

THE ROSECALL

Assumption High School || 2170 Tyler Lane || Louisville, KY 40205

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New academic programs boost curriculum

S. Metzger, Editor in chief and R. Carter, News Editor

Along with visual changes, there are also going to be some academic changes to benefit our community. Currently, we offer 23 courses that are approved by the college board for AP credit; we also offer the Assumption Air + Space Academy and the STEAM club to inspire our students to participate in hands on learning. In an effort to reach out to all students, Assumption was recently approved to run the AP capstone program, as well as become a member of the Architecture, Construction Management, and Engineering, or ACE, Program.

With the AP Capstone program, we will be adding two new AP courses, Seminar in the 2017-2018 and Research in the 2018-2019 school year, and it will also offer a certificate or diploma program. In order to receive a certificate, one must complete both AP Seminar and AP Research courses. In order to receive a diploma, one must complete four additional college board approved classes.

With the added AP Seminar, the administration team along with the English department have decided to give students the option of taking it in place of their junior year English requirement. The previous junior AP course, AP English Language and Composition, will be offered to sophomores now as their English requirement. This way, students won't have to use an elective on one of these AP courses.

Theresa Schuhmann, Dean of Studies, said "This program is another exciting thing for students who do the whole diploma. It will

be a way to synthesize learning."

Not only that, but these two new classes will embed a new level of research and thought into the standard curriculum, which benefits the entire student body.

Assumption previously had a program that was similar to these two AP classes, the Scholar's Thesis Project. This extracurricular activity included two and a half years of research, a thesis paper, and an oral presentation. These two classes, however, are meant to replace this project.

Kelly Kirwan, previous Scholar's Thesis Moderator and English teacher, said, "AP Capstone will open doors to more students. Scholar's Thesis was previously only offered to McAuley Scholars."

This creates a more inclusive atmosphere and promotes learning from all levels. "One of challenges of the Scholar's Thesis Project was that it happened outside of school," said Schuhmann.

It made committing time and completing work a challenge for any student. Kirwan also explained that most of the candidates for the project were always very involved, and while they were determined, it was hard for them to always dedicate their time.

With this new program, any student can take these courses and be exposed to the same opportunities. Kirwan believes that AP capstone will inspire more love for learning and research in those students who already enjoy it. It is also a way to strengthen not only our AP program but also our entire

curriculum.

Another program that is being introduced to Assumption in the coming years is the ACE Program. The administration is always looking for new clubs to increase the opportunities in STEAM fields and Schuhmann can see this program having huge impact on students going forward.

Those who participate in this afterschool program will have the chance to meet with members of the community who have occupations in architecture, construction, and engineering. They will take multiple field trips to visit plants and see how their learning applies to the real world. There has been a lack of people, especially women, in these types of fields and the ACE Program along with Schuhmann hope to increase the presence of women.

The program gives students the chance to come up with a project and actually complete the project in the local community. These can be anything from a gazebo to mixing concrete. Mentors from Assumption and the ACE program will lead students in these projects.

While requirements are not known about this program, the benefits are large. There will be many scholarship opportunities and a chance to build network with outside contacts. These academic changes will positively impact the academic curriculum offered for all students, and it will boost Assumption's academic rigor.

Thanksgiving celebration honors the unsung heroes

R. Carter, News Editor

The Thanksgiving holiday gives us the time to stop and truly process what we have. We get the chance to spend time and express our gratitude to those around us. During the Thanksgiving Celebration students and faculty got the chance to thank those in our community. Mary Ann Steutermann, Director of Campus Ministry, introduced the theme of this year's Thanksgiving Celebration as 'Unsung Heroes'. In the past, we have acknowledged people that stand out who might get recognized all the time. This year, Steutermann encouraged Assumption to recognize the regular people in our lives who have impacted us in some way that might not always get recognized.

These unsung heroes are people who make a tangible difference in the community but might fly under the radar while doing it. Some unsung heroes that were mentioned in this year's celebration were members of the local community, friends, family, and a staff member. Even though the recognized heroes come from different spectrums of life they all have one thing in common: they selflessly help anyone in their life.

Joan Guest, the local crossing guard, was recognized for her positive attitude while directing school traffic in the morning and afternoons. She serves the community every day with a smile and keeps all of us safe. It is easy to see Guest cares so much about our students even when she doesn't know us. The same case is seen with another unsung hero, math teacher Tiffany Hall. She can be seen dropping everything for students and making sure they are ok. Hall reaches out and helps any student not only math problems but other problems too. These mentors in our community are just some unsung heroes who lead by example and make our world better just by being in it.



photo by: Caitlyn Raver

Mary Lang, President, congratulates Katie Caswell, teacher, for winning the renowned Rose Award.

While there were many other letters ready by students to friends and family, one staff member read hers. Study proctor Sr. Margaret Willis, or Sr. Marge, has been sick and out of school the past couple months but attended the Thanksgiving Celebration just to share her thanks with the community. She was thankful for all the students she has helped with math or even had in homeroom. Her love and support for the blood drive was not left out and she was so thankful for those who continuously give their support. She announced in her retirement in her letter but promises to come in whenever her health allows her to.

The celebration closed with the endow-

ment of the Rose Award to Katie Caswell, English teacher. Her high energy and positive attitude were just some of the many reasons Caswell won. She concluded her speech with her version of the *Puppy Song*, a song she sings to lift moods of students and to new shadows.

There are so many unsung heroes in the community and the new Thanksgiving Celebration gives students the perfect opportunity to thank those people properly. The celebration was filled with high energy and could not have been a more perfect chance to truly be thankful for what we have been given.

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Social Media influences voters in recent election

R. Carter, News Editor

On November 8 the world wasn't watching the election on TV; they were posting about it on social media. Facebook and Twitter were full of opinions and hashtags like "#iVoted" and "#ElectionDay". Articles were being linked and shared from all different sources. It was obvious from scrolling through any account that social media was a player in how the election panned out.

Social media has become a public forum and a free way for candidates to campaign and get their policies out. This election cycle has seen the biggest presence of social media of any election in the past, which can be attributed to many different reasons. As different domains become more popular, more people create accounts.

People don't hold back from sharing their opinions and beliefs on a social media platform because of the lack of accountability it creates. Little do some know that strangers, families, and friends have argued, blocked, and stopped speaking to each other over this election. The things people may say in the heat of the moment about their beliefs and who would be the right candidate for the presidency has ended in more hatred and negativity than positivity and solutions.

Since August 2015, there has been over 1-billion tweets about this election cycle alone. There is no telling how many people saw these tweets and the power those tweets had in swaying opinions. With every new scandal broadcasted, there was coverage on social media.

Sometimes coverage can be biased and completely affect how voters see a candidate. According to Pew Research Center, 44% of adults during the last week of the election received information about the candidates from social media. This information can be sourced from credible reporters, celebrities, and even civilians. The platforms they use,

especially Twitter, limits word count which prohibits indepth coverage. The effect of these abridged stories could have positive impacts on certain candidates votes while damaging the image of the other.

There are countless accounts of insulting and derogatory posts causing conversations that trend worldwide. President-elect Donald Trump has been noted many times about his prominent presence on Twitter. With 16 million followers, the account "@realDonaldTrump" is not shy about expressing opinions on current global problems, scandals, and new policies. Since Trump's account started in 2009 it has seen its fair share of feuds and criticisms.

Trump's tweets have caused many debates over his brash attitude, but these conversations haven't hurt his reputation; they may have actually helped. With every tweet, whether controversial or not, people would talk about Trump, giving him free publicity. All the hype around his tweets got his beliefs out faster than any ad or press conference could.

Most people don't realize it, but with every tweet or retweet about the election, a candidate benefits from the response. On Facebook, if a person continually likes and posts about a candidate, the algorithm will push more context about the said candidate.

Biased opinions are everywhere in journalism, especially in social media. During the election, opinions circulated social media in every minute leading up to the election. Even after business man Donald Trump was elected, Twitter and Facebook were still full with posts about the future of the United States. This election has set the bar high for the role of social media in choosing a candidate, and with the digital age becoming more prominent, social media's affect is going to help campaigns for many years to come.



photo illustration by: Reid Carter

Both twitter accounts of Trump and Clinton were filled with tweets of their policies and slander against the other candidates. Above are some the more famous tweets from the election cycle.

President-elect Donald Trump has big plans for America

L. Newport, Editor in Chief

The 2016 presidential election between Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton and Republican nominee Donald Trump, was definitely one for the books. With a campaigning season that seemed to last years, the citizens of the United States were unsure who would come out on top until business man Donald Trump was declared the winner on the morning of November 9.

With Donald Trump declared the 45th President of the United States, there are some large implications that Trump plans to enforce, starting with immigration. In an attempt to lower the illegal immigrant population, Trump plans on starting by the immigrants that are the most promising and allowing them to apply for citizenship first. Following that, Trump plans on creating a task force specifically designed for the detainment and deportation of all illegal immigrants, along with build a barrier wall along the Mexico-United States border.

Another desired implication of the Trump administration is to repeal Obamacare and replace it with Health Savings Account. This plan would also include making healthcare centers that offer affordable care, instead of free healthcare that was offered by Obamacare. Instead, Trump would like to see healthcare that takes into consideration low-income citizens but there will still be charges associated with that care.

An issue that has many Americans divided is gun laws. Trump plans to start by appointing Supreme Court Justices that will endorse the Second Amendment in its entirety. Along with appointing government officials, Trump wants to encourage gun-owning citizens to use their right to protect themselves because "law enforcement can't be everywhere all of the time." Trump is the first United States President to be endorsed by the National Rifle Association and plans to make the Second Amendment as strong as possible.

While there are many other implications that Trump would like to see during his presidency, these are some of the most controversial. With a slogan "Make America Great Again," Trump has many ideas that are new to the American public and are what he believes will bring America back to his roots. Trump's inauguration will be held on January 20, 2017 and will mark the beginning of many new changes for the United States.



photo provided by WikiMedia Commons
President-elect Trump's campaign books were printed with his slogan, "Make American Great Again".

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Need a Christmas gift miracle? We've got you covered.

Rosecall Staff's 2016 gift suggestions

R. Bartley, Features Editor

Lush Christmas Party Box Gift, \$29.95

Give your friends a perfect opportunity to treat themselves! Lush offers numerous different pre-packaged gift boxes ranging in size and price. Each includes a set of unique Lush products and are the perfect idea for any bath bomb lover in your life!
photo provided by www.Lush.com

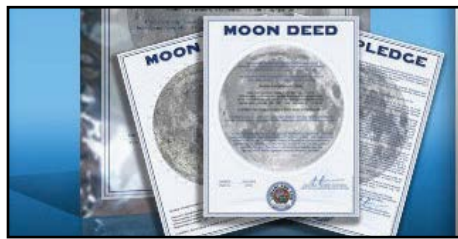


Target Fuzzy Socks, \$7.00

You can't go wrong with a pair of fuzzy socks during the winter. Everyone loves comfort, and these are an inexpensive and easy gift option. They're perfect as stocking stuffers or small secret Santa presents, and Target has a variety of colors and patterns.
photo provided by www.Target.com

Lunar Land, \$29.99

This is a gift we can guarantee they have never received before. With lunarland.com, you can give your friends an acre on the moon! This unique gift includes a deed with proof of purchase and a map of exactly where your land is. This is perfect for space lovers!
photo provided by www.lunarland.com



Urban Outfitters Zodiac Necklace, \$16

This is a great option for that friend that loves to check their horoscope each morning! This tiny necklace includes two charms, the constellation of your zodiac sign on one of them and the zodiac symbol on the other!
photo provided by www.urbanoutfitters.com

Assumption girls become business leaders

Necklaces, hot chocolate, and scrunchies, oh my!

E. Haupt, Social Media Editor, and H. Wurth, Business Manager

Interested in being an entrepreneur, but don't know how to start? Our Applied Economics elective is the perfect class to take your junior or senior year. This class introduces the skills needed for this occupation, while providing the ability to practice these skills outside the classroom. Being a semester long course, Applied Economics is the perfect class to take. Countless students appreciate this class and the knowledge they've learned because of what it provides. Even if a student's heart isn't in entrepreneurship, this class is still great real-life experience. Flexibility, time management and goal oriented skills are only a few examples of what this class has to offer to students.

Senior Caitlyn Raver let us know why taking the class was beneficial for her.

"It gives you a glimpse into the real world of business. I want to pursue a career in business, the class gave me the skills to focus what aspect I'm interested in." Raver was elected as V.P Marketing and hopes to continue down the same path in college.

Also, Senior Emilie Haupt was elected President in one of the two classes' company.

She said, "From this class I was able to get somewhat of a feel for each position in a business the class offers. I had a lot of fun helping Human Resources, Marketing, Finance Production Manager and being President. Mrs. Maxted taught me a lot of what it's like to be in charge and to take responsibility, and I want to thank her for that."

Sandy Maxted, business teacher, has held

onto teaching this course for 25 years. Maxted enjoys teaching Applied Economics because it gives students a hands on experience to creating a business.

Maxted explains, "[This class] shows the ups and downs of running a business and how to work together as a team." A unique quality about this class is that it offers opportunities to explore the business world and what it takes to be successful.

Each class sets goals on sales and production timing. Outside sales are also a part of this class's responsibility. With each company having different ideas and products, the sales will differ. Mrs. Maxted teams up with the Junior Achievement program each year, and each block class get their own advisor. They take the time out of their own schedules to come speak to the class and offer guidance through the stages of the company.

This fall semester, two very unique companies are working to create, advertise, and sell their products.

C block Applied Economics sold choker necklaces, wire rings, and wooden chalkboards. F block sold scrunchies, single cup hot chocolate, and homemade body butter. If you are a current or prospective student who has an interest in business, you should consider taking Applied Economics!

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Christmas break doesn't have to be boring

We've got a few great ideas for you

R. Bartley, Features Editor

Looking for something to do over Christmas break when you get tired of watching Christmas movies and drinking hot chocolate? There are endless awesome holiday-themed activities to take advantage of here in Louisville throughout the month of December. We've got everything from stunning Christmas lights to annual theater performances. Take a look!

Lights under Louisville at the Mega Cavern

Take a 30 minute ride through Louisville's Mega Cavern and enjoy 2,000,000 Christmas lights! The attraction is open Monday-Friday from 6 to 10pm, and on Saturday and Sunday from 5 to 10pm. It offers 850 lights displays and is held until December 31st.

A Christmas Carol at Actors Theatre

Enjoy Actors Theatre's annual performance of A Christmas Carol! The show runs until December 23rd. Tickets are available on their website!

Christmas Celebrations at the Galt House

The Galt House is putting on their annual Christmas celebrations again this year! The event is perfect for families with children. There are many activities to enjoy, including a "merry magic show", a Gingerbread house contest, and a parade with Light Up Louisville. The festivities run until December 24th, more information available on www.christmasatthegalthouse.com.

The Nutcracker at The Louisville Ballet

The Louisville Ballet is putting on their annual performance of the Nutcracker from December 10th until December 22nd. It's a wonderful activity for people of all ages. The ballet lasts for just under 2 hours. Tickets are available on www.kentuckycenter.org and start at just \$35.

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The 21st Century needs to go old-fashioned dating

A. Rogerson, Opinion Editor

The focal point of the adolescent American culture is independence. One of the scariest thoughts to a high school student is losing yourself or shoving yourself down trying to fit into other people's lives conveniently.

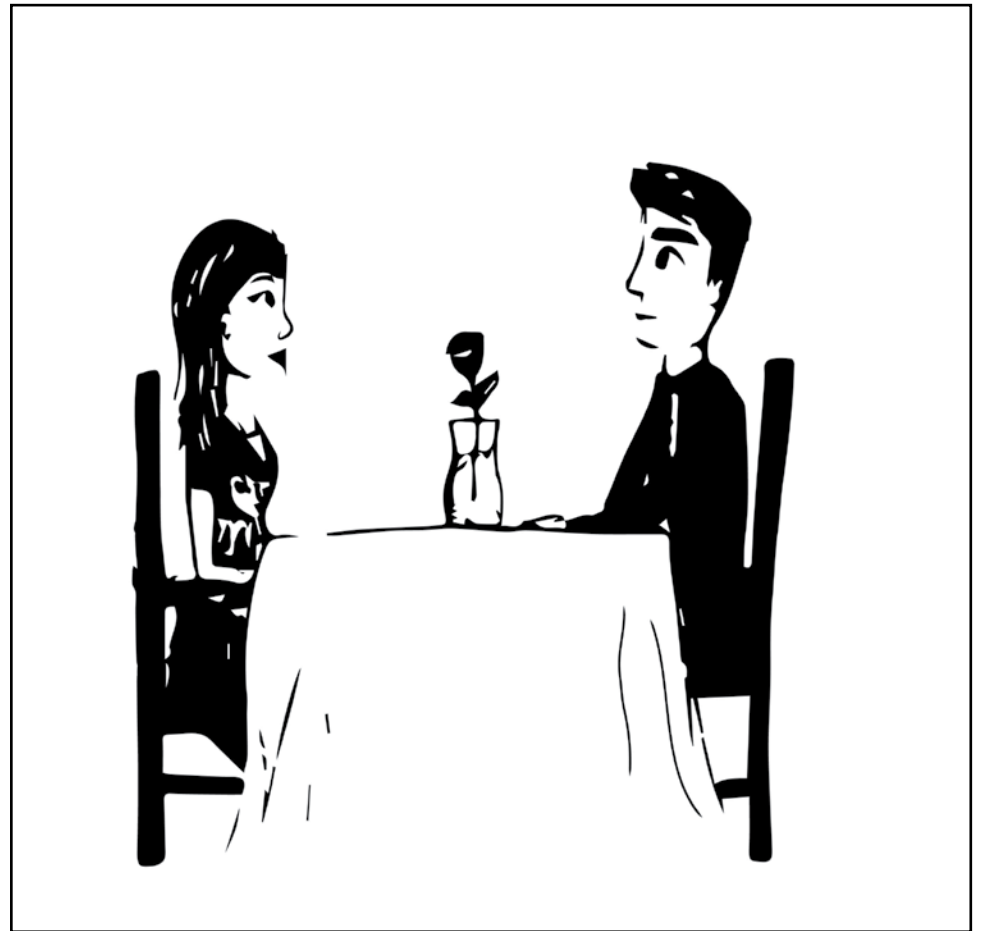
As teenagers, our schedules are so jammed packed with sports, clubs, and academics that there is minimal time left over to cultivate a healthy relationship. Each person's schedule is so individualized and full of activities, that speak to who they are, that managing to fit another person with needs and interests of their own is insanely difficult. Dating, at any age, is a constant give and take; give some of your time to another person and take some of another person's time for yourself. In adolescence, when we are attempting to decode parts of our developing personality, giving something as precious as time to another person is monumental.

In a culture based on flexibility and spontaneity, being "tied down" is often frowned upon. At any given time, a relationship between two teenagers will fall under one of these titles: "a thing," "talking," "together," or "dating." Most relationships start as "a thing" and die out during the "talking" phase. Talking, if it had a true definition, would be the initial flirting in a relationship; the time in which it is appropriate to be interested in more than one person but isn't completely abnormal to have growing jealousy. "Talking" is a crucial transitioning stage into a real relationship. Dating is a struggle among teens in today's society because often people misread "talking," leaving one person attached and one seeking out other people. There are people who take talking to an extreme.

"Serial dater" is a negative name, usually taken differently based on gender, for a very real type of teenager. The serial dater is a person who bases the success of their love life on quantity of relationships rather than the quality of them. An extreme double standard surrounds this name; girls who serial date are often seen as trashy whereas boys who do are worshipped for their flippancy towards people's feelings. Dating, in some ways, has become a thing of the past.

The conventional date has become a dying idea. Most of the time, girls are asked to hang out at a guy's house rather than get dressed up and go to a restaurant. This informal manner of meeting often leads to the misrepresentation of motive. Going on a date for teenagers is a sign of serious interest while hanging out can mean a million different things. Two people hanging out can just be friends or talking or together. Not only has going on dates decreased but the effort to speak to and meet with other human beings has lessened due to all the new technological methods of communication.

Social media and texting have a colossal effect on the lifestyle of teenagers and their dating habits. Relationships of all kinds are being decimated because of the compulsion teens have to tweet their every thought and emotion. This becomes a more common outlet than speaking to another person about issues one may have or feelings someone holds. Much like social media posts that can be misinterpreted, text messages can as well. Arguments held over text can be severely escalated when tone of voice is absent and similarly, a sentence that meant little, can get someone's hopes up when they read it with their own spin. Talking in person or on the phone is on an entirely different, more



cartoon by: Joanne Lagazo

personal level.

The No-Labels culture among the adolescence of America is a mess of mixed signals and informality. Any hope for stability is being lost in a jumbled heap of half-labels and empty

flattery that diminish the human connection. One thing is for sure, today's youth needs to bring back dating!



"Going to my grandparents' house on Christmas Eve and opening up presents."
-Bailey Masterson



"Christmas Eve dinner with my family"
-Phoebe Bunting



"Decorating cookies with my little brothers."
-Riley Newman



"My grandma makes all the grandchildren stockings and fills them with presents."
-Sara May

Rocket Roundtable What is your favorite Christmas tradition?



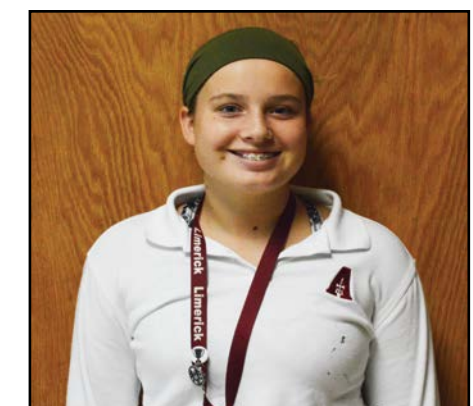
"Decorating my Christmas tree on my twin's birthday—December 3rd."
-Mrs. Schuhmann



"Making chicken rice soup on Christmas Eve."
-Mrs. Schaefer



"Watching old family videos."
-Ms. Schindler



"Putting up my Christmas tree the day after Thanksgiving."
-Reese Givens

photos by: Kenzie Riggs

Canstruction: building cans and a community

How the new schedule is effecting in-school events

Staff Editorial

Change in any place is always a topic of controversy. Whether it be constructing a new school sign or designing a major schedule adjustment, someone is going to have an opinion about it. In the case of the Assumption Community, the topic of concern has been the new RocketTime schedule, which replaced previous years Activity Period, and the effects it's having on in-school events like Canstruction.

Many people in the community were concerned that the lack of interaction with our homerooms, due to the RocketTime schedule, would cause disconnect and a lack of participation throughout the families. Senior Emily Drexler, also Family Council President, says, "it covers a lot more time, but homerooms have become more segregated."

While the segregation and disconnect between homerooms seem to be a widespread feeling among students, Becca Joaquin, Student Activities Director, says "[RocketTime] is very similar to Activity Period and is definitely utilized by more departments which creates more intense scheduling," adding that "it is more efficient." This outlook seems to be more common among teachers and the administration but is not shared by the majority of the student population.

All of the classes, excluding the freshmen, have experienced the highly criticized Activity Period and the effects may be showing in

the lower grades. Junior Chloe Bohn says, "I was a homeroom mom this year and it was difficult for me to help them because they don't know each other that well."

When examining how the new schedule implementation has effected in school events, it was convenient to look at the recent Canstruction event and the can totals from this year and years past. The total from the 2015-2016 school year was 10,116 and the total for this year's Canstruction was 9,041. Even though the count only had a 1,000 difference, it defies the trend that can counts generally increase per year.

While there are definitely some upsides to RocketTime, like being more time efficient, widely utilized and more flexible, it could be undermining the family system that Assumption has worked so hard to create.

Drexler suggests "having the activities that we do with our classrooms, like mindful meditation, with our homerooms so we are at least with those people." Assumption still remains the biggest donor to Dare to Care during this trying season, but we can always strive to outdo ourselves to fulfill one of our biggest pillars, "Compassion Inspires". There will always be room for improvement of anything that is new or even things that are old, but our community is still rooted in our traditions in the Family Program and our humble four pillars.



photo by: Caitlyn Raver

Senior Sydney Remmers boxes cans, that the Limerick Senior homeroom collected, to send to Dare to Care for donation.

Opportunities abound for every type of Rocket

R. Carter, News Editor



photo provided by Terry Langley

A group of Beta Club participants serve at the USpiritUS Brooklawn Campus. They served young children during the annual "Santa Shop" where they wrap and distribute gifts.

Students have unlimited opportunities to join different clubs over their four years at Assumption. Whether your interest lies in academic subjects or drawing and painting, there is a club that's a great fit for you. Finding the perfect club might be hard to do, so always keep an open mind about different clubs around school. Clubs are always being created and expanded. For example, be sure to look out for the STEAM Club and the Alive in Mercy Program next year, both of which are fairly new to Assumption.

For the past decade, there has been a huge push for women to get into the fields of science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics; this is the main goal of the STEAM Club. Emma Johansen, the president of the club at Assumption, has learned so much about local STEAM opportunities through this club and how they apply to everyday life. This club has been running for two years. Since the beginning, students have had the chance to learn through awesome STEAM related activities, including using a

3D printer to print their own designs. This is a great club to join if your interest lies in any one of the five focuses of STEAM!

Another relatively new program is Alive in Mercy, or AIM. Students at Assumption and Mercy Academy have joined together to talk with the Sisters of Mercy every month. In these meetings, they go over a Critical Concern of Mercy and discuss how it applies to the world we live in today. In this program, students get to hear the perspective from other students. The Sisters help them to understand how they can impact the world. Even though the students and Sisters talk about these heavy subjects, they still leave time to get to know each other at the ends of the meetings.

Programs and clubs like these at Assumption give students the wonderful opportunity to meet other students who have the same interests and concerns as them. No matter the interest, there is a club around that is just the right fit. Don't be afraid to join in!

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ROOM AT THE INN: FAMILY SCHOLAR HOUSE AND OTHERS MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE HOMELESS IN LOUISVILLE

Cathe Dykstra, CEO, discusses Family Scholar House

In 1995, Family Scholar House was first opened as Project Women. It was founded by religious women from six different orders who all came together with the goal of providing post-secondary education for single mothers needing an education to get their children out of poverty. The mission of Family Scholar House is to end the cycle of poverty and transform our community by empowering families and youth to succeed in education and achieve life-long self-sufficiency. FSH is an educational program with housing; it opened its first residential campus in October of 2008. It provides housing to single parents facing homelessness and supports them while they get a post-secondary degree. They offer educational support, financial support, family support, peer support and community support services to pre-residents, participants, post residents and members of the community.

All single parents or any soon to be parent that is interested in the program must complete an intake form. They then attend an orientation where all information and services FSH has to offer are provided. "Qualifications for participants include being single, have child(ren) or be pregnant, meet low-income housing requirements, have a high school diploma or GED, and have a desire to pursue a college degree." Once accepted into the program, participants must maintain full enrollment at a local college or university, attend courses consistently, schedule and attend regular meetings twice a month with the Academic Advisor, make satisfactory progress in coursework by maintaining a 2.0 cumulative GPA, work with Academic Advisor in completing an educational plan, schedule and attend bi-weekly meetings with Family Services Advocate, complete four hours of community

service each month, and attend monthly workshops.

After graduating or voluntarily leaving the program, participants are given the option to continue services; they are also offered support services and academic advising services. They are invited to life-skill workshops and program activities. "Family Scholar House partners with Dare to Care who supply a hot meal three evenings a week. During this time, we invite pre-residents, participants and their children, and community members to come together to have intergenerational conversations."

Family Scholar House has had a total of 504 families live in their residential program. With those families, they have a total of 825 children. As of right now there are 215 families in residence. In the past fiscal year, there has been 58 families receiving post-program support with a total of 73 children. "Ninety-eight percent of residential participants did not have a subsequent pregnancy during their time at FSH. Ninety-three percent of participants completed college credit hours attempted. One hundred percent of FSH participants have exited the program into stable housing. Seventy-eight percent of student parents enrolled in residential program have exited to stable employment. Family Scholar House participants have earned a total of 307 college degrees," said CEO of Family Scholar House, Cathe Dykstra.

In 2005, Dykstra was asked to speak with the board about what they should be looking for in their next CEO. Once she shared her thoughts

that they needed to expand both in the number of families served and in the services provided to families throughout the community, she was hired. Dykstra's favorite thing at FSH is the families.

"I love being present to see people who have had so many challenges find things that they not only enjoy but in which they excel. I love being part of the FSH family that cares about each other and nurtures our special participants and their dreams," said Dykstra.

The community can help by donating clothing, toys, food, furniture or just service time. FSH offers many special events during the holiday seasons. Community members sign up for the Adopt-A-Family project at Christmas time to ensure that every family has Christmas gifts. The participants create a wish list for themselves and their children. The wish lists are then given to the volunteers from the community who will shop for them and wrap the gifts too. Dykstra says, "This is a wonderful way to ensure all families at FSH have a happy holiday experience."

A graduate of Family Scholar House tells her story

To get a real idea of how big of a difference Family Scholar House really makes, we interviewed Jaydee Graham who has been a part of FSH for five years now. She first heard about a similar program in a different city and searched to see if there was something like it in Louisville. She had just moved to Louisville after she had recently found out she was pregnant. She found FSH on google and signed up as soon as she could to start the process of getting in the program. She knew that even though she was pregnant and needing help, she was capable and worthy of success. The program at FSH helped Graham reach her goals and follow her dreams. They not only assisted in helping these dreams become realities but cheered her on during the process.

Graham is now a graduate of the Family Scholar House program. She graduated with her bachelors in Social work from the Kent School and the University of Louisville, and she also graduated with her masters in Science in Social Work, also from the Kent School. After exiting as a participant, she became an intern with the Family Scholar House, and following graduation, she was hired as a Family Advocate. She loves working there and being able to give back to women in the same position she was in just a few years ago.

Graham says that around the holidays, Family Scholar House is a magical place. Many families get sponsored by people from the community to be able to make their Christmas morning. Another event they do for Christmas is a candy cane making party; during this, the kids can have fun with other FSH children and make a sweet snack. Graham says FSH does events like this and many more to keep the kids and parents happy and focused on what their goal is.

Helping with Family Scholar House is easier than you think. Graham said there are hundreds of volunteers with hundreds of talents, and they are utilized to help in any way possible. She also said the kids and adults in the program love having volunteers because they can really feel the love and support from the community. This makes them want to work harder and make our community proud of them.

She wants the girls at Assumption know that they are worthy of success, love, support and respect. We can reach any goal or follow any dreams. Even when life gets hard and everything seems dark, there is light at the end of the tunnel, and there are always people willing to help. Although it may not always be obvious, there are tons of people who are willing to love and support their community. She wants us to empower each other because we have such a strong community support at Assumption, and we should take advantage of it. We shouldn't settle in life but work hard and make ourselves great even when in the rough patches.

The following places provide assistance for the homeless in Louisville:

Homeless Shelters (Wayside Christian Mission, Coalition for the Homeless, etc.)

Supportive Housing- a combination of housing and aid-services intended as a cost-effective way to help people live more stable, productive lives

Halfway Housing- a place that allows people with physical, mental, and emotional disabilities, or those with criminal backgrounds, to learn social and other skills necessary to integrate or re-integrate into society.

Transitional Housing- help the resident become a productive member of society.

Day Shelters- (Louisville Rescue Mission, St John Center for the Homeless, Center for Women and Families, etc.)

Low Income Housing- government sponsored economic assistance program aimed towards alleviating housing costs and expenses for people in need with low to moderate incomes.

Residential Alcohol and Drug Treatment Centers- rehabilitation centers



The amount of homeless residents in Louisville is about average for a metro area the size of Louisville.

People who are losing their primary nighttime residence, which may include a motel or hotel or a doubled-up situation, within 14 days and lack resources or support networks to remain in housing.

Families with children or unaccompanied youth who are unstably housed and likely to continue in that state.

Rocket Hockey takes state

J. Askin, Sports Editor



photo provided by Adam Creech, KHSAA

The field hockey team holds up a number one as they gather around the State trophy after defeating Manual 1-0 in the State Finals at Bellarmine.

Rocket Hockey breezed through the two games of the Regional Tournament with 4-0 wins against Louisville Collegiate School and Atherton High School, claiming the Regional Championship. These wins gave the Rockets a top seed going into the State Tournament. Rocket Hockey faced Kentucky Country Day in the first round of the tournament, defeating them 3-1. This left the Rockets with one day before meeting rival Sacred Heart in the semi-finals. During the semi-finals on Oct. 26, the game resulted in a 0-0 tie, which pushed the game into a 7 versus 7 sudden-death overtime. The Rockets scored in the first few minutes of overtime to advance to the state final.

They played Manual on Oct. 27 for the State Championship. They battled the entire game, both teams fighting to score. The desire and passion to win was exhibited by every player on the field. By the end of the game neither team had scored, resulting in the Rockets' second overtime in two games. During overtime, freshman Lee Ann Gordon scored for the game winning goal for Assumption with around two minutes to go. The team dog piled on top of each other in excitement. The well-deserved win earned the Assumption field hockey team their tenth state championship title.

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Athlete of the Month: Abby McQueary

J. Askin, Sports Editor

This month the basketball team voted on Abby McQueary to be Athlete of the Month! She is a sophomore who has played on varsity every year so far.

McQueary has been in love with basketball ever since she started playing at five years old. She is a great role model for her peers because she has played on varsity since her freshman year and continues to lead

through actions.

When asked one thing she wanted to work on, she said that she wants to be a better supporter on the bench. McQueary means she wants to cheer more and be more enthusiastic when she's not on the court so that she can show her support to all of her teammates.

While talking about playing in college, McQueary said, "I've wanted to play in college ever since I was in elementary school. It's always been a huge goal for me." She always keeps this goal in mind as she works hard in practice and conditioning for her team. She wants to be the best player that she can be.

One of the things she loves most about basketball is that it is more than just a sport to her. She feels that her team is more like a family than strangers playing sports together. She said, "Your teammates become some of your best friends, and you know that you can always count on them and lean on them in any circumstance."

Not only is she a hard working athlete, but she is also a hard working student. She takes her academics just as serious as her sports, and she manages to keep an average "A" this year.

When she isn't playing basketball, she enjoys hanging out with friends. McQueary is only a sophomore and has already accomplished so much. She is a hard working athlete, well-rounded student, and a positive person to be around.



photo provided by Abby McQueary

Abby McQueary is a sophomore on the varsity basketball team this year.

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Winter sports look to continue winning tradition

J. McKune, Sports Editor

As fall sports come to a close, winter sports are just beginning. This season, Rockets will fill the gyms, alleys, and pools. The winter sports, including archery, basketball, bowling, cheerleading, dance and swimming, look to continue our tradition of winning. Each team has set goals for their upcoming season.

The Archery Rockets ended their last season after going to State and competing in approximately seven National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) tournaments. Under co-head coaches Laura Price and Karen Payne, around 40 Rockets pair with DeSales High School. This season, they hope to improve from the beginning of the season and return to State.

Rocket Basketball ended their last season as District Runner-up to Louisville Male High School. This season, the team hopes to earn a winning record. With ten returning Varsity players, they hope to progress further in their region and possibly make it to the state tournament.

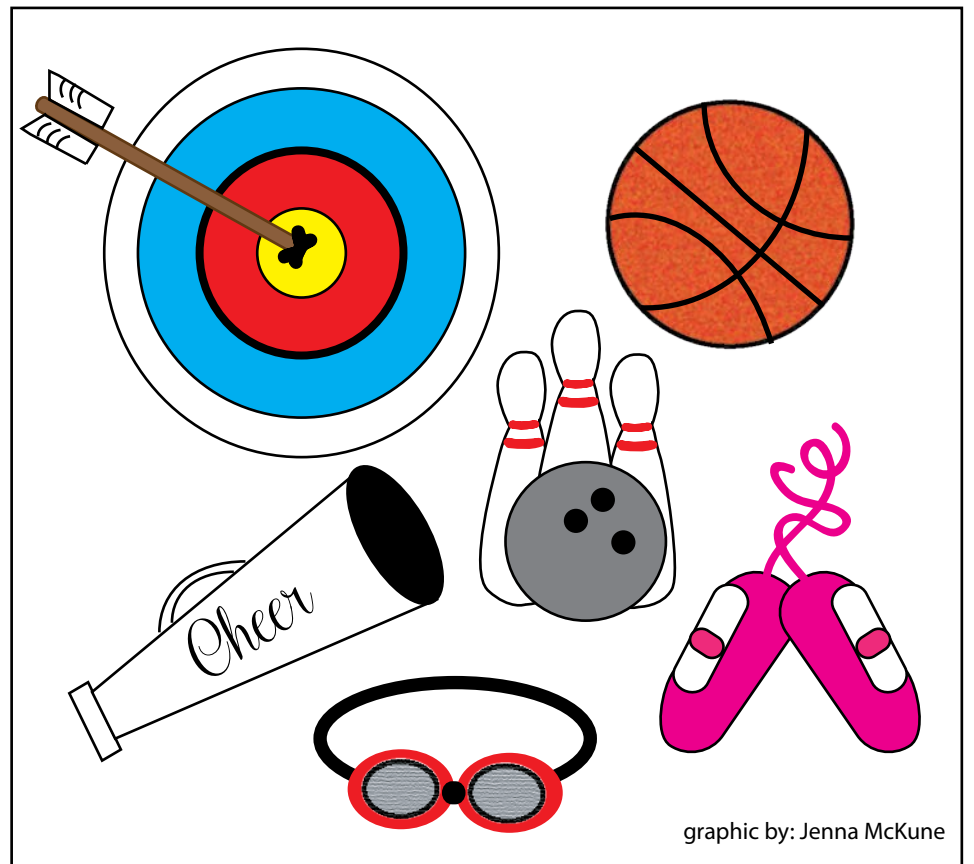
The Rocket Bowlers return only three team members from last season, but seven others have joined. Last season, the bowlers won their Senior Night match. After losing their coach halfway through last season, Nick

Rogers stepped in. This year, the team has another new coach, Regina Jewell. This year, they hope to improve each match and have a winning record.

Rocket Cheerleading ended their last season as Regional Champions, the first time in the last 13 years they had won. They advanced to State and placed fifth out of 15 teams. This year, they placed second in the region. They hope to have more school support.

The Dancing Rockets return this season as defending Regional and State (Jazz) champions. Last year, the dance team placed eighth in Nationals. This year, the team hopes to make a statement and make viewers remember their performance at Nationals. Overall, they hope to win state and make their parents and coaches proud.

The Rocket Swimmers ended their last season with two invitational meet wins and a third place finish in the regional swim meet. Coaches Rick Stewart and Chris Neichter were voted the Regional Coaches of the Year. This season, they hope to build on the momentum from last season by being more competitive in meets, improving times, and making it to State.



graphic by: Jenna McKune

Come support your Rockets: Upcoming winter sporting events

Varsity Basketball:

12/09- 7:30pm vs Paul Laurence Dunbar High School
12/11- 6:00pm vs Mercy Academy @ Mercy Academy

12/13- 7:30pm vs. Dupont Manual High School

12/16- 7:30pm vs. Notre Dame Academy High School @ Notre Dame Academy High School

Archery:

12/10- @ Bloomfield Middle School

Bowling:

12/15- 3:30pm vs Eastern High School @ Ten Pin Bowling Alley

Swimming:

12/09- @ Bowling Green High School
12/10- Bill Powell Invite @ WKU
12/16- Girls Night Out @ U of L
12/17- Brother Fabius Invite @ U of L

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The magic returns with new "fantastic beasts" movie

M. Smith, Managing Editor

For those suffering from Harry Potter withdrawals, J. K. Rowling's newest film, *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, is now in theaters. Inspired by the book, the film was produced and written by Rowling and so far has topped the box office. According to IMBD, the box offices took in \$74,403,387 opening week in the United States.

The film stars Eddie Redmayne, Katherine Waterston and Colin Farrell. The main character is British Wizard Newt Scamander, played by Redmayne, who comes to the United States with a suitcase full of beasts.

While in New York City, several of his beasts escape, and he finds himself on a journey running around the city to find his beasts before the "no-maj" people, or people without magic, find them.

Go see the film today at your local theaters: Cinemark Tinseltown, Cinemark Mall St. Matthews, Xscape, Cinemark Rave, Stonybrook, and Baxter Avenue Theatres.




Photo provided by www.fantasticbeasts.com

rockin' rosecall

K. Goeing, Entertainment Editor

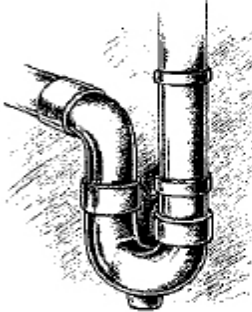
Christmas is just around the corner, and a perfect way to get into the Christmas spirit is by listening to our playlist "Xmas Bopz". From classics like, "Winter Wonderland" by Tony Bennett, to new pop like "Mistletoe" by Justin Bieber, there's something for everyone. This playlist is great for to listen to while decorating around the house or just chilling in your room.

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Lady Gaga releases emotional album *Joanne*

K. Goeing, Entertainment Editor



Photo provided by www.ladygaga.com

Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta, or as most people know her by, Lady Gaga just released her first solo album in 3 years *Joanne*. This is her fourth number one and had the fourth largest debut of any album this year. This album has a soft rock sound and not the type of pop sound most people are used to from Lady Gaga.

"A Million Reasons" is a single off the album with the main focus on her voice. Gaga has said songs off this album are inspired by her personal life and you can hear the emotion in her voice when she sings "A Million Reasons." There are lyrics that reference to the feeling of disappointment or neglect from a significant other "You're giving me a million reasons to let you go / You're giving me a million reasons to quit the show."

The song "Hey Girl" features Florence Welch and is about the competition society places on girls to be against each other. Having Welch in the song shows that successful women can still be friends and work together without being jealous or hating each other. "Hey girl, hey girl / We can make it easy if we lift each other / Hey girl, hey girl / We don't need to keep on one-in' up another."

Lady Gaga is compared to Madonna a lot and this song could be related to how she feels about being compared to other successful women all the time. "Joanne" has a different sound to it than album's past as Gaga focused more on her voice and having a simpler sound to the album.

Stomp comes to The Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts

J. McKune, Sports Editor

The room goes dark and the stage lights up. Miscellaneous objects cover the stage: trashcans, ladders and a fence decorated with crutches, road signs, and other tin objects. The audience grows quiet in anticipation of what's to come. A man walks onto the stage wearing baggy, ripped, and paint-stained clothes clutching a broom. He doesn't utter a word; he just sweeps. Soon after, the sound of sweeping turns into music and seven other people join in. Listeners feel music through its beat, whether words are present or not. What can possibly entertain people more than performing music? The answer is simple: creating music with non-traditional musical "instruments."

The cast of *STOMP* travelled to Louisville to perform at the Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts over November 11-12. Six men and two women make music over a two-hour period with unordinary objects.

Throughout the performance, no cast member uttered a single word, but still, everyone in the auditorium kept their eyes locked on stage. The first melody came from brooms, followed by songs from Zippo lighters, hosepipes, stretch pipes, tin trashcans, sinks, shopping carts, newspapers and more. The lighting on the stage shifted between red, blue, and yellow, matching the tune of song to create the mood. The actors created a story through their interactions with each other.

I would recommend this show for young children and adults. Because the music is loud, I would not recommend this show for babies or elderly who are hard with hearing. The show is sure to captivate its viewers for hours. This show proves that music unites people, no matter someone's language, background or race.



The cast of *Stomp* performing a song while at The Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts.

Photo provided by www.kentuckycenter.org

Miranda Lambert sticks to the roots of country music in *The Weight of These Wings*

A. Gibson, Focus Editor

Miranda Lambert's new album, *The Weight of These Wings*, released on November 18, is a breakout album for her. It is her first album released since her divorce from fellow country singer, Blake Shelton, has been finalized.

Many have been anticipating the possible jabs she may take in her songs about her ex, but surprisingly these are few and far between. One point when she does take a jab at Shelton is saying "You're all over this damn nation" in the song "Six Degrees of Separation". In the other songs she talks about anything ranging from her new relationship, to feminism, to her fragility.

Overall, this album seems to be more about her finding herself in this world as well as finding her sound.

While many country singers are pushing away from the old school country and more towards pop-country, Lambert sticks to her roots, and the roots of country music, in this

She brings her own voice into this new album, like she always does. She continues and strengthens the indie vibe she has used in her past albums. "You Wouldn't Know Me" is the perfect song to get an overall idea of the album. It sticks with the country sound, and talks about how she has changed from who she used to be.

This album is unique from many others because it actually has two CD's in it. "The Nerve" is more about her outer appearance to others and has more fast paced songs, while "The Heart" shows her true core with a slower feel. Releasing two CD's is a bold move for Lambert; many people have tried to do this in the past and have failed. People often get bored and uninterested in the later tracks, but so far the album is fairing very well.

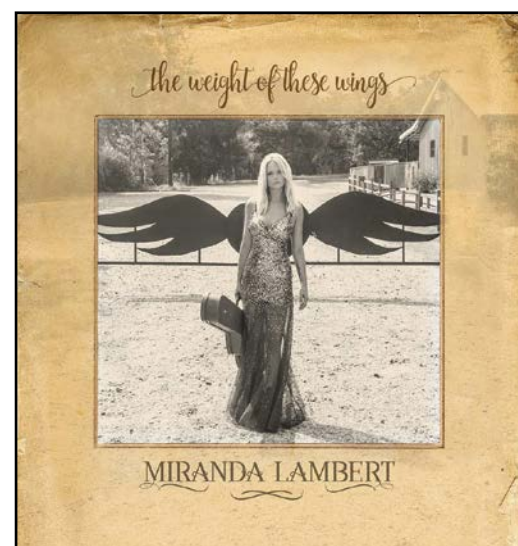


Photo provided by www.mirandalambert.com

24K Magic is a throwback to old school funk

K. Goeing, Entertainment Editor



Photo provided by www.brunomars.com

Bruno Mars brings soul and funk back in his new album *24K Magic*. His third album includes diverse songs that are have more old school influenced songs compared to his other albums. It debuted number two on the Billboard 200 and sold 231,000 albums in the first week.

The song "Perm" has a '60s inspired sound to it and reminds a lot of people of James Brown. It's an upbeat song that makes you want to get up and dance with lyrics like "Throw some perm on your attitude."

The album ends with an emotional ballad "Too Good to Say Goodbye" that is insisting a significant other to not give up on a relationship, "You're more than my girl, you're my best friend / Tell me you remember when / I was your man and you were my girl / It was

Every song on the album shows Mars put in 100% effort and worked hard to make the album as best as it can be.

Mars commented on his album saying, "The spirit of this album, growing up in the '90s, is to me the most joyous [time] for me. That's my childhood. That's what I grew up on".

It is obvious Mars is trying to bring back soul and funk into pop music and *24K Magic* does a perfect job with that.

A glance at the first semester...

C. Raver, Photo Editor and M. Riggs, Front Page Editor



photo by: Caitlyn Raver

Cindy McCain speaks to the community on ways to fight human trafficking.



photo by: Tricia Biagi

Faculty, Staff, and students receive recognition for showing qualities that resemble those of Catherine McCauley.



photo by: Caitlyn Raver

Freshmen cheer for the sugary sweet victory of raising \$82,750 for financial aid.



photo by: Megan Stearman

The field hockey team celebrates their dedication and hard work with another state championship.



photo by: Kristen Bell

Rose Theater Company dances their way into the spotlight with "A Chorus Line."



photo by: Caitlyn Raver

Kingstown family has fun creating scenes from "Up" with collected cans ready to donate to Dare to Care.



photo by: Caitlyn Raver

Mary Lang embraces Katie Caswell as Caswell receives the Rose Award at the Thanksgiving prayer service.



photo by: Sarah Metzger

Junior Prom Court gets their big break in Assumption's own version of Hollywood.