



Sectional game tonight

Preview is online at <https://gdlonline.org>

The Generals will host the Providence Pioneers tonight at 7:00 for the first round of sectional. At IHSAA events, season passes are not honored and admission will be \$6 per person. photo by Jessie Stevens

‘Rise Above Bullying’ assembly impacts students

by Kelsey Pease and Summer Neal

As the tenth through twelfth graders at CHS made their way down to the auditorium early Wednesday morning, inquisitive thoughts rolled across their minds. Very few knew what this assembly would be about. Some assumed they were going to have to sit through the same presentation about school rules, for a third time this year. Others, just wanted to get it over with. As everyone was seated, a video appeared on the projector screen in the front of the room. On it was a man in a pink button up, with a great big smile on his face. A man who lacked both arms and legs, but didn't lack a bit of spirit.

“It doesn't matter what you look like, it matters who you are,” said Nick Vujicic, motivational speaker.

The Rise Above Bullying tour occurred from Sept. 30 to Oct. 16. The speaker was 36-year-old Vujicic, who was born without three of his limbs and one shrunk-en limb. There is no medical explanation for why he was born without his limbs, and it was unknown to his doctors and family until he was born. Vujicic manages to take his own personal story and relate it to everyone by covering topics about depression, self-love, and kindness to all. There is a recording of his speech available online until

December 2nd.

“No one is any more important or any less important than anyone else,” said Vujicic.

During his childhood, like most, Vujicic, faced many of the same challenges high school students do today. One of those being his struggle with depression. This led him to attempting suicide. At age 11, he tried to drown himself. During these times, he would often feel hopeless and alone. Vujicic also shared his experience with self-hate and bullying and expresses how who you are, personality wise, is the most important. He found a way through these struggles by reminding himself to be happy and to appreciate things. Now, he shares his story with other people, in hopes to change the world. Rise Above Bullying is his world tour, which includes five stops in the U.S., where he does this very thing.

“No one is the same, no one has the same circumstances. That doesn't make any problem less valuable or less hurtful, but they are things that we deal with in everyday life and something we all have to

go through,” said senior Damian Davis after the broadcast.

The broadcast was played for the freshman on October 16 and moved the administration and students so much, they played it for the rest of the students on October 23. With the number of teens attempting suicide every year rising, the presentation reached out to all teens to tell them they are worth it. At one point in the presentation, everyone had to turn to the person next to them and tell them they matter and give them a hug. Vujicic's speech has impacted over a million people. Many lessons were learned throughout the presentation, ones of gratitude, confidence, and love. At the end of the video, students were asked to make a pledge to stand up to bullying, and almost every student in the auditorium stood.

“Sometimes when you don't get a miracle, you can be one,” said Vujicic.

When giving his speech, Vujicic found a way to touch everyone. He found a way to make an impact on all who cared to listen. This speech has changed the environments of schools across the world and it seems to be changing CHS just the same.



Damian Davis during an interview after Nick Vujicic's speech concluded. photo by Tanner Page



Students sitting in the auditorium while listening to the speech. photo by Kelly Short



Juuling Epidemic
Pages 4-5



Decline in youth sports involvement
Page 6

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October Birthdays

- 1 Layne Morlen
- 3 Kimberly Doss
Jayden Vozzo
- 4 Madison Balmer
- 5 Trenton Murphy
- 6 Andre Cotton
Paul Robinson
- 7 Ethan Ernst
- 8 Riley Baxter
Shelton Lyons
- 9 Ashley Atwood
Noah Elbert
- 10 Zoe Williams
- 13 Mia Vega-Isaac
- 14 Kennedy Long
- 15 Nathanael Montanez
- 19 Ryan Bahena
Morgyn Worley
- 21 Elijah Croft
Tristen Ross
Johelisa Santana
- 23 Kylie Perez
Michael Stevens
- 24 Sydney Stewart
- 26 Eden Baird
Olivia Baird
- 27 Logan Bishop
Makhi Roydes
- 28 Francisco Morales
- 30 Andrew Moore
- 31 Michael Myers

Editorial

Nickolas James Vujicic spoke via live stream on Oct. 16, from New Castle, Indiana. The program was made available to statewide Indiana schools. He talked about his childhood and told everyone his experiences with bullying. Students were in shock as he told everyone how bad the hate got and how he coped with it.

His words brought people to tears due to how emotional the speech was. Nickolas dealt with bullying his whole life because of how his body was formed from birth. He talked about how bullying can affect someone, the outcomes of it, and even talked about stu-

dents dealing with suicide. Nickolas made all students do an anonymous survey which was about why students wanted to commit suicide either do to home situations, bullying at school, or so much stress. Indiana students made a pledge to put a stop to bullying across schools, which will have an extreme positive effect on everyone.

In conclusion Nickolas has shared past experiences in bullying and why it should be stopped. After seeing the effects it could have on a person, people agreed to spread more kindness than hate around schools.

Staff Reactions

Julien Caffee: His speech inspired me to be grateful for what I have, because somewhere out there, someone may not be as fortunate as I myself might be. I personally think that if a guy with almost no limbs can live a happy life and even be brave enough to talk about his own life experiences, you can also be happy as well. Although his physical appearance has no relation to mine whatsoever, he was able to understand who I am inside of the flesh, and it made me realize that I’m not alone and many other people struggle with some and if not the same exact things that I have to deal with on a daily basis.

Jessie Stevens: His message was inspirational. Nickolas was bullied his whole life about his body appearance, having no arms or legs. And he found ways to cope with his problems and not let the bullying get to him. And sharing his life story and how he came over his problems and telling us how we can achieve that, is great. I took his message and

took it in depth, understanding how bad bullying can actually get. By knowing how bad it is, I can start treating people nicely and not offensive things towards them. And also I can spread more kindness with the people I’m around.

Monica Franklin: Nickolas James Vujicic was an inspirational speaker who talks about bullying and how he handled it when he was bullied because he was different. He made people feel loved and cared about. His speech inspired me because even though he was different and got bullied he knew it was wrong and he knew the best thing to do was keep smiling and moving. He showed others that its okay to be different as he explained how his life was growing up and he was able to throw in jokes here and there about himself really showed me that even if you have setbacks in life you can do what you dream all that matters is the way you look at the situation and how you choose to handle it. It was a pleasure to hear him speak..

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CHS and RA welcome over a dozen new teachers

Photos by Mckenzie Murdoch



Stephanie Pedro

By Seth Wright

Stephanie Pedro teaches junior and senior english classes. She pursued teaching because she wanted a career that would allow her to make a positive impact on the community and on the lives of others. She has been working in the educational field since about 2011 as an aide, a paraprofessional, a sub, and as a secretary; however, this is her fourth year teaching. She was drawn to CHS because she liked the idea of teaching in a small school. She has worked in both large and small schools, and she has since found that by working here she can get to know her students on a more personal level. By the end of this year, she hopes to have established positive relationships with all of her students.

Jonathan Francis

By Monica Franklin

Jonathan Francis is a new biology student teacher. His hometown is Indianapolis, but he moved to Florida when he was four and recently moved back. While in Florida he was a chef at Disney World. Then he worked in special education for two years. The reason he is at Clarksville High School is because his college placed him here. He decided to become a teacher because it was a change of career and he loves science. He is currently in his last year of college at Western Governors University. By the end of the year, he wants to establish himself in his own classroom.

"it is a beautiful school and I'm very pleased to be here."



Jamall Glover

By Julien Caffee

"My goal for the school year is to reach all those students who need reaching, hopefully helping them make positive changes in their life."

Jamall Glover is the new ISS teacher here at CHS. He is one of the many teachers who joined for the 2019-2020 school year. Glover has a different job than most people here at CHS.

"My role as ISS Facilitator is to counsel those kids who get out of line and get sent to B 121. Holding them accountable for their actions and showing them the results of their actions hopefully will lead them to not repeating the same actions," said Glover.

By the end of the school year, he wants to help the students who get out of line, get back on track, to help and guide students in the right direction.



Colin Bell

By Taylor Crain

Colin Bell is the physical education teacher here at Clarksville High School. He enjoys playing with his kids, golfing, and watching sports. Bell was a middle school soccer coach, now he's going on to his fifth year of teaching. Because of his experience, he feels comfortable around kids and hopes to start a soccer team at CHS, along with Levi Carmichael. Bell believes he is a good teacher because he is orderly, reasonable, and lenient.

"I enjoy helping kids, and want them to strive to be successful."



Trae Marr

By Seth Wright

Trae Marr has been substituting for almost five years, but this year is his first year becoming a teacher aide. Marr mainly assists in math and biology, but he also aides in helping out students that need it. He subbed here before, and he was already familiar with the students and faculty, so when a position opened, he said that he went for it. By the end of the year, he said that he would love for students to apply themselves in class instead of acting up and not paying attention.



Giavanna Harris

By Daniel Bartley

Giavanna Harris is on her seventh year of teaching, but her first at Clarksville. She chose to come to Clarksville because she loves the small community and the family-friendly feel around the town. She teaches biology and environmental science. Before teaching, Harris worked at a dog groomery. Even farther back, she worked at Disney world. Harris decided she wanted to be a teacher to make a difference in someone's life. Her goals are to get the students' pass rates, for all science classes, higher than they were last year.

Teenagers turn to vaping as an alternative to tobacco products

By Taylor Crain and Tanner Page

Over these last few months, the U.S. has experienced a dramatic shift in views toward e-cigarette products. Teenagers are believed by many to be the main consumers of e-cigarettes. In 2018, 1.3 million more high school students vaped than the year prior, according to the Food and Drug Administration. Everyone has different opinions on the subject, some see vaping as a healthier solution to actual smoking, meanwhile, others see it to be just as bad.

“Based on what I hear on the news, a lot of teenagers and young adults are dying from vaping, so I obviously don’t want my student’s doing that,” said Christine Allred, guidance counselor at Clarksville High School.

E-cigarettes are meant to solely serve as healthier alternatives to cigarette use, however, many interviewees who vape/had vaped started vaping without a withstanding nicotine addiction. These teen consumers were exposed to vaping by their peers, television ads, or social media. Some were even influenced by family members who demonstrated vaping as a normal activity.

Clarksville High School has experienced a few incidents of students caught vaping in the bathroom. Renaissance Academy has gone as far as putting up signs in the restrooms, discouraging students to vape, as well as listing the dangers of it. Students were interviewed about their vaping habits and all who have had a history of vaping chose to remain anonymous. The interviewees, both vapers and ex-vapers, agreed that they saw vaping as a better alternative than smoking which, at no time, did they ever do before vaping. Smoking, in their eyes, was an incredibly dangerous habit that can cause cancer, but only previous vapers admitted that vaping was just as dangerous.

“I don’t think vaping is a school-wide issue, I think it’s a small handful. We haven’t felt like it’s a necessary need, nor have we gotten to the point that we need to fight back against vaping,” said Matt Pait, assistant principal at CHS.

As of right now according school officials, CHS has no plans to combat vaping school wide. Multiple administrators agreed that vaping in their schools wasn’t a main priority and feel that they have more pressing matters to attend to. They concur that

students do partake in vaping and even talk down on it, but RA has chosen to fight against teenage nicotine use in e-cigarettes. Allred aid that vaping itself might not affect a student’s studies or school life, but it may lead them to make poor decisions, ultimately affecting their futures. Students interviewed who quit vaping, stopped due to not being able to afford it or having problems during sports. For them, vaping affected their school life and likelihood.

“There were some breathing problems, during the (football) season,” said Dalton Bowen, who previously engaged in e-cigarette smoking.

Bowen overcame his nicotine craving by focusing on his studies and football. He believed engaging in vaping activities was irresponsible and illogical. He was pressured into participating with



Juuling and vaping products at Circle K. Photo by Tanner Page

fellow students and even family members. He was the only interviewee who was brave enough to go on the record.

Studies show that students who vape will experience breathing problems and slow brain development. This affects both athletic performance and academic performance. Vaping, overall, carry the same risks as smoking, but have less severe results. Cigarette smoking causes 480,000 deaths a year in the United States, according to the CDC, while only 33 people have died from vaping in the United States, said an article from The Wall Street Journal. White House Administration is planning to ban e-cigarette material due to lung illnesses falling upon teens. Nearly 1,500 people are affected by lung disease linked to vaping (article from healthline), but smoking is responsible for 90% of lung cancer and COPD deaths, says an article from John Hopkins Medicine.

“It’s not healthy for you, you can die, you can get lung disease or cancer,” sophomore Emily Kaise-

raid about vaping.

Those who don’t see vaping as a bad thing, usually see it as a way of redemption. Juuls and vapes’ intended use is to give people a safer alternative to smoking. One that doesn’t include inhaling mixed chemicals, but, instead, more water vapor. Vaping isn’t all water vapor, but still contains less toxins. E-Cigarette corporations argue that banning electronic cigarette products will lead people back to smoking cigarettes, killing more consumers.

Corporations have even been accused of advertising to young people. With colorful ads and sweet flavors, anti-vapers say teens would be attracted to vaping. The company Juul even has a huge social media presence. Some companies actually have scholarships they give to high schoolers. Multiple channels such as CBS, WarnerMedia, and Viacom all have bans on these e-cigarette advertisements. CNN is also on the way to banning these ads on television. Flavors also seem to have caught the public’s eye, with flavors such as cotton candy, sour patches, and bubblegum being accused of marketing to children. The opposing side of vaping insist that children will want to try these flavors, subsequently addicting them to nicotine.

“People don’t want the tobacco taste, they want the fruity taste or the candy taste,” senior Josh Matherly said.

There are other ways of obtaining vapes, though. If a young person wants to acquire a vape or juul and has no way of getting it then they may go to the internet. There they can order pods or actual devices without the use of an ID. This is how many deaths have been occurring. Buying non-FDA approved electronic cigarette products is taking a heavy risk.

These products can often contain laces of unknown drugs or substances. The pods they smoke are infused with other chemicals that aren’t usually contained in e-cigs, such as THC (found in marijuana), DMT (hallucinogenic drug), or sometimes even lead. A majority of the cases in which vaping was the cause of death, were linked to illegal black market vaping products. People start to experience vomiting, fatigue, or dizziness; resulting in people getting incredibly ill and conclusively injuring them, sometimes even causing lethal deaths.

Both sides state strong arguments on the matter. It is a fact that vaping has killed, though it is also a fact that vaping related deaths are very rare. There has been a rise in electronic cigarette smoking use, with an overall higher nicotine addiction in young people. Our country and overall, globally, has seen an increase in vaping/juuling. However, there had also been a decline in cigarette usage. The fight for and against vaping is still going on today.

Opinion Do awareness posters really affect usage?

By Taylor Crain

A few weeks ago, Dr. Brian Allred of Renaissance Academy installed posters into the girls’ restroom. Many students criticized the move, while others applauded. The awareness posters contain slogans with suspenseful imagery illustrating the hazards of vaping. These posters were installed after there were several incidents of students being caught with e-cigarettes. The question stands, what’s the point? Awareness posters don’t achieve their intended purpose.

The intended purpose of the awareness posters installed in Renaissance Academy’s girls’ restroom is to inform and educate at-risk students the dangers vaping can do. Awareness campaigns spread awareness, but they don’t do anything about it. There’s only so much awareness can do, it almost makes it pointless. We need more education for our students. Spreading information in an explicit way can enough to motivate people to adopt new behaviors, but quitting behaviors will take a lot more than gaining them. This is why education is the

best way to change bad habits, not awareness. Vague, ambiguous slogans that barely share anything truthful about e-cigarettes are not the rite of passage.

What can we do?

Better educating students with truthful, proven information about popular bad habits, peer pressure, and further pushing the dangers of bullying are all viable ways to spread proper awareness.

Pait's journey to front office began with high school basketball

by Julien Caffee

Some people may think that being an assistant principal is an easy and laid back job. In reality, however, that's not the case. Matt Pait is now the new assistant principal here at Clarksville High School and his position is way beyond that laid back job perspective, where he just gets to sit around and do nothing. Both his job and life hold more depth than most think about.

"It was possibly the most devastating news I've ever received in my life," said Pait.

Growing up as a child, Pait had always wanted to be a pilot. At the age of 16, he received heart wrenching news, news that would crush his dream. Pait found out that he had Type 1 Diabetes (T1D). He could no longer achieve his dream of becoming a pilot because of the health risks that he would be taking. Type 1 Diabetes is a health issue where the pancreas doesn't properly work or doesn't work at all, which causes a lack of insulin. This lack of insulin causes Pait to eat a very strict diet to either keep his blood sugar low when it gets high and vise versa. He also has to give himself insulin when he absolutely needs it. People like Pait have to live with this and the fact that diabetes doesn't have an official cure. After his pilot dream became a no go, he started to play basketball a lot, and this very hobby lead him to where he is today.

"I basically kind of grew up in a blood-line of teachers from both sides, and I'm following in those footsteps now," said Pait. "My family is my first priority above all things."

Pait was not only raised in the Jeffersonville area, he is a graduate from Jeffersonville High School. During high school, Pait grew a love for basketball, which gave him his taste in music. Some of Pait's favorite genres include Classic Rock, 90's Hip Hop, Rap, Country, etc., but he's known to jump around from music genre to music genre. This high school love for basketball also lead him to play college basketball first at Gardner Webb, then later at Bellarmine. Then, after he got out of college, he became a coach for Jeffersonville high school's women's basketball. During his time coaching, Pait became an official. Then, in time, he became the assistant principal there, after earning his Master's degree in Education. Since, both his mother and father were successful teachers, as well as many others in his family, he was beginning to follow in their footsteps. Pait values family the most in his life. He has been a husband for nearly 4 years, and is a father of two little girls. His favorite thing to do is to have as much time with his family as he possibly can. He and his family love boating above all family activities, but he also enjoys having quality time with



Assistant Principal, Matt Pait, working on his computer.
Photo by Julien Caffee

other family members at home.

"Out of all of the vice principals I've seen work here since my arrival, Pait is more than likely the best one that Clarksville has to offer," said English teacher Kristin Payne.

Pait is an assistant principal who shows that his position is nothing like a laid-back job. He has visions for the future of Clarksville High School and plans on how he's going to accomplish these goals. His outgoing personality and eyes set forward to the future makes him a perfect fit for the job. He is truly one of a kind.



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Declining youth sports involvement affects health, fitness

by Summer Neal

Every year, hundreds of professional athletes retire from the sports they've been playing for longer than most people can remember, but more and more of these announcements are coming from eleven year old kids quitting the sports they've only been playing for three years. ESPN and Project Play are working to solve this epidemic with the #DontRetireKid campaign launched in August of 2019.

Project Play was started in 2013 by the Aspen Institutes Sports and Society Program (AISS) with the hopes to build and strengthen communities through the basis of sports and physical activity. Some members of Project Play are Amazon, NBA, MLB, PGA, Target, Under Armour, and the US

Olympic and Paralympic Committee. Project Play partnered with ESPN and Kobe Bryant (NBA), Sue Bird (WNBA), Mookie Betts (MLB), Wayne Gretzky (NHL), Geno Auriemma (NCAA coach) and many other professional athletes to create #DontRetireKid. "At ESPN we believe sports should be available to every child. We want to shed light on this important issue so that kids can take advantage of the benefits of sports, from increased health to better outcomes in school," said the president of ESPN, Jimmy Pitaro to the AISS.

As of 2018, 80 percent of child athletes quit playing sports by the age of 13. On average, kids start playing sports at age eight, with eleven being the oldest average for track and field and the youngest being six for gymnastics. The average for the last year kids play sports is eleven with the oldest being cross country at thirteen and the youngest being gymnastics at eight.

This lack of childhood physical activity can lead to major health issues in the future. Just a few of the health problems are obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular disease and in some cases cancer. Less than one third of kids in the United States meet the Sports and Fitness Industry's "active to healthy" daily physical activity amount. This amount is only 25 minutes. "This is much bigger than sports. We're talking about impacting the health and well-being of the next generations of our communities and our local economies if we don't get and keep our children active regularly," said the president and CEO of Ralph G. Wilson, Jr. Foundation, David O. Egner to the AISS. The foundation has been working with Project Play for four years and has already given more than 57 million dollars in grant funding to help support youth sports in Michigan.

A 2014 George Washington University survey found that nine out of ten kids play sports because it's fun. The top five reasons why sports are fun to them are getting to try their best, their coach treats them with respect, they get playing time, they play as a



The Southern Indiana Generals ran out on the field at halftime on October 4 vs. Brownstown. The Southern Indiana Generals consists of many football teams ranging in ages. all photos by Johelisa Santana

team and they get to make new friends. Winning and playing in tournaments were much farther down the list at number 48 and 63. More shockingly, the 81 reason for sports being fun is taking team pictures. The number one reason why kids quit playing sports is that they are no longer fun. Some of the other reasons why kids quit playing sports are pressure from parents and coaches, no playing time, burn out, disrespect and sports specialization. Another AISS study shows that 90 percent of kids would rather have playing time on a losing team than sit the bench on a winning team.

Many kids feel pressured by parents and coaches to receive college scholarships to pay for college and pressure to become a professional athlete. Only seven percent of high school athletes will go onto play college sports, and only two percent will go on to play in Division 1. Only one percent of NCAA Men's Basketball players would go onto play in the NBA. "The number one eight year old kid is not going to the NBA. So, let's quit putting that out there," said retired NBA player Chris Webber at the Project Play conference in August of 2019, "I can't imagine the pressure of being twelve years old and being told you can make it in the NBA and believing it, when you don't have the skills, but a coach told you that to keep you around."



The Souther Indiana Generals elementary team lines up before they run out.

It is becoming more and more common for kids to specialize in one singular sport, which can lead to burnout and overuse injuries. Most coaches push kids to play one sport, the sport they are coaching. "How can you choose a major in sports before fourteen? How can you choose what you're going to be great at? Your body hasn't even developed. You haven't even grown," said Webber. By age fourteen, more than 45 percent of kids specialize in one sport. That's around 20 million kids. Playing one sport all year round can lead to overuse injuries because of the length and frequency of intense physical activity. Some of these injuries include Achilles and rotator cuff tendinitis, carpal tunnel syndrome, little league and elbow and shoulder,

tennis elbow, shin splints, runners knee and many others.

Burnout is emotional and physical exhaustion caused by the constant physical demands of sports and physical activity. Burnout is commonly caused by sports specialization because of the long seasons playing a single sport without a break. The symptoms of burnout can be mental, physical, emotional and/or social.

Playing sports is a time commitment that some kids just can't make. The average child athlete plays for twelve hours a week, with the longest being basketball at thirteen hours a week. "We are getting kids involved early, but instead of focusing on fundamentals and the love of the game, we're more focused on playing 60 travel games

a summer," said Clarksville's athletic director, Levi Carmichael. A new National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) study shows that some child athletes are spending upwards of 60 per week playing one sport, more than the average college athlete. Parents may not be able to drive their kid to softball and track practice and leave time to take care of their other kids. This doesn't leave time for other sports, which then leads to burnout and injuries.

Not only are sports a time commitment, they are also very costly. This makes kids without the economic means discouraged to play. Only twelve percent of sports families reported paying nothing for their sport. The least expensive sport is track and field with an average of \$191.00 dollars spent per season. The most expensive sport is tennis, sometimes totaling over \$34,000. Travel is the costliest aspect in youth sports. A AISS and Utah State University Families in Sports Lab study shows that the average family will spend \$196 per sport per child on travel alone. This cost sometimes defers kids from even starting to play a sport. "It's become a dog eats dog world. The idea now is that you have to play travel ball, have a personal trainer and pay thousands of dollars. People think you have to play AAU to be good or spend this amount of money, but all you have to do is put in work," said Carmichael.

The AISS suggests eight strategies for parents to help their kids want to stay in sports. These eight strategies include asking your kids what they want, encouraging free-play and sport-sampling, using in-town leagues rather than travel, thinking small, encouraging improvement, train all coaches and emphasize prevention. The organization also suggests being active, advocating for all kids, not just your own and create safe places for kids to play sports. "Sports used to be something kids go out and do for fun. But now it's become so regimented where parents start to inject their own experiences or past failures into their children, and it just takes the fun out of it," said Kobe Bryant in the organization's promotion video to parents. The main point stressed by the AISS is to allow kids to have fun playing the sports they want to.

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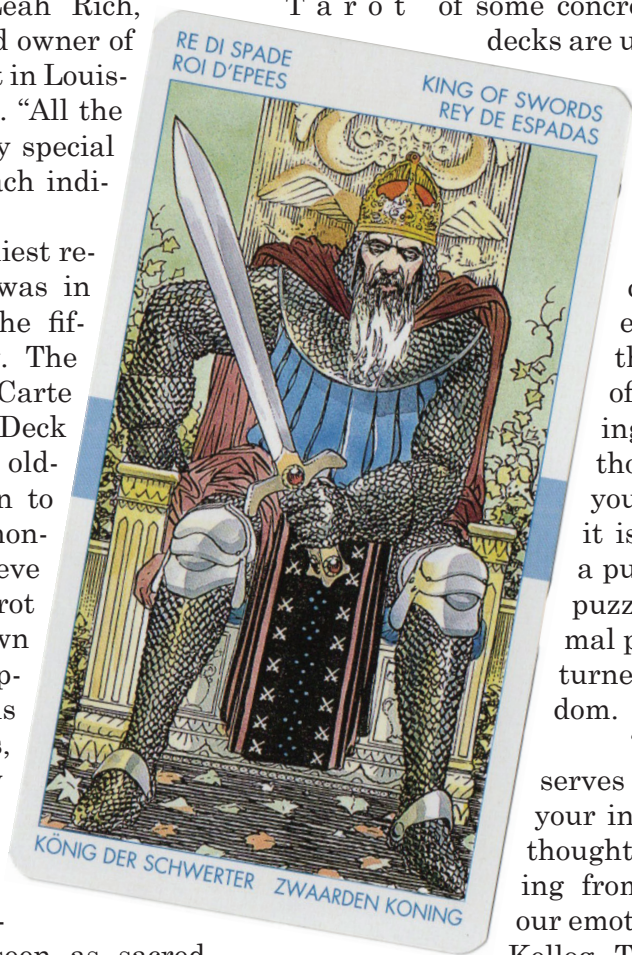
Diving into the art of Tarot

by Kelsey Pease

These days, life is fast, life is tough, and life is confusing. Starting from the very moment a child can talk, decisions are being made. Some are as insignificant as picking a juice flavor or a certain color phone. Others are as momentous as choosing the person you want to spend your entire life with or the career you want to earn a degree in. Deciding can be difficult and almost impossible to do without a little help. People often rely on friends, therapists, or even decks of tarot cards.

"I love the fool card because it's all about the unknown and taking risks. The fool is wise enough, but also beats at his own drum," said Leah Rich, card reader and owner of Bullz Eye Tarot in Louisville, Kentucky. "All the cards have very special meanings to each individual."

The earliest record of Tarot was in Italy around the fifteenth century. The Italian deck "Carte da Trionfi", "Deck of Tarot, is the oldest deck known to man. Commonly, people believe the art of Tarot was passed down through Gypsies, Egyptians and Witches, but this is only a theory. In earlier times, Egyption culture was highly respected, seen as sacred wisdom. Some thought that tying Tarot to these teachings would make it more "believable." Also, society has made up this notion that Tarot cards are meant to tell your future, tying them to Gypsies and Witches who are said to hold those same powers. There is no factual proof of these claims. Another popular



belief is that working with Tarot is like working with the Devil. Tarot readers all share a desire to clarify the fact that Tarot has no correlation with Satan. This is often said by people because of a card in the deck called "The Devil" which signifies death, but not in the sense of someone dying. It's more along the lines of a death of a situation, an end, maybe someone leaving a trait of themselves behind. Throughout history, witches and fortune-tellers were accused of using the works of the Devil, and Tarot is mistakenly associated with these very things. Aside from the uncertainty of its past and intentions, Tarot is made up of some concrete things. For example, Tarot decks are usually made up of seventy eight

cards, each with a different meaning and a unique picture. It is separated into two parts, the Major Arcana and the Minor Arcana. The Major Arcana, made up of twenty-two cards, signifies large, impactful events and changes. Meanwhile, the Minor Arcana, consisting of fifty-six cards, helps in taking a closer look into the daily thoughts, events, and people in your life. Another way to look at it is, the Minor plays as pieces to a puzzle and the Major is that very puzzle. A Tarot deck started as normal playing cards, but over time has turned into a deck of insight and wisdom.

"What tarot does, is that, it serves as a mirror to yourself, to your inner workings, your inner most thoughts. Things that you may be hiding from yourself because sometimes our emotions are unpleasant," said Scott Kellog, Tarot card reader and owner of Scott Kellog Tarot in Bloomington, Indiana.

Throughout time, Tarot has provided a helping hand through the challenges of life. According to Tarot card reader, Leah Rich, Tarot is universal guidance that reveals the truth and answers held within oneself. Rich



got into a car accident in 2008. This event completely turned her life around. After, she was lost, wondering who she was and questioning the meaning of life. In the midst of researching, she stumbled upon Tarot, explaining that it "stuck out" to her. Rich has used this method of divination in many ways. One of those as a substitute for therapy. Through Tarot, she has been able to "explore the unknown" within the world and the unknown within herself. This is a common pattern among persons associated with Tarot.

"I've had a reading done...it was truly accurate and when it's accurate you just know because you can feel it," said Malorie Mattingly, CHS sophomore.

Malorie Mattingly, has been into Tarot for around a year now. She stumbled upon this creation when reading about Zodiac signs. According to Mattingly, Tarot has never failed her. All of the readings she has gotten have been "accurate," "powerful," and "exciting." She believes that anyone who doesn't know what Tarot is should definitely get into it for the "life-changing" experience that it offers. CHS sophomore, Alaura Robinson has been exposed to Tarot for her entire life. It's something that has been in her family generation after generation. She has used it to better understand the things around her, like so many do.

"Tarot really stuck out to me as I was watching other readers. When I was dealing with stuff in my life, there was a community I could relate to and everything they said sounded and explained basically my whole life and what I was going through. So, I began studying it entirely," said Rich.

The cards of Tarot are meant to offer advice. They are a way to access intuition and reveal one's inner truth. Tarot has yet to fail the one's looking for themselves and the meaning of their surroundings. Leah Rich, and all Tarot enthusiasts out there, recommend it to anyone, no matter age, race, or religion. Tarot is something that, with enough faith, can help all who dare pick a card.

History & hauntings & all things spooky just in time for Halloween season

by McKenzie Murdoch

Now that it's October, it is officially spooky season. With the arrival of spooky season, comes all the fun activities that people love. Despite their enthusiasm for the season, do they know the history behind Halloween?

Halloween is observed in several countries with many different origin stories. At first, it was dedicated to remembering the dead. It is said that the traditions originated from Celtic Harvest Festivals. That they may have Pagan roots, but others believe it is a Christian holiday. Trick-or-treating has many different views on how it originated. Some say it was because witches needed to gather materials for their festivals. Also, according to Pagans history and even Catholic history, it was related to ghosts. A lot of the activities that we participate in today have been influenced by these folk customs and beliefs of the Celtic speaking countries, and traditions around the world.

"Let us wear our costumes, and make the school into a haunted house, with fun activities. Like mystery boxes, where you put your hand in a box and have to guess what is inside," said sophomore Blaine Gater.

Each place in the world has their own Halloween traditions. For example, Ireland is the only place in the world that Halloween is a national holiday, where they have an event with fireworks. The children there even have a day off of school. But, around the area, some of the students have ideas of how we can cele-



Zombie at Culbertson Mansion haunted house.
photo by Kelsey Pease

brate Halloween in school. Some would love to make the school into a haunted house, decorate the halls, or have a pumpkin carving contest where you compete for a prize. Another idea was for a trick-or-treat event where the students go to different classrooms and get free candy, while having common refreshments like apple cider.

"I take my kids out trick-or-treating," said English teacher Alicia Young.

The weather is cooling down and the people are getting ready for a good scare. Halloween is finally coming, where free candy is given and Halloween plans are unfolding, no matter one's age.