

FUTURE OF KENTUCKY'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Teachers rally for public education funding

Boone educators among thousands at Frankfort rally

R Lindsay Volpenhein

Not a single public school in Kentucky was open on Monday, April 2.

Instead, thousands of educators rallied at the state capitol in Frankfort to protest various budget proposals which may have cut funding for public education.

All 120 school districts in the commonwealth were shut down either because of spring break or relating to the statewide protest.

Boone teachers were among the crowds rallying against the proposed budget cuts that might have left Boone County Schools insolvent by 2019, according to a report by the Kentucky Department of Education.

The bill was set to cut transportation, counseling services, and family resource funds among others.

Boone teacher Jessica Holman was among those at the rally.

"Right now, public education is being drained of the necessary funds to support the needs of its students," Holman said.

The cuts could result in fewer supplies, teacher training initiatives, and necessary faculty positions according to Holman.

English teacher Kelly Read was also in attendance and is concerned about the budget cuts.

"While [staff cuts] will not cause most teachers to lament the loss of a job, it will cause an increase in the number of students we see in the classroom. This in turn will mean that students will have fewer one-on-one opportunities," Read said.

Perhaps in response to the rally, a less severe education funding bill passed through the house



Many Boone teachers rallied in Frankfort on April 2 to express their dismay with the budget proposals that threatened to slash public education spending and possibly cause Boone County Schools to be out of money by 2019.

and senate. However, when Gov. Matt Bevin received the bill, he vetoed certain parts of it.

The house and senate then had the power to either override the vetoes—which would restore their original budget—or let the vetoes stand and allow the governor to have budgetary control.

The vetoes were overridden, so the budget spared public education from many of the worst scenarios.

These changes have left some teachers debating whether the rally was a success or not.

Some believe that the changes made are significant enough while others are asking for a total overhaul.

See RALLY on page A3



Bill proposals cause future teachers to reconsider

R Mackenzie Coop

Some educators fear that changes to retirement, disrespect of the teaching profession and cuts to education funding will result in a decline in the number of people interested in pursuing a career in education, which may lead to a teacher shortage.

An ACT survey shows that the percentage of students interested in becoming an educator is continuing to decline as years pass.

In 2014, only 5 percent of students indicated an interest in the teaching profession, which was down from 7 percent in 2010.

With protests and demonstrations across the state, education leaders in Kentucky have voiced these concerns, especially in two large rallies at the capitol on April 2 and April 13.

The rallies were held to raise awareness about the situation and draw attention to bills in the legislature.

One of the most controversial bills to pass during the current session reformed the teacher retirement system.

While not much was changed for teachers currently in the system, new hires will no longer receive a pension, instead having a 401k-style "hybrid" system.

Because new teachers won't have the same guarantees as current teachers, some fear it is turning people away from the profession.

Senior Noah Curee is planning on becoming a history teacher, but is having second thoughts.



MATT BEVIN
Governor

"I still would like to become a teacher, but financially it just doesn't seem to be the best route," Curee said.

Another reason the teaching profession may see fewer new teachers is because teachers aren't getting the respect that they used to.

In addition to the challenges teachers face with disrespectful students and parents, even people in positions of authority such as Governor Matt Bevin, are calling teachers "remarkably selfish and shortsighted."

Bevin even went as far as to say that teachers protesting against the pension changes were being "ignorant and throwing a temper tantrum," and he suggested that teacher protests were responsible for students ingesting poison and

getting abused.

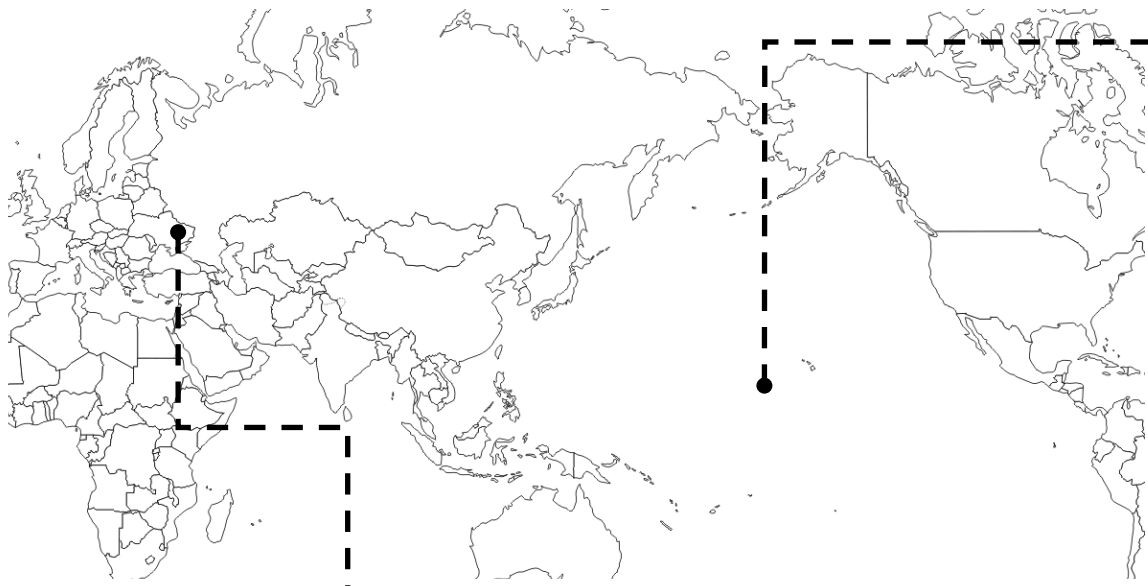
Events such as this are making some feel like teachers are not important and the disrespect they're receiving is leading some current students to not want to become future educators.

"Being a high school student, I definitely see that teacher aren't respected by their students and now they're being disrespected by the people who hire and pay them," Curee said.

Another reason students may not become teachers is because of cuts to education funding.

Bevin proposed budget cuts to public schools including cutting transportation funding.

See EDUCATION on page A3



Pacific garbage patch larger than thought

Jennifer Sadler

The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is a large collection of marine debris in the North Pacific Ocean that spans from the west coast of North America to Japan.

The patch is estimated to contain over 1.8 trillion pieces of plastic and be anywhere from the size of Texas to the size of Russia.

A 2015 study by the University of Georgia found that humans are filling the oceans with an estimated 8 million tons of plastic every year, and that is expected to increase 22 percent by 2025.

The Great Pacific Garbage Patch, in particular, is increasing exponentially and a new survey estimated that the mass of plastic is 16 times larger than previously supposed.

This massive collection of trash stuck on the ocean floor was first discovered in 1997 by Captain Charles Moore, who discovered the patch when he crossed the Pacific after competing in the Transpacific Yacht Race.

Ever since his discovery, scientists, conservationists, ecologists, and environmentalists alike have been working to bring awareness to this issue and begin efforts to clean up the patch.

However, cleaning up a massive trash collection like the Great Pacific Garbage Patch is not as easy as it seems. Because the patch is so far away from any country's coastline, no country will take responsibility or provide funding to help clean it up.

Many individuals and international organizations like The Ocean Cleanup project have taken matters into their own hands to help clean up or at least prevent the patch from growing any larger.

Another problem these individuals and organizations face is microplastics, or very small pieces of plastic debris resulting from the disposal/breakdown of consumer products and industrial waste.

These microplastics are harmful to marine life and can take anywhere from 10 years to 1,000 years to decompose.

Many microplastics are the same size as small sea animals, so any nets designed to catch them would scoop up these creatures as well.

Even if a net would be possible, the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration's Marine Debris Program estimated that even 67 couldn't clean up one percent of the north Pacific Ocean in a single year.

Orange snow coats eastern Europe

Ryland Bernard

Orange snow covered parts of eastern Europe in late March, alarming crowds of people on the slopes. The light orange pigmentation was caused by sand from the Africa's Sahara Desert being swept nearly 5000 miles into the European blizzard.

Russia, Bulgaria, Ukraine, Romania, and Moldova were frosted with the orange snow, making the surface look more like Mars than eastern Europe. Earlier that same week, Greece's largest island, Crete, was dusted with sand from the Sa-

hara giving the island a hazy orange filter.

Meteorologists report that the orange snow phenomenon occurs on average once every five years. However, the concentration of sand in the air was higher than in the past, and people complained about getting sand in their mouths.

The sand must reach the upper levels of the atmosphere to travel long distances. The low-pressure winds pull sand up, and then the sand mixes with rain and snow before making its descent on to the Earth. Pollen particles were also said to be found in the snow-sand mixture.

The snowstorm was so large that NASA could see it from the satellite imagery. It appeared as a brown streak among the white clouds. NASA reported this as the largest transfers of desert sand in history.

The last report of orange snow was in 2007 when Saharan sand was transferred to Siberia. The Siberian snow was mixed with rain of high concentrations of irons, acids, and nitrates.

Sand was also transferred to the United Kingdom in October by Storm Ophelia and high gusts of winds spread wildfires in Portugal and Spain.

News of the Huh??? A monthly collection of strange stories from around the globe

Sam Huddleston

Enough is enough

Minnesota lawmaker Drew Christensen has authored a bill banning Arie Luyendyk, the star of season 22 of ABC's "The Bachelor," from entering the state.

The bill was prompted when Luyendyk, in a scandalous turn of events, dumped Minnesota native and "Bachelor" winner Becca Kuftrin for runner-up Lauren Burnham.

The state representative took to Twitter, tweeting, "If this gets a thousand retweets I'll author a bill banning Arie from Minnesota."

The retweet quota was met, and Christensen, a man of his word, posted a picture of a signed bill calling for the banning of Luyendyk.

The bill more or less refers to Luyendyk as something of an infringement on human decency or a force of pure evil. This can be seen in the introduction to the bill when it states, "It is state policy that every person in the state has a right to live free from the presence of Arie Luyendyk, Jr."

While the bill, as of now, has not passed, Luyendyk has more than likely gotten the message that he will find no shred of the folksy kindness normally afforded to strangers in Minnesota.

(Paul Walsh/Star Tribune)

The truth is out there

After months of preparation, daredevil and skeptic "Mad" Mike Hughes lifted off in a homemade rocket in order to decide once and for all whether or not the Earth is flat.

The 61-year-old limousine driver explained the scientific curiosity that led him to take flight March 24 in the Mojave Desert to Associate Press reporters, saying, "Do I believe the Earth is shaped like a Frisbee? I believe it is. Do I know for sure? No. That's why I want to go up in space."

Hughes, tired of numerous delayed starts, decided to forgo a countdown entirely, and without any warning to those watching climbed into his steam-powered rocket and sailed close to 1,900 feet upward.

While this height is 325,000 feet short of what is generally considered to be "space," onlookers were more than impressed.

Assisted by parachutes, the rocket fell back to Earth for a landing that could, at best, be described as "non-lethal".

Hughes, excited to live another day, was carried off by paramedics to the cheers of the onlookers.

"Am I glad I did it? Yeah. I guess," Hughes told reporters.

Hughes is currently planning another, more ambitious launch, which he claims will send him 360,000 feet into the air and into the hearts of millions.

(Colin Dwyer/NPR.org)

The dead will rise

Following deportation from Turkey and arrival to his home country of Romania, Constantin Reliu was troubled to find that the Romanian government had him officially listed as dead.

He respectfully disagreed.

He very nearly couldn't even get back into the country, but after several hours of interrogation by a crack team of customs officers, he was allowed back into the country's borders.

However, the trouble didn't end there for Reliu. Government officials provided a death certificate signed by Reliu's wife in 2003, who says that she figured that he had died in an earthquake.

According to Reliu, he left her to go to Turkey in the early 1990's when he suspected her of infidelity.

The real gut-punch came recently when a court rejected his bid to have his death certificate overturned. Reliu, who believed that his showing up to testify would be evidence enough to prove that he was not 15 years dead, was sorely mistaken.

The court, citing that his appeal was filed far too late, declared that the death certificate was final.

Reliu, now unable to return to Turkey and unable to have his existence validated in Romania, has since wandered about without any apparent course of action.

(Colin Dwyer/NPR.org)

Have an Opinion?

To send in Letters to the Editor or opinions on a story, e-mail The Rebellion at Lance.Melching@boone.kyschools.us

We request that you keep your letters to fewer than 500 words. We reserve the right to edit any letter that we publish.

Interested in Advertising Rates?

An advertising rate sheet is available by contacting The Rebellion at Lance.Melching@boone.kyschools.us

Our advisor can be reached via e-mail at Lance.Melching@boone.kyschools.us

Follow us on Twitter - @BCHSRebellion



SPRING 2018 STAFF

Editors in Chief	Lindsay Volpenhein & Sam Huddleston		
News Editor	Mackenzie Coop		
Opinion Editor	Cole Waymeyer		
Sports Editor	Blake Lehmann		
What We Do Editor	Megan Nichols		
Entertainment Editor	Daniel Grajeda		
Contributors	Rylan Bernard	Addison Bradley	Emma McGee
	Jennifer Sadler	Samantha Sadler	Kaitlyn VanWay
Advisor	Lance Melching		

PAGE DESIGN

A1: Volpenhein A2&3: Melching A4: Waymeyer B1: Grajeda B2: Coop
B3: Volpenhein B4&5: McGee B6: Waymeyer B7: Nichols B8: Lehmann

Boone County Board of Education NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Students, their families and employees/potential employees of the Boone County School District are hereby notified that the Boone County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, religion, marital status, sex, disability or genetic information in employment programs, vocational (career and technical education) programs, or activities set forth in compliance with federal and state statutes and regulations. The lack of English language skills is not a barrier to admission and participation in programs and activities including career and technical education programs.

Any person having inquiries concerning Boone County Schools' compliance with IDEA, the Office of Civil Rights Laws, Title II, Title IV, Title VI, Title VII, Title IX, ADA and/or Section 504 may contact:

Kathleen G. Reutman, Executive Director
Boone County Schools Student Services Division
8330 US 42, Florence, Ky 41042
859-334-4455 (voice / TDD)
kathy.reutman@boone.kyschools.us
Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm

To obtain this notice in large print, on audiotape, Braille, a language other than English or another alternative formats call 859-335-4455.

AVENGERS

THE STONE AGE

R Daniel Grajeda

Throughout the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU), the Infinity Stones have been a focal point of the series. The Infinity Stones are the most important material in the MCU because they hold an immense amount of power, and the holder of those stones has the power to reshape the universe.

This is why 20 heroes must take the stones and keep them safe and out of reach from one immense evil being: Thanos. This article tells readers where the Infinity Stones have been over the past 10 years and 18 movies.

The Space Stone/Tesseract

The first stone audiences saw was the space stone in "Captain America: First Avenger." The villainous Red Skull planned on using the power of the space stone—then called the Tesseract—to create weapons to use against the Allies during World War II.

Howard Stark—Tony Stark's father—found the Tesseract in the ocean after it had been lost during the movie's finale, and he believed that the Tesseract could be used as a sustainable energy source.

The stone can next be seen in "The Avengers" when Thor's sometimes evil adopted brother Loki stole it to power the portal he used to bring an alien army to earth in a bid to take over the planet. At the end of "The Avengers," Thor took the stone off world to his home on Asgard for safe keeping.

The latest movie in which audiences see the Tesseract is at the end of "Thor: Ragnarok" when Loki ran past it and slowly walked back to stare at it, which seems to hint that Loki is currently the possessor of the Tesseract.

The Mind Stone/Chitauri Scepter

The first time audiences see the mind stone is in "The Avengers" when Loki used the Chitauri Scepter to take control of Hawkeye.

Audiences later see the mind stone in "Captain America: The Winter Soldier" where sleeper agents smuggled the scepter into Sokovia after the fall of S.H.I.E.L.D. The stone was being used on test subjects to create elite soldiers but only two survived: the Scarlet Witch and her brother Quicksilver.

It is in "Avengers: Age of Ultron" that audiences learn that Loki's scepter had been holding the mind stone the whole time.

In the movie, Tony Stark/Iron-Man created a new artificial intelligence—Ultron—which turned out to be evil and stole the mind stone from Sokovia and placed it in the forehead of a body he created for himself. Ultron's plan backfired and his creation became the embodiment of Stark's old AI system—Jarvis—who became the Avenger known as Vision.

Audiences also get to see the mind stone in "Captain America: Civil War." Vision talked a bit about how the stone that powers him is the same that powered the Chitauri Scepter. Vision also stated that he wanted to learn more about the stone so he could control the power and not be controlled for his power.

The reality stone/Aether

The first time audiences see the reality stone is in "Thor: The Dark World." Thor's earth friend Jane Foster finds the Aether and becomes its new host, so Thor must take her to Asgard to protect her from the evil race known as the dark elves.

The elves want to get the Aether back to use it as a weapon against the Asgardians as they attempt to restart an ancient war.

Because Asgard already has the Tesseract, it wouldn't be safe to keep two Infinity Stones close together, and so in an end credit scene, some of Thor's friends known as the Warriors Three take the Aether to a mysterious space being called the Collector.

The power stone/Orb

The first time audiences see the power stone/Orb is in "Guardians of the Galaxy." The stone is presented in the beginning of the movie when Peter Quill/Star Lord recovered an item in an old ruin.

When some elite soldiers showed up and attack him for it, he quickly escaped and began wondering why the item he stole was so valuable.

Audiences find out Thanos' is trying to recover the stone because he wants what is inside: the power stone. In the end, the Guardians end up giving the stone to the intergalactic police force known as the Nova Corps, where they place it in the Vault for safe keeping on their home planet Xandar.

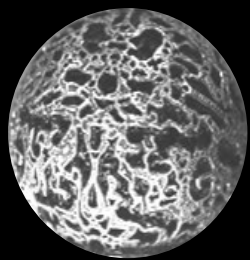
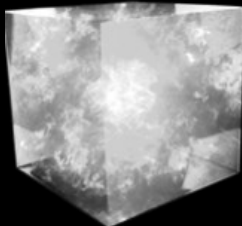
The time stone/Eye of Agamotto

The first time audiences see the time stone/Eye of Agamotto is in "Doctor Strange." In the movie, the stone's power is used to rewind time as well as loop time.

At the film's end, the stone is placed in the library of the magical sanctuary of Kamar-Taj where it is revealed to be an Infinity Stone. Audiences expect to see the stone around Doctor Strange's neck as it is one of his trademark items.

The soul stone

From 2008's "Iron Man" to February's "Black Panther," audiences are yet to see or hear about the soul stone. It has remained completely mysterious and never been mentioned, but audiences are expecting the mystery about the soul stone's whereabouts to be cleared up in the new "Avengers: Infinity War."



Time displaced World War II veteran Steve Rogers is dedicated to longtime friend Bucky Barnes.



Bucky Barnes was a brainwashed assassin before he was saved by Rogers.



Tony Stark is a playboy, millionaire inventor who bankrolled the Avengers.



A former surgeon who lost the use of hands, Dr. Stephen Strange is now a master of the mystic arts.



The inspiration for the Norse legend, Thor is now ruling Asgard with the help of his adopted brother Loki.



Abducted by aliens as a child, Peter Quill grows to become leader of the Guardians of the Galaxy.



After Stark's AI system is hijacked, he ends up in a body with the mind stone in his head.



Gifted teen student and inventor Peter Parker was recruited by Stark.



Scientist Bruce Banner is always working to contain the green rage monster inside.



Mind stone experiments resulted in Wanda Maximoff developing powers.



King T'Challa leads his African country of Wakanda out of isolation.



Thanos is on a quest to unite the infinity stones so he'll have nearly infinite power.



Deceptive adopted brother of Thor, Loki is sometimes evil, sometimes good.



Former Soviet spy, Natasha Romanova has a history working for S.H.I.E.L.D.

Teen TECHNOLOGY Addiction



Photo Illustration by MackenzieCoop/REBELLIONSTAFF

Experts are afraid that teen technology use is causing teens to become antisocial. According to James Steyer, founder and chief executive of Common Sense, Digital devices are transforming lives. "They are changing everything from parent-child relationships, to human interaction, to our ability to focus on the task at hand," Steyer said.

FAST FACTS

24%

of teens report that they are "almost constantly" online.

92%

Of teens report going online daily, aided by the convenience of mobile phones

12%

Of teens aged 13 to 17 say they do not have a cell phone of any type.

Statistics come from Pew Research Center's Teens, Social Media & Technology Overview 2015"

Statistics about teen tech use concerns some professionals



A growing change in teen behavior over the years has sparked controversy on whether or not people should be worried about teen technology addiction.

The Rebellion staff conducted a survey and chose 144 students at random to record their technology usage.

As technology advances, more schools, parents and doctors are becoming worried about teenagers.

Schools have started putting bans on phones, even going as far as to collect students' phones in the beginning of the school day.

In the survey conducted here at Boone, 51 out of the 144 students stated that they spent more than four hours on their phone every day.

Washington post conducted a survey on random teens in May of 2016.

Half of the students involved in the survey stated that they were completely addicted to their cells phones.

Nearly 56 percent of the students said their parents were aware and worried about their addiction.

Common Sense is an organization that studies and rates media and technology for kids and families.

Common Sense also spreads awareness of the public health con-

cerns that come with technology addictions.

According to James Steyer, founder and chief executive of Common Sense, Digital devices are transforming lives.

"They are changing everything from parent-child relationships, to human interaction, to our ability to focus on the task at hand," Steyer said.

Of the kids surveyed at Boone, about 37 percent admitted to texting people in the same room as them on a regular basis.

This is raising concern about technology cutting off interaction between humans, leading some children and teens to have some developmental delays.

According to Amy Joyce, the author of a technology addiction article in the Washington Post, "Constant attention to devices is making it difficult for our children to have face-to-face conversations or learn to be empathetic."

This is rumored to contribute to today's generation of children having more emotional developmental delays than in generations past.

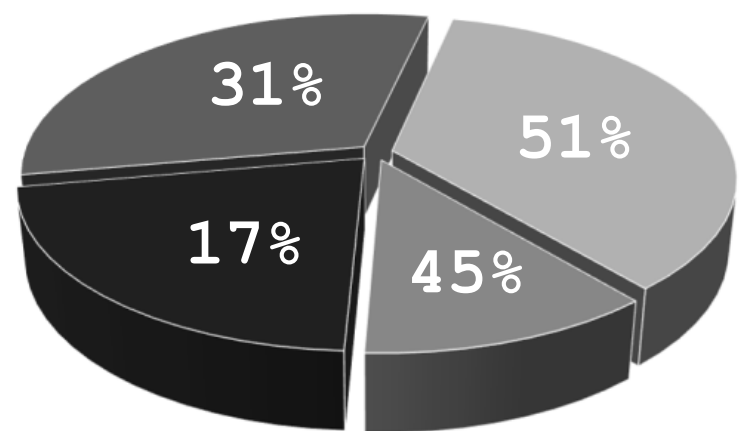
Not only does technology have an effect on children, teens are putting their selves and others in danger just so they can check their phone.

Over 70 percent of American teens admitted to feeling a sense of urgency to always check their notifications on their cell phones while driving.

Just last year, over 421,000 people were injured in car crashes due to texting while driving.

Though technology has many benefits, tech addiction is something teens need to watch out for.

Time Spent On Phone Daily



- Less than 1 hour
- 1-2 hours
- 2-4 hours
- More than 4 hours

The Rebellion surveyed four randomly selected homerooms from each grade level about technology use. Data was compiled from 140 student responses.

STAFF SUPERLATIVES

Lindsay Volpenhein

After years of celebrating students for their quirks and skills with Senior Superlatives, the Rebellion decided to recognize the reputations of teachers across the building.

The Rebellion surveyed the entire school staff and a sampling of senior homerooms to award superlatives.

MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED: Alison Sutton

Rebellion: What was your reaction to hearing that you were named “Most Likely to Succeed” by your fellow faculty members and students?

Sutton: I thought I was being punked!

Rebellion: What has been your greatest achievement so far?

Sutton: Besides my family, I think my greatest achievement are the scholars that tell me that I helped prepare them for college and life beyond school.

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Alice Lambert and Lenny Beck



NICEST PERSON: Diane Talbert

Rebellion: What advice would you give to other about how to spread kindness?

Talbert: Just smile and say hello to people. It can mean so much.

Rebellion: Do you find yourself a naturally kind person, or do you have to consciously remind yourself to be kind?

Talbert: I honestly don't think about it. It just makes me happy to be kind.

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Andrea Reeves and Nikki Sinclair



CUTEST COUPLE: The Melchings

Rebellion: What was your reaction when you heard that you were named “Cutest Couple” by your fellow faculty members and students?

Lindsay Melching: I thought the Barnhills were a shoe-in.

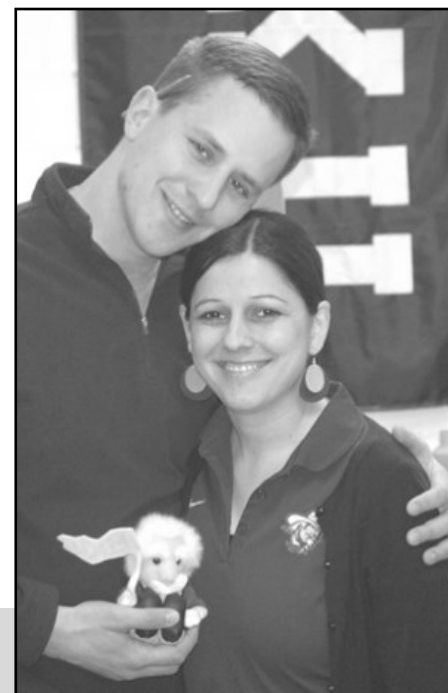
Lance Melching: If we are indeed the "cutest couple," then all the credit goes to my wife, because she is by far the more attractive of the two of us.

Rebellion: What is your favorite part about working together?

Lindsay Melching: Driving together some days and saving on gas mileage is a perk.

HONORABLE MENTIONS

The Barnhills
Kelly Read and Dustin Herald



BEST DRESSED: David Kohl

Rebellion: What was your reaction to hearing that you were named “Best Dressed” by your fellow faculty members and students?

Kohl: I almost choked laughing. Most days I'm a slob.

Rebellion: Who is your style icon?

Kohl: Sherwin Williams – house painters' clothing line.

Rebellion: How long does your morning beauty routine take?

Kohl: If it took “time,” I'd be qualified to be “Best Dressed.” Grabbing whatever is clean on the top of the laundry basket takes quite little time or dedication.

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Lance Melching and Kelly Read



CLASS CLOWN: Emily Brownstead

Rebellion: Describe one of your favorite memories here at Boone?

Brownstead: One of my favorite memories of Boone was ANYTHING with Forensics, theater, doing the Soulja Boy dance at a pep rally and getting on the news.

Rebellion: Have you always been “a clown” or is this something that you've grown into?

Brownstead: I guess I've always been a clown. I received Class Clown in my Senior Superlatives in 2010 as well!

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Alison Sutton and Randy Miller



MOST ATHLETIC: Nathan Browning

Rebellion: What sports have you played?

Browning: Growing up as a kid I played basketball, soccer, and baseball. Once I got to high school I gave up baseball and played basketball and soccer.

My senior year of high school, I decided to play on the tennis team. After high school I stayed involved as much as possible in basketball and soccer leagues, but since my wife and I had our two daughters, my involvement in playing sports has gone down.

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Todd Krohman and Zane McQueary



MOST LIKELY TO WEAR JEANS ON A THURSDAY Wayne Huff

Rebellion: What was your reaction to hearing that you were named “Most likely to wear Jeans on a Thursday” by your fellow faculty members and students?

Huff: Pretty hyped up about it! First award I have ever won at BCHS.

Rebellion: Why do you think you received this award?

Huff: Cause I am a jean type of guy.

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Kevin Williams and Jed Grossman





CONSPIRACY

GOVERNMENT HOAXES

R Sam Huddleston

A large collection of unanswered questions and seemingly unexplainable behavior on the part of government officials in regards to the assassination of John F. Kennedy has led many to believe that the United States government played a major role in JFK's demise.

Generally, here is the historical backdrop upon which this conspiracy takes place:

Kennedy had entered the Vietnam War at the advice of war hungry aides and strategists, in very much the same way he had entered Cuba during the Bay of Pigs Invasion. After once viewing the war as a valiant effort in defending liberty, he was now beginning to see success in Vietnam as an unreachable goal which was wasting the lives of American soldiers. And so he began making plans to start the removal of U.S. troops.

The "powers that be" in Washington, along with American contractors of military supplies, found that a removal of troops from Vietnam would not only result in a terrible show of weakness for America as a whole, but also a devastating blow to the income that the war generated.

And so, the conspiracy contends, began the plot to assassinate Kennedy.

Following Kennedy's death, President Lyndon Johnson ordered the establishment of the Warren Commission, which sought to create a comprehensive analysis of the assassination. The Warren Commission eventually found that one man, Lee Harvey Oswald, acted alone in the killing

without outside support or training.

However, after the Warren Commission Report was published, public figure after public figure died in very much the same circumstances as JFK.

Malcom X, Martin Luther King Jr., and Robert Kennedy, all men who sought to upset the balance of American society, were all killed just like JFK; that is, by a "lone, crazed gunman."

For many, the coincidence was just too much.

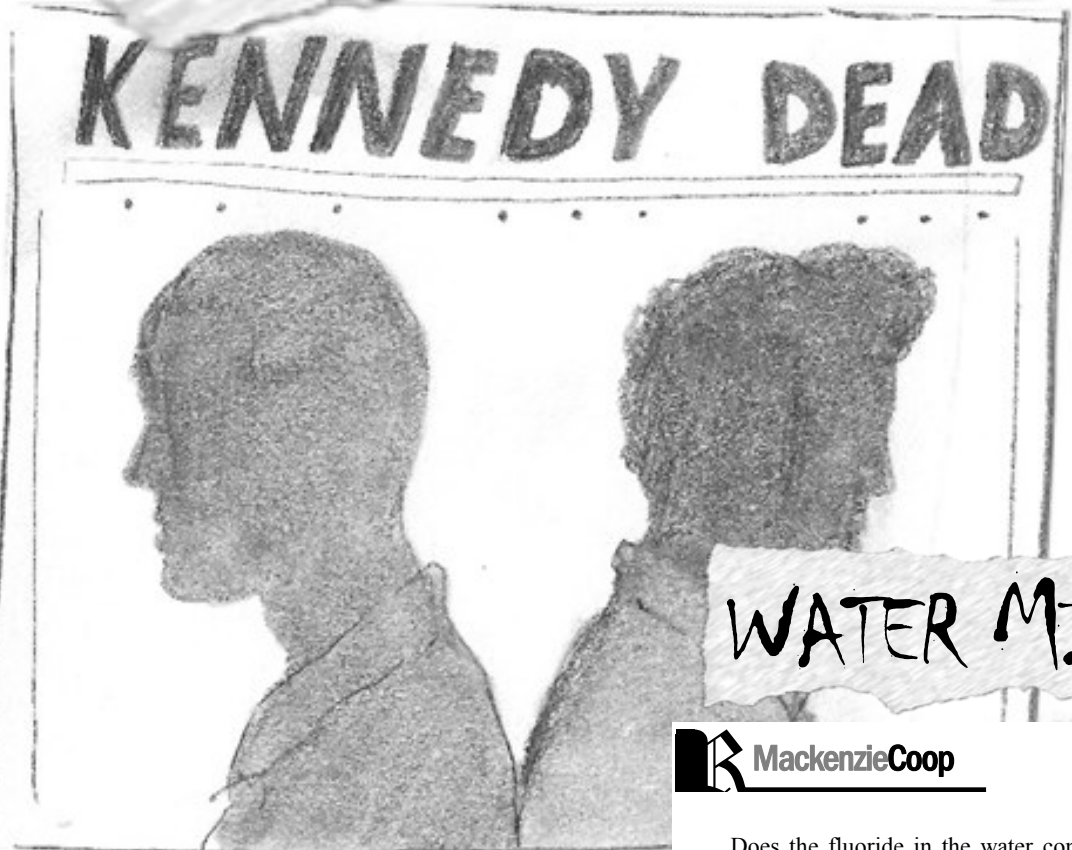
Then more cracks began to show in the official reports of what exactly occurred. The mysterious circumstances under which Oswald was arrested, the subpar preparations for the parade on the part of the secret service, the clandestine autopsy of Kennedy's body by government doctors.

The list of questionable circumstances could go on and on.

Though every example (whether it be the first hand accounts of the assassination or more physical evidence) has been explained away by government officials, the sheer amount of coincidence that accumulates around the killing is enough to make casual observers uneasy.

And perhaps the most compelling piece of evidence in support of the conspiracy is the fact that today, more than 50 years after Kennedy's death, U.S. intelligence agencies are still withholding information regarding that tragedy.

While motives remain foggy, and the evidence certainly does not make government involvement a certainty, there remains a very real possibility that there is much more to the JFK assassination than the average American has been told.



Illustrations by Jillian Kramer

R Mackenzie Coop

Does the fluoride in the water control the population? According to a conspiracy, the government puts fluoride in the water not to clean people's teeth, but to take over the population's minds.

Fluoride has been put into bottled and fountain water here in the United States for nearly a century. It is said that the fluoride's purpose is to help with tooth decay: by the age of 65, 96 percent of Americans have tooth decay.

The question that sparked controversy, however, is whether the fluoride is actually meant to help with tooth decay, or if it's a way for the government or even the illuminati to take over the population and control it.

What exactly sparked this theory? Fluoride is one of the leading ingredients in rat and cockroach poisons, and it is literally being used to kill small animals and insects.

Fluoride is also used in Prozac, a depression, anxiety, and panic reducer. Prozac is known to make a person emotionless, even in a panicked or depressed state.

Although this does seem pretty alarming, it isn't likely that the government is trying to take over people's minds.

CELEBRITY CLONES

R Megan Nichols

There's no secret that celebrity fan theories can be pretty crazy and unrealistic. They range from celebrity relationships to celebrities being lizard people.

No matter how wild these theories are, they can be pretty entertaining to read about and to follow along.

One that has come up in the past few years says that Taylor Swift is a clone of Zeena LaVey (also known as Zeena Schreck.)

Zeena LaVey is the daughter of Anton LaVey, the founder of the Church of Satan. Zeena has left the church but her name is still known.

The theory started when somebody realized that there is a striking physical resemblance between Zeena and pop star Taylor Swift.

The resemblance was noticed when LaVey started doing public interviews on talk shows on television.

People have placed the blame on the Illuminati, a group of people who conspiracy theorists

believe rule the world from the shadows. There have been many theories that the illuminati clones famous people to harvest organs or to replace a murdered person.

According to an article written by BuzzFeed, conspiracy believers think that "Swift was taken and replaced by the Illuminati with a clone of LaVey."

If it seems very unlikely, that's probably because it is.

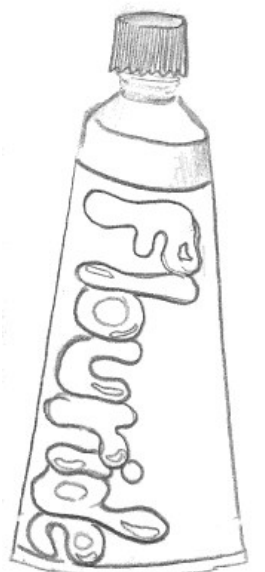
Some people say that the cloning explains the changes in Swift's appearance over the years, while others say it is simply the fact that she is aging.

People also think that the new "dark" phase that Swift has entered is also a sign that she is a clone of LaVey.

Twitter has been a big platform for this wild theory to blossom. Users have posted side by side photos of the two mentioning the resemblance.

Both girls are blonds who have signature red lips and are associated with snakes.

Apparently, that's all people needed to go on.



THEORIES



HOLOGRAPHIC EARTH

R ColeWaymeyer

Could the universe and all of its contents be a hologram?

This theory was first introduced in the 1970s, but it has grown in popularity in recent years.

To many, the debate shouldn't exist. They don't believe in the possibility that humanity lives in a hologram.

However, with the publication of podcasts, articles, and video blogs that draw people everyday, the "holographic principle" is an increasingly popular idea.

This theory does exist in many forms each believing something slightly different. The main theory states that the universe is a vast, complex hologram containing a 3-D reality that includes humanity, time and all of existence on a 2-D boundary ridden basis.

In simpler terms, the universe is a 3-D image projected off of a 2-D surface.

This principle would apply to the universe and its entirety: black holes, nebulae, planets, etc. are all holographic images.

This theory is spawned off of the idea that the particles the universe is made of are made of something smaller: information.

These informational units are called qubits.

In this theory, qubits are entangled together on a 2-D surface.

The supposed 3-D universe is a reflection of the qubits activity, as degree levels fluctuate.

An article released by Phys.org says that humanity would have a complete and thorough instruction booklet for how to build the universe if it were able to gather this information.

This idea of a holographic universe stretches very far into the area of physics known as quantum mechanics, touching upon ideas presented by Matthew Headrick and Albert Einstein.

Scientists are constantly refuting this idea, believing it is too far-fetched, however some astrophysics are now examining the possibility of this being a reality through multiple different studies and tests.

Though scientists haven't proven the theory, work continues to reach a definitive conclusion.

This theory is comparable to the matrix theory, which states that the world is computer operated.

ND CONTROL

The fluoride content in drinking water is much diluted.

The fluoride does trigger some other controversy, however. Rather than focusing on the conspiracy, people have long questioned if the fluoride is harming bodies in other ways. Sure, preventing tooth decay is a huge positive, but what if the fluoride is harming the stomach, brain, and other parts of people's bodies?

Products that contain fluoride, such as toothpaste and mouthwash, have labels that warn people not to consume the product. There are poison control numbers written on the labels of these products.

The American Dental Association (ADA) has issued a statement saying that the amount of fluoride put into our water is completely safe for our bodies.

Not only that, but the fluoride is also decreasing tooth decay by over 25 percent in both adults and children, according to the ADA.

The Centers for disease control and Prevention named water fluoridation one of the top ten great public health achievements of the 20th century.

Although fluoride isn't something that sounds safe, it turns out that evidence suggests it doesn't harm people's bodies in any way when taken in small doses.

Evidence suggests that the few negative aspects of water fluoridation are outweighed by the many positive effects.



LSD GOVERNMENT TESTING

R DanielGrajeda

For a long time, people have been very suspicious about some of the things the government has done, but no one ever really knows the truth. There have long been rumors that the government is trying to take over people's minds, but what if those weren't just rumors, and mind control experiments are still active to this day?

Project MK-ULTRA started in 1953 as an experiment on the psychological effects of LSD. It was not only an experiment to see what the drug did to the mind, but also to see if the drug allowed for mind manipulation. The CIA believed that by using the LSD on subjects, they could create secret operatives who could be led to subconsciously follow certain commands such as assassination.

The CIA did two sets of experiments: one on patients who consented and another on subjects who were forced. In an operation called "Midnight Climax," prostitutes would lure men into hotel rooms and would secretly dose them with pure LSD.

After several years of these experiments, the CIA concluded that LSD is not a drug capable of controlling one's mind but instead had the opposite effect and activated the brain to think freely. Instead of controlling minds, LSD made the user want to do their own thing and not be controlled.

The CIA experiments with LSD

were part of the drug culture of the 60s.

The CIA eventually told the public about the MK-ULTRA experiments and said that they were failures.

What if they weren't actually failures? What if instead the CIA is trying to cover its story and it does have sleeper agents waiting for their assignment?

The government is mysterious, and everyday people can't know all of the things it is doing. In some cases, people believe that the government has been using radio waves and television to send subliminal messages to people, and because a majority of the population owns radios and television, the population could be the subject of a giant mind control experiment.

People know that the CIA has tried to do mind manipulation experiments before, so who's to say that the government isn't doing more experiments?

But what are the chances that MK-ULTRA and other mind manipulation still exists? It's slim because the CIA has already declassified the case making the experiments public.

The reason some of the theories about mind control are still going around are because this generation revolves around the internet, and some people will believe anything they hear on the internet.

Finally, the CIA research shows that LSD is completely incapable of mind control, and therefore the theory that MK-ULTRA still exists and has sleeper agents all around the nation being controlled by LSD is ridiculous.



BATTLE of the WHOLESALERS



ColeWaymeyer

Since 1989, Sam's Club had dominated the wholesaler retail industry in Florence. This reign was challenged when Costco Wholesale opened in the Florence Heights development in 2014.

Since the opening, many residents wonder what separates the two, as they are the same type of retailer.

While not much is different between the stores, there are some differences that may attract a certain customer over another.

History

Opening within seven years of each other, Sam's Club and Costco Wholesale took a new approach to the retail concept of brick and mortar stores by charging membership costs for admission and offering bigger bulk packages to shoppers.

For over 30 years, the two wholesale clubs have kept up the competition both by offering nearly identical shopping experiences and drowning out the competition in their industry.

So the big question is, why do shoppers prefer one over the other?

Exterior

In terms of design, Costco generally offers a sleeker finish with many different club designs and a logo above the main entrance.

Sam's, on the other hand, offers the more minimalistic approach, featuring simple designs that briefly catch the eye, and a centered logo directly above the main entrance.

The main difference between the exterior of the Florence clubs is the gas station at the rear of the parking lot at Costco while there is no gas station at Sam's.

This difference comes as a result to a city ordinance that no gas stations shall be built on both Houston and Mall Roads, and since Costco is on a side street to Mall Road, the gas station is permitted.

Costco is also the newer club so the property is in a little bit better shape than Sam's, especially the parking lot.

Interior and Layout

The similar interiors of both clubs are like other stores except for one factor: ambiance.

Inside Costco and Sam's Club, the ambiance is sparse. The colors are basic whites and grays, shelving is identical, and the floors are simple concrete with a sealant.

By contrast, modern grocery stores like Kroger Marketplaces, use hanging décor and deep colors to offer a warm and inviting atmosphere.

The similarities don't stop with the ambiance. The layouts of the clubs are nearly identical. Upon entry, consumers encounter the seasonal department, along with technology, photo, and optical.

As customers work their way back, they will pass packaged goods, furnishings, pet supplies, office goods, the bakery, the meat department, and the produce department.

When exiting, consumers will find the pharmaceutical department and a very convenient café with many options at the front of the clubs.

Self-Marketed Brands and Selection

Selection is nearly the same between the stores with the same brands at nearly the same price.

The only difference in selection would be the self-marketed brands.

Both Costco and Sam's Club feature a self-marketed brand.

Costco consumers are likely to pick up a product with the KIRKLAND Signature Label; however at Sam's Club, consumers would find the comparable Member's Mark brand.

The similarities even extend to the bakeries and the cafés which offer similar options.

Name brands such as Cheez-It, M&M's, Babybel and more can be found in both clubs.

Costs

To many, the most important part of the shopping experience is cost.

Luckily for shoppers, Sam's Club and Costco consumers don't see much difference in price of actual products, however membership cost is quite distinguishable.

Depending on the membership package, Sam's Club charges \$15 to \$20 less for its membership than Costco.

Costco offers four membership packages, while Sam's Club offers just two. At Costco, customers can purchase the Gold Star or Business membership packages for \$60, or the Gold Star and Business Executive packages for \$120.

However at Sam's Club, customers can purchase the basic membership for \$45, or the plus membership for \$100.

The Wrap Up

Overall, the clubs are strikingly similar, offering little difference besides membership costs.

However, according a poll taken on Twitter by the Rebellion, consumers still prefer Costco over Sam's Club. Why?

Many people associate Sam's Club with Walmart because they are a joint company, which makes Costco the non-Walmart alternative option.

In terms of wholesalers, the term "Sam's is the Walmart, and Costco is the Target" is thrown around frequently to distinguish Costco as the higher class wholesaler.

It's generally hard to detect many differences.

So if you're deciding on which club to shop at, ask yourself this: how much do you want to spend on a membership, and is a newer facility with a gas station important to you?

Because other than those factors, the shopping experiences are nearly identical.

One is newer with a gas station, the other is cheaper.



1983, Arkansas

Sam Walton

Bentonville, Arkansas

John Furner

Member's Mark

597

Founding

Founder

HQ

CEO

Signature

Brand

No. of Clubs



1976, California

James Sinegal & Jeffery Brotham

Issaquah, Washington

W. Craig Jelinek

KIRKLAND Signature

741

Senior leaves a legacy of success in the arts

Hays to pursue acting after forensics and theatrical honors

R Samantha Sadler

In this past year alone, senior Leanne Hays has traveled more places than some will in a lifetime.

Since October, Hays has applied to 19 college theater programs and conservatories, 11 of which required an in-person audition.

In the past year, she has traveled to Chicago, Oklahoma, Boston, Alabama, and New York for college auditions, forensics tournaments, or just for leisure.

In Chicago she participated in Unified auditions, where hundreds of schools gather to hold private auditions for theater programs.

Hays earned this opportunity after graduating from the Governor's School for the Arts summer program in 2016. It was there that she discovered the many amazing acting programs she applied for.

Her senior year at Boone has certainly been a ride as well.

Hays has had many accomplishments, both academic and extracurricular. She is involved in Spotlighters drama club, forensics, National Honor Society, Grace Kelly Girls mentoring program, senior board, Young Life and Cincinnati Actors Studio and Academy.

For seven years, four of which were at Boone, Leanne has been a successful member of the forensics team and the acting community.

Just looking at the surface of her forensics career, she has tried all but one event while in high school, and within the events she has participated in, she has finished in all but two.

Her favorite event in forensics however, was the one she never got to compete in at the high school level: duo interpretation.

"There are no boundaries around the type of stories you can tell in this event," Hays said. "Each



(LEFT) Senior Leanne Hays visits a coffee shop in Chicago during a new student day visit to Roosevelt University. (BELOW) During the same trip, Hays visited Millennium Park in Chicago, where she posed in front of the public sculpture "Cloud Gate," known more popularly as "the Bean."

round can have you laughing and crying, and it's enjoyable to see the tight knit teamwork between the two people."

She has then gone on to compete in nationals every year across varying cities of the US including Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. and even to Sacramento. This year, she is competing at both national tournaments, and is taking two events, her dramatic interpretation (DI) and her original oratory (OO).

Hays says she is most excited about competing in the National Speech and Debate Association national championship because "there is an emotional sentiment performing in Ft. Lauderdale where I first competed at a national forensics tournament."

"I also love performing my DI which carries not only the message, but the story as well," Hays said.

And for the past two years, she has been a team captain, and with her leadership has helped to guide many of the team members.

After seven years of competing, forensics is something that is very dear in her heart.

"The comradery of the team combined with the creation of art are definitely the things I will miss most about forensics," Hays said.

For a while, she has known that she wants to study acting and social justice. What she wants to pursue at the moment is kind of vague: A social activist artist.

She wants to be an actor and a creator, and with those skills promote social justice and equality.

"After traveling the country these past few months, it's encouraging and eye-opening to see so many people pursuing the same thing," Hays said. "I'm grateful to have even had the opportunity to go to these places and experience these things."

As her senior year is about to come to a close, Hays has settled at Roosevelt University in Chicago, where she was one of 25 to be accepted into their acting program.

After having a decorated four years at Boone, there are many things that she will miss.

"The people and the safety net that surrounds high school as a whole," are the first things Hays mentioned.

"We are lucky at Boone to have a bubble of supportive staff and students, and that can be rare to find in a school."

Hays has leaves behind an impressive legacy on the forensics team and theater program.



Cast and crew preparing spring musical '9 to 5'

R Megan Nichols

Boone is putting on the production of "9 to 5" in the month of May. This play involves musical performances and an eventful plot.

"9 to 5" is a musical originally featuring Dolly Parton who played Doralee Rhodes, one in a trio of women. The trio works for a corporation and its executive, Franklin Hart Jr. who is very arrogant and sexist.

Hart lies and spreads rumors about Rhodes, causing the women in the office to treat her rudely and reject her friendliness.

Hart also takes other people's ideas and claims them as his own. When the trio has had enough, they decide that they are going to try to get even with Franklin.

Each of them has her different plot, but after one of them almost poisons Hart, tables begin to turn.

The girls end up keeping him hostage while his wife is away, and they think up a better way to get back at him.

With this classic story line there has to be some determined actors to go along with it, and some of the students in this musical are Hannah Johnson, Abby Johnson, Reagan McGriff and Sebastian Carlos.

Hannah Johnson, a senior, says that the hardest part of this musical is "probably learning and memorizing lines and music."

Her role is violet, and although she has been in other plays such as "Miracle on 34th Street" and "The Sound of Music," this is her first lead role.



As part of the long process of bringing a musical to the stage, the cast and ensemble hold a vocal practice under the direction of choir director Lauren Barnhill after school on April 17 in the auditorium.

Abby Johnson, a sophomore who plays Judy and sister of Hannah Johnson, says she is just "excited to put on a great show with great people."

Abby says that the hardest part of the play is that cast and crew have to focus on every component, stating that "it's easy to focus on one thing."

Between the community and school, Abby Johnson has been in many plays such as "Miracle on 34th Street" and "The Sound of

Music."

Senior McGriff says she is also excited about her role as Doralee, saying she likes that her character is a "strong woman" who "stands her ground."

McGriff stated that when it comes to a musical "sometimes you get worried about the production, but it's always amazing at the end."

Carlos, a senior who plays Hart, says that his character is "the polar opposite of

myself."

He also says that it can be vocally demanding, but credits the "phenomenal choir director" Lauren Barnhill for helping in any way possible.

Carlos has also had roles in many plays, some including "Singing in the Rain" and "Annie Get Your Gun."

The play will run in the evenings Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, May 10-12, with an additional matinee performance on Saturday.

PREMIUM VELOCITY

Profiling Boone County's Fastest Sprinters



Ivy Rousseau (left), Jantje Wingo (center), and Corinna Watts (right) have been the standouts from this year's track season so far, putting up impressive numbers in their respective events.

IVY ROUSSEAU

EVENTS: 400m relay, 800m relay, 100m dash

ROLE: helping new girls learn about track, teaching what everything means, motivation

IMPACT OF INCREASED SIZE OF TEAM: brought the team together, made it stronger, gave more opportunities for relays

FAVORITE PART OF TRACK: the meets and the people

KEY TO SUCCESS: working together as a team and motivating each other

JANTJE WINGO

EVENTS: 400m relay, 800m relay, 100m dash, 200m dash

ROLE: giving the team confidence to grind for the season

IMPACT OF INCREASED SIZE OF THE TEAM: makes a big impact, should carry for years to come

FAVORITE PART OF TRACK TEAM: winning medals

KEY TO SUCCESS: practicing handoffs, getting block starts right, practicing hard

CORRINA WATTS

EVENTS: 400m relay, 800m relay, 100m dash

ROLE: motivate underclassmen to make them better as runners and individuals

IMPACT OF INCREASED SIZE OF TEAM: helps out if someone isn't able to run, every girl offers something different

FAVORITE PART OF TRACK: meeting new people, seeking out the competition

KEY TO SUCCESS: hard work and dedication

Information compiled by Blake Lehmann

Results from Previous Meets

Season Bests:

Male Individual:

100m: Jantje Wingo (11.72)
200m: Jantje Wingo (23.81)
400m: Julian Velasquez (56.30)
Long Jump: TJ Day (18-3)
Triple Jump: Eric Wheeler (38-9.5)

Female Individual:

100m: Ivy Rousseau (13.98)
200m: Tiffany Hoskins (35.40)
400m: Natalie Curry (1:23.84)
Long Jump: Corinna Watts (13-5.5)
Triple Jump: Kayona Dean (32-8.5)

Male Relay Team:

4x100m: 45.74
4x200m: 1:36.17
4x400m: 3:56.03

Female Relay Team:

4x100m: 56.12
4x200m: 2:00.56
4x400m: 5:11.91

Boone Co. Opening Night:

4x100 Meter Relay (Boys): 46.97 (1st)
4x200 Meter Relay (Boys): 1:39.98 (1st)
800m Sprint Medley Relay (Boys): 1:46.00 (1st)
4x800 Meter Relay (Girls): 11:55.91 (1st)

Boone Invitational:

4x100 Meter Relay (Boys): 47.59 (2nd)
4x200 Meter Relay (Boys): 1:40.24 (3rd)
Triple Jump: Eric Wheeler (38-09.50, 3rd)
4x100 Meter Relay (Girls): 56.12 (2nd)

Ryle Invitational:

4x100 Meter Relay (Boys): 48.58 (2nd)
Discus (Boys): RJ Summers (94-00.00, 3rd)
Shot Put (Boys): John Mark Shutt (38-02.00, 1st)

Dixie Heights:

4x100 Meter Relay (Boys): 45.74 (2nd)
4x200 Meter Relay (Boys): 1:36.17 (2nd)
Discus (Boys): John Mark Shutt (110-03.00, 2nd)
Shot Put (Boys): John Mark Shutt (39-10.00, 1st)

FC Cincy ascending to the major leagues



REBEL RAMBLINGS

Addison Bradley

It's no doubt that Cincinnati has its fair share of popular sports teams, but one team is growing into a major fan favorite.

FC Cincinnati rose in 2016 and immediately drew attention to fans of all ages. As this hometown team became familiar, attendance continually increased each game. The charismatic atmosphere makes games enjoyable and often draws people back to Nippert Stadium.

In 2017, FC proved to be the hub for local soccer fans when they landed in the number one spot for the highest USL attendance. They averaged 21,199 fans a game, which was twice as large as the attendance for Sacramento Republic FC, who followed in second.

Overall, FC had an impressive 339,181 fans attend games for the 2017 season.

The big buzz is that FC is looking to move up to the next level in their soccer stardom. The team is awaiting confirmation from Major League Soccer (MLS) that it will be invited to join the country's top league. The decision has been delayed since Dec. 2017.

In June 2017, FC announced plans to build a privately funded \$200 million stadium around the Cincinnati area—but there's a catch. Although the money is set aside, the stadium will only be built if the team moves up from USL to MLS.

The MLS is expanding its league, but the major question is if FC will be included. Since the stadium plan was released, three locations for the possible stadium have been considered between three different areas in and near Cincinnati.

Newport, Oakley, and the West End were the possible stadium locations debated by president and general manager of FC Cincinnati, Jeff Berding with additional input from people and businesses around the Cincinnati area.

A stadium plan has been approved after a long dialogue between Berding, Cincinnati City Council, and the Cincinnati School Board. The West End will likely be the new site for the stadium.

Though the stadium plans are coming together, FC is still waiting for an announcement to move up to the MLS.

FC was off to a hot start in their 2018 season. The team kicked off their season on March 17 in South Carolina against a familiar rival, the Charleston Battery. A goal in the 18th minute by defender Blake Smith led FC to its first win of the season and first win against the Battery.

FC then visited Indianapolis to claim their second season win and to play against a new team—the Indy Eleven. Newbie Emery Welshman netted his first goal for the season and FC career as he scored on a header off an assist from midfielder Emmanuel Ledesma.

This year, the team consists of 26 players, led by Captain Dekel Keinan.

At this point, FC is training for a successful season, with four games played so far. They are waiting on an announcement from MLS to join the top league, which should be made soon, according to Berding.

Mollozzi ran for Boone County Commissioner

Veteran teacher walked door to door during run for political office in 2014

Blake Lehmann

In her 22 years of teaching at Boone, Christy Mollozzi hasn't experienced the challenge that she faced running for Boone County Commissioner in 2014.

Mollozzi had worked on a few campaigns over the years, and had been encouraged to run for state representative as early as 1990, but her political aspirations experienced some delay, as she was busy with family.

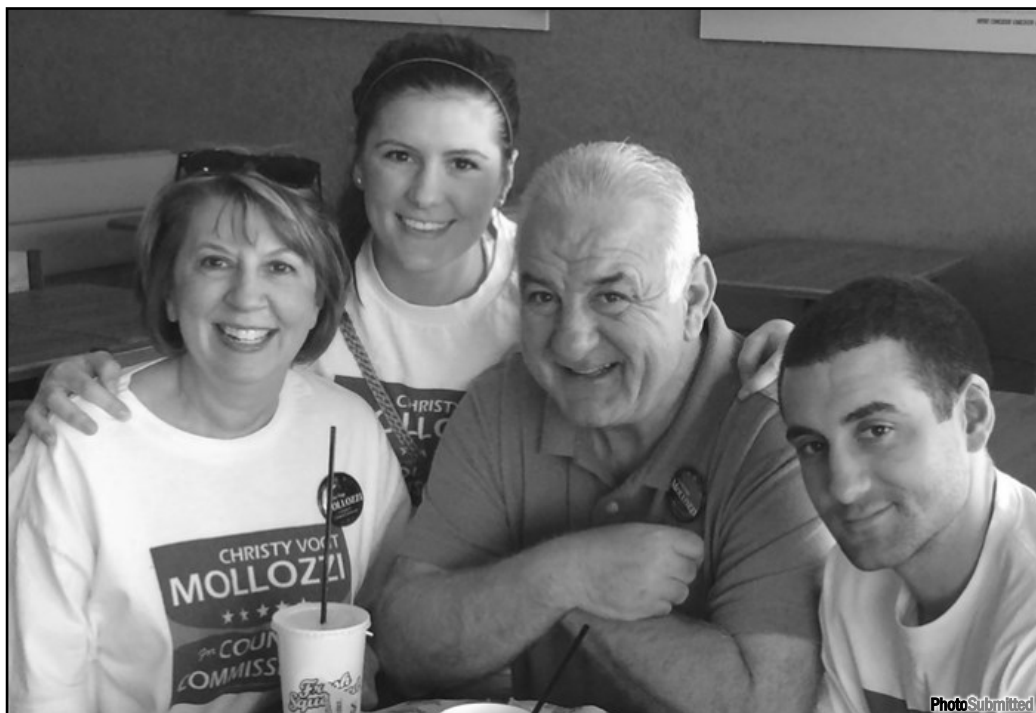
"In politics, I feel that everything is in perfect timing," said Mollozzi. "When I was pushed to run, there was an opening in that area, but it wasn't the perfect time for my family, since I had a young baby."

In January of 1990, as a part of a campaign organized by Lee Atwater, the former chair of the Republican National Committee, 20 to 30 people from each state who could possibly run for office were invited to the White House.

Mollozzi got to have lunch at the White House, where she had the chance to meet President George H.W. Bush. Even though her daughter had just been born, she knew she couldn't miss this opportunity.

She describes her return to politics during the county primary elections in the winter of 2014 as "tiring and draining, but exciting" while also pointing out the various challenges and intricacies she faced. She walked door to door throughout the entire county during the early winter months to campaign for the spot.

"It was exciting going out to meet people across the county, but you don't realize



Special education teacher Christy Mollozzi (left) poses with her daughter Rachel, husband Al, and son Ben during her 2014 campaign for county commissioner.

how big it is until you start walking it," she said.

Mollozzi's leadership experience didn't start there, as she sat as the president of the student body during her college days at Western Kentucky University.

Afterwards, she taught for two years in Louisville then went to Washington, D.C. for an internship with the Food and Drug Administration before finishing a masters at the University of Maryland.

She admires the changes at Boone and throughout the county overall, noting the modernization of what used to be a smaller, more secluded area.

"The demographics of Florence have changed a lot. It used to be a rural community, and now we have a lot more diversity," she said.

She also notes the changes in technology throughout the years, saying that, "Kids would submit their hard copies [of their essays] by hand, and now they're usually submitted by email."

Mollozzi is a special education teacher collaborating with U.S. History teachers, and notes how her experiences working with them have shaped her teaching and leadership styles over the years.

"I've met a lot of great teachers since

we're in new classes every semester, or sometimes we collaborate with the same teacher, but it gives us an opportunity to see a lot of their teaching styles, and we have a lot of excellent teachers," Mollozzi said.

Mollozzi also credits teachers she's worked with in helping make her a better teacher.

"In special education, you have to care for the students and follow their individual education plans, and I've also had some good mentors in that area."

Mollozzi says that her experiences in education and politics have been instrumental in shaping the person she is today.

Mollozzi in a Box

- Born in:** Louisville
- Favorite period to study:** The 1960s
- Favorite historical figure:** Abraham Lincoln
- Favorite war to study:** World War II
- Favorite politician:** Marco Rubio
- Favorite restaurant:** Carrabba's Italian Grill
- Favorite movie:** The Fugitive



(LEFT) Mollozzi poses with her friend Cathy Bennet who accompanied her as she campaigned door to door across the county. (ABOVE) A truck is adorned with a Mollozzi campaign banner.

RALLY: Success hard to measure

Continued from page A1

Read believes that the success of the rally cannot yet be determined.

"If people (students, teachers, parents, etc.) see the rally as an endpoint or a day off, then the rally was not a success," Read said. "However, if those involved see it as a starting point to continued civic engagement, then it was a success."

Holman left Frankfort feeling that the rally was a success.

"For me the goal was to inform the public that one, there is a

problem in the public education system and two, to let the legislation and the community know that teachers are aware of what is happening and are going to be active participants," Holman said.

Whether the rally was a success or not, many teachers agree that it was a positive experience.

"It was very powerful to hear the voices and see the mass of people assembled to have their voices heard," Read said.

EDUCATION: Teacher shortage may be on the horizon

Continued from page A1

The Kentucky Department of Education released a chart that indicated many school districts across Kentucky would go bankrupt within two years if the most severe cuts had been put in place.

In the end, the legislature passed a budget that restored most of the money to public education, and even overturned Bevin vetoes. However, according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Kentucky has cut K-12 funding by 15.8 percent since 2008 when ad-

justing for inflation.

According to an article from Washington Post, "It's well known that teachers—even those with meager salaries—dig deep into their own pockets for supplies to do their jobs."

The article discusses a survey that revealed that the average amount of their own money teachers spend is about \$500 a year for classroom supplies.

Will these changes to retirement, disrespect of the teaching profession and cuts to education

funding result in decline in the number of people interested in pursuing a career in education? Will there be a teacher shortage?

If senior Kierdan Osborn is any indication, maybe not.

"Recent events ... have not made me question my decision (to become a teacher)," Osborn said. "I see a real calling for more kindness and care within the school system."

Arts vital to success of public education

ColeWaymeyer

Across the nation, schools and districts are seeing and dealing with the effects of budget reductions and educational reforms. However, in the midst of the changes, one issue has gone by largely unnoticed: fine arts programs are being cut or are in jeopardy of being cut.

Not many realize that this is an issue because they see the arts as more of an extra-curricular than an actual necessity, however the arts have many proven benefits both in and out of school.

Nearly three out of four business leaders say that creativity is the number one skill they look for when considering new hires, according to the non-profit organization America for the Arts. The same group also states that a student involved in the arts is four times more likely to be recognized for academic achievement.

Yet in many states, Kentucky included, school districts face a narrowing budget where many parents and community members speculate the arts, especially extra-curriculars, could be cut.

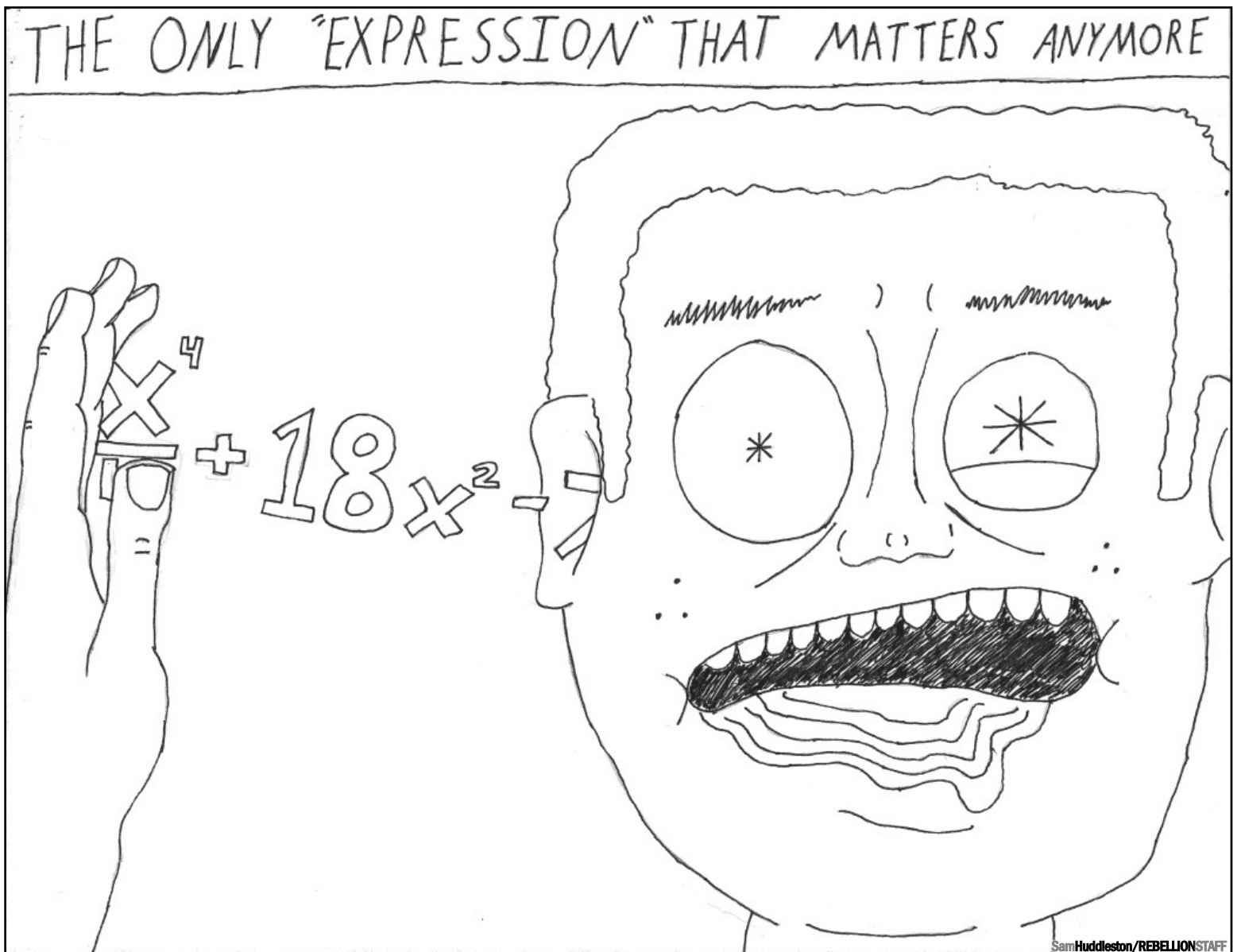
This can be seen in Oklahoma where education budgets are being reduced by over 28 percent, and some districts see arts as more of a luxury than a necessity.

However, according to America for the Arts, students participate in arts programs consistently have better test scores, attendance rates, and graduation rates. Simply put, students—free to express themselves during the stress filled school day—are happier with a creative outlet.

It is important now more than ever that the arts are prioritized for these innovative students.

Programs that are gaining attention are the STEAM programs, which many districts are jumping into for their curriculum, and often over the performing and fine arts. STEAM is an acronym representing Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics.

Boone County Schools is



taking this further than most districts by opening a state-of-the-art, full-fledged STEAM high school in Erlanger called the Ignite Institute at Roebling Innovation Center for the 2018-2019 school year.

While programs like STEAM do help innovate and shape the future, what will become of the future for fine arts? While the “A” in STEAM does represent arts, it often refers to design and architecture rather than performing and fine arts.

Just as there are STEAM oriented high schools, there are also

performing arts high schools. However, the issue is that STEAM sees more attention than fine arts in traditional high schools.

It is vital that arts are incorporated into the classroom, because if future students lack creativity, a society that depends on innovative ideas could be put at risk.

The fine arts are a cornerstone of civilization, and if these programs are ignored, culture takes a big step backward.

As hard as it may be to believe, the singing and dancing does

increase proficiency and helps students in the long-run.

That’s why it’s important to make voices heard against these changes.

The fight for arts is one students are familiar with because it was popularized by television programs such as “Glee” and “Rise.” However, not many student voices speak up for the arts. Well, it’s about time voices are heard.

The arts are important, and for many, it’s one of or even the only reason school can be fun.

It’s important that people know that the arts are beneficial, fun, creative, and useful, so that when it comes time to cut a program, the arts can remain in place.

As one genius once said, “Music is a more potent instrument than any other for education, because rhythm and harmony find their way into the inward places of the soul.”

Even 2400 years ago, Plato understood what so many leaders seem to underestimate: The arts matter.

Spring break offers chance to live your life



**REBEL
RAMBLINGS**

**Kaitlyn
Vanway**

Recently, I made one of the most harrowing decisions a teenager faces: I got bangs.

Despite the fact that I had just nearly grown my hair out from the last time I cut my hair, I did the very adult thing and got bangs because Zoey Deschanel has them.

Over spring break, I started—and finished—three seasons of “New Girl,” a comedy series on Fox starring the bangs-queen herself.

This, I believe, truly changed me as a person; I am now a pajama-set-wearing Netflix addict with fringe across her forehead who thinks she’s funnier than she is.

This year’s spring break was very different from previous years.

Last year, I rode bikes around the nation’s capital all break, and the year before, I spent my week strutting the walk of fame in Hollywood; this year, I spent my week laughing out loud at my tiny phone screen alone in my room.

Originally, my family had planned on spending the week in the beautiful city of Philadelphia, examining the crack in the Liberty Bell and eating Philly Cheesesteaks.

Unfortunately, that trip fell through—so instead, I watched three seasons of Zoey Deschanel being hilarious.

Yes, watching this much television was uneventful and maybe even a little sad.

Comparatively, I “wasted” my spring break. It wasn’t one to post on Instagram or share about at school.

I watched the star of “Elf” for hours at a time and then decided to model my hair and life after her. The end.

Except I didn’t waste my spring break. There’s this notion

that there is a hierarchy of ways to spend time off, and somehow watching television all week falls at the bottom.

But I find fault with the idea that because I spent my week eating junk food in my pajamas, that my break wasn’t meaningful.

In the grand scheme of things, going to D.C. or L.A. is definitely more memorable than staring at a screen, but that doesn’t mean watching three seasons of “New Girl” was the wrong way to spend my time off.

There are a lot of Ted Talks and commencement addresses about “living your life to the fullest,” and inevitably they all carry the same message: stop wasting time on the mundane and go find happiness.

But here’s the thing: Netflix makes me happy. If I would have wanted to spend my spring break doing anything else, I would have. The simple truth is that I wanted to watch “New Girl.”

And maybe that’s not what those motivational speakers are

aiming for when they talk about living “in the now.” They probably envision their audience skydiving or climbing Mount Everest or doing some other remarkable, Instagram-able feat.

And those things are incredible and worthy of sharing, but the mere fact that they are more extreme does not make them more meaningful. The point is, “living your life to the fullest” is not an action—it’s a mindset, it’s a feeling.

I truly believe that I could be just as happy watching Zoey Deschanel dance around on TV as I could be snapchatting the Liberty Bell, and both of those things would be meaningful ways to spend my time.

So long as what you’re doing brings you joy, you are living your life to the fullest. Finding happiness is hard enough—there’s no reason to criticize how others go about it.

I would love to have gone to Philadelphia over spring break, and I will absolutely go when I get the chance. And yes, I would have had

better stories to tell about break than I ended up with. But my time spent singing along to theme song after theme song was not wasted, because it brought me joy.

Telling others what constitutes time spent “meaningfully” is the real waste of time. There is no reason to judge someone else’s happiness, no matter how they achieve it.

“Living your life to the fullest” doesn’t have to involve deep sea diving or riding scary rollercoasters. It doesn’t have to involve settling down to start a family or going off to college. It doesn’t have to involve travelling the world or completing a bucket list.

There is no criteria for a life well-lived. As far as we know, we each get one shot at life, and there are no do-overs.

So if any of those things bring you joy, then go do them. But if “New Girl” brings you joy, then pull up a seat, because I’m right there with you. Let’s live our lives the best we know how.