

Official Newspaper of Rocky Hill Middle School

Meet Ms. DeFiore our new Assistant Principal

This year, our school has multiple new teachers who have come to Rocky Hill for the first time. I am highlighting the new administrator of seventh grade, Ms. DeFiore. She is always very amiable and hardworking and fits right in with our school. The Wildcat Roar appreciates her for taking time out of her extremely busy schedule for answering our questions.

Wildcat Roar: Where have you worked previously?

Ms. DeFiore: Prior to being at Rocky Hill, I was a teacher at several different middle schools including Silver Spring International, John T. Baker, Roberto Clemente and Redland. I also taught fifth grade at S. Christa McAuliffe Elementary. Most recently I worked in the MCPS central office. My job was the Director of Teacher Leadership and my role there was to train and coach teachers, teacher leaders and administrators.



WR: Are you planning on becoming a principal one day?

Ms. D: In the future, I hope to be a middle school principal because I love working with middle school students.

WR: What is the process of working your way up to becoming a principal?

Ms. D: The process for becoming a principal can be a little different for each person depending on his or her previous work experience. In general, one is a teacher, then a teacher leader such as a grade level team leader or someone who is in charge of a specific content area such as math or PE. Next, one becomes an assistant principal. After some experience as an assistant principal, a person can apply to be a principal.

WR: What is your role here at Rocky Hill? What do you do?

Ms. D: My role at RHMS is to support the principal in achieving the vision of our school. I work with the other members of the administrative team and school leadership team to support the teachers and students to ensure that excellent teaching and learning happens every day at Rocky Hill. We want to empower students to be a positive force for change in their world, creating a respectful and caring community for all. This year I am the administrator for grade 7!

WR: What is your background in education? (Where did you go to college?)

Ms. D: I completed my Bachelor's degree at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA. I majored in middle school education. I completed my Master's degree at Johns Hopkins University and earned a degree in school administration.

WR: What is your favorite part about your job?

Ms. D: My favorite part of my job is working with the students. I really enjoy getting to know the students and finding out about their interests, hobbies, and sports they play etc. I also really love working with the staff at RHMS.

WR: Would you like to share information about your family?

Ms. D: Some of my immediate family lives in Montgomery County and the rest of the family lives in PA and NJ. I have one daughter who is in 8th grade. She is very active with dance, sports, friends, and activities at school.

New Administrator at RHMS cont.

WR: What did you enjoy when you were younger? (Hobbies, subject in school, etc.)

Ms. D: When I was in middle school and high school I was very active in school. In middle school, I was a cheerleader and played basketball and softball. I was also in the school play and worked on the school yearbook. I was a good student and I was also very social. In high school, I played volleyball and basketball and I had a part-time job scooping ice cream and making and decorating ice cream cakes at Baskin Robbins.

WR: What are your current hobbies or interests?

Ms. D: I like to travel though I don't get to travel as often as I'd like. I love the beach and go every summer. I like to read and go to the movies. I am also a big sports fan. I support all the DC teams!

WR: Where did you grow up? Where are you from?

Ms. D: I was born in Philadelphia and lived in New Jersey when I was younger. Later we moved to Maryland and I went to high school in Kensington at the Academy of the Holy Cross.

WR: When you were younger, what did you want to be when you grew up?

Ms. D: I always wanted to be a teacher, even from a very young age. Later, I considered going to law school to become a lawyer. I worked part-time as a para legal when I first started teaching, but teaching was my first love and I couldn't leave it.

WR: Who/what has influenced you the most?

Ms. D: My parents have had a great influence on me. I think I am like each of them in some ways. I learned to value family and friends and to be compassionate and caring from them. The next greatest influences on me have been the students I have taught over the years, many of whom I still keep in touch with and who have careers and families of their own.

WR: Do you have any advice for the students at Rocky Hill?

Ms. D: My advice for RH students is to be kind to one another and to yourself. Middle school is a time of opportunity and change which can be wonderful and a little stressful. Learn and explore new interests by joining clubs, activities and sports – you are still discovering your talents! You never know what you might discover about yourself!

WR: Any additional information you would like to share?

Ms. D: I just want to thank the staff and students for being so welcoming to me. Rocky Hill is a wonderful place to be!



The Leo Club

By Marley Pinsky

Rocky Hill's clubs and activities feature many different types of students; those who love to read, athletes, musicians, Lego builders, chess players and more. This article puts the spotlight on the one full of students who are passionate about making the world a better place: the Leo Club.

Mr. Stevenson, 6th grade World Studies teacher, is the sponsor of this club. Before coming to Rocky Hill, he taught at Cedar Grove Elementary, where his wife currently teaches. His son Nicholas is in seventh grade and loves soccer. His daughter, Haley, is in tenth grade and runs cross country and track, which Mr. Stevenson also participated in from eighth grade to college. During the fall Mr. Stevenson coaches cross country at Rocky Hill. He is enthusiastic about spending time with members of the team, planning trainings, and watching his team perform at meets. He loves working with young people, and teaching and coaching here at Rocky Hill allows him to do that. His advice for students at Rocky Hill: Surround yourself with positive people. He believes that the people you are associated with are a direct reflection of who you are (both academically and socially), which he often informs his students about at the beginning of the school year.

The Leo Club is a group of students who work on projects that benefit the community. Examples of projects that they have done before are coat drives, food drives, and jeans for teens, which is a drive for homeless teens in need of clothes. In the past, they have also helped animal shelters and raised money for schools and students in foreign countries. This group, which is open to all students at our school, meets a few times a semester.

The Lions Club sponsors the Leo Club, which is fundamentally an adult version of the Leo Club. While students can receive SSL hours for their work, Mr. Stevenson tells the Wildcat Roar, "I do not believe that is their main reason for joining. I believe the students care about others and want to find ways in which they can make positive changes in the community." The members of the Leo Club are sincerely dedicated to community service.

According to student members of the Leo Club, Mr. Stevenson finds out about projects by asking other teachers if

they need help with charities or seeing if there are drives at school that the club can help with. Once choosing a project, the students make posters in order to spread awareness about their project. Besides charities, they also help with the canned food drive.

Students in the Leo Club have also shared their opinions with the Wildcat Roar. Mythili Menon, seventh grader, tells us, "My favorite part would be working with my friends to help with the service." Suzy Xu, seventh grader, also remarks on socializing, and says that she enjoys making posters and spreading the word about their work.

The Leo Club provides an opportunity for students to earn SSL hours, socialize with friends, and make a positive difference in the community. While it may seem small, these students' efforts truly make an impact on our world. Thank you, Leo Club, for making the world a better place.



**Winter Dance
on Friday, Feb. 23rd**

RHMS Media Center

Our school has a great media center with a wonderful variety of activities and a very friendly staff. This year, our media center has changed a lot. If you are wondering what types of activities are available in the media center, the Wildcat Roar has all of the answers. But first, let's get to know the staff at the media center.

Ms. Gramatges is one of the librarians here at the media center. She loves to read realistic, fiction mystery, and dystopian fiction books. (Dystopian means in a society where everything is bad or unpleasant.) She also used to love reading Trixie Belden, Nancy Drew, and Judy Blume books when she was a child. She likes to bake and loves chocolate, cookies, and ice cream. She wants to remind students that if they check out a cookbook from the media center, they should bring a sample of what they make for her and Ms. Heidary. She also enjoys lifting weights. She has two kids who have gone through Rocky Hill or are currently here, and she also has a dog named Socks. Mrs. Gramatges says that she reads so much, her favorite book is always changing. However, she really loves the books The Hate U Give, Flawless, The Sun is Also a Star, and the Michael Vey Series.

Ms. Heidary is the second librarian here at the media center. She also enjoys reading, crossword puzzles, board games, and spending time with her 3 year old grandson named Reef. She also has a dog named Ricky and loves to read about dogs, such as books by W. Bruce Cameron. You may be familiar with his most popular book, A Dog's Purpose. Be sure to watch out for the crazy headbands Ms. Heidary wears sometimes!

This year, the media center has added more instant activities and fun furniture. They are open for more lunches on a daily basis. Also, students can bring up their lunches instead of eating first and then coming up like in previous years. They have also created a schedule for different activities during lunch.

Monday: Mystery Monday! Come in for a surprise!

Tuesday: No Tech Tuesdays. You can come in and play board games and read, but there are no electronic options.

Wednesday/Thursday: Free Choice Days

Friday: Quiet Friday. There are quiet activities only (the other days are usually pretty noisy!)

During lunch, you can sit at a table and talk with friends. You can read books, play board games, and even play video games like Mario Kart on the promethean board!

Some activities that occur in the media center all day long is the instant prize activities. These are activities that you can participate in by submitting answers to trivia questions, riddles, or other games. There are also monthly prize activities, in which you can enter answers to questions or riddles and earn a chance for you to be picked in a drawing for the win-

ner at the end of the month. In the media center, there is a lego wall where you can build with legos. There are some foosball tables, tons of board games, Lite Brites, jigsaw puzzles, coloring activities, and old toys from when Mrs. Gramatges was younger, such as potato heads. Don't forget, you can also read!

Some examples of contests are Guess the Emoji, Watcha' Know, What the Heck is it?, Crack the Code, and Book Alikes. Crack the Code is an activity where you have to complete many steps to decode a message in order to win a prize. What the Heck is it? Is where you are given a zoomed in image of an item and you have to guess what the picture is of. Prizes for instant prize activities include Jolly Ranchers, Kisses, Airheads, or other small candies and non-edible prizes like pencil sharpeners, erasers, and more.

The media center also sponsors a few clubs! The media center strongly encourages students to read three or more Black Eyed Susan books so that they are eligible to vote at the end of the year. There is also the 25 club, in which students make a list of books that they had read throughout the year. Once they reach 25, they can have the paper signed and turn it into the media center to get a prize. The media center sponsors Book Wars and Rocky Hill Readers. The Book Wars club consists of up to 4 teams of 4 students each. They are given a list of 10 books and 4 series or themes to read by April. During meetings, they discuss books, design costumes and team introductions, and fitness team spirit. The club competes in a trivia competition about the books they are supposed to read. They compete against three other MCPS teams during a competition in April. The winning team advances to the virtual round in which they compete against other winners in the county for the championship title.

The Rocky Hill Readers meets about four or five times throughout the year. The students participating in the club select Black Eyed Susan picture books to read with students in grades kindergarten to third grade in local elementary schools. The participants also develop an activity around the theme of the book for the children to engage in. The media center is a great place for students at Rocky Hill to come and enjoy in the morning, during lunch, or throughout the day. Whether you enjoy reading or not, anybody can have fun hanging out in the media center.

Check it out now!





Book Wars

By: Vrinda Bawa

Book Wars has officially started! The meeting days for book wars are December 13, January 10, February 7, February 21, March 7, March 21, April 6 (Competition day,) and April 11. The books that book war readers will read are Snakes and Stones by Lisa Fowler, When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead, Counting by 7s By Holly G. Sloan, The Book Jumper By Mechthild Glaser, 90 Miles To Havana by Enrique Flores- Galbis, Ghost by Jason Reynolds, Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson, Invisible Emmie by Terri Libenson, Save Me a Seat, by Sarah Weeks and Gita Varadarajan, and Powerless by Matthew Cody. In the Lightning Round Categories book war readers will read Wings of Fire (#1-9) By: Tui Sutherland, Spy School (#1-4) By: Stuart Gibbs, and Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales (#1-6) By: Nathan Hale. In the "Oldies But Goodies" Category, Book War Readers will read A Wrinkle in time by Madeleine L'Engle, Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury, Matilda by Roald Dahl, Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster, and Lion, Witch, and the Wardrobe by C.S Lewis. Happy Reading!

Trivia Challenge Answers

C, B, A, C, D

Old Music

By: Vrinda Bawa



Music has been a big part of the world. But we don't know how music was really started off as! There is Blues, Scat, R&B etc. The earliest period of music was "Baroque period." It started in 1600 and ended in 1750. The Baroque Period is characterized by strict musical forms and highly ornamental works. Baroque music began in Europe around 1600. It continued until 1750. Some major composers that composed baroque music was Johann Sebastian Bach, Marc Antoine Charpentier, Antonio Corelli, etc. The second period of music is "The Classical Period." The Classical Period started in 1750 and ended in 1830. The music of The Classic Period is lighter and clearer than baroque music. In broad terms, it is less complex and primarily homophonic. The third period is "The Romantic Period." The Romantic Period started in 1830 and ended in 1900. Romantic music sought to express emotion, both negative and positive, through music. Orchestras became larger during this period. The third period of music is Ragtime. It started in 1899. While Orchestral music remained popular, in 1899, Scott Joplin began to release very new music, including his "Maple Time Rag." This began the genre of Ragtime, Characterized by syncopated, Ragged rhythm. The next period of music was Opera. It began in 1900 and ended in 1960. During the first half of the 20th century, Operas became increasingly popular, with large opera houses working in many cities. In early 1970's rap music had become very popular. Rap and Hip-hop music have their origins in house parties in 1970s New York City. These musical genres have initially relied upon the beats found in funk, soul, and disco records, but provided a new and exciting form of expression. Punk Rock began to be popular in 1974 and ended in 1976. By 1970's, Rock Music wasn't rebellion enough and punk rock developed. Punk Music wasn't limited instrumentation, harsh sound, and shorter songs. Lyrics were typically anti-establishment.

Newspaper Club



By: Katie Kim

The Newspaper Club has written about many other clubs but never about us so I want to introduce you to all the members. Our teacher is Mr. Kevin Conley. Our chief editor is Malini Raghu and our 2nd editor is Marley Pinsky. Our journalists are Niyati Dalal, Nandi Patel, Katie Kim, Shreya Barua, Zara Jalloh, Vrinda Bawa, and Parker Ofner. The newspaper meets every month before or after school. When we start a new article everyone chooses what they want to report on. Most people do one or two jobs. Then it is up to the journalists to go interview the staff and the students they need. For example, when our journalists do a review on sports. They go to the teacher in charge the the team or activity and interview them. They might also take some pictures.

After everyone is done with their articles, Mr. Conley takes all the articles and puts them together in a certain way. Then he prints the draft and everyone comes together and edits it. Then he makes all the corrections and... BOOM! You have a newspaper! Everyone puts a lot of effort into these articles. We have about three newspapers a year and all of them are great. Now that you know the people and the process, maybe next year, you'll come join us!

Canned food drive

For the food drive this year three Rocky Hill organizations combined to collect cans for our community and the Damascus Food Bank. National Junior Honor Society with Mr Smith, Leo's with Mr. Stevenson and Student Government with Mr. Conley had all 3 groups working together to collect 1,473 cans. The 8th grade class collected the most (this was the 9th time in a row for that honor) and were given a small incentive treat for their efforts. Boxes have been prepared for our Wildcats Care and will be distribute to families in our community before the winter break.



**Winter Dance
on Friday,
Feb. 23rd.
Don't miss it!**

Are Youth Sports Dangerous?

By: Parker Ofner

Many kids today play a sport for a season or year round. This puts kids in the right direction for college, scholarships, and even a pro sports career. But for many kids this puts them on the fast track for injuries. Recent research suggests that about 4 in 10 emergency room visits for kids are sports injuries. Some injuries can even prevent a kid from doing that sport permanently. Some of these injuries result from doing something like bumping into someone, such as a concussion. But most injuries come from overuse problems. Now the big question is should we play dangerous sports such as football, baseball, and basketball? Well yes, because as long as you wear the proper gear and are careful you will be able to be able to learn teamwork, make friends, and even get more college acceptances with the activities on your application. I believe sports can be fun and safe for every kid.

RH Readers Club

By: Shreya Barua

Do you love to read as much as I do? If so, I know you would love to hear about the Rocky Hill Readers Club. I had the opportunity to ask Mrs. Gramatges a few questions about the RH Readers Club, and this is what she said.

What is RH Readers Club?

RH Readers is a club where the participants select a Black Eyed Susan picture book to read to a total of 4 elementary school classes (2 at Little Bennett ES and 2 at Wilson Wims). The club meets 4-5 times between October and January. During our meeting times, our readers practice reading aloud their selected book and they create an activity that relates to their book that they can do with the elementary school students. In January or February we visit the elementary schools and read to and lead an activity to grades K-3 classes.

How long have you been sponsoring the RH Readers Club?

I started the RH Readers Club about 5 years ago. We thought it would be nice to reach out to our local elementary schools and support their Black Eyed Susan reading initiatives by showcasing our community of readers here at Rocky Hill.

Why do you like sponsoring this club?

I like the excitement our Rocky Hill students have as they prepare their activities to lead with the classes. They are excited to see the younger students at the elementary schools and the elementary school students are excited to have the "big kids" visit them. It's very rewarding when the students we read to years ago come to Rocky Hill. They remember when the "big kids" came to read to them and some of them choose to continue this tradition by joining RH Readers so they can make an impact on the younger students.... They pay it forward!

Why do you encourage students to join Rocky Hill Readers?

I think it's a great opportunity for our students to form a bond with our younger students throughout Clarksburg. They experience being a leader as they prepare for and teach a lesson based on their selected book. They learn to relate to others in a positive way. It's a great experience!

What has been your most favorite memory about Rocky Hill Readers?

When I first started this program, my daughter was part of the program. We actually brainstormed the idea together! I also like when I lead orientation at the beginning of every year and 6th graders comment on how much they enjoyed the experience when our RH Readers visited their classroom at their elementary schools.

How many students are a part of Rocky Hill Readers?

We usually have 10-12 Readers every year.

Lastly, any general advice you would like to give the students at RHMS?

Be happy. Don't sweat the small stuff. Problems are temporary! And... of course, READ!

Thank you Mrs. Gramatges for answering these questions! All the readers out there should join! I hope this gave you some information about the RH Readers Club and don't forget to stop by at the media center if you have any other questions!

Up to date facts about our world- you may or may not need to know.

By:Nandi Patel

The CEO of Amazon made a net worth of 100 billion after Black Friday, which made him the only billionaire to have a 12-digit fortune according to Forbes, as of Nov. 27

In Mumbai International Airport, as of Nov 24, it held the world record for most flight handled in 24 hours on ONE runway, 969.

Did you know that there is a disorder known as “Facebook Addiction Disorder”?

Cherophobia is the fear of fun! :)

Funny, a flock of crows are called a murder!!

Hilarious, the top 6 foods that make you fart include beans, corn, bell pepper, cabbage, and milk!!

In 2015, more people were killed from more injuries caused by taking selfies than by shark attacks! How??

In China, Facebook, Skype, and Twitter are banned.

A small child could swim through the veins of a blue whale.

In Uganda 50% of the population is under 15 years of age.

Sea otters hold hands when they sleep so they don't drift away from each other.

Think again! Nearly 8,000 Americans are injured by musical instruments each year!!

There are 1,665 total steps in the Eiffel Tower

The twitter bird actually has a name- Larry

Pan phobia is a fear of everything

A company in Taiwan makes dinnerware out of wheat, so if you want to eat your plate after dinner, you can

Unlike many other big cats, snow leopards are not aggressive towards humans. There has never been a verified snow leopard attack on a human being.

Surprisingly, George W. Bush was once a cheerleader!!

Over 1,000 birds die each year due to smashing into windows.

Throughout your entire life, you will spend about 8 days brushing our teeth.

Basketball and Book Review

Lady Wildcat Basketball Team

Abby Dailey

Dinah Edwards

Morgan Lynn

Athina Nkangnia

Alex Schultz

Mia Smith

Nicole Torres

Ke'Asia Ames

Alyssa Lee

Genevieve Gleason

Maria Hiles

Claire Sengbusch

London Tracey

Coach– Mrs. Demosky-Tippett

“Coach Tip”



Boys Wildcat Basketball Team

Gomez, Juan

Harshey, Colton

Dorsey, Jordan

Jones, Mason

Leonce, Tyree

Nguyen, Huy

Payne, Aiden

Rainey, Jayden

Smith, Matthew

Webber-Childs, D'Mari

Yelle, Nathan

Dao, Jefferson

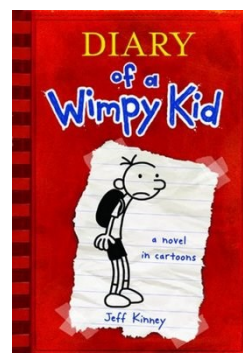
Coach– Mr. Shull

**Congratulations to our boys
who went undefeated for the
last 2 seasons!**

Book Report

By: Katie Kim

Starting middle school can be a big change. You meet new people, new teachers, and new books. Some books many people enjoy is Diary of a Wimpy Kid and Big Nate. When people came to middle school, they started reading books like Divergent and Hunger Games. Some graphic novels that got interesting is Sunny Side Up and Amulet. Many people enjoy Fantasy and Action. Sci-fi is not as enjoyed, thought. Have you started reading a new book? If not head down to the library on the second floor and check something out!



Trivia Challenge!

Test yourself and your friends with some trivia!

America's flag has ____ stripes.

- 14
- 12
- 13
- 10

A spider has ____ eyes.

- 7
- 8
- 6
- 4

Which number is prime.

- 2
- 6
- 9
- 21

Which one of these is a real English word

- Expurgat
- Expropreation
- Pauper
- Vibrat

Fe is the element for ____.

- Gold
- Sapphire
- Lithium
- Iron

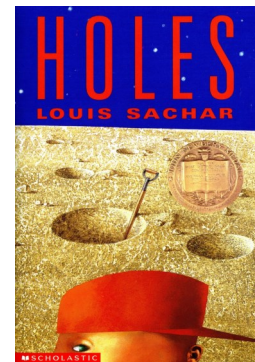
Check your answers on Book Wars page in this issue.

Book Review:- Holes

By Nandi Patel

Novel By: Louis Sachar

Stanley Yelnats, a teen who got sent to trial, AND was found guilty, chose Camp Green lake over jail. Of course, any ordinary teen would choose a camp over jail. But this wasn't just any camp, it was a juvenile camp for teens, which made kids do laborious jobs daily. Everyday, they would have to dig a hole 5ft deep in diameter every way. Supposedly, juveniles do this to build character, but Stanley was pretty sure they were doing it for something else. When he finds a mysterious gold tube with the initials "KB" marked on it, he shows it to the Warden, who finds it very valuable. What's so important about a little tube after all. Over the day, as he keeps thinking about it, he learns that the famous outlaw, Kate Barlow, the person who robbed his millionaire great-grandfather, used to roam around Camp Green Lake. Everyday, in the hot sun, the kids dig holes and are too tired at the end of the day to do anything. Stanley, though, tries to unveil the secret of the tube. He soon discovers, that Kate Barlow robbed all the money out of 20 banks. Later, he discovers that many wanted to discover where Kate's money was and steal it. Kate told them that they'll never be able to find the money, but it was in Green Lake. Soon, Stanley figured it out, could it really be? The small details all came back to him, when the Warden saw that we found the tube, she was super excited and wanted the boys to dig a enormous hole exactly where the gold tube was discovered. As they never found anything, the Warden got frustrated and angry. Anyway, it would take a lot of time to dig a dried up lake, and what would it be? Was the Warden looking for something, or was it really just for the boys to build character and pay for their crimes? Read Holes by Louis Sachar, to find out!!



Writers of The Wildcat Roar

Teacher Mr. Kevin Conley

Chief Editor Malini Raghu

2nd Editor Marley Pinsky

Journalists

Niyati Dalal Zara Jalloh

Nandi Patel Vrinda Bawa

Katie Kim Parker Ofner

Shreya Barua



RHMS Student Government Association Winter Dance and Fundraiser

Friday, February 23, 2018 Time: 3:00 - 4:20 PM

Cost: \$5.00 (Cash or check made payable to "RHMS".)

Refreshments will be available for purchase during the dance (\$1 sodas/ chips).

SGA sponsor, Mr. Conley will collect completed and signed permission slips and your \$5 payment in the main hallway the mornings of Feb. 19 - 22nd.

Students are expected to maintain **Rocky Hill PRIDE behaviors** that shows respect for self, others and the school building.

Appropriate dress is required as per RHMS Dress code.

If expectations are not met, students may be removed from the dance and they may lose the privilege of attending future dances at Rocky Hill.

Students cannot attend if they are academically ineligible from the 2nd marking period.

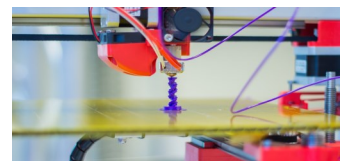
New Technology Everywhere!

By Zara Jalloh

Everyone wants to be up to date with the hottest and most trendy technologies! But not many people know much about the ones that are just as amazing, but not too familiar. Here are 5 new technologies not many people know about!

#5: 3D Printer

This 3D printer has been out for a long 23-30 years without many people recognizing it. You've possibly once used a regular printer. They print in two dimensions, which is length and width. 3D Printers follow along the same principle, except they have another dimension to it. They have height, which regular printers do not. They start with an image on the computer, and that sends what you want the object to look like. The 3D printer interprets that as a stack of slices, which gets us into the processing state. Do you see the long strip of blue? Well, that strip is actually the printer's stock, or material used as "fuel". They come in spools, like thread does. The printer melts it and squirts it onto the platform. The substance immediately hardens and the process is done all over again. The machine lowers and continues with the next layer.



#4: Robot Vacuum

This robot vacuum does not need much explaining, but it is still very amazing to know that if you buy this amazing device, all you have to do is sit back and relax while this does all the work.



#3: Napoved Self Walking shoes

These shoes are not too stylish like the next Nike, but are still very comfortable and come with a built in bluetooth that you can use any time you're wearing these Napoved shoes. These guys could even be a trend, if you think about it.



#2: Parrot Pot

A parrot pot is a bluetooth automated plant care-taker. It regulates the amount of sunlight, and carbon dioxide your plant needs to thrive. If you are not a gardening expert, this would be perfect for you!



#1: Circuit scribe

This is definitely at the top of the list because well, it's just pretty darn amazing! Circuit Scribe is a pen with a bizarre feature: the ink is a circuit! Well, not exactly. The ink is a conductor, like a wire in a circuit to help power any circuit you make! So if you draw with this ink, be careful. It's the same thing as wires!



As humans we have definitely evolved into the use of technology. Let's see where technology takes us.

Interview with Coach Tip

By: Malini Raghu

Steer clear, the lady wildcats are here! The Rocky Hill "Lady Wildcats" are running towards victory as they verse their tough opponents. I've been able to get an interview with the fabulous coach of their team, our one and only Mrs. Tippet!

Wildcat Roar- How long have you been coaching girls basketball?

Coach Tip- I have been coaching girls basketball since I was 19 years old, so 32 years—with a break here and there.

WR- What inspired you to help students become basketball players?

CT- I had so much fun playing the sport. I wanted to help other kids have fun with it as well. It's a great sport to be involved in. It's challenging, competitive and a great workout. There is a lot of strategy to learn. I like teaching those elements of the game to others so they can then go and teach it to someone else.

WR- What are some great memories you've had while teaching basketball?

CT- There are so many to choose from, but the 2 that stand out are when one of my players, who wasn't a great foul shooter, was fouled at the end of game beyond the 3 point line. We were down by 2 points. She made all 3 foul shots to win the game for us. Their coach even called time out to try to make her nervous and I told the team that WHEN she made the third shot, we should make sure to pick up their person right away so they couldn't get the ball back in time to take a shot. It worked! She made the third shot and the girls did exactly as I instructed.

The second great memory is when we were also down 1 point with only a half second on the clock so there was only enough time for a tap in. Literally when the ball gets to you, you just tap it to the basket. We had an inbounds play where 2 of our girls screened for our highest jumper to catch and tap the ball in. The play worked perfectly and she made the shot. Very exciting to be involved in both those plays.

WR- Who are some star players on the basketball team?

CT- All of my girls are stars for our team.

WR- Any advice for your players?

CT- Don't panic, pivot.

Well clearly, Mrs. Tippet's interview and strong belief in the team, proves that the "Lady Wildcats" were born to win! Come watch the Lady Wildcats as they fight their way towards victory!

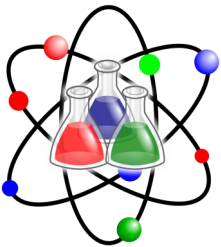
**Winter Dance
on Friday, Feb. 23rd**

Tackle As A Pack

By: Malini Raghu

Let's think big for a minute. Imagine the entire world, filled with billions of people who dream of making a difference. Millions of people want to become world renowned scientists or be the first person to invent something that will change the way humanity lives. Now let's think way smaller. In our school of eight hundred people, close to four hundred students also want to enter the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) field. But guess how many students get into a prestigious college and follow their dreams? One hundred. Out of four hundred students, only approximately one hundred students get accepted because of the amount of experience. With the cut-throat competition of today's generation, only kids with high knowledge and experience on the subject get accepted. But how will we learn or build a strong foundation on STEAM, when there is no way to experiment and learn, or find accurate answers? This is why we should have Public libraries and STEAM labs spread out across MCPS. With the large population outburst in our area, the closest public library to us is in Germantown! We have more than five schools in our area but we don't have any labs close to us. We, as a student body, as a school, can stand up for our basic right for an education. Building a science lab could not only benefit us, but children starting from a very young age. Young adolescents can build a robust connection towards Science and Mathematics and start building a strong foundation and understanding of the complex topics included. STEAM education sparks interests and opens gates to a diverse choice of career opportunities. Montgomery County is home to many federal agencies and research institutes, such as NIH, FDA, NIST, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, and Department of Energy, along with many biotech, healthcare, and information technology firms and universities. They provide a critical mass in STEAM forces, STEAM career market, as well as STEAM environment. Public STEAM Labs in Montgomery County are an investment for the future and has every reason to exist. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to prove that The Rocky Hill Wildcats want to make a difference that will create a positive impact on us and many generations to come. Let's put forward everything we have to make sure our voices will be heard. Let's gather support from the schools around us and step into the Executive Board meeting, knowing we have done everything we possible can to make sure that there is no obstacle standing in anybody's way while they take the long path of following their dreams and working hard in finding a career in the STEAM field. The RHMS wildcats will tackle this project as a pack, and achieve our goals.

If you support this cause, visit the website <http://chn.ge/2DzQhZH> or go onto the RHMS website to see the link there.
Thank you for your support!



Book Review Mr. Tucket

Written by: Gary Paulsen

Reviewed by: Niyati Dalal

Francis is a fourteen year old boy who is going to Oregon by wagon train with his family. He receives a rifle from his father for his birthday. He goes out away from the train to practice shooting by himself. After a few shots he lags behind his train and gets captured by Pawnee Indians. They mistreat him. He tries escaping but he is getting caught all the time he tries. Then a one armed mountain man named Mr. Grimes helps him escape the camp. They travel for a few days until they stop to give Francis his own horse from a nicer Indian village. He has to wrestle a tough Indian bot to get some good clothing. He wins the match. Francis earns the horse and they move on for many days till they stop at Spot Johnnie's place. Spot's wife is an Indian. But to Francis' surprise, she was not mean like the Pawnee indians who captured him days ago. She feed them well. They stayed with Spot for three days. Two days later of ridding forms Spot's, they stopped at a canyon. After they camped for the night, Mr. Grimes cover all the signs of the fact that they camped here. This was the edge of Indian territory. Mr. Grimes said that they were unpredictable. As they rode on Mr. Grimes thought it will be good to build a house. They would stay in the house for a couple of days. In those days they will set beaver traps to make into pellets. It was a long process. He had Francis do lots of work while staying at the house (or camp). Somedays he would be assinged tons of work or none at all. One day he had no work and was so board, he decided he would get his mare and go for a ride. Without thinking of what Mr.Grimes said about the indians being unpredictable. As he went farther out, a few Crow indians attaced him. His mare let out at a high speed. As the Crows got closer and began shooting arrows, Mr.Grimes gathered his riffle and shoot all indians saving Francis. Days later the winter came. Francis saw two men riding horses coming his way. He thought of them as Indians. He had his rifle in hand and his fingers on the trigger. When the two men came closer, he realized that they were not Indians, they were trappers. But when they came about a hundred yards away he saw them pulling out their rifles. Francis thought about bringing Mr. Grimes but he did not want to leave. He thought as soon he left they would be robbed. As they called at the house, Francis did not say anything. He just stayed out of sight. As the called againg, Francis made his voice sound deeper and more gruff. He held them back for a the time being untill Mr.Grimes came back to the house. They both knew

Mr.Grimes. The thing that they didn't know that the "man" that was holding them back was just a boy. As they compleated they bever job days later, the rode on. Later they found that the Pawnee tribe had destroyed Spot's village. Mr.Grimes was upset. Spot was a good friend of his. They rode on to a wagon train. Mr.Grimes was going to go after the Pawnee. Francis was told to stay with the wagon men. But, of course he didn't and rode of after Mr.Grimes. He saw Mr.Grimes on his horse against the Pawnee leader. They both had riffles in hand. They shot at the same time. Mr.Grimes got shot in the shoulder but lived and the Pawnee leader was gone. Francis did not look back to say bye to Mr.Grimes.

Rocky Hill Newspaper Contest

Are you an artist?

A great writer?

A poet?

Then enter the RHMS Newspaper contest. Winning entries will be included in the newspaper.

Turn in submissions to

**Mr. Conley in room 167 by
Feb. 28th**