

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 5 PHOENIXVILLE AREA HIGH SCHOOL "HOME OF THE PHANTOMS" **1200 GAY STREET**

MARCH, 2019 PHOENIXVILLE, PA 19460

PAHS Mini-THON: Dancing for a cure



Parents, teachers and

students alike gather after the eighth period bell rings to put everything together. The streamers go up, lights get strung and games are assembled. Paint covers the windows spreading messages of encouragement and Mini-THON pride. The excitement grows as people crowd into the school at 6:45 p.m., ready for a night packed with fun and excitement. The music starts playing, the lights go out, and everyone gets on their feet. 7 o'clock has struck, Mini-THON is ready to begin.

Mini-THON is a 12 hour overnight dance marathon that raises money for pediatric cancer. All the money raised goes directly to families with children who are fighting cancer at Penn State Medical Hospital. Mini-THON originates from Penn State's THON which is a 48 hour dance marathon for the same cause. On February 22, Phoenixville held its yearly Mini-THON with over 150 students!

Junior Maddie Fisher was the head of Mini-THON this year, working alongside advisor Mrs. Cordingley. Other student leaders this year included Alex Fey (senior), Maggie Welsh (sophomore), Gianna Chiponis (sophomore), Gabriella Llanos (junior), Jocelyn Visnov (junior), Evan Mia (senior) and Kaitlyn Marwah (junior). Fisher was on the leadership team last year and expressed interest in leading the event this school year. Mrs. Cordingley appointed her the head this year, which was impressive considering the position typically goes to a senior.

Fisher is very passionate about people participating in Mini-THON. As she put it, "The more people that participate, the more money we are able to raise for families in need, whether people go above and beyond in fundraising or only do the minimal."



Mini-THON this year was promised to be bigger and better than ever, and the team certainly delivered on that promise. Some new additions to the event included a

\$15,000 considering that every penny matters to a family in need. At the end of the night it was revealed that Phoenixville's 2019 Mini-THON raised a total of

Mini-THON head Maddie Fisher with other leaders Jocelyn Visnov and Gabriella Llanos at the photo booth.



DJ (for the first time ever), laser tag, and color wars. In addition, families who have been affected by childhood cancer came to speak to the mass of dancers.

The fundraising goal this year was set high at \$25,000, but Maddie said she would be happy with even

\$21,379.13 by the end of the event. Speeches at Mini-Thon were given by Mayor Peter Urscheler, and a family directly affected by the loss of a child due to cancer. These speeches started off the night and gave the dancers a great sense of what they were truly doing this for:

the kids. Dancers heard the tragic story of the family, and Mayor Urscheler presented the group of dancers with a proclamation declaring February 22, 2019 a day dedicated to Phoenixville's Mini-THON in the community. His goal through this proclamation was to recognize the amazing work the school and students have put into helping support families dealing with pediatric cancer. This year the Mini-THON was

heavily sponsored by Phoenixville Community Education Foundation, who covered the whole cost of the DJ. The DJ was a wonderful addition to the night, and added lots of fun to the event. Some other sponsors included Nolan Painting, stRIDE, and California Tortilla.

Color wars was a huge part of the event this year. Everyone who attended was assigned a color to represent their team. During the dance everyone was decked out in their gear, ready to battle. During the night, the battle of the teams culminated in a huge dodgeball game. After two games, the blue team came out on top led by the powerhouse dodgeball players. Laser tag, another new element to Mini-THON, filled the hallways of the locker rooms and the auxiliary make obstacles and places to hide, making the experience exhilarating and adventurous. Individuals could sign up in teams for time slots during the whole night to keep the fun going. Among other activities, Zumba rounded out the night, starting at the brisk hour of 5 a.m. Whether you participated in Mini-THON or supported through donations, everyone can agree that the event was for a great cause. One out of five children diagnosed with pediatric cancer are unfortunately lost. Every cent counts when seeking a cure for this horrific disease, and the families who receive this help are eternally grateful.



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PEOPLE Liz Kunz: Racing to success





Written by: Morgan Morris

Most freshmen

start high school not participating in a lot of activities or clubs because they don't know all of their options. However, Liz Kunz is not your typical freshman. Liz Kunz, daughter of Stephen and Sondra Kunz, competitively skis, horseback rides, is a member of FBLA, and participates in school clubs that help others.

Liz spends her free time at the barn with her horse, hanging out with her friends, and skiing in a racing league. She also loves to travel, and her favorite destination



Liz with her mother, Sondra Kunz, at one of her races.



was London when she was younger. Since Liz travels for skiing, her favorite ski resort is Park City Mountain in Utah.

Skiing has been a hobby for Liz since she was three years old. At Blue Mountain Resort, Liz spends her weekends all winter training for the Blue Mountain racing team, and for extra practice Liz goes there some weeknights as well. Liz does three disciplines- slalom, giant slalom, and super G.

In all three events skiers attempt to turn through a course of gates in as little time as possible. The three disciplines differ based on the size of the turns you make in order to ski between the gates. The giant slalom, Liz's favorite, is the middle difficulty compared to the other two she does. While Liz is racing, her twin brother, freshman Alex Kunz, participates on the freestyle program at Blue Mountain where he does ski tricks off of the jumps and rails. Liz trains while she is at Blue Mountain and occasionally works out at home. How-

ever, she said that horseback riding is enough of a leg workout. Liz has been horseback riding since she was eight years old. She has had her horse, Cooper, for about three years now. Liz rides at a barn called Hunt Hill Farm in Chester Springs, PA. She does the discipline of riding called hunters, where she rides around a course of jumps and has to make the horse look as mannered as possible.

Aside from skiing and horseback riding, Liz takes honors and AP classes in school and is a member of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA). In FBLA, Liz works at the school store and has created a presentation with her friend, freshman Maddie Buckwalter, which qualified them for FBLA States in Hershey, PA. The presentation is about social media campaigns, so they will present their topic to a panel of judges and describe how social media would help FBLA on Giving Tuesday. If Liz and Maddie make it to the top three they qualify for Nationals.

Three more school clubs Liz is an active member in are Phantom Ambassadors. Best Buddies, and Letter by Letter. These clubs serve others in and out of our community. She shared that her freshman year has been really fun so far, but definitely stressful. Liz's favorite class is AP Human Geography with Mr. Sprenkle. As for after high school, Liz has interests in marine biology or becoming a researcher for National Geographic.

Liz's hard work and dedication to skiing and horseback riding pays off and she feels accomplished as an individual. Comparing her two hobbies, Liz stated, "I feel like [skiing] has felt more rewarding. It's just you, not the horse." Even with a cramped schedule filled with Liz's incredible hobbies, she is still a very dedicated student and friend to many.

Liz (on left) with her friend Leah from the Blue Mountain ski racing team.



Dr. Fegley: Your superintendent and friend



Written by: Aakinzie Ackroyd

A superintendent is the person hired by the board of school directors to facilitate, manage, and make important decisions about the entire group of schools within a district. Many of you know that the superintendent of PASD is Dr. Alan Fegley, but how well do we know him? He does a lot more than deciding whether the school will close for snow or not. Just like us, he has a story.

Dr. Fegley grew up in Paoli, Pennsylvania. Early in his career, he was a special education preschool teacher at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia where he worked primarily with children with autism. After

moving to New Jersey he taught kindergarten K2 class before becoming an elementary school principal in Haddonfield, New Jersey. He was in Haddonfield for roughly 20 years,

including a few years as superintendent. Dr. Fegley heard about a superintendent opening in Phoenixville about eight to nine years ago, and he decided to apply. Coincidentally, his father graduated from Phoenixville many years ago.

Dr. Fegley said his goal for the Phoenixville District is to "help make sure that everyone is getting the best educa-





tion they possibly can and growing stu the responsibilities of a superin-Dr. Fealey and his wife spending dents to their best possitendent, he enjoys spending grandkids, Avery, Greyson and Chase, on Christmas. quality time with his family. Dr. bilities." As superintendent, Dr. Fegley is cur-Fegley is a married man with two loving Thankfully, Dr. Fegley is not locked in his rently working on a lot of daughters, Devon and Erin, who are both in offices twenty-four/seven; he is an advenprojects. He is constantly their thirties. Devon has two kids; one is turous man and said he "enjoys exploring in meetings addressing four and the other one will be turning two new locations." Dr. Fegley has explored the world through zip-lining, scuba diving and the school start and end soon. Erin has one child, who recently time changes that will turned two. Thus, Dr. Fegley is a devoted even a good old hike. He has been to many occur next year due to the father and grandfather. countries, such as England (London), sleep study. Additionally, For how much time he spends helping this France (Paris), New Zealand, and Alaska, a committee made up of district, you would think Dr. Fegley lives and he still travels. He said, "This year, my teachers, parents, stuvery close by. However, he lives in Delawife and I are fortunate to be chaperones ware. Dr. Fegley explained that the reason dents and Dr. Fegley have on the [high school trip to] Denmark, so we recently started to do for living so far away is that he likes the will explore Denmark in a different way." research and discuss the area and being close to his daughters, who Dr. Fegley is not only super busy being our superintendent. He is also busy with topic of homework. They live roughly fifteen minutes away. He said are discussing if there the drive to work also gives him a time to family, friends, and exploring the world. should be new guidelines "decompress from a stressful day." Even Dr. Fegley is also down-to-earth, easy to or limits set on how much with the long distance, he devotes most of talk to, and offers students this advice: homework should be givhis spare time to his family. It could be "Enjoy high school, make lots of friends, en to students. spending time by riding a tandem bike and work hard." When not occupied with with his wife, or going camping.



Dr. Fegley and his wife Claire taking a break during a hike in Iceland.









teachers you know have always been

for ten years before becoming a math

teachers. Mr. Chiofolo was an accountant

teacher, and Mrs. Cordingley was a chem-

ist for 13 years before she was a science

and this year she teaches two levels of

Geometry and Algebra 2. Considering

teacher. They're not alone. Mrs. Tobin, in

room D-6, has been at PAHS for two years

herself a part-time therapist to some of her

students, Mrs. Tobin is familiar with both

school student. With experience in engi-

neering, a parent, and as a math teacher,

Mrs. Tobin definitely knows how to solve

some problems.

math and the struggles of being a high

Written by: Keelin Cannon

Not all of the

Coming from Philadelphia, Mrs. Tobin didn't originally want to be a teacher at all, but an engineer. "I didn't even know what engineering was before I declared it as my major. I had an aunt that was a civil engineer who recommend engineering as a major because she knew I was good at math." She first discovered her love for teaching when she became a teacher's assistant in one of her classes, but she thought she was too far in her engineering courses to change her major.

Before she was a teacher here at Phoenixville Area High School, Mrs. Tobin worked as a project engineer, someone who drives projects like a manager, at Chevron for nine years. She explained, "I worked for an energy division of Chevron and we did performance contracting. Most of the work we did was K-12 schools. We would survey the schools/buildings, run calculations for a bunch of energy conservation measures, and build projects that paid for themselves in energy savings over a 7-15 year period."

On why she chose the job, she said, "Before I graduated, they offered me a

Mrs. Tobin's kids: two year old son **Hunter**, and four year old Skylar enjoy Legoland in Plymouth Meeting Photo courtesy of Mrs. Tobin



full-time position as a project engineer in either Lansdale, San Francisco, or Los Angeles. I chose Lansdale because l'm originally from Philly and still have family up here, and that is also how I met my husband because he worked in the Lansdale office as a project/ construction manager." When Mrs. Tobin got pregnant with her daughter she



knew the travelling her job required would not allow her to be around her daughter as much as she would want to be, so she decided to leave her job and go back to college to major in secondary education.

As someone who has faced with choosing the right courses in college, Mrs. Tobin recommends taking AP classes. By passing the AP exams, you can get credits that can greatly benefit you further in life.

She said, "I knew students last year that were already juniors in college from all the AP credits they got here at Phoenixville. So that just saves you a ton of money, and then you don't have to take as much money out in loans..." Depending on your score you can take off electives in college, but keep in mind that not all schools accept these credits.

Photo: Mr. Zittel

Mrs. Tobin's family consists of her daughter and son, Skylar and Hunter, her husband Bob, and her dog named Diesel. Most of her extended family lives in Florida or Philadelphia. While she is a Miami Heat fan, she roots for the Eagles, Flyers and enjoys US soccer.

While picking a right path in life might be challenging, Mrs. Tobin has faced it; and your guidance counselors can help you make the right decision too. Even if you change your mind on a career you thought you were dead-set on, chaining yourself to a job you don't like, or in Mrs. Tobin's case a job you can't keep up with, is not a wise decision. Life is a road of choices and Mrs. Tobin's choice was to become a teacher, and she's proud of that fact.

Written by: Alex Rieg

It's always inspirational and refreshing to see young people doing big, impactful things. Tyler Bernotas is a driven individual who believes if you want to get something done, you've got to do it yourself. Not being a person to sit idly by, Tyler is creating a wave of craftsmanship, environmental consciousness, and productive energy in more than just the high school. Tyler's love of repairing and fixing things has fueled his desire to manage his own Repair Cafe here in Phoenixville.

Originally born in Tennessee, Tyler and his family moved to Phoenixville in the summer of 2016. He is a junior here at the high school, and has one younger brother Mason, who is currently in the middle school. Physics is his favorite class, since it

> **Tyler** (right) had plenty of help from around 15 volunteers, such as senior Shane Evanson (left).

incorporates practicality with his love of math. His dream school is MIT, but he's looking at many possibilities both school and major wise. He said, "My goal is to go wherever I feel is the best school for me, wherever I'm most comfortable." Tyler is clearly a driven, hard-working individual who creates opportunities for himself, or "repairs" them.

The Repair Cafe Foundation was originally formed in the Netherlands and has since spread its efforts across the globe. In the US, most of the efforts are localized on the West Coast.

Tyler said, "My grandfather helped to start upwards of ten Repair Cafes, and after volunteering at the location in Maryland I thought, 'Okay, I really want to do this." Inspired by his grandfather, Tyler wants to help share the experience and knowledge he has gained with Phoenixville.

Tyler's Repair Cafe, hosted at Franklin Commons for the first time ever on February 23, follows all of the standards of the original Repair Cafe. Around 15 volunteers called "fixers" help guests with jobs from simple knife sharpenings, to the restoration of an electric bike. An additional 7



volunteers ran sign ins and sign outs. Tyler, alongside Seth from Makerspace and Tiffany from the Bregovi group, oversaw the event throughout the day and was even able to help with some of the repair jobs. Looking back on the event Tyler said, "For the first one in Phoenixville, it was a good amount of people. There was no time in which

people were bored but there was also never a massive line." With the cohosting support of PA Makerspace and the Bregovi Group, Tyler hopes to run the event 3-4 times per year. Volunteers and customers are wanted and welcomed; if you're interested, the next event will be held on June 22. Outside of efforts to fix things to benefit our community, Tyler finds peace through music. He has been playing the guitar and bass for around three years and enjoys a range of music styles. Finding a way to positively impact your community and incorporating something you're genuinely interested in is an impressive and admirable feat. Tyler has combined both to do something productive and beneficial with his time, proving himself to be an inventive and proactive individual with a bright future ahead.



Photos courtesy of Tyler Bernotas











Written by: Maggie Schoolik

> Mrs. Mary Sue Manley has spent

her last ten vears here at Phoenixville Area High School, tending to the health issues of students and staff alike. It can be a very stressful job, so we are both sad and happy for her to go when she retires from PAHS in the coming month.

Q: Where did you attend high school and college?

A: I attended Penn Hills High School, and afterwards attended Indiana University of Pennsylvania where I studied education and nutrition to get registered as a licenced dietitian nutritionist. Later in my work as a dietitian I wanted to switch careers, and obtained my undergraduate BSN degree at West Chester University in 2006. I went on to get certified as a school nurse while I was working as a staff nurse

at Chester County Hospital. Finally, I obtained my masters degree at Cabrinl University in 2012 while employed as a Certified School Nurse in Phoenixville Area School District.

Q: Were you working anywhere prior to PAHS?

A: I first worked at Phoenixville Hospital as a registered dietitian. Later, I was staff nurse at Chester County Hospital in the Maternal Child Health pavilion. I later took a position as a health room nurse at Downingtown Area School District, prior to finally working at Phoenixville Area High School.

Q: How long have you been working at PAHS? Describe your experiences and duties as a school nurse.

A: I've been working here since 2009. My school nurse responsibilities are to take care of the health needs of students enrolled in the school, and staff. This includes conducting state mandates that include yearly height, weight, vision screenings; 11th grade hearing screenings and physicals; monitoring immunization status of students and submitting yearly reports to the state board of education. I typically see



fifty students per day in my office for a variety of health related reasons. In addition to the day to day duties in the health room office, I am a member of the student assistance team, the symptom monitor for the concussion management team, and a faculty advisor for the Health Careers Academy program along with Mr. Smiley and Mr. Gianni.

In this program, I also oversee the clinical experience at Phoenixville Hospital for our senior students in the program. I also am the nicotine cessation student program facilitator, a member of the safety committee at the high

school and district Safe School Committee, and I am the District Nursing Coordinator. I have served as the district wellness Professional Learning Community facilitator and I have been a past CPR instructor for the district.

Q: What are your favorite memories from working at PAHS?

A: My favorite memories working here include being the chairperson for the Sunshine committee during my first four years here. Another favorite memory is the relationship building that has developed with students over the last ten years, from classes which I taught, or programs I helped facilitate. My last favorite memory is the planning and implementing of a Health Careers Academy program here at Phoenixville Area High School.

Q: Besides helping students, what impact do you feel you have had here since you started?

A: I have modeled the role of the professional nurse through enhancing the curriculum that is offered to our students; being instrumental in the development of a district wide staff development program; and establishing a District Nursing Coordinator position to provide a voice for nurses in the A: It's been a great ride, but it's time to get district.

Q: Why have you chosen to leave?

A: I have reached a point in my life where I need to decrease the amount of stress in



my life and shift gears towards a more balanced lifestyle. I am retiring from my work in the traditional public education sector, and will be working in a less demanding position, closer to home which will allow me to concentrate my energies on family

Q: Tell us about your family.

A: I have a husband, David, and two daughters, Lauren and Kristin. Kristin is the eldest daughter, who is a lieutenant colonel in the United States Air Force, as well as a pilot. She is planning to get married in July of this year and moving to Tampa, Florida. My daughter Lauren lives at home with us and is still trying to find herself and is exploring many options. We have a cat, Aura, but we call her Lemon. She's actually my daughter Lauren's cat, but we have adopted her as a member of the family. Q: What will you miss the most about PAHS?

A: The experience of watching students grow, develop, and mature during their four years at PAHS. I will also miss the ability to enrich their lives as well as those of our staff.

Q: Any departing words for us at PAHS?

off.

Theatre Guild Mystery: The Arista-Croaks



Written by:

running on Thursday and Friday January 24-25. It was so successful they sold out the second show on Friday and had to set up extra seating for all the people that were there.

The murder mystery production is different than most of the other shows and plays put on here at the high school because it is completely student-driven, not run and produced by a teacher or other adults who have a background in theatre. Letting students run the show really helps them get more experience in producing, casting and directing, which is something they do not really get when they are just actors.

The entire production was written by senior Charlie Swomley who said, "I started writing this show back in September." The show turned into something much bigger than she thought and ended up being a huge success that everyone enjoyed. This type of show gets the audience more involved and allows them to try and



Seniors Alek Wasserman, Charlie Swomley, and Rachel Nolen on stage instructing the actors. Photos: Mike Lantzy

figure out what is going on during the course of the show.

"We wanted a more traditional script this Charlie happened to be writing a show so year, so I decided to write one set in the Victorian era," Charlie said. She spent a lot of time trying to come up with an interesting plot, theme, and characters. Charlie set the play back in the late 1800's and all of the actors wore Victorian costumes Another important part of the production were the two directors who helped run and produce the whole show, seniors Alek Wasserman and Rachel Nolen. The leaders of Theatre Guild are automatically the directors/producers of the show. Although they are not starring in the show, the directors have just as big of a role, if not bigger than the actors in the production. They have to make schedules for the actors and organize rehearsals, so a lot goes into putting on these shows.

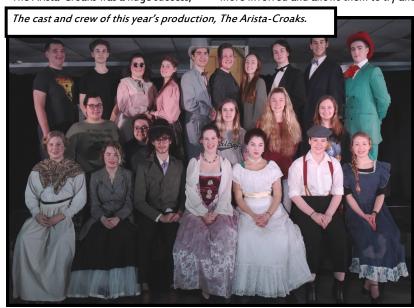
"A lot of effort went into looking into different shows, and at the same time

Brandon Wallace

A bunch of friends meet up

for a party on a dark, stormy night. Many of the guests will be dead by the time the party ends. Who is responsible? Every year for the past eight years the Phoenixville Area High School Theatre Guild has put on a Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre for everyone in the community to enjoy. This year's production was written and produced by senior Charlie Swomley and directed by seniors Alek Wasserman

and Rachel Nolen. The Arista-Croaks was a huge success



we ended up going with that one because we really enjoyed what she wrote," Rachel explained.

Although the writer and directors of the show are all seniors and will graduate this year, hopefully next year and all the years to come members of Theatre Guild will write, produce and direct a show just as good (and deadly) as this one.



Ben Pratte and Sullivan Nowak discuss their haracters' affair.



NEWS





The stockings have come and gone, the bucket brigade has ended, and it has been a few months since the Safe Trick-or-Treat. However, who is behind all of these cool activities, what does the Youth and Philanthropy class represent, and who do their events benefit?

Written by:

Lauren Harper

Youth and Philanthropy is an elective offered by Mr. Smiley that meets odd days, seventh period in D-1. You do not even need to be a member of the group to participate in their gracious activities. However, in order to help the group make decisions you must be a part of the class.

Youth and Philanthropy was founded by the Phoenixville Community Health Foundation (PCHF). The PCHF reached out to the Phoenixville Area High School and Middle School 16 years ago to implement and fund philanthropy classes. The officers this year are President Camryn Dobey (senior), Vice President Caroline Schwartz (sophomore), Secretary Nicole Haggan (junior), and Treasurer Luke Bagley (senior).

Every year the group plans community service projects to help people locally in as many ways as possible. Through fundraising, volunteering, and designing programs, Youth and Philanthropy helps those around us in need, especially during the holiday seasons. For example, the Safe Trick-or-Treat, the Feed 30 Families food drive, and the Stockings for Kids drive all benefited local families during the holiday seasons.

Fight for Families is the theme for the group this year. The goal of Fight for Fami-

lies is to help low income families within the school district.

The Safe Trick-or-Treat event on October 30 was planned and run by Youth and Philanthropy, with the help of other clubs in the high school volunteering, to give kids a safe option for trick-or-treating. Approximately 500 kids came dressed in costumes ready to trick-or-treat. Candy was passed out by various clubs partaking in the event. The Feed 30 Families canned food drive is an event where students are encouraged to donate non-perishable foods for holiday meals. Hence the name of the fundraiser. all food collected is donated to 30 families in need and were donated on the Monday and Tuesday before Thanksgiving, About four days worth of meals were sent to each of the 30 families.

The stocking drive is intended for collecting small toys and gifts for less fortunate kids during the December holidays. The Salvation Army provides hundreds of stockings for students to fill up, which then are donated to low income families with children. The Youth and Philanthropy group also donated some stockings back to local shelters like PACs and Mom's House.

Why join Youth and Philanthropy? President Camryn Dobey encourages anyone who is interested: "Joining this club and teaching the youth how to reach out and help in their community opens their eyes as to what people can do, and how any help at all can make the biggest difference."

"[In Y&P] you learn more about what is available in your community, the different services that are provided for people, and how you can support others," Mr. Smiley said. You too can learn and explore how to help out in your community by joining this class.

"I learned a lot from taking this class here, I wasn't aware of all the services provided [by the community] and it's pretty cool



Seniors Luke Bagley, Camryn Dobey, and Bobby Batten holding foods donated for the Feed 30 Families canned food drive.

Photo: Mr. Zittel

how much is available for helping other people," Dobey added.

Many of you know about the bucket brigade fundraiser held in February. The objective was to get six staff members to participate to raise money for different organizations but, with a twist. For more encouragement to donate money, each staff member voluntarily chose to do something a little crazy. The winner, Mrs. Giangiulio, dyed her hair green for a day since she raised the most amount of money. Her bucket raised \$238 and this money will be donated to PACs, here in Phoenixville.

Youth and Philanthropy is holding in March. The Pride Drive is sponsored by the LGBT Equality Alliance and are collecting your donations of canned goods, toiletries, items for babies, and household items. These items will all be donated to local LGBT homeless shelters.

Future plans for the group are currently being mapped out for the rest of the year, but expect lots of good service projects coming around. Alex's Lemonade Stand and Relay for Life are works in progress. If you would like to be a part of this process, be sure to select this class for the next school year!

The Winter Pride Drive is another drive





Written by: Rachel Nolen

Every year around the winter time there are whispers

about all sorts of dances. A few years ago we had talk about a "Fire and Ice Dance," Varsity Club Dance, and other miscellaneous dances. Although there have been several failures in the past, this year the National Honor Society, advised by Mr. Winters, pulled off the impossible and held a beautiful winter school dance.

The NHS "Winter Ball" was held on Friday, February 1 at the Manavon gym; and proved to be a night full of excitement and

fun. The NHS officers, Gianna Flora (senior), Mary McNamara (senior), Alex Fey (senior), Jillian Absher (senior), Julia Hihi (senior), Connor Wilchusky (senior) and Sophie Taylor (junior) put a ton of effort and pride into this dance. NHS members also aided in putting the dance together by breaking into committees to cover every aspect of the evening. Since before the school year even started, the officers have been arranging the logistics of the dance, which displayed their immense dedication to making this event happen. The ball came equipped with a DJ, photo booth, desserts, and a whole lot of fun. The ball was nicely attended and seemed to be very much enjoyed. "I couldn't be happier with how things went," said club president Gianna Flora.

Seniors Mary McNamara and NHS President Gianna Flora enjoying the photo



booth. Photos courtesy of Mary McNamara

'Everyone left having a great time and excited for next year.'

The DJ played great music that kept people on their feet and involved in the dances. He played classics such as the "Cha Cha Slide" and "Cotton Eye Joe," and added in some hit new songs as well. People were engaged and rarely sat down.

The beautiful decor definitely seemed prom-worthy. Tables were decorated with stunning bottom lighting and sprinkled with Hershey kisses. The dessert table looked fit for a wedding with a wide array of options to choose from such as chocolate covered strawberries, cookies, and small cakes. The quirky drinks were original with fun names and flavors. The photo booth came fit with a beautiful backdrop and lots of fun props to choose rom and was a great fun addition to the

night. It was a major hit and was packed

the entire night. Being open-walled, it could fit as many people as could fit in the frame!

Overall, the vibe was amazing and was well-received by everyone in attendance. The club was happy with the turnout and enjoyed the night.

"This dance goes to show how if you believe in a cause and you stand behind it while having others support you, anything is possible with hard work and determination," said Flora. She showed immense gratitude to her officers, club members, and advisor, Mr. Winters, for seeing the vision and making this dance happen. After an amazing night of fun and beauty, it is clear this dance will become an NHS annual event for years to come.





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If you wish to submit a guest article, see Mr. Zittel in room H-4 about article needs and publication schedule

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Dear Nurse Manley: It's that time

of year again when we are suffering

from post-holiday extra pounds and

overall sluggishness. When I look for

advice, I get so confused: Whole 30,

Paleo, Keto, Gluten free, and the list

goes on. I wish we could just pop a

supplement that would take care of

everything. But, deep down, I know

that will never be. How can I help

myself from ending up in this pre-

dicament year after year? Signed,

Dear DB: You are correct! There is

no magic bullet. It's time to end the

confusion about food and vitamins.

perts on one kind of diet or another.

There are so many purported ex-

Let's not use the word "diet" but

advice abounds these days in the

form of books, social media, news,

and TV. Do not rely on one person's

talking about world renowned from

all aspects of science and nutrition.

There was a study done called the

and what centurions ate most of

their lives. It turns out that a diet

high in plant foods such as beans,

processed foods is your best bet.

Over 80% of chronic disease and

early death can be prevented by

following this type of dietary pat-

tern, including regular physical ac-

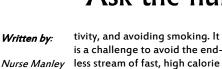
nuts, fruit, whole grains, and low in

Blue Zones, which studied longevity

opinion. Check out experts-I am

rather food choices. Nutritional

Dough Boy.



less stream of fast, high calorie foods that are so easily accessible. Therefore, you need to develop a skill set that will help you identify nutritious foods that are inexpensive and easy to prepare. The leading world's experts do not focus on weight loss, but health and longevity. If you only focus on weight loss. you will not likely achieve better health.

More than half of Americans take some kind of vitamin and/ or supplement. Trends come and go, based on early studies. People take the vitamin(s) and continue to take it years later when the evidence indicates that the proposed effect does not pan out, at which time it may be doing more harm than good. Now granted, there have been some studies with positive results, but not strong enough for experts to recommend it to the public. We are led to believe that more is better: we need more vitamins/minerals than our diet provides. Research has shown that those who consume a diet rich in fruits and vegetables are healthier. It is believed that the chemicals in the fruits and vegetables you eat work together in a way that is not fully understood and cannot be produced in a capsule. For the generally health population, a diet with a Plant Slant, will most likely meet your needs.



Written by: sabelle Butera

If you have turned on the news even once in the last two years, you may have noticed the intense national debate over immigration. While immigration has been controversial throughout our country's history, it has recently become a leading political issue. During the Trump Presidency, a number of controversial migration policies (for legal and illegal immigration) have been implemented, including a travel ban on all people from several Muslim nations, and the detaining of children at the border apart from their parents. Most recently, the

administration is attempting to find \$5.7 billion dollars for a border wall. When the majority of Congress could not support this project and agree on funding, it led to the record 35 day government shutdown in January 2019 and recently the declared "National Emergency".

ended without funding for a wall, the Trump Administration now views illegal border immigration as a National Emergency. The legal definition of a national emergency is "any occasion or instance for which Federal assistance is needed to supplement State and local efforts and capabilities to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in any part of the United States." According to the President, this is exactly the country's situation.

In the months before the government shutdown, the official Twitter account of the president put out some controversial statements. One tweet describes the the Caravan heading to the Southern Border of the United States. Criminals and have alerted Border Patrol and Military that this is a National Emergency. Must change laws!"

The American crisis

threat as follows: "Sadly, it looks like Mexico's Police and Military are unable to stop unknown Middle Easterners are mixed in. I



migrants from Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador fleeing gang violence, extreme poverty and persecutions. The group is made up of families with children who are looking for a refugee status in the United States.

Furthermore, according to USA Today, "90 percent of heroin seized along the border, 88 percent of cocaine, 87 percent of methamphetamine, and 80 percent of fentanyl in the first 11 months of the 2018 fiscal year was caught trying to be smuggled in at legal crossing points."

the ecosystems it divides, and according to the Washington Post, only four in ten Americans support the expensive project. Furthermore, CNBC reports that the number of immigrants with overstayed visas (legally entered but stayed too long) is more than double the number of immigrants detained at the border. Americans can disagree on the course of action of our country, but a wall is the wrong choice. I believe it is ineffective, unpopular and makes a racist statement towards Mexico. If President Trump truly cared about the American people, his administration would focus on the true emergencies in our country. Some issues include climate change (which will be irreversible within 12 years), healthcare (which 15.5% of Americans don't have), or gun related deaths (in 2017 there were almost 40,000 in America). My point is to not be fooled by this "emergency." We should be less worried about an exaggerated caravan of immigrants and more upset about the treatment of refugees seeking the same freedoms our ancestors had not that long ago. The true crisis in this country is the prejudiced falsehoods perpetrated by President Trump.

What does this mean for Americans? The shutdown caused 800,000 federal employees to go over a month without a paycheck. Although the shutdown has



A immigrant child defending himself in his immigration hearing. Photo: http://www.abajournal.com

In reference to the issue of drugs in America, the president tweeted. "Nearly 100 percent of heroin in the United States enters through the southern border. Think of that, 100 percent almost all of heroin comes in through the southern border, along with roughly 90 percent of cocaine." Statements such as these make it clear to U.S citizens to believe there is an invasion-

> like crisis at the border involving dangerous criminals and drug lords. But these statements come from a president with a record of spreading "alternative facts." In truth, these claims don't give the whole story, or even an accurate one. According to BBC, the "caravan" is not a danger, but a group of thousands of

Lies from presidents are not a new phenomenon. The majority of Trump's comments and tweets praise his own accomplishments or attack his enemies, but his comments relating to immigration suggest a serious threat to the American people people that the president must represent and protect. What the Trump administration has done is manufactured an immigration crisis as a defense for their xenophobic policies.

There is no crisis at border, no need for a wall, and no national emergency relating to immigration. Illegal border crossings are at an all time low (half the rates at the time of the Bush Administration), a wall has detrimental environmental effects on



VOLUME 15; ISSUE 5, MARCH 2019







Give a second chance for life: Adopt a dog



and lots of kisses.

personally met.

Written by: Madison Muller

Name a better

feeling than coming home from a long day

of work or school and greeting a furry,

loving friend, jumping up for a warm hug

Adopting a dog will bring so much joy

into your life, and dogs from shelters can

compared to a dog you buy at a pet store

or from a breeder. Recently, my sister and I

convinced my dad to adopt a dog, and one

give you just as much love, if not more,

thing I can assure is that Bentley gives

more love to humans than any dog I have

When families make the decision to take

on the responsibility of getting a dog, they

tend to stray away from adoption, often

due to the age or lack of information on

the dog's background; so, they choose to

go to a breeder or a pet store and buy an overpriced dog. Buying a purebred dog

can cost anywhere from \$500-\$2000, whereas the cost of adopting a dog ranges from \$30-\$300. Why spend over a thousand dollars on a dog just because you know the breed and the background? Another benefit affiliated with adoption is to save a dog's life. Approximately 6.5 million pets enter United States shelters every year, 3.3 million of those animals being dogs. Due to overpopulation in animal shelters, sometimes the only option is to euthanize the animals that have a lower chance of being adopted. Approximately 1.5 million shelter animals are euthanized annually, 670,000 of them being dogs. It's unfortunate that in some cases this is the only option. If more people decided to adopt, this would not happen as often.

Another perk of adopting, not buying, a dog is that dogs from a shelter typically come vaccinated and spayed or neutered, which, cuts down on vet bills. Getting your dog spayed or neutered is extremely important because it benefits the health of the dog. It prevents uterine infections and breast cancer in females, which affects about 50% of dogs. In males, neutering your dog prevents testicular cancer. Spaying or neutering animals allows them to live a longer and healthier life. It also ben-





An overpopulated animal shelter, showing the importance of adopting animals. Photo: http://www.dogmagazine.it

efits the community you live in. If your dog is spayed or neutered it ensures that no breeding is able to happen when your dog may get out of your yard by mistake.

Typically, when buying a dog from a pet store, you'll see only puppies or young dogs, whereas when adopting a dog, you can choose any age that you want, such as an older dog. Although puppies are adorable, they are a lot of work. Some families are not ready to take on the responsibility of a puppy and would prefer to adopt an older dog, being that it is already trained and possibly coming from a bad situation. Also, when adopting an older dog you could be saving its life because older dogs are typically the ones being euthanized since less people want them.

Furthermore, when adopting a dog, the employees at the shelter are most likely able to give you information about the personality or background of the dog which is helpful in choosing a dog that would work well with your family. Adopting a dog is life-changing (in more ways than one) and will bring so much happiness and unconditional love into your life. So, next time your family is considering bringing a furry canine friend into your family, take a trip to a local shelter, such as a branch of the SPCA, Main Line Animal Rescue, All 4 Paws Rescue, among many more, and adopt a dog.

A local branch of the SPCA, perfect for a visit when looking to adopt a dog. http://chescotimes.com



Expedition Escape: One hour to get out!



Written by: Camryn Miller

You have 60 minutes to get out of the room. The clock starts. You and your team start searching the room and finding clues. Half an hour goes by, you're solving the puzzles, unlocking locks, opening objects, and working together to escape. It's the final four minutes, the clock is ticking, tick, tick ,tick. Your team solves the final puzzle, punches in the code, and the door slowly opens in front of you. You did it, you escaped the room!

An escape room is literally a room that you have to escape through solving puzzles, and working together with others. Escape rooms are a fun team-building activity and show your ability to work well with others. It's all about communication; if you don't communicate with one another then you'll end up stuck or doing the same puzzles twice, which can waste your

time. You want to utilize as much time as possible, considering there is only one hour to get out. One perk of escape rooms is that the hints, if needed, show up on a tv screen when you ask for them. Escape rooms are challenging and stressful, yet are a fun way to spend an hour of your time with friends or family!

Mr. Zittel took his seventh period Communications class on a field trip to Expedition Escape in King of Prussia. Our trip cost \$27 per person, and most escape rooms are around that price. To be honest, escape rooms never intrigued me before because I'm terrible at solving puzzles and using clues, but this experience totally changed my perspective. It showed me that it's easy to solve puzzles when working with a team.

being locked in a room but if you ever need to get out you can leave wheneve you'd like. Expedition Escape has four different rooms, with all different themes, designs and background stories. The first room, which is a beginner room, is Aunt Edna's Condo. The story to Aunt Edna's condo is that her greedy children moved her into an old folks home and are



The Bank Heist team: Mrs. Howard, senior Declan Fischer, juniors Jeremiah Box, Camryn Lydon, and Gabriel Puleo celebrate their successful heist!

I was also worried about the whole idea of after her inheritance. The goal of the play-people of the kingdom want us to search being locked in a room but if you ever ers is to find the inheritance, which is hid-the room and prove we are the rightful den somewhere in the room, before her children do. This room is recommended for many different puzzles, including some 4-6 players, and holds at most 10 players. I didn't participate in this room, but the people who did said it was a fun room, and good for people who have never participated in escape rooms. The second room Expedition Escape offers is called Bank Heist. In this room, you're a member of a very successful crime syndicate. Your team has deactivated the alarm systems for 55 minutes and in this time you're supposed to break in and get the money. After the 55 minutes are up you have five minutes to get out of there before the police come. This room is intermediate level. I participated in Quest for the Throne, with five other people. Our room was medieval themed: it had a suit of armor, gold curtains, and a huge dresser that eventually opened and led us into another room. In this storyline, our brother is currently king but he supposedly is a terrible one. The

heir to the throne. We split up and solved

Aunt Edna's Condo team: junior Jocelyn Visnov, senior Vanessa Rodriguez, sophomores Kelly Brostowicz, Sara Bernat, and junior Morgan Bieler #crushed it.



math puzzles, riddles, and of course, many combination locks! My team worked really well together and we made it out of the intermediate level room in 56 minutes and 1 second!

All of our teams made it out within the hour, some with just minutes to spare. Everyone said they loved the escape rooms and can't wait to do another. My first reaction when we entered the room was, "Oh lord, we're so screwed." But in the end, my team, and the two other teams, worked really well together. We all had a blast, and I personally would love to go with a group of my close friends and try another room to see if we can make it out in time. If you're ever looking for something fun to do with friends or family, or if it's a rainy day and you have the money to spend, I'd recommend making a reservation online and trying an escape room. Find out if you have what it takes to get out!

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SPEAK OUT

Ó lan McHugh (senior)- The will to live :)

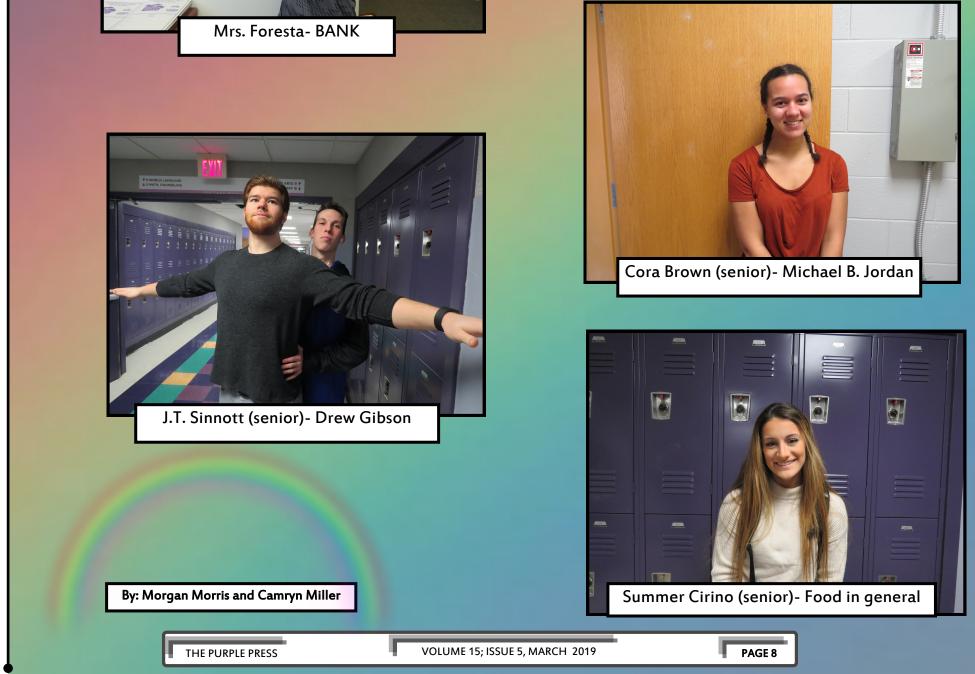






What would you want to fin





SPEAK OUT

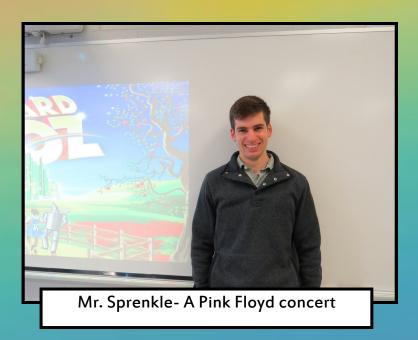








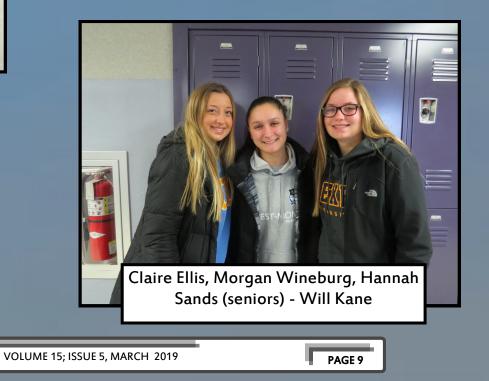








THE PURPLE PRESS



<u>*ENTERTAINMENT*</u>

Black Mirror's "Bandersnatch": What will you decide?



Written by: Lauren Harper

Have you ever thought back to a time in your life where you did or said something that you wish you had done differently? Wondered what the different outcome would have been? We all have those thoughts that keep us up late at night, or those moments that come back in flashes randomly and you groan out of disgust or embarrassment with yourself, wondering why you did or said whatever it was. Well, in the TV series "Black Mirror," a special movie was released December 28 where the watcher can participate in the story, much like a Choose Your Own Adventure book, and redo the choices for a different outcome.

Exclusively on Netflix, "Black Mirror" is a British television show that has been airing since 2011. "Black Mirror" is known for its suspenseful, mysterious and incredibly creative topic ideas, and "Bandersnatch" is just that.

"Bandersnatch" is set in the 80s about young programmer, Stefan Butler (Fionn Whitehead), who begins to question reality while he is trying to program a fantasy novel (Bandersnatch) into a type of choose your own adventure video game. Grab onto your TV remote and don't let go, for as you watch you make choices for what the main character, Stefan, does. The decisions range from such as what cereal to eat, or as complex as how to... well, I'll

leave that for you to figure out. Whichever option you choose for Stefan has a different effect on the story, and takes you down a different path. The interactive movie has five main endings to the story and ideally it will take you about one hour and thirty minutes to get to one of them. However, depending on what path you choose or what ending you think you want, it will take you longer. Sometimes you will hit a dead end (or even die) in the middle to end of the story, and the show will bring you back to where you went wrong. You may then change your answer,

and see the alternate plot line unfold. The process of creating "Bandersnatch"

was actually quite tedious and difficult. In having to film multiple outcomes based on your decisions on the questions asked, the creator Charlie Brooker and director David







Slade had to make sure there were no loopholes or short cuts in the

story, which was challenging with the multiple endings and paths that the story can take.

Other than the times when you have to go back and start all over again,

"Bandersnatch" can be quite fun and interesting. You have less than 20 seconds to make a decision on choices posed to you. the viewer. With the intense sound of Stefan's heart beating and the urgent dialogue from other characters on screen, the decision making process is stressful. This

show/game is fun to play with another person or a group; passing the power of deciding what will happen to Stefan is exhilarating because of the split decision making and not knowing what could happen next.

Fair warning, "Bandersnatch" is rated TV-MA for a reason: there are topics, language, and images that are not suitable for younger audiences. Also, "Bandersnatch" isn't just about some young nerdy programmer, there are subplots throughout the story to make it all the more dramatic.

head Mohan Thakur (Asim Chaudhry) and fellow programmer Colin Ritman (Will Poulter). Hint: Do not accept their first offer!

τV

Personally, I had to try multiple times to get my ideal ending, one that doesn't include Stefan winding up in jail, dead, or with a failed video game. For me, it took longer than one hour and thirty minutes but through all the frustration and setbacks. I found it to be thoroughly enjoyable and is definitely different than anything I've ever seen. Also, check out how Netflix itself becomes part of the story in this choose your own adventure.

What ending will you get? Play along in "Bandersnatch" to find out!

Grade: A-Rating: TV-MA **Director: David Slade** Starring: Fionn Whitehead, Will Poulter, Craig Parkinson, Asim Chaudhry, and Alice Lowe Run Time: 1 hour 30 minutes or more!

Conversations with a killer: "The Ted Bundy Tapes"

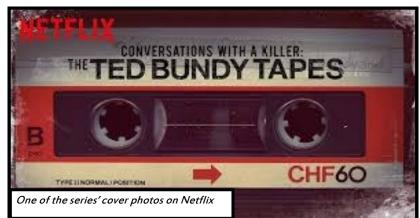


Written by:

Camryn Miller

We can all agree that America has its fair share of crazy people. But who are the craziest people in the world? Who are the people that are so messed up that they change the way the United States works? That's right, it's serial killers. One of the most notorious serial killers of the United States was Ted Bundy. In the early 1970s Bundy raped, murdered, and mutilated bodies of 30 women, maybe even more. Netflix recently released a four episode docuseries on Bundy that completely captivated me.

The docuseries has four episodes, around one hour each. It was created by Joe Berlinger, who has a movie coming out later in the year about Ted Bundy called "Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Evil, and Vile". The episodes explore Bundy's life, murders, and trial. It features people who have worked on the cases linked to Bundy, the friends of Bundy, and his lone survivor. The series is essentially a series of pictures with the tape recorder playing over them. It also includes real footage from police videos, recordings, or calls, as well as interviews with the police chiefs, journalists, lawyers, and friends all describing their



experience or their perception of Bundy and the tragic events that happened. I became interested in this docuseries because I've heard the stories, and I've watched the videos of Bundy, but this was a totally different view. The series gave Bundy his chance to talk, and it showed people what kind of human he was. I learned many insights into how he worked and how he thought. Everyone said that Bundy thought he was better than everyone and didn't want anyone's help. This became very evident during his trial when he defended himself; he was a law student before he became a murderer and really believed that no one was better than him at practicing law. To me, this was very cocky but it showed how Bundy was, which is something I've learned from the series. The first time I heard Bundy's voice it sounded super creepy. Hearing his voice and matching it to the face was a really weird experience because I felt like he kind of just existed and wasn't truly human. His voice changed that for me, and made me realize the extremities of his crimes.

other criminals including murderers, thiefs, rapists, kidnappers, and so on, helped the FBI create a new system. They asked these criminals how they think and what other criminals will do, and this knowledge helped law enforcement officers create a whole new way of catching these people. It was really cool adding this element to the

docuseries because the FBI has Bundy help them with another case and he explains what he would've done if he were the guy doing these murders.

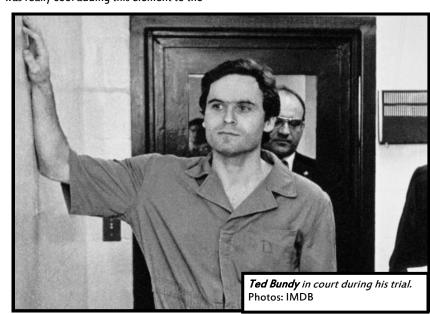


Overall, the episodes give insight to how Bundy and others felt about his wrongdoings. It also shows his confession and explanation of what brought him to do these evil acts. The series also shows clips of his mother after the trial and that becomes very upsetting. You can hear the sadness in her voice because of the court rulings of Bundy's death sentence and it makes everything surreal.

"The Ted Bundy Tapes" is very riveting and I'd recommend it to anyone. It explores a serial killer in the most raw way and what kind of person he was.

Grade: A Rating: TV-MA Available on: Netflix Featuring: Hugh Aynesworth, Bob Keppel, Stephen Michaud Creator: Joe Berlinger

Another interesting part of this docuseries is when the FBI members explain how Bundy changed the way they view criminals. Bundy, along with many







"Good Girls": Bad girls that haven't been caught



as if you are watching the same plot, with

different characters, over and over. Shows

such as "The Office," "Friends," "The Big

have a very similar sense of humor and

plots each episode, but the plot and humor

of "Good Girls" is not only very different

from any other show, it intrigues the view-

episode. The end of each episode will have

ers, making it difficult to watch just one

you sitting on the edge of your seat, not

situation could be.

even being able to imagine what the next

Written by:

Madison Muller

A lot of T.V. com-

ary of 2018, created by Jenna Bans, and starring Christina Hendricks as Beth Boland, Mae Whitman as Annie Marks, and Marietta Sangai Sirleaf (better known as Retta) as Ruby Hill. The show was then released on Netflix in July of 2018. "Good Girls" is based around three suburban mothers who find themselves struggling financially; thus, they decide that they are willing to take risks in order to make money. They come to the conclusion that good choices have never gotten them anywhere, so they plot to rob a grocery store to get Bang Theory," and many other shows often some quick cash.

"Good Girls" premiered on NBC in Febru-

However, they are unaware that the supermarket is a territory of a local gang, and they end up taking a substantial amount of money from the gang. Their heist pulls them deeper into the scheme than they had planned to be, and members of the gang send them on many more missions to make up for the money they stole and had already spent. The show contains a lot of



humor to offset the serious situations these three women have gotten themselves into. In the beginning episodes, we learn a lot about the lives of the three main women and the struggles they are going through. Beth Boland is a stay at home mom whose husband a having an affair with a young coworker of his; he has also failed to pay the mortgage on their house for the past three months. Annie Marks is in constant competition with her ex-husband for custody over their child. Her ex-husband is also extremely wealthy, while she is financially struggling as a cashier at a local grocery store. Finally, Ruby Hill has a family that is also on a tight budget, but to complicate matters, her daughter has a very rare medical issue that requires experimental drugs that cost close to ten thousand dollars a month. At first the women begin joking about robbing the grocery store Annie works at, but then they actually go through with it.

Every episode of this show offers numerous ridiculously funny scenes that are completely unexpected. For example, when they rob the grocery store, they have absolutely no idea how to go about it, so watching three women try to successfully rob a grocery store adds a lot of humor to a serious situation. Another funny scene is when they are on a mission for the gang, crossing the Canadian border back into America. and they get stopped by border patrol to have their car checked. They have no idea what is in the box they were sent to pick up, so they are scared out of their minds, thinking of all the worst possibilities, trying to keep their cool. Once the border control lets them through, they are very confused about what could be in the box, and even more confused when they see what it is. All of these scenes create a lot of humor, despite the dark circumstances.

Overall, "Good Girls" is perfect if you are



Christina Hendricks, Retta, and Mae Whitman, the leads in "Good Girls" Photos: IMDb

looking for a show with a plot you have never seen before, with absurd, yet hilarious incidents. If you are looking for a new show to watch, season two premiered on NBC on March 3, 2019, so binge season one on Netflix, and start watching season two!

Grade: A Rating: TV-14 Available on: Netflix and NBC Featuring: Christina Hendricks, Rhetta, and Mae Whitman Creator: Jenna Bans

"A Silent Voice": Everyone's voice matters



Written by: Maggie Schoolik

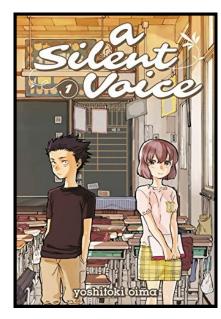
Being a victim of bullying is the one of the worst feelings in the world, especially when attending school. People aren't sure whether the bully acts viciously due to abuse from others, inferiority issues, or just because they don't understand human morality. One thing we do know, is that we wish that the bully would soon realize the stupidity of their actions and apologize.

"A Silent Voice" is a series of seven books by Yoshitoki Ōima that follows the young and reckless Shōya Ishida, a boy who wants to "defeat" boredom of the average school life. Everyday, Shōya and his best friends, Kazuki Shimada and Keisuke Hirose, do

crazy daredevil contests to "defeat" their boredom. His friends soon want to stop playing such childish games so they can prepare for middle school in the following year. Saddened by this, Shōya begins to feel isolated and alone. However, during one of their usual boring days of school, a transfer student joins their class. She introduces herself as Shōko Nishimiya, a deaf child who is excited to make new friends in her new school. After the revelation that Shoko is deaf, Shōya decides that in order to "defeat" boredom, he is going to tease her. This leads to devastating and traumatic events that change the course of both Shōva and Shōko's lives.

When Shōko flees the school district because of Shōya's bullying, every teacher and student begins to harass and bully Shōya in some way. Shōya isolates himself up until the end of his high school year. He plans to kill himself after fixing the mistakes of his past, but when facing Shōko once again, the only thing he can think of is how to make up for the pain he caused her when they were kids. Will he be able to mend his past sins? Will Shōko forgive him? Will he gain back the will to live? "A Silent Voice" reminds readers of the tragic events bullying can take upon the victim, the bystanders, and the bully. The story's plot makes readers feel as if they are Shōya and the rollercoaster of emotions he evokes upon during his journey. Regret is a difficult thing to shake off, but the easiest and hardest way to make it more bearable is by fixing what you've done. However, they cannot heal the wounds that had already been deeply cut in one's emotional and mental state. "A Silent Voice" series tackles these ideals by showing us in a more dramatic way of the outcomes of these transactions. Being a graphic novel, the books also have visuals to let you see the emotions and actions of what the characters are doing





her fellow peers.

thing, and it's nice to know that people can understand where we come from. During our day and age, people are beginning to talk openly about their experiences with bullying and offering to help out those who need guidance. This series expands on the act of helping others through their tough times.

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just reading text.

instead of imagining them. This way,

even if you open to a random page, you

can visually see what is going on through

the expressions of the characters and the

background themes. Visuals help present

the story as if you're watching a movie.

Seeing the actions and emotions could

have a bigger impact on you rather than

I highly recommend you read "A Silent

Voice" for its dramatic and revealing re-

flections of life. We all struggle with some-



<u>*SPORTS*</u>

Boys' Basketball: Strong start, abrupt finish



Down 58-60 against OJR on Senior Night with one second remaining in regulation, sophomore Mike Memmo struggles to inbound a pass to an open teammate for the final shot. Suddenly, #22 appears at the top of the key, receives the pass, turns and delivers a deep three with the buzzer sounding and two defenders in his face. Senior Colton Brown falls to the ground

Written by:

Devon Goryl



with his hands raised high as his shot goes in: the crowd storms the court in a frenzy, and the Phantoms are victorious.

The Phantoms finished their regular season with an 11-11 overall record (5-5 Frontier Division and 6-10 PAC), earning them the 11th seed in the PIAA 5A District playoffs. Unfortunately, they fell short on the road against Sun Valley, ending their season.

The boys' basketball team is coached by Eric Burnett (5th season), as well as assistant coaches Erik Rutchauskas, Marquese Richardson, and Chris Dunleavy. The team captains were seniors Kyle Joseph (KJ) Ouinn, Colton Brown, Dorian (DJ) Johnson, Dylan Clark, and junior Steven Hamilton. These captains primarily served as the team's starters; however, sophomore Will Allain, along with senior Bryce Palcko, and

juniors Clay Kopko and Ignacio Ortiz earned significant roles on the team. The Phantoms' offensive production was led by seniors KJ Quinn and Dylan Clark, who both averaged 14.7 PPG (points per game). Quinn racked up four twenty-plus point games this season against Kennet, Pope John Paul, and Pottstown, while constructing a 34 point showing against Pottsgrove. Quinn is set to continue his basketball career at Immaculata University. Clark rounded up several doubledoubles throughout the season, as he led the team in both points and rebounds (7 RPG). Both Quinn and Clark earned First Team All Frontier Division honors.

Steven Hamilton (7.1 ppg) and Colton Brown (6.0 ppg) added more fuel to the offense throughout the year. Coach Burnett stated, "The three ball was our greatest strength, but also, at times, our greatest weakness." This was evident as Quinn record-

ed 47 three pointers during the regular season, while Brown added 27 threes, Palcko 25, and Clark 22. At times when these scorers weren't knocking down their shots, however, the team tended to struggle. But this is where their high energy style and defensive pressure came into play. The Phantoms worked extremely well to

turn defense into offense. Some of their best defenders, including sophomore Allain, junior Clay Kopko, and senior DJ Johnson, were instrumental in the team's ability to get steals and change possessions.

Throughout the whole season, the Phantoms shared a comradery with each other off the court and were able to transfer these connections onto the hard-wood. Team bonding was essential, as the boys constantly were hanging out playing Fortnite, eating at Buffalo Wild Wings, or playing pick-up at the YMCA. This chemistry and cooperation translated onto the court, where the players competed as one. In every game, it was evident that the team had worked together to play their hearts out, making each game extremely competitive. Although their season ended prematurely, Coach Burnett took only positives from the final games of their season. For example, freshman Chris Weiah scored eight points with eight rebounds and three steals in their final regular season game against Pottsgrove. And in the District loss, sophomore Mike Memmo dropped 16 points including four three pointers. Some key returners for next season include Hamilton, Allain, Memmo, Kopko, Ortiz, and Weiah. Coach Burnett believes, "With this strong returning core and younger players coming up, we believe we can make some noise in the 2019-2020 season."



Seniors Colton Brown (#22) and Dylan Clark (#34) lock down on defense. Photo: LifeTouch



Girls' Basketball: Getting used to the W



Written by:

Morgan Bieler

ry of the basketball team. So I met with the bonded and began to previous coach and he gave me a run down on how this team is very young and he [thought this season was full of possibilities].

The girls finished their regular season with a record of 12-10. It was a general consensus that their best game was their defeat of Boyertown. It was the last home game of the season, and the very last game for the seniors, and the team came together to get the W against a much larger school.

This is the first season in a long time that Phoenixville Girls' Basketball made it to the playoffs. Although they lost their PAC playoff game against Methacton, and their Districts game against Villa Maria as well, they have been one of the most successful

work together. Senior captain Hannah Sands said, "We go to the guys' games together. On the buses, we sing, talk, and have a good time. On the court, it's just all [about] the communication that we [have]. We just know how to work well."

Although the Girls' Basketball team did not make it very far in the postseason, the girls and coach were very proud of what they had accomplished. After everything was said and done, Coach Behnke added, "I am very proud of what our team accomplished this year. I took over the job a few days before the season began so everything I taught was a brand new system for the girls. We didn't have an offseason together to gradually prepare. With 22 regular season games to come together, I am very proud of our team to earn both the PAC playoff spot and a District playoff spot. Thank you

seniors for leading our

team."



Senior captain **Ameerah Green** speeding past an Upper Merion defender.

Starting over from scratch is never

easy. Rebuilding is one of the hardest things to do for a sports team. You can't expect to win every game because you are trying to develop a lasting program. However, this season's Phantoms Girls' Basketball team defied the odds and made it to PAC playoffs and districts.

The 2018/2019 season brought a new oach Mike Behnke, and a yrc dedicated girls from all across PAHS. Before coming to Phoenixville, he spent twenty years coaching girls basketball. He said, "[My daughter and I] just moved into the area and I didn't know any of the histo-



Junior Marlee Brown running down the court. Photo: Barry Taglieber

teams in a long time.

This team had its strengths and weaknesses. A notable strength was their speed. One of their fastest players is senior, and captain, Ameerah Green. Coach Behnke said she is "very fast with the ball. She [was]our leading scorer, [and] all year long, [she] averaged somewhere around eighteen points a game." One weakness was their height. "Other teams have two or three centers and we don't have the height to guard that," said Coach Behnke. Another struggle was their shooting percentage. They could score points, but it took a lot of shots to do it. Compared to last season, they have improved immensely with layups and communication on and off the court. Senior captain Ameerah Green added, "I feel like we jelled better than we did last season, even though we are missing our big players." Throughout the season, the girls

Photo: Tom Weisharr



Senior captain Hannah Sands blocking the opposing player. Photo: Barry Taglieber



SPORTS



Phoenixville Wrestling: Greatness in the works



Written by: Kyler C. Lewis

Coming off a season that saw the Phantoms increase their win total by six with a first year head coach, the 2018-2019 wrestling squad seemed full of hope and promise. Second year head coach Brandan Clark came into the season setting lofty goals for his team, such as having its first winning season in 20 years. Although this goal was not met, the team did show great improvement and the future is very bright for Phantoms Wrestling.

The Phoenixville Wrestling squad led Coach Clark built upon their success last year, going from 3-11 in the 2016-2017 season, to 9-12 in the 2017-2018 season, to 10-16 in the 2018-2019 season.

Like Coach Clark said, "We improved every single day. we went from beating

Kutztown 57-21 to 64-6. Improvement was our biggest achievement."

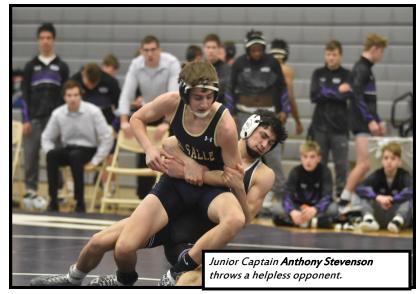
The Phantoms finished in the Frontier division with a winning record of 3-1, beat ing Upper Merion, Pottstown, and Pope John Paul in the process.

The Phantoms' success can be attributed to great leadership, as the four captains, senior Alex Washington, senior Travis Pannella, junior Anthony Stevenson, and sophomore Antonio Valenteen all were vital to the team's success.

Coach Clark stated, "Each one of these guys show exceptional leadership abilities. They lead by example when pushing and working extremely hard in the room, they inspire and motivate when others are feeling down, and each one of them are guys you can depend on to always do the right things on and off the mat."

The Phantoms Wrestling program was lead by a standout season from senior wrestling captain Alex Washington. He finished with an outstanding record of 19-5 and earned a berth into the postseason at Districts along with many other Phantom wrestlers. Valenteen and Stevenson took 6th at Districts, while freshman Owen Koch took 5th overall, each in their respec-





tive weight classes. In addition, Pannella finished with an 11-9 record, while Stevenson finished with a stellar 18-6 record. Washington, freshman Justin Meyers, and junior Dave Polanki advanced to Regionals after qualifying at the District One North Tournament.

At the Regionals tournament, held over March 1 and 2, Washington could not

wrestle due to injury. Polanki went 1-2 and Meyers went 0-2, thus ending the Phantom's season.

Panella commented on the season and of the future of Phoenixville wrestling:

"[It's] very bright. Our new coaching staff has tons of experience and train us to be the best on and off the mat. The youth league has many young wrestlers and is run very well to prepare the youth wrestlers for high

school."

Stevenson added, "We did very well with lots of improvement across the board. We will be a force to be reckoned with next year."

The future of Phantom Wrestling is very bright, and in the capable hands of Coach Clark and the young talent this team could be PAC champions in the years to come.



Swimming and Diving: A true breakout season



Kyle Kopera

For many years, the Phoenixville

Swimming and Diving team has enjoyed success on the girls' end. The boys, in the meantime, seemed to compete in the shadow of their female counterparts. How ever, this season has served as a massive platform of improvement for the boys' team, while the girls' team continues to compete at a very high level.

Led by coach and mathematics teacher Mr. Weinstein, along with his assistants Mr. Gamble and Mrs. Cordingley, both teams posted winning seasons. The boys went 6-2-2, and the girls went 7-3, with both squads sending multiple members to the District meet. Captains Dominic Sposato (Boys) and Katya Hayward (Girls) also did well to lead their sides of the team throughout the season and drive them to success.

many of them." The boys' team personified this breakout, having one of the best seasons in their history. At the PAC Championships they tied for third place with Perkiomen Valley. They started off the meet with a win in the medley relay, and carried that momentum into the rest of the meet, with senior Sposato and sophomore George Pappas picking up individual medals of their own.

The girls also carried on their success, finishing 7-3 on the season, similar to their 7-2 record from last season. The girls had many expectations to live up to, and as usual they did. Sophomore Erini Pappas earned Athlete of the Week honors for her performance at PAC Championships, picking up three gold medals on the day (two individual, one relay). Joining Pappas on the winning relay were Hayward, Sarah McCarthy, and Sarah Ritter.

Coach Weinstein was very impressed by the team's improvement as a whole this year. The effect could be seen both individually and as a group, including the squad's five divers: seniors Nate Smith, Mary McNamara, and Meg Grimshaw, sophomore Emily Westerfer, and freshman Leo Edmonds Doberenz.

name the breakout stars because there's so al to States as a result. Erini Pappas kept up her impressive performances, gualifying for the state meet in the 200 IM and the 100 butterfly. The boys' medley relay, comprised of George Pappas, Sposato, Mitchell Schwartz, and Jack Hussin, also qualified, marking the first trip to States for the boys since the move to AAA. Hayward also added a lifetime best in the 50 free, a time only second to Maddie Cooke in Phantoms history. The state meet will take place over March 13-16 at Bucknell University.

Overall, the rich history of Phoenixville Swimming has been carried on throughout the 2018/19

season, with the boys having one of their best seasons ever. The girls continued to be a powerhouse in the PAC, and look put in great performances during the reg-



Sophomore Erini Pappas racing past the competition at PAC Championships. Photo: Barry Taglieber

of the 5 Phantoms heading to states are only sophomores. Regardless of what the future holds, the 2018-19 season will go strong going into next season. Both squads down as one of the most successful seasons in Phantom history.

The team gathered together following a

For the team as a whole, this year served as a breakout season. Coach Weinstein was continually impressed, stating, "I can't



The girls' team show their spirit at the District Championship meet. Photo courtesy of Mr. Weinstein

"We didn't graduate a lot of seniors last year, and we didn't get a lot of new freshmen this year, so this year's team is similar to last year's team," stated Wein-

stein, emphasizing the family atmosphere created within the team. He said his favorite moment from the year was the sweeping of Spring-Ford, in "what may be the best dual meet I've ever been involved in." The chemistry of the team also allowed them to pull off upsets throughout the season, such as the boys defeating Owen J. Roberts for the first time. At the recent District Championship meet the Phantoms performed well, and will send a relay and an individuular season, defeating many rival teams along the way. The future looks bright, as 3





HOROSCODES

Written by: Brandon Wallace and Kyle Kopera

ARIES: (March 21 - April 19)

It appears that Saturn is entering your star chart, which is not a good sign for you. It turns out you had long lost siblings and they show up to your front door unannounced after all these years and they are just overall better than you. Your friends like them more

than you, they're all of a sudden the favorite child in the family, and you are completely forgotten about. Let's just say you want things to go back to the way they were.

This month: Stop looking at the clock; it won't make time go faster.

TAURUS: (April 20 - May 20)

Mars has entered your star chart and that is great news for you. You will end up being scouted and signed by your favorite sports team, even if you

don't play sports. You will have the biggest contract in that sports history. Fame and fortune will overwhelm you and you can just drop out of school for good. Every celebrity wants to hang with you and every kid wants to be you when they grow up so good luck handling that. This month: Watch a random movie every day, then rank them best to worst.



GEMINI: (May 21 - June 20)

The moon is orbiting in a bad direction for you and I suggest turning the

page now if you do not want to hear the bad news. Okay, too late. You're usually a pretty likeable person, but this month everyone is going to be hard on you. Your favorite teachers give you harder/more work than everyone else. All your friends make plans without you. Your parents show more love to your siblings and if you're an only child they just straight up ignore you. You're going to want this month to end quickly.

This month: Eat pizza with a knife and a fork, unless you do that already...weirdo.

CANCER: (June 21 - July 22)

The sun is shining bright for you this month; just don't look directly at it (that would hurt). One of these upcoming nights you will be visited by the

one and only Cupid. That's right, he is real. He will grant you one wish and you will be able to have your school crush, celebrity crush, or just anyone you like fall madly



in love with you. He charges you a small fee of \$20, but hey, the man has to make a living and I think it will be worth it in the end. This month Wear your left shee on your right fact and

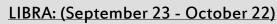
This month: Wear your left shoe on your right foot and your right shoe on your left foot.

LEO: (July 23 - August 22)

If you look up in the sky the stars are all out of whack, which is not a good

sign for you. Tomorrow you will get your morning beverage as you always do and as your walking out of Dunkin or Starbucks, wherever you get your drink, there will be an accident. You're going to walk out the door, not be paying attention, and walk directly into your meanest teacher and spill your drink all over him/her. The teacher is furious and fails you for the rest of the year. Good luck explaining that





Neptune is entering your star chart, meaning your life is going to get shaken up big time. Your diet will only consist of pancakes and syrup (which you

will be drinking). Soon enough, you'll have grown six inches and start wearing cut-off flannels like a true lumberjack. You'll never leave home without your axe, and the urge to cut down every tree in sight will be impossible to control. In no time, all the trees in Phoenixville will be gone. All thanks to you.

This month: Replace the milk in your house with glue (and vice versa).

SCORPIO: (October 23 - November 21)



Saturn's rings seem to be arranged at a right angle, which means great things are in store for you. Even if you don't study, you will get an A on every assignment in school. Didn't do anything in the group project? Don't worry, another A is in store. Forgot to do that homework? Full credit anyway. The only downside is once your

time is up, you have to try to retain your form by keeping up the good grades. Your parents will be happy with you until they realize it was a fluke.

This month: Learn how to play the harmonica and start a band.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 - December 21)

The moon seems to have completely stopped spinning, so you'll be in for an electrifying time. You'll be facing some very shocking results when you find out that every time you talk to a person, little shocks of



electricity flow through your body. Words won't come out very well, so have fun having that conversation. Your friends will give up on trying to have conversations with you eventually, but others with your sign will have the same problem. There's your new squad. This month: Go to Antarctica and befriend a penguin.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 - January 19)

Your love life is about to get interesting as a rather worrying amount of aliens have been spotted on Uranus. Everyone, except the love of your life, will fall in love with you. When you walk around anywhere, a trail of people will form behind you and they will all be trying to latch



onto you. Do your best to fight them off. This inconvenience will follow you everywhere you go, so you'll get used to it at some point. At least there will be a clear path through the hallway now. This month: Buy a puppy or two.

AQUARIUS: (January 20 - February 18)

Be ready for a rocky road, as Venus is entering your star chart. Every time you drive your car to school, a new problem arises: you get a flat tire, the engine stalls, you keep getting locked out, and for some rea-



son your key isn't working. The good news is you'll become best friends with the local repairman. Every passing day you become closer and closer as the problems get weirder and weirder. Before you know it, the car won't have to break down for you two to be hanging out

This month: Become the F-wing bathroom policeman.

to a college you want to go to. This month: Stay away from all string cheese.

VIRGO: (August 23 - September 22)

A UFO will fly directly over your house this month, but don't worry, it is

good news. It will send down the coolest, funniest, and nicest alien you will ever meet. Your scared at first, but he cracks a knock-knock joke that you find hilarious and you immediately become best friends. You take him to school, everyone loves him; you take him to work, everyone loves him. You introduce him to your family and they all love him too. He has to leave next month though, but he leaves you with a super cool yo-yo, so cherish your time with him. This month: Make a blog about fruit.



A for of a fash

PISCES: (February 19 - March 20)

You're feeling spontaneous and energetic this month, and it is going to be entertaining for everyone except for you. You'll begin dressing like someone right out of an 80s aerobic workout video, the pinnacle of all fashion. To add to the fun, every 30 minutes you will have an uncontrollable urge to break out into your

workout routine and encourage people to join. Of course you'll be in great shape, and everyone else has free entertainment. A real win-win.

This month: Open a pizza shop where the only topping is pineapple.

FOR ENGERGAINMENG ONLY

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What Wing Of Phoenixville Area High School Are You?

Phoenixville Area High School has been transformed into a whole new building this year! Many of the wings of the school have been transformed from the bland H, J, D, E, F, etc. names to colorful and bright themed hallways that are sure to bring levity to your not-so-colorful high school drama. But which wing of the high school best suits your personality? Are you Phantom Way, Borough Hall, Manovan Court, Performance Way, Majolica Studios, Yellow Springs, Heritage Hall, or Farmer's Market? Take this quiz to find out what your hallway says about you!

1. What club is your favorite? 6. What is your life goal? A. Varsity/sports A. To be a famous athlete 4. If you could change one thing about PAHS, B. To be the principal B. Mock Trial/Model UN what would it be? C. Academic Team C. To be a nerd A. To have the football team always win D. Physics Olympics D. To cure cancer B. To change the school rules E. Theater Guild E. To be a rock star C. To have the whole school re-F. Art club F. To be a world-class artist built/renovated G. Student Government/FBLA G. To be the US President D. To have cooler science experiments in H. To travel the world H. Gazebo Literary Magazine class None. Not worth my time. I. To get out of school as soon as possible E. To have the school musical perform on Broadway To have more murals in the hallways 2. What is your favorite color? 7. Who is your inspiration? G. To have the water fountains provide A. All the school colors! A. Peyton Manning springs of youth B. Mayor Urscheler B. Gray H. To have a more diverse school C. Albert Einstein C. Orange To have no more homework or tests D. Green D. Isaac Newton E. William Shakespeare E. Purple F. Pink Da Vinci F. G. George Washington G. Yellow H. Light purple H. Dr. Seuss 5. If you could go anywhere in Philadelphia, Ronald McDonald Ι. Blue where would you go? A. An Eagles/Phillies game B. City Hall 8. Dream Senior Prank? C. The First/Second Bank of America 3. What is your favorite hobby? A. Putting real estate signs all over Wash-D. The Franklin Institute A. Exercising/going to the gym ington Field The Academy of Music/the Kimmel The-Ε. B. Studying law B. Locking out all administrators out of ater C. Building things their offices for the day The Philadelphia Museum of Art D. Science experiments C. Stealing all the books from the library G. Independence Hall E. Singing /dancing D. Nuclear explosions in the lab H. The German Christmas Market Painting /drawing F. E. Disrupting a school assembly by having Geno's/Pat's G. Learning a new language a flash crowd sing F. Graffiti on the school walls H. Reading ١. Eating G. F-Wing bathroom mischief H. Change all the school computers' language settings to French ١. Written by: Elizabeth Kolb, guest writer A class food fight Now check your results!

If you got mostly A's...

You are Phantom Way: This is the gymnasium, where Phantom Pride is at its best. You have strong pride in your school and love the purple and the white. You are a sports person and strive to go to or even play in every Phoenixville sports game. Keep up on that good sportsmanship and Phan-

tom pride!

If you got mostly B's...

You are Borough Hall: This wing is the Main Office, and rightfully so. Just like judges, lawyers, mayors, and any other official who works in Phoenixville Borough Hall, you are very ethical and make wise decisions. You are also a little more serious than your peers, and that is why the color gray always fancies you. You dream to rule the world one day and are not afraid to say so. But be careful: more power means more responsibility. If you got mostly C's...

You are Manovon Court: This is the math wing, and also where the library is. You love counting things and numbers. Your favorite place to study is the library and you love being a bookworm. Orange is your favorite color. Math is your best subject, too. By the way, what is 45 times 23?

If you got mostly D's...

You are Industrial Hall: This is the science wing. You are like a rocket scientist and love doing science experiments, even at home. The Franklin Institute is your getaway when the high school drama is at its worst. You are Industrial-Hall-Green with envy when your hypothesis is proven false by a smarter scientist. Keep exploding unknown chemicals in AP Chemistry!

If you got mostly E's...

You are Performance Way: This wing is where the next big hit of Phoenixville will be performed; this is the auditorium. You love singing and dancing, and wish to do it as much as your favorite Disney stars, despite what other people will think of you. You are both a fall play and spring musical junkie, and for that reason, you have joined Theater Guild. Purple is your ideal color when designing your play costume. Broadway is your one stop

shop for all things musical. You even play an instrument or two!

If you got mostly F's...

You are Majolica Studios: This is the art wing. You are creative and artistic. If you had only one color to paint with for the rest of your life, it would be dark pink. Every school year, you take priorities in choosing an art elective, no matter what other electives, (or credits) you'll be missing! You also try to use creativity in every aspect of your life. With this type of imagination, you'll sore to the skies of Michelangelo's painted ceiling, and become a famous artist.

If you got mostly G's...

You are Yellow Springs: This is the social studies wing. You are a history buff and love the civics and government class your friend takes a daily nap in. You have lots of red, white, and, blue (and yellow) shirts, and possibly wear them every day. George Washington, John Marshall, and Alexander Hamilton are your idols. You love touring Old City in Philadelphia and Washington DC. Keep being a die-hard patriot, and you might become a senator, Supreme Court justice, or even the US president!

If you got mostly H's...

You are Heritage Hall: This is the language arts wing. You are a bookworm, and possibly an introvert. Although people may sing "She really is a funny girl, that Belle!" you ignore the negative responses, because there is much more than your provincial life-like traveling, seeing the world outside the provincial town of Phoenixville, and learning new languages. Your favorite color is light purple. Keep on reading!

If you got mostly l's...

You are Farmer's Market: This is the cafeteria, the only place you won't see students yawning over a lecture or test. You are a food lover. The number one thing you like about school is lunch time, because all you want to do is to get out of class, and maybe even school. To get out of studying, you go to Foresta's every weekend and eat your groceries right away. Your favorite color is blue. You love participating in food eating contests, going out to eat, and cooking. Eat up!

