The Badger Pause

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Celebrating our *round* world

by Kaitlyn Moses, BP Staff Editor

On April 22nd every year, the world celebrates Earth Day. It is an environmental movement that started in 1970. Before this time, Americans had little to no concern for the environment, but a new appreciation began at the publication of Silent Spring in 1962 by Rachel Carson which sold more than 500,000 copies worldwide (earthday.org). The book brought to light the growing environmental issues and promoted worldwide concern.

Earth Day was founded by Gaylord Nelson when, in 1969, he observed an oil spill in Santa Barbara, California. The event sparked concern in him just as the BP spill did to many of us in 2010. He was inspired by pacifist students who had been protesting the war and figured he could find passion in the public like the students had and create a movement. Nelson did just that, and on April 22nd, 1970, close to 20 million people demonstrated their environmental consciousness; these activists wanted a sustainable and healthy Earth (earthday.org).

This amazing feat created a tidal wave. Shortly after, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (E.P.A.) was created and the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species Acts were passed. According to earthday.org, "Earth Day has reached into its current status as the largest secular observance in the world, celebrated by more than a billion people every year, and a day of action that changes human behavior and provokes policy changes."

Not everyone celebrates the Earth the same way, though. Some believe the Earth is flat. It's not a joke, there are truly people in 2016 who think the way one may have in pre-Christopher-Columbus-times. These people are part of The Flat Earth Society. There's even a website. It's an organization. It's actually real, I promise. The site's traffic shows that it's pretty popular, it's been visited 134,701 times in fact. Although according to stats, the average time a visitor spends on the site is only four minutes. Enough time to check its validity, I suppose.



Junior, Abby Carlson, celebrates her birthday with the world on April 22nd.

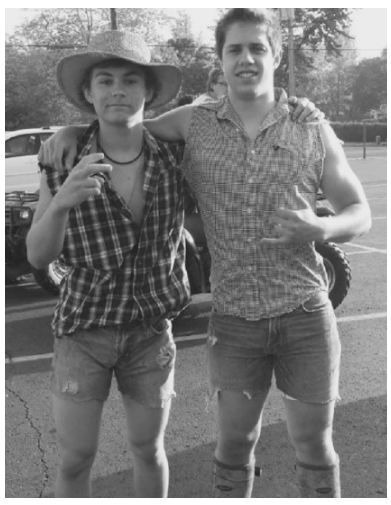
Who exactly believes this though? Well, rapper B.o.B does. In fact, he recently feuded with astrophysicist, Neil deGrasse Tyson who you may recognize as the host of the television program NOVA, or from the second Zoolander movie in which he plays himself. Tyson laid down the facts, but B.o.B wasn't convinced. In response, he released a song entitled "Flatline." Some interesting lines include: "Aye, Neil Tyson need to loosen up his vest. They'll probably write that man one hell of a check," "I see only good things on the horizon. That's probably why the horizon is always rising. Indoctrinated in a cult called science. And graduated to a club full of liars. Heliocentrism, you were the sixth victim," and "Woo, use your, use your common sense. Why is NASA part of the department of defense?" Maybe B.o.B thought his rap gave him enough leverage to put this to rest, or maybe he just didn't think Tyson would come back with a rap of his own. Turns out, Tyson's nephew can rap, and he couldn't let B.o.B stay ignorant. Together, they created "Flat To Fact (B.o.B Diss Response)." In this, there are many direct responses including, "You say that Neil's vest is what he needs to loosen up? And he's a Mason 'cause the brother's getting paid?" "It's very clear that you're rapping for fame. While I represent the culture and the spirit we claim. I mean, please... check him for a wire or an earpiece. Please... is Donald Trump that's feeding you all of these?

Stupid bits of information keeps you on your knees." Tyson adds in an outro that B.o.B's ignorance doesn't make his music bad, and shouldn't keep anyone from supporting his career. The feud was put to rest when Tyson slammed the rapper again on The Nightly Show with Larry Wilmore. Of course, the Earth isn't flat, and B.o.B was mistaken, but it is an interesting notion and the society's website is definitely entertaining. As intriguing as a the idea of a flat Earth is, the majority of the world celebrates the round Earth we all love, and its special day, April 22nd, remains an important environmental movement. Enjoy your Earth Day, whether it be flat or spherical.

Urban Dictionary: Burton edition

by Lexis Sell, BP Staff Writer

You're new to the town or maybe even the school district and you start to hear all these weird words or even actions the kids are doing nowadays. Then you think to yourself, what in the world are they doing? As students of Berkshire we have almost created our own language between one another. Sometimes we don't even need to speak; a simple hand gesture or head nod will do our hallway communication justice. When it comes to our school, we have many old inside jokes and some new ones that have been passed down from class to class. So, if you're yet to know the truth about the pool on the roof, what tractor day entails, or what a dap is, here are a few insightful tips on the ins and outs of Berkshire life.



Junior, Noah McCaskey and Senior, Chis Guinn pose for a picture on Tractor Day.

First, we will cover the question, does Berkshire have a pool on the roof? My answer to you is the closest thing Berkshire has to getting a pool is when we have a large collection of rain the night before and we get a dreadful flood of water on the top of the building. So, by all means you can try to swim on the roof but it might be in a small puddle. Now that I've reached the senior status, we as the top dogs get the privilege to tell the seventh graders we have a pool, because let's face it, when we were in seventh grade the upperclassmen told us the same thing. It may seem cruel to tell the younger grades that we have this illustrious pool, but the pool joke is a tradition of Berkshire. If you have made it through this school without hearing this small tall tale then you haven't lived your years here right. I can't give you the exact date of when this long lasting fib started but I don't think it's something we can stop since I'm pretty sure it dates way back to the beginnings of Berkshire. Congratulations to whoever started possibly the best running joke of our school's history.

Secondly, on to the exciting day that only comes around once a year when the sun is out, the shorts are short and the flannels are donned. YES, you thought right, I'm talking about Tractor Day. Okay, so maybe the shorts won't be too short; they still need to be fingertip length but...we do have a blast wearing the most country things we can find in our closets. Don't be surprised on Tractor Day if you see a lawn mower and potentially a boat loaded on a truck in the parking lot because that has happened before. Funny story, when I was a freshman I had first period choir and this junior was also in my class. Well, it just so happened that while I was on my way to school I saw him riding on a lawn mower. Lets just say I saw him later in 9th period study hall and his riding mower became a push mower by the time he hit a few miles into his drive. Lesson learned; make sure you have a full tank of gas, maybe a extra for backup and, set your alarm early if you intent on getting to school on time; I can promise you a lawn mower or tractor doesn't go 60 mph.

Lastly, I will describe the phenomenon of the infamous "dap", which in words is when you shake somebody's hand but in a way that says "hey bro, what's happening?" While this friendly gesture may not be just a Berkshire fad, it has for sure has become a well known practice. When I come across my classmate in passing we naturally go in for a dap rather than a hug or the unforgivably embarrassing high five. Just a few weeks ago I was driving in Mayfield and not even thinking this was out of the ordinary: two young teens kids were walking towards each other in opposite directions, when they passed each other they stopped gave each other a dap, didn't even speak a single word, and then kept on in separate directions. The two boys clearly knew each other in some way or another but I wouldn't have even questioned it if 2015 graduate Jessi Simon didn't say, "What the heck, those two kids just walked past each other, shook hands and kept walking?" She was very confused to say the least. That's when I realized this term or action was really something only my class and the kids below me were really aware of

Continued on page 4

Wondering what to do if Trump wins presidency? Head to page 6 for information.



Looking for some puzzles to keep your mind sharp? Page 11 can help!



Ever wondered what you would do if you were principal? Go to page 9 to find out what your peers think.



School

Little Shop of...What?

by Tommy Blaha, BP Staff Writer

Come one, come all, to the magical musical production of Little Shop of Horrors, a new play the Berkshire Thespians are putting on this Spring. This wonderful Musical is about a little flower shop in the slums of a busy city on a street called Skid road. One day Seymour Krelborn finds a mysterious plant that can't be identified. Along with caring for the plant, Seymour also falls in love with a co-worker called Audrey, but she is dating an abusive Dentist named Orin. When Seymour started cleaning the shop he learned that the plant, which he named Audrey II, would only grow from human blood. Soon the plant grows to a massive size and Seymour becomes famous and rich. After giving Audrey II blood from his fingers until it becomes too much for Seymour to feed him the plant starts to talk to him and convinces Seymour to kill People to get some food. The plant promises Seymour that he will get everything he has ever desired and Seymour listens. However, will Seymour actually get everything he wants? Find out by coming to see the Berkshire Thespian's production of the musical the nights of April 29th and 30th. Nathan McFadden will play the part of Seymour Krelborn, and Michelle Sohm stars as Audrey. Also get seduced by Kieran Wichert voicing the plant. The character of Orin is played by Alec Vizy. If you are interested in helping with the production by joining stage crew talk to Mr. Lester, in room number 209 for information and get involved. It's not too late to join and be part of this amazing performance!

Relay For Life

by Kaitlyn Moses, BP Staff Editor

It's an event that brings the community together and supports an amazing cause; Relay for Life is just around the corner. What is Relay for Life? According to Ms. Green, "Relay for Life is the big fundraiser that the American Cancer Society does to fund all of their programs." These programs include: "Hope Lodge, which is a place that people can stay for free while they're in Cleveland getting treatments. They have a 24 hour hotline that's manned by professionals, doctors, and nurses that you can call at any time to get info about cancer if you're a patient. If you're a relative, if you're a friend, or if you just want information. They offer people rides to treatment, plus research, plus they have the wig programs." The American Cancer Society isn't just for cancer research, like the Susan G. Komen organization which only funds breast cancer research, Green adds, "The American Cancer Society does absolutely everything from the support phase— from the second you hear about a diagnosis, all the way to the end if necessary."

As it was last year, the event is being held at the Great Geauga County Fair Grounds again this Spring. The registration fee for the team is $10 and the hope is that every participant on the team can raise at least $100. There will be many items of interest at the event this year. Green says, "There's games, food, ton's of fun, bands, entertainment, a princess party for younger kids and there will be some superheros there this year. The Horseshoe Pitching Club is going to open up the pits and teach kids how to pitch horseshoes. [...] There's a survivor dinner, survivor laps, and themed laps. The Cardinaires are going to perform. There will be a professional juggler, and a bunch of other things." This year's event will be huge and is guaranteed to be a day full of fun for all who come.

For those interested in participating, the event is just 12 hours long. "The more teams, the merrier," says Green who adds, "We're trying to build this and make it a bigger event, because it has fizzled a little bit. We're trying to build it back up, so having it here at the fairgrounds will hopefully help. We have a bulletin board in the lobby across from the band room, there's a website. Sign up on the website and then after I see it, I'll give them paper work and invite them to the next meeting." Last year the team raised 2,000 dollars, the majority of which goes directly to the American Cancer Society. Only about 5-10% of the money raised is used to pay for administration fees according to Green. It is the best way to support local cancer patients, and is a fun way to spend a day with friends or family.

6th Grade Camp

by Julia Losasso, BP Staff Editor

Sixth grade camp is many Berkshire student's favorite memory of elementary. The week of no school, replaced by fun outdoor classes and activities, as well as gaining independence through overnights in cabins with High School counselors, was, and still is, something every sixth grader looked forward to for weeks. But now, as many as six years later for some students, the opportunity has come to once again return to camp, only this time, as a counselor. For years, the counselors were Juniors and Seniors, who help lead the students in activities and games, supervise a cabin, and overall, create bonds that will last well beyond the week of camp. This year, as a result of the coinciding dates with the Senior shadow project, and the effort to encourage Seniors to work outside of our own community, the role of being camp counselors falls primarily on the Junior class.



2015 Camp counselors blowing off steam

Burton Elementary teacher Mrs. Hocshchild, is in charge of sixth grade camp and has been going to camp with the students for 20 years. She was kind enough to explain everything a prospective counselor may have questions about or be wondering before they apply. To begin, sixth grade camp takes place at Camp Whitewood, in Windsor, and runs Tuesday May 10th through Friday, May 13th. It is important to note that at this time, Juniors will still be in school. Mrs. Hocshchild explains that this is an important part of the application process: "Usually, the Junior/Senior teachers nominate students who would be good at being camp counselors, and who also can handle being away from regular classes and still keep up. Then, the nominated students get applications to fill out about why they want to be counselors and why they think they would do a great job at it. Lastly, the high school teachers should look over the nominations, and select the best counselors." Besides being nominated, she also suggests students interested in being counselors should email her at amy.hochschild@berkshireschools.org, to get more information and show interest.

If you still aren't sure what being a camp counselor entails, Mrs. Hocshchild sums it up, "It's hard work out there—even though it is fun, it is constant and very busy!" Responsibilities of counselors include partaking in activities, games, classes, meals, treats, night activities, and campfires, as well as have a positive attitude! Mrs Hocshchild explains, "[Being a counselor] involves being around different groups of kids all day and all night! Students have to be patient, be willing to listen to younger kids with their young views on things, be able to help friends not argue, get students to their classes and activities on time during the day and night, plan cabin activities, be willing to get involved in activities themselves so the sixth graders will be brave enough to join in! Have a love for fun and the outdoors!"

Overall, sixth grade camp is a blast for everyone. By acting as counselors, students make it possible for the sixth graders to be able to spend the night and do many activities throughout their stay. Mrs. Hocshchild also notes, "The teachers really rely on them to help out with the sixth graders who really look up to the high school students!" The main goal, she says, is to make sure that the sixth graders have the best experience ever!" This year especially, students will get to expand their friend groups within camp, "with Ledgemont Elementary being part of Berkshire, the students will have that week to meet, and make new friends before going up to the middle school." In addition, with Juniors as counselors, the sixth graders who moving up to the high school building next year will recognize some familiar faces amongst the crowd, hopefully making their transition as smooth as possible.

Prom update

by Lexi Sell, BP Staff Writer

Date of events: Saturday, May 7, 2016
Time(s) of event: 6:00-11:00 pm
Location: La-Vera Party Center, 32200 Chardon Rd. Willoughby Hills, OH 44094
Slogan: Come Join Us For A Night Chicago Style
Where to purchase tickets: Cafeteria or room 111
When to purchase tickets?: April 18- April 29, During 4th and 6th period lunches, before school and afterschool in room 111
Cost of tickets: $55.00 for seniors, and $65.00 for juniors. Underclassmen being taken as guest of senior/juniors, non-Berkshire students.
Requirements for non-Berkshire dates: If you are bring a non-Berkshire student as your guest, a form needs to be filled out and turned in with a photo ID attached no later than May 5th. There will be no exceptions so please make sure you turn it in on time so everybody can have a good time.
Shoe policy: Shoes must be worn at all times, bring comfortable shoes to change into when you are on the dance floor if you'd rather not wear heels the whole night.

You know it's spring in Ohio when...

by Alexis Caponi, BP Staff Writer

You know it's spring in Northeast Ohio when:
-Snow… Just snow.
-Having the hope of a snow day halfway through March.
-Melting snow= a lot of mud.
-"Did you turn your schedule in yet?" "Oops?"
-Those gloriously blessed days where the weather is perfect.
-Then the rain hits.
-When the ground finally dries up, but it rains as soon as you want to go out.
-The day you lose hope of getting another snow day.
-Your yard turns into a jungle because the grass is so long, and you can't mow until the ground won't swallow the tires of your mower.
-Which won't happen because rain.
-Spring break can't come fast enough.
-You literally ask "how many days left?" every single day.
-Breaking out the shorts and tanks.
-Blindingly white legs.
You know it's spring when:
-You feel energized to do something, anything.
-SPORTS. Who doesn't love some good baseball?
-That week of vacation where you either sit on the couch or go out and get stuff done.
-Popsicles are becoming temperature acceptable now.
-Weekend trips to the beach? I think yes.
-Windows down, wind in your hair, not freezing your butt off.
-Are those birds you hear outside?
-Need. Fresh. Fruit.
-ALLERGIES.
-Those white-poof-ball dandelions take over the world.
-Walking around outside with bare feet again.
-Today's weather is morning: cold, noon: hot, night: freezing.
-Exchanging beanies for baseball caps.
-Hot teas and coffees suddenly become iced.
-Just wanting to surround yourself with friends and sunshine.

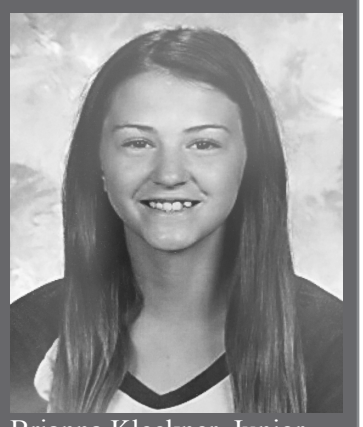
March students of the month

by Alex Yokules, BP Staff Writer



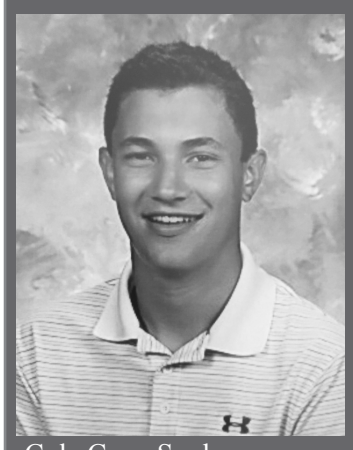
Alyssa Maier, Senior

How many bones are in a giraffe's neck?
"Seven."
Who was Henry VIII's wife at the time of his death?
"Like… Victoria? I don't know." (Catherine Parr)
Who is your favorite character in Downton Abbey?
"I don't know any characters in Downton Abbey."
"I have a question for you: why such strange questions?"
Because I can do what I want.



Brianna Kleckner, Junior

If you could be any animal, what would you be and why?
"I would be a cow because they're fat and can eat whatever they want."
Would you rather have a long flowing beard, or long flowing hair?
"Long flowing hair!"
What is the Japanese poem with five syllables in the first line, seven in the second, and five in the third?
"Haiku." (Correct!)
Cats or dogs?
"Dogs."



Cole Crea, Sophomore

How many different kinds of bears are there and which one is the best? (there is a right answer)
"Yes."
How many times a day do you think about Abraham Lincoln?
"Seven."
If aliens came to earth and you were chosen to represent the human race, what would be your opening statement?
"I'm only here so I won't get fined."
What is your favorite Monday night TV show?
"The Bachelor."



Lindsey Hill, Freshman

What is your plan for the zombie apocalypse?
"First, I'll get a big semi and fill it with food. Then, I'll find a big place to stay. Then, I'll find all the people I care about and screw everyone else."
What is your favorite month?
"Probably March because it's my birthday."
Cats or Dogs?
"Dogs, but big dogs."



Gianna Skolaris, Eighth Grade

In which city will you find Michelangelo's famous 17-feet-tall marble sculpture "David"?
"Rome" (correct answer is Florence)
How many times a day do you think about Abraham Lincoln?
"None."
Who is the hottest president?
"JFK."
Did you find these questions helpful?
"No."



Gennah Brown, Seventh Grade

On a scale of 1-10, what is your favorite color?
"Yellow?"
Who is the hottest president?
"George W. Bush."
How many of these questions made sense?
"None."

March 15th: A day of misfortune

by Kody West, BP Staff Writer

Maybe you've heard of it, maybe you haven't, but regardless, the question on everyone's mind is: What exactly is "The Ides of March"? Okay maybe that really isn't a question on anyone's mind but I'm still going to enlighten you.

For those of you that haven't taken Mrs. Koler's Sophomore english class, where you read Shakespeare's Julius Caesar, the Ides of March originate from the ancient Roman calendar. The ides is the middle of a month and relates to the lunar cycle or some garbage like that. Hence the Ides of March being March 15th. The ides of a month were notorious in ancient Roman culture for being a time of bad luck and superstition, like Friday the 13th in our culture. Subsequently, the Ides of March is when Julius Caesar was assassinated by his ol' pal Brutus and some other thugs. For him, March 15th was a pretty awful day filled with bad luck.



Photo Courtesy of moviebrit.wordpress.com

Ides of March, an epic movie starring George Clooney and Ryan Gosling.

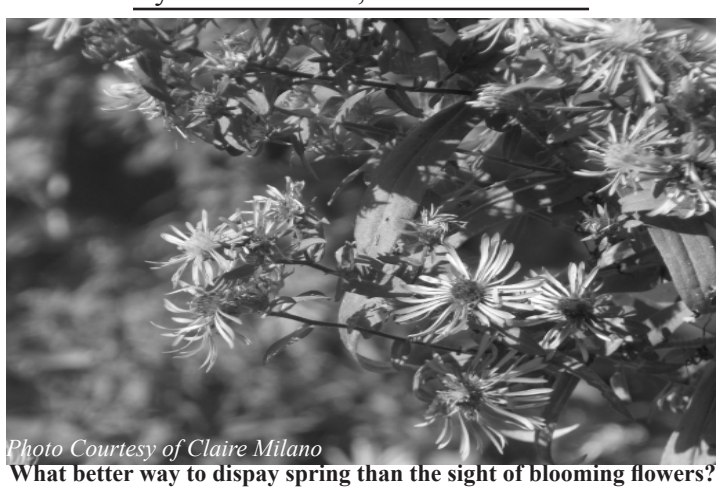
Besides being a day of bad luck and assassinations, the Ides of March is also a movie directed by George Clooney, released in 2011. The movie stars George Clooney and received a 7.1/10 on IMDb, and runs for one hour and 41 minutes. This movie is probably not worth your time, but it has to do with Ohio and its primaries, so that's kind of interesting, I guess.

The Ides of March is also a name of some rock band from the 70's. They're still active today but are like really old and probably not as good now. They are best known for their hit "Vehicle" which was released in 1970. The band has eight members, all of which are old dudes that think they are still twenty. This band is also probably a waste of your time and they don't even have anything to do with Ohio.

To summarize what the Ides of March is: it is an arbitrary day of superstition to a culture that has long been extinct, it is the title to a bad movie that takes place in Ohio, and it's the name of an old dude band that your grandpa probably listens to.

Make the most of your spring break

By Claire Milano, BP Staff Writer


Photo Courtesy of Claire Milano

What better way to dispay spring than the sight of blooming flowers?

With spring break coming up, we all need a vacation. But where exactly are the best places to go? According to travel.usnews.com, the top three best spring break destinations are Miami Beach, Cancun, and the Bahamas. Although pricey, Miami Beach is the place to be. With the simmering sun above your head and cool waves at your feet, you'll be relaxed and ready to go. If you're on a spring budget, Cancun is an affordable substitution. Like Miami, Cancun's beaches stretch on for miles and miles. Travelers like Junior, Kylee Minick enjoy traveling to visit family. She ventures to Florida to visit her dad. Her favorite parts about going to Florida is swimming and fishing. She reminisces about swimming with the dolphins and manatees that live in the ocean there.

If you're like Freshman Marissa Miller, and enjoy lounging at home during spring break, a good way to pass the time is to watch fun movies and hang out with friends. I recommend a Harry Potter, Hunger Games, or Lord of the Rings movie marathon. You could also try making your own pizza. One of my favorite pastimes is to take a walk in the woods or on a bike path. Just be sure to watch the weather! If you're a neat-freak, spring cleaning is right up your alley. First, start by making your bed, then move on to your closet. That way, you can take things and lay them out to see what stays and what goes. Like to try new things? Go to Walmart or CVS to find the wackiest candy there is and buy it. You never know, one of those creepy "bugs-in-a-lollipop" could turn out to be your new favorite. Spring break is the time to plan out the rest of the school-year and be prepared. Figuring out what to do for the remainder of this semester takes a HUGE load off your shoulders. Then, you are ready to kick off summer. (Btw: three more months!)

...Humans Continued from front page

So be aware of dap etiquette; First it was hugs, then it was high fives, and on to fist bumps which were the cool thing for a hot second but all those things have been exonerated from the Berkshire greeting handbook.

To quickly clear up the possible confusion between a dap and dab they are two very different things, but since we're on the topic, a dab is pretty much when you sneeze into your inner elbow, which has oddly moved our young culture to think is the coolest dance move since the Jersey Shore fist bump. Again, It not really when you sneeze but to ensure the perfect dab just kiss your biceps and your close enough to the famous "Look at my Dab" technique so energetically performed by the Migos group Atlanta raised. Many of our other famous figures such as Lebron and NFL football players are taking up this prevalent hip hop pose that is quickly becoming the move of the summer.

There are just a few things going on at Berkshire you may have asked yourself by now what exactly does that mean, or do I even want to know? Whether it be the newest dance move or the oldest jokes at Berkshire we all have the same language. While the people outside of the confined walls of Berkshire High School may have no clue what we are doing, it's our culture and we are just rolling with the punches. So, next time a teen comes up to you with a hand, more likely than not they aren't going in for a handshake and when that day comes for us to bring our country off the fields and on to the roads participate because you're only in high school for so long. School is for learning but it's also part of something greater; it's this big social experiment to see what you like and who you want to be associated with. Be involved in everything and use this time to learn who you are. Throw a sneeze looking dance move in the middle of the class exchange, tell someone younger than you there's a pool on the top of the school and bring a fully gassed lawn mower to school because you're only young once and you don't want to be in your last year of school and regret what you didn't do.

Books: Back to basics

by Abby Carlson, BP Staff Editor

The human race has been reading since the beginning of time, perhaps not books or manuscripts, but reading nonetheless. There are those who absolutely despise it, and those who love it! Since I belong to the latter group, I want to tell you why I fancy it so, and why maybe you should as well.

You can imagine things the way you want to.

Have you ever read a story that just blew you away, then went to see it on the big screen? Then, that movie adaptation ruins your life forever. It's not at all how you imagined it, the setting is completely wrong, and don't even mention the characters. Well, I definitely have and I'm here to inform you that that is completely normal. Books and movies can't compete, they're not even on the same playing field. See, books actually make you think for yourself, and inspire deep thought, while movies just gather everything up and hand it to you. No brain power needed (that should be on the cover of most movie cases). Don't get me wrong, I love to watch movies and TV shows, sometimes you just need a break from thinking, but recently it seems people have been taking breaks that last their entire lives. Not cool.

Books last longer.

Cuddling up with an enormously fabulous book can keep you busy for, well, ever. I can't count how many times I've spent an entire day plowing through a book, no recognition of the outside world whatsoever. Sure, that sounds a bit obsessive from the outside, but when you're so caught up in that world of whatever, and you feel like you're actually living the main character's lives'? Best. Feeling. Ever. Total escape from reality, and way better than any hour long movie you've ever watched.

Books are more detailed.

Movies are like outlines of essays, they aren't able to capture every little detail like a trusty hardcover can. Instead of "she could feel the warm rich heat from the sun permeating her tanned skin as she laid upon the soft green grass, feeling the humid air carry soft tendrils of mousy brown hair across her freckled cheeks," you see a chick laying on the ground in the sun. Gargantuan difference.

Characters can't be ruined by poor acting or bad casting.

While reading a story, your brain is forced to imagine what the characters look like. Does she have big eyes, does he have pearly whites, it she really as "normal" as she thinks she looks? Books keep you guessing, and soon enough, you have this image formed in your mind of what all these people look like. But when you go see the movie, the characters are on the opposite side of the universe from what you pictured them as. There is no guessing, it's simply, "she looks like this, and he looks like that." Nothing is left up to interpretation, which takes away the whole aspect of imagination and the inspiration of thought.

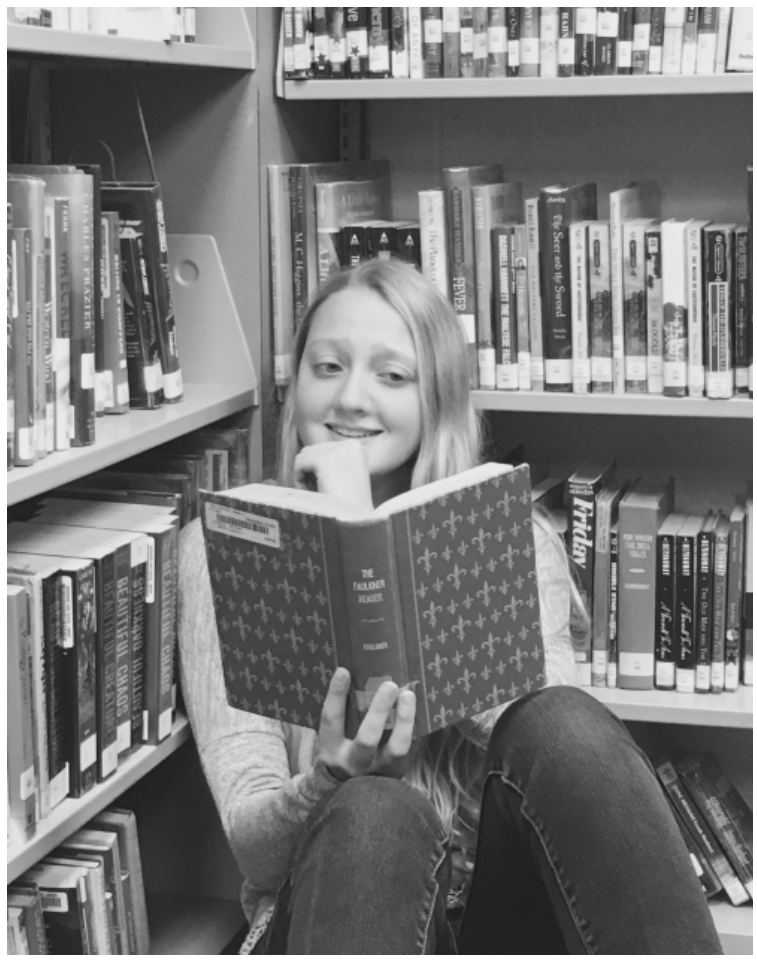
You get to know characters better.

In movies, due to the limited screen time, so much of the story is changed and discarded. Sure you still get to know the characters, but not nearly as well as when they are described in books. You get to dive into their lives, their thoughts, their feelings when reading, but when you see someone act it out, you don't have the luxury of knowing exactly what their thinking at that moment. Which if you ask me, kind of takes away from the plot and the meaning of the story.

Books don't need battery, data, a TV or phone.

When's the last time you had to charge your paperback, or payed $40 a month just to have access to it? Enough said.

There aren't any poor special effects, your imagination is limitless.



Lexi Caponi enjoying a book the right way.

Although special effects have come a long way — shout out to James Cameron for using them so well, they are no match for the power of our imagination. No matter what they do, the creators of movies just aren't always able to make their final piece look entirely green-screen-free. In your mind, however, there are no green screens, just whatever it is you can imagine, pure flawlessness.

The smell of old books.

Anyone ever smelled an old book? If you haven't, then you absolutely must to gain the full human experience, and if you have and it makes you sick, you disturb me.

It's Tech Talk time!

by Sam Martinjako, BP Staff Writer

We are currently on the eighth generation of home videogame consoles. Their legacy began around three years ago with the release of the Wii U in late 2012, and the Xbox One and Playstation 4 both being released in late 2013. These systems are the successors to a truly great era of gaming, the seventh generation, that still hasn't quite died out. Developers are continuing to produce games that work with over ten year-old hardware due to the massive amount of consumers that yet own these last-gen devices. This, in turn, creates more unsatisfying experiences for those who spend their hard-earned money on new games that turn out to be disappointments. Even games that don't seem all that impressive or rich with any sort of complicated features, like Call of Duty, can't manage to remain on both new and old consoles without cutting corners.

The newest installment in the series, Call of Duty: Black Ops III, has three main modes: campaign, competitive multiplayer, and zombies. However, this is only true on the current generation's version of the game. The version released on the previous generation's systems, the Xbox 360 and PS3 to be specific, only have the multiplayer mode and zombies mode available to play, and the graphics are highly inferior to those of the newer systems. This is what should be expected; such old hardware has no chance of keeping up with the newest devices on the market. Yet, people still buy these shallow husks of games due to their attachment to the consoles they've already been playing on for years. Perhaps it's money keeping some from making the switch, or maybe there has not been a game good enough to make the switch truly worth it to those holding on to their older devices. Whatever their reason though, these people are why the previous generation of consoles is still alive, even though it's on its last legs.

According to Blake Jorgensen, the CFO of Electronic Arts, one of the biggest third-party game developing studios there is, as of January this year, the total amount of Xbox One and Playstation 4 consoles sold has reached approximately 55 million units. IGN, a gaming news website, states that the Wii U has sold over 12 million units as of February 2016. These total to about 67 million total current-gen consoles sold, which, obviously, is no small number.

The current generation of consoles, looking sleek.

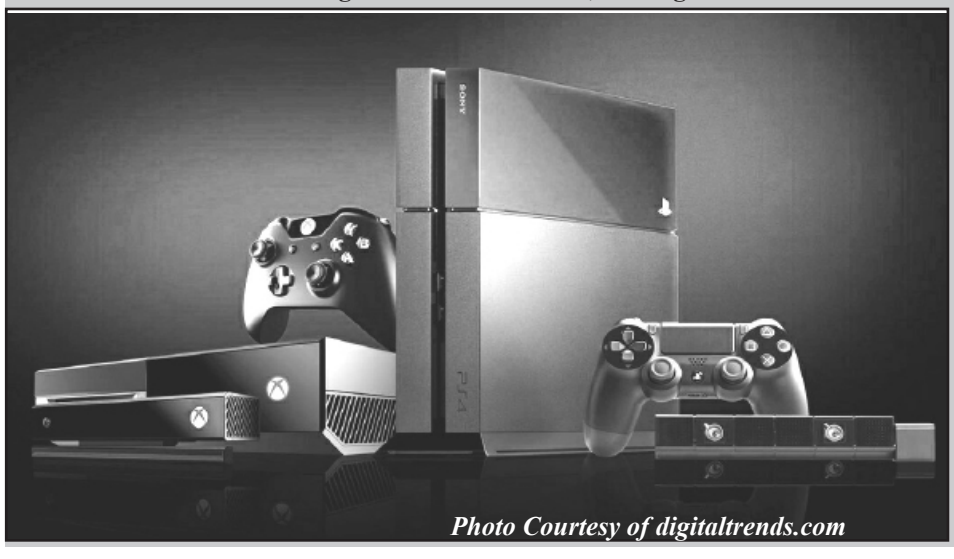


Photo Courtesy of digitaltrends.com

The consumer base for these consoles will continue to grow for years to come as newer and, hopefully, better games are released. This is important, as currently, this generation's games haven't been that great. To be fair, games nowadays are much bigger and more complicated things to make, but that doesn't excuse the poor quality of some games that have been released within the past couple of years. Assassin's Creed Unity, the first Assassin's Creed game to be exclusive to the next-gen consoles, minus the Wii U, launched as a horrible, buggy mess. One its most infamous glitches involved the faces of characters not rendering in properly, so all they had for heads was hair, a floating mouth, and some floating eyeballs. This, while somehow completely hilarious and terrifying at the same time, is unacceptable for a game with such a big studio backing it and its $60 asking price. Aside from broken games, this gen has also been filled with "remasters" of older games. They're the same experiences, just with newer, shinier coats of paint. Examples of this are The Last of Us Remastered, and Pokémon Omega Ruby/Alpha Sapphire. Sure, it gives people the ability to replay their favorite games with better visuals and minor updates, but it's just kind of lazy. Instead of making newer, better games, companies are just rehashing old ones to drain our wallets without actually selling us a "new" product. It's somewhat sad in retrospect, but it's a brilliant business move. Everyone's a sucker for nostalgia, so people are going to buy these remakes, despite already having technically played them.

Moving forward, the way we play games is changing. Back in the early 2000's, all you would have to do in order to play a game was pop a disk into your system and boot it up. Now, you can simply download games directly to your Playstation, Xbox, or Wii without having to even physically go to the store. What used to be dedicated entirely to gaming has now turned into general an entertainment device. Netflix, YouTube, Internet Browsing, Facebook, and music services are all prevalent on current-gen (and many previous-gen) devices. Gaming consoles are basically just slightly gimped PCs at this point. With a shift towards digital media involving large game installs, updates that are bigger in size and quantity, shorter loading times, cloud computing, and more, this couldn't seem any less true. It's quite possible that the next gaming consoles won't even be actual consoles.

The next generation of gaming will definitely be a strange one. There may not be a next Xbox, or even a Playstation 5, or at least they won't be what we'd expect. Though, for Microsoft and Sony, the creators of the Xbox and Playstation, there is no need to rush. While the current generation may be somewhat disappointing, the systems themselves are good enough to last a few more years. Nintendo, however, seems to already have something planned for the next console generation. A device only known as "NX" is in the works, and has been rumored to come out as early as this year. There is very little information known to us about the device, except for the fact that Dragon Quest X and Dragon Quest XI are going to be released for it. We don't even know if it will be a handheld device or a stationary console. Handhelds are a different story from consoles though, discussing anything about them or their future will have to wait for another day.

Double trouble

by Mia Monroe, BP Staff Writer

Have you ever been walking down the street and seen someone that looks exactly like another person you know? Maybe you even thought it was and tried to say hi only to be rejected in the most embarrassing of ways when it turns out that is not your best friend's uncle you just hugged in the middle of the street. Don't worry, you're not alone. This may be more common than you think. "Doppelgänger" which is German term for double walker means an apparition or double of a living person. That definition gives it a sort of supernatural or paranormal feel but in all reality it is just another person walking this earth that looks exactly like you. Its really cool if you think about it. It is also said to be very rare but more and more scientists are coming to the conclusion that the chances of you having a doppelganger are in fact very high. There are only so many gene combinations that make up your facial features such as hair color, eye color and nose shape. Due to this limited number of genes, it is easily possible for everyone to have a doppelganger somewhere in the world. So knowing that you most likely are not as unique as you thought may ruin your day but it's okay, at least your mom still thinks you're special.

There are now apps you can download and make an account on that will try and help you find your real life doppelgänger. I mean, who wouldn't want to find their long lost look alike? There's websites like findmydoppelganger.net or iLookLikeYou.com where you can search the system for faces that resemble your own. There is also a more commonly known website called Twins or Not created by Microsoft. On this website you can put two pictures of different people next to each other and get a rating of if they look like twins or not. Have you ever looked at Tom Hardy and Logan Marshall-Green? The app Twins or Not rated them to be 82% Twin. Even when you type their name into google the searches that come up are "Tom Hardy and Logan Marshall-Green related". There are many cases of average people having a celebrity doppelganger as well. These websites and just living your plain old life have shown many instances of people finding their long lost twin.

The huffington post showed 18 pictures of people with their doppelgänger. In some of them, the pair are wearing the same glasses or a similar hat. One man boarded a flight and when he got to his seat there was already a man sitting in it. It turns out that that man was his doppelgänger. What are the odds of not only being on a flight with your look alike but sitting in the same row? We might have to ask Mr. Lester about this one. Another woman, a reporter in Ireland took a 28 day challenge to find her real life look alike. She used an App or website and found the "spitting image" of herself living just an hour away. A young woman found her doppelgänger on Instagram after a friend showed her some pictures of the other woman. She tried to get help on the Internet to find her look alike but they appeared so similar that some people didn't even believe it wasn't the same person. She eventually found her doppelgänger and made contact. With all of these examples, websites and pictures, there is hope for one of us to one day find our long lost twin. That thought alone should make you excited for every day and the possibility to find your doppelganger.



Tom Hardy and Logan Marshall-Green, two look-alikes, pose for a crazy picture

Is Tinder just kindling the fire?

by Jeremy Koscelnik, BP Staff Writer

Tinder. Most of us are ashamed to have it, but let's be honest we've all been curious at some point. What is Tinder? For those who are unaware, Tinder is a free app created by Tinder Inc. that allows people with common interests to meet and get to know each other. The goal of this popular app is for eligible singles near each other to find like-minded people they can connect with, but like all social media, there can be complications.

An important thing to take note of is that Tinder requires a Facebook profile to use the app. This is a safety net put in place to assure that people are matched within their appropriate age group. So, only minors of 13-17 years of age can match with each other, and adults that are 18 years+ can't match with anyone underage, but only with each other. This, however can backfire as Tinder is not immune to the popular trend of catfishing: the act of creating a fake online persona to talk to a certain person or simply mess with them and potentially ruin their lives. Catfishers can get around Tinder's age firewall by creating a fake Facebook profile in which they lie about their age, gender, or even their entire appearance. This can be highly dangerous for both parties involved, especially if a meetup is planned.

Several students from Berkshire allowed me to interview them about their views on Tinder, as well as certain experiences they have had themselves while using the app. There were quite a few... interesting responses to say the least. One of the sketchiest experiences to note comes from a sophomore. While using Tinder, he was apparently "Catfished by a 30-year old man." This is a common danger for those meeting someone over the internet because no one can ever really be sure who is on the other end of the computer (or phone in this case). Apps like Tinder are forums for sex offenders and other dangerous characters to prey on their unsuspecting young victims.

Many of the students that I interviewed did not have experience with Tinder, and clearly do not plan to as they had scathing words against the use of the dating app. Junior, Spencer Adams described the idea of Tinder as "Sketchy af." and mentioned that "It could ruin your life and you definitely should not do it." He made his standpoint pretty clear, and he wasn't the only one. Junior, Kyndra Lipstreu says that "Tinder is not for people who are looking for something serious. Everyone on the app is just looking for sex." In a survey of 55 Berkshire students, 60% of them said that it was not a good idea to use the app to meet other people. However, the other 40% said that you should "Go for it!." What's even more interesting is that 37% of the interviewed students have had personal experience with the app, and at least half of those with previous experience suggested against the use of it.

Although there are a lot of horror stories out there about the app, several students have had or know people who have had positive experiences with Tinder. Junior, Katie Reese says that 'Her sister met her current boyfriend on Tinder," and they are still together today. Another success story comes from a junior who allowed me to interview her anonymously about her current Tinder status.

Q: Originally, how did you feel about Tinder?

A: I was very curious because several of my friends had the app, but I was also hesitant because of the dangers of internet dating.

Q: Now how do you feel about the app?

A: Well, I've had it for a while and I actually met someone really great. It's fun to meet and talk to different people that you normally wouldn't have ever met.

Q: How do you know who you're talking to is real?

A: I think it's really important to Facetime or Skype with someone you meet on the app before you share anything personal in order to assure that they are who they say they are. Even then, that's not enough. You should definitely do your research before meeting them in-person.

Q: Do you have intentions of meeting this person that you met on Tinder?

A: Yes, I plan on meeting her over spring break. We've been talking for awhile and she's great.

This junior definitely followed her own advice and did her research before connecting a girl who lives several counties away. And it looks like she's not the only one who knows internet safety. I interviewed a Senior who is able to experience the adult side of Tinder, as she is 18 years old. She said amongst the "many old men" there are a lot of great guys on there looking for more than just sex. She's currently talking to a "very attractive boy" named Drake who she met on the app a few months ago. "We went from DM's (direct messages) on Tinder to trading our phone numbers and now we're really into each other. We're definitely going to chill soon."

After all of the research and interviews, there really is a mixture of teenagers who are for and against the use of the popular app. Several students would rather not risk the dangers, and are totally fine with leaving Tinder in the app store. However, there are many high-schoolers who are willing to take the time to swipe left on the frogs until they find their prince or princess. In a small town like Burton, where there are only about 90 kids, it's nice to have the opportunity to meet someone 90 miles away. As long as you are aware of the risks, it's really up to you whether or not to pursue that opportunity.

There's nobody like you

by Abbie Mascheck, BP Staff Writer



Photo Courtesy of kandibaby.net

A simple reminder of the more important things in life.

There is nobody on the face of this large planet that has been made like you have. From the way your ears wiggle to your unique fingerprints and all the way down to how your toes curl, you have truly been made in your own special way. Some of us tower over all of our classmates and teachers while others are barely able to hit the five foot mark. Nevertheless, we are all different and all beautiful.

Living in a world where airbrushed and photoshopped models grace the covers of magazines everywhere can be a struggle for women. Not enough attention is given to this topic. Many people don't realize the lasting impressions these magazine covers have on young girls. They are unable to witness the lasting effects because there isn't anyone standing up sharing what is actually going on. Society is always pushing us into the evil trap of comparison, but in reality, those women don't actually look like that! If you look around any public highschool, different beauty habits are occurring all the time. It's no longer girls just wearing a fun shade of lipstick. It is getting all too common for girls to paint on eyebrows, almost doubling their natural size as well as making their lips look larger as each day passes by. Listen up ladies, you don't have to do that! Don't let anyone pressure you into thinking that your features aren't good enough. Those seemingly perfect models, are human just like us,which means it's almost guaranteed that they have some flaws too.

There is more to beauty than just good looks. We have all heard the saying that beauty is only skin deep, which is too often overlooked. What makes a person truly beautiful is their character. Traits like genuine kindness, gentleness, self-respect and love, those are what bring true beauty into a person. Looks will fade with time, but, if a person has a beautiful character, that will last forever. Senior Nikki Rider shared her thoughts on inward beauty and body positivity. For her, inward beauty means: "being kind, selfless, caring and always complimenting people." Rider thinks that body positivity is best described as "always complimenting people at and saying that they look nice." Miranda Retych a senior at Berkshire, was also asked her thoughts on these topics. For Retych inward beauty means: "Being comfortable, being yourself, and that you learn how to make other people feel good about themselves." For me personally, I've always based my self worth out of Psalms 139:14: "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful,I know that full well." Just being able to rest in the knowledge that I am fearfully and wonderfully made makes it easier to feel comfortable in my own skin and be able to share this knowledge with others.

Being you is something to be proud of. Remember, nobody can do the job quite like you can. Let's all begin encouraging one another and making sure everyone feels comfortable in their own skin. So, next time you look in the mirror, smile at yourself and give yourself a reminder that you are beautiful just the way you are.

Pen Pals: The Lost Art

by Claire Milano, BP Staff Writer



Photo Courtesy of bp.blogspot.com

Letters carry meaning and memories far longer than any electronic message.

Most people these days don't have pen pals. This is because we find ways to connect with people all over the world through social media. It's so much easier and cheaper to talk to someone online than waiting weeks for a letter to come in the mail. But that's the fun part! Anticipating a letter with actual handwriting from another part of the world can be one of the most exciting things you experience in your life. It's not only exciting, but reading another person's handwriting opens a window into what their life is like.

Take Marie Antoinette for example. She and Charlotte of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Queen of England and wife to King George III, confided in each other about the outbreak of the French Revolution. Upon discovering this, I decided that I wanted to have a similar experience to these strong women.

According to lifestyle.allwomenstalk.com, one of the best places to find a pen pal is interpals.net. Although this is an online source, it allows you to search profiles from all around the world. This website allows you to choose between email messages or handwritten messages. Once you have found someone that has the same interests as you, you can start writing to each other.

My pen pal is named Basia, and she's from Poland. Although we have only exchanged a few letters, I have realized that this is an experience unlike any other. For example, I found out that her school has a Christmas Break and a Winter Break. I wish we had something like that! We both live in small cities. According to Basia, Chardon and Olsztyn are both very small and have similar weather conditions. February is the coldest month for her, as opposed to January for us. However, this year was an extraordinarily warm winter, so I'm not complaining. It was pretty difficult to remember to change Fahrenheit to Celsius. 50 degrees here is 10 degrees there, so when she said it was currently 5 degrees and warm, I was confused.

I have never left North America, yet I feel as if I have traveled to Poland and experienced the life there through my letters. Take my advice: if you want to travel the world, a good way to start is by finding a pen pal.

Words to the wise

by Abbie Mascheck, BP Staff Writer

Let's be honest, we all know people who never seem to think before they speak or behave. They are the ones who interrupt class just to ask if they can use the restroom. You know how it goes, the teacher gets annoyed, everyone stares at them, and they act like nothing's happening. Maybe you're that person, if you are, listen up!

Remember that word wisdom? You know, the word your grandparents occasionally throw around during Sunday dinner. Let's stop the word wisdom from going extinct and take a look at its definition: knowledge of what is true or right. If we begin to think about our words and actions using this mindset, we can become a wise person. There is nothing wrong with being a wise person. If we sprinkle some wisdom on our words and actions, think of the change that could occur. We could take that old-fashioned term and make it fashionable again. Albert Einstein once said: "Any fool can know, the point is to understand." Take time out of your day to actually make an effort to understand what your saying or doing and the message that you're spreading about yourself.

King Solomon is the greatest example of wisdom. He was king whom the Bible referred to as the "wisest man ever." Not only was King Solomon one of the greatest rulers of all time, he was also a gifted writer. Each page of the book of Proverbs is loaded with insightful thoughts and ideas of wisdom. King Solomon helped write many of these passages. Here are a few wise words from this biblical book: Proverbs 14:1 "The wise woman builds her house with her own hands, the foolish one tears hers down." Proverbs 16:16 "How much better is wisdom than gold, to get insight rather than silver." Proverbs 19:20 "Listen to advice and accept discipline, and at the end, you will be counted among the wise."

Let's keep wisdom in mind. We are all capable of acting wisely. Think before you speak and pass your words of wisdom to others. Together, we can bring this old-fashioned concept back to life again.



Junior, Adele Conklin recieving dirty looks for interupting her class.

Pause Biographies: Mad Libs Edition

by Bree Barker, BP Staff Writer



Lexi Caponi, the earth eater, enjoys sunset yellow skies that have great blue whale shaped clouds.

Sam Martinjako, the water dancing boy, enjoys ruby red seas that have pandas drinking from them.



Lexi Sell, an air dancing turtle, enjoys brisk walks in the black sea.



Kaitlyn Moses, the earth bending cat, enjoys grey colored suns.

Jeremy Koscelnik, an air bender actually named Aang, enjoys painting blue arrows on his head, hands and feet before riding a giraffe.

Mrs. Hull, a fire fueled giraffe enjoys painting everything around her turquoise.

Kody West is a blue water panda.

Tommy Blaha, a blue fire starter, enjoys bear watching in the desert.



Sydney Mighton, the water flyer, enjoys blue dogs in soup.

Alex Yokules, the earth prancing wolf, enjoys being sucked into black holes.

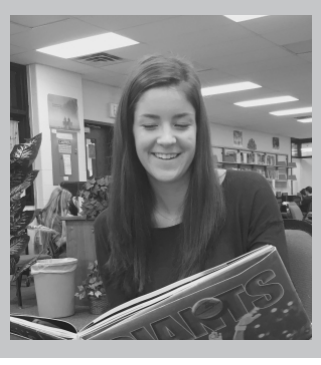


Claire Milano, the water maker, enjoys pine colored owls for breakfast.



Julia Losasso, the water drinker, enjoys a nice kind of blue painted elegiraffe.

Abby Carlson, the fire breathing "aminal", enjoys a pretty dark green sky with flying pumalemurs.



Mia Monroe enjoys red watering bears in her free time.

If you were the principal...

by Sydney Mighton, BP Staff Writer

Have you ever thought about what it would be like to be the principal for a day? A variety of Berkshire students were asked, if they were principal for one day, what would be the first thing that they would do.

It is not much of a surprise that the students responded with topics including dress code, open campus, the insanely strict liquid rule, air conditioning and nap time.

Junior Katie Dingman answered, "I would change the dress code and how strict it is. #MakeBerkshireGreatAgain #BringBackTheYogaPants." Katie was not the only one to bring up dress code as the main thing they would change, she was joined by ten other students who answered with dress code as the number one thing they would like to be changed.

Do not get me wrong, being able to wear shorts and a tank top when it gets closer to the summer months would be very nice to do to keep cool. It feels as if the heat is on year round in this building and it is especially worse when we do not have air conditioning in most classrooms.

This brings us to the topic of air conditioning. Yes, air conditioning is very, very expensive and hard to supply throughout the school and most likely is never going to happen. However, that did not stop some students from saying that they would have air conditioning installed no matter what it takes because this school can feel like a enormous heat-box come April, May, and June. How nice would that be?

Senior, Tyler Dennis said "I would give time throughout the day where everyone can go outside or go to subway and be able to talk and text whenever you wanted." Tyler was joined by seven other students who responded with the idea of open campus for the upperclassmen. Whether it be just going to Subway for lunch, stopping home to grab a quick bite to eat or being able to go outside for study hall. I think we all can agree that being able to get out of the school for a little while and rejuvenate yourself from a stressful day.

Junior, Sam Kaser, said she would want to change the strictly enforced, only clear liquids from a clear container rule. However, this rule completely makes sense because students in the past have abused this rule before by bringing in inappropriate drinks into the school, thinking they would get away with it. But for those who do not abuse this rule and people who thrive on their morning coffee or an energy drink or just want to have some orange juice during the day, this rule is extremely unfortunate and a handful of students agree with Sam on this one.

It is safe to say that the students, for the most part, have the same ideas as to what they would change if they could be principal for the day. Even though this could never happen, we can still dream...., right?



Flowers and strawberries show the first signs of Spring

The Spring Senses

An Original Poem by Lexi Caponi, BP Staff Writer

Wind across your face, throwing your hair into your eyelashes
The aroma of newly budding flowers and trees
Sweet strawberries bursting along your tongue
Rain *pittering* and *pattering* above your head at night
The sight of animals and new life springing up around you

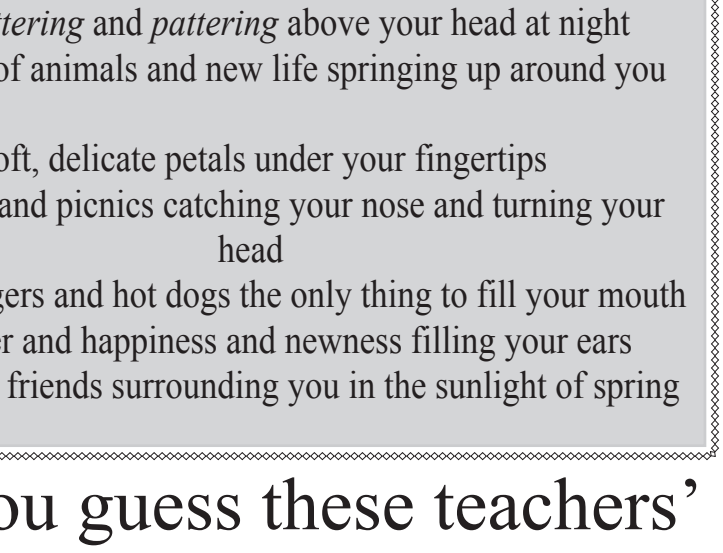
Soft, delicate petals under your fingertips
Cookouts and picnics catching your nose and turning your head
Grilled burgers and hot dogs the only thing to fill your mouth
Laughter and happiness and newness filling your ears
Family and friends surrounding you in the sunlight of spring

Can you guess these teachers' Sims?

A)



B)



C)



Answers on pg 11!

D)



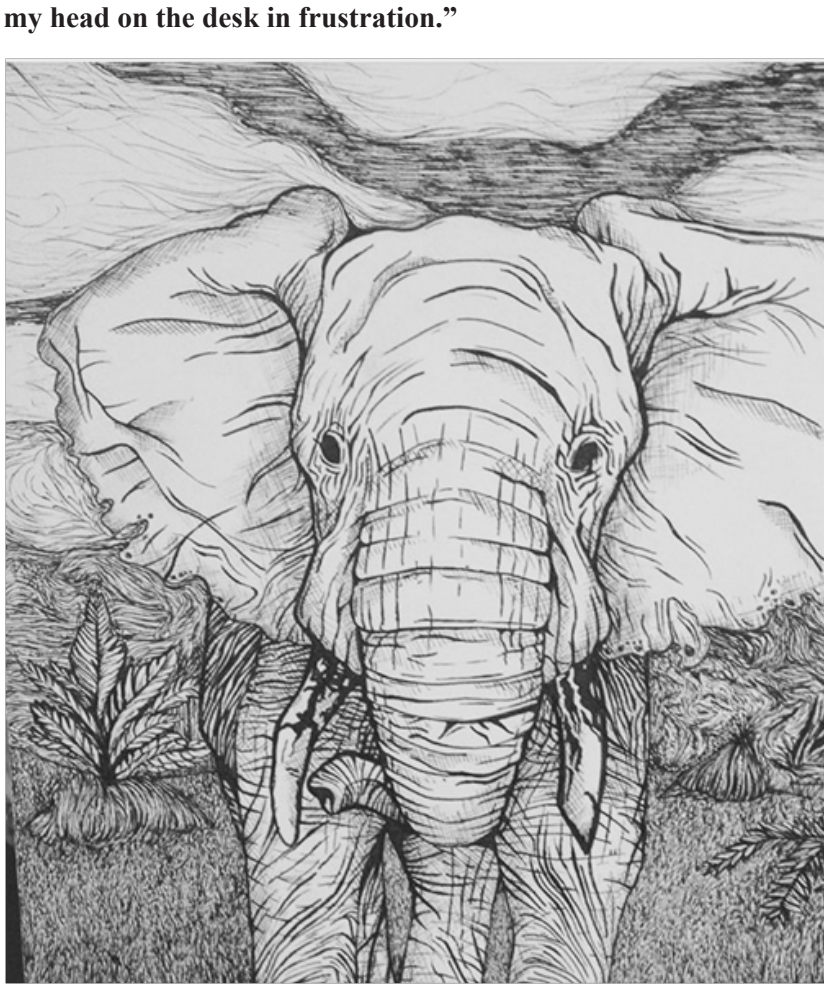
E)



Art spotlight

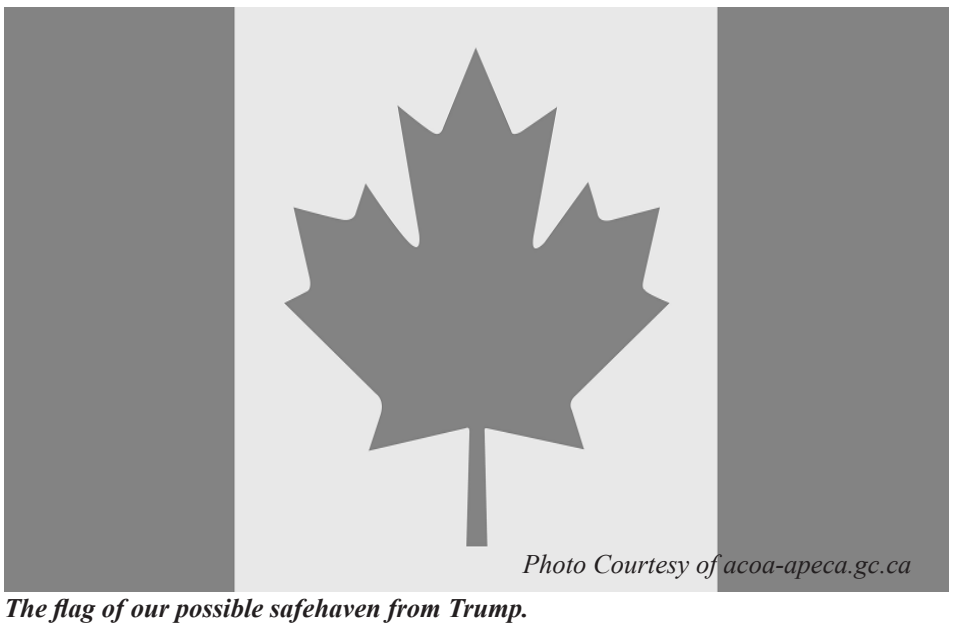


Aiden Burkley is a sophomore who likes to spend most of her time working on her art skills. According to Aiden, "Art is the only thing that really comes naturally to me, and it's something I've done since I can remember. It's a constant learning process, from practicing new media to smashing my head on the desk in frustration."



Moving to Canada in terror

by Bree Barker, BP Staff Writer



The flag of our possible safehaven from Trump.

All over the country the threat is looming. Donald Trump has an actual chance of winning this election and becoming the president of the United States. This is causing some understandable fears deep in the hearts of many Americans. With the possibility of his inauguration looming many have taken the phrase, "I'm moving to Canada" for all its worth. And why not, if you, like myself, feel the Bern, you know many of Bernie Sanders' ideals and beliefs are already implemented by northern neighbor. So if you plan on joining the masses and increasing Canada's population here's some valuable information to consider.

CANADA IS GUN FREE. Basically. You heard that right folks, Canada is not a supporter of our 2nd amendment and with good reason. According to a StatsCan report from 2012 – the most recent year available – the U.S. suffered a total of 8,813 murders involving the use of firearms that year. Canada, in the same year, recorded just 172 firearms-related homicides. They do not want open carry and therefore don't have it. So don't bring your extensive firearm collection. It's probably not welcome.

Canada is a dual-language country. Every product and government service will be offered in English, and French. So all those years of spanish you took are not going to ease your transition to canadian life for the most part. If you find the idea of seeing things in a language other than english on everything, it is suggested that you stay home.

Their idea of what a government is for is vastly different from ours. While we generally blame our government for every wrong doing to befall us, Canada sees their's as a source of good things, like health care and low tuition fees. You will experience a dramatic increase in your taxes, and because of this there's an overall air of, "it's the government's job" when in comes to taking care of things.

They use the metric system, just like almost all the other countries in the world. You'll be driving in km per hour and buying things in grams and litres.

They are a part of the Commonwealth, which means you will be pledging allegiance to Britain's Queen Elizabeth. They don't do have things like our "American Dream". They value things such as "peace, order, and good government," as opposed to our values of life, liberty and happiness. They also value cooperation and community. Basically the prefix "co-" is strongly encouraged. However, conflict, confrontation, and competitiveness are not something to be desired.

Their prime minister is a proud feminist. Justin Trudeau fulfilled his campaign promise of an equal male to female cabinet member ratio. They also brought in a ton of Syrian refugees, some citizens even taking them into their own homes.

Canada seems like a pretty good idea if you're willing to live by their rules and ideals. They support many ideas americans seem to value.

What if turtles attacked?

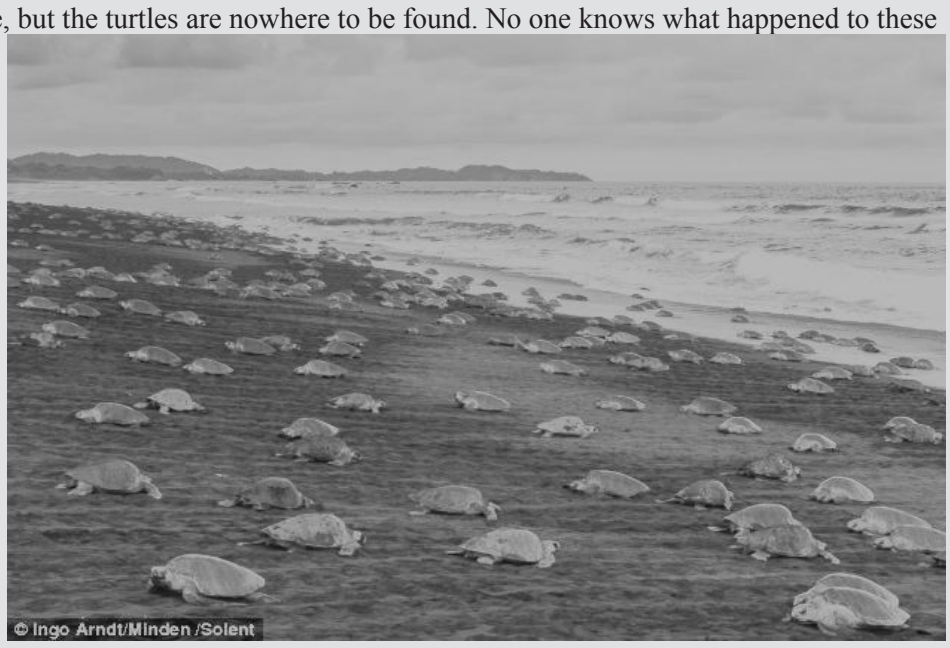
by Alex Yokules, BP Staff Writer

Picture this… A cool spring day in the middle of April. The flowers are blooming, the grass is green, the birds are migrating back North, and the sun is shining. Mother Nature is getting back into doing her thing and everyone is loving it! Yet, despite all of this, something isn't right: not all the reptiles are accounted for. The snakes, geckos, alligators, lizards, and crocodiles are all in attendance, but the turtles are nowhere to be found. No one knows what happened to these amazing creatures and it seems like they've been lost.

Spring turns into summer, and summer changes to fall and there is still no sign of the shelled creatures of wonder. Then, on the first day of spring, following a long winter, hundreds upon hundreds of turtles emerge from the waters around the world. The world rejoices in the reappearance of it's shelled inhabitants. But little do they know, the turtles have something sinister in mind, world domination. They quickly try and overtake the humans in teams of two, but the larger, dumber humans interpret this is the turtles being more loving.

Every attempt the turtles make at conquering the world is ineffective. They tried to bite the humans to death, chase them down, ruin the infrastructure of various governments, until they finally resorted to massing together into groups of hundreds or more and attacking a single human, but this was yet again a failure because all the human had to do was take two steps before the turtles realized they had to change direction and move again. By the time winter came again, the turtles came to the realization that they couldn't succeed and gave up.

During the entire endeavor, not a single person even noticed that the turtles wanted to conquer the world. Most people just thought they were being nice.



An armada of furious turtle soldiers storming the beaches of America.

Thank You,
Berkshire Class
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Editorials

Spring Word Scramble

Unscramble the words below to match the clues provided. Good luck!

ginrsp kraeb_____ _____
foldadif _____
tdyagilh svgnias _____ _____
staeer unybn _____ _____
wafn _____
nibraitnoh _____
pulti_____
dofo yde _____ _____
gesg _____
rtahe ayd_____ _____
nohye dakae mah _____ _____ _____

A series of days everyone looks forward to throughout third quarter.
The first flower of spring, commonly known to be yellow.
Spring Ahead.
He hides colored eggs in your house.
Bambi started out as one of these.
A long period of sleep animals awake from during this time of year.
An iconic spring flower, usually red.
What you use to color Easter eggs with.
These are a great source of protein (you also color them).
A day on which we commemorate our world.
This iconic meat is served on Easter.



A look into your future

by BP staff writters Yin and Yang

In Chinese philosophy, Yin and Yang are forces that show how contrary or opposite forces can be beneficial to the wellbeing of the self, nature, life, and much more. The philosophy stresses balance, of the forces and that extremes in either one result in chaos.

Aries March 21-April 19
Yin: You are in for a doozy this month, you will probably not survive.
Yang: Hang on to your loved ones and positive thoughts to keep on hanging and living.

Taurus April 20 -May 20
Yin: This month you will be betrayed by a close friend or ally, you may not survive.
Yang: You will soon find a new friend that will become closer than you would ever imagine.

Gemini May 21- June 20
Yin: You will acquire a new skill, however this skill will lead to your downfall, you will not survive.
Yang: The new skill you get this month will open brand new opportunities for you, maybe even some extra cash.

Cancer June 21 - July 22
Yin: You will get sick, you may not survive.
Yang: You will get over the illness that has been bothering you for months and will enjoy the new spring.

eo July 23- August 22
Yin: Your house will cave in and you will lose your phone, you have a poor chance to survive.
Yang: That offer you have been waiting for will finally arrive and you will find a new home in a bright and sunny place.

Virgo August 23 - September 22
Yin: Your heart will stop. You will not survive.
Yang: You will keep on beating at a very healthy pace. No heart attack in the near future.

Libra September 23 - October 22
Yin: This month you will be attacked by a bear, chance for survival is low.
Yang: This month you find a new furry friend on your lovely camping trip.

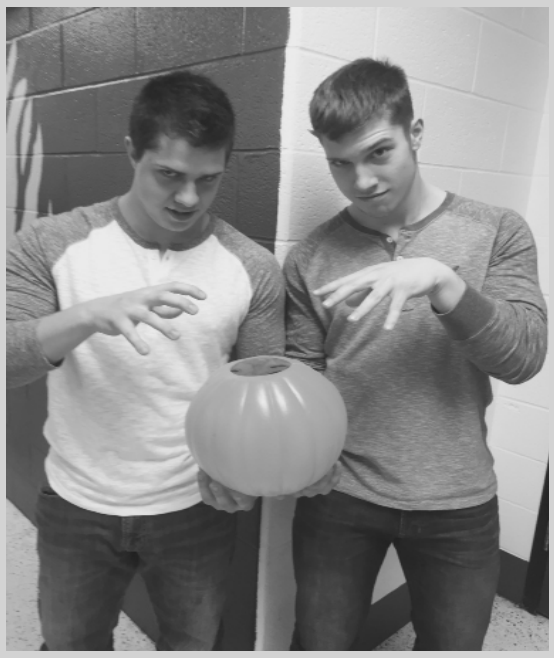
Scorpio October 23 - November 21
Yin: You will try your luck on a risky move, however it will not pay off, you will probably survive, but you will be miserable.
Yang: You will go to a casino and find your self to be very lucky;much money is coming your way

Sagittarius November 22 - December 21
Yin: This month you will fail a test, and also lose a limb. You may not survive.
Yang: You will be able to get over your problems and finally past that hard test you have prepared for for months.

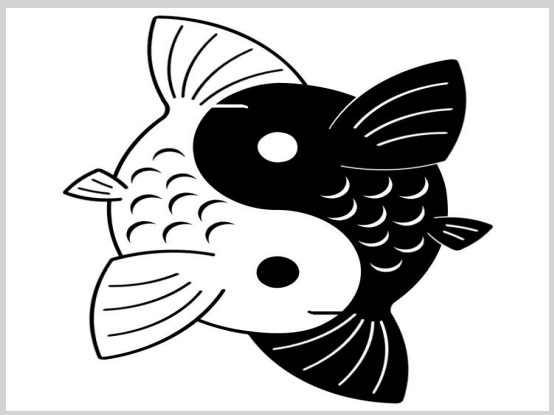
Capricorn December 22 - January 19
Yin: You will be mugged.
Yang: This month you will find yourself stranded with little hope but a friendly figure will come your way when you are at your lowest point and help you out.

Aquarius January 20 - February 18
Yin: You will get hit by a deer, and I don't mean you will hit a deer, I mean the deer will physically run into you. You may not survive.
Yang: This month you will nearly miss a deer and learn how to love again.

Pisces February 19 - March 20
Yin: You will be bitten by a big spider (like huge) and it will kill you no doubt.
Yang: This month you will be bitten by a big spider but you will find out it gave you superpowers… The good ones too

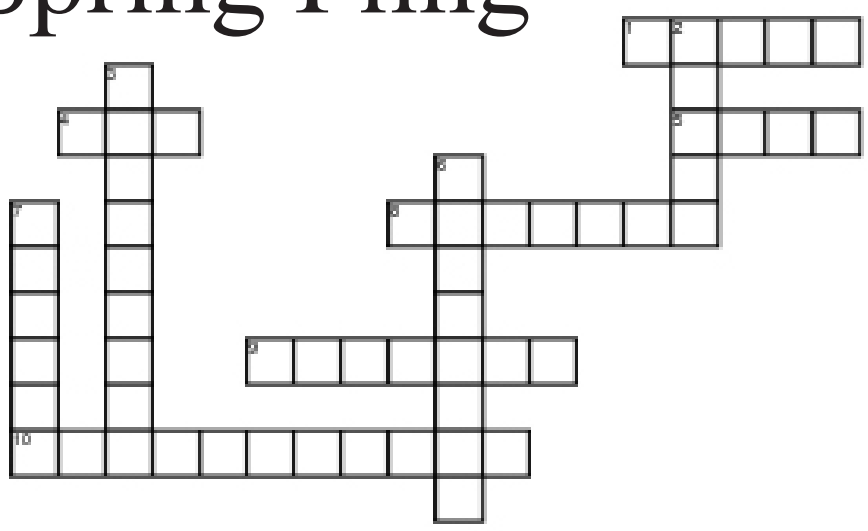


Chris Guinn and Micheal Risko play with their inner Yin and Yang durning class.



The Yin and Yang symbol is taken with a traditional approtch by linking them with chineese fish.

Spring Fling

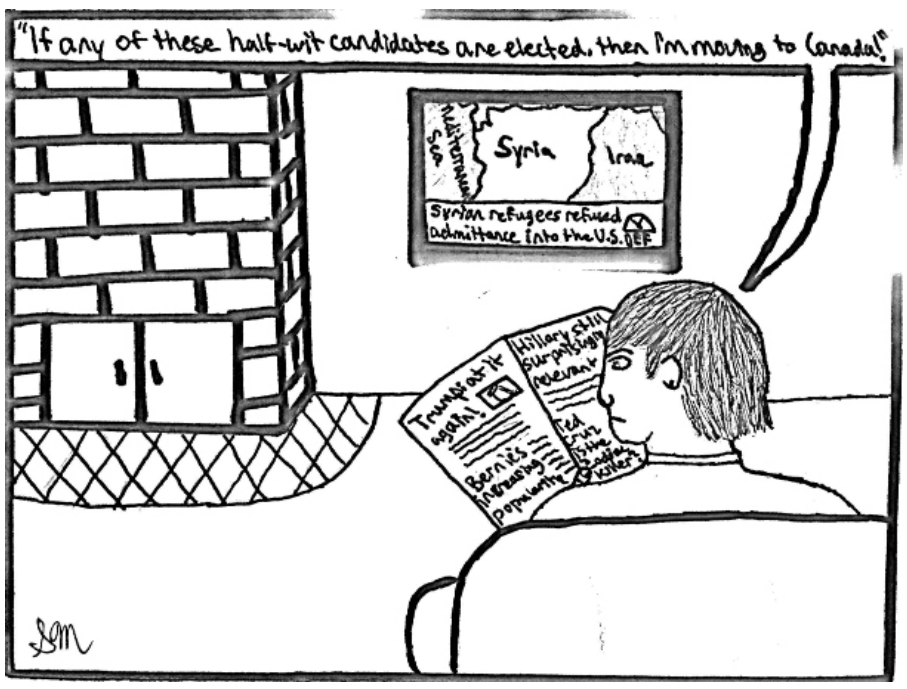


ACROSS
1 The second month of spring
4 The popular Easter dinner main dish
5 Colorful ellipsoids you hide around the house on Easter
8 April showers bring May _____
9 The day with equal hours daylight and darkness
10 The furry gift giver

DOWN
2 Popular colorful marshmallow treats
3 The first sunny yellow flowers of spring
6 Get organized and partake in spring _____
7 The end of a TV show

Comic Corner

by BP staff writter, Sam Martinjako



Answers from page 10:
A.) Mrs. Koler B.) Mr. Youngen C.) Mr. Guthrie D.) Mr. Keller E.) Mr.Higgs

Would you rather?

by Mia Monroe, BP Staff Writer

Here at Berkshire High School we have a pretty wide variety of people, not to mention age groups. I wanted to take a student poll that consisted of five questions to see how much we all thought alike. When asked "Would you rather have a head the size of a tennis ball or of a watermelon" students were pretty much in agreement. 73 percent of you would rather have a watermelon on your head than a tennis ball. Did anyone really think this one through? Maybe it's just me, but I feel like a watermelon would be heavy and make you tip over all the time. But it also may mean you get a bigger brain, so who knows the real pro con list for this one.

The next question was "Would you rather freeze or burn to death" and once again, the student population was on the same page. Almost all of us would rather freeze than burn. I would have to say that I agree with this one. Neither of them, in any way, sound fun but I think that freezing would be the lesser of the two evils. The pictures that many of you drew of a stick figure either on fire or in ice helped so much. They depicted the situations perfectly.

When asked would you rather have a time machine that only goes into the past or that only goes into the future, we couldn't quite make up our minds. Sixty percent said that they would rather be able to go into the past than the future. One student spoke for the majority of us by saying that there are a lot of things they regret not doing. While that is true and I'm sure there are a lot of things that you all regret actually doing as well, how cool would it be to go into the future and see yourself? Just don't out yourself as being from the past, we all know how that ends.

The next question also split the votes 60:40. A majority of us would rather be able to read minds than be invisible. As one student put it, "Though it's impossible (wouldn't work) I would choose invisibility. Reading minds would make you hear what people think of you, ugh". I think that statement pretty much sums up what all of us were thinking with this one. Another student pointed out an important detail many of us must have looked over. They said they would want to be invisible, but only if their clothes do too. Thank you anonymous student who put thought into this survey, it means a lot.

The last question was "Would you rather live in the early 2000's or in present time". Sixty five percent of us said that we are content living in the present. Oddly enough, a majority of those votes came from underclassmen. They must not have the appreciation of Britney Spears and Justin Timberlake wearing matching denim outfits like the rest of us do. I challenge everyone to do some research on the early 2000's and let me know if you change your answer. Overall, with this survey, the student body of Berkshire High School was in agreement on these questions. If that isn't enough proof that we can all get along and be friends, I don't know what is.

Hilarious and wacky face swaps

by Sydney Mighton, BP Staff Writer

Snapchat has recently introduced a new feature on their app that allows you to manipulate and do all kinds of different things to your face all thanks to the smartfilter that allows you to swap faces with essentially anything that resembles a face. Some pretty hilarious pictures have evolved from this new feature. Here are a few of the best face swaps that the internet has to offer, including a couple from your fellow classmates.



Up: Berkshire Junior, Kaitlyn Moses, messed around with the posters in Mrs. Koler's room. Her face swapped with the nose of the pig on the Animal Farm poster, her face says it all.



Up: This man decided to try to swap faces with a baby doll and ended up with a hilarious turn out.



Up: Seniors Kieran Wichert and Amelia Monroe created this awesome face swap. Their faces are priceless; who could look at this and not get an instant smile on their face?

Down: Two friends mess around with this feature and end up switching mouths for a creepy result.





Up: Face swaps with your favorite Disney stuffed animal are clearly one of the best ways to use this Snapchat feature.

Down: This face swap is simply horrifying. This man tried a face swap with his baby. I think it is safe to say that this baby's face will be in all of our nightmares.

