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By: Lyric Culp

Winter Sports Starting Strong

Winter sports have officially begun here at MHS and, with that being said, a lot has happened involving the girls and boys basketball teams, along with the bowling team.



The Lady Devils prior to tip off during the National Anthem.

The girls varsity basketball team kicked off their season on November 23rd against Windham. Down 25-20 at half time the team had one thing in mind when going out for the second half--delivering Coach Matisi his 500th win. This was enough motivation for the girls to power through and make a comeback. The Blue Devils held Windham to only 11 points in the third and fourth quarter.

The Lady Devils went into their second game on November 28th against Maplewood seeking their second win. The girls started out similarly to the last game but still had their eyes on the prize. This game was down to the wire with 5 seconds left on the clock, the Devils were down by 3 and looking to send the game into overtime. Unfortunately the team ended up falling short. They go 1-1 so far and look to improve to 2-1 on Thursday, December 1st at Heartland Christian School.

When asked about how the team is looking to improve coming off the game against Maplewood, Junior Mariah Bregar replied, "We know what we are capable of, we just get nervous. Hopefully getting in the groove and gaining confidence will improve our game as a whole."

The boys varsity basketball team began their season on November 29th against Bristol. The Devils started out rather shaky but managed to keep it close towards the end of the first half. Alas, the boys ended up collapsing in the third and fourth quarter allowing the Panthers to pull away with the win. The final score in Bristolville was 36-64.

In This Issue	
Winter Sports Starting Strong	1
Winter Sports (continued) Discover Your Path at TCTC	2
Move out of the way! It's Black Friday Editorial- Home for the Holidays	3
Editorial (Continued) McDonald, Briefly	4
McDonald Briefly (continued) Game Review	5
What Grinds My Gears Music Review	6
Outstanding Staff Recipe	7
Backpage Pics	8

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Article continues on page 2



The team will face Strasburg at home on December 6th.

The junior high basketball teams began their seasons smoothly. The 7th and 8th grade girls managed to power right through the Sebring Trojans and ran away without looking back with a final score of 34-4. The junior high boys also came out victorious with a score of 32-18.

8th grader Amari Carayol said, "We played well, a good game. We made a few mistakes but we can fix them throughout the season."

The bowling team rolled right into their season on the 23rd against Liberty and came out with an easy win. The team had their second match against LaBrae and all odds were in their favor as they came out with a big win. They look to keep doing their thing after having their match against Campbell on December 7th postponed.

Discover your path at TCTC

By: Aniya DePaul

The Trumbull Career and Technical Center, or TCTC, is one educational option students of MHS have in their junior year.

To help students decide if this might be a good pathway for them, sophomores go on a field trip to visit the facility and explore the many possibilities TCTC has to offer.

This field trip is a good opportunity for students who have a set trade they are interested in as well as for students who may not know what they want to do yet. TCTC offers a wide variety of program choices including Air Force Jr. ROTC, Auto Collision Technology, and Culinary Arts Academy.

Once students arrived on campus they were able to split off into individual interests and explore programs they were interested in.

Sophomore Gracie Callow studied the dental, cosmetology, and exercise science programs. When asked what she liked about the field trip she said, "I really enjoyed the idea that you got to work hands-on with the programs and how there were many different programs that meet your interests."

When asked if she is looking to join TCTC next year, sophomore Kayla Helco said, "TCTC was a great experience but I don't think it's the right place for me."

Although TCTC offers many programs, it's not suited for everyone as it's a big change going from a traditional school setting to going somewhere you can focus on a specific trade. This field trip was overall a good experience for sophomore students to make plans about their future.



Move out of the way, it's Black Friday!

By: Meegan Dockery

It's that time of year again when stores have their biggest sales and lines are out the door. Black Friday is a crazy, chaotic, and ambitious task to handle, but some families see it as a tradition to pack up Thanksgiving dinner and head out to conquer their Christmas shopping gift lists. Others have decided to see what all the fuss is about and head out for the first time to experience the crazy fun.

Black Friday can be an enjoyable, but stressful time to shop for your loved ones. It can be a fun experience if you know how to navigate safely through the stores. To help you with success, here are some survival tips that students have gathered from their times deal-busting.

- 1.) Get there later because there are not as many people and they restock so you're really not missing out on anything.
- 2.) Be quick. Even if you go later, if you want something you better grab it then because it won't be there when you go back for it.
- 3.) Stay calm and don't stress yourself out and you'll be ok. It should also be fun and a chance to make some memories in chaos.

Although Black Friday is seen as an important rite of passage, some students don't really see what all the fuss is about. Junior Grace Bundy said, "It's just so chaotic and I don't really want to be around that many people rushing around." Black Friday can be crazy and not everyone is nice when shopping so it's understandable that most people wait until Cyber Monday to do their shopping online.

While some don't like to go shopping on such a busy night, others just don't make it in time, but still wish to go. Sophomore Anabela Merola said, "I have never been before, but I would definitely try to plan it and go with my mom or my friends."

Black Friday is not a holiday you should tackle alone. With the number of people and the huge deals to grab, many of those who go can be quite aggressive, so it's safer to go with a group rather than by yourself.

Whether you are a shop-o-holic or you just want a chill at home, Black Friday is a night you can't forget about. Shopping for loved ones or friends, there are no better deals than those on Black Friday. It can be super fun so long as you do it safely and swiftly. Happy Holiday Shopping!

Editorial: The Importance of Spending Time with Family Around the Holiday

By: Veda Agler

The holidays are one of the year's happiest times filled with laughter and cheer. Spending time with your family is very important, especially around this time of the year. Your family is one of the most influential groups in your life. Which is why spending time with them is important.

Many families plan and participate in a variety of different activities, as well as celebrate the holidays together. One activity is giving to others. My family tries to help give to others like sick children who don't get home during this time of year. We try to donate at least five toys to children and families in need.



Bogo Sales! Black Friday is the best day to get the incredible deals. Regal Cinema rolls out with their own deals.



The holidays are one of the happiest times of the year, and no child or family deserves to be unhappy during this holiday season. Consider donating food to help others who may not have enough to have a wonderful meal, or to donate toys to children who may not get many or any during the holidays. You can even go as far as donating some money if you cannot give it to others.



Going to see Santa Claus is another great activity for many families. Now it may be tradition to get a picture with Santa or just go to tell him what you want for Christmas. I have seen many families go see Santa as a tradition even as they get older and they still enjoy the laughs and time spent with each other. My family doesn't go see Santa anymore, but I do bring my dog to see him and she loves it. Although this isn't the whole family it's still a small piece of your family that you can enjoy the time spent with them.

Now if there's snow, I'd say let's go outside, but the snow usually comes after the holidays so I guess we will just enjoy a green Christmas. We can all hope for a white Christmas and I know, I'd love that! Even though the snow doesn't fall around the holidays you can enjoy family time in the snow by building a snowman or having a contest about who builds the best snowman. You can even sled ride and do many more activities in the snow. My family loves to build snowmen and we often have contests to see which snowman is the last to melt.

Going to see Christmas lights are also one of my favorites to do with my family. I'm sure you would too, or if you have seen them before I hope you have enjoyed them. Many homes set up this amazing light shows where you can go and listen to music and watch the lights dance to the music. The Cainfield Fairgrounds has a drive-through lights. Going to see lights are fun things to do and, I always see the lights on Christmas Eve after we finish our amazing dinner.

These are a few examples of how to spend time with your family even if it's just the tiny little things or the big fun things. Spending time with them is very important, especially around the holidays when there should always be much laughter and cheer.

McDonald, Briefly

By: Mirryn Hobbs



McDonald welcomed its newest NHS members on Thursday, December 1st. The ceremony began with a few words from NHS members of the year before. Next, each student joining NHS lit the candle of their choice, each meaning a different aspect including leadership, service, scholarship, and character. Each of these are all very important traits of a true role model. Congratulations to the newest members of NHS: Bria Rupe, Greg Costantino, Lily Cappuzzello, Mariah Bregar, Megan Klockner, Bri Callow, and Grace Srock.



Photo Credit: Yearbook Staff

The village held its annual Christmas in the Village celebration on Sunday, December 4th. People from all around McDonald gathered in the center of the village to watch the lighting of the Christmas tree. After the lighting, plenty of cookies and other fun crafts were enjoyed. Christmas in the Village is always a memorable event for many!

Some of the best teen role models and leaders in Trumbull County were chosen for 2022. McDonald is proud to have two great students featured in Trumbull County's 20 under 20! It takes a great amount of hard work and dedication to be an outstanding leader and these two students had no problem showing they could do it. Congratulations to senior Caidan Morris and freshman Ava Kuntz!



Game Review: Slime Rancher

By Adam Parker

Slime Rancher is a first-person adventure/life simulation game published in January of 2016 by indie game studio Monomi Park. The game follows the player's character, Beatrice LeBeau, and their exploits as a farm hand on the Far Far Range, light years from Earth. The livestock you're wrangling isn't any normal Earth life, though, rather a vast, multicolor selection of semi-sentient slimes.



The game follows a nonlinear path, allowing the player to explore and do as they please. The point is not to complete objective after objective or solve some mystery, but just to build your farm and discover new slimes. I personally feel this makes it a very relaxing play where you can just turn your brain off and do some alien farming.

There are around 16 different types of slime in the game. From pink, tabby, rock, rad, etc, each slime has its own unique, adorable properties. My favorite are the firefly-like phosphor slimes that you can find pretty early in the game. Along with the 16 slime types, you can create a near infinite amount of slime combinations. You can merge any two slimes to create a "largo" slime, which will have the same dietary habits and currency output as the the two it's composed of. Any more than two slime species merge, though, and you've got a tar on your hands.

Tars are one of very few things in the game that can hurt you. If there has to be an enemy, it's the tar. They do light damage to the player and will try to eat nearby slimes, but they can be rather easily dissipated with water.

The currency of the game are crystalline structures called "plorts". Plorts are produced by slimes naturally after eating and translate to in-game currency. Each slime has unique plorts priced at different rates. The money from plort sales can be used in a variety of ways from upgrading your farm, to buying or upgrading equipment, or to unlocking new areas.

The soundtrack and visuals are also on point, perfectly contributing to the serene, calming effect the game is generally going for.

Slime Rancher is a wonderfully simple game and in its simplicity is a great sense of calm. *Slime Rancher*, to me, is incredibly relaxing and I recommend it to anyone looking for serenity in video gaming.

What Grinds My Gears- Chewing Loudly

By: Jasmine Coots

What grinds my gears? One thing that grinds my gears is when people chew loud or with their mouth wide open. I also hate when people chew and try to talk with a mouthful of food. I don't want your lunch flying at me when you're trying to talk to me.

It just makes me cringe whenever someone chews loud and if they do it to tease you, especially siblings. Chewing loud should be known as a sin to do around someone. How hard is it to just chew with your mouth closed?

I lastly believe that talking super loud when I'm next to you triggers me because it's not that hard to keep an inside voice without being dramatically loud. Being simply annoying with these things can grind my gears.

Imagine you're trying to have a peaceful evening and you just hear your sibling next to you chewing louder than the television. Wouldn't that bother you? This is why these grind my gears and make me upset, because no one likes a loud chewer.



Vintage Music Review: Paramore

By: Annabelle Smith

Paramore released their fourth album in 2013 and named it, well, *Paramore*. You may have heard a few songs from the beloved album, their most popular ones being "Ain't It Fun" and "Still Into You." The band has gone through their fair share of drama throughout the years, but at the moment Hayley Williams, Zac Farro, and Taylor York are the current members of the band. Hayley Williams is the lead vocalist, Zac Farro is the drummer, and Taylor York is the guitarist.

The band was originally formed by Hayley Williams, Zac Farro, Josh Farro, and Jeremy Davis in 2004. After some drama, however, Josh Farro and Jeremy Davis left and Taylor York joined in 2007. Despite all of this, Paramore has continued to release hit music and has gained a large fandom over the many years.

Some of the songs were on the radio when I was a kid, so it felt very nostalgic to go back and listen to them now. Even though they aren't new songs, many of them are very good as each is different from the others, making it hard for anyone to hate them. It's incredibly refreshing to hear different kinds of music being experimented with throughout the album. Paramore does a really good job of using characteristics from

different genres and turning it into their own unique style.



Although it is nice to have some variety in an album, at times it does seem very out of place and chaotic. It sounds like the songs aren't from the same album and just don't fit together with no general theme or organization, which can get a bit confusing at times.

I would rate this album an 8/10. I liked most of the songs individually, but they just didn't sound right when put together in an album. Overall the album is really good and is probably Paramore's best album they have released so far.

Outstanding Staff: Miss Lariccia by Jasmine Coots



Miss Lariccia is one of our Intervention Specialists and monitors student progress in class while also hosting Learning Center for grades 10 and up. She has been teaching for 15 years, with the last 8 here at McDonald.

I picked Mrs. Lariccia because I am in her class and she helps me a lot with understanding material. I have a personal connection with her because she has a session she calls "Tea Time" where she talks to us about how our life is going and she encourages her students to do their best. She believes we are all capable of getting good grades when we make an effort.

One of her fun traits is that she can be a sarcastic teacher in a funny good way that acts as good motivation to push myself and try harder. What drove Miss Lariccia to become an Intervention Specialist was because she enjoyed working with people with disabilities, and a college professor encouraged her to pursue that focus in education.

When asked about other job careers she considered, Miss Lariccia said, "I wanted to be an English teacher because I liked working with children, enjoyed English classes, and I was inspired by one of my high school teachers."

She loves to help students develop their passions and help them set post secondary goals. In order to keep her students on track and focused she strongly believe in having a routine and fun.

Senior Scott Jones said, "She's kind and understanding and patient. She's great to be around, helps me with my math, and helps me not have too many worries."

I also interviewed senior Shannon Mulronoey and asked her opinion. Shannon said, "[Miss Lariccia] helps you understand subjects better and encourages you to think about life after high school. She gets to know everyone during Tea Time and is such a kind person and buys us food."

We are real lucky to have Miss Lariccia on staff here at McDonald High School.



Gingerbread Recipe

By: Annabelle Smith

Heat your oven to 325 degrees. Grease and flour a pan that is 9x9x2 inches. Put all of the ingredients into a mixing bowl. Mix for 30 seconds on a slower setting. Beat for 3 minutes at a medium speed. After mixing, pour it into the pan. Bake for 50 minutes. Best served warm with whipped cream or ice cream.

This was my favorite kind of sweet my grandmother used to make during the holidays. We used to make all kinds of treats and cookies and would decorate them together. I thought this would be the perfect recipe to celebrate the Christmas season.



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| 2 1/4 cups of flour | 1 egg |
| 1/3 cups of sugar | 1 teaspoon of soda |
| 1 cup of molasses | 1 teaspoon of ginger |
| 1/4 cup of water | 1 teaspoon of cinnamon |
| 1/2 cup of shortening | 3/4 teaspoons of salt |

Back Page Pics

By Meegan Dockery

