

Crunchy cubes and lazy liquids

-Commentary-



By: Kaitlyn Nathem
[Yearbook Editor]

I'm extremely thirsty and it's really bothering me. As much as I want a big glass of some thirst quenching liquid to travel into my mouth, I'm too lazy to go and get one. One glass wouldn't even fulfill my thirst right now, so I would just have to waste more energy getting another glass. What's the point? Exactly, I don't see one either.

I wish we could just never be thirsty because we drank only the saliva in our mouth. As gross and unappealing as it sounds, we do it everyday anyway, so why not just more frequently? It takes no energy at all, it's easy, and you don't have to worry about curdled or flat spit like you would with milk or water. Basically it's a win, win, WIN situation.

The more I'm thinking about being thirsty, the more I crave ice cubes. I love cold chunks of frozen water! The hard crunch that echoes through my ears just brings me pure bliss. I know dentists say that chewing ice is bad for your teeth, but so are a lot of other things. The dentist is bad for people's moods but everyone still goes and sees them, so I don't get what the big deal is.

Well I hope you are having a great day and you aren't thirsty. Be nice to the dentists, they're mean to help you. I think.

What Thanksgiving is actually about

The real meaning behind the holiday that's thought of as a food & family-fun day is uncovered.

By: Haley Shaffer [Media Editor]



As the holidays approach, families start to come together to celebrate. The nutmeg is purchased and the turkey is prepared. For most families, Thanksgiving is just an excuse to inhale some turkey and chug some hot chocolate. It is a huge family feast. It's a time for people to celebrate all that they have, before Christmas makes people think of all they yearn for. Thanksgiving is a day to think about what people are really thankful for.

For Madison Redlinger, junior, Thanksgiving is one of her favorite days of the year. "I would definitely say it's one of my favorite holidays because I love the food," Madi said. Of course, like every other family, Madi's enjoys the delicious food, but they also enjoy each other. "My family is pretty close," Madi said. Like most families, Madi's has accumulated traditions over the years. "My tradition is going to my aunt Julie's house the first part of the day to celebrate with my moms side," Madi said, "The second half I go to my uncle Aaron's house to celebrate with my dads, and then finally later in the night I go to my step dad's side," Madi said. Safe to say Madi has a lot of traveling

on Thanksgiving. Madi says it's worth it to be able to see her family. "I look forward to seeing family members I don't get to see that often, and also the food," Madi said. Yet for Madi, Thanksgiving goes much deeper than the food. "The real meaning of Thanksgiving is to be appreciative of everything you have like your family and friends," Madi said. However, with everyone focused on the food, it's hard to think about what is really important for some people. "I feel like Thanksgiving should be taken a bit more seriously, but with Christmas so close to it, it's hard. I think Christmas is seen as a bigger holiday," Madi said. It

can be hard to appreciate Christmas, but Madi thinks it's one of the most important holidays that there is. "People should appreciate holidays and time with their family, because honestly they're the people that are always going to be there for you and you never know when someone will be taken away from you," Madi said.

Thanksgiving is about being thankful for what you have. After all, that is how it got its name. Being able to celebrate Thanksgiving with people who they love and who love them, now that is something to be thankful for. Being thankful, is what Thanksgiving is really about.



Madi Redlinger, '14, celebrates Thanksgiving with her family a few years ago.

Bow hunting: Blazek's happy hunting times

By: Gage Miskimen [Staff Writer]

He spots his target. His eyes narrow. He gets quiet, so quiet the only thing he can hear is his heartbeat. He stealthily pulls back the string of his bow. He sets in on the deer that is just a short distance away. Then his hand releases and the arrow soars through the air.

Hunter Blazek, Freshman, has been hunting for about a year now. "I've been hunting since last year. My dad is really big into hunting," He said. Blazek hunts with a bow, which takes a lot of skill and strength since you have to pull back the arrow while aiming at the same time. Hunting is a very time consuming sport. Hunter devotes a lot of his time into bow hunting. "Yeah, it takes awhile. Sometimes I'm out there for eight hours." He claimed with a proud look on his face. Every person who hunts has a different reason for why they do it. Blazek's reason

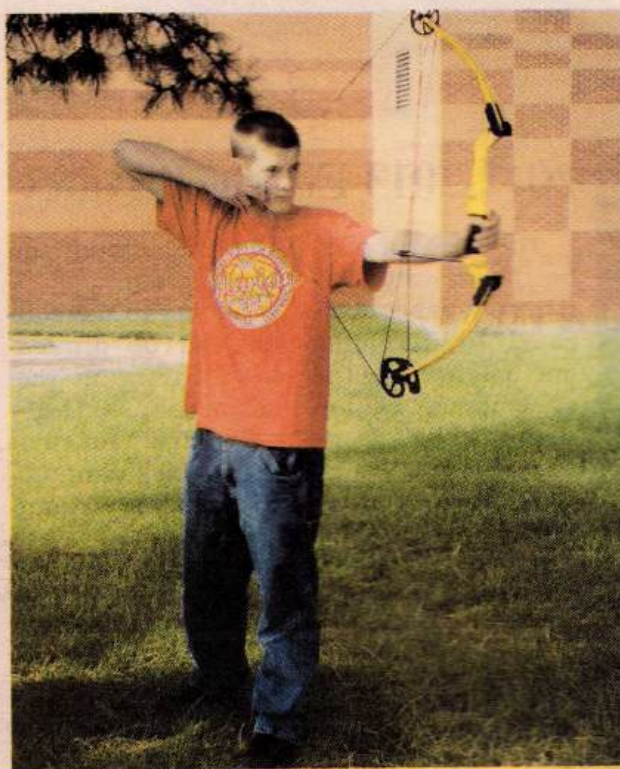
is simple. "It's fun to go out and get a break from everything else." Many other people who hunt could probably relate to Hunter. He's also not alone when he hunts. Hunter hunts with his dad and some of his friends here at Marion, Alex Chambers and Trevor Short. They go hunting near his dad's cabin in Wyoming, Iowa. Hunter doesn't only hunt with bows, he also hunts with a muzzleloader, which is a type of gun used during a certain hunting season. Hunter actually prefers muzzleloader season opposed to

"It's fun to go out and get a break from everything else."

-Hunter Blazek, '16

bow season. For any season Hunter's favorite part of hunting is, "Finally getting a deer after waiting around all day."

People have different views on hunting but Hunter thinks everyone should give it a chance. "It's really fun and many people would enjoy it. Every person should try it at least once in their lifetime." Hunter plans on hunting for the rest of his life.



Hunter Blazek, '16, gets a break from everything else while he practices bow hunting.

Time to give thanks for friends & family during the holidays

The holiday for thankfulness is approaching quickly. What are you thankful for?

By: Taylor Lamm [Opinion Editor]

Around this time of year everyone starts to think about how thankful they are for everything they have. A lot of people are thankful for their family and friends. Some show their thankfulness in different ways and in different amounts. If it wasn't for family and friends a lot of people wouldn't know how they would get through the day.

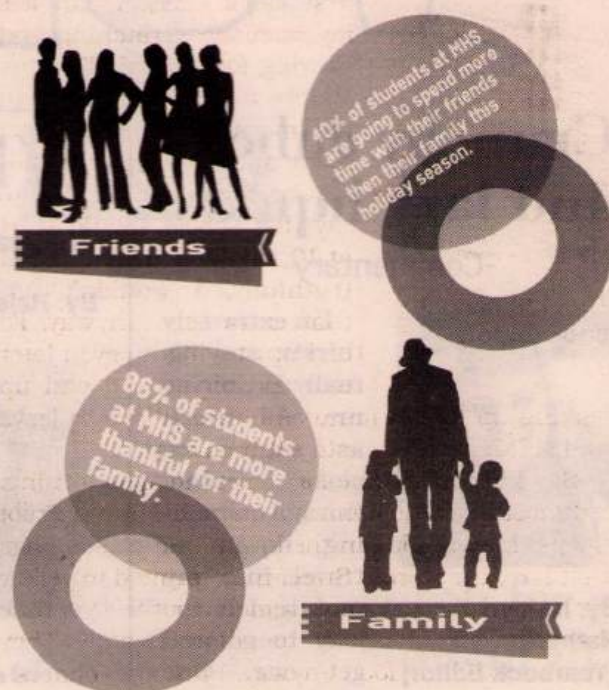
To most, family is very important. They are the ones that help out in life. Everyone has learned how to put up and live with them, and at times, some don't want to be around them, but if one day they were gone, most people's worlds would fall apart. No matter what, there is always one thing everyone can lean back on,

and that's family. Family is the support system everyone needs in their life, because no matter what happens, everyone knows they will always be there at the end of the day.

Not only is family extremely important, so are friends. If it wasn't for friends most people wouldn't be able to get through the day if they didn't have someone else to talk to other than their family. To some, friends and their friend's family members are like a second family. They're the ones that are there when their family just isn't cutting it. They can also be the ones people have to lean on when there are things going on in the family. Yes, this is high school and who knows if these are the friends that will be kept

forever. Right now those moments that everyone shares with their friends become memories. Those memories are what get carried on through people's lives.

It's important to make memories with loved ones. There are so many things to be thankful for in life, and family and friends are two of the most important blessings in a person's life. If it wasn't for them people wouldn't be who they are today. Everyone learns from their experiences and mistakes. People need to be thankful for what they have. Even if it's a small, large, mixed, or separated family. Some friends may come and go, but some come to stay for the long run. These two blessings are things to be very thankful for.



The holiday dinner is back

By: Claire Nash [Photo Editor]

Holiday songs are sung by the choir. The cafeteria is decorated, snowflakes hang from the ceiling and the tables are covered with centerpieces. The smell of smoked honey ham, creamy green bean casserole and whipped mash potatoes with gravy fill the school while students wait in line for the scrumptious mouth watering food. It is the day of the anticipated holiday dinner.

Holiday dinner is something that is a tradition here. Last year Marion did not have it because the middle school didn't have a working kitchen, so the kitchen staff here had to prepare food for the high school and Vernon. Students really enjoy the holiday dinner for a lot of reasons. Having the dinner brings the students and staff together, it's better than the average school lunch, and it gives everyone in the school a chance to catch up and take in the choir's beautiful music. This is a good way to make everyone feel very homey and cozy within the school especially on a cold December day.

Even though most students and staff have holiday dinners with their families at home during this season not every student or staff member is as fortunate as others. It is nice to have a good home cooked meal during the school day that everyone can enjoy with the ones who care about them. Holiday Dinner is a tradition that should never be taken away ever again.

New way to bargain shop for best holiday deals

By: Taylor Millis [Feature Editor]

Shopping during the holidays is always fun. New items are released into stores and great sales are announced. This is where holiday shopping begins.

During the holiday season people begin creating their wish list and making subtle hints to their friends and family about what they want. However, with so many people to shop for how can the money be divided enough to get everyone something they want? There's the age old trick of bargain shopping, but with technology advancing there has to be an easier way.

The new craze is called showrooming. This is where one may find something in the store that they like and then pull out their phone click on any price comparison app and scan the barcode of the item. Then it finds other stores with the same item and

shows the price in other stores. It's the new version of bargain shopping. Some of these apps are, Price Check by Amazon, Red Laser by eBay, and Shopsyavvy. It's quick and finds the best deal in a matter of seconds.

Price Check App by Amazon:

Cost: Free with a rating of 3 out of 5 stars.

Red Laser App by eBay:

Cost: Free with a rating of 4.5 out of 5 stars.

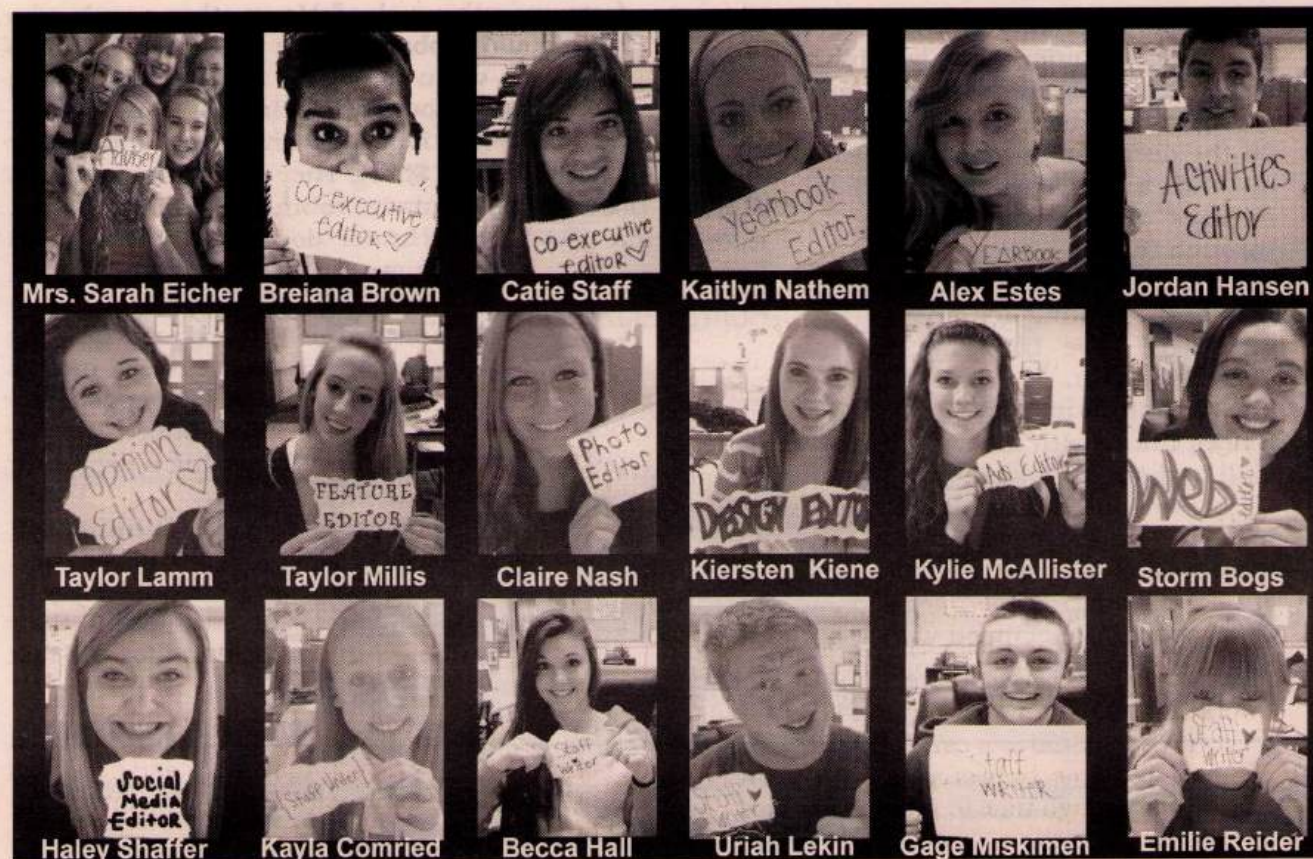
Shopsyavvy App:

Cost: Free with a rating of 2.5 out of 5 stars.

Stores are struggling to keep up with this new trend. Target has started something new in order to try and gain some ground on this app. They have begun to promote themselves by saying if someone shows them the price of an item that is sold in their store and is sold at lower prices at another store, they will match that price. Walmart also participates in Pricematching and many other stores too. Together this new app for showrooming and stores new price match option is a great way to get the lowest prices and the best deals.

Holiday shopping can be expensive but there are always ways to get around the high prices.

2012-2013 Vox Staff



2012-2013 Editorial Policy

The Vox is a public forum student-run newspaper dedicated to informing and entertaining the students of Marion High School since 1934. It is published six times a year by Tri-Co Printing Company and is distributed during the final block of the school day by the journalism staff.

The staff will report as accurately, fairly, and objectively as possible. All activities will be covered by the staff to the best of their abilities, without

showing favoritism to any group.

Letters to the editor will be printed from anyone in the community. However, The Vox retains the right to edit articles without changing the writer's intent. There is a limit of two hundred words per article and all letters must be signed in order for them to be published. The decision to include them rests solely on the staff and advisor. Turn letters into room 22 or to any staff member.

The class time munchies



Alex Estes [Yearbook Editor]

While I sit here in my first block class, I can feel my stomach scratching and clawing for a meal. There is simply not enough time in the morning for me to get ready and eat something filling for breakfast. I'd like to say that school should start at 10 AM every morning, but truthfully, I wouldn't use that extra time anyway. I'd end up staying up even later into the night, and end up

waking up fifteen minutes before I have to leave and still have no time to eat breakfast.

Say I did have time for a meal in the morning. It'd most likely be a bowl of those off brand Froot Loops that you buy in the bright, red plastic bags that have the words "Super Size" printed in yellow letters, on them. I don't remember the last time I actually ate those for breakfast though. They aren't a fulfilling food anyway. I just eat them because they taste amazing. I think that's why most people eat though, because most food is awesome, and it's hard to pass up a bowl of Froot Loops. It's even harder to pass up a fresh bowl of extra cheesy Mac & Cheese that comes from that impossible to open, blue, cardboard box. Or a box of hot Chick-fil-A chicken nuggets, or a chicken sandwich from Hardee's. It's not all food I like. It's mostly fast food. Or maybe just chicken. Probably chicken.

Fake Froot Loops and chicken aren't my favorite things to eat though. My favorite thing is a cup of Starbucks Medium Roast House coffee and a double chocolate chip muffin. It is defiantly not healthy, but frankly I couldn't care less. I walk through the rain and cold to my house during second block, my only open block, to shove some coffee grinds into my Keurig so I can have my warm, comforting coffee. I love the first gulp of the coffee the most. I love the feeling of its warmth spreading around my insides and being able to feel it flooding my body cavity. Truthfully, if it was possible to live off of coffee alone, I would.

While writing this, I've succeeded in making myself even hungrier, and have managed to induce an irrefutable craving for my favorite Starbucks coffee. First block could not get over any faster.

Welcome back, Mr. President

President Barack Obama's win over Republican Mitt Romney brings forward progress

By: Haley Shaffer [Media Editor]

The votes have been counted and the result are in. Barack Obama has been reelected the president of the United States of America. As Mitt Romney and his supporters hang their heads low and sigh with sheer disappointment, the democrats of America celebrate with smiles and jubilation.

Barack Obama starts his second term as the president with a heavy load to bear. Some citizens of the country think that Obama didn't achieve all that needed to be done within the past four years. They say that he promised too many things, and that those promises weren't kept. They argue that Obama should've fixed the economy, the unemployment rate, and decreased the deficit.

However, most people fail to realize that President George Bush messed a lot of things up in this country in the eight years that he was president, and that Barack Obama can't fix it in just four. According. Reason.com, 28% of American citizens thought that Bush was the worst president the U.S. has ever seen. 2008, while Bush was president, the U.S. also had the bloodiest year in Afghanistan that American had ever seen and Osama Bin Laden was never captured under Bush's rule.

Another thing people fail to realize is that the economy crashed while Bush was president and President Bush cut taxes greatly on

wealthy America, which is what Mitt Romney was planning on doing. Obviously that didn't work out with Bush, it would doubtfully be any more successful with Mitt Romney. Now, to compare that to Barack's presidency, Osama Bin Laden was captured and killed while Obama was president, he ended the war in Iraq, he helped out the U.S. auto industry, he repealed "Don't ask, Don't tell", vastly improved school nutrition and childhood obesity, and lastly passed a health care reform.

So, while Obama didn't fix absolutely everything, that doesn't mean that he accomplished nothing. Just because the country isn't absolutely perfect, doesn't mean Obama was a complete failure. Keep in mind, the president can't just snap his fingers and make everything perfect.

With all that he has accomplished so far, it's almost a guarantee that much more will be accomplished in the next four years.

Hopefully, now that the election is over with and America knows who their president is, the people of the U.S. can stop their arguments about politics, families can go back to peaceful dinners, and Twitter can be free of presidential debates among teens. The U.S can go back to their daily routines and the world can be somewhat peaceful for awhile, of course until the next presidential election comes around. So relax America, you are in good hands.



"I don't like that Obama won but it's not my problem,"
-Rachel Pearson, '13



"I'm happy that Obama won because now we have women's rights still and if Mitt would've won I would've moved to Australia,"
-Lydia Hamilton, '15



"I'm happy that Obama won. Now I want to have a Kool-Aid party!"
-Deshaun Quinn, '15



"I feel better about Obama winning than I would've if Mitt would've won,"
-Andrew Peterson, '16

No more free time for students who complete their homework

By: Catie Staff [Co-Executive Editor]

Every teen knows the unwritten rule that each year, homework gets harder and the amount assigned gets larger. It's overwhelming and each teen has a different way to cope, whether that's by setting it aside until after supper or writing an angry status about how much work there is and how little time there is to do it. It truly is outrageous when a single class assigns four papers and allows the students less than two days to complete them.

Studies by Professor Harris Cooper of Duke University have shown that having ridiculous amounts of homework becomes harmful to learning and doesn't always equate to higher grades. The studies have been consistent with the 10-minute rule, which means that freshmen have an hour and a half of homework, while seniors end up having two hours of homework or

more. Beyond two hours, the assignments cease to teach and just add stress.

Group assignments can be both helpful and counterproductive, depending on which students are placed on the team. A group effort only works if every member of the team is giving 100% and getting their own work done. If one member of the group doesn't help with the assignment or complete their part, the other members are left with extra work. It's not reasonable to base a grade only on teamwork while disregarding personal achievement.

In-class work can be an excellent way to reduce the amount of assignments the students take home and it provides an opportunity for the serious students to save their after-school free-time. It limits the work-time and attention that can be put into the assignments. Students can end up wasting their gained free-time by worrying and hoping that they have enough time to finish it the next day.

Tough classes prepare students for college, which is why they are filled with more curriculum and papers. But this homework should be assigned more evenly and teachers should be in communication with one another about big assignments so they can work together. Students also need to be responsible and schedule their assignments according to due dates and priority. Instead of cramming most of the work into a couple of days, spread the homework out week by week and allowing plenty of time to refine the homework to the best it can be.



Mickala Pelley, Mariah McSweeney, and Whitney LaKose, all '13, study in the library and prepare for their classes with insane amounts of homework.

Hours of Homework

According to the "10 Minute Rule"

6th grade - 1 hour

Freshman - 1.30 hours

Sophomore - 1.40 hours

Junior - 1.50 hours

Senior - 2 hours

4 ACTIVITIES

Bonnie Morrison shares about how it feels to be part of the archery team. See "The real life Hunger Games hero" to find out about this highly competitive sport.

Wrestling: more than just a sport

Varsity wrestlers discuss their passion for the tough, grueling game.

By: Jordan Hansen [Activities Editor]

For three Marion seniors, wrestling is more than just a sport, it's a lifestyle. Their passion and intensity has a variety of sources. It comes from parents, siblings and themselves, where it is deep within their own body and soul. Many sports have passion, but wrestling takes that concept and brings it to a whole new level entirely.



Mitch Ross, senior

Kyle Grandon, Dakota Peterson, and Mitch Ross have committed themselves to wrestling for a good portion of their athletic careers. Kyle in 2nd grade, Mitch in 4th, and Dakota in 8th. Their reasons for originally joining are just about as diverse as the length they have been wrestling. For Dakota it's because, "I wasn't involved at any sports at the time, and it seemed like something I could do for fun. I'm also a pretty competitive person." For Kyle and Mitch, wrestling blood runs in the family. "I started because my Dad was a wrestler in high school, and at that time your parents put

you in any sport they can think of. It's also a challenge and I like being challenge," Mitch said. In Kyle's case, it had a lot to do with his older brother, "My brother wrestled and I looked up to my brother. From the first day I loved it, and even now I still wrestle because my brother wrestled throughout high school."

-Mitch Ross '13

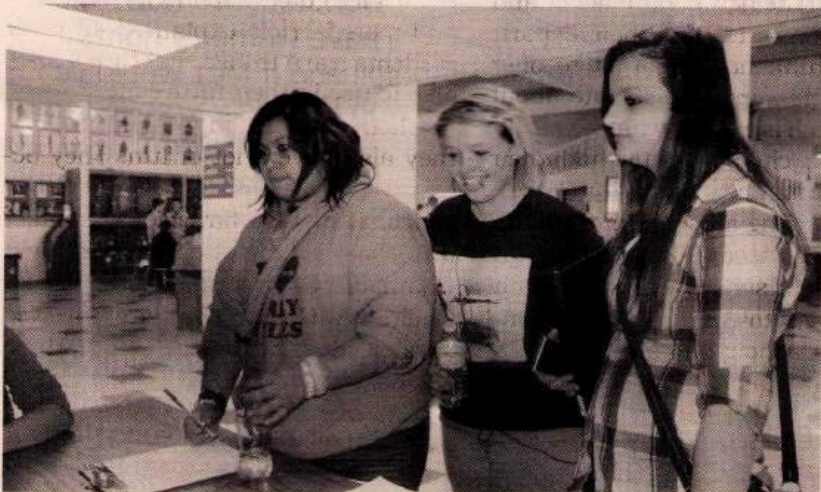
While some things that are said about wrestling can sometimes be misleading, there are a few things that they want people to know about the sport they live and breathe. For Dakota, it's all about getting people to try it, "Definitely worth coming down to try it out, because you might fall in love with it like I did. Even if you try it and don't like it, come down to a meet and cheer us on." Something about wrestling that many people don't understand is the amount of work that goes into it. "If you've never gone out before it's going to be pretty hard to come out, because our practices are pretty intense. Everybody thinks football is



Dakota Peterson and Kyle Grandon, seniors, wrestle during pre-season open mat to get better before the season starts.

great, but it doesn't have the hardest practices, I'd say wrestling is in the top two," Mitch commented. Remember, this is coming from a three-year starting varsity lineman who has played football for a long time.

For these three wrestlers, the sport is as much of a passion as it is a lifestyle. Through their passion and the support of their fans, coaches, and teammates, they will hopefully compel the entire team to new heights this wrestling season.



Students line up for bracelets from Spectrum during Ally Week.

Spectrum Diversity Group

By: Kylie McAllister, [Ads Editor]

It was Wednesday, the final bell rang and he shuffled down the hectic hallway. He walked into the cool, quiet library at school and set up for the Spectrum meeting that he and other peers are in charge of running.

Hunter Gillaspie, junior, likes to do his homework and go to work after school, but he is also part of the spectrum diversity group at Marion. The Spectrum group meets every Wednesday, after school, in the library. "[The group has] only really been here for one year, but I have never really been bullied at this school," said Hunter. He doesn't think that the group has affected the school or the community much yet.

Hunter is one of the leaders of the group along with Caiti Spradlin, Casey Jones, and Hailey Held. When they meet, one of the things that the spectrum diversity group discusses is LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender) History

Month. LGBT History Month recognizes 31 different lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender icons in the month of October. Each day of the month one of the people is recognized.

The group also talks about Ally Week. Ally week is when groups all around America identify, support, and celebrate Allies against anti-LGBT. Allies are people who are not recognized as LGBT students but they support them by encouraging anti-bullying. The last thing the group talks about are going to different conferences.

Anyone can join the group and become an Ally to support anti-bullying against LGBT's. "Anyone can join if they want," Hunter mentioned. There are about twenty other people in the group. Anyone is welcome to join.

Hunter helps keep the Spectrum meeting running with the other leaders. The group finishes up and Hunter leaves proudly.

The real life Hunger Games hero

By: Catie Staff [Co-Executive Editor]

This year Archery has become more popular than ever with the Hunger Games movie coming out, the TV show Walking Dead starting season 3 and video games such as Runescape using archery techniques. There are other teens that enjoyed the sport long before they had even heard of the books or movie and they are the ones committed to Marion's Archery team.

One such girl is Bonnie Morrison, sophomore. She was on the Marion Archery team last year and she's signed up to do it again this year. "I've done archery in the past, just in middle school and stuff," Bonnie said. "It's not that I wouldn't do the other sports, it's just that, for some reason, I like archery better." She's very dedicated to the sport, though it can be very expensive.

Students can borrow equipment from the school, but Bonnie owns her own bow. "I bought my own last year. My mom got a really good sale on it at Gander Mountain. It's like a whole kit for less than \$150, which is really good," She said. A set could include a standard Genesis bow, Genesis arrow, arm guards, and quivers.

Bonnie isn't the only person in her family to own archery equipment. "I just found out from my uncle when he came to visit that he got a bow and target stuff

for my cousins." An archer on the Marion team would need targets if he or she wanted to practice outside of school.

There are about four meetings during the season, each one with less students attending than before as the competitions get closer. "We just start the season with maybe 30 or 40 [students] from the first couple meetings and it usually goes down to about 15 or 20 by the time we actually go to competitions," Bonnie explained. They usually meet in the gold gym or at Affinity Archery in Cedar Rapids.

Mrs. Dostal and Mr. Klosterman are the adults coaching and overseeing the official practices, and students can practice outside of school if they need to learn more than the basics. "I don't, but I know people who do," Bonnie said. "Like the Klosterman family is a big archery family." Archery, like most sports, can become a lifestyle.

Archery is a passion in Bonnie's life and she wants other people to experience the fun. "If you're interested in it at all, you should join and actually make a commitment to it because it's a lot of fun. And it's a lot of work." Bonnie sends out a challenge to anyone who is even curious.

The Hunger Games book series wasn't the reason Bonnie joined archery, but it inspired her. Archery season has started, but Mrs. Dostal has more information about archery and people check out some of the practices.



Bonnie Morrison, sophomore, borrows a bow from Mrs. Dostal to practice archery in the gym.

Emi Banes, junior, talks about her passion for basketball and how she has to take things seriously while having fun in "Blazing hot Banes."

ACTIVITIES 5

Blazing hot Banes ballin' it up and down the court this season

Read about Emi Banes, junior, and her passion for basketball as well as what she looks forward to this upcoming season.

By: Claire Nash [Photo Editor]

She puts on her jersey and laces up her shoes. She walks in with her fellow teammates and is surrounded by a crowd of friendly familiar faces of family and friends. The sounds of basketballs repetitively hit against the floor. Warm up music blasting through the speakers. It's game time!

Emi Banes, junior, has been playing basketball since the third grade. "I started playing because I was just really interested in the sport," she said. Emi has made a lot of progress over the years in the sport. "Growing up and watching college and NBA basketball really kind of pushed me, but also my overall dream is to play for UNC," she explained. Emi says that she

would love to have a future in the sport, and to carry on her basketball career and that if she got that opportunity that it would be amazing.

Being a basketball player isn't just all fun and games. "During the preseason I am doing two workouts a week with Ellis Paige, and lifting Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and shooting as much as I can in my free time," Emi said. Basketball has its pros and cons though, just like how everything else does in this crazy but beautiful life. "Getting in shape, being with friends, and playing what I love for an awesome coach are the pros. And I don't think that there are really any cons, the only thing is that it is a huge commitment. It's four to five months of dedication but it's

worth it!" she explained. Some of the keys to her success are hard work and dedication through the good and bad times.

With every sport there are traditions. "My pregame traditions are hanging out with Amanda Sahm and Michalyn Mohr! Then jamming and dancing!" Said Emi. The team has a very strong bond. Her goal for this season is to go to state. Since it is a new year it is also a new season which means that there are a few slight differences from last year to now. "I don't think that we are much different, we lost some key players, but next man in, new people are going to step up." She explained. Emi looks forward to the season and everything that comes with it.



Emi Banes, '14, dribbles around a Storming Pointers player during last year's basketball season.

Choir member Tricia Cannavo shares about her passion for music

By: Becca Hall [Staff Writer]

She pulled out her sheet music and found her spot on the risers. They were all ready to sing all seven of their All-



Tricia spends time practicing her music with Mr. Dyrland.

State pieces. They were not looking for perfection, but close to it. When they started to sing, a fantastic melody filled the room. Their improvement was phenomenal and everyone watching the performance was intrigued.

Tricia Cannavo is one of the many very gifted singers involved in choir here at MHS. She has always had a love for singing and enjoyed choir. Even though she hasn't always attended Marion she has been in choir at St. Joseph Catholic School since she was "a little tike." She transferred to Marion her freshman year and made sure she enrolled in choir. Tricia plans on staying in choir until graduation.

Even though it is only in the beginning of the second quarter, Mr.

Dyrland (the choir's new director) has already pushed the choir to grow and improve. Tricia said, "My freshman and sophomore years [in choir] weren't the best, but now it's going really well and improving a lot!" Tricia is very fond of the new choir teacher and his plans to better the choir department. "I think he's got a lot to offer for us! He is super passionate about [choir], which is exactly what we need!"

The choir recently had their first performance, the fall concert, where they sang all seven of their All-State pieces. According to Tricia the concert was a success, "It went really well. We were told it was the best one in a while!" Choir has already had a lot of improvement.

Choir isn't just about the performances; they practice every day for a block to improve their vocal strength and sound. It prepares students for the future. "You learn a lot more than you might think. It's not all about music. It's language, emotion, challenges and more," Tricia explained. In choir students learn things that they will be able to use in their future life.

Choir can be tough at times, but they also have a lot of fun. They occasionally sing well known, up to date songs. They also have many smaller branches of choir; such as Jazz Choir, Chamber Choir, Bass Clef, Show Choir, and Cantori. Tricia is involved in choir along with Jazz Choir, which she enjoys very much.

Titans start off a new season

By: Haley Shaffer [Social Media Editor]

The Cedar Rapids Titans football team is part of the Indoor Football League (in its fifth season). This is only the Titans' second season in the league. The home games are played at the Cedar Rapids Ice Arena. Last year, the team sold out four of its eight home games and had a rather successful season. The Titans could use all the support they can get, so if students and their families are ever looking for something to do on a weekend or want to support their town, they should stop by a Titans football game!

Titans Football Schedule for 2013:

Date:	Location:
February 7th	Preseason game
February 16th	vs. Chicago Slaughter
February 23rd	@ Chicago Slaughter
March 1st	vs. Texas Revolution
March 8th	vs. Wyoming Cavalry
March 16th	Bye Week
March 23rd	@ Sioux Falls Storm
March 30th	vs. Green Bay Blizzard
April 6th	@ Chicago Slaughter
April 13th	@ Wyoming Cavalry
April 20th	vs. Chicago Slaughter
April 27th	@ Green Bay Blizzard
May 4th	Bye Week
May 11th	vs. Sioux Falls Storm
May 18th	@ Green Bay Blizzard
May 25th	@ Texas Revolution
June 1st	Bye Week
June 8th	vs. Green Bay Blizzard

**All games start at 7:05 p.m.

StreetSmarts

319-364-4884 Driver Education

StreetSmartsDriversEd.com

Save \$10!

When you sign-up with a friend!

(Must pay by check or money order to receive discount using the print-out registration form)

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF BUSINESS!

Location: Indian Creek Mall
Room: 131 B

Class Session	Dates	Days	Time
IND-78	1/8-2/14	T & Th	6:00-8:30P
IND-79	2/18-4/3	M & Wed	6:00-8:30P
IND-80	2/19-4/4	T & Th	6:00-8:30P
IND-81	4/15-5/15	M & Wed	6:00-9:00P
IND-82	4/16-5/16	T & Th	6:00-9:00P

Go to StreetSmartsDriversEd.com to register and view other class locations!

We are fully licensed by the Iowa Department of Education and the Iowa Department of Transportation.

Thankfulness: what matters to these MHS sophomores

What are these students thankful for this year and why? What really matters to them? See what these sophomores have to say

Breiana Brown [Co-Executive editor]



"I am thankful for friends my family, without them I would not be who I am today."

-Amanda Sahn



"I am thankful for my family and my dogs, because they make me happy."

-Peyton Bourgeois



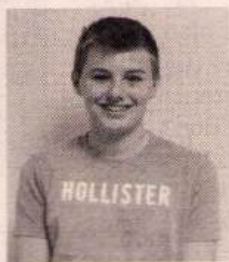
"I'm thankful for my family and God, because without them I would not be who I am today."

-Sara Farnham



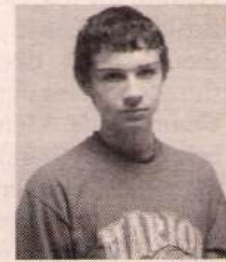
"I'm Thankful for sports because they make life enjoyable."

-Derek Smith



"I am thankful for having a caring family, and really good friends who have helped me through a lot."

-Tyler Lerch



"I'm thankful for family and basketball because they're always there for me."

-Craig Engle

Black Friday: shopping efficiently through holiday madness

By: Kayla Comried [Staff Writer]

Stores open at the crack of dawn, shoppers shop until they drop, sales explode, and the cost of merchandise plummets to the lowest prices of the year. All these wonderful things happen on one exclusive day we know as Black Friday. Black Friday ironically falls on the day directly after Thanksgiving, when we give thanks for all that we have. We give thanks for the things we have, and then the next morning, at the crack of dawn, we wake up and shop! Shopping on Black Friday is nothing like a trip to the grocery store so here is how to be prepared. Before the shopping begins everyone needs to have a clear understanding of how long the lines are at the store. Everyone needs to abide by kindergarten rules and wait their turn in line. This gives the police and

store managers a much more enjoyable Black Friday experience along with the shoppers. If these simple rules can be carried out, we can move on to the actual shopping portion.

While in the store don't have a loose grip on any merchandise, for crazies like to steal to get in and out quicker!

The first step within the shopping portion is to look through the Gazette. On Black Friday the Gazette just happens to be the size of a textbook. This provides a way to know exactly what needs to be purchased and where. It also allows for coupon retrieval which can save the smartest of shoppers hundreds of dollars. The second step is to arrive su-

per early. Arriving early ensures a spot in line and a way to get in and out of the store as quickly as possible. This leads to the third step. Try to get in and out of the store quick. This rule has a rule of its own. While in the store don't have a loose grip on any merchandise, for crazies like to steal to get in and out quicker! Getting in and out speedy quick confirms arrival to the next store sooner. The last step is to repeat the process until everything desired has been retrieved. These guidelines are just the bare necessities, but should get any rookie through their first round of Black Friday.

This holiday season, when Black Friday rolls around, get up, and shop until standing isn't an option.



"My favorite part is before everything opens and your waiting to get in, and then sprinting for the thing you want."

- Justine Remling, '15



"My favorite part is hanging out with my dad."

- Tyler VanWey, '16



"My favorite part is camping out, obviously."

-Dalton Runde, '14

Behind the scenes look at a girl who faked a pregnancy to prove her point

By: Catie Staff [Co-Executive Editor]

The high school library is a busy place when classes are constantly going in and out to use the computers and study groups are meeting to discuss homework assignments, but there are times between lunches when it's a quiet sanctuary. The librarian will gladly give her advice to anyone who asks, "Which book should I read?" She recommends the "New books" shelf where a curious reader can find several different genres by many authors.

One great read that came out this year is The Pregnancy Project, a Memoir by Gaby Rodriguez and Jenna Glatzer. It's 218 pages, not too long or short, with an eye-catching cover and "sneak peek." The name may sound feminine or auto-biographical, but The Pregnancy Project reads like a novel and has a story for guys and girls alike.

It starts with a girl telling the true story of her family background. She explains that her mother was a teen mom with many kids. Her mother's marriage was messy and all her children were taken away from her until they were grown, except for Gaby, the storyteller, whose life was almost as sad. The intro is long and the reader has to push through it, but it is also well-written and explains why Gaby didn't want to become a teen parent like most of her brothers and sisters.

The story gets interesting when Gaby has an in-

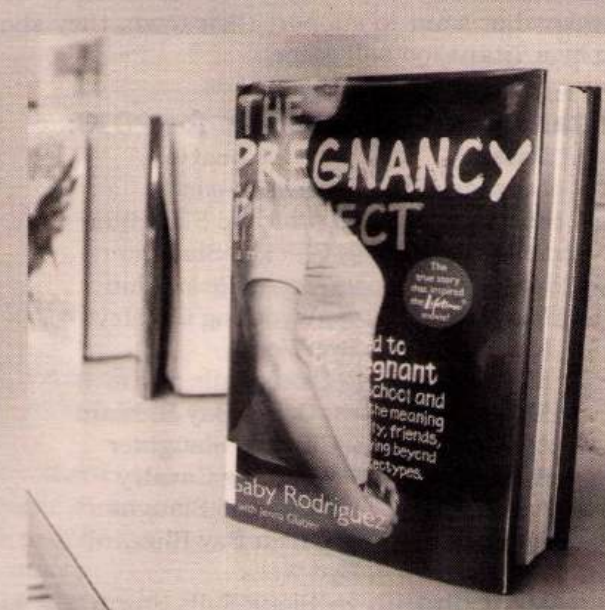
spiring idea for her senior project. She explains to a few teachers that she wants to fake a pregnancy and document how people react and how she feels every day. The adults are hesitant to accept her proposal, but they decide that it is a worthwhile assignment. She only tells her mom, boyfriend, and best friend.

The story is full of good advice for dealing with judgement and making good life choices. Gaby doesn't try to tell the readers what to do; she just points out that teens don't have to make bad choices because people expect them to or they have a bad home life. The book not only talks about breaking stereotypes, but gives a real-life example of how to do it.

The final chapters of the book are about Gaby's experiences with the press after she revealed her false pregnancy in front of the entire school. She doesn't just drop the story at the most climactic point, but writes about the impact she had on schools and individuals across the nation. It was stressful for her to give up her privacy, but she constantly reminds the readers that it is a worthwhile sacrifice because she has changed people's lives through television, newspapers, blogs and her book.

The Pregnancy Project is an experience that allows readers to walk a mile in someone else's shoes. It speaks out against judging and describes the re-

ality of consequences. It is a satisfying read that every high school student would learn from and enjoy. Check out The Pregnancy Project by Gaby Rodriguez the next time your class takes you to the library, or grab it off the shelf when you have a moment of free time.



The Pregnancy Project is in the library on the new books shelf just inside.

Got the munchies? "Heavenly hunger-stopping holiday treats" offers great recipes to end the hunger and stop the tummy pain.

7 ENTERTAINMENT

Heavenly hunger-stopping holiday treats

Check out these easy to make holiday recipes that will spice up your family get togethers!

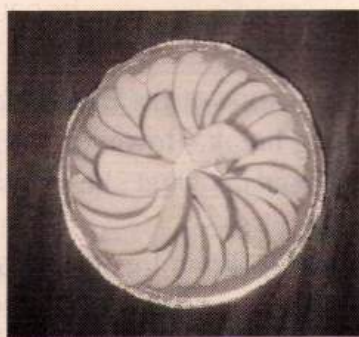
By: Taylor Millis [Feature Editor]

Caramel apple pie

Makes one pie

Ingredients:

½ Package (about 24) of caramels
1 tablespoon of milk
1 ready made graham cracker pie crust (6 oz.)
1/3 cup of chopped nuts
1 package (8 oz.) Cream cheese, softened
1/2 cup of sour cream
2 tablespoons sugar
1/2 cup of chunky applesauce
2 tablespoons of vanilla
½ Teaspoon of cinnamon
3 ½ Cups of whipped cream (8 oz.)
Fresh apple slices



A delicious caramel apple pie

until smooth. Pour into crust; sprinkle with nuts. Cool. Beat cream cheese, sour cream and sugar until smooth; stir in applesauce, vanilla and cinnamon. Fold in half of the whipped topping. Spread mixture over the caramel layer in crust. Chill for at least 4 hours. Garnished with remaining whipped topping, apple slices and melted caramels, if desired. Store in refrigerator.

Instructions:

Melt the caramel with milk in small microwavable bowl at high 1- 1½ Minutes; stir mixture

Snickers surprise cookies



Goody Snicker centered cookies

Makes 18 cookies

Ingredients:

1 (18 oz.) tube refrigerated peanut butter cookie dough
18 Snickers Brand Minis, unwrapped
1 (16 oz.) container vanilla frosting
Red and green food coloring

Instructions:

Divide the dough into 1 tablespoons pieces and flatten

Place a Snickers Brand Mini in the center of each piece of dough. Form the dough into a ball around each Snickers Brand Mini. Place on nonstick cookie sheet and bake in a preheated 350 degree oven for 10-12 minutes or until golden brown.

Let cookies cool on baking sheet for 3 minutes and then move them onto a baking rack or waxed paper to cool completely. Divide the frosting into two bowls. Tint one bowl red and the other green. Place colored frosting into separate resealable bags. Snip a corner of each bag and drizzle cookies with frostings.

The epic finale of Twilight

By: Uriah Lekin [Staff Writer]

Twilight, mania fans its almost here! Bella Swan is finally getting what she has wanted to be from the very beginning, to be a vampire. Bella and Edward Cullen are now parents to a newborn baby named Renesmee. Jacob Black, who Bella didn't choose has imprinted on their daughter and has fallen madly in love with her, but now something threatens their happily ever after. They're forced once again to stand together to take down the Volturi that now threatens their happily ever after.

Twilight Breaking Dawn Part 2 is going to leave fans crying, star struck, and with their jaw dropped. The finale to the most famous love

story next to Romeo and Juliet is coming to a close.

The Volturi believe's her daughter is an immortal child, which is considered in their eyes an abomination and must be destroyed. Bella and Edward search now frantically across the world to find other Vampires to come help them defend their daughter from death and to also save their family. The wolves and vampires will break a long feud that has been between the covens for many years and face off with the Volturi to save one soul that seems so precious to them all.

On November 16, at midnight the biggest event of the year will



"I'm excited to see how it ends I can't wait."
-Danielle Dunne, '16



"I'm excited to see the werewolves back in action on the big screen."
Keavon Jones, '14

bring fans to their knees and bring money to the box office. But no one will be prepared for the ending that is coming.

Top movie mania

By: Kiersten Kiene [Design Editor]

Movies are a huge pastime for Americans, and even for people around the world. Many of the greatest movies are not from today's generation and don't contain the greatest special effects or even color. Some of the top movies of all time are ones from over seventy years ago. Such as *Gone With the Wind*, which is the top grossing film of all time (adjusted due to inflation), according to filmsite.org.

Many movies made today are just as good as older movies as well. According to filmsite.org, the top grossing movie of 2012, so far, is *Marvel's the Avengers*. Other top grossing movies within the last decade are *Harry Potter and the Sorcerers Stone*, 2001, and *Avatar*, 2009.

But all of the movies that are within the top grossing are not just one genre. They range from actions, to romance, and even science fiction. It show that great movies come from many different genres, and appeal to different audiences. There is no one greatest movie of all time.

Top movies of all time:

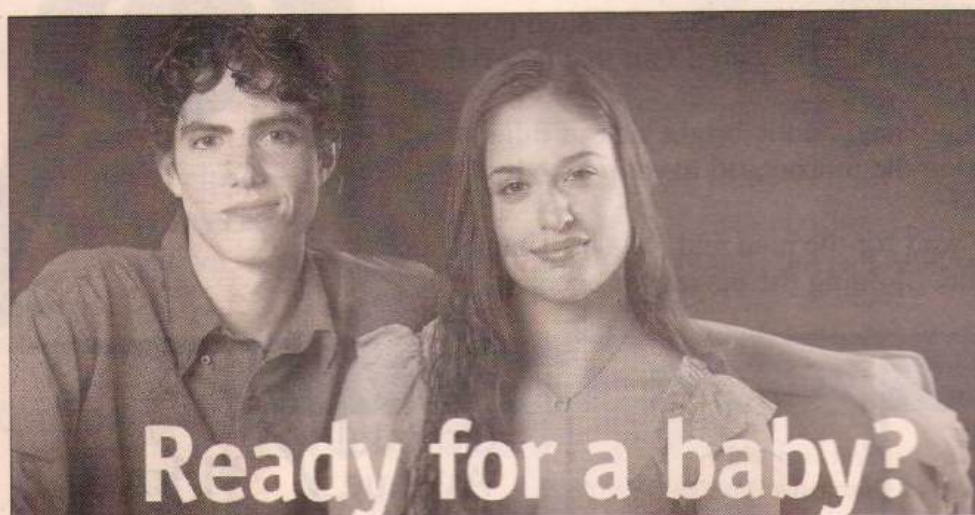
(Adjusted due to inflation)

1. *Gone with the Wind* (1939)
2. *Star Wars: Episode IV - A New Hope* (1977)
3. *The Sound of Music* (1965)
4. *E.T.* (1982)
5. *Titanic* (1997)
6. *The Ten Commandments* (1956)
7. *Jaws* (1975)
8. *Doctor Zhivago* (1965)
9. *The Exorcist* (1973)
10. *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* (1937)

Top movies through the decades:

- 1930: *Gone with the Wind* (1939)
1940: *Bambi* (1942)
1950: *Lady and the Tramp* (1955)
1960: *The Sound of Music* (1965)
1970: *Star Wars* (1977)
1980: *E.T.* (1982)
1990: *Titanic* (1997)
2000: *Avatar* (2009)
2010 (so far): *Marvel's the Avengers* (2012)

Info from: filmsite.org



Ready for a baby?

Not now.

Make smart choices. Free or low-cost birth control and condoms. Plus STD testing and treatment. St. Luke's Family Health Center.

text: *notnow* to 90820
www.FreeBirthControl.org



ST. LUKE'S
HOSPITAL
IOWA HEALTH SYSTEM
Family Health Center

-The future is going to happen.
-Why not be smart about yours?
-Free or low-cost birth control.

"Food is the greatest gift of all time"

Price: 240
Illinois Avenue

Price: \$220
Indiana Avenue

Price: \$220
Chance

Price: \$220
Kentucky Avenue

Free Parking

By: Kiersten Kiene [Design Editor]

For most, family is one of the most important things about Thanksgiving break. However, to Brittnee High, '16, spending time with friends is what she plans on doing instead.

Some people enjoy having lots and lots of people that they can hang out with whenever, but Brittnee likes to keep a close group of best friends. "[My best friends are] Tia, William Randall, Sierra Meier, and Melin," Brittnee said.

Brittnee always finds best friends. "We go a lot," said Brittnee. It is an accomplishment if a group of friends find something to do and have fun doing it.

Without more dull. "[If memories of times that we've had together would be gone." Thankfully the times that she has had happened and she can live with those memories.

Being thankful for friendship is one thing that most people will experience this Thanksgiving Break.

friends

a way to have fun and spend time with her to movies, have sleepovers, and just talk a is quite than an

friendship, the world would be less joyful and I never met my friends] I would be sad. The that we've had together would be gone."

Thanksgiving break is a chance for students and teachers to relax after the beginning of the school year and be thankful for everything in life. When thinking of things to be thankful for, most people would answer with love, friendship, or parents. But for Tamara Mull, '13, food is among the things that she will be thankful for this Thanksgiving break.

Thanksgiving dinner is more than just a dinner to Tamara, it is a once per year deal. "[I eat] at least twice as much as I normally do, so probably two to three pounds [of food]" Tamara exclaimed. Taking advantage of

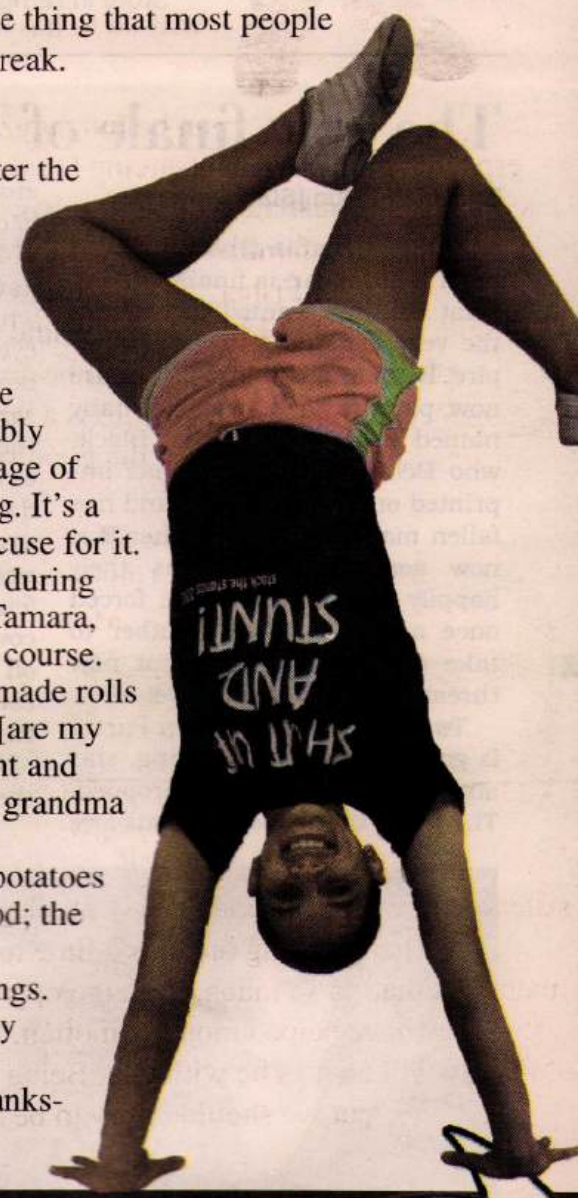
Everybody has Thanksgiving, and she loves the "My grandma's and ham with ham favorite]. "The rolls flaky, and the ham is always good because my grandma adds fruit to the sauce, which makes it complementary."

Just like the favorites, everybody has their least favorites. "Mashed potatoes and gravy are my least favorite," said Tamara. "They aren't all that good; the gravy is bland. Although I do like KFC's gravy!"

For Tamara, Thanksgiving isn't always seen on the bright side of things. "My grandma and mom get up at 5:30 in the morning to have it done by lunchtime, so I get stuck doing the dishes."

Tamara has only one more week to wait for the ham and rolls on Thanksgiving day. And hopefully, she'll get out of doing the dishes for once.

food



"I love KFC's gravy!"

Price: \$100
Oriental Avenue

Price: \$100
Chance

Price: \$100
Vermont Avenue

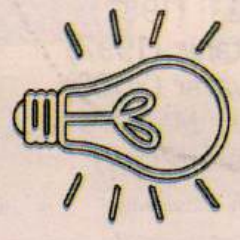
Price: \$120
Connecticut Avenue



Just Visiting

Price: \$140
St. Charles Place

Price: \$150
Electric Company



Price: 100
Virginia Avenue

\$200
Railroad






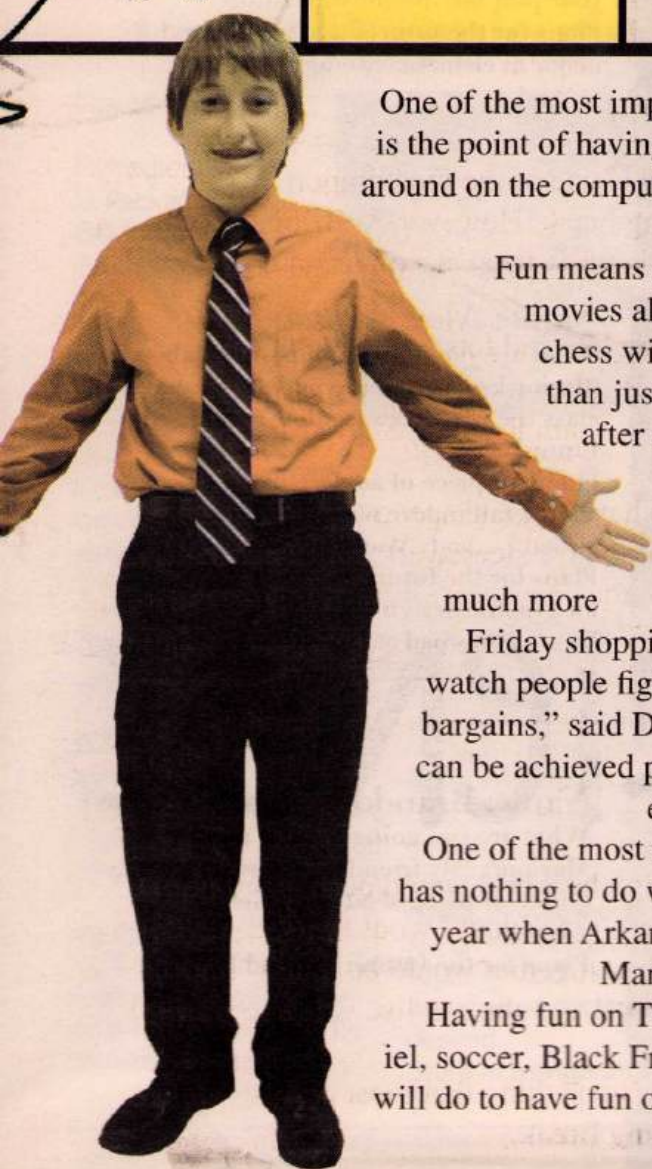
"My favorite thing to do with friends is watch scary movies!"

Price: \$180
St. Mary's Place

Price: \$200
New York Avenue



 Railroad \$200	Atlantic Avenue Price: \$260	 Water Works Price: \$150	Ventnor Avenue Price: \$260	Marvin Gardens Price: \$280	
--	---------------------------------	--	--------------------------------	--------------------------------	--



One of the most important things to do over Thanksgiving Break is to have fun. What is the point of having a break from school if you're just going to do homework and sit around on the computer all day? However, for Daniel Tribble, 14, he will not be missing out on any fun this Thanksgiving Break.

Fun means different things to different people. Sometimes it means watching movies all day in pajamas, being outside in the wilderness, or even playing chess with a grandparent, but in Daniel's eyes, there is more fun to be had than just sitting around alone all day. "[I would say fun] is playing soccer after school everyday with Matt Minks and Brandon See," said Daniel.

Having fun is more than just doing nothing.

But for Thanksgiving Break, Daniel has plans to do much more than play soccer.

Friday shopping is so much fun. I watch people fight with each other bargains," said Daniel. Much more can be achieved people watching than any- else on Black Friday.

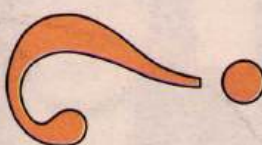
One of the most exciting things that has ever happened to Daniel on Thanksgiving has nothing to do with soccer or Black Friday. "The best Thanksgiving was that one year when Arkansas beat LSU in the fourth quarter! That was a great comeback!"

Many people use a Thanksgiving day football game as a fun pastime.

Having fun on Thanksgiving break can range from person to person. But for Daniel, soccer, Black Friday shopping, and a Thanksgiving day football game is what he will do to have fun over the upcoming and well anticipated break.

fun

North Carolina Avenue	Price: \$300
-----------------------	--------------

Chance	
--------	---

Pennsylvania Avenue	Price: \$320
---------------------	--------------

Railroad \$200	
----------------	---

 "I spend a lot of time with my family!"	Price: 350
--	------------

Boardwalk	Price: \$400
-----------	--------------

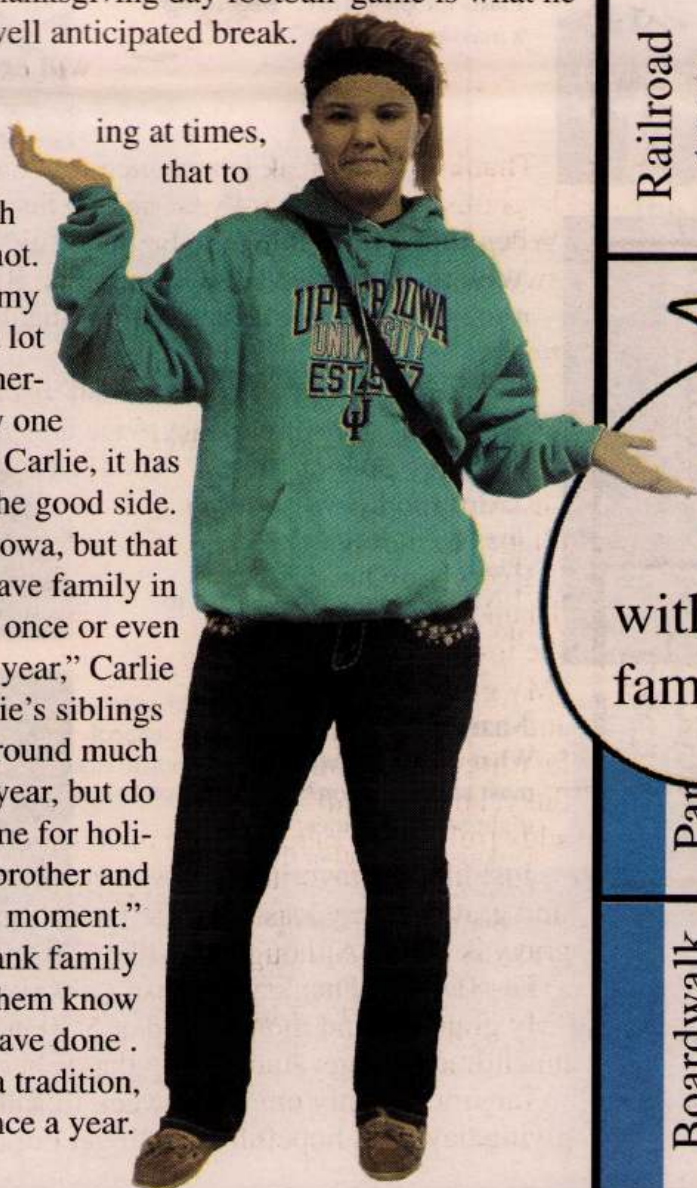
Family can be fun, aggravating, and even embarrassing at times, especially during Thanksgiving break. Families are supposed to do each other, it is just the way of life. Not all people have a problem with their families and want to be with them more often than not.

Carlie Fisher, 16, enjoys to be around her family. "I love my whole family, but I love to be around my mother the most. I learn a lot from her and she is fun to be around and to talk to." The mother-daughter relationship is a very powerful thing, it can sway one way or another, to the good side or the bad. Thankfully for Carlie, it has swayed to the good side.

Carlie may not have all of her family here in Iowa, but that doesn't mean she doesn't get to see them. "I have family in Florida and Montana. I get to see them once or even twice a year," Carlie said. Carlie's siblings aren't around much during the year, but do come home for holidays. "My brother and sister are in college so I am pretty much an only child at the moment."

Thanksgiving break is a time to honor family members that do so much. Take the opportunity and let them know that they have helped more than often. And never forget what they have done. Family will always be with you. Being thankful on Thanksgiving is a tradition, but we should all try to be thankful every day, not just once a year.

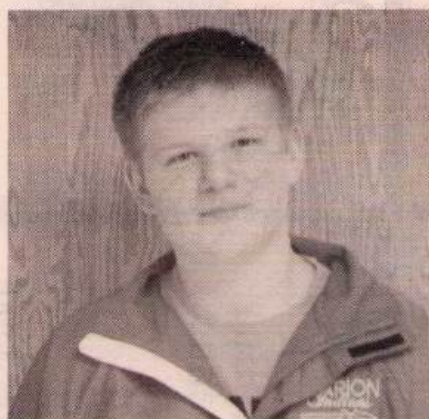
family



Railroad \$200 	INCOME TAX • PAY 10% OR \$200	Baltic Avenue Price: \$60	Community Chest  Follow Instructions on top of card	Mediterranean Avenue Price: \$60	COLLECT \$200 SALARY AS YOU PASS 
--	---	------------------------------	---	-------------------------------------	---

10 SENIOR INTERVIEWS

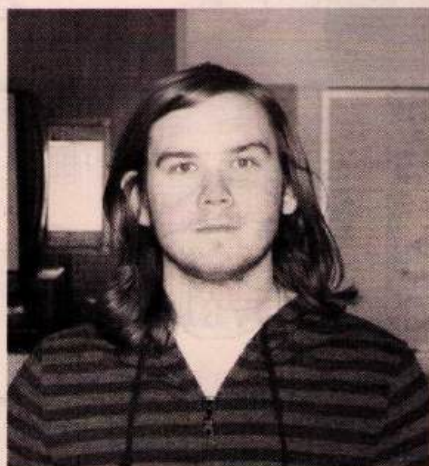
Seniors give more advice and quotes about remembering the past, planning for the future, falling in love and getting rich.



Name: James Craig
What are you going to miss most about Marion?: "Band, friends, Quinn Lamb."
Quote or piece of advice: "Just be the best you can be."
Plans for the future: "Airforce."



Name: Sarah Eimers
What are you going to miss most about Marion?: "I will miss my friends and dancing in my sunroof."
Quote or piece of advice: "Remember your past but live for your future."
Plans for the future: "Go to UNI and major in elementary education."



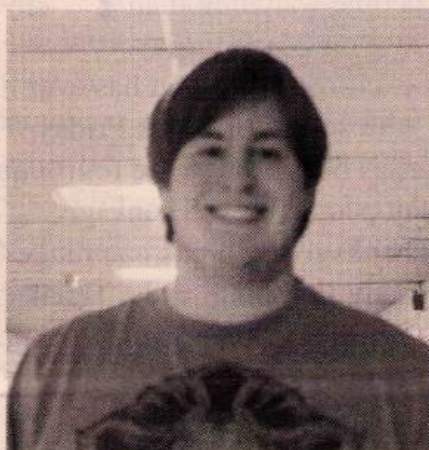
Name: Sean Darland
What are you going to miss most about Marion?: "My favorite teachers."
Quote or piece of advice: "Don't let life bog you down."
Plans for the future: "Iowa State for architecture and Army ROTC."



Name: Alex Estes
What are you going to miss most about Marion?: "I'll miss the people in my class the most because they're all pretty funny."
Quote or piece of advice: "People should fall in love with their eyes closed." - Andy Warhol
Plans for the future: "Attend Mt. Mercy for graphic design and visit England. Or study abroad at Huddensfeild Uni."



Name: Rachael Davis
What are you going to miss most about Marion?: "High school football and basketball games."
Quote or piece of advice: "Why fit in when you were born to stand out?" -Dr. Seuss
Plans for the future: "Becoming a massage therapist."



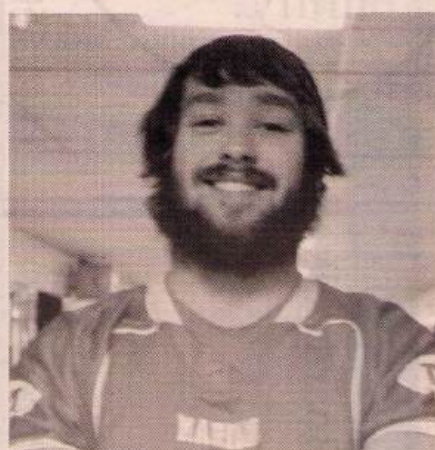
Name: Brandon Fagle
What are you going to miss most about Marion?: "My friends and easy classes."
Quote or piece of advice: "Get rich or die tryin'."
Plans for the future: "Attend UNI."



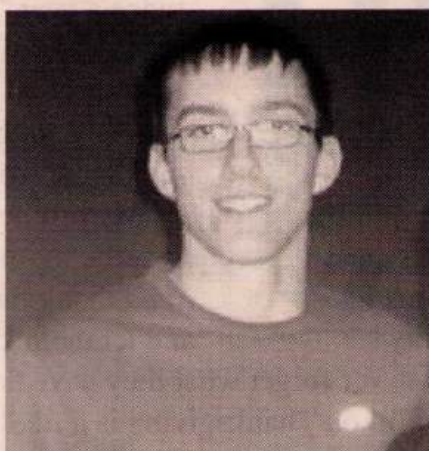
Name: Alice Dixon
What are you going to miss most about Marion?: "Football games, bowling, friends, homecoming and most of all SOCCER!"
Quote or piece of advice: "Live as if today were your last. Learn as if you were going to live forever."
Plans for the future: "Go to UNI. Figure out what I want to do. Be awesome."



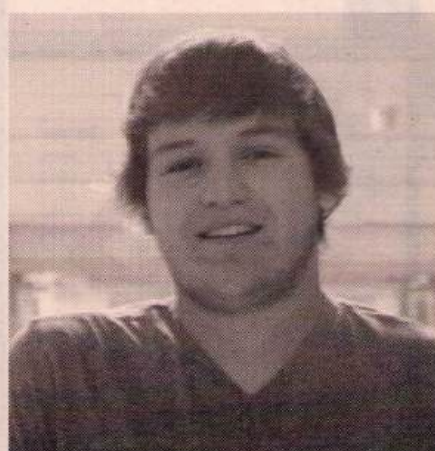
Name: Katlynn Fortner
What are you going to miss most about Marion?: "Not much"
Quote or piece of advice: "You can never change where you came from, but you can always change where you're going" -Josh Dyck
Plans for the future: "Hopefully, I'll be able to go to Illinois Christian College."



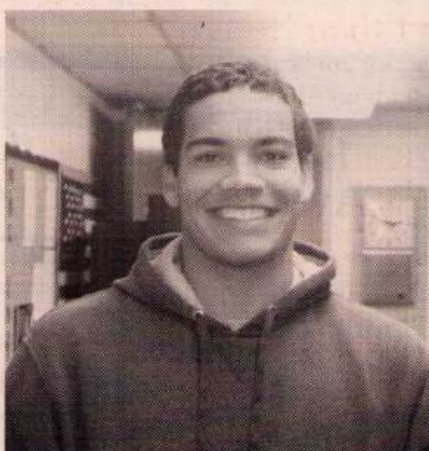
Name: Justin Dolley
What are you going to miss most about Marion?: "Friday night football games, Coach Perkins and Heather the trainer."
Quote or piece of advice: "Fear the beard!!"
Plans for the future: "Go to a two-year school and drive semis."



Name: Jacob Franck
What are you going to miss most about Marion?: "Small town, easy going. Next to Cedar Rapids [place to have fun]"
Quote or piece of advice: "Get out, go do things. Marion might be boring but it's a great place to go out for jogs or bike rides."
Plans for the future: "Navy."



Name: Max Drinkwine
What are you going to miss most about Marion?: "Becca Hall."
Quote or piece of advice: "Don't have gym with Becca Hall unless you want to have fun."
Plans for the future: "Live, live, 'YOLO'."



Name: Isaac Frazier
What are you going to miss most about Marion?: "Big J's awesome personality."
Quote or piece of advice: "Eicher is amazing." -Mrs. Eicher
Plans for the future: "Track and Feild in college, go into business, unknown where yet."

Some seniors want to go to a university and others want to go to a community college. Read about their hopes and dreams.

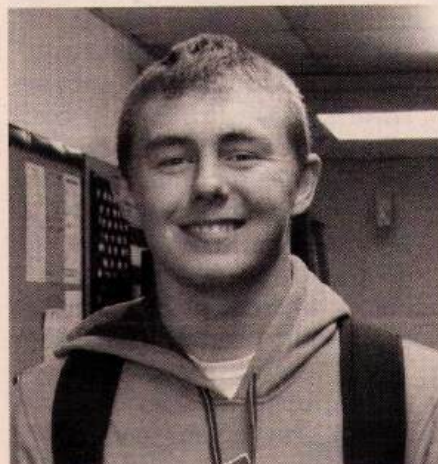
SENIOR INTERVIEWS 11



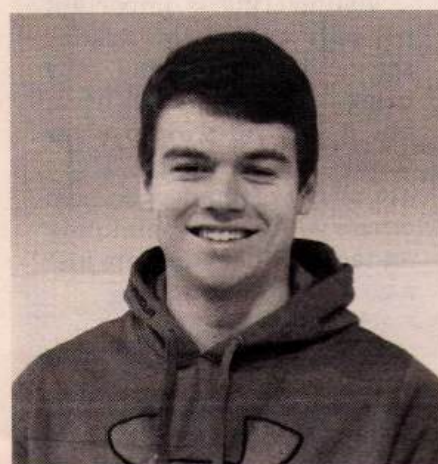
Name: Sam Gray
What are you going to miss most about Marion?: "Away games with Levi and Alex."
Quote or piece of advice: "Rarely the question is asked: Is our children learning?"
 -George Bush
Plans for the future: "University of Portland or Drake."



Name: Makenna Hill
What are you going to miss most about Marion?: "My friends and all the good times I've had."
Quote or piece of advice: "To have fun during high school because it goes by faster than you think."
Plans for the future: "To go to Kirkwood for two years to become a nurse."



Name: Ty Gunderson
What are you going to miss most about Marion?: "Friday nights, the boys, everyone's beautiful faces, school, sleepovers with Trev, being Spicoli."
Quote or piece of advice: "#calizois @yreiB_verT @ExJeezyCole @PherociousPhil @Andreezy3000."
Plans for the future: "Go to college and play football or basketball."



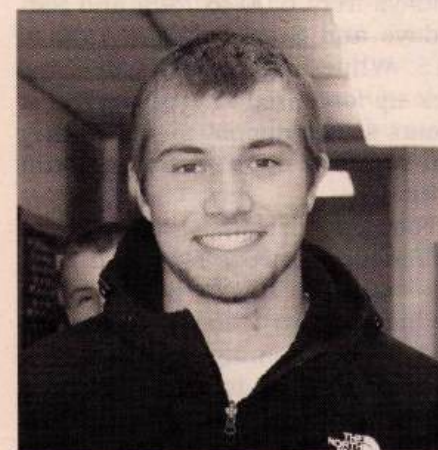
Name: Jared Hall
What are you going to miss most about Marion?: "Football and my friends."
Quote or piece of advice: "If you're not first, you're last."
Plans for the future: "Go to ISU for Aerospace Engineering."



Name: Jordan Hansen
What are you going to miss most about Marion?: "The football team and the brotherhood we have, the school and the people in it."
Quote or piece of advice: "The time is now. Go to work."
 -Mr. Clark
Plans for the future: "Go to the University of Iowa and figure out what I want to do with my life."



Name: Hayley Henderson
What are you going to miss most about Marion?: "The teachers and seeing my friends everyday."
Quote or piece of advice: "Work hard and never give up."
Plans for the future: "I would love to go to Capri College for cosmetology."



Name: Ethan Herren
What are you going to miss most about Marion?: "I'm going to miss playing everyday Friday night with my team, and making the most of every moment."
Quote or piece of advice: "When the opportunity is given, make the most of it."
Plans for the future: "Attend a four year university and play football and study Agricultural Science."



2694 5th Ave. Marion, IA 52302
 Office: (319) 373-1684 Cell: (319) 540-0002
Godspeedauto.norm.young@gmail.com



call Birthright

All Services and Pregnancy Tests
 Free and Confidential Since 1968

800-550-4900
 24 Hr Hotline

375 Collins Rd. NE, Suite 107
319-393-3251

www.birthright.org

The hidden treasures in Marion

By: Kiersten Kiene
[Design Editor]

For years now people have been going out of town to get what they want. It may be to places as close as Cedar Rapids or Hiawatha. Or even as far as Kalona or Des Moines. And sometimes even getting them online too. But little do most people know, they can get just what they are looking for right here in Marion. This whole time the things people want the most have been right under our noses. Things such as baked goods and toys can all be found in Marion.

Many people just go to the local supercenter or even go as far as Kalona to buy homemade baked goods. But why would someone go to a grocery store or travel miles out of town for yummy treats when Marion has a great bakery? The Kettle House cafe has been in Marion for a short time, but it's safe to say it's one of the greatest bakeries in town. They serve everything from kolaches to cookies and cinnamon rolls, and even

cupcakes. Now people don't have to wait for the farmers market to get great kolaches they can travel up the road a ways down to the Marion square and grab a delicious baked good treat!

Going to the supercenter may seem like a good plan, people can pick up some milk and bread, grab some gloves and a coat for winter, and even go Christmas shopping all in one place. Limiting shopping to one place can save gas, but it also limits the choices by more than what people think! Getting toys for siblings or even friends for Christmas sounds like fun, but why go to the supercenter when it is even more fun going to an actual toy shop? And guess what? It

too is right here in Marion. Intelligent Life Toys has also been here for a short time, but it does pack in tons of fun for people of all ages. Just walking in the door and seeing the two levels of fun sets off the child in every person, old or young. They also have a wide variety of toys such as scientific models, baby dolls, books, and animal toys of all sizes. So when shopping for someone for anything, check out this toy store and see what can be found.

So when looking for a gift or something for breakfast, try one of these wonderful places in the Marion Square to find exactly what fits the need.



The Kettle House Cafe and Intelligent Life toys shops.

Season not only receiving

By: Taylor Millis
[Feature Editor]

The holidays are not only about the food and receiving gifts but also about giving back to others. While receiving the gifts is fun, giving can be much better and more rewarding. There are many opportunities in the community for volunteering during the holidays and throughout the year.

During the holiday season, more chances to lend a hand in the community seem to appear and people start to think about volunteering a little bit more. Organizations like Salvation Army, have tons of volunteer options available for people of all ages. You can go ring the bell at the Kettle Drive at one of the many stores they have listed in Marion and Cedar Rapids. Or you can go to the can drive they are having to help fill their Holiday Food Bags. There are many other ways you can help this holiday season.

Even at school, there so many volunteering opportunities. Here at MHS we do our own Holiday Giving Project.

This is not only at MHS, it is a district-wide project where we get to come together to help those in need in our own district and community so that others can have a better holiday.

But why only help during the holidays when you can help year round? Going to a animal shelter or soup kitchen is a great way to volunteer throughout the year. Or during school you can volunteer for one of the staff in our district. Another way our school helps our community is our One Day in May project. This is an event where every student at the high school goes out to different places in the community and volunteers. There are so many volunteering opportunities at our school and in our community.

Volunteering is important not only during the holiday season because it not only helps those who are in need, but it is good way to show thanks and be humble. There are plenty of chances to help others within the community and to find them they are just a computer click away.

Finding food at Foundation Two

By: Storm Bogs [Web Editor]

As the holiday season rolls around, many people are thinking about all the presents they will receive, the great food they will eat and all the other festivities that they will participate in. For some, just trying to figure out what they will eat for the holidays, or even on a daily basis, can be very stressful. Some families are barely making ends meet and trying to get food on the table is a struggle. Luckily, there are some solutions for people that can't seem to catch a break.

While food stamps are always an option, it seems that it is a long, drawn out process to get them. An easier way to get food assistance is going to a food pantry. There are many pantries all over the area, and they are all there to help those in need. One food pantry in Cedar Rapids is called Foundation 2. While food assistance isn't the only thing that Foundation 2 does, it is still a great option.

According to Christy Martensen, the food pantry manager at Foundation 2, about 500 people go to this food pantry per month. In order to receive food, the client must bring a photo I.D., and they have to go through a screening process. While the majority of people going are 18 or older, there are a few cases every now and then where the client is younger. Clients can come in once

a month and receive a 2 day supply of food for each member living in their house.

Food items that are available for pick-up are non-perishable, dairy products, frozen meat, and meal packages that have already been made up. In addition to food, Foundation 2 also provides hygiene products, dog and cat food, diapers, and sometimes formula. Most food pantries receive their food from HACAP (Hawkeye Area Community Action Program), but there are other food assistance places that accept donations.

The food pantry at Foundation 2 is designed to be open on nights and weekends, when other pantries are closed. They are open on Mondays and Thursdays from 5:30

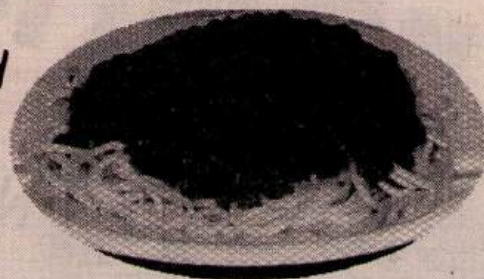
to 8:15, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 6:00 to 7:45, and Saturdays and Sundays from 1:00 to 3:15. While appointments to come pick up food aren't necessary, most clients set up appointments so they can be in and out in a short amount of time.

Food pantries are a great place to go if someone needs help with food. Especially during the holidays, not having to worry about where the next meal is coming from can be a huge relief. Also, to get in the holiday spirit, giving food to a food pantry can be great as well, and it helps out someone in need.

28th Anniversary Special

Every November Tuesday

Spaghetti Ala Cart, Bread & Drink Extra.
Dine-In Only. No Carry Outs or Doggy Bags.
No Substitutions. Not Valid With Any
other Special Offers. 1 Person per Order



Join the
Celebration

ALL YOU CAN EAT Spaghetti \$2.49

Participating Locations: Marion, SW Cedar Rapids
North Liberty
Anamosa, Iowa City
Restaurants Only

ZIO JOHNO'S

Est. 1984



SPAGHETTI HOUSE

The Hometown Taste of Italy

ziojohnsononline.com

Zio's Johnno's
Perfect Pastas

For
Fund Raisers, Parties,
Weddings And more...

"Catering available for
up to 10,001 People!"

So Much Food for so Little Money

Dine-In • Carry-Out • Delivery

Cedar Rapids

5411 Center Pt. Rd NE 393-2700

2925 Williams Pkwy SW 396-1700

1125 1st Ave. SE 362-9667

North Liberty 1734 Lininger Ln 626-3232

(Next to MercyCare on Penn ST)

PASTA, SUBS, PIZZAS, GYRO & MUCH MORE

Iowa City

953 S. Riverside Dr. 358-0011

Marion

755 7th Ave. 373-2400

Anamosa

162 Chamber DR. 462-5534

No one's family is exactly the same and the differences are more obvious during the holiday season. Hear from three students in "Family differences: embracing what makes them great."

Family differences: embracing what makes them great

Learn about student families and what makes them unique from each other, but at the same time great. See how these juniors embrace their families.

Breiana Brown [Co-Executive editor]

In Marion alone there are a slew of different people with different backgrounds. There are people with individualized talents and personalities. The great thing about this world is that everyone is different and has their own perspective.

Aaron Smith, Haillie Vanderlinden, and Zoe Norton may be in the same grade, but their families are drastically different. Family has helped shape them to be who they are today, and have prepared them for a bright tomorrow. The family structure may not be the same, but the concept is very similar.

Aaron Smith has five siblings and lives in a two parent home. His family is relatively big. Aaron's dad has thirteen siblings, thus leaving him with 40+ cousins to grow up with. This can make for quite the gathering around the holiday's. "There is always a lot of people." With such a big family there is always room for fun!

With family comes life lessons; as kids grow up their families are the ones who teach them how to act. "They've taught me to enjoy life," Aaron said. Most people may have a few complaints about their family, but in this case, Aaron couldn't come up with one. "I don't have any, they're really fun to be around." When it comes to role models Aaron looks up to his dad on account of his hard work. Aaron is fortunate to have such a loving family.

Haillie Vanderlinden's parents may be divorced, but they don't have a problem getting along. "They're best friends," Haillie explains. Which is not the norm for people who have been divorced for almost seven years.

Haillie has three siblings; a fourteen year old sister, a brother who is eleven, and another sister who is seven. Her family is medium sized, but holidays are fun for her.

Haillie's dad is her role model. "He's pushed me through a lot of struggles and still stays positive." Her family has taught her to "Stay happy even when it seems like there is nothing left." Haillie really likes her family, but there is one thing that can become unappealing. "How competitive we are." There is a flip side. "[I like] How close we are. We can always rely on each other if someone needs help. We are also very supportive," and that is what family is for!

Zoe Norton's family is the most unusual of the three, she lives with her grandparents and is an only child.

The best thing about her family is that on the holidays she doesn't have to travel; everyone comes to her house. The worst thing, "I don't like that its weird to explain to people," she says.

Although Zoe doesn't really know anyone with a family like hers, she still considers it pretty normal, it's just how she has grown up. Zoe's family has taught her that Santa isn't real (sorry to bust your bubble if you didn't know yet), but that you should still celebrate the season and give back to those who need it. "It's about giving back and loving everyone, not about receiving more than you need," Zoe explained.

Zoe looks up to her grandma as a role model because she is a strong woman. "[Also] my grandpa is super sweet and always there for me, and I appreciate that." Although Zoe may not live with her mom, she still sees her, and her mom recently got married. "My new siblings are a lot older than me so it's more like having an aunt and uncle, but I like them both a ton!" Sometimes good can come from the unexpected.

Although they may be different, families are a support system. Family is there for people when they need it most, and can pick them up when they are at their lowest. Different isn't wrong, it's just different. Embrace the differences.

"It's about giving back and loving everyone, not about receiving more than you need,"

-Zoe Norton, '14



Aaron Smith, '14 smiles with his family in an old family picture with his mom, dad, and his five siblings.



Haillie Vanderlinden '14 smiles with her brother, two sisters, mom, and dad in an old family Christmas picture. (When her parents were still married.)



Zoe Norton '14 smiles happily with her grandpa on the left and her mother on her right.

Freshman Strnad bakes like an expert because he is experienced

By: Uriah Lekin [Staff Writer]

It's that time of year again. The smells of cookies, pies, cakes, and fudge brownies will now start filling the room once more for this holiday season. One freshman from MHS is looking forward to spending time in the kitchen cooking with his family members. Hunter Strnad, freshman, is ready to cook with his both his grandmas and mom for this Thanksgiving season. "I've been baking all my life." Hunter said. Hunter is experienced in baking lots of things, like cookies, three layered marble cakes, brownies, cupcakes, and other types of cakes.

During the holidays, Hunter makes special cookies for his family, "I make a peanut butter cookies with a chocolate drop

in the middle and I also make frosted snowmen." Hunter gets all of his recipes from a handed down family cookbook, and even though he bakes a lot during the holidays he only bakes once or twice a month during the summer and spring season.

Spending time with his grandparents and mom usually involves baking. "One time we made a three layered marble cake. It has vanilla and chocolate cake with strawberries in between, and then crumpled oreos over the top and also fudge in between the layers to keep it together," Hunter said, bringing back memories.

Baking this holiday season will bring families together and relationships together, but for Hunter it will be another step to becoming a baking expert.

"I've been baking all my life."

-Hunter Strnad '16



"Pumpkin pie is my favorite, it is awesome."
-Montana Madlo, '14



"Sugar cookies are my favorite, I love them."
-Sam Livingston, '16



Little Learners, Inc
950 Robins Sq Dr
Robins Iowa 52328
319-378-3921
Owner/Director
Terri Martin
tmartin@fntcs.com

Childhood besties: Erica and Sydney's journey as friends

Two best friends talk about their life-long friendship, and the memories they share.

By: Emilie Reider [Staff writer]

If you ever need a shoulder to cry on, a buddy to laugh with, or just someone to spend your weekends with, you turn to your best friend. Best friends are the people in your life that are honest, supportive, trusting, and really care about you. Most people meet their BFF at school at a very young age, like Sydney and Erica.

Sophomores, Sydney Pitstick and Erica Kelly have been best friends since kindergarten in Mrs. Kartman's class. They go through everything together: make-ups, break-ups, and everything in between. "We text when we're away from each other for a long time," said Erica. Now spending so much time with someone might get annoying, but not to them.

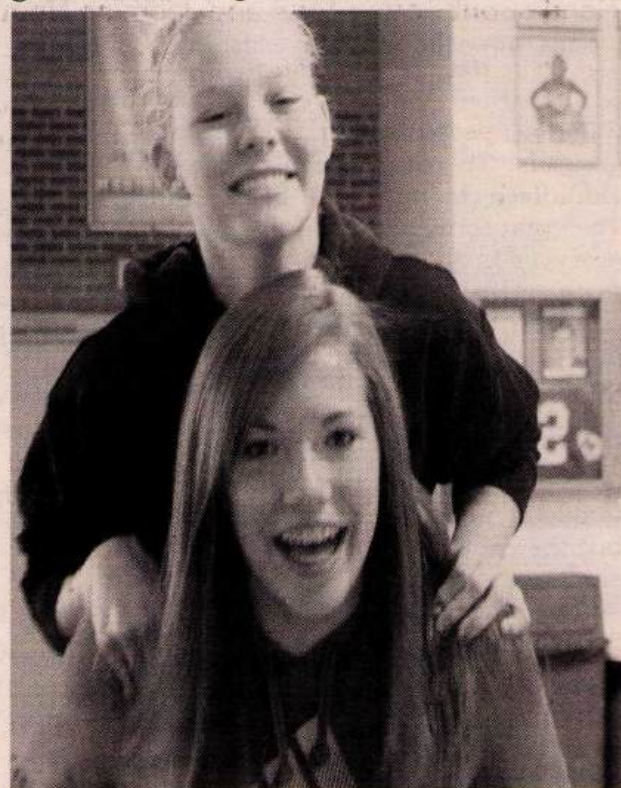
Besides seeing each other

in the hallways at school and a couple classes here and there, they share an interest in many other things, volleyball being the big one. They have done the sport together since 7th grade, and love it. "She wouldn't have anyone to screw around with if I wasn't there," joked Sydney. When they are not at school or volleyball practice, they are hanging out after school or on the weekends. They watch their favorite movie, *The Notebook*, or go take a trip down to the beach. When Halloween comes around, they like to go trick-or-treating together or crash a party in their matching costumes. Then the girls like to end the year with a big bang. "We have a huge party! All of our friends come!" Sydney explained. They also spend their birthdays together.

Seeing each other that much might get boring, but they always have stuff to talk about. "We tell each other everything," Sydney said, "Erica is just a ball of joy! Without her, I wouldn't know the meaning of Rudolf! She has made me know what it feels like to laugh so hard I get abs!"

Erica and Sydney talk about each other like they're sisters. "Sydney is very funny. She has been my friend for a very long time and friendship means everything to me, and she always makes me feel better," Erica said.

These two girls radiate with friendship and never talk behind each other's backs. They're always there for each other and support one another. Through thick and thin, they are truly, childhood besties.



Sydney Pitstick and Erica Kelly, both '15, goof around during their lunch cycle.

Fashion talks, and it says a lot about first impressions that last forever

By: Catie Staff [Co-Executive Editor]

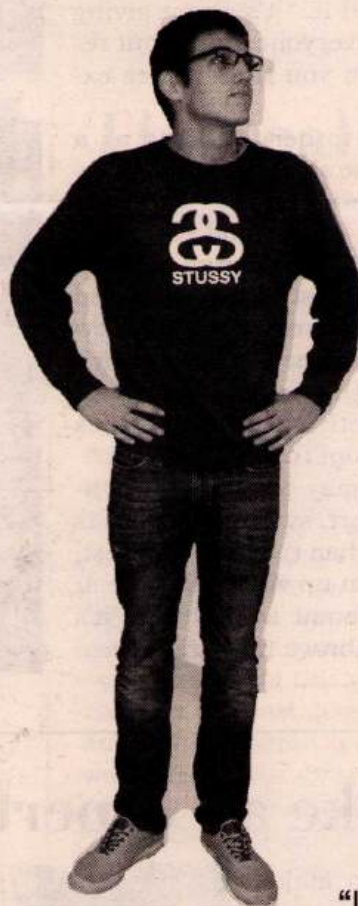
Clothing and fashion do more than label teens; they give them identity, culture, and a group of friends to hang out with. No matter what a teen wears, he or she still gets labeled and judged by anyone who sees them, so it is very important to choose wisely when deciding what to wear. Mistakes can cause people to misunderstand what a teen wants from life or even send them away in fear.

There are misconceptions about clothing styles and genres that can be cleared up with a brief explanation. There are some styles that are difficult to differentiate, such as Gothic and Emo. To the untrained eye they may look identical, but they are both unique. Here are some general definitions based on the internet's most up-to-date dictionary.



"I shop at the Buckle, American Eagle, Express, & Victoria's Secret. I'm experimental; I try new things."

- DeLaney Fisher, '15



"I go to Pacsun & Zumiez. I like to dress well because it impresses people and girls like it. I try not to spend very much money."

- Nick Vannatta, '13



"I shop online because it has more selection. I think dresses are comfortable and it makes me feel free. I usually go for stuff on sale, but it depends on if I really like it or not."

- Karen Nguyen, '13



Marion H.S. Online Special
get a large one-topping, breadsticks,
and 2-20oz sodas for only \$16.99!

Order online at www.papajohns.com

Trendy definitions

Hipster - aka "bohemian" and anti-mainstream. Fashion includes vintage and thrift-store based outfits, tight jeans, old-school sneakers, thick-rimmed glasses, shaggy hair.

Emo - Name comes from the emotionally charged punk-rock music they listen to. Fashion includes hoodies, graphic tees, tight jeans, dyed hair, converse, and studded belts.

Preppy - name comes from the prep schools that original preppies went to. Fashion includes bright colors and prints, wears sweaters around the neck and accessorizes. The look is neat and put together and uses brand names.

Two best friends making one difference in the animal world

Read about Carlee Tope and Jasmine Hogue, both seniors, and their special bond as friends and their love and passion for animals.

By: Claire Nash [Photo Editor]

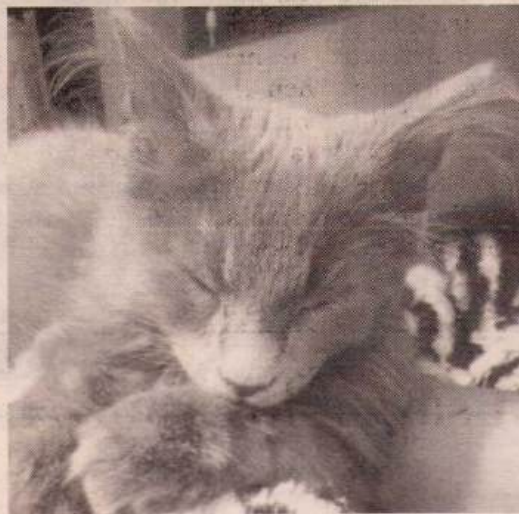
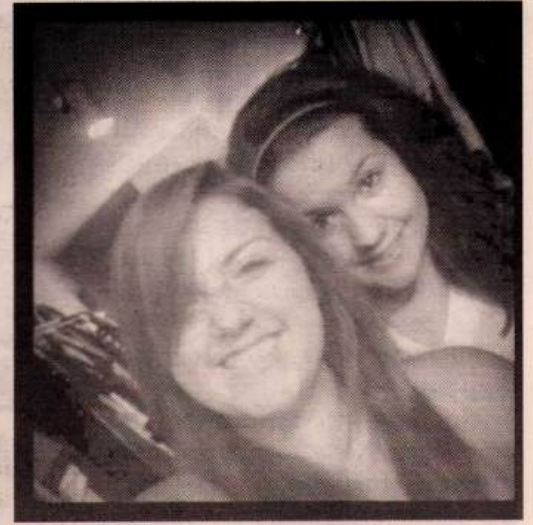
A best friend is the one you can get mad at only for a short period of time because you have important things to tell them. These are the people who never get tired of listening to your stupid pointless dramas over and over again. They know all of your stories because they have lived them with you. Everyone deserves and should have a friendship like that.

Carlee Tope and Jasmine Hogue, both seniors, have been best friends since the eighth grade. "Mine and Carlee's friendship has been like a roller coaster that I never want to get off; we have so much fun together and be so goofy but not care. We have been friends for a long time. We went through a rough patch and "broke up" then last year we found our way back to each other. I love her to death and I will miss her more than ever next year because we may get into fights but literally the same day we get over it. I can laugh for hours with her. Everyone says we look like sisters; well that's because we pretty much are!" said Jasmine. These girls don't only hangout together they also work and volunteer with each

other.

They keep each other company at the animal shelter and at Quiznos. "We have always worked together and have known each other for the past five years. We're crazy and hilarious and we love baked potatoes." Said Carlee. Carlee volunteers at the animal shelter and Jasmine used to volunteer at the shelter but then she became an employee. "I needed volunteer hours, so I signed up to become a volunteer. My job is to make the animals feel cared for and to keep their environments clean. I also clean the kennels for the kittens and cats and I occasionally walk some of the dogs." Carlee said. Since Jasmine is an employee she does different things. "I do vaccines, I intake the animals, I clean cages in the mornings and I take dogs out for people who are interested in them. I'm part of the animal care staff and I also give medicine to the animals," she said. They are both animal lovers.

Carlee and Jasmine are more than best friends; they are two girls making a difference. Whether they are caring for animals or coming up with new inside jokes they have a blast doing it.



Jasmine Hogue, and Carlee Tope both, '13, in top left picture. Jasmine Hogue, and Carlee Tope both, '13, in top right picture. Jasmine Hogue's kitten in bottom left corner and Carlee Tope's puppy in bottom right corner.

Two teens obsess over celebs Katy Perry & Justin Bieber

By: Uriah Lekin [Staff Writer]

Bieber fans, you now have competition when it comes to Melaina O'Brien, sophomore. Melaina has been hooked on Bieber since the first time his voice was heard over the airways. "On my chill time I'm at home listening to Justin Bieber." Melaina said talking about her down time at home. Even though she loves pizza and Jersey Shore, it doesn't compare to her love for Justin Bieber. "I have five books, all his CD's, and there is too much to name right now." People love Justin for many different reasons: he is hot or he is just amazing, but Melaina loves him for very specific reasons, "Justin is a down to Earth guy, he understands a lot of people, and he's not just your typical celeb, he is close with his fans." Melaina has also never been to one of his concerts but she can't wait to go. "If I ever met Justin I'd cry, and say I love him, and you're my idol." Melaina said, telling her reaction if she ever met Justin. Melaina is a true Biebler

and she fits every category they have. She's very contagious with her Bieber fever so watch out or you'll get it.



Melaina O'Brien, '15

Katy Perry has stolen the hearts of many, but she has taken the heart of McKaylah Stevens, sophomore, and ran with it. McKaylah Stevens is in love with Awkward the TV show and pepperoni pizza, but even though she loves those things they don't compare to the love she has for Katy. "I remember the time I got hooked on her, it was her first song I kissed a girl." McKaylah said, recalling a fond memory of hers. "She inspires people and makes a difference and tries to make everyone a Katy Kat." McKaylah said, referring to what Katy calls her fans. She was hooked from the start and she doesn't plan on unhooking.

"I have a lot of Katy Perry accessories but my favorite is her perfume Purr," she said. Like many fans if they ever saw their star they would cry, scream, hug them, but McKaylah's reaction would be so different from the others, "Thank you for being you, and for helping others realize they can be themselves.

You show all that in your song Firework." McKaylah loves Katy Perry and swears to be her number one, die hard fan.



McKaylah Stevens, '15

Who's your favorite celebrity?



"I love Justin Bieber! He is so cute."
-Emily Wyant, '16



"No, [I don't have one] I have better things to do with my life."
-Jack Serbousek, '15



"No, [I don't have a celeb obsession] because do they really deserve it?"
-Heather Lappe, '13



"Yes, Keith Urban is my husband."
-Jamie Draeger, '15

The Kettel House

Bakery & Café

Visit Us!
945 6th Ave., Marion
319-310-5509
www.thekettelhouse.com
Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter

\$1 off
Gourmet Cupcake
Graduation cupcakes & cakes
Cakes, cookies, breads,
Pies, espresso, and sweets

The words in the word search all start with the letter F this time, and Grace Ehlinger is hidden in the crowd. Find her in "Where's the student?"



Grace Ehlinger, junior

Where's the Student?

In the "Where's the Student?" game, the objective is to search for a fellow Marion student in the crowd picture to the left. See if you can find the student before your friends can!

Word Search!

A A T A E M L I F S
P I H S W O L L E F
S F G S D F I N A S
F F I E I N F C S F
S D F N G A E U T L
F O S R M S O I N F
Y O I I L U N T R P
E F L A V O R S O F
F Y R F F W M S I S
A F P H E F A L L T

Find these words in the word search. They can go any direction!

- | | |
|------------|----------|
| Fun | Faces |
| Family | Fight |
| Friends | Feast |
| Food | Fairness |
| Flavors | Fall |
| Fellowship | Film |

Fun Factz Brought to you by funfactz.com

Mark Twain didn't even make it through elementary school.

One cubic foot of gold weighs more than 1200 lbs.

The US has enough roads to circle the earth over 150 times

Obama was known as "O Bomber" in high school for his skills in basketball.

More than half of the population in Kenya is under 15

The Muppet Show was banned from Saudi Arabian TV because one of it's stars was a pig.



Driver Education Inc.

REGISTER NOW @ RightWayDriverEd.com!

Driver Education Classroom Instruction in Two-weeks

Call Stacia @ 319.350.1733

Upcoming class dates:

CV CMAS 2012 December 17-29

EHC CMAS 2012 December 17-31

-Zio Johnno's Spaghetti House-

The ad on page 12 is incorrect.

The REAL deal is HALF-OFF

PIZZA on Tuesdays in November!