



March  
2015



Pictured: Angel Halouska, Michaela Reynolds, Ronnie Bay, Lori Bay, art judges, Riley Casper, and Jacob Swearingen listen as the judges talk to Ronie Bay about his 1st place sculpture. Photo by Mrs. Varah

## Litchfield Places 3rd of 16 Schools

With our new MNAC Conference of 16 schools, competition is tougher than ever. This makes third place even more exciting for the Litchfield Art Dept. They left for the conference art competition January 27th with vans packed to the max, with students and their artworks. Mrs. Varah and students: Angel Halouska, LaShaun Scheuffele, Justine Pickar, Lori Bay, RaNay Casper, Ronnie Bay, Jacob Swearingen, Tyler Wood, Michaela Reynolds, and Riley Casper were there for the MNAC (Mid Nebraska Activities Conference) art show. These students are in Art, Photography, Metal Art, Ceramics, and Graphic Design classes and used their weekend to listen to judges critiques and observe art from other schools. Mrs. Varah said, "I had so much fun with my students, discovering how our artwork had done and seeing the artwork by other schools. The people who placed were Ronnie Bay who got 1<sup>st</sup> in 3-D, 3<sup>rd</sup> in 3-D, and 3<sup>rd</sup> in mixed media, Michaela Reynolds

got 5<sup>th</sup> in wheel throwing, and 4<sup>th</sup> in pottery hand built, Justine Pickar got 3<sup>rd</sup> in photography. Caleb Unick received Honorable Mention in printmaking, Tessa LeFever received Honorable Mention in pottery, Benjamin Schrock received Honorable Mention in sculpture and Riley Casper got 4<sup>th</sup> in photography. Mrs. Varah said, "I was super impressed with our students helpfulness both putting up and taking down the art show and their work did great." For the Junior High students, Braydon Goodner got 5th in printmaking, Kyle Betke got 5<sup>th</sup> in drawing, and Emily Snow got an honorable mention for printmaking. Justine Pickar said "Litchfield did well." On the way home Saturday the weather got really bad and Mrs. Varah only drove about 25 mph. That wasn't her favorite moment of the trip but she did say "My favorite moment was listening to the judges talk to Ronnie Bay about his 1<sup>st</sup> Place welded sculpture he had created in the new Metal Art Class.

By: Riley Casper

## March Important Dates:

Mar. 5. No School

Mar. 6. No School

Mar. 25. 10 A.M. Start

## Calendar of Events:

Full activity calender and menu enclosed

All information and full color photos  
available at our website:  
[litchfieldpublicschools.org](http://litchfieldpublicschools.org)

## Colophon:

The Hallway Happenings is a forum of student expressions. The content decisions are made by student journalists.

Graphic Design: Angel Halouska  
Justine Pickar  
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Published monthly:  
Litchfield Public Schools  
PO Box 167  
Litchfield, Ne 68852

Four hundred issues are published for all residents of Litchfield and the surrounding communities.

## Carlie's Corner



Photo by: Justine Pickar

I recently saw a tweet that said "How am I supposed to know what I want to do with the rest of my life when just yesterday I had to ask to use the bathroom?" The scary reality is, the majority of my classmates and I are 18 years old (not even legal adults in the state of Nebraska yet) and we're being pressured and pushed in a million different directions. Life altering decisions like colleges, future careers, and majors are being made at this time for most of us, and I'd be lying if I said the majority of us weren't terrified and nervous about what the future holds. Although we can't even buy a lottery ticket, we're allowed to take out thousands of dollars in student loans, and expected to have a career picked out that's practical, in high demand, pays a lot, and at the very bottom of the spectrum, enjoyable. I don't think I'm the only high school senior who can say just thinking about it all causes a minor meltdown or at the very least an inner panic of sorts. Admissions counselors are pressuring you to put housing and registration deposits down in February, but scholarship committees aren't notifying anyone until late March, April, and sometimes even May. The stress and frustration of not knowing what your future holds is a new concept for us seniors. For the past twelve years of our lives, we've followed the same routine of moving up a grade, living in our parent's houses, and having a three month break off of school. Now, everything is about to shift all at once with moving out, meeting new people, and being able to make the majority of our own decisions. Although it is the freakiest thing ever,

not having a clue what the future holds, we're all learning that we just have to take a step back and remember that we have our whole lives to worry, so we need to enjoy being young while we can. Being a senior, I'm constantly asked, "where are you going to college next year?" or, "what's your major going to be?" Honestly, at this point, I don't have a clue, but I know it'll all work out how it's supposed to, and that's all I can hope for.

By Carlie Smith



Marshall in Brazil. Photo by Marshall Kohls

### Kohls Brother's Brazilian Adventure

Not many people get the chance to visit another country, but even less get the opportunity to make a difference while they are there. Junior, Marshall Kohls and his brother Trevor Kohls had the experience of a lifetime this January. They got the chance to go to Brazil for a month and help missionaries fix up their houses. Marshall and Trevor learned of this amazing opportunity from a church friend whose brother-in-law is a missionary in Brazil. They were able to go to two cities and to a native tribe while in Brazil. When they were in the cities of Manaus and Boa-Vista they were able to help fix the roof of the missionaries' home. This will allow the missionaries to stay in that home for a longer period of time since they have a

new roof to protect them. After Marshall and Trevor were done in the cities, they ventured out into the jungle to a native tribe in the Brazilian state of Amazonas. While in the jungle they helped mark off a spot for the missionaries to build a new house. They then got the ground work ready for the house to be built on. Marshall's favorite part of the trip was getting to see the different cultures that are in Brazil and seeing what the missionaries did for others. Not only did Marshall get to see the beautiful country of Brazil and help others but he took away many lifelong learning experiences as well. He learned that not everyone in the world is fortunate enough to live like we do. Marshall commented "It's crazy to see that there are still parts of the world that are still uninhabited." This is definitely something that Marshall and Trevor will never forget and that the people they helped will always remember.

By: McKenna Unick

### Go Green/March of Dimes

Litchfield's chapter of FBLA has always been very active in supporting other organizations. In January FBLA put on "Go Green Week" which helps promote environmental conservation. One day they had students wear green and brown to raise awareness, about conservation and throughout the week they had facts about being green in the announcements. They also had a coloring contest for Pre K-6<sup>th</sup> grade. The high school students made leaves out of paper and put what they would do to be "greener" on the leaf. The leaves were put on display in Mrs. Dobesh's room for everyone to see. FBLA also supports the March of Dimes foundation. The first week of February FBLA supported March of Dimes, which helps premature babies who are in need. They had a coloring contest for Pre K-12<sup>th</sup>. They sold passes for students to wear hats and for teachers to wear jeans. Throughout the week students brought in coins for a contest between the classes and teachers to see who could raise the most money for March of Dimes. All the proceeds went to the March of Dimes foundation. Students and teachers also wore purple one day to show their support. Even with the crazy snow days Litchfield had, FBLA still found the time to show their support for "Go Green" and March of Dimes. By: McKenna Unick

# Question of the Month

## Facts About Nebraska:

Nebraska became the 37<sup>th</sup> state on March 1, 1867. The capital is Lincoln, even though Omaha is the largest city. The Capital is named after the 16<sup>th</sup> President of the United States Abraham Lincoln, who was assassinated. Nebraska's nickname is the Cornhusker State. Nebraska's motto is "Equality before the Law."

With March being Nebraska's birthday we asked the elementary kids: How old is Nebraska? These were their responses:



Braydon Ybarra "20"



Emily Mostek: "100"



Jacob Heapy "148"



Ida Gross: "52"



Faith Heapy "148"



Ryan Handley "100"



Katherine Paitz "148"



Anthony Bourland "199"

Nebraska is just 2 years from being a 150 years old making Nebraska a state for 148 years. Story by: Riley Casper Photos by: Riley Casper and Justine Pickar

## Hugs Not Drugs

February is the month of many holidays; Valentine's Day, President's Day, and the annual Trojans Against Drugs and Alcohol Hug a Heart day! The theme of the day is "hugs, not drugs" and features many prizes that promote keeping your heart healthy and staying away from drugs and alcohol. TADA member McKenna Unick said, "Thanks to a grant TADA got earlier in the year, we were able to give out more prizes and extend the message to the elementary as well as the high school." Carlie Smith made and presented a PowerPoint to the K-6<sup>th</sup> graders on February 12<sup>th</sup> about the consequences of doing drugs. The PowerPoint also suggested better activities the students could do like playing a sport or joining a club. In addition, the PowerPoint touched on how to deal with peer pressure. At the end of the presentation, the elementary were given heart shaped cookies and paper heart necklaces that had facts about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse. The morning of the 12<sup>th</sup> all of the high school students were given a heart with drug facts and their name on it, and throughout the day people hug and exchange hearts. After every class period, Carlie Smith drew two names, and whoever had that person's heart on was given a TADA gift basket full of goodies. Mrs. Kluender said, "The "Hugs, Not Drugs" day is just a fun way to reinforce the message of staying drug free and keeping positive goals in students' lives. I feel like the TADA members are good leaders and role models for the younger students, so this is the perfect way to get them involved." Overall, the day was a success and all of the students learned about the consequences of abusing drugs and alcohol. By: Carlie Smith

## Greenhouse Open House for Community

There will be an open house for the community in March (date to be determined at a later time.) The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be on hand to offer information about the plants they have researched. High School students will answer questions on the Mechanics of the greenhouse. It will be a great opportunity to get a look inside Litchfield's new addition and to see what it will provide.

Submitted by: greenhouse committee



5th and 6th Graders



Tacey Shafer and Rebecca Mostek



Faith Heapy



Sydnee Sweely and Lindsy Loos  
All Greenhouse Photos by: Gary Lawrence

## Little Stackers

On February 10<sup>th</sup> the Litchfield Little Stackers and Competition Stackers had performed during the girls and boys basketball against Riverside. The Little Stackers performed during half-time of the girls' basketball game. According to Mrs. Poland "the Little Stackers have come a long way. Not only do they have so much fun building towers with their peers but they learn the basic stacks. They continue to learn to cooperate and ask someone else wants to help build on their tower." The Little Stackers like it when the coaches help create a new object with the cups. Then the Competition Stackers performed during half-time of the boys' basketball game. The Competition Stackers performed with partners stacks, 3-6-3, and some students did the Cycle. According to Mrs. Poland "it is always a joy to see the kids have so much fun while gaining speed after practicing their stacks. They are so proud when they get a faster time then the week before. All of the Stackers take pride in their stacks and have the desire to work hard and get a quicker time." On February 27<sup>th</sup> through March 1<sup>st</sup>, Mrs. Poland is taking 4 Competition staker and 4 Coaches to compete in Colorado with different age groups and different teams. There are four coaches that help the stackers practice learning the different types of cup stacking. By: Riley Casper and Angel Halouska



Little Stackers Photo by: Riley Casper



RaNay Casper and Caydence Feldman  
Photo by: LaShaun Scheuffele



Ava Paitz and Sydnee Sweely  
Photo by: LaShaun Scheuffele

# Sports Extra

## Girls Basketball

The Lady Spartans also played Spalding Academy on January 13th. Senior Shawna Paitz led the team with 17 points, Hanna Lane contributed 11 points, and Nicole Wardyn added 8 points to the 43-37 victory. On January 15th the Lady Spartans defeated the Sumner-Eddyville-Miller Mustangs in a tough 43-33 game. Shawna Paitz ended the game with 15 points, Hanna Lane and Courtney Bailey with 8, and Nicole Wardyn with 7 points. On the 17th, the girls easily beat Stapleton's Lady Broncos in a 51-34 victory. Once again, Shawna Paitz was the high scorer of the night with 15 points, Courtney Bailey right behind her with 14, and Nicole Wardyn added 11 points to the total score. The Lady Spartans faced the Lady Bulldogs in Pleasanton on January 20th, and defeated them with no trouble, ending in a 39-27 victory for the Lady Spartans. The girls then faced a 47-33 loss against the South Loup Bobcats on January 22nd. The girls entered the MNAC Tournament on the 26th and won in an extremely close 35-32 game against the Stapleton Lady Broncos. Moving on to the next round of the tournament, the Brady Eagles defeated the Lady Spartans 41-36 on January 27th, knocking them out of the tournament. The first game of February was a 52-17 loss to the Sandhills-Thedford Knights, followed by another loss to Central Valley with a score of 45-30. The girls had the home court advantage when they played Riverside and it showed on February 10th with a 40-29 win. The girls will face the Anselmo-Merna Coyotes on February 13th. By Carlie Smith



The JV girls going up for a rebound.



Courtney Bailey going up for a lay-up.  
Boys Basketball

On January 13<sup>th</sup>, the Spartan boys fell to the Spalding Academy Shamrocks with an ending score of 52-38. Just two days later, the Spartans competed again and won against Sumner-Eddyville-Miller with an ending score of 58-49. Keeping up the streak, The Spartans also beat the Stapleton Broncos in a 56-33 win on January 17<sup>th</sup>. On January 22<sup>nd</sup> the Spartan boys played a suspenseful game against the South Loup Bobcats which resulted in a 51-48 loss. The Rohde boys led the Spartans as Brady scored 21 points before fouling out in the final minute of the game, and Landon scored 19 points. January 26<sup>th</sup> brought a rematch between the Spartan Boys and the Stapleton Broncos with the Mid Nebraska Athletic Conference Tournament. The Spartans

again beat Stapleton by a 14 point margin, resulting in a 61-47 win and moving on to the next round of the MNAC tournament. The boys were then knocked out of the tournament by the Anselmo-Merna Coyotes, with a 54-36 loss. February 6<sup>th</sup> the boys faced the Sandhills-Thedford Knights with a 57-23 loss. The next day the boys traveled to Scotia to defeat Central Valley in a 53-32 win. The boys played Riverside in Litchfield and lost with a score of 55-38. The boys will face the Anselmo-Merna Coyotes on February 13<sup>th</sup>. By Carlie Smith



The JV boys playing defense.



Tyler Varney shooting his free-throws



The varsity boys running down the court to make a basket. Photos by: Michaela Reynolds

# ~Senior Spotlight~

Kayla Marie Reynolds



Photo by: District 12 Photography

**Birthday:** September 24, 1996  
**Hometown:** Litchfield, NE  
**Favorite color:** Pink  
**Favorite movie:** Sleepless in Seattle  
**Favorite actor/actress:** Mila Kunis  
**Favorite kind of music:** Country  
**Favorite T.V. show:** Big Bang Theory  
**Favorite place to shop:** Kohls  
**Favorite animal:** Dog  
**Do you have any pets:** Dog and horse  
**Favorite pastime or hobby:** Play with my dog or ride my horse  
**Favorite hangout:** Friend's house  
**Favorite thing to do with friends:** Talk and watch movies  
**Favorite thing to do in spare time:** Watch Netflix  
**Favorite food:** Pizza  
**Favorite drink:** Chi Tea  
**Favorite sport:** Volleyball  
**Favorite subject:** Math

**Classes that you are taking this year:** Ag, Government, Calculus, Accounting, Weights, College English, High School Careers, and Physics  
**Extracurricular activities:** Volleyball, Student Council, TADA, Track, FBLA, FFA, and National Honor Society  
**Favorite teacher:** Mr. Blauvelt  
**What are your plans after high school:** Attend UNL for Agribusiness  
**What are your lifetime goals:** Travel  
**What's unique about you:** I was born on my dad and great-grandpa's birthdays  
**Advice to underclassmen:** Do things that you enjoy! Life is short.

Shawna Elaine Paltz



Photo by: Gena McPherson

**Birthday:** December 3, 1996  
**Hometown:** Litchfield, NE  
**Favorite color:** Orange

**Favorite movie:** Too many to choose from  
**Favorite actor/actress:** Jennifer Lawrence  
**Favorite kind of music:** I like it all  
**Favorite T.V. show:** American Idol  
**Favorite book/magazine:** The Host  
**Favorite place to shop:** Rue 21  
**Favorite animal:** Dogs  
**Do you have any pets:** Yep, a dog  
**Favorite hangout:** Someone's house or Kearney  
**Favorite Thing to do with friends:** Just hangout  
**Favorite thing to do in spare time:** Spend time with family and friends  
**Favorite food:** Pizza  
**Favorite drink:** Tea  
**Favorite School Memory:** Conversations in library during Study Hall and College English  
**Most prized possession:** My bed  
**Favorite sport:** Volleyball  
**Favorite subject:** History  
**Classes that you are taking this year:** Calculus, Physics, Accounting, Government, College English, Weights, and High School Careers  
**Extracurricular and Community Activities:** Volleyball, Basketball, Track, FBLA, FFA, National Honor Society  
**Favorite teacher:** All are good  
**What are your lifetime goals:** Be happy  
**Problem that concerns you the most:** Not finding a good job  
**Advice to underclassmen:** Do well in your classes, good grades are important.

By: LaShaun Scheuffele