

# RAMPAGE

December 13, 2013

Volume 6, Issue 608

## Dear Rammy

Dear Rammy,

I like this girl. A lot. But I'm still hung up on my ex because I fell in love with her. We had a lot of memories, (we were together for almost a year and a quarter) and she keeps playing with my emotions. How can I decide who I want to invest time in? I just want to be happy again.

Sincerely,

Exhausted

Dear Exhausted,

I think you sort of answered your own question, in a way. Your ex will always have a special place in your heart, no matter what you do. But if she is playing with your emotions, that is never good. It's time to stand up, strong and independent, and let go of that part of your life. The key to staying away from that damage-inflicting part of your life is to hold on to the memories but let go of the person. Will you still love them and miss them? Of course! But don't forget you miss the good memories of them, but not the abusive person they are now.

This new person in your life, no matter your past, deserves a chance to prove herself to you. Obviously your past isn't making you happy, so hold your arms open to the future. You never know, this new girl could be a better brand of happy for you than you could ever imagine. Take care, and take a chance, Exhausted.

From,

Rammy

## Spread Your Light

by Megan Wilson

In today's high school communities, some students tend to think they may not belong or that they do not fit in. However, student leaders including Renaissance teams have been trying to change this attitude. The North Thurston Renaissance group this year came up with the theme, "Spread your light." But the question is how does someone spread their light? Is it by helping out a lost freshman on the first day of school, giving a teacher a helping hand, or simply inviting someone sitting alone to have lunch with them. The student leaders from from North Thurston spread this idea last week during the annual Northwest Renaissance conference.

Dec. 5, North Thurston played host to student leaders from 20 high schools from all over Washington, including Timberline, Aberdeen, and Capital. The theme this year was "Spread Your Light." "Spreading your light is enabling oneself to take positive vibes and actions and using these to motivate others to do the same, thus creating a chain reaction to continue and become a better school community overall," Renaissance member Stephen Lin (Sr.) elaborates.

The event was leadership-based and had breakout sessions from five schools: two from North Thurston high school, and one each from Tumwater, Aberdeen, and Puyallup. The Renaissance members from each school gave presentations on how their schools promoted student involvement and how they made their schools, speaker the greatest school in the world. The student leaders from Tumwater, for example, developed a program where once a month they had a luncheon for the life skills class and did activities with them while Aberdeen did quite a few community service projects,

including cleaning up a local park.

The question was: how can students spread their light in their school community? "I spread my light by being positive. A lot of people go through bad times and no one likes a "Debbie Downer" so I like to stay positive through both good and bad times and be there for people when I can," Cheyenne Watler (Sr.) explains. Wyietah By (Sr.) spreads his light by "trying to make people happy and have a better day. I do that by saying "hi" and being goofy throughout the day."

The purpose of the conference was not just to inspire the leaders to make a difference, but to help the students in their school to make a change. Whether it is as simple as lending a helping hand to a struggling student or recognizing student achievements in all areas. Everyone can make a difference in their school and can turn "I will" into "we will." All it takes is a little determination and willingness to spread your own light.



## Letter to the Editor

submitted by Connor Hawthorne

Dear RamPage staff,

I have an idea that could get your paper more widely viewed, as well as improve our school. This may seem a little sexist, which would make it hard to get through administrators, but I have noticed that there can be an uncomfortable feeling in the male bathrooms.

As there are four urinals in the main restroom, whenever two guys are in there at the same time, they usually pick the outermost ones to use. This is perfectly fine. It is when the third guy comes in and has to choose one to hug to that things get a little awkward. It's not an urgent problem and does not need to be fixed with dividers. However, in this situation the users of the urinal have two choices. A) To look straight in front of them at the bland, white wall that is as interesting as a dead AAA battery, or B) look down at

their own stream. The second option could make his neighbors feel uncomfortable if they are self-conscious.

I propose that with RamPage organization funding, or through ASB funding, we mount viewing windows in front of each urinal and house a copy of the paper in each one. It would make the experience more enjoyable, comforting, and educational. An example of the viewing window I'm referring to can be found in front of the water fountain. If anyone has been to Buffalo Wild Wings or a restaurant that has flat screens in the bathrooms they would probably side with appreciating the entertainment in such a boring and repetitive routine.

Thanks for the consideration, and time of reading this. Please have a male present to give his input on this suggestion.

## Counting Sheeps

by Jasmine Contajoso

Can't ever get enough sleep? Is homework keeping you up or your younger siblings that cry through the night? People say to count sheep, read a book, or turn off all technology. Let's be honest here -- none of that actually works, but here are some surefire ways to fall asleep faster from "diy-girly-tips.polyvore.com."

- Read a dictionary
- Take a hot shower
- Keep your room cool
- Drink warm milk
- Train your brain (study your school work, do a crossword, etc.)
- Change the lighting
- Get out of bed and distract yourself temporarily (Watch television or videos on YouTube, but stay off of social networking sites such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Polyvore, etc.)

Hope you have a good night's sleep. Sweet dreams!

## Filibuster Fraud

an editorial by Saysha Marie Belton

A filibuster, based on "Google Dictionary," is an action such as a prolonged speech that stops progress in a legislative assembly while not really meeting the requirements. Basically, a senator can literally talk a bill to death. Legislators gather to vote on bills which will propose new laws to the American people. In the spirit of our democratic republic, members (so long as they are in the minority party of the Senate) are allowed to speak freely without a time limit in order to be heard in their opinions on the bill. This power is being blatantly abused.

Instead of members using the privilege of the filibuster to speak their minds, they are talking about Shakespeare and the alphabet and Twitter and hamburgers. This is because while there is no time limit for a person, there is a

cut off for the bill to be voted on. So, if someone that doesn't want the bill to be voted on is called upon to speak, they can run the legislature through the voting window by singing nursery rhymes.

The problem is that the elimination of filibusters won't exactly end the long-running debate of banning this type of time-wasting. Getting rid of the filibuster doesn't change the fact that the House will almost never agree on something with the Senate that Obama would also be willing to sign into law. Many people have wanted to change the laws on filibusters, but that brings up the issue freedom of speech and it boils down to the fact that there is no statistically distinguishable difference in the outcomes of laws that are passed. No matter what we do, the filibuster will continue to kill bills nationwide.

# Paul Walker's Death

by Lucas Johnson

Paul William Walker IV, better known as Brian O'Conner in "the Fast and the Furious" movie franchise, died on Nov. 30, 2013 in Valencia, Santa Clarita, Calif., U.S.A. It was a horrible car crash with Walker in the passenger seat. His friend and financial adviser, Roger Rodas, was driving back from a charity event in which Walker was often involved, Reach Out Worldwide. The car impacted a light pole and shortly thereafter burst into flame. Evidence that police have collected are concluding that Rodas and Walker were driving at least 90 mph, and doing doughnuts. The investigation is ongoing at this time. The coroner stated in his report that William had survived the car crash, but died due to the combination of injuries from the impact and the fire from the damage the car sustained. The autopsy concluded that Rodas, who was driving the car, suffered "multiple traumatic injuries," but there is no mention in the report of fire being a factor in his death. The autopsy does not have the toxicology report, which would show if drugs or alcohol played a role in the accident.

Walker's family issued a written statement Dec. 2 expressing thanks for "the outpouring of love and goodwill from his many fans and friends." They asked that instead of flowers, people make donations to his charity Reach Out Worldwide. "It's comforting for them to know that the son, brother, and father they love so much is equally adored, respected, and appreciated by so many," the statement said. "Paul founded the organization with the genuine desire to help others, and it's important to his family to keep his memory alive through ROWW."

Tales of Walker's philanthropy are not new. CNN confirmed one story from a decade ago when Walker noticed a young U.S. soldier shopping with his fiancée for a wedding ring in a Santa Barbara jewelry store. "The groom was just back from duty in Iraq, and he was going to be deployed again soon and wanted to buy a wedding ring, but he said he just could not afford it," saleswoman Irene King told CNN. "I don't think the soldier realized how expensive those rings are, about \$10,000." The couple apparently did not know who Walker was, King said. "Walker called the manager over and said, 'Put that girl's ring on my tab,'" she said. "Walker left all his billing info, and it was a done deal. The couple was stunned. She was thrilled and could not believe someone did this." King called it "the most generous thing I have ever seen."

Walker was born on Sept. 12, 1973 in Glendale, California, USA. Walker wanted to become a Marine Biologist, and majored in Marine Biology at a California Community College. He didn't like to watch himself on screen and would only watch his own movies once. He described himself as a "total gear head" and owned the Nissan Skyline R34 which he used in "2 Fast 2 Furious" (2003). Walker wanted to enroll in the U.S. Army when the Gulf War first broke out. He scored his break into show business through modeling. He owned a Labrador named Zero, a Chesapeake Bay puppy, and a horse named Cowboy. Walker resided in Huntington Beach and Santa Barbara, California, where he surfed every day when he was at home. Walker has a daughter with ex-girlfriend, Rebecca Soteros, named Meadow Rain, born Nov. 4, 1999. She moved in full time with him in the fall of 2012, making Walker a full-time father. He will be greatly missed by his family, friends, fans, and admirers of his outstanding moral character.

6							1	
		7		4	6	9		
2	9		8			6	5	
	7					3		
	5		2		3		7	
		9					8	
	2	8			9		4	7
		4	7	1		8		
	6							3

Generated by <http://www.opensky.ca/~jdhibe/software/sudokugen/> on Wed Dec 11 19:41:00 2013 GMT. Enjoy!

## Bible Club

by Lesley Akers

Hey, Thurston! Bible Club is at it again. The next opportunity to volunteer with them for the Thurston County Food Bank is coming up fast. The next trip is on Dec. 21 at 1 - 4 p.m. Seniors need volunteer hours to graduate, so why not take advantage of this opportunity to receive those?

Juniors, sophomores, and freshmen can also get ahead of your hours or receive a scholarship, so let's go, everyone! Support your community and spread the holiday love. Let Rachel Benton know if you are going to participate, or find Mr. Broeker in room 220. They hope to hear from you!

## Comet Tail

by Gage Buck

"What do you mean, you don't know? There must be some record of a problem before the transmissions stopped."

"Yes sir, just one thing out of place in their recent records: a hull breach. It says here 'collision by unknown object. Bay two six punctured and sealed. Mechanic fourteen, outer hull specialist, tasked with inspection.'"

"What did the inspection turn out?"

"Doesn't say. Could have been rock. Not abnormal according to *Comet Tail's* previous records of hull breaches. My best guess is the transmission stopped while that mechanic was out on the hull. But sir, I'm telling you -- it's just like the others. Transmission cut to static, that's not a normal tech failure, and it's too much to be coincidence. I cross checked the files of the other losses and—"

"You have that clearance?"

"Just hear me out, sir. These are all the same problem, whatever it is. The same

malfunction or..."

"Don't say it. I know what you're thinking and it's whispered among the others too. You think *Comet Tail* and the others found what they were looking for and it spelled bad news. I don't want to hear it. We can't take no for an answer. The order will not change, the other star ships are to continue the search and to uphold their previous pretences of mining and mapping. Just keep track of all transmissions. If this happens again, you need to find the clue in the ships records."

"What about *Comet Tail*?"

"Lost. Mark it with the rest."

"What, with *Astral*, *Void's Star*, and *Vagrant*? Now *Comet Tail*, too. Sir, we need a plan. We should tell the other ships of the danger they face; maybe they could—"

"Enough. Get out of my office. Say nothing to the other ships, and make sure the rumors stop. I'll handle the rest."

"Yes, sir."

## Rant

A Ranting Column by James Wyatt Sinnett

I'm not going to lie -- I'm in kind of a bad mood. People just get on my nerves nowadays. I might not watch the news, but that doesn't mean I don't hear or find out about what's going on, and what I do hear about is not really anything good. Even in schools now, teenagers aren't really bringing my hopes up about the future generation. All of you, every last one of you, walk around with your pants sagging, saying stupid words that have zero meaning. Now, maybe not everyone sags their pants, but y'all do come up with some pretty pointless words. The sagging pants, *guys*, is ridiculous -- how about, instead of walking around like a penguin with your pants around your knees, you actually put on a belt (or use the one you have correctly), and if you don't have one, I would strongly consider getting one.

All these words like "swag," "twerk," and "selfie" that are ending up in the dictionary -- they don't need to be there. They aren't a part of the English language; they're just stupid words that people use now because they have nothing "smart" to say. Also the whole concept of "YOLO" is pretty dumb. We get it -- you only live once. You can stop reminding people. No one even uses it the way it's meant to be used anyway. Two people walk into a restaurant and one person orders the large fry. As soon as the order arrives, one of them says, "Got a large fry, YOLO." Really? That's what we are using these words for now -- large fries? Stop abusing the English language and start speaking normal, known words.

This one I'll aim at everyone, whether you do it or not. People, stop texting and driving. I see commercials on television and hear it in the news or from people on the street that someone got hurt, or worse, in a car accident because a driver was texting while driving. I don't care who's texting you; whether it is Mom, Dad, or the president, don't pick up the phone and reply. That windshield on the front of the car is there to look through while you're driving, so actually look through it and stop looking at the phone. I don't get it. That text isn't that important and it won't mean crap if something happens and someone gets injured or worse.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is now time for our couples round, but not just any couples. No, I'm talking about those couples that choose to stand around the hallways and play tonsil hockey. Here is a surprising fact: people don't want to see couples vacuum each others' faces. It's like watching that Animal Planet show, "Wild Kingdom." Guess what else. I don't care if the couples that do this are okay with it; others aren't, and to be honest it makes people feel uncomfortable. Please, to the couples that do this, stop. How about you go somewhere private and attack each others' faces? Also, to those couples that are like, "Well, we don't care what other people think," you should, because it's kind of nasty watching y'all go at it like a couple of squids.

Did anyone else hear about that group of kids that tried to beat up an old lady because they were playing something called the "knockout game?" Well, I did and this is what I have to say to that: are we as teenagers so desperate to look tough that we are going to beat up on our elders, some of which who are packing heat? I mean, really. It's just sad. The future generation is going to be a generation of bullies if this crap keeps up, so how about everyone takes a minute and thinks about what people are doing? No, what teenagers are doing. If people think about it long enough, they might start to realize all of the pain we cause each other at times. Please, stop this madness before it gets any worse. I can't stand mean people and I don't get how anyone else can put up with all of this insanity.

### Mission Statement

The ambition of the RamPage is to provide the staff and students of North Thurston High School with an unbiased publication with an open outlook and to promote the free-flow of information. We strive to ensure that all students are well represented in our newspaper regardless of race, gender, religion, or class. In our efforts to do so, we agree to accept articles submitted by students and teachers. However, we reserve the right to edit and revise articles as we see fit. We will make a conscious effort to generate interesting and tasteful articles for our readers.

### Advertising Policy

The RamPage staff reserves the right to refuse any advertising that we believe to be factually inaccurate, designed to mislead, defraud, or delude, and/or containing detrimental, vengeful, or unsubstantiated attacks. We will not publish any advertisements that sell and/or offer services illegal for all persons under 18 to possess, buy or use. All advertising in the RamPage must be appropriate; we will not accept any advertisements that are derogatory, obscene, that create potential danger, or that creates disruption to the school. Advertisements in the RamPage do not necessarily represent the views or endorsements of the RamPage staff or the North Thurston faculty, administration, or the North Thurston School Board.