



The Grimsen Courier

Issue #3 2019-2020

Spring Into 2020

By: Erica Brown

After a long winter, the weather will soon turn to warmer temperatures and flowers will be blooming along every street in Dunmore. It is a refreshing take after the never-ending winter. Spring is always one of my favorite seasons because it always feels like a new start to me. The warmer weather always brightens my mood, and there are many exciting things that happen in the spring as well. Many spring sports, such as track, boy's tennis, softball, and baseball, have just begun their conditioning. Additionally, the band and chorus are starting to practice their music for the upcoming spring concert. The drama club is also getting started on their spring musical, *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*. Overall, the spring brings many happy memories to be made for the student body.

The Philadelphia Inquirer Article

By: Erica Brown

This January, reporters, and photographers from *The Philadelphia Inquirer* came to speak to the student body of DHS about the upcoming Pennsylvania Primary. It was a very exciting experience, for many



of the seniors are eligible to vote in the next April election. The reporters

asked the students about what motivates them to vote and the variety of political ideologies that our small town holds. Overall, it was a fun way to get the students excited about the upcoming election and allowed them an outlet to express their political views. *The Philadelphia Inquirer* article can be

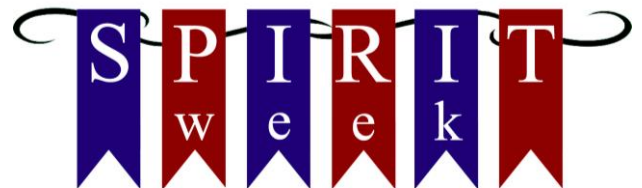
found on their official website and also on Dunmore School District's website.

Spirit Week

By: Madilyn Cianci

DHS Spirit Week is the one week in the entire 180 days of school where you can play games against other classes, decorate your hallway, and wear crazy and fun outfits to school. As a member of the student council, Spirit Week is important to me because I want to make sure that all of our classmates are having an enjoyable time during a stressful school year. With new exciting events such as a Wheel of Fortune game and the ability to tape up one of our very own DHS teachers, there's bound to be an event that will put a smile on students' faces.

This year, Spirit Week is being held in the first week of March. Usually, the event was held in October, or as of last year, February. But, because we had no full weeks in February, we decided that March was the best time to hold it. Personally, I think it is a great way to kick off the month! I remember watching a student body president candidate say during her speech in my freshman year that "Spirit Week should be held in March because it is typically a month that drags on at DHS due to no holidays or any particularly important events in that month." That statement has stuck with me all throughout high school, and I am excited to be fulfilling that this coming March.



News

Editor: Benjamin Amaya
Staff Writers: Giovanni Stivala

The Preservation of DHS

By Giovanni Stivala

Recently, a few members of the Dunmore Band helped to rescue and restore one of the school's old marching banners after it was placed in storage and forgotten. When it was at its prime, this banner was held in front of the band to represent DHS and the music they played everywhere they marched, including Main Street of Disneyworld's Magic Kingdom. When the banner was retired in the '90s, it was to be replaced by the one used today, and it was placed in storage where it became wrinkled and covered with dirt, dust, and stains. Now, thanks to these students, it has been cleaned, pressed, and hung up in the band room on display to help share and preserve the band's, and school's, proud history.



Saint Patrick's Day and Easter

By Benjamin Amaya

Spring is starting and that means the coming of two famous holidays: St. Patrick's Day and Easter. I hope everyone is ready for this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade and not that other thing that people do on this holiday. Nevertheless, I hope everyone stays sober and enjoys the coming of spring.

Easter and Spring Break are coming up, so I hope everyone is ready to start decorating eggs and hiding them. The coming of warm and sunny weather will help us get into the spring season because it leads to fun, enjoyable holidays and the start of lent. There is so much to do this holiday, it's almost like we need a day just dedicated to cleaning and preparing...



Sports

Editor: Caroline Nolen

Staff Writers: Erica Brown, Lauren Grippi, Katherine Hopkins, Rebecca Lucas

Boys And Girls Track

By: Rebecca Lucas

This March starts the beginning of another track season for both the boys and girls teams. The boys are led by Head Coach DeSando and Assistant Coach Montaro. The upcoming seniors are Charlie Valvano, Jake McNeff, Shane Murphy, Paris Alunni, Haris Imran, Rayshaun Dawkins, and Sulieman Qarmout. The girls are led by Head Coach, Coach Muracco and Assistant Coach, Coach Fedor. The upcoming seniors are Grace Amico, Mia Chiaro, Jillian DeSando, Katie Hilson, and Rebecca Lucas. Good luck to both teams in the upcoming season, and run fast bucks!

Girls Basketball

By: Katherine Hopkins

The Lady Bucks opened their season with a major loss at the Lynett tournament, but since



then, the girls have plowed through every opponent that steps on the court with them. Whether it be Riverside or Loyalsock, the Lady

Bucks never back down from the challenge. Being the team that was looked over after losing three senior starters, the girls have proven themselves as a younger and stronger team. Every player adds something different which makes our team so unique. Coach Ben O'Brien will now lead the team into the top four, where we will go against West Catholic. The mentality moving forward is to survive and advance. We ask for everyone's support moving forward on our road back to Hershey.



Boys Tennis

By: Lauren Grippi

As spring approaches, so does the boys tennis season. Returning members are Spencer Asman, Matt Behler, David Day, Nicky



Chiaro, Thomas Hart, Billy Portanova, and Calvin Zhang. The home games are March 23rd and March 26th, April 1st, 6th, 20th, 21st, and 23rd all at 4:15. Make sure to go and cheer on the team! Go Bucks!

Sports

Softball

By: Caroline Nolen

Losing eight seniors sure takes a toll on the Lady Bucks Softball team as they prepare for the upcoming season, but stepping up to the plate and leading the team to victory this year are seniors Madison Crusier, Meghan Fritz, and Jordyn Marichak. The girls are coached by



Ryan Ferguson and Michael O'Malley.

They are hoping to do well this year as they

welcome back some promising underclassmen such as Jenna Crusier and Sophia Mandarano. Overall, the Lady Bucks are looking forward to playing Holy Cross and other schools in the area. Good luck to the Lady Bucks on their season.

Jack Henzes Fitness Challenge

By: Erica Brown

On Friday, March 6th, the Dunmore Jr/Sr High School held its first annual Jack Henzes Physical Fitness Challenge. The challenge is named after Jack Henzes, Dunmore's longtime football coach. The physical fitness challenge has been around for years, but in the past, it was held at Scranton. Unfortunately, Scranton could no longer hold the event, so Dunmore decided to host it this year in the Dunmore High School gymnasium. Many middle schools from all around Lackawanna County participated in this

event. Those schools were Dunmore, Valley View, North Pocono, and Mid Valley. There are five components to the physical fitness challenge: pushups, long jump, hustle run, crunches, and pull-ups. The challenge's main goal is to promote physical activity and education and its importance. Overall, the challenge was a success. North Pocono won first overall, with Dunmore placing second.

Baseball

By: Katherine Hopkins

The Dunmore baseball team is looking forward to another great season. Seniors Steven Borgia, Ross Cordaro, Michael Hannah, Tommy Lewis, and Joey Mandarano believe that the team has a shot to win the league and the district. The loss of a 3-year starter and captain, Danny Walsh, will be a major hit to the team after an ACL injury, but the seven returning starters are looking to make up for the work. We wish the Bucks luck as they head into another season.



Features

Editor: Maggie McNally

Staff Writers: Maggie McNally, Emma Pasko

Walt Disney's 50th Anniversary of Cinderella's Castle

By: Maggie McNally

As you may know, the 50th anniversary of Disneyworld is coming up in 2021, and the animated version of *Cinderella* is turning seventy years old.

Therefore, Disney has decided that something special needed to be done to mark the occasion since Seventy years is an extremely long time for a character to still hold importance in the eyes of the children and adults. The castle will undergo some changes, such as a different color scheme and adding a ton of gold accents, but Disney understands the character's importance to their brand, so the castle is not going through any major changes. Those planning to visit during the season should not worry about any of the construction because the events and activities will still carry on! Work on the castle is said to start very soon and will continue throughout the busy summer season!



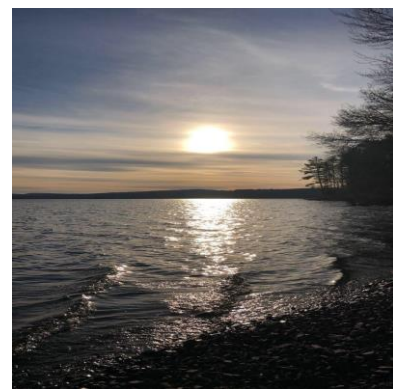
This is the castle today:

This is the artist's rendition of what the castle might look like after the remodeling is finished:



Spring Cleaning By: Emma Pasko

Spring is on its way, so there's no better time for cleaning and change! With spring just ahead of us, this is the perfect time to mix things up a bit. To get yourself ready for the new season, start out by cleaning and rearranging your room! One of my favorite things to do is organize and clean my room. My room is a small bedroom, but I do have enough room that I've added items to it. You can add small things to your room such as houseplants, book décor, fake succulents, or even small sculptures. Other things that you can add to your room are small wall shelves, throw pillows, or even something as big as a desk! Be as original as you want! Your room is an outlet to be creative and imaginative! Have fun with it! You can also look online, on Pinterest, or in magazines for ideas to innovate your room! Happy spring cleaning!



Opinions

Editor: Jake McNeff

Staff Writers: Mikhail Fabi, Louis Hanni, and Lauren Grippi

Coffee vs. Tea

By: Mikhail Fabi

Caffeine: a high-schooler's best friend and an adult's #1 ride-or-die. It comes in many forms such as energy drinks, sodas, and in this case, coffee and tea (the two most popular forms). But which one is truly better?

As an avid coffee and tea consumer myself, I have been through the countless caffeine-induced trials of studying, movie marathons, and restless nights. First off, I can say that coffee is definitely my go-to caffeinated drink, which probably goes for most of us, right? But it was the simple question of "coffee or tea?" that stirred up some controversy.



Surprisingly, the majority opinion between me and my friends was, in fact, tea. But why? *Coffee is much stronger and flavorful as opposed to tea*, I thought to myself and later on told them. Coffee comes in many forms and ridiculous combinations, but tea is just, well, tea. But perhaps the simplicity of it is what makes it much more popular.

The most common reason as to why people prefer tea over coffee is the flavor. Some people just can't stand that rich, slightly bitter, and dark taste of coffee. Personally, I love it, but it definitely is an acquired taste.

Tolerance is also a factor. Obviously, those who have been drinking coffee for longer

than those who haven't are going to prefer coffee over tea.

So the final question, which is better: coffee or tea? Well, honestly, why not both? Coffee is for those late-night study sessions and quiet sunny mornings, whereas tea is for those relaxing gloomy days and bed-ridden sickly afternoons. So get out there and get caffeinated! (Just not too much).

Spring

By: Lauren Grippi

As spring approaches and the weather starts to get warmer, it is a perfect time to join or support the various spring sports and activities that are offered at DHS. Join or support your friends playing baseball, softball, track, or boys' tennis. Volunteer with the Earth Club and pick up trash around Dunmore. You can even enjoy a night in and watch the drama club perform the spectacular *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*. Cheering on your classmates or participating in a sport or activity is a great way to show school spirit while enjoying the nice weather!



Opinions

The World's Oldest Democracy

By: Jake McNeff

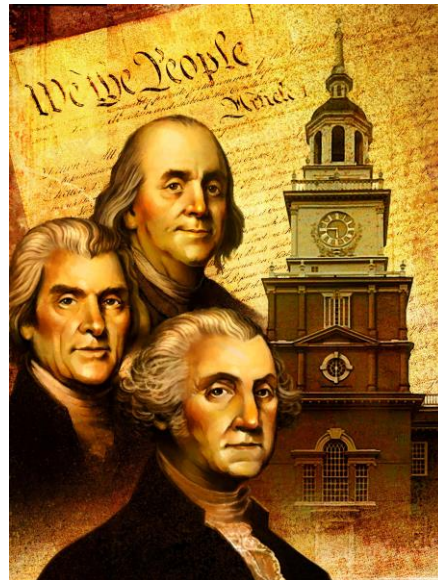
The year is 2020, and things are about to get a little messy. "Why?" you might ask. Well, because it's an election year. It goes without saying that debates will get heated, social media will be downright terrible, and many people will ultimately become very upset about the state of our democracy. There are many flaws in the way our elections are conducted, and it is important to acknowledge those flaws. However, as heated as this election may get, we must appreciate that the United States' democracy has been upheld and strengthened throughout our entire 244-year existence (Yes, I did need a calculator to figure that out).

The history of the United States has seen many obvious injustices in our election laws. For example, women were not granted the right to vote until 1920, and black men were not allowed to vote until 1870. Additionally, Southern States enacted Jim Crow laws such as literacy tests and poll taxes with the intent of preventing African Americans from voting. Long story short, our elections have never been entirely fair, and that remains true to this day.

Technology has recently shown its potential to interrupt our democratic processes. In this election and the previous, we have seen a few notable instances of this. In 2016, Russia was suspected to have interfered with the general election. Now in this election also, it seems that they may have once again made their mark. The extent of Russia's influence has been largely ambiguous to the public, but U.S. intelligence agencies concur that there

has in fact been some interference on Russia's part.

Unfortunately, it is not only foreign interference that presents a threat. The Iowa Caucus, the first contest of the democratic primary, experienced an app malfunction that



delayed the counting of the vote. Such occurrences can make people skeptical about the legitimacy of our elections. It would be difficult to detail every controversy still present in our elections:

gerrymandering, the electoral college, voter ID laws, open/closed primaries, and insufficient requirements for transparency in our campaign finance laws. These are among the most prominent civil rights issues of our time, and they require the thorough attention of us voters and our representatives.

We must all deeply consider the vulnerabilities of our democracy, but at the same time, we must take pride in our country's long tradition of peaceful transitions of power. After all, we are citizens of the world's oldest democracy.

Opinions

A New View on Teaching

By: Louis Hanni

As I approach the end of my high school career, I get asked the same question all the time, "What are you going to do after high school?" Most of the time, I just respond by saying that I don't really know and that I will figure it out when I get there. Every now and then, I will hear one particular response that somewhat confuses me. That response is, "I want to become a teacher." Don't get angry at me just yet, because there are some specific reasons for this. Both of my parents are involved in education, as well as a large part of my family, so I do have experience. So here is my explanation, most college graduates are around 22 years old when they graduate. If a person is going to college for teaching they will have to participate in a student teaching program and then after college, they will most likely begin substitute teaching. Then finally this person will find a position in their qualifications to become a teacher. In my opinion, this individual should not be a teacher. Not because they are not smart, but because they have little experience. Anyone can study the quizlets to pass those exams to get certifications. I feel someone who has been a part of a career for a fair bit of time (25+ years of experience) should be given the option of not necessarily an early retirement, but rather to convert to a teaching position. This makes more sense as this person knows either the best way to learn something or is just more of an expert in this subject.

One issue with this idea is that starting this system would be rather difficult. The best way to begin this system is, as our veteran teachers begin to retire, hire experienced workers with relevant career experience. There are obviously exceptions to this claim and there are many qualified teachers



coming right out of college, from teacher training; but, I feel as if our progression as a society is somewhat stunted by nativity and complacency. Instead of attempting to make changes in the world, some just kind of use their life

as a buffer hoping the next generation will continue. Great teachers are invaluable. Students look up to their teachers for more than they just cover in class and for what a textbook can hold. Students thrive when their teachers are invested in them and can provide meaningful and relatable experiences. Education is not a just series of slides; this creates cycle of lack of progression and innovation.

Arts

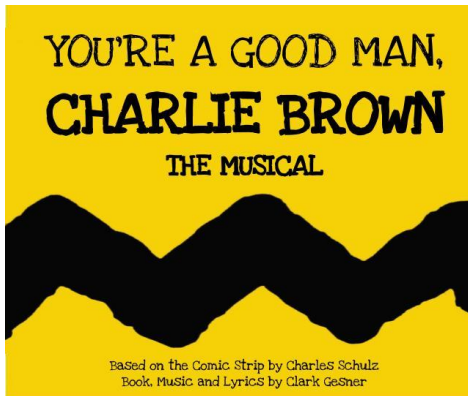
Editor: Bell Pendon

Staff Writers: Erica Brown and Najuk Patel

You'll Go Nuts For This Play

By: Bell Pendon

The Spring opens up various student activities for everyone to be a part of. This season, the Crimson Company has been tirelessly working on their musical, *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* since the beginning of January. This is Ms. Carlier and Dana Jackson's first musical production at Dunmore High School. Both directors and students are very excited to participate in this activity. Since everyone knows of the Charlie Brown comics, shows, or movies, then everyone is bound to enjoy this musical production. Seniors such as Ian Gratkowski and Erica Brown are playing the roles of Charlie Brown and Sally Brown respectively.



Make sure to clear out the dates of March 19th, 20th, 21st, and the 26th, 27th, and 28th for the wonderful production of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. You'll surely enjoy the performance of many talented students as well as treats during intermission.

Springtime Birds

By: Najuk Patel

The dreary, gloomy days will soon be over as we approach Spring! To boost the moods, here is a short playlist of peppy songs that will surely bring you into the season of spring. You can listen to these songs during your walk or heading to practice.

"Y U Gotta Be Like That" by Audrey Mika

"Good Vibrations" by The Beach Boys

"Honesty" by Pink Sweat\$

"Golden" by Harry Styles

"Supalonely" by BENEE and Gus Dapperton

"Sofia" by Clairo

DHS Show Choir Competition

By: Molly Sheets

On Sunday, March 1st, the Dunmore High School Show Choir performed in a choral competition at Lackawanna College. They performed against other schools in the area for the first place title. The show choir is an esteemed group of chorus students at Dunmore High School who both sing and dance simultaneously. They must be a member of the Dunmore High School Chorus, and must audition to join the club. The show choir gathers once a week to learn new songs and dances, typically in preparation for the winter and spring concerts. The show choir typically performs at the Home for the Holidays Parade, the winter concerts at the Viewmont Mall, both the winter and spring concerts, and more. For the first time, the show choir is competing against other schools. The competition was judged based upon choreography and vocals. Unfortunately, the show choir did not win, but we all enjoyed the experience and had a fun time!



Middle School

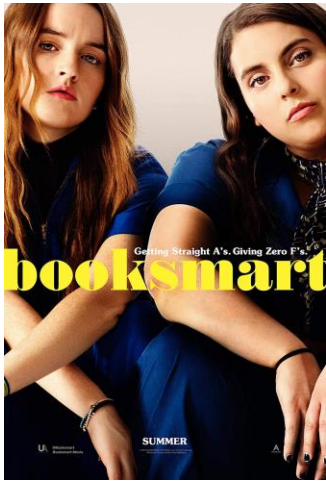
Editor: Madilyn Cianci

Staff Writers: Madilyn Cianci, Danyelle Tech, & Jake McNeff

Teen Comedies

By: Jake McNeff

With the release of the critically acclaimed comedy, *Booksmart*, this past year, I figured now would be a good time to reminisce about some of the best teen comedies of all time. *Booksmart* is full of laugh out loud moments that easily stack up to some of the great teen comedies of the past.



There are many classic teen comedies from the 80s and 90s: *The Breakfast Club*, *Fast Times at Ridgemont High*, *Dazed and Confused*, and even *Back to the Future*.

These movies show exactly just how awkward our teen years can be, and they have undoubtedly

stood the test of time.

Fortunately for us movie lovers, we have been treated with many delightful teen comedies in recent years as well. I cannot forget to mention *Superbad*. The misadventures of Jonah Hill and Michael Cera make for unforgettable entertainment. Additionally, movies like *The Edge of Seventeen*, *Lady Bird*, and *Eighth Grade* are all darkly comedic interpretations of high school life.

In conclusion, it is nice to see our lives reflected on the big screen in the form of thoughtful, emotional teen comedies.

Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy

By: Danyelle Tech

This year for the 2019/2020 school year, there were two students who placed in the Patriot's

Pen and Voice of Democracy competitions sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Students Micah Madrazo and MaryEllen Conway both finished in fourth place in District 10 in their designated categories. Micah placed in the Voice of Democracy, while MaryEllen placed in the Patriot's Pen portion. Both students represented Post 3474 from Dunmore and did an excellent job!

The Most Exciting Things About Spring!

By: Molly Sheets

Winter is a time of reflection and preparation for the future, however, the spring is a time when everything finally comes to life. Everything starts to become alive again: the flowers begin to grow, the leaves turn back to green, and the birds migrate north once again.

The spring is full of exciting new sports, shows, and outdoor activities. The rest of the winter may be difficult to endure, but here are a few items and activities to look forward to in the spring:



- Wearing shorts and t-shirts
- Going on picnics
- Attending outdoor concerts
- Enjoying fresh fruits and vegetables
- Flying kites
- Grilling food outdoors
- Having a bonfire with s'mores
- Going on walks

The last draining weeks of winter are certainly the hardest, but with these positive events in mind, hopefully, it will give you something to look forward to!

