

the Slate



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Arizona Immigration Law: Racism or Reform

By Editor-in-Chief Jonathan Haab

Illegal immigration, especially from our southern neighbor Mexico, has been a controversial topic in the United States for many years. Causing a number of problems for American citizens, illegal immigration engenders shortages in basic amenities, like electricity and water because companies cannot account for their usage. Illegal immigrants' children attend public schools, but parents do not pay taxes that support public education.

Occasionally, aliens assist the spread of diseases, as they are not properly vaccinated before entering the country. Furthermore, a number of people who are here illegally take jobs from American workers, many of whom already have enough trouble finding work. Finally, statistics show that illegal aliens are three times more likely to commit a crime than American citizens. The majority of these crimes are robberies as a means to acquire money, and murders, most of which are related to the illegal drug trade.

Recently, Arizona passed strict legislation in response to growing complaints over illegal immigration. The law requires immigrants to carry proof of legal immigration and allows state and local police, with reasonable suspicion, to ask to see these documents. In addition, the law prohibits hiring and transporting illegal immigrants.

By far the toughest measure to date aimed at stopping illegal immigration arose in Arizona. Governor Jan Brewer, believes her state's law is an important step in protecting the state. She asserts, "[the law] represents another tool for our state to use as we work to solve a crisis we did not create and the federal government has refused to fix."

From the day it was passed, the law has come under much scrutiny. Protesters of the bill believe it is a breeding ground for racial profiling, allowing police officers to ask anyone they deem suspicious for identification. Governor Brewer, however, opposes this belief and points out that police will be properly trained to enforce the law correctly.

The President of the United States, Barack

Obama, strongly opposes the bill. Obama thinks the

President Obama stated his conviction; "Our

police and their communities that is so crucial to keeping us safe."

The Obama administration has even gone so far as to sue Arizona, arguing the law impedes citizens' civil liberties and claiming the Constitution's Supremacy Clause, which says federal laws override state laws, makes the law unconstitutional.

Supporters and protesters alike believe this law is the toughest legislation against illegal immigration ever passed in the United States. The majority of Arizona legislators assert that the law is important for curbing illegal immigration, but a number of people all over the country find the law allows for too much racial profiling. Like it or not, the law is in place and is being enforced in Arizona, with other states possibly following suit.



Arizona Governor Jan Brewer (photo courtesy of nydailynews.com)

law is unconstitutional, and he is doing everything in his power to nullify it. He told the justice department to investigate its legality and has made known his belief that immigration legislation is a matter that should be handled by the federal government.

failure to act responsibly at the federal level will only open the door to irresponsibility by others. And that includes, for example, the recent efforts in Arizona, which threatened to undermine basic notions of fairness that we cherish as Americans, as well as the trust between

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The Ransom of Miss Elverna Dower

NL Little Theatre 2010 Fall Play

By staff writers Kirsten Leskowich and Elaina Rehrig

How would you feel if your teacher, the one you never liked, was kid-napped? On Saturday, November 20th and Sunday, November 21st, The Northern Lehigh Little Theatre presented "The Ransom of Miss Elverna Dower." A production written by Laurie Bryant, the plot is based on O. Henry's classic tale "The Ransom of Red Chief." If you were not there, you missed an exciting performance by an incredible cast and crew.

Imagine a normal day at school with typical teachers and classic classes. At Preston School, history teacher Mr. Lockman, aka Nathan Newhard, conducts his class; Spanish is taught by Mrs.

Post played by Sam Eden; English is with Mrs. Dower or Mrs. Bentley acted by Lydia DeLong; then students are off to the gym for Physical Education instructed by Coach Seaver starring Joe Wirfel. Over the course of the long day, students are called down to the office by the secretary, Hilda, or as we know her, Timmi Fiske. It's the same routine day, after day, after day... then finally something interesting happens!

A scheme begins to unravel when Casey, an unmotivated but bright school girl, played by Angela Hams, and Tim, an eccentric youngster, impersonated by Matt Pender, kidnap their English teacher, Miss Dower, so they can avoid a test that day. Cast as Miss Donnelly, Sydney Martin, is the new school principal.

The youthful principal, assisted by Ms. Hamilton, aka Alex Abruzzi, makes no attempts to retrieve her taken teacher, probably because Miss Donnelly was once a student of Miss Dower and knows she will stop at nothing to teach a lesson. The students responsible for the kidnapping quickly find out they are in way over

their heads! Miss Dower not only forces the students to rewrite their ransom note due to grammatical errors, but also assigns a research paper on famous historical kidnappings.

While Casey and Tim are working hard to prevent taking a test, ridiculous subplots also begin to unfold. An ex-Marine corporate executive, played by Maggie Surdovel, is running the PTA bake sale; a Star Trek fan custodian, portrayed by Jacob Heintzelman, is trying to keep the building in perfect shape, and the school's Viking mascot, who believes he really is a Viking, is training his cousin from Brooklyn to be a Viking as well. Matt Kern is cast as this mascot maniac.

Added to the mix, Jill Zeiser plays a comedic transfer student from Brooklyn, and a teacher union representative named Miss Hightower, portrayed by Meaghen Kern, voices her opinion. Brandon Horvath plays Raphael, a personal assistant to the PTA president, and Captain Peters, an army mom, is depicted by Erica Bowman.

Interviewed while preparing for the play, NLHS art teacher Mr.

Shuey believed the Little Theatre play is an insightful comedy about student teacher relationships. He found it amusing to see how students perceive their educators and how they take that perception with them to the stage as they play the parts of teachers. He reflected that students would be surprised by the lengths teachers will go to teach a lesson to their students.

Furthermore, the artistic crew and stage crew worked diligently to set the scene. They thought the production would be small but would produce an outstanding performance, which it most definitely did. In addition, dedicated cast members put in countless hours rehearsing to make the production extraordinary.

The play's one and only director, Mr. Weigold III, worked as hard as the students to make the play exceptional. He spoke about the production, saying, "The play was packed with laugh out loud humor and also contained a high moral. The students really understood the message behind its absurdism."

"It is absolutely true that new talent was revealed over the course of the show," Maggie Surdovel said, "and this talent will no longer remain hidden." In the end, Sydney Martin summed it up best: "The students in the cast and crew realize that every student has found his or her own Miss Elverna Dower."



Cast List

Casey Matthews, Student Kidnapper.....Angela Hams
 Tim Stack, Student Kidnapper.....Matthew Pender
 Miss Donnelly, Principal.....Sydney Martin
 Ms. Hamilton, Assistant Principal.....Alex Abruzzi
 Mr. Lockman, History Teacher.....Nathan Newhard
 Monty, Custodian.....Jacob Heintzelman
 Mrs. Post, Spanish Teacher.....Samantha Eden
 Mrs. Bentley, English Teacher.....Lydia DeLong
 Hilda, Secretary.....Timmi Fiske
 Miss Hightower, Teacher's Union Rep.....Meaghen Kern
 Erik, Student/ Mascot.....Matthew Kern
 Michelle, Transfer Student.....Jill Zeiser
 Myra Lyman, PTA President.....Maggie Surdovel
 Coach Seaver, PE Teacher.....Joseph Wirfel
 Captain Peters, Army Mom.....Erika Bowman
 Raphael, PA to President.....Brandon Horvath

Parent Ensemble

Parent 1.....Kelsey Hosford
 Parent 2.....Brittani Hertzke
 Parent 3.....Benjamin Yenser

Student Ensemble

Samantha Miller- Brown, Josh Schippers, Alex Sigley, Daniel Abruzzi

Stage crew:

Michelle Bingert
 Emily Buss
 Samm Dillon
 Brittany Everett
 Taren Fritzinger
 Heather Heiney
 Eleni Kalamaris
 Kirsten Leskowich
 Elaina Rehrig
 Shannon Strohl
 Calli Zaleski

Artistic crew:

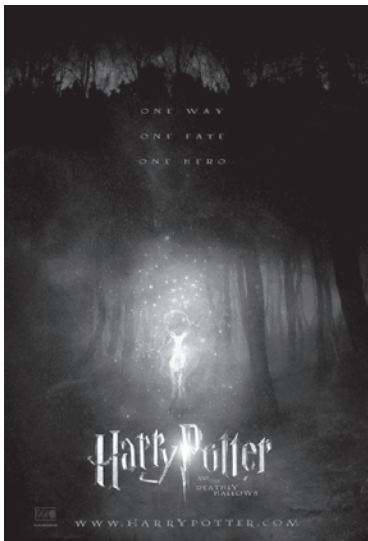
Michelle Bingert
 Emily Buss
 Emily Christman
 Samm Dillon
 Brittany Everett
 Taren Fritzinger
 Eleni Kalamaris
 Kirsten Leskowich
 Caitlin McCormick
 Rebecca Owens
 Abbey Sauerwine
 Shannon Strohl
 Calli Zaleski

Deathly Hallows captivates audiences everywhere

MOVIE REVIEW

By staff writer Laura Grammes

Fans have been craving it, and finally *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* begins the concluding chapter that many have dubbed "spellbinding." Directed by prestigious film director David Yates and based on the novel by



legendary J.K. Rowling, this epic two-part fantasy adventure enraptures audiences with its enticing plot and breathtaking visuals. With enchanting spells and mystical charms, Harry Potter sets out on his final quest to discover, to destroy the secrets to Voldemort's immortality, to kill Voldemort, to finally have his revenge...

In generations young and old, many have fallen in love with the tale of the boy wizard who has *lived*. Now, the epic saga begins to close as that boy has grown into what could be the greatest wizard the world of magic has ever seen. An array of trails is set before Harry, Ron, and Hermione as well as other familiar faces as they search for the Horcruxes-

dark magical artifacts that hold the power of Lord Voldemort's power and immortality.

The mission proves daunting, so much so that Harry and the others decide not to return to Hogwarts for their seventh year. This choice means isolating themselves from their loved ones and everyone else they hold dear. With everything at stake, it is the only chance they have.

A sense of wonder claims audiences as they behold the true majesty of this two-part feature film. However, the very fact that the film is spilt into two parts was a controversy itself. Die-hard fans who wished to keep the movie's content close to the original context of the 700+ page



novel demanded that the plot be kept intact.

The idea of splitting the thrilling movie into segments had been debated since 2007, and it was then that Rowling and the rest of the film's crew realized it was essential to break down the movie into two parts. Warner Bros. executive Alan F. Horn said that it would allow, "an extra hour and a half to celebrate what this franchise has been and do justice to all the words and ideas in the amazing story."

According to co-producer David Heyman, a split was essential. He asserted, "*Deathly Hallows* is so rich, the story so dense and there is so much that is resolved that, after dis-

cussing it with J. K. Rowling, we came to the conclusion that two parts were needed." Both parts of filming for both features already have been shot and produced; it is only now the matter of presenting fans with the best.

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1 hit theaters and IMAX November 19, 2010. The film is rated PG-13 for "some sequences of intense action violence and frightening images" and some nudity. Join Harry Potter one last time when he delves into the dark depths of the magical, wondrous world of Hogwarts as little by little, that infamous scar slowly fades...

New Faces in Our School

By staff writer Ruth Milburn

Looking at the faculty list this year, some students may not recognize all of the names. Four new teachers are working at our school this year. Although they have that in common, they are all quite different interesting people.

One of the aforementioned teachers is Ms. Rotondo. As the high school's newest math teacher, she teaches Geometry and Algebra 1. Growing up in PA, she went to Salisbury High and later decided to go to

Kutztown University. Before coming to NLHS, she substitute taught for Parkland and Palmerton area school districts. This is Mrs. Rotondo's first permanent teaching job, and she says she absolutely loves Northern Lehigh. In her spare time when she is not grading tests or working, she likes to surf, workout, and watch Philadelphia sports teams. One interesting fact about Mrs. Rotondo is that Mr. Allen was her 7th grade social studies teacher.

Our newest science teacher, Ms. Ache, teaches Integrated Science, Physics 1 & 2 and also Intro to Chemistry. Mrs. Ache was born and lived in Houston, Texas until she was twelve. Then, her family moved to Kutztown where she went to high school and grew up. She went on to Drexel University and got a degree in Chemical Engineering. When she worked at Conoco & Phillips Oil Refinery, she was in charge of the distillation inspections. After



that, she decided to go back to school and get a teaching degree at Kutztown University. This job is her first teaching



position, and she is overjoyed to be here. In her spare time she likes to read and hike.

Srta. Keglovitz is another one of the amazing new teachers at our school. She teaches Spanish 1 & 2 and also Exploratory Spanish in the Middle School. A graduate of Parkland Area High School, she grew up in the Lehigh Valley. Later, Srta. Keglovitz graduated from Bloomsburg in only three and a half years. While in college, she studied abroad in Spain. This is her first permanent teaching position, but she was a temporary teacher at Saucon Valley. She is happy to be part of the faculty at NLHS. In her spare time, she enjoys watching baseball, being at the beach, reading, and hanging out with friends and family. She is a huge Phillies fan. Srta. Keglovitz loves the color pink, and her favorite author is Nicholas Sparks.

Last but not least, our new History teacher and the only new male is Mr. Sander. This year he will teach Civics, US History 3, and World History. He grew up in Northern Lehigh and is a graduate of NLHS. He then went on to

attend Kutztown University. In his spare time he enjoys watching movies and Phillies baseball. At times he can be found at an IronPigs' game with his friends. Before deciding to be a teacher, he was a TV salesman at Circuit City. We are lucky to welcome back a school alumnus.

As you can obviously tell, we have some interesting new teachers this year. When you see them, make sure you say a few kind words of appreciation. The Slate staff wishes them all the best of luck with their classes and many enjoyable years at NLHS.





By staff writer Luke Senko

With popular titles like *Fable 3*, *Fallout: New Vegas*, *Call of Duty: Black Ops*, *Halo: Reach* as well as the return of *Medal of Honor*, it's hard to resist cashing in a pay check and ordering them with all of the extras that come with them, from bonus items to avatar gear. Here is a review of the games this fall that gamers should get their hands on, in order to be included in the things their friends will be talking about. Please keep in mind that all of these games are rated M for mature; therefore, they are intended for audiences seventeen and older.

CALL OF DUTY: BLACK OPS

It's hard not to start with the big elephant in the room from Trevarch, *Call of Duty: Black Ops*. Set in an unpredictable jungle amidst soldiers engaged in warfare, *Call of Duty* is back with everything gamers love: guns, grenades, and gambling.

Yeah, you may have caught that odd word at the end: gambling. The newest feature to *Black Ops*

is the intense ability to gamble with the experience you gain. You can buy new weapons or wager your points in matches against other players for added fun. Frustration or satisfaction may ensue from such an outrageous option.

If you enjoyed the previous COD games, I would suggest taking your chances with *Call of Duty* this fall season.



FABLE 3

Some RPG-buffs out there may be incredibly excited for the release of *Fable 3*.

Since *Fable 1*, players have been hooked on the fantastic story of the heroes of the world of Albion. Dynamic plots and wondrous weapons, armor, and abilities brought players back for more in *Fable 2*. With the inclusion of DLC, the world was expanded farther than the main plot and map; added to them were mysterious lands promising treasure and fun gear.

But this fall, Lionhead Studios released *Fable 3* with hopes of more of the previous details, additions to those already seemingly perfected. Enchanted swords and weaponry that

"morph" to a player's alignment allow for greater customization.

The biggest addition may be (spoiler alert) that at some point during the game, you are allowed to run and manage your own kingdom after taking down an evil tyrant.

From amazing visuals to out of this world magic, *Fable 3* is a definite buy for the seasoned RPGer.



All things considered, each one of these games has its own unique structure and appeal, so it is easy to find at least one that suits your gaming type. Furthermore, you don't have to worry about wasting your money if you choose one of these games, as they are all well worth the price. Enjoy the sinful fruits of these games, and if you have any questions, feel free to ask me, Luke Senko.

HALO: REACH

Last but not least, the Halo world of Bungie is back with plenty of new and old features that will keep gamers busy for months to come.

Some of the new features include a new rank up system, where skill level does not determine a player's military status. To compliment this change is the addition of many, many, new pieces of armor to add to your Spartan: from new helmets to knee guards to very interesting new armor effects that are all visible on your in-game multiplayer or campaign character.

The intensely fun Firefight

is also included from last year's ODS. Brought forward, it is now fully customizable to allow for hours of fun there as well. Daily challenges can also be posted by Bungie in your start menu that give "credits" to level you up and can be used as in-game currency to buy armor additions.

As in *Halo 3*, *Reach* includes the same forge mode, which allows players to customize their own maps for use in custom games.

The new features in *Reach* take Halo to the next level and definitely make it a good investment.



MEDAL OF HONOR

How many of you remember the older days of *Medal of Honor*? I don't. *Call of Duty* and *Medal of Honor* used to compete for top FPS. *Medal of Honor* fell largely off the radar, until now. From Electronic Arts, *Medal of Honor* is back with its most impressionistic edition yet. Armed with visually stunning game play and an insanely realis-

tic storyline, MoH transports players to a wild battlefield overseas. The game follows a tier 1 soldier, the army's elite of the elite. Comprised of only 100 or so soldiers, tier 1 is a real squad that is the top force of the army used for special missions, missions brought out in the game.

Medal of Honor features a wide variety of tools that

are unlocked based on rank. This rank is broken down to classes that scale individually for specialization. The three classes are rifleman, special ops, and sniper, each with its own unlocks and perks.

This game is arguably one of the more in-depth and complicated games of the fall, which makes it a definite buy this year.

Fallout: NEW VEGAS

Even non travelers will love this sequel to the story of *Fallout 3*. *New Vegas* puts the player, as the name suggests, on the bright streets of Vegas! Produced by Obsidian Productions, *Fallout: New Vegas* is an incredibly fruitful addition to the *Fallout* family.

For those not familiar with the *Fallout* story, it is set in the barren wasteland of a future where nuclear warfare has destroyed global civilization. According to *Fallout* lore, the bombs did not hit Vegas, meaning the area still has power. Yep, the neon lights that power the nightlife of Vegas still shine, providing an awesome representation of the Vegas

Strip. Casinos are in full swing. Players can gamble fairly or cheat depending on sneak skill.

This game also boasts tons of new weapons and customization of those weapons, a feature not present in *Fallout 3*. Quests also have become more frequent in nature due to the addition of 3 new factions in the game. But don't fret; The Brotherhood is still there to provide justice in the wasteland. But I don't want to spoil any of the plot.

Not only can gamers customize the weapons they use, but also the ammo that is used. Start saving your brass because the ammo you make is most likely bet-

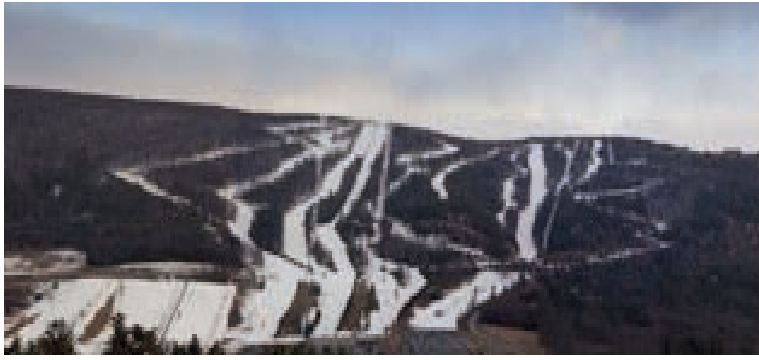
ter than the dust covered hunks of metal found on enemies or bought by vendors.

Speaking of buying, did I mention that each faction also has its own currency? Too bad they all hate each other; a player will have to decide which one is worth risking his life for and which one provides the best coin for his time.

The VATS system has also been adjusted. VATS now provides cooler moves for melee weapons; some taught, some inborn. Overall, the customization + endless quests + enhanced game play = more fun. *Fallout: New Vegas* – a must buy.

Go Guide

By: Michelle Bingert
Kelsey Hosford



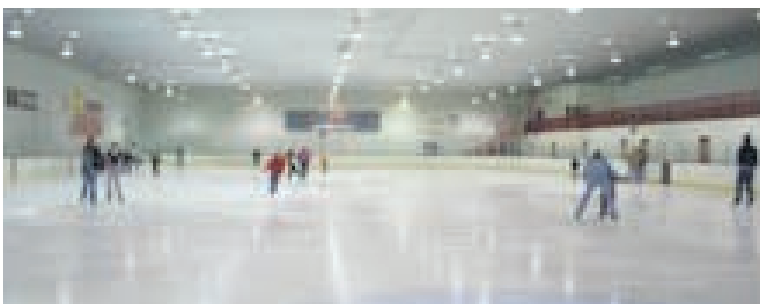
Crocodile Rock Café

Anyone who enjoys great music in a live setting should check out Crocodile Rock Café. Bands such as *Never Shout Never!* and *The Maine* performed on the main stage November 20th. Under 21 music enthusiasts are welcome to visit the Café Under at designated days to enjoy bands and an oversized dance floor. For more information visit crocodilerockcafe.com



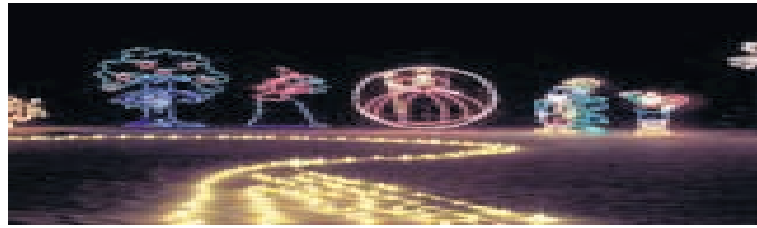
Lehigh Valley Ice Arena

Public skating, figure skating, and ice hockey are enjoyable activities that you can do this winter on the ice in Whitehall. Even birthday parties may be booked and include use of a concert sound system and disco lights. Go to lehighvalleyicearena.com for more information on programs, camps, and clinics.



Blue Mountain

During this cold winter season, Blue Mountain in Palmerton is the place for people who enjoy skiing, snowboarding, and tubing. Boasting the highest vertical mountain in PA, Blue Mountain offers racing events as well as party events. A web site that features an interactive map, ski-bluemt.com contains information on activities, employment, and celebration bookings.



Zumba Classes

Come and join an exhilarating workout program. This fitness program combines invigorating movements and Latin rhythms to produce an enjoyable dance workout. These classes are offered in Slatington at the Vigilant Fire Company and Curves. If you want to do Aquatic Zumba, classes are offered at LA Fitness. Go to zumba.com for more information.



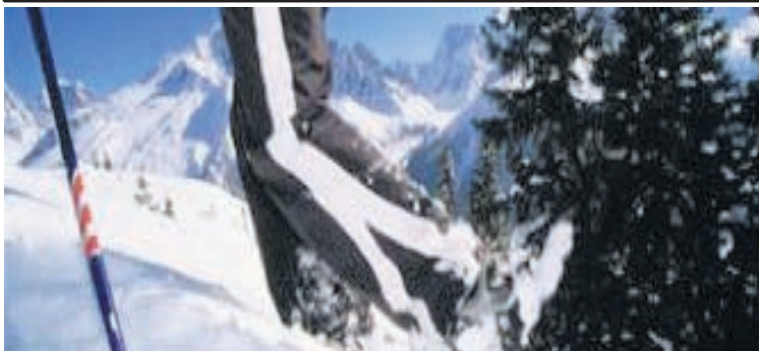
Lights in the Parkway

Spotlighting the magical colors of Christmas, Lights in the Parkway runs from December 3rd to January 2nd. As visitors drive through the 25 minute one mile long park in their own cars or a horse drawn carriage, they will see a variety of sparkling lights including snowmen, dancing bears and even ice carvings. Make sure to visit in honor of their fifteenth anniversary. Go to lightsintheparkway.com for more information and for discount coupons.

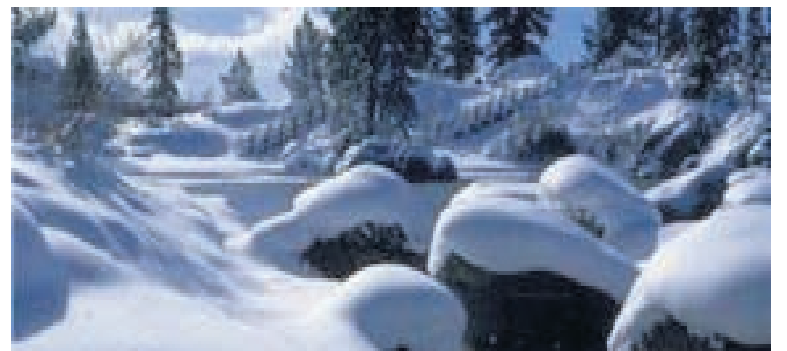


Lehigh Valley Paintball

Do you spend half of your day playing *Call of Duty*? If you do, or even if you don't, you may have fun playing paintball. Lehigh Valley Paintball in Hatfield not only has a 25 acre paintball field, but it also has a laser tag complex. Open every Saturday and Sunday, it is a great way for anyone over ten years old to have fun. Equipment is also available for rental. Go to lehighvalleypaintball.com for more information on reservation, events, and pricing.



Reflecting the writer's opinions, these reviews are not paid endorsements.



High School Receives a Makeover

By staff writer Maggie Surdovel

When school began again in September, a few obvious changes to the appearance of the high school were apparent. While some changes were minor touch-ups, other more major improvements were obvious.



One upgrade to the high school is our renovated auditorium. Over the summer, the seating area was stripped; Mr. Allen and the office secretaries with the help of students Jessica Schultz and Dylan Bolton painted the walls. Shortly before school started, new gray carpets replaced the old ripped ones, and shiny blue seats were substituted

for the original seating that was badly in need of repair. In addition to these noticeable changes, our auditorium now sports new stage lights and lighting controls.

The gym floor has also undergone a transforma-

tion.

An additional improvement is the mural above the main entrance. Mr. Shuey began this work of art last year but was only able to complete one of the seven squares. Over the summer, he painted the other six. Now, the seven mural components read: Discovery, Creativity, Knowledge, Pride, Success, Strength, and feature scenes and items from classes and activities throughout the school.

Less noticeable than the large transformations, several small alterations were made. New tile was put in the locker areas, the office was redesigned, and the sign near the girls' locker room reading "GYM" was repainted in the school's colors. The broken nets on the tennis courts were also refurbished, and the building lights were replaced with energy efficient fixtures.

From stage lights to auditorium floors to new seating to relocated copying machines, the 2010-2011 school year had a beautiful start thanks to the hard work of our administrators, teachers, students, and the dedication of our school



board. These improvements give the school a polished new appearance, and the small touch-ups brighten our classrooms

and hallways. Northern Lehigh is indeed a "hidden gem in the Lehigh Valley."



Community Service Hour Opportunities

By staff writer Taylor Vrael

Are you looking for some community service hours for graduation? Perhaps you would just like to volunteer your time to be a good citizen! Here are some ideas to help you get started.

Each volunteer opportunity is categorized by a common theme.

Animals

Volunteers are needed to maintain the Adoption Center in Quakertown.

<http://www.dosomething.org/actnow/volunteer/volunteers-needed-maintain-adoption-center-quakertown>

Gress Mountain Ranch - Help Animals by maintaining their cages, or stables. Help supply food and

materials needed to keep the animals healthy and happy.

<http://www.gressmountainranch.com/>

Walk for a Cause

2011 Arthritis Walk Volunteer 10/4/2010 - 5/14/2011. Join local families and companies and support our Arthritis heroes by coming out for a charity walk! Get your own team together or just walk along with others.

<http://www.dosomething.org/actnow/volunteer/2011-arthritis-walk-volunteer-wyomissing-pa>

Relay For Life- Lehigh Valley Area: Help make a difference in the fight against cancer! This is a 24-

hour event during which teams raise money and awareness against cancer. <http://www.dosomething.org/actnow/volunteer/relay-for-life-volunteers-lehigh-valley-unit>

Science

Inspire people to explore science by becoming an Exhibit Floor Educator! The DaVinci Science Center is in need of enthusiastic and outgoing volunteers who can assist and inspire visitors of all ages to explore our exhibit floor. Volunteers develop working skills by interacting with individuals and small or large groups. The DaVinci Science Center provides training that enables volunteers to guide Center visitors through the process of inquiry-based

learning.

<http://www.dosomething.org/actnow/volunteer/exhibit-floor-educator>

Red Cross

Preparedness & Training Outbound Callers - Volunteers needed to make outbound calls for the American Red Cross to businesses in the Greater Lehigh Valley area to verify information and set up appointments.

<http://www.dosomething.org/actnow/volunteer/health-safety-outbound-callers>

Preparedness & Training office Assistants - Individuals needed who can volunteer at least 1/2 day per week to provide

basic office assistance to the American Red Cross, including answering phones, filing and working on department mailings.

<http://www.dosomething.org/actnow/volunteer/health-safety-office-assistance>

Also, you can check your local churches and food banks. Check in with hospitals as well; they are always in need of volunteers.

Visit these websites for more information and opportunities:

www.dosomething.org

www.volunteermatch.com



I will first make
a difference in my life.

College changes everything.
Doors swing open.

Possibilities pile up.

I'll start with **myself**.

Get my degree.

And get going.



lccc.edu



