

BHS NEWS IN BRIEF

ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB TIP

Today, an estimated 80% of the world's forests are gone. In the Amazon alone, 2000 trees are cut down daily and in the United States only 4% of the country's forests remain. As consumers we can help to put a stop to deforestation by switching to alternatives like recycled paper. Manufacturers now create other options, such as paper made from sugar cane, banana, or coffee beans. Products such as these can be found at local stores such as Staples or online.

ON-THE-SPOT ADMISSIONS SEMINAR

39 seniors were accepted to North Shore Community College on the spot at a special admissions seminar presented at BHS.

PERSONALIZE YOUR YEARBOOK

For five dollars you can have your name printed in silver on the cover of your 2009 Beverlega. See Ms. McCafferty in room A 204 by the end of February.

SENIOR PARENT MESSAGES

There is still time left to submit parent messages to the yearbook! Messages need to be submitted by the end of February. Photos can be scanned and emailed to bhsbeverlega@hotmail.com or left in the Main Office.

AEGIS

Aegis issues are finally in. Buy a copy for \$2 from any Aegis representative.

GIRLS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT BOUND

The BHS Girls Basketball team pulled an upset against long-time rival, Salem (12-4). They qualified for the State Tournament with this victory.

JUNIOR CLASS FUNDRAISERS

The Junior Class has three upcoming fundraisers in late February and early March. On February 25, the Mr. BHS Pageant will take place. It is a competition to find the man who best represents BHS Pride through talent, charm, and wit. Tickets will be five dollars during all three lunches, and seven dollars at the door. In April, they will hold a Hot Dog Eating Contest in the Cafeteria. Anyone who is interested can participate. It will be three dollars to watch. Peer Leadership and the Junior Class are splitting the proceeds from the Harlem Rockets Fundraiser that will take place March 23. The Harlem Rockets, a professional performing basketball team, will play against a squad of BHS staff and faculty.

OPINION

Dear Editor,

Recently, the Freshmen Class attended an assembly about bullying.

At first we were looking forward to just getting out of class, which, admittedly, is usually the best part about school assemblies; however, this assembly was different.

Mr. Halligan traveled from Vermont to share his story about how bullying had been the cause of the death of his son, changing his life forever.

He told how his son had been bullied for three years before he felt he couldn't deal with it anymore. This bullying happened both at school, and also online.

Mr. Halligan felt that if he had gone and talked to the school or to the bully's parents, then his son, Ryan, might still be alive today.

This moving assembly showed how bullying can do real damage to people's lives. For once, an official school assembly had a major impact.

Sincerely,

Laura Handly '12

Sarah Flanagan '12

Kaitlyn O'Connor '12

Rotary Round Up



Courtesy of Jenna Panunzio

Rotary Finalists, Back: Katie vonZweck (TBD), Kellie Shea (Slovakia), and Haley Bowen (Belgium) Front: Olivia Jones (Brazil), Haley Houseman (India).

Courtney Robinson '09
Staff Writer

Have you ever had an interest in traveling abroad, possibly to Austria or Slovakia? Well, you may want to look into the Beverly Rotary Club, which is providing such an opportunity to five fortunate seniors at BHS. Kellie Shea, Haley Bowen, Haley Houseman, Olivia Jones and Katie vonZweck conquered the lengthy application process and will be embarking on amazing experiences in foreign countries.

Though it is unique for five students to be selected, the Rotary believed all applicants were equally outstanding and all deserved to go overseas. The length of time each participant will be spending outside of the United States varies from five weeks to ten months. Recently, the Ledger sat down with Kellie Shea, who was fortunate enough to be chosen to go on such an adventure.

The Ledger: When did you first hear about the Beverly Rotary and what they had to offer?

Kellie Shea: "I first heard about the program during the fall of my junior year. I wanted to apply for the Gap Year after my senior year,

so I applied this fall."

TL: What did the application process consist of?

KS: "There was a 20 page application, all medical information had to be checked, and you needed to have a passport. Also, there was a series of interviews, including a Beverly and District interview."

TL: What were your top three countries to visit, and where are you going?

KS: "Switzerland, Austria, and Czech Republic. I am going to Slovakia."

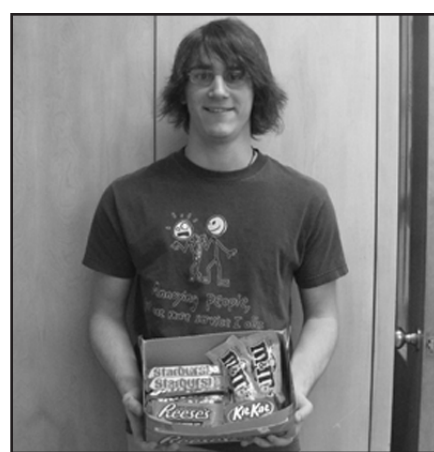
TL: When will you be leaving and for how long?

KS: "I plan on leaving in August and returning next summer. I will be gone for a total of ten months."

TL: What do you hope to gain from this experience abroad?

KS: "I hope to gain a greater understanding of the country. I want to learn about their customs, the foods they eat, and their everyday lives. Mainly, I wish to experience a new part of the world."

BHS Senior to make a difference in Peru



Courtesy of Elizabeth Walsh

Senior Adam Cortese

Colleen DeCourcy '10
Staff Writer

Want to change the world? Do something important? Who doesn't?

As one grows, a person learns that changing the world doesn't always involve winning a Nobel Peace Prize or creating a foundation. It can be a simple action, as well. After all, it is from the quietest things that the strongest grow.

What could be more important than taking care of others? Someone from Beverly High is willing and excited to take on this challenge.

Senior Adam Cortese will be packing his bags this July and heading south to Peru.

With his group, Adam will fly from Logan Airport to the capital of Peru, Lima, where they will take a smaller flight to the city of Iquitos. From there they will take a five-hour boat ride down the Amazon River to two small villages that have only a few hundred people in each.

Adam's group will bring a significant change to these two remote villages by building a community center. The center will be located between the two villages, about a ten-minute walk from each, and serve as a school, a church, and a place to interact.

Adam heard of this opportunity in November at his church Calvary Christian Church and was ready to join the cause.

He does not know much about the culture of the two villages, but having taken five years of Spanish, Adam believes he will be able to get by.

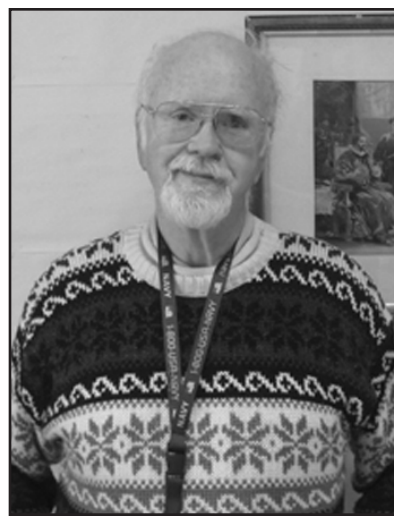
The next hurdle is funding the trip. Each member of the group needs to raise around \$2300; Adam works toward this number by working at Chick-Fil-A and selling candy for a dollar.

"I think it will be a lot of fun, but a lot of hard work, too. I'm really looking forward to this trip."

Physics, like never before

Sarah Flanagan '12
Staff Writer

Beverly has recently had an addition to its staff. Mr. Collison is the new physics teacher. I had the privilege to talk to Mr. Collison and ask him a little bit about himself and how physics became such a big part of his life.



Courtesy of Sarah Flanagan

The Ledger: How long have you been teaching?

Mr. Collison: Too long [laughs], twenty years as a high school teacher and even longer at

Umass.

TL: What made physics interesting to you?
MC: I had always liked science, but in high school I had a bad physics class. So I decided to become a teacher so I could teach it better.

TL: Why Beverly?

MC: I had other offers, some to travel out of the country (to the Middle East), others for colleges but I decided it is much more important for young students to be involved in science. So I decided to come to the high school.

TL: Before Beverly?

MC: I was at the Concord Consortium and wrote science curriculum.

TL: What's your favorite experiment?

MC: Anything with motion, or active experiment (points to disk leaning against wall across classroom), like the hovercraft.

TL: How does it work?

MC: You attach a leaf blower to the hovercraft at this hole here in the front and the material on the back here is, (I stand there looking confused). Basically it's like a giant air hockey puck that can carry you across the ground.

Mr. Collison is a man full of life. After spending only ten minutes with him, you can tell that he really teaches with a passion and love for physics. Any teacher who is willing to send his students flying down G-wing on a hovercraft is one worth knowing.

Mr. Collison brings life to physics. Beverly is extremely lucky to have him.

Anime Club views rare film at MFA



Dan Carl '10
Staff Writer

Anime Club and Mr. Headley had the distinct privilege of attending a showing of Studio Ghibli's historic 1988 film *Grave of the Fireflies* at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

The animated film tells the touching and poignant story of two orphans as they struggle to survive on their own after their mother is killed in a fire bombing during World War II.

The copy of the film screened at the MFA was an original theatrical version that few Americans have seen; in fact, it will probably not be shown again.

Guests in attendance for the event included Pulitzer Prize-winning author John W. Dower, as well as world-renowned author Roland Kelts.

To witness Anime getting its rightful treatment as an art form by such esteemed guests was nothing short of an honor for the club members.

Book Club new offering at BHS

Victoria Binns '09
Staff Writer

Beverly High School is now home to a very surprising club created by Mrs. Cohen and Stefany Hirschfeld '11 called the Book Club. Meeting once a month, this unique club is composed of both students and staff who all read and discuss the same work.

Book Club began meeting over the summer at Lynch Park, and the members have read such books as *Jade Green* by Naylor, *Z for Zachariah* by O'Brien, and *Water for Elephants* by Gruen.

Currently the members are reading Khaled Hosseini's first novel, *The Kite Runner*, followed by a screening of the movie adaptation.

"Conversational freedom without the possibility of retribution" is the best part of Book Club," according to Mrs. Fecteau.

Students speak more about what they actually believe about the work rather than what they think their teachers might want to hear.

"Book Club is fun and entertaining. One girl didn't read the book once, so they made her sit on the floor the entire time."

The Ledger

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