

The Bulldog Bark



Advisor: Mrs. Dunham
Principal: Mr. Hauser

Your Middle School News Unleashed!

Fall 2021

Welcome to the Middle School!

The Newest Dawgs of Our Pack Unleashed!

By Landon Rosado
Team 8 Barker

It's standard procedure for *The Bulldog Bark* to welcome new faculty members to our school every year. This year, we have both familiar faces who have moved into new roles, and we also have completely new hires to our district. To begin, we will start with the new administrators in our school. Mrs. Chamberlain retired last year, and Mr. Hauser, who was previously our assistant principal, has become our principal. Welcome to your new position!

How is being the principal going so far?
There are wonderful days and challenging ones. One of the biggest challenges is handling Covid 19. There are more good days than bad days.

What do you plan to do as principal?
I would like to build the Bulldog Inspire Program and have the students have more of a voice in what happens in school. I would also like to make improvements to the curriculum.

What's the best part about being a principal?

I enjoy trying to bring changes and improvements to the middle school that will make



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students enjoy being here a little bit more.

What do you like to do outside of school? I enjoy doing Karate outside. I enjoy playing baseball with my sons. I enjoy hiking.

Who's your favorite athlete?

Saquon Barkley because he is my former student. My favorite athlete ever is Bill "Superfoot" Wallace.

Who's your favorite actor?

Robin Williams

What's your favorite type of music?

Heavy Metal

Which high school did you attend?

Northern Lehigh High School

Which college(s) did you go to?

I went Wilkes University and East Stroudsburg University.

What did you teach, if anything, before you became a principal?

I taught both middle school and high school English. I am also a Karate Arts instructor for 23 years. I am a 4th-degree black belt.

What is one fun fact about yourself? I was Saquon Barkley's middle school English teacher. I used to rap battle [Saquon Barkley](#).

P.S.: I think we may need to see Mr. Hauser have another rap battle soon!



Mr. Strohl: Assistant Principal

By Landon Rosado

Team 8 Barker

How is being the assistant principal going so far?

Being the assistant principal of the high school and the middle school is extremely rewarding. I get to make an impact on our students, school, and community each and every day!

What do you plan to do as principal?

I plan to support the students of the Northern Lehigh Community by making decisions that will positively impact our students. Some of my goals are to increase attendance, increase participation in extracurricular activities, and increase student academic achievement.

What's the best part about being an assistant principal?

The best part about being an assis-

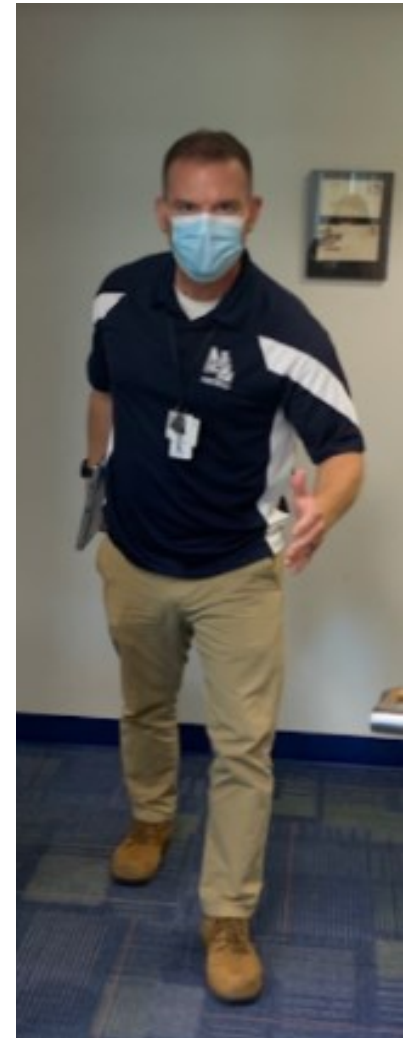
tant principal is using the resources of our school and community to help students be successful.

What do you like to do outside of school?

Outside of school, I love spending time with my family and making healthy decisions like running, biking, hiking, and exercising.

Who's your favorite athlete?

I have several favorite athletes who have made a positive impact on me throughout my life. Jeremy Bloom is the only athlete in history to both ski in the Winter Olympics and be drafted into the National Football League (NFL). Brock Forsey was a running back for the Boise State Broncos from 2001-2003. He led the nation in touchdowns at one point in his career. At that time, Boise State was an FBS school, which means they were a smaller



university, but they were playing in the national spotlight. It was because of his accomplishments that I began to love the smurf turf and the Boise State Broncos.

Pat Tilman played linebacker, the position I played in high school and college, for the Arizona State Sun Devils. He was drafted to play in the NFL by the Arizona Cardinals. After the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001 he put his life on the line and volunteered to become an Army Ranger. He sacrificed his life defending

the USA.

Who's your favorite actor?

Leonardo DiCaprio is my favorite actor because he has played so many roles very, very well.

What's your favorite type of music?

I love all kinds of music! You might hear me singing a toon while I walk the halls of the middle school.

Which high school did you attend?

I attended the best high school in the World...Northern Lehigh High School! Go DAWGS!

Which college(s) did you go to?

After high school, I attended Lehigh Carbon Community College (LCCC) and then I transferred to Wilkes University for my undergraduate degree. I also earned my Master Degree from Wilkes University.

Mr. George : 7th and 8th Grade ELA

By Andi Szwast
Team 7 Barker

This year, we have the pleasure of greeting Mr. George, the new English teacher taking the position of former English teacher Mrs. Dunham. In honor of his newly-acquired teaching position, the Bulldog Bark has set up an interview with him in order to learn more about one of the Northern Lehigh Middle School's newest hires.

What do you teach?

I teach ELA for 7th and 8th grade.

What do you like (or dislike) about your subject?

I love sharing and analyzing good stories, and I love writing in general, both as a way to express thoughts and feelings and as a way to explore them. That said, I don't care so much for the termi-



nology involved in grammar; I believe the concepts are extremely important, but memorizing the exact definition of a subjunctive sentence, for example, seems not quite as useful in the long run.

How do you like teaching at Northern Lehigh so far?

I've been a part of the Northern Lehigh community for some time now. I spent several years as a custodian, and since becoming a teacher, I've found the other faculty supportive and most students pleasant.

Which college did you attend?

I attended Kutztown University.

If you have taught previously, how many years have you been teaching and where have you taught?

Before this, my only teaching experience came from my student teaching and from one year teaching conversational English in South Korea at a boys' middle school.

What is your goal for this school year?

My personal goal for this school year is to develop a wealth of resources that I can draw from next year, so that I can spend more time tweaking and adapting them to suit my needs and my students' needs and less time starting from scratch.

What is one interesting fact about you?

One interesting fact about me is that I never learned how to ride a bike. I still can't ride one.

We are very excited to welcome Mr. George to our school district as a teacher, and we hope that he has a wonderful first year full of memories, fun, and, most importantly, learning.

Mrs. Dunham: Technology Integration Specialist

By Bella Haydt

Team 8 Barker

This year, Mrs. Dunham has gone from a 7th Grade English teacher to a district-wide Technology Integration Specialist. She has been a middle and high school English teacher for over a decade, and now she is excited to try something new. In this new position, she gets to teach teachers how to use technology in their classrooms.

Mrs. Dunham applied for the job originally because she just earned her second master's degree in Instructional Technology, and was always one who would look to incorporate technology into the classroom. She was an "early adopter" even before the pandemic, and then made it through hybrid and remote learning. She was often sought by her peers for help and ideas, and now she gets to do it in an official capacity. The pandemic made teachers have to learn so many applications and strategies so quickly, but she wants to be able to help teachers find practical ways to use it in our current world.

Her favorite part of technology is gamification; she loves using Kahoot, Quizizz, and Gimkit in her classes as she feels that games motivate and inspire authentic learning.



She is also really interested in learning more about virtual reality and an "immersive learning center" because she thinks it's where education is headed in the future.

The hardest part about her job is that she needs to be in multiple places at once because oftentimes, she has to multi-task and go back and forth from the middle school and the high school. How she manages her time is up to her, which can be a bit challenging at first; luckily, she's very self-motivated and organized.

The easiest part about her job is answering "Frequently Asked Questions" because it's more about

sharing what she already knows rather than having to problem solve; however, she rather encounter challenges from time to time to keep her evolving and learning.

She does miss teaching ELA and having her own students, but she likes being able to work at both the middle school and the high school. She also feels staying involved with multiple clubs keeps her in the loop and able to connect with students. She gets to see some of her old students that she had in previous years at the high school. She finds it rewarding to help her colleagues out with their specific issues and be able to try to make their lives easier. In addition, she is often co-teaching with other teachers, which makes her feel welcome. When asked which job she likes better, she feels she can't compare as she has taught ELA for a long time and her new job is only months old, so time will tell!

She says that if she had her own perfect world, she would teach ELA and be a Technology Integration Specialist because she does miss her classes. However, she loves her new position because it gives her a chance to interact with teachers and have a greater impact with our district as a whole.

Ms. Shonk: Science Teacher

By Colleen Gilsbach

Team 8 Barker

I interviewed Ms. Shonk, one of our new teachers. She teaches science here and at the high school. How cool is that? Walking all over campus seems like hard work!

I asked her a few questions about what she thinks of our school and where she was before this.

Where did you teach before you started at Northern Lehigh?

I taught at Northampton Community College.

What did you teach previously?

I taught Human Biology and Anatomy, and Physiology.

What do you think of Northern Lehigh?

I love it here! I love the community, the town of Slatington. I'm just enjoying meeting the people and the communities.



I do like the students. I have a seventh grade, eighth grade, and even tenth grade.

How is it walking from here to the high school every day?

A: It's nice to get a little bit of fresh air for a few moments, but I'm not looking forward to the winter weather.

Are you glad you changed to Northern Lehigh?

Absolutely! I'm enjoying working with younger students. Before they were adults, and now I'm teaching kids to love science.

What would you say is the most convenient part of teaching here?

Everything is on a campus and relatively close together. And how close it is to the little town. If you need something, you can just go and get it.

Are the other teachers welcoming?

Very much so. They've been telling me where I need to go, the procedures, and even local restaurants.

Do you like the students you teach?



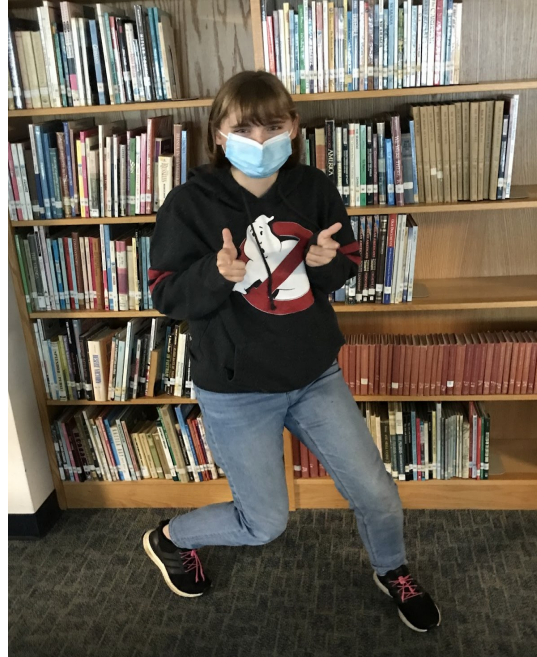
Dr. Gonzalez, our new Spanish teacher, will be featured in our next edition. Stay tuned and give him a warm welcome!

Student Spotlight of the Month:

Colleen Gilsbach

By **Samantha Mack and
Aubrey Reinhard**
Team 8 Barkers

Colleen Gilsbach is a new eighth student at Northern Lehigh Middle School. Colleen has many hidden talents and fun facts about her. Art is one of Colleen's most cherished things. Colleen loves to draw, sketch, and write comics. Although Colleen has been through two other schools, we hope Northern Lehigh will always be her school. Band and theatre have both been things Colleen has dabbled in throughout her 13 years. Colleen is a huge fan of Marvel, so if anyone needs facts or the



lowdown on anything Marvel, she is the person you want to talk to. Even though Colleen is new to the school, she is determined to drive her way into extra activities. Since she loves reading and writing, Colleen is a member of the school newspaper, *The Bulldog Bark*. Colleen may be new to the school, but she is including herself in student activities and showing lots of school spirit. You will be seeing a lot more of Colleen, so make sure to say hello and get to know this super fun girl!

The Disturbing Backstory Behind an Abandoned Pennsylvania Ghost Town

By **Andi Szwast**
Team 7 Barker

59 years ago, on May 27th, 1962, a tragic mine fire turned a once-prosperous coal-mining town into an almost abandoned ghost of its past self. Perhaps the beginning of Centralia's long list of misfortunes starts in the 1860s when a secret Irish society called the Molly Maguires induced a wave of crime upon the pleasant little town. This wave of crime ranged from the murder of the town's founder, Alexander Rae, to the untimely death of the area's first priest, and everything in between. Finally, in 1877, several suspected leaders of the Mollies were executed and the crime wave abated. However, Centralia's history of tragedy had only just begun.

The next in line of Centralia's unfortunate disasters is one of the less-remembered ones, mostly be-



cause of the minor effect it had on the town. This event was called the Great Depression, and it traveled quickly through many mining towns, disrupting their business and shaking their economy. While Centralia was impacted by the Depression, the town performed a

miraculous recovery, and it resumed its business, flourishing as much as it ever had before.

Finally, we reach the most imprinting tragic occurrence in Centralia's history: the devastating mine fire that topped all else. There are many theories about how this fire started, but perhaps the most believable hypothesis starts with an excess amount of municipal waste. This abundance of garbage caused many unregulated landfills, which in turn resulted in an increase in rat population, a corral of unwanted odors, and many complaints from the residents of the town. Eventually, the Centralia city council decided to take charge of the waste overflow. They proposed a plan to rid the city of its rat population and multitude of scents in time for its residents' memorial day festivities.

While this plan may sound solid, there was one fatal problem with its execution that ultimately caused the town's demise. Instead of creating another certified town dump or exterminating the current contents of the town dump into another, larger dump more suited for their needs, the council decided to burn the contents of their town dump so as to make more room for the trash that had been piled illegally around the town. It is theorized that, when the fire was ignited, it spread to an abandoned mine pit underneath the site of the landfill, which then carried the fire to other parts of the mine. From here, the circumstances only went downhill.

On February 14, 1981, a boy named Todd Domboski was sent by his mother, Florence Domboski, to investigate a group of cardinal-looking people that had been touring the town. In reality, these people were Pennsylvania state politicians who were meeting with Centralia borough officials, but all Florence had been told was that a strange group of outsiders had been exploring the untroubled little coal-mining town. Along his way, Todd

noticed fine wisps of smoke emitting from a small patch of grass located next to a tree. He found this intriguing, so he edged closer to the patch of grass, wondering where the smoke was coming from and what had caused it. Suddenly, the ground beneath Todd gave way, and the 12-year-old boy was submerged in a knee-deep pit of mud, smoke, and gases from the mine fire. As he sunk deeper and deeper into the uncomfortably warm puddle, Todd began to scream for help. He managed to grab an exposed tree root and hold on to it until his cousin Eric Wolfgang came to his rescue. Eric pulled Todd out of the mine pit at just the right moment; if Todd had remained trapped inside of the pit for any longer length of time, he would have suffered the great risk of asphyxiation. Luckily, Todd emerged from the prison of mud and gas with minimal injuries. In fact, the only signs that proved his less-than-ideal excursion to be true were the clumps of warm mud that covered him from head to toe.

This and the combined effort of steadily climbing temperatures, smoking sinkholes, gas-filled base-

ments, an assortment of health problems reported by Centralia residents, tilting homes, and sunken graveyards compelled federal officials to take action. They paid the residents of Centralia to move away from the town and forbade the few remaining citizens from passing down or selling their property. Furthermore, all of Centralia's buildings were condemned and its zip code was eliminated.

The lifetime resident of Centralia's old mines is today one of the 38 known active mine fires in the state of Pennsylvania. Sources state that the Centralia mine fire could burn for another hundred years if left untreated. Now, the once-happy little coal-mining town will smolder in silence and loneliness until it finally burns itself out.

Click [here](#) to watch a video to learn more about the Centralia fire and why this is still happening today!

BuzzFeed NEWS



Assembled By Melody Lindenmoyer

Which Halloween Creature Are You? by Colleen Gilsbach

Which Halloween Costume Should You Wear? by Melody Lindenmoyer

Which Halloween Figure Are You? By Bella Haydt

Autumn Awakens

By Emily Mack
Team 8 Barker

Are things getting back to “normal”? Who knows? Last year was a very different year because of COVID-19. Things are now ever-changing, such as the leaves. Autumn is here! Halloween and Thanksgiving are two major holidays in the fall. Time for brisk weather and colorful leaves. There are so many opportunities to do things this fall. The world is starting to open up again! We still have to stay safe. COVID hasn't entirely gone away, but it is time to have fun and get in the Autumn Spirit!

Since Halloween is the closest holiday, we should start with that. Halloween is a holiday all about spooky things. Pumpkins, black cats, and ghosts are all very important components for a spooky Halloween. What is Halloween really about? Halloween originated in Ireland. Halloween was originally known as Samhain. On the night of October 31st, it was

believed that spirits of the dead could return to the Earth. Samhain became All Hallows's Eve. All Hallows's Eve became Halloween; the



holiday in which we celebrate today! Well, not everyone celebrates Halloween.

The holiday is mostly enjoyed by young kids who get candy and dress up. Halloween has no age limit, anyone can celebrate! The most famous components of Halloween are really anything spooky, dark, crazy, scary, and most of all creative!

Another fall holiday we are looking forward to would be Thanksgiving! Now Thanksgiving isn't global, whereas Halloween is. Most everyone loves Thanksgiving food and the

Thanksgiving football game! It is a time to be together with your family and friends. It is also a time to give thanks. There are so many important people in our lives, and we should take the time to appreciate them. Celebrating Thanksgiving doesn't look the same everywhere. Some people make lots of food including turkey! Others just have a usual dinner. Not everyone spends time with their family and friends on Thanksgiving. It doesn't matter how you celebrate. It matters that you are having a good time and that you are happy.

Fall has many things to offer, so get out there! Go pick pumpkins and apples. Have an outing to a corn maze. Carve or paint pumpkins with friends. Look at the changing leaves around the area. Watch Halloween movies! Take some time to yourself or with others to appreciate the wonderful season around you! *The Bulldog Bark* wishes you a Happy Autumn!

Halloween History: When Did It Come About?

By Samantha Mack
Team 8 Barker

We all know Halloween as the holiday where we go trick or treating in majorly overpriced costumes, but is this really what Halloween is? Halloween is actually a tradition that originated with the Celtic people. Samhain is the festival when people would dress up and light bonfires to ward off ghosts. Pope Gregory III declared November 1 to be

all saints day; therefore, the evening before was used to celebrate saints day. October 31 was known as All Hallows Eve to the people in the eighth century. The Celts believed that on All Hallows Eve the living and the dead would be joined together for one night

only where the ghosts of the dead would return to Earth.



Socialism and Capitalism in a Cereal Factory:

A Political Analogy

By Patrick Conway

Team 8 Barker

Socialism and Capitalism are two very different economic systems. Both of them have various upsides and downsides, however, uncovering them may be a bit difficult with modern media. News outlets are constantly giving out information that is twisted or incorrect, to begin with, and with the internet, misinformation is spreading more rapidly than ever before, which makes it hard to not only find information but interpret it. My goal for the article is to

(hopefully) educate everybody on both topics, so they're better understood. However, since some of this may be a bit difficult to take in, I have a strategy to "ensure" that I get my points across. I'll be putting you in the position of both the owner and the workers of a cereal factory. However, before we go on your trip as an artisan-partaking-in-the-work-of-the-cereal-industry, it's important to keep in mind that both have unspoken upsides and downsides. Before you go making any large conclusions, please do some research on your terms. It will not only help you, but it will likely prevent me from being blamed for turning ten people into communist

revolutionaries. Now that we have that cleared up, let's go into Capitalism.

You have invested enough money to build a new factory, made for producing a new cereal you have made. You then proceed to hire some workers to begin maintaining

you'll have to change to new, cheaper ingredients. Eventually, it becomes known your cereal makes many people sick, which makes the brand very unpopular. Your workers begin to leave as you don't pay them enough. At one point, you lose almost all of your hard-earned money. There's no point in trying to sell your stockpiled cereal, as the demand has decreased because competitors have gotten ahead of you and taken the workers that left your company.

That might have been a bit hard to digest, especially if you don't know much about stocks or investments, but what is explained



the factory's machinery. After this, a portion of the cereal is stockpiled, just in case anything were to go wrong. After a while, you get short on money as you haven't been selling enough cereal. To ensure your factory stays afloat, you lower the wages to an almost unlivable amount and now begin buying ingredients from cheaper sellers, which have lower quality products. Although the product will be cheaper, it will likely not taste as good and may have some disease floating around. The demand for these goods will probably rise overall, as you need them to continue to produce cereal, which is going to be bad for you, as prices may eventually rise and

above is known as laissez-faire Capitalism. While the government doesn't place restrictions on your business, they also won't help you out, if you are to go bankrupt. In this example, you don't sell enough cereal, which starts a domino effect leading to your downfall. You carried a very big risk of waiting to sell your cereal stock and didn't get any reward because of it. This is laissez-faire Capitalism. It encourages most entrepreneurs and capitalists.

Just before you declare bankruptcy, the government establishes a reserve to help keep the stock market propped up and also begins intervening in the economy. At

See Cereal, Page 12

A Short and Brief History of the Chaos in Afghanistan

By Patrick Conway

Team 8 Barker

If you haven't heard about it already, there's a lot going on in Afghanistan, and it has been for years. There's been many invasions, government takeovers, and insurrections against these governments. However, the big discussion of the topic is the recent pullout from the area, and the catastrophe it caused. We'll not only be talking about this but also what has all led up to these events. To start, let's focus on the first big conflict that occurred in Afghanistan: the Soviet-Afghan war.

The Soviet-Afghan war has been considered by some to be the "USSR's Vietnam," suggesting it went very badly. It all started on the first day of 1965, when the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, was formed. It was a Marxist-Leninist organization that had already become fairly popular in the 1965's parliamentary elections, in which they won four seats. To make it clear before we get into the war itself- there were two factions to this party- the hardline Khalq, and the moderate Parcham. The Parcham wanted a peaceful and moderate rise to power, where the Khalq believed in the violent overthrow of the government. With the help of the military, they did and formed the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in 1978.

The PDPA made many "radical" reforms, like toppling the feudal system, giving rights to women,

and raising education funding to make sure everyone could read. (All of this may sound good, and granted these things are good.)

It's important to keep in mind this is a Marxist Leninist state, meaning the markets were under total control of the state, which was very authoritative.) However, the big "radical reform," was to form a secular state. A secu-



lar state is a state where religion has no role in the government. Now, when you tell a bunch of Islamists that women will be granted rights, that may not go

over well. Tell them that the mosque won't have power in the state and you're probably going to have a very bad time. Many protested the PDPA's coup, as a large portion of conservatives wanted to keep the government structure. The PDPA repressed many political opponents. This resulted in multiple parties, widely referred to as mujahideen groups, revolting and starting a civil war.

However, the DRA had one way

they could for sure win the war against the mujahideen. They had backing from the Soviet Union. They had a much larger military than the DRA and had some of the best tanks, guns, planes, and (if needed) nukes. The Afghans had previously made treaties with the Soviets, which allowed them to call them for assistance in any situation needed. However, there was an

issue with this. The general secretary of the government, Amin, was fairly unpopular and his handling of the insurgencies caused his government to be fairly unpopular. The Soviets weren't happy with that, so before they helped the Afghans, they first killed Amin, something referred to

as the Palace Coup.

This Palace Coup made the country even more unstable than it was previously,



giving the mujahideen a significant advantage. The Mujahideen was also being provided with equipment by the Americans. In 1989, the Soviets withdrew from Afghanistan, even though the civil war was still ongoing. Both the US and the USSR continued to fund the mujahideen and DRA respectively. However, in 1992 the DRA fell, and the mujahideen took over Afghanistan.

One could argue this wasn't the end of the civil war. Those mujahideen groups that were previously allies, became enemies. After the Soviet-Afghan War ended, mujahideen groups made a rush for Kabul, resulting in the formation of the Islamic State of Afghanistan. However, fighting still occurred, and the "new civil war" raged on. However, a new faction known as the Taliban had popped up, and they were gaining a lot of power very quickly. By 1995, the Taliban had successfully taken over the government. The Taliban enforce strict rules, based on their interpretations of the Quran. They began outlawing the cultivation of poppies (Which were being used to make opium), and enforcing stricter punishments for lawbreakers. However, the saddest of all these is that women had lost most of their rights. They could no longer go to school, or have a job.

A few years later, a figure you may know is exiled from Sudan. Many believed he was hiding in Afghanistan, The figure founded a jihadist group to topple western governments throughout the Middle East. The man's name was Osama bin Laden, and he was one of the founders of al-Qaeda. al-Qaeda eventually became tied to the Taliban through a bay'ah, which is a pledge of allegiance to a person or group. This pledge by al-Qaeda made them a subordinate group to the Taliban. This was great for them, as another civil war was already on the rise. The Islamic State's supporters now moved to the northern section of the country, referring to themselves as the

Northern Alliance. The two previous factions continued to fight for another five years. Nothing significant happened until 2001 when the Taliban offered a Northern Alliance leader named Massoud a position as prime minister. However, Massoud declined, claiming that the only way Afghanistan would be stable or fair was through democratic means.

Sadly on September 9th of that year, he was killed during an interview with two members of al-Qaeda. They had killed him with a bomb hidden inside the camera. Massoud was considered a national hero; he had voluntarily given up a powerful position, to protect democracy.



A larger tragedy happened two days later. On September 11th, two planes crashed into the Twin Towers. Both of them fell shortly after. The Pentagon was also attacked, resulting in 184 deaths. Passengers on a fourth plane successfully stopped the plane from hitting its target, which is presumed to be the Capitol or White House. They sadly paid with their lives. 9/11 is considered by some to be the most horrific day in American history.

Then-president George W. Bush demanded the Taliban give up Osa-

ma Bin Laden and shut down terrorist training camps across the country. The Taliban only acknowledged the demand of Osama bin Laden. Before they would hand him in, they would ask for "solid evidence of his involvement" before even considering it. The Americans were quite certain bin Laden had planned the attacks. However, instead of giving the Taliban certain proof, they began planning for an invasion.

On October 7th, 2001, airstrikes struck Kabul, Kandahar, and Jalalabad. Shortly after, the 3rd Ranger Battalion onto an airstrip south of Kandahar, known as Objective Rhino. In November, the cities of Mazar-i Sharif, Kabul, and Tarinkot. After this, they took Qala-i Jangi and Tora Bora. The Taliban government fell apart shortly after, ending the war and beginning the occupation.

Now we skip past around twenty years to look at what's happening today. Poppy farms have been forced to shut down, women's rights are in the process of being eliminated, and the Taliban's interpretation of the Quran is turning into law. The two sides are polarized. While Democrats blame Trump, Republicans blame Biden. A Marine has faced a court-martial for criticizing our recent withdrawal from the region. The former president of Afghanistan has gone into hiding, and suicide bombers have been blowing up mosques and Taliban checkpoints for over a month now. **Who's fault is all of this?**

The quick answer- a lot of people. However, I'll go into a bit of depth. To start, we'll talk about the rampant corruption in the mili-

Chaos, from Page 11

tary. Plenty of commanders had reported on a false number of troops (Mostly higher numbers than what they had) to get more supplies, which they could waste away. Although troops had more equipment to work with, it resulted in supply shortages. "Ghost soldiers," also harmed the state of the military. These are soldiers who are not on active duty. It is assumed they were used to get more funds to an officer or other authoritative figure.

Another contributing factor to the collapse is the Doha Agreement, which was supported and (to my knowledge) proposed by Trump. The agreement allowed five thousand Taliban prisoners to be released from prison, and also began leaving troops out early. Knowing that these prisoners were a part of the Taliban, it's safe to assume most would simply rejoin their units shortly after. While making diplomacy with the Taliban was a necessary move to getting out of Afghanistan, it allowed the Taliban to retaliate against the Republic easier.

They indeed retaliated, and as the Afghans retreated, they took things we left behind. US troops had also begun evacuating, allowing the Taliban to access more guns, ammo, and vehicles. It is

estimated three thousand Humvees went unaccounted for, alongside seven thousand rifles and machine guns. When the Republic collapsed, Joe Biden ordered six thousand troops to go back into Afghanistan to help evacuate aid workers, interpreters, and other assistants. Many remain in Afghanistan, still asking for help from the West. During the evacuation, suicide bombings occurred in Kabul by members of ISIS-K, killing 169 Afghans and 13 American servicemen. Biden threatened ISIS-K by saying they would strike back. They later did, on the 27th and 29th of August. The first was successful, however, the latter killed seven children, alongside three innocent civilians.

There are not many ways to put the catastrophe that happened in Afghanistan. Although pulling out of Afghanistan was a great way to ensure the lives of Americans were safe, it resulted in the deaths of hundreds of people- some of them being our own. No matter where you stand on the situation, most people can agree it went very badly. Although I can't think of many appropriate words to describe the situation, I did think of one. **The word is chaos.**

Cereal, from Page 9

this point, your factory doesn't help the cereal stock market much, but a very nice government official decides to approve your bailout anyway. As the producer of your ingredients relied on you for profit, they'll probably lift them out of bankruptcy as well. Now, several things might happen here. Either they'll force your supplier to hire workers to make sure their food is safe, costing them more money, or they'll make you hire these extra workers. They may even force you to change suppliers, which will probably send them out of business.

Displayed above is a rough representation of a regulated capitalist economy. Here, while the govern-

ment grants you a bailout to protect the economy, it also puts restrictions on what you can do and sell. For example, since your food has been dubbed unsafe for consumption, they'll stop you from selling it until you can find better and safer ingredients. This doesn't seem good to you, but restrictions can theoretically save you from getting a bad reputation. That might not make sense, but the government protecting you from selling potentially dangerous products will guarantee nobody consumes it in the first place. If nobody's consuming it and getting sick, you may not get yourself a bad reputation. While this isn't going to help your cereal factory very much, this is

great for new companies and consumers, as it protects them from selling or buying anything possibly dangerous. Strengthening market regulation today is associated typically with modern liberals, so odds are if you're very successful, you'll literally pay the price. This is because most liberals tend to raise taxes on richer people, so if you have a lot of money you'll be giving some of that away.

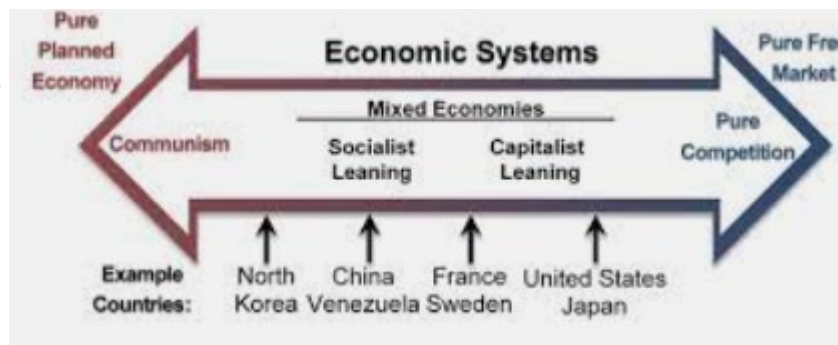
The explanations above are pretty vague, and there are many other capitalist models. However, to sum up, the situations I just described, you own your own business, and sell the product for money. The state has nothing to do

with what you sell in a laissez-faire economy. If you make good economic and social decisions, it could go very well. However, if you were to go bankrupt, the government wouldn't be there to back you up. With a regulated market, there are more restrictions on what you do and sell, which can make it hard for a larger company to keep growing. However, consumers are protected from buying bad products or being mistreated.

Now we move on to socialism, which is hard to explain to an outsider. In a socialist government, you don't own the factory, the government does. So you can keep a powerful position, we'll say the workers at the factory have voted you in as leader of the factory. A day or two after you get in, a government representative comes up to your factory and tells you to make ten thousand boxes of cereal in the next month. Not only will you be trying to reach a goal, but odds are all of the other cereal factories will, too, although the goal may vary. This is known as a planned economy, which is where the government lays out what needs to be made and distributes the proper resources to different factories to produce them. You have a smaller factory, so it's possible the larger one next door will have a fifteen-thousand box goal. At the end of the month, you've produced eleven thousand boxes, instead of the ten thousand boxes you were told to make.

Most of the cereal is now given to

the community to divide up, and since you and a few other companies made more than you were supposed to, you instead get twelve boxes of cereal, instead of everybody else's ten. Since you and the other companies did more work than asked, you get a better reward. However, everybody benefits in some way, just a certain few more than others. This means people are rewarded for doing or making more than what's expected. However, you don't own the



cereal, the factory, or the machinery, which means you aren't entitled to your own product. This seems very authoritative, and granted- a large majority of socialist countries are. North Korea is ruled by what is practically a monarch, and the Soviets ruled with an iron fist. China is very authoritative, not even allowing children to play video games more than half an hour a day (However, keep in mind the Chinese use a socialist market economy, which is NOT the same as outright socialism). However, groups like anarchists and libertarian Marxists do exist. Some of these groups are somewhat popular, however, the big difference is that they do not have a vanguard party or Communist party.

On the subject of the Communist party, let's move to Communism-

which is just an extension of socialism. In this communist society, you are dead. Well, to be more honest you'll probably have your head attached to a pike that will be paraded around Tsar Nicolas's palace. One of the big differences between communism and socialism is that communism normally advocates a violent overthrow of the bourgeoisie (the middle and high classes) by the proletariat (workers and farmers), compared to the peaceful rise of most socialists. Communists agree on the "withering away of the state" that Karl Marx proposed, however, they disagree on the means of doing this. Some have libertarian methods of communization and

workers' self-management, while others believe in a vanguard party or communist party to help pave the way to a constitutional republic. However, all of them are based on common ownership, the abolition of money, social classes, and eventually- the state.

I don't know if it's possible to say it was good for a business owner or leader in this case, so instead, we'll go with you being a worker. For starters, you have protected rights and don't have to buy anything. However, you can't buy anything, so the pride of buying a house or car, won't exist. Eventually, if you and your fellow workers make enough, Marx's theories come into play. Once enough is made, there won't be a need to buy stuff, and people will just take as they need, and after

this, there won't be a need for a government, and they would give up their power. Let's say that you reach this theoretical utopia, and you need twenty boxes of cereal. There's no catch, they'll just give it to you. This might sound great and all, but the government needs to make sure the industry is efficient enough to reach this "give away stuff for free" utopia, which is a reason most communist countries are

very authoritative. However, some groups have an emphasis on libertarian movements, like anarcho-communists and libertarian Marxists. I've also said the same thing in

regards to socialism, which is kind of a way to remind you communism is a more radical form of socialism.

Since we're here, why don't I explain the role these have in our politics?

We'll start with the big two: the Democrats and the Republicans.

While the two are separated primarily by social issues, they do have some slightly different economic interests. Most Republicans are considered conservatives, meaning they want to keep the country the way it is right now, especially economically. While a lot want to deregulate our economy, it isn't a top priority. Many Democrats are known as modern liberals, some of which would like to continue regulating the economy. This isn't the top priority for many, either.

Of course, these two parties can be split up more. Some Republicans have very polarized opinions.

They are normally against elitism, meaning they support egalitarianism (The one not important right now) and populism (The one important right now). These are known, funnily enough, as populists, specifically right-wing or national populists. While they aren't undemocratic, they do disagree with some aspects of liberal democracy. However, they still support large corporations, unlike



left-wing populists. They are also typically anti-immigration, and work to help the people of their nation, and satisfy their needs. This "populism" thing may not sound too good because of that last sentence. However, there are two things to keep in mind: 1. These are national populists, a group of populists, they do not represent all populists, and 2. Populism has been incorporated into many political doctrines, like liberalism, socialism, and is in many nationalist ideologies.

Next to that is left-wing or socialist populism, which isn't as popular in the US. They believe corporate shareholders should make decisions, instead of corporate managers. They also can be considered egalitarians (Now important), which is a concept that suggests that all people are created equally, and have the same worth and moral status. They also

have some socialist theory tied in somewhere, although it takes much less of a priority than most left-wing ideologies.

The Democrats have a few democratic socialists in their party, however, the group we'll be talking about is the progressive movements in the party. Progressivism advocates social reforms, and attempts to curb the "constant battle between the privileged and unprivileged." Many progressives hate laissez-faire Capitalism and believe that government intervention must be made to stop corporations from gaining more power or causing monopolies. This can be tied into social democracy, a "socialist" ideology that promotes the ideas of a mixed economy (One where private and public sectors are both present). Social democrats promote tax raises on the wealthy, creating mixed economies, and raising spending on healthcare, education, and welfare.

This all might seem quite useless. Granted, if you don't pay attention to politics, it kind of is. Socialists and communists aren't going to matter as of now, especially in the United States. However, it's very important to have a grasp on politics. Even the slightest clue of what's going on in politics can help you to figure out who to vote for, who to support, and what parties to support. Although it may not seem significant on the surface, it is. Absorbing this information, along with anything else you may learn can help you look smart in conversations, but using this information may change how you live your life.

Hay Day: Game Review



By Lacey Groover
Team 8 Barker

So I downloaded [Hay Day](#) on my phone around three months ago, and let me tell you it has been my *passion*. This game is really fun and gives you something to keep in your subconscious and help boring time pass a little quicker. This game makes you need to create strategies, plan ahead, and keep track of it, which also helps kill time. In the game, you're a farmer with a new farm and need to expand it and make money. Playing this game is really fun, and I'll tell you why you should download it.

Currently, I am on level 43 and this game is very addicting. My dad, sister, and I play this game together and compete and help each other with things we need. I have had this game since July 22nd, and haven't missed a day of playing it. There is so much in the game at the level that I'm at, I might not be able to get to it all.

Buying products

In the beginning of the game, you are introduced to a newspaper where you can flip through people's roadside shops to buy advertised items from them. You also have your own roadside shop, which is your main source of income. The newspaper is located in your mailbox and resets every two minutes. The maximum



amount of the same product you can buy in one purchase is 10. There is also a maximum amount of money people can charge for on each item.

Animal products

At my level I have two feed mills, which make food for my animals. I have 18 chickens, 15 cows, 12 pigs, 10 sheep, and 6 goats. The chickens give you eggs (20 minutes), cows give me milk (1 hour), pigs give bacon (3 hours) no, you don't kill them, sheep give you wool (5 hours), and goats give you goat milk (8 hours). These timestamps seem like a long time, but the higher you get in the levels, the more you acquire, the more stuff to do, the less time it seems to take.

Here's a list of the items you can make these production buildings:

<p>1. Bakery Bakes bread, cornbread, cookies, raspberry muffin, blackberry muffin, pizza, chili pizza ,and potato</p>	<p>2. Feed Mills Makes chicken, cow, pig, sheep, and goat feed with silo products.</p>
<p>3. Dairy Makes cream, butter, cheese, and goat cheese with animal products.</p>	<p>4. Sugar Mill Makes brown sugar, white sugar, and syrup with silo products.</p>
<p>5. Popcorn Pot Makes popcorn, buttered popcorn, chilli popcorn, and honey popcorn with silo and barn products.</p>	<p>6. BBQ Grill Makes pancakes, bacon and eggs, burgers, fish burgers, roasted tomatoes, baked potatoes, and fish and chips with silo and barn products.</p>
<p>7. Pie Oven Bakes carrot pie, pumpkin pie, bacon pie, apple pie, fish pie, feta pie, casserole, and shepherds pie with silo and barn products.</p>	<p>8. Loom Weaves cotton fabrics, sweaters (white), blue wooly hats, and blue sweaters with silo and barn products.</p>
<p>9. Sewing Machine Sews cotton shirts, wooly chaps, and violet dresses with silo and barn products.</p>	<p>10. Cake Oven Bakes carrot cake, cream cake, red berry cake, cheesecake, strawberry cake, chocolate cake, potato feta cake, and honey apple cake with silo and barn products.</p>
<p>11. Smelter Makes silver, gold, platinum, coal, and iron bars with mine ores.</p>	<p>12. Juice Press Makes carrot juice, apple juice, cherry juice, tomato juice, and berry juice with silo products.</p>
<p>13. Ice Cream Maker Makes vanilla ice cream, cherry popsicle, strawberry ice cream, and chocolate ice cream with silo and barn products.</p>	<p>14. Jam Maker Makes apple, raspberry, blackberry, and cherry jam with silo products.</p>
<p>15. Jeweler Makes bracelets, necklaces, diamond rings, and iron bracelets with smelter products and ores from the mine.</p>	<p>16. Coffee Kiosk Makes espresso and cafe latte with silo and barn products.</p>

Production buildings

Production buildings are things you acquire over the span of your gameplay. You also acquire new things to make in these production buildings each level, which is also the order I put them in.. The production buildings and products I have listed are only up to my level.

Fields

Game Review, Continued



Right now, I have 69 fields in my farm and you acquire more as you proceed through the levels. Your fields are for planting crops. Wheat, corn, soybeans, sugarcane, carrots, indigo, pumpkins, cotton, chili peppers, tomatoes, strawberries, and potatoes are the crops I am able to plant. These plants are stored in your silo, but they aren't the only products stored there.

Trees and Bushes

Trees and bushes are plantable items that produce fruits. The types of trees and bushes I have are apple trees, raspberry bushes, cherry trees, blackberry bushes, and coffee bean bushes. The items you collect from these plants are stored in your silo and you are able to harvest them twice. After two harvests, you're able to ask for help, which someone from another farm can click on the tree/bush to revive it. You are then able to do two more harvests, then the tree/bush dies for good and you need to cut it down with an axe or saw.

Barn and Silo Storage

Now, you can't just keep piling up supplies in your barn and silo. You can upgrade both with special and expensive items to give you more storage, which is vital for gameplay. Your silo holds all of your crops and fruit from trees/bushes, and your barn holds everything else that you can sell.

Coins, Diamonds, XP, Vouchers, and Boosters

One of the most essential things in the game, currency. Coins are acquired by selling items, helping other farmers, and filling orders. Coins are the most important currency in the game, having a low amount of coins is not good for your farm because they are the foundation of the game. You use coins to buy things like production buildings, animal pens, animals, crops, trees, bushes, and special items. Diamonds are a rare type of currency in the game that allows you to speed things up and start production for things you don't have the ingredients for. If you download this game, don't waste your diamonds! They can be really important to saving you at the last minute. XP is given to you for basically everything you do. XP is put at a bar on top of the screen to proceed you to the next level. Vouchers are used to buy extra things as in pets or de-

cor. Boosters are found in mystery boxes.

Farm Visitors, Truck, and Boat Orders

Truck and boat orders are your second main source of income. Truck orders are orders that you need to make and gather items to fulfill the commission. You gain XP and coins for these orders. Truck orders have no expiration time, but your boat, however, does. Every four hours you have a boat that comes around and stays for 16 hours. During the four hour waiting time it gives you what items you need for the boat order, but not the amount; tedious, I know. You will usually have 3-4 crates of each of the three items you need ranging from 1-20 items per crate. You must fill all of the crates to send the boat away. Each crate you fill gives you coins and XP, but if you fill all of the crates and send the boat off before the time runs out, you get a tremendously larger amount of coins and XP. Farm visitors are NPCs who come into your farm to request certain things from you.

Mine, Fishing Boat, and Farm Expansions

The mine, the fishing boat, and farm expansions are similar because to use them you need to use special items and vouchers. When you unlock the mine you can use TNT, dynamite, and shovels, which are also used to clean up around your farm. You get ores from the mine and can make metal bars in the smelter. The fishing boat needs lures for the fish, so you make them by paying with vouchers. Fishing is one of my favorite parts of the game because you actually cast the line and have to drag the fish to the middle of a circle. It seems easy, but sometimes it's not. Farm expansions are unlocked by getting a certain amount of land deeds, marker stakes, and mallets to open up a new section to disperse your farm over. You don't always need to expand your farm, but you will have to eventually.

Helping Farms

You know how I said to revive your trees/bushes someone from another farm can come click on it? You can do that to other peoples farms too. You and other people can also ask for help on boat crates and truck orders. The maximum number of times you can simultaneously ask for random people's farms help is three, but you can ask for help from your neighbor-

hood once after that. If you help out a tree/bush the person sends you a thank you letter, which gets you tickets to buy mystery boxes. If you help out someone else you get the coins and XP for that truck order/crate plus the ticket. When visiting other people's farms, make sure to keep a close eye out for mystery chests. Some chests require diamonds to open, but some are completely free to open and can get you special items, diamonds, vouchers, or boosters!

Neighborhood and Derby

Neighborhoods are where you and other players can get together and compete in a derby and help each other out. If you win the derby against other neighborhoods, you can get special items for you and your neighborhood. I am in a neighborhood with my dad, sister and I. Our neighborhood is pretty small, but the amount of time we play this game helps us compete with other neighborhoods.

Dogs, Cats, Horses, Puppies, and Donkeys

You can purchase these pets with vouchers and feed them every few hours, let them sleep, and wake them up for XP which gets you to proceed through the levels. You need to buy houses for them all, which are pretty expensive, but it can make gameplay fun. I have five dogs and two cats. My dog's names are Chicken, Rooster, Hen, Egg, and Omelette. My cat's names are Lydia and Tallie.

Decorations

Decorations are not in any way essential to gameplay, but you can get small amounts of XP, and, to me, it makes gameplay more light-hearted and fun. You can pay coins, vouchers, or even diamonds to get decorations. Since I consider myself somewhat of a fashionista, I spend a lot of time organizing and decorating my farm. You can also move any of your production buildings, trees, bushes, and decorations whenever you want.

I feel as though this game is really fun and you should download it too. I'm not a big gamer, but anyone can play this game. It gets easy when you get the mechanics down and becomes really fun really quick. There's a lot of potential fun in this game, and you should totally download it.

DIY Fall Crafts

By Andi Szwast

Team 7 Barker

As the autumn season rolls around, we begin to see a lot of fall-related decorations. They range from autumnal to Halloween-themed, and vary in size, color, material, and means of possession, but it still remains true for all ornaments that they are each fall-related. That being said, many people don't put up decorations. Whether they don't own decorations, don't support the fall season, don't have time to put up decorations, or just simply don't want to deal with the hassle of putting up and taking down pointless plastic trinkets each year, there's validity to most reasons for a lack of seasonal festivity. However, I take it upon myself to make sure that only those problems that cannot be solved remain and that the others are taken care of. For example, a lack of decorations should never stop you from expressing your admiration and enthusiasm for a holiday or season. All things considered, I am here today to show you 2 ways you can transform an old glass jar into a beautiful fall decoration.

Fall Jar #1: Autumnal Welcome

Supplies: 1 hot glue gun, 1 pair of scissors, 1 washed glass or plastic jar, 1 spool of ribbon, and 1 large flower or leaf.

Notes: If you do not have access to a hot glue gun, you can use a glue bottle or glue stick as an alternative.

I would recommend using a spaghetti sauce jar, salsa jar, peanut butter jar, or mason jar during this craft, but any other kind of clear jar or



container you can find around the house will work as well. I would also recommend washing or at least rinsing this jar before using it. For this craft, I would prefer to use burlap or autumn-colored/patterned ribbon, but you could also use any kind of thick ribbon. For this project, you could either use a fake flower or leaf or a real one. However, if you are using a flower, be sure to cut the stem as close to the flower itself as possible.

Step #1: Position the end of your ribbon so that it lays flat on your jar. Then, wrap the ribbon around your jar once in a horizontal circle, leaving

approximately 1 ½ inches of overlap between the two layers. Apply a drop of glue on the jar where the first layer would sit. Once the first drop of glue has dried, add a second one on top of the first layer of ribbon where the second layer would sit. Trim off any excess ribbon not held in place by the glue. Next, wait for both of the glue drops to fully dry.

Step #2: Turn your jar so that the overlapping pieces of ribbon are on its backside. Position your flower or leaf on top of the ribbon. If your flower or leaf does not end up in the desired place, you can always turn your jar when you display it, changing the flower or leaf's position on the jar without removing it. Next, place a drop of glue on your jar where you would like to place your flower or leaf. Gently press your flower or leaf onto the jar where the drop of glue is. Then, let your glue fully dry.

Step #3: If the petals of your flower or the edges of your leaf are not sticking to the ribbon, apply a thin layer of glue onto them or onto the ribbon underneath them and press the petals or edges onto the jar. Repeat this process several times in little increments until you have gone around the entire edge or line of petals.

Recipe of the Month: **Pumpkin** Cookies

By Savannah Hall
Team 8 Barker

Pumpkin Cookies with Cream Cheese Frosting:

Ingredients for the Cookies: 1 cup butter, softened, 2/3 cup packed brown sugar, 1/3 cup sugar, 1 large egg, 1 teaspoon vanilla extract, 1 cup canned pumpkin, 2 cups all-purpose flour, 1-1/2 teaspoons ground cinnamon, 1 teaspoon baking soda, 1/2 teaspoon salt, 1/4 teaspoon baking powder

Ingredients for the Frosting: 1/4 cup of softened butter, 4 ounces softened cream cheese, 2 cups confectioners sugar, and 1-1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract.

Directions: In a large bowl, cream butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in egg and vanilla. Add pumpkin; mix well. Combine the flour, cinnamon, baking soda, salt, and baking powder; gradually add to the creamed mixture and mix well.

Put them 2 inches apart on a cookie sheet. Bake at 350 for 8-10 min, or until edges are light brown.

In a small bowl, beat the frosting ingredients until light and fluffy. Frost cookies. Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator.



best recipes
FOR FALL

Fall Jar #2: Autumn Woods

Supplies: 1 pair of scissors, 1 washed glass or plastic jar, 1 container of Modge Podge or other clear-drying glue, 1 paintbrush, 3-5 leaves, 1 sheet of paper, 1 circular wood slice, 1 small battery-operated candle, and 1 spool of twine or thin ribbon.

Notes: If you do not have access to Modge Podge, you can use any other kind of clear-drying or relatively clear-drying glue. I would recommend using a spaghetti sauce jar, salsa jar, peanut butter jar, or mason jar during this craft, but any other kind of clear jar or container you can find around the house will work as well. I would also recommend washing or at least rinsing this jar before using it. For this craft, I would prefer to use twine, but you could also use any kind of thin ribbon. For this project, you could either use fake leaves or real leaves. Just make sure that your leaves are semi- or mostly flexible. Please note that the sheet of paper you will need for this project



can be any old sheet of paper that you are in correspondence with dirt-ying and eventually throwing away.

Step #1: Place your circular wood slice inside your jar. I glued my wood slice to the bottom of my jar, but this is completely optional and probably unnecessary. If you decided to glue your wood slice to the bottom of your jar, wait for it to dry before proceeding on to the next step.

Step #2: Place anywhere from 3-5 fake or real leaves on your sheet of paper. Make sure they are lying with their backsides facing up. Open your Modge Podge (or other clear-drying glue) and use your paintbrush to apply a thin layer of Modge Podge on top of each leaf's back. Once they are coated, attach your leaves to the interior walls of your jar with the glues side facing the outside of the jar. Then, wait for all of your glue to fully become dry.

Step #3: Glue the end of your twine spool onto the mouth of your jar. After it is dry, wrap your twine or thin ribbon around the mouth of your jar until it reaches the desired height. Then, trim the ribbon and glue the other end to the jar.

Step #4: Place your small battery-operated candle on top of the wood slice inside of your jar, and enjoy your seasonal craft!

When it comes to making fall jars, there are infinite possibilities. So, follow one or both of these recipes or try creating your own original design! **If you would like to be featured in the next edition of the Bulldog Bark, please send a picture of you and your fall jar or fall jars to me at as8871@mynlsd.org or to the Bulldog Bark advisor Mrs. Dunham at bdunham@nlsd.org.** Stay tuned for more seasonal crafts and keep being creative!



**FALL
CRAFTS**

Photos for the Month



By Samantha Mack
Team 8 Barker

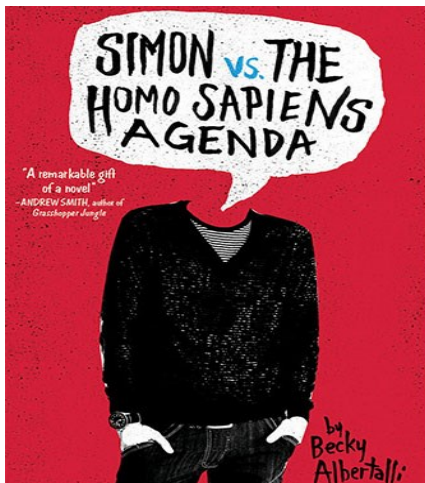


Book Reviews



By Anonymous
Team Barker

Over the past chunk of the school year, I've tried to fit an obnoxious amount of book reading into my schedule. I've written an article for you about these books, my thoughts, and a bit of the plot. So, here you are!



Simon Vs. the Homosapiens Agenda by Becky Albertalli

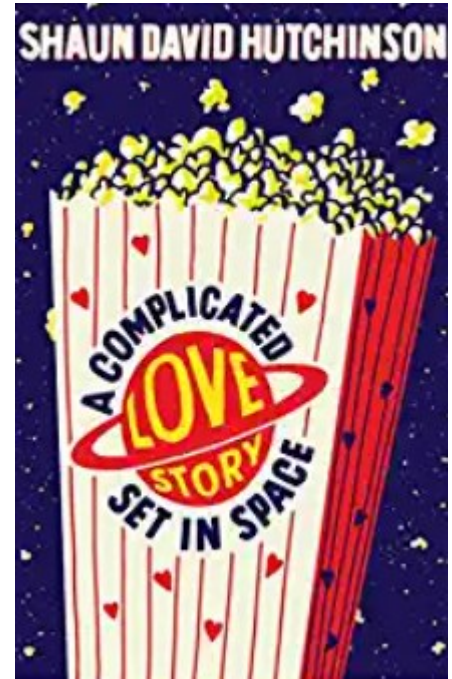
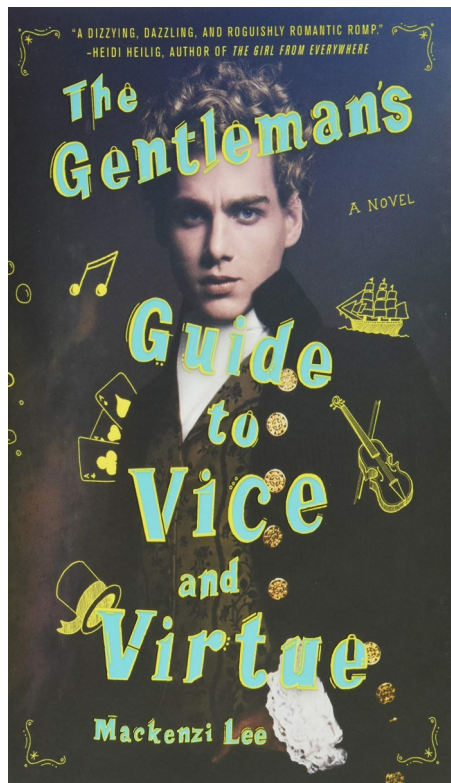
-LGBTQ+
-Romance
-Teen Reads

Simon Vs. the Homosapiens Agenda is a cute classic about a teenage boy named Simon and his pen pal, Blue. They slowly fall in love through the emails, even with them being completely anonymous. There's blackmail, romance, and even betrayal! It's all you could want in a book!

A Gentleman's Guide to Vice and Virtue by Mackenzi Lee

-Romance
-Historical Fiction
-LGBTQ+
-Alchemical Research

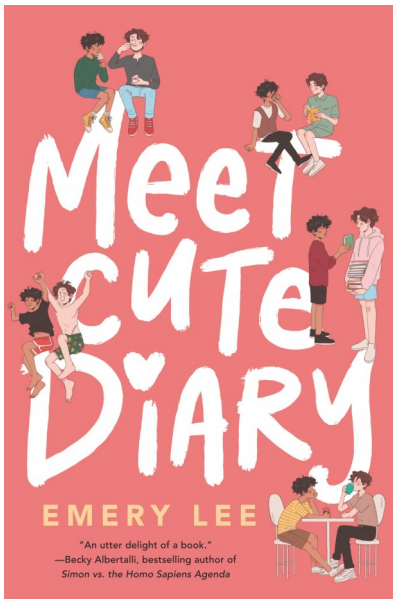
I read this book thinking it was about British wars, but I have never been more interested in a book. Our main character, Monty, is a drunkard and a flirt. I find nothing wrong with these qualities but his father does. He goes on a wild tour and has some dangerous adventures with his best friend, and crush, Percy. Pretty great!



A Complicated Love Story Set in Space by Shaun David Hutchinson

-Sci-Fi
-LGBTQ+
-Romance

As the name suggests, this story takes place in space with our main character, Noa North. I can't tell much of the plot, or it'll spoil the whole book, but I will say it has aliens, gays, and mysteries. 10/10 from me!



Meet Cute Diary by Emery Lee

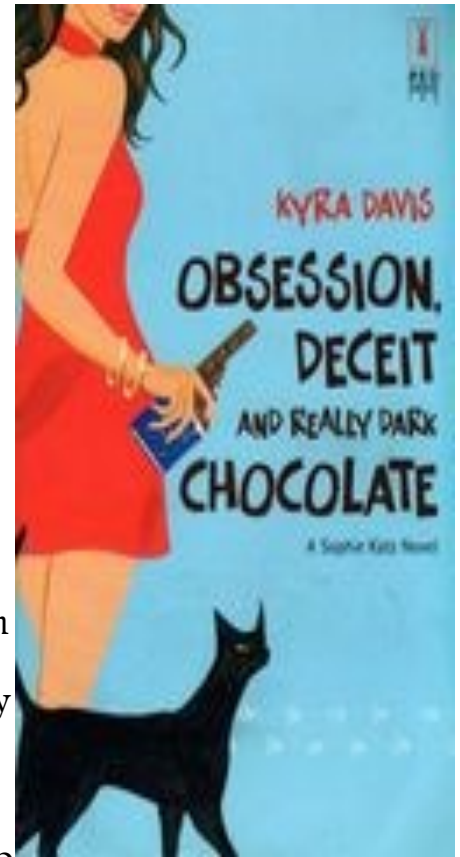
- Trans Romance
- LGBTQ+
- Teen Reads

Meet Cute Diary is a cute book about a boy named Noah and his Tumblr stories. He has been making them up and an internet troll is exposing him. As he needs to save the blog, he finds romance in the most unexpected of places. It's really cute, even if I do say so myself.

Obsession, Deceit, and Really Dark Chocolate by Kyra Davis

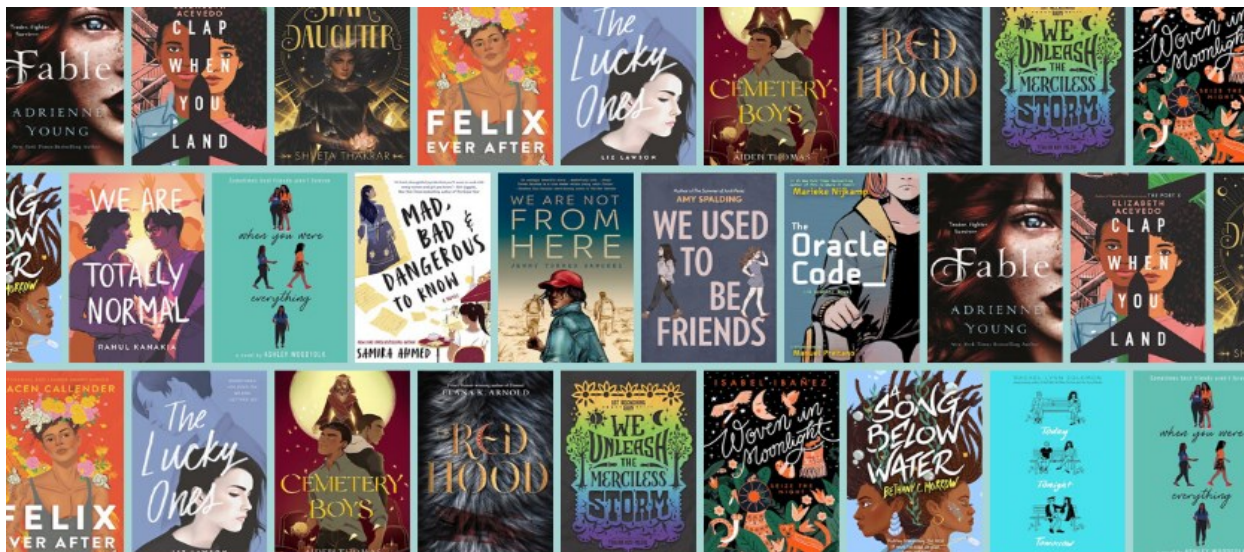
- Murder Mysteries
- Romance
- Women Take the Lead

Sophie Katz is now investigating her mentor's husband's murder after some unfortunate circumstances. As she falls in love with her partner, gets into a few of her own messes, and has guns pointed at her from all directions, Sophie peaks everyone's interests and she'll be here to stay.



Those were some of the loveliest books I've ever read, and you can check them out at our own library. Ask Mrs. Tiedeman for any of these books you can't find in our library, and she'll get them for you. I'd recommend for you to check them out and get back to reading! :)

Click on the group of books below to find out about other great young adult novels recommended by Young Adult Authors!



doghouse fiction



“THE ALIEN AGENDA”

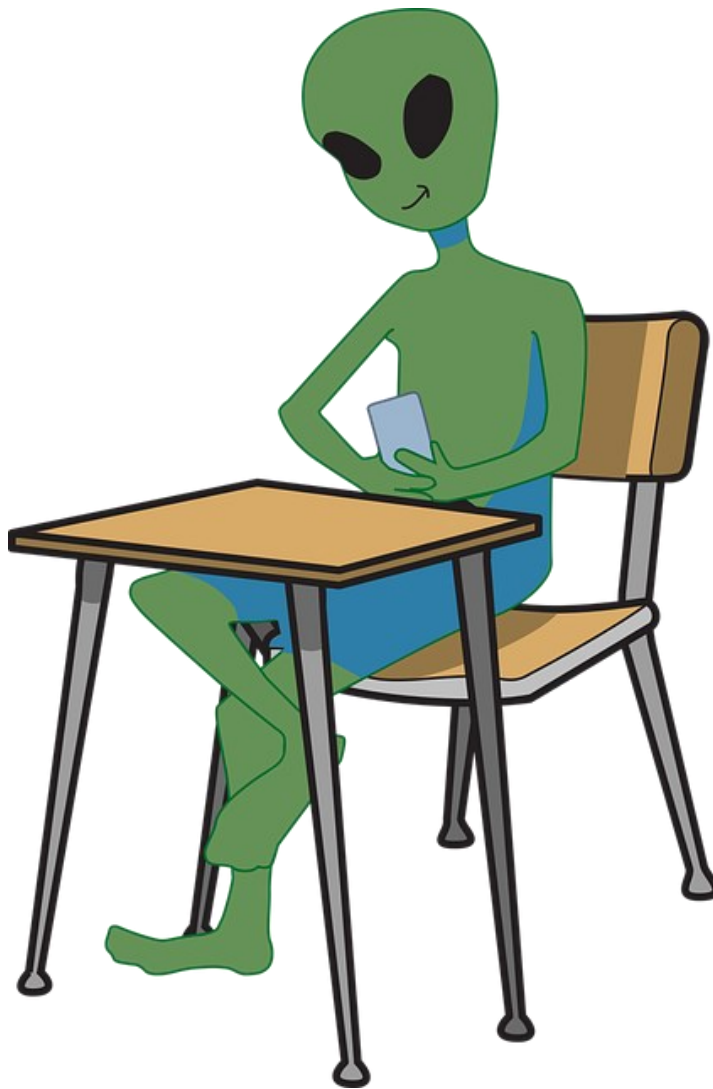
By Colleen Gilsbach
Team 8 Barker

I was simply at school and I wasn't expecting anything interesting to happen. It had just been a normal day and school stopped. Everyone was looking at Instagram, Snapchat, or some other social media on their phones while the teachers turned the news on. I was worried about what was happening, as both of my sisters were in different places than me. My older sister was in the high school, and my younger sister was all the way in Orefield. What was going on?

Suddenly, the Newsguy came on, and started talking about what was hap-

pening.

“Today in Philadelphia, we've had a sighting of aliens, but this is no normal



sighting. Is it, Justine?”

“It is not, Bob, and we now know why. As you can see behind me, there is a lot of

smoke, and in that smoke, we believe a ship lurks. If you play the clips, you can see a large, frisbee-like object landing in front of this civilian right here. Can you tell us what you saw, sir?”

“I was all tucked into my bed when she blew right down onto the highway.”

“Well . . . Thank you for your time.” She was grinning too widely.

“Justine, is there even an interstate down there?”

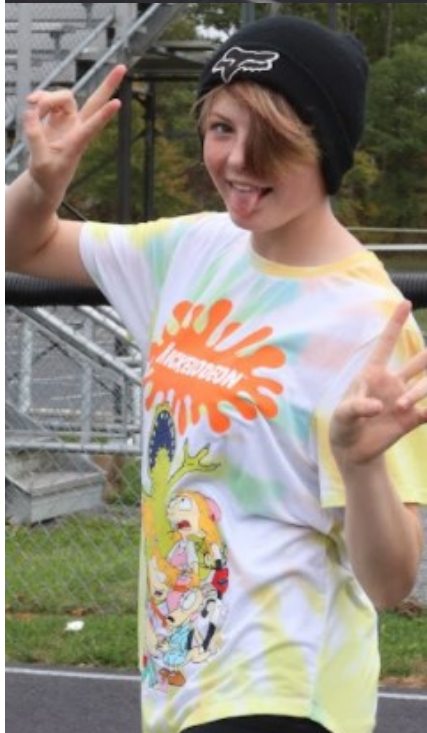
“Well, Bob, there isn't even a road where the craft landed.”

They both laughed like that was the funniest thing they had ever heard and my teacher turned the projector off.

Aliens were real?!? I couldn't believe it!

. . . . Will the aliens attack? Who will be okay? Find out in the next bit of *The Alien Agenda*.

BULLDOG MEMORIES!

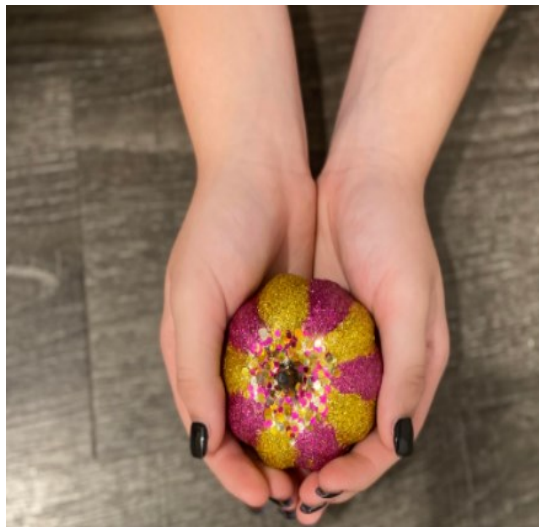




BULLDOG ART!



The coolest collection of custom pumpkins by Lacey Groover, and the lovely painting is by our very own Emily Mack!



Letter from the Advisor

Welcome back to school, and Happy Halloween weekend! We have tackled one of the most challenging years in education. To say that things are normal would be a farce. We are closer, but we are still dealing with the after-shock of it all. We have academic gaps and mental health concerns that remain. The pandemic has impacted the way we learn, interact, feel—all of us: teachers, staff, students, parents—have changed. I think it's important to acknowledge the realities of what we've experienced, but it's equally important to remain compassionate with one another as we return.



Let's be patient as we try to get back into the "swing." Despite all the challenges we've had to face as a school and a community, we can and will push forward.

The Bulldog Bark serves to represent students' voices at Northern Lehigh, so speak up! *The Bulldog Bark* is always looking for more Barkers to add to the pack; even if you would like to contribute to just one issue. This paper serves to represent all of us. If you have any article ideas or are interested in writing at any point, please see me at the TIS office (across from the library) or send me an e-mail: bdunham@nlsd.org. Also, if you are a talented artist, I would love for you to feature your artwork! We have plenty of room to show off your skills!

I would like to acknowledge the 2021-2022 *Bulldog Bark* pack.

**Patrick Conway, Lacey Groover, Colleen Gilsbach
Savannah Hall, Bella Haydt, Melody Lindenmoyer,
Emily Mack, Samantha Mack,
Aubrey Reinhard, Landon Rosado, Caro Schuler, and Andi Szwast**

Happy Halloween! Let's have a strong finish to Marking Period 1 and a smooth start for Marking Period 2!

-Mrs. Dunham