



Garretson Weekly School Newspaper - Garretson, SD - Volume 2, Number 12

## This Week's Need to Know

**FACT OF THE WEEK:** Canada, Australia, and New Zealand celebrate their own version of Veterans' Day on November 11 as well. They call it Remembrance Day.

**BRAIN TEASER OF THE WEEK:** What word in the English language is always spelled incorrectly?  
*Answer on back page*

**JOKE OF THE WEEK:** What do you get when you cross a pig and a cactus?  
*Answer on back page*

- UPCOMING EVENTS:**
- Monday, November 17**
    - Start of American Education Week
  - Monday, November 17**
    - Oral Interp @ Regions
    - FFA @ District Leadership Conf.
    - Wrestling Begins
  - Thursday, November 20**
    - Title I Family Learning Night in the Commons @ 5:30
  - Friday, November 21**
    - Middle School Dance in the Commons @ 7:00
  - Monday, November 24**
    - Girls Basketball Begins
  - Tuesday, November 25**
    - Elementary Music Program in the New Gym @ 7:00
  - Wednesday, November 26**
    - Early Dismissal @ 1:30

Blue Ink Student Editor: Katie Giesler



Scan for the full upcoming event schedule

## Garretson Celebrates Veterans' Day

By Abriana Scholl

On November 11<sup>th</sup>, 1919, Armistice Day (Veterans' Day) was announced as a holiday to honor the many courageous veterans who fought for our country during World War I. On Tuesday at 2:45 p.m., the Garretson school district held an assembly to give thanks to the brave soldiers over the years.

In the year 2000 social studies teacher Bob Bennett started holding the Veterans' Day program. "I hope this program helps people remember the sacrifice that the veterans have made," commented Bennet.

The Garretson High School Student Council along with other students came forth and gave heartfelt speeches.

This day is dedicated to these brave soldiers and anyone can find a way to give their



An empty table, set to honor and symbolize the veterans who have not returned home.

letters.

The band and choir gave phenomenal performances as well. The band played some traditional pieces like "The Star Spangled Banner," "Americana/Grand Old Flag," and "Washington Post March."

The choir performed a patriotic mashup that includes songs like "America The Beautiful," "Johnny Comes Marching Home," "Yankee Doodle Dandy," "Battle Hymn of The Republic," and "Grand Old Flag."

"Hopefully the kids can take away the idea that they were given something very precious here that they didn't have to earn and that it was the sacrifice for other people.

Now it's their obligation through their education to earn their right to these freedoms," Bennett expressed.

Most of all, Garretson would like to give its thanks and prayers to those who lost their lives and fought for our freedom. We will always remember the courage the gave to keep us safe. "From the bottom of my heart thank you for everything you do in serving our country," Clark shared.



The Garretson Band plays "The Star Spangled Banner" at the opening of the Veteran's Day program while the color guard performs behind.

support. "Just remember all the people who fight for our country and what they had to do to fight for our freedom," told sophomore student council member Kindra Clark.

Veterans' Day has many different ways to celebrate. "A lots of times just tell them thank you or you could go support them at ceremonies," included Clark. Not only that but you could show your support by calling loved ones who are currently serving or send

## Celebrating Education

By Alli Kruger

Education week is coming up. Some teenagers like to take advantage of the fact that they have a free education, also great teachers to be taught by, so this week is a reminder of the great people and opportunities that surround us.

On Monday, the 17th, schools will be celebrating "Kickoff Day" across the country. Schools will celebrate excellence in education and host kickoff events and activities.

Tuesday, is parents' day. Schools will invite parents into the classroom for a firsthand look at what the school day is like for their children.

Garretson has invited parents to eat with their children on Tuesday.

Wednesday honors education support professionals who keep schools running and students safe, healthy and ready to learn.

Thursday is educator for a day. This allows community leaders to experience the day as educators and experience the challenges of teaching and the needs of students.

Substitute educators who play a vital role in the maintenance and continuity of daily education will be celebrated on Friday the 21st.

"National education week is an opportunity to celebrate education and recognize all our educators," noted Mr. Long. He couldn't have said it better.

National education week is a time to love and celebrate your education also to appreciate your educators.

Not very many people are aware of national education week, it's not really celebrated as much as Fourth of July, Veterans Day, etc.

"I think Garretson always wants to let our students know that we care about them and want to help them in anyway possible," also stated Long.

With all the positive benefits heard with national education week, it sounds like it shall be a positive week for everyone.

## Preparing for the ACT

By Lana Braswell

If you hate school, then you are going to hate it a little more after this! Coming up is the wonderful A.C.T test that everyone just "loves" to take. This test has passed on a few times already, but the next opportunity to take it is getting closer and closer, December 13.

"There are six A.C.T dates available each year and students may choose to take just the A.C.T test or the A.C.T plus writing test during each of these test dates," school counselor Stephanie Danielson explained. The dates still available to take the test this school year are as follows: December 13, February 7, April 18, and June 13.

What is the A.C.T test? Well, according to Danielson, "The A.C.T is a standardized paper-and-pencil test used for entrance into post-secondary institutions (colleges, universities, and tech-

nical schools) and is also used for scholarship selection purposes."

Danielson also explained that some juniors and seniors take the A.C.T test at least one time, but most take it two or three times. And if you have troubles with tests, don't worry. The most any student can take the A.C.T test is twelve times. When you mess up the first time, you can make it up again.

However, those multiple tests may add up. According to Danielson, the cost to take just the A.C.T test is \$38.00, while the A.C.T plus writing exam is \$54.50. Some colleges and universities mandate the A.C.T plus writing test as part of their entrance requirements. With it being a part of your college ac-



ceptance, is it any wonder that students get nervous about this test?

Well, junior Micah Mader stated, "I think it makes me nervous that the fact that my scholarship and my school rides on it." Mader explained.

But what is the easiest part of the test? Mader says reading, because obviously reading is just that awesome and easy to most people.

The other components of the standard test are English, science, and mathematics.

So why is Mader taking the test early? "Because I want to know how the test is and how I can do better on it. It's not required now, but for most colleges it is," said Mader.

Good luck test takers, and have "fun" on your test!

## Unpredictability at its Peak

By Cassy Heath

South Dakota is the home of Mount Rushmore, famous for the beautiful Black Hills, and well known for its unpredictable weather.

Our state can go from summer with 90 degree days back down to Winter with 30 degree days in the matter of a week, if it really wanted to.

South Dakota isn't recognized for being too cold or too hot.

In 1912 the lowest temperature ever recorded for South Dakota was -46, and the highest temperature ever recorded was in 1936 at 155.

Some people think that when the winter hits, there won't be anything to do.

But not Brody Heath, this senior said, "I like winter more than summer because Great Bear opens and it gives me something to do. That's why I'm happy it's starting to snow this week so I can start snowboarding again."

*Continued on page 5*

## Anonymous Tweeting?

By Tait Johnson

Have you ever wanted to express your inner feelings and not have any consequences? If so Yik Yak is the app for you!

Yik Yak is an app that combines the technology of Twitter and uses your location feature to make a "Yak community."

How do they combine these technologies? Yik Yak has the Twitter feel, it has a home page with all the recent posts and they also have a hot page showing the hottest yaks.

Yak used the location feature to only allow a post to be seen a mile and a half away, creating an anonymous Twitter in your area.

This creative app was created and opened to the public in 2013, but just caught wind in 2014. It's been downloaded 10.2 million times nationwide.

The founder of Yik Yak, Tyler Droll, had only 14 coworkers to help him create this app.

Garretson has its own community of "yakers," although not being the most

appropriate at times, the Garretson Yak community has had 64 total posts.

The hottest post in our area is "Love the G-town boys! Still proud!" referring to the loss in the second round of playoffs.

Yik Yak is a free app, so go download the newest social media app!



## T.A.T.U Lock-In

By Tabi Klingenberg

The elementary T.A.T.U. lock-in was a success for the 14<sup>th</sup> year in a row. The fourth and fifth graders participated in the event last Friday from 3:30-8:30 p.m.

T.A.T.U. (also known as Teens Against Tobacco Use) is a nationwide program, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, encouraging young students in schools to stay tobacco free using fun activities rather than long lectures. It teaches them what tobacco use can do to the user and the people around him/her, as well. T.A.T.U. impacts students while having a good time doing it.

All the kids got together and went to stations that showed them what tobacco can do.

Along with stations they ate pizza and played dodgeball. Dodgeball being the most favored part of the evening mainly because it got the kids up and actively moving.

Some of the stations include crafts, tobacco free games in the gym such as dodgeball, smart board games, and T-shirt making.

Fifth grader, Isaiah Gnadt explained, "We did arts and crafts. We did smart board activities. We painted



TATU member Logan Nussbaum works on activity with an elementary attendee.

shirts."

He says that one of the things he learned that tobacco can make his skin wrinkle.

Gnadt, along with fourth grader Grace Hove, agrees that it was fun and it has made an impact on them. They also agree that they think that they are going to help out as soon as they can with the T.A.T.U. program to help kids like them.

Gnadt and Hove are just two of the

45 kids who wanted to participate. There were 45 T.A.T.U. members at the event, making it almost one on one.

Julie Mueller, who has been in charge of this event since the start quoted, "I get to work with some of the best kids in school. I get to work with kids that want to mentor kids who want to make healthy decisions."

The spring lock-in will be held on April 17, 2014.

## Minimum Wage Raises Prices, Raises Frustration!

By Sylvia Larson

Last week the state of South Dakota passed a law that will raise the minimum wage to \$8.50 an hour, taking effect January 1st, 2015.

The concept is incredibly simple, yet a good number of people in SD fail to see it or deny it. Prices will go up, on everything. People will be laid off. Within a year we will be right back where we started, and people that are currently making \$8.50 or more are going to be paying more for everything thus they won't be getting a bigger paycheck at all.

So while those without bills to pay and families to feed get to enjoy more money to blow, people that make \$9 an hour are going to struggle further when all the prices increase because some people don't see the outcome of raising the minimum wage.

Freshman Hunter Cornell, whose family owns Maxwell Food Equipment, declared, "We will have to up our prices in the near future, but the wage increase won't affect many of the workers because we pay for quality, and if their skill is only worth minimum wage then we don't hire them."

## 'Tis the Season, or Is It?

By Micah Mader

The Christmas season is officially here according to commercials, the temperature, and store merchandise. It seems every year people begin celebrating this holiday earlier and earlier; but when is too early?



A lot of people living below the poverty line don't even have jobs. They don't need a raise; they need a job.

Also, when deciding which low-wage worker to keep following a minimum wage increase, employers may opt for a teenager who has high potential over an adult who, because he still earns minimum wage, likely has much lower potential. Thus, the effects of minimum wage increases fall particularly hard on low-skilled adults in poor families.

"While I know and see every day at work that those making minimum wage cannot feed a family on that income--I also believe that minimum wage jobs are not for adults with families to feed or to make careers out of! They should be left to high school and college students," commented Brandon resident Mari Merchant.

She furthered her thoughts, "I worked minimum wage and was on public assistance for many years, but I CHOSE to get a better education and job and dig my way out of poverty."

Do you realize that after these increases that minimum wage employ-

ees will be making more than some people who are enlisted?

As Thanksgiving creeps closer and Halloween has come to a close, the annual debate on Christmas's beginning is here once again.

According to the internet, December 3rd is the date millions of Americans wait for. As this is the day the Christmas tree at Rockefeller Center in New York is lit up.

Appearing to agree with the internet, junior Sean Tillma quoted, "Christmas shouldn't begin until the first snowfall of December, or until the tree gets put up."

Especially here in South Dakota, there are plenty of jobs that pay well over \$10 an hour that don't require much schooling.

If you do work a low-wage job with a family to support but you get benefits like food stamps, housing, day care assistance, heating assistance, etc..., what is your incentive to get a higher paying job? If you get a job that pays more, you might lose your benefits, but if the minimum wage goes up, you'll likely get to keep all of the benefits, because you'll still be working minimum wage.

We don't need a higher minimum wage, we need a cheaper cost of living. Raising the wages will only help for a short time before the cost of everything goes up due to greedy companies and the need to bring in more to pay the higher wages to their employees.

Raising the minimum wage is not a fix, it's putting a band-aid on the problem and not coming up with a real solution.

On the contrary, true Christmas die-hards start much, much earlier, some even before Halloween is over. Putting up lights and breaking out the ugly sweaters is what it's all about for them.

As Buddy the Elf once remarked, "Treat everyday like Christmas."

Freshman Isaiah Mader seemed to agree stating, "There is no such thing as too early, I'd celebrate it all year round if I could."

Is there such thing as too early? Well that's for you to decide, but I think we all can agree, early or late, Christmas is one of most magical times of the year.

Editorial

Counter argument on page 5: "Money Makes the World Go 'Round"

## Money Makes the World Go 'Round

By Zeb Johnson

Editorial

Counter argument on page 4: "Minimum Wage Raises Prices, Raises Frustration!"

"When I was young, I used to think money was the most important thing in the world. Now that I am old, I know that it is," said author Oscar Wilde. Wilde realized that over 100 years ago, and it still makes just as much sense now as it did back then. Money is one of the most vital things to live a comfortable life, and while not absolutely the most important, it still helps to be able to pay for food and rent. Something that 14% of South Dakotans can't do.

The recently-passed Initiated Measure 18 will help change that. Initiated Measure 18 will change the minimum wage in South Dakota from \$7.25 per hour to \$8.50. This a giant shift in annual income compared to before, as when

the measure enters into effect, full-time minimum wage workers will earn \$2,700 more than in previous years. This is a huge raise for families below the poverty line. This raise will benefit 62,000 workers throughout South Dakota.

Initiated Measure 18 was created to help support low-income families. Families are considered in poverty if they earn less than \$22,314 per year.

Take South Dakota's minimum wage and the fact that most minimum wage employees work less than 20 hours at that one job: that equals an annual income of \$13,433 even working two minimum wage jobs.

And the argument that businesses will be forced to fire employees because of

increased expenses is not true. The U.S. Department of Labor found that when the minimum wage was increased there were no spikes in unemployment, despite what was said by opponents to the measure.

Another argument against the measure was that the raise would only benefit teenagers, while the truth is that 78% of minimum wage workers in South Dakota are over 20 years of age.

Either way, when the measure takes effect in January, the minimum wage workers will receive a much anticipated boost to their pay checks.

And remember, in the words of John Kander, "Money makes the world go round."



## Chick Chick Boom

By Jared Fitzgerald

And they're off! The 2014 New York City Marathon was held on November 2nd and went down as the biggest marathon ever to be held. Roughly 50,564 runners finished the 26.2 mile race, smashing the record for most finishers in a marathon by almost 300 runners.

The NYC Marathon was created back in the '70s by Fred Lebow and Vince Chiappetta. The marathon's course was held completely in Central Park, only 126 males participated and one woman. Getting sick, the only woman dropped out of the race while 55 males finished. Winners received cheap watches and recycled trophies.

Gatorade, ESPN, and Asics were some of the big name sponsors of the NYC marathon to make sure the winner got a little bit more than a recycled trophy

nowadays. Also helping pay for the marathon is the runners, U.S. Citizens had to pay \$255 to enter while foreigners had to pay \$347. The race generates almost \$340 million dollars a year.

All that was going through the runners' minds during the race was that it was really cold and windy! It was only 43 degrees at the start of the race and there were gust of winds up to 40 mph.

Cross country runner Josh Liester commented, "It sucks really bad when its cold, but you just have to push through it with your mind."

Although people don't think running is physical, it was during the last mile with the top men runners. Lelisa Desisa came flying around the corner and threw an elbow into the leading runner Wilson Kipsang. At that point both run-

ners were running for more than just pride, but the \$600,000 winner's prize!

Kenyan runner Kipsang took off in a sprint and ended up winning by just seven seconds, but the women's race was even closer! The top two runners were also from Kenya, not shocking, and finished just three seconds apart. Mary Keitany came out on top and Jemima Sumgong finished second.

With the NYC marathon being held every year, but 2012 due to Hurricane Sandy, it is a long lasting tradition in New York.

Marathons aren't for everyone though Riley Nordstrom stated, "I probably wouldn't run a marathon; it is too long." It is a great experience for runners and fans alike.

## Unpredictability at its Peak

By Cassy Heath

Winter isn't all bad but it's not all good either. One of the main reasons people have a hard time warming up to winter is because of the driving issues.

"There are over 1.5 million weather-related car accidents every year," according to a law firm in New York, another heavily iced over state in the winter months.

Because of the snow, and ice it is very dangerous to drive in winter weather. It's a good idea to carry around extra blankets and tools because you'll never know when something could happen.

*Continued from page 2*

## It's Turkey Time

By Beth Schmidt

On the fourth Thursday of November, Americans celebrate a national holiday honoring the early settlers and their harvest feast known as the first Thanksgiving.

Freshman Jazmin Gawarecki declared, "Thanksgiving is all about giving thanks for what we have."

Mr. Mitch Lynch reiterated that by saying, "Thanksgiving is time to reflect on the things we have and the things we should not take for granted."

Long before settlers came to the east coast of the United States, the area was inhabited by the Native Americans. The area surrounding the site of the first Thanksgiving, now known as southeastern Massachusetts and eastern Rhode Island had been the home of the Wampanoag people for over 12,000 years.

The people of the Plymouth Colony were a group of English Protestants who wanted to break away from the Church of England. These 'separatists' initially moved to Holland and after 12 years of financial problems, they received funding from English merchants to sail across the Atlantic to settle in a "New World."

A ship carrying 101 men, women, and children spent 66 days traveling the Atlantic Ocean, intending to land where New York City is now located. Due to the windy conditions, the group had to cut their trip short and settle at what is now Cape Cod.

One day that fall, four settlers were sent to hunt for food for a harvest celebration. The Wampanoag heard gunshots and alerted their leader, Massasoit, who thought the English might be

preparing for war. Massasoit visited the English settlement with 90 of his men to see if the war rumor was true.

Soon after their visit, the Native Americans realized that the English were only hunting for the harvest celebration. Massasoit sent some of his own men to hunt deer for the feast and for three days, the English and native men, women, and children ate together. The meal consisted of deer, corn, shellfish, and roasted meat, far from today's traditional Thanksgiving feast.

Lynch also broadcasted, "I feel sorry for [Thanksgiving] because it's between Halloween and Christmas and its sometimes forgotten but I feel like it's a good holiday to celebrate for how fortunate we are."

Many families celebrate Thanksgiving with a delicious turkey, yummy stuffing, fresh pumpkin pie, and many more scrumptious foods. Happy Thanksgiving everyone!



## Senior Spotlight

**NAME:** Tanner Gutzmer

**SENIOR PROJECT:** Restoring a Pinball Machine

**ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN:** Basketball, Football

**WHO/WHAT WILL YOU MISS THE MOST:** Joey the Janitor, Sports, and Mi Amigos

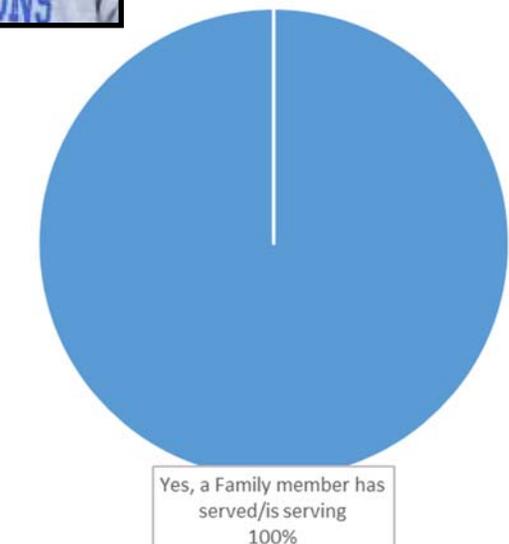
**PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR:** Attend a 4-year college, majoring in sports management



## Student Opinion Poll

In honor of Veteran's Day on Tuesday, students were asked if they have had or currently have a family member serve in the United States Armed Forces.

Take a moment to vote on the student opinion poll for next week's *Blue Ink*. Polls are located inside Mr. Hughes' room and Mrs. Buchholz's room.



**ANSWERS: Brain Teaser:** Incorrectly

**Joke:** A porky-pine.