



The Lexington Concord

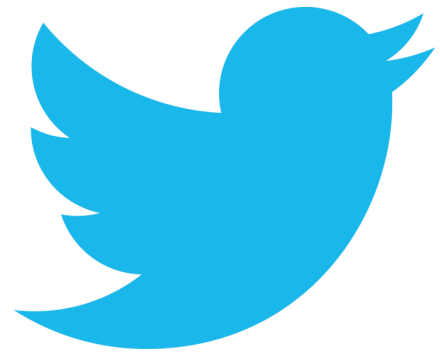
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Side-Note:

Due to Federal law Lexington High School cannot use full names when referring to minors online. Therefore, all students will be referred to using first name and last initials only.



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Teacher life: Everyday Beverages

By Josie D.

Walking the halls between periods, it's a standard sight to see at least one teacher on your way to your next class. In that common sight you most likely look over what they have in their hands because it is most likely their standard beverage for the day. But what exactly do our teachers find to be the best drinks for teaching?

Each morning you can find teachers entering the teachers' lounge for their first cup of coffee for the day. Mr. Henkles, and Ms. Duyrea meet every morning for their coffee. Some teachers have affectionately began calling them coffee buddies. Another pair of coffee buddies are, the coffee co-insure herself, Mrs. Rice, and our favorite guidance counselor, Mrs. McPeek. Each morning they enjoy their Joe during their free first period.



Continuing the trend of caffeine addicted history teachers, Mr. Kathrein had a cappuccino with two extra shots of espresso, or his Kookaburra coffee shipped from Florida. Then in the afternoon, you'll see Kathrein with a bottle of Coke, which he only drinks $\frac{3}{4}$ of each day.



You may meander down towards the main office and find Mr. Strickler with a diet Pepsi from his mini fridge, that only contains one other thing, a jar of pickles.

Take a walk down the math hallway and the math teachers will be huddled together between periods probably solving impossible equations while Mr. Zahn drinks a diet Coke, which he usually spills on his pants.

Visit Ms. Thorburn in the middle of the day and she'll be sipping on a Bai fruit blend to stay hydrated.

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Maybe stop by Mr. Roggio's room and he can give you a taste test of many latinx produced sodas.

Ask Mr. Morrow for his cheat code for the vending machine in the teacher's lounge. He used it so often that it sometimes gives him two drinks. All the teachers at Lexington High School do whatever it takes to get through a long day of teaching, and grading papers. Part of their day is the things they drink along the way. They play a tiny part in our education that we do not fully appreciate. So next time you see a teacher with a drink in hand, maybe strike up a conversation about their favorite beverage.

Pet Adoption

When looking for your next pet, window shopping at pet stores is always fun. But don't forget about the shelter pets in need! The overpopulation of stray animals is a huge issue nation-wide, and Richland County is certainly no exception. Too many animals are without a home. So, the next time you are thinking about getting a new pet, head over to the Richland County Humane Society. They are a nonprofit organization, and not associated with the national humane society. This means that all of their funding comes from generous donors and support from local animal lovers. Their mission is to save as many animals as possible, and by adopting one of their available pets, you are helping the Humane society reach their goals. Adoption really is the way to go! *Continued on page 5*



HUMANE SOCIETY
RICHLAND COUNTY

3025 PARK AVENUE WEST • ONTARIO, OH 44906 • WWW.ADOPTOURSTRAYS.COM

Here are just a few of their many available dogs, but don't forget they have cats and the occasional bird or reptile.

June Bug is a young terrier mix with a giant personality to match her ears. She was rescued from an abandoned home, and is ready to meet her new family!



When Anakin was taken in, it was clear his family didn't appreciate him like they should have. After a little love, and care, his wonderful, larger than life personality was able to shine through. If you have a soft spot for a goofy bulldog mix, Anakin may be the dog for you.

Paula D has been at the shelter since July of 2018, that's way too long! She is such a sweetheart, and just wants a family to call her own. Just because she isn't a puppy, does not mean she cannot play like one. Look at that face!



If a new pet isn't possible in your foreseeable future, there are still so many ways to help out the local animals! The Humane Society is always looking for volunteers to clean cages, walk dogs, or even just play with the cats. If you would prefer to donate, they are always in need of towels, other cleaning supplies like bleach and dish soap, and even toys for the animals! If you have some time to spare, go to their website and check out how you may be able to give back to the community, and make some tails wag along the way!

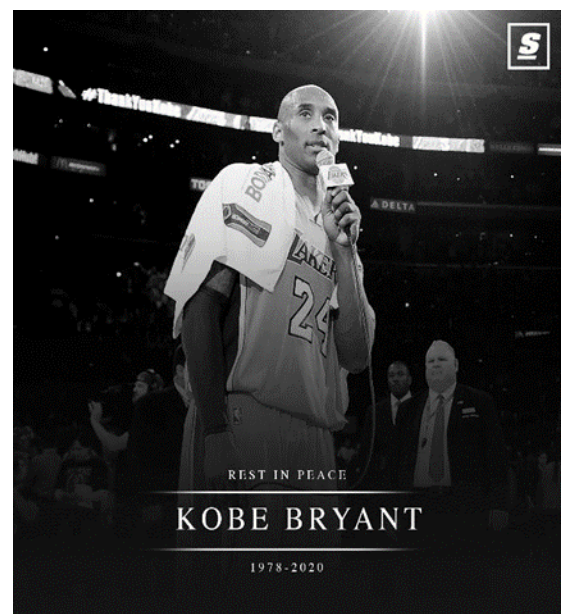
Death of a Legend

Kobe Bryant, a basketball legend and a man who inspired many, passed away on January 26. Born in Philadelphia on August 23, 1978. He played his entire 20-season career with the Los Angeles Lakers. Kobe went directly to the NBA after high school and won five NBA championships. His playing career lasted for 20 years from 1996-2016. He was 38 when his career ended. In 2001 he got married to Vanessa Laine and had their first daughter, Natalia, on January 19, 2001. Another three years passed, and they had Gianna, on May 1. Following this, they had two more daughters in 2016 and 2019.



On January 26, we lost a legend, an inspiration, and a man to look up to. Not only did we lose him, but we also lost seven others, including his thirteen-year-old daughter, Gianna. These two were on their way to a basketball game where he was to coach and she was to play. The other six passengers were two of Gianna's teammates with their parents and an assistant girls' basketball coach. The pilot, Zobayan, was also killed.

Multiple people were affected by Kobe's death. The fact that he was able to inspire so many people and do the thing he loves at the same time is amazing. He was always trying his best and working his hardest. It is just wrong that he, and his daughter died at such young ages. Rest in peace, you legend, You will be missed by many.



Lex Argue by Chloe D.

Is Valentine's Day Overrated?

Is Valentine's Day overrated? Is it a day of love, and hope for the future, or a day of loneliness and stress?

The Backstory

Valentine's Day, also referred to as St. Valentine's Day, has origins that go way back to Roman times. The Roman festival Lupercalia, held in mid-February, celebrated the arrival of spring. At the end of the 5th century, Pope Gelasius I replaced Lupercalia with Valentine's Day. In the 14th century, it began to be celebrated as a day of romance and love. There are many legends of how Valentine's Day got its name. However, the most popular is that St. Valentine rebelled against the emperor's orders and secretly married couples to save men from going off to war. This is believed to be why his name is associated with the holiday of love.



The Debate

100 students, teachers, and staff members were asked the question "Is Valentine's Day overrated? There are many clashing views on the day of love and romance. Student Kasey P., details, "Valentine's Day pressures people to have a date and makes people that don't have a date guilty, and insecure." Callie K. counters to the idea of dating pressure with, "You can still celebrate with friends and family." Zoe C. explains that many have not fully experienced Valentine's Day because they have not had a date or a significant other during the holiday. Seth D. argues, "It's a legit holiday, but it's over commercialized." Many agree that it is over commercialized, with an anonymous student explaining, "I don't necessarily think that it's overrated, love is a beautiful thing to celebrate. However, it's very over commercialized and many people take it to extremes."



The Results

71% of students, teachers, and staff believe that Valentine's Day is overrated, while 29% of them believe it is not overrated.

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The Life and Legacy of W.E.B. Du Bois

William Edward Burghardt Du Bois was an African American historian, sociologist, and civil rights activist. He is famous for his founding of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) and the news journal, *The Crisis*. Which is today the longest running African American oriented newspaper. He is credited as being a key founder in the study of sociology and was instrumental in the evaluation of racial identity in America.



Before becoming a nationally recognized voice in the civil rights movement, Du Bois was born 1868 in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, a desegregated community. His great-great-grandfather, Tom Burghardt, born in West Africa, would gain his freedom by serving in the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. Du Bois's relatively tolerant hometown would ultimately become the stage to his political identity. Where he received a well-off education and would go on to study at some of the best schools in New England.

However, before Du Bois graduate education, he studied at Frisk University in Tennessee. Here, he became disillusioned with traditional American identity. Encountering Jim Crow Laws (predominantly southern laws aimed to disenfranchise African Americans) and threats of lynching (to murder someone by hanging, usually done by a mob). In 1888, Du Bois would return to New England to study sociology, becoming the first African American to receive a PhD from Harvard University. However, much of his degree was spent in Berlin, where he traveled Europe to study relations amongst Africans and Europeans. At this time, Du Bois encountered the dramatic differences in African American treatment both around the country and abroad.



From these experiences, he published "The Souls of Black Folk" (1903), a novel containing memoirs about the vast differences in African American experiences. It has been compared to *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (a prominent abolitionist novel) and explores the theme of double consciousness or the feeling of having two almost paradoxical identities. In this case, those being American and black, which Du Bois showed was a handicap in American society. But held onto the optimistic viewpoint that it could, one day, become a strength, and symbol of unity in America. Du Bois works are frequently quoted by modern sociologists, and historians, as he is considered to be the father of studying race relations.

Du Bois would come to prominence during his public debate with Booker T. Washington, another significant civil rights activist. Washington was born a slave in Virginia and unlike Du Bois was self-taught. This vast differences in up-bringsings could perhaps explain the differences in their ideologies. Booker believed in the steady progress of African American rights through education and entrepreneurship, rather than the direct challenge of Jim Crow Laws, as Du Bois argued.

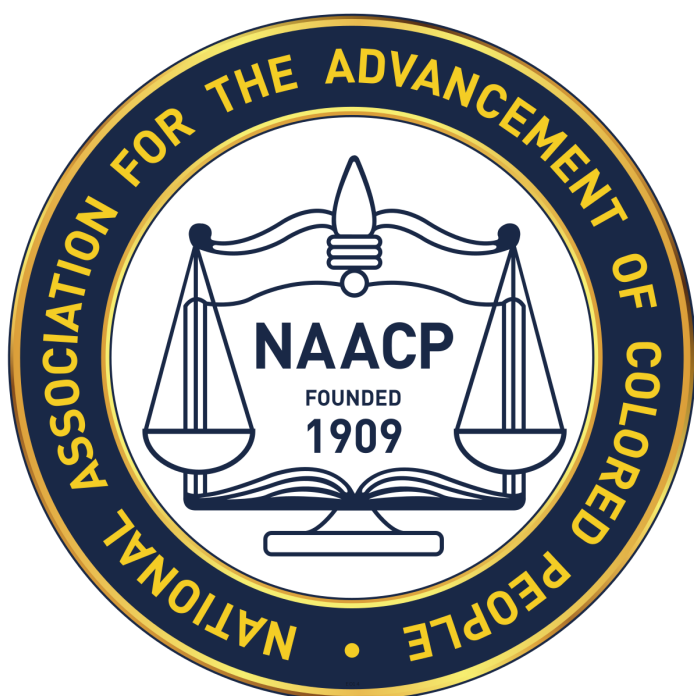


Booker T. Washington

Du Bois founded the Niagara Movement, in direct opposition to Washington's Atlanta Compromise. This agreement attempted to give southern African Americans basic educational and entrepreneurial opportunities in exchange for segregation, disenfranchisement, and non-unionized employment. As opposed to the Niagara Movement which called for the complete, and total equality among races.

The Niagara movement would eventually become the precursor to the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People). The main focus of the NAACP being to combat racist behavior, and would be a key in the fight against segregation, taking part in important court cases like Brown V. The Board of Education. Du Bois, as a leader of the NAACP founded The Crisis, an internal NAACP newspaper that was focused on the challenges facing the African American communities which is still in print today.

Du Bois would tragically pass away in 1963, shortly after moving to Ghana, but the foundations and commitments he built still last to this day. His contributions to the study of race are still the foundations of writings in Academia today. Furthermore, The NAACP still stands as an established fighting force for the African American community, publishing articles on the regular in The Crisis. Du Bois's legacy is still very much alive, as the institutions and ideals he helped create still exist to fight injustice wherever that might be.



Student Spotlight

Apathy be darned, Lexington students are getting involved. Typically, this column is reserved to highlight a special student. However, this time I am focusing my attention on a group of students. If there is a positive that can be derived from the current political climate is students are getting active. President Trump and a handful of Lexington Students attended the annual March for Life rally in Washington DC. Joanna H., Devon R., Olivia H., were a few Lex students who made the trek to the nation's capital to support their cause. While in D.C., the students met with U.S. House of Representatives Jim Jordan, Anthony Gonzalez and Warren Davidson. All three representatives did extraordinary things before entering Congress. Jordan was a two-time national champion wrestler; Gonzalez was a prolific receiver at Ohio State and then with the Indianapolis Colts and Davidson was a graduate of the United States Military Academy. The Attorney General, William Barr also made an appearance. The Vice President was not able to meet with the students but sent a video from the Vatican.

Earlier this school year Joanna H. was able to meet the Lieutenant Governor, John Husted, and on January 28th, she met Governor Mike DeWine. Joanna is featured in a separate article for her essay on free speech. Opportunities to meet such influential people do not happen very often and Joanna is making the most of the opportunities. Regarding her busy month, Joanna says "Meeting the legislative leaders gave me greater insight to the inner workings of our government."

As a Social Studies teacher, it is great to see students taking an interest in the world around them. In the digital age, too many students have their faces in their phones. Students only see life through a three-inch screen. That silly device has falsely defined the social worth of young people. Joanna and friends are redefining social worth for young people. They are putting the screens down and taking action.

Cowboy Award

Max gets the Cowboy Award this month. Max carried (skied) an injured skier down the hill to get her to a safe place to get medical aid. Reminded me of John Wayne riding the injured girl to town in *True Grit*.



Ashbrook Center Essays



Recently Lainey K. and Joanna H. entered into a national writing contest at the Ashbrook Center and had a great time. They had to write a 3-5 page essay that was accompanied by a 3 minute video discussing their topic. They learned of the competition from their Youth and Government advisor. Joanna won the competition and received \$500.00 and a scholarship to the Ashbrook Academy at Ashland University. Lainey K. finished fifth (Honorable Mention) and received a Prize of \$100.00 and a scholarship as well to the Ashbrook Academy. Joanna and Lainey were really surprised that their submissions were selected. Lainey wrote about safe spaces on college campuses and Joanna wrote about the imbalanced reporting of social media usage by political figures.

This was the inaugural year of the competition. Mr. Kathrein offered the competition to the students involved in the Youth and Government program as a trial run. However, next year he wants to get everyone involved. If interested in the competition please see Mr. Kathrein for more information.

The Scheduling Debate

Scheduling time is here and many students and parents are wondering what type of courses are better, AP, CCP, or regular classes. According to an anonymous teachers and students here is the scoop:

AP Cons:

AP classes are the most difficult. They cover more information and require a great deal more reading and writing. The biggest negative is that you have to pass an AP Exam at the end of the course to get college credit. Most universities will give credit if you get a 3 (out of 5). For some universities, the higher the score the more credit you receive.

AP Pros:

They better prepare a student for a college course; they have smaller class sizes, are weighted, and more teacher involvement. If you plan on going to a more elite university AP looks very good on a transcript.

CCP Cons:

They are faster paced due to the amount of information in the curriculum; if you take a CCP Science course the university you attend after Lexington might give you a general education credit. The class sizes are typically large.

CCP Pros:

Guaranteed college credit; weighted, and for some courses they are semester in length but you get a full credit at Lexington.

Regular Ed Cons:

They are not weighted

Regular Ed Pros:

Less rigorous, which is nice if you have several other weighted classes.

When talking to several seniors the best recommendation is to create a balanced schedule. If you take too many advanced classes it gets overwhelming and the stress level is high. If you take too many regular education courses you might not be prepared for how tough college can be. When deciding to take classes off campus or on campus, stay on campus. The Lexington teachers are more involved with students and care more about your success.