

## Rockin' Around the Auditorium

By: Jonah Vandenburg  
Staff Writer

Deck the Halls... or the High School Auditorium?  
This Christmas, the school hosted the annual choir/chorale and band concerts; however, there was a small change to how they were set up.

The Musical Arts teachers held two separate concerts: one for the choir/chorale and one for the band. This was because it was very hard to combine all the Band and Choir numbers into one concert.

The Bands' concerts were held on December 10 and 11, while the Choir and Chorales were held on December 17 and 18.

The concerts were held separately for many reasons.

New Musical Director of RHS, Ms. Schack, said, "I was not here to witness the combined concerts. However, the previous teachers explained that although the concerts were great from an audience standpoint, they just got too big and very difficult to manage. They tried them separately last year, and Mr. Osadchuck and I are going with that same format."

There was a variety of musical pieces prepared for this year.  
There was also deep thought into how the pieces were chosen.

Ms. Schack stated she had to first have to look at the educational considerations for the piece (what musical concept(s) would the students learn from a particular piece.) She also needed to consider variety in the literature to expose students to different types and styles of music.

And finally, she had to consider how does each piece fit together to make an enjoyable concert for the audience.

There was a huge amount of preparation that has to go into these concerts.

"We have been rehearsing diligently since October. Christmas music at Halloween is fun!" said Ms. Schack.

A great sum of time has gone into practicing the numbers for each concert.

Ms. Schack's first concerts were a huge success.

She stated it has been a blessing here for her at Richmond. Students were very welcoming

and open-minded to new things that she would like to bring to the programs, she said.  
Ms. Schack said, "The Administration and my colleagues have been very supportive, and it's great to be part of a community that values the arts like Richmond does."

The choir performed many songs such as "JingleBells", "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen", "December's Keep", and "Calypso"; this did not include the eight solos.

Senior Josh Vandenburg, choir member for four years, was granted a solo for the choir concert.

Vandenburg performed the song "1915" by Celtic Thunder.

The song showed what Christmas was like for the soldiers during the war of 1915.

Each student had to audition for a solo, and eight were granted the opportunity.

Vandenburg said, "I auditioned for the solo and also I do choir, because I am a good singer, and I would like to pursue a future in singing."

The all-girl Chorale performed quite a few numbers as well, such as "Eltorro", "Ogonealuwa", "Dance of the Sugarplum Fairies" and "The Bells".

The choir and chorale were joined together in one concert.

The Band Concert featured the songs, "Christmas Festival", "Celtic Carol", "The Nutcracker's Suite" and many more.

Similar to the choir and chorale members, the Band members had to audition for solos.  
Senior Stacy Weidner, band member for seven years, received a solo, for her trumpet, doing the song Holly Jolly Christmas.

Weidner said, "The song is to spread cheer and for everyone to be happy."

"I participate in Band because music is my passion. It is a fun class and it is fun spending time with all the other band members," said Weidner.

There were 10 band solos.  
Senior Morgan Connor said the most fun part was being with her friends.

Connor said the hardest part was the whole new format for the year.

"My favorite song was Christmas Festival because it was upbeat and an easy song," said Connor.

Connor said that overall, the concert went well.

Junior Amanda Vinson said, "It was nice to finally perform the songs we have been practicing since the beginning of school. It was rewarding to see the crowd's reaction."

## Tinsel and Tradition

By: Ryan Telow  
Editorial Editor

Deck the halls with boughs of holly, Fa la la la la la la la!

Tis the season to be jolly, Fa la la la la la la la!  
For many students here at Richmond High school each have their own traditions that make Christmas a little more special.

"My dad always works on Christmas so we go to his house the day after Christmas. Christmas mornings are always at my mom's house though. We always have to wait for my little nephews to get there though before we eat breakfast. It takes them forever! After breakfast we like to take the gifts from under the tree and everyone gets their own little pile of presents to open," said Heather Bruci.

Gifts, Christmas trees, family parties, and decorating are but some of the many ways students at Richmond show our Christmas spirit.

"I'd have to say I look forward to the gifts the most. My mom always loves spoiling her boys

## Christmas Sopping

*Continued from page 10*

Sometimes you get early Christmas gifts. Kunce got some early Christmas gifts such as an iPhone5c.

Kunce also did some shopping for his family gifts at these places. Apple has just come out with the new iPhone 5c, and 5s and they are on the shelves for Christmas.

Junior Rachel Conrad said, "What I want for Christmas is food and a turtle. I did my Christmas shopping at Lakeside and Partridge creek for my family."

Senior Emily Showers said, "I did my shopping at the mall and Partridge creek and I wanted clothes, shoes, and a new TV."

She said she wanted her clothes from Victoria Secret, and that she went shopping for Christmas gifts for her family at Lakeside Mall and Partridge Creek.

However students get the money for the Christmas shopping, whether it is from their own job or their mom's piggy bank, a lot of RHS students go Christmas shopping.

Barjacketarovich said, "I get my money for Christmas shopping from my summer job, and from selling stuff on eBay year-round.

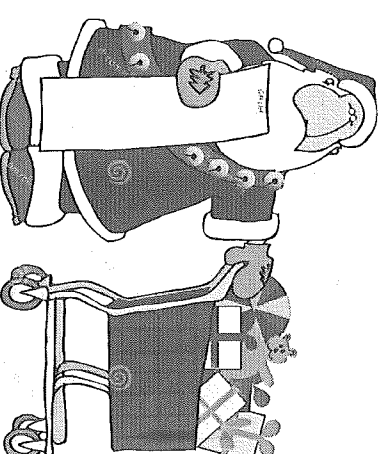
The mall seems to be a popular place to shop during the season due to the variety of stores in one place.

Lakeside Mall and Birchwood Mall are the two nearby inside malls and Partridge is the one outside mall in the nearby area. Chesterfield also has a variety of stores in their shopping district.

Port Huron also has a variety of these stores. Students at RHS seem to be frequenting these types of places.

These stores mostly go on sale during the season and offer hot deals to customers. When it comes to costs during the holidays, finding the right sales can save you a lot of money.

Christmas shopping is always a crazy fiasco, no matter what, you'll always be rushing to find what you want to buy. Barjacketarovich said, "The shopping was crazy, but it was worth it."



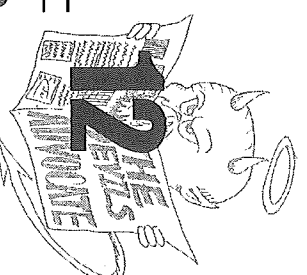
added to the Christmas trees each year one has got to be that special one that has its place on the tree every year.

"My Favorite ornament would have to be the little black mouse with the white whiskers on it that I made in Lee School. It has a little black face with googly eyes. By far the cutest little ornament I hang it towards the top of the tree each year because I feel that everyone can see it that way," said Brown.

While some families prepare their decorations and tree's for the holidays some have to brace themselves for the numerous family parties that will begin.

"Every year for Christmas Eve, my mom and dad take all my brothers and myself to my aunt's house. It's a mad house with boys. I have my two brothers and myself and my aunt has seven kids that are all boys. One thing that we always do before dinner is a bingo give away. The idea is that each of us bring a knickknack to give away and we all play bingo and give them away. It's fun because everyone always competes to get the good gift," said Trapiss.

*Continued on page 13*

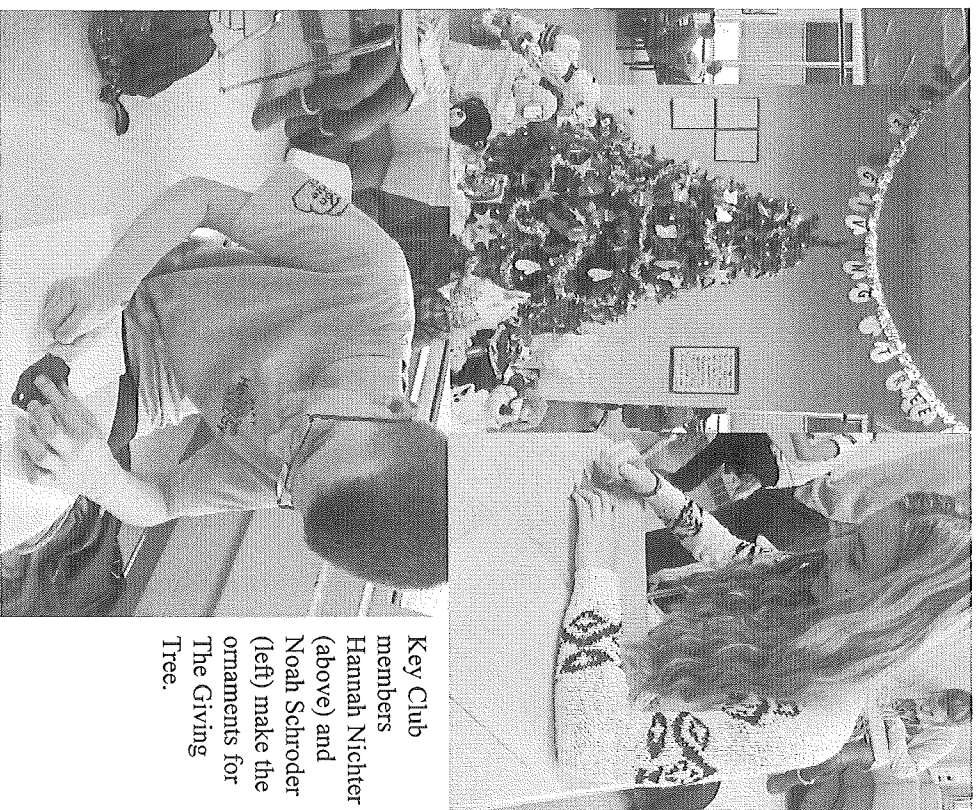


## WORD SEARCH

V E J M T J M J L M Q G H G F  
 R A J L G T H G B G H G I U W  
 M G I U K U Q F D C I N D E O  
 T K N P T I F R O E G V C G N  
 U G G T Y L K O L E O G I G S  
 Y V L R Q G K S R N S J S N N  
 Q Y E E W I E B E Y K X A R G  
 S F B E E Y R S I H A V N E N  
 T P E S H E Q B N I T S T P I  
 N T L I Y A N G Q D V I A A O Y  
 E Y L D A M W I E J N F E N T  
 S Q S G E I Q X E P G C H R Q  
 E K R L E H M Z R J A K A G W  
 R C C P B C M I S T L E T O E  
 P U G N I K C O T S L X B X K

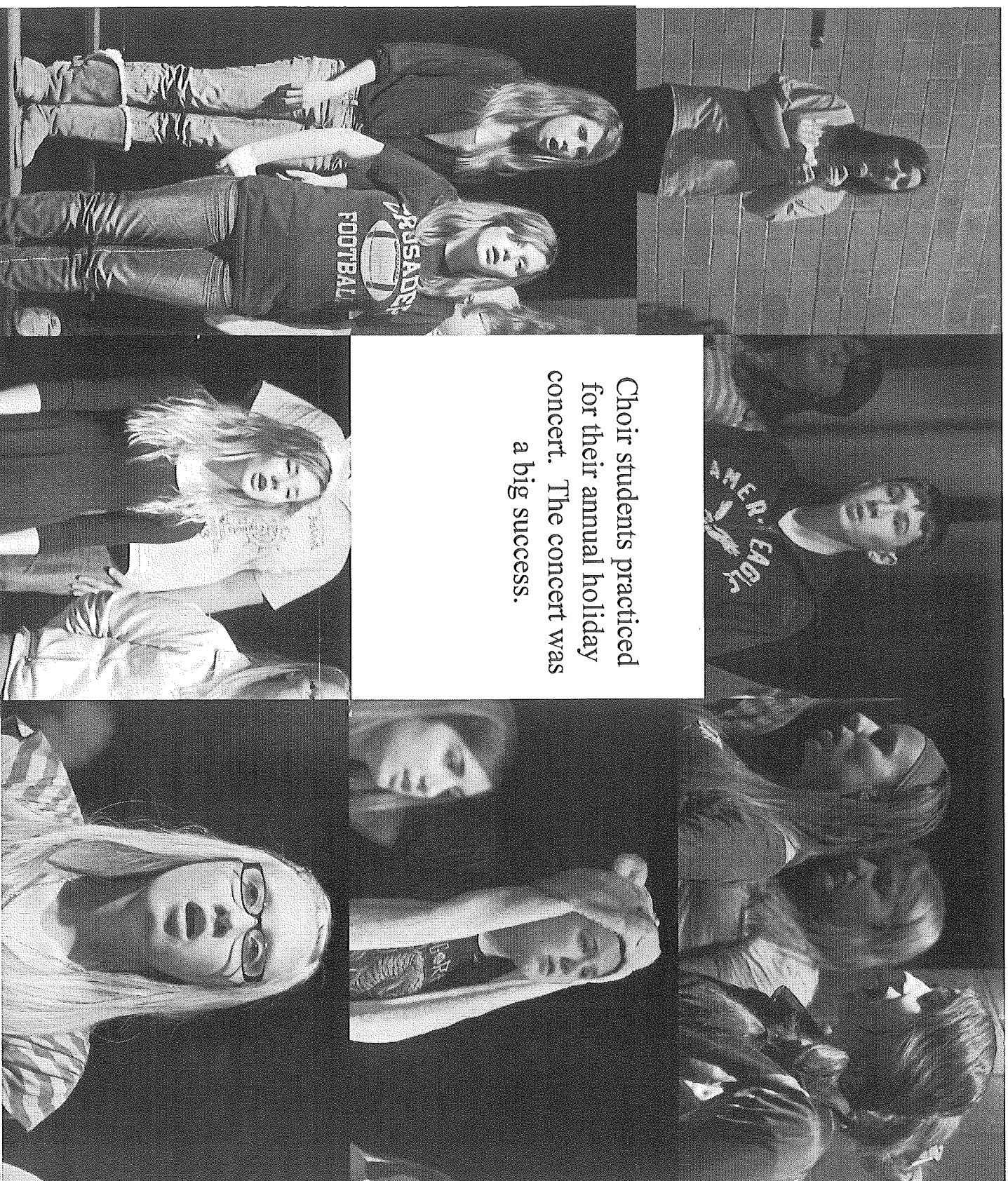
Santa	Snow	Chimney	Gingerbread	Presents
Reindeer	Giving	Cookies	Mistletoe	Stocking
Sleigh	Tree	Jingle Bells	Skating	Wreath

## The Giving Tree



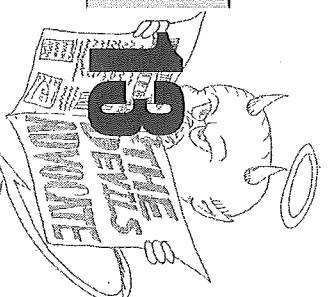
Key Club members Hannah Nicher (above) and Noah Schroder (left) make the ornaments for The Giving Tree.

## CHOIR JULETIDE CONCERT



Choir students practiced for their annual holiday concert. The concert was a big success.

# Stories



## Band makes magic in Holiday Concert



## Holocaust

*continued from page 2*

Many students appreciated the personal stories of the Holocaust that Manzo shared in the presentation. "I got to view the Holocaust from a more personal level," said Shayna Wilson. She said she learned a lot about the Holocaust that she never knew before.

Wilson wasn't the only student to take away some new knowledge from this presentation. Haley Fortuna also learned new information about the Holocaust. "I didn't know that people had to hide in the forest. The whole presentation was very emotional; it made me sad," she said. The emotional aspect of the presentation made events seem a lot more real in students' eyes. "It's important to stop judging people off race and religion. We should stop prejudice so that things like this don't happen," said Fortuna.

The underlying concept that all the students seemed to learn from this presentation is that discrimination and prejudice is wrong. "A person is a person; don't discriminate," said Dorian Hanson.

What students really took away from this presentation was how, even though prejudice sometimes seems like a small problem, it can evolve into something much worse if we let it get out of hand.

The world needs to learn from its history. "I think we should talk about the Holocaust a lot more and pass it on to other people and our kids in order to stop prejudice against certain groups," Wilson said.

Along with lessons about events in the Holocaust and prejudice, students began to realize how fortunate they are. Wilson really came to appreciate what she has. "I thought about how horrible the world can be. It's really sad and really scary, but it made me realize how lucky I am," she said.

## Christmas Spirit

*Continued from page 11*

Decorations, parties, shopping, and making room for family time are but some of the many things that make the rush for the big day.

"We usually try to make it to midnight mass, as long as we can drag my dad out of the bed. If we can't make it to midnight mass we go to the four o'clock one. We always open our gifts the night before Christmas morning because my sister always has work. My sisters and I always wear our matching pajamas; we wear them all day," Said Senior Kayde Hambaum.

The early mornings and late nights of Christmas bring countless hours of spending time with the family.

"At the end of the long day my favorite thing about Christmas is all the time I get to spend with my family," said senior Bruci.

Gifts, Christmas trees, family parties, and decorating are but some of the many ways students at Richmond shows Christmas spirit, love, and appreciation to their families.

### Hey You!

These pictures are pretty fantastic!

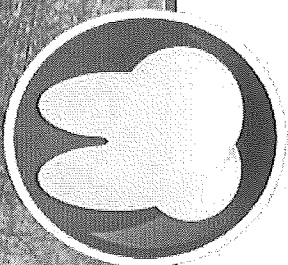
Why miss out on seeing these when

you can just buy a YEARBOOK?

They're in color, too!

Buy a Yearbook for the year 2013-14.

Only \$80!!!



Eric Groeneveld DDS, P.C.

*Family Dentistry*

68720 S. Main St  
Richmond, MI 48062  
Phone: (586) 727-0990  
Fax: (586) 727-4872  
Email:  
Ericgroenevelddds@yahoo.com

# N

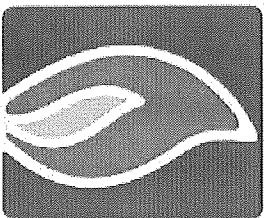
i'm lovin' it™

## Foster Blue Water Oil

*Service You Can Trust for Over 75 Years*

[www.fosteroil.com](http://www.fosteroil.com)

**Heating Oil • Diesel Fuel • Gasoline • Lubricants**



# BLUE FLAME

PROpane

**Servicing Your**

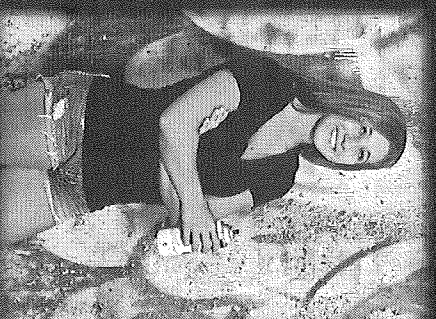
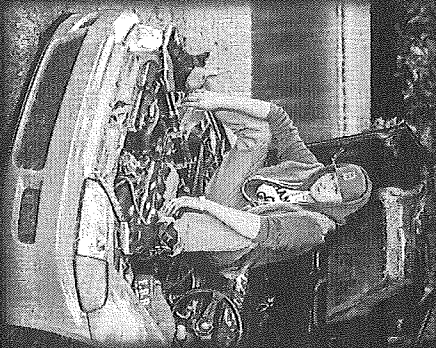
**Area**

**800-552-4919**

[www.blueflamepropaneinc.com](http://www.blueflamepropaneinc.com)

### Ultimate Senior Photography

[Facebook.com/UltimateSeniorPhotography](https://www.facebook.com/UltimateSeniorPhotography)



### HEY SENIORS

Don't accept boring senior pictures!!  
The yearbook picture deadline is near!  
Lets create some awesome senior  
pictures of your attitude and hobbies.  
Do you have a cool idea, lets try it out!  
Our pictures are unique and edgy.  
Check our Facebook page for examples.  
Contact Us at 586-663-2738

