

# THE BULLDOG BARK



Principal: Mrs. Chamberlain

Advisor: Mr. Barnes

Northern Lehigh Middle School

Winter 2012

Issue Two

## Pumpkin Rollapalooza 2012!

By Israel Moore  
and Sage Hargreaves  
*Team 8*

This past November, National Junior Honor Society students worked diligently to make a lot of pumpkin rolls. After their very dedicated efforts, they made 520 pumpkin rolls, which raised more than \$3,000 for the Senior Prom held near the end of the year.

They beat last year's record for fastest time. All of the NJHS students put in two to four hours of time into making the pumpkin rolls. Some students sacrificed even more of their weekend hours like Gavin Kemery who did 10 hours. Family members were also an important part in making the pumpkin rolls a success.

A lot of students had parents and/or family members who came to help. All of us had an awesome time making pumpkin rolls!

"I am already so proud of my National Junior Honor Society candidates this year," said Mr. Graver, NJHS co-advisor. "They all worked together to sell and make more pumpkin rolls than ever before. Together, they raised about \$3,000 to host this year's senior prom."



**Phoebe Thomasco and T.J. Dooley, members of National Junior Honor Society, worked together to make this year's pumpkin roll sale a sweet success.**

# Pumpkin sale rocked and *rolled* in 2012



**Mr. Graver lives to bake.**



**Abigail Obenski, Sage Hargreaves and Israel Moore got messy for a good cause.**



**Parker Dawe might live to bake even more than Mr. Graver. Look at that smile!**



**Maddie Bellesfield spread some cheer and pumpkin filling during Rollapalooza.**

# Team 8 gets all Colonial in school

By Abby Hillegas  
*Team 8*

Colonial Days was really fun. It was great to change up our usual routine on Team 8. We got to meet new people, try Colonial foods, play Colonial games and learn some other interesting things about Colonial life.

The Colonial food was very good, although I don't think I would go running home asking mom to make pumpkin pudding for dessert. Watching the high schoolers grind sugar, cinnamon and make dough really makes you happy we can buy that all ground-up already.

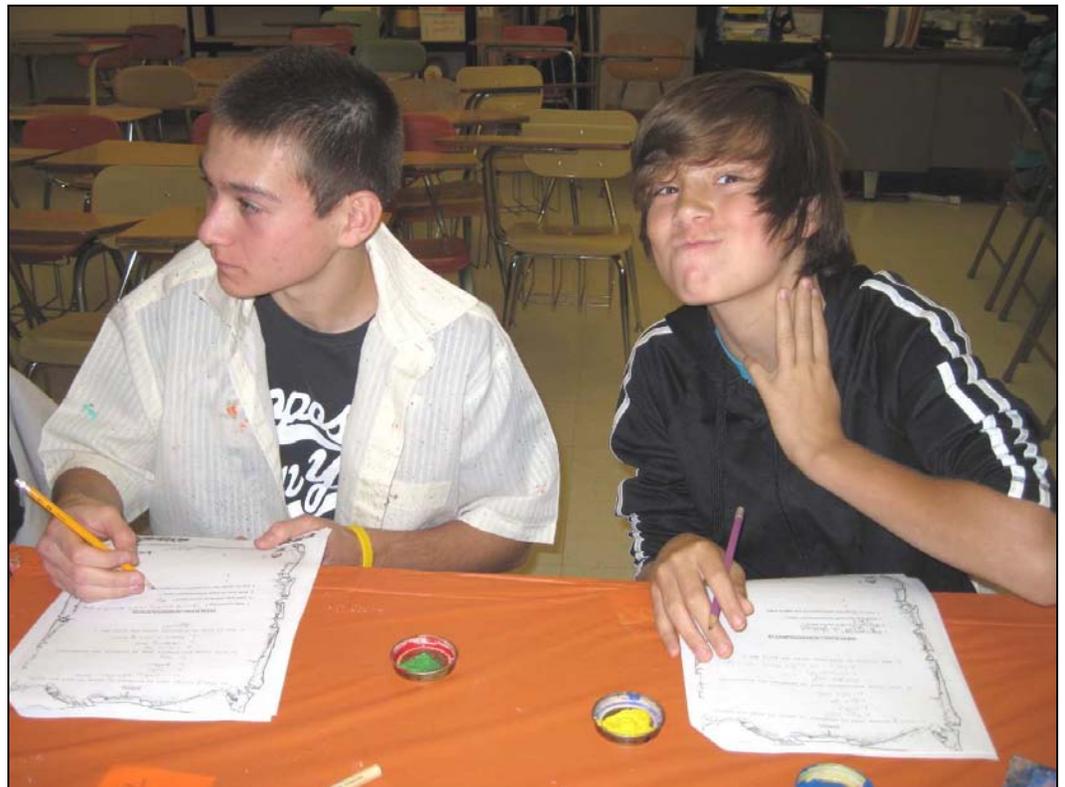
Playing Colonial games was different compared to usual games we play today. We played Nine-Pins, which is like bowling but in miniature form. There was also Checkers, Marbles, Jacob's Ladder, Ring-Toss and Pick-Up Sticks.

At one station, Team 8 got to write with a quill pen. That was challenging. You had to hold the quill a certain way or it would not write so well. Another station did stenciling. Some people went crazy with stencils. Others only had one or two pictures.

I personally thought the funniest and most exciting station was the Colonial dance and soldier life. With



**Nichole Henritz and Yanni Tripajis loved their old-time hats on Colonial Days.**



**Gavin Kemery and Niko Hoffman got Colonial directions for their Colonial activities.**

**See Colonial, page 4**

# M.S. library turned a new page this year

By Mr. Schmidt  
*Part-Time Librarian of  
the Middle School World*

With the start of the 2011-2012 school year, many changes have occurred at the Northern Lehigh Middle School library. Most important is the loss of the beloved librarian, Dr. Clemmer, who retired at the end of the previous year. After 45 years of service to the district, Dr. Clemmer is

now enjoying his time showing off his bald eagle tattoo on the beaches of Florida.

Depending on when you visit the library, you may see the smiling faces of Mrs. Trantham, Mrs. Bowser, Mr. Hicks or Mr. Schmidt. In addition to the change in personnel, the library added 75 new books to the collection this year. Most of them are new, popular books – check them out as soon as you can get to the library.

The changes, however, do not stop there.

The library is now accepting donations of books. In order to provide a more well-rounded collection, the library will accept donations of appropriate, used books to be added to the collection. If you have any books that you would like the library to have, please bring them in.

## Colonial Days teaches customs and traditions



**Brianna Butz contemplates her next move in a Colonial Days game of Checkers. (They didn't have Playstation back then). Matt Romig was a "dunce" in Mr. Schell's class — all for the good of the lesson, of course.**

### Colonial, from page 3

"soldier life," we got a wooden gun that shoots rubber bands. There were pins along the table that looked like British soldiers

and everyone had to shoot them.

It was funny when rubber bands "accidentally" hit the high schoolers.

Colonial dancing was hilarious. They showed us how you

would dance but in a funny way. They made jokes the whole time and when it came to our turn to dance in a circle, they practically dragged us. I wish every history class was like Colonial Days.

# Looking ahead to this year's ACE Team

By Gavin Kemery  
*Team 8*

Northern Lehigh Middle School's ACE Team has, by all means, fought to be where they are. They first had to take a grueling test that consisted of 35 questions.

It was so difficult that very few people had more than 10 correct. Either way, the six students who did make the team truly did earn it. Every Thursday or Friday, the team gets together for an hour of solid trivia.

Each time the team meets up for practice, they whip up stacks and stacks of paper smothered in



questions. Most of the time, an ACE Team member blares out with an answer almost instantaneously.

Although, there are some questions that the team has never

even expected to exist. As many proud moments they have of getting correct answers, there are those few moments when the peculiar faces appear.

The ACE Team has had its ups and downs, but they keep improving. It is just the beginning so there is no need to fret. In fact the team is really looking good! They're already beginning to get a game plan for the upcoming contests. They actually just got out the buzzers a few weeks ago. Just remember that when you hear a buzz and the points are racking up, know that Northern Lehigh is there.

## Team 7 helps the hungry during Thanksgiving

By Taylor Sook  
*Team 7*

As you all know, Team 7 students go to a food bank a few times during the school year to help out less-fortunate people. Each class goes at separate times for special holidays. Mr. Hluschak's class went in November to help out for Thanksgiving. Mrs. Becker's class went near the Christmas holiday. The Northern Lehigh Food Bank is located in Emerald.

Mr. Hluschak's class went on Nov. 18 on a very cold Friday. We were all very cold but we felt good that we helped local people. It was really fun! We had a great time. It took about an hour and then we went on a walk since we had extra time. That was also fun. We had to walk in pairs and we walked over bridges and walked on a dirt trail.

Why did we go? We went because some peo-



**Myana Elam and Cali Zempel work the line at the Northern Lehigh Food Bank.**

**See Food Bank, page 6**

# Northern Lehigh Food Bank gets good help



**Mrs. Becker did her part to help and kept David Neff in line.**



**Anthony Evangelist was a good little Anthony on this day.**

## Food Bank, from page 5

ple are in need of things. We helped pass food to each other to

help get ready for the big Thanksgiving meal. In my opinion, it was fun and I was glad I helped. If you look on the door to room 26, you will see a picture and a short de-

scription about the food bank. I think it was a good field trip to help people. Passing the potatoes was really fun. It was a big success.

# Bulldogs get all Shakespearean with fall play

By Victoria Oquendo

Team 7

This year's high school fall play was "Romeo and Juliet." It was Northern Lehigh's first Shakespearean play. Shakespeare is harder to learn than a regular play. In Shakespeare, you cannot improvise because each verse rhymes with the last.

Shakespeare also uses a lot of *shalls*, *yonders*, and *thous*, which can

make things confusing. Overall, though, it was a good play.

In "Romeo and Juliet," I was a nun (surprising, right?) I liked it. It was a fun and exciting experience. I met a lot of new friends.

In theater, it's like one big family. Everybody cares about each other and it was really cool. I plan on being a part of the musical, "Gypsy," also.



# Football bulldogs prove successful this year

By Cody Becker

Team 7

The Northern Lehigh Middle School football team was a huge success this year. They finished 7-3. The Bulldogs beat Palmetton and Northwestern. They are a confident team.

They were physically ready to play each game but had a few mental mistakes. Playing on the team is a great experience.

If you want to play football and end up not playing, you will regret it. It is a hard sport to play though.

You will get bumps and bruises. You need to get stronger by lifting and practicing. Lifting in the weight room is a hard thing to do. You get sore from it but you have to keep lifting. Listen to me and play ball!



# U-14 girls soccer stays strong through finals

By Karlyna Kemery  
*Team 7*

On November 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, the U-14 girls had a soccer tournament at Moore Township. The girls played three games on the first day of the tournament. They tied their first game with Moore Township, then beat Forks and then beat Nazareth in the last game of the day. The next day of the tournament they beat their arch rival Palmer in an early morning game. With four games played, the team finished 3-0-1, and with that record, made it to the semifinals.

The semifinal match was against Bethlehem Township. It was a very tough game which the Northern Lehigh team led 2-1 with one minute to go. Then a

penalty was called for a push in the box. Because of the call, Bethlehem Township got a penalty kick, which means that the coach from the other team picks one of



his players and everyone has to stay out of the box but not the goalie.

Then Bethlehem Township took the shot, pulled it wide, and missed the goal! If the girl

would've made it, she would've tied up the game. They were so happy to have won the semifinals since they lost in the semifinals the year before. Now they get to go to the finals!

The team had some time to relax before the final game against OLPH. Before the game, the other Northern Lehigh teams wished us good luck in the finals. Even the team that lost to OLPH wished us good luck against them. The team stretched and had a pep talk. Then the referees called the captains out for the coin toss. Now this was it the time they had all been waiting for, to beat the undefeated OLPH team. They had played them twice during the regular season and lost.

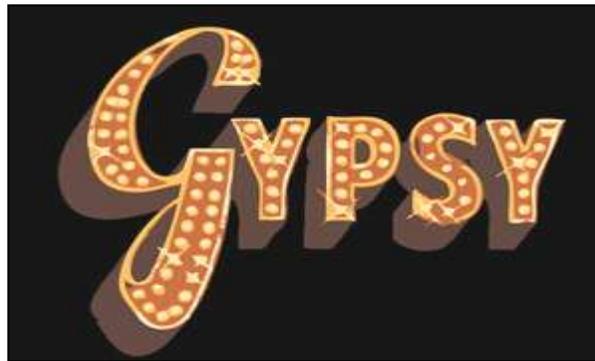
**See Soccer, page 9**

# 'Gypsy' is coming to NLHS in Spring

By Jaelese Vargas  
*Team 7*

Coming in Spring to Northern Lehigh High School is a sensational musical about a mother and her two daughters called "Gypsy." Students from the middle school will be a part of the musical as well.

The mother seems to play favorites with her daughter, June, who is more talented than her sister, Louise, who is not talented at



all. Poor Louise is made to dress up like a boy in most of the musical's acts. Even in one scene,

Louise has to dress up like a cow!

And when June and Louise grow up, June leaves to become an actress and since she leaves, she wants to make a show with Louise, who ends up working at a burlesque place.

I can't give it all away so come check it out – signs will be posted with the musical's dates.



# OPINION

## Nobody's perfect, yet we can't look beyond flaws

By **Beth Kern**

*Team 8*

**Perfect:** To make something completely free from faults or defects.

Let's face it – nobody is perfect. We all have flaws, imperfections, insecurities, faults, differences or whatever you want to call them. And they are what make us unique.

So why do we make such a big deal out of them?

We have all been made fun of. Some of us more than others. You're too short, too tall, too fat, too skinny.

Your eyes are too far apart or you have a bump in your nose. There are so many things we can make fun of each other for, but honestly, what's the point?

If we all have flaws, then why do we make fun of each other? Everybody has something they

don't like about themselves, but getting told about it by other people only makes it worse.

Some people try to fix themselves with nose jobs, gastric by-



pass (a surgery to make you thin), and any other type of surgery to "make you look better."

Why do people have to do this, though? Our imperfections make us different from one another. And isn't that what we all

try to be – unique? Your own person.

We all try to leave our mark on the world. So why do we change ourselves for other people? We all don't like things about ourselves. For me, it's being short. I can't fix that, though. It's what makes me "me."

If you don't want people making fun of you for flaws, don't do it to other people. You may not care, but *they* sure do. There is not one person who hasn't woken up one morning, looked in the mirror and said, "I hate the way I look." That's OK sometimes, but remember to always have confidence in who you are.

I don't think anyone should try to change themselves for someone else. Own up to your flaws and be proud of who you are. Remember, you are "you," and you are unique!

## Girls soccer team knows all about effort

### Soccer, from page 8

In the first half of the game, there was a lot of pressure on us. The team defended very well, and passed well. When Northern Lehigh scored a goal in the first half, the crowd went wild. They defended well the rest of the game and won 1-0.

When the game ended, we slapped the hand of the OLPH players and said good job. Everyone was very happy. Parents came over, took pictures and congratulated the team. The players got medals and a team trophy.

The U-14 girls did a fantastic job the whole tournament, especially in the finals. I want to thank

the team for putting forth great effort. Throughout the season, the girls worked very hard at practices.

They practiced in the freezing weather, the pouring rain, and the dying heat in the summer. They also worked so hard at the soccer tournament. Outstanding job girls! Let's win it again next year!

# Gettin' Poetic

## Endlessly

By *Amanna Bradley*

I stand on a cliff,  
Overlooking the ocean.  
I wonder if I should jump,  
To feel the adrenaline  
overwhelm me.

Contemplating this,  
My body decides for me.

I fall endlessly  
as if I were dreaming.  
Falling, falling, falling,  
SPLASH!

The water swallows me whole,  
I never again awaken.

## Just Like the Leaves

By *Gavin Kemery*

Personalities change as do  
the leaves in the spring.

Each representing  
a different thing.

They flourish in color for  
everyone's delight.

But hidden in  
the shadows of night.

Personalities, a sound or a glow.

The sound of waves, or  
the fall of snow.

Though all are different,  
all stay the same.

Personalities change  
as do the leaves in the spring.

# Greyhounds can race into anyone's heart



By **Kasey Wayda**

*Team 8*

When I was at the Canal Festival and getting ready to leave, we walked by the stand where the greyhounds are. I, being the animal lover that I am, felt like I had to stop and see them.

Their names were Bear, Hercules, and Red. I noticed that the dogs were shivering (because they have a very thin layer of fur) so we offered to go to his van and get some of their jackets.

I got to pick them out too! Then the man let me in the cage so I could put their coats on. After that, they started jumping on me and I instantly fell in love with them.

These dogs go through a lot in their lifetimes and when they're used as racing dogs, they can be put down as early as two years old. The dogs are very playful and mellow. If you're looking to adopt a dog, check out a greyhound because you will definitely fall in love with them.



# OPINION

## How many people can make a difference?

By Abby Hillegas

*Team 8*

Everyone is different. We are all unique. If we were all the same, what would we talk about? And if we were all the same, would we be able to get along better?

Now with that question in mind, why do people bully each other?

Is it because they have a bad

life? Or is it just because others do? Did you ever stop to think how that person might feel? Next time you see someone being bullied, stop them.

If you're the bully, why don't you put yourself in their shoes? How would you feel, being picked on every day? I know everyone is different but why pick on them?

If you don't like someone, don't talk to them. By doing that,

school life would be less stressful on everyone. Not only will we be less-stressed or worried but so will parents who wonder how their child is, and teachers, counselors, and the principal will be calmer as well, knowing that they won't have to worry about fights or bullying.

Like my mom always said: It only takes one person to make a difference.

## Nintendo Wii game system is here to stay

By Tyler Smith

*Team 7*

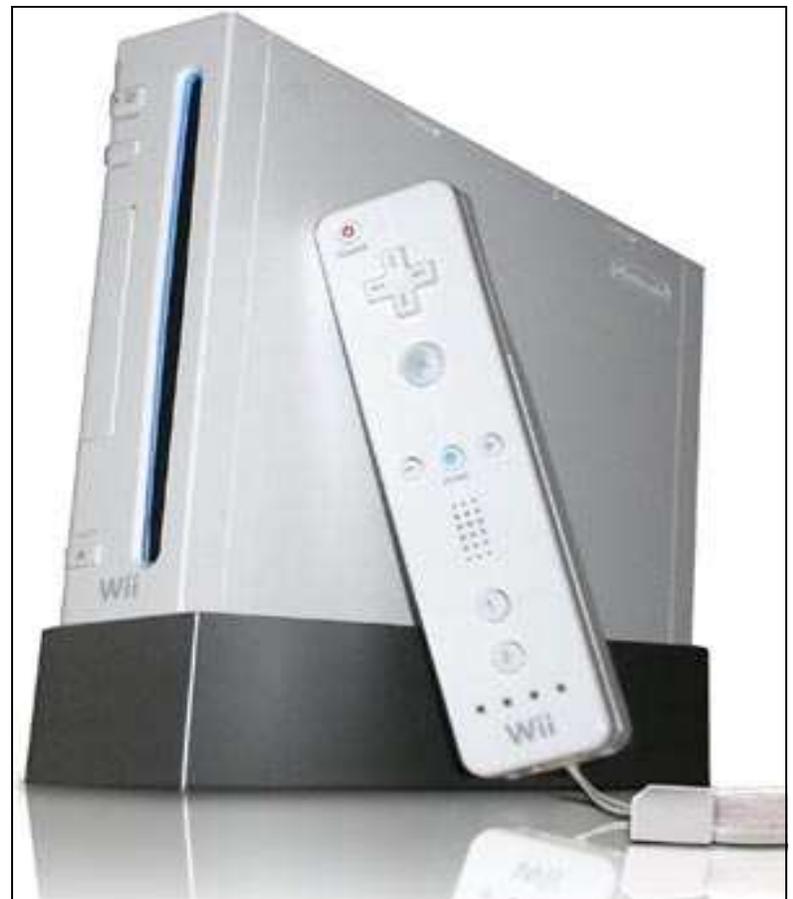
The Nintendo Wii is my favorite game system. It was a real popular game system when it first came out in 2008-2009. But in 2010, there were some newcomers called PS3 and X-Box 360.

It was a war of video games and now, the Wii is losing the war since the newcomers are upgrading their systems.

For example, the X-Box 360 upgraded to Kinect. I asked Mrs. Wagner about if the Wii will ever survive. She said, "It might go on the way-side." I also asked Mrs. Shoemaker about the Wii and she said, "It has its own market but it is still battling X-Box 360 Kinect."

Then, I talked to 10 random students to ask if they like the Wii or not. Out of every student I asked, seven of 10 like it and three dislike it.

So as you can see, the Wii will survive some more time. Until a new cool system comes out, the Wii will still fight for best video game console.



# The top 3 movies of the holiday season

By Zak Motter

Team 7

With Christmas now in our rearview mirror, here is a look back on the top three Christmas movies.

The third best Christmas movie is "A Christmas Story." This is a cute movie with some very hilarious scenes.

A kid named Ralphie wants a special BB gun but everyone says he will shoot his eye out. He still wants the BB gun badly, though. In the movie, he also beats the town bully to tears.

One of the funniest scenes in the movie is when one of Ralphie's friends gets "double-dog" dared to stick his tongue to the flag pole (in the middle of winter) and he gets stuck. This is a great movie to see. **(Advisor's note: The Bark does not condone anyone sticking his or her tongue to any flag pole during any season for any reason. Who does that?!)**

The second best movie is "A Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street." It involves a girl that doesn't believe in Santa

Claus but soon Santa has been found in the Macy's Day Parade in New York City.

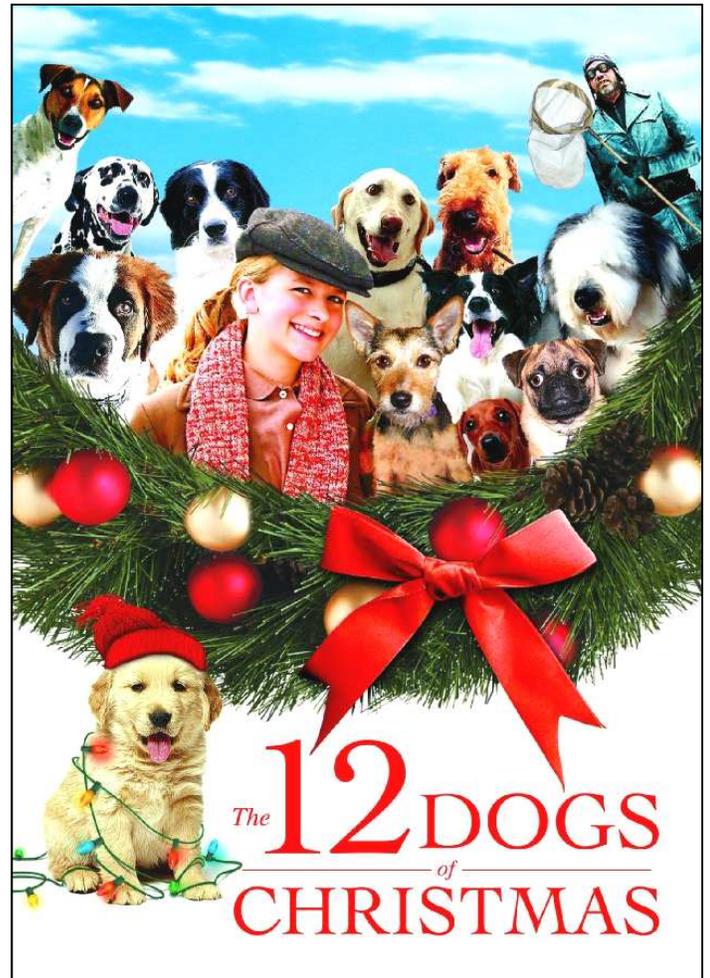
She decides to put St. Nicholas to the test. She asks him for a house in the country and a family. St. Nick does the exact thing. This is a good movie for the whole family.

Taking first place is "The 12 Dogs of Christmas." This is a good movie for the dog-loving soul. A girl named Emma has to move to Doylestown from Pittsburgh.

She ends up finding a stray puppy. She saves it from the pound and has to hide it because dogs are illegal.

She must keep the dog in a barn with a new friend from

school who lives outside of town. The dogs are eventually saved and everyone is happy.



## Please give — Someone out there needs your blood

Northern Lehigh Middle School Student Council will be hosting a Blood Drive, in association with the Miller-Keystone Blood Center, in the cafeteria annex on Tuesday, Jan. 24 from 2 to 6:30 p.m.

Register to donate through Jan. 31 and enter to win a \$500 Visa card. Please contact Miss Zeiser at 610-767-9812, ext. 1328. Miller-Keystone Blood Center is a non-profit community organization and proud to be the only blood provider to community hospitals.



# The magical wonders of wintery snow

By Ty Weist  
Team 7

Did you know that no two snowflakes are the same?! In some places, there would be feet of snow but in others, it would be bare grass. This is because of the ground elevation.

The higher areas get more snow than the lower areas. Did you also know that small snowflakes connect to make bigger ones? You have to be careful that you don't get frostbite. There is dry snow that doesn't pack well and there is wet snow that packs very well.

You may be able to drive in snow but it is very dangerous. My family and I love snow. I know that slushy snow turns into ice. But sometimes it is still very slushy and dangerous.

Some people do not like snow; for what reason, I do not know. Snow is a really nice thing



in the wintery part of year. Unless you're a miser, you should like snow. Some people don't like to drive in it, but that is understandable. Now if it was my choice, I would drive in it every day.

There are kids like me who love to play in the snow. Some kids go sleigh-riding on nice days.

Some people build snowmen in the yard. When we had three feet of snow, I made a snow fort. Then I destroyed it. That was a lot of fun.

These are the wonders of snow and the fun you can have with it.

## First Zumba/Yoga-a-Thon ~ Learn CPR!

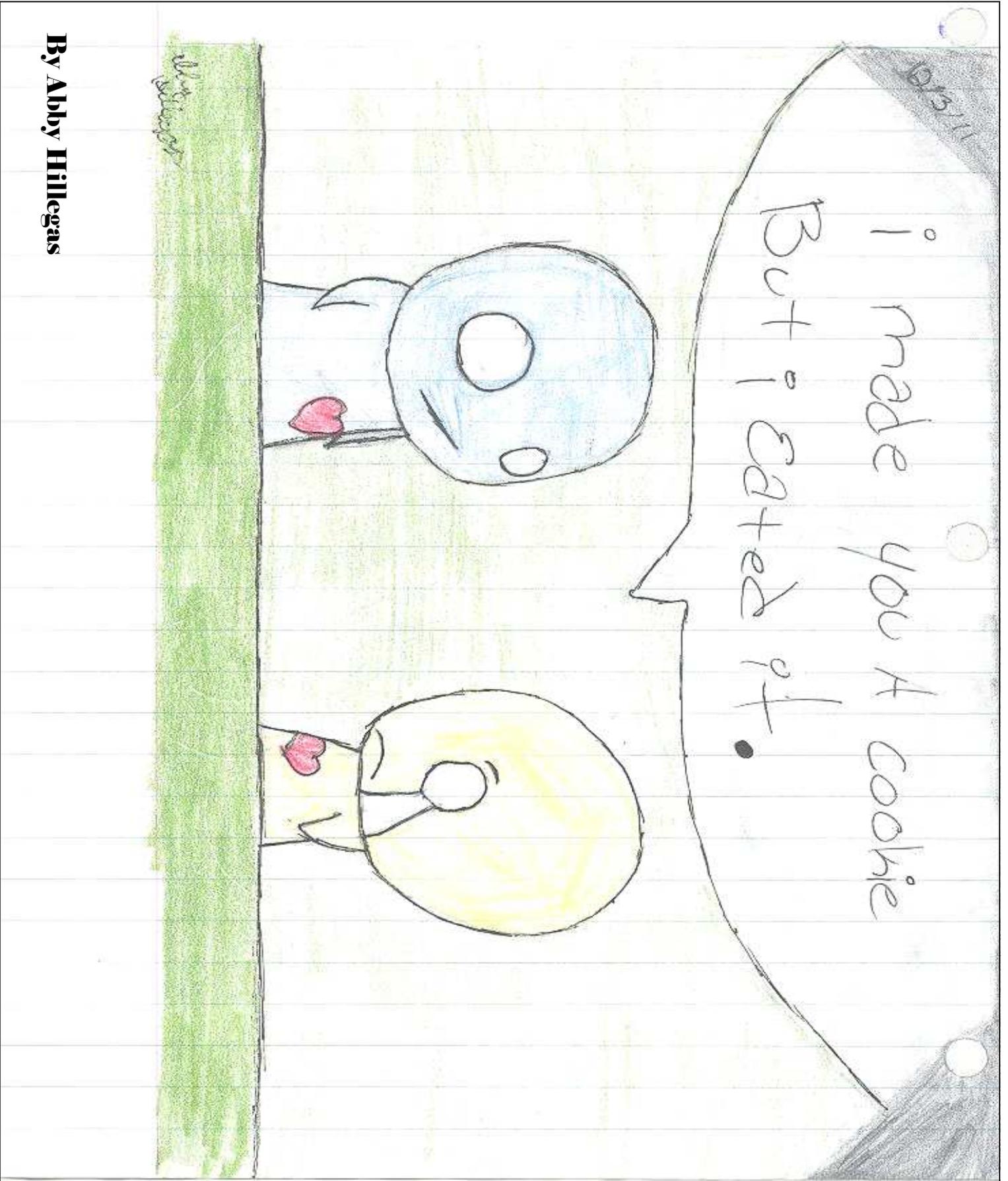
Get physical! Get active! Get energized! Grab a friend and come have fun at the first Zumba/Yoga-a-Thon fund-raiser on Jan. 21, 2012 at the Peters Elementary School gym, 4055 Friedens Rd., Slatington. Cost is \$15 to help build your Northern Lehigh Community Center. Call 610-760-0300 for more info. Johnson Family Day Care will provide child care for \$1/child/hour. Child must be potty-trained. Healthy snacks will be sold. There will also be a 50/50 raffle and there will be door prizes.

### CPR Classes Offered

American Red Cross CPR classes will be offered for students and parents after school in the NL Middle School library on Jan. 23 and 25. The classes go from 2:15-5 p.m. each day. Contact Mrs. Raber at [mramer@nlsd.org](mailto:mramer@nlsd.org) if you have any questions.



By Abby Hillegas



**Advisor's Note:** The Bulldog Bark does not promote lower-casing the personal pronoun "I," nor does it promote improperly-used past-tense verbs. But hey, thank you for reading!!

# THE BULLDOG BARK



Principal: Mrs. Chamberlain

Advisor: Mr. Barnes

Northern Lehigh Middle School

Winter 2012

Issue Two

# MISSING!

*Work ethic and pride need to return to Bulldogs' P.A.C.K.*

By Mr. Barnes

*Bark Advisor*

The "Bulldog idea" in this school goes well beyond simple blue and white colors. All who enter our building are expected to live by the belief that we get our Power from the P.A.C.K. (Pride. Academic Achievement. Confident. Kind). But there are some things drastically missing this year from more students than we, as teachers, care to witness and we need to get it back.

What seems to have vanished from this school is a "work ethic" and a sense of pride in too many students.

A "work ethic" is a set of values based on strong effort and diligence. (If you do not know the meaning of *diligence*, would you even care to look it up? If not, that says a lot about your work ethic).

What I love to see in my classroom is *effort* and

*pride*. Speaking only from Room 24 (but I believe many of my colleagues would agree), you may not love our topic of the day or week, or the subject as a whole, but all I want to see is that you're making an *effort* and that there is some care in your heart that learning actually occurred.



I cannot even count the times blank faces stared back at me this year when asked about nouns and verbs. As I reminded many of you, this is a lesson basically taught out of the womb and reviewed each year thereafter. If you truly forgot the material from the previous six (or seven) years, fine, but there was such little *effort* to retain the information *this* year and then succeed on the test. The attitude of "*Why would I*

*take the time to learn this? Whatever grade I get is what I get*" is not the mentality we expect from a Northern Lehigh Bulldog.

**See P.A.C.K., on EXTRA page 2**

# Bulldog pride needs a revival in M.S.

## P.A.C.K., from front page

On another day, 48 students chose not to do a simple homework assignment that, ironically enough, was a written paragraph on "Creating Your Own Middle School Class." Yes, 48 students got a *zero* for what would have been 10-15 minutes of writing. Then came the excuses.

Signs in my room say boldly, **"Reasons are why you couldn't do something. Excuses are why you chose not to."** No, my dear, you did not "forget" to do it; your lack of work ethic simply disregarded it. There is a huge difference.

And the amount of moaning, groaning, complaining and whining this year is just...well, embarrassing. You're no longer in elementary school and sometimes, yes, you will be asked to write one paragraph or do 25 math problems, learn a foreign country's culture, differentiate between animal species or even read 20 minutes on your own time. Grab some courage, find some nerve and rock that assignment! Put the negative faces away and let your character shine.

What else has vanished this year?

A simple desire to learn, a positive attitude toward the work and a sense of pride after achieving a small task or conquering a major goal. Do I expect A's in

every class? Well, why shouldn't I? It seems that many students this year are putting more effort into failing the subject than they would to actually pass it and that, to be very honest, is heart-breaking.

Another huge problem that



is severely damaged this year is the **character** of students. Not only are too many school rules being ignored, but when broken, many of you could honestly care less. Tell us why. Seriously. *Why* do you not care? If there are few people in your life who "care," I can promise you that there are people in this building who will fill in those gaps.

Please don't misunderstand the point of this diatribe. (*Go ahead. Look that one up, too. No kidding. Don't just sit there and act too cool to learn a new word*). The majority of this year's student body – both seventh and eighth grades – is full of many good people. You work hard, follow rules (whether you like them or not), say

"please" and "thank you," do the assignments and do them well, and act like maturing young adults stuck in the scary process of growing up. You make us very proud.

You have leadership potential, yet the small groups of bad apples are being allowed to spoil the entire population. It's time to lead. It's time to stand up and take back your school from the negative beings that spread their poison. Contrary to what *these students* may think, they have no such power. If *you* lead, however, perhaps they will follow. Maybe they just *need* the right person to create a path.

Remember, you are still our future and, at the present, our world needs a lot of improvement. If this planet is set to develop with your help in one way or another, it is going to take a lot of *desire*, some strong *effort* and the kind of *attitude* that we strive to see.

Before conquering the world, though, the Bulldog Pride needs to return to these Northern Lehigh classrooms and hallways.

You have the **POWER**. We're all part of the **PACK**. It's time to once again stand behind who we are and what we believe.

