

Summer romance is in full swing

By Izzy Ungs
Of the Gleaner

“Summer lovin’ had me a blast. Summer lovin’ happened so fast.” This may not be just like the movie *Grease*, but a few students discovered interest in each other this past summer. While some stayed within their grade, others branched out to grades above and below them.

Abigail Kluck, ‘23, and Luke Welbes, ‘25, have been dating since early May. It all began when she was in search of a prom date. Kluck began Snapchatting Welbes with hopes

he’d accompany her. Ever since then, the two have been together.

“Some of the best memories I have with Abby were fishing. I have a pond near my backyard, so we love to go out there and catch a variety of fish such as Bass, Bluegill, and Catfish,” said Welbes.

From the junior class, Joey Kiefer, ‘24, and Jerren Gille, ‘24, have been together for a few months. They started talking towards the end of their sophomore year when they had math class together.

“On our first date, we went to Galena for dinner and then hiked Horse-

shoe Mound to watch the sunset. We’ve been able to spend lots of time outside together this summer,” said Kiefer.

Gille described his favorite features of Kiefer’s, including her vibrant personality and pretty eyes.

On the more recent end, Claire Lueken, ‘25, and Owen McCleary, ‘25, started dating at the beginning of August. Lueken and McCleary both agreed that their favorite times spent together were hiking at the Mines of Spain.

“We are in the same friend group, so we hung out a lot in group settings this summer. We shared



Summer Lovin’

Luke Welbes, ‘25, and Abigail Kluck, ‘23, smile with their catch. The two enjoy spending time fishing at Welbes’ pond.

lots of laughs and eventually admitted our feelings to each other,” said Lueken.

Whether the date be in nature, a restaurant,

or simply at home, these lovebirds have made it clear that romance is far from dead here at Wahlert.

Collegeboard vs. actual college

By Leah Park
Of the Gleaner

For many students trying to get in front of college, a question frequently arises: “NICC classes or AP classes?” Many students wonder what each class entails, what the difference is, and how these classes will affect their future.

Connor Link, ‘23, thinks that AP tests are the way to go. Link has taken and passed seven AP tests and classes.

“I prefer AP classes because the colleges I am



The Grind never Stops

Patric Fitzgerald, ‘23, works on his NICC class in the library. (Photo by A. Mohr)

looking at don’t accept NICC credit,” said Link.

Other students at Wahlert have taken both

and have decided which one they prefer. Anna Knockel, ‘23, has taken eight NICC and three AP classes.

“NICC classes work best for me because they are more structured,” said Knockel.

Someone who can answer students’ questions about the difference is Mrs. Katie Lenart in the guidance office. Mrs. Lenart is the College and Career Readiness Coordinator.

“Each college and university is going to be different about whether or not

they take the NICC credit while almost every college takes fours, fives, and some threes on AP tests,” said Lenart.

So, in the debate on which class is better than the other, Mrs. Lenart says, “It just depends on the student and their pathway.”

The guidance office would also note that if there are any questions, Mrs. Lenart would be happy to answer. Or, you can check out the guidance information on www.holyfamilydbq.org/wchs under Student Life.

LEAP Club leaps into the issue of food waste

By Lilah Takes
Of The Gleaner

For the past six years, it has been the director of the Dubuque Food Pantry, Theresa Caldwell’s dream to recover produce from the Dubuque Farmers’ Market. Produce that isn’t recovered normally either ends up in the landfill or compost; however, this past summer, Caldwell’s wish came true. But not without its trials and tribulations.

“My volunteers fell through, so it fell onto my shoulders. One week I had hundreds of pounds of produce, and the sidewalks are slanted just enough to where it became difficult to transport the produce,” said Caldwell.

Struggling to find volunteers and extra hands to take the boxes from the market to the food pan-

try, Caldwell is looking to Wahlert for help.

One Wahlert Club, LEAP (Leaders in Environmental Action and Protection), has been involved in sustainability and agriculture in the past.

Club member Kenna Wolbers, ‘23, said, “A lot of stuff we focus on in LEAP Club revolves around food; for example, the garden beds we have in the back [courtyard] and the current agriculture internship Ms. Schriver is running.”

However, this is LEAP Club’s first venture into the issue of food waste.

“We’ve never really focused on food waste and what happens to our food after we consume it. A lot of our environmental problems lead back to what we waste, and food happens to be top priority,” said Wolbers.

Caldwell believes the pantry receives about 300 pounds of produce a week, a job that needs more than one person to help pick up and transport. Luckily, Wolbers and other members of LEAP Club are eager to assist.

Gabrielle Staidl, ‘23, said, “I am really excited to get out in the community and do something that directly helps other people. I feel like this is an activity that we can be consistently involved in.”

LEAP Club is enthusiastic to stretch the walls that they normally work in, not only to help others but also to learn from the experience.

“It will get people out into the community more, and having this ability to collaborate with the Dubuque Food Pantry allows for a wider reach and



To-may-to, to-mah-to

LEAP Club member Gabrielle Staidl, ‘23, helps a farmers’ market vendor collect leftover tomatoes and green beans from the Saturday market. The produce will be donated to the Food Pantry. (Photo by K. Wolbers)

gets people to think outside of themselves,” said Wolbers.

LEAP Club’s new relationship with the farmers’ market and the food pantry is encouraging not

only food recovery but also redirecting accessible fresh produce to lower income residents in downtown Dubuque — a key component in tackling environmental issues.