RHS students and faculty show their Christmas spirit

Many participate in Salvation Army project

By: Meghan Slater

This year, students and faculty from throughout the school, with the help of Mrs. Allison, who received 60 tags overall, volunteered to help make the Christmases of some less fortunate families in the community more enjoyable. This service was made possible by the Salvation Army, which provided tags that listed the age, gender, and Christmas gift wish lists of the children. “You don’t even realize what a difference you are making in somebody’s life through an act like this, it is so rewarding, and that is why I continue to support this every year,” said Mrs. Allison.

Students for Charity was given 5 tags by the Salvation Army. The rest of the tags were distributed throughout the school, 10 of which were given to Student Council members, and the remaining were taken by teachers and other faculty members. “It’s a great feeling to be involved in buying gifts for children who might not have any gifts on Christmas morning if it wasn’t for people of the community who took the time to purchase them just a few small things,” said Rachael Harnett, president of Student Council. Overall, the Salvation Army was thrilled with the school’s level of participation.

Annual holiday food drive is a success

By: Cassidy Bonner

The annual holiday time food drive was a huge success this year thanks to the students of Reynolds High School. The Student for Charity club worked hard to organize the food drive this year, and they really wanted a new exciting way to get students to participate. So they came up with the idea of assigning each homeroom a different holiday song to decorate accordingly to that song.

“This year was the first year we used songs for the food drive. I believe it excited the students to participate and the proof is in the wonderful boxes we received,” said Mrs. Jones. All of the food collected from the food drive will be picked up by the Salvation Army to be given to families in need. Although there was many impressive boxes the boxes that were voted the best were:

1st Place Winner: “Frosty the Snowman” from Mrs. Tyson’s Student Council Homeroom
And others included:
“I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas” from Mr. Meskel’s Homeroom
“Have a Holly Jolly Christmas” from Mrs. Hoolver’s Homeroom
“Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer” from Mr. Fleming’s Homeroom
“Jolly Old Saint Nicholas” from Mrs. Henderson’s Room
Raider Invader

Raider Invader Editorial Policy

The Raider Invader accepts and welcomes letters to the editor and guest columns from students, faculty, staff, and members of the Reynolds School District community.

The Raider Invader editorial staff strives too achieve accuracy and sophistication in writing, and, therefore, any letters containing offensive language, personal attacks and other distasteful or irresponsible statements will not be included. The Raider Invader editorial staff reserves the right to edit (for accuracy, spelling and grammar) or reject any and all articles and letters submitted.

Poetry, short stories and fiction will be accepted according to the above guidelines for editorial letters. Your work must include your name and it must be in good taste.

The Raider Invader is a student-run newspaper under the direction of Mrs. Tyson, advisor. The views expressed in this paper or by its representatives are not meant to represent the views and beliefs of the Reynolds School District or any of its employees.

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College of the month

Gannon University

By: Emory Shrock

Happy Holidays RHS! You may have looked outside recently and noticed the lack of snow. This may or may not upset you. What December lacks in snow, however, it will make up for with another installment of College of the Month.

This month’s college is Gannon University. Gannon is located in beautiful Erie, Pennsylvania, not far from the area we call home. Gannon offers over 70 undergraduate and nearly 25 graduate programs. In 2012 it was ranked a top-tier school in U.S. News & World Report’s “America’s Best Colleges.” The 14:1 student-to-faculty ratio ensures everyone receives a one on one education. The school also offers many division two athletics and plenty to do on and off campus.

So you may be wondering what scores you need to get accepted. Unfortunately, I was unable to find these on the schools website, but if you are interested you can request information by emailing the school. As far as cost goes if you live on campus in one Gannon’s many housing options, it cost about $39,000 in total, but can cost more depending on room and board and other factors of the sort. I hope you have found this article helpful. For more info and even a virtual tour always check out Gannon’s website. I’ll be back next month with another college. If you would like me to pick a college you’re interested in bring your suggestions to Mrs. Tyson. Good Luck!
RHS showcases many in annual talent show

By: Andrew Osborne

The second annual Reynolds High School Talent Show was held at the auditorium on Wednesday November twenty-fifth. It was the day before Thanksgiving break. Senior Robert Folwell had the idea to do it for his senior project and, he modeled it after last year when Brandon Mills did it for his senior project.

Folwell asked Mrs. Stitt if she could mentor him and she accepted. The show featured all grades of the high school and many acts ranging from dancing, to instrumentals, to voice performances. When asked about the talent show Mrs. Stitt responded with “It was a great success. The audience was great and everyone that performed tried really hard and did a good job.”

If the talent show will continue is another question. The past two years seniors have done them as their senior projects, but senior projects are ending with this being the last year that seniors have to do them. Mrs. Stitt said she wasn’t sure if it will continue; for the talent show to happen Mr. Shearer needs to sign off on it. As long as students continue to participate in the talent show, it will hopefully continue.

Shrock’s movie review: Walk the Line

By: Emory Shrock

Hey there RHS! I’m sure you have been patiently waiting for my next movie review, so I’ll get right to it. This month’s movie is Walk the Line. Walk the Line is the story of the late, great Johnny Cash. The movie starts with Johnny in a back room in Folsom Prison. Outside hundreds of prisoners chant his name, wanting him to continue the concert. As the Warden says his name trying to get his attention, he sees his whole life and how he got to this point. The movie summarizes Cash’s tough childhood, the loss of his older brother, how he and his band were discovered, his battle with addiction, and his love affair with June Carter.

As a whole I loved the movie. Joaquin Phoenix nails Johnny Cash to the point that I thought it was actually Johnny himself. One of my favorite aspects of the movie was it never showed Johnny actually writing any of his most famous songs. Instead the scenes in the movie act out in some way how he would have got the inspiration for the songs. The sound track is amazing, especially if you like Johnny Cash. I give this movie 4 and half stars out of 5, and I hope you enjoy it as much as I did. I’ll be back next month with another installment of Shrock’s Movie Review. Until then, enjoy!

Benefit Dinner to be held for Thunder

By: Alexis Shannon

On January 23rd, a benefit dinner will be held in the high school cafeteria. This benefit dinner is to meet K9 Officer Thunder. The tickets cost $12.00 in advance and $15.00 at the door. It will be a buffet style dinner including: roast beef, stuffed chicken breast, sides and desserts. There will be door prizes, a silent auction, and a canine demonstration. Don’t miss out, buy your ticket now at the high school office! Come and show your Support!
**Raider Invader**

**Keeping up with Key Club**

By: Natalie Tompkins

Key Clubbers are very important people in our community. They do more for us than most people realize they do; for example, last year when they put kind thoughts on kids’ lockers to make the student body feel more special, along with acts of kindness week this year.

Key Club is keeping busy with some great activities in the month of December. On the 12th, the club rang the bell at the Salvation Army. Along with this, they are participating in the Toy Drive and gifts for teens at the Good Shepherd Center the 18th; Club members will be assisting in organizing and distributing gifts. Christmas Caroling will be a part of the month as well on the 20th.

Mrs. Kent’s class is also contributing to the holiday season this year. Blankets are being made by them in Home Ec. for the elderly at Saint Paul’s nursing home; they began making them December 7th. One blanket is being made by each student in Mrs. Kent’s class, leaving them with a total of eight. The students are helping to cut out the shapes and patterns and tie them. The blankets are blue and gray and embroidered with the Reynolds logo along with Life Skills Class underneath. The class will be delivering them with Key Club this Friday the 18th. Paige says “I feel it is important for them to keep their legs warm”. Kayla likes the colors, Adam likes the embroidery, Nathan was made happy by them, and Jamie loves the blankets overall. Along with the students in life skills and Key Club, this was made possible by Mr. Neuch who paid for material, along with entrepreneurship class helping with the embroidering.

**Students take aviation field trip**

By: Chase McCright

On November 9th, Mrs. Fuchs class traveled to the New Castle airport for a field trip to see fellow student John Bartolic fly and put on a show for the class. John performed many tricks for the class; a couple of them were a low pass and a touch and go.

A low pass is a trick in which the pilot flies his plane as close to the ground as possible, without wrecking of course. The touch and go is typically a practice move for improving landing technique. The pilot touches the ground like he or she normally would and instead of staying on the runway the pilot takes off again – hence the name - touch and go landing.

Before John took to the skies he did a short presentation on airport operations and flight planning. John said “I believe the general public needs to be more informed on the world of general aviation.” John has been flying for many years and is very passionate about his hobby and may even choose a career path in aviation. I’m sure Mrs. Fuchs class enjoyed getting out of class and getting an out of the ordinary field trip and learning about aviation.
Successful hunters at Reynolds

By: Alexis Shannon

As many of you know, hunting is a common sport at Reynolds. Only two pictures were submitted this season, by Colton Kendra, a senior, and Brieonna Sewinsky, a freshman.

Colt harvested his eight point, 193 pound buck on Monday, October 19th during archery season. He was on a family farm in Maysville in his tree stand. “I have seen pictures of this buck on my trail cam for two years, and I finally got him!” Colton said of his buck.

Brieonna harvested her five point buck on her grandfather’s farm on Monday, October 30th. She was in a tree stand with her mother. She used a rifle and this was her second buck. “I was really happy to get my deer, because it turned out that I was the only one in my family to get a deer.” Brieonna commented.

Field trips aren’t only for the elementary

By: Ali Metz

This past month the AP Biology students had the opportunity to go on a field trip to Gateway High School to listen to the updates of genetics. The speaker was Sam Rhine, a professor from Indiana University, and he had many interesting topics to tell the students. He mostly talked about scientific breakthroughs with genetic updates. One of the main topics that was discussed, Mr. Little told me, was about how medicine is to become personalized.

What does personalized medicine mean, you may be wondering? It means that instead of getting one general brand of medicine at a specific dosage, you’ll get a medicine that is based on your genetics to specifically treat your ailments. The new genetic updates will also open up many new possibilities for organ transplants.

Overall, the field-trip, which is a yearly event, was a great way for AP Biology students to learn new and exciting work going on in the biological field. To hear from an expert in the field is a privilege that all the students enjoyed.
Bringing it back: library club off to a great start

By: Natalie Tompkins

There have been many different clubs associated with Reynolds School District; from Ecology Club, to Students for Charity, to Spanish Club, that many students are involved in or at least have a knowledge they exist. One club that is not recognized to the majority is Library Club.

This is because Mrs. Tofani had to petition the idea to the school to bring it back several occasions, for it was a well-known club up until 2002, with over sixty students participating. It was ended when Mr. Rickert retired, and a new teacher was hired, who didn’t carry on the tradition. The club was brought back this year, with thirty five students involved. They participate in activities, such as book readings and discussions, movie nights about the books they’ve read, and fundraisers to help raise money for new books in the library. Recently, they sold two huge shipments of Philadelphia Candy bars to raise book money. The first book read was \textit{Paper Towns}, and they will be having a movie night this weekend to watch the movie version. The next book to be read is \textit{Thirteen Reasons Why}.

The club is a fun activity to be involved in at a High School. If you care about your school library, or simply are a book lover, the club is for you. Meetings are held on Thursday every other week during homeroom, along with extra meetings such as movie night. Anyone in the school may participate, and library helpers are automatically included. The club has also recently made a Christmas tree out of books, and will be decorating book marks to hang on it. Come and support your library and your book loving needs next year and join library club, or come join in now!

NHS gives back this holiday season

By: Shawn Engstrom

The National Honor Society is planning a few activities to promote charity and community during the holidays. They planned the annual donation of Christmas gifts to a family within the district where they invite the family to a little party to give them their gifts and have refreshments. President Meghan Slater said, “It gives me a warm, fuzzy feeling in my heart that we are able to set up something as rewarding as this that brings joy to everyone involved.”

Another item on their agenda is the Ugly Christmas Sweater Day which will be held on December 22. On this day, students who wear a sweater will pay $1 per ticket that will allow them to win prizes donated by local businesses if their name is drawn. They hope that they get tons of involvement for the tickets because the money they get from it will go towards another charity event.
Stars and stripes: flag maintenance at Reynolds

By: Alexis Shannon

Ever wonder who replaces the school’s flags when they are tattered? Or who puts the flags at half-mast when required? There are three seniors that do the job: Cody Brandt, Travis Henck and Nathan Houck. These three seniors are part of Boy-Scout troop 52 and are trained in the flag code. Their responsibilities include taking care of both the schools American flag and the Pennsylvania state flag.

The flag code states “The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.” That means that the flags are replaced whenever they no longer meet that criteria. New flags are kept in a school storage closet and replaced for important events such as: Veteran’s Day, Pearl Harbor and graduation. The old and tattered flags are taken to Reynolds VFW to be disposed of properly.

Flag retirement ceremonies follow the US flag code. It begins with the participants pledging allegiance to a tattered flag. The blue section of the flag, the union is separated from the thirteen stripes, and burned. The stripes are then separated from each other and burned one by one while reciting the names of the thirteen colonies. After the ashes of the flags are cool, they are buried on the VFW grounds.

Mrs. Hoovler is one of the troop’s leaders that overlooks these ceremonies. She became interested in the American flag and taking care of it in sixth grade. She was chosen to raise and lower the flag and other responsibilities. Many local, tattered flags get donated to the Reynolds VFW to be burned. Once they had to burn four-hundred flags and only had a shovel full of ashes to bury.

Travis Henck especially likes maintaining the American flag because, “It’s great to keep them in good condition in order to show respect to the country and to the veterans.” He enjoys putting them up and down for special occasions, and doesn’t dislike a single thing about the job.

MCCC students attend Skills USA leadership conference

By: Alex BuCher

Students from the Career Center attended the Skills USA Leadership Conference in Erie this past week. Students from Reynolds who were able to participate include Jenna Maurice, Madison Gongloff, Katherine Campbell, Phillip Allen, Colton Kendra, and Arielle Axtell. All of the students from District 10 attended the conference at the Marriot Hotel to spend the day learning about different skills used in certain careers. A body shop owner talked about cyber etiquette and how one should present themselves online and what should be put on the Internet. During another session the students played Skills USA Jeopardy and answered questions about the skills used in the workforce.

The students got to enjoy lunch before hearing guest speaker Nick Scott, the owner of Splash Lagoon, talk to the students about what it is like to be a business owner and how his family went from being immigrants to the United States to being one of the largest enterprises in the Erie area. He also gave out Splash Lagoon tickets to a few lucky students.

The final group of the day was a teamwork project where each of the students were broken down into groups, and they had to use streamers to make someone look like Santa. Senior Arielle Axtell said “It was a fun time and informative.”
Boys’ basketball season starts slow

By: Adam Deschand

The Boys Basketball Team started off the season at the Annual Mercer Boys Tip-Off tournament. The boys lost to North East on Friday (12-4), then came back to beat Moniteau the next day (12-5).

On Thursday (12-10), the boys opened up the regular season against a tough Rocky Grove team. The student section was loud and the game was close. Reynolds was winning 47-45 with 3.9 seconds left. Rocky Grove inbounded the ball and their point guard shot a double-clutch, deep three pointer for the win. The shot was good and Rocky Grove won 48-47.

The boys traveled up to Saegertown on Saturday (12-12), with the girl’s team. The boys came looking to dominate and come home with the win. The team came out flat and ended up losing 53-48. They will participate in a tournament over Christmas break.

Girls’ basketball team hopes to start off where they left off last season

By: Adam Deschand

The Lady Raiders Basketball Team started their 2015-16 season under new head coach Jeff Hanley. They opened the season against the Sharpsville Blue Devils at the West Middlesex tip-off tournament. The Lady Raiders battled a close game but lost 38-34.

The following day the team hoped to bounce back and beat a really good West Middlesex team. The girls played really hard, but lost 53-31. The next week the girls had three more tough games. The Lady Raiders faced Greenville on Wednesday (12-9). The game was back and forth the whole four quarters, but Greenville pulled away with the win 46-39.

On Thursday (12-10), the team traveled up to Wilmington expecting to bounce back from a hard loss the night before. The Lady Raiders won 53-42. Then on Saturday (12/12), the girls traveled up to Saegertown along with the boys team. The Girls dominated the whole game, winning 50-21. Hopefully these wins spark a streak and carry the team into a play-off berth.

Raider wrestling places 10th at esteemed Ironman

Raiders Start off the Season 2-0: Matthews and Ringer claim medals at Iron Man

By: Zachary Huffman

The Reynolds Raiders have started off the season in a great way, defeating Grove City, and West Middlesex. The final score of the Grove City dual meet was 54-18. The final score of the West Middlesex dual meet was 66-15.

The Raiders had a strong showing at the Iron Man tournament, taking tenth place as a team and bringing home two medal. Gene Ringer placed seventh, and Cole Matthews surprised many with his second place finish. When Matthews was asked how the team did he responded with “We wanted to finish in the top ten, and we did. The team performed great.”

The Raiders compete against Hickory on December 15th (home), Slippery Rock on the 17th (away), and will go to Canfield to compete in the Canfield Duals on the 19th. Good luck to the Raiders in the rest of the season.