

CLARION

By students, for students

How Did You Celebrate?
page 7

New Year's Resolutions
page 12

Chicken Eugene
page 15



INSIDE THE ISSUE



Creative Director Guppy's Cat. Photo Provided By Guppy Neff

Featured

- 5** Transgender Bathrooms
- 6** Tartan Threads
- 13** Fun Page
- 14** 2024 Best Photos

On the Cover

A Welcome Friend of the Winter. Photo by Guppy Neff

Special Sections

- 7** How Did You Celebrate?
- 12** New Year's Resolutions



Email: clarion.central@gmail.com
Room: 6-314
Phone: 937-512-2958

Staff

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Nathan Dunn

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Guppy Neff

ONLINE EDITOR

Atticus Fries

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Sakshi Patel, Mason Burgess

REPORTERS

Noah Schlarman, Ibrahim Amzath Chr Abdou

MULTIMEDIA SPECIALISTS

Ayi Jean-David Jun Atayi (JD)

DISTRIBUTION COORDINATOR

Ayi Jean-David Jun Atayi (JD)

SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR

Sakshi Patel, Katie Quintuna

NEWS STAFF WRITER

Esperance Amuri, Andrew Barnes

MARKETING/SALES REP

Melissa Wangui Wambui

PUBLIC RELATIONS INTERN

Elshan Huseynzade

MULTIMEDIA INTERN

Dion Johnson

STAFF WRITER INTERN

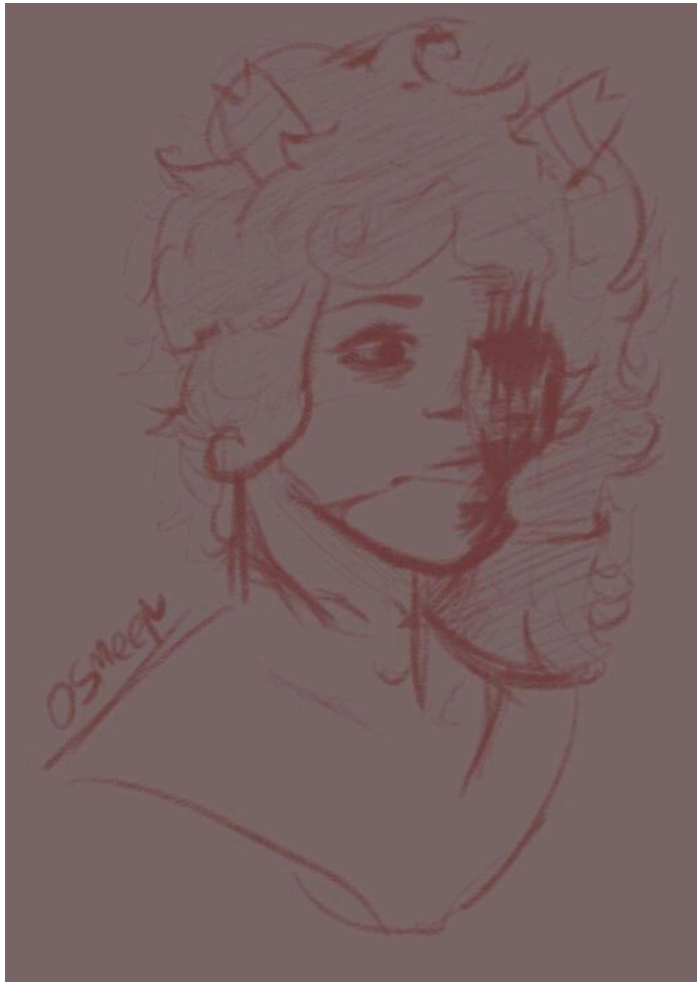
Koena Lizza Modiba

ADVISOR

Jessica Graue



Our New Executive Director. Photo Provided By Nathan Dunn



Surviving through the scars. Drawing by Guppy Neff, Creative Director



Art trade with Beez. Drawing by Atticus Fries, Online Editor



Progressive
PRINTERS INC.
EST. 1946

6700 Homestretch Rd.
Dayton, Oh 45414
937.222.1267
progressiveprinters.com

Let us take care of all your Printing needs.

Team up with Progressive Printers to take your project to the next level.

We have expanded our Large Format Department!

- Custom cut pieces
- Pop up displays
- Indoor & Outdoor signage
- Package Design

Many substrates available;

- Wood
- Acrylic
- Styrene
- Metal
- Foam
- PVC
- Aluminate
- and more

contact an account representative for more information




PROGRESSIVE PRINTERS
CELEBRATING 75 YEARS

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR'S

Welcome back Tartans!

I wanted to take some space to introduce myself here in the first magazine of 2025. My name is Nathan Dunn and I am grateful to be writing this as the new executive editor of the Clarion. I am an Aviation Maintenance Technology major who has a newfound passion for writing. After a life changing event, I needed a new outlet, and I found that in words and the comfort they provide. I am grateful to have been given this position. I hope to live up to Ismael's legacy and to make all of our readers proud while I am the executive editor.

Nathan Dunn, Executive Editor

As the new year begins, I would like to address the world as we know it. Things have been hard, we all know that. However, the beginning of a new year will always bring hope with it. Covid, Ukraine, Palestine, the election; every year, we have had something to battle or work through.

As a member of the LGBTQ+ community, I reach out to transgender youth, and to anyone under the beautiful rainbow that is our identities. I reach out to you to offer my words: there is still fight left in us, there is still time. We will not be erased. We will honor the elders of our community who fought for us to be where we are and we will make our descendants proud.

To the women who will be affected by this, I know you are also scared—being unable to receive care that could continue to make your life better. To all of the women who fear that they won't be able to have life saving medications to keep their body from attacking itself. However, you too, are fighting. Fighting for equality, fighting for the right to decide what is best for your own body.

We all have a purpose in our life, and this year we will be strong. We will look to the brightest parts of the world and we will make it through the months, days, and hours that seem impossible to face. You are all not alone, and have your community and The Clarion standing at your side.

Guppy Neff, Creative Director



Guppy and Nathan. Photo provided by: Nathan Dunn

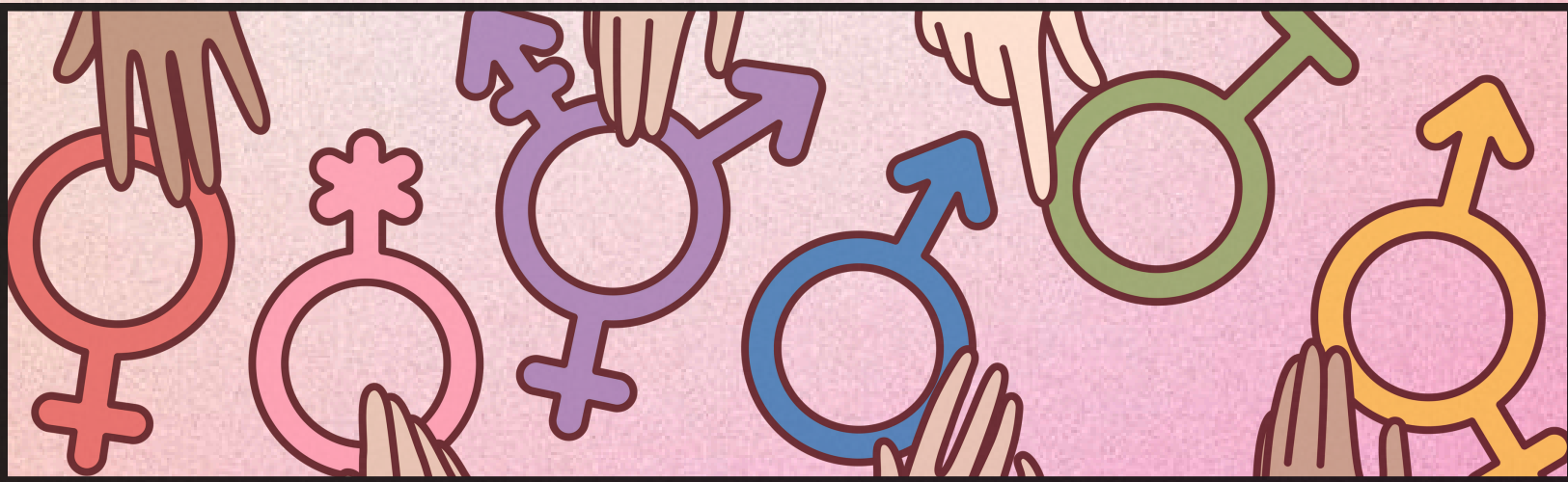


Photo by Canva

Transgender Bathrooms

When Rights Become Controversial

By Atticus Fries, Online Editor and Esperance Amuri, Staff Writer

Following in the footsteps of 38 other states, Ohio governor, Mike DeWine recently passed SB 104, a bill that prohibits transgender and gender non-conforming people from using the bathroom best aligning with their gender identity in schools.

Last month, November 13, the "Protect All Students Act" was signed into law and will take effect February 25, 2025. What does this mean for LGBTQ+ youth? Not only does this effect students, it also applies to any person in any school K-12, as well as any institution of higher educations, such as colleges

The bill says that schools must designate restrooms accessible by multiple students at once either as strictly for people of the "male biological sex" or strictly for people of the "female biological sex."

It goes on to say, "No school shall construct, establish, or maintain a multioccupancy facility that is designated as non gendered, multi gendered, or open to all genders."

While SB 104 outlines what they expect of transgender people in schools, it fails to outline many other things such as how to enforce such a law, what punishment for breaking this law would look like, and specific exceptions for transgender people who may pass well as a cisgender person, have changed the gender markers on their birth certificate, or have had any gender reassignment surgeries. Examples of available surgeries include, a Phalloplasty, a Penile inversion vaginoplasty, or a Double Incision Mastectomy.

When asked about what Sinclair plans to do regarding SB 104, Scott Marshall of the Office of the President of Sinclair said, "Our administration and legal counsel are currently reviewing the final version of SB 104 and its potential impact on established college procedures and processes. Sinclair has long been committed to fostering an inclusive, respectful environment for all students, staff and visitors, and we will continue to work to ensure that our signage and accommodations meet the needs of our Sinclair community and remain compliant with all applicable state and federal laws."

He also says, "Please note this statement is directed from the Office of the President, and not the College Board."

Assuming Sinclair chooses to go through with somehow enforcing this bill, this will cause many issues amongst the Sinclair community. Many transgender people already try their best on a day-to-day basis to pass as their gender identity. "Passing" refers to what gender someone is perceived as. With this bill in place, a transgender man would have to use the women's restroom, even if he has been on testosterone, has had a double mastectomy, and has had a Phalloplasty. Though other states, such as Utah, have exceptions in place where a transgender person who has had bottom surgery may use the bathroom of their choosing. This means a trans man with a penis would be allowed to use the men's restroom. This is not the case in Ohio.

Because of SB 104, there will be much confusion and many basic misunderstandings throughout campus while transgender people, passing or not, would like to simply mind their own business while peeing. Interactions such as these that occur in bathrooms sprout chronic seeds of anxiety in many transgender people, leading to them avoiding using any public restroom even when nature is calling.

This can lead to serious health problems. Avoiding having to pee ties hand in hand with consuming less liquid resulting in dehydration. Dehydration is dangerous for anyone can lead to some very serious health complications such as UTI's, kidney stones, and even kidney failure. It doesn't help that people in the LGBTQ+ community, as a minority, have less access to health care than the average american. Sure, if a transgender person needs to use a bathroom, they could go home, but that isn't a realistic ability for most people in general. Does any of this sound accessible?

It is good to remember that transgender people, both on and off campus are human too. They have the same needs as everyone else. Should they be prohibited from eating? Having a roof over their head? Or even using the bathroom that they prefer?

Tartan Threads

Charitable Clothing for Students

By Nathan Dunn, Executive Director

Felicia Wethington, the creator of Tartan threads a program that is providing students with free dress clothes that are entirely free for students who need them. Their first major push will be at the career fair in April and even there students are free to take whatever they need for their interviews.

“Under my branch here for career development, we teach students how to dress for, and ace interviews as well as find jobs write resume and cover letters.” said Wethington

The career development provides all of the resources that students might need to be able to get an interview and doing mock interviews so that way students know what to expect for their first time, if they haven't already had some in the past. They will also help in writing cover letters and resumes if someone needs to either update theirs or create a new one altogether.

“The intent is to open in the spring semester in hopes that students will use the closet for our career fair, but throughout the whole semester if they have any networking events or things like that.” Wethington stated

During the career fair, both Tartan Threads as well as some photographers at the Clarion will be dressing students and taking professional pictures for them. With the career fair being in April, it gives Tartan Threads time to get all of the supplies that they might need, as well as making sure that the photographers have what they need as well. With networking events having multiple times a year, Tartan Threads being open throughout the whole year is extremely helpful for students who all graduate throughout each of the three semesters.

“We did our first push of donations and we have a plethora of clothes right now... we do intend during the spring semester to send out again that we are seeking donations.” Wethington said.

Tartan Threads will have a secluded closet with mirrors and a door that locks, they will also have a plethora of accessories such as ties, earrings, necklaces, and bracelets. With the seasons changing their stock will also change with things more suited for winter being put into storage while spring and summer are here and vice versa.

Tartan Threads is a great alternative to clothes that work as it is completely free, and located on the Dayton campus in building 8 room 025, I cannot express how glad I am that this program is getting started just in time for the spring semester.



Wonderful Clothing Ready For Students. Photo by Nathan Dunn

How Did You Celebrate?



Yule's Generational Value

An Old Holiday Made New

By Guppy Neff, Creative Director

In my past and heritage, I know that I come from Irish descendants. My great-grandparents lost traditions that our family had carried for years. However, research brought me back to my roots and flourished into something more—a branching tree of my heritage and blooms of belief systems that dated so far back that the concept of my existence wouldn't have even been thought of.

Many pagans practice Yule, a beautiful holiday that begins on Dec. 21 and continues until Jan. 1. It celebrates the winter solstice and the coming of longer days into spring. This tradition spawned many ways to celebrate Christmas. The way that my family and I celebrate Yule begins on the first day with a lit candle that will burn throughout the colder and darker hours. The candle is etched with resolutions and wishes for the new year. The wax from the candle can be used in crafts, like straw goats or pinecone crafts, which are a big part of the holiday. Creating baked dried orange slices to hang around the home is also a common practice. As a Celtic Pagan, I also offer items and foods to the entities I surround myself with, such as coins, items from traveling, candles, spices, and anything that calls out to me.

I burn a candle each day until Dec. 25, sense I have old family traditions that were celebrated on Christmas. I find it comforting to bring a finale to the way that I celebrate Yule on that day as well. I light a bigger candle, usually a warm color like yellow or orange. The color represents the sun returning to make days longer. I burn manifestations in paper or leaves and continue with the regular traditions of my youth. Some years I will create a Yule log, a log that's burned throughout Yule. However, in recent years I have enjoyed making modern versions of it, making it out of edible ingredients to eat.

Yule is a significant holiday for me and reminds me to stay in touch with my heritage and self. It grounds me for the new year and sparks hope in times when the world seems forever dark. It tells me the sun will rise again and bring warm days, crops, and fun. A soft comfortable rest before the work of the new year.



Photo by Canva

Christmas

Widespread and Loved

By Nathan Dunn, Editor

Christmas is celebrated in over 160 countries worldwide by over 2 billion people, and the traditions we have in the West are a melting pot of customs from all over the world.

The typical mascot of Christmas would have to be Santa, originating from Europe, where Saint Nicholas brings gifts and candy to children.

Christmas is so popular that all of December and even the late parts of November are dedicated to this holiday.

There are countless movies and songs celebrating the cold season with billions of lights strung to brighten the time of year when the sun is preoccupied with warming the southern hemisphere.

The nativity is one of the most common decorations for the Christmas season. Exhibiting the birth of Jesus' birth, nativity sets can come in various sizes, from something you can set on a small shelf to an entire set for an entire yard.

Pine trees or 'christmas trees' are very common, seen in people's homes, store windows, and large mall plaza's covered in decorations such as lights, ornaments, and even strung popcorn. These trees are also known as 'evergreen trees' due to their color never dissipating as the life around them fall. They are displayed as a sign that winter isn't the end, the sun will rise and life will bloom again.

Being one of the billions of people who celebrate Christmas, my family's annual holiday tradition is going to see the light show in Eaton at Fort Saint Clair with my grandma. We also like to make forts out of our presents on Christmas morning at her house. We have done these for atleast the past decade.

The way that we celebrate Christmas has evolved over hundreds of years, but one thing that hasn't changed is the quality time spent with loved ones, and that is why Christmas is my favorite holiday.



Photo by Canva

Kwanzaa

Not a Holiday, a Culture

By Esperance Amuri, Staff Writer

No holiday season surpasses winter holidays; the evidence lies in the number of yearly celebrations, Kwanzaa being one of them.

Kwanzaa is celebrated primarily by African Americans and the Pan-African community from December 26 to January 1, but its values resonate with people worldwide. It was created by Dr. Maulana Karenga, the professor and chair of the Department of Africana Studies at California State University, Long Beach, in 1966. According to Dr. Karenga, Kwanzaa was created to restore and reaffirm African heritage, culture, and social values in the United States and his fellow African Americans to remember where they came from or their roots. It was also motivated by a combination of traditions and celebrations across the African continent.

Kwanzaa is from the Swahili word "Kwanza," which means "first". 'First Fruits' celebrations, which included feasts, music, and sacrifices to the gods, were held in ancient African cultures to praise the land's prosperity. Kwanzaa combines these traditions into symbols representing hope and thankfulness, such as candles and crops. Like other holidays, Kwanzaa includes symbols representing concepts, customs, and values. In addition to the seven original symbols, two extra symbols represent customs and ideas that grew out of African American life and hardships.

On each celebration day, one of the seven Kwanzaa original principles is honored: For instance, 'Umoja' (unity) encourages the growth of strong connections between families and communities, while 'Kujichagulia' (Self-determination) motivates people to define their identity and choose their life course. 'Ujima' (Collective work and responsibility) encourages building and protecting the community as a whole, making the problems of others your own, and working together to find solutions. At the same time, 'Ujamaa' (cooperative economics) motivates entrepreneurship in the community, which is profitable for everyone.

'Nia' (purpose) encourages people in the community to do things that will restore and inspire individuals to do great things and understand their roots. At the same time, 'Kuumba' (creativity) motivates individuals to do their best to leave the community in a much better state than they found it. Last but not least, 'Imani' (faith) encourages people in the community to believe in each other, their leaders and educators, and the ethical principles and accomplishments of their struggle. All these words are in the Swahili language.

Other symbols that represent these values and customs of the holiday are the items you will find on every table during this celebration: the Mat, which symbolizes the foundation upon which the traditions and history are built. The crops symbolize the rewards of their hard work, and the candle holder represents the roots of the African continent, from which African Americans and Pan-Africans are. The corn symbolizes the children and the future they personify;

the Unity Cup symbolizes the fundamental idea and practice of oneness, which enables all else; seven candles for the seven principles; and gifts symbolize the children's dedication and devotion, as well as the parents' love and work.

Each part of the world celebrates Kwanzaa differently; the only things that stay consistent are the principles, values, and how those celebrating prepare the table during the holiday. Kwanzaa is a cultural, not religious, holiday. While Dr. Karenga originally envisioned it as an alternative to Christmas, it has since evolved into a celebration of African identity and community. It was also designed to share African values and traditions in the United States among African Americans and Pan-Africans worldwide, including their freedom. As you celebrate with your loved ones this holiday season, pause to consider the principles that bring us together, whether through Kwanzaa or any other traditions. Let the spirit of thanksgiving and community lead you into the new year.



Photo by Canva

Hanukkah's Light

A Time of Rejoice

By Atticus Fries, Online Editor

Hanukkah, a Jewish holiday, celebrates the victory of a three-year struggle against Antiochus, a king looking to have rule over Jerusalem in 2nd century BC. Led by the Maccabees, they were the first Jewish family to defend their religious beliefs over their own lives. After rebuilding and cleansing their destroyed temple, a new altar was installed on Kislev 25 (a date, typically falling in December). Judas Maccabeus then suggested this victory be celebrated yearly for 8 days.

Each night of Hanukkah, a candle on the household's menorah will be lit. This practice is enshrined in the Talmud representing the oil Judas found in the Temple, the last left after Antiochus' violation. This oil was only enough to last one day, but miraculously gave 8 days of light and warmth to Judas. While now many families light still light one more candle each night, many also will light all of the menorah on the first night of Hanukkah and decrease the amount of candles each night.

Hanukkah in Hebrew also means "education." During this celebration, many read scripture, sing hymns, and recite some of the Psalms. Many teachers and Rabbis like to teach that this holiday commemorates Jewish perseverance through hardship.

Other common traditions include eating foods fried in oil, giving gifts, and playing dreidel, a 4-sided top that is spun. Each side has a Jewish letter written or etched: Nun (take nothing), Gimel (take everything), Hei (take half), and Shin (put one in). The game is played with a bowl or "kitty" in the center of the table or circle of friends and family. The bowl typically holds a certain number of coins, nuts, buttons, or chocolate coins called "gelt." Dreidels can be made from clay, wood, glass, and other materials as well.

How will you celebrate your holiday season?



Photo by Canva

New Year's Resolutions

From The Clarion

“Finish everything I start”

“Reconnect with nature”

“My resolution for every new year is to write more for myself. I write for work and the community, but I rarely work on my own blog or my jokes. I also want to work on being less rigid. I have a tendency to be super strict about rules and goals. I have learned from my students that I need to chill out a little and work on being more adaptable.”

“My hopes for the new year is to have a good year”

“My resolution for the year is to show up for myself more, taking actions that align with the person I want to become.”

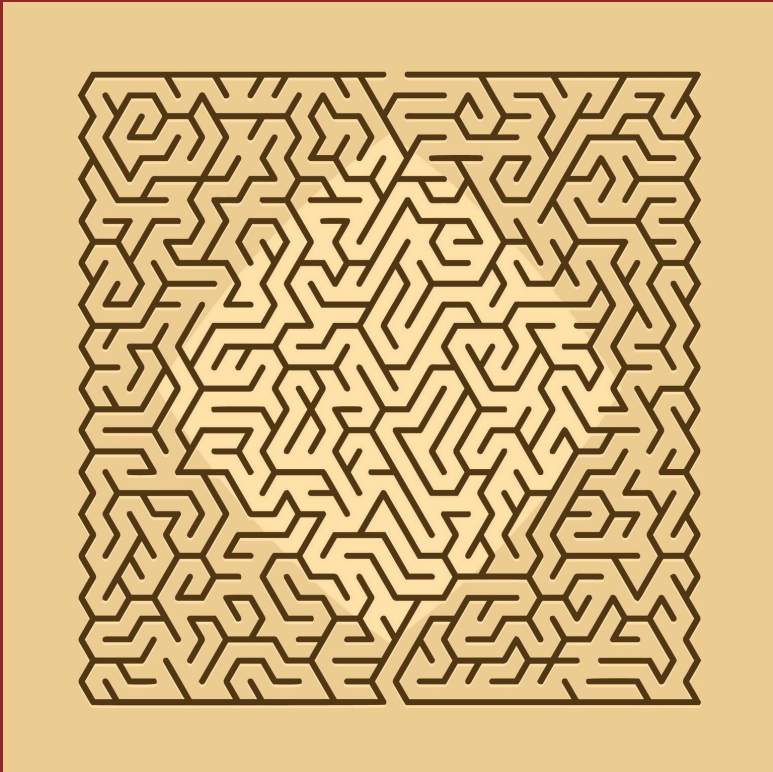
“My resolutions are to spend more time with family and get on a consistent sleep schedule”

“My resolution is to be more mindful of how my words and actions affect other people. As well as to notice when my pride gets the better of me. I also want to be healthier about my exercise and food habits.”



A time of Christmas cheer. Photo by Guppy Neff

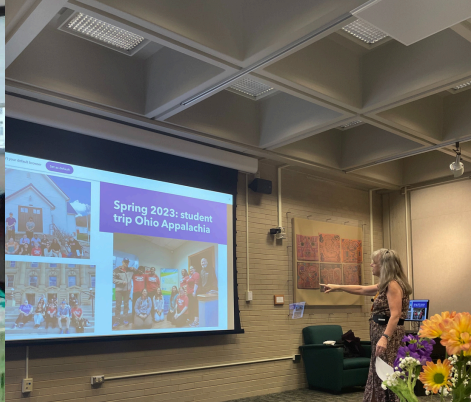
Fun Page



Hidden Object



Check our website for answers!



2024 BEST PHOTOS



Chicken Eugene

Ingredients:

- 8 chicken breasts
- 8 ounces jar dried beef
- 8 bacon strips
- 10.5 ounces can condensed cream of mushroom soup
- 8 ounces of sour cream
- White rice

Instructions:

- Preheat oven to 275 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Line a class baking dish with dried beef.
- Wrap chicken breasts in bacon and place on top of dried beef.
- Mix cream of mushroom and sour cream, pour over dish.
- Bake in oven for 3 hours.

- Wash and boil rice to taste.
- Top rice with Chicken Eugene and enjoy.



Astrid's delicious home cooking.
Photo by Guppy Neff



TRANSFER TO WRIGHT STATE

APPLY AND FILE YOUR FAFSA BY **FEBRUARY 1**



Go further in your education and your future career by transferring to Wright State University. Apply and be accepted to Wright State by January 15. Then file your FAFSA by **February 1** to maximize your financial aid eligibility.

Email our transfer team at transfer@wright.edu.

Go further at Wright State.



TRANSFER CENTER

