

The Blue Jay Beat

Staff:

Editor: Colter Cottrell

Kailee Fisher

Casey Baker

Savannah Doyle

Katelynn Miller

Kolby Alexander

Hi! My name is Colter Cottrell, and I am taking over as



editor of The Blue Jay Beat until further notice. I would like to thank Shelby Smith for all the hard work she put into this paper and even though I will not be as good as her, I will try my best to make this paper an interesting one to read. This paper was very hectically made with me having little training on the software, but I did try my best and I hope you enjoy!

New Addition to the Team:

Katelynn Miller!

My name is Katelynn Miller, I am a Junior this year. I am 16 years old and my birthday is May 22, 2001. I live in Aberdeen, Ohio with my grandparents and younger brother, Layne. I have a part-time job at Bob Evans, and I am very active in extracurricular activities. In my spare time, I enjoy drawing, painting, playing video games, reading and taking care of animals. I also enjoy spending time with my boyfriend, Kolby Alexander. In the fall, I enjoy playing volleyball for our school. This coming season will make my 6th year playing volleyball. I am also involved in FCCLA and band. This would make my 6th year involved in FCCLA, and my 5th year in band, although I stopped band when I first arrived in high school and then joined back this year. When I graduate from High School, I plan to further my education into being an Early Childhood Specialist. I also plan to move to South Carolina and further my education after being an Early Childhood Specialist for some time. I then want to obtain my Masters in English and become a Middle School English Teacher.



NEW ADDITION TO THE TEAM:

Kolby Alexander!

My name is Kolby Alexander. I am 16 years old and I live in Ripley Ohio, but I was born in Adams County. I was born on October 25, 2001.

Some of my hobbies include drawing, playing video games, reading, hanging out with my girlfriend and other friends. My girlfriends name is Katelynn Miller. I have only one sibling and that is my brother, his name is Korey and he is 28 years old. My brother also has a daughter whose name is Ellie, which would make me an uncle. My mom's name is Mary and she always supports me in whatever I want to do in my life.

I am an avid reader and I have many favorite books, but if I had to choose one book as my favorite book, I would have to choose the book *It* by Stephen King.

My favorite sport is soccer and I have played it since I was in kindergarten but took a break when I got to high school but I plan on playing again in the future.

I really love working with computers and other things in my free time. I am also in ROTC and this is my second year in the program. I am on the Cyberpatriot team in ROTC, where my team and I work on computers that have problems during competitions. I play the bass drum in our school band as well. When I go to college, I want to major in computer engineering and later make a career out of it.



Attentive Alex

By: Kailee Fisher

Student of the month is an honor to receive. It means your hard work has paid off and has stood out to the teachers in the building. Alex Arthur's hard work has stood out, which is why he has earned the title of Junior Student of the Month.

Alex is a junior here at RULH High School and is known around school for his intelligence. However, he was surprised for earning this title because he does not think he has done anything special. Although Alex may think this, his dedication in the classroom has surely paid off and has stood out to others.

Alex is currently taking English 2, College Math, Culinary fundamentals, and Forensics.



His favorite class is college math. This is because it is smaller, allowing for personalized lessons. He also enjoys College Math because he has always been good at math. Alex describes his student image as, "an attentive student who is mostly good." Having this image has allowed Alex to excel in the classroom and earn the title of student of the month.

Alex's current future plans are to go to college to become an electrical engineer. However, recently he has been thinking of becoming a psychology professor instead. Although Alex does not have any major motivation, his motivation comes from the plans for his future. He works hard now to be able to provide a stable income for his future family.

When asked who his role model was, Alex responded with, "My mother of course, she has a work ethic that I could ever hope to match and she always does her best to both help and see the good in people." This is a very good person to look up to and has obviously taught Alex a lot!

Alex's advice to the underclass men is, "Make sure you do all your work and pay attention in class." This is very good advice and will allow you to succeed in high school. Following his own advice has allowed Alex to excel in the classroom and earn the title of Student of the Month. Congratulations Alex, keep up the good work!

Jan/Feb. Birthdays

By: Colter Cottrell

1-5: Cassidy Higle

1-7: Christopher Mitchell

1-7: Kaylien Hesler

1-8: Madisyn Blackburn

1-10: Chelsey Hines

1-10: Benjamin Spiller

1-12: Ryan Blanford

1-12: Alexis Pitts

1-14: Meghan Jolley

1-15: Shelby Smith

1-17: Grace Mitchell

1-17: Alyssa Glover

1-20: Cheyenne Chapman

1-21: Michayla Mallaley

1-22: John Neely

1-23: Austin Buchanan

1-24: Chelsey Frazier

1-24: Daniel Morgan

1-24: Hannah Morgan

1-24: Isabella Mellenkamp

1-26: Casey Jones

1-26: Marcus Myrick

1-29: Tiffany Bullock

1-29: Mercedes Allender

2-1: Jerran Johnson

2-2: Charles Morton



2-7: Kamri Beth Offutt

2-7: Michael Allender

2-8: Alexis Fisher

2-9: Madeline Moran

2-9: Victoria Bolton

2-11: Roger Copple

2-13: Maranda Thompson

2-15: Payton Nickell

2-16: Cayden Whitt

2-18: Frankie Lykins

2-18: Luke Berry

2-19: Derick Jones

2-19: Erick Souder

2-26: Travis Flannery

2-27: Hailey Workman

2-27: Noah Gibson

2-28: Ashley Turner



Fashionable Meggie

By Kailee Fisher

Last month a girl was chosen, based on their style and clothing for fashion of the month. February's girl fashion of the month goes to Meggie Scott. Meggie is a senior here at Ripley High School and is always seen around school wearing the cutest clothes! Meggie was asked a series of questions, so we can find out the secrets behind her fashionable style.

Meggie said she does not go shopping that often, but when she does she shops anywhere she can find cute clothes. This includes places such as American Eagle, Victoria's Secret, JC Penneys, and Kohls. Although Meggie only goes shopping around once a month, she always manages to have the cutest clothes.



Meggie describes her look as casual and maybe a little dressy. Her favorite thing to wear to school is flannels, jeans, and tall boots. Although she doesn't have many, her favorite thing to wear on lazy days is a sweatshirt, jeans, and gym shoes. Her favorite part of her outfit is her shoes because she loves shoes! Meggie also wears accessories such as bracelets, necklaces, and earrings that help complete her outfit.

The clothes you wear often bring out your personality. Meggie believes her outfits bring out her personality because they are fun and describe her. Meggie gets her sense of style from ideas that pop in her head. When asked she said, "I just think to myself would this look good or bad." Meggie is a very fashionable person, and has earned Girl's Fashion of the Month.

February Event Calendar

By: Kailee Fisher

February 1- Bowling vs Lynchburg Fairfield-Bus, Basketball- Girls vs North Adams

February 3- Basketball- Girls vs Peebles

February 6- Basketball- Girls vs Fayetteville

February 7- Bowling vs Bethel

February 8- Bowling vs Lynchburg Whiteoak, Basketball- Girls vs Eastern

February 9- Interim Reports Due, Basketball-Boys vs Peebles

February 10- Basketball-Boys JV vs North Adams

February 12- Bowling SHAC Tournament

February 13- Basketball-Boys vs Bethel-Tate

February 16- Basketball-Boys vs Peebles

February 19- No School - Presidents' Day

February 20- Parent Teacher Conferences - High School

February 21- Parent Teacher Conferences - Elementary School, RULH Board Meeting

February 22- Parent Teacher Conferences - Middle School



Kingdom Come: Deliverance

By: Colter Cottrell

Kingdom Come: Deliverance is an upcoming medieval open world RPG being developed by Warhorse Studios for the Xbox One, PS4, and Microsoft Windows and is set to release on February 13th.

Kingdom Come: Deliverance is set in the Kingdom of Bohemia 1403 and is part of the Lands of the Bohemian Crown. The old king of the land has died and his heir doesn't have the power to take the throne. The new king's brother sees this as an opportunity to take control. He kidnaps the king and pillages his land. You (as in your character) are the son of a blacksmith, whose family was killed in the ongoing onslaught of the new king's brother. You set out to take revenge on the man who killed your family. Everyone is probably at this point saying "Oh boy, yet another fantasy medieval RPG game." but here is the thing, it isn't fantasy. The entire game is set to be as historically accurate and realistic as possible. The game will have historically accurate clothing, armour, weapons, characters, locations, buildings, and pretty much everything you can imagine.

Weapon choices will range from knives to warhammers, with the different kinds of weapons having different benefits and drawbacks. For instance, a sword is a fast weapon and good for blocking and parrying, but will be less effective against heavy armours. Also, to add to the realistic immersive factor, weapons and gear will wear down and break over time. Meaning, the longer you use your favorite sword, the more worn and beaten it will be. If you wear one set of armour for a long time, not only will the game tell you it's breaking, but on screen it becomes visually worn with dirt, dents, and blood.

The game is not linear, either, meaning that there is more than one way the story can go. Your decisions base how the story will unfold. You choose whether you're the good hearted samaritan or a total jerk. Your decisions and what you do will affect your reputation and there are consequences for being a jerk. Citizens will report you for committing crimes and guards will punish you accordingly, whether it be a fine, jail time, be put in the stocks, or even torture.

The game is played from a first person perspective and will utilize the classic RPG system, where you determine how you want to play. Whether you want to be a warrior, thief, bard, or a class hybrid is all up to you. And all quests being nonlinear, you can complete them however you want. If you want to sneak into a

camp and steal some war plans, go ahead. If charging in swinging your sword in every direction is more your style, like it is for me, go ahead. Why not. Do you like the sound of Kingdom Come: Deliverance?



6 Innovations That Could Change the World!

By: Kailee Fisher

There have been many scientists whose innovations have changed the course of history. These innovations include the printing press (Johann Gutenberg), the light bulb (Thomas Edison), the polio vaccine (Jonas Salk), and the compiler (Grace Hopper). Today, Bill Gates is on the search to find a new invention that will transform history!

One of these new innovations includes better vaccine storage. Vaccines are very important in the world today, and have helped save millions of lives. However, these vaccines can spoil if they are not kept at the right temperature. A group of scientists from Global Good have created a new innovation for this problem. The Metafridge is a refrigerator that stays cold enough to keep vaccines safe even during long power outages. They are also working on a portable cooler that allows vaccinators to travel further and reach kids, no matter where they are.

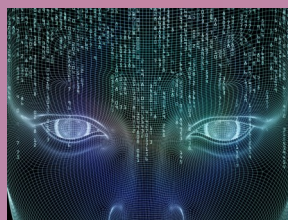
Another innovation includes gene editing. Scientists are working on ways to be able to edit the genes of organisms. By doing this we could change the genes of a sick person to make them better, or even remove the bad genes to help prevent diseases. Although we are still in the beginning stages of genome editing tools, it will sure be an innovation to change the world!

Solar fuel is also an innovation that could transform history. Researchers at Caltech are exploring ways to turn the sun's energy into fuel. Although we're still a long ways from this, Solar fuel will allow us to be less dependent on fossil fuels and curb climate change. It will definitely be an innovation to change the world!

Bill Gates has also been keeping a watch on mRNA Vaccines. Most vaccines use forms of a virus to help your body create immunity and prevent diseases. However, scientists are studying ways to use genetic material instead. This would allow new vaccines to be made quickly and easily. These vaccines will allow our body to create its own natural defense in order to prevent diseases.

Another innovation includes improved drug delivery. Taking medication at the same time every day can become difficult and you may forget to take a pill. Intarcia is a company that has found a way to change that. They have created a small device that gets implanted under your skin that slowly releases medication over time. This technology could be used in many ways to treat and prevent disease. One of these ways includes an HIV prophylactic. One implant could protect a person at risk for HIV for up to a year!

Finally, artificial intelligence could be an innovation to transform history. Of all the innovations, this could be the sure one to transform the way we live. Although Artificial Intelligence will create new challenges, it will make our lives more productive, more efficient, and easier overall.

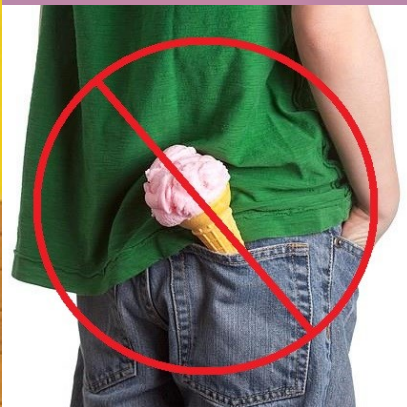


Strange Laws

By: Kailee Fisher

- **Alabama**- It is illegal to wear a fake mustache that causes laughter in church
- **Arizona**- It is illegal for donkeys to sleep in bathtubs
- **Arkansas**- It is illegal to mispronounce “Arkansas”
- **Colorado**- It is illegal to ride a horse under the influence
- **Connecticut**- A pickle cannot legally be considered a pickle unless it bounces
- **Georgia**- It is illegal to keep an ice cream cone in your back pocket on Sundays
- **Hawaii**- Coins are not to be placed in one’s ear
- **Iowa**- One armed piano players must play for free
- **Maryland**- It is a violation to be in a public park with a sleeveless shirt, \$10 fine.
- **Maine**- It is illegal to keep Christmas Decorations up after January 14th
- **Michigan**- It is illegal for women to cut their hair without their husbands permission
- **Minnesota**- A person may not cross state lines with a duck atop their head
- **Nevada**- It is illegal to drive a camel on the highway

- **New Jersey**- It is against the law for a man to knit during fishing season
- **New York**- Slippers are not to be worn after 10 p.m.
- **North Dakota**- It is illegal to lie down and fall asleep with your shoes on
- **Ohio**- It is illegal to get a fish drunk
- **Oklahoma**- It is illegal to wrestle a bear
- **Oregon**- It is illegal to go hunting in a cemetery
- **South Dakota**- It is illegal to sleep in a cheese factory
- **Tennessee**- It is illegal to share your Netflix password
- **Texas**- It is illegal to sell one's eye
- **Virginia**- Children are not to go trick or treating on Halloween
- **West Virginia**- Whistling underwater is prohibited
- **Wyoming**- You may not take a picture of a rabbit from January to April without an official permit



Top Gifts For Valentine's Day

By: Kolby Alexander

For Girls

Flowers

Jewelry

Chocolates

Teddy bears

Dinner Date

Purse

Clothing

Makeup

Keepsake box

Hugs and Kisses

Candles

Heartfelt letter

Cooking Equipment

Art Set

Homemade Food

Video Games

Beef Jerky

Fishing Equipment

Hunting Equipment

Computer Accessories

For Boys

Watches

Wallets

Shoes

Clothing

Chocolates

Coffee Mug

Ties



iPhone Addiction

By: Colter Cottrell

Nowadays, more people (including children) in the U.S. have a phone than don't. In the world of technology, most see this new explosion as a good thing. Kids have phones to call their parents if they are in trouble but at the same time, some people think it's too much. Some believe that people are spending too much time on their phones. It has gotten to the point where Apple's two largest investors are calling for Apple to do something to give parents more control over time spent on phones.

"There is a developing consensus around the world including Silicon Valley that the potential long-term consequences of new technologies need to be factored in at the outset, and no company can outsource that responsibility," said the investors, who collectively control \$2 billion of Apple stock. "Apple can play a defining role in signalling to the industry that paying special attention to the health and development of the next generation is both good business and the right thing to do." They are urging Apple to update Apple's iOS, which already has some parental control, with more tools to help fight the growing iPhone addiction. The investors suggested that Apple put a new setting in your iPhone. With this new setting, parents put your age into the phone. The phone uses this age to determine allowed screen time and what content can be accessed. Do you agree with these new settings, or should kids be able to exercise more freedom on their devices?



Wacky Holidays In February

By Savannah Doyle

1. No Politics Day
- 2 Bubble Gum Day - first Friday of the month
- 3 Eat Ice Cream for Breakfast Day - first Saturday of month
- 4 Create a Vacuum Day
- 5 National Weatherman's Day
- 6 National Chopsticks Day
- 7 Wave All your Fingers at Your Neighbor Day
- 8 Kite Flying Day
- 9 Toothache Day
- 10 Umbrella Day
- 11 Don't Cry over Spilled Milk Day
- 12 Clean out Your Computer Day - second Monday of Month
- 13 Get a Different Name Day
- 14 Ash Wednesday - date varies
- 15 National Gum Drop Day
- 16 Do a Grouch a Favor Day
- 17 Random Acts of Kindness Day
- 18 National Drink Wine Day
- 19 National Chocolate Mint Day
- 20 Hoodie Hoo Day
- 21 Card Reading Day
- 22 Be Humble Day
- 23 International Dog Biscuit Appreciation Day
- 24 National Tortilla Chip Day
- 25 Pistol Patent Day
- 26 Tell a Fairy Tale Day
- 27 No Brainer Day - this day is for me!
- 28 Public Sleeping Day



New To RULH: Master Gunnery Sergeant Phillips

By: Savannah Doyle

Master Gunnery Sergeant Phillips is a new staff member at RULH high school for the 2017-2018 school year. He has served 30 years active duty in the military and this is his first year teaching high school JROTC.

Master Gunney has four children: the oldest 24 is a teacher, a 21 year old senior at Marshall University, an 18 year old who is a freshman at Ohio State University, and a 15 year old who is a freshman at Georgetown.

Master Gunnery said he has enjoyed his time here and enjoys the school and students as a whole. Outside of school he enjoys riding his motorcycle and in-season hunting.

When asked what made him want to pursue a career in the military he responded that it had always been his dream and he wanted to experience and do something worthwhile. Taking up a JROTC position gave him the opportunity to progress the Marine aspect of teaching kids and making a difference.

Master Gunnery Phillips believes the military has changed over the years by modernizing technology and better integration. He says the best part of his time in the military is serving with the best people in the country. Some advice he has for kids considering the military is to choose something you love and be flexible.



Tech In School

By: Kolby Alexander

Some of our teachers have displayed how they feel about our Chromebook Policy, here are the results from the survey. Thank you to all the teachers who participated.

Has teaching been easier with the introduction of Chromebooks?

Yes- 86.7%

No- 6.7%

Unsure- 6.7%

Do Chromebooks create more teaching opportunities for students?

Yes- 80%

No- 6.7%

Maybe- 13.3%

Do you prefer teaching with Chromebooks or without them?

With them- 80%

Without them- 13.3%

Unsure- 6.7%

How much do you use Chromebooks in your classroom?

Very Often- 66.7%

Sometimes- 33.3%

Rarely- 0%

Do you think technology is an important part in students learning?

Yes- 93.3%

No- 6.7%

Unsure- 0%

Do you personally like teaching with Chromebooks?

Yes- 93.3%

No- 6.7%

Unsure- 0%

Do you think Chromebooks are more of a distraction or not?

Yes- 86.7%

Sometimes- 6.7%

No- 6.7%



Boys Basketball Team 2017-2018

By: Casey Baker

The RULH boys basketball team is holding their own this season and are currently 11-5 overall and 6-3 in league play. The basketball season is quickly coming to a close and the boys only have 6 regular season games left, two of the games are this week. They play Eastern 1/30, and they play Augusta on 2/02 this week.

The boys on the Varsity Basketball team are Brian Dunn, Dalton England, Logan Hanson, Ryan Harney, Chris Ruess, Josiah Staggs, Landon Dearing, Corey Germann, Alex King, Landon Rigdon, Jaki Royal, Peyton Fyffe, and Nigel Royal.

The head coach is Rex Woodward and assistant coaches are Corey Henschen, Jamey Ellis, and Tommy Germann. If you get a chance come out and support your BlueJays!



Red Velvet Heart Cake

By: Katelynn Miller

Ingredients:

1 recipe Red Velvet Cake or 1 package 2-layer-size cake mix

2 cups Chocolate-Sour Cream Frosting or canned chocolate frosting

2 tablespoons milk or water

14 - 16 maraschino cherries*

½ cup fresh raspberries

¼ cup whole almonds

¼ cup pecan halves

½ cup Creamy White Frosting or canned white frosting (optional)

Red food coloring (optional)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Grease and lightly flour one 8x8x2-inch square baking pan and one 8x1 1/2-inch round cake pan. Set aside. Prepare batter for Red Velvet Cake as directed. Divide batter between the prepared pans so batter is the same height in each pan (square pan will require more batter). Bake for 25 to 30 minutes or until a wooden toothpick inserted in centers comes out clean. Cool cake layers in pans on wire racks for 10 minutes. Remove layers from pans; cool completely on wire racks.

Using a long serrated knife, trim rounded tops of cake layers flat. Cut round cake layer in half crosswise, making two half-circles. On a large flat serving platter or tray place half-circles next to adjacent sides of square cake, making a heart shape.

Transfer about 1 cup of the Chocolate-Sour Cream Frosting to a small bowl. Stir in milk to thin frosting. Spread thinned frosting in a very thin layer over top and sides of cake. Let stand about 30 minutes or until set. Spread the remaining chocolate frosting over top and sides of cake. Smooth top with a long metal spatula.

Arrange maraschino cherries, raspberries, almonds, and pecans in separate rows on top of cake. If using, tint Creamy White Frosting pink with red food coloring (if desired). Transfer to a decorating bag fitted with a ribbon tip or other tip; pipe in rows on top of cake. Store cake, covered, in the refrigerator.

Chocolate Sour Cream Frosting

Ingredients:

12 ounces semisweet chocolate pieces

½ cup butter

18 ounce container dairy sour cream

4 ½ cups sifted powdered sugar (about 1 pound)

Directions

In a large saucepan melt chocolate pieces and butter over low heat, stirring frequently. Cool for 5 minutes. Stir in sour cream. Gradually add powdered sugar, beating until smooth. This frosts tops and sides of two 8- or 9-inch cake layers.



Where in the World and Did You Know

By: Casey Baker

Where in the world

The first Dutch settle-
Hosted the first Colonial
Declared its independ-
Sixth state in the nation
marriage



ment was established
Congress
ence on July, 9th
to legalize same-sex

Home of the Brooklyn Bridge

It's known as the concrete jungle

New York City

Answer:

Did you know

- 1.) It is illegal for any citizen to own more than three dogs in Boston, Massachusetts.
- 2.) Residents are now limited to no more than four cats per household in Kansas.
- 3.) A prince or princess who marries without the consent of the government, that person forfeits the right of succession for his/her children and all other descendants in Sweden.
- 4.) While riding in an elevator, one must talk to no one, and fold his hands while looking toward the door in New York.
- 5.) It is illegal to kick your wife out of bed in Lebanon, United States, Virginia.
- 6.) Every head of household must own a gun in Georgia, Kennesaw, United States.

Valentines Day Survey

By: Katelynn Miller

The results are in from the Valentine's Day Survey that RULH High School students took part in. Thanks to the students who did the survey.

Will you be celebrating Valentine's Day this year?

Yes- 42.9%

No- 37.1%

Maybe- 20%

What do you think is the best gift to give a girl on Valentine's Day?

Flowers- 25.7%

Dinner Date- 20%

Chocolate- 22.9%

Jewelry- 14.3%

Other- 17.1%

What do you think is the best gift for a guy?

Watch- 11.4%

Homemade Food- 25.7%

Video Games- 20%

Yeti Coolers/Cups- 5.7%

Other- 37.1%

What is the best movie to watch on Valentine's?

The Notebook- 31.4%

High School Musical- 0%

A Charlie Brown Valentine- 2.9%

Romeo and Juliet- 11.4%

Other- 54.3%

Do you think that the school should do more to celebrate Valentine's Day (send cards to others, buy flowers or candy, etc.)

Yes- 48.6%

No- 25.7%

Maybe- 25.7%

What do you believe the symbolism behind Valentine's Day is?

This question was an open response, and though we received many answers, the top answer was Love.

What flower do you think best represents Valentine's Day?

Roses- 85.7%

Tulips- 5.7%

Other- 8.6%





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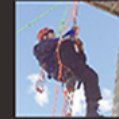


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