

TIPS AND TIDBITS



Chaney Cowboys

Coming Up

**4/12, Chaney
"Celebrate the Arts"
spring performance,
6 p.m., Chaney
Auditorium**

**4/19, East
"Celebrate the Arts"
spring performance, 6
p.m., East Auditorium**

**4/27, Annual Parent
Title I Conference,
6 p.m.,
Stambaugh
Auditorium**

Choffin student saves classmate

Mikese Stevens was listening to music on the way to school March 19 when he noticed something was wrong with one of his fellow travelers.

"I saw this kid was having a seizure," said Mikese, 18, and a senior at both Chaney High School and Choffin Career and Technical Center.

He noticed that while other people on the bus were trying to help, they didn't know the proper procedure. That's when Mikese sprang into action.

"I've learned in my classes at Choffin that he needed to be on his side," said Mikese, who is studying public safety and fire-fighting at the school. "I was talking to him, seeing if he was breathing and checking his pulse."

The young man's seizure eased for a moment but then continued.

"I was looking in his mouth and looking in his eyes," said Mikese about ensuring the student's airway was clear and that his eyes weren't rolling back into his head.

While many in that situation would have panicked or frozen, Mikese didn't hesitate.

"I was calm the whole time," he said. "I knew exactly what to do."

Mikese stayed with the student, checking his pulse every 30 seconds until an ambulance arrived.

Nathea Stevens, Mikese's mother, was getting ready to go to Youngstown Early College where she works as that school's parent engagement coordinator, when her son texted her about what was going on. She's very proud of him and impressed that he was able to help a fellow student.

"I'm very surprised at his reaction that he kept everything calm," Nathea Stevens said. "Most people would have freaked out."

Krish Mohip, Youngstown City School District chief executive officer, said Mikese's actions prove that Choffin is preparing students for the workforce.

"I'm very proud of this young man," the CEO said. "He jumped right in to help and put what he's learned in the classroom into practice in real life and doing so helped a classmate who needed it."



AIR testing begins this month, continues into May

Students, teachers and administrators have been working all year, learning and teaching core subject areas and beginning April 9, they'll be able to demonstrate their mastery.

Ohio requires students to be assessed in English Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Students. The American Institute of Research tests align with Ohio's Learning Standards.

YCSA students' state assessment schedule:

April 9 through April 27, third through 11th grades, English Language Arts/reading; 10th through 12th grades, end of course retakes in English language arts 1 and 2. April 23 through May 11, Math, third through eighth grades, algebra I and geometry; science, fifth and eighth grades, biology and physical science; American history and government; 10th and 12th grades, end of course retakes for algebra I, geometry, biology, physical science (12th grade), American history and American government.

"The tests are important, but at the same time, the curriculum our students have been studying all year has prepared them to perform well on these assessments," said Timothy S. Filipovich, chief of academic accountability and assessment.



Athletics Arena

Amill picked to lead Cowboys football

Chaney High School won't field a varsity football team until the 2019-2020 school year, but district officials have already selected the man who will lead it.

Chris Amill, director of men's player development and an assistant football coach at East High School, was selected this week. He will continue to work at East through this year and next school year as he rebuilds a foundation to restart the Cowboys team. Chaney will have a freshman football team next school year, but varsity and junior varsity football won't return to the school until the following year.

"I am very honored and grateful to not only lead Chaney Football back but to also be a part of a program with a great tradition," Amill said. "I have experienced success as a player and a coach and I'm going to use the things that I've learned to build upon the tradition and pride of Chaney Football. I look forward to creating relationships with alumni and the community and to being involved in an old but new city series with East.

"I hope our city continues to support our students and to our students, I promise I won't let you down," he said.

Before coming to YCSD last July, Amill worked for 15 years as a football coach at Cardinal Mooney High School and six years as a teacher, special education assistant and director of player development at that school. He created practice schedules and game plans, conducted clinics and served as the lead recruiter for junior high students. Amill also was head coach of the girls' lacrosse team at Mooney.

Rick Shepas, YCSD's chief of physical development and athletics, believes Amill's experience in Mahoning Valley athletics and his familiarity with the city and school district make Amill a great fit to lead Chaney's football program.

"He's been a defensive coordinator, assistant head coach and led recruitment at Mooney," Shepas said. "He's also coached teams in playoff and state championship games."

Bob Klinar, Chaney High principal, also has high hopes.

"Coach Amill brings to Chaney High School an intensified zeal to return the Cowboy Football program to the glory days of state-caliber competitiveness," he said. "His tenacious style and commitment will develop our student-athletes to be quality young men and positive representatives of the Cowboy Nation while instilling the tenets of a successful program. Coach Amill is the Chaney Way."

Amill's knack for building relationships -- both with students and with his colleagues -- also set him apart, Shepas said.

"Having been through so many years of experience, he knows how he wants to get Chaney football back on its feet," he said.

The tradition of Chaney Cowboys football stalled when YCSD changed to a district with one traditional high school in 2011. CEO Krish Mohip restructured the district beginning this school year with a return to neighborhood schools and restoration of Chaney as a traditional high school.

Anthony Floyd, a Cowboys standout in his high school days, will serve as an assistant coach for the new Cowboys. Floyd also is track coach at East.

"Having Anthony Floyd as part of this whole process I think really will be key to the early success we have over at Chaney," Shepas said. "He is beginning what's going to be a very long and successful coaching career with us."

The district posted the Chaney head coach position and nine people were interviewed before Amill was selected.

Mohip believes Amill is the right choice to rebuild the Chaney football program.

"I join many fans and alumni who look forward to great things when the Cowboys return to the football field," the CEO said.

