

In Our Opinion



Question of the Week

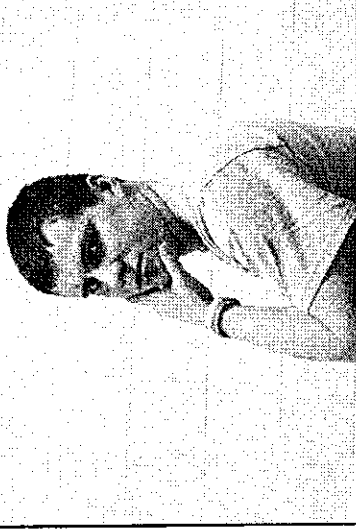
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What is your favorite Winter activity?

Staff



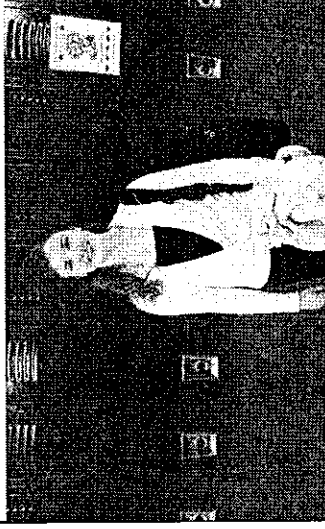
“Sleeping and ice hockey.” - Coach Hamblin.

Senior



“Rabbit hunting” - Trevor Barrett

Junior



“Sledding” - Amy Theume

Sophomore



“Snowmobiling” - Alec Ziza

Freshman



“Sledding” - Emily Kaltz

Staff Editorial: New Year's Resolutions: A Step Towards Change

By: **Haleigh Beedon**
Features Co-Editor

New Year's is the time when people want to change to bring in the New Year. It's a time for a fresh start and something new.

Sadly, most people don't follow through with their goals or don't even bother set one. Which means not a lot of change in people's lives.

Because of this problem, I have come up with a list of examples of New Year's Resolutions.

Getting Healthy

It's a New Year, throw the old habits away. Start eating healthier and get a gym membership. Change starts with dedication and the hard work will start paying off. Losing weight will make you a healthier person and make life more enjoyable. Being active is also a good thing. Whether it's getting a gym membership or just going on daily runs, every type of physical activity will benefit your body. Feeling better about your body and yourself in general will be a great way to start the New Year.

Give Up Fast Food

It's a well-known fact that fast food is bad. So, to go along with getting healthier, giving it up will lead to a healthier body. Eating all of the unhealthy food makes you feel gross about yourself. So, next time you get hungry, drive passed that Taco Bell no matter how tempting it may be. Go home and pour a nice cold glass of water and make a delicious salad. In the end, you will feel healthier and will make you a healthier person.

Exploring New Music

Trying new things can never hurt. Sometimes you get tired of the style of music you always listen to. Go on Pandora and browse through the different

genres. If there's one that stands out or you've never even thought of, add it and listen to the different types of music. It can be completely out of your normal range of music but someone it could become your new favorite genre. You could also explore different music by your favorite bands or artists. Going to music festivals could broaden your expectations. Have an open mind with different sounds.

Be Friendlier

Stop being a scrooge and put on a smile. Brightening up your attitude will make for a better year. It will have a long lasting effect on the people around you, too. When someone sees you happy, with a big smile on your face, it will brighten the day of people that surround you. Everyone will see a change in your attitude and it will make a bigger impact that you think it might.

Live More

Start adventuring. Living on the edge and taking risk is a good thing to do. It's okay to experiment with new things and try to do things other than the usual. Whether it's telling someone how you feel about them or traveling to a new place, taking risks is healthy. You shouldn't always live life on the safe side. There are endless possibilities of the risks you are able to take.

Start Saving

Never had the chance to save money? It's never too late. Go to the bank, put in some money, and start saving money. It's simple but in the end, it will affect the life you live. With the economy always changing, having extra money will be beneficial. Even if starting out with a small amount, adding it up over weeks or months will pay off. You can save for college, future plan, or even to have some money for a rainy day.

Richmond Student Wins Big

By: **Jacquelyn Loria**
Editorial Co-Editor

One student has gotten her art work recognized by a major website. Lauren Nicolopoulos is that student who got recognized by WeAreTeachers.

WeAreTeachers is a website organization where they promote the sponsors that ask to be put on there. After they are put onto the website, they have art show contests from kids around the country enter to win.

This website does contests like 'No Kid Hungry' to help promote their sponsors, such as 'Walk Safe, Drive Safe PSA' contests and others like this to help promote the WeAreTeachers website. They have lessons, blogs, and hot topics also on the website based around art.

No kid hungry, which is about how many kids are starving, has a goal to help put an end to that. This is where the junior Nicolopoulos entered her photo into the contest.

Nicolopoulos won her first art award during the online contest on weareteachers.com. The online contest was about ending childhood hunger.

“We had to turn in three to five photos and write an essay for our entry to be valid,” Nicolopoulos said. “They picked the best one out of the country, each grade level, and I was the runner up for my grade.”

The website used this contest to get the word out and get more people to know about their website and their fight to help end childhood hunger.

Nicolopoulos' award winning picture “Are You Aware of Childhood Hunger?” came in second out of her age group which was 11th and 12th grade around the nation.

“I wasn't sure about winning but I was hoping I would,” said Nicolopoulos. “I've never placed in any art contest before but I've gotten into art shows but haven't won.”

Excited, thrilled, and nervous, Nicolopoulos was eager to get the results back only to find that she won her first contest in an art show.

“I had a lot of fun taking the photos and will probably enter more contests like this,” said Nicolopoulos.

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Mission Statement:

Richmond High School's student newspaper, The Blue Devil's Advocate, strives to serve the student body and provide a public forum to make their ideas heard to the school and community. Our goal is to provide both accurate and balanced stories in order to heighten understanding, entertain, and inform.

Letters:

We invite readers to share their thoughts with us by writing to the Editor. See the drop off box in the library or you may email us at: mmurphy@richmond.k12.mi.us. Include your name, address, and grade level.

These Boots Were Made For Walking... Fashion!

By: Haleigh Beedon
Features Co-Editor

With the weather change, it's time for the boot trends to start again! In this day and age, there is a large variety of different styles of boots.

Senior Sarah McNichol is a lover of all different boot fads.

"For all who know me," McNichol said, "you know my favorite types of boots are cowboy boots."

Despite her unconditional love for cowboy boots, she owns a wide collection of other boots as well. Her diverse collection includes combat boots, fuzzy boots, rain boots, muck boots and so on.

McNichol's favorite way to style her boots is with a casual outfit. Typically, she wears them with a comfy pair of socks, a nice shirt, and a

pair of jeans.

In her vast collection, McNichol's favorite pair are her Ariat cowboy boots.

McNichol said, "I've had these boots for a long time. They've seen all of the most memorable times in my life and that's why I still wear them."

Places like Target are where she gets her combat boots but when it comes to cowboy boots, her favorite places to go are Family, Farm, and Home and Country Outfitters.

Boots come in a variety of colors and so many styles. McNichol said her favorite color of boot is brown because it's really easy to style.

Another very important aspect of the boot wearing process is the right selection of socks. All girls like to wear different socks with each

type of boot.

"My favorite socks to wear with all boots are my Browning fuzzy hunting socks," McNichol said. "They are really comfortable and I wear them all the time."

Much goes into deciding what the best boot is. In order for boots to be good for McNichol, they have to be very comfortable, they're able to be worn in different settings (formal or casual), and easy to match with different outfits.

Behind all the boot madness is a reason for her love. "I love boots because they're very versatile," McNichol said. "There are so many possibilities of how you can wear them."

For as long as she can, McNichol is going to continue to discover different styles of boots and expand her boot collection.

The Difference AP Art Makes in the RHS Art Program

By: Kaitlyn Milliken
Staff Writer

Richmond High School has had a noteworthy Art program going for the past 30 years. Students from past to present have utilized this program to forge their art talents, as well as discover their artistic interests and the art mediums that reflect their personalities.

The humble Art class in Room 123 has seen many artistic students come and go. The teachers who have taught in this room in the past also have left their imprint. (Teachers Mrs. Cole and the late Mrs. Aronson.) The school year after the passing of Mrs. Aronson, brought in the newest art teacher, Mrs. Belf.

She transferred from her previous school East Detroit to teach at RHS. Last year, Mrs. Belf came in knowing she had big shoes to fill. With that in mind, she showed all of her Art students what a great teacher she could be, bringing kindness, creativity, and inspiration to her students. This year, she introduced a major idea: Teaching an AP Art Class. Richmond has never had an AP Art class before. This idea quickly turned into a reality. The AP Art class was accepted and was to be taught the 2015-2016 school year.

Mrs. Belf's choice to teach this class was because of the opportunity to give students college

credits and validation, as well as to further embrace the strong program at the school. Not a lot of schools can offer a great art program.

Unique projects, challenges, and an aim to help students win art awards is what this class is about. Jaret Gil, an AP Art student, had many positive things to say about the AP class in an interview.

Gil said he fully embraces his opportunity to take the advanced art course. Last year, Gil won a major art award. A Gold Key from Scholastics. He did an abstract drawing of a typewriter. It was so good that he was sent to New York to accept his medal. Jaret gives much credit to Mrs. Belf for allowing him to use his creativity and imagination to draw the award winning piece.

"Last year I was in Drawing 2, and I had this really interesting idea of a project I could do. So I told Belf about it and she was perfectly okay with it. And because of that, I ended up drawing a picture that won me an award," said the junior.

Many AP Art students claim that they love the class. It gives everyone an opportunity to feel equal. Each student is there for the same reason. They love art, and take the class because they want to.

Mrs. Belf said that she believes the class is "a class of independent study for students. They all

get to have their individual passion worked into their assignments."

Belf gives students a topic to work on, and then allows them to transform it to their liking. But, one of the essential rules of the class being self-directed and willing to try new things.

"Being self-directed in this class is very important. These assignments are more challenging and can't be put off for a long time. It's up to the student to drive themselves to work," said Mrs. Belf.

AP Art differentiates from the normal Art classes by being more challenging and focused on higher level art. The projects done in this class are assigned to test the limits of the students. Some of the most notable projects are the marble design and the patriotism project. AP Art student, Christina Paramo, had done her marble design in pastel and her patriotism project in paint.

"These projects are a lot different and more fun than the ones in normal drawing classes. It allows you to experiment with what you like," said Paramo.

Hopefully, this class will inspire younger students to work hard in order to join AP Art next year. Having an Art teacher like Mrs. Belf has helped the school's art program. She has improved the Art program immensely, and will

Organization is Key

By: Kaitlyn Milliken
Staff Writer

Have you ever been in a public place and lost something that belonged to you? Like money, a watch, or your phone? It's very stressful and nerve-wracking when you misplace something important like that in the general public. Imagining who might find it, and what they would do with it.

You ask yourself questions like, "Will they be a Good Samaritan and try to find the owner?" or "Will they be greedy and claim the item for their own?"

Now imagine what it must be like to have to be at an important place in that moment and find out that you're missing something. You can't just leave school or work. You have responsibilities to take care of.

Quietly...you guess where it would be if it wasn't where you left it. You plan where to look, and who to ask, and the time you will be able to try to find it.

An instance like this had occurred to me recently when I lost a paper that had the infor-

mation for the newspaper article I was due to write. I hadn't had the opportunity to write the article as much as I wanted to before I lost the paper.

It had everything I needed: Quotes, history, and detailed information. All necessary resources needed to write a good article. I had kept my paper folded up inside of my copy of 'Fahrenheit 451'.

I left Personal Finance after the bell rang, carrying all my heavy books and laptop at once. The hallways were crowded full of students. With people shoveling and bumping passed each other with every step. By the time I made it to my 5th hour, I noticed that my book was gone. A wave of fear overcame me.

But the book wasn't my main concern; it was the paper inside of it. I knew that if I didn't have it, Murphy would steal my memes.

Retracing my steps, I looked down the hallway, and then asked my 4th hour teacher Mr. Germain if he had seen it. He hadn't. After that, it made sense to me to ask all the English teachers if they saw it.

Because I dropped it in the English hall, and I

knew that if someone found it, it would be returned to a teacher who taught English. I asked around and finally, I found out that Mrs. Gabridge had found the book and returned it to Mrs. Woodruff.

But, the paper was gone. I assumed someone cleaned it up and threw it away. By 6th hour I had to think of an alternative. Print day was approaching fast, and I had to do something.

I was afraid of what I had to tell my teacher, Mr. Murphy. My stomach felt like... Mud. While I sat in my newspaper class. I thought he was going to banish me. But he was actually very understanding. I didn't have time to redo the interview with Mrs. Smallwood. So I was offered to write an article about losing things instead.

The moral of this story is that if you have something important, don't carelessly put it in a bad place. Put it somewhere safe so you don't lose it.

And also if you are a person who finds an item, don't be afraid to try to find the owner. That person would really appreciate it.

