





NBMS Student makes All-State Middle School Band

North Branch Middle School band member, Isabelle (Belle) Bucholtz, won a position in the trumpet section of The Michigan School Band and Orchestra's All-State Middle School Band. She was one of 2,500 students throughout the state of Michigan to audition for a position for one of the five ensembles. She was also one out of over 150 middle school trumpet students from the entire state to audition. Belle has earned 16th chair out of the 150 trumpet players! Each ensemble is conducted by an internationally known university conductor or instrumental music educator. The All-State Ensembles will perform at the 12th annual Michigan Music Conference the 3rd week of January in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Thank you voters for supporting the NBAS Millage

Community News

Corner

Dear Parents, Students, and Community Members,

On behalf of all North Branch Area employees, I want to thank you for helping to make the first half of the 2016-2017 school year a great one! During this holiday season, we have so much to be grateful for and I would like to share with you some of what has inspired me to strive for excellence each and every day:

- Please check out the front page of our website, and you will find a number of new ways we are interacting with our community. You will find five new social media tools that are updated on a daily basis: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Bronco Academic E-Magazine, and Bronco Academic E-Magazine. You will see numerous pictures and read many articles about the great things going on in our district;
- I was invited to attend the annual Ruth Fox Veteran's Day Celebration. It was very difficult for me to find the right words to thank our veterans for the many sacrifices they have made on our behalf. I find most veterans are extremely humble, yet very appreciative of the genuine thanks extended by our students. Our Ruth Fox staff and students do an amazing job each of year of recognizing these amazing men and women for their service to our country;
- Our community continues to support our school district. On November 8, you renewed the existing millage and restored it to 18 mills. This millage will generate over one million dollars in revenue to the district in the 2017 tax year. Our community wants an excellent school system, and we are committed to delivering the best possible education for all students. Thank you for your partnership in this effort;
- We talked about an attitude of gratitude just before Thanksgiving and I would like to share a couple examples that were shared with me:
 - o We care about our community and our students. Just one example (could list dozens) is one of our teacher's 4th grade class adopting a family for Christmas. The mother with four young children had this to say to the class: "Truly, that has touched my heart that you guys have offered a lending hand out to me and my family during this time in our lives. This was something I have been stressing over, and I am honestly just so touched and grateful for all you guys have done and continue to do for me and my family."
 - o As a parent of three kids in this district, I am so thankful for every teacher my kids have had. The love and dedication our teachers have for our students is unmatched by any other district. There is nowhere else I would rather educate my kids. As an employee, I'm thankful for my coworkers, who are like family. They make me laugh and give me encouragement each and every day.

My wife and I raised five children in this community and we are forever grateful for the impact each and every administrator, teacher, support staff, and community member had on shaping their lives. My hope is that you are able to spend guality time with your loved ones over the holidays. Winter break starts on Wednesday, December 21 and we return to school on Wednesday, January 4, 2017.

Respectfully and Sincerely, Jim Fish

Superintendent's 2016 NBHS Alumni Dinner

The 2016 NBHS Alumni event had over 325 attendees. Alumni enjoyed a great meal, several speakers, many laughs & lots of reminiscing with classmates.

The newest class to join the esteemed group of 50 plus year graduates of NBHS was the class of 1966. There were 18 attendees from this class. They also celebrated with a 50 year reunion in August with 39 in attendance.

Onalee McInally Hoffman, class of 1933, was the oldest attending graduate at the NBHS Alumni Event. Mrs. Hoffman graduated 83 years ago! She will turn 102 on October 8, 2016. Mrs. Hoffman was the youngest of 8 children & walked to school everyday from the time she was in Kindergarten until 12th grade. She walked from her family farm located between the "west bridge" on



Super Seniors, class of 1946

Food Service Information

North Branch Area Schools follows the "Nutrition Standards in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs".

A Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application will be available during orientations in August and also may be sent home with your child during the first week of school. If you did not receive an application, please pick one up at any school office or call your child's school and have one sent home. Please fill the two page application out completely and return it to the school to see if your child/children qualify for free or reduced-priced cafeteria meals. Only one application per family is necessary to be submitted back to Food Service. Eligibility is based on your household income. If you qualify for unemployment compensation, or if your income changes any time throughout the school year, you may reapply by filling out a new Application for Free and Reduced School Meals. Applications are available in every school office.



Onalee McInally Hoffman

M-90 & Jones Road. Mrs. Hoffman has 4 children, all graduates of NBHS. Mrs. Hoffman also has many grand children & great grand children that have graduated from NBHS. Mrs. Hoffman is a feisty, bright eyed, 102 years young, proud graduate of NBHS.

This years Super Seniors, class of 1946, had 4 attendees. This delightful group of ladies included, Sylvia Moskwa Barthewick, Ramona Bardeau Draper, Donna Chapin McKenzie & Elizabeth Mowatt Doe. Congratulations ladies on your 70 year anniversary!

North Branch Area School's **Food Service Payment Policy**

Our system, Family & Student Access provides complete anonymity to students eligible for free and reduced price meals.

 Payments may be applied to your student's account on a weekly, monthly or annual basis. Daily payments are accepted, but not recommended.

• One form of payment can be sent in for multiple students. Just notate how much should be applied to each account. For example, one check can be written for the total amount and a note stating how much vou want in each account.

- Payments can be made by cash/check and can be sent to school with your student, or mailed to:
- North Branch Area Schools, Attn: Food Service PO Box 3620, North Branch, MI 48461
- Payments can also be made using the on-line

See **FOOD** on page 8

High School News

NBHS students at Lapeer County Ed-Tech

2016 National FFA Convention Results

Landscape Team – Silver Team Award: The National Landscape team made us proud with a Silver award. This team was 15th in the nation and received a silver team award. Emily Fricko, Lauren Scott, and Kathryn Smith received silver individual awards. Jessica Knust received a gold individual award. During this contest participants had to complete a general knowledge exam testing horticultural principles including plant anatomy, production, marketing, turf, landscape design and maintenance. Each participant must also complete practicums involving a landscape estimating, plant propagation or potting, identification of plants, disorders and equipment. I am proud of these students' dedication to the FFA even while they are enrolled into their first years of college.

Jessica Knust – Gold award individually – Graduated last year from Almont High School

Emily Fricko - Silver individually – Graduated last year from Imlay City High School

Lauren Scott- Silver individually – Graduated last year from North Branch High School

Kathryn Smith – Silver individually – Graduated last year from Almont High School



American FFA Degree Recipients

National Chapter Star 3 Award - Top 5% in the nation: Channon Turrell, Chapter President from Imlay City High School, and Mackenzie Delong, Chapter Vice-President from North Branch High School received the National Chapter Star 3 Award for Lapeer County FFA on main stage at the National FFA Convention. This award recognizes outstanding FFA chapters from throughout the country that successfully complete an annual set of required activities that encourage members to grow as individuals, work as a team and serve others in their communities.

It was another proud moment for Lapeer County FFA as these awards were presented. The career skills, lifelong lessons, and leadership abilities that these young people gained will have an impact on their success in the agricultural industry in the future.



What our shared students are doing in programs currently

Maddie Reamer, North Branch High School Senior – Careers in Education

Maddie is a great student and teacher. She is currently doing a co-op experience here at our preschool. She helps get the day prepared, provides help with transitions, and ends the day preparing for the next one. She has perfect attendance and actively participates in all aspects of the class. She is currently doing research on the different options to become a preschool teacher and examining the classes, cost, and opportunities at a community college and university.

Josh Pasek, North Branch High School Senior – IT-NET

Josh is continuing his studies of networking this school year. He just finished a lab for Chapter 5 which has him use 2 switches and a router to configure multiple VLANs with routing between them using the "router on a stick" method with subinterfaces correctly configured on the router.

Mike Kaluk, North Branch Senior – RVR Mike took initiative and picked up a welding gun after getting frustrated with it last school year. Needless to say, he confidently welded, and did an excellent job, on welding the motor mounts for the senior project.

Levi Bamford, Quest High School Senior – Digital Media Arts

Levi is a leader in the classroom. He is part of the Video Production BPA team and is currently working on the team's regional entry.

Shelby Honicutt, North Branch High School Senior – Digital Media Arts

Shelby is the co-producer of the Edge newscast. She has taken a lead role in the production and writing of the program. She is also a member of the BPA Broadcast News Team. She also was the photographer for both Special Education and Preschool portraits.

Blood Drive

Thank you to the 52 students, staff and administration that offered to or were able to donate blood at the American Red Cross blood drive on November 15. The goal of 35 pints was surpassed. The National Honor Society hosts five blood drives per year to help maintain the crucial blood supply. Each donation can help up to four people.

Your TYPE makes a difference. The next blood drive is January 11. Students need parent permission if they are 16. Students 17 years and older that weigh 110 pounds and are in good health may sign up outside Rm. 115 and donate.



Together, we can save a life

Meet Business Professionals of America's North Branch Chapter officers!

Our officers attended the BPA leadership conference in October and interacted with over 500 students from other schools in the State. They absolutely in all ways upheld the quality of a Bronco while demonstrating leadership skills and learning how to brand themselves as a professional. I was so proud of them!



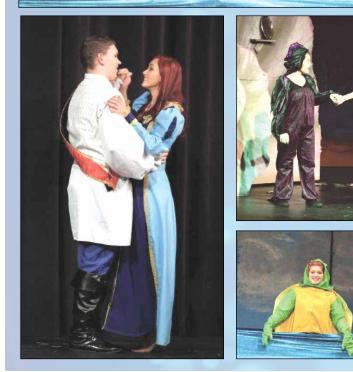


High School News

Little Mermaid Play









National Honor Society Inductees Congratulations to the following new members of the National Honor Society. Six seniors and 37 juniors

Congratulations to the following new members of the National Honor Society. Six seniors and 37 juniors were inducted into the chapter November 7. We are proud of not only their dedication to academics, but also what they give back. Collectively, they will contribute more than 1300 hours to the school and community in the form of service.

Seniors – Class of 2017 Claudia Albrecht Chanelle Jones Taylor Kile Anthony Palozolo Hannah Stack Joseph Swope

Juniors – Class of 2018 Jacqueline Armstrong Adam Barrows Ryan Beatley Elizabeth Bertram Keyahna Bryant Brooke Charbeneau Brianna DeMeyers Cole Fike Dylan Friday Caleigh Fromwiller Madison Fuller Brady Good Zachary Helm Stephanie Howard Lucca Kaldahl Destiny Kendrick Tharon Klutts Braden Kronz Montana Maher Madison Major Avery May Shelby McKenny Brielle Mears Gavin Mohr Benjamin Parton Austin Pung Hannah Robinette Janel Ruhlman Kerstyn Sass Brenna Schlaud Rachel Schwartz Olivia Sweeney Wylie Swoish Mikenzi Vauter Cameron Vogeli Christian Vogeli Elaine Youngert

Annual NBHS Collegiate Breakfast

All juniors, seniors, faculty and staff are warmly invited to the annual Student Council Collegiate Breakfast. This year, breakfast takes place on Tuesday, December 20th from 6:45 am through first hour. *Recent North Branch graduates who are currently in college, trade school, or the military are invited to attend breakfast.* At 7:30 juniors, seniors and our alumni relocate to the auditorium where the grads share wisdom with our current students to help them make informed decisions about what they need to do to help prepare for post high school education.

High School / Quest News

Little Mermaid Cast Hosts Tea Party



The talented cast of the "Little Mermaid" hosted a Tea Party for kids before the play. This included snacks, songs by the cast, autographs, and a lot of photographs. What a great way to share the love of their performance talent with our young people.

Quest Wins TASL Football Championship

The Quest grid iron gang traveled to Bad Axe for the first annual TASL (Thumb Alternative Sports League) Flag Football Tournament. It was a true team effort as Quest cruised to a 59-14 victory with a total of 7 different players either scoring touchdowns or converting on extra points.

Quest advanced to the championship game against heated rival Bad Axe Ascent. They faltered early until a late first half interception left enough time for Quest to run one last play. Quarterback Aaron Johnson capitalized with a 13 yard scamper to the end zone, and then connecting on the two point conversion to Adam Back to pull ahead 24-16 at half. Aaron Johnson's ground attack continued to prove too much for Ascent as he added 3 more rushing touchdowns in the second half along with two more two point conversions. Time would run out on Ascent as Quest held on to claim the first Flag Football TASL championship 48-40.

In total for the day, Aaron Johnson ran for 6 touchdowns, passed and received for one. Other players scoring included Andrew Everett scoring 2 touchdowns, and passing for 2 more, Adam Back returning two interceptions to the house, Noah Mayerle rushing for 2 touchdowns, and Nolan Byrd with one receiving. Devent Smith, DJ Knight, and Chris Parent added to the score board with 2 point conversions as well.





Quest Parent Teacher Conferences Well Attended!!!

With parent involvement being crucial to student success, Quest is happy to report a good turn-out for parent teacher conferences. Over 60% of parents attended face-to-face, with another 20% conducting conferences by phone. All remaining students participated in student-teacher conferences during lunch or after school to review their progress with their graduation goals. Parent Shannon Jarvis's son started attending Quest this fall, "It's like my son is a whole new person. He comes home and talks about what he learns in class and has goals. He has a goal and a purpose for his future now, and he never talked about that before."

Quest Students Volunteer At NB Elementary Family Fun Night

On Friday, September 16th, The Parent-Teacher Club hosted the Family Fun Fair event at the elementary school. Ouest teacher David Scalf along with students Max Rowden, Kyle Macksoud, and Meranda Griggs volunteered their Friday night to assist in the event. Event Chair Person Samantha McVetv said of the

Quest students, "They did an amazing job! Those kids worked so hard and helped accomplish so much, they were a great asset to us that night! They went wherever we needed them and worked tirelessly through the event."

Quest High School is always looking



for more ways to participate in and serve the community. If you are in need of student volunteers please contact Quest Teacher Corey Rosser at crosser@ nbbroncos.net or by phone at (810) 688-7581 ext. 2820.

Quest Makes a Difference



A core value of Quest is both belonging to a school community and participating in the broader community in which we live. Quest would like to thank the North Branch Senior Center members that allowed us the opportunity to give back in our immediate community. In total, Quest was able to lend a hand to 11 members of the senior center, tallying over 300 bags of leaves and lawn debris.



Quest Students visit Baker and Mott

Quest traveled to Flint to visit Baker College and Mott College. The trip consisted of several speakers at each college, as well as a tour of the programs offered at those locations. Faculty guided students through various follow-up activities which included a number of students setting up individual appointments with both colleges. The trip was made possible by the donations received by Quest from the North Branch Masonic Lodge.



Spotlight on Matt Jamison

Ouest News

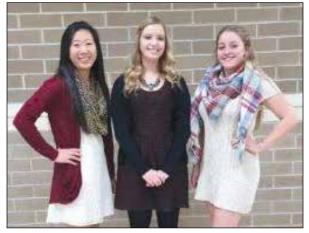
From time to time Quest likes to take a step back and follow-up with former graduates to celebrate their current successes! This edition's featured graduate is Matt Jamison. Matt graduated from Quest in 2010, and from the University of Northwestern Ohio in 2012 with an Associate's Degree in Applied Automotive Sciences. After completing his degree, Matt worked at several different auto shops. He currently works for General Motors as a Dynotechnician. Matt had this to say about his experience at Quest, "Quest helped put me in the position I am today. Coming to school each day knowing the staff cared about my future helped motivate me to keep going".



Bronco Sports News



2016 Boys' Soccer League Champions



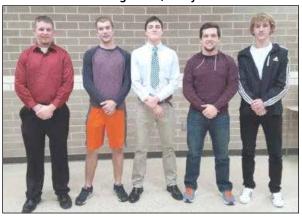
Individual Academic All State Volleyball, Jinger Hayes, Hannah Hodgkinson, Emily Ruhlman



2016 Team Academic All State Volleyball



All Conference Volleyball L-R: Stephaney Fifield, 1st Team, All Region; Olivia Sweeney, Honorable Mention; Madison Miner, 1st Team, All Region; Olivia Fike, 1st Team, All Region; Janel Ruhlman, 2nd Team, All Region; Allyson Severence, 2nd Team; Reese Ruhlman, Honorable Mention



All Conference Football L-R: Trevor Brandt, 2nd Team Offensive Line; Cody Chapin, Honorable Mention; Logan Rutledge, Honorable Mention; Mitchell Bonner, 2nd Team Linebacker/Honorable Mention; Hayden Mabery, 2nd Team Wide Receiver. Not Pictured: Zak Mindell, Honorable Mention; Hunter Murphy, Honorable Mention



Soccer All Conference Front Row (I-r): Ethan Amore, Isaac Thibodeau, Cameron Myers. Back Row: Anthony Duty, Kaleb Bickel, Salvador Suau Frontera, Riley Schlaud Not Pictured: Javi Martinez-Mateos, Steve Nadolski



Cross Country All Conference Austin Pung, 2nd Team, State QualIfler, Kaleb Bickel, Honorable Mention Heather Czarnecki, 1st Team, TVC Champion, State Qualifier



Madee Miner signs with Campbell University to play volleyball.



A!

Olivia Fike signs with Wayne State University to play volleyball

HIGH SCHOOL

RTH BRANCH

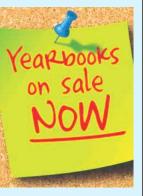
Middle School News

MS Yearbook

Orders for the 2017 yearbook are being collected now through January 2017. The current price is \$32.00 (Prices increase to \$35.00 after January!)

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You may order by cash or check payment made out to North Branch Area Schools. In the memo line of the check, please write the student's first and last name and place in a sealed envelope! On the outside of the envelope write the student's name, MS Yearbook payment, and whether it is cash or check. The envelopes can be



turned in to the front office, your teachers, or directly to Mrs. Schulte in room #104 at the middle school. For your convenience, yearbooks may also be purchased at https://www. yearbookordercenter.com/. Our job number is 40709-2017 for North Branch Middle School, North Branch, Michigan. Don't be left out from the middle school memories!

FOOD from page 2

convenience of our new payment processing system, PaySchools. This program allows you to make payments online via e-check or credit card at your convenience,

• Students may not charge for meals (breakfast and/or lunch) if they have a negative balance of -\$5.00 or greater on their food service account – existing negative balances included. If such a negative balance exists, students will be given a peanut butter and jelly sandwich with white milk. All negative food service account balances should be paid in full as soon as possible.

• Students will not be allowed to charge for ala carte items. Ala carte items are sold separately and are not considered a reimbursable meal. An example of an ala carte item would be – an extra milk, cookies, chips, etc. If your student wishes to purchase ala carte items, they must be paid for at the time of purchase.

ALA CARTE ITEMS ARE NOT PART OF THE FREE AND REDUCED PRICE SCHOOL MEALS.

What qualifies as a lunch?

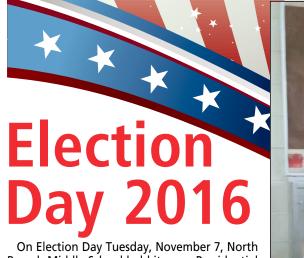
Menu items are offered daily from all 5 lunch component categories which are: Meat/Meat Alternative, Fruit, Vegetable, Grain, and Milk. Your child (for all grades) must select at least 3 of the 5 menu components offered and <u>1 of them must</u> <u>be a fruit or a vegetable</u> for their choices to be considered a lunch, which is priced as a unit. **If they choose less than**



the minimum required, their account will be charged separately for each item. The Food Service Staff can assist your child if they have any questions while making their selections.

Visit www.choosemyplate.gov for more information on the new MyPlate USDA food group symbol. The new MyPlate symbol is a great visual representation of a balanced diet. Plan your meals daily based on the graphic.

Bon Appétit



On Election Day Tuesday, November 7, North Branch Middle School held its own Presidential Mock election. A total of 378 7th & 8th grade students had the opportunity to register to vote several weeks prior to Election Day. 61% of the students registered to vote and on Election Day itself cast a ballot for President of the United States. The following were the final results from NBMS mock election.

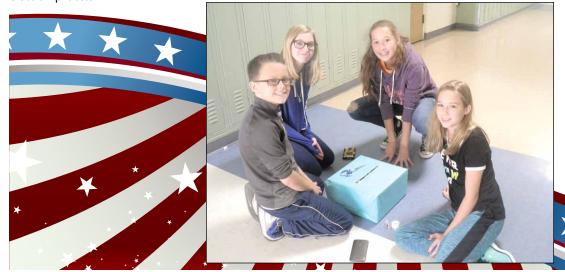
Voted



97%

Presidential Candidate & Party		Number of Votes		Percentage of Vote
Donald Trump - Republican		166		74%
Hillary Clinton - Democrat		41		18%
Gary Johnson - Libertarian		14		6%
Jill Stein - Green		2		1%
Breakdown of NBMS students:				
Category	Total			Percentage
NBMS Students	378			N/A
Registered to Vote	230			61%

Congratulations to those candidates running for President of the United States, but a more important congratulations to all the students who so enthusiastically learned about and participated in America's election process.



Ruth Fox News

What Freedom Means to Me

Ruth Fox Elementary hosted a Veterans Celebration on November 23rd. Students read essays, a choir song *God Bless America*, and donations were made all to recognize veterans for their service. After the celebration, veterans and students enjoyed cookies and drinks in the cafeteria.



Books and Breakfast Student-Parent Reading Workshop



On November 21st, Ruth Fox hosted its first Books and Breakfast Workshop. Students and parents enjoyed a light breakfast and took some time to enjoy reading picture books. While students practiced their story retells, parents practiced using some growth mindset statements. We are looking forward to our next Books and Breakfast Workshop in February!





Celebrating Constitution Day

Ruth Fox students were honored to hear several special guest speakers for Constitution Day. Speaking about the importance of our Constitution were State Representative Gary Howell, retired teacher Jeanie Stevenson, Curriculum Director Amber White and Superintendent Jim Fish.



6th grade students taking advantage of the iPads



Elementary News

Ruth Fox News

Kindergarden class makes thankful pizzas



Elementary News

North Branch Elementary runners shine in Caro

Students in the North Branch Elementary Run Club had the opportunity to participate in the Elementary Open K-6 race Saturday, October 22nd in Caro, Michigan following the Championships for the High School and Middle School Cross Country Races. The day brought out over forty bronco runners. Each runner did an outstanding job running the 2 mile course representing our school community. We had bronco runners bring home individual medals placing them in the top 25 overall. Those runners who medaled included: 4th grader Chloe Bruman who was 14th overall, 4th grader Rowan Conley 16th overall, and 3rd grader Makayla Bruman who was 22nd overall.

Out of ten elementary schools participating, our North Branch girls placed 3rd overall and the North Branch boys placed 8th overall in Caro. Great work Broncos!!!







MEEMIC GRANT monies at work!

Noah Fritch and Holly Henry with our handheld math games. They love practicing their addition, subtraction and multiplication facts on them!



William Lowmaster with our classroom laminator. We have used it to make some great classroom game boards that the students use during reading groups and math groups. It's so nice having it handy in the room to prepare materials!

