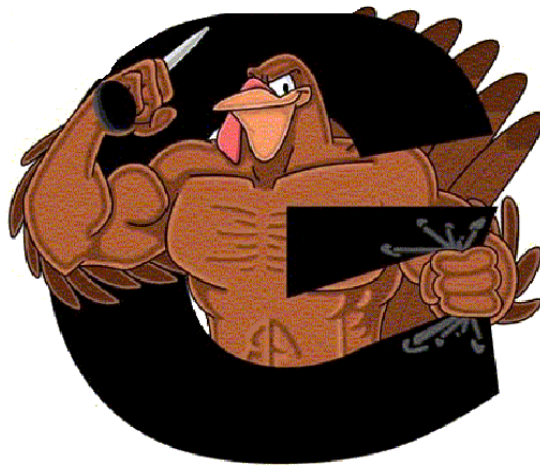


The Gobbler Times

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Martz, Nordean crowned

Kalley Duggan
Staff Writer

Homecoming week is here! This year's homecoming week is Sept. 30-Oct. 4.

The week before, the candidates were chosen. The candidates were: Allie Steece, Ashley Handt, Bailey Nordean, Cassie Sandberg, Jenae Herron, Chelsea Coombs, Dan Bender, Sam Hanson, Nick Blanchette, Nathan Ehnstrom, Josh Martz, and Ryan Anderson. All week the candidates dressed up to earn their classmates votes. Their dress up days were as follows: pajama day, super hero day, stereotype day, celebrity couple day, on which they served lunch, and school spirit day.

This year's homecoming dress up days for all students were: pajama day, backwards day, DURF (Dress Up Really Fancy) day, twin day, and school spirit day.

We started off our week with the crowning of the 2013 Homecoming king and queen. Congratulation to Bailey Nordean and Josh Martz for being crowned. Then later that evening the junior and senior boys went head to head in the second annual Iron Man volleyball game where the seniors came out with the victory. Wednesday brought us another head to head battle with the junior vs. senior girls in the Pow-



Josh Martz and Bailey Nordean were crowned Aitkin's homecoming king and queen for 2013.

derpuff football game. Due the rain the Powderpuff girls football team is rescheduled for Wednesday Oct. 16th after the varsity football game against Crosby.

Today the Homecoming parade is at 2:30, be sure to bring all your school spirit! There is a 70 percent chance of rain; therefore if it rains the parade will be in the gym. Five members of each float will walk around the gym. Tonight is our Homecoming game, be sure to come cheer on the Aitkin gobblers football team against the Ogilvie lions at 7 p.m. Following the football game the student council is hosting an activity night from 9:30 p.m. to midnight at the high school. Admission is \$2 or a food shelf item. The night will feature karaoke, dancing and the movie *Tangled* in the auditorium. The gym will be open for games and food and pop will be served.

Cassie Sandberg, Jenae Herron, Bailey Nordean, Ashley Handt, Chelsea Coombs and Allie Steece anxiously wait for Nataly Milbradt to crown the next queen.





Mr. Lake Returns to AHS

Joseph Fontaine
Staff Writer

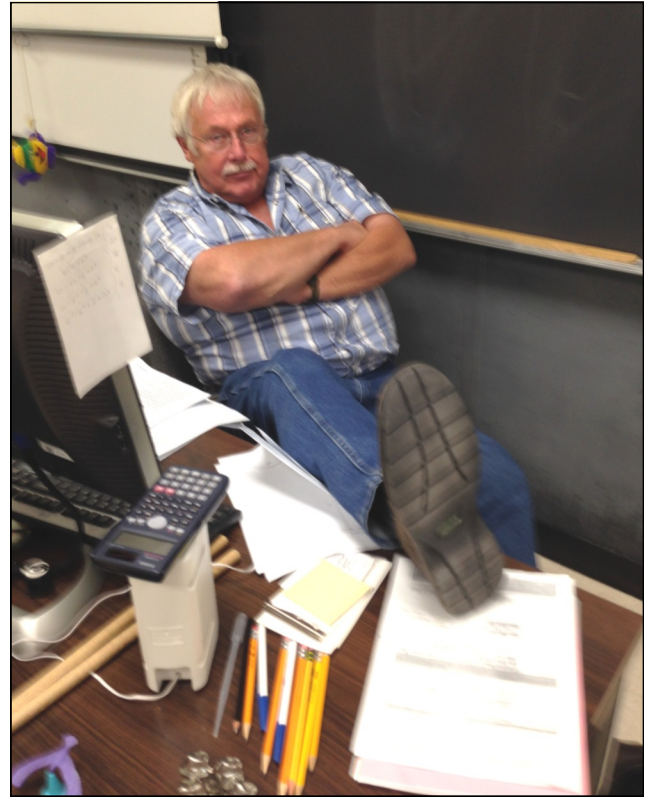
Mr. Lake is back! After a 30 year career, he has returned to spread the education of agriculture through Aitkin High School. "I was practically tarred-and-feathered and run out of town, but they asked me to come back," says Lake in a recent interview. He said that he has returned new and improved from his rotten self that he has been in the past, ready to improve himself, the students, and get better every year.

Mr. Lake was born and raised on a farm, and predicts he will die in Aitkin. He started off earning a living by doing farm work, putting in fences for neighbors, and driving truck. After high school he went to Vietnam, after which he played the drum set in a rock and roll band. "I like all kinds of music," Lake said, "Mostly rock, since that's where I started, but more country now. I love country music." Well said, Mr. Lake. He taught agriculture

classes at Aitkin High School for 30 years before beginning an exciting four years of retirement, during which he gladly substitute taught at his old stomping ground. And now, for the first time in almost half of a decade, he has returned.

His philosophy, he claims, hasn't changed. "Kids are first; the students are first," he responded, "It's important to get them ready the best we can." When asked about the 'wildest thing he has ever done,' he answered with his combat service, which he preferred not to talk about, but besides that he has 'done everything;' wrestling, boxing, scuba diving, but the one he notably mentioned was the time he went camping in a snow bank in -30 degree weather, which he said was quite a memorable experience.

In conclusion, Mr. Lake should be a valuable addition to our teaching staff, with his bobcat call; he claims to be able to control a classroom with ease. Welcome back, Mr. Lake!



Mr. Lake hard at work.

Students subjected to more stringent dress

"The dress code is supposed to make a student college and career ready."

Mr. Pederson
Principal

Katilee Leathers
Staff Writer

The students and staff of Aitkin High School (AHS) either strongly agree or disagree with the dress code this year. Holes in pants should be covered until mid-thigh. Yoga pants and stretchy pants and attire that promotes alcohol or tobacco products are not allowed. Furthermore AHS has a new hat rule. The new hat rule states that students cannot have their hats out at any time during the day or they will get it taken away.

"The dress code is supposed to make a student college and career ready," Mr. Pederson said, "The only exceptions to the dress code are for festivities and they go through student council which goes through me and the school board."

Pederson said the hat rule is the way it is because he doesn't like the distraction of hats and them being stolen. Mr. Pederson also believes that students try to use self-expression in their clothing and that's why they wear the things they do. He doesn't see a change in the dress code any time soon.

Back hallway is being put to waste

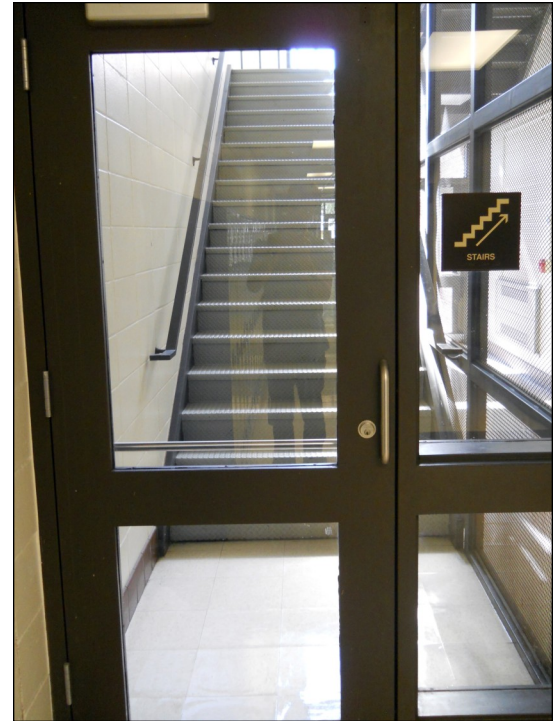
By Ethan Croatt
Staff writer

Have any of you ever felt that using the hallways or stairs in between bells is similar to taking a stroll through Pamplona during the Running of the Bulls Ceremony? It seems like at any moment you could be trampled into oblivion. A simple solution to this mayhem could be to open the back hallway and stairwell in the school. Mr. Miller tells me he doesn't remember a time when it has been accessible. Why is this?

It is currently being used as a storage facility for desks and other such things, some of them coming from Palisade, according to Mr. Miller. So, why can't these extra objects be stored somewhere else so we can utilize this space? One problem is lack of storage space for these materials. Head custodian, Jim Bright, tells me that it shouldn't be stored in out buildings because the metal on the desks could rust from being out there. If we aren't using them currently though, why couldn't we just get rid of it, or keep a few on hand if necessary.

Another problem that may arise is lack of monitoring for the hallway and stairwell, says Mr. Pederson. Let's be honest though, how many times do you see a teacher on the stairs keeping an eye on us besides when they are just passing through? Mr. Richters believes it could become a hot spot for PDA or tobacco use. He also told me that, if it was utilized correctly, it could decongest the stairwell. Faculty who are located near the back hallway like Mr. Miller and Mr. Jaskowiak suggested they would pop back there if it was open to make sure there was no horse play going on.

I think the back hallway and stairwell could offer a faster means to classes, maybe eliminating tardies for some students. Mr. Miller, Mr. Richters, and Mr. Jaskowiak all agreed that if our core values were employed, it would be nice to have opened up. So, the next time you're walking down the halls of PampI – I mean Aitkin High School – and feel the twinge of a bull's horn, ask why we aren't using the back stairwell and hallway.



A perfectly functional hallway with door locked.

What do you think of last week's homecoming dress up days for the Homecoming Candidates?

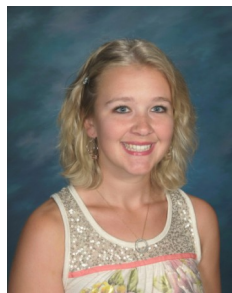
Erik Sanbeck
Staff Writer



"It needs more gati-tos."
-Eddy Simonson
(Anonym00se)



"I thought it was entertaining; they went through a lot of effort to impress us."
-Jake Jaskowiak



"I thought they were pretty good."
-Amy Chalich



"They should have been more creative with the days."
-Chris Stephens



"[The candidates] were very creative with their costumes."
-Abbie Hughes



Students should have open lunch

Darin Doely
Staff Writer

Many of us would love to have open lunch because we get to have some freedom. According to Noah Landrus, he feels that we should have open lunch because we are forced to sit in school all day and eat what is given to us. He also said that "as an American I should have the right to go eat what I want." Open lunch is important to him because he could go home, eat, and relax for a bit. He said that open lunch is a good thing. He said p.s., this is not Alcatraz. Open lunch would give us a big opportunity to test our core values in this school. One of the values is Responsibility. We should be able to show the school that we can follow these values and get more freedom.

"As an American I should have the right to go eat what I want."

Noah Landrus
Aitkin Sophomore

What better ways of showing one of these values than by giving us open lunch? We could show that this school does listen to these values. I interviewed a handful of students; one of them was Rickie Andrews. He feels that open lunch should be returned to junior and senior students. He said that if they are failing they shouldn't have the right to leave. Open lunch is important to him because he could go to McDonalds because it's really good and it motivates him. He

said, "Open lunch could go both ways it could go bad and it could go good."

Tyler Bare feels very strongly about open lunch. "It would give us a break between these long days inside sitting in a desk. We eat with 15 teachers in the lunch room watching every bite we take like its jail." He said open lunch would be a good thing. "Maybe if adults would listen to what a kid has to say for once before telling them to be quiet because we are young and don't know anything

let us do something that makes us happy FOR ONCE!"

Open lunch should be returned to the school. Give us students a shot at showing the school that we can have open lunch and not ruin it. We should not be treated like kids when we are almost adults. Most adults in this school think that open lunch is a bad thing because they think we are just going to go out and do drugs. They can't just assume things. They don't know what we are going to do because they have never tried open lunch with our age students.. We would respect open lunch because we know how fast we could lose it if we did something wrong. If one student does something bad, don't punish the whole school. Just punish that one student and take away his open lunch. Open lunch should be returned.

Solution for the Parking lot problem

Aaron Rinta
Staff Writer

There are two parking lots built for students at Aitkin high; one is paved, the other is not. The paved lot, which is on the north side of the school, was built for seniors. The dirt parking lot, which is on the east side of the school, was built for the juniors. The problem with the parking lot is that there are too many people parking disrespectfully in the lot causing not enough spaces.

An idea has come up to solve the issue. All the seniors who want to park in the paved lot buy a \$20 mirror hanging pass and the same for the juniors in the dirt lot, just a different color pass. Every day the cops go through, and if there is no hanging

pass, then they get a parking ticket. The money could go to sporting events or possibly paving the dirt lot.

I asked Mr. Richters what he thought about the solution. "I think that a set number of passes could reduce the amount of parking problems. It could also teach the kids to park nicely because if they don't they would have their pass taken away." Someone else also mentioned that the dirt parking lot might get poured into a slab and have a gym built on top of it, which would be an awesome idea, but we need to keep in mind; where are we going to park? If the dirt parking lot is turned into a gym the school should also buy the land across of highway 210 and build a small lot over there.



Mr. Richters is an 11 grade Social Studies teacher.

Are there too many hats in AHS?

By Haley Cannon
Opinion Editor

Are we over-ruled?

Most students still seem to be upset by the choices and decisions made to the 2013-2014 student handbooks. Accusations from students have been thrown around more than any questions asked. If only students would take time to ask these questions they would have a better understanding of why the rules were put in place.

The question of the day should be, "How do you see your teachers dressed at work?" How many of you have seen any teachers wearing yoga pants, jeans with rips and holes, or even a t-shirt promoting alcohol? I'm guessing not many! Teachers dress for their profession, which is their job.



The rules that have been put in place are for educational purposes. Some clothing can be considered 'distracting' and can interrupt the students learning environment and the teachers teaching ability. The object to these rules is to get students College and Career ready.

As we age and get older we see new sides of the world, and we practically have to jump into the crazy 'real world,' as adults! We have to dress for our professions and take on new responsibilities that we, the students, haven't had to take on before. Our teachers and school try to guide us, get us ready, and prepare us for the real world.

The rules that have been put in place are not to make students mad, or to have they worry about every outfit because of the dress code. The rules are meant to get the students ready for college, and future careers. None of the rules are meant to hurt anyone but to benefit us all.

AHS coming out with a bike rack

By Hope Mitchell
Staff Writer

This year many people have wondered where the bike rack has disappeared to, and have been asking around but only a few have the answer. The bike rack was put away because the skateboarders have been using it as a bar to slide across on." Soon," Mr. Jim Bright says they are going to have the bike rack put back out, but they are going to have bumps or rings on the top so it will throw the skateboarders off.

The bike rack may have to be cleaned up a bit considering it had spent the summer in the garage. Mr. Bright also said that it will take a while to get it out because they have other things to do. Teachers and the district have put a lot on the janitors, they have lots to do and can't always get everything done when we need it to be but they try their hardest to get things there.

I think that a group of people should get together to help the janitors out after school and maybe in the mornings before school. Maybe if they had a little help getting things out and cleaned up they could get on with their list of tasks.



A grungy array of misused bicycles lay sprawled around where a bike rack once stood.



Aitkin football is on fire

Boys are 4-1 this football season!!!

Bryan Haugly
Staff Writer

The Aitkin Gobblers started off the football season great. Their first game was away in Virginia; they went hard and finished with a huge W. The final score was 54-0, the biggest margin of victory in three decades!

Game two was home opener for the Gobblers and not so successful, falling short of the Braham Bombers by six points. The final was 20-14.

Game three for the Gobblers and home game number two was much better, making us proud with a victory against the Hinckley-Finlayson Jaguars. Another great win, 41-8!

Game 4 the Gobblers kept pushing on, sneaking by the Pine City Dragons by one point. After not starting the game like they hoped, they changed their game plan at halftime and came out strong scoring all their points and beating them for the first time in history, 20-19.

The Gobblers did it again in game five taking down Rush City 21-6. The Gobblers are unstoppable! After five weeks they are now 4-1 and are number two in the section, right behind Foley. This week they will be taking on the Ogilvie Lions for the homecoming game. Kickoff is at 7 p.m.



Nick Blanchette goes for a catch and makes a touchdown!

We should respect the jersey rule

Alexis Rachelle Wagner
Staff Editor

New head coach Tom Sanford has enforced a rule that has set off some of the player's girlfriends and friends. The "jersey rule" says players cannot give their football jersey to their girlfriend or friends but they can give it to a member of their family. There are many different views on what some would call the "jersey rule," some agree, others disagree very strongly and of course some people do not have an opinion on it. So to get some insight on what people think, I interviewed Coach Sanford and some students from the school.

Tom Sanford played football from

grade 4 through his second year of community college; he was a linebacker, he played for the Brainerd Warriors and CLC Raiders. Coach Sanford has been coaching since 1991, on and off for 23 years. He enjoys coaching because he loves kids and football. He has coached at Aitkin, Brainerd and Pequot Lakes High Schools and also Brainerd Community College. Sanford has also coached wrestling and has also run the weight room in Brainerd for 23 years.

"Giving your jersey to a family member over your girlfriend would not have a negative impact; it is a sign of respect." – Coach Sanford

"I like it because it brings less drama to the team. When a guy asks a girl and

she either doesn't want to or is already wearing another player's jersey it can lead to jealousy between the team members." – Senior Nick Blanchette

"I think that they are ruining a tradition that has been going on for years and I think it is a little ridiculous." – Hailey Everson
The rule was made out of respect to the team members and their families. Some may not like the new rule but it is also showing how much people care about their family members by honoring this. Family is forever. Respect them.

Lisa & Lindy a lively duo



Lisa Anderson and Lindy Lahmann-Sharbonda

Jessica Stephens
Staff Writer

Lindy Lahmann- Sharbonda and Lisa Anderson are a tennis duo. They are competing together for a second year. They continue to be successful players and have beaten their opponents numerous. This year, so far, Lindy and Lisa have a record of 13-2.

Lisa and Lindy are devoted players and co-captains of the tennis team. Lisa states that “playing doubles and attending practices” are her favorite aspects of tennis. Lindy enjoys “the team part of it” and as a co-captain being able to “inspire her teammates to have fun and work hard.”

Coach Waldorf cites their hardworking nature and their ability to communicate well with each other as

important skills contributing to their success. Lindy and Lisa both say that being “used to playing with each other” has enabled them to be a successful double. Lindy said that trust is an important component players need to share with their partner in doubles tennis.

On Sept. 24, Lindy and Lisa defeated Foley, ranked No. 4 in the state. The match tied 7-6 (7-5), but ended 6-1 in the tie-breaking match. Lisa said “we psyched ourselves out at the last match against Foley and lost so it was great to win this time.”

The section tournament is taking place October 7. Coach Waldorf states that both Lindy and Lisa have an “Excellent shot of making the state tournament.”

Volleyball team builds on last year’s talent

Marissa Kinzer
News Editor

The volleyball team is off to an amazing start. This year’s group is the example of the age old recipe, strong senior leadership and young talent. The girls’ record is 13-3 and they are 6-0 in their conference. The team is on track for one of their greatest seasons ever. Last year the girls finished the season with a record of 14-8.

The team had some tough roles to fill, after graduating five seniors. These roles were filled by the teams’ youngest players, sophomore Brooke Miller and freshman Ellie Michaletz. “The girls had some pretty big roles to fill, but they learned quickly.” said Senior Captain Bailey Nordean. This year’s group of seniors stepped up and has helped carry the team. “Bailey Nordean and Jenae Herron are some of the team’s most versatile players, they can hit just about anywhere,” said

Coach Michaletz. Bailey has been playing volleyball since fifth grade. Bailey said, “I’ve gotten stronger since I started playing and this has helped me to hit and serve stronger.” Michaletz also says that the senior leadership has helped this team’s success. They have many years of experience and they help to keep the team positive. The players have been working hard and have more consistent hitting from all positions than last year, said Michaletz. Michaletz also said that the team has become better at blocking.

The girls’ success is defined by Coach Michaletz, “The girls have a strong commitment to the team and they have great work ethic. The girls work hard in practice and they go to open gym. They don’t quit and this has helped them win many tough games. They played Hinckley last week and started the game down 21-17. They continued to play hard until the very end, and they came home with a win.” Sen-

ior captain Bailey Nordean defines it as, “I have been playing with these girls for a long time, they are really fun to play with and we get along well.” Michaletz describes this team as a team that keeps pushing, even when they are losing.

The team is hoping to win their conference, get home court for the first round of sections like last year and get as far as they can in sections, said Coach Michaletz. Bailey Nordean also hopes that the team finishes with a better record than last year. The team is right on track for that. Aitkin’s toughest competition is Braham, who they play late in the season on Oct. 10 at home for a Great River Conference matchup. Braham is currently 8-0 in the Great River Conference and that makes for tough competition. The team appreciates all the support they receive at all their games and hope it lasts for the whole season.



New IOS 7 offers flashier look

By Peyton Brezinsky
Staff Writer

The I.O.S 7 program is an update for apple products such as the iphones, ipads, and ipod touch. The update includes new features such as new backgrounds new pictures for the app icons and a futuristic look.

I.O.S 7 has a new feature called the control center. By sliding your finger up the control center will appear. The control center has your main settings such as air-plane mode, Wi-Fi availability, Bluetooth, flashlight, and so much more. In the “new”

Safari update lets you have your window browser in a sort of file cabinet feel to it.

In a survey at the local Aitkin High School (AHS) class seven people had the new update. Five said that they liked the update while two of them did not and one vote was for Rickie Andrews.

An anonymous user of I.O.S 7 says that she hates it. She wishes that she never would have updated her device. Some reasoning for this is because her apple device freezes up when she would like to play her games. Another thing she does not like about I.O.S 7 is the photo savings new options such as the instant, transfer, process,

chrome, fade, etc. she says it is just an extra step that does not need to be there. One more thing is in the message icon you are not allowed to see when then person you are texting saw your message.

Mr. Richters has also received his I.O.S 7 update and thinks that it is really flashy but doesn't see the point of it. He also pointed out that Apple is just trying to keep up with Android and their new upgrades.

Mr. Henke has the same opinion as Mr. Richters he says it's fancier but the same. But what Mr. Henke does like is the flash-light. He says it is very useful.

What's Trending at AHS

Hailey Everson
Staff Writer

Scarves seem to often be seen around AHS this year and many different kinds at that. You can walk into any classroom and see at least 2 or more different kinds of scarves being worn. This isn't only popular in our school but many schools like ours. It's trending all over the world, not only with women but also some men.

Scarves can be worn in many different ways with many different patterns. They are warm but also fun to dress up an outfit with.

Under Armour is the next big trending thing at AHS. You can see a lot of this if you are walking through the halls. Many people love Under Armour, whether its sweatshirts or sweatpants. Not only is it comfy and warm, but also very stylish. If you are willing to spend the little extra cash for some Under Armour it is well worth it! You can always wear it at school or at practice.

The new thing that has come to be popular around AHS would be camo. It is more frequently worn and not only by the “hicks” now. Many people wear camo now, and it's not just for hunting anymore. Camo has become a fashion trend as well. If you go to any mall to buy new clothes you will see lots of camo wear. It's on everything now, jackets, wallets, and even fashion boots!

Duck Dynasty is the next big trending thing at AHS. This could also contribute to more people wearing camo. Duck Dynasty is a popular show on TV now that many people are watching. It's in fact the number one family show watched in America! It's about this wealthy family whose lives revolve around ducks, family and faith. The men in the show are hilarious and always wearing camo. This could have sparked a new trend among many people. They are also selling Duck Dynasty shirts, which you might also see every now and

then at AHS.

Our football team seems to be doing great this year, which many people have noticed at AHS. They have swept over the school and caught a lot of attention this year. Many of the football players could be sitting next to you right now. They can tell you about their hard work and dedication to the school's football team. When they hit that field they put their hearts into it and give it all they got.

Many people have said that they really don't like the new rules the school is enforcing or the ways our lunches have changed. The rules are stricter this year and not a lot of trust is being given to the students any more. The lunches are smaller and not as good as they were last year, which is no fault of the lunch ladies. Many things have changed at AHS this year and many people have voiced their opinions about it.

The Conjuring: Be ready to be scared by this nail-biter

Mallory Milbradt
Staff Writer

‘The Conjuring’ is a movie that I would recommend for people ages sixteen and

older. It is about a family that moved into a house in Harrisville Road Island who experienced disturbing events in their farm house. Ed and Lauren Warren, who are American

paranormal investigators, come into the house and try to stop the paranormal activity. This movie is based on a true story. I would recommend for people to watch this movie especially if

you like scary, horror, and thriller movies. I thought The Conjuring was a ‘real’ scary movie. Some people would describe this movie as ‘a real nail biter.’