The Blue Jay Beat

Gun Control: Will it work? By: Colter Cottrell

With all of the violence in the world today, people are looking for a way to feel safe. To stop the violence. To make the place they once called home feel like a real home again. One of the ideas that is continuously brought up is gun control. Or, most of the time, the loss of legal firearms all together. People believe that if they take away legal guns, there will be no more violence. They believe that if we do this, that criminals will suddenly stop killing people. We here at The Blue Jay Beat have some news for you. It will not fix the problem! First of all, any criminal with even half a brain knows, legal firearms can be traced. All guns have a serial number on them, meaning that the police can always know if you legally own a gun, and can track you down if that gun is believed to have been used in a crime. Criminals can get their guns other ways. Black market dealers, selling untraceable guns to criminals. Taking away legal gun ownership will only make the problem worse. If a criminal is planning to rob a man, but the man pulls a Smith \$ Wesson snub nose 38. Special or a 45. caliber Kimber 1911 or even a 22. Caliber Ruger, that criminal, unless he has a death wish, will likely cease his crime. The gun in this situation stopped a robbery and possible murder of the robbery victim. If the victim did not have a gun, the criminal could take his money, and then if he was afraid that the victim could identify him, he could just kill him right there. While some say that if we take away guns, there will be less shootings, statistics show that the 3 cities in the U.S. with the most strict gun control laws also have the most murders in the United States. So, is taking away guns really the solution?

March's Event Calendar

By: Kailee Fisher

March 3rd- Archaeological Society Rock Show

March 4th- Archaeological Society Rock Show

March 7th- FFA Livestock Judging

March 9th- Picture Day

March 9th- Leukemia/Lymphoma Assembly

March 15- End of 3rd Grading Period

March 16- No School - In-Service

March 16- Ohio Beef Expo Livestock Judging

March 17- Saint Patrick's Day

March 21- RULH Board Meeting

March 23- Report Cards Issued

March 23-28- RULH HS Music Dept. Disney Trip

March 24- State Livestock Judging

March 26-30- No School - Spring Break







Learning Season for Ripley Lady Jays

By: Kailee Fisher

The Ripley Lady Jays Varsity Basketball Team played their last game against Madeira on February 17th. The team this year was composed of young and inexperienced players with only six juniors, three sophomores, and one freshman. Their record for the year was 4:14. Although the Lady Jays did not have the best record this season, their hard work and commitment to the game has been seen by many.

The Lady Jays began their season with players new to the game, or players who have not played for a awhile. However, as the season progressed, hard work had allowed for the team to get better. The team was lead by returning juniors, Carlee Daulton and Cailey Kirk. These girls did a great job of guiding the team and having patience throughout the season.

Although the Lady Jays did not have the best season, they did not put their heads down. No matter the score, the girls never gave up and always gave it their best effort. Throughout the season, the girls strived to get better and they remained committed to the game. By doing these things the team was able to grow and get better.

This year may have been a learning season for the Lady Jays, but next year the team will be composed of older and more experienced players. There will also be new players that will help the team. As long as the girls keep their effort, and practice in the off season, they will



On this Day In March

By: Kailee Fisher

- 1. 1872 Yellowstone becomes world's 1st national park
- 2. 1807 US Congress bans the slave trade within the US, effective January 1, 1808
- 1931 "Star Spangled Banner" officially becomes US national anthem by congressional resolution
- 4. 1924 "Happy Birthday To You" published by Claydon Sunny
- 5. 1946 Winston Churchill's "Iron Curtain" speech in Fulton, Missouri, popularized the term and draws attention to the division of Europe
- 6. 1869 Dmitri Mendeleev presents the first periodic table of the elements to the Russian Chemical Society
- 7. 1936 Hitler breaks Treaty of Versailles, sends troops to Rhineland
- 8. 1817 The New York Stock Exchange is founded
- 9. 1959 Barbie makes her debut at the American Toy Fair in New York. Over a billion have been sold worldwide since.
- 10.1983 Carrie Underwood is born
- 11. 2011 9.0 magnitude earthquake strikes 130 km (80 miles) east of Sendai, Japan, triggering a tsunami killing thousands of people and causing the second worst nuclear accident in history
- 12.1894 Coca-Cola is sold in bottles for the first time in Vicksburg, Mississippi
- 13.1973 Bobby Jackson is born
- 14. 1900 US currency goes on gold standard after Congress passes the Currency Act
- 15. 1493 Christopher Columbus returns to Spain after his first voyage to the New World

- 16. 1935 Adolf Hitler orders German rearmament in violation of The Treaty of Versailles
- 17. 432 Saint Patrick, aged about 16 is captured by Irish pirates from his home in Great Britain and taken as a slave to Ireland (traditional date)
- 18. 1940 Benito Mussolini and Italy join Hitler in Germany's war against France & Britain
- 19.1955 Bruce Willis is born
- 20. 2016 Barack Obama becomes the first US President to visit Cuba since 1928, arriving for a 2 day tour
- 21.1349 3,000 Jews killed in Black Death riots in Efurt, Germany
- 22.1954 1st shopping mall opens in Southfield, Michigan
- 23.1775 Patrick Henry proclaims "Give me liberty or give me death" in speech in favour of Virginian troops joining US Revolutionary war
- 24.1837 Canada gives its black citizens the right to vote
- 25.31 1st Easter, according to calendar-maker Dionysius Exiguus
- 26.1966 Large-scale anti-Vietnam War protests take place in the United States, including in New York, Washington D.C. and Chicago
- 27.1914 1st successful blood transfusion (in Brussels)
- 28.1939 Spanish Civil War ends, Madrid falls to Francisco Franco
- 29. 1961 After a 4½ year trial Nelson Mandela is acquitted of treason in Pretoria
- 30.240 BC 1st recorded perihelion passage of Halley's Comet
- 31.1889 The Eiffel Tower officially opens in Paris







Up For Adoption

By: Katelynn Miller

Do you want a new furry friend that needs a home? Brown County Animal Shelter can fix that! Shown below, these are animals that need homes, and you could be the lucky one to take them home and show them the love they deserve!

This friendly kitty is Fiona. Fiona is a Domestic Short-Hair Tabby cat. She is a young, medium sized cat. Fiona previously had health issues, but she is now healthy and happy. Her vaccinations are up to date, and she is spayed. She is litter-box trained. Her coat length is short. She would be good in a home with other cats, dogs and children. To find out more about Fiona, contact the Brown County Animal Shelter in Georgetown, Ohio at 937-378-3457.

These two kittens are Honey and Biscuit. Honey and Biscuit are the Calico/Tortoiseshell breed. They are young, medium sized cats. They come together in one package. There is no adoption fee. They are both spayed and they are also litter-box trained. They are good in a home with other cats, dogs and children. They are 6 months old. Previously, they had some parasitic problems, which are common in rescue kittens, but now they are healthy and happy, and ready to find a home. To find out more about Honey and Biscuit, contact the Brown County Animal Shelter in Georgetown, Ohio at 937-378-3457.

Shown above is Iceman aka Chance. Iceman is an American Staffordshire Terrier. He is approximately 2 years old. He is a large, young dog. Iceman has a short coat. His vaccinations are up to date and he is spayed and he ways approximately 50 pounds. Iceman was found in an abandoned house with no food or water. He patiently waited for the wardens to rescue him. He needs a new start with a new friend that will always be there to take care of him. He has been in the shelter's care since September 8, 2017. If you are interested in Iceman, or would like more information, please feel obligated to call the Brown County Animal Shelter in Georgetown, Ohio at 937-387-3457

This is Whip. Whip is a black Border Collie. Whip is a medium-sized adult. He has a long coat length. He is approximately 2 years old. Whip weighs 50 pounds. Whip was found on State Route 774 and has been in the Brown County Animal Shelter's care since December 29, 2017. If you want more information on Whip, feel free to contact the Brown County Animal Shelter at 937-387-3457

This is Artair. Artair is a German Shepherd Dog Mix. Artair is a stray dog that was found in Hamersville, Ohio. Artair is 2 years old. He weighs approximately 51.6lbs. His coat length is short. He is a large, adult male. He has been in the Brown County Animal Shelter's care since December 8, 2017. Artair is ready to find a home. If you are interested in Artair, please call the Brown County Animal Shelter, 937-387-3457.







17 Dead in Florida Shooting

By: Katelynn Miller

On Wednesday, February 14, a former student of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida shot and killed 17 people. 16 victims are in the hospital being treated for gunshot wounds. The killer was found and was identified as 19 year old Nikolas Cruz. He was arrested after leaving campus. This is the 18th School Shooting to take place in The United States this year. It is also the deadliest school shooting since the Sandy Hook elementary shooting, which took the lives of 20 children and six adults.

The shooter, Nikolas Cruz, was reported as having a bad past, having many disciplinary issues, and he was expelled from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. He was expelled due to getting into a fight with his ex-girlfriend's boyfriend. Classmates told the media that he had been very abusive to his ex-girlfriend. According to acquaintances, he had also posted photos of himself holding up guns and pictures of other weapons he had. He had also posted a photo relating to a New York school shooting and made the comment, "Man I can do so much better." A classmate of Cruz's had reported that sometimes Cruz would introduce himself as "a school shooter." One of Cruz's schoolmates from elementary school had also said that "something wasn't right about him, he was off."

Cruz's Attorneys are trying to argue that he has a chronic battle with depression and mental illnesses, in fact, his defense attorney referred to him on Thursday as a "broken child." Cruz has been charged with 17 counts of premeditated murder. Cruz is ordered without bond. Cruz had committed the murders with an AR-15, but he admitted to court to having many loaded magazines in a black duffle bag. He also admitted to ditching the duffle bag in efforts to "blend in" with the other students.

The 17 victims names have been releases including Alyssa Alhadeff, a fourteen year old who loved playing soccer, 35 year old Scott Beigel, a geography teacher who gave up his life to protect his students, Martin Duque Anguiano, 14, Nicholas Dworet, a seventeen year old who was a star swimmer, Aaron Feis, a 37 year old football coach at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Jaime Guttenberg, 14, Chris Hixon, 49, was the athletic director, Luke Hoyer, 15, Cara Houghan, 14, was a dancer at the Drake School of Irish Dance, Gina Montalto, 15, Joaquin Oliver, a seventeen year old, Alaina Petty, 14, was a member of the "Helping Hands" program at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, she was also in her school's ROTC pro-

gram, Meadow Pollack, 18, was a senior, accepted into Lynn University in Boca Raton, Helena Ramsay, 17, Alex Schachter, 14, Carmen Schentrup, 16, and Peter Wang, 15.



The DaVinci Code

By: Colter Cottrell

The book that won the *Indies Choice Book Award for Adult Fiction*, The DaVinci Code is a book that makes you rethink things. Makes you wonder what you really know. It sucks you into a story full of mystery and suspense.

Robert Langdon is in Paris to give a lecture on his work. Having made an appointment to meet with Jacques Saunière, the curator of the Louvre, he is startled to find the French police at his hotel room door. They inform him that Saunière has been murdered and they would like his immediate assistance at the Louvre to help them solve the crime. Unknown to Langdon, he is in fact the prime suspect in the murder and has been summoned to the scene of the crime so that the police may extract a confession from him. While he is in the Louvre, he meets Sophie Neveu, a young cryptologist from the DCPJ. When Langdon and Sophie get the chance to talk in private, he finds out that Jacques Saunière is her grandfather. Saunière instructs Sophie to 'find Robert Langdon', according to the message he left for her in the floor. Hence, Sophie believes he is innocent of her grandfather's murder. He spends the rest of the novel dodging the police and trying to solve the mystery of an ancient secret society, the Priory of Sion, which was once headed by Leonardo da Vinci.

I LOVE this book. It is a novel that requires a lot of thought. You need to have a sharp mind to follow this book, as it gets pretty complicated. Nonetheless, this book is like the bible to anyone looking for a deep murder mystery/conspiracy theory read. Don't watch the movie though. Book is always better than movie.

Colter's Rating: 10/10



Movie Review-IT

By: Kolby Alexander

IT, also known as Stephen King's IT, is a recent remake of the 1990's horror mini series that was also based off the book IT, which was released in the late 80's. This movie and book are both cult classics as they have gained an enormous following, especially with the remake coming out late last year.

This horror movie revolves around 7 bullied children from a small town called Derry in 1989, who are also referred to as the Losers Club. The main character in *IT* is a boy named Bill, but most everyone in his town calls him stuttering Bill because of his strong stutter that he has when he speaks.

At the beginning of the movie, Bill gives his little brother Georgie a paper sailboat that he had made for him. Georgie proceeds to go outside in the heavy downfall of rain and sail the paper boat that his brother made him along the streets of Derry. Eventually, Georgie's paper sail boat goes down into the sewer. Frantic that his brother will be upset that he lost the paper sail boat, he bends down to look in the sewer opening. After a minute of looking, two yellow eyes appear in the dark sewer opening.

These yellow eyes belong to the stories main antagonist, Pennywise the dancing clown, which is also what the creature describes his name as to Georgie. Pennywise is a shapeshifting monster that throughout the movie uses people's fear to manipulate them and instill fear in them. Pennywise tells Georgie he can have his boat back he just has to take it from his hand. Georgie does this, and the shapeshifter creature pulls him down into the sewer, leaving the town of Derry and his brother Bill very curious as to what happend.

One year later, the story picks up to the summer of 1989. The Losers club who all have now experienced some kind of encounter with Pennywise, come together because they realize they have all been tormented by the same entity. The Loser club vows to help each other and bring the shapeshifting monster to an end, as they go through horrible challenges that the clown puts them through.

IT received an 85% on rotten tomatoes and at the box office received 700.4 million dollars. The movie is also expected to get a sequel which will come sometime in 2019 to continue the horrific story. I recommend this movie to anyone who is looking for a scary movie to watch with friends as it offers many moments that are both psychological and visually horrifying. I would also recommend reading the book which in my opinion is the best experience overall.



Upcoming Games:

Far Cry 5

By: Colter Cottrell

One of the greatest game series to ever grace the gaming world, Far Cry is getting a new title in the revolutionary series. Far Cry is to return to present day after "Far Cry: Primal" took the story back a few years. Well, more than a few. Stone Age to be exact.

While past Far Cry games have been set on one solid pre-designed character, Far Cry 5 gives you the opportunity to create your own player character, being able to customize your character's appearances, gender, and skin tone.

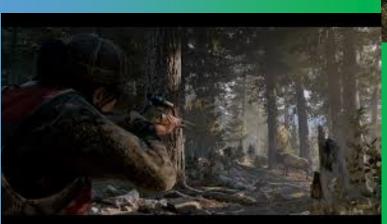
Combat also gets a new twist, with the addition of a new type of combat. While past Far Cry games have not had much interest in melee combat (excluding Far Cry Primal, which was 97% melee combat) Far Cry 5 is getting a little more hands on with a variety of melee weapons to select from.

While the other Far Cry games have given you map markers and, in most cases, a direct waypoint to your target, Far Cry 5 tries to take a different approach, entrusting you to navigate and discover the world on your own. The player is dropped into the game world with little context, direction or objective markers and is instead required to navigate the world on their own. The developers expressed a desire to create what they termed the "anecdote factory", a game where two players could venture out from the same point in opposite directions and have completely different experiences that they would then share with one another anecdotally.

The game is set in the fictional Hope County, Montana, where a preacher named Joseph Seed has risen to prominence. Seed believes that he has been chosen to protect the people of Hope County from an "inevitable collapse" and has established a congregation called Eden's Gate. Ostensibly, this is to fulfill his mission of leading the people to salvation. In reality, Seed is a radical preacher and Eden's Gate is a militaristic doomsday cult. Under his rule, Eden's Gate has used both coercion and violence to forcibly convert the residents of Hope County, and intimidation to keep them from contacting the outside world for help. When an attempt to arrest Seed ends with the deaths of several lawmen, the player is swept into the armed conflict between Eden's Gate and the remaining

Hope County residents, who are organizing themselves into a resistance movement. The player takes on the role of a sheriff's deputy who is part of the task force sent to Hope County to arrest Seed. Seed has assumed the title of "the Father" and maintains control over Hope County with the aid of his siblings, known as "the Heralds," Jacob, a former military officer who oversees their armed soldiers, John, a lawyer who has been able to acquire much of the land in Hope County for Eden's Gate, and Faith, who acts as a pacifist to bring the people to believe and trust in her older brother. The residents of Hope County opposed to Seed include Pastor Jeffries, a local church leader who has seen his congregation taken by Eden's Gate, Mary May, a bartender whose father was driven to suicide by the cult, Nick Rye, a cropduster pilot who wants to eliminate the influence of the cult in order to build a better future for his children, and Grace Armstrong, a mercenary trained as a sniper who wanders Hope County alone.

With a total remake on the ideas and gameplay, I think Far cry 5 will be an amazing game to play when it releases March 27th, and it really hits home for me, being born and raised in Montana. Do you like the sound of Far Cry 5? Do you think it will revitalize the series? Do you think the USA setting will work?





Prom Fashion

By: Katelynn Miller

Prom is just around the corner for students at Ripley High School and students will be rocking the latest fashion from brands such as Sherri Hill and Jovani. Here are the upcoming looks for this year's Senior Prom this April.

- 1. From Sherri Hill we have this beautiful floral gown. Over the years floral themed has gotten big, and Sherri Hill is taking it even higher! You can visit Sherri Hill to see where you can get this dress. Look for style number 51926
- 2. Another dress from Sherri Hill, this stunning blue 2 piece dress can be found in a store near you! Not only have floral print dresses gotten more popular, but so has two-piece dresses. This dress could be just your style! Just visit Sherri Hill you can see where it can be bought from. Look for style number 51756!
- 3. This dress is from Morilee by Madeline Gardner. This beautiful, white, form fitting dress can be found at the Morilee website, where you can search for a local Morilee retailer. Search for style number 42006!
- 4. This beautiful Beaded Mermaid Prom Dress is also from Morilee by Madeline Gardner. It can be bought in Navy Blue, Nude, or Black. You can visit the Morilee website to look for a local retailer. Just search for style number 42002!
- 5. This black form fitting dress is by Zoey Grey! It comes in black, red and cobalt. You can visit the Zoey Grey website to find a retailer near you! Just look for style number 31121!











Top 10 of March

By: Kailee Fisher

Movies

- 1. Jumanji
- 2. Maze Runner: The Death Cure
- 3. Winchester
- 4. The Greatest Showman
- 5. The Post
- 6. Hostiles
- 7. 12 Strong
- 8. Den of Thieves
- 9. The Shape of Water
- 10.Paddington 2

Books

- 1. "The Ministry of Utmost Happiness: A novel" by Arundhati Roy
- 2. "Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI" by David Grann
- 3. "Beartown: A Novel" by Fredrik Backman
- 4. "Exit West: A Novel" by Mohsin Hamid
- 5. "Priestdaddy: A Memoir" by Patricia Lockwood

Songs

- 1. Perfect- Ed Sheeran
- 2. Havana- Camila Cabello
- 3. New Rules- Dua Lipa
- 4. Bad at Love- Halsey
- 5. Finesse- Bruno Mars & Cardi B
- 6. Rockstar-Post Malone
- 7. How long- Charlie Puth
- 8. Thunder-Imagine Dragons0
- 9. Lights Down Low- MAX
- 10.Love- Kendrick Lamar

<u>Famous People</u>

- 1. Selena Gomez
- 2. Cristiano Ronaldo
- 3. Ariana Grande
- 4. Beyonce
- 5. Kim Kardashian West
- 6. Taylor Swift
- 7. Kylie Jenner
- 8. Dwayne Johnson
- 9. Justin Bieber
- 10.Kendall Jenner

- 6. "You Don't Have to Say You Love Me: A Memoir" by Sherman Alexie
- 7. "Lincoln in the Bardo: A Novel" by George Saunders
- 8. "The Impossible Fortress: A Novel" by Jason Rekulak
- 9. "Hunger: A Memoir of (My) Body" by Roxane Gay
- 10. "Homo Deus: A Brief History of Tomorrow" by Yuval Noah Harari



Top 20 Under 20

By: Katelynn Miller

It isn't anything new to see children in modern day learning more and more about our world and it's possibilities before adults. However, In the past century, there has been many child prodigies that have existed among us. Whether they went to college at a young age, or they invented something new, here are some of the past century's most talented and smart children.

- 1. Tanishq Mathew Abraham Born in 2003, Tanishq is an American child prodigy with Indian ancestry. He joined an on-campus Astronomy class at American River College in Sacramento, California when he was just 7 years old. He aspires to be a doctor, a medical researcher, and one day the President of the United States. Now age 15, Tanishq has already become a member of Mensa, which requires one to get a score above the top 2 percentile on a standardized intelligence test, he has graduated high school, he is a NASA speaker, a TEDx speaker, and he graduated college when he was just 11 years old.
- 2. Akiane Kramarik Akiane Kramarik was only 4 years old when her parents found that she had the talent of a true artist. Akiane is known worldwide for her painting, The Prince of Peace. She painted this when she was only age 7. Akiane's original copy of The Prince of Peace is valued at 1 million dollars, where reproductions are \$1,900. She is now age 24, but she was definitely an artist genius of such an age.
- 3. Karina Oakley- Karina was only two years old when she got a score of 160 on an IQ test. According to answers from the IQ test, she had a very imaginative mind. Parents say that Karina has a very good memory.
- 4. Elise Tan-Roberts- Elise has an IQ of 156, and like Karina, she was only two years old when she obtained the high IQ score. Her talents consist of counting in spanish and listing world capitals. Elise has been accepted into the intelligence Fraternity, Mensa, for being in the top 2 percent of the population.
- 5. Kathleen Holtz- Kathleen, a lawyer, perhaps even the youngest lawyer, from California, graduated from UCLA. Kathleen was only the age of 18 when she passed the bar exam and became the youngest lawyer in California.
- 6. Colin Carlson- Environmentalist and college graduate at the age of 11, Colin Carlson is considered pretty smart. Not only did he graduate from Stanford University Online at the age of 11, but at the age of 9 he was taking college credit courses and at the age of 12, he enrolled in the University of Connecticut as a sophomore.
- 7. Jacob Barnett- An eight year old with an IQ of 170, the highest IQ you can get, Jacob Barnett has accomplished that. Jacob Barnett was in line for a Nobel Peace prize and he was one of the world's leading scientist and a college professor at 13. Not only is he among the smartest children in the world, Jacob also has Asperger's Syndrome, but he did not let that slow him down.
- 8. Akrit Jaswal- A college student and a surgeon at 7 years old, Akrit Jaswal became India's youngest physician. Jaswal has an IQ of 146, which is a very high score.
- 9. Praveen Kumar Gorakavi- Praveen is a native of India who is a polymath. At the age of 13, Praveen had already developed a mathematical formula. At the age of 15, he had designed a low cost artificial leg with the ability of knee and ankle movement. At the same time, Praveen was working on missile

technology. He has gone on to develop advancements in water purification, food storage and biofuel synthesis. Praveen has won many awards for improving humanity. At the moment he is working on a hybrid solar energy encapsulation technology at the Indian Institute of Chemical Technology in Hyderabad, India.

- 10. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart- A musical genius of the 18th century, Mozart is certainly one of the most known musical composers even to this day. He began writing his own symphonies at the age of eight. He then composed many opera pieces by the age of 16.
- 11. Anne Marie-Imafidon- Anne is among those who do not get recognized for their hard efforts. She was named the youngest to receive a master's degree, declared by the University of Oxford. Anne was only 20 years old when she graduated from college and received her Masters. She was a child prodigy in computing, mathematics and language, which led her to take two Secondary Education Exams and pass, when she was only 11 years old. Now she is the CEO of the organization, the Stemettes.
- 12. Kelvin Doe- Kelvin is known as a self taught engineer, who was self taught at the age of 13 years old. Kelvin invented things such as batteries, an FM transmitter, a sound amplifier and three channel mixers and mics using only scrap metal and garbage. He was scolded by his family for collecting garbage, however, he pursued his engineering career. He created batteries to power lights in nearby homes, and he even started his own radio station, calling himself "DJ Focus." He was the youngest to participate in the Visiting Practitioner's Program, and in fact, he was invited to participate in this by MIT. Now he runs his own engineering company called KDoe-Tech Inc. and he has funded The Kelvin Doe Foundations, which is an organization who helps innovations in STEM.
- 13. Tristan Pang- Tristan is currently the youngest student studying at the University of Auckland and is studying math and physics. At age 11, Tristan made the top scores on the Cambridge A Level Exams, gave a TED talk, and become one of the youngest speakers in the world. He spends his time between studying the relationship between light and energy, he is interested in quantum physics, and the human body. Tristan wants to inspire and help other young people, and has delivered numerous speeches to that aim. He hosts a radio show called Youth Voices that features stories, interviews, and quotes from a young person's perspective. He has been named one of the 25 most influential Kiwis, and one of ten child prodigies who may change the world.
- 14. Ted Kaczynski- child prodigy who excelled academically from an early age. Kaczynski was accepted into Harvard University at the age of 16, where he earned an undergraduate degree, and later earned a PhD in mathematics from the University of Michigan. He became an assistant professor at the University of California, Berkeley at age 25, but resigned two years later.
- 15. Promethea Olympia Kyrene Pythaitha-an American child genius with an IQ of 173. She started reading at age 1, began learning college-level calculus at age 7, and at age 13 became the youngest student to complete work for a bachelor's degree from Montana State University in Mathematics.
- 16. Cameron Thompson- began studying for his degree at the age of 11 with the Open University whilst still a high school student. At age 15 Cameron completed his degree studies at the same time as his GCSE examinations and at age 16 was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree with Honour. Cameron was the subject of the BBC Documentary "Growing Pains of a Teenage Genius."
- 17. Lu Jiaxi- child genius of Han Chinese ancestry who finished elementary school in one year and was enrolled in a university before reaching the age of 13, he obtained a chemistry degree at age 18 or 19. He also served as President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

- 18. Evan Ehrenberg- born in 1993, at age 16 started a PhD program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the Brain and Cognitive Sciences department studying computational neuroscience. Graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with a B.A. degree in cognitive science with an emphasis in computational modeling, highest honors, at age 16. Won the Robert J. Glushko Prize for distinguished undergraduate research in cognitive science at age 16 for his research on a 'Layered sparse associative network for soft pattern classification and contextual pattern completion.
- 19. Gabriel See- Born in 1998, achieved a 720 out of 800 score on the SAT math test at age 8, Performed T -cell receptor research at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center at age 10, and at age 11 won a silver medal at the international Genetically Engineered Machine (iGEM) competition on synthetic biology for undergraduate college students at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 2011 he was named one of the US's top 10 high school inventors by Popular Science magazine. He has been taking upper division courses each semester at the University of Washington since 2010.
- 20. Joshua Travis Mann- Joshua invented his own object-oriented computer language at the age of 8, completed his education at the age of 15, and became a technology consultant for several fortune 500 companies and the Department of Defense before turning 18.







A Bad Situation

By: Kolby Alexander

Across our culture, we have experienced an enormous amount of bad situations, such as injuries, the homeless or people even being killed. All of these things happen every day without our knowledge, but that doesn't change the fact that they happen.

Many people in our society often take advantage of the bad situations that go on in our culture, for example, a man sees a man threaten another man with a gun in an alleyway and tells him to give him his wallet or he will shoot him, instead of calling for help, calling the police, or even springing into action to help the man being robbed, he instead pulls out his phone and records it and uploads it to his Youtube channel in order to make money for himself. The result of this would also mean the man being robbed could have been injured or even killed if there was a chance that he refused to give the man his wallet.

These kind of scenarios happen so often that it is unreal, In 2010, a heroic homeless man was stabbed after saving a Queens woman from a knife wielding attacker, lay dying in a pool of blood for more than an hour as nearly 25 people indifferently strolled past him, as some people recorded it and later posted it, a video that was taken showed that many people paused to stare at the homeless man and others leaned down to look at his face. Later on, another man stopped, leaned over and vigorously shook the homeless man's body, then the man lifted him up to reveal the pool of blood then walked off. It wasn't until an hour and 20 minutes later when firefighters showed up to find the man dead.

The moral of this story is simple, what would you do in a bad situation? What role would you play in that situation? Would you be the person who without hesitation whips out their phone and records it? Or would you would you be the person who helps the man by calling an ambulance for him. It is sad but these things happen so much, and people are cruel for the way they ignore people when they are in pain. Be that person who makes a difference in people's lives, don't watch people be harmed.







March Texting Survey

By: Kailee Fisher

The cell phone has became one of the most favored forms of communication among teenagers. Almost every teen you see will have a cell phone in their hand, or will be glued to their phone. Most likely, these teens will be on their phone texting. Cell Phone texting has became the most preferred form of communication between teens and their friends. Because of this, it is hard telling how many texts a teen sends a day! The texting survey was created in order to receive an estimate on the amount of texts a teen sends a day. The survey asks questions that will allow us to find when teens are most active on their phone, how many people they text a day, if they text the same person everyday, and the amount of texts they send.

Results from the survey include 76% percent of teens prefer to text, 52% of teens believe their phone is a distraction to everyday life, 54% of teens agree their phone causes them to lose sleep, and 60% of teens are more active on their phones in the afternoon. The teens were also asked to estimate how many texts they believed they sent a day. Their answers varied from two texts to 2,000 texts!





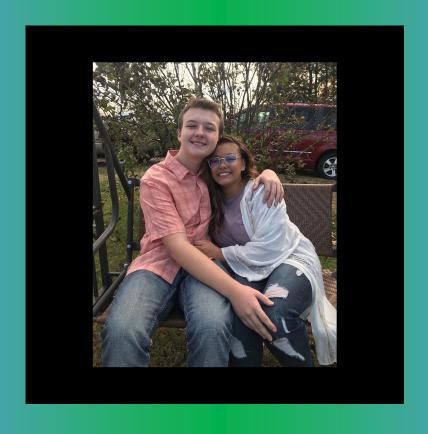
Couple of the Month

By: Kolby Alexander

Andrea Preston and Dallas Smith have been chosen as the couple of the month for March. Andrea is a Senior, and Dallas is a Sophomore. With this Valentine's being their ten month anniversary,

Dallas and Andrea made everything official on April 14th, 2017. They met at the Ripley's Little Mermaid musical last year when they were each playing a roles in it. When I asked the two of them where they met, they both said that it was during the time of the musical. Dallas said "What really drew me into Andrea was how beautiful, funny, and nice she was. She just drew me in and made me feel happy". The two how them have so many favorite things about each other, but when asked, Andrea said "My favorite thing about Dallas is his sense of humor. He's always laughing, and I love that." Dallas and Andrea are compatible with each other, they work well together, and they know each other very well, as they have both stated. Dallas told me "On a scale of 1 to 10, I'd say at the very least 87,88 ish". When you say that you love someone, what does that truly mean? To Andrea "Love is putting someone else before you, and caring about them more than life. To Dallas "Love is being able to have no money, no place to to go, and nothing to do and still be able to be perfectly content just by being together" Dallas and Andrea love going out on little dates with each other, listening to music and going out to eat.

Five years from now, Dallas and Andrea hope to still be together. Five years is a long time to be committed to a person, and the two of them seem to be prepared for that. When I asked Dallas what he thinks his relationship with Andrea will look like in 5 years, he told me "It'll be a lovely time all the time, with lots of bills and lots of dogs", which doesn't sound that bad. Congratulations Andrea and Dallas for being March's couple of the month.



Jokes and Riddles	Q: How do you know if there's an elephant under your bed?
By: Savannah Doyle	Your head hits the ceiling!
Q: How do all the oceans say hello to each other?	Q: Why are elephants so wrinkled?
They wave!	Because they take too long to iron!
Q: What did one wall say to the other wall?	Q: How do you keep an elephant from charging?
I'll meet you at the corner!	Take away her credit card!
Q: What do you call a bear with no teeth?	Q: Why did the elephant paint himself different
A gummy bear!	colors?
Q: What do you call cheese that isn't yours?	So he could hide in the crayon box!
Nacho cheese!	Q: How can you tell if an elephant has been in your refrigerator?
Q: Where do cows go for entertainment?	By the footprints in the butter!
To the moo-vies!	Q: What is the difference between elephants and
Knock, knock.	grapes?
Who's there?	Grapes are purple.
Cows go.	Q: What did Tarzan say when he saw the elephants coming?
Cows go who?	"Here come the elephants!"

The History of Saint Patrick's Day

By: Casey Baker

The origins of St.Patrick's Day dates back to the Roman Catholic feast day of the patron saint of Ireland. St.Patrick died on March 17, 461 AD. St.Patrick was not born Irish, but he became an integral part of the Irish heritage, mostly through his service across Ireland during the 5th century. St.Patrick's day is a cultural and religious celebration. The first parade to ever celebrate the honor of St.Patrick's day did not take place in Ireland, but in the United States. St.Patrick's name was originally Maewyn.

He was kidnapped into slavery and then was brought to Ireland. St. Patrick's revelers thought wearing green made one invisible to leprechauns, fairy creatures who would pinch anyone they could see (anyone not wearing green). People began pinching those who didn't wear green as a reminder that leprechauns would sneak up and pinch green-abstainers. Green clothing is a tradition for St.Patrick's day. If you don't get wear green, you'll get pinched. The color green is associated with catholics in Ireland. The color orange is associated with Protestant Christians. Tradition holds that St.Patrick died on March 17, that's why St.Patrick's day falls on March 17th.

When St.Patrick's day is celebrated, it is usually celebrated with marching bands, the military, fire brigades, cultural organizations, charitable organizations, and so on. Recently, people have been lighting up famous landmarks in the honor of St.Patrick's day. At the end of the celebrations, a shamrock is put into the bottom of a cup, which is then filled with whiskey, beer, or cider. It is then drunk as a toast to St Patrick, Ireland, or those present. The shamrock would either be swallowed with the drink or taken out and tossed over the shoulder for good luck.



How Much do you Need? A Bedtime Story

By: Kolby Alexander

Sleep, it's a proven fact that we need sleep in order maintain focus and stay active throughout the day, but how much sleep should you get at night? The average adult should receive at least 7 hours of sleep at night, but this is not the same for teens. A study has shown

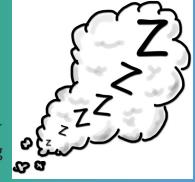


that the average amount of sleep teens get is between 7 and 7 ¼ hours, however, teens ages 13 through 18 need at least 9 hours exactly to be successful throughout their day.

It can be very difficult to maintain a solid sleep schedule as a teen, as teens have a ton going on in their lives that they are constantly working on and thinking about. In fact, only 8 percent of American

teens get the sleep that they need at night, that's very few. Luckily there are methods to help teens get that well deserved sleep after all.

There are many different ways to help teens get the sleep they need at night. For example, it is recommended that a teen take a hot bath after a hard day of or work as a study has found that sleep occurs faster when the body cools down. Another way teens can better their sleep schedule by falling asleep faster would be getting your room completely dark at night by shutting the door, shutting your blinds or pulling your curtains together, turning you alarm clock away from your sight so



you don't constantly check to see the time, this will also darken your room further.



This one might seem like a no-brainer, but sometimes teens forget that caffeine can be hidden in some of their favorite sodas and snacks. Make sure to get yourself into the habit of monitoring caffeine intake throughout the day. If they're craving something hot to drink, try a warm cup of herbal tea. One or two strong cups of tea can help them mellow out.

Strange Holidays In March

By: Kailee Fisher

- 1 National Pig Day
- 2 Old Stuff Day
- 3 If Pets Had Thumbs Day
- 4 Hug a GI Day
- 5 Multiple Personality Day
- 6 Dentist's Day
- 7 National Crown Roast of Pork Day
- 8 Popcorn Lover's Day second Thursday
- 9 Panic Day
- 10 Middle Name Pride Day
- 11 Johnny Appleseed Day
- 12 Plant a Flower Day
- 13 Earmuff Day
- 14 National Pi Day- Why today? Because today is 3.14, the value of Pi.
- 15 Everything You Think is Wrong Day
- 16 Incredible Kid Day date varies
- 17 Saint Patrick's Day
- 18 Supreme Sacrifice Day
- 19 Poultry Day
- 20 National Agriculture Day date varies

- 21 Fragrance Day
- 22 National Goof Off Day
- 23 National Puppy Day
- 24 National Chocolate Covered Raisin Day
- 25 Waffle Day
- 26 Make Up Your Own Holiday Day
- 27 National "Joe" Day
- 28 Something on a Stick Day
- 29 National Mom and Pop Business Owners Day
- 30 Take a Walk in the Park Day
- 31 World Backup Day







Weird Facts

By: Savannah Doyle

- 1. If you somehow found a way to extract all of the gold from the bubbling core of our lovely little planet, you would be able to cover all of the land in a layer of gold up to your knees.
- 2. McDonalds calls frequent buyers of their food "heavy users."
- 3. The average person spends 6 months of their lifetime waiting on a red light to turn green.
- 4. The largest recorded snowflake was in Keogh, MT during year 1887, and was 15 inches wide.
- 5. You burn more calories sleeping than you do watching television.
- 6. There are more lifeforms living on your skin than there are people on the planet.
- 7. Southern sea otters have flaps of skin under their forelegs that act as pockets. When diving, they use these pouches to store rocks and food.
- 8. In 1386 a pig in France was executed by public hanging for the murder of a child.
- 9. One in every five adults believe that aliens are hiding in our planet disguised as humans.
- 10. If you believe that you're truly one in a million, there are still approximately 7,184 more people out there just like you.
- 11. A single cloud can weigh more than 1 million pounds.
- 12. A human will eat on average 70 assorted insects and 10 spiders while sleeping.
- 13. James Buchanan, the 15th U.S. president continuously bought slaves with his own money in order to free them.
- 14. There are more possible iterations of a game of chess than there are atoms in the known universe.
- 15. The average person walks the equivalent of three times around the world in a lifetime.
- 16. Men are 6 times more likely to be struck by lightning than women.
- 17. Coca-Cola would be green if coloring wasn't added to it.
- 18. You cannot snore and dream at the same time.





SAVVY SAVANNA

By: Katelynn Miller

Keeping up with the latest trends can get pretty difficult, but some students around Ripley High School sure know their fashion trends. Savanna Proffitt has a great taste when it comes to clothes. Savanna was asked questions to get behind the basics of style and to find out her secrets to having style.

Though Savanna does not go shopping monthly, she said that when she does go clothes shopping, she enjoys going shopping for clothes at places such as H&M, Pacsun, Pink, Hollister or American Eagle. She says that if she had to pick one of the places over all of the others she would pick either Hollister or American Eagle. Her most favorite brand is Pink by Victoria Secret. Pairing shoes with her clothes isn't hard either. Over all other shoes, she would choose converses, which are her favorite shoe brand. Not only does she pair shoes with her clothes, she also enjoys makeup. Savanna says that she likes Covergirl or Loreal Paris. She watches makeup tutorials on Youtube to match with her sense of fashion.

Savanna says that she decides on her style by watching fashion youtubers of her choice. She thinks that the trendy styles right now are rough, vintage styles like distressed jeans. The styles you wear bring out the personality you have and by wearing the clothes of your choice, you express yourself. Though these may not be the styles for you, whatever your style is, it makes you your own person. Savanna sets a good example of being herself when she wears the clothes that she thinks are her sort of fashion.



Senior SOTM

By: Colter Cottrell

As we do every month, we have asked the teachers at RULH High School to elect a student of the month for each grade, and our senior student of the month for March is Blake Moore! Blake is a hard working senior who is always working on something. We asked Blake what classes he is doing this year. He responded with "I took Dual Credit English 101 & 102 first semester, and this semester I am taking Dual Credit Multimedia." Blake was surprised that he received student of the month. He stated that "I am kind of surprised honestly, mainly because it feels like I haven't done anything this year compared to the other three years."

Blake is also involved in extracurricular activities. He is the treasurer of the National Honor Society and the captain of the RULH bowling team! Blake hopes to continue his education after high school, stating that he wants to make the Shawnee State Bowling Team and continue his education at Shawnee State. When asked about his favorite class, Blake said "My favorite class in high school would have to be Dual Credit Digital Video because of how it lets you go out in your local community and promote businesses and/or little historic monuments."

Blake's activities outside of school consist of bowling, gaming, and messing around with computer hardware. Blake, when asked about graduating this year, stated that "Honestly it feels like I've only been here for three years mainly because last year flew by and this year is so relaxed compared to the others so it's kind of surprising." Blake's role model is his mom, he stated that "My role model has to be my mom. My entire life I have only had her. She has been my only parent, who has had to work twelve hours, five days a week just to be able to pay the bills and put food on the table. All her hard work has really left a impact on me, I did not want to cause her any more trouble than she already has."

Blake's advice to freshman would be to stack up on as many classes and dual credit classes as you can, that way, by senior year, you may only have one class. And the dual credit classes are usually free, so there is the bonus of free college credits. Finally, we asked Blake what motivates him to be the student that he is, he responded with "Currently the person who motivates me the most is our bowling coach Jeff Wallace. Over the past three months he has really been a positive impact on my life. With the coaching for bowling and the life advice, he really is one of the best coaches in Ripley. I feel that if I had some other coach, I wouldn't be in the position I am today."

It is obvious that Blake is an outstanding student and a valuable member of RULH and we will miss him when he graduates this year.



Awesome Elliot

By: Casey Baker

For the month of March Elliot Fryman was recognized by staff as being their choice for student of the month. Elliots class load this semester includes Algebra 2, Adv. English 10, ROTC, and Healthy Living.

He said that if he could have one superpower that it would be that he can

read minds because able to know what thinking. He said, "I to know what others tell when others are truth. This would be Elliot likes to read time because reading knowledge and it is it's like hitting two

Elliot said that pate in any extracurhe does participate in His favorite teacher is



then he would be other people are have always wanted think because I could lying or telling the intriguing to know." books during his free improves his also entertaining, so birds with one stone.

he does not particiricular activities but the ROTC program.

Mr. McKisson because

o had a fun time doing

he was able to properly teach us the correct material and he had a fun time doing it. His class was always a pleasure to go to.

Elliot's advice to upcoming freshmans is to focus on your grades because they will eventually catch up with you. He said that he hasn't really decided what he wants to do after high school, but he definitely wants to go to a successful college because this would help him find a good career.

The Winds of Winter

By: Casey Baker

I created a survey and asked students grades 9-12 questions about winter time. I asked people if they liked winter, and most people said that they did like it. Some people thought that we had a bad winter, whereas some other people thought that the winter was mild. Students were asked about what their favorite part about winter was and most of responses were school being closed, going outside and playing in the snow with their family and several students enjoyed the snow because it made the outside look pretty.

We are now into March and Mother Nature has thrown a few days in just to give us a taste of Spring, but as for me I will miss seeing the fields and trees covered in snow and the lazy days spent enjoying it from either inside the comforts of my warm house or outside throwing snowballs at my brothers and sisters.



Change is Coming to RULH High School

By; Savannah Doyle

There's going to be new changes to the schedule next school year, we will be on what is known as an AB (alternating block) schedule. Students will have four classes one day and another four the next day. This schedule is more efficient to the students because the students would have all core classes all year and take final exams once a year rather than retake EOC exams. This schedule will also allow students to participate in more electives.

The need for the new schedule came about due to ACT scores, college readiness, and number of electives. This new schedule will not affect post-secondary classes.

RULH High School has experience with this schedule in the past in what used to be called Blue/Jay days. School administrators hope that it will become a success in the near future and that students will quickly adapt to the new schedule.



New JROTC Instructor

By: Kolby Alexander

Recently, Master Gunnery Sergeant Phillips, the Marine Instructor of the RULH JROTC, has reached out to many retiring Marines in hope that they will come fill our empty position. Luckily for the JROTC we have found someone to fill this spot. His name is Lt. Colonel Wooldridge and he is expected to be the Senior Marine Instructor for the Ripley JROTC in the following year and we might see him coming to the program as early as this April.

This is big for our JROTC program as we haven't had two instructors since the month of September. Master Gunnery Sergeant Phillips has done a phenomenal job on maintaining the program and keeping it alive. It can be very difficult to run an entire program by yourself, and the school and the cadets in the JROTC should all admire him and be thankful to him that he was willing to stay with us despite it being a rough time for the JROTC. This is why having the new JROTC Instructor is very exciting for the program and our school.

The Lt. Colonel is very excited to fill the position as of what we have seen from him when he has come to sit in on the classes in the JROTC. We look forward to him coming to our program and we hope he helps Master Gunnery Sergeant to further better the JROTC program.



Super Sebra

By: Katelynn Miller

Every month teachers pick a student from each grade to represent student of the month. The March Student of the Month for the Junior class is Sebra Jones.

Sebra is seen by teachers around the building as well as students to be a very respectful student. She has attended Ripley for close to a year now and is is very hardworking and confident. She said that she usually spends up to an hour or two studying for a test. She believes that the most important asset to school is education. When Sebra accomplishes something important, she has a sense of relief.

Sebra says that she looks up to her father and that he inspires her to do the best possible. Family is a very important asset in her life and in her spare time, she enjoys visiting her family. She also is in choir and enjoys that activity.

In the future, Sebra plans on continuing her education. Though she doesn't know which college she would like to attend, she knows she would like to major in psychology or become a veterinarian.

Congratulations Sebra for getting March Student of the Month!



Picking the Brains of RULH

High School Teachers

By: Casey Baker

I made a survey for teachers to fill out and asked them a variety of questions about education and why they became teachers. Fifteen teachers filled out the survey that I sent out to them. I asked them questions like "do you enjoy your job?" Fifteen teachers said that they did enjoy their job. I asked them why they enjoyed their jobs, and there was a variety of different answers. Some people said that it was because of their students, some said that it was because they liked being a role model for their students, they like to help students better themselves, and some people said that they enjoyed it because it was fun. I asked them what made them wanna become a teacher and they answered a variety of different answers. Many teachers were compelled to join the field of education because they wanted to make a difference in the lives of young people.

Regardless of the reasons, RULH teachers are committed to the students of this school and we thank them for their dedication.



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