

The Bulldog Bark



Advisor: Mrs. Dunham
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Your Middle School News Unleashed!

Fall 2020

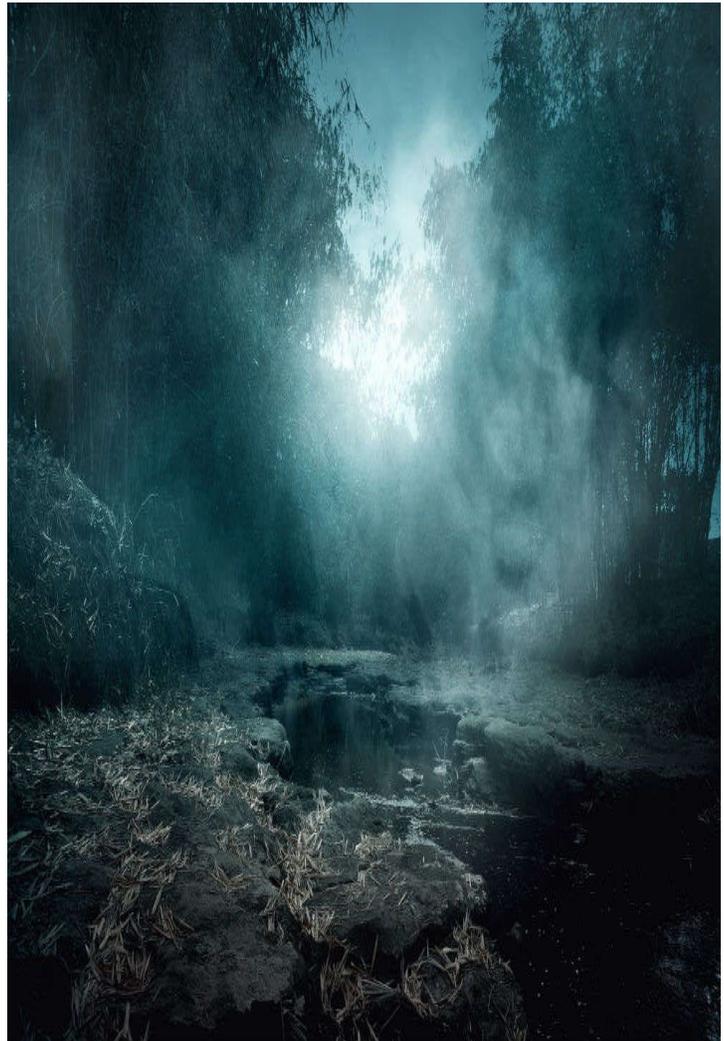
Why Are People Afraid of Ghosts? *The History of Our Fears*

By Kierra Katen

Team 8 Barker

In ancient times, there was a thought brought up that the souls of the living never leave Earth, actually, they stay as what the people in the past see as “ghosts”. Do you agree with them? Maybe you think ghosts aren’t real and there is so after life, or maybe you think there's an afterlife, but no such thing as ghosts. Well, I’m here to tell you what people in ancient times thought about ghosts!

Ancient people thought there are three reasons why your soul may stay to be a ghost. Your life before death, what happened to your remains after death, and how you remember your life before death. These reasons aren't as random as you may think. Funerals incomplete or not done right can be one of the reasons too, or dying where the body can't or won't be found, like drowning or being murdered, and also the classic unfinished business. Though this may sound like an okay thing or good thing, human souls staying on our plane of existence is never good. It was said that experiencing a paranormal event or activity can result in



WHICH MONSTER ARE YOU?



See Ghosts, Page 2

Find out which Halloween monster best describes you! Click [here!](#)

Ghosts, from Page 1

horrible, and evil consequences.

Then in England, in the 12th century, people believed ghosts were more like zombies or vampires, raising out of the grave, and going back to their old houses, climbing into their old beds with the widows or widowers. They were said to not be souls, but instead reanimated bodies.

In the first century of A.D., the famous Phily the Younger recorded the first interesting ghost stories in his letters. Then centuries later, in 856 A.D., the first poltergeist- a ghost that causes loud noises or throws things around- was reported at a farmhouse in Germany. The poltergeist attacked the family living

there by throwing stones, starting fires, and many other things.

Another recording about a ghost



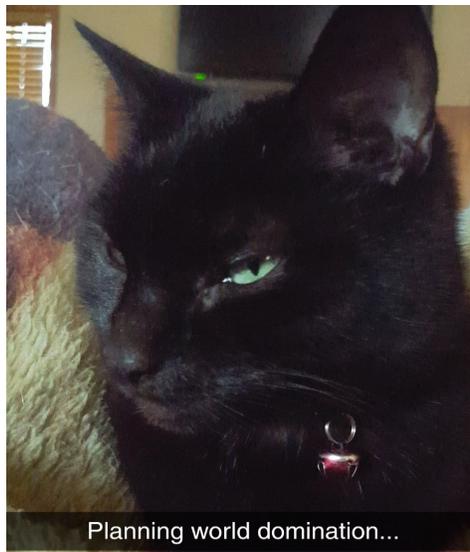
was made by a monk in the 14th century. He explained that a horrible horse figure was following him down the road. Every time he would get rid of the horse, it would reappear in front of him as a glowing haystack. After a while, the monk asked the horse to “speak in the name of God”, and the horse took form as a human peasant. The thing asked the

monk to carry a bag of beans over a bridge, which the monk agreed to do. Once the monk carried the bag of beans over the bridge, the bag and the figure disappeared. After that, in Medieval times, people started talking about ghosts, but also how England thought it was different, so did these ancient people. The Medieval people believed that ghosts can change form from human to animal, back again, but they were only visible, you could never touch them. Unlike today’s ghosts, who stay around their place of death, Medieval ghosts were boggards or bog-garts, mischievous spirits who play pranks on families that live in their house or on their farm, who usually stay around violent death. In the end, all those ideas of ghosts came down to one, our idea.

BLACK CAT MYTH LEADS TO A SAD ADOPTION REALITY

By Lauren Nichols
Team 8 Barker

Many people all over the world are afraid of black cats, and it raises the question, why? It is believed that the myth came from the old rumor that black cats were the pets of witches. Sadly, this rumor has carried over into the twenty-first century, and makes it harder for these beauties to find a good home. Some shelters even refuse to adopt out black cats near October 31st out of fear that they’ll be used in Satanistic rituals. And since cats, especially black ones, were associated with witches, historically people have also blamed them for epidemics such as the Black Death. And so while peo-



Above: Photo of Pepper, Mrs. Bailey’s Partner-in-Crime

ple were getting rid of their cats, the rat population was thriving which

was only helping to spread the plague!

Now, obviously the black cat myth is completely false. And in Japan, as well as many other cultures, it’s actually good luck to see a black cat! We need to stop the stigma. See the graphic below for more information. Adopt one today!

BLACK CATS black is always in season

- 1/3 of cats in shelters are black
- Black cats stay in shelters 24% longer
- There are more male black cats than female
- Most black cats have GOLDEN EYES as a result of their high melanin pigment content
- In England black cats are considered good luck to give a bride on her wedding day
- Black cats in Japan are thought to attract suitors to single women
- According to Spanish lore, a black cat appearing at your home can lead to great wealth

Seattle Humane
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Halloween Parade Cancelled

By **Aubrey Reinhard**
Team 7 Barker

As I'm sure many of you have heard, the Halloween parade has been canceled this year. To me this news is sad but let's see what other staff and students from the NL Middle School think about it. First, I interviewed Samantha Mack, a seventh-grade student who also plays softball and has been in the parade a few times. "I think that it's something that should be kept no matter what," Samantha said. She continued by saying, "We have always had a Halloween parade and I was a little upset about it. My softball team has been on a float for the past 5 years. We were zombies, the girls from "A League of Their Own" and probably everything else in the book. I think that the parade gave my team bonding time and that was good for us. With that being said I think that the Halloween pa-

rade is a tradition that we should try to keep." After getting Samantha's opinion I interviewed Shannon Jones. Most of you might know her as Mrs. Jones but she is also a softball coach for the girls' 12U team. Mrs. Jones told me that



Photo from the Slatington Halloween Parade from 2019

she is super sad that it was canceled because it is a great bonding experience for the girls on the team and their coaches. For my last interview, I chose Mr. Carroll because he runs the band and color guard which are both in the parade. Mr. Carroll had a lot of thoughts and feelings about this particular subject. To sum it up he believes that the parade is "Not only a night

of entertainment for the town, but is a source of pride for the community." He also said that "The Halloween parade is a milestone event in the marching band season each year. The Northern Lehigh Marching Band Participates in twenty to twenty-five performances during the typical fall. This includes football games, pep rallies, television appearances, marching band competitions, and of course parades." He feels that the parade is a good way for the marching band to perform for a supportive audience close to home and have a lot of fun doing so. The last thing I found out from Mr. Carroll is that he "Will miss performing in the parade this year. I must admit that with all of the crazy disruption to our lives in 2020, the parade is just one of many aspects of "normal" life that I miss and pales in comparison to some of the more serious issues we have had to face during this challenging time" and that he "looks forward to a robust and complete schedule of activities next year including my 24th Slatington Halloween Parade."

Top Ten PG-13 Horror Movies!

By **Lauren Nichols**
Team 8 Barker

These are the best movies to watch for this spooky time of year. Which of these have you seen? Or are you *too* afraid?

#10 - "The Birds"

#9 - "When A Stranger Calls"

#8 - "The Sixth Sense"

#7 - "Let's Scare Jessica To Death"

#6 - "The Exorcism Of Emily Rose"

#5 - "Lights Out"

#4 - "Devil"

#3 - "A Quiet Place"

#2 - "Split"

#1- "The Ring"



Alternative Ways to Celebrate Halloween

By Emily Mack
Team 7 Barker

This year has been filled with so much doubt and sorrow that Americans are looking for anything to celebrate. Halloween is one of those things to celebrate. Trick or treat has already been cancelled in a number of locations. What if Halloween gets canceled? Well, here I got ideas for you!

Everyone loves food, right? **Make Halloween desserts!** Just make regular treats and decorate them for Halloween. Use icing to make mummies, monsters, and all ghouls alike! You can make them by yourself or with family. When you are done you can share these treats with your household.

Decorate your house! It may not feel like Halloween, but trust me after you decorate it will. Ask your parents if you have any decorations. If you do not have decorations you can make some. Get creative with it! You can go online and look for ideas. All you really need is colored paper, string, and your

imagination. Make paper bats, pumpkins, and ghosts to hang in the hallways. Don't forget to carve a pumpkin! Do anything to help you feel festive.

Do a Halloween movie night! Grab your family and watch Halloween movies. Whether it's family movies, horror, or sci-fi you are still spending time with family. It's time to get out those Tim Burton movies! They now have apps you can install to watch movies with your friends who are away. It is important to stay connected. FaceTime or call your friends. What are they doing for Halloween? Are they still going? Check in with them.

Make or get a costume. We may or may not have a trick or treat. Be prepared! If we don't have it you can just wear it around your house. Have a Halloween costume contest online. Take pictures and post them. Have your friends vote to see who wins. Take a photoshoot in your backyard with your costume.

Have a socially distanced meet

up. Invite your friends to come to an open parking lot or near your house. They can come in their cars. Stay distanced! Wear a mask if it makes you feel comfortable. Dress up and bring candy for yourself and hangout. Bring music and dance. If you have a big trunk, bring blankets and pillows to make it comfy. Have a great time and stay safe.

You can also go trunk or treating. Wear a mask and wait until other people are gone. Sanitize things! It is just like going to houses except you are going to trunks. Try not to gather. When you are done go home right away. You can count your candy when you are back home and don't have to worry about wearing a mask.

Whichever way you plan on celebrating, have fun! Make sure you adhere to the CDC's guidelines. If trick or treat doesn't get cancelled, stay safe. I hope you have fun and Happy Halloween!

“Plagued” By Indecision? Costumes for 2020

By Anayis Martir
Team 7 Barker

This year hasn't exactly been the best, but we could at least try to have fun this Halloween! So we're all aware that this Halloween we're going to have to wear masks because we're still in a pandemic, but we could at least have fashionable ones! Now I do realize that some sections of the state don't have mask restrictions for trick-or-

treating, but I'll mostly be going over costumes with masks or that could work with masks. So first off, we have a plague doctor, which is relevant to the global pandemic and has a mask--a pretty awesome one at that. Now there are 4 different styles that I'll be going over for the plague doctor costume: steampunk, medieval, 14th, and hooded. Now the steampunk style I honestly prefer because you can deck out your own

plague mask, so it's 50/50 between retro and futuristic. The rest of the outfit is up to you when it comes to the style and material, but I prefer using a leather bolero with a normal robe. Now, onto the medieval plague doctor! The medieval plague doctor is the common beak mask, top hat, cowl hat, a bolero, robe, and a belt. What I like the most about the medieval plague doctor is that, since the costume is pretty simple, you can customize it

to your liking! Next up, we have the 14th century plague doctor! This costume has a hood that covers the top of your head down to your upper chest that is a straw material, and since the iconic bird mask didn't exist around this time, there were eye covers and a up-turned beak added to the hood. The rest of the costume includes a black sun hat, an orange robe that looked more like a gown because it went past the ankles, gloves that are the same material as the hood, and I'm assuming shoes that went up either to the knee or right below the knee. But, of course, you don't need to wear high shoes to complete the outfit, just wear a pair of black shoes or whatever you think would look good with the costume. Last but not least for the plague doctors is the hooded plague doctor! This outfit follows almost the same design of the 14th century plague doctor except there's no hat involved and the cowl hat is instead a fabric hood or a leather hood with drawstrings. Other costumes that would be relevant to the pandemic and have masks involved are a variety of doctor and nurse

costumes, a biohazard or hazmat suit, a creepy character with a mask, a clown, and much more!



Now I'll be explaining why these would be good costumes with the current pandemic. Let's start off with a doctor or a nurse. This is pretty self explanatory. A biohazard or hazmat suit would be a good Halloween costume with the current pandemic because it could be what we'd be wearing in a few

years if the pandemic is still ongoing. The suit has a gas mask attached so you won't need to worry about wearing a face mask over your costume! Next up we have a character, or just a creepy creature in general, who is wearing a mask. By a mask I didn't mean face masks, I meant the creepy Halloween masks that hide every aspect of your face besides your eyes. This would be a good Halloween costume because you won't have to worry about a face mask and it seems like it'd be a pretty creepy costume. And last but not least, I'll be explaining why a clown would be a good costume with the current pandemic. A clown, which might have confused you, would be a good costume during the pandemic because at Spirit Halloween, they have these pretty cool looking heavy plastic masks that cover the bottom half of your face. They have the design of the bottom half of a clown's face so you wouldn't have to worry about a face mask for your costume! Please have fun, but most importantly, be safe this Halloween!

Candy Bar Craze: Each State's Favorite Sugar Rush

By Samantha Mack
Team 7 Barker



Have you ever gone to the store around the time of Halloween and just wanted one candy bar, one, but they are all sold out! Well, trust me, I have. All this Halloween candy goes missing. It's like the zombie apocalypse, and we all need candy for our power. You might notice that all of the Reese's Cups are gone. This is what we are going to be talking about. Pennsylvania's most famous candy is Reese's Peanut Butter Cups. Doesn't everyone

love those (because I know I do)? Let's start from the beginning with. The first candy we are going to talk about is Skittles! Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Massachusetts, North Carolina, South Carolina, Arkansas, and Rhode Island all have the same favorite candy. You guessed all those states love Skittles. They love to taste the rainbow. This next group has even more states than the last one. M&M's is going to be our

next contender. These are all the states that have M&M's as their favorite candy: Colorado, Illinois, Maine, Mississippi, Montana, New Jersey, Ohio, Oregon, Texas, Washington, Virginia, and Wisconsin. This group is very small, but that's ok. KitKats are a big hit in both Connecticut and Missouri. Reese's is very popular in Alaska, Nevada, South Dakota, Tennessee, Oklahoma, and Wyoming. Jolly Ranchers are a huge hit in California, Vermont, and West Virginia. In Kansas, Maryland, New Mexico, and New York Snickers really satisfies. Sour Patch Kids are sour then sweet in Delaware, Louisiana, Nebraska, and North Dakota. May-

be Utah likes the left side of Twix and Minnesota likes the right side of Twix. Utah's and Minnesota's favorite candy is Twix bars.



In Idaho and Iowa, Starbursts are a big hit. Michigan loves their Hershey chocolate bars, and New Hampshire loves Milky Ways! Kentucky Fried Chicken may be great, but Kentucky's favorite candy is Swedish Fish. Michigan's favorite candy is a Hershey bar. All of these candies sound delicious, but you could tell there were some repeating names like M&M's, Jolly Ranchers, Reese's cups, and Skittles.

Now you know every state's most famous/favorite candy. You have all the information you need about state candies. So whether you live in Pennsylvania or Oregon, you will know which candy you are going to get the most of this Halloween.

Pumpkin Spice and Everything Nice:

The PSL Phenomena (Pumpkin Spice Latte)

By **Samantha Mack**

Team 7 Barker

This article is about the weird but fun food craze of pumpkin spice. Have you ever gone to Starbucks or Dunkin' and seen all the fall donuts, pastries, and coffees? I know I have. Pumpkin spice has been around hundreds of years before the pumpkin spice craze. So why did this take hundreds of years to take off? Could this be related to Starbucks



releasing the Pumpkin Spice Latte in 2003, and why do we love this flavor so much? According to the Corporate Coffee Systems in New York, people think that pumpkin spice is synonymous with the fall season. Others say it reminds them of home and family. When people smell pumpkin spice, they

remember things from their childhoods. Is this based on the ingredients of the spice itself? This spice includes cinnamon and nutmeg, which are used regularly for

the holiday season. Why not feel at home while drinking a PSL? The holiday season is filled with being home, visiting family, and reminding us of our childhood memories. This pumpkin spice craze has only grown. Pumpkin spice is not only used for coffees, even though the ma-

jority uses it for this. It is also used for many different foods like pumpkin pie and pumpkin muffins. Besides the spread among many other beverages and food groups, most people still attribute pumpkin spice to coffee. You can see this in almost every cafe when it comes closer to the holidays. Besides the coffee and latte version of this spice, pumpkin spice is used for a variety of cold brew coffees. Coffee lovers everywhere can experience the sweet scent and taste of pumpkin spice coffee right from their own homes. This spice has taken off wonderfully, and tons of people love it. What has started as a spice mix for pumpkin pie over hundreds of years ago, has turned into a favorite among the United States.

BuzzFeedNEWS

Which Monster Are You?

Take the online quiz to find out!

By Melody Lindenmoyer
Team 7 Barker



Click [here](#) to get to the BuzzFeed quiz. All possible descriptions are on this page, but you need to take the quiz to find out which monster *YOU TRULY ARE!* Mark the answers that mostly represents you and who you are. Have fun!

High School Sports and Homecoming Interviews

By Savannah Hall and
Grady Newhard
Team 7 Barkers

On Friday, September 25, we unfortunately lost the homecoming game, 35-27. We played Palisades; even though we lost, we still did our best. We asked the coach of the team, Mr. Geist, some questions. **How has Covid-19 affected the fall sports season?** “We had a reduced season, increased safety measures, and safety protocols were initiated.” **When Covid-19 hit in March, did you think there would be a fall sports season? Why or why not?** “I was hopeful that we would have had some sort of spring sports season. I was surprised by the shortened season.” **Do you think there will be a winter sports season? Why or why not?** “I think there will be some sort of winter sports sea-

son. I think you will see a shortened season not unlike the fall season.”



Joseph Abidelli and Julia Wanamaker won Homecoming king and queen. Last year's homecoming king Dale Wanamaker and Madison Amorim crowned and laid a homecoming ribbon on them. Savannah asked Julia some questions.

How did it feel to win Homecoming Queen? “It was

completely unexpected, and I was grateful to experience homecoming court with my best friends. I was also happy to see Joey win king.” **How did Covid-19 change your school year?** “Covid-19 made the homecoming experience a little different than previous years, but it was still very memorable. I think the biggest difference was not having a dance, which has always been fun in previous years.” **Did you think you were going to win Homecoming Queen?** “I did not think I was going to win at all! It was very unexpected. This year's homecoming was very different, but I am thankful that I was still able to make these memories with my friends and classmates that I will remember forever.”

New Dawgs on the Block: Football Update

By **Grady Newhard**

Team 7 Barker

Last season's 1-9 record for the Bulldogs was not quite where they wanted to be, but that's in the past, and it's a new season! The middle school's football team coaching staff is led by former Bloomsburg University offensive lineman and offensive mastermind, Matt Newhard, defensive genius Shawn Frame, and Northern Lehigh Middle School's very own Mr. Merkle!



Running Back position in a matter of months. This is not the easiest change, but they are both getting the hang of it. At the Palisades game, Kaden and Grady combined for over 200 yards and 5 touchdowns, and for first year running backs that's not an easy feat. Our fullback is Reese Lipsky. Reese paves the way for Kaden and Grady to run and without him and the offensive those two would go nowhere.

QB1

As we know, the quarterback is a very important position, and it takes a lot of work to memorize all the plays. However, Ayden Oswald is up for that challenge and with his staggering frame, he is very hard to miss. Oswald is backed up by Kayden Novicki. If you see Oswald charging your way, be sure to move out of the way unless you want a quick trip to the ER. With a balanced playbook, Oswald throws a healthy amount of passes, as well as gives handoffs.

Trench Gang

If you know anything about football, you know that the offensive line gets no appreciation but has the toughest job on the field. The O-Line is led by many 8th graders this year and some 7th graders! The 8th graders include Brody Rothrock, Cyrus Kinchen, Landon Moll, Eli Grady, Noah Herring, Alex Erdo, and Gregory Clouse. These boys are looking to improve their team's record from last season, while 7th graders Adam Neff and Caleb Bosch are also looking to hold down the line. The offensive line is shaping up to be one of the best in the league. They have already paved the way for their offense to score 90 points in the first 3 games!



with this receiving core! The receivers are led by 8th graders Brody Sterner, Jacob Smay, and Isaac Raber. All three are hoping to put up some points on the scoreboard this season. The 7th grade receivers include Ethan Grozier, Kayden Novicki, and Nathaniel Kuhns. All three are hoping to make a spark in the offense with their skills.

In conclusion, this season is shaping up to be very interesting with all of the key players on the team. The team is currently 3-1. They won their first game by a huge 40-12 margin. They lost a heartbreaker to Southern Lehigh by a score of 40-30. But they battled back the week after to beat the Spartans by a score of 22-16. They played the Green Knights of Pen Argyl and won by a convincing score of 32-6. They play Salisbury Township and Palmerton to end the season. Go Bulldogs!

Toe Drag Swag

As you know, a team's receiving core is very important to get a passing game going. There should be no problem getting things going

The Running Back Club

The two running backs this year have very interesting stories. Grady Newhard and Kaden Quinones are both 7th graders, who have transitioned from Offensive Line to the

Hybrid and Virtual Learning: Student Opinions

By Andi Szwest

Honorary Team 7 Barker

The 2020-2021 school year is off to an unusual start. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, students are not attending school in the building every day, but are instead learning through either the hybrid school plan or the virtual school plan. Because not all students are using the same school model or attending school on the same days, everyone's school experience has been very different this year. I interviewed three students from three separate buildings (Haven M. from Northern Lehigh High School, Kierra K. from Northern Lehigh Middle School, and Andrew R. from Slatington Elementary School) to see what model they are using to learn and what their experience has been like this school year.

On a scale of 1 (torturous, horrible, brutal) to 10 (awesome, wonderful, amazing), how would you rate your school experience so far?

Haven: From a scale of 1 to 10, I would rate my school experience so far at a 7. The major impact that

this COVID protocol has had on me in school is definitely affecting the work load and communication between teachers and students. I have trouble setting aside time for my schoolwork from my family and social life and it is hard to know when to



stop and relax, or reset, when you have so much to do in one day. Despite those hardships, the faculty and staff are very helpful and understanding, and I have learned that it is important to remember that you will have good days as well as bad days.

Kierra: So far, I would rate my school experience at a 4. Some parts of online school are good, like how I can work at my own pace and take my time, but other parts are horrible, such as how I sometimes don't understand what the teacher wants me to do, or what

they are trying to explain. **Andrew:** I would rate my experience at school a 5 because I don't like how everything works.

What expectations do you have for the rest of your school year?

Haven: I do not have very high hopes or expectations for the rest of the school year because I don't know how much longer taking COVID protocol in school will last for, so I am not sure what to expect. However, I hope that, throughout the rest of the school year, we can all maintain what we are doing right now to get through what we have so far.

Kierra: I expect that we will most likely go back to full in-person school after the new year.

Andrew: My expectation for this year is that we will

all be able to come to school and stop doing split groups.

What was your/your parent(s)' reasoning for making your school plan virtual/hybrid?

Haven: My parents made the decision by putting in some of their two-sense and listening to what I thought was best as well. They wanted to keep my two younger brothers virtual for this school year, but they knew that I was older now, and that my classes for the first half of the school year were very small. I wanted to get back to school because of the environment and, personally, I knew that I would do better in my academics by being able to get some human interaction. So, the best option for my schooling experience was obvious once my parents and I talked about it.

Kierra: My parents made me virtual because wearing a mask all day would affect my asthma.

Since you've experienced several weeks of your chosen school plan, would you like to change it, and, if you do, to what and why?

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Haven: I have thought about changing my school plan in the past, but after thinking about my options, and what my schedule would become if I chose anything different, I felt the best that I could do for myself was to just stay put.

Even though I was not happy about the hybrid plan, I had to learn to settle for what I could handle.

Andrew: I would not like to change my school plan because I like coming into school some days to see my friends. Also, it helps to be able to ask teachers questions when you're in school.

How do you feel about the notion that the entire district's education options can change every marking period (four times a year)?

Haven: To be honest, I have not thought too much about it. I think that the school's staff and administration should be straight-forward, and provide options every marking period that would be suitable for multiple types of students' and teachers' needs and schedules. I personally hope that they will provide more than one or two options every marking period, unless the Coronavirus has been settled down and it is safe to provide limited choices.

Andrew: It's kind of scary to know that our education options can change every marking period.

If you had the power to make a learning option (virtual, hybrid, or in-person) mandatory across the entire district, and Covid-19 could not affect it, what learning option would you choose?

Haven: I just cannot pick one plan to make mandatory. From what I have seen so far in this pandemic, everyone is dealing with their own problems and circumstances right now. In my opinion, picking just one plan would never work out in the long run. There are just too many different lifestyles and schedules that would not be able to cope with just a single option.

Kierra: I would pick hybrid because then I would at least get to go to school for a little bit.

Andrew: If I had the power to choose if our school district was virtual, in-person, or hybrid, I would choose in-person because it would make learning much easier for us students.

Do you think your school situation is hard-

er, easier, or even with the others?

Haven: I think that my school situation is a cross between easier and even with the others. My mother has been temporarily laid off due to the pandemic, so she is able to stay home to assist my younger brothers and I with our schoolwork. When I go to school, I do my work, and get the rest of it done after school. My school situation is a bit harder than previous years, but, for now, I am doing fine with all that is going on. I am grateful that my school situation is not as bad as others may have it.

Kierra: My school situation is harder than the others because I can't ask my teachers that many questions.

Andrew: I would say my school situation is even with everyone else's, it's just whether or not I know what I'm doing that makes it hard.

Did you ever have any technical difficulties with your schoolwork and/or assignments?

Haven: I have heard that other people have had a lot of struggles with their computers, submitting assignments, and getting work done, but I have been very lucky to have

little to no issues with my computer. Occasionally, an assignment is uploaded the wrong way and cannot be completed, or a website link doesn't work, but with how lenient all the teachers are with students because of this schedule, they usually fix it soon or will just assign something else.

Kierra: I haven't really had any, besides from the fact that I use my own laptop at home, and teachers lock tests sometimes.

Andrew: Yes, I have had technical difficulties before. Sometimes my Chromebook does not want to connect to the WiFi, and sometimes I just don't know what the teacher wants.

Using your previous experiences from this year, which do you think is harder: virtual school or in-person school?

Haven: I personally think that virtual school is harder than in-person school because when you go into school, you have a structured day ahead of you, class periods, lunch break, and then some homework. Basically, everything is set out for you. With virtual learning, it is up to you to know when to do assignments, when to take breaks, and what time will

work best for which subjects. After a while, that can get very stressful.

Andrew: Using my past experiences from this year, I would say that virtual school is harder than in-person school because, when you're virtual, you can't get the answer for what you need right away.

Do you think any of your school subjects are harder on your virtual days, or on your in-person days?

Haven: I think that my school subjects for this semester are easier in school than virtually because it is easier to just raise your hand and ask a question if you need help, or have a set 90 minutes to do your work, and do the rest after school or continue it the next time in class. With virtual school, I have a hard time setting aside one subject for another because I just want to get it all completed. That leads to focusing all of your energy on one subject, versus not giving full effort on another. It is so much less stressful to have time periods set up for you to get your subjects done.

Andrew: I think that my school subjects are harder as a virtual learner because you only have the option to do as the directions say, whereas if you're in-person,

you can have a teacher change one thing if it becomes a problem.

Do you prefer your in-person days of school or your virtual days of school? Why?

Haven: I prefer in-person school days for sure. Having your teachers with you, time periods set up for each subject, seeing your peers, and being able to participate in school activities in-



person is just so much easier than doing it all at home.

Andrew: I prefer my in-person days because it's easier to learn with a teacher in front of me.

What do you think of the Monday/Tuesday and Thursday/Friday groups being separated by alphabetical order? Would you prefer they were separated a different way, such as geographically?

Andrew: I would prefer that the two groups were separated geographically so

I could be with more of my friends.

Do you think that there are any advantages or disadvantages to working at home? If so, what are they?

Kierra: Some advantages to working from home are that you have more time to work and that you can sleep in. A disadvantage is that you don't always understand the work given to

you.

Are there other people home when you are working? If so, are they sources of distraction, sources of help, sources of annoyance, or a combination of these?

Kierra: My parents and siblings are home when I work, but my siblings usually take longer to finish working than I do, and my parents only bother me if I need help.

Do you take advantage of the fact that you have

unlimited bathroom breaks, free time, snack breaks, and comfort at home?

Kierra: Yes I do, but I usually finish all my work before lunch.

What are your strategies and/or techniques for staying focused and on-task?

Kierra: I listen to music while I work so that I can jam out and work at the same time.

As you can see from these students' answers, there are both advantages and disadvantages to hybrid and virtual learning. Even though school looks different, you can still stay involved. You can participate in clubs no matter whether you're hybrid or virtual, or, if clubs aren't your thing, you can always communicate with your teachers. Even if you don't need help, logging onto their office hours for a brief chat will still brighten their day. Also, it is important to remember that everyone is trying their hardest this year, so you as a student should, too! No matter how you have chosen to start the 2020 school year, try to focus on your education and make the most of what you've got!

New Middle School Teachers for 2020

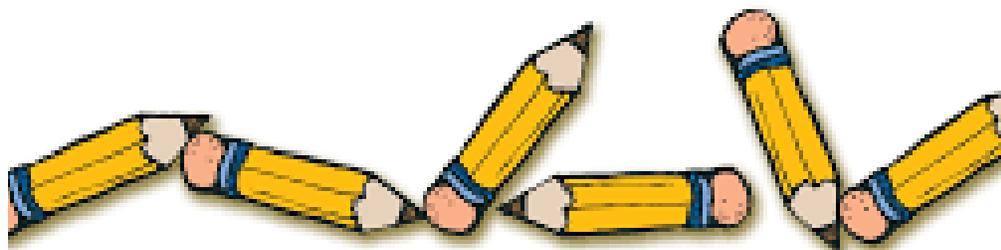
By Aubrey Reinhard and
Landon Rosado
Team 7 Barkers

Have you heard there are some new teachers in the middle school? We have Ms. Werkheiser teaching science and Mr. Rex who teaches Physical Education.



Ms. Werkheiser

Aubrey interviewed one of the new teachers this year. Her name is Ms. Werkheiser, the new 7th and 8th grade Science Teacher for the middle school. The first thing asked was why she chose to teach for Northern Lehigh. She said she picked northern Lehigh because it was “an excellent opportunity to get started as a new teacher.” She also said she chose this school because the staff is friendly and the school is nice. After asking her why she chose our school, she was asked where she went to college and what made her want to teach middle school. Ms. Werkheiser graduated from Cedar Crest College with an undergraduate degree and a Master’s degree. Also, she said that she actually didn’t have intentions to teach 7th grade and that she just knew that she wanted to teach Biology and this was the job available to her at this time. Lastly, she was asked how her experience has been with Northern Lehigh so far. Ms. Werkheiser claims that everyone has been very kind and helpful to her. She also said that she’s glad she had the chance to meet so many wonderful people at our school.



Next up is

Mr. Rex, our new
7th and 8th Grade
Physical Education
teacher.

Mr. Rex

Landon had the
pleasure of inter-
viewing Mr. Rex.
Here are some ques-
tions he asked:

Where were you born?

Allentown, PA

How old are you?

41 years old

Which high school did you attend?

Northern Lehigh High
School

Did you play any sports back then?

I played basketball, cross
country, and track and field.

Which college(s) did you attend?

East Stroudsburg Universi-
ty: bachelors degree

Wilkes University: graduate
degree

Which sports did you play in college?

Intramurals

What are your favorite sports to watch?

College Football and College Basketball

What are your favorite sports teams?

College Football- Penn State and Michigan
College Basketball- Villanova and Michigan

Who is your favorite athlete?

Tom Brady

What is your favorite hockey team?

Vegas Golden Knights

What are your favorite things you like to do?

Meet Your TEACHER



Yoga, bike riding,
watch sports, particu-
larly, wrestling.

Who are your favor- ite wrestlers?

Jeff Hardy, AJ Styles,
and Sting

What other schools have you taught at, if any?

CLIU 21 Adapted
Physical Education
Elementary P.E. K to
5th grade in Las Ve-
gas, Nevada Connec-
tions Academy,
which is a cyber
school.

What made you choose to become a P.E. teacher?

Mr. Rex worked at a daycare of school age children. He began to show these children how to play different sports. They showed lots of interest in learning to play. He remembered one young girl showing her how to shoot a basketball. She was so excited when she finally got it in the hoop. Later, he started doing a P.E. class and sports at that school aged day care.

Be sure to be a friendly face to our newest teachers in our PACK!

Stay Involved: Join a Club/Activity!

By **Bella Haydt**
Team 7 Barker

This year with Covid-19, it is a little different than other school years. Because of Covid, a lot of things are limited. This year, there are still a lot of possibilities even through all of the chaos going on in the world at the moment (with virtual/hybrid meetings to make it all happen). There are a bunch of opportunities for everyone for the 2020-2021 school year at Northern Lehigh Middle School! Because there is only a limited amount of days that most students are attending school, some clubs have been postponed.

One of the clubs available this year is the Foreign Language Club! This club is hosted by Mrs. Dunham in Room 30! In this club, the students will choose two languages that they want to learn this year. This club can help you in the world because it will allow you to go to different countries and talk to other people! It can also help you talk to people in your own country! Right now, the club is starting with Spanish.

Another one of the clubs is the Student Council! It is hosted by Mrs. Bailey and Mrs. Bariana! Ask or email Mrs. Bailey any questions you may have! In this club you as a class, can choose a President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary! This year the President is Sarah Hanzarik! The Vice President is Grace Bauer. The Treasurer is Kalei Fister. And the Secretary this year is Skyelar Horack!

You can also write flyers for the school and think of ways to encourage school spirit.

This year, there is of course, the Newspaper Club! This club is also hosted by Mrs. Dunham in room 30! In this club, you can share ideas for



articles that you think would

look good in the school newspaper! We call the newspaper the "Bulldog Bark"! You would share your article ideas with the class while Mrs. Dunham which would pick which categories you would write about!

The Library Club welcomes Middle School students! While The Library Club is a high school club, many of our activities are open to Middle School participants. We meet the first Friday of every month after school for games and fun - in person or virtually. We host monthly events for community building, friendly maker competitions to gain experience, and provide peer-tutoring and mentoring. Take advantage of the opportunity to get involved early!

If you like math, then Math Counts and Math 24 are the clubs for you! In that club you will learn more about how math works! Mrs. Bariana will run these clubs upon her return to school.

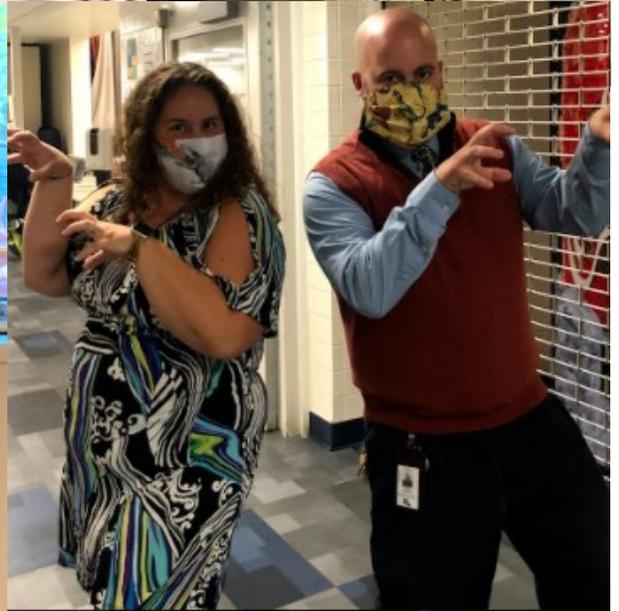
Yearbook is a great club to do! In the Yearbook club, students in the school will help create the yearbook for the school year! It is a very fun club if you like to take pictures and other sorts of things!

Some other clubs/activities are exclusive to 8th grade. For example, National Junior Honor Society is only available to eligible 8th graders. For those who like Jeopardy facts, ACE is have an opportunity to compete academically against each other in a school-wide competition. A team of six members will be chosen from this competition to compete against area junior high schools in the spring.

Also, DNN (our morning show) is open to 8th graders who apply. DNN (Dawg News Network) is a student operated T.V. station that does the daily announcements. Students perform all duties from station manager to anchor person to camera operator. Over 60 8th grade students volunteer to do these duties throughout the year. It is a great opportunity for students to learn to speak publicly and it is a lot of fun!

Please contact any teachers if you are interested in any of these activities. Stay involved and have fun!

Spirit Day Photos!



Meet the Candidates: Presidential Election 2020

By Landon Rosado
Team 7 Barker

Election Day is coming soon, November 3, 2020. People that are 18 or older can either vote at the voting polls in their area or request a mail-in ballot. Current President Donald Trump and Vice President Mike Pence are running for the Republican party. The Democratic party nominee for president is Joe Biden and the Vice Presidential nominee is Kamala Harris.

It is important for Americans to make informed choices, especially on Election Day. Although as students we are not old enough to vote, we are old enough to take the time to learn about all of the candidates' previous experiences backgrounds as well as the issues they support. To begin, here is some biographical background about each presidential candidate and their respective vice presidents.

Donald John Trump was born June 14, 1946 in Queens, New York City. Trump is the 45th and current Republican President of the United States. Before entering politics, he was a businessman and a television personality on a show called "The Celebrity Apprentice". Donald Trump is the son of New York real estate owner Fred Trump.

Trump attended New York Military Academy, Fordham University in the Bronx, and the University of Pennsylvania. He received a bachelor's degree in economics at Whar-



ton school of Finance and Commerce. Trump became a real estate developer, who owned and managed several properties.

Donald Trump married his first wife Ivana Zelnickova in 1977. They had three children, Donald Jr., Ivanka, and Eric. His second marriage was to Marla Maples in



Above shows all currently running candidates, including the third party candidates.

1993. They had a daughter named Tiffany Trump. His third marriage was to Melania Knauss in 2005. They had one son together named Barron William.

It was in June 2015 that Donald Trump announced he was going to enter into the Republican Presidential race for the White House in

2016. Under the saying "Make America Great Again", he said "we need someone to take this country and make it great again". He is the first United States President to have never held an elected office in government. Trump's unexpected victory had many people talking about what had happened. President Donald Trump took the oath on January 20, 2017. President Trump is running for a second term as President of the United States with Mike Pence as Vice President in the 2020 election.

Michael Richard Pence was born June 7, 1959 in Columbus, Indiana. Pence is an American politician and lawyer. Pence went to Hanover College and Indiana University School of Law. He practiced law and had his own radio talk show program. It was called The Mike Pence Show. Pence also served as the 50th governor of Indiana from 2013 to 2017. He was also a member of the United States House of Representatives.

Pence married Karen Sue Batten in 1985. They have three children, Audrey, Charlotte, and Michael Pence. On July 15, 2016, Donald Trump, the Republican presidential nominee, named Mike Pence as his running mate. In the Republican party, Donald Trump and Mike Pence became the 48th president and vice president of the United States in 2017. Trump and Pence are both running for a second term in the 2020 election.

Joseph Robinette Biden Jr. was born on November 20, 1942 in Scranton, PA. Biden went to the College of Law-Syracuse University in 1968, University of Delaware in 1965 and Archmere Academy in 1961.

Biden is an American politician who served as the 47th vice president of the United States from 2009 to 2017. Biden served as vice president under President Obama. Biden also served as a United States Senator for Delaware from 1973 to 2009.



Joseph Biden is the Democratic Party’s nominee for the President of the United States in the 2020 election.

Harris is an American politician. Harris also served as the junior United States senator from California since 2017.

Kamala Harris married Douglas Emhoff in 2014.

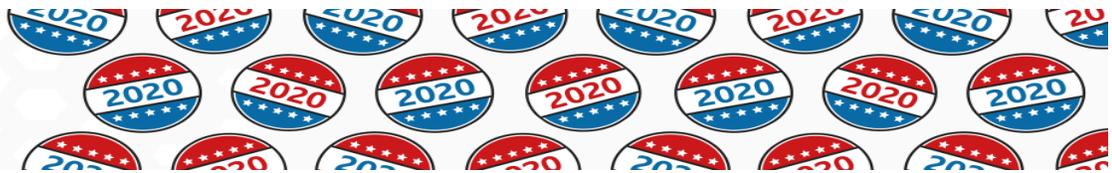
Harris ran for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination. She ended her presidential campaign run on December 3, 2019. On August 11, 2020, Harris was named Joe Biden’s pick for running mate for the Democratic vice-president in the 2020 election. Kamala Harris is the first African American and the third female vice-presidential running mate on a major party ticket.

Joseph Biden was married to Neilia Hunter in 1966. Neilia died in a car crash in 1972 with her infant daughter Naomi. Her two sons Beau and Hunter were seriously injured but survived. Biden then married Jill Tracey Jacobs in 1977. They have one daughter named Ashley Biden.

Kamala Devi Harris was born on October 20, 1964 in Oakland, California. Harris graduated from Howard University, the University of California, and Hastings College of Law. Harris began her career in a San Francisco District Attorney’s office. Harris was elected attorney general of California in 2010-2014.

Review the candidates: what they stand for and what is important to them. Will it help or hurt your family or community? Decide which party leaders stand for what is best for the United States. It’s important to research each party to know what they will stand behind.

Knowledge is power. 



Not sure which candidate/party you support? Interested in learning more in general?

Click [here](#) to visit the 2020 Presidential Quiz “I Side With” to determine what your political leanings likely are for this election.

Also, play the [Cast Your Vote](#) game if you want to simulate how to be a well-informed voter!

Black Lives Matter Protests


 OPINION

By Lauren Nichols
Team 8 Barker

The Black Lives Matter Protests are happening all over the country. What are the Black Lives Matter Protests? These are protests showing that people of color are equals to all others. They started after the death of George Floyd. The entire purpose of these protests are to stand up for black rights, speak out against police brutality, and to help show everyone as an equal. Here are some of the opinions of some of the middle school students:

Q: Do you think that people were doing the right thing by protesting?

The riots and destroying things weren't the best, but the protesting was good.
--Olivia Robb

In my opinion, it's mostly, it's just one person who got killed; we should be more worried about the virus and the election.—Troy Decker

Q: Do you think peaceful protests would make it easier to get a point across?

Yeah, it gave people a reason to support the movement and feel sympathy, but if they were being obnoxious about it, then it sort of makes it more difficult to understand.--Olivia Robb

Yes, it was made more understandable; it gave more of a reason to support the movement.--Marlee Rorrer

No. I think that if you can't tell that racism is bad in general, then what's going on here?--Matt McCarty

Q: Do you think that people should've been arrested for peacefully protesting?

No, I mean as long as they are not causing harm [to individuals], I don't think they should've been arrested. —Matt McCarty

No, maybe for the riots, and when they were wrecking things, but not for peaceful protests. If they were peaceful, then there was no reason to get angry or start hurting other people.--Marlee Rorrer



Q: Do you think people took the protests too far?

Yes, I mean they're obviously outraged, and so they probably aren't making the best decisions; some of the protests were probably taken too far. —Cecelia Serfass

Yes, some people did; I understand that they wanted to get their point across, but that isn't the best way to show how they feel about the movement.--Olivia Schaeffer

When they were rioting yes, but otherwise, no. —Marlee Rorrer

Overall, the consensus is that the movement is supported by our student body. The social injustices needs to be addressed and ended once and for all. Most students felt that this movement is best supported through a continuation of protests. The goal is put an end against police brutality and discrimination.



Suicide Prevention: How We Can Help

By **Anayis Martir**
Team 7 Barker

So as we're all aware, September is suicide prevention month. Although we are now in October, it's still important to check in on your classmates, friends, and family. Now, I have a question, what is the most common phrase you hear after someone loses a loved one from suicide? "They seemed so happy," "They were always smiling," "I never saw it coming," Notice how these phrases show how the person seemed happy or that it was so unexpected of the person to commit suicide? Anyone can fake a smile and pretend to be happy. This is why looking out for your peers and loved ones is super important because anyone can fake a smile, anyone can pretend to be happy. Some common signs of depression are lack of sleep or oversleeping, under or overeating, fatigue, disinterest in hobbies, lack of concentration, and becoming easily irritated. While these are common symptoms for depression, please do not go around claiming you have depression just because you have some or all of the listed symptoms without being properly diagnosed. Self harm is another to look out for. Now, please do not go outing anyone who does

self harm. While yes, informing your friend's guardian about them self harming is important, depending on their home life, it's different when you tell a group of people someone self harms because that information could get into the wrong hands and the entire grade or a large group of people might know. This would most likely lead to bullying or harassment about their depression which could possibly push them over the

edge and cause them to commit suicide. Another thing is when someone tells you they're depressed. How should you exactly react to this situation? Lashing out at them would most likely cause them to lose trust in you and there's really no reason to lash out at them because they can't control their depression. The best way to handle this situation would be to listen to them throughout the entire conversation and make sure you understand what they're talking

about, assure that you'll be by their side to help them through this, and think of ways to help them cope that won't hurt them or others. So we've gone through some common symptoms of depression, self harm and how to handle the situation, and how to react when your friend tells you they're depressed, so what's next? Next we'll go over silencing their voice. One of the most common things overlooked when it comes to depression and suicide prevention is silencing their voices. Some examples of silencing the voices of suicidal and depressed people are comparing the reasons why

someone is sad, claiming they're faking it for attention, and being absolutely oblivious when it's quite obvious that the person in question is not okay. So let's go over these topics one by one, starting with comparing the reasons why someone is sad. For example, say your friend is venting to you about something major that happened to them and how they feel about it, depressed. In response, you compare it to something that you were sad about for a few days that is

SHATTER THE SILENCE
 Suicide: the secret you shouldn't keep

WARNING SIGNS

- Talking, thinking or writing about suicide
- Talking about feeling worthless or hopeless
- Losing interest in activities
- Using or increasing use of drugs or alcohol
- Any changes from typical behavior

WHAT TO DO

- Be honest and express your concern
- Listen and offer support
- Take them seriously
- Offer to accompany them to seek help

WHAT NOT TO DO

- Think it will go away
- Keep it a secret
- Think nothing can be done
- Think you can fix it all by yourself

TALKING through feelings with your friends and trusted adults can help you realize the need for **HELP**. By showing **CONCERN** and **SUPPORT**, you can **ENCOURAGE** your friend to talk to their parents or another trusted adult about getting help.

WHERE TO GO FOR HELP OR INFORMATION

- Go to the nearest emergency room
- Call 911
- Visit www.dmh.ms.gov
- Call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1.800.273.TALK (8255)
- Call the Department of Mental Health at 1.877.210.8513

not even close to what they told you happened to them. Usually, this type of interaction could cause the person to think they're overreacting so they most likely won't vent to you anymore, or anyone for that matter. Next is claiming they're faking depression for attention.

Next is claiming they're faking depression for attention. While yes, some people do fake depression for attention, it's definitely not a good idea to claim that everyone who tells you about their depression is faking it. This could, once again, cause the

person to believe they're overreacting which could result in them bottling up their feelings. Now, we'll be discussing people who are being oblivious to their obviously not okay friend. For this example, say your friend has been experiencing some of the common symptoms of depression, plus other symptoms that could hint at depression, and these symptoms have become pretty obvious. Yet, you still don't ask them if they're okay. In addition, you assure everyone your friend is okay, when you don't even know if

they're okay. This could lead to your friend continuing to have suicidal thoughts and bottling them up around you and possibly others, which could lead to them spiraling out of control and breaking down from it which could lead to the ultimate decision of killing themselves. So as you've read, acts of carelessness and insensitivity could lead to your friend's possible demise. So please, look out for your peers and loved ones and think about how your actions might affect someone.

Bullying and Suicide Prevention

By Bella Haydt

Team 7 Barker

Bullying is a very common problem in school and life. A lot of students get bullied everyday. Sometimes, it could get so bad that someone would want to end their life. People bully someone without knowing what someone could be going through at home. It can be a big deal for some people. People also bully people over stuff that isn't important. For example, you bully people because of how they dress, their sexuality, their race, their friends, their wealth, their personality, their smarts, and other things that aren't important. It doesn't matter how we look or act. We shouldn't be bullied at all, especially over non-important things. Bullying occurs in every school. Schools say it is forbidden, but it never stops. You never know what somebody could be going through, and you bullying them could make

it much worse for the person. Bullying is very mean and hurtful to a lot of people. Over 2,000 kids get bullied every day by their own classmates or even friends.

You have to be careful because if



the person is going through some very bad stuff at home or personal life, it could make it worse for the person. Depending on what is happening, they could want to end it all. Children Suicide happens over 1,000 times each year, and this number continues to grow. There are also things that people will send on social media and if you don't do their challenge, they will grab your IP address and track you down and come and kill you themselves. Take the Blue Whale Challenge for example. Somebody named Jonathan Galindo created the challenge and

was arrested as soon as they found him. People with half Mickey Mouse profiles would message you on any social media platforms and ask if you want to play a game. If you accept the game, you can't back out. It is a 50 day challenge. It starts out with not that bad of challenges but then ends up with you killing yourself. Every time you did a task, you had to send photographic proof that you did it. You need to be very careful with social media platforms also.

Bullying is one of the main causes to suicide. It needs to stop. We are all human and we all have feelings. Bullying could really make someone feel bad about themselves depending on how bad the bullying is and what they are doing to the person. Bullying needs to stop. It is ruining some kids' childhood, and it is really awful. Kids have such a long way to go yet in life and they never know how it could turn out but bullying someone could take those chances away from them. **PLEASE STOP BULLYING.**

doghouse fiction



"The Beast"

By Melody Lindenmoyer
Team 7 Barker

In the blackness of night, something was waiting. Its eyes shined golden in the darkness, and its teeth and claws were sharper than

daggers. The thing leapt, nearly twice its length, and once it ascended, it stalked among the



ledge, as silent as a mouse. The beast knew fully well what it had to do next.

From where it sat, the beast had hardly touched its prey. The poor thing fell to the ground with

a crash! The creature stared at it, close to grinning.

The child was asleep, but then awoken by the crash. The child turned their head and saw the creature, then ran. The child had screamed, "BAD! Bad cat! Bad, bad, bad! That plate cost thirty bucks! Mom and dad are going to be so mad."

The cat's yellow eyes glared back at the child, leapt off the table. It sheathed its claws and covered its teeth. As silent as a mouse, it disappeared under the couch, hiding from its soon

"LAUGHTER"

By Melody Lindenmoyer
Team 7 Barker

In the darkest of night is the time the normal people are asleep, but as for me, I lie awake, only hearing the laughter of the children down

stairs. Why are they up this late? I don't know, but the laughter gets louder and louder as if they were coming closer and closer. I sit up from bed and peek out

behind the door. Nothing is there, as I expected, for you see, I live alone, and the children I hear are not children at all.



doghouse fiction



“THE PUMPKIN CURSE”

By Kierra Katen
Team 8 Barker

Once there was an old couple that lived in a village. They were the village pumpkin farmers, because others wouldn't dare take that job. You may be wondering, “Why would somebody be scared of pumpkin farming? That's such a silly thing to fear!” Yes, you must be thinking that. Who would be scared of silly things like that? Well, The village of Saint More, of course! Have you never heard the tale of the pumpkin child? Oh yeah, you don't know the story. How silly of me! Well, let's get into it!

Jill and Bill were the nicest couple in the village, both 64, and had lived in Saint More their whole life. They also had a son, 18, tall and slim, and named Jim. He was also sweet, of course, but never really talked. One Halloween night, Jill and Bill had not sold all their pumpkins and, since they did not know of the curse yet, they did not see much in it, and went to bed. The next morning, Jill and Bill had disappeared. They hadn't taken anything, and their car was still parked in the garage. They just evaporated off the face of the earth! Even though nobody knew if they were dead or not, they held a funeral that everybody in the village came to.

That's when the story of the Pumpkin Curse started going around. It's said if you are a pumpkin farmer, and don't sell all your pumpkins by midnight on Halloween night, a pumpkin-like human will rise up and snatch you away to become ferti-

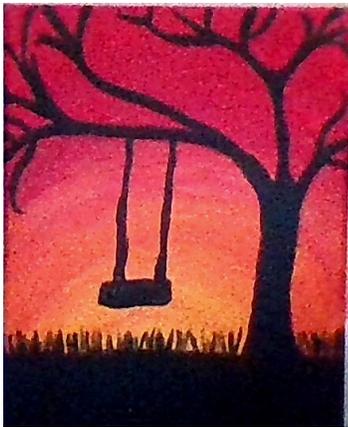


lizer! Poor Jim didn't believe the rumor, and took over the job of pumpkin farmer, not wanting his parents' work to go to waste.

Over the next 5 years, Jim got a wife, Mary, and two kids, Lola, and Lucas. They lived happily in his parents' old house, Jim working out in the fields, and Mary having a fashion job down in town. Lola and Lucas went to school in the village, both in their 2nd year. Lola was mostly

into reading, writing, and Lucas was mostly into drawing and singing. Anyways, the story isn't about these two! Tonight was Halloween, and Mary was taking the kids out for trick or treating, but Jim was too tired from selling and working those pumpkins, so he headed off to bed. Suddenly, something outside banged up against the door. It was dark out, so Jim assumed it was trick or treaters. He stood up checking the time. It was midnight. Jim, still not believing the curse, headed down stairs, while calling to whoever was at the door, “I don't have any candy for y'all! Get out of here!” He opened the door and nobody was there. Yet he felt a presence. He turned around, while closing the door, heading towards his room. Then he stopped. He heard breathing. Nobody knows what happened to Jim after that day. Some say he left his wife and kids, thinking it was too much responsibility. Others say it was the curse, and the Pumpkin Man took Jim away to become fertilizer. All they know is after that day, the pumpkins smelled faintly of rotting meat.

BULLDOG ART!



Letter from the Advisor

Welcome back to school, and Happy Halloween weekend! I hope you've had a great start to your school year. Certainly, this year is vastly different than others, but I have to say, I think all of us, students, teachers, staff members, and administrators, have been doing an excellent job continuing to thrive despite the challenging environment we are in. Hybrid and virtual learning are new to each and every one of us.



I, like all of you, yearn for the day “normal” will return, safely. Teaching and learning hybrid/virtually is an arduous journey. Not being able to have move around the room or interact as normal is upsetting. Having quiet hallways, cafeteria lunches, and classrooms is at times eerie. But I'm so glad to have students again. Even seeing students virtually, the connections and learning continues to grow. I just want to take a minutes to commend us all for rising to the occasion and adapting to this new world that has never been navigated through before.

The Bulldog Bark serves to represent students' voices at Northern Lehigh, so speak up! *The Bulldog Bark* is always looking for more Barkers to add to the pack; even if you would like to contribute to just one issue. This paper serves to represent all of us. If you have any article ideas or are interested in writing at any point, please see me in Room 30 or send me an e-mail:

bdunham@nlsd.org. Also, if you are a talented artist, I would love for you to feature your artwork! We have plenty of room to show off your skills!

I would like to acknowledge the 2020-2021 *Bulldog Bark* pack. Some eighth graders have returned from last year, and many seventh graders have joined the crew this year; I am so excited to have you all on board!

Stephen Berry, Savannah Hall, Bella Haydt, Kierra Katen, Melody Lindenmoyer, Emily Mack, Samantha Mack, Anayis Martir, Grady Newhard, Lauren Nichols, Aubrey Reinhard, Landon Rosado, and Andi Szwast

Happy Halloween! Let's have a strong finish to Marking Period 1, and a smooth start for Marking Period 2!

-Mrs. Dunham

