

Happy New Year from the *Eagle Times*

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Bonny Eagle High School

Standish, Maine 04084

Earning their ‘night’s repose’

By Aaliyah Paul and Rachel Craig

As students stream out of the building at 2 p.m. each day to the buses, to their jobs and to afternoon activities, six dedicated adults move against this human tide to work the night shift. They empty trash, scrub tables, and wash whiteboards and chalkboards in all 79 classrooms of Bonny Eagle High School.

Each night they clean and disinfect all 12 restrooms, as well as the 10 offices, two teachers rooms, and random alcoves, corners and crevices scattered around the building. On some days they have a special project, such as setting up the gymnasium for a spirit assembly. If the medical need arises, they go so far as to disinfect all the door knobs.

All six had other jobs before becoming custodians, from managing warehouses, to cooking at the University of Southern Maine, to potato processing and meat packing

in Aroostook County. Yet now they dedicate their nights to keeping our building clean and our students healthy.

Their night runs from 2:30 until 11:00 p.m. Each custodian is assigned an area or floor. Amanda Everett, a Bonny Eagle graduate, works the second floor of the old wing. She passes the time by listening to podcasts from National Public Radio, especially The Moth and TED Radio Hour. An avid hunter of turkey and deer, she has recently taken up fly fishing. While she sometimes finds it difficult to sleep after a night on the job, she loves the fact that working this shift leaves her days free. And each year she counts the days for hunting season to begin.

“My blind’s set up and I have a doe permit,” she declared in early November.

Like many of his colleagues, Dennis Pomerleau has been working the night shift for years in different Bonny Eagle school buildings. While he enjoys the

ability to get a lot of personal business accomplished during the daylight hours, he finds the pace of the evenings hectic, noting “there’s a lot of work and not many people.”

Before coming to work at Bonny Eagle, he worked for 36 years at Sylvania doing a little bit of everything: production, maintenance, shipping and receiving. While he enjoys listening to the Oldies as he works, he says it’s not quite as much fun as driving the forklift.

Laurie Marston has worked at BEHS for a little over a year. Previously, she worked as a cook at USM before she was laid off, and then as a nighttime custodian somewhere else for nine years.

She says the best part of her job is the people. She enjoys interacting with both students and staff once the school day is over and the pace—for everyone except the night shift custodians—is a bit less hectic. Still, she’d be even happier if all of us were a little more thought-



Crew chief Andy Bertin has been working in the Bonny Eagle school district for 19 years.
Staff photo

ful picking up our food. To pass the time she listens to ‘70s and ‘80s music on Pandora.

Andy Bertin, the crew chief, has been working in SAD 6 for 19 years. He does whatever

Night shift cont. on pg. 4

‘Twas the season for much merry-making



From Staff Reports

December events at BEHS helped put everyone in the holiday spirit before the vacation break. Above, members of the select chorus: left to right, Valerie Lind, Mikayla Freeman, March Steiger, Elizabeth Roseman, Tugg Marles, John Bonica, Lauren Esty and Madeline Love, get ready to sing during Breakfast with Santa Dec. 6.

At right, senior Julie Zampini took part in face-painting during the breakfast. At left, Mrs. Chris Curran’s homebase won the prize for best decorated door at the annual holiday talent assembly Dec. 21. This year’s theme was holiday movies. For more photos from the holiday talent show, turn to page 8. To watch video from the assembly, log onto www.behsnews.com.

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Get vaccinated!

By Elise Ruona

As winter continues, health officials are reminding parents to make sure their children's vaccinations are up to date. But a small but increasing number of people think that vaccines are dangerous, a belief that is inherently dangerous in itself and puts children, family members, and everyone else at risk.

People who avoid vaccinating their children are called anti-vaxxers. Anti-vaccination hysteria is the main cause of the resurgence of measles outbreaks plaguing the nation today. From Alaska to Illinois, from Kansas to Nevada, elementary schools and other places have had outbreaks of this highly contagious disease.

Measles, officially called Rubeola, is a disease that starts with a fever, runny nose, cough, red eyes, and a sore throat. It is followed by a terrible rash all over the body, causing immense discomfort. What makes measles so dangerous is the fact that carriers are contagious four days before the rash appears.

Anti-vaxxers apparently are convinced that the mercury within the vaccine can cause autism. This belief is so widespread in the anti-vaxxer community that there have been specific scientific studies to

look for a correlation, but none has been found.

Ironically, some cases of autism have been linked to the pregnant mother getting measles—yes, the disease that would have been cured with the vaccine.

What anti-vaxxers don't understand is that most childhood vaccines have little if any trace of mercury. According to the National Vaccine Information Center, "manufacturers began voluntarily removing Thimerosal (mercury) from pediatric vaccines around 2000. It is assumed that most pediatric vaccines containing Thimerosal were "off the shelves" by 2003."

Adult vaccines still use very minute amounts of thimerosal, and the flu vaccine still uses thimerosal in amounts that can vary.

Anti-vaxxers often use alternative medicine, essential oils, and healing crystals in place of vaccines, but in reality, these pseudo-scientific tactics don't make anything better. There is such a thing as a placebo effect, which means that if someone believes an alternative method works, it will in some cases. Still, it's quite a shame how powerful the placebo effect can be in convincing anti-vaxxers to avoid vaccinating their chil-



Creative Commons photo

dren. In fact, some essential oils may contain allergens that will only worsen a child's condition rather than improve it.

Because of these peoples' beliefs, measles have been striking back across the nation. The Center for Disease Control and Protection (CDC), reported 11 outbreaks in different parts of the country in 2018 alone. These outbreaks are primarily striking in elementary schools and amusement parks. The CDC states that "the majority of people who got measles were unvaccinated."

According to the CDC, 1.3 percent of American children are not being vaccinated, quadruple the number left unvac-

inated in 2000. The danger of leaving children unvaccinated would be worse if it weren't for so-called "herd immunity." This term refers to the fact that since most everyone around them is vaccinated, the unvaccinated are somewhat protected. Additionally, herd immunity also keeps children with cancer or other medical problems who can't get vaccinated from getting sick.

In this wintery sickness season, please get vaccinated. If not for your sake, think about the vulnerable people it could spread to. It's easy to get vaccinated. It only takes a little bit of time out of your day for a whole season of health.

Procrastination leading cause of laptop frustration

By Macey Cabral

With the school year half over, students are still adjusting to the laptop curfew that went into effect in September. Principal Mrs. Lori Napolitano explained part of the reasoning behind the decision was that many parents had sent complaints of their children staying up too late. Though the policy stems from parents' concerns, Principal Napolitano says, the "final decision was [mine]."

She also explained that the middle school laptops shut off at 10 p.m. but this seemed too early for high school students.

When students returned to school and were informed of the change, some were outraged. Senior Allie Carpine says she was offended by the policy and she thinks it is counterproductive.

"No one's going to get up at five in the morning to do work," she says.

She believes that if kids are forced to wake up earlier to finish work, it's not really helping their sleep schedule.

One freshman, Elise Ruona, says that she now has to do her work in "a rushed manner," especially on nights when she gets home late from an away game.

"It's very frustrating when you're in the middle of writing an essay or doing legitimate schoolwork and it shuts off," says Elise.

She recalled a time when she was working on a science project, but her laptop shut down before it could be completed. She said that she tried to



For some students, 11 p.m. comes way too soon. Staff photo

get up at 5 when the laptops turned back on, but she was too tired to focus, so the assignment was not finished and not turned in on time.

"And this is affecting my grades and it's very frustrating," Elise argues. "I'm not putting out the best quality work that I can because of this new rule."

Principal Napolitano states that when life interferes with schoolwork, "it's pretty rare that people have no choice."

She believes that time management is an important skill that everyone needs to have, and there should always be a way to complete schoolwork.

She says that many parents had complaints of their kids on social media or Netflix instead of going to sleep. She says that one reason for the changing of schedules is the lack of sleep many students get on a nightly basis, and this new schedule was designed to help limit that.

Sophomore Mia Kovacs, a class officer, had a somewhat philosophical outlook on the subject, pointing out some

of the unintended consequences of the curfew. Mia explained how studies have shown that "kids our age" need more sleep, and that studies have also shown that looking at a screen at night is "really bad for your sleep."

I totally agree where they're coming from," she said, "but I don't agree with the policy itself," adding that students, especially upperclassmen, are "almost adults, yet they still have to give us bedtime, which I think is ridiculous."

Mia says she and many of her peers will find other ways to get their work done, even if it's not completed by 11 p.m. "And, for a lot of people, they don't have super fancy expensive laptops they can do their work on...like, for me, we have a really old, slow laptop that crashes literally any time you try to do anything."

Mia adds that she would use her phone, but as many know, attempting to use Google Docs or Drive on one's phone can prove to be a strenuous task. Because of this, she says, any homework she doesn't finish by 11 p.m. takes longer to finish on the old, slow laptop. Thus, she has to stay up even later.

Mia says that many "kids our age" do sports, other after school activities, or have jobs, so they get home late.

"So, it's not a matter of us just procrastinating or us just wanting to watch Netflix late at night," she says.

"A lot of the times, it's good students, who are trying to do other extra curricular activities and sports and have jobs," Mia continues, "and they simply don't have the time to do all of that, and I don't think it's fair to punish those kids,

because there might have been some kids who were inappropriately using their laptops after 11 o'clock."

Research confirms that teens need 9 to 9 ½ hours of sleep each night. Spanish teacher Mr. Stephen Fox agrees, saying "It's a necessity." He said that he values sleep over getting work done because "you can't do your schoolwork effectively."

"It's very frustrating when you're in the middle of writing an essay or doing legitimate schoolwork and it shuts off."

Elise Ruona

But not all students assign the same value to a good night's sleep. Freshman Vaida Smith replied, "On a scale of 1-10, I think sleep would be an 8 ½."

Others feel that homework takes precedence over sleep, such as Elise Ruona who says, "Homework would be like 7/10 because you [have to] get that stuff done."

She explained how important school is to her, and how she's more likely to be found staying up late, finishing an assignment on her phone, as opposed to sleeping when the laptops shut off.

At this point, according to Principal Napolitano, the curfew is working so far -- at least from parents' points of view.

As for the future, "We'll have to wait and see," she says.

Comic book legend lives on in super heroes he created

Editors Note: *The Eagle Times does not often eulogize national figures upon their passing. But Stan Lee's comic book heroes are as fully-formed as many graphic novel protagonists, and they have many fans at BEHS. The following is a staff writer's tribute to his genius.*

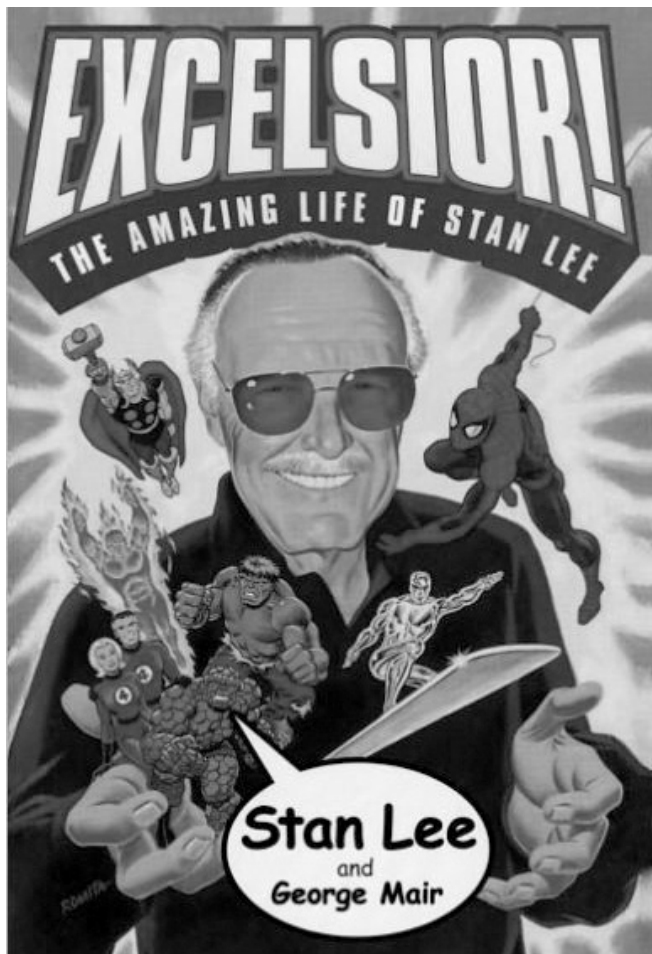
By Elizabeth St. Arnaud

While it is true to say, "not all heroes wear capes," we can certainly say that Stan Lee wore them all. As the father of Marvel Comics and the creator of many superheroes we know and love, he breathed life into a universe that we all never knew we needed. Even though he died on Nov. 12, at the age of 95, the legacy he left will never be forgotten.

On Dec. 28, 1922 Stanley Lieber was born, and his story began. His parents, Jack and Celia Lieber, were Jewish immigrants from Romania. They lived in New York City, and there, Stanley Martin Lieber began his legacy.

He graduated from high school at just 16, and got a job at Timely Comics soon after. He started out filling inkwells and erasing the stray pencil marks of other writers.

In 1942 he was promoted to editor. In that time he had begun to write comic-book



Cover art by Touchstone Publishing

scripts for Timely under the pen name, Stan Lee. He eventually changed his name legally to Stan Lee.

With every great name comes a great catchphrase. In the '60s Stan Lee wrote a monthly col-

umn in Marvel's Bullpen Bulletins newsletter. At the end of every column was the catchphrase, "Excelsior!"

As the world of Marvel evolved, Stan Lee created many characters and worlds within

Even though he died on Nov. 12, at the age of 95, the legacy he left will never be forgotten.

worlds. Many of the characters developed into teams such as the Fantastic Four, the Avengers and the X Men, teams that you may recognize from recent movies and TV shows.

The Fantastic Four is described as the first Marvel family. Lee created this group with artist Jack Kirby in 1961. According to their back story, a group of people were exposed to cosmic rays during a scientific mission to outer space, and after, they gained superhero abilities. They didn't fall under the stereotype of normal superheroes. They often had problems we humans can relate to. Even though this "family" is a bit dysfunctional at times, they all are very close.

Ever been bitten by a radioactive spider? Well Peter Parker, an avid science admirer, was. But be careful, not everyone develops arachnid powers. Spiderman was created just a year later in 1962 with the help of artist Steve Ditko. The idea behind Spiderman was to create a hero that people could find relatable and that has certainly been the case.

Don't you just hate it when you are exposed to gamma rays during the detonation of an experimental bomb and turn into a green monster that yells "Hulk smash!"? Maybe an even more relatable character created was the Hulk/Bruce Banner. Bruce Banner was a physically weak, but strong-minded scientist. Just be careful you don't put him under emotional stress, or compare him to the Jolly Green Giant; you might be surprised when a much more aggressive green giant smashes the can of green beans on your head.

Red hair counts as being a mutant right? So that basically means it counts as having the X gene? Being a Mutant in this case is referring to the subspecies of humans who were born with superhuman abilities thanks to the X Gene. Originally, there were the X Men who are led by Charles Xavier (also known as Professor X). Lee created them in 1963 with the help of Jack Kirby.

Of course there was more to Stan Lee than just his magnificent comic book creations. He

Stan Lee cont. of page 7

Select Chorus planning, practicing for return to Disney World

By Elise Ruona

After a two year hiatus, Bonny Eagle High School's Select Chorus will return to Disney World to sing in the streets, bathe in the sun, and sport those iconic Mickey Mouse hats. When they went to Disney two years ago during April vacation, they placed first in their group and third overall.

During the upcoming trip to Disney in April, it will be interesting to see if this mostly new roster of members can live up to the last group's success.

Chorus director Mr. Allen Thomas says it will be a trip to remember for all those involved.

"I still have students coming back saying it was the best thing they did in high school," he says.

The Select Chorus is doing plenty of fundraising to help pay for the trip, which runs at a steep price. To try and lessen the load, group members have been selling candy bars, as well as discount cards for Maine businesses.

They also gathered donations at the polls on election day, Nov. 6, and have a box for donations at Plummers Market. Additionally, in February they will have a spaghetti dinner and music show, during which chorus members will perform.

According to Mr. Thomas, the BE Select Chorus will spend six nights and seven days at Disney World in Orlando doing three main activities: an adjudicated event, workshops, and hopefully, a live performance. The adjudicated event is one in which choruses from around the country gather and compete against each other. The participating choruses are separated into groups



Members of the Bonny Eagle High School chorus were the hit of the show during the recent holiday assembly.

Staff photo

based on number of people, where they are scored by judges. Lastly, the group will participate in three workshops, where Disney musical experts will work with members and critique their work.

Mr. Thomas said these workshops were "similar to what you would do if you were to audition to work for them."

The last event is the live performance, which Mr. Thomas hopes will take place at Downtown Disney. However, he says that "it's a very busy weekend, and we're already doing those other things, so it may not fit in."

Going to Disney World for this music festival will not only provide experience for all the members of 2018's Select Chorus, it will also build a team, Mr.

Thomas explained.

"We're a young chorus, so ... we're going to be together for another two or three years," he said, "and that just helps build up good times together, working together, hanging out together."

The BE Select Chorus has been holding extra rehearsals every week from the second week of November, and will continue until April vacation. Mr. Thomas praises the group members for their dedication.

"If you don't think singing well takes hard work, then you've probably never been in a chorus where you care about doing well," he says. "If you're doing it well and you're taking it seriously, it is very hard work."

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goings on
at Bonny Eagle
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Features

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Experiencing life in America, Bonny Eagle style



From staff reports

They have come from Chile, Brazil, Germany, Italy, South Africa, Japan, South Korea and Spain.

Despite their different backgrounds, this year's group of exchange students at Bonny Eagle share a number of characteristics: a love of languages and learning, and the desire to challenge themselves in a new environment.

On the following page, you will find profiles of five of this year's class of exchange students, interviewed by the editors of *The Eagle Times*. We think you will find there's a lot we can learn about ourselves from their observations.

Back row, left to right, Joen Jungyu, Makhosazana Maphalala (Khosi), Johanna Winkler, Mat Mendes Pinotti, Ilenia De Lucia, and Antonia Tapia. Front row, left to right, Yune Sawamukai, Nicole Oliveira, and Yoonji Jo. Missing from the photo is Adolfo Gatelli Riquelme.

Photos by Athen Hollis.

Night shift continued from page 1

work needs to be done, from mowing lawns in the summer to clearing icy walkways in winter.

Before working the night shift here at BEHS, Andy worked as a carpenter and apple orchard pruner. While he likes working the night shift, he doesn't enjoy being away from his family during the evening hours. He has two granddaughters, and his girlfriend has a son as well.

He says the strangest thing he has ever encountered while working was "romantic involvement." Unfortunately, he declined to elaborate. He claims the most irritating aspects of his job are bathroom and locker room messes, including deodorant fights and paper towel 'mayhem.' However, there are pros to the job. He enjoys interacting with staff and students after school hours when they have down time to relax versus the rush of the school day when they have no time to chat. He listens to 103.3 HEB on Mr. Zimmer's radio to pass the time. One thing he wishes to address is "sometimes it can be a little bit hard when somebody tries to get you for something when you're in the middle of something else."

David Ouellette has been working as a custodian for five years. Four of those years as a custodian were spent in Hollis; this is his very first year as a custodian at BEH.

Before he started work as a custodian, he worked in the Press company. David says that getting home late is the worst part of his job. When he gets home he can't go right to sleep despite all of the work he has done, so he unwinds by sitting on the couch and watching sports news.

His favorite of the job is that "Nobody is in [their] way at night," making cleaning much easier. One thing he wishes people understood was, "how hard we work." Something that really annoys him is, "When kids dirty stuff up after it just got cleaned but that's

gonna happen."

The weirdest thing he's seen is a snake, which he had to pick up and throw back outside. Unlike his colleagues, he doesn't listen to music while working, preferring to focus on the task at hand.

Lisa Shannon, another night shift custodian, says that the typical night looks like, "just a whole lot of cleaning and whatever else needs to be done."

She has been working as a custodian for 15 years, 12 of those in the neighboring town of Gorham and three in the MSAD 6 school system. This is her first year at BEHS.

Before she became a custodian, she worked potato processing and meat packing jobs, and as a floor technician for Servicemaster at grocery stores. She says that during all of her years at Gorham as a custodian, her shift was during the day. She misses interacting with the kids, but now that she has the night shift, she enjoys how things that she has cleaned stay clean for longer. Another thing she enjoys is that she has all day to do whatever she pleases.

Her least favorite thing is not being able to interact with the kids while she works. She said that it's fun to talk to them during the day and see how their days are going and cheer them up when they're down.

Another thing that she doesn't really like about being a night shift custodian is that the kids don't get to know them, so they might not respect them as much or be as friendly. On a funny note, the strangest thing Lisa has found while working as a custodian are live fish in a toilet. "Does anybody have a fishing pole?" She laughed. Soon after, a student removed the fish, and from there she doesn't know what happened to the fish. And lastly, Lisa says that to pass the time she listens to, "classic rock, especially on Fridays Joe Walsh & life's been good. It has a great beat."



Above, Amanda Everett gets ready to clean Room 205. At left, Dennis Pomerleau finishes up his first floor, old wing cleanup duties.

Staff photos

At 11:00 p.m. a primal scream blankets the towns of SAD 6 as student laptops automatically shut off; a quieter sigh escapes the lips of the night shift custodians as their workday comes to an end.

The floors are clean, the boards washed, the bathrooms disinfected. Or, as Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote of The Village Blacksmith;

"Toiling,--rejoicing,--sorrowing,
Onward through life [they go];
Each morning sees some task begin,
Each evening sees it close
Something attempted, something done,
Has earned a night's repose."

A world of differences to explore this year

By Brenna Finn

Several months ago, junior Ilenia De Lucia was spending most of her free time studying back home; now she attends Bonny Eagle High School as a foreign exchange student.

Ilenia came here from a city in Italy called Verona. She arrived in the U.S. for the first time at the end of the summer, giving her time to get to know her host family before school started.

Back in Verona, Ilenia's daily routine consisted of school in the morning, napping when she got home, and school work in the evening. She spent time with her friends on Saturdays and with her family on Sundays.



Ilenia is enjoying indoor track season.

The 17-year-old exchange student is a member of the indoor track team here at BEHS. Ilenia also participated in cross country during the fall. In Verona, she was involved with dance.

"I wanted to try to do something we didn't have," she said about her new activities.

Not surprisingly, Ilenia has found lots of differences between life in America and Italy. For instance, her hometown is very different from the woods and trees of Standish; Verona, she says, contains mostly buildings and more shopping areas. She was baffled by the lack of stores and meeting places when she first

got here.

"Portland is more similar to where I live," she says. "You can walk around (there)."

Verona is also a year-round tourist attraction, so Ilenia says it is weird not to see many tourists in this part of Maine.

Another difference is the relationship between students and teachers. The teachers in Italy are stricter, she says. Ilenia also likes that we have more chances to improve on schoolwork, which is not the case in Italian schools.

So far, Ilenia says she has enjoyed her experience here. She loves attending her classes and meeting new people.

Excited to pursue passion for photography during exchange

By Brenna Finn

Although junior Antonia Tapia, one of Bonny Eagle High School's newest foreign exchange students, has only been in America since September, she has adjusted to her new life in the states nicely. The 17-year old has made new friends with students and has attended many classes of her personal interests.

Antonia is from a city in Chile called Rancagua. Her hometown is one hour away from Santiago, Chile's capital and largest city.

Antonia says Rancagua is very similar to Portland. She is used to living in a more city-based environment than she is encountering at BEHS. She is also used to having a balance between both buildings and a countryside, like our largest city in Maine.

Back in Rancagua, Antonia lived with her parents and 14-year old brother. She says she enjoyed the nice get togethers her family would have in the evening at the end of a school or work day. They usually occurred around 8 or 9 at night. Antonia and her family would join each other in their backyard and talk about life.

"Parents have a glass of wine. I have a glass of Coke," she comments.

Antonia's school system in Chile is very different from the systems in America. At her school, the students wear uniforms, unlike Bonny Eagle.

"I like wearing my own clothes more than uniforms. I wonder what I will wear the next day," she explains.

In Chile, Antonia's classes are picked for her, so she doesn't have much of a



Antonia has adjusted nicely to BEHS.

choice. An aspect about BEHS that Antonia enjoys is that students have more say and freedom in what classes to take.

Antonia has also been able to take a class that she is very interested in, photography. Her school didn't provide the subject, and she would have had to pay a lot more money to pursue this passion. She is thankful that the foreign exchange student program allowed her the opportunity to take the course.

Antonia has enjoyed her time at BEHS so far and she is planning on coming back to America in the future.

"I would definitely come back to America for vacation and to visit host families," she said.

She would also like to visit America to get a doctoral degree after she goes to college in Chile for her Master's.

Making new friends makes it worthwhile

By Athen Hollis

Johanna Winkler is from Munich, a city in southern Germany. In her free time she enjoys horseback riding and boxing.

Johanna is fluent in German, English, French, and she is learning Italian. She decided she wanted to become an exchange student after talking to friends who had done so. She says it was hard to leave home, but her experience so far has been great.

Johanna is only staying half the school year and will leave before the end of the second trimester. She says the best thing she has done here in America has been joining the soccer team.

She "met a lot of new people that became close friends," and she predicts that she will "most definitely" come back to the U.S. to visit friends.

Johanna says she had always heard how open Americans are, so she was surprised to find them more reserved



Johanna will be heading home soon.

than expected. For Johanna, the hardest thing to get used to has been living with a new family.

"You live with your parents your whole life and then suddenly move in with a new family that has different rules, beliefs, etc," she explains. "It is weird."

Challenging herself to explore and learn

By Athen Hollis

Makhosazana Maphalala, or Khosee, is an exchange student from South Africa staying with chorus teacher Mr. Allen Thomas and his family.

She comes from Soweto and is fluent in English, Afrikaans, and Zulu. She understands the other nine languages spoken in South Africa but is completely fluent in three.

Khosee wanted to come to America to learn a different culture and teach those in the U.S. about her culture. She really likes her experience so far.

"It's good and challenging at the same time," she says. "It challenges your beliefs: what you've learned your whole life vs. what kids in the U.S. have been taught their whole life."

During her stay, Khosee is really excited to be going to DisneyWorld in Florida. She also is looking forward to seeing Harvard University in Cambridge.

So far she has most enjoyed meeting people, getting out of her comfort zone,



Khosi prefers face-to-face interactions.

and trying new things she wouldn't have tried back home.

The only thing she doesn't like about America is that the "people aren't as connected. They converse over their phones." She doesn't "like how society is built here over a phone rather than talking face to face."

When she goes home after this school year, she will be excited to reflect on "who I was before and after the exchange."

Looking forward to skiing and snowboarding

By Athen Hollis

Mahteus, known to many as Mat, is from the sunny city of São Paulo, Brazil. He speaks English, Portuguese, and understands some Spanish. Mat has only been speaking English for one year; he started learning from American music and television.

"The reason why I wanted to come to America is because I really like the culture here," he says. "English is the most important language in the world, and I would like to learn more. I also want to live here some day, in Florida."

Mat is here at Bonny Eagle for the

whole school year. He says it was very hard to leave home because "I miss my friends and family. It's hard because when you come and you don't speak a lot of English and if people don't understand you, you have no one to help you."

Even though coming to America was hard, he really likes his experience so far. He is excited about seeing snow for the first time and hopefully learning how to ski and snowboard.

"I think learning another culture and another language, and talking to different people in another language is the



"Mat" is enjoying winter in Maine.

best part of my experience so far," he says.

The biggest difference between here and home for Mat is that people in Brazil are more friendly. They want to talk to you more.

At the same time, he does have a very positive outlook on his experience, saying, "I don't have one thing I really don't like. I have hard situations but they are just situations."

Mat expects that he will return to the U.S. once he finishes school in Brazil.

"I hope so, I really want to. I want to move to Florida and go to college there," he says.

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Drama club starts things off with *The Tempest*



In a scene from *The Tempest*, shipwrecked sailors ponder their next move. Left to right, Channing Webber as Alonso, Xavier Walker as Gonzalo, Lucas Paul as Adrian, Sarah Durocher as Sebastian, Tyler (Kady) Murphy as Francisco, and Maddie Chayer as Antonio. Photos courtesy of Mr. Rick Osann.

From staff reports

Bonny Eagle High School's Drama Club staged a well-attended enactment of William Shakespeare's classic, *The Tempest* in early November.

The Tempest was Shakespeare's last play and many believe it presents his farewell to the Globe Theatre and to his career as a playwright and maker of magic.

The cast, made up mostly of underclassmen, gained confidence over the course of the three performances.

Preceding the play, theater goers took part in an Elizabethan dinner put on by the BE Swim Team. The menu included Prospero's Cider Pot Roast, Falstaff's Favorite Mashed Potatoes, Cleopatra's Carrots, and a selection of puddings and pies.

Next up in the Bourgoin Auditorim on Jan. 25-26 will be the third annual BE Idol Talent Competition.

From March 1-2, the Drama Club will perform two one act plays: "Waiting for Lefty" by Clifford Odets, and "Everybody Gets Eaten by Sharks" by Marshall Paillet. One of these plays will be entered in the state's annual Tournament of One-Act plays.

Closing out the season, the Drama Club will perform its annual spring musical, a send-off for seniors in the cast and crew. This year's musical, *Guys and Dolls*, will take place from May 9-11.

Put these dates on your calendar and keep your ears open for announcements about auditions and dress rehearsals.

To view a slideshow of photos from *The Tempest*, log onto www.behsnews.com



At left, Sabrina Cable, as Ariel, comforts Jacinda Eisenhauer as Prospero.



At left, Ella Tillo as Miranda and Brian Wakem as Caliban confront each other.

Highly-anticipated sequel lives up to the hype, sort of

By Macey Cabral

For months, the trailers teased with snippets of the highly-anticipated, second installment in J.K. Rowling's *Fantastic Beasts* series.

Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald, directed by David Yates and based on the characters and screenplay created by Rowling, officially debuted on Nov. 16 in the U.S. While it doesn't quite match the first for several reasons, it has done almost as well at the box office and is a film worth seeing.

The film kicks off with the escape of Gellert Grindelwald (Johnny Depp), on a mission to bring pure blood wizards to power. From there, several subplots are introduced, some involving familiar characters, and others not, making for quite the involved storyline. To really understand everything that goes down in *Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald*, you may have to fire up the home theater and microwave some popcorn for more than one viewing.

Despite the complexity of the multi-



Newt Scamander, played by Eddie Redmayne, is able to calm the Zouwu and enlist the beast's aid in battling the film's villains. asiaone.com photo

ple plots, there is much to enjoy: action, comedy, romance, magic, and beasts are constant throughout, embellished with marvelous special effects.

Unfortunately, the sheer lack of beasts compared to the first film, *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, was

a bit disappointing; overall, I prefer the first to the second because of the seemingly endless cast of beastly characters.

However, the beasts that did show, in this installment, particularly the Kelpie and the Zouwu, were just as stupendous, if not more so than the creatures that ap-

peared in the preliminary.

The Zouwu in particular, is a gigantic Chinese creature that escapes from the Circus Arcanus in Paris and can travel up to 1,000 miles in a day. Newt Scamander (Eddie Redmayne) is able to calm the wild beast and Zouwu becomes an important character, willing to help Newt and his friends when they fall victim to the villains in the story.

As mentioned earlier, plot twists abound. The reasons for Newt's recruitment by Albus Dumbledore (Jude Law) to hinder Gellert Grindelwald's (Johnny Depp) success, are revealed towards the end of the film in somewhat of a plot twist.

The movie concludes with yet another twist that will leave fans holding their breath for a third installment in the series.

It's to be hoped that part three will tie up some enthralling loose ends left behind in the wake of *Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald*.

Making BE proud on the field and in the classroom

By Athen Hollis

Two Bonny Eagle High School seniors, Sydney Gillingham and Aidan McGlone, earned distinctive honors for combining academic excellence with athletic achievement this past fall.

Sydney Gillingham, the soccer team's goalie this past season, was named the Southern Maine Athletic Association student athlete of the year. This award isn't just among the girls soccer player but among the whole SMAA league.

Mr. Eric Curtis, Bonny Eagle Athletic Director, says the one word that describes Sydney best is "dedicated."

Sydney says her busy schedule has forced her to manage her time well.

"As many other athletes/people who partake in a full time activity will tell you, playing a sport or being a part of something incredibly time consuming forces you to have good time management skills," she says. "There's no time to procrastinate as the only free time you have is the only time you legitimately have to get school work done."

Sydney has always dreamed of playing soccer in college, so that also has forced her to keep her academics up. She says a fair number of colleges showed interest in recruiting her. While she hasn't made a decision yet, she hopes to study athletic training and play soccer at the University of New England.

"We'll see what the future holds for me," she says.

Senior Aidan McGlone was recently added to WCSH6 News Center Maine's Varsity club. This is a high honor, as only one high school athlete a week is chosen and becomes eligible for the Bruce Glasier scholarship.

Football coach Kevin Cooper nominated Aidan for the Varsity Club. He says Aidan is "The 21st century football player: a great student, tough football player, considerate and caring of others off the field. He's what we should all aspire to be."

Aidan, who also plays lacrosse in the spring, is a member of BE's Unified basketball team and volunteers every



Above, Aidan McGlone, #58, closes in for the tackle during an early season game. Photo courtesy of Keepmecurrent.com. At right, Aidan at a recent school assembly. He is happy to be third in his class academically. Staff photo



Above, senior soccer goalie Sydney Gillingham is the SMAA's student-athlete of the year. Above, in center of photo Sydney hopes to play soccer at the college level next fall. Staff photos



year in the Special Olympics. He says his inspiration is his brother Tegan, who was born with Downs Syndrome.

Aidan is ranked third in the senior class and he has never gotten a single B. During his interview with WCSH-6 Aidan said he would like to be at the top

spot but his soft-spoken manner makes him more than satisfied with his place.

"I'll be fine with third just because I don't want to give a speech at graduation because I am not very good at public speaking."

After high school Aidan plans to go

to college for civil or mechanical engineering. Mr. Curtis says Aidan is hard-working and he will be great at anything he does.

What makes Aidan stand out, Mr. Curtis said, is "his willingness to help out and his grades obviously."

Spiderverse is animation at its very best

By Dillon Hiltz

Spider-Man: Into the Spiderverse, a film by Sony and Marvel, was released in December and immediately took the top spot at the box office with \$35 million in its first weekend. The movie also earned a 98% rating on Rotten Tomatoes, which accounts for its continued popularity.

The story centers around Miles Morales, your average high school teen going about his average life. But when he is bitten by a radioactive spider in the abandoned subway station, everything changes. Meeting characters we have not yet seen on the big screen, Miles must team up with his fellow spider-men to defeat the evil Kingpin.

While I was expecting an average animated movie, this film surprisingly blew my mind, and that's saying something. Nothing Sony Animation has produced has come even close to this movie in overall quality. The art is interesting, it has a great soundtrack, and there are really important lessons about loss, family, and taking a leap of faith.

The action was also very well executed. It was like you could feel every punch and kick, and I saw this in a regu-



Jake Johnson plays Spiderman in this version of the Marvel Comics classic. Sony Pictures photo

lar theater, not in an IMAX.

In other Sony movies, I've noticed problems with character development. For example, the characters in the *Hotel Transylvania* movies (which actually weren't that bad), *The Emoji Movie*, and the *Open Season* movies all lacked depth. What surprised me while watching this movie was how I felt Miles Morales was an actual person. He really showed his emotions and I give serious props to Sony for that because they did a great job.

The only bad thing about this movie — though I feel bad saying there's anything wrong with this movie — is that the art style was sometimes a little too much.

There were a lot of flashing lights and bright colors featured in the movie, and at times I wanted to look away because it strained my eyes so much. But of course, these instances were rare overall, and the rest of the movie was easy on the eyes.

Overall, I give this movie a 9.2 out of 10. It was easily one of the best *Spider-Man* movies and won't disappoint any superhero/comic fans. It may be the best animated movie of 2018.

Stan Lee continued from page 3

served in the Army in 1942 in the training film division.

There, he wrote training films, film scripts, posters, and instructional manuals. Working with him was (not one fish, or even two fish, maybe a blue fish), but Dr. Seuss!, aka Theodor Seuss Geisel.

Lee married Joan Lee and together they had two daughters, Joan Celia (JC) and Jan Lee.

He wrote an autobiography, *Excelsior! The Amazing Life of Stan Lee*, and he even had his own show, *Stan Lee's Superhumans*, a documentary TV series that ran on the History Channel from 2010 to 2014.

No super-hero fan will ever forget Nov. 12, 2018, the day our hero passed (darn you Thanos!).

Stan Lee will forever be an inspiration to many, and a father of all the stories we hold close to our hearts. It is now up to us to keep this planet entertained with imagination and creativity.

Excelsior!

Plenty of talent at the holiday assembly



Dominic the Italian Christmas Donkey giving two thumbs up at the annual holiday assembly the day before vacation.



The Select Chrous performed several Christmas carols at the assembly. The members pictured here are, top row, left to right: Sameena Flinner, Jacob Varney, and Channing Webber. Front row, left to right: Lauren Esty and Mikayla Freeman.

Staff Photos



Senior Keelin Sweeney singing “When the Party’s Over” by Billie Eilish.



Zavier Walker playing the guitar and singing “Africa” by Toto during his amusing duet with Channing Webber (below).



Kianna Hubbard singing “Creep” by Radiohead.



Channing Webber playing the keyboard while performing “Africa” by Toto.