



Counselor Steve Myers visits the classroom to meet with his 8th grade students and offers holiday treats to all.

Rocky Run Connection

School-Families-Community

WELCOME MESSAGE

IN THIS ISSUE: INTERVIEWS, REVIEWS, ETC.

Welcome to Rocky Run Middle School ESOL

By Ms. Catherine Falknor, ESOL Teacher, and Mrs. Bonnie Horowitz, ESOL Chair

We have just finished our first RRMS **newsletter**, and we welcome you to read what our students are doing and what is happening in our classes.

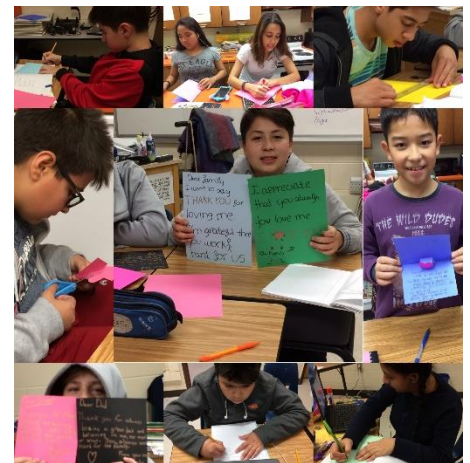
This semester has also begun an exciting transformation of our school, with most of our classes held in trailers, for a 3-year renovation project!



Sophie practices solving her Rubik's Cube in record time.

Newsletter Staff:

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| Shahnaz | Secretary, reporter |
| Thy Phan | Media specialist |
| Sophie | Reporter |
| Mahima | Reporter |
| And 7 th and 8 th grade students! | |



Holiday Activities: Students in beginning English made Thanksgiving cards and gingerbread cookies to share with their families.



Yaxinaer and Yierfan "arrive in" NYC

Academic language students made themselves ready for an American history simulation about Ellis Island.

Meet the French teacher!

Here, students are meeting our French teacher, **Monsieur Hani Boules**. We invited him to converse with our French-speaking student, Semir Senel.

The other students were fascinated to hear him speaking his language fluently and to hear that French is so similar to Spanish.

**Quotations to remember:**

Everyone smiles in the same language – George Carlin

Share our similarities, celebrate our differences – M. Scott Peck

Everyone is beautiful, you just need to take a [good] look at them - Zara Yasin

Differences and similarities are equally as easy to see. It mostly depends on which ones you are seeking to find – Doe Zantamata

We may all have come on different ships, but we're on the same boat now. – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

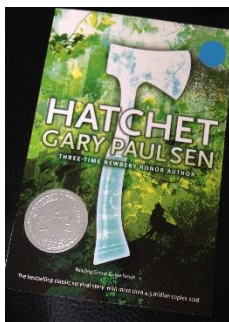
Every individual matters. Every individual has a role to play. Every individual makes a difference. Only if we understand, will we care. Only if we care, will we help. Only if we help shall all be saved. The least I can do is speak out for those who cannot speak for themselves.—Dr. Jane Goodall

What do you think of immigration?

Student interviews with Principal Dr. Goodloe, Librarian Ms. Grover, and Teacher Ms. Roland

[Click here](https://youtu.be/MsXQlrRgflQ) to view the video or type this link into your browser: <https://youtu.be/MsXQlrRgflQ>





Memories of Home:

READ A GOOD BOOK?

HATCHET by Gary Paulsen Book review by Wonhee Jeong

The 13-year old boy Brian rides an airplane to meet his father over the summer. But the pilot has a heart attack and Brian falls into the middle of the forest. He only has a hatchet that his mother had given to him. It seems that he has no hope of survival. To live, he made a shelter, fire, and the tools he needed. Slowly, he adapts to the ways of nature. But everything changes when a storm comes. The storm destroys everything he built, except the hatchet. When the storm passes, Brian looks around and finds the plane that crashed. And Brian remembers that there is a survival kit in the plane...

NOW, read it yourself to find out how Brian learns to survive!

Comparing My Native Country's School to My New School

by Saugat Poudel

There are many differences between my old school and new school.

When I was in my old school, I had many close friends and teachers. I miss my friends and teachers. School started at 10:00 am and ended at 4:00 pm. In my old school, we used to have many periods. We used to have tiffin/lunch time in which we ate our lunch. I liked that period very much. We were not allowed to carry electronics devices, like a mobile phone, laptop, etc. We were used to carrying a lot of books to read. In my old school, we did not have A/C. There were not lockers where student put their bags and books. There was not a cafeteria. We used to eat our lunch in our same class with all our friends.

When I am in my new school, there are also many friends and close teachers. They are so honest and friendly. My new school starts at 7:30 am and ends at 2:15 pm. There is a big cafeteria where all of the students eat their lunch. We are allowed to carry our electronic devices in my new school. We need to carry least books to read. We read our lesson from laptops. We have several classes. We have 5 minutes to go to another class. We read our lessons in different classrooms in different periods. There are many A/C units and heaters in my new school.

So, I like both my new and old school very much.

Interview with Steve Myers, Counselor by an anonymous 8th grade student

I interviewed Mr. Myers. We had a good conversation. We talked about his interests, how he started his career, and how long he had been in this career.

Mr. Myers said he had been in his teaching career for 8 years, and he loves his job. He started his career as a teacher in middle school. He is good in guiding people. One day he asked his mentor for help, saying, "What job should I do?" His mentor suggested that he become a counselor and he taught him how to be a good counselor. Mr. Myers began his counselor's job as an intern (not being paid) for the first year, and he has been a counselor for 4 years ever since. He was a high school counselor for 3 years and now he is a counselor at Rocky Run Middle School.

He also likes to travel, but has never traveled abroad. He might be planning a trip to London with his wife. Mr. Myers likes middle school compared to high school because he has more interaction with students. It's easy for him to remember them because of this interaction. I think he is doing a good job.

GRAPHIC EDITORIALS

IMMIGRANTS - BY SHAHNAZI3TH

IMMIGRANTS COME HERE FOR DIFFERENT REASONS SUCH AS LIVE IN FREEDOM, TO PRACTICE THEIR RELIGION FREELY, TO ESCAPE DESTITUTION OR INJUSTICE, AND TO MAKE BETTER LIVES FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR CHILDREN. MOST EVEN COME BECAUSE OF THE WAR IN THEIR COUNTRY.



They come here to have a better life!



Most immigrants who come to this country work hard to take care of their families and themselves.



PERSPECTIVES

Who are immigrants and what do they contribute?

Immigrants are people who come to live permanently in a foreign country.

You might wonder, "Why are immigrants coming to the U.S.?" There are many reasons why immigrants choose to come to the U.S. Some of these reasons include a lack of freedom in their countries, such as the freedom of religion, freedom of speech, insecurity, education, or to escape destitution or injustice and to make better lives for themselves and their families. In 2015, there were 11 million unauthorized immigrants in the U.S. Right now (2017), there are over 37,000,000 legal immigrants, and immigrants make up approximately 13% of the U.S. population. Most immigrants who come to this country work hard to take care of their families and themselves.

People say immigrants hurt our country financially by taking jobs and services without paying taxes.

In fact, studies have proved the contrary. Immigrants help to create new jobs by buying American and local products. Immigrants often start their own businesses. Immigrants are twice as likely to start businesses as citizens born in the U.S. Companies owned by immigrants are more likely to hire employees than companies owned by native-born citizens. They contribute greatly to the economy, have high business organization rates, and create successful businesses that hire employees and export goods and services. Immigrants collectively pay between \$90 and \$140 billion each year in taxes. They paid more than \$11.8 billion in taxes in 2012.

Immigrants play a remarkable role in the U.S. economy. Studies have found that immigrants are more likely to start their own businesses than native-born Americans.

Yaxinaer's Story

My story about how I came here is simply with an airplane, but what happened in China is a different story. In China, they want us to get out of our land and we don't want to do that. They can't just take our land like that, so on Jan. 5, 2009, we had a big "fight" with China. There were tanks all around. It was crazy. That's why we are here.

HOLIDAYS

Chuseok

By Seoyun Choi

Chuseok is traditional Korean holiday of bountiful harvest in South Korea. In Chuseok, my cousins come over to my house or I visit their house. Chuseok is a family time which means you spend time and enjoy chuseok with your family.

In Chuseok, we dance a kind of dance called "Ganggangsullae". It is a 5,000-year-old Korean dance that was first used to bring about a bountiful harvest and has developed into a cultural symbol for Korea. It incorporates singing, dancing, and playing, and is exclusively performed by women.

The women of the family also prepared an ancestral memorial ceremony called charye by filling a table with food including newly harvested rice and fruit, and they celebrate Chuseok by making special foods, particularly a certain kind of rice cake called **songpyeon**.

We played a lot of traditional games on Chuseok. It is so fun because you play games with all your cousins and family. Also, we wear our traditional clothes that are called "hanbok." I love my hanbok so much because it is so beautiful.

There are soooo many designs of Hanbok.



This is a dance that called "Ganggangsullae", but we usually don't dance. You can see it if you go to "Folk Village" which is a living museum type of tourist attraction in South Korea.



Mostly Songpyeon's shapes look like a half moon, but people make them into a lot of different shapes.



Recipes of favorite foods



Baked Eggplant Afghanistan

Ingredients:

- 4 large eggplants, slicing them 2 inch long and 1 cm thick
- 3 spoons tomato paste
- 8 cloves garlic (crushed)
- 2 onions sliced, as desired
- 1 cup oil (enough to cover 1 layer of eggplants in the pan)
- 1 tsp salt

1. Heat the oil in the pan for approximately 2 minutes.
2. Put 1 layer of eggplant in the pan and fry until the bottom side turns brown.
3. Turn over and fry until brown.
4. Take out the fried eggplant and place side by side on a plate.
5. Add salt on both side of the eggplants.
6. Fry the remaining eggplant, taking them out of the pan as soon as they are fried.
7. Pour off the remaining oil (or use fresh oil) to fry the onions and the garlic.
8. When the onion turns brown, add the fried eggplants to the onions and add the tomato paste.
9. Turn the heat down. Stir a few times carefully to mix the eggplant, tomato paste, and onions.
10. Cover the pan for 15 minutes. Stir every 2 or 3 minutes, so the eggplant does not stick to the bottom of the pan.



Chicken Mo Mos Nepal

Ingredients:

- 250 gm minced chicken
- 1 medium bowl of white flour (maida)
- 1 garlic bulb finely chopped
- Coriander leaves finely chopped (optional)
- Salt to taste
- 1 tbsp refined vegetable oil

1. Mix a pinch of salt with the flour. Knead the flour into a salt dough with warm water. Set aside.
2. Make the filling in a pressure cooker. Add minced chicken, onion, garlic, coriander leaves, and salt.
3. Add just enough water to cook the meat. Drain excess water, if any.
4. Cook the meat.
5. Make small round balls from the dough.
6. Dip them in vegetable oil and roll thinly on a plate, like a roti.
7. Cut circular pieces from it using a small bowl with sharp edge.
8. Put a teaspoon of filling in the center.
9. Bring the edges together and pinch them.
10. Make into packets and twist them with fingers to ensure a tight seal.
11. Cook the momos in a steamer for about 10 minutes.
12. Serve with sauce of your choice.



Ramen South Korea

1. Prepare a pot
2. Put 550 ml of water to the pot (for 1 person)
3. Wait until it boils
4. When the water boils, put noodles into the pot and put ramen soup into the pot.
5. Add extra things, like egg.
6. Wait 3~5 minutes.
7. Serve!



Maggi (without tastemaker) India

1. Cook Maggi Noodles according to package directions without the tastemaker. Drain and set aside.
2. Heat oil in a pan and add garlic. Saute for a minute and add mushrooms. Cook the mushrooms for two minutes and add pasta sauce, oregano and maggi noodles.
3. Bring this to a quick simmer and switch off the flame. Top with olives, basil and parmesan. Serve immediately.



Arriving in the USA

Market Chicken with Noodles

China

Ingredients:

Large chicken, three potatoes, three green peppers, and half an onion.

Wide noodles

Seasonings

Dice the vegetables.

Clean the chicken thoroughly. Add salt and cooking wine.

Put oil in the pan and cook diced vegetables with a spoonful of sugar.

Add chicken and stir fry.

Add garlic, ginger, red pepper, bay leaf, and soy sauce.

Cook until about to boil.

Add green onions

Taste for flavor.

Boil noodles.

Combine and serve.



Topkapi Palace by Semir Senel

After Istanbul was conquered by the Ottoman Army in 1453, the Padishah (king) Fatih Sultan Mehmet ordered the construction of Topkapi Palace in the summer of 1459. Its main purpose was to serve as a residence of the padishah and grand vizier.

Later, in 1923, after the fall of the Ottoman Empire, Topkapi was declared a museum and now in recent years has become a tourist attraction in Istanbul. It contains many artifacts left from the Ottoman Empire, such as swords, clothing, armor, and manuscripts.



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Drawing by Edgar Noe Rodriguez Hernandez

Hagia Sophia by Samet Cabir

The Hagia Sophia, or Ayasofya, is one of the most important monuments of world architecture. It has been a renowned cathedral, mosque, and museum. Built during Roman times, in 537 AD, as an Eastern Orthodox cathedral, it is famous for its massive dome, and was converted to a mosque in 1453 and remained such until 1935. Now it is a museum.

