

IN OUR OPINION



Question of the Week

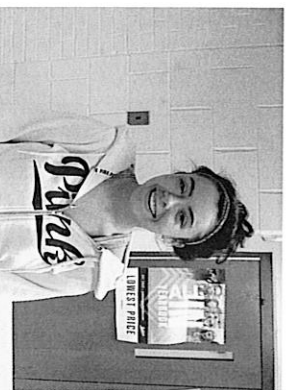
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Do you support Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton?

Staff



Mr. Roodbeen: "Neither, but I would choose Trump if I had to because of his stance on gun control."

Senior



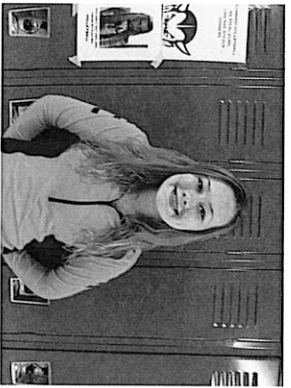
Lexie Sharpe: "Clinton, because I want a first women president."

Junior



Kayla McLaren: "Trump, because I like his ideas and my parents are voting for him."

Sophomore



Tia Cronauer: "Clinton, because of the stories I hear about Trump."

Freshman



Carissa Stewart: "Neither, but I would choose Trump because he doesn't lie."

Staff Editorial: It's not over.

By: Haley Fortuna
Coordinating Editor

"It's the end of the world."
This is a thought racing through teenagers throughout their high school careers. Teenagers are experimental. They hurt their friends. They hurt themselves. They make mistakes.

And often they don't mean to cause any harm. Parents, teachers and other trusted adults are constantly telling the over-dramatic adolescent in their life "it isn't the end of the world."

Speaking as one of these teenagers, I know no matter how many times the adults tell us "things are going to be okay" it NEVER seems like it will be okay.

Even after that famous line: "20 years from now you won't even remember this happened."

None of these words of wisdom will ever work because this problem is happening now. I didn't get into the college I wanted to attend now. My parents are arguing now. I'm not sure if this boy likes me now.

Everything is happening now. The truth is when you're a teenager it seems nearly impossible to see the light.

There are some days where it feels like there is nobody on your side. But that is never true. There will always be someone there. Although sometimes it is hard to realize, there will always be somebody who loves and cares about you.

Recently, like every other high school student, I have had to deal with one of these "end of the world" situations.

When something like this happens in high school, it is devastating. I felt that devastation for three days.

At the time it was the most emotionally agonizing days of my life where I had convinced myself the world was ending. I'm still here.

Not only is the earth still turning, but it's a much brighter place. Due to the struggles I had to face I am only stronger, smarter, braver.

This is true for everyone. Hard times happen so we can appreciate the good times. Although, it can be hard to remember that the sun will rise again, especially in high school, it will.

"The only way anything that was the end of the world" will still impact us is always say, "high school drama isn't how it has shaped us into more mature individuals."

At the time it will not seem as if they are, but just trust it. As hard as it is to admit my mother was right this time, usually those adults are right with their words of advice.

As we move our tassels on our graduation caps from right to left, we move on to a better future where anything bad that happened in the confines of the crowded rumor-infested hallways are past us.

The only way anything that was "the end of the world" will still impact us is how it has shaped us into more mature individuals.

Truly, life will go on and it will hold so much more than high school problems. Later on in life is when you attend college, get married, start a career, and even begin a family of your own.

Only now, you'll be the parent who says, "There is so much more to life than high school."

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Mission Statement:
Richmond High School's student newspaper, The Blue Devils' 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.

Opinions

November 2, 2016

Features

Stafford Seizes the Big Apple

By: Haley Fortuna
Coordinating Editor

She was pushed.

This past summer, Jenna Stafford, a senior, attended Mercy College's Leadership Academy where she found herself being thrust out of her comfort zone.

"I had always wanted to attend a leadership camp, so when this opportunity came, I couldn't pass it up," Stafford said.

For a week, she participated in hands-on business lessons, public speaking activities, corporate visits and a hike up a mountain.

The New York City college's main goal was to teach young adults how to become a leader in the business world.

"We had to speak in front of others a lot and make presentations. This helped me a lot with my public speaking skills," said Stafford.

In addition to presentation skills, the students were also exposed to what a regular work day is like in corporate offices like LinkedIn.

The senior said, "It was really cool to observe how laid back everyone is in these huge corporate offices. They all wear whatever the feel is comfortable and they have fun while working."

The academy may have focused on business-related leadership. However, Stafford also learned many life lessons during this week.

Stafford said, "One of the most important things I learned at the leadership academy was to give others a chance. You should talk to people in different groups because you never know, you might really like that person."

One contributing factor to the growth of the leadership academy attendees is their hike up Bear Mountain.

"The whole point of our hike was so we could be challenged. It took about three hours but the view of the Hudson River was worth it," Stafford said.

The lesson learned on this adventure was that nobody climbs a mountain because it's easy, but because the view from the top is worth it.

This is something students can take and apply to their everyday lives: People don't make goals because they're easy, but so they can grow and advance.

At the Academy, Stafford not only learned valuable business, financing, marketing and accounting skills, but she made relationships with people from all over the nation.

"I made a lot of friends and we actually still keep in touch. We all have a group chat," said Stafford.

She met students from all over the nation. People attending the academy were from Connecticut, California, Florida, Illinois, New York and Michigan, just to name a few.

In order to make such memories with

so many different people, Stafford had to undergo an application process.

Ms. Lepak, RHS Counselor, said, "Before choosing a student we compared based on discipline, GPA and attendance."

Stafford had to prove that she would be a great representative of RHS at Mercy College. She was.

According to the Richmond Community School's Facebook page, the academy was overall impressed with Stafford's public speaking skills, professionalism and leadership.

These are skills that have been enhanced by the leadership academy and that she knows will take her even farther after graduation.

"I'm thinking about attending Mercy to study marketing or attending the University of Michigan to study public relations. This academy really inspired me," said Stafford.

Regardless of which path she chooses, Stafford will be fully prepared to become a leader in any field.

Stafford said, "Being thrown into a situation where I don't know anyone and being pushed to try new activities has really helped me grow as a human being, as well as, a leader. I'm looking forward to applying these skills to my everyday life and of course, in any career I choose to pursue."

Mr. Wagner Means Business for RHS

By Christina Farkas
News Co-Editor

Coming from Mr. Clemens, Mr. Wagner, the new Marketing and Personal Finance teacher, is making his way into the hallowed halls of Richmond High School.

Living around Macomb County his whole life, Mr. Wagner was inspired by his teacher from Stevenson High School to teach business, a career Mr. Wagner still strives in teaching today.

Before Mr. Wagner came to Richmond, he worked for 14 years in administration and teaching at Mt. Clemens High School.

"It was a rewarding experience, but it was time to change. I feel very welcomed and like being gifted with a new challenge," he said.

With an undergraduate degree in Business from Central Michigan University and a Master's in Leadership from Saginaw Valley State University, Mr. Wagner has a strong knowledge in the area of business. This gives students a good handle on information of marketing and personal finance.

Mr. Wagner's philosophy on education is that all students can learn. He said,

"They just need the right tools to learn with." Establishing fun in the classroom is very important to Mr. Wagner, but he encourages a serious learning environment as well. He likes having assignments

where students may use all the senses to learn the way of business.

"We as a class have boundaries when it comes to learning," Mr. Wagner stated. "I really want them to know I care though."

A very important goal to Mr. Wagner is to motivate students and help them broaden their horizons, even if it only sounds like a simple marketing and personal finance class.

As an educator, Wagner has held many memorable moments, one being that a student of his received first place in the nation in prepared speech at Business Professionals of America.

Yet, the moment he truly holds dear is when a close student admitted to wanting to be a business teacher just like Mr. Wagner, an honor any teacher would be happy to hear. "I was baffled, and it really motivated me a step forward," Mr. Wagner said.

Mr. Wagner plans on being involved in extracurricular activities in regards to the personal finance class. From assigning roles outside of football games and even having the Devil's Den open during teacher conferences, a good way for students to learn about the values in retail and stock are provided to students.

Mr. Wagner was also an adviser of Business Professionals of America and has taken students all over the nation to demonstrate their business skills.

Having had several national winners, he is looking forward to doing the same with DECA at Richmond High School.

He has been affiliated with People to People Student Ambassadors, a travel-service based in Spokane, Washington, which offers domestic and international travel opportunities to middle school and high school students.

Mr. Wagner has taken those students from Michigan to different countries. He himself has been all over the world, including Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Japan, Germany, Italy, Belgium, France, Wales, England, Ireland, Spain, and Switzerland, which has brought culture into the eyes of Mr. Wagner. He wishes to bring his experiences of travel to students by getting a group together like in the past.

With not only students to help, he has sometimes needed help adjusting to the new school. "The staff has been very helpful towards me and I thank them for that," Mr. Wagner said. "It's been a while but with the help of the staff, it will be smooth sailing from here."

If Mr. Wagner hadn't become a business teacher, he would have become an international trainer or a movie critic. However, students have received an in depth business teacher that is subject to good teaching skills.