The Badger Pause

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Little teachers who have big lessons for us all

by Anna Carlson, BP Assistant Editor

At the moment of our birth we become a student. Our first teachers are in the form of our parents or guardians from whom we learn to share, tie our shoes, and use "please" and "thank you". At the age of five we take our first steps into the world of school, where we will spend the next thirteen years learning from teachers, mentors, coaches and friends. We begin in the colorful rooms of kindergarten. We're introduced to the twenty-six letters of the alphabet, we learn to add and subtract, to spell the word slump and to construct works of art that would rival the skills of Picasso. Eventually we learn how to write trigonometric proofs, balance chemical equations and identify symbolism within the dark (and very scarily twisted) writings of Edgar Allan Poe. And as we grow, the lessons we learned in that friendly classroom decorated with letter-people and crayon drawings, grow dim. They are replaced with all the new knowledge of high school and the stress of the question, "What do you want to do for the rest of your life?" But it's time to be reminded. It's time to remember the importance of favorite colors, the excitement of riding a bike without training wheels, and the necessity of staying within the lines of a coloring book. And thanks to these awesome five Berkshire kindergarteners, you can:



Mrs. Maxwell's kindergarten class, from where our five little teachers came, smile big for the camera.

Addison, a lover of the colors purple, pink and blue who loves to ride her bike decided that if she could teach anybody anything, she would teach that person art.

When is the last time you sat down and drew, let your thoughts pour through the lead onto the page? Or dipped your fingers into bright paint and created a masterpiece of stick people and yellow spiral suns.

Art is such an important part of our humanity. It is a medium that connects so many different people in a beautifully simplistic way. Perhaps it's time to revisit the art projects of our youth again.

Addison believes the most important thing in life is playing with her brother.

The members of our family have helped shape us into the individuals we are today, but they are so often brushed off. We talk back to them. We argue with them. We ignore them. We value others over them. We take every opportunity to spend time away from them. Perhaps it's time to pause for a moment, give them a quick hug, a thank you and whisper an "I love you" or two.

Continued on page 5

Living a day in the life of a teacher

by Amy Lasco, BP Editor

By the time the average student will graduate high school, they will have spent over two thousand days in school, which is more than fifteen thousand hours. Wow. That's a pretty long time... But if you stop and think about it, the average high school teacher will spend all of that time in school as a student, and then approximately thirty seven thousand more hours teaching, not including work done outside the school day. So here's a shout out to the fantastic individuals who are responsible for educating today's youth; there are only a select few who have the patience and commitment to become a teacher, and I certainly am not one of them, so I admire each person who is very much.

The following quotes were spoken by Berkshire staff members, answering questions on what it is like to be a teacher:

"Being a teacher is a true calling. You must have a passion for children, a passion for teaching and learning, and a passion for your subject. When you have just the right combination of all of these items, wonderful and awesome things can happen."

"My nephew once asked if it was hard to be a teacher and my response to him was this, 'It is easy to be a teacher, it is difficult to strive to be a good teacher.' Teaching is a profession, like any other, in which you get out of it what you put in. If I expect maximum effort from my students, they should expect I am going to give them my maximum effort also."

"Most people have an idealistic image of their prospective career before actually experiencing it firsthand. The reality of this profession is evident at this point for me. I love teaching and interacting with students and teaching English. Is it that same idealistic image that I had before I started? No. But you have to focus on the positive."

Continued on page 7



Photo courtesy of Laramielive.com



Photo courtesy of Simplifyingfabulous.com



Photo courtesy of marthastewart.com

Three visionary women who revolutionized SCIENCE, BEAUTY, & the CULINARY ARTS

by Carolyn Mayer, BP Assistant Editor

Women are definitely overlooked in history, but since March is Women's History Month I thought it appropriate to explore some sweet chicas in history that I wish were my friends. These women are entertaining, talented, and brilliant, so let's take a closer look at some fabulous females who everyone should know.

Marie Curie

Marie Curie was an important physicist in the late 19th century and into the early 20th century. She grew up in a poor family in Warsaw, Poland, but was eager to learn new things. Curie was a bright student, but in the 1880s, she was unable to attend the "male only" universities in Warsaw. However, that didn't slow her down. She attended a series of secret classes at an informal underground university in Poland, in between working her several odd jobs to make ends meet. From there she attended the Sorbonne University in Paris to study physics, and received her masters in 1893. Also while at Sorbonne, Marie met her husband and fellow physicist, Pierre Curie. Together, they had one daughter, Irene.

Curie had a very successful career in physics. In 1898, while studying radioactivity, she discovered new elements polonium—named after her home country of Poland—and radium. Along with her discoveries in radioactivity, she also studied x-rays and made huge advances in that field. Because of her discoveries, Curie became the first woman ever to win a Nobel Prize in 1903, and in 1911, she became the first scientist ever to win two Nobel Prizes in two different fields (she earned them in physics and chemistry respectivly). The prizes gave her enormous notiblity in her field, and she ended up becoming a well-known scientist working alongside other famous scientists like Albert Einstein. After her husband died in 1906, Curie became the first female professor at Sorbonne in Paris when she filled in for her late husband's position.

Curie was known to have vials of radium in her lab coat pockets all the time but sadly she didn't know the side-effects of being exposed to radioactive substances for extended periods of time. She ultimately died in 1934 because of prolonged exposure to radium, but her legacy still lives on through her discoveries.

Continued on page 2

Say farewell to Mr. Canton. See Page 2

See the cast for the spring musical! Check out the back page

Read up on your Girlscout cookies. Page 7

Women continued from front page

Marilyn Monroe

In the 1920s and 1930s, there was a little girl who was shuffled between various foster homes and orphanages because her mother went crazy and her father wasn't present. Her name was Norma Jeane Mortensen. She got married to her husband, James Dougherty, when she was very young to get out of the foster care system. When James went off to fight in



Photo courtesy of simplifyingfabulous.com

World War II, Norma went to work in a munitions factory where a photographer noticed her beauty. Shortly thereafter, Norma became a model and was soon on her way to the big screen. Her husband returned from the war in 1946, they got divorced, she signed a movie contract, and she changed her name to Marilyn Monroe.

Monroe was a hit in the boxoffice. Her many ditzy blonde characters in movies were endearing to her audience. She was beautiful and often considered a "plus-size" sex symbol even though she didn't like that title. All she wanted was to be a serious actress, but no one took her seriously. She also struggled with depression for most of her short life, which often interfered with her work. Her mental instability resulted in her departure from many movie sets, but whenever she was in a movie, people adored her. Monroe even won a Golden Globe for her role in "Some Like it Hot." During her career, Marilyn Monroe's films grossed $200 million.

She was so engulfed in her work that she had a string of unsuccessful marriages with baseball player Joe DiMaggio and playwright Arthur Miller. Some attribute the failed marriages to the many alleged affairs she had with people including Frank Sinatra and President John F. Kennedy.

Monroe's one goal in life, however, was to be a mother, but when her inability to conceive became apparent, a little part of her died. Her actual death occurred on August 5, 1962 when the 36 year old reportedly overdosed on barbituates.

Monroe is an inspiration to many girls because she was beautiful the way she was, not how Hollywood told her how to look. They called her "plus-size," but she never changed the way she looked for those people. Even I have a poster of Marilyn Monroe on my bedroom wall because of her strength and courage.

Julia Child

Julia Child may not be a name that many people recognize. She was, however, very entertaining, and her legacy will live on forever in the movie "Julie and Julia" with Meryl Streep.

Julia McWilliams was born into a well-off family in California in 1912. When she went to college she wanted to be a writer, but as time went on, Fate changed its mind. During World War II, Julia was an Ally spy who traveled all over the world, which is how she met her husband, Paul Child. After the war, the Paul and Julia moved to Paris, and Julia attended the prestigious Cordon Bleu Cooking School, and later founded her own cooking school.

Her first cookbook was pubilshed in 1961, and it was called "Mastering the Art of French Cooking," which was a bestseller for five years straight. Child is accredited with adapting complex French recipes for the common American. The following year, 1962, Child had her own cooking show called "The French Chef." Due to her distinctively shrill voice and strange sense of humor, she became a big hit, and in 1966, her show won an Emmy. Food critics hated her show because she often played with the raw meat or spilled the ingredients, but those reviews didn't bother Julia Child because to the average American, she was entertaining.

Because of her talents, Child was the first woman to be inducted into the Culinary Institute Hall of Fame in 1993, and some of her many kitchen sets for her shows are on display at the Smithsonian Museum.

The Badger Pause would like to apologize for a misrepresentation in the last issue of the student newspaper. In the article about AP courses, it was stated that Mrs. Bocci was the teacher who had previously taught AP Biology courses when she was not. Mrs. Guthrie taught the course the last time it ran during the 2012-2013 school year. We apologize for misquoting and will strive to always improve our accuracy.

Canton says farewell to Berkshire High

by Danielle Young, BP Editor



Mr. Canton won the Staff Superlative "Best Storyteller", as voted on by the student body.

Gerald Canton, long-time History and English teacher at Berkshire, will be retiring at the end of March. He is a familiar face seen in the Berkshire halls and his departure will be noticed. The Badger Pause sat down to learn more about Mr. Canton before he leaves Berkshire and teaching behind.

1. Where did you grow up? What high school/college did you attend?
[I was] born in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania and moved to Warren, Ohio in 1961. I graduated from Warren G. Harding in 1970, Kent State University [with a] B.S. in 1979, and Kent State University with a M.Ed in 1998.

2. How did you know that you wanted to be a teacher?
[There were] several outstanding teachers at Harding [who] motivated me to become a teacher.

3. What is your favorite Berkshire tradition?
We are a very charitable school community.

4. What do you feel is biggest impact you have had on your students?
Sharing my life experiences and the ability to intertwine my experiences with our history or English lessons.

5. What is your favorite memory of teaching?
Seeing students mature and become solid individuals.

6. What do you love most about teaching?
Interacting with students and the Berkshire community.

7. What advice would you give to a first-year student?
Work hard towards a marketable profession.

8. What legacy do you want to leave at Berkshire? How do you want to be remembered?
Fairness.

9. If you go to any time in history, when and where would you go?
A road-trip with Babe Ruth and the 1927 Yankees.

10. If you were to title a rap song for your son, what would it be called?
Be-Bop-Didley-Koo-Shee-Koo… I have no clue!

11. What is your all time favorite quote?
I have two:
"The most powerful force on the face of the earth is an idea whose time has come."
"It is not a sin to have been born poor and/or ignorant, but in America it is a sin to stay that way."

12. What do you plan to do in your retirement?
Read, write, get involved with politics, travel, and, above all, to continue to take care of and love my family.

Teachers' Past Jobs

by Adam Thompson, BP Staff Writer

You know them, you love them, and sometimes you may even despise them after a rough night of homework. Who am I talking about? That's right, Berkshire teachers! Even though there may be some boring classes, a few of our teachers have a very interesting past, especially when it comes to past jobs. Some may be odd, but that just makes it even more fun! Did you know, that one of the teachers you see everyday used to be the Big Boy at Bob's Big Boy Restaurant?

During college, for example, Mr. Guthrie worked a rockin' job at the Geology Department at Ashland. His job was to move liquid nitrogen from one room to the next. Cool, right? He also worked at the car wash, and at a grocery store.

While in high school, Mrs. Koler worked as a receptionist and office clerk in a doctor's office. In college, she worked at a number of various restaurants, where she did tasks from serving patrons to bartending. After college, Mrs. Koler was a Sylvan Learning instructor. Sylvan Learning Centers are personal tutoring centers outside of school.

Ms. Bomback had a myriad of jobs. She worked at Subway, as well as Bomback Painting. Where she got fired- by her dad. After making amends, she got back into Bomback Painting, only to leave again. Although this time, she quit. She was a house keeper and welcomer at the Inn of Chagrin, in Chagrin Falls. Before becoming a teacher, she worked for Monroe plumbing, which she said was a difficult job.

Mrs. Hull, the senior English, Speech, and Theatre teacher had similar jobs to many students. For a high school job, she was employed at Bells (the old American Family Restaurant) and Subway. During college, she worked a lot of occupations that related to customer service. Such as a receptionist for the Holiday Inn, and she was a server at Damon's and Red Lobster. While working at Red Lobster, she met her husband who was a bartender. While getting her teaching license, Mrs. Hull labored at a Thai restaurant and at Shooters. Situated on the bank of the Cuyahoga River, it was an indoor and outdoor restaurant, where instead of driving there in a car, patrons could drive in on their boats and dock right at Shooters. Mrs. Hull worked as a cocktail waitress and had to carry and balance a plate of cocktails while walking about on the docked boats.

Lastly, but certainly not least, Mrs. Arnold, our beloved librarian. Although she did not have many jobs before becoming a teacher, she did have one of the most interesting jobs. Mild-mannered Mrs. Arnold was the Big Boy. Not only did she wear the suit but she also waitressed there. In addition, she was the editor of the Kent State University Press- a small newspaper publisher.

As students, sometimes we don't see teachers as people with pasts. We associate them with their job, and don't think about their past. It's interesting to see through that window into their past, and imagine your teacher working at the car wash, or getting fired from her own family company, or maybe even something as awesome as your quiet, good-natured librarian being Bob's Big Boy.

Pro PSEO, yo

Information on exploring additional opportunities for students

by Christin Dornback, BP Assistant Editor

The fourth period bell rings, and a wave of upperclassmen meander their way through the cafeteria, keys dangling, backpacks on and coats buttoned. They walk with purpose, with eagerness to be one of the few to walk out the doors of Berkshire High…and come back approximately an hour and a half later, trampling through study hall or the hallways.

These students, who are often seen sprint-walking to get back to class, opted for a different form of study and are enrolled in class, or classes, in addition to or substitution for their courses at Berkshire through a opportunity-filled program known as Post Secondary Enrollment Options, which is abbreviated and referred to as PSEO.

PSEO is a program which allows students to earn both college and high school graduation credits. For each college credit hour, a student receives 0.2 high school credits, and therefore can complete mandatory or elective courses for graduation in a setting other than Berkshire, while saving money on courses they would later take in college. There are three institutions that are open to Berkshire students who meet the requirements, apply and are accepted into the PSEO program: Kent State University, Hiram College and Lakeland Community College. And with Kent State's Geauga Campus a mere half mile down the road, many students are enrolled there.

Most students who are in the PSEO program are juniors and seniors due to the flexibility of their schedules. Juniors Gwen Lossasso and Adam Thompson are two students who take classes at the Kent State Geauga Campus, and both vouch for how great of an opportunity it is to be a part of PSEO. They agreed that doing PSEO prepares them for future college endeavors, and therefore, they definitely recommend it, as long as "you feel comfortable with the extra responsibility that is put upon you." This semester, Thompson is taking two classes: World History – Modern and Sociology, and mentioned that the work load isn't hard to handle because "the classes are scheduled for every other day, which gives you a reprieve, so the work can be spread out." Losasso agreed, saying that "if you balance your high school course work and the work from your PSEO courses, you'll be fine." The only negative aspects of the program are that they miss portions of their high school class on certain days and that some breaks don't line up. Samantha Cannella, another junior who is enrolled in one class at the Kent State Geauga campus, decided to do PSEO because it allowed her to take a college course and save money, and she enthusiastically called taking the opportunity to be a part of the PSEO program one of the "best things ever."



PSEO students waiting to sign in after Kent classes.

Choosing PSEO isn't a blow off choice or choosing an easier path, and still the students excel. Daniel Griesmer, a history professor at Kent State University who has had many PSEO students in his classes, mentioned that "the high school students excel in that they are very committed to following instructions and completing work on time which allows for success in the class." Griesmer stated that he enjoys having the high school students and that the overall grades for those from PSEO "tend to be better than those that are not PSEO."

And although Post Secondary Enrollment Options may not be the choice for everyone, it's definitely a scheduling choice to look into if you're planning to go to college and are prepared for the commitment and responsibility.

College isn't for everyone



Other career options to explore besides college

by Danielle Young, BP Editor

Wandering the crowded halls of Berkshire, you can't help but notice the multitude of posters hanging on the walls that are advertising one thing- college. College visits, college scholarships, deadlines that are quickly approaching, life-altering decisions and commitments that need to be made right NOW. But, despite that, are there other options that a student hasn't considered, ones besides the ever-pushed college route?

There are many viable options that students might not be as aware of for a future career path. Going straight into the work force or joining the military in lieu of the standard university track are perfectly fine choices. Society will always need the plumbers, electricians or other hands-on positions that do not require a college degree. You can be creative and start your own business without going to college. There are plenty of rich, famous, successful peoplewho did not graduate from college, such as Bill Gates, Steve Jobs, and Mark Zuckerberg. You can be successful without getting a college diploma, if you are creative and try to think outside the box.

People might ask themselves, "but isn't a college degree more beneficial in the long run?" Of course, no one is saying that college is useless for someone's future, you can get a lot of money and success from it, but one can't ignore that there are negatives to college as well. A college degree does not guarantee job security, and it can put you into a lot of debt right when you are struggling. Yes, a college degree likely pays off more in the long run, but just having an undergraduate degree, in some fields, isn't even good enough anymore. One has to spend even more time and money on schooling just to enter their desired career, and that is assuming a job will be available right after graduation. In the meantime, plenty of people who decided to take a unique route to an occupation could be making money while those in college are in extreme debt.

It's understandable that the job of high school is to prepare students for the future, which for the majority, will be attending some sort of two-year or four-year university, which is why there is such a push on college prep courses and standardized testing: so that one can be ready to go off to some college. But, remember, college is not for everyone. You wouldn't want to go to college and spend so much time and money when it just isn't a fit. Go to college if it works for you, but if it does not fit, there are other options. People need to be aware that there are ways to be successful and content without necessarily being handed some fancy paper with your name on it with some hefty bills attached to it.

Kickin' asphalt: Raising funds to fight cancer

by Katie Uterhark, BP Staff Writer

Fundraisers for Relay for Life are in full swing this time of the year. Relay for Life is an organization for the American Cancer Society, and the Relay for Life fundraiser brings in the most donations. The fundraiser occurs in 22 different countries and throughout all of Ohio and runs from April to August every year. This organization funds all cancer types, and was created to help cancer patients and survivors with anything they need.

The American Cancer Society is not all about raising money for research, so you may find yourself wondering what they're spending thousands of dollars on every year? They fund 24 hour hotlines for cancer patients and survivors so they have someone to talk to. The American Cancer Society also fund homes for cancer patients to live in and have a happy healthy life in. The purpose of these houses is for the cancer patients to have a place to stay so they can be closer to their treatment facilities. One of the homes funded is called the Hope Lodge by the Cleveland Clinic. Another fundraiser they also do is a donation of wigs to cancer patients, especially children. This is just a few of the many fundraisers they put on for the people battling cancer.

Berkshire's Relay for Life date has been set and will be Saturday, May 17th through Sunday, May 18th. This is a 20-24 hour event and everyone attending will need a good nights sleep the night before! It is held at Cardinal High School in Middlefield, on their track. They have themes to make the event more fun for everyone who is involved! For the 2014 Relay for Life the theme is superheros; every school a part of this organization will have a superhero to represent their school. Berkshire's Relay for Life team picked the 1966 Batman as our superhero. Even though there are other schools involved in this event, it's not supposed to be a competition, but something to do for fun. Anyone who wants to get involved or needs any extra information about this club should go see Ms. Green in the foods lab. All she asks for is a $10 registration fee and a minimum of $100 donation to American Cancer Society. Ms. Green also said any staff member who would like to support the Berkshire team can purchase their team t-shirt for $12.

The elementary school club, Roots and Shoots, is also gearing up for Relay for Life. Mrs. Maxwell is the advisor of the club and they currently have 45 members. They are selling luminaries and rosebushes for relay this year. They also had Scotch Doubles/Chinese Auction on March 21st to raise money for American Cancer Society, and partnered with the Pullin' for Aut fundraiser team for the auction. Mrs. Klingman is also preparing a King Nut Fundraiser for relay. There are a lot of fundraisers going on to raise money for the Relay for Life program right now, so even if you don't go to Relay for Life you can still get involved by buying rose bushes and luminaries, or going to the Chinese auction!

RELAY FOR LIFE
A TEAM EVENT TO FIGHT CANCER

The mystery behind the Back Room… and more (Dun, Dun, DUNNN)

Detective Dani discovers the deep dark deeds going down at Berkshire

by Danielle Young, BP Editor

I, Detective Dani, am on a new case, to discover the mysterious unknowns of Berkshire High before I turn in my badge this June. You may be asking yourself, why is this the first time you have heard of me? Well, I have finally come out of the shadows after remaining undercover for many years, in order to tell the secrets Berkshire has tried to keep from you. If you have been intrigued enough to read this far, congratulations, you are now a part of a secret, not-so-secret society intent on preserving the hidden wonders of Berkshire High School. First rule: there are no rules (Mwahahaha). But seriously, to be in the society, you can't talk about the society to anyone, and I mean anyone. Not your friends, not your loving grandma, not your 53 Twitter followers (which include your dear grandma, I know). You can't even whisper it to your fluffy rainbow unicorn pillow pet named Jorge. No, not even him.

I originally intended to have a much more scary and life-threatening mission to start you rookies off, but after getting lost in the hidden tunnels from the Underground Railroad (shhh…) multiple times and getting locked in the dungeon overnight, I decided to start off with some straightforward detective work before I send you all off to your first 36 hour stakeout. Now, our first mission: to find out what truly is growing and living in the strange room by the school library. The crazy librarian, Mrs. Arnold, claims it is just an office, but her testimony is thrown out due to the fact that sweet-seeming Arnold is actually a witch.

Now, the first thing to remember for in-depth investigations is that you have to come prepared. I always stuff my fanny pack with a flashlight, garlic (to ward off vampires, you can never be too careful), double-stuffed Oreos (family size only), and of course, my Handy-Dandy notebook! Second, you need to establish your undercover story. For this mission specifically, I chose to be a book nerd who just couldn't get enough of the library (ha ha- that's what they think), equipped with nerdy glasses and all.



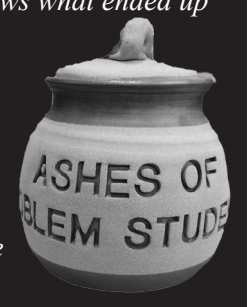
With this disguise, I was able to befriend the crafty witch by constantly checking out a book every full moon (wait, no, that's werewolves, right?), always with my steady supply of garlic and salt.

Under the cloak of darkness, I was able to enter the mysterious back room to conduct my investigation. The "office" is full of strange history from a million yearbooks dating back decades to VCRs created before any of us were even born. There are a multitude of pictures and artifacts dealing with babies and flowers, which made me a bit suspicious. (Were these sacrificial offerings to some mystical creature?) I found many other random items that gave some pause, especially the head of a bull I found on the wall. At first glance, everything in there appears to be perfectly harmless, but it is once I connected the dots that I realized just how far this conspiracy had gone.

Initially, I didn't think much of the over-abundance of yearbooks in the lair because the Witch Arnold had become yearbook advisor years ago as part of her disguise, but it was only once I dug a little deeper that I realized the truth. Arnold and the backroom were just the beginning, the room was just trying to cover up what was really going on. The yearbooks were just the initial proof that shows that there is something very mysterious and mystical going on here at Berkshire High. The teachers never seem to age in the yearbooks, as if they were frozen ("Let it Go…"), frozen in time.

Then, I had an aha! moment as the light bulb switched on (literally, I finally found the light switch). Arnold isn't the only creature not-of-this-world at Berkshire. It was so crystal clear, it was like I had special powers and could see far and beyond. Arnold is the "English Department Head", AKA the leader of the witch coven (the English Department winning Best Friends for Staff Superlatives was a key hint as well). All the funds from the book fairs go towards the ingredients needed for her weekly potion-making classes (disguised as Thursday department meetings). All the English teachers are witches; of course, it all makes sense looking back. Why do you think English class deals with so much symbolism and analysis of literature? Why is it that Mrs. Hunter seems to laugh off the ideas of witches from The Crucible? They don't want you to think too much outside of schoolwork that you realize that the entire school is filled with strange, hidden creatures! What's next, werewolves, vampires, mermaids, elves, fairies? (I'm looking at you math, science, and history departments.) What other secrets are there to undercover? Never fear, my fellow students, Detective Dani is on the case once again, and I haven't even told you the best part yet, Mr. Reedy is really a…

Danielle Young's final notes end there. No one knows what ended up happening to the poor, unfortunate soul, though it is clear that "the others" must have found her. If you see Danielle in the hallways, do not be deceived, that is not the real Danielle Young. The real one most likely ended up like anyone else who got too close to the truth… a victim to the "Ashes of Problem Students" jar in the library. They must have gotten to her and cloned an exact replica of her so no one would get suspicious (I suspect Mrs. Maske or Mrs. Guthrie is behind it). If you question this imposter, she will act no different than before and will have no knowledge of this strange night or the not-so-secret society. Believe what you will, but I would be careful next time you start snooping around looking for that hidden swimming pool on the third floor…



Fashion fad flashback

by Gwen Losasso, BP Staff Writer

Looking around the cafeteria during lunch, you see a wide range of people. Fashion fads are present at every table. The classic outfit of tight black pants and a long loose shirt, paired with a riding boot or dysfunctional white converse, seems to be the far-too-common look. The accessories range from chunky jewelry and knuckle rings, to an oversized scarf. For guys, the popular Nike Elite socks paired with some blindingly bright two-hundred dollar Nike shoes have become the latest must have.

Although there are popular fashion fads today, this is no new trend. Just as certain styles have followed the generations before us through the ages, ours will follow us too. We will be those grandparents wearing ridiculous shoes or some leggings at the age of eighty. Oh, our poor grandchildren.

Here's a look back at the fashion fads as they have followed us through the decades:

• 70's The seventies are most commonly known as the age of hippies. Bell bottoms were all the rage; especially when paired with a tie dye t-shirt. The preferred hair accessory was the across forehead headband, and John Lennon brought wire-rimmed glasses to their prime.

• 80's During the eighties, high waisted jeans and leg warmers brought on the disco era. Neon tights were a women's closet must have, and together bold patterns and neon were the trend. Everybody's hair was a pouf.

• 90's The gangster look occupied the nineties, held together by chokers, skater pants, and flannels. There was a lot of thrift shopping going on, and everything was baggy. All things vintage were in style.

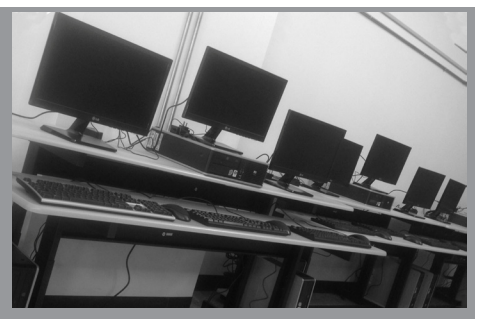
• 00's The turn of the century brought on girls wearing gaucho pants accompanied by boys with their pants overly sagged (ew). There were multiple new styles of shoes including crocs, clogs, and heelies.



Men thought ear piercings would make them cooler, while women went with the half shaved head look. Overly large sunglasses were also in high demand.

Renovations to Discovery Lab expand technological possiblities

by Katie Uterhark,BP Staff Writer



Some of you have probably heard about the new renovations in the discovery lab, or at least heard the noise that's been coming out into the halls. In a world so dependent on technology, a lot of school academic activities have been put on computers, such as state tests.

Knowing that in a couple of years, most (if not all) tests will be on computers, the school has put in 27 brand new computers for student to use. The computers are being placed on the wall opposite of the windows in the lab, under the periodic table. This renovation is a useful addition for the school because now there is a third place in the school, including the computer lab and library, to house computers for the students to use.

I spoke with Assistant Principal Kelly Timmons to see what's up with the new additions to the lab. Timmons said the new additions were supposed to be done before the school year started, but the tables they ordered didn't fit the spot they chose in the lab, so the tables were new additions to the library. They got it right on the second time; the tables are in, and the project is now very successful. Timmons said the main reason they put the computers in the lab was to have a lab upstairs for easy access for the second floor, especially the science department. Also, Timmons said the new PARCC exams will soon be online and the school is preparing for those tests now.

Being creative has never been so fun



photo courtesy of digitaltrends.com

A closer look on how Minecraft can affect your life

by Steve Sitko, BP Staff Writer

How often in your gaming "career" have you thought to yourself, "I really wish I could make a game just like this,"? For a lot of gamers, it's a frequent reality, and often leads to the next big hit in the video game industry. One such gamer, by the name of Markus "Notch" Persson, shared this same inspiration and had the luck to develop one of the most successful indie games to date. If this man's well-known alias didn't already reveal which game we are talking about, I am referring to the growing fascination in the gaming world known as Minecraft. From rookies starting their very first video game, to middle-aged programming and gaming gurus, Minecraft draws in and captivates all types of players.

Minecraft is known as a "sandbox" game; loosely defined, this means that a character can do just about anything that they want. Always wanted to raise an enormous farm from the ground up but too worried about the stigma that comes with Pro Farming Simulator 2014? No sweat! Build your own multi-level super-farm, complete with automatically harvesting mechanisms and powered by Minecraft's very own form of electricity known as Redstone. Or, if you're the architecturally-oriented type, switch into Creative Mode and construct a perfectly scale replica of Cleveland! The latter has actually happened, but more on that later.

In truth, the draw of Minecraft is that it resembles something like a virtual world. When you're tired from school or work (or both), simply fire up the game and you're whisked off onto your own planet, free from the stresses of life (although you're faced with some new ones, like the nefarious Creeper). New players are dropped into a completely untouched world, oftentimes in the middle of a thriving jungle or a barren desert, complete with automatically generated pyramids. The first thing most players do is find a tree, and bring it crashing to the ground to collect some wooden logs (which is done simply by punching the tree!). With a single keystroke, you can bring up your super-simplistic player interface, which allows you to store your loot or use a 2x2 grid to craft new items. This crafting system is both unique and intuitive; placing a wooden log into the grid yields four wooden planks of the corresponding type of wood (Oak, Birch, and other variants). Using said planks, you can then create a "Crafting Bench", giving access to a 3x3 crafting grid enabling further crafting recipes and creations.


Steve's castle in the game is very large and intricate.

Once you build yourself some nifty wooden tools, you're good to go. The ability to mine into the earth is immediately available once you've obtained a wooden pickaxe (just three planks on top of two sticks, seems simple enough right?); tunneling through caves, chasms and abandoned mineshafts for hours seems a boring prospect, until you discover that the earth is rich with materials like iron, gold, and diamonds. Discovery of each of these new minerals unlocks their respective tiers of tools, weapons and armor. Trekking through the underground is almost necessary; in order to survive the night (when loads of hostile "mobs", or monsters spawn), players need both shelter and gear to protect themselves.

Another fascinating aspect of the game are the simple yet unique graphics and mechanics – Minecraft is almost entirely made out of cubes. I mean this literally; it's almost as if Pablo Picasso himself was on the design board. Water, lava, earth, stone – it doesn't matter what the material is, you can be sure that it will be cube-shaped. I've heard people express their surprise when they've discovered that Minecraft is quite visually charming, with its rolling landscapes and powerful sunsets/sunrises.

The "blocks", or tiles of earth, stone, and other materials that the player will inherently mine and collect can also be placed on the ground and other blocks, allowing the construction of basically anything. "Anything" may seem like a stretch, but in truth you can really build any structure that comes to mind - be it a quaint little home or an enormous fortress of doom. To help with this, the game is complete with a Creative mode which gives access to every type of block, as well as the ability to fly. This mechanic is often more popular than playing in Survival mode, the "do-it-yourself" version of gameplay that focuses on building everything from scratch.

As mentioned earlier, my very own uncle is currently in the process of building an appropriately scaled replica of Cleveland, using only the blocks available in the game. This endeavor is


This is Steve's replica of Cleveland's own Tower City.

hosted publicly on a Minecraft server, which allows other players who own the game to connect and play alongside their own friends. There are actually a few Minecraft servers available to the students of Berkshire, my own included.

Minecraft is constantly being updated, with consistent additions to mechanics and items. Not only that, but game modifications are being developed right alongside Minecraft, which allow players to add new items and features to the game. One such "mod" is Industrial Craft, which adds machinery and simulates the construction of fully-automated factories. With such an enormous playerbase and such dedicated developers, there really are no bounds to Minecraft.

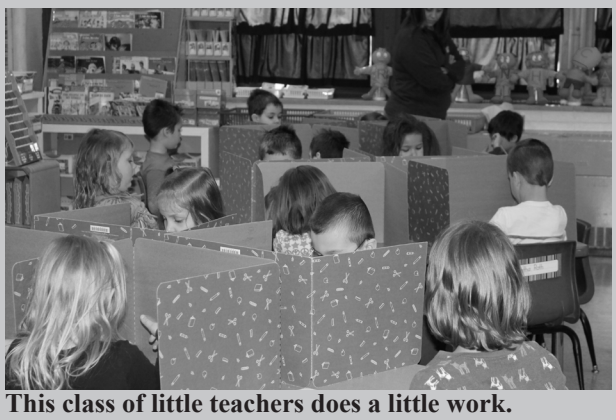
Little teachers continued from front page

Nolan, a devourer of vanilla ice cream and a builder of snowmen, believes that the most important thing is to have a great attitude.

We all approach Mondays with a knot of dread tied tight in the pits of ours stomachs. We sit at our desks staring at those algebra problems and wonder who let Satan play with a calculator. We groan when our coaches tell us to go run. But how different would our lives if we approached everything with the tiniest smidge of optimism? Perhaps we could have a good Monday, or figure out how to decipher the devil's scrawling in math class. Maybe we could even get something out of the laps at practice.

If Nolan could teach anybody anything, he would teach them how to jump.

Jump. Just do it. You'd be surprised how good it feels. Do it with your friends. Add a rope and a few rhymes and you're set. Draw some squares and play a round of hopscotch. You might finish slightly out of breath, but with a big smile on your face.


This class of little teachers does a little work.

Brady, who plays hide-and-seek with his best friends Jack and Kate, explained that he couldn't think of something that was most important.

Perhaps it's time to look at the big picture. Instead of narrowing our focus to one goal, one part of our day in particular, we should take in everything all at once. Yes, our senses would go into overdrive but think how beautiful that big picture would be. Instead of just seeing the blue sky, we'd see the white fluffy clouds, feel the warm sun, smell the blooming daffodils, and hear the singing birds (yes, I miss spring, how could you tell?).

Brady decided that if he could teach somebody how to do something, he would teach them how to write neatly.

Let's go people. Yes, we have incredible technology at our fingertips; the ability to type every word that we would ever need to write but that's no excuse to let your penmanship suffer. Unless you're a doctor, then it's okay.

Peyton, an admirer of peacocks because of their feathers that feature her favorite color indigo, believes that rainbows are the most important thing in the world.

Rainbows are indeed important. They are the embodiment of the idea that good can come from bad (if one considers rain storms as something bad). Because you can't have a rainbow without a little rain first.

Peyton explained that she would teach somebody gymnastics.

Who hasn't watched the Olympics and envied the gymnasts who twirl through the air and flip across the mats. "Not me," said no one ever. So maybe we should learn how to do a summersault (which is harder than it appears) or do the splits (ouch). Perhaps we should learn how to flip on a four inch wide balance beam (or maybe not). However, if you don't have really good health insurance to pay for a hospital visit or two, it might be best to sit back on the couch and watch the Olympians do their thing.

Jacob who enjoys spending his time outside decided that he would teach somebody how to drive a tractor.

Considering we do live in Geauga County, and small town Burton at that, it is almost absolutely necessary for everyone to know how to drive a tractor. After all, those fields won't plow themselves, the hay won't cut itself and that wagon will definitely not haul itself up that hill.

Jacob considers the most important thing in life to be keeping his little brother, Alex, away from his Legos.

Yeah, it's important to share. Share your toys. Share you snacks. But don't share your toothbrush. Sometimes it's nice to have something that's just yours, so don't be afraid to protect something near and dear to your heart.

These five individuals are indeed only five or six years old but their answers are ones of importance. Don't dismiss them merely based upon their age. Even though we put these youngsters in classrooms and expect them to pay attention to teachers for close to the next decade; to learn everything we have to teach them, it doesn't mean that they don't have something to teach us in return.

Hey world!

by Anna Carlson, BP Assistant Editor

We're all struggling here, so can you back off a little?



Photo courtesy from 3 bp.blogspot.com

As the amazing Tina Fey explains, "Every girl is expected to have Caucasian blue eyes, full Spanish lips, a classic button nose, hairless Asian skin with a California tan, a Jamaican dance hall [butt], long Swedish legs, small Japanese feet, the abs of a lesbian gym owner, the hips of a nine-year-old boy, the arms of Michelle Obama and doll [cleavage]. This is why everyone is struggling."

Struggling is putting it lightly. How about starving? Or binging? Working out until our very bones seem to have turned to Jell-O? Shedding pounds like a dog sheds hair? Gobbling up magazine fad diets and workouts like they're M&Ms? Standing in front of a mirror and despising what we see? Yeah, I'd say we're struggling.

Well ladies, it's time to show the world what's what. Beauty is not a one size fits all kind of deal. It's a custom fit that needs to be tailored to each and every individual. Sorry world, but you're wrong. And it's about time somebody said it. Because you are ruining us. Destroying us.

Because of these impossible standards, a number of girls between the ages of twelve and thirty have eating disorders. We diet. We fast. We force ourselves to throw up. We exercise to excess. We damage our bodies in the attempt to reach a golden perfection.

Ms. Bagaglia, a guidance counselor at Berkshire explained that "They'll [girls with eating disorders] do everything that they can to hide the situation because eating disorders are very much about control. There's usually some underlying things like anxiety, OCD, depression." Basically, we aren't just hurting ourselves because we think we're fat, we're hurting ourselves because we feel out of control and attacking ourselves is just a way of grabbing the reins again.

"Look at that thigh gap." Said no man ever. If you're unaware what a thigh gap is, let me enlighten you. A thigh gap occurs when your knees touch and your thighs don't. I get it girls. I'm not a big fan of my thighs either but they're friends, they like to be near each other. Who am I to make them miserable by keeping them apart? The majority of girls that have thigh gaps (the ones I've seen at least) look emaciated. You could count the number of ribs they have. Don't do this to yourself; it's not worth it. Mermaids don't have thigh gaps, so why does anyone else need one?

Ladies! Love yourself! I'm not talking blind love. I'm talking love yourself enough to change yourself **if you need to**. As Mrs. Pinkava, the nurse at Berkshire said, "You're young. Just embrace it. There's beauty just in youth." If you need to lose weight, then change your lifestyle so that you can become a healthy human being. This doesn't mean following a fad diet to shed the pounds in record time, this means eating better, exercising more, making the conscious decision to change. If you need to gain weight, then do so the right way. Change your diet to be filled with protein, healthy sugars and fats, and good calories from vegetables and fruits. Remember everyone, everything in moderation. Be healthy; as far as I can tell, nobody is more attractive than a healthy, strong, happy girl. At least that's who I see all my guy friends falling for.

Eating Better

You know the Skittles slogan "Taste the rainbow"? Seriously, TASTE THE RAINBOW. Eat vibrantly colored fruits and vegetables, they're good for you. And a lot of them taste good too. Eat less red meat and always trim the fat off. Take smaller portions and only eat calories that are nutrient rich; stay away from empty foods that are pumped full of dyes, sugars and fats.

Exercising

It's rough lacing up your running shoes and standing at the beginning of a route. You look down the road and you think, *My God, I haven't even started yet and I'm already tired*. True, exercise is going to make you tired and most likely sore, but it is honestly worth it. If you have a hard time motivating yourself, exercise with friends; find a running buddy. Pinkava explains that "The recommendation for everyone of all ages, sizes and shapes is to get at least thirty minutes of heart rate increasing activity most days of the week. Exercise to improve strength, flexibility and endurance helps every organ in our body." But you don't just have to go to the gym to burn calories, you can burn calories completing every day chores like walking the dog or washing the car. Just get up and move!

So I guess what I'm trying to say here, ladies, is actually quite simple. The world is full of it. Completely and utterly full of it. So I propose a challenge. Dear world, when you find that "perfect" woman, with the miles of legs, the flat tummy, the wide blue eyes, and the wonderfully toned arms, let me know. Because I have yet to see her.

Well, that's awkward

by Amy Lasco, BP Editor

Although most of us students have only spent about a decade and a half on this planet, a surprisingly high number of awkward things have happened, to many of us. One time, I was trying to find my mom in the grocery store and I found and talked to the wrong woman for about a minute before realizing she wasn't my mother. Another time, when I was working as a waitress, I was carrying an enormous tray of silverware through the restaurant when I tripped, dropped the tray with a shattering crash, and then face planted… and everyone laughed at me. A lot. However, the most awkward things that have happened to me (and many others) have gone down at school. I mean, what else can you expect when you put 600 kids who are going through puberty together in one building for seven hours? A lot of weird stuff happens, and here are just some of my favorites:

Talking about how much you hate a class in the presence of that teacher

As great as school and our classes and our teachers are, sometimes we all just get fed up. We vent. We complain. We say mean things that we know we shouldn't but they make us feel better. For example, "I hate this class so much I want to burn the classroom down" or "God, this teacher will be the death of me. I wish I could send them to Peru". But what makes these things really awful are when the teacher overhears them. You may not actually want to send them away to a foreign country, but now they know that at one point you considered it, and that teacher will never forget it. So good luck, because there is really no coming back from this. Every day in class you will feel it spiraling: the awkwardness will be too big to ignore.

Accidently hitting someone's body with your hand while walking in the hallway

This is literally the most awkward thing that can happen at school. Ever. And I have done it. So many times that I want to cry when thinking about it. Once when I was in ninth grade, I was innocently walking down the hallway swinging my arms, and my hand totally spanked the hiney of an incredibly attractive senior in front of me. The look of utter disbelief and disgust that he gave me was possibly one of the worst moments of my life. Another time, I tried to give someone a passing high five in the hallway and accidently touched their… frontal pant area. I'm not crazy, this totally happens. Sometimes when one is walking, their hands just fly away for a second, or you turn around without thinking and touch something you don't mean to. The whole senior guy incident may have secretly been on purpose, but this happens to other people. I know. Someone accidently hit me in the hallway once. I still have nightmares. Awkward.

Finding someone crying in the bathroom

Okay, now whatever I say next should not be taken badly. I love people and am very sympathetic towards those who are in pain. But sometimes at school when I go to the bathroom, I actually want to go to the bathroom. Instead, I find some poor soul have a mental breakdown on the bathroom floor. And this isn't to say that this girl shouldn't let her feelings go; school is hard, and we all get stressed out. But what do you do in that moment? The girl can see you; she knows you're in there. Do you comfort her? Try to hug her? Start crying so she doesn't feel alone? I usually just try to say something encouraging such as "Oh… hey… uh, your purse totally matches your… face" and then I leave without using the bathroom. It's just not worth it. It's too awkward.



Uncomfortable hallway encounters: you so don't want to go there.

Calling your teacher "Mom"

Now, maybe we all haven't done this. But enough of us have to know that this moment can be horrifyingly uncomfortable. One second you're sitting in class, casually trying to get the attention of your teacher. But in the next moment, you say it. You call your teacher "mom". And then your classmates turn, they stare at you, and yes, many of them will laugh. It's not your fault! You call your mom's name a lot in a day, and sometimes it just slips out. The worst part is having to meet your teacher's eyes after the incident, knowing that they are secretly weirded out by the fact that you view them as a parent, especially a mom. Awkward. So awkward.

Girl Scouts: You'll always want Samoa

by Christin Dornback, BP Assistant Editor

Ah, March – Women's History Month and the glorified Girl Scout Cookie season. An incredible organization, distributing boxes of calorie-rich happiness to people of all ages and backgrounds, Girl Scouts was founded by Juliette "Daisy" Gordon Low way back in 1912 and began selling their renowned cookies in the 1930s. The badged and sashed smiling girls are perhaps most commonly associated with delivering sweet treats, but stand for something more awe-inspiring than that first bite of a deliciously perfect Thin Mint. If you take the time to read the color coded boxes, you'll discover that those Thin Mints, Savannah Smiles and Thank U Berry Munches teach money management; Samoas and Thanks-A-Lots teach business ethics; Trefoils and Dulce de Leches teach people skills; Do-si-dos and Lemonades represent lessons in goal setting and Tagalongs teach decision making. For every box of cookies you buy, a Girl Scout learns how to run her own miniature business.



Troop 1316 welcoming new sisters to the troop.

According to girlscouts.org, the mission statement of the Girl Scout organization is to build "girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place," and rightfully so. For just over a century, the Girl Scout organization has been empowering girls to reach their full potential and to strive for excellence in all that they do. In addition to wondrous bites of baked goodies, the organization has made incredible impacts in the lives of so many by teaching and encouraging the girls of this world to become leaders both now and in the future. Currently, there are over 2.3 million Girl Scout girl members and 890,000 adult volunteer members, and to them, I say thank you.



A local Burton Girl Scout troop, Troop 1316, celebrates World Friendship Day.

Although I never was a Girl Scout, letting the girls of today form friendships while being in a community where skills are learned, values are established, the importance of respect is taught and where fun is tied in is exactly what this patriarchal society needs, which just goes to show that if you give a girl a cookie, she'll turn it into something more.

Life of a teacher continued from front page

The educators who spoke these words represent just three out of the many talented and passionate professionals that make a living out of doing what they love: teaching. And yet, how many times a day do we, as students, complain about our teachers? You can hear it the hallways, in the cafeteria, and even in the classrooms. We complain about the work that they give us, about coming to class, about the tests we take, the homework we do, the things they say, the things they do, and the things that they didn't. Every day, every hour, every class period, thirty six weeks out of the year. And I mean, I get it. School is difficult, and we all get frustrated with the amount of work we are assigned. The life of a student definitely has its rough patches. But do we ever really think about it from the teacher's point of view? Do we consider the fact that for every minute we spend doing homework, they have spent the time to carefully plan and create each assignment, designed to further our own education? Or any time we are at home studying for a test, do we think about the fact that our teachers are at home grading papers, creating lesson plans, or brainstorming ideas for our next chapter? Probably not. I think that most of us are focused on the work that we have, and the things that we ourselves have to deal with. But that isn't fair. What would happen if we stepped into our teachers' shoes for a day? Would we be able to handle it?

For most of us, our day begins when we roll out of bed, grab a piece of toast on the way out the door, and make it to school with barely five minutes to spare. For many teachers, however, they have to set their alarms for the wee hours of the morning in order to make it to school early, to start planning the lesson for the day or to give extra help to students. During the school day, students file in and out of classes, following a set routine each hour. We worry about math class for 50 minutes, but then we get to leave and move on for the rest of the day. Teachers, on the other hand, stay in their rooms all day, teaching the same lessons to students who may or may not be understanding the material. They stress and carefully think about every single school day, only to have students walk in complaining about the work they are doing or simply not paying attention in class. Which, when you think about it, is really frustrating.

Now, this isn't to say being a teacher is all negative. Quite the opposite, most of the teachers that I have spoken with love their jobs, and truly enjoy the interactions they experience with their students. And not all of us embody the complaining students that I mentioned above; there are many kids who truly enjoy going to school and learning the material that we are privy to. It is these kids, and the experiences that they have at school that make teaching worthwhile. **The quotes below were spoken by Berkshire teachers on what they love about teaching:**

"I love being in the classroom engaging actively with my students. That is my favorite part of being a teacher. The most satisfying moments come when students have that "A-HA!" moment. That instant when they finally get how to do what you are teaching them. I absolutely love it when students let out an audible "Ah!" or "Oh, I see now!" Those are great motivators for me to continue teaching."

"I love my students! There is rarely a day when I don't look forward to coming to work, and it's because I love seeing my students every day! I love watching their faces light up when they have that "aha" moment! I love when they feel strongly enough to argue with me about something. I love watching them become who they want to be."

"Any time a student returns to the Berkshire community after graduating and tells me they found their college classes easy because we have prepared them well makes me proud to be a teacher. Teaching is, in my opinion, the best career choice for me. I believe it gives me an opportunity to fight to help bring positive change to the maximum amount of people."

Zoo gotta be kidding me

The debate on the ethics of zoos

by Daniel Walsh, BP Staff Writer

As a child, I always enjoyed visiting the zoo, like many kids do. It was probably my favorite place to go, and it was always great to see all kinds of amazing and exotic animals. But as time went on and I'd come back to the zoo, I'd notice the animals looked almost sad, which got me thinking. It's a highly debated argument and likely something you've thought about before too: are zoos ethical? Opinions about zoos are very divided, although many people enjoy them. During the summer, zoos are crowded with many people coming to see their favorite exotic animals, not to mention getting a decent workout walking around all day in the sun. Plus a zoo is the only place someone can go to see all kinds of real exotic animals in person without going out of the country. Also, zoos protect endangered or rare animals, and some even work to breed more of those animals to strengthen their population. I mean, what are the odds a rhino would be attacked by poachers inside a zoo?



Photo courtesy of www.emoware.org

However, there are some big downsides to zoos as well. For example, most zoos do not provide the amount of room many animals need, therefore, it gives the impression that life in a zoo must be comparable to prison. According to an article on AnimalPlanet.com, an Alaskan zoo held an elephant named Maggie, but due to the frigid temperatures in Alaska, she had to live indoors permanently. In the wild, Maggie would have to walk as many as thirty miles in a day, but in her room she was lucky to walk a few acres. She was given an elephant-sized treadmill which, perhaps as a form of protest, she refused to use. This situation is only one good example of how some zoos may not be able to provide adequate environments for their animals. In any case, through my light internet research, I've found that the argument of whether or not zoos are good or bad depends on the individual zoo. Some are built more optimally to hold animals than others and are better able to provide the needs of the wild animals within them.

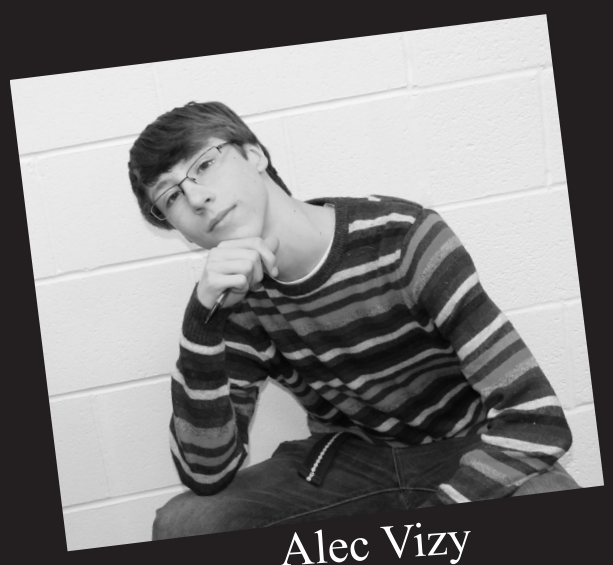


Photo courtesy of onnetwork.facinghistory.org

Personally, I can totally see the points both sides of this argument, so instead of "taking sides", I think it would be best if we could call for improved conditions in all zoos. The animals' habitats need to be adequate for them, and they need to have stimulation of some kind (so they don't get bored). Breeding endangered species and strengthening populations are also some things that certainly need to continue. I'm sure that if these adjustments will be made, both the animals and humans will be satisfied, and elephant treadmills as well as this argument will no longer be required.

The Cast of Berkshire's Spring Musical : *No Frills Revue*

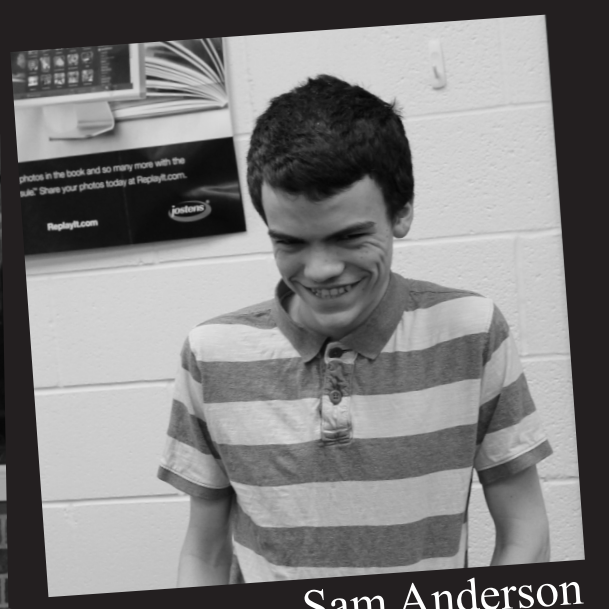
April 11th-12th, 7:00 pm



Alec Vizy



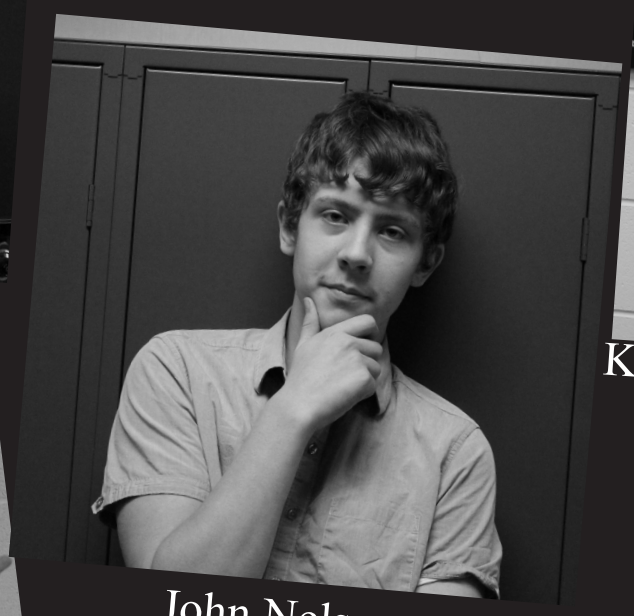
Lisa Marcy



Sam Anderson



David Cheung



John Nelson



Kieran Wichert



Bree Barker



Nathan McFadden



Gedona Kosova & Sadie Hopkins



Michelle Sohm



Tia Maier

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