



Give a meaningful gift at upcoming blood drive

By Kaitlyn Lauber

The holiday season is passing by quickly, and the days are dwindling for the chance to give a present that really matters. The Red Cross Blood Drive, co-sponsored by Student Senate and FBLA, still has many spots open for any student or faculty member interested in donating on Thursday, December 23.

Anyone who is sixteen or older can donate, with the use of a photo ID, but if you are under 17 years of age, you must have a permission slip signed by your parent or legal guardian.

To be eligible to donate a person be at least 16 years old (with permission), be in general good health, and weigh at least 100 lbs. Potential donors also must have not donated blood in the last 56 days.

For those who qualify and plan on donating, here are some tips for a successful donation:

1. Maintain a healthy iron level in your body by eating iron rich foods such as broccoli, beans, red meat, and fish.
2. Try to drink more than your normal amount of water before your donation.
3. Get a good night's sleep the night before your donation.
4. Try not to eat fatty foods before your donation, as it may complicate the tests done on your blood after the donation.
5. Don't forget your photo ID, or blood donor card!

For those who do not have a blood donor card, just bring an ID to the blood drive and a blood donor card will be mailed you after the donation. Anyone wishing to sign up for the blood drive on December 23 should see Mr. Thurlow in room 100 as soon as possible. Remember that your donation is appreciated and you can save up to three lives every time you donate!



This will be the scene at G. Ray Bodley High School on Thursday, December 23 when the Red Cross comes for the first of two blood drives. Co-sponsored by the GRB Student Senate and Future Business Leaders of America Clubs, the drive offers students and staff alike the chance to give a very meaningful gift this holiday season. (RND file photo by Amanda Wood, April 2010)



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Fultonian Yearbook feature

"Where in the world is The Raider?"

Slightly off the wall

The rise and fall of the Spruce Goose

By Morgan Firenze

Despite its name, the Spruce Goose, which was a cargo plane built by Howard Hughes during the 1940's, is really made of Birch. The 142-ton plane, which is large enough to hold two armored tanks, or 750 soldiers, took four years to build, and cost the United States Army the equivalent of \$25 million.

Its wings were so long, that if placed in the middle of a football field, they would touch each end zone.

Hughes, who was always pressing himself further, decided to take the challenge to build a cargo plane large enough to carry supplies to France. At the time, German U-boats sank a large percent of ships carrying war supplies to France for the war effort before the ships could make it to their target country. The US Government put out a need to have a safer way to give supplies to France, by beginning the planning for a giant plane made almost entirely of wood.

During the war, metal was rare, as it was used for the war effort as well. The only rule was that no metal could be used. Hughes, who was a perfectionist, had to go over everything that happened during the building of the plane, which delayed the building by years. The Spruce Goose, which was essentially just Birch wood glued together, was finished after World War II was over. It was never needed.

Bizarre News of the Day

The changing of someone's name is common, but not the names from this year. Three people changed their names to Willy Wonka, Her Majesty The Queen, and Miss Jelly St. Tots. The number of people changing their names is soaring. More than 90,000 men and women in Europe changed their names by deed poll, an increase of more than 30 percent from last year.

The longest, and possibly strangest name that someone picked goes as follows: Ceejay A Apple B Boat C Cat D Dog E Elephant F Flower G Goat H House I Igloo J Jellyfish K Kite L Lion M Monkey N Nurse O Octopus P Penguin Q Queen R Robot S Sun T Tree U Umbrella V Violin W Whale X X-Ray Y Yo-Yo Z Zebra Terryn Feuji-Sharemi.

When asked, the 22-year-old-woman who chose such an outrageous name stated that she thought that the name would help her toddler daughter learn the alphabet. If this doesn't help her daughter to learn, nothing will.



By Morgan Firenze

The government, furious that it had paid \$25 million for a project that was not finished in time, held federal hearings where Hughes was questioned. Many people in the government offices didn't even believe that the Spruce Goose could actually fly. Hughes wanted to prove them wrong, and clear his own name. To prove that his work actually flew, he decided to test it.

No one knew that Howard Hughes was actually going to fly his plane; they assumed he was just going to test the engines and propellers. When Hughes said, "Flaps down" over the radio in the plane's cockpit, everyone realized that Hughes was going to try to fly the Spruce Goose. To everyone's surprise, the cargo plane started in the water, and was the first and only flight. It flew for approximately one mile before coming back down again. That was the plane's first and last flight.

Hughes commented that while landing the plane in the water, he heard the tail crack. That could mean that the tail could have fallen off. Whether that was the case or not will never be known, because after the famous "flight," Hughes stored the Spruce Goose away from sight for a cost of \$1 million until his death in 1976.

The Spruce Goose, which is shown in the Evergreen Aviation and Space Museum in Oregon, proves what someone can do with just a dream.

Meet the Reporters

Ryann Crofoot,
Junior

Ryann joined the staff of *The Raider* to be a writer and photographer. Outside of school, she likes photography, music, hiking, mountain climbing,

water skiing, wake boarding and camping. One thing you don't know about Ryann is "There's not much else you need to know."

Compiled by Patty Morrison



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In the News

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Quote of the day:

"A friend will know by the sound of your voice, by the look on your face, by the way you walk, by the things you do, exactly what kind of day you're having."

Unknown

**The Great Outdoors:
Small game hunting fills gap**

For many sportsmen, December is a rather uneventful month. Deer hunters are starting to put away their guns, and ice fishermen are starting to think about getting out their poles. Mid December is a hard time for sportsmen, but there are activities that sportsmen can participate in.

Though deer season is winding down, hunters can still enjoy hunting New York's small game. There is hardly a hunter out there who has not been discovered by a nosy squirrel. Once they start squeaking their alarm call, the chances of seeing a deer are slim to none. What better way to make sure that it does not happen again than taking out a 410 or a 22. and thinning out the squirrel population?

Squirrel hunting is good target practice, and it is also more action packed than deer hunting. Squirrel meat makes very tasty meat

"Once they start squeaking their alarm call, the chances of seeing a deer are slim to none. What better way to make sure that it does not happen again than...thinning out the squirrel population?"

sauce for pasta, and with more than one, it can also be cooked as a stew.

Coyotes are the only major deer predator during the off-season, and they are fun to hunt as well. Not only will coyote hunters be helping their deer populations, but they will also be having fun. Coyotes are becoming a problem in New York, attacking people and pets.

By taking out a few coyotes this winter, hunters can lower the chances of a violent coyote encounter. The fur of coyotes sells for quite a bit of money too, so hunters should consider selling the pelt to get some extra money.

Even if small game hunting is just an activity to tide sportsmen over until ice fishing season, there is no doubt that it is widely enjoyed. And even though there are not as many people are in the woods after deer season, remember to be safe.

By Daniel Summerville

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School of Thought compiled by Hunter Gorton & Max Fobes

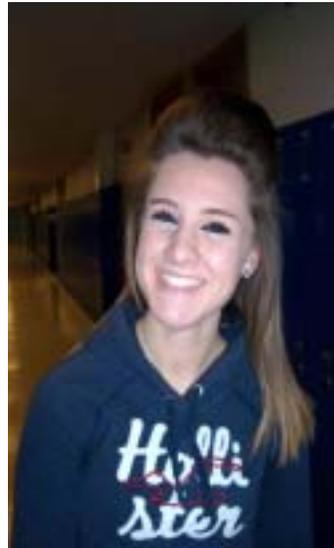
What was the best Christmas present you've ever received?



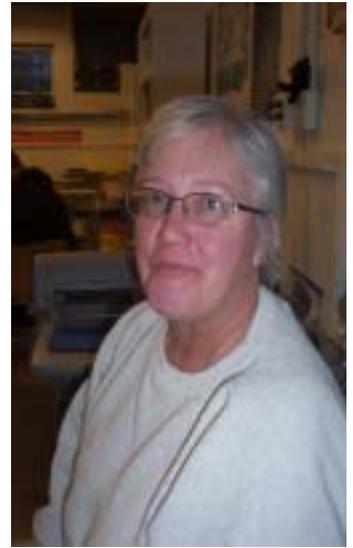
"An electric violin."
Sammi Stowell



"An X-box."
Joe Sutton



"An i-pod touch."
McKenzie Duda



"When I was little my uncle brought me a toy mining village."
Ms. Sobota

Meteorology and you

by *Carson Metcalf*



Today:



Snow showers. High around 20.
Record high-60 (1975)
Avg. high-37

Tonight:



Cloudy with snow showers. Low in the low-teens.
Record low: -8 (2005)
Avg. low-21

Tomorrow:



Cloudy with a few snow showers. High in the low-20s.
Record high-62 (1975)
Avg. high-36

*GRB junior Carson Metcalf is an aspiring Meteorologist and the creator of the Central New York Weather Center @ www.centralnewyorkweather.com
Look for his daily weather forecasts for Fulton on RaiderNet Daily.*