Heritage Wingspan

Special Christmas Edition

ISSUE 07 | December 11, 2023

Boys Basketball "sleighing" on the Court

On Monday, December 4th, the high school boys' basketball team had another home game against Schlarman High School.

That night, the crowd was big and loud, with the Red Zone, Hawks cheerleaders, and Heritage pep band all brought good energy. Though the Hawks fought hard, they fell short of a win in both the JV and varsity games. JV lost by only 4 points and varsity lost by 24 points.

However, with just the start of the season, Heritage is seeing some team leaders on the court. Sophomore, Rylan White has been scoring an average of 11.7 points per game, and Sophomore, Destin Nickle has a field goal percentage of 56%. Talking to Destin, if the team works on their communication he thinks that they will have a better shot at a win.

Stay in touch with the Wingspan to hear how this team progresses!

by: Lillian Montgomery



Staff Spotlight



Mr. Gerard was inspired to pursue teaching after both of his parents were teachers in Northern Indiana. Gerard's father was in Industrial Arts at Ball State University, After attending the same college as his father, Gerard began a teaching career. After 23 years of teaching at Heritage, building projects, working with the kids, & spending time teaching (his passion) are some of what Gerard is most thankful for.

Gerard will be retiring with his wife; he is excited to spend time with her & travel. He plans to travel to Luxembourg, Germany. Gerard's father became acquainted with an individual in Luxembourg during WWII. After years of staying in touch, Gerard & his wife plan to visit the great, great grandchild of the individual his father met during WWII.

Gerard's piece of advice to students is to pursue a career that will not seem tiring to do and pick a career you will be excited to do each day.

Gerard's favorite Christmas music is 'The King', which is Elvis's Christmas collection.

by: Landin Luth

Student Spotlight



This week, I interviewed FFA president and NHS member, Gwen Happ. Gwen is a senior this year and has participated in FFA all four years of high school, and was inducted into NHS her sophomore year. This year, FFA, Student Council, NHS, and FCCLA came together as a group to hold a food drive. I asked Gwen what made her want to bring the clubs together for this food drive and she said it has been an annual tradition of our school. I also asked her why she decided to take charge of the food drive and she told me it was because FFA is usually the main club that hosts and she is the president. She also told me it was a convenience thing as she was the only one who could consistently make announcements. Gwen says that her favorite part about this food drive has been watching everyone come together as a community for a good cause. She hopes that this tradition continues with a few differences including possibly having an extra credit opportunity for every five items you bring in. Gwen has been making announcements through this process and introduced it with a fun, winter themed snowflake making activity. Overall as a school, we donated a total of 671 items when our goal was 350. Congratulations!!!

Homer Fire Station Gift Away

The Homer Fire Protection District is giving out gifts to kids in the heritage school district.

On Saturday, December 9th from 9 am to 2 pm every child from ages zero to twelve can get two gifts from the Homer Firefighters. These gifts will be unopened and the items will only be given out while supplies last.

This event is completely planned and run by volunteers and the person who donated the gifts would like to remain anonymous.

Make sure to bring out little siblings or inform your parents to visit the fire station on the ninth to get free gifts! If you have any questions contact the fire protection district or Diane Alicia.

by: Izzy Reed





Comic made by Maddie Soder

Hank the Hound gets festive.



Real or Fake?

I surveyed a group of people at our schools to see if they have real or fake Christmas trees in their homes. The majority of the students here at Heritage have fake Christmas trees in this home. This is because it is way less of a hassle than having a real tree.

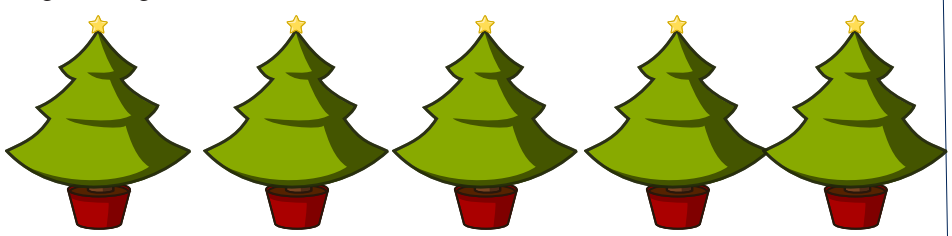
However senior Madisyn Rauckman does have a real tree at her house. She said they get a real one every year (except this year the trees were smaller than usual).

Senior Gwen Happ said that her family decided to have a real tree two years ago however it was more difficult to decorate and a hassle to clean up when Christmas was over, so they decided to go back to fake trees.

Mr. White also said that he has a fake tree at his house and has ever since he was a child. On the other hand

Theresa says that she had a real tree all her childhood and while her children were little but now she has a fake one cause they are easier.

Over all the most popular trees at our school are artificial Christmas trees because they are way easier to set up and take down than a real Christmas tree.
By: Riley Miller



Heritage Clubs Host Holiday Parties

On December 5th, Heritage FCCLA hosted their fun Christmas themed meeting. It was hosted after school and they all hung out and did a fun secret Santa. Heritage FCCLA's president, Riley Miller, was excited about her nothing bundt cake gift card that she won.



On December 6th, during lunch and advisory, Heritage FFA hosted their Christmas themed meeting. They had a hot chocolate bar and they made fresh cookies and decorated them. FFA president Gwen Happ said she enjoyed watching everyone bond and enjoyed the nice sweets.





by: Mary Roland

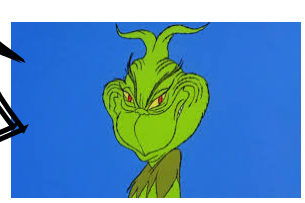
How Julian Stole Christmas

After talking with the Journalism class and some other people, it has been decided that the Grinch movies must have a ranking.

The first and best Grinch movie is obviously the live-action Grinch. It goes without question that this is the funniest Grinch movie and I feel that Jim Carrey is the best version of the Grinch and is able to embody the character perfectly. It also has the best lines to quote throughout the holidays.



The next movie, our 2nd place winner, is the original Grinch. Although the animation is not as good as the most recent one, I personally like the music more and you gotta respect the classics too.





And last on our list is the third movie. I like the animation but the music is sub-par and for me, that ruins the movie. I wouldn't say that this is the worst movie but it's not the movie I want to watch when I want to watch a Christmas movie. by: Julian Campos

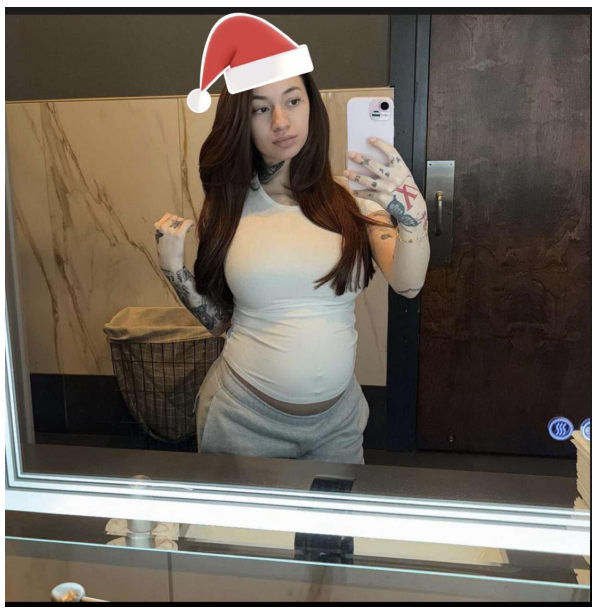
Danielle Bregoli Gets Backlash For Her Pregnancy

By:Desi Collins

Danielle Bregoli also known as the "Catch Me Outside Girl" announced her pregnancy on December 1, 2023.

She has received a lot of hate due to her segment on the Dr. Phil show, and her age. People think that she isn't the "type of person" that needs a child.

Danielle has expressed that she acted out when she was a teenager due to trauma and would like others to see herself in a more positive light. Personally, I think anyone who pays attention to her should be proud of how far she has come since the Dr.Phil show. She may be on the wild side but she is smart when it comes to her money and providing for herself. Did you hear about Danielle Bregoli from this article or from her "scandals"?



Upcoming Events

December 11: Freshman BB v Tuscola
Girls Basketball Villa Grove

December 12: Boys Basketball v Tuscola

December 13: Freshman Boys Baskerball v. Tri County

December 14: Girls Basketball v Arcola

December 15: Boys BB v Arthur

December 17: Choir Concert 7pm

December 19: BB v. Villa Grove
Early Dismissal

Ho-Ho-Home Games

On Monday, October 4, and Wednesday, October 6, boy's basketball had home games. On Monday they played the Schlarman Hilltoppers, sadly losing with a score of 58-34.
Brennan Struck scored the most points with 18 points. Rylan White scored the most points and the most rebounds, with 6 assists and 8 rebounds. Jacob Bensyl was asked to answer a few questions about that game.

Here are the questions and answers:
How do you think the team played and do you think the team could have played better? ***We didn't play so well. Yes, we could have played better for sure.***

What do you think the team could work on? ***Boxing out, not making turnovers, and holding on to the ball.***

What was the highlight of the game? R*ylan when he got ejected.*

On Wednesday, October 6, they played the Westville Tigers, sadly losing with a score of 20-68. Jacob Bensyl scored the most points with 6 points. Destin Nickels had the most rebounds with 6 rebounds. Anthony Happ, Eli Denmark-Collins, and Brennan Struck all had 1 assist.

Coach White was asked to answer a few questions about the game had coaching.

What improvements have you seen from the team already? ***Now they are getting to know the speed of the game and how physical it is so they are also getting more physical***

What was the highlight of the game? ***They put a press on us and we happened to score and got a lot of players to help in the score.***

What do you like about coaching this year's team? ***The best thing about teaching them is they're young so I know there is room for improvement. With them being young they want to improve and get better.***

How does it feel coaching your son? ***It's different, but I've coached him in the summer in previous years. Now that he is older he knows that when I say something I know what I'm talking about. But sometimes it's nice to have someone on the outside to tell him what to do because he listens. Coaching him is nice because I get to see him do the things he likes and be a part of it by coaching him.***