

Ahr Stars shine bright at spaghetti dinner

BY: SIMON LLAGUNO

On the 6th of October, students and faculty worked together to host the 20th annual Ahr Star Spaghetti Dinner. Since its inception 29 years ago, the Ahr Star program has devoted its time and effort to help change the lives of children in need. Each year, the community selects two children with chronic illnesses. Throughout the year, the student body raises funds to support these families.

The school community chose two special children for this year's Spaghetti Dinner. Finley O'Neill, is a 10-month old boy with the eighth documented case of FATCO Syndrome. This rare disability consists of fibular aplasia, or an absence of the fibula. Finley is the son of Phil and Mary Ellen, a 1996 alumna, and the grandson of Mrs. Diane Ewing, a former English teacher at BGA. The other Ahr Star is Brianna Feeney, a bright seven-year-old with Pallister-Killian syndrome, a disorder caused

by a chromosome abnormality. She lives with two older siblings, Joseph and Bridget, and her mother Patricia, a 1991 alumna.

After everyone enjoyed their meals, Principal Sister Donna Marie Trukowski introduced the Ahr Stars. Co-chairpersons Jude Roche and Kelsey Kacsmar presented autographed soccer balls to each of the children. The families also received a football signed by the varsity team, a basket of cookies, balloons, and an autographed photo of the children themselves. Finley and Brianna accepted their gifts with big smiles. The children's parents were emotional when they expressed their heartfelt gratitude for all who supported their cause. "Everyone was so giving and compassionate," said Brianna's mom, Patricia, "I have chills even thinking about how wonderful the students, staff and parents were."

Ahr Star families from previous years also attended the event. Last year's Ahr Stars, Tyler Eimont and Frankie Gagliano, were there with



SR. DONNA, SR. CYNDI, BISHOP CHECCHIO AND AHR STAR CHAIRS KELSEY KACSMAR AND JUDE ROCHE WELCOME AHR STARS FINLEY O'NEILL AND BRIANNA FEENEY AND THEIR FAMILIES TO THE DINNER

(ALL IMAGES COURTESY OF BGA PUBLICATIONS)

their families to support Finley and Brianna. Bishop James F. Checchio was also in attendance, along with Ellen Ayoub, the Superintendent of the Diocese of Metuchen. The dinner was only one of many examples of how Bishop Ahr exemplifies the virtue of service. "It's beautiful to show that the community is here for the families not only financially but emotionally and spiritually as well," Mrs. Williamson stated.

This event has attracted many participants throughout the years. This year, 164 students and 64 faculty members worked together to make the dinner a success. The program not only gives the students an op-

portunity to give back to their community, but it is also rewarding for the volunteers. "I love seeing the Ahr Star families open their gifts," said junior Joo Eun Lim, "It makes me realize how blessed I am."

Overall, the Ahr Star Spaghetti Dinner turned out to be a great success. The program raised over \$11,000 for the families. More importantly, the community came together to support Finley and Brianna. As the event illustrated, the Ahr Star program truly encompasses what the student body is all about - caring about the community and coming together as one to support a cause.



LEFT: AHR STAR CHAIR KELSEY KACSMAR SPENDS TIME WITH LIAM O'NEILL



RIGHT: SENIOR STEPHANIE COREA SERVED SPAGHETTI AND SMILES TO GUESTS AT THE AHR STAR DINNER

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Every quarter the Satoma Newsmagazine holds a creative writing and art contest for students who wish to have their work published. The works displayed are the winners of the contest for the 1st quarter. Submissions were given numbers and voted on by the Satoma staff. Only after the winners were chosen were their names revealed to the staff in order to eliminate any bias.

Self Governed Flames

BY: SYDNEY CORIO

“Don’t think inside the box; don’t think outside the box. Don’t even consider the box as being part of the picture, because, and to be completely frank with you, there was never a box. Not when the world was created or when time began. People—man created the box to keep thoughts controlled. Rational. On their terms; by their definition.

“But, see, ideas we have are meant to be set free. A box of any material couldn’t dream of holding them. Our minds aren’t meant to be closed off; our thoughts aren’t meant to be controlled by a default setting of synthetic walls. They’re like...like flames, self governed flames that contain every creative fiber in our bones. Self governed flames that need so desperately to be released. To be ignited.

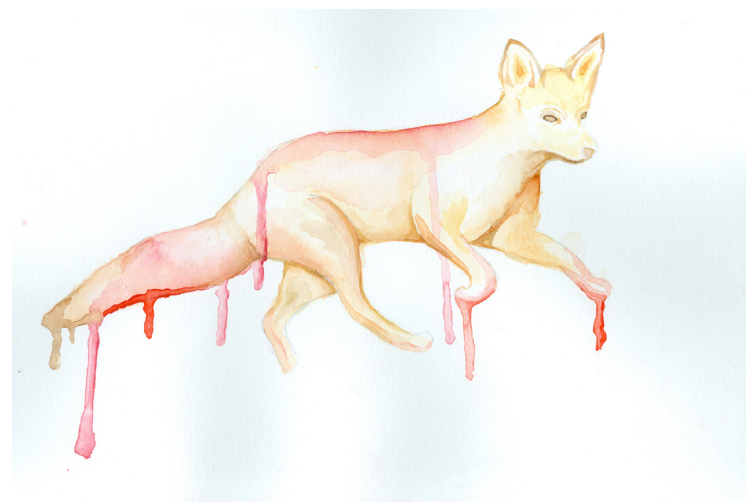
“Although, and when fire gets to close too to objects not belonging to the elements of its own composure, it becomes contagious. Light a match and set your mind ablaze. Where is the fault in this? Let people imagine, let them dream!

“I can promise you the best things in life lie beyond the box—entirely void of the box! The road to change, to the best we can be—it’s all cut out of sight by the box.

“Throw the box away. Allow your head to run wild through the lands you’ve only seen in the midst of the night. Strike the match, set the town of shadows amongst the simmering light and burn that box down!”



FIRE DRAGON BY: JUNIOR SWAPNA MANNAM



AUTUMN FOX BY: SENIOR KYLE PRINTON

Thank you to all who submitted and we encourage you to keep writing and submit new work for the next issue!

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Associate Principal: Harry Ziegler
Vice Principal: Brian Brogno
Campus Minister: Sr. Cynthia Marie Babyak
Technology Coordinator: Michael Kowalczyk

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
ALEXIS SWANSON

PHOTO EDITOR
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KRISTEL DOMINGO

EDITORIAL EDITOR
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JUDE ROCHE

ADVISER: AMY KATE BYRNE

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Phone: (732)-549-1108 ext. 655

Email: abyryne@bgahs.org

Web: www.bgahs.org/satoma.jsp

What should the president be focused on during the first term of office?

Evaluating Education and Equality

In order to be able to prioritize and follow through on principles that need to be dealt with in the country, the president must be determined, dedicated, and involved with the people he or she leads.

America today needs this type of leader to address its most prominent issues such as social justice, unemployment, the financial situation of the country, and the idea of education and who should be capable of accessing it.

On terms of social justice, the president should stretch and protect immigrants' rights further and do everything to keep families together. They should strive for federal equality of all members of every community and promote their rights globally. Every individual's right to vote as well as equal treatment for citizens in Puerto Rico should also be

fought for.

The unemployment rate should be discussed and handled to create a variety of new job openings such as investments in America's infrastructure and advances to our research and technology, and hopefully gain the United States a reputation as the cleanest energy superpower of the world.

Alongside this, private tax systems for the wealthiest citizens and those that reward companies for shifting jobs overseas should be eliminated completely. Therefore, the president should ensure that American multimillionaires and billionaires are not paying lower tax rates than middle class families.

Education should be available to every child in America—beginning with preschool—once they reach the age of four; this educa-

tion should then flow into their later years and carry on to at least highschool.

Investments in the Early Head Start–Child Care Partnership program should also be increased, so that no family in America has to pay more than 10 percent of its income to afford it. In addition to this, access to high-quality child care on college campuses should be increased by serving an additional 250,000 children.



JUSTICE MUST BE UPHELD
(ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES)

Addressing the financial crisis

Another election, a brand new president in office. Countless hours spent by candidates on the campaign trail trying to sway potential voters towards their side. The American citizens have decided who will be the president of the United States for the next 4 years. But what should the first step be for our new commander in chief? Where should their focus go?

It's been awhile since the last time America was debt free, 1835 to be exact. Since then our national debt has skyrocketed to the staggering amount it is today (about \$19.3 trillion at the end of the year). By no means can we become debt free in the matter of a presidential term but future presidents should focus on dwindling down that number. The faster that number goes down, the

faster our economy begins to recover. That means the cost of living would decrease as would the risk of the debt situation spiraling out of control. Wages would increase and we could be able to reduce the burden for future generations. Why wouldn't the president's main focus be to reduce the national debt and bring about a brighter America?

Almost every citizen in America also seems to be worried about another hot topic: Financial Aid. It's something everyone wants yet we have not been able to achieve it. The President has to discuss this topic of need, because everyone needs it, but at what cost?

Not only should the President of the United States focus on issues here in America, but they should also be concerned about global

conflicts. One step towards resolving global issues is by helping out developing countries and their economies. By establishing free trade for those countries, their economies will grow out of poverty, allowing them to focus on education and health benefits. If we want to keep America safer, why not help those countries in distress to forge better relations?

The president cannot ignore the main issues afflicting the country.



THE DEBT MUST BE
CLEARED

Students honored for service



AWARD RECIPIENTS WITH BISHOP CHECCHIO.
PHOTO COURTESY OF BGA PUBLICATIONS

BY: PAMELA PICERNO

The St. Timothy award is an award given to high school juniors and seniors who have leadership roles and serve in their parish/school, set a positive example for their peers, and show Gospel values through spirituality and service to others.

On November 22, Bishop Checchio gave the St. Timothy Award to teens throughout the Metuchen Diocese. Five of these were Bishop Ahr students: Krystyna Ebert, Andrew Michael, Robert Ammiano, Katie Schilp and Jude Roche. Bishop Ahr nominated Ebert and Michael, while the remaining three students were

nominated by their home parishes.

In addition, Michael also received the St. Teresa of Calcutta award along with five other students from the diocese. The award is given to high school seniors who are witnesses to their faith because of their Catholic morals and integrity and leaders in their parish or community.

Schilp summed up the Mass best when she said, “I felt honored to be part of such a large group of young people who do service to their churches, schools, and communities. We all do service because we want to and we enjoy giving back, not because we have to.”

Helping homeless with open arms

BY: LAUREL PRIME

On September 30, 11 Bishop Ahr High School seniors accompanied by the newly-appointed Director of Catholic Identity, Father Keith Cervine, and Deacon Rich Lutomski volunteered at TASK (Trenton Area Soup Kitchen), inundated by a profound desire to engage in a charitable endeavor that would transcend themselves.

At the pre-soup kitchen prayer and gathering, Sister Cynthia

Babyak extorted the student and adult volunteers to go to TASK to bring the face of God to the people they encounter there. They did just that – impacting the lives of over 300 people. Darlene Slavick said of her time at the soup kitchen, “I never thought a ‘thank you’ could mean so much. It was a great experience, both in reaching out and bonding.” “These people don’t have much, but what they had was so much kindness in their hearts. That’s most important,” added Kaitlin Fermalino.

A drive to warm hearts

BY: ALEXIS SWANSON &
JUSTIN BRAINE

Every student here knows how important service is to everyone in the community. The first of many service drives in the 2016-2017 school year was hosted by CSAC. The coat and blanket drive took place the morning of September 21 to the evening of September 24. Students and their families were able to donate any non-damaged coats and blankets. All donations

were brought to room 106 A. In this room, whoever brought coats or blankets were able to record what was brought, how many items there were, and whether the donations were old or newly bought. The coats and blankets were then brought to the van outside the school which takes them to local shelters. The coat and blanket drive was just one way for students to participate in service, as well as helping out the community’s less fortunate.

Flooding to give blood

BY: JILLIAN RAMIREZ

On Saturday, October 29th, members of NHS put together another successful fall blood drive in the main gym. From students to parents, type A+ to O-, all came out on Saturday morning to donate to a good cause. The donors gave one unit of blood each, which will all be given to local hospitals.

A huge milestone was reached when they hit their 4000th donor after over 2 decades of blood drives. NHS member Brigid Moynihan took time out of her hectic schedule to answer some questions for the Satoma staff.

Q: What was it like organizing this event?

A: Organizing a blood drive is a fairly involved task that has to be planned a fair amount in advance. The board of the fall blood drive has met once a week since the beginning of October to plan it. We had to let students know that there was a blood drive in the first place and then try to get either the student themselves or his or her parents to sign up. Most of the work, however, was done by Mr. John Roche, who worked tirelessly to make the event possible.

Q: What does it take to make a blood drive successful?

A: Obviously, in order to have a successful blood drive, donors are needed. We had plenty of donors come out Saturday, from students and teachers, to even people who aren’t connected to BGA. Also, a great organizer like Mr. Roche and skilled personnel like that of the NY Blood Bank are very necessary.

Q: Why would you recommend donating?

A: Giving blood is so important because it really and truly does save lives in a very tangible and concrete way. I donate because my mom has a blood disorder, and if others hadn’t come out to donate, she probably wouldn’t be alive. It’s such an easy way to make a huge difference.

And if you missed donating this past week, there will be 2 more blood drives throughout the school year! This means there are 2 more opportunities to make a huge difference! The next blood drive will take place on Friday, December 5 from 8:00am until 2:00pm in the Catanazaro Gym. Students may sign up for time slots earlier that week.

Ahr big, big open house

BY: KRISTEL DOMINGO

On October 16, 2016, students, faculty, and staff welcomed prospective students and their families to the fall open house. The families took the opportunity to tour around the school and ask questions. They first went into the Little Theatre, where Sister Donna and Sister Cyndi welcomed them, telling them a little bit about the college preparatory high school and giving them a brief introduction of what was to come.

Current students then toured the families around the building, showing them many facilities from the technology-filled library to the Catanazaro gym, where the cheerleaders and gymnasts were showcasing their skills. Teachers greeted the families warmly as they trickled into the classrooms, where they gave an overview of the curriculum.

In addition to education, the

school’s extracurricular activities were also showcased during the tour. In the cafeteria, booths stood representing all the sports offered. Coaches and players alike shared information about tryouts, practices, and more. Refreshments were also served there.

Joseph Cullinan spoke about the music department’s band and choir, encouraging everyone from all musical backgrounds to join as the choir shared a few songs. Lea Gossett talked about the drama department and its three productions a year, mentioning the upcoming fall play, *The Addams Family*. Some of the drama department members played an improvisational game called “Freeze,” in which their skit to entertain the audience. Students also shared about the various clubs offered like Christian Social Action Club, Ahr Star, and PINK Club.

STAR WARS SAGA STRIKES AGAIN

BY: JORDAN GOINS

A year ago, around this time, excitement was beginning to build for the release of Star Wars: The Force Awakens. Yet again, excitement is currently building, as myriads of Star Wars fans await the release of another film. Last year, on March 12th, 2015 a huge announcement was made. It was announced that the first Star Wars stand-alone movie would be entitled Rogue One. The highly anticipated film is to be directed by Gareth Edwards, the mastermind behind 2014's Godzilla. Also on board is Oscar nominee Chris Weitz, who is responsible for the writing of the 2015 remake of Cinderella. A few months after these announcements were made; the film began production in London.

Lucasfilm has tried to keep the plot details of Rogue One locked down. However, as we draw nearer to the release date, more informa-

tion regarding the plot has been leaked. The official synopsis of the movie keeps the idea of the plot pretty vague. But, it is known that the film will follow the story of a group of unlikely heroes, who band together in order to steal the plans to the Death Star. This mission will bring everyday people, who shoot for the stars together. As this group bands together, they will begin to realize that they are a part of something greater than themselves.

Star Wars fans already know a great deal about this "unlikely group of heroes." The casting for the film was announced at a Star Wars celebration in Europe. Felicity Jones heads the cast as Jyn Erso, the daughter of Galen and Lyra Erso, who puts behind her rocky past and gives herself to a greater cause. Diego Luna will appear in the film as Cassian Andor, a rebellion intelligence officer who helps construct the team. Rounding out the cast are

Donnie Yen, Jiang Wen, Alan Tudyk, and Mads Mikkelsen, as Chirrut Imwe, Baze Malbus, K-2SO, and Galen Erso, respectively.

Recently, the final trailer for the film was released and it has fans going crazy. Even celebrities such as

Forest Whitaker and Ellen DeGeneres expressed their excitement for the film. With *The Force Awakens* dominating the box office last year, it is highly speculated that *Rogue One* will be a box office hit.



FIGHTERJETS SOARING THROUGH THE SKY.
ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES

THE WORLD BEFORE POTTER

BY: MARY PUCCI

Potterheads rejoice! J.K. Rowling has announced a five film series for her book *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*. For everyone confused as to how they could have possibly missed a Harry Potter book, you didn't, technically. J.K. Rowling released *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* in 2001 for Comic Relief. The book is a textbook in the Harry Potter uni-

verse. The textbook is "written" by Newt Scamander in 1927. While the book is a textbook, the movie chronicles his life as a magizoologist and the magical species he found in his travels. It narrows in on his New York travels and conflict between the muggle and magical community, or "No-Maj" and "Maj" communities as this takes place in the United States. You can catch the first movie starting November 18th.



ABOVE: NEWT SCAMANDER AND CREDESCENCE CROSS THE STREET ON THE LOOK OUT FOR SOME OF THE CREATURES WHO HAVE ESCAPED AND ARE ROAMING THE CITY.

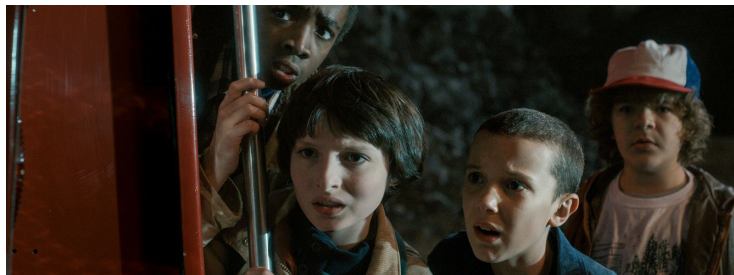
RIGHT: CHARACTERS IN *STRANGER THINGS* SEARCH FOR CLUES ABOUT THE MISSING BOY.

STRANGER THINGS

BY: ELIZABETH SHORT

As most of the world already knows, one of the summer's hottest shows was the Netflix breakout show *Stranger Things*. Making third in Netflix's most watched list in the thirty five days since its premiere on July 15, *Stranger Things* beats out many of Netflix's most popular shows. The show has averaged in at about 14.07 million viewers and has already developed rabid fan bases in and outside the US. Set in the early 1980s, the show drips with nostalgia. The story follows the events after the small town of Hawkins, Indiana is rocked by the disappearance of local boy, Will Byers. His mother Joyce, played by 80s movie veteran Winona Ryder, is desperate in her search to find her son. Will's brother, Jonathan, teams up with two other teens, Nancy and Steve, to fight a mysterious creature

they believe is responsible for Will's disappearance. Will's friends, Mike, Lucas, and Dustin, who give off a playful energy reminiscent of groups like the Goonies or the boys from *Stand By Me*, take up a search of their own. In their travels, their path coincides with that of a young girl with a shaved head they find wandering in the woods. They take the girl, curiously named Eleven, under their wing. They quickly discover that she has telekinetic powers and attempt to use them to find their missing friend. What happens next is a gripping, exciting story that leaves audiences hungry for more. Winona Ryder gives an emotional, heartfelt performance, while the young actors bring hilarity and warmth to the entire show. All eight episodes are available on Netflix, and thankfully, more are on the way.



New year, new faculty

Spirituality in action



BY: JUDE ROCHE

Father Keith is one of the many new faculty members of the Bishop Ahr Community. He is part of the Campus Ministry Team and works with Sister Cyndi, Sister Donna, and Deacon Rich. Everyone had the pleasure to meet him during their orientation when he said Mass

for each of the classes. Father Keith celebrated his first school wide Mass on November 1, for All Saints' Day. Father Keith was asked about what he likes about the school so far, and he responded, "This is a great school, and anyone, who walks in the doors, can tell that we are a family." His favorite experience at the school so far was the Ahr Star Spaghetti Dinner about which he commented, "Seeing so many young adults supporting these two children, and their families, is truly moving." Father Keith also celebrates daily Mass in the chapel, and he is always happy to see a new face in there. Although he has only been part of the community for a few months, he feels welcomed and is excited to meet all of the students.

Culture in the classroom



BY: MAIA LIM

This year, the school acquired a new Chinese teacher. Her name is Ms. Sha Mei or as she would like everyone to call her, "Sha Laoshi". Laoshi means teacher in Mandarin. She teaches all Chinese courses here as well as classes at St. Helena's two times a week. She came to this high school and was able to have the patience for her students whilst managing a busy schedule.

Ms. Sha was born in Zibo, a city in the Chinese province Shangdong. She said, "China has changed a lot since I was little." This is very true as many structures have been developed over the years as new citizens and visitors come into the country. Sha Laoshi grew up with her parents and older sister, speaking Mandarin as a primary language.

Our Chinese teacher was accepted into Yantai University also in Shangdong Province. There she studied Business for her Bachelor's degree. She only did her under-

graduate at Yantai and then decided to travel to America for her Master's degree. Sha was accepted at Seton Hall University where she studied Chinese Language and Culture Teaching.

The feeling of being a teacher is a process of creation, a process of improving yourself constantly, and a process of communicating with young and energetic students to help them according to Sha Laoshi. She says that she does not feel like a foreigner here because this is a country of immigrants. "I came to America to pursue my Master's degree, to enrich the academic background, and to experience western culture. [The United States] is a very special country with a diverse and melting pot culture that I want to experience." She knew nothing about Bishop Ahr until our former Chinese teacher, Dr. Jing, introduced her when she was looking for a job. She feels like coming here was decided by destiny and even if you do not believe in fate, Ms. Sha feels very lucky to be teaching at Bishop Ahr.

Sha Laoshi decided to combine language learning with Asian culture which encourages students not just to memorize characters, but to study and appreciate Chinese art and tradition. "I love the Bishop Ahr atmosphere where the teachers are all open-minded which is very important. I am happy everyday at Bishop Ahr."



BY: ISAAC SCAFE

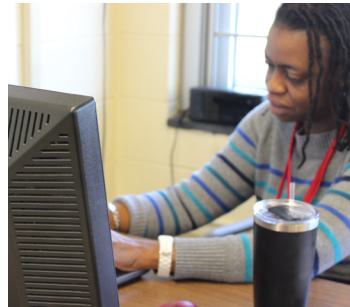
Mrs. Maria Carrion recently joined the faculty and staff. Traveling all over the school, Mrs. Carrion teaches Spanish to her students. But

in addition to teaching, Mrs. Carrion is also in charge of the Hispanic Honor Society.

In the short amount of time spent at our school, Mrs. Carrion formed relationships with her students. She recommends that they ask questions even if they're nervous.

Every language is difficult to learn, even Spanish, but Mrs. Carrion always ensures that her students are in the most comfortable learning environment. She hopes to replicate the same warm feeling she encountered when she was adjusting to her new surroundings with her students.

Inspiring students to try



BY: ISAAC SCAFE

Mrs. Agnes Johnson fills the vacant position of Honors and AP biology teacher. Hailing from Mississippi, Mrs. Johnson studied at Howard University for her undergrad and the University of California for her graduate. She taught an Intro to Engineering and Physics lab while in college.

Johnson enjoys a challenge, constantly reading murder mysteries and trying to solve complex puzzles. Similarly to her taste in books, *The Usual Suspects*, a mystery crime thriller, is Mrs. Johnson's favorite movie.

The task of coming to a new school, whether you're a student or a teacher, is always nerve racking. Mrs. Johnson has grown comfortable with her new surroundings. "It's a warm and inviting environment. Everyone has been very helpful and supportive," she said.

As a teacher, Mrs. Johnson is always ready to be helpful and supportive toward her students. "Always try," she advises. "Knowledge can be gained through failure but nothing is gained when you don't try."

Handing down a heritage



BY: PHILIP MEZZACAPPA

Señorita Elizabeth Ruiz Herrera is one of the new Spanish teachers. She teaches Spanish I Honors, Spanish II Honors, and Spanish II. Herrera graduated from Kean Uni-

versity with a Bachelors of Arts in Spanish with P-12 certification. Not only did she receive a Bachelors, she also has an Associates in Liberal Arts from Middlesex Country College. Herrera wanted to come and teach here because of all the great things she had read about Bishop Ahr. She was born and raised in Guanajuato, Mexico. When she is not working she enjoys dancing and painting. Whilst living in Mexico, Ruiz Herrera once won a Game Boy Advance from a Pepsi competition by collecting stickers. Lastly, her advice to students is to never give up your dreams, to always work hard and, to keep learning.

Heartwarming homecoming

BY: DUDLEY ENGRAM

On Friday, October 28, the students and alumni came out in full force to attend the annual Homecoming game. The night started off with the introduction of the Homecoming Court and of course, the King and Queen. The freshman prince Joey Dunn and princess Bethany Ciccarelli were announced first, followed by the sophomore prince Nicholas Rhodes and princess Alyssa Sierra. Then the junior class was represented by the prince Ryan O'Leary and the princess Alexa Romanella. Last but not least the senior court: Noah Caruso & Avery Reddick, Mike DeSantis & Julia Fedor, Kendall Monterrey &



MEMBERS OF THE HOMECOMING COURT GROUP TOGETHER BEFORE THE GAME

Kayla Simon, Andrew Brazicki & Erin Saggese. The homecoming King and Queen were Justin Martinez and Brianna Hincapie. Once the Court was announced, the teams took the field and the game against

the Asbury Park Blue Bishops was underway. The Trojans broke the scoreboard first with a touchdown by Brazicki. In the second quarter, Brazicki added onto the Trojan score with his second touchdown of

the game. The only touchdown put up by the opposing Blue Bishops came in the second quarter. At half-time, the marching band came onto the field to perform in front of the home crowd. They performed three songs focused around their theme, "Journey." The songs played were "Separate Ways (Worlds Apart)", "Don't Stop Believing", and "Any Way You Want It".

The next point was not scored until the fourth quarter by Brazicki. In addition to the outstanding offensive running game, Trojan defense made some great tackles throughout the game. Their efforts led to a win over Asbury Park, 20-7. Although the weather was chilly, the fans were warmed by the outpouring of school spirit.

SENIORS 'AHR' INCREDIBLE

BY: ALEXIS SWANSON

Being a senior is a stressful task with college applications and visits on top of school work and tests that are also mixed with extracurricular activities. Senior year is almost like a juggling act of mixed emotions and different activities. With so much going on at the beginning of senior year, the Senior Retreats give seniors a day to reflect on them-

selves and God and a day off from school. This year's senior retreat theme was "To Be Incredible".

The Senior Retreats, run by Mr. John Roche, were held at Saint James Church in Woodbridge. On separate days, each religion class experienced activities that brought them together as a group. The students all had fun and faced different obstacles, while also learning

more about their peers. Activities included a game that made them all work together to practice teamwork skills. The retreats mainly focus on how each individual is incredible no matter what anyone thinks, and how you can express that through yourself but also through a relationship with God

One senior, Bryce McCall, said the retreat "was an enlightening ex-

perience that opened my mind to the struggles of others and how we can all work together as a community to help solve each other's problems." Another senior, Naiomi Watson, stated "she felt incredible" after the retreat. In the end, the retreat helped reflect character and religion while also getting a break from the school day and stresses seniors may be faced with during this time.

We know who we 'Ahr'...



SENIORS LEAD THE CROWD IN CHEERING ON THE FRESHMEN.

BY: COLLEEN SHARLOW

On the morning of September 16, 2016, students willingly volunteered to participate in We Ahr Bishop Ahr Day, also known as WABA Day, to greet the freshman class with open arms. The freshman class of 2020

arrived at BGA, not knowing what to expect. Upperclassmen excitedly awaited in the gym for the freshman class to arrive, so they could greet them with energetic cheers. After a short prayer with everyone gathered in the gym, the festivities of the day began. The famous "Rain Game" was played, and the most anticipated "We Ahr Bishop Ahr" cheer was chanted, led by senior Ricky Peguero. Following these games, a courageous group of upperclassmen shared some of the most embarrassing moments they experienced during their time at BGA, which resulted in bellows of laughter throughout the gym. The freshmen were each assigned to an upperclassmen to spend the day and do different team building activities and icebreakers with. The highly competitive alphabet game was held in the gym, and history teacher Brit-

tany Klimczak's homeroom 9.2 took the crown and beat the rest of the freshman homerooms. Assisted by their upperclassmen, the freshmen ventured out on a scavenger hunt around the school, created by math department chair Linda Czajkowski. They were given clues to help show them how to get around the building and meet faculty members and people around BGA. Each clue brought them to a different room, each containing a different letter. Once every letter was claimed from the different rooms, it spelled out a welcoming message to the freshmen.

A skit performed by the Class Officers and Student Council was also on the agenda for the day, which followed the last 4 years of recently graduated Bishop Ahr students. It also showed the wide variety of diverse clubs and differ-

ent activities that BGA has to offer. Once the skit ended, music director Joseph Cullinan and the talented members of the band and choir led the singing of BGA's favorites, such as "Ahr House", "Trading My Sorrows," "Living on a Prayer," and the new hit "A Rightful Place". At first, the freshmen were hesitant to join in the singing and dancing, but once they did, the Little Theatre rumbled with BGA pride, and school spirit was alive and clear.

Once all the festivities were over, the day concluded with everyone gathered in the main gym, chanting yet another Bishop Ahr cheer. "WABA Day was just as fun as it was since I was a freshman. It definitely still has that same welcoming and fun experience that made me excited for my next four years at BGA." senior Jillian Ramirez remarked.

Did you know?: New AMERICANS WIN THE LOTTO EUROPE DISCO

BY: ISAAC SCAFE

Hurricane Matthew has not been pretty for most people, but for one victim their fortune may have just turned. James Lapeze, 72, won the October 1 Powerball lottery worth 1 million dollars (\$700,000 after taxes). This chance of luck couldn't have happened at a better time; Lapeze was affected by the Louisiana floods in August that damaged his home along with 40,000 other victims.

The Central native couldn't believe his luck. Lapeze had matched 5 of the 6 numbers required to win. He checked his numbers over and over again, even having his wife check them because he was shocked. Lapeze just couldn't believe that after playing the lottery almost every week, he finally won at the most crucial time. The money will be used immediately to pay off his house, and then he plans on finally retiring. Lapeze wasn't the only one to bring home winnings as Romero's Food

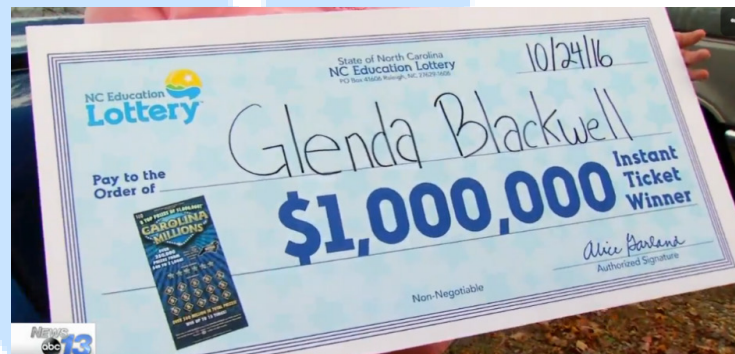
Mart, the store that sold the winning ticket, received a 1% cut of the prize, \$10,000. For an area that has constantly struggled with hurricanes, it's always a nice feeling to see luck in a victim's favor.

In other lottery news, a woman from North Carolina won \$1 million dollars ironically. Glenda Blackwell of Leicester bought a Carolina Millions ticket to prove to her husband

that they were not worth the money. Instead Blackwell walked home with a check in her hands. Blackwell is receiving less money than Lapeze did (\$415,503 after taxes). Nevertheless money will not be an issue for the first time in the Blackwell's life. Blackwell and her husband plan on purchasing their own home and pay for their grand daughter's college tuition.

BY: ELIZABETH SHORT

Two months ago, in a groundbreaking scientific discovery, a new horizon opened up in the discussion concerning extraterrestrial life. A small planet has been discovered orbiting Proxima Centauri, the star closest to our own solar system. The planet, currently named Proxima b, has been discovered orbiting a distance far enough from the star called the habitable zone. This zone is able to maintain liquid water on its surface. While Proxima b is located a distance much closer to its star in comparison to Earth and the Sun, Proxima Centauri is considered to be a Red Dwarf star, which is significantly smaller and cooler than ours. This allows the planet to remain close to the star while still holding space in the habitable zone. Proxima b greatly resembles Earth, with its mass only being 1.3 times greater than that of Earth, and its radius being only 0.94 times larger than



GLENDA BLACKWELL FROM NORTH CAROLINA WON THE LOTTO AFTER BUYING A CAROLINA MILLIONS TICKET.

MEXICO'S FIRST SUPERCAR AFRICAN DR



THE VUHL 05 IS LOOKING TO COMPETE WITH THE TOP BRANDS IN THE WORLD. (ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES)

BY: SIMON LLAGUNO

Mexico has created its very own supercar, the Vuhl 05. The Echevarria brothers, Guillermo and Iker, designed a two-seater engineered to perform both on the track and on the road.

This road-legal race car has features that makes it unique to other brands. The Vuhl uses a titanium bolt pack that reduces its weight by 4.5

kilograms, making it both stylish and lightweight. Powered by a 285-hp turbocharged Ford EcoBoost engine, the vehicle can accelerate from rest to 60 mph in just 3.5 seconds. Its carbon fiber exterior complements the aluminum framework to create an aerodynamic build. It even includes a built-in HD quality camera that allows racers to record their drives and track their lap times.

The Vuhl is considered an "inter-

national" car, as well. The carbon bodies are manufactured in Canada. The U.K. takes care of handling, while the U.S. tests the product. Ultimately, final production is conducted in the heart of Mexico, Mexico City.

This sensational innovation started from a small family business. The father, Guillermo Sr., was a racer for 40 years and designed his own car. Fascinated by their father's intuitiveness, the brothers were determined to create a business. They partnered with several renowned brands, such as Motormatic and Assiste, and eventually built a supercar that is now being compared to the Porsche GT3.

The brothers have been selling their product in Mexico, the Middle East, and the U.K. They have been selling at a price of £59,995 which is approximately \$93,500. They are looking to eventually advertise and possibly sell their product in the United States.

BY: JILLIAN RAMIREZ & COLLEEN SHARLOW

Instead of taking over the world, drones have helped to make it a better place. In Africa, a new company launched a drone network to deliver blood supplies and medicine to remote hospitals, which could save the lives of many ill people. If these deliveries were taken by land, it would take weeks to get there. However, with drones, it would only take a couple of hours.

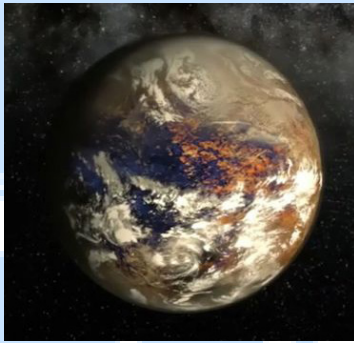
A partnership was announced between the U.S. company Zipline and the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization to focus aid groups on delivering the potentially life-saving cargo. The first testing of these drones took place in Rwanda, Africa. Their government was the first to sign a contract to start up the nationwide delivery service.

A fleet of 15 drones will soon be buzzing around the entire country. According to Keller Rinaudo,

Views around the world

OVERS EARTH-LIKE PLANET CHINA'S RIVER DOLPHIN

Earth's. Members from across the scientific community have weighed in on this breakthrough. Multiple models of this planet exist, all supplying vastly different theories on the planet's surface. The most recent theory suggests that Proxima b may in fact be covered completely in a liquid ocean. The "planet-covering ocean" would be approximately 200



SCIENTISTS HAVE DISCOVERED A PLANET SIMILAR TO EARTH. (ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES)

kilometers deep. Many have argued against this, stating that UV rays would make the ocean on the planet highly susceptible to evaporation, or that the material of the planet's surface could allow the top layer of the ocean to freeze over. This also suggests the planet would have a fifty-fifty water to rocky surface ration, and an extremely dense metal core that accounts for sixty-five percent of the planet's mass. Despite this, the planet-wide ocean theory remains the most widely accepted at the present time. Scientists have yet to discover the exact details of Proxima b's atmospheric composition, a key factor in determining its life supporting quality. The planet, which is approximately 4.22 light years away, so far appears to have a rocky surface. As this discovery is nearly sixteen years in the making, the response to this new planet has been immense. More and more scientific discoveries develop nearly daily, and hopefully the questions surrounding this little planet will soon be answered.

BY: SYDNEY CORIO

The walking dead is one thing, but the swimming dead seems to be taking China by storm.

Only twenty million years ago, the Baiji river dolphin migrated from its former habitat in the Pacific Ocean to the Yangtze River in China. Here, besides becoming known as the 'goddess of the river', the species was officially declared 'functionally extinct' in 2006 after researchers believed it to be incapable of reproducing. This expedition, consisting of two boats searching the entire river twice over a six week period, ultimately marked the dolphin's extinction as the first of a large mammal's in fifty years. Statistics backed this assumption quite well in stating that just half a century into the past, thousands of the dolphins populated the waters, while in more recent years—2006—experts from six countries had failed to find even one dolphin. However, and in a grand turn of events, at least one member of the species has been claimed to be

spotted.

This sighting, which was reported by researcher Song Qi, was located in Wuhu of China's Anhui province during an exploration of the four thousand mile long river whose source is located just above Shanghai. The expedition team claimed to have witnessed a gray-white, long-snouted mammal emerge from the water at a distance of about 100 meters away from their boat. Due to this, the team attempted at placing a sonar detector in the water to record sounds from the animal, but did not have time to photograph the data.

Professional researchers have promised to continue the search for the species with extremely high hopes through captive breeding programs. Other associations such as the Baiji Conservation Aquarium have already made success in this field through the breeding of two finless calves in an attempt to save the Yangtze finless porpoise and will be attempted at being used to save the Baiji Dolphin.

ONES HELP TO SAVE LIVES EGYPT MAKES SALT WATER DRINKABLE

Co-Founder of Zipline, the technology is cutting edge, but simple to use. Users will send a text message with their request, and they'll get a message back saying their order has been discharged. Then the user will go outside and receive the delivery. The drone will eject the package and float to Earth on a mini parachute. And finally, the user will save the patient's life.

The demand for this kind of service in Rwanda is clear. Trauma injuries and death during child birth are common, and the system of storing and delivering blood supplies is poor. AIDS organizations have been waiting a long time for a breakthrough like this. UNICEF's HIV and AIDS chief, Judith Sherman, has said that she sees drones as "a leap-frog technology that has great potential." Each delivery is projected to cost between \$15 and \$30, which is a small price to pay for saving a life.

Beginning this operation in a small country like Rwanda is better



AFRICAN DRONE DELIVERS MEDICINE TO LOCAL HOSPITAL

than beginning it in a country like the U.S. for a couple of reasons. They have both a simpler airspace and a small civil aviation authority. This means that they will be able to adapt to the new practices sooner and even improve them.

"If it works here in Rwanda, we could take it everywhere" says Laura Lane, President of Global Public Affairs at UPS. Once this system has proved to be successful, it will likely exceed beyond Rwanda's borders.

BY: ALEXIS SWANSON

Scientists in Egypt have come across what could be a scientific breakthrough of making seawater drinkable with a new innovation. In a country that has looked to the Nile River for a majority of the population's freshwater, scientists have found a new concept in which drinkable water can be almost extracted from salt water. This new technique could be cost efficient, simple, and very helpful to places that have droughts but are surrounded by seawater such as Egypt, and even in our own country in a state like California.

The method for getting drinkable water from saltwater starts with a sheet like membrane. This membrane allows the vaporization of water to pass through while the impurities are left behind. This process is known as "pervaporation". The vapor-turned water that is left should then be clear to drink.

The membrane is comprised of

5 simple ingredients, those of which are available all throughout North Africa, and is seen as cost efficient. The membrane cuts out a whole process of desalination plants that uses up a lot of electricity. All that is needed to use this new innovation is the membrane and a source of heat, such as a stove or even a simple fire. This would allow people to have drinkable water in their homes that they could extract themselves.

The discovery is considered a breakthrough because Egypt is limited to using only 1.3 billion gallons from the Nile River a year. This discovery will help keep this number while also allowing more people to use fresh water without so much limitation. The process of using the membrane could help families get as much water as they need without limit. Not only could it help just those in Egypt, but it could help other countries that have droughts in certain areas.

Haunting Halloween costumes

BY: BRIDGETTE FAVALE & ELIZABETH SHORT

If you notice that the weather is a little colder, the leaves are beginning to change color, and all around people are wearing sweaters, all of this is a sign that fall is finally here! With this comes Halloween, the one day of the year when eating ten pieces of candy isn't enough. In 2016, many events have happened all over the world and along with that, many new trends. This Halloween, certain costumes have become very popular.

First, after the 2016 Rio Olympics, the United States women's gymnastics team became a topic of interest throughout the world. On October 31st, it wasn't surprising to see kids dressed as Simone Biles, or any other member of the final five, knocking on doors and asking for candy!

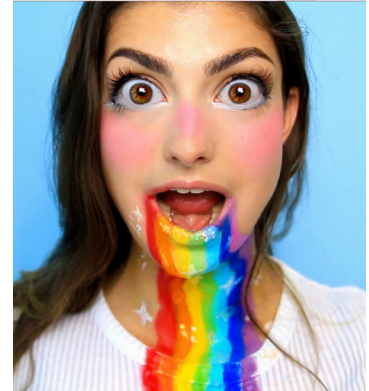
As always, pop culture provides a multitude of costume options on Halloween. Many decided to use the power of makeup to achieve

their costume by bringing Snapchat filters to life for an interesting, digital twist on this year's Halloween. However, after the app Pokémon Go swept the nation and brought back childhood memories, the majority of kids decided to bring Pokémon outside of the video game and into the real world. Another popular trend in costumes saw many re-creating one of the multiple standout looks from Beyoncé's visual album *Lemonade*.

"Who you gonna call?" That's right, this year being a Ghostbuster was one of the most popular costumes following the recent movie premiere. Movies have always provided vast inspiration for costumes, and this year is no different, with the highly successful *Star Wars* franchise bringing a whole new wave of character possibilities as well as reviving old favorites for trick or treaters. *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, the newest addition to the world of Harry Potter, has also refreshed the classic characters for the younger generation. But, out

of all these movie costumes, one has been the most talked about all season long. Harley Quinn. After the movie *Suicide Squad* came out in theatres and introduced Harley Quinn to the world, people went nuts over this new character. With her red and blue pigtails, cute shirt, choker, and high-knee boots, this

costume quickly became a must-have among all teen girls. She was such a popular choice, in fact, that Spirit Halloween had even given the costume its own category! With so many creative costumes walking around the streets, everyone had better begin planning for next year right away!



HARLEY QUINN AND SNAPCHAT FILTERS LEAD POPULAR COSTUMES THIS HALLOWEEN (ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES)

Steady streaming 7th time's a charm

BY: DUDLEY ENGRAM

In recent years, streaming music has become more and more popular. Streaming music is listening to music via the internet without having to download it. Some artists these days are streaming their music before even putting it out to be purchased. Some popular streaming sites are Tidal, Apple Music, Spotify and Pandora. These sites each have special ways of listening to a preferred artist while also listening to others. The two most used sites are Apple Music and Spotify. Spotify has a whopping 30 million subscribers to it while apple music has 13 million subscribers.

Many of us students listen to music every day. The downloading of music or purchasing individual songs or albums is the way most people have done in the past, but with the abilities of music streaming apps and sites, it's one of the easiest ways to listen to your tunes. Most of these sites allow a "free" version or free trials, but if someone wants to listen to every song available to them without ads, investing money into a subscription each month costing \$10 could be a solution. Apple Music allows a three month free trial while sites like Tidal are

exclusively for members starting at \$10 for premium membership and \$20 for "HiFi" music.

Certain artists can be faithful to one music streamer. Kanye West dropped his latest album, "The Life of Pablo", exclusively on Tidal only. That means that no one was able to listen to West's album unless they signed up for Tidal. West later dropped the album on Apple Music and received hundreds of thousands of downloads and purchases. Big Sean and Jhene Aiko's collaboration of TWENTY88, was also released solely on Tidal. Eventually, these artists open up to their albums being streamed through other sites such as Spotify and Apple Music and then put out to purchase. Some students are fans of these and many more artists that are streaming music and utilizing the availability of these streaming apps and sites.



SPOTIFY REMAINS A TOP STREAMING SERVICE

BY: SYDNEY CORIO

Apple is back at it again with the invention of the iPhone 7 and 7 plus. These new devices will hold many of the same characteristics as their predecessors—the iPhone 6s and 6 plus—including that of the 4.7 and 5.5 inch screen sizes, with the improvement of a twenty five percent brighter display. However, the new technology will still differ in their appearance, as two new shades have also been introduced into the gold, silver and rose gold options of the past: black and jet black.

In addition to this, the home button has been removed and replaced by a solid-state pressure sensitive button that's connected to a redesigned Taptic Engine that will transmit haptic feedback in imitation of the pressing of an actual button. The headphone jack has been removed as well, and will now require connection to a Bluetooth or lightning connector. To help ease the transition, Apple is shipping the product along with wireless lightning ear pods and a 3.5mm lightning adapter. The camera of the device was updated with a newly improved 28mm wide-angle lens, which has a second

56mm telephoto lens that allows for a clearer optical zoom.

The iPhone 7 will feature new and improved advances not belonging to the physical department of the device as well, such as the ability to be taken into a maximum of one meter of water for thirty minutes. Other advances include A10 Fusion processor, which is 40 percent faster than the processor in the iPhone 6s; two high-performance cores for system intensive tasks; two high-efficiency cores that operate at 1/5 the power to save battery life for smaller tasks; and one to two additional hours of battery.

After the release on September 16, storage sizes were discovered to have been increased—starting at a minimum of 32GB, with options of 128GB and 256GB available. Pricing on the iPhone 7 begins at \$649 and the iPhone 7 plus begins at \$769.



THE NEW IPHONE 7

MEET A NEW KIND OF FAMILY...



THE CAST OF *THE ADDAMS FAMILY* REHEARSE THE END OF ACT I

BY: NICOLE PETRICK

The drama department is switching it up this year by doing a fall musical instead of a straight play. They will be putting on fan favorite *The Addams Family Musical*. This highly esteemed production will be a must see for all musical comedy lovers. Directed by drama department head Lea Gossett, this musical follows the life of the unusual and creepy Addams family as they embrace their dark values and ghoulish life style while trying to avoid any oncoming changes from the outside world. Their family's philosophy works until Wednesday Addams (Senior Alexa Karp) confides in her

father, Gomez (Senior Rafael Parsacala), that she has fallen in love with a 'normal boy' from Ohio named Lucas Beineke (Senior Andrew Weiler) and that they plan to marry. She then tells Gomez that he must not tell her mother until she and Lucas announce it together. Gomez, now forced to do something he has never dreamed before, must try to keep this dark secret from his wife Morticia (Junior Abigail Lancia), and a slew of Addams family drama ensues because of it.

In an effort to impress Lucas's parents, Wednesday invites the Beineke's over to the Addams' house for dinner. Adamant on mak-

ing Lucas' simple family like hers, she asks her relatives if they could put all of their quirky ways to rest for one night. Thus ensues what she hopes is to be one normal night, but soon turns into anything but, with the Addams' attempting an uncharacteristically regular lifestyle.

The night begins with Morticia and Gomez meeting Lucas's parents, Mal and Alice. (Seniors Andrew Michael and Olivia Menture, respectively) From musical scenes to dance numbers the show twists and turns in a hilarious fashion through a slew of awkward encounters and dark satire as the members of the Addams's family get better acquainted with the Beineke's.

Tension soon begins to mount when Wednesday exclaims that her love for Lucas has pulled her in a new direction away from the dark Addams' values and toward happier things. From torture chairs to magic potions, the evening quickly snowballs downhill, but the worst is yet to come as the two opposing families sit for dinner.

After the tense events of the evening, Morticia and Gomez insist that the Beineke's stay for the Addams' traditional after dinner game called

Full Disclosure. Chaos ensues and at the very end of the first act Fester (Junior John Obolsky), in an attempt to unite both families, calls upon the Addams's ancient ancestors to create a storm that traps everybody in the Addams' mansion overnight. What happens next involves surprises and laughs for all who come to see it.

This dark comedy is full of memorable lines and great dance numbers along with plenty of fantastic songs. It is a must see for all romance enthusiasts and there is even a lesson or two that everybody can learn from it. The show opens November 18th and runs until November 20th.

Come see the show!

Nov 18th @ 8pm

Nov 19th @ 8pm

Nov 20th @ 3pm

Pick up an order form in the drama office, find one online, or pick them up in the cafeteria!

POE'S STORIES LIVE ON 'FOR EVERMORE'

BY: MEGAN LIM

On the weekend of September 16th the drama department debuted its fall production, *For Evermore*. Inspired by former students and writer Edgar Allan Poe, Amy Kate Byrne, the writer and director of *For Evermore*, created a concept that would be considered a prequel to Poe's "The Raven." The play answered the lingering question of what caused the death of the beloved Lenore that caused Poe's poem. The play was written with alternative murderers for each night; this allowed for the audience to have a more interactive experience as they were able to watch whilst making guesses as to who the killer was. Though the idea behind the script of *For Evermore* was notable in itself, the cast and crew involved executed everything incredibly, from lighting and sound to the performance of the actors.

Because the play was composed mainly of flashbacks being told

by the suspected murderers, it was crucial that the reenactment of the flashbacks be discernible from the suspects presently narrating the incidents during the interviews with the detectives. The lighting, controlled by students, made that possible. Going hand in hand with lighting, the sound—also controlled by students, was necessary for the flow and presentation of the scenes. The music choices were also very appropriate in terms of both the dance numbers and background sound. It complemented the dialogue accordingly and allowed for smooth transitions between certain scenes.

Set decorations and costume design were kept simple, but also well thought-out. The costuming, which ranged from detective suits, to formal-wear, to all-black attire effectively kept the audience in loop with what each cast member was supposed to be portraying. One of the most frequently seen and memorable costume designs were the students that dressed in all-

black; which aided in the audience's perception of them being 'Spirits of the Dead.' The simplicity of the set decorations, which varied between a table, a few chairs, a desk, a wall with chains, and other props, emphasized the natural ability of the actors.

Each member of the cast, which ranged from freshmen to seniors, had incredible stage presence. The script of the play was undoubtedly a challenge, as the dialogue was often very emotional and heated. A majority of it called for the actors to

become angry while conversing, to act crazed and confused, and to act in such a way that would directly touch the audience and gain their character some empathy. The cast not only met the script's challenge, but also went beyond what was expected. They showed off their range of capabilities, switching from emotion to emotion without once holding back. The presence of the students made each character feel so real, kept the play flowing, and kept the audience highly intrigued and engaged.



SPIRITS OF THE DEAD WATCH AS POE FINISHES *THE RAVEN*
(ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF BGA PUBLICATIONS)

Mother Teresa canonized as a saint



MOTHER TERESA POSES WITH CHILDREN (ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES)

BY: ALEXIS SWANSON

Mother Teresa of Calcutta, a devoted nun who spent her life nurturing the poor as best she could, was set out to be canonized on September 4, 2016. The holy event took place in the Vatican where Pope Francis announced Mother Teresa

“to be saint” and the crowd roared with joy. On that Sunday morning, many people came out to celebrate Mother Teresa’s final step to sainthood as well as her dedicated life to the less fortunate.

To become a saint, one has to perform two miracles that are

approved by the church. Mother Teresa’s life was spent helping India’s poor, and within her work, she fulfilled two miracles. One of her miracles was healing a Bengali woman. The woman, Monica Bersa, had a tumor in her stomach; Mother Teresa was able to heal her and get rid of the tumor. Mother Teresa’s other miracle was performed on a Brazilian engineer. Marcilio Andrino had an infection of the brain that Mother Teresa miraculously cured. Along with her deeds that led her into sainthood, Mother Teresa also won the Nobel Peace Prize for her kindness and dedication to the poor in India.

The Albanian born nun’s canonization had a huge turnout. There were busloads of the poor who were brought into Vatican City just to witness the ceremony. There were also many nuns and followers of Mother Teresa that dressed in her signature white robe and veil with

blue detailing. In the end, Pope Francis pronounced Mother Teresa as a saint, and many people applauded with joy.



CROWDS GATHER TO WITNESS THE CANONIZATION OF SAINT TERESA OF CALCUTTA

ZIKA VIRUS WREAKS HAVOC AROUND THE GLOBE

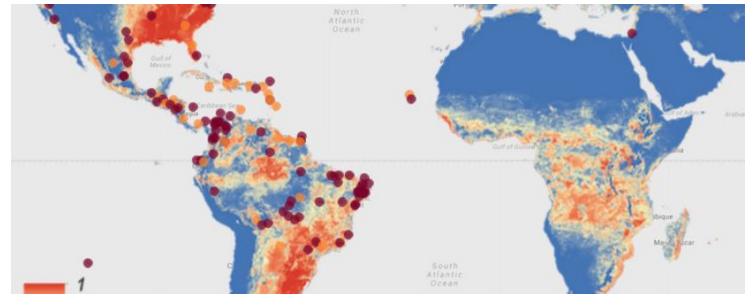
BY: THOMAS KNAPP

The Zika virus is a disease with flu-like symptoms spread by mosquito bites, and it has become quite rampant in 2015 and 2016. Tropical areas in South America, such as Brazil, are particularly afflicted by this disease because of their lack of first world medicine and the abundance of mosquitos. Those afflicted by the disease are subject to nonlethal symptoms and are only sick for a week, but the real damage is to the unborn children of pregnant mothers. The disease is known to affect fetuses the most because of the several permanent birth defects the virus causes. This raises a question: is the infamous Zika virus the global threat the media propagated it to be?

Epidemics are global issues that cause massive casualties and largely kill more humans than humans do

throughout history. For instance, the infamous Bubonic Plague wiped out a third of Medieval Europe, and even in the 18th to 19th centuries, outbreaks of deadly cholera were all too common in cities like London, which lacked basic plumbing. With the wonders of a globalized world, we also receive the conceivable backlashes with that, one being the threat of a disease that spreads exponentially around the globe.

The Zika virus is infamously transmitted via the Aedes mosquito by swapping of bodily fluids. The fear really comes in when it goes from pregnant mother to her fetus because the fetus can receive a serious birth defect called microcephaly, along with other birth defects. In Brazil, an increase in Guillain-Barré syndrome in adults was shown along with Zika cases, however correlation does not imply causation, so the connection is a hypothesis at best. Guillain-Barré syndrome is a neurological disorder that can cause paralysis and death. The World Health Organization (WHO) seems convinced the two cases are tied, but the lack of evidence makes the Centers for Disease Control and



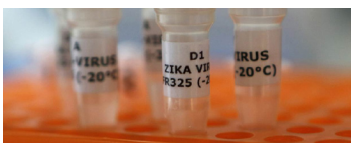
MAP SHOWS THE AREAS, SPECIFICALLY SOUTH AMERICA, AFFECTED BY DEADLY ZIKA VIRUS

Prevention (CDC) question this confidence.

Speaking of death, how many people have died from the Zika virus? The approximate number is less than 1000 people, and most of these casualties come from underdeveloped countries that host impoverished people who don’t have access to the type of first world medical care most are accustomed to receiving. The one death in Utah is barely related to the Zika virus whatsoever. The man who died in Utah had the disease, but his cause of death was found to be by one of the myriad of medical conditions he possessed.

The Zika virus does raise some

alarm, and deserves some precautions because it does pose a threat to fetuses in the womb. However, the virus certainly does not need the stigma of fear and terror in which the mainstream media has surrounded the topic. One of the many wonders of the modern world are vaccines and improvements in plumbing that make epidemics a horror from history. We as a species are no longer acquiescent to our morbid fates at the hand of diseases as the victims of cholera, pneumonia, scarlet fever, and polio were so long ago. The Zika virus deserves nothing more than a vigilant, watchful eye and a rational, calm mind.



CDC INVESTIGATES REPORTS OF POSSIBLE TRANSMISSIONS OF THE VIRUS



Name: Daniel Cardona

Nickname(s): Danny,
Tyrannosaurus Rex,
D-Cash

Grade: 12

Sport: Soccer

If you could have dinner with any three people, who would you choose?

John Montez, Miguel Acevedo, Mr. Matt Roche

Pump-Up song? "Best of Both Worlds" by Miley Cyrus



Name: Jennifer Sierra

Nickname(s): Jenn,
Yenni

Grade: 12

Sport: Volleyball

If you could have dinner with any three people, who would you choose?

Beyoncé, Amy Poehler, Ellen DeGeneres

Pump-Up song? "Pretty Boy Swag" by Soulja Boy



Name: Fernando Sullivan

Nickname(s): Fern,
Sully

Grade: 12

Sport: Cross Country

If you could have dinner with any three people, who would you choose?

Pope Francis, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Hippocrates

Pump-Up song? "Dramophone" by Caravan Palace



Name: Erin Saggese

Nickname(s): Er Sag

Grade: 12

Sport: Soccer

If you could have dinner with any three people, who would you choose?

Alex Morgan, Eric Hosmer, Dave Franco

Pump-Up song(s)? "They Ready" by DJ Khaled, "Broccoli" by Big Baby D.R.A.M. ft. Lil Yachty, "Waves" by Mr. Probz



Name: Caroline D'Souza

Grade: 12

Sport: Cross Country

If you could have dinner with any three people, who would you choose?

Christina Grimmie, Adam Levine, Alexander Hamilton

Pump-Up song? "Dream On" by Aerosmith



Name: Andrew Brazicki

Nickname(s): Anderson

Grade: 12

Sport: Football

If you could have dinner with any three people, who would you choose?

Trump, Batman, Brad Pitt

Pump-Up song? "Relax" by Frankie Goes to Hollywood



Name: Duncan Merriman-Mendez

Nickname(s): Donuts,
Duncan Donuts, Dunk

Grade: 12

Sport: Soccer

If you could have dinner with any three people, who would you choose?

Jennifer Lawrence, Ryan Reynolds, Max Brooks

Pump-Up song? "Vivir Mi Vida" by Marc Anthony



Name: Samantha Obolsky

Nickname(s): Sam,
Sam O., Phenomenal Sam

Grade: 12

Sport: Gymnastics

If you could have dinner with any three people, who would you choose?

Carrie Underwood, Bryce McCall, Morgan Freeman

Pump-Up song? "All I Do Is Win" by DJ Khaled



Name: Brianna Hincapie

Nickname(s): Bri

Grade: 12

Sport: Tennis

If you could have dinner with any three people, who would you choose?

Jmart, Serena Williams, Kevin Hart

Pump-Up song? "Last Breath" by Future



'Kicking' it to the top **Ahr girls' 'goal' this season**

BY: ISAAC SCAFE

Coming off one of the most successful seasons in years, no one knew what to expect from this year's boys soccer team. Several players of the junior varsity team took the leap up to varsity after fourteen players graduated last



SOPHOMORE RYAN LOFTUS PLAYS A PASS TO A WAITING TEAMMATE

season.

The young athletes spent countless hours training in the blazing summer sun. New and old players worked together in order to improve their control, passing, shooting, and stamina to last through the grueling season. The team built on their team chemistry so that when they stepped onto the pitch, they could play the game fluidly and crisply.

Their overall record does not reflect the hard work and resilience the team showed during games. There were glimpses of brilliance showed by the players throughout the season. Their most impressive outing, a 2-1 victory over Middlesex, provided evidence of what will come in the upcoming seasons in the next few years.

Under the leadership of senior captain Daniel Cardona, the spirits and energy of the team never wavered. "It was a hard season," Cardona said, "but there's still a lot of potential for next year's team."

MARCHING BAND TAKES A 'JOURNEY'

BY: ELIZABETH SHORT

The Marching Trojans have done it again, with an all new field show and a classic rock twist. The marching band was led by drum major senior Gabriella Cangialosi, and senior field majors Andrew Michael and Krysia Ebert. The color guard



SENIOR KRYSIA EBERT PERFORMS HER TRUMPET SOLO IN JOURNEY'S "DON'T STOP BELIEVING"

was led by senior captain Brittany Bernath and rifle captain Katherine Yochim.

Following the tradition of picking a single artist as the basis of the field show, this year paid tribute to a school favorite: Journey. The show began with the song "Separate Ways (Worlds Apart)" with a mallet solo by senior Meghan McCarty as well as a saxophone and low brass feature. With a strong melody and an intricate marching pattern, this number started the show off with high energy all around.

The next number, another school standby, is the massive hit: "Don't Stop Believing". The song featured a trumpet solo by Krysia Ebert and was an instant crowd pleaser. The show closed with another Journey staple: "Anyway You Want It".

The closing number featured a roaring solo by the percussion section. This song was also a shining moment for the color guard, as it featured all of the senior members. With more shows to come, the marching band will keep on delivering a fantastic performance.



SENIOR STEPHANIE COREA CUTS OFF THE OPPOSING TEAM

BY: JILLIAN RAMIREZ

Girls soccer 'kicked' off their season on September 8th by defeating the new member of the white division, New Brunswick (7-0). Returning seniors Stephanie Corea, Kelsey Kacsmar, Erin Saggese, Jillian Ramirez, and juniors, Ryleigh Greenwald, Dayna Dobkowski, Sara Decker, Julianna Pastore, Emma Herban, and Sarah Glazewski started off another season with a great victory, followed by 5 more consecutive wins.

Returning coaches, Jim Tavormina and Ernie Penny, brought on a new trainer this year, Mina Bestawros. Over the summer, he

pushed the girls to train harder than they ever had before, with double sessions almost every day. Judging by their division record of 13 wins, 1 loss, and only 5 goals let in, it has certainly paid off.

They have put in 55 goals so far, with 13 different girls scoring. On this team, they work together to make goal scoring opportunities for everybody, making them unstoppable.

They defeated their biggest rival, Woodbridge, on September 15th (1-0). Glazewski scored a header off of a corner kick served by Herban, in the first half of the match. They continued to hold off Woodbridge's offense in the remaining minutes of the game. Dobkowski even managed to kick the ball out of harm's way, just before it crossed over the goal line! They defeated them once again on October 10th (4-2).

Starters Greenwald and Decker are out for the remainder of the season, but with a loaded bench, the girls were easily able to fill those positions and win the white division title! They didn't get the wins they needed in GMCs and States. However, the girls "Ahr" prepared to come back next year stonger than ever!

'FLIPPING' FOR SUCCESS

BY: GIRLEY OYOLA

This year the gymnastics team has seven gymnasts with Samantha Obolsky, Kristen Brady, Ariyana Agarwala, and Skylar Davisson as team captains. They have achieved an unbeatable record of 6-0, and yet another GMCs winning title for 2016. Sophomore Agarwala won the All-Around, scoring an outstanding 38.30, and sophomore Davisson placed 3rd scoring a 37.475. The Trojans went onto accomplish a score of 111.450.

Overall, the girls have had a successful season closing out as undefeated. The highest score all around this season has been by Agarwala with a 38.6 against Arthur L. Johnson High School. "We have a small but strong team. I am happy to say we won GMCs and are undefeated in all dual meets. Our gymnasts work very hard at practice and competitions. With the aid of coaches, family, teammates,



SENIOR SAMANTHA OBOLSKY STRIKES A POSE DURING HER ROUTINE

and friends, we are successful." explains Agarwala.

BACK INTO THE 'SWING' OF THINGS

BY: KRISTEL DOMINGO

The girls varsity tennis team is back in full swing for another season. The singles lineup consists of senior Isabella Joson at first singles, senior Brianna Hincapie at second singles, and sophomore Alyssa Sierra at third singles. Junior Disnie Thambugala and sophomore Isabella DeMesa took first doubles, and sophomores Johanna Lu and Aryana Dehghan took second doubles.

Despite losing many key players from last year, Joson and Hincapie, the varsity team co-captains, have worked hard to keep the team strong and together. The team is still optimistic although there have been no individual standouts this year. After hours of practice polishing their skills, the girls tennis team is ready to serve up many more wins next year. Coach Mohrmann says, "The girls are working hard to improve

their skills. We are in a rebuilding phase with a fairly young team and we are hoping for greater success next year." The girls have worked hard this season and are ready to come back even stronger.



SENIOR ISABELLA JOSON FOLLOWS THROUGH ON A SWING

NEW DIVISION, NEW TEAM

BY: SIMON LLAGUNO

The boys varsity football team worked hard to overcome obstacles this year and to fight for every game. Led by seniors Andrew Brazicki and Ricky Peguero, the boys pushed each other every day to grow as a team. The Trojans, however, were set back by injuries. Shawn Whitlock, Christian Cardona, and quarterback Ryan O'Leary were sidelined by injuries for much of

the season. Nonetheless, they continued to push themselves every game and every practice, with their record at 6-2 as of November 4th.

One of the team's biggest games this season was the divisional title game against Spotswood. Brazicki had a breakout game, running 326 yards and scoring five touchdowns on 18 carries to lead the Trojans to a 46-30 victory. Reminiss Funderburk also contributed to the win after

he returned the opening kickoff for a 93 yard touchdown. The victory not only clinched a Blue Division title, but it also ended Spotswood's 13-game divisional winning streak, which began in 2013. "As captain of the team, I knew I was going to have to step up," said Brazicki. "We're trying to show the GMC who the Blue Division champs are."

The Trojans also showed that they can dominate in the Blue Division. In a convincing victory of 39-8 against Dunellen, running back Cardona ran six carries for 109 yards and scored 2 touchdowns. John Edwards ran for a 44-yard touchdown and junior Joshua Minick also contributed with a touchdown. Brazicki continued to handle defenders, running 14 carries for 131 yards and two touchdowns. Defensively, Luke Vizzoni took over, accounting for 11 tackles and Toure' Simon combined with Brazicki for 13 tackles.

Now that the season is over, the boys will continue to work in the offseason. Juniors Jordan Wells, Cardona, Vizzoni, Funderburk, and Jack Roarty are looking to step up and be leaders to build the team. Undefeated in the division thus far, the Trojans are looking to come back even stronger and better next season.



THE VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM TAKES THE FIELD BY STORM AS THEY BREAK THROUGH BANNER AT THEIR HOMECOMING GAME

'CROSSING' THE VICTORY LINE

BY: MARJOLEIN MEGALOUDIS

Boys and girls cross country is one of the most favored sports by most students.

Coach Tim Miller, the girls cross country coach, makes good observations about how each individual runner progresses and has led the team to the top of the charts with about 7 approximate wins from their meets.

Coach Scott Runkel advises the team to save their energy for the end of the race, using his prior knowledge about cross country to help the team win and enhance their skills. He uses exercises such as high knees to assemble the team before each race and after school practices. Fernando Sullivan, the team's captain, leads each exercise. "The team runs all together when practicing and tries to push each other to improve their endurance," states Philip Iosue.



THE CROSS COUNTRY GIRLS POWER THROUGH AND TAKE A LAP AROUND THE TRACK

'Serving' up a winning season

BY: KRISTEL DOMINGO

The girls volleyball team is serving up one strong season! This year, the team is led by senior co-captains Cassie Ng on the right side, libero Sarah Franzcak, and setter Abby Crocco. Other seniors on the team are Jenn Sierra, Emily King, Niara Rowe, and Gabby Loftus. They have a solid record of 16-6 and have been working hard to keep it up. Sophomore Caroline Trevino, a key outside player, broke the record at the school for the most kills in a season. Ng states, "We've had one of the most phenomenal seasons ever. We're a team of best friends, which is why we've done so well this year. I wouldn't want to play with any other group of girls."



THE VOLLEYBALL GIRLS HUDDLE-UP BEFORE A GAME

Frozen Turkey Collection

Frozen Turkeys will be collected on and **ONLY** on November 16th and 17th

Frozen Turkeys can be delivered to the van parked outside of room 108 or to the cafeteria



Send Christmas cards to the residents of the Felician Sisters Care Center

You are encouraged to write the sisters a note about yourself or indicate that you are from Bishop High School

Bring finished cards to Room 106A
All cards are due by Dec. 15th

Adopt a Family for Thanksgiving!

Students are asked to bring the following food items to their religion class and/or Rm. 215: cranberry sauce, gravy, stuffing mix, instant potatoes, canned soup, canned veggies, macaroni, peanut butter, powdered milk, dried beans, tuna fish, etc

Food items should be brought in from Oct 12–Nov. 18, 2016.



Save a life today! Donate blood at the Winter Blood Drive

When: Friday, December 5th
Where: Catanazaro Gym
Time: All Day (8:00-2:00)

GIVE BLOOD

Adopt a Family for Christmas!

- Create a food basket with peanut butter, dried beans, canned goods, powdered milk, etc, placed in a brown bag with receipt of purchased items.

Bring to room 215 from November 21st- December 16th, 2016. Students signing in please indicate the amount of money that was spent.



CSAC Spring Clothing Drive

CSAC will be collecting used clothes, shoes, belts, stuffed animals, and linens. Items should be placed in a large, sturdy garbage bag into the truck outside Room 107

Collection Dates: March 13th, 14th, 15th, -2017



\$25 Target giftcard-collection!

These will be given to Catholic Charities and distributed to families in need!

Bring Gift Cards to Rm. 106A from Dec 1 - Dec 12, 2016.

\$15.00 Food Certificates from Shop Rite, Stop & Shop, A & P, etc Collection.

Place the certificates into an envelope and write your name on outside and bring it to Rm. 106a anytime from from Nov 21 - December 16, 2016!

2nd Annual BGA/ STA Alumni Family Day!



Saturday May 20, 2017

PROM GOWN COLLECTION

Wanted: New and used gowns

Gowns should be new or usable, current styles, and clean with no stains or rips!

Gowns can be brought to Room 106A from February 2-10, 2017

Fill out the prom gown form and return it to Main Office by Jan. 31st!

