The Badger Pause

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Coffee: the drink of the gods

by Julia Losasso, BP Staff Editor

Behind the most important and powerful people is one thing: coffee. It's what makes the world go round. In places around the globe, it's the driving force behind many hardworking individuals. Johann Sebastian Bach once wrote a cantata, a short musical narrative about his love of coffee, saying, "If I can't drink my bowl of coffee three times daily, then in my torment I will shrivel up like a piece of roast goat." Same, Bach, same. Voltaire is said to have drank around 40 to 50 cups of coffee a day, though it was mixed with chocolate. Enlightenment Era mocha anyone? Whether it's a casual luxury, a usual pastime, or an absolute necessity, coffee drinkers everywhere like it a certain way. Hot or cold, with cream, sugar, flavor, or plain. Each order is unique, as is the person who delights in it. Written are some of the ways Berkshire teachers and students fuel their days.

How do you like your coffee?

Mr. Hiscox: "It depends on the season. If it is summer, or during the warmer months, I like my coffee on ice. If it is during the colder part of the year, I like it hot. Either way, I like it with a little cream and sugar."

Do you think the type of coffee you drink reflects your personality? And if so, how?

Mr. Hiscox: "I don't think it reflects your personality, but I do think it reflects if [you] have tastebuds or not."

Where is your favorite place to buy your coffee?

Mr. Hiscox: "I like going to Coffee Corners, but when I lived in Indianapolis there was a Starbucks on the way to work that I visited everyday. Coffee Corners is much better though!"



Mia Monroe savors a treat from the gods

How do you like your coffee?

Mr. List: "Most of the time I drink it black, but I will drink lattes & mochas at times."

Do you think the type of coffee you drink reflects your personality? And if so, how?

Mr. List: "I don't really think the type of coffee reflects my personality."

Where is your favorite place to buy your coffee?

Mr List: "Coffee Corners of course....."

How do you like your coffee?

Mrs. Hunter: "I take my coffee with milk."

Do you think the type of coffee you drink reflects your personality? And if so, how?

Mrs. Hunter: "If you notice, I don't put any sugar in my coffee. I wouldn't describe myself as sweet and I rarely sugarcoat reality. In addition, the milk that lightens the color of the dark coffee represents my sarcastic sense of humor, as it can serve to lighten a dark or serious situation."

Where is your favorite place to buy your coffee?

Mrs. Hunter: "I usually make my own coffee at home, but if I have to go out, I prefer Dunkin' Donuts coffee."

How do you like your coffee?

Mrs Maske: "I LOVE my coffee with a bit of cream"

Do you think the type of coffee you drink reflects your personality? And if so, how?

Mrs. Maske: "No, but lack of coffee can change one's personality. Kinda like a "split" personality.... You know like Dr. Jekyl and Mr. Hyde"

Where is your favorite place to buy your coffee?

Mrs. Maske: "Europe...for sure. They make it strong and foamy like a a good chemical reaction!"

How do you like your coffee?

Noah McCaskey: "Three cream, three sugar, large iced coffee from Dunkin'. I have like three on the weekends"

Do you think that the type of coffee you drink reflects your personality?

Noah McCaskey: "Yes, if I don't have coffee I'm not functionable."

Where is your favorite place to get your coffee?

Noah McCaskey: "Dunkin' Donuts."

How do you like your coffee?

Madalyn Timmons: "It's pretty simple actually, with just a little cream and sugar, both hot and cold. But when I feel like something special, iced macchiatos are my fave.

Do you think that the type of coffee you drink reflects your personality?

Madalyn Timmons: "Yes! I'm not picky and slightly simple sometimes."

Where is your favorite place to get your coffee?

Madalyn Timmons: "Dunkin' Donuts."

How do you like your coffee?

Nathan McFadden: "I like any form of espresso, lattes, mochas, americanos, cappuccino."

Do you think that the type of coffee you drink reflects your personality?

Nathan McFadden: "I don't think coffee reflects my personality, but I think a lot of people try too hard to make it their personalities.

Where is your favorite place to get your coffee?

Nathan McFadden: "I get my coffee from Coffee Corners or Starbucks."



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Check out The woman behind the man... page 3

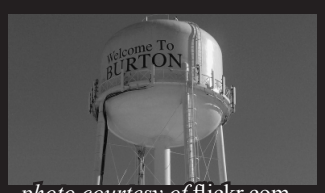


photo courtesy of flickr.com

Humans of Burton... Page 7



photo courtesy of pinterest.com

The price of twelve days of Christmas... Page 12

Holiday traditions in Japan

by Sam Martinjako, BP Staff Writer

"How Does Japan Celebrate the Holidays?" "Well..."

Japan is a very different country from the United States. Students go to schools six days a week, people do not wear their shoes indoors, and, for some reason or another, the flip phone began making a comeback earlier in 2015. Another difference in Japan from that of the U.S. is Christmas. The Japanese, for the most part, do not normally belong to any sect of the Christian faith. The most popular religion in Japan is actually Shintoism, followed closely by Buddhism, and often times they are practiced together. Due to these religious differences, Christmas in Japan is considered secular and is not a national holiday.

Christmas Eve is more important to the Japanese than Christmas Day, and it is a very popular holiday amongst couples. Couples will often get together to look at Christmas lights and have dinner together. They will also give presents to each other, not completely unlike what we do here in America. The Japanese media loves Christmas, and singers and performers will often do shows during the holiday. At home, the Japanese usually have a Christmas cake for their celebration with loved ones. The children hope to get gifts on Christmas from "Santa-san", which means something along the lines of "Mr. Santa", or possibly even from the Buddhist god of fortune.

As all of the celebrations normally happen the previous day, December the 25th is actually a pretty average day in Japan. As previously mentioned, it's not a national holiday there, so adults, normally, must go to work, and students must go to school. However, Christmas Day isn't completely devoid of any sort of celebration. Strangely enough, a tradition of eating fried or roast chicken for Christmas has formed in Japan. Restaurants such as KFC are normally packed on the 25th, and some people will even order their chicken in advance. Also, the Christmas cakes normally go on sale, so it's not a bad assumption that many eat cake on Christmas Day as well. After the day is over, all Christmas decorations will begin to come down in order to make way for New Years.

New Years is a much more important holiday in Japan. For starters, New Year's Day is a National Holiday, so schools are not in session and most people will not be working. The Japanese do a wide number of things during the "New Year's season" in order to celebrate. They will often clean their homes as a form of purification, though they will obviously not take down their decorations. Traditionally soba is eaten for their celebration, but udon is also a popular alternative. This is normally done around midnight, as they believe it will "ward off evil spirits before the New Year comes". There is also a ceremony in which a priest will ring "purification bells", known as Joya no Kane, 108 times to rid people of their evil desires. This number comes from the Buddhist belief that humans suffer from 108 evil desires in their everyday lives. Sending postcards is popular during their New Year's, and some people even send some containing lottery numbers.

The biggest event that occurs on New Year's Day is something called "hatsumode", which is the first time they go to a shrine as a part of the celebration. Incense is burned at the shrines, and the smoke is used for purifying the spirits of participants by waving it onto themselves. Wooden arrows are also given away for decoration, and to keep away negative spirits. Many of the foods eaten during the festivities are made to last for days without being put in the fridge. This has religious meaning to it, but it is now recognized as giving the housewives a break from their diligent work. Another decoration that is used is Kagami-mochi, two circular rice cakes with an orange on top, which "symbolizes the renewal of light and energy at the start of a new year". The Japanese will write wishes known as "ema" and will hang them on parts of the shrines, normally asking for things like good health or luck, and they will donate money to the shrine in order to help their wishes come true. Children often get money during the holiday, with the amount varying based on the age of the child receiving it starting from around 1,000 yen and ending at about 10,000 yen. Due to this, many stores open on New Year's, as they expect the children to spend their money on toys or "lucky bags", which could contain objects worth around double the original price of the bag.

This holiday season lasts until January the seventh, which is when Japanese families will normally start to take their decorations down. This is also very different from the United States, as some people here could still have their decorations up despite it being about three months after the fact.



photo courtesy of wowsabi.co/

Santa travels all around the world, even to Japan.

Berkshire's Guide to winter sports

Varsity Boys Basketball
12/15/2015 Tue. 7:30 PM (Fairport @ Fairport
12/18/2015 Fri. 7:30 PM (H) Chardon @ BHS Big Gymnasium
12/22/2015 Tue. 7:30 PM (A) Chillicothe Unioto @ Otterbein University
12/29/2015 Tue. 6:00 PM (H) Berkshire Holiday Tournament @ BHS Big Gymnasium
12/30/2015 Wed. 6:00 PM (H) Berkshire Holiday Tournament @ BHS Big Gymnasium
01/05/2016 Tue. 7:30 PM (H) Cuyahoga Heights @ BHS Big Gymnasium
01/08/2016 Fri. 7:30 PM (A) Richmond Heights @ Richmond Heights
01/12/2016 Tue. 7:30 PM (H) Hawken @ BHS Big Gymnasium
01/16/2016 Sat. 6:30 PM (H) Hall of Fame Night vs. Cardinal HS @ BHS Big Gymnasium
01/19/2016 Tue. 7:30 PM (A) Independence H S @ Independence High School
01/22/2016 Fri. 7:30 PM (A) Kirtland @ Kirtland
01/26/2016 Tue. 7:30 PM (H) Fairport @ BHS Big Gymnasium
01/29/2016 Fri. 7:30 PM (H) Independence (Senior Night) @ BHS Big Gymnasium
02/02/2016 Tue. 7:30 PM (A) Cuyahoga Heights @ Cuyahoga Heights
02/04/2016 Thu. 7:30 PM (H) Kirtland HS @ BHS Big Gymnasium
02/09/2016 Tue. 7:30 PM (A) Hawken @ Hawken
02/12/2016 Fri. 7:30 PM (H) Richmond Heights @ BHS Big Gymnasium
02/16/2016 Tue. 7:30 PM (A) Perry @ Perry

Varsity Girls Basketball
10/31/2015 Sat. 8:00 AM (H) Pymatuning Valley (Scrim.) @ BHS Big Gymnasium
11/12/2015 Thu. 5:00 PM (H) Riverside (Scrim.) @ BHS Big Gymnasium
11/14/2015 Sat. 10:00 AM (A) Jefferson Area (Scrim.) @ Jefferson Area
11/17/2015 Tue. 5:00 PM (A) Streetsboro HS (Scrim.) @ Streetsboro HS
11/21/2015 Sat. 6:30 PM (H) Grand Valley HS @ BHS Big Gymnasium
11/24/2015 Tue. 7:30 PM (H) Rootstown @ BHS Big Gymnasium
12/02/2015 Wed.7:30 PM (A) Kirtland @ Kirtland
12/05/2015 Sat. 6:30 PM (H) Cuyahoga Heights H S @ BHS Big Gymnasium
12/07/2015 Mon.7:30 PM (A) Bristol H S @ Bristol High School
12/09/2015 Wed.7:30 PM (H) Fairport Harding @ BHS Big Gymnasium Lost
12/16/2015 Wed.6:00 PM (A) Richmond Heights HS (No JV) @ Richmond Heights HS (No JV)
12/19/2015 Sat. 6:30 PM (H) Independence H S @ BHS Big Gymnasium
12/22/2015 Tue. 6:00 PM (H) Berkshire Holiday Tournament @ BHS Big Gymnasium 12/23/2015 Wed 6:00 PM (H) Berkshire Holiday Tournament @ BHS Big Gymnasium
12/29/2015 Tue. 7:30 PM (A) Newbury H S @ Newbury High School
01/06/2016 Wed.7:30 PM (H) Cardinal HS. @ BHS Big Gymnasium

01/09/2016 Sat. 6:30 PM (H) Kirtland HS @ BHS Big Gymnasium
01/13/2016 Wed.7:30 PM (H) Warren JFK @ BHS Big Gymnasium

01/16/2016 Sat. 2:00 PM (A) Cuyahoga Heights H S @ Cuyahoga Heights High School
01/20/2016 Wed.7:30 PM (A) West Geauga H S @ West Geauga High School
01/23/2016 Sat. 6:30 PM (A) Fairport Harding @ Fairport Harding
01/27/2016 Wed.7:30 PM (H) Hawken @ BHS Big Gymnasium
01/30/2016 Sat. 6:30 PM (H) Richmond Heights H S @ BHS Big Gymnasium
02/03/2016 Wed.7:30 PM (A) Independence H S @ Independence High School
02/06/2016 Sat. 6:30 PM (A) Cardinal H S @ Cardinal High School
02/12/2016 Fri. 7:30 PM (A) Hawken @ Hawken

Varsity Wrestling
11/28/2015 Sat. 10:00 AM (H) Glenville/Conneaut (Scrim.)
12/04/2015 Fri. 4:30 PM (A) 31st Annual Solon Comet Classic @ Solon HS
12/05/2015 Sat. 10:30 AM (A) 31st Annual Solon Comet Classic @ Solon HS
12/15/2015 Tue. 6:00 PM (H) Independence HS Cancelled
12/15/2015 Tue. 6:00 PM (H) Cuyahoga Heights HS
12/17/2015 Thu. 6:00 PM (A) Beachwood H S @ Beachwood High School
12/17/2015 Thu. 6:00 PM (A) Kirtland @ Beachwood HS
12/19/2015 Sat. 10:00 AM (A) Huron Tiger Duals @ Huron HS
12/27/2015 Sun. 1:00 PM (A) Kenston Invitational Tournament @ Kenston HS
12/28/2015 Mon. 1:00 PM (A) Kenston Invitational Tournament @ Kenston HS
01/07/2016 Thu. 6:00 PM (A) Hawken @ Hawken
01/07/2016 Thu. 6:00 PM (A) Cardinal H S @ Hawken
01/16/2016 Sat. TBA (A) Jackson-Milton/Canton McKinley @ Jackson-Milton HS
01/21/2016 Thu. 6:00 PM (H) NDCL/St. Edward Green @ BHS Big Gymnasium
01/23/2016 Sat. 10:00 AM (H) 2nd Annual Badger Duals @ BHS Big Gymnasium
01/28/2016 Thu. 6:00 PM (H) Senior Night vs. Liberty HS/Warrensville Heights HS @ BHS Big Gymnasium
02/05/2016 Fri. 6:00 PM (H) CVC Championship @ BHS Big Gymnasium
02/06/2016 Sat. 10:00 AM (H) CVC Championship @ BHS Big Gymnasium 02/11/2016 Thu. 6:00 PM (A) 87 Rumble w/ Newbury, Cardinal, and Grand Valley @ Grand Valley HS

By Andrea Miller, BP Staff Writer

As winter sports approach, students are preparing for the upcoming season. Many of you know the downsides of winter, the cold temperatures, the icy roads, the snow blizzards, however, there are plenty of ways to get out and enjoy the season while staying active. Although Berkshire only offers three winter sports, students are excited to make it a great season!

Wrestling:

What are you looking forward to the most this upcoming season? What goals are you personally setting for yourself?

Sophomore, Jacob Hanson: "I'm looking forward to having a great season with all my teammates and making new memories with our new coach. I'm also looking forward to seeing the people who will improve. My personal goal is to make it to districts."

Junior, Danny Humes: " State duals because I want to see how far we can make it as a team, and also for individual standpoint, and I'm also looking forward to sectionals.

Basketball Cheerleading:

What is your favorite thing about cheering at the games? Do you have any ideas on how to improve school spirit this season?

Freshman, Hayley Kumher: "My favorite thing about cheering for basketball and at games is being able to share it with my friends and for the JV boys this season. School spirit could be improved by pep rallies and more people coming to the games."

Sophomore, Mekaylie Iadimarco: "My favorite thing about cheerleading for basketball is bonding with the team and making new friends throughout the season. In order to improve school spirit this season I think maybe we could have more pep rallies on game days."

Basketball:

Sophomore, Rachel Breckenridge: "I'm mostly looking forward to seeing our team keep improving as a whole. We have a great group of girls and we love to compete and play with each other. It'll be exciting to see the chemistry keep developing as the season progresses. I hope to keep improving as the year goes on in practice and in games. To learn from mistakes and work on the little things and keep developing and being able to execute a roll on the team and to keep being a good teammate and do whatever is possible to help in any way."

Sophomore, Peter Formica: "I am excited to hopefully beat Cardinal and my personal goals are to be starting on JV within the next few games."

As the Berkshire winter sport season kicks off, let's all try to offer our support. Try going to the upcoming basketball game. Or stop by the next wrestling match. Support your fellow badgers and make this season one of the best.

NHS: The scoop on the ceremony

by Amy Pfiester, BP Staff Writer

What does NHS stand for?
NHS is the acronym for National Honor Society.

What is NHS?
National Honor Society is a program meant to honor students who have made achievements in four areas: scholarship, service, character, and leadership.

Let's talk about NHS at Berkshire:
Berkshire has a chapter of National Honor Society, led by the brilliant, Ms. Prots. 2015 was Ms. Prot's eleventh year of inductions. She has been the NHS coordinator of Berkshire since 2005.

What can NHS do for a member?
When applying for post-secondary education, schools will take notice of an applicant's involvement in National Honor Society because it demonstrates hard work and dedication. NHS gives members opportunities to become more involved in community service.

What does Ms. Prots (the advisor) say about NHS Members?

What do you like about being the advisor of NHS?
For this geometry teacher, it is a way to reconnect with past students and see how they have grown. Also, Ms. Prots enjoys the service aspect because she gets to witness the students helping others.

Describe a typical member.
Members are typically well-rounded, dedicated, and one who exemplifies the four qualities of the club: scholarship, service, character, and leadership. Ms. Prots stated, "they're not always just the smartest kids, they're the ones that work hard and fit those four qualities."

Berkshire's NHS application process
Only juniors and seniors with a 3.6 GPA or higher may apply. First, the hopeful-member fills out an application describing themselves. Next, teachers make recommendations and comments about the applicants that affects the application process. Finally, a prestigious council of teachers and administrators meet to make the final selections.

Berkshire's 2015 NHS

Who are the officers? Kieran Wichert- President
Alex Sanda- Vice-President
Alyssa Maier- Treasurer
Rachel Rich- Secretary

Who are the members? Kieran Wichert, Alex Sanda, Rachel Rich, Alyssa Maier, Barrett Jackson, Jenna Landrus, Brad Lockhart, Anna Loveland, Sarah Luoma, Cody Martin, John Mitchell, Gabe Orlowski, Anne Ritts, Chloe Scott, Jarrett Smetana, Olivia Tiber, Maggie Topalian, Alec Vizy, Brittany Weidner

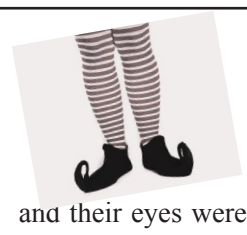
Members Inducted on December 3rd, 2015
Melissa Braun, Abby Carlson, Katie Dingman, Cennedie Hall, Julia Losasso, Dani O'Conke, Breanna Pennypacker, Nathan Schultz, Kylie Scott

Pictured, left to right: Hall, Dingman, Carlson, Braun, Scott, Schultz, Pennypacker, O'Conke, Losasso





South Pole Elves



by Alex Yokules, BP Staff Writer

We all know of Santa and his little minions: elves. They are the happy cheery little people with pointy ears that are ever so good at crafting toys. But what you may not know is that there is an entirely different race of elves to the south. This is their story.

Back in the day, all the elves lived together, but some elves were unhappy. They didn't appreciate the communist-like economic state that Santa had set up. There were the working elves, which enjoyed making toys and took pride in their work, and there were the other elves, unhappy with working. They were introverted and loved streaming movies and TV shows on Netflix, and eating Cheetos on the couch. Santa wanted them to work on toys like the rest of the elves, so he changed the Wi-Fi password so that their favorite pastime would be inaccessible. The elves, however, knew of Santa's lack of skill in technology, and quickly guessed the obvious password: P@ssw0rd.

The elves continued to disregard their duties because they cared more about Walter White and Rick Grimes than they did about spoiling children. Santa was at his wits end at this point, and put an embargo on Cheetos. The revolutionary elves decided that their best option was to leave the North Pole be cause they really didn't feel like fighting in a war.

At first they went to Moscow, but had to leave because the only Russian words they knew were medical and religious terms. Their next stop was the USA. They went to Jersey Shore but didn't like the weather and spray tans, so they moved on from there. They tried Portland, Oregon, but thought it was too weird. Eventually, they made it south of the border to Mexico. They met some nice men that offered them a place to stay if they'd carry backpacks full of sugar back up to America. They gleefully accepted because elves love sugar. It makes up a part of every one of their food groups. When they finally made it to their drop off point, they tried some of the sugar and decided to have a rave. That night they partied hard and awoke the next morning: plagued with a terrible headache and their eyes were very sensitive to light. In addition most of the sugar seemed to have disappeared. Realizing they were penniless and now on the run from the tall sugar men, they went as far south as they could. They trekked through Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Colombia, Bolivia, Chile, and Argentina. They snuck into a cruise ship and made their way to Antarctica. Once they were off, they met some kind penguins, seals, and polar bears. They ate the rest of the sugar they had scavenged, and partied hard once more. When they woke up this time, they were cold, without Netflix, and without Cheetos. One of the elves wanted to lead an expedition to go back to the North Pole, but Juniper, the self-appointed leader of the elves, said that they would look stupid if they went back, so they decided to stay. Coincidentally, one particular penguin revealed that he had just found an abandoned bunker close by, that just so happened to be fully stocked with an endless supply of Cheetos and free Wi-Fi. And so there, they spent the rest of their days.



This is the story of the South Pole Elves. They may not have learned the true meaning of Christmas, but they brought home a much more important lesson: Communism is good for no one.

The Woman Behind the Man

by Kody West, BP Staff Writer

We all know old Saint Nick, he's capable of some pretty amazing feats, wiggling down chimneys that are a quarter his size, traveling around the entire world in only one night, and perhaps most impressive, eating all those cookies without having a heart attack. But have you ever wondered how old Kris Kringle could possibly accomplish all this? He would never be able to pull it off without his soul mate, Mrs. Claus. From December 26th to Christmas eve, she has a full schedule, making sure the jolly old man stays his course for the big night.



She takes care of his suit, as one could imagine, it receives a lot of wear and tear from all the chimney diving. Because Santa's suit is magic, she can't refurbish it by any old means, no, she has to use magic thread and magic cloth, that she imports from the second most magical place on Earth (next to the North Pole), Jamaica. Going down so many chimneys in one night can cause damage on the molecular level to the suit, tearing the nanofibers apart, resulting in entire portions of the suit that need to be replaced. Finding the tears in the nanofibers is extremely tedious and requires a full suit examination on the microscopic scale, this alone can take weeks, but Mrs. Claus always has it done on time. Everyone knows that Santa will make his list, and check it twice, but many don't know that Mrs. C. will check it a third time. She will on average improve the list's accuracy by .006%, which may not sound like much, but with the world population, that's more than 420,000 people getting the presents they deserve. While Santa can get away with eating more cookies than most of us, he can't get off completely scott free. That's where good old Mrs. Claus comes in, she has a strict diet and exercise program specifically tailored to ensure that the jolly icon stays in tip top shape, while keeping his jolly figure. Starting right after The Annual Cookie Consumption of the 25th, as they call it up North, Santa begins his regimine, which includes health supplements, gumdrops, running several miles a day, fighting polar bears (I think they live in the north pole, if not then he fights reindeer or something), and much more. Mrs. Claus has been known to inject pure, unfiltered, magic into Santa's bloodstream, which enhances Santa in every way possible. This allows him the energy to deliver so many toys, but pure magic injection is illegal in most countries, including the United States (so don't try it at home kids). But perhaps the most important of Mrs Claus's contributions is the emotional support she gives her husband, and even though their line of work can be stressful, they have each other, and Kris Kringle never forgets that.

Your winter wardrobe

by George Fekete, BP Staff Writer

The chilling temperatures don't seem to be letting up, and if you haven't already guessed, winter doesn't plan on leaving any time soon. But, before you go into panic mode, there is something you can do. Just because the weather outside may look frightful, it doesn't mean that you have to look that way too. Your winter style can be the very thing that keeps you sane this upcoming season. When you look great, you'll feel great too, and seasonal depression won't be in your future. Here are a few winter fashion trends to try this December.

Womenswear:

High waisted pants, going along with the 70's look, are everywhere. Similarly, floor length coats are: Who says that only men can wear long trench like coats? These are perfect for the Northeast Ohio weather as well.

The season's hot colors include red, and no, not the Taylor Swift album. Go figure.

Big checkerboard plaid, with all the new plaid combinations and looks coming out, be sure to include some in your winter wardrobe for a classic look, perfect for any occasion.

Menswear:

Go dig in a thrift shop or a grandparent's closet, because the 70's, fur coats, skinny pants and rocker glasses are making a quick comeback.

Military Coats, and Army greens, with pieces in H&M's Baldimation collection looking similar to military trench coats are big, this season, perfect timing for the winter weather. Big accessories that will do all the talking for you when you're out on the town, like chunky scarves and capes are great this season plus they are perfect for the winter, to keep you warm.

I seriously see these EVERYWHERE. There is no surprise that Graphic Knits are in this winter season.

As the weather keeps getting colder, your wardrobe doesn't have to, keep up with the winter trends.

Inspired by fashionising.com



Senior Amber Bowman & Sophomore Lexi Caponi frolicking in a winter wonderland

Resolve to a new year, new you

by Abbie Maschek, BP Staff Writer

2015: the chapter that is rapidly coming to an end. It's been year full of change and excitement. There have been many high's and low's for all of us. With 2016, getting ready to have its opening pages written, your fellow Berkshire students and staff have made their new year's resolutions. 2016, some of us are ready for you! People all across the world take part in making a resolution. You think of one thing that's been a common pattern in your life that you want to change throughout the year and come up with the solution, in effort to make the upcoming year your best yet. Some want to get a better job, quit a bad habit, or lose the extra pounds they picked up over the holidays, but whatever it may be, a New Year's resolution will help you stay on track this upcoming year.

Senior Stephanie Harden talked with me about her previous New Year's resolution for 2016. she had a if so what with: tive dur- the year." her if she which she replied: "I tried my best to keep it but sometimes difficult times just get to you." For this upcoming year's resolution, Harden isn't quite sure what it will be but is positive she will think of something.

GOODBYE 2015...

HELLO 2016

as well as her resolution When I asked her if resolution last year and it was, she responded "Yes, it was to stay posing the difficult times of I then went on to ask managed to keep it, to

Mrs. Sherbondy, who is the attendance secretary, was asked if she had a New Year's resolution. She slowly began to answer.... "I did. I wanted to lose ten pounds, and I did pretty good for the first half of the year, but I need to do it again this year. I know that it will be mine again this year. I kept off for probably half the year, but its back on." During 2016, Mrs. Sherbondy plans on changing her diet, and making healthy food choices to help achieve her goals

Dana Shale, who is in seventh grade was also asked if she had a new year's resolution last year, she happily replied: "I didn't, but for this year I'm trying to get straight A's".

Gavin Currence, in seventh grade, was very excited to be asked. He told me, with a big smile forming on his face, that he had a New Year's resolution last year and that he has one this year. Last year, Currence said his new year's resolution was simple: "Stay alive,and I'm still living." In between his giggling, he was able to share his new year's resolution for the upcoming year. He said: "stay alive again."

Freshman R.J. Simsa when asked, reluctantly gave me some answers. For his last New Year's resolution, Simsa wanted to: "ride my bike the whole summer." For this upcoming year, he plans on "playing video games."

If you haven't set your New Year's resolution, don't worry, you still have time! If 2015 was a difficult year for you, start thinking positively because 2016 has all the potential to be great. Try to make your New Year's resolution meaningful, one that will help you grow, and make 2016 your best year yet.



Senior zombies Alyssa Maier & Alex Sanda

10 Ways to Survive... It's not too late



by Breonna Barker, BP Staff Writer

Friday, December 4, and Saturday, December 5, were marked with the Berkshire Thespians presentation of the play, 10 Ways to Survive the Zombie Apocalypse, by Don Zolidis. Directed by Mr. Jim Lester, it was a funny light-hearted production that explained how to survive when civilization collapses and zombies ravage the surface world. The show was a short one act play but packed quite the punch with a choreographed Kung Fu scene set to music, some death defying stunts and a whole lot of blood, sweat, and tears.

Join the Survivors, Michelle Sohm, Kieran Wichert, Nathan Mcfadden, and Sam Anderson as they attempt to live through the zombie apocalypse testing all the options, including: Reason With Them, Overwhelming Firepower, and "Run Really Fast".

The show was an overall success. Fear not, however, if you didn't get the chance to stop by, because on Friday December 18, the show will be performed during 9th period.

We hope to see you there and as the old saying goes, "There's no business like show business."

The world according to 4th graders

by Claire Milano, BP Staff Writer

Fourth graders know everything, or so they seem to think. I have always been curious as to the way younger kids think, and how they seem to have wild imaginations. I interviewed Evelyn Milano, a fourth grader at Burton Elementary, and Dominic Milano, a fourth grader at Millridge Elementary in Mayfield Heights. I wanted to get information from kids from different schools and backgrounds. Dominic lives in a suburban house, and Evelyn lives in a rural house near the woods. I asked Dominic and Evelyn a series of questions, both opinionated and trivial, about the world and it's people.

What is the first thing that comes to mind when you hear U.S.A and why?

Evelyn: "United States of America because U.S.A. stands for United States of America."

Dominic: "Marine Corps. I think of the military and then the Marine Corps immediately pops into my head."

Are fortune cookies an American or Chinese invention?

Evelyn: "Chinese because whenever I go to the Chinese restaurant Tai Pan in Middlefield, they always give me fortune cookies after dinner." Yum!

Dominic: "Chinese and I don't know why I just think it's Chinese"

In reality, fortune cookies are an American invention, so they're both wrong .

Do you know how many countries are in South America?

Evelyn: "No. If I had to guess I would say twelve." She was right!! There are twelve independent countries in South America.

Dominic: "Um...twenty?"

Who are the current King and Queen of England?

Evelyn: "I don't know the king but the Queen is Elizabeth I think."

Dominic: "I have no idea."

Oh trick question! There is no King of England (currently) but the Queen is actually Elizabeth.

Can you name a famous person from France?

Evelyn: "Um…..I don't know."

Dominic: "Vincent Van Gogh?" (Vincent Van Gogh is actually from Sweden.)

Some famous people from France include Gustave Eiffel, the man who built the Eiffel Tower, and Napoleon Bonaparte, a famous French Military Leader.

Name all five oceans on Earth.

Evelyn: "Atlantic, Antarctic, Pacific, Indian, and Southern"

Dominic: "Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, isn't there one down by Antarctica? and Arctic." Dominic was thinking of the Southern Ocean.

Evelyn was correct. All five oceans on Earth are those listed above.

Name all seven continents on Earth.

Evelyn: "South America, North America, Africa, Asia, Australia, and Antarctica"

Dominic: "North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Australia, and Antarctica?"

Dominic forgot Africa!

Imagine I am a sixteen year old girl from Germany. If I asked you to tell me some interesting facts about the U.S, what would you tell me?

Evelyn: "Well, there are 50 states, and they're all really nice places."

Dominic: "Our religions are very different"

Well, both answers are correct. However, I was looking for more details.

Other than English, what is the most common language spoken in the U.S?

Evelyn: "Spanish?"

Dominic: "Spanish?"

Both were correct.

What is the most common language spoken in the world?

Evelyn: "Um….Mexican?"

Dominic: "British?"

Not only were these answers both wrong, but both kids named nationalities instead of languages! I was very surprised at this! The most common language in the world is actually Chinese.

What is the most common eye color in the world?

Evelyn: "Blue?"

Dominic: "Brown"

Dominic answered right! The most common eye color is brown.

What is the most common hair color in the world?

Evelyn: "Brown."

Dominic: "Brown"

Both kids were wrong, the most common hair color is black. I am a little disappointed that my family members answered nationalities for languages, but now I know it is a common mistake. After I gathered this information, I made the conclusion that maybe fourth graders know more than we seem to think.



Evelyn Milano smiles for the camera and shows off her good looks

Ask kindergarteners

by Noah McCaskey, BP Staff Writer

A child's mind is a truly beautiful thing. As a kid we always had a positive outlook on life, every day was another adventure and every car ride was another chance to explore the world around us. We saw the world with new eyes every day and our imaginations ran wild. We all remember those days, but now, in our years at the high school, why have things changed? Now all we care about is what we look like, fitting in, and how much money we have; this is our flaw. I know that it sounds a little hippie but we need love in our lives. Love is the key to happiness and if you just accept that, then you'll be able to live a much happier life.

Whether you accept it or not, people in our school choose to degrade each other because they're different, maybe even to make people feel better about themselves or even simply just for the fun of it, which is absolutely sickening. It's pathetic that this is what our society has come to, and it isn't a problem that one person can fix alone.

We all need to realize that the things that we say and do have an impact on people, a larger impact than you would ever think. I visited the Burton Elementary School and had a chance to ask the students some questions. One of the questions I asked was what their opinion would be if one of their guy friends came to school wearing a dress. The answers I received were, in my opinion, very satisfying in that they gave me hope for the younger generations. Students gave me responses like "It doesn't matter because that person is being who they want to be", "I'm totally okay with it", and one of the boys that I talked to said he would even wear a dress right along side the other to show his support. These are the kind of qualities that we do not have in our generation. Being exposed to this high school environment, constantly being judged for who you are and for what you do and say has morphed everyone into thinking they have to conform to society's rules, or simply of what fellow classmates expect from you which shouldn't be the case at all. We should have the right to be who we want to be uncontested by what anyone else think. I hope that I am able to shed some light onto this subject that isn't addressed very often and make you think about it every time you're a jerk to the kid in the hall that you just laughed at. I propose that instead of laughing at them just carry on with your day. Everyone is different in their own way and you making fun of them isn't going to change that. The only thing left to do now is to just accept that fact and move on, like the Elementary students do.

Just (kid)ding

by Justin Duda, BP Staff Writer

Jokes are typically funny, whether they are basic one– liners or short stories. When I interviewed kids ranging from kindergarten to second grade, their responses to what their favorite memory is and their best joke were quite amusing!

Kindergarten

Lily Fekle, age 5, loved going to Zip City and watching her brother flipping while jumping on trampolines. Her face said it all when she told me her favorite joke is a horse with no eyes.

Michael Hill, age 5, loves playing on the playground with his friends. Michael said "my most funniest joke is a cow with no head."

Estevon Huesca, age 5, says his favorite memory is going to the zoo and watching giraffes. Estevon said his most favorite joke is a cow with no legs.

First Grade

Brody Durham, age 6, says his funniest memory is when he was playing basketball and asked his mother for his binky. His favorite joke had the both us rolling! Wanna hear it? Why can't you hear a pterodactyl peeing? The p is silent!



Little dudes j-chillin on the playground

Theodore Masink's, age 6, favorite memory is when he is with Brody Durham because he is so funny! His best joke was what kind of beans did the vampire want for dinner? Human beans.

Robert Gray, also age 6, loves when someone tickles him, "it makes me laugh." Although it seems like he's told this joke a million times, he tells it like it's his first: why didn't the hot chocolate cross the road? He didn't want to get spilled because he doesn't want anyone to drink him.

Second Grade

Keelee Keidel, age 8, always laughs when she remembers the time she fell down the slide at recess. Another joke that made me laugh aloud: Was what do you call a snail on a ship? A snailor!

Caden McDranahan, age 8, loved living in Stowe and jumping into leaf piles that he made. He loves knock knock jokes, so he told me his favorite. Knock knock! Who's there? Banana! Banana who? Banana split!

Sam Bable, age 7, couldn't think of his best or funniest memory. But he did tell me his favorite joke! What do you call a fairy in a manure pile? Stinker bell!

Movie mishaps for die hard fans

by Sydney Mighton, BP Staff Writer

We all love a good comedy to have you nearly in tears, belly hurting, and face beat red from laughing so hard. What makes those hilarious movies even funnier is when there are errors while filming and you catch on to them. Maybe you haven't even caught movie mistakes in your favorite movies, but I am here to make your mind boggle with excitement.

In the popular 2012 Western movie Django Unchained, there is a scene of the movie's the main character, Django, shown wearing sunglasses. Django's sunglasses were inspired from Charles Bronson's character in the 1977 western movie, The White Buffalo. Yeah, we can admit that Django's circular sunglasses with gold trim around the edges add a little bit of character to Jamie Foxx's role in this film. The only problem is that sunglasses were not introduced to the United States until 1929. Was Django actually a fashion innovator instead of a bounty hunter? The world may never know.



Django trying to look smug in his hate and sunglasses

In 1986, Paramount Pictures released the famous movie Top Gun about a cocky, young, naval fighter pilot who goes by Maverick. Maverick is played by the famous actor Tom Cruise. In the film, Maverick and his best friend 'Goose' are enrolled in The Top Gun Naval Fighter Weapons school get the opportunity of a lifetime. I will not give up this scene or any else of the movie because it is a must watch, but there is a problem with this film. In the scene pictured below, Maverick and Goose are involved in a scene that is just utterly impossible. If both of these fighter jets were to fly in the following positions, the rutters would have collided and both of the planes would of went down. Nobody would have survived past this memorable scene. Would have been an interesting ending, in reality that is.

The historically famous movie The Titanic brought in well over 2 billion dollars, which was a record for the most money all time brought in from a single movie in 1998. This ground breaking film is not just about about a famous ship that sank while crossing the Atlantic Ocean, but also about an epic love story. Leonardo Dicaprio, who plays the character 'Jack', utters the line, "I remember when I was a kid. Me and my father went ice fishing on Lake Wissota." This line shows a nice side of Jack reminiscing in his childhood. Jack tragically died on April 15th, 1912. The only weird part about this line in the movie is that Lake Wissota wasn't formed until 1917. There has to be something in that water at the lake.

In the 1985 film Back to the Future, the main character Marty travels back in time with Doc to 1955 and have to find a way to get back to 1985 without ruining the lives they have in the time period they are meant to be in. Marty, who is played by famous actor Michael J. Fox, ends up being on stage and playing the song "Johnny B. Goode" for the school dance. Marty is shown in this scene playing a Gipson ES335, which is a great guitar and well known for its use in the late 1950's. Michael J. Fox rocks this song in the film. The only issue is that this model of guitar was not made until 1958, three years after Marty was said to of performed this song. Who knows, maybe they made a pit stop to grab a guitar when traveling back in time.

TV teens: appearance vs reality

by Abby Carlson, BP Staff Editor

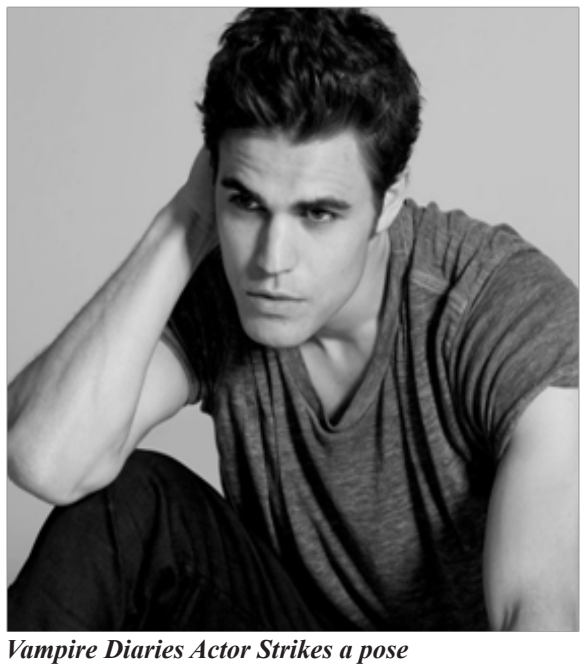


Teen stars from Pretty Little Liars

Characters in television shows often become our idols, people we aspire to be; whether it's for their personality, fashion sense, or maybe even their ability to hand out witty comebacks like they're telemarketers calls. However, these characters are becoming more and more unattainable, seeing as they're being portrayed by older actresses/actors who often turn out to be models in their free time. I don't want you to misunderstand me during this little rant of mine, I'm not saying you should go out there, pick an actor, and become their twin! You should always be yourself, but characters in TV shows were created to connect with their audience, sadly, this is becoming more difficult as they are progressively becoming older.

We've all seen at least one episode of Pretty Little Liars, whether we are proud or ashamed to admit it, it's true. The four girls: Aria Montgomery, Spencer Hastings, Emily Fields, and Hanna Marin are all high school students around the age of 16. However, their actresses have been around a bit longer than that. In fact, Hanna Marin (Ashley Benson) and Aria Montgomery (Lucy Hale) were both 21 when they began their roles in this drama-packed series. Emily Fields (Shay Mitchell) was two years older with a whopping 23 years under her belt. And last but not least, Miss Spencer Hastings (Troian Bellisario) takes first place, hands down, being 31 years old when she first joined the cast and crew of PLL.

I don't have anything against Troian and her fellow actresses, in fact, I think they are incredible actresses, it's just the fact that they are meant to portray high schoolers when they look like they just stepped out of a Vogue magazine. I don't know about you, but I don't know too many teenagers who perfectly curl their hair each morning, apply a full face of flawless makeup, and find an outfit fit for the runway all before they have to arrive at school that morning. Because of this, many girls feel like they have to look flawless for school, because if she (take your pick of the four PLL's) can do it, they should be able to as well. Absolutely not. Number one, it's a TV show, so they have professional makeup artists and hair stylists (something most teens don't have access to each morning.) Number two, they have all been involved in modeling, and number three, Troian Bellisario is nearly twice the age of the girl she plays! I find that ridiculous. The average 16 year old doesn't have a modelesque body, perfect skin, or a jaw that could cut glass. In fact, a lot of us rather enjoy eating pizza, binge watching Netflix, and hanging out with our completely normal cast of sidekicks.



Vampire Diaries Actor Strikes a pose

This doesn't only apply to girls, so guys if you're reading this, stay tuned! In the TV series, The Vampire Diaries, there is quite an age gap between Paul Wesley and Stefan Salvatore, the character he plays. In fact, at the beginning of season three, Wesley was 29, which is a whole twelve years older than Stefan during this time in the show. Granted, Stefan is like 200 years old, but that's only because the guy is immortal, he is supposed to look like a 17 year old high schooler, something he does not pull off too well- no offense to any die hard Vampire Diaries fans out there. He looks like he could be a model, oh wait, that's because he is! Both he and his co star, Ian Somerhalder, who plays Damon Salvatore in the show, walk the runway between filming. Seventeen year old guys just don't look like this, perhaps there are a few lucky chaps who get the Benedict Cumberdoodle jaw line early, but for the most part, if at all, that comes later in life. No one should compare themselves to TV characters, because Hollywood is known for messing things up, like turning books into movies (another rant for a different time), or making too many movies in one series (*cough cough* Fast and Furious), so it's no surprise they screwed up with the whole casting ordeal either. It's forgivable, as long as everyone knows that it's not expected of them to look or act a certain way, or like someone they aren't.

Psychopathology: Not just anxiety

by Alexis Caponi, BP Staff Writer

I'll start off with a pretty important definition for this article: psychopathology. According to Medical Dictionary, psychopathology is "the branch of medicine dealing with the causes and processes of mental disorders". The most known are autism, depression, and attention deficit disorder (or ADD). Though the causes of most all disorders are largely unknown, scientists have narrowed down the possible causes. Autism isn't 100% genetic, but closely related; depression and ADD are caused by unbalanced hormones and neurotransmitter malfunctions. Neurotransmitters allow the brain to communicate with itself. But enough of that, I want to touch on more unknown disorders in this piece.

The first disorder we'll talk about is prosopagnosia. I know, it looks like a pretty intimidating word, but I'll break it down. In Greek, prosopon means "face" and agnosia roughly translates to "not knowing". If you haven't figured it out yet, prosopagnosia is a disorder of face perception. People who suffer from it can't, for the life of them, recognize faces. Other aspects of their visual processing remains normal. They can identify objects, but not faces. This is a struggle because it's hard for them to keep track of information about people, which makes it difficult to socialize easily. People with prosopagnosia use other clues to distinguish people, such as voice, hair and skin color, clothing, and body shape. It seems like such a weird concept to see your best friend, but not be able to remember them by their smile or the light in their eyes.

Our second disorder to cover is schizophrenia. Now, I've met plenty of people who mistake this illness for dissociative identity disorder (DID), or multiple personality disorder, where people show symptoms as if there are two, or more, people living in the same body. Schizophrenia is not that, though. There are five subgroups of this illness, but the overview of schizophrenia is that it is an ailment categorized by the inability to distinguish between what is real and what isn't, which leads to abnormal social behaviors. Most common symptoms include false beliefs, conspiracies, unclear thought processes and emotional expressions, and auditory hallucinations. Unlike prosopagnosia, there is medicine that aids schizophrenics. There are some, not a lot, of neurologists that believe Joan of Arc, yes the saint, had schizophrenia, which was why she "heard" Saint Michael!



Photo courtesy of hcplive.com

An x-rayed view of the human brain.

Next on the list is anterograde amnesia. Most of us know retrograde amnesia, which is the inability to recall memories from before a head injury. Anterograde amnesia is the failure to create new memories, or recall the recent past, but still having all the long-term memories prior to the injury. A severe case of this is shown in Clive Wearing, a musician. He had a cold sore virus attack his brain, which resulted in him having both retrograde and anterograde amnesia. This caused him to have little memory of before the virus attacked, and also the inability to learn new declarative knowledge. He could play the piano still, but had no memories of ever learning to play. Though, every day he would seem to "wake up" from the amnesia for 30 seconds and record what he thought in a journal.

Lastly, we'll quickly discuss micropsia, more commonly known as Alice in Wonderland Syndrome. This is an illness where patients see objects as much smaller than they actually are. Sufferers say that objects look far away, and, in some cases, also extremely close up. As an example, a car may seem the size of cat. There's no known causes of this, and it's mostly experienced in kids ages 5-10.

These mental illnesses are only the tip of the iceberg. There are more astounding features to the brain than these few ailments. The brain is one of the greatest mysteries in the world. There are a billion unknown prospects in outer space that we have just started to explore, but there are a trillion aspects of the human brain left unknown, and we have just scratched the surface.

Humans of Burton: The dog owner edition

by Lexi Sell, BP Staff Writer

Dogs are often referred to as "man's best friend", and the people of burton stand true to that mantra. When the seasons change we tend to see less of Burton's favorite four-legged friend on the circle's sidewalks. While winter sweeps in, I thought it was about time to give notice to the special dog owners who love and cherish their furry friends even when the snow falls and so does our motivation. Being either a new owner, old owner, or a hard core dog enthusiast; everyone has shown their love and compassion for their unconditionally loving companions best known as the dogs of Burton.

If you have ever wandered into guidance then you have furrr-sure met Mrs. Hansel, and if you get to talking with her she will most likely bring up her "little peanut," or better known as Karma. Guidances four year old ball of joy, has Hansel always sharing new story or picture to share with her curious aids; to make things even more exciting she recently got Karma a new friend named Spaz, who is also a pomeranian chihuahua. For the Berkshire students who have lived in guidance most of their high school career, such as myself (you know exactly what I'm talking about) it's known that we often look at dog pictures and are in awe of the cutest tea cup pooches to the largest house dog out there. Currently, we have a small obsession with Pom the pomeranian: We're a family of dog lovers so if you get the chance to be a Guidance Aid, you better love dogs.

Miss Hull, Berkshire High's senior english teacher has a four year old golden retriever of her own. When Hull isn't teaching she's at home with her two daughters, who refer to their dog, Hamlet, as Hulls shadow. She adds "when I come home he's so excited, he has a little doggy conversation." While interviewing Hull I could tell just how much she loves her little guy, she lit up at practically every question and had me laughing along with all her inside stories "he's 50 pounds but he thinks he's 10" (lots of laughs). Being humans of Burton we all definitely go through the emotional roller coasters of life, but having a friend by your side is one of the most uplifting feelings. Hull says, "I definitely think he understands my emotional state."

Whether your dog is old, new, big or small they all have this incredible ability to give their owners an unconditional love that's even hard for people to understand sometimes. Next, I talked to the Parker's, owners of Rommel, a fourteen year old german shepherd. I've had the pleasure of growing up with this not so little guy and while he's gotten older his owners have never stopped giving him the continuous love and affection he deserves. Senior Cecelia Parker say "He's a cuddle monster" but he is nothing near a monster maybe more similar to a big teddy bear; you may have seen him around. Cj says if he could talk he would say "Please take me on a walk" since that is his favorite treat aside from Peanut Butter. It's hard to imagine or even fathom creating a relationship with a living soul without the use of words; with my own dog it was my first chance for me to love, take care, and appreciate something of my own and create that unspoken bond from a very young age.

After my little blurb of dog gushing, I guess it's my turn to brag about my loyal buddy, Freckles. He's eight but everywhere we go people tell us he still looks like a little puppy (and he surely acts like it too). I took the questions to my mom to get her take on this topic, since the dog is her best friend while we are all at school. He takes the role of companion when she is home alone, guard dog when she is a little nervous, and lap dog for when she doesn't have a blanket. "If you sit on the floor he immediately snuggles in your lap...he loves to cuddle next to stuffed animals before bed too." My mom then goes on to say "He actually loves every family member equally, some dogs play favorites but he is attached to all of us, I can't imagine loving another dog like I love him." It really shows how a simple decision to get a dog can bring a whole family together. He never gets mad, he doesn't hold a grudge and he surely doesn't judge; What more could you ask for? So lastly, in my family interview I wondered what my dad would answer if I ask him "If Freckles could speak what would he say?" Thinking I would get some silly jokester answer out of him; in the sweetest way he said, "Freckle would say, I love you" and I never thought about that. My reaction to that question would be "feed me" or some funny gif we would see if dogs could really talk. But for a dog to say "I love you" to his owner shows a true testament to the mutual love they give and get back in the homes in Burton.

I think we all cherish our animals in our own way, some use them for emotional support, other see them as a friend and some just want to carry them around in their purse, but overall our community has shown a large support for dogs. And now I feel like maybe the dogs show more humanity than the humans of Burton; they do show the quality of being human, having kindness, and being benevolent which is what we as people are suppose to be built up of.



Hull cuddling with her favorite furry friend, Hamlet.

The Twelve Days of Christmas

by Kaitlyn Moses, BP Staff Editor

Every year, PNC releases the Christmas Index, a collective list of the items from the Twelve Days of Christmas and their prices. Some have increased in price from last year, but the majority remained stagnant.

On the first day of Christmas my true love spent $214.99. A partridge and a grown pear tree are relatively cheap compared to the upcoming items.

Two Turtle Doves? Prepare to spend $290.00 on this pair.

Even less, three French Hens come in at $181.50.

Four calling birds are almost three times as much at $599.96.

As expected, Five Golden Rings will cost you; these beauties will be $750.00.

If you'd like to buy Six Geese a Laying, be prepared to spend $360.00.

On the seventh day of Christmas, my true love gave to me beautiful birds again… Seven Swans a Swimming. My true love spares no expense at $13,125.00.

Eight Maids a Milking is a low $58.00. Farm help earns minimum wage it would seem.

Another extremely expensive gift at $7,552.84 is Nine Ladies Dancing. That's one expensive performance.

Ten Lords a Leaping (are they leaping over anything?) cost $5,508.70.

Your Eleven Pipers Piping is also costly, their performance is worth $2635.20!

Finally, on the twelfth day of Christmas my true love gave to me Twelve Drummers Drumming for $2854.80.

In total, you'd spend $34,230.99 for all the gifts. If you bought them each time they are mentioned in the song, you can drop $155,407.18 on the 364 items.



The twelve days of Christmas and their symbols.



Across

2. Many people hang these on their front doors during the Christmas season
7. From what movie is this quote: "every time a bell rings, an angel gets his wings"
8. Santa is also referred to by this name (both the first and last name begin with the same letter)
9. "You're a crooked jerky _____ and you drive a crooked hoss, Mr. Grinch"
11. She is the famous, sweet little girl from The Grinch
12. Who has a glowing, bright red nose?

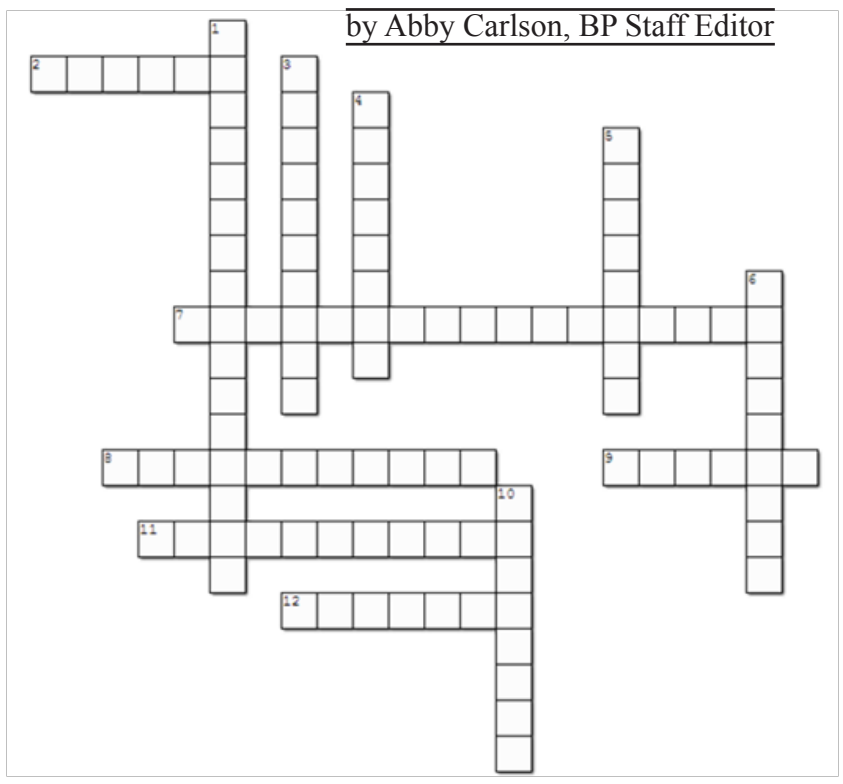
Down

1. This is the number one Christmas song today, and was composed in 1944 (hint:it's more obvious than you think)
3. He's coming to town, so you better watch out
4. A delicious chocolate-y drink usually served with marshmallows
5. He plays Scott Calvin and Santa Claus in all of The Santa Clause movies
6. 'Oh little town of _____'
10. He voiced Hero Boy, Father, Conductor, Hobo, and Santa Claus in The Polar Express



Christmas Crossword

by Abby Carlson, BP Staff Editor





Email your anonymous writing to

badgerpauseanonymous@gmail.com

for a chance to have it featured in the paper!

- **Poems**
- **Short Stories**
- **Articles**
- **Etc.**

No Names, No Worries