

THE VISTA



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Toledo Offers Low-Cost, Fun Activities

LEXI AUGHENBAUGH

Everyone is trying to avoid expensive prices; luckily for residents of Toledo, there are several places to find inexpensive fun.

Although the weekends may seem monotonous, there are many entertaining places in Toledo that only require a 5 to 15 minute drive. One of the most well-known locations where people of all ages can enjoy themselves is the Toledo Zoo.

There are various types of animals at the zoo and plenty of them, including a new elephant named Lucas, who was born June 3.

During the summer, people can come to the zoo for a cheap price to enjoy seeing Lucas and the other animals.

However, the zoo also serves as a great winter location for those who enjoy stary nights and sparkling lights at "The Lights Before Christmas." Whether the purpose is to enjoy the shiny lights or to spark some romance, "The Lights Before Christmas" is a low-cost way to have fun.

For families and friends who love the outdoors, a few perfect places to go would include the Toledo Area Metroparks. Free of any cost, Wildwood, Swan Creek, Side Cut, Oak Openings and Pearson Park can provide many pleasurable activities for those who appreciate many acres of beautiful nature and open space.

"I love Wildwood because it is a great place to spend time with your family," senior Haley McPartland said.

Having a picnic, throwing a Frisbee, hiking some trails or walking dogs are just a few ways to have clean, family fun at a Toledo metro park.

Even though Toledo is not one's typical paradise, it still provides many opportunities to have inexpensive fun every day.



Senior Victoria Ullery stacks cat treats at her job at Pet Supplies Plus to save money for college. Photo by Breann McDeede

Debt Ceiling Raises the Roof

BREANN MCDEDE

On Aug. 2, the House and the Senate voted to raise the debt ceiling. For many, the question remains: Is this enough to get the United States out of debt and solve the longterm economic crisis Americans are facing?

America's government has overspent its money on various policies and programs, which has contributed to the current budget crisis.

"[The government] has constantly budgeted to spend more money than it can. There are many programs in the budget that are funded every year," Assistant Vice President of Commercial Lending at Waterford Bank Mrs. Susan Gilmore said.

To try to make up for its overspending, the House suggested that the country raises its debt ceiling, which was later approved by the Senate and President Obama.

The total amount that the debt ceiling was raised was \$500 billion. There are some who believe that this will have a positive impact on the country's budget, but there are others who think differently.

"Instead of raising the debt ceiling, we need to create more jobs, put more Americans back to work and start

exporting more than we are importing," senior Jenna Livingston said.

The debt ceiling temporarily boosted the nation's economy, but it may or may not stay that way for long.

"The United States has borrowed large amounts of money from China, which has caused us to have high interest rates to them," Mrs. Gilmore said. "We will constantly be in debt and continue to have high interest rates."

These interest rates will continue to go up, while the citizens feel the impact. This applies to NDA, whose students will someday need college loans.

"If you want a loan, you have to go through the government," history teacher Mr. Matt McEwen said. "It will be a lot harder for students to get loans because the government is going to want to take money out of loans to make up for its debt."

Students, especially at NDA, should know about what difficulties they may experience someday.

"More students need to read about the issues that happen in our everyday lives, especially those who will be 18 before the 2012 elections, and also those who will be going to college soon," Jenna said.

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NDA Welcomes 2011-2012 School Year

BRIANNE SZYMANKSI

It is a new school year, and with it, NDA has undergone many changes. Among them are various new teachers, supplies and remodeling.

Notre Dame welcomed Ms. Annie (Ning) An, Mrs. Jessica Beaverson, Mrs. Pat Cluckey, Mr. Dave DeChristopher, Mr. Joshua Furrie, Mrs. Angela Joseph, Mrs. Amy Kasprzak, Mr. Norm Kujawa, Mrs. Vivian Mills, Mr. Michael Murdock, Mrs. Karen Niewiadomski, Mrs. Rawaa Shikwana, Mr. Charles 'Chip' Smith, Mrs. Linda Wolfe and Sr. Jennifer Marie Zimmerman.

A variety of new classes were added to the course catalog, including ACT/SAT Prep, Athletic Videographer/Editor, Fitness and Nutrition, Music Technology, Musical Theater Dance, Competitive Speaking and Acting, Women of Vision and Nuts and Bolts of the Spirited Life.

Arrays of Post-Secondary Educational Options are also available through the University of Toledo and Brigham-Young University.

Most notably, however, is the addition

of the International Baccalaureate Program.

"The IB Program will be huge. Being part of it is exciting. We're starting something that will be exploding in the next few years," Mrs. Angela Joseph, International Baccalaureate Coordinator and social studies teacher, said. Mrs. Joseph attended Ohio Northern University, has taught at Cardinal Stritch High School and served as Principal of Fostoria St. Wendelin Catholic School.

She believes that the IB Program will help prepare girls for college, be well-rounded individuals, give them confidence in their abilities and have a more worldly approach to life.

"It follows the Sisters of Notre Dame's approach to global thinking. The world is a smaller place now. Our backyard is everywhere. Education never used to be global. It is now," Mrs. Joseph said.

She is looking forward to the upcoming school year, as well.

"I am so excited I can hardly stand myself. I'm enthused about the camaraderie between the staff and students. It's a really electric feeling," Mrs. Joseph said.

Also joining NDA is IB Theatre Arts teacher Mr. Dave DeChristopher.

"I have been an assistant coach for the award-winning NDA speech team for three years, and nothing convinced me how exciting and rewarding it would be to teach at NDA more than my experience there," Mr. DeChristopher said.

Mr. DeChristopher has taught in New York City's metropolitan area for over 20 years.

He hopes to inspire students to "appreciate their own creativity and individuality, strengthen their ability to listen and collaborate and experience the satisfaction of ownership of their ideas, their learning and their creations."

"And selfishly, I want to learn from them," Mr. DeChristopher said.

Girls will also experience a new display in the Resource Center. New computers



The remodeled Senior Lounge is one of the many changes at NDA this school year. Senior Lounge was remodeled by the Class of 2011 this past June. Photo by Brianne Szymanski

and new electronic resources including Questia School and Opposing Viewpoints in Context will be available to all students. Furthermore, the Resource Center has a new webpage with study guides along with a blog which will be added later this year.

Senior Lounge has taken on a new look as well. Designed by the Class of 2011, the Senior Lounge has received new furniture and a wall mural completed this past June.

"Our class absolutely loves the new senior lounge! We all really love and appreciate the Class of 2011 for making the senior lounge as amazing as it is. The dry erase board seems to be a hit!" Senior Class President Julia Chandler said.

Joining the Foreign Language department is Mr. Joshua Furrie, who is optimistic about the upcoming year and the growth of the French program.

"I hope to bring passion for French, and all world languages, to Notre Dame. I also hope to make the French program a little more challenging for students. I am excited to work with everyone here and have a very positive outlook on this school year," Mr. Furrie said.

Mr. Furrie attended University of Toledo along with Universite de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour in Pau, France, as well as La Universidad de Castilla La Mancha in Toledo, Spain.

With so many additions, the 2011-2012 school year will surely be one students and faculty can revel in.

"I am very much in awe of the excellence, diversity and virtue of the NDA community and honored to be here. I hope everyone here has an appreciation for NDA," Mr. DeChristopher said.

NDA News Briefs

EMILY THOMAS

Red Ribbon Week

NDA will celebrate Red Ribbon Week Oct. 17-21. Red Ribbon Week is a week dedicated to promoting a drug-free atmosphere. Students will hear from a speaker on Thursday and will run on a schedule 4.

Junior Induction

Juniors will be inducted as upper class women on Nov. 15. Junior Induction is a long standing tradition at NDA. The junior class will receive their class rings during the ceremony.

Athletes Score Early Admission

BRIANNE SZYMANSKI

Finding the perfect college is difficult, but early commitments may not be as arduous as assumed for prospective athletes.

"It was hard at first because of how young I was, and I didn't even want to think about college at the time. But, I knew it was something I had to do if I wanted to play at the next level," senior Demy Whitaker, who committed to Bowling Green State University as a sophomore, said.

Finding a school that reflects one's strengths is influential to success in college.

"You find a coach and a program you think suits you well and then you can make a decision," Athletic Director Mr. Gary Snyder said.

However, verbal commitments are not concrete and either the student or the school can decide to change their decision.

Mr. Snyder also notes that after a good match is found, "you definitely have an advantage. Looking for a school is a stressful process, and after you find an athletic program that suits you well, you can focus your attention on the other aspects of the application and search process."

Nonetheless, such a decision should not be made in haste or without serious thought.

"Looking for a school is a process you only go through once. It's not something that you can learn from, but something you can pass on to other student athletes," Mr. Snyder said.

Senior Catherina Wells committed to University of Toledo at the end of her junior year.

"I knew this was the school for me because my style fits in with their basketball program. It motivates me to keep my grades up," Catherina said.

Additionally, early college decisions have many positive effects, enhancing performances athletically and academically.

"It has made me realize how hard I need to keep working. College is going to be way more demanding than high school, and I need to keep working hard all the time and enjoy it while it lasts. You never will experience anything like high school sports again," Demy said.



Freshman Teagan McNamara serves the ball during the traditional NDA vs. SUA varsity tennis match. The Eagles won the entire competition, advancing one step closer to the state tournament.
Photo by Breann McDede

Mind Blown by Concussions

HALEY DEKEYSER

It is not just another bump to the head. Researchers are finding that concussions can have more serious effects on student athletes than they previously believed.

When young athletes complain of headaches, nausea, dizziness and trouble concentrating, among other symptoms, after being hit hard on the head, people cannot take this lightly.

"I tripped while running a 200 meter dash, and my head slammed against the ground. I got really bad headaches when I tried to fall asleep, and my eyes were sensitive to light," sophomore Ann Welsh said.

The problem is that symptoms may not occur until hours or days after the athlete experiences a blow to the head. This can result in dire consequences.

"The athlete should report to their coach or trainer immediately. Unfortunately, sometimes the athlete may not realize it if they are dazed enough, so it is important for coaches and trainers to be on the lookout for the change in behavior," Dr. Lou Reiner said.

Athletes should first and foremost stop engaging in any sport or physical activity when they experience symptoms because it is dangerous to continue to participate directly after suffering from a concussion.

Second Impact Syndrome (SIS) can occur if an athlete experiences a second concussion while still recovering from a previous concussion. Because the brain is already injured from the initial

concussion, it only takes a slight bang on the head to bring about a second concussion.

The dangers of SIS include brain swelling, which leads to brain damage. This can occur quickly after the onset of the second concussion.

"I was not allowed to come to school or participate in sports for two weeks," senior Demy Whitaker said.

Athletes should make a trip to see a doctor within one to two days after suffering from a concussion.

Doctors will typically make athletes sit out from sports and physical activity for a minimum of seven to ten days in order to allow the brain ample time to heal. The purpose of this is to avoid the risk of contracting SIS.

New technology developed by the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center is making it easier to detect if an athlete has a concussion and how severe it is.

ImPACT is a computerized test that athletes take before a season starts and after they get a concussion. Doctors can compare their post-concussion responses to their pre-season responses when their brain was injury-free.

According to my.clevelandclinic.org, "young athletes are more susceptible to the effects of a concussion because their brains are still developing."

It is up to coaches, parents and athletes themselves to take notice of concussion symptoms in order to prevent the more serious effects of concussions from occurring.

New Tobacco Law Paints Ugly Picture

FDA's Priority Saves Lives

BREANN MCDEDE

There are approximately 443,000 annual deaths caused by smoking in the United States. Whether it is by stroke, cancer or heart disease, the number of deaths needs to stop.

The FDA has decided to order all cigarette companies to add new warning labels on their packaging that alert the public of the effects caused by smoking.

While tobacco companies complain about the FDA impeding on their freedom of speech, they overlook what happens to people who consume the product they make.

As a result of the new labels, there is expected to be a significant drop in the number of smokers, which will save lives, increase life expectancy and lower medical costs.

Every day in the U.S., 4,000 people under the age of 18 begin to smoke. Of those, 1,000 become daily smokers. The new labels may prevent adolescents from starting to smoke.

They are also being implemented to increase life expectancy. According to www.hhs.gov, approximately 1,200 former smokers die prematurely from tobacco-related diseases. The labels will be able to show a physical image of what is occurring inside of smokers' bodies, hopefully causing them to stop and think before they smoke.

Using the labels will also save people money. According to www.hhs.gov, the nation, as a whole, spends more than \$96 billion in medical costs directly related to smoking and \$90 billion is spent on cigarettes.

The labels will serve as a reminder of the health effects of smoking. Many smokers will see the labels and decide not to waste their money.

The FDA is not trying to impede on the tobacco companies' rights; it is only trying to save lives. As the U.S. Food and Drug Administration they have the responsibility to inform the population of what they are putting into their bodies. What right is greater than a long and healthy life?

Crosstalk

FDA's Priority Crosses Lines

HALEY DEKEYSER

Regardless of which side of political debates one supports, Americans are confident the Constitution protects their right to free speech. One may question this as four of the largest tobacco companies are suing the federal government because of a recent law that violates their free speech.

This law forces tobacco companies to print graphics displaying the detrimental effects of smoking on their packaging, which violates their First Amendment rights.

These graphics take over the majority of the packaging, leaving little room for the tobacco companies' own labels. The graphics send a strong government-advocated message to consumers, urging them to refuse to buy the tobacco product. Tobacco companies should be able to design their packaging in whatever way they choose, just like any other company, because it is their own lawful product.

Colored graphics are expensive, and at the required size, companies will be spending millions of dollars to abide by the law. It is wrong that these companies must spend money to sway consumers to avoid buying their own products.

Due to the increase in anti-smoking campaigns, it is well-known that smoking is bad for one's health. The more subtle warning currently on the packaging is sufficient, because the fact that smoking is a life-threatening act is already common knowledge.

The government claims it can limit the companies' "commercial speech" because the law will support the cause of decreasing adolescent smoking rates. This is nonsense because tobacco products are sold to adults by law. Because adults are the only individuals who can purchase tobacco products, the graphics will only influence this demographic.

If the government is going this far by controlling the package design of tobacco products, then what line will it cross next?

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Editor's Corner

Welcome back, Eagles!

Now that we have gotten past the first few weeks of school, which always take quite a bit of getting used to, we can focus on all that we have to look forward to this school year! Summer may be over, but we are in the midst of a fun, busy fall.

From cheering on our favorite Johnnies and Frannies at Friday night football games to road tripping to Halloween weekends with a group of our friends, our schedules are packed with activities that will keep our minds off of our lengthy planner to-do lists, at least for a little while.

Most importantly, do not forget to thank Mrs. Grillo for the extra half hour of sleep she scheduled for us almost every Wednesday!

 Haley

NDA Offers Opportunities

As Toledo public schools continue to make cuts, students of Notre Dame Academy should realize and appreciate the privileges of a private school education.

NDA girls may complain and grumble about irritating rules or standards, but there are also many positive outcomes that go unrecognized or taken for granted.

NDA has top-notch educational programs that allow students to show others their ingenuity because of NDA's title as a preparatory school. If it were not for the continual funding from the students' parents and the hard work of Notre Dame's administrators, the noble and virtuous private prep school of NDA would be facing the same situation as the public schools that could not maintain the availability of sports and creative programs.

Because of the graciousness of parents who understand a portion of their incomes are going toward a worthy cause, the new programs issued throughout NDA recently, such as IB curriculums, online classes and different college courses are available to students. NDA faculty and staff put in tons of hours to attain such a high level of education for all of the high school's students.

The teachers and courses available to NDA students obviously have a great impact on their future as they attend highly-ranked colleges and study throughout the world.

Aside from just educational

standards, NDA also remains the best athletic high school in the city and also is a high competitor at the state level for many sports. Notre Dame Academy has received the annual Sports Award eight years in a row. Students at public schools in Toledo face the difficulties of not being allowed to participate in their favorite sports because of a lack of funding. While some public school students cannot even enjoy the sports they love, NDA pupils have the opportunity to not only partake in a sports' team, but also to dominate the competition.

Girls that attend Notre Dame Academy have the chance to prove their athletic talents as well as their educational skill as they go on to college because of the preparation that coaches and teachers provide. Because of so many clubs at NDA, students also can acknowledge their other skills and passions, too.

Some of the girls at NDA are armed with knowledge of different cultures because of Asian Club, African American Club, Hispanic Club, French Club and many others. But there are unique clubs as well that allow students to express their love for a certain movie or book and share it with others. These clubs include Harry Potter Club, Twilight Club and Film Studies Club.

Obviously, Notre Dame Academy offers a wide range of opportunities for all students that attend. Whatever a student's passion may be, it is clear that NDA has the tools necessary to prepare.

An Eagle's View Still Supporting Susan G. Komen

EMILY THOMAS

Every year thousands of lives are affected by breast cancer. In 2010 over 30,000 lives were lost to this terrible disease, but there is hope.

Organizations such as the Susan G. Komen Foundation work to provide support and aid to patients and their families.

The Susan G. Komen foundation has branches in many areas including Northwest, Ohio. Each year, the foundation helps many local area organizations.

They provide access to mammograms and other breast cancer screening, treatment, breast cancer education and survivor support.

These programs are funded by money received from Komen's various fundraising events, the most well-known being the Race for the Cure.

While NDA is not allowed to participate in the race as an institution, per directions from Bishop Blair (to read his letter, visit priestsforlife.org/magisterium/bishops/bishop-leonard-blair-komen.pdf), we as individuals can choose to participate.

Individuals can sleep-in, walk or run for a cure to help raise money for the foundation.

Of the proceeds from this race, seventy-five percent remains in the local area. This means that the majority of money raised here goes into supporting those in our area who are facing the cancer with the second highest death rate amongst women.

When we run in this race, we support those close to us and those who need our help on a national level.

To become involved as individuals, girls can visit komentwohio.org. While race registration ended Sept. 16, donations can still be made to the organization.

Facebook groups are also open to anyone who would like to be a part of this cause.

In working with the Susan G. Komen Foundation as individuals united together, we can help support the 2.5 million strong men and women who are survivors of breast cancer, while doing our part to help that number grow each and every day.

Cheers and Jeers

It's important for NDA girls to keep on top of what's happening today, so here are the best and the worst of some of the most recent current events.



Cheers to the Search Dog Foundation, a group that trains rejected shelter dogs to search for people in the rubble of natural disasters.



Jeers to August being the deadliest month for U.S. troops in the war in Afghanistan.



Cheers to astronomers discovering a planet made of diamond in the Milky Way.



Jeers to pesticides in foods increasing ADHD rates in children.



Cheers to PLC time on Wednesdays.



Jeers to all seniors not having first floor lockers.

School Survival Guide: Notre Dame Edition

EMILY THOMAS

As fall begins, the realization that school has started has begun to set in. While the prospect of 8 months of homework, studying and tests sounds unpleasant, NDA makes sure to spice up the school year with highly-anticipated, fun-packed events.

The variety show is just one of the many fun events scattered throughout the school year.

"I'm looking forward to the variety show because it is cool to see people up there on stage that you never thought would've been on that stage," junior Victoria Mitchell said.

The variety show gives students an opportunity to show off skills on the NDA stage. Girls sing, dance and perform all sorts of talents during the show, making it an event to remember.

Pep rallies also provide a fun break in the school year. They give girls a chance to get out of the classroom, get on their feet and show their NDA spirit.

"I am really looking forward to the pep rallies this year because they help supply

the school with a lot of spirit. I enjoy the different surprises that are presented at each pep rally, my favorites being the appearance of guys and teachers in plaid," junior Courtney Dane said.

The spirit shown in these pep rallies is displayed in its fullest during Spirit Week.

"I love Spirit Week because we get to chew gum and dress up, and it lets me show my school spirit!" senior Tara Orzechowski said.

Throughout the week NDA girls get to be involved in activities planned by Executive Student Council that promote school pride and unity.

Girls get to dress down for the entire week in outfits centered around the daily themes.

Other NDA events, while as uplifting as pep rallies and the variety show, are more spiritually based.

May Crowning is one such event. An NDA tradition, May Crowning is all about honoring Mary.

Seniors play a main part in this tradition.

They act as homeroom escorts, recite the Rosary, help create the cover for the song pamphlets and make up the May Crowning Court.

"Every year it is such a beautiful event, and now that we're seniors we get to be even more involved, so I am pretty excited for that," senior Chloe Hanley said.

Retreats for all class levels also give girls an opportunity to be spiritually fulfilled.

Seniors and juniors go on retreats that focus on class unity and spiritual development while sophomores focus on service and freshmen focus on personal growth.

"I am really looking forward to kairós because everyone gets so excited about it and I cannot wait to experience why," junior Kyra Schell said.

With 180 days of school each year, sometimes life can get a little routine. Luckily, whenever class has them down, to pick themselves up NDA girls simply have to look ahead at all the exciting events to come.

NDA Migrates to Aid Under Privileged Kids

HALEY DEKEYSER

Many girls dread the thought of switching schools once, but imagine changing schools many times throughout the course of just a few years.

This is what children of migrant families across the country are forced to go through.

Over the past summer, eleven NDA students and an NDA alum traveled to Leipsic, Ohio, where they volunteered at Leipsic Schools' summer-long program for migrant children.

"Lacking educational stability, this program allows the students to catch up and improve upon their studies during the summer months," sophomore Calla Gilson said.

Children of migrant families often fall behind at least one grade level in school because of their mobile lifestyle.

In the morning, the girls served as one-on-one tutors for the students at the migrant school, focusing on reading, writing and vocabulary.

After relaxing and playing with the children during lunch and recess, they served as classroom aides.

"I was helping a kindergarten boy with



Junior Olivia Hauser plays with students of the migrant school at recess. Photo by Calla Gilson

his reading, which he was very, very nervous about. We went through the book together, sounding out words and looking at pictures. Finally, when it was finished, he looked up at me and said, "Can we read it again?" sophomore Alexis Lotozynski said.

Even though the NDA students were there to teach the migrant children, the girls learned valuable life lessons from the youngsters they worked with at the migrant school.

"So many people complain that their

classes are too hard and learning is not fun. It makes me realize how lucky I am to have my education when these kids are so happy just to have the opportunity to learn as much as they can," junior Elizabeth Bancroft said.

The NDA girls had the opportunity to get to know some Sisters of Notre Dame on this trip, as they stayed in a convent and participated in this migrant ministry with sisters.

"It was not only a great service trip, but also a sneak peek into the everyday life of a Sister of Notre Dame. They are a close, spiritual family of women, and it was amazing to really see their community," Alexis said.

Volunteers were able to choose from multiple six day sessions in June and July to donate their time to the migrant school's program.

The girls found out about the trip through a variety of ways, including from their parish and at NDA.

"I can only hope that I made as big of an impact on the lives of the students as they made on mine. Their smiles were contagious, and their eyes were full of tangible hope," Calla said.

Best Back to School Accessories at NDA

LEXI AUGHENBAUGH

Everyone knows that time of the year when summer ends and it is time to choose what the best accessories are to wear to school.

Sometimes, because of NDA's all-girl atmosphere, the pressure to find cute school necessities can be intense. However, the search is quite easy with the variety of popular items that are being sported this year.

Of the most important accessories a girl needs when she prepares for school her first day, a purse would most likely be considered number one. Finding one that fits all of the standards required may seem like a challenge, but, because of the colossal collections of purses, there are many types that fit the status quo.

The most popular type of purse currently is the over-the-shoulder sling bag. Girls will be seen wearing these throughout the school hallways all year long. These bags are easy to hang on to since the straps do not slip off your shoulders, and they also tend to be a decent size that will not cause a fuss from a teacher.

Once a girl has found her desired purse, the time comes to pick out shoes. Everyone knows shoes are the biggest hassle since the price must be considered, the quality is important, their level of comfort is crucial and the style of the shoe must be the new "in."

Without a doubt, the most popular shoes seen around Notre Dame are Sperry Top-Sider boat shoes. Although they are awfully cute and comfortable, Sperry's do not come cheap. They can cost up to \$100 if they are bought over the internet or have a relatively new pattern. Sperry's are great for all since they now come in many sizes and colors.



Sperry Top-Sider boat shoes are closed-toed and comfortable. Photo by Lexi Aughenbaugh.

Another school necessity to consider for many students is a lunchbox. Although several students prefer the brown bag that can simply be thrown away right after eating, other girls prefer to be a bit more conservative. For those who have a reusable lunch box, there are many different types that are becoming quite popular around school.

Several girls carry the "Built NY" lunch bags, which are insulated, durable and stretchy because of the neoprene material used to create them. These lunch boxes can be very colorful and decorated with various patterns. They are also easily portable with the built-in zipper and handles.

However, other popular lunch boxes include the old-fashioned tin boxes. These strong tin containers have become quite common and usually are decorated with classic heroes such as the Transformers or famous TV show characters such as Spongebob Squarepants.

Finding popular accessories for school may be challenging but not for the stylish students of NDA.

Drowsy Chaperone Awakens NDA Girls

BRIANNE SZYMANSKI

Spirit, strife and a "Show Off" will hit the NDA stage in October, making this year's musical one to strike a note.

"*The Drowsy Chaperone* is called a musical within a comedy. There is a person in an apartment who loves an old musical that she has never seen, and as she plays the musical on record it comes to life through her apartment," Director Mrs. Trish Sanders said.

Man in Chair, the lead in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, is played by senior Victoria Zajac.

"I am most excited to have the opportunity to play such a dynamic character. Not only is Man in Chair meant to be represented as a very real person who can relate to the audience and draw them in, I now also get to make the character my own by playing it as Woman in Chair", Victoria said.

With characters that are not only relatable, but also hysterical, the musical has many captivating aspects.

"I love the fact that there is a narrator that stops the action and comments on

what is going on," Mrs. Sanders said.

Although perhaps a more obscure musical, it is sure to be enjoyable for all, with amusement abound.

"The audience can expect to laugh the entire time. They can expect to be thoroughly entertained for about two hours, and to lose themselves in another time and place for a while. For those who are wary of such an unknown show, they can expect to be pleasantly surprised," Victoria said.

Additionally, Victoria notes that the cast is seizing the opportunity to take a show many have never heard of and make it their own.

However, that opportunity comes with various trials.

"This fall's musical is going to be a real challenge for those serious about acting. As a group of teens, we need to take on the task of encompassing a time period very different from our own. I truly believe we will live up to the task, and it is going to be a great show!" Victoria said.

Senior Elizabeth Riddle plays the role

of Janet Van De Graaff, a star who is ready to give all of her success and fame up to marry Robert Martin.

"The Drowsy Chaperone is a great show. A delightful combination of fun songs and witty dialogue make it so wonderful to be a part of. I am excited to be playing such a different character than what I am used to. Janet is very silly, fun and sometimes a teensy bit melodramatic. It's going very well, and everyone is working really hard to learn the dances and songs," Elizabeth said.

The musical also features students from St. Francis De Sales, St. John's Jesuit, Central Catholic, Rossford, Maumee Valley Country Day and Ottawa Hills.

"I am excited to spend my senior year and final NDA musical with an amazing group of my closest friends. The cast is such a wonderful group of people; it could never be anything other than a joy," Victoria said.

The Drowsy Chaperone will be performed in NDA's Performing Arts Center on Oct. 21, 22, 28 and 29 at 7 p.m. and Oct. 30 at 2 p.m.

Holy Toledo!

LEXI AUGHENBAUGH

What's Happening at Catholic Schools around Toledo?

What was your favorite Halloween costume?



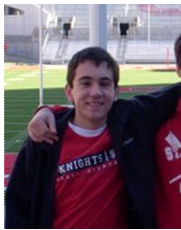
"I was a Christmas present once, wrapped with a giant bow."

Nora Mollenkopf, NDA Freshman



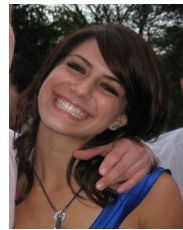
"Definitely being a nun in fourth grade."

Andrew Petee, SJJ Sophomore



"I would definitely have to say a ninja, complete with a pink headband and weapons."

Kyle Lach, SFS Junior



"I loved being Tracy Turnblad from *Hairspray*."

Paige Swint, SUA Senior

Alum Spotlight

BREANN MCDEDE

It is not everyday that NDA has a graduate who is accepted into the United States Naval Academy.

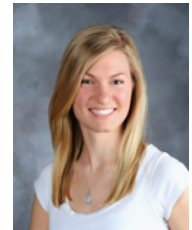
Ashton Genzman, NDA '11 alum, was one of the few accepted into the prestigious school, proving that NDA Eagles really do soar higher than the rest.

Ashton is currently a Naval Cadet in the U.S. Navy. Her brother, a sophomore at USNA, greatly influenced Ashton to apply.

"Through my brother, I learned more about this experience and that the people at USNA have the same standards and goals as me. My family, friends and the NDA community were very supportive during my decision process," Ashton said.

At NDA, Ashton participated in tennis, track and field, Speech Team, Culinary, Art and Enviro clubs and was class secretary her junior and senior year.

"Without NDA, I would not be where I am now!" she said. "We are all sisters, and we can be ourselves and grow into true women of vision."



Ashton Genzman '11

Childhood? Where Are You?!

EMILY THOMAS

As we get older, our childhood slips farther and farther away, leaving us with only memories, but why can't we enjoy all the joys of childhood now?

Nap time, for example, while great in kindergarten, would be incredibly helpful now.

Getting up at 6 a.m. to get ready for school is no walk in the park. Add in another 5 hours of driving and attending class and you have one tired teen.

A twenty to thirty or so minute nap at the end of lunch would be the perfect solution.

Good television shows are also a thing of the past. We used to be able to come home and watch quality TV; Spongebob, Hey Arnold and The Rugrats, for example.

Television, while still entertaining, is not as light-hearted and cleanly funny anymore. Our TV shows are now centered around drama, scandal, cursing and other characters terrible decisions.

Compare for a moment Spongebob and

the Jersey Shore.

When we were young Spongebob was the coolest thing out there. We loved watching all the shenanigans of Spongebob and Patrick.

Now we get our laughs out of watching drunken meatheads going to the hospital because they pounded their own heads into walls. That's what we call "good tv."

The thing that is most lost as we age is our limitless imagination. But now, as the economy is in slumps and the stock market is crashing, we need that more than anything else.

We used to be able to pretend playgrounds were surrounded by hot lava, couches were planes and we were fairy princesses.

Now all we can see what is right in front of us, a dirty germ-ridden metal pile and an old couch. But hey, at least we're still princesses.

As teenagers we long for all the joys and ease of childhood, but in wishing for the past, we have to make sure we don't miss out on the joys of the present.



EAGLE SHOUT OUT

HALEY DEKEYSER

NDA '07 alums Miss Sarah Schill and Miss Danielle Bishop were recently awarded Fulbright scholarships. Both alums will be teaching English in schools overseas.

NDA alums donated their graduation gowns to an underprivileged school in New Orleans. Jenny Miller will be competing in the

Grand National and World Championship Morgan Horse Show with her horses Apollo and George in October.

Senior Hannah Randolph has been named a National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist.