# e Billie Bulletin--**5** h

## Students share their votes on Election 2024

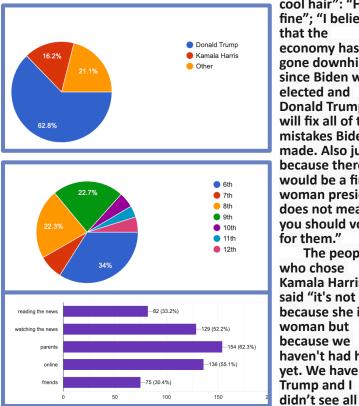
With the presidential election coming up, we are hearing about how important it is to vote for the right candidate and which candidate is the right one.

Even though we can't vote, our opinions are still important. The US is a democracy so we the people decide who leads us. Citing our opinions forces us to think about and decide who we want to lead us. So the Billie Bulletin decided to share a poll about who Pleasant Hill kids would vote for.

The two main candidates that we put on the survey are Donald Trump and Kamala Harris. 62% of the people who voted for Trump, and 16.3% voted for Kamala and 21.3% voted for someone else.

One person chose a very interesting, but not serious person as their other choice. They wrote "I support Kanye West because he is the best artist ever and he will have a great poll on our country."

A few arguments for Donald Trump were "He's got pretty



cool hair": "He's fine"; "I believe that the economy has gone downhill since Biden was elected and **Donald Trump** will fix all of the mistakes Biden made. Also just because there would be a first woman president does not mean you should vote for them." The people

who chose Kamala Harris said "it's not because she is a woman but because we haven't had her yet. We have had Trump and I

positive things so I want to see what Kamala has to offer for us as a country"; "Mainly because she supports women's rights and the right to abortion. I think America would DEFINITELY benefit from having a... woman President."

There were also some people who didn't vote for either candidate and one person wrote "I don't support any of them, I think politics are stupid."

Another said "I don't support either because I could genuinely care less about either. Either could disappear and I wouldn't notice."



# PLEASANT HILL VOLLEYBALL

## Volleyball is Acing it! Team is 26-1in date with State Destiny

## By Greta Gramzow

Pleasant Hill's Volleyball team is serving up wins! A sterling start to the season has led to a total of 26 wins and one loss. Right now the Billies are ranked first in State and are on their way to be the first volleyball team in PHHS history to claim the win!

I asked Ruby Jackson how confident she is about this year. Her response was, "Every season is really fun but this one's really exciting because it's kind of our last go around for a lot of people on the team, so we got a lot of high expectations and a lot of good vibes."

She continued to talk about her passion for the sport, "I've been on a lot of different volleyball teams and my school team is my favorite team I've ever had because the girls on that team are like family. Every game is just full of inside jokes and messing around. We are obviously very mindful and competitive about the fact that we are in an important game but basically it's like getting to hang out with my friends while playing a sport that I love."

Win or lose, our volleyball games always have the hype! The Billies are a blast to watch and dominant winning 70 sets versus losing only 9. Their only loss came to Westside Christian but their big opponent will be #2 Valley Catholic whom they beat earlier in the season.

## A first in years: exchange students bring a bit of Spain and Germany to PHHS

**Kaspian from Germany** By Josie Heacock Meet Kaspian Leonhart, Pleasant Hill's newest exchange student. Kaspian is a junior who has recently transferred to PHHS from Mittweida, Germany. Many students are wondering, why Pleasant Hill? If you could go anywhere in the U.S. why not some big bustling city? Here's how it went down. "My parents have friends here, and they knew a family here that would host me." Turns out, those friends of the friends were none other than the Bahens, Ethan and Dallin, students here at Pleasant Hill. "At first it was hard adjusting, but now I really like it. It's not that different, it's just that the people[here] are way more open." Kaspian said. He also said, "The main difference is in Germany the teachers are way more strict. Here, the school is longer and all the activities are for

free time with the school. [In] Germany, sports aren't with the school, they are with the club[s] in the city."

much the same. I really like Shawn Mendes. One Direction, Conan Gray, and Olivia Rodrigo."

soccer pitch wearing number 16.

Gonzalo loves to play soccer and he does so back

on the pitch and 30 minutes of physical training, different from the ones here. I feel that the training sessions are very repetitive. On my team home] we [back do something different every day to learn about different ways of playing." "Also, the way of starting the games in Spain is not so parade-like, you just get into the position that the coach has told you and that's it. It's different but I like it because the important thing is to play soccer and the team is very friendly," said Gonzalo. Not only does Gonzalo like to play soccer, he also enjoys fishing. "I usually go to the Duero River or the Lozoya River, where I fish for trout." Gonzalo wanted to go on exchange because his older sister went to Chicago a few years ago."[She] told me how much fun she had, and what a great experience she had, and I want to experience the same."

As everyone knows, sports are huge at Pleasant Hill and this year, Kaspian joined the soccer team. Although he plays soccer, he really likes to play volleyball.

"In Germany, I used to play volleyball with my cousins. [I went to watch the volleyball game here], it was fun to watch."

Volleyball isn't his only interest, Kaspian also enjoys music similar to what students here like.

"Music [here] is pretty



It's amazing how music is universal and something that unites people from all over the world.

### **Gonzalo Hernandez from** Spain By Ellie Epperson

Our Spanish transfer student has been surprised by several things living in **Pleasant Hill.** 

"With [still] one month left until Halloween, they have already started decorating the shops and Gonzalo Lòpezhouses." Ramos Hernàndez is an exchange student from Madrid, Spain. He has been staying with the Smiths, a local Pleasant Hill family. Spencer and Nellie Smith are students at Pleasant Hill High School.

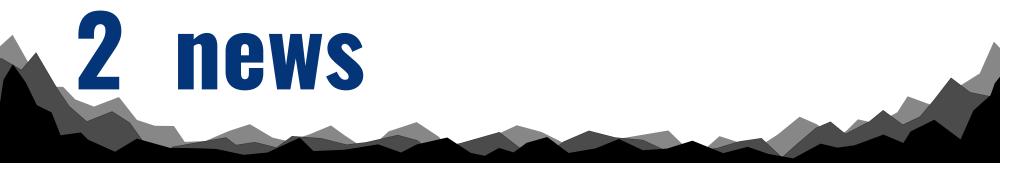
You may have seen him the hallways during in passing periods, or on the

home in Spain. He plays in Madrid for the "FPA" club. Gonzalo's club team won league last year. His favorite team to watch in Spain is Real Madrid, one of the most competitive professional teams in the world. He likes to see them when he can.

Gonzalo has noticed that the training for soccer in America differs from the training he does in Spain. "At my club, you always have to train in the club's clothing.

The schedule is one hour





# For Laken Casarez teaching is in the blood

### By Oscar Jimenez

Mrs.Laken Casarez, our new English teacher, grew up here in Eugene and went to Sheldon High School.

After she graduated she decided to become a teacher. She now teaches English for high schoolers in the 9th grade and other classes.

Before teaching high schoolers, she taught at a Hamlin Middle School in Springfield. She spent her first years out in Hamlin Middle School before she decided to come to Pleasant Hill High School where she now teaches 9th graders and then a mix of the other grades. Casarez teaches Principles of Writing and short fiction.

Mrs. Casarez recently also had a baby, which she named Collins Jane Casarez. Her baby Collins is very happy, smiley, and most important, takes good naps. Casarez is also happily married and her husband works for Turning Point USA as a Field rep for Oregon.

Mrs.Casarez became a teacher because she says that she comes from a long line of teachers. Her dad had taught for 30 years so it runs in her family and that good teachers make a difference and can last beyond schools. She also likes to read and her favorite genres to read are, historical, non-fiction, World War II, classics, and more.

Casarez said that taking care of a baby at first is hard to do but after some adjustment for both her and the baby it creates a bond and gets easier. Mrs. Casarez also said that once you become a mom, you are responsible for their life and that can be really difficult because it's constant.

Something surprising that she has learned about her baby is that Mrs.Casarez emotions play off on her baby and her energy feeds on to her too.

Casarez admits that she says that her brain does not work like it use to. She also says that she loves dogs, and her favorite thing to do is that she likes to spend time with friends and, getting out of the house, going for walks with Collins. Her favorite hobbies are working, thrift shopping and working out. Her favorite genre for music is a little of everything.

## Introducing Mikayla McCauley

### By Emily Wardle

One of the many new additions to our school this year is a new high school English and literature teacher, Mikayla McCauley. McCauley teaches Drama, Science Fiction and AP Literature.

She was raised in West Salem but attended BYU in Idaho and did an EFY counselor program in Utah and would end up working at the same school she did her counseling program at. During her time there she found that she much prefers working with high schoolers over elementary or junior high.

"Too much energy," she said.

Ms.McCauley has been teaching for six years making this her 7th. She originally taught at Ogden High School in Utah for 10th-11th grade.

She moved back here to be closer to family and to move in with her high school best friend.

When I asked how Oregon compares to Utah she explained that visually the

two share a lot. The school she taught at prior was also in a rural area and she would drive past pastures and cattle on her way to and from work.

Something of note she mentioned that was different compared to her



## **New Elementary principal** fills big shoes

### By Sienna Malekzadeh and Emerie Martin

Last year had quite the bittersweet ending, as Mrs. Devery Stoneberg had to say goodbye to Pleasant Hill. The elementary principal for the last seventeen years, she left big shoes to fill as she stepped aside to care for a family member. Into her position the District hired Ms. Brenna Fairchild who is ready to take on that challenge.

Brenna Fairchild is an experienced teacher, as she most recently taught 5th grade for seven years in Cottage Grove. Before that, she taught in India and South Korea.

She said she loved being a teacher and watching her students grow through the year, and Ms. Fairchild still enjoys being in the classroom.

'I wanted to make a difference on a bigger level. I like thinking about systems and how we can improve school buildings as a whole and I can't do that from a classroom."

So far, the transition from teacher to principal has been amazing for Ms. Fairchild and she states that the PHill community and staff have been greatly supportive.

"I only applied for jobs in smaller communities because I'm really passionate about smaller school districts. I thought it would be a really good fit." Ms.Fairchild grew up in Eugene so she's familiar with Pleasant Hill and knew it would be a great community to be a part of.

Next she was asked what she was like in middle and high school. She said through laughter, "I was not a student I would have wanted to have taught in middle school, but I learned from those mistakes. I loved high school. I worked in an after school program, and I was involved with the student body and student council."

When she was younger, she played many of the sports our district loves today such as soccer, and volleyball. She also enjoyed playing tennis.

Currently, Ms.Fairchild's hobbies revolve around playing golf, finding DIY house projects, and hanging out with her dog Cleo.

Traveling has been a huge part of Ms.Fairchild's life. In addition to teaching overseas, she has traveled all over. Her favorite place she's ever been is a tiny island off of Bali called Lembongan. It can only be accessed by boat, and no cars are allowed on the island.

Fairchild is excited to learn about Pleasant Hill's traditions. "I've heard about our living museum night and nacho feed and I'm very curious about seeing that in action. And I'm excited to see other traditions."

Recently she got to experience Pleasant Hills' fun-filled jog-a-thon tradition, just one of many more to come.

With 17 years of teaching and all her time traveling around, Ms. Fairchild has seen it all. But her advice to us middle/high schoolers is simple. "Learn from your mistakes. Mistakes are where the learning happens. Don't be afraid to try new things. Working hard gets you really long way."

Ms. Fairchild is hardworking, and is great with the staff and kids. We have high hopes that she will be an amazing principal.

# **P.E.Teacher Changes** The Game

By Brooklyn Breslaw and Arianna Bowman

The middle school has a new P.E. teacher, Paxton Miller. Miller is also the high school girls basketball coach.

Mr. Miller has been coaching for ten years in total with six years at Springfield High School, two years at Sheldon High School. Now this is his second year with the Billies.



time in Utah was the people. Right off the bat she could see the tight-knit community that has been built up here over generations by how everyone knew everyone.

Ms.McCauley explained to me how blown away she was by both the kindness and welcoming nature of our community, especially in the students, how everyone was kind and would try in class even if they didn't know the answer, saw and appreciated how involved parents were in both their kids and their education.

Another thing she mentioned was her love for teaching genre classes. They are new to her but she told me extensively about how much she likes them and teaching them. Saying she likes the idea of allowing students to have a bit more agency in what and how they learn different parts of English literature.



Sutherlin High School

He thinks that they have some great opportunities. Sienna Malekzadeh thinks that "he's a good PE teacher, It's nice to have P.E. with a coach."

Mr. Miller also decided to teach P.E. because he missed playing sports and enjoys teaching.

So far he likes teaching and thinks moving around and playing games is super fun. A fun fact about Paxton is that between Steph Curry and Lebron James he would rather play Lebron because it would be a great learning experience and a fun game.

Miller started playing basketball in first grade. Mr. Miller's favorite female player is Sabrina Ionescu because of her attending the university of Oregon and now playing as a star in the WNBA.

His favorite male basketball player is Lebron James because he has so many accomplishments and is a legend.

Mr. Miller thinks that the high school girls team is meant for very special things. This year they will be senior heavy although losing Raigan Obie graduation and Sari Strinz who transferred to

She's hoping to teach a Romance genre class in the future.



## Middle schoolers lose personal Chromebooks

#### By Izabella Patterson-Giles

I don't have a problem with the Chromebook policies, but other students do, so I investigated why we got this policy.

Most people might ask the first question, why enforce this? According to Assistant Principal Salmond, "There were two main issues to address, one of them being damage to Chromebooks. The second issue was we were trying to address the amount of off-task behavior, video games, or whatever kids were doing in class."

The ban on personal Chromebooks seems to be working. Ever since this policy started, the percentage of damage has decreased and work done in class increased.

This problem with personal Chromebooks first got brought up last spring by the staff. What if they just assigned a bunch of Chromebooks to a class and assigned one to each student?

Some students wondered why they could not just check out one at the start of the day and then return it?

The response was that if people have a Chromebook with them all day, then there will definitely be damage to them. Storing Chromebooks in classrooms where Chromebooks are needed, severely reduces the amount of damage done to them.

There are pros and cons to this. If someone doesn't have a computer at home, they may not be able do their homework.

But on the other hand, the school can save a ton of money if they don't have to pay for Chromebook damage.

For the time being, the policy seems to be working, regardless of student frustration.

# Being aware can help prevent suicide

#### Opinion by Taliegh Jackson

By the time this story is out, Suicide Awareness month will be over. However, this doesn't mean suicide goes quiet. Suicide rates of all ages have risen since COVID. Anyone can take their life, I've known kids not even double digits end their life, whether it be because of bullying or their home life.

Now you may be asking, why am I talking about something so depressing? Because it's preventable.

People are suicidal for numerous reasons. Life is hard to handle, but what's EASY to handle is helping someone not go down that path. Anyone can commit suicide, no matter how happy they may look. There are so many ways, albeit hard ways, to spot Suicidal ideations (suicidal thoughts.) The obvious is that people talk aboutcommitting suicide, even in a joking manner.

I'm going to bring light to suicide ideation, so any parent reading this can spot these hard to handle emotions in their kids, or family or even themselves. You're never alone!

Suicide is a hard topic, I mean any death is, but suicide can hit especially hard. One thing I have noticed is the huge idea that just because someone does something for attention means its not real, example being talking about suicide. I ADAMENTLY disagree with this.

Just because something is done for attention doesn't mean the person doing so is mentally well, given the fact they are seeking out attention from other sources...

This is besides the point though. While thinking that a kid talking about suicide is merely seeking attention. Oftentimes parents will water down their children's vocal attempts for help as a means of "seeking attention."

While this can be the case, it doesn't mean it

should be taken lightly. I mean come on! Your kid is saying they "want to die" why would you not take them to get help? Ok back on track...

Spotting suicide ideation is easy for some, hard for most. A few ways you can be spotting this is how a person acts and talks. Consider that a person considering suicide seeks an excessive amount of isolation, or drug use or how they act out emotionally.

Not only is growing up hard, but on top of that they are going through a lot physically and emotionally.

Another extremely easy to spot sign is self harm. While not everyone who does these mentioned things ends up committing suicide, its often very correlated.

You might be scared to ask if a person wants to commit suicide, but you will never know if you don't listen to your kid.

These thoughts are something that can be fixed WITHOUT a psych ward (which more often than not are actually worse for one's mental health.) Depression is a very hard battle to go through, especially in your teenage years, but YOU (hopefully a parent...) can prevent this by just being there and actually listening to your kid.

You can look up a lot of ways to help your kid, the best being getting them a therapist who is actually there to help them.

Listen to your kid as well, this isn't Parent vs Child, it's Parent and Child, work through this tough patch together, help your child.

Anyone reading this that is at risk of suicide, or knows someone at risk of suicide: REACH OUT. There are billions of people, thousands are dealing with what you are now. There are people who can help you, Dial 988 if you're at risk of suicide. You are never alone ¥

## How much do we really know about the Holocaust? School should teach more about the cataclysm that defined modernity

#### By Zoe Harr

In history class, one of the things students must have learned about was WW II. And specifically, the Holocaust. We definitely know about the Holocaust, and how and why it happened. But do we truly understand the gravity and emotional weight of this event?

And more importantly, do we take the **Holocaust seriously?** 

This past summer during a trip to New Orleans, I visited the WW II Museum with my family. Throughout my visit, not only did I learn so much more about the war itself, but about the Holocaust. I was horrified.

One of the exhibits that we spent the most time watching were the eyewitness accounts of the Holocaust. The exhibit was not only about the victims of the Holocaust, but also about the former soldiers who liberated or toured those concentration camps!

Even if I had already seen the same exhibit twice or thrice, I would watch them again. I just couldn't believe it. Upon returning home, I realized just how

specifically the Holocaust," He said. "We also watched motion pictures in class that demonstrated some of the atrocities that occurred in places like Dachau, which was one of the main German concentration camps during WW II."

Afterwards, Rudy told me about how he had visited both the Holocaust Museum in Washington D.C., and the Holocaust Memorial Museum at Dachau, in Germany. There he witnessed the barracks, where the Jews were kept in cruel, inhumane conditions, the crematorium, where the Nazis burned the bodies, and the shower chambers where they gassed their prisoners.

And while we as students know about the Holocaust conceptually, I don't think that we truly understand them.

"Yes, I have heard others mock these things. Screaming for Hitler, and 'running away to go get the guns before the security becomes more serious', that kind of stuff," said Tally Dee (not their real name).

It does make sense for us to make light of something we don't truly understand, but joking or

being careless about this devastating event is not

what this generation needs. History is nothing to be

jeered at. The Holocaust, along with WW II, could

very well happen again in the future if we don't take



## The Billie Bulletin

little we knew at our school.

I consulted Dr. Rudolf Hoellrich, my mother's partner, about his school experience in learning about the Holocaust.

'So when I was in school, as early as middle school, we received education in our social studies classes and our history classes about WW II, and

## PHHS upgraded over the summer

By Sofia Ameen and Elizabeth Blake

After a long relaxing summer< the Billies are back and the school has even been upgraded.

So what really happened over the summer here at school? For starters there is a new FFA room. Over the summer the district hosted a fundraiser called "Relay for Life." This was an event that raised money for patients who struggle with cancer.

Over the summer there also were 6 sport camps! Three of the camps were for grades K-8 and one camp was for K-12. The last two camps were for grades 3-8.

it seriously.

Soccer alumni game was played on Aug. 17th. At the alumni players gathered and played in a huge game!

The volleyball camp was on Aug 5th-7th, the football camp was on Aug 6th-8th, the wrestling camp was on June 20th-22nd, the baseball camp was on June 29th, the basketball camp was on July 15th-19th, the soccer camp was on Aug 21st.

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# 4 features

## Mr. G is our new success coach

## By Aria Verma

Who do you think of when you think of a "Success Coach"?

For us at Pleasant Hill we can consider Mr. Paul Griffith-or more commonly referred to as Mr. G.-as our "success coach."

Mr. G is the new success coach at Pleasant Hill.

What does that mean?

"(As a success coach) we are focusing on (getting) every Billie on track to graduate. So (this means) 8th graders and 9th graders passing all their classes, attending school regularly, and making sure that we're not building bad habits in 8th grade so that when we get to 9th grade, we don't fall behind."

Born and raised in Marcola, Oregon, Mr G. went to Thurston high school. He got a degree in counseling at Western Oregon University.

"I went and got my school counseling degree because I wanted to keep working with kids. I wanted to further my career, but I didn't want to be in a classroom all day. So school counseling is the route I went."

He heard about Pleasant Hill through his friends.

"Mr. Miller, the girls' basketball coach, is a good friend of mine, and he was coming out here to teach PE. Mr. McClain, the high school principal, used to work with Hamlin."

Mr. G. has started something called Work Completion Lab to help kids with missing work.

"Kids either get assigned to come in and hang out with me or some kids want to come in and do work because they are gone or they didn't have enough time. So during lunch time, kids can come to work with me, get caught up, and turn those assignments into me. I'll make sure they get to the teachers."

One of the other things Mr G. does is he helps out kids with 504's. A 504 is a set of accommodations that help students with medical limitations learn. Growing up, Mr G. had a 504.

"I have what they call achromatopsia, so my cones have no color." This affects his vision which makes him legally blind.

"I look very close at things. You probably see me read my phone or read my computer or my screens. Right? So I get to get real close, because that's, like, where my eyes naturally focus. And, yeah, I was on a 504 going through school."

Even though he has this he doesn't let this stop him.

"The only thing I can't do is drive."

Mr. G. is a helpful addition to our school and will help 8th and 9th grade students with 504's and help them pass classes.



# Cultural Immersion-Escaramuzas

By Caroline Carlson

I love learning about different cultures and their traditions. Recently, I learned about a tradition from Mexico from my good friend Emily Cisneros Sanchez (8th) and I just have to share it with you.

It's called Escaramuzas.

I asked Emily a series of questions about this amazing sport. First of all, what even is this?

"Escaramuzas is a group of eight girls riding horses working in a team and we do twelve exercises, lots of the exercises include many types of turns."

We do the routines in the Lienzo (arena) and the whole event is called an Acharya. Once you're done with your routine the eight of you line up in a straight line whichever way the crowd is facing and you (it's called the personas) you go like this with your right hand (cross over chest) so you thank God, then the horse and pet it and then you thank the people." Emily said "The last competition that we had in Mexico we got top 10. Basically your judge has a paper that your trainers have set up with every routine has their own name so like Uno con Puesto and on that paper it says who and who comes into the ring at the same time who turns this way who turns that way.

There's two judges on opposite sides of the ring. Last time we got 290 and the highest was 298 so we got like top 10 something or like that. Most competi ti ons take place during the Summer."

"When competing in Escaramuzas everyone's apparel has to be That includes



Emily Cisne father Agustin Cisneros in the has to Eugene Bright Parade. Cisneros is an outstanding rider in the identical. Escaramuza tradition. Photo from Eugene Weekly.

the dresses (vestidos) which are fit so the top is tight and the dress falls a specific way when riding

I am the first Escaramuza in my family and I didn't research beforehand so I was just learning off what I heard."

sidesaddle and have a perfect bow in the back.

Riders wear sombreros, the horses saddle (abardas)

and other accessories, earrings which must be gold

or silver and cant have sparkles or hoops, hair style,

and the special pendant that hangs from the rebelso

which is a certain knot that hangs from your waist

time and has been passed down from generation to

generation. The group Emily joined was started by a

family called the Cordinelas that brought this from

Mexico and is called Seleccion Juneil De Oregon.

And they practice at the Santa Cruz (In Hillsboro)

how dedicated these girls are and how hard they

days to rehearse and adapt to new horses. We had to figure out if they needed more or less leg in the

interested in becoming an Escaramuza what her

One thing that Emily said about Escaramuzas is

"When we went to Mexico we only had four

My final question for Emily was if anyone was

This tradition has been around for quite some



thing is top dedication and to always think before you might get mad at the horse or a teammate. Second. always come to practice with an amazing mood because if one girl has a bad mood it messes up the entire team's mood. Third. never be afraid to ask questions. I was afraid to ask and

"For me the

on the right side."

**Equestrian Center.** 

advice would be.

work.

side.'

The Homecoming dance was hoppin'with a large crowd of students hitting the dance floor to favorites like Cotton Eyed Joe and other dance classics.



# Harris is the Best Choice

#### Opinion by Angelina Calva

Some Americans feel no obligation to inform themselves on politics. Only about 32% of Americans follow national politics very closely. Based on decades previous this number has risen, but it's nowhere close to where it should be. This election has been filled with controversy with Donald Trump running for president again after his presidency from 2017-2021, where he got impeached twice. Once in 2019 and 2020.

It is important to inform yourself about elections and vote because, in the end, you're only hurting yourself if you remain ignorant. You can't complain when political leaders suddenly start banning books, or when you hear about Project 2025 for the first time when it's becoming law.

If there was one person who should never be president, that person is Donald Trump. Trump is a known misogynist, racist, and narcissist.

This is how Trump has describesd how he treats women: "Just kiss, I don't even wait... Grab them by the [lady parts]... When you're a star, they let you do anything."

Solely considering Trump's character would be enough to think he's unworthy of being president, but adding in his project 2025 only solidifies the idea.

Project 2025 is a blueprint for his presidency crafted by his closest associates. Trump has claimed not to know, but his advisers are all in on it. Project 2025 sets up Trump as an authoritarian, pushing for a Christian nationalist plan to steer the U.S. toward autocracy. Legal experts have said Project 2025 would undermine the rule of law, separation of powers, separation of church and state, and civil liberties.

The main points of the project are to cut Medicare and Medicaid and urge the government to explicitly reject abortion as health care. The project seeks to eliminate coverage of emergency contraception and use the Comstock Act to prosecute those who send and receive contraceptives and abortion pills.

Trump seeks to control women's bodies while Kamala Harris advocates for women's right to their bodies. Trump has said with the Supreme Court ruling allowing states to decide on abortion, that the matter is settled. But he has refused to oppose any national ban on abortion. .

Harris strongly rejected efforts at banning abortion including the national ban and she blamed Trump for the reversal of Roe v Wade. She made reproductive health her top priority in her 2024 presidential campaign.

Her stance on human-caused climate change is that it's an existential threat and we need to act urgently and address it. Harris proposes investing in renewable energy and holding polluters accountable.

On the other hand, Trump says "he is not a great believer in man-made climate change. He has also long rejected climate science, sometimes calling global warming a "hoax." leading a majority of Trump supporters not to believe in human caused climate change at all.

Harris supports Ukraine in its fight against Putin's war crime land grab. The US is the main backer of a free Ukraine, and if Trump gets his way, he will sell Ukraine out, giving Putin, a major victory and permission to swallow up other countries. China is watching and if Putin wins, it is likely that they will move against Taiwan, our key ally.

Harris's stance on her support for Israel is a little questionable to me because she has suggested that US military aid to Israel would continue if she wins the election. She has stated, "I will always stand up for Israel's rights to defend itself and I will always ensure Israel can defend itself." That statement in itself could have an entire other story written on it, but, I don't believe Israel is defending itself at this point so that's why I find her choice of words questioning and not necessarily agreeable.

This goes to show how not every candidate's actions will always align with our personal beliefs. Despite there not being the "perfect" politician, but of the two running this fall, only one is the right choice and I believe that it is Kamala Harris.



## Gleaned from https://www.donaldjtrump.com/platforn

## The Billie Bulletin in its first years: the 1950s and 1960's

The first Billie Bulletin was very different from how we write them today. The Billie Bulletin of the early 1950's covered different topics, had a different layout, and no pictures. The first editor for the Billie Bulletin was Edith Smith, Ms. Devish's grandma She and her fellow journalists did things differently than how we do them today.

One of the things she and her team covered differently was the topics they wrote about. They wrote about book club meetings, the "Y-Teens", required military enrollment, and parades at the school. PHHS was also much smaller in number than today, and few kids had cars. Most rode the bus.

The Y-Teens was mentioned several times in the Billie Bulletin, and it seemed that it was widely known throughout the community. I couldn't say that I had heard of it. In doing some research, I found that the Y-Teens was a club for girls that was provided by YWCA. Young women in the group developed leadership skills and made differences in the communities where they lived. There were Y-Teen clubs in several different communities which would meet and talk about discrimination shown to certain races or nationalities. They wanted to change this

The people who wrote for the Billie Bulletin also wrote stories of members from the Marines, Marines Reserves Army, Coast Guard, and Naval Reserve who came and talked to junior and senior boys about their obligations to the military. Members of the Armed Forces also came and talked to the junior and senior girls on February 1st about joining the Army as well.

Later, in the 1960's Billie Bulletin, problems like war and discrimination were written abou. Kids in the 1960s must have had to deal with these problems in their daily lives.

## The first Editor of the Billie Bulletin: Edith Smith

By Tim Meinzen

Everyone brought their own lunch; very few students drove to school; sometimes staff used physical punishment on misbehaving kids and almost half of the kids who began school as freshmen, actually graduated as seniors four years later.

ear almost all students attending at that time will report a pretty happy experience in high school. School was simpler, more intimate, and seemed to feature more shared values.

Edith Smith today, and on her wedding to Carl Smith in 1951



Edith Smith (Grandma to Ms. Devish and mom to Mr. Steve Smith) granted an interview about her life and times at PHHS circa 1948-1951. Incidentally, she became the first student editor of the Billie Bulletin which will be celebrating its 75th birthday next year.

Smith has only vague memories of creating the very first typed and mimeographed Billie Bulletin. The advisor, Mr. Bob Officer was also a coach. The stories were charming and short, often accounts of what is going on at school with students and clubs. It was homemade and sincere. To our eyes, the 1950's Billie Bulletin reads like a glimpse from a very different time.

Edith's own story is fascinating.

She grew up in Eugene, finally transferring to Pleasant Hill by sophomore year in high school. Her father wanted solitude and the farm life. Her mother preferred the city. Their

different desires led to their eventual divorce. Edith, sensing that the Eugene folks had more money, chose the country life.

Once at Pleasant Hill High school, a top athlete, Paul Smith noticed her and began to tease her. He was popular with the girls, a four sport athlete, a good worker and "fun to be around." Edith admits she was not an athlete and just an average student. By senior year she and Paul got much more serious and on graduation day, Paul proposed with a ring.

Donald Trump wants your vote for the Presidency. He promises to do several things to shake up the country.

He will set in motion the mass deportation of millions of "illegal" and some legal migrants to this country using the military if necessary.

He will place a 10% -20% tariff/tax on all goods imported with a 60% tariff on Chinese goods.

He says he will lower the price of fossil fuels by approving drilling, pipelines and opening Federal lands and offshore areas to oil production.

He will reject global alliances and promote America First patriotism

He will promote Parent rights and cut funds to any school promoting Critical race theory or gender ideology..

He proposes to build a great iron dome missile defense shield over all of America.

He will restore peace in the Middle East

He will reduce corporate taxes for companies that make products in the US from 21% to 15% making the largest tax cut in history.

He promises to put Elon Musk in charge of Government efficiency.

He will use the Justice Department to investigate his critics and former allies He will draw the US closer to Vladimir Putin, autocrat of Russia.

He will end the war in Ukraine by forcing Ukraine to allow Russia to keep land it has conquered.

He has proposed the building of new Freedom cities with flying cars.

He wants to rollback protections of public lands and limit government regulations of pollution.

He will make America Great Again.



### Edith's father was not pleased.

Paul's willingness to work hard landed him jobs at Mt. June Sawmill, then Hills creek Lumber where he became "one of the best saw filers" around. After their marriage on October 11th of 1951, they moved into Eugene, but then moved to the mill camps for the affordable, if spartan, housing. Edith took work at the First National Bank and then getting pregnant with Steve saw them move back to Pleasant Hill.

"I did not want to leave Pleasant Hill. This is home to me."

But Edith had to deal with the fact that most families had mom and dad, her folks had split. That meant that her parents did not socialize, especially her father, like other parents did.

Edith did confess to some "rebel" action. The school district had a derelict building on campus, and she and her friends decided they were not going to go into this "unsafe" building. So they called for a sit down strike. While they struck sitting on the lawn, the principal talked to them about their action. But he did not force them into class. They did, however, get an F for the day and her dad told her that she would never, ever, do that again.

Edith liked school and had positive memories of teachers like Mrs. Smith, Ms. Cash, Mrs. Thyme, Anna Lou Parr and Mrs.Pogue. She recalled that the wooden desks were all carved up, but they did have lockers, blackboards and discipline was strict. They sat in rows and often ate lunch with the teachers.

Paul Smith was something of a prankster and eventually got kicked out of the school bus at a place near the Dexter Lake Club and had to walk home. Paul and his friends also liked to remove doorknobs from doors. Pranks were not uncommon, but school was, as today, the center of community life for many and for Edith.

# 6 Sports

# New take on CHEER

## By Ellie Thebo and Laynie Reed Cheer is arguably one of the most misunderstood sports. There is this idea that cheer is "easy", and "not a real sport."

This is 100% untrue!

From an outside view it may that way, but seem а cheerleader's job is a lot harder than it seems. Being a cheerleader comes with a lot of responsibilities and expectations. As a matter of school expectation we have to be at most of the sporting events cheering them on and being a positive presence at the event.

Our two cheer captains, Laynie Reed and Sarenity Peters, said that their perspective on cheer has changed since they began cheering for the school. They both said they never wanted to join and it wasn't something they necessarily wanted to do after being in All Star Cheer for many years.

Now, having an inside perspective on cheer, Sarenity says she loves being a part of such a fun team and being able to be herself and get to cheer on all sports and getting to be very involved.

Many of the cheerleaders we interviewed agreed that they became before а cheerleader they had the idea that cheerleaders were "mean and unwelcoming," like the stereotypical cheerleaders in movies.

After joining they realized that everyone on the cheer team was extremely welcoming and kind. "Before joining, I thought everyone was gonna hate each other, but we are actually like one big family" said Tessaleigh Many of the Putnam. cheerleaders we interviewed brought the strong up between the connection cheerleaders.

"Everyone's so welcoming and nice. It's so much more than just cheering" said Allison Rife.

cheerleaders Our are underappreciated and deserve recognition for their hard work. Our games have a more



# A tough season but an excellent finish

The boy's soccer team has struggled this fall with a record of 4-9-2. But in taking a big hit the team's reasons for the tough year make sense. They lost their head coach and they did not get the players they normally get coming out to play.

'The team has been short on players and some players are less experienced than others," said teammate Juan Contreras.

Another problem, "The team has also been hurt by the loss of our veteran coach Ryota Sugitani," said Juan Contreras. The assistant coach Trevor Shields has taken over as coach but there is always a rebuilding experience. when a coach leaves.

Coleman Sprague, Andrew Taylor, Ethan Bahen, and James Hoopman are the team's seniors. Coleman is normally a midfielder but he has had to drop back and play defense because of the defense's inexperience. Andrew is really fast and can dribble past people, but he too, had to drop back and play defense.

Ethan is able to beat people to the ball and can find the open spots to get to. And James is the team's top scorer. The teams' best wins this season were both at home when they beat Douglas, 3-1, and then their senior game against Sisters, 1-0. The Billies also had two more positive environment because of wins against Taft and La Pine, and then they had two ties against De La Salle North Catholic

# Q&A CORNER

Name: Emily Krauss, Senior Sport: Volleyball Position: Libero, I wear the different colored jersey and only pass and play backrow Highlight of the Season: I would say the highlight of the season has been winning all our tournaments as well as getting first place in

league for the first time since 1995 Team Catch Phrase: Let's fricking go guys! Or Yahtzee

Name: Dahlia LaRoche, Junior Sport: Cheer **Favorite Game to** cheer at: September 27<sup>th</sup> vs Cottage Grove for the Hawaiian theme night Team Catch Phrase: "Family on 3: 1,2,3, Family!"



Name: Isabel Hammond-Mendez., Junior Sport: Soccer **Position:** I play right wing and I help make opportunities to score, assist with defense and cross the ball to the other side of the field **Highlight of the** 



season: Beating Sisters for the frist time in two years Team Catch Phrase: \*Ziara's witch cackle\*

Name: Vedder Anderson, Senior Sport: Cross Country PR: 18:06 **Highlight of** the season: Throwing rocks at the wasp nest by the bridge **Team Catch** 

Phrase: The faster you run, the faster you're done

Name: Nic Perkins **Sport:** Football Position: Wing, it's like a slot and a tight end mixed together. It's the best spot to be in if you want a touchdown. **Highlight of the** Season: A failed double pass that accidentally went to me from Jacob Neely, and I ran it for 30 vards. **Team Catch** Phrase: When it doubt, throw the hot route

them, and they do so much good and Yamhill-Carlton. for our school.

The PHHS boy's soccer team has had its ups and downs this season. They will lose their seniors and a couple of other players who are exchange students, Kaspian Leonhardt and Gonzolo Hernandez. They will have other players who'll be returning next season and will get some new ones to work with.



Left: Cheer team at UCA Camp over the summer **Right:** Freshman Kai Davis takes off, ending up scoring against undefeated Cottage Grove



Name: Andrew Taylor, Senior

Sport: Soccer

Highlight of the Season: The highlight of this season so far is our one win! We've had a pretty bad season, we started the season at risk of not even having a time, so getting that singler win was quite rewarding.

Team Catch Phrase: "It's mullet time" I promised the team that I'd get a mullet if we won the Santiam Christian game, needless to say I don't have a mullet so we didn't win. I promised them if we win the last game of the season I will get a mullet until our soccer banquet.

# **Issues** 7

# **Big Ball** is Top Dog

### By Sofia Dennis

We've all come up with fun games to play at some point right?

Well there's a new game at the track, and it's called 'Big Ball'. According to the group of boys who have been playing this since a random day in P.E. it's a great game to play. It's basically like Gaga Ball, except you can throw it, there's no pit, and headshots definitely count.

"It's not really a sport, but it's pretty fun," replied Darren Soper. "It's definitely going to be a sport someday," said Ezra Foreman cheerfully.

Please play by the rules, or you will be chased around with a lot of yelling and throwing the ball in play most likely at your head. And warning, it's kind of a rough sport so if you don't enjoy the risk of getting a little injured or maybe revenge, this may not be your thing.

The group of kids invite you to join, "during lunchtime in the middle of the track field," said Finnian Farmer.



## Drivers trash local highways

#### By Ava Loose

Highway 58 is known for speeding, wrecks, and crazy people walking on the side of the road, but you may not know that Highway 58 runs by our homes. I live by Highway 58 and I see lots of trash by my house. Trash gets in my driveway and by my fence. I see people throw it out of their vehicles. I see people also stop on the side of the highway and put it on the ground.

You may think people who Adopt Highways will help clean it up but they only do it once in a while and then It gets trashed again.

The trash usually consists of fast food containers, boxes, bags, tarps etc.

I've found some weird things like a big plastic tarp, clothing, styrofoam box and a big rotting snake

## The eleven day sleepover: Student group tours the UK

Have you ever wondered what it's like in Europe or being 5,006 miles away from home?

Have you wondered how different they do things?

In England they drive on the opposite side of the road! Europeans often charge to use public restrooms and there is no such thing as a bottomless cup of anything or free refills. These are only a few of the things that Europeans do differently.

On June 26th, a group of about 34 adults and students left the Pleasant Hill High School to head up to the Portland International Airport. The drive was about two hours long, but it felt like ten minutes. The excitement in the air was electric! Everyone was so excited and spent time going over their last minute list to see if they forgot something. The trip was organized by EF tours and our very own Mrs. Olson.

When they got to the airport, they were still super excited but were dreading the two hours to Canada and nine hour flight to Europe. They all made it through TSA, and then after a half an hour or so they boarded the plane. Most of the group didn't sleep on the plane, some were lucky enough to catch a wink.

When they landed in London it was June 27th (London is eight hours ahead of the US). The first stop the group went to was the natural history museum in London. It was giant compared to the things we have around here.

Most museums in Europe are free to everyone. We visited the changing of the guard at Buckingham Palace. Big Ben was an awe inspiring sight for many!

"Windsor Castle was breathtaking," said Mrs. Moch. "The British Museum was my first sight of an actual mummy."

We also rode on a giant ferris wheel that is 443 ft tall!

"The view from the top was breathtaking."

# The policy many PHMS students hate

### by Darren Soper

Many middle school students are annoyed by the fact that we can't bring our backpacks into any of our classes. Because of this new policy, many students are choosing to just not bring their backpacks to school entirely

"BackPacks are very useful but because of the policy we can't use them, I bought a whole new backpack for this year but no one can see it because of the policy!" said Emerie Martin.

I interviewed assistant principal Caleb Salmond, about the policy and here's what he had to say. "One of the reasons for the policy is that it is safer to move around the classrooms and bring less food in the classrooms. It also helps students utilize their From the top you can see Big Ben, the house of Parliament, and the London Bridge."

"Overall the London Eye (the ferris wheel) was one of the coolest sights I have ever seen."

After London, the group traveled by train and bus to Edinburgh, Scotland.

"Edinburgh castle was one of my favorite places we stopped at," said Ukiah Endicott.

Did you know that in Scotland when the weather gets hot the ground sinks and exposes anything buried in the ground? Edinburgh Castle was an astonishing site situated on the top of a hill overlooking the Royal Mile.

"Edinburgh Castle was amazing. It was staffed well and we left with a lot of information," said Mrs. Huff.

When I asked people their favorite place, Mrs. Toles-Wallace said "Victoria Street in Edinburgh. It had a really cool Harry Potter store and I liked the way the buildings looked."

The group then traveled to Blackpool, one of the top 20 most dangerous cities in Europe. We survived Blackpool which looked like a bit of a derelict amusement park.

From there, the group traveled to Wales where they explored a small little town and Conway Castle.

"Doughnuts don't taste like American doughnuts. They have less sugar and taste more like dough," said Mrs. Moch.

They then traveled across the Irish Sea to Ireland.

Ireland is full of grasslands and livestock. It also has rolling hills not like the hills we have around here. In Ireland the hills are smooth and look like they go on forever, the ones we have around here are ridged and rock.

# Olinger makes it to DC

By Fatima Garcia

If you would like to know more about journalism and media we invite you to check out The Washington Journalism and Media Conference, Our student junior Caitlin Olinger spent a week in Washington DC for this conference. She was



accepted and her tuition was paid for through a LEAF grant from the Luehring grant.

Caitlin was not the only person from Oregon to attend, she is glad that she went because she met a lot of people from across the country.

"This was a really fun experience, I would like to experience something similar in the future, I really liked meeting new people, learning their cultures and backgrounds.

I gained a lot and learn about different things. I gained many skills as a person and as a student of well journalism and the media. The Conference was a well rounded conference."

nanging on my tence.

It's annoying seeing all the trash on the side or the road. Seeing it fly out of vehicles is annoying too.

Also trash is dangerous because the animals who walk on the side of the road could get stuck in it.

So please, keep your trash in your car. Don't trash our homes!

Homecoming scenes on a celebratory night in which the Billies collared the Creswell Bulldogs. Cheyenne Green and Kaden Fisher were selected Homecoming King and Queen.



lockers. The policy also helps with time management and going to class with only their necessities."

With this policy for me it has felt like it hasn't helped much with the problems it was supposed to stop but it's the first month of the school year so who knows what could happen. Attendees got put in a group of 15-20 students which they stated with all the week. The groups were named for a color. The groups did not mix as much as Caitlin would like. If there was a thing to change about this trip it would be that we should be

different people and not the same all





# the billie backside

## The 3 best food trucks in the whole wide world

## By Juan Contreras and Jay Griffith

The authentic smell of Mexican cuisine fills the air, while to the right cars rush by on highway 58. Kind and inviting customer service welcomes you to the front of the truck where you think long and hard about what to order when you have such a variety of options.

This wonderful sounding place is 2 Many Tacos; the food truck well known throughout Pleasant Hill High school. You see students coming back from lunch with a burrito or some tacos. You can safely assume that is where they came from.

Our agenda while visiting 2 Many Tacos was to first ask what food was the most frequently purchased and then to rate it. Then second, ask what their favorite food was and rate it, and lastly, ask them what their favorite part is about working in Phill.

As we arrived, the first thing that we noticed was that the cleanliness of the outdoor seating was more than adequate: the benches were freshly clean even by the end of the day. The customer service was good, as the worker we spoke with was nonchalant and relaxed.

The most commonly purchased meal was the street taco which goes for \$ 2.75. We got two of the tacos which were very good and definitely worth the price. After eating tacos we gave them 4/5 stars.

As for the cashier's favorite food he told us it was the *mulitas*. They were priced at \$8.50, the mulitas consisted of two corn tortillas sandwiched with melted cheese, beans, your choice of meat, cilantro, onions, and tomatoes. It is then grilled with cheese. In addition to that it is served with a small side salad.

When I was first told about his favorite meal I was hesitant to eat it because it was something I've never had. But once I sat down and took a bite everything changed. I couldn't believe it was one of the best things I have ever eaten!

In all honesty I think the mulitas were one of the best foods I have eaten from 2 Many Tacos. It even beat my all time favorite food to get from there the torta. After finishing the very delicious meal I had to give the food 4.5/5 stars.

The worker who served us showed his relaxed demeanor when we asked him the question of what was his favorite part about working where he does. He replied that the best part about working there was that it was a chill work environment—this came as a surprise to us. You would think it's a stressful work environment, but apparently the opposite.



As we continued down 58 again we once more got hit with that similar aroma. We looked around to figure out what that smell was, and then we found it. Buen Día Mexican Cuisine, another Mexican food truck! But yet there was still something else, a unique aroma we hadn't yet smelled. It had a delicious smell of fried chicken. It was Tucky's Fried Chicken.

We made our way to Buen Dia Mexican Cuisine and we asked her some basic questions like: what was the most frequently bought dish or in other words the most popular dish at their food truck, what their favorite dish was, and finally what their favorite part of working there is.

The lady who we interviewed was super sweet and caring. She gave off this positive vibe, it was just incredible, so without a doubt I'd have to say the service was excellent. She mentioned that the most popular dish at their food truck was the asada burrito, and her favorite food was the asada tacos! She also told us that her favorite part of working there was to meet new people, which we believe is an amazing answer.

So we ordered one of each, and we ate the burrito. It had an exquisite taste, and the meat was very moist. The rice and beans had a unique and rich taste, over all we really liked the burrito and so we gave it a  $\frac{4}{5}$  star rating. Next we ate the tacos, they cooked the tortilla perfectly to our liking, the asada had such an incredible taste, and not to mention the cilantro and onions which added an even better taste over what we've just said. Easily one of the best tacos we've ever had, so we gave them a 4.5 stars out of 5!

Overall Buen Dia Mexican Cuisine gave us such a great experience, the customer service was amazing, their food was exquisite, so when it came to give them a rating we decided to give them a 4.5 star rating out of 5.

Tucky's chicken was a good experience. The service was very professional and quick to take our order. The wait was long, but it was worth it. The most popular was the Tenders & Tots, which is what we got. We asked the worker the basic question of what her favorite part about working there was and she answered with, "seeing all the new people, and it's something new every single day."

This answer was pleasant to hear, it was nice to know the worker cared about her customers and enjoyed her job.



# Summer tech internship at PHHS

### By Carson Bernardo

If your memory serves you correctly, this is likely the third time you've seen this story in the October issue of the Bulletin each year. That's because I was hired on as a tech intern for my third and final year, and I wanted to yet again give some info that might steer you into applying late in the school year.

The internship is open to anyone with the intent to learn and build work ethic. The work includes the thrilling experience of cleaning the Chromebooks we use, with the cases too, along with performing general maintenance on the tech around the district. The internship is a little bit different every year, based on needs and wants in the district year by year.

The team is led by Technology Director Mr. Shields, along with Network Support Mr. Bartow. (if either of you are reading this, sorry, I just got it from the website.)

That said, they are both so great at what they do and are very helpful and friendly. I guarantee that the pleasure of working with the two of them will be a highlight of the internship; they always make it special.

Don't forget to apply next June!

## Sight to the Blind!

### By Mark Buchan

What would you do if you lost your eyesight? What would anyone do in that scenario? It would be terrible to lose the sense that allows you to see the world.

But technological advancements are already being made that can give a person losing their sight hope. Neuralink, the company you think of when you hear "brain computers," has received an FDA break through device designation on its new project "Blindsight."

Blindsight would work by implanting a microelectrode array into the visual cortex of the brain. The array would then activate the neurons in the visual cortex to give the person a visual image. This technology is still in its pre-infancy so the image will most likely not be that great, but it's still way better than being completely blind.

Elon Musk said on X, "To set expectations correctly, the vision will be at first be low resolution, like Atari graphics, but eventually it has the potential be better than natural vision and enable you to see in infrared, ultraviolet or even radar wavelengths, like [Star Trek's character] Geordi La Forge."

Neuralink's brain chips could revolutionize the entire prosthetics industry, making it possible for the disabled to be free of their disabilities.

While this technology is great, some people have doubts. People share their concerns over the

# Why art matters

### By Kylie Lan Rowell Not a lot of people appreciate art.

To some it's just random strokes of a paint brush, a clump of clay, the thought provoking triangle amongst the vast white of a canvas.

But those strokes of the brush gather together to create a breathtaking masterpiece. That pile of clay, molded and shaped to create a statue or sculpture that the artist conjured in their mind.

Art is an amazing thing.

The time and patience it takes, the love and delicacy put into every stroke, every smear, fold, and blend to bring comfort or fascination to the viewer.

How some artists can capture every detail, bringing their work to life is awe inspiring.

Michelangelo was 13 when he first started painting, completing two relief sculptures at the age of 16. He released Madonna and the steps, sculpted from the Stiacciato technique.

Van Gogh was 27 when he started painting with no one to teach him. He painted from his imagination, creating the Starry Night, his portrait, even the Skeleton with a cigarette. There's not as much detail, but his works are among the greatest works or art of all time.

It doesn't matter what age you are, whether you've taken lessons, how well you can paint, but what matters is that you try.

Art is an escape.

Endless opportunities to express yourself.

nature of Neuralink; it would rest inside your brain. This kind of system is called an invasive BCI (Brain Computer Interface) system. Invasive systems present the unique risk of surgical complications, which could potentially harm your brain. As technology progresses, these surgeries will undoubtedly become safer, but in their current form, they could be dangerous.

Many people also have concerns that Neuralink chips might not be secure enough and will get hacked. This could threaten devices connected to Neuralink and, by extension, a person's privacy and safety.

Medical devices have had vulnerabilities before that allowed for them to be hacked. A good example would be in 2016 when Johnson & Johnson reported flaws in their insulin pumps that could allow unauthorized people to control a patient's insulin doses.

Even though this science has not been perfected, it still shows a path to a better future where people won't be defined by their disabilities. I hope this technology continues to grow and helps create a better world for humanity.

# The Billie Extra



