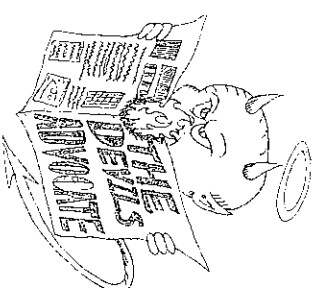


The  
**BLUE DEVIL'S**

Advocate



*Special Edition: Senior Reflections*

Richmond  
High School

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## Caporuscio Takes Flight

By: Nick Mathes  
*Web Co-editor*

Flying. Man in air. Something that has evolved to be a totally different aspect of life, and Senior Andrew Caporuscio wants to take it on.

During Caporuscio's senior year, he was evaluating what he wanted to go into. He was down to three: Electrical Engineering, Aviation Flight Science, and Train Conductor. Aviation is the route that Caporuscio went.

"I chose Aviation because I enjoy the aspect of flying. It puts a whole different perspective on today's earth," Caporuscio said.

What many may not know is the Pilot activist has already started to fly.

Twice a week Caporuscio travels to the St. Clair Airport and flies for one hour at a time. The reason that it is only one hour is because it is \$200 an hour to fly. Fun fact: Andrew's teachers' legal name is Skipper!

Caporuscio is striving to reach his PPL, or also known as Private Pilot License. By doing this outside of college, Caporuscio is on track to save up to \$10,000 from his college education.

After college and the training of



*Photo Courtesy of @andrewcaporuscio on Instagram*

Caporuscio, but in different ways. He has narrowed it down to two choices because these to colleges are the best for aviation in Michigan.

Western is on at the top of his

list because of the advanced simulations that Western has to offer. With more advanced simulations, the more that Caporuscio can get use to flying in the air and by himself, before actually flying. This can also be key to prevent accidents in the air.

The other college coming in a close second would be Eastern Michigan University. One reason that this college catches the eye of the future aviator is the advanced fleets that Eastern has to offer. This offers more time to fly, and more time to reach the advancement of the flying career.

"With these two colleges being applicable to what I want to do with Aviation, I believe that I am set up well for my future," Caporuscio said.

Furthermore, after college An-

## Florida Bound For HOSA

By: Ally Oddo  
*Staff Writer*

Pursuing her dream of becoming a nurse Jessica Niebauer, senior at Richmond High School, joined HOSA. HOSA is designed for students in high school to learn and become versatile in the medical field.

HOSA stands for Health Occupations Students of America. Each and every student have the same goal which is to deliver quality care to people. They also work throughout the year to prepare themselves for medical competition. In Jessica's case, she has been taking courses at Pankow and taking an anatomy class through the Richmond since her junior year.

For each competition there events that vary from written portion to presenting in front of judges. On February 4 at Fraser High School, Jessica presented three photos on three different health careers and only had three minutes to present all

of them! She placed in the Top 10 to go on to States.

"I was really excited to compete at States because of the record breaking group. We were the biggest region and had over a thousand kids competing," said Jessica. In Traverse City at the Grand Traverse Hotel on April 26-28.

During those three days Jessica presented her three health career to a different set of judges with the same time frame. "I knew that I did well at States, but I also knew that I was surrounded by a lot of smart and talented. I was completely shocked when they called my name for first place," said Jessica. Yes, that's right she won first place at states.

Since Jessica won first place at States she will now be going to Nationals. Nationals will be held Orlando, Florida on June 20-24. "I didn't have anyone help me, but I revised my papers over and over again and also practiced what I was

going to say during my presentation," said Jessica.

With Nationals right around the corner, Jessica is ready and eager to learn different tactics in pursuing her dream of being a career involving health.

### What Made Her Do It?

Jessica heard about HOSA through her sister whom also did HOSA. "I volunteered at the Regional competition when I was freshmen. So, when I became junior it was an easy decision to join," said Jessica.

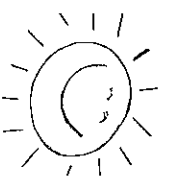
Since she could remember, Jessica has always loved the medical field and is now pursuing that by attending Stenna Heights University in the fall to study nursing and eventually become a nurse practitioner.

"I loved competing at States and had an amazing three days," said Jessica. Her event she is participating in helped her learn how many different fields there are in medicine

and helped her decide her future. The medical field is very hard to get into and also to study, but with a background in the medical field Jessica already has a foot in the right direction. Jessica is more than prepared for what her future in the medical field holds for her.

With graduating in one week, Jessica had one piece of advice from HOSA. "I learned that if you set your mind to something nothing can stop you. HOSA taught me that getting a head start is the best thing especially for the medical field. I cannot wait to see what the future holds," said Jessica.

From learning about HOSA through her sister as a freshman to now going to Nationals as a senior, this Richmond student is well on her way to pursuing her dreams.



Today's Forecast  
Mostly Cloudy  
High: 91  
Low: 57

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## Giving Back And Making A Difference

**By: Sydney Black**  
*Staff Writer*

Who you want to be and who you are is two completely different subjects. Junior Heidi Dailey, gives back to communities everywhere she can. Interesting, right? With her dad being in the Air Force, Dailey has had the opportunity to be a part of Keystone Boys and Girls Club – a club of six or seven kids that give back to communities while also learning life skills and leadership.

“We focus on future readiness, community service, and team leadership,” said Dailey.

Having been in the club for four years, she’s had the chance to do many great things for many communities. From being able to work at soup kitchens, to building a garden for the Children’s Development Center at Selfridge, she’s done a lot of great things.

“We have to plan and organize all of our own events and volunteer hours, and it teaches leadership and to value the community,” Dailey said.

### The reason behind it all

Dailey has always done things such as community service and volunteering. However, she needed something to fill in the gaps during the school year. This is where Keystone came into place.

“The summer program did lots

of volunteer work and I wanted to do more over the school year and I also thought it would look good on college resumes – which it does,” said Dailey.

The program is preparing kids in military families for the future; building resumes for jobs and college so they understand how to develop those when the time comes around, as well as other ways they can improve their future. This is huge due to the fact that military families tend to move around a lot. Therefore, kids don’t have to fall behind on the basic skills of life

Keystone does community service and volunteers just about anywhere they can. It’s all about helping out the community and making a difference within that society. A number one place that Keystone visits is Capuchin Soup Kitchens and warehouses.

When Keystone is here they help out and give service to the homeless. Giving back and providing help to those in need is something that Dailey enjoys.

Thus, Keystone is right for her. “It’s one of those things why people volunteer. It makes me feel good knowing that I am at least trying to make a difference,” Dailey said.

When Dailey’s group went to the Detroit Arsenal, a popular place for Keystone, they built a vegetable garden. The garden

was for younger kids and it was meant to teach them about the irrigation system.

“We had them help us plant the vegetables, and then when the time was right we harvested them and brought them inside to cook and make meals of them,” said Dailey.

As for traveling locally, the members also have the opportunity to travel to different states to meet with other Boys and Girls Clubs of America. This happens two to three times year.

“I have been to two national Keystone conferences. The first was in Texas and the second was in Chicago,” said Dailey.

The conferences are very beneficial to those who attend. They are seminars about preparing for life after high school and introduce ways on how they all could make a difference. By doing this, those who attended are then able to bring back their ideas. Dailey valued her experience both times and took from each seminar.

For the past four years, Keystone has been a part of Dailey’s life and source of enjoyment. When she felt that she needed more, Keystone was there and changed her life for the better.

The amount of freedom that Keystone gives to each member is what Dailey enjoys the most. With the help of Keystone, Dailey has learned to be inde-

pendent. With her dad being gone, it’s always just been Dailey, her sister and her mom.

“It feels like there isn’t really a place for him because we’ve adjusted to it being me my mom and my sister – but of course we are happy to have him home,” Dailey said. “I’m really proud of him.”

Dailey’s dad has most recently been to Kuwait; he was there for six months. He has also been to Germany, Iraq, and Afghanistan.

“A lot of times we weren’t really aloud to know where he was going until it became public knowledge,” said Dailey.

For Dailey and her family it was relieving to know that he is back. It is also a relief when he leaves because they know he won’t be gone for too long.

Doing good throughout a community can go a long ways. Dailey strives for this through Keystone. She wishes to make a change and help out as much as she can. She encourages others to do engage themselves in community service or volunteer work.

“There’s no downside,” Dailey said. “I know people are busy but even doing it once or twice a year would at least make some difference.”

## Barjaktarovich Sets the Bar High to Lehigh

**By: Anna Kinkela**  
*Staff Writer*

Junior Carley Barjaktarovich is a hardworking, energetic, head-strong girl. Her Dad has taught her the value of hard work ever since she was little, a motto Barjaktarovich has kept with her ever since.

“One big thing he’s always taught me is to not make excuses. We all make mistakes, which we then learn from. Just brush it off and keep going,” Barjaktarovich said. This motto set the tone for who she wanted to become. She is an all A student, who plays many sports including Softball.

“When I was little I was playing soccer and softball, but I was told I had to pick, so I did softball. I’m not sure what my little mind was thinking but from then on I couldn’t not keep playing,” said Barjaktarovich.

She has been on many teams, including the RHS Varsity Softball State Championship Team from last year. This past fall she decided to join the Finesse, which is a sports program to help with exposure. She ended up playing five games, and col-

lege coaches were there watching her.

“It was a little nerve-racking but I was also excited to be getting noticed,” Barjaktarovich, who plays shortstop, said. She had a few coaches approach her which gave her many options to pick from, and what would benefit her for softball and her education. Barjaktarovich is so happy about the scholarships she was offered and couldn’t believe how many people were interested in her. But she had to make a choice.

“Lehigh University, not only just for softball was the reason I picked this school, but I also picked it for the educational purposes as well, and once we had left for the tour I just knew, I had this feeling,” said Barjaktarovich, who is the team’s leadoff hitter.

Grades and her education are very important. It’s what has gotten her to where she is today.

She has kept her head high, and made sure to pick the right choices throughout school and it’s earned her something that most high schoolers could dream of as a junior. She doesn’t have to worry or be frightened

for her future for her senior year. She knows exactly what she will be doing and it’s a comfort and one less stressful thing to worry about.

“It’s so comforting to know that I don’t have to worry about filling out a bunch of applications my senior year and I know where I’m going,” Barjaktarovich said. Even though she knows where she is going, she has no idea what her major will be. She is considering Engineering and Business at Lehigh

“There’s a lot to choose from, and since I’m me I’ll probably change my mind a million times as usual,” Barjaktarovich said. Barjaktarovich not only is hard working but throughout here past three years here at Richmond she’s grown so much.

She’s an amazing friend. She has always been there for anyone that needs it, putting a smile on everyone’s face.

“I learned from my peers on how to grow so I think I’ve learned to do that now,” said Barjaktarovich. Her mom is a giant supporter of everything she does and is so proud of her along with her two siblings. Her older sister Jessica, 22, played softball

and majored in accounting. She has been someone she looks up to a lot.

“Just to see my sister graduating with the grades she had and how hard she worked made me want to do the same,” said Barjaktarovich. Her brother Hunter, 19, has been working his entire life and she loves that he is so dedicated to what he does. He works at their family business in electricity.

“He’s always working and it’s so hard to believe that he does, but I’m so proud of him and can’t wait for him to go so far in life,” Barjaktarovich said. Barjaktarovich’s siblings are unbelievably proud of her, but she knows that they work just as hard as she does and would be where she is today without her family and all the support and advice they have given her throughout her life.

“Softball has taught me that no matter how many times you fail, you must pick yourself up and keep going until you succeed,” said Barjaktarovich.