

Tom-Tom

Lemont High School

Wednesday, November 21, 2012

Issue 11

Say H-ello to the New H-Drive

by Sarika Pal
News writer

Any student who's forgotten to send a school file home via email understands the frustration of restarting an assignment. Enter H Cloud, Lemont High School's new web-portal for accessing school network files at home.

On Nov. 1, IT director Jim Poss announced the portal. The H Cloud gives students access to their "H" drive outside of LHS. H Cloud is a user-friendly site that will replace the former Virtual Office.

Poss sent an email notifying students of the replacement portal. "Virtual office as not been as reliable as it once was, and this new portal will allow for new and improved LHS network "H" drive file access," said Poss in the email.

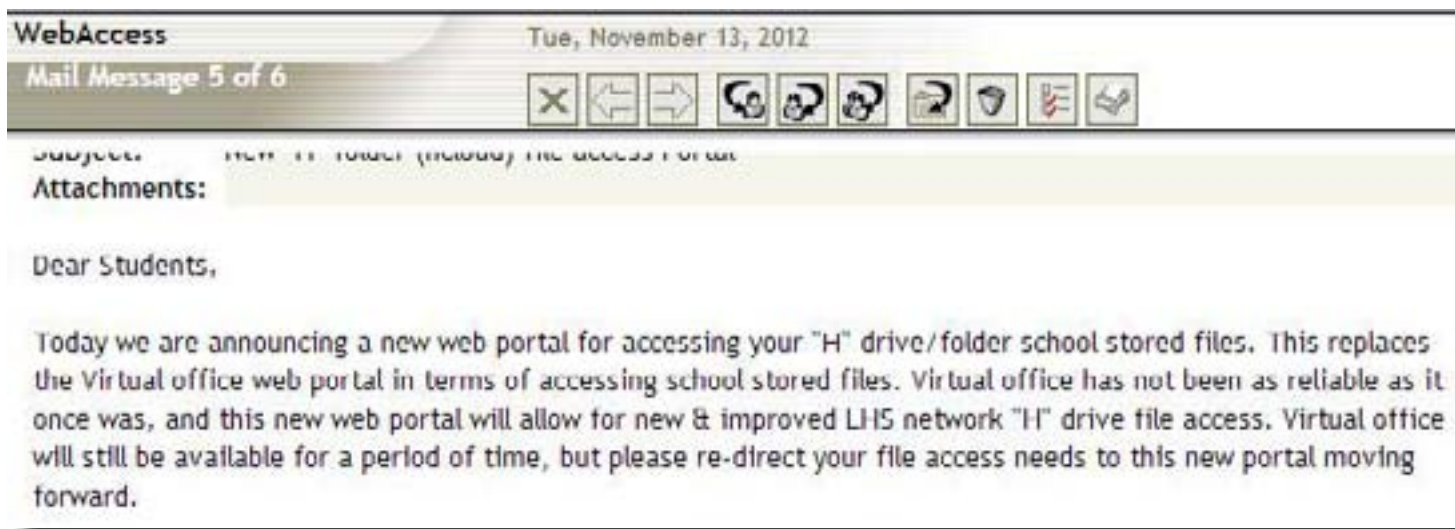
While many students believe the portal is useful, sophomore Lindsay Wright thinks that "a lot of people [don't] know they can access it from how or they don't know how to."

H Cloud is easily reached for students that have never used the site before. The web portal can be accessed at <https://hcloud.lemont.k12.il.us>; by using their Novell network login and password, students can open their portal.

Information technology assistant Margarita Piaskowy believes that this drive is very beneficial to students. "You don't have to put your homework on a thumb drive, this file travels with you," said Piaskowy.

The Virtual Office will still be available for a short period of time until all files are transferred to the H Cloud.

Technology assistants are available in computer labs N221 and N230 to help with access and answer questions.



Screen-shot by Lauren Kowalczyk

Jim Poss sends email about H Cloud to LHS students.

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NEWS

Lemont Speech Team

by Nicole McKevitt
News Editor

On Nov. 10, Lemont’s Speech Team placed 6th at Marian Catholic’s competition for all of the varsity, junior varsity and novice competitors.

At the competition senior Aubree Tally placed 3rd in Humorous Duet Acting with junior Liam Purtle and 1st in Poetry reading. Junior Peter Marzano placed 2nd in both Extemporaneous Speaking and Impromptu Speaking. Junior Sara Van Hecke placed 2nd in Poetry Reading. Junior Ryan Luzzo placed 4th in Poetry reading and tied for 1st place in Prose Reading with Purtle. Junior Molly McNeeley placed 2nd in Oratorical Declamation.



Speech team members (left to right) Liam Purtle, Sara Van Hecke, Ryan Luzzo, Aubree Tally and Molly McNeeley.

This season, changes were made in the coaching staff. Phil Lazzari stepped up as the head coach of the team; David Lindley also coaches the team.

Tally is excited for what the season holds in store for them. “The team is looking super solid this year. We have many eager novices this year also, who are very talented.”

Van Hecke thinks that, “The team is looking great this year. We have started off the season by focusing on our novices so we can build up the team and teach them everything they need to know about speech. The second half of the season we plan to focus on varsity members so we can hopefully make it far this year. I think we are going to have a great season, we definitely have the talent.”

Last year, the speech team had, “One of [their] most successful invitational seasons yet,” says Tally. “We did very well at Regionals sending 12 out of 15 events to Sectionals. At Sectionals we had 4 events in final round. Unfortunately, last year we did not send anyone to State. We are hoping to change that this year.”

While having tournaments almost every Saturday keeps the team busy, Van Hecke says that this year, “We are keeping a positive attitude and just trying to have a great time! I think that alone will take us far.”

“The team is looking super solid this year.”

Goodwill's "Fall Haul"

by Carly Tucker
News writer

Lemont's newest business, Goodwill, is putting on its Fall Haul Donation Challenge. Lemont's Interact club is encouraging all Lemont High School students and Lemont community members to participate in the event from Nov. 1-30.

Those who wish to participate can donate gently used clothing and household items to Lemont's Goodwill store located at 1146 State Street. Vice Principal Dave Clark said "Students can drop off their items at the school or at the store. We want it to be as convenient as possible."

In regards to donating at the store Interact President, senior Megan Janas said "Participating students just need to fill out the form available on Haiku. By bringing that in with their donations, they will earn LHS points."

The event is taking place in the midst of the holiday season and Lemont wants its students to remember to give back. "With Thanksgiving coming up, it is a perfect time to be giving for the holidays. It is good for students to continue the idea of giving back," said Clark.

This event will allow for high schools to help give a positive reflection on its community. "Lemont has always stepped up and been there for good causes. It's important that we continue to try and give back," said Clark.

If donors say that they are contributing their items on behalf of Lemont High School then they will further Lemont High School's chance of winning. The prize for winning is two iPads and a free private concert with fourth runner-up on 'The X-Factor', pop singer, Cher Lloyd.

As of last week, Lemont holds the first place spot in the competition with a total of 7,492 items donated, which is a little over 2,500 more than second place: Naperville North High School.

For more information about Goodwill's "Fall Haul Donation Challenge", contact Director of School and Community Relations Tony Hamilton via email (tonyh@lemont.k12.il.us) or phone at (630) 243-3280.



Lemont's Goodwill is located just off State Street.



Goodwill sits exactly where Sears used to reside.

EDITORIALS

Let's Get Down to the Root of Things

by Jordan Gembara
Editorialist

It's a mess, it's all over the place, it never does exactly what is desired. It's hair.

As the fashion world continues to grow, hair changes along with it. From the finger waves in the 1930s, to the beehives in the 1950s, hair has evolved greatly over time.

Today, the heads around the world are dotted with much more color and pizzazz than they were years ago. Younger generations are expressing themselves by making the hair atop their heads as bold as possible. New colors—such as blue, purple and red—are now being used to dye clients' hair. Different styles are appearing and the options seem unlimited.

Hair stylist Melissa Leshin finds clients requesting many new styles and cuts while working at Jeffrey LaMorte. "Everyone is looking for a change," said Leshin. "Now they have the opportunity to do something fun and have it actually be the trend."

Though it took generations to change the old dos, today new styles can change within months. Color may be popular now, but that doesn't mean it still will be by Christmas. However, it doesn't stop the creative from trying to keep up.

Photo courtesy of Liz Martinez



Sophomore Christine Martinez prefers her hair naturally straight.

"Whether complex or simple, there are still tons of things teens today can do with their hair."

Senior Sandra Ivanovska rocks the bold, short look.

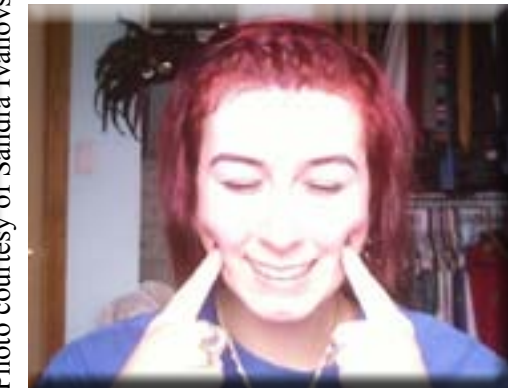


Photo courtesy of Sandra Ivanovska

There are also those who oppose the showy styles. Not all people enjoy the odd cuts and colors—some prefer the simple. These people reject the unique and embrace the ordinary—normal is what works for them.

Senior Rachel Margalus finds the usual styles much more appealing. "[Simple] is more natural looking," said Margalus. "Having bold colors and crazy accessories is more of an attention getter than anything else."

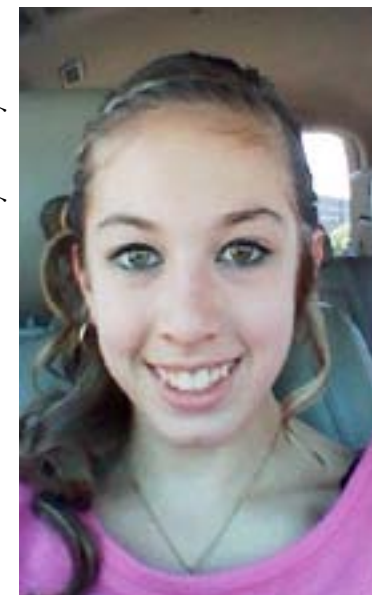
Whether complex or simple, there are still tons of things teens today can do with their hair.

For those looking for something new but don't want to alter their own hair, Leshin recommends extensions. They can be put on or taken off easily, and are a "great way to see a different look in a matter of a minute."

For the more subdued, haircuts can be modeled after popular celebrity styles. This provides for a great way to have a trendy look but still stay true to a person's natural roots.

Regardless of what people do, both sides will continue to cut their hair according to what they deem fit. The ordinary will stay traditional, while the innovated will continue to search for bigger and bolder looks.

Photo courtesy of Taryn Tate



Freshmen Taryn Tate went with a traditional look at the LHS Homecoming dance.

Junior Phoebe Newton models her best Draco Malfoy look.



Photo courtesy of Phoebe Newton

Black Friday Shopping

by Mackenzie O’Shea
Editorialist

With Christmas music “jingling all the way” throughout stores, it’s not too early to start thinking about holiday shopping. The biggest shopping day of the year is Black Friday.

Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, provides early shoppers incentives and discounts. Consumers look forward to the low prices and sales on Black Friday because their money lasts longer and they end up buying more for their money.

For some this can be a day filled with shopping. But for others it’s a day to relax and let food settle from Thanksgiving dinner.

While some are still visiting with friends and family, others are preparing for their early morning shopping. Planning can be the key to success for shoppers in search of the best deal.

Stores offer discounts to lure customers out of bed and into their stores. Junior Annie Svitak said, “I think Black Friday shopping is a good opportunity for people to get good sales on things they maybe originally wouldn’t be able to afford.” Retailers use television commercials and sale ads to attract customers into their stores during these early hours.

This year, some stores are opening as early as 9 p.m. on Thursday night and shoppers arrive hours before the stores open to guarantee a good spot in line. The Lemont Target will open at 9 p.m. on Thanksgiving night, according to a Target sales associate.

These early-hour shopping sprees may seem crazy to some, but to others it is worth waiting outside in the cold just to get that extra discount on items. Consumer Ed teacher Justin Weidler said, “I used to work at Best Buy and I remember people would line up with tents outside the store to ensure that they would be one of the first into the store.”

Some stores choose to offer an added bonus to those first few customers that enter the store and sometimes only have a limited stock of popular items. Weidler also said, “I remember one year I was at a Wal-Mart and I watched two ladies fight over an Xbox.”

Some shoppers take this day seriously and for those who don’t have a plan of attack or game plan, usually don’t end up getting what they had hoped for.



Photo courtesy of Google

Black Friday shopping ads can be found in most magazines.

DEAR TOM-TOM

Dear Tom-Tom,

Do you think the upperclassmen like eating D lunch at 12:40 in the afternoon? The juniors and seniors should get first choice on their lunch time. Upperclassmen should decide who they will spend time eating their lunch with instead of the random opportunity to get the lunch that you desire. This privilege is something you could look forward to as you become an upperclassman at Lemont High School.

Lunch is supposed to be a relaxing part of your day to enjoy with friends and eat healthy food. Well, it’s hard to enjoy your lunch if you’re sitting alone because you have no friends sharing the same lunch period. This would never be a problem if you and the rest of the upperclassmen could enjoy eating together during the same lunch period.

Are you wondering how this change would benefit teachers? The students’ urge to text during their third period class would decrease drastically; everyone they want to text during class would be in their lunch period. A simple half hour to talk with other upperclassmen during lunch could save an hour and a half of texting throughout class time.

As you can see, juniors and seniors need more independence when it comes to having lunch with their friends. If the upperclassmen could choose the time that they eat and who they spend that time with, there will be less looking at the clock, there will be a better attitude towards learning and there will be more focus until the bell rings.

Lucas Mathias



Some students are not fortunate enough to sit with their friends at lunch.



Photos courtesy of Google

FEATURES

Selena Gomez: The Glamour Girl 2012

by Rachel Bogo
Features writer

Waverly wizards, love song baby, a teen heartthrob of an ex-boyfriend and Glamour Girl of 2012? It all sums up to 20 year old celeb Selena Gomez. Gomez has come a long way since the start of her acting career in 2001.

Gomez wasn't handed her life of celebrity. Her mom had her at 16 and her parents went through a divorce a couple years after that. Money was a struggle throughout her childhood; many nights Gomez recalls eating macaroni and cheese from the dollar store.

After having a few small roles on the Disney Channel, she earned her own show. In 2007, Gomez was cast the role of Alex Russo in the hit show *Wizards of Waverly Place*.

After the movie *Monte Carlo* reached the box office, Gomez fans were eager to see what she would come out with next. The highly anticipated movie *Spring Breakers* will be coming out this spring and her new album will be out in 2013. On top of a movie and album release, Gomez was also awarded Glamour magazine's "Women of the Year" for 2012. An anonymous senior at Lemont High School said, "She is perfection, and a good role model for girls of all ages."

In the interview for Glamour Magazine, Gomez talks about herself growing up. "I definitely didn't appreciate it when I was little. I was frustrated that my parents weren't together, and never saw the light at the end of the tunnel where my mom was working hard to provide a better life for me," said Gomez.

Gomez seems to be like any girl next door. She has friends, family, and goals she still hopes to reach. Her list of accomplishments is long, but she still remains humble. That's why she makes a perfect person for one of Glamour's "Women of the Year."



Selena Gomez on the cover of *Glamour*

Photo courtesy of Google

Tom-Tom FEATURES

Tip Toes Through The Tulips

by Sam Moffett
Features writer

Since early 2007 young Jayme Dee Mackinga has been posting covers of songs by bands such as Foster the People and Taylor Swift on YouTube. With over sixteen million views and over one hundred thousand subscribers, Jayme's music spread like a wildfire throughout YouTube.

When Universal Records caught wind of her music they signed her up and featured her in the soundtrack *The Hunger Games: Songs from District 12 and Beyond*.

With the release of her new hit single "Tip Toes" and the start of her national tour with Owl City, Jayme Dee's music is hitting the charts, but is it as good as people say it is?

The answer all depends on what the listeners like. Jayme Dee's music is the definition of pop: bubbly, uplifting. Her song "Tip Toes" is reminiscent of Taylor Swift's "We Are Never Ever Getting Back Together" with its thumping beat and cheerful lyrics, but manages to fall short of Swift's top single.

Some will like the quirkiness of songs like "Tip Toes," but others might prefer her softer anthems, like her song "Rules" and her cover of Foster the People's "Pumped Up Kicks". The acoustic guitar is beautifully done and her vocals are spot on.

Jayme Dee is the new underground Carly Rae Jepsen, a singer slowly gaining popularity from poppy songs. Listeners who aren't overwhelmed by the sameness of pop music will appreciate her vocalic range and style.



Singer Jayme Dee Mackinga



Photos courtesy of Google

Oh, The Humanity

by Michelle Awad
Features writer

With subject discussions ranging from the existence of a God, the zombie apocalypse, and where the human soul resides after death, Humanities has risen in popularity from just 2 classes a semester to 7 classes a semester.

With a name like Humanities, the possibilities of the class seem close to endless-- and they are. However, Humanities I focuses more on looking at philosophy through a humanities perspective while Humanities II focuses on cultural studies. Both are taught by Marek Dron and are based primarily on discussion and research.

Students acquire numerous advantages through these courses. "We are offered various perspectives on different topics and one opinion is never forced on someone. The class overall is really enjoyable and it's great not having a textbook," said junior Liam Purtle.

"Humanities is different from all of my other classes because I'm not being lectured the whole time," said sophomore Megan Kaminski. "We're able to express our opinions and we also focus on things that actually spark our interest," she said.

Humanities is one of the few classes that does not claim a solid curriculum. "It's up to the students for about the first six weeks. They decide what we study by popular vote," said Dron.

In an environment where "debate" does not mean "fight," students are encouraged to express their opinions without fear of judgment or oppression by their peers. "We debate ideas, not people," said Dron.

Students appreciate this aspect of the class as well. "I like how we can have debates and nothing gets personal," said sophomore Becca Zagorski.

With its use of discussion and subjects based off of student interest, Humanities attracts students who are interested in voicing their opinion and hearing those of others.



Humanities I, taught by Marek Dron

Photo by Lauren Kowalczyk

WATT IS UP WITH THE NFL

by Ethan Parafink
Sports writer

With over half of a wild NFL season completed, a number of stories have gained the attention of fans and critics alike, and a few teams have climbed their way to the top and now look down on the rest of the league.

The Houston Texans and Atlanta Falcons both sit atop the league with a 9-1 record, while the Chicago Bears and Baltimore Ravens shared a 7-2 record entering Sunday.

The Texans, led by running back Arian Foster and defensive player of the year candidate J.J. Watt, defeated the Bears in primetime on Nov. 11, proving they are a top team in the AFC. Watt had 11.5 sacks and 11 pass deflections through week 11, and is one of the most prolific young pass rushers in the league.

Not only did the Bears lose the game, they also lost their quarterback Jay Cutler to a concussion after he took a huge hit to the head in the first half of the game. Cutler, who has a history of concussions, missed this week's game against the 49ers but is expected to be back against the Vikings.

The ball-hawking Bears defense, led by the cornerback duo of Charles Tillman and Tim Jennings, has been dominant all season long, but was not enough to get the team a win against the Texans. Through the Texans game, Tillman and Jennings had combined for 10 interceptions, 7 forced fumbles and 3 touchdowns, part of the highest scoring defense in the league.

The previously undefeated Falcons lost to their division foes, the New Orleans Saints, in a week 10 matchup, then narrowly beat a mediocre Arizona Cardinals team the next week. Falcons quarterback Matt Ryan had been looking like the leading MVP candidate until his five-interception performance against the Cardinals.

Despite this, senior Scott Matulik believes the Falcons are still the NFL's best team. "They were undefeated for the longest time and they have a great quarterback complemented with very good receivers, a tight end and a good running back," said Matulik. "Also, in last Sunday's game, their quarterback had a terrible game and they still managed to win."

The NFL season has provided some great moments so far, and while some teams have separated themselves from the rest of the NFL, there is still much to be played and decided. With three good matchups on Thanksgiving, there will certainly be more excitement.



Chicago Berars take on the opposing team.

**"... a few teams
have climbed
their way to the
top and now look
down on the rest
of the league."**

LEMONT'S WORST ENEMY: THE TWO POINT CONVERSION

by Cody Caballero
Sports writer

After a successful regular season, Lemont went into the playoffs with hopes of winning a state title. But on Saturday night Crete Monee put an end to Lemont's season. Crete Monee won the game 28-27.

Both teams traded blows the entire night and like most people expected, it was a game that came down to the wire.

Going into the fourth quarter, Lemont was up 27-20 and the trip to Champaign was in sight.

Crete Monee received the ball in the fourth quarter with five minutes left and drove the field to score a touchdown, making the score 27-26 Lemont.

Crete Monee went for two after their late score in the fourth and on a successful play call Crete took the lead 28-27.

Lemont got the ball back with three minutes and thirty seconds left in the game, but they went three and out and were forced to punt the ball back to Crete Monee.

Crete Monee used the clock to their advantage and ran two plays that gave them a first down and forced Lemont to start using their timeouts.

Time expired and Lemont's season came to an end.

Seniors Zach Brosseau (quarterback), Jake Ricks (wide receiver) and Matt Luzzo (defensive back) will always have special things they will remember about Lemont football just like all the other players that are moving on after Saturday's game.

"One thing I will always remember are the great teammates: I was blessed with a great offensive line, great running backs and great receivers," Brosseau said.

Ricks said, "I will miss playing underneath the lights. I also will miss the family part and how much love there really is between all of us."

"The one thing I'll always remember is Coach Howell and the rest of the defense. Coach Howell always believed in me and I'll always consider him the best coach of my life. I'll also remember Connor O'Brien and Jake Lemming for being outstanding players on the defense and great leaders on and off the field. Lemont football rules," Luzzo said.



"LEMONT FOOTBALL RULES"

Lemont challenges Crete Monnee on Lemont's home turf, winner advancing to the state playoffs.

Photo by Lauren Kowalczyk