Volume 83 Issue 4

he Playwickian

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

February 13.2015

'The Drowsy Chaperone' intoxicates audience



SCHOOL MUSICAL- For the winter season, Neshaminy students, with director Jason Leigh, put on "The Drowsy Chaperone", which is a 1920s period piece. It is a musical comedy about prohibition, and features a play within a play plot line: a Man in a Chair begins to listen to a video recording and is transported into the show on it and begins to hear the characters' actions and conversations up front. Here Allison Wiatrowski (left) and Morgan Mc-Cormick (right) enact Janet Van De Graaf and The Drowsy Chaperone respectively. SEE STUDENT LIFE 3 Photo/ Emily Fithian

Elementary school receives education grant

By Grace Marion Graphics Editor

Albert Schweitzer Elementary School has been awarded the Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grant of \$2825 .The grant will be used by the school's Community Service Club to add raised vegetable beds to the school's courtyard, which will be used to maintain a vegetable garden this

Produce from the garden will be donated to the Penndel Food Pantry. "During the spring and summer, we receive food from 'Rolling Harvest'... Other than those prime months, we do not receive any produce," said Kristen Studer Penndel Food Pantry Coordinator.

Students of the school's Community

Service Club plan to maintain the garden over the summer by volunteering over the vacation with their families. The first plantings to be put towards donation could come as early as March, seeing as the school already has a greenhouse obtained through a previous Lowe's Toolbox for Education grant, which was awarded in

Albert Schweitzer Elementary school's Community Service Club was established in 2012 and has aided organizations such as The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, St. Mary's Hospital, and the Knights of Columbus. The advisors of the club include teachers Joellen Exner and Jen Hanley, along with guidance counselor Mary Ellen Pulak.

Exner, who filed the grant application,

over 2000 lbs of fresh produce to the pantry."Seventy-five families rely on

said that the club's goal is to donate this service to feed their children...fresh produce is a treasure and treat for these needy families," she said.



THE COMMUNITY SERVICE CLUB- Albert Schweitzer was awarded Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grant to increase produce output from the school's courtyard soon to be vegetable garden. Photo/Neshaminy School Distirct

News

Seniors commit to colleges



Photo/Diana Maher

On Feb. 4, a group of seniors who excel at both academics and athletics were recognized my Tom Magdelinskas at a Senior Signing Ceremony, in which the honorees signed a certificate, committing to their university of choice. Throughout the school year, college officials recruit the atheletes.

The various coaches were also present in order to accompany their star players in this milestone. "We would like to thank our coaches for their guidance, instruction and motivation over the years. Neshaminy is fortunate enough to attract good athletes and develop young adults," Magdelinskas said.

L-R Third Row: David Marrington (Track and Field)- Pennsylvania State, Kyle Skeels (Baseball)- Coastal Carolina, Matt Magdelinskas (Football)- West Chester University, Kenny Hermann (Soccer)- Bloomsburg University, Boniface Stevens (Football)-Indiana University of Pennsylvania; Second Row, D'Andre Pollard (Football)- Villanova, Cheyenne Oswald (Track and Field)- Bowling Green University, Joanne Mamie (Lacrosse) - Holy Family; First Row, Sam Offenback (Softball)- Long Island University, Katelyn McCoy (Soccer) Temple University, Nicole Wild (Softball)- Rhode Island, Francesca Donato (Soccer)- Saint Joseph's University.



-Two Neshaminy teachers have been nominated for the **third annual Bucks County Teacher of the Year award**. The contest is sponsored by Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22, which serves the district. The first round of voting is an online contest and Herbert Hoover Elementary School first-grade teacher Laura Krantz and Oliver Heckman Elementary School third-grade teacher Beth McGinty are both in the running. The winner will be announced in March.

-The 2013-2014 Playwickian editors and staff writers recieved the Columbia Scholastic Press Association's Gold Medal Certificate of Excellence for High School Journalism, reviewing both the print and website version of the paper in the hybrid critique. The CSPA judges stated, "Wonderful diversity in topics covered throughout each issue; outstanding coverage that is audience relevant. It is obvious how much hard work and time are devoted to the multiple elements of both the print and digital editions of The Playwickian. The CSPA has evaluated The Playwickian for the past 38 years, and the publication has received a Gold Medal for 26 of those years.

-A group of Neshaminy High School students attended an International College Fair for English Language Learners at Montgomery County Community College recently with NHS ESL



teacher Michael Brown. Over 30 colleges and universities attended the event. The students listened to guest speakers, and learned about college opportunities and the application process for English Language Learners.

Photos/Neshaminy School District

After 54 years, Americans can travel to Cuba

By Solomiya Syvyk News Editor

After 54 years of isolation, the United States and Cuba announced in December that they had intentions of restoring diplomatic relations. Ties between the countries were broken in 1961, one year after President Dwight D. Eisenhower placed the first embargo on the communist island nation.

The most recent talks began on Wednesday, Jan. 21 in Cuba's capital of Havana with the main focus being the reestablishment of embassies.

For five decades, each nation merely acknowledged one another's diplomatic outposts known as interest sections which serve the same purpose as embassies, but the working diplomats are rather limited in comparison.

Meanwhile, using his executive

authority, President Obama has relaxed U.S. restrictions on travel and business as Cuba agreed to liberate 53 political prisoners.

Despite the historic thaw, differences between the countries remain as obstacles on the negotiation table; primarily the matter of human rights in Cuba, with its practice of apprehending citizens who speak out against the government.

Agreeing to disagree for the time being, Randal C. Archibold from the New York Times wrote, "Later both sides discussed topics beyond diplomatic relations, including law enforcement, telecommunications, the coordination of responses to oil spills, and Ebola, but neither side offered details or said any accords had been reached."

The following Wed. Jan. 28, Cuba's president attended and spoke at the summit of the Community of Latin American

and Caribbean States in Costa Rica, where, according to Eyder Peralta from NPR, "President Raúl Castro said a rapprochement with its northern neighbor would not make sense without three conditions: 1. The lifting of the U.S. embargo on Cuba. 2. The return of the U.S. base at Guantánamo B a y 3

Compensation for "human and economic damage" the Cuban people have suffered."

Graphic: Tribune News Service

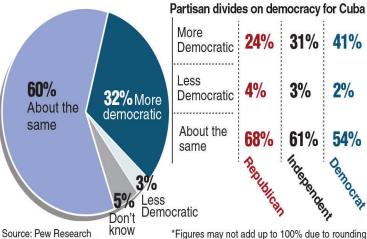
On Thursday, the White House said it does not anticipate to return Guantánamo Bay, a sliver of land in the southeast corner of the island which holds a strategic U.S. naval base and military prison.

That same day, a bipartisan group of senators introduced a Cuba Travel Bill which aims for a permanent clearing of all American travel restrictions to Cuba.

The current economic embargo may only be lifted with congressional approval; the probability of this occurrence is controversial with the unlikelihood stemming from the Republican-controlled

Will Cuba become more democratic?

Will the U.S. establishing diplomatic relations with Cuba make it more democratic?



*Figures may not add up to 100% due to rounding. "Don't Know" answers not shown for Partisan figures

Congress.

While the United States pushes to restore its embassy, Cuba is reluctant, with the demand that it first be removed from the U.S. list of state sponsors of terrorism. But, this process may take, at least, another 4 months and the aim is to restore diplomatic ties before April, when President Obama is scheduled to attend a regional summit in Panama to meet Cuban leader Raul Castro.

The second round of talks between the countries' diplomats is to take place in Washington in early March.



Formula for success:

Calculus teacher derives happiness from math

Teacher of the Issue

By Reed Hennessy Editor-in-Chief

Walking through downstairs F-hall there are many classrooms, all similar filled with students listening to teachers talk about derivatives, differentiation and linear functions. But in this otherwise monotonous there lies a diamond in the rough, a shining star in the black night sky, the one and only Michael Palkovics.

"It is a great feeling to have a positive impact on a young person's life," Neshaminy math teacher Palkovics said. Originally an industrial engineer for 11 years, Michael Palkovics has been teaching at Neshaminy High School for nine years. Earning his bachelor's degree from Penn State University in industrial engineering from and master's degree in mathematics education from Widener University, Palkovics is certainly qualified for his position.

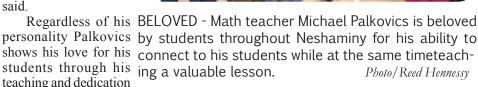
Not only is Palkovics qualified for his position, but he excels at it. "He's probably one of the best teachers I have ever had, he is my role model," senior and student of Palkovics Cole Housel said. Palkovics has also earned a reputation as one of the most astute and quick-witted teachers at Neshaminy. "He's just a quote machine," Housel said.

Outside of school Palkovics enjoys listening to sports radio, golfing and spending time with family and friends. Although originally from Bensalem, attending Council Rock High School before there was a Council Rock North and South, Palkovics moved to the Chicago suburban area at a young age.

Although to some, and they are few, Palkovics may not be the most amicable teacher at Neshaminy he is wellliked nonetheless. "I learn a lot in his class, but he has the driest sense of humor and personality I have ever seen, it's hard to know when he's serious," senior Emily Hamilton

teaching and dedication to his craft. Teaching algebra 2, AP calculus,

students through his ing a valuable lesson. Photo/Reed Hennessy



honors calculus and college prep calculus Palkovics's schedule is a full one. Teaching is his life's goal, he loves his students, co-workers and school so much that teaching takes up most of his time, but he wouldn't have it any other way.

Neshaminy travels to 1920s in 'The Drowsy Chaperone'

By Makenzie Mason and Gillian McGoldrick Circulation Editor and Editor-in-Chief

A fantasy of 1920s glamour and classic comedic banters rolled into the Theodore Kloos Auditorium Feb. 4-7. "The Drowsey Chaperone," a musical within a comedy, is a tribute to the playful American musicals of the Jazz age.

The show takes place in a shabby apartment belonging to the vaguely named "Man in Chair" character—a mousy Broadway trivia savant—portrayed by Forrest Filiano and Patrick Singer. He plays a record of the musical The Drowsy Chaperone and imagines that the show is taking place in his living room.

Senior Allie Wiatrowski and junior Rebecca Allen played Janet Van de Graaff, a gleaming Hollywood starlet who is getting married to Robert Martin, played by senior Chris Periguini and sophomore Chad Wiatrowski. Hilarity ensues, bringing out the most colorful characters: Aldolpho (seniors Joe Lisowski and Rob Clark), Kitty (sophomores Emma Saloky and Jessica Plunket), Underling (sophomores Billy Kraft and Trevor Tu).

The title character, the Drowsy Chaperone, has one job throughout the musical: keep Janet away from Robert on their wedding day. But she is "drowsy" and can't seem to give a lick of advice to Janet as she debates if Robert loves her and if she should give up the spotlight for a man she has just met. The Drowsy



MUSICAL - Seniors Allie Wiatrowski and Chris Periguini, portray 1920's glamor in "The Drowsy Chaperone." Photo/Emily Fithian

Chaperone was played by senior Morgan McCormick and junior Hannah Lieb.

"The Drowsy Chaperone was probably the funniest and most outrageous part I've yet to play. The purpose of the role is to try to upstage all of the main characters even though the she really has no importance in the plot. I loved being able to let loose on the stage," Lieb said.

Since October, the show has been cast and the leading roles have been working with director and music teacher, Jason Leigh. This was Leigh's first production at Neshaminy as a director and he had a personal connection to the show. "My

wife and I go to the theater a lot and we saw this show in 2006 and it for the two

of us, it was exciting," Leigh said.
"As a director, you have to be amused by the material yourself. You're gonna be living with it for months. So there was too many shows, you know like pick your favorite son or child. ["The Drowsy Chaperone"] was such an amusing show and I knew that it would be challenging for our kids and I knew it would keep me alert and challenged as well," Leigh said.

This musical came not alone from Leigh, but teachers throughout the C-hall area worked on this show to make it shimmer and shine, whilst also bringing it to the potential it reached when it opened. "I think the music department and the drama department. It's a real shared pride among everyone that we're able to do things like this at the high school," Leigh

The purpose of the show can be taken in many ways, but Man in Chair character Filiano found meaning in the show from the rawness of the script. "It's about theater, but it's a show that everyone can enjoy. The show has been so much fun, and Mr. Leigh has such a passion for the show and that's a really lovely thing because he's such a fan of the show himself and he really knew what he wanted," Filiano said.

Leading up to the show, inclement weather led students to miss crucial practices. "The last two weeks are the most critical weeks," Leigh said.

Students lost a dress rehearsal and a few after-school practices within these last two weeks, but the students pulled through and still delivered a great show. "The kids always surprise me with how resourceful they are," Leigh said.

"It's one of the most unique musicals I've ever seen," Filiano said. "There's no other show like it I mean like it's part homage to old musical theater, it's part parody. It's just a really loving show and the people who wrote it really thought everything out. This show has touched my heart in more ways than any other."

With many puns and quick one-line jokes, "The Drowsy Chaperone" was a musical for everyone.



The Playwickian

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rights of others; (e) material that will cause a material and substantial disruption of school activities; and (f) any other material that the school authorities reasonably believe should be prohibited.

Within the terms, conditions and limitations of Policy 600 and this policy statement, students are free 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 viewpoints of the School District, any official or employee of the School District, or any student other than the student or students

We are not Charlie, but we support them

The details are harrowing: two gunmen stormed the Paris agency of the satirical newspaper "Charlie Hebdo," and opened fire in a board meeting before killing a police officer outside of the complex. Why was this done? The attack being an act of terrorism, the magazine had published cartoons of the Islamic prophet

Muhammad. Such imagery is strictly forbidden by the faith, and considered offensive by most of its followers. In that light, the aftermath of the attack provides for a tricky situation. Many have adopted the French phrase "Je suis Charlie"—meaning
"I am Charlie"— a means of showing solidarity not only with the deceased cartoonists, but for free speech as a whole.

That is where the dilemma presents itself. The speech that the magazine published was inarguably offensive to an entire faith.

Under normal circumstances, most people— most Americans at leastwould be reluctant to say "Je suis Charlie". We're willing to bet that most people would distance themselves from the magazine and cast it off as a fringe publication if they had known about it before the attack. Now, under special circumstances, millions are not only supporting Charlie Hebdo, they are Charlie Hebdo. Because Charlie Hebdo did do something which by societal standards was morally wrong, it simply seems like a strange stance to take.

But in recognizing the inherent oddities in this stance, it appears that one is not showing support or solidarity with Charlie



FRENCH CITIZENS -- take to the streets to show thier support for Charlie Hebdo after the attack.

Photo/ Olivier Douliery/Abaca Press/TNS

Hebdo, which is not the case. It's not that we want to say "Je ne suis pas Charlie" ("I am not Charlie"), and refuse to show solidarity with the victims. Charlie Hebdo had the right of both French and Natural Law to do what they did. Offensive speech should not appear in mainstream media, and most media organizations have an ethical obligation to separate themselves from that type of content, which is why

offensive content is relegated to its own unique place on the spectrum of speech. If this speech were to be limited, the spectrum of free speech would shrink, and potentially do so even more. As Thomas Jefferson said, free speech cannot "be limited without being lost."

It seems wrong to say "Je suis Charlie"; it seems wrong to say "Je ne suis

> In that light, it's best to note there is a difference between having the right to say something and saying the right thing. Yet as the police officer who died outside of the office--a Muslim who by faith disagreed with the publication, but died as their defender-- reminds us, there is a beautiful quote on this subject. Often quoted, it was said by the English writer Evelyn Beatrice Hall: "I may not agree with what you are saying, but I would die for your right to say it."1

> We may not be Charlie Hebdo, we may not agree with Charlie Hebdo, but, for the preservation of a freer society, we stand with

Charlie Hebdo.

¹ This quote is frequently misattributed to the French writer and philosopher

The unsigned editorial represents the majority view of the Editorial

American Sniper promotes racism

By Maddy Buffardi and **Brynn MacDougall**

Op-Ed Editors

Released on Jan. 16, "American Sniper" is a movie about Navy SEAL Chris Kyle's time in Iraq, based off of his memoir of the same title. The controversy surrounding the movie stems from Kyle's attitude towards his actions in Iraq and his

The film follows Kyle's time in Iraq in which he served as a sniper. The main focus of the movie is a manhunt for an

enemy sniper Mufasta who has killed a completely fabricated. large amount of American soldiers.

In his memoir Kyle states that he had "fun" killing people and regrets he didn't kill more people (his total number of kills was 400).

The defense for such a narrow interpretation of Kyle's service is that there would not be enough time to develop such a intricate plot.

Additionally, the movie takes several liberties in its portrayal of the events in Iraq. The scene where Kyle kills the man his girlfriend is cheating on him with was

Mufasta -- a sniper fighting against the US -- plays a large role in the film but, in real life, Kyle only had one or two minor encounters with Mufasta. By making Mufsta the clear antagonist of the film thereby creating a very cut and dry, good and evil, depiction of war.

By exaggerating Mufasta's role, and making a very black and white conflict, Kyle is painted as a hero. But the truth of the matter is war is not so black and white.

Another artistic interpretation taken by the film was that there was a bounty placed on Kyle in particular. In reality the bounty was for the death of any sniper working for or with the American troops. Though Kyle was in fact the "best" sniper of his time, he was not as much of a celebrity as he is made out to be in the film. The war was not about Chris Kyle.

Presumably after seeing the film, John McCain's official twitter tweeted that Kyle was a "noble American warrior". This tweet was, for the most part, harmless but following the film's opening week the hashtag "#KillAllMuslims" began trending. Some Muslims have voiced concerns about attending theaters while American Sniper is playing, for fear of becoming a victim to a hate crime.

The problem with film is that it portrays Kyle as a hero. There is no room for interpretation. Considering that a majority of the viewers have not read his memoir it is easy to miss the arguably sick joy Kyle claims to have gotten from killing hundreds of men, women, and children whom he commonly refers to as "savages." Voicing any opinion that is less that loving toward this film will more than likely get you pegged as ungrateful and unpatriotic, but you can love your country while also feeling uncomfortable about the slaughter of human beings, "American Sniper" is propaganda which perpetuates islamophobia and glorifies war.

Closer look at U.S. wealth gap

By Monica Dinh Entertainment Editor

According to Oxfam, an international confederation of 17 organizations finding solutions to poverty around the world, the rich have made significant gains on the wealth spectrum - it turns out that the rich really are getting richer.

A recent Oxfam report noted that by next year, the richest one percent in the world will accumulate as much wealth as the other 99 percent of the world. In a report released on Jan. 19, Oxfam stated, "The richest one percent have seen their share of global wealth increase from 44 percent in 2009 to 48 percent in 2015." At such a rate, by next year the wealthiest will own more than 50 percent.

Questions arise pertaining as to whose fault caused the wealth gap, which leads to questions of who should pick up the pieces and fix it?

Oxfam's executive director said, "It's time our leaders took on the powerful vested interests that stand in the way of a fairer and more prosperous world." Recently, at the State of the Union

speech on Jan. 20, Obama boasted about the health of the economy declaring that America had indeed recovered after one of the country's worst recessions back

"Will we accept an economy where only a few of us do spectacularly well? Or will we commit ourselves to an economy that generates rising income and chances for everyone who makes the effort," Obama said.

While on the topic, Obama also shared plans to close tax loopholes on large inheritances and raise capital gains taxes on the richest percentage of earners. Taxing the rich may seem like an appealing idea to most Americans, but in reality evidence from the Congressional Research Service shows that tax cuts can hinder economic growth and increase economic inequality.

The spread of income inequality and wealth inequality are directly connected. The rich are able to actually save money while also living a stable financial life. In opposition, those in middle-class and lower class categories either make just enough money or not enough so they are always burdened by debt.

Adopting foreign culture as fashion is not trendy

By Maddy Buffardi Op-Ed Editor



what cultural appropriation is, and then what's wrong with it. The definition of appropriation is; the action of taking something for one's

own use, typically without the owner's

permission.

Rapper, Iggly Azalea has come under fire recently for her consistent appropriation of black culture. Azalea is from Australia, and naturally has an Australian accent, though when she's interviewed or performing she has adopted an extremely stereotypical

Hip-hop music is a part of black culture. Hip-hop is generally considered to have been pioneered in New York's

southern "black" accent.

South Bronx in 1973 by Jamaican-born Kool DJ Herc. While at a Halloween party, Herc used a brand new technique with a turntable to extend a song's drum break by playing the break portion of two identical records consecutively. This was then popularized and used more often.

Furthermore, rap music developed from hip-hop music. Rap started as rhymes spoken over hip-hop music beginning as a commentary on the ability, or skills,

of a particular DJ while that DJ was playing records. White rappers and hiphop artists should be aware of the origins of their genre. This is not to say that white people shouldn't take part in the genre but more so that they should not pick up an accent in order to be a part

of said genre.

Another starlet who's been stealing from cultures in an attempt to be trendy and relevant is Katy Perry. Perry, and her boyfriend, Horst Christian Simco – better known as Riff Raff, blatantly appropriated back culture in their music video (not to mention the song itself) for 'This is How We Do' remix. Both Perry and Riff Raff have their hair in cornrows, Perry with her baby hairs oiled down – a very recognizable way black women style their hair.

Black women's hairstyles are not meant to be cool or trendy. Hairstyles are an integral part of black culture. Cornrows originated in Africa and the Caribbean and were worn by both men and women. It's no secret that a black individual's hair and a white individual's hair are different. Black hairstyles -- like cornrows, dreadlocks, and oiling down baby hair -- commonly started as a functional way to manage their hair and not as of a fashion statement. When adopted as a statement by white people,

with blatant disregard for the origination of the style, it's offensive.

The cornrows were not Perry's first offense, in fact at the American Music Awards, in Nov. 2013, she performed her single "Unconditionally" as a geisha in a kimono and a powdered face. Celebrities have been appropriating cultures that are not their own for a very

long time. Madonna received criticism for sporting a bindi – a decorative mark worn in the middle of the forehead by Indian women – as a mere fashion statement. In 2013, at the MTV Movie Awards, Selena Gomez performed her single "Come and Get It" in Indian-themed garb, wearing a bindi on her forehead.

The list goes on and on, and it can't be ignored that cultural appropriation is alive and well at

Neshaminy High School. For a moment ignoring the racist nature of our mascot, and focusing more on the depictions of said mascot – firstly it's important to note that Native Americans in the area did not wear headdresses, but you cannot walk four feet in Neshaminy without seeing one.

Even worse is the attire students choose to wear at sporting events – headdresses, face paint, and some girls have even gone so far as to wear entire "Native American" costumes. We are participating in a cartoon-like depiction of a culture as if they are caricatures and not humans with a history.

This is not to say no one should ever take aspects from other cultures and use them if it is by way of appreciating them. But, in order to appreciate something, you must be educated on it. Some things to remember if you choose to adopt parts of a culture

that don't belong to you are, first, to cite your sources -- credit the culture you're appropriating.

Also, understand the culture you're appropriating, know the roots of the attire, understand the reasons behind the tendencies, and so on. Most importantly, understand that stereotypes are not trendy. It has to be apparent that cultures are not something to try on like costumes when you want to be edgy or different, it's insulting.

Photo illustrations/ rebloggy.com, MCTCampus,.com, pintrest.com

Suessegger: the right choice for school board

By Reed Hennessy Editor-In-Chief

Doug Suessegger, who is currently running for one of two open seats in the 2nd Region for Neshaminy's School Board of Directors, has worked and been involved in government and public policy for most of his professional career. Suessegger, born and raised in Hamilton, New Jersey, moved to Middletown Township in 2008 and is currently living in the Juniper Hill section of Levittown with his wife Jena Champion-Suessegger.

During his earliest days as a young college student, Suessegger's life has been marked with accomplishments. Graduating from Drew University, Suessegger received his Bachelor's degree in 2006 on a full scholarship from the Bill Gates Foundation earning him the accolade of "Bill Gates Millennium Scholar", which was presented at a private luncheon with Gates himself in New York

Suessegger would go on to work in the public sector, starting by working for his hometown Mayor and would eventually become his Chief of Staff. Suessegger has also worked for a Governor of New Jersey, a member of US Congress, members of the State Assembly, and various community leaders. Suessegger has also worked for many community based programs and organizations including but not limited to the Big Brother, Big

Sister of America program, the Hamilton Township Patriotic Committee, working with and participating in Boys State, the American Legion, Governor's School, Rotary Club, Key Club, and DeMolay.

Currently, working as an account manager at W.W. Grainger and a scholarship reader for the Gates Foundation Suessegger is certainly more than qualified to be a member of the Neshaminy School Board. His election along with the election of Paul Murdock (Region 2), Steve Buffardi (Region 1), and Karen Lowry (Region 1), could mark the beginning of a much more enlightened era in the history of the Neshaminy School District.

Suessegger's background will bring a new, fresh, and much more cooperative attitude to the school district which is clearly stated in his platform. "Make Neshaminy a place where teachers and support staff want to work again by breaking down the boundaries of incivility and fear and soliciting the input of those who know more than anyone how to educate our children - the teachers and support staff."

In addition and more specifically, Suessegger would also like to ensure that renovations and new construction are conducted in an environmentally conscious fashion, reverse the school boards rash decision to move the 5th

graders to the middle school, keep as many services as possible "in-house" and to halt the construction of a new elementary school at Tawanka and the closing of three, neighborhood elementary schools. Rather, Suessegger would erect a true "Citizen's Taskforce for Neshaminy," consisting of educators, administrators, students, and community members

who are not under the instruction of the District to independently evaluate the validity of the data presented to and by the school board regarding classroom utilization, transportation costs, building renovation costs and propose an exhaustive recommendation that will account for both the quantifiable and unquantifiable impacts of any kind of consolidation.

Ultimately Neshaminy's leadership needs to change and Suessegger has the experience and tenacity to bring about real change with tangible results. If elected, especially alongside Murdock, Buffardi and Lowry, transparency, reason and civility will come to the Neshaminy School Board.



CANDIDATES FOR SCHOOL BOARD -- Doug Suesseger, Paul Murdock, and Steven Buffardi discuss ambitions for district.

Photo/Maddy Buffardi

Valentine's Day Love, respect, kindness everywhere. I feel so cuddly on this day. Love times day – Keira

Music Sweet and strong Lovely and nice Music is a story of someone's life -Keira

Air is wind in the sky Air. A nice breeze that is warm and a breeze that is cold too It is our life -Keira

Stars Night go away Stars go away Sun shine up Brighter than the day -Keira

Summer Burning sun More hot than Summer leaves are Summer, shine bright -Keira Ground hog day is here Around the corner spring sprung With red, pink flowers

I'm sorry for not being there for you.

–Keira

the 'no dude' on your license plate helps me sleep at night.

Hoffman you European Robin you, will you be my Valentine?

 Liam Krimmel Nathan Hankinson,

as your lucious hair flows through the wind, it reminds me of a warm glass of milk. Made reservations for

P.F. Changs, see you there.

4th Period: You're my favorite. -Ms. Drake

Tim Cho is the love of my life.

Cora! I love you! Thanks for being my constant. Okay, big question: Cora, will

Features

Sammi Covell, you could never be ice cream because you're hot,...and a person.

Mr. Palkovics, we are not

Dance Team, You rock:)

-Mrs. Bauerle

Emily, I love Mabel more than you.

Dear Maxene, you're pretty cool.

Thank you for all that you do.

Dear Jasmine Seals, You make my heart race and you are Love, Mystery

Puja, although you've rejected me 19 times already, my desire to go to Prom with will never subside. In my last

attempt, and in witness to all who read the school newspaper I ask you: Will you go to Prom with me? - I im Aungst

My classes, You rock! -Mrs. Bauerle

-J.R.

Reed, I enjoyed smelling your cheese. -Anonymous

Dear Michelle Obama, I want my bagels back!

Shawna and Reed, you rock!! D.

I love you like Gregor loves his family, yet I have to hide my love, like Hamlet covers up his love for Ophelia, but I'll love you no matter what like Phlcherra loves Raskolnikov.

Dear Public Speaking, I love our weird family

Love, your cool aunt.

2nd period makes my heart sing.

I'm a wolf, a wolf. Saranghaeye. I'm a wolf and you're a beauty.

Dear Playwickian, do you guys ever get tired of winning awards and getting recognized on TV?

Dear Michelle Obama, you're very pretty, but stay away from my trans fats!

Huber, you're the best school mom ever. We appreciate you more than anything. Love, your Playwickian children

do you remember the time you wrote me a mean love line? I do. I do...

Fran, I miss you -Rich

6th period makes my feet dance

Nick Foster: get a haircut.

Thank you for letting work with such a caring group

Interact Club

members:

OJ, we've had a great year. -Scott

of kids.

-Drake

Taylor Harris Prom? Dearest Nature Boy, You meme the world to me. Love always, Dana

Connor, I'll never forget that night at Chris's.

Sam, I love you more;) Love Haley <3

Ms. Q, prom? -Scott

2nd Period: You're my favorite. -Ms. Drake

All the ladies in the office want to say a special thank you to the best custodians in the district! Thanks for all you do for us!

Prince Charming- but it's the stars forming perfect shapes and the clouds waving hello as the sun says goodnight and the man on the moon; he's dancing to our song as the owls sing along and we write our story to the sound of the music.

3rd period makes my soul shimmer

I would like to profess my love to Gina Tracy. She's the coolest person ever.

Emi, you're perfect. -Bob

I don't want to miss a thing Tiff -Scott

Chris, I would love to kiss you.

To my love Mr. Palkovics, your math skills remind me of mints, and baby giraffes.

Follow @Billybreak14 on instagram and snapchat. We love you Billy-boo! I would differentiate everyday if I knew I could take you out to a seafood dinner. -Your favorite pupil

Kyle DiFrank, I love the way you sweat when swooshing those 3-pointers.

Mrs. Marozsan is the best...ever. -SPWP

Reed Hennessy, you are one hunk of a man. <3 -Anonymous

4th period makes my eyes shine. -Mrs. C.

Scott, ever since formal I haven't closed my eyes, cause I'd miss you babe and I don't wanna miss a thing.

Scott Egan, are you a windowsill? Because you look really nice.

Yerds, the 2015 book is going to be the best one Neshaminy has ever seen! You are easily the best staff

Taylor Harris. JK. Dear Mr. Capecci, Pimble is funnier. Signed, Everyone

Is your name "swiffer"? Because you sweep me off my feet.

Looking for a date to take me to Chicken Pram. Will come fully breaded. You bring the marinara sauce.

7th period makes my day complete – Mrs. C.

Reading Olympics: Thanks for entertaining me! -Ms. Drake

Are you Jewish? Cause you ISRAELI HOT!

Dearest Kelsey W, you best be wearing flannel to prom. -Anonymous

Happy Valentine's Day!... Because love isn't complicated enough as it is.

our time in Wildwood was amazing. -The lifeguard

Lindsay, sorry, I forgot something...

1st Period: You're my favorite. -Ms. Drake My dearest Tim Cho,

No matter what time passes you'll always be a

Tara, we love you, thanks for everything.
-your senior Playwickians (your children)

5th Period: You're my favorite. -Ms. Drake

Harper Lee makes an epic comeback and I can't wait to read!

Dearest Wi-Fi, Please come back. I miss you.

Kelly Sauer, Julia's my real bae.

Mr. Palkovics, CJ should come to my house, our dogs can have a play date.

Amber Wrotto, Will you be the Juliet to my Romeo? -Love, Anonymous

Maddie and Emi, we're going out of business. With love, B&N

Lindsey,

I know one thing, that I love you (not yet). From Zach (Albarran) Dear Playwickian staff,

thanks for being a fun, amazing, eclectic cast of characters; you've made the past four years more them memorable.

I know you want a piece of this. –Davey Crocket

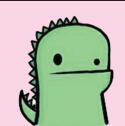
Let me apologize to begin with. Let me apologize for what I'm about to say. But trying to be genuine was harder than it seemed. And somehow I got caught up in between. Let me apologize to begin with. Let me apologize for what I'm about to say. But trying to be someone else was harder than it seemed. And somehow I got caught up in between. -Lincoln Park

7th Period: You're my favorite. -Ms. Drake

PJ's a bum, I'm the one for you.

Color Guard. You spin like no other! Happy Valentine's Day! Love, Jasmine <3

Playwickian Staff: You're awesome! -Ms. Drake



Open the door, get on the floor, everyone walk the dinosaur. -Japtain Cack, 2015

Mom, thanks for being great -6th Period AEAP

Daugust Daugust

Alex was here.

Mark Hullings, Prom? -Gillian

3rd period Biology is my favorite! 1st period stinks! Ha Ha! -Mrs. Royds

thanks for being home and the only cool part of this school. -Love, Maddy

Hey, all you love birds out there. Submit your creative writing to Howler.

<3 Bug

Steak, ribs, and chicken galore. These are all things that you adore. Pork, ham, beef and jerky, Make yo' heart go "what da ferky?!"

Meat juice oozes from your pores, My Olfactory nerve senses your musky

Nary an image of gumdrops dance in your When you go to sleep you see porkchops

instead. When times are tough

and you feel shaken, You grab yourself a plate bacon. If you lay yourself to bed, And your head is full of dread,

And wonder what tomorrow will bring, I hope to God it's chicken wings.

Awesome Really fun **A**mazing Happy

Smart

Kool Enthusiastic Lovely Little Your's truly: JS

Dr. Conrad: Yoooooooooo Sincerely, Teenagers

Disclaimer'

Love Lines are an opportunity for the Neshaminy community to express how the feel to someone or multiple someone's on Valentine's Day. As editors, we can edit and even remove any message that is indecent, offensive, insulting, etc. If this occurs, your money will not be refunded.

ASKING COUPLES What is the meaning of love?



Love is two friends that spend all their time together." -Brenna Doyle and Nick

Photo/Jess McClelland



"Love is remaining faithful through the years, sharing the best years of life together."-Eric Alteire and Maddie Murrary

Photo/Timothy Cho



"Love is caring and doing anything for one another." -Mason Jones and Taylor Benton

Photo/Jess McClelland

Bird enthusiast, teacher expresses love for nature

By Nicholas Hoffman Archivist and Copy Editor

James Maloney, Neshaminy alumni, birding extraordinaire, and world traveler starts his day as any other AP Environmental Science teacher would, to the soothing 'tea-kettle tea-kettle tea' call of the Carolina Wren. Enticing the bird to his finger with a pish, the man releases it once more outside, truly earning the title of Neshaminy's Snow White.

Entering his washroom, walls adorned by field guide images of the finest avian specimens, Maloney inspects his beard. Surely by spring it will be the size of a proper nest for a painted bunting, the bird connoisseur's favorite.

The man finishes his morning of things he loves by spraying his own personal cologne, "beak in a bottle," and eating the daily apple from his special tree - modified to grow all types of apples. Whilst eating he enjoys pictures of himself in Africa, his favorite of recent

Rolling into the birdmobile, Maloney puts on his playlist, starting out with



The AP Enviornmental teacher, James Maloney, searching for the love of his life through the shrubs of the Neshaminy.

a poultry classic, the chicken dance. Grooving to the beat, he enjoys the scenery outside - tree after tree with no leaves. Although he enjoys identifying trees, he loves the greater challenge during winter, when he can identify them only by their bark. Using leaves is cheating in his opinion.

Maloney reaches school and nurtures his plants lovingly, singing to them

as he waters them. His logic follows that talking to plants is good, so singing must be better. He dances around singing "All About That Bass," his favorite pop song, and tending to the different organisms; first he waters his plants, then feeds the fish, and finally feeds his pet bird he keeps under the sink. After this fun he drones through homeroom and first period before coming Photo/ Alli Kaufman to his true favorite class.

Second period APES: an experience unlike any other. Although filled with daunting questions of salmon and spacewater, Maloney values this class for its sheer enthusiasm. No other class of his loves both going outside in sub-freezing temperatures and graphing the diversity of trees for hours on end to the extent that second period does. Luckily on this

fateful Valentine's eve, he has a lab period, giving him double the stupid questions, but double the love.

Normally James would have other classes to teach, but today is an exception. As he has allowed Valentine's eve to be a day filled with fun, Maloney has challenged oes by filled with street-rule basketball, all in good fun. Maloney, however, takes this game more seriously than others, knowing Hennessy to be a notorious poacher of eggs. After the marathon of play, Maloney emerges the victor, at a colossal score of 8 to 6.

Returning home, the lovable Maloney enjoys the company of a great horned owl, dining on zebra steak while his avian friend enjoys a rabbit that James himself caught. Enjoying the company of the owl, Maloney watches a national geographic program, causing the owl to fly away when big cats came on.

Crawling into his den, James Maloney hibernates for another night only to restart it all in the morning.

Almost

A flat white index card lacks the words it needs to feel whole. Craving the touch of a pencil or pen, it falls into obscurity at the bottom of a book bag, crumpled and torn, and forgotten until it's finally thrown away at the end of another throwaway year.



Untitled

Stars burn brightest before they die.

by Brie Diodata

Submit your work to Mr. DiCicco in G209 or to Becca Choi at beccachoi15@gmail.com for an opportunity to be published on Creative Corner or in Neshaminy's award-winning literary magazine.

by Tom Collins

What Women Want

Sweaty palms pick up steel and rust powders baby pink hands. Callouses form slowly on the tops of her palms, and her auburn hair has split ends. She stopped wearing mascara and she replaced her stilettos with used steel toe boots—her black body contour with harsh denim. Chipped nail polish from the last mani-pedi she would ever receive hangs precariously off her pinky. Her apartment is littered with Dorito bags she ate for 3 weeks. She sits alone while her college friends are married off one by one.

"We're oppressed. We can do whatever men can do—no, we can do it even better."

"Equality is what we want."

Equality she received.

by Austin Phillip



Sports Schedules Today 2/13

Boys' winter track will head to Lehigh University for their meet at 6:30 p.m.

This weekend 2/14-2/15

Girls winter track will compete on Feb. 14 at 10:00 a.m. in Carnival at Lehigh.

Neshaminy Wrestling will compete in the Suburban One National Championship meet at home. The meet will begin at 9:00 a.m.

Neshaminy Cheerleading will comepete in the ACDA tournament in Lancaster on Feb.14

This month 2/16 and beyond

Winter track will compete in the Meet of Champions. The girls' meet is scheduled for Feb. 20 at 6:30 p.m. and the boys are scheduled for Feb. 21 at 10:00 a.m. Both teams will be traveling to Lehigh University.

Winter Track's state meet will take place on March 1 at Penn State University beginning at 10:00 a.m.

The Wrestling team will participate in the South East AAA Regionals competition on Feb 27.in Oxford at 6:00 a.m. The tournamnet continues on Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

Boys' baseball and girls' softball tryouts will begin on March 2. Baseball tryouts are for 10th, 11th and 12th grade boys and softball tryouts are open to all girls.

Girls' and Boys' lacrosse tryouts will begin March 2. Boys are expected to meet in Gym 3 at 2:45 p.m.

The Girls' Spring Track meeting will be held on Feb. 18 in room B103 at 2:30 p.m.

The boys' tennis season will start with tryouts on March 3. Boys need all forms (available on school website) in order to tryout.

Student athletes take unnecessary gym class

By Alli Kaufman amd Natalie Pietrowski Sports Editors

A typical student at Neshaminy High School slouches into homeroom at exactly 7:16 a.m. and dashes out of eighth period as soon as the bell rings at 2:14 p.m. The differences between these "typical" students and student-athletes begin (but certainly do not end) when the after-school hours strike.

Most athletes practice after school, Monday through Friday until 5 p.m. sometimes longer. These students are clearly working long and hard hours on the field (or court) getting plenty of physical exercise and taking time they could be using to study or get homework done to practice their sport.

Regardless of the time they are putting in after school, student athletes are still required to take a physical education class at Neshaminy, reinforcing the concepts of exercise and team work that they spend hours learning after school—and they shouldn't be. Student-athletes should be exempt from physical education classes. giving them an extra study hall to focus on school work.

Experts argue that physical education classes teach self-discipline and develop strong leadership skills as well as provide an outlet for releasing stress, but these athletes are already learning these skills. Additionally, gym class can sometimes be an additional cause of stress for student athletes. "I don't want to strain any other muscles in gym if I'm already sore from Cross-Country" junior Allyson Smoluk explained.

According to an article from GoldPost.com, athletes tend to have higher grade point averages than non-athletes, emphasizing that their academic success is very important to them. When it comes to student athletes, the cliché "they are a student first, athlete second" is often used. With a study hall instead of gym class athletes would be able to catch up on assignments they may have missed for games or homework they couldn't finish due to practices allowing them to fulfill the "student" requirement of student-athlete. "We need more time for homework and we already work out hard after school," girls' cross country captain Natalie Koch said.

Even prestigious universities recognize the role varsity athletics play in education. Massachusetts Institute of Technology requires all of its students to have eight points of physical education credit in order to graduate. However, varsity athletics counts towards these



GYM-- Neshaminy students warm up for their physical education class activity of dodgeball. Student athletes in the class practice the skills of team work that they have already learned and demostrated on thier sports team.

Photo/Reed Hennessy

credits, allowing student athletes to be exempt from physical education as they already meet the exercise and skill requirements of the physical education

Student athletes make sacrifices for their sports and unfortunately these sacrifices sometimes include missing assignments and losing time for studying. By excusing student athletes from phys. ed. classes, they are given an opportunity to stay on top of their classwork while still being able to represent their schools in athletics.

ESHAMINY ATHLETE OF THE ISSUE

Senior Housel leads basketball

team in skill, attitude important to Cole, as he has been playing for 13 years. He also plays in summer leagues such as NOBL, where he led his team to a championship this past fall. Housel excels and stands out when he's on the court and is currently playing in his fourth year of high school basketball.

Though Housel is not sure whether he will continue his basketball career on the collegiate level, he looks forward to the possibility. "If the opportunity presents itself, I will," he said. be a big part of his life and he'll continue to play with friends outside of school.

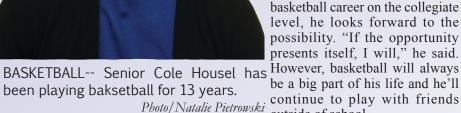
Housel plans to attend Villanova or West Chester after high school; but for now he's just focusing on finishing high school with good grades.

While the team has struggled this season, posting a 5-16 record thus far, Housel has kept a positive attitude. "We've had our troubles here and there; we are a good group of guys and we've had our fair share of triumphs as well," he

Eric Altiere, Housel's friend and teammate expressed his thoughts on Housel. "He's a really good teammate, a guy I can trust on and off the court. I've played with him for four years now and I really respect him as a player and as a person," Altiere said about Housel.

It is clear that Housel is respected and admired by many people for his athletic ability and positive attitude.

Cole Housel Senior #5 6'0" Average 5.7 points per game **67** points this season



By Kyle DiFrank and Solomiya Syvyk Staff Writer and News Editor

Senior Cole Housel, sneaker and fitness enthusiast, is the starting shooting guard for Neshaminy's varsity basketball team. While Housel enjoys playing for Neshaminy, he also likes to play some "Pick up hoops with my bros," he said.

Basketball has always been

Sports February 13, 2015

By Ashley Reiss Special Features Editor

Technology and fitness seem to be a similar craze being followed on social media, in the news, and in people's daily life, so when entrepreneurs decided to combine the two ideas into one wearable technology it was an undeniable

Fitness trackers are now being offered as conventional watches, jewelry, clips, and bands, but the Fitbit's seem to be on everyone's wrist and minds after the holiday season. So what exactly is a Fitbit? The Fitbit is a brand of fitness trackers with many different types fitting all types of active consumers.

The simplest Fitbit consists of the Fitbit Zip. The Fitbit zip tracks steps, distance and calories burned. You can clip the product onto your clothing and though it is the cheapest of the fitbit series, it will still leave you shelling out \$59.95.

The cool thing

about this product,

is its capable of

connecting to the

computer and

most smartphones

allowing the

consumer is able

to view stats and

accomplishments.

The next Fitbit

is called, Fitbit



One which is able Photo/HO to do all of the Tribune News Services same things as the

Fitbit Zip but also has the ability to track the user's sleep quality. This version also comes in handy by helping users regulate sleeping patterns. The product also comes equipped as an integrated alarm clock and comes in a clip form for running and costs \$199.95.

Fitbit Flex is the introduction of the popular wristband which is the same as the Fitbit One including all the same features, however the wristband design skyrockets the price to \$199.95.

Fitbit Charge is one of the newest Fit Bits which will take \$129.95 out of your pocket. However, the charge offers many features important to consumers shopping for fitness wristbands including all the items of the previous Fitbits but has a caller ID notification display that lasts longer than competing trackers with a battery life of seven to 10 days and has wireless syncing. It offers water resistance, a seven day memory, and an organic light emitting diode (OLED) display.

The Fitbit Charge Hr is a more high tech model. This fitness tracker runs at \$149.99 with new abilities to monitor heart rates. The Fitbit Surge was released early in 2015 offering GPS', Music, and notifications costing \$249.95.

Many other companies are making similar bands all offering one basic theme, to better your health. "I have a Nike Fuel band and I usually wear it, but I can't wear it during wrestling competitions," freshman Ryan Turner said. This brings up a big point; what's the point of a fitness band if athletes cannot wear it during school competitions. If athletes are allowed to use it during activities like track, a fitbit can be a good way to see how far they have ran.

Fitness craze continues with Fitbit trackers

Physical education and health teacher Mrs. Kenney also wears a similar version of the Fitbit called Vivo Fit, "It is very similar to the Fitbit with the ability to track how far you walk. You are also able to set goals but the Vivo Fit has a red line telling you when you haven't walked enough but I find it as a great motivator because whenever I see it, it always makes me want to even move more than I have,"

A major percent of the population is currently obese or overweight and many people are seeking help with their fitness. The Fitbit can be very useful in situations like these. The Fitbit is good for those who have the motivation to put in the work and want to better their fitness. "It definitely helps motivate my wife, and a few other people I know who own them," health and physical education teacher David Coll said. Fitbit may have a slight percent error, but they can help encourage general fitness and wellness and make the consumer of the product think twice of what they are ingesting and help make them choose better choices.

By no means is the Fitbit seen as something that will magically make the consumer lose weight, which is how many see this technology, but rather it's



FITBIT-- The Fitbit fitness watch tracks daily activities inculding distance walked and calories burned as well as sleep quality.

Photo/Evans Caglage Tribune News Service

something that can be seen as a tool in the advancement of better health. It allows you to see your results in data form and allows you to set personal goals for the consumer to help you advance in their health goals.

The one thing consumers of this product need is motivation. This comes with consumers actually wanting to, and willing to, put in the time and work needed for this product. Some may find that they can find motivation in the daily goals they surpass that they can set via the app or the sharing of their accomplishment with their friends and family members or even the rewards of badges they can recieve on the Fitbit website.

Bowling teams roll toward regionals

By Rachita Singh Office Manager



Rita's of Penndel Opening on February 27th!!





FINAL COUNTDOWN-- Senior Rebeccah Edelman prepares for the final meet of the regular season against Truman high school at Pike Lanes.

Photo/Gale Donahue

The bowling season came to an end with the girls' team played Truman high school. Though they had to settle for a runner-up spot in the Suburban One League standings, the team still played strong all season.

The team suffered only three losses to conference rivals Truman and one to Pennsbury high school before losing its final critical game to Truman. "They are our rivals this year," said head coach Gale Donohue before the meet.

To prepare for meets, the team practiced three times a week and met on Sundays before the season started to familiarize themselves with each other. "We need to be able to communicate very well together. They need to be able to take my advice; I need to take their advice. We need to work as a unit to help the young bowlers, to help everybody," Donahue said.

The team is ranking very well this season, and so are the girls individually Senior and co-captain, Rebeccah Edelman bowled an average of 185.61, and 672 in the top 10 series. She now ranks third overall in the entire national conference. At the last meet, she first bowled a 200, followed by a 179, and closed the series with a score of 204. This gave her a top series score of 583, one of the highest scores on the team.

Edeleman joined the bowling team her

freshman year. "My whole family does bowling. I started bowling when I was eight. I used to bowl at the junior league on Saturday mornings. Both my siblings were in the team when they were in high school. " Edelman said. She also hopes to continue bowling in college.

The team may even move on to states depending upon their result at the regionals.

'In my five years of coaching, this is the best team I've ever had. They're wonderful," Donahue said.

The boys' bowling team also finished strong this season, capturing the title of Suburban One Leauge Champions after a 3-1 win over Council Rock South. Senior Dave Moffit rolled a perfect game in the Suburban One Leauge (SOL) Championships; the first to do so in the National Conference



ROCKING OUT-- Title Fight performs onstage at Union Transfer in Philadelphia on Dec. 13, 2014

Photo/Tom Collins

Title Fight explores new musical sound on new album "Hyperview"

By Tom Collins Staff Writer

Over the years, nothing has caught music fans more off guard than when a band or artist suddenly changes their sound. From Bob Dylan going electric at the Newport Folk Festival in 1965 to Miley Cyrus transforming from the sweet, innocent, Hannah Montana into the crazed, controversial pop star singing about drugs and sex that we all know today, severe changes in an artist's sound are nothing new.

When such a change occurs, the artist/band usually begins to appeal to a new audience, while sometimes alienating some of the fans of their older work. This is what Title Fight, a punk band from Kingston, Pa. will most likely do with their new album, "Hyperview", which came out Feb. 3 on ANTI- Records. The band has changed directions drastically, shifting from their original melodic hardcore punk to a more mellow, indie rock inspired sound.

Title Fight formed in 2003 as a straight up punk band, but have always set themselves apart from their peers by blending in more melody and emotion with their songs. Their first two full length albums "Shed" and "Floral Green" contained songs with the regular, defining

characteristics of punk rock: the short, energetic, fast songs, with heavy guitar riffs, shouted vocals from bassist/vocalist Ned Russin and pounding drums.

In addition to the punk songs, however, these albums also had several, slower, more melodic songs with cleaner vocals sung by guitarist Jamie Rhoden. These acted more as intros or transitions between the heavier songs, but still demonstrated that Title Fight could fare just as well making other types of music. On "Hyperview", the group have not only expanded on this style, but have also almost completely abandoned the original sound they are known for.

Throughout the entire album, a distorted guitar is barely ever heard, with the band opting for more ambient, clean, reverb drenched guitars, with various phasing and flanging effects. Ned Russin, who did most of the vocal work on their past albums, only lends his signature hoarse yells to one song, "Rose of Sharon", while Jamie Rhoden provides his more melodic singing for the rest of the album. This alone makes it hard to believe that one is listening to the same band.

On tracks like "Rose of Sharon" and "Chlorine", the band still retains the speed and energy of their previous work, but with indie rock style guitar riffs that sound more like something out

of a Modest Mouse song than a run-ofthe-mill punk song. "Mrahc" and "Trace Me Onto You" open with strummed chords reminiscent of late 80s/early 90s genre defining indie rock like Dinosaur Jr. or The Pixies, while the melancholy "Murder Your Memory" and "Rose of Sharon" sound more stylistically similar to the original Title Fight sound, yet are still very different. The emotional "Your Pain is Now" is sure to scare away fans of the band who are afraid to branch out from the loud, power-chord driven punk they've grown to expect from Title Fight.

Whether or not this change from punk titans to indie rock kings will be permanent for Title Fight remains to be seen, but it does prove that Title Fight have much more to offer than the average three chord punk band. "Hyperview" showcases the band's wide array of influences, and displays their talent as musicians and songwriters.

True fans are sure to at least appreciate the band's desire to grow as musicians, while casual, close-minded fans are sure to hate it. Music fans not usually interested in punk rock may be drawn in by the more accessible indie rock sound of the record. Fan of the band or not, "Hyperview" truly offers a little bit of something for everyone, from angry, jaded punks to elitist, hipster indie-heads and everything in between.

THE DUFF

New movie sheds light on high school

By Leanne Khov Staff Writer

Based off the bestseller YA book by Kody Keplinger, "The Duff" is a teen comedy movie that follows the story of 17-year-old senior Bianca Piper (Mae Whitman), and her life as an outsider in her stereotypical high school. Even worse, she must deal with the label, 'The Duff,' or Designated Ugly Fat Friend to her prettier, more popular friends, Casey and Jessica (Bianca A. Santos and Skyler Samuels)

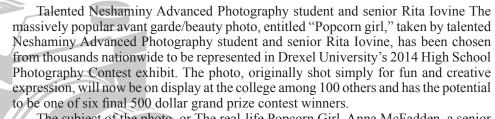
Despite the advice her favorite teacher, Mr. Arthur (Ken Jeong), gives her, she puts aside her crush, Toby (Nick Eversman), and enlists Wesley (Robbie Amell), a charming jock, into her life in order to improve her status at school. To prevent her senior year from turning into a complete disaster, Bianca must find a way to overthrow the school's ruthless label maker Madison (Bella Thorne) and remind everyone that no matter what people look or act like, every person is someone's 'Duff.'

"That's kind of why I wanted to do this," said Whitman to Variety magazine. "I wanted to shed some light on this vortex we've created, that no matter how you look or how you feel there's always something that you're not, and that's destructive."

The CBS film, "The Duff" will open in theaters Feb. 20, 2015.

'Popcorn girl' picture poses potential

By Nina Caruso Staff Writer



The subject of the photo, or The real-life Popcorn Girl, Anna McFadden, a senior at Nazareth Academy, said, "...it's insane to think that something my friend (Rita) and I do in our spare time is now getting recognition and praise. I'm so excited that she's making her way in the world doing something she loves and I'm honored to be a part

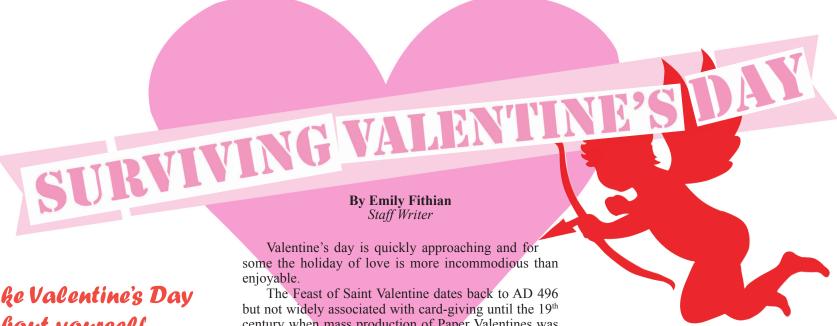
McFadden trusts Iovine's artistic ability and, while questioning why she would be covered in popcorn at first, is ecstatic with the photo shoot's results. She is a close friend of Iovine's and a popular subject in her photography.

Iovine has made groundbreaking progress with her photography business, having already scheduled several future photo shoots and plans to enter in at least two other major photography contests.



POPPING UP-- Drexel University recognizes Iovine's photo, titled "Popcorn Girl," with Anna McFadden as the center of attention





1. Make Valentine's Day about yourself

Without any commitments, the day is available to spend however. Go be productive and catch up on homework, clean the house, or go to the gym - do something that will bring satisfaction. If satisfaction comes from watching two seasons of a show on Netflix in one day, then make that the goal. Valentine's Day is about

century when mass production of Paper Valentines was brought to The United States from England. By the 20th century gifts were extended to chocolate, flowers, and jewelry, making businesses reliant on Valentine's Day

Love birds may be all around this Feb. 14, but if you find yourself without a Valentine there's not reason to feel despondent. Here are four ways to survive Valentine's Day solo in 2015

2. Don't spend the day alone

Find other single friends and appreciate singleness together. Hangout, order take out, or even attempt to make a homemade meal. Play a game together or watch a movie. Who needs a Valentine when friends are around anyway.

3. Spending the day giving to others

Use your free time to give to others that could really use it. Give to others by cleaning out closets and donating gently used clothes to those who are in need. Give local nursing homes, hospitals, or homeless shelters a call and ask how to help others by donating time. Another option is using the money saved from tip 1 and donate to local organizations that could use the money. Check out these helpful websites for ideas: volunteermach.com, dosomething.com,

4. Think about money saved

Not having to spend any money on craft supplies or gifts this Valentine's Day may just make your wallet a little fatter. After Feb. 14 stores try to quickly sell any left over heart-shaped chocolate boxes or other Valentine's Day themed products by placing them on the clearance shelf. Buy that delicious candy at largely reduced prices just by waiting an extra day. If making money is more of an interest than spending, use the holiday as an opportunity to babysit a little cousin or neighbor.

The 87th Academy Awards draws near

By Maddy Rodak Staff Writer

Movie season is among us. The Academy Awards, the most prestigious award show of the year, commences at the turn of 8 p.m. on Feb. 22 in Hollywood, California.

'How I Met Your Mother' favorite Neil



STAR OF THE NIGHT-- Neil Partrick, the host of the 2015 Academy Awards, performing at the 82nd Academy Awards.

Patrick Harris will host the award show, and will surely bring good-natured humor to stage like last year's host Ellen DeGeneres. This will be Harris' first time hosting the lofty ceremony. "We are thrilled to have Neil host the Oscars," said ceremony producers Craig Zadan and Neil Meron. "We have known him his entire adult life, and we have watched him explode as a great performer in feature films, television and

According to the Huffington Post, Harris blatantly admitted to New York radio show Z100 that he was quite terrified to host the biggest event in Hollywood. "I've been in the hosting world for a little while and the Oscars has been that show that I was terrified to take on, but had never been asked to do," Harris said.
There are eight 'Best Motion Picture of

the Year' nominees in total: 'Boyhood', 'The Imitation Game', 'The Theory of Everything', The Grand Budapest Hotel', 'Whiplash', 'Selma', and 'American Sniper'. Both movies 'Birdman' and 'Budapest' lead the way with 9 nominations each, though the others are all strong contenders as well.

Star-studded performances will liven up the night-long show. International recording star Rita Ora will perform Oscar-nominated song

Grateful' from the film 'Beyond the Lights', and Adam Levine, the Grammy-winning lead singer of band Maroon 5 will perform 'Lost Stars', an 'Original Song' nominee from the film 'Begin Again'. Critically-acclaimed artists John Legend and Common will perform 'Glory' from Oscar-nominated film 'Selma', the fifth hip-hop act

to be nominated for 'Best Original Song'. Tim McGraw will sing "I'm Not Gonna Miss You" in dedication to country music icon Glen Čampbell.

Oscar host Harris will be performing as well, which shouldn't be a shocker, considering he's won many awards for his work in the musical scene. Harris will perform a musical sequence called 'Moving Pictures', an original song written by Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez, the singer-songwriter duo who wrote 'Let it Go' from the Oscar-winning movie 'Frozen'.

Though the length of the ceremony may range from anywhere between two to four hours. the show will definitely have many surprises. Who knows what Harris has up his sleeve?

