Volume 83 Issue 6

The Playwickian

The Newspaper of Neshaminy High School 2001 Old Lincoln Highway, Langhorne, Pa



POSSIBLE MASCOT CHANGE- Should the school district not comply with the terms of adjustment, the Pa. Human Relations Commission will hold a public hearing with the school district and issue a final order on the matter.

Photo/ Emily Fithian

PA Human Relations Commission recommends district to change mascot

By Reed Hennessy Editor in Chief

Recently the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission (PHRC) has found probable cause of discriminatory practice by Neshaminy High School in its use of the term "R-----"

The PHRC issued 10 "Terms of Adjustment" on Jan. 9, advising the district to take actions on their mascot, including finding a new mascot name within 90 days, ceasing and desisting all discriminatory activities utilizing the name "R----", and eventually phasing out all references to Neshaminy's current

On Feb. 9 a conciliation meeting was held to address the terms of adjustment and set a timeline for enacting the terms set forth by the PHRC, but the school district disagreed with those terms.

When two parties disagree on the terms set in a PHRC case, a final, public hearing will be held in which a final decision will be made by the PHRC. This may be the case for Neshaminy, but no second hearing has been scheduled.

"[The] Respondent shall immediately begin to investigate suitable, nondiscriminatory name and mascot for its teams and schools. Respondent shall have a period of 90 days to select his name and mascot and will be given a reasonable time in which to transition to district wide use of this name and mascot," said the PHRC in its terms of adjustment.

Several school board members and administrators were contacted for comment on the matter.

Board member Stephen Pirittano denied that the PHRC had made such an order, "As explained at the [School Board] Policy [Committee] meeting this past Tuesday in a statement put forward by students representing the Playwickian, Mr. Levin, special counsel on this issue, replied 'No such action exists,'" said board member Stephen Pirritano via

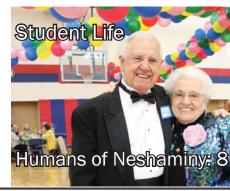
The only other board member and or administrator to reply on the matter was board member Anthony Sposato, who stated in an email that he could not comment on the matter under the advice of legal counsel.

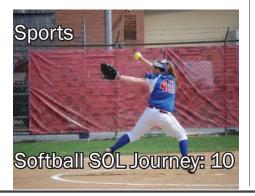
In addition to the school district having 90 days to select a new name and mascot the terms of adjustment state that the school district must "cease and desist from holding any events utilizing the mascot name," and that the school district "shall receive training for its Board of School Directors, administration, staff, and the students designed to educate participants on the right of all persons to be treated in a non-discriminatory manner regardless of their Race and National

In all, there are 10 terms of adjustment all dealing with the process of changing the mascot of Neshaminy High School.

Also stated in the terms of adjustment by the PHRC was that the school district ʻshall sponsor one half-day or full day symposium for the community on the historical significance and harmful effects of the use of racial monikers as mascots in sports."

If the school district maintains its current course of action the PHRC will intervene in the matter. Should this be the case a public hearing will be held and the commission will issue a final order.





STEM: future focus of district By Eishna Ranganathan

After examining which subjects have the largest prospective career fields, the Neshaminy School District is attempting to emphasize STEM -Science, Technology, Engineering and Math – at all levels, elementary, middle and high school, via various upcoming programs and curriculum maps for the summer and during 2015-16 school year.

"We are trying to better prepare students for success in a global, technological world; with an increase in hands-on activity, more students will gravitate toward the lessons, focusing on inquiry rather than recall, and active rather than passive learning," Matt Thompson, science dept. chairperson

The newest upcoming change, a STEM expo, will occur on May 28 in which younger students will have the opportunity to display their scientific projects in robotics, food science, computer design and the like. Middle schoolers will compete in an engineeringbased challenge in experimental design.



Photo/Neshaminy School District See "STEM:"pg 2

Talks reduce Iran Nuclear program

By Solomiya Syvyk News Editor

Following two years of negotiations, Iran and the United States, along with five other world powers, have produced a framework specifying the limitations on Tehran's nuclear program. After eight days and nights of talks in Lausanne, Switzerland, the basis of the agreement was announced on April 2 by Secretary of State John Kerry and Iranian coequal Mohammad Javad Zarif; the proposed plan is laid out for a span of 15 years, including attributions which make it the most intrusive inspection system in history.

The unsigned accord has Iran reduce its stockpile of low-enriched Uranium from 10,000 to 300 kilograms and its number of operating centrifuges to 5,060, one-third its current amount.

"But perhaps the most important compromise came in a lengthy battle over whether Iran would be allowed to conduct research and development on advanced centrifuges, which are far more

See "PROPOSAL:" pg 2



PROPOSAL: continued from 1



TEHRAN- Iranian foreign minister Mohammad Javad Zarif (right) and Ali Akbar Salehi, head of Iran's Atomic Energy Organization announce basis of unsigned agreement to disable Iran from constructing nuclear weaponry for the These two small details which seem almost next 10 years. Photo/ Morteza Nikoubazl/Zuma Press/TNS

efficient than current models. The Iranians won the right to research, but not to use more modern machines for production for the next 10 years," wrote Michael R. Gordon and David E. Sanger in the New York Times. The remaining 5 years of the accord would enable Iran to steadily resume implementation of their findings.

One week after the political framework was completed, Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali

Khamenei, announced that "all economic sanctions would have to be lifted on the day any final agreement was signed and that military sites would be strictly off limits to foreign inspectors," wrote Thomas Erdbrink and David E. Sanger in the New York Times. This is deemed as highly problematic considering the United States held leverage by suspending the sanctions in phases so as to ensure Iran is following through with its obligations. Also, Fordo, along with several other sites, are located on military bases, thus partly preventing one of the main objectives reached in the accord, thorough inspection of Iran's remaining nuclear facilities.

The proposal displayed to the public from the United States' perspective still does not completely match the wants of Iran, especially concerning the timing of the sanctions and the extent of the inspections. irrelevant in the big picture could actually permanently halt the entire process which would deem the two years of negotiations

as pointless," said senior, Hoyt Hoelper.

As the probable accord presents a potential in renewing relations with a 35 year avowed enemy, unresolved disputes are to be voiced at the next round of discussions in Vienna in order to finalize an agreement by the mutually decided and already extended deadline

STEM: continued from 1

Additionally, the district is planning a Summer STEM Academy for grades four through eight in the late summer, with one and two-week programs at the high school

Those at the elementary school can select Camp Illuminate, centering around prototype simulations, or Basic Version, centering around engineering. Those at the middle school can choose among an advanced and robotics-specific course. "[Neshaminy] is really expanding its STEM focus beyond the classroom, trying to get the community and businesses involved and tell our Neshaminy story of events and accomplishments, through our voice, by taking a more proactive role on the website and making STEM a public endeavor," David Geanette, Director of Math and Science said.

Two months ago, Neshaminy ran a STEM report and started a blog, upkept by Chris Stanley, with status updates around the district. The high school offers four Advanced Placement (AP) sciences, three AP math courses, and six college preparatory engineering courses, all for which it has recently purchased newer equipment to further lab investigation.

'I think we should focus on a greater math requisite for students, four years rather than three, and better funded labs for study to build upon what we have learned and understand concepts better," junior Brenna Doyle said.

The budget, altered accordingly, caters to the various items bought and future purchases to be made with instructional materials and attendance of faculty at STEM conferences a priority for the district; around \$165,000 will be devoted to the initiative.

Administration also continues to recognize the importance of individuals who have gifts across multiple fields. "I think it's important to extend this invitation into the arts for a gamut of mindsets. You can incorporate the same problem-solving processes, straying from the traditional methods, for a more integrated approach. You need imagination and creativity for solutions, rather than pure function,"

Overall jobs in America tend to encompass six fields: STEM, law, business, social sciences, liberal arts and education. "At the bachelor's degree level, students in humanities, education, and health sciences had higher attrition rates (56-62 percent) than did those in STEM fields (48 percent)," according to the U.S. Dept. of Education 2013 report.

Neshaminy's measures start to involve the district's youth in STEM at an earlier age and attempt to better prepare them for a sense of real world principals and career readiness.

Bald Eagle soars to popularity

By Nic Hoffman Archivist

A recent increase in the use of live streams, live transmission of an event online, has allowed people to see new spectacular things in real time. A huge spark of interest first occurred about one year ago, when the National Aeronautics and Space Administration set up a live stream from the International Space Station, allowing the ability to tune in at any time to see the earth from space. The NASA cam is still up and running, but a new convocation of live streams has taken flight from under wing of the space craze: the Bald Eagle camera movement.

again. At the time it was chosen to represent the fledgling nation, there were roughly one hundred thousand Bald Eagles roaming the skies. Habitat degradation, hunting, and the human strain on their food supply led to their decline until the early 1900s, but in the first half of the twentieth century we went even further, killing off the eagles without knowing how or why it was happening.

The use of dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) and similar chemical pesticides was hailed as a beautiful advancement of scientific progress and the cure to all insect annoyances. Consequently, the Bald Eagle started declining in population, d ropping to its lowest of 487 esting pairs in 1963.

Rachel Carson authored Silent Spring in 1962, pointing out what was happening with DDT and its killing off of the broods of the eagles. To summarize, the chemical would be sprayed on or near waterways, enter the food chain on a low level, and biomagnifies up the food chain until it was in high concentration in the adult eagle. When time came to lay eggs, the



WEBCAM- Livestream of Eagle family in Hanover, Pa., America's national bird has gone through a one among many nests nationwide.

sharp dive in its population but is now off the ground Photo/PAGame Commission, HDOnTap and Comcast Business

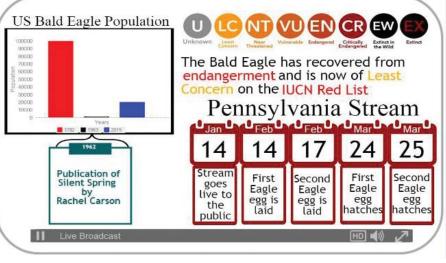
egg shells then had DDT in them instead of strengthening calcium. When the eagles sat on the eggs to incubate, the eggs broke, killing the young. The surviving offspring were usually sterile.

The road to recovery took legislative action but has been largely successful. Protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Bald and Golden Fagle Protection Act, the eagle has been removed from protection by the Endangered Species Act. The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List now places

the Bald Eagle as "Least Concern." The wild population is estimated to be roughly 10,000 nesting pairs. This is

a booming success after the terrible dearth of 1963, but is still only one fifth of the original population.

The recent trend of eagle cameras across the country has furthered the American compassion for the bird. From Florida to Maine, cameras have sprung up, displaying the birds nesting. Egg laying, incubation, hatching, and hunting are all visible on a myriad of cameras, each with the ability to tune in



Graphic/Nic Hoffman

at any moment. Conservationists are hopeful about the benefits of these webcams and of the vested interest they create in people. Here in Pennsylvania we have the benefit of one of the best cameras.

The Pennsylvania Game Commision has, on their website, a high-definition camera displaying a nesting pair in Hanover, Pennsylvania. The camera was installed in December and the stream aired to the public on January 14. The first egg appeared Feb. 14, the second appeared Feb. 17. They hatched on March 24 and 25, respectively.

An interest in our national bird is always welcome by Americans and environmentalists alike. The cameras are a great way to see a less than common bird at any given time, and a unique view into the nest of the freedom flier.



April 29, 2015 Al Durante: Beloved role model center of widespread popularity, recognition, love

By Tim Cho Student Life & Web Editor

A living legend, Al Durante walks the halls of Carl Sandburg Middle School and has influenced over three generations of students. Recognized by students and adults as one of the kindest people they ever knew, Durante has also been recognized by the community, both by students and adults.

Every year, a Carl Sandburg student receives the Al Durante Service Award for their contribution to the community in honor of Durante's own community



YOUTH— While Al Durante has aged, he still retains his youthful energy and compassion.

Photo/Donna Durante

contributions. Kennith Gurysh, former math teacher at Carl Sandburg and currently at Neshaminy High School, recalls how, "every year when they present the Al Durante Service Award, you see how humble and caring he is and how crazy the student body gets when they introduce him!"

Standing outside the front entrance every morning, Durante greets every person that enters the middle school. He reminds students how wonderful they are and how lucky he is to be able to know them. "He is arguably the kindest man to ever walk the earth," Gurysh

Staci Speece, Spanish teacher, at Neshaminy High School, remembers attending Carl Sandburg and seeing Durante every morning. "I've known Mr. Durante for 13 years now. I met him as a 6th grader at Sandburg and really looked forward to seeing him every day as a student there. He was always so positive and cheery, and always had something nice to say about everyone."

Community members reciprocate

"I was new to the district in sixth grade and on the first day I had no clue what I was doing or where I was going and I remember Mr. Durante helping me out with what to do, he was there for me since my first day at Neshaminy," Mabin recalls.

Teresa Bidwell, 51, Cobalt Ridge native and current Redrose resident, has known Durante's daughter, Cheryl Durante, since kindergarten, but remembers Durante since their earlier years; "He was

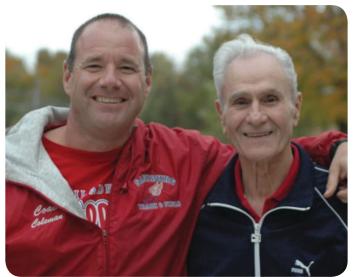
always smiling, out there waving to everyone, especially saying, 'Hi gang' "He reminds me why I love my job." even if there was only two people hanging out."

Anita Rubin Getz, family

friend of 44 years, remembers being Durante's paper girl and his kind behavior, especially how, "he always talked to me...even when collecting; always made me feel comfortable, and leave with a smile; always took the time to chat, even if just for a few minutes."

One of Durante's daughters, Donna Durante, attributes his kindness to his love and how he, "truly loves everyone and... it's wonderful that they [the students] can get it at Sandburg; he truly

and I couldn't be prouder of him."



LOVE— Al Durante, (right) still coaching at Carl Sandburg Middle School, recveives widespread love from all who know him; he stands with Carl Sandburg gym teacher Hank Coleman (left).

Photo/Donna Durante

Many admire Durante and strive to be like him, including Speece. "The mark he has left on generation after generation of students is something I want to do as well. He teaches us to stay humble when we're at our highest points and to stay hopeful when we reach our lowest of points," she

Durante's response to public opinion of him does not do justice to the kindness he radiates; "I love them and they bring me great joy. I am truly blessed to still be working at Carl Sandburg Middle School, it is an amazing school with amazing students and staff. [I] hope that I can work there another ten years.'

does change their lives "That's the kind of man he is—amazing." -Jessica Souder, Carl Sandburg student

-Staci Speece, Neshaminy teacher Durante's love for others; many have described him as caring, kind, affable,

honest, and steadfast. "His smiling face and his awesome, 'I love yous,' that he gave every morning made everyone feel great about themselves," Carl Sandburg alum, Kelly Sauer, said.

Rhianna Mabin, Neshaminy High School sophomore, shared memories of Durante while she attended Carl Sandburg. "He is so caring. He is always giving and reminding people to smile, he shines light on everyone's life he passes through and he is truly one of the best

Yearbook's Throwing a Party. Senior Signing Day

Drinks, Food and Karaoke

ONLY SENIORS may attend: Friday, May 29th once buses leave until 5pm at the **Art Gallery**

ALL Grades may attend on: June 1st and 2nd 2:30 until 5pm June 3rd 6pm to 7:30

The Playwickian

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Publication policy:

The following is an excerpt from Policy 600 which the Playwickian staff must follow. The excerpt is not representative of Policy 600 in its entirety. The Playwickian has been directed to publish this excerpt of the Policy in its masthead. The staff feels this section of the policy is also important to be featured in the masthead: "It is the intent of the Board of School Directors of the School District that School District publications be considered government speech for purposes of the First Amendment and to the extent permitted by the First Amendment."

Playwickian Policy: The policy of the Playwickian which shall be published as part of the

Playwickian Policy: The policy of the Playwickian which shall be published as part of the masthead of the newspaper shall be as follows:

"Policy, Subject to applicable law and the terms, conditions and limitations set forth in Policy 600 of the Board of School Directors of the Neshaminy School District and this policy statement, it is the policy of School District that student journalists shall have the right to determine the content of the Playwickian. Except for advertisements, all content shall be prepared by students, subject to editing by others.

Students: (a) strive to produce media based upon professional standards of accuracy, objectivity and fairness; (b) review material to improve sentence structure, grammar, spelling and punctuation; (c) check and verify all facts and verify the accuracy of all quotations; and (d) in the case of editorials or letters to the editor concerning controversial issues, eletermine the need for rebuttal comments and opinions and provide space therefore if appropriate. As examples, and not limitations on the proper authority of school officials, the following types of expression will not be approved for publication: (a) material that is obsecne; (b) the work, taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value; (c) indecard to vulgar language is not obsecne; (d) material that violates the legal or constitutional rights of others; (e) material that the school authorities reasonably believe should be prohibited, within the terms, conditions and limitations of Policy 600 and this policy attements, students are fee to express opinions. Specifically, a student may criticize school policy or the performance of teachers, administrators, school officials and other school employees. The viewpoints expressed by anyone in this paper shall not be deemed to be the viewpoins of the School District, any official or employee of the School District, or any student other than the student or students who expressed the viewpoins.

Current school board lacks civility

Community members jeered and shouted as the Board of Directors, sprawled out on the stage, motioned to close Samuel Everett Elementary School. This scene was one among many reasons the March 17 school board meeting was disappointing. Yet while some community members perhaps can be expected to be impassioned and at times emotional, the more disappointing display came from the board members themselves. The Neshaminy School Board, at this meeting and many others, showed a lack of civility.

On March 17, this lack of civility reared its ugly head as two board members argued over the Everett closing. By all means, disagreement should be present among the school board, as it creates the best ideas and opens up policies to valid criticisms and thus to improvements. What occurred here, however, was different. One board member quoted another board member, to which the second replied that he had never said

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the alleged words. The board members argued until their microphones were turned off by a third member. This is just one instance of the bitterness and anger that has manifested itself between these members.

This hostility has been aimed at community members as well. Last year, a school board member allegedly referred to a community member as an "a----."

It appears that working relationships among some (certainly not all) board members have fallen apart. If we are to take the behavior in the meeting as any indication, there is a lack of respect between members, and perhaps even a lack of cooperation. The lack of civility only compounds the dysfunction which this board has evidently griped with.

Worse is the atmosphere this projects on the community itself. During the teacher contract controversy the school board set a hardline tone, and the community likewise shifted to more stern of a stance. If this school board sets an example of disrespect, the community may likewise go with them. We cannot have this community embroiled in so venomous an atmosphere. While we understand the emotion of the community, we also see the potential for the controversy to become needlessly acrimonious.

This school board needs to change course. If they wish for greater respect from the community, they must respect each other. They have been elected—or appointed— to lead this community, and so far they have not set a shining example. If they wish to be re-elected, it is up to them to change their image; if they do not, then it is up to the voters to elect those who show more respect and responsibility.

The unsigned editorial represents the majority view of the Editorial Board.



By Brynn MacDougall Op-Ed Editor

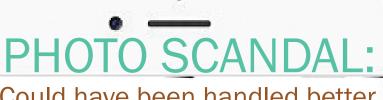
Day of Silence (DoS) is a protest of MOGAI (Marginalized orientations, gender, and intersex) based bullying, run by GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network). DoS is supposed to call attention to the bullying that MOGAI teens face every day and how it silences them. Many participate in the event, hoping that by being silent, the stigma surrounding MOGAI identities will end.

Others, however, have expressed dissatisfaction with DoS. They feel that by feeling silent, they are not really raising awareness for a cause, but rather giving society what it wants. If no one speaks about the issues that MOGAI teens face those issues will only persist. Having a one paragraph card that generalizes the subject of MOGAI harassment does not do much. It does not let people know how deeply the bullying and harassment affect the

In 2011, GLSEN conducted a survey about MOGAI bullying. They found that 64 percent of MOGAI teens felt unsafe in the school environment due to their sexual orientation, and 44 percent due to their gender identity. Thirty-two percent of MOGAI students skipped at least one day of school because they felt unsafe.

On Dec. 28, 2014, transgender teen Leelah Alcorn committed suicide after years of rejection from her parents. They had sent her to conversion therapists to convince her she was boy and eventually restricted her access to social media. Alcorn said in her suicide note on Tumblr calling for gender to be taught in schools early on. Alcorn herself had only discovered what transgender meant when she was 14. If kids learn MOGAI terms and acceptance then they wouldn't feel

Additionally, many kids in schools participating in DoS aren't actually participating. Some will claim they are doing DoS in order to avoid answering questions in class. That is not to say that most are faking it. Most honestly want to support MOGAI teens. But being silent and not going in depth of the issues they face every day does nothing to help.



Could have been handled better

Hot By Reed Hennessy

Editor in Chief Sexting is the act of sending sexually explicit messages via mobile phones and other devices. This past October, although it may be hard to remember, a story broke about a sexting scandal involving Neshaminy High School students. It may be hard to remember because of the gross mishandling of the situation by Neshaminy High School administration from the very start to the very end.

The sexting scandal first came to light following a tumultuous week at Neshaminy High School wherein the app "Yik-Yak" was being used as a medium for students to post inappropriate comments about other students. The situation was handled relatively well: Yik-Yak was banned from the Neshaminy campus. The administration was correct in doing this; however, they handled the sexting scandal poorly.

The only message sent out by McGee regarding the sexting scandal to the parents of students at Neshaminy High School contained the following message. "The situation/incident was NOT a football team issue." Why would one group of people be singled out and specifically defended by McGee?

The simple reason is because at that moment in time ensuring the secure status of the football team was just as if not more important than ensuring the individuals who had their photographs passed around were okay and that any individuals found to be in possession of such photographs would receive proper discipline. This is all besides the fact that the only person to formally mention the football team in regards to the sexting scandal was McGee. Even if a large amount of football players were involved in the sexting scandal it is not the job of administration to protect students simply because of they belong to a certain club or extra-curricular activity.

To make the point clear this is not a criticism of the football team, this is a criticism of administration; the message posted by McGee could have referenced any club or athletic team at Neshaminy High school and it still would have been wrong. The message then went on to say that "Kids make mistakes. We address the mistakes and then move on without malice." Which is a nice thought, but there is a difference between making a mistake, and intentionally committing a crime.

Also, there is a difference between moving on without malice and no longer addressing the issue. In that short 242 word message not one real issue was addressed, nor did the administration denounce the actions of the students involved in the scandal. All the student body heard was that mistakes were made, not that sexting is wrong, illegal, and should be reported immediately. The classic cop-out that "kids will be kids" does not apply to situations where police have to get involved.

The sexting scandal was a serious situation that was not necessarily "swept under the rug", but definitely not handled well, not addressed in the manner it should have been, and if anything the administration's actions will serve to perpetuate similar situations in the future.

PERSPECTIVES

American feminists should focus their fight on women overseas

Feminism, to the extent that it aims to end sexual discrimination, is a noble cause. Neither sex is superior or inferior to the other and all humans – males and females alike - deserve the same fundamental respect. Sadly, the feminist movement in America all too often misses this point. Women in America have obtained equal rights: the right to be a citizen, own property, receive an education, vote, hold public office, and – yes – receive equal pay for their labor.

In contrast, women in other parts of the world are denied these rights and more. In Saudi Arabia, women are not legally permitted to drive. In some regions of the Middle East women are forbidden from exposing any of their skin. Clearly, these women deserve better treatment and basic rights. And are feminists fighting for them? Well, often times not. Unfortunately, American feminism focuses inward when there is little change to be made rather than outward where atrocities are plentiful.

The loudest outcries from American feminists includes #FreeTheNipple and calls for equal pay in the United States. Being able to get a hashtag trending nationwide shows the power of American feminists. So why not use this power in a country that does not already have equal rights among men and women?

Additionally, the argument for equal pay is invalid since men and women in America are already paid equally. American feminists cry out about a supposed "wage gap." This wage gap has been refuted by many economists. In the 95-page report "An Analysis of Reasons for the Disparity in Wages Between Men and Women," economists evaluate how the wage gap only accounts for a median of all earnings of men and women, meaning it does not account for men and women in the same jobs. Women – although they are not forced into any jobs – tend to have lower paying jobs. This is possibly the result of women wanting to work part-time jobs or nine-to-five jobs instead of working long hour jobs that typically pay more like stock brokers, surgeons, or lawyers largely because they are raising children.

In fact, the Equal Pay Act

of 1963 makes it illegal to discriminate "on the basis of sex by paying wages to employees in such establishment at a rate less than the rate at which he pays wages to employees of the opposite sex." It states that people can only be paid more on the basis of "(i) a seniority system; (ii) a merit system; (iii) a system which measures earnings by quantity don't

feminism because

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(1 need egalitarianism)

to be a stay-at-home mom.

get accused of

contributing to the

or quality of production; or (iv) a differential based on any other factor other than sex."

Another statistic that feminists argue that is misleading

is from a 2007 study. The Campus Sexual Assault Study, which states one in five college women will be sexually assaulted. This statistic, even cited

by President Barack By Stephanie Harvey Business Editor

Obama, cannot be automatically assumed as fact just because one study found this to be true. When looking at statistics, one must look at the reliability of the study before claiming it to be true. The study only surveyed two universities, which does not accurately reflected sexual assault in American higher-level education. Also a large number of people did not respond to the survey, making the statistic an even greater misrepresentation. Even a high school student who has taken statistics for a year would know that the small sample size and potential response bias make these findings unreliable. Some claim that even more women are sexually assaulted than the statistic shows but that claim is simply not based on any facts.

Modern-day feminists in the U.S. have drastically steered away from the roots of the 1848-1920 Feminist Movement. The roots of feminists called for empowering women by giving them every legal right granted to men. However, feminism in America has evolved into women complaining on social media about misleading statistics. Feminists should instead use the voice and power they have on social media to make changes in countries where men and women are not equal.

We need feminism in all areas of the world, for different reasons

People often assume that a feminist's primary agenda is to convince schools to have lackadaisical dress codes and to hate men. The truth is, the goals of feminism reach far beyond something so small as a high school dress code.

Though allowing women to dress as they please and still be respected is important, there are other, greater things to be fought for. The act of denouncing feminism or claiming to "not need it" is blatantly ignoring horrible injustices happening to women daily. To denounce feminism is to choose to not support basic civil rights of all people.

In places like India, China, Pakistan and other similar locations "honor killings" are common - which is the act of murdering a woman to maintain the honor of one's family. According to a Pakistani women's rights group, more than 1,000 women die each year as a result of honor killings.

Though it does occur throughout the world another issue concerning women which is centered in South Asia are acid attacks. An acid attack, also called vitriolage, is when acid is thrown on a person in order to disfigure, torture, or kill them. These attacks happen to primarily women when it is felt they're causing dishonor.

Female genital mutilation is another huge issue which exemplifies the separation between genders and highlights the mistreatment of women. Genital mutilation includes procedures that intentionally injure or alter a females genitalia for non-medical reasons. Genital mutilation affects women primarily between infancy and the age of 15, more than 125 million women alive today have been mutilated.

So, it's simple to denounce feminism for women who are comfortable and safe in their day-to-day life. It's easy to say that they "don't need feminism" when they aren't facing being mutilated or killed as a result of exercising your basic rights as a human being.

But, just because these things aren't so prevalent in America, doesn't mean we don't need feminism in America because unfortunately ignoring injustices doesn't help anything. In America though, it's important to remember that women aren't being accurately represented.

Keep in mind that there are 318.9 million people in the United States, 157 million of those people being women. In the House of Representatives there are currently 362 men and 76 women and in the Senate, there are 17 women and 83 men. So, for a nation that is nearly half men and half women, our house and senate is over 80 percent male. It's obvious that 20 percent of a whole isn't equal representation. Not to mention the 239 years we've gone without a female president.

Yes, women can vote. But due to ongoing underlying sexism in America women have yet to achieve equal representation in our government. Whether you are pro-life or pro-choice, whether you believe birth control should be covered in health care or not, the voice that is speaking in government toward issues that concern primarily women is overwhelmingly male.

A statistic that is commonly discredited is that women make 77 cents to every dollar men make. The argument goes on to say that the 23-cent gender pay gap is simply the difference between the average earnings of all men and women working full-time. It does not account for differences in occupations, positions, education, job tenure, or hours worked per week.

That argument actually proves that there is a gap in pay based on gender. So it

may be true that men and women can work the same job and make the same amount. The point is though, that women are less likely to be hired into certain fields or are wildly misrepresented in fields as a direct result of sexism in the work place. The idea that some jobs are more suited for men is sexist.

Another point often brought up by those that are against feminism is citing the fact that the statistic claiming that one in every five women will be sexually assaulted during their college career is "false". This is true, if you're saying that the statistic is under-reporting.

The statistic is based on a study done by the Justice Department's National Institute of Justice in 2007. It was an anonymous online survey conducted at only two universities. It is correct to say that using only 2 universities will not create an accurate representation of assault victims, but saying that is over estimating victims is nothing but detrimental.

Given the sheer nature of the crime and its effects, victims will commonly not report being assaulted or raped, not to mention, some victims don't even know that what has happened to them is considered assault. If the one in five women statistic is what bothers you, there are other statistics to consider.

According to RAINN – Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network – 68 percent of sexual assault is not reported to police and 98 percent of rapists will never spend a day in jail. Approximately two thirds of sexually assaults are committed by someone

known to the victim, which only makes reporting it, or even talking about it,

There is no benefit in claiming that the statistic is overreporting the numbers. It's detrimental, insensitive, and offensive to victims. It must be asked, what is the goal of such a claim? Is saying that the statistic is exaggerating the numbers a call to stop trying to prevent sexual assault? And even if the statistic was over reporting, which it isn't, wouldn't one in every 300 women still be one too many victims being raped? Claiming the statistic is false only amplifies the ignorance and desensitization toward sexual assault, and undoubtedly adds to the problem.

While one of the top goals of feminism is to empower women, it does not mean feminists view all women as weak and oppressed. Feminists are not aiming to make women stronger – women are already

strong. The goal is to encourage women to keep being strong until they make up half our government, until they can feel safe walking the streets at night, until they can report a crime to police and see justice, until they

> can see equal amounts of men and women in all jobs, and until people who want equality between genders aren't seen as a bunch of promiscuous women who just want to #FreeTheNipple. Being against equality for all people is nonsensical. It's

important to understand that someone can be a feminist and be a housewife, or want to dress conservatively, or be a man, or a number of other things. Victims of sexual assault are facing unimaginable hardships, and if we cannot at least empathize, we must not diminish their cases to a statistic. Victims should know their suffering is valid and real – regardless of if they're one in every five or one in every 5,000.

The crucial point of this is that feminism is important. America has progressed quite a bit, but it's not equal yet. It cannot be denied that women of the world are not treated equally to men, and feminism aims to put that to an end, in America and universally.



By Madison Buffardi Managing and Op-Ed Editor

Q: Do you classify yourself as a hip-

A: I like coffee, books, cardigans and reading poetry...hipster stereotype,

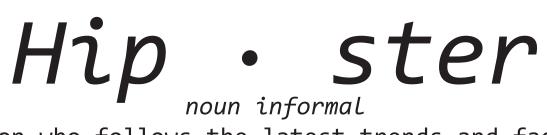
or English teacher stereotype? You

A: Mr. Cochran.

Q: What is the most hipster thing you know?

a person who follows the latest trends and fashions, especially those regarded as being outside the cultural mainstream.

An overwhelming amount of hipster teachers have popped up in Neshaminy High School, almost to the point where they are the mainstream teacher, and therefore no longer hipsters – but not quite! From their recognizable senses of style to their choice in music, hobbies, and an abundance of memberships to the art museum these teachers ironically fit the hipster mold. But just like snowflakes, each hipster is unique – so what makes Neshaminy's hipsters so hipster?



Jen Mann: Hamlet tattoo

Photos/Ashley Reiss

Q: Whats the most hipster thing you have ever heard of?

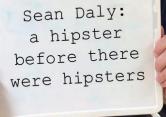
A:Writing an article about hipster fashion amongst middle aged teachers rather than students. Aging into the lower middle class and mediocre success as the next trend.

Mike Cochran: Taste in music/ motorcycle



Q: Do you classify yourself as a hipster?

A: I don't classify myself as a hipster because I have had the same lack of fashion for the last 20 years.



Photo/Jack Haines

Q: What makes me a hipster?

A: My commitment to fleece.

Pros, cons of having a hipster teacher

By Ashley Reiss Features Editor

Pro: Easily persuaded by a cup of coffee and a vinyl record

Con: Don't know if they're making fun of you or saying something abstract

Pro: more relaxed and laid back "who really needs to be yelled at for using a pen instead of a pencil"

Con: they have better style than you

Pro: funny and relevant with a hint of sarcasm

Con: their worship of irony is unholy

Pro: need a record player? It's probably in their messenger bag

Con: own more flannels than a lumber jack



Q: What makes you different from all the other hipsters?

A: I diligently follow professional sports just to be ironic.

Terry O'Neill: Primary habitat is the dark room

So you want to be a hipster?

By Gauri Mangala Features Editor

So, you want to be a hipster. Well you have come to the right place. Welcome to the world of hipsterdom, in which you will find such delights as biking to work because it is more environmentally sound and using a satchel instead of a backpack because who carries backpacks anymore?

First thing is first, do not shave. Ever. Facial hair is the epitome of a hipster. The facial hair of a hipster is equivalent to yellow and black stripes of a bee, when you see it, you just know. And don't be mistaken, the "don't shave" rule does not apply just to men. Ladies, keep that leg hair. Let that unibrow be free in the wind.

Now that you have got that cover, it's time for a new wardrobe. A mix of neon and pastels is appropriate, as is the use of outdated attire such as, but not limited to, bowties, suspenders, overalls, fedoras, and anything from Goodwill. It should be noted that the term vintage is a necessity when describing any article of clothing that has been complimented.

The hipster diet is one that is both boring and interesting at the same time. Being a vegan is a must to the hipster, as is having a balanced nutriment of organic foods. A truly hip foodie knows all the under the radar places to get their eat on. They know all the great places to get authentic Assyrian food and hate Chipotle because it's not "genuine Mexican food."

The musical stylings of the hipster are extremely important. The hipster must not only focus their time on fangirling on undiscovered indie bands and never inviting their friends to concerts because "they've probably never heard of it." Along with this, hipsters must be able to play guitar, along with a counterculture instrument, like the ukulele or accordion.

It should be noted that being a hipster means that you can never consider yourself as such. Good luck, my friends. Be hip.

> Q: Is being a hipster something you strive for or does it just happen?

A: I suppose my choice would be something I "strive for," being that I "strive" to dress myself on purpose each morning, mainly to avoid being arrested.

Stephen

McCaughey:

excessive

flannel

Chris DiCicco: hair cut Q: How would you describe your style?

> Q:Is being hipster something you strive for or does it just happen?

A: I think people can recoginize me by my

headband, it's like my thing.

A:I guess it just happens when I'm not looking.

Dan Luongo: too cool for most things



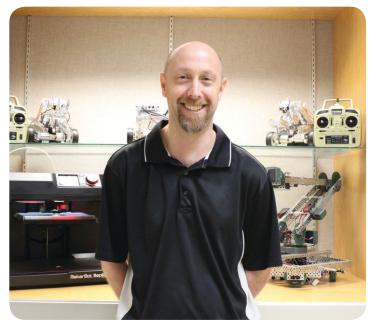
Hara Zefran:

too artsy to

handle

HUMANS OF NESHAMINY

By Monica Dinh



Disclaimer: A few months ago, Graphics and Robotics teacher, Bob Wood, had his "no button" stolen.

"Where do you think your 'no button' went?"

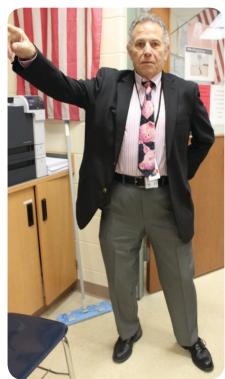
"It magically grew legs that were made in the robotics classes and somehow managed to walk itself out of my classroom. That being said if I find those robotic legs that stole my 'no button,' they will be broken."

Entertainment Editor

"How long have you two known each other?"

"About a few seconds."





"Do you ever have trouble picking out which tie you're going to wear in the morning?"

"Sometimes the tie dictates me. The day dictates the tie sometimes. Sometimes I base it on my dreams. Sometimes the dream just comes to me."

"So did you dream about pigs last night?"

"Porkchops"





"If you could give a message to the world, would it be?"

"Quoting Bill & Ted, I would just say be excellent to each other."

Engineering, science classes work together, create new homes for birds



HOUSES— Sam Nelms, Mike Principale and Dave Terrell lead the bird house s'production for the Langhorne Rod & Gun Club and Environmental Action Club.

Photo/Garry Warlow

By Nicholas Hoffman Archivist & Copy Editor

Neshaminy's Manufacturing and Construction students are working at top gear to churn out bird boxes, both for the school and the community.

Gary Warlow, teacher of the class, was recently contacted by the Langhorne Rod & Gun Club to construct eight Wood Duck nesting boxes. As of April 11, four of the eight boxes were complete, delivered and installed by the club.

The Manufacturing and Construction class, designed to use wood, wood substitutes, metals and plastics to manufacture and construct today's products, is tackling the challenge with enthusiasm, embracing the prospect of a group assignment for an outside source.

In addition to their Wood Duck boxes, the class is producing bluebird boxes for the Environmental Action Club. Warlow was asked by James Murray, Science teacher and advisor of the Environmental Action Club, to produce 20 bluebird boxes to disperse throughout the school grounds and within Idlewood.

"We're just trying to establish a habitat," said Murray, hopeful for the project and its implications. He continued, saying "The Environmental Action Club along with myself and Mr. Maloney will put up the boxes at various points on campus and then it will be an ongoing process to monitor the boxes, checking for invasive birds once a week until bluebirds are established."

Junior Dave Terrell, Sophomore Mike Principale and Freshman Sam Nelms are all leading the production, a project that exemplifies the class as a whole and has environmental benefits as well.

Warlow is excited to engage his students in an outside project and to contribute to the community. Warlow said of the project "We're teaching across the curriculum, hands on. In Manufacturing and Construction, we're making the boxes, and just down the hall in Environmental science the project is helping Mr. Murray. They get to hang them and observe them.

NESHAMINY ATHLETES OF THE ISSUE

Neshaminy girls dominate spring sports



JUNIOR-- Mackensie Compton, Centerfielder is a Providence College recruit and will begin her college seaon in 2017 as a freshman.

Photo/Alli Kaufman

By Liam Krimmel Sports Editor

As a junior, Mackensie Compton is making her mark this season on the Neshaminy softball team. The girls are on a dominating streak in the Suburban One League and PIAA District One conference this season. Compton, alongside teammates Olivia Zaino (LF), Sam Offenbeck (P), and Nikki Wild(C), has made a great improvement over the last few seasons.

The girls are a PIAA 4A team and are considered as a respected team in the Suburban One League. Neshaminy recently had their game against Nazareth Academy where Compton went 2-4 hits and her solo homerun put Neshaminy in a very impressive lead.

Compton has been playing on varsity since her freshmen year and hasn't looked back since. During her

sophomore year, Compton finished her season by stealing 12 bases. Her hard work last year paid off and this year she will be the leadoff hitter for the season. During a recent game against Council Rock South, while Neshaminy was down during the game, Compton stepped up to deliver an RBI double to put Neshaminy on the scoreboard. The girls are now 5-1 in the conference and 9-1 overall in the state.

Mackensie also plays for Rock Gold, another club outside of school for softball players. Compton has been playing for about 10 years and has gotten better ever since. "My sister did it so that had a big influence. My mom wanted me to get on the field and get involved".

Compton has shown herself as a great athlete and an overall leader towards her teammates. "I'm hoping to become a better leader for the team. Our biggest strength is how often our team gets together and communicates well," she said. These strengths have been evident in the teams successful season so far.

Before this season, Compoton had already been recruited by Providence College, for softball, a Division I school in Rhode, Island. "My greatest accomplishment has been committing to Providence College as a junior," Compton said.

By Alli Kaufman Sports Editor

Only a few weeks into the girls' varsity lacrosse season, and the team has already matched their previous record of 4 wins in a season; a record that was set in 2013 and matched during the 2014 season. For the first time in ten years the Neshaminy Girls' Varsity Lacrosse team defeated a conference opponent, winning a great game over Central Bucks East with a score of 17-14 on April 14.

This sudden boost in the lacrosse program can be attributed to many factors yet the most obvious is freshman Bridget Carrezola. Carrezola, a starter for varsity carried the team, scored six of the 17 goals in Neshaminy's game against CB East and has scored over 40 goals so far this season. "So far I think we've done really well, we had a really big win Tuesday it was our first league win since 2005 and if we can get another one that would awesome," Bridget said.

LACROSSE-- Bridget Carezola is being recuited by some of the most

ing recuited by some of the most prestigious schools like Rutgers and James Madison.

Photo/Liam Krimmel

Carrezola is not unknown to the lacrosse world having been named a 2014 Brine National All-Star last year; representing the Pennsylvania team at a conference for the best middle school lacrosse players from around the country. Bridget got her start in the sport earlier, following her older sister's footsteps to play for Lower Bucks' Lacrosse, though she now plays for South Jersey Select in addition to Neshaminy's team.

With an impressive middle school career, Bridget's lacrosse successes certainly didn't end when she got to high school as she currently leads Bucks County in the most goals scored for the season. She was also chosen as a Philly Showcase All-Star in Nov. 2014. As only a freshman, Bridget is being recruited by several colleges for lacrosse, including (but not limited to) Penn State, James Madison, and Rutgers. "My greatest accomplishment I would say was being recruited as a freshman and just getting the exposure that I need to get to where I want to go because that's my ultimate goal, to end up playing in college," Bridget said.

Only halfway into her first season at Neshaminy and Bridget Carrezola has already proved to be an important asset to the lacrosse team. Needless to say, great things can be expected from Carrezola in the seasons to come.

Junior represents Neshaminy at gymnastics state finals

By Makensie Mason Circulation Editor

Circulation Editor

For much of the population, gymnastics is a sport watched every four years with the olympics, one that is

interesting, but wanes and waxes from the public's attention. For junior, Nina Macelko, it is much more. To Nina, gymnastics is the sport that has taught her dedication and perseverance since age five.

"I always jumped around the house and tried flips on my own, so my mom said I had to either join dance or gymnastics. So I chose gymnastics," she said.

More recently, Macelko was ranked number 11 in Pennsylvania as well as second on the floor and fifth on the beam, her favorite event. In order to move onto regionals, a gymnast must score above a 34. Macelko reached this score and surpassed it, scoring a 35.45 and qualifying her for the regional competition at Ursinus College.

The regional competition is where

gymnasts from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Virginia, West virginia, Maryland and Delaware compete for a prestigious spot at the national competition in Florida.

Macelko has been on the competitive gymnastics team at Somerton

Gymnastics for nine years and is coached by the owner, Donna Guenther. In between her bust school day and other extracurricular activites, Nina must find the time to train.

She trains about five days or 20 hours a week.

"I have a total of 20 trophies and 143 metals from competing," Macelko said. These prizes are results from gymnastics competitions she has competed in throughout the country, including Wisconsin, California, Illinois, and Arizona.

Macelko's exuberance for the sport is perfectly reflected: "I love talking about gymnastics," she said.

Nina's love for the sport is evident in the hard work and time that she has put in. Her successes don't end here as there is much to come in her career.



NINA MACELKO-- Junior Nina Macelko, a state and regional gymnastics competitor, soars during her bar routine.

Photo/Nina Macelkco



Softball team poised for play-off run

By Jackson Haines *Managing Editor*

In 2013, the Neshaminy softball team made it to the state finals, only to lose in a 12-inning nail biter to Canon-MacMillan. They would have to settle for silver.

Two years later, several members of that team are still playing for the high school. They have had a hunger for gold ever since.

"Our goal is getting to the state championship and winning... we

got there my sophomore year but we weren't able to come out with a win," said senior Sarah Snider Leonhauser, who plays first base for the team.

Not only are those upperclassmen hungry, they're good—really good.

A look at the post-graduate plans of the players reveals just how talented the squad is. Sam Offenback has signed a letter of intent to Long Island University; Nikki Wild has signed her own letter with plans to play for the University of Rhode Island. Their junior teammate, Mackenzie Compton, verbally committed to Providence College before the season even began. Snider-Leonhauser, another big piece in Neshaminy's dangerous lineup, will be playing softball at Ursinus College.

Though their offensive talent looked to be strong, they had to fill holes in their pitching staff. Along came two freshmen, Sarah Dowalo and Amber Ruggaro, and junior Cailyn Seely. The team was complete, and set for go.

Win after win, the girls began their season by defeating opponents handily, scoring over 10 runs in several games.

Not even Pennsbury, perennially Neshaminy's strongest opponent, could stop the offensive onslaught Neshaminy produced, and the Falcons fell 11-3.

Yet three weeks and nine wins into the season, Neshaminy faced its first test as the girls fell to Council Rock South by a score of 2-1 on April 21. It was of course disappointing, but there were lessons to be learned from the loss, and positives to take away.

"It was a well played game, and even though we hit the ball we had a few breaks that just did not go our way. Despite the loss, the team still has high hopes and it's better to lose early in the season, rather than in the playoffs when it matters most," said Edward Miller, the Junior Varsity coach to the team and a social studies teacher at Neshaminy.

Despite the loss, the team seems poised for success. But even

with that said, the girls have no easy path to that success. The Suburban One League National Conference, in which Neshaminy competes, is all around of high quality. The team's remaining SOL schedule includes a rematch against Council Rock South. "In this league, you need to take it one game at a time and never look past your next opponent," Miller said.

Out-of-conference play will be tough as well, as Neshaminy must take on Notre Dame High School, the last standing undefeated team in the area, in May.

Miller remains confident about the season's second half. "Of course this team

has a shot at a state title. With several juniors and seniors already committed to college programs, they hope to bring Neshaminy its first state championship in softball since 2001," Miller said.

Equally important is the chemistry and trust between the players.

"Everyone on the team has stepped up as a leader this year," said Snider-Leonhauser, "Everyone's



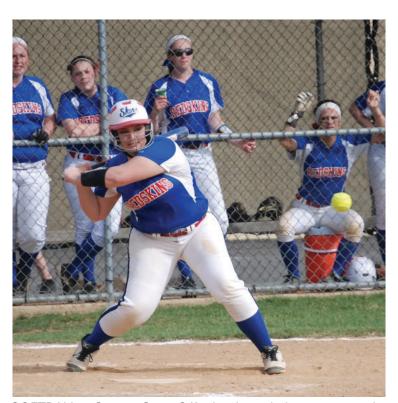
HUNTER HART-- Sophomore Hunter Hart watches the action patiently as she takes a lead off the base, waiting for the next play.

Photo/ Ryan Miller

doing their job and taking the leadership roles they need to take."

Her teammate Mackenzie Compton shared a similar belief: "we work together as a team really well."

It is this belief in themselves that has kept them undefeated thus far, and it is this belief, the team hopes, that will drive them to that state title



SOFTBALL-- Senior Sam Offenback tied the score at the Pennsbury-Neshaminy softball game with an RBI, contributing to Neshaminy's 11-3 win over the Falcons.

Photo/Ryan Miller

Sportorial: Athlete-coach relationship hurt under new policy

By Natalie Pietrowski and Rachita Singh

Sports Editor and Office Manager

In a technology based age, the quickest way to reach someone is to send an email or text. For many coaches, the easiest way to inform an athlete of a change in time or location of a practice is to send a group message to the entire team at once. However, in a new policy known as 811.1 Neshaminy School District has limited the ways student-athletes are allowed to interact with their coach.

"School District employees and officials may not communicate with School District students on Social Media or their private email accounts or texting accounts without notifying the Principal of any such communication," states section F of Policy 811.1

The policy was approved in June 2014 and was implemented for the first time during this academic year. Already, it is causing a lot of inconvenience.

"The policy has been necessitated by state archiving and right-to-know laws. Communication to and from public employees needs to be archived. Therefore, private individual electronic communication is problematic. District email is an appropriate option," said principal, Rob McGee.

It is very clear that this policy has a purpose; a) to protect students from predator-ail coaches and b) to protect coaches from unjust accusations. Although policy 811.1 was written with best interests, it has become increasingly limiting to both coaches and athletes. "I used to text my coach to ask about games and when they were," said sophomore Crystal Teoh. "Now I can't do that."

"The intent is obviously to protect our children, which all teachers and coaches would agree is worthwhile and important. However, this particular ruling is not only inconvenient, it really is unnecessary. If the purpose of communication between teachers/coaches and students/athletes is

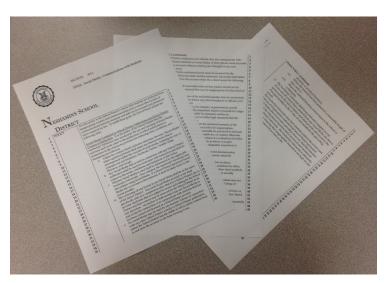
either educational or athletic in nature, then there is no reason to restrict it," said a Coach in the high school, who wished to remain anonymous.

In the School District's blanketing attempt to solve the mentioned problems in communication, more issues have been created than where already in existence. Now, due to this policy, free information has been limited

leaving athletes in the dark, when it comes to changes in practice time or venue.

"So often, as a coach, we need to make last minute decisions and changes to the schedule. In order to communicate quickly and effectively, this communication has to occur. I'm sure the District's argument is to send email through the school, and yes that would work, but we all know there are faster and more quickly accessible ways of sending information," said the anonymous coach.

Currently, teachers and coaches use applications such as Remind 101 or Edmodo which are public and parent-accessible to communicate with students. These methods of communication, however, are very slow and inefficient.



POLICY 811.1-- The school district social media policy, approved and implemented in June, 2014 has restricted staff and teacher communications with students.

Photo/Alli Kaufman

permit to allow such communication called "Parent Link" and "Teacher Contact," but the use of this system has been slow as it requires a strenuous process of collecting the email addresses and phone numbers of all students. The district hopes to introduce the system in September.

The district has purchased a system to

"As a stop-gap, NHS contibues to permit staff and coaches to use apps like Remind 101. In addition, staff and coaches may continue to text students as long as the texts are group texts in which I am included. The new texting system will facilitate that process. Presently, the group text with me included is also working very well," said McGee.

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CALLS IN THE END 0 F SEASON

"BREAKING BAD" SPINOFF GIVES

NEW OBSESSION

By Maddy Rodak Staff Writer

The season finale of 'Better Call Saul' premiered on Monday, Apr. 6 and set the stage for a plethora of possibilities in season two.

'Better Call Saul' crushes the very idea of a spin-off. It is strong enough to stand alone. AMC reported that 'Better Call Saul' was cable's highest-rated series premiere to date with 6.9 million viewers. By the season finale, it was tallied that the entire first season averaged a rating of 5.9 million viewers.

In the first season of 'Better Call Saul' we find Jimmy McGill—the actual name of Saul Goodman—a simple lawyer in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Living in the small closet of a nail salon, Jimmy struggles to get by in the lawyer business. Desperate for money, Jimmy teams up with a pair of young con artists, only to later suffer the consequences. Even in the first episode, it doesn't take long for Jimmy's life to spiral out of control.

The episodes give us a look into the early life of Jimmy McGill. Viewers get to watch his adjustment from 'Slippin' Jimmy', a successful con artist in Chicago, to struggling lawyer. Jimmy's brother, Chuck McGill, is introduced, and over time it becomes clear how much influence he has over Jimmy's life choices and his presence in the later days of 'Breaking Bad'. When Chuck tells Jimmy "You're not a real lawyer," it changes him forever. Throughout the season we get a look into the life of Mike Ehrmantraut, another character from the show 'Breaking Bad'. Before becoming a hit-man, fans get to see Mike working at a parking ticket booth, harmlessly chastising Jimmy. This perspective into Mike's earlier days is interesting, considering how versatile a criminal he is in 'Breaking Bad'. Viewers also get a glance into as to why he moved from Philadelphia to Albuquerque, and his involvement in a murder case of two cops. The episodes are intricately written, designed to not give too much away, but to leave the audience waiting at the edge

of their seats for more. Using signature camera work and intense scenes, the plot is built up heavily for the fantastic season finale.

Gabby Rodak, a junior at Neshaminy High School and avid 'Breaking Bad' fan expresses her feelings about the show. "Better Call Saul' is one of my top shows now. Saul was one of my favorite characters in 'Breaking Bad', so getting to look into his past is a really interesting experience. We finally get to see why he is the way he is in 'Breaking Bad'.

Though 'Better Call Saul' is not as dark a show as 'Breaking Bad', it is just as original. The storyline is unlike anything else, with its cast of dynamic, intriguing characters and unconventional plot twists. Nothing can be predicted.

of the season than throughout the middle, where more criminal. background information is

laid down and character development is made. "Breaking Bad's" Tuco makes an appearance, but unfortunately does not stir world-wide acknowledgment. as much trouble. As the season progresses.

The series will return in 2016 for its 'Better Call Saul' is not 'Breaking Bad', though fans might expect it to be similar.

MAN IN THE MIRROR -- Lawyer Saul Goodman, There is more tension and (a.k.a. Jimmy McGill) preps to work his magic action in the first few episodes on the jury for another seemingly doomed Photo/amc.com

> It is a completely different creature, soft in its climb to insanity, but more than worthy of the 'Breaking Bad' praise and

second season.

FRESH OFF THE BOAT

By Catherine Hilliard Staff Writer

A new family comedy series has recently hit ABC on Feb. 4, 2015. Receiving 7.93 million views and rated the second highest comedy premiere of the season, "Fresh off the Boat" takes place in the '90s, in Orlando, Florida.

The show is based off of former lawyerturned- celebrity chef, restaurateur, and author of the memoir "Fresh off the Boat," Eddie Huang's real life childhood experiences. Huang, 32, narrates himself as an adult in the comedy.

Freshman Charles Marone has watched the show since it premiered. "I don't think there has been a show quite like Fresh off the Boat," he stated, "This show is unique in expressing the challenges, memories, and humor of growing up. I like how the show includes the hardships of trying to pursue the American dream, and the success that comes with persistence and hard work. It shows that if you work hard, you will profit in the long Twelve year old Eddie

run." Huang played by actor Hudson Yang, his parents Louis Huang (Randall Park), Jessica Huang (Constance Wu), and brothers Emery (Forest Wheeler) and Even (Ian Chen) have just moved from the streets of Chinatown in Washington D.C., to a neighborhood in

Orlando to pursue

Louis's wishes of

living the American dream

by opening his own Western

The oldest child in the family, hip-hop loving Eddie Huang often feels distant from the family, due to his unique style

themed restaurant, Cattleman's Ranch.

and interests. He was not thrilled about the move from Washington D.C. to his new home in the suburbs, and continues to make numerous attempts to fit in with the rest of the students at school throughout the series. Inspired by his favorite rappers, Eddie is usually calm, and always finds creative ways to change the situation for the better.

Unlike his brother Eddie, Emery instantly fits into his new school, and even gets a girlfriend on the first day. He has an outgoing personality and optimistic attitude, which makes him easily loved by all.

The youngest of the three brothers, Evan is extremely obedient and a stickler for rules. A mama's boy, Evan is often sent by his mother to get the details of neighborhood meetings.

> Despite the hefty number of viewers and continuous amount of good reviews, Huang has tweeted that he has been disappointed with the show. "For the record, I don't watch 'Fresh off the Boat' АВС," he posted on Twitter. "I'm happy people of color are able to s e e a

reflection of them selves through 'Fresh off the Boat' ... but I don't recognize it." Huang also said the show misrepresents his life, and glosses over specific events that made his childhood memorable.

Tune into ABC on Tuesday nights at 8:00 P.M. to watch new episodes of "Fresh off the Boat" every

FULL HOUSE BACK A FULLER

By Leanne Khov Staff Writer

Remember Jesse Katsopolis, Danny Tanner, Joey Gladstone, and DJ Tanner, our beloved characters from the '80s and '90s hit sitcom "Full House?" They will soon appear on television screens again.

In a recent interview on "Jimmy Kimmel Live!", it was confirmed by John Stamos (Uncle Jessie) that the series would be seen in 2016. For "Full House" fans, it's time to

excited. A spinoff of "Full House" will be on the way to Netflix.

According to the interview, the episodes, of which there will be 13, will start out as a reunion of the cast, but

and follow

a plotline of D.J. Tanner (Played her original actor Candace Cameron-Bure) who is now the mother of her own "fuller house" with three young boys.

Reports are saying that the spinoff will star Candace Cameron Bure as DJ Tanner and Andrea Barber as Kimmy Gibbler once again. Bob Saget, John Stamos, and Dave Coulier as Danny, Jesse, and Joey will also guest

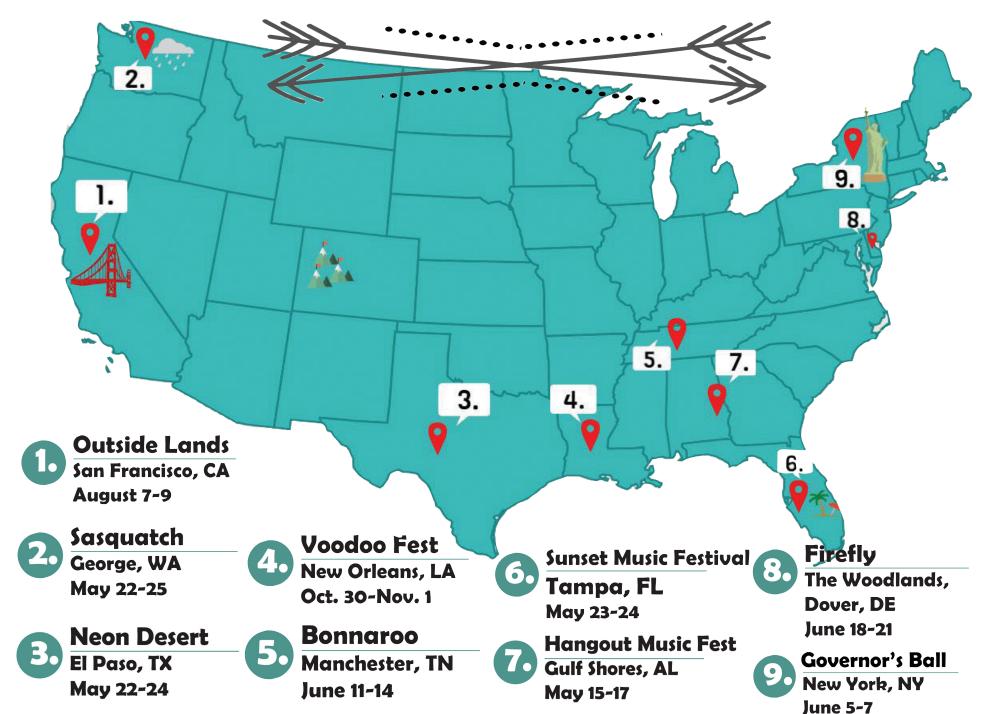
"Growing up watching one of my favorite childhood shows always made my day," senior Mel

> Ackerman said. "It was always fun and hilarious to see my favorite characters l i k e Michelle Tanner live their life. I hope Netflix

w i 1 1 definitely eventually FAMILY TIES -- Original cast of "Full House," which decide to branch out aired from 1987 to 1995. make a

Photo/abc.go.com spinoff."

Music Festivals



'Good Old War' bring tour to a close in Philadelphia

By Tom Collins Staff Writer

When Good Old War's Tim Arnold announced he would no longer be a part of the successful acoustic folk trio from Langhorne last year, fans were heart-broken. In a band that relied heavily on three part harmonies sung by the distinctive voices of drummer Arnold, keyboardist Keith Goodwin, and guitarist Dan Schwartz, no one was quite sure how they would go on.

Goodwin and Schwartz proved they could fair just as well on their own with the release of a new song, "Tell Me What You Want," from their forthcoming album "Broken Into Better Shape," however fans were elated when it was announced that Arnold would be joining the group on their recent spring tour.

The tour wrapped up in Philadelphia on April 12 in the basement of the First Unitarian Church, which will be—at least for the time being—Arnold's last performance with Good Old War. Both openers Pete Hill and You Won't did an excellent job warming up the sold out crowd, but they still saved all their energy for when Good Old War took the stage.

After a young woman took the stage and asked the crowd if they were ready to see "the best band in the world," Arnold, Goodwin, and Schwartz humbly took the stage, laughing at the introduction.

After taking their spots on stage, they broke into one of their best known songs, "Coney Island," which prompted everyone in the crowd to sing along, which they continued to do for the rest of the night, for almost every song.





WALKING IN STRIDE -- Members of "Good Old War," Keith Goodwin and Dan Schwartz

Photo/blog.wsj.com

The band played songs from all three of their albums throughout the set, highlights including "Better Weather" and "Over and Over" from 2012's "Come Back as Rain" and "Weak Man" from their debut album "Only Way To Be Alone" which featured an excellent, extended, bluesy guitar solo from Dan Schwartz. They also played several new songs, with guests from the opening bands joining them onstage.

The set list more than pleased all fans at the show, save for one who had a bit too much to drink, who repeatedly shouted at the band from the back of the venue, demanding that they play "Sneaky Louise," a song from their 2010 self-titled album. "Come on, man," Keith Goodwin said, finally acknowledging the drunken fan, "We haven't played that song in like five years!"

After an encore that included fan favorites "Amazing Eyes" and "Loud Love," the band members hugged each other as a last farewell to Tim Arnold before walking off stage, directly into the crowd, stopping to chat and shake hands with any fans that were approaching them.

Even after losing an essentia l member, Good Old War proved with their new material they played live, as well as the singles they've released, that they will continue making incredible music, that will be highly enjoyable for new and old fans alike.