

Remembering and Honoring

by Racquelle Fazekas

This is the day America honors its living, and dead warriors. Those who have died in, or those who have survived in serving our country. We celebrate this time of remembrance on November 11 every year and it began in 1981. This is the national holiday, Veterans Day. Many of us have a parent or parents who are veterans. Some of you might have a friend, parent or relative who gave their life for our freedom. All of these people are veterans, and they are all loved and honored.

Some people confuse Veterans Day with the similar Memorial Day. The difference is death. While Memorial Day honors only those who have lost their lives, Veterans Day honors all. In fact, Veterans Day is mostly geared towards thanking the living for their service. Yet we don't forget about those who died, or are unnamed or forgotten. We have the tomb of the unknown soldiers. No veteran, alive or dead, will ever be lost to our hearts and minds.

McTeacher's Night

By: Caroline Costello

McTeacher's Night was a great success, the 6th grade teachers raised a lot of money to go towards the 6th grade field trip. A big thank you to all the students who went to McDonald's and had some French fries that night! Washington Elementary School must have thought this was a great idea too; they will be having their own McTeacher's Night this November. The teacher's said that they had a ton of fun behind the scenes of McDonalds and were happy to work so that the 6th grade students could have this year's field trip.



Will this One Work?

By Michael Gale

Obama has recently let out another plan; this one is all about student loans. Its big goal is to help students get out of their enormous loans. One of the problems is that many students never actually pay off their loans.

This is probably just another publicity stunt. Obama's main purpose may seem to be helping people, but it could also be something to help him get reelected. This will probably just shift part of the burden from the students onto the taxpayers that already paid off their loans.

Another big part of this bill is who it affects. It only affects people who get their loan in 2012 or after. That won't help the current students that are in debt. It also only applies to the kids that get government loans. It doesn't even help the people that are currently creating the entire student loans debt.

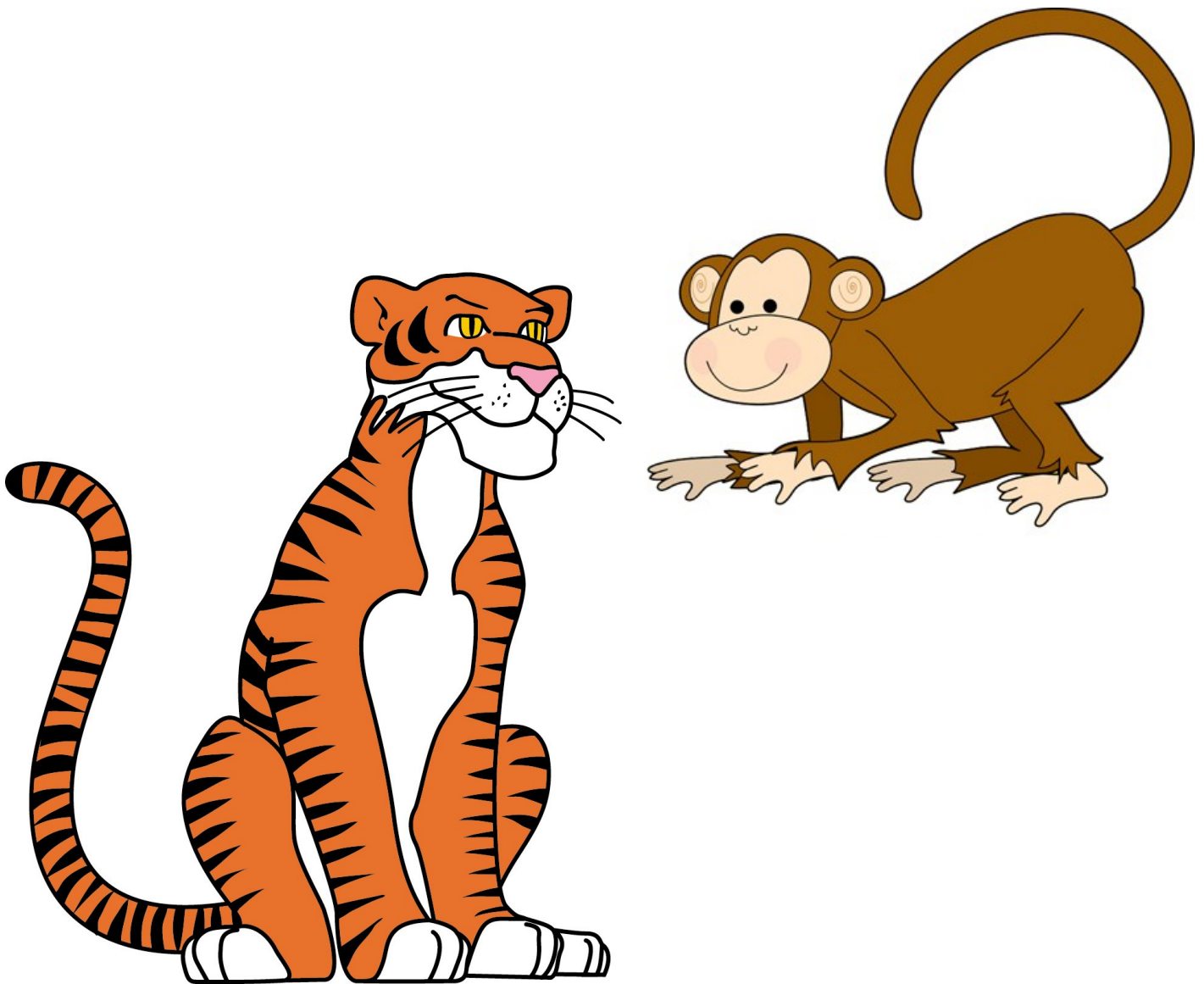
Inside this issue:

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Massacre

By Zoey Colglazier

Carnage stretches all around Zanesville, Ohio. Exotic animals shot and slaughtered after they were set loose by their owner before he killed himself. 49 animals total were killed, and the 6 animals that remain alive are quarantined in the Columbus Zoo. 3 leopards, a grizzly bear, and 2 monkeys were hit with tranquilizer darts and taken there, along with various species of monkeys found still inside their cages. The Muskingum County Sheriff's Department was criticized for using such lethal forces on these creatures, some of which were endangered, like the Bengal tigers. The Today Show called it "The September 11th of the animal world". This is probably the largest massacre of exotic animals ever, and I hope something like this never happens again.



Fantasy Football

By: James Huisheere

Fantasy football. You may have heard these words before, from family, friends, teachers, a random hobo on the street, some of you may even play it, but what do these words really mean? For those who don't know, well, it's kind of hard to put into words. It's mainly for football fans, those who watch football not only as a fun pastime with your father, but obsessively.

Sounds like a bore, right? Well, if you're a football fan right down to the core, it's actually a really fun and exciting pastime, one that you can enjoy when you are bored, you know, got some time to kill. I'd actually have to say that actually a lot of people who play it are a bore! Fantasy football by Wikipedia's definition "...is an interactive, virtual competition in which people manage professional football players versus another person..."

It's incredibly easy to get started on your own league or someone else's. The one I would recommend to Facebook users is SL.com Fantasy Football, which has its own game on Facebook, so if you're interested just use that. If you don't have a Facebook, SL.com also has fantasy football outside of it, same rules and same stuff. Also NFL.com has a very impressive fantasy football section, not only giving you the points, but the highlights of the players getting them for you!

There are two types of drafting: Auto-Pick and Live Draft. For newbies at fantasy football I would choose Auto-Pick, seeing as it gives you the best, balanced players that are open. However, when you want to try your hand at your own football team, (I recommend after a couple years), you should use Live Draft, where you choose your own players, giving you the customized team you've always wanted.

Weird Dates

By Michael Gale

There are many weird dates out there. Our amazing calendar creates them. Most people don't realize how amazing things like this really are. Now you will.

One of the simpler ones is March 14th. It is 3-14 (the beginning of pi). The other pi related one is June 22, which is like the 22/7, which is pi in fraction form. Another cool and nerdy one is May 4th. If you say it out loud as "May the fourth be with you." It sounds just like Star Wars. If you aren't educated, in Star Wars they say "may the force be with you." There are some that flip upside down like 1961 and still read the same. Another simple one is 02-02-2020 that reads the same backwards. There is 1-10-11 through 1-19-11, which are all the same backwards and forwards. Don't forget that 11-11-11 is coming up soon!

Aaron's Computer Corner

By Aaron Faivre

This is Aaron's Computer Corner 3rd edition. I am going to talk about the death of Steve Jobs. He is probably the most important person born in the last one hundred years. He and his colleges built the first computer that replaced all the command line with symbols and shapes. Before, the only way you could interact with the computer was with the keyboard. They invented the mouse, which is incorporated into every modern day computer. The first computer that incorporated the mouse was the Apple Lisa, later replaced the Mac 128k which was a lot cheaper, and "smaller." Lets be honest, you might fiddle with your Dells, HP's (discontinued), Gateways, etc, but the computers Apple makes are on the top of the silicon pyramid, and the most expensive. I've got off track, back to Steve Jobs, he died in October 5 2011, (see Michael's article if you want to learn more) and he should be remembered. When you turn on your Ipod, computer, tablet, or any other electronic device that has a major graphical interface, remember who started it all, and who put there heart into it.

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Origins of Thanksgiving

By Connor Carlson

Thanksgiving started when the pilgrims and the Native Americans came together and had a grand feast. This festival was based off of giving thanks for the many things that they had. The first feast was in 1621 in Plymouth, in present day Massachusetts. This was held partly because of the new relations between the Indians and the pilgrims, but it also helped that they could supply themselves with enough food to feed all of those 102 mouths. The Indian tribe that we made allies with was called the Wompanoag. They were the ones who taught all of the pilgrims how to plant seeds and go fishing. They were the ones who came to the Thanksgiving feast with the European settlers. Both the U.S. and Canada celebrate Thanksgiving. We celebrate it on the fourth Thursday of November. The Canadians had their first official thanksgiving on April 15, 1872. So there is a little bigger difference in the time in which these happened. People even today celebrate this holiday because it commemorates the allies that we had, and without them we would not be where we are today. That is why we give thanks. Some controversy over where Thanksgiving is being held at is either in Plymouth where most people thought that it was or it could have been in Virginia. We celebrate Thanksgiving today and we will keep celebrating it for as long as we live.



Pottermore

By: Caleb Plumb

With 7 books and 8 movies the Harry Potter books spawned a revolution. With the final movie that came out this summer many people thought that would be the end of the Harry Potter series, but it is just beginning. With Pottermore you can go deeper in to the world of Harry Potter than ever before. It all started on July 31 2011 when the first clue to the early access came out the question was "How many owls are on the Eeylops Owl Emporium sign? Multiply by 49." Do you know the answer? I don't, but the answer is 245. The other questions were easier. I think the easiest one was "How many Deathly Hallows are there? Multiply this number by 7." The answer to this one is easy if you know anything about Harry Potter. The answer is 21. The three hallows are The Elder Wand, The Invisibility Cloak, and the Resurrection Stone. I didn't get in to the early access, but I wish I did. Pottermore registration will open to the general public at the end of October 2011.

The History of Thanksgiving

By: Caleb Plumb

When most people think of Thanksgiving they think of turkey, but it is about much more than just turkey. It was first celebrated in 1621, a celebration was being held at Plymouth in present day Massachusetts. The Plymouth feast and thanksgiving was prompted by a good harvest. President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day during the Civil War, on October 3, 1863, and it is now held on the fourth Thursday of November. Now it's not used to celebrate good harvest anymore as just a time to get together with family and pig out! The tradition of Thanksgiving is not only an American tradition. This holiday is celebrated in many countries including Canada, which is held on the second Tuesday of October. Many European countries have some type of tradition also.

What's on your plate?

by Jady Erb

I have recently taken a survey of 25 kids in each grade to find out if they eat turkey, ham, turkey and ham or something else entirely on Thanksgiving.

In the 6th grade 17 people eat turkey, 3 eat ham and 5 eat both turkey and ham.

In the 7th grade 15 people eat turkey, 2 eat ham, 7 eat both turkey and ham and 1 eats something else.

Finally, in the 8th grade 15 eat turkey, 4 eat ham, 5 eat both turkey and ham and 1 eats something else.

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A “Grimm” Twist

By: James Huisheere

We’ve all heard about the Grimm fairy tales, as in the Brother’s Grimm, but what little children don’t understand is the darkness the stories truly hold. Until now.

The new show “Grimm” puts a super dark twist on already dark tales. Here’s a brief synopsis on the first episode.

It’s a beautiful day in Portland, and a high school student goes out for a jog, but never returns. Then other children start to go missing, which makes Nick Burkhardt’s job so much harder. Nick is a homicide detective in Portland, and his life has taken an interesting turn in the past day. He starts seeing strange creatures in the faces of ordinary, everyday citizens.

When he tells his aunt about it, she says he’s seeing people, “for what they really are”.

Later on, he’s put on a case in which a little girl has been kidnapped. He finds a lead, which leads to... the Big Bad Wolf. However, it turns out there are multiple big bad wolves, and the one he found gave up eating little girls a long time ago, but it turns out that there is another one in the area.

Tune in on NBC to find out what happens next. Parental guidance suggested.

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Terra Nova

By: James Huisheere

Warning: Blood and gore

Well, here’s a great, kind of new, series. If you liked Jurassic Park, then this will blow your mind. Instead of bio-engineered dinosaurs, these are REAL! Well, in the show. The beginning is in the 22nd century where polluting and greed has destroyed the world. The answer to this problem... lies 65 million years in the past. It’s a mix of prehistoric times and futuristic inventions as the colonists face the hardships they never thought they’d face. Another group of seceded colonists, the Sixers, add to their problems. These guys are bad. Badder than bad. Their soul purpose: to destroy the colony of Terra Nova. So, if you guys like Pterosaurs, giant meteors, rogue bad guys, runaways, mysteries, and dinosaurs, than you will love... Terra Nova.

Defying Gravity

By Zoey Colglazier

Wicked. The Wicked Witch of the West. Yeah, yeah so she kidnapped little Dorothy. Supposedly she turned the Tin Man into tin, and made the Cowardly Lion cowardly. But do you actually know the story of the Wicked Witch of the West?

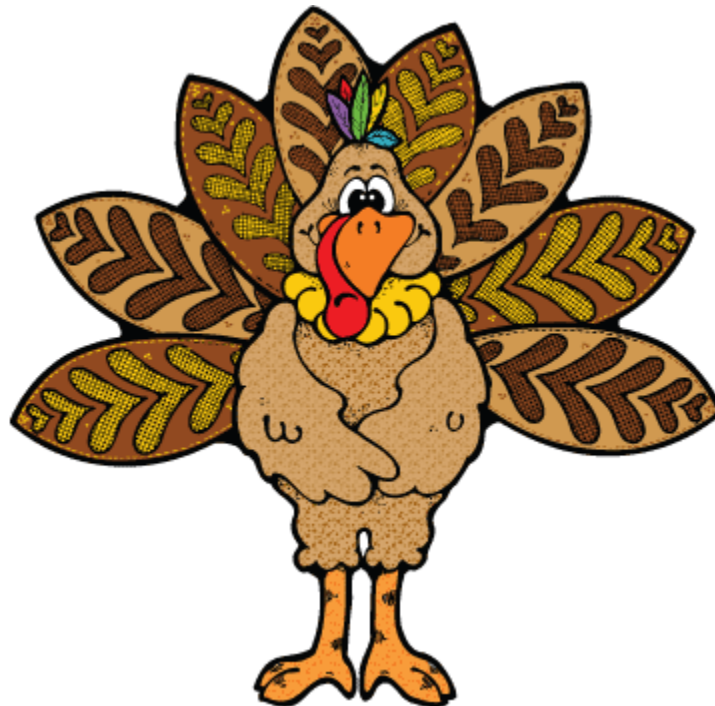
Elphaba. A young girl attending good old Shiz University with her crippled sister Nessarose. Daughter of the Mayor of Munchkin. Green. Elphaba, an extremely smart girl with a knack for magic, is universal hated. Terror, she is called. Evil, she is called. Wicked. So when she ends up with the resident goody-goody Galinda (you read that right – Galinda with a Ga), they hate each other from the start. As the years pass we watch Elphie grow, finally traveling to the Emerald City, where things are not as they seem. Laugh-out-loud hilarious and absolutely fantastic, this is probably the best show I have ever seen. All these seemingly random tidbits come together like puzzle pieces, woven together with song and dance. Wicked is not only the true untold stories of the Witches of Oz, but a tale where the good can be evil and the wicked, well the wicked aren’t so bad after all.

Celebration!

By Erika Renkes

In December there are the normal holidays Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanza, but there are a few holidays that nobody knows about. These holidays can be celebrated too!! They don't have to be ignored because nobody realizes them! Here are the holidays waiting to be celebrated!

- Earmuff Day-December 1st
- National Mutt Day-December 2nd
- National Cookie Day-December 4th
- Bathtub Party Day-December 5th
- St. Nicholas Day-December 6th
- National Cotton Candy-December 7th
- Day of the Horse-December 8th
- Hanukkah-December 9th through December 16th
- Nobel Prize Day-December 10th
- International Mountain Day-December 11th
- Poinsettia Day-December 12th
- Monkey Day-December 14th
- Cat Herders Day-December 15th
- Barbie and Barney Backlash Day-December 16th
- Wright Brothers Day-December 17th
- National Re-gifting Day-December 20th
- Humbug Day-December 21st
- National Haiku Poetry Day-December 22nd
- National Candy Cane Day-December 26th
- National Chocolate Day-December 28th-29th
- New Year's Eve-December 31st



Bad Black Friday

By Lauren Turffs

For any of you out there who don't know what black Friday is, it's the day after Thanksgiving when people get shopping rage. They will line up outside of stores like Wal-Mart Kohl's Macy's any place really, and when the doors open they pour in looking for good deals. People will even camp out at the store they want to get into, so that they are the first people there. Sounds all fun and great, right? Wrong. This holiday promotes fighting among the customers as they want something that someone else has and they have a heated argument over before it might escalate into actual combat. Also, in cities like New York City or any big city really, the day after Thanksgiving heightens the traffic from it's almost impossible to move an inch in an hour speed, to not moving at all. Traffic is extremely slow and it will take you double or maybe even triple the time to get somewhere than it normally would. In fact, three years ago at a Wal-Mart in Long Island thirty-four year old temporary worker was trampled to death because of the rapacious crowds! Five minutes before the store was scheduled to open the crowd literally forced their way through the doors breaking them off of their hinges. To stop the flow of customers the employees formed a human chain that not only failed to stop the greedy crowd but ended up getting an employee trampled. And for what, you ask? How about thirty dollars off an Xbox. A man was brutally murdered by the people of Wal-Mart because they wanted to make sure that they got a good deal. A good deal.

Black Friday: All about the shopping!

By Zoey Colglazier

Ah, it's the day after Thanksgiving, most commonly known as Black Friday. The day Christmas shopping officially starts. The day your mom camps outside Kohl's and JCPenney's waiting for early doorbusters.

You may be thinking that all the madness surrounding Black Friday and its legendary fights over shoes (among other things) is totally pointless, but that just means you are wrong. Black Friday is the one day of the year where stores have most of their merchandise on sale. 60% off? Done. 70% off? Check. 80% off? Completed. 90% off? You bet. If it's a percent, most likely there is a sale for that much off an item. Plus, every store brings out its most wanted items: TV's, DVD's, computers, shoes, expensive shoes, gaming systems, etc. What is there to not love?

And they whole crazy stay-up-all-night, wait-outside-the-store, give-me-those-or-die things isn't as bad as you think. That only happens like, oh, once per store. So don't worry. Go shopping!

Electricity

By Zoey Colglazier

What's better, a car that you plug-in and protects the environment, or a gas-guzzler that pollutes and costs tons of money? Easy answer: the electric car. So what if you need to plug it in at night? Those batteries can really last. And wouldn't you like to save money by not paying through the nose for non-renewable gas? I know that I would. And electric cars don't force emissions into the atmosphere that kill our planet. While you know what's nifty? Electric cars have zero emissions. Zip. Nada. Nothing. None. Absolutely no harmful gases. So yes to electric cars, and no to big ole' gas-guzzlers.



Gas Powered Cars

By Connor Carlson

Most of the cars in the world today are all gas powered. I prefer the gas-powered cars, but that is just me. I know that it is kind of a pain to fill up your gas tank every time your almost on empty, but I think that in the long run you would be paying more for battery powered cars then gas because you would always have to plug it in and you electric bill would go off the charts. Another reason that gas cars are so much better is that they have some really good cars, like my personal favorite, the Corvette. Gas cars are probably more efficient in the way that they may not break down on the road because you don't have enough power. If you are going on a long drive now a days you don't want to have your car die in the middle of the road do you. Well I don't anyway. Also I think that we should have gas powered cars more because the look so much nicer. They can have the cars juiced up to whatever you want them to look like. They may not be very good for the environment, but we will eventually find a way around that. Gas powered cars are so much better than electric or battery, don't you think. I do.

Facebook Changes: Whoo-hoo!

By Zoey Colglazier

If possible, Facebook just got better. They are in the works of launching the Facebook Timeline, a new set-up of the profiles you know. Right now, all you can do ahead of the shocking start is to change your own profile before everyone else has it changed for them.

This innovative timeline is a way to pull your more meaningful status updates to the front, with two columns, one with words, and another with pictures. Facebook will become a collage of your life, with important moments, as well as bittersweet ones. It's ground-breaking algorithm is eerily good at mimicking human memories. You will soon realize that Facebook knows you almost better than yourself. It has created something brand-new: a meaningful social networking site.

There is also of the other changes you might have already noticed. The chat set-up has changed, allowing you to see who is on chat the most, and the top stories alert, letting you see some of the most visited stories and the ones updated recently. I hope more are on the way because these are absolutely fantastic!

Thank you to www.cnn.com

Facebook Changes: Terribly Annoying

By Erika Renkes

Lately, Facebook has been making changes and many people don't like them! Added to Facebook is the ticker, different format to photos, different format to statuses, subscribing, new chat, and new news feed. The biggest change and the worst change they made was the ticker! The ticker is a column on the side that tells what your friends are doing on other people's pages (people you aren't friends with)! If I wanted to know what other people were doing I would become friends with them! Also, you can subscribe to a person and get all their statuses and changes they have made to their profile, but it shows it on their page to everyone they are friends with. Some people believe this is an invasion to their privacy settings. In addition to all these changes, Facebook will be making more changes! Hopefully these changes won't be terribly annoying like the recent ones.

Curling

By Katie Hammitt

Curling is a sport where players slide rocks across ice towards a specific area. Each team consists of four players, who take turns the rocks across the ice curling sheet towards the house, a circular target marked on the ice. Each team has eight stones. The purpose is to accumulate the highest score for a game; points are scored for the stones resting closest to the centre of the house at the conclusion of each end, which is completed when both teams have thrown all of their stones.

A curler can induce a curved path by causing the stone to turn as it slides, and the path of the rock may be turned more by two sweepers with brooms who accompany it as it slides down the ice, using the brooms to alter the state of the ice in front of the stone. Lots of strategy and teamwork goes into choosing the ideal path and placement of a stone for each situation, and the skills of the curlers determine how close to the desired result the stone will achieve. Curling is also known as “Chess on Ice.”

*With help from Wikipedia



8th Grade Boys Basketball

By: Caleb Plumb*

The Reagan Patriots are off to a good start with a seven to one ratio. The coach Mr. Johnson is pushing the team to victory. Mr. Johnson said he is a retired teacher, he said he retired to keep his sanity! The season is 3 months, they have 20 kids altogether on the A and B team. Mr. Johnson said that it looks like a good season. They're working hard to represent our school. When asked what his favorite part of playing was, A.P. said that playing was over all the best part. So if you have some extra cash and some extra time you should go see them play and while you're there you could also see the 7th grade. So gooooooo team!!!!

*with help from Aaron Faivre