



PANTHER PAWS



January 2025

Climax-Scotts Jr./Sr. High School

Climax, Michigan 49034

Carol Vick Memorial Game

By Jordan Grove

The Carol Vick Memorial game is held every year between the Climax-Scotts Panthers and Colon Magi. Every year the game supports someone in our community that has had or is battling cancer. This year we were "All in for Paul". Mr. Paul Barton is a former Climax-Scotts graduate. His wife, Leslie Barton, and both his children, Madison and Garrett, are also C-S alumni. Paul is currently battling colorectal cancer. He has already been through rounds of radiation and chemotherapy (which ended on December 18th). Now he is recovering in the hospital after his surgery that he had on January 14. The Climax community is wishing him a full and speedy recovery.

Thank you to everyone for joining us on Friday, February 7th for the game to support Paul and his family. We raised over \$6,000 towards helping them with their medical expenses as Paul continues to battle his cancer. The three games played that evening were competitive and fun! We had a great turnout and the energy and support for Paul was awesome! Thank you everyone for supporting this event!



Above: Logo created by Jack Pearl Team Sports of Battle Creek.

Flannel Friday

By Chloe Czuk

Flannel Friday is a new "movement" started to support our former math teacher Chad Behrends. Around two years ago Mr. Behrends had a medical emergency. He continues to receive medical care and has gained back the ability to follow visitors with his eyes and slightly moving his fingers. Our staff chose to support him through wearing flannels due to his casual dress style he always sported. This month a significant number of staff wore flannels to honor Mr. Behrends and his recovery.



Left: Mr. Haynes and Mrs. Hinga rock their flannels for Flannel Friday.

Right: The C-S staff poses for a pic together.

(Photo credit: C-S Publication Staff)



Special Ed. Coordinators

By Kylie Sineath

Inside the world of special education, the work is done by people such as Jennifer Chiechi, the Special Education Supervisor, and Kelly Garber, the Special Education Coordinator. Both of these women are faced with difficult challenges in their position. Jennifer manages paperwork and regularly checks student IEP's with staff to ensure students are receiving the assistance they need. Kelly enjoys the challenge of finding what clicks best for each student. Both Jennifer and Kelly are committed to supporting all students. Both Jennifer and Kelly agree that students are the most important part of their career. They do everything in their power to connect with each and every student by simply having fun and meaningful conversations. This helps build trust and understanding with students. Jennifer stated she enjoys listening to others and values deep conversations. For her part, Kelly states they maintain an open-door policy to encourage students to come to them for support. Together, Jennifer and Kelly have managed to create a very open and comforting environment that really shows the importance of empathy and connections when it comes to connecting with students.



Above: Kelly (left) and Jennifer (right) (Photo credit: Kelly Garber)

Glen Oaks Meet and Greet

By C-S Publications Staff

On January 11th, our boys' junior high basketball players travelled to Glen Oaks Community College to watch the men's basketball team perform against Lansing Community College. The trip to Glen Oaks was arranged by Coach Vick, who was an assistant coach for the women's basketball program at Glen Oaks the last three years. It was a great opportunity for the boys to see basketball played at the college level. Not only did the team win (86-68), but also the boys got to meet the players and coaches in the locker after the game.

The girls' junior high basketball players will be making a similar trip on February 15th to watch the Glen Oaks women's basketball players compete against Kellogg Community College. All girls intending to attend must submit a signed permission slip to either Coach Vick or Coach Gibson as soon as possible.



Above: The boy's Jr. High basketball teams enjoy the Glen Oaks basketball game. (Photo Credit: Larry Bowron)



Above: Titus Bowron poses with Glen Oaks basketball player, Darius Roach. (Photo credit: Larry Bowron)

Get Your 2024-2025 Yearbook

By C-S Publications Staff

The 2024-2025 yearbook is on sale now! The C-S Publication staff is working hard to design a unique book to represent this school year. Check out the finalized cover. Can you guess the theme?

The books are currently on sale for \$46 apiece. Students interested in purchasing a book can bring in cash or a check (made out to Climax Scotts Schools) to Mr. Vick to place an order, or they can purchase a book online at Jostens.com.



Senior's Last Semester

By Ashlynn Bradley

The end is near! On May 16th, 2025, our seniors will be finally finished with high school. Many of their teachers have the same response when asked. "How do you feel watching 2025's seniors go from new 6th graders to graduating seniors?" Many of them said it's sad to see them go and that it's like every year. However, it has been wonderful watching them grow into who they are and become adults. The seniors agree as well, considering they all only have close to 5 months left and they are done with school. Some say they will miss being at school and the rest say they can't wait to be done.

Senior Kylie Sineath says, "I'm happy to not have the stress in her life due to school and to begin working full time." The seniors have made many years through school together and can't wait to finish as a group who has been here since the beginning on that first day in preschool and kindergarten. Senior Jordan Grove said, "I'm excited to embark on this journey, almost graduating is very exciting!"

Class Of
2025

N.H.S. Inductions

By Emily Wiest

This January, 6 new members were inducted into the NHS. I interviewed Mrs. Wright about what NHS is, which she said stands for National Honor Society. We have our own chapter named for Ann Prange, and all public schools that want to have a chapter can have one. Mrs. Wright stated that the organization focuses on four pillars: character, scholarship, leadership, and service, and that we endeavor to make our school and community better through charitable works and positive choices. Currently, there are 15 members, who apply for membership, and a group of teachers review their applications for admittance. Students who are interested need to have at least a 3.25 cumulative GPA to apply.



Left: Current members of the National Society pose with new members.

Right: Existing members of NHS light the candle to represent the 4 pillars of NHS.

(Photo credit: C-S Publications)



Meet Officer Benton

By Ilona Kovach-Fitzsimmons

Meet our new School Resource Officer, Eric Benton! Ilona Kovach-Fitzsimmons pulled him aside for a few questions.

CS Publications: "Why did you move to Climax?"
Officer Benton: "This is the twilight of my career, so I just wanted to change it up a little bit."

CS Publications: "How do you like Climax so far?"
Officer Benton: "Yes! Climax is fun! I'm just trying to figure out everyone's name!"

CS Publications: "What do you like about Climax?"
Officer Benton: "I like that it's a smaller school with less kids so memorizing names should be easier for me."



Above: Officer Benton poses for a pic in his office. (Photo credit: C-S Publications)

Senior Spotlight

Micayla DeWaal

Favorite Memory at Climax-Scotts? Going on the Cedar Point trip with the band and my friends in 9th grade.

What legacy do you hope to leave behind? I want people to understand they don't have to be afraid to be themselves.

What do you plan to do after high school? I plan to finish EMC for early elementary education, then get my bachelors at WMU.

What's a good word of advice to share with your younger classmates? Don't try so hard to fit in. Stand out, be different, be unique, be yourself!



Madison Vincent

Favorite Memory at Climax-Scotts? When the whole school got together like pep rallies and clapouts.

What legacy do you hope to leave behind? I want to be remembered as someone who encouraged others to express themselves and pursue their passions.

What do you plan to do after high school? I plan to finish EMC then move on to WMU for my bachelors degree in social work.

What's a good word of advice to share with your younger classmates? Build genuine friendships rather than chase popularity!



Carter Pio

Favorite memory at Climax-Scotts? When Mr. Himebauch would let us go outside or lunch basketball.

What legacy do you hope to leave behind? Earning my doctorate when I finish college.

What do you plan after high-school? Attend MSU to pursue my doctorate in Veterinary Medicine.

What's a good word of advice to share with younger classmates? It is easier to turn your work in on time for full credit.



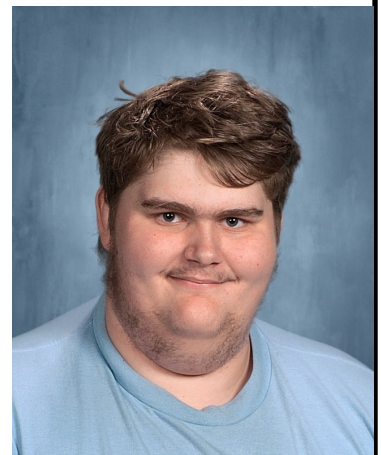
George Murphy

Favorite Memory at Climax-Scotts? Becoming team manager for Jr. High football and wrestling.

What legacy do you hope to leave behind? To teach life lessons and to pass everything I've learned down to the other generations.

What do you plan after high-school? Go to trade school for a couple years and, after that, then go to college and get a degree in law enforcement or teaching.

What's a good word of advice to share with younger classmates? Make good choices, pass all of your classes, and study hard.



January Blood Drive

By Kaylee Peck

The January 23rd blood drive went well but was faced with several challenges due to finals being a week before and three snow days leading up to the blood drive which left no room for reminders to be sent out. Even with this, the student body and teachers pulled together at the last minute resulting in 15 donations. This was 3 short of the monthly goal but we are still ahead of our yearly goal since the previous blood drive in November was very successful. The next blood drive will be on April 21st, so, when it is time to sign up, go see Ms. Wright. If you have any further questions, also contact Ms. Wright.



Winterfest is in February!

By C-S Publications Staff

Winterfest 2025 is almost here! The first day is Monday, February 10th! The Winterfest game will be played that Friday against Battle Creek St. Philip. The Winterfest Dance will begin at 7 pm on Saturday, February 16th. This year's spirit days are as follows: Monday (Pajama Day), Tuesday (Dress like your Favorite Musician), Wednesday (Class Color Day), Thursday (Date Night), and Friday (Blue and Gold Day).

For class color day, each class will wear the following colors: Seniors (black), Juniors (white), Sophomores (orange), Freshmen (pink), 8th grade (red), 7th grade (yellow), and 6th grade (green).

The Winterfest court has also been selected! The underclassmen representatives are as follows: Freshmen (Bryce Birkam and Kennedy Smith), Sophomores (Ashton Heighton and Anahi Morales), and Juniors (Sophie Braithwaite and Johann Albarran-Aguilar).

The senior class nominees for King and Queen are: Queen (Ashlynn Bradley, Madelyn Schultz, Lily Van Dillen, Kylie Sineath, and Madison Vincent) and King (Jackson Bagwell, Cole Curtis, Sam Bleeker, Braylan Simbron-Malerva, and Rosendo Garcia-Delgado).



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