

Comet Comments—



Coloma High School Newsletter

APRIL 2015

Principal, Mr. David Ehlers

MISSION STATEMENT:

We are dedicated to fostering pride in the school, the community and nourishing a positive self-image for every student. Our belief is that all students can and will learn best when excellence is expected; educational achievement will be obtained only when students are encouraged and challenged to attain this excellence.



FROM THE DESK OF PRINCIPAL, DAVID A. EHLERS

Now that the M-Step is complete, I would like to thank all the juniors and their parents for their cooperation as the entire testing cycle went well and was attending well due to your efforts. Our testing rate for the ACT and ACT WorkKeys was 100%. While we still have a few make ups to complete, the recently scheduled six days of on line M-Step testing was attended by 98% of all juniors. Thanks again for your help in assisting us complete this state requirement.

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 students graduation status.

It is hard to believe that the 2014-15 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. Frances Megyese

Reminders to seniors taking Credit Recovery-- You MUST complete your course/courses with a passing grade by May 19th in order to graduate on the 29th.

Next school year, 2015-16, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students should see me for any class changes prior to June 1st. You can go online to your class request screen and make sure these are the classes you want for next school year. You will also receive a copy of choices by the middle of May.

Next year's seniors, plan on visiting the colleges you are thinking about attending during the summer. Be sure to pick up a copy of your transcript from the high school office to take with you.

VISION:

TOGETHER.....

STRIVING AND
WORKING FOR

EXCELLENCE IN
EDUCATION



UPCOMING DATES

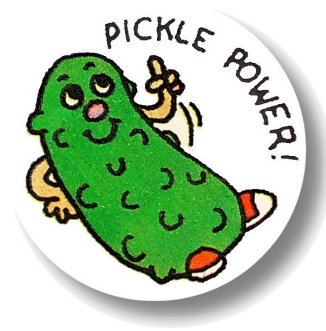
May 13—
Senior Awards
Night, 7 p.m.
HS Auditorium

May 25—
Memorial Day,
No School

May 29—
Graduation, 7 PM
Coloma High School
Outdoor Athletic
Complex



PICKLEBALL
by Mr. Bruce Dings



Pickleball is a fun exciting game that can be played by two to four people. This sport combines the best of ping-pong, tennis, and badminton. The game may be played on any hard surface such as patios, driveways and parking lots. Pickleball is the ideal family game for all ages and abilities. It is a game of shot placement and playing strategy, not brute power and strength. The game is growing in popularity among older people as they enjoy the fast volley exchange at the net and ground strokes just like in tennis. You can enjoy exercise and have fun while at the same time becoming physically fit playing Pickleball. Pickleball can be a competitive sport which does not require months of skill training like tennis. You can become a proficient player after a few hours of playing.

Coloma Township has included the construction of Pickleball courts in the recent DNR Recreation grant application for improvements to the Washington School property. If the grant is approved, this would be a great addition to the community with many people already playing and with Pickleball being taught at Coloma High School. Many future players would have a place to go and play.

For more information about the sport of Pickleball, see the United States of America Pickleball Association (USAPA) website at www.usapa.org. For information on local playing opportunities, contact the USAPA Ambassador for our area, Jim Hogue, at aysocoach@yahoo.com.



Coloma High School
“Home of the Comets”



COLOMA HIGH SCHOOL CHOIRS PERFORM IN NYC

by Mrs. Rebecca Selvidge

Over spring break the CHS choirs had the opportunity to travel to New York City to perform at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy as well as the Riverside Church. Martin Luther King Jr., Nelson Mandela and Bill Clinton have all spoken in the sanctuary at Riverside Church where our students sang during our trip.

As a group, we traveled over the Hudson River on the Staten Island Ferry and saw a beautiful view of the Statue of Liberty. We traveled to Battery Park and sang at the hauntingly, beautiful 9/11 Memorial. We were able to see two Broadway shows, an opera at the Metropolitan Opera and take a tour of that spectacular facility. It was a bit chilly, but we had a fantastic trip that created many memories.

The students were acknowledged for their graciousness, their kindness and their inquisitive nature. They were a wonderful representation of Coloma High School.





ACTION!! IN EARTH SCIENCE

by Mrs. Tonya Kimmerly

Students in Earth Science the third marking period spent time learning about plate tectonics. Instead of a traditional test, an alternative assessment strategy was used to allow students to show their knowledge. Paper slide videos are collaborative, student created, one-take videos, perfect for a recording on an iPad. Students first created an outline of the chapter. The next step in the process included getting into groups and picking a section from the chapter. They were required to write a script summary of the section. Topics included the theory of continental drift, seafloor spreading, plate boundaries and causes of plate motions. Students assigned a narrator, a camera person, and paper sliders. The next few days were spent creating storyboards, practicing their timing and tweaking their projects. Pictures were found on the Internet or hand drawn and were meant to be simple, without a lot of text. The final projects were amazing, exceeding expectations! Projects and support materials are posted at chsearthsci.weebly.com/paperslideprojects.





MATH DEPARTMENT NEWS

by Mr. Joe Stephens

Recently our Algebra II students have been working on counting theory, permutations, combinations, and probability. This is a great unit because it requires students to use a great deal of mathematical reasoning. The main concept in the unit revolves around students being able to figure out the number of ways that given situations can occur. When students figure out the number of ways situations can occur, they are able to calculate the probability, or likelihood, of those situations occurring.

To learn these concepts, we are able to use some hands on manipulatives such as dice, playing cards or geometric shapes. We are also going to be using spreadsheets and our graphing calculators to run simulations involving large numbers. All of these tools help our students to master probability. In this age of fast moving technology, it will be important for our kids to have the reasoning skills to use probability to make data-driven decisions in many of the career fields that they may choose to enter.

MORE DATES FOR MAY Please mark your calendar

<u>May 1</u>	Progress Reports Sent home
<u>May 11</u>	Band Concert, HS Auditorium, HS Jazz Band and HS Concert Band, 7 pm Art Show, 5-7 pm, Room 301 (old choir room)
<u>May 19</u>	Spring Choir Concert, HS Auditorium, Grades 6-12, 7 pm

Another Wild Robotics Season Draws to a Close in an Uplifting Manner

by Dr. Dale Quattrin



Your CW Tech robotics team finished the 2015 season on a high note this past week-end during in the World Championship event held in St. Louis. During the first two days of intense competition, the Robotarians started the qualifying matches ranked 30th but battled their way to finish 7th among the seventy-six teams on the Tesla field. Seventh place is the highest rank the Robotarians have finished after Championship qualifying matches during the past three years which team has competed at the World Championship Event. The top eight ranked teams on a field are able to be team captain of an alliance with three other teams. Because Tesla field's number one-ranked team selected the number five-ranked team to join their alliance, CW Tech entered the playoff matches as the Captain of the 6th seed alliance. The other teams chosen by CW Tech to join the Robotarian alliance were the Hammerheads from Troy, MI; Delphi E.L.I.T.E from Warren, OH; and Cougar Robotics from Skillman, NJ. Unfortunately, the Robotarians' alliance was eliminated during the Tesla field quarterfinals. However, the Robotarians are ecstatic to have finished the 2015 season among the top 2 percent of the teams in the world. In addition, team members had fun attending a "Roboprom" with about 1600 other high schools students from around the world. As part of the event, the team members also heard several business leaders from multinational corporations describe the future of technology and potential STEM careers, saw singer will.i.am and former *Myth Busters* host Grant Imahara. Michigan's governor, Rick Snyder, was presented with the *FIRST* "Make It Loud" award given to a person or organization who has contributed the most in increasing the awareness of *FIRST* to the general public. Governor Snyder's support of *FIRST* and *FIRST* teams through his State of the State address and financially has helped increased the number of Michigan teams to the point that our State has the largest number of high school *FIRST* robotics teams in the country. Overall, this has been another amazing and successful year. Congratulations to all the team members and thank you for all the long hours and hard work invested in the team!



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

Congratulations to:

**(l-r) Freshman—Morgan Wagner, Sophomore—Jenna Walter,
Junior—Phillip Bryant, Senior—Rayona Hart-Wilson**



**SENIOR PICTURE OPPORTUNITY
for 2015-16 Seniors!!**

Information will be coming to you soon from Lifetouch regarding an exceptional opportunity to have a 2015-16 Senior Picture Photo Session scheduled at Coloma High School at the end of next month.