

Political issues have thrown Muslim culture into the spotlight. Read about it on page 2

Valentine's Day is fast approaching. did your sweetheart buy you a cupid quote? Check out page 6 to see!



Braden Walter, '18, releases the ball during a Marion bowling meet at the Cedar Rapids Bowling Center, attempting to get a strike.

# Horrach handles new life

Brianna Horrach shares her story about joining foster care at age 14.

By: Chloe Mallon @Chhhloe17

Most kids find it normal to come home everyday after school to a family asking how their day was, and greeting them with hugs and kisses. Most kids find it normal to be able to share fun memories with their family that they'll look back on and remember forever. Most kids find it normal to feel some type of love. For Brianna Horrach, sophomore, she has never felt this way in her life.

Everyday Horrach wakes up, feeling like she shouldn't be here because that's all that anybody has ever told her. As an optimist, she would wipe away her tears, put on a brave face, and go to school with a big smile on, hoping to enjoy the few hours she gets to spend at school because it's better than being at home.

Horrach gets back home after school, and walks through the door to hear her step-mother screaming again. The pit in her stomach, the feeling she gets when she knows what's about to happen comes. The only thing Horrach cares about right now is getting her little siblings to safety and making sure they're okay. "I was so used to being the care-taker of my little siblings," Horrach said. This is something that one fourteen year old girl

shouldn't have to deal with.

Horrach was abused sexually, verbally, and physically almost every day until one day she decided to take a stand. "I went into the nurse at my current school [at that time] and I told her about my current situation," Horrach said. The nurse acted immediately and called a hotline who contacted DHS. "The next thing I knew, there were two policemen at my door and a DHS officer to take us away to safety," she said. Change is something that most people are scared of, but in this case, Horrach couldn't wait to start a new life for herself.

"Everyday I would hear the same words over and over, telling me that I wasn't good enough, that I would never amount to anything, etc.," Horrach said. Horrach wants to be on Broadway someday for theater, and when living with her step-mom and father, she never thought that dream would be possible.

"I think that one of the hardest things I've had to go through is when I was ten years old, I found out that my step-mom wasn't actually my mother," Horrach said. "I always thought she was, but then I found out that I actually had a real mother who didn't want me and lived across the country, and that hurt." Horrach has had a few phone conversations with her biological mother, but still has never met her in person. "I would love more than anything to get close to my real mother, and learn a lot about what she was going through... I just want to ask her why. Why she did a lot of things to my siblings and I," she said.

Leaving her old negative household was hard in many ways, but Horrach was able to push past it and fight back, because she knew that she deserved a better life. "I've already been in three foster homes since leaving, but my current foster mom is amazing and really works hard to make sure my siblings and I can excel in things that we want to," she said.

Read the rest of this story on page 5.



Brianna Horrach, '18, poses with her new foster mom for a photo in her new foster home.

## Doggin' with Dexter

-Commentary-

To put it simply, this is a love story: a love story about me and my dog. When Dexter and I first met, it was a beautiful summer day. The sun was shining, and we were driving to get a dog. Could life get any better?

My dog comes from a small town in Iowa. He spent his first weeks of life with some humans, his birth parents, and his brothers and sisters. Why we chose to drive to Kalona and pick up this little beagle, I don't know. But, it happened, and seven years later he's doing fabulous.

Flashback to the day we first laid eyes on each other. The anticipation was bursting out of me on the forty-five minute car ride. I've always had a love for dogs, though it has grown and grown since I met Dexter. My mom pulls the car into a gravel driveway. We step out of the car, and some people meet us in the front yard. I am not joking when I say these people were extremely Amish. They had the longest beards and uncut hair. And were quite honestly, dressed similar to pilgrims. Not only could we tell when we first saw them, but they later told us and confirmed it. The worst part about this place was the outdoor cages all the dogs were being kept in. These people were evil dog breeders who make their money on incest born dogs who live in poor conditions. It was heartbreaking that we could not save all of these dogs, but I was eleven, therefore I had zero dollars to my name.

So anyways, there were like four dogs there, and Dexter just stood out. He was sporting some fierce puppy dog eyes and the softest little whimper. There were other dogs, all similar to Dex, but he just stood out. We had to have him.

Finally we left, with the new addition to our family and he got to sit on my lap on the way home. I imagine my eleven year old self was very giddy. We get about fifteen minutes into our drive and once again, I'm being one hundred percent serious, this dog pees on my lap. I don't know why he was so scared he felt the need to urinate on me. How obnoxious, right? But yeah, that happened. And that's when I knew I already loved this little creature so much. Because I wasn't even mad that I had to ride thirty minutes in a car with pee pants. I just cried for a second and then kept petting my sweet little dog.

So, the moral of this story is, my dog is awesome and I love him.



By: Lexi Morgan @Lexi\_Morgan17

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# The guideline to getting to graduation

Tips and tricks for those currently attending high school, or those soon to be attending.

By: Lexi Morgan @lexi\_morgan17



*"Do what you want to do, not what your friends want you to do."*  
-Emily Wyant, '16



*"Take as many gym classes as you can because they are fun."*  
-Mason Hiler, '16



*"Take a variety of classes and figure out what you like."*  
-Hollie Jones, '16

At the beginning of freshman year, all of us met in the auditorium for a meeting. A few people from the senior class came to speak to us about what the next four years would look like. They all gave us the same advice, and it is still relevant today.

High school is a long four years, and seems short once we are walking across the stage accepting a diploma. It can seem easy, or incredibly hard. It all varies, of course. Everyone's path will be different. But the advice that will help, is all the same.

The most important thing many students can do academic wise is build up their GPA. It sounds easy, but often we tend to slack off when classes take less work. GPA is actually really important if one is on the path of going to a four-year college. Not only when applying, but to get scholarships. If a student knows they can get an A in a class, then it should be so important for them to get that A. That way, when a class is hard for them and they get a B, it won't butcher their GPA. So many students will get B's simply because they don't do their homework or study for a test. When students get to their senior year, it is almost impossible to bring their grade point average up enough to get the scholarship they want. It's mind blowing that students can be .5 points away from getting a \$20,000. And they could have achieved that had they have tried harder in the classes that they knew they could get an A in.

Although getting good grades is very essential in high school, we learn things here that aren't taught in a classroom. As cheesy as it sounds, it is crucial to be yourself. High schoolers often try to fit in somewhere or pretend they're interested in things they're not. What students don't realize is that they waste all their time trying to be someone they're not, while they could be hanging out with people who are a lot like them and doing things that they actually want to do. It's silly for people to spend all

of high school trying to be something they're not, and it is honestly just a waste of time.

Another important aspect of high school, is to stay involved in whatever is possible. Go to football games, join choir, play soccer, join photography club. Students should do whatever they can to stay active and involved to enjoy high school to the fullest.

Finally, the most important thing high schoolers should remember is that it is only four years of their life. The drama going on and the rumors being spread, after these four years of their lives, it won't even matter. They'll be on to college to meet new people and do new things. Nobody will remember or care about some drama that happened in high school. So when stressed, just remember, it's only four years. It seems like a long time, but it will go flying by. So don't stress over the small stuff.

Before students know it, they're at their last semester before graduation and they're saying "oh crap" to themselves because they don't have a high enough GPA and they haven't done anything all of high school. It will benefit everyone to take this advice while they can to avoid the stress of trying to get their GPA up .5 points (which is actually really hard) or regretting not hanging out with friends more, or the regret of not joining soccer when they had the chance. So as typical as it sounds, try in school, stay involved, and be yourself, so that you have absolutely no regrets when it comes time to walk across the stage.

# Islamic culture

By: Baylea Bruce @Baylea\_marie

With growing tensions with ISIS, Donald Trump's presidential campaign, and the continuous talk of refugees, the religion of Islam has been thrown into the spotlight. It has become clear that most of the western world knows very little about the values and practices of Muslims. This has caused violence to erupt throughout the nation.

Islam is the dominant religion in parts of Asia and Africa, and the largest Muslim populations living in Indonesia, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and India. However, America is home to six million Muslims, and Islam is one of the fastest growing religions in the country. Many are worried about Muslims and people of Islamic faith fleeing to our country. The truth is, Islam has already been here for quite some time, and is continuing to grow. Attacks on Americans have not increased because of this, in reality Muslim hate crimes and vandalism have increased dramatically since the Paris attacks. Who should be afraid of who?

Much of these anti-Islamic views come from the growing threat of ISIS, a terrorist group whose only goals seem to be spreading fear and destruction to the western world. ISIS is a group of extremists, justifying their actions by using Islam as a cover. Because of this the whole religion is being viewed based off of violence, murder, and war. This is simply not true.

The practice of Islam is based off of five pillars, much like the Ten Commandments. These pillars include declaring one's beliefs in God and the views of the Prophet Muhammed, prayer five times a day, to give charity to those in need, to participate in fasting during Ramadan, and to make a pilgrimage to Mecca at least one time in a lifetime.

None of these five pillars have anything to do with violence or war. In fact, the very word Islam is derived from the Arabic word salam, which means peace. Because of one small fraction that very loosely base their beliefs off of Islam, the whole religion is being seen as a base to hatred, war and murder. American Muslims who have lived peaceful lives are now being persecuted because of the lack of knowledge of their religion.

With the recent attacks on Paris, and with the devastating attacks on the Twin Towers still on some people's minds, tensions are rising. It's okay to be scared and want to protect your way of life and family. What isn't okay is to use a group of people as scapegoats to make that fear go away. It isn't okay to base the character of those who have lived peacefully and contributed to our society positively because of the actions of those who claim to be one of them. It's not okay to join a storm of hate without learning the truth about the situation.

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The Vox is a public forum student-run newspaper dedicated to informing and entertaining the students of Marion High School since 1934. It's published seven 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 the advisor. Turn letters in to room 24 or any staff member.

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# Serious concerns about coming out

Why students are fearful to come out of the closet and become open about sexuality.

By: Solomon Groothuis  
@SolomonJohnG

"Just be yourself." Most students have heard this phrase from a teacher or a parent. The phrase is meant to be freeing. It's supposed to mean "don't be afraid to be who you are." But for many closeted LGBTQ youth "be yourself" is a terrifying phrase. In today's heteronormative society, coming out of the closet can alter one's life forever. No matter what the situation, a newly out queer youth will be treated differently. Sometimes, being yourself can change who you are forever.

One major fear in coming out is bullying and harassment. Bullying rates are high with 82% of LGBTQ students being bullied about sexuality. 64% of students didn't feel safe at school. Outright violence has gone down somewhat but verbal harassment still exist, especially with cyber-bullying. Approximately 42% of LGBTQ students experience cyber-bullying as opposed to their straight peers. Harassment and rejection are an expectation for out students but there are other reasons students may fear being themselves.

There's so much stigma and stereotyping in the LGBTQ community that it can lead to prejudice. Many gay stereotypes are unappealing and objectifying. If, for example, a very masculine boy is gay, maybe he just

doesn't want to be seen as feminine. Quite possibly the most objectifying stereotype is the concept of the GBF. GBF stands for Gay Best Friend and is a term for any gay (usually boy) who is friends with a girl. Usually the concept of a GBF is objectifying and placing gays in stereotypes as sassy sidekicks. They're treated as a pet or an accessory.

Another obnoxious assumption is that gays, lesbians etc. are crushing after any straight person they meet, so if someone were to come out, it's common that they would lose many of their friends. Once any gay youth is out of the closet, people will treat them different and view them from a different perspective.

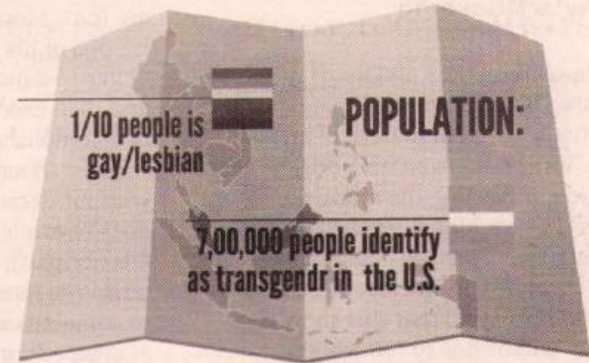
In most situations, the biggest reason LGBTQ people stay in the closet is because of family or religious reasons. The three largest religions (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam) all traditionally reject homosexuality, viewing it as a sin. Many questioning youth feel that they need to choose faith or themselves. Family is perhaps the biggest pressure on queer students, especially parents. There are stories everywhere of parents disowning, abusing, or kicking out their children after they are born. Most stories are not as extreme, but many parents view their children as "living in sin" or "messed up." This kind of treatment makes children feel that their sexuality is a disease. This

results in many gay students feeling shame or embarrassment, especially since they've shown their parents this very private piece of themselves.

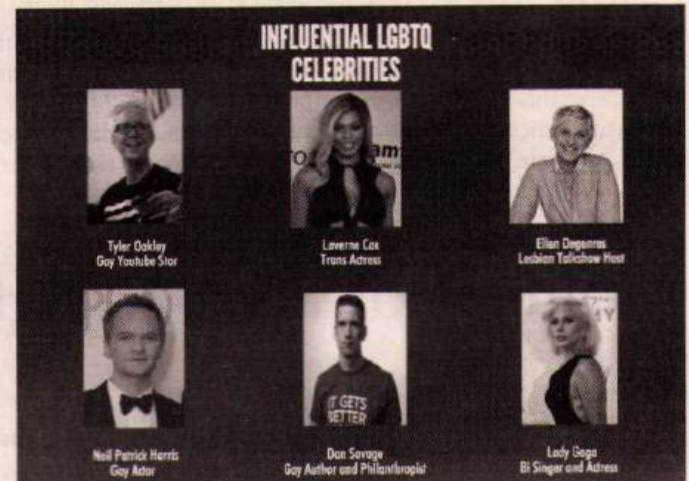
Sometimes coming out stories are full of support and acceptance, but sometimes they're tales of abandonment and rejection. Daniel Pierce, a young gay man from Georgia, recorded his coming out on camera. The worst reaction was from his grandma, whose name and face were not revealed. She told him she had "always known he was gay since he was a little boy" but kept referring to his sexuality as a choice. The situation turned volatile when she disowned Pierce. The grandma continued to remind him of her love and support but also told him to leave her life. The situation was anything but accepting.

It seems that with all these negative results, why would anyone ever come out? Because with coming out comes freedom. Living in fear is worse than living with rejection when it comes to sexuality. Being open about your sexuality can also make you open to other new experiences. Fighting the challenge of coming out makes you brave. Being hurt can only make you stronger. No matter what people reject other people and being part of the LGBTQ community is just one difference that leads to prejudice. So as hard as it can be, just be yourself.

## LGBTQ NUMBERS AROUND THE WORLD MINI GUIDE:



LGBTQ IS COMMON



Some facts and faces of the LGBTQ community are displayed in this infographic, showing that the struggles of coming out are relatable to figures in pop culture from <http://nobullying.com/>

## Appreciation beyond Valentine's Day

By: Kenzie Redmond @kenzie\_redmond2

It's that time of year again, where flowers and chocolates are being passed out to the girls and people are showing appreciation for their loved ones. But why is showing appreciation for loved ones only important in February? Valentine's Day is the time when people let their significant other know how much they care for and love them. But shouldn't this be a daily thing?

Valentine's Day is pointless. Appreciating people should be an important thing for everybody and something that occurs every single day, not just one day a year. Valentine's Day is an excuse for a couple to go on a date. This may be romantic but one specific day shouldn't have to determine if the night is romantic or not. This is the case on Valentine's Day for example. The significant other should be the romantic partner all the time, not just on February 14th.

Women have an equal ability to do the little things for their significant other as do men. But why is this act only portrayed for men to do in our society?

These such things consist of holding a door for a woman, pulling a chair out for them, buying them flowers, sending them sweet texts, and picking up the check. Why do men have to take over these responsibilities?

This being said, romance is identified in our society as something it is not. It has been taken to a whole new level with social media and other technological advances. Now people are checking one another's favorites on twitter instead of trusting their significant other. A favorite isn't the end of the world. It may mean that person just likes what the tweet says. There's no need to overreact. People shouldn't have to be controlled, or put on leash and dragged around. Social media can break a romantic relationship due to these circumstances. Snapchat deleted best friends which made people in our society more suspicious. But why is this the case? Why does it matter who somebody's best friend is? Trust is crucial in a relationship. Now is our time to step up and appreciate one another on a daily basis.



In this poll, students voted whether they thought Valentine's Day is pointless or not.

suspicious. But why is this the case? Why does it matter who somebody's best friend is? Trust is crucial in a relationship. Now is our time to step up and appreciate one another on a daily basis.

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## Dancing his way into show choir

Andrew Mota discovers a new love for show choir.

By: Skylar Miller-Baker  
@SkylarMBaker15

He spends hours and hours on his feet, learning the dance moves that he will eventually perform in front of an audience. With blisters on his heels, he keeps dancing, perfecting the routine, making sure that each kink is worked out into a straight line. Then he sings, and lets his tune carry him to the top, there is no doubt in his mind that this show choir season will be one to remember.

Andrew Mota, junior, has made a thrilling decision to go out for show choir this year. He is a part of the Revelation prep show choir, and he hasn't looked back since. "[Show choir], seemed like fun, and I thought I should probably do this. It seemed like a good idea," he said.

Since Mota made his decision to do show choir this year, he has had a pretty great experience. "I like the people and the atmosphere of show choir, also I like

to dance to the music, and competitions are fun," Mota said. Mota loves to dance, it's one of his favorite parts of show choir. "I like to dance, it's fun to actually do it and then execute it well, it gives a sense of accomplishment," Mota said.

Even though Mota has been happy with his decision to join show choir, he does have a least favorite part. "[My least favorite part], is setting up and tearing down the risers, and carrying all the stuff to competitions. Also, before we perform at competitions, it's nerve racking," he said.

Even though show choir seems like all fun and games, a lot of hard work goes into making the performance perfect. "[Show choir] is hard depending on the choreography. The choreography during the summer is intimidating, but once you dance more and people help, it gets easier," Mota said. At the beginning of the season the show choir practices were as long as three hours as the teams were just



The Revelation Show Choir performs at one of their many competitions.

getting started, but now they usually last from seven to eight thirty.

This season has been going great for the Revelation show choir so far, considering the fact that this is the first year being a mixed choir. "Revelation is doing a good job so far, we could just clean up and improve, but for most groups that's true. Also, I think we could be compara-

ble to other bigger schools, if we put in the effort," Mota said.

As the blisters start to heal, and the dancing and vocals become closer and closer to perfection, it's a sign that the season has begun. Mota is ready to take on the season with a cool calm determination that will help carry him and his team to the top.

## Student- athlete struggles

-Commentary-

The typical romance movie involves a model-esque actress, perfect relationship scenes, and a lifestyle most teens can't relate to. Most of them aren't worth watching from my standpoint, except a particular one. This movie relates relationships, family, and the future to the life of an athlete, and is called "Love & Basketball."



By: Mia Laube  
@Mia\_Laube21

Valentine's Day is fast approaching, and with it comes thoughts of love and romance. But it's sometimes overdone. It would be much cooler to have a chill relationship like the one in this movie, where even though two basketball players have busy lives, they make time to hang out. There

are no frills, either, both of them tell it like it is.

The best thing about the movie is Monica, the female lead, who is played by two different actresses. She lives to ball, and has dreams of going to the NBA. Her biceps, attitude, and basketball-oriented life are things that set her apart from the average romance movie protagonist, and show that not everything about being a girl is dainty and soft. Her independent mindset makes everything about the movie even better. One major thing she struggles with is showing the world her softer side, which nobody really knows. Female athletes are sometimes thought of as "just one of the guys," which can be frustrating. Even though we spend most of our time lifting, in the gym, or wearing sweatpants, we still enjoy being treated like a princess every once in a while. This film shows there is much more to female athletes than what meets the eye.

Monica and the other main character, Quincy, start out with a complicated relationship. It is all about competition between the two, which makes them at first incompatible, but the way they're rivals at first is a different beginning than most cinematic couples, and it's intriguing. They are always somehow in each others' lives, starting with a simple thing like playing a pickup game, then progressing to Quincy sleeping on Monica's floor when his parents fight and the two going to the same college to play basketball. They have separate professional basketball careers and lives for a long time, and they're definitely what everyone calls "goals."

This movie is all-around great because no other has captured the hardships of growing up as a dedicated student-athlete while balancing a social life quite this perfectly. It's a challenging lifestyle, and those who don't experience it sometimes underrate how tough it can be, but I wouldn't have it any other way. It is worth the watch, and depicts the relationship every baller dreams of. "Love & Basketball" is possibly the only romance movie I will ever enjoy.

## Jazz band plays into the new season

By: Chloe Mallon @Chhhloe17

Everybody knows about the choir and band in the school, but many people do not know that within the band, there is a jazz band. There are two jazz



Taylor Harris, '16

bands: jazz 1 and jazz 2. Jazz 1 is the more advanced group. This jazz band competes at several competitions, and always has a lot of fun playing their instruments and performing for many people.

Taylor Harris, senior, loves being in the jazz band. "Jazz band is so much fun, we all get along really well," Harris said. She has been competing in the jazz band for a few years now, and is excited and sad to be ending her jazz band experience soon.

"The scariest part about jazz band is

when you have solos, but they are a great experience too," Harris said. They have many solos throughout the performances of jazz band, where a student stands up and plays their instrument. "I play the sax," Harris said, "I love the instrument and it sounds great in a jazz scheme."

Hayden Wahlstrom, junior, is also in the jazz band. He enjoys it a lot, and joined to further his learning of music and band. "I love having solos in jazz band," Wahlstrom said. He has had several solos over the past few years of him being in jazz band.

Although the jazz band only competes at a few competitions a year, the passion and heart that the whole band puts into it makes it sound like a great way to express love for music.

The entire jazz band has already done a phenomenal job this season, and they hope to continue with the great success they have had. This season they have already gone to a competition and received a division one rating. They can't wait to continue.

## Kruser cruises down the snowy slopes

By: Caitlyn Smith @CSmit05

As she rides down the snow covered hill bundled together by all of her gear in freezing temperatures, snowflakes hit her face. She reaches the bottom of the hill, removes her snowboard from her feet and proceeds to the nearest ski lift. When reaching the top of the ski lift, she repeats the same process.

This girl snowboarding is Elaina Kruser, sophomore. Kruser is also involved band, choir, show choir, and drum line.

She began snowboarding around fourth grade. She usually goes to Sundown in Dubuque with her family, but she has traveled to Illinois to snowboard on Chestnut Mountain before.

Kruser learned how to snowboard by herself in her backyard and then began to learn more advanced skills from there. "I've always liked winter sports and snowboarding just seemed fun to me," she said.

She doesn't compete in competitions, she just enjoys snowboarding for fun. Kruser said, "Snowboarding makes me feel happy, it relieves stress, and gives me a natural adrenaline rush."

Kruser isn't the only one who snowboards

at our school. Skylar Dede, sophomore, also enjoys snowboarding. Dede snowboards at Sundown as well with her friends and family. She also travels to Colorado frequently to go snowboarding. Dede said, "Snowboarding makes me happy and it clears my thoughts."

Snowboarding is a fun winter activity that many enjoying doing with their friends and family. Many snowboarders meet new people through the sport. Whether it's snowboarding in a backyard or at Sundown Mountain, snowboarding is an activity for everyone to try.



Elaina Kruser, '18, shows off one of her snowboards.

## Zumwalt explores engineering

Robotics junior discusses why he joined robotics, and why he enjoys it.

Caitlyn Smith @Csmith05

The room was filled with gears, gadgets, and gizmos. All teams were checking the robots to make sure everything was in place. With the robots now programmed, they are ready to complete the task.

Axel Zumwalt, junior, has been in robotics since his freshman year. 'He was also involved in a FLL team in fifth grade. He is on team 5913- Drop It Like It's Hot and it's their fourth year together. Zumwalt is also involved in band, drumline, jazz band, marching band, cross, and tennis.

Zumwalt is the project manager of the team. He organizes the team events, makes sure things are on the right track, keeps track of deadlines, acts as a strategist, and is the lead scout.

Zumwalt really enjoys thinking about things mechanically or strategically and robotics is a good way if interested in engineering to get a hands on experience. "I decided to join robotics because I enjoyed it in fifth grade and wanted a more advanced experience. I'm also interested in computer engineering so it seemed fun to build robots," said Zumwalt.

Team 5913 practices three times a week and team members often come in everyday after school to work on the robot. This season they have four league meets, which are like scrimmag-

es, consisting of five matches. They also have one state qualifier meet. Zumwalt said, "This year we really improved on coming out of a poor season. Last year we didn't advance past state qualifier. This year we are coming together and improved as a team since past years."

At robotics competitions, the team has five matches which are then ranked from the scores. From those rankings the top four teams get to pick their alliances for the next round. There is then a championship match. Not only are they just being scored on their robot, there is also a judge's interview for ten minutes to observe things that happened throughout the day. The team also is responsible for an engineer notebook.

There are many different levels that the robots can compete at, if they continue to succeed at each meet. The team starts out with the four league meets and then the state qualifier. If they do well at the state qualifier they then advance to the state championship, where the top 20 robots get to advance to the super regional competition. After the super regional is the world's competition which is the best of the best robots.

Mr. Chris Martin is the coach for the robotics teams. This year he is in charge of organizing the state qualifier because it is held at our school. This is a task that takes a lot of planning. Mr. Martin had to set up all the concessions, get 50

volunteers, and get many tables and supplies set up. "Both teams are in a good situation going into the qualifier," said Mr. Martin. There will be 24 teams at the state qualifier.

Zumwalt has been in robotics for three years now. "My favorite experience so far was freshman year when the team went to super regionals and we stayed in Iowa City for a night. It was neat being with all the different robots," he said.

Robotics is a good way to get a hands on experience for someone who is interested in a career for engineering. Whether it's competing at a league meet or the worlds competition, students involved still enjoy the competitive nature and the mechanical skills they are learning.



Luis Corona, Jason Layton, and Axel Zumwalt, all '17, crouch around the robotics ring to compete.

## Horrach/optimistic for a new start

From Page 1

Just recently, Horrach found out that her younger brother, who she is very protective of, is being put back into the house with her step-mom and father. "It's hard knowing that the charges were dropped for my step-mother and father, because now with my younger brother going back to them, I don't know if he'll be able to deal with not having me to protect him," Horrach said.

It is no doubt that Horrach was abused more than any other siblings in her house, but a reason for this is probably because of her strong and independent mind-set, which made them mad when she stood up to them. "It was hard to trust others again after being through that, they wouldn't let me participate in any extra activities, so I really didn't know what it would be

like to be at a nicer school, like Marion. I was afraid to be betrayed," she said.

Horrach is currently in the process of terminating her rights with her father, but it does make it hard on her because she doesn't understand why her father would treat his daughter like this. "It's sad to think that the influence of my step-mother made my dad into such a naive person, that he would just ignore all of the abuse she put us through, and even encourage it," Horrach said.

Whenever the topic of adoption comes up, Horrach is very unsure. "I have a lot of benefits with foster care, but it would be nice to have someone who I am truly theirs and they really want me for me," she said.

"When people hear about my story, I don't want them to feel bad for me. I am okay, my situation is okay. It is not bad. Some people just go

through some harder paths than others, and I'm on that harder path. Everyone has problems, and this problem just happens to be mine," Horrach said. The overwhelming amount of support she has gotten has been so amazing to her, and she can't believe how much the basketball team has helped her.

Horrach was able to be strong and speak out to get help, and now she has a great life in her new foster home. Although the pains and memories, and voices in her head saying that she isn't good enough will always be there, she is able to push them away and be brave. "Optimism gets you everywhere, no matter what situation you're in," she said. After everything she has been through, her smile never goes away.

## Not your average speech

Chloe Rice @Cmrice44

She was made for the stage, that much is obvious. A senior in high school who is active in the school and around the community with things such as the fall play, track and field, and volunteering, Pauline Weah got involved with the speech team when she was recommended by the play director. When the opportunity approached her she said to herself, "Why not?" That has been her motto ever since.



Pauline Weah, '16.

From the time that speech season starts in December, through the time that competitions are going on during January and February, Weah spends a lot of her time with the members of her team and her coach, Ms. Junge. The forty plus people that are involved usually meet in Ms. Junge's room and then move to the auditorium to practice if they are in a large group act. If they have an individual act then they practice on their own and check with their coach as they go in order to stay on track.

There are many different groups within one speech team. Some of the events include mime, improvisation, reader's theater, and ensemble. The speakers may compete in an individual event or as a group. "My favorite part is the one act and ensemble," said Weah. One speaker is not limited to one event. "One person can pick two events to be in max," said Weah.

Weah has also participated in group mime. She and her teammates made it to State last year in that event. This year she tried something new, reader's theater. "Harry Potter and the Mysterious Change" is the performance that her group is working on currently.

When a person is performing a speech, they are judged on much more than just the content of the words that they say. "[The judges] judge you on how you act and project your voice, how you set up your stage and bring the story to life," said Weah. This talent takes much more than just the ability to speak.

For a speech competition, you are given a time slot at which you will have to be there to perform at the given place. Depending on the act, the stage to perform on is either set up in a classroom or in an auditorium. The judges write notes and critique the performers as they go. Similar to other activities and sports, State comes after Districts. Weah's goal for the season is to, "Have fun while you're doing it [performing] and get to state."

Speech is an activity that helps students for other things that they may encounter in their life as well. "It helps get more social and it helps you not become nervous with public speaking," said Sophie Reider, a sophomore who is also on the speech team.

It may be difficult to memorize long lines and different acts, but it is worth it in the end. "Try different things. People shouldn't be afraid to do speech. It's fun. You get to act, do film, and more. It's not just a typical speech," said Weah. She tried something new and was not disappointed. She was happy with her decision.

Although putting together an act to perform in front of critical judges may not seem easy, well, it's not easy at all. But putting yourself out there and trying something different for a change will make you a better overall person with more variety. Students should branch out from their comfort zones.

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## Cupid Quotes for Valentine's Day

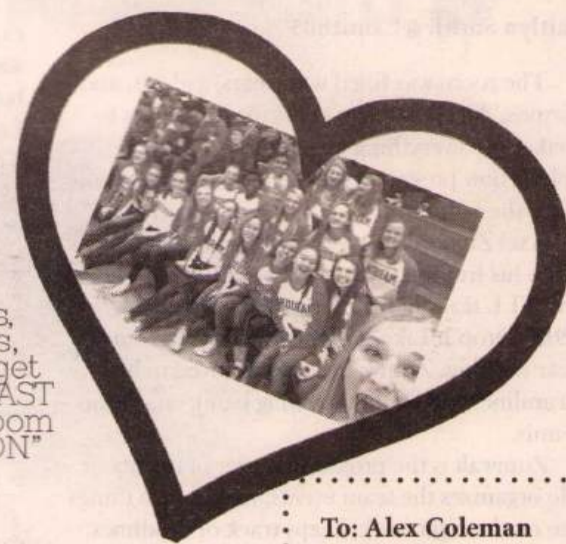


To: Liz Fontenot  
From: Bobby Lockhart  
"You're kinda cool I guess."

To: Heather Blazek  
From: Maxwell  
"Shine on you crazy diamond"

To: Netlix  
From: Maverick  
"I've been watching you for the past few years and i've got to say, i feel a real connection"

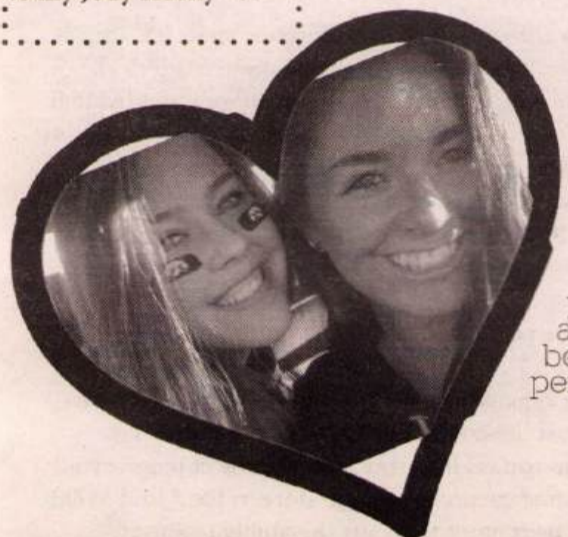
To: The Basketball girls  
From: #1 in the nation  
"Breakankles, get buckets, and don't get sniped. #ROAST Ba boom boom cha. #WEON"



To: Noah Walter  
From: Baylea Bruce  
"You're the RiFF RAFF to my Jody Husky <3."

To: Cayla Attwood  
From: Pete the Savage  
"There's always that friend who can put a smile on your face. they always have your back no matter what thanks for just being the nicest freshman I've ever met. You're a savage just like me."

To: Alex Coleman  
From: Mia Laube  
"R-E-J-E-C-T-E-D."



To: Kirsty  
From: Lex  
"You are my person, you will always be my person."

To: Taylor Harris  
From: Anonymous  
"I enjoy our time together."

To: Kelsi Huhndorf  
From: Hallie  
"Unfortunately, Kelsi doesn't love soap as much as she loves Shawn Mendes."

To: Mia laube  
From: Alex Coleman  
"You're a fantastic co-editor and I'm glad you actually speak to me."



## The 5th Wave: movie versus book review

By: Amery Bruce,  
@AmeryBruce

The 5th Wave, by Rick Yancey, was published in May of 2013. Now, nearly three years later, the book was turned into a major motion picture.

In the book, the alien apocalypse is upon the Earth, coming in the form of waves. The first wave is an electromagnetic pulse, which knocks out the power. Not as many people died in the first one. Then comes earthquakes, a mass spread virus, and finally aliens inhabiting the Earth within humans. At this point only about one hundred thousand people are left out of the seven billion that once occupied the planet. This leaves the remaining population waiting anxiously for the fifth wave, and wondering what the aliens could possibly think of that would be worse than the

previous four waves.

Both the book and the movie follow the lives of different main characters as they experience all of the waves. It begins with Cassie Sullivan, played by Chloe Grace Moretz in the movie, a highschool girl with only her little brother Sam and her father left. Once Sam, played by Zackary Arthur, gets taken away from her, she promises to get him back. And Cassie always keeps her promises.

One of the other points of view is Sam's. His point of view is the most altered in the switch from book to movie, but all of his emotions are still summed up in the movie.

When he gets taken, he winds up at an army base where the majority of the survivors were taken to. Except, they only took the children. This is why Cassie wasn't allowed to go with her little brother to the

camp. The soldiers are trained to fight, and are told that they are the last hope for humanity. Here is where Sam meets Ben Parish.

Ben Parish, played by Nick Robinson, went to the same school as Cassie, and was her old crush. He ends up in the same squad as Sam, and quickly rises his way up to leader.

After this, the story brings out twist after twist, which the movie does a pretty decent job of following. There are a few points that weren't included, such as Wonderland, a computer software used at the army camp that maps out the soldier's memories, which helps the decide which squad the children should go in.

Not all of the plot points in the book made it into the movie portrayal, but if one were to see the movie without reading the book, it would still make plenty of sense, just some of the details written in the book would be missing. It's still easy to understand with the edited out portions, and all of the major twists are still encompassed. The movie cast does a decent job of portraying their characters as well.

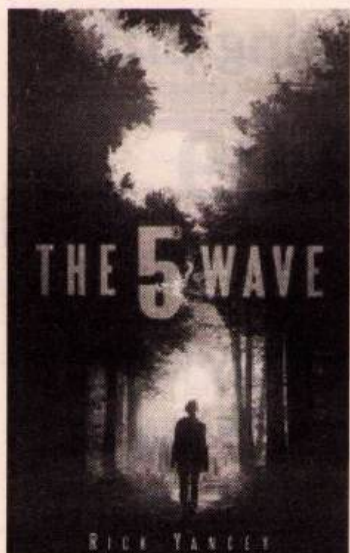
So, if one enjoyed The 5th Wave, they should enjoy the movie. Even with some of the changes made to fit the silver screen, it won't be a waste of time to head on over to the theater, and purchase a ticket. Also, if one hasn't read the book, the movie is still good.

## Are you a fangirl?

Check which answers apply to you to find out if you are a true fangirl

- ☐ Do you obsess over a celebrity/fictional character?
- ☐ Do you know everything about said character/person?
- ☐ Do you get too excited when said person/character does mental things (tweets, is happy, etc)?
- ☐ Do you get really defensive over this person/character
- ☐ Do you own an item from the fandom?
- ☐ Or like, way more than just an item?
- ☐ Have you ever read a fanfic about this person/character?
- ☐ Did you die of feels reading said fanfic?
- ☐ Do you dream about meeting this person in real life (if they are fictional this is still relevant)?
- ☐ Do you have specific people you ship your person/character with?
- ☐ And now you just ship everyone and everything because of this fandom?
- ☐ Do you know all the person/characters little quirks and habits and you love them?
- ☐ When anyone gives you ANYTHING related to the fandom—themed birthday decor, a photoshopped pic of you with them, their limited edition perfume—you're so happy you could cry (and usually do).

If you checked 0-3 of these answers, you're not quite a fangirl. If you are okay with these standings, good for you. If not, then you better work on your fangirling skills. If you checked 4-8 of these answers, you are a moderate fangirl. This means you are a socially acceptable amount of crazed over this one person or book/movie, and this is totally an okay place to be. If you checked 9-13, you are a full blown fangirl.



# Fashion trends making a comeback

By: Sophie Willette @selfiesophiee



"Beanies are cool because if I have a bad hair day, no one can see it."  
-Bryan Crow, '19



"My right com-bat boot makes this weird squishy sound when I walk, but they're really com-fortable."  
-Tanea Westhoff, '17



"I like the look of the flannel."  
-Chris Deeter, '18



"You can just zip up the vest and wear a shirt under, it's easy."  
-Chloe Trca, '19

"I like wearing joggers because they're com-fortable."  
-Calvin Stigge, '19



"Sweaters are warm, styl-ish, and you can dress them up or down."  
-Mahlia brown, '16



## 2015-16 NBA MVP

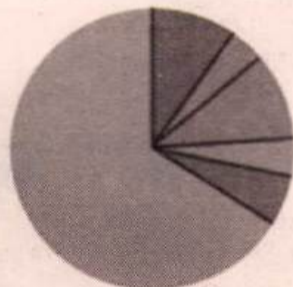
By: Chloe Rice @Cmrice44

Every year since 1955, the NBA has awarded an MVP award to the best player in the league.

The first person to win this award was Bob Pettit. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar won the award a record-setting six times in his career. Michael Jordan won the award five times in his career. LeBron James is a four-time NBA-MVP. Tim Duncan won back-to-back Most Valuable Player awards.

This is a poll of Marion students and who they think will win this years NBA-MVP award. It was narrowed down to six players: LeBron James, James Harden, Kevin Durant, Russell Westbrook, Kyrie Irving, and Stephen Curry

## 2016 NBA MVP



■ LeBron James (10%) ■ James Harden (4%)  
■ Kevin Durant (10%) ■ Russell Westbrook (4%)  
■ Kyrie Irving (6%) ■ Stephen Curry (66%)

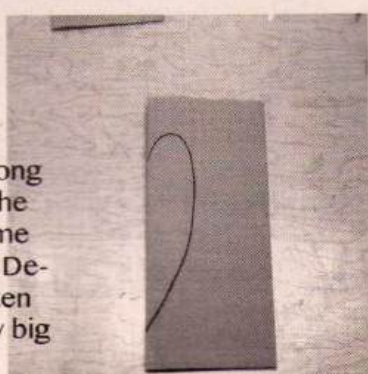
## How to make a fun, DIY Valentine



Things you will need: A piece of paper preferably in the typical Valetine's Day shades (i.e. red, pink, white), scissors, some markers, someone to give the Valentine too.

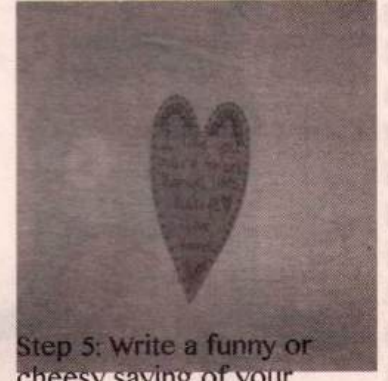
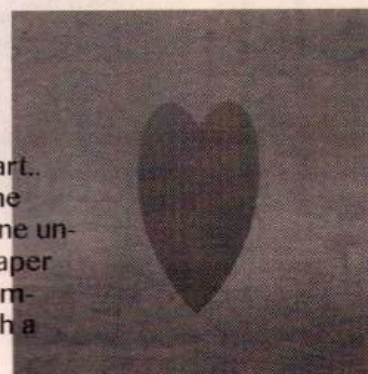
Step 1: Take your piece of paper and fold the paper in half.

Step 2: Draw half of a heart along the crease. For this example, the heart is tall and skinny, but some people prefer short and wide. Depending on what is being written inside of the heart, gauge how big your stencil should be.



Step 3: Cut out the half heart along the crease. For this, you can use normal scissors or crazy scissors for a fun edge. Make sure to cut a bit inside the line so that the black edge does not show around your cut out heart.

Step 4: Unfold the cut out heart. if you are not satisfied with the shape, start over from step one until you like the shape of the paper heart. If the crease is too prominent, let the paper sit beneath a book to flatten it.



Step 5: Write a funny or cheesy saying of your choice, and decorate. Give it to a friend, or a significant other, or even a parent. Everyone loves receiving Valentines, especially ones hand made. Give this one away, maybe even make a few more.

## The 1975 shows off 2016

-Commentary-



By: Alex Coleman  
@Its\_YoPaIAI

One of the seemingly lesser areas of music, indie pop/rock isn't often talked about amongst critiques or music fanatics. Typically pinned down as the hipster genre, this area of pop culture often gets pushed to the back burner in favor of a good hip hop or rock song. Though a few bands have managed to grace the pop culture scene with this sound (Florence + The machine, The Arctic Monkeys, MGMT, etc.), there are still many artists

trying to make it big with this genre label. Slowly creeping their way onto the scene is a band who got their name from the published date of an old poetry book, The 1975 are a force to be reckoned with.

Originally forming in 2002, the band started off with nothing more than a few gigs, filling their time with covers of popular pop punk songs. The band eventually began writing their own music when they were around the age of fifteen, and have continued ever since. The release of four EPs got them the attention they were seeking, singles like Chocolate, Sex, and The City landing them impressive number one placement on BBC's Top 100. As an opening act for Bastille on their world tour, and with a performance at Coachella in 2012, The 1975 found their way into the hearts of American fans as well.

In 2013, the band released their first full album, which was self titled. Along with the familiar songs that fans had been hearing for years, the record included new hits like Menswear, a smooth song lacking in many words or flashy devices, and fallingforyou, a melodic and poetic rendition of the typical love song. The band has centered around a somewhat ethereal sound, the backing tracks to their lyrics mostly composed of synthesizer-like chords and melody. With choosy vocabulary and the calming voice of lead singer Matt Healy gracing the band's tracks, people tend to either love the simple sound or discard it for something gaudier.

With the promise of their new album 'I Love It When You Sleep, for You Are So Beautiful Yet So Un-aware' to be released February 26th, fans are anticipating a change in sound. With the release of the singles 'Love me', 'UGH!', and 'The Sound', it is very obvious that the band is choosing to go in another direction. Their once black and white aesthetic has morphed into that of florescent pink, and members of the band tease snippets of lyrics and symbols of the album on their Twitter accounts. The singles hold a more upbeat and pop sound, and the lyrics gravitate more towards talking about the media and pop culture as a whole.

With this new sound, a promise of another performance at this year's Coachella, and a world tour to show off their new music, The 1975 might just make their way into the hearts of many. If not, their moderately sized fan base will continue to crave more from the band for years to come. For songs that ease listeners into a state of listening pleasure, look no further than The 1975.

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How to make your shawty  
a fire Spotify playlist for  
Valentine's Day

Love Songs:

Story of My Life-One Direction

Mirrors-Justin Timberlake

Video Games-Lana Del Rey

Hold on we're going home-Drake

Treasure-Bruno Mars

Adore You-Miley Cyrus

Chasing Cars-Snow Patrol

Wonderwall-Oasis

Crush-David Archuleta

My Way-Fetty Wap

Love Story-Taylor Swift

Crazy in Love-Beyonce ft. Jay-Z

Let Me Love You-Mario

Home-Edward Sharpe & The

Magnetic Zeros

Banana Pancakes-Jack Johnson

1. Select an  
awesome title

2. Start & End  
with the most  
important songs

3. Know your  
audience

4. Have a  
good variety

Go to P

Hang out with family

Spending

Host an Anti-Valenti

Go on a ro

Fun Facts

About 1 billion Vale  
exchanged in US  
largest seasonal ca  
of the year. n

Women purchase

In order of popula  
cards are given to  
mothers, wives, s

Parents receive 1 o

Valentine's Day an  
biggest holiday

Worldwide, over 50  
for Valentine's

## Cut-out valentines



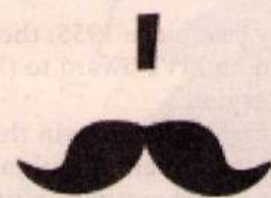
Bee Mine

To:  
From:



You're a  
pretty  
cool chick!

To:  
From:



→ YOU ←  
TO BE MY  
VALENTINE

To:  
From:



To:  
From:

Aw Sharks!



I think  
you're jawsome

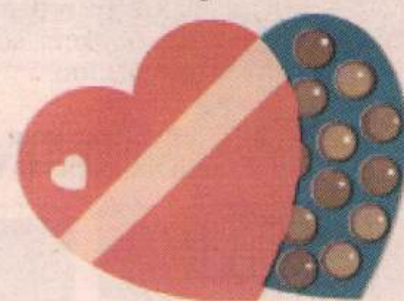
To:  
From:



You're a hoot!

To:  
From:

I think you're sweet



Be my valentine?

To:  
From:

Land Dress up & go out to dinner  
Binge eat junk food  
Valentine's Day Single?  
Valentine's Day party Go to the movies  
d trip Have a spa day

Valentine's Day cards are  
the most popular of the year. That's the  
second-most popular occasion  
after Christmas.

10% of all valentines.

Typically, Valentine's Day  
is celebrated by teachers, children,  
and pets.

1 out of every 5 valentines.

Valentine's Day are the  
most popular for giving flowers.

10 million roses are given  
each year.

In Medieval times, girls ate unusual foods  
on St Valentine's Day to make them dream  
of their future husband.

In some countries, a young woman may  
receive a gift of clothing from a  
prospective suitor. If the gift is kept, then  
it means she has accepted his proposal of  
marriage.

The oldest surviving love poem till date is  
written in a clay tablet from the times of  
the Sumerians, inventors of writing,  
around 3500 B.C.

73% of people who buy flowers for  
Valentine's Day are men, while only 27% are  
women.

- |            |                                  |            |
|------------|----------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Flowers | 10. Salon<br>Gift<br>Certificate | 9. Candles |
|------------|----------------------------------|------------|

2. Candy

3. Picture  
frame of  
you & her

4. Giant  
Teddy  
Bear

5. Starbucks  
cup &  
giftcard

6. Jewelry

8. Slippers

7. Perfume

### Gifts for Her

- |                       |                              |          |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Homemade<br>treats | 10. Beard<br>Grooming<br>Kit | 9. Watch |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|----------|

2. Socks

3. Boxers

4. Wallet

5. Cologne

6. Candy

### Gifts for Him

8. Sweatshirt

7. Sports  
Memorabilia

## Best relationship advice?



"Don't fear distance and learn how to  
trust"

-Taylor Bruns, '16



"Find someone who makes you happy"

-Shannon Sellers, '17



"Find someone who makes you a better  
person"

-Sheala Rael, '16



"Find someone who is not only your boy-  
friend but your best friend"

-Chloé Jenatscheck, '19



"Don't get caught up in your own flaws,  
and make it worth it"

-Chris Deeter, '18



"Love yourself before you love anyone  
else."

-Nick Hooper, '18



"To have a successful relationship, you  
have to put your partner first."

-Chase Wood, '17



"She's always right"

-Jacob Deeter, '16

## 10 Senior Interviews



### Megan Glovik

**What will you miss about Marion?:** My friends.  
**Future Plans?:** Go to U of I.

**Quote or piece of advice:** "You miss 100% of the shots you don't take."

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** N/A



### Matthew Halfmann

**What will you miss about Marion?:** Friends mostly.

**Future Plans?:** Attend Iowa Central.

**Quote or piece of advice:** "ARRRHHHGH!!!"  
-Chewbacca

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** Don't have one.



### Kaela Halvorson

**What will you miss about Marion?:** Mrs. Paige, Mrs. Logan, and the volleyball girls.

**Future Plans?:** Attend Hawkeye Community College for photography.

**Quote or piece of advice:** High school sucks, but everyone has to do it. Make the best of it.

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** My dad got me a birthday card instead of Valentine's Day.



### Nicole Hansel

**What will you miss about Marion?:** Friends and teachers.

**Future Plans?:** Go to a four-year college then law school.

**Quote or piece of advice:** "They don't want you to graduate." -DJ Khaled

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** N/A



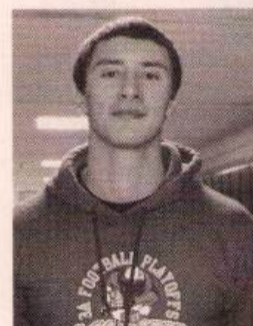
### Noah Hansen

**What will you miss about Marion?:** Friends, basketball, and track.

**Future Plans?:** Go to Kirkwood.

**Quote or piece of advice:** "I know." -Han Solo

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** N/A



### John Harms

**What will you miss about Marion?:** Good times with friends, spring break, and Mr. Immerfall.

**Future Plans?:** Go into trades, maybe Air Force.

**Quote or piece of advice:** Memories are more important than the risks it takes to get them.

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** When my girl was bigger than me and ate all my chocolate.



### Taylor Harris

**What will you miss about Marion?:** My teachers and many of the activities I'm in.

**Future Plans?:** Attending UNI and majoring in chemistry education, minoring in jazz studies.

**Quote or piece of advice:** Be true to yourself and never take advantage of others for your own benefit.

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** When I got peanut butter candy. I'm allergic.



### Lauren Hawker

**What will you miss about Marion?:** Friends and teachers.

**Future Plans?:** Go to Kirkwood for respiratory therapy.

**Quote or piece of advice:** "Lauren is my girlfriend." -Nobody

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** Don't have one.



### Zachary Hebert

**What will you miss about Marion?:** My friends.

**Future Plans?:** Construction

**Quote or piece of advice:** Get your work done in class.

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** That it is Valentine's Day.



### Jordan Heinzerling

**What will you miss about Marion?:** Something to do.

**Future Plans?:** Best machinist out there.

**Quote or piece of advice:** "He who makes a beast out of himself, gets rid of the pain of being a man."

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** N/A



### Mason Hiler

**What will you miss about Marion?:** Wrestling.

**Future Plans?:** Go to Kirkwood.

**Quote or piece of advice:** N/A

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** When Saige Trca broke my heart last Valentine's Day.



### Makayla Hinton

**What will you miss about Marion?:** My teachers and my friends still in high school.

**Future Plans?:** Going to Kirkwood or Luther College.

**Quote or piece of advice:** Always try your best, it'll pay off in the end.

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** I didn't get any chocolate.

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### Joshua Holley

**What will you miss about Marion?:** My friends and sports.

**Future Plans?:** Going into the trades to be an electrician.

**Quote or piece of advice:** Do you.

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** Getting stood up.



### Raven Horrach

**What will you miss about Marion?:** Wrestling.

**Future Plans?:** Get a job.

**Quote or piece of advice:** Always work hard.

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** N/A



### Jacob Hugh

**What will you miss about Marion?:** Trilk, Gaff, Martin, and their classes.

**Future Plans?:** Go to UNI, majoring in philosophy with a possible minor in psych.

**Quote or piece of advice:** "I am a Beyonce, in a school full of Michelles."

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** Valentine's day has always been pointless to me.



### Victoria Jenkins

**What will you miss about Marion?:** My teachers.

**Future Plans?:** Go to Kirkwood.

**Quote or piece of advice:** "Do or do not, there is no try."

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** My date ate all the chocolate she got me.



### Sydnee Johnson

**What will you miss about Marion?:** My friends and marching band.

**Future Plans?:** University of Iowa for business with a minor in German.

**Quote or piece of advice:** "Don't eat the cotton balls." -Elf

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** Watching Magic Magic with Hannah. It's messed up.



### Holli Jones

**What will you miss about Marion?:** The teachers and high school soccer.

**Future Plans?:** Go to Mount Mercy to study criminal justice and hopefully play soccer.

**Quote or piece of advice:** Don't let people change who you are.

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** Not getting chocolate.



### Tessa Jordan

**What will you miss about Marion?:** Basketball, soccer, and Ms. Ramaekers.

**Future Plans?:** Attend University of Iowa to study biochemistry on a pre-med track in hope of becoming an orthopedic surgeon.

**Quote or piece of advice:** Take AP calculus and physics.

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** N/A



### Christopher Keller

**What will you miss about Marion?:** Trilk, Wake, and Blumer.

**Future Plans?:** Pursuing my musical dreams.

**Quote or piece of advice:** "My mama used to tell me if you can't find somethin' to live for, you best find somethin' to die for." -Tupac

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** Not having a girlfriend on every one.



### Ben Knapp

**What will you miss about Marion?:** Football.

**Future Plans?:** Become a carpenter and build very large houses.

**Quote or piece of advice:** "You can keep the people out of the dam, but you can't keep the dam out of the people." -John Harms

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** N/A




### Hailey Knight

**What will you miss about Marion?:** Friends.

**Future Plans?:** Take a year off then go to college to become a vet.

**Quote or piece of advice:** Don't worry about what others think of you.

**Worst Valentine's Day Memory?:** N/A




## Drivers Education Classes

Classes held at Marion Christian Church


School year sessions completed in 2 1/2 weeks

Summer sessions completed in 2 weeks

See website for complete listing of sessions



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Sunday: Closed

## A (Quarter) Barrel of fun for all

The up-and-coming restaurant in Cedar Rapids is now open.

By: Amery Bruce @AmeryBruce

People are always looking for new places to hang out. Whether they're small children looking for a place to play, or adults looking for a good place to unwind after a stressful work day, everyone is eager for something a little different. This is where the Quarter Barrel, a new establishment in downtown Cedar Rapids, comes into play.

Located at 616 2nd Ave SE, The Quarter Barrel is a brewery with a bit of a twist. Isabelle Webber, senior, is one of the students who has been to the Quarter Barrel, and her dad is the general manager. "It's a 'barcade', which is a newer concept, meaning it's a bar with a twist- classic arcade games," Webber said.

There is a full menu coming at the

grand opening, but there is some food available right now. "They have a few specialty pizzas, a couple desserts, and a few appetizers," said Webber.

The hours right now are 4-10 on Tuesdays and Thursdays until January 29th, and 4-12 Fridays and Saturdays until the same date. Starting on February 2nd, The Quarter Barrel is open for lunch at 11.

Aaron Webber, the general manager,

believes it's a great place to go hang out. "Whether it's the food, the drinks, the games, or the family friendly atmosphere that draws you in, the Quarter Barrel has something for everyone. It appeals to everyone of all ages, so come check it out," he said.

If one is looking for something different, head to the Quarter Barrel for great food and atmosphere.

*"It's a 'barcade', which is a newer concept, meaning it's a bar with a twist- classic arcade games."*

*-Isabelle Webber, 16*

## The Quarter Barrel Quick Info

Where?	What?	When?	Why?
The address is 616 2nd Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52401	It's a new "barcade" full with good food and classic arcade games.	The Quarter Barrel is open for lunch at 11, as of Feb. 2nd.	The family friendly atmosphere, great food, and games makes the Quarter Barrel a great place to hang out.

The Quarter Barrel is a fun, new place to try out, where people of all ages have something that fits their needs.

## Politics: coming to a caucus near you

By: Chloe Mallon @Chhhloe17

Every four years the continuous commercials of the same politicians over and over come on the T.V. screen, telling the viewers why they should be voted into office before the other opposing candidates. These commercials playing over and over mean that the election for the new president just keeps coming closer and closer.

Before there can be a president elected though, it needs to be narrowed down to two different candidates, one that is traditionally more liberal, and one that is traditionally more conservative. In order to make this decision about which of the many people from each party is running, there needs to be voting for the nominee.

Although a lot of people may not know, the Iowa Caucus is one of the most important determination factors for the presidential election. Many of the presidential candidates will come to Iowa numerous times in order to get voters to come to their side and caucus for them.

This year the Iowa Caucus is held on February 1st, which is a little unusual compared to other years because it is almost always in January.

The Caucus is an electoral event. Many types of media from all around the country come to one of the many caucuses held in the state of Iowa on the day. The Iowa Caucus is the first major electoral event for nominating, and it has been very common in the past that whoever wins Iowa, wins the nominee. For example, in 2008 Barack Obama won the Iowa caucus,

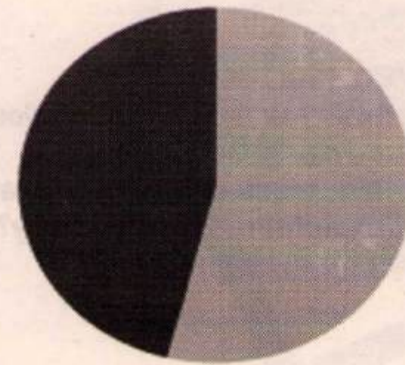
leading him into the nominee position, and shortly after into the spot as President of the United States.

The definition of the Iowa Caucus is generally "A gathering of neighborhoods" because when a person gets to the Caucus, it is typically a lot of back and forth arguing, trying to persuade the people to come to their side for the candidate they support. If there is a candidate who nobody hardly goes to caucus for them, they will have to choose another candidate there.

Rules vary for the Democratic caucus and the Republican caucus, because the Democratic process is a bit more complicated with more steps to follow.

The Iowa caucus is a very unique thing that is in the state of Iowa, and no matter what age one is it can be a great opportunity. Even for younger people that may be 17 but will be 18 when voting, but not 18 when they are going to caucus are allowed to. Even students who may not be old enough to vote are encouraged to come as an observer. For anybody who wants to get to know candidates a little better, or maybe even politics a little better, going to the Iowa Caucus would be a great idea.

## Who will win Super Bowl L?



■ Panthers (54%) ■ Broncos (46%)

A poll taken of 65 students who chose between the Denver Broncos and the Carolina Panthers as the winner of the 50th Super Bowl.

## Who gets the W for Super Bowl L?

By: Lexi Morgan @Lexi\_Morgan17

This weekend, football season is coming to an end again. After the ups and downs of another NFL season, the final game is here. The Carolina Panthers will be taking on the Denver Broncos in Super Bowl L.

The Panthers' 2015 season was an overall success, winning fifteen out of sixteen games in the regular season, the Divisional Round, and the Conference Championships, and now they're on their way to the Super Bowl. This will be Carolina's second Super Bowl appearance, and their chance to win their first Super Bowl.

This is Cam Newton's fifth season starting for Carolina. He's the MVP

front runner. Newton has had ten interceptions this season, and 35 touchdowns.

The Denver Broncos have had four losses this season, but they still made it just as far. Peyton Manning is starting his 18th season for the Broncos and is on the way to his fourth Super Bowl to get his second Super Bowl ring. Manning has had 17 interceptions this year and nine touchdowns.

While, they have different stats, styles, and records, both teams have reached the 50th Super Bowl and will battle it out on the field. Will a veteran or an up and coming MVP take the win this year? Tune in on February 7th for an exciting game, and even better commercials.

## Popular places in Marion & C.R. to caucus!



DEMOCRATS



REPUBLICANS

- Thomas Park safe room  
- Vernon Middle School  
- Marion High School  
- Francis Marion Intermediate  
- Marion City Hall  
- Lowe Park Hickory room  
- St. Joseph's church  
- Linn County Supervisors office  
- American Legion Hall  
- Emerson Elementary

- 1st Presbyterian Church  
- Lutheran Church of the Resurrection  
- Linn County fairgrounds  
- St. Mark's Lutheran Church  
- Alburnett High School  
- Linn Mar High School  
- New Covenant Bible Church  
- Kirkwood Community College  
- DoubleTree by Hilton  
- New Life Church

After signing up for the Iowa Caucus, each person will need to go to their designated caucus location. Above is a list of Democratic and Republican caucus locations.

## A new way to help students

By: Lexi Morgan, @Lexi\_Morgan17



Celia Daubs, '18



Brenna Johnson, '17

Most students here spend their time during M block studying, doing homework, or sitting around pretending to do something. It's time we are supposed to be using to get our work done or improve our grades. Celia Daubs, sophomore, spends her time during mentor helping other students instead of spending her time working on things for herself.

Daubs is involved in the peer mentoring program. She helps out each day in the special education classrooms with other students. "In one room, I help them with math, reading, and educational things. In the next room, it's more social and we play games," Daubs said. Her and the students are never just sitting around not

doing anything. They are always able to find something to do.

Daubs' favorite part of peer mentoring is helping others learn and work on their math and reading. "It's rewarding being able to help others," she said. She enjoys working with these students.

Daubs has created friendships with a lot of these students. "Friendship is really important to them. Even just seeing them in the hallways and saying hi to each other," she said. Being in there everyday has helped her create these relationships. "My favorite memory is finally beating Brett in the card game War," Daubs said.

She believes this truly helps other students. "It helped build a relationship between me and them, and with them and other people," Daubs said. She isn't the only one involved in helping others during mentor, however.

Brenna Johnson, junior, is also involved in helping her peers. She is in the peer tutoring program. "It gives you something to do during mentor if you don't have anything else to do and it feels good to help our fellow students," she said.

Myles Bach, sophomore, gets help from the peer tutoring program, which he really enjoys. "I'm not very intelligent and [Maria] knows how to explain things in a different way," she said. Bach gets help from Maria Abramo, '16, a foreign exchange student from Spain.

Whether hanging out with other students and building relationships or tutoring peers on their Spanish homework, the peer tutoring and mentoring program is an incredible edition to our school. It is a way to have free tutoring and it's from people we know and associate with, which sometimes makes for better results.

Spending time helping others is a rewarding path students can choose to take during their mentor time. While they might lose time spent on studying, doing homework or talking to their friends, they could spend their time doing something meaningful. They could help others complete these tasks or could build relationships with others. And it doesn't just stop there, students can find many ways to volunteer through our high school. There are many options to get volunteer hours and help others. With volunteering the possibilities are endless.



While Celia helps in the special education classroom, Maria Abramo, '16, helps Myles Bach, '18, work on Spanish in the cafeteria.

## Marion student shows individuality

Seth Paulson shows his unique personality through his everyday apparel.

By: Kenzie Redmond, @kenzie\_redmond2

Individuality is the uniqueness of an individual. It's all about being true to oneself. Seth Paulson, sophomore, portrays himself in this way.

Paulson's personal image isn't based off of other people's opinions. "I really could care less about what the general public thinks about me. If it's maybe my friends and family I would take a bit more consideration, but aside from that, I don't really care," he said.

Paulson's friends notice his uniqueness as well. Jordan Montoya, sophomore, said, "He's a nice person and he doesn't do anything to hurt people negatively. His beard is pretty important and he's a good student."

Paulson's physical image isn't a priority. "I typically don't think of myself too much. I don't give myself too much thought. I think [the people who care too much] are wasting their time because if they really care too much about what other people think of them and base their self worth on how others value them, then they themselves don't have value and they are shallow as people," he said.

Paulson believes that people who care too much about others opinions fail to identify who they are. "I think they struggle to identify who they are.

Maybe they think this is who I am based on how they think of me. But doing that's kind of dangerous because then your image depends entirely on others, and that's very risky," he said.

Paulson has many unique traits, one of them being his love for Crocs. These casual footwear have many positives and negatives. The most important thing about Crocs to Paulson is how simple they are for him. "They don't take a lot of time to put on and they're pretty waterproof," he stated.

Winter can't stop Paulson's dedication of wearing Crocs every day. "[The best time] to wear Crocs is the summer for sure, unless you're a little insane like me and wear them in the winter," he said. The seasons aren't a factor in Paulson's attire.

However, Paulson has had bad experiences

with Crocs. "[My first time wearing them], the Crocs didn't fit at all. They blistered my feet and they were very horrible, but the next day they were fine," Paulson said. But this isn't a valid excuse to hate on Crocs.

But Paulson believes the hatred of Crocs is unnecessary. "I think it's a little uncalled for. If people don't like Crocs it's their business, not mine to comment. If you hate Crocs and you don't really have a reason, it's just why do you do that," Paulson said.

Crocs are comfortable for Paulson and he will continue to wear them even with other people's opinions.

Crocs may be a unique trait of Paulson's, but another one is the growing of his beard. "The beard has been growing since the end of 8th grade, but I've had to trim it down a couple times. One of the benefits is I can stroke my beard," he said.

Paulson believes that the beard describes his originality. "Originally it just started coming in, now I like to imagine it as a part of me, so I keep it around," he said.

Paulson may wear Crocs and grow a beard year-round, but it's what describes his individuality and his physical image won't be changed based off of other's opinions.



Paulson's proud of who he is as an individual and isn't afraid to show off his personality to others.

## Huff learns something new every day

By: Chloe Rice, @Cmrice44

Mr. James Huff is the new Technology Coordinator of the Marion Independent School District and he is very well experienced for the job to say the least. His previous couple jobs may not have exactly the same or included all of the same tasks, but he is ready to take on the new challenge that he has before him.

With a Major in Computer Science, Huff has always wanted to have a job that involves technology, and he enjoys what he does very much. "If you do something you like, you never have to work a day in your life," said Huff. He received his education at the University of Mary Hardin (a sub-campus of Baylor University in Texas), the University of Pittsburgh Scranton, and the University of Phoenix.

Huff and his family have moved around multiple times so he has had different jobs over the years, partially because he and his wife were in the Army. They have been married for over twenty-eight years.

Before getting the job at Marion, Huff was employed at Erb's Technology Solutions (ETS) located in Cedar Rapids. Before ETS, he was also an IT for Grinnell Mutual Insurance. He has been working in the field of technology for about twenty-five years now. Huff would describe himself as an analytical person, so technology comes relatively easy to him, but he enjoys the challenges that it brings along. "You learn something new every day," said Huff. He

Everyone knows that even though technology is a great thing to have, it can sometimes be difficult and cause minor issues. Huff plans on improving some of these issues within our school district. The things he wants to improve most are the network and server security, which they have already been working on since he has arrived on the job. He plans on making a difference in how the network and infrastructure works in the school.

There are some common challenges when it comes to

having technology in public schools. "One of the biggest [challenges] is keeping a safe environment," said Huff. It is important to have tight security and monitor which websites are being accessed by students throughout the school day.

Another thing that Huff hopes to improve at Marion is the ratio of devices to students. The goal is to get to a 1:1 ratio. This is one of the most important things that are coming in the future. Students could have tablets or any other advanced devices that are coming out soon. Some of the newest pieces are Google glasses and other sorts of wearable technology. Having this 1:1 ratio will allow students to expand their learning and their minds.

When it comes to the way technology is improving and advancing, Marion is not behind, but we aren't necessarily leading the pack either. "I would say they [Marion] are slightly ahead of the curve," said Huff. Our school district wants to use technology that is more proven and that we know will work, rather than trying something brand new only for it to crash. Overall, we are at a pretty good stand when it comes to the technology that we use, but we could introduce some new ideas in the near future.

Outside of Huff's job and technology, he enjoys spending time with his kids and grandchildren. Some of his favorite hobbies are astronomy, coin collecting, and fishing with his family. The benefits of technology are enormous, and we hope to improve them even more within our school district. Huff says, "It brings information to your fingertips. Knowing where to find answers is half the battle in life."



James Huff, Technology Director

## Diminishing of school dances

Danielle Dunne, '16, gives her opinion on school dances.

By: Sophia Kabance @SophLynn-Bance00

The most memorable nights in one's high school years have been the most dreadful for others. A day packed full of pampering, pictures and pals, straight into a night of dancing is the epitome of a fun time for some, but this is not the case for everyone. There's a group of students that choose not to attend school dances right from the get go because they don't function in that social environment. It definitely takes an extrovert to be comfortable enough to put time into a heartfelt proposal and put themselves out there to potentially get rejected.

Recently, the student turnout at dances has diminished. Now, even the students that thrive in this social setting are not attending. Danielle Dunne, senior, said, "Freshman year I didn't attend dances because I wasn't interested in them at the time and didn't know that many people, but as I met more people I started going and it's been fun." She agreed dances have been becoming less popular, "More specifically homecoming and WPA. Prom will always be 'prom'."

But what is causing the drop in attendance? "It could be because of the dancing policies made last year," Dunne said. In time for last year's WPA dance, select moves such as grinding were prohibited. After rules were enforced, many thought they had no reason to keep attending, for they didn't know any other way of dancing, while others weren't affected at all by the new rules. Dunne is one who didn't let the restrictions keep her from having a great time, saying, "Me

and my friends dance as if nobody is watching."

Not everyone that dislikes the new policies has stopped attending the dances though. Most have attended several dances after these rules were put into place, giving it a few more chances. Even though some might appreciate these students giving the experience more chances, they could also bring down the energy of the atmosphere when they reminisce on what used to be. "If you wanna have fun at a dance it's up to you. If you make the most out of it and not just focus on the things that go wrong, then it's fun," said Dunne.

These four years will be looked back on a lot when everyone is older, so it is suggested sometimes to live with no regrets. It is no fun to look back and wish to have at least gone to one dance to see what it was like. Form an opinion from experience before judging it. It's not the point to drag oneself to every dance in the four years of high school just to stand in the bathroom because one never took the risk of breaking out their own unique moves. Bust them out, anyone might be the creator of the new whip or nae nae. It is okay to ask the guy or girl one has had a crush on for countless months. One never knows if he or she had similar feelings for them, or maybe they didn't even know the person existed, but what a perfect way to develop those feelings?

Maybe dancing isn't one's calling, but they still could find social events, or sporting events could be their thing. Take advantage of these opportunities. Wouldn't it be better to look back and think "oh well" than "what if?"

## Should gym class be required?

By: Solomon Groothuis @SolomonJohnG



"I think that gym should be required because fitness is important for young people."  
-Bobby Lockhart, '18



"I think gym class should only be required if we get rid of block scheduling. It's pointless just to work out one quarter a year."  
-Liz Fontenot, '16



"I don't think gym should be required. I do believe fitness is important, but the whole point of school is to learn and it's difficult for music kids and kids taking college classes to fit it into their schedules."  
-Mahlia Brown, '16



"Yes, because some people don't get enough physical activity."  
-Sydney Nielsen, '19



"Yes, because it keeps [students] in shape and teaches them how to prevent injuries."  
-Mitchell McAllister, '19

## Great Minds Think Differently

By: Mia Laube @Mia\_Laube21



Miracle Mason, '18

"Great minds think alike" is a commonly-used phrase describing when people have a similar thought process. However, what if instead it was celebrated that everyone thinks

differently? Miracle Mason, sophomore, asked herself that question a few months ago, and the Great Minds Think Club was born.

Great Minds Think is an interesting name, and Mason thought of it herself. "When people say 'great minds think alike,' I think that great minds are those who have different ideas, stand against the masses and think differently," she said.

All it took was an idea. "I got interviewed for the changing our school [campaign], and I was thinking of other issues and thought of it, so I went in to Mr. Semler. I talked to him a few months ago, and he started putting it in the announcements," she said. The club started with an introduction meeting, and it will expand from there.

The purpose is simple: to gener-

ate discussion. Mason said, "It's politics, world issues, concerns, current events... or anything that students are passionate about."

Obviously, there are borders to discussion, but anyone with an interest in what is going on around them can join. "Anyone who cares about world issues and things that concern our country and world [is included], and it's inviting to a diverse amount of people because we want people who have liberal views, people who have conservative views, and also people who are in-between, so there's a lot of discussion."

One large thing that is different about this group is there is no fear of conflict. "I think that a lot of people in our area are scared of conflict... But I think conflict can be a positive thing. [One goal] is just to encourage conflict through conversation about politics and stuff like that, even if it could be controversial," Mason said. She believes that by facing these type of problems head-on, they can be resolved.

One problem students face is being aware of how the government works, and wondering how they can immerse themselves in the large



Great Minds Think @GreatMinds2016 · Jan 10

"Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter, and those who matter don't mind." -Bernard M. Baruch



@GreatMinds2016

For updates on meeting times and inspirational quotes, the Great Minds Think Club has a Twitter page, @GreatMinds2016.

pool of our world's issues. She stated, "[We're] hoping to get students more involved with world issues, and get them more interested in things that are happening in our country because eventually they're going to be the ones that change things."

There is a wide variety of clubs at our school, but none of them deal with hard-hitting issues high schoolers aren't always aware of. Mason and the others in the club are taking a step into their future by participating. They will not only be bettering their communication skills, they will be increasing their awareness of all categories of world problems.

If at first the club begins slowly or does not gain attention, Mason is prepared to do what it takes to

get it off the ground. "I'll probably invite other people and host a meet and greet or something like that," she said. There was also a Twitter page set up to announce meetings.

Meetings will be held in the conference room, and there will be structure to them. Everyone will share ideas and the group will decide which are most important, and then they'll discuss them in small groups before getting together as a whole.

Our school is full of great minds, but they don't have to think alike. Some of us will be teachers, some doctors, some lawyers, some chefs, some writers. Everyone has something to contribute to the world, and now, their thoughts can be heard and shared at a new gathering, the Great Minds Think Club.

# Improving the school for the better

Haley Blazek describes her involvement and the idea of the MISchool process.

By: Caitlyn Smith @csmit05

Imagine if the ordinary school day that has been around for decades could be changed. Instead of going from class to class for almost seven hours a day, students would be able to choose a schedule that fits their needs. This is the current schedule that our school is trying to put into place and the process is called MISchool.

One student who has been greatly involved in this process is Haley Blazek, junior. Other people involved in MISchool are Mr. Zrudsky, other faculty members, and community members. All of these people meet once a week to discuss the process.

Blazek got involved in the MISchool process by first seeing an email that Mr. Zrudsky sent out to the student body and she thought it sounded awesome so she went to the first meeting and stuck with it. "I decided to get involved because education is very important to me and getting to improve that, not only for me, but people younger is an exciting opportunity," Blazek said.

There were around 1,361 concepts, or schools, that submitted their ideas to try and earn the

**What is MiSchool?** MiSchool is the process of trying to improve our school

**Who is involved?** Mr. Zrudsky, other faculty members, Haley Blazek, and community members.

**How many other concepts were submitted?** 1,361

**What is the goal of MiSchool?** Improving the education of all MISD students

third step is the develop stage where the group starts working on the details and to the build the school with the communities support. The fourth stage is to just expand on the third stage and the final stage is to announce the winners.

One example of what the new school day could look like would be that a student could go to an internship everyday and would receive school credit. The same student may then come into the school and get specific help with a teacher on a subject they are struggling with. The student may then work on a group project working to

receive a certain credit. The new schedule would ultimately be whatever fits the student.

Mr. Zrudsky is one faculty member who is organizing the process. "The goal is to improve the education for every student in the Marion Independent School District," said Mr. Zrudsky.

Blazek is hoping that this change would help make sure students who aren't comfortable with learning a certain subject can get extra help and the students who excel can expand and take things further. "Hopefully students will be more excited because they get to learn about their interests," Blazek said. She also said that the committee involved with MISchool may try to make some changes without extra resources, if the school doesn't win. The last thing Blazek wanted to add was, "If anybody has ideas feel free to share them."

If the school wins the grant, it would no longer be a typical school day that has been around for decades. The change is ultimately to benefit the students and their way of learning.



Haley Blazek, '17

grant. Only five schools will receive a grant. After submitting a concept, the next step is called discover and design which is to see what students need and how they learn and design a school with that focus. The discover and design stage is being submitted in February. The

## Faley makes the switch from public to homeschool

By: Alex Coleman @Its\_YoPalAI



Hannah Faley '17

For many students, the walk through high school is a difficult one. It's a lifetime of experiences jam-packed into a measly four years, and a promise of things to come. For Hannah Faley, junior, school has never been easy. "When you go to school with people you've known most of your life,

you get stuck in this box that people put you in. They have this pre-conceived notion of who you are," said Faley. For some, the simplest solution is to hold their head high and make it through these four years, but for Faley, other options were considered.

After going to public school for eleven and a half years, Faley decided it was time to change to homeschooling. "Fifth grade was when I first encountered bullying, and I just really wanted to get away from it. It wasn't feasible at the time due to my mother being single and teaching, but now that I've reached high school and I have a higher level of independence it has become more possible," said Faley.

Through a cocktail of online academies, textbooks, and a few college classes here and there, Faley made the switch to homeschooling mere months ago. "I don't really follow many rumors at the school, but I know that any about me were like 'oh she's mean' or 'oh she's rude', and then people do things in reaction to that that make me react because I get annoyed. Sometimes I'm not very good at filtering myself, and I turn into exact-

ly who they think I am and that's not good for me or my mental health, so I finally decided to get out of the toxic environment," said Faley.

Though her mom initially squashed the idea of homeschooling, when Faley mentioned it later on in her life, her mother considered it as a possibility. "I was surprised that she actually considered it and went through with it. In the past every conversation that we had about it went kind of like 'no we can't do that' or 'no you're not responsible enough for that', but she actually set up a meeting with the homeschool office and made it happen," said Faley.

For Faley, it seems that the idea of homeschooling will stick around until the finish of high school. "I do like it more. One of the reasons I wanted to make the switch was because my job and school began to get in the way of each other, and I wasn't willing to give up one or the other. Homeschooling has allowed me to do both, so now I work whatever hours I want and can still focus on my grades," said Faley.

Not only does homeschooling open the doors for work opportunities, it also has allowed Faley to focus on a few other areas she enjoys. "I've had time to work on improving my writing, I like to write short stories and would like to be a manuscript editor after college. And again, I get away with working overtime hours. In the end my grades are still fine," said Faley.

High school is hard on everyone. Everything changes in such a short amount of time. While not everyone likes the idea of converting to homeschool, Faley appreciates the opportunity to continue doing the things she loves without the significant stress of social pressures.

## Respect for all grades

By: Mia Laube @Mia\_Laube21

R-E-S-P-E-C-T: Aretha Franklin said it best. The times that respect is needed can be the same times it is lost. One particular time this is brought up is when the topic of seniority arises, which deals with the relations between upperclassmen and underclassmen.

Kirsten Way, senior, thinks it takes mutual effort for everyone to get along. "I think respect should always be shown equally among classes. I'd expect the same respect from underclassmen as I would give to them. If I disrespect the underclassmen, I'm not going to expect them to respect me because I was disrespectful as well," she said. There is no age to being kind.

Sometimes, though, upperclassmen would agree that it is necessary to be granted seniority, or more privilege and respect based upon age or experience. "Last year we went to state [for volleyball], and me and [a friend], who were volleyball

players and juniors, didn't get to sit in the student section because there were a lot of freshmen and parents," she said.

Halle Medland, freshman, thinks the older students and younger students get along fine when everyone treats each other fairly. "It's kind of how you act toward each other," she said. It is possible to create a positive environment based on choices everyone makes.

Stereotypical problems like shoving or taunting don't really occur anymore, especially in the age of the internet. "When I was a freshman, it was more of where you sat at games and who was in the front of the lunch line, whereas now it's [social media] like Twitter, and I think some of the underclassmen are disrespectful in the way they treat upperclassmen, not necessarily physical things," Way said. Social media can make small issues blow up into larger ones because people can get involved quickly.

Many freshman think that there is no need to complain about older students, knowing that one day they will be in their shoes. "I'd say it's fair because they've been here longer, they know the system better, and it gives younger students something to look forward to," said Owen Eichhorn, freshman. Way agreed with this concept, saying, "We all go to the same school, we were all freshmen once, we're all going to be seniors eventually."

This is not only on a younger level. Sometimes students forget that teachers have seniority and deserve respect. "I think teachers don't get enough respect," said Way.

No matter the situation, it is a common consensus that the golden rule is important. Respecting another person goes a long way, and if it involves seniority, it is up to those involved to decide what is right.



Kirsten Way, '16



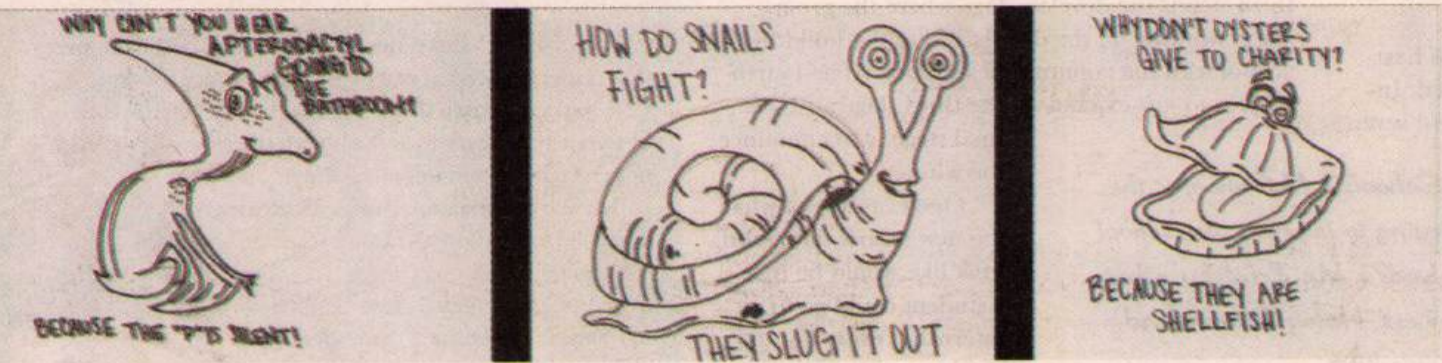
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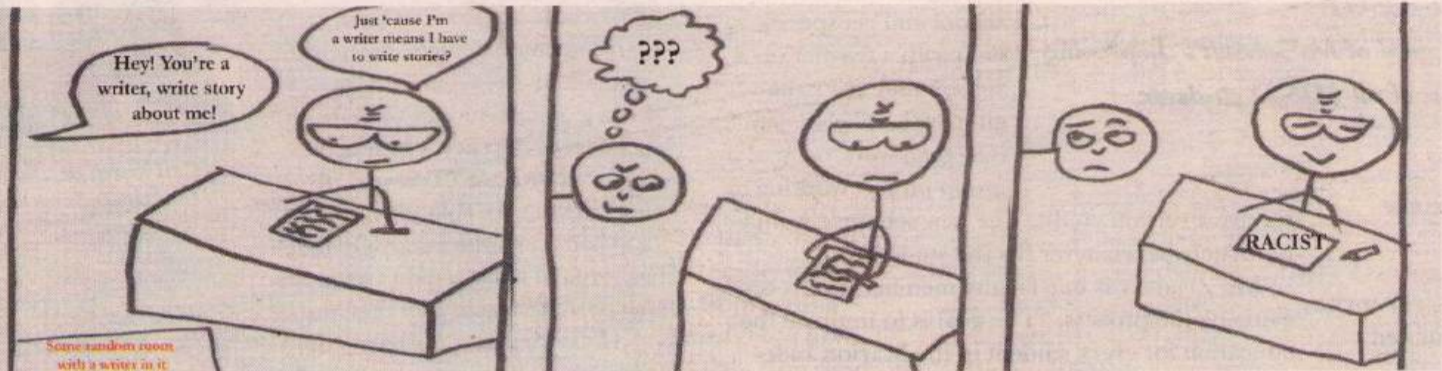
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February Funnies

By:Lexi Morgan @Lexi\_Morgan17



By: Alex Coleman @Its\_YoPalAI



By: Solomon Groothuis @SolomonJohnG



Famous February birthdays

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Harry Styles        | 15. Birdman           |
| 2. Shakira             | 16. The Weeknd        |
| 3. Sean Kingston       | 17. Michael Jordan    |
| 4. Rosa Parks          | 18. Dr. Dre           |
| 5. Cristiano Ronaldo   | 19. Victoria Justice  |
| 6. Babe Ruth           | 20. Rihanna           |
| 7. Ashton Kutcher      | 21. Corbin Bleu       |
| 8. Klay Thompson       | 22. George Washington |
| 9. Tom Hiddleston      | 23. Dakota Fanning    |
| 10. Emma Roberts       | 24. Floyd Mayweather  |
| 11. Jennifer Aniston   | 25. Joaquin Noah      |
| 12. Abraham Lincoln    | 26. Johnny Cash       |
| 13. Jerry Springer     | 27. JWoww             |
| 14. Frederick Douglass | 28. Jason Aldean      |
|                        | 29. Alex Rocco        |

**What kind of V-Day treat are you?**  
Take this quiz to find out!

Your dream Valentine's Day?

Staying in or something simple

Going out and over the top!

Is it more fun to watch movies or have a group of friends over?

Restaurant or movie?

Par-tay!

Catching the latest rom-com

A romantic dinner

Why not both?

Lots of people or keep it small?

A typical restaurant or local favorite?

The more, the better

Local fave

Quality over quantity

Something basic

**Sugar Cookie**

**Brownie**

**Frappuccino**

**Zookie**

**Sugar Cookie:** You're sweet all the way through and everyone loves you!

**Brownie:** There are lots of layers to you but they're all great. Let them shine through!

**Frappuccino:** You're a through and through favorite, get ready for a V-Day full of candy & fun!

**Zookie:** You have an outgoing and over-the-top personality, but you also love the classics.