



CHIT CHAT TIMES

Read Between The Lines

Teen Newspaper



Newspaper By Teens for Teens

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Editor In Chief David Jackson

Black History Month

Written by: Pioneer Park Beacon Center

Black History month is celebrated every February. It is a time to celebrate the freedom of African Americans in the United States. Many of those heroes died for equal rights. One such hero was Harriet Tubman. She helped to free slaves using the Underground Railroad. Angel, a twelve year old boy from South Bay says, "Black History month is very important to me because Martin Luther King Jr. made it possible for blacks and whites to live in equality."

Teens in the early 1900's did not have the privileges we have today. They were not able to attend school with other races. They had to sit in the back of the bus and even use separate bathrooms. Owen, a thirteen year old boy from Belle Glade feels he would be angry if he didn't have his civil rights. He enjoys the fact of being able to go to an integrated school. Black History month is a time for African Americans to come together to celebrate the civil rights movement. If you or your friends need more information about BlackHistory month, go to www.infoplease.com/spot/bhm1.html



What's hot & what's not

Hot

Young Jezzzy
Clear Nike
Mary J Blidge
iPod
Blach History Month

Not

Black Eyed Peas
Gnarls Barkley
Sketchers
Prince Halftime Show
Nintendo 64

Television or books that is the question

Written by: My Choice

In today's society, most teens choose to watch television rather than read a book. Television allows the viewer to experience sight and sound at the same time. A book requires the reader to focus only on the words. Chakira, a thirteen year old girl who lives in Riviera Beach chooses to read books instead of watching television. She reads books because they allow her to use her imagination to see the characters and understand the story. This gives her a chance to really get lost in the book. Television shows are produced to last thirty minutes to one hour. Dawn, a twelve year old boy who lives in Riviera Beach says he enjoys watching educational television such as the Discovery, History, and Animal Channels. He watches these programs because they teach him information in a short period of time. "A book takes too long to read when television gets right to the point." Television viewing ranks second only to sleeping as our nations number one pastime for teens. So, next time you're sitting in front of the television instead of reading, put down the remote control and pick up a book.



Teen arts programs

Written by: Street Beat

As you probably know, some of the most talented youth live in the Glades community. Sports, music and the performing arts are a few of the talents that can be seen here year round. However, there are times when our youth think they are not respected and their abilities are not taken seriously due to being from the Glades communities. Tiesha, a fourteen year old girl from Belle Glade is an artist and creates paintings. She wishes there were more art shows to showcase her work. We need a change. I see one coming.

Although there are a handful of excellent arts-based programs located here in the Tri-city area for youth, there is still a need for more of these kinds of programs. Arts-based programs provide healthy wholesome outlets for teens, while their skills and talents are discovered and developed. A number of these programs have annual showcases and talent extravaganzas at the end of the year. So, if you hear about a talent show or production, buy a ticket and come out to support our youth.

Teen curfew right or wrong?

Written by: Pleasant City Beacon Center

In our neighborhood, teens have curfews, but do not follow them. On any given school night you will see teens hanging out on a corner in West Palm Beach.

Xavier, a twelve year old boy from West Palm Beach thinks it is all right to have a curfew. His curfew is 7:00 pm on school nights. Xavier's parents enforce his curfew for his own safety.

Depending on the gang activity and violence in the community the police may create curfews for all teens. This curfew must be followed or the person breaking the curfew may go to jail. Willie, a fifteen year old boy from West Palm Beach thinks teens should not have a curfew because he has so many things to do after school. He plays football, baseball and goes to the library to study. Willie feels he doesn't have enough time to complete all of his responsibilities before his curfew. It's up to you to respect your parents and follow your curfew.



Teen health and obesity

Written by: Street Beat

Diabetes, Hypertension and other obesity-related diseases are become more common in teenagers. Poor eating habits and laziness are the reason teens are having these problems. Today's youth are considered the most inactive generation in history. The reason for this is lack of exercise and physical activity. Obesity in teens is a serious matter. Today's teens need to have prevention programs and get a better understanding to control the problem. For more information go to www.weightloss.about.com



Rap music and today's teens

Written by: Abundant Life Fellowship

Today's teens are influenced by rap music and videos. These messages are persuading teens to copy what they see and hear. Lasondra, a fifteen-year-old girl, who lives in Riviera Beach thinks Rap music and videos send a bad message to teens. These messages are filled with guns, violence and profanity. She hopes that children younger than her will not listen to rap music. Many parents feel this music is responsible for the inappropriate behavior of teens. There is an organization called Parents' Music Resource Center whose main concern is to denounce the obscenity and violence in rap music. This organization thinks if Rap music is censored, its message will change. With this change, today's teens will not be given the "in your face" gangster life of guns, violence and profanity.



Why teens get jobs

Written by: My Choice

Some parents do not understand that teens have needs. They can be responsible, and want to work and save money. If teens are relying on their parents to buy them things, they won't become responsible. Liz, a thirteen year old girl who lives in Riviera Beach believes that if teens get jobs they will be prepared for the challenges in the real world. She hopes to put her earnings into a bank account for a future college education. Some teens are forced to work by their parents so they can help contribute to their household incomes. Other teens work to learn responsibility and meet new friends. So the next time you see a help wanted sign, apply for a job!

Comic Created by: Heart Project

