

HAPPENINGS

A PUBLICATION OF HAMBURG AREA HIGH SCHOOL



Five Hamburg Juniors accepted to MHP program

Julia Doklan - 12

The Medical Health Professions (MHP) program is for Berks County seniors who are aspiring to work in the medical field. 16 schools are eligible to apply for this program, and five upcoming seniors from Hamburg were accepted. This is a huge accomplishment for Hamburg, and all the teachers and students should be proud of these individuals' hard work. Josie Keith is the only senior this year tackling the MHP program, and next year it will be Tamandeep Saggi, Catharine Wingle, Emilee Kachel, Julie Harbonic and Caitlin Steele. Mrs. Claire Benz, HAHS career specialist, notes that all of the applicants from Hamburg are women; the future really is female. Mrs. Benz acts as the link between the applicants and Berks Career and Technology Center as the applications are submitted to BCTC. The program is a collaboration between BCTC, the Reading Hospital and Penn State Berks.

The program includes two college level classes at Penn State Berks: biology and chemistry. There are challenging courses, so a prerequisite to apply is a 3.0 GPA in biology, chemistry and algebra II in high school. The students also spend time in BCTC and Reading Hospital learning how to work advanced medical technology and talk to patients. Being able to manage high school and preparing for their future at the same time shows extreme dedication. The MHP program prepares the students for further study into the medical field and allows them to explore what job they want in the future.

For the application, these five had to get a recommendation letter from their guidance counselor and a science teacher and write an essay. An excerpt from Caitlin's essay states, "My accomplishments to date are just the first steps of that process; this program would be a giant leap." She cannot wait to find out where she belongs in the medical world, and this program is helping her to chase her dreams.

As of now Caitlin does not know what she wants to study after high school, and Tamandeep has her sights set on being an anesthesiologist. Either way, the MHP program will help them to make the decision of what is best for their future.

Tamandeep's oldest brother was a part of this program during his senior year. Because of this, she had an extra motivation to apply. She heard stories from when he was in the program, and she knows how much it benefitted him. He got to shadow a childbirth during his senior year in high school - that is phenomenal.

Both Caitlin and Tamandeep are grateful that they will be prepared for life after high school during their senior year. They get to plan out their future and get accustomed to what college classes are like. They get to experience bits of college before they are full time college students.

Congratulations to Tamandeep Saggi, Catharine Wingle, Emilee Kachel, Julie Harbonic and Caitlin Steele!

CONGRATULATIONS

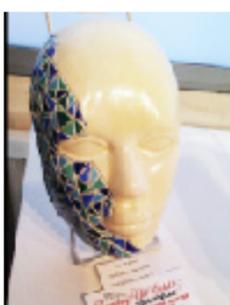


Gabrielle McCullough-BCIU Permanent Collection Award

*Her work will be purchased to hang in the hallway of BCIU

Hayleigh Benson – Fast Lane Art Award (clay mask pictured above)

*Her work will be in a larger public display in the coming months



Farm to School Spotlight: Olivia Lesher cares for calves

Quinn Holl - 11



Fourth generation farmer, Olivia Lesher, reveals a typical day on her family farm, otherwise known as Way-Har Farms. Lesher is a calf manager on the farm. Her job is to "maintain the health and nutrition of the calves on the farm," as well as handle vaccinations. For Lesher, after school, a typical day would start by bedding the hutches, or laying down hay in the cowpens, if needed. Afterwards, Lesher would feed the "three main barns of heifers," and, ensure that there are no sick heifers. She checks to

make sure the calves do not have a "loss of appetite, cold ears, fever, dehydration" or inability to stand. "Sometimes it is hard to determine if a calf is sick before they show serious signs," meaning it is very important to spend a lot of time with the calves, and "make sure they are all healthy." Next, Lesher feeds each of the calves a gallon of milk, which is done twice a day. Lesher describes the process to making the milk, as well as the feeding process of the calves.

"The milk is made by a replacer, mixed up in five gallon buckets with warm water. There are many precautions I need to take when caring for these young animals [calves]. The younger calves are fed on a bottle, and, as they get older, they move to a bucket. Each calf gets fresh grain and water twice a day after they are fed milk."

After Lesher feeds the calves, she checks on an employee, who milks the cows, to see if he needs any additional cows from the new barn. There are three groups of cows, one of which is filled with sick or older cows, as well as recently calved cows. In said group, Lesher tends to the cows that require a daily medication or a vaccination.

In terms of when Lesher's work-day ends, there is not specific time when the work is complete. "Some nights are 7:30p.m. or 1 in the morning." Also, at times, Lesher is interrupted by the birth of a new calf. She needs to dry off the calf and give both the calf and the mother their vaccinations.

Despite the long hours spent caring for the calves, Lesher enjoys her job. "I love taking care of my animals. It is my main priority."

In addition to Lesher's family, Way-Har Farms, they also have a retail store. "We bottle our own milk from our farm. We make 1%, 2%, whole, skim, chocolate, and seasonally strawberry and eggnog. We also sell cheese, made from our milk, and lots of other local food from Berks County."

One of the family's main selling points is their hard dipped ice cream, where they sell over 50 flavors to eager customers. Lesher, however, is not too involved with the store, unless they are short handed.

Overall, Lesher has a very important role on the farm and finds enjoyment in her job every day. While she is not a fan of milking the cows, as she prefers to work outside, which provides variation in her routine, she loves her role as a calf manager.

"My favorite part about my job is knowing that I am doing great things. I love working with animals and making sure they are happy and healthy."

Emilee Kachel accepted into the Medical Health Professions Program

Lucas Gehring - 12



The medical field is a big career path to take in today's society. It is just a matter of who is interested in such a field. Hamburg Area High School junior, Emilee Kachel, along with 39 other high school students in Berks County, have been accepted into the Medical Health Professions Program through BCTC. From her input, she said that in previous years the program only accepted the top 20 in the county, but has since doubled the number due to the amount of applicants. She stated

that in order to be accepted into the program, all applicants must write an essay as well as obtain a recommendation from the school guidance counselor and at least one teacher.

When reviewing what she wrote in her essay, Emilee talked about why she wanted to follow this path and what her goals were after graduating. In her essay she wrote that she had been interested in nursing since the age of five when her mother was receiving training to become a nurse. Emilee also mentioned that she would watch her mom's training videos over and over because they intriguing to her. She also added moments when she witnessed patients being treated for several various reasons. There was even a time she recalled when she saw a man's hand being treated from him punching a wall due to anger.

Although Emilee did not know how many people actually applied for the program, she did say that it is a popular career path to take which can be assumed if they doubled the amount of students to be accepted. Emilee mentioned that one aspect the program offers is to shadow at the hospital and rotate through various departments on Fridays. Aside from an essay and a letter of recommendation, she said that taking the PSAT and grades were a factor. Out of all the positions in this field, Emilee made the claim that most of the students who graduate become a physician out of all the other healthcare occupations. Physicians normally make a base salary of 123-314k per year. Although the nursing program does not complete the training of those accepted, it is meant to get them into college with a head start. Students making career choices like Emilee Kachel are sure to make it somewhere in life.

A great person, an even greater musician

Erin Furry - 12

Harley Ludy, a senior here at Hamburg, has made a lasting impact in the school's music legacy. Having gained an interest in music in seventh grade, Harley has come to play many instruments, including the string bass in third grade, the tuba, and singing in tenor in choir. He also added that he dabbles in many other instruments as well. He stated that he has been able to achieve many of his goals in music, and has had many amazing opportunities, including conducting the pit orchestra, going to district orchestra, and regional choir. Harley has also participated in many of the high school's musicals, and was the pit conductor for the latest one, Hello Dolly. For many of Hamburg's music concerts Harley has always been apart of the ensemble, and has even been able to direct the ensemble for the chambers concert. He said he has gained lots of musical experience and helped him become versatile in the music industry.

Harley explained that his favorite part about music in school is that all the musicians within the school have the ability to unite their talent with their passion and have fun with it. He said that many kinds find a home in music and they have the ability to come to school and immerse themselves in it fully within the music wing. He also explained that his favorite part about music in general is the fact that music brings everyone together. Harley also said that he doesn't have a favorite type of music and that he listens to whatever catches his ear. His favorite genre though, is barbershop.

Harley said that his plans for after high school include going to college to become a music educator, not mattering what he teaches as long as he is teaching. He hopes to make an impact whether it be in choir, band, or orchestra. He said his time at Hamburg has been very insightful and that he has learned so much. He explained that he has so much fun playing and creating music, and it has been a wonderful journey for him.

Two of Harley's major inspirations are Jim Henson and Joel Hodgson. He explained how both of their ideologies have helped him a lot. They were both creators and inspired Harley to march to the beat of his own drum. Someone who personally inspired him, was Dr. Ryan, who gave him the reasoning to dedicate his life to music.

Harley had some advice for aspiring musicians, "If you wish to get involved in music, please do! Just do it! You have to find the right pick for you. However, it's something you can do the rest of your life and even if it's not professionally, it's a great hobby that can unite us all! It's the universal language!"



Alyson Rentschler prepares for Alvernia golf

Halle Gerner - 12

Alyson Rentschler is a senior at Hamburg Area High School and is 18 years old. Alyson used to play softball, although a different sport sparked Aly's interest, golf. Golf is Alyson's passion, and Alyson describes golf as being her "safe place."

"Golf lets me sit back and do what I love the most. Golf gives me a sense of mind and allows me to relax and be myself. I have high confidence in how I golf, and I cannot thank my dad enough for always pushing me to be my greatest. Whether it is getting up at 6am for early practice, or spending my entire day at a golf tournament, my dad and mom are always there by my side to cheer me on," states Alyson.

After a long and tough choice, Aly finally decided on the college that felt most like home to her: Alvernia University. Alvernia is a small school located on the outskirts of Reading, Pennsylvania. Alyson mentions her favorite part when she visited Alvernia was, of course, the golf program and the school itself.

"It just feels like home to me. The golf coach has been wanting me for quite a while now, and I am so glad I finally considered it. It is far enough that I can still experience college itself, but not too far away that I can still come home and see my family and friends whenever I want," describes Alyson.

Alyson states that she is very excited about meeting new people and starting all over with new faces. She also mentions that she is excited for golf season to begin and to compete against others to improve her golf game. Overall, Alyson is most excited about getting out of high school and starting a very exciting chapter in her life. Go Golden Wolves!



Senior Spotlight: Halle Gerner

Kylee Landis - 12

Halle Gerner, 18, has decided where she will attend after high school since her senior year is shortly coming to an end. As scary as it is to start a different life after high school, she is very excited to meet new people and be in a different environment. Halle decided to go to Lebanon Valley College to study in Exercise Science Physical Therapy. She is very excited to go there in the fall of 2019 to play softball and is very proud to say she will be a Dutchman.

Halle decided to attend Lebanon Valley College because she loved the campus and loved the fact that it was not too far away from home. When she went to visit the campus, it felt like home to her and she loved the new Physical Therapy building and faculties. She will be staying on the campus and is also happy to decorate and personalize her dorm to make it feel like home. Halle always new she wanted to go to college to play softball since she was a little girl; it is like a dream come true to her. Halle is a little nervous to leave home because she is a homebody, but she knows that she will get used to it. "I know the best years lie ahead of me in college, said by Halle".



Kyle Reppert: Farm to school

Paiton Albrecht - 11



Kyle Reppert, a Junior, is one of Hamburg 's many farmers. Reppert gave some insight into how the history of his farm shaped him into the young adult he is today, "My family's farm was purchased by my grandfather in the late '60s. It was just him and my grandmother that had the help from my grandfather's cousin to start a dairy business. For 20 years they milked and farmed agriculturally. In those 20 years, my dad, uncle, and aunt were born. Growing up they helped with the milk business-the milked was shipped to Hershey to be used in chocolate bars-and farming the 70+ acres of tillable land. In the late 70's early '80s my grandfather sold all his cattle and strictly stayed with agricultural farming like wheat, soybeans, corn, and alfalfa." Now the farm functions as mainly a cattle herd for beef which Kyle says, "is way cheaper and healthy than store-bought beef."

Reppert gives some insight on his future and his family farm, " Even though farming will not be my full-time profession, my family has instilled in me the work ethic and character needed to run a successful farm. When I am older I see myself buying my own "hobby farm" aside from my actual job. My hopes are that I can build a successful farm and maybe see three or more generations come out of it so I can teach my kids and grandkids the value of providing for your family through the resources given to us."

Reppert explains how getting up early every day and the physical strain in hot summers though can be harsh, is worth it to help his family business thrive.

Club Spotlight - Ski Club

Madison Riegel - 9

An exciting club in Hamburg Area High school is Ski Club. It is advised by Mr. Bucheit, a geometry teacher at the high school, who is passionate about skiing. He pushes the members of the Ski club, such as the president Veronica Heckman and Vice president Paiton Albrecht, to try to work to expand the club.

This year, shirts were made in an effort to fundraise. The club also sold Yankee Candle items. The members of the club would have liked to make and sell pizzas, but there were not enough people interested. The club would like to do a lot more, but there are just not enough numbers. Traveling to Vermont for a long weekend would be something fun they would like to do. The club would also like to go to Big Boulder for a day trip.

Shaylyn Hunsicker, a freshman at Hamburg Area High School, says "I think ski club is a great opportunity, and I would really like to see the club grow". Ski club would love for more members to join. It does not matter if new members are extremely good at skiing or snowboarding, or if members have never been out before. They just go out to be active and have fun. There is a cost, which varies with different packages. Of course, it is a little late in the season to join, but there is always next year.

Student Athlete Spotlight - Hunter Shuey

Madison Riegel - 9



Hunter Shuey is a sophomore at Hamburg Area High School. Hunter plays football, basketball, and baseball. Along with these three sports he plays hockey at Body Zone. Shuey's favorite out of the four is baseball. He can play any position, but excels in pitching and center field. He started playing baseball when he was five years old. To be involved in sports was expected of him, when he first started, but found a love for it.

He looks forward to the season, especially going to Myrtle Beach. At Myrtle Beach the team works on technique on hitting and fielding for the season. They also do a lot of team bonding like playing football on the beach and going out to eat.

For some of his service hours he helped out kids ages 6 - 12 on their batting and fielding. He helps coach the youth teams at all their practices which are held at most schools in the district. He decided to do this because he loves sports and helping people.

Look for Hunter Shuey, number 23 on the baseball field this upcoming season.

National Anthem Day

Kristen Martinez - 9



National Anthem Day is on Sunday, March 3 in the United States this year.

The National Anthem, The Star-Spangled Banner, was originally a poem by Francis Scott Key. John Stafford Smith put the poem to the tune of a popular British song. It was written during the defense of Fort McHenry from the British Royal Navy, with the main focus of the poem being the hope that Key would see the American flag flying overhead. This would mean that the Americans won the battle. It was written to be hopeful and optimistic for Americans listening to it.

Ever since National Football League player Colin Kaepernick made a statement by kneeling for the National Anthem, there has been a lot of controversy in the news and locally about the National Anthem. Both in and out of the NFL there were many discussions on whether people should be allowed to kneel or if they have to stand and what is respectful versus what is not respectful. He was kneeling to show his disdain for police brutality.

The NFL eventually came to the decision that they would penalize those who are not standing during the National Anthem, if they were out on the field. They were allowed to stay in the locker room if they did not want to stand. If they did not stand for the Anthem and they were on the field, they would face the chance of fines.

Recently there was a scandal in a school in Florida where a student was sitting during the Anthem and was told to stand by a substitute teacher who did not know the school allowed sitting during the Anthem. The student refused to stand and after an altercation between the substitute and the student, where the substitute allegedly told the boy to go back where he came from if he did not like it here. Eventually the student was removed from class, arrested and charged with disruption of a school facility along with resisting an officer without violence.

All of these controversies about the National Anthem are extremely important for all students to think about, as this is the country and the world they live in. National Anthem Day this year should be spent talking about the issues in this country and trying to heal the divide in this country that created this issue.

Natural remedies heal

Chaslyn Christman — 11

For centuries, natural substances have been used as remedies and beauty products. Currently, natural substances, such as essential oils and common foods, are used to heal a multitude of problems and make a great addition to a daily routine. Essential oils have many benefits, depending on the oil and intended use.

Tea tree oil is known for assisting with acne and other spots. When acne appears, dab a cotton swab into the tea tree oil, apply the tea tree oil onto the spot, and then wait for results. The best time to apply the tea tree oil is before bed, so it stays in place. Junior, Val Amato, has used this natural remedy for months. She says, "It is good for clearing up a spot when you want it gone quickly."



Eucalyptus oil is very beneficial during the winter or cold and flu season. When coming down with a cold, place a few drops of eucalyptus oil on the bottom of the shower. The hot water will hit the eucalyptus, causing the steam to become infused. The scent is known to clear a stuffy nose and promote relaxation.

As for common foods, apple cider vinegar is known to heal many problems. For example, it is good for the immune system and treats acne. To promote a healthy immune system, drink a small amount once a day or mix it into another drink. Although it might not taste great, it does wonders. To help control acne, mix apple cider vinegar with a powdered clay mixture. Apply the face mask to problem areas and let it harden. Once the face mask is hard, rinse it off with warm water. If this is repeated once daily, shocking results will show.

A hero in the making: Ellen Degeneres

Hannah Werley - 12

The second taping of the show was about to start. The audience loved those that were brought onto the stage and enjoyed Ellen's funny remarks. An even bigger surprise was in store for those in the audience of Stage 1 that Thursday evening. All year long she had been partnering with a cereal brand, and every single person who was about to be in the 400 seat stage audience, was a part of the reason they reached their goal. At the end of the show, Ellen spoke about the partnership and all of the work everyone had put into it, before giving them the surprise of their lives. She explained that each person would be getting their fair share of \$1 million dollars.

Ellen is one of the most influential people when it comes down to believing in yourself. She brings humour to those in need, and is constantly positive. Even when things are down, and people are tormenting her, she always looks to the bright side and "just keeps swimming." She gives things to those who are less fortunate, always spending her own money to give it to those who need it more.

Ellen was born in Metairie, Louisiana in 1958. Her father and mother were both hard-working people who divorced once she was a teenager. Ellen dreamed of becoming a veterinarian, but threw that idea away because she was "not book smart." Ellen's older brother, Vance, was the comedian in the family. But that all changed when Ellen had gotten major stage fright when she was talking at a public speaking event. To get through the fear, she used her humor, and she was a hit.

Ellen became a professional standup comedian in 1981. She performed at local cafes and made her big break when a booking agent was sent to watch her improv act. Ellen had later appeared on The Tonight Show. She continued making regular appearances on the talk show circuit. She won over many audiences, and she finally found her calling when she acted on her own tv-show/sitcom.

Ellen gives and gives, and expects nothing at all in return. She isn't like most famous comedians or talk show hosts, she gives the people what they want, and is always loyal to her fanbase. Veronica Avila was diagnosed with Osteosarcoma at only 12 years old. She underwent harsh rounds of chemotherapy, multiple surgeries, and a state of the art technological surgery. She had the region of affected bone removed, and had a prosthesis implanted. Throughout this entire time, which has gone on for six years, Veronica turned to The Ellen Show for amusement and happiness. After Ellen heard of this girl, she hand wrote her a note, asking to meet in LA and gave her VIP tickets to a show. As another gift, Ellen gave Veronica \$10,000 towards her education, and an Apple Laptop. "Earlier this year, Ellen and Walmart surprised the entire senior class at Summit Academy with life-changing news: they were all receiving four-year college scholarships! With the help of exceptional teachers and Ellen's scholarship donation, 93% of Summit Academy's seniors from last year are currently in college, a majority of whom have selected SUNY schools as their college choice".

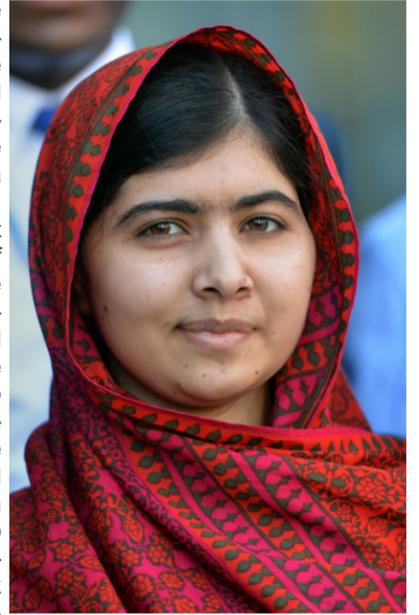
In April, 1997 Ellen DeGeneres did something nobody was expecting. She became the first in sitcom history to become open with addressing her sexuality. ABC refused to air her episode when it came time, and some of her sponsors even withdrew their support. Criticism surrounded the show, but also love from the gay-friendly activists. "Despite a supportive audience, an Emmy Award for the coming-out episode and the show's groundbreaking place in television history, Ellen was canceled in 1998." Ellen later revealed how humiliated she was to be the center of late night talk-show jokes, but that she refused to keep her life a secret.

Ellen is a sitcom comedian with a good heart, and had a rocky road to get where she is now. Ellen is constantly giving back and showing her loyalty to her fans, and never gives up when it comes to what she wants or what she believes in. When she came out as a lesbian, she received hate for years and lost her show because of it. No matter the hate and criticism she received, Ellen always came out on top. Not many people have the heart, or mental will power to be able to do that. So let me ask you this, do you?

Malala Yousafzai: An Inspiration

Amanda Eager -12

She is (the) pride of Pakistan, she has made her countrymen proud. Her achievement is unparalleled and unequalled. Girls and boys of the world should take lead from her struggle and commitment." Malala Yousafzai sat on a ramshackled, open-backed bus on her way home from school. Her friends hummed along to a tune while she tapped her fingers on the seat. As the bus drives on, Malala took notice to what was going on outside. The suffocating stench of the garbage in the stream seemed to not faze her. On the busy street, there were people riding scooters, a crowd of people walking, and a chicken getting its head cut off...this was the norm in Swat Valley, Pakistan. She couldn't help but notice the fresh blood of the chicken "dripping right onto the street". Shoving that image into the back of her mind, Malala remembered that it would be winter soon and life will be much more peaceful. The bus abruptly screeched to a halt; the sound of two angry men filled Malala's ears. A masked gunman walked to the back of the bus. She did not even get an opportunity to respond to the question, "Who is Malala?", before getting shot right in the brain.



Facing the everyday struggles of living life under the Taliban regime (Islamic Terrorist group in control of the Swat Valley region), Malala still chose to not live in fear. She went to school everyday, despite the fact that girls are specifically authorized not to by the Islamic Terrorist group themselves. After getting shot in the face, the Pakistani girl miraculously lived. Openly speaking out about her experience is what brought Malala out of Pakistan and over to the UK. She now studies philosophy, politics, and economics at Oxford University.

It's almost as if fate has brought her to where she lives now, for an opportunity to get a better education. She may have made things better for herself by not conforming to the way the Taliban wanted her to live. By speaking out, Malala managed to gain a lot of publicity for the struggles that she faced. She bravely started blogging about how life was in Pakistan under control of the Taliban when she was only nine years old. In fact, Malala became the recipient of Pakistan's first "peace prize" in 2011. Fate plays a really important role in the making of Malala's experience perfectly because without fate, she would not have become a global advocate for the right to education.

Malala hasn't just survived a gunshot to the head and won a Pakistani peace prize. In the span of six years, she has written a book, won the 2014 Nobel Peace Prize, and has been nominated several times for most influential person of the year, amongst other titles. The most important stride that Malala has taken is using all of her influence and "fame" to start an organization known as the "Malala Fund". This is a non-profit organization that uses the funds to put into the education system of impoverished countries everywhere around the world.

Malala seems like a modern day version of the hero, Beowulf. Beowulf battles beasts, and Malala tackles some demons of her own. The Taliban in this sense, could represent the ending final battle that Beowulf had with the dragon. He decided to use his weapons for this fight, but he was still very brave. This becomes very comparable to Malala's efforts in talking about the harshness of the Taliban. Blogging alone does not compare to the actions she incorporated into her protest. She went to school knowing that it was against the Taliban regime. Unlike Beowulf, however, Malala uses her fame to benefit others instead of herself via the "Malala Fund". Malala is not one to boast about her achievements, except when she got into Oxford University, of course. Beowulf, on the other hand, shows no shame in bragging about a good old fashioned monster slaying.

To be a true hero means to put other people before yourself. To fight against all odds and not worry how doing so will affect you. Malala Yousafzai is a voice and a living example of what little girls in third-world countries have to go through in order to just go to school. She is a hero. Yousafzai became famous for getting shot, but used that fame exactly how it was intended- for good. Fate, courage, and fame make this young woman who she is today. Malala was destined to escape the Taliban's rule, and she was destined to live to tell the story of getting shot in the brain. Children of all ages who are able to go to school complain a lot. After hearing Malala's story, everyone who has an education should most definitely appreciate what they have because not a lot of children have the same advantages.



Movie review: Bird Box

Taylor Henn - 9

On December 21, 2018, *Bird Box* was released, and captivated the whole world. This movie takes the audience on a thrilling adventure and keeps them on the edge of their seats the entire time. The movie is based on the novel *Bird Box*, written by Josh Malerman and released in 2014. Four years later Netflix released the blockbusting film.

In *Bird Box*, an unknown force takes over the population and kills the majority of the people. No one knows what this force is, but they quickly find out, if they look at it, they die. Only a few survive, and they end up working together in order to stay alive. The survivors have to avoid coming into contact with an entity that appears as their worst fears. When a Malorie, played by Sandra Bullock, wants to find a better place for herself and her children, they go on a dangerous journey that will test their survival skills, hoping to find a sanctuary. The trip is very long and will be even harder for them, because in order to survive, they have to complete the journey with blindfolds on the whole time.

Brody Baez, a freshman at Hamburg Area High School, has watched this movie and enjoyed it. He said, "The movie had a deep message about trusting your intuition and Sandra Bullock was an icon in the movie."

This movie was so popular that it even sparked its own challenge. In this challenge, people blindfold themselves and then go outside to wander around and try to complete different activities successfully. There have been times where people have gotten injured because they did not have any supervision, so it is vital for people to have somebody watching if they engage in the challenge.



One Day at a Time Review

Milannys Busquets Rivera - 12



One Day at a Time was debuted on January 6, 2017, on Netflix. The show is produced by Sony Pictures TV's producers Dan Hernandez, Benji Samit, and Patricia Fass Palmer. It stars Justina Machado as Penelope, a single mom, nurse, and a veteran with PTSD raising her children with help from her immigrant mother, Lydia (Rita Moreno). This Cuban-American family makes a cheesy sitcom, a series that can be watched with family and friends. It covers a lot of topics including PTSD, feminism, LGBTQ+ community, religion, etc. Season one had a through-line that focused on Elena, Penelope's daughter, and her coming out to her family in the events leading up to her quinceañera. In the other hand, season two does not have a specific focus, instead it discusses a few issues with society at the same time.

The second season has stories about how Lydia is pursuing citizenship, Elena taking the job of handyman for the building they live in, Penelope and her struggles with school as she is trying to earn a new certification, and Schneider (Todd Grinnell), their landlord and neighbor, opening up about his addiction issues and having a deep talk with Penelope about her PTSD. Schneider talks about his relapse after being sober for a while and how he realized that it was a very serious matter. The show has a studio audience, something that is surprising because not many shows can get away with having the cheesy laughs or "awes" from the audience, but they can get away with it because the show focuses on the problems with society and how the Alvarez family deals with it. Otherwise the style of the show has become unfashionable, unfunny, and even corny. If any other show were to re-establish the style of *One Day at a Time*, they might have a hard time because it can be an easy turn off. Although, there are a few shows that are also filming with the same style and format and are successful.

One Day at a Time is a show that radiates immediate joy and it is fun to watch with family and friends. Its fun and easy to follow episodes make it a binge-worthy show. It has some happy moments, as well as not so pleasant moments like when Alex defended Elena against their homophobic father. The show interprets real-life problems that everyone wishes did not happen. It teaches life lesson about the problems that life may through someone's way and examples of how to deal with it. When looking for a show to watch, people look for something that takes them away from their problems and something that entertains them, this show does both.

For more information visit: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/25/arts/television/one-day-at-a-time-netflix-review.html>

The Dark Artifices trilogy comes to a giant ending in The Queen of Air and Darkness

Alexandra Kline - 11

The *Dark Artifices* is a trilogy written by Cassandra Clare that continues the lives of the Shadowhunters. Shadowhunters, or Nephilim, are half human and half angel that hunt demons to keep mundanes, humans, safe. In the Shadow World, there are also the Downworlders, such as faeries, werewolves, vampires, and warlocks. Shadowhunters are at war with faeries as a group of Shadowhunters, the Cohort, also want the destruction of Downworlders. Emma Carstairs, Julian Blackthorn, and their friends and family work together to try to stop the Cohort.

After the death of one of Julian's sisters, basically his daughter since he raised her for the past five years of life after the death of their parents, the entire family was devastated. Julian must do something to take away the pain of losing his "daughter" and not being able to touch the one he loves most, his parabatai.

Parabatai is a bond between two people that makes them more powerful together. They are very rare in the Shadow World and treasured. There is one law that is between parabatai: they cannot be romantically involved with each other. Since Julian and Emma fell in love with each other and they are parabatai, they try their best to stay away from each other to save themselves and their family.

After the funeral, Emma and Julian are sent to the Unseelie Courts to recollect the Black Book, a powerful book full of dark magic. With it in the hands of the faerie of the Unseelie Courts, everyone is in danger. While there, they meet up with lost friends and family. As they seem so close to bringing down the Cohort and the new Unseelie King's plans, Emma and Julian are lost in another dimension.

What dimension do Julian and Emma get sent to? Do they end up together? How does the rest of Julian's family react to Livvy's death? What does Ty, her twin, and Kit do after her death? Will Cristina, Mark, and Keiran be together? What happens to the Cohort? What are the original Nephilim? Who gets exiled? Read the final book, *The Queen of Air and Darkness*, to finish the amazing story of the Blackthorns and Carstairs.



Jocelyn releases new single Speak Up

Grant Doklan - 10

Jocelyn is a new artist, with only two songs listed on her Spotify profile. The first is a song titled *Just Like Everybody Else* which has amassed over one million streams.

Her new single release *Speak Up* has just under 2,000 streams as of February 2019. The song appears to be an eclectic blend of acoustics, americana and pop.

The intro to *Speak Up* sounds straight out of an Ed Sheeran song, who is listed as one of her inspirations on her website. The verses take a more pop-rock approach ala Elle King's *Ex's and Oh's*. Jocelyn's voice blends well with the style of music she creates. The modern "indie accent" as it has been dubbed by critics appears at some points, but it is tastefully used. The chorus soars more into the pop genre, and Jocelyn's voice changes to match the tone. *Speak Up* features a typical pop structure, with two verses a chorus and a bridge. A bridge is the section of a song, typically after the second chorus, meant to separate the two choruses at the end of a song. Overall, it is a typical and well-written pop song with a clear point of view.

LeighAnn Gesicki had never heard of Jocelyn before *Speak Up*. She enjoyed the song and said she would watch out for future releases. LeighAnn said *Speak Up*, "sounds like what's on the radio right now." She was surprised that the song is not more popular.

Review copy courtesy of www.gomoxie.org

For more information on Jocelyn, visit her website <https://www.jocelynmusic.com/>

TV show review: Pretty Little Liars

Petra Hertzog - 9

Pretty Little Liars is a mysterious drama that first aired on Freeform in June of 2010. The show was created by I. Marlene King and the show sadly ended in June of 2017. Overall, the show had seven seasons along with a large fan base.

The show is set in a fictional town called Rosewood, Pennsylvania and the series follows the lives of four girls: Aria Montgomery, Hanna Marin, Emily Fields, and Spencer Hastings. Their clique falls apart when their leader, Alison DiLaurentis, goes missing. After a year of Alison being gone, the distant friends are reunited when they all start receiving anonymous text messages from a mysterious figure named "A". This anonymous figure threatens to expose all of their deepest secrets. Some of the secrets are only ones they believed only Alison knew. At first, the girls believe that "A", is Alison, but after her body is found, they realize that someone else is out to get them.

Overall, students at Hamburg Area High School can relate to this show because it covers a lot of topics that teenagers can connect to. The dangers of online people, learning who your friends really are, and the struggles of a high school teen are all topics that this show covers. *Pretty Little Liars* allows people, especially young adults, to feel as if they are not alone while going through the similar struggles of a teenager. If teenagers have not yet seen this suspenseful mystery, they definitely should because it is a great show to watch.

For more information visit: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1578873/?ref_=ttpl_ql

