

Comet Comments—



Coloma High School Newsletter

Principal, Mr. David A. Ehlers

April 2016

MISSION STATEMENT:

*We will inspire all students to achieve at high levels
and empower them for their future success.*

INSPIRE TO ACHIEVE –EMPOWER FOR SUCCESS



FROM THE DESK OF DAVID A. EHLERS

Now that our State Testing Cycle is complete, I would like to thank all the freshmen, sophomores, and juniors, as well as their parents for their cooperation as the entire testing cycle went well and was attended well due to your efforts. We met all our requirements for testing and it is largely due to your help! THANK YOU!!!

With graduation right around the corner, parents of seniors are encouraged to stay on top of their student. Seniors tend to become complacent and begin to coast this late in the school year. Please check the online gradebook frequently and communicate with teachers to avoid a late collapse that could affect your student's graduation status. Senior parents should receive a letter via U.S Postal mail next week with more details.

It is hard to believe that the 2016-17 school year is nearly over! While this year has went fast, it has also been a very good year at CHS. I would like to thank the parents, students, and staff for all their hard work and commitment to the education process which contributed greatly to our successful year!

GO COMETS!!!

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

by Mrs. Fran Megyese

SENIORS & PARENTS:

How to order your final transcript from Parchment.

1. Sign in to your Parchment account.
2. Click Order
3. Search for the destination that you want to send your final transcript/transcripts to. When you find them, click Select.
4. Under when do you want this sent? **SELECT HOLD FOR GRADES. You can REQUEST THEM NOW but they will not be sent until this semester's grades have been posted.** You'll click Save & Continue again after reviewing your order.
5. Authorize for sending by Parchment by Signing.
6. Final transcripts should be posted by June 15th.

Parents: If your senior student has received a monetary award/scholarship from ANY college or organization please let Mrs. Megyese know prior to Award Night on May 9th. They will be recognized even if your student is planning on attending another school.

SENIORS: WE ARE ONLY A FEW WEEKS FROM GRADUATION. IF YOU HAVE ANY FINES, ATTENDANCE, OR CREDIT PROBLEMS PLEASE HAVE THEM TAKEN CARE OF BY MAY 22ND.

UPCOMING DATES

May 9—Senior Awards Night, HS Auditorium, 7pm

May 10—Late Start HS 10 am start

May 16—Spring Band Concert, HS Auditorium, 7pm

May 18—Spring Choir Concert, HS Auditorium, 7pm

May 24—Late Start HS 10 am start

May 25—Senior class final exams—4th, 5th, 6th hours

May 26—Senior class final exams—1st, 2nd, 3rd hours

MAY 30—No School, Memorial Day



2016 CTE Award Winners

by Cathy Haley



The 28th Annual Berrien County Career & Technical Education Awards Banquet was held on April 18 at Lake Michigan College Mendel Center. The banquet honors the outstanding CTE students of the 2016/17 school year. Nine students won scholarships to Lake Michigan College for being the outstanding student in their program. These students are:

Zane Lute for Accounting, Daniel Palmer for Automotive Tech, Naomi Cottrell for Cadet Teaching, Adeline Singh for Certified Nursing Assistant, Casey Feller for Digital Multimedia, Gabriel Doggett for Drafting, Austin Hebner for Engineering, Michael Collins for Machine Tool, Nick Forrest for Welding.

*Congratulations on the outstanding job and
earning a scholarship!*



CHS Bench Dedication

by Chuck Luchies



This year the Welding class had the opportunity to build a memorial bench for Denise Bohn and donate it to Mid-West Family Broadcasting. Wednesday the bench was unveiled and dedicated along with her memorial garden. It was an important task and our students had the opportunity to play such an important part in the healing process for so many people. It really impacted them in a great way. As a result the bench and its dedication made the front center page head lining article of the Herald Palladium. Denise was a former Miss Coloma and grew up in Coloma.





Creative Writing Class

by Brett Walsworth

Many prospective creative writing students have posed the question, “What kinds of things to you do in creative writing class?” Having been asked some form of this question so many times, I thought that this might make a good topic for a brief column.

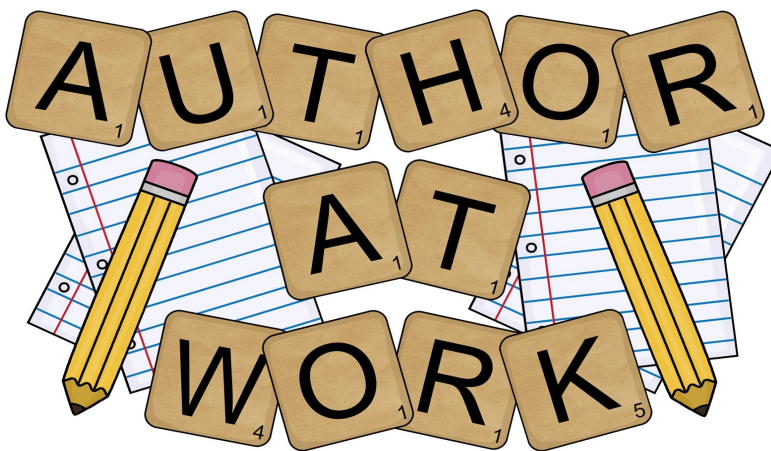
One overarching principle that I follow in class is that we should look closely at what professional writers say about a variety of topics related to writing. In this spirit, I model various writing techniques by utilizing a number of short works and passages by great authors in order to demonstrate to students what mastery of these different techniques looks like. I also think that it’s important for students to write on a daily basis, so I usually have students read articles or sections of two books written by authors about the art of writing. The first book that we use is Stephen King’s *On Writing*, which is both informative and engaging. As we progress, we read a helpful book by U.S. Poet Laureate

In terms of assignments, I try to give students a choice, which they all enjoy. We do a short assignment that involves closely reading the student’s imagery and personal essays. After we have read and discussed some models of both forms, our largest class project is the short story, which we approach through a step-by-step process, including plenty of time for peer revision and editing. We also do a series of journal questions in which we work on different aspects of the draft-in-progress.

For our final unit, we veer away from prose and delve into poetry. First, we do several exercises in which we start focusing on different aspects of poetry. Next, we create several haiku (very brief and focused poems with a particular form). The final assignment is to create several original poems, which allows for a great deal of latitude and personal choice in terms of techniques and topics. Throughout the last weeks of class, I show students a wide variety of different types of poetry, including a great deal of modern poetry.

By the end of the class, students will have been exposed to a multitude of great writing styles as well as many practical strategies that will help them improve as writers. To use Stephen King’s analogy, everyone who writes comes to the blank page with his own particular “toolbox”, and the ultimate goal of this class is to add new tools to each student’s inventory that can be of use throughout life beyond high school.

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extremely engaged to the poetry parts of a concise, written by former poet Ted Kooser. writing assignments allow for some many students to begin the year by signing that in describing an item choice, focusing on perspective. Next, choice of writing narrative or a poem we have read and



Science

by Sonya Vroon



The Physics Essentials classes will be ending the school year studying Electricity. In this unit, Students will use the Van de Graaff Generator. The Van de Graaff generator is an electrostatic generator which uses a moving belt to accumulate electric charge on a hollow metal globe on the top of an insulated column. It creates very high voltage (DC) with low current.

Van de Graaff generator demonstrations can provide useful insights into electrical phenomena, which are at the same time memorable.





Southwestern Athletic Conference Academic All-Conference

These students were selected to the Southwestern Athletic Conference Academic All-Conference team!

The selection is based on a combination of the student's grade point average and ACT composite score. This academic award is given by the conference to recognize and value the work done in the classroom.

Pictured left to right: Jacoby Kroschel, Gregory Olsen, Cassidy Fickett



*National
Honor Society
2017*



Did You Know?

April was originally the second month, not the fourth month, of the year?

In the early Roman calendar, the month was referred to as Aprilis, likely derived from the Roman word for "to open" -- perhaps referring to the opening of spring flowers.

April is the first full month of Spring?

The month is marked by a renewal of natural life, with hibernating animals coming out of their burrows, birds returning from their winter migration, flowers and trees blossoming, and bees beginning to gather nectar.

April's birthstone is the diamond?

Considered the most precious of all stones, diamonds may have been associated with the month of April since Biblical times, when a priest's breastplate was adorned with twelve different gems -- one for each month of the year. The official list of birthstones, however, was not published until 1912, when the Kansas City-based National Association of Jewelers assigned a different stone to each month. Initially criticized for its obvious commercial motivation, the list quickly became widely accepted.

In North America, April is often considered the start of the planting season?

But do April showers really bring May flowers? It depends on whether you are talking about annual flowers or perennial flowers. Perennials like tulips and daffodils usually pop open between late March and the end of May, depending on what part of the country you live in, so it would seem there is some truth to the age-old adage. Of course, too much rain during a perennial's bloom may cause the buds to shrivel up before they open.

The daisy is the official flower of the month of April?

This cheerful flower brightens any flower garden and makes a wonderful addition to any indoor vase arrangement. There are dozens of varieties of daisies, but the most popular the African Daisy and the Shasta Daisy.

William Shakespeare was born on April 23, 1564?

The month of April is filled with famous birthdays, from the Civil War General and 18th President of the United States, Ulysses S. Grant (April 27, 1822), to the renowned children's author Hans Christian Anderson (April 2, 1805), to the former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Colin Powell (April 5, 1937). April is also the birth month of dozens of contemporary Hollywood stars, including Uma Thurman, Renee Zellweger, Alec Baldwin, Robert Downey, Jr., and James Garner.

April Fools Day may have begun in France?

While some historians disagree, the most popular theory about the origins of this day for pranks and practical jokes is that it began in the 1500s in France, when the start of the New Year was moved from March to January. Word of the move traveled slowly to the rural dwellers, who continued to celebrate the New Year in April, earning them the title of "April fools".

Revolutionary War began in April?

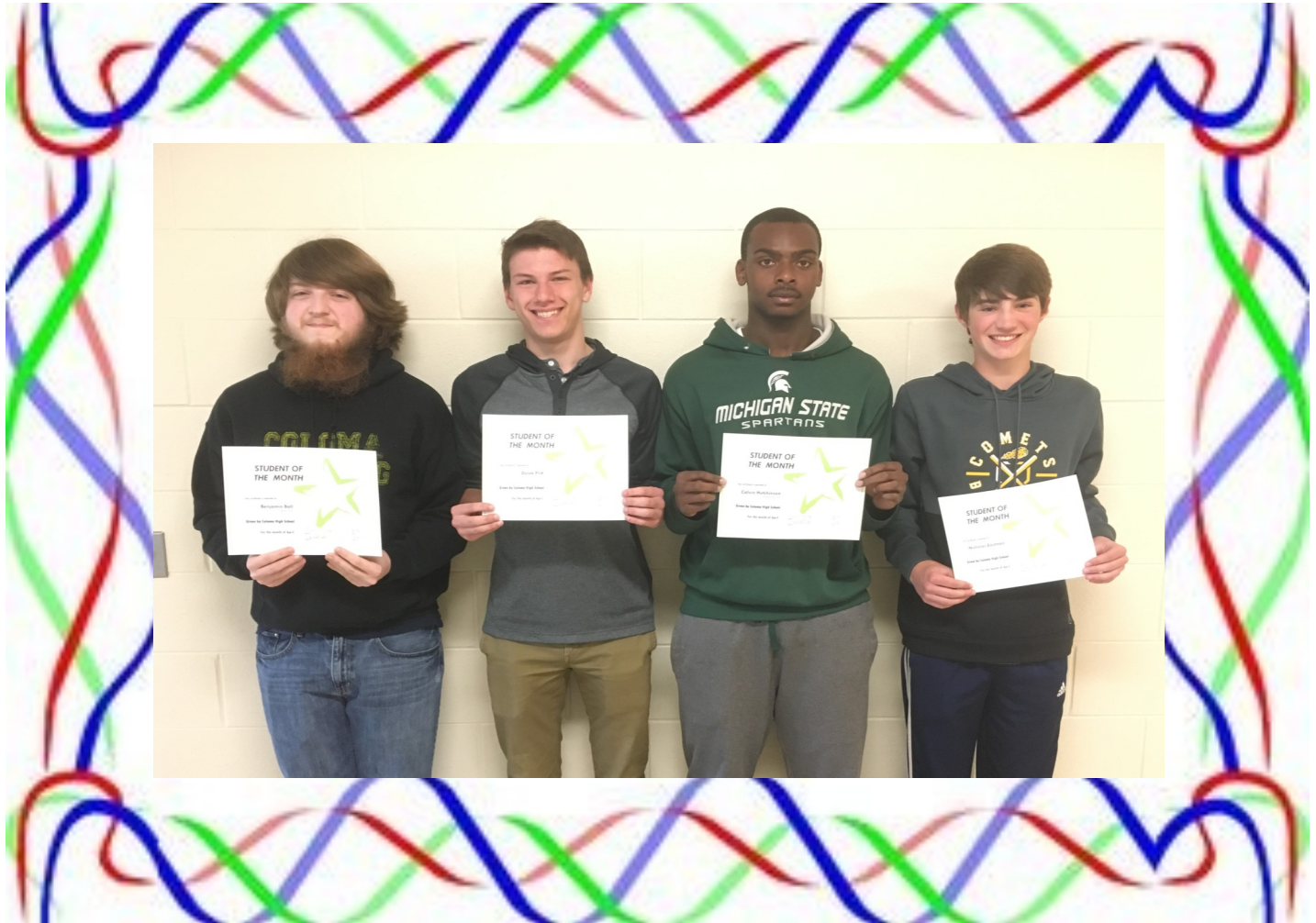
On April 19, 1775, British soldiers clashed with American revolutionaries in Massachusetts in the Battle of Lexington and Concord.



**COLOMA HIGH SCHOOL
APRIL STUDENTS OF THE MONTH !!**

Congratulations to:

**(l-r) Senior—Benjamin Ball, Junior—Derek Plitt,
Sophomore—Calvin Hutchinson, Freshman--Nicholas Eastman**



DATES FOR JUNE

Mark your calendar

June 2 Graduation –Class of 2017
June 8 Exam 1/2 day
June 9 Exam 1/2 day—Last day of School