

THE RAM PAGE

2ND QUARTER EDITION

•DEVELOPING LEADERS ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

• DECEMBER 20, 2024

SC SALUTES VETERANS

By: Zoie



Colton Pind posts the colors for the assembly.

On Monday, November 11th, Scott City Middle School student council hosted our annual Veterans Day Assembly. The assembly started with middle school Stuco president William Backfish welcoming everybody, then Colton and Keegan Pind posted the colors. Next, the High School Band played 'Salute to America' and the 'Star Spangled Banner'. Keenan Stulgin then led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance, and the Honor Choir sang, 'Salute to The Armed Forces'. William then introduced our guest speaker, Cynthia True. She talked about her life and how she got into the Air Force, and about her two children that go to school here. She also explained how welcoming Scott City is. Cynthia is currently a recruiter for the Air Force.

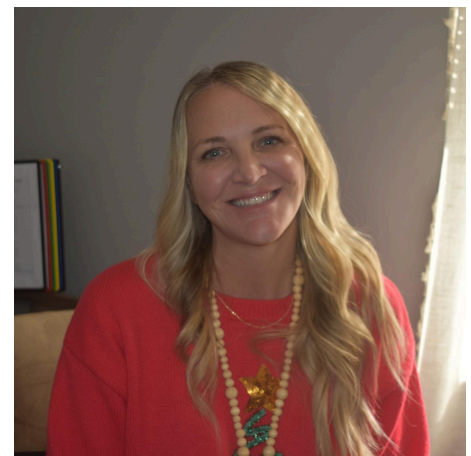
Then the Scott City Honor Choir sang the crowd favorite, 'God Bless The USA'. We then had a moment of silence for those Veterans who have passed. While we were having the moment of silence, the media department displayed photos of veteran family members on the big screen that were provided by students and staff. Colton and Keegan Pind retired the colors, and the high school band then played, 'Freedom Finale'. Attendants were Teela Criddle, Owen Amick, Kynlee Dennenumler and Asher Kilby. Guest veterans were then treated to cookies and punch in the lobby. Thank you to Ms. Ort and to the middle school student council for leading this annual event for our community.

Mrs. Megan Sides Enjoys New Role at SCES

By: Riker

I interviewed the new assistant elementary principal, Mrs. Megan Sides, and asked her about her position. First, I asked Mrs. Sides about her former job before coming to Scott City. She stated, "I was in the Jackson School district in middle school. I have always taught 5th grade," replied Mrs. Sides. Next, I asked "Why did coming to Scott City appeal to you?" "Well, I always wanted to be a principal. I kinda wanted to wait until I actually had kids of my own, and I wanted to wait until they were older so I could dedicate more time to it. I also like how Scott City is more of a small school feel, and you really get to know everybody here," Mrs Sides stated. Then I asked, "What does a typical day look like for you?" "My days are different every single day. There really isn't a typical day; I handle a lot of discipline issues,

we have a lot of meetings, phone calls, and just going into rooms and watching teachers teach and talking to students," Mrs. Sides explained. After that I asked her, "How is being an assistant principal different from teaching?" "Well, my days are never the same. When I was a teacher I always had a lesson plan, and I was always teaching the same kids, but now I'm teaching the school instead of just my area of students. I have a lot more meetings, and a lot more paperwork," Mrs. Sides said. The final question I asked was, "What do you enjoy most about your new position here?" "Well, I love everything about it; meeting everybody, talking to everybody, and helping teachers and students whenever I can," Mrs. Sides stated. We want to give a warm welcome to Mrs. Sides. Welcome to the Ram family!



Mrs. Megan Sides is the new elementary assistant principal.



MS Basketball Recap By: Asher

I interviewed middle school boys basketball coach Robert Vazquez about his season. I asked, “Did you meet your goals this season as a coach and as a team?” Coach Vasquez said, “We met some of them, but not all of them. Obviously, the main goal was to win a conference championship, and we fell just short, but we met a lot of our other goals like playing hard and competing in every game. So we met some goals, but we did not meet all of them.” Next, I asked him who was his assistant coach this year, and he stated that it was Nick Hillman. Then I asked, “Out of all the 7th and 8th grade games played this season, which one was your favorite and why?” He replied, “I don't know if I have a favorite. I love all of the games we competed hard in, and the ones we did not; those are probably my least favorite.” I asked him how many games the middle school played this season. Coach Vazquez said, “I think the 7th grade played one less than the 8th grade played because the 8th grade made it one game farther in the conference tournament, so I think the 8th grade played 13 and the 7th grade played 12.” Next, I asked, “How did you feel about the progression this season?” Coach Vazquez responded, “I think we got significantly better every game, so I thought our progression was right on point where I thought it needed to be.” Finally, I asked, “What do you like most about coaching middle school boys basketball?” Coach V responded, “I love the learning aspect of it, and when the guys come in and a lot of the time they don't know a lot, so I get to teach them the basic skills!”

Click here to watch the full interview with Coach Vazquez:
[Coach Vazquez](#)

MS JAG ATTENDS WORKSHOP

By: Julianna

Middle School JAG members went on a field trip on November 14th. This was the first time JAG participated in an off campus middle school event.. The three students who went were Mollie Rose, Bella Walton, and Katie Huckstep. Multiple middle schools were at this event located at the Baptist church in Charleston. The members participated in multiple things during this workshop. They studied for 20 minutes for a knowledge bowl. They also participated in a creative decision making activity. After that, they ate lunch and watched videos. Later on, they participated in a scavenger hunt where they met new people, and if a person was able to relate to the question, they would write their name next to the question. 8th graders, Katie, Bella and Mollie enjoyed their time on this trip in their last year of Middle School JAG, with their teacher/sponsor, Mr. David Spriggs.



Bella Walton, Mollie Rose, & Katelyn Huckstep participate in the MS JAG workshop in Charleston.

HS Celebrates Homecoming

By: Mollie

The week of October 14th-18th Scott City Schools celebrated football homecoming with the theme of, "Home Sweet Homecoming." Monday's theme was P.J. day. Tuesday was USA/ Red, White, and Blue Day. Wednesday was Black-out attire. Homecoming court was: Freshman representative, Kennadi Oakley, Sophomore representative, Evie Wiley, Junior representative, Lynea Turner, & Senior candidates, Olivia Graff, Maggie Jones, & Ramsey Spinks, who won homecoming queen. The game started at 7:00 against the rival, Chaffee Red Devils and concluded with a Ram victory of 41-14. At the High School Pep-Rally, the Seniors won the class dance competition. The class spirit winners were the Sophomores, and hallway decoration winners were the Seniors. Grades Pre-K through 12 got to participate in the dress up days and attend the pep assembly where all three principals were pied in the face for a PTO fundraiser. Middle School principal, Laura Ort turned the tables at the last minute and suggested PTO President, Brandy Lambert also get pied in the face. It was a big hit with the crowd!



Middle school principal, Laura Ort tells the audience of her plan to pie Mrs. Brandy in the face at the homecoming pep assembly..

MS Halloween Dance

By: Katelynn

On October 25th, Scott City middle school student council hosted its traditional dance in the middle school gym from 6-8 pm. Student council members decorated with orange and purple lights, and had a photo spot. Students had to pay \$3 admission to get in. There was a sound system and students got to request their favorite songs to be played. There were a couple different types of cookies and bottles of water available at the dance. You could choose to wear a dress, or a Halloween costume. The evening concluded with a costume contest. Most Creative was Sarah Niles with a bloody babysitter costume. Funniest costume was James Moss with a chicken inflatable costume. Scariest went to Eli Pruitt with a black suit and mask combination. The Best Duo prize went to Marissa Austin and Kinley Littlepage with an anime costume. And the Best Overall costume went to Helen Petty with her Queen of Hearts outfit. Thanks to the middle school student council and Ms. Ort for putting it on. A good time was had by all!



Mollie, Bella, Clara, & Katelynn at the dance.

Community Spotlight-Kopion Fitness

By: Kendyl

For this quarter's community spotlight, I interviewed Alex Landewee, owner of Kopion Fitness in Scott City and Advance. The first thing I asked Alex was, "How did the idea of Scott City Schools and Kopion Fitness partnering together come about?" He responded with, "I'm just really big on giving back to the community, which is why I try to come out for all the Green-Out games, the annual Summer-Fest, etc. Building a close knit bond with the community has always been a big goal of mine. Anything I can do to either give back, or do a joint venture, I like that kind of stuff to get involved with." Elementary principal, Dr. Keisha Panagos brought up at an admin meeting how nice it would be to offer our employees a gym membership at a discounted rate to promote a healthier lifestyle in conjunction with our health insurance initiative promotion coordinated by our school nurse, Treasa Jordan. The next thing I asked Alex was, "Are you hoping to offer other corporate or business memberships as well?" Alex responded with, "Yes! So right now we work with Select Plastics, I've talked with Union Pacific Railroad. We also work with Nestle in Bloomfield as

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SC school employees & spouses can now join the local gym service at a discounted rate to promote a healthy lifestyle.

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as well at our Advance location. We are constantly looking into joint ventures with local businesses and that kind of thing.” Then I followed up with this question, “What are the benefits to healthy employees?” Alex answered, “A gym membership gives employees a good place to work out stress that comes with the day-to-day stuff. Healthy employees means less sick days, less absent days, that kind of thing. If you have to leave for surgery it helps you recover faster, etc.” After that I asked Alex, “What kinds of services, or plans were offered to the school?” Alex replied, “We offered a 25% off discount for any employees and their spouses, which includes the general and premium packages. More and more employees are starting to come to our classes in the evenings. I’m hoping to offer more classes, and that kind of stuff to keep building on this relationship.” I then asked Alex, “How many Scott City employees signed up?” Alex told me around 17-18 employees. Five or six were current members, but definitely took advantage of the discounted price. That number also includes school board members as well.” The final question I asked Alex was, “Are you experiencing more business since you moved to your new location?” Alex responded, “Yes. The increased parking, the bigger facility, the wider variety of equipment we can offer, the different amenities that we can offer like the sauna and tanning, along with the increased traffic and better visibility on Main Street, we have definitely seen a growth in business, which has been really cool. If you haven't yet, go check out this amazing local business in their new location!

New Teacher Feature - Ms. Taffer

By: Bella

For this quarter’s new teacher spotlight, I selected new FACS teacher, Ms. Anna Frances Taffer to interview. First I asked what made her want to become a FACS teacher. She said, “My aunt was a FACS teacher, and I did FACS throughout high school and competed in FCCLA”. Next, I asked Ms. Taffer where she attended college. She replied, “I went to Mississippi State University.” Then I asked what made her want to apply here at Scott City. Ms. Taffer said, “My plan was to move back home and live with my parents, but I met my boyfriend so I decided to look for jobs around here. When I interviewed here I toured the school and everyone was so nice and open and excited that I was here.” After that, I asked Ms. Taffer how she likes it here so far. She replied, “It's hard to adjust, but I really like it so far.” Ms. Taffer teaches Health, Family Meals, Child Development for high school, Explore for 8th grade, Life Skills for 7th grade, and Housing and Home Furnishing for high school. Last, but not least, I asked Ms. Taffer, “What do you like to do in your free time?” Ms. Taffer replied, “I like to read, watch tv, and shop.” Welcome to the Ram family, Ms. Taffer!



Ms. Taffer, new middle and high school FACS teacher.

2024-2025 Publications Staff

Julianna -7th



Kendyl- 7th



Riker- 7th



Asher- 7th



Mollie-8th



Bella -8th



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