

NOVEMBER 2017

the

Topsfield Times

Topsfield, MA

Fun at the Fair

By Steven Maguire
The Topsfield Vocational Academy took a trip over to the Topsfield Fair on October 4th, 2017 because they earned a reward to go. So the kids went on some real cool rides, called the fireball zipper and lots more. They also walked around where the animals were and saw cows, goats, elephants, and a huge snake.

I talked to a student and I asked her about the best part about the Topsfield fair and she said walking around and eating was the best part of the trip.

The students that went on the trip were Lucas N.,

Holly P., Tayshawn T., Clara D., Joe L., Logan W., Mike M., Koryssa C., Justin B., Henry S., Pat M., Dyrece M., Scott G., Dom K., Jess N., and Anthony F. The staff that went on the trip was Cassie, AJ, Dave, and Brian.

The Topsfield fair first opened up on February 16th 1818. The Topsfield Fair attracted almost 500,000 visitors in 2008. The fair is one of the oldest of its type in the US. It was started in 1818 by the recently formed Essex Agricultural Society. The first annual fair was a cattle show held by the society on October 5, 1818.



Joe L. (Grade 10) braved patting an alligator at the Topsfield Fair.

November Events

11/7
No School/PD Day

11/10
Veteran's Day/No School

11/8,9,14
ELA MCAS Retest

11/22 Early Release
12pm

11/23-24
Thanksgiving/ No School

11/15-16
Math MCAS Retest

Take it to the Bank: Penny Wars Competition is Fierce

By Hayden Brault

At Topsfield Vocational Academy, we have Penny Wars where we compete with pennies from October to December. The grade with the highest penny count wins. But other groups can put quarters or dollars in the other group sections to lose points.

The winning group will select a charity to donate money to and also get pizza. It's a pretty simple concept. We will keep you updated on who is winning and losing. Right now it's tied between the STEP program and grade 11.

Open House 2017

By Noah Scola

Open House 2017 was not very different from the others. Parents came in hoping for good grades and see if their prayers were answered or were ignored.

Personally, I was present at the Open House to witness my English teacher ratting me out to my parents.

A good number of people came to see, including the students. It was a nice sight to see. PJ had snacks that were pretty good.

From the Desk of Charles LeBuff

I want to thank the many parents who took the time to come out to our Parent Night last month. It was also great to see our students come in so everyone was on the same page. At the end of the evening all the cookies and brownies were gone. (PJ, our chef, was very happy about that).

We have started the second quarter without missing a beat. We have tried to have some conversations with some students about trying harder, and that in high school, credits add up. We have some regular gym time on Fridays now thanks to our new association with our parent company in Beverly. It is working out very well. I hope to be able to expand that access down the line.

We have started to give the MCAS retests to some of our students. The good news is that most have already passed, so it is not a very large group for Math or English.

Our annual "Penny Wars" fundraiser got off to a great start. The middle school is off to a great start. December 1st is the last day. The

winning team gets a pizza party and gets to choose which charity to give the money to. Last year, we raised almost \$600 dollars for "Angels of Addictions," a drug awareness program.

I will be speaking to our students about the holidays that are up and coming, and although it is an exciting time, I will be reminding them that it can also be a time of remembrance or sadness for some of us. We all need to be a little more sensitive to those around us. My hope, as always, is to get ahead of the problems that can result from not being aware of those around us.

Lastly, I am proud to say that the Topsfield staff have put together quite a team for the Festivus 5k run/walk in Salem on December 10th in Salem. This event is sponsored by N.S.E.C and raises money in support of technology for students with Autism. My staff "ROCK".

Talk with you again soon...

Charles LeBuff

Topsfield Times Presents:

Cringoween

Costumes that will make you scream

By Hayden Brault

This year for Halloween I'm looking at the most cringe worthy costumes with a top 5 list, so get a blanket, maybe cry a little bit after. I don't care so continue reading if you dare.

#5 This Freddy Fazbear costume is from the very popular horror game Five Nights at Freddy's. The costume isn't that bad but that mask is just cringey.

#4 We all know what Mario is right and we all know his brother Luigi right....? Right, well apparently these people didn't when they made this Luigi costume. Luigi is supposed to be skinny not fat like his brother. These people need to do their research.

#3 This costume is really cringy in my perspective. As a person that loves Lego's this is just..... I'm really just lost for words. This is so cringy. I want to just slap the person who made this just because of those legs. They are bigger than his arms.

#2 For number 2 we have a character from a video game so popular they have to make a costume of it. This character is Steve from Minecraft. Yes you read this correctly. Steve why!?

#1 For number 1 we have a MENS (!!) alligator costume and no this costume is not from a cartoon. This costume is so bad it had to be number 1 on this list. And may I remind you this is a MENS (!!!!!) Costume.

So this is the end of my Cringoween top 5 list. So have a spooky Halloween and for the kids trick or treating, try not to get scared.

#5



#4



#3



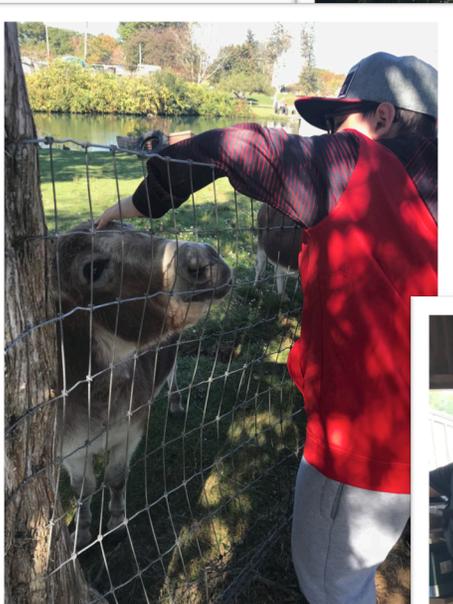
#2



#1



Enjoying a Fall Favorite: Apple Picking



The staff at Topsfield Vocational Academy will be running (let's face it, more likely walking) the Festivus 5k on December 10th in Salem to raise money for technology for our students! To donate to our team, visit

www.firstgiving.com/fundraiser/sue-martini-1/festivus-5k-for-autism



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