

NHS artists to state

By Brenna Mock

Two Norwalk High School students won at the Ohio Governor's Youth Art Exhibition: the first state winners from NHS since 2016.

Seniors Petra Montana and Sophia Ward will have their art featured in the exhibition in Columbus.

Regional judging took place on March 2 and state judging took place on March 9 at Hilliard Davidson High School.

Artwork by 11,500 students from 1,112 schools was submitted. From there it was narrowed down to 2,500 students at the regional judging. Three hundred students' art pieces were chosen to be a part of the exhibit at the final stage, including Montana and Ward.

NHS submitted 33 pieces of art from 22 students. Regional winners were sophomores Sevanna Keegan, Kara Mosser, Tracy Silcox and Nancy Sommers; juniors Dylan Castle, Devin Dellinger, Bree McGlaston, Angela Olivarez-Ramirez and Cale Ours; and seniors Leonela Escobar, Abby Marchione, Alyssa Walsh, Montana and Ward.

For a picture of the regional winners, see page 3.

Ward's winning project was a ceramic piece called Lemon Lime Surprise.

"I felt happy when I found out," she said. "I never thought I'd do something like that."

The piece took about two weeks and was made out of white clay and glaze.

"I love that art is something I can make from my own mind," Ward said. "There were often rubrics and criteria but in the end it's all about what your personality is like to make the piece really work."

Ward said she has loved art since kindergarten.

"I can remember loving to draw and color since about kindergarten and how excited I would be when we got clay in art class."

Ward said she does not plan to continue art as a career, but plans to keep doing it as a hobby.

"The winning piece that Sophia entered showed great control of clay as a medium and her attention to detail and craftsmanship really helped to make the piece stand out in judging. She has always had great control of 3D art and is creative in her design and color choices," art teacher Tracy VanBuskirk said.

Ward created the project in VanBuskirk's ceramics class.

Ward's favorite artist is junior Dylan Castle.

"I've never seen such talent and such a good personality wrapped up in one person," she said.

Montana's winning piece was called Neo Nineteenth Century.

The piece was made out of acrylic paint and a canvas.

Montana has been a lover of art since she can remember.

"It felt very satisfying winning," she said. "I've been working [to win] for three years."

Montana said it took a month to create her winning project.

"I am so proud of her. She has worked very hard in all of her art classes all four years," art teacher Rachel Hipp said. "It's only fitting that she has one of the best 300 pieces in the state of Ohio."

Montana created the painting in Hipp's painting class.

She said she plans to continue art as an art therapist and sees herself treating patients with art.

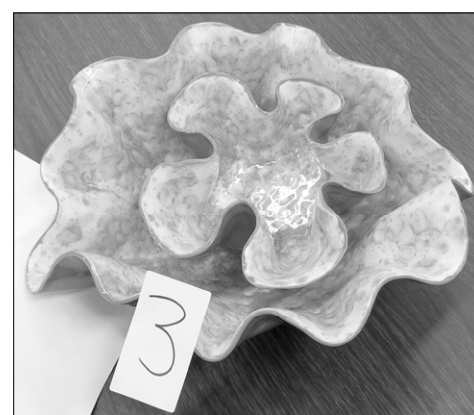
"My favorite part about art is seeing something in my head come to life through a medium," Montana said.

"I get goosebumps thinking about it," Hipp said about the winning pieces.

The exhibit opens April 22 at the James A. Rhodes State Office Tower and closes May 16.



Submitted photos
Neo Nineteenth Century (above) was made by Petra Montana. Lemon Lime Surprise (below) was made by Sophia Ward.



Norwalk's newest sensation

By Olivia Schaffer

Recently, you may have been seeing a familiar face on the news. Senior Ethan Lindenberger has been making headlines as his story becomes more popular.

In November, Lindenberger took to Reddit to get advice after making the decision to get vaccinated after he turned 18. Lindenberger said that at first, his story did not blow up. After a small science magazine picked up his story, things began to snowball.

Lindenberger said he has done close to 200 interviews and has been featured on news outlets such as BBC, MSNBC, The Washington Post, USA Today, Fox and CNN. He had also testified in front of Congress and par-

ticipated in a TED conference. He added that his favorite interview was with an Australian radio station.

Traveling to Washington, D.C., to testify in front of Congress interfered with school,

Lindenberger said. He added that his grades have not gone down but it was difficult to catch up and he would not recommend missing a week of school.



Photo from Twitter.com
Senior Ethan Lindenberger testifies in front of Congress.

He got invited to speak to Congress by Tennessee Senator Lamar Alexander's office. He said that he was asked over Facebook and was given a week notice.

After much preparation and stress, Lindenberger gave his testimony to Congress. He will travel to at least four different states in the next couple months for interviews, speeches and meetings.

"My situation could easily be replaced with someone else," Lindenberger said.

He added that the best part of his experience has been that he did not do much to get to where he is. As a result of his story and more debate about vaccinations, Facebook has changed their policy regarding anti-vaccination posts and information by making it more difficult to find false information pertaining to vaccinations.

Lindenberger's future plans are to become a pastor. He will attend Calvary Chapel Bible College next year and will continue to spread his story. He said he may also go to law school and become involved in politics, eventually running for the House of Representatives.

TLC and students dance for the kids

By Mascie Horner



Teen Leadership Corps (TLC) hosted the fifth annual Dance Marathon at Norwalk High School on March 30.

The event started at 8 p.m. and ran until 6 the following morning. Students enjoyed competitive games as they stood "for the kids" as the night went on.

Activities at Dance Marathon included basketball, quidditch, car smash, volleyball and dodgeball.

Juniors Ben Penrose and Quinn Jaworski and senior Anna Little added an escape

Submitted photo

Juniors (front from left) Grace Albright, Allison Fry, (back from left) Gabe Hainline, Brianna McGlaston, Tyler Hall, Claire Kelley and Colin Bement stop to pose for a picture at Dance Marathon.

room to the event this year, which was also a big hit.

After the night was complete, NHS raised approximately \$7,000 for the Children's Miracle Network.

Senior TLC member Jalyn Moore said the night was very successful.

"Everyone was very pleased with the amount of support we got throughout the night. A lot of people came and it was both fun and successful," she said.

Over the past five years, TLC's Dance Marathon has been able to raise more than \$45,000 for the Children's Miracle Network.

Issue of the Issue



Why do students form cliques? Does NHS have them? Read up on our Issue of the Issue: cliques on page 3.

E sports are coming



Next school year, E sports are coming to Norwalk High School. Read about them on page 7.

Successful winter seasons



Winter sports had successful seasons. Read up on news about state on pages 12-13.

Staff Editorial

Students stick to making cliques

Every high school has cliques, or groups of people who stick together and exclude others who are different.

Why do high schools have cliques and why do we, as students, separate ourselves into groups?

Students' minds assign people to different groups based on judgment. Students often see certain groups differently because other groups do things differently than the group they consider themselves to be a part of.

This is called stereotyping and it is part of defining a clique.

Cliques give students a sense of belonging.

Some students want the feeling of being popular, and trying to be in a clique can give them that feel-

ing. Some students think being in a clique gives them a higher status.

People should see each other as equal, but because somebody appears different, people just assume they are in a specific clique that they may see as unequal or lower.

Being a part of several cliques is a good thing: it can show a person that not all people are different.

Nobody ever thinks about how alike everyone is and how we are all in the same boat here as high school students.

Students should be more willing to let others into their clique and give another group a shot.

Students: try to talk to people you normally wouldn't. You may end up with a best friend you never knew you would have.



For stories about cliques, see pages 4 and 5...

Recycling: How long does it last?



By Madisyn Alt

Recycling has become more popular as the years go by, which will make any nature lover happy. The amount of paper used in schools and everyday jobs is huge. When I searched on Google "amount of paper wasted in a year," the amount that came up was crazy.

People waste about 900 million pieces of paper a year. That equals 700 pounds.

On Twitter, I have seen people talking about the amount of waste in the ocean. I am always seeing senior Lexi Gendron's tweets about saving the sea turtles and getting rid of plastic straws.

I am all for getting rid of plastic straws and saving the ocean life, but what about the number of trees being used for unnecessary amounts of paper? Since I was a freshman, I remember always thinking "Why does the recycling seem to end so early in the year? That is when students get rid of the most amount of paper. Might as well recycle it, right?"

Wondering if anyone else thought about this, I decided to write this editorial and reach out to Chris Jackson, adviser of Blue Squad and industrial arts teacher. When I talked to Mr. Jackson, I realized how many factors go into recycling here.

"Everything depends on the scheduling for pick up. We usually end in May before senior exams start. We try to go on for as long as we can," Jackson said.

Taking that into consideration, it makes sense. I still believe that recycling until the end of the year would be beneficial, but I understand the factors that play into recycling.

How important is winning to you?

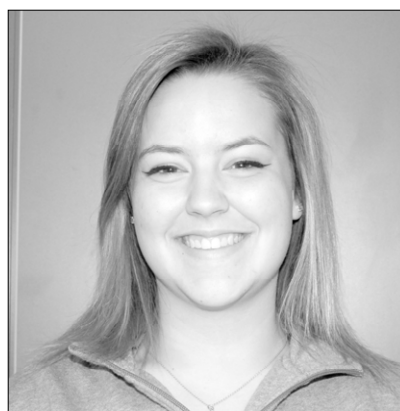
Interviews and photos by Keeanne Steele and Leighton Steele



Senior Haley Cain: "Winning is important. I'm a sore loser and I like being first."



Junior Wyatt Brown: "Winning is a huge confidence booster and shows that you're good at what you do."



Sophomore Kennedy Friend: "I think winning and losing are both important because if you never lose you never know what it feels like to win."



Freshman Orion Ohlmacher: "Winning is important because there's no point in trying if you don't win."

Winning and losing have pros and cons

Winning isn't everything...

By Keeanne Steele

Most people love to win, but is it really that important?

If you win at a game, what do you really win? Pride and bragging rights?

You don't have to win at everything. At some point in life, you're going to lose at something, whether it's a game, a sport or a toy. People need to know how to lose to be able to win.

After high school, will anything you did in your four years be that important to your life?

High school is when people join sports and think everything is important, including winning.

Later on, when you are in your 30's, are you really going to care about those games you won? You may remember them as memories, but it won't affect your life.

The only way winning or losing will affect you later on if it helps you learn that winning isn't always the most important. After high school, these games won't affect anyone's life.

When people get those trophies, plaques and certificates, what do they do with them?

Their parents might frame them and hang them up, but later on they'll get thrown away or put in storage and never seen for years.

My mom and I were cleaning up one day and we found some old certificates from kindergarten. She asked me what I wanted to do with them and I didn't care what happened to them so we threw them away. I could barely remember that time in my life. I didn't even know that I won those certificates.

I cared about winning when I was little, trying to beat my sister at everything we did. I remember that I wouldn't do a thumb war or an arm wrestle with my sister because I knew I would lose. I still won't do those because I know that I will lose.

However, winning is not important to me now.



Winning over all...

By Morgan Risner

To me, winning is very important.

The point of any game or activity is to win, and that is everyone's goal.

The point of working hard is to win. Whenever I work to play a game or activity, I work to win. This comes with challenges and frustration if I don't win, even if

what I was doing was fun.

The rush of winning can make many people feel great about themselves.

If the point to any game or activity was not to win, nobody would have to work in any activity they do and there would be no reason to practice. When people win, it can boost their confidence and make them happy.

It is heartbreaking to lose, but getting back up and working hard to win the next time is what people strive for. Winning is important because working hard for something and trying one's best, then losing, is devastating.

You may not always win, but the goal is to get up and work harder to win the next time.

If no one tried to win, everyone would be the same and nothing would be competitive. Without competition, nobody would be defined as a hard worker and no one would get the credit for their hard work.

I think the most important thing of any activity is to win.

STUDENTS AT SCHOOL



Name: Yukari Mendez
Grade: 10th
Age: 16
Favorite type of music: K-Pop
Color I would use to describe myself and why: White because I'm quiet.
Most embarrassing moment: I fell off a tree and my skirt got caught on a branch. I was legit hanging there.
What is the best thing about NHS and the worst thing and why? The best is the beautiful landscaping. The worst is the food because it is as fake as Kylie Jenner.
Biggest pet peeve: When people say bet.
If you were dying, what would your last words be? I'll see you on the other side.
If you won the lottery, what would you buy first? Burger King.
Five things you'd like to have on a deserted island? Jungkook, my chancla, my phone, friends, wifi box.
Where do you see yourself in 20 years? Sitting on a big chair with stacks of money next to me.
Weirdest fear, and why? I'm scared of my mom's sandal because her sandal can fly anywhere.
Something people would be surprised to know about me: I speak three languages.

10 things you didn't know about me



Junior Alyssa Pheifer

- 1) I am 6'1 and I enjoy being taller than everyone.
- 2) I joined the musical and I loved it.
- 3) My favorite color is baby pink.
- 4) I love my curly hair.
- 5) I make good desserts.
- 6) I like my style.
- 7) I'm very good at makeup.
- 8) I LOVE VIDEO GAMES.
- 9) I love drawing.
- 10) I definitely love shopping but I hate spending tons of money because everything costs too much!

Editor-in-Chief: Mascie Horner
Editors:
News: Kristina Toczek
Features: Olivia Schaffer
Entertainment: Leighton Steele
Sports: Madisyn Alt
Photo: Brenna Mock
Reporters:
 Laila Bussert
 Micah Duncan
 Evan Gaston
 Savannah Grant-Bell
 JJ Hackenburg
 Ben Johnson
 Cale Ours
 Jayda Ramos
 Morgan Risner
 Keeanne Steele
Adviser: Debbie Leffler

Senioritis check up



Interviews by Madisyn Alt and Micah Duncan



Seniors sleeping in class.

Photo by Madisyn Alt

"I want to be done."
 - Haley Cain
 "Ready to go."
 - Carmen Krichbaum
 "It's very nerve-racking."
 - Sarah Downing
 "I really want to leave, but I have good memories here."
 - Scarlett Krichbaum
 "Depressed. I'm pretty sad. I'm going to be poor."
 - Derek Rogers
 "Happy to leave, but I am scared."
 - Madison Duncan

Art winners



Submitted photo

Students with winning pieces at regionals are (back, from left) sophomore Nancy Sommers, seniors Abby Marchione and Petra Montana, sophomore Kara Mosser, juniors Devin Dellinger and Dylan Castle, (middle from left) senior Alyssa Walsh, junior Angela Olivarez-Ramirez, senior Leonela Escobar, junior Bree McgGlaston, sophomore Tracy Silcox and (front center) sophomore Sevanna Keegan. Not pictured are junior Cale Ours and senior Sophia Ward.

Fox soars in family's hot air balloon business

By Leighton Steele

Sophomore Cameron Fox and his family work in the business of hot air balloons. Their business has been around since



A hot air balloon getting ready to go up in the air.

Fox's grandparents started it 55 years ago.

Fox said he would like to be an airplane pilot when he gets older, so he likes to help out with the hot air balloons.

"It's very stressful being up in the air so you don't want to mess up," he said.

The best thing to him is the view, especially when it is clear or when he can see all the snow on the trees. It's a good time as long as there is no rain, he added. The worst thing is if someone messes up, the balloon can burn.

There is not a lot of effort to make the balloon go up; you just have to be prepared for the worst.

Usually, the cost is \$175 per person to go up in the air.

Fox said he plans on taking over the balloon business later on in his life as a pilot, instead of just helping out.

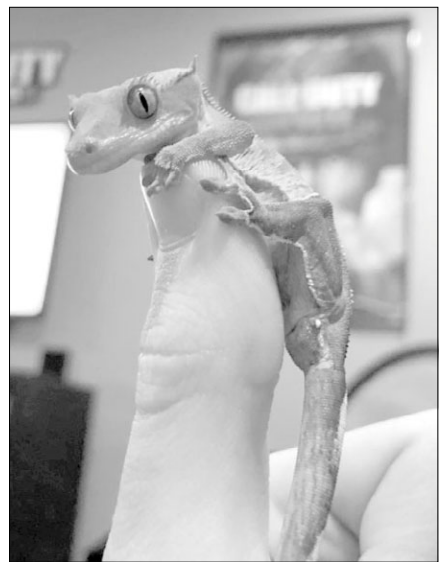
"Press forward. Do not stop, do not linger in your journey, but strive for the mark set before you."
 —George Whitefield

TEACHERS AT WORK



Name: Becky Molnar
Subject(s) taught: Math- geometry, algebra and stats.
College(s) attended: BGSU-undergrad; Ashland-masters
Favorite high school memory: Hanging out with my friends outside at lunch time and also winning the math medal as a senior!
If you weren't a teacher, what would you be? Richer! Just kidding, I would probably run a business, maybe a restaurant or a flower shop.
Where did you go to high school and how was it different from NHS? I went to St. Paul. It's a lot smaller than NHS; there were only 57 people in my graduating class. We obviously had religion classes and spent lots of time in church.
If you could start high school over again, what would you do differently? I would try out different classes and activities/sports.
I became a teacher because: I used to have a chalkboard in my room and I would teach pretend students. I always liked explaining math and organizing lessons.
Advice for seniors? Find a job that is challenging and that you enjoy. Stay close to your family; they are the ones that will be there to help you the rest of your life!
When not sitting behind a desk in school, what do you do? I work part time at Henry's Flower Shop. I also spend time with family and friends and love to entertain.
What would people be surprised to know about you? I can only say 14 digits of pi.
Closest co-worker and why: I can't pick just one -- Schuster, Beers, Lark, VanBuskirk, Olsen.
Favorite part about your job? Getting to help students in math and also getting to know them as a person, too.
Biggest pet peeve that students do: When the students don't put books and calculators away!

Unusual Pet of the Issue



Name: Gabe Hainline
Grade: 11
Type of pet: Gecko
Pet's name: Pogo
What kind of pet is it? Crested Gecko.
Why did you get this pet? He was cute at the store, and he was the only Gecko left. Also we had recently gotten a bearded dragon.
How long have you had this pet? One month.
Where did you get this pet? Petco.
What does it eat? He eats Pangea fruit mix with insects, crickets and water.
Care required? He likes to rest in plants or tree branches during the day and is active at night. We feed him daily and he needs his UVB lighting. Moderate to high humidity. He lives in a vivarium (a tank).

Switching Cliques

Sitting with the Cheerleaders

By Cale Ours

Going into this I have always viewed cliques as being arbitrary, and “switching cliques” has only cemented that thought for me.

Cliques are a group of people who have some common ground that binds them together, whether that be a hobby, a sport, or something akin to that that they all participate in.

You do see this in high schools, but when thinking of cliques we tend to think more towards the trite stereotypes we commonly see in the media we consume.

Binding people to such black and white clichéd ideas of who people are based on what they do is insulting to how dynamic we as people are.

The “clique” I switched with was a group of seniors comprised of Alyssa Faley, Alyssa Walsh, Mayli Austin, Alexis Gendron and Heaven Thompson. You could qualify them as a cheerleader-esque group, but who they are shines through that stereotype.

When one thinks of a group of cheerleaders, the common perception is a group of stuck up girls who may be coniving or even worse backstabbing, but the girls I sat with were the exact opposite.

They made me feel more than welcome to sit with them at lunch and talk about our respective spring breaks and what we did over them.

It was beyond a pleasant experience and I wouldn’t mind “switching cliques” again so I could hang out more with them.



Illustration by Cale Ours

Sitting with Teen Leadership

By Kristina Toczek

I have a small circle that I choose to associate myself with. Of course, I have other friends I talk to at school, but I hang out with the same people almost every day. You could consider this a clique, but I have a different definition of how I view cliques. I mostly consider cliques throughout a school or club. A clique can sometimes seclude themselves from others and only allow themselves to share stories and experiences within the group.

Throughout high school I have not shared many classes with my close friends, so I had to make new ones. One clique in our school is the Teen Leadership Corps class and that is due to the amount of time they spend with each other. I was never a part of the class, but the students involved take other classes with me and that has made us become friends.

It was all fun and games until I could not relate to their inside jokes or events they were in the midst of planning. I know that their bonds happened without me because I was not in the class, but sometimes it was hard to get involved in conversation.

I still am friends with members like seniors Anna Little and Lindsay Rinner. I’m lucky they can update me on whatever they have planned for the year, but this just proves that tight-knit groups can have their advantages and disadvantages.

I try to invite new people to hang out with me and sometimes even my group of friends, but I understand why it could get awkward or uncomfortable because I’ve been in that situation myself.

It is nice to have your own special people to go to, but remember to always be open to new friends and groups.

Definitions of Cliques

Photos and interviews by Laila Bussert



“A group of people that hang out with people with similar interests A.K.A. the social studies hallway.”

- Math teacher Corrie Kaple



“On Wednesdays we wear pink and write in the burn book.”

- Sophomore Kaiti Wenzel



“A tight-knit group of people.”

- Freshman Mya Binkley



“A group of people with common interests and opinions.”

- English teacher Alyanna Tuttle

Official definition of a clique:

a narrow exclusive circle or group of persons
Especially : one held together by common interests, views, or purposes
- Merriam-Webster online dictionary

Where did the word ‘clique’ come from:

The word “clique” derived from the word claque in French. Claque means a band of clappers or a group of audience members who give pre-arranged responses in a theater performance.
-From www.factretriever.com

Reasoning behind cliques

By Micah Duncan

Cliques have been around for many years.

They form when people of similar interests join together in commonality.

According to Penn State, “It is human nature for these social groupings [cliques] to happen.”

They can be seen in works such as *The Outsiders*, *Grease* and even *Mean Girls*.

People join these groups because it helps foster a sense of identity and belonging.

According to TeensHealth, “Groups can form around things people have in common. So jocks, goths, preps, skaters and even the math club are naturally drawn together because they share similar interests.”

CLASSES

Continued from page 7

A new robotics course will be available for all grade levels in the engineering department, which will allow engineering students more flexibility in their course choices, Stewart said.

In robotics, students will learn engineering, science, technology, and math principles through the creation of robots.

Pre-calculus is being split into college algebra and trigonometry, which are two College Credit Plus semester-long classes.

Lastly, College Credit Plus physics is back for all grade levels.

Students are excited for the new courses.

“I’m excited to get more credits for my math class,” said sophomore Justin Seitz, who is taking College Algebra, which gives

both high school and college credit.

The new robotics course is also gathering interest.

“It sounds like fun,” freshman Landan Klett said.

Students reflect on changes

By Savannah Grant-Bell

Change is inevitable for everything and everyone, whether it be a life-changing change or a small change, known only to that individual.



Charles Knott

Senior Charles Knott feels he has changed since the beginning of this school year. “My tolerance for school and rude people is going down,” Knott said.

He feels his change was forced and for the worse. Due to school work, he said he is more pushed and rushed into getting ready to graduate and prepare for college.

However, he would not change who he is now. Knott feels it is good to change depending on the situation. Other times, it is best to stay with who you are. He believes peer pressure leads to changes, along with fitting in with the other students.

Sophomore Noah Butz said he has changed mentally this year.

“I’ve grown, and become a nicer person,” Butz said.

He concluded that his change was natural, voluntary, and overall he is better off. Butz said he would not go back to who he was before.



Noah Butz

He believes sometimes it is necessary to change. However, changing means the possibility of the loss of friends. He feels sometimes individuals need to change who they are around.

Freshman Alexis Andrews

thinks she has changed for the better this school year. Her friendships and studying habits increased.



Alexis Andrews

She said her change was voluntary because the negativity was not helping her. She feels change leads to becoming a better version of oneself, although losing a few relationships may occur.

Teachers’ thoughts on cliques



Math teacher Brian Depinet
Thoughts on cliques? “They are fine unless they are being used to isolate other people.”
Were you in a clique? “Not really. I got along with everyone.”



Health teacher TJ Thomas
Thoughts on cliques? “They are always going to be around.”
Were you in a clique? “I was an athlete so I hung with other athletes, but I hung out with everyone too.”



Inclusion teacher Melanie Zerman
Thoughts on cliques? “I hate them but it’s reality. Maybe they are different now but people should get to know each other -- it might be fun.”
Were you in a clique? “No, I went in between various cliques.”



Physical Education teacher Wes Douglas
Thoughts on cliques? “Go where you want to go. People usually hang out with people with common interests.”
Were you in a clique? “Yes. I was more of a jock than anything. I was also on student council.”

Photos and interviews by Jayda Ramos

Some cliques cause bullying

By Keanne Steele

Bullying is a serious problem around the world. No one should be bullied. As movies show, there are many cliques in high school. But some cliques bully, whether it’s teasing or worse.

Students have different feelings towards cliques and bullying based on their experiences.

When asked if they have been bullied by a clique, junior Sara Spooner said “Yes” and sophomores Jason Thomas and Cadence Scott agreed.

When asked if they think there is a problem with cliques and bullying, Spooner said “Yes, because they think they’re better than everyone else.”

“Yes, because people might take their lives,” Thomas said.

“Yes, bullying and cliques are bad influences. They tear people down instead of building them up,” Scott said.

However, the students said cliques are not all bad.

“Cliques could be used for good things,” Spooner said.

“Some people in cliques are really nice and not at all a bad influence because there are some cliques that don’t have mean people in them,”

How would you describe your clique?



Freshman Talia Nava
“We are just the normal one, but also energetic.”



Sophomore Olivia Wingader
“Mine is funny and diverse.”



Sophomore Curtis Deiderick
“I’m in all of them. I’m everything.”



Junior Tyler Hall
“We all just play video games together.”

Photos and interviews by Kristina Toczek

‘Best friends’ don’t last forever

By Laila Bussert

“BFF,” also known as best friends forever, is a lie.

Most of us are in denial of this statement, but the sooner that we learn, the easier it will be when a friendship ends.



Although it is nice to have a person that we can make endless memories with and share an unbreakable bond with, unfortunately it will come to an end.

I have personally experienced this hard part of life. Keep in mind, this story is not to start drama in friendships, but is to give readers a real

life example of friends drifting apart.

My ex-best friend and I were best friends for a decade. We met in the second grade.

We played together, hung out, told secrets, went places together. We did all of the classic best friend activities. She was like the little sister that I never had. And I knew her like the back of my hand and we were inseparable.

She stayed like that until this time last year. It all came crashing down.

At random, the group of friends that we sat with at lunch told me I couldn’t sit with them anymore.

She stopped texting me, tagging me in memes on Facebook, calling me, hanging out with me, and she even stopped talking to me face to face and she wouldn’t look me in the eyes anymore.

I confronted her about all of these things and I would get no answers until one night she texted me, ending our friendship.

I was devastated and heartbroken that I lost my BFF.

Summer came and that helped me recover from the friendship breakup, although it still hurt.

Fall rolled around and she was in some of my classes at school.

Now, she is nothing but a stranger that I have memories with.

But out all of that, I learned many important lessons.

I learned that “best friends forever” is a child’s concept, that no matter how strong of a bond that you have with a person, they can switch up at any moment.

Most importantly, I learned that she was never my real friend.

You will always have friends in life, but you will never have a friend that is forever. People outgrow each other, people move away, people lose touch, and above all, people change.

Change is not necessarily a bad thing, as change can be beneficial.

How you handle the situation is up to you.

Student works with bees

By Micah Duncan

There are many students whose lives outside of school are not well known, but are interesting and unique.

One such student is sophomore Isaac Scheel, who works for his dad's business, Steve's Bees.

"When I was about 5 years old I had terrible allergies. My dad always liked honey and started working with it as a hobby," Scheel said.

The honey helped eradicate the allergies Scheel grew up with, which helped lower medical costs.

"Honey is nature's medicine," Scheel said.



Photo by Micah Duncan

Sophomore Isaac Scheel holds a super-frame that he made. Scheel works every day after school for three or more hours to help his dad with his business.

That is when the hobby grew into the business that Scheel's father ran part-time.

Scheel has been helping his father for many years. One way he helps is by building frames and boxes for bee hives.

"I am forced to help," Scheel said jokingly.

"I do actually enjoy helping and I get to make a little cash from it too," he added.

Scheel said the hardest time of the year for work is August through September because that is when the honey has to be extracted.

"We have to wear big suits and there are swarms of angry bees. We never make it out without at least ten stings," Scheel said.

This past year has been one full of success for Steve's Bees, and Scheel's father decided to run the business full time this past February.

"We went from having about 100 hives to between 750 and 1000 hives here in Ohio this past year," Scheel said.

The hives are mostly located in northeastern Ohio, with some in southern Ohio by Cincinnati, Scheel said.

"This is our third year of working in different states. We have pollination groves in Florida, Georgia and California," he added.

Besides the hives, Steve's Bees also sells honey, chapstick, beeswax and hive frames and boxes.

"People can buy chapstick from me for \$1, but if they want honey they'll have to stop by the house or call my dad," Scheel said.

Although he said he does enjoy the work, he does not wish it to be his career in the future.

Senior experiences giving blood

By Kristina Toczek

Giving blood can be scary, but in the end, it is for a good cause. This year's blood drive, sponsored by the National Honor Society, was my first time giving blood. It took place in the aux gym Feb. 13.

I signed up for the morning slot and left right after my anatomy class second period. I had to drink some water and read over a couple papers about the process and eligibility. During all the waiting, I made friends with the girl next to me and we played iMessage games.

The Red Cross worker poked my finger and took a sample of my blood and I had to answer a series of questions. I was escorted by senior Olivia Schaffer, who took great care of me. Looking over at another student's bag of blood made me a little queasy so I made sure to stare the other way. I tried to stay as calm as possible until the worker inserted the needle.

The feeling was not the greatest, but it did not hurt as much as I anticipated. I was

given a foam piece to squeeze to keep my blood pumping. I remember having Principal Brad Cooley next to me seeing who could pump blood the fastest.

The worst part was when the bag was full and they had to take the needle out. It felt very uncomfortable. I then went to the snack table and got my blood sugar up with some juice and cookies.

I felt strange walking back to lunch but I made sure to eat all my food to get my energy back.

Later on, I went to cheer and was not able to do anything but walk through the routine. My coach told me I looked like I was going to pass out and I felt like it too. I had to skip my dance class afterwards and go home to sleep. My nap lasted about two hours, but it was much needed. The next day I felt fine and was back on track.

The experience was not as bad as I thought it would be. I advise staying calm, making sure to take it easy afterwards and eating all three meals the day you donate. It feels good to do something good.

The next blood drive is May 1.



Photo by Olivia Schaffer

Senior Kristina Toczek gives the thumbs up while preparing to donate blood. "The process seems scary, but it is not that bad," Toczek said.

Bussert works hard for martial arts award



Submitted photo

Senior Laila Bussert holds her two first place gold medals.

By Jayda Ramos

Senior Laila Bussert started doing martial arts at the age of 10. She never really thought about doing it until her grandfather suggested it.

It was supposed to be just for the summer, but she fell in love with it.

Bussert has spent two days every week practicing to improve her martial arts skills. She has been practicing for eight years now.

"I do this because I have fun training with diverse groups of people, and the training keeps me fit," she said.

Bussert won two first place gold medals on March 2 at the Ohio State Fairgrounds Lausche Building in Columbus, which she said made her very happy and it was a big confidence booster for her.

Bussert had to wake up early in the morning and travel to Columbus for two hours and then

she had to wait most of the day for her division to get called.

Bussert won her first gold medal in a traditional open form division. She went against a woman who was a red belt. They did the same form called Taeguk, which is a series of black belt forms which demonstrate good power. They tied for first place by a 100th of a point. The judge told them he has never seen anything like that before, she added.

Bussert won her second gold medal competing with two other black belts from her Taekwondo school. They competed in the team forms division together and won first place.

Now that Bussert came in first place, she is able to compete in the Ohio State Championship which would qualify her for nationals.

She said she was not able to state this year, but possibly will next year.

Little wins Legion Oratorical speech contest

By Morgan Risner

Senior Anna Little won the American Legion Oratorical speech contest in Monroeville.

Little won at the district level and qualified for state, but was unable to go because of her part in the musical which was at the same time as the speech contest.

The speech had to be 8-10 minutes long and it was about military service and the soldiers' advantages when they come home.

Her first year doing speech competitions was her freshman year, but she took a break and began again her senior year.

"I like giving speeches, but I was scared out of my mind," Little said.

Little added that she forgot the entire second part of her speech.

She said that best part about entering the speech contest is talking to other participants and getting to know them.

Little's way to remember her speech is by researching the information, reciting it to teachers, and writing her speech on note cards.

Her prize for winning the speech was \$700 and she plans on using it for her mission trip to Malawi this summer.

Pi Day celebrated among NHS math classes

By Savannah Grant-Bell

March 14 is Pi Day, the nationwide celebration of the number 3.1415926...

Math teachers Allison Sellers and Becky Molnar give their students a challenge: how many digits of pi can a student memorize and recite?

The individual who memorized the most digits this year was sophomore Elise Zieber, with 150 digits. Zieber said she memorized the digits for the bonus points that were being awarded.

She said she did not expect to win.

"I just assumed someone would do better," she said.

When asked what method she used to memorize the digits she stated that she just memorized the numbers as they were.

Although Sellers and Molnar continue to carry out the activity, Molnar started it "to help bring awareness to the value of pi, where it comes from, and as a fun competition," she said.

The individual who holds the all-time school record is Kendall Bigler in 2017 with 287 digits.



Elise Zieber

Tech builds new server

By Olivia Schaffer

The white noise coming from the NHS library is the reason students will be able to bring their own devices next school year. More specifically, the large server being housed there.

Over the past few months, the tech department has been building their own server. This team includes Amie Swope, Chris Adams, Kyle Scheid, James McClune and Geri Barker. According to Swope, the head of the tech department, building a server instead of buying one saves money and allows for Norwalk City School's devices to have unlimited server power. Other advantages are that it was able to be customized to fit the district's needs and that students in grades 9-12 will now all be able to have computers.

What first started with a prototype has become a structure that fills a whole room. The tech department's talent for hardware

and programming is what made this possible, Swope said. Time was spent planning, building a prototype, getting approval from the school board and weeks building. The parts were ordered and had to be individually assembled. Swope added that the server should be completed by the end of this school year.

"This wouldn't have been possible without all the brain power we have here," Swope said.

Some classes at the high school and individuals in other buildings have already been using the virtual server. Some of these include the *Trucker Imprint* and the engineering classes. This allowed for any problems with the server to be worked out, Adams said.

The decision for students to be able to bring their own devices came after both parents and students asked the tech department for the change, Swope said. Servicing the high school's many



Photo by Olivia Schaffer

The server that the tech department built is housed in a room off of the library.

laptops was also a challenge for the few hands the tech department has, she added.

Here is how it works: the server being built for next year will run all of the devices in the district. Students will not be required to bring their own device, but if they do there will be train-

ing to use the virtual server at the beginning of next school year. The server will allow students to access the district's network at school and at home. If a student does not wish to bring his or her own device, around 300 loaner laptops will be put in the classrooms throughout the school.

Custodians share with students

By Cale Ours

For the past six years Adrienne Leimeister has worked here at Norwalk High School on the custodial staff during after school hours.

Alongside that, Leimeister works as a housekeeper at the First Presbyterian Church here in Norwalk.

While being a custodian may sound like a lackluster job, Leimeister sees many perks within the occupation, the most notable being the ability to interact with the many students who go to Norwalk High.

By reaching out or interacting with the students she tries to give many of them a different perspective and get them to reach out and talk to more people.

Seeing herself in many of the students, she wants to help them find friends and branch out so they aren't as introverted and so they can truly experience their high school years to the best of their abilities.

One of the few times she doesn't care for her job is when the day is more of a rush, most of the time on a date that there is a scheduled sporting event, when the staff has to clean both the school and prepare for the event.



Adrienne Leimeister



Suzette Reed

By Cale Ours

Suzette Reed has been working as a custodian here at Norwalk High School for five years. She also attended Norwalk High School back when she was a teen.

"It hasn't changed much," she noted, then swiftly adding, "Well, except for the new building."

When asked what was she like in high school she responded simply, with a humorous tone to her voice, "You don't want to know that."

Reed noted that the best part of her job is socializing with both the staff and the students here.

The worst part, of course, is having to deal with the bathrooms.

She enjoys television shows like Jeopardy and Wheel of Fortune, something more engaging than everything else on T.V. She said she never really watches other media.

A fan of the "oldies" as far as music goes, bands like the Beatles tend to be her favorite. Most modern music she tries to steer away from.

The advice she had for students is, "Enjoy your school days. These are the best days of your life."

New classes offered for students

By JJ Hackenburg

Norwalk is shaking up its class options for next year, with nine classes added or changed.

With the large number of students going to Firelands College or EHOVE Career Center, Norwalk is trying to offer a wider variety of classes to give students more options if they choose to stay here, Guidance Counselor Sandi Stewart explained.

The largest changes will be in senior English classes. English IV will be replaced with five semester classes, which can be taken by juniors or seniors.

"I'm excited to switch up English classes so that students can tailor their senior year," Stewart said.

The new classes are Interpersonal Communication, Debate, Media Literacy, The Modern Novel and Creative Writing.

Interpersonal Communication will be similar to the current Speech class and help students become better speakers and listeners. Debate is for students who

want to develop critical thinking by learning how to research, form strong arguments and discuss ideas.

Media literacy will teach students to analyze various forms of media for accuracy. In the Modern Novel class,

students will read books written more recently than many traditional English class books.

Creative writing will teach students to "create original forms of descriptive writing, poetry,

drama, and fiction," according to the 2019-2020 Program of Studies.

Business Communications and Social Media Marketing are the two new business classes for next year.

Business Communications is open to all grade levels and teaches how to communicate, lead and excel within a work environment. Social Media Marketing is open to all classes except freshmen and teaches "digital marketing, social network platforms, and analytics," according to the 2019-2020 Program of Studies.

See CLASSES on page 4.

"I'm excited to switch up English classes so that students can tailor their senior year."

~ Sandi Stewart

School board supports Esports

By Cale Ours

Esports will now be offered at NHS after months of discussion and a decision by the school board on April 9.

Bringing Esports to Norwalk is the primary brainchild of technology coordinator Amie Swope, who said she wants to give kids who do not have the opportunity to join other sports or clubs to come join Esports regardless of their grade.

"I am excited that the school administration is willing to bring this great opportunity to our students," Swope said after the decision was made.

Because administrators cannot be coaches for sports or head clubs, the duty of coaching has fallen to English teacher Joe Kaiser and engineering teacher Adam Leutenegger, who are just as enthusiastic about the Esports team as Swope.

This decision has been greatly supported by Superintendent George Fisk who helped it get it passed, Swope said.

The team will be playing within the Esports Ohio League, a "grassroots" competition system with a handful of games played within it under their own rule set that differs from others.

Coming from an Esports team from high school also opens stu-

dents up for scholarship opportunities from colleges that see Esports as a varsity sport. In the past, \$4,000 scholarships have been provided by schools like Tiffin University, which also has the largest Esports arena in this area.

Games include League of Legends, Overwatch, Rocket League and Super Smash Bros. Within each of the games, competitors can play individually or within a team.

Swope said over the summer she plans to use money provided by the school and grants to build gaming machines suitable for the needs of the team.

She hopes to establish both a JV and varsity team this fall to

provide an opportunity for those who wish to play who may not be that good at the given games, as well as an opportunity for those with an already high skill threshold going into the team.

Much is still in the air regarding exactly how everything will be played, how big the teams will be, and much more. But things are bound to become more clear with the passage of time.



TLC helps kids

By Morgan Risner

Students in TLC (Teen Leadership Corps) travel to Pleasant Elementary School every Tuesday to help students who are struggling or are behind in class from things like being absent.

“The kids enjoy the individual relationships they build with our kids,” TLC teacher Nick Lee said. He added that he believes that the kids look up to the high school students.

“A lot of our kids enjoy being around the little kids” Lee said.

He added that some of the TLC students enjoy it more than others.

Some of them do not relate well and have a hard time explaining or teaching math and that some of them don’t have a lot of patience.

He said while it is not some of the students strongest suit, other students would like to be elementary school teachers.

Photo by Morgan Risner
Senior Devin Marshall is at Pleasant Elementary helping students learn their spelling words.



Envirothon goes nationwide

By JJ Hackenburg

The Envirothon Club will compete in a nationwide environmental competition later this month.

The team will travel to the Beaumont Scout Reservation in Ashtabula County on April 25 to compete in Area Two of Ohio.

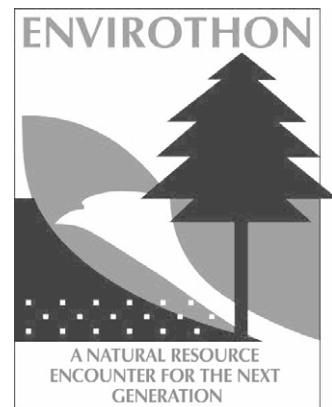
If the team places top four at the competition, they will move on to the state level.

At the competition, students will take a test in teams of five to demonstrate their knowledge of environmental issues, with questions written by experts in the fields.

Categories on the test include soil, aquatics, wildlife, forest and a current environmental issue.

“The goal is to give students an opportunity to experience environmental issues as a group,” Envirothon Advisor Nate Whaley said.

The club has been meeting on Wednesdays to look over past tests and do practical studies in order to prepare. Every student specializes in one of the categories so that all of the information is covered in-depth.



Drug free club continues on

By Keanne Steele

The Drug Free Club, newly formed this year, will continue next year, adviser Nick Lee said.

So far, “almost 200 people have been tested and have signed up. There are going to be

more random testings,” he said. “Everyone gets tested once.”

Sophomore Caitlin Harris is one of the 200 students who signed up.

“Drugs never appealed to me and I thought it was a good way to stay away from drugs,” she said.

Rewards for being drug-free when tested have included free admission to sporting events, donut day and gift cards, Lee said.



Students win book drive raffle

By Madisyn Alt

National Honor Society sponsored a book drive along with the United Fund of Norwalk.

“Students and staff were very generous and donated 220

books,” adviser Nancy Gfell said.

A raffle was held for those who donated. Eight students won gift cards from local businesses. Those students were freshman Valick Conley, sophomores

Kaylyn Portner, Kayla Cring and Makayla Howk and juniors Isaac Nolan, Hayden Barnes, Hailey Harp and Autumn Stewart.

Conspiracy theories become a hot topic

By Brenna Mock

Conspiracy theories have been taking social media by storm.

A conspiracy theory is defined as a belief that some covert but influential organization is responsible for a circumstance or event, according to dictionary.com

There are five different types of conspiracy theories according to author Jesse Walker: the Enemy Outside, the Enemy Within, the Enemy Above, the Enemy Below and the Benevolent Conspiracies.

The Enemy Outside is based on conspiracies of people planning against another group of people or power.

The Enemy Within is conspiracies based on people secretly in the nation conspiring against others. These people cannot be identified and look like normal people.

Conspiracies about the Enemy Above are conspiracies in which leaders and powerful influencers plot things for their own gain.

The Enemy Below conspiracies are conspiracies about a lower class revolting against a higher class or leader.

Benevolent Conspiracies are conspiracies involving forces that work to make the world a better place.

These theories, often times, are never proven true, but there have been a few that have been.

One of the theories that was proven true was Operation Mockingbird.

The theory behind Operation Mockingbird was that the CIA was spying on journalists and wiretapping them.

According to a *New York Times* blog published in June 2007, “It’s interesting to see in the description of Project Mockingbird, which describes C.I.A. wiretapping of two Washington reporters (unnamed) from March 12, 1963 to June 15, 1963, that the intercepting of calls, executed under the authority of John McCone, the Director of Central Intelligence, was done in coordination with Attorney General Robert Kennedy, Defense Secretary Robert McNamara and the director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, Gen. Joseph Carroll. As with other questionable or illegal C.I.A. activities that were endorsed by top government officials, this account shows that spying on reporters was approved at the highest levels of the Kennedy administration.”

There are also theories in which the truth is left unknown, as most of them are.

One of these theories is about Chuck-E-Cheese’s pizza.

YouTuber Shane Dawson brought popularity to this one, as it was already previously brought up but nobody paid much mind to it.

The theory is that Chuck-E-Cheese “recycles” their pizza and reuses uneaten pizza slices.

The theory originated from pictures of their pizza surfacing where the pizza slices are uneven. Is the conspiracy true? Nobody truly

knows. It could vary from location to location and the pizza could be cut incorrectly.

Conspiracy theories can be debunked also. One conspiracy that has been debunked is about President Donald J. Trump and the media.

The conspiracy was that CNN and Google show only negative stories of Trump. People claimed they were rigged and were against Trump.

Conspirators were soon proven wrong by the companies when the company representatives spoke out.

When people are feeling anxious and powerless, they tend to look to conspiracies.

A Google spokesperson said the reason this was happening because they make the most “relevant” stories come up first, not because it was rigged.

CNN published a story clarifying that this wasn’t the case as well.

The theory was debunked and that was the end of it.

What makes a person believe a conspiracy theory and what is the psychology of it?

The reason a person believes in a conspiracy is because “they promise to satisfy important social psychological motives that can be characterized as epistemic (e.g., the desire for understanding, accuracy, and subjective certainty), existential (e.g., the desire for control and security), and social (e.g., the desire to maintain a positive image of the self or group,) according to an article published by the Association for Psychological Science.

When people are feeling anxious and powerless, they tend to look to conspiracies.

Believing in a conspiracy is something that takes place deep in the brain and makes one question everything around him or her.

Disclaimer: The *Trucker Imprint* staff is not claiming any of these theories as true or false. We are not trying to demean any person or group of people by covering these theories.

Where are they now

Parish cherishes retirement

By Mark Parish
Former orchestra teacher

What year did you retire and how many years did you teach? I retired in 2015 after teaching for 30 years, 29 of them in the Norwalk Schools.

Why did you decide to retire? This is a little hard to answer but, mostly, I just felt like it was the right time. I still loved my work, I felt I was doing my best work, and I had really great groups of kids from fifth grade music through High School Orchestra. Going out at the top of your game is a good way to go.

What have you been doing since you retired? This is the good part. I've been doing all the things I've wanted to do and finally have time for. I have learned to enjoy lingering over my coffee after a breakfast that is rather later than it used to be. I finally have time to practice my own instrument again and, after way too many years, I think I'm good at it again. I have the time for reading books and am working on filling our house with them.....my wife is not as thrilled about that part. I have

time for gardening. I have time to pursue my interest in family history. My wife is a college professor and regularly attends international conferences and now I'm able to go along more often. Over the last few years I have gone with her to Dublin, Ireland; Glasgow, Scotland; Cambridge, England; and Prague, Czech Republic. Yeah, retirement is alright.

Do you miss Norwalk and why? Despite all that I wrote in the last part, there is much that I miss. I don't miss things like the hours I put in or the paperwork but I do miss the people. I miss the students and the colleagues



Submitted photo
Former orchestra director Mark Parish poses with his wife on the west coast of Ireland. Now that Parish is retired, he said he has more time to travel with his wife, a professor at Oberlin College.

that I worked with. I consider myself very fortunate to have worked with so many good people who were so into music.

Are you still involved with Norwalk High School and how? It has been my intention to stay connected to things in Norwalk as best as I can. I try to support the music program by attend-

ing as many of the concerts at NHS as possible. I have been playing in the orchestra for the musical for the last few years. I also play in a community band with Mr. Kish, Mr. Carbone, Mrs. Bennett and Miss D'Alaberti. It's hard to keep the connections when I no longer live in Norwalk but I try.

'Wood' you look at these quilts



Photo by Ben Johnson

Seniors (from left) Caleb Robinson and Tyson Tornichio, junior Wyatt Brown and freshman Griffin Brucher show their wooden quilts created in woodworking class.

By Ben Johnson

Woodworking teacher Chris Jackson's first period Advanced Woodworking class set out on a new project which involved making wooden quilts.

"I had this idea in my mind for 10 years now and it seemed like this class was the best class for the job," Jackson said.

Making a wooden quilt might seem difficult for the average joe, but students in the advanced woodworking class said it was a piece of cake for the most part.

Each student was required to first come up with a unique pattern that would later serve as the skeleton of the project.

Once finding a pattern, the students then had to cut out wooden pieces corresponding to their pattern.

After all the wooden pieces were cut out, the class used construction adhesive to glue the pieces together.

With steady heads and the utmost precision, the students crafted the wooden quilts

"The most difficult part of this project was making all the tiny wooden pieces fit side by side because if just one piece was off it would mess up the whole quilt," Senior Caleb Robinson said.

Some of the quilts are hanging in the school's art gallery for everyone to enjoy.

Choose a smoothie flavor



Photo by Savannah Grant-Bell

Working at Stomping Grounds are (from left) junior Lovea Wicker, senior Emily Berry and Cobe Reesman. Stomping Grounds is now on Twitter for all students and staff to follow. The students and staff of Norwalk High School can vote on Twitter for Stomping Grounds' next smoothie drink flavor. Interventionist Cari Beers said Stomping Grounds is now allowing the M.H. students to help work the shop.

Jazz concert replaced

By Leighton Steele

The jazz musicians from Scotland who were scheduled to sing with the choir this month are no longer performing with the select choir.

Since they were getting paid, they had to get work visas, but they could not get them in time to perform with the choir, choir director Carol Mason said.

Instead of the jazz musicians, the Firelands Symphony Chorale will take their place.

Some songs that they will perform are "Carry Me Home," two movements from the Jazz



Musician Suite, "Climb Every Mountain" and "You'll Never Walk Alone."

The concert is scheduled for April 17 at the Ernsthausen Performing Arts Center.

Chew on a new book

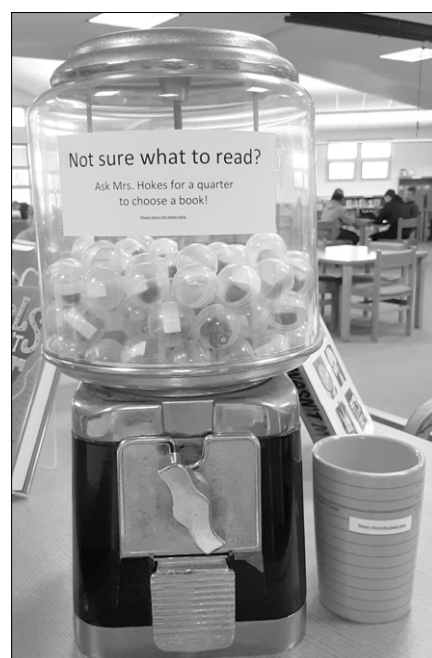
By Laila Bussert

A book gumball machine is in the library for students looking to read something new. It is a gumball machine filled with suggested book titles instead of treats.

Librarian Lucy Hokes came up with this idea.

"I've been filling the machine with all of the new books that we have been getting in, my favorites, and old book club books," Hokes said.

"The idea came to me over the summer but I had to find a gumball machine. Pinterest, of course, helped me," she added.



There's nothing like Tennessee

By Madisyn Alt

Over spring break I went to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, with Mascie and Emmie Horner. We left March 20 around 3 in the afternoon. We drove to Ashland to pick up Mascie and Emmie's step-siblings.

The car ride felt extremely long, even though I slept the whole time. Around midnight we got a hotel in Williamsburg, Kentucky.

The next morning we went to "The Island" when we went to Pigeon Forge. It isn't an island, but that's just what they call it. It reminded me of Cedar Point minus the roller coasters. They had a Ferris wheel and many food places and shops. After spending a little while at The Island, we went to an indoor skydiving place. We had to sign a waiver and put on ugly outfits. I was nervous at first, but it was fun. We were in a big wind tunnel and all this air blew us up into the tunnel.

On Friday, we went to downtown Gatlinburg, Tennessee. It was definitely a tourist town. There were many little shops. I bought a long-sleeve shirt and a



Submitted photo
Here I am posing for a picture with the Smoky Mountains in the background. We went on a hike in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, to see the mountains and a waterfall.

started laughing. Although the dinner was expensive, it was worth the money and experience.

Let's just say I am NOT a hiking person. On Saturday, we went hiking on a trail to see some waterfalls. The weather was perfect; it wasn't cold or hot. The trail was only about two miles to the falls. The walk there was not bad at all, but then we went off the trail and I was not having it after a while. While the boys went up to the top, Mascie, Emmie and I turned around. Walking down, our legs could not stop. We were sprinting down the hill, laughing at ourselves.

Sunday was our last day. We went shopping at the outlet mall. I bought a pair of Vans and a pair for Cameron. I also bought myself a

crewneck for my boyfriend, Cameron. I thought \$15 was cheap for a crewneck until the next store I went to.

That night for dinner, we went to a comedy dinner show. The dinner show was called Hatfield & McCoy dinner feud. When we walked in, there was a big stage and the dinner tables were split up into two sides. One side was the "Hatfield family" and the other side was the "McCoy family."

They served us chicken, mashed potatoes, corn, bread, soup and barbequed pork. We ate and then watched the show. It was basically like a high school musical. During the intermission, they had a camera going around doing a kiss cam. For the very last kiss cam, they turned the camera on Mascie's step-brothers, Jake and Josh. At first everyone laughed and then all of a sudden Josh kissed Jake. The whole place

crewneck for \$10, which was way cheaper than the other one I bought. We went out to dinner and then relaxed the rest of the night before the long car ride home.

I am grateful for this experience to see the mountains. I had a great time with my best "cowgirls" Mascie and Emmie. I would love to go back in the future, but without hiking.

Musician of the Issue



Photo and interview by Leighton Steele
Junior Joe Borgia has been playing the trombone for five years. He said he started playing because he liked the noise it made back in fifth grade. "Being up on the stage with everyone else is such a great feeling," he said. His favorite thing about playing the trombone is that there is no limit to your range of notes, style or capability. He plans to continue playing after high school.

Madisyn and Mascie



Seniors dress for the season

By Mascie Horner and Madisyn Alt

When we think of spring time, we think of flowers, sunshine and an occasional rainfall.

As the weather gets warmer, everyone's wardrobe changes.

Sandals, sun dresses, sun glasses and cute tank tops are all great clothes to wear in the spring.

We may not be lucky enough to have summer temperatures yet, but all of this serves as a sign that the end of the year, and summer, is in sight.

Mottos of the Issue:

"It's not over until it's over.

~ sophomore Thomas Gfell

"Be the change that you wish to see in the world."

~Mahatma Gandhi

Cartoon by
Cale Ours



Film Review

Battle Angel: A bizarre film

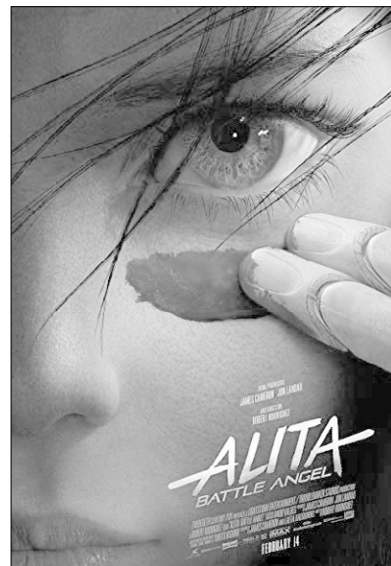
By Cale Ours

Given the rough 16 years that *Alita: Battle Angel* had been in development, it turned out better than most films that get stuck in similar developmental delays. Definitely not perfect, but not horrible.

The biggest worry I had concerning the film was how much of the film would retain the James Cameron motifs of an immense amount of exposition and a heavy-handed message that has been prevalent in his films due to his presence in the project as a producer ever since its initial creation, and thusly how would that mesh with the very stylistic and hokey direction of Robert Rodriguez.

The movie is quite confused in regards to what it wants to be and who it wants to appeal to. Dark and violent sequences are followed at poor attempts of whimsy that end in the picture playing more like a Saturday morning cartoon that just so happens to have a \$200 million budget.

Battle Angel is a two-hour-long bender with a poor excuse for a plot that is just a means for



Robert Rodriguez to script out some very fun action set pieces. It's a very flimsy plot that scrapes along from set piece to set piece. Performances are laughable at best. That terrific schlocky style of acting that is prevalent in Rodriguez films is here in *Battle Angel* full swing. Christoph Waltz is an amazing actor in many films spanning many regions and languages, but my god in this movie he reads

half his lines like he just woke up, promptly downed a whole bottle of liquor, spun around a couple of times, took a glance at the script, then gave his lines. And it is beautiful: This movie is generally a hamfisted beautiful dumpster fire that tries so desperately to convey this "sentimental" and "touching" love story but the absolute undercurrent of trashy and hokey Rodriguez motifs just put it on this level where the film has this raw genuineness about it but in all the wrong places.

I enjoyed the film on the same level I'd enjoy Tommy Wiseau's *The Room*, where there is a laughable nature to the film but the genuineness of it all just makes me want to love it despite its many, MANY imperfections.

Video Game Review

Mappy makes a comeback!

By Ben Johnson

Are you looking for a game that takes mass amounts of strategy, offers an intense action-packed gameplay and that also requires only the sharpest skill and reflexes?

Then Mappy is most certainly the game for you.

Mappy is an arcade game that was made by Namco and was released in 1983.

In the game, the player guides a police mouse through a house full of cats to retrieve goods that the cats have stolen.

To do this, the mouse has to bounce on trampolines, fling open doors, and do everything in its power not to get caught by the

cats, all while collecting every item within the level.

There are multiple floors to a level and in order to get to those floors the mouse must bounce on the trampolines that are conveniently placed through the house.

The only defense the mouse has is the power to knock out the bad guys with doors.

Even though you are playing as a police mouse, trying to retrieve stolen goods from a group of cats, the only way to fight back is by open doors in their faces.

Among the doors there are only a few special doors known as microwave doors.

When opened, the microwave door sends a rainbow blast that completely wipes out anything in

its path causing the cats to fly off the level.

If you're wanting to try out this game, then you are in luck!

Fortunately, the arcade game Mappy is available for the following platforms: Arcade games Nintendo entertainment system, Wii, Nintendo 3DS, Game Boy Advance, MSX, Wii U, iOS, Game Gear, PC 8800 series, X1, Cassette vision, Super Cassette vision, Sharp MZ, FM-7, NEC PC-6001, Windows phone, Sord, M5, Windows Mobile, Namco plug and Play games, and finally Palm OS.

Mappy will be loved by all players who enjoy the retro style of a high-skilled game.

I strongly recommend Mappy to anyone who enjoys old arcade

classic games such as Dig-Dug or Pac-Man because the feel of Mappy is somewhat similar to these games.



App of the Issue

Brawling on the go

By JJ Hackenburg

Featured in a much anticipated global release last December, Brawl Stars is Supercell's latest hit app.

Brawl Stars is a mobile arena fighting game with a variety of characters that have their own unique skills and abilities.



Players work together with a team to complete an objective, which is different depending on the game mode.

Players can fight to collect the most gems, work to destroy each other's base, or fight it out to be the last one standing in a battle royale style competition.

Brawl Stars can be played with friends in teams of up to three players, and also includes a special practice mode with up to nine others.

The game is easy for new players to pick up, difficult to master, and offers opportunities to advance and unlock new characters without paying.

Brawl Stars is available on iOS and Android and is rated a 4.7/5 by BlueStacks.

And the Oscar goes to...

By Savannah Grant-Bell

Many individuals will choose a movie over a book, because they simply want to know the beginning and the ending of the story in all one sitting.

Before spring break, Spanish teacher David Snell put on an awards ceremony for his Spanish II students who participated in the creation of Spanish movies.

All of Spanish II, and volunteers from Spanish IV and V attended and ran the ceremony.

The students in Spanish II voted on and determined the winners.

The winners are:

Best picture- The Secret Soldiers by Kale Bauman, Jad Oglesby, Mitchell Sommers, Josh Neuberger and Ryan Sowders.

Funniest film- The Musicians by Gabe Zamano, Katia Zamano, Andrew Riley, JJ Hackenburg and Ben Johnson.

Best Editing- The "Reality" Movie by Polo Kraus and Cameron Fox

Best actor/actress- Junior Kaleb Bauman in The Secret Soldiers

Cale's Cinema Corner

Ghibli returns to theaters

By Cale Ours

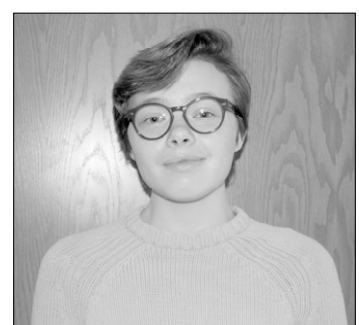
Studio Ghibli has been a monumental part of the increase of Japanese media consumption in the West by a larger audience.

Founded in 1985, the studio has crafted several timeless films under the helm of the prolific direction of both Hayao Miyazaki (*My Neighbor Totoro*, *Spirited Away*, *Howl's Moving Castle*) and Isao Takahata (*The Tale of the Princess Kaguya*, *Grave of the Fireflies*).

Their films are of such a high caliber that they garnered some praise in the West even prior to the localization guided by John Lasseter that really skyrocketed them to a household name in America.

Now, thanks to Fathom Events in partnership with GKIDS, they have brought back Ghibli Fest, which is a nine-month period in which nine of the studio's more famous/impactful films will be screened starting this month.

Any of these pictures can be seen in theaters that support Fathom events.



<i>Howl's Moving Castle</i>	April 7, 8 and 10
<i>Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind</i>	May 20 and 22
<i>Whisper of the Heart</i>	June 1-2
<i>Kiki's Delivery Service</i>	June 28-31
<i>My Neighbor Totoro</i>	July 25-28
<i>The Secret World of Arrietty</i>	Aug. 29 and 30
<i>Spirited Away</i>	Sept. 27-30
<i>Princess Mononoke</i>	Nov. 17-20
<i>The Tale of the Princess Kaguya</i>	Dec. 16-18



Five went to state tournament

By Kristina Toczek

Junior Ethan Hernandez and his teammates made history together at the 2019 OHSAA Team Wrestling State Tournament the weekend of March 7 through 10.

Hernandez made it to the finals and was the first state finalist from Norwalk since Walt Robertson who finished a runner-up in the 135 weight class in 1992. He is also the fifth Norwalk wrestler to ever qualify for the finals at state.

"I felt on top of the world," Hernandez said.

He said making it to the finals filled him with complete excitement and adrenaline. He described running out of the tunnel with fireworks and 12,000 people screaming as "dope."

He ended up being a runner-up in the 160 weight class of division two.

"The match didn't go as planned. I couldn't score and the refs stalled. I'm happy with sec-

ond, but first is better," Hernandez said.

He was also named an All-American. Hernandez was invited to wrestle in Virginia Beach for nationals because of his high placing in the state the last two years.

Nationals took place in the Virginia Convention Center the weekend of March 29-31.

"It's not as exciting as state because your family is not there and the crowd cheering you on isn't there either," Hernandez said.

Hernandez's goal was to make it to the finals, which he did.

"I wanted to finish the job. I was disappointed in myself that I couldn't, but I was happy with what I accomplished," Hernandez said. He placed second at nationals.

He plans on going back and hopefully bringing some of his teammates with him next year.

See **WRESTLERS** on page 13



Photo by Mascie Horner

The 2019 OHSAA Team Wrestling State Tournament took place at the Schottenstein Center at Ohio State University in Columbus. Wrestlers can be seen warming up and preparing for matches.

Trey Leroux going to Ohio State

By Evan Gaston

A big man from a small town makes it to the horse-shoe. It is very hard to miss six foot eight junior Trey Leroux when walking through the hallway or seeing him around school.

Leroux has always been bigger than his fellow classmates, which has helped him succeed at football. He has been playing football ever since he was three or four years old. When asked about how his height affects him, he said, "I hit my head on a lot of doorways and break a lot of light bulbs."

Throughout his house, there are many football-related items showing how much the sport means to him and his family. His older brother, senior Tche Leroux, also played football this past year and will be attending



Photo by Evan Gaston

Junior Trey Leroux holds junior Isaac Nolan. Trey Committed to Ohio State University to play football.

Bowling Green State University to play football. Leroux puts in a lot of work to be successful at this sport by going to multiple showcases and football camps each year.

After a great run to the Final Four for the Trucker football team, Leroux had many offers come rolling in from colleges offering scholarships. After a lot of thinking Leroux decided to choose Ohio State as his soon-to-be called home. He said his top three choices were Ohio State, Purdue and Indiana University.

He has been in contact with the coaches at Ohio State since sophomore year and the relationship that he built with them was what finalized his decision. He also said that the campus is amazing and going to Ohio State will help him to get a job just about anywhere that he wants after he graduates.

Leroux plans to be a history teacher after graduating from college. He will have all the credits needed to graduate by the end of his senior football season, so he will graduate early to start at Ohio State. He will take some classes but is mostly going to get a head start on working out with the team and getting to know everyone. Leroux said he is "excited to leave Norwalk and live in a new city surrounded by new things."

Leroux received offers from:

Bowling Green, Toledo, West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio State, Purdue, Buffalo, Cincinnati, Ball State, Eastern Michigan, Pittsburgh, Indiana, Akron and Rutgers.

Athletes of the Issue- Spring edition



Name: Leighton Battles
Grade: 12
Sport: Baseball
Why did you begin playing your sport? My mom and dad thought it was a good idea.
How long have you been playing this sport and do you plan on continuing it after high school? I have been playing for too long and I am playing at Mount Union next year.
Most difficult thing: Baseball kinda gets boring sometimes.
Favorite memory: All the people I got to play with.
Pre-game ritual: Cup checking everyone before the game.
Favorite thing: Hard core messing with Nolan Flowers.
Coach's comment: "He's our only senior and he's working on his third letter. He is a solid man on and off the field. He had a major knee injury back in August, so he'll be coming back as our middle infielder after being our catcher for the past two seasons." -- Coach Wes Douglas



Name: Austin Brown
Grade: 12
Sport: Tennis
Why did you begin playing your sport? Tennis on Wii Sports was fun.
How long have you been playing this sport and do you plan on continuing it after high school? I have been playing since freshman year, and I plan on playing intramurals at Ohio University.
Most difficult thing: Staying positive after making a mistake.
Favorite memory: Watching Damon Mohan and Jacob Coe wrestle in the tent.
Pre-game ritual: Getting roasted by Higgins.
Favorite thing: Having to play individually and only rely on yourself.
Coach's comment: "Looking forward to many great accomplishments from Austin this year. His leadership will be vital to our success." -- Coach Chris Higgins.



Name: Leighton Steele
Grade: 11
Sport: Track
Why did you begin playing your sport? My sister did it last season and I went to a couple meets and it looked like a lot of fun.
How long have you been playing this sport and do you plan on continuing it after high school? This is my first year. I might continue on after high school.
Most difficult thing? Having to push through the laps.
Do you have a favorite memory while playing this sport? Being able to run with new people.
Do you have any pre-game rituals? To hype myself up and be ready to run.
Favorite thing? Just being able to run and have fun with it.
Coach's Comment: "She's done everything I have asked, came to every conditioning even when she was sick or in pain. She's come very far," track coach Mark Sindlinger said.



Name: Caleb Robinson
Grade: 12
Sport: Track
Why did you begin playing your sport? So I can stay in shape.
How long have you been playing this sport and do you plan on continuing it after high school? I've run track for four years and I don't plan to continue to run after high school.
Most difficult thing? Waking up for practice and showing up.
Favorite memory? Going to the invites and making new friends.
Do you have any pre-game rituals? Listening to music.
Favorite thing about this sport? Winning races.
Coach's Comment: "He works hard, and has been here for four years. He has really earned it." -Track Coach Ron DeLuca.



Name: Sydney Hughes
Grade: 12
Sport: Softball
Why did you begin playing your sport? I was introduced at a young age and have played ever since.
How long have you been playing this sport and do you plan on continuing it after high school? I have been playing about 10 years and I am still undecided on if I will play after high school.
Most difficult thing: Playing in all types of different weather. It's either freezing cold or super hot for travel ball in the summer.
Favorite memory: Going to Myrtle Beach twice in one year for Norwalk and travel ball freshman year.
Pre-game ritual: Listen to music, swing and hit off of a tee.
Favorite thing: Playing with teammates and being successful with my stats to show that I am a leader on the team.
Coach's comment: "Sydney is a four-year letter winner and scholar-athlete. She is an extremely hard worker who leads by example on and off the field and has high expectations for both herself and her teammates. She is a defensive force behind the plate and is currently leading the team in batting average this year," Coach Julie Schmidt said.



Bittersweet end to sweet sixteen game

By Mascie Horner

The boys' basketball team finished their successful season at Bowling Green State University on March 14.

The team lost to Columbus South, 54-61.

The team had a very memorable season, as they were Sandusky Bay Conference (SBC) champions, sectional champions, district champions and regional qualifiers.

Senior guard and Ashland University commit, Brandon Haraway, joined the 1,000 point club, was named SBC player of the year, Northwest District

Player of the Year, first team All-Ohio and was a top seven finalist for the OPSWA Mr. Basketball Award.

Sophomore Garrett Chapin earned second team SBC and District Honorable Mention.

This is the team's first regional appearance since 2014, the year boys' basketball won a state title.

This year, the team lost two seniors, Haraway and Austin Brown.

With many returning faces next season, the team can hopefully carry one successful season to the next and find themselves in the win column.

Photo by Kristina Toczek

Senior Alyssa Faley looks towards the players during the Div. 3 sweet sixteen game at Bowling Green State University.

Sports Opinion

Few people view state sendoffs

By Evan Gaston

As many of you may have noticed, the sports sendoffs at the high school are being coordinated differently.

In the fall of 2018 when the football team had their Final Four sendoff, the whole team walked through the hallways with the band marching. Then this year, the sendoffs for the state wrestlers, cheerleaders and robotics took place in the seal only, with everyone gathered around. Many couldn't even get close enough to see.

Why the change?

Principal Brad Cooley said that meeting in the seal saves time, but I don't think it saves enough to truly make a difference. I believe sendoffs worked just fine before when the fight song was played over the PA sys-

tem and the ones being recognized walked through the halls. As nice as it may be to have the band play and march, that is not always an option.

Cooley also said the energy level isn't as high at the high school for sendoffs as it is at the lower grades since we know the people being recognized and see them every day. The athletes and club members who are being recognized are seen as superstars to the younger kids, who are very excited to see them. If there was more energy and excitement at the high school, that would help to go back to the original way, Cooley said.

Sophomore Ethan Phillips was a part of the Fab Five that went to state for wrestling and was upset about the recent change.

"It disappointed me. I want to walk through the halls," he said.



Photo by Evan Gaston

Students stand in the crowded seal during the state wrestlers send off.

I believe that the athletes and club members who work hard to earn a sendoff deserve a proper one.

Cheer team excited to compete

Photo by Cale Ours

Cheerleaders (from left) sophomores Madison Shutt and Morgan Risner wave down the hallway. The team placed 18th out of 20th at the St. John's arena in Columbus. Coach Kristie Wert said the girls did well against state-ranked teams.

WRESTLERS

Continued from page 12

This was the first time in Norwalk wrestling that four individuals placed at the state championship in the same season.

Junior Alec Maloney placed third in the 220 weight class.

"It was relieving to qualify because there was an expectation from making it last year. State is pretty crazy. You know you're competing with the best," Maloney said.

He is very happy with the results and says it is always good to end the season with a win.

Junior Gabe Phillips agreed with Maloney and said it is important to have fun while wrestling.

Phillips placed fifth in the 182 weight class.

"I'm going to do a lot of summer wrestling and weight training

to prepare for next year," Phillips said.

Senior Tche Leroux said he wrestled his last year of high school because his dad forced him.

He placed sixth in the heavy-weight class.

"I'm happy with the results because I wasn't even supposed to make it," Leroux said.

He plans on continuing his athletic career in football instead of wrestling at Bowling Green University. Later on, he wants to be an athletic director.

Sophomore Ethan Phillips said he wrestles because the sport builds character. He qualified for state, but did not place in the 152 weight class. "I was very nervous because I never wrestled in a place that big," Phillips said.

NERDs return to state

Photo by Keeanne Steele

The members of NERD Nation gather around the seal for their state sendoff with their robots. Team E placed 78/85, team A placed 74/85, team R placed 71/85, and team D placed 64/85.

Sports bloom into action



Photos by Micah Duncan, Keanne Steele, JJ Hackenburg and Kristina Toczek

Barnum ends with a bang



Photo by Kristina Toczek

The Barnum cast ends their show on March 8 with a finale pose. The cast worked on this show for months. "We've worked really hard on the show. I'm really happy with how it turned out," senior Micah Duncan said. He played P.T. Barnum.

Springing into more memes

By Kristina Toczek



Senior Collin Wagner

When you can't decide if you should go crazy or go stupid



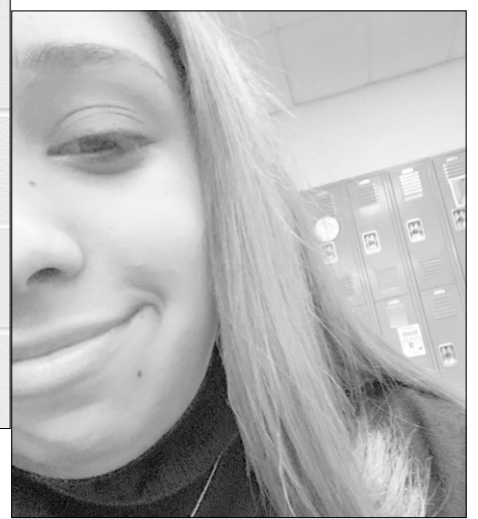
Seniors Caleb Robinson and Leighton Battles

When your boyfriend doesn't know he's your boyfriend



Junior Kaleb Bauman

When they have the horses in the front instead of the back

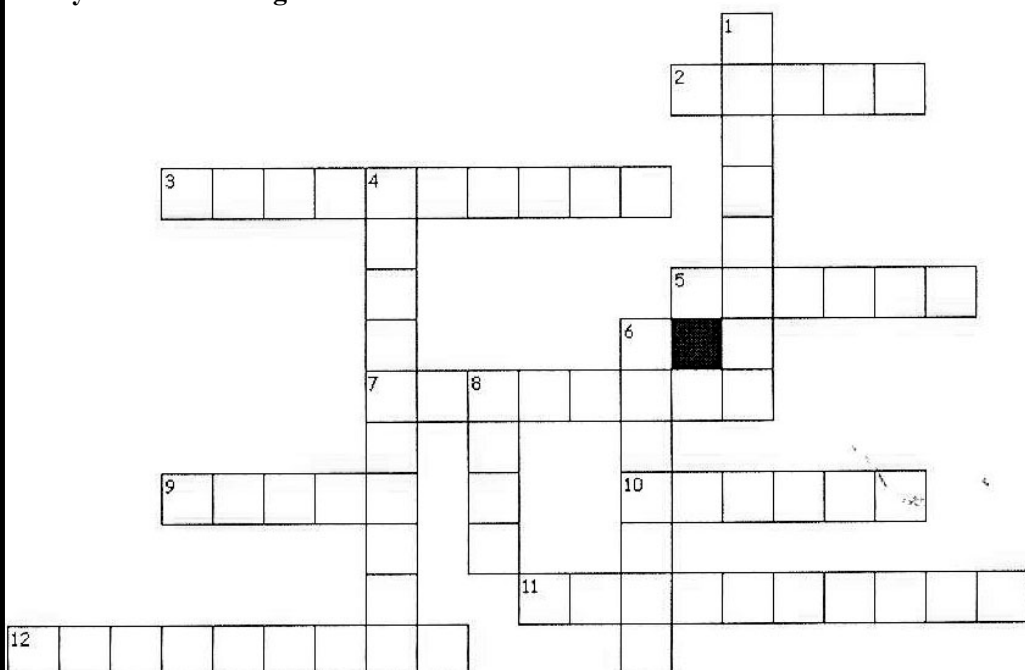


Senior Heaven Thompson

When the FaceTime connection cuts out and your face is paused

Test your crossword knowledge

By JJ Hackenburg



Across

- 2. The classic video game that was reviewed in this issue.
- 3. Isaac Scheel sells honey and chapstick for this family company.
- 5. This superhero, whose superpower is changing sizes, is one of the few that can defeat Thanos.
- 7. The new course being offered by the engineering department next year.
- 9. Mr. Jackson's class has recently made a wooden version of this cloth product.
- 10. This character from Scooby-Doo is said to be one of the most powerful beings in the universe.
- 11. The app of the issue.
- 12. Ethan Hernandez placed 2nd at the state tournament for this sport.

Down

- 1. Talk with Ethan Lindenger if you want to know more about these disease-preventing medicines.
- 4. This club will be competing in a nationwide environmental competition in April.
- 6. Rapper Michael Dapaah is better known by this stage name.
- 8. According to all known laws of aviation, these creatures should not be able to fly.