



The Northern Bark

Issue 6 Volume 2

NHS School Newspaper

April 3, 2017

A Look Through the Lens: NHS Has a Green Thumb

By Olivia Bennett

The Principles of Ag- Plant Science/ Greenhouse Management class, being lead here by Ms. Stumpf, has begun taking care of new plants in the greenhouse. Some of the students involved are thrilled to keep the greenhouse up and healthy. The responsibility really keeps the class active. Sara Carr says, "It's a fun hands-on class!" Emma Broadwater says, "It's really fun to know we are helping the community. We plant and transplant different flowers and vegetables to sell to our community." Nice work and we look forward to the spring plant sale!



Science Now: Have Scientists Paralyzed Paralysis?

By Nathan Ashley

If you know anyone who happens to be fully paralyzed from the neck down, you know how difficult and complicated life can be; however, new technology is changing this. Scientists in Cleveland, Ohio have managed to allow a quadriplegic to use his arm and hand using technology that translates his thoughts to movement. The apparatus,

which has been entitled "The BrainGate2", is complicated and looks a bit like a robotic bone cast. *NPR News* says, "The idea was to create a new connection between Kochevar's brain and his right arm and hand. First, surgeons implanted two electrode arrays in Kochevar's brain. The electrodes detect signals coming from areas of his brain that once controlled his right hand and arm." They also implanted
(continued on page 2)

In Sports: Serving up Spring By Alanna Kinney

Spring has sprung and so has the Lady Huskies Tennis team. Their last match was against Mountain Ridge on March 21st. I talked to a few of the players and asked them a few questions: How did you do at your last match?, Do you think you will have a winning season?, and What is your favorite part of the sport? Here is what they had to say. Sophomore Megan Smith said "I did decent. I played on JV with Amber Jamison. We lost one match
(continued on page 4)

Breaking News No Fracking Way!

By Alanna Kinney

"The fat lady has sung. The game is over. As far as I'm concerned after tonight ... the discussion of the issue is over!" stated Edwards from the Maryland General Assembly. Fracking. What comes to your mind when hearing that word? Well, as a Garrett County resident, there has been a lot of talk going around as to if it should be passed or not. What exactly is fracking? According to www.bbc.com, "Fracking is the process of drilling down into the earth before a high-pressure water mixture is directed at the rock to release the gas inside. Water, sand and chemicals are injected into the rock at high pressure which allows the gas to flow out to the head of the well. The process can be carried out vertically or,
(continued on page 4)

Science Now

(continued)

electrodes in his arm muscles to allow the circuit of electrical impulses to connect. The apparatus gave him the ability to raise and lower his arm and clench his hand. He has even been able to scratch his nose, says *NPR*.

Unfortunately, the structure has taken scientists more than ten years to develop and is still a big mess of wires and electrodes that pierce the skull and skin, though it has been successful, even though it is still in its infant stage. "I think what we've done, though, is shown that we can put this all together and it's feasible," says Robert Kirsch, a professor of biomedical engineering at Case Western. "We can actually record signals from his brain, determine what he's trying to do and make that happen." Bill Kochevar, the quadriplegic patient is finding this technology amazing. "I thought about moving my arm and I could move it. I ate a pretzel, I drank water," he says in a video produced by Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland. He was paralyzed in a biking accident about 15 years ago and since then has been unable to move anything below his shoulders. He is now 56 years old, and is finally able to move one arm.

The progress may be slow, but it is consistent. The algorithm that is being used to translate and decode the signals from his brain to his muscles is being altered and is getting faster at allowing the movement. "A previous effort in a different paralyzed patient restored only hand movement. And several teams have used

brain interfaces to let patients control robotic arms," *NPR* says. While this technology grows, so do our chances of beating and curing paralysis and spinal injuries. This opens a whole new gateway to scientists around the world and provides hope to patients with permanent quadriplegia.

Phil on Food This Cheese Needs to Walk the Plank

By Phil Checkes

So lately I've been told by quite a few readers that I am "obsessed with cheese" and have "a problem." Just to clear the air once and for all, anyone who says that is absolutely 100% correct. According to senior Claudia Rieve, I do, in fact, have a "obsessive compulsive cheese disorder." Now that we have gotten that out of the way, let's move on to what my tastebuds have discovered this week. (I'll give you a clue, it involves cheese.) I decided to take a trip to fellow country restaurant, Annie's Kitchen, a few days ago to try out something new, but old. As a kid, I used to eat there all of the time, and my past memories include comforting thoughts about their mashed potatoes, and desserts. While ordering off of the menu, I noticed the item "cheese planks" listed on the appetizers. Curious, I asked my waitress, Tessa Gardner, who also happens to be a senior at Northern High, to explain to me what they were. "They're like mozzarella sticks, only more square-like," she told me. As usual, my cheese obsessed self decided to try

them.

Overall, the planks were mediocre. When picking them up, you could just feel them crumble under your fingers. Taste-wise, they were bland. The bread crumbs had a faint, bitter taste to them, while the mozzarella cheese inside was also faint. Marinara Sauce was not included, limiting my options to make it taste better. It's not like they were bad, they tasted fine. They just seemed to be rip-offs when compared to actual mozzarella sticks. While Annie's Kitchen is notorious for homemade food and is quite successful at it, the cheese planks were off compared to other things the restaurant has to offer.

Life Hacks

Become a Dairy Queen (or King)

By Madison Dolchan

Delicious homemade chocolate ice cream cups are a great way to kick summer sundaes into gear. With three easy ingredients you can be the dairy queen of summer time snacks! According to *divascancook.com* all you need to make a chocolate-y bowl for ice cream is Chocolate chips, shortening, and balloons. This hack is perfect for cute summer pool parties when one can pair it with ice cream, or for an even more elegant occasion, where one can fill it with berries and whipped cream.

Ingredients:

- 1 cup of semi-sweet chocolate chips (or any chocolate of your choice)
- 1 tablespoon of shortening
- And Balloons

So first thing that needs to be done is to blow the balloons to roughly the size of oranges. Then add chocolate and shortening into a bowl and microwave it for 40 seconds or until the chocolate has melted into a liquid. Be sure to let the chocolate cool down a little before you dip the balloon in a "twist and dip" motion until the bottom half of the balloon is covered. After that, the balloons need to be placed on a sheet of wax paper and put into the freezer, so the chocolate can harden, once it has hardened you can remove it from the paper. Lastly, poke a small hole into the top of the balloon and gently let the air seep out, and peel the balloon off of the chocolate walls. If there are still holes in the bowl

divascancook.com states to fill in the holes with more chocolate and let that freeze. Finally fill it with the delicious treat of your choice and show off to your friends what an amazing cook you are!



Entertainment

Would You Stay in This Motel?

By Olivia Bennett

The American drama series, *Bates Motel*, that first aired in 2013, stars a relationship between a mother and son who move away to start a new life after the father/husband dies. The mother (Norma) and son (Norman) move to find a new beginning, but soon get caught up in old habits. Let's just say the old owner of the motel comes to check out the new owners. Anyway, although I have only watched the first couple episodes of season 1, and the show is currently on it's fifth season, I can say that each episode ends with some suspense. Hunter Burow, a student who graduated from NHS says, "I started watching the show when I found it on *Netflix* and immediately watched all the available episodes." The show utilizes manipulation and suspenseful fear tactics, but it has a quite uncomfortable family relationship between Norma and Norman. Clark Collis, a top critic from *Rotten Tomatoes* says, "Farmiga (Norma) gives a performance to die for." Viewers have many different reviews for the show, and one being from Cassidy Murphy a junior at NHS, she says, "*Bates Motel* is an amazing show, despite the fact the kid from *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* is a murderer and has a creepy fixation on his mother." The show should definitely not be viewed by young audiences as there was a sexual assault scene in the first episode.

That was just the beginning to the story that is unraveling in the first season though.

Netflix has four seasons available and season five is airing currently. It really depends on what you want to try binge watching next, this show could very well be your next pick.

Travel On: Big Apple Adventure

By Alanna Kinney
Skyscrapers, city lights, taxi's, Central Park, and Broadway. What all do these have in common? They're all located in the city that never sleeps; New York, New York! Located in the heart of the state, it has many things to offer with a diversity of cultures, foods, stores, landmarks, and performances. If you want to learn more about this lively place, then keep reading. I have been to New York City three times now, and the experiences get better each visit. There is so much to see and do, so you never get bored and there's always something new for you to explore. With this being said, I have done many things and recommend several places to visit.

If you love musicals, then it is a must that you go to watch a Broadway production. I have seen three which include *Newsies*, *Wicked*, and *Aladdin*. They are truly spectacular and definitely something you will not forget. Along with plays, I toured the Radio City Music Hall which hosts the famous Rockettes. You get to go around and see all of the theatre itself including the

costume room where you sometimes get to meet a Rockette, which I got the privilege to do. It was really cool being able to see a place that a lot of famous people have performed at and been around for so long.

Almost everyone is familiar with NBC broadcasting . If you love TV and want to see how the media works, then you should consider going here. You get an inside view the newsrooms, go through the underground tunnel, do a green screen live report, and even go inside the *Saturday Night Live* studio! For more information , visit

www.thetouratnbcstudios.com on how to book your tour today. Want to hang out with celebrities and get as many selfies with them as you like? Then Madame Tussaud's wax museum should be another stop on your visit. According to www.madametussauds.com , it was rated 4.5 stars. They look so real, your friends will even believe you met Leonardo Dicaprio on your *Instagram* post. So stop by, pose, and smile for the camera.

Besides all these great places, you can take a stroll through the beautiful Central Park. There are many things to see and it gives you a breath of fresh air from the city life. There are a ton of landmarks that you can visit there that have even been in movies such as the boat pond from *Stuart Little* and Belvedere Castle from *Enchanted*. Finally , The Statute of Liberty, which symbolizes our freedom is located on Ellis Island. You can take a ferry boat over to experience her in real life standing at a grand total of 305 feet tall! According to www.statuecruises.com, people have done several reviews and

they were satisfied. "The dreams and hopes of many individuals with this view can only be imagined." , and "An unforgettable experience each day with Lady Liberty." So get ready for the city life with an Empire state of mind and book your trip today.



In History The Lord of *The Lord of the Rings*

By Nathan Ashley

The creator of the Lord of the Rings, J.R.R. Tolkien was a fascinating linguist from South Africa. Born in Bloemfontein, South Africa to English parents in 1892, Tolkien moved to England at a young age after his father tragically passed away. His younger brother, Hilary, his mother, Mabel, and he all moved to the Middle Highlands, which combine industrial England with the quintessential countryside. There, he took a huge interest in language, often because of seeing train cars go by with odd destination names. He eventually attended Oxford University for English language studies and became fluent in Old and Middle English, Latin, and Greek. Sometime later, he grew more fluent in other languages, especially ancient European tongues like Gothic and Old Finnish.

(continued on page 4)

In History:

(continued)

There were several main factors that are believed to have influenced his stories. His travels were major contributors. In his late 20s, he went on a hiking tour of the Swiss Alps, which are believed to have inspired the Misty Mountains and Rivendell in the Middle Earth. Middle Earth was supposedly brought about by the visuals of the English countryside. South African jungle landscapes and mountains could have easily inspired the Mirkwood Forest, Cair Andros, and the Dead Marshes. The British industrial scene inspired the Dark Lands in and around Mount Doom (Orodruin). Tolkien also served in World War I, where he witnessed the first glimpse of the horrific weapons of modern warfare. This may have inspired the many different styles of warfare that are found within his books and elaborated in the movies. The new WWI warplanes might have even inspired the introduction of the Great Eagles and the dinosaur-like Bats of Dol Guldur used in *The Hobbit*.

Another aspect of his life that affected his writing was World War I. He served as a second lieutenant in a group called the "Lancashire Fusiliers", who were a major British infantry line in the battle of Somme, one of the most important wins for the Allied Powers. During the war, Tolkien witnessed the gruesome strength of warplanes, chemical weapons, airships, and the

new machine guns, which would all later resurface in *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit* stories. That year, he contracted trench fever, an illness carried by lice through the trenches of the war, which lacked proper sanitation. He was forced to take leave in England, where he began writing the mythology of Middle Earth, which would serve the basis for his lesser-known book *Silmarillion*.

The most impressive aspect of Tolkien is his style of language. His stories include a variety of made-up languages including Elvish, Dwarvish, Black Speech, and Orc-Speech. These were partially inspired by his studies in the ancient languages of Gothic, Old English, Old Finnish, Greek, and Latin. When he was younger, he wrote several of his own languages for fun. His creative mind led to his studies and eventually was incorporated into his stories.

According to the Tolkien Society, "One of the poems he discovered in the course of his Old English studies was the *Crist of Cynewulf* – he was amazed especially by the cryptic couplet:

'Eá!á Earendel engla beorhtast
Ofer middangeard monnum sended'

Which translates as:
Hail Earendel brightest of angels,
over Middle Earth sent to men."
This is where he got the name "Middle Earth", and he also borrowed the name "Earendel" as part of *The Lord of the Rings*, using it as the name of a bottle of starlight given to Frodo by the elves.

In the end, Tolkien wrote over 100 stories of Middle Earth,
(continued on page 5)

In Sports

(continued)

3-6 and won one 6-0. No, I don't think we will have a winning season because we still have a lot to work on and improve. My favorite part is how good it feels to keep getting better and winning matches. I also love the team. "

Junior Angie Wiland stated " I played two doubles, Varsity, with Jill Wood. Our first set was 1-6, and our second was 4-6. Judging that we played Mountain Ridge, I'd say we didn't play horribly, I thought we played really well. I have confidence in the season, but do I think we will have a winning season? No. My favorite part is playing in matches and seeing my improvement."

Finally, Junior Larissa Savage replied " I played third doubles with Lauren Derato, and unfortunately we did lose, but individually, I think we each played pretty well. I do not believe we will have a winning season, however, I do believe all of us will improve. My favorite thing about tennis is playing in the matches and watching myself improve."

Good luck ladies with your next upcoming match on April 5th against Fort Hill!

Breaking News

(continued)

horizontally to the rock layer and can create new pathways to release gas or can be used to extend existing channels. The term fracking refers to how the rock is fractured apart by the high pressure mixture."

Why is this so controversial? It is possible cause of climate change resulting in global warming. It is said to be not healthy for the environment and it should be concerning to

everyone. As of Monday , March 27th, according to www.baltimoresun.com , the Senate passed a bill banning fracking in Western Maryland with a vote of 35-10. Overall with the House of Delegates, they had a 97-40 vote against it. The majority of the people are ecstatic with the outcome, but several are still upset because it will effect the economy. "This politically motivated decision moves Maryland further away from the state's economic and environmental goals," Drew Cobbs, director of the Maryland Petroleum Institute, said in a statement after the vote.

Groups and activists all across the state came together to obtain meetings, rallies and even had a grand total of 35,000 petitions and letters fighting against fracking according to www.foodandwaterwatch.org.

"Between 2015 and 2017, the Don't Frack Maryland coalition grew to include more than 170 organizations in support of a statewide ban on fracking. "Together, we organized sign-on letters from health professionals, businesses and faith leaders, and coordinated countless events from Mountain Maryland to the Eastern Shore. Our victory against fracking would not have been possible without the tireless work of this coalition."

Thanks to all of the citizens fighting for their beliefs, our Maryland can stay beautiful and continue to be an anti-fracking community.



Student Spotlight

Emma Explains FFA

By Madison Dolchan

FFA, or the Future Farmers of America, is a major part of the NGHS environment. Much of the school's population is a member or has taken one of the classes associated with it. Emma Broadwater, a sophomore, has been a well valued member for two years and is very passionate about the work that she puts into the FFA program. In FFA they do a variety of activities, such as fundraisers like the pancake dinner and their plant sale which is coming up this May. They also help the community as much as possible and learn about how they can help to continue agriculture growth. FFA is not just one major organization, there are many different chapters, which Emma was kind enough to explain to me, "...there is a chapter in each state for each school. For example I'm a part of our schools North Garrett FFA Chapter". She goes on to explain that her favorite thing about FFA is the experiences and knowledge that comes with being a member, "...you learn a lot about how we can help the world, our state, and community." Emma has an amazing in-school family unit within the members that make up the FFA, friends that share the same passions and care for agriculture as much as she does. She states that she loves all of her FFA friends and her advisor Mrs. Yost. FFA is not the only thing this enthusiastic girl dives into. Emma also pursues softball and tries to help out anywhere she can! Emma's interests branch out further as she grows in the

farming community of our little corner of Maryland. "I was, and still am, interested in the agricultural community and I love to learn about different topics through the community...and Ag classes like Plant Science and Wildlife and Forestry". Agribusiness was a huge help to Emma. Upon discussing the topic Emma explained to me that FFA is important to her the way agriculture should be important to everyone, it's one of the building blocks of our world and without it there would be less people in the Ag community to provide food, and clothing. "I really appreciate everything farmers and people in the agricultural community who help provide for the world".

Despite Garrett County being a huge farming community, there is a great many people who have no idea what exactly the FFA consists of. "People should know about FFA to expand their knowledge on what farmers do for our community and the world...so the next time someone goes for their toast and jelly in the morning after putting on their clothes, they should thank a farmer". Living on a farm with her family, horses, sheep, and some feeder calves within the year, it is clear that Emma knows what she is talking about. A bright young woman ready to get her hands dirty and make a difference. Thank you Emma for enlightening me as well as all other readers, and giving us a deeper perspective of the FFA community!

Pictured right is Emma Broadwater with her sheep Clyde from last year's county fair.

In History

(continued)

though many remain unfinished after his death. The life he led inspired many imitators, though none add up to the impressive intricacy Tolkien used when writing his stories. The Tolkien Society's webpage has plenty of information for all the Tolkien nerds out there wanting more information: tolkiensociety.org.



Pictured above is J.R.R Tolkien



Got Advice

By Phil Checkes

Should I tell my crush that I like them?

-Anonymous

Deep down, you know it whether you should confess or not.

You know how you feel around your crush: good, relaxed, worthy or nervous, sad, horrible, gross, invisible, etc. What is your initial interaction? Are you good friends? Or are they an acquaintance? Do they care about you? Do they like you as a person? Do they respect you? Do you respect them? Do you think you guys are compatible? Or are you building sandcastles in the sky projecting your wishful thinking unto the poor guy or girl who might not even know you?

Would this person be grateful or would they dismiss your feelings? Even though you can't know for sure unless you act, you should already have a feeling about this.

You know all of that. You know if that person is worth it. You already know if they like you or not. Because they already showed you and are showing you, several times a day. Does this person text you, call you, want to see you, seems happy in your company, wants to be around you, compliments you, stands up for you, makes sure you're okay? Do they act in a way that makes you confident you guys have an awesome relationship full of love, trust, empathy, care and respect, where you share values goals and activities? Or do they act very rude or like you barely exist and you could be a
(continued on page 6)

Got Advice

(continued)

cockroach, dead for all that matters it wouldn't change anything to them?.

Tune in with your gut instinct. Your answer is there. Pay attention to how you feel with this person and how you feel about this person. If you sense that they're shady, drop it. If you sense that even if you ran around like an idiot screaming and they wouldn't mind, go ahead. You do know. I don't. It varies from individual to individual, from one type of relationship to another. If you're going to ask them and you know deep down that you should, go for it.

The way you feel about a situation is unique and personal. Your emotional intelligence and feelings are important to guide you through life and decision making. Don't underestimate them.

Strange Happenings

Not So Dandy

Dandelion

By Bailey Brewer

One of the original 24 Crayola crayons has been taken away from the public and will never be sold again. Which crayon exactly? Well Crayola was attempting to keep this simple fact away from the public before revealing it Friday, March 31st through *Facebook Live*. The broadcast was taken in Times Square, New York City, which I had the pleasure of seeing. Though the day was dreadful and rainy, Crayola attempted to lighten the mood through playful crayon mascots, just to reveal that the

"Dandelion" was to be retired. "Personally, I expected 'Yellow-Green' to be retired. They already have a color very similar to it, literally called 'Green-Yellow,' and it's not even appealing to the eye", Bethany Phillips said, a bystander to the event in Times Square.

"Dandelion is such a pretty, basic color. It feels like a part of my childhood is retiring." Though eight Crayola colors have been retired in the past, this is the first of the original 24 colors to be retired. People speculate as to why this color even needs to be retired, though Crayola has yet to explain.

And while retirement may seem dim, Crayola has strived to make light of the situation. Through the personification of "Dandelion" the crayon, Crayola states that 'Dandelion' will "do the things he's always dreamed about doing" (*NPR*). Retirement itself is not meant to be the end of an era, but the start of a new chapter, which "Dandelion" is sure to be doing through his tour of North America.

Perhaps the retirement of Dandelion is just a publicity stunt for Crayola, perhaps a new color in the works is truly worth all this hassle. Crayola has yet to confirm why these events have all taken place, but has clearly chosen to make this event positive. "Dandelion" states in his retirement video, "With a little imagination, nothing is impossible."



Eye for Art **Limitless Layers of Heritage**

By Bailey Brewer

Art is not limited to just the visual world around us, but art can depict otherworldly subjects that the artist can create for viewers to see. Heritage Hamp is aware of this and appreciates limitless tendencies of art through creating masterpieces such as the one pictured to the right. Art is not limited to what meets the eye but what the mind itself sees.

Heritage has created numerous pieces in the past, and still continues to work forward in creating masterpieces. Her work uses several contrasting colors and strokes to create art that captures the eye. While a plain picture depicting nature may be one person's cup of tea, Heritage chooses to reveal her style through very different means. Heritage's work in art will not end in her final days of Mr. Paxton's class, however. She states, "After high school, I'd like to sell prints of my art, but nothing major career wise." Though the work Heritage displays may seem to be perfect to the public, she believes otherwise. She states, "The best advice I can give to young artists would honestly be just draw. Yeah, it isn't going to look exactly how you want it to, but that's how you grow into your art and develop a style." While hard work and determination may not lead to the perfect picture, that should not stop aspiring artists. "You can never get better if you continue to believe your art is bad."

Heritage is constantly working on something new, which you

can see on her *Instagram* @foxheart98. Numerous pieces like the one below along with others of very different styles are pictured, which seize to amaze viewers with each publication. Thanks for your great work, Heritage!



Made Perfect **Date Night With Mr. Right**

By Megan Smith

If you are looking to have the perfect little makeup kit and a nice little bag to keep it in, you should definitely check out the Date Night With Mr. Right Sexy Makeup Kit by Benefits Cosmetics. I ordered the kit from www.sephora.com for \$32.00. The kit comes with a benefit gold beauty bag, mini Rockateur blush in Rose Gold, mini Watt's up! Cream-To-Powder Highlighter in Champagne, mini They're Real! Double the Lip in Lusty Rose, and mini They're Real! Lengthening and Volumizing Mascara in Beyond Black. The blush is such a beautiful color. I have been getting into blushes a lot more recently and this color was perfect. The blush was very soft and very easy to apply. It blends really well and doesn't look too bold. It's perfect for a natural look. The same goes for the champagne highlighter. This highlighter is not for a bold look. This highlighter goes perfect with a subtle makeup style. It's a beautiful color and it also blends really nice. It's a very natural toned highlighter. It was very soft and easy to apply as well. I was not a fan of the lip color at all. It was very soft to apply and easy to work with but the color just threw me off. It has a darker shade towards the end and then it becomes a very rosy pink, which does not match my complexion very well. This color would suit someone going to a very formal event but I just don't think the color was right for me. And finally, the mascara. I fell in love with the mascara! They made my lashes very dark and very long. They did clump together just a little bit, but not

too much. They make my lashes stand out and look very noticeable even from afar. I think the mascara was the thing I was the most excited about and enjoy the most out of this whole pack!

An online purchaser, who left a 5 star rating, commented, "This package is super cute. The colors all go very well together and creates such a charming look!"

Another purchaser who left a 5 star rating commented, "I adore this kit. I will definitely be ordering more of them!" Overall, this package was great! The only thing I would change is being able to select the lip color of your choice. But besides that, I definitely think this was worth the money and would definitely recommend this product!

Social Commentary

A Fight for Funds

By Megan Smith

Thanks to an unexpected influx of state tax revenue, Gov. Bruce Rauner, of Illinois, has decided to reinstate \$26 million in budget cuts that affected services to children with autism. According to www.sj-r.com, Rauner's budget director, Tim Nuding, had said he warned lawmakers that additional spending restrictions were necessary and that additional cuts likely would be made. However, the administration said Thursday that the revenue windfall means no further cuts will be necessary. The governor's decision came amid criticism from social service providers that the cuts would cost the state more

would cost the state more money than they would save. Among the restorations is \$1 million for the Springfield-based Autism Program of Illinois covering the months of April, May and June. The not-for-profit program laid off five Springfield-based employees Friday and was preparing for potentially dozens more layoffs in Springfield and other sites throughout the state if the grant suspension wasn't lifted. Spokesman Mark Schmidt said the program will recall the laid-off Springfield employees. A handful of staff members employed by other groups around the state but funded through the autism grant likely will be recalled as well, he said. "We are pleased that the Department of Human Services has decided to lift the suspension on FY 2015 for TAP and other human services organizations," Clint Paul, CEO of The Hope Institute for Children and Families, said in a prepared statement. Springfield-based Hope Institute operates The Autism Program.

"This is clearly good news for some of our state's most vulnerable citizens," Paul said. "We are appreciative of all those who advocated on our behalf, particularly the

parents of children served by TAP. They are our heroes."

I asked Emma Broadwater what she thought about this and she replies, "I think you should never take the funding from special needs kids but I think it's amazing that everyone fought back and are winning!"

I asked Sarah Smith her opinion and she says, "It's awful that they were cutting funds for special needs children but I'm glad they're getting some of those funds back!" I couldn't agree more with both of those statements! Hopefully we hear more good news about this soon!

Your Northern Bark News Staff [pictured right]

Megan Smith, Bailey Brewer, Olivia Bennett, Alanna Kinney, Phil Checkes, Madison Dolchan, [bottom row] Nathan Ashley, Alanna Kinney
Staff Editors: (not pictured) Ms. Virts & Ms. Roller



