

BlueJay Beat

Ripley-Union-Lewis-Huntington High School

November 2017 Edition

So Much to be Thankful For

By: Shelby Smith

November is here and the holidays are coming around. November is the month of Thanksgiving. That means the big dinner with family and loved ones. While everyone loves the food and eating until you can't button your pants, Thanksgiving is about so much more. Thanksgiving is the time that you realize how grateful you are to have the things you do.

While this may not be the original purpose of it, Thanksgiving is the time I get in touch with my family and realize all they do for me. For example, all the times my parents have done without, so that I may have my wants and needs, yet I never realized it. My mom has worked so hard to give us the best life possible. My dad is my biggest supporter and truly believes that I can accomplish anything in life. He has given me the confidence to be myself.

I am thankful for my stepmom, My stepmom treats me as her own yet loves me unconditionally. She is a huge role model for me and has taught me so much about humanity and having compassion for others. She is an amazing person that has impacted me in hundreds of ways in the few short years she has been in my life.

I am also thankful for my friends. I have friends that are there for me no matter the hour and no matter the circumstance. My friends and I are all so sarcastic with each other that we never take the time to tell each other what we truly mean to each other. Yet this month is the time that I tell them that I am so very thankful for them and don't know what I would do without them.

I am so blessed to have so many amazing people in my life. The month of November is about showing those you love that you appreciate everything they do and I plan to spend the month doing just that. So eat some great food, enjoy time with your family, and have a happy Thanksgiving!

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Freshman Student of the Month

By: Colter Cottrell

Every month, teachers pick one student from each grade to be the Student of the Month. To be student of the month, you must be a nice person and get good grades. The freshman SOTM is Gracelyn Walters.

Gracelyn is a hard working student always trying to do her best. She clearly enjoys a challenge, considering her favorite class is spanish. Also, apart from school, Gracelyn is involved in the Spanish Club and Volleyball. She enjoys what she does in school and wishes to continue doing good work stating “My future motivates me to do well.” She certainly has a bright future with plans for college in the medical field. Her goal is to become a successful surgeon. She has a good school spirit too! She enjoys going to RULH and likes the teachers here. She took the transition from middle school to high school well, only stating that there is slightly more pressure. I asked Gracelyn to tell me what she would say to someone who needs help doing well in school. She said “I would tell them to do their best because it matters.” Teachers, Like Mrs. Douglas, love Gracelyn, saying things like “Gracelyn Walters is a kind and hardworking Freshman. She values learning and demonstrates that by working hard in her classes.” She is also considerate, and takes care of her friends and classmates.



Determined Landon

By: Kailee Fisher

Emails were sent out to the teachers in the month of November to determine the students of the month. November's student of the month was Landon Rigdon. Landon is a junior and is well known around RULH High School. He believes he earned this title because he always gives 110% and is nice to everyone.

Landon is a very respectful student and it is seen by many people in the building. Some of the classes he is taking this year are English 2, Spanish, Business Foundations and Geometry. His favorite class is math because he is good at it. In his classes, Landon is a good listener and cares for his peers.

In the future Landon would like to become a physical therapist. His family motivates him to reach this goal and to be a great student. When asked who his role model was he responded with his dad because, "He is a great example of the type of person I want to be." Having this mindset has allowed Landon to become a very respectful student.

Outside of school, Landon is well known for his skill on the basketball court. He demonstrates being a stand-up person on and off the court. Also, outside of school Landon likes to hang out with friends and family.

When asked to give advice to the underclassmen, Landon responded with, "Always try your hardest, never slack off and make these years the best possible." This is great advice! Congratulations on getting Student of the month Landon, keep up the good work!



Senior Student of the Month

By: Shelby Smith

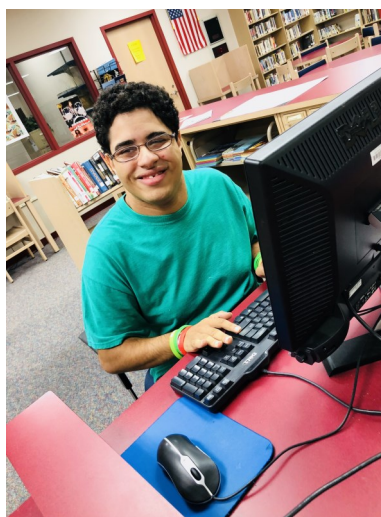
November's Senior Student of the Month is Nick Campbell Johnson. Nick was surprised to receive student of the month but said it made him feel good and was an honor to receive. Even though he was surprised, Nick said he thinks he received the award because he is a good helper and a good student.

In fact, Nick is a great student. He is a student in Mrs. Hartman's class. Mrs. Hartman said that "Nick deserves to be student of the month because he is always enthusiastic about school work and loves to be here. He is a fun kid to be around and he always makes people around him laugh." Nick indeed does love to be here. He said that he loves high school because he is getting an education, something not everyone gets.

Nick's favorite class is art because he really likes to paint. He said his favorite teacher is Mrs. Hartman because "she helps him learn what to do". With being a senior, Nick was asked how the end of his high school career made him feel. He responded, "I am very happy that I am a senior because I am going to get out of school soon." While he loves school, he is ready to move on to the career world.

His favorite high school memory is working in the library. This has lead him to consider that as his career. Nick plans to get a job shortly after high school. He said that he wants to either work in a library or at Burger King, his favorite place to eat. With Nick, there is nothing he puts his mind to that he can't accomplish.

Nick said his role model is "Mr. Jason Thompson because he is funny, a good player and very helpful." However, Nick himself is a role model for his peers. Congratulations Nick on being November's Senior Student of the Month.



November Birthdays

By: Casey Baker

11/01 Natasha Little

11/01 Ryan Mitchell

11/01 Jena Schwierling

11/02 Kylee Johnson

11/02 Ean Phillips

11/05 Brittany Royster

11/06 Ralph Glenn

11/06 Kathryn Dugan

11/07 Jesse Walls

11/09 Damian Corns

11/09 Tyler Scott

11/09 Landon Rigdon

11/09 Sierra Berry

11/09 Selina Cummins

11/09 Abigail Harrison

11/10 Landon Dearing



11/12 William Blank

11/14 Levi Harrison

11/14 Matthew Akers

11/16 Tray Wile

11/16 Davi Pritchett

11/17 Jaki Royal

11/19 Gregory Fyffe

11/20 Amber Kirschner

11/21 Savannah Doyle

11/22 Haley Westheider

11/23 Nigel Royal

11/23 Kadence Madison

11/28 Elliot Fryman

11/29 Alicia Furtado

11/30 Hollie Williams

December Birthdays

By: Casey Baker

12/02 Logan Hanson

12/03 Rebecka Volk

12/05 Blake Moore

12/07 Kaitlyn Smith

12/07 Kinley Martin

12/07 Carlee Daulton

12/07 Austin Allen

12/08 Haley Gast

12/10 Jack Love

12/10 Xavier Angeles

12/10 Kelsey Neely

12/10 Nicholas Moninger

12/12 Rebecca Turner



12/13 Betty Anderson

12/15 Hunter Chamberlain

12/21 German Angeles

12/21 Alexander King

12/21 Jordan Winters

12/25 Brielle Hall

12/26 Breanna Barber

12/28 Anthony Stutz

12/28 Abigail Lewis

12/29 Shawna Faul

12/30 Chaze Gulley

12/30 Raven Duncan

12/31 Sabrina D'haillecourt

The Bird Cage

By: Colter Cottrell

Ripleys own Business teacher Mrs. Tammy Whaley is opening a store in the old room by the gym and cafeteria. She is mainly focusing on school spirit with her stock in this store stating “We currently have in stock Blue Jay Spirit wear including t-shirts and hoodies. We have we are #1 foam hands, Blue Jay pencils, Blue Jay pom-poms, Blue Jay megaphones, Blue Jay blankets, Blue Jay Stadium seats, Blue Jay duffle bags, Blue Jay Frisbees and Blue Jay cinch bags. We also carry a few other miscellaneous items.”

According to Mrs. Whaley, this store is technically a part of a class, telling us “The purpose of opening The Bird Cage is to provide Entrepreneurial students and Business Professional of America (BPA) members real-world experience of running a business. Students are learning how to create a Business Plan, how to order merchandise, how to select vendors for the product, how to price merchandise to make a profit, customer service, how to run a cash register, how to make change, how to keep accounting records, how to display merchandise to appeal to the customer, and what to it takes to start-up a business, as well as to maintain a business.

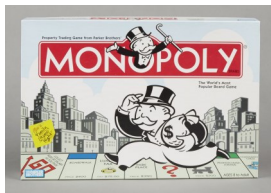
Mrs. Whaley’s students will be creating and making some of the spirit wear within the store by using a vinyl cutter and t-shirt press within the next month. This will provide hands-on experience. “ Mrs. Whaley also feels that this store will help the students in its own way, being able to access the school spirit at any time. The store is currently opening during all home basketball games. The goal is to eventually be opened 15 minutes before school and 15 minutes after school and maybe during IDEA period on Friday.



November On This Day

By: Kailee Fisher

- November 1, 2012- Scientists detect evidence of light from the universe's first stars, predicted to have formed 500 million years after the big bang
- November 2, 1898- Cheerleading starts at the University of Minnesota with Johnny Campbell leading the crowd in cheering on the football team
- November 3, 1957- A dog was launched into orbit today as the first animal in space onboard Sputnik 2, a Russian spacecraft, and became the first living animal to enter the Earth's orbit.
- November 4, 2008- Barack Obama becomes the first African-American to be elected President of the United States
- November 5, 1935- Parker Brothers launches game of Monopoly
- November 6, 1860- Abraham Lincoln (Rep-R-Ill) elected 16th American President
- November 7, 1874- 1st cartoon depicting elephant as Republican Party symbol, by Thomas Nast
- November 8, 2016- Republican Donald Trump is elected President of The United States of America, defeating democrat Hillary Clinton despite Clinton receiving 2.9 million more votes
- November 9, 1985- Gary Kasparov becomes the youngest ever world chess champion aged 22
- November 10, 1989- Germans begin demolishing the Berlin Wall
- November 11, 1992- The Church of England approves the ordination of female priests
- November 12, 1990- Tim Berners-Lee publishes a formal proposal for the World Wide Web
- November 13, 1956- US Supreme court rules race separation on buses in Alabama unconstitutional
- November 14, 2012- CFBDSIR 2149-0403 is discovered, the closest rogue planet to earth (100 light-years away)
- November 15, 1969- An estimated 2 million people take part in the Vietnam War Moratorium demonstration across the United States



November 16, 1776- British troops capture Fort Washington during American Revolution

November 17, 1558- Elizabeth I aged 25 ascends English throne upon death of her half sister Queen "Bloody" Mary

November 18, 1902- Brooklyn toymaker Morris Michton names the teddy bear after US President Teddy Roosevelt

November 19, 1805- Lewis & Clark expedition reaches the Pacific Ocean, first European Americans to cross the west

November 20, 1984- McDonald's makes its 50 billionth hamburger

November 21, 1620- Mayflower Compact signed by Pilgrims at Cape Cod,

November 22, 1963- American President John F. Kennedy assassinated by Lee Harvey Oswald in Dallas, Texas

November 23, 2005- Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, is elected president of Liberia, the first woman to lead an African country

November 24, 1966- 400 die of respiratory failure & heart attacks in New York City smog, smoggiest day in city's history

November 25, 1983- World's greatest robbery; 26 million pounds (sterling) worth of gold, diamonds and cash stolen from Brink's-Mat warehouse at Heathrow Airport, England

November 26, 1789- 1st national Thanksgiving in America

November 27, 1965- 1st French satellite launched; France becomes 3rd nation in space

November 28, 1520- Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan begins crossing the Pacific Ocean

November 29, 1877- US inventor Thomas Edison demonstrates his hand-cranked phonograph for the first time

November 30, 1731- Beijing hit by an earthquake; about 100,000 die



Christmas Dessert Recipes

By: Savannah Doyle

Crepe Brulee Cookies



INGREDIENTS:

FOR THE COOKIES:

- 3/4 c. unsalted butter, softened
- 1/2 c. light brown sugar, lightly packed
- 1/2 c. sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 tbsp. pure vanilla extract
- 2 c. all-purpose flour
- 2 tsp. cornstarch
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1/4 tsp. kosher salt

FOR THE FROSTING:

- 8 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1 1/4 c. powdered sugar
- 1 tsp. pure vanilla extract
- 1/4 c. sugar

DIRECTIONS

- 1) Preheat oven to 350° and line two cookie sheets with parchment. Cream butter and sugars until light and fluffy, 3 to 4 minutes. Mix in egg and vanilla.
- 2) In another bowl, whisk together flour, cornstarch, baking soda and salt, then add mixture to wet ingredients and mix until smooth. Dough will be thick.
- 3) Place tablespoon balls of dough onto parchment-lined cookie sheets. Bake until edges are starting to brown, 7 to 8 minutes.
- 4) Remove from oven and let cool 2 to 3 minutes, then transfer to a cooling rack to cool completely.
- 5) Make frosting: Beat cream cheese until smooth. Add powdered sugar and vanilla and mix until smooth.
- 6) Put sugar into a small bowl. Spread some frosting onto tops of each cookie, then press into granulated sugar, coating frosting with sugar.
- 7) Just before serving, use a kitchen torch to caramelize sugar on top, then set aside to cool. If you don't have a kitchen torch, heat broiler and broil cookies until sugar caramelizes, 1 to 2 minutes (watch carefully!). Store cookies in the fridge for up to 4 days.

Santa's Trash Cookies

INGREDIENTS

- 3/4 c. cup unsalted butter, at room temperature
 - 1/2 c. sugar
 - 1/2 c. brown sugar
 - 1 large egg
 - 2 tsp. vanilla
 - 2 1/4 c. all-purpose flour
 - 1 tsp. baking soda
 - 1/4 tsp. kosher salt
 - 1/3 c. crushed potato chips
 - 1/3 c. Crushed Pretzels
 - 1/3 c. semi-sweet chocolate chips
 - 3 tbsp. red and green sprinkles
-
- Flaky sea salt, for garnish



DIRECTIONS

- 1) Preheat oven to 350° and line two cookie sheets with parchment.
- 2) Cream together butter and sugars until light and fluffy, 3 to 4 minutes.
- 3) Mix in egg and vanilla.
- 4) In another large bowl, whisk flour, baking soda, and salt. Add dry ingredients to wet and mix until smooth. Dough will be thick.
- 5) Gently stir in chips, pretzels, chocolate chips, and sprinkles.
- 6) Make tablespoon size balls of dough. Slightly press them down onto the cookie sheet and sprinkle with sea salt.
- 7) Bake until edges are just starting to get golden, 7 to 8 minutes.
- 8) Remove from oven and let cool 2 to 3 minutes, then transfer to cooling rack to cool completely.

Oreo Coal



INGREDIENTS

- 40 oreos
- 1 8- oz. block cream cheese, softened
- 16 oz. semisweet or melting chocolate
- 1/3 c. Oreo cookies, crushed (or cocoa powder)

DIRECTIONS

- 1) Using a food processor fitted with the blade attachment, grind Oreos into crumbs. Transfer crumbs to a medium bowl and add cream cheese. Use a fork to mix until well combined.
- 2) Using about one tablespoon of the mixture per ball, form misshapen balls of the Oreo mixture. Place them on a plate and into the fridge for about 30 minutes to 1 hour to firm up.
- 3) Microwave melting chocolate in 10 to 15 second increments until melted and smooth. Using a fork or toothpick, dip each Oreo ball into the melted chocolate, then set onto parchment paper. Sprinkle immediately with crushed Oreos, if using, or let dry completely.
- 4) If using cocoa powder, once firm, dip your fingers into the cocoa and lightly rub onto Oreo balls to complete the “coal” look. Store balls in the fridge until ready to serve.

History of Thanksgiving

By: Kailee Fisher

In September 1620, 102 passengers left on the Mayflower from Plymouth, England. These passengers were seeking a new home with opportunities where they could freely practice their faith. After an uncomfortable crossing that lasted 66 days, they dropped an anchor near the tip of Cape Cod, however this was far north of their destination. One month later the Mayflower set sail again and crossed Massachusetts Bay, where the now Pilgrims, began to work to develop a new village of Plymouth.

Throughout their first winter, colonists faced many challenges. These challenges came from the extreme winter conditions. Many colonists remained onboard the ship, where they suffered from exposure, scurvy and outbreaks of contagious disease. Only half of the Mayflower's original passengers and crew lived to see their first New England spring. Finally in the spring, the remaining settlers moved ashore. While ashore they were welcomed by an Abenaki Indian who greeted them in English. Several days later, he returned with another Native American, Squanto, another Indian who had been kidnapped by an English sea captain. Squanto was very beneficial to the colonists. He taught the Pilgrims how to treat their illness, how to cultivate corn, extract sap from maple trees, catch fish in the rivers and avoid poisonous plants. He also helped the settlers forge an alliance with the Wampanoag, a local tribe.

In November 1621, after the Pilgrims' first corn harvest proved successful, Governor William Bradford organized a celebratory feast and invited a group of the fledgling colony's Native American allies. This day was remembered as America's "first Thanksgiving". The festival lasted for three days and although there are no records of the exact menu, one pilgrim wrote in his journal that Governor Bradford sent four men on a mission in preparation for the event. Historians have suggested that many of the dishes were likely prepared using traditional Native American spices and cooking methods. Because the Pilgrims had no oven and the Mayflower's sugar supply had dwindled by the fall of 1621, the meal did not feature pies, cakes or other desserts, which have become a hallmark of contemporary celebrations.

Pilgrims held their second Thanksgiving celebration in 1623 to mark the end of a long drought that had threatened the year's harvest. Days of fasting and thanksgiving on an annual or occasional basis became common practice. During the American Revolution, the Continental Congress designated one or more days of thanksgiving a year, and in 1789 George Washington issued the first Thanksgiving proclamation. His successors John Adams and James Madison also designated days of thanks during their presidencies.

In 1817, New York became the first of several states to officially adopt an annual Thanksgiving holiday; each celebrated it on a different day. In 1827, a writer named Sarah Josepha Hale launched a campaign to establish Thanksgiving as a national holiday. Abraham Lincoln finally heeded her request in 1863. He scheduled Thanksgiving for the final Thursday in November, and it was celebrated on that day every year until 1939, when Franklin D. Roosevelt moved the holiday up a week in an attempt to spur retail sales during the Great Depression. Roosevelt's plan, was met with opposition, and in 1941 the president signed a bill making Thanksgiving the fourth Thursday in November.



The Golden State Warriors

By: Casey Baker

The Golden State Warriors are one of the best basketball teams in the NBA. The Warriors began in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1946. In 1962, the franchise was relocated to California and became known as the San Francisco Warriors. This remained until 1971, when its name was changed to the current Golden State Warriors.

The Golden State Warriors are an American professional basketball team based in Oakland, California. The Warriors compete in the National Basketball Association (NBA) as a member of the league's Western Conference Pacific Division. Their nickname is dubs. Their arena is the Oracle arena. The Warriors' team colors are gold, yellow, and slate/royal blue.

The success of the team is due to their general manager, Bob Myers and their head coach, Steve Kerr. The Warriors have won 5 championships (1947, 1956, 1975, 2015, and 2017.) Wilt Chamberlain and Stephen Curry have both been named the NBA's Most Valuable Player while playing for the Warriors, for a total of three MVP awards.

Eighteen Hall of Famers have played for the Warriors and four have coached the team. Golden State holds the NBA records for best regular season with 73-9 and most wins in a season (regular season and postseason combined) with 88 in 2015-16, as well as best postseason with 16-1 (.941 winning percentage) in 2016-17. Their success is obvious and you can truly see that the Golden State Warriors are one of the best teams in basketball history.





Jokes and Riddles

By: Savannah Doyle



Q: Did you hear the joke about the roof? A: Never mind, it's over your head!

Q: How many letters are in The Alphabet? A: There are 11 letters in The Alphabet

Q: How can you spell cold with two letters? A: IC (icy)

Q: What state is surrounded by the most water? A: Hawaii (this is really just a trick riddle)

Q: David's father had three sons: Snap, Crackle, and ? A: David!

Q: If you were in a race and passed the person in 2nd place, what place would you be in? A: 2nd place!

Where in the World

By: Brandon Mason

1. Known as the city of lights.
2. Over 25 million tourists visit annually.
3. 110 movies and 161 one-reelers have been shot here.
4. It is illegal to shoot fireworks off one of the city's largest structures.
5. Located in France.
6. Eiffel tower is located here.



A: Paris

Top Tens of November

By: Colter Cottrell

Top 10 Movies:

1. A Bad Mom's Christmas
2. Thor: Ragnarok
3. Blade of the Immortal
4. Lady Bird
5. Last Flag Flying
6. LBJ
7. Murder on the Orient Express
8. Daddy's Home 2
9. Thelma
10. Justice League



Top 10 Books:

1. Bonfire
2. The Revolution of Marina M.
3. They Can't Kill You Till They Kill You
4. Spineless: The Science of Jellyfish and the Art of Growing a Backbone
5. Wonder Valley
6. Bunk: The rise of Hoaxes, Humbug, Plagiarists, Post-Facts and Fact News
7. The City of Brass
8. Oathbringer
9. The Vanity Fair Diaries: 1883-1992
10. Artemis



Top 10 Songs:

1. Taylor Swift "Gorgeous"
2. Sam Smith "Pray"
3. Maroon 5 ft. A\$AP Rocky "Whiskey"
4. Blackbear ft. Cam'ron "Bright Pink Tims"
5. Shamir "Straight Boy"
6. Mavis Staples "Little Bit"
7. Sleigh Bells "Rainmaker"
8. Miya Folik
9. Sia "Santa's Coming For Us"
10. Kelsea Ballerini "Miss Me More."



Skyquakes

By: Casey Baker

Across the world, the sky is quaking with mysterious, explosive booms leaving residents rattled and baffling experts trying to determine their origins. There are more than 64 different incidents involving loud, unexplained booms worldwide that have been reported.

The most recent one occurred near Daytona Beach, Florida. This prompted nearby residents to search for answers on social media. Birmingham, Alabama, residents have experienced something similar to this. The national weather service officials in Birmingham, tweeted, saying “loud boom heard, we don’t see anything that made the boom”.

After initially denying any involvement, a navy spokesman told the San Diego Union-Tribune that several jets went supersonic (involving or denoting a speed greater than that of sound), causing the boom that people heard. Atmospheric stability, temperature, air masses and topography can alter and affect how sound travels in any given area. The origin of a sound might be relatively simple, but it produces a more mysterious rumbling as it moves farther away from the source.

No one has yet found out what the loud booms really are, it’s still a mystery waiting to be solved.



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