

Penny Wars aimed to help those in need

By Garrett Johnson

This is the last class competition and we decided to make it a great one. For the class competition we decided to make a penny war for make a wish foundation. This goes to help wish kids like Hunter. Hunter has been diagnosed with leukemia. His biggest dream is to become a dinosaur, specifically a spinosourous rex. There are many other kids who are in the program, most of them are like Hunter and have a terminal illness. Make A Wish foundations are all over the world but the one closest to the high school is located in Grand Rapids. The make a wish foundation has helped thousand of kids over time with the problems that they face and need to overcome. It is never easy for a kid to hear that he or she is diagnosed with cancer or another illness. All they want to do is fit in and do the many of other things other kids can do. This is heart breaking to any parents going through this also. They have to spend countless

hours away from home and many sleepless nights up with their child.

Cheyenne Hill said, "This penny war is a god way to show that we do look out for the kids who have to live a life in constant fear of what is going to happen next. We appreci-

ate all the family members that go through this and put time in day in and day out to help their child. This effort to raise money is not just a class competition it is going show that Lakewood high school is here for those who struggle."

This penny war is a

small way to show our appreciation to those who fight a much bigger fight than we face each day.

Jenna Warner said, "This is a great way to raise money and also motivate kids because of the competition points. We wanted to try and help Hunter as best as

we could and this is a great way to show our love and appreciate him."

The penny war started Monday the 16th and it ended on the 23rd. The senior class raised the most pennies and won the penny wars and the school raised over \$400.

Pennies for Wishes (Below)

Cheyenne Hill and Jenna Warner dump money into the 12th grade jug for Pennies for Patients. Hill asked Warner how much money she was putting in. "I just wanted to help out with the Make-a-Wish Foundation," said Hill.



Photo by Garrett Johnson

Locked out for safety

By Kylee Mauer

Locked doors have been a major talking point in Lakewood students' discussions. Students are curious why the changes have occurred and the details of what the actual goal of the locked doors was. Students also have some concerns about the new and old rules regarding the locked doors, especially LCC students.

Regarding the new buzzer put outside the office, Mr. Larner said, "The district decided to put buzzers on all of the buildings; other buildings already have them but our school was just later on the timeline."

One main question students are asking is why are all of the outside doors locked all of the time?

Mr. Larner said, "The less space to monitor in the morning and during the school day allows more supervision and a safer school environment."

Another main question regarding interior doors being locked was, what exactly was the goal?

As said by Mr. Larner, "The main goal is to keep the door handle locked as



Can't Get In

Maddie Mussehl returns from LCC and can't get in the building. Maddie, who drives from LCC often, disliked having to walk around the school to the office from the student parking lot. "I just hate walking around".

recommended by law enforcement, but wedges are permitted."

Now there are some students who like and some who dislike the new policies involving locked doors. LCC students occasionally get angered by the fact that if they drive to school after LCC, then they have to walk around

the entire building in order to get in. Maddie Mussehl had feedback on the locked door topic.

Mussehl said, "I think there should be a buzzer at another door for the LCC kids who drive."

The administration has stated that this is a new process and improvements can and will be made.

Seniors say See Ya!

By Kyelee Putnam

As the school year is coming to an end, so are the seniors last few days of high school, forever. For most seniors, this is going to be the best moment of their life. Getting out of high school is something nobody can wait for, but when it comes you wish it could be months away. Once you graduate, there is no going back, all the friends you've made will go their separate ways, no more snow days or skipping to sleep, you're in the real world now. Most students have been waiting for this moment since they started

school, but as reality is coming, so are fears of the real world.

Graduating can be thrilling for some students, the best thing to ever happen, as Meghan Russell said "I'm excited, but also nervous. Mainly I'm just ready to be out of school" On the other hand, some seniors are going to miss things.

Like Erica Potter had said: "I'm going to miss all of the friendships I have made and all of the wonderful people at Lakewood." Once you graduate, friends move from ten minutes to several hours away (or more)! You leave

the only place you have ever called home and the small town-feel of Lakewood. Soon classes of 30 will become hundreds, a teacher whose son you had in band won't have kids you will know. Everything you have grown up on, from knowing the neighbors to living with your parents, is coming to an end for those going off to college. For the people staying home, 9-5's are the new daily schedule, work everyday and possibly even the weekends. It's a scary feeling for some, but lots are ready to move on and begin the next chapter of their lives.

Lots of Laughs

Seniors Erica Potter, Sydney Chase, Meghan Russell and Kayla Sauers talk about their last few weeks of high school. The conversation started when Meghan realized they wouldn't have this time together after they were graduated. "It's sad to think about. I eat with these girls every day and after high school I will hardly see them once a week." Russell said.



Students create Viking Voices feedback forum

By Katie McKinney

Communication was a big issue with the student body at the student voice meeting on March 14th. Students from every grade agreed changes needed to be made: from that, Viking Voices emerged.

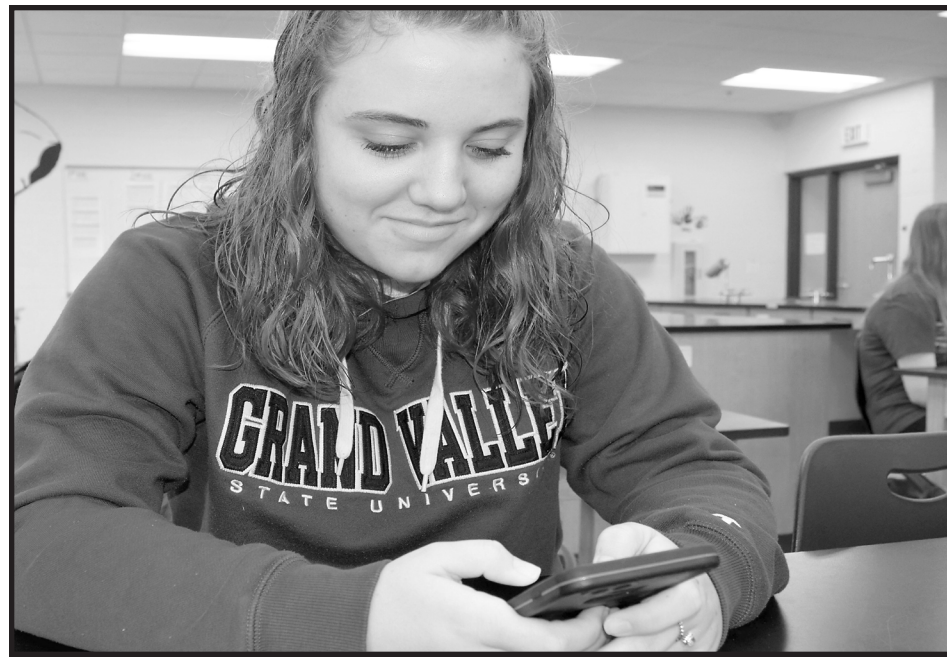
“Viking Voices is a leadership group in which the goal is to improve the communication between the administration and students, and to find a balance between school safety and culture,” president Adrian Almas said. Viking Voices is a completely student led organization that will be holding class meetings once a month to discuss the concerns and opinions of the student body.

The Viking Voices board will then meet with Mr. Larner and a board of education member to relay what the students bring the class meetings. It is composed of a board of seniors and a representative from each class. Senior representative Katie Hanson informed us that having the classes meet at different times is valuable

because kids in different grades have different concerns, “each class can voice their own opinion on what they think and that way they don’t copy the other students”.

Almas has hopes that the group will make students feel like they have a voice in things, “It will most definitely improve communication between administration and students, and students and students, giving students a way to feel important. The structure is being set into place this year by seniors, but the group will be fully up and running next year.

“A new board and grade representatives will be chosen from a group of applicants by the current board,” Katie informed us. This kind of group is beneficial because it will make the administration aware of concerns they have not been able to hear before, in a more structured way. Any underclassmen interested in being a part of this group should see Adrian Almas for an application.



Social Media

Katie Hanson creates a twitter page for Viking Voices. The page was quick to make and very helpful for getting information out. “We will be posting some updates and information about meetings, but it will definitely be used more next year,” Hanson said.

Charting a Course for Success

By Hunter Karrar

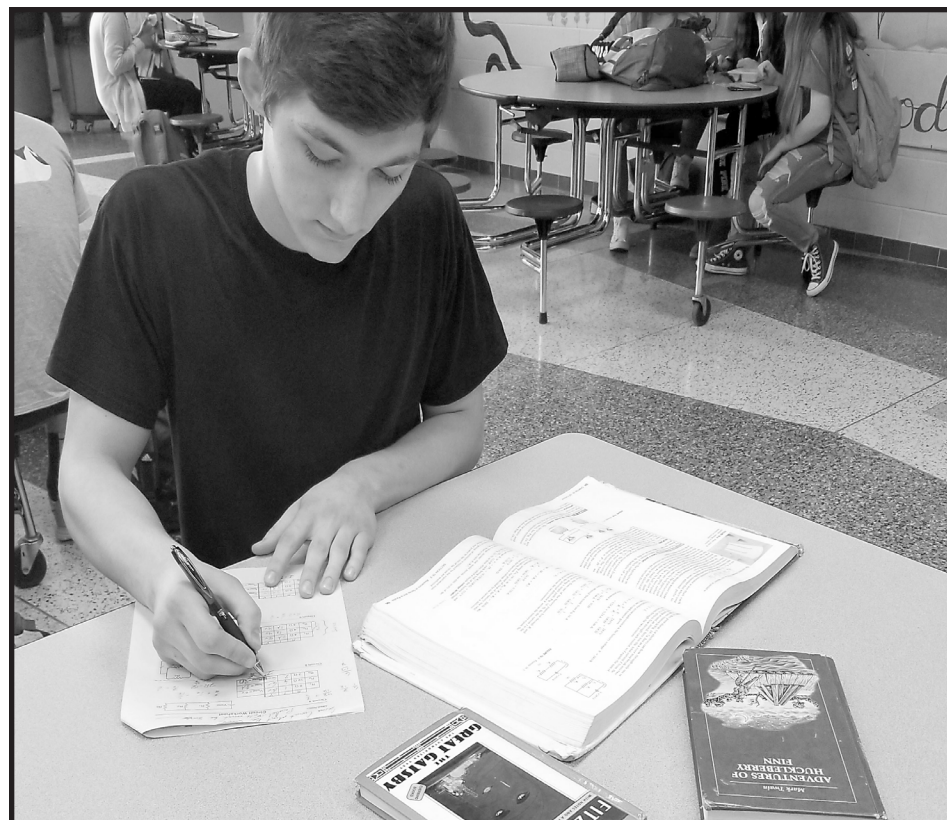
Varik Pett is a junior at this school that wants to go into neuroscience. He has to a lot of planning ahead to go to school for that. In his future he has to attend 10 years of college. He plans to take AP psychology and AP sociology at our to help prepare him for college. Varik takes every advanced class that our school offers and still has managed to maintain academic excellence with ease. When he attends college he would like to go Grand Valley State University for his masters, and then he would like to attend the University of Michigan to finish out his schooling.

Another Junior at our school, Ry Rodriguez, wants to dual enroll into a college then focus on podcast at school for two hours so he can graduate. Then he wants to immediately shift gears into Ferris State University in criminal justice, and to minor in public communication and political science.

A freshman at our school, Chayse Karrar, wants to become a fashion designer when she gets out of high school. To help make that happen she wants to take a lot of art classes throughout her schooling. She plans to take pottery and painting and she is in band and color guard. She also just to go far beyond the requirements is taking advanced math classes and will be taking advanced English classes just to make sure she gets plenty of scholarships through her academics to help pay for her schooling in the future. At home she strives for her artistic goals by molding with her clay machine and painting with paints and charcoal.

Study Time!

Varik Pett studies up on his notes before his next class starts. Pett aimed to keep his grades at an A so he can keep his near perfect GPA. “All these books in front of me, making me actually look smart,” Pett said.



Senior Plans

Some got underway long ago, some have yet to start

By Nat Pylloway

The time is now, and the action has already begun. In fact, preparation for graduation started 14 years ago when you, the seniors, walked into the first day of preschool. Now as seasoned vets at Lakewood High School there are under two months left for the class of 2018. As the months boil down to weeks, and the weeks to days, there is a common idea shared amongst the seniors: What’s next?

As young adults some of us are finally being pushed out of the nest, and as the first flight takes off we need to try our best to not fail. The future of the community is in our hands.

Even though some students have no idea where they want to end up, Blake Poortenga knows exactly what he wants to do. As a novice welder he plans to continue his

dream of “welding through fabrication or laying pipeline after he leaves high school.”

Blake has gained previous experience through 2 years of technical training from the career prep center at Lansing community college in his junior and senior years of high school. Blake plans to “continue learning and training either through LCC or through a Union program,” he says, “the motivation and encouragement to become a welder came from himself and that his competitive nature has pushed him to be the best he can be.” Blake is always trying to beat out his friends when it comes to welding.

Parker Sprague is another senior that juggles that “what’s next?” question. Parker plans on going to college after

high school at Davenport University to obtain a four year degree in computer science. To prepare before college Parker said that “I have taken online dual enrollment classes to receive early credits. This saves me time and money in college.”

Parker gets most of his encouragement for his future from his parents. Parker plans on working with “computer science someday but does not know where.” Although these are two well-prepared seniors, there are many that still have no idea on what they plan on doing. The time crunch is now, and there could not be a better time than now to start planning. As our two months boil down to weeks, and the weeks to days, there is one thought on our collective minds: What’s next?



Starting Early

Blake Poortenga welds on a stock car frame. Poortenga used a TIG welder to make the repair. “I started welding when I was younger with my grandpa. I was scared at first but I grew to enjoy and love welding, and now it’s what I plan on doing as a career,” said Poortenga.

A “Sweet” track athlete profile

By Ruby Patrick

Track and Field is a popular sport among Lakewood students, because it has so many options. The Track team this year has over sixty members between the boys and girls. There are several different events that involve either running, jumping, or throwing. The running events include sprints, middle distance, long distance, hurdles, and relays. The jumping events include long jump, high jump, and pole vault. The throwing events are shot put and discus. Each of these events whether running, jumping, or throwing event requires a specific kind of training. Some people do multiple events, which means they must train for each one individually. Lakewood senior, Tim Sweet, does multiple Track and Field events. Tim has been involved with Track and Field ever since he was in seventh grade. Tim has looked up to Noah Caudy throughout his Track career. Caudy has helped motivate him to be the best that he can be. The events Tim participates in are the one

hundred ten meter hurdles as well as the three hundred meter hurdles. He also runs the four by four hundred relay and the four by one hundred relay.

“Tim has an amazing work ethic in and outside of Track, he is very dedicated to everything he does,” said fellow classmate, Jesse Leonard.

When participating in the hurdle events, form is just as important as speed, getting over the hurdles, and the steps between each hurdle. Athletes are prepared for the amount of pressure in each event. However, when participating in relay events, the pressure is significantly greater. Relays in a way are like a team sport because the participation of each member is extremely important. If one runner is slow, it affects the whole relay team.

As Track season and his senior year of high school come to an end, Tim thinks about how track has affected him. Tim has plans after high school to attend Spring Arbor University and continue to be involved in Track and Field.



Hurdling Towards Victory

Lakewood senior, Tim Sweet jumps over a hurdle during a home track meet. Tim has been preparing to make his senior year of track his best one yet. “My favorite event to participate in is definitely the 110 meter hurdles,” said Sweet.

Rowing into 2018 season Singles & Doubles: a Tennis Thing

by Kinzie Pierce

This season is defiantly different this year with having a new, younger team. The team lost six starting seniors so this year there were some shoes to fill. It was hard to figure the new positions. “It has been an on going position but narrowing it down” said Coach Spetoskey.

The new varsity players this season are freshmans Hannah Slater (catcher) and Morgan Stahl (pitcher), Sophomore Kyleigh Comer (middle infielder), Juniors Maddie Mussel (1st base), Maddy Wickerink (1st and 3rd base), and Jenna Warner (outfielder). Returning varsity players are Captains Senior Kayla Sauers (3rd base) and Ashytn Livermore (outfielder), Seniors Abby Sines and Carissa Jones (outfielders), Juniors Savannah Stoepker (outfielder), Emma Sullivan (middle infielder and outfielder), and Sophomore Emily Campeau (pitcher and shortstop).

Being a team captain is a special role on the team. “Setting a good example, relay information from the coach to the players, and having a positive attitude goes a long way” said senior Kayla Sauers.

Having good chemistry on the team is also very important. It can even



The Lakewood varsity softball team gets serious. From the left Junior Jenna Warner, Junior Maddy Wickerink, Junior Ashytn Livermore, Junior Savannah Stoepker, Senior Carissa Jones, Senior Kayla Sauers, Freshman Morgan Stahl, Senior Abby Sines, Junior Emma Sullivan, Junior Maddie Mussel, Sophomore Emily Campeau, Sophomore Kyleigh Comer and in the front middle Freshman Hannah Slater.

be difficult with a newer team. “It’s growing by the game” Coach Spetoskey stated. Captain Kayla Sauers also mentioned “It’s defiantly different than last year but it’s going to get a lot better and it’s been a learning experience.”

The Lady Vikes Softball Program has done many fundraisers to help buy uniforms and equipment. They work Little Vikes Night in the fall and in the spring. Both JV and Varsity girls will either work concessions, DJ, paint nails and faces, and ref games in the gym.

Some will say that doubles is easier than singles, others will say the opposite. With singles the only difference is that you lose the alleys which is the rectangle lanes on each side of the courts, and that they play by themselves. Mostly all singles players have the same opinion on why they play singles. Senior and two singles player, Erica Potter prefers “Singles because you don’t have to worry about your partner and what they are doing.”

Senior and four singles player Mary Haskin says she plays singles “because of the fact that I only have myself to rely on and not a partner who will screw things up, if I mess up it’s only my fault.”

For doubles teams it’s almost like a whole other challenge and a different playing environment from JV to varsity. Doubles teams get to use the whole court as a playing space instead of a limited area. This makes it a little bit easier than playing with singles lines. Another plus is having a partner to play with to help you out.

Senior doubles player Sydney Chase says, “it balances out your weaknesses and strengths with your partner and they always have your back.” Senior Katie Hanson who is number three on Varsity says, “Varsity doubles is more competitive and they get more chances to play than JV would with the available players.” For tennis there is usually always a varsity team for the schools that offer it, but in some cases there is not enough people for a JV team so when they play a team with a small or no JV team, some JV players don’t get to play as much as a varsity player would.



Crush the Ball!

Taylor Veitch volleys the ball with a partner at practice. Veitch is 1-0 for her senior season. “I love tennis because it lets me express who I am as a person, while being active, determined, and social” said Veitch.

The Montage is a publication of Lakewood High School’s Publications I & II classes and is a tool for learning. Megan Hollern - Senior Editor Mr. Kenneth Smith - Newspaper Advisor

School Lunches

by Jacob Heath

Many students would appreciate a different or refurbished lunch menus. Most of the complaints towards the menu come down to the food being too greasy or not a large enough portion size. Alivia Benedict thinks that the fajita chicken is too greasy and should be removed, and replaced with spaghetti or possibly chicken alfredo. Some people don't like anything on the menu whatsoever. Melody Hawkins says that "new food overall should be introduced" and "I want to change school lunches to make them taste better, and have more options". This is an opinion that many of the students have established over the year, and one that will continue to reform every year. Madalynn Beimers on the other hand says that the menu is perfectly fine, but one thing needs to be taken off. The pizza Panini. With so many pizza options already available in our school, why do we need another? The school serves pizza every day and also always has Bosco sticks at the snack bar. The one big change that students love is the newly introduced sub station. This popular stop serves subs, sandwiches, wraps,



School Lunches ARE Good

Maddy Beimers finishes off her lunch while others complain about theirs. "I like the menu, I don't want to change it" says Maddy, sipping on her chocolate milk. Chicken chips have become one of the more popular things on the lunch schedule. Maddy had a double order like many other students.

flatbreads, and Panini's. Every day you hear students complain about what is for lunch, and other times you don't hear anything bad about lunch at all. Many students before us have had the same lunch as us, but have they been as adamant on changing the menu as we have? Lunches such as the walking taco, the nachos and some say the small

portion of chicken chips are getting old and annoying. A student shouldn't have to buy two portions just to feel full at school. More options are a must when it comes to our school lunches, says Melody Hawkins. We need to change the taste of school lunches to not have to worry about going hungry due to a student not enjoying the hot lunch option.

Spring Vacation

by Carson Scobey

In today's world it seems like everyone takes a spring break vacation to some place warm. Forgetting about those of us who are stuck in one of the most bipolar states called Michigan. Those of us stuck in Michigan during break spend some time wondering what's one of the coolest places people go? Brice Livermore and Sebastian Beswick were two lucky people to both go to a tropical island. Except their time on the island was not spent soaking in as much sun as possible by the ocean, instead they spent their time working on a missions trip. Brice and Sebastian's hostel was located in the beautiful city of Rincón, Puerto Rico which is known for its many tourist attractions such as gift shops, snorkeling, and surfing. How ever with all the work that needed to be done little time was left to explore Puerto Rico. The main mission of their trip was to replace the deck and roof the the hostel they were invited to stay in. There was also several other good deeds done for the Puerto Rican community, such as The Salvation Army donated five hundred boxes of food to a local church which took them several days to sort through for redistribution. "We donated money to a family that lost everything in the hurricane a couple years ago so they could buy a new car, for a family that had nothing it meant the world to them that we

gave them an unrepayable gift just because we wanted to," said Sebastian. They were given a firm deadline of ten days to get all of the work done. "We began work everyday at 6:30 A.M.," Sebastian Beswick said, work began so early to avoid the super high temps later in the day. Working on a roof in high temps is sure to make everyone hungry too, "It wasn't totally different they have McDonald's, Burger King, and Wendy's in the cities," according to Sebastian, "However they we did also have some empañadas, plantains, and rice dishes we normally don't eat here." One of the best parts of visiting a different area of the world is trying their style of food, "I love Puerto

Rican food!" Brice said. Now no mission trip is complete without some fun in it, "We got to hike to a waterfall and swing off a rope swing into a big water hole," this is one of Brice Livermore's favorite memories of visiting Puerto Rico. "We went to the beach a few times and one tourist attraction," said Sebastian. By the end of their ten days in Puerto Rico all the work was done around the hostel, "Yes, I definitely enjoyed going to Puerto Rico. It was a great experience that I would do again, but maybe not for a few years," said Sebastian. Brice also enjoyed his time working and doing good for others, but he was also ready to come back home to see family and friends again.



Working hard to help others

Housework. Sebastian Beswick, Nat Pytlowany, and Brice Livermore work to replace the roof of the hostel they're staying in. They also worked hard to repair the deck, Brice said "It was hot, but we got the work done."

Adulting: Coming Soon to a Senior Class Near You!

by Alyssa Ziegler

As a kid, we all want to grow up. We're tired of being told what to do. Tired of having to do chores. Tired of having to go to bed early. Tired of people saying we couldn't do things, cause we were kids. What happened? Now that we're adults, some of us just want to be kids again. Others would be kids again, but they would miss experiences they gained when they were an adult. I went around to ask some teachers what they thought about the topic. Becoming an adult, struggles they faced, and what the most stressful part of it all was.

The first question asked was about challenges and stress. I got a variety of answers between staying close to your family, the financial responsibility, and the maturing that had to be done. When you become independent, you move out on your own, and you lose your safety net, and that can be a bit hard too. "The hardest thing for me was the maturing I had to do and getting my priorities in place, I think it was harder because I was on my own. At that point in life you have to do what you want to

stay happy, but also do what's best for yourself," Mrs. Mooney said. So how do you fix that? How do you make sure you're doing exactly that? Mrs. Gleeson said, "Trying to balance everything was really stressful, I had to balance three jobs, a social life, my family, and classes- I actually started a daily calendar to manage my time better, and it helped a lot."

So, looking at how stressful it was, how stressful it can be, or might be- is it really worth it? Would you be a kid again if you could? Opinions may vary, some people said the memories are best-kept memories, others said they'd miss the experience they've gained as adults. Mrs. Mooney says, "Yes, it was nice not having responsibilities, not having bills to worry about and having more time to hang out with your friends." Sure, that might be what you're all thinking now, but being an adult can be great too. "I've had some great experiences, like being a teacher, and if I went back to being a kid I wouldn't be able to take those memories with me," Mrs. Cobb said.

So yes, being a kid is great, but

some kids might disagree. Leaving high school, you may be terrified, or you may be excited. Admittedly, it is a bit scary for most of us. Although, once you first get out there, you'll be able to find help. After a while, you'll be able to handle it on your own. It's kind of like riding a bike- you're pedaling with your parents holding onto the seat, but once they let go and you're

on your own, you'll be able to handle it all by yourself.

Hard at Work, or... ?

Vice Principal, Mr. Mike Quinn, works on future meetings and schedules for important upcoming events. He has worked hard to make high school as memorable as possible and he loves doing it. "People don't care how much you know, until they know how much you care," said Quinn.

