
The Panther Press

A Publication of Authors Anonymous, Chesapeake High School, Chesapeake, Ohio

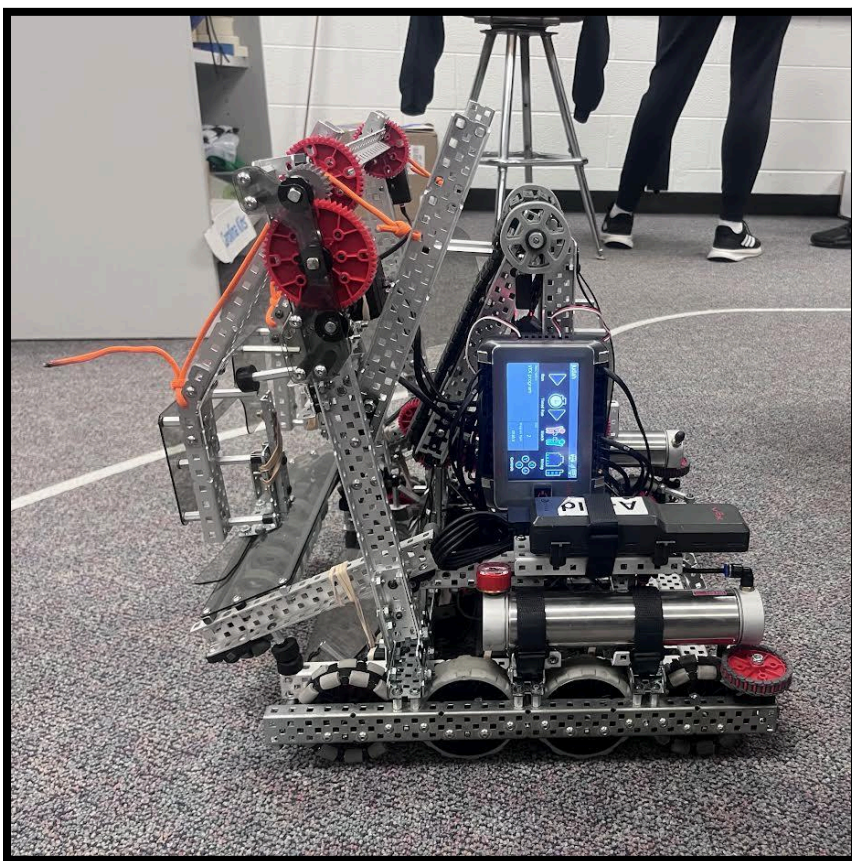
Vol.4 Issue 6

December 13, 2024

Upcoming Robotics Meet

Sean O'Neal, 10th grade

The robotics team will have their first meet at Riverbots December 13 and 14. The B team (Isaiah Saul, Judah Silk, Nathan Silk, and Zack Stoll) are very optimistic and excited about the upcoming VEX Robotics season. They will be selling merchandise in the engineering room (room 112), with all proceeds going to making their robots the best they can be and to help them travel to competitions. Also, be on the lookout for their spaghetti dinner sometime in early 2025!



'Tis the Season

Siena Bozick, 9th grade

With the holidays coming up, everyone is scrambling to find the perfect gift for family and friends. However, finding a cost-effective present can be a tricky task. Don't worry, though, for there is a solution. Christmas gifts are meant to be meaningful and show love and care for whoever is receiving them. The truth is, you don't have to spend over ten dollars to give the perfect gift. Sometimes, you don't even have to spend money at all.

Moreover, do it yourself gifts, or DIY gifts for short, are an easy way to show that you care for whoever you are giving a gift to. This can be as simple as making their favorite cookie, or even making a card that says merry christmas! One viral craft that is both pretty and



meaningful is the cotton pad flower. To make this you color the edge of the cotton pad with marker, soak it in water for a few seconds, and then layer it around the edge of a cup until it becomes a flower.

Once it dries it can be taken out of the cup and becomes a beautiful custom flower.

Another somewhat DIY gift is a lego set of something the recipient is interested in, or even a self-built lego masterpiece. These can be made by anyone and still takes quite a bit of time and effort to do.

If you are planning to go and buy something but don't want to spend a lot of money, then don't fret, because based on the interests of your friend or family member you can get a cheap yet very nice gift. A handmade bookmark and a new book is always a good way to go for your average book worm. If they have a kindle, don't worry, because stickers and a clear case can be a nice gift to level up the style and durability of their kindle. Now, if you're looking for a gift for an athlete, maybe a candle or fuzzy socks could work to help them unwind after a long practice. If you want a gift for a foodie, some seasonal chocolates or a hot cocoa bomb would be perfect to satisfy their sweet tooth. And no list would be complete without the gift for the person who doesn't like any gift you get them. For them you could do a Grinch plush in order to remind yourself that there are bigger christmas haters. Or if you want to throw less shade, you could get them their favorite candy and a drink as an easy way to say that you know them and pay attention.

All in all, Christmas truly isn't about how much money you spend, but how much thought you put into the present. Christmas is a time for everyone to get together and spread kindness and love, which shouldn't depend upon items, but rather something sentimental.

Upcoming Events



- December 16- Christmas Socks Day
- December 17 - Pajama Day and Blitz Day
- December 18- Ugly Sweater Day and Christmas Lipdub
- December 19- Christmas Character Day
- December 20 - Christmas Hat Day, Early Dismissal, End of 2nd Quarter, Christmas Break Begins!
- January 6- Return to School

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Basketball Season off to Strong Start

Cadence Soper, 10th grade



Basketball season is starting off strong with great boys and girls teams. This year we have 22

players on the boys team with 11 of them being on the varsity team. Our varsity players will put in a lot of play time for us with Drew Plantz, Ethan Kerns, Jacob Skeens, Philip Thacker, KK Perkins, Jon Cooper Barker, Karson Frecka and Maddox Kazee leading the way. We have many talented Sophomores and Freshmen who are working hard and contributing to our program as they continue to develop their skills. We have high expectations of having another successful season after we won the OVC championship last year. Our conference provides the team with a tough game each night as every team has talent, skill, and athleticism that has unique problems with different coaching styles and techniques. Coach Ater loves coaching because he enjoys seeing the young men develop as people and players on the court. He loves being able to represent Chesapeake while also trying to accomplish something for our school/community to be proud of. This season we want to play harder than everybody we go up against and be a consistent team with our focus and defensive effort. If we can do those things, we believe we should be a contender for the OVC again and also to make it to the OHSAA tournament.

The girls are currently at 4-0 and are hoping to continue this winning streak. This year we have 16 players on the girls team with 10 of them on the Varsity team. That team includes Erin Hicks, Kate Ball, Abbey Isaacs, Clairynn Romans, Olivia Harris, Ciera Nichols, Abby Mitchell, Sara Dillon, Chloe Parrot, and Kj Collins. They have a lot of talent, skill and are hoping to end with a good record. The players are looking forward to seeing growth and them getting better as a player and as a team together. Some of Mr. Ball's favorite things about coaching are getting to teach the game of basketball to the young ladies who have passion and love for the game and also building good bonds with the players. The team hopes to accomplish a good season in the tournament and to win a sectional championship. Another accomplishment we are awaiting to see happen is Kate Ball reaching 1,000 points, she is really close to that with only 53 more points needed to reach her goal! We all hope both of the teams have a fantastic season. They've certainly had a strong start.

Swifties Find "Closure" Following The Final Eras Tour Show

McKayla Burriss, 11th grade



On December 8th, Taylor Swift's *The Eras Tour* completed its last show. The 21 month long tour ended in Vancouver, British Columbia, after a total gross of 2 billion dollars in ticket sales, with 10.1 million in attendance. The Eras Tour is now ranked as the highest-grossing concert tour of all time. The tour generated over 9 billion dollars for the global economy, after visiting 21 countries across five continents. The concerts contributed to local businesses for cities across the world, producing an impressive inflow of money for these areas. The Eras Tour also was a positive environment for all women, especially young girls. Friendship and self-expression were the thriving marks for this flourishing concert, constantly bringing women together in an expressive domain. Following the tour, Taylor Swift gave 197 million dollars worth of bonuses to her team of employees. The ending of this record breaking tour has sparked sorrow for fans as watching her shows has been an exciting event for most throughout these last two years. Around the world, Taylor has donated to charities and food banks after performing. Since "The Very First Night" of The Eras Tour, Taylor has been "Untouchable." The "Superstar" made her tour a "Wonderland" for many young women. If you happened to go to The Eras Tour, consider yourself "The Lucky One." While all the Swifties were asking, "Is It Over Now?" Taylor Swift always has something in store for her supporters.

Christmas Band Concert December 15th @ 2pm

Join us in the CHS gymnasium this Sunday afternoon to hear beautiful Christmas and Classic pieces performed by the Chesapeake bands under the direction of Mr. Chaffins.

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Spears' Students Learn the Value of Conducting Research Before Spending Money

Kayla Irwin, 12th grade and Hannah Lanz, Advisor



It's no secret that groceries and other household items are more expensive now than they've ever been. There are so many different versions and brands of everyday items out there that it can be difficult to know what to buy to use our money most

responsibly. Ms. Spears' Chemistry students recently took on the task of conducting an experiment to see which local store brands of aluminum foil compare most closely to the top-rated name brand, Reynolds Wrap, which currently holds 8 of the top 14 spots. Students Erin Wood and Erin Lowe shared the findings they recorded in their Chemistry notebooks with us, and the conclusions they came to were quite interesting.

The Experiment

The students tested four brands of aluminum foil: Great Value Heavy Duty, Kroger Home Sense, Great Value Regular, and Kroger Regular. They evaluated each brand of foil on a combination of factors, including:

- **Thickness:** How well did the foil hold up to stress, like wrapping heavy items or resisting tears?
- **Length and Width:** Did the advertised measurements match the actual usable size?
- **Cost per Square Foot:** Was the foil an economical choice based on its price and size?
- **Overall Performance:** Did the foil meet or exceed expectations for common household tasks?

The Results

After careful testing, the brands were ranked from best to worst as follows:

1. **Great Value Heavy Duty**
2. **Kroger Home Sense**
3. **Great Value Regular**
4. **Kroger Regular**

The top performer, Great Value Heavy Duty, impressed the students with its combination of thickness,

square-footage, and value for money. Wood and Lowe shared that it was deemed the best value because it met the needs of both quality and price being the thickest and the second cheapest. .

Why Research Matters

The experiment highlighted an important lesson: Not all products are created equal, and the most expensive option isn't always the best, and the least expensive option isn't always going to measure up to the task at hand. Ms. Spears emphasized to her class that consumers need to know why they are purchasing something in order to make the wisest decision.

For example, if you're cooking a holiday feast and need foil to withstand heat and heavy use, spending a little extra on heavy-duty foil is worth it. But for lighter tasks, like covering leftovers, a regular foil might suffice.

Takeaways for Savvy Consumers

1. **Know Your Needs:** Identify the purpose of the product before purchasing.
2. **Compare Brands:** Don't assume the most popular or expensive brand is the best fit.
3. **Do the Math:** Calculate the cost per unit (like square feet) to ensure you're getting good value.
4. **Test for Yourself:** Whenever possible, try out different options to see what works best for you.

The students' experiment serves as a fun and practical reminder that a little research can go a long way. The next time you're in the grocery store, take a moment to think about what you're buying and why. You might just save yourself some money and frustration. And who knows? You might even discover a new favorite brand—just like these students did with Great Value Heavy Duty foil.

Scavenger Hunt

Cornelius the panther (a beanie baby) is hidden somewhere on the CHS grounds. It will always be hidden in a public, neutral space. It will never be inside a classroom or in a private office.

This week's clue: Charles would be proud.

The first person to find Cornelius and return him to Mrs. Lanz will get a prize.



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10 Christmas Trivia Questions: Test Your Knowledge!

As Christmas approaches, it's time to deck the halls, wrap the gifts, and test your holiday smarts! Whether you're a Christmas trivia champion or just in it for fun, these 10 questions will challenge your knowledge of holiday traditions, movies, and history. Gather your friends or family and see who's the ultimate Christmas expert. Answers are at the end—no peeking until you're done!

1. In the movie *Home Alone*, where is the McCallister family going on vacation when they leave Kevin behind?
2. What traditional Christmas decoration is made from a parasitic plant?
3. Which popular Christmas song was originally written for Thanksgiving?
4. What are you supposed to do when you find yourself under mistletoe?
5. In *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, what is the name of the Grinch's dog?
6. Which country is credited with starting the Christmas tree tradition?
7. What year was Christmas declared a federal holiday in the United States?
8. In Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, what is the first name of Scrooge?
9. Which biblical figures are said to have brought gifts to baby Jesus, and what were the gifts?
10. What does the word "Noël" mean in Latin?

Answers

1. **Paris** – The McCallister family heads to Paris for the holidays, leaving Kevin to defend the house.
2. **Mistletoe** – This festive greenery is known for its kissing tradition and parasitic nature.
3. **"Jingle Bells"** – Originally titled "One Horse Open Sleigh," this tune was written for Thanksgiving in 1857.
4. **Kiss** – Tradition says you're supposed to kiss someone when standing under mistletoe.
5. **Max** – The Grinch's loyal dog is named Max, and he plays a big role in the holiday heist.
6. **Germany** – The Christmas tree tradition began in Germany in the 16th century.
7. **1870** – Christmas was declared a federal holiday in the United States by President Ulysses S. Grant.
8. **Ebenezer** – Scrooge's full name is Ebenezer Scrooge.
9. **The Three Wise Men** – They brought gold, frankincense, and myrrh to baby Jesus.
10. **Birth** – "Noël" comes from the Latin word *natalis*, meaning birth.

How many did you get right? Whether you aced it or learned something new, share the fun with your friends and family this Christmas season. Happy holidays from all of us at The Panther Press!

Classic Christmas Recipe: Puppy Chow

Ingredients:

- 1 stick (8 tablespoons) salted butter
- 1/2 cup creamy peanut butter
- 1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 5 cups Rice Chex Cereal
- 1 cup mini pretzel sticks
- 2 cups powdered sugar
- 2 cups holiday M&Ms

Directions:

1. In a bowl, melt together the butter, peanut butter, and chocolate in the microwave, stirring every 30 seconds until melted and smooth.
2. Combine the Chex and pretzels in a large bowl. Pour the chocolate peanut butter mix overtop and stir until evenly coated. Pour the cereal and pretzels into a large Ziploc bag. Add the powdered sugar. Seal the bag and shake until the cereal is well-coated. Let dry, then add the M&Ms.
3. Store the puppy chow in the Ziplock bag or in an airtight container for up to two weeks.

