

The Observer

Weekly

Cloverleaf Inside and Out

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To Write Love on Her Arms

By Abby Williams and Kenzie Vargo

Suicide is a major problem in America these days, especially in the lives of teenagers.

You make ask, “Why?” Why would so many people feel like there is no more option but to take their own lives?

“I think a lot of kids feel like that because they don’t realize how much they matter,” said sophomore Reagan Walter. “I also think that sometimes there was an event in their life that they can’t get over.”

It is crazy to think that there are people walking down the same hallways, going to the same classes, and maybe even spending time with you that are on the edge. There are kids in everyone’s daily lives who have had thoughts on just making it all “go away.”

“I am choked up just thinking about how other teens could ever feel the need to take their own life,” said sophomore Tori Meece. “I just have a lot of feelings.”

Have you ever thought about how what you say could affect someone’s entire day? What if your rude or judgmental comment was what set someone off to make an irrational decision.

“Everyone should be nice to each other cause if everyone is nice to each other, nobody has a reason to kill themselves,” junior Sierra Pickett said.



Teens should treat each other right and be nice to others. *Photo courtesy of Wikipedia Commons*

What would you do if you got a phone call with someone telling you that your best friend had taken their life? Too often that happens to people.

If they were really “best friends” shouldn’t they had already seen a problem and helped their friend through it? Honestly, students need to pay more attention to their friends’ thoughts and feelings. Why? Because every life is important.

“We need to work on picking up the signs,” art teacher Adam Michel said. “Usually you can tell when something is wrong if you pay attention. Suicide is often done out of feeling at a loss of hope, and feeling unloved. We need to learn to communicate with our friends and the people around us. Show them you care.”

The biggest mistake people make in this situation is not telling anyone about it. If a friend, acquaintance, stranger, adult, or kid comes out and tells students about their self destructive feel-

ings and actions, they should never take it lightly.

If put in that situation, students should let a reliable adult know, such as a faculty member.

“Watch for red flags,” prevention counselor Brandy Miracle said. “If you notice changes in your friends, you need to talk to them and be supportive. Also, you need to stick up for those being picked on, treat others how you’d want to be treated. If someone talks to you about their problems, tell an adult so they can get help. Their lives are way more important than them getting mad at you for telling someone. To the world you may be one person, but to one person you may be the world.”

If you get out of your comfort zone and genuinely care about the people around you, you can help someone without even realizing it. One nice comment, or even a “hello,” can change someone’s whole day. Show someone you care, you might just save their life.

Law Passed for a Reason

By Kayleigh Stickler

Everyone uses their phones all the time, but now the law says not to and that it can wait.

On Friday, Aug. 31, the state of Ohio passed a law stating that you are not allowed to text and drive. This law states that any driver under the age of 18 is prohibited from using any electronic devices, with an exception of a GPS, and will be pulled over for breaking the law.

Most people think that this law is unnecessary because people use their phones for many things, such as a GPS. A decent amount of people wonder how the officers will be able to tell a difference between someone who is texting or simply using their GPS.

Deputy Pries says, "I am happy that this law has been passed so it can help the roads be a little

safer."

Many say that is for the best for all of the people on the roads because the drivers will be more focused on driving and not on the latest gossip. Most agree that the roads will be safer, but they worry about if the police will abuse the new law.

Fines for texting and driving are very steep. If you are under the age of 18, your fines could be a \$150, and you could face a 60-day suspension of your license. Also, if you are a teen with multiple violations, you could be facing a \$300 fine, with a possible loss of your driver's license for one year.

In an 18-month period, a study showed that you are 18 times more likely to get in to a car accident if you are "distracted."

Statistics show that a driver

who is texting is 23 times more likely to get in to a crash compared to a driver who is not. They also show that in the five seconds you take to look at a text going 55 miles per hour, you go the distance of a football field.

Another thing that it showed is that more than one million people have died in car crashes over the past 25 years, and in 2010 alone, 33,788 people lost their lives due to texting a driving.

"When you first start driving, you really shouldn't worry about your phone. You should be more focused on the road and becoming a better driver," says Pries.

We don't want to fall into the statistic cesspool, so as teenage drivers, we need to listen to the facts, obey the laws, and set a good example for others.

Teacher is great asset to Cloverleaf High School

By Reagan Walter

Mr. Garth Gucker is a dedicated and qualified teacher who enjoys working at Cloverleaf High School. He always leaves a positive impact upon the students at Cloverleaf and encourages students to do their best, not just in school, but in the other aspects of their lives too.

"I love working with people, especially teenagers," Gucker said.

Teaching, however, was not what he originally intended to do as his career. He considered physical therapy first.

"I liked it, but felt it wasn't the right fit [for me.] I wanted to try to make more of a difference in people's lives."

These were his thoughts after he completed a physical therapy internship.

Afterwards he turned to teaching. This was a great decision for him because he loves working with the Cloverleaf community.

"I think Cloverleaf has a lot of great opportunities to make a positive impact on student's lives."

Gucker has been teaching for 15 years. He has an undergraduate degree from the University of Toledo and master's degree from the University of Akron.

His favorite part of the school day is before school even begins.

"[I] love talking to students about life, helping with homework, and such."

For Gucker, the worst part of his job is grading papers.

He coaches cross country for the school because he sees it as another

opportunity to impact students in a positive way.

"I get to interact with students more. Running is also a tool people can use to remain healthy their whole life."

Gucker went top Mohawk High School as a teenager. He played basketball, and ran both track and cross country. In college, he ran cross country at Toledo.

He enjoys planning the running schedules and meets for the cross country season.

"The best part was team camp by far. It was a blast and we will go back this year."

Each day, Gucker is very enthusiastic and ready to start again. He is a great asset to Cloverleaf High School and leaves a great impact upon his students.

Quiz & Quotes

What do you think about the Nordonia game?



Erian Woodall (9)-
“I think we will win.”



Kendal Wilde (11)-
“Our football team will do great tonight.”



Will Hazen (12)-
“I think we are going to kill them.”



Austin Smith (11)-
“It will be a blow out for sure.”

Snooki: Partier to Mother

By Tayler Schlauch and Tyler Mayfield

Who would have ever thought that, that one night stand in the *Jersey Shore* would lead to a bun in the oven and a ring on her finger.

Nicole “Snooki” Polizzi and Jionni LaValle have had quite a journey from parties and fist pumps to a new baby and future marriage.

Snooki discovered she was pregnant right after New Year’s Eve. Her pregnancy was widely broadcasted not only on her and JWoww’s TV show, *Snooki & JWoww*, but in many tabloids as well.

A few months ago in an interview on her pregnancy, she shared some of her best parenting tips like why the pacifier three-second rule isn’t “cool.” Snooki said, “Because if it drops on the floor and God forbid, there’s an STD on the floor or something, you don’t want that in your baby’s mouth.” Really, Snooki, an STD on the floor...

Snooki gave birth at 3 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 26 at Saint Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston, NJ. Polizzi’s representative said, “The world just got another Guido!!!” Baby Lorezno came into this world weighing a healthy 6 lbs. 5 oz.

Examiner.com says, “Snooki’s baby took over the entire hospital floor.” Other maternity patients say they were forced out so Snooki’s baby could have the entire hospital floor to himself. A fellow mother in labor, Jenny Sasso said, “They took over the whole floor. They were obnoxious. Why does she (Snooki) matter more than our daughter?”

Snooki got much encouragement from the whole *Jersey Shore* cast on her pregnancy and birth. Jwoww tweeted to Snooki: “So proud of @snooki and @JLaValle! Lorenzo is the cutest baby I’ve ever seen. Love him already.”

Ronnie told MTV news, “Congratulations Snooks and Jionni on your new baby boy! I can’t wait to meet little Lorenzo and start dressing him in some baby Jordan’s. All the best guys!”

Much support was also there from, little Lorenzo’s dad, Jionni. He wrote, “I’ll never forget old high school memories or

the vacations I’ve been on with my boys; I will also never forget 8/26/12, the day my son was born.”

Parts of Snooki’s birth is expected to air on *Snooki & JWoww*. *Radaronline.com* says, “Viewers will see Snooki in labor, however, the camera crew was kicked out as she was about to give birth. Although Snooki’s fiancé, Jionni LaVelle, was using a personal camcorder and he carried on filming.”

Much opposition is expected from everyone about Snooki’s ability to be a good parent. Even here at Cloverleaf, many staff members and students shared their views on Snooki’s baby, her ability to be an effective mother, and even some motherly advice.

English teacher Mary Lee Wooley said, “She gives Italians a bad name; she’s kind of rude, (when asked about motherly advice) as I’m not perfect, love your baby, because they grow up so fast.”

With Snooki’s partying background no one thinks she will make a good mother. French teacher Jackie Neidig shares this view, her advice.

“Hire a really good nanny, and never be with your child. Have more morals.”

Teacher Amy Simarro shared her parenting tips to Snooki as well.

“Don’t fall down drunk, you might drop the baby. Don’t swear so much or act like an idiot.”

The majority of the student body at Cloverleaf feels that Snooki will not make a good mother as well. Although, a few students do feel she will make a good parent

Senior Dani Koval said, “If you read twitter, she does love that baby very much.”

On a lighter note, when asked, “Given the opportunity to go clubbing with Snooki, would you? Science teacher, Ann Bailey chose not to.

“She’s not my type. She will get drunk and embarrass me.”

It is obvious, that overwhelmingly, Cloverleaf staff and students do not think Snooki will make a good mother.

Boys and Girls of Fall Going at It

By Abby Williams and Kenzie Vargo

Run, hit, tackle, putt, shoot, touchdown, kick, score, hole-in-one, swing, spike.....

The Cloverleaf fall sports are in season and doing great. Athletes at Cloverleaf, although usually the underdogs, have a lot of pride in their school and put forth full effort each and every day.

The girls' tennis team has been working hard for a great season this year, and is doing just that. Being well into her season, sophomore Abby Bayus says, "I like the people cause they're fun to be around, and the gossip."

Students at Cloverleaf also participate in golf on weekdays after school. Sophomore Tyler Hissom, says, "I like the chillness of the game."

Along with the chill atmosphere, sophomore Jessie Fairbairn says, "I like the game and the team."

Boys' and girls' soccer are well into the season and continuing to improve. Both teams, only having Varsity squads, are in a very underdog position this year. The girls' and boys' teams are pushing through that disadvantage and are doing great. Sophomore Kyle Sasinka says, "I love slothing around. I love kicking the ball."

The girls' soccer team also has another change this year, a new coach. Sophomore Lauren Gokey says, "The seniors this year are fun and our new coach knows what he is doing and talking about."

The Cloverleaf cross country team, also known as the "Colt Pack," is already a few meets into the season and is off to a great

start. The boys' team graduated a lot of strong runners this past year, but is making a great comeback. Junior Josh Butt says, "I like the people, the races, and the competition. I also love running with Hap and Teryn. He's awesome."

As for the girls' team, although young, they are continuing to improve times. Sophomore Brandee Bell says, "I like the family feeling; we're all like brothers and sisters, so we mess around and pick on each other a lot. I like that we work together and learn about running and a healthy lifestyle."

In addition to all of the other sports, football is one of the most enjoyed at Cloverleaf. Our Cloverleaf football team has been off to a fantastic start and is showing many signs of a great season.

Junior Matt Vespucci says that he likes football because, "It's fun and you get to be out every Friday in front of the student section."

The student section is always ready to cheer and pump up our Colts for the game!

Cloverleaf students not only enjoy participating at football games, they are also right there to support our volleyball team and help lead them to victories! Volleyball is a big sport for the girls at Cloverleaf and they are always ready to give it their all.

Sophomore Lauryn Kilgore says, "I like hanging out with my team at practices and learning from my coach, Mrs. Bailey."

Come out and support all of the Cloverleaf athletes who work hard daily to represent the Colts.



Junior Sierra Pickett is one of the leaders for the girls' golf team this fall.
Photo courtesy of The Equestrian