

TOM-TOM

Why So Blue, Lemont?

by Laura Harding
News Writer

Though the previous school year may be over, some students at LHS have chosen to leave pieces of their experience behind in the form of artwork.

Visual art instructor Ryan Hennebry molded the Blueprint LHS project over the past few years, aiming to incorporate art with other subjects by allowing Art III and Art IV students to hang their work in classrooms throughout LHS.

As an expansion of Blueprint LHS, students are given the opportunity to create works of art to display throughout the community as a part of the Blueprint Lemont Project.

“Each school year in the month of May we hope to produce several pieces of artwork which will be framed and hung in a Lemont public building for the community and visitors to enjoy,” said Hennebry.

Last May, five pieces were framed and hung in local businesses including Muffins Ice Cream Shop, Celina’s Deli, Thrivet Financial and the Lemont Historical Society.

Alum Monica Furczon was recognized in both the Lemont Reporter/Met and the Lemont Patch for her work, “Downtown Lemont.” The piece is displayed at the Lemont Historical Society.

In 2011, 11 pieces were chosen to be put in local businesses including four pieces at the Lemont Village Hall Building and two pieces at Chipain’s Fresh Market.



Lemont High School welcomed Neal Shusterman (right) on Tuesday, August 28 to speak with the freshman and sophomore classes about his books, including the one book one school this year, *Unwind*.

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Lemont Welcomes New Superintendent Mary Ticknor

by Nicole McKeivitt
News Writer

Lemont High School welcomes Mary Ticknor as District 210's next Superintendent. Ticknor will become the 16th superintendent for District 210, after Lemont's superintendent position opened with the retirement of Dr. Sandy Doebert.

Ticknor was born in Iowa and attended the University of South Dakota. She then became a middle school math teacher and a high school principal in South Dakota for 20 years. She then moved to Lisle and became District 181 associate superintendent at Hinsdale.

Ticknor has been married to her husband, Duane, for 33 years. Duane is a basketball coach for a NBA development league in Fort Wayne, Indiana. She also has one son, David, who is 24 years old. David is an actor and currently works at the Cheesecake factory.

One of Ticknor's main goals for this upcoming school year is to build relationships with Lemont's students, faculty, staff, and community.

Ticknor wants to learn as much as she can about the traditions and culture of Lemont. "People ask me what I want to improve about Lemont," says Ticknor. "I don't believe that I can just walk into a new school and start making changes without having any knowledge on what Lemont's traditions are. I believe that I need to learn and watch, and then I can make useful changes based on what I learned."

Ticknor also wants to "be visible and attend school and community activities. I want students to be able to introduce themselves to me, and I want to establish great relationships [with them]."

"With deep appreciation for past successes and enthusiasm for future growth, I look forward to leading District 210 in the years to come." Lemont is anticipating another successful year under the leadership of new superintendent Ticknor.

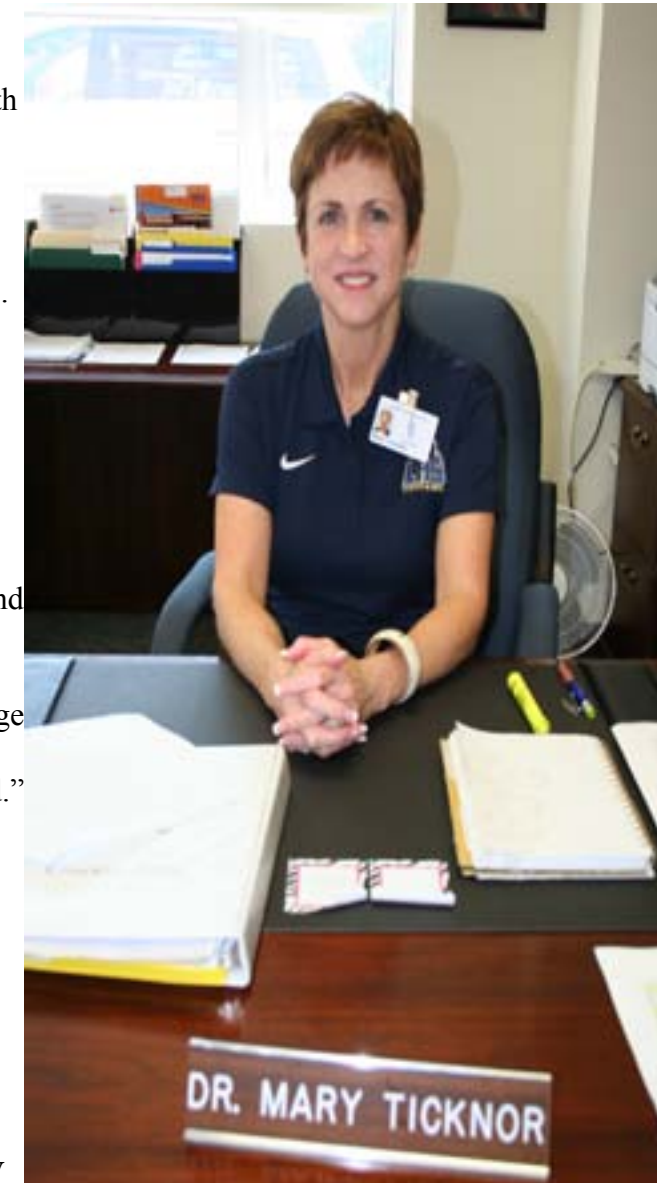


photo by Ashley Murphy



MY BONNAROOVIAN EXPERIENCE:

by Sonia Vavra
Features writer

PART 1

When the idea of sleeping in a tent in the middle of a farm, in Tennessee, with 80,000 other people, for four days straight pops into one's mind, it does not sound very appealing. But it did to me. Why? Because at the same time, I could see lots of my favorite bands, plus more.

But when and where is such a phenomenon found? The answer: during the first weekend of June, in a magical land called Bonnaroo in Manchester, Tennessee.



But when and where is such a phenomenon found? The answer: during the first weekend of June, in a magical land called Bonnaroo in Manchester, Tennessee.

It was a long journey (about a 10-hour car ride, if not longer), but with a good night's rest at a nearby hotel and another short drive the next day, my group, consisting of myself, my sister Chloe and my friend Shannon, had finally arrived at the long-awaited, glorious Bonnaroo.

The first night of my group's arrival at Bonnaroo was tough. I had never been to Tennessee before, nor had I ever been camping before, and I was in unfamiliar territory. But I was beyond excited, and I wasn't the only one.

LHS senior Shannon Turley, a good friend and fellow festival-goer, stated, "I was turned onto Bonnaroo from my brother. He had gone a few years back and was amazed by it. Not only did he speak of the amazing music constantly performed, but he spoke of the vivacious, unique and accepting environment that Bonnaroo created, and that was something that I was the most excited to experience." My group and I parked the car, pitched the tent, and were set to spend four nights in a tent surrounded by great music.

When I woke up the next morning (I slept very well in my tent with the help of a few blankets, some pillows, a blow-up mattress and a pair of ear plugs), I couldn't contain my excitement to see some of the bands I've been waiting months for. My first thought upon entering Centeroo, where the 10+ stages are located, was "This is Wonderland."

I was surrounded by 80,000 happy people, good friends, great food vendors and incredible music. What could be better than this?

I saw several bands throughout the day, but once four o'clock came around, it was time for Shannon, Chloe and I to stake out a good spot for one of the bands we've been anticipating the most: Radiohead.

When Radiohead's set finally came, my excitement meter had reached its maximum. Again sharing my excitement, Turley stated "I was extremely excited to see Radiohead because they have been one of my favorite bands for quite some time, and I could only imagine how amazing of a performance Thom Yorke and the rest of the band would create. I wanted them to melt my brain, and that they did."

Radiohead had a spectacular set. The music was incredible, as usual, and the light show was excellent.

Day 1 of Bonnaroo left me a very happy girl. All I could do to hold back my excitement was to calmly wait until day 2 and get a good night's sleep.

photo
by
Sonia
Vavra



BATS CRUSH ALIENS

by Sam Moffett
Features writer

With Batman gone from the theatres, what's left in life to look forward to? *The Hobbit*? Yeah, but give us something with more realistic features. We need something Nolan-ized again, something extravagant. *Man of Steel*? Perfect.

But alas, with every Superman movie comes the unavoidable question from geeks: Whose better, Superman or Batman? On Yahoo answers, the great question was asked and the result came in: Batman is the superior hero by popular vote. Even though Batman won Superman still looms over him, trying to assert himself as the dominant hero of DC Comics. But is he?

Though both superheroes are undoubtedly great cultural icons, it's Superman who set the image. As the orphaned alien from the destroyed planet of Krypton, Kal-El (renamed Clark Kent by his human parents) developed his powers and decided to use them for the good of humanity. With super strength, laser vision and other amazing gifts Superman has rocked the world of comics by creating the superhero genre and maintaining strong moral compass.

Even though Superman has all the cool powers, he's just bland. Say you're playing a video game and put your character on invincibility mode all day every day, sure it's fun to crush everyone but eventually you'll be like "Can I have a challenge please?" That's Superman.

While Superman's comics are mostly light-hearted the Batman comics are the exact opposite. As a child who watched his parents get murdered, Bruce Wayne swore vengeance against crime and molded himself into the epitome of fear, donning on a cape and cowl and becoming the Batman.

Unlike Superman, Batman has no superhuman abilities so he relies on his intellect, martial arts and gadgets. Being just a mortal brings its advantages and disadvantages, a disadvantage being that he can be killed off and can fall ill. The positive side is that being human makes him more relatable. He wasn't born into superhero greatness like Superman was and spent years molding himself into the Batman. He's "The World's Greatest Detective" and has his limits both physically and mentally whereas Superman can easily take out anything with no challenge.

Our heroes both have great movies but also have *really* bad movies. Nuclear man? Mr. Freeze one-liners? If we pretended those never happened, the DC Universe will be much happier. But the good stuff is just too good to ignore. First two Supermans: awesome. The Dark Knight trilogy: ridiculously awesome. With Batman series resuscitated by Nolan, Superman has yet to prove he's worthy to don the red cape of glory.

Winner is Batman, plain and simple. Superman can be interesting but he isn't as relatable and he can just be bland and a bit forgettable. Batman for the win.



photo courtesy of Google



UNWIND REVIEW

by Alyssa Cinatl
Features Writer

Summer reading: homework we have to do during our vacation away from homework. It's something students aren't excited about, but with a summer reading assignment like *Unwind*, you should get excited.

The novel *Unwind* by Neal Shusterman is a thrilling book that will have you sitting on the edge of your seat, wishing your eyes would move through the pages quicker. It's eerie, suspenseful, thought-provoking, and slightly romantic; all things suitable for any teen.

The idea for the book is certainly unique. For the slackers who haven't read the book yet, *Unwind* is about three teenagers being unwound, Connor, Risa, and Lev.

To be unwound means that you are taken apart limb from limb and your parts will be used as organ transplants. Connor is being unwound by his parent's request because he is a rebellious son. Risa is being unwound because she is a ward of the state whose talents aren't useful enough to society. And finally, Lev is a Tithe meaning he is being unwound for his religion.

When fate throws these three characters together, they must hide wherever they can to escape being unwound and save their lives.

The author of the book Neal Shusterman visited Lemont High school Tuesday, August 28 to discuss his book along with a signed copy of the next book in his series, *Unwholly* for the student who made the best movie trailer for *Unwind*.

Unwind is a highly recommended read. Sophomore Annie Ternes and many other students anticipate reading the sequel *Unwholly*.

Junior Robert Rigler feels, "I thought this book was brilliantly written and very creative! I rate it 10 out of 10, easily my new favorite book!"



photo by Ashley Murphy

Fall Athletes Back to Work

by Ethan Parafink
Sports Editor

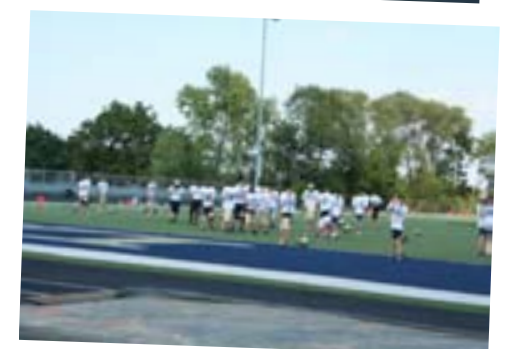
School is back in session, and while that means everyone is working hard for school, many fall athletes have been working hard all summer long. Teams such as football, girls swimming and cross country train throughout the summer to stay in shape and get in top form for competition, which often starts the first week of school.

With a win against Little Village on Friday, the football team started off well and other Lemont teams will hope to copy its success. Boys soccer has also started well with a 2-1-1 varsity record over 3 games, its only loss coming from a final second goal against St. Ignatius.

Both boys and girls cross-country have been running and training for the season all summer long. "We start early June and run all summer, said senior Scott Matulik. "This is to build up our endurance

It is this type of commitment and determination that will help a boys team with great expectations for the season. The ultimate goal is to make it to state, but there are plenty of stepping stones before that," said Matulik. "We had a strong showing at conference last year and hope to take the title this year. Also, we are looking to do well at regionals. But lastly, for the seniors on the team, it's [our] final year and we are looking to have a good time and give it our all."

Other fall sports include golf, girls swimming, girls volleyball and girls tennis. It takes a lot of long, hard work during the summer for many fall athletes, and they hope it will be well worth it in ensuring a fun and successful season.



photos by Ashley
Murphey



Are you ready for some football?

by Paul Grossi
Sports writer



The 2012 high school football season kicked off Friday. The Lemont football team, under Eric Michelson, took the field for the first time Friday, taking on Little Village. Lemont opened up in the first quarter with several touchdowns, and kept Little Village scoreless throughout the game. Lemont started their season on a good note, winning 56-0 and getting their first win of the season.

The game wasn't a close one; Lemont scored 42 points in the first quarter. Giving the starters some rest and allowing the second and third string player's time to play.

Lemont's offensive and defensive were strong in their first game and looks like it could continue to be that way throughout the season.

The football program under Coach Michelson has grown and many players part of the team have played in college.

One player in particular who has had a tremendous four years for Lemont is number 77, Ethan Pocic. Pocic had committed to LSU earlier this year because of his talent, and that talent was still there in his first game against Little Village.

Let's not take away from some of the other players on the team including Tim McAuliffe, Michael Devitt, and Jake Lawrence who have made an impact to the team and continued to do that in their opening game.

Tom Tom took the time to speak with Joe Sambucci

Tom-Tom- what did the team do to prepare for Little Village?

Sambucci- We had been practicing all summer and continued practicing when school came. We didn't do much to prepare for this game, but did some extra drills and watch some video.

Tom- How do you feel the team will do this year?

Sambucci- I feel we will do good, it's going to be much different without having last year's seniors, but I think we will still have a good year.

Tom- What's it like being a senior and part of the team?

Sambucci- It's been good because I feel way stronger bigger and faster than last year and then a lot of the juniors. And this year for me I get to play a lot now.

Sambucci also said that the football team will be playing over Thanksgiving week. Lemont is more worried about their next game Friday, against Riverside-Brookfield. Riverside-Brookfield, unlike Lemont is 0-1; they lost 57-12 against St. Francis. The past two years haven't been their best finishing seasons, finishing below .500. Lemont will still have to be careful because Riverside Brookfield is known to upset top teams.

photo by Nina Moeller



What's Your Next Step?

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