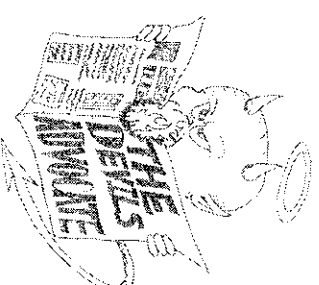




The BLUE DEVILS



Check out the Equestrian article on page 5!

Volume 14, Issue 2

Advocate Richmond High School

35320 Division Road

Take The Opportunity To Help The Community

By: Matthew Schuster
Opinion Co-Editor

Do you want to make the world a better place and help out people who are in need? If so Key Club is what you need to do!

Mr. Murphy has been running Key Club ever since it was created in 2006. Dr. Hiller was a big reason for why Key Club is at Richmond High School. She and Mr. Murphy worked together the first year in making Key Club fun while having the feeling of joy knowing that you just helped someone that really needed it and couldn't help themselves. She also gave Mr. Murphy contact information for different activities that help people who need help.

One thing that Key Club does is that they collect loose change from people to help with the deadly disease called tetanus. Every 11 minutes a newborn dies from tetanus. This year Key club collected exactly \$306 for this disease just by loose change from peoples' pockets. This money is used to help save millions of women and babies lives. Key Club also helps out with the Macomb County Rotating Emergency Shelter Team (MCREST).

MCREST is an organization that

gives shelter to homeless people so they have a place to live.

This organization goes to different churches every week and that church donates their building to have the homeless people stay at their church for a week where they feed them, pay for their gas, and give them a shelter.

Key Club went to help with MCREST at Trinity Lutheran Church in Richmond, Michigan. When they went to the church they didn't help with the homeless people but they helped set up the church before the homeless people came and after they left the church they helped clean up.

When setting up the church Jenna Stafford said, "We helped out by moving beds from moving trucks and boxes into their different rooms to make room for the homeless people"

Talking to the young adults that are part of Key club, you can tell by just talking to them that they love helping others. There is always a smile on their faces, they always have a good time and the people they help out with like MCREST and Kids Against Hunger love when the Key Club comes to help because they always have a fun time and the kids are always respectful.

Key Club also does a shoe drive

that raises money for Kids Against Hunger. Kids Against Hunger makes meals for people who can't get food on their own. According to the Kids

Against Hunger website, "We accomplish this by delivering a highly nutritious meal, that was developed by food scientists to provide a rich source of easily digestible protein, carbohydrates, and vitamins needed by an undernourished child's body and mind."

These meals also cost 28 cents per person, that's actually really cheap compared to other meals cost at restaurants and fast food places too. These meals are the only thing these homeless people get to eat at times.

Brandon VanGorp described the scene as "an Assembly line with four people. There are the four different types of rice that you have to put in a container to make the meal. Each person would have one type of



Students Robert Trombley and Amanda Gorr help roll change — collected by the Key Club members — for UNICEF.

rice and you would fill the container."

Community service is a lot of hard work but knowing that it can make a difference is why people want to help others.

VanGorp said, "I don't mind the hard work because I know that when I'm working hard there's someone out in the world who is incapable of surviving on their own. I am helping them and it's a really good feeling."

When Students Take The Polls

By: Haley Fortuna
Coordinating Editor

On November 8th, nationwide, citizens stood in lines outside of their local polling precinct ready to exercise their right to vote. At Richmond Community Schools, students did the same.

RHS Prepares Students for the Voter's Box

Some students walked into school on election day having already voted in the real election. Others filled out their false ballots at lunch for the last time before their vote counts in a real election.

In order to provide a learning opportunity for the soon-to-be voters, RHS also tried to maintain a realistic voting experience.

To achieve the real-world voting process, Political Involvement Club not only held the mock election but they also held a poll after the first debate between Mr. Trump and Secretary Clinton.

"My decision did not change from the primary to the real election," Raachael Tavano, freshman, said. Tavano was not alone. RHS voted that Mr. Trump won the debate, as well as, the election.

After finding that Donald Trump was the President Elect, not only at RHS but in the nation, students had many mixed reactions. Some felt disappointment, Jaret Gil,

senior, said, "I'm not happy about the outcome, but hopefully we can rely on our system of checks and balances to prevent Mr. Trump from doing things that I find unfavorable."

Other high schoolers were thrilled to see how Mr. Trump plans to make America great again.

Nick Mathes, junior, said, "I was very pleased with how the results came out. I was surprised that Donald Trump won some of the states he was projected to lose. I'm excited to see what he does with the middle-class taxes and also business taxes."

Then, there are some individuals who sit in the middle.

"I didn't support Trump or Clinton so I voted for the Constitution Party's candidate, Darrell Castle," said senior, Brandon Saitkowski. "After the results from the real election, I feel like a lot of Americans are overreacting. We should give him [Trump] a chance to make a mistake first."

RMS Students Make a Decision

RMS took an even more realistic stance on their mock election with students having to register to vote before the election in order to receive their ballot on the big day.

Mr. Bartels, RMS Principal, said, "Student Government is holding our mock elections. They wanted to make it as real as they could by requiring students to register to vote [a week] be-

forehand."

As the students filed into lunch they passed voter's boxes for those registered to have their voices heard.

Nick, 7th grader, said, "It was so cool to get to vote since none of us can actually vote yet but we have opinions still."

Much like the high school students, the middle schoolers had mixed reactions about the results.

"I didn't want Trump to be our President but neither candidates were a great option. I hope things will be okay," said, 6th grader, Matthew.

The majority, however, thought differently.

7th grader, Kayla, said, "I think Trump will be a good president for the most part."

As a whole, RMS decided they would like Mr. Trump to be their next President.

Will L. Lee is a De-moc-cra-cy

Specifically, the elementary-schoolers were anticipating their chance to cast their votes.

At lunch, the young students lined up, received their ballots, and chose the picture of whom they deemed fit to be the next President of the United States.

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the next President of the United States.

4th grader, Faith said, "I do not like either candidate, but I do think there is one that is better than the other. So, that is who I am going to vote for. It should've been Bernie."

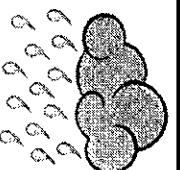
The excitement, however, did not cease after the polls closed. After school several students came running down the halls with their heads held high and their "I voted" stickers slapped on their chests.

"I voted for president today," said 1st grader, Gabrielle as she jumped up and down.

Overall, the junior devils decided that they wanted Donald Trump to be their next President.

All three schools in the RCSD learned how the voting process works and had their voices heard. With that, all schools chose Donald Trump to take over the seat in the oval office for the next four years, along with 47% of the country.

Regardless of how students may feel about the President elect, our country must keep a quote from our current President, Barack Obama, in mind: "We have to remember that we're actually all on one team... We're not Democrats first, we're not Republicans first, we are Americans first. We're patriots first. We all want what's best for this country."



Today's Forecast
Rain showers and partly cloudy

High: 42
Low: 36

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RHS Guitar Class Rocks!

By: Jaret Gil
Opinion Co-editor

Students piled in the door, one by one, and the space slowly came alive. Each one carried their music inside little odd shaped boxes. And although each box was the same, each piece of music was different. As the last student walked in the door, each little box was opened. Now, holding their music in their hands, the students began to strum – bringing their music to life. And despite some students not quite know how to play their tune, the guitar class has a way of bringing the music alive inside of you.

Up until now, most kids have to take an art class in order to graduate. In light of this, the RHS fine arts department has begun to branch off, with brand new programs like dance and guitar. Now, students who feel their music calling from within, can opt for a class that better suits their interest.

As Ms. Newman puts it, "There's a lot of students who are musicians but they don't necessarily fit into the choir or band performance stuff. This [guitar class] is a different way for them

to learn and perform." With the new guitar class – and others like it – the school has really pushed to bring a defined fine arts department to RHS.

RHS sophomore Sabbath Wilson said, "Ms. Till didn't think we were going to have enough kids when I signed up last year, so I went out and got like 15 kids to sign up that day." With students like Sabbath at RHS, the fine arts department is expanding rapidly. Students now have the opportunity to take classes like guitar, dance, broadcasting, and creative writing.

Building up the RHS fine arts program also allows students to have another option besides basic design. Evan Quigley, a senior at RHS, said, "[Guitar class] is an alternative to doing something other than traditional art and it's always good to pick up something new."

The senior admits he's not the best at drawing, but as someone who has been playing on a bass since fifth grade he has found it a nice transition into guitar. And of course, he's getting a required credit.

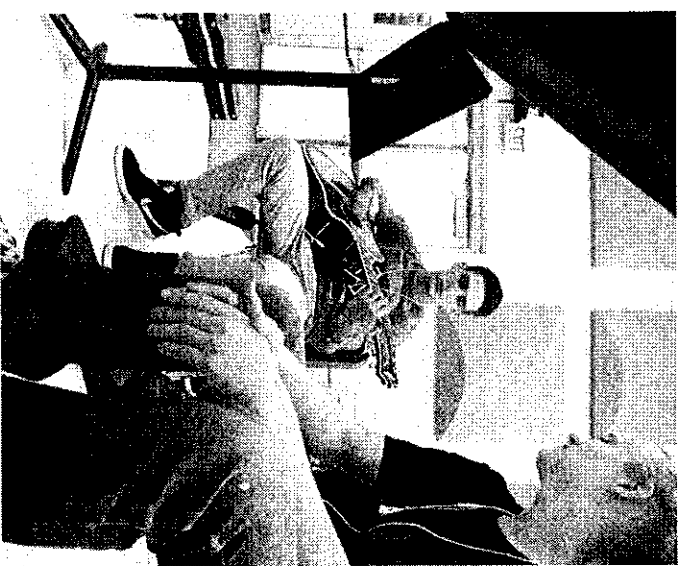
Classmate Emma Brockert, also a senior at RHS, said, "I play the ukulele and the bass clarinet already, and I hope to

gain more experience and become more versatile with instruments [because of guitar class]. Most of the class don't know how to play already, so it's also fun to progress together."

The class focuses on individual and group performances, breaking the hour of class into two equal halves of practice. First, the students practice drills with Mrs. Newman. Then, they break off into groups, allowing them to learn and

"progress" together. The mix of the two helps keep students focus, while also allowing the kids to maintain a fun and creative environment.

RHS could even add to its arsenal of concerts – considering the concert choir, band, regular choir, and chorale groups – as the guitar class could soon find themselves on stage. "Some idea as I have are to have them play in the lobby before concerts," said Mrs. Newman. "And hopefully, depending on how we pro-



Student, Shadden Gee, practices the guitar during guitar class

gress, hopefully we can perform at the Medlodge or even Enrichmond; or maybe just in front of the class. My hope is that, at the end of the class, they can play a song they like."

Dance Class Shakes Up RHS

By: Brianna Maloney
Features Co-Editor

Richmond High School welcomed many new electives this school year and the one that has been in the spotlight the most is the dance class.

Dance class counts as a gym credit, so while some are taking the class to get out of normal gym class, others have a passion for dance. Senior Alexis Sharpe has been dancing for around 10 years and leaped at the opportunity to join the class. "I love dancing. I was excited when I first heard about the class; I wanted to take it," said Sharpe.

This class is more independent than regular gym as well. The students get to make up their own dances and perform them for the class- sometimes the student body.

Sharpe was honored to choreograph the routine you may have seen at the homecoming pep assembly. "We only had a week, so it was hard because we have so many people," Sharpe said, "but we ended up pulling it off in the end."

The class plans on performing once again at the upcoming Snowcoming pep assembly.

How the class came to be
The board of education has bigger and better things planned for the

future of RHS and it all starts with the new elective classes.

Mrs. Michon's overall goal is to create a fine arts program at Richmond. It is clear that Richmond students are brilliant artists, outstanding singers, talented actors, and accomplished musicians. So why not add skilled dancers to the list?

Superintendent Mr. Walmsley's daughter, Madelyn Walmsley, is a dedicated dancer. She has been dancing for many years. This class would give Madelyn and many other students the chance to show off their dance abilities.

The idea for the new electives- dance, EMT, broadcasting, and creative writing- were tossed around by the board. Once the classes were picked, the board needed to see what educators would be able to teach the classes.

"We did not consider hiring a professional dancer; all P.E. teachers are certified in dance," Mrs. Michon said. Although a professional dancer was not hired to teach the class, Samantha Pedri volunteers her time once a week to help out the students. Pedri is a Richmond alumni and currently teaches dance lessons in town. When she comes to visit the dance class, Pedri teaches the students new moves and techniques.

Mr. Nuss, the teacher of the class, surprised when he was informed he

would be teaching a dance class.

"Towards the of one's career you don't expect to do anything new," Nuss said, "It was a new challenge."

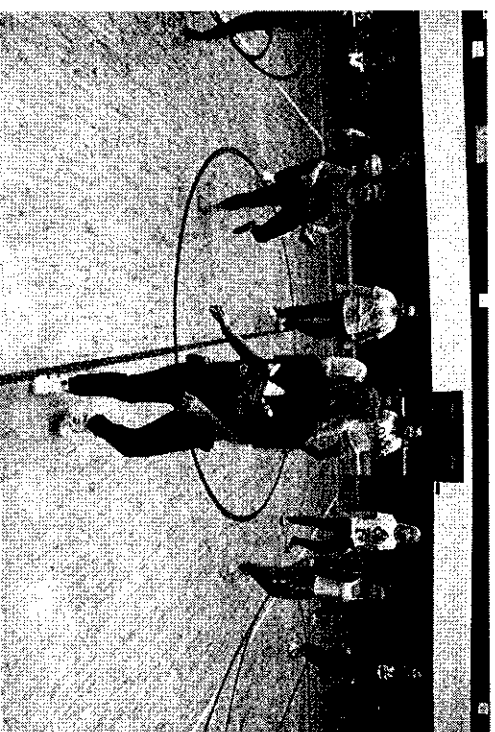
What happens in dance class

There is no average day in the course, it is ran like a P.E. class. One day students will be in the classroom using the laptops to research new moves, another day may be a fitness day, and then three out of the five days are dance days. On these dance days, students go to the mini gym and create their own dance routines. "The class is inde-

pendent, we kind of do our own thing," Sharpe said.

Recently, the students were working on "partner routines." They had so many days to work with a partner and choreograph a dance to any song of their choice. The students then performed their dances and the best one was taught to the class.

Currently, the students are working on the choreography for the Snowcoming pep assembly. They all partake in adding new moves to the dance. This class is not only teaching students how to dance, but they also learn how to work as a team.



The dance class practices their dance routine for the pep assembly during class.