

Faculty raise funds, awareness

By Adam Mowder, reporter



Social science teacher Mr. Josh Caruso raised about \$1,000 for prostate cancer awareness during No-Shave November.

Photo Courtesy of Mr. Josh Caruso

Limestone faculty members grew mustaches and beards during November to raise money for prostate cancer awareness.

"This year Limestone raised over \$2,000," said Mr. Josh Caruso.

He raised \$1,000; Mr. Brian Glaza earned \$707.36; Mr. Darin Driscoll earned \$165; and finally Mr. Derek Renz raised \$132.

No-Shave November is a worldwide fundraiser where men who participate do not shave their facial hair and then receive donations for prostate cancer and testicular cancer awareness.

The participants of No-Shave November are known as "mobros." Women who participate are known as "mosistas."

"This fundraiser is important to me because I am a man," Mr. Caruso said. "All

mobros are special. Anyone can grow a 'stache."

His advice for those who have thin mustaches?

"Dye them black," he said.

Students and faculty donated to the cause. Some teachers offered incentives to raise donations. In Mr. Driscoll's class, students could buy a free day in his gym class. Mr. Renz used an online site to raise donations.

The school community continues to show support and generosity through events like No-Shave November and Easter Seals.

Teachers offered advice for growing facial hair and raising money.

"Grow everything out first, then trim your 'stache down to your liking," Mr.

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Students use classroom skills to teach, inspire others

By Limelight staff

Limestone students are finding that the skills they use in class are just as applicable in the real world.

Students in various classes have designed gingerbread houses using drafting software, sewed a quilt for a classmate and dressed teddy bears provided by the Salvation Army.

"I always try to get my students involved in community service," said Ms. Ida Picco, whose classes clothed the teddy bears and coordinated the quilt squares. "I talk to my students about using their talents to help other

people."

Ms. Picco's fashion design classes created clothes for 61 teddy bears, which included shirt-and-pants ensembles, as well as costumes like pirates, chefs and ballerinas. The bears were returned to the Salvation Army, where they were either auctioned off or donated to area children.

Ms. Picco and her sewing students also created a quilt for Limestone student Nathan Darko, who recently underwent surgery. Quilt

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Teen parenthood teaches tough lessons

By Felicia Gillan, reporter

Today, the teen pregnancy rates are falling, but that doesn't lessen the physical, emotional and mental tolls pregnancy takes on teen parents.

"Being a teen mom is a lot of hard work," said teen mother and high school senior Jane. [Some names have been changed due to the sensitivity of the subject.]

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 329,797 babies were born to women aged 15-19 years old in 2011, a record low in the United States for teens in that age group.

The CDC recently partnered with the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health to work toward continuing the trend of decreasing teen pregnancy rates.

"Having a child during the teen years carries high costs—emotionally, physically, and financially—to the mother, father, child, and community," the CDC states on its website.

The costs even carry into the lives of those who aren't teen parents.

"Teen childbearing costs U.S. taxpayers about \$9 billion each year," according to the CDC.

Teens themselves say they know the hard work and costs.

"I have a 2-year-old," said Jane. "I would never say that he is a mistake, but it's a lot of hard work with school, a job, and taking care of a child in his 'terrible two's.'"

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Launching Pad Academy preschoolers examine gingerbread houses made by drafting students.

Photo by Felicia Gillan



Photo Poll



What are your plans for winter break?



“This winter break I will have a snowball fight: Frosty and I versus Santa and his elves.”
Brittany Ice, freshman



“I will be drinking hot cocoa and having Christmas with the family, and watching Christmas movies.”
LaTasia Zenay Kelly, freshman



“I am going to Missouri with family.”
Lucas Snedden, sophomore



“This winter break I am going to have snowball fights and drink hot cocoa”
Gavin Shamrock, sophomore



“I am going to have hot cocoa, and I am also having Christmas with my family and my boyfriend’s family.”
Courtney Rosinski, sophomore

Compiled by Salena Jump, reporter

Mrs. Warren’s Words of Wisdom

‘Tis the Season

Christmas is fast approaching. Does this time of year find you scrambling to buy the perfect gift? Scrambling to even begin your Christmas shopping? Or maybe scrambling to save money so you can buy gifts for your loved ones?

We’ve all heard the saying, “There are things money can’t buy.” Happiness, joy, friendship, good grades, satisfaction, high self-esteem...you get the picture. Have you thought about giving a gift that doesn’t cost you any money? The only cost is the investment in choosing your behavior.

Give the gift of respect. In showing respect to another, you are honoring the worth or dignity of that individual. This is particularly difficult to do when the other person’s ideas or values are different from your own. You can give the gift of respect to your parents, teachers, bus driver, grandparents, peers and friends. The greatest gift of respect one can give is to be respectful to those individuals we may not like. Remember, to receive respect one must give respect.

Give the gift of kindness. Say please and thank you. Being kind is the opposite of being mean. Stop the negative or mean Facebook posts. Don’t make a joke or laugh at the expense of someone else. Research has shown that acts of kindness also benefit the giver. Neurotransmitters are released in the brain that lead to feelings of

contentment and relaxation in the giver. What better gift to give than one in which you reap a reward?

Give the gift of tolerance. No two people are exactly alike. We are all different. Being tolerant means celebrating and embracing our differences rather than judging them. Think how dull the world would be if we were all replicas of one another and exactly alike. Because we are all different we have much to teach and learn from one another. The person who learns to be open to differences will have

more opportunities for success in other aspects of life.

Give the gift of forgiveness. If you’ve been wronged, make a conscious decision to let go of your resentment

and thoughts of revenge. Forgive those who have wronged you rather than letting the bitterness and anger dominate or even destroy your own life. Don’t let negative feelings squash positive feelings, as this will lead to an unhappy life. It is important to forgive ourselves, as well. In forgiveness, a person can move forward. Forgiveness is yet another gift in which the giver reaps the rewards.

There is joy in giving a gift. When the tangible gifts become outdated, go out of style, or break, the intangible gifts of respect, kindness, tolerance and forgiveness will continue. They will never become outdated, go out of style or break. Wishing you a very Merry Christmas!



CTE Students of the Month



December: Zach Engstrom



November : Kevin Walters

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Mission statement

The mission of Limelight is to provide Limestone Community High School with news that is fair, balanced and accurate.

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Curriculum prepares students for lifetime of success

By Katie Metcalf, reporter

High school is an exciting four-year milestone for young adults.

While high school is not completely about the classes a student chooses to take, the classes chosen can play a big part in that student's future.

Four years of language arts, three years of math, two years of science, writing, and social science, and one year of elective classes are the requirements created by the Illinois State Board of Education to graduate high school. However, while these are the minimum requirements, students and administrators alike agree that going beyond this curriculum is essential to achieving a high ACT score and becoming successful later in life.

Thomas Ricks, a 2012 graduate of Limestone, strongly believes that enriched classes are worth taking.

"I took enriched math courses all four years with English tacked on my senior year," Ricks said, reinforcing the importance of taking higher level classes. "I had a five-point increase in my math sub score and an

eight-point increase in my English sub score from when I took [the ACT] as a junior to when I retook it as a senior."

MSgt. John Waltz, an AFJROTC instructor at Limestone who strongly talks to his stu-

dents about the importance of taking the ACT seriously and focusing on schoolwork, said he thinks that enriched classes are the best way to go for students wishing to achieve high scores on their ACT.

"The ACT is designed around higher order questions," MSgt. Waltz said. "It requires extrapolation of data, reading of complex passages with corresponding answers in a timed scenario, and higher order math compilation. These should be well serviced by the higher level

courses."

Mrs. Jill Warren, the principal at Limestone, believes that taking higher level courses, or taking math or science classes beyond the amount required, presents many

opportunities for students.

"Going beyond the required curriculum allows for more choices later...more doors of opportunity become available," Mrs. Warren said.

Some believe that students planning on going straight into the workforce or who plan on attending a trade school after high school should not be required to take the same classes as college-bound students. However, Mrs. Warren and Mr. Kevin Knaggs, a counselor at Limestone, both agree that students should be knowledgeable in all subjects.

"I do believe all students should take the same required courses," Mrs. Warren said. "If students are prepared for their first year of college, then they can choose whatever path they desire--college, trade school, the military, or the workforce--and they will be prepared. The choice is theirs and if they change their mind and decide to go to college, they will be prepared."

Mr. Knaggs said he believes students should take the same required classes because most career fields require some amount of knowledge of algebra and English.

Mr. Knaggs wanted to stress the importance of a college education and pursuing a degree after high school.

"By the year 2018, they say that close to 70 percent of full time jobs will require a college degree," Mr. Knaggs said. "It is just not enough anymore in our country to have a high school diploma."



Snow day procedures in place

By Sam Ruzicka, reporter

Snow days for the most part are rare, but much thought from several sources is put into whether or not there is school on these days.

The majority of Limestone's student population rides the bus every day back and forth to school. Due to this, the bus company, Illinois Central School Bus Company, is immediately contacted whenever there is a chance for a snow day, Superintendent Allan Gresham said.

"The bus company has quite a bit of influence," Mr. Gresham said. "It is their drivers who will be asked to safely transport a very large percentage of our students safely to school on any given morning."

A common misconception among students is that whenever it begins to snow, there is a chance of a snow day. This isn't necessarily true because in a light enough snowfall, the buses can still operate and there is no real need to cancel.

However, if ice begins to form on the roads and the snowfall becomes noticeably heavy, people like Mr. Gresham and bus company officials take notice and begin the necessary procedures for a snow day.

"We alert all three local television stations, all local radio stations, and place automated

phone calls to all of our students individually," said Mr. Gresham.

At the end of the year, Limestone counts up the number of snow days in that school year and adds extra emergency days in May.

This means that school does not end until the students have attended for every extra day that was necessary.

This happens because the law requires that every school in every district have a certain amount of in session school days.

The idea of a snow day might sound nice to most students. But if there are too many snow days, students will have to make up those days at the end of the school year.

On snow days, students make plans to do fun things—if they can get out of their driveways.

"I like snow days, but I'm the one to shovel the driveway," said junior Rachel Lambright.

So instead of hoping for a snow day, it may be within interest to enjoy the two week winter break and look forward to that last day of school on May 22.



Art students create life-size sculptures

By Felicia Gillan, reporter

Limestone's art program adds life to the school with the murals on the walls, but now, Mrs. Jennifer Sheckler's sculpting class is taking creativity to a new level by creating life size sculptures which will be on display throughout the school.

"I wanted to do a unit on installation art, or artworks designed for public spaces," said art teacher Mrs. Sheckler. "The idea was inspired by the work of a famous sculptor, Duane Hanson, known for his life-sized casts of humans in everyday activities."

Limestone's sculpture class will be making sculptures based off of inspiration around the school.

Mrs. Sheckler said that there will be five sculptures. There will be a sea creature coming out from the art room steps that are painted in a sea theme, a student reading in the library, a Rocket Rowdy outside the gym, a werewolf in Mr. Clausen's room and a chef in Mrs. Kitty Belsly's room.

Senior Tara Owen said that her group was inspired by the stairs in Ms. Sheckler's room because it is a unique spot to put a sculpture and a sea man would be a perfect fit to the theme.

"Teamwork is helping a lot with this project," said senior Taylor Riston. "It's better

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PARENTHOOD*Continued from page 1*

Most teens grow worried because they know how hard things will be.

Senior Caitlyn said she was scared when she found out she was going to have a child.

"My family was kind of scared too," she said. "They were very angry at first, but now they are just concerned for me."

According to teenhelp.com, the daughters of teen mothers are 22 percent more likely than their peers to become teen mothers and the sons of teenage mothers have a 13 percent greater chance of ending up in prison as compared to their peers.

"I plan on staying in school," said Caitlyn.

She said that she will juggle everything she has to and support her child in every way she can to prove that she is not part of that statistic.

Students say that even with all the support from relatives, having a child as a teen is still difficult.

"I have a lot of family and friend support even though they were initially shocked," said sophomore Anne.

The emotional tolls that teen parents have to go through are huge.

"There is an emotional struggle created when you begin to realize that life is no longer 'all about you' - as well as dealing with friendships and relationships that you don't have much time for," said child care teacher, Ms. Abby Swanson.

Sometimes it gets stressful on teenagers to handle all the responsibilities that come with being a parent. Even adults have to cope with the stress of parenthood.

"When I get stressed, I just keep on with my

life; then I cry when there is a little extra time," said Jane. "Don't bottle it all in. It is OK to cry and let it all out. That way you can start over the next day new and refreshed."

Being a father at a young age can be as stressful as being a mother.

"It is a lot of pressure not knowing what could go wrong because if anything happens between us I would have a harder time seeing my kid," said John.

Parenthood takes the work of both parents with a lot of communication so everything can stay somewhat smooth.

Birth Statistics

4—percentage of teenage girls who give birth each year
50—percent of teen mothers who don't get a high school diploma by age 22
\$9 billion—cost per year of teen parents to taxpayers
367,678—number of live births to teen mothers in 2011
4.1 million—total births in the U.S. in 2009
25.4—average age of mother at birth of child

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

"When both parents take equal responsibility, they share the hardships," said Ms. Swanson. "Parenting is the hardest job you will ever have, no matter what. It's when one parent decides to ignore part of their responsibility that the other parent has a harder time picking up the slack."

Some teen parents are realizing that it takes a lot of sacrifices to make ends meet.

"I know we are both teenagers, and we both get paid minimum wage, so it's going to be hard," said Jane. "We both have to make sacrifices to make things all work out."

Raising a baby is a lot of work, even for an adult. A person has to be prepared both mentally and emotionally to raise a child. It changes not only the teen's life, but it determines the child's life and the family's life as well.

"Teen pregnancy may not be the end of the world, but it will be the end of the life you are used to," said Ms. Swanson. "Every aspect of life is somehow affected by a new baby."

NOVEMBER*Continued from page 1*

Driscoll said. "If you start out trying to just grow a handle bar 'stache, it looks really bad. Beard first, then trim down."

Said Mr. Glaza: "Don't give up! Even though your mustache may look wispy and gross, keep going. It will get better. Remember, it all goes for a good cause."

Mr. Glaza said raising awareness for cancer is important.

"As a male, it is extremely important to me, because statistics show that one in six males will get prostate cancer in their lives," he said. "I also like that there is some fun incorporated into it. One month out of the year, males all over grow facial hair, and I like that the charity incorporated that no-shave theme into it."

Mr. Caruso said he plans to participate in future years.

"It was fun and I'm excited to do it again in the years to come," he said. "I want to thank all my students who donated, and every other student out there who did as well. Even if it was just a quarter, it means a great deal and all of that money is going towards a great cause."



Logo from lewispainter.co.uk

**SCULPTURE***Continued from page 3*

to have more hands to help with the many tasks."

Putting together a sculpture like this takes a lot of time, patience and effort.

"The students are using a material called plaster cloth," said Mrs. Sheckler. "If you have ever broken a bone and required a cast, this is the same material used by the doctor. The process with using this material is lengthy, but pretty simple."

Mrs. Sheckler said that each group member had to have a part of their body cast by other group members. The model body part is wrapped in plastic wrap, cast and then cut out of the cast. After all of the body is cast, the group must assemble the different body parts to

make one life sized sculpture.

Sculpture students Taylor Riston and Blayton Hucal both agreed with Mrs. Sheckler that this is a lengthy process and it takes a lot of teamwork to get it done.

"I think it will take well over a month to finish," said Hucal.

After all the hard work, some of the art students are weary about leaving their sculptures throughout the school.

"Artists take a huge risk by displaying their work in public spaces," said Mrs. Sheckler.

"Many people who encounter the work are not familiar with the time and effort put into the work or how touching the work can cause permanent damage."



Left and above: Art students work on casting sculptures. Photos by Felicia Gillan



Cheer team routines inspire, motivate

By Sarah Watson, reporter

The basketball cheerleaders have a lot of exciting routines and activities planned for this winter.

Coach Brittany Christensen, who has been the coach for four years, said the team is constantly working to improve.

“There is a lot to do to prepare for a season and once a season is over, it is time to start thinking about the next year,” Coach Christensen said.

Last year, the cheerleaders created a special Easter Seals routine. It was special not only for the cheerleaders, but for all of Limestone. Every-

one could really connect to the routine and it hit a soft spot in the hearts of students and faculty, Coach Christensen said.

“I absolutely loved the Easter Seals routine we put on last year,” she said. “It was not the typical cheerleading routine and it had a much bigger impact on those who watched it than we anticipated.”

The three cheerleading captains are Quinton Bailey, Katlyn Crank and Nathan Darko. These three cheerleaders work hard to lead the team to success and to motivate others to work just as hard, Coach Christensen said.

“My three captains, Quinton Bailey, Katlyn Crank and Nathan Darko, do a lot of work outside of practice,” she said. “I believe they are a huge part of the success of this year’s squad.”

The cheerleaders practice for three



Cheerleaders perform at the Winter Sports Assembly. Photo by Kelsey Rodriguez

hours a day, six days a week. The team had two weeks to prepare for this year’s Winter Sports Assembly. For Coach Christensen, the hard work is very rewarding, especially when the team is recognized with awards at competitions.

“Coaching is extremely rewarding,” she said. “It is so nice to see how far a team can go when they work together. It may be stressful gearing up for a competition, but leaving with a trophy is a big payoff.”

The cheerleaders are currently working on their routine for this season’s competition and the IHSAA Sectionals. Coach Christensen is working very hard with the team to ensure that they are able to perform to the best of their ability, she said.

“The team has to work very hard to get the results they want,” she said. “It is not

as easy as it seems to put one of the routines together. The team could be working on the same part of a routine for three hours.

This team is great because they understand that they have to put the work in to become the team they want to be.”

Limestone senior and cheerleading captain Katlyn Crank said she thinks that being involved with all of Limestone’s events is the best part about being a cheerleader.

Crank has been a cheerleader for 10

years and this is her fourth year of cheerleading at Limestone.

Crank knows that there are many benefits to being a cheerleader, such as getting involved in Easter Seals and the talent show, and being connected with the team like a family.

“We are involved in so much and it’s so much fun,” she said.

Crank recommends for students to join cheerleading if they are interested. She admits that she always gets nervous standing in front of the entire school but once the routine starts it’s not as scary, and she has a lot of fun.

The most important part of cheerleading is being committed to working hard and learning new things, Crank said.

“Go for it and give 100 percent all the time,” she said.

Wrestling season begins

By Sam Ruzicka, reporter

The 2012 wrestling season has been going very well for individual wrestlers, as well as for the team as a whole.

Coach Jeff Schmider specified individual wrestlers who have done well this year: senior Jacob Klusman (8-2) in the 285-pound weight class and junior Kyle Bieneman (8-3) in the 152-pound weight class. Bieneman also won the Notre Dame Tournament on Dec. 1. Also doing well are senior Zak McCaddon, juniors Cody Schooley and Wyatt Carey, sophomore Raul Araya and freshman Remmy Smith.

Some wrestlers are currently suffering from injuries, both related and unrelated to wrestling, that will keep them out for much of the season.

“Returning Sectional qualifier junior Drew Burgess in the 113-pound weight class had an accident in wood shop that will keep him out until mid-January,” Coach Schmider said. “Jacob Klusman will miss some time for a broken nose.”

As for the goals of this year’s team, Coach Schmider said they are mainly focused on finishing in the top three in conference, and defending their 2012 JV conference championship. They are also aiming for a top three Regional finish and for several wrestlers to qualify for Sectionals.

“Our team has been doing pretty good so far so I’m excited for matches,” said junior Gage Brackney.

The wrestling team began the season 8-2. As of now, the date for the final home match of the season is Jan. 17 against Canton and Morton.

Girls basketball wins four of first five games

By Salena Jump, reporter

The Lady Rockets have gotten off to a great start.

They began the season 4-1 and won their first two conference games at Dunlap and Pekin.

Coach Kevin Metzger said the strength of this team is that all players get along well as a unit, and the defense has been good early this season.

“The best game of the season was the second game of the season in our Thanksgiving tournament when we came from behind in the fourth quarter to beat Peoria Notre Dame,” said Coach Metzger. “The girls were relentless and did a tremendous job.”

The girls have continued to work on improving offensive efficiency and they also need to work on better shot selection.

They can improve by continuing to work hard in practice and by also taking their time and not playing too fast, he said.

“By doing that, we can be a tough team to play,” Coach Metzger said.

Scholastic Bowl season begins

By Katie Metcalf, reporter

While most sports involve players breaking a sweat, Scholastic Bowl forces participants to flex their mental muscles.

The varsity team, under the direction of Mr. Brian Clausen, has 11 members, and the junior varsity team, under the direction of Mr. Rick Hebron, has nine members.

The varsity team's record thus far is 1-7. They have competed in two tournaments with eight games total against Bloomington Central Catholic, Peoria Christian, East Peoria, Princeville, Peoria Richwoods, Stillman Valley, Metamora and Port Byron Riverdale.

"(My goal for the team this season is) to improve as the season goes on," Mr. Clausen said.

While the team has not been performing at their top potential quite yet, the potential is there.

Caleb Dell, a member of the junior varsity team, has high hopes for what the team can do.

"My hope is to win more than we lose," Dell said. "I know the capability is there; we just need to execute."

This year, the rules for Scholastic Bowl games have been slightly altered. The participants can now discuss questions dur-

ing toss-ups and math computation problems have been removed from the game completely.

Mr. Clausen, who has been coaching Scholastic Bowl for eight years, looks for a student with "experience, poise, and organizational skills" for a team captain. This year's varsity captain, Zach Engstrom, fits that description.

"I am overwhelmed by the feeling of power I possess," Engstrom said.

During practices, which started on Nov. 5, Mr. Clausen asks questions similar to those used at actual matches and holds mock games.

The Scholastic Bowl season runs from late October to mid-March.

During a normal Scholastic Bowl match, a set of 20 to 24 questions are asked, followed by bonus questions with several parts.

Mr. Clausen said the team is strongest in math but weakest in art and literature.

"We need more math computation (problems)," Engstrom said. "Our team is mainly math-oriented."

Boys basketball starts season strong

By Kelsey Rodriguez, reporter

The varsity boys basketball team began the season with a 5-2 record.

The team has thus far scored an average of 73 points per game, with its highest offensive output being 94 and its lowest 63.

Coach Eddie Mathews said the team is working to be better every day as a team and as individuals.

According to Mr. Mathews, one of the team's best games was against East Peoria. The team beat the Raiders at home 76-40.

Losses came to Westinghouse in the Thanksgiving Tournament and at Pekin.

"The team is relatively young and inexperienced," Coach Mathews said. They will learn and win as we go."

On Dec. 4, the team played a home game against Canton and won 71-47. In the first quarter, Limestone led by 19 points and built a 24-point lead by the third quarter.

Different players have stepped up during different games to have an impact on the outcome.

Senior Hank Mathews said his best game was against Galesburg while Rickey

Hanson said his best game was against East Peoria.

The team shares a common goal.

"Our overall goal is to win a state championship," Hanson said.

The players know they can always improve but they also always have each others' backs.

"We have a great group of teammates who all contribute to making this a successful team," Hank Mathews said.

PROJECTS

Continued from page 1

squares and other materials were donated by Ms. Picco's friend. Limestone students and staff came in after school to sew 5-inch seams on the quilt, which is comprised of colorful squares containing things like clouds, leaves, hearts and four-leaf clovers. Everyone who helped sew the quilt signed the back of it. More than 160 students and staff members helped work on the quilt, which also has a baseball pattern on it.

"I tell my students to use their own skills to help one of our own,"



Photos clockwise from left: Students show their gingerbread houses to preschoolers. Photo by Felicia Gillan. Students show off their teddy bear costumes. Sewing students help Mr. Rob Fitch sew a quilt square. Photos courtesy of Ms. Ida Picco.

Ms. Picco said. The quilt was presented to Nathan in mid-December.

In Mr. Pat Walser's computer-aided drafting class, students created gingerbread houses using drafting software. They were given 20 graham

crackers and had to create designs that included a front and side view, as well as a floor plan.

After creating the designs, students built 1:1 scale prototypes to determine if their design was feasible. They next researched the size of graham crackers and the amount of crackers in a package to determine amounts for the whole class and total cost.

Students then shared their creations with students in the Launching Pad Academy, Limestone's preschool.

"The students really took initiative in this project and came up with some great designs," Mr. Walser said. "They enjoyed their time decorating the houses with the pre-schoolers and I think the pre-schoolers had fun with the high school students as well."





'Guardians' a great holiday movie

By Brandon Geuens, reporter



"Rise of the Guardians" pleases holiday audiences. Photo from imdb.com.

The movie "Rise of the Guardians" presents people with the four major myths of holidays: Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny, the Tooth Fairy and Sandman.

Chris Pine, who does the voice of Jack Frost, introduces the audience to the captivating main character. Jack Frost was brought into play due to an accident, which the audience discovers at the end, and by the magical powers of the "Man on the Moon."

The "Man on the Moon" acts as a precursor throughout the movie, foretelling the Guardians about dangers that are afoot.

Although the "Man on the Moon" has no physical form or voice in the movie, the "Man on the Moon" does show forthcoming events. One of these events he shows is the Boogie Man finding a way out from under the bed he had been kept under.

Other than that, there really is no other leader of the Guardians. The Guardians, who are people that had been created into mythical holiday beings such as the Easter Bunny, were created to protect the hopes, beliefs and imagination of children all over the world from the evil Pitch Black (Boogie Man), voiced by Jude Law.

"That dream is over! It is time for fear to rule the world!" says Pitch as he is trying to obliterate the Guardians' place among "the

believed in." Being believed in is what brings the mythical legends their power to spread the joy, fear or any other type of emotion for the holidays.

Throughout the movie, the audience will find a great deal of humor, a cute little bunny and a crazy big jolly man. All of these roles are voiced by many recognizable actors and actresses. Alec Baldwin is North's voice (Santa Claus), Hugh Jackman is Bunny's voice (Easter Bunny), Sandy (Sandman) has no voice, and Isla Fisher is Tooth's voice (Toothfairy).

The plot of the movie revolves around Jack Frost being chosen to become a guardian of all the children's fun.

Jack Frost does not figure this out by himself as North tells him every Guardian has a center: a source of power that they find and have to protect and share with the children of the world.

Jack finds this as he is fighting Pitch Black, protecting the hopes of a little boy and his friends who are the last few kids who believe in The Guardians.

I thoroughly enjoyed "The Guardians;" it made me laugh and brought me to that inner childhood spirit for the holidays. I recommend going to see this movie before it is no longer available in theaters.

Great food at Jubilee Cafe

By Sarah Watson, reporter

I went to the Jubilee Cafe in Kickapoo with my step-grandparents. The service was relatively fast. We did not have to wait to sit down; we were able to sit as soon as we entered the cafe.

The cafe was very cozy and welcoming, though it could have used more decorations on its bare walls. However, the music playing consisted of popular hits such as "Call Me Maybe" by Carly Rae Jepsen and "Grenade" by Bruno Mars. I ordered onion rings as an appetizer and they were very warm and moist. I ordered the fish fillet dinner with hash browns, fries and a roll on the side. My step-grandparents ordered the fried chicken with mashed potatoes and green beans.

The fries were soft, moist and warm with the perfect amount of salt. The hash browns were perfect, not too much salt. The roll was soft and buttery with a melt-in-your-mouth flavor.

Then it was time for the main event, the fish fillet. The fish was very light, golden brown and flaky. The fish tasted fresh, as if it were just caught that morning. The tartar sauce was very tangy and paired with the fish it made for a very tasty combination.

My step-grandma helped my step-grandpa cut up his chicken. It was so crispy that he could not cut it on his own. However, once he ate his food he praised it highly.

"This place has the best food; I need to come back here to eat again sometime," he said.

Finally, we ordered dessert. My step-grandma ordered cherry fruit pie and my step-grandpa ordered chocolate cream pie. I ordered the Heath cream pie.

The Heath cream pie was very creamy with a sweet taste. Beyond this, the taste of chocolate from the pieces of Heath toffee candy was detectable in the whipped cream. Hidden within the pie I thought I tasted a few hints of banana cream. The pie tasted as a great pie should.

Jubilee Cafe is a great family-run restaurant with excellent home-style food. The music is modern and the staff is friendly and fast. I definitely hope to eat at the Jubilee Cafe again sometime.

'Battle Born' a 'killer' album

By Katie Metcalf, reporter

"Battle Born," The Killers' fourth studio album, is a journey of discovery.

The album is seemingly comprised of the heartbreak of adolescent love and the earthy tones formed from Texas clay, reminiscent of The Black Keys' album "El Camino."

Each song tells a different story, most about the loss of a girl. A listener might question if the album was written as a cry—a secret message—for a lost love of Brandon Flowers, the lead singer of the band.

"Runaways," which was released this summer, is a song to remind the singer's partner that they promised them forever, and no matter what they go through, they will always be there to keep that promise.

"The Way It Was" and "Here With Me" thoroughly demonstrate the album's tone; desperately in pain, lonely and wishful for a second chance.

"Flesh and Bone"—the album's opener which sounds almost like a battle cry—and "Battle Born"—the album's closing song and namesake—tie together perfectly as the alpha and omega of the album. They sound similar without being the same, different without being opposite.

The album is a far cry from The Killers' first studio album "Hot Fuss" because the newest album is more mellow. Their sound has changed greatly, but the band remains as interesting and unique as ever.



Photo from cmj.com

Students, staff set up for Madrigals



Photos by Kelsey Rodriguez

Limestone hosts senior citizen dinner

By Kelsey Rodriguez, reporter

Limestone Community High School hosted the 39th Annual Senior Citizen Holiday Party on Dec. 13.

This event showed senior citizens a great time and also demonstrated the skills and talents of Limestone students. Ms. Abby Swanson, the elder care class teacher, was in charge of the event and prepared her students to host the Senior Citizen Holiday Party.

"Our goal (was) to host a welcoming holiday event for the senior citizens in Bartonville," said Ms. Swanson.

The theme was "Come deck the halls

with the Rockets."

Many Limestone students were involved in the event, including the elder care class, family and consumer science classes, and the Limestone Walters K-4 Christmas carolers.

There were performances from the jazz band and the Madrigal singers, a presentation of colors by the AFJROTC and a speech by a speech team member.

The freshman FCS class served beverages such as coffee and tea, and the sophomore FCS classes served the meal, which consisted of turkey, potatoes and

gravy.

Ms. Swanson's parenting class helped with the coat check and her elder care class did things like registration, seating and hosting.

More than 330 senior citizens attended the event and were sent home with a stocking full of goodies. There were also five door prizes given out.

The door prizes were donated by many groups and individuals in the Bartonville and Peoria areas.