



# The Patriot Times

*Brought to you by the students of Charlton Heston Academy*

## The National Honor Society (NHS)

Who is the NHS  
National Honor Society is the oldest and most prestigious student recognition program in the United States. The NHS was established to recognize the outstanding high school students in 1921. They are grateful to recognize students who have demonstrated excellence in leadership, character, service, and especially scholarships. These characteristics have been associated with the membership since its beginning.  
Today, NHS has an estimated 50 million members from all 50 states of the U.S. (the District of Columbia), Puerto Rico, many U.S. territories, and Canada. Membership both recognizes and challenges members to

push forward. To prepare them for career readiness, to give them what they deserve after years of training in school alone then to join and go farther than their own classmates. Members work to their full extent.  
NHS History  
The National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) established the NHS in 1921. Many local and regional honor societies existed before NHS. However, NHS was the first founded nationwide organization to be founded. NHS started as a chapter at Fifth Avenue High School in Pittsburgh. By 1930 growing to over 1,000 chapters nationwide with good principles that looked out for the star- out of this world- students.

NHS quickly developed into one of the country's leading educational groups. Along the way NHS has had four main purposes: to create enthusiasm for scholarships, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character in students.  
NHS at Charlton Heston Academy (CHA)  
2015 brings its first group of NHS members at CHA. Eight students were recognized on Tuesday November 17, 2015 for the first ever NHS induction ceremony for CHA. The ceremony formally inducts the students into NHS and celebrates all of their successes in academics and community service. Ms. Heather Bozzo is the advisor of



NHS and the NHS board consists of Mr. Canamore, Mr. Lindley, Mr. Walker, Mrs. Mozdzen, and Ms. Johnson. Along with the board members, Mr. Patterson and Mr. Church, family members of the inductees joined at the ceremony to celebrate their accomplishments.  
The eight students inducted into NHS this year include: Julia Badalamenti, Kaylee Brace, Alexis Chapman, Karlee Green, Amanda Hart, Jordan

Ludwig, Morgan Ludwig and Morgan Simmons. Their first community service project will be working with the Richfield Public Township Library labeling Lexile Levels on the children's and young adult books. They will complete four other community service projects by the end of the school year.  
Students who are involved in NHS in high school receive scholarship awards and have an excellent addition to their col-

lege applications. Many colleges see NHS as a prestigious group that sets you apart from other applicants. "Younger students can prepare themselves to meet the criteria for NHS by getting good grades and exerting their best efforts in academics. They can also become involved in community service at the school and in the community," says Ms. Bozzo.

## Spotlight Patriot of the Month



*By: Kaylyn Davies*  
The spotlight Patriot of the Month of November is, Dustin Romanky. He was chosen to be the student of the month by his teacher, Mr. Greaves and the other middle school staff members. A few things about Dustin is his favorite subject in school is science. He wants to be a paleontologists (he loves dinosaurs). Dustin's goal to achieve by the end of the school year is to Dustin said, "[My goal to achieve by the end of the school year is to] get all good grades". His favorite part about CHA is "You get to do lots of activities and more time to do things." Dustin's favorite color is blue, and his favorite food is fish. While not at school, Dustin loves playing video games. His favorite movie is Jurassic World and his favorite books are the Goosebumps series. His favorite animal is a Polar Bear and his BIGGEST role model is his father. Dustin said, "He is the biggest part of my life."

## There's a New Sheriff in Town



*By: Dakota Larive*  
Ed Stern is a man of many talents and he came to Charlton Heston Academy to visit Mrs. Larm's 7th grade Newspaper class. Recently appointed as Sheriff of Roscommon County, Ed is now in charge of the entire police department. He looks over the other officers and the jail. Ed became sheriff when the person before him retired and promoted him to the position he is in now. "I always take pride in my work, and try to do my absolute best. He [previous Sheriff] saw that quality in me," said Sheriff Stern. Ed started his career when he was 20 years old attending the academy at Kirtland Community College. After graduation, Ed worked marine patrol managing the lakes in the area. After that summer, he worked as a police officer on the road until 2008 when he became undersheriff. While he was on the road he was assigned as a K9 han-

dlar. This is when he started working with his dog Yeff, a German Shepherd. Ed still has Yeff working with him today.  
Some of the training Sheriff Stern does when working with Yeff is a bite drill. They usually wear a bite sleeve, which is a hard, plastic barrel covered in material and a bite suit. "Dogs do not bite to harm you, they bite thinking it is a game," said Sheriff Stern. This is the same concept that the trainers use with Yeff. Some essential tools that the sheriff has on his belt include a gun, pepper spray, bullets, radio, occasionally a tazer and a remote that controls the passenger door to his car. When the passenger door opens without Stern at the door, Yeff knows Stern needs help. "If the back door (passenger's side) pops open, he knows through training over and over again, that something bad is happening and he needs to

find me," said Stern. Yeff is big, tall and needs a lot of his own room. "If I ever need help and Yeff cannot see me, he uses his strong sense of smell." The sheriff believes the hardest part of his job is to arrest someone. Stern said, "...it doesn't just affect the person being arrested. It affects family, friends, life, children and lots of other factors." Stern was explaining how it is challenging to arrest people in the town you live in. Sheriff Stern loves his job and is excited to serve this community.  
Outside of being a Sheriff of Roscommon County, Ed has a wife of 20 years and two children that attend Roscommon Public Schools. Ed has coached little league for 11 years, youth football for four years and he recently coached high school football this fall. Ed is also currently teaching in the police academy at KCC teaching physical fitness.

## Annual Christmas Dinner

*By: Corrin Damsen*  
Do you believe that Christmas is just around the corner? Well it is, and so is the Christmas dinner hosted by John Sutter. John Sutter has been hosting this dinner for three years now. The annual Christmas day dinner takes place at St. Helen VFW on December 25 from 1:00 to 4:00pm. Volunteers are always welcome, and the dinner will be free to all residence. You can

sign up to volunteer at the We Care Shop in St. Helen. John Sutter has been putting this on for families to come together, and to get connected with the community during the holidays.  
Most families stay home on Christmas day and eat together but not John Sutter, he would rather be with the community then at home alone on the cold evening. John Sutter has played an important role for

many families on Christmas. Many families have learned to love and be thankful for the Christmas dinner that John provides. "Last year we went through seven turkeys and seven hams," said John. The Christmas dinner is to have a good time and be together as a community. John Sutter loves to put this dinner on because he likes to see everyone together.

## Trunk-or-Treat

*By: Randy Franks*  
On October 31, 2015 John Sutter put together another great Halloween Trunk-or-Treat. This event makes every Halloween fun and exciting for everyone that participate, even people

that don't live here St. Helen. The rain made it hard for people to want to show up, but that didn't stop them! John Sutter said "There was 400-500 kids at the trunk or treat" and he also said that this event went

well. There were two special events like the chili cook-off and the costume contest. The winner of the chili cook off was John Sutter. Congratulations! Look for next year's Trunk-or-Treat around Halloween 2016.





By: Becca Patnode  
Mrs. Stephanie Sinischo started working at Charlton Heston Academy (CHA) in

October 2012. She has two kids, Taylor Sinischo who is in 10th grade and Emily Sinischo in 6th grade. "I came to this school to be closer to my girls and I enjoy working with other kids," said Mrs. Sinischo. Mrs. Sinischo had previously worked at Rite Aid Pharmacy for 8 years before her daughters were born. She also worked as security at an auto shop. Mrs.

Sinischo lived in Texas when she was about 6 years old until about 10 years old. She have been married to her husband, Jason, for 16 years. Mrs. Sinischo attended Kirtland Community College, but never got the chance to finish, "but I enjoyed it," said Mrs. Sinischo. Her job at CHA is to "do a little bit of everything." Her birthday is December 29th.



By: Darrick Rayment  
Andrew Guzdial, Mr. G, is the Physical Education teacher at Charlton Heston Acad-

emy. Mr. G does have a nickname it is 'G'. 'G' is 26 years old. His favorite color is green because it's the color of the trees. Mr. G said, "I love sports because of the competition." Mr. G went to college at Spring Arbor University. He studied Physical Education & Biology. He also ran Cross Country and Track. Mr. G's favorite sport is basketball because

of the competitiveness of the sport. Ever since 'G' was a kid, he wanted to be a Train Conductor but he wanted to teach physical education because of his high school teachers. One thing that drew Mr. G to become a physical education teacher is the idea that scientist have studied that being active in school helps kids focus and helps them learn more.

## Kaleena Graham



By: MaKayla Graham  
Kaleena Graham is a freshman high

school student at Charlton Heston Academy. Her favorite subject is English. Her favorite memory at CHA is eating Harry Potter Jelly Beans in Ms. Johnson's class to earn points for their 'house' during Harry Potter. She is learning Ecology in Mr. C's science class. Kaleena is excited for next year in school is to be in a

new grade. Her favorite food is chicken pot pie. For fun, she enjoys hanging out with her friends or playing on her cellphone. Her favorite book is Flush by Carl Hiaasen. Kaleena's favorite song is "Locked Away" - by R. City ft. Adam Levine. Kaleena loves to play volleyball.

## Kevin Dubois



By: Sofia Dubois  
Kevin is ten years old in fourth grade at Charlton Heston Acad-

emy and here is some insight about his everyday routine, dislikes, likes, and some of his traits. Kevin is very active and his favorite sport is basketball. Some of his hobbies include, drawing, playing sports, and math. His favorite subject is math and in class he is learning prime and composite numbers. He said he is excited for harder math for

next year. Another fact about Kevin is that his favorite school lunch is pizza. One of Kevin's favorite books is Wonder by R. J. Palacio. Kevin Dubois' favorite memory at Charlton Heston Academy, is going to Avalanche Bay with his peers. Kevin hopes there will be basketball for his age group soon, and is excited for the new expansions to the school.

## Choir Sings with Honor

By: Dakotha Larive  
November 11th is Veterans Day and during that time the school choir at Charlton Heston Academy joined with the staff at the Community Center in St. Helen, Michigan to honor the Veteran's Day Ceremony. 16 high school students practiced for nearly a month to prepare for their performance. In the audience were veterans, family members and staff. They enjoyed listening to the choir sing, "The

Star Spangled Banner", "God Bless the U.S.A" and last but not least, "Armed Forces Medley". "Armed Forces Medley" is a crowd favorite for some of the elder veteran's because it represents different branches of the military. A 94 year old woman, Lucile, stood up and tears filled her eyes as she listened to "her song" being played as part of the "Armed Forces Medley". That's only one of the most memorable moments. Alannis

Bussa said, "The best part about it was when I went around and shook people's hands. Some of that was emotional". Alyssa Wilbur and Breanna Vega said, "The speech that the hospice staff gave was really eye opening when it came to realizing how much the family and service members gave to be in the military. It gave a different perspective on how much they had to lose in order to win." When the



three songs were over a "marine stood up and did a salute for a standing ovation" exclaimed Joshua Keene. Alyssa said that this

experience was "very touching". This touching time became even more real when a man accepted a pin in honor for his deceased

wife. At that time, it began to be an emotional time.

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How to Make a 3D Present

BY: Austin Sign 7th grade

1 You need  
• Scissors  
• graph paper  
• tape  
• colored Pencil (Red)(Blue)

2 Make 8 DOWN, over 3 UP

3 (Now 4 DOWN) 3 (x8) \$2 over

4 AND NOW...

5 Cut out sides

6 tape it

7 Now it should be

8 Use that graph paper that you used

9 Cut out, Fold, AND tape on!

(Follow graph lines to make straight)

(then color)

AND COUNT 12 AND color Red

3-D

AND COUNT 12 AND color Red

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The Mitten Tree at Hen House

Christmas’ True Origin: The Path of Christmas through Time

By: Haley Jarosz

Have you ever heard the story The Mitten Tree by Candace Christansen and Elaine Greenstein? In the story, The Mitten Tree, an old woman named Sarah notices that a young boy was outside waiting for the bus with no mittens on. So, she generously hung a pair of mittens on a tree in a location she was sure he would get them. She notices other children who needed mittens, and knit them a pair, and hung them on the tree as well. Sarah arrived at the tree one day to find someone had re-

turned the favor with a basket of yarn so she can continue knitting mittens for kids that need them.

If you haven’t yet read this book YOU MUST!

The Hen House has a Christmas tradition known as the mitten tree which started in honor of the story The Mitten Tree. The Hen House puts the tree up every year on December 16th, for anyone in need to come and get a pair of mittens for free. You can donate mittens by going to the Hen House. You can even donate multiple pairs, or balls of yarn.

You can get a pair of mittens off the tree any time (during open hours). The mittens come in multiple colors and styles to choose from. If you get hungry from searching for just the right pair of mittens you don’t have to go far, you don’t even have to leave the building just have a seat and eat at the Hen House.

There is also a mitten tree set up at Charlton Heston Academy, you can also donate mittens and yarn to the CHA office.

By: Gavin Estep and Carisa Ryan

Christmas Has Changed

Christmas, celebrated worldwide has been altered from its true origin. Celebrated first on 336 A.D., Christmas has had 1,679 years to develop into a totally new holiday. It went from celebrating Jesus Christ's birthday to celebrating a man in a large red and white suit named St. Nicholas (Santa Clause) that comes in your house at night eating cookies and giving presents to good children every Dec. 25th. Christmas only changed very slightly until World War II.

Nicholas to Santa Claus

Santa Claus (St. Nicholas) started on the Greek Mediterranean. He was not the red-cheeked, white-bearded, plump, or jolly old man we see today in our pictures, movies, and imagination.

Born A.D. 247 St. Nicholas became the bishop of Myra, a small Roman town in Turkey. He was neither fat nor jolly but a defender of the church during “The Great Persecution,” when Bibles (God’s word) were torched and priest forced to renounce Christianity or face execution. Nicholas spent 6 years in prison till Christianity came to prominence in Myra once again. Nicholas was celebrated long after his death on Dec. 25th on an unknown

year. Through his heroic life he earned the name of a saint.

Nicholas was at the top of the saints because he was the patron of so many groups. From sailors to entire nations.

St. Nicholas was known as the bringer of gifts for hundreds of years. He was also the toast of the celebration on Dec. 6th (his death day). He when alive also made sure of children saying their prayers and practicing good behavior. This was part of his transition from Nicholas to Santa Claus.

Later saints lost their fame and baby Jesus was born into this holiday. Though baby Jesus took over Nicholas stayed with his holiday that had been moved to Dec. 25th (Christmas). Baby Jesus didn’t frighten the children as Nicholas had so baby Jesus had a sidekick, St. Nicholas. Nicholas was commonly known as Ashy Nicholas, Furry Nicholas, etc. This figure was commonly known as Krampus though.

Later, people refused to give up St. Nicholas as part of their holiday bringing Nicholas with them to the thirteen colonies of the U.S. soon to come. They called him Sinterklaas. In the thirteen colonies the holiday has changed again. It became an alcohol fueled celebration and they forgot about Sinterklaas and the gift bringers were gone. Then, in the early

1800’s, a couple of poets and writers wanted Christmas to be a family holiday. They brought St. Nicholas back into the holiday as a man who soared over rooftops in a flying wagon smoking a pipe (smoking was thought to be healthy then) with a bag slung over his shoulder full of toys (for the good children) and switches (for the bad children).

In 1821 a poem was introduced called “The Children’s Friend”. This was shaping our modern Santa Claus. The poem left much room for imagination. This Santa was also very different from our modern Santa, he wore different clothing (in both size and color) and was very slim. Our modern Santa came in the late 1800’s. He was created by a cartoonist named Thomas Nast. Then Santa moved all across Europe replacing the horrifying gift bringers with himself creating a happier childhood for many. Later, after World War II American military troops spread the word of Santa Claus. Spreading this belief all over the land that was once whole now torn apart calmed the people and allowed them to rebuild their countries to make them whole once again. Christmas has changed, and so has our world with it.



Movie Review: Dr. Seuss’ How the Grinch Stole Christmas



By: Natasha Meir

The outstanding story by Dr. Seuss, How the Grinch Stole Christmas is about the Grinch (Jim Carrey) that lives on a mountain above Whoville with his unlucky dog Max. He was made fun of for being different, he had more facial hair than others and also, he’s green. But the mayor (Jeffery Tambor) and the

Grinch didn't get along very well. After the mayor had embarrassed him he had stormed up to the mountains and nobody saw or heard from him in many years. Except one day, this little girl, Cindy Lou Who, (Taylor Momson) had heard about the Grinch and she had wanted to see who or what he was. So, she went to the mountain and invited him down for the Whoville Christmas Celebration. He had replied yes in a joyful way and attended. But Cindy Lou Who had sort of had faith that he wasn’t going to do something bad mainly because she had faith and accepted him. But after he ruined it, he went back up the mountain and these kids had followed and

bugged him and made him infuriated. Then on Christmas Eve when all the village was sleeping, he stole all the gifts and went to the mountain and was going to throw them off but then he had a change of heart because it had grew three sizes. The town of Whoville was bummed that someone had stolen every last inch of ‘Christmas’. The citizens of Whoville didn’t let that stop their celebration. They sang in rejoice together as they realized family and friends were all that really mattered. When the Grinch saw this from the mountain, he returned all the gifts and the village had a wonderful Christmas with him, because he was accepted.

Best Holiday Presents

By: Jordan Daldine and Zak Spicer

Every year, new types of toys hit the market and children of all ages are marking pages in catalogues picking out their favorites. Starting at a young age, children make wish lists for Christmas, letting Santa and their family know exactly what they wish for. This year the popular toys seem to be focused around electronics and Star Wars theme.

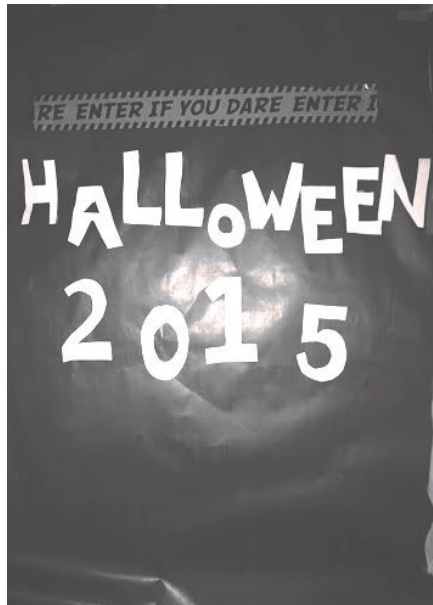
PS4 and the Xbox 1 is a big hit for Christmas for this year. Some games for the PS4 and Xbox 1 in-

clude, Assassin’s Creed Syndicate and Call of Duty Black Ops 3. Minecraft Story Mode is also a new game that is available for smartphones and tablets. Star Wars Battlefront is the latest, most popular game. Drones of any type are a cool toy to get as well. Drones allow video and pictures to be captured from the air.

There are also many different applications they can be used for. The new Star Wars Legos are big hits from the new Star Wars movie, “Star Wars Episode 7: The

Force Awakens”. Lego friends are a good gift for girls ages 7 to 10. Beats headphones are always good for listening to music. Star Wars Bladebuilders Master Lightsaber is popular for younger boys.

For young girls and boys there is electrical vehicles, such as four wheelers, cars, and bikes. Barbies are a young girl’s dreams that’s continued. A digital or Polaroid camera is another option, to capture all of your best holiday photos.



Middle School Dance Night

On October 29th, the middle school students had their first dance of the 2015-2016 school year. The theme was Halloween and students were allowed to wear their Halloween costumes. In order to enter the dance, stu-

dents were asked to bring a non-perishable food item to donate to Project Hope in Houghton Lake. Students decorated the gym to fit the Halloween theme. Community members and parents donated blow up

figures to help decorate. The dance was DJ’d by Scott Marshall, who played a fantastic mix of Halloween theme songs and top hits. There was lots of dancing and smiling faces all night.



**\*\* Lessons Learned \*\***

**Ms. Maxwell’s**

By: Vera Crawford  
Ms. Maxwell teaches kindergarten at Charlton Heston Academy. When the kids are learning they will be sounding out letters to put letters together to make words. On Thursday November 5, they were learning the letter T. The kids have it written out like a dotted T and when they’re drawing over it the kids whisper a T sound. After that they learn how to write a line in between a zig-zag line then the kids rip out the work sheet and put it in the back pouch. Next page there is another T but this time they trace over it with their eraser. Then they fold the paper

over to do a ‘T’ without looking and “using their smart brains” as Ms. Maxwell says. Afterwards, they put their stuff away. Then they have groups at all of the tables. Blue group is where you take paper from the middle of the table and color all of the things that are supposed to be green. Oh and right green on the dotted line. Then, the students read to self and read to someone. At the orange table there's a sheet where there was a picture of a turkey where it says ‘urkey’ and you have to find out what letter turns the word ‘urkey’ into the word turkey. If you go outside the

classroom you’ll see Mrs. Casey helping the kindergarteners with their words. For example, she has a stack of flip cards with words on them. When she flips to a card they will sound the word out together and afterwards they’ll say the word. When it comes to being outside the kids like to play monster, shadow puppets, show off by sliding and doing gymnastics, and safely jump off of stuff. They love to play on the playground. Mrs. Maxwell is very playful with the kids. She also likes to help them get on the swings and shows them how to swing.

**STEM**

By: Pearl Galbraith  
In Mr. Greaves’ 6th grade STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) class is learning about bridges and the structure. In November, they were working on bridge building. There are two steps to their project. The first step was to build a bridge on the computers using West Point Bridge Designer 2015. You can download it on any computer. The next

step was to build a toothpick bridge. The materials are toothpicks and Elmer's glue. They are only allowed to use about 750 toothpicks in the project. It must be 8 to 12 inches long. In his classroom, Mr. Greaves STEM class he uses a system called the CHA Values System to manage classroom behavior. There are the five values of Charlton Heston Academy. There is Grit, Love, Excellence, Community,

and Teamwork. Every week a value is chosen. The word is written on the board and for every word, there are four tallies. Each time a tally is written, they lose a letter. If the class keeps all their letters they get to watch an educational video at the end of the week! Other projects that the STEM class has done this quarter include marshmallow and spaghetti tower, paper clip chain, paper boat and the egg drop.

**Spotlight Artist of November**



By: Kendra Eversole  
This month’s Spotlight artist of the month is Brayden Ott. He is a student from kindergarten at Charlton Heston Academy. Ms. Ekdorn draws a letter and the letter she draws determines the picture that each student is supposed to draw. Ms. The letter P was chosen. Brayden drew a pelican, he added some nests to his drawing. Brayden told me that his favorite part of the whole project was coloring it. He really enjoyed this project.

**Bobcat Field: Houghton Lake Halloween**

By: Katelin Travelbee  
On Halloween, at Bobcat Field in Houghton Lake, the Kiwanis Club and Lions Club of Houghton Lake have a big party at the field by the middle school. All ages are welcome to attend. The Houghton Lake Lions club and Kiwanis Club have the High School band go around the field and play their instruments, they also have multiple games, like money field, ring toss, soccer kick, fish pond, basketball hoops, pop bottle game, and fish for

prizes. Each participant wins a prize. The Kiwanis club and the lions club also have donuts, hot chocolate, coffee, and cider. This year, over 3,500 children and adults attended. This year, there was a haunted tunnel that had people in scary costumes that scare people when they go in the tunnel. At the end, a bag of candy was waiting. The event is organized by the Houghton Lake Kiwanis Club and the Houghton Lake Lions Club. The Lions Club Server Ac-

tivity Report said, “We held our 67th annual Halloween party this year. Attendance was down due to the rainy weather, but we did not have snow this year. The children attending enjoyed playing the games set up around the football field and the High School band played. Local fire departments provided fire truck rides.” It takes place every year on October 31. The gates open at 6:30pm and close at 8:00pm.

**8th Grade Plaster Masks**

By: Kendra Eversole  
The 8th grade made an interesting surprise. In art, they each made detailed, plastered masks. The assignment was started on November 1st, and was finished on November 9th. The preparation was easy, but putting the plaster on was difficult for many of the students. The students each had to put plaster on their faces. The 8th grade would get plaster and cut strips. Each of the pairs, or groups, of the

8th graders would have a cup of water at the table. The students had to put Vaseline on their faces so that the plaster would not stick to the face too bad. The water activates the plaster to become all sticky, so that it would stick together to form the mask. After a generous amount of plaster is put on the face, the person with the plaster on them has to wait 15-20 minutes to dry. After the mask was dried, it is taken off

and colored with a variety of Tempera paints. Once covered, the mask may be decorated. After the mask is dried, a protective coat is put on the mask. This is the final layer of paint, or paste. Once completed, the mask may have a string attached, so it stays on the person’s head, however, the string is not mandatory. If the string is chosen to be put on, the mask is complete.



**CHA Veterans**

Charlton Heston Academy has Veterans of their own. Sarah Vineyard, Linda Janetski, Austin Weiler and Nikki Cortes are CHA’s veterans. Austin Weiler is the Middle School Social Studied Teacher. He is currently serving the Michigan Army National Guard since September of 2012. Weiler is 11C Indirect Infantryman. Weiler says his job descriptions consists of “making things disappear.” Linda Janetski is the 5/6 split teacher. She served in the Army in 2003 as 31C Radio Operator Maintainer. She served from July 2003 to October 2004 after being discharged due to injury. Sarah Vineyard is a substitute teacher at CHA. She served in the United States Air Force beginning in 1996 in Civil Engineering as an Environmental Controls Craftsman – 3E473. Vineyard attained the rank of Staff Sergeant during her service. Vineyard said she “managed, evaluated and executed pest management techniques, associated hazardous materials, and environmental compli-

ance with applicable laws and directives.” Vineyard deployed to Saudi Arabia in 1998, in support of Operation Southern Watch. Vineyard also deployed to Qatar in 2003, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. During deployments, she performed her duties of environment control tasks and also operated heavy equipment such as dump trucks, front-end loaders, tractor-trailers and Humvees. Vineyard had the opportunities of being stationed in Arizona, Louisiana, Guam and Germany. Nikki Cortes works with the Special Education staff as a one-on-one paraprofessional. She enlisted in the United States Navy in 1999 during the Kosovo War. Cortes enlisted as Steel Worker. Her home port, Court Hueneme, was in Oxford, California. Cortes’ job within the Navy was a Seabee. A Seabee is a member of the United States Naval Construction Forces. The term Seabee comes from “CB” signifying Construction Battalion. Their job is to build structures. Cortes said, “Our motto explains our job title, We Build, We Fight.”

Cortes deployed to Spain as soon as she enlisted in ’99. Her Battalion was already in Spain at the time of enlistment. During her Spain deployment, half of her Battalion was in Latvia building villages and housing for other branches of the military that were stationed there. In 2000, Cortes had a stateside deployment in Fallon, Nevada. She was deployed with her Battalion to Spain when the events of 9/11 happened in the United States. At that point, all work at the base in Spain ceased, and their new job was strictly 12 hour shifts of watch. 12 hours on, 12 hours off is what their ‘new’ job consisted of. Cortes was enlisted for one tour, ending her military service in 2002. CHA is lucky to have such a wide range of service members working in the school. These men and women have dedicated themselves as members of the United States Military, and for that, we are thankful. It is a pleasure to have our Veteran’s at CHA showing their pride not only in their country, but in education as well.

**PARENTS, TEACHERS, & FELLOW STUDENTS**

The Patriot Times wants your input! Send us your school related photos, announcements, news, and story ideas! This is your student newspaper and we want you to be a part of it. You can reach us on our Facebook page or email publisher@chapatriots.com.



# December Birthdays

Compiled by Nellie Kleinert (all information gathered from CHA office records)

Timothy Hurley 12/01

Karissa Hawkins 12/01

Zavia Adams 12/01

Shane Beery 12/02

Brendon Hays 12/02

Felicity Kimball 12/02

Lola Gloria 12/04

Calvin McAfee 12/05

Desirae White 12/05

Randy Radball 12/05

Zandra Kenny 12/07

Christian Jonoshies 12/07

Mr. Huntley 12/08

Shelby Recker 12/08

Dylan Sharrow 12/10

Olivia Hardenberg 12/10

Alexander Gibson 12/12

Trenton Sprogg 12/12

Nathan Bonus 12/14

Rony Smith 12/14

Ava Lamie 12/15

Hannah Taylor 12/16

Matthew Avery 12/16

Caleb Ratza 12/17

Morgan Ketchpaw 12/17

Kaylee Brace 12/17

Dalynana Miller 12/18

Joseph Zerod 12/19

Marissa Patterson 12/19

Aubrey Evans 12/19

Emily Sinischo 12/19

Alexis Marshall 12/20

Mr. Greaves 12/20

Marissa Zerod 12/20

Marshal Damson 12/21

John Cozatt 12/21

Emma Cacy 12/22

Brayden Ott 12/22

Hannah Hurley 12/23

Matthew Crossley 12/25

Seth Metray 12/26

Lavanne Matt 12/27

STAFF

Ms. Jenny Wangler 12/28

Ms. Chare Bohm 12/28

Ms. Stephanie Sinischo 12/28

# Something Positive

By: Chyenne Parks

A Cup of Positivity

“Don’t let people ruin your day, when you can go out and play in the snow. Then you can go back inside and cuddle by the fireplace with a cup of hot chocolate!”

Bag of Life

“Life is like a bag of Skittles, there are some good colors and some bad colors. You may pick some colors you may not like, but you will have to get to the good ones eventually!”

Just Smile

“All you can do on a bad day is to just smile, it might not help but if you look as if you’re having a good day, you’ll feel like you’re having the best day of your life!

# Roscommon County Road Commission Plow Painting

By: Dakota Larive

The Roscommon County Road Commission takes care of roads in every season. In the winter, the road commission ‘donates’ their plow for local schools to decorate with paint. The Roscommon Road Commission started this tradition a few years ago to make snow cleanup more fun for the community. The theme for each year's painting is the school’s mascot and graduating class for the display plows. The kids love painting the plow and it’s a tradition that is here to stay. This year, Rosann Johnson, Taya Carothers, and Brogen Harger, high school students at Charlton Heston Academy, designed and painted the plow for St. Helen. The design fits perfectly with CHA’s red, white, and blue school colors and the idea of patriotism with stars and stripes. The plow will be used this winter to clear the snow from the roads around Roscommon County.

So, when the snow flies, look for your school’s painted plow in your neighborhood. The Roscommon County Road Commission also has a larger plow that is on display at the Road Commission that is painted by local high school seniors. Watch for CHA’s next year!

# Upcoming Community & School Events

By: Becca Patnode, Dalton Miller, and Rebecca Patnode

PTO Upcoming Events

Boxtop and Labels Competition and Food Drive Challenge through December.

Mitten Tree - If you have a pair of new or used gloves, scarf or hat and want to donate them please just put them on the tree. If you're in need please take a pair!

Needy family bulbs will be available to pick up on our window. Pick a bulb and buy a present, return it wrapped or unwrapped with the bulb and fulfill a Christmas wish for someone.

Santa's Secret Workshop Store - December 6-11. Items starting at \$2.

PTO Popcorn Dates

12/4

12/18

Eat Breakfast with Santa Claus at the Hen House Restaurant December 5.

NO SCHOOL 12/19- 1/3 – Winter Break

School RESUMES 1/4/2016

Thanks to everyone who participated in the fundraiser. We raised over \$3,000 for the PTO

CHA Upcoming Events

CHA Christmas Choir Concert – CHA Gymnasium

12/16- K-2 @ 6:30pm

12/17- 3rd – 5th, 6th and High School – beginning at 6:30 pm.

High School Basketball began 11/16.

Basketball Schedule TBA

High School Bowling- Huron Shores

Bowling Conference begins December 19

12/19 – @ Hi Skore Lanes– Boys 11:00am, Girls 2:00pm

01/02 – @ Tawas Lanes - GIRLS only 11:00am, 2:00 pm

01/02 - @ Vista Lanes – BOYS only 11:00am, 2:00pm

Richfield Township Library Upcoming Events

“Tea and Talk” Book Club for Adults

Every Tuesday @ 10:00 am

12/8

12/15

12/22

12/29

Community Upcoming Events

Kirtland Center for Performance Arts

“Dashing Through the Snow”:

12/11 @ 8:00 pm

12/12 @ 7:00 pm

12/13 @ 2:00 pm-

Haul Ice Fishing Contest start December 26, and ends on February 20.

Visit Malcolm’s Tackelbox in St. Helen for more information – (989) 389-2100

Santa Claus Parade December 4, 2015 begins at 6:00pm. (see flyer)

Hen House Breakfast with Santa Saturday, December 5 beginning at 11:00am

Ornament Craft Party after St. Helen Christmas Parade

Christmas Craft begins once Santa arrives @ Township Hall.

Christmas Decorating Contest - Judging December 13, 2015





# November 2015 Patriots of the Month

By: Kaylyn Davies

The Patriot of the Month students for November are: Owen Ames (Pre-K), Blake Meir (Pre-K), Shelby Recker (Kindergarten), Kourtني-joe Hawthorne (Kindergarten), Wyatt Butson (1st Grade), Kyle Bee (1st Grade), Denny Perryman (2nd Grade), Brayden Delvalle (2nd Grade), Abigail Brace(3rd Grade), Keeton Hubbard (3rd), Anjalena Garcia (4th), Gwen Kirsch (4th), Jewel Zavitz (5th), Cloey Huntley (5/6 split), Dustin Romanky (6th), Nevan Pace (7th), Connor Parris (8th), Kaylee Bryzelak (9th), Matt Zrebski (9th), Mark Danks (10th), RJ Scalici (10th), Tabbi Stringham (11th), Felicity Kimball (11th), Staff: Chelsie Maxwell.





LIGHTED  
*Santa Claus  
Parade*

Veterans  
Memorial  
Parking Lot

Friday,  
December 4, 2015  
Line up  
At 5:30 p.m.  
Parade starts @ 6pm

Proceeding to the  
**TOWNSHIP HALL**

For the  
**TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY  
AT END OF THE PARADE**



Face Painting

Afterwards everyone Can enjoy

Cookies and hot cocoa with

**Santa and Mrs. Claus**

Inside the Township Hall Bldg.

Craft Table

Photos with Santa

Sponsored by St. Helen Chamber of Commerce, Bluegill Optimist Club , Richfield Public Library  
St. Helen Chamber of Commerce 989-389-3725 email sainthelen\_chamber@yahoo.com

# Patriot Times Newspaper Staff visits Pioneer Group Printing Press

By: Katelin Travelbee

On November 12, 2015 the 7th grade Newspaper class took a trip to the printing press in Big Rapids, Michigan. Pioneer Group (the printing press) has been in operation for over 150 years and four generations of ownership. This building was built in 2000. The printing building has 4 different areas that were toured.

One area is the insert room. In this room, advertisements for businesses in the area are prepped to be put inside the newspaper as an insert. The insert is the part of the newspaper that can be removed and usually has big business' sale flyers. Erica and Patty work to communicate with the newspaper printing staff and the businesses to make sure the advertisements get in the correct location.

Another area is the scanning and color room. In the scanning and color room Shawn scans how the newspaper will be laid out and he chooses and puts what colors will go were. Just like in a printer at home, the colors used are cyan, magenta, black, red and yellow. He has

this machine that goes through a process that puts chemicals on a blue metal sheet with a silver back. Then the sheet goes through these brushes that take off an amount of the chemicals from the sheet. Then it goes through another machine that takes of the blue and reveals the picture that is going to show in the newspaper.

Another area is the area where they have the inserts and the people that work with printing and putting the newspaper in stacks to go out. In this area they have a big machine that rolls the paper out into four units. Each giant roll of paper is approximately as long as the Mackinac Bridge, 5 miles! When the paper goes through the units it gets the ink on the paper. Then, at the end of the paper's time in the unit the paper is passed down to a person called the stacker and he/she stacks the papers so they are in neat stacks to get strings put on them

and get delivered. The paper is put through another machine that properly puts the inserts into the paper. The maximum amount of paper the press can print per hour is 27,000 papers. This statistic is calculated running at full speed, which is very rarely done due to the lack of quality it produces.

The Pioneer group has been printing our newspaper since the beginning of the day. The Press also produces many different paper related products

including: Tri County, River Valley, West Shore Shopper, Patriot Times, Manistee News Advocate, Harold Review, Lake County Star, snowmobile trail maps for Roscommon County, ORV maps, phone books and college booklets.

Even though the printing press uses 70 rolls of paper in one week (3,500 miles of paper) the company is constantly recycling all of its materials it uses during the newspaper process. Each week, a semi-truck

trailer is filled with recycled materials. Even the ink is eco-friendly as it is soy based. The newspapers use 15,000 gallons of black in in six weeks, seven pounds of ink per printed page.

The newspaper students enjoyed their visit to Big Rapids learning about how the Patriot Times is made. There is a lot more that is involved in printing and processing a newspaper than most people may think.



# Favorite Winter Movies

By: Kayleigh Pendas

“Nightmare Before Christmas “	35
“How the Grinch Stole Christmas”	19
“Frozen”	13
“Polar Express”	30
“Frozen”	51
“Elf”	67
“Home Alone”	63
“Ice Age”	17
“Happy Feet”	5
“March of The Penguins”	0
“Rudolph The Rednose Reindeer”	21
“A Year Without Santa Clause”	15

