



Newly reopened Raider's Den: better than ever

By Hunter Gorton

Something really good just got even better with the recent reopening of the school store, The Raider's Den.

Each year Business teachers Mrs. Ferlito and Mrs. House teach a hands on course involving all the aspects of a real business called Small Business Ownership. One of their main focuses is in operating the school store.

Prior to this year the store was located right next to the present day concession stand that operates during winter sport events. But this year the business teachers decided to position it between their rooms 110 and 111. Not only is this more convenient for the business teachers, but the space is also much larger than then the previous location.

"We've rearranged everything, we are trying to make it look and operate like an actual store," Mrs. Ferlito commented. "We will be carrying different items such as apple juice, water, a variety of peanuts, granola bars and slushies that are 100% fruit juice. When the weather clears the store will also be offering items such as ice cream, hot pockets, carmel



The newly revamped school store, The Raider's Den, held its grand reopening recently with new products and an emphasis on healthy snacks. (Hunter Gorton photo)



Quirk's Players enjoyed a successful weekend with four productions of Beauty and the Beast. Belle, Chelsea Avery, and Lumiere, Neil Devendorf, enjoy a dance in the enchanted castle of the Beast. (Senecal photo)

corn and 100% juice bars."

The best part of this course is that the students are responsible for pricing, keeping track of inventory and making deposits."If you are interested this is a great selection for someone with dreams of starting their own business one day," Mrs. Ferlito concluded.

Overall the school store has had a good year and hopes to continue the tradition of previous years, the only thing that may stand in its way is a massive budget cut presented by the state that could take effect next year. The budget cut may not have any effect on the store itself, but classes such as Small Business Ownership could soon disappear as the overall curriculum is re-evaluated in terms of what is important in the eyes of education.

Opinion

Spike in gas price: economic wake-up for teens

By Brenna Merry

Over the years the price of a comfortable life has become more expensive. As teenagers we very rarely see the dramatic effect price increases have on a person's spending abilities. However, the recent extreme price in gas is an economic change that is very easily felt and seen by teenage drivers.

Being a new driver is exciting and usually results in unnecessary adventures around town, picking up friends who live miles away, and taking trips to places you used to have to ask your parents to drive you to. Shortly after you obtain your license you realize why your parents have always been so hesitant to drive you up to the mall. The cost of gas adds up rapidly and when you are the only one of your friends who drives and you have no income or are only earning minimum wage, you rapidly see that the benefits of having a car are not that much greater than the costs.

Having to pay for gas is when a teenager first realizes the value of a dollar. It doesn't take long for drivers to start asking friends for gas money to drive them around, or to turn down a road trip because the cost is too high. Gas has always seemed like a price that no one wants



to pay, but now it has reached an extreme.

Something in the neighborhood \$3.60 is the price per gallon that one can expect to pay at most local gas stations. When you aren't the one spending the money this only seems like a number, but now driving teens can see how expensive this truly is. This is having such a dramatic impact on the world that there is now a Facebook event on March 31st for a "No Gas Day," a day where as many people as possible boycott buying gas to send the message that this price is not acceptable.

Now that the temperature is rising it is hoped that people will begin walking or biking around town instead of driving. People will have activities to do outside instead of needing to drive around to have fun. Also, teens will see that although driving is an amazing privilege, catching a ride with a large group can save you lots of money in the long run.

Gas is a product that we need and people will have to pay for no

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Quote of the day:

"If you want to recapture your youth, just cut off his allowance."

~Al Bernstein

matter the price. This high demand makes it seem that the rise in prices is endless. This is especially true if teens don't see the need to alter their driving habits and stop investing all their money in useless car trips.

Such a large portion of income is spent on gas, and when you're making \$7 an hour this portion is even larger. This is why it is such a huge issue when businesses decide to increase the price of a necessity to such an extent. Yet, it is also letting teens learn the value of a dollar.

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The Coelacanth: could it be the missing link?

By Morgan Firenze

The Coelacanth, named from a Greek word for "hollow spine," is a trulymysterious fish. Until its recent discovery, it was believed that the creature went extinct 65 million years ago, at the end of the Cretaceous period. The Coelacanth, which is related to lungfish and tetrapods, were considered to be the "missing link" between the fish and the tetrapods until the first Latimeria specimen was found off the east coast of South Africa in 1938. The Latimeria is one of only two known species of the Coelacanth to be living.

The Coelacanth has no real commercial value, apart from being coveted by museums and private collectors. The first time the Coelacanth was caught, it could not be saved, because there were no scientists in the area. The fish immediately started to decompose, and before anyone could embalm it, it was too late. The second time it was caught, there was someone closer, and the fish was able to be protected from outside elements.

The most striking feature of this "living fossil" is its paired fins that extend away from its body like legs, and move in an alternating pattern like a trotting horse. Other unique characteristics include a hinged joint in the skull which allows the fish to widen its mouth for large prey; and thick scales common only to extinct fish. In the wild, they have a deep blue color which is thought to help camouflage them from predators. The eyes of the Coelacanth are extremely sensitive to light. They contain a special adaptation known as a tapetum, which is also found in cats, dogs, and dolphins. It is the tapetum that causes cats eyes to glow when exposed to bright light. This highly specialized eye enables the Coelacanth to see as much as possible in the lightless environments of the deep sea.

Coelacanths are elusive, deep-sea creatures, living in depths up to 2,300 feet below the surface. They can be huge, reaching 6.5 feet or

more and weighing 198 pounds. Scientists estimate they can live up to 60 years or more. The fish is a "passive drift feeder," moving slowly and passively near the substrate where it feeds primarily on cuttlefish, squid, octopi and other fish. It is capable of moving quickly and may do so when capturing prey or avoiding danger.

The Coelacanth gives birth much like a shark, since the female fish carries the eggs inside her body, holding the growing "pup" for a year before giving birth to fully grown juveniles. Their gestation time is 13 months, and it is believed that Coelacanths are unable to reproduce until they are 20 years old. Beyond that, very little is known about the

Airborne objects are no joke

Students at G Ray Bodley can often get quite rowdy in the hallways between classes. Fights and heated arguments are fairly common occurrences. It is usually easy for the administrators to find the culprits, but there are some incidents that go unnoticed. Airborne objects are becoming more and more common in the hallways, anything from paper balls to glass shards. Thrown objects may start as a joke, but they can cause serious damage.

Just before seventh bell on Friday, March 4, freshman Nicholas Summerville was walking to his class, fighting against the current of students flowing out of the cafeteria. Out of the corner of his eye, he saw a piece of broken mirror flying through the air. It struck him in his thumb, creating a deep slash. "I don't know where it came from," Nick said, "But it didn't feel very good when it hit me." Whoever threw the shard was apparently not aiming for anyone in particular, but they hit an innocent person. Currently Nick is healing, but his thumb was extremely swollen and he worried that it might become infected.

Students who are immature enough to throw objects about crowded hallways should be ashamed. It is one thing to toss a paper airplane, but it is another thing altogether to throw a harmful object. Nick was lucky that the glass did not hit him somewhere else; he could have easily lost an eye. Students should try and think before they do something that could harm someone. One wrong move could cause someone else a lot of unnecessary pain.

If someone wants to get rid of a piece of paper or some other object, the trash can is a much better place for it than the floor of the hallway. High school students should know better than to throw something into an unsuspecting crowd, there is a large chance that it will end badly. There is a time and place to throw things, but not during school.

Upcoming events:

Tuesday: German Day; Spring sports pictures after school (cafeteria-check with coaches for times).

Wednesday: Spanish Day; Fultonian Yearbook (room 102); Photo Club (room 120); Junior Class (room 114); LMC Magic the Gathering group (LMC).

Thursday: French Day; St.Patrick's Day flower sale (cafeteria).



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School of Thought compiled by Colin Shannon and Jimmy Ireland

What are your views on the Japanese Tsunami?



"Very bad."

Justin Bowering



"Godzilla did it!"

Josh Drake



"It's a tragic event."

Clare Bawarski



"There was a tsunami?"

Bryan Apa

Meteorology and you

By Carson Metcalf



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Mainly sunny. High in the low-30s.
Record high: 82 (1990).
Avg. high: 42.

Tonight:



Mainly clear. Low in the upper-teens.
Record low: no data.
Avg. low: 24.

Tomorrow:



Mainly sunny. High in the upper-40s.
Record high: 78 (1990).
Avg. high: 43.

*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.*