



A new texting and driving law will soon be in effect. Page 12

Ten teachers say farewell to Marion at the end of this year. Pages 10,11

See where the seniors are off on their new adventures. Page 16

## A friend to lend a helping paw

Becka Simmons, '19, has coped with death and hardship with her best friend by her side.

By: Kayba Laube @KaybaLaube

When walking down the hallway each day, students pass by hundreds of their peers, and many are unaware of the slightest things about them. Their face may seem recognizable, but their story isn't always what one may think.

### Losing a close relative

Becka Simmons, sophomore, lost her cousin who was 23 when she was 12, and reacted differently than most people would. Simmons developed depression and has had panic attacks. Because of the tragedy, she found herself getting involved with negative people who didn't make the right decisions. Simmons said, "I was in the darkest time until I met my best friend Rylee." But her best friend is different than many others. Simmons' best friend happens to be a shih tzu.

### Meeting her best friend

During her struggle is when her doctor recommended for her to get a therapy dog. "I had a terrible panic attack and my doctor said to get one, but at first I didn't want him, and then I realized it would be good," Simmons said. Simmons and her family went to an animal shelter and looked around for awhile until she found the one. Little did she know, this dog would change her life forever.

Her perfect match is named Rylee. She got Rylee for her thirteenth birthday and has had him for about three years. "He was supposed to be put down before I got him. We saved each other," she said. He is a normal dog that is training to be a certified therapy dog. Simmons goes to a personal trainer to learn how to train him and also trains him during their time together. She brings him everywhere she can.

### Becoming certified

He will soon be certified once he completes all his training. Simmons' therapist, Megan Rose from Murray, Wilson & Rose Counseling And Behavioral Services, said, "There are many requirements for a dog to be considered a therapy dog. The dog would need to pass obedience class one and two, then pass a therapy dog class."

There are also many benefits for people in need of a therapy dog. Rose said, "Research has shown individuals who have chronic mental illness such as PTSD, Panic Disorder, [or] heart issues all could benefit dramatically. People with depression and anxiety could benefit as well." Therapy dogs can help with many different illnesses and can deeply affect the people who own them.

### Their loving relationship

There isn't a day that goes by where she doesn't see her cousin in Rylee. "I believe Rylee represents my cousin because he acts like my cousin. He's loving and caring and that's how my cousin was," Simmons said.

Rylee gets Simmons out of situations that could cause her to have a panic attack. He nudges her and whimpers softly to help her know to stay calm and to escape from the environment. He always knows when something is up with her. Simmons said, "The relationship between me and my dog is a strong one."

Not only can Simmons see the bond between her and Rylee, her mom also can. Simmons' mom, Teri Studer, said, "He helps calm her down and put things into perspective. Whenever she's feeling lonely she can always count on him to be there to listen to her and comfort her, and vice versa." Studer is very thankful for Rylee. She knows her daughter needs Rylee and is changing for the better.

### Partnership at school

Simmons brought Rylee to school once and will continue to do that for her own sake. During a

"He helps calm her down and put things into perspective. Whenever she's feeling lonely she can always count on him to be there to listen and comfort her, and vice versa."

-Teri Studer, mother

speech or a big test at school are times when Simmons needs him the most. He keeps her calm and focused on the task she is completing. "People get mad at me that I get to bring my dog to school. I feel bad, but I need him. At school he is not my pet, he's my partner," Simmons said. She doesn't bring him just for fun, she brings him because she needs him. He's like a medicine to her. At school he is at work and cannot be distracted.

### Becoming happier

Sometimes when people are down, the only way they can go is up. During the lowest points in one's life is when one can become stronger and figure out who they are. Simmons is becoming better and healthier. "I do not have anxiety attacks as much and my depression has lowered."

Hopefully something good comes out of each situation. For Simmons, that was Rylee. He is her ray of sunshine that brightens up her day. Not every day has been perfect for them. They don't always get along, but they make each other better, stronger, and happier.

### Opening up during struggles

Simmons went through a breaking point in her life and felt she couldn't turn to anyone. Simmons said,

"I want people to know that if they're going through a rough time, tell someone because I did and now I have my best friend." People should never have to feel alone no matter what.

Opening up to others can be a life changer. Simmons is climbing a mountain and running into challenges. The greatest thing about climbing that mountain is breaking through all the obstacles along the way. That's what her and Rylee do every day.

Becka Simmons, '19, walks down the hallway with her dog, Rylee, who is training to be a certified therapy dog.

## Students doing things



Mr. Fruehling, Mrs. Henkel, and members of the student body take a selfie at One Day in May.



Shannon Sellers, '17, Sydney Nielsen, '19, and Kayba Laube, '20, all pose for a picture at the nursing home.



Antonio Valle, Ceci Pitstick, and Bridget Prochaska, all '17, and Addie Shindelar and Shelby Stivers, both '19, stop to take a picture on a nearby rock.



Brianna Young and Caitlin Arcand, both '20, take a picture after a long day volunteering for ODIM.

### Index

|                       |       |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Opinion.....          | 2,3   |
| Activities.....       | 4,5   |
| Entertainment.....    | 6,7   |
| Center Spread.....    | 8,9   |
| Teacher farewell..... | 10,11 |
| Community.....        | 12    |
| Feature.....          | 13-15 |
| Back Page.....        | 16    |



## The server saga

Well here it is, my last column. I waited four years in journalism class just to have a column, and now it is all coming to an end. This column I'd like to use to reflect on how amazing having a job has been throughout these years, and all of the great memories I've made through it.



By: Chloe Mallon  
@chhhloe17

I started working at Zoey's Pizzeria when I turned fourteen years old. I needed a job, because doesn't every fourteen year old need money when their parents decide that giving them money is not their job anymore?

I loved working and I loved having a job. Making new friends, being around all of the older kids, and making money that was all mine and I could spend on whatever I wanted was great. Not to mention, the free pizza and zookies weren't a bad thing.

Throughout the years as I've continued working, I have made numerous friends, met people I now call family, and have learned so many life skills. I learned about my love for working with people and serving the public.

With all the friends I've made, one of the best ones has definitely been meeting my roommate for college next year. We hit it off immediately, and now I consider her one of my best friends. I would have never met her without working at Zoey's, and I will be forever thankful for that.

I can not stress it enough, but having a job is one of the best things that anybody could do in their high school experience. Not only did I learn so many great lessons from my job, but I've learned how to properly communicate with the public, manage money, and create amazing, long-lasting friendships.

Friends through work are some of the best friendships that anybody could make in their life. Whether it is to gossip about others at work, or to cover shifts when you need them.

Through promotions, raises, and big tips, I have worked my way up to the top of the chain, and not many people can say that when they are just graduating from high school. Zoey's has made the biggest impact on me throughout my life, and I will be forever thankful that I was given the opportunities I was.

Throughout the take home pizzas, zookies that my co-workers and I have demolished, and customers I've made close relationships with, I would never have asked for a better job than Zoey's.

## Summer craze on full blast

Students can't wait for school to end and fun summer days to begin.

By: Maddy Redmond @maaddayy\_

Summer days are spent soaking up the sun, spending every second making memories with friends, and planning late night shenanigans spent with windows down and music up. Carefree summer days and nights are just around the corner.

Summer is the time of year that every student waits for. The season where the tests that didn't go too hot, the homework that was forgotten, and the people who get on one's very last nerve no longer matter. Summer means no longer having to roll out of bed at 7:00 in the morning to the annoying sound of the alarm that one dreads each and everyday.

Summer is the perfect time to explore, hangout with friends, and check off every last thing on a bucket list. Whether it's stargazing, going to a drive in movie theater, trying new foods, or traveling somewhere new, summer is carefree and full of possibilities.

While school is a place to expand knowledge and see the people one might not see outside of the school doors, summer is the best season of the year. One isn't spending eight hours each day in an uncomfortable chair, learning things that will probably never be used again, and smelling all of the disgusting, warm smells that seem to fill the hallway each day.

Vacations are scheduled, so let the fun begin. It's a time to relax and get away from the town

that we're all so familiar with. One can spend their days being in an unfamiliar place taking in all of the different vibes. Instead of sitting in one's bed looking out at the same views, it's a totally different environment that begins to feel like home.

Spending endless hours on the water is also one of the best parts of summer. Whether it's taking in all the Vitamin D that the sun provides, flying off of tubes making for good memories, or fishing until the sun goes down, spending time on the water is more than a peaceful experience. Summer is the perfect time to be genuinely happy.

Summer means ice cream shops being filled with people on the daily. Caramel, chocolate, vanilla, and strawberry cones- or whatever one's favorites flavors may be- are a must in the sizzling summer heat. Lemonade stands begin to make their ways to the corner, completely satisfying the taste buds.

Nothing beats the nights where one is having so much fun that they lose track of time. It's the memories spent with friends that makes for the perfect three months. Getting the tan one wishes would stay year round and having the freedom that was well earned is what summer is all about.

Having two months to make the most of the seasonal break and being able to spend hour after hour with friends and family is exactly what is needed after a long school year. Many can't wait for the best season to be here.

## The terrors of tanning

By: Kayba Laube @KaybaLaube

Tanning and wanting to be tan has been a huge thing that becomes more popular every year. Sometimes it goes far enough to becoming orange just for self satisfaction. Obviously every once in awhile is far from a problem, but all year around is excessive.

There are many different ways to become tan. There is sun tanning, tanning pills, tanning beds, tanning lotion, and spray tanning. Some are okay for your body, but nothing is perfectly healthy. Tanning pills are not FDA approved, but people still use them frequently.

It's understandable that before a school dance, one doesn't want to be completely pale. Having a little color looks good. Even before a vacation, it's good to get a little color because the sun can fry people in a few seconds, and it doesn't feel good to be super burnt.

What is the good part about being so unnaturally tan that it looks orange? Everybody is naturally

so beautiful that changing so far from their original look is interesting. During the winter most people are naturally a little more pale, so when one is noticeably darker it doesn't look right.

People should always make sure spray tans and tanning lotions fit the color of their skin because if not, it never looks completely right. If it's the right color, it will look amazing on them.

When people tan all year around in tanning beds, it is a waste of money. In the spring and summer there is a place that everyone can lay out and tan for free: outside. It's a crazy thought to take in. Even when one puts on sunscreen they can still get very tan if they use a low SPF.

No matter what people do to their skin, they will still look gorgeous. Even though being orange looks different, as long as they like it, orange looks beautiful on them.

### Tanning costs & effects

| Options:        | Cost:     | Effects:  |
|-----------------|-----------|---|
| Sun tanning:    | \$0       | No sunscreen causes bad burns and skin cancer.                  |
| Tanning lotion: | \$10-\$80 | Lotion penetrates protective skin barriers.                     |
| Tanning pills:  | \$15-\$35 | Not FDA approved, many side effects, and bad for skin pigments. |
| Spray tanning:  | \$25-50   | One could inhale chemicals that could enter the blood stream.   |
| Tanning beds:   | \$5-\$20  | Risk of skin cancer, and bad for the eyes.                      |

## Loathsome lakes

By: Leah Kray @leah\_kray

'Tis the season for laying in the sun and cooling off in the brown, murky lake water infested with bacteria and urine. There's nothing more refreshing than swimming in a bathtub of human filth and mysterious creatures.

How can one wade into the water not knowing what's in it? There's no way to know for sure what's

swimming below because the water is so brown and cloudy. For all we know, the lochness monster could be swimming next to someone without them even knowing.

Lake critters are all around in the water and can cause some icky situations. There's nothing worse than a fish swimming up and fluttering its little tail against one's leg. What ever happened to animals being afraid of humans and keeping their distance from us?

The amount of urine swarming lakes is disgusting. Waste from freshwater organisms mixed in with human waste is just too much. The worst thing is when one is swimming in the water, doing their own thing, when all of a sudden, a person swims by and leaves a giant warm spot to follow. If you have to use the restroom while you're swimming, please get out of the water and use a bathroom.

Bacteria levels are a tremendous deal and can serve some health problems to those who dare swim in lakes. According to Perry Beeman

from the Business Record, in August of 2015, Lake Macbride in Solon, Iowa had 72 times the limit of safe E. coli readings. Other types of bacterial infestations include toxins from algae and fecal bacteria. If one ingests or comes in contact with these types of bacteria, they may experience rashes or gastric illnesses.

Don't get it wrong, going boating on lakes and soaking up the sun on the beach is pretty rad. It's always fun to get a tan and fish off the side of a boat, but the second someone puts their feet into the water is where the line needs to be drawn.

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### Editorial Policy

The Vox is a public forum student-run newspaper dedicated to informing and entertaining the students of Marion High School since 1934. It'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 26 or any staff member. Thank you!



# Moving to legalize marijuana

There are benefits, facts, and reasons why marijuana should be legalized.

By: Solomon Groothuis @gagaslacefront

It's hard to argue for drugs. Ever since pre-K students are taught "say no to drugs" and warned about the dangers of illegal substances, including marijuana. But are drugs really bad? Are they really all that dangerous? To be honest, not necessarily. Marijuana is actually more harmful to the people illegal than legal.

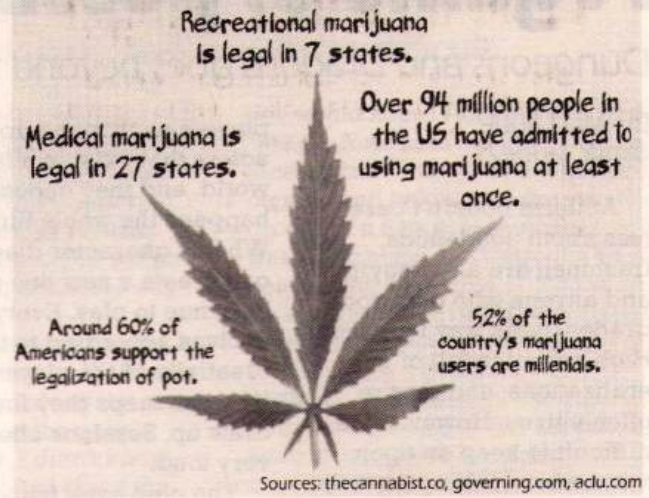
Marijuana being illegal is not only outdated, but harmful economically and racially. The war on drugs, specifically marijuana, has served no other purpose than lock up non-violent offenders and fund prisons. Let's look at the statistics.

According to ACLU's original analysis in 2010, 52% of all drug arrests were for marijuana. Most of these arrests weren't dealers and suppliers, but rather individuals possessing a small amount of pot. 88% of arrests

were simply for possession. The arrests were so frequent that between 2001 and 2010, a marijuana related arrest was made every 37 seconds. The frequent arrests are not only unnecessary, but contribute to poverty.

In 2010, ACLU recorded that roughly 34% of marijuana users between the ages of 18-25 were white and 28% were black. Despite the ratio, black people are four times as likely to be arrested for weed possession. Right here in the state of Iowa, black people are eight more times more likely to be arrested on pot charges than white people. The disproportionate arrests only add to the mass incarceration of black people. It's racist.

It's easy to get lost behind the word "drug," but marijuana is used medicinally as a pain-reliever and to treat anxiety. It can even help treat addictions to cocaine and heroine. It's time to blaze up change and legalize pot.



There are many numbers showing the change in attitudes and decisions concerning marijuana use.

## Parking lot problems

By: Maddie Knapp @MaddieKnapp

Having an open first block and being able to sleep in is all fun and games until one has to come to school and find a parking spot. Finding a parking spot is a pain in the butt, and if there are no spots in the student lot, most just go to the staff lot, where there are plenty of open parking spots.

But god forbid a student parks back there. Students have to park on a side street and walk to the school, even if there are open spots in the back, which is completely bogus. If students have to park on a side street, they better get a free tardy pass or an uber to come pick them up so they're not late.

Let's be real; no student is going to park on a side street. They're either going to park in the back, in a visitor spot, a handicap spot, or just make their own spot and cause a ruckus. Also, high schoolers park like absolute trash, so when one person parks bad, it just keeps going right down the line. Parking in a handicap spot when one has no right to is also terrible and unfair. Clearly, we need to expand our parking lot.

Nothing is more annoying than seeing an open spot and going to pull in and there being one single moped there, or going to pull in but one can't fit because the two cars around them parked right on the line. In addition, when one is getting ready to leave and there is a car parked so close to them that they can't even get in, one just has to contemplate door dinging them for being rude.

Another irritating situation is when someone is casually driving looking for a spot and someone zooms out of their parking spot, inches from hitting the other person. It's also bad when one is slowly backing out and someone just doesn't slow down and about takes the back end of a car off. Or, even better, when they laugh at it. In all seriousness, it's not funny at all.

There have been so many accidents in the parking lot, and people still can't learn how to be careful. If a person hits and runs, they're a horrible person, and karma will get them.

Do people know how to read street signs? If it says one way, only go one way. Nothing is worse than trying to leave through the exit when someone is coming in or when trying to enter while someone is exiting through the entrance.

Students that fly through the parking lot trying to get to a spot before others are obnoxious and need to be tamed. A bad accident could happen from kids being reckless, but most won't learn until it happens.

We truly need a larger lot, but since the chances of expanding the parking lot are slim, teenagers need to slow down and learn how to park nicely.



These are two cars in the parking lot that were very poorly parked. One isn't parked in a spot, and the other takes up two spots.

## Social media relationships

By: Sophie Willette @selfiesophiee

While scrolling through Twitter and Instagram or looking at Snapchat stories, people are often nailed in the face with "relationship goals" posts. It's nearly impossible to go through a whole day without seeing a post about someone's significant other and how much they love them. Showing off one's person and letting all of their followers know how much they care for them is totally okay, but there is a fine line between being cute and straight up annoying.

The different social media platforms often give false images of what relationships are supposed to look like, how one should text, or even how those in couples should take pictures together.

Social media is a little bit extreme in this way. If one doesn't do those things, then their relationship isn't "cute enough," and they aren't "goals." On the other hand, if they go above and beyond the social media expectations with their significant other, then they're "too clingy" or their relationship is just annoying. That is pretty bogus because people can post whatever the heck they want on social media about their boyfriend or girlfriend.

Obviously, if someone posts four pictures of their significant other every other day saying how much they love them and never want to let them go, then people will think they're a bit annoying. But showing off your person every once in awhile shouldn't be a crime. Just because the pictures posted aren't artsy or super elaborate does not mean someone and their bae aren't cute.

Seeing shout outs about how lucky a guy is to have his girlfriend, or how happy a girl's boyfriend makes her is totally cute. But it's not totally cute when they're putting on a show to make their relationship look perfect. Being in a relationship is a lot of work, and there will be disagreements. It's a given.

It's almost kind of weird if

couples don't have a bumps in the road along their journey, but there are some people who act like their relationship isn't turning into trash and continue to post about how perfect their person is.

We all know nobody is perfect, so those couples should stop saying that about their actually really crappy boyfriend or girlfriend because most everyone knows they argue all the time. Just be real if you're going to post about your relationship because nobody wants to see something fake.

There's no better feeling than getting a cute appreciation post, so people should make sure not to forget about giving their person one. Making one's bae feel special is the best feeling and is another way of confirming how much one values them and their relationship. Being shown off is the best thing ever.

Social media can give off some false images of relationships and what relationships should be like, but it is important to remember to post what seems best.



Show Times:

Fri June 16 8PM

Sat June 17 8PM

Sun June 18 2pm

Fri June 23 8PM

Sat June 24 8PM

Sun June 25 2PM

Fri June 30 8PM

Sat July 1 8PM

Sun July 2 2PM

Info & Tickets:

givingtreetheater.com

(319) 213-7956

752 10th Street Marion, Iowa 52302

M-F 11AM-3PM





# A game of possibilities

Dungeons and Dragons goes beyond the board for a good time.

By: Mia Laube  
@mia\_laube21

Athletes couldn't care less about academics, freshmen are all annoying, and anyone who gets good grades cares way too much. High school is full of generalizations, and they're often untrue. However, it's difficult to keep an open mind when looking from the outside in. One group many have assumptions about is the Dungeons and Dragons Club.

Dungeons and Dragons is a board game, but it is much more than that. All players are engaged and waiting for the next exciting development.

Chris Deeter, junior and new member this year, had the chance to open his eyes to an experience he otherwise knew nothing about. "People just stereotype the game to be nerdy and make fun of people that play it," Deeter said. "Honestly, it's not about becoming a different person or anything like that. I play it because I have fun with friends."

Very few know what goes on inside the walls of a gathering for the game. "It could be one hour or three hours for a session. A full game can last however long you want. I know some that have gone on for ten years and still aren't done," he said. All it takes is a board, a small amount of other items and a group of friends.

During the game, the

players each make up characters that exist in a fantasy world, and they choose what happens the whole time. When a character dies, they can create a new one and continue to play. Everything evolves according to the creativity of the players, and they use maps they find or draw up. Sessions often get very loud.

The club even found new and innovative ways to play, including using a game table Deeter built. "I drew up a plan and made a table with a TV in it. There's glass over the top so you can write on it," he said. "[There is] an HDMI cord. The TV is just an extension of your computer."

Those who are interested in trying the new technology would be welcomed by the group, which currently is comprised of around 23 members. "At least in the groups I've been in, the atmosphere is amazing. Everyone is having a blast and is doing crazy things," Deeter said. They welcome new members and do not hesitate to teach them how to play. It doesn't require anything to join.

After finding a home with the members, Deeter realized the club was much different than anything he'd previously done. "I've tried a lot of different stuff at school. I've been in soccer, football, basketball, been around baseball, show choir, choir, and generally, it's people around each

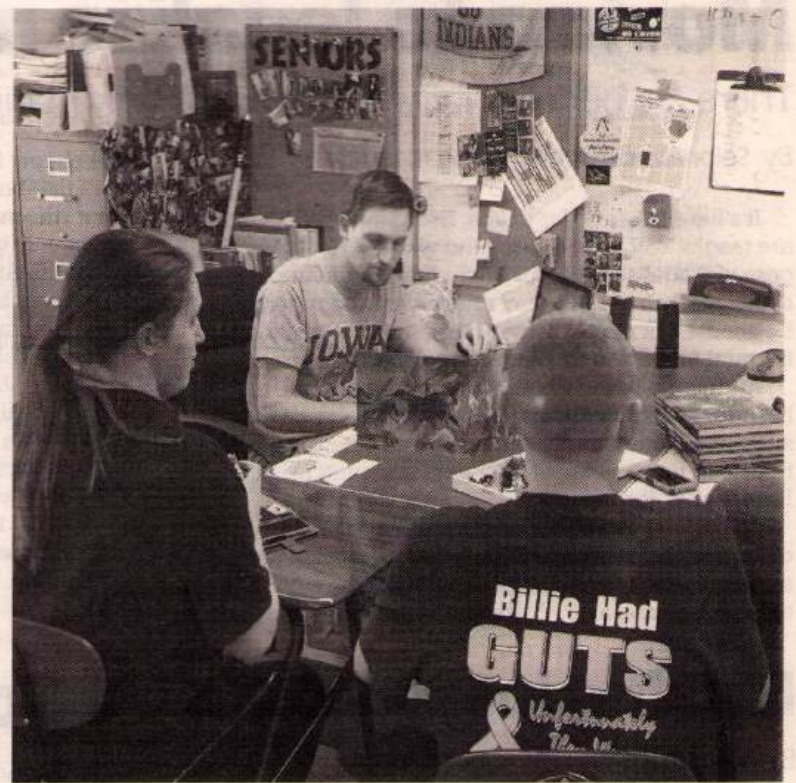
other who aren't really together," he said. "When you're playing D and D, you have a little group of friends and have fun rather than being on a team that's just trying to win."

There is a tight bond that can be seen at meetings, and Deeter hasn't found that in many other activities. "They don't really care if they succeed or lose because as long as they have a crazy time playing, it's all right," he said. That can make a gathering even better anywhere one goes.

Dungeons and Dragons is a great way to expand one's horizons. "It's really no different than playing a video game. You're actually face to face with someone and having social interaction," Deeter said.

Mr. Ben Merrick, current supervisor of the club, agreed with the benefits of playing. "I think it puts people through situations that require a lot of compromises. You have to know how to communicate, and it has a lot of storytelling elements as well. It's kind of a break from everyday life, too," he said.

Despite any stereotypes, the only stigma a certain group has should be based upon how much the members enjoy it. When judging a book by its cover, it's easy to walk away. However, opportunity might be waiting just around the corner, or in this case, a few classrooms down the hall.



Dungeons and Dragons Club boasts over 23 members, who break into small groups to play sessions of the game together.

## Marion Boy Scouts

By: Maddie Knapp  
@MaddieKnapp

Boy Scouts is something that has been around for quite awhile, and Carter Lantermans, sophomore, has been involved since he was in third grade.

Lantermans has been involved in Boy Scouts since he was fourteen years old, and became involved in Cub Scouts in third grade. "There are two different sections- Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. You can start Cub Scouts when you're in third grade until you're fourteen, then you can join Boy Scouts. You can be in Boy Scouts until you're eighteen years old," said Lantermans, "but most usually are done at sixteen or seventeen. Being in the Boy Scouts also looks good on a resume."

Since Lantermans has been in Boy Scouts, he has gained 21 badges. "[To get badges] you have to fill out a form with questions and then go over them with your counselor,

then the paper goes in for review," Lantermans said. "The most badges you can get is around 50."

There are a lot of different troops around Marion. "There are like 30 other troops around here. I am in troop 35," Lantermans said.

Noah Jordan and Jacob Heth, sophomores, are also involved in Boy Scouts. "I enjoy Boy Scouts, and I have

"[To get badges] you have to fill out a form with questions and then go over them with your counselor, then the paper goes in for review."

-Carter Lantermans, '19.

about 21 badges," Jordan said. "I have been involved since 2012."

It's difficult to be bored with so much to do in the organization. "[In boy scouts we] do volunteering, camp outs, and community

work," Lantermans said.

Lantermans has enjoyed his time in Boy Scouts, but his time is quickly coming to an end. "I will miss all the food," He said.

Though Lantermans will be done, he is looking forward to a new adventure doing other activities. He is thankful for everything Boy Scouts has taught him, and will carry those skills with him forever.

## Football sets new standards

By: Brandon Hamilton @bhamilton\_3

This summer the football team will have a new point system to make sure the team is getting stronger and better. Each time a player lifts and attends a team activity, they get points. The less points they get, it calls for more of a punishment, such as running or less playing time.

Dawson Kirk, junior, has been playing football since fifth grade and says this new system will make people want to work hard.

Some of the expectations for the summer are unreasonable in Kirk's opinion, but he believes it will pay off when it comes to the fall. "We are supposed to attend every workout and two camps. We have a dress code too," Kirk said. The dress code is a Marion shirt

with gray or black shorts.

Punishment for not getting enough points means no helmet decals. The helmet starts empty, and depending on the amount of points a player earns, they will have more decals.

Trevor Paulsen, sophomore, has also been playing the sport for a long time. He thinks the new system will benefit the players over the summer. "Coach wanted kids to get more involved, to have to work for something, not have it given," Paulsen said.

This will be a motivator for kids to put in work over the summer. "If people know what [the point system] is about, people will know who didn't work hard," Paulsen said.

Both Kirk and Paulsen are striving to attain these goals in order to be ready for the upcoming season. They are hoping all the hard work that will go into the summer will pay off come the fall, and that their teammates join them in stepping up to the next level.



Dawson Kirk, junior, talks with one of his teammates on the sideline during a home football game.



Carter Lantermans, sophomore, goes canoeing at one of the camp outs with his Boy Scouts troop.



# Play ball: spring or summer?

Baseball and softball players have opinions on playing summer ball.

By: Brandon Hamilton @bhamilton\_3



Shannon Sellers, '17

Iowa is one of only three states who plays high school baseball and softball in the summer instead of the spring. With this interesting difference, there are advantages and disadvantages, there can be several when it comes to being a rare occurrence across the country.

Baylor Fish, senior, likes having baseball in the summer. "You don't have to play in the cold, it allows for more games," Fish said. Having baseball in the summer would almost guarantee warm weather, though it is Iowa, and weather is never a guarantee.

Disadvantages are simple for summer baseball. "It interferes with off season sports and it takes up your summer," Fish said.

As far as playing spring baseball goes, "I better get used to it because that's what I'll play in college," Fish said.

Luke Golla, junior, says he would like spring baseball. "You'd be able to play summer travel ball," he said. This is a reference to travel select teams. Though Golla prefers spring baseball, he sees the disadvantages for having it during that time. "[Summer ball] gives the opportunity for other athletes to explore more sports in the spring," Golla said.

Shannon Sellers, senior, also enjoys having softball in the summer. "Only one sport is going on. You don't have to be at school

and it's warmer," Sellers said. She does see the advantages to spring softball though. "I think I would [like spring softball] so there would be more people willing to commit," she added. Summer softball and baseball can be hard for others to be willing to play. For someone considering on playing, the fact it is in the summer could be the deciding factor for many. That is why Sellers said the disadvantage to summer softball is that it takes up the whole summer.

Sydney Nielsen, sophomore, would prefer spring softball instead of the summer. "It's not as hot and it doesn't take up your summer," Nielsen said. Summer softball didn't disrupt her travel team though, since it was in the fall and spring.

Having baseball and softball in the spring would potentially get more players out since it doesn't take up summer, but as for now, it is in the summer and most all of the players are looking forward to getting into the season.



Baylor Fish, '17, fields a ball during a baseball practice at the high school.

# Post graduation preview

By: Maddie Knapp @maddieknapp

Post grad is something that most seniors look forward to, and most consider it a send off from high school.

Haley Blazek, senior, is part of helping set up for post grad. She is thrilled to be helping out and to be able to go this year. "I'm excited for post grad this year because Royal Flush is going to be there," Blazek said.

Blazek has been preparing for post grad for a while now. "Post grad will be at the high school this year. We will have sports tournaments, a hypnotist, Royal Flush, movies, video games, and rooms full of different activities and food," she said.

A lot goes into preparing for post grad, and a lot of fundraising is done too. "We held a basketball tournament, sold t-shirts, had a bake sale, and did lots of calling for donations," Blazek said. "There will also be a five dollar admission fee."

Post grad is on the day of graduation, May 28th. It starts at nine pm and goes until four am. With all the activities planned for the night, the winners have to get something. "There will be TV's, microwaves, basic necessities for college," Blazek said.

Blazek is looking forward to post grad and wants everyone to have a good time. "I want everyone to have fun in a safe environment. One last go-round with your high school classmates." Camryn Cannoy, senior, is also looking forward to post grad. "I'm excited to spend one last time together with everyone in our grade," Cannoy said.

Post grad is a great opportunity to spend last high school moments with the people that have been around since kindergarten. There are plenty of things planned for students to do, and lots of prizes to win. Going to post grad will benefit seniors greatly and will give for a great time with classmates.



Haley Blazek, '17

# Horseback riding

By: Amy Noble @amy\_noble12

Everyone has their own weekend hobbies they enjoy doing, whether it's hanging out with friends, just kicking back and relaxing, or working. For River Barrow, junior, her weekends are spent a little differently. She likes to ride her horse.

Barrow is involved in choir, band, show choir, piano, and plays other instruments. She also has a horse that she rides named Shadow. "I try to ride on weekends," Barrow said. Over the years, she has gotten closer and closer with her horse.

Shadow is a quarter horse. She is white in color and has a light brown tail. Barrow keeps her at a family friend's barn where she takes care of and rides her.

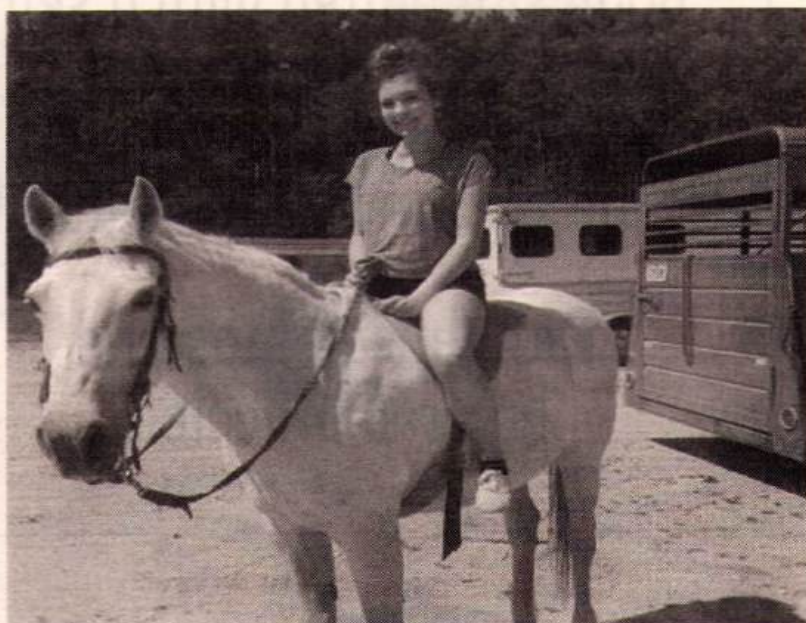
Many would think riding a horse for the first time would be absolutely terrifying,

especially as a six year old, which is when Barrow got Shadow, but not for Barrow. "I was so excited because I just love horses. I wasn't scared," said Barrow.

Barrow has also brought her boyfriend, Maverick Miller, senior, out to ride Shadow. "I was really scared at first because it was so big and I've never rode before, but she walked along side with me and once I got a hang of it, it was awesome," said Miller.

Whether it's a house pet or a horse, training an animal can be very difficult. "The hardest part is having patience with them," said Barrow. The training paid off in the end because now she has a horse that she can spend time riding. It was beneficial for both her and Shadow.

Although Barrow doesn't compete in any competitions with Shadow, horse back riding is a unique way to spend her weekends away from most people, and she can relax and ride with her horse.



River Barrow, '18, has been riding her horse, Shadow, since she was six years old.

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Alexis Smith



## Summer style

Most everyone can spice up their summer wardrobe.

By: Sophie Willette @selfiesophiee



### • Summer style guide •

Trendy sunglasses

Flowy tank-top or shirt

High-wasted jean shorts

Simple summer dress

Romper or jumpsuit

Body suit paired with a skirt or shorts

High-top converse or sandals

Dangly earrings and layered bracelets

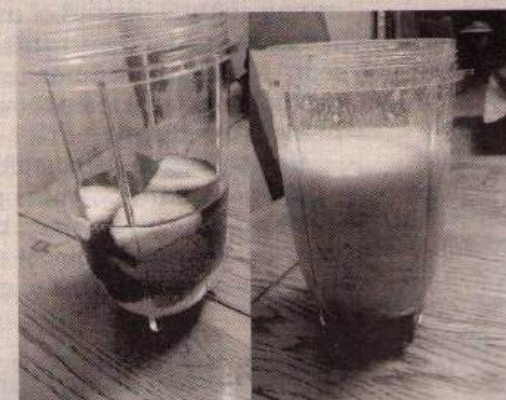
## Strawberry lemonade

By: Amy Noble @amy\_noble12



### Ingredients:

8 Large strawberries halved  
2 table spoons white sugar  
7 cups water divided  
1 cup white sugar  
2 cups fresh lemon juice  
Extra lemon slices and pieces of strawberries for a garnish



### Step 1:

Combine strawberries, two tablespoon sugar, and one cup water in a blender. Blend until liquid with not large chunks.



### Step 2:

Juice lemons or use a store bought lemon juice. Combine two cups lemon juice, remaining six cups water, and one cup of sugar. Stir until sugar is dissolved.



### Step 3:

Put ice, one lemon slice, and some strawberry pieces into the bottom of the cups. Pour lemon mixture until cups are 2/3 full. Then pour the strawberry mixture on top until cups are full. Garnish cups with a lemon slice and a whole strawberry.

## Final product

Make it your own by:

Using any other fruit in place of strawberries to switch up the flavor. Just replace the strawberries with desired fruit.

Adding more or less sugar, water, or fruit juice to desired taste.

Pouring the lemon juice and the fruit juice through a strainer to remove pulp and seeds.



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## Summertime music festival fun

By: Lauren Fruehling @laurenfruehling

### 🎵 Milwaukee Summerfest 🎵

Where: Henry Maier Festival Park, Milwaukee, WI

When: Wednesday, June 28 - Sunday, July 9

Genres: Electronic • Hard rock • Metal • Hip hop • Jam Band • Jazz • Pop • R&B • Reggae • Rock

### 🎵 Essence Music Festival 🎵

Where: Mercedes-Benz Superdome, New Orleans, LA

When: Jun 29 - Jul 2, 2017

Genres: R&B • Soul • Funk • Gospel • Blues • Hip-Hop • Jazz • Reggae

### 🎵 Bonnaroo Music and Arts Festival 🎵

Where: located in Manchester, TN, about 60 miles southeast of Nashville and 40 miles northwest of Chattanooga

When: June 8-11, 2017.

Genres: Pop music • Alternative rock • Indie rock • Hip hop music

### 🎵 Lollapalooza 🎵

Where: Grant Park, Chicago, IL

When: Aug 3 - Aug 6, 2017

Genres: Alternative rock • Heavy metal • Pop music • Hip hop music • Electronic dance music



# Perfect summer Pride

What is Pride and how is it celebrated?

By: Solomon Groothuis  
@gagaslacefront

The sun is shining, flags are waving, music is blaring, colors are flying, which can only mean one thing: Pride is here. What is Pride? Pride is a month, usually in June but sometimes in July, where the LGBTQ+ celebrates and feels proud of their history and existence in a world where they are told to be ashamed.

Every faction and expression of the community is invited to participate and bare their existence.

Gay Pride is traditionally celebrated with parades showcasing the different subcultures and movements of the queer community. Rainbow flags and banners are seen in the parade, and amongst the spectators everything from sex to drag to family to even God is presented. The Pride Parade is the main event of any Gay Pride celebration, but there are often other festivities and shows throughout the day and month. Drag shows, live singing, bingo, eating, and a lot of partying are customary. Some Pride events are more family friendly with history lessons and crafts for younger children. Regardless of age or demographic, Pride and Pride Parades are a spectacle of unapologetic revelry and joy.

The history of Pride, specifically the Pride Parade, is one of revolution. On June 28th, 1970 a woman named Brenda Howard, known as the "Mother of Pride," organized a march starting on Christopher Street in New York to protest inequality on the

anniversary of the Stonewall Riots. The protesters covered the fifty-one blocks of Central Park, holding the first official Pride Parade.

Pride has been happening since then, the most recent major celebration being in 2015 with the Supreme Court's legalization of gay marriage. Weddings were held in churches and the streets and the crowds nearly burst with joy at the historic victory. Equality hasn't been achieved, but the right to love in the most sacred way possible was finally open to all. The day will always be commemorated with the slogan "Love wins."

In the area, there are two major pride events in Cedar Rapids and Iowa City. The next Cedar Rapids Pride will take place on July 8th, 2017 at NewBo City Market. Iowa City Pride (one of the most popular in the state) is held in Iowa City with details at iowacitypride.com.

## How to celebrate Pride all year

1. Attend a Pride parade.
2. Donate to LGBTQ+ charities.
3. Vote in favor of gay rights.
4. Educate yourself on the history and struggles of the queer community.

# The convenience choice

By: Mia Laube @mia\_laube21

When in need of a snack or a tank of gas, gas stations or convenience stores are close nearby to meet our needs. There are many in the Marion area, and all of them have features that make them unique.

## Kum & Go

Kum & Go, located on Seventh Avenue, is open 24 hours a day. Its Go Fresh Market offers a huge selection of foods made fresh every day in the store's kitchen. Also, for a sweet treat, they have the Koolee and a F'Real machine for instant milkshakes. A glazed donut can be purchased for only ninety-nine cents. To reach out locally and nationally, they partner with Habitat for Humanity and United Way.

## Hy-Vee Gas

While it has less variety for food, Hy-Vee's gas station on Seventh Avenue is also open 24 hours. Its special feature is the Fuel Saver card, which lets Hy-Vee shoppers gain gasoline discounts by buying certain groceries, and it can add up to a good amount of money. Having this card also gives card holders access to a variety of store deals

## Casey's

While many Casey's stores stay open 24 hours, the one on 11th Street

is only open until 11 at night. Casey's has made-to-order subs that range from 3.99 to 4.99 for a six inch, and their pizza is a popular option to order. These stores partner with Hy-Vee to allow Fuel Saver card holders to also use the card when buying gas at Casey's. The business supports the military and actively promotes hiring veterans, as described on their website.

## Hawkeye Convenience

The Hawkeye Convenience store is across from Casey's on 11th Street. It is also open until 11 at night, and sells Sinclair fuel. One special thing about this chain is that they are a proud seller of Dippin' Dots ice cream.

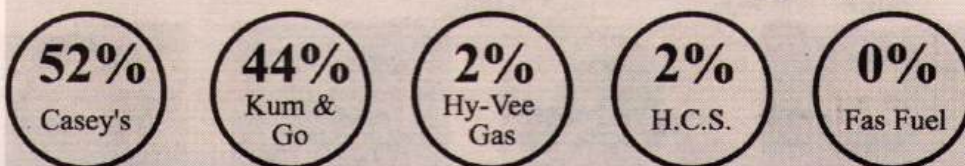
## Fas Fuel

Fas Fuel, located on Eighth Avenue, is open all day and night. This was formerly a Road Ranger, but according to The Gazette, the corporation Road Ranger LC sold 43 of its stores to focus on its truck stops and travel center locations, which offer full travel experiences.

Many gas stations and convenience stores offer the same services, from lottery tickets to fast breakfast options to candy and restrooms for long road trips. However, they all differ in certain ways, and with their varying coffees, donuts and service, it's up to the customer's preference to choose where to go.

## Which gas station do students prefer?

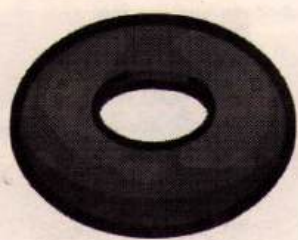
A convenience sample of students was taken during B Lunch.



# Fighting Summer Boredom

By: Kayba Laube @KaybaLaube

Tubing down a river



Bike ride to get food



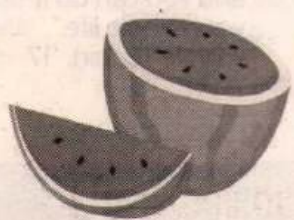
Strawberry patch



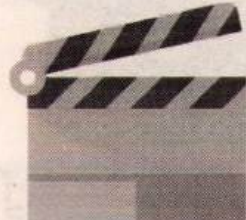
Water balloon fight



Farmers market



Drive in movie



Photoshoot



Picnic



Thrift shopping



Stargazing on a roof



Bake cookies



Explore in the woods



In the summer, many have the problem of sitting on the couch, making trips to the fridge to check if it somehow restocked itself, and declaring how bored they are.

Boredom is easily solvable if you find the right thing for you. There are many options and things you can do.

Tubing down a river is accomplished with an easy trip to a nearby river, lake, or stream.

Get some exercise and take a trip on a bike to go get food at a local restaurant.

Make a trip to a strawberry patch and then head down to a local farmer's market to get fresh fruit and different items.

Go on a picnic with a friend, then explore the woods and find cool things in nature. Then, later that night, go up on the roof and stargaze.

Get a group of kids together and have a huge water balloon fight to cool off in the hot sun.

Go take of photo shoot of nature, friends, or cool places nearby.

Take a break from a hard day and go to a drive in movie with a friend or significant other.

On a super hot day, take a break from the heat and go bake cookies inside.

Use some money and go thrift shopping to get some cool things.

There is so much to do. Just be creative and have fun.



# Graduation

Class of 2017

**86**  
**MALES**

**60**  
**FEMALES**



**14,132 volunteer hours**

**Why did you like volunteering?**



"I became friends with the people there [a Christian thrift shop]."  
-Myles Mettler, '17



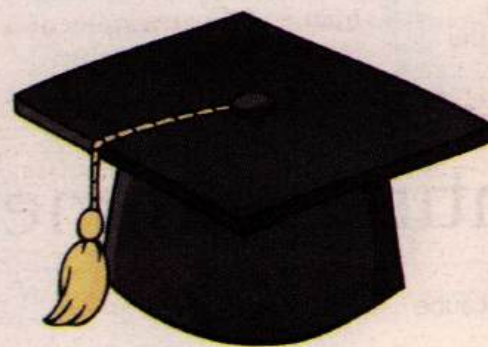
"I liked working with the kindergarten kids at Starry."  
-Bri Burhite, '17



"It was fun and interesting volunteering for Michelle Wilson."  
-Grace Burroughs, '17



"I sew and make quilts for families with sick children."  
-Bethany Darling, '17



**29 senior members in robotics**

**Why do you enjoy robotics?**



"Being a part of a structured team that supports me in everything I do."  
-Louis Corona, '17



"My favorite part is getting together and collaborating with things."  
-Evan Booze, '17



"My favorite part is solving problems that you aren't exposed to in normal classes."  
-Wyatt Ehr, '17



"My favorite part was screwing around."  
-Andrew Howard, '17



**29 seniors a part of NHS**

**Why do you enjoy NHS?**



"I like giving back to the community and I like the people there."  
-Brenna Johnson, '17



"NHS is a program that helps promote leadership and good qualities in students."  
-Axel Zumwalt, '17



"I like the of kids in NHS. Th very nic Toms, '1

**146 STUDENTS in the SENIOR CLASS**



**Why do you**



"It's fun to play and you can do it your whole life."  
-Nicole Toppin, '17



"Ha frie ble year Wi





# 70 seniors on honor roll

How did you work hard in high school?



"It took a lot of time management and studying."  
-Kasi Rupert, '17



"I studied and made sure to turn things in on time."  
-Andrew Mota, '17



"I took time to get work done and asked questions."  
-McKenna Merck, '17

# 20

# 17

## Seniors who are in boys' tennis

Why do you enjoy tennis?



"Being a part of a team and hopefully going to state."  
-Peter Ward, '17



"The bond I grew with my teammates and coach."  
-Nate Meister, '17



"It's not a super physically demanding sport and I like the people."  
-Seth Tuetken, '17



"Winning our first WAMAC title as a team, and the school's first ever title."  
-Gavin Nguyen, '17

# 20



# 17



## Seniors who are in girls' tennis

Why do you enjoy tennis?



"I got to meet new people and try something new."  
-Madison, '17



"I got to meet new people and try something new."  
-Baylea Bruce, '17



"Making each meet and practice memorable."  
-Shannon Sellers, '17



## Why are seniors excited for post grad?



"I'm most excited about getting to be with my classmates one last time."  
-Matthew Coder, '17



"Hanging out with my mom, dad, and having a special night with friends."  
-Sydney Brase, '17



"Royal Flush is excited to go up and perform for everyone."  
-Dawson Schmidt, '17

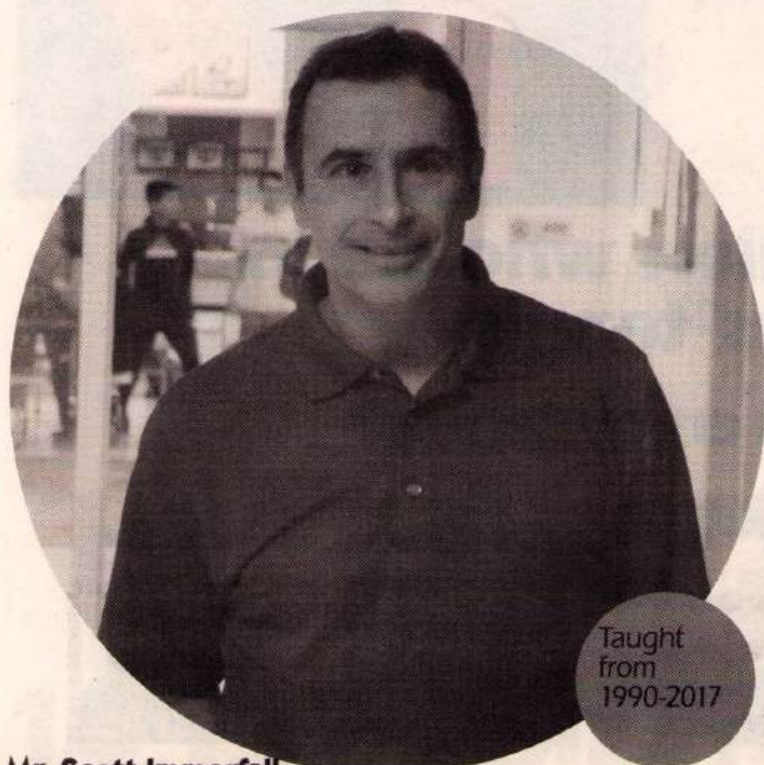


"Hanging out with old friends."  
-Tanea Westhoff, '17

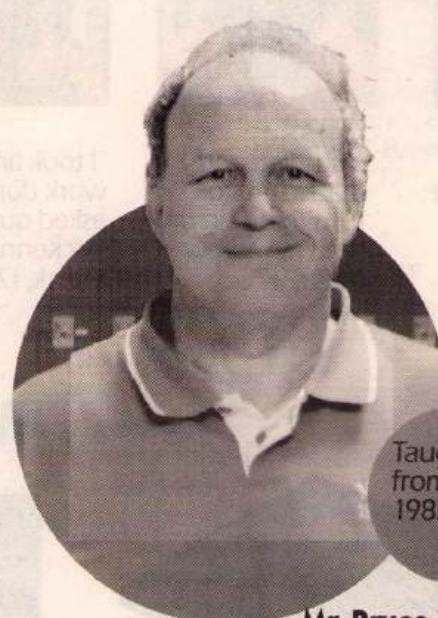




# Saying goodbye



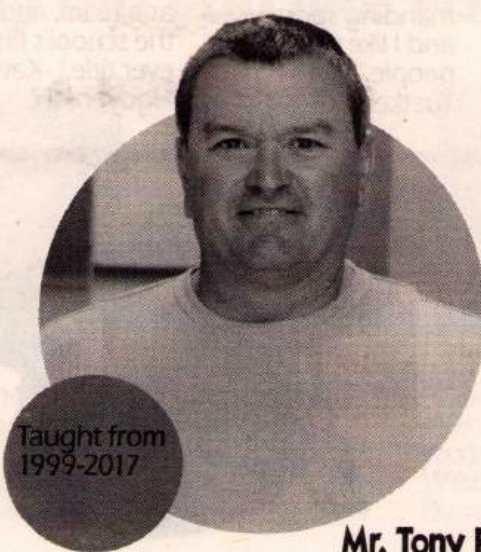
Mr. Scott Immerfall



Mr. Bruce Weisinger



Ms. Lori Dostal



Mr. Tony Perkins



Mrs. Barbara Schultz



Mr. Charles Clark

## Where are they headed?

### Mr. Scott Immerfall

What will you miss most about Marion?: The staff and students I have got to work with. I was privileged to work with, teach, and coach a lot of great people. Future plans?: Spend more time with grandchildren and their families, help at wrestling and track meets at MHS and the U of I. Possibly sub at MHS, and run and bike a lot. Quote/piece of advice?: "Do your best everyday and help others do their best." Fondest memory?: Helping students and athletes reach their goals, team district and WAMAC titles in track, and individual state champions in track and wrestling.

### Mr. Tony Perkins

What will you miss most about Marion?: The kids; I love teaching everyday. Future plans?: Work with the Monarch Project and lots of time at Rathbun. Hopefully... someday work at Disney. Quote/piece of advice?: "Never stop learning; Believe in yourself." Fondest memory?: Fish shocking in Field Biology, 18 football seasons with great kids, 15 years as track clerk, and 15 years as a softball and wrestling announcer.

### Mrs. Barbara Schultz

What will you miss most about Marion?: Working with Mrs. Thilges and getting to know so many creative students. Future plans?: Returning to MHS to teach the Kirkwood classes, Art History One and Two, and Art Appreciation. I will also take some graduate classes at the U of I. Quote/piece of advice?: "Always keep learning new things and growing as a person." Fondest memory?: The trips I've taken to Europe with students and the many students I've gotten to know in day to day classes.

### Mr. Charles Clark

What will you miss most about Marion?: Watching so many young people grow and develop into our collective future. Future plans?: Yet to be discovered. Quote/piece of advice?: "Life is wet. You might as well jump in." Fondest memory?: Watching my student become my colleague, and then one of my bosses (Mr. Zrudsky).

### Ms. Lori Dostal

What will you miss most about Marion?: I enjoyed my job and that students were able to see the importance of being healthy. The staff at MHS was the best! I've made friends for life. Future plans?: Subbing at MHS, and find a place to serve others by volunteering or counseling. Quote/piece of advice?: "The best and most beautiful things in life cannot be seen or even touched- they must be felt with the heart. My heart has been touched by all the students and staff I have met on this journey." Fondest memory?: Being the first coach to take a women's team to the state tournament in the history of the school (State Volleyball 1997).

### Mr. Larry McLaughlin

What will you miss most about Marion?: Seeing that moment when a student has that aha moment is rewarding and will be missed. Of course all these years with many different staff members that have all been supportive and friendly will undoubtedly be missed. Future plans?: I don't have a true plan other than to relax and then search for the next area to re-invent my life. Quote/piece of advice?: "You don't know what you don't need to know." Take it all in and then use what you need. Fondest memory?: "The Flying Flab" and the competitive and cohesive environment of the Marion High School Talent Show. Ask your parents if they were here thirty or more years ago, or look it up in the yearbooks.





Taught  
from  
1990-2017

**Mrs. Madonna Putnam**



Taught  
from  
1979-2017

**Mr. Larry McLaughlin**



Served from  
1980-2017

**Mr. Dale Hatch**

## A step in a different direction

### **Mrs. Madonna Putnam**

**What will you miss most about Marion?:** The relationship I have with my students I've worked with, some of them for five years. In that way I'm really lucky.  
**Future plans?:** I'd really like to do some traveling. My biggest plan is to sleep past six.  
**Quote/piece of advice?:** "Try to find happiness in everyday. Even when you're stressed out, try to find little piece of happiness."  
**Fondest memory?:** There's lots of things, so they're all one big memory. I've gotten to laugh especially with Mrs. Smith.

### **Mr. Bruce Weisinger**

**What will you miss most about Marion?:** The caring people I work with, students, faculty and the activities at MHS will be missed.  
**Future plans?:** Anything I want to do with less stress; family time, home repair, help build a house, travel, furniture making, antiques, working on our acreage and keeping up to date with Marion activities.  
**Quote/piece of advice?:** "Do it right the first time or we'll do it over until we get it right." "Build wisely."  
**Fondest memory?:** Seeing a student you worked with in class and you see them be successful in later life, than that moment they acknowledge you had an impact on what they are doing now is special.

### **Mr. Dale Hatch**

**What will you miss most about Marion?:** The people and kids.  
**Future plans?:** Run Hatch Trucking Company and go antiquing for coins.  
**Quote/piece of advice?:** "Have fun."  
**Fondest memory?:** When I met my wife for the first time, we left the high school for the first time in a snow storm.



**Mrs. Emily Logan**

**What will you miss most about Marion?:** All the good people I work with and helping the students I work with reach their full potential.  
**Future plans?:** Work at Grant Wood AEA as a math consultant.  
**Quote/piece of advice?:** "Set goals for yourself and work hard to reach them."  
**Fondest memory?:** Probably our staff parties because they're fun and they're fun people to work with.



**Mrs. Rebecca Herman**

**What will you miss most about Marion?:** I will miss everything about Marion High School. My fellow teachers and staff, my cluttered classroom, the students, and of course, chicken chili crispitos.  
**Future plans?:** I'll be working with the Iowa BIG program- and I hope to see some Marion familiar faces in the next few years signing up for the program! Also, I'd like to go to space and end world hunger.  
**\*eatcrickets**  
**Quote/piece of advice?:** "Our background and circumstances have influenced who we are, but we are responsible for who we become."  
**\*inspirethefuture**  
**Fondest memory?:** All of the One Day in May events- so stressful but rewarding! Also, when kids would bring food from outside sources back from lunch and I told them if it was out and they were eating it when the bell rings, I would eat it; They thought I was bluffing. I've eaten bags of chips, breadsticks, Pancheros burritos, and french fries. Turns out I don't bluff.



# Moving on from the Starry scandal

After a controversial trial, the people of MHS want others to know that our school is still a great place.

By: Kayla Berry @kaylaaa\_001

It's the case that shocked an entire district and community, a scandal that many didn't expect. Logan McMurrin, sophomore, was recently charged with three counts of sexual abuse acts against kindergarten students at Starry Elementary.

During his day at school, McMurrin volunteered in the kindergarten classroom of Diane Graham, who has since plead not guilty to a charge of failure to report child abuse. According to a court document from the case, Graham failed to report this abuse, even after several students complained to her. The abuse has been said to have taken place from August through October of 2016.

The actions usually occurred during the kindergarten students' nap time, even though Mrs. Graham

was in the same room, according to news reports. Several kindergarten students witnessed McMurrin in the act, and were able to testify against him in court.

Since being charged to the three counts of sexual abuse acts against several children, McMurrin has been sentenced to staying at a state training school, possibly until he is

19 years old. Upon sentencing McMurrin, the judge said, "I've never been more sure of my verdict. Suck it up and get right and do what you need to do at the state training school." Prosecutors on the case called the sentence "the best possible outcome" of the situation.

Since the news of the abuse broke to the public, questions were raised about the volunteer program at MHS. In a statement made by the Marion Independent School District, the program has been in place for over 30 years, all without incident.

"Now is a good time to look at procedures. No other schools will be as diligent in checking volunteers as us in the future."

-Mrs. Herman, social studies teacher

Following the removal of McMurrin from the high school volunteer program, the district reviewed its student and adult volunteer procedures.

Many teachers at the high school were shocked by the allegations, but they know that the school district can move forward and put all of this in the past. "I think [the district] has already taken measures to move on following this incident," Mrs. Rebecca Herman, social studies teacher, said. "Now is a good time to look at procedures. No other schools will be as diligent in checking volunteers as us in the future."

Many people recognize that this was a one time thing, and the district shouldn't be getting a bad reputation from this incident. "I think we have amazing students, teachers, and administrators in the district," Mr. Jonathan Mitchell, social studies teacher, said. "People will recognize all of the other amazing things that we do, and hopefully realize that this was just one bad choice by one student."

Since the incident, there have been new rules put into place along with the previous ones. One of those rules is that students who want to volunteer at Starry, or other schools, need to fill out an application. On the application, there are things the student has to fill out regarding whether or not they have been convicted of a felony, and the nature of their conviction. This step is one in the

right direction, and will stick with the program to ensure that nothing like this will ever happen again in the Marion school district.

## What do you want the community to know about Marion?



"You get to know everybody here because we're small." -Dylan Bourgeois, '18



"Everyone is pretty friendly and everyone is open with each other." Britney Duncan, '17



"There is a positive atmosphere between students and staff." -Caitlyn Smith, '18

## A new law for drivers

By: Leah Kray @leah\_kray

We've all heard it a thousand times, but it's still not enough to stop texting and driving. However, state law officials are trying to change this by making texting and driving a primary offense in Iowa, and this law will be in effect starting July first.

According to Dan Hendrickson from Channel 13 news, a primary offense means that if one is writing, viewing, or sending a message on an electronic device, they run the risk of being pulled over and getting a ticket.

Not only does this law include texting and driving, but it also refrains drivers from being able to use any social media platform behind the wheel.

Governor Terry Branstad signed the bill in hopes to reduce the number of traffic deaths, especially caused by behind the wheel phone usage.

Many law enforcement officers show support for this law. "I think it's definitely a step in the right direction. We as Iowans need to realize that texting and driving is the worst thing you can do behind the wheel," Officer Tom Daubs of the Marion police force said.

Officer Daubs hopes this law will positively make a change for our community. "I feel that it will only help as drivers who get cited will complain to social media causing people to realize, 'Hey, it really is a bad idea to text and drive and I don't want to get a ticket or the consequences associated with it,'" he said.

Even though this law doesn't come into effect until July, we should all make

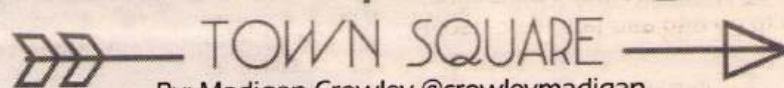
good practice to put the phones down when driving.

It's easy for anyone to glance at the group chat that's blowing up, type up a quick response to a text message, or Snapchat someone back, but it isn't worth the accidents that could happen as a result.

Any driver could have fallen victim to distracted driving at some point in their lives, but we all need to change this habit because it's an extremely dangerous situation that can lead to even worse consequences to you or others around you.

No one deserves to never see their father, sister, cousin, or best friend again because of a simple text message that should have waited to be sent.

## Marion by Moonlight



By: Madigan Crowley @crowleymadigan

When:

Every Thursday night in June at 6 p.m.

Where:

Marion Square

Food is available for purchase and music is present  
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## The mayhem of being a multiple



By: Amery Bruce  
@AmeryBruce



By: Baylea Bruce  
@Baylea\_Marie

Throughout these columns, it's become blatantly obvious that siblings can be the absolute worst. All they do is steal your clothes, be a pain to shop with, and find every way and reason to embarrass you. They can be some of your biggest competition.

Sure, sometimes they can be the best people to talk to. The people to go to for advice, or when you just need to rant

about your day. They're someone to always jump into the car with you and go to the store. Someone who always gets the joke and actually thinks you're funny. So maybe sometimes siblings can be one of the best friends you've ever had.

You spend the first part of your life living together, always having them around. One day the band will split up, however, everyone going their separate ways. There will be no more fun trips to the store when you live hours apart. There won't be another room to go into and talk to someone about all your problems, unless you're paying for it. Eventually, the only way to talk to the other siblings could be a phone call or a four hour drive to see them.

No matter how far they go or how high they climb, someone will always have the same siblings. They'll always be the oldest or the baby of the family. One can never outgrow the support they need from their siblings. As you get older, the more you realize how much you depended on them, how much you loved them even when they were being the bane of your existence. There will come a time when they won't be two rooms down when you need them. So enjoy the times where you see them everyday. And if you're feeling super nice, let them sneak by with that really cute shirt.

## Switching schools with little time left

Switching schools during fourth quarter for any reason can be difficult.

By: Maddy Redmond  
@maaaddayy\_

Packing bags, moving homes, changing friend groups, and finding a spot in an unfamiliar place would be hard for anyone to adjust to. Moving to a new school means a new fresh start with new faces and new opportunities. Leah Van Weelden, sophomore, switched from Benton to Marion during fourth quarter, and moving so late in the year is one of the biggest challenges of all.

Van Weelden is involved in both soccer and basketball, which is the reasoning behind switching the first day of fourth quarter. "For the open enrollment rules I had to sit out of any varsity sport for 90 days, so I wanted to start serving that term now," she said.

Beyond sports, Van Weelden was very excited to make the switch to Marion. "There were a lot of reasons why I chose to move. It was the best choice for our family academically and athletically, also there was the fact that I had more friends here than at Benton," she said.

Nile Venteicher, junior, also switched during fourth quarter from Xavier. "I guess the no dress code is the best part," he said. Switching schools last minute has had positives outcomes for both.

Van Weelden had some support behind her, unlike many new

students. Having met many girls prior to her move due to being a part of the same AAU team, Van Weelden's transition was a little bit easier.

"The basketball girls have really helped me a lot, they helped me find my classes and sort of just my way around," she said.

But, even with knowing people, it was still a drastic change that came with some hardships along the way. "I was just afraid that the people wouldn't accept me. I didn't know how the girls would feel about me coming. I didn't know if people would be happy about it. It was scary," she said.

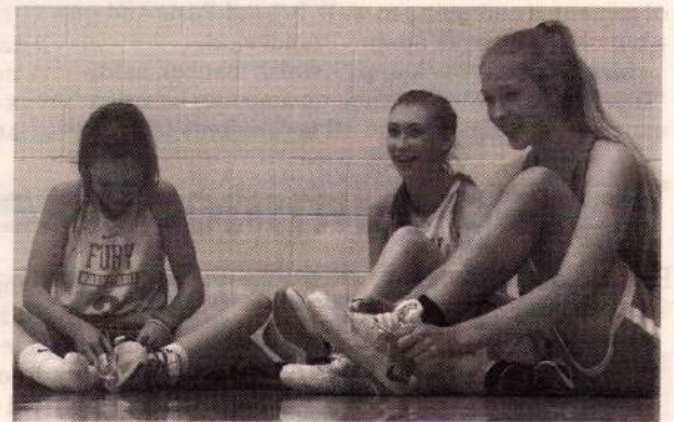
Van Weelden has noticed some

major differences between both Marion and her previous school. "The biggest difference is the academics. The academics are more advanced here than at Benton. Here it is a block schedule whereas at Benton, we had an eight hour schedule," she said.

Sadly, some people aren't as accepting to the change as

one would hope. Van Weelden said, "People from here have been really nice about it and have been really accepting and helping me get into the groove of a new school. At Benton, it wasn't the same. There were a lot of people who were kind of mad at me for leaving." But overall, Van Weelden is very impressed by the amount of love students have given her.

So far, Van Weelden has enjoyed both the high school and the people. She's looking forward to her next chapter at Marion and next year's basketball season. Although making a change to a different school would be very hard, Van Weelden is enjoying every moment she can get.



Leah Van Weelden, '19, sits and ties her shoes with her teammates, Sophie Willette, '19, and Kayba Laube, '20, before an AAU basketball practice.

## The military path

By: Brandon Hamilton @bhamilton\_3

Leaving one's family can be stressful no matter what age they are, especially for long periods of time. To be a member of the armed forces, one has to leave to go to a base for training.

For Mason Daubs, senior, this base is across the country in San Diego, California. He will be training for 13 weeks before he can return home to say his goodbyes to family and friends. After those ten days spent at home, he will return to San Diego at a different base for 27 days to go through the last stages of training. Then, he will wait for deployment overseas.

Daubs decided to join the Marines for a simple reason: a recruiter reached out to him. "We talked things over, it felt like the best decision," he said.

Why now? Why leave right after high school? "It's just something I wanted to do, sooner the better," Daubs said.

The daily routine depends on the Military Occupational Specialty (MOS). A different job entitles a different daily routine. Daubs said he is pursuing reconnaissance (recon). A person in recon jumps out of planes, swims, gathers intel and more.

The training all leads up to being prepared for going

overseas. "Active service can get up to nine months or more on average. After those nine months you come back and wait for your next deployment," Daubs said.

Young people are typically faced with tough decisions for a career, and an option that's always available is the military. Though Daubs says it isn't important to him that people join the armed forces, he does think the respect the members deserve is the important part.

Brandon Tuttle, senior, will also be serving the country after high school. He will be joining the National Guard. He is joining for the college benefits, and he said, "The thrill of putting on the uniform is unexplainable."

Tuttle will be going to Kirkwood. "With the National Guard paying, it is easier to start at a cheaper school," Tuttle said. He serves one weekend per month and can do anything from land navigation to cleaning.

Daubs and Tuttle both will soon be dedicating their lives for the freedom we enjoy everyday. Taking the time to thank members of the armed forces is an important thing to remember.



Mason Daubs, '17

## Teaching a new language

By: Chloe Mallon @chhhloe17

Walking into the classroom everyday, teachers grab their assignment plans and get ready for the day. Lots of teachers have clear lesson plans for each day, but for the foreign language teachers, it's not always easy.

Mrs. Elizabeth Henkel, Spanish teacher, is one of the people at the school who teach foreign language. "My favorite part about teaching is watching students get excited when they get into the culture," Henkel said.

Henkel has had lots of experience in the foreign language department. "I love taking the students on trips through the school and seeing all of the awesome parts of the countries, trying the food, and watching the students get intrigued by different parts of the culture," Henkel said.

Mrs. Abby Wennekamp also teaches Spanish at the high school. "Foreign language is more fun than some of the other subjects because we play games, sing songs, read stories,

and learn about lots of other interesting cultures." Wennekamp said. "We started a new curriculum this year, and it has been extremely fun and interesting to watch the students develop even more with Spanish."

Darian Brandt, senior, has taken four years of Spanish. "I like that Mrs. Henkel spoke to us in Spanish, and she was a really good teacher and helped us learn the language well," Brandt said.

They also go on trips to learn. "I love to travel and see new things, but I have to say that I love watching how the students react to the

culture around them," Wennekamp said. "It can truly be a life changing experience and I love to see them experience that."

Many students have fallen in love with Spanish. The foreign language teachers do a great job showing students the culture that is around them.



Mrs. Elizabeth Henkel, Spanish teacher, and Bethany Darling, '17, look over a homework assignment together for class.



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# Taking the trip of a lifetime

Students are taking exciting summer vacations to a foreign country.

By: Lauren Fruehling @laurenfruehling

Traveling to a different country is often a huge expense and is a once in a lifetime opportunity. Many people are intimidated to go to a different country because of the language difference, the people, and the hefty price.

Emma Brandt, sophomore, gets to experience this vacation first hand this summer. Brandt, her mom, and other students are going on a trip to France and Spain. "We had a meeting about it, and well, my mom is going too. I asked if I could go and she was like yeah, sure, I'll go with you, so she just did it," she said. It is an 11 day trip and they leave on July 27th.

This trip is a great opportunity for high school students starting to learn a foreign language such as Spanish or French. It will put students out in the real world and force them to understand and talk with authentic speakers. "We are going to go to a bunch of museums and going to walk around Paris and go a bunch of places in Spain," Brandt said.

Mrs. Abby Wennekamp, Spanish teacher, said, "Traveling anywhere is such an amazing learning experience. I recommend all my students travel to

other countries because as much as we tell them or try to show them with videos and pictures, you really have to experience it for yourself. You get to see other cultures, including food, art, architecture, and of course, the language. Not only do you learn about other ways of life, it helps you see your own culture and appreciate it with a different perspective," said Wennekamp.

Brandt is nervous about the people there. "I was talking to Mrs. Wennekamp about it and she said that they're really rude and she said there are a lot of pick-pocketers," she said.

If one were to travel to Spain, an important thing to know is when they eat their meals. They don't eat on the schedule that Americans usually do. Lunch is from two p.m. onward and dinner comes after ten p.m.

Now don't worry, if one is starving for a bite to eat, there's no shortage of food there. Many places offer tapas. Tapas are sophisticated appetizers found almost anywhere. They can be hot or cold. France has a similar schedule of eating. Dinner is at seven thirty at the absolute earliest.

## Popular Places to visit in France/Spain



### Eiffel Tower

The Eiffel Tower is a huge tourist attraction. Located in Paris, France, the beautiful tower stands 984 feet tall. It is named after the engineer Gustave Eiffel. He and his company built it from 1887-89.

### Notre-Dame de Paris

Notre-Dame de Paris is a medieval catholic cathedral. This cathedral is known to be a prime example of French Gothic architecture, and is one of the most known cathedrals around the world.

### Arc de Triomphe

Arc de Triomphe is one of the most famous monuments in Paris. Arc de Triomphe was the tallest triumphal arch until the completion of the Monumento a la Revolución in Mexico City in 1938. It's a must see in Paris.



### Sagrada Família

Sagrada Família is a large Roman Catholic church in Barcelona. It is one of Spain's most visited places and the beautiful architecture is sure to catch the eye.

### Museo Nacional Del Prado

Museo Nacional Del Prado is a popular museum located in central Madrid. It features one of the world's finest collections of European art, dating from the 12th century to the early 20th century.

### Gothic Quarter, Barcelona

Gothic Quarter, Barcelona, is the center of the old city Barcelona. This is a popular place to visit because of its beautiful and ancient buildings.

Even though Brandt is currently taking Spanish, she is most excited to visit Paris. While she's on the trip, she will miss her family the most.

This trip is an amazing opportunity for these students, and they are looking forward to learning new things and having a lot of fun.

## Trying summer internships

By: Madigan Crowley @crowleymadigan



Axel Zumwalt, '17



Kayla Berry, '19

There are a multitude of things for people to do during the fast-paced months of summer. Some people go on vacation, get a job, or just relax, but others choose to be involved in summer internships. Internships are a great way to figure out what career path to take after high school is over.

Axel Zumwalt, senior,

did an internship last summer and really enjoyed it. "It was a really good experience, I learned a lot," Zumwalt said. He interned at Softronics, which is an electrical engineering firm in Marion.

There are some steps to follow to apply for an internship. Even though he didn't go through Workplace Learning Connections, Zumwalt had to do the same procedures. "I sent a resume and went in for an interview with the company," Zumwalt said. Those thinking of doing an internship should have a resume prepared and be ready for an interview.

"Working an internship was a better job than the Marion Pool, and it was better experience in the career field I want to go into," Zumwalt said.

He decided to do this internship to help him in the future for a job. He is going to Iowa State after this summer for computer engineering and his internship helped him prepare even

more for his future.

Mr. Tom Kettman, guidance counselor, thinks internships are a great learning experience. "Kids get a chance to explore and find out if it's a career they want to go into without trying in out in college," Kettman said. Anyone who has the chance to do one should take it.

Each summer around eight students from Marion High School do an internship. This summer, Kayla Berry, sophomore, is doing an internship at Mercy Hospital in nursing. "I'm gonna learn how to take vitals which will help me prepare for my patient care academy course at Kirkwood next year," Berry said. Internships are a great way to prepare for the future in any career.

There are many benefits of doing internships. "Learning about a career field you're interested in and having that on your resume is a big thing for colleges and other internships in the future," Zumwalt said. For him, an internship was a great use of his summer that will be an advantage later.

"[I'm glad I did it], it turned into a long term work opportunity and I still work there after school," Zumwalt said.

He thinks if you have the opportunity to intern somewhere you should take it. "Don't be afraid to put yourself out there, you can apply for more than one," Zumwalt said.

Anyone who has the opportunity for an internship should take advantage of it.

### Steps to follow to apply:

1. Go to <http://www.kirkwood.edu/wlc>
2. Go to internships and click apply
3. Fill out an online application
4. Get references
5. Interview with the company

## Studying in the summer months

By: Kayla Berry @Kaylaaa\_001

Toward the joyful end of every school year, students must sign up for the classes they need to take the next year. What does one do when every space is filled, leaving no room for other classes? The solution to this

problem is simple: taking an online class over the summer. Morgan Barenz, junior, has taken this opportunity to help further her academics.

As a student at MHS, one is allowed to request 16 classes per school year. Many students have academically loaded schedules, and

some even take college classes. This leads to students being confused on what to do next.

For Barenz, taking classes online was her best option. "I took classes online to free up my schedule so I could have free time during the year," said Barenz. Taking several online courses gave Barenz room in her schedule to get ahead, which was very beneficial.

There are an array of class options for anyone considering these online courses, Barenz has taken two of these classes so far. "I did American History and sociology, and I really liked it," she said.

The typical struggles of any class grow when the class is taken on a student's own time. "If you're busy outside of classes then this isn't for you," she said, "because it does take time to finish." The struggle for Katie Hemann, junior, was much different, "I didn't want to do the class, but I actually needed to," said Hemann.

Every student has different struggles in class, but the biggest for most people is getting finished on time and finding the time to finish. The experience was rewarding for Barenz and she plans on taking more online classes in the future. She also recommends them to other

students considering them.

This may seem like a silly thing to do, considering summer is a time to let loose and have fun with your friends. However, if one takes the time to do the class, they might realize it benefited them in the end.

### Why did you take a class?



"I took online classes because I needed to stay on track with my graduation." -Nick Hooper, '18



"I needed more space to take more classes, so I took three classes online." -Chris Deeter, '18



"It was a required class that I didn't take during my freshman year." -Maddie Haugen, '19

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## Senior stories

Senior journalists say their good-byes to the class and Marion.

### All about Amery

By: Amery Bruce @AmeryBruce

We're always told that high school teaches us lessons. Not the kind that are taught in the classroom, nor the kind you can cram into a night of studying and pass a test on the material the next day. These are the type of lessons that you learn unexpectedly while stumbling through your four years. The one that sticks with me the most is the one that a lot of people still need to learn: leave other people alone.

When I was a freshman, I went through the typical worry of trying to fit in. I wanted to be everyone's best friend, wanted to be the kind of person that everyone loved. That's when the worrying set in. What kind of fashion was in? What movies were everyone watching? I was so focused on what everyone else was doing that I ignored who I was.

Sophomore year was when everyone started gossiping. They were constantly concerned with what people around them were doing. People were whispering about a party that a girl went to or who someone was dating. Pettiness was a virtue. People were tearing others down for the things they did, and that was acceptable.

As we grow older, we realize what other people do doesn't affect us at all. Instead of focusing on what others do, we focus on what makes us who we are. If you don't want to go out on a Saturday night, that's fine, but leave those who do alone. And it works both ways. The earlier everyone learns this, the better. Start focusing on what makes you

feel good, avoid what gives you negative vibes, and learn that these things aren't the same for everyone.

The more we build each other up instead of tearing others down for the things they do, or once did, the stronger we'll all be. No one is better than anyone else, and it's high time people quit acting like they are.

#### About Amery:

- Yearbook Executive Editor
- Involved in tennis and NHS
- Been in journalism for three years
- Is the youngest of three triplet sisters
- Will attend the University of Iowa
- Majoring in English and Creative Writing
- Reads a book and a half a day
- Nails always on point
- Has gone to prom twice with Solomon Groothuis
- The next J.K. Rowling



### Baylea's biography

By: Baylea Bruce @Baylea\_Marie

When thinking about the last couple of years, I begin to think about the different groups that I've been a part of for my 12 years at Marion. Since we are high schoolers, we seem to involve ourselves until we wear ourselves out. It's these groups and organizations that I'll remember most.

For starters, I've been a student at Marion since I started school. My instant reaction to being asked where I go to school is "Marion. No, not Linn-Mar, Marion." I felt like the day would never come until the answer would be anything different. It will probably take me a good two years to swap Marion for Dubuque, but I know that the memories of all the opportunities I've been offered through this school district will last me a lifetime.

It also has hit me that the same people will no longer be in my class. I remember buying a Class of 2017 shirt in elementary school and thinking that year was ages ago. It's now 2017, that shirt no longer fits, and I still haven't accepted this whole growing up thing. I'll have to form new bonds with people who are going through the same hard classes, and find new people to be happy to see in the freshman class that I'm taking as a senior so I'm not the only one. I'll have to get a new shirt that says Class of 2021 in white and blue instead of red and gold.

Finally, I'll miss all the amazing people I've met through the vast activities I've been involved in. Especially journo fam and the class that pushed me out of my comfort zone, and helped me find my voice and an opinion on virtually any topic. It's these people, this support, that I will truly

miss when I leave here. If I can find half this support anywhere else, I'll be okay in anything I do.

#### About Baylea:

- Yearbook Executive Editor
- Involved in: Tennis, Take Charge, NHS, and Student Senate
- Been in journalism for three years
- Is the oldest of three triplet sisters
- Will attend the University of Dubuque in the fall
- Majoring in Marketing & Graphic Design
- Sings like Celine Dion
- Can hear her coming from a mile away
- Voice lower than Morgan Freeman's



## Covering Chloe

By: Chloe Mallon @Chhhloe17

Well, the time has come where I write my senior story. The three years of my life before this, I have read and edited senior stories, and the fact that my day has come is pretty crazy.

Journalism has not only opened up so many opportunities for me over the years, but I have met some of my best friends through this class. No matter what, I've found a group of people I can always count on.

From the minute I stepped foot into the journalism room, I spent my entire school day waiting for third hour. It was a place to relax, to talk to my friends, and actually do what I like doing: writing.

My advice to any person in high school right now would be to join journalism. It creates amazing opportunities, being one of the main things colleges look for, and you can meet great friends.

Joining journalism was, without a doubt, one of the best decisions I made in high school. I

have no regrets from doing journalism and have loved every moment. If I could spend a couple more nights sending out the newspaper or arguing in class over story ideas, I would in a heartbeat.

I think the saddest part of ending senior year and saying goodbye is looking around and realizing you won't be in the classroom next to the person you've been gossiping with all year, saying goodbye to your favorite unassigned assigned seat and favorite comfy chair, and knowing the people who you've been friends with since kindergarten won't be living down the street from you anymore.

Throughout all the job shadow presentations, endless times the library door comes out to hit you, and so many memories made over the years, the class of 2017 has been through it all, and it's our time to go now. We will all go out and make the world a better place, but I could have never gotten to where I am now without my time at MHS.

#### About Chloe:

- Newspaper Executive Editor
- Involved in: Show choir, choir, musical, NHS, speech, and One Day in May committee leader
- Been in journalism for three years
- Has one younger sister
- Will attend the University of Iowa
- Majoring in Journalism and Pre-law studies
- Her dad is from Northern Ireland; her extended family still lives there.
- Gets Starbucks almost everyday of her life
- Has a cute Shih Tzu named Poppy



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# Saying "sayonara" to the class of seventeen



## Kirkwood Community College

Aleann Romo, Seth Tuetken, Peter Ward, Ryan Neumann, Hannah Kray, Chelsea Miller, Alex Swick, Christian Morehouse, Grace Burroughs, Bridget Prochaska, Madeline Chambers, Britney Duncan, Bethany Darling, Jacob Shaffer, Dylan Nash, Cassie Meyer, Sarah Beebe, Taylor Baumgartner, Jessica May, Luke Mitchell, Jacob Clothier, Talya Duffy,

Kaitlyn Hines, Madison Krousie, McKenna Merck, Myles Mettler, Dustin Nelson, Dante Rouson, Antonio Valle, Kaitlyn Butler, Bradley Burnell, Miracle Waters, Bryce Valvoda, Bailey Nelson, Dylan Bevins, Evan Booze, Jordan Fitch, Sarah Garringer, Blake Machovsky, Rhyse Pelley, Tristan Zimmerman, Austin Ward, Briar Lewis, Spencer Scott



## THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Chloe Mallon, Amery Bruce, Darian Brandt, Chase Wood, Melanie Noble, Shannon Sellers, Nicole Toppin, Sydney Stigge, Michael Schirmer



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Spencer Keeton, Camryn Cannoy, Kaydence DeWoody, McKenna Hernandez, Trent Kuethe, Sage Trca, Ryan Bettenga, Alec Arcand, Kaleb

Lochner, Matthias Steen, Brendan Klostermann, William Martin, Gavin Nguyen



Parker Ridge, Nathan Meister, Kelsi Tidwell



## Cornell College

Isaak Hahn, Tylor Fairbanks



Brenna Johnson, David Gorman



Kyra Bruce, Abbey Reed, Victoria Marti



## IOWA CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLL

Owen Carstensen, Sawyer Kabance, Ryan Draeger



Sydney Brase, Trey Clifton, Katie Toms, Alexandria Walderbach, Nathan Jared, Wyatt Ehr, Axel Zumwalt, Andrew Mota, Tyler Remling, Luis Corona

## Indian Hills Community College

Maverick Miller

## La James International College

Sarah Olmstead

## Department of the Blind in Des Moines

Alex Gillaspie

## Des Moines Area Community College

Carli Eichelberger

## The Blackbird Academy

Dawson Schmidt

## University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Haley Blazek

## University of Wisconsin-Lacrosse

Jenna Danninger

## University of Dubuque

Baylea Bruce

## Northwest Iowa Community College

Jacob Demuth

## Trevecca Nazarene

Morgan Swanger

## University of Nebraska-Omaha

Isabella Sade

## Wake Tech Community College

Tanea Westhoff

## Central College

Christopher Cruse

## University of Missouri Kansas City

Hayden Wahlstrom

## Columbia State Community College

Paige Bryant

## Plus Four Program

Brett Wheeler

## Back to Empoli, Italy

Elias Calore



## Going to serve our country:

### Army

Collin Zeets, Spencer Dobler, Michael Duke, Cody Mundy

### Marines

Mason Daubs

### Air Force

Clayton Mohwinkle

### National Guard

Brandon Tuttle, Ali Algharib



## Going into trades or the work force:



Devon Trentz, Zorah Lewis, Dakotah Brecht, Clayton Krieger, Justis Neff, Noah Sams, Blake Vanourney, Brandon Miller

Hunter Kiser, Nick Ward, Rachel Westergren, Alison Block, Caleb Cechota, Devyn Farrington, Austin Gleason, Andrew Howard, Riane Novak, MaClaren Tate, Clayton Dulin, Jarrett Steward

The class of 2017 will be going to almost thirty different colleges, many of which are out of state.

Many things were special about this class. They were the only group that was at the old Vernon Middle school, attended during the building of the new one, and also went to the new middle school. They were a relatively regular sized class.

Every individual, whether they be an art student, an athlete, a future engineer, a writer or anything else, has the chance to create their own path in the adult world.

Cheers to the class of 2017 as they enter a new phase in life and pursue higher education, goals, and opportunities.