

# The Red and Gray

Edited by Lucy and Mychal

November 19th, 2018

## Upcoming Events

by: Brody

- Nov. 20-** 2 hour early dismissal  
**Nov. 21-25-** Thanksgiving Break  
**Nov. 26-** Teacher Inservice  
**Nov. 26-** Boys basketball vs Eastern 5:30pm  
**Nov. 26-** Girls basketball at Eastern 5:30pm  
**Nov. 29-** Boys basketball vs Wheelersburg 5:30pm  
**Nov. 29-** Girls basketball at Wheelersburg 5:30pm  
**Dec. 3-** Boys basketball at West 5:30pm  
**Dec. 3-** Girls basketball vs West 5:30pm  
**Dec. 5-** 2 hour delay

## Fun Facts Did You Know?

by: Brody

1. Apples, peaches, and raspberries are all members of the rose family.
2. Hawaii only has one school district, but over 250 schools.
3. If you took all of the streets in New York City and laid them end-to-end, they would reach all the way to Japan.



## Gamer Guys

It has long been debated in the gaming community which console is better: Xbox or Playstation, but we think we have found the answer. We believe that Playstation is the superior console. We believe this because Playstations offer more games and has better graphics. The Playstation controllers are more comfortable and sleeker in appearance. For these reasons we believe Playstation is superior and why Xbox is a lesser console. We give Playstation a 9.5 out of 10 and we give Xbox a 2.5 out of 10.

## 8th Grade Trip New York, Here We Come!

by: Vaeh

As many of you know, we are going on an 8th grade trip to New York City and Gettysburg. We have found out that we are for sure going to The Lion King show on Broadway. The trip is expensive, but we do a lot of fundraisers to help. Coming up, we will do a poinsettia sale due Tuesday, November 27th. We will also have a bingo night on Tuesday November 27th, which starts at 6:00. Tickets will cost \$10.00 presale and \$15.00 at the door. In December we will be doing a gas card raffle. Our next payment will be due on February 1st. We will have a lot of fundraisers soon.

## Girls Are Beautiful The Beauty of Young Leaders

by: Vaeh

All girls love makeup, but not what it is made of. Grace Bennett noticed these things and made a huge leap. Grace is a seventh grader and is the creator of GAB. Grace started GAB in January of 2017. Even though she is young, Grace is doing great things with her makeup brand. GAB isn't only the abbreviation for Girls Are Beautiful, but also her initials. GAB is an organic makeup brand, made by Grace for preteens and teens. I asked Grace what the deciding factor for GAB was, and this was her response, "I couldn't find any age appropriate makeup, or it wasn't for sensitive skin. So when I came home my mom told me to just make my own. Then I started selling it to my friends, next thing I knew it was a business." Grace makes eyeshadow, powder, blush, lip gloss, lip scrub, highlighter, and bronzer. You can find all of Grace's products at [gabcosmetics.com](http://gabcosmetics.com). Grace is doing great things with GAB and is growing her business everyday.



## Staff Spotlight More Than a Counselor

by: Autumn

Mrs. Thompson has always wanted to be a school counselor. She has always loved working with kids and has always known that she wanted to go into a career where she could encourage children and be a positive influence in their lives. She has been a school counselor for the past eight years and has been working here at Minford for the past six. Mrs. Thompson went to Shawnee State, where she got her bachelors degree and went on to get her master's degree at the School Counseling & Clinical Counseling of Ohio University. Out of school, Mrs. Thompson enjoys spending time with her family, shopping, and going to the movies. She has been married to her husband, Kirk, for 10 years. She has three lovely children whose names are Ella, Coco, and Kru. Mrs. Thompson does so many things for our school and we couldn't thank her enough for everything that she does. She loves being able to build relationships with her students and she encourages them through difficult times and situations. She has had so many amazing people help her through difficult times and has hoped to be one of those

## Community Service Helping Hands

by: Autumn and Sydney

An act of community service is performed every Friday by Mrs. Shonkwiler's first period class. The class members go around handing out food bags to students in need so they have enough food for the weekend. Mrs. June Book is the coordinator of the program. Mrs. Book has been coordinating this program for 7 years. The bags are given to individuals ages from preschool to 8th grade in the elementary and middle school. Mrs. Book decided to start this program approximately 7 years ago when fellow workers and herself noticed that some students commenting on not having food at home. So to make a change of this, they decided to gather food donations, non-perishables that children could access on the weekend. In 2013, Mrs. Book heard about the Steven Hunter Power Pack program. She contacted the coordinator and asked if we could become part of this program. Since then, we have been receiving food bags to disperse to our students in need. This program operates in conjunction with the Freestore Foodbank in Cincinnati. Each child identified as food insecure receives approximately 5 pounds of shelf-stable, easy to prepare food every weekend. Almost 1 in 3 children in Scioto, Pike, and Adams county are going without the correct amount of food daily.

Not only is the Steven Power Pack program supplying food for Minford but they are also helping supply food for four different school districts in Scioto County. This program now serves over 1,300 children every week in all 12 public schools in Scioto County. The Steven Hunter Hope Fund was established in memory of Steven Hunter in January of 2006.

## Fine Arts

by: Sarah

On Sunday, November 4th, 2018, the Minford Marching Falcons traveled to state. After months of hard work, practices, games, and competitions, OMEA (Ohio Music Education Association) State Finals had rolled around. Marching onto the field, you could feel the surrounding intensity, every member focused and determined. After their show titled "Heart of the Warrior" had concluded, the band filed into the visitor's stand to watch the remaining bands in their block and eagerly awaited the results of their efforts. The announcer's voice resonating throughout the stadium, listing off bands and their scores one by one. Marching band ratings work on a scale of 1-5. 1 is superior, 2 is excellent, 3 is very good, 4 is good, and five is poor. "Minford Marching Falcons," He began, "have been awarded a 2. Excellent rating."



people for her students.



## Sports

by: Hannah and Sydney

### Basketball

Our Jr high boys basketball team was scheduled to play on November 15, but it was canceled. Their next scrimmage is on November 26th against Eastern at home. The 7th grade will start at 5:30 and the 8th grade team will follow.

The Jr high girls played their first scrimmage to start off their season. Our Lady Falcons played on their home court against Vinton County. The 7th and 8th grade both left the gym with a victory. They will have their next scrimmage on November 26th at Chesapeake. 7th grade starts at 6:00 and 8th grade will follow.

Good luck to the boys and girls teams on their 2018-2019 season. Go Falcons!



## Motivational

by: Sarah, Jacob, and Doyle

"The past cannot be changed.  
The future is yet in your power."

-Unknown

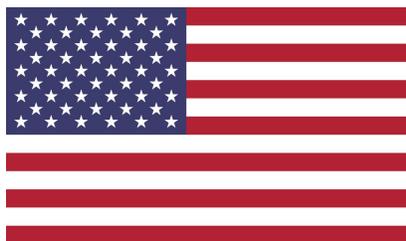
"It always seems impossible until it's done."

-Nelson Mandela

## Veteran's Day

by: Juniper

Veterans Day is a day to acknowledge and thank the courageous men and women who have admirably served in the US armed forces. It is important to celebrate this holiday to thank veterans and soldiers and to keep the historical significance of Veterans Day alive. To celebrate this holiday, we held a Veterans Day assembly at the high school. The bleachers were filled with students dressed in red, white, and blue. The choir sang patriotic songs. Speeches were given by principles, members of the student council, and Dave Smith. Mr. Smith served in the United States Navy for many years. His speech recalled stories from his days in the Navy. The speech was inspiring to all who had the privilege of hearing it. With respect, honor and gratitude, thank you veterans!



## Buddies for 7th Grade Helping Hands Making Happy Hearts

by: Amelia

Rather than doing multiple small projects, Minford has decided to do one big project with 7th graders. Buddies is a Community Leaders Program for 7th graders that our school has decided to take part in.

Each kindergartener is randomly paired with a 7th grader that visits them once a week, with one day of "Buddy Prep". Buddy Prep is a day of the week when the 7th graders prepare activities to do with their buddies on the day that they visit them.

Whenever the 7th graders visit their buddies, they do activities involving skill development, social skills, and they also play! 7th graders learn about teamwork, challenges, and responsibility. Even the kindergarteners learn from the program. They learn how to work with others, and they develop long-term relationships.

## Yearbook Cover Contest Falcon Pride

by: Mychal and Lucy

The 2018-2019 Yearbook Staff is holding a drawing contest for this year's cover. The drawings should depict your image of Falcon Pride. November 16th - December 14th are the dates of the contest. Take your finished drawings to Mrs. Seaman, the yearbook coordinator, or any of the yearbook staff. Yearbook members, Mychal Cron, Lucy Grashel and Paige Martin will be judging all submitted artwork. We encourage everybody to give it

their best shot and good luck to everyone!

## **Recycling How Can We Make a Difference?**

by: Juniper

In the previous issue of "The Red and Gray", we discussed having no recycling in the cafeteria. Around 23,000 plastic water bottles are being sent to landfills from our junior high alone every year. This is a concern that we should be working to improve. "This could be accomplished easily." says Middle School Principal, Mr. Evans. Minford already has the facilities to store the bottles before they are taken away by the Rumpke Recycling Center two times a week. All that we would need to make this happen, is bins in the cafeteria that are solely for recyclable items. Obtaining bins for recyclables would be a small effort that would make a big difference in our community. The first step we must take to receive bins for the cafeteria is getting donations to purchase them. Each recycling bin costs roughly \$37 at Lowes, and we will need to purchase five. I will create a proposal to give to local businesses asking if they would be willing to donate money towards Minford's recycling program. Each company who sponsors the bins will have their name and/or logo featured on the recycling bin. To be concluded in the next issue of the Red and Gray...

## **History Day A Day In The Past**

by: Lauren

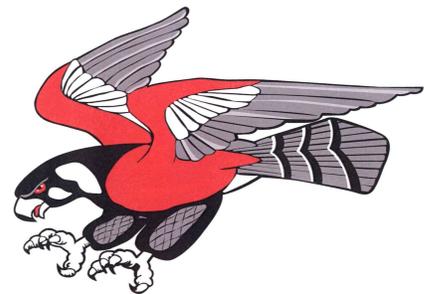
On December 18th, 8th grade students, under the direction of Mrs. Rolfe, will be taking a moment and going back in time. History Day at Minford Middle School has become an annual event, started many years ago, as the Wax Museum, by Mrs. BJo Allen. On this day, stepping into the gym is like stepping back in time, as students transform into historical characters, delivering speeches in character as guests walk around listening, as the students bring their characters to life. Students begin choosing their characters and planning their speeches weeks before History Day. In preparation, students are asked to research a character. They have to make a presentation on their person they choose. The person has to be of significance to history. Students are given several weeks to choose and research their projects. If the students prefer, they are allowed to partner up and present characters such as Bonnie and Clyde, or the Wright brothers, etc. This is an exciting experience for both the staff and the students that are involved. Everyone involved in this activity somehow learns something, whether it is from the students teaching them, or the students doing the research. This also teaches kids to speak publicly, as the other students, parents, community visit throughout the day.

Overall, History Day is a positive learning experience for everyone. Join us December 18th, as we travel back in time.

## **Science Fair Winners**

by: Isabella

The Science Fair took place on November 6, 2018. Science Fair is a great learning experience that students in grades 4-8 can participate in. Our winners for 6th grade are Maggie Risner and Ava Cronin in 3rd, Ethan Swick in 2nd. Hannah Stockham was 1st place for 6th grade with her project titled, "Eat in or out." Hannah's project got a perfect score. Our winners for 7th grade are Allie McCray in 5th, Grace Bennett in 4th, Madeline Veach in 3rd, and Avery Leach in 2nd. Our 1st place winner for 7th grade was Kynedi Davis with "Egg substitution." Our 2nd place winners for 8th grade were Annabel Belford and Megan Hickman. Barrett Vansickle won 1st place with his project titled, "Fish Hooks." The overall winner for the 2018 Science Fair was Carly Thoroughman with "Super Soil." All these students scored superior ratings and will advance to county. Make sure you congratulate all of our winners!



## Wings Award

by: Juniper and Isabella

This week's Wings Award goes to Kendall Carver. Kendall is in 7th grade and she is a friendly, hardworking student. Kendall is a member of Minford's basketball and volleyball team. Her favorite subject is science because she succeeds in it.

When asked who her biggest inspiration is she says, "My mom because she always encourages me." Kendall says that she always tries to be kind to those around her. "Kendall is very funny, enthusiastic, friendly, smart, and she is fun to be around," says Kendall's friend, Meredith Byrd. Kendall always strives to be the best that she can be in school, sports, and she is a positive influence.



**GO  
FALCONS!**

## Student Voice

by: Jeriah

Some kids might not like coming to school. In this newspaper article, I'm going to see why that is. I asked three 6th-8th grade students the question, "Could Minford make days better?" Here are their responses:

### Q. Could Minford make days better?

**S1:** "I guess so if recess was longer."

**S2:** "Yes if we were able to have snacks in class."

**S3:** "Yeah giving us our phones would be cool."

As you can see there are no major problems and Minford is doing a great job!

## Le Nutcracker Cirque A Magical Experience

by: Juniper

Many Minford students are involved in the Cirque d'Art program. For those who have not heard of Cirque d'Art, it is a performing arts group that teaches dance, ballet, acrobatics, tumbling, trapeze, and aerial to people of all skill levels. They are located in downtown Portsmouth. Every December Cirque d'Art performs "Le Nutcracker Cirque" at the Vern Riffe Center. The students involved are very modest about their abilities. However, the show is truly breathtaking. It is amazing to see the talent and skill that students demonstrate with such humility and grace.

The students involved include Gracyn Coriell, Emily Cram, Isabella Fitch, Lucy Grashel, Allie McCray, and Elizabeth Payne. I highly encourage all students and teachers to come and support the Cirque program, and witness an astonishing performance.

**December 7-** 7pm

**December 8-** 2pm and 7pm

**December 9-** 2pm

All shows are held at The Vern Riffe Center in Portsmouth

## National Holidays

by: Doyle and Jacob

### November

**19th-** Have a Bad Day Day

**20th-** Beautiful Day, Universal Children's Day

**21st-** World Hello Day

**22nd-** Go for a Ride Day, Thanksgiving

**23rd-** Black Friday, Buy Nothing Day

**24th-** All Our Uncles Are Monkeys Day, Evolution Day

**25th-** National Parfait Day

**26th-** Shopping Reminder Day

**27th-** Pins and Needles Day

**28th-** French Toast Day, Make Your own Head Day

**29th-** Square Dance Day

**30th-** Stay at Home Because You Are Well Day

### December

**1st-** Eat a Red Apple Day, World Aids Awareness Day

**2nd-** National Fritters Day

**3rd-** National Roof Over Your Head Day

**4th-** Santa's List Day, Wear Brown Shoes Day

**5th-** Bathtub Party Day



