





# Ohio State attack raises concern over security

by Khadega Mohammed and Rachel Quigley  
Staff Writers

The recent stabbing that took place on the campus of Ohio State University hit close to home for Canton senior Olivia Zander.

Zander was visiting the university when the attack took place.

“We were sitting in a classroom in Hagerty Hall going through a presentation with two tour guides when they stopped and said that they were just given notice that there was an active shooter on campus,” said Zander.

Zander never imagined she would ever be in such a situation.

“One of the moms of another student on the tour was a teacher and she immediately took over the situation. She told us to barricade the door with desks, turn off the lights, and move to the corner,” said Zander. “Because she took control, she eased my fear.”

Zander said the incident was “one of the scariest times in my life because no one really knew what was going on or where it was all taking place. We just knew that we needed to sit there and stay quiet until everything was under control.”

Zander said this decision did not change her desire to attend the school, even though she did not get to finish the tour.

Plymouth senior Kristen Bechtel, who was recently accepted to the university, said, “My mom is worried about campus safety wherever I decide to go to college and [this attack started] to make me think more about it. We keep seeing violence on campuses all across the country and I don't really see an end coming to it anytime soon.”

The attack, injuring 11, was carried out by a suspect identified as Abdul Razak Ali Artan. According to NBC News, the morning of the attack he bought a knife and published a Facebook post relating to ISIS.

Artan, 18, was a student at Ohio State. Authorities believe that he was inspired by ISIS and deceased Yemeni-American clerk, Anwar al-Awlaki.

To OSU Freshman and Salem graduate, Javier Diaz, the incident was a call to reality. “Mass murders or attempts at them are seen all the time on the news, but you always think ‘it wouldn't ever happen over here,’ but in this case it did,” said Diaz. “It was sad that the perpetrator was a student here at the university, because it makes you think that you can't even trust your fellow students.”

Although the incident happened at his own school, Diaz is reassured that the campus is still safe. “Even with what happened, I still feel safe here, and I am positive that the likelihood of a situation like this repeating itself here is low.”

Although none were killed, the alarming rise of violence on college campuses has caused



Photo by Grace Grelak

Canton senior Olivia Zander shares her experience visiting Ohio State University.

some concern for P-CEP’s students who plan on attending not only OSU, but other major institutions as well.

However, for Plymouth senior Logan Tennis, the stabbing did not alter his decision of wanting to attend the university.

“I’d still be interested in attending a college even after that [sort of incident]. Hate and violence can be found anywhere and everywhere,” said Tennis, “we shouldn’t shy away from a place, event, or ideology because of fear, because then terrorism truly wins.”

## Plymouth students go green

by Mary Pettovello  
Features Editor

Plymouth Student Council Class of 2017 is collecting recyclable material from classrooms in Plymouth for their school service project.

After school on Tuesdays, you’re sure to see them going about school with discarded bottles and paper in tow. The money collected from the bottles will go towards their Adopt-A-Family fund this Christmas.

“We haven’t collected near enough money to cover that expense,” said Tim Nadon, adviser to the Plymouth Student Council. “We hope that by the end of the school year we will be able to repay ourselves.”

Plymouth Senior Student Council co-president, Cequoia Bobee, said they will need to “dip into funds in order to have \$400 to adopt the family.”

The student council chose recycling for their student service project since no one was collecting the recyclables in Plymouth this year.

“Plymouth-Canton is always teaching us to recycle but no one is picking it up. They’re practically being hypocritical since they say to recycle but in reality, they’re not giving us the resources to do it,” said Claudia Saveski, Plymouth senior and Student Council co-president.

“We are looking for anyone else that would like to join Council in order to help clean the school up,” said Bobee. Students can also contribute by placing recycled material in their classroom recycling bins and teachers by placing their paper and bottle bins outside classrooms every Tuesday after school, allowing the Student Council to come by and gather the recyclables.

“That returnable bottle in your hand will be used to brighten a local family’s Christmas,” said Nadon. “Be sure to place it in the recycling bin.”

## Canton cop resigns after Facebook post

by Conner Riedel  
Staff Writer

Canton Police officer Kenneth Kleszcz resigned from the department after being suspended with pay on Nov. 11. Kleszcz allegedly posted the comment “GO HOME MONKEYS” on his Facebook during a live streaming of an anti-Trump protest in Baltimore.

Deputy Director Chad Bough said, “This incident is not reflective on the department and it's disappointing, but we are just turning the page.”

Kleszcz joined the Detroit Police Department on July 23, 2013 and left in May 2015 when he joined the Canton Police Department. Kleszcz was suspended with pay immediately after the department was made aware of the Facebook post. The department was made aware of the post by the Detroit Police Department.

An internal investigation was launched but ended when Kleszcz made the decision to resign, thereby avoiding the due process hearing that would have determined his future with the department.

Bough said, “Everyone has their first amendment rights, but you can’t bring disrepute to this organization.” He added, “You can post what you want, but you can't make us look bad as an organization.”

Bough also said that if there is lesson to be learned, it is to remember that everyone can see what you post on social media.

# Schedule changes affect grading deadlines

by Rachel Quigley  
Staff Writer

For years, students have looked forward to the Friday off after an exhausting finals week. But students will no longer have that luxury. For the 2016-2017 year, finals for the first semester are on January 25, 26 and 27. Those days fall on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Typically, finals are on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, with Friday being a records day to allow teachers to grade.

The calendar for this year was negotiated between the Plymouth Canton Education Association (PCEA), the union representing Plymouth-Canton teachers, and Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. According to Bob Williams, president of the PCEA, state law dictated that five days must be added to the 2016-2017 school year.

“Those days were agreed to be added as three days of attendance on Feb. 22, Feb. 23 and Feb. 24, and one day added at the end of each semester,” said Williams.

Instead of having students go to school the day after finals to start the new semester, the board moved the finals to the last three days of the week, in order to start fresh on the upcoming Monday.

Williams said that teachers have lost a portion of their grading/records time and mentioned that

grade deadlines are currently being discussed.

As a result, P-CCS has lost its full one week mid-winter break, and instead has a long four-day week-end.

Surrounding districts, such as Northville, have not had a full week mid-winter break in a very long time. P-CCS was one of the only districts in Michigan to still have the full week off.

Canton English teacher Larry Francis said, “This change affects us because teachers may not be able to give finals that involve heavy reading. We may have to adjust the type of test we give to a Scantron in order to meet the deadline on time.”

Teachers who typically give multiple choice finals should not be heavily impacted by this change. However, for teachers like Francis, they may not be able to test the way they have in the past.

For freshmen, sophomores and juniors, finals will fall on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for second semester on June 14, 15 and 16.

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# Park Cubans react to Castro’s death

by Jordyn Kuchka  
Business Manager

To many Cubans, Fidel Castro’s death on Nov. 26 was a day of celebration that had been awaited for a long time. It is a weight off the shoulders of many, including some of the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park’s Cuban-American students.

Salem senior and Cuban-American Daniel Diaz said, “It was a celebration because of how much my family struggled back in Cuba, such as our farms were taken away just simply for his benefit, but now that he is dead, he does not have that power anymore. My grandma called my parents in the middle of the night just to tell them how happy she was about his death.”

Isabel Soberal, a Cuban-American Plymouth senior, said his death feels like justice for the people. She reflected on some of her family’s struggles under the Castro regime. “My mom and her family are from there and came here when she was eight. When she was there it was a communist regime. There were just huge lines to wait for basic necessities like shoes, and things that you need to be replaced pretty regularly just weren’t. People would stand in these lines all day long and just wait and wait. It sounded horrible,” said Soberal.

Soberal said she believes this will be the end of the old and start of a new era.

Soberal’s family was one of the few able to successfully flee to the United States, but not before paying a price and dealing with punishment from the Cuban government due to their expression of distaste of Castro and the country’s current state.

Soberal said, “[My grandfather] was sent away to a work camp about a year before they got news they were going to get to leave. He was sent to ‘El Campo’ to cut sugar cane because once the government finds out you don’t support Castro, they obviously don’t like that. If they find out the people that want to leave,



Photo by Jordyn Kutch

they send them to the camps. My grandmother was left alone to take care of my mom. They had to fend for themselves. She stepped up to provide for them. She started selling cakes and whatever she could make on the streets. My mom says how miraculous it was that they actually made it through.” Soberal grew up hearing the stories of Castro’s horrors and tyranny all her life, so the celebration after his death was huge.

The U.S. had an embargo on Cuba for more than half a century due to the Cuban Missile Crisis as well as Castro’s nationalization of all U.S.-owned businesses, including oil refineries, factories and casinos. The embargo, however, was lifted in July

2015.

Soberal also shared her thoughts on Cuban progress. “The younger generations are trying to move forward which should help the progress, but you can’t just forget the past very easily. However, I don’t think much will change in the country until there is a completely new face and the Castro family is completely gone from power. I just do not see any radical change until then,” she said.

Contrarily, Diaz said he believes more problems will come about from this. “His brother Raúl will become even more like his brother due to how people are reacting to Fidel’s death.” As far as relations with the U.S. go, he says it all depends on Raúl; relations could be stronger than ever, or even worse than they were before.

Seeing the end was near, Castro had spent his last years planning what he hoped would be the future assurance of his communist regime. While power now falls in the hands of his younger brother, Raúl Castro, the future of Cuba still has hope of progress and achieving the freedom they deserve, and spirits are still strong within the Cuban people.

## The books are back continued from A1

The Perspective attempted to contact all middle school teachers regarding the new change and any novels they plan to teach this year, but none responded. One teacher initially agreed to respond but backed down citing her fear of losing her job.

In Elaster’s email she said, “In October you [teachers] all were asked to help develop the criteria that would be used in the selection of the novels that would be aligned to the curriculum. Since these directions were issued, however, we have heard from many teachers who feel that the novels

that have traditionally been used in the middle school are linked to and support the Rubicon ELA curriculum,”

Hunter said he was disappointed in the message in The Perspective’s Nov. 18 article. He was concerned that the article indicated novels in the middle schools were never going to return and that teachers were blindsided with the current process in place. He also said, however, that he had not read the article.

## What is Rubicon Atlas? continued from A1

The Perspective reached out to Kay Elaster, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning for P-CCS. She said that Rubicon Atlas is a “systematic process for meaningfully documenting and discussing the real curriculum that is taught in our classrooms on a daily basis.” She added that it is a “reality-based record of the content that is actually taught, for how long it is taught, and how aligned it is to the district’s assessment program.”

Elaster said that Rubicon Atlas has allowed the district to create a “viable, reality-based curriculum” that matches the Michigan Academic Standards and helps student academic achievement.

As for Rubicon Atlas’s current use in the P-CCS district, Elaster said, “Currently it is being used to house the K-10 ELA curriculum.” The goal for this year is to develop the K-12 mathematics curriculum.

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# Should the government recognize religious holidays?

No

by Omar Abdel Baqui

The United States is a nation with an abundance of different religions and beliefs. Some Americans believe in God, some believe in multiple gods and some believe in no God at all. The first amendment in the Constitution states, “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.” The Establishment Clause prohibits the government from preferring one religion over the other. The Constitution was not made for us to step on and disregard; it was made to respect and follow. God is mentioned on our currency, God is mentioned in our Pledge of Allegiance, God is mentioned in our judicial system and God is mentioned in our schools. Since the Constitution states that the US is strictly a secular state, any mention of God in school, government or anything related to the public should not be permitted.

The Treaty of Tripoli states that “the Government of the United States of America is not, in any sense, founded on the Christian religion.” So, if the

government claims to have no affiliation with any religion, why is it that some public government meetings, particularly in the South, begin with a prayer, often specifically mentioning Jesus Christ? One might say that “it’s harmless to pray,” but that is simply not the case. Prayer in a public setting may offend many people, especially if the prayer directly references a specific God.

In the P-CCS district, two weeks are given off for Christmas and a week is given off for Easter; the breaks are masked as “winter break” and “spring break.” Other religions don’t get much of a break at all during their holidays. It is unjust that one religious group gets weeks to spend time with family, travel and peacefully observe their holiday, while other groups have to go to school and work on the day of their major holiday.

By separating church and state the way the constitution calls for, no religion has an advantage over the other and the playing field is equal.

Yes

by Victoria Hall

Even though this country was built with Christianity as its foundation, it is completely absurd for people to argue that we do not have a separation of church and state. While we do recognize that a majority of holidays in most schools, workplaces and government buildings are Christian based, it does not correlate to a government controlled by the Christian church. Many of the holidays that find their roots in Christianity, such as Christmas, are celebrated by people of many different religions compared to lesser known holidays of other religions. An estimated 87 percent of non-Christians in the United States celebrate Christmas. When government entities support these holidays they are supporting the American culture more than the religion that these holidays are affiliated with.

Aside from Christian holidays, many people do not like having God mentioned in our Pledge of Allegiance as well as on our money. However,

these people fail to realize that this country was established by religious refugees. Although they wanted to create a religious safe space, so to speak, they really wanted a place to practice their religion freely. Most, if not all of these individuals had a shared religion: Puritan Separatists. This in turn has helped the country to retain majority Christian morals. Since the country was developed under a majority Christian population, it makes sense that we have a focus on the Christian God when it comes to our pledge and money. There was no expectation that the country would have as many diverse religions as we have today and if we try to change our pledge and money to please groups of people, it will always result in another group becoming offended. Furthermore, changing these things constantly would not honor those who made the country what it is today.

## Editorial

# Remember forgotten Americans

For the past year Americans have focused on who is going to run our country, given the options of an oompa loompa, a female and the king himself, when most should have been focused on the unfortunate reality around us: modern America.

We’ve been living with blinders on, noses in our cell phones when too many Americans cannot afford heat to warm their families, food to feed their children or medicine to keep themselves healthy.

This lack of fundamental resources needed for adequate human survival is true oppression. The people who have found themselves in this position did not ask to choose between having running water or a functioning gas line. They are stuck in this poverty cycle because of the lack of resources in not only in their communities, but also because of their true abandonment by the government and their fellow Americans.

This cycle is almost impossible to escape. Yes, there are people born into this cycle who

become successful individuals and create better lives for themselves and their families. But those are the lucky ones. There are over 16 million children living in poverty in the United States, born into the cycle, and unable to find their way out.

These children find themselves trapped in their communities because they either don’t know how to use the few resources provided to them or don’t have any resources at all. Then, there are those that don’t know the world outside of their communities, and they’re shackled into this poverty and don’t think there’s a solution.

The idea that there is no solution is false. There is always a solution to every problem, and if one solution doesn’t work, you keep trying until you do. The government has tried to aid those trapped in this cycle, they’ve tried various programs and funds, such as Medicare, Medicaid, food stamps and Headstart. These programs are like having a 6-foot deep hole, and laying boards down

to aid the walker in getting across. But, the walker isn’t going to make it across with shackles on his or her wrists and ankles.

The people stuck in this poverty cycle are shackled into their place, and the only solution that will help them is one that will break these shackles, uproot them from their planted position and guide them out of the cycle.

Throughout this issue of the Perspective, we’ve had stories full of the beautiful things people are doing to give back to their communities and those in need. Examples of these events are Toys for Tots, giving generous donations to charity, volunteering at rehab centers and retirement homes, or simply putting spare change into a cup of a homeless person.

We need to help our forgotten brothers and sisters rise out of the grips of poverty by not only encouraging our government to take hold of the reins, but doing our part by volunteering and donating to those in need.

# No doubt: books are better than the movies

by Laura Wescott

Which is better, books or movies?

“Books, because while taking more time, they allow you to create your own ‘movie’ in your head,” said Carter Salata, Plymouth senior. “When you read, you get to immerse yourself in every detail of the characters and the setting and the relationships between everything. When given the opportunity to create your own interpretation of the book, it causes every event and moment to become more intense and exciting. It’s much more personal than watching someone else’s moments they created.”

Theo Polega, Plymouth junior, said, “Movies. If you don’t read the book you’re not missing out on all those details, and it’s much more time efficient.”

Books are magic. There are only 26 letters in the alphabet, yet string them together in different ways and you can create infinite possibilities. When you are reading the words out of a book, you can choose how to imagine the story. However, in watching a movie, you see the story through the director’s eyes, not your own.

While directors definitely know what they are doing, and are (usually) fantastic at their jobs, sometimes the story gets lost in translation. Without the original writer looking over everyone’s

shoulder, it can turn into one massive game of telephone, which, as we all know, never turns out how we expect it to.

Moreover, with books, you get to know what the characters are actually thinking. And as their thoughts are right there on the page, you get the chance to feel as if you are an actual part of the story. You get to know the characters better; even the supposed “bad” characters are often beloved when you can see their train of thought. They may have been insane, but were they really crazy?

I am not condemning avid movie watchers. If you don’t care much for books maybe the movie is what’s right for you. Plus, there have been definite cases when movies are just easier to understand than the books are (i.e.: “Lord of the Rings”). And if you’re struggling to get through a book that just isn’t your style, and you’re thinking about watching the movie so you’ll at least know the ending, go right ahead. I won’t judge you.

A book is like a treasured friend. If you love it, if you learn from it; if you find yourself thinking about it from time to time months or even years after you’ve read it, you know it was a good one. So don’t give up on reading. Maybe you just haven’t found the right book yet.

# Donald Trump is not the problem

by Emily Proctor, Madison Miazek and Khadega Mohammed

For the past year and a half, many Americans have feared for the future of Trump America that may be created; now that fear is becoming a reality. However, it is not Trump that we should be afraid of, but rather his supporters who share his publicized beliefs regarding race, women and minorities. He has ignited hate within “closeted” racists who now think it is okay to express that distaste through violence.

The reason that Trump gained so many supporters and eventual votes is because of those who stood by his proposed policies (building a wall) and his feelings regarding women (“Access Hollywood,” anyone?). There is a problem if one person terrifies you more than a country of people who back his beliefs. We should think back to his campaign and question why he gained supporters in the first place by saying sexist, racist, homophobic and islamophobic statements, as well as using offensive slurs and terms referring to and targeting groups of people.

While it may be easy to claim that Trump won’t have any real power and can’t actually do anything substantial, it’s his supporters that will be making a difference, and not in a good way. Hate crimes have risen dramatically since Trump’s election from college campuses to middle school playgrounds. According to the Southern Poverty Law Center, there have been 701 hate crime incidents since the election.

One incident involved a young woman in Ann Arbor who was approached by a man and was threatened that if she did not remove her

hijab, the Muslim headscarf, he would set her on fire.

According to CNN and based on the Hate Crimes Report, “In one year, anti-Muslim hate crimes in the United States rose 67 percent, from 154 incidents in 2014 to 257 in 2015,” This is not a coincidence but rather a correlation between the rise of hate crimes and the rise of Trump’s power.

Many other hate crimes have risen as well in 2015. CNN States, “Anti-Jewish hate crimes rose nine percent, anti-black hate crimes went up by almost eight percent, and anti-LGBT hate crimes increased by nearly five percent.” Racist graffiti was plastered all over the walls of a high school in Minnesota, saying, “Black lives do not matter, and neither does your vote.” According to Morning News USA, Chris Ball, a Canadian gay film producer, was jumped by a group of white Trump supporters, and had a beer bottle smashed against his head, causing an injury to his skull.

One would think that a presidential candidate endorsed by the KKK wouldn’t garner much support, but evidently he did. Shouldn’t it say something, though, that our 45th president is endorsed by a hate group that has divided America for decades? The appointments that Trump has made to his cabinet further prove that his vision of making America great “again” simply means making America a White Supremacist nation again.

For those who support Trump, but claim that they are not racist, their vote proves that choosing someone who created and ran on a racist platform is not a deal breaker for them.

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Editorial Cartoon by Tara Nicholas

# Don’t talk; you’ll ruin the video!

by Haaniya Mallick

For the past month, it has seemed that the mannequin challenge took over our Twitter feeds. School after school posted videos of students doing the challenge, trying to top the other videos that have been posted.

According to The New York Times, the mannequin challenge is where a group of people freeze in elaborate poses. They try and look like mannequins, and one person holding the camera will walk around the scene of people, zooming in to poses of different people. The challenge is set to the song “Black Beatles” by Rae Sremmurd. P-CEP has done the challenge two times, one organized on Nov. 7 by Twitter user and Canton student, Ardi\_Kurtaj (Twitter user), on the path between Plymouth and Canton.

The other was coordinated by Hal Heard, Canton principal, during A lunch in the Canton Cafeteria, with a video of it posted on Nov. 14.

Heard told a Perspective reporter that he thought the mannequin challenge was worth writing about, especially the one that was done on the path, as opposed to dwelling on the negativities of what has happened this past year, such as the falling lockers at Canton.

Heard encouraged The Perspective to take a brighter approach and focus on what P-CEP students have done that makes the school a more connected place, instead of the less positive side of life. In the spirit of the season, The Perspective staff agrees...and has decided to cover both stories.

# Ten trends that should be trashed in 2017

by Morgan Avery and Grace Pierzynski  
Distribution Manager and Staff Writer

- Today’s trends, like selfies, will eventually go the way of the plank or ice bucket challenge. Some can’t go away soon enough. Here are 10 trends that should be gone by 2017.
1. Harambe memes: Harambe was a gorilla who was shot after a child fell into his enclosure in the Cincinnati Zoo. People across the country were outraged by what they deemed a rash decision. However, after the outrage, people started taking it less seriously by making memes about the gorilla’s death. They were humorous at first but people took it too far by voting for Harambe in this year’s election.
  2. Bottle flipping: On May 24, Michael Senator did a bit for his school talent show, where he flipped a water bottle and it landed upright on a table. Thus was born water bottle flipping. For those who are still doing this, please stop trying. And for those who haven’t, congratulations, you haven’t wasted your life on this dumb trend.
  3. Pokémon Go: This game was an instant hit during the summer months. However, as the school year started, it quickly lost popularity. Though there are still devoted fans, you can’t deny that it’s time for Pokémon Go to Pokémon go away.
  4. “This is so satisfying”: These compilation videos are videos of things that make people say, “This is so satisfying,” such as weird patterns, a perfect cut and mixing paint.
  5. Mannequin Challenge: The most recent trend on the list is also the one that got annoying the

- quickest. The mannequin challenge is essentially when someone films a group of people standing or sitting still while playing the song “Black Beatles” by Rae Sremmurd. Since it exploded, the challenge has been done by entertainers, sports teams and even politicians.
6. Dabbing: Dabbing rose to popularity when Carolina Panthers quarterback Cam Newton dabbled to celebrate touchdowns. Since then, it’s gotten out of hand.
7. “Salty”: This slang term allegedly originated from 1930s sailors when they started using it instead of “angry” or “agitated.” Since then, teens have changed the meaning a little bit. Teens now use it to let people know when they are bitter or holding a grudge.
8. “Yas”: This whole trend started when someone took a video of Lady Gaga and profusely stated “Yas Gaga.” Now people use it to express extreme excitement. Why can’t we just say “Yes” with an “E?”
9. Musical.ly: Just when their ideas couldn’t get any more meaningless or vapid, social networking entrepreneurs decided to make a social network where you film yourself lip synching to various songs. It’s not like Dubsmash doesn’t exist
10. Minions: These obnoxious, yellow beings from the “Despicable Me” franchise have inexplicably infatuated America. They were kind of funny at first. But now, you are likely see them in annoying, unfunny memes on your aunt’s Facebook feed.

# Make the water safe again

by Chloe Barbosa  
Staff Writer

The Dakota Access Pipeline is a violation of human rights. It has been compared to the Civil Rights Movement with the treatment they’ve been given. The government has used water cannons in below freezing temperatures, rubber bullets and concussion grenades, and when arrested, activists said they were put in dog cages.

In addition to the treatment of the activists, according to valleynewslive, the government has also been flying above the reserve. Flying above these federal land reserves without permission or a warrant is illegal. It is also thought that they have been releasing chemicals down on the protesters during the night, making it chemical warfare. The U.S government is terrorizing Standing Rock.

Before the decision by President Obama on Dec. 4, the governor of North Dakota had made a plan to cut off supplies to the camps. Starving out families and not giving them necessities is inexcusable in any scenario. By the end of September, the state of North Dakota had spent \$7 million battling the protesters.

If another country were doing this to their own people, the U.S government would be in outrage saying how awful that country is, but it is happening in America and they are just trying to silence the indigenous people--the people who were here first.

The government could say they are using eminent domain and that the pipeline is for the “public good,” but it won’t be for the public good, it will be for big corporations and furthering our reliance on fossil fuels. Stopping the pipeline would be for the public good. Protecting the groundwater and helping the survival of the Standing Rock Sioux’s tribe would be for the public good.

Even though the pipeline is no longer going through Standing Rock, it does not mean that there is not going to be a threat to the ground water. It’s just going to be somewhere else now. It also means we cannot forget what happened at Standing Rock. The government broke many laws and took away the citizens’ inalienable rights for an oil company instead of caring about its own people.

# The war on Christmas

by Jordyn Kuchka  
Business Manager

Ninety-two percent of all Americans, 96 percent of all Christians, and 81 percent of all non-Christians on Dec. 24 and 25 will be celebrating Christmas. Why on Earth are there so many efforts in the erasure of Christmas from our so called “holiday season”? Yes, America is a free country and it is everyone’s constitutional right to practice and celebrate whichever various religions and religious holidays they desire.

With this being said, the First Amendment promises to ensure that there is no prohibition on the free exercise of religion, but by trying to “ban” Christmas and make saying “Merry Christmas” socially unacceptable, it is indirectly taking away that freedom. If a Jewish person prefers to say “Happy Hanukkah” to me, so be it. It is not my place to judge people for rejoicing for their religious holiday, so why are so many judging me for mine?

We should embrace the holiday that the majority of our country celebrates, not shun it just for the minority. Over 70 percent of Americans identify themselves as Christians, and while Christmas is becoming a largely secular holiday, there would never have been a Christmas without Christ. Enforcing a “Holiday Season” rather than the Christmas Season loses the religious aspect and origins of the holiday that has been around for over 2000

years.

People do use this time of year to try and give back and be good Samaritans. They often get caught up in the gifts, food and all the other madness with this time of year and often don’t understand the original significance. The original importance will be completely erased if it does not start being explained to more of the population. This opportunity will never arise if Christmas is eradicated and just the sad remains are thrown into the “Holiday Season”.

I understand there is a separation between church and state, so the government can do nothing about this. In a situation, however, like having a Nativity scene in front of a city hall should not be a problem for anyone. It is good to have the public display of Christmas’s origins. If a community has a large population of another religion, I feel there is also nothing wrong with displaying religious symbols to that community as well.

The holiday season is not the worst thing in the world and I think all religious holidays are important, not just my own. I do feel that each holiday deserves their own separate recognition, and that it is not fair to make one feel inferior to the other by lumping everything together.

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Quick Hits:

Canton Boys Basketball  
12/16 vs Northville  
Salem Boys Basketball  
12/16 @ Plymouth HS  
Plymouth Boys Hockey  
12/17 vs Salem HS  
Canton Boys Wrestling  
12/17 @ Wyandotte  
Wayne County  
Tournament  
PCS Girls Hockey  
12/20 @ Liggett HS  
Salem Girls Gymnastics  
12/21 vs Plymouth HS

Bowling tournament setup:

Teams played with the default high school tournament format. Teams played three individual games, where five team members bowled and kept individual scores. After the three games, they played three baker games. Baker games are when five members of the team bowl two frames each, under one score. So, the first bowler would bowl the first and sixth frame, the second bowler would bowl the second frame and the seventh frame and so on. After the three individual games and the three baker games, the eight teams with the highest total scores of all the games would advance to an elimination tournament. The teams would face off head-to-head and play baker games. Whoever won two of the three baker games would advance to the next round.

Canton boys, Salem girls place second at bowling tournament

by Kevin Shimko  
Head Copy Editor

Despite an intense day of high energy at Wonderland Lanes, none of the Park teams could take home first place, even though they all bowled very well.

Plymouth was able to make the cut of the top eight, but lost in the first round of the Dec. 4 tournament,

Salem beat Plymouth to advance to the second round where they fell to Canton. Canton lost to Kettering in the finals, making Kettering the winner of the Wonderland Lanes tournament.

The Plymouth girls’ team failed to make the cut for tournament play. Canton made the cut but went down in the first round. Salem made it to the finals to face off against a stacked Davison team. Even though Salem made a strong effort, Davison snagged first.

Plymouth junior Michael Koski had an impressive start, shooting a 232 in the first of the three individual games. He also had a pair of 181 games in the second and third games. Koski came just short of having a top 10 high game.

In the second game, Plymouth sophomore Brett Caldwell shot a 268. Caldwell’s consistency earned him the second highest game in the tournament. He continued to lead the team into the third individual game and the baker games.

The third game was when

things got exciting. Plymouth sophomore Alan Brown had a 231 game, starting the game with six strikes in a row. Salem senior Ryan Gonyea took the third highest game in the tournament, with a 249.

Canton senior Dominic Dimaya shot a 233 in the third game, ending with a 645 series. He had the seventh highest series in the tournament.

“You just have to take it one frame at a time,” Dimaya said. “You can’t get ahead of yourself when you are doing well, and you can’t get discouraged when you aren’t doing well.”

After the three individual games, they moved to the baker games. Plymouth started well, with a 182, but fell apart shortly after. They struggled through the second game, missing spares and making simple mistakes. They finished the second game with a 137. Plymouth senior captain Bryce Smith quickly took action with a motivational speech.

“That was just one game,” Smith said. “We need to bounce back and finish strong. Don’t think about last game; think about this game and what you are going to do better.” Plymouth snapped back in the third game to finish off with a 224.

With all three Park teams advancing to the finals, there was excitement brewing in the air as the teams warmed up for their first round. Plymouth faced off against Salem but struggled, losing by almost 100 pins. Salem continued to dominate in the second game, knocking Plymouth out of the

tournament.

With the devastating loss, Smith stayed positive. “We have to move past today. We had a good run and it was a good start to the season. We’re just going to have to practice and come back better.”

One pair of lanes over, Canton was able to roll past South Lyon in the first game. South Lyon bounced back with an impressive win in the second game. It was down to the wire. The competition was close in the third game, but Canton was able to take down South Lyon by one pin, with a clutch strike from Dimaya in the tenth frame.

The tournament fell down to the top four. Canton took on Salem and Hartland faced off against Kettering. Salem was able to take the first game 191-180. Canton came back in the second game, blowing away Salem. With high energy and hopes even higher, Canton finished off Salem with another clutch performance from Dimaya. They moved on to face Kettering in the finals.

On the other end of the lanes, in the girls’ tournament, Salem and Walled Lake Northern were in an intense semifinal match up. They tied the first game, which is unusual. Salem took the second game, but lost the third. They played a five-frame tiebreaker to determine who would advance to the finals. Salem made quick work of Walled Lake Northern and moved on to face off against a strong Davison team.

Davison was dominating Salem in the first game with

an impressive 231. Davison continued the dominance through the second game to take down Salem and take first place.

Canton boys struggled to make spares in the finals and faced the consequences. Kettering capitalized to take

down Canton in the first game. Canton came back the next game with a strong start but fell apart when they missed three spares in a row. Kettering was able to strike out the last 4 frames to finish off Canton and take first place.

Photos by Hannah Saad



Right: Canton senior Dominic Dimaya celebrates after throwing a strike.  
Top: Plymouth sophomore Brett Caldwell holds his form. Cadwell shot the second highest single game score with a 268.  
Bottom: Salem senior Leah Boucha releases the ball.



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# Park Boys Basketball Preview

by Omar Abdel Baqui  
News Editor

A great season of basketball is anticipated at all three Park schools.

Last year, Plymouth lost every game against a Park team and ended up with a disappointing 8-13 record. Plymouth will rely on their big men, Tariq Woody and Joey Robb, for production in the paint and their quick guard Andrew Neal for perimeter offense.

Plymouth tends to be a defensive minded team and focuses on driving to the basket on the offensive end. The Wildcats only have two seniors on the team, so they are lacking some experience.

Plymouth varsity coach Mike Soukup said Plymouth plans on improving their defense and their ability to work together as a group. Soukup added, "We should be improved [from last season] if the boys embrace defense and playing on the offensive end together."

Plymouth guard Andrew Neal said, "I'm looking forward to every game this season. Park games are very high intense games and are very fun to be a part of, but every game this year is important for us." Neal also said that it's Plymouth's intensity that will set them apart from the other teams.

Salem focuses on perimeter offense with knock down shooters Cameron Barden and Cameron Grace. They also have a good amount of size with four players listed at 6'4".

The Rocks finished 12-9 last season.

Salem varsity coach Bob Brodie said, "We have to work on being more consistent. We had some lapses last season which cost us a few wins that we could have capitalized on. However, this season the players seem more focused and prepared for the tough schedule that faces us. We would like to be known for our competitiveness, hustle, sportsmanship and character both on and off the court. I think our team will be improved from last season, but with the strength of our schedule, it may or may not show how good we are in the win/loss record. The league is very tough this season, and we have extremely strong non-league opponents to help us prepare."

Salem guard Cameron Barden is most looking forward to their game against Northville. He said, "They are a team that makes you give 110 percent every time you play them."

Last year, Canton dominated. They finished the season 20-1, notably defeating Detroit Country Day and every Park team. Forward Noah Brown said Canton is a jump-shot based team and that everyone on the team could pull the trigger.

Canton varsity coach Jimmy Reddy said, "We are a little smaller this year, but our guard play should be a strong suit for us. I like our team, so as always I think we will be a competitive team, and hopefully we are playing our best basketball in March."

Senior Jacob Donnelly said, "Our whole team has great chemistry. The team group chat heats up every night, and we hang out off the court as much as possible. At practice we love to push each other and have fun. Our chemistry is going to pay off when we are in sticky situations on the court."

Photos courtesy of P-CEP Trinity



Top: Canton graduate Logan Ryan goes for a layup. Bottom: Salem graduate Kenny Topolovec defends against current Plymouth junior Anthony Crump.

## Opinion Tom Bondy: selfless service deserves recognition

Tom Bondy built the Plymouth softball field from the ground up. He threw all of his effort, heart and soul into maintaining it. He lived life to serve others and, as told through the words of others, he did exactly that. All four of his daughters went to Plymouth and played softball.

Bondy died at the age of 59 on Oct. 26. He will be dearly missed not only by the Plymouth softball program, but also by countless others who were touched by his selfless service. In honor of his life and the endless things he did for Plymouth softball, it would only be right that the field be renamed in honor of him.

There is no one that has been there longer or put in more time and effort for the betterment of the program than Bondy. Bev McManus, former Plymouth softball coach and close friend of Bondy, said, "Tom Bondy lived and breathed Plymouth Wildcat Softball."

His ability to manage not only the field, but also the technology, dugouts, batting cages and scorebook, was unbelievable. Bondy was revered by countless other softball programs for his dedication, hard work and raw ability to get things done. McManus said, "It was not only PHS families that loved Mr. Bondy. Everyone who came to PHS softball always used to say, 'I wish we had a Mr. Bondy.'"

It would be an understatement to say Bondy has created a legacy with Plymouth softball. His contributions to the lives of others are immeasurable. His good will, unique personality and sense of humor all made him such a great man.

McManus said, "It would be an honor to name Plymouth Wildcat Softball Stadium in memory of Tom Bondy."

by Noah Haran  
Sports Editor



Tom Bondy poses with his wife and daughters before an event.

## Get Fit

by Conner Riedel  
Staff Writer

Arnold Schwarzenegger is known for many things, including his biceps. Definition in the arms is one of the first things someone will notice, and will lead them to believe that other muscle groups are also well developed and toned.

The bicep includes three muscles: the brachii, the brachialis and the brachioradialis. The brachii starts at the shoulder and attaches to your radius forearm bone. It's responsible for bending the elbow and rotating your forearm. It consists of a short and long head. The Brachialis starts in the middle of your upper arm bone and attaches to your ulna forearm bone. It assists the brachii in bending the forearm. Your Brachioradialis is located on your upper arm bone and attaches to your wrist.

To work your biceps, the exercise you're going to complete are curls. There are several variations including dumbbell curls, barbell curls, ez bar curls, preacher curls, cable flex curls and several other variations and grips. Any time your pinky is turned in towards your body when completing a curl, it will primarily work the short head of your bicep. When the pinky is turned away from your body, it primarily works the long head. Exercises like reverse grip curls and hammer curls work the long head, and exercises such as isolation curls or ever spider curls primarily work the short head.

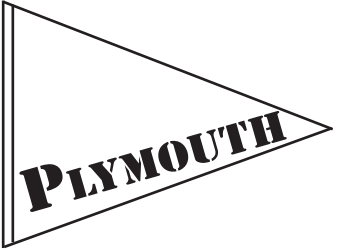
When doing curls, I find it beneficial to extend the negatives. In every exercise there is a negative and positive motion. The positive motion is concentric. It's when the muscle contracts and the muscle fibers shorten, such as a completing a curl. The negative motion is eccentric. This occurs when the muscle fibers length, such as bringing the weight down from a curl. Extending the negative motions helps build the muscle and definition in any muscle group.

During my workouts, I like to complete supersets when working biceps. A set you can complete is one with barbell curls. The first 8-10 reps should be heavy, and you should struggle to complete the last two reps. Immediately after, drop the weight by 50 percent and complete the curls, but hold the negatives for about four seconds, and complete as many reps as you can until failure. Do this for 4-5 sets and it will blow up your biceps. The same set can be completed with dumbbells.

Working your biceps is very important when trying to build your physique, and it can assist you in other muscle groups such as back. Biceps are typically worked as well when completing back exercises. Negatives are a great way to build your biceps and other muscle groups and can really help build muscle.

# Player Profiles

## Athletes of P-CEP



### Justin O'Shaughnessy

by Kevin Shimko  
Head Copy Editor

Plymouth senior Justin O'Shaughnessy has wowed coaches, players and parents for the past two years with his fantastic bowling and his unbelievable improvement. O'Shaughnessy started bowling the summer after his freshman year. What started as a fun activity with friends, turned into a passion and a lifestyle.

O'Shaughnessy began bowling more and more on his own and fell in love with the game. He joined the Plymouth bowling team his sophomore year. O'Shaughnessy spent most of that year on junior varsity but improved very quickly. He ended the season on varsity and bowled with the varsity team at regionals.

Junior year was when O'Shaughnessy really progressed, making varsity at tryouts and securing the spot of the "anchor." The anchor is the last person to bowl in a match, who is usually the best on the team. He kept this position for the whole season and helped the team win some big tournaments. Plymouth, which had never won a tournament before, won three that year, with the help of O'Shaughnessy's clutch tenth-frame bowling. The same year, O'Shaughnessy ended the season with the highest average score in the district, with a 204 average.

This season, O'Shaughnessy is looking to end his high school career with a bang. "This year, I'm hoping we can win more than three tournaments and become regional champions," O'Shaughnessy said.

He also hopes to bowl in college while studying criminal justice. He has been offered multiple scholarships, with five colleges begging him to bowl for them. O'Shaughnessy has not yet committed, but will be looking for opportunities as the year goes on.



Photo by Hannah Saad



### Serina Eadeh

by Grace Grelak  
Photo Editor

Brand new to the ice as a freshman, but now an expert, Canton senior Serina Eadeh is an important part of the P-CEP Penguins and is emotional about finishing out her high school career on the ice.

Joining the team as a freshman, she had little to no experience with ice skating or hockey. Eadeh said, "I joined the team not knowing anything about hockey or ever playing, but loving the game and wanting to play my whole life." Although she had little experience on the ice as a freshman, she now plays forward every game.

Teammate Brianna Waggoner said, "I love Serina as part of the team. She's so sweet to everyone else. She's also super hardworking, and is a good role model for the younger girls. She started from the bottom her freshman year as a new skater and pushed herself to become better. Serina has become an excellent hockey player and makes smart decisions on the ice."

One of Eadeh's fondest memories involves her teammates. "Our team had a lot of dance parties in the locker room before games and practice. It's honestly such an amazing time with them and, yes, I've made many close friends. I love my team and all the girls. They are the best team anyone could ask for," she said.

Eadeh hopes to win states with her team as a division 1 team and said they want to "just plain out have fun."



Photo by Grace Grelak



### Camren Barden

by Noah Haran  
Sports Editor

Salem basketball senior guard Camren Barden is one of the more well-known basketball players at the Park for his shooting and ball handling skills.

Barden says he wants to expand on his skill-set and the things he is known for, "Last year, I was known only as a shooter, and this year I want to show I can attack the basket and create opportunities for my teammates."

Park rivalries are always a topic of conversation when it comes to any sport. This year, the results of in-Park games are an unknown. There is no clear team that is the best. Barden said, "The atmosphere of our Park games will be real intense...no doubt it will be fun."

Barden is always looking to improve as a player and make the right plays on offense and defense. He was a key part of the offense last year as he was the first player off of the bench for Salem last year. This year, he is the starting point guard, teaming up with Cameron Grace in the backcourt.

"My individual goal is to be a leader and be complete player for my team. That means taking responsibility on the court and having everyone locked in for games and practices," said Barden.

Barden has a lot of aspirations for himself and his team this season. He hopes to continue to play basketball in college as he currently has one offer and is looking for more during his senior season.



Photo by Lauren Flynn

For stories and photos on Salem hockey, P-CEP Penguins and Plymouth gymnastics, visit our website at the-perspective.org



# Toys for tots brightens Christmas

by Megan Pham and Madison Taylor  
Staff Writer and Photo Editor

The holiday season means running to the store to buy toys, wrapping them in festive paper and then cramming them under the tree where they’ll sit waiting to be torn open by small hands on Christmas morning, but for some families it’s not as easy as that. Toys can be seen as an unnecessary luxury that can’t be afforded, but the non-profit organization, Toys for Tots, wants to make sure that regardless of financial situations, every child can experience the feeling of opening up a brand new toy on Christmas.

Toys for Tots was founded by Major Bill Hendricks in Los Angeles in 1947. Since then, the organization has grown and is now active in all 50 states and on some occasions has even gone overseas to assist other countries.

While Toys for Tots may seem like a massive organization, it is still locally focused because the organization is split into regional areas where donated toys directly help a child in the same community. Last year, Toys for Tots provided around 14,000 children in the Oakland County and Northwest Wayne County with toys during the holiday season. Plymouth and Canton are a part of the Northwest Wayne County region, which is led by Area Coordinator, Rebecca Yarbrough.

Yarbrough has been involved with Toys for Tots for 28 years and is working just as hard this year to make sure families have an enjoyable and jolly Christmas.

“How can you have a bad day when you are surrounded with toys,” said Yarbrough.

According to Yarbrough, what sets Toys for Tots apart from other organizations is the fact that almost all of the donations they receive go directly to those in need. “We are a 97/3 Charity. That means that 97 cents of every dollar goes to the children, and only three cents go to cover our costs. This program is a full volunteer program. The toys we get are the toys we give out,” she said.

The toy-giving process starts with collection boxes throughout the community where new, unwrapped toys can be dropped off. There are 28 locations around Plymouth and Canton where people can bring toys. Coordinators then pick up the toys and bring them to a central warehouse where they are sorted, and then they are distributed.

“Toys collected in our communities stay in the communities until their needs are met, then we share them with other locations doing the same job,” said Yarbrough. “We also support our local Goodfellows programs and send some to the Salvation Army so they too can meet the needs. If there are still toys left, we reach out to secondary community groups (i.e. churches and such) and see if they need help, or we take them to places like COTS in Detroit or Focus Hope.”

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools got involved with Toys for Tots by having a collection box run by Canton Congress. The collection ran from Nov. 7 to Nov. 21, and around 150 toys were collected.

“We really liked that Toys for Tots benefitted local children,” said Canton Congress president senior, Avery Ralston. “We really like focusing on our own community.”

Other students around the Park also showed an interest and ap-

preciation for giving toys to children around the community and helping with the cause. Allison Lubin, Plymouth senior, said, “I think Toys for Tots is a great organization. It gives children who are less fortunate a toy to help show them there are good people out there who care.” Lubin works at a toy store, and every year they put out the Toys for Tots collection box to help their community. “The organization is very rewarding and I love how people take the time to collect gifts for the less fortunate children.” Lubin said that no child should be forgotten during the Christmas season, the happiest time of the year.

Spencer Reed, Plymouth senior, said, “I have donated to the organization and my experience with it was very moving.” Reed said that Toys for Tots is very important because every child should be able to have a good Christmas.

While the in-school collection for toys may have ended, there are still opportunities for students and members of the community to help a child have more joy this holiday season. The Toys for Tots website has the specific locations around the community where toys can be dropped off and information on how to give monetary donations.

Another great way to help out is by volunteering. “I have a core group of volunteers that have been doing this job for about 15 years now,” said Yarbrough. “We are always looking for new people to help. “People who are interested in volunteering should send her an email (found on the website) with “Volunteer” in the subject line.

## Miller Movie Corner “Arrival”

by Jacob Miller  
Staff Writer

“A stunning achievement”

The human race has some awfully strong loneliness issues. To say the universe is vast is a harsh understatement, and for as long as we’ve inhabited the earth, we have looked up at the stars and wondered what could possibly be among them. Recent scientists have concluded that the probability of other intelligent life living among the stars is around 20 billion trillion to one, so it is almost a statistical impossibility that they don’t exist, but this is not a question that can be answered with mere statistics, for there is still the small percentage of them being nonexistent. If you ask me, seeing is believing, and it is not until we make physical contact that our species will finally be content...or will we?

“Arrival” is about our first contact with extraterrestrial life and how our species decides to communicate with the intergalactic visitors. Think “Close Encounters of the Third Kind” as opposed to “Independence Day.”

When a mysterious monolith-like capsule appears over a series of locations on Earth, Dr. Louise Banks (Amy Adams), an expert linguist, is called onto the scene in order to assist the military

scientists in communicating with the creatures. Their main goal is to ask “What is your purpose on Earth?” She is accompanied by a bevy of soldiers and scientists including Forrest Whitaker’s U.S. Army Colonel Weber and Ian Donnelly (Jeremy Renner), a theoretical physicist who reads Louise’s writing in disagreement. “Language is not the cornerstone of civilization,” he says playfully. “It’s science.”

Director Denis Villeneuve has always been a master of crafting effective atmospheres, and “Arrival” may be one of his most effective. Thanks to his delicate direction, otherworldly cinematography and a haunting, biting score from Johann Johannsson, Villeneuve manages to convey intensity within every scene that is only matched by the silences in between.

Amy Adams, whose filmography mainly consists of larger, louder roles, gives one of her best performances here. It is a performance of quiet, reflective beauty, one that is both soft as well as encapsulating. She shines within the quieter moments, and “Arrival” is a film that contains a lot of them. Her supporting cast

offers solid support, but none manages to convey the awe-inspiring brilliance of her complex lead performance, and you can’t help but appreciate her nuances all the more once you make it to the end.

Do not let the plot summary fool you. “Arrival” is not a film about alien life. It is about the humans trying to communicate with them. It is a deep look into the psychosis of these individuals, these people with aching, beating hearts. More than anything, Arrival is a meditation on grief, loss and love disguised as a genre film. The fantastical science fiction premise is only a vehicle for the deeper, more abstract themes to be conveyed. Universal themes that will ring true with anyone who has ever lost someone or something dear, had trouble communicating, and looked up at the night sky and wondered about our place among the stars, that infinite mass of floating rock and space. Yeah, there has got to be something else out there.

-“Arrival”: 5/5

## Flashback Friday Holiday Edition

by Emily Proctor  
News Editor

Holiday shows to watch over break

The holiday season is in full swing, and while Christmas music is cheery and the glistening lights on the neighbor’s front lawn are absolutely beautiful, there must be something else to do on those cold December nights leading up to the holidays. Watching an old Christmas classic such as “A Christmas Story” or “Love Actually” is great, but even better is digging through DVDs or Netflix to find Christmas episodes of your favorite shows. And if you don’t feel like doing it yourself, I’ve got you covered.

“A Benihana Christmas,” 2006 episode of “The Office” - There are so many wonderful Christmas episodes of the critically acclaimed comedy “The Office” ranging from the sentimental episode when Jim gives Pam the teapot to season seven’s “Classy Christmas.” However, “A Benihana Christmas” rises above the rest for being 40 minutes of pure laughs. “Christmas is cancelled,” the show’s star Michael Scott (Steve Carell) declares within the first 10 minutes of the episode. It’s nonstop jokes and a trip to Benihana from there on, and while you can absolutely watch it on any occasion, it makes the season all the merrier when you pair it with a cup of hot cocoa and a fuzzy blanket on a cold December night. Thank goodness for Netflix and Dunder Mifflin.

“The Holiday Armadillo,” 2000 episode of “Friends” - While “Friends” is most notable for its Thanksgiving episodes, there are a few holiday episodes that are must watches as well.

For example, “The Holiday Armadillo” is one of the strangest episodes of television I’ve ever watched. Ross (David Schwimmer) has his son Ben

(Cole Sprouse) for Christmas and decides to take the time to teach him about his Jewish heritage. However, Ben is only interested in Christmas and Santa. In order to get his son’s attention, Ross attempts to rent a Santa Claus costume, but the only thing available is an armadillo, which is so not the same thing. Ross improvises and becomes “The Holiday Armadillo” to explain Hanukkah and Jewish history. It’s the weirdest/best thing ever.

**Holiday classics include, “A Christmas Carol,” “Scrooged” and “Love Actually.”**

“What to my Wondering Eyes,” 2012 episode of “Parenthood” - Okay, so this episode of the NBC dramedy “Parenthood” is insanely depressing, and you’ll need about five boxes of tissues to go along with the container of sugar cookies you’re eating while watching. This season four episode is toward the end of the show’s most cruel season, in which (SPOILER ALERT) Kristina Braverman (Monica Potter), the beloved wife of eldest Braverman sibling Adam (Peter Krause) is diagnosed with breast cancer. The episode takes place on Christmas and the days surrounding it when Kristina enters septic shock on Christmas Eve. As she fights for her life after months of healing, Adam opens her laptop in the hospital to find a video she pre-recorded for her three children in the event that she dies. If you want

to feel all the feelings, check this one out. Actually, just watch the whole show because it’s magical.

“My Own Personal Jesus,” 2001 episode of “Scrubs” - This early episode of the medical comedy “Scrubs” surrounds J.D. (Zach Braff) and his fellow interns at the fictional Sacred Heart hospital working Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and praying for some miracles. While J.D.’s best friend Turk (Donald Faison) has to deal with the ups and downs within his own faith during the holiday season, Elliot (Sarah Chalke) must help a very pregnant woman deliver her baby immediately on Christmas Day in order for them both to be healthy. It’s an episode that’s short and sweet and will leave viewers in a thankful mood wanting to hug their family members extra tight.

Who needs to drive on icy roads and play in the snow when there’s great entertainment under your own roof? Make sure to enjoy the holiday season with family, friends and fictional characters.

## Music Monthly

by Colby Johnson  
Staff Writer


This April saw the release of local musician Keagan Weaver’s latest album, “Bernard.” This is the first album from his solo project, MEANDTHEDOG. While the album is only four songs, it’s a fantastic musical experience. Each song is unique while retaining the same emotionally charged, and at times, mournful sound delivered by Weaver’s voice while he strums away at an acoustic guitar.

The first of the four songs is titled, “Now I Know,” which starts off slow with quiet vocals and guitar, and a symphonic backdrop which all crescendos

into an emotional masterpiece. Next is “Sleepless Nights,” a song that takes a steadier pace while Weaver laments over the hurt he sees around him. The third track is “NEED,” where Weaver watches a loved one come unraveled. Finally, comes “G. Lloyd,” a song dedicated to his father. Weaver sings of his father and all that he taught Weaver about being strong and loving. This is possibly the best song on the album due to its heartfelt lyrics and mellow guitar. Overall, “Bernard” is a fantastic first album that establishes Weaver’s uncopiable sound.

In more recent news, MEANDTHEDOG dropped a single in August titled, “Sore Throat.” This song retains Weaver’s signature sound without sounding the same as his other work. “Sore Throat” is the perfect blend of fresh and familiar, Weaver singing of the loss of a loved one and the pain that comes with it meshes well with the melancholy guitar strumming. It’s a great song that will leave fans yearning for more.

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# 88.1 the Park - behind the mic

by **Zain Omair**  
*Guest Writer*

88.1 The Park is more than just your average radio station. It has been nationally recognized, and is the only high school radio station to ever be a finalist for the National Association of Broadcasters Marconi Radio Award. There are 28 staff members, all high school students from P-CEP, behind the mic and five different sub-staffs: Music, Sports, Promotions, Productions and Community Focus.

The sports staff gives listeners sports coverage from news about what is going on with high school, college and professional sports teams with play-by-play of popular games such as football, baseball and basketball.

Meanwhile, students on the productions staff work behind the scenes to create promotional and public service announcements that air between songs and at the top of each hour.

Fiona Hughes, Canton sophomore, is a member of the 88.1 The Park Music Staff. The staff members take turns to do a show called “Backstage Pass” that airs every Thursday at 5:45 pm.

“On music staff, you can do artist profiles, album reviews, or interview bands,” Hughes says. “My favorite thing to do is definitely interviewing bands.”

88.1 The Park is a very community-oriented radio station, meaning that you’ll often see the blue 88.1 The Park tent at events such as Art in the Park, Fall Festival and the Ice Festival. Serafine Hinz, Salem junior, is the director of promotions at the station.

Making sure that 88.1 The Park gets visibility is a big part of her job. “I organize events for us to attend and I make sure people attend them,” Hinz said.

Community Focus takes things to a more serious and local side on 88.1 The Park. Maxim

Jenkins, Plymouth junior, is on the Community Focus staff and is required to interview community members for the segment that airs every Wednesday at 5:45 pm.

“I cover local stories with in-depth investigations and interviews,” said Jenkins. “You really have to be a people person, especially when meeting contacts in person.”

In addition to Community Focus, there are daily newscasts that all staff members are required to create that hit the airwaves weekdays at 5:30 pm.

Samuel Badger, Canton sophomore, says news process is relatively simple, but can also be the most difficult part of the job.

“You come in and are immediately placed under a strict time limit,” explains Hughes. “You must rely on those living with you in your community to pull through and pick up the phone for an interview. It’s all up to you to find contacts and come up with questions all in a short period of time.”

Some kids like Jenkins just drifted into radio and thought it would be fun, while Hinz wanted to be able to perform without having to do something like theatre.

“My mom forced me to join a club when I came to P-CEP as a freshman. I didn’t want to do anything at all, because I was too afraid to branch away from my peers,” says Hughes.

Badger has a story that mirrors Hughes’, “I joined radio because I needed something to do. I’m not in any sports so I wanted an extracurricular activity to take part in.”

No matter the reason to join, most of the 88.1 The Park staff members can agree that being a part of the radio station has helped their high school experience to be a positive one.

“Radio is by far the best thing to happen to me in high school,” says Hinz. “It made me realize what I want to do with my life and taught me how



Photo by Zain Omair

Samuel Badger, Canton sophomore, hosts a top 40 show every Monday from 2:30 - 4 p.m.

to be more social.”

“I love being on radio. It’s an experience that I never imagined to be a reality for myself,” says Hughes. “I’ve met great people who I feel comfortable being myself around and radio really forced me out of my comfort zone.”

“When you work with the same people consistently for years, you become something of a family and it’s awesome,” says Jenkins.

Badger agrees, calling it a “home away from home.”

Since it began operating back in Feb. 1972, 88.1

The Park has produced successful stories; however, you don’t just have to be a staff member or alumni of 88.1 The Park to feel the impact of the station.

“88.1 The Park reminds people that they can do anything,” says Jenkins. “If some teens in Plymouth and Canton can run and maintain a nationally acclaimed radio station, they can achieve their highest as well.”

## The Hanley Herald

*Your monthly dose of satire*

by **Jack Hanley**  
*Opinion Editor*

### High school senior beyond excited about admission to last choice college

Plymouth High School senior, Zoe Hansen, announced on Saturday that she will be attending Pine Bluff University in Arkansas, after not being accepted to any of her higher choice schools.

“I am beyond honored to announce that I will be attending PBU in the fall, even though it was not my first, second, third or fourth choice,” said Hansen in a short tweet this previous weekend with pictures of the dilapidated, and nearly abandoned campus attached.

“While I was disappointed to not be accepted

to even one of my first choices, Pine Bluff offers the unique opportunity for me to be totally not challenged,” said Hansen in a longer Facebook post the same weekend. “The school’s laughably loose curriculum and non-transferable college credit, as well as its dated equipment labs, are what drew me to it in the first place. I am honored to say I am an official Gopher.”

Many seniors are choosing their schools this year, and the stressful application and decision process scares many.

“I never knew I would have this few options,” says Claire Henrick, a Canton senior, currently grappling with the prospect of choosing between her two last choice schools. “I always thought I would be en route to my top school, being begged by Harvard, but now I’m actually here and I feel like I’m the one begging.”

Salem counselor, Stacy Sherman, shares the concerns of her students, “The worries of my students are definitely relevant: how do I best pretend to be excited about paying thousands in student

loans at a school I hate?”

Her advice is simple: “As soon as you come to terms with the fact that you will fail in life and eventually end up on the streets, you’ll be free,” Sherman adds. “I know you think your life will end up as a total mess and you know what? Maybe it will, who am I to say?”

Sherman has no degree in social work or any of the usual counseling degrees and is widely considered to be a major downer.

## Culture Shock

*Muslim Student Association*

by **Haley DeLaca**  
*Deputy Online Editor*

The Muslim Student Association holds meetings on Fridays at 2:30 p.m. in the Canton presentation room. This club helps bring together students who share the same faith and culture.

Friday is the day of prayer for Muslims. The club provides a safe place for Muslim students to pray and build a sense of community. “I have been in this club since the first meeting of this year, and I feel closer to Islam. I am able to connect with friends,” said Uswa Khalid, Salem freshman. They also welcome guest speakers and participate in social events.

The Muslim Student Association has an average attendance of 100 students. It is faith-based, just like Campus Christians.

The club meeting starts with students removing their shoes. They then move to a prayer rug, with men in the front and women behind them. Before prayer, a speech is given, called a Khutbah. This was given by Muneer Khalid, a teacher from Scarlett Middle School and a well respected community mentor. The Khutbah was eloquent and promoted kindness in the community.

“Find your niche in the community. The only way to know what your community needs is to be in touch with them,” said Khalid. “Islam is a religion of activism. Standing up for people who don’t have rights, for people who have been silenced. You can be the change if you allow yourself to be.”

After the Khutbah, students stand in straight lines. Then there is a call to prayer. The group says recitations of prayer all together, everyone knowing the words to the prayer by heart. They bend and touch their foreheads to the ground to pay respects to Allah.

After prayer, members announce updates involving the club.

If you are a Muslim student, this club is a great way to connect with other people that share your faith. If you are not a Muslim student, you are still welcome to come by and check it out. Stop by the Canton presentation room on Fridays after school.

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# Students volunteer to help others

by Claudia Saveski  
Distribution Manager

With the holiday season coming into full swing, love and holiday cheer are hanging in the air. The idea of helping the less fortunate runs through many people's heads during sleepless nights.

Some people fear that being unable to drive or lack of time can prevent them from volunteering or donating. There are various local groups and organizations that accept young volunteers.

"I do a lot through my church youth groups," said Plymouth senior Kayla Dudek, "which includes bell ringing and soup kitchens."

Another misconception of volunteer programs is being around strangers might make

one feel awkward and out of place, but just grabbing some friends, hot cocoa and going bell ringing is a great bonding activity according to Dudek.

"We go out as a big group, and it's a good bonding experience while doing something for the community," said Dudek. "It's a great way for us to get into the holiday spirit."

Salem junior, Elizabeth Roy, and her family go to a rehab center and cook breakfast for their patients.

"It makes me feel blessed to be able to make somebody's day who has been through a lot, and that I've done good for them," Roy said.

Volunteering doesn't just make the person receiving feel good, but it also helps boost the self confidence of the volunteer. Sydney Walters, Salem junior,

said, "If you have name brand clothes, or any clothes, that you don't wear anymore, don't just give them to Plato's Closet. Donate them to kids that could only dream of wearing Hollister or Abercrombie."

Volunteer for the smile on a child's face when he gets his first Christmas present ever, 1because of the toy you donated; or the homeless man who gets his first warm meal in weeks, because of the time you put in to volunteering at a soup kitchen.

No matter how you show your holiday spirit, the best way to spend it is by helping light the spirits of others in need.



Members of Holy Cross Church youth group, 612, volunteer in Livonia, Michigan.



Photos courtesy of Kayla Dudek

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