

The



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Only Real Men Sing in Bison Choir Experience

By Gerardo Garcia

The gentlemen of the Fenton choir program had an amazing opportunity this September to attend the Real Men Sing event hosted by the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee. It was their second time attending this event and this time they were also taking boys from the Wood Dale Junior High with them. Though the trip began with a long bus ride at 5:00 AM, everyone looked forward to the experience. At the event, a total of eight hundred boys learned, rehearsed, and performed three pieces of music in the course of a morning under the instruction of UWM's choir director.

The chance to work with a college professor was invaluable to the young musicians.

Senior Zach Murphy said, "It showed the guys in choir some new ways to project their voice, be louder, etc, and I think it helped the guys' confidence in their singing as well."

Senior Judah Swallow also commented, "It was very insightful to learn from a professor...I think it's important to get a solid foundation. So it was cool to see how that translates over, like his warm-ups for his opera-like style."

Murphy also added, "The experience of learning our parts as a big group was my favorite part of the trip." Swallow also enjoyed that part of the experience, saying "I thought it was cool, usually it's a weird thing if you're a guy in a choir, so it was weird to see a thousand guys in choir, because your personalities all kind of mesh...it was cool to see how everyone gets along there and has something to relate to."

Fenton choir director Sereidy Williams spoke on how important an experience like Real Men Sing can be for this reason.

She said, "Gentlemen are underrepresented in most ensemble, so I think it's really neat to be around other guys that have similar interests and similar talents and see how diverse that can be."

Real Men Sing also included performances by UWM's male ensembles and a professional Barbershop Quartet.

"They were really good. Especially with their style of music you have to be really on point, it takes a lot of skill because everything has to be perfect," commented Judah.

Murphy talked about the trip

itself saying, "the trip to and from the area was fun too because it gave the guys in choir chance to connect."

Though there wasn't a part of the trip the boys didn't enjoy, the climax had to be performing their music at the end of the morning as one big choir at eight hundred strong.

Murphy called that part of the experience, "exhilarating...to be able to see what so many voices can do."

Swallow said that such an experience was, "really rare, I don't think a lot of people have ever heard eight hundred people sing at one time. Eight hundred guys...it was such a powerful, moving thing."

Williams agreed, saying "I think powerful is a really good choice of words, I think it's neat to hear that many individual voices come together...it was just so musical and so beautiful by the end of it."

Williams talked about how important it was for the boys to see that, "there are opportunities at the collegiate level, that you can be engineering major and still sing in choir."

She also added, "I was really proud of how my students represented Fenton High School...It's an early morning and a long day, but that they all understood the value of it speaks volumes."



Courtesy of Sereidy Williams

Class of '66 Gives Back to Bensenville Community

By Emily Patterson

For over a year now, Fenton has been hosting mobile food pantries through the Northern Illinois Food Bank. This initiative has come out of a drive from Fenton to help and give back to the community and to make sure that its students and their families are being taken care of.

Bensenville is a high need area and Fenton is classified as a school of need, with over half of the students qualifying for free or reduced lunch. The initiative was spearheaded by English teacher Mike Mitchell, whose sister works for the Northern Illinois Food Bank.

Over the summer, Fenton's class of 1966 had their 50th anniversary class reunion. At the reunion,

one of the class members had a newsletter from the Northern Illinois Food Bank. In this newsletter, an article was included which talked about Fenton's initiative with the mobile pantries.



A quote in the article from a Fenton alum talked about how this alum was now being fed and taken care of by the school she graduated from. This former student happened to be from the class of 1966.

Inspired by the article and the quote from a former classmate, a few alumni sprung into action and began collecting money to sponsor a mobile pantry from their 1966 classmates right then and there. With the money collected from that class reunion, the alumni were able to raise the \$1,200 to sponsor a Mobile Food Pantry at Fenton.

"What a feel good story," said Mitchell.

Mitchell went on to elaborate on the reaction he's had from the re-

sponse in the Fenton community to the Mobile Food Pantries.

"I am constantly shocked at the generosity of the people in this a community," he said.

"It's an area of need but the people who are able to contribute have really stepped up. I'm continually humbled by that."

On October 19th Fenton hosted another Mobile Food Pantry sponsored by Jewel-Osco. The next Mobile Food Pantry at Fenton should be held sometime in December. Keep a lookout on Fenton's website to see updates as well as dates and times for future Mobile Food Pantries.

ILMEA Challenges, Rewards Music Students

By Karsen Idelman

According to the National Association for Music Education, students who are enrolled in music classes during the school day score higher on the SAT. One report indicates 63 points higher on verbal and 44 points higher on math for students in music appreciation courses.

At Fenton we have Mrs. Serey Williams and Mr. Garrett George to thank for that. Recently, both teachers gave music students at Fenton the opportunity to audition for ILMEA choir or band. ILMEA is a non-profit organization that provides high quality music education to Illinois music students.

ILMEA choir or band is one of the many opportunities offered to music students not only at Fenton, but throughout the state of Illinois. On October 11th, Williams and George, accompanied by eighteen band and choir students auditioned for ILMEA Senior Choir and Band in District One.

Williams explained ILMEA and how the auditions work,



Courtesy of Serey Williams

"ILMEA is open to all students in the state of Illinois. Illinois is broken into 9 districts. We are District 1. Based on their audition students are selected for the District ensemble, and those with the top scores are then selected to re-audition for the Statewide All-State and or Honors ensembles."

Lauren Buena, a senior who auditioned, was asked why she continues to audition for ILMEA, and she said, "ILMEA brings together many dedicated and passionate choir and band kids who love what they do. And I think it's a great way to challenge high school students to

excel and show their counterparts that there's a lot more to music than simply singing a piece handed to you. It tests your ability to know musical scales, triads, and sight reading. It also forces a student to be intricate and close to perfection with the music pieces for auditions. And good luck to everyone who auditioned including myself!"

In auditions, as Buena mentioned, students must not only come with pieces prepared, they must also read and perform music on the spot, and learn technical aspects of their craft. The students must

perform the pieces and test in front of a judge, who then can advance them to the senior ensemble, or not. Being advanced to the senior ensemble is something that is very difficult to accomplish, considering there were over 2,000 students auditioning, just in District One.

It is hard work and nerve wracking for all involved but it all pays off in the end.

As George commented, "This is a great opportunity for students to do several things: prepare for a college level audition, be honored for their hard work and achievement, practice the process of auditioning."

Junior Madeleine Subach was Buena's fellow auditionee and enjoyed ILMEA for a second year in a row, "ILMEA was an amazing opportunity to grow and challenge myself as a musician."

Overall, ILMEA is a great organization who provides awesome opportunities to not only Fenton High School music students, but statewide.

Recycling Efforts Thwarted by Scheduling Change



Courtesy of Kelly Lamey

By Julia Gainski

Since the beginning of the school year, B.E.A.T. has devoted special attention towards the lack of space in the dumpster due to its fullness from the lunch program's boxes. Correspondingly, it left no space for B.E.A.T. to recycle classroom's paper, plastic, and other materials.

The issue arose last year when, without the consultation of B.E.A.T.'s supervisors, the recycling pick up went from the efficient two days during the week to only one. To resolve this issue, Mr. Ongtengco has supported us in changing the pick up day for the recycling from Thursday to Wednesday which eliminated the spacing issue for B.E.A.T.

Despite B.E.A.T.'s issue being fixed, the switch in pick up days potentially created a reduction in spacing for recyclable materials for the lunch program. Regarding the trade-off in spacing, it is crucial that Fenton continues to recycle the same amount as it previously has before the change, if not more materials.

Consequently, the main goal now is to increase the amount able to be recycled, such as cardboard boxes and other materials that will effectively make Fenton a greener school as it promotes excellent and safe environmental habits.

Sponsor Kelly Lamey states her opinion on the matter and says, "I would like to advocate for what is best for Fenton students, and what is best for everyone is to protect the environment."

The benefits of recycling can go a long way in terms of saving other natural resources, conserving energy, and reducing the space in landfills. For example, the University of Southern Indiana reports that one ton of recycled paper can save around 7,000 gallons of water.

Currently, B.E.A.T. is working on ideas to completely resolve the minimal amount of space availability as the club's goal is to advertise the importance of everyone recycling and taking part in saving the environment

Annual Latin Flavor Mix Promises a Good Time

By Amber Azim

STUNT annual event Latin Flavor Mix dance will be on November 4 in the field house at 7:00 pm. STUNT has sponsored this event for many years to raise money for the Student for Student scholarship that is offered to seniors.

This dance offers many types of Latin music, such as bachata, merengue, cumbia, banda, salsa, and duranguense. This dance offers Latinos at Fenton a way to celebrate their culture at school. Everyone is welcomed to attend. Not only will Latino music be played, there will also be fun American music that everyone loves, such as "Chacha Slide" and "Cupid Shuffle."

Tickets will go on sale for \$10 at the bookstore starting on October 24 and can be bought at the dance for \$10 as well. Since the music that will

played is a little different for some dance goers, there will be students there to help teach others the moves for the certain song.

"It was fun listening and dancing to different types of music with my friends. At homecoming we only get two or three Spanish songs so going to the Latin Flavor Mix is fun because we can dance to music like that," said Yoselyn Maldonado.

Another incentive to go if you are a little wary about it, is that most Spanish teachers will give extra credit to the students that attend the dance.

"They play a variety of Hispanic music from bachata to banda, so anyone can dance! It doesn't matter if you don't know how, the point is to have fun. You won't regret going!" said President Andrea Garcia.

Exciting Bison Football Season to Conclude With Senior Night

By Gerardo Garcia

The Fenton Bison Football team has had an exciting season this year after having installed brand new offensive and defensive game plans just this summer.

Coach Mark Kos said, "I think we had the best summer camp that we've had in terms of attendance and accountability and

Their efforts have helped bring them to a 3-4 season as of October 7th after a loss at Riverside Brookfield and is facing a do or die situation as making playoffs rides on their next two victories. Despite a loss and the pressure, the Bison football team isn't slowing down, if anything, they're hungrier.

Captain and senior Dominick

trying to punch in these last two wins, starting with Wheaton Academy."

The coaches have their full faith in the boys, Kos pointed out the amazing homecoming game against St. Edwards, "that game showed us what we're capable of doing and hopefully the players saw that as well, because as coaches that's where we know we're capable of being."

the team won't have to worry about though, is team chemistry. When asked to name a team strength Coach Kos said "I think the bond that the guys have as a team...they genuinely want to fight for one another one another on the football field."

Regardless of the outcome of the next two weeks, the captains said they've had a lot of fun and will



by Jessica Jalowiec

that has definitely carried over to the season... I think that the group quickly grasped coach Ellet's offense and has done a good job implementing that offense."

Captain and senior Nick Mercado credited some of their success to effort put in during camp while developing their offensive plays, "you could see that the guys who had to step up stepped up and it was awesome to see that."

Some of the players the Captains recognized were Carlos Mercado, Tyler Santagata and their sophomore QB, Kyle Cacioppo.

Prunotto said that in order to win the team needs, "focus, dedication and heart. We need all 45 players to be dedicated and put their heart into the game."

Mercado added, "A lot of us don't have a lot of football left ...that being said the clock is ticking so a lot of us are really trying to have the best two games and hopefully end up with a playoff birth. I know that we wanted it a lot during the season but certain things didn't go our way and we didn't take advantage of certain opportunities and we put ourselves in a bad position. But we're definitely

Regarding the next two week Kos said "The program should have the expectation of being a play-off caliber team annually. We have the talent here, we have the athleticism necessary...we have to play with confidence, we have to practice in the manner in which we expect to play in a game and the team needs to continue to hold itself accountable to one another."

The captains acknowledged a need for accountability and that they've had problems with punctuality and eligibility, which they take very seriously. One thing

dearly miss the field. Prunotto said that his favorite part is "just playing the game." Mercado added, "Being on a team is one thing, the thing that makes it so much better is getting in the game and getting a feel for it, it's crazy...I'm going to miss it so much." Captain Dylan Butts, a junior also said that, "Every fan that shows up and believes helps us out so much, they really do make a difference." The last game of the regular season will be the Senior Night home game on October 21st. Be sure not to miss it and help your Fenton Bison end the season on a high note.

Plaques Honor FHS Fallen Alumni

By Paul Garcia

Veteran's Day is just around the corner and we take this time to celebrate those who have served in the armed forces. This also gives us an opportunity to look back on those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Eleven of Fenton's own have lost their lives in the line of duty and will forever be remembered with their names engraved in bronze plaques. These plaques can be found displayed in the south hallway next to the nurse's office.

While the plaques are hung high, we are able to remember the ten Fenton graduates who gave their lives in Vietnam and one who had fallen in Desert Storm. Lieutenant Patrick Robert, whose whereabouts were never discovered, was an extraordinary student athlete whose story is written on a plaque all on its own. Lieutenant Roberts along with nine other men fought in the war in Vietnam. Lance Corporal Christian J. Porter, who was also given his own plaque, was one of the very few casualties that occurred during Operation Desert Storm in Kuwait.

Although Veteran's Day is a time to appreciate our vets and what they have done for our country, many do not know how to show gratitude other than saying "thank

you for your service". Mr. Peter Carzoli, current math teacher for the school and former Lieutenant Colonel for the United States Marine Corps, had this to say about good givers, "It's not about thanking me (veterans), it's about living true to the sacrifices that those people on the wall made. Live up to what they've given and do the good things in the community that they would've done."



by Paul Garcia

Growing Tech Program to Present in Springfield

By Amber Azim

On November 17-18, three students, Jamie Menard, Trisha Butz, and Rachel Matug will be taken to the Illinois Education and Technology Conference, in Springfield, Illinois presenting their new project, Fenton Footpaths.

Three teachers will be attending with them, Mr. Mike Berago, Mrs. Lauren Lemm, and Mr. Mark Scheldrup. Fenton Footpaths was made by the three students attending the conference, as well as two alumni who graduated last year, Max Dausch and Andrew Kozy. It is new a programming for the school that acts like google maps.

Visitors will be given an iPad and can zoom in into the school. They can double tap and see a classroom and may be able to see a teacher. Not only do the students present the project, but Mr. Berago will be presenting a workshop, that will teach students how to develop a program using google to help improve workflow and for schools to become paperless.

Last year, the same group went to a similar conference in Springfield in the Capital. The students in this group are involved in a technology or engineering class. If you are interested in joining this group to learn about new programming, be on the lookout for emails about Genius Bison. This group helps in the Chromezone and will initiate later next month.

"My goal is for more people to learn about programming and an increase in programming courses. I also have a goals to have and AP computer science principles course next year," said Berago.

Students Look Forward to Participating in Upcoming Mock Election

By Emily Patterson

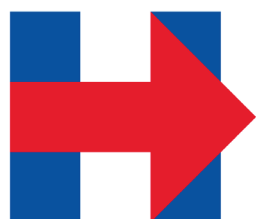
No matter what you do, you can't escape it: the 2016 Presidential Election. It's on every news channel, on every billboard, on your facebook newsfeed and, most tragically, it manages to come up in conversation every time you get together with those aunts and uncles and cousins that you're trying really hard to stay on good terms with. One thing is for sure: the 2016 Presidential Election is everywhere and everyone has an opinion on it.

The race started off with what seemed to be the biggest pool of potential Republican and Democratic nominees that the presidential election has seen in recent years. This ocean of candidates was accompanied by a mountain and a half of political rhetoric and controversy that took the nation by storm.

Now, with less than three months until the election, the two contenders holding the most spotlight are Republican nominee Donald Trump and Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton. Both candidates have had their fair share of controversy and the issues that they have brought up this election have become the subject of heated debate.

However, this political rhet-

oric and involved discussion is extremely important, as it is estimated that only half of all eligible voters voted in the 2012 election, and only 19% of those voters were under 30 years old. Ms. Kelly Kleidorfer, a social studies teacher at Fenton and the organizer of last year's mock election,



is excited about some of the political climate that has been stirred up.

"As controversial as some of it is, the one thing I can say is that I've seen an interest in politics in students that I've never seen before. People want to get involved."

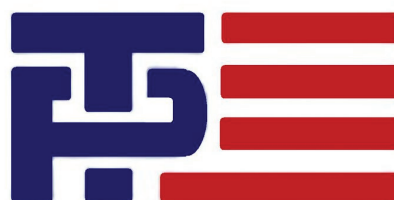
With this political climate, many voters have expressed their dissatisfaction with the current system of voting on account of liking neither candidate. Though presidential elections are often seen as a two option system, in reality voters have more choices than just the Republican and Democratic nominees in the form of third party candidates. Ms. Kleidorfer voiced her support of third party voting, saying that it "proves a point to established parties" and "brings emphasis to a specific issue."

Though many people con-

sider voting third party as "throwing out" your vote, Kleidorfer disagreed, saying that third party voting is a great way for voters to show their dissatisfaction with mainstream candidates. Sean Norris, a Fenton senior, is planning on voting third party for this very reason.

Come the election on November 8th, Sean is planning on casting his vote for Gary Johnson, the representative of the Libertarian Party.

"He has a much more conservative platform," Norris said "but it's much more moderate than Trump."



He has a lot more economic policies that I like. He seems like a good option for young conservatives."

Norris feels that this election has become too radicalized and that voters are turning against each other as a result of their beliefs and what candidate they support.

"It's causing more problems than ever."

Norris is hoping that, were he to be elected, Gary Johnson would be

able to help in fixing that.

"Johnson looks like a better option that would be more likely to bring us all together than Trump or Hillary."

Norris also stressed the importance of looking into a candidate's platform before voting for them and knowing what they stand for instead of just voting for a candidate based on their name or who other people tell you to vote for.

"Make your decision yourself; don't let your friends influence you."

Kleidorfer, Sean, and myself, along with a group of passionate students, will all be helping to set up another mock election around the time of the actual election in November.

Both Norris and Kleidorfer are exceptionally excited about the mock election.

"It gives us a chance to see who our peers will vote for," said Norris.

Kleidorfer expressed her desire to have an even better mock election this year.

"I think that last year was a great test run," Kleidorfer said, "but I'm always the kind of person where I want to go bigger, better."

Botched Flooring to Be Repaired

By Emily Patterson

We've all seen it, we've all walked on it, and a few of us have tripped on it: Fenton's flooring. With Fenton's reconstruction last year, Fenton also got new flooring installed in the new parts of the building. However the flooring became a problem later in the year when it began buckling and tripping students and faculty.

"Our experts believe that there were flaws during the installation of the floor," said Fenton Principal James Ongtengco. Some such flaws may have included the now-exposed concrete not drying completely. "We believe this caused the floor to warp and buckle," Ongtengco said.

Although students and staff have been walking around on concrete floors since school started this year, steps are being taken to make sure proper flooring can be installed soon. "The floor was removed so that the

poured concrete can dry," Ongtengco confirmed.

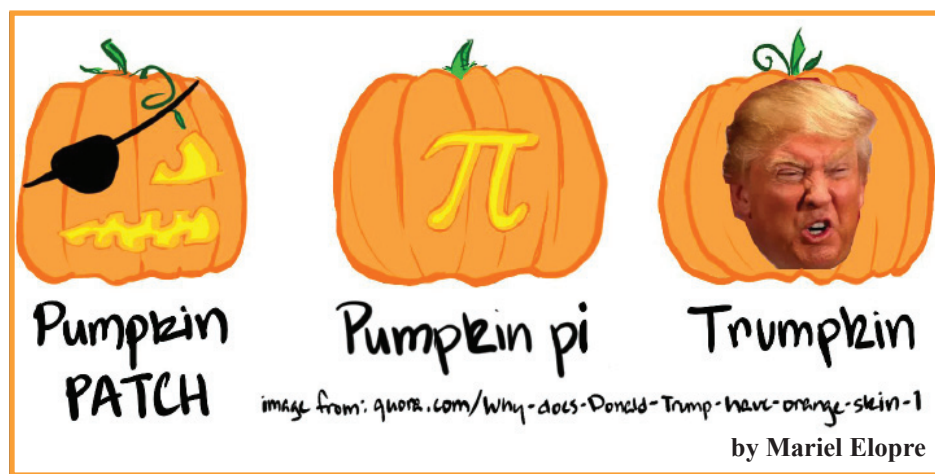
Proper flooring is scheduled to be re-installed over winter break and should be in place when students return for second semester.

One issue that has arisen from the removal of the old flooring is elevated noise levels in the various classrooms off the cafeteria. When science teacher Mr. Mike Baker used a Zoom digital recorder to record the noise levels in one of these classrooms, he recorded data during a lunch period when the room was empty and during a lunch period when class was taking place. The results showed the same levels of noise in the room during lunch periods with or without students in the room having class.

Principal Ongtengco would like to thank all students, teachers, and staff for their patience in the absence of flooring. "We are trying to resolve this as quickly as possible."



by Jessica Jalowiec



Reduced Rate Internet Service Available For Students in Need

by Milijana Vasilic

Chromebooks are a huge aspect in Fenton. They are used probably in almost every class, and most classes have a majority of their work on these Chromebooks.

Students at Fenton are able to use the Chromebooks in school, but a significant number of students do not have access to wi-fi at home, thus preventing them from completing classwork, which has increasingly come to rely on computer work and access to websites.

A solution to this problem may be the various programs offered by different companies, for reduced internet rates. When asked, counselor Melissa To said that the reduced internet rates were previously advertised in Fenton but made a reappearance last year.

To has found that, "Many students take advantage of this opportunity."

If you qualify for a free or reduced lunch at school, or have someone in your household receiving SNAP benefits, stop by the guidance office or speak to your counselor directly for an informational sheet regarding the different offerings!