



THE LEDGER

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The Student Newspaper of Beverly High School

March 19, 2009

100 Sohier Road, Beverly, MA 0

BHS NEWS IN BRIEF

CHAPMAN AND ADLER GO TO NATIONALS

Two BHS Juniors competed in the Nike Indoor National Track Meet on Sunday, March 15th at the Reggie Lewis Center in Boston. Millie Chapman came in 17th with a time of 11:17 in the two mile run. Monica Adler finished in 16th place in the one mile with a time of 5:06. Both currently hold the school record in their respective events.

JUNIOR PARENT NIGHT

Junior Parent Night is March 25 at 6:30 in the BHS Library. The meeting will discuss college selection and the application process. It is meant to complement the Financial Aid night that guidance presented in December.

THE SUMMER YOUTH PROJECT

The Food Project is offering a summer employment opportunity. This program pays \$175 per week, for eight weeks. Students will work from late June to mid-August. They will learn to grow vegetables and serve each Wednesday in a hungry relief organization. The students will also help run a farmer’s market in Lynn. A representative from the food projects will be holding an information session for potential workers today at 3 PM in the BHS Library.

NEW IRISH STUDIES CLASS

Next year, Mr. Leahy will be offering an Irish Studies class. This class has already had a very strong and positive response. In fact, Mr. Leahy feels that one section is not going to be enough for all of the people who want to take the class. Included in the class is Irish literature, poetry, music, mythology, and history. Both juniors and seniors can take the class for a history elective.

COURSE REGISTRATION

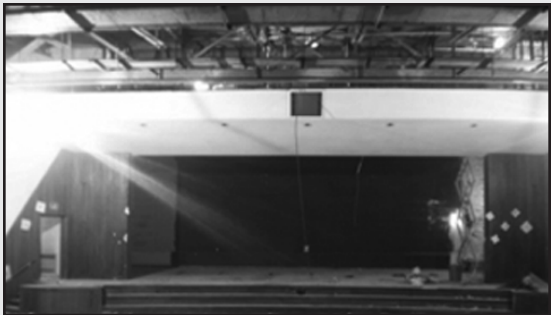
This year, Guidance is using Naviance to register students for courses. Before using Naviance, Guidance Counselors had to individually input each student’s courses. Naviance makes the scheduling process easier by having each student input their own courses into Naviance. This program is efficient and saves time.

SENIOR CLASS FUNDRAISER

It is the last day to submit brackets for the Senior class “Tourney Pick ‘em” March Madness fundraiser. Brackets are \$5 each. Good Luck!

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

BHS construction is right on schedule. The workers have demolished the inside of the auditorium. They have removed the seats and are using the good seats for the memorial building. By April they plan to have steel beams in place for the foundation.



Courtesy of Elizabeth Olsen

Interior view of the auditorium completely gutted as of March 17, 2009.

Dude, Where’s My Car?

Rumors, or is administration finally cracking down on the parking issue?



Christina Norris ‘10
Contributing Writer

Courtesy of Christina Norris

The problems regarding the parking situation at Beverly High School have not gone unnoticed by upperclassmen. Complaints abound that spots that have been paid for are being taken by students who have not paid, and that the best spots, outside Patten wing, are now being sold at a discounted rate while students who paid their full \$175 at the beginning of the school year are left to park on the outskirts of the student lot.

Furthermore, when spots are not taken illegally by other cars, snow and ice often makes parking in them impossible, forcing students who would normally park in their rightful space to leave their cars elsewhere.

Rumors of towing have scared many students into parking legally. On Wednesday, fifteen of Miss Sudak’s students left one of her classes to move their cars because they were parked illegally. Still, though, problems persist and spots are being wrongly taken each day.

However, students can be assured that issues over parking are being addressed by the administrative team at Beverly High School, led by assistant principle Mr. Bauer. In a recent interview, Mr. Bauer explained how problems are being tackled.

“This year it’s been difficult because of the change in parking spaces,” says Bauer. “I look to next year to be a bit smoother. The bad weather has created a problem. The snow and ice took some of the corner spots and that’s been an issue we’re trying to deal with.”

When asked what administrators are doing about students taking parking spots that they did not pay for, Bauer explained, “We’ve tried to track the students down and notify them that they’re parked illegally.” He went on to cite the

student handbook, page 30 of which states that, “Violation of [the above] parking policy may result in loss of privileges, ticket or towing at the student’s/owner’s expense.” (However, the policy does not clearly state that students are forbidden from parking in spaces not assigned to them.)

While Mr. Bauer could not comment on rumors that cars have recently been towed from the BHS lot, he did explain that if a student’s car was to be towed, that student would have to pick up the car him or herself and pay the fee, which exceeds the cost of a parking spot at the high school. Administrators could also potentially take disciplinary action against offenders if they are parked in faculty parking, fire lanes, or have refused to move their cars.

To students complaining that they are not happy with their spots, having purchased them early on in the school year, Bauer offers his condolences. “I apologize for any lapse of communication. Mrs. McGrath in the C-wing office is willing to switch spots for anyone who is not happy with their own.”

Bauer also explained that while this year, spots in the student lot were the first sold, next year spots in Patten wing will be sold on a first-come first-serve basis before other spots father from the building.

To students whose spots are being taken, Bauer advises that they write down the license plate number, make and model of the offending car and come right to the office, where someone will notify the person whose car it is that they must move it.

If not every wrinkle in student parking is straightened out this year, Bauer still has hope for the future. He explains, “I look forward to next year being smoother with the parking process.”

Parking Problems

Margot Gahan ‘09
Tanya Tamowski ‘09
Taylor Rapalayea ‘10
Lauren Lacy ‘10
Staff Writers

Parking has been an issue for BHS students all year. The school has several rules about parking: students must pay \$175, park in the space assigned to them, and have their tags visible, but countless students do not pay their \$175. They park right outside the Patten Wing door without paying and do not even try to hide the fact that they do not have a tag.

In the past month the school has attempted to crack down on this issue by leaving notes on the windshield of illegally parked cars and threatening to tow, but there are still other issues plaguing the school parking system.

Students arrive to their designated spot, only to find it covered in snow. Now everyone is trying find a spot, and often it is someone else’s. Why are we paying nearly \$200 for a mound of snow? It is a new parking lot, so why can’t it be plowed properly?

If our spot is taken up by snow, we deserve a per diem refund. If the school is unable to get the parking lot plowed correctly, they should cancel school for that day because it interferes with everyone’s commute.

Why not make the spots available on a first-come, first-served basis? Everyone gets a tag, and the first students to school get the good spots. Seems fair? AP

art students get to school at 7:30 and have to walk the entire length of the parking lot, while late students get to park up front. Why not reward the first people to buy spots? Some of the first students to buy spots ended up at the end of the tennis courts. People who parked illegally for the majority of the year, who only bought spots in the last month, get the coveted spots outside of Patten Wing. Is this fair?

Why pay when you can park for free in an even better spot?

If we pay \$175, why can’t our fee be put toward ticketing and towing the people that park in our spots? Save the warning. TOW! Stop threatening and follow through!

It is simply not fair for the couple hundred students who have worked hard to pay for their spots to have students park for free along side of them. It’s also not fair to save special spaces for certain students. You may think you’re playing favorites is kept secret, but it is not. Everybody knows what is going on.

When someone parks in our spot, who are we supposed to contact? Right now nothing seems to be happening when we log complaints. We have a student lot; make all the students park in the student lot!

Administrators: Sell the tags unnumbered and make it first-come, first-served. If that seems too chaotic, at least reward the students who pay first with the best spots. The system is starting to change, but much more needs to be done.

OPINION

Panther Palace a new school store

Sarah Flanagan ‘12
Staff Writer

BHS is anxiously awaiting the opening of its new school store, the Panther Palace, located in the cafeteria.

To find out all about the store, the Ledger interviewed the woman who is in charge of it all, Ms. Thi Rome.

The Ledger: When will the school store open?

Ms. R: We’re hoping sometime this week; if not, some time this month.

TL: What are you going to be selling?

Ms. R: Shirts, sweatshirts, pens, pencils, tissues, etc. I don’t know if you remember the survey you guys took, but we used those to decide what to sell at the store.

TL: Will things be affordable?

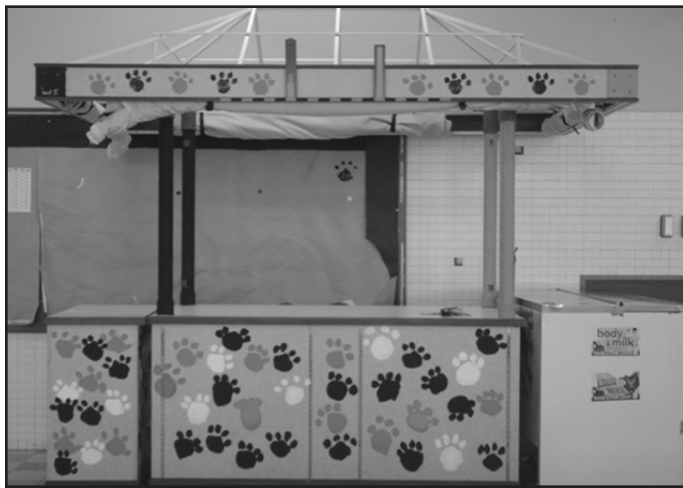
Ms. R: Yes it is very affordable; you can buy a pencil for \$.35 and a folder for a dollar. Like what you would have to pay at the store, maybe a little less.

TL: What will the money made at the store go towards?

Ms. R: We are on a very minimal budget, some money will go toward buying more supplies. I’m hoping that somewhere in the near future, when we’re making a good enough profit, the kids working at the store will be able to earn a paycheck.

TL: How long will the store be open during the day?

Ms. R: The store will be open during all three lunches, so the students can buy things anytime from 11am to 1pm.



Courtesy of Sara Flanagan

The new Panther Palace school store will open later this month.

The Ledger

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Copacabana, a Hit

Laura Handly ‘12
Victoria Binns ‘09
Staff Writers

In spite of working out of makeshift classrooms in the Patten Wing at BHS and staging their annual musical production at Memorial Middle School, last weekend, the Beverly High School Music Department staged the hit Broadway musical “Copacabana.”

While the “Copacabana” is already an entertaining musical, the Music Department gathered a spectacular cast to make it that much better. Cassie Pavlowich ‘10, Paul Fickenwirth ‘09, Zac Cumier ‘09, Kirsten McMahon ‘09, Aaron Swiniuch ‘10, Nate Howard ‘11, and Gabe Lozack ‘11 are only a few of the impressively talented cast members.

While the plot was interesting, several other factors helped to make the performance fantastic. The festive, bright, and feathery costumes, the elaborate sets, the skillful crew, and a great pit orchestra were all instrumental in the show’s success.

Paul Fickenwirth’s performance was great, and his comedic timing was right on target. Cassie Pavlowich gave a consistently fantastic effort. Every time Aaron Swiniuch stepped on stage, the audience roared with laughter.

The last showing of “Copacabana” was Sunday, March 15, and anyone who saw a performance left singing. “Copacabana” is a wonderful example of how hard work and excellent guidance can result in a great musical and future musicals to come.

Courtney Robinson ‘09
Staff Writer

Early this March, several BHS students got to explore the world of business in the annual DECA State competition. The Copley in Boston hosted multiple schools and their DECA participants during the four day event.

DECA which stands for “Distribution Education Club of America” is broken down into three stages. In mid-December, the district competition took place. Recently, the state event took place and on March 27, the national competition will take place.

Proudly, advisor Kristin Marescalchi announced there were a total of twenty-four students who qualified for States. Of these students, several produced a top ten position in the finals. Unfortunately,

BHS DECA to Nationals

ly, only the top three and in some cases top four placed participants move on to nationals.

Mrs. Marescalchi was pleased to say a total of four Beverly students have qualified for the nationals in California.

On March 27, Allison Murray, Jenn Gallione, Carolyn Couture and Liz Zarkades will be flying out to compete in their specified categories. These girls as well as several others have been working hard since September and there work has finally paid off.

It is a pricey trip but all involved will tell you it is well worth it. The abundance of fundraising done throughout the year limits the cost for these lucky students.

Overall, Marescalchi was happy with the amount of students who participated in the DECA program at Beverly High School.