

# BEARLY



# FACTS

APRIL FOOLS!

APRIL 2025

DISTRICT

## PVHS changes graduation requirements for Class of '26

*During the February meeting, the Pleasant Valley School Board approved a motion to bring back community service as a graduation requirement as a way to prove students are responsible enough to represent the district in the real world.*

**By: Sarah Stenlake**

Pleasant Valley High School has just announced to reintroduce community service hours as a graduation requirement.

All graduates, beginning with the class of 2026, will be required to complete 8 hours of community service, as well as all future graduates after this class. This does not include the current class of 2025 seniors.

This decision was proposed at a previous board meeting. Many were divided on this topic as they felt that students had already put in enough work and effort in

schoolwork to graduate, and that community service was unrelated to receiving a diploma.

"Students work hard enough as it is and don't need yet another task to prove their capability. We shouldn't be continuously moving the goalpost," said Tabatha Smith John, the newest member of the Pleasant Valley School Board.

Others felt that a diploma should only be given if students prove they are responsible enough to complete community service. At our most recent board meeting, the decision was ultimately made to bring back the controversial

rule.

"If we are sending students out into the world to represent Pleasant Valley, we need to make sure they are take that responsibility seriously," explained Chad Karrenton, PTO President at Pleasant Valley School District.

This renewed rule has already caused a stir among students, particularly juniors, who will be the first class to be required community service hours as a graduation requirement.

Sienna Pearce, junior at Pleasant Valley High School, has voiced her chagrin on the

rule.

"Community service hours should only be required for extracurricular activities, not graduation," Pearce stated.



The February Board Meeting

## PVHS uses unconventional tactic to get rid of mice

*In an attempt to take control of a mouse infestation, Pleasant Valley has brought in an army of cats. Unexpectedly, chaos ensues.*

**By: Max Sullivan**

Recently, Pleasant Valley High School had an infestation of mice. To help solve this problem, the staff sent in a bunch of cats to catch them, which has now lead to an infestation of cats.

The staff then sent in cucumbers to scare the cats, which led to an infestation of sentient cucumbers. To deal with the sentient cucumbers, the staff let out leftover garlic and onions, which then turned out to be sentient garlic and onions and they also infested the school.

"I have absolutely no idea what to do," said James Roberts, head custodian. "I mean, how are we supposed to stop infested onions? Everyone is crying about it."

To stop the infestation of sentient garlic and onions, the staff sent in a bunch of squirrels. When the squirrels took over, they sent out nuts, which distracted the squirrels to go elsewhere.

For a little while, there was a sense of peace, but just last week, the mice have come

back into the building, with the rest of the staff afraid to send out any more.

"We shouldn't go after them again," says Jerry Splinter, master rat-catcher. "If they want to, my friend Tom will get rid of them."

Although the staff are afraid of the mice, they are still trying to seize back control over the building which has led to chaos over the past couple few weeks.



An artist's rendering of how it's going.



The initial design pitched to PV for how the plan would go

## PVHS to end school year a few weeks early

*As a way of recognizing the hard work of the student body, the district has decided to end the year on May 16 for high school students.*

**By: Stela Dias**

In a totally unexpected announcement, Pleasant Valley High School has revealed that they will be ending the school year early this year. According to the school administration, they wanted to reward students for their hard work and dedication throughout the year.

Classes will officially wrap up on May 16, just in time for an extended summer break. Brian Boylan, Principal at Pleasant Valley High School, believes students have earned a longer break.

"We feel our students deserve this early release, and we want to celebrate everything they've accomplished this year," explained Principal Boylan.

The leaders really care about celebrating student's hard work. This early release announcement is a fun way to reward everyone for their efforts this year.

Olivia Smith John, a senior at

Pleasant Valley High School, believes that the extra time off will help students focus on what's to come.

"This early release is a wonderful opportunity for students to unwind and their summer break. It's a chance to celebrate their hard work and look forward to new adventures ahead," states Smith John.

With the school year wrapping up early, students might have extra time to relax, hangout with friends, or even catch up on some hobbies they love.

"This early release is like a cherry on top of a great school year. It gives us all a chance to recharge, explore new interests like traveling and enjoy the summer and spring sun with friends," says Julian Dempster, junior at Pleasant Valley High School.





DISTRICT

## Pleasant Valley announces the creation of a new mascot in district-wide rebrand

*In order to more accurately represent the student body, Dr. James Konrad has announced that they will be changing our bear mascot to Kenny the Koala.*

**By: Khloe Dooner**

In a shocking turn of events, Pleasant Valley High School Superintendent Dr. James Konrad has announced that the school mascot, the Bear, will be replaced with a new animal: the Koala Bear.

"It's a more adorable and approachable option for everyone in the community," explains Dr. Konrad.

Dr. Konrad, who is half Australian, is dedicating a classroom in the JCM wing to create the Konrad Koala Sanctuary. It will take care of and house Hemsworth, a koala



**Newcastle native and PV koala, Hemsworth, in the Konrad Koala Sanctuary**

that Dr. Konrad rescued from Newcastle, Australia.

According to school officials, the decision comes after a debate over school spirit.

"We realized that while bears are strong, they can also be a little bit intimidating," said Logan Krock on the mascot committee. "Koalas, on the other hand, are friendly, calm, and they love to take naps just like our students!"

The change may have mixed reactions. To help

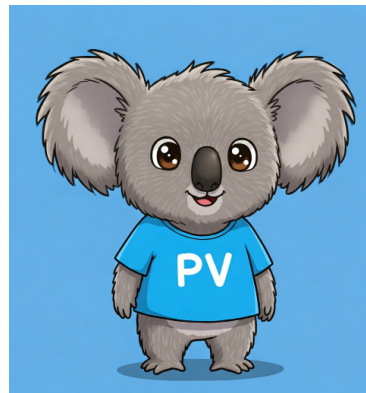
this transition, the school is planning to distribute gear to introduce a new school chant that a donor of Pleasant Valley High School Koalbert Fuzzington made: "Climb high, koalas never quit!"

Rumors are also circulating about naming the gym "Koalafied gym of gains" and branding it as a much more zen-like space where students can work out at their own pace. The official mascot reveal will take place next week on April 16th at a surprise assembly

where students can meet the new mascot, Kenny the Koala, and learn about the new tradition.

Until then keep your eyes peeled for the first ever Pleasant Valley Koalas merchandise coming soon in our new Koala Mart school store, that students are already referring to as the "K Mart."

"Go Koalas!"



**A mock up image of the new mascot: Kenny the Koala**



**The official Kenny the Koala mascot, making his debut at the March 14 Pep Rally**

DISTRICT

## Infamous Australian breakdancer named new coach for Pleasant Valley

*Fresh off her Summer Olympic performance, Raygun has been brought in to coach the Pleasant Valley cheerleading for the upcoming school year.*

**By: Jamie Jones**

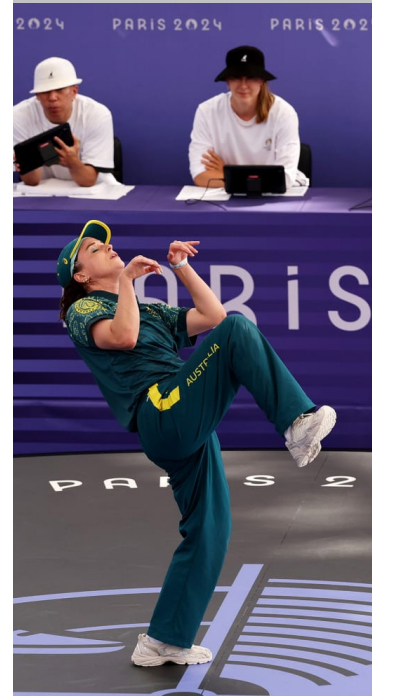
The Pleasant Valley High School Cheer program welcomes Raygun as their new head coach. As the cheer season went on, there were many ups and downs the girls had to face. The athletic department has been looking for a permanent head coach and now they welcome Raygun.

Raygun is a local resident who cheered at PVHS. She is not only local, but also a famous influencer who goes viral for her dances, and cheer videos.

Raygun is here to bring a fresh, and new approach to the way they run things now at cheer. Raygun shares her opinion on cheer.

"I've always known that cheerleading is more than just chants, stunts, and dances. It's about bringing people together, joy, and chaos to the community," stated Raygun.

The cheer team is excited to bring on their new coach, and try her new sense of direction. Raygun has ordered her first day as cheer coach that they will be hosting a cheer dance off, for anyone to join.



Source: nbcnews.com

NATION

## TikTok goes "Beast Mode"

*Confirming the recent rumors, online personality Mr. Beast obtains coveted app- TikTok.*

**By: Daniel Diller**

In the beginning of this year, millions of people feared for their online personalities to be taken away as TikTok was scheduled to be banned in the United States.

President Joe Biden signed a law to ban the app in January of this year, but previous attempts just haven't worked out in the government's favor.

However, in this case, content creator and philanthropist Jimmy Donaldson, known online as Mr. Beast, posted on the social media platform X (formerly Twitter) on January 13.

"Okay fine, I'll buy TikTok so it doesn't get banned," stated Donaldson.

Mr. Beast currently has the most subscribers on the video-creation platform YouTube, having amassed 344 million subscribers.

The news brought

mixed reactions from both followers and fellow content creators, with some replies including "Save America from having to watch instagram reels," from Lazarbeam.

However, though some doubted him, Mr. Beast (as well as other billionaires he teamed up with), purchased TikTok and renamed it to Beast.com, angering ByteDance, the former parent company of the video platform.

When Robert Leuthardt, a Pleasant Valley junior and ex-PVTV crew member, heard of the news, he was outraged.

"Why should large content creators and rich people be able to buy a company and rename it to something involving themselves," questioned Leuthardt.

TikTokers can now call themselves 'Beasts' following the philanthropists purchase of the company.

## Nintendo becomes more like Nintend-don't

*Many were surprised to learn the ownership of the famous company Nintendo is undergoing a major change.*

**By: Dakari Fleming**



As the Switch 2 looms over the horizon, Sony has made the executive decision to purchase Nintendo for \$25 billion. Sony has had their eyes on Nintendo since the Mario movies release.

Kenichiro Yoshida the Ceo of Sony stated, "It would be profitable for both companies to combine two things everyone enjoys into one."

Sony has had their eyes on Nintendo since Sega has had no interest in being acquired by Sony or Microsoft.

"I can't believe this actually happened. What an absolute game changer for gaming," exclaimed Gwentyth Smith John, freshman at Pleasant Valley High School.

The announcement of the Switch 2 gave Sony the

perfect opportunity to offer a lucrative deal to Nintendo's ceo Shuntaro Furukawa to purchase Nintendo.

Nintendo's Ceo Furukawa said, "Yes because the Switch 2 is right around the corner and this merger would be beneficial for both of our companies."

"I think this is good for both companies because they are really well known by everyone," stated Olivia Joseph 11th grader.



Source: cnn.com



DISTRICT

## PVHS Admin compete in game show to raise money for the school

*Brian Boylan, Amber Chiafulio, and Ariella Mease, members of Pleasant Valley High School's administrative team, took part in a new game show called School ShowDown. Winning this show granted in hopes of winning the \$150,000 grand prize.*

**By: Khloey Philhower**



The members of the admin team at Pleasant Valley High School represented the school on a new game show called School ShowDown on Feb. 28. Assistant Principals Amber Chiafulio and Ariella Mease joined Principal Brian Boylan as they competed in the toughest challenges in hopes of winning the grand prize of \$150,000 for the district.

In the first round, Ms. Mease came in hot, winning the hottest hot wing challenge and earning Pleasant Valley 47 points, one for each wing she finished, putting Pleasant Valley in second place behind Pocono Mountain East.

"It was important for the team to start strong, and Ms. Mease really came through for the team," said Mr. Boylan.

As the second round began, Ms. Chiafulio stepped up to



**Ariella Mease**

the plate by participating in the puzzle challenge, needing to find and build her puzzle with only seven minutes on the clock. She knocked it out in only five leaving two minutes to spare, taking the first place spot heading into round three by a score of 67 to 66.

"These games can be hard but we keep cheering on our principals in these challenges, showing up and showing out in support of them. They are trying to win money for our school, to help us get the best education possible with their help," explains Chelsea Buleje, freshman at Pleasant Valley High School.

With the scores neck and neck, the final challenge of the competition proved to be a pivotal

one as Mr. Boylan worked through The Scavenger Hunt, trying to find one of the three immunity cards that would keep Pleasant Valley from getting eliminated. Finding one card and making it back to the starting line first meant PVHS would have a top three finish, but finding all three guaranteed a first place finish and the grand prize.

While this round was chaotic at times, Mr. Boylan finally found two of the cards. One was hidden inside of a bagel from Bagel Experience, and the other was located inside of Chestnut Diner.



**Amber Chiafulio**

In the end, the PV team took a first place finish with an overall score of 86 to 75. Pocono Mountain East and Stroudsburg rounding out the podium.

"It feels great to be able to perform at the highest level for our students and our school. Go Bears," exclaimed Mr. Boylan during his post-competition press conference.



**Brian Boylan**

DISTRICT

## Pleasant Valley to construct a new fountain as part of its renovation plans

*A fountain of Superintendent James Konrad has been commissioned by the school board to be placed outside of the new main office once the upcoming renovation project is completed.*

**By: Sienna Pearce**

As the long awaited construction to Pleasant Valley High School continues, it is important to recognize some big changes that will be occurring on school grounds.

Along with renovating classrooms and hallways, the district is planning to have a fountain of Superintendent Dr. James Konrad constructed outside of the high school's main office.

"While designing how we wanted the school to look after the change, we thought it would be important to commemorate the man who is helping to bring

Pleasant Valley into the modern era," explained Tabitha Smith John, member of the Pleasant Valley School Board.

Right smack in the middle of the courtyard will stand a fountain that will hold an uncanny resemblance to Pleasant Valley's beloved superintendent.

"I am excited to see how this fountain will look," exclaimed Dr. Konrad.

This fountain, created by local sculpture Donatello Leonardi, is designed like a in the style of other famous Greek fountains, giving the piece a more classical.

School officials have said that it will have a prime spot as students enter the building.

"I am beyond honored to be the subject of this amazing fountains," stated Dr. Konrad.

Students are thrilled by the inclusion of the fountains because they believe that it will not only spruce up the high school, but also make it a more exciting place to learn.

"I know that the fountain of Dr. Konrad will make my learning experience a whole lot better," explained Olivia Smith John, returning senior.



The proposal submitted to the board depicting the fountain

NATION

## Beyoncé's Illuminati ties exposed

*Beyoncé's career and achievements have come into question and she posted a picture of herself on Instagram dressed up in Illuminati robes.*

**By: Amelia Stenger**

After countless conspiracy theories and rumors, the cat is finally out of the bag. Singer-songwriter Beyoncé has finally come out as a legitimate member of the Illuminati.

In a recent Instagram post, she shows herself dressed in a cloak, before unveiling her true identity. Fans absolutely blew up on social media, regarding this shocking turn of events.

Sarah Larregui, senior at Pleasant Valley High School, shares a popular opinion of many fans who are shocked by the revelation.

"I am so shocked that my idol is involved with this madness," exclaimed Larregui.

Fans aren't the only ones to react to this incredible news lightly. Multiple artists have come out expressing their frustration with the pop-sensation.

"I can't believe this is real. How long has this been true, and what other conspiracies are actually truth," questioned rapper Kendrick Lamar.

While most fans were shocked, some fanatics were able to guess this from the get-go.

"I don't know where all this hate is coming from, the signs were there from the beginning," explains Sophia Lopez, a Beyoncé super-fan and senior at Pleasant Valley High School.



Source: texasmonthly.com

This is in reference to multiple instances that were deemed to be "cult-like" behavior from the artist. Whether it was her super bowl performance, or previous music videos,

Beyoncé will have to continue on her legacy with her public secret revealed. The real question, though, is whether or not her credibility with the public can withstand the news.

"Honestly, if she was keeping this a secret for this long, what else has she been lying about," questioned Olivia Smith John, senior at Pleasant Valley High School.

Smith John isn't the only one that has a waning fandom of the star. Kelly Rowland and Michelle Williams, Beyoncé's former bandmates while they were Destiny's Child, suddenly have a much clearer understanding of the post-band success.

"All the awards and praise she has received since leaving the band never made any sense to us," explains Rowland. "She's talented, don't get me wrong, but it was clear to everyone that she was never the star of the group."

Williams shares in the skepticism about Beyoncé's career and now knows why both she and Rowland haven't reached the career highs that their bandmate has over the years.

"It was the worst kept secret that Beyoncé wasn't the most talented singer, and now everyone knows where her success has actually come from," states Williams.



DISTRICT

## PV Teacher set to join the upcoming season of MasterChef

*Julie Terzieva, sewing and baking teacher at Pleasant Valley High School, will appear on the upcoming season of the hit cooking show MasterChef at Gordon Ramsay's request.*

**By: Giada Morales**

On Mar. 31, one of the teachers at Pleasant Valley High School, Julie Terzieva, was invited to join the show MasterChef.

Mrs. Terzieva is the sewing and baking teacher in the high school and is very experienced and talented in the cooking field. She started posting her recipes on the app TikTok, and it caught many people's attention, getting so much attention that she was lucky enough to be nominated for



Source: hollywoodreporter.com

MasterChef by Gordon Ramsay himself after he saw her posts.

"Videos of Julie cooking crossed my path on TikTok. I noticed her hard work and dedication immediately, and thought she'd be perfect for the show," Ramsay stated.

MasterChef is a show where a group of chefs are chosen to all compete with each other in multiple rounds of a competition that involve different types of food and famous chefs decide which competitor did it best.

Mrs. Terzieva gave her opinions about being nominated and participating on the show.

"I am very excited for this wonderful opportunity. I am hoping to win and make our school proud," Mrs. Terzieva said.

There were also some students who shared how excited they were for the competition and to see one of their teachers participating

"I am so excited to see one of my teachers on this show. I wish her the best of luck and will be rooting for her at home," explains Samantha Miller, sophomore.

Miller isn't alone. Her students praise Terzieva's creativity and passion when it comes to cooking.

"I had Mrs. Terzieva my freshman year, and I can say she is very creative. I am so happy that she got this amazing opportunity and I think she deserves it more than anyone. I will be watching the show and I will be cheering her on from home," Bussey, soph-

omore, said.

Overall, the entire school is very excited for Mrs. Terzieva. She will be a participant on the show coming late 2025.



Julie Terzieva

## PV says goodbye to the computer lab

*As Pleasant Valley's renovations are set to begin, the beloved computer lab will be replaced with a new botanical garden.*

**By: Damien Albuio**

Pleasant Valley High School is now coming to use a new method to grow plants. Rather than using their greenhouse in the H Hallway, they will instead convert the computer lab into its own botanical garden. This comes as the school renovations are set to begin, giving students and teachers something new to look forward to completing.

"This is one of the best things they have done in a long time," says Kevin Strouse, a Pleasant Valley senior. "This new change is amazing; I can't wait to get to farming."

Others have different thoughts about how the computer lab is being changed, angered and concerned by the thought of the computer lab being torn down.

"My precious computer lab, what am I going to do," exclaimed senior Frank Megna when told about the project. Since this huge change has been made, students have put in the initiative to start getting to work on moving everything over to the new space.

Before the plants get put in, they need to open the roof to put in a ventilation system so the room doesn't get moldy. Overall, this project has seemed to put students and teachers in better moods being able to stay and work on this wonderful project.

As for the computer lab, the question remains of whether it will be relocated to a new space along the regular side of PV or should students focus more on using their Chromebooks.



The PVHS Greenhouse

## Sarah Larregui becomes the new member of 1D

*Sarah Larregui, senior, is set to replace Liam Payne in the Band, One Direction.*

**By: Sophia Lopez**



Sarah Larregui at her audition

After the unfortunate death of Liam Payne there was an empty spot in One Direction. They held auditions all across the world seeking the right person to fill the missing hole in their hearts.

Sarah Larregui, Senior at Pleasant Valley High School, jumped to the presented opportunity. She drove all the way to New York City amongst many others who wanted to showcase their talent.

"I feel extremely nervous knowing that I could potentially

replace THE Liam Payne" states Larregui.

At the audition Larregui was asked to do some vocal tests along with other participants. She made it through her test and they had one final request.

One Direction wanted Larregui to attempted harmonize with them just like Payne did. The group was impressed with her skills that were presented.

Eventually Larregui was contacted by the group with the news whether she got in or not. To her surprise they were delighted to have her join their group.

Amelia Stenger, Senior at Pleasant Valley High School is astonished at the accomplishments

Larregui has achieved. Stenger knew that Larregui would be big in her life and she is definitely living up to that expectation.

"As someone who's known Sarah Larregui since preschool, I am incredibly proud of her progress and her new position in One Direction is very much well deserved. I can't wait to see her on stage," stated Stenger.

Larregui was very happy to have completed a life goal of hers. One Direction immediately after flew her out to Los Angeles to announce their fans of the new member to their group.



One Direction preparing for a reunion

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DISTRICT

# PV comedian to make her world debut in 2026

*Katelyn Crawford, senior at Pleasant Valley High School, is set to release her first comedy special “Katelyn Crawls Through High School” on Netflix in 2026.*

**By: Abigail Dominick**

With the unfortunate cancellation of the Pleasant Valley High School Talent Show, many performers were disappointed, but senior performer, Katelyn Crawford, used this obstacle to her advantage. Netflix has recently announced the future release of “Katelyn Crawls Through High School,” a comedy special starring Crawford, debuting on the streaming service in late 2026.

After reaching out to Netflix with a recording of her performance for the talent show, Netflix was a little apprehensive to collaborate with a high school student. Despite this, Reed Hastings, executive chairman of Netflix’s parent company, Netflix.inc, invited Crawford to the company headquarters in Los Gatos, CA. for a business meeting involving a new comedy special.

“At first I thought it was too much of a risk given her age, but there was something about her tape that we needed to see in person,” explained Hastings.

Crawford covered her absence by claiming to be touring Lehigh University while she was away. The secrecy of the meeting allowed Crawford to prepare without any pressure.

“I was worried that if anyone knew, it would mess with the creative process. I really didn’t want my nerves to get the better of me,” says Crawford.

Seeing her in-person audition sealed the deal for Hastings, who watched the audition with co-CEOs Ted Sarandos and Greg Peters.

“To be as talented as she is at such a young age is incredible.

The opportunity to have her on our platform was too good to pass up,” stated Sarandos.

Crawford has decided to take a gap year before attending college to film in CA with Netflix. Peters also claimed to be looking for interviewees that attend Pleasant Valley High School to give some background on Crawford’s journey to fame.

“I’m really excited for this opportunity not only for myself to have time on the big screen, but for my peers as well,” exclaimed Crawford.



Katelyn Crawford



Source: netflix.com

COMMENTARY

## The Bard has been proven to be a complete fraud

*Evidence has proven that writer William Shakespeare did not write the works he has been known for.*

**By: Victoria Johns**

Recent evidence has come to light that he was not the man everyone believes him to be. Historical legal documentation shows that Shakespeare was a member of the middle class and had absolutely no connection or status that would have allowed him to write prolifically.

“Shakespeare’s father, John, was fined multiple times for not following town ordinances involving trash and being the court taster in the town of [Stratford-upon-Avon]. Simply being the court taster implies a very specific status in the town itself,” says Jim Westley of Shakespeare Documented.

As such, Shakespeare lacked any knowledge or sophistication to write such amazing and deep pieces, because he was from the middle class.

Because of the particular time period he was in, such individuals were not permitted to publish any literary works. During the Elizabethan Era, there was a lot of cultural and economic growth, but there were still flaws in the world that Shakespeare would not have been privy to as a member of the middle class.

“As a member of the middle class, he would have had more access than, say, a peasant, the

world was run by the aristocracy,” explains Anthony Chupa, Pleasant Valley High School history teacher. “Beyond the topics of love and loss, there are things he writes about that he just would not have had the knowledge to comment on in the way that he does.”

Majority of lower to middle class society had too much work to do in their day-to-day that writing the amount of work that he did would be logistically impossible.

“His work always seemed a little fishy to me,” says Pleasant Valley High School English teacher, Vanessa Fego.

Students have read multiple works that are supposedly written by Shakespeare, and they had no awareness that they were not actually reading literature that was created by him

It has become increasingly more apparent that the man people know as William Shakespeare is nothing more than a fraud. His work was not written by him but rather by a member of the nobility living in Stratford-upon-Avon.

“Et tu, Shakespeare,” exclaimed Fego.



Source: theguardian.com

DISTRICT

## Pleasant Valley High School to bring new uniforms to Physical Education class for 2025-2026 school year

*The Physical Education department at Pleasant Valley High School is bringing back the iconic 80s workout outfit*

**By: Alexis Sprague**



Source: popsugar.com

At Pleasant Valley High School, the Physical Education department decided to change the dress code for all classes after a recent department meeting. The proposal made its way to the board, who decided that the change would be approved.

Starting with the 2025-2026 school year, all students at Pleasant Valley High School will be required to wear jazzercise attire. The teachers believe this new attire will bring more fun to the class and allow for more participation to happen in Physical Education class because of the new outfits.

“I believe that more participation will happen since you guys are in the perfect athletic attire,” says Kelsey Tompkins, physical education teacher at Pleasant Valley High School states,

Physical Education teacher, Michelle Albanese, believes that the brightness of the uniforms will change students’ mind on coming to class.

“Your outfits’ exciting color will make your exercise more fun,”

states Mrs. Albanese.

The rest of the faculty seems very excited for this dress code to be set in place. They believe it will be very beneficial for the students. Maybe the students will even start wearing these outfits and participating in more physical activities.

“I enjoy sweatbands so should you” says Philip Masiello, one of the male physical education teachers at Pleasant Valley.

He seems to be in hopes that students will enjoy the new dress code and start wearing this attire more.

“To be fair, the outfits do look like a lot of fun. Old, yes, but fun,” says Justin Delgado, senior at Pleasant Valley High School.

While jazzercise was created in the 1960s, it became immensely popular in the 1980s with the rise of Richard Simmons’ high energy exercise videos like his 1988 hit Sweatin’ to the Oldies.

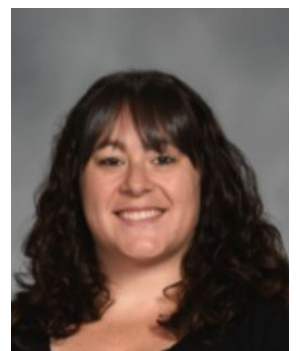
While Simmons passed away in 2024, Kyle Norris of NPR noted that Simmons simplified exercise

for everyone.

“His life’s work became making exercise fun – for all types of bodies,” explains Norris.



Kelsey Tompkins



Michelle Albanese



Philip Masiello



# CAN YOU FIND WALDO?





DISTRICT

## Pleasant Valley senior set to perform with Drake

Following Drake Bell's performance at the Signature Event Center, rapper Drake is scheduled to perform at the venue on May 1 with Pleasant Valley student Olivia Smith John.

By: Kyara Gomez



Source: newsweek.com

Following the performance of "Drake and Josh" star Drake Bell, another Drake will be performing at the Signature Event Center in Brodheadsville, PA. Rumors have spread that Drake was extremely fond of Drake Bell's performance and wanted to get a touch of that fame as well by having a concert on May 1.

Drake has announced via social media that he will have a surprise guest, who will meet with him on stage. Speculations of who that may be was a surprise until text messages spread the web leaking the surprise appearance of none other than Olivia Smith-John.

Senior at Pleasant Valley, Olivia Smith John is a self-proclaimed professional singer who will be making her stage debut alongside Drake. Having this chance was something Smith-John could not turn down.

"One minute I am in class and the next I am meeting with Drake discussing set lists! It's a dream come true," said Smith-John.

Ever since the news broke out that Drake and Olivia will be sharing the stage, storms of news outlets and paparazzi have been surrounding Pleas-

ant Valley High School day to night.

The entire community is excited to see these two share the stage. Students are already saving for these concert tickets which will go on sale the day before.

"I have bands and bands racked up for this concert. I will be going," exclaimed Logan Krock, junior.



Olivia Smith John, senior

DISTRICT

## A flock of drones pay Pleasant Valley a visit

Students burst into panic as hundreds of drones overrun the school and interrupt their activities.

By: Frank Megna



Drones descending upon the school

It started with a faint buzzing. At first, no one paid attention—just another lawn mower, a distant helicopter, or maybe a science project gone rogue. But then the shadows appeared, and on Mar. 18 hundreds of drones descended onto Brodheadsville.

Students in the courtyard looked up just as the first wave of drones swooped in, tiny mechanical invaders blinking with red and blue lights. Some carried cameras, others had claw-like appendages.

"Honestly, it was pretty scary. We were all just hanging out and the drones showed up out of nowhere," states freshman Sophia Tinker.

A baseball game halted mid-play as a drone snatched the ball out of the air and zipped away.

"It was a crazy thing to see. We all wondered if it counted as a homerun," explained Tobias Smith John, junior at Pleasant Valley High School and star center fielder for the baseball team.

Outside of the Pleasant Valley High School cafeteria, a flock of them descended, breaking the glass windows, flying into the building, and knocking over scattering food like a tornado.

As more arrived, the building became flooded with drones. The math teachers could be seen trying to swat them away with a protractors.

"In a crisis, you use whatever you have access to. I was using a dictionary," explained Alexander Mountain, English teacher at Pleasant Valley High School. "Any port in a storm, as they say."

Then, just as suddenly as they arrived, the drones paused, hovered in eerie unison, and turned to face the front of the school. A single, larger drone, sleek and silver, descended from the sky blasting a singular message.

"This is only a test. No need to worry," reported the larger drone.

With that, every drone lifted into the air and vanished beyond the trees, leaving behind nothing but a few broken lockers, a traumatized janitor, and one very confused school.



## Ghost found in the Pleasant Valley High School hallways

After multiple staff members have experienced floating objects in the school, they are certain Pleasant Valley has a ghost problem.

By: Trinity Tanzillo

People have wondered what otherworldly things lurk in the world, and ghosts are among the things people question about the most about the world today.

Pleasant Valley High School has left people curious about how far back this school truly dates. In addition to this, they also question if ghosts can be

the pencil was floating.

The paranormal activity began to spike after Ms. Mease's interaction. One interaction happened to another well-known individual in our school.

Another assistant principal in Pleasant Valley High School, Jeremy Byrd, can confirm there is a ghost in the school.

"I was working in my office, when my desk started floating. I fully believe there are ghosts in our school," claims Mr. Byrd.

The school eventually had to call a company in to get the ghost out. Michael Reed is an expert in Ghost Bustology who works for Ghost Hunters Incorporated.

"The ghost the school is dealing with is a poltergeist. This means that paranormal activity will take place in more extreme ways, which is why objects are floating," Reed explains.

Reed then continues to explain the various ways poltergeists can be rid of.

"Holy water and prayer are always good options, and it doesn't really even matter the what religion you use," says Reed. "Otherwise, salt circles, burning sage, and seances are all useful tactics when exercising a spirit from any building."

Reed was unsuccessful in eradicating the poltergeist, but it doesn't mean he won't try again in the future.

"Sometimes things end in failure, but it never hurts to try again. Besides, you learn more from a loss than you do a failure," says Reed.

Julian Dempster, junior at Pleasant Valley High School, was at his locker in the A Hallway when he was able to capture a picture of the ghost.

"It really freaked me out. Luckily, I had my phone out and was able to snap a picture of the ghost," says Dempster.



Ariella Mease

located within the school.

People in this school can recall interactions with what they believe are ghosts. Pleasant Valley High School's assistant principal, Ariella Mease, has one of these interactions.



Jeremy Byrd

Ms. Mease states, "I was walking in the upper JCM area, when I saw a pencil floating in the air."

She mentions the interaction was shocking and very unexpected as she didn't know why



The ghost as seen in the A Hallway



## WORLD

## The truth about Amelia Earhart and her famous flight finally comes to light

*Famous aviator, Amelia Earhart, disappeared in 1937 while flying around the world. However, the truth about her disappearance has come to light as it turns out she was really made out of coconut crabs.*

**By: Julian Dempster**

Most people think that Amelia Earhart, famous aviator and women's right activist, died after crashing on route to Howland Island. However, the government knows different.

When her plane crashed into the briny deep, it was merely her returning to her true home. It is well known that coconut crabs are native to the pacific, their immense size, and remarkable intelligence.

It has been discovered that her mother, Amy Earhart, was actually incapable of having children. Samuel Earhart, a known scholar, had found means through the mystic arts. They were going to make a pact with Zeus to grant them a daughter. But, after Amy was made aware of Zeus's track record they switched over to Poseidon instead.

Poseidon granted their wish, but since he was the god of the sea, all he had available

were a bunch of coconut crabs. However, he made due and Amelia Mary Crabman Earhart was born.

It is theorized that Ameila's love of the sky came from her inherent need to be close to Zeus's domain and to be closer with her would-be father.

When she first made her flight around the world the public were skeptical of her, due to her blue plating and large claws. But, she came to be respected as a pilot and made her trek across the Atlantic

Using her celebrity status, she hoped to expand the rights of crabs and make it legal for them to vote. This plan, however, proved fruitless as there has not been a single crab elected to President of the United States.

Ameila's publicist and husband, George P. Putnam believed she was more than just a pilot. In fact, he voiced his

concerns about the fame she gained from her celebrity.

"She has gained so much power from her fame in such a short amount of time, I worry about what she will do with it," says Putnam.

In the end, Ameila Earhart was still a national treasure, and it is a shame that the world lost her. Even though everyone

knew she was just a bunch of crabs.

"The fact that she had made it this far in her career is simply preposterous," stated R.I. Moore, curator of the Aviation History Museum.



## DISTRICT

## Rumors spread about Lower JCM

*With an increasing amount of unexplained lights and sounds coming from Lower JCM, students begin to wonder what is actually in the abandoned wing of the school.*

**By: Sebastian Blizzard**

Within the past few years, Pleasant Valley High School has started some renovations to the John C. Mills side of the building, forcing teachers to be moved to new classrooms. Neither the school nor the administration have stated what the renovations are for, but some of the students at the school have theories, including one student who mistakenly saw the renovations taking place.

Nolan Garrity, senior at Pleasant Valley High School, is among the few students to have seen the inside of Lower JCM, and has reportedly seen some concerning things.

"There were large blue flashing lights, and I could hear what sounded like electricity," claims Garrity.

This has led many to start theorizing what the school could be doing. Some, like junior Julian Dempster, have begun noticing things happening in the G Hallway of the building.

"I was sitting in Below's English class in G-6 when the lights began to flash followed by a large banging noise coming from down the hall," says Dempster.

Rumors of a secret laboratory in Lower JCM have begun to gain traction, as the noises have become more frequent. The purpose, however, is still unknown.

Averie Acevedo, sophomore, confirms the rumors as she was taking her Chromebook to the technology office.

"There were flashing blue lights coming from around the corner. When I went to look, the doors were wide open, and when I went to see what was going on, I could see a giant battery of some kind with wires reaching out into the different rooms," explains Acevedo.

As these instances become more frequent, groups of students have gone into Lower JCM to see what is there, only to find no evidence of anything uncanny.

"It just looked like Upper JCM without lights on," stated Gwenth Smith John, freshman. "There wasn't anything surprising there."

## NATION

## Walmart closing its doors due to theft and declining sales

*The increase in theft from Walmart stores has left the company scrambling for solutions as sales have been directly impacted, resulting in a company-wide closure set for April 15.*

**By: Ariana Brito**

Walmart will be going out of business on April 15. In the meantime, there will be a company-wide sale for the whole store two weeks leading up to the company's closing. Walmart's ownership are deciding to shut down the company because of content theft and losing their inventory.

Losing customers every day, 2025 customers are seeking new sales and deals, and Walmart doesn't do those often.

Walmart has been around for a long time, and it's known for getting everything you need in one stop. Closing reasons include not producing enough sales, and even inflation of pricing.

Katherine Rodriguez, writer for NJ.com, states, "the most recent closures, which occurred in two states, came as the company is experiencing poor financial performance as well as retail theft in those areas."

The company is also shut-

ting down due financial performances. Competition from online shopping and other stores similar to Walmart has an impact on our business.

"2023, Walmart was among at least 20 major retailers identified by Business Insider as having announced the closure of as many as 2,847 stores in the US," explains Host Merchant editor, John Targeton.

Trying to fix these problems, workers are consumed with low wages and poor working conditions. People are no longer able to keep up with other businesses, meaning some local favorites come to an end.

"All good things must come to an end. Unfortunately, that time for Walmart is now," states Walmart CEO, Doug McMillon.

## WORLD

## Drones turn out to actually be pigeons

*Recent drones seen in the night sky have been proven to be pigeons spying on citizens for the local governments.*

**By: Maya Ropchock**



As the mysterious drone sightings have become more prevalent, people have become worried about the wrong thing flying in the skies above. Pigeons come across as innocent birds that peck at crumbs and coo softly from the rooftops, but what if these birds are actually government spies?

"These state of the art gadgets are discreetly hidden under their feathers to monitor our every move," Ornithologist, Kate Madden, reveals the truth behind equipped cameras and microphones for pigeons.

These birds are the ultimate undercover agents, blending in seamlessly with the urban landscape while watching our everyday lives.

"Biotechnology surveillance drones, harnessing the power of the pigeon, designed by the government to look, walk and squawk, just like real pigeons," explains Avrie Ann Cooley of

Pigeons Aren't Real.

The government has trained pigeons to be their ears and eyes out on the street. From flying around roaring cities to private parks, they are everywhere. The idea may seem far fetched, but that's exactly what the government wants people to believe.

"This opinion changed when someone realized birds could potentially be the answer to an ongoing problem: photographic coverage of sensitive areas such as naval yards in Lenin-grad," says Steven Ewin of the New York Times.

Back in 1976, during the Cold War, pigeons were used as a spying tactic. Harnesses with cameras attached would take pictures of the enemies, lending credence to the growing concerns about the ever-growing pigeon population around the country.



**Walmart** 



DISTRICT

## Waldo found living in Lower JCM

*After last being seen in 1995, Waldo W. Waldini was finally found living in the Lower JCM portion of Pleasant Valley High School, having turned one of the old classrooms into his new home in an attempt to finally find some peace and quiet from his world famous exploits.*

**By: Bell Parry**

After 30 years of searching, Waldo W. Waldini, the world's most renowned hider, and traveler, has been found at Pleasant Valley High School in the empty lower JCM on March 14. After being missing for years, he was living a quiet life out of the spotlight where he would finally be left alone.

Initially seen in the early first period, students brushed it off as an immature prank set by the teachers until Mark Ferinhand, sophomore at Pleasant

Valley High school, was walking to the weight room in the G Hallway and saw a man standing at the far end of Lower JCM.

The man in stripes and glasses was indeed Waldo Waldini, who was trespassing on school property.

"It was a little unnerving at first because I wasn't sure what I was seeing was real. Then I called security and they went to get him.

Waldo Waldini began his journey around 1987, leav-

ing his hometown in Tennessee, and ever since, he has been missing from public view until now.

"I knew he was a strange guy, if not a bit out there, but when he left with Woof and never came back, I was worried he was dead, or worse. I'm so glad he's alright," said Wilma Waldini, now Waldo's ex-wife.

However, when initially found, there was no dog present until much later when one student found him in the JCM staircase.

Currently, he is being taken in for questioning, but there is no guarantee that he will not end up somewhere else.

"It was a weird day. We have been looking for him for years and just could not find him. Go figure, he was in lower JCM," explains Pleasant Valley freshman Gwenyth Smith John.



Waldo found in PVHS

## Pleasant Valley is turned into the "Planet Valley"

*On March 31, extraterrestrials arrived in Pleasant Valley School District. Thought to be an invasion, it turns out they just want to learn.*

**By: Areli Ramirez**

Boom, boom, boom! That is all Pleasant Valley High School heard before aliens arrived on campus.

March 27 seemed to be an ordinary day at Pleasant Valley until it turned into a nightmare within seconds as the invasion began.

"I was in the cafeteria when I heard this crazy loud noise and I saw a flashing green light," stated Oliva Smith John, senior at PV High School.

The school went into chaos, schools went into lockdown, teachers secured classrooms, and some students tried to flee the scene. The creatures started to roam the halls as their beige skin and large abnormal heads from could be seen from afar.

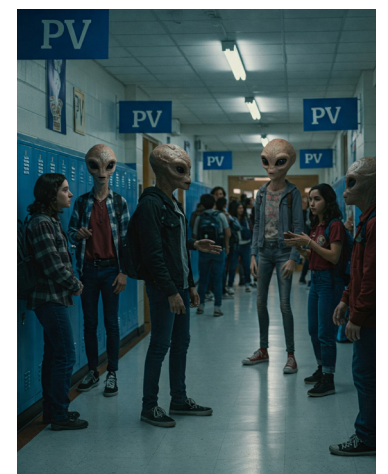
Initially, people were scared, but as the aliens began attempting to integrate themselves into the daily lives of the school, students and teachers alike became more confused.

"It was a bit of an adjustment, for sure, but I'm impressed with how quickly things

got back to normal," explained Barbara Below, PVHS English teacher.

As the aliens took over the school, they hung a banner renaming the school and their new home Planet Valley.

"We're not here to cause any trouble. We just want to have the normal high school experience that every Earthling gets," explained Gordon Shumway, Planet Valley Student Ambassador.



PVHS' D Hallway

## District buys local KFC as part of renovation plans

*Pleasant Valley School District has purchased the KFC building located near the high school campus with the plan of creating the first ever Bear Bites to help with school funding.*

**By: Averie Acevedo**

Pleasant Valley High School is set to finish their renovations in 2027. After the success of the Bear Cafe, the administration has decided to buy the KFC building that is located right next to the school as part of the renovation plan.

The building will be re-branded as Bear Bites, a fast food restaurant linked to Pleasant Valley. All profits made will go to the school, which will help initially pay for the renovations and later used to support extra-curricular activities.

desserts. It will be a perfect place for students to grab a bite to eat after classes.

This project could have many benefits for both the school and people in the community.

"We saw that adding a fast food restaurant could not only provide a convenient meal choice for students and the community, but also generate additional revenue that can be reinvested into school programs and facilities" said Principal Brian Boylan.



The new Bear Bites logo

tion. Some students are excited, while others are hesitant about what this will mean.

"I know many students enjoy having KFC right by the school already," mentioned sophomore Alayna Boland. "I don't think a lot of people are willing to give it up."

After the renovation, the nearest KFC would be the location in Stroudsburg. It is 14 miles away and about a 20-minute drive from the school.

"I think it is a good idea because it would bring revenue into the school," stated sophomore Alyssa Liljebblad. "Everyone in the community not only would be able to get some food, but also support the school; it's a win-win for everyone!"



Source: kfc.com

The restaurant will include simple fast food meals, some of which will include burgers, chicken nuggets, fries, and

There have been controversial opinions from students about whether or not this will be a good addition to the renova-

## School Board adds Chipotle to high school cafeteria with increased prices

*After months of debate, the Pleasant Valley School Board has decided to add a new Chipotle to the PVHS cafeteria in hopes of bringing in more revenue through school lunches.*

**By: Gavin Tonkay**

The Pleasant Valley School Board has approved the addition to a new Chipotle to the school's cafeteria.

On top of that, there have been discussions of adding a Taco Bell and or a Moe's, but the board is yet to speak on that matter. The Chipotle restaurant will have everything on the menu that all the other ones do, only that the price will be increased by 50% which students and staff are not happy about.

"These prices are outrageous, if something doesn't change soon I'm going to go to a different school," says Gwenyth Smith John, freshman.

Teachers started boycotting work in order to drop the price, and students have been protesting nearly everyday during school hours in order to have their voices heard. However, the board seems set on this price, and it doesn't seem like they are willing to negotiate whatsoever.

A few students, however, have sided with the board saying how the students and teachers should be grateful we're even getting chipotle in the first place.

Tabitha Smith John, member of the Pleasant Valley School Board says, "The prices will not change, your kids should be grateful they're getting Chipotle instead of Moe's."

There is still hope for lowering prices with the board meeting coming up at the end of April, but people can only hope. In the meantime, students should start saving up and getting ready to spend 40 dollars on a singular burrito.





## DISTRICT

## PV alumni ready to finally settle the G.O.A.T. Debate

Thomas Murphy and Daniel Muir set May 1 as the date for their long awaited competition to find out who truly is the greatest Pleasant Valley alumni of all time.

By: Justin Delgado

The debate has always been there for who is the greater alumni Thomas Murphy or Daniel Muir. They are both teachers at Pleasant Valley High School. The two are finally going to compete to end the debate once and for all.

The competition will consist of three games—speed walking to test their endurance, horseshoe toss to test their accuracy, and water basketball to test their athleticism. The event, known around the district as the PV Games, will take place on May 1.

“This competition has been



Thomas Murphy

a long time coming,” says Mr. Murphy. “Everyone is going to finally see that I’m the greatest alumni.”

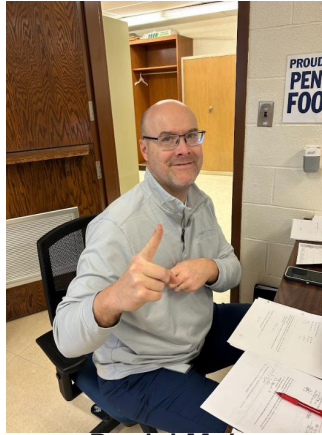
Mr. Murphy’s confidence is not misplaced. Both of them graduated in 1995 from Pleasant Valley High School and dreamed of playing in the National Basketball Association.

They played together on the Pleasant Valley basketball team, and some of their accomplishments were winning States four years in a row, with Mr. Muir winning the EPC leading scorer and Mr. Murphy winning EPC assist leader. They held these titles back and forth for the course of their high school career.

“Honestly, after all these years, I’m tired of constantly carrying Murphy. It’s time to show him who the king really is,” explains Mr. Muir.

People say that they were good back in the day, and students and teachers would stop to ask for their autograph.

With the stage set for this clash of two PV titans, the community will finally get an answer



Daniel Muir

to this decade long question.

“We all have our own opinions about which one is truly the GOAT,” states Maya Ropchock, senior at Pleasant Valley High School. “Honestly, though, it’ll be a relief for this to finally be over.”



## NATION

## Ángel Hernández named Commissioner of Baseball

After the unexpected retirement of Rob Manfred, the ever-controversial umpire Ángel Hernández was hired as the new MLB Commissioner for the 2025 season and beyond.

By: Nolan Garrity

Ángel Hernández, former professional baseball umpire, called games for over 30 years, and he has made a groundbreaking move to become the new Major League Baseball Commissioner after the sudden retirement from Rob Manfred.

The committee for deciding the new commissioner wanted a well-known name. Ángel Hernández, a name known around the baseball world for being the so “the most hated man in baseball” now is in charge of the entire league.

“Manfred’s sudden retirement sent shockwaves through the league. We needed to bring someone in who knows the game and is able to make the tough choices,” stated Gilbert Burtson, head of the search

committee. “Hernández is best option.”

Managers, players, fans all have had a taste of the kind of umpire Hernández had been. His uncanny strike zone, his stubbornness, and his general attitude frustrated everyone during his career. Over the years, Hernández has been criticized for the way he had officiated games, and he had not umpired in a World Series game since 2005.

“This is truly going to be the worst era of baseball. Why would the league make this decision,” questioned Addie Krock, freshman at Pleasant Valley High School.

However, after all of the criticism over the years, he still wanted more from the game. In

his first press conference, reporters brought up many topics, but he was persistent on the replay review and how it should be implemented.

“Our replay review system is poorly executed. We should keep those calls strictly to the umpires the way umpiring used to be,” explained Hernández.

When he had said that, all of the front office were astonished over his statement.

Hernandez stayed stern on his decision so the next day they had changed the rules of replay review.

Then, later that week, Hernandez made a couple new changes to the game of baseball. Of the most consequential new proposals is the role manager’s play in calling of the game. According to Hernandez, managers and players cannot challenge calls made on the field; it is all up to the umpires completely.

“Managers and players never have a clear view of what is actually happening on the field. They shouldn’t be allowed to change what is happening,” says Hernández.



Source: foxnews.com

## DISTRICT

## “PV History” hits a home run

Pleasant Valley High School’s history teachers created a local softball team and begin to beat the competition one run at a time.

By: Isabella London

The Pleasant Valley history department has recently made the decision to join a local softball league. Their team name: “The Pleasant Valley Ancient Sluggers.”

James Ward, team captain and ace pitcher, shows his prowess and truly shines through, striking out all of the competition with his 100 mph fastball. He’s even nicknamed “Ward-nado” for his history-making whirlwind of strikeouts.

“The Ward-nado pitches a perfect game in the classroom, why would being on the field be any different,” questions Gwyneth Smith John, freshman at Pleasant Valley High School.

Brent “Iron” Lewis can catch like a champ, nothing can get past him. Similarly, nothing can get past their “Goff-fense,” because Jeremy Goff’s defense as the team’s star shortstop poses as more than a problem to the

opposing team.

Joseph Agolino at first, George Fair at second, and Jason Robbins at third base make up the infield for the team. They are nicknamed “A-Fair-Rob” because they are constantly robbing hitters of hits and stolen bases.

Lauren Staub is always going “Full Staub Ahead” out on the field, because, as a center fielder, she’s always hustling to make the play. She has more steam than those machines in the industrial revolution.

Drew “Dymond in the Rough” makes all tough plays in the infield look easy. Anthony “Chupa-saurus Rex” is an absolute beast in the outfield, however, his movements are absolutely not prehistoric.

“We’re making history, one base at a time,” says Mr. Ward.



The Ancient Sluggers

## NATION

## NCFL emerges as a new combined football league

After the NFL and CFL merged into one league, the NCFL seeks to expand the game.

By: Quinn Kauffman



Today, the Canadian Football League (CFL) and the National Football League (NFL) announced they are merging to create the National Continental Football League (NCFL). The new league will include 41 teams from both countries and combine the best parts of each league’s game, aiming to attract fans across North America and beyond.

The NCFL will feature bigger fields (110 yards), three downs, and 12 players per team in an attempt to speed up the game and create more exciting plays. The league will also host games in cities like London and Tokyo to grow the sport internationally.

“Bigger fields, faster plays, high scores. It’s going to be interesting to watch,” says Owen Gordon, senior at Pleasant Valley High School.

Players from both leagues are excited about the merger. NFL stars are looking forward to the new challenge, while CFL players want to show they can compete at the highest level.

Hingle McCringleberry, star running back for the Edmonton Elks, is hopeful for the future.

“It’s a great opportunity to show the world what I can really do. The NFL teams better watch out,” states McCringleberry.

The league promises to keep the unique features of Canadian football alive in the new NCFL, but the move isn’t without its detractors.

“There has been a move throughout the game to highlight offense and punish defense. They need to find a better way to balance both instead of making it easier to score points,” explains Jacqueline Brinker, English teacher at Pleasant Valley High School.



DISTRICT

## Kansas City magic exposed during 2024 season

*The Kansas City Chiefs, known recently for unlikely wins in close games, have been exposed for using magic to win games during their attempt to achieve a historic Super Bowl “three-peat.”*

**By: Owen Gordon**

The Kansas City Chiefs are known to be one of the greatest teams in recent NFL history. In the past five years, they have appeared in four Super Bowls.

It isn't surprising that they are winning all these games because of their dominant offense with Patrick Mahomes making a conversation for being one of the best quarterbacks of all time. There is also the wonderful defense led by Chris Jones, who is routinely voted as first team all pro.

All of this is greatly complemented by head coach Andy Reid, who is a mastermind on the field. He has made six Super Bowl appearances, which illustrates how good he is at leading the team.

According to a recent report, however, the Chiefs have to be using magic to get their wins. This shouldn't come as a shock for anyone with actual eyeballs.

“Yeah you know some people are just jealous that we are so good at the game. You know a win is a win, man, and it was a team effort,” said Mahomes when asked about the report.

However, something has been off about the Chiefs during the 2024-2025 season. Their luck has started to look a little too good for some to

believe.

Every team is prone to having some good luck, but for the Chiefs, they won 12 of their 20 games by seven points or less.

In their week two game against the Cincinnati Bengals, they were fortunately bailed out by the refs when they got a lucky pass interference call against the opposing team, and they barely won the game with a last second field goal.

They were very lucky when they beat the Las Vegas Raiders in Week 13 when they yet again got lucky when Aidan O'Connell had a fumble on the snap within the two-minute warning, and the Chiefs were able to recover the fumble. There was also the time in week 10 against the Denver Broncos when they were fortu-

nate enough to block a last second field goal to win the game within the last few seconds.

Finally, there was the AFC Championship game against the Bills where the quarterback, Josh Allen, didn't convert the fourth down because the refs thought he didn't make it.

“Allen clearly made the first down, but upon replay it looked like he was moving backwards. There's no way to explain it,” states Nolan Garrity, senior at Pleasant Valley High School.

With the team constantly avoiding the questions, it adds to the suspicion of their miracles every week.

“Double, double toil and trouble; Fire burn and caldron bubble,” mumbled Coach Reid as he walked past reporters a week after Super Bowl LIX.



Mahomes using magic to complete a game winning pass.

DISTRICT

## Pleasant Valley baseball set to play in first exhibition of its kind

*PVHS varsity baseball played the Philadelphia Phillies in an exhibition game on March 15, building a lasting connection between the professional organization and the local community.*

**By: Logan Czura**

The Pleasant Valley High School varsity baseball team got a big surprise when they saw their schedule for the 2025 season. To everyone's surprise, they opened the season with an exhibition game on March 15 against the Philadelphia Phillies, who are currently in the middle of Spring Training.

Rob Thompson, the manager of the Phillies, believes it was important for professional teams to provide these kinds of opportunities to local communities.

“It was a little out of our way travel-wise, but it was good to be out in the community giving students a memory they'll never forget,” says Thompson.

Ángel Hernández, the newly minted Commissioner of Major League Baseball, brought the opportunity to the Phillies organization in hopes for the chance to expand the outreach of the league.

“It's important for fans to be able to see our teams out and about and just be real people, and I'm hoping to get other

teams involved in these kinds of community events over the next few years,” stated Hernández.

London Smith, a junior at Pleasant Valley High School and pitcher for the varsity baseball team, loved the chance to show what the team can do against a big name ball club,

“Playing in a game like this provided a great opportunity to improve our game and meet professional athletes who do this for a living,” explains Smith.

While this was certainly an opportunity of a lifetime for PV baseball, the team never allowed expectations to get out of hand. They knew what to expect and kept a level head about the whole thing.

PV lost the game one to eight, but enjoyed the chance to compete against the best.

“Did we expect to win? Most definitely not, but we certainly put our best play on the field and showed what we can really do,” Smith states.



PV Varsity Baseball

DISTRICT

## Lopez set to make her APA Championship debut

*Sophia Lopez, Pleasant Valley senior, has qualified for the APA World Pool Championship being held in August. She is the first PV student to participate in the event.*

**By: Sarah Larregui**



Pleasant Valley High School senior, Sophia Lopez, takes the spotlight by becoming the first student in school history to qualify for the APA 8-Ball World Championship. The event is part of the APA World Pool Championships held in Las Vegas from August 5 to August 16.

Lopez has spent time every day practicing with help from her coach, fellow senior Amelia Stenger, and has competed in small local tournaments as well.

“The qualifying process was tough. I had to win two different smaller league sanctioned tournaments just to be considered, and even then it wasn't a guarantee,” explained Lopez. “We kept pushing and never gave up!”

Lopez first started out playing 8-ball tournaments with Stenger on weekends during their junior year. It didn't take long for Stenger to realize the natural talent for the game Lopez displayed.

“When we first started playing, I couldn't believe how good Sophia was. No one would believe she had just started playing for the first time,” explains Stenger.

“Months of hard work, like skipping lunch to practice, is finally paying off, and Sophia and I are ready to take the competition down,” Stenger states.

In the time since, their weekend hobby became an obsession. Lopez began playing other players and eventually entering local Monroe County tournaments and just kept winning.

They both made the decision that they cannot put their talent to waste, and their determination is leading them to the biggest tournament in the sport and a first for Pleasant Valley students.

“I'm shocked to learn that Sophia is as good as she is at the game because it never comes up. She acts just like any other regular student,” says Danielle Brandes, English teacher at Pleasant Valley High School.

Students are welcome to support Lopez and Stenger as they take down opposing teams. The tournament will be livestreamed on the PVTV YouTube channel in August.



Sophia Lopez and her coach Amelia Stenger during the Monroe County 8-ball Invitational