should feel like we are safe. Bookbags and senior lunch privileges have been taken away this year for safety reasons by the superintendent, but I personally don't see a change in the school.

I have watched videos online that show signs of someone who might act upon dangerous thoughts. I think if we included this topic in Trucker Time it

would benefit students and make us feel more informed.

This editorial is not intended to scare students or make them feel on edge at school. It's only a call out to the staff to make students aware of the situations and have a conversation, rather than ignore it and move on with our day.



## Do you feel safe at school?



Freshman Orion Ohlmacher "Yes, I trust everyone around me."



Sophomore Jonathan Harris "Yes, I feel like most of the teachers watch out for me."



Junior Anna George "No, because of the threats this year."



Senior Caitlyn Duncan "I don't feel safe in school because people are completely unpredictable and we are constantly surrounded by people we don't know."

Photos and interviews by Lacey Tatum and Brenna Mock

## College: Not for everyone



By Olivia Schaffer

For as long as I can remember, I have been told at school that I have to graduate and go to college. Going into construction or straight into the work force after high school has always seemed like something negative.

Recently, it has seemed like more seniors are choosing not to go to college. Students need to know that this decision is completely OK. Norwalk High School has done a better job the past couple of years with the addition of Trucker Time and the focus on multiple paths after high school.

Staying at home and commuting to BGSU Firelands is something that adults have also

made negative. If you can go to college for free, why would you not take the opportunity?

Also, if college is not for you, why would you not take the opportunity to make \$35 an hour straight out of high school working construction?

Even though I plan on attending college this fall, I support anyone's decision to choose the path that is best for them.

<b>Editor-in-Chief:</b> Mascie Horner	<b>Reporters:</b> Laila Bussert Micah Duncan Evan Gaston Savannah Grant-Bell JJ Hackenburt Ben Johnson Cale Ours Jayda Ramos Morgan Risner Keeanne Steele
<b>Editors:</b> News: Lacey Tatum Features: Olivia Schaffer Entertainment: Cesar Gonzales Sports: Madisyn Alt Photo: Brenna Mock Layout: Kristina Toczek and Leighton Steele Copy: Sydney Smith	<b>Adviser:</b> Debbie Leffler

### Letters to the editor

As you read the *Trucker Imprint*, you may have questions or opinions you would like to express. If you would like to do so, please email or write to us! We will consider publishing them in the next issue of the *Trucker Imprint*. Email editor Mascie Horner at 19hornerma@norwalklearns.org or place your letter to the editor in the folder outside Mrs. Leffler's door (room 6208). Please keep your letters appropriate, short and to the point. Thank you for taking the time to read our paper!

#### Editorial Policy

The *Trucker Imprint* is a paper by, for, and about students at NHS. Unsigned editorials are the opinion of the Editorial Board. All reporters strive to be objective. Views expressed in the paper are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views of the entire staff, school or community.

# Student helps elephants in Thailand

By Kristina Toczek

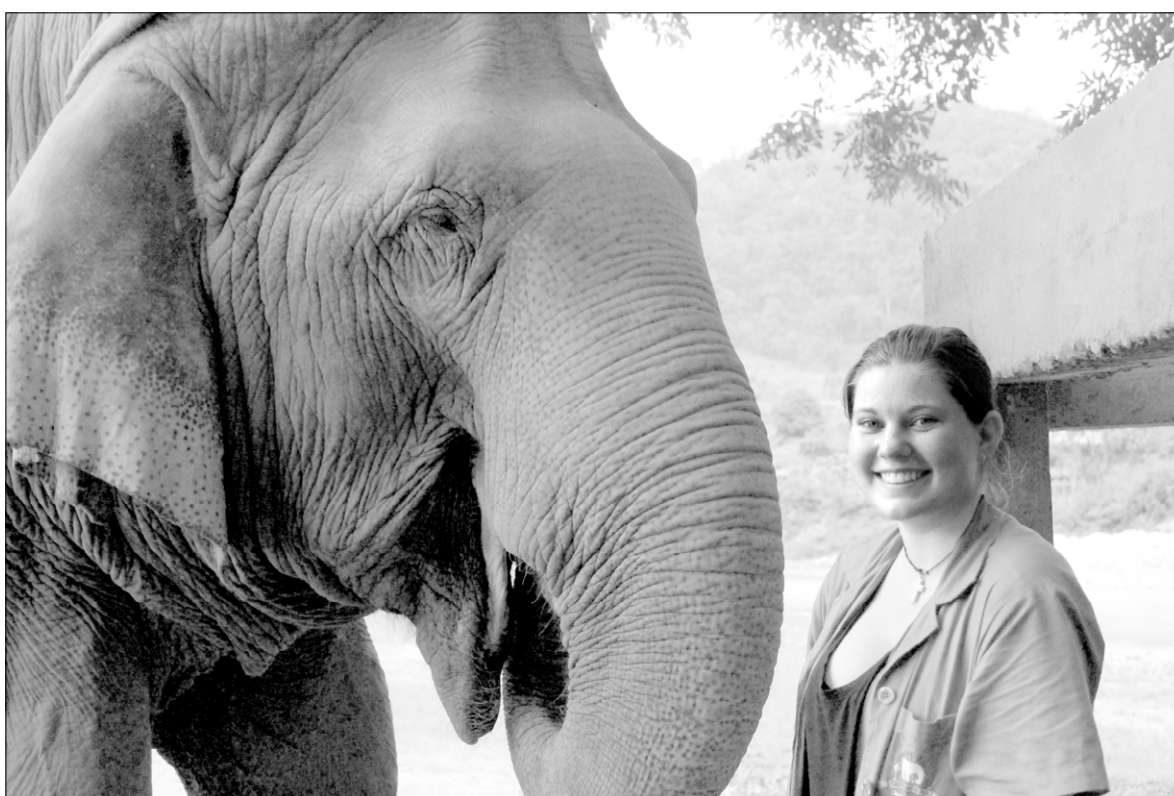
Senior Lindsay Rinner not only loves riding horses, but she also loves helping elephants in Thailand.

Rinner became part of an organization called the Loop Abroad - Thailand Veterinary Service because it was a different mission trip from others she has taken.

“It was also a good learning experience for vet schools,” Rinner said. She plans on being a vet for large, exotic animals.

Elephants and other animals, including dogs, cats and cows, are not protected under the laws in Thailand.

Elephants are abused through circumstances like poaching and children’s rides. Rinner and her organization rescue these animals and bring them to the elephant nature park



Submitted photo  
Senior Lindsay Rinner poses with an elephant in Thailand. Twelve students across the country, including Lindsay, were chosen to go on the trip to help animals who are not protected under the law.

Rinner said the worst part was seeing the elephants’ injuries, but the best was spending a whole day with an elephant caretaker, also known as a mahout, and developing a relationship with the elephant.

To raise money for the trip, Rinner sold T-shirts promoting the organization. She explained that it went very well and she was able to fund almost half of her trip with the money. In the group’s free time, they did activities like zip-lining over the rainforest and walking through the local street markets.

“We got to see the cultural side of things,” she said.

to take care of their wounds and injuries.

Throughout the three-week period, Rinner said she made vet

rounds, cleaned wounds and gave vaccinations. She even got to sit in on some animal surgeries.

# Class learns from ‘real world’ experience

By Mascie Horner

Industrial technology and makerspace teacher Chris Jackson took his classes on a field trip to Norwalk Concrete Industries (NCI) recently so students could see many “real world” projects that are similar to what they do in the classroom.

Students began the trip with a plant tour, led by owner John Lendrum.

Lendrum showed students different areas of the plant and discussed the importance of all workers and their jobs.

“It was good for the students to see how many dif-

ferent jobs are combined into one company,” Jackson said. He added that not many people know that at concrete companies, it is not just concrete employees. Truck drivers and electricians also take on an important role.

Freshman Lupe Zamano, an industrial tech student, said he enjoyed the field trip and found many things interesting.

“Learning about everything they made in one day and how concrete is made was interesting,” Zamano said.

In industrial tech class, students do smaller projects

that are similar to projects NCI performs. The class does a concrete project known as “The Cylinder Test”, which tests compression of concrete in a cylinder container.

On the trip, students made concrete pumpkins to tie in to the Halloween season.

Students brought plastic pumpkins to the plant and NCI provided concrete for students to fill the pumpkins with. After a couple of days, students were able to decorate their pumpkins in class.

Zamano said he enjoyed making his pumpkin.



Photo by Mascie Horner  
Freshman Lupe Zamano, an industrial technology student at Norwalk High School, is shown pouring concrete into a pumpkin at Norwalk Concrete. The class took a field trip to the company in October.

# Lee challenges students to invest in stocks

By Olivia Schaffer

Ten years ago, economics teacher Nick Lee co-founded the stock market challenge. Back then, the assignment had to be done without computers.

The goal of the assignment is to teach students that investing is something long-term, and growing money does not happen overnight, Lee said. Students are given \$25,000 in fake money to invest in any company they want on a website called Investopedia.



The students are graded based on research, reflection assignments and explanations about how they chose what to invest in, not success or failure.

Lee said the students learn about the volatility of the stock market, the importance of infla-

tion and how it can take away the power of savings.

Rankings are posted every day so the students can see how they are doing.

“It’s addicting, I’m constantly checking,” senior Emily Berry said, adding that she has consist-

ently improved her ranking and she is usually in the top 20.

Lee said being successful requires luck, timing and strategy.

“Don’t play the lottery -- invest in the stock market,” he advised.

Some other real-life stock market tips he has are to invest a percentage of every paycheck the second you classify yourself as an adult and the earlier you invest, the better.

# Following her father

By Olivia Schaffer

Sophomore Mylea Barber does not just invest in stocks, she mines them.



Mylea Barber

What she does is mine cryptocurrency in the stock market. The process of mining cryptocurrency is defined as a validation of transactions (making sure the money is actu-

ally there). For their efforts, miners obtain new cryptocurrency.

Barber got involved in the stock market by watching her dad. She said she was interested in it so he taught her.

She has since taken over what she inherited from her dad and has invested in machines that do the mining. The machines allow her to earn her own cryptocurrency, which she then turns into actual money. Of the money she makes, most goes into her savings for college and she takes about 5 percent for usual spending.

# HONOR

Continued from page 1

Community service, the United Fund, swim and golf are Little’s favorite activities. She also starred as Peter Pan in last year’s musical.

“I also watch a lot of YouTube and play Trivia Crack on my phone,” she said.

Although Little excels in all of her classes, she said AP Calculus BC is challenging for her.

“I mess up on stupid stuff while taking tests,” Little said.

Little said she is dedicated to being the best student she can be, even if that means sacrificing certain parts of her life.

“Being a great student means sacrificing social life,” she said.

Students who achieve any level of the National Merit Scholarship program have the potential to receive up to full tuition from colleges.

# Painting for the community



Photo by Kristina Toczek  
Senior Jordan Gran gives the thumbs up as she helps paint a house for Habitat for Humanity. The National Honors Society tracked a total of 28 hours to help a local family get a home.

# Hipp hops down the aisle

By Evan Gaston

Social studies teacher Kate Hipp and her husband Stewart Downey met in elementary school.

“I thought he was super annoying,” Hipp said.

They have always been family friends but did not get to hang out after he moved to Arizona when he was about 15. When he would come back for breaks and holidays, she would get to see him.

In Arizona, Downey sold luxury real estate and he now works in sales at Maple City Ice in Norwalk. Hipp is also employed at Maple City Ice.

Downey moved back in October of last year to be with his father who was having surgery. Hipp spent a lot of time with him while he was here. Over the summer of this year his mother was having health issues and had a severe stroke and went through many surgeries. They were not sure if she could make it to the wedding and were very thankful that she was well enough to be able to attend.

They got engaged around Christmas in 2017. Hipp wanted a fall wedding so the weather would be comfortable. Instead, on Oct. 6, the day of their wedding, it rained in the morning and was 80 degrees later in the day.

She said that rain on your wedding day is good luck so she did not mind it. She said that the wedding went great and everyone enjoyed it.

Their wedding was held at Saint Mary’s Church in Norwalk. They had a large attendance of people coming from as far away as California, Arizona,



Submitted photo  
Newlyweds Kate Hipp and Stewart Downey walk down the aisle after their marriage ceremony on Oct. 6.

Wyoming, Florida, Connecticut and Texas. The band Paradise Island, from Columbus, played at the reception. They had a “Big Red Bus” for the bridal party and also used it to get to locations for pictures.

After the wedding they went on a “mini” honeymoon to Chicago and plan on going to Greece in March for their real honeymoon.

“I am glad it’s over,” art teacher Rachel Hipp, Kate’s mom, said about the wedding. She enjoyed helping to plan the wedding but said it was a lot of work and that it was stressful for her.

## TEACHERS AT WORK



**Name:** Melanie Zerman  
**Subjects taught:** Inclusion math and transition class.  
**College attended:** Adrian College  
**Favorite high school memory:** High school was not my favorite time. I preferred college.  
**If you weren’t a teacher, what would you be?** I would be a stock broker. I always wanted to live in New York City.  
**Where did you go to high school and how was it different from NHS?** I went to Clyde High School. It was smaller.  
**If you could start high school over again, what would you do differently?** I would have tried harder and been more involved in activities.  
**I became a teacher because:** I hoped that I could make a difference in my community. This was my second career.  
**Advice for seniors?** Whatever you do in life, do it 100 percent and love what you do (if it pays well).  
**When not sitting behind a desk in school, what do you do?** I run, watch college football, and boat in the summer while being with my family.  
**What would people be surprised to know about you?** That I ran a half marathon in Toledo last spring.  
**Closest co-workers and why:** Allison Sellers and Cari Beers because they have been supportive and like me in spite of my craziness. I am blessed to have many people here who I would call my friends.  
**Favorite part about your job?** Working with the awesome students!  
**Biggest pet peeve that students do:** That they don’t do their work and that some don’t believe that they need to.

# Teachers have outside lives

Photos and interviews by Morgan Risner



**Spanish teacher**  
David Snell

**What do you do outside of school?** I try to exercise, read and do school work. I like to read a little bit of everything.

**What are your hobbies?** My hobby is exercising. I like the way I feel during and after. It’s a rush of endorphins.

**How much time do you spend on school work outside of the building?** I try to do all my school work in school so I don’t have to take it home. On average I spend about an hour a day.



**English teacher**  
Dustin Baker

**What do you do outside of school?** Most of my time outside of school is spent being a husband and a dad. A lot of the things I did when I was younger, like waste time and waste money, have thankfully gone away.

**What are your hobbies?** I like to mow my lawn. It’s relaxing and I get to make designs in the grass.

Also, my son enjoys riding with me. I also like to cook all kinds of food.

**How much time do you spend on school work outside of the building?** On an average about an hour a day.



**Science teacher**  
Janet Koch

**What do you do outside of school?** I do a lot of work, hike, and I watch Netflix. One of my favorite things to do is go to the ocean.

**What are your hobbies?** I like to cook and hike. I’ve hiked in Arizona, Colorado, California, Hawaii, southern Ohio and locally.

**How much time do you spend on school work outside of the building?** I spend a couple hours after school and probably 10 hours every weekend.



**Algebra teacher**  
Allison Sellers

**What do you do outside of school?** I spend time with my husband and two children. You will always find the four of us together.

**What are your hobbies?** I sleep and exercise -- it makes me feel better. I’m asleep by 8:30 every night and I wake up at 5:30. I get about nine hours of sleep every night.

**How much time do you spend on school work outside of the building?** I don’t leave school unless grades are put in and I’m ready for the next day.

## STUDENTS AT SCHOOL



**Name:** Dylan James Castle  
**Grade:** 11

**Age:** 16  
**Favorite type of music:** All music really, just depends on how I feel at the time. Most of the time I enjoy Rock and Hip Hop.

**Color I would use to describe myself:** Blue.

**What is the best thing about NHS?** The Art and Music Department.

**Biggest pet peeve:** Telling a story, then realizing no one was listening.

**If you were dying, what would your last words be?** Delete my browser history.

**If you won the lottery, what would you buy first?** Happiness, maybe.

**Five things you’d like to have on a deserted island:** A record player, records, sketch pad, pencil and a boat.

**Where do you see yourself in 20 years?** Living in a decent house with a nice family.

**Something people would be surprised to know about me:** Nothing. I’m very uninteresting.

# Subs spill reasons for teaching

By Jayda Ramos

Each substitute teacher has a reason for being a sub.

Substitute Morgan Rowland talked about why she became one.



**Substitute teacher**  
Morgan Rowland

Rowland lived in New York before coming to Norwalk. She taught biology for four years as a full-time teacher.

“My family moved here too late to get a full-time position,” Rowland said.

Rowland prefers teaching high school science. She said she is “more experienced and high schoolers can understand jokes.”

She has been the long-term sub for science teacher Samantha Roberts, who is on maternity leave.

Rowland said she spends her free time taking care of her 8-year-old son and spends time with her husband.

“I really like working at Norwalk High School. Everyone’s been really nice,” she said.

Brent Peterson, husband of Spanish teacher Janet Peterson, talked about why he prefers substituting rather than becoming a full-time teacher.



**Substitute teacher**  
Brent Peterson

Peterson was a full-time teacher for one year, and said he just was not good enough because he could not discipline the students.

Peterson said he likes to substitute because he finds it to be enjoyable.

He subs for all grades except second grade. They are “too active,” he said.

He spends his free days working with his church and going shopping.

“It depends on what needs to be done that day,” Peterson said.

Logan Brucher just started subbing for Norwalk High School this year, but he plans to become a full-time teacher.

He graduated from Norwalk High School in 2013.

He said he likes to interact with the students and loves when the kids seem excited to learn something new.

Brucher prefers to work with 7th through 12th graders, because they are more “mature.”

He prefers teaching social studies because he is certified in it.

“I am getting ready to coach swim,” he said. Brucher also works at Norwalk Concrete.



**Substitute teacher**  
Logan Brucher



## Motto of the Issue

“It is what it is.”

- Senior Austin Norris

# Truckers succeed at driving competition

By Sydney Smith

Four students from Norwalk High School participated in an annual driving competition at Willard High School on Oct. 12 put on by AAA.

The competition is used to teach safe driving.

All the schools in Huron County are invited to participate. This year, there were six schools present.

“It’s a fun day, a very fun event,” Principal Brad Cooley said.

Senior Austin Brown won second place.

Brown thinks he was chosen for the competition because he has been working on a farm for his whole life. He also has been driving for two years.

“In all, I’m a good driver,” Brown said.

Students must complete a written test over driving rules, a visual perception test and a driving test. The driving test consists of parallel parking, turning corners, stopping drills and maneuverability.

The other contestants from NHS this year were seniors Lexi Gendron, Heaven Thompson and Kamryn Guerrier.

“I chose students who have a lot of driving experience,” Cooley said.

Brown said he would

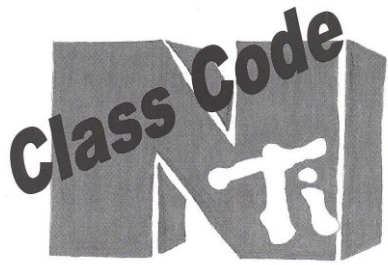
recommend

underclassmen to participate in the driving competition if they get the opportunity.



Submitted photo  
Principal Brad Cooley (left) and participants pose with their ice cream on their way back to the school.

“It was fun. [Mr.] Cooley even got us ice cream,” he said.



Photos and interviews by Sydney Smith

## What is your least favorite thing about our parking lot?



“When people can’t park right and the buses block the cars from turning.”  
Senior Kyle Prince



“Being surrounded by big cars and backing out after school.”  
Junior Megan Berry



“People taking parking spots.”  
Junior Lillie Beers



“When buses are parked and block the lanes.”  
Senior Alysha Ziemba



“People who do not pull up far enough into their parking spots.”  
Senior Gavin Blanton



“That we cannot paint the parking spots.”  
Junior Quinn Jaworski

## What’s in your locker?



Photo and interview by Ben Johnson

Senior Andrew Riley was willing to show the contents of his locker.

Riley’s locker contains a pair boxing gloves.

“You never know when stuff might go down,” he said.

His locker also contains Old Spice deodorant.

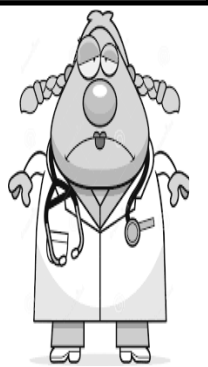
“I like to stay fresh,” he said.

He also has a stuffed animal, which was a birthday present from his girlfriend. He brings it home to sleep with.

Most important is Riley’s G-fuel

“I like massive gains, bro,” Riley said.

## Senioritis check-up



Interviews by Brenna Mock

### How’s your senior year going so far?

“At least I caught up on sleep when I wasn’t in school.”

-Karissa Conrad

“We spend twelve years stressing out and having mental breakdowns, all for a piece of paper and a handshake.”

-Abby Kessler

“Currently crying 25/8.”

-Owen Moore

“Only 129 days till graduation.”

-Carmen Krichbaum

“I haven’t done homework all year. Thank God for study hall.”

-Madison Duncan

“Sleep...who?”

-Emily Berry

## 10 things you didn’t know about me



Freshman Rebecca Shepherd

1. I have no full siblings.
2. I’m bad at math.
3. I have two dogs.
4. I play the flute.
5. I share an art account.
6. I draw (a lot).
7. I have a cat.
8. I like action games.
9. I hate most sports.
10. I have anxiety.



Photo by Jayda Ramos  
Senior Scarlett Krichbaum pulls senior Owen Moore while senior Brenna Mock intervenes.

# Norwalk graded C

Story and charts by JJ Hackenburg

Would you be satisfied with a C on your report card?

In a recent initiative by the State of Ohio, schools are receiving grades based on their yearly performance. Compared to schools across Ohio, Norwalk High School's performance for the 2017-2018 school year came out as average with an overall grade of C.

Principal Brad Cooley said he was not disappointed in Norwalk's score, and points to rising test scores as an important mark of progress. He believes it's important for each student to meet individual goals, as every student is at a different level.

"The biggest focus is on individual data," Cooley said.

Norwalk's score fell in the middle of the scores of other high schools in Huron County. Monroeville got a B, South Central a B, Western Reserve a C, New London a C, Willard a D, and Bellevue a D.

Schools were given subscores in six categories of performance, which were averaged together for one final score.

The first category is achievement, which measures how well students do on state tests. Norwalk scored a C in achievement. While only meeting the state's goal scores in four out of eight state tests, Norwalk outscored the state average on all eight tests.

High School	Grade
Monroeville	B
South Central	B
New London	C
Norwalk	C
Western Reserve	C
Bellevue	D
Willard	D

These are the scores given by the Ohio Department of Education to local high school in Huron County. Norwalk is in the middle with a C.

Cooley said better scores are always a goal, and scores have been rising for the past three years.

"Moving in the right direction is the most important factor," he added.

A new section of the achievement category also measures chronic absenteeism, which is defined as missing 10 percent or more of the school year for any reason. Listed as chronically absent are 15.5 percent of Norwalk High School students.

While this is a concern, Cooley says the new hours system imposed by the state brings down attendance numbers and that between warning letters, calls and home visits, school officials are doing the most they can to encourage attendance.

Graduation rate was Norwalk's strongest category. With a four-year graduation rate of 91.6 percent and a five-year rate of 97.1 percent, which are both over 7 percent greater than the state average, Norwalk received a B, just narrowly missing the mark for an A.

The third category is gap closing, in which Norwalk received a B. Gap closing is a measure of how well vulnerable students, such as

the economically disadvantaged or minorities, are performing compared to other students.

Though Norwalk did not have enough students to fill every category, and some students are a part of multiple categories, vulnerable students are exceeding expectations at the high school.

The State of Ohio gave Norwalk a D in the "prepared for success" category, which measures ACT and SAT participation and scores, as well as the percentage of students taking AP classes and receiving honors diplomas. In this category, 26.1 percent of the 2016 and 2017 graduating classes earned at least an 18 on English, 22 on math and a 21 on the reading sections of the ACT.

Cooley said this score is a result of the free ACT given by the state and the increased popularity of College Credit Plus (CCP) classes. Since most students are now taking the free ACT offered by the state, instead of only college-bound students taking it, scores are lower on average. More people opting for CCP over AP classes also takes away point from this category.

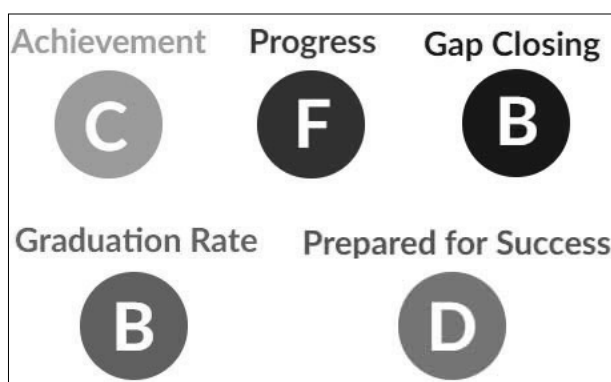
Norwalk's worst performance was in the progress category. Norwalk received an F for progress, which "measures growth of students based on their past performances" according Ohio's state report card website. The only available data indicates that Norwalk students have "made less progress than expected" in English and math.

The sixth category relates to kindergarten to third grade reading levels, which was not applicable to the high school.

One statistic to take into account is that Norwalk High School is performing as well as the state average while spending \$1,427 less per student than the average school in Ohio, according to Ohio's school report card website.

As of now, the state report card has no significant impact on the district, as it has no effect on any funding or benefits from the state, Cooley said.

*"Moving in the right direction is the most important factor."*  
-Principal Brad Cooley



These are the grades Norwalk High School received from the Ohio Department of Education in the five categories of performance which were rated.

## School Briefs



Photo by Leah Schuster

Seniors (from left) Madisyn Alt, Morgan Griffith and Kamryn Guerrier stand with the award and the 2017-2018 yearbook.

### Yearbook wins award for theme

By Madisyn Alt

The 2017-2018 yearbook staff got an award for the yearbook. That award is called the Gallery of Excellence.

"There are a lot of different qualifications to receive the award. We won because of theme," yearbook adviser Leah Schuster said.

The theme of the yearbook was "numbers." There are many different aspects throughout the book that portray numbers.

"Some of the pages and cover will be used online and the book will be given to other schools to use as examples," Schuster said.

### Blood Drive exceeds its goal

By Madisyn Alt

National Honor Society hosts blood drives throughout the year.

At the most recent blood drive, 24 pints of blood were collected. The goal was 22 pints.

"It is always good to meet or exceed goals," NHS adviser Nancy Gfell said.

"For every blood drive, we have a goal based on what is needed. Red Cross is very dependent on the donations the school makes," she added.

### Finance class switches to online

By Leighton Steele

Business teacher Drew Karnehm has recently switched his finance class to do all their work online.

The reason behind this is because of a lot of colleges do things online and he wants to help students develop the skills of independence and accountability.

It's called a flipped classroom.

A flipped classroom is where students do their own work on their own in the classroom or at home. But they're able to ask questions during class.

"It seems to be going well. The students are enjoying the independence," Karnehm said.

Karnehm is hoping to get all his classes like this in the future.

### NERD Nation starts its season

By Leighton Steele

The NERD Nation robotics season has started. There are 29 students in robotics this year. They are divided into six teams of four to five students per team.

Their expectation for the season are to build competitive robots, then win state and qualify for worlds, adviser Nate Whaley said.

They meet every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 3 to 5 p.m.

The first competition is Dec. 8.

Freshman Isabella Borgenson said her favorite thing about robotics is "programming because it's different."

Junior Joe Borgia explained why he does robotics.

"I feel like it will extend my thinking capabilities and help with future problem solving," he said.

### Musical chooses Barnum

By Savannah Grant-Bell

This year's musical is *Barnum*. Performances will be March 7 to 10.

The movie *The Greatest Showman* is the story of P.T. Barnum's life. *Barnum* is the musical stage show with the same story line.

Directors Robyn Rogers said she is certain that the musical will be a hit because of how popular the movie was, as well as the idea that people love the circus.

There will be 50 students in the cast. The show has a few lead roles that include solos: P.T. Barnum, Charity Barnum, Joyce Heth, Tom Thumb, Jenny Lind, and there are two more opportunities for big female solos. There will also be another very important male role "Ringmaster," Rogers said.

### Challenge team takes first place

By Lacey Tatum

The Firelands Challenge team topped New London and Lakota at their first match on Oct. 9. The first match led them to have the most points out of the three teams that were there.

Their second match was on Oct. 31 at Clyde. Nowalk came in first, topping Clyde and Edison.

There are six matches in the regular season and scores from all six are totaled.

The Firelands Challenge team practices three times a week before and after school, depending on the participants' schedule.

There are 11 students on the team, including three seniors. There are five new members.

"It's a good way to prove the intellectual intelligence of Norwalk. And I've done it for so long," said senior Jared Sitterly. He has been on the team since he was a sophomore.

This year's topics include government, current events, World War II, the Civil Rights era, music from the 1980s, sports figures and math.

"I feel that we will finish in the top half," said chemistry and physics teacher Angie Farmer, who advises the team.

# Book Club learns knitting

By Cale Ours

*Boys Don't Knit* is a story about a young delinquent by the name of Ben Fletcher who soon finds himself in deep water after stealing a bottle of alcohol and subsequently being caught by a crossing guard after he crashes his bike.

In order not to get in more trouble after being caught, Fletcher is forced to take up a hobby to keep him in line, and after finding out a teacher he has the hots for is running a knitting club, he joins.

Only to his surprise he is absolutely phenomenal at it, but he cannot let his rough and cool image be tarnished by such a girly hobby, so he must keep his new-found talents from his father, his



Photo by Cale Ours

The members of the Book Club and librarian Lucy Hokes look on as technology director Amie Swope demonstrates knitting. They did this in relation to the book they read, *Boys Don't Knit*.

ruffian friends and the girl of his dreams.

If that brief synopsis sounded interesting to you, then check out

the Book Club here at Norwalk High School.

Librarian Lucy Hokes has been working to increase reading and reading awareness throughout the school, including the addition of book reviews within the bathrooms.

She welcomes anyone who wants to join the Book Club with open arms, but new members must bring their own books.

That is because books were ordered in advance based on the number of students who signed up for the club. That number has increased from the original 26 to at least 30, so there are just not enough books for everyone who wishes to join. But students can get T.S. Easton's book for only \$9 on Google Books, and probably cheaper elsewhere.

# Karnehm's class proposes snacks

By Lacey Tatum

Drew Karnehm's entrepreneurship class is planning to open up a snack shop.

He hopes to have it open and starting business by the end of the first semester.

Karnehm predicts that the students in the class will realize how much work it takes to start and manage a business, and just because they have an idea, it takes

time and organization to make it a reality.

To open the shop, the students in his class first have to create a business plan with 15 segments. Then they have to present their plan to Karnehm, which is part of their grade and semester exam.

To officially have it open for the rest of the year, they have to present the plan to Principal Brad Cooley. If he approves of the plan, then they can open it.

If it opens, the students will be selling mainly

candy and chips.

"We didn't want to take away from the MH muffins and the Stomping Grounds drinks, so we

went for something more unique and different from the two," Karnehm said.

"It's a good addition to the school. The cafeteria doesn't sell good enough snacks and they are too pricey. No other place sells actual snacks," said junior Tyler Hall, a member of the class.

The shop will be located in Karnehm's room, 5212.

The prices will be around \$1, Karnehm said.

*"No other place sells actual snacks."*  
- Junior Tyler Hall

# Book reviews appear out of the blue



Photo by Cale Ours

Librarian Lucy Hokes changes the book review in the library bathroom. These reviews are posted in an attempt to increase reading awareness within the school.

By Cale Ours

A review is defined as an examination of a piece of media, whether it be a film, album, song or literary work, within a critical and formal format.

But one does not tend to stumble upon reviews unless they are on the Internet, reading a paper, or actively searching for others' opinions on a given work.

Well here comes Librarian Lucy Hokes to

help add a little daily critique into your lives.

The addition of book reviews in the bathrooms is a new venture to promote reading within the school, and all books featured in the reviews are current books ordered monthly by Hokes.

It keeps the reviews fresh and new, and keeping the books to ones within the library does not taunt anyone by showing them a great new book but no way of being able to obtain it here in the high school.

Every Friday, new reviews are added and older ones are moved around in order to keep what you see and read new and interesting, so hopefully if the last one didn't really catch your eye, or appeal to you in any given way, then the new one might just do so.

Hokes said she hopes to continue running this all year, for she finds the project to be fun and good for everyone.

# Snell's classes speak Spanish with natives

By Cesar Gonzalez

Learning a new language is hard, but to have a conversation in that new language might be a little harder.

Spanish teacher David Snell has provided a new way to teach the language, and that is to talk to native speakers.

"It's a new way that they can learn new information and also learn new words," Snell said.

There are many ways that a student can talk to native speakers including an app named Hello Talk, and talking to them in school or outside of school, including family members.

"They can also get out of their comfort zone," Snell said.

Students have mixed feelings about it.

"I don't like it because you embarrass yourself a lot when you don't know how to say certain things and can't use a translator," sophomore Garrison Smith said.

"It's okay," sophomore Nancy Sommers said, adding that she doesn't like the fact that she can barely have a conversation because she doesn't know what to say, and also that talking to strangers is scary.

Both Smith and Sommers said that it is time consuming and Smith mentioned it is nice to talk to actual people from other countries.

## Fact of the Issue

Sarah Josepha Hale, the writer of the nursery rhyme Mary Had a Little Lamb, convinced Abraham Lincoln to make Thanksgiving a national holiday in 1863.

- <http://www.intlstudent.org>



# Library charges cell phones, free of charge

By Micah Duncan

A solution to the problem of a dead phone has arrived at the NHS library.

The charging station has six ports with chargers available for both Apple and Android phones.

"All they [students] have to do is sign out the charger and they're good to go," said librarian Lucy Hokes.

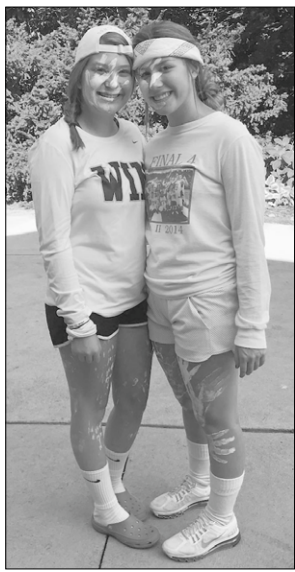
Students can go to the library at any time and sign out a charger using an old-fashioned library checkout card.

There is a concern that if students do not pay close enough attention to their phone, then it could be stolen, but it is very unlikely because a security camera is present to deter such actions, Hokes said.



Photo by Micah Duncan

This is the charging station that is now in the library. It can charge six phones at a time.



### Madisyn and Mascie



### Spirit Edition

By Mascie Horner and Madisyn Alt

Attending Friday night football games is fun, but dressing for the occasion makes it even more fun.

Every week, the student section has a different theme for students to follow. For example, week one against Mansfield Senior was a white out (see pictures above).

For those sitting in the student section who want to fit in, it's easy!

Things you wouldn't necessarily wear to school, you can wear to the football games.

Knee high socks, paint on your face and bandanas all bleed blue and gold and show your school spirit.

Here is a list of items found worn in the student section...

Knee high socks, face paint, bandanas, hats ranging from ball hats to fuzzy, funky hats, sunglasses and so much more!

Have fun at the Friday night games. School spirit is the best spirit!

### App of the issue

## Fortnite: Great way to spend free time

By Micah Duncan

Fortnite is a free battle royale game released by Epic Games.

This interactive game is available on both Apple and Android phones, and is compatible to play with the PC and console versions of the game.

The game starts on the battle bus with 100 players having to dive to a certain spot on the map.

As a solo player, in a duo match or as a squad, the goal is to eliminate all other players to earn the Victory Royale.



This game features many weapons to choose from, with the ability to build to defend from attackers.

It is a great way to spend some free time.

The app is rated 4.6 out of five stars on the Apple App Store.

### Video game review

## Black Ops 4 is 'fire'

By Ben Johnson

Black Ops 4 is the latest entry in the long running sub-series of first person shooters. Black Ops 4 includes three main types of game modes for those willing to try them out. The game modes include zombies, multiplayer and Call of Duty's first ever battle royale, called Blackout. In previous years, the Call of Duty franchise has included a campaign mode in every Call of Duty, but Black Ops 4 did not receive one.

"Black Ops 4 was meant to be a multiplayer game and the campaign was just not part of our plan. We started from a place that we were going to make a game that across the board can be playable with friends. That's been our mission from day one," Treyarch's design director, David Vonderhaar, said at his website.

The primary purpose of a campaign mode is to set the game's story and timeline which was always enjoyable to me. I originally was upset by Treyarch's decision, but after seeing how much work Treyarch put in the multiplayer, zombies, and battle royale modes is truly amazing and makes for a unique game. Anyone who has second thoughts on whether the game is trash or fire, I can strongly say it's fire and the individual should definitely consider buying the game.



## Artist of the Issue



Photo by Madisyn Alt

Sophomore Nancy Sommers works on a project during her 7<sup>th</sup> period painting class. Sommers said that her favorite piece of art she has made is a drawing of a s'more in freshman year drawing class. Sommers enjoys painting in her free time at home and enjoys being able to show what she is good at with her different art techniques. After high school, she plans on doing something in the art field, and could see herself being an interior designer.

## Unusual Pet of the Issue



By Madisyn Alt

Name: Alexa Jones  
Grade: 10th  
Type of pet: Sugar gliders (I have 7)

**Why did you get this pet?** They are unique and very cute in my opinion.

**How long have you had this pet?** About two years.

**Where did you get this pet?** I got two from a breeder (Eubee and Ethal). About six months

**Pets' names:** Ubee, Ethal, Eebu, Arlo, Davi and two babies.

**What kind of pet is it?** They are not rodents; they are related to kangaroos, koalas and wallabies. They are marsupials.

later, I rescued two older brothers. Ethal and Ubee had two babies in May. I named one Eebu (Ubee backwards) and the other one I gave to my grandma. They then had two new babies recently.

**What does it eat?** They eat a large variety of fruits and veggies and they eat meal worms.

**Care required?** They have a hard diet. They will not eat the same food every night. It is very easy to clean their cage because they use the restroom in the same spot. They will not use the restroom where they sleep.

**\*\*If you or someone you know has an unusual pet, contact Madisyn Alt (19altma@norwalklearns.org)\*\***

## Junk of the Month

By Madisyn Alt

Name: Lexi Gendron  
Grade: 12  
Type of car and year: 2003 Pontiac Grand AM  
**Is this your first car/how long have you had it?** This is my first car. I've had it for two years.  
**Did you buy it yourself/how much did it cost?** My parents bought it. I don't know how much it was.  
**Do you have a name for your car?** Polly the Ponny.

**What is the strangest thing you can find in it?** I actually just cleaned it out but I have a lot of blankets in my trunk lol.

**What makes it junk?** I love my car; it's great but one time the muffler fell off.

**Most embarrassing or funny story involving the car:** It used to stall/shut off while I was driving and my friends would always freak out.

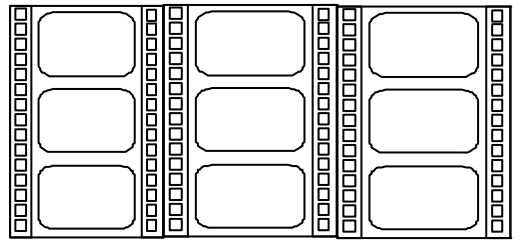
**If you could get any car you wanted, what would it be?** A Ferrari. Those cars are cool, although mine is pretty much the same thing.





## Cale's Cinema Corner

# Lights, Camera, Color



By Cale Ours



Most people tend to disregard color in film, which is disheartening considering

how much can be added by using color. Not just in an aesthetic sense, but color can add to the tone of a scene, the overall composition of a shot, and even add another layer of symbolism to a film or moment.

Many believe that the first film in color was 1939's *The Wizard of Oz*. It's not, but it was one of the first films to take advantage of the film coloring technology, technicolor, and use it in more overt ways.

A film like 1925's *Ben-Hur: A Tale of the Christ* is a technicolor film, which was a three reel film coloring system that used primary color based film negatives that were then dyed in their complementary colors to produce bright and vibrant tones. But it does not use its color in the same way that *The Wizard of Oz* did.

That explains why a film with color that existed almost 14 years prior isn't the first thing you think of regarding film in color.

You'd think that given the vast leaps and bounds in technology we would have even more big budget films using color in amazing and new, interesting ways to help elevate films, but that rarely tends to be the case.

Nowadays you would have to fly more closely towards the indie scene with films like Wes Anderson's or 2018's *Mandy* by Panos Cosmatos.

Television tends to also have a few interesting shows here and there that use color to its fullest capacity, one of the most notable being the 2013 Channel 4 series *Utopia*, which uses color in almost every scene to establish a unique tone and give most shots an artistic and almost comic-esque value.

One of the biggest reasons color isn't a bigger aspect in film and television today is costs and not wanting to "waste money," which is sad, considering how much can be elevated using color.

## Movie Review

# Mama, just disappointed my fans

By Cale Ours

*Bohemian Rhapsody* turned out surprisingly well for the eight years it roughly spent in development limbo.

Although I would not describe it as inherently great. The film is too focused on hitting large key moments in the story of Queen and its lead singer Freddie Mercury that it lets so many aspects of their story fall to the wayside and it leaves Mercury as being the only character with any real depth.

Mercury is one of the few reasons I would recommend anyone seeing it. I am a large proponent

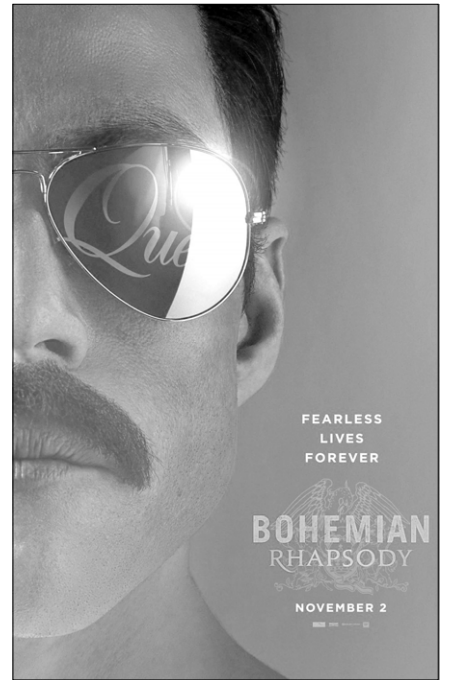
of the initial casting of Sacha Baron Cohen as Mercury and I greatly disdain his departure from the film over creative differences with the way the Queen band members wanted to paint themselves within the prior incarnation of the film. But Rami Malek's performance as Mercury is just on another level.

Malek perfectly captures the flaunt and prance of Mercury's larger than life rock god persona that they are trying to portray in the film. It might not be very true to life but it works within the film. It saddens me to see a great performance placed within a sub

par, poorly paced, blandly directed Brian Singer film.

It also doesn't help that a lot of the music doesn't mesh well. It feels more like a jukebox musical that is using Queen's songs instead of the actors portraying the band members actually writing and performing the music. The only convincing sequence is the Live Aid performance at the end of the film.

Any general fan of Queen would enjoy this film, but more dedicated fans who are more educated in the band and their history may be disappointed in the lack of depth in the telling of Queen's history.



## Trunk or Treat

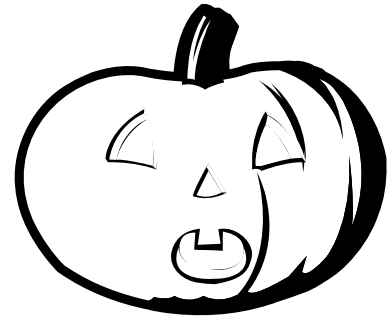
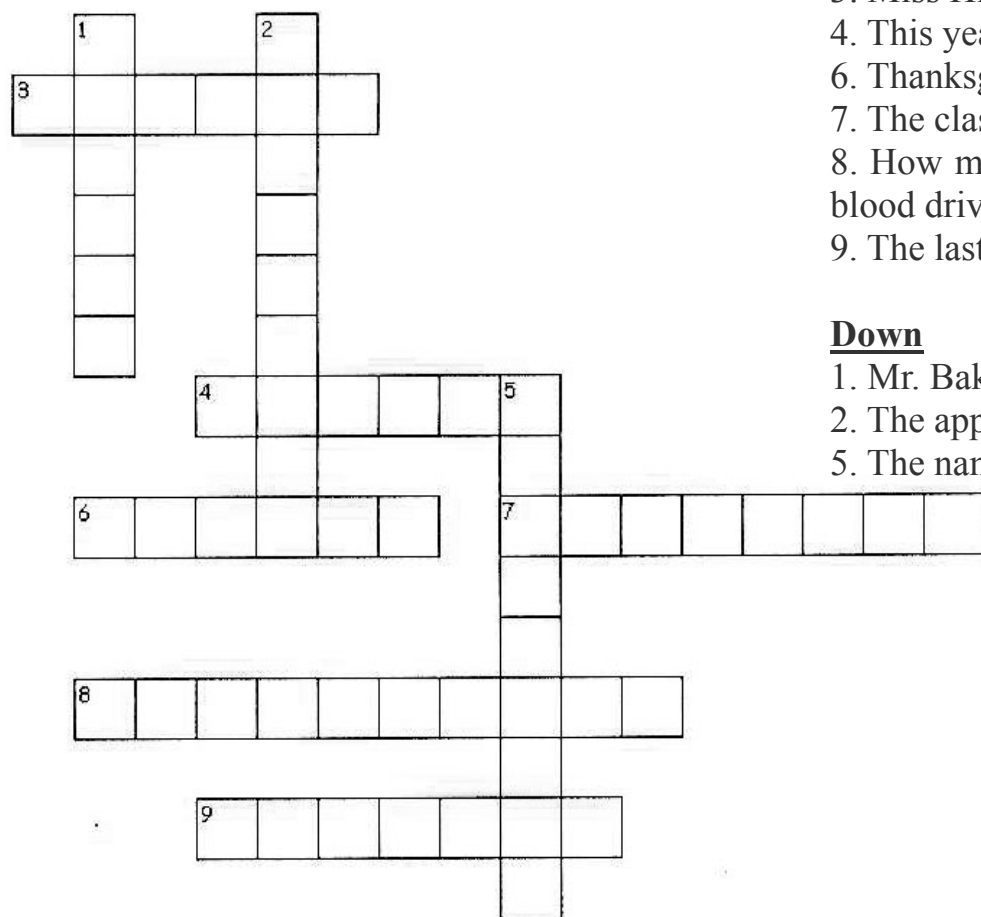


Photo by Madisyn Alt

**Trunk or Treat** was held in the high school parking lot on Oct. 28. Clubs and organizations decorated vehicles during the rainy day. Trunk or Treat is an event for kids to trick or treat during the day.

## Test your knowledge



### Across

3. Miss Hipp's new last name
4. This year's musical
6. Thanksgiving animal
7. The class that won the Gallery of Excellence award
8. How many pints of blood were collected at the most recent blood drive?
9. The last name of the state cross country qualifier

### Down

1. Mr. Baker's hobby
2. The app kids in Spanish class use
5. The name of the ship the Pilgrims came in



Photo by Madisyn Alt

Entertainment Editor Cesar Gonzalez awards freshman Imani Coleman with a Stomping Grounds gift certificate for winning last issue's crossword puzzle contest, while Spanish teacher Janet Peterson looks on.

**Complete the crossword puzzle to win a Stomping Grounds gift card! Place the completed puzzle in the box at lunch for a chance to win!**

# Teachers love Thanksgiving

Photos and interviews by Laila Bussert



**Leah Schuster**

**Do you like Thanksgiving?** Yes, because I get to see my family and eat a lot of food.

**What is your favorite Thanksgiving dish?** Pretty much anything besides that cranberry garbage.

**Do you have any Thanksgiving traditions?** No, I mean, I really don't...Is eating food a tradition? Idk.

**Do you make any dishes for Thanksgiving?** I've been known to make a few dishes.

**What is it?** Fancy sweet potatoes.

**Where do you go for the Thanksgiving meal?** I go to my mom's house, my mother-in-law's house and then leftovers at my house.



**Melanie Zerman**

**Do you like Thanksgiving?** I love Thanksgiving. It's my favorite holiday. You get to be with family, eat a lot of food, and not have to worry about gifts...That's why I hate Christmas.

**What is your favorite Thanksgiving dish?** Green bean casserole.

**Do you have any Thanksgiving traditions?** We don't, really, other than eat a bunch of food and watch football.

**Do you make any dishes for Thanksgiving?** I make taco salad.

**Where do you go for the Thanksgiving meal?** Actually this year I'm hosting.



**Carissa Olsen**

**Do you like Thanksgiving?** Yes. I don't like it for the food, I like it for spending time with my family.

**What is your favorite Thanksgiving dish?** Stuffing...P.S. I don't even like turkey.

**Do you have any Thanksgiving traditions?** No.

**Do you make any dishes for Thanksgiving?** Nothing...My husband makes pumpkin pie.

**Where do you go for the Thanksgiving meal?** To my in-laws'.



**Dustin Baker**

**Do you like Thanksgiving?** Yes because with all the different foods associated with the holidays, Thanksgiving food is my favorite food.

**What is your favorite Thanksgiving dish?** Stuffing.

**Do you have any Thanksgiving traditions?** Wearing comfy clothes because you know you are going to overeat.

**Do you make any dishes for Thanksgiving?** My mom has really good mashed potatoes. My wife and I make twice-baked cauliflower.

**Where do you go for the Thanksgiving meal?** My in-laws' house.



## Eyes on Thanksgiving snacks

By Savannah Grant-Bell

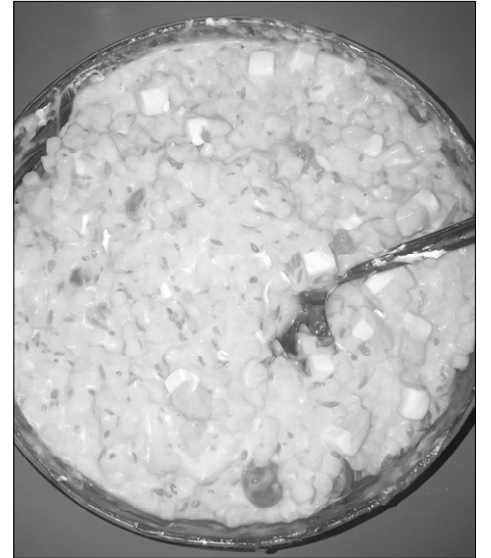
**Ingredients:**

- 1 cup white sugar
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 2 ½ teaspoons salt
- 1 ¾ cups unsweetened pineapple juice
- 2 eggs (beaten)
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 3 quarts water
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1 (16 ounce) package acini de pepe pasta
- 3 cans mandarin oranges
- 2 cans pineapple tidbits (drained)
- 1 can pineapple (crushed, drained)
- 1 container (8 ounce) frozen whipped topping, thawed

It's that time of the year again -- holiday season. Families from all over the United States have dearly beloved family recipes for the holidays, especially for Thanksgiving. Here is a new recipe to surprise your family for Thanksgiving. The recipe is called Frog Eye Salad.

**Directions:**

1. In a saucepan, combine sugar, flour, ½ teaspoon salt, pineapple juice and eggs. Stir and cook over medium heat until thickened. Remove from heat; add lemon juice and cool to room temperature.
2. Bring water to a boil, add oil, remaining salt and cook pasta until al dente. Rinse under cold water and drain.
3. In a large bowl, combine the pasta, egg mixture, mandarin oranges, pineapple and whipped topping. Mix well and refrigerate overnight or until chilled. Before serving add marshmallows and coconut. Toss and serve.
4. \*\*\*Preparing and cooking as a whole took roughly an hour and a half. \*\*\*



The finished product tasted phenomenal and is highly recommended.

## Students shine in BG Honor Band

By Brenna Mock

Two students are participating in Bowling Green State University's Honor Band.

Band director Will Kish nominated sophomores Noelle Jackson and Hunter Klein after they requested his recommendation.

"They asked to be nominated, so I nominated them to Bowling Green. Bowling Green then picked them," Kish said.

Honor Band consists of students from around Ohio, Michigan and Indiana.

"Students give information about colleges they're interested in and I see if they have an honor band," Kish said.

Jackson has been playing the flute since the sixth grade.

"It's really fun," she said. "I'm enjoying the presence of others that love band from other schools."

Klein, who has played percussion since the seventh grade, also enjoys playing in the band.

"It feels great to go up to the Honor Band to play music," he said.

Both students want to continue music in college.

The band practices at Bowling Green State University on Nov. 15 through 17.

## Art, band students travel to New York

By Leighton Steele

Approximately 87 band and art students are heading for New York City March 17-20.

They will learn from professional performers, do a workshop, and see the Statue of Liberty, a museum, and take a guided tour.

"It's a good experience -- for them, for the teachers, just for everyone," band teacher Will Kish said.

Students are looking forward to the trip.

"Yeah, I'm excited. I haven't been out of state -- it's going to be a great experience," sophomore Josh Nelson said.

"I want to travel and experience new things," junior Lucas Braker said.

New York was chosen because it's not too far away and it won't take more than a day to get there. It also has a variety of cultures, Kish said.

They're taking two buses to get there. They are doing a couple of fundraisers to lower the overall cost.

## Students eager to see Cinderella at Playhouse

By Keeanne Steele

The Select and Concert choirs are going to see *Cinderella* at Playhouse Square on Jan. 17. The show starts at 7 p.m. Students are expected to be at the high school between 5 and 5:30 p.m. There are ninety-four students going on this trip.

"We are happy that Mrs. Mason is giving us this opportunity," freshman Allie Steffanni said. Freshman Morgan Cummings agreed.

"It's going to be awesome," junior Alyssa Pheifer said.



# Truckers continue to 'RISE UP'

By Mascie Horner

One more win for the Trucker football team tonight, and it's on to the final four in the Division Three Ohio State High School football playoffs.

The Truckers topped the Rocky River Pirates last Friday (Nov. 9) in North Ridgeville with a final score of 56-7 to move on to the next round.

Touchdowns were scored by senior Trevon Raymore, juniors Evan Stumpf and Alec Maloney and sophomore Garrett Chapin.

The Truckers will face SBC rival Sandusky tonight at Bellevue High School for a regional championship title. The winner will advance to the final four next week. Senior Caleb Robinson has high hopes for a positive outcome, but knows it will take hard work.

"We have to stop Terion [Stewart] (Sandusky's running back) and stop the runs and the pass play," Robinson said. If they take care of these things, he thinks they will earn themselves a spot in the final four.

Norwalk beat Sandusky in the regular season (Oct. 5) at Strobel Field with a final score of 52-35. On that night, Raymore had a record-breaking game, as he ran 40 times for 407 yards and six touchdowns.

As the Truckers continue their long season, this is something that is new to the program. This is the team's first ever week 13 and third playoff game in a single season.

Junior Ryan Sowders said that making it this far means a lot to both him and the rest of his team.

"We're all super proud and want to keep going as far as we can," Sowders said.

The Truckers won a state title (AA) in 1974, but have made the playoffs only one other time since then.



Submitted photo

The student section yells for the team in their Christmas wear which was the theme for Friday night's game against Rocky River.

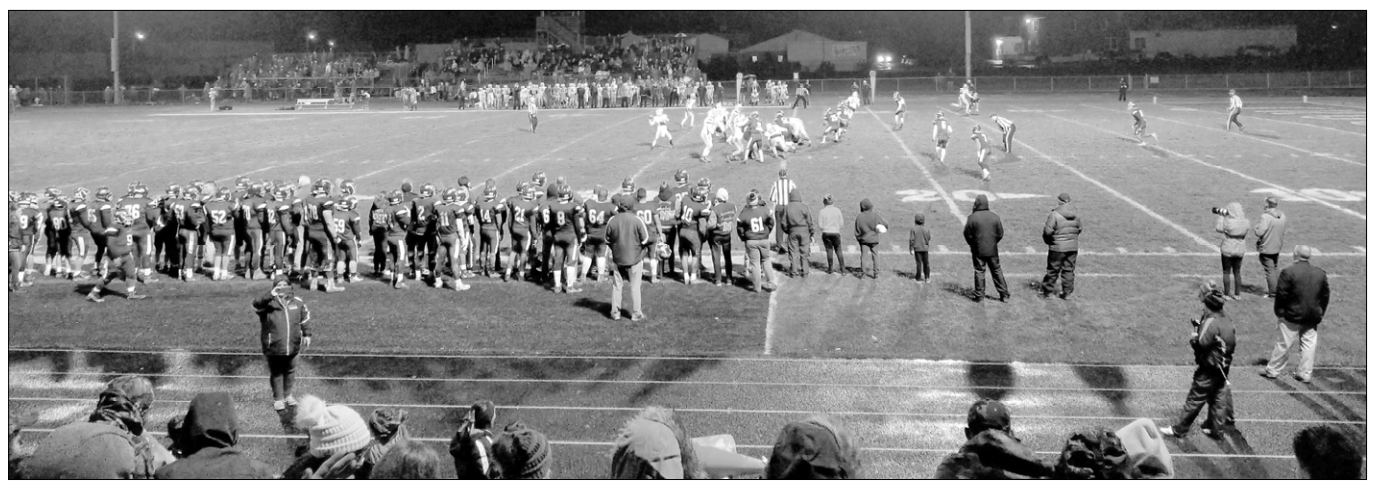


Photo by Evan Gaston

The Norwalk Truckers played against Bowling Green High School for their first round of playoffs. The rest of the team and community watch the team beat the Bobcats.

## Where are they now?

# From NHS to EMU: Breck Turner labels transition 'eye-opening'

By Breck Turner, NHS Class of 2015

I am still attending Eastern Michigan University where I was offered a full ride to play football and get my education paid for. I am majoring in Sports Management and getting my minor in Communications. I am undecided about an occupation but am excited about exploring the many options that will be available when I graduate.

Making the transition from high school academics, sports and life to college academics, sports and life was an eye-opening, humbling experience. I am still playing football and I am grateful for that opportunity. I am surrounded each day by some of the best athletes from all over the country and other countries.

I have learned there is much more to life than just playing

sports and making good grades. While being part of the football team, I have had the opportunity to do a great amount of volunteer work.

Our football team visits elementary schools to read to young students, visits sick children in area hospitals and has helped build a home via a partnership with Hab-



Submitted photo

Breck Turner runs the football for Eastern Michigan University in a game earlier this year.

itat for Humanity. I have traveled all over the country and to the Bahamas for a bowl game during the 2016 season. While in the Bahamas, we visited children in area orphanages and spent

the day teaching them about the game of football.

I would say that some of my goals have remained the same but I have added new goals, one goal

being that each and every day I become a better version of myself than I was the day before. Also, to be able to pay forward all that I am learning at Eastern Michigan as a student and as a football player.

My faith has grown stronger and I am glad to be part of a group, AIA, Athletes In Action. This is a Christian-based group for student athletes.

As for my football records, those were made to be broken. Trevon Raymore is an excellent athlete and I am happy for the fact that he has had an outstanding senior year. His hard work has paid off with the efforts he has given to help the team have a great year and in his record-breaking game. I applaud the NHS football team for the successful season they are having and wish them luck in the playoffs.



## New era, new records set by football players

By Kristina Toczek

This year's football team has made a name for itself, including a few select varsity players. Three record breakers are seniors Trevon Raymore and Kaden Livingston and junior Ryan Sowders.

Sowders and Raymore were recognized specifically after the win against the Sandusky Blue Streaks.

Raymore beat Breck Turner's rushing yards record with his 407 yard count from the game. He shares the record for most points (36) and most touchdowns (6) in one game with Dustin Crabtree who set it in 2011.

Photo by Kristina Toczek

Senior Kaden Livingston catches a pass from his teammate during practice. "I know our goal as a team is to keep winning and make history," Livingston said.

"I felt great after breaking the record and I plan on breaking others if I can. I want to play in college," Raymore said.

Sowders made three interceptions and he now shares the record with Craig Colvin who set it in 1978, Mark Carstense in 1981 and Keith Malson in 1995. For his individual season, Sowders holds the record for most interceptions which is eight.

"I was happy and excited. I always try to be the best player I can be," Sowders said.

Livingston is currently fifth in the state with another player from Jamestown Greenview High School for their total of six blocked kicks.

"It's pretty cool to be on a top five list but I know our goal as a team is to keep winning and make history," Livingston said.

# Teams are SBC champs

## Girls' Tennis



Submitted photo

The girls' tennis team surrounds their two seniors, Jordan Gran and Sela Berry, as they are honored with their SBC championship trophy at Whitney Field during the football game.

By Mascie Horner

The girls' tennis team added yet another SBC championship to their previous six titles, that including NOL titles.

The team went undefeated (12-0) in the Lake Division against six other schools.

Head Coach Chris Higgins said that Clyde and Perkins were the team's toughest competition.

Last season, the team finished in second place and knew

they had a good chance to compete for a league title this year since they were older and more experienced.

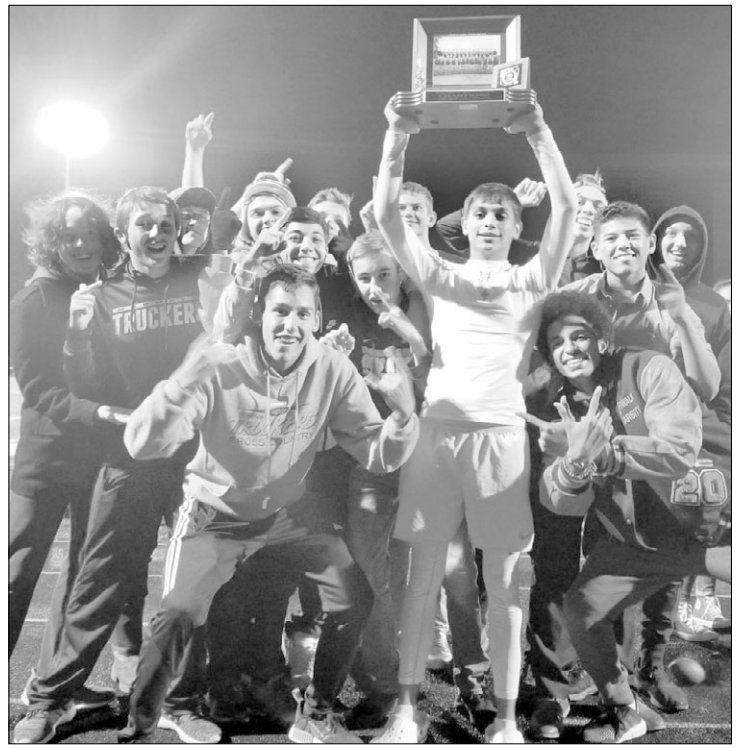
"Starting at the beginning of summer, we made it our overall team goal to win the league," Higgins said. The team stuck to the plan and achieved their goal.

Higgins added that it takes a lot of hard work to win a conference title.

By Mascie Horner

## Boys' Cross Country

The boys' cross country team fell short of an SBC title in the conference's opening year, but was able to earn a first place finish this year. The team finished in fourth place to earn a spot at the regional meet, but ended their season after they ran at regionals. Senior Ben Johnson said Shelby was once the team's biggest rival.



Submitted photo

Senior Bobby Vazquez holds up the boys' cross country SBC championship trophy as his teammates surround him. The boys were honored with their award at Whitney Field during the football game.

## Girls' Soccer



Submitted photo

The girls' soccer team stands and smiles with their SBC championship trophy at Whitney Field during the football game. After losing many seniors last season, the team clinched first place for the second year in a row.

By Mascie Horner

As we conclude our fall sport season in only the second year of being in the SBC, the girls' soccer team sits at the top of being back to back SBC champions.

The team finished with a conference record of 8-0, with their biggest competitor being Perkins.

Head Coach Michelle Sandor said they were not sure how

this season would end up in the beginning since they lost many seniors and earning a title would be much more of a challenge.

*"Our players showed determination and teamwork."*

- Coach Michelle Sandor

"Our players showed determination and teamwork," Sandor said.

She also added that her team was a

great group of girls who got along and worked well together.

"The team worked hard and improved a lot throughout the season," Sandor added.

## A Day In The Life

# Athletic Director deserves thanks

By Evan Gaston

Being an Athletic Director is in no way a nine to five job.

I have always known AD Josh Schlotterer to be a hard worker, but never realized how much he does for our school. Some people just know him as the guy who schedules the sports games and buys new equipment for our teams. He does much more than that. Some nights he does not get home until about 10:30 at night because he is working.

I had the opportunity to shadow him on the Friday of a home Norwalk football game. I got to see what is involved in setting up a smooth running event. With that game being a playoff game that Norwalk was hosting, he had more responsibilities than normal.

Schlotterer is in charge of a lot of small details that people wouldn't expect him to be. The entrance tickets had to be documented for OHSAA to get a proper head count for attendance. He also prepped and placed the till at each entrance.

Pop up shades had to be transported to the field for ticket sale stations. All day he was in constant contact with officials and coaches to make sure everything was set up correctly. Also for volleyball games he is in charge of

finding people to set up the nets, announcers table and to set out chairs for the teams. He gets help from a lot of people to make his job go easier.

Schlotterer went to Norwalk High School and played football, basketball and baseball. He graduated in 1999. He then went to Bowling Green College for his bachelor's degree in early childhood education for two and a half years. He went back and got his master's degree in administration. Being an AD is a weird position in a high school because it requires an administrator license through the state. After he was out of college, Schlotterer coached Norwalk freshman basketball and middle school football.

Some of the biggest helpers to Schlotterer are Hayley Corso (athletic trainer), Steve Gray (head basketball coach), Chris Higgins (math teacher) and Eric Mozina (announcer). Corso has a very time-consuming job working at both the hospital and being the athletic trainer for Norwalk. She makes sure the athletes are healthy and have what they need.

Gray is Schlotterer's assistant and claims he is everyone's "gofer." He said he enjoys helping out and being at the games. Higgins does the technical side of



Photo by Evan Gaston

Josh Schlotterer, the athletic director, poses in his office with two of the SBC champion trophies earned by the girls' tennis and girls' soccer teams.

things at the sports games. He is in charge of having the ads play and also the music for warm ups and for breaks. Mozina announces both the volleyball and basketball games. Schlotterer is very thankful for all the help he gets and says that it takes a team of

people to get the job done and his team does it very well.

Our school should be very thankful that we have such a good AD who is great at what he does. Next time you see him in the hallway, take a second and thank him for all that he does for our sports, because he sure deserves it.

## New display being placed in athletic hallway

By Micah Duncan

The athletic hallway will soon be integrating technology with the Hall of Fame.

A new display is being placed into the athletic hallway to act as a virtual hall of fame.

"It will include sports records, current season statistics and a running Twitter feed," Athletic Director Josh Schlotterer said.

It will also hold a record of all the Academic All-Ohio winners.

The display will be an interactive touch screen that will come

in either a 70-inch or 55-inch display.

"We are still trying to decide which will work better due to costs," Schlotterer said.

It will also include decorations around it including pictures of sports teams.

This will be replacing the record boards that are currently out in the hallway.

The display is expected to be completed sometime during the winter season.

# Winter Sports Preview

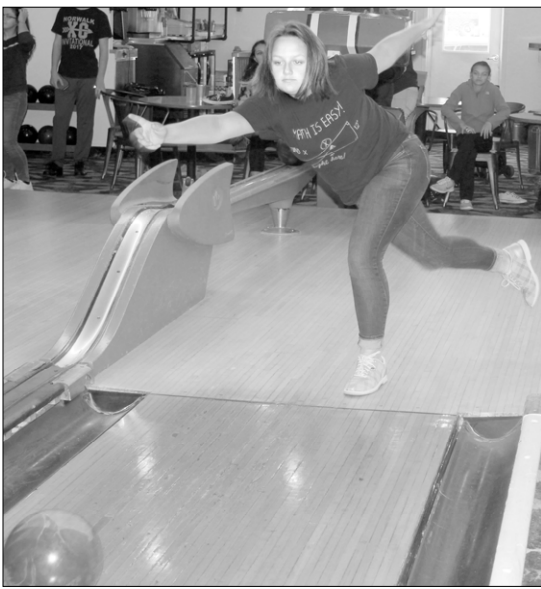


Photo by Keeanne Steele

**Junior Megan Sage** takes her shot for a possible strike. “It’s going to be a fun season. We have one senior this year and the rest are underclassmen so it’s going to be a good time for character development,” Coach Ray Scheid said.



Photo by Keeanne Steele

**Sophomore Brendan Hipp** throws the ball down the lane during practice. “We are aiming high. We had five graduates last year. We have two returning seniors and we are shooting to be the team everyone in the league will be chasing. We definitely have boys capable of moving on to Districts and beyond. We are looking for an exciting season, Home matches are moved from Thursdays to Fridays this year, so Fridays at 4:00 come on down to Kenilee Lanes watch some JV/Varsity Bowling and then follow it up with Norwalk basketball on Fridays throughout the winter season,” Coach Wade said.



Photo by Olivia Schaffer

**Junior Elyse Coe** prepares to dive off the block during time trials at swim practice on Nov. 1. “My expectations for the season are for everyone to improve on times from last year and to develop the younger team coming up,” Head Coach Erin Canon said.



Photo by Ben Johnson

**Senior Mascie Horner** dribbles the ball past a New Reigel defender as her teammate, freshman Lana Oglesby watches. “We are a very young team and very inexperienced; however, we have a very hard-working group. Our goal is to just get better every day,” Coach Brock Manlet said.

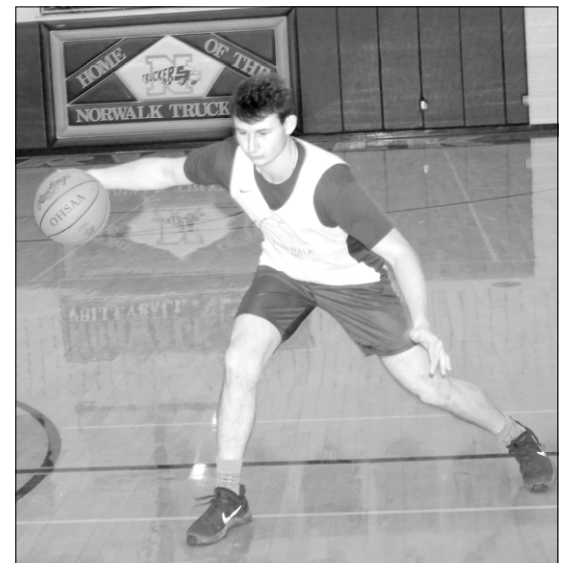


Photo by Ben Johnson

**Senior Austin Brown** practices his crossovers. “I think we have a chance to be real good — as long as the players make good decisions on and off the court, and just as important, they stay healthy,” Coach Steve Gray said.



## State placers ready for another appearance

By Sydney Smith

The Norwalk Wrestling Team has three state wrestlers returning to the team this year.

Junior Ethan Hernandez placed third at State last year and expects to return to state again.

“I have high expectations for myself and for my team. I can be the top dog this year,” Hernandez said.

Hernandez said that he believes that Norwalk will be the team to beat in the Sandusky Bay Conference.

“We’re gonna have the strongest lineup Norwalk has seen in years and we have a great chance to do something big,” Hernandez said.

Hernandez said his goal is to win State this year. He said he

believes that with the help of his coaches, he will be prepared for the competition.

Hernandez and Phillips said they’re excited to work with Coach

Chris Phillips. He is a four-time State Champion from Monroeville High School.

“He knows so much; learning from him every day will be the



Photo by Kiersten Phillips

**Juniors Gabe Phillips, Alec Maloney** and Ethan Hernandez hug each other after qualifying for state last year.

Competition. He said he expects to end up on the podium at the end of the year.

“I also hope that, as a team, we make it to state duals. We will

do more damage as a team,” Maloney said.

Maloney said he feels that he has a decent chance of making it out to State. Maloney plans to prepare for State by being confident and working hard in the wrestling room.

Junior Gabe Phillips placed sixth at state last year. Phillips said he hopes to be going again.

“If we work hard enough, everyone should go, we have the chance to go pretty far,” Phillips said.

Phillips said he hopes to see the team make it to the Final Eight State Duals. He is also hopeful for someone on the team to become a state champ, if not multiple people.

## Norwalk cheerleaders take on first competition

By Jayda Ramos

The cheerleaders have been practicing since the beginning of summer for the competition.

They practice once a week for at least two to three hours.

“Once competition is closer, the girls will practice more often than normal,” said cheer coach Steffany Osborn.

Osborn has two main goals for this year.

One goal is making it to state. “I’m hoping to make it to state again. This would be our third year in a row,” Osborn said.

She also hopes the girls will improve.

“I would like them to improve as a team, but also to improve individually,” she said.

“The girls are skillful and strong when it comes to working together. We have a really good athletic team,” said Osborn.

The first competition was Nov. 10, and the Trucker team placed second out of four teams in the large varsity category. The other teams were Clay, Whitmer and Start.

“I am very proud of my team. After losing to Clay and Whitmer for the past couple years and then beating them both this year, it was a great accomplishment for us. I can’t wait to see how well the rest of the season goes,” senior Maria Rodriguez said.

## Recognizing 2019 seniors for football season



Photo by Leighton Steele

**Senior night** was held Oct. 19 at Whitney Field for cheerleaders, football players and band members to honor their senior year. Pictured here are the NHS band members. The game ended with a lap around the track with the whole class of 2019 as their song played, which was “Good Old Days” by Macklemore ft. Kesha.

# Halloween haunts at NHS



Submitted photo

**Teachers (top from left) Alyana Tuttle, Becky Molnar, Jennifer Lark, senior Owen Moore, teachers Tracy VanBuskirk, Carissa Olsen, and Cari Beers with senior (bottom left) Sarah Downing, junior Carissa Link, seniors Callista Link, Carmen Krichbaum, Emily Berry, junior Catherine Schnellinger, and senior Scarlett Krichbaum as Snow White and the seven dwarves.**



Photo by Brenna Mock

**Seniors (from left) Alexis Gendron, Alyssa Faley, Kristina Toczek and Alyssa Walsh as Pigs in a Blanket.**



Photo by Brenna Mock

**Junior Janel Norman as an inflatable T-Rex.**



Submitted photo

**Sophomore Madsion Shutt as Taco Belle.**



Photo by Brenna Mock

**Teacher Drew Karnehm as a penguin.**



Photo by Brenna Mock

**Sophomore Emma Laughlin as Netflix and Chill along with other sophomore Lexey Bleile with face paint.**

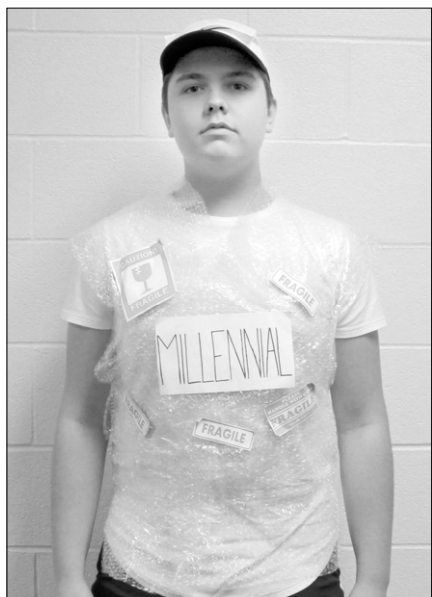


Photo by Brenna Mock

**Junior Colin Bement as a fragile millennial.**



Photo by Brenna Mock

**Seniors (from left) Abigail Kessler, Ilaya Edington, Tyson Tornichio, Rachel Lamb, Caitlyn Duncan and Madison Duncan on Halloween.**

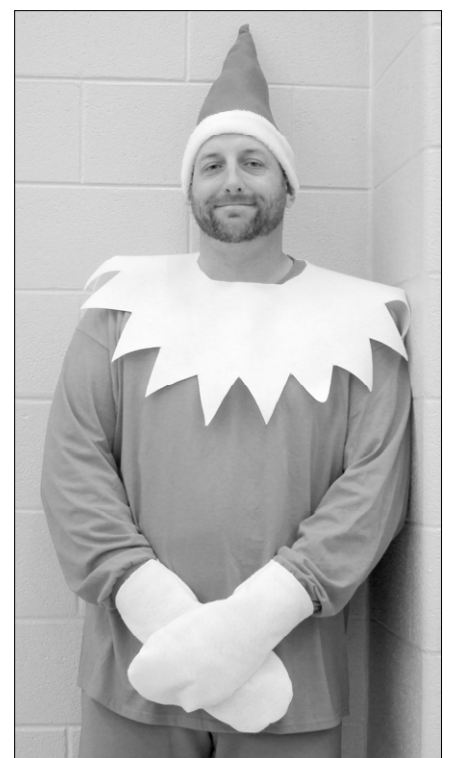


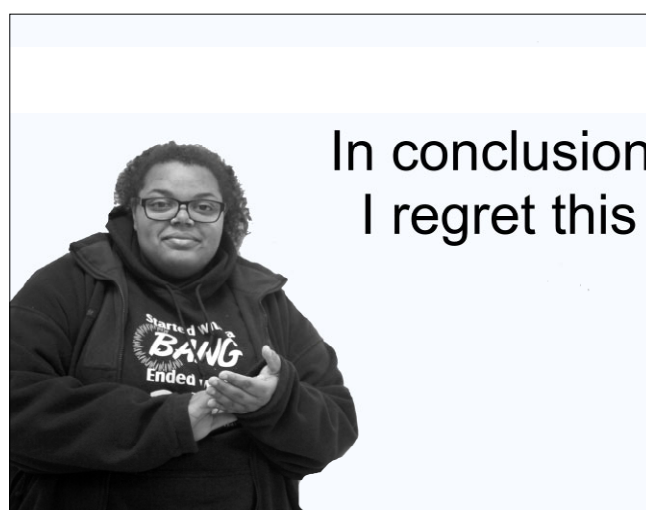
Photo by Brenna Mock

**Teacher Chris Jackson as an elf on the shelf.**

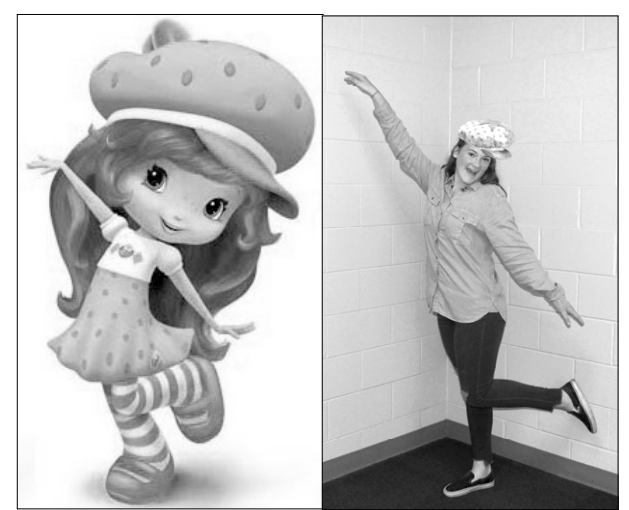
# Thankful for Trucker Memes



**Senior Christian Warner  
When your last football practice before Thanksgiving ends**



**Senior Macy Love  
Trying to look cute for Halloween but the wind chill is below freezing**



**Freshman Kathryn Ott  
Remember Strawberry Shortcake? This is her now. Feel old yet?**



**FCS Teacher Mrs. Majoy  
Forgot your container again? Bon appe-D+**



**Freshman Abby Hart  
Waking up from your Thanksgiving nap and realizing you missed all the Black Friday sales**



**Junior Wyatt Brown  
When you successfully finish your fifth plate of mashed potatoes at Thanksgiving**

By Kristina Toczek