

Children and guns; deadly combination

by Vonda Carmack

American citizens will never look at a child with a toy gun the same again. They will never see a child shooting at his pretend enemies as innocent childish behavior. Not since the tragic event that took place in Mt. Morris, Michigan where a six-year old boy shot and killed his classmate.

The horrifying death of six-year old Kayla Rollands has been a rude awakening. Is this latest death what it takes to finally get our attention? How many more deaths will it take for America to finally realize that we need to keep guns away from children?

Despite the chain of school shootings, we have failed to educate children on guns and violence. It is now obvious that not even our elementary students are exempt to the rise of school violence that has swept our country. They should be targeted for gun awareness.

Do children really know what guns are? Or do they know what television shows them? They know how guns and weapons work- they see it everyday from Elmer Fudd with his shotgun, to The Power Rangers with their barrage of artillery.

Children get their pre-conceived notions of weapons from television, but do they get any information on real guns, how they work, what guns are used for, and their consequences when used in the wrong way?

Children know none of this because those answers aren't shown in their favorite cartoons. The scenes they don't see are Jimmy the Bad Guy's family in tears because of his death and The Power Rangers being taken away to jail in cuffs.

Children don't have the maturity to distinguish between television and reality, real and make-believe.

In order to keep children away from guns, they need to be educated on weapons and violence. It has now become our responsibility- the mothers, the fathers, the brothers, the sisters, the friends, and the neighbors- to educate the children in our lives so that what happened in Michigan will never occur in our community.

Talk to the children you know about guns. Tell them that guns are a source for hunting and protection, but never used to intentionally hurt someone and especially not for the use of children. Remind them that they should never touch a gun without the accompaniment of an adult.

It will take a big effort on everyone's part, from Bill Clinton to America's parents, to make a worthwhile difference in this cause. Maybe then, after everyone takes part in this effort, children in our country will be safe in school and out.



Native creatures at RCHS

by The Anonymous Student

It takes all kinds of people to make the world go round. Many of us hear that every day from our parents and grandparents, and after spending a large amount of time at "The Rock," I am sure that the old saying is true.

I feel, as your survival guide, which is what I am using my anonymous position as, it is my duty to warn you about the people you will encounter during your daily stay in Rockcastle County High School.

I am going to begin with the people you will encounter in front of the cafeteria before the actual start of the school day.

These people include a group mostly guys who wear sparkly nail polish, glittery body gel, and shiny metallic shirts. They have

piercings in unusual places and refer to themselves as "movie stars."

Also in this area are many of the metal heads, zombies, and other people who don't quite "fit in."

When you head to classes upstairs, you will encounter what is known as the "Senior Wall." The wall to the left of Mrs. Debbie Cash's classroom has earned this title because it is just as it sounds- a large group of seniors congregate here between classes and at break.

In previous years, many people observed that the seniors (and a few lucky students who have friendship or romantic connections) propped their backs against the stone and leaned on the sacred

wall, but it seems that this year's crop of graduates to be have developed some bizarre medical malfunction.

They aren't able to stand leaning against the wall. No, it seems they must sit in the floor, and their legs absolutely must protrude into the path of oncoming traffic. If they fail to settle into this position, they may become comatose, or perhaps even die. Surely it must be a medical condition. There is no other logical explanation.

Another group that stands out in the hallowed hallways, or perhaps, our hallowed cafeteria, is the JROTC.

continued to page 5

The Rocket

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It Rocks

Rocket athletes doing so well in their respective competitions

Those colorful gel pens

SPRING BREAK!!!!

Getting a high score on the ACT

Creative April Fool's jokes

FCA holding weekly meetings

It Reeks

Rocket athletes after a long, hard practice

Losing pens and pencils because of your mesh backpack

Testing right after Spring Break

Waiting to find out your ACT scores

Racial, ethnic, or gender slurs

The lack of enthusiasm in RCHS clubs