

The Patriot Press

Northern High School • Owings, Maryland • April 7, 2016 • Volume 44, Number 4



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Editor's Note

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by Madison Griffith and Hailey Guit

This issue at a glance

Every day at our school, students are achieving goals and accomplishing excellence. As journalists, we report on the things going on around us, but as students we want to cover the things we care about. Every issue, the editors meet to decide what stories we want to write, and naturally, we always want to write about the things everybody is talking about.

One of the things everyone around here has been wondering about for a long time is what is being built in Dunkirk. Rumors about a Harris Teeter, a Chick-fil-a and other dream businesses have flown regarding what will be built.

We asked Joey Almony to contact building developers and others involved in the construction projects in Dunkirk to find out the truth. Another thing students are talking about is the just passed April Fool's Day. So, we sent Bradley Bogaczyk and Christian Daniel to find out about people's favorite pranks.

It's also important to cover the topics of debate in the halls. Are internships

or part time jobs better? Are teen stereotypes true? What exactly defines cheating and how big a problem is it at NHS? These are all things students are talking about that deserve to be addressed. Some of our stories are about featuring students and staff who deserve attention. Juniors Celine Gautrois, Colton Jarboe, and Nia Adams all excel at creating YouTube videos and senior Chulo Leonardo is excellent at drawing and painting. These students have earned pages devoted to them and their achievements in this issue of the magazine.

The staff also deserves attention for the inter-

esting things they do outside of school. We found out that Art teacher Mr. Kevin Richter lives on a boat and engi-

neering teachers Mr. Henry Faxon and Mr. Mickey Norfolk frequently go on adventures together, climbing mountains and riding motorcycles. There is more going on in the school community than you may realize. It's our job to be cooped up in room 204 to inform students and staff about what's going on. WNHS delivers the school news more frequently. We share seventh period with one of the WNHS classes every day. WNHS is hard at work trying to get a 12 minute show on air every week. Planning stories for a magazine that takes around a month to complete can be difficult as well.

That process starts every month when the staff sits down to brainstorm the ideas for the issue. Some ideas would be better three months in the future. Some will be way too old by the time we get the magazine back. That process, however, of looking at the world around us and prioritizing what to cover is, in the end, the most important thing we do.



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Letters to the Editor are very welcome. Email them to clitesg@calvert-net.k12.md.us or drop them in Mr. Clites' mail box in the main office.

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News and Notes

Sophomore Class Council held the annual **Ruff 'n Tuff** fundraiser on Friday March 11. The Ruff 'n Tuff was a boy's dodgeball tournament between the Senior class vs. Sophomore class and the Junior class vs. the Freshmen class and then the winning classes face off. The winning class was the Seniors, they beat the Sophomores in the first round and then the Juniors in the final. The event was originally set for Thursday, March 10, but rescheduled due to the Girls Varsity Basketball State Tournament. The fundraiser's purpose was to raise money for the graduating class of 2017 Senior Prom and the class of 2018 's Project Graduation. **-Lauren Downs**

The Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) hosted their Easter event, the **Bunny Bop** on March 19th at Northern. Senior Abby Chew was in charge of the event and said, "The Bunny Bop is a fun Easter event for kids that will have lots of exciting events such as an egg hunt, egg decorating, crafts, games and an actual Easter bunny." The Bunny Bop is one of FBLA's main annual events and all of the money raised is donated to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF). "Our community service project this year is JDRF. All year, we are working to organize different fundraisers to bring money and awareness to this wonderful organization," Chew said. **-Jenna Jaeger**

This year's **Unified Bocce Team** is looking for players. The team requires no previous experience of bocce ball, so it's okay if it's your first time playing, the group welcomes you. The Unified team brings together students with and without disabilities to play together. "We always have a ton of fun, and it's going to be great to see how we do this year," said sophomore Caroline Keegan, who was a part of the team last year. Phys ed teacher Mrs. Sara Duckett is in charge. They meet Wednesdays after school from 2:30 to 3:30 and most matches are right after school. **-Jenna Jaeger**



Photos by Monica Laserna and Madison Griffith

On Wednesday, March 9 the **Mr. Patriot Pageant** was held in the Mary Harrison Center. Joey Almony, Ryan Briggs, Andre Hood, Jason Jones, Ty Tran, Chris Van Deventer, Dom Vasquez, and Zach Wolfe competed for the title. The night's events consisted of talent, posing, evening wear, a question and answer period, dance, and finally award sessions. The audience decided the winner by voting through Poll Maker.com and voted Dom Vasquez as the winner. The pageant was a clever and hilarious fundraiser for the Senior Class Council. **-Lauren Downs**



Promising construction

What's going where in the town of Dunkirk?

by Joey Almony
Opinion Editor

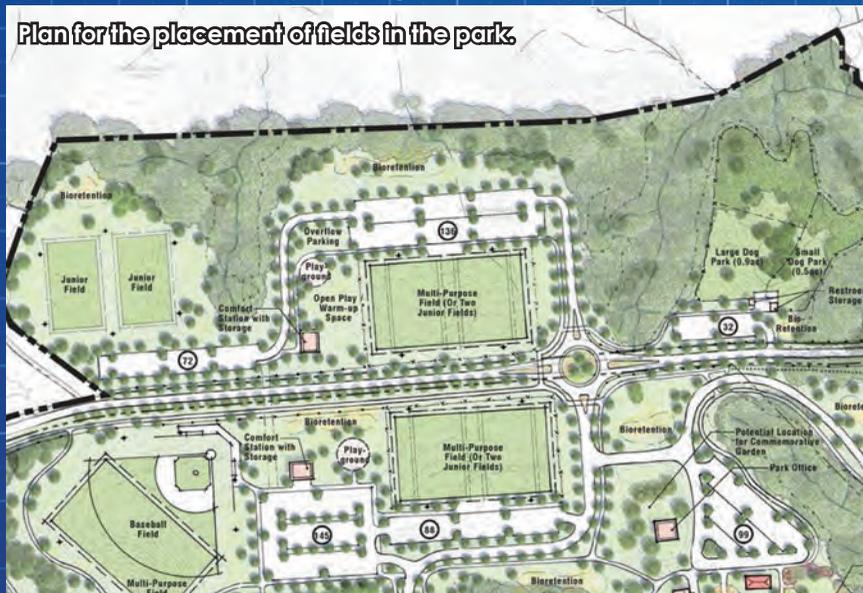
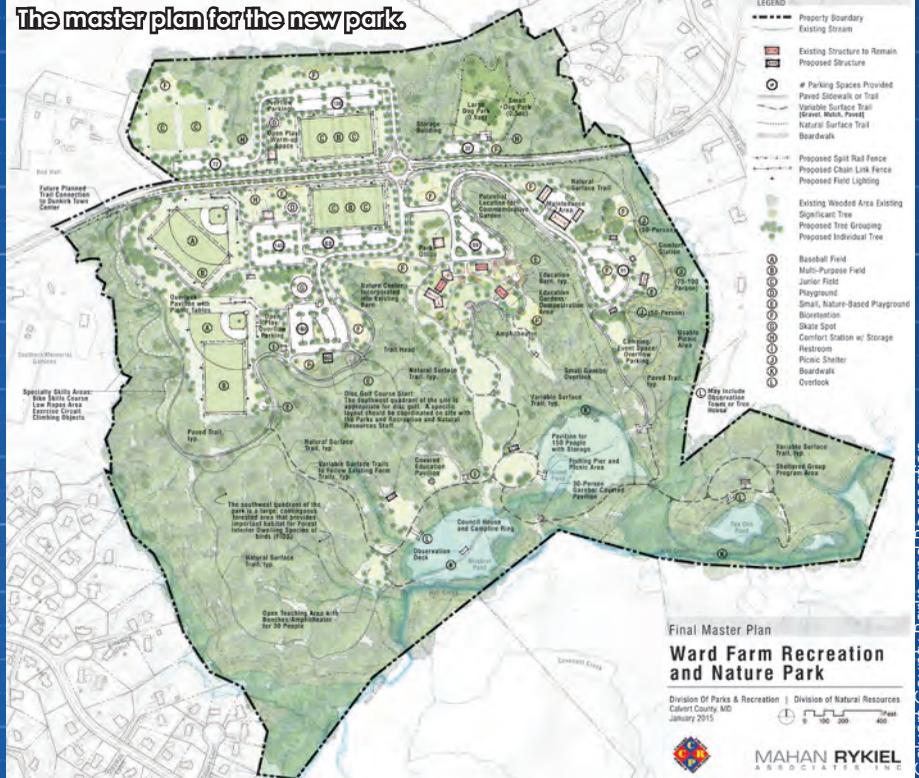
Dunkirk has seen many changes over the years. Some may remember when the new Giant and Walmart appeared, the Arby's changing to a Burger King, or even the paving of the large Park and Ride lot. There are two new construction projects coming to Dunkirk on Ward Road. The less mysterious construction will be a new Dunkirk Park. The county Parks and Recreation division is planning a new park behind Southern Memorial Gardens. Suggested names for the park include Ward Farm Recreation and Nature Park and the Hall Creek Recreation and Nature Park. Construction for the new park is estimated to cost \$28,751,342 not including the cost of the land.

The large primary park elements will include one 90' diamond baseball field, two or more full-sized multipurpose fields, single junior fields, and a non-sport specific open field. Some smaller elements include playgrounds, skate spots, a dog park, and convenient parking with bus access. Facilities will also dot the park including a park office, restrooms, a maintenance facility, and environmental center.

The park will also include wide paved paths connecting all fields and facilities that will be suitable for running, walking, biking and skateboarding. The paths will also connect to nature trails that will lead to boardwalks overlooking streams and ponds. Apart from the primary park elements, the county is also considering including new secondary park elements, which might include a 60,000 square foot indoor facility, a disc golf course, a spray pad,

amphitheater, BMX trails, themed nature trails, and camping grounds.

The vacant property space behind CVS has been cleared for construction. The property is owned by Howlin. The



developer, Rick Bailey, has been constructing a new shopping center called the Shoppes at Apple Greene. The name comes from the neighborhood it is connected to. They are currently putting in a new sewage system. Since the town of Dunkirk has septic, before they can start construction on the actual buildings of the town center, the developer must put in their own sewer system similar to the one installed for Dunkirk Gateway, the Giant Shopping Center.

Despite many rumors, what businesses will be included in the shopping center will continue to be unknown for the time being. "The last word we got from Rick Bailey was that they were still looking for an anchor store - and that was last summer," said Dunkirk Area Concerned Citizens Committee President J.P. Sherkus. An anchor store is the largest stores in a shopping center, usually a department store or major retail chain.

Both new construction projects offer exciting changes to the town of Dunkirk. Construction stopped on the Apple Greene property because of winter weather and has yet to begin on Ward Road.

Photo courtesy of Calvert County Parks and Recreation

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Prepping for Prom

With a new location, theme and price, the Junior Class Council makes major changes for Prom.

by Madison Griffith
Editor in Chief

Girls start looking for their Prom dress before winter is even over. Most boys don't even have the word Prom in their

head till a week before the event. The junior class council started planning for Prom when the school year started to make sure students will have an exciting night.

In recent years, Prom has been held at Camelot in Upper Marlboro. This year it will be held at the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department in Hollywood, Maryland on May 14. Principal Kevin Howard suggested having Prom there. "We had a few venues to pick from in order to fit the amount of people that attend Prom. We also had some concern about pricing some students out, and it should be affordable for every student to attend Prom," said Howard.

In addition to changing the location, the junior class council has let the junior and senior classes be more involved in deciding this year's theme. Unlike Camelot, the Hollywood Firehouse allows the school to decorate the venue themselves. The Camelot is decorated as a classy ballroom so it's already ready for prom.

You may have seen some of the junior class council members volunteering at a booth during lunch in the cafeteria in February with three choices of Prom themes for students to vote for. One was a Hollywood theme, another one was "Under the Stars" and the last one was a yule ball. "The Under the Stars theme won by about three votes," said junior Gillian Torr.

Another change students should enjoy are the ticket prices for Prom this year. Homecoming tickets are usually around \$20, but Prom tickets have usually been more expensive, reaching the price of \$80 per ticket last year. "The Camelot was over \$30,000 to rent last year, but the Hollywood firehouse is substantially less," said Howard. Since it's cheaper to rent the firehouse, tickets will be around \$50 this year.

It took more than a change in location to lower the price of Prom tickets. The Junior Class Council has been fundraising all year in order to rent the firehouse and provide food for the students and staff who attend Prom. Without doing the necessary fundraising, students would have to pay a lot more.

"We have done fundraisers like Panera strips, paint parties, food fundraisers, a candle stick fundraiser and we are doing a car wash when it gets warmer," said Junior Class Council vice president Alicia Bennett. This year's Senior Class Council fundraised money for Prom last year by holding car washes at the Owings World's Gym, food fundraisers, a Santa's Workshop, and collecting money from tips at Chesapeake Grille.

The junior class



The Hollywood Firehouse where Prom will move for 2016.

council and Howard have been working hard this school year to make sure everyone who attends the Prom leaves satisfied. Though the Hollywood Fire Department is farther away than Camelot, students are expected to enjoy the affordable tickets, food, at a night "Under the Stars" at Prom this year.

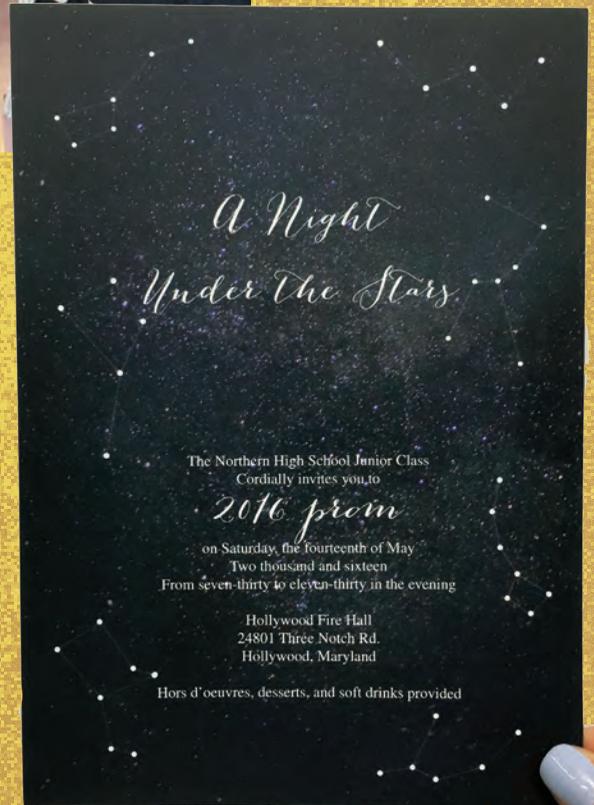


Photo courtesy of the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department.

Let's get growing!

Tech ed students are hard at work building a greenhouse.

by Hailey Guit
Editor in Chief

Did you know that there has been an on-going project this school year to build a greenhouse behind the Mary Harrison Center? Twenty-two technology education (tech ed) students were selected at the beginning of the school year to work on building a project that would benefit the community.

The project was originally part of the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow competition in which schools submitted ideas addressing the challenge of how STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math) skills could be applied to the community. The tech ed students came up with the idea to build a greenhouse with a rainwater conservation system for the school to grow food to donate to local food banks.

Winning the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest would have helped fund the project but Northern's project submission wasn't selected as a winner. The students decided to go ahead with their idea of building the greenhouse with the encouragement of Principal Kevin Howard. "I had told Mr. Cranford beforehand that if they were willing to go ahead with it then I would fund it because I thought it was a great idea," said Howard. "What better real world experience can students get than actually building a greenhouse?"

Howard helped fund the project along with a donation of \$500 from Sneade's Ace Hardware in Owings. With these funds, the students were able to go ahead and continue with their project. "We had the funds from the school and all the designs done up for the greenhouse, so it didn't seem that hard to just go ahead and finish it," said junior Molly McLaughlin



The beds for the greenhouse under construction.



Senior Brittany Arthur and junior Sam August working on the greenhouse construction.

Despite having all the funding necessary, the project proved to have its difficulties. Freshman Chasady Penner said, "We definitely mess up sometimes like putting screws in too far or not enough. It's not been easy." The students have been working all year to put together the planting beds and cut the structural boards necessary. Despite the slow start, the group has almost all the supplies ready to put together now.

"The beds are done and all the boards are cut. We just need to go outside and put it together," said senior Brittany Arthur. The greenhouse will have 20 foot long planting beds and three large rain barrels that will be used to water the plants. It will be located behind the Mary Harrison Center next to the track field.

Another setback the group has encountered has been the weather. All the supplies are ready to be assembled but the students couldn't assemble them due to poor weather conditions in the winter. Snow, rain and freezing temperatures mean that no outside work could be done on the project, but with nicer spring weather and warm temperatures lately they have been able to get started building.

The students have enjoyed the opportunity to be part of this project that will have such a positive impact on the community. "I was actually really excited to be a part of this. I thought that it was different, and it's been a lot of fun working with the group that I have and what we plan

on doing for Calvert County," said senior Kirianne Landeros.

The greenhouse will be used to grow food products that can be donated to local food banks or churches that will accept the locally grown fresh produce. Students are planning to work during the summer months so that the greenhouse won't need much upkeep when students are there. The produce list will be finalized by the end of the school year so that next year the greenhouse will be ready to use.

Photos by Kayla Nalepa

Teens today are...

The lazy social media obsessed stereotype teens are saddled with can be harmful.

by Kat Hartmann and Hannah Wilson

Lazy, narcissistic, rebellious, social media obsessed, entitled: These are adjectives that are commonly used by adults to describe the teenagers of our generation. Harmless as they may seem, these generalizations are more detrimental to teen development than has been recognized. Teen stereotyping can affect teen job prospects, increase discriminatory practices, and increase negative behavior among teens.

The stereotyping of young adults has filled the minds of potential employers with a negative generalization regarding the character of teens. Specifically, that teens are lazy and entitled and that they are unwilling to work hard and earn what they desire. This makes employers seek older and, therefore, more qualified candidates.

According to Education Market UK, a survey carried out by the management consultancy firm McKinsey suggested that many employers were leaving entry level jobs unfilled based on skill gaps among teens. Specifically, the survey concluded that 27% of employers claimed that they could not find people with the necessary skill set and had been forced to leave the positions unfilled. Not only have teen stereotypes led employers to believe young adults are lazy, but that they also lack the skills to perform in even entry level jobs.

Some stereotypes categorize teens into cliques based on their appearance, behavior, and interests. This form of generalization has led to increased discriminatory practices among young adults as they assume an "us vs. them" mentality. In reality cliques are much more complex than those that are presented in the media like the popular kids, nerds, theater geeks, jocks, slackers and loners. In actuality, there tends to be a mixture of interests within groups. The nature of cliques remain the same as they encourage conformity, exclusivity, and an intense loyalty to one group of people. Cliques are harboring grounds for stereotypes based solely on the assumption that all of the members of a group share common values. This mentality hinders social development and stifles the development of the openness required to become a truly well rounded individual.

Generalizations about teen characteristics have the



Freshman Camryn Centry using her phone in the cafeteria during lunch.

potential to lead to an increase in negative behavior among young adults. According to a study by Professor Christy Buchanan from Wake Forest University, if adults, especially parents, expect teens to conform to negative stereotypes, they are more likely to do so, especially those revolving around a risk taking or rebelliousness. Specifically, "By thinking risk-taking or rebelliousness is normal for teenagers and conveying that to their children, parents might add to other messages from society that makes teenagers feel abnormal if they are not willing to take risks or break laws. This can mean, for example, that when parents expect teens to drink before they turn 21 or to engage in other risky behaviors, kids are less likely to resist societal pressures to do so."

This extends beyond teen rebellion to other teen behaviors including laziness, social media fixation, and narcissism. If teens are continuously and openly categorized in negative ways there is less resistance among teens to be that way. This leads young adults to use their adolescence as an excuse for bad behavior.

Although the stereotypes of teens as lazy, narcissistic, rebellious, etc. may seem harmless, it is best for society to refrain from those labels. They can affect a teen's self esteem and can cause the exact behaviors they are criticizing to come true. Not all stereotypes are true, so don't use them. No one wants to be stereotyped,, so say no to stereotyping others, and say yes to acceptance.

Cheating at NHS



Have you ever cheated on a homework assignment?

Yes - 84%
No - 16%

Do you feel guilty when you cheat?

Yes - 28%
No - 72%

Would you allow others to cheat off of you?

Yes - 76%
No - 24%

Questions	Accumulated Data	
	YES	NO
Have you ever been caught cheating?	17%	83%
Do you consider copying homework form a friend to be cheating?	42%	58%
Do you consider looking at another student's test to be cheating?	83%	17%
Do you consider working with others on a take home test to be cheating?	15%	85%

What do you think should be done to stop academic dishonesty?

1. Nothing
2. No tests/hard work
3. Watch closer



What punishment is appropriate for cheating?

1. Nothing
2. Get a zero
3. Detention

If others in your class are cheating, do you think that makes it okay for you to cheat?

Yes - 32%
No - 68%



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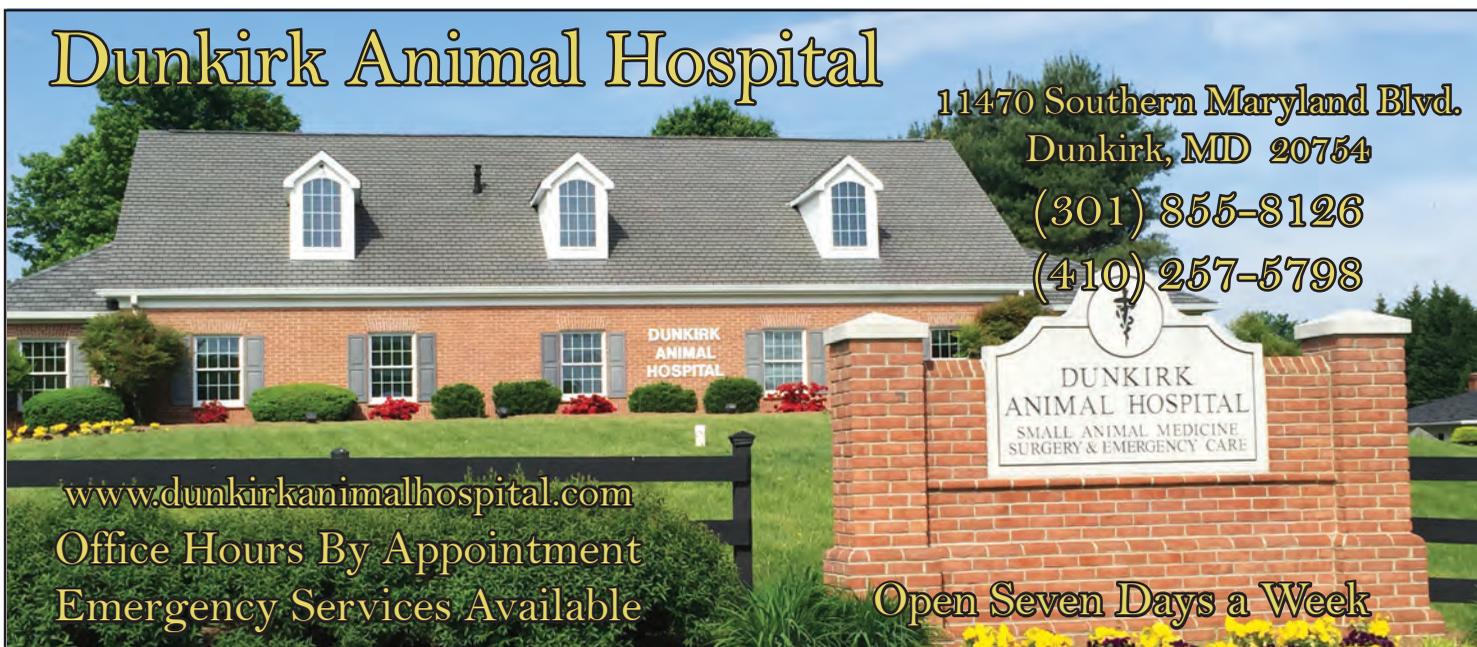
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Academic honesty is the best policy.

However, when students do cheat is it the sign of a deeper problem?

You have a homework assignment due next period and are rushing to copy a friend's paper when a teacher catches you. Now you have a zero for a process grade, and it's bringing your grade down. Cheating is wrong, but too often the punishment is too severe.

The number of students cheating is alarming, and it's a nationwide issue. In a study by The Josephson Institute Center for Youth Ethics, 59% of high school students admitted to cheating on a test. Another study by Rutgers University showed that 64% of high school students admitted to cheating on a test, 58% admitted to plagiarism, and 95% admitted to copying homework.

These statistics are the sign of a deeper problem, the overwhelming focus students have on getting good grades instead of actually learning the material. Students have been taught to the test so much that they no longer feel the need to actually learn, but have been trained to memorize content to pass tests. When students are so focused on the test grade, their work ethic reflects that, and cheating becomes a more common problem.

The 2001 No Child Left Behind (NCLB) act tried to standardize the way students are taught, and required high stakes testing as the focus of the program. Since then, students have been taught to the test. NCLB was not renewed, so the states will have more control over their education programs starting next year. An article by Cindy Long in NEA Today, said some schools are moving away from grades and are pushing toward a standards-based grading system, to see if the student comprehends the subject.

Academic dishonesty can happen at the best schools. Harvard University kicked around 70 students out in 2013 as it determined these students cheated on a take-home exam in a government class after being told to work alone. The Air Force Academy expelled 78 cadets in 2012 who were accused of cheating on an online exam in calculus by using a website meant for homework assignments.

Instructors became suspicious of cheating when all those who passed the online section of the test failed the written part of the test.

Teachers have their own definitions of cheating. Some teachers would say telling students from other class periods what they need to study for a test is cheating. Others would say that it's only cheating when a student actually copies another student's work.

Copying homework just to get the completion grade doesn't deserve the same punishment as cheating on a test or completely plagiarizing a paper. When teachers use homework that's in the public domain and online, student's almost have free reign due to their access to the Internet. Apps like Quizlet put entire homework assignments in the hands of students.

Cheating on tests is harder to hide, but deserves a harsher punishment. First offenses should earn a zero, but a chance to retake the test in a controlled testing environment. Second offenses deserve a zero on the test with no chance to retake, and a call or letter home. If the problem continues, administrative action should be pursued as well.

Teachers use websites like turnitin.com to check papers for plagiarism. Detecting plagiarism is easy, but with as many published works as there are online, a student could very easily write a sentence that resembles another, which could show up as plagiarism. If one or two sentences seem plagiarized, it shouldn't warrant a failing grade. If the entire work is blatantly plagiarized, that is inexcusable and needs to be addressed.

When students cheat, the punishment should reflect the situation. If a student copies one or two questions they don't understand on homework, little to no punishment is deserved. If a student pulls up an entire test on Quizlet, that deserves harsher punishment. When students are trained to be constantly taught to the test and, therefore, focus on getting good grades on tests at all costs, however, maybe the entire educational system needs to be examined.



Senior Sarah Spurill (honestly) writing an essay.

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Working to build a resume

Would an internship or a part time job be best for you?

by Kayla Nalepa and Micaela Shannon

In high school, it's critical to think and plan for the future. That's why many students try internships and part-time jobs to take a step into the world of adulthood. Which option works best for you, gives you the experience you need to prepare for your future, and fits into your life will depend on you.

Pay:

"A benefit to having a job is getting paid," junior Liam Pyles who works at ACE Hardware said. "It's always nice to have cash around when I need it." With gas prices and Wawa runs, looking for a job or an internship, money is always an issue. Unfortunately, most internships don't come with salaries or stipends. With a job, on the other hand, pay is guaranteed. As far as payment goes, it seems that part-time jobs are the best decision, especially if you're looking for a steady income.

Hours:

Generally, part-time jobs offer hours after school and on the weekends which can be hard to balance with school and homework. "It's hard to fit in my soccer and homework when I also cashier at Safeway," junior Becky Gerber said. It seems that work shifts can get in the way of your education and social life. According to Susan Cross, the Coordinator of the Community Mentorship Program, internships can vary and some tend to be about six weeks long. Although some internships do happen during school hours, such as the Teaching Academy of Maryland (TAM) program. "It is totally worth it because I am getting closer to completing my goal of being a teacher," senior Brittany Arthur said.

Relationships:

Jobs can allow you to build good relationships with your co-workers, but being a part of an internship can get you closer to people interested in the same field. Having good relations like this can make things easier getting into a career later. You will already have the necessary connections needed to give you a jump start. Although both help to develop communication skills, internships allow students to get in contact with the right people and that's essential to building toward a career. "The opportunity to meet and maintain a relationship with a mentor is a must for all," Cross said. "Mentors can be sounding boards, backboards full of information, experience and knowledge, and ultimately what can become a lifelong connection to another person."



Arthur helping a student mix paints to be the right color during her internship with art teacher Mr. Kevin Richter.

Photo by Hailey Gult

Experience:

Depending on the career you want, there are actually part-time jobs that can cater to your career needs. "I aspire to be a carpenter, so working at ACE helps with that," Pyles said. "I get to learn how to use different tools and equipment." Internships also hold experience boosters as well. "Internships are a great way to have some experience-based learning that can be used on resumes and job applications," Cross said.

Location:

The Northern district may be small but there's always someplace hiring teens for part-time jobs. When those aren't available, you can always head for Prince Frederick or Annapolis, but with that comes more cost for gas and travel time. The same goes for internships. In some cases, interns can stay where they're interning and those many occur over the summer. Although location can be a problem, it can be worth the trouble.

Choosing between a part time job or an internship can be hard but both can work to build your resume. Whether you want to be a journalist, veterinarian, or graphic designer there are plenty of opportunities for a variety of careers.



College of the Issue: Penn State

The University of Pennsylvania offers a top reputation and winning teams.

by Andrew Jaeger and Jenna Jaeger



Bowman and her teammates.

Pennsylvania State University (Penn State) is known for its prominent navy blue and white colors and countless national championships. With campuses in Hershey, Harrisburg, Brandywine and 21 other sites, Penn State is a college popular with students lowoking for a high profile degree and challenging

programs.

Pennsylvania State University was established in 1855. The university has 24 separate campuses, with University Park in State College as the main campus. According to Penn State Admissions, the University Park campus has over 40,000 undergraduate students and 13,700 of those students live on campus. During their first year, students are guaranteed on campus housing. According to US News, the top five majors are business, engineering, communications/journalism, social sciences and the health profession.

2014 alumna Jenna Hakun attends the University Park campus and loves everything about Penn State. "There is so much that is great about Penn State. I love the people. I have not met someone I don't like here. The campus is beautiful. There are so many extracurricular and educational opportunities to take advantage of," she said. On campus, Hakun currently lives in the South Hall dorm, but is hoping to move off campus next year.

Penn State has a thriving football program with

Beaver Stadium at its heart providing an invigorating and fun atmosphere for every game. Hakun has season tickets and attends the games rain or shine. "There is just an indescribable atmosphere: Everyone cheering, the blue band going crazy, and the cowbell chant getting thrown up after every score," she said.

2015 alumna Caitlin Bowman also attends the University Park

campus. "I decided to try out for Penn State's cheer team and was fortunate enough to make it," she said. Penn State's sports atmosphere is invigorating if you are part of the team or just a fan in a crowd, and they have a great history of national championships. Penn State has won a total of 75 national



Hakun and fellow Penn State students at Beaver Stadium.

championships, with gymnastics holding the most national titles, according to GoPSUSports.

Bowman chose to attend Penn State because she wanted to get away from home without going too far, and the four hour drive to University Park seemed perfect. "I also knew I wanted to attend a big university, and when I came to the school I fell in love with the campus and Happy Valley," said Bowman. Happy Valley is another name for the area around State College.

If you care more about food than sports, don't worry. Penn State has a variety of food for students to enjoy, including Italian, Asian, Mexican and even on campus fast food chains like Chick-fil-a. "The food is great! There is such a variety so it doesn't get too boring," said Hakun.

Penn State is also full of spirit and has a great campus atmosphere. "Everyone is friendly and willing to help each other. It's hard to describe, but it's something you automatically feel when you step into Penn State," said Hakun. Penn State has an assortment of activities on campus for students. Hundreds of clubs, including Greek life, are available, ranging from the Agriculture Student Council to the Netflix Club. Numerous sports and recreation teams are open for tryouts. There is a newspaper, The Daily Collegian, that keeps students updated on local and national events while the humor magazine, *Phroth*, gives Nittany Lions a good laugh.

Ranked as the third-best US college town by the American Institute for Economic Research in 2013, State College offers a wide range of activities for students. Whether it's eating at the many local restaurants, skiing or hiking at nearby sites, or strolling through the shops of State College, there is rarely a dull moment.

Photos courtesy of Jenna Hakun, Caitlin Bowman and courtesy of Penn State



Hakun and a friend during a football game.

The Youtube tag

Three students use their creativity to build impressive social media followings.



by Lauren Downs and Kelli Kaiser

YouTube is one of the biggest social networking websites on the Internet. Some users become famous, inspire others, get a point across, or just post videos for fun. Some even walk through our halls to get to their next class.

You may have seen junior Celine Gautrois wearing her YouTube necklace and YouTube shoes. Gautrois has four YouTube channels. Her main channel, CreativePenguinGirl, is where she posts every Tuesday showing off her art, comedy, DIY's, and poetry. Her second channel, CelinesAwkwardLife, is where she posts vlogs, or video blogs. In these, Gautrois shares what she does during her day and discusses special events in her life. On TimelessImagination, she displays her horror comedy short films including one called The Trail Blazers. Finally, ElectricLzardBby is where she posts videos of her singing and rapping. On her main channel, Gautrois has almost 800 subscribers.

Gautrois' inspiration to start a YouTube account was her love for art and hope for inspiring others. In 2011, Guatrios started her first channel. She started by

one about her YouTube channel originally and wanted to keep it a secret. Eventually, she stopped caring whether people knew and opened up about it.

When making videos, she checks for good lighting, improv, and to make sure the camera is in the right place. She edits and uploads her videos. Gautrois says that YouTube is a, "great form of self expression."

Her favorite part of making videos is the creativity it requires. She hopes that she can make her subscribers laugh and to help inspire them to create art.

Junior Colton Jarboe has 48 thousand followers on his Vine account under the username Colton Ok. On his main account, he posts Vines

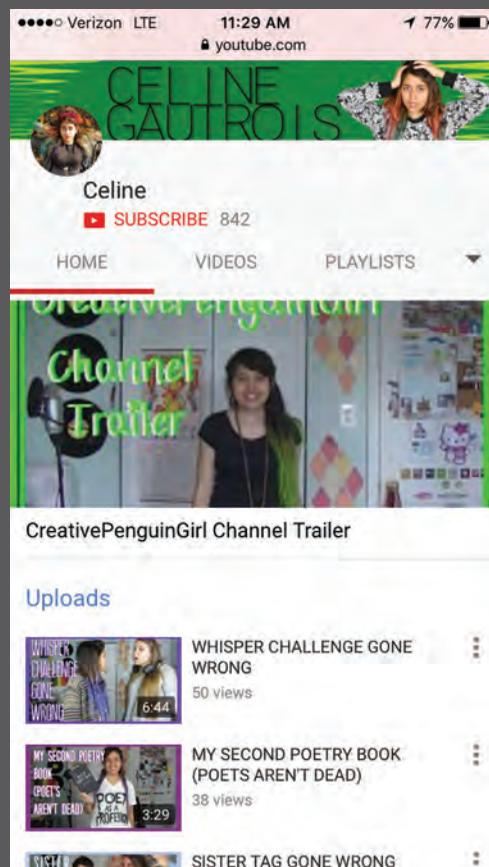


Photo courtesy of Lauren Downs, Kelli Kaiser, and Madison Griffith

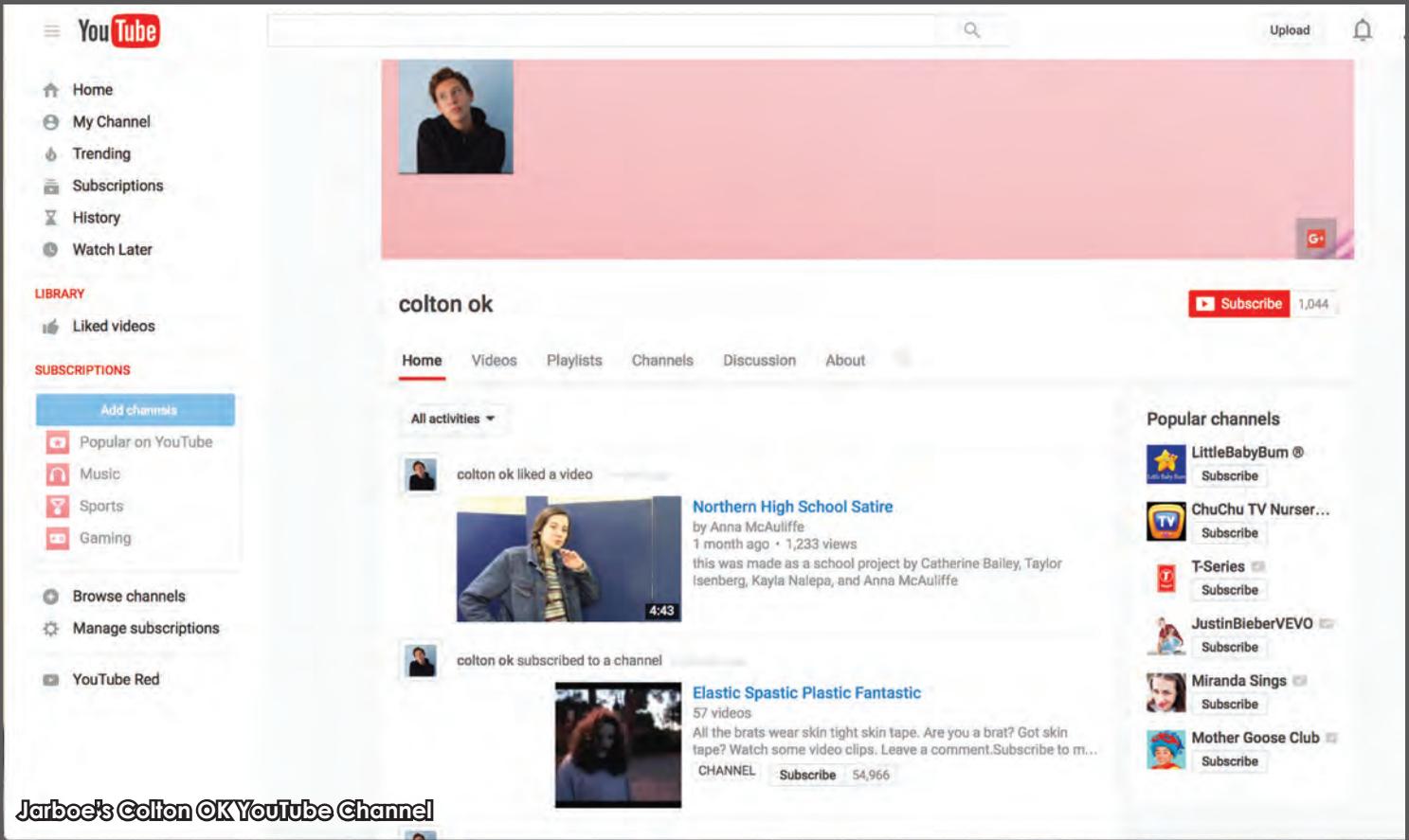


Gautrois' Youtube video on readers and writers, uploading videos showing her art, but one year later, she showed her face. This was her form of self expression not only through speaking but through facial expressions and hand gestures. She didn't tell any-



Youtuber Gautrois. Above: Her channel on a mobile app.





Jarboe's Colton OK YouTube Channel

of moments in his life that make people laugh. Jarboe is also the co-owner with his online friends Andrew in London and Liah who from D.C. of another vine account called wot camila where he uploads vines of different celebrities, TV shows and movies. That account has 3,000 followers. His followers wanted more than just the six-second Vines he posted, so he decided to create a YouTube channel. "My favorite Viners like Sydney Ok, Christian Leave, and Im Not Savana started to post youtube videos, so I did as well," said Jarboe. His YouTube name is also Colton Ok.

Jarboe started posting to YouTube about a year and a half ago and now has 1,000 subscribers. He started posting random videos about himself. He also posted videos that his followers requested and longer edits of his Vines.

"I've had people tell me that they started their edits by watching mine, which made me feel pretty good," he said. Jarboe's favorite part of making videos is getting positive feedback about his work and watching other

people's videos.

Junior Nia Adams has a YouTube account all about nails. Adams started her YouTube channel over the summer because of the compliments she received about her nails through middle and high school. "I never had the courage to start in middle school but I finally uploaded a video and I enjoy it," Adams said. Her favorite part of YouTube is knowing that others watch and enjoy her videos and people leaving positive comments. "I hope I have a positive effect on my subscribers, and I hope that they are encouraged to start their own YouTube channel," she said. If you are interested in nail polish art, visit Adams' channel at PolishMePretty397.



These students show their creativity and inspiration using YouTube, but each had to start in the same place, with the desire to share their passion with others by creating a YouTube channel. Some YouTubers start small and become well known using the medium. Maybe one of these students will make it online as well.



The adventures of Norfolk and Faxon

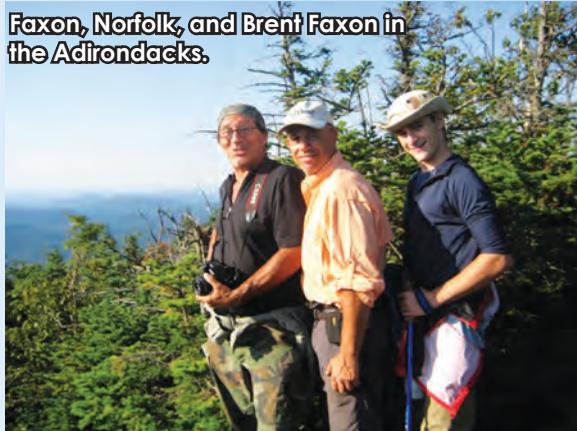
Northern's two most adventurous teachers hit the road together.

by Michael Vaeth
Photographer

You've heard the tales of men who climb unscalable mountains, men who sleep in subfreezing temperatures for fun and trek the most unforgiving terrain. The world knows these kinds of individuals as Mountain Men. Here at Northern, we know them as Mr. Faxon and Mr. Norfolk. Two teachers in our school who go on regular adventures together, fighting harsh weather conditions and other obstacles along the way.

Mr. Mickey Norfolk and Mr. Henry Faxon, teachers in the Project Lead the Way program, have been going on trips

Faxon, Norfolk, and Brent Faxon in the Adirondacks.



together for about five years. They go hiking, camping, kayaking and regularly take trips on their motorcycles. They take a yearly trip around February

winter hiking in the Adirondack Mountains in New York. They normally stay there for several days hiking the mountains and snowshoeing. "Usually, when we go to the mountains it is around 20 below zero out there. We always have a good time though," Norfolk said. "My favorite trip we took together had to be our very first one," said Norfolk. "It was five years ago. It consisted of 33 hours of canoeing followed by 22 hours of mountain climbing. Grueling, but fun." Faxon had a harder time choosing a favorite. "Our first trip we went on together was a good one but I also enjoyed when we went up to Long Lake and canoed to our campsite and then bushwhacked (chopping a trail) up the mountain," said Faxon. "We also went winter mountaineering in the Adirondack mountains which was great. It was a new experience for Mr. Norfolk, so it was a great time."

Being out in the wilderness together as much as they are, they're sure to have some adventures. "The craziest experience I've had so far has to be the trip when we hiked up a mountain and decided to set up our camp on the side of it. We set up our tent and it was kind of at an angle. We decided to just let it be and go to sleep. When we woke up in

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Norfolk takes a selfie on the John Muir Trail in California.



the middle of the night, the tent was hanging off the side of the mountain. We were just feet away from falling hundreds of feet down the mountain. So we packed up our equipment and hiked an hour in the pitch black to a flatter spot on the mountain," Norfolk said.

Faxon remembers that trip with Norfolk. "I remember earlier in that day, I was teaching him and his nephew how to paddle properly on a canoe. He got the paddle strokes down, but he and his nephew weren't in sync while they were paddling so they ended up going in a big circle around the lake before they had caught back up to me. Later that night, when we were setting up our camp, I noticed that he had brought a tent rather than a tarp to sleep on. I could understand seeing as it was his first time, but it took him a while to get everything set up. We finally got to bed but then when I woke up in the morning, I had no clue where they went. They were nowhere in sight," Faxon said.

These outdoorsmen love a good adventure, from riding motorcycles together to hiking up mile high mountains. They've already started planning their next trip. "We are planning to ride our motorcycles up to Montana after this school year," Norfolk said.

"All of the trips we take together are great. Out in the wilderness, laughing and enjoying the beauty. Truly epic every year."

Anna McAuliffe, Norfolk, and McAuliffe's uncle Gill on the John Muir Trail.



Photos courtesy of Mickey Norfolk.



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CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2016!!

Siblings at the same school

What's it like walking the halls with a familiar face?

by Rebecca Emerson and Alec Howard

Adrianna Wilder is crossing the finish line to the sound of her older sister and family cheering her well deserved victory. She has had her sister's support every step of the way.

The Wilder girls.



"I like to see when she does well. When she qualified for New Balance nationals, it was awesome to cheer her on," said Junior Abigail Wilder. Being close in age, they have common interests like running on the same cross country team. Strengthening their bonds as sisters

ning of the year. "All of Jake's teachers really like him, so I go into new classes with a good first impression," said sophomore Sarah Dere-sky. When her brother was in tenth grade, he had a lot of the same teachers as she does this year. This gives Sarah the advantage of knowing how the teacher operates and what the expectations are ahead of time with her sibling's previous knowledge.

Having the same teachers can be about living up to an expectations set by an older sibling. "We did have some of the same teachers, and it's hilarious coming home and seeing we have the same reactions to them," said junior Julia Gray, oldest of two. Having had the same teacher, siblings know their expectations and can help when it comes to school work. "Because she had the same teacher as me, she can help me with my AP work," said freshman Jillian Gray.

For some, it is academics, for others the issue comes up with expectations outside of the classroom "I like to help her with cheer-leading like a coach would. We practice routines together and I show her how to do things she

doesn't know how to do," said senior Halle Magallanes. Halle is the second oldest of four children. Her younger sister, Miah, is a freshman. Both being cheerleaders, Miah has an advantage getting help with questions and support from her older sister during practice. "High school has made us a lot closer. She helps me with a lot at school and

The Dere-sky siblings.



and teammates makes sharing memories and motivational support easier for the two siblings at Northern High.

Having a sibling with a good reputation with school staff is an advantage when it comes to teachers getting to know students at the begin-

cheer," said Miah.

Maddy and Mary Twetten play on NHS varsity soccer and run indoor and outdoor track together. Many siblings have a natural rivalry, but for these two sports allows the rivalry to reach new heights. "We are both competitive, so we push for better times, but we are closer because of it," said senior Maddy. They're on the same relay team and play the same position in soccer, fighting for playing time makes practices a battle. "It's a competition, but we push each other to get better," said sophomore Mary. They still enjoy each other's company and consider each other close friends. "She gives me a good laugh at soccer because she's weird," said Maddy.

Not all siblings compete on the same team, but all siblings at NHS deal with academics. "There's pressure to get as good of grades as he got when he was my age, because he's always done really well in school, so I try to live up to those expectations," said

The Twetten sisters.



Sarah Deresky.

Sophomore Alex Hood is the middle child between senior Andre Hood and freshman Austin Hood. Being close in age with his brothers, Alex has always had at least one brother to refer to every school year. "They're like a travel first aid kit. If you need something they usually have it unless it's out of the ordinary," said Alex. For him, it is an advantage to have brothers at school when he needs school supplies or lunch money.

Being in the same place for seven hours a day, some siblings enjoy seeing a familiar face roaming the halls. "The school experience is memorable because we have more of a bond everywhere, and we've become closer from the experiences we've shared together," said junior Audrey Bishop. Her sister, freshman Madison Bishop enjoys looking up to her

sister and the fact that Audrey can help her with homework and social issues.

Not everyone enjoys having a sibling at the same school all the time. "We share some friends, so we are around each other often," said senior Elizabeth Schwenk. "When we are in a fight, it makes

it a rough school day. But most the time we get along and she's my best friend."

There can be other disadvantages to having a sibling around all the time. "Rumors getting back to my parents are a worry I have because I have a sister here to hear them," said Audrey Bishop.

Being an older sibling comes with responsibilities. "I have to look out for him when needed," said Alex Hood. Older siblings have a natural instinct to protect their younger siblings around school. "I feel this urgency to know is she's doing okay all day and not having problems even though she is more than likely fine," said Julia Grey.

Family is family no matter where you are. Going to high school can make siblings closer and can create memorable bonds between siblings. Setting siblings up with good impressions, showing them the ropes, and

engaging in friendly competition has made these brothers and sisters closer. Students enjoy knowing there is an older sibling to look up to or a younger sibling to keep an eye on during the school day.



The Bishop girls.



The Gray sisters.

Photos by Hailey Guif and Becca Emerson

Chick-fil-A coming to Dunkirk! April fools' ;-)

by Christian Daniel and Bradley Bogaczyk • art by Micaela Shannon

Pranks can be a lot of fun, but there is one day out of the year when pranks take over: April Fool's Day. It is customary to play a prank on someone and then say "April fools," to let them know the joke is not real. The first day of April has always been a day for pranks, jokes, and hoaxes, and can result in some funny stories.

Memorable Pranks

- In 1952 in London, two teenage boys handed blueprints to the police department that were labeled "Plans for Atomic Device." After police and physicists stumbled over what the blueprints meant, a friend of the boys revealed that he had made up the plans as a prank. One blueprint was even of a sausage machine.
- In 1992 National Public Radio, announced that Richard M. Nixon was running for president again.
- In 1996, Taco Bell ran a full page ad in newspapers saying that they were going to buy the Liberty Bell and rename it the Taco Liberty Bell.
- In 2000, *The Daily Mail* said Esporta Health Clubs had recently revealed its new line of socks, FatSocks, that suck body fat out of sweaty feet using the nylon polymer FloraAstraTetrazine.
- In 2008, YouTube Rickrolled the Internet. They linked all of the featured videos on the front page to Rick Astley's single "Never Gonna Give You Up."
- In 2010, The National Republican Senatorial Committee released a video saying President Obama was the best president ever and had kept all his promises.



"One of the funniest pranks that I did to my friends was super glue some of his things down to his desk. It would have been more funny if I did it on a larger scale, but I didn't have enough glue."
-Junior Anna McAuliffe

"My go to jokes on April Fool's day are usually either telling someone their mother loves them, then telling them April Fool's, or, if I have a girlfriend, I would fake break up with her."
-Senior Chris VanDeventer

"Although it is a common prank, I always put Vaseline on my mom's doorknobs so her hands slip. She always falls for it even though I do it almost every year. I guess she forgets that it's April 1st."
-Junior Kyle Meccia

"When Mr. Miller was principal here, Mrs. Farnese and I played quite a few practical jokes on him. One time, we put a fart machine under his keyboard and had it go off when he was having a conversation with one of the teachers."
- Secretary Mrs. Carolyn Leadbeter

"One year, my brother-in-law collected glass for a couple of months, then on April Fool's Day he put it to use. He went into his brother's truck and rolled down the window, then put the glass he collected outside his truck, making it look like his brother's window was broken."
-Attendance Secretary Mrs. Sandra Loveless

"To mess with my parents for April Fool's Day, my brother Shane and I put tape under all of the faucets at our house. When my parents went to turn them on in the morning, water sprayed all over them."
-Sophomore Cully Colgan

"Although I got in some trouble for this at my house, my brothers and I put Saran Wrap under the toilet seat so when my dad went to the bathroom he had a nice little surprise."
-Sophomore J.J. King

"When I was in sixth grade and my sister was in eighth grade, my dad and I made a fake letter from the school saying that I was going to be graduating middle and going into high school with my sister because my MSA scores were so high. Only weeks later did she realize that it was an April Fool's joke because the signature was signed EZ to Foolya."
-Junior Casey Myer



Northern's own Leonardo

Leonardo outside school working on a drawing.

Senior Chulo Leonardo uses his artistic skill to draw every day.

by Kelli Kaiser
Apprentice Editor

Senior Chulo Leonardo started drawing at a young age and has always had a passion for art. It wasn't until last year that he realized he had talent. As soon as art teacher Ms. Lelia Rizzo gives out a new art assignment, Leonardo feels a sense of exhilaration. "I

just like how you can express yourself with art," he said. He loves art because there are so many different ways to create it.

"My father has had a big influence on my art. He's a very talented artist," Leonardo said. "But for the most part, I would say that I'm self-inspired." Leonardo is also inspired by music and drawings by Salvador Dali. He says he is inspired by the surreal-

ism in Dali's portraits. Leonardo mostly draws for enjoyment and to get images out of his mind. He said most of his drawings reflect his mood and his thoughts. When he is drawing free hand, Leonardo likes to create a scene in his head. Then, he creates that scene on paper.

Rizzo first met Leonardo during his sophomore year when he was not interested in art as much as he currently is. Near the end of year, Leonardo wanted to take drawing and painting, but Rizzo wouldn't let him. "Starting in April of last year, he started coming in A and B lunch every day and just drew until the end

of May," said Rizzo. She saw the improvement that Leonardo displayed and let him continue with the next art class. One piece of his work is going to the Board of Education to be displayed for three months. Rizzo assigned a project for them to draw three boxes, turn the drawing upside down, draw them again, and then put paint, charcoal, and pencil on it.

Every piece of art is special to Leonardo. He feels creative wherever he goes. Working to perfect every one of his drawings, he likes to experiment with different techniques and supplies.

When Leonardo was first learning to draw portraits, junior Breshae Johnson taught him how to accurately proportion a person's face and how to smoothly shade. "We started

portrait drawings early in the year and by the end, I'm pretty sure he was doing them in his sleep," said Johnson. Once he started to draw portraits often, Leonardo started changing things in the face or messing with the shading. He likes to take a portrait and make it look odd and different. He uses different media and imagination to change up people's faces.

Leonardo starts his drawing process by

getting a good reference photo of the person. Then he starts a rough sketch to make sure that he has everything placed correctly. After he's done with placing, he starts adding detail. He says the hardest part of drawing portraits is getting the drawing perfect and making the proportions all correct.

Leonardo would like to pursue a career as a graphic design artist or police sketch artist. He wants to pursue one of these careers because he loves art, and it makes him really happy.



Top: Salvador Dali; Middle: Jimi Hendrix; Bottom: The Grinch.

Photos by Kelli Kaiser and courtesy of Chulo Leonardo



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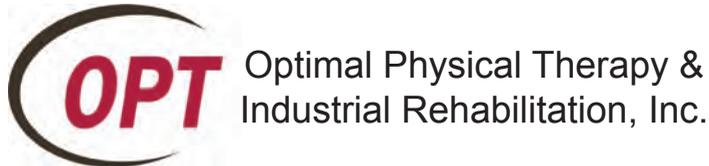
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Softball strives for States

The team works toward their ninth consecutive win.

by Kayla Nalepa
Assistant editor

Eleven years ago, coaches Robert Radford and Devin Hall took over the softball program in hope of making them a competitive softball team. That goal has been more

The softball team last year after winning their eighth straight State title.



than fulfilled as the girls have won eight consecutive state titles. Now, the pressure is on to keep the streak going in the coming season.

The team lost three seniors last year and those positions had to be filled, but most of the girls have been playing together for a long time and the team expects to be consistent with last year's. "We have the same pitcher and infield," senior Natalie LaPlaca said. "The chemistry we have together will still be strong." Having a strong bond is important as teamwork is essential to their success.

During practice, the girls give their all to be prepared for games. "To improve from last year, hopefully we can cut down on the number of runs given up per game," Radford said. "Better defense and offense, as well as an increase in the number of runs scored." According to Hall, during practice the team will spend some days working on offense and others on defense. Some practices are individual or as a whole group. Along with a focus on improvement, come other concerns. "A coach worries about everything," Radford said. "Playing to our potential, injuries, weather, and getting in enough practices to name a few." Last season the only major injury was when Michaela Schaefer broke her wrist before the state semi-final game, but she was able to tape it up and play in

the State final at the University of Maryland.

Certainly for the past eight seasons they have proven that the softball program is strong. "Regardless of the score, when we play well their performance always creates a positive feeling," Radford said. Recording undefeated seasons pushes the girls to excel even further.

Although Huntingtown is the school's biggest rival, they are not expected to be the team's toughest competition. "I definitely think Chopticon will be one of our big rivals again this year," said sophomore Myranda Smithburger. The two teams have a history as rivals on the field but will experience a change this year. "It stinks that they aren't 3a anymore," Senior Micaela Cummings said. "They were always a really good competitor to get us ready for States."

The girls write their objectives on a Goals Board that they take to every game. According to Radford, this is a tradition that the team has used for years. The team also sticks to

the same tactics and strategies in the game to ensure their performance never falls below their standard. "I think our coach is a little superstitious," said Schaefer. "As far as routines go, we stick to the same ones and keep the same approaches." Keeping things consistent has proved successful for eight straight years.

"All of the previous teams have worked extremely hard to

Junior Michaela Schaefer at the State Playoff game.



make that a reality," he said. "It is this year's teams responsibility to continue that." The team no doubt feels the pressure as they strive for their ninth consecutive State title.



LaPlaca and Christa Clark during a State game against C Milton Wright last year.

Photos courtesy of Robert Radford



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Making their mark

Four year senior athletes begin their final spring sports seasons.

By Madison Griffith and Payton Fleming

Making a varsity team can be the greatest accomplishment of a freshman's first year in high school. Varsity sports teams are usually made

up of upperclassmen, but if a player shows great ability, coaches may decide to bring them up to varsity. Seven of this year's seniors have been on spring sports for all four years.

"When I made varsity lacrosse my freshman year, I felt overwhelmed because it's a lot to learn all at

once, but it was so much fun being with upperclassmen," said senior Michael Wildgruber. Wildgruber has been playing lacrosse for 11 years. Seniors Christian Daniel, Bradley Bogaczyk, and Joey Almony also made the varsity lacrosse team all four years of high school.

Only one girls lacrosse player is a four year varsity athlete. Senior Amanda Berger has been playing lacrosse for 11 years. "Making varsity my freshman year was really intimidating and nerve racking, but once I got comfortable, it was a lot of fun," she said.

Making varsity can be scary yet exciting for freshman. On varsity softball, senior Natalie LaPlaca has always been extremely talented. After playing a sport in ev-

ery season for the past four years (and winning three straight state titles), she continues to have a love for softball and leads the team this year as captain. This

season, LaPlaca advises the incoming freshman athletes to not be nervous. "If you want a starting spot, you need to go all out at every practice and earn it," she said.

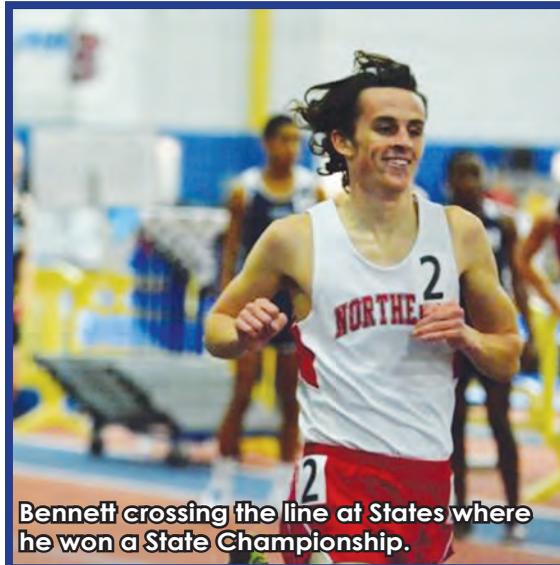
Senior Matthew Bennett wakes up every morning planning his day around his running schedule. "Basically, the first thing that I do everyday is plan where I'm going to run and with who," said Bennett. He has seven regional titles,

seven SMAC titles and two state titles. He participated in the National New Balance two mile race in New York on March 11, coming in fifth place out of 15 running in his heat. Participating in cross country and track has taught Bennett that nothing's going to be given to people in life. "Natural talent will only get you so far," he said.

Senior Bryce Rodgers-Black is the only player who has been on varsity baseball since his freshman year. Rodgers-Black has been playing baseball since he was four. "What I like the best about baseball is that it's a stress reliever and it makes my mind more free," he said. He hopes to be a leader on and off the field when he leaves high school. Rodgers-Black will

attend Radford University where he hopes to improve in baseball and be drafted to the pros.

With spring sports coming up, these seniors plan to give it their all in their last season. After the games end, the seniors are out to make their mark at various colleges, whether they're playing on the sports teams or just working toward their future.



Bennett crossing the line at States where he won a State Championship.



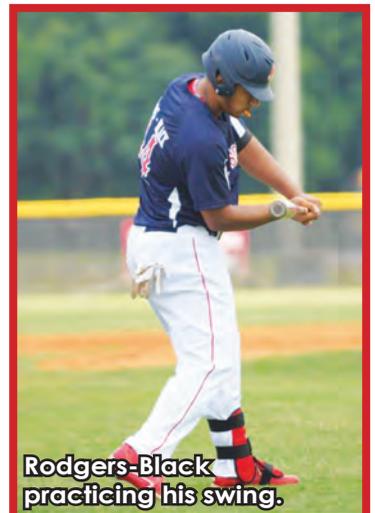
Wildgruber takes off with the ball against Ryken.



Berger in a faceoff against Chopticon



#2 NATALIE LAPLACA



Rodgers-Black practicing his swing.

Photos courtesy of Michael Wildgruber, Bryce Rodgers-Black and Red Dress Photography. Matthew Bennett, Bryce Rodgers-Black and Red Dress Photography.

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Back where it all began

Alumni athletes return to NHS to help coach.

by Maggie Luke
Assistant Editor

2011 alumnus Justin Wood was an All American lacrosse player during his time as a student at NHS and went on to play Division 1 lacrosse at Mount St Mary's University in Em-

mitsburg, Maryland and then to Mercer University in Macon, Georgia. Like other alumni, the love for the sports program and Patriot pride brought Wood back to Northern to give back to the program that helped him become the player he is today.

"The goal I have in mind for this season, is a state ring. No one deserves it more than coach Joe and the program," Wood said.

Wood plans on bringing his specific skills to the team by teaching what he is good at. "Coach Joe does a great job coaching already, but I think bringing in someone with a defensive mind will allow him to focus on offense. I plan to help impact the defense and slow the offense down," he said. Any good team needs to find the right balance between defence and offense training and Wood's hopes to provide that.

Wood also hopes to implement some of the coaching techniques he learned in college including watching a lot of film. Senior Dominic Vasquez is a defensive player on the team. "We've had defensive coaches all along like Coach Rector, but due to his work schedule he wasn't as available. Luckily, Justin could coach, and we love and respect him," said Vasquez.

Wood is most excited to work with a great group of kids and reward the program for such long standing hard work.

Welcoming Wood to the coaching staff is Alumnus David Guido, a coach for two years. His experience playing lacrosse here came brought him back to coach as well. "I want to help impact the team by showing them they can

always be better than they were yesterday," he said. Guido likes to highlight the fact that lacrosse can open many doors for the future such as scholarships and degrees.

Each coach is different in what they bring to the table and impact a program. 2015 alumna Journey Gushen has been hired by Susan Purdy, coach of the girls lacrosse team and Red Dress Photography. She has been taking pictures of the team and helping out whenever necessary. As a senior, Gushen experienced a career ending injury. After enduring a shot to the ear which ruptured her eardrum and gave her second concussion, she was unable to finish her season and get cleared for college lacrosse.

Feeling she had unfinished business, she has returned as a photographer/volunteer coach. Leading up to the season, she has prepared herself by looking up plays and conditioning workouts for the girls. "I am definitely excited. I can't wait to be with all my girls," she said.

In the past, the girls lacrosse team has had trouble with team bonding and keeping a happy vibe. "I want to make sure every girl feels comfortable, cut out the drama and make a family as much as possible," said Gushen. Senior Layla Purdy is very excited about Gushen returning. "She has been in our position before. Having her here to help with the game along with the mental aspects will help to build a better relationship between the girls. We will work together and push each other in order to reach our goals," she said. Looking forward to a fun season playing the game that they love, Gushen hopes to win SMAC and beat Huntingtown and Calvert.

Nicole Kerfoot, coach of Field Hockey for eight seasons, was also drawn back to Northern because of great experience with the sports programs. "I played field hockey, basketball, and softball here at Northern and had such different experiences with each sport," she said. Besides learning about commitment, dedication, perseverance, and time management skills her favorite experience was gaining teammates who became family to her.

In the end, a coach and their players all have the same goal, to succeed and to have fun during the process. Returning to NHS as alumni coaching staff has made team leadership all the more personal and enjoyable for both coaches and students. Their dedication proves once a Patriot, always a Patriot.

Senior Layla Purdy hugs coach Nicole Kerfoot with Coach Nichelle Kerfoot.



Coach Justin Wood playing lacrosse at Mercer University.

Photos by Maggie Luke and courtesy of Red Dress Photography

New teams, new chances

The boys lacrosse team finally gets the chance to play other teams outside of the SMAC conference.

by Payton Fleming
Photographer

The end of the winter means that the spring sporting events are just around the corner. While many teams are playing known opponents, the boys lacrosse team changed conferences this year and will be facing four new schools.

The team learned of the conference change over winter when they were beginning preparations for the season. "By having a schedule that was all SMAC games, our players didn't get experiences to play strong teams from outside Southern Maryland," said Head Coach Joe Casalino.

In recent years, Casalino and the other coaches thought it was best for the boys to face new competition. He said, "Playing all SMAC teams stifled our players' growth as individuals and a team. It wasn't just us. Soccer, basketball and softball faced the same challenge." The team will play four new teams outside of SMAC this season and hopes to do as well as they have in the past.

The four schools added to the schedule are Marriotts Ridge, Robinson, Thomas S. Wooten, and Severn. Playing against different teams is a challenge for the boys. Sophomore Daniel Horak said, "I'm excited to have new teams in the conference because it will give us the opportunity to see what we will face in the playoffs and give us a better chance to win States."

The team came out with a high level of intensity last year. This season will put that intensity and skill to the

test. "Playing with new teams from different places will be a challenge for us. We've always known how the other teams have played, and this year we won't know what to expect," said senior Dominic Vazquez.

Before pre-season began on March 1, players started practicing to prepare for the new teams. Senior Ryan Endress said, "We played in competitive leagues in the fall with lifting and running Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday every week from October till the season. That helped us all become stronger especially Ian Cleary and some of the underclassmen guys."

Off-season games and practices not only help prepare the team for what was ahead, but also kept them confident in their skills. Casalino said, "There's not much change other than having two fewer games against Charles County teams this year. We have won SMAC six straight times, so there will always be a target on our back every game we play."

Being a strong team that has come out on top in many competitions, the conference change gives the lacrosse team even more of an opportunity to show everyone how well they play. "We've already heard the talk from other SMAC schools about how they are going to beat us. That won't change," Casalino said.

With the team ready to reach new goals this year and win more games, the new conference is only the beginning. "Not only will the conference help us get better and fix our mistakes," said Endress, "but it'll show the state of Maryland who we are this year and that we are coming. Being a senior we each know the talk around the school and state every year about us being another bluff team, and we are ready to prove them wrong." For the seniors on the team, this season will be the last time they play with their teammates, all the more motivation to go as far as possible in playoffs.

Last year, the team went 15-2 in their regular season before saying goodbye to their six graduating seniors after the season ended. The 14 returning seniors this year plan to overcome their loss and go even further. "We had good seniors last year but we have a great senior class this year that are ready to fill those spots and do bigger things and accomplish more," said Horak.



The team at the beginning of their annual mile run.



Seniors on the LAX team.

Photos courtesy of Gayle Vaeth



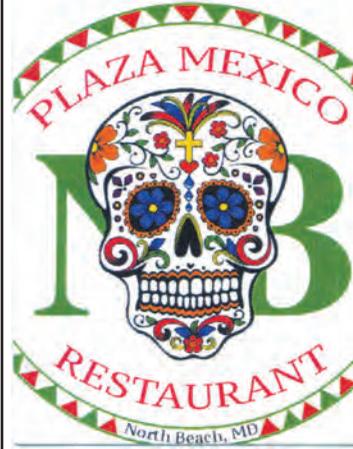
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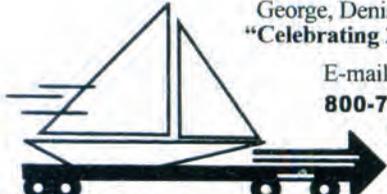
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Meisinger goes pro!

2012 Northern alumnus Ryan Meisinger gets drafted by the Orioles.

by Ian Cleary and Mike Vaeth

During the 11th round of the 2015 Major League Baseball draft, the Baltimore Orioles selected 2012 Northern alumnus Ryan Meisinger. "I always knew that I wanted to play in the MLB, but it really hit me when I was a sophomore in college that I had a legitimate chance of getting drafted," Meisinger said. Meisinger went on to make a major impact in his rookie season playing for the Orioles single-A MLB team, the Aberdeen Ironbirds, earning eight saves as a closing pitcher.

Being truly committed to reaching a long term goal like being drafted into the MLB is very difficult. Meisinger has been playing baseball his whole life, so he has had great dedication to the sport. One person who helped Meisinger stay committed to being the best player he could be was his dad. "My dad and I have always had a competitive relationship with each other. He was always pushing me to work harder and helped me through practicing and weightlifting," he said.

Meisinger's size is a complement to his natural talent. He stands 6'4 and weighs 240 pounds. Aberdeen's MLB parent club is the Baltimore Orioles, so it's pretty convenient for Meisinger to be playing so close to home right

out of college. Previous to being drafted, he played division one baseball at Radford University where he was recruited to play out of high school.

Varsity baseball coach Mr. Bobby Gibbons coached Meisinger through his high school years. "His tremendous work ethic is among the best I've

ever seen in high school sports," he said. "He had the natural talent his whole life, but he was a gym rat, and he was always working out every free minute he had."

Meisinger was always more than willing to take pointers and try things in different ways throughout high school. "He was an extremely coachable, strong characterized young man to have around our program," Gibbons said.

Meisinger worked extremely hard to achieve his goal, and once he got drafted, it was time to set a new goal. "Any minor league baseball player's goal is to move up and get closer to the big leagues. So my goal this season is to end the year playing in High A which would be for the Frederick Keys," Meisinger said. Considering Meisinger was a mid-season all star and played in his league's All

Star Game during his rookie season, he shouldn't have a problem attaining this goal.

2013 alumnus Joey Gebicke played alongside Meisinger in high school and saw what he was capable of. "He would run several miles after practice at his house a

couple times a week. He was also very committed to the game, and played on top tier summer league baseball teams in his high school years," Gebicke said. "He was also an excellent captain for our team, and it was evident to everyone." Meisinger had obvious talent in high school but being drafted into the minor leagues proved he is achieving his goals.

Meisinger could have returned to college after the season last year, but chose instead to spend the year training. The Orioles sent him to their training facility in Sarasota, Florida to work on improving his skills.

Making it to the MLB is extremely rare and is an accomplishment Meisinger will always be proud of. For him,

it's just another stepping stone in his successful baseball career. The best is yet to come for Meisinger, as he works to become a Baltimore Oriole down the road.

Meisinger pitching for the Aberdeen Ironbirds.



Meisinger signing an autograph for a fan.

Photos courtesy of Ryan Meisinger



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Seven tips to taking the best selfie

From 1839 to 2016, people keep the selfie trend going in more and more creative ways.

by Madison Griffith
Editor in Chief

According to the Public Domain Review, the first selfie ever taken was by an amateur chemist and photography enthusiast from Philadelphia. In 1839, Robert Cornelius had set up his camera at one end of a table, took off the lens cap, and ran to the other end of the table to pose.

There are 171,476 entries in the *Oxford Dictionary*, and in 2013 the word "selfie" was added to that list. Selfie is defined as, "a photograph that one has taken of oneself, typically one taken with a smartphone or webcam and uploaded to a social media website." Whether you're taking a selfie on a computer, phone or even an ancient camera, the basics are still the same.

Clothes matter

The first tip to taking a good selfie is to dress well. No one wants to like your selfie on Instagram if you're wearing pajamas or a shirt with a stain on it. "When the time comes where I decide to take a selfie, I usually just keep the clothes I have on. If they have something on it, I'll just take my shirt off because we all know the ladies will like that better

Vasquez showing off his Washington Capitals jersey.



anyway," said senior Dominic Vasquez.

Get a good background

Once you've got your best clothes on, it's time to find a background. This tip is important because you have to find a nice and clear background. Viewers don't like to see your dirty clothes so make sure you find a clean area. Or you could just make your parents happy and clean your room first. "I think a brown, black or white background is very good for a selfie background," said attendance Diane O'Conner.

Find the best lighting

While looking for an effective background, make sure the lighting will be good. Finding the



O'Conner taking a selfie in front of alumni photos in the Attendance office.

photos courtesy of Dominic Vasquez, Diane O'Conner, Lindsay Hobbs, and Cheyanne Varney

best lighting can be very useful because, according to *Seventeen Magazine*, "The right lighting will make your skin look amazing and your hair super shiny." Selfie masters tend to stand in front of a window with the light coming in on their face so they can get that natural lighting.

Know your angles

This tip may be the most important. One angle you could try is tilting your head. This could bring out your cheekbones and show off the shape of your face. "Getting the right angle is important and can change the entire photo. It determines whether you're going to delete it or post it. Your angle can dictate whether you look like a soggy potato or a model," said junior Lindsey Hobbs.



Hobbs using a bad angle (left) and a good angle (right).

Don't take just one

Everybody knows it's always good to take more than one picture. Whether you're posing with friends at a concert, getting your picture taken on vacation or are standing in your bedroom taking a selfie, you have to take more than one. There are always some you will not like and you might not get another chance to take the shot. The good thing about taking more than one is that it gives you choices. If you've narrowed it down to three good photos, you can always ask someone for their opinion.

Slap a filter on it

Whether it's cropping, fixing red eyes, or adjusting the brightness, according to *The Daily Mail*, more than half of women edit their photos before posting them.



Varney's improved selfie thanks to using VSCO filters.

According to Opinium Research, more than one million selfies are posted a day and 36% of those people admit to altering them. "I always use the VSCO app, which is usually for more advanced editing, but I think it works the best out of everything I've tried," said junior Cheyenne Varney.

Show it off

Once you've gone through all these tips, it's time to rack up the

likes. Whether you're into Twitter, Instagram, or Facebook, it's always fun to post the perfect selfie for your friends to see. Make sure to post your picture when more people are online to get the most likes. Smart isn't it? "The prime time to post a selfie on weekends is from 12 to 2. On weekdays, it's like 6 to 7," said sophomore Blake Bobo.

The professional Instagram management company Latergramme disagrees. They say that 5 p.m. and 2 a.m. are the best times to post, while 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. are the worst, while that might be different in a high school environment.

According to a survey by Boston teeth whitening company Luster Premium White, young people take an average of nine selfies a week. That adds up to 54 hours a year taking selfies. From 1839 accidental selfies to today's smartphones, selfies are becoming more and more popular each year.

Popular apps to edit cool pictures

Photo apps can make your posts more creative.

by Serena Bronk and Becca Emerson

Whether it's going back and forth between several different types of filters or fixing devil-like red eye on your best friend, editing photos to post online is not an easy task. There are, however, useful apps that will help you when editing pictures.

Color Splash

Color Splash adds a dramatic black and white effect while allowing users to choose an area where they can keep the original color pop. This allows the viewer's attention to be directed straight to the color section of the photo. "It's a cool app with multiple purposes that help enhance the photo," said senior Brittany Kaleda. This is an easy way to leave a unique impression on ordinary photos and shows off highlights of the picture in vibrant colors. Many students are falling in love with Color Splash and it's amazing colorful designs that are created with every filter.



Whitagram:

Before Instagram came out with their new photo sizer to allow users to post the whole picture instead of just a square frame, a white background was common. "I started using Whitagram to be able to show my whole picture on Instagram instead of having to crop out some of the picture I took," said senior Megan Klink. Whitagram is a free app in the Apple Store. It can also be used to touch up and remove red eye before a picture is posted on Instagram. Now that Instagram allows users to see the entire photo, Whitagram is becoming less useful among the student population. The many different editing devices on the app have kept it satisfying editor's needs for several years.

VSCO cam:

VSCO has become popular over the past few years as another editing app for pictures and a social media website to post them. This app looks a lot like Tumblr. There are many different tools in this app including multiple filters, ways to change the brightness and contrast, and others to make your ordinary photo unique. "I like the filters and the highlight save makes the picture clearer," said freshman Becca Ortenzo. Students use this app to watch their friends editing pictures to get ideas for their own photos. Sadly, there is no way to like or comment on the pictures in VSCO, but it still has many features that lets you connect with others.

Snapchat:

Over the last year, Snapchat has come out with many popular filters. These include crazy face illusions stitched above a selfie and the simple filter effects that tint or lighten originally snapped photos on the app. "It adds emphasis on different colors and makes the picture look better," said junior Hunter Cleary. Even though this app isn't purely a photo editing app, many posters use it to its full potential. The new face filters added daily keep the students using the app always on their toes, wondering what filter will be available tomorrow.

Photoshop:

Adobe Photoshop is used to edit photos and add different effects, layers, and images that weren't originally there. You can edit eyes, erase unnecessary objects, and add lasting, unique effects. Photoshop has been around for over 20 years. Junior Cheyenne Varney has used the Photoshop app for projects and pictures. "Photoshop allows me to take a photo that would otherwise be a dime of a dozen and make it something that is mine," said Varney. This app is used by celebrities including Kim Kardashian to help alter their appearance to make them more appealing to their audience. According to OK! Magazine, Kardashian pays a Photoshop assistant \$100,000 to edit her pictures to near perfection. People think Photoshop is used to completely change one's appearance. In reality, students are only using the editor to help their pictures stand out to earn more likes.



Photo edited by junior Cheyenne Varney



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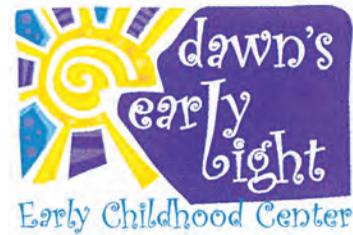
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Here's to the good times

Students look forward to warmer weather when their country music heroes come to town.

by Emma Donaldson and Jordan Carbo

After months of anticipation and school overload, it's summer and you're ready to enjoy your weeks of freedom. The tickets to the Florida Georgia Line concert have been collecting dust on your desk because you bought them as soon as they went on sale. You've been practicing the lyrics on your imaginary mic since the album came out, and you are finally going to hear your favorite song live in person.

According to Taste of Country, there are 28 popular country artists touring this year. After listening to a musician for years, finally getting to jam out to their music live is an experience to remember. "It's life changing when you get to see your idols who were just common people like me at one point," said sophomore Christopher Davis who has seen Tim McGraw, Billy Currington, Rascal Flatts, and Brandy Clark. "Especially with singers who sound good live, and if it's feel good music it makes it even better."

The vibe of country concerts differs from that of other music genres. Country concert experiences typically include tailgates and barbecues, while other concertgoers tend to arrive at their seats minutes before the show begins.

Despite the obvious benefits of being able to dance without worrying about bumping into

someone, some people prefer the intimacy of smaller concert venues. "I like going to concerts because I love the atmosphere of it," said freshman Isabella Gallagher, who saw Florida Georgia Line last summer. "I think it's so cool how so many people are crowded all together just to listen and appreciate a singer or band. While you're there, it's pure happiness and you forget all your worries."

The rowdiness of the crowd differs between concerts. Some venues are larger and give

the fans more elbow room, but the bigger the crowd, the more potential there is for things to go wrong. "I put my satchel down, and I looked down and it was gone," said senior Kayde Taylor, who saw Luke Bryan last summer.



Spanish teacher Mrs. Monica Laserna (right front) with a group of students at a Luke Bryan concert last summer.

"There were so many people, I thought it was gone forever, and I had my wallet in it and everything."

A study in Positive Psychology Program found that music in general broadens one's self expression, enhances mood, and can create a sense of belonging, and that music festivals and concerts create a sense of community and common purpose. "My favorite concert that I went to was the Florida Georgia Line concert. It was my first country concert, and I had a blast. Everyone was so happy and it was just a great place to be," said Gallagher. However you spend your country concert experience, you're sure to leave with some stories to tell.



Tim McGraw on stage at Jiffy Lube Live last summer.



Davis and his mom at Jiffy Lube Live for the Tim McGraw concert.

Photo courtesy of Christopher Davis and Monica Laserna

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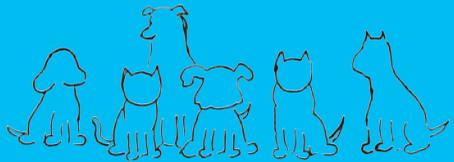
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Q & A with Mr. Richter

What's it like to go home to a boat every evening?

by Madison Griffith
Editor in Chief

At the end of a long school day, most teachers go home to exactly that: a house. Not art teacher Mr. Kevin Richter. Richter goes home every day to a boat that can be nice and cozy most of the year, but can be a brutal home to live in during the winter.

Q: How long have you lived on a boat and why?

A: I just finished up my fifth winter aboard. I am living aboard so I can put in more time working on it and getting it ready for long-term sailing. Also, it allows me to rent out my house so somebody else gets to pay my mortgage for me – it's a great investment.

Q: What's it like during all the different seasons?

A: It is heated and air conditioned like most homes and usually very comfortable. The coldest nights (the five degree type) are pretty brutal because the heater can't keep up with the weather. Some mornings, I wake up to temperatures in the 40's down below and it makes it difficult to drag myself out of bed. The rest of the seasons are terrific.

Q: Can you describe what your boat looks like inside and out?

A: It is a very traditional design and most purists would agree that it is a very pretty boat. Down below, it has lots of teak and is built to a very high level of craftsmanship. It is very comfortable, with two sleeping cabins and a main salon with most of the comforts of home (but no cable).

Q: What are the positives of living on a boat?

A: Solitude most of the year because the other boat owners are only around on weekends during the summer. Can't beat the sunrises. No lawn to cut. I take pride in the work I have done in making it what it is, and it is very gratifying as it all comes together.

Q: What are the negatives?

A: The winters can be brutal, and it is a 100 yard walk down the dock, which isn't very pleasant in nasty weather. Also, those 100 yards is a lot of shoveling when it snows. When the wind blows out of the north east, the waves roll in and it makes for a pretty bumpy ride – very hard to sleep when the boat is bouncing

around like a bucking bronco. Several nights a year I sleep in my car. No washer and dryer, so I have to do a weekly trip to the Laundromat.

Q: What made you decide to live on your boat?

A: I have always loved the simplicity. Living on a boat requires a certain amount of knowledge of electrical and mechanical systems, but I can live for months at a time at an anchorage in the middle of nowhere. I can go pretty much anywhere I want without leaving home. Plus, I just love sailing!

Q: How are the neighbors?

A: The dock I live on has about 50 boats but most of the people are seasonal and not around all year. Most are really good people but when your neighbor is

only eight feet away, you don't get too much privacy. Things can get noisy when they come around for their weekend fun. Most people associate boating with partying but I think of it as more of a getaway.

Q: Do you have wifi and cable?

A: The marina does have wifi but it is terrible. I am so far out on the dock and there is so much interference from all of the masts on the sailboats, it is practically non-existent.

No cable either. I do have a digital signal antenna so I can pick up a good amount of TV stations, I have a DVD, and a nice sound system so all is good. Again, it's nice to be unconnected sometimes.



Inside Richter's boat.



Richter helping junior Marissa Biel with her ceramic sculpture.

Richter's boat from the dock.

Journalism One's Hot 15

edited by Christian Daniel • art by Micaela Shannon

15. Vacationing

Over spring break, lucky students traveled to different places across the country. Most of us just traveled to our dark rooms with Netflix.

14. Talented seniors?

Students demonstrated their skills at the talent show recently. Apparently, none of the seniors brought their talent to the Mr. Patriot Pageant a few weeks later since someone won by chugging water bottles.

13. Pool party

With the dress code more relaxed this year and the weather getting warmer, we wonder when the girls are going to think it's acceptable to wear bikinis to school to take a dip in the pool on the roof of the building.

12. Pump it up

The football team has been spending a lot of time in the weight room pumping iron but the only thing getting pumped up is the use of the word Grit.

11. Bieber

fever II

A lot of people think the new Canadian Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, is hot. Wow. A new, hot, Canadian Justin. Where have we heard that before?

10. Blinding white

Now that the weather has been heating up, people started wearing shorts and sunglasses to school. Shorts because they want to stay cool and sunglasses to protect their eyes from all the pasty, white legs.

9. Party time

With all the attention the presidential election is getting, students are suddenly talking about politics all over the school. It all sounds very intelligent until you realize no one knows the difference between a Democrat and a Republican.

8. False promises

Looks like all the people who said they would move to Canada if Donald Trump becomes president might have to start looking for houses.

7. Major changes

The Boys' Lacrosse team has cut off a lot of their hair. Maybe now that they look less like the girls team, they might win States. Wait, isn't it all the girls' teams at our school that always make the playoffs?

6. Debt tweets

Kim Kardashian recently posted a racy photo captioned, "When you have nothing to wear." Maybe she has nothing to wear because Kanye is \$53 million in debt.

5. Jorts

Suddenly, the guys are all wearing jeans shorts to school. We get it. A fashion trend inspired by Bill Hader dancing or something to do with jeans after you've screwed up the cuffs? Either way.

4. Papaw

A grandfather in Oklahoma made 12 hamburgers for a night with his six grandchildren and only one showed up. A photo of him sadly eating a hamburger blew up on social media. Now, the grandkids are getting death threats and everyone wants to have dinner with Papaw. Suddenly, everyone at NHS started paying attention to their grandparents.

3. In dirty water

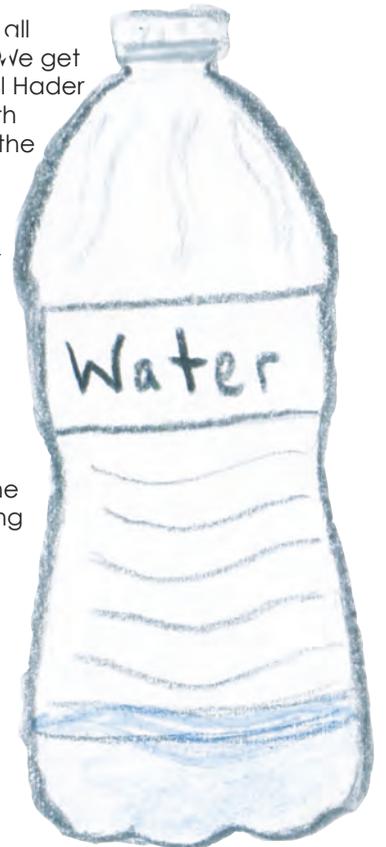
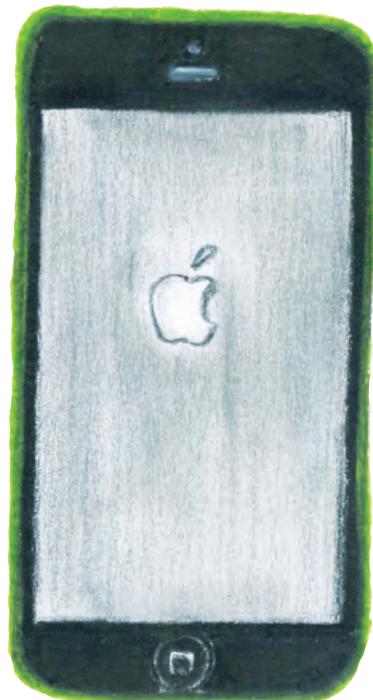
There are problems in schools across the country because of lead in the drinking water. At least Northern only has problems with hidden asbestos and occasionally exploding plumbing.

2. Couples therapy

In the new *Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice* the superheroes fight it out. Why? They're basically just two lonely guys who like to dress in tights and parkour all over the city. If they signed up for Match.com, it'd probably pair them up.

1. Size counts

iPhones keep getting bigger while iPads keep shrinking. Soon they'll pass in size and will have to switch names.



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