

June 2024

The Walnut Review



ADVISOR:

MS. FRIEDMAN

MEMBERS:

SHAINA
SORKIN

TODD
JOHNSON

GRACE
SOKOLOWSKI

IKER
TENORIO

KYNDAL
IRVING

TRANSFORM AND ROLL OUT!!! FORTY YEARS OF TRANSFORMERS

By Todd Johnson



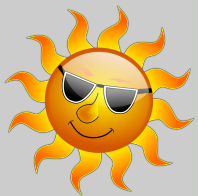
You may know Transformers from the movies, but their history goes way back. How long back? Well it all started in 1984. There was a company called Takara and they made a line of toys that transformed into cars and robots, but it wasn't called Transformers. Before they were called Diaclone, before the Autobot leader was called Optimus prime in Japan, he was named Convoy. After Diaclone Takara made another line of transforming robots called Micro change. With Micro change, the robots transformed into real world objects like a watch or a cassette player. Shortly after, another toy company called Hasbro took interest to bring Diaclone and Micro change to America. Hasbro and Takara made a joint venture to bring the two toy lines to America which is now known as The Transformers. The line consists of two factions, the heroic Autobots and the evil Decepticons. They all live on a planet called Cybertron, once a peaceful planet but now ruled in war and destruction. The two races had to flee the planet and then crash land on earth. Because they had to blend in with the environment on earth, they took forms of cars, trucks, jets, and even a GUN! Let's not forget the heroic Autobot leader himself, Optimus Prime, who transformed into a Freightliner FL86 cab over a semi truck. Optimus Prime was a leader who would never give up and never give in. He just embraced being a leader and was like a father figure to the Autobots.

With the success of the toylines, a cartoon was made which lasted four seasons. The cartoon was filled with action packed scenes of the Autobots and Decepticons battling the war on earth and amazing voice talent with Peter Cullen as Optimus Prime and Frank Welker as Megatron.

After the cartoon, a four issue mini series of Transformers comics was created. It was published by Marvel with writer Bob Budiansky writing them. The comics later expanded beyond the four issues. The Marvel comics lasted until 1991 with eighty issues in total, and in 1986, for the first time ever, a full length MOVIE!

Transformers the Movie took place in the year 2005 with a new cast of Autobots because the original 1984 toys were being phased out. To do that, they killed them off in the movie in very gruesome ways. The film also featured a new protagonist, Hot Rod, or soon to be Rodimus Prime.

The Transformers are still going strong to this day with the very successful live action movies, games, toys, shows, comics and more. It looks like Transformers won't be going anywhere any time soon, so with that being said, in the words of the heroic Autobot leader Optimus Prime: Autobots Transform and ROLL OUT!!!!



One Hundred Years of Clothing Styles

By Shaina Sorkin

Clothing styles have changed drastically throughout the years. Beginning in the 1920s, fashion was reimagined, especially due to the end of the First World War. Since then, clothing ideals have continued to be revised and changed each decade.

The 1920s

In the twenties, a great significance in both genders' clothing is that the style became more relaxed and leisure wear was introduced. A prime example of this is the fact that baggier pants, sweaters, cardigans, and ankle socks became popular in men's style. However, the formal, or going-out wear also changed in a daring way. Women stopped wearing very tight corsets. The standard was for a low waistline, so oftentimes women would wear blouses on top of skirts or dresses. Men stopped wearing suits with stiff shoulder pads and went for a more tilted, sharp approach.

The 1930s

The comfortable and bold look of the 1920s was washed away by The Great Depression, and formal and elegant wear made a comeback in the 30s. Women wore longer dresses and skirts, and they were mostly if not always accompanied by a beret or tilt hat with gloves. Women's clothes were often adorned with frills, bows, and trims. For men, patterns such as pinstripes, checks, and herringbone were prevalent in their suits. Bottoms became higher-waisted for men and women. Women often wore belts on their waist to achieve a high-waisted or hourglass figure. The flannel pattern was also very popular for men and women and was a large part of the "preppy" style.

The 1940s and 50s

In these similar years, the fashion style was even more distinguished than the previous decades. In the 40s, the end of World War II caused a rise in cheerier clothing choices. Stiff-shouldered tops were trending and skirts or dresses could range anywhere from ankle to knee length. Lace, passementerie, silk tassels, and beading details returned to the 40s. Women would wear patterned dresses with flaps at the top. In the 50s, shoulder lines softened, corset waists were tighter, and long skirts with round hips became popular. Men often wore cashmere blazers and wool coats in their daily lives.

The 1960s

The 'Space Age' style greatly influenced the 1960s fashion. New synthetic fabrics were being introduced to clothing, such as perspex, polyester, acrylic, nylon, and spandex. Clothes became aimed at younger people. Instead of children and teens imitating what an older person would wear, they developed their own, independent way of dressing. The miniskirt was established and many younger women wore it until the late 60s. Then, longer skirts and dresses returned to fashion for the 'hippy' style. As for men, they often wore polo shirts and turtlenecks. Richer men would wear suits and elegant wear, while less wealthy men wore more casual clothing, such as boots, jeans, and button-down shirts.

The 1970s

This decade is known for its expressive culture, style, and music. People expressed themselves through what they wore and music genres became fashion. The most popular genres were hippie, disco, punk, and soul or funk. These styles were only beginning to form in the mid to late 60s and fully spread their wings in this decade. Hippies mainly wore tie-dye shirts, headbands or wraps, embroidered folk designs, vests, and flowing scarves. People wore vibrant colors, sequins, and peasant shirts in the disco style. In the punk style, people wore skinny ripped jeans, chains, military boots, tattoos, and piercings. In all the 70s clothing ideals, people always wore flared pants, primarily jeans. New fashion choices were wide-legged pants, military surplus clothes, extremely colorful and psychedelic patterns, clogs, and wrap-dresses.

The 1980s

This is one of the most important decades for the fashion industry. In the early 80s, sportswear dominated mainstream fashion. Clothing items such as ripped sweatshirts, tracksuits, tights, and sweatpants were popular. The decade progressed, as did the trending style. 'Power dressing' became a go-to for women in high-powered job positions to show their authority and be taken seriously. These women wore mainly designer clothing, knee-length skirts, jackets with heavily padded shoulders, and bold accessories. Meanwhile, the style for teens and children was bright and cheerful. They wore striped polo shirts, baseball caps, baggy jeans, and jean jackets. Oversized clothing that exposed and highlighted the shoulder area, as well as high-waisted pants, were popular.

The 1990s

The fashion of the 90s had adopted the minimalist style, unlike the 80s, which was popping with color. Bike shorts, v-neck sweaters, baby tees, bucket hats, and bodysuits were all trends in this decade. When going out, women would wear slip dresses, crop tops, and bomber jackets. Men would wear biker jackets, windbreakers, overalls, high top-sneakers, and cargo pants. Scrunchies and chokers were popular accessories for females. The grunge style also reached peak popularity, with oversized t-shirts, layers, beanies, Doc Martens, and army jackets. Graphic t-shirts received a lot of attention, despite having been around for several decades.

The 2000s

The fashion style of this decade was separated from the previous ones. As the world advanced in technology, so did the style. The 'Y2K' style was the most popular. 'Y2K' clothes were cargo and capri pants, cropped tank tops, and boot cut jeans. Glossy and metallic fabrics or textures on clothing was trending, similar to the 'Space Age' style of the 60s. Another popular fashion style in this decade was 'McBling'. Low rise jeans, mini skirts, yoga pants, animal prints, halter tops, and Uggs were worn. In general, the fashion for men was similar to the previous decade. They wore slim-cut jeans, flannel shirts, v-neck sweaters, chunky sneakers, and graphic tees. All of these clothes reflected the trending style, which was the skater look.

The 2010s

The early 2010s were similar to the decade before, changing throughout. For women in the early 2010s, neon colors were obsessed over, dresses and skirts were worn with belts, and the low-waisted bottoms of the 2000s were gone. Near the middle of the decade, lace dresses and tops, boyfriend jeans, romper suits, and puffer jackets/vests were popular. Clothing trends of the 70s came back, such as tie-dye skirts, embroidery, and flared pants. Men wore grunge or edgy clothing. This included bomber/leather jackets, Ed Hardy t-shirts, and acid wash denim. As the decade went on, formal business wear declined and a relaxed and sporty style took over. Overall, the fashion of this decade consisted of reviving the look of previous decades.



1920s



1940s and 50s



1970s



1990s

Ghostbusters!

By Iker Tenorio Larrea

Have you ever heard of GhostBusters? If not, continue reading to find out who they are, their story, how they started, how they are doing nowadays, and how successful they have been.

Ghostbusters is a movie franchise that focuses on ghosts, as seen in its title. The franchise is about a group of friends who hunt ghosts down. The group consists of Egon Spengler, the brain of the team, Dr. Peter Venkman, the funny guy in the team, and Ray Stantz, the leader of the group. Janine Melnitz is the one responsible for answering the calls people make and telling the Ghostbusters where to go, and a little side character, Slimer, who is a ghost but a bit of a friend of the group.

The story of Ghostbusters is about the members of a team of scientists who lose their cushy positions at a university in New York City and decide to become "ghostbusters" to wage a high-tech battle with the supernatural for money. They stumble upon a gateway to another dimension, a doorway that will release evil upon the city. The Ghostbusters must now save New York from complete destruction.

How did the idea for Ghostbusters start? Dan Aykroyd (Ray Stantz) came up with Ghostbusters after he read an article about quantum physics and parapsychology and then watched movies like Ghost Chasers. This sparked something in his heart that created our beloved Ghostbusters! We must thank him for giving us our beloved moments and memories of them on our TVs and in cinemas.

How about we talk about how they are doing nowadays, shall we? Sadly, Harold Ramis (Spengler) passed away and was last seen in the movie GhostBusters Afterlife.

The final topic is how successful they have been. After the first movie was released they made an amazing \$282.2 million and most likely still growing strong! They also have loads of Ghostbusters merchandise. Now all in all, from all the movies and merchandise, they have surpassed the \$1 billion mark!

Overall, Ghostbusters is an awesome franchise that has touched so many people's hearts including mine. I hope you enjoyed these amazing facts about Ghostbusters, and go ahead and check out my other facts about Back to the Future and Dachshunds in previous issues of our school newspaper.



Summer Day Trips

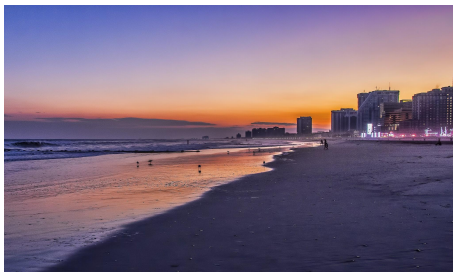
By Kyndal Irving

Have you ever been bored over the summer and felt like there's nothing to do? Well, New Jersey offers a wealth of exciting activities and attractions for visitors during the summer months.

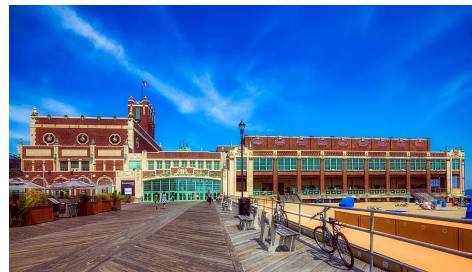
Along our state's beautiful coastline, you can enjoy the lively boardwalks, sandy beaches, and refreshing ocean breezes. Popular beach towns like Atlantic City, Asbury Park, and Cape May provide endless opportunities for swimming, sunbathing, and beachside entertainment.

Inland, New Jersey boasts scenic hiking trails, picturesque parks, and charming small towns perfect for exploring. Outdoor enthusiasts can kayak on the state's rivers and lakes, visit farms and vineyards, or attend lively summer festivals and concerts.

For those seeking cultural experiences, New Jersey is home to world-class museums, historic sites, and vibrant arts scenes. Some of the best museums to go to in New Jersey are the New Jersey State Museum, Liberty Science Center, The Newark Museum of Art, Morris Museum, and The New Jersey Historical Society. Whether you're looking to relax, go on an adventure, or to immerse yourself in the local culture, the Garden State has something to offer for everyone during the summer season.



Atlantic City



Asbury Park

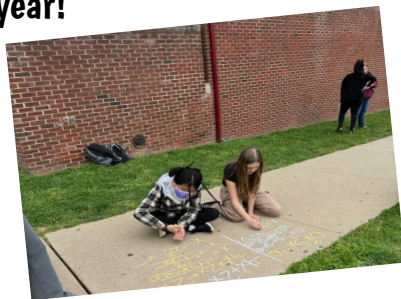
A Fun Day!

By Grace Sokolowski

This year on May 3, the eighth grade students were able to celebrate their victory from both school spirit weeks. First, they won the winter spirit week, and then they won again in the spring. As a reward, the eighth grade class had an ice cream celebration. During the school day, the eighth graders had the opportunity to skip three periods in the afternoon to hang out with friends, play games, and enjoy ice cream. Everyone was excited to go outside and have fun!

At the picnic, students played games like cornhole, giant volleyball, soccer, giant Jenga, and even used chalk to draw. It was a day filled with laughter, games, and delicious ice cream. The best part was that all the students were able to get ice cream for free! Some teachers also joined the fun outside. It was a memorable day for all the eighth graders. Everyone found something fun to do, whether it was playing games, chatting with friends, or simply enjoying the day!

The eighth grade picnic was a big hit, and everyone had an amazing time! The students were thrilled to have a break from their regular school day and spend time with their classmates. The ice cream celebration was definitely a highlight, and the students loved spending time with their friends during the day! It was a day filled with fun and laughter that the eighth graders will cherish as a special memory from their school year!



Upcoming Dates

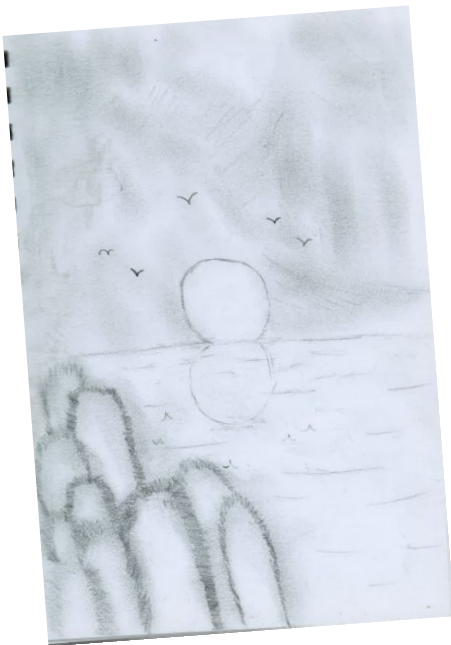
June 1: First day of LGBTQ Pride Month

June 19: No school—Juneteenth

June 20: Last day of school

July 5: North Plainfield Community Day and fireworks

Original Art by Stephanie Vargas and Valerie Gonzalez



Enjoy your summer!