



It's hoop season!  
See page 4!

# The BLUE DEVILS



Ad~ Richmond  
High School

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35320 Division Road

## Anatomy Classes Cut Deep Into Chapter 11

By: Emma Gillem  
News Co-Editor

What's better than learning about the heart? How about actually getting to dissect one?

Anatomy classes have experienced their second dissection of the year in class this past month, but the first dissection that has something remotely close to a human, with anatomy teacher, Mr. Schleder.

The 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders had been learning about the human cardiovascular system and everything that goes along with the muscular organ that is about the size of your fist.

One of the students who got to experience the dissection was junior Stephen Ingman.

Ingman had taken this class because of Mr. Schleder being the teacher.

"He is a really good teacher," Ingman said. "I enjoy having him and also learning about the body." Having a teacher who enjoys his job, makes the students enjoy the class as well.

"The most interesting part of the entire dissection was how close it was to an actual human heart," Ingman said. "I wasn't really expecting the inside of the heart to

look the same as a human heart is."

However, there were also some not-so-exciting parts of the dissection.

"The grossest part was having to get the heart out of the bucket and it being all wet," Ingman said.

The process started the day before, when Mr. Schleder explained to the class how the procedure would go and had everyone look at a model heart.

The following day, everyone in the class had put their gloves and safety goggles on, picked out the sheep heart from the bucket, which is where the distinct smell came from, and began to cut the heart in half and label all the parts.

Ingman thought it was hysterical to watch people run out of the room because the smell was unbearable to most.

Mr. Schleder has done this dissection a few times, and each time he feels as if the classes teach him something he didn't know about.

"I hope the students learn that the sheep heart is not much different than the human heart," Mr. Schleder said.

"It's a learning process for not only the students, but also me."

By dissecting these hearts, Mr. Schleder was pleased to see that

all of the students were taking turns using the tools and labeling everything.

"Labeling the parts of the heart was the most difficult," Ingman said. "Trying not to cut the vessels or arteries was definitely challenging because then it would have ruined the whole assignment."

While dissecting anything, the key is to be extra careful on what is being cut, and what is needed to be done.

"The kids know what is expected," Mr. Schleder said. "As long as they listen to the instructions I give them, and re-read them on the rubric, nothing should go wrong, and nothing did."

Not only is this interesting to see and watch, there is also a lot to be learned with every dissection.

"I learned that the inside of a heart is interesting and different than I expected," Ingman said.

Many people don't realize what the actual muscles and organs in our bodies are like. There's more than just a heart and a brain.

Every muscle and organ holds its own specialty.

The heart was the main thing being taught in the section that was being taught.

"I think it was cool how we actually got to do something with



Olivia Vanhove(left) and Amanda Job (right) dissecting a sheep heart in Anatomy.

Photo Courtesy of RHS Yearbook

## Richmond Contributes To Christmas Wishes

By: Cameron Barrett  
Staff writer

Richmond gives back to women and children who have faced domestic violence in the past. The Giving Tree is a way to give back to people who have been in very serious situations.

Richmond Key Club started a Giving Tree about seven years ago. Mr. Murphy got the idea about the Giving Tree from his church that he went to when he was younger. Mr. Murphy thought it would be fulfilling to start a Giving Tree in Richmond Community Schools so the school district can give back to those in need.

"Turning Point has been the only place we have done the giving tree for. We have done Turning Point for at least five years," Murphy said. Turning Point is located in Mt. Clemens and is a program that helps women and children who have faced

domestic violence.

The program gets help from community organizations that donate items needed.

Turning Point also helps provide a place that is non-judgmental and allows people to cope with what has happened to them. The program helps people regain confidence and the sense of security in their life.

With the help from the staff members and Key Clubbers, the Giving Tree was a success. The students made ornaments that had specific needs of the women and children in order to set up the tree.

Cereal, pairs of shoes, and coloring activities: those were some items donated from RHS students.

Mr. Murphy said all of the gifts go to turning Point in Macomb.

Mr. Murphy was asked about how he feels knowing what the women and children are going through and he said, "I've never had anyone personally go through this situation. I

do know it's a major issue and a tough time for the people going through it. Hopefully the gifts we give them will bring them hope, joy, and laughter."

Many Key Club members have participated in this major event at the high school. People brought dipper to hot chocolate in for this event.

Mr. Murphy said, "It's an exciting to see the community pull and work together and be generous for the less fortunate. It's awesome to see how supportive the staff and students are."

Ashley Reece, a senior, said, "I did it to help children in need during Christmas so they can have gifts. It was an overwhelming reward to help others in their time of need."

Reece donated crayons and an outfit for a little girl.

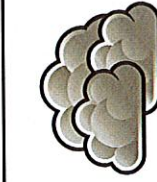
Christina Thomas, a junior, donated kid's art supplies and sponges. "I donated art supplies because arts are

a big part of my life and Mrs. Belf's life. I was happy to give someone the opportunity to pursue that," Thomas said.

Another senior, Olivia VanHove, was asked about how she felt bringing in her gifts. She enjoyed bringing gifts in because she knew it would bring joy into someone else's lives it makes me feel good.

The donations from the Giving Tree hopefully brought joy to everyone at Turning Point. The joy they have when they get these gifts is priceless.

On December 18th, Mr. Murphy loaded his entire car with dozens of boxes to take to Turning Point. When the gifts were delivered, everything was thrilled with the donations. Overall their Christmas was bright and merry.



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Mostly Cloudy  
High: 32  
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# Therapeutic Riding Program Helps Disabled People

By: Nick Thomas  
Sports Editor

Getting the horses, brushing the horses, tacking the horses, and taking the horses out to the obstacle course for people to ride.

These are some of the things Jordyn Osterland, senior at RHS, does when she is volunteering at the Liberty Riders therapeutic riding program located in St. Clair, Michigan. "The Liberty Riders therapeutic riding program is a riding program for people of all ages with special needs and disabilities," said Osterland.

Osterland added, "We work with all different ages, both males and females; one of the patients I help is in her forties."

The ultimate goal of therapeutic riding is to increase self-esteem, confidence, and motivation while encouraging learning and furthering the physical and psychological development of the individual. The riding instructor creates an individu-

al lesson plan for each student. The plan may include grooming, riding, exercises and games.

"When I was little I used to ride horses, so helping these people ride horses and taking care of the horses has a connection to me," said Osterland.

Riders of all ages can join and benefit from this therapeutic program. The riders begin to learn how to care for and ride a horse at their own pace which is achieved by focusing on each rider's abilities rather than disabilities.

Disability areas served in therapeutic riding include: Downs Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, mental retardation, autism, hearing/visual impairment, post stroke disorders, ADD/ADHD, and more if brought to a trainer's attention.

The benefits of therapeutic riding include:  
Helps develop recreational and therapeutic goals.  
Improves physical, mental, social and emotional well-being.

Increases self-confidence and self-discipline through meeting challenges.

Promotes responsibility and cooperation.

Improves posture, balance, coordination, flexibility and muscle tone. "I've been volunteering for about a year now at Liberty Riders; I usually volunteer one day a week for four hours," said Osterland.

There are only a handful of people like Osterland who like to help out and volunteer their time to help people in life.

Not everyone is given the normal or "perfect" life like many of us are blessed to have, that is uncontrollable and out of our hands, but we can make a difference in the lives of the people who are born with mental or physical health conditions; Osterland is one of those people.

"It's a rewarding experience, I get to watch patients grow and make improvements each and every week," said Osterland.

ing an excellent was a really good achievement for me,"

The year after, she took it to the next level by scoring a superior and earning herself a spot at the state wide competition.

"Being able to attend states as a freshman was a great experience, I was so proud of myself for everything I achieved and scoring an excellent there was just icing on the cake," she said.

In the years following, she had made it again.

"Both my sophomore and junior year, I scored excellent rankings, so this year my goal is to obtain a superior," she said.

Like Graham, Junior, Daniel Seguin, is also hoping to give a sharp performance. Seguin has gone to solo and ensemble since his last year of middle school.

"At the time I competed just for fun, but now, I do solo and ensemble to improve myself and reflect on my negative qualities," said Seguin.

Seguin hopes to one day pursue a career as a music teacher, so he feels that attending solo and ensemble would be a good learning opportunity for the future.

"If one day I want to go into a career in music, then I should jump at every opportunity to become familiar with the content," said Seguin.

Although the value he finds in solo and ensemble differs from that of Fortuna and Graham, that doesn't stop him from wanting to achieve excellence.

"My first year I got an excellent, and through the years I've maintained this score," Seguin said.

As he goes into his fifth year of attending solo and ensemble, he hopes to achieve a superior.

"My biggest goal this year is to achieve a superior ranking because I have never gotten one before. Earning a superior would validate that I'm on the right track," he said.

So tune in on January 16, to see how these young vocalists perform.

## RHS Solo Ensemble

By: Lauren Duche  
Opinions Co-Editor

Talented singers at RHS have never fallen flat, so their performance at the Solo and Ensemble competition on January 16 will hopefully be one for the books.

Sophomore, Haley Fortuna, is all too familiar with the foreign world of solo and ensemble.

"This is my fourth time competing in the solo and ensemble competition. I did it for the first time in eighth grade and it sparked my interest in singing. I got music lessons for Christmas from my grandma that year and from then on I've just fell in love with performing," said Fortuna.

That year, Fortuna earned herself a ranking of a Good.

The scores range from fair to superior, so earning a Good was on the

lower end of the scale.

"At the time I thought that scoring a Good was good, but it left me wanting more. I knew I was better than that, so it became my personal goal to achieve an excellent and go to states," she said.

Last year, she had done exactly that.

"I was really proud of myself for what I had accomplished, going to States was a life changing experience and I hope to return again this year," she said.

At states, Fortuna had scored an Excellent, and this year she hopes to return and score a superior.

With districts approaching quickly, Fortuna has been preparing for months.

"To prepare, I practiced by taking vocal lessons every other Wednesday and met with my accompanist, Mr. Agosta," she said.

Fortuna isn't the only one gearing up for this competition.

Senior, Stephanie Graham, is also attending.

Graham has always been interested in singing so when she found out she had the opportunity to attend solo and ensemble, she jumped at the opportunity.

"I started taking vocal lessons when I was eight years old and I still take them once a week," she said. Graham had begun competing her eighth grade year as well, giving her five years of experience in this competition.

"I've always loved singing so when I heard I had a chance to compete and see what I could improve upon I was ecstatic," Graham said.

Her first year she scored an excellent.

"I walked in and I didn't know what to expect, so going in and scor-

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Classes held spring, summer, and fall. See Mr. R. Hamilton for details on upcoming classes.

Room 204



## School News

### We The People

**By: Cecily McPherson**  
Coordinating editor

Nerves are riled, anxiety is high, and tension coats the faces of all the eleventh grade AP government students as they embark to Lansing for their We the People competition.

Months of practice has come down to one day. One day where the skills of these high achieving individuals will be broadcasted to the state capital.

When the students began preparing, they were given three questions. Their job was to most effectively answer these questions by directly referencing the constitution.

"We had to prepare three speeches," said Jenna Stafford. "These speeches were to be given before the judges in a four minute period. After this, the judges will ask us questions based upon these speeches."

All the speeches were prepared

using different historical documents to argue their point.

"What makes me the most nervous is if the judges argue back," said Bailey White.

The support of other classmates made this project easier as they gathered in groups to discuss and plan out their assignment.

Each group consisted of 4-5 students. These students worked vigorously every day since the beginning of school. As the students grew closer to the completion, they met out of school as well.

"It seemed overwhelming at first, but it really wasn't. The more effort you put into it, the less stressful it is," said Evan Quigley.

Not only are these students given the opportunity to possibly qualify for nationals, their midterm grade also resulted from their personal performance at the competition.

"It is all a determinate of what you say, how well you address the

prompt, and how well you communicate," said Jenna Stafford.

Dr. Ladd is who these students thank when times get especially stressful. He has taught them everything they know and is always willing to answer any of their questions.

What started out as simply learning about government, has developed into learning how to perform in order to succeed. Many of the students agree, We the People is more than just a project.

"This project was different from anything I have done before because I was actually learning the material. So often I just memorize it for a test," said Anna Maxwell.

On that same note, many students believe that this material will stay with them for their entire lives. It will promote knowingsness within their future work fields, and always remind them that will hard work and effort anything can be achieved.

"In high school, we do a lot of

projects. I forget about most of them. I'm not going to forget this one," said Daniel Seguin.

The reward for learning can sometimes be more than a good grade, students have begun to realize what success outside of school walls feels like.

Whether it be a new skill, a new perception, a new friend, or even a new work ethic, every student has taken something with them as this project dwindles to its end.

"Working with people I have never worked for before has been most rewarding to me," said Evan Quigley. "We had to develop synergy. It made me realize that one day I would have to be doing that exact same thing with my co-workers."

It may have been tough. It may have been stressful, but it is the more dynamic lesson that will forever be engraved in the students' minds.

This project will be one to remember.

### Ready, Set, Roll

**By: Haley Reed**  
Staff Writer

Let the games begin!

With fun, games like trying to find out who is the werewolf, to using a guillotine in the French Revolution, good old Monopoly can't compare.

Once every two weeks on a Tuesday or Thursday the club meets up and picks out games to play. This is the first year of Cards and Games Club. Students can bring in their own games to the cafeteria to play. The possibilities are endless.

Last week, eleventh grader David May, taught a card game he learned. "It felt pretty good, and I'm glad they enjoyed it," May said.

Not only can students teach games, but they learn a lot of new ones.

Ethan Jurila, a frequent club member, said he learned so many new games from going. During the last meeting he was the voice of the Ultimate Werewolf game.

The games allow people to interact with each other in a fun environment. Kaitlyn Milliken, a regular to the club, really opens up at meet ups.

"It's a good way to have fun with classmates who love to play games

and have a good time. You don't normally get to spend quality time with people during the school hours. In a way, it's like taking a break from the school scene," said Milliken.

Mrs. Underwood and Senora Wolfe, the starters of the club, wanted a club where people could interact comfortably.

"I'm a big game player myself. I have been probably since high school. I wanted a place for students to come who didn't want to do sports and theatre. They have more freedom [to be themselves]," Mrs. Underwood said.

Mrs. Underwood always joins in to play with the students. Unfortunately for the students, when she plays, she wins.

Things get very competitive. During a game of Guillotine things got saucy between David May and Kaylee Terman. Both threw their absolute worst cards at each other.

"I think it's just cause were good friends," May said.

Each turn they'd always try to beat the other. In the end it ended in laughs.

All in all, everyone just has a good time with their friends. That's what the club is all about.

## On This Day

- During the American Revolution, George Washington unveiled the Grand Union flag, the first national flag in America. -January 1, 1776
- Elvis Presley was born in Tupelo, Mississippi. -January 8, 1935
- Alaska was admitted as the 49th U.S. state - January 3, 1959
- The first U.S commercial bank opened up as the bank of North America in Philadelphia. -January 7, 1782
- FUN FACT: New Years Day is the most celebrated Holiday around the world.

### Deck The Lockers

**By: Ana Kinkela**  
Staff Writer

For the Christmas spirit Mrs. Smallwood decided to give the students a challenge. Who could decorate their locker with the most Christmas spirit for the holiday?

Mrs. Smallwood and class council had the idea of decorating the class room doors, Senior Sarah Budd suggested why not decorate our lockers, giving all the

students something to do for the Christmas spirit.

"I thought it was really fun to decorate my locker. Surprisingly it looked good after I was done." -Megan Reece

Decorating the doors of the class room would have been taking time out of class for other kids, so we decided on the locker competition." Budd said.

Freshman Nicholas Systemann, sophomore Haley Fortuna, and sophomore Megan Reece decided to take up this challenge. Systemann definitely had the spirit in decorating his locker.

On Systemann's locker he decided to hang white Christmas lights, which he had to dig out of his Christmas decorations at home. He draped them down his locker making it very bright and noticeable. He took white stuffing and covered his whole locker with it, making it look like it had snowed.

Systemann built a shelf and hung up a stocking with his name on it.

"Being a freshman, and it being my first year in a high

school, I decided to get into some Christmas spirit," Systemann said.

Along with sophomore Haley Fortuna decided to try this challenge.

"I got the idea from just thinking about a fireplace," Fortuna said. Fortuna made her locker look like a fireplace because it seemed old fashioned and she liked the look. She printed out pictures of bricks, put them together, taping them from top to bottom of her locker.

"I decided to do something simple but old and classic looking," said Fortuna. Megan Reece was up for a challenge against her peers, too.

"I really didn't plan to decorate my locker, but it looked really fun when I saw other people doing it too. So I decided to go for it!"

Reece said.

Reece took light blue wrapping paper and covered her entire locker in it, making her locker look like a present all wrapped up under the Christmas tree.

"I thought it was really fun to decorate my locker. Surprisingly it looked good after I was done," Reece said. These three kids were into the school spirit for Christmas, each of them putting in great effort and design work for this competition. But there was only one winner, which was Nicholas Systemann winning a box of delicious peppermint candy canes.

## School News

January 15, 2016