McKinley Alternative School

McKinley Tea Time

March 23, 2018

Issue 1, Volume 2

Production of English 12.

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McKinley Alternative School is the school that I attend. Mckinley is an alternative school for kids not able to stay in regular classes or kids that are behind in school. I enjoy Mckinley because they care a lot about their students. The teachers make sure their students are always caught up. It’s a lot easier to go to a smaller school and it helps make it more clear to focus.

What kids outside of McKinley don’t understand is that we are a lot like every other school. I’ve been asked plenty of times do we only attend one class, NO. We are the same as any other school with seven classes to attend. We have a three minute passing period just like Kokomo High School. We also have two 30 minute lunches just like the high school. McKinley is just a regular school with “Alternative” added in. Mckinley is an AWESOME school. We have a barbeque at the end of the year, we have basketball tournaments, student service day, and a whole lot more. I really enjoy it.

Mckinley Service Day  By - Breonna Anthony

One day a year, McKinley has an option for students to go around Kokomo and do service work for the community. One option that I liked when I went was going to the Jackrabbits Stadium and cleaning up in the ticket booth, conference room, hallways, bathrooms, and the merchandise area. It’s almost like we got a treat afterwards because we got to play on the field and eat pizza with them.

Some students also went to North Woods Village to care for the elderly like doing nails, singing, dancing, and playing cards. Giving out and helping the community really means a lot to many people and it also helps out in many ways. We earn respect and we get appreciated by other adults who love the work that we do. What I would love to be continued this year is helping out at North Woods Village. Why? It gives students time to make others happy and enjoy the time they get with kids they’ve never met before. It makes my heart feel complete to see older people happy or just smile. It may also make them feel young again by doing things that they don’t get to normally do.

Afterwards, when everyone is back at school, we’ve had a good lunch together and we get to sit and relax for the rest of the day from the work we put out. The teachers are very appreciative and thankful for our work and behavior we have done for being out and around other people who are in our community.
CNA Career Class

By - Alexys Abbott

CNA stands for certified nursing assistant. In this class, we learn how to take care of elderly people in a nursing home. We have mannequins that we use to practice our RCP’s. Those are things like toileting a resident, changing the resident, feeding, walking, etc. However, for the test we take to get certified, we have to know word for word what to do when taking care of a resident. Our CNA class was in the classroom for a few months, so we could study the correct ways to take care of a resident. After our teacher knew we knew what we were doing, we went to a nursing home to actually take care of the elderly.

At first, I was terrified to go because the thought of having someone else’s whole life in my hands was scary. I didn’t feel very confident going in and taking care of them. A few weeks passed at the same facility and I grew more confident. I grew a heart for all the residents, but I had an even bigger heart for a very old resident. She was as lively as could be. Well, they say it never gets easier getting used to residents passing, you just get stronger and learn how to cope with it. She was the first resident I lost. She will be the hardest loss I will take. Each loss will be bad, but I will learn how to cope with the losses.

We have a CNA test to take on April 23rd to be an actual CNA. It consists of a written test and a skills test. For the skills test, we have to make sure we do everything by the book and correctly. We get 3 chances per RCP we pull and we pull 7 all together.

Super excited to graduate
Excellent work throughout the years
Never let anyone hold you back
Important to stay on task
Opportunities await you in the future
Ready to start a new life

Poetry By James Smith
Rai'gan’s Beauty Tips
Here are some beauty tips for the girls who need guidance for those rough mornings of high school. These are some tips that can help you look more bright and awake, also some tips to make your makeup look flawless every morning!

❖ If possible, it’s always good to start off with a fresh and clean face. It makes the base a lot easier to work with.
❖ To help your skin glow from within and look healthier, a moisturizer is a MUST! Moisturizing your face is the key to a flawless base (if you’re doing the bare minimum also if you’re going full-face beat)
❖ Another tip to help you look more bright: use a neutral/skin tone or a white cream pencil to your lower waterline. That helps your eyes look brighter and makes you look more awake.
❖ If you’re going for the bare minimum look, (not including lashes) I think carmex or lipgloss or BOTH is a good way to set off a natural face. Apply carmex or your favorite lip balm and put a clear or tinted lip gloss over it and boom, a look!
❖ Another tip for a natural face, eyebrows! Eyebrows frame the face and you can fill them in lightly if you’re doing the bare minimum. You can use concealer to clean up under the brow and give it a sharper point and tail.

Basketball at 11:03
By Tyler Powell
Everyday at 11:03 am you’ll notice everybody rushing out of class and to the lunchroom. It’s everybody's favorite part of the day! We get down there, grab our lunch, and eat quickly. We all normally finish eating and head to the gym together.
Once everybody is in the gym we will shoot up caps. Once we have our caps picked and they pick up their team, then we’ll shoot for the ball. We get about 15-20 minutes per game, normally it is the best part of the day.

Summer Break By James Smith
Summer break is almost here
Some people say it’s the best time of the year
Saying goodbye to all your teachers
Can’t watch anymore games on the bleachers
Baseball games are played at the park
Sometimes we play until it’s dark
No homework No Teacher No School
Fishing in the pond is very cool
Graduation just a few weeks away
Racing to make good grades
Applause from family and friends as you walk the stage
Dreaming of a bright future
Unlock the keys to the future
Achieve greatness once you succeed
Triumph over obstacles
Invest in your accomplishments
Overcome everything you have to do
Never give up never back down

By James Smith

A True Friend  Quintessa Burks

A true friend is someone who cares for, loves, and respects you more
than anyone else. In being a true friend, someone has to give you their trust and
let you maintain their respect. For example, if your friend gets upset over
something you say to them about being in drama and you're trying to help them
become a better person and they don't accept it, leave them alone. You gave
them the chance to respect you and still take the offer of being your friend and
they wouldn't accept it. A true friend is always honest with you no matter how
bad the situation is. Everyone needs a friend or someone they can talk to about
anything.

The Battle of Cheeses
by Xander Burtch

Most of us today love macaroni and few of us, sadly don’t. It
is the prized side dish in most U.S. restaurants. What if we
compared a generic macaroni from the discount store and a
higher priced name brand macaroni? The question to ask is,
which is the fastest to cook regarding your starving children that are demanding food for
a Saturday night macaroni party? The answer would be cheap macaroni. Cheaper
macaroni cooks the fastest, but again has some side effects as well. You can expect a
gummy texture and uncooked edges. Higher priced, and let's add better quality,
macaroni can obtain a creamier texture and can more likely hold sauces. This luxurious
macaroni cooks evenly due to its key ingredient, semolina flour. This gives the right
accurate taste and an enhanced “lit” macaroni party. When making macaroni, don't get
yourself in a noodle. Read the instructions!
Career Center Spotlight

Vet Careers
Sadie Williams

In the Vet Careers program at the Kokomo Area Career Center, we take in sheltered animals, and adopt them out. We go through many different cats, dogs, rats, guinea pigs, bunnies, and chinchillas, etc. We make sure to do home checks and research a person’s lifestyle before allowing adoption due to people neglecting. Each animal has a different personality and a different adoption fee. Right now we have three cats (Ryder, Legacy, and Tigerlily), one bunny (Bun), and two rats (Curry and Westbrook).

Ryder is a 7 year old domestic short hair, she is front declawed and spayed. She loves to cuddle, is very sweet, and adores sleep. Her adoption fee is set at $30.

Legacy is a female, black and white, domestic short hair. She is 2 years old and spayed. Her adoption fee is still being set.

Tigerlily is a female, 5 year old, domestic short hair, and very timid. Her adoption fee is also still being set.

Our bunny’s name is Bun. He is a Florida White, neutered, and litter box trained. His adoption fee is set at $30. Lastly, we have our two rats, Curry and Westbrook. They are brothers, 2 years old, and set at a $30 adoption fee. Once we get these animals out to good homes, we will take in more.
Haynes Apperson Festival
Colton Richardson

The Annual Haynes Apperson festival is coming up soon... June 29th through July 1st, so come out and enjoy the best festival of the summer. It is located at the Kokomo Performing Arts Pavilion in Foster Park. Come enjoy the family friendly concerts or other attractions around the area.

The lineup of musical artists cover a wide array of genre and artists features including Josh Kaufman, The Romantics, Walker Hayes who tributes to Fleetwood Mac and Paul McCartney.

Another event is the car show and cruise in. You can view anything from old vintage cars to custom sports cars. Children can have fun too with the carnival rides and games around the park. Sunday, July 1st at 2 p.m. is the annual Haynes Apperson Parade in downtown Kokomo. Come and see our city's automotive heritage with one big parade!

What Is There To Do After School?
Yerik Pike

What is there to do after Graduation? Not much to be honest. You really have only a few options, you can get a job that doesn’t require a college degree like at a factory or you could go to college. Some students take a gap year. A gap year is a year you take before starting a secondary school. The reason for this is so that you can experience the real world.

Within the first few years to come, you will be becoming more responsible for yourself and will be paying rent, bills and all the other things you want to get. Budgeting is more than important. You should never go in debt and should always pay everything back as soon as possible. There is never a worse feeling than not being able to buy something because you are in debt so far. There are many ways to budget your income. Always buy what you need and save for what you want. The worst thing you can do is just sit all day and not do anything with your life. For many people, graduating is a huge deal, but some people treat it like nothing and don't grow with it. To live happy, you need to treat your high school diploma as a stepping stone.
The Art of Colorguard
By Hannah Davis

“You guys just throw flags?” “Is the gun real?” “Can you cut people with your sword?” These are prime examples of the questions we get asked countless times about colorguard. To answer them; No, the gun is not real. It is made out of wood with a plastic “bolt” on top and a rubber strap screwed into the wood. No, we can not cut or stab people with the sword. Although the sabre is a quite dull and wrapped with one to two layers of tape to protect it, it can still cut you. So we wear gloves for extra protection. The last answer to these questions is no, we do not just “throw flags.”

I know it can be harder to understand something when you are not involved in it. You really don’t get to experience it the same way as former or current members. However, there is a long list of expectations for you to be in this activity.

First of all, you need to keep your body mentally and physically stable as this can kind of take a toll considering how much it really strains. I don’t want to make anyone think it is not a good sport to be in though because being involved could change your mind quickly to either loving or hating it. Some of the members (such as myself ) still have a love/hate relationship with it after four years. Second, it is all about your technique. Think of colorguard as a game. Flag is level one- somewhat complicated at first, then easier as time passes and you grow. Level two would be rifle- it is moderately hard and sometimes can get harder the more you learn. You have to train your brain to think about multiple things at one time which can be more complicated at first but becomes easier through all your time in colorguard. And lastly, we have sabre, the third level. Always the hardest right? Sabre is all about your body and being fluid with your movements and breathing through every step. Sabre involves a lot of dance (as do the other pieces of equipment, but because of the size of the sabre, your body underneath is more visible).

All of the work you put in throughout the years becomes melted together and all of your knowledge that you gained from being in the sport creates for a beautiful performance (which is my favorite part of it all).
Running Track
By Tyasia Burk

While I'm standing here, I am waiting nervously and clearing my mind from everything I'm praying and praying while looking down and waiting on my heart to stop racing. I'm thinking about finishing and being done. As I wait, I finally hear the gun shot. I hesitated and thought for a second. Where am I? What am I doing? What is the time? I started to run, I could hear the other females' footsteps approaching me. I thought, I'm in last place. My teammates are going to be mad at me. They are going to have to make up so much time because of me. I started running a little faster. I didn't run as fast as I could because I needed to save some energy for the last 200m of the race. As I sped up, I was still hearing footsteps, thinking she was going to catch up with me and pass me. So, I started going faster until I didn't hear anything.

As I approached the finish line, my partner was not in her place so I could pass her the baton. I knew this was going really badly already. I didn't know what I was going to do. I saw everyone in the stands and they were excited and clapping. They were screaming "GO!" I didn't think they were screaming for me, but that gave me a little more motivation. I also heard my teammates screaming my name, but I was about to approach the finish line and no one was there to get the baton. Fear and nervousness hit my heart hard. What was I doing wrong? Did I start off too fast? Was I going the wrong way? Did the gun go off? I initially heard my coach screaming, "ONE MORE LAP! PICK UP THE PACE!"

When my coach started screaming at me, I remembered that I was at an indoor meet and I had to run two laps for a 400m run. I started smiling when I passed the finish line. I was still not hearing any footsteps coming behind me. I was going faster and faster. My respirations hit me. I couldn't breathe! I could not finish this race. I had to stop. My legs were burning. I was tired. My shins were hurting. I had to stop. My coach saw me slowing down two seconds then started screaming at me. "Tyasia you're at the finish line, finish strong!" That made me forget about all the pain I was going through and finish the race strong. I could see someone up at the finish line for Kokomo yelling. She was yelling for me to hurry up and give her the baton. I ran faster, so I could pass it off.

Thank you English 12 class writers and editors! You guys are fantastic!  Mrs. W.