

THE BLOTTER

Freshman L.E. Blanchard decorates Mrs. Morton's door for Black History Month. Student Council sponsors this contest; students vote on the winning door via announcements. "I like the face because that's the part I worked the hardest on," Blanchard said. "I also really like the lips; they look really nice."



Rethinking Black History Education

Some say teachers should emphasize Black History Month more

By//ALYSIA BAILEY & KATELYN HIGGINS

Every U.S. president has officially designated February as Black History Month since 1976, according to the *History* website.

While many students remember specific BHM activities and events in elementary and middle school, in high school students the month is celebrated differently.

For the last few weeks students and teachers been working on designs for NAHS's annual door decorating contest, sponsored by Student Council.

Students could also answer BHM trivia questions posted on announcements each day of February with the possibility of their name being drawn for a prize.

The Athletic Department also created BHM-themed t-shirts students, faculty and staff could purchase.

While these school-wide activities shine light on BHM, some believe teachers could do more in the classroom.

Freshman Lauren Yowell says BHM is more inclusive in elementary and middle school and not so much in high school.

"In high school, there is literally no mention [of BHM] most of the month," Yowell said. "Yet, in history class, other cultures are taught with no mention of my

ancestors and the terrible things of slavery, or the amazing inventions and accomplishments and contributions to society."

Yowell says that if we teach better inclusion to everybody then schools would be better.

"If we had greater education at the high school level, maybe we could stop bigotry and misinformation at an early age," Yowell said. "Racism is taught and learned, we are not born knowing these things. If we teach greater inclusion and respect for African American History in schools I feel the world would be a better place."

Yowell feels that we need to focus on both past and present times.

"When educating students during BHM, teachers should focus on the many amazing accomplishments that people of color have achieved in the past and the current times," Yowell said. "This education will foster a respect and knowledge base of others to better understand what we have endured."

Yowell says that if we had a better understanding of equality, schools would be so much better.

See **BLACK HISTORY MONTH** on Page 3

What you need to know

SAT

Date: March 2

Place: The Third Floor

Information: All juniors are required to take the exam; bring a charged chromebook. Other students will learn asynchronously in an assigned location.

Bulldog Bowl Powder Puff

Date: March 10

Place: Buerk Football Field

Information: Registration for juniors and seniors has ended. Spectators pay \$6 at the gate.

Nancy Givens Memorial Walk

Date: March 12

Place: NAHS

Information: Sign in between 8-9 a.m., the three mile walk starts at 9:30 a.m. Registration is \$10; shirts can be purchased until March 4 for \$20. Proceeds go to the Nancy Givens Memorial Garden and Scholarship Fund.

The Music Man

Date: March 4, 5, 6 and 11, 12, 13

Place: NAHS Auditorium

Information: Tickets are for sale online and cost \$6 for students.

Prom

Date: April 16

Place: Mellwood Arts Center

Information: Prom runs from 7-10 p.m. and tickets will be sold April 11 & 12 for \$35. After-prom follows from 10 to 1, tickets cost \$10. Check rules on attendance and academic standing.

Celebrations

The **Rifle Team** placed second in the nation.

Seniors have filled out 686 college applications to 179 different colleges, earning \$13.1 million in scholarships. Four seniors have enlisted into the military.

Congratulations to **band and orchestra students** who represented NAHS in the State ISSMA Solo and Ensemble competition Saturday. Band had one gold rating solo. Orchestra had 10 gold rating ensembles, 13 gold rating soloists, and two silver rating soloists. Several of the ensembles/soloists also received "with distinction."

Beloved Bill Briscoe says bye

Assistant to the Superintendent reflects on time in district

By// ABBY MOUTARDIER

Several inches of snow fell overnight. The roads are icy. The phone rings before the sun rises. This can only mean one thing for NAFCS students - Bill Briscoe is ready to let the district know the day's fate.

"I have a lot of good snow day memories that he prompted," senior Kennedy Lee said. "I don't know him personally, but he always brings a smile to my face every time I get a phone call from him. I am sad, he's been around for a long time, I think he really cares about this school system, I'm sad to see him go."

The days of Briscoe being the voice of snow days is coming to an end, with the man announcing his retirement after 44 years in the district. Briscoe has spent his time as a teacher, principal, Director of Elementary and Title I and his current role-assistant to the Superintendent.

"I was in position to put



more money to direct services for students in Title I and less for administrative overhead," Briscoe said. "I was able to initiate Gifted and Talented for elementary and start the work towards full time preschool. I also started working on giving elementary teachers common planning time."

Briscoe is most known for calling families, most notably for changes in school schedule, and in the past few years for mass Covid-19 related calls. In the case of snow days, Briscoe says he does play a role in deciding whether or not the day goes as planned.

"[How much of the decision I make] has changed with each Superintendent," Briscoe said. "I tell them what I think [about the roads]. I have never been bashful. Safety first has to be our prime goal during difficult weather. I worry the most when black ice develops in the morning. I can tell you our bus drivers are good, but they are great when we are in a tricky situation with ice or snow. They are always helping out each other and they make sure our students get inside their home before continuing their route."

Briscoe said he records

announcement messages without a script, preferring a more natural sound. However, his job goes beyond calling and announcing snow days, and in-

"[If a famous person were to start calling for our district] give me Morgan Freeman at the end of the day. His voice is calming and he is a storyteller."

Assistant to the
Superintendent
Bill Briscoe

volves him working with everyone from families to teachers to administrators.

"My favorite part is anytime I can help students, parents, and staff," Briscoe said. "I enjoy giving advice to principals when they are making a tough decision and problem solving when we have a tough decision to make as a corporation. I am very proud of my work with teachers."

Senior Teodora Slavova was unaware of how many aspects there were to Briscoe's job.

"I think Bill's job is mainly to call snow days and work

with the safety of the students, as well as other roles within the county," Slavova said. "I did not know he had such a big responsibility in the district."

Another aspect of Briscoe's job involves dealing with custody issues, something he says is less enjoyable.

"The least favorite part of my job is custody issues," Briscoe said. "Parents many times use the schools as a place to gain advantage in their power struggle with their former or current spouse. Trying to get a hold of the current legal document and make sure the school is not used as a place to violate the agreement is not always fun."

Briscoe says he has enjoyed his time with the district and has always enjoyed going to work. Briscoe also said he will miss his friends at NAFCS and hopes he has made a positive impact.

"This Corporation has given me more than I have given back," Briscoe said. "I have been humbled to have had an opportunity to be in a position to serve others. The effort has been there. I will let others judge my results."



Bill Briscoe,
Sally Jensen &
Rhonda Roos

An Ode to Bill Briscoe

Senior Emily Caufield's mom takes Bill Briscoe appreciation to a new level.

"I couldn't tell you exactly why she [writes Bill Briscoe poems]," Caufield said. "She's been doing it for years - pretty much as long as I can remember. It's funny. Bill Briscoe is such a prominent person."

Caufield's mom uses Facebook to publish poems nearly every time Bill Briscoe calls go out. Briscoe is aware of this art.

"Bill does know about her poems," Caufield said. "I know they're trying to set up a Facebook Live for the two of them to meet, but I don't know if that will actually happen."

There's not a one-size-fits-all template for Caufield's mom's expression of Briscoe appreciation.

"There's all kinds of poems," Caufield said. "She's done limericks, she's done song-parody lyrics before, there's all kinds of stuff."

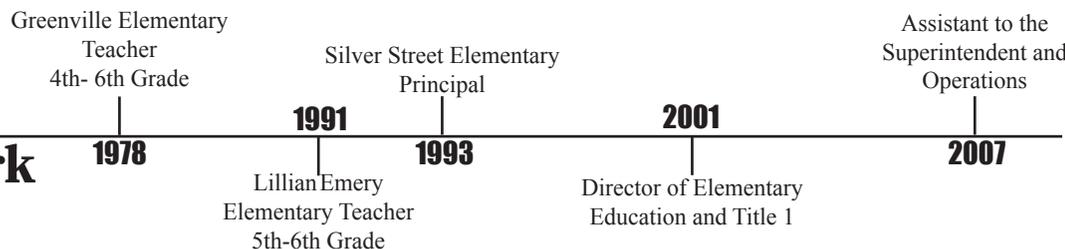
Caufield says her mom's poems have added to her sadness about Briscoe's impending retirement.

"He's just such an important figure in my childhood, especially because my mother writes all of these poems about him," Caufield said.

*"While Bill Briscoe sounded happy
We all wonder, 'Is this it?'
He retires in the summer
Has the last poem now been writ?"*

*No matter where we go from here
When Floyd County has some snow
Thousands of students hereabout
Will think fondly of Bill Briscoe."
-An excerpt from a recent poem*

Briscoe's line of work



Rethinking Black History Education

Some say teachers should emphasize Black History Month more

By // KATELYN HIGGINS & ALYSIA BAILEY

Continued from Page 1

“Allowing a greater understanding of why equality is so important,” Yowell said. “It is important to educate others on the struggles of our ancestors in regards to racism, but presented in a manner that allows learning and tips for being able to move forward.”

Yowell says that we should have a class where it is required to learn about the history of African Americans.

“I feel we should have a curriculum that is equal across the school districts like we have in government class that educates everyone on the history of African Americans,” Yowell said. “Including education on slavery, accomplishments of my ancestors and teach children the importance of inclusion and acceptance.”

Sophomore Maylia Powell says schools are focused on the wrong goal.

“They’re trying to make us more academically intelligent instead of stuff in the real world and not focused on the real issues in the world and things that we need to know,” Powell said.

In Indiana U.S. History required junior year. Powell says it’s necessary to include Black History when teaching students.

“I think [BHM] is a necessary

thing to have,” Powell said. “I just don’t think it should be on the shortest month of the year, I think that’s disrespectful. It is very necessary because we need to know the history of our black people and so that history doesn’t repeat it and we don’t have to go through it.”

Some students say that none of their teachers mention BHM.

“They’re just [participating in the BHM door decorating contest] which that’s okay but, I feel like they need to discuss it more,” Powell said.

Junior Xavier Taylor says he hasn’t done anything in particular in his classes related to BHM.

“I haven’t heard any announcements about it or anything, but they want us to buy a shirt ‘representing’ Black History Month,” Taylor said.

“There are school districts that already mandate the teaching of African American history or offer it as an elective, but the curriculum, which is supposed to delve much deeper into the Black experience than a standard U.S. history course, often doesn’t humanize the African American experience.”

“I wouldn’t be surprised if it was not talked about at all at some schools,” Miller said.

Miller doesn’t remember doing any Black History Month related projects.

“In school I could never remember ever having to do an activity/project related to BHM,” Miller said. “The reason I’m well aware of Black History Month is because of my family.”

English teacher Sara Yates says she only remembers talking about BHM in social studies class.

“[We talked briefly] when we ‘got to that chapter’ which I feel is terrible,” Yates said. “My own

black rights,” Taylor said. “Middle school is when we really started to learn about slavery, racism back then, and segregation. It’s just been the same thing repeating since then.”

Taylor says he thinks BHM isn’t long enough.

We have the shortest month out of the year and people

don’t even really recognize BHM the way we want them to,” Taylor said. “Businesses usually just try to profit off of us and people are just mad at us because we have a month dedicated to us.”

Senior Veronica Miller agrees that BHM isn’t talked about nearly enough.

“I wouldn’t be surprised if it was not talked about at all at some schools,” Miller said.

Miller doesn’t remember doing any Black History Month related projects.

“In school I could never remember ever having to do an activity/project related to BHM,” Miller said. “The reason I’m well aware of Black History Month is because of my family.”

English teacher Sara Yates says she only remembers talking about BHM in social studies class.

“[We talked briefly] when we ‘got to that chapter’ which I feel is terrible,” Yates said. “My own

children get most of their knowledge of black history from home as well. Anything related to Black History is an extra, out-of-school time, event. To my knowledge, the only thing I remember any of my three kids learning about is the MLK speech and his death.”

“Educators say it’s important that Black students learn about their history and that non-Black students understand the humanity of Blackness as well as the long history of systematic racism that extends to this day and affects their Black peers,” according to NBC.

“I think being honest, genuine and respectful when teaching about racism and black history is key,” Yates said. “Especially if it is not your history. So, for me, as a white person, I need to first understand the culture and learn about what I am teaching, just like with any subject. Then we can start focusing on what to teach. I believe everyone

knows all of the negative things within black history and what African Americans have gone

through, and we all can agree that it was horrible.”

Yates says she feels she has a duty to teach all the aspects of history.

“I think we have a duty to teach those things and touch base on those trials and tribulations. However, I think we should also focus on the positives. Focus on how this culture of oppressed people overcame the horrors they went through. Just like we do with other cultures and atrocities in American History,” Yates said.

“I definitely think we should have a

Black History Month, but I feel it should be incorporated into American History. Meaning, we should teach black history, in school, all year long. One month (and the shortest month) doesn’t do justice for all of the accomplishments,” Yates said.

Yowell says that we can’t move forward if we don’t learn about the past.

“It would be great if we could spend more time as Americans educating one another on history and not trying to water it down,” Yowell said. “We cannot move forward and learn from the errors of the past if we are not aware of them. At the same time, we should not dwell in dark times, and celebrate the perseverance of my ancestors. I believe if we have greater education of the plight of African Americans, then people would have greater empathy and respect and try harder to treat us all equally.”



Mr. Hardin // Art



Ms. Andrews // Intervention



Mr. Roberson // Health



Mr. Nail // Asst. Principal



Mr. Brown // Spanish

How-to-prom.com/local



Plan your prom arrangements with local businesses

By // HALEY SHOCK & SAMANTHA HAUB

With prom steadily approaching the time to prepare is now. With shopping for a stellar outfit, getting the outfit fitted to perfection, getting your nails and hair done, and finding the best place to have your pre-prom dinner it can be easy to get overwhelmed. Here's a guide to help you get your prom needs met, while also supporting your local businesses.

Mariposa Consignments

Are you looking for a dress on a budget? Or maybe looking to sell your old dress? Try Mariposa Fine Consignments!



- DRESSES \$249 & UNDER
- SHERRI HILL
ELLIE WILDE
ASHLEY LAUREN
- 15% OFF IF YOU LET THEM POST A PICTURE OF YOU & YOUR DRESS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

"The average prom dress nowadays is \$500; you can come here and get that \$500 dress that's been worn only once for half the price or less."
-Mariposa Owner, Michelle Wells

222 PEARL ST #102
NEW ALBANY, IN
(812) 725-8508
MARIPOSACONSIGNMENTS.COM

"They were super helpful and sweet, and they actually recommended the dress that I ended up buying so I'm super glad I went there."
Gabby Higdon //10




121 E Market St
New Albany, IN

(502) 640-0049

Visit
houseofkshop.com



"My experience there was amazing. the employees were so helpful and were great at making you feel your best and prettiest. They have a lot of options and had a pretty good system going for being a bit of a smaller store. They definitely helped me find the best dress I could have!"
Hannah Wells //12



House of K Boutique

This local boutique features new dresses from brands like Sherri Hill, Ellie Wilde, and Ashley Lauren. House of K Boutique has more dresses to choose from than you can count.



Give your prom dress a new life!

Get money for your next dress.

MARIPOSA FINE CONSIGNMENTS
TUESDAY-SATURDAY
10AM TO 6PM

Michelle Wells
812-725-8508

222 Pearl Street, Suite 102
In the WHITE HOUSE CENTRE
New Albany, IN. 47150



Why consign with us?

We have the TIME, STAFF, FITTING ROOMS & LARGE SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWING to SELL your dress!

** You get 50% of what it sell for when it sells. Dresses are returned to you if they don't sell. We take dresses December - March. Send us a Facebook message - include a photo of the dress, along with the size and brand. We'll let you know if we can sell it!

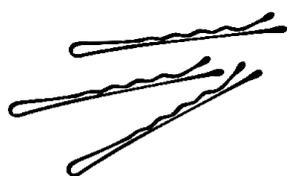
Marie Fulkerson Beauty Lounge

Booking separate appointments for hair and makeup can leave you rushing around on prom day. Marie Fulkerson Beauty Lounge allows you to do two things at once.



"The experience that you get is definitely the best in the area. She goes all out for prom by calling in extra help, getting a photographer and providing snacks for everyone. She calls this crazy day "Promageddon". Many girls book with her and you must book early if you want a spot! I like getting both my hair and makeup done so I can just sit back and have a stress free day which is definitely easy to do with Marie."
Lilly Scott //12

CHOOSE FROM:
HAIR, MAKEUP, OR
BOTH FOR YOUR
PROM DAY



1419 E SPRING ST
NEW ALBANY, IN 47150
MARIE@MARIEFULKERSONMAKEUP.COM
(812) 406-8658

Sew Fitting

For any and all of your fitting needs, visit Sew Fitting on Main St. for the perfect fit!

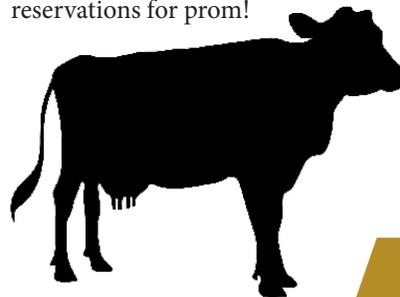


"Everyone who worked there was very welcoming and it was a nice, cozy environment."
Maddie Demotte //12

156 E MAIN ST,
NEW ALBANY, IN
(502) 548-8733
SEWFITTING.COM

Brooklyn and the Butcher

Do you smell that? It may be Brooklyn and the Butcher around the corner waiting for you to make reservations for prom!



HOURS

TUESDAY - THURSDAY: 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM
FRIDAY - SATURDAY: 5:00 PM - 10:00 PM
SUNDAY: 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

BRUNCH: EVERY SUNDAY 10 AM - 2 PM

148 E Market St
New Albany, IN 47150
(812) 590-2646

Reservations: brooklynandthebutcher.com

"The overall ambiance of the restaurants gives off a sophisticated yet modern vibe and the service is excellent. Their main focus is steak and they do a good job. It wasn't the best steak I have ever had but it was seasoned nicely and was cooked to my liking. For what it is the prices are not horrible and is definitely a good place for prom."
Emily Headley //12

**BROOKLYN
AND THE
BUTCHER**



Bella Roma

Plates of pasta and Italian cuisine might be the perfect dinner for your prom experience!



"I have been there a couple times and it is a very delicious Italian restaurant and they aren't too slow. They normally get your food out pretty fast, but sometimes depending on the food you get it can be a little pricey. It also isn't too fancy but it is a little fancy so I think it's a great place to go to for prom."
Kate Daniel //12

HOURS

TUESDAY - THURSDAY: 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM
FRIDAY - SATURDAY:
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM & 5:00 PM - 10:00 PM
SUNDAY: 1:00 PM - 8:00 PM

134 E MARKET ST
NEW ALBANY, IN 47150
(812) 725-9495



One day I wanna be...

Teens chase childhood dreams

BY//JACK MOUTARDIER

Many students grow up with a dream, for many they are of the past, but not all.

Growing up, every kid wants to be the next Michael Jordan, Tom Brady, Kevin Hart, Kanye West, etc. However, few will get even slightly close to reaching these impressive feats.

Many students reach this realization in high school. Due to the exploration of other careers, they decide they are better off going to college, Prosser or another path.

“As a Grant Line yellow jacket dominating the basket, I thought I was the next Shaq,” freshman Tyler McMillen said. “In the mind of my 8-year-old self, nobody could get close to reaching my skill level on the court for the rest of my life.”

McMillen has changed his plans based on other interests. As a freshman, McMillen has one of the top five highest GPAs in his grade.

“I worked very hard,” McMillen said. “I plan to continue this good work so that I can become a mechanical engineer when I’m older. My dad is a mechanical engineer and I’d love to follow in his footsteps and carry on the legacy.”

McMillen

still plays basketball as a member of the JV team, however, as opposed to his elementary self, he is open to other opportunities beyond sports.

“I will always love basketball and play my hardest on the court, having the crowd chant ‘Let’s go Tmac’ or ‘Good shot Mailman!’ will never get old,” McMillen said. “However, I want to have many options open for the rest of my life. I don’t want to be counting on a small possibility and rely on that.”

With such high peaks of achievements, many will find themselves looking to other careers. Sophomore Brayden Casewell loved sports, specifically baseball.

“I will always love baseball and basketball, but I want to have an abundance of choices when I come of age to work and exit my chapter in high school,” Casewell said.

While Casewell says he never wants to get too far away from sports, he does want to keep many options on his plate.

“When I get into college, I want to work towards becoming a financial advisor,” Casewell said. “I like to help people, but also be in control of something so valuable, like money, as it keeps me under control, but continues to keep the work in my hands.”

While many people have to change their dreams, not everyone does. Sophomore Luke Blair has always dreamed of becoming a big rapper. Under the name Future-Luke, he has been dropping song after song since May of last year.

“I love the rap game, people show me respect. Being that I’m

already on a stairway to the top as a sophomore, I know the success is only going up,” Blair said. “I love to make music, as it puts my mind at a median, it just feels right when I’m in the studio.”

Blair doesn’t plan to stop pursuing his dream; he would love to bring others along the journey.

“My mom always said to stay humble and think about others,” Blair said. “As a result of that, I joined 812 Nation. They are a famous rap group with seven members. I joined them to help them pursue their dreams as well as mine. Together we are unstoppable.”

Similar to Blair, many others are still pursuing their dreams, including fellow 812 Nation member, junior Gus Dickman. Dickman started getting into the rap game as a producer and cameraman for 812 Nation, but soon after started rapping himself.

“I love being behind the chair and letting other’s vocals shine, but be in control of how everything sounds together,” Dickman said. “Producing is like a virtual art, nobody has the same sound, everyone’s is unique. That paired with a cool video, and you have something nobody else in the world has.”

Along with producing, rapping and shooting videos, Dickman is a member of the soccer team. Dickman has been a member of the starting 11 for varsity since he was a freshman.

“Unlike many high school students who have to give up their dreams, I’m blessed to be able to continue to pursue this dream,” Dickman said. “Through music and soccer, I want to inspire chil-

Luke Blair: How he made it to where he is now

- From the start of making music, it starts with a good breakfast, that is why every morning I eat Wheaties cereal. My goal is to one day be on the front cover of the cereal box.
- Next, never take a day off and never give up.
- Take advice from people who want the best from you and not your ‘Yes Men’
- Be like a family member to every one of your supporters
- Have your own styles of rap, don’t copy others.
- Spend a lot of time in public and spread word of your music.
- Lastly, never stop, until you can’t, nobody is going to do it for you.



dren to do what I did.”

For Dickman this is only the beginning, whether it be rap or soccer, Dickman is committed to making it at all cost.

“I get up and I’m in the studio at 5 a.m. before school, after school I’m in the studio 3-6 p.m.,” Dickman said. “Following that, I’m on my way to practice. Then when I get home at 9, I’m working on music videos. I have a packed life so that one day my lady and kids can live carefree.”

Like Dickman and Blair, freshman Landon Gum is living a dream as well. Gum plays basketball and baseball, with dreams of one day playing in college.

“While I love basketball, I am for sure set on baseball,” Gum said. “I’d love to play for IU or Michigan.”

For Gum this school year has been a roller coaster, with a leg injury earlier this year, he was unable to do what he loved for

months.

“This school year has had its ups and downs,” Gum said. “It was hard to watch others play and me not be able to play. But, now I’m through that and won’t settle for anything less than greatness.”

The ways students go about reaching their goals vary, as in the example of Dickman it being in the studio or practice. While in the situation of McMillen its classes, grades, etc. This just goes to show the potential of any student who puts in the effort, with how many careers and opportunities there are in life.

Through every student, one thing painted on the wall is a future. Whether it be sports, music, finance, engineering, as a kid many think of the next week or day. With high school students, it can be months, years, decades, and beyond.

“Everything you do in life, do with intention,” Blair said.



Junior Gus Dickman

Hidden Hobbies

Students seek passions beyond school extra-curriculars

BY// OLIVIA HEAD

High school students have all kinds of hidden talents hiding in plain sight.

Some go to theatre or join a band, while others play a sport, but in addition to all the extra curriculars NAHS has to offer, some students take matters into their own hands and explore a creative outlet of their own.

Hobbies can help us grow as a person. All of us are unique, and this is the reason why our hobbies and interests are different. Once we find an activity we are passionate about, we can explore that activity more. When you get hooked, you will realize that your hobby has become an integral part of your life, according to Columbia College Calgary.

Senior Mikey Olvey has worked on cars with his dad outside of school for years.

"It's a good hobby to have," Olvey said. "It saves money when you work on your own car."

Olvey was on the basketball team and in middle school participated multiple sports, but the idea of building and repairing new and old cars has always stuck with him.

"I like doing the basic stuff like changing oil or getting whatever the car needs," Olvey said. "My dad works on cars and it's really interesting."

Though Olvey has turned to mechanics

as his interests, other students have discovered that the sky's the limit with whatever they could do.

Sophomore Oliver Trueblood is in the jazz band and started practicing guitar at a very young age.

"I got my first guitar when I was seven but then I didn't get totally serious about practicing until I was about nine," Trueblood said. "At that point I was practicing every day."

Hobbies are perfectly and wholly human, allowing you to destress while remaining mentally productive, according to Columbia College Calgary. Having hobbies promotes better health and may lower the risk of having high blood pressure. Enjoying a few hours of your hobby a week can also reduce the risk

of depression and dementia.

"I practice after school," Trueblood said. "Most people practice scales and I pretty much just play a song and see where that goes. My dad was self tough so he taught me, then I started playing on my own pretty much all the time."

Students spend hours each day learning new material that sometimes it gets overwhelming. Hobbies are important means of redirecting the mind away from the day's schoolwork and onto something that is hopefully more enjoyable, relieving the stress of the day, according to Valley Sun. This has an impact on the quality of life, school, study time and family relationships.

Senior Christopher Miller has focused his time and energy with his father into a completely new territory. He enjoys scuba diving.

ing.

"When you're underwater it feels weightless if you get the right buoyancy," Miller said. "It's interesting to feel no weight on you and everything feels comfortable. You can just float there and it's a new world."

Miller's interest peaked when his father, a welder, first took him out on the water.

"My dad did it when he was 13 or 14 and he started getting back into it about two years ago, so I wanted to join him and I did it," Miller said. "Sometimes me and my dad do it during winter but we mostly do it during summer because it's warmer weather. During summer we would do it almost every weekend."

Focusing time outside of school and doing something you love can re boost a person's confidence while exploring more creative and better interests. In addition to the physical and social benefits, most hobbies have an educational aspect, according to Valley Sun. Hobbies can create skills and a passion for something that provides the foundation for a future career.

"I enjoy it but not when my dad's working with students because then it's just me and him," Miller said. "It's a fun hobby to do."



Sophomore Oliver Trueblood got his first guitar when he was 7, but says he didn't get serious about playing until he was 9.



414 W. Daisy Lane
New Albany

3060 Gottbrath Parkway
Jeffersonville

What makes a good teacher?

Every teacher teaches, some make big impressions

BY // JOY ROBINSON

Sitting in a class with an adult for seven hours a day is more time than many students spend with their parents.

Culinary teacher Kiya Stewart says she adapts to her students by changing the way she teaches to being more spaced out to ensure they are learning.

"I want my students to leave my classroom saying that they learned something and also have a blast doing it," Stewart said. "If I can find a way to make learning fun and interesting, I think it will inspire people to become lifelong learners."

"The teacher has to effectively engage students and connect them to the lesson," according to Indiana's Teacher Effectiveness Rubric.

Senior Christian Bass says that if he was a teacher he would make the environment one you can learn in.

"A good teacher is one that makes learning enjoyable yet challenging, makes education a curiosity and opportunity," Bass said.

"If I were a teacher I would try to make class a lot more fun so the students would remain interested and be more willing to learn," sophomore Elijah Crowdus said.

Skills in communication, listening, and collaboration, adaptability, empathy, and patience are all qualities of a good teacher, according to Southern New Hampshire University.

"I would tell the kids stories

and help them see my point of view, and also so I can see theirs," sophomore Amelia Sekula said. "It's important for students to know that a school subject and a student's grade is a two-way street. If you want your grade to be good, work for it and want to do good, and learn."

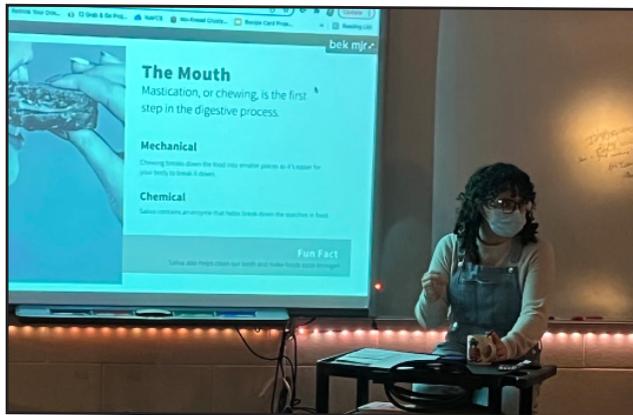
96.5 percent of school districts in Indiana are experiencing a teacher shortage, according to a survey done by Indiana State University.

"I think that genuinely caring about people is a huge part of being a good teacher," Stewart said. "Teaching is hard and people challenge you every day so you have to be prepared to love them even when they are hard to love."

Sekula says when a teacher actually teaches and cares about what they teach, it makes them a good teacher.

High school students many times are seen as kids while still being a teenager and on the gateway to adulthood, how a teacher runs their classroom will help students learn.

"Mutual respect is how I run my class. I treat you like a grown up who I very much respect until you give me a reason not to," Stewart said. "Teens are oftentimes treated like kids and many adults forget that it's a hard spot to be. You really aren't an adult yet but you also aren't a kid any-



Mrs. Kiya Stewart teaches her sixth period Nutrition and Wellness class about digestion.

more. I have found that treating people how I would want to be treated by my leaders works very well and helps me build better relationships with my students."

Teachers become teachers to be influential in a student's life, according to Western Governors University.

"When teachers show that they actually care for their students and not just trying to get their check makes me feel more comfortable with talking to them," Crowdus said.

Teachers have a lot of power within the classroom because they get to choose the way their room is run whereas students don't have that option.

"I feel like the biggest difference is that we get to choose what happens in class," Stewart said. "If I plan a boring lesson and realize it as I walk into my classroom, I can just change it.

I must admit that flexibility in your day is nice."

Teachers are with a student for 180 days out of the year so what they do with those days matter.

"The teachers that I've had that I've been connected with all have open conversations and are always there to talk and to help guide me. It wasn't just about the curriculum; they always help push and motivate the goals of me and others," Bass said.

What makes a good teacher is more of an opinion but what you do with the teacher is what matters.

"A teacher who challenges you are some of the best ones you'll get," Crowdus said. "If they challenge you then they show that they care for your future and are giving you experience to help you with future classes and career."



"Ms. Headrick because she's the nicest and I feel like she actually cares about us."
Kamryn Kitts, 11

"Mrs. Coffey because she goes above and beyond for all her students and gives them all an equal amount of opportunity to pass her class. She also works outside of school and during Covid she stayed with me after meets. She provided extra credit for the students that needed it."

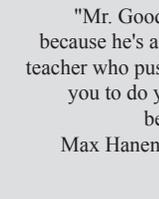
Olivia Randall, 10



A few classroom favorites



"Mrs. Stewart, she is very understanding and sweet and talks to you like a person."
Bella Lawson, 12



"Mr. Goodlett because he's a fun teacher who pushes you to do your best."
Max Hanen, 12



"Mrs. Sloan, she's really nice to talk with. One time I was reading a book that wasn't a part of the class and she helped me understand it. She was really nice and interactive with the class and she was younger and she gets along with the students."
Jasper Howard, 9



Inequities in activities

Students say after school activities, sports not treated the same

BY// CARLEE SMITH

Everyone knows when almost every basketball or football game is, but few students realize when other activities take place.

Every after school activity is different and unique in its own way, including the treatment it gets from students, staff, and the community.

Senior Taylor Treat plays girls basketball and soccer.

“Sports-wise I don’t think [all sports] get treated the same,” Treat said. “I think there are certain teams in our high school that get treated better and get more money than the other teams.”

At most schools about 54 percent of the student body is female yet they only get an average of 36 percent of the sports operating dollars, according to Next College Student Athlete.

“I personally think that all of our athletic money goes to the boys basketball team,” Treat said. “They get free meals and free backpacks. I know from personal experience that the senior backpacks the girls get, the whole boys team gets them and gets to keep them.”

The treatment does not only differ between female and male, but also sport to sport.

“The girls and boys soccer teams don’t get a lot of money from athletics either,” Treat said. “The boys soccer team raises most of their money from fundraisers and stuff like that.”

Playing on two teams gives Treat a unique perspective.

“For the soccer team, I’m not sure if we had to pay for our own food,” Treat said. “But on the basketball team we do. It could be a coaching thing. It’s about the same though.”

Senior Jayden Thompson is on the boys basketball team.

“I definitely think all after school activities don’t get treated the same,” Thompson said. “I think especially guys basketball is treated differently than other sports. A lot more fans go and it’s just a different amount of popularity.”

Athletic Director B.J. McAlister said in a 2021 interview the only funding the school gets from the district for athletics is for transportation.

“All the money for sports comes from ticket sales, concessions and any type of fundraising that is done,” Mr. McAlister said. “That’s the only type of funding we get and it’s all self-generated.”

Part of the perceived unfairness can be attributed to the amount of attention activities get from students and community members, not just funding.

“I don’t think a lot of people talk about theatre as much as they should,” Thompson said. “They put in a lot of work too so they deserve attention.”

Sophomore Gage Stice started doing theatre this year during *Beauty and the Beast*.

“Theatre isn’t as respected as sports,” Stice said. “When we went to state for football everyone was like ‘oh my god oh my god we’re so good at football’ but whenever we got into [a national] festival all we got was ‘oh congrats.’”

NAHS’s *Beauty and the Beast* was one of eight shows across the nation to go to the International Thespian Festival this summer.

“We don’t really get equal funding either,” Stice said. “We have to fundraise to be able to go on our trip, but the basketball teams get stuff like jerseys and shoes for free.”

Stice played boys soccer for three years.

“The soccer team got a whole field and they get an alumni night where everyone comes and gives money to the team,” Stice said. “Theatre doesn’t really get anything like that, all we got was Zaxby’s.”

Junior Wesley Omerso plays drums in the band.

“While there has been an uptick in the amount of funding band, theatre, choir, and orchestra all get, it’s still nowhere near the amount that is given to the sports teams,” Omerso said. “We are often kicked to the curb so that someone else can do what they want.”

Some say support varies within performing arts.

“There is a big difference between the treatment of band and other more popular performing arts, like step team,” Omerso said. “For example, at the basketball games we have to lose time where we could be playing during halftime because the step team comes out.”

Omerso also talked about the difference in what rules and regulations each activity has.

“We aren’t allowed to say the word tequila in one of the songs we play, called ‘Tequila,’” Omerso said. “However, the step team can dance to whatever songs they want. No hate to the step team, we all like the step team, we just want the same treatment for band.”

Omerso also joined theatre last year during *Grease*.

“I know for a fact theatre gets treated better than band,” Omerso said. “It’s gotten better now that we have Mr. Scroggins; we are starting to see more popularity in the band but it’s



Sophomore Gage Stice performs in NAHS Theatre Arts production of *Beauty and the Beast* this fall.

a lot different even compared to theatre.”

Sophomore Jonah Young is in ROTC.

“After school activities don’t get equal treatment at all,” Young said. “Basketball and football get a lot more coverage. But I only really hear about swimming from teachers or swimmers, other things definitely aren’t talked about enough.”

New Albany’s NJROTC program was recognized as the Most Outstanding Unit in area three this year.

“ROTC gets treated much worse [than other activities]; the school doesn’t even know what ROTC really is,” Young said. “What competition are we going to on Saturday in Cincinnati? You don’t even know because the school doesn’t care.”

Some students have theories about some groups are treated better than others.

“I think it’s sexist,” Treat said. “People think all New Albany cares about is sports, particularly boys football and basketball. It’s not fair, at all.”

“I just think it’s society,” Thompson said. “A lot of people watch basketball - students, parents, and alumni. There aren’t as many people who go to theatre or concerts. I don’t think it’s fair, everything should be the same.”

“A lot of popular kids play football and basketball,” Stice said. “More lesser known kids, ‘the weirdos’, do theatre. It’s not fair but it’s just how high school’s always been, the social caste system.”

“I think the reason is that the band doesn’t pull in money,” said Omerso. “I don’t know the numbers but I think band costs more than football but we get less money. If they moved the budget around maybe band, choir and orchestra could get the things they desperately need. That would be more fair.”

“I think sometimes it’s just the circumstance,” Young said. “But on the other hand it’s just the fact that some activities are more mainstream than others. It’s fair that more people like certain activities, but it’s not fair that the school gives some things more attention.”

“The biggest problem is it’s sexist and people think all New Albany cares about is sports.”

Taylor Treat // 12

18+ ONLY

As our seniors begin their first year of adulthood, what exactly are their newfound freedoms?

By // ABIGAIL KNOOP

HAPPY 4TH

You know those tents that are pitched around the Fourth of July that sell fireworks? Legally, they're only allowed to sell to you if you're 18 or over. So now you can buy all the bottle rockets you want! This also applies to spray paint. That's not to say every vendor follows these laws, as we all know, but legally it's 18 and up!

LATE NIGHT CRUISIN'

Believe it or not, you haven't been able to drive to Taco Bell at 3 am since you've been 16. According to the Indiana law, after you have driven for 180 days, and until you become 18 years of age, you may not drive during the following hours: Saturday and Sunday, between 1 a.m. and 5 a.m., Monday through Friday, before 5 a.m., and Sunday through Thursday, after 11 p.m.

18 ON THE (INTERNATIONAL) ROCKS

Have you ever thought to yourself, "Man, I really wish I could drink in Europe." Well, now you have that opportunity! While US teenagers are prohibited from drinking alcohol before turning 21, the drinking age in most European countries is 18.

TATTOOS, PIERCINGS, LIP FILLERS, OH MY!

All of those tattoo ideas and Kylie Jenner lip kits can now be put into action - without mommy's permission! You can of course get any of these before 18 with permission but if your parents don't approve, once you're 18 you can go on your own.

(LEGALLY) GET HITCHED

Once you're 18, you can officially tie the knot without your parent's legal blessing. You can elope, have a wedding, or just go to the courthouse. Even if it may or may not be for FAFSA purposes. Then, if the marriage doesn't work out, you can legally get a divorce!



SENIOR AHMON GIVENS

"I got a matching tattoo with my brother. It's on my chest. It's my initials with an 'X', then the Roman Numerals 2 of 2."

WHAT ARE
YOUR
18-YEAR-OLD
CLASSMATES
UP TO?



SENIOR CONNOR HARRIS

"I am definitely going to vote. I think every citizen should. It allows me to have a bigger role in society."



SENIOR JENNY BELARMA

"I got the Covid-19 vaccine because vaccines are there to help you. We already have a shortage of nurses so it's better to help them out while also helping yourself and others."



SENIOR COLE NICOLAS

"I joined the Army National Guard. I'm on a college first contract, so I can't be deployed for four years and they are paying for all of my college. I do drills one weekend a month and it's a lot of extra money."



SENIOR DANA WRIGHT

"I get a lottery ticket every year for Christmas from my Grandma, but this year I legally cashed it in!"

Not so exciting things to look forward to!

1



Being tried as an adult.

Now that you're allowed to do all these cool things, you're legally allowed to go to big kid jail for them, too!

2



The Selective Service

You can enlist in the military on your own once you turn 18, but if you're a male you have to sign up for the draft once you turn 18- or get big boy fines!

Big decisions

Students ponder life after high school

BY // JONA CARPER

High school students have been asked what they want to do after high school since elementary school and a lot more after seemingly. Some are finally making their decisions.

Students primarily are either going to college, into the military, or are going straight into the workforce to get a jump start on their careers.

66.2 percent of high school graduates went to college right after high school, according to *Admissionly*.

New recruits in the military are usually 18-24 year olds, which includes students who just graduated high school, according to *defense.org*.

Furthering their education

Students planning to attend college include seniors Deuce Burnside and Megan Nichols.

“My top colleges have always been IU Bloomington, University of Louisville, Indiana State, Ball State, and University of Southern Indiana,” Burnside said.

Burnside says he was accepted to IU Bloomington, Indiana State and Ball State, but plans on attending IU Bloomington in the fall, majoring in sports management.

“[I see myself sticking with this major] because I just love being around sports and sports have always been a part of me,” Burnside said. “I just love being around it,

and it’s fun to be a part of it.”

Burnside says he does not see himself going into a trade or into the military because he says feels he is not meant for it. He says he plans to stay in college for four years.

“[I don’t plan on taking a gap year because] I don’t want to lose any of my scholarships or any of the money I’ve earned,” Burnside said.

Burnside says he believes that you don’t need to go to college to be successful, because you can still move ahead in life without it.

As Burnside attends college to go into sports management, Nichols plans to attend college for auto technology.

“My dream college has always been the University of Northwestern Ohio (UNOH),” Nichols said.

Nichols says she applied to Lincoln Tech and Ivy Tech, and has decided she is going to Lincoln Tech.

“I do see myself sticking with this [major] because cars are fun for me,” Nichols said. “I love working on them even though sometimes they make me mad.”

Nichols says that she has never considered going into the military, and that she plans to take a gap year to take a break from school and to hopefully learn some more things about cars.



Senior Deuce Burnside plans to major sports management at IU Bloomington this fall.

“College gets you further in life because it gives you more education in whatever field you want to go into,” Nichols said. “You can do a lot more in the world and you can work your way up in your job and your career.”

Serving our country

Students who plan on going into the military include junior Hunter Springer and senior Chelsie Glover.

Springer says he has been interested in the military since middle school, and plans on going into the Navy.

“I was interested in the Army but the career I want to pursue would benefit me more in the Navy,” Springer said.

Springer says while in the military, he will gain welding training and certifications for his after military career.

“I would get health care benefits [in the Navy], which is the main benefit, besides the training,” Springer said.

Glover says she has been interested in the military since sophomore year of high school, and plans on going into the Navy and attending the US Naval Academy.

“I had interests in every branch because my ultimate goal was to serve my country no matter what,” Glover said. “I chose the Navy, though, because I aspire to be like my

great grandparents. They are WWII Navy veterans.”

Glover says being a part of the NAHS NJROTC unit has also played a part in her decision.

“I think I will gain unmatched experiences like traveling, as well as skills including leadership, self-sufficiency, and the ability to perform in high-stress situations,” Glover said.

Glover says that through the Naval Academy, she will attain benefits such as free college, free medical care, well deserved pay, and a job upon graduation.

“The Naval Academy will provide college courses,” Glover said. “I will graduate with a

bachelor’s degree, and I will commission as a Naval officer after graduating from the Academy.”

As being one of the leaders of the NJROTC unit, Glover says her skills such as leadership, integrity, and loyalty will be beneficial when in the military.

“My original plan was to go straight into college before I decided to go into the military,” Glover said.

If she does not go into the Naval Academy, Glover says she will attend a university and study music/performance education.



Senior Chelsie Glover plans to attend the U.S. Naval Academy after graduation.

Out with the old

Disney princess movies evolve from love stories to inspirational adventure tales

BY: ABBY LEWIS

From the movies where anything is possible when you simply wish upon a star, to strong women embarking on thrilling adventures, the definition of “Princess” has drastically changed in the eyes of Disney.

“From *Snow White* to *Frozen 2*. 1937 to 2019. Obviously, animation and graphics and recording quality are so much better now,” English teacher and father of three daughters Nathan McGarvey said. “I think more than those, though, is that the world has moved on in the way everything is viewed.”

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (1937) tells the story of a young girl who finds refuge with a group of seven jewel-miners after her evil step-mother tries to eliminate her. As Disney’s first animated princess movie, many differences can be spotted between it and the movies of today.

“Companies have to be careful with everything from stereotyping to evolving language standards to what is now age appropriate,” McGarvey said. “Humor and attire are different. Attitude has evolved so much from *Snow White* to *Moana*.”

According to a poll of 53 NAHS students, 50.2 percent of participants believe that *Snow White* and *the Seven Dwarfs* should be updated if any original Disney movies were to be updated.

“I think remaking movies is going to be a no-win situation for some fans no matter how good the remake,” McGarvey said. “A big part of me wants new stories. Don’t re-tell me things I know and try to make them flashier or more up-to-date. Re-making *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* has been all over the news lately. It can be a mess. Come up with new stories for now.”

Besides the language and humor, many princess movies as of recent have characters as a main component of the story itself.

“The most recent [princess movies] have been a step in the right direction,” junior Noelle Quillo said. “The stories are now much more character driven instead of being love stories.”

All in all, Disney has been attempting to make their movies more diverse. In the same poll, 20.4 percent of participants reported that *Princess and the Frog* was the most progressive princess movie. 18.5 percent said that *Brave* was the most progressive.

“While *Brave* is a close second, I think *Princess and the Frog* takes the honors [as the most progressive movie] here,” McGarvey said. “Tiana isn’t even a princess when the movie starts, but she shows that she is worthy of being one. Diverse cast, first

Black princess, non-traditional setting in America, the princess literally and figuratively changing. It is so different from the other Disney princess movies in so many ways.”

Both *Princess and the Frog* and *Brave* actually explored different cultures of their settings throughout the course of their movies, while other princess movies would just be set there. *Princess and the Frog* has several clear references to Louisiana and *Brave* alludes to several iconic Scottish myths and legends.

“There is no love interest [in *Brave*],” Quillo said. “[The movie is] almost entirely female centric and it’s a mother daughter story opposed to a love story.”

With broad themes of heroism, Disney has tried to incorporate themes of feminism through more adventurous stories, the *I Am A Princess* short film series on Disney Chanel, and the newer princesses not needing a prince.

“Not giving Elsa a prince and not having a love interest in *Raya and the Last Dragon* made the movies much more character focused,” Quillo said.

Regardless of how one feels about Disney princess movies at a young age, McGarvey and Quillo agree that people should not completely disregard them.

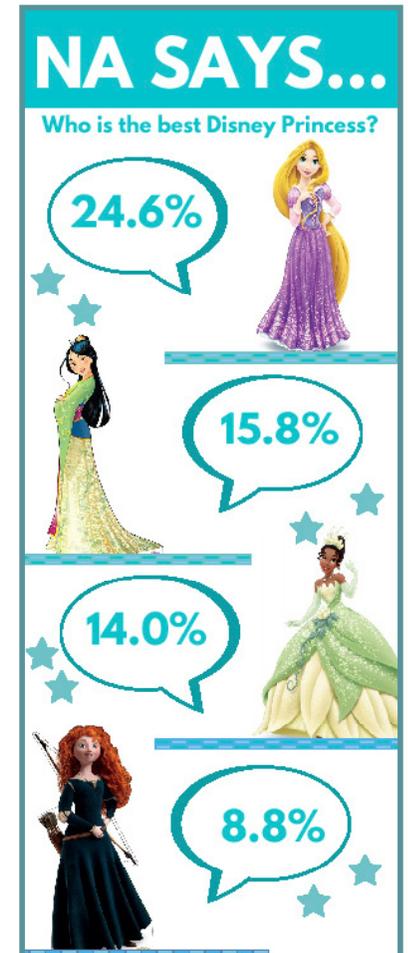
“I watched the Disney princess movies growing up, but as a boy I wanted adventure stories,” McGarvey said. “The princess movies never really took hold until I had daughters. Then, I gained a whole new appreciation for the messages they had. More than the stories, the music in these movies is

just phenomenal, and it seems to get better with every movie.”

Find more coverage on this topic on the Blotter website, nahsblotter.com.



Junior Noelle Quillo poses in Walt Disney World dressed in an outfit inspired by *Snow White*.



“My favorite Disney princess is Princess Tiana because she’s a baddie and that’s all.”

Izzy Fenwick // 10



Personal Favs

Over the past 85 years the Walt Disney Company has presented 13 official princesses and several other characters who are considered to be princesses by many fans including Vanelopie von Schweets, Megara, and Princess Kida. As of now the Walt Disney Company has set two main requirements for film characters to meet in order to join the famous club; a princess must either be born royalty or commit an act of heroism where she puts somebody or something else above herself. Many fans believe that characters like Vanelopie and Princess Kida both are heroic and should be considered princesses.



Pov: the students that get it, get it

From playlists to podcasts, Spotify is a large part of students' lives

BY // ALLY LANDGRAF



As junior Leigha Trusty walks down the school hallway, she puts on her headphones and plays her favorite 24-hour playlist on Spotify. For many students, listening to music is a large part of their day-to-day routine.

"I have used Spotify on and off for a few years but have been paying for premium for around a year now," Trusty said.

According to Spotify newsroom, Spotify was launched in 2008, and is now considered the world's most popular audio streaming subscription service with 406 million users, including 108 million subscribers, across 184 markets.

"I use Spotify because after a bit of using it, the app starts to know your taste in music and even makes playlists that you may like," Trusty said. "I also get to create playlists myself that I find is much easier than on other streaming apps."

Spotify has a unique algorithm that tailors to its users that is unlike any of its other

competitors.

"I used to use Apple Music and even Amazon Music, but Spotify has a very nice and simplistic design," Trusty said. "Plus, I can follow my friends and listen to any playlists they've made."

The feature that allows users to make playlists on the platform is a large part of why Spotify is so popular, and is just another way to express yourself creatively. Another student that uses the music platform daily, and routinely makes playlists is junior Sarah Chapman.

"My playlists are usually inspired by the way I'm feeling at the moment, so I add specific songs and then I'll find an aesthetic

playlist cover on Pinterest," Chapman said.

Spotify has many features for connecting users together, such as blends and collaborative playlists. Blends are playlists that show how your music taste matches up

with whichever friend you invite to create it with. For a collaborative playlist, anyone with the link can add to it. Spotify Wrapped is also a regular trending event, that shows all of your statistics from that year.

"I love the Spotify Wrapped feature, it lets me see what I've been listening to the entire year," Chapman said.

Beyond playlists, Spotify is also majorly used for podcasts.

"I like listening to horror podcasts like 'Haunted Places', I geek out and listen to a podcast called 'Twenty Thousand Hertz', or when I need a laugh I listen to the 'Chuckle Sandwich' podcast which is made by some youtubers that I watch," Trusty said.

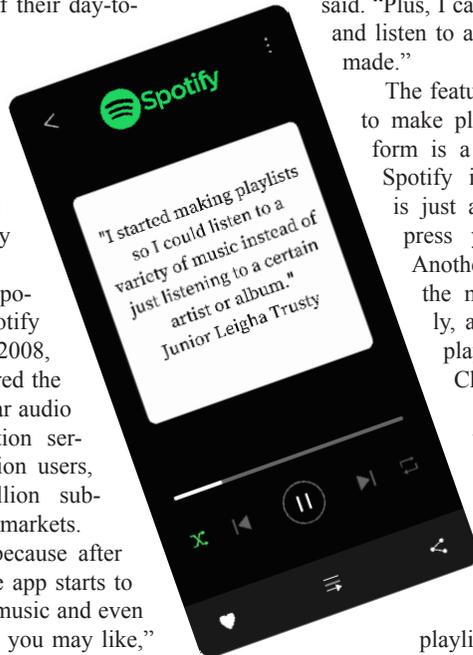
In January of 2022, Spotify announced an addition of content warnings and advisories to any podcast episode that includes any information or discussion about COVID-19. The music platform states, according to Spotify newsroom, that they want to combat misinformation. It is the first of its kind by any major podcast platform.

"I believe that if a podcast deals with some touchy subjects that it should be explicitly stated," Trusty said. "Whether that be in the description or the actual episode itself."

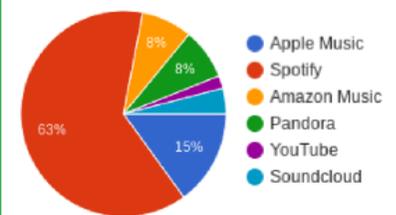
From playlists, podcasts, and even the

algorithm of Spotify itself, the music platform has proved why it is the most popular and top rated music and audio app in the United States. The app specifically tailors to its users, making an interactive and easy to learn experience for listeners.

"The layout and algorithm really suit me, and I think Spotify is the best for me," Chapman said.



Which Music App does NAHS listen to the most?



Young, Lind, Endres & Kraft Real Estate Closing & Title Services

• 126 West Spring Street • New Albany •
(812) 945-2555

The language of the future

Schools should teach computer science starting at younger ages

BY// EMILY GILKES

From a young age children are taught to read and write, yet very few are taught the language of the future: coding.

Most of my friends have known what they want to do since they were little, I could never relate and felt as though I didn't have a vision. Until I took my first computer science class freshman year, I had no idea of the possibilities for me in computing.

Many schools do not offer computer science classes, a field in which is growing exponentially, with many career options.

The benefits of taking computer science classes start at a young age. If I had been taught the very basics of computing from the elementary level, I would be launched ahead, and given the opportunity to develop a more analytical mindset.

The benefits of computer science classes are evident in all other aspects of a student's education. The principles learned in computer classes are helpful in math, world language and problem solving.

There is evidence that shows students who study computer science are 17 percent more likely to attend

college, according to Code.org. These benefits are also prevalent in the younger ages, in elementary school, teachers who introduced computing into their classroom saw an increase in test scores in math, reading, writing, and science.



With this field of study being ever-changing and growing, it is extremely important to keep up with the recent advancements in computing. By only offering computing classes in the older ages, this already places the students at a disadvantage

to their counterparts who have had access to computing since a

younger age.

This disproportion starts at the foundational levels, with low income and rural schools being less likely to offer computer science classes, whether it be due to lack of interest, or lack of resources, the students who need to be placed ahead the most.

The correlation of students receiving free or reduced lunch, and the percent of high schools teaching computer science classes is one that reinforces the disproportionate amount of students in low income schools that are able to take a computer science course.

With the benefits of teaching computer science classes being greater than just being able to code, it is important to teach coding at schools with high percentages of minority students, which typically are the low income, low-funded schools. Computer classes should be as funded in these schools as your core classes.

In school districts with 0-25 percent free reduced lunch, 62 percent teach computing, while in schools with 75-100 percent of students on free and reduced lunch, only 33 percent teach computer science,

according to a Code.org study.

By increasing the numbers of schools, specifically low income, teaching computer science, there will be greater diversity in the field.

Being a biracial woman in computing, it was daunting to not see someone who looked like me in the field I was in. Initially, I felt out of place.

The computer science field is made up of 9 percent of black workers, and 8 percent Hispanic workers. This is disproportionately less compared to that of other jobs, with 11 percent, and 17 percent respectively, according to Pew Research Center.

It is extremely important for students to see themselves represented in a field, and to feel as though they belong. By starting in the elementary schools, it provides the foundations, and even a passion to continue computing, and become the next generations

Computer science is an industry that is rapidly growing, and is a field that needs all backgrounds in order to be the most effective, and innovative group. So, the younger students learn the basics of coding, the better.

Students who study computer science are **17%** more likely to attend college, according to Code.org.

The computer science field is made up of **9%** black workers, and **8%** hispanic workers, according to Pew Research Center

Blotter Staff

Editor-in-Chief

Abby Moutardier

Web Editor

Samantha Haub

Social Media Editor

Haley Shock

Staff

Alysia Bailey

Abby Lewis

Jona Carper

Jack Moutardier

Lila Endres

Joy Robinson

Kassidy Fox

Abby Sekula

Emily Gilkes

Carlee Smith

Olivia Head

Jamie Sullivan

Katelyn Higgins

Clara Weedman

Abbey Knoop

James Zipp

Ally Landgraf

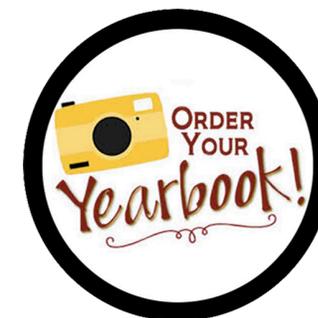
Adviser

Christina Faulkner

Policy

It is the policy of the New Albany Floyd County School Board of Education that publications are established forums for student expression and as the voice in the free and honest discussion of issues and ideas. For the purpose of this policy, "publications" shall include newspapers, yearbooks, magazines, and/or electronic and/or online media. Each medium is an instructional device for the teaching of writing, communication, design, leadership, and other journalistic skills should provide full opportunity for students to inquire, question, and exchange ideas.

Student Media adhering to the professional standards outlined in the policy are not reviewed by school administration prior to distribution or broadcast or withheld from distribution or broadcast. Therefore, school corporation assumes no liability for the content of these student publications or media.



Visit jostensyearbooks.com

Bringing gym technology to the next level

Athletic department plans to add new scoreboards to main gym

By// LILA ENDRES

This year the NAHS athletic department plans to add new TV scoreboards to the gymnasium by May 2022.

The plan is to add two 7 x 15 feet video boards one on each wall and a four panel center board, according to Athletic Director B.J. McAlister. The two side TV boards will show videos, game stats, announcements, and advertisements.

This same scoreboard technology is used in the KFC Yum Center and Lucas Oil Stadium.

"No [other high schools] in the state of Indiana has what we are trying to do as far as the scoreboard and video boards," McAlister said.

One of the big questions asked by the City of New Albany was how will this benefit students?

"It would benefit the new sport marketing and entertainment class, class night, graduation, and all of our athletes," McAlister said. "The biggest impact will be outside of boys basketball because we will be able to acknowledge all different parts of our school."

The City of New Albany donated money along with an anonymous donor who gave \$50,000 for the scoreboards. At the October 18 school board meeting the school board discussed whether NAHS was approved to fundraise for the remaining cost of the scoreboards.

That is just what Mr. McAlister did.

"I went out and pitched the idea to a bunch of sponsors," McAlister said.

The businesses he contacted had an opportunity to be an anchor partner. This is where businesses pay for their logo or advertisement to be shown on the new scoreboards. Enough businesses agreed to sponsor.

"It's all already paid for," McAlister said.

With the plan and funds in place, the New Albany gym is ready to be updated with the new scoreboard technology and take the 4,000-seat gym to the next level.

"Next year we are hoping to turn the lights out, have a light show and show hype videos," McAlister said.



New scoreboards will be installed in the main gym in May because of funds donated from the City of New Albany, a \$50,000 anonymous donation and additional sponsorships acquired by the Athletic Department.



2736 Charlestown Rd.

Monday - Friday 6:30 a.m - 6 p.m.
Saturday 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Hair, Nails & More

3435 Knobs Valley Dr.
Floyds Knobs

Earth's Art

209 E. Market
*Bring ad in
for 10% off

**Inner Circle
Barbershop**

2542 Charlestown Rd.

2820 Grant Line Rd #10

Also located on Main Street in
New Albany & Jeffersonville
(812) 981-2594



LifeSpring
Health Systems

Bulldogs in action

BY // KASSIDY FOX

Winter Sports Recap

Boys Basketball

- Senior Tucker Biven scored 1000 career points.
- The team got a bye for the first round of Sectionals. They play the winner of Floyd Central / Jennings County Co. March 4.

Bulldolls

- The team made it to finals and placed 14th in their Large Varsity Pom performance at Nationals.
- In the Large Varsity Hip Hop category the team was only 1.8 points away from making it to the finals.

Girls Basketball

- Senior Taylor Treat committed to Roosevelt to play basketball.
- Senior Maleea Roland received HHC All-Conference.
- Senior Taylor Treat and Junior Journey Howard received HHC honorable mention.

Boys Swlm

- Kaleb Krueer placed first in the 50 and 100 free at Sectionals prelims.
- The team placed 4th out of 18 teams at Sectionals.
- Diver Colin Krueer placed 1st at Sectionals and advanced to State.
- Sam Jagers beat his own school record in the 500 free.

Girls Swlm

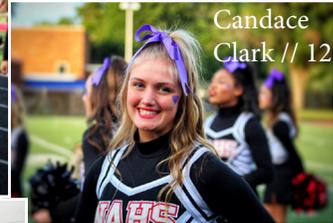
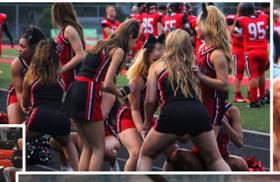
- The team placed 4th at Sectionals.
- Lauren Lopp placed 3rd in the 50 free and 2nd in the 100 free.
- Diver Stella Klaus placed 1st at Sectionals, 5th at the Regional and moved on to State placing 22nd.

Wrestling

- **Sectionals:** Logan Schroeder (2nd), Tom Nguyen (3rd), Amare Dejesus (4th), Ian Hubbard (4th)
- **Regionals:** Jayden Grant (3rd), Paul King (2nd)
- **State:** Sierra Zamorano (3rd), Brittany Jackson (3rd)

Cheer

- At nationals in Orlando, Florida they placed 18th over all in the small Varsity Coed category.
- Had a raw score of 76.5 and an event score of 68.25



Candace Clark // 12



Maddox Schmetz



Lila Waters // 9



Kaylee DeMuth // 11



Anasha Crowdus // 12



Colin Krueer // 10



Taylor Treat // 12
Anasha Crowdus // 12



Colin Krueer // 10