

Odyssey



Ontario Middle School Newspaper

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Jesse Weinberger Assembly: Dangers Surrounding Electronic Devices.

By: Addi Kissinger

On Wednesday, November 16th, we had an assembly during school with a presenter named Jesse Weinberger. Mrs. Weinberger spoke on the over usage and dangers of electronic devices and applications that seem to take up a lot of people's time these days.

At the beginning, I would bet almost every single student thought this would be a huge waste of time. I was one of those people. But, as Mrs. Weinberger moved through her presentation and demonstrated that she was very knowledgeable about what apps we were using and she gave real-life examples of how some individuals were using these to try to lure young people into situations where they would be harmed, it made me open my eyes and be more aware of how I use my device.

I think the point Jesse was trying to get across to us was we need to be more careful about what we send, download, and do on our devices. We may not think it is dangerous to talk to this person or download something; she made it clear, however, that what might appear to be harmless could at times have devastating results. I believe

we can all agree we need to be more aware of what information we are putting out there and to understand that the individuals you are communicating with might not be who they say they are. Be responsible and be aware of your actions. Maybe we all learned something from this weather we wanted to or not. Remember to always be aware!

The Significance of Red Ribbon Week.

By: Isaac David

Red Ribbon Week is a week full of fun. But, did you just participate for fun or you did it for the cause? Well, if you said "I did it for the cause" then what is the cause? Got you there didn't I? Well, now I have you wondering what the cause of Red Ribbon Week is.

Enrique Camarena, was a Drug Enforcement Administration Agent who was tortured and killed in Mexico in 1985. When he decided to join the US Drug Enforcement Administration, his mother tried to talk him out of it. "I'm only one person", he told her, "but I want to make a difference."

On Feb. 7, 1985, Camarena left his office to meet his wife for lunch. Five men appeared at the agent's side and shoved him into a car. One month

The Significance of Red Ribbon Week continued...

later, Camarena's body was found. He had been tortured to death.

In honor of Camarena's memory and his battle against illegal drugs, friends and neighbors began to wear red badges in his honor. Parents, sick of the destruction of alcohol and other drugs formed coalitions. Some of these new coalitions took Camarena as their model and embraced his belief that one person can make a difference. These coalitions also adopted the symbol of Camarena's memory, the red ribbon. In 1988, the National Family Partnership, NFP, sponsored the first National Red Ribbon Celebration.

The next time you participate in Red Ribbon Week take time to pause and think about the week's significance and ask yourself, "Can I make a difference?"

Source: nfp.org/rr/redribbon.org

FCCLA Went to Orlando Florida.

By: Maddie Yeager & Madi Male

Miss Vannest's FCCLA class took a trip to Orlando, Florida. The class was in Orlando for a total of three days. Miss Vannest is hoping that the people who went will gain more leadership skills, and get the chance to meet new people. Her long-range goal is that the students will be inspired to make positive changes at Ontario Middle School.

Miss Vannest and Mrs. Rhodes, high school teacher, took five students from the middle school

and twelve from the high school. Although this is not the first year they have taken students on this trip, it's the first time going to Florida.

We interviewed Miss Vannest to learn a little more about their trip. She said when they were in Orlando they learned about programs to bring back to school. For example, selling bracelets to earn money to give to kids that can't go to school. They also went to Disney for a day to have a little fun, relaxation, and to socialize with FCCLA students from other schools.

We asked her how students were selected to go on the trip? She explained that they had to be in one of her classes past or present. If you are wondering how many people can go, there wasn't a limit.

We also wanted to learn how the students and school got the money to go on the trip. She explained, "The students had to pay for some of it, but we sold candy bars, raffled off baskets, and other projects." Miss Vannest told us that she suggested students volunteer at fundraisers or they had to have their own money to go. The cost for the trip was \$650.00. They flew a round-trip. This sounded like a very fun and educational experience for all individuals participating.

Long Time Staff Member Says Goodbye.

By: Allen Smith

Mrs. Betty Clegg said goodbye to all the staff and students at OMS on Friday, October 28, 2016. Mrs. Clegg will be stepping into a new part of her life as she begins her retirement. Mrs. Clegg has been with the school district for over 30 years. She stated that she has enjoyed seeing the smiles on the students' faces. She reflects back on all the students that she has interacted with; watching them grow from young boys and girls at the middle school into young men and women as they advanced through the high school.

Eighth grader Jayden Allen said, "She was a really good lunch lady. I am sad to see her go." Kayla Klautsch stated, "It's too bad, she was a great lady, but I'm happy for her to be able to retire." Rebekah Haudenschild has mixed feelings. She is sad, but again, happy for her retirement.

Mrs. Clegg will be missed by everyone at Ontario. Mrs. Clegg please stop by to say hello when you get the opportunity and tell us about all the new and exciting things you are doing in retirement.

Science Fair

By: Averi Ann Copeland

Eighth grade science students as well as students in sixth and seventh grade honors science classes participated in a Science Fair this year.

Students had to develop a question and, after doing research, form a hypothesis. To test our hypothesis, we had to set up experiments where we controlled all variables except the one being tested. Data was recorded during the experiment and entered on data tables and graphs. Using the data recorded we had to draw a conclusion; was our hypothesis correct? We had to support our conclusion with our data.

To prepare for judging, we put all work completed on a backboard display. The display had to be visually appealing and our question had to be displayed in a concise manner. We had to provide an abstract and research paper.

Judging took place the evening of December 7th. The gym was filled with tables holding countless projects along with students waiting to present their projects to experts in their field.

When asked their feelings on doing the project, students had a variety of responses. Personally, I thought the judging took a very long time to do because I was the last person to get judged. But, with so many projects being judged, I understand the length of time. It was also very fun because you got to walk around and look at all the other projects that students completed.

Renee Hookey said, "I think the Science Fair went well because most of the students showed up." Maddie Yeager stated, "I thought it was okay; it was just very long." Chloe Kidder exclaimed, "I think that the Science Fair was okay, but it was very nerve racking." Abi Stewart stated, "I thought it went very well. It has been a very long time since

Science Fair continued ...

Ontario has held a Science Fair. All the presentations were good. I really liked it.” Kayla Klautsch said, “I was nervous at first, but all together the Science Fair was cool. The projects were really nice as well.” Avril Copeland remarked, “I disliked it because I don’t really like to talk to adults that are going to judge me on what I say, but it was good, too, because I got to experience something new and somewhat fun.”

Holiday Assembly

By: Isaac David

The Holiday Assembly held on December 21st was a success. The student body was treated to performances by the choir, band, and skits performed by staff members.

First, the 8th grade band members showed off their talents by playing multiple songs such as “Snow Day” and “Trilogy of Carols”. Their performance ended with resounding applause by the audience.

Next the 7th and 8th grade choir sang “Jingle Bell Rock” and had choreography along with the song. Again, the student body showed their appreciation cheers and applause. Doing a solo performance were 8th graders Leandra Viscioni and McKenna Stoffer. They held the audience spellbound as they sang “Hallelujah”.

A gingerbread house making contest was next with 5 teams of 3 people. The contest had a time limit and the final projects were judged by the

audience. The winning team consisted of Miss Fulk, Mrs. Caporini, and Mrs. Wendling.

Mrs. Weirich, Mrs. Caporini, Miss Miller, and Mrs. Case brought the house down as they sang “Uptown Funk” while wearing funny elf ears and hats.

Taking the stage next was the group of Ariel Hookey, Allen Smith, Averi Copeland, Carter Underwood, and Samantha Montgomery singing “Jingle Bell Rock”.

Last but not least was the final performance of staff and teachers doing a glow in the dark dance. The assembly was a huge success and kicked off the holiday break. Thank you to everyone that participated.

Crazy Ohio Laws!

By: Chloe Kidder

Following are laws on the books in Ohio. Today we might think they are crazy, but at one time somebody thought they were needed. I wonder what people in the future will think about some of our laws?

State Wide Laws:

It is illegal to get a fish drunk.

No civil arrests may be made on Sunday or on the Fourth of July.

The Ohio driver’s education manual states that you must honk the horn whenever you pass another car.

It is illegal to mistreat anything of great importance.

Crazy Ohio Laws continued...

It is illegal for more than five women to live in a house.

It is illegal to fish for whales on Sunday.

Cleveland:

It's illegal to catch mice without a hunting license!

Lima:

Any map that does not have Lima clearly stated on the map cannot be sold.

McDonald:

Your duck may not be paraded down Ohio Avenue.

Lowell:

It is unlawful to run a horse over five miles per hour.

Youngstown:

You may not run out of gas.

Toledo:

Throwing a snake at anyone is illegal.

Strongsville:

Catch 22 is banned.

Paulding:

A policeman may bite a dog to quiet him.

In Akron:

Skateboarding in the city limits after dark is prohibited.

Posting signs at swimming pools is illegal.

Bay Village:

It is illegal to walk a cow down Lake Road.

Bexley:

Ordinance number 223, of 09/09/19 prohibits the installation and usage of slot machines in outhouses.

Canton:

If one loses their pet tiger, they must notify the authorities within one hour.

Oxford:

It is illegal to drive around the town square more than 100 times in a single session.

Horn honking is not permitted as it might scare horses.

One may not spit on the sidewalks on the square.

North Canton:

It is against the law to roller skate without notifying the police.

As crazy as these seem I encourage you to research other states' laws. One of our neighboring states makes it illegal to whistle under water. One must ask, how do they enforce that law?

Source: <http://www.dumblaws.com/laws/united-states/ohio>