The Badger Pause

Volume 15, Issue 3 | 14510 N. Cheshire Street, Burton Ohio | November 2018

In this issue...

Page 2
A Black Friday survival guide
Meals that are more like science experiments

Page 3
A look inside the Cornucopia
What your Thanksgiving table cannot live without

Page 4
"Vegans ruin Thanksgiving"
Thanks vs. Gratitude

Page 5
A thank-you to the thankless
Comic by Lizzy Dingman

Page 6
Lost and Found
It's Christmas season!!

Page 7
Creative Corner

Celebrating the month of gratitude

by Ben Pelletier, BP Staff Writer



Now that the month of October and Halloween have passed, people are now looking ahead to Thanksgiving and Christmas. However, the month of November is extra special this year, as it's being deemed the Month of Gratitude. In the month of November, National World Kindness Day is represented for being a day in which everyone should be kind to one another to show their true gratitude.

Kindness is something that should be instilled the minds of everyone as they go about their daily lives. Whether being kind means comforting a friend, holding the door for someone, or helping someone pick up his or her dropped books, it should be important that we should do these acts of kindness regularly. While Merriam-Webster dictionary defines kindness as the quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate. Jackson Hare describes kindness as "Making someone else's day better." Regardless of how you define kindness, being a caring human being should be on your daily list of to-do's.

World Kindness Day is observed on November 13th. This day is specifically observed to remind people that being kind to one another is meaningful to someone else. Everyone knows the golden rule to treat others as you'd want to be treated, but many people don't seem to follow that. So this month is your reminder that it is important to be kind to one another everyday, not just on November 13th.

It's important to understand how others describe kindness so that you would know how to be kind to them. In whatever way someone describes being kind, it can be easily done in simple and practical ways. For instance, simply saying hello to someone, helping someone with homework, and simply being there for someone if they need something. Jackson Hare thinks that, "Doing the simplest things matter the most, like saying hello or asking how someone is doing." These random acts of kindness could be that push that someone needs to get through the day. However, since time seems to be making members of our society less kind to one another we should be prioritizing kindness in our lives.

Kindness is one of the most essential traits for people to possess. It shows that they are caring and compassionate about others and grateful for those around. If you see someone having a bad day, please be kind to make them feel better.

Things you can do to be kind to others:

Say hello to someone regularly

If someone is struggling with homework, see if you can help in any way

If someone chooses to sit alone at lunch, be the one to leave your comfort zone and sit with his/her.

Hold a door for someone

Offer your seat to the elderly on the bus.

Kindness shouldn't be a chore, it should be natural occurrence in our lives.

Not a Coward

...a short story and political commentary about the avoided truth of war
by Hope Zagar

Screams. Whether it be battle cries or shouts of agony, I hear hundreds of screams all at once. And gunshots too. Loud, piercing gunshots in a staccato rhythm surround me and overwhelm my senses. I can't think due to the cacophony. All I do is run. Run as fast as I can, acting totally on instinct, to who knows where, just away. I just need to get away. I bolt between soldiers, each of them giving me a confused look. I suddenly stop, realizing I had lost my mind. I can't just run away. I am one of those soldiers.

In all the commotion of battle, I had forgotten who I was. I had let my animal-like instincts take over. I must have looked like such a coward.

I turn, facing the enemy lines. I will not be a coward. I will not be a coward.

I feel the gun on my back and reach over, slinging it into my hands. I am ready. I can do this. I fire it at every enemy I can see. I will not be a coward.

I see my victims dropping dead. A surge of guilt courses through me. It is soon replaced by determination. This is war. I will not be a coward.

I continue firing blindly until I lock eyes with an enemy soldier. I see a person. A good person with potential is staring back at me, and I am supposed to kill him. I can't. I won't! That is a person! But I will not be a coward. I shoot; he shoots. Both of us fall to the ground, in sync. Pain. Immense pain. Paralyzing pain takes over me. I can't think; the pain has stopped all my thoughts. I scream a terrible sound I didn't know I could make. I try to stand, try to overcome the pain. I am convinced; I will not be a coward. It was only a shot to the leg. I'll survive. I will not be a coward. Then I see him. He is also clutching his wound. But--he is smiling at me. He nods, and his head goes limp, falling to the ground. His body relaxes. Dead. And I killed him. I am a coward.

The Descent into Thanks-giving Madness

by Nick Misconin, BP Staff Writer

Disclaimer: I am not responsible for any misfortunes that may be encountered while attempting to recreate the displayed dishes. Also, I am not held liable for any cases of ilness during or after consuming said dishes. Thanksgiving, a holiday of family, great times, gratitude, and more. But honestly, who cares about those things? The only real thing that matters is, of course, the sacred substance that is the food itself. I'm willing to bet a large portion of us look forward to the food that comes along with the holiday. I mean, it's pretty much its own genre of food. Obviously there's the ever famous turkey, the stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, etc. These are some of the staple foods of the gratuitous holiday, but what about the lesser known foods that may or may not be more complex? Do be forewarned: I don't exactly recommend recreating these recipes for your own sustenance, but do as you please.

Cranberry Gumbo:

1 gigantic pot or pan (I personally recommend a wok)
Multiple bags of cranberries
Gallons and gallons of cranberry juice
A surplus of cans of cranberry sauce
Whatever else cranberry flavored you can find lying around your residence

Step 1- Dump all ingredients (cranberries) gathered in a containment device (pot, pan, etc.)
Step 2- Mix together the gumbo, or soup, or stew. (I'm not sure what the proper term is).
Step 3- Enjoy your fantastic creation!



Berries for dinner... okay. *courtesy of Medical News Today*

Potato A La Amalgamate:

Numerous potatoes, both regular and sweet or whatever other kind of potato
A stick of butter
Spices and seasonings (salt, pepper, cinnamon, sugar)
A large bowl
A potato masher
Maybe some milk

Step 1- Properly wash and peel (optional) all of your potatoes
Step 2- Collect potatoes into a bowl or other containment device
Step 3- Cook the potatoes to soften them
Step 4- Mash the collection of potatoes - all of them
Step 5- While mashing, add butter and also milk (optional) to assist in the blending process
Step 6- Add spices and seasonings to elevate your mashed potato Frankenstein
Step 7- Display your work of art to your family!

The Legendary Turducken:

1 cup kosher salt
Some brown sugar
A vat of water
A toddler sized turkey (18-20 ish pounds)
Seasonings
A chicken
A duck

Step 1- Brine your avian creatures in a salt and sugar mixture the night before cooking
Step 2- Stuff both the chicken and duck inside of the turkey
Step 3- Bake the bird homunculus until it's cooked - err, umm baked?
Step 4- Dress the monster with selective seasonings
Step 5- Finish prepping and consume your horrific creation
Step 6- Enjoy?

Unfortunately, that's all the time I have today. In closing, let your kitchen creativity run wild. However, make sure to follow all kitchen safety rules to ensure no one gets injured, especially with these recipes. Don't leave any oven or stove unattended, just in case. Also, make sure to keep your preparing area clean: you don't want to contaminate your precious creations. And remember, have fun!

Surviving the chaos of BLACK Friday

by Jacob Wichert, BP Staff Editor

Over the years, I've not only acquired, but perfected the art of survival and combat. I've become the living embodiment of a lethal weapon; quick, efficient, and silent. I can disappear into the shadows at will. I can bend the very fabric of reality. If people notice my presence, it is solely because I intend for them to.

Where did I learn these skills? you might wonder to yourself, feeling a combination of both fear and admiration (Thank you, I'm pretty great, I know). Well reader, I wouldn't normally do this, but against my better judgement, I'll tell you.

The answer is Black Friday.

And suddenly it makes sense, yes? Now I'm sure that you've participated in this chaotic pseudo-holiday before, and know all too well the horrors of watching once gentle grandmas tear into each other over that nice-looking Christmas sweater from Old Navy, angry parents brawl over that cool new video game that just came out for their child's Nintendo. Perhaps, even, you've witnessed the fabled middle-aged dad playing tug-of-war over the rights to the ownership of a brand-new LG 65" 120hz TV. These encounters are especially dangerous, as the combination of pure hatred-fueled rage and testosterone tend to escalate conflicts to a whole other level.

But I digress, you came here to maximize your efficiency as a Black Friday shopper, and hone your skills as a force of nature in the process. I'm here to help. The following guide includes a compact and concise list, which when followed, will aid you on your journey towards those sweet, sweet deals.

Lesson 1: Avoid Eye Contact

The most important thing to take into account in this situation is the fact that tension is high. You are amidst a crowd of determined, fired-up, and often enraged customers, who are all after the same thing as you. Just like our animalistic ancestors, eye contact makes us uncomfortable. In dogs, for example, eye contact symbolizes a challenge for dominance. When humans are on edge, eye contact only makes the situation worse. They'll start to wonder where you're headed, if you're after the same items as them, and if they should take you out now while you're still unsuspecting. I've seen it happen before, and I'll never make the same mistake as those unfortunate souls who've taken a fist to the jaw for glancing in the wrong direction, at the wrong time.

Lesson 2: Come Equipped

In the situation in which you've either failed to refrain from eye contact, or provoked another customer via some other means, it is absolutely imperative that you be adequately equipped to handle the situation. You see, most people foolishly push and shove their way into their store or mall of choice wearing nothing but a thin jacket and jeans, bearing little mind to the potential of bodily harm that could strike them at any moment. Not only will an added layer of protection give you a tactical edge in combat (should it be necessary) but it will also help you push through the initial rush into the store as soon as doors open, as amidst the chaos of a thousand sweaty shoppers, you will feel no pain. My personal favorite loadout consists of elbow and knee pads, bubble wrap, and any sort of protective headgear that you can get your hands on, such as a bike helmet. With this gear, your joints will be protected in case of a fall, as well as your head, should you be lost beneath the sea of shoppers. While you are standing, the bubble wrap armor allows for high mobility, due to its lightweight make, while still providing a solid 1-2 inches worth of impact absorption, should you be engaged upon.

Lesson 3: Agility, Stealth, and Preparedness

Any skilled Black Friday warrior knows that brute force is a last resort option, and should only be relied upon if absolutely necessary. As creatures of the night, and allies of the shadows, our first and most reliable tool is our ability to remain unseen by those around us. To ensure success in your endeavors, you should always come with a plan. Have shopping route planned out, prioritizing the most important items first, eventually making your way towards those that you could live without. Know alternative routes to the locations of these objects, as you may not always have the luxury of a clear-cut path to them. The environment is your tool here. Climb where necessary, hide when necessary (I recommend those giant inflatable ball baskets), and you just might make it through the night unscathed.

Lesson 4: Desperate Measures

So it's come to this. You've made a wrong move, and now you're staring into the eyes of a human turned beast, entirely prepared to gore you with his or her metaphorical horns. The most important thing to keep in mind in this situation is to remain calm, and stand your ground. A predator will always falter under the gaze of an unbothered prey. Move in response to their movements. They will likely be clumsy due to a combination of preexisting exhaustion, and anger. Use this to your advantage. They will also likely be hindered by the preassembled premium leather Herman Miller office chair that they are carrying, which will only work to your advantage. Now, you could fight back, but then you run the risk of being charged with assault, and frankly that's a beast that nobody feels like tackling. What you must do rather, is pull one from the Karate Kid, and make them fight against themself. Dodge at the last minute, and watch in utter satisfaction as they miss their swing, and send a shelf full of Yankee Candles (or any other fragile product) falling to the ground, shattering, and ultimately adding to their total price at the end of their frenzied shopping spree. Ultimately this ends in two ways, the customer ends up hurting themself and submits to your superior combat prowess, or runs out of money and can no longer afford to break any more items. Either way it's a win.

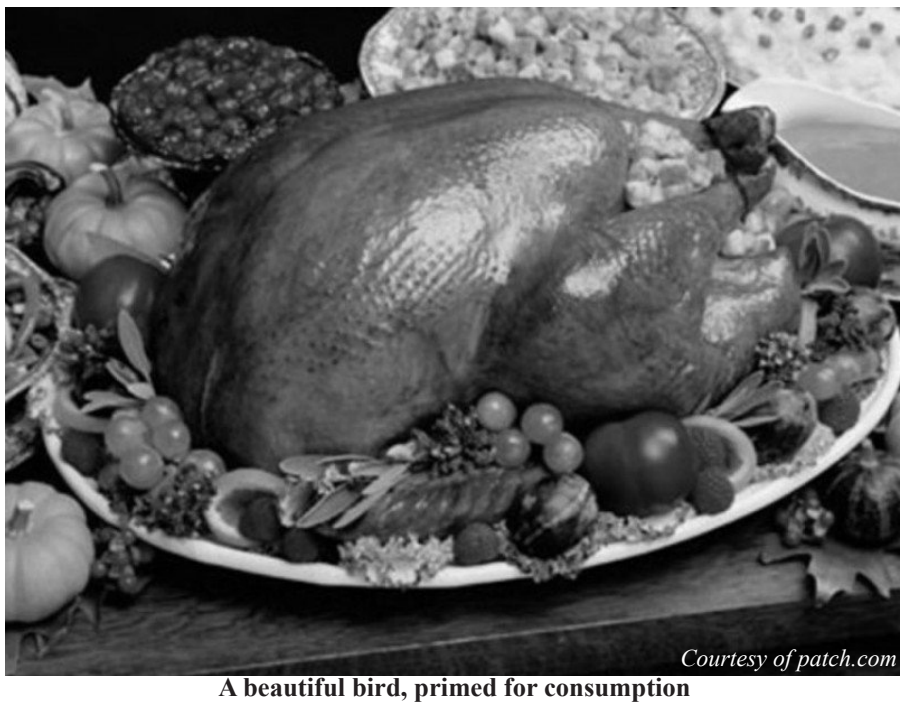
Must-have meals for Thanksgiving

by Clark Jackson, BP Staff Writer

The holiday season has just begun, and before we know it we will be gathered sharing stories and making memories. However, I would argue that most people look forward to the magnificent feast, regardless of size, consumed on Thanksgiving day. Over the centuries though, arguments and opinions have risen concerning which foods are a must-have when we sit down for a Thanksgiving meal. That's why I am here-- to end the controversies once and for all.

The obvious necessity at the dinner table on Thanksgiving Day is a deliciously baked turkey. Even the sight of the golden-brown cooked bird causes growly stomachs from the majority of people. But that begs the question, what sides must accompany the turkey at the dinner table?

The first candidate that must be given credit is the old-fashioned starchy, side of mashed potatoes and gravy. I argue that any Thanksgiving meat (turkey, chicken, ham, or more) must be served with a glorious white, puffy mountain of mashed potatoes. On the mountaintop is usually one of the richest and most beautiful natural springs known to humanity--gravy. An experienced consumer will let the gravy trickle down the carb-filled lump of mashed potatoes until it reaches the bottom, mixing the sweet and sappy liquid with the accompanying meat. However, why stop there? Some experts will even say that the mashed potatoes can be used as a main ingredient to mix various foods together, such as gravy, meat, and corn.



A beautiful bird, primed for consumption

The vitamins and minerals supplied by vegetables are crucial in maintaining a somewhat healthy meal during the holiday season, specifically Thanksgiving. As much as everybody hates to talk about it, vegetables on the dinner plate are a necessity to a well-rounded meal. Some common choices are green beans, corn, and on occasion broccoli. As mentioned above, it is recommended to try mixing the mashed potatoes and gravy with the corn which will result in a heavenly treat.

In terms of another carbohydrate, allow me to advise you to enjoy your Thanksgiving meal with a couple of bread rolls. Rip open those little numbers and slather some butter on top to add to your already fat-filled meal on Thanksgiving Day. Bread with butter accompanies all aspects of a Thanksgiving meal perfectly, and it would be a sin to not include hot rolls in the holiday meal.

Of course, to end every holiday meal is the dessert. I have identified a clear and obvious winner on the dessert table, and that is pumpkin pie. This sweet treat with a dab of cool whip on top makes a mean finale for Thanksgiving day. This undisputable champion leaves the majority of its consumers satisfied, and ready for a cozy nap. Some close runner-ups are pumpkin rolls, cookies, most other pies (apple, peach, mixed berry), as well as virtually anything made with high contents of sugar.

Now some of you readers may be thinking "Gee Clark, you forgot to mention one key recipe that everybody likes." Well, you would be right. If you started to think maybe I had forgotten about stuffing, then you were wrong. I was merely saving stuffing as the last item I would discuss because of one simple fact: stuffing is overrated. This meal does not bring anything special to the table, and the flavor does not impress me. This oddly textured addition to Thanksgiving may seem mandatory, but rest assured that stuffing is not a holiday essential.

Well, there you have it, a complete list that should guide any person wishing to celebrate the upcoming holiday in a correct and orderly fashion. If any of you readers wish to share your concerns with me, I would be happy to listen. However, I can assure you, my mind cannot be changed about the above topics, largely because I choose to invest my beliefs in facts. On a more serious note, enjoy the holiday season, and don't forget to eat your fair share of vegetables!

What IS a cornucopia?

by Josiah Cheung, BP Staff Writer

Thanksgiving season is here! No, not Christmas season. Thanksgiving! The holiday all about family and thanks, turkey and stuffing, cranberries and cornucopias…

But what exactly is a cornucopia? And why is it so iconic of Thanksgiving? I hope to answer these questions today. In fact, I've spent the last several days dedicated to the discovery of what makes cornucopias so iconic, and this is my story.

My search for truth began at Berkshire, a small high school nestled in the hills of an even smaller town that nobody cares about, where I visited with locals and picked their brains about this curious curiosity known as the cornucopia.

Specifically, I spoke to students and teachers alike, and asked them the simple question, "What is a Cornucopia?" in an attempt to decode this Thanksgiving mystery.

I was very thankful to receive their answers.

I first asked Katrina Ostrander, a senior, who said, "Isn't that the thing that food falls out of?"

This was not very helpful, but it was a start.

Next I asked Jude Connors, who told me, "Oh, it's from the Hunger Games. It's where they all fight to the death!"

This was, again, not very helpful. In fact, it threw quite a wrench into my understanding of a Cornucopia. I began to wonder, is a Cornucopia from the Hunger Games? Or is it that thing that food falls out of?

My answer came in the form of a senior named Diego Peters, who told me, "It's that thing from the Hunger Games where people would die a lot, but I think it's also a horn of food."

This was the most comprehensive answer I had yet received, but I was still confused about the origins of this quirky seasonal trinket.

As Fate would have it, I was not the only one. It seemed most of the locals shared in my confusion. Mrs. Koler, a resident English teacher, told me, "It's some shell thing that contains a bunch of food -- seasonal food to be specific… I don't know."

Another student, Eli Ray struggled to find an answer, "It's, um, wow, I don't know what to say, it's, it's, it's, it's, it's…"

Yet another student, a junior named Maria Pryzbala, simply stated, "What the *Expletive*?"

And another student, a senior by the name of Nick Misconin, responded, "Why did you even ask me?" before promptly ending our conversation.

I was at my wit's end. I began to doubt that anyone knew anything useful about this Cornucopia.

Then, I spoke with Junior and Irish Loremaster Robert O'Conke. He told me,

" The cornucopia, also known as the Horn of Plenty, is -- I believe it's either a folktale or a myth, or just used as a symbol towards Thanksgiving."

This was it. My square one, my diving board. My Independence Day. I now knew not only that the Cornucopia had another name, the Horn of Plenty, but that it was of mythical or folktalian nature.



Your typical Cornucopia, a symbol of fortnite and *plenty.*

But I needed more. And to find it, I would need to travel to Europe to find the origins of this Horn of Plenty. So, I hopped on a plane to Greece.

Mind you, it was a virtual plane on the internet. I am a teenage journalist with no steady income, after all.

Regardless, what I found is quite the story.

According to Greek myth, the god Zeus was sent to be cared for by Water Nymphs in his infancy. These Nymphs raised him on milk from the goat called Amalthea. In thanks for this kindness, Zeus made Amalthea into a constellation to forever hang in the night sky, and enchanted one of her horns with the unlimited plenty, ensuring that it would always be full of sustenance. This was called the Horn of Plenty.

In another story, the hero Hercules tore a horn off the River God Achelous, who had taken the form of a bull. This horn was given to the Water Nymphs, consecrated, and filled with flowers. It was then given to the Goddess of Plenty, who dubbed it Cornucopia.

Since then, the Cornucopia has been associated with numerous deities and special occasions, including Fortuna, Goddess of Fortune. The Cornucopia soon became a symbol of good fortune and a good harvest, and was carried over to Christianity as a symbol of plenty.

Nowadays, Cornucopias are not made out of actual horns, but out of wicker, cardboard, and even baked out of bread. It is used often as Thanksgiving decoration, with fake, non-perishable fruits and vegetables flowing out of it. Despite all the time that has passed, it still remains a symbol of plenty.

And so, my journey to discover the origin of the Cornucopia comes to an end. So next time you watch The Hunger Games, remember that the Cornucopia is more than a death trap. It's also the horn of a magical goat blessed by Zeus.

Season's Greetings.

More than a "thank you"

by Hannah Keough, BP Staff Editor

Every Thanksgiving, most American families (who possess a falsified sense of patriotism and can embrace the lie that is this glutinous holiday) devote ten minutes of the evening's time to go around the table and say "what you're thankful for."

We spend ten minutes to convey our "thanks" for the greatest elements of our lives. Freshman Addison Nettles reports that "most people are just like, 'I'm thankful for my family.'" And while the objective of this article is not to devalue Addison's words or the value of family, perhaps it's time we reevaluate the meaning of thanks--because I think we are much more than "thankful" for our families.

Freshman Gloria Sunrei believes, "Thanks is something people use more frequently and they… just throw it out there."

Senior Katrina Ostrander corroborates, "Thanks is a temporary thing… You open a door for someone, and they say thanks and you don't even think about it."

"I feel thanks for another who has helped me in some way," attests sophomore English teacher Maria Koler.

Merriam-Webster defines thanks as "an expression of gratitude… courteous and somewhat informal." And, used in a sentence, "I want to thank everyone who helped today."

Given these definitions, it would seem "thanks" is not the phrase we should use in regard to our friends, family members, and happiness--unless we do not truly appreciate their existences, unless we only want to use a casual courtesy to express all they mean to us. This isn't to say we have been wrongly approaching the entire holiday--but there is more we can do beyond simply saying "I'm thankful for you," because, let's be honest, how much does that truly mean?

Now, do not take this as an accusatory attack or an insult to anyone's ideals, but rather as an opportunity to reflect.

To readdress the definitions previously provided, what they all have in common is informality. Thanks does not reach beyond the superficial; it is merely "an expression of gratitude." Therefore, thanks is simply a part of gratitude. Just as running is part of being an athlete, but a true athlete also lifts, maintains a balanced diet, and is deeply dedicated to his or her sport. Being gracious requires one to do more than simply say "thanks". So now, let us address the concept of gratitude itself.

I asked the same individuals from earlier to define gratitude:

"It's much more than thanks… you're thankful to them for a much longer period of time," provides Ostrander.

Koler testifies, "I feel gratitude for another whose presence, whose attitude, whose behavior, actions are selfless in helping, not just me--but everyone.

Sunrei claims, "Gratitude is more deep. You say that when you really really feel."

Merriam-Webster uses the example sentence: "We remember with gratitude those who died defending our country."

Through comparison, then, one can conclude that gratitude is something more meaningful, something more permanent. Thanks is something you say; gratitude is something you feel. Psychology takes gratitude to mean much more than its denotation, which is merely "the state of being grateful," according to Merriam-Webster. It is the connotation and contextual truth of gratitude which gives it its cultural significance. The definition of gratitude does not encompass the feeling of gratitude. It is a positive emotion and a motivator. Having gratitude for one's life is motivation to carpe diem, or "seize the day". And it will motivate kindness and graciousness in others. We've all heard, "You rub my back, I'll rub yours." This isn't simply a statement on fairness, but a testament to the willingness of others to work in a community.

We have been conditioned to offer gratitude as a simple "thanks" which truly does not capture the feeling of gratefulness, so now we have devalued the sentiment. Gratitude is no longer truly administered, nor deeply recognized, because we simply say "thanks," and that's the end of it. In our neglect to genuinely express appreciation, we are dismissing, entirely, the feeling of gratitude. As human beings, we need to re-establish sincerity and kindness, relocate this point of empathy. Even so much as changing a "thanks" to a "thank you." Truly show others what they mean to you and to the world in a selfless expression of gratitude--and mean it. We must reinfuse our lives with meaning.

Now, it might be awkward to go around the table at Thanksgiving and ask "For what do you feel gratitude?" But at least ask yourself what you feel, so you can mean what you say.



Senior Katrina Ostrander graciously opens the door for Freshman Gloria Sunrei.

VEGANS--the GRINCH of Thanksgiving

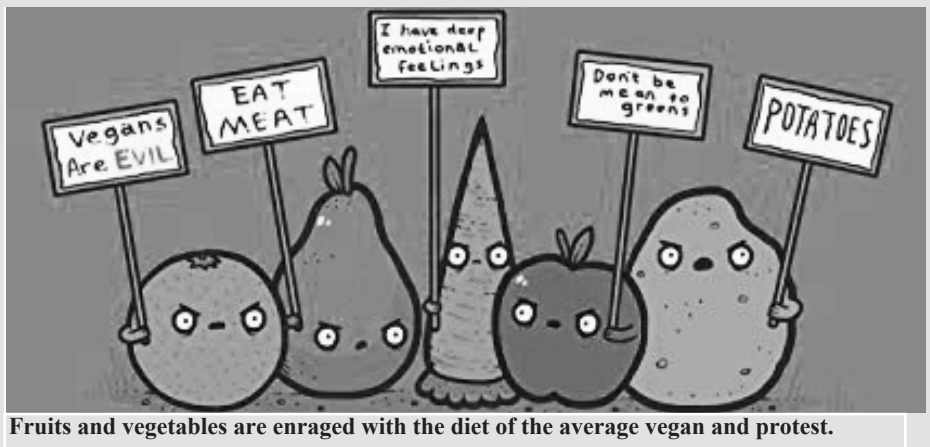
by Dani Zilka, BP Staff Writer

**disclaimer* vegans shall not be named because they are not human*

As spooky season comes to a close, and children are still on their sugar highs, a new season begins, a season when many argue over which holiday takes control. Crazy people will advocate for the Christmas takeover, while those with any sense of a calendar will begin the season of thanks. The correct season is one of cornucopias (whatever these are) and feasts of turkey and potatoes. Most Americans celebrate the holiday of the first meal that signified peace, probably because it just gives everyone a reason to eat. It is a joyous celebration filled with a feast that almost everyone can enjoy.

The only ones that cannot are those worse than the Christmas freaks--vegans. The vegans are those who have restricted themselves from not only meat, but from all products of any animal, which makes up most of the average human's diet. Now not only do they try to defend their actions with their made up righteous reasons: in example one vegan explained her reasons for their behavior because she: "strongly disagrees with the brutality that happens at farms and slaughterhouses to innocent animals." Not only do vegans completely forget about the feelings of the fruits and vegetables they are consuming but this is also just another one of the vegans' fake reasonings just to infect normal people's minds with their over-the-top ideals and outrageous morals.

Senior Hannah Keough was strong enough to think back to her traumatizing experience of dining with a vegetarian, the vegans more feasible cousin. A Keough Thanksgiving feast is made up of the classic celebratory food items like turkey, mashed potatoes, etc. With the rest of the family being made up of omnivores, they of course wanted their turkey. Being unable to compromise on making the entire meal suitable for their vegetarian relative, they decided to instead make an entirely different meal to allow their kinsperson the ability to graze among them. The family decided to make mac and cheese for their vegetarian family member. However as the scrumptious cheese and noodle mixture was being taken out from the oven, it slipped from the oven mitt's grasp and fell to its doom, leaving nothing substantial for their vegetarian family member to eat. The events of that horrific day left everyone feeling awkward and guilty, Hannah Keough looks back and is still traumatized by the events. Today she can say that "vegetarians ruin Thanksgiving," and if a single vegetarian can cause so much damage, imagine the harm a vegan could do.



Fruits and vegetables are enraged with the diet of the average vegan and protest.

Picture this: a family surrounding their table of scrumptious meal items and all digging into the very feast made for them--all but one. This person believes him or herself to be too good for the turkey meal? That's right, those vegans sit there and judge the rest for their carnivorous habits. However, why would we be given a set of canines if not to eat meat with?

Many are unable to even imagine living without meat or animal products. Sophomore Hannah Espinosa and freshman Eli Ray were asked if they could imagine going vegan, if they could survive it, and what they thought about vegans, here are the results.

When asked if he could go vegan, Ray responded with, "sure, but only if I could eat meat three times a day," and Espinosa blatantly answered with "no, hair balls, no." After being asked if they could survive on tree bark and leaves, the diet of the average vegan, Espinosa said "no," and Ray replied he could, only if "he forgot taste itself." Finally after questioned regarding their thoughts on vegans Espinosa said she didn't "understand why they don't eat animal products," while Ray said "vegans must be lonely without protein."

Others do not find it that easy to change for the purpose of others, when some people are unable to compromise, they feel guilty. As sophomore English teacher Mrs. Koler said, "I feel bad when I am enjoying my meal while they suffer with vegetables and maybe some vegan starch of some kind."

With their uncommon eating choices and out of proportion morals it is hard to understand the vegan for what they are.Mixing vegans and non-vegans for thanksgiving are a bad combination, everyone is awkward and uncomfortable from the other's eating choices, and there is no compromising with vegans.

Therefore, vegans ruin Thanksgiving.

Jobs that need our thanks

By Hannah Espinosa, BP Staff Writer

As Americans, we have jobs in order to provide ourselves with a stable life and to keep our country running. Every job is important, no matter how small it is. Unfortunately, we tend to forget the so-called "underrated" jobs. Those are the jobs that we always look down upon without noticing how much we really need them in society. They are jobs that deserve a thanks just as much as doctors and the military receive. It's crucial to treat every job the same because within every job, there are hard working people, some of these jobs include the following:

Water Treatment Plant and System Operators- Many of you probably do not even know what this job is, such as freshmen Faith Aldridge who said, "No, I have no idea actually," when I had asked her. Ironically, it is in the top three of jobs that America needs. These people are on the job 24/7 to make sure that we have safe water that is not tainted with chemicals or other harmful substances. Water is essential for life.A person cannot go 3-4 days without water, unlike food which is three weeks. When I asked Aldridge, after she had some background of the job, if she thought the job is underrated and deserves a thanks, her response was, "Yeah I think they are because without them, we wouldn't have the clean water and we need it to drink." So a shout out to them, for keeping us alive.



Photo Courtesy of Water Online

Next time you see a person working, like this individual is, make sure to thank them for keeping outr water safe.

Waste Managment Professional- Why aren't there piles of trash along the roads? How has the earth escaped from a world like Wall-E? Well, the answer is in bold, garbage men. They pick up our bags of garbage and dispose of it properly in order to keep our country clean and safe. They have to deal with a whirlwind of stink every day, so every now and then leave a friendly note of thanks to them, it might just make their day. My family for example, during the Christmas season, gives them a small gift card or a box of chocolates from Mallies with a card to show our appreciation.



Photo Courtesy of Transport Topics

How much would you want to drive around in a truck full of trash? Not much--which is why we owe these professionals some respect.

Railroad workers- To this day, America depends on the railroad system. This is how we transport many of our goods from one location to another. There are many types of jobs within the work of the railroad: those who put down the tracks, conductors, engineers, and many more. We don't notice the number of people it takes to have a successful transition. Meaning, acquiring product(s) from one destination to another, and yet, we have time to glorify athletes. Keep in mind that these men have to work in almost any weather in order to get the job done.

Teachers/Professors- Yes, they may give us an unnecessary amount of work and studying to complete, but in reality, we would get nowhere in life without them. Teachers spend about 2,000 hours a year with us, educating us, and shaping us into remarkable people. They put more hours outside of their given work day so we can have a lesson plan and feedback on our work. Teachers educate us in hopes that we can grow up and make something of our lives. For many teachers, we aren't just pupils. In the time that we are with them, we are like their children, for whom they are willing to sacrifice their lives. Every now and then, make a teacher's day and just say "thank you for all that you do."

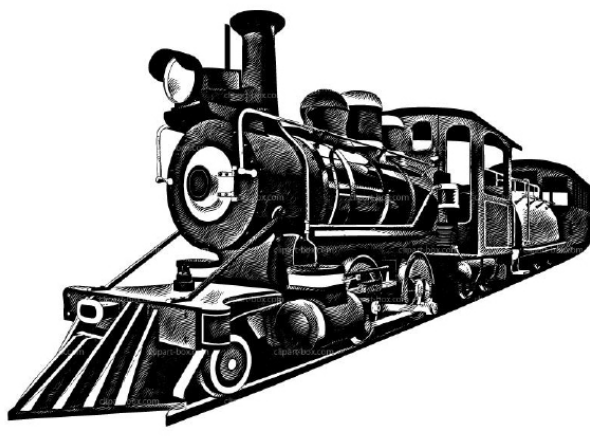


We see them every day; it's not so hard to extend a sentiment of gratitude. They deserve it for dealing with us every day.

Janitors- Janitors are the sanitation workers of our school. Our school doesn't magically get clean on its own; it's done by people. Everyday we see them working hard in order to keep our school clean, but we don't really acknowledge them all the time. They are people too. They don't just clean the school, as they are the "behind the curtains kind of people" who make sure that the school keeps running efficiently. Have a conversation with them if you have time, say hello, give them a smile and, of course, give them a thank you.



Our school may not be perfect, but the janitors do their best to keep it looking as great as it can.





Hopefully, throughout this article, you have come to realize the amount of people who work hard every day and do not get the attention that they deserve. You have opened up your eyes to those who you know that are not given a lot of credit. Remember, that the job doesn't describe the person. November is that time of "thanks", so during this special time, tell them in person, or just send them a text or give them a call and say "thank you."

Comic

by junior Lizzy Dingman



It's Christmas time!!

By Gennah Brown, BP Staff Writer

Please neglect the other articles (except for the Lost & Found) in this newspaper, as they are distorted to leave out the fact that is indeed time for jingling bells, outrageous Christmas decorations, and hot cocoa-in -snowflake-pajamas. The pumpkin carving is over and so is turkey day which leaves us with the instinctual need to "Rock Around the Christmas Tree," "jingle all the way," and continuously scream along to Mariah Carey's "All I Want for Christmas Is You." There's no need to limit the Christmas spirit to 25 days, so holly-jollying through November is more than okay. Now that I've confirmed that it's acceptable to begin "ho, ho, ho-ing" and "dreaming of a white Christmas," the next step is to take action. After reading this article and ignoring everything else, you should complete the following tasks, if you haven't already.

Christmas List
* Deck the halls.
* Change the spooki szn socks to Christmas ones.
* Get your Charlie Brown tree.
* Hang up a lot of Christmas lights.
* Buy the perfect wrapping paper and bows.
* Get your abundance of presents and hot cocoa.
* Play Christmas music 24/7.
* Let it snow.
* And START THE COUNTDOWN!



An inside look of Mr. Hoover's classroom turned winter wonderland.



Berkshire students Hannah Keough and Gennah Brown thinking about the approaching holiday season.



Berkshire students Jackson Hare (left) and Gennah Brown (right) getting their festive holiday cheer on.

Our very own students here at Berkshire testify that it is indeed Christmas season; some of their favorite aspects of the Christmas season are spending time with family and loved ones, the smell of the Christmas tree, gifts, the entirety of its being, and my personal favorite - cookies. Some families enjoy special traditions: the Lillibridges place a pickle ornament in the tree and whoever finds it gets to open the first present. The Freiling family ends Christmas Eve by watching A Christmas Story, and Ethan Bennington loves being the first up and having the responsibility of waking the rest of his family. Though some stubborn souls may not join in the indulging of caroling through streets whilst spreading joy, intensive baking and consuming of decadent treats, and watching christmas movie marathons from the comfort of an abundance of christmas blankets, that does not deem any of these activities any less enjoyable. And of course, in the semi-likely event anything should catch flame due to the excessive amounts of lights—be sure to roast some chestnuts over the open fire.

Lost & found

by Gennah Brown, BP Staff Writer

The only things to be found here are those that have been lost.

Beloved cross country member Jackson Hare has lost his favorite pencil; his name is carved into it with blue pen along with the words "chicken nuggets in the bathroom."

Sophomore Carly Snow lost her dignity because "school."

Kevin Murphy has lost a blue pencil and an apple tree due to a storm.

Fellow Journalist Dani Zilka lost both her hair and her "rayest of the Raybands" glasses.

Freshman Eli Ray lost his ability to remember what he has lost.

In conclusion, the students here at Berkshire Jr./Sr. High are crumbling to pieces, and the second quarter is underway. If anyone has any information on items that have been found or newly lost, please come see me, Gennah Brown.



Berkshire student Dani Zilka is "confuzzled," searching for the lost items.

How I think of life

a philosophy by sophomore Adam Furtaw

Do you think there is good in all of us? If so, where? I'm not sure if that is, but that is me; you can be different about that. I may look young, but my soul old as time. The same could not be for you. But I could be wrong. If you think about it, everything that we see is good and bad. It's just our opinions.

I find it funny that humanity finds all life is precious, but as soon as war begins all life is just tossed away. War is just seeing who's right.

The people I see are happy, but sometimes they hide.

Days where they're not strong, days when they need help. Is it okay to feel normal? Well no one is normal. Love is the strongest force in the world, but it can break with ease. No matter how much you mess up, you're okay. Everyone messes up, forgets, falls down. That's life.

If you read this, I hope you walk down a path with well-lit ideas.

Motivated

a poem by sophomore Daisy Yoder

I do not
remember when
I last had a motivated thought,
In these times of nothing.

Old memory,
Old friend.
The foundation pen in hand,
And endless pages at my disposal.

Countless days I would spend,
At the will of my superiors,
And what they deemed "worthy."
Now I wonder if I am even "worthy."

Things and ideas.
Something I loved,
Something interesting,
Something of value.

Cramming my days full,
With endless responsibilities.
Responsibilities that I thought
Could help me grow, never break me.

One day, I realized,
It is not these subjects
That keep me burning,
But rather the people.

My studies drain me.
I fall back and care a little less.
These futures I want to pursue,
These people I want to know.

But I find myself caring,
And yearning for too much.
I simply want a moment,
Where I may breathe new air.

This world asks too much,
And gives little time.
On this vast world with timeless places
And with people, never enough time.

Busy, busy.
Get to it.
Stop being afraid and crying.
Believe me, I know.

Yet motivation seems to turn,
To overwhelming.
Just a little more time,
And a lot less work.

A mere moment.
I fall in love, in complete bliss,
When I am truly happy.
It makes me think…

That life is just long enough,
Just perfectly imperfect,
That I am happy.
And just maybe, I don't mind living.

Fleeting moments,
So precious and dear,
Mean so much more than all that
Mindless work and effort.

I am enough,
With all my love and values,
My art and
The people I care for.

Falling in love with life,
Caused my lack of motivation,
For tiresome tasks of
Living up to another's standards.

A thousand strokes

an allusive short story by Hannah Keough, BP Staff Editor

So beautifully used was that blue crayon. Used to color my sky. Like a 10-year-old's first performance in the perfect pink tutu, it danced across my page. Always blue skies. No clouds. No grey. But the array of colors is closeted behind construction paper and glitter. All color hides in blackness, finding its only comforts in the other discarded sentiments.

Upon walking through the door from childhood to responsibility, or rather the dark and narrow hallway, the hue remained hidden. For with no light, how can there ever be color? The clothes draping my body are grey, even black being too much of a statement. The walls of this new room are vacant, all images having packed and stored their essence in cardboard. And the only blinding illumination is white. The white that gives you headaches - the white that traps you in a daze. I walk in that daze, marauding, not like the robber, but like the robbed, robbed by my own judgement. Searching for the color I lost.

Now, I resurrect them.

There is no tape on the box, no seal, smoothly opening to reveal everything that had been packed away. Scissors divide the red paper, which is not firm from being fresh, but cuts cleanly due to prolonged confinement. It takes on a diamond shape. Glue grabs hold of the new figure, connecting it to the empty page. A small boy comes to life, standing upon the paper's edge, his features chiseled with a sharpened point. He grasps an illustrated spool that flows into a thin bondage to the passionate color above.

They say we speak through art, displaying our deepest thoughts and unspoken emotions. But, as I grab hold of that blue crayon, with the smell of paper label and waxy age, I swear it speaks through me as much as I through it. It performs across the page its well-rehearsed choreography. "For you, a thousand times over," it whispers in sync with the numerous strokes across the sky.

Hoping for an angel

a poem by sophomore Gennah Brown

She sits there and regrets the wish that she's made,
Moments passed after she wished; I saw her spirit fade.
At first she was happy, for her wish was the one she wanted,
But once the candles were out, from the darkness - she was haunted.
She tried picking up pennies; she then tossed them into wells.
She tried making potions; she cast a couple spells.
Her face would light up once she'd seen the white fuzzy flower,
And though she knew exactly what she wanted, she'd ponder for an hour.
For this wish she would wish for, was not money or fame,
This wish that she would wish for, was not to be the best at this game.
She knew this wish is what she wanted - and that thought would make her smile,
Though she also knew that to be granted - it would take an awful while.
Yet day after day, she'd wish on a star that was running behind,
Because her wish needed reminded - it had a girl to come find,
Sometimes she would wonder, if her wish will ever come true,
If she should have wished for riches or glory - like most others do.
She tried not to doubt and wouldn't allow herself to fear,
For she'd be sending her wish reminders that she'd be waiting here.
Though her wish never really found it's way - despite the pennies and stars,
This girl eventually learned a way to laugh and smile beyond all the scars.
She still doesn't know if her wish will ever come true,
And even though she regrets it sometimes - hope is all she can do.

Scared of the dark

by sophomore Logan Woods

Did you know I'm scared of the dark? I know it's hard to believe, me being, well, me. But it's true. The thought of what might come out of a dark closet or what's lurking around the shadowy corner absolutely terrifies me. In fact, when I go to bed, I have on two lamps, one string of lantern lights, and a little rotating ball that projects little stars and a moon on my walls and ceiling in almost any color I want. And most of my life has been cowering from that darkness. I forcefully put on a more sunny outlook on myself for fear of becoming that darkness. I've cried when in the face of it. I've run from the threat of it, and I've hurt in the name of it. My nightmares are nothing more than blackness. There is nothing I fear more than what's in that darkness…

But…

I'm drawn to it.

No matter how many times I've tried to run away from it, I always go back. My lights are on in my room, but I stare at the darkest corner. I'm bright myself but always wear some dark. Even those I hang out with have something dark about them. I'm entranced by the mystery shrouded in shadows. I want to know all it's secrets, whatever good, whatever bad. Even if my mind shows me something horrifying and I scream. The dark hushes my cries and shows me its light. For there would be no light without shadow, and bright creation comes from dark chaos.

I fear and love what comes out of the dark.

The 2018-2019 Badger Pause Staff

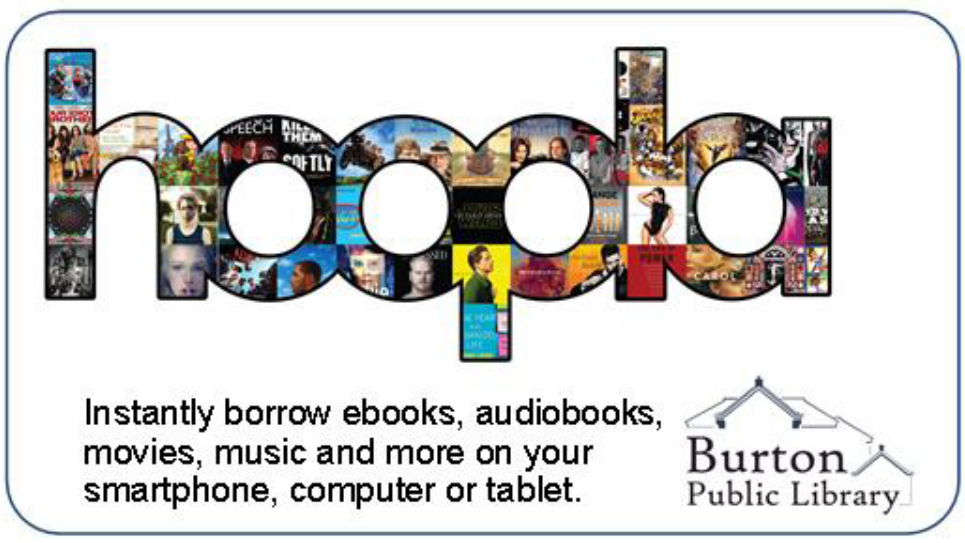
Editors:

Hannah Keough
Jacob Wichert

Staff:

Nick Misconin
Josiah Cheung
Clark Jackson
Ben Pelletier
Gennah Brown
Hannah Espinosa
Dani Zilka

Advisor: Meghan Hull





White House Chocolates



Visit us to find a variety of treats to make your holiday delicious!

4607 Kinsman Road, Middlefield, OH 44062
440-834-3833

Hastings Dairy & Rowdy Cow Creamery

Purchase fresh milk & cheese daily.
Farm tours & event details on website.

The Hastings Family
www.hastingsdairy.com
13181 Claridon Troy Rd
Burton, OH 44021

Northeast Surgical Associates of Ohio, Ltd.

Maria T. Madden, M.D., F.A.C.S.

General & Laparoscopic Surgery
13170 Ravenna Road, Suite 118
Chardon, Ohio
(440) 285-7874
(440) 285-7875 (fax)
By Appointment

BROCKWAY-BOND INSURANCE AGENCY
14528 North Cheshire St. - Box 429
Burton, Ohio 44021

Phones: (440) 834-1853
(888) 328-2198
Brian Allen Brockway

DESIGNER'S STITCHERY
Complete Window Fashions
In-House Consultations by Joyce & Don Wichert
Custom blinds, shades, curtains, drapes & Accessories
Phone; 440-834-0526
Cell: 440-773-2737
www.completewindowfashions.com



10068 Kinsman Rd
Newbury, Ohio 44065
www.mangiamangiapool.com

We Are Open
Monday – Thursday 11:00 am – 10:00 pm
Friday – Saturday 11:00 am – 11:00 pm
Sunday 12:00 pm – 9:00 pm

To advertise in The Badger Pause or become a patron for 2018-2019 and help us sustain student writing, layout & design
email:meghan.hull@berkshireschools.org

2018/19 Badger Pause Patrons

Silver

Mrs. Kathy Pinkava
Mrs. Taylor Johnston
Mr. Keller

Gold

Elaine Higgs
Math Nerd Rule
Coach Green
Stephanie Keough
Maria Koler

Platinum

Lulu Tru
William Cuff
Sr. Rea
Lena Hansel
Meghan Hull
Johnson Matthey Process Technologies
G.M.I., Inc.
Geauga Credit Union
Lynn Hunter