



THE LEDGER

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The Student Newspaper of Beverly High School

December 20, 2012; A Collection of Ledger Highlights

100 Sohier Road, Beverly, MA 01915

BHS NEWS IN BRIEF

MASSACHUSETTS AFL-CIO 55TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
The Massachusetts AFL-CIO Scholarships are available to all high school seniors living in Massachusetts. Students with union affiliation will be eligible for both the Mass AFL-CIO scholarships as well as the union scholarships offered by the union that the student is affiliated with. Be sure to let Ms. Orso in guidance known if you are planning to order an exam, and to see full requirements

DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS
Students can now register on the Beverly Dollars for Scholars website at beverly.dollarsforscholars.org. More information such as registration dates and deadlines will soon be added to this website.

CYBER PATRIOT TEAM
Our JROTC CyberPatriot Team has made the semifinals for the CyberPatriot National High School Cyber Defense Competition. The top two teams from each branch of service will earn a spot in the finals that will take place at National Harbor Maryland on March 14th and 15th. The semifinals will take place on January 11th and 12th.

MUSIC DEPT. WINTER CONCERT
Tonight, December 20, is the annual Winter Concert at 7 pm in the BHS auditorium. The groups in order of performance are Beverly Symphony Orchestra, Concert Quire, String Ensemble, Vocal Ensemble, Jazz Band, Chorus, and Concert Band. It is free and open to the public.

THE END OF THE WORLD!
The world will be ending Friday, December 21. Time unknown. Send out your Christmas card now, or they will be forever lost in the post-apocalyptic Mayan hellscape.

Senior Superlatives

Class Sweethearts: Em Geras and Kenny Pierce	Sam Shorr
Best Dressed: Andrea Pulido and Karl Brandt	Best Musician: Diana Kelly and Gabe Buchsbaum
Best Hair: Meredith Lupini and Dylan Staid	Worst Driver: Jill Stirrat and Karl Zeroka
Most Gullible: Libby Rosenberry and Ryan Shipp	Best Laugh: Annah Coddington and Brian Perry
Class Clown: Courtney Bennet and Connor Lowe	Most Likely to Brighten Your Day: Libby Rosenberry and Joe Marciano
Class Flirt: Karlie Marrs and Rob Cattell	Most Hugable: Phoebe Blau and Robby Auld
Best Smile: Livvy Konaxis and Dave Rollins	Hardest Worker: Alyssa Kastrinakis and Brendan McGee
Social Butterfly: Dani Zessoules and Corey Malone	Best Car: Cori Neider and Mike Black
Most Athletic: Natalie Shea and Brendan Flaherty	Most Inseperable Friends: Brianna Babcock and Courtney Green
Most Likely to be Famous: Carly Moffie and Marc Babcock	Best Bromance: Mike Black and Dylan Perry
Best Eyes: Alex McNamera and Nate MacLaughlin	Heart of Gold: Nina Walsh and Tom Lindgren
Most Swag: Tatiana Murade and Brendon Cronin	Most Sarcastic: Katie Wheatley and Ian Beckman
Most Artistic: Becca Jutras and	Life of the Party: Alysha Doucette and Tom Donovan

The Ledger

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Statement of Purpose: The Ledger has been written and published by BHS students since 1979. The Ledger's aim is to explore and expose issues important to students and staff. None of the opinions expressed reflect those of Beverly Public Schools or BHS Administration. The Ledger does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age or disability in admission or access to its programs, services or activities, in treatment of individuals with disabilities, or in any aspect of their operations.

Superbowl Champions!



Tiffany Holmes '13
Staff Writer

Photo courtesy of Mike Rollins

This past Saturday, thousands of fans gathered at Gillette Stadium in Foxboro, MA to show support for the Beverly Panthers as they faced the Natick Redhawks in the Division 2A Superbowl. The Beverly Panthers went into the game undefeated at 12-0, while the Natick Redhawks went in with a solid 11-1.

The first quarter started off with Natick scoring a touchdown worth 6 points and their kicker Samuel Lenson adding an extra point, bringing them up to 7. Beverly tried to even up the score but was unsuccessful. This left Beverly down 7-0 at the end of the first quarter.

However, the second quarter was a turn around for Beverly. Kenny Pierce's 14th rushing touchdown of the season occurred at this point, bringing Beverly up 6 points...

(Continued on page 2)

NHS Blood Drive

Ryan Noss '14
Staff Writer

On November 16, an estimated 50 students gave blood in the field house. The event was staffed by 10 Red Cross Workers and 15 NHS volunteers. When asked why he personally gives blood, Alex Wheeler '13 said, "I'm donating blood because I know it goes to people in dire need of assistance, and I know it saves lives." According to the Red Cross, one pint of blood can save up to three lives, yet not very many students choose to donate.

Anybody 16 or older can give in Massachusetts (with a parental permission slip), so if you meet the age requirement, consider giving next time the school holds a blood drive. "We don't realize how many people need blood, so if you have an opportunity you should give blood," said Andrea Pulido '13. 5 million American patients need blood per year, and every donation helps to meet that demand. For more information visit www.redcrossblood.org.

BSO Teen Council

Ben Ayers '14
Staff Writer

"The BSO Teen Council is a mentorship and community service program that empowers high school student musicians to become life-long advocates of orchestral music through direct participation in the full scope of education and community engagement programs of the Boston Symphony Orchestra."

The BSO Teen Council is a program that gives students a hands on experience on being a member of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, as well as a greater personal ownership of orchestral music.

Each year, only fifteen students will be selected through a strict application process to participate in this program. Students receive community service credit, as well as an honorarium for their participation.

Congratulations to our students Sydney Maciak and Ryan Noss for becoming members of the BSO Teen Council. Also, our students are selling BSO cards that make tickets for students \$10 to see all of their shows (excluding certain specified days). For more information, contact education@bso.org.

Adventure Time!

Ben Ayers '14

The hit new Cartoon Network program, "Adventure Time," is sweeping the school at an alarming rate. The show features the maniacal adventures of a human named Finn and his magic dog Jake and many hilarious supporting characters, such as Lumpy Space Princess, Ice King, and Princess Bubblegum. The crazy and zany adventures are usually entertaining nonsense, chocked full of simple puns and sarcasm. The show is very entertaining and can only be explained by one word- madness.

The show is simply "ba-nay-nay" and is very well known. It is used in advertisements everywhere, from Starbucks Coffee to McDonald's. Although there was much success for this cartoon, Cartoon Network has turned into reality shows featuring actual people now. If it is called Cartoon Network, what happened to all the cartoons? That is a reason for the success of "Adventure Time;" it is a classic cartoon with no point, and that is what sets it aside from the filler that is on TV today.

These days, there aren't any-more shows that can be just for fun. You know that show that just talks about celebrities and famous gossip; that isn't a reality show... unfortunately, that's the news! Some of the news channels are considered "TV Entertainment" nowadays. That means it is a channel that is for the viewers' enjoyment, with occasional news, as well. Before seeing the news in the morning, you usually have to sit through 5 minutes of "Jersey Shore" gossip before you can get one hint of your day. Time would be better spent looking out the window and figuring it out for yourself, rather than watching it. The simplicity is admirable and the reason why this show is enjoyed so much. TV has changed.



Photo Courtesy of Cartoon Network

Ask the Ledger

Ledger Editor, Austin Healey '15, answers your questions

Anonymous asks: What is your opinion regarding the Mayan Apocalypse?

I will start off by saying that a belief in the world ending on December 21, 2012 is one of the most absurd societal delusions of the millenium. The mere belief that the Mayan calendar actually ends on December 21 is ludicrous.

The Mayan's had three basic calendars, which accounted for the scheduling of sacred rituals, the solar cycle, and a long-count calendar that counted approximately 52 solar years at a time for accurately recording history. The long count calendar was composed of repeating cycles of of almost 400 years known as b'ak'tuns. December 21, 2012 is merely the end of 20 ba'ak'tuns, and the start of a new piktun. There have been several of these cycles stretching back in time, and there will be more to come.

Therefore, to believe that some cataclysmic event will destroy us all on the 21st is almost too insane for words. In my opinion, if you believe in an entirely factually flawed misinterpretation of a 4,000 year-old human-sacrificing Mesoamerican society's calendar- and you've sold your house and given up on life because of it, then you probably deserve the consequences of your actions once you wake up on the morning of December 22, 2012 completely unscathed by whatever nonsense you expected.

Ask The Editor

Now is the time if you need advice or have a question, send them to:

asktheledger@gmail.com

Ledger Culture Panel

Reviews from the Ledger Staff

Is TV teaching kids to be bullies?

Leah Horrigan '13

In the fall of 2007, a brand new TV show was introduced on Nickelodeon, "iCarly," a funny sketch-parody starring the lovable Miranda Cosgrove. She plays the ever bubbly Carly, a young teen, who, along with her friends Sam and Freddy, invented the web show "iCarly," which takes up most of their time and leads to countless entertaining adventures. My sister, my father, and I have watched this show for years, and until a couple weeks ago, I saw nothing wrong with it... until I watched a marathon of the show and identified a common theme that left me startled and appalled.

Samantha "Sam" Pucket, played by Jeannette McCurdy, is Carly's sassy best friend known for being a tough punk and is frequently a source of humor. As I delved further into the series, I was made aware of the fact that Sam, in essence, is a bully, not only in regards to terrorizing the two boys, Gibby and Freddy, but also to any adult or child that opposes either what she believes or wants to do. Sam will often physically harm Freddy if she believes his opinion to be wrong or unimportant.

Her "shenanigans" soon reached a point that was indefensible. Sam and Freddy decided to date at one point in the series; however, this caused Sam's built-up aggression to turn to the lovable idiot Gibby. All of the character's friends agreed this was reasonable, justified by the "fact" that Sam needed to get her anger out on someone. This was until the cruelty was again turned back to Freddy when Sam purposely sabotaged his application to an academic camp, knowing full well that this was a big dream of Freddy's.

Sam's actions translate into physical and verbal abuse that would cause any insecure teenager quite a bit of stress, if not leaving them emotionally scarred, depressed, and with a largely diminished level of self esteem. Sam is a bully through and through.

Children are like sponges, absorbing whatever they see, and Samantha Pucket and the entirety of "iCarly" is an awful example for children to learn how to behave. Many shows these days are similar to "iCarly," like "Wizards of Waverly Place" on Disney Channel, yet the Disney show, though foolish at times, still has an underlying theme of family values and embedded morals. I hope, for the sake of the new generation, that iCarly is done teaching kids that delinquency is "cool" and that verbally and physically abusing a friend is acceptable. Shows like this should not be condoned or allowed.

What is your favorite part about winter?

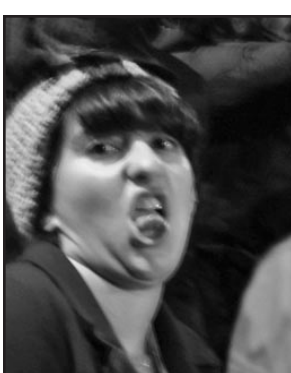
Meet your Ledger Staff



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"I love winter... the cold matches my frigid personality"

"I like the feeling of snowflakes dancing upon my facial whiskers."

"I like making an igloo to hibernate in."

"I like eating snow."

"I like to wear shorts while sledding, so I can become one with the weather"