



Holly Ridge Middle School HORNET HEADLINES

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15 Years Strong!

Students in the Spotlight

By Kiera Wolf

This year Holly Ridge Middle School is putting on a school production, *Beauty and the Beast*. Out of the many HRMS students that tried out, 46 made the cast. Interested students were able to sign up for the production roles. There are many different crews; each crew is led by one or two HRMS staff members: hair and makeup crew, costumes crew, stage crew, set crew, and props crew. The production was thought of and is being directed by our very own drama teacher, Mr. Matthew Hurley, who has directed four other shows at his previous elementary school, Hilburn. “My favorite was probably *The Wizard of Oz*,” said Hurley.

He also has the help of other teachers at the school to put this production together. Hurley said, “I am enjoying the experience and HRMS and love how involved many staff members are. Teachers are working on the music, choreography, costumes, set, and hair and makeup.”

The lead roles are Belle, played by Bevin Adams, Beast/Prince, played by Michael Atwood, and Gaston, played by Tate Mahar, along with Lefou played by Hallie Morgan. All of those roles are played by eighth graders at HRMS. Students have been working very hard these past two months since the first rehearsal on Wednesday, February 7, 2018. In an interview, Alexa Orso who plays ‘Silly girl number two’ said, “It’s



really fun to work with other people come together to create this.”

The production is based off the infamous Disney movie, *Beauty and the Beast*. Hurley said, “I was inspired to do *Beauty and the Beast* based off of the newer live-action movie.” *Beauty and the Beast* is a Disney animation based upon the original French fairytale written by French novelist Gabrielle-Suzanne Barbot de Villeneuve. The main characters are a young prince cursed to be a beast for the rest of his life and a young village girl, named Belle. Belle then becomes hostage to the beast in his old castle. They eventually fall in love, the beast changes back into a human, and they live happily ever after. *Beauty and the Beast* was recreated by Disney and released November 22, 1991.

The production will be performed on May 3-5, 2018 in the auditorium at Holly Ridge Middle School. Make sure to buy your tickets online and come see the play! “If the students continue working as they have been, I am sure we’ll be ready for opening night!” replied Mr. Hurley.

Warrior Down

By Max Chadaev

Terra-Cotta Warrior damaged in a Philadelphia Museum, in Franklin Institute. The one who was guilty of this was found, but tensions may be rising between the U.S. and China.



A resident of Delaware, Michael Rohan, was arrested, and accused of stealing and damaging a piece of the 2,200 year old Terra-Cotta Warrior statue. According to citizens, authorities say he was bragging about stealing the thumb on his way back. Based on what evidence says, he stole it just to brag about it. According to cameras located around the exhibit, the warrior was unprotected without protective glass/plastic to keep it from being damaged. This allowed the guilty individual to easily sneak up and unnoticeably steal the thumb.

Once Rohan was caught, he was interrogated by FBI Agent Jacob Archer. He was asked if he had anything to turn over to the FBI. Rohan pulled out the thumb and turned it over. This way, it gave the FBI the ability to charge him with “Theft of an object of cultural heritage from a museum, concealment of an object of cultural heritage stolen from a museum, and interstate transportation of stolen goods.” He was released on bail on February 13.

The Terra-Cotta Warrior was designed and sculpted for the First Qin Emperor of Ancient China. They were supposed to “protect” his tomb in spirit to fend off evil spirits. His tomb is located underground and it’s filled with rivers of mercury, so it is a hardship for scientists to get in, since mercury is very poisonous. The Terra-Cotta Warriors were found buried by a farmer, and since then, they are all located in museums across the nation and the world.

Billy Graham’s legacy passes on

By Cole Ansede

Billy Graham was a reverend that was very well known throughout America and spoke to a lot of famous people to help them make decisions. He had five children: Franklin, Anne, Ned, Gigi, and Ruth. He was born on November 7, 1918 in Charlotte, North Carolina and he recently died on February 21, 2018 at the age of 99 in Montreat, NC. He went to school at Bob Jones University, Trinity College, and Wheaton College.

Reverend Graham is most famously quoted saying, “My home is heaven, I’m just traveling through this World.” In Graham’s life time, he met the Queen of England, the Pope, John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard Nixon, Ronald Reagan, George W. Bush, Barack Obama and Donald Trump. The funeral for Rev. Graham was interesting because after he was ‘laid in honor’ at in the Capitol Rotunda, the casket he was put in was made by a group of prisoners inside a small woodworking shop in the Louisiana State Penitentiary. The inmates’ names were burned into the casket: Richard Liggett, Paul Krolowitz, and Clifford Bowman. These prisoners are serving life sentences for committing murder. After the service at the Billy Graham Library, the Protestant preacher was buried beside his wife Ruth, at the foot of the cross-shaped brick walkway in the library’s Prayer Garden in Montreat, NC.



[Photo Credit: Crux Catholic Media]

Winter Olympics

By Briena Allen



The Winter Olympics Games are a major international sporting event. The latest Winter Olympics was in PyeongChang, South Korea, held from February 9-25, 2018. The three major nations that competed in the Winter Olympics this year were South Korea, Germany, and France. Out of those nations, the cities that competed and represented their nations were PyeongChang, Munich, and Annecy. Russia was disqualified from competing as a nation for a year during the Winter Olympics. The athletes not found guilty of doping, were allowed to compete, but not under their own flag and if they won, their national anthem was not played.

Every four years, the Winter Olympics take place, and the next Winter Olympics will be played in 2022 in Beijing, China. During the years between the games, the athletes train hard on the snow and ice without giving up. The first Winter Olympics were played in 1924 and were held in Chamonix, France; they were called I Olympic Winter Games. The modern Olympic Games were inspired by the ancient Olympic Games, which were held in Olympia, Greece, from the 8th century BC to the 4th century AD. The Winter Olympics logo includes the five circles of the different colors blue, black, red, orange, and green interlocking.

The Winter Olympics has been hosted on three continents by twelve different countries. To date, twelve countries have participated in every Winter Olympic Games – Austria, Canada, Finland, France, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States. Six of those countries have earned medals at every Winter Olympic Games: Austria, Canada, Finland, Norway, Sweden and the US. The only country to earn a gold medal at every Winter Olympics is the United States.

Stephen Hawking

By Sophie Behrendt

Stephen Hawking was a famous theoretical physicist, who was diagnosed with slow progressing ALS at age 21. ALS stands for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, which is a progressive disease that affects nerves in the brain and spinal cords that control your muscles. Stephen Hawking was born January 8th, 1942 and died March 14th, 2018 at age 76. He definitely lived an exciting and well lived life especially with his condition. Hawking was most known for his appearances in popular television shows. One of the popular television shows he has appeared in was The Simpsons. He also sold many books and was a director researcher at University of Cambridge. He has produced many movies, as well as a famous author.

Even though Hawking was a disabled human, his mind was definitely not disabled. Hawking was a very talented, and extremely smart. He was also a very proud atheist, who wrote about his beliefs on death and how god isn't real. In 2007, Stephen Hawking went on a zero gravity flight for a total of four minutes. After the flight he told an interviewer "it was amazing." Before the flight Stephen said that he had been in a wheel chair for almost four decades and this will be wonderful.



[Photo credit: Zero Gravity Corporation]

Computer Collection for Sale

By Ryan Tickle

Benj Edwards is selling his computer collection. The collection has 300 classic computers and 145 classic gaming consoles. He has been collecting since 1993. On Twitter, he asked if anyone wanted the collection on February 26, 2018. Edwards wanted to sell his collection because he was moving to another house and even though he wanted to keep all of his collection, he couldn't bring it along with him due to space and free time. This is all taking place on the internet and soon the collection will be transported in person. Many individuals and businesses are asking to buy the collection for a museum. He had many other pieces in the collection that are not pictured below. On Edwards's Twitter post, there were more than 6,000 retweets, 800 views, and 150 emails on the topic.



Edwards lived in Raleigh as a child, which is where he started his collection at 9 years old.

Edwards enjoyed playing Pac-Man on the computer and how he became interested in his collection. The collection isn't just full of hardware, but contains artwork, books, catalogs, company documents, magazines, manuals, posters, schematics, software manuals, product brochures, sales literature, photographs of vintage items, people, events and companies and more... Some specifics of Edwards' collection include: 80 classic Apple computers and a Lisa 2. He also has many PowerBook notebooks and multiple Mac II and Mac Classic series models. He also had 19 Commodore computers with other gadgets and accessories. He has some vintage stuff such as PET 2001, Epson's QX-10, a Sinclair QL, and an Atari TT030. People are donating some pieces to his collection to sell or to be traded. He isn't going to sell the whole collection to one person unless it is a good deal.

Bitcoin: major cryptocurrency of our time

By Jack Healey



On March 5, 2018 in Iceland, there was a recent robbery; the value of the objects stolen was \$2 million. The item stolen was Bitcoin "mining" computers, computers that are meant to "Mine", the cryptocurrency called bitcoin. Mining involves the use of computers to solve very complex math problems and the reward is awarded in 'Bitcoins.' Though not every computer is able to do this, computers have to have a lot of processing power to be used to mine efficiently.

Cryptocurrency is an untraceable currency that is worth a lot of money. There were 600 computers stolen valued at 2 million dollars, which is if they are sold for their parts inside and in general. But if the computers are used for their actual purpose then the computers could be far more expensive than the price of the parts. The computers were stolen by 11 people, though only 9 have been caught and prosecuted. They gained access to these computers by a security guard who robbed the store with the 12 other people. One official states, "This is grand theft on a level that has never been found on this level before. This crime had to be heavily organized with maximum preparation."

Tracking the computers is also very difficult due to the robbers having to sell very little if the computers are used for their original purpose of mining bitcoin due to bitcoin transactions that are mostly untraceable, with the exception of a few cases. The way investigators plan to locate the computers is by asking Internet service providers, storage units, and power companies to see if any massive surges in power occurred due to bitcoin mining being a massive strain on power.

Toy R Us Closing

By Braden Lewis and Cody Long



Toys R Us, the iconic retail chain that has sold toys and games to millions of children for generations, is closing shop in the United States. After filing for bankruptcy protection in September of 2017, and suffering through a brutal holiday shopping season, the company decided in 2018 to close or sell all of its remaining stores. Executives met with creditors throughout the day, according to three people briefed on the discussions.

More than 30,000 American jobs are at risk as the company winds down. It is a colossal failure for a company that started out in 1948 as a small store in the state of Washington by selling cribs, strollers, and other baby items. The business eventually grew to more than 2,000 stores, with a wide inventory that made it a destination for children. Their well-known advertising jingle “I don’t want to grow up, I’m a Toys R Us kid” was embedded in the American consumer consciousness. The company’s headquarters in Wayne, N.J., are on Geoffrey Way, named after its ‘once-ubiquitous giraffe mascot’ (www.washingtonpost.com)

But in the age of internet retailing, Toys R Us has struggled with an antiquated sales model that could not keep up with Amazon and Walmart, and was burdened by \$5 billion in debt from a leveraged buyout in 2005 “They were at the intersection of so many challenging trends, and they were at the wrong end of those trends,” said Michael Dart, a retail expert and a partner at the consulting firm A. T. Kearney. “All of these forces coming together fundamentally tipped them over the edge.”

Liquidation sales will take place over the next few months, as the company clears the shelves at its roughly 880 Toys R Us and Babies R Us stores around the country. This is unfortunate news that this iconic toy store chain is closing, because their revenue in sales and overhead costs forced them into bankruptcy.

Self-Driving Uber car Accidents

By DeCoreya Stewart

On March 18, 2018, a pedestrian named Elaine Herzberg who was 49 years old, was hit by a self-driving Uber car while she was walking across the street. This event occurred in Tempe, Arizona near Moeur Park and Marquee Theatre. It happened because the car does stuff automatically, so that means errors can occur and that is why she was hit by the Uber car, it was an error in the car system. It also happened because the passenger driver wasn’t paying attention. If she was playing attention, and not on her phone, she could have braked in time to save her life. Uber is going to fast with their deployment of self-driving cars. Tesla is one of the only car company who has perfected electric and self-driving.

“Once we feel solid about the product market fit, we’ll be expanding nationally,” Uber mobility product head Jahan Khanna said. This isn’t the first self-driving car accident. Tesla had a car accident in California. The car hit a highway divider and went into flames. The same thing happened, similar to the Uber accident, because the camera didn’t see the road median went right into it. The only difference is that the lady in the passenger seat of the Uber car could have paused it. The car was an MODEL X and was a pretty nice car.



Winter Dance Recital

By Taylor Wolyne



Every year Holly Ridge Middle School hosts an annual dance recital for students in Introduction to Dance, Dance I, and Dance II to perform for parents and students. That means that there will be seven classes of dances and multiple small group dances performing. The recitals usually take place at the end of the first semester and the end of the second semester. This allows students to have a few months to learn choreography, so they are well prepared when it's time to get up on stage. This year the recital was on January 16, only a few days shy of the end of the first semester.

My group will be performing in the dance this year in a class dance and in a small group dance with four other friends of mine: Karli Saul, Katie Irving, Kiern Curtis, and Peri Leeds. We have been preparing for about two months and it is slightly difficult attempting to remember both my dance, which is in a small group, and my large group dance. We are performing to a slow song called "Hold On" and we are trying to portray the pain and emotion in the song. Our song lasts about three minutes, as does most other people's songs, who are performing.

In previous years, both 8th graders Tommy Hannegan and Brenda Mendez-Moralez were in dance class at Holly Ridge Middle School and performed in the annual dance recital. Tommy Hannegan, who had dance when he was in 6th grade and Ms. Munt was the dance teacher, says "I wasn't very good at dancing, but I tried my best and the teacher was really nice." Brenda Mendez-Moralez also took a semester dance class in sixth and seventh grade and really enjoyed it. Dance classes are a fun elective that you should try in your middle school years, if you have not already taken one.

The Geography Bee

By Gavin Schmiedl

The Geo Bee is a competition between students that go to Holly Ridge Middle School. The students first will do a competition in their class and the students who have the best score then advance to the school competition with kids from all grade levels at the school. The class competition will be held October 2, 2017 through Feb 2, 2018. A score of 7/7 is required to be entered into the competition for the school. The date for the school competition is January 8, the School has to have a minimum of six students for the champion to be eligible to move on to the state competition. After the state competition then they go to the national competition were the kids for each state compete in the national competition.

The school wide competition was held on January in room 509. The students in the competition are: Anna Claire Trease, Jack Godwin, Kennedy Clark, Jake Ellerson, Kyle Hensley, Gabriela Fernandez, Ethan Hadsell, Michael Weymer, Olivia Hankins, Marcus Kimball, Yafet Debesu, Sebastian Buckler, Zofia Swanger, Christian Picquet, Will Picquet, Colin Lewellan, Billy Waldron, Zach Crotty, Gavin Schmiedl, Amelia Richer, Joseph Bunger, and Grace Vaughan. All of these students did a great job competing in the National Geography Bee. After this they will have a competition to decide who will represent the school in the state competition. This will happen January 16 where the winners will compete for the school in the state competition. Then they will go on to the national competition to compete for a \$50,000 in scholarship money.



Step Team is back

By Jariah Jacobs



After five years without a step team, Ms. Wilson brought step back to the Ridge. Under her guidance, there was an informational meeting that was attended by many boys and girls on January 9, 2018. Although a lot of people showed an interest, not as many came to the first practice. Step is a way for boys and girls to come together a form a beat or a step using one's body. Practices were held every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon in Ms. Johnson's classroom 2511. Steppers on the team this year were: co-captains De'mya Goode and Jariah Jacobs, Brittany Allen, Synea Brown, Mikiyah Fowler, Angel Jones, Emonie Leak, Lena Lewis Cox, Areyonna Montique, Trinity Richardson, Serenity Roman, and Nu-Jiyah Shields. The winter pep rally was the first opportunity for the team to perform for the school.

Stepping is a combination of military drills, dances and chants. Stepping also draws from elements of gymnastics, break dance, tap dance, marching, African and urban dance. Steppers perform a percussive dance using the participant's entire body as an instrument. State college campuses traditionally sang and chanted to celebrate 'crossing over' into membership.



7th Grade Honor Role Celebration

By Mia Ryan and Xavier Fowler



The 7th grade honor roll celebration is an event put on by the staff of Holly Ridge middle school. Held on Valentine's Day, February 14th, in the school gym. It rewards students who get good grades. An A or B to be exact. You only go to the celebration if you've done well in your grades. At the event kids get to eat popsicles and socialize with their friends for one period of their school day. This celebration is also held for the 6th and 8th graders at HRMS every quarter throughout the school year. Jack Verdi, who went to the honor roll celebration said "It was very fun and made me want to get good grades more often so I can go enjoy the celebration again." This event is very important in encouraging kids to better in school and should be held again throughout the years.



Wax Museum takes the stage

By Jack Verdi and Zach Faulkner

A wax museum is a museum where famous people are recognized as a wax character for doing or achieving something amazing. The Holly

Ridge Wax Museum was on March 8, 2018. It was in the Holly Ridge gymnasium. The eighth grade students were assigned to do a project for all the language arts teachers to learn more about famous people who changed history because risks they took.



For the wax museum, you need to hold a pose during your class period, with occasional break, and you can't talk at all. Your grade is based upon 10 points for dressing up, the written biography is 60 points and 30 points for the poster board. During period, seventh grade student Tyler Shpunder visited the wax museum with Ms. Saxon's class. He learned a lot of new facts about Jackie Robison and Steven Hawking, two of many famous people portrayed by the eighth graders. Did you know that this is the last year that 8th graders will participate in a wax museum? The curriculum is changing for 7th and 8th grade for the upcoming school year.

Madame Tussaud, historically associated with London, is the most famous name associated with wax museums. In 1835, Madame Tussaud established her first permanent exhibition in London's Baker Street. Wax museums are a great way to learn about famous people. If you have never attended one, you definitely should go. Thank you everyone who participated! The visitors had a great time.

Don Lee experience

By Isaiah O'Bryant

On March 22, 2018 the seventh grade Trailblazers went on a field trip to Camp Don Lee in Arapahoe, North Carolina. Mrs. Jesrani, the team leader, organized the field trip and reminded students of the items requested to bring: gym bag, white shirt, refillable water bottle, snacks, and a bag lunch. On that morning, everybody arrived at school by 5:00 AM and boarded the buses. Principal Mountford, who approved the trip, also attended the trip with other teachers and parents chaperoning. Students were assigned to bus groups and waited an hour before leaving campus. The ride was about 3 hours and many students chose to make up for missed sleep on the ride.

Upon arriving at Camp Don Lee, the camp counselors met the groups and began the camp activities. The first activity of the day was dissecting squids where the squid was cut in half to examine its body and then it was used as bait. We also learned different families of marine life. The second activity was called 'the challenge' where the students and chaperones had to do a series of different tasks; for one challenge, everybody in the group had to put two figures under a hula hoop and try to get it to the ground without taking their fingers off it. After a couple challenges everyone switched to the station which was Pirate Cove, where we learned the rules of the sea, and about famous pirates, like Blackbeard. Afterwards, there was a scavenger hunt in the woods and everyone had to imagine being pirates on a ship looking for gold, which was based upon two scenarios after finding the gold. 1. Get the gold and retire. 2. Die trying. The fourth activity was fishing; we were taught to wait and drop the fish hook in the water, after putting on a safety vest and using the squid heads as bait to catch the fish.

The best time of the day for everybody at the camp was lunch. They served a wonderful feast of corn, chicken, BBQ chicken, greens, macaroni and cheese, buttered rolls, and ice tea. To top that all off, they also served chocolate cake. There was also a bar for vegetarians. We were given a half hour of free time before resuming our activities of the day. Marine life in pods taught what the four characteristics of a pond and the animals that live there. To learn more about lakes and ponds, we went on a walk and there were some group exercises ponds. The day concluded with painting shirts with the option of using a real fish to paint, before we headed back to the buses to return to school.

2018 Hoops for Heart

By Ashlynn Kulha



SWISH! The crowd goes wild as the kid made the basket. Hoops for heart was held Friday March 23, 2018 in the HRMS gym. Kids from all grades at HRMS that raised \$10 or more could attend or if you had \$50 then you could invite four friends to watch Hoops for Heart. Students had about three week to collect money to raise funds from people they know. The eighth graders attended the Hoops for Heart during second and third periods; the sixth graders attended the Hoops for Heart during the 4th and 5th periods and the seventh graders attended during sixth and seventh periods. At this event, the kids played in tournaments of 4 vs. 4, with six people on each team. Whoever won the most games out of all of their grade level went on to play in the semifinals. The semifinals were held at the end of all periods. The finals will be held at the next pep rally in the spring, and all of the students who made the finals will play the faculty and staff. All money goes to the American Heart Association. Last year, over \$10,000 was raised compared to this year, about \$10,000 was raised. This money is used for a great cause in heling children who have heart conditions. Some money may also go to other associations like diabetes, Alzheimer's, and other associations. HRMS has been participated in the Hoops for Heart program since the school opened in 2003. Students who participated in the event had a great time for a worthy cause. One kid in the crowd said, "Best time I had all year." A special thank you to the PE teachers for organizing the tournaments: Coach Padgett, Coach Forbes, Coach Moss, Coach Cranford, and Coach Behrend.

Source: www.AmericanHeartAssociation

2018 HRMS 6th Grade Hoops for Heart

By Stephanie Cruz

Sixth grade students at Holly Ridge Middle School enjoy exciting fundraising events while learning heart healthy skills. They had fun shooting hoops and watching with friends and of course, it was for a great cause, raising money for the American Heart Association.

In 1999, the American Heart Association decided to make a fundraiser for scientists so they could help prevent patients of dying from heart disease and strokes. In order to participate in the school tournaments, students needed to raise at least \$10 for a donation. There are prizes for how much money you donate. This year's theme for 2018 is "The Scare Squad". If you register online you get a free glow wristband.

This year, health and physical education teacher Mrs. Julie Murray was in charge of collecting all the donations for the Hoops for Heart event. According to the Hoops for Heart website, Holly Ridge Middle School's fundraiser totaled \$7,477.73. The student with the most money donated this year is Eva Bennett with a \$388 donation. In total, 155 students team members registered and 92 students accepted the challenge of exercising for 60 minutes a day. Sugary drinks, like Coke and Sprite were replaced by 34 students choosing water instead and 28 students are now eating every meal with fruits and veggies.



[Photo credit: Yearbook staff Meriem Mohamedcherif, grade 7]

2018 HRMS 7th Grade Hoops for Heart

By Ellie Bryan

Woo! Yah! Let's go! Hear the crowd cheering on your 7th graders on the courts! On Friday, March 23, 2018, a basketball tournament was held in the Holly Ridge Middle School gym all day for 6th, 7th and 8th graders. The 7th grade tournaments were held during 6th and 7th period, and all of these tournaments were helping to raise money for the American Heart Association. This event is held once a year to raise money for people who have heart diseases or heart conditions, thanks to our gym teachers: Coach Behrend, Coach Forbes, Coach Andrea and Matthew Padgett, Coach Moss, Coach Wantz, Coach Murray, and Coach Cranford, who help set this event up for our school! This is a super fun event that anyone can participate in. All you have to do is pay \$10, and you can also donate more money to the American Heart Association to win cool prizes from the Hoops for Heart event! Last year, we raised \$10,000 from this event and we are still waiting to find out how much money was raised this year! We have been doing this event since 2003 and we are hoping to continue with Hoops for Heart, because everyone gets to play basketball with friends for a great cause! A lot of seventh graders enjoyed Hoops for Heart this year stating, "I really enjoyed playing", "I had a great time", and "Can't wait to play again next year." Many 7th graders played, but our number one winners for 7th grade were Colin Kuhl, Eyob Ollivierre, Landon Dunbar, Jaiden Barfield, and Jalen Brown. Congrats! Thank you everyone who helped put together this event and to those who participated. Once again, Holly Ridge MS had a great time this year.

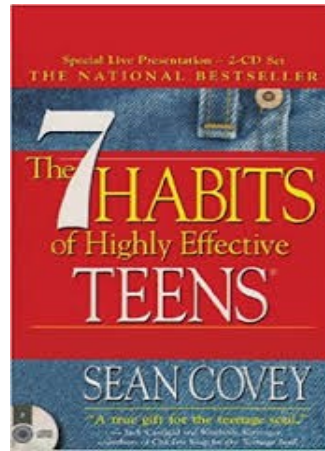


Picture by Ashlynn Kulha

Source: American Heart Association

Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens

By Ian Harrison



The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens is a book by Sean Covey to teach teens how to make better choices and be more productive. This year, students at Holly Ridge MS learned about each one of the different habits during scheduled class periods on the early release (ER) days. The lessons were a school-wide initiative that teachers

on the ER Committee collaborated to create.

Each early release day, in addition to learning about one or two of the 7 habits, there were enrichment activities built into the schedule. Students were taught through the lessons how to be effective and succeed. The first lesson was an overview about what habits are and how to create positive ones, like becoming a leader. The first three habits have to do with private victory: #1 Be Proactive, #2 Begin with the End in Mind, and #3 Put First Things First. During the lesson on Habit #1, students learned how to create the situation instead of responding to the situation. During Habit #2 lesson, students learned how to find a place without interruptions, to clear your mind of everything, and visualize yourself in the future to recognize how your actions from the past year will affect the future. During Habit #3, students learned how to scale what was most important out of many things. The Habits 4-6 pertain to public victory with #4 Think Win-Win, #5 Seek First to be Understood, Then to be Understood, and #6 Synergize through Teamwork. Students were taught in lesson 4 how to think that you can win and others can too, instead of thinking about how not to lose in a situation. Habit #5 was how to listen to others and understand them, so that they will understand you better in return. Habit #6 was about teamwork and how two heads are better than one, to teach us to work together. The final one, #7 was to renew yourself in body, mind, spirituality, and socially to keep thoughts straight and be more confident in actions.

Planetarium Field Trip

By Hannah Mitchell

On March 9, 2018 the Wolverines Team of Holly Ridge Middle School went to the Morehead Planetarium in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. The Wolverines students attending the field trip headed to the cafeteria and waited for all the buses to be ready to load. Once the buses were ready to load the kids, students boarded assigned busses and headed off to planetarium. It was a 45 minute drive to the planetarium from the school.

Students were placed into two different groups to visit the Full Dome while the other group went to the Science Expo room. The group that was in the Full Dome room watched a video about the immune system and how everything in the body works. The other group went In the Science Expo room and we looked at what happens when fire and pressure happens and what skin and hair look like up close on a telescope. When each group was done with their first rooms we moved to the room we haven't gone in yet. My group switched to the Science Expo room while the other group moved to the Full Dome. When everyone was done we went to the buses and went back to the school. We arrived at the school at 1:30 pm and ate lunch. When we finished eating, we headed to our 7th period classes.

National School Walkout

By Dominic Claiborne

On March 14, 2018, in schools across America, students chose to leave their classes for 17 minutes in honor of the school shooting in Parkland, Florida on February 14, 2018. This event unfolded here at Holly Ridge Middle School too. The tragedy at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School was a shooting by a gunman that killed 17 students and 2 staff members, and injured at least 40 others.

Many students in schools wanted to stricken the US sale of AR-15 style assault rifles that were used in many other mass shootings, such as Columbine High School and the Las Vegas concert shooting. In order to show their grief and honor the victims, students throughout the country walked out of their classes; each minute represented a victim who tragically died. Many staff and students are seeking other ways to end tragic deaths by shootings in schools.

RUN FOR THE RIDGE

By Zofia Swanger

Run for the Ridge is an annual tradition at Holly Ridge Middle School. This year was the sixth walk/run 5k race at HRMS. On March 10, 2018 at 10:00 am, 307 people gathered. There were 190 participants and HRMS raised \$13,000 as a result of this event. There were several food trucks including ice cream and Krispy Kreme donuts, which sold for \$10 per dozen. There were also walkers with dogs and strollers.

The Cardinals team had the most participants out of any team at HRMS. The run starts at the bus loop and continues to Sunset Ridge South. This 5k (3.1 miles) race is part of the Triangle Race series and the event guaranteed tee shirts and bags to at least the first 250 registered participants. The money raised for Holly Ridge MS will buy whiteboard tables for all math classrooms; any extra money will go to any other causes. A few of the results of the race included former student Connor Kells, who finished in first, Chad Hoggan in 2nd, and Brian Terwilliger in 3rd. Prizes were awarded at the 11:00 AM gathering, but everyone who crossed the finish line received a 2018 medal.



[Photo courtesy: Holly Ridge Twitter feed]

March Madness: East

Adrian Marrero

From March 13 to April 2, March Madness took place. Villanova advanced to the Final Four with Jalen Brunson leading his team to victory. Jalen Brunson says that he actually “has a personality.” The six foot three star basketball player has a soft spot for his father, Rick Brunson. Rick Brunson is a former professional basketball player and is now a coach for the Minnesota Timberwolves. Texas Tech beat the Florida Gators with a very close score, 69-66. Texas Tech squeaked past Florida and is headed to the Sweet Sixteen for the first time since 2005. The game between Butler and Purdue was outstanding with an amazing score of 76-73, another very close game. Purdue held off Butler in the final seconds to capture a 76-73 victory and advance to the Sweet Sixteen. Jon Elmore poured in 27 points as the Thundering Herd of Marshall downed the Wichita State Shockers. Keenan Evans scored 23 points and Texas Tech closed the game on a 26-9 run to fend off feisty Stephen F. Austin. Evans was clutch down the stretch. The senior’s 23 points came on 6-of-10 shooting from the field and a perfect 10 of 10 performance from the charity stripe. Brandon Francis drilled a crucial 3-pointer with 2:34 remaining, giving the Red Raiders a 64-58 lead and putting the partisan Texas Tech crowd into a frenzy.



March Madness: Midwest region

By Antonio Greene

Congratulations Kansas for making it to the Final Four with Michigan, Villanova, and Loyola Chicago. Kansas played very hard to get there and they went through Penn in the first round, winning 76 to 60. Kansas, was a number 1 seed and Penn was a 16 seed. Also, Seton Hall fought their way through NC State 94 to 83 and in the first round, Clemson beat New Mexico State 79-68. The other games in the first round were not that exciting, except Duke dominated Iona 89-67.

March Madness: South

By Ian Chalfont

March Madness started on March 13, 2018 and is different every year. For the South region the Loyola Chicago Ramblers went to the Final Four. Loyola Chicago played 3rd seed Tennessee and they knew it was going to be a hard game, but the Loyola Chicago Ramblers defeated Tennessee 63-62 in a tight game all the way through. There were so many upsets including UMBC with a 20 point victory over Number 1 in the country Virginia, which was the weirdest, because they were the most popular to win it all. Nevada upset Cincinnati, and also 13th seed Buffalo beat 4th seed Arizona which was also weird because so many people picked Arizona to win it all. With a crazy run by Kansas State, they beat UMBC 50-43 in a defensive battle and then believe it or not, they also went on to beat 5th seed Kentucky. The round after, Kansas State lost to Loyola Chicago in a very exciting game. Overall, this was a very exciting region with the Loyola Chicago Ramblers heading to the Final Four. Loyola Chicago, unfortunately, lost to Michigan in a close game until the end, when Michigan pulled away at the end with the final score of Michigan 69,



After the first round, the only teams left in their regions were Kansas, Seton Hall, Clemson, Auburn, Syracuse, Michigan State, Rhode Island, and Duke. After the hard second round, the only teams left standing were Kansas, Clemson, Syracuse, and Duke. Then the only teams left were the number 1 seed Kansas and the number 2 seed Duke representing North Carolina. After a close game 85-81, Kansas won, joining the Final Four with Loyola Chicago, Michigan, and Villanova. After the hard Final Four, the last 2 standing were Villanova representing the East, and Michigan representing the West. After another the hard battle between the two, Villanova won it all!

Lady Hornets Sensational 2018 Season

By Kendall Harrison and Timarion Bailey

The season lasted from 2017-2018 from December 1 to February 1 it was a great season. The Lady Hornets started off the season strong winning their first five games. They lost against Holly Grove, then suffered another loss after they won against Fuquay-Varina. That left them with a record of 6-2, they slipped another loss, then won the remaining games finishing with a record of 11-3.

Coach Michael Behrend coached the team well, he trained them to stay focused, and calm. Even when they lost he kept them motivated, and proud. Some strategies that players would use before the game to get them hyped were listening to music by NBA Youngboy.



One of the team's most favorite game was their fourth game against East Cary played away. Taryn Wheaton said, "The game was one of the most tiring games, each team was scoring points back and forth. It was nothing but net." Towards the end of the game some skepticism was brought up about the game. Benched players didn't think that they were going to take the W on this one, but on the court, players were focused. Eventually, the game went into overtime, and the teams were tied for most of it. With a quick move, Jordan Meeks stole the ball and that led to a basket, and the Lady Hornets finished proud, and strong. Taryn Wheaton scored 24 points during that game, and Jordan Meeks also put a lot of points on the board. It was one of the best games all season!

Boys Basketball Highlights 2017-2018

By Collin Kuhl and Aron McQuigg



The Holly Ridge Hornets Basketball Team started out the season at home on December 4th 2017 beating Salem Middle School by 13 points. With Isaiah Hall leading in scoring with fourteen points. After that the team experienced some rough patches, losing two games in a row, Mills Park and Davis Drive, and the head coach Mr. Brian McLeod left.



Two games later, Coach Behrend took on the coaching position, a good choice because he was also coaching the girls' basketball team and they had only lost two games at this time. Next, the Hornets beat the number two seed Apex Middle by 9 points led by Jordan Kearney. The Hornets finished the season with

back to back losses against West Lake and Lufkin, but they learned to move on bonding as brothers.

Down Syndrome Day

By Paul Stein

Down Syndrome day is the global awareness day which has been officially observed on March 21 by the United Nations since 2012 after it was declared on December 19, 2011. Each year the voice of people with Down Syndrome and those who live and work with them grows.

The reason it is annually observed is to raise public awareness of Down Syndrome, a congenital disorder caused by having an extra 21st chromosome. Some people wonder why odd socks are worn on this day; this is because it reduces the stigma. Because anyone can have an odd day. It a light-hearted approach to reminding people that anyone, at any time, can have an odd day. Same token stigma can have a devastating impact on the lives of people with mental illness and their families, friends and careers.

There are several websites to raise people's awareness and how to celebrate this day. As seen in photo below, students at Holly Ridge Middle School celebrated it this year. People participated in the 'lots of socks' campaign and The World Down Syndrome Day Awards.



Some Quotes from Down Syndrome Day

"Your child has taught you to see the world through the eyes of unconditional love." -Nancy Dyer.

"Concentrate on things your disability doesn't prevent you doing well and don't regret the things it interferes with." -Stephen Hawking (time.com).

[<https://worlddownsyndromeday.org>]



TJ Hunt drifting along

By Jonathan Cortes



TJ Hunt is a you tuber and drifter that I am interested in learning about because I love working on cars and when I grow up, I want to have a job that I enjoy doing and having fun with my friends. That is what TJ Hunt does all day. He lives in California and has a YouTube channel with 884,203 subscribers. Hunt has four cars at this time: a Subaru BRZ, Nissan 350Z, Mazda RX7, and a BMW X5M. He lives in an apartment and he has a girlfriend. Hunt has a lot of sponsors for his BRZ and his drift cars, a 350Z and a Nissan GTR.

What I found interesting is that Hunt goes to a lot of cool events with his friends and makes 1.9K - \$29.7K monthly and he makes \$22.3K - \$356.6K a year. Did you know that his 350Z has 657 HP (horse power) engine? His BRZ has 468 HP and his RX7 has 743 HP.



Chinese New Year

By Christopher Lentzen

Chinese New Year is the most important holiday celebrated across Asia and especially in China where one sixth of the population celebrates it. It's unclear to as when Chinese New Year started but it's estimated to have started between 1766 BC - 1122 BC by the Shang Dynasty. Chinese New Year is celebrated during the second new moon after the winter solstice and is celebrated until the 15th of February. There are many traditions that go along with the Chinese New Year's such as staying at home to welcome his good fortune or visiting in-laws. One important celebration during Chinese New Year's is the food and meals gathered along with family where they eat popular food such as noodles, dumplings, fish, and tangerine oranges. In the lantern festival, the Dragon Dance is the most highlighted part of the festival; with other traditions such as the fireworks, bamboo stalks on fire, parades that go along with the tradition.

There is a story behind this holiday. According to Chinese Legend, Buddha asked all of the animals to meet him on New Year's Day and named each animal that showed up to a specific month of the year. All the animals that showed up include the dog, pig/boar, rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, and rooster that were all assigned a specific month. People born during the same month of that animal are told to have similar personalities according to legend. Chinese New Year also has some interesting facts, such as the festival is also called the spring festival where the date also changes every single year. Chinese New Year is also a spring festival where the date changes every year. This holiday is also known as the longest holiday celebrated and is on the move.

News Year in February

By William Islas-Silverio

Chinese New Year is a celebration of the new lunar year, begging on the second new moon after the Winter Solstice and ending on the full moon fifteen days later. This year is the year of dog and next year on February 5, 2019, it will be the year of the pig.

Chinese New Year is not only celebrated in China, but also it is celebrated in Indonesia, Malaysia, North Korea, Singapore, South Korea, and Vietnam. Other people can celebrate Chinese New Year in other countries, but those are the places where the most people celebrate Chinese New Year.



Chinese New Year involves the people of China, and was celebrated on Friday, February 16, 2018. Some people travel to China from other places around the world just to spend Chinese New year with their family. This holiday follows the Zodiac calendar which made this year the year of the dog.

One thing that is done as tradition is the Lantern Festival. This festival takes place on the 15th day in the first month in the Lunar New Year to mark the first full moon of the Chinese New Year and the coming of spring. This festival dates back nearly 2000 years ago, involves global celebrations and involving light displays, and the launching of thousands of sky lanterns.

Black History Month



Harriet Tubman

By Rhode Mulamba

Harriet Tubman is a very important person in woman history. She was a very stubborn yet very confident person. She showed everyone that women and people of color can do anything they want to accomplish by having faith and confidence. Tubman was born with the name of Armintha Ross on March 10, 1913, and later adopted the name Harriet after her mother passed away. She was born into slavery and is known for helping over 300 slaves by making 19 trips to the back and forth from south to the north. She earned the nickname "Moses" after the prophet in the Bible who led his people to freedom. In all of her journeys, she "never lost a single passenger." When her railroad days were over, Tubman continued to help people.

Tubman was the first African American woman to have military honors and to have an inaugural liberty ship named after her. Tubman suffered life-long headaches, seizures and had vivid dreams as a result of a traumatic head injury she suffered as a teenager while trying to stand up for a fellow slave that she knew. These same symptoms gave her powerful visions that she ascribed to God and helped guide her on many trips to the North while leading others to freedom. Tubman won an award created for her and named after her, The Harriet Tubman Award. The award was created by the T.A.T association which carries with it a \$2500 dollar check. When her railroad days were over, Tubman continued to help people.

Sources: <http://www.pbs.org/black-culture/explore/>

harriet-tubman/#.WrUPLC4bPIU <https://>

truckersagainsttrafficking.org/harriet-tubman-award/

Fastest Woman in Her Time

By Brooke Whitaker

Born in Clarksville, Tennessee 1940 Wilma Rudolph was sick for most of her childhood. She had polio, pneumonia, Scarlet Fever, and contracted infinite paralysis from her polio at the age of four. She recovered from all those but as a result she lost most of the feeling in her left leg and foot. Rudolph was introduced to sports in the eighth grade followed in the steps of her sister starting with basketball then moving on to track and field. Rudolph got the nicknames Black Gazelle, the tornado, and Skeeter. The nickname Skeeter came from her basketball coach in high school because she was more of a bother to him than a player. At the 1960 Olympics in Rome, Wilma Rudolph became the first African American to have competed and won three gold medals in a single Olympics. She won her gold medals in the 100 meter and 200 meter dash, also one in the 4 x 100 meter relay, she will be remembered in the Olympic hall of fame. After her time at the Olympics she went on to become a school teacher and coach. Wilma Rudolph died of a brain tumor on November 12, 1994 and was buried in Tennessee.



Recognizing Misty Copeland

By Arly Escobar



On September 10, 1982 Misty Copeland was born in Kansas City, Missouri. She had a rough childhood growing up, raised by a single mother of six children, whose father wasn't with them. They lived at a motel for a couple of years. Copeland had always wanted to be a ballerina dancer. When she was thirteen, she took

dance class, but her classmates always made fun of her and called her names because she looked different; she was the only African American in her dance class. Copeland is one of the most widely known ballerinas in the U.S. She had many accomplishments. When she was fifteen she won the first place in the "Music Center Spotlight Awards". She joined the ABT'S Studio Company in September 2000. In August 2007, she became the company's second African American female soloist. Copeland was promoted to Principal dancer making her the first African American woman to ever be promoted to the position in the company's 75-year history. In the year 2008, she received the "Leonora Annenberg Fellowship" in the arts. Copeland doesn't have many regrets, although she was injured once to the point she missed some opportunities.

During Misty Copeland's life, there were major events happening, which later affected her. She won the Glamour Awards for the showstopper in 2015, and she also won the shorty award for the "Best in Dance" in 2016. Because of what she had been through as a child, and all that she accomplished, she created a company for kids to help them reach their dreams. Copeland was proud of her achievements and she wanted to show other people how anything can happen. Copeland was not only a dancer; she made history while she was doing something she loved. Misty Copeland influenced other individuals

by showing them that anyone can do what means a lot to them, with patience and love. She wanted people to know that anything is possible and to not let people get in the way of your dreams. She started a boys and girls club for anyone who wants to take dance classes. She organized this to interest new dancers, and provide a stronger support system for her students.

[Left: Photo credit: <https://newcolumns.org/>]



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

By Chris Carr

Martin Luther King Jr. was born on January 15, 1929. He is well known for leading the Civil Rights Movement and the March on Washington. Dr. King was a pastor before the movement. He met and worked with a lot of important people, such as John F. Kennedy and the Reverend Billy Graham. He believed strongly about standing up for the rights of African Americans and that all men (and women) should be treated equally. His wife Coretta Scott King also helped out with trying to get people to help get stronger education and get treated equal. When Dr. King did the march on Washington that when he said his *I Have a Dream* speech. This speech moved many people and their lives were impacted and changed the way they lived. Another major accomplishment of Dr. King was that he led the Montgomery Bus Boycott. He was also the youngest person at the time to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

Women's History Month



Researching Monkeys

By Jaden Johnson

Jane Goodall was born on April 3, 1934 in London, United Kingdom. She has done many great things in her life but more specifically, her work with raising awareness about chimpanzees. Jane Goodall had been born into a middle class family and she was the older of two sisters. Her parents were Mortimer Herbert Morris-Goodall and Vanna (Joseph) Morris-Goodall. She had been interested in wildlife from a young age.

In 1977, Jane Goodall founded The Jane Goodall Institute. The Jane Goodall Institute was intended to raise awareness and donations for chimpanzees. Her work has inspired many people to step up and help the cause. Jane Goodall also made many miraculous discoveries about chimpanzees, such as the fact that many chimps have feelings similar to humans. Her work led to further studies being performed and awareness being raised in favor of protecting the chimps.

Fighting For Women's Rights

By Makiya Blaney

Susan B. Anthony was born February 15, 1820 in Adams, Massachusetts. She was brought up in a Quaker family with long activist traditions. Early in her life she developed a sense of justice and moral zeal. After teaching for fifteen years, she became active in temperance. Because she was a woman, she was not allowed to speak at temperance rallies. This experience, and her acquaintance with Elizabeth Cady Stanton, led her to join the women's rights movement in 1852. Soon after, she dedicated her life to woman suffrage.

Ignoring opposition and abuse, Anthony traveled, lectured, and canvassed across the nation for the vote. She also campaigned for the abolition of slavery, the right for women to own their own property and retain their earnings, and she advocated for women's labor organizations. In 1900, Anthony persuaded the University of Rochester to admit women. Anthony, who never married, was aggressive and compassionate by nature. She had a keen mind and a great ability to inspire. She remained active until her death on March 13, 1906.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Susan_B._Anthony

NC Teachers: Bear Arms?

By Shahnava Thorpe



President Donald Trump has been trying to prevent school shootings in the United States due to what recently happened in Parkland, Florida. In order to do this, he wants to arm teachers with guns. Teachers are very upset by this and the fact that they have not yet discussed another commission about school safety.

On February 21, 2018 at around 2 PM, educators went outside the White House in Washington, DC to protest against bearing arms, because some of them did not like the idea. Some teachers spoke with the news reporters. Educators think it's a bad idea; 61% believe it will make school environments less safe and 65%, believe it will harm the learning environment. Here is what several teachers told reporters:

"Look, I don't want to die, and I don't want to kill anybody. I want to teach, and if anyone wants to arm teachers, please for the love of country, let it be with school supplies, nurses, counselors and, above all else, trust," said Leigh Sanders, a 6th grade teacher at Swift Creek Middle School.

"The chance that a teacher would shoot a bad guy coming into the classroom with an AR-15 is very slim. An accidental shooting or a student getting hold of the gun is much higher," stated Justin Parmenter, a 7th grade teacher at Waddell Language Academy.

"I find it hard to wrap my head around the idea that I'm supposed to spend a semester building relationships with students and trying to reach them and also be ready at any point to shoot and kill them. That's a very different dynamic than the training of someone in law enforcement or military setting would receive."- Bryan Christopher, an English teacher at Riverside High School in Durham.

The fact that arming only a few teachers outrages teachers. If a situation like that occurs, a teacher will have to have a steady hand, calmness, and the awareness of his/her surroundings. In a survey that teachers took part in, 379 believe that if an intruder showed up, it could possibly save lives. To be exact, 25% of teachers said 'yes' or 'maybe' to the idea of having a gun in the classroom. An online survey created by state superintendent Mark Johnson states that 25% want guns and 40% would support having guns if they were given to teachers and administrators that have had extra training.

Teachers don't like the idea that if they have to carry a gun, because it could possibly fall into the hands of the wrong person or another student. A student going through rough times might get a hold of the gun and do things that he/she might regret.

Teachers also worry about the possibility of shooting the wrong person. They would rather go through other safety measures. This includes banning the sale of high automatic rifles, ensuring background checks on guns, giving schools at least one or two armed officers to guard the school, uniform security measures that insures all doors are locked, and the requirements of installed buzzer entry systems. Most importantly, overall teachers around the nation agree that arming teachers to protect children just isn't right, even if it does sound good.

But there are some teachers who do want guns. In Sidney, Ohio there is a school that has guns. The guns are said to be locked away in biometric safes and only accessible to designated staff members, whose fingerprints can open the box. They have bullet proof vests that are fortified to protect against any kind of bullets, except an assault rifle.

"We can't stop an active shooter, but we can minimize the carnage," said John Scheu, the superintendent at Sidney City Schools.

Jason Villalba, a state representative and Dallas Republican states, "This clearly is the solution to the problem that we're seeing around the country, and I think the president has recognized that."

Arming teachers is not right, because as a student myself in a classroom with a teacher that has a gun, I wouldn't feel very safe. There must be other safety measures to consider, besides arming teachers in the classroom. Your thoughts?

Grading fast food restaurants

By Mariah Taylor

Restaurants and fast food chains receive health and sanitation ratings that are supposed to be posted where consumers can see them. Did you know that many receive bad grades on the food they prepare? Last year, some fast food places had a grading of an F because their food was so bad. For examples, McDonald's, IHOP, and Olive Garden were mentioned in a list.

Some people don't like fast food because they think the food is fake or unhealthy. If the meat or any of the other foods are not cooked properly, then the food could still be raw and is not going to taste good. It could also cause illness. Restaurants and fast food places need to stop putting ingredients in foods, especially if the name of the ingredient is one that is difficult to pronounce. People can die of food poisoning or illnesses related to poorly prepared food. **23,000 people died because of the infection. 25 of the biggest fast food restaurants broke the chain.** The ingredients can make the food taste bad or cause people to die.



All places should have a least A+ or an A because that means that they have good foods. Food trucks can be the same way with bad grading. Did you know that Raleigh is one of the best food trucks cities in the US? In just a decade, these mobile kitchens have changed the way we eat.

ROBLOX

By Shyheim Boone

The creator of the E-rated game ROBLOX is David Baszucki. The best game within ROBLOX is *Assassins* because you get to defeat people. The game lets you know who you're supposed to defeat, but somebody else can come and defeat you. The main character or most important character is ROBLOX himself because he makes the clothes and gears you can buy with robux for your avatar. Robux is the currency used on ROBLOX to make purchases in the game, although some items are free.

There are millions of games inside ROBLOX and I play more than one. ROBLOX is a massively multiplayer online game creation platform. I think anyone who likes to play games or would love ROBLOX because there are so many to choose from and you can even build your own game inside ROBLOX by yourself or with friends. I don't really think you could compare ROBLOX with any other games, but people say Minecraft is similar, but I don't see how or why. Overall, it's a great game that you will never get tired of; I could play it all day, every day. You can play ROBLOX on Xbox and any mobile device. Many ROBLOX players put it on YouTube, available at <https://www.youtube.com/user/roblox>.

The image shows the ROBLOX logo, which features the word "ROBLOX" in a bold, red, blocky font. The letter "O" is stylized with a square cutout. Below the word "ROBLOX" is the tagline "Powering Imagination™" in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. The entire logo is enclosed in a blue rectangular border.

