

Eagle Times

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Bonny Eagle High School

Standish, Maine 04084

Bonny Eagle again open to exchange students

By Amelia McAvoy
and Macey Cabral

After a turbulent year during which foreign exchange students were abruptly sent home due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Bonny Eagle is happy to welcome new exchange students to the school.

This year there are seven exchange students joining us. They come from Germany, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Mongolia and Poland. Maja Modzelewska is one of the two Polish students. She has come to us all the way from Warsaw.

Maja (pronounced My-uh, like Maya) is excited for the opportunities that being a foreign exchange student brings, like being able to make friends from across the world and being able to improve her English skills. She also says she has always wanted to “check if it [America] is the same as in the movies.”

Maja’s experience is typical of exchange students. In December 2020, Maja applied to be a foreign exchange student



Maja Modzelewska is adjusting to country life.

Photo by Amelia McAvoy

and she arrived in America in August. To prepare for her exchange year, she was expected to fill out an application, write a letter to her host family, and take many doctor trips to ensure that she was in good health. However, Maja says she has really been preparing for a trip to America since she began learning English at only six

years old.

So far, the biggest difference Maja has noticed between Poland and the U.S. is the landscape. Warsaw is a large city with lots of tall buildings and a population of 1.7 million. Maine, on the other hand, has fewer people in the entire state.

In Poland, public transportation is the way most people get around, but in Maine, a car is necessary. Another big difference Maja noticed between the two countries is the food. She says Polish people typically eat healthier. For example, in America, fast food is a common meal.

In Maja’s opinion, Bonny Eagle is very different from her school in Warsaw, but she enjoys it because there are “so many opportunities here. Bonny Eagle has a huge variety of classes that you can choose. You can do whatever you are interested in. You can develop your hobbies.”

In Poland, students are expected to take more classes at



Lina Mueller likes trying new things.

Staff photo

a time, 14 as opposed to five, and they do not have artistic classes such as theater and photography. At Bonny Eagle there are also more opportunities to do activities outside of school. Already, Maja has signed up for art lessons and she is also on the volleyball team.

Lina Mueller, a sophomore from the western part of Ger-

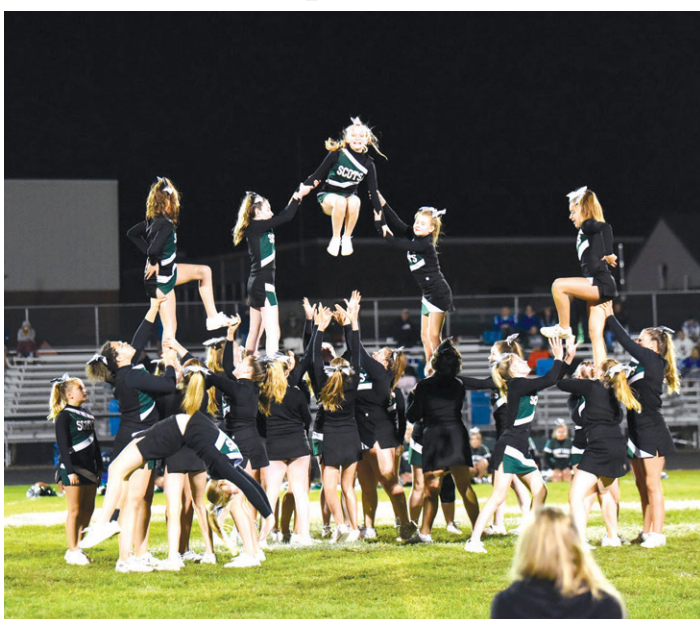
many, near Bonn, has also taken advantage of the many opportunities that being an exchange student brings. Back home, she usually takes swimming lessons and does Zumba (a type of dance fitness) with friends outside of school.

High schools in Germany don’t usually have sports teams, so if you want to participate in any sport, you have to join a community team.

Since swimming doesn’t start until winter, Lina decided to learn a new sport this fall; her options included soccer, cheering, and field hockey. She went to her host mom, Lorianne Whitney, for advice.

“...my host mom played field hockey when she was younger, so she said that’d be fun,” Lina explained. She says she enjoyed playing the sport, and playing with the junior varsity team. While she misses being able to see Germany participate in the soccer World Cup, she does enjoy the spirit of the school sports teams we have here.

After a year in exile, football returns to BEHS



Fans, players, and cheerleaders were all glad to be back this fall for BEHS football games. Above, the varsity cheerleaders execute one of their routines. Above right, junior Trevor Perkins carries the ball. Below right, sophomore quarterback Terrell Edwards passes to Nick Klein. The varsity had a record of 4-3 going into its final regular season game.

Photos by Carol Davis Harriman



By Amelia McAvoy

On August 26, Bonny Eagle hosted its first football game in 22 months. Scots fans packed the stands to cheer on their team. One student in attendance, senior Gabby Sawyer, said it felt like “literally the entire community was there.”

For many students and community members, football is a big part of what makes Bonny Eagle special, and last year the absence of it could be felt across the community. However, this year, after getting the green light, football is back in full swing.

Last year, the coronavirus disease was still a fairly new problem, and the state of Maine did not feel it was possible to safely allow high contact sports like football and wrestling. Now, with over a year of experience with the virus, more information is available surrounding it, and many people are vaccinated against it. A year

of navigating COVID-19 has allowed football to return to normal. Well, almost normal.

Athletes who are not vaccinated are still required to quarantine for 10 days, meaning the team could potentially lose players on any given week if they have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 and have not been vaccinated.

However, this rule is not unique to football. In fact, Mr. Curtis does not see a big difference between football and the other fall sports.

He says, “There is no difference in how we manage football and the other sports.”

While the team is grateful to be able to play this year, the disappointment of missing a season still lingers. It is especially hard to get over losing a year of football when many believe that it was unnecessary. Mr. Curtis says that he

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The Eagle Times Staff

Editor

Macey Cabral

Reporters

James Arbour
Emily Bell
Abigail Cormier
Brody Donahue
Samantha Doucette
Sarah Ettinger
Nate Hamblin
Hannah Higgins
Amelia McAvoy
Zachary Myers
Braydon Peterson
Lion Peterson-Goad
Nia Tuohay
Holly Zacharek

Photographer

Emily Bell

Teacher Advisor

Ms. Joanne Lannin

The *Eagle Times* is the student voice of Bonny Eagle High School, published regularly with a circulation of an estimated 800 copies

The purpose of the *Eagle Times* is to:

- a.) Present the news, as it pertains to the student body, in a non-biased and tasteful fashion,
- b.) Provide a forum, wherein ideas and options, concepts and concerns may be freely and openly discussed,
- c.) Provide the student body, faculty, and administration with a circulated medium in which letters, notices of recognition, and other submissions may be published.

The *Eagle Times* welcomes submissions from students, faculty, staff and community members. All submissions MUST be signed by their respective authors. The *Eagle Times* reserves the right to edit submissions based on length, language, or clarity.

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Bonny Eagle High School
700 Saco Road
Standish, ME 04084

Principal addresses disturbing start to school year

By Macey Cabral

When Bonny Eagle High School's doors opened to all of its students in August, it was supposed to be a return to (almost) normal. But from closed bathrooms to brawls in the halls, most students by now have noticed that things has been amiss so far this school year.

A startling number of vandalism incidents have occurred in the bathrooms. Some students have attempted to remove soap dispensers from the walls. Some have drawn or written inappropriate things on the stall walls and doors. A sink in one of the bathrooms was actually smashed to pieces. In addition, there has also been a noticeable increase in fighting incidents between students.

Although Principal Mr. Greg Applestein couldn't give many specifics due to privacy and confidentiality laws, he says the school is doing everything in its power to stop the vandalism and violence that has occurred these past few weeks.

For example, a strong teacher and faculty presence has been vigilant in monitoring the halls both during and between classes to prevent further incidents, and in each case that has occurred, consequences have been issued to those involved with "firmness, fairness, and consistency to the fullest extent possible," says Mr. Applestein.

He also mentioned that a variety of activities are and will be used during SYNC classes to make students more aware of behavior expectations in the hallways and common areas of the building.

Each case of vandalism in the bathrooms was processed and investigated, and as the vandals are identified, "we have issued consequences to the fullest extent possible and we will continue to do so going forward," Mr. Applestein said. "If students who have done these kinds of things continue to do them despite receiving consequences, additional and more severe consequences can be issued."

So far, the consequences for these dis-

ruptions have ranged from verbal and written warnings, to parental conversations, to detention, suspension, behavior support plans, safety care plans, and community service plans. Of course, the consequences for each incident vary depending on the severity.

Students who have caused damage to the bathrooms are being identified by "all means necessary" using a variety of different techniques, including viewing footage from the cameras in the halls. As of yet, most have been identified and received consequences accordingly.

Though these have all been separate events, Mr. Applestein agreed that as far as the vandalism goes, "there is at least some connection to the 'Devious Licks' dares on TikTok" that received wide media coverage in September both in Maine and nationally.

As for the violence that has been increasing, Mr. Applestein says that it is unlikely these fights pose a threat to other students, but information is processed as it comes. He said that he would just like to "thank all students, faculty, and staff for sharing information with us to help prevent these kinds of things from happening at BEHS," as it helps to maintain the safety of everyone in the building.

Just as social media has served to deepen divisions among people across the country, things like Instagram, TikTok, YouTube, and Snapchat have been catalysts for much of the tension and the disagreements that have led to fighting. Mr. Applestein agrees that a majority of these incidents likely stem from "social media messages and postings as well as other forms of miscommunications."

Mr. Applestein hopes that these incidents will diminish and hopefully cease altogether "by working with all students in helping them realize *this is our school*." He says that they will "continue to monitor the situation, process things which arise, investigate events which need to be looked at more deeply, and issue consequences accordingly" in



Mr. Greg Applestein

Photo by Diane York

order to uphold the number one priority of maintaining everyone's safety and security in the school.

Mr. Applestein also asked that this message be included in our report:

"In reflecting on all of these questions and what we have done to address these issues, I very much want to thank the faculty, staff, students, district administrators, families, and the community for their help in working to identify and address these concerns.

With everyone's involvement in bettering ourselves and our school, I have no doubt we will continue to serve all students well and help them achieve their full potential! I truly believe we are one school and one team working together to help make a difference every day!"

She's enjoying a different way of life this year



Anu Purevtogtokh is enjoying her time at BEHS.

By Abigail Cormier

Anu Purevtogtokh, a 12th-grader from Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, has taken the leap to study in the U.S. and is eager to learn here at BEHS. She is staying with

another exchange student and the Farwell family, coordinators of the exchange program who are in charge of placing students.

After a 20-hour flight, Anu was amazed at the beautiful expanses of greenery that Maine has to offer.

"It really surprised me because in my country we don't have many trees," she explained. "When I came here the first thing I saw was trees and green... I love it."

She also likes Bonny Eagle because it is located in a very beautiful place, and, she says, "the teachers are very nice."

While she loves the beautiful natural aspects of Maine, she hopes to travel to New York City and even Disneyland in her time here.

Anu says life is very different here in many ways. In Mongolia the school day is much longer and stricter. The students

stay in the same classroom with the same students for the whole day, while the teachers rotate.

She compared BEHS to a university because we don't wear uniforms and we travel around to different classes. She said that this is good because it helps students to be more social. She also likes that people can dye their hair.

Some of her favorite aspects of the high school are our free and vast selection of lunch options. Because of this, students will always have something to eat that they like. It also is good for food restriction or if you're a vegetarian.

Anu is always trying to better herself. She enjoys doing and making things by hand and getting to see the result of something she made.

Another way Anu works to better herself is through studying. She says the hardest aspect of America to get used to is the language and how fast people speak here.

In her free time Anu enjoys art, music, and spending time with her family. Whether that's eating together or playing games, she always has fun.

A "cool, unique" gig

By Samantha Doucette

Mathew Creamer is new to the Bonny Eagle district, but not new to Maine. In fact he is a “Mainer born and raised.” Mr. Creamer grew up in the Camden-Rockport area but has been living in southern Maine for the last 10-12 years.

Before working at Bonny Eagle, Mr. Creamer attended the University of Southern Maine to get his bachelor's degree in English. He then earned his M.F.A in creative writing with a concentration in pedagogy (teaching younger learners).

He then went on to work at Purdue University as an education advisor to college students for six years.

Now, he is working at the Frank Jewett building as a first year Ed Tech 3 for the Evolve program. He provides academic support to Bonny Eagle High School students who are hoping to be more successful in a separate environment from the larger high school.

Mr. Creamer says he “really enjoys the work that I’m doing here in this self-contained classroom working with the same students all day.”

He says he really enjoys getting to know his students at a deeper level than just having them one class a day.

Outside of school, Mr Creamer likes to read and write. He likes to write science fiction, horror fiction, fantasy and mystery. He also really likes to watch sports and roots for all New



Mr. Matthew Creamer
Courtesy photo

England sports teams.

At the present time, he is back in school taking classes at the University of Maine in Augusta to become certified as a teacher.

He says that he “has always wanted to go into education in some capacity.” He wants to be a Secondary English teacher from grades 7-12 and was inspired by his wife, a fourth grade teacher, to get his certification.

Mr. Creamer thinks the district seems really great so far, and it has a “really great school and district spirit.”

Even though he hasn’t spent much time at the high school itself, he says his position down the road in the Frank Jewett building has been a very cool and unique experience.

Kitchen manager knows what's cookin'

By Lion Peterson-Goad

Ms. Susan Porter is one of Bonny Eagle High School's many new staff, taking the position of the Kitchen Manager. She has a lot of experience in culinary arts, explaining that she learned most of what she knows from her grandmother.

Ms. Porter first began working in restaurants when she was 14 and says that when she was in high school, she was on the fence between going to college for the culinary arts or to veterinary school.



Ms. Susan Porter runs the show in the BE kitchen.
Staff photo

Her recipe for success is "love people and cook them tasty food."

The deciding factor, she says, was knowing she would have to go to school for another eight years to become a veterinarian at a time when she “was not a school person.”

So, after graduating from Windham High School in 1980, she continued her education at Johnson & Wales University for culinary arts. She moved to California soon after graduating where she worked in various capacities

in the restaurant industry.

She became homesick, however, and decided to come back to New England where she hopped around from place to place where she was needed, explaining, “I’ve worked in restaurants. I’ve worked in corporate culinary like WEX, (an information management services corporation based in Portland).” She also worked at Spring Harbor Hospital in South Portland as a cook for a while.

Ms. Porter's current goal is to give the students and staff of Bonny Eagle some of the best school food they’ve ever had. She claims that her recipe for success is “love people, and cook them tasty food.”

So far, so good for new Spanish teacher

By Brody Donahue

Mr. Jaime Alonso was a business owner until COVID-19 hit. His business was to bring children and their families overseas to play soccer. The pandemic and its travel restrictions made this impossible, so he switched to teaching.

While in some ways he misses his former occupation, he was surprised to find that teaching Spanish has made him feel more free.

"When school is over you leave it at school, but having your own business you always have something to work on even if you're at home," he explains.

Mr. Alonso is from the city of San Sebastian, Spain, but has lived in Maine now for 23 years. Even though this is his first year, Mr. Alonso really enjoys teaching. He says his favorite part of teaching is “being a mentor to the students. I love having relationships with the kids.”



Mr. Jaime Alonso's experience so far at BEHS is two thumbs up.
Photo by Abigail Cormier

Outside of teaching Mr. Alonso likes to take walks with his three dogs: two Corgis and a German Shepherd. He also likes to play golf and spend time with his wife and three children.

An exciting time to counsel seniors

By Hannah Higgins

Although she didn’t always know that she wanted to be a school counselor, Ms. Terry Bartels loves working with students and meeting with them about their future plans.

She worked with students as a counselor at Scarborough High School for more than 20 years. Now she will be focusing on counseling seniors at Bonny Eagle.



Ms. Bartels was raised in New York and attended college at the State University of New York, earning her bachelor's degree in psychology. After college, she worked in real estate for

about 10 years. She was inspired to become a school counselor by a friend, who was also a school counselor at the time. She received her master's degree in school counseling at the College of Saint Rose in Albany, New York.

Ms. Bartels says she loves meeting with students and talking with them about their future plans.

“There are so many options,” she says, “whether it be going to school, going to trade school, going out into the workforce, or the military, which is why it’s a real exciting time to be a senior.”

Outside of school, she spends her time going for walks, hiking, swimming, and reading. She belongs to a book group that meets once a month, and she tries to read as much as she can in the summer.

Ms. Bartels is new to the school and has lots of new experiences ahead of her. However, she feels welcomed by the staff and all of the students she has met so far. “It’s been a great experience and I’m looking forward to a great year,” she says.

He's hoping to make Algebra relevant to his students' lives

By Holly Zacharek

Mr. Andrew Price joins the ranks of fulltime staff this year as an Algebra teacher, but this isn't his first time at the high school. Mr. Price is an alumnus of the Bonny Eagle community and has been here at the high school for the past three years. Among other things, he worked with students last year as a remote-learning instructor.

Mr. Price was born and raised in Buxton and attended the middle school and high school. He chose to work here because he loves the Bonny Eagle community and he couldn’t be happier about getting a job in the district.

“Being an alumnus, I’ve always been Bonny Eagle proud and I was happy to start working in the district. I started out as a substitute and I was eventually

a long-term sub and then landed in the position I’m in now,” he explains. “I’m fortunate to have stayed here and I’m really drawn just from my experience growing up.”

Mr. Price attended the University of Maine at Farmington where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Education with a concentration in middle-level math and social studies. He says that he’s always wanted to be a math teacher ever since he was in second grade.

One of the many reasons that Mr. Price chose to teach Algebra is, as he states, “By teaching mostly Algebra, I get the privilege of teaching students the language of math. From cashiering at Hannaford to studying physical sciences — the language of how the world

works can many times be explained through Algebra. It’s great to be able to always have some principle or topic I can relate back to real life with my students.”

When he's not in school, Mr. Price is all about spending time outdoors. His outdoor activities include kayaking, hiking, biking, and playing with his dog, River, who is a beagle.

Mr. Price says that he wouldn’t want to be working anywhere else but here with all of us.

“I’m really glad to be here. I’m just really happy. It’s an honest and true happiness to be part of this community and know all the people and see all the people that I [saw] down the hall years ago.”



Mr. Andrew Price is no stranger to the Bonny Eagle community.
Courtesy photo

Welcome to new teachers and staff!

Coach Covie is looking to make a difference

By Emily Bell

After working in multiple careers, and traveling around the country, Coach Pal Covie has found that being a counselor is the most rewarding career. They've been a counselor for almost three years, and will be the counselor for the Class of 2024 this year. They feel they've found their perfect career.

"I love hearing everyone's stories," Coach Covie remarked during our interview. They found that working with everyone, not just students, is the best thing about their job.

Coach Covie came out in 2017 as nonbinary and uses the pronouns "they, their and them." Additionally, instead of using "Mr.," "Mrs.," or "Ms.," Covie uses the term "Coach," as they used to coach women's basketball, and that's the name that they're used to being called.

Coach Covie's journey to Bonny Eagle High School started early in their life, before they moved to Vermont.

Coach Covie grew up in Rockport, Maine. During middle and high school they loved writing poems and, for a little while, wanted to become an author.

After high school, they went to Bates College and majored in English, with a focus in creative writing. After college, they moved to Vermont and started working at The Skinny Pancake, a restaurant that only makes crêpes. They also met their wife in Vermont, spending seven weeks on a cross-country road trip together for their honeymoon.

When it was time to end their trip, they came back to Maine. However, Bonny Eagle wasn't the first place Coach Covie



Coach Pal Covie Courtesy photo

came to. Coach Covie actually worked at a cafe called "The Works" in Portland before deciding to apply for a job at Bonny Eagle Middle School.

Something that seems to make Coach Covie more welcoming to younger adults questioning their sexuality or gender is the fact of being in the LGBTQ+ community.

"I love hearing everyone's stories."
Coach Pal Covie

"Representation is important," Coach Covie says. They didn't always know about the community as a child, but when they heard of the term "non-binary," they knew it was a perfect fit for them. "A light bulb went on," Coach Covie explained.

As of last year and this year, Coach Covie has had to get to know both the high school and the middle school fairly quickly. After interning with Sarah Otis, a counselor at the middle school, Coach Covie switched to the high school.

Coach Covie looks forward to welcoming students to Student Services at BEHS this year.

Changing directions is part of the process

By Sarah Ettinger

Mrs. Morgan Beaulieu, the new school counselor for the Class of 2023 at BEHS, is a prime example of someone who went into college thinking she had her career decided, only to change her mind once she got there.

"I [had] wanted to be a school counselor since seventh grade," she explains. "[But] I went to college and I decided to try nursing and I got my EMT license, and [then] decided that I wanted to go back to the school counseling."

Born and raised in Oklahoma, Mrs. Beaulieu moved to Maine in 2018. Previously, she worked at RSU 57 in Waterboro, also as a school counselor. She worked with elementary students, and describes how different it is to work with teenagers, especially since the pandemic.

Mrs. Beaulieu came to BE looking for a change and said the idea of working with teenagers attracted her to Bonny Eagle.

A graduate of Southwestern Oklahoma State University, she knew in her freshman year that school counseling was what she wanted to do, not nursing.

"It's okay, most people are going to change their mind in college," she says.

Her own school counselor, who had also been her father's, brother's, and stepsiblings' school counselor, was a mentor and felt like family.

"[She] pointed me in the right direction," Mrs. Beaulieu says.

Mrs. Beaulieu is glad to be working face to face with students. Last year, Mrs. Beaulieu states how remote learning presented a challenge, especially in regard to confidentiality. In order to keep confidentiality between students and herself, the student and



Mrs. Morgan Beaulieu holds her daughter, Naomi. Courtesy photo

she would decide on either a thumbs up and thumbs down or two different emojis that correlated to the student's willingness and ability to talk about certain issues while at home.

Mrs. Beaulieu says that what she loves most about her job are the students and the relationships they build, but most importantly letting everyone know that it is okay to not know exactly what you want to do.

Outside of school, Mrs. Beaulieu enjoys watching college football, and hanging outside with her family: her husband, daughter, and two dogs. However, Mrs. Beaulieu also describes how eye-opening traveling has been for her. She has traveled to St. Martin, St. Lucia, and St. Kitts. Her traveling experiences have contributed to her perspective on her own life and how fortunate she is.

"There are things you would not expect people to struggle for that you take for granted every day, and seeing just how hard they have to work to have the things that we do is eye opening," she says.

Travel has provided perspective on her life and her career

By James Arbour

Mrs. Ana Abbott has taken the role of MSAD 6's new ESL teacher this year and has been enjoying the experience.

Mrs. Abbott attended St Joseph's College where she majored in psychology and minored in sociology. She wanted to become a school counselor, hence the choice of major and minor.

Afterwards she went to the University of Southern Maine for their masters program for school counselling. Just this summer she was able to get her masters in TESOL (Teaching English to speakers of other languages).

Many here at the high school will remember Mrs. Abbott from the middle school, where she worked as a Spanish teacher. Although she wasn't fully certified for the job when she applied, they accepted her on the condition that she would go back to school to take foreign language courses.



Mrs. Ana Abbott Courtesy photo

"Little did I know that I would love it and I'd be teaching Spanish for 20 years," Mrs. Abbott stated.

She said that she enjoys being able to see everyone again now that she's at the high school, and seeing them "just growing up so quickly."

Mrs. Abbott now works with kids from across the district who are in the same boat she was in. Mrs. Abbott's first language was Spanish, and she had to become bilingual at a very young age. After she was born, her family moved to Venezuela before moving to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where she stayed from kindergarten to senior year in high school.

Mrs. Abbott traveled a lot when she was a child and traveled around the world seven times on a ship. She wants to make it easier for everyone to be able to speak fluent English and not have language be a barrier they cannot get through.

Outside of school, Mrs. Abbott

really enjoys walking through the woods and visiting the beach. She also likes to spend her time with family and friends. If she had the money she would like to travel a little more than she is able to.

Mrs. Abbott is a big believer in the importance of travel as a way to broaden your perspective.

"If you get the opportunity to travel, travel! Seeing other parts of the world opens your eyes and often not only gives you a better appreciation for others, but also for yourself, your family, and community as well," she says.

While her role has changed this year, she continues to love being part of the Bonny Eagle community.

Mrs. Abbott would like everyone to know that "if you ever come across a person who doesn't speak English as a first language, be kind, be helpful and try to get to know them. Appreciate all of our similarities as well as differences," she says.

"Crafting" a safe space for students to enjoy the library's offerings

By Mr. Dan Murphy

Enter the library this year and you'll notice a few new items: signs ["Books: the Original Hand Held Device"] and games, including Bananagram and chess. According to our new and energetic librarian, Erin Deprez, it's part of her effort to make the library a vibrant and welcoming place where "people can feel safe."

Ms. Deprez did not always know that she wanted to be a librarian. In fact she began her studies by majoring in digital sculpture and media at MECA, the Maine College of Art. However, at More College of Art in Philadelphia, a work-study job led to a change in plans.

When she was assigned to the library, "I immediately loved it . . . I worked there all four years through college and I immediately looked for another library



Ms. Erin Deprez loves what she does.

to work in."

She pursued her library certification and then a masters degree in Library Science at Clarion University in Pennsylvania and has worked as a librarian ever since, declaring "I really

Staff photo

love being a librarian. I love what I do."

Ms. Deprez still keeps her hand in the arts—literally and figuratively—through her pastime of arts and crafts. She "loves making all kinds" of crafts and continues by both crafting and

sharing her love of craftmaking with her own children, ages 3, 6, and 12. In fact, she has a room devoted to crafts.

Of course, this love of crafts has helped her craft a more welcoming space in our own library.

Part of what makes her love the library is the opportunity to learn new things as she helps students and staff on their own journeys of discovery. She is a life-long learner and not just from books. At present she's learning to play the banjo and the ukelele.

While she is new to the high school, she is not new to the district or to teaching. For the last few years she worked at George E. Jack and Hollis Elementary. Before that she served as the librarian at Biddeford Middle School.

Short commutes can still be hectic

By Braydon Peterson

Mr. Joshua Tharpe is a busy man. He can be found helping students with literacy skills at the high school in the morning and



Mr. Joshua Tharpe

helping students with life skills at the middle school in the afternoon.

Before becoming a teacher at Bonny Eagle, Mr. Tharpe went to Western New England for his first semester in college before transferring to Southern Maine Community College. He then completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Southern Maine, followed by his masters degree at Grand Canyon University, an online college. He is currently working on a second masters at the same school.

Mr. Tharpe didn't always want to be a teacher. He wanted to be a forensic coroner, which is someone who examines dead bodies in order to determine whether the cause of death involved foul play. His interest started in high school when he had a chemistry teacher that he liked.

"He really pushed us to succeed," Mr. Tharpe says.

After about a year of medical school, however, he decided he had had enough

and didn't want to go down that path.

He started helping out with middle school and high school kids and fell in love with teaching. He worked at a smaller school for students that need one-on-one help. He then came to work at Bonny Eagle.

Mr. Tharpe mainly likes working one-on-one with students and enjoys working in both buildings, but the commute can be stressful at times. He doesn't like to stop a project with one student at the high school and then have to go to the middle school to start another.

However, he says that he doesn't mind it much and "it is very rewarding to see the students succeed."

Mr. Tharpe didn't always want to be a teacher. He wanted to be a forensic coroner...

Outside of school, Mr. Tharpe really enjoys going for hikes with his wife. He enjoys swimming, and he has tried to get his dog into the water too. He plays ultimate frisbee and basketball and used to coach the middle school team. He also enjoys helping out in his wife's horse stable. He is very invested in sports and he likes watching basketball, hockey, and of course, ultimate frisbee.

Overall, Mr. Tharpe says he enjoys his job. "Everyone I have met has been very welcoming and supportive in helping me learn the ways of Bonny Eagle," he says.

Mr. Bowers is helping teachers and students make up for lost time

By Nia Tuohay

Mr. Sam Bowers is one of our new instructional coaches this year, joining Ms. Kate Dumont in this position. While this is a new role within this building, he is no stranger to teaching. He previously worked at Sacopee Valley High School as a math teacher.

Mr. Bowers grew up in Dexter, Maine and attended Bowdoin College. Before working at Sacopee Valley, Mr. Bowers had moved with his girlfriend to Connecticut so she could go to law school. While they were there he started SAT tutoring. He mainly focused on math but eventually got into English. He did this both during the school year and during summers.

As an instructional coach, Mr. Bowers provides support and professional development to teachers in one-on-one, small group, and school-wide settings. Specifically, he was hired to analyze data, implement interventions, and employ strategies in response to learning gaps that were exacerbated due to the pandemic.

His focus is helping teachers more consistently implement high-impact instructional strategies in their classroom and use data to make informed curricular and in-the-moment decisions.

"I have also worked closely with administration and the curriculum department to streamline processes for teachers and improve overall school alignment with our goals," Mr. Bowers



Mr. Sam Bowers. Courtesy photo

explains.

Mr. Bowers got the idea of instructional coaching through a technology integrator who was retiring and suggested that Mr. Bowers "might want to consider this technology integrator role."

This eventually led him to being an instructional coach. He believes the best thing for students is when the teachers themselves are at their best, and that is what he's looking for: helping teachers improve what they do in the classroom.

Mr. Bowers and his wife have a son who turns 1 in December. When he's not chasing his toddler around, he likes to run, read, golf, play chess, and do yard work.

Although Mr. Bowers is not working directly with students, he really wants all students to succeed.

Making connections through the books they read

By Nate Hamblin

Although new to Bonny Eagle, Mr. Benjamin Murphy is not new to the job of an English teacher, and he is really excited to be teaching at Bonny Eagle High School.

Mr. Murphy grew up in Fort Kent, Maine's northernmost point. He went to Ithaca College in upstate New York for broadcasting and journalism and came back to Maine to work as a television news and sports reporter at WAGM in Presque Isle.

After a few years he transitioned into teaching, which he has been doing for the last 14 years. One reason that Mr. Murphy transitioned into teaching is because he "enjoys connecting with kids and connecting kids with the material that they read."



Mr. Ben Murphy

Staff photo

He also enjoys helping them understand why the material that they read and learn about still matters even though it may be hundreds of years old.

Another reason that Mr. Murphy transitioned into teaching was the schedule. He realized that instead of working strange hours, such as weekends and holidays and late at night, he could have a regular schedule. He also thought

that with his knowledge of English from his time in broadcasting and journalism, and along with his enjoyment of working and connecting with kids, he could be an English teacher. After he took his test in Massachusetts that certified him to teach, he started teaching at Revere High School in Massachusetts for the next five years.

It's not surprising that Mr. Murphy is someone who really enjoys reading and writing, but that is not all that he enjoys. He also is an avid runner, and has run 10 half marathons. He also has a set of 3-year-old triplet boys and a 5-year-old girl who just started kindergarten.

He has really enjoyed his time here at Bonny Eagle so far, and says "In general people have been very friendly, very helpful, and very welcoming."

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Girls cross country team still in the running



The team was all smiles after the Festival of Champions in Belfast in early October. At far right, Delaney Hesler came in fifth in that meet, while Addy Thibodeau, right, placed 10th out of 500 runners. At right below, Emmaline Pendleton came in 12th.

Instagram and Sub5.com photos



From staff reports

The Bonny Eagle girls cross country team ran away with the Class A regional championships last weekend and will compete this coming weekend for the state crown.

The Scots were led (as usual) by senior Delaney Hesler, who turned in the only sub-19 performance of the meet, with a time of 18:52.82 – almost a minute ahead of her teammates, sophomore Addy Thibodeau (19:40) and senior Emmaline Pendleton (19:47).

The Scots beat out runner-up Marshwood by 44 points, with Falmouth (119) and Cheverus (124) coming in third and fourth.

“It was really special to be able to win my first regional title and have my

two teammates right behind me,” Delaney told the *Portland Press Herald*. “I was really impressed and happy with them.”

Senior Hannah Stevens and sophomores Meseret Day and Allie Hesler came in 11th, 12th and 13th respectively to help the Scots outdistance the field of 15 teams.

The Bonny Eagle girls knew they had a shot at a title after their excellent performance at the Festival of Champions in Belfast Oct. 3. Bonny Eagle (91) won the girls team title by one point over Harwood Union High School of Moretown, Vermont.

Hesler (18:29.01) was the top finisher for the Scots, with a fifth place finish,

while teammates Thibodeau (19:22.04) and senior Emmaline Pendleton finished 10th and 12th respectively. Nine of 10 BE runners finished in the top 100 out of 1200 runners at the meet.

“We like this course,” Bonny Eagle coach Mike Burleson told the *Bangor Daily News* after the meet. “I think it was a good day for our girls. We didn’t have five run great, but we had a couple step up today. We had a sophomore (Thibodeau) run the best race of her life today. That’s what changed the meet right there. Everybody else ran where they should. We had two sophomores in our top five today and they were game-changers.”



These grads made us proud during their high school careers

By Zachary Myers

Bonny Eagle High School has had no shortage of talented athletes in its history. This year, during Homecoming weekend, the school added three new members to its sports Hall of Fame. The recipients were invited to the stadium field to be recognized at half time of the football game. The ceremony was held in the school library and was well attended.

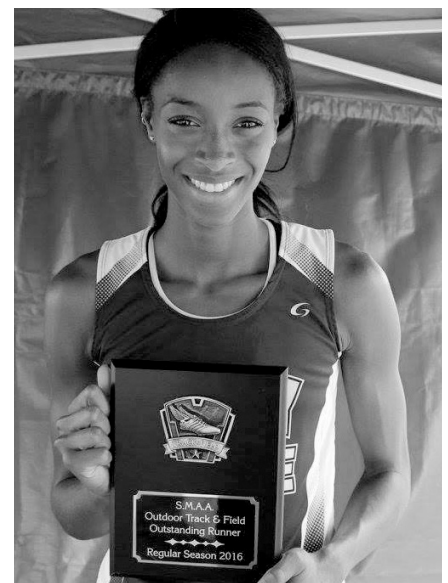
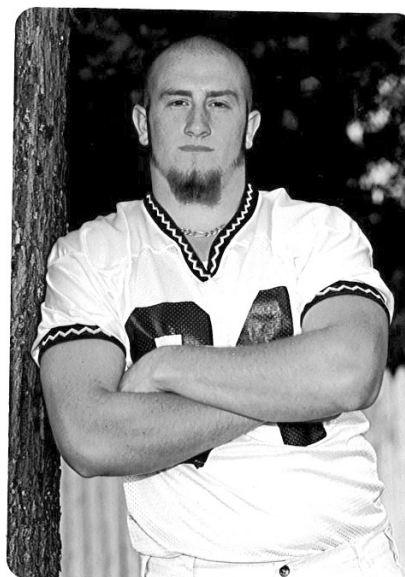
Benjamin Malloy had an outstanding four-year career in basketball at BEHS. He played basketball for four years from 2011-2015 and added football to his resume in 2013 and 2014.

Ben played on the varsity basketball team all four years, scoring 1,058 points and being named to two Southern Maine Athletic Association (SMAA) 2nd teams in 2012 and 2013, along with one SMAA 1st team in 2014.

During his two years on the football team, Ben made 27 catches and 571 yards, while also playing defensive back and snagging three interceptions. He was a 1st team All-SMAA defensive back and played in the Lobster Bowl. He also was named one of the Class A State championship team captains.

Ben went on to play basketball at St. Joseph’s College for two years. He graduated in 2019.

Josh Watson played a variety of sports for the Scots. He was a member of the football team from 1997-2000, and the wrestling team in 2000. He ran indoor track from 2000-2001, and ran outdoor track from 1998-2001. He



Ben Malloy, a member of the Class of 2015, above left, Josh Watson of the Class of 2001, center, and Elisabeth Redwood of the Class of 2001, right, were all standouts for the Scots during their high school careers.

Photos courtesy of the BE athletic department

made two SMAA 1st teams and was a two time SMAA All Academic. He even won the Gerry Raymond award in 2000, the SMMA lineman of the year and also participated in the Lobster Bowl in 2001.

Josh went on to become a professional mixed martial arts (MMA) fighter. His record from 2011 to 2013 was 6-4.

Elisabeth Redwood was a member of the Scots cross country team from 2012-2015 and on the indoor and outdoor track teams from 2012-2016. She was on both the 2013 and 2015 state championship cross country teams and also

earned numerous accolades in track.

In indoor track, she was on two SMAA All Conference 1st teams in 2014 and 2015, while also making the third team in 2013.

Elisabeth also set school records in the 200, 400, and 600 meter races, winning the 400 meter and the 200 meter state championship. In outdoor track, she made the SMAA All Conference 1st team in and set the school record for the 400 meter distance.

Elisabeth went on to run track for the University of Maine in Orono. She graduated in 2020.

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Young adult horror novel sure to scare one and all

By Amelia McAvoy

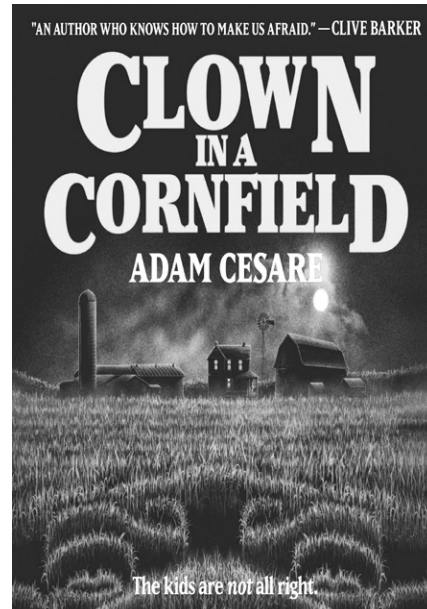
Adam Cesare's debut in young adult literature, *Clown in a Cornfield*, translates the charm of the cheesy slashers of decades past from screen to page. Despite having only been published for a little over a year, the book has generated a lot of buzz on social media. So much so, that both a sequel and a film adaptation are currently in the works.

The story follows teenage Quinn Maybrook whose father has just moved their small family of two to the remote town of Kettle Springs in hopes of a fresh start. However, Quinn does not just find a fresh start. She happens to arrive right in time for the town to be plagued by a homicidal killer masquerading as the town mascot, Frendo the Clown.

Cesare builds suspense masterfully, establishing an ominous atmosphere from the very first page. The tension and oddities of the small Missouri town provide a natural transition into the carnage. And carnage, this book is chalk

full of. Bodies drop left and right in this fast-paced slasher, and each kill is described in gory detail sure to leave even the most unfazed readers squirming. The sequences involving the clown are chilling and vivid enough for the reader to imagine as a scene straight from a horror movie.

However, while this book does horror and violence well, it lacks flowing dialogue and fleshed-out characters. The author appears as if he is trying too hard to connect with his teenage audience. Instead of helping to establish realistic, 21st century teenage characters, the use of slang and pop culture references in the dialogue actually has the opposite effect. It feels forced and creates clunky conversations between characters that take readers out of the story. As for the characters, none of them have backgrounds beyond the main character and even she, despite being given a tragic past, has no distinguishable personality. All of the characters tend to blend together which makes it difficult for the



Amazon.com photo

reader to form any sort of attachment to them or feel any emotions when they are put in mortal peril.

While this book may appear on the surface to be just a mindless bloodbath, Cesare cleverly uses the horror genre to deliver biting political commentary. He plays on the fear of the readers created by the horror aspects of the story to re-

veal the horrors of the real life political climate during the Trump era.

For some, the political undertones of the novel may be a deterrent, but the horror genre is no stranger to politics. Jordan Peele's *Get Out* received critical acclaim for its discussion about race in America. Even as far back as the 1956 film *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*, an alien thriller that echoed the McCarthyism sentiments of the era, politics intertwined itself with horror. At times the analogy did become a little too obvious, but the tie-in to real life added an even more frightening layer to the story and left the reader thinking long after the book finished about the future of politics in America.

Overall, the book was a strong three out of five stars for me. It was grisly and fast-paced, reminiscent of the classic slashers we all know and love but with very topical themes. The unremarkable characters made it hard for this book to be more than just a light, scary read for the Halloween season, but as a lifelong horror fan, that didn't stop me from enjoying it. I would recommend this book to fans of slasher movies who can appreciate the horror and bloodshed without taking it too seriously.

Predicting the award winners this season in the NFL

By Zachary Myers

With the National Football League season just beginning, it's time for some predictions on the NFL awards, where the best of the best are honored. Last year's winners included Aaron Rodgers as the MVP, Justin Herbert as the Offensive Rookie of the Year, and former quarterback Alex Smith as the Comeback Player of the Year. Here are my picks for the winners this year.

Most Valuable Player: This is the award presented to the best of the best in the NFL, and I think it will go to Buffalo Bills quarterback Josh Allen. In 2020, Allen had an MVP-worthy season in his breakout year, with 4,544 passing yards and 37 passing touchdowns. This season will be better, if that's possible. I think Allen will lead the Bills to the Super Bowl and have another fantastic season. I predict that he will be one of multiple quarterbacks with 5,000 yards and 43 touchdown passes to go along with them.

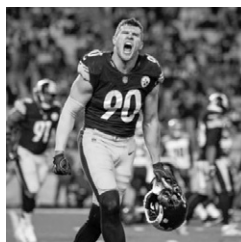
Offensive Player of the Year: Even though there is a plethora of talent to choose from, my pick for the OPOY is Cleveland Brown's running back, Nick Chubb. Most people have looked at Derrick Henry (Titans) or Christian McCaffrey (Panthers) as the best running backs but Chubb has gotten too little recognition. He was the anchor running back of the Browns offense that made the playoffs for the first time since 2003.

He has two straight 1,000-yard seasons and I believe he'll have another one, topping 1,300 yards and 14 touchdowns and another playoff berth

Defensive Player of the Year: Aaron Donald has won three of the last four years, but I think the winner this year will be T.J. Watt, a linebacker with the Pittsburgh Steelers. Watt has been arguably the second-best defensive player in the NFL in the last four years, with 49.5 sacks and 230 tackles. Even though he was the runner up the last two years, I believe he will get over the hump and win this year with a monster 18 sacks and 61 tackles

Offensive Rookie of the Year: There were lots of future potential starters in last year's draft. While I think most will have a successful rookie year, I think the best will be quarterback Trevor Lawrence of the Jacksonville Jaguars. While the Jaguars most likely won't make the playoffs, that shouldn't matter for his stats. I believe that he will hit the 3,000-yard mark with 3,563 yards and 27 touchdowns, while throwing 14 interceptions.

Defensive Rookie of the Year: While not as powerful as the offensive group of players, the rookie class of defensive players is very talented. But the best in year one will be Micah Parsons of the Dallas Cowboys. The Cowboys picked the Penn State linebacker to fix a horrible defense, and I think he'll make an



T. J. Watts



Nick Chubb



Brandon Staley



Trevor Lawrence



Saquon Barkley



Josh Allen

immediate impact, getting 98 tackles, three sacks, and an interception. While the Cowboys defense overall won't make a drastic improvement, Parsons will help

Comeback Player of the Year: The Comeback Player award is one that no one strives to win, (since it involves a career setback), but it is inspiring nonetheless. There are few choices but the winner in my mind is Saquon Barkley, a running back with the New York Giants. Barkley had a great start to his hyped career, rushing for 1,000 yards in his first two seasons. But he suffered a bad ACL tear in week two of last season, causing him to miss the rest of the year.

He is fit and healthy again and will have another great season, with 1,269 yards and 13 touchdowns rushing, along with 65 catches for 546 yards and four touchdown catches.

The **Coach of the Year** award either goes to the coach with the best team or a coach that leads a struggling team to the playoffs. I think it will be the latter as I think Brandon Staley of the Los Angeles Chargers will do a good job of fixing a struggling franchise. Staley should fix the defense as he was the defensive coordinator of the Los Angeles Rams, who had one of the best defenses under his watch. While the Chargers won't soar, they should make the playoffs.

Football returns continued from page 1

believes "football should have been allowed to play last year," and Coach Cooper agrees. "Maine was one of only four states that didn't have a [traditional] football season at any time last year." He says, "I believe that if 46 other states found a way to play, Maine could have as well."

Not being able to play any real games last year has certainly posed challenges this year. Seniors and juniors hadn't had a season since their freshman or sophomore year, meaning the majority hadn't played any varsity minutes. As Coach Cooper points out, "Football is definite-

ly a sport where cumulative experience is important. Players drastically improve from year to year. By not playing last year, we have definitely made it harder for players to make up that ground."

The hardest part of not having an official season last year, though, was having to say good-bye to the senior players who didn't have the chance to compete in their senior year. Last year's group of seniors were critical players in the 2019 state championship and not being able to defend their title was hard on both the players and coaches.

Despite last year's setbacks though,

the team has persevered. It has been a big adjustment to return to five days a week of both school and practice, but it has been nothing compared to the excitement of "being able to go out on a Friday night with the guys again and make plays while there are hundreds of people there cheering us on," says senior tight end and linebacker, Mitchell Havu.

While there have been ups and downs to this season, Mitchell says the team has been grateful to return to "working hard every day with the guys to reach [their] goals for the end of the season."

The players and coaches aren't the only ones who missed football. The entire community missed the atmosphere of Friday night football. Gabby Sawyer remarks that, "Football allows the entire Bonny Eagle community to come together to cheer on and support one team."

After winning the state championship in 2019, the team is glad for the chance to defend its title. So far, the team has a record of 4-3 and is currently ranked fifth in the Class A standings. They will finish off their regular season on Friday at home against Sanford.

We Ask BE

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What's your favorite scary movie?



"Repulsion because it's a psychological thriller."

William Travis, junior



"Rec and It [respectively]. We like scary movies because we love to feel scared." Ava Evans, junior, left, and Ember Hastings, junior.



"The Nightmare Before Christmas. It's been my favorite since I first watched it when I was 12." Carli Carman, senior



"The Conjuring. I first watched it when I was 12."

Reaghan McKinley, freshman



"Cinderella. It's scary because glass slippers are dangerous."

Malayna Hawkwell, sophomore



"Insidious because it has a good plot and good jump-scares."

Meseret Day, sophomore



"Supersize Me (a documentary) because it shows what happens to a person if they live off McDonald's for a month. I like the part when the guy's doctor says, 'Stop doing this,' and he just keeps doing it."

Mr. Williams, teacher



"Nightmare on Elm Street. Freddy Krueger is scary."

Anna White, senior



"The Mist, even though I didn't fully watch it until I was 40."

Ms. Mayberry, teacher

Photos and reporting
by Amelia McAvoy and Emily Bell