

CALLING ALL READERS

By ZAVI SHELDON

In recent years, there has been an explosion in the number of clubs and extracurricular activities at Mt. Greylock—the PEP Club and Amnesty International are just a few of the groups which were started this year. High school English teacher Katherine Brown and librarian Kathy Share have added yet another to the list with their newly established book club. The group began meeting in December and holds a discussion in the library every Friday during early lunch.

Brown says she ran a successful book club when she worked at Taconic High School and decided she wanted to try one at Mt. Greylock. The club currently has four student members, along with the two teachers, Brown and Share. They are hoping to expand as more students hear about

the group. They say that anyone who can read the books and would like to participate in the discussions is welcome to join the group.

Instead of traditional printed books, each member of the club has their own Nook, Barnes and Noble's contribution to the ever-expanding market of E-readers and tablets. They belong to the Special Education Department but were not being used, so the department lent them to the club. The club's members say that reading on the electronic devices has its drawbacks, as well as its benefits. The Nooks are not always completely reliable, and take away the satisfaction of seeing the progress made in a book. However, they are light, can store many books and share a server, which means that only one person

has to buy a book for it to be downloaded on every Nook.

The first book that the group read was *The Help*, by Kathryn Stockett, a story about the experiences of African-American maids and their white employers during the 1960s. They are currently reading *Me Talk Pretty One Day*, by David Sedaris, a collection of autobiographical essays. Since the club's members are all juniors and have been reading *Moby Dick* in their English classes, Brown says that they try to pick books that will give them a break from the difficulty of Herman Melville's challenging writing.

The main component that the book club's members stress is that their meetings are

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1 in 650: An Interview with Mary Tremblay

By EMILY KAEGI



Photo Courtesy of Mary Tremblay

Senior Mary Tremblay does something outside of school that distinguishes her from many of her peers: she has just been certified as an EMT. This month, we sat down with Mary to find out how she became interested in being an EMT, what type of training she had to go through and what it is like for her to be an EMT.

Q: How did you become interested in emergency medical training?

A: Two years ago, I got my First Responder certification through the Village Ambulance Explorer Post 911. When the Lanesborough Fire Chief, Charlie Durfee, found out, he said I should join the department in order to pursue any interest in the EMS field. I found out that I love being in the back of an ambulance helping out. A little while later, Village Ambulance hosted an EMT class and the LVFD [Lanesborough Volunteer Fire Department] put me through the class.

Q: What is a First Responder certificate?

A: First Responder is as basic a level of certified EMS personnel as you can go. First Responders are CPR certified and trained to take care of any basic pre-hospital emergency needs of the patient.

Q: As an EMT what do you do?

A: It is an Emergency Medical Technician, so I respond to any 911 medical or trauma call. I ride in the back of the ambulance for the Lanesborough Fire Department. Basically there are three levels of EMTs, and I'm an EMT basic. As a basic, you take vital signs like blood pressure, pulse, you count respirations, and you can administer certain medicines or help administer them. What you have to do is call Medical Control. Say someone is having an allergic reaction and they have an epipen, I would call Medical Control and ask "can I help the patient administer their epipen if they need it?" It's the most basic form of help until you get to the hospital center.

Q: Are you done with your training?

A: I'm done with my training and now I'm taking the two tests. One is a practical—one where you do backboarding, splinting, and CPR. On Thursday I took the written test, which is the end all be all. I was really excited to have passed both!

Q: How do you have time for all this training while you are in school?

A: It's definitely been really hard. Most of the people who take the course aren't in school. The actual classes were two days during the week from six to nine or ten at night, and Fridays were all day lab sessions. The only downfall was it was during football season, so I missed a lot of the important games. The program gives you a schedule when you start so you plan everything out before hand, because you can't miss the classes.

Q: Would you recommend this class to other people?

A: Definitely! I think if you're interested in the medical field, it is a good thing to know. I would definitely recommend everyone get

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KONY 2012: AN ACTIVIST'S DREAM OR A PASSING FAD?

By EVELYN MAHON

Almost as quickly as it flared up, the hype surrounding the viral video entitled "Kony 2012" died down. This is not unusual in our current world of social media. Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Google Plus and many other social networking sites supply constant updates on our world, forcing themselves into our phones, our laptops and ultimately, our minds. Facebook has 350 million members (enough to be the fifth-largest country in the world) and plays host to 55 million status updates each day, according to the New York Times. However, not all of these posts are about Justin Bieber and teen social drama. Believe it or not, Facebook has sparked activism and revolution. The site has been so much of an influence that Syria, China, Vietnam, and Iran have actually banned it. The latest viral craze has been the famous (or infamous) Kony 2012 video, produced by Invisible Children, an organization dedicated to stopping Joseph Kony and his army of child soldiers.

Kony 2012 is a short, thirty-minute film by Jason Russell that begins rather vaguely, and portrays Uganda as a sort of post-apocalyptic war zone. The video focuses on Joseph Kony, a warlord currently operating in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and his child soldiers. Many experts on the

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As Russell's film suggests, an idea can be incredibly powerful, especially when paired with the power of the internet.

FIELD TRIPS AT GREYLOCK

By KELSEY HEBERT

Photo: Naomi LaChance



Mr. Dils's AP 12 class saw *Death of a Salesman* on March 21.

Field trip opportunities at Mt. Greylock have grown considerably in the past few years. Longer trips to places like New York City and Get-

tysburg, Pennsylvania have become a reality to students and teachers alike. These trips provide broader insight and more hands-on activities than typical classroom learning, in order to enrich the experiences and understanding students have of classroom knowledge. This year alone, three different classes are have visited or are planning to visit New York City, all for different reasons.

Science teacher Larry Bell took anatomy, biology and environmental science students to see the exhibit "Bodies" to supplement his students' learning about the human body. The New York exhibit contains over 200 real human bodies and specimens that

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CELL TOWER ISSUES

By NAOMI DAY

In the 1990s, cell phones became widely used and have been increasing in popularity ever since. The use of cell phones has led to the placement of cell towers in many areas. Cell towers use electronic equipment to receive and transmit signals of radio frequency. Because the antennae must be located high enough to catch these signals, the towers are usually between 50 and 200 feet high.

Several years ago, a Massachusetts-based company approached Mt. Greylock with a proposal to build a cell tower on school property. At that time, the school was searching for revenue-building options, so the school committee formed a subcommittee to look at possible sites for the tower. However, a dispute about the placement of the tower arose as the

subcommittee was investigating sites. The neighbors surrounding Mt. Greylock property were unhappy with the considered locations, mainly because of what the huge tower would do to the scenic view of the landscape. Environmental groups also protested the building of a cell tower on scenic lands. Because of these disputes, construction was halted and today the school committee is still discussing possible options for the future.

Placement of the cell tower is a valid concern: many people probably noticed the balloons being floated high in the air above Mt. Greylock property several months ago. The balloons floated at 100 feet: the height of the proposed cell tower. This would be a

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LOCAL BAKERIES

Alina Fein and Grace Singleton review two alternatives to Dunkin' Donuts.

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SPRING DRAMA

Katelin Marchand gives an overview of possibilities for this year's spring drama.

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SCHEDULING

Pearl Sutter discusses options for a new schedule in years to come.

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DODGEBALL

Will Walter writes about the sophomore class's annual dodgeball tournament.

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A NEW SCHEDULE FOR GREYLOCK?

By PEARL SUTTER

Recently, there has been much discussion about the possibility of a new schedule introduced at Mount Greylock for this fall. A few different schedules changes, such as the trimester system, a dropped period everyday and schedules spanning two days, have been considered for the next school year, of 2012-2013.

For several years, administrators have talked about these ideas, but now exploration into schedule changes has gone much further. Superintendent Rose Ellis organized a group of teachers and administrators to talk about a new schedule. This group has visited several surrounding schools, both high schools and colleges, to look at different schedules. The group, however, will not make the decisions regarding schedule changes, but instead it must bring its suggestions in front of the school committee, to be discussed, voted on and possibly written into the school's contract. Principal Tim Payne says, "the biggest challenge will be dealing with the school committee and actually changing the schedule, because there must be a voting process as well as a discussion that leads to an amendment in our contract."

The current schedule consists of seven periods each about 45 minutes in length. This schedule allows for each class to meet everyday for substantial amount of time. As Sophomore Aaron Ziemer says, "I like the schedule now, but there are definitely parts of it that could be changed." One of the proposed schedule changes contains eight classes spread out over two days. This would make each class period about 90 minutes long, with only four periods in a day. The four classes would switch every other day, and over two weeks each class would meet five times. Senior Rebekeh Packer likes this idea. "Longer classes are more productive and enjoyable as a student," said Packer. Principal Tim Payne also sees the advantages of this idea over the current schedule. He says, "forty-five minutes is not really enough time to do something meaningful in a classroom. Often times the bells stops class right when it is beginning to become exciting." However, sophomore Zavi Sheldon disagrees. She says, "I think it would be difficult to have classes meet only five times in the space of two weeks." Sophomore Rachel Swop expressed mixed feelings: "I really like the eight periods extended over two days, but I am not sure I would want to be in classes for that long."

Another possible change that came up in discussion is a schedule similar to the current one, but with a dropped period. Students would enroll in eight classes but would only visit seven each day. One advantage of this system would be the opportunity to add another class. Sophomore Edward Gebara approves of this possible change. He says, "[the change] will hopefully allow for some new electives to be incorporated into the schedule, and maybe it will bring back some old electives that have gone away." Sophomore Aaron Ziemer says, "[a schedule] with eight periods would be absolutely fantastic, because it would give so many opportunities for choices."

A trimester schedule was also taken into consideration. Principal Tim Payne says, "If we had a trimester schedule, a student would not necessarily have to take a whole year of core classes. A student could only be required to take two trimesters of English, for example, and then take an exploratory class for the last part of the year." Sophomore Katelin Marchand does not like the idea of totally changing the structure of the schedule. She said, "If we were assessed at the end of each marking period, as we may be, then there might be five or more finals each trimester. That is too much testing which creates loads of stress for everyone." Sophomore Caleb Raymond pointed out that "a trimester schedule that lines up with after school sports might open up

FIELD TRIPS



Photo: Ryan Mahar

In addition to seeing the "Bodies" exhibit in New York City, students were able to see famous landmarks such as the Brooklyn Bridge, pictured here.

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have been dissected and preserved for people to see inside the human body. It displays all the systems of the body and even specimens to show what happens to the body when unhealthy habits are present, such as what happens to the lungs of a smoker or to the liver of an alcoholic. A few years back, a grant from Williams College allowed for an anatomy class to see the exhibit, which was temporarily in Hartford, Connecticut. Bell says, "It was one of the most memorable trips for the students, even more so than the human cadaver lab we attended. Also, it is the next step in [the students'] studies from the comparative study of cats to actual human anatomy and physiology." For this reason, Bell decided to again bring his class to see the exhibit on March 23.

A second teacher who ventured to New York with his class was English teacher Blair Dils, who brought AP English students to see the 1949 Pulitzer Prize- and Tony Award-winning play, "Death of a Salesman," on Broadway. On March 21, the English students trekked to New York City to see Mike Nichols' revival of the play. The students read the play during class a few weeks before seeing the play. Senior Kelsey Goodwin said, "It was so fun to see what you learn in school and actually realize that it exists outside the realm of the classroom. Seeing a play in real life, things jump out at you that you don't really remember when reading it."

A group of Spanish students also plans to travel to New York City, in early May. They will see a Spanish themed Broadway play, eat at a traditional Spanish tapas restaurant, go on a New York sightseeing bus tour and possibly see the Cinco de Mayo parade. The trip will be overnight and is open to all students in AP, Level 4 and Level 3 Spanish. Not only are these types of field trips occurring in the high school, but middle school students have been taking longer, more in-depth trips in recent years. Seventh graders have gone to Ellis Island after studying about immigration to America, and eighth grade students have gone to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania to learn of the different battles that took place there during the Civil War.

Although these field trips have become more accessible to students at Mt. Greylock, much planning, organization and financing goes on behind the scenes to make them possible. Teachers must check the office calendar first for dates and fill out a FT (Field Trip) form which requires them to make a clear connection between the field trip and the curriculum being taught in class. Teachers must also figure out a way to provide transportation for all students and receive permission slips from all who will attend. Nearing the trip date, teachers will give a list of all students leaving to other faculty members

and recruit chaperones if needed. Many of the large field trips also require a student fee, usually towards transportation and admission. "[Besides the space taken up by anatomy and AP biology students], we filled the rest of our bus with a lottery of other biology students, to keep the cost lower for everyone," says Bell of his NYC trip. However, short trips to neighboring Williams College, for activities such as student research at the library, are often free admission and transportation costs are covered by the college. Another challenge of long and especially overnight field trips is the fact that students must make up any work, tests, or quizzes that they may have missed during the time of the trip.

Principal Tim Payne says, "Field trips are a great opportunity, but they are a challenge as well. Avoiding scheduling conflicts and limiting the amount of time students are outside of the building is difficult. However, I think students benefit greatly from learning outside of the classroom."

No matter the expense and planning it takes to bring students on longer and more far away trips, they do not seem like they will stop anytime soon. Many students and teachers around the building feel that these types of trips help students gain perspective and supplement what students are learning in school. As Goodwin says, "There is so much more to learning and education than what you learn in a classroom." ■■

1 in 650

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their First Responder, just to learn simple basic things like CPR and how to splint a broken wrist because everyone could benefit from that type of information.

Q: Are you pursuing a medical career?

A: Yes. I'm going into the medical field and don't want to be an EMT as my profession. I want to be a pediatrician.

Q: Are you certified in other things?

A: I have a CPR certification and because I'm in the fire department I go to a lot of classes. I have hazmat training and water rescue training. These are just taking a step further from my First Responder.

Q: Have you ever had to save someone?

A: I've been on a lot ambulance calls. Not many are life threatening. Because we live in a small town, most of the calls we get are geriatric calls [meaning they deal with elderly patients]. Mostly it's general weakness that we get called in for.

Q: Outside all this, what else do you do with your time?

A: This takes up a lot of my time, but I like going to the Fire Department and just hanging out there. I also work at Whitney's Farm stand. I really like being outside.

Q: Finally, if you could have any superpower, what would it be and what would you do with it?

A: My power would be the ability to control the weather. I could definitely go for some more warm sunny days!

Interview has been edited and condensed. To nominate a student for 1 in 650, please contact the editors at mountgreylockecho@gmail.com. ■■

PAYNE RESIGNS

On the night of Sunday April 8th, Principal Tim Payne sent out an email to the Mt. Greylock community announcing his resignation, effective June 30 of this year. Payne has worked at the school for eleven years, both as an administrator and a teacher. "I look forward to working closely with the administration and staff to insure a smooth transition before moving on to my next adventure," Payne said.

The Greylock Echo is the student newspaper of Mt. Greylock Regional High School in Williamstown, Mass. Published monthly during the academic year, each issue is developed and edited by a team of student writers, photographers, artists, and editors. Any Mt. Greylock student is welcome to submit material or join the Echo staff.

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KONY 2012

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political turmoil in central Africa say that Russell's video over-simplifies the situation. The video makes it sound like Kony is operating in Uganda, and that the only reason he has not been stopped is because no one knows about him. However, the reality is that Kony is operating in the DRC (considered the most dangerous place in the world by Amnesty International) and he is only one of many warlords in the area who use child soldiers.

In a response video, Amama Mbabazi, Prime Minister of Uganda, says, "We do not

bly efficiently and influences decisions made by people across the world.

Social networking sites share and spread information almost like infectious diseases. In a matter of hours, the Kony 2012 video received millions of views on Youtube. And these viewers are not all wizened academics. In fact, many of those who watched the video belonged to 'Generation Y,' i.e., people born from 1980-2000. The massive number of teens viewing this video has its upsides and downsides. Teenagers are known for their passion and technological savvy, but are also notorious for short attention spans and illogical decisions. "The Daily Show with



With over eighty-six million views on YouTube, the organization behind the Kony 2012 video, Invisible Children, has surpassed its goal of "making Kony visible."

need a slick video on Youtube. Come and see Uganda for yourself: you will find a very different place to that portrayed by Invisible Children."

Mbabazi is one of many critics of the video, but others fully support Invisible Children's mission. Celebrities like Kim Kardashian, Reba McEntire, P. Diddy, and Justin Bieber (who, some may argue, has a child army of his own) have tweeted their praises of the video.

Celebrity endorsement or no, one question still remains: how much of Kony 2012 is true, and how much is simply hyperbole? One of the problems with such viral videos is that any information—true or not—will be spread and generally believed to be true. This enables propaganda to be dispersed incredi-

John Stewart" recently satirized the Kony 2012 situation by bringing in a "junior correspondent," an actress posing as a twenty-something-year-old, carrying an iPhone and reporting on the latest updates regarding the Kony 2012 video. Stewart's show joked that she knew nothing of the Arab spring, or even that Syria was a country.

Despite this mockery, the Kony 2012 campaign video has accomplished what it set out to do: raise awareness. Millions of people now know about Joseph Kony, the situation in Uganda and the DRC. Hopefully, the energy stirred up by the Kony 2012 video will encourage our generation to better the world. That is a goal with which no one can reasonably take issue. ■■

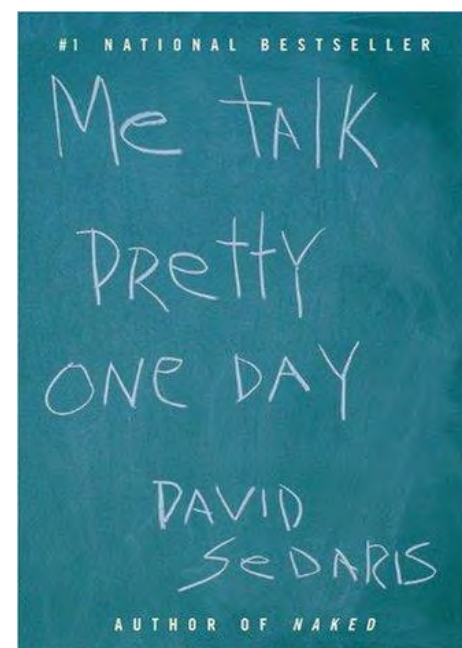
BOOK CLUB

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nothing like English class. During their discussions, they talk about the writer's style and the book's characters, but in a relaxed way, without pressure to analyze the book too deeply. The amount they read between meetings is somewhat flexible.

Group member Naomi Day says that she was interested in joining the book group because "it is a good way to be introduced to books that [she] wouldn't normally read." Helen Overstreet mentioned that she doesn't have a lot of time outside of school to read, but that the group gives her motivation to do so, and that the books they read in the group provide a nice break from the heavy reading she is assigned for English class. All four juniors who make up the club (the other two are Brianna Jones and Celeste Venolia) say that they joined mainly because they love to read.

Brown says that running the book groups, both at Taconic and Mount Greylock, has been an interesting experience. She invites all who are interested to come and join the group. ■■



After reading *The Help*, the Book Club is now reading *Me Talk Pretty One Day*, by David Sedaris.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

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the possibility for kids who do sports to be exempt from gym for that trimester."

The schedule is under much discussion at the moment. Payne said that he hopes to test out new schedule ideas next year, but that he does not expect a new schedule to be implemented until the following year of 2013-2014. There are pros and cons to each schedule proposed, and many mixed opinions about which is the best. Regard-

less, Marchand thinks that "something needs to change, and we should choose a new schedule." Updates about new schedule testing and changes will most likely continue to come this spring. As Rebekeh Packer points out, the ultimate goal is for "the schedule [to be] changed in a productive and useful way." Hopefully, whatever is decided upon will improve the current system to create a more positive environment for administrators, teachers and students alike. ■■

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COMMUNITY

Local Bakeries

By ALINA FEIN & GRACE SINGLETON

For many, the reality of an impending school day is frequently difficult to face on a weekday morning. While there is no complete remedy, a delicious start to the morning may ameliorate the situation. Dunkin' Donuts, the well-established chain supplier of caffeine and pastries, is the standard choice for many Mount Greylock students. However, other local establishments such as the A-Frame Bakery and Tunnel City Coffee Shop, have to potential to emerge as serious competition for Dunkies.

The A-Frame Bakery's location on Cold Spring road places it in convenient proximity to Greylock. Owned and operated by Sharon Sutter, the A-Frame Bakery started its ovens in October of 2009. Since then, the A-Frame has offered a wide array of baked goods. Classics such as blondies and chocolate chip cookies sit in cases alongside fruit purses, chocolate torte, and biscotti.

The A-Frame also offers multiple options suitable for the morning appetites. Those hoping to start their day with a baked good may choose between varieties of muffins, scones, breads and coffee cakes. These delicacies appear in a rotating selection of flavors. Muffin flavors include blueberry, apple-raisin, pumpkin-pecan, raspberry-corn, and banana-while scones be accented by ginger, apricot, or cranberry. Similarly, the breads may appear as babka or in varieties like banana or pumpkin. Coffee cake varieties include apple, blueberry, ginger and sour cream.

The A-Frame's location on Cold Spring road places it in convenient proximity to Greylock. Students and staff on their way to or from the school may stop by for a baked good with little or no interruption to their course of travel.

Another local installment with an extensive array of treats has been around for as long as most Williamstown residents can remember: the coffee shop, located on Spring Street. Tunnel City is a central location in town for Williams students and faculty, high school students, visitors, and families alike that

boasts the attractions of wireless internet, a pleasant, cozy atmosphere perfect for meetings, socializing, and getting work done, and an impressive selection of delicious foods, drinks and baked goods.

Although the main component of a coffee shop is usually, well, coffee, Tunnel City is home to all kinds of coffees with flavored shots, frappuccinos, cappuccinos, mochas, hot chocolates, and more, which, in comparison to a Dunkin Donuts beverage, are much more high quality, expertly made and less sugar-loaded.

In addition to commonplace coffee shop cuisine that includes numerous bagels and breads (such as pumpkin, zucchini, and banana chocolate chip, to be specific to Tunnel City) the coffee shop also has an attractive display of pastries, muffins, and other baked goods. They have a generously sized "Muffin of the Day," which can be anything from Blueberry to Peach-Raisin to Orange- or Banana-Chocolate-Chip to Cherry-Walnut-Bran. Layers and layers of brightly decorated sugar cookies and thick chocolate chip cookies are other mouth-watering choices, as well as more original cookies such as ginger-sugar and bar style cookies.

Other enticing treats displayed in Tunnel City's glass case of goodies are its cakes and pastries. You can get a smaller, individual sized cake, or indulge in a fancily frosted layer cake. Pastries include almond rings, rugelach, and macarons. An assortment of flavours of scones such as coffee-chocolate-hazelnut and apple-cinnamon and even quiches are other unique hits to start off your day or supplement your homework time after school. Soups of the day including Manhattan Clam Chowder, Cuban Black Bean w/ Ham and Broccoli-Cheddar are appetizing options for the colder weather.

Given these options, we urge you to switch up your morning routine or after-school snack and consider a local venter. This shift in routine could open your eyes—and your mouth—to a new food obsession. ■■



Photo: Jonah Majumder

Hours
The A-Frame Bakery:
6:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
6:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday
Closed on Monday

Tunnel City Coffee Shop:
6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. seven days a week

Left: The A-Frame Bakery on Route 7 can be easily recognized by its distinctive triangular shape.

Below: Tunnel City Coffee, located in Williamstown at the end of Spring St., is always filled with studious college students or socializing community members.



Photo: Jonah Majumder

SPRING DRAMA OPTIONS

By KATELIN MARCHAND

As the trees start to bud, flowers begin to bloom, and bugs burst out, we all know it is spring. Accordingly, the 2012 Mt. Greylock spring drama is just around the corner! This year, there are four possible options for the play: *Cheaper by the Dozen*, *Life with Father*, *You Can't Take It With You*, and *Pass the Butler*. Senior Peter Iwasiwka will be directing this year's spring drama, and teacher Janean Laidlaw will serve as the formal advisor.

Cheaper by the Dozen, written in 1948, is a comedy about a couple with an extremely large family. Frank and Lillian Gilbert are raising twelve children while working as efficiency experts. They try to apply efficiency methods in their home, leading to many amusing situations. However, there are also many heartwarming moments, such as when Frank Gilbert, who suffers from heart disease, connects with his daughter after realizing how much she has grown.

The second option is the hilarious production *Life with Father*, set in

New York City in the 1890s. Wall Street stock broker Clarence Day sets impossibly high standards for his family and for the entire world. Through the family's battle with perfection, love between Day and his children grows. This play still holds the record for the longest running non-musical production on Broadway (from 1939 until 1947).

Yet another possibility is *You Can't Take It with You*, a spin-off of the classic 'Romeo and Juliet' love story. Alice Sycamore and Tony Kirby have fallen madly in love, but standing in their way are their parents. The Sycamores seem crazy to the Kirbys, and the Kirbys appear boring to the Sycamores. Tension between the families provides humor for this entertaining story.

The final option for the spring play is *Pass the Butler*, written by Eric Idle. Idle is most famous for being one of the writers in Monty Python, as well as writing the Broadway hit production, *Spamalot*. Iwasiwka hopes that *Pass the Butler* will be the choice for the spring drama. The play is set in Sir

Robert Charles's English Manor in the 1980s. With Charles in a coma, family members plot his murder for their own benefit. This satirical comedy tells the story of the prevention of Sir Charles's murder.

Iwasiwka and Laidlaw are working together in order to efficiently run the play. "I exercise the right to suggest and veto," Laidlaw said, commenting on who is making the decisions concerning the play. As opposed to last year's three one-act plays debuting on May 20th and 21st, the drama this year will premier earlier, on the 11th and 12th of May. Auditions were held on the 13th and 14th of March and excerpts from *Pass the Butler* were performed. During the auditions, many Greylock students commented on their enthusiasm for the spring drama. "It is my first high school spring drama and I believe that the play will be fantastic!" says enthusiastic ninth grader, Connor Hadley. So regardless of which play is chosen, the Greylock community most likely be treated to yet another fine, entertaining production. ■■

CELL TOWER

Continued from Page 1.

completely unmistakable landmark, and one that some community members would rather not have shadowing their property and houses.

Originally, the cell tower was looked at as a positive opportunity: it would be a revenue builder for Mt. Greylock if the tower was built on school property. However, along with the uneasiness about appearances, other concerns came up. What would be the impact of the cell tower on the environment? Would having a cell tower close to the school potentially cause health problems for students, teachers and staff? Scientists are divided over the question of whether or not cell towers cause lasting damage to people in the immediate vicinity of the structure. Furthermore, only a few studies have specifically concentrated on the cancer risk from cell towers, so no definitive conclusion on health risks can be made. This lack of knowledge about potential health problems unnerves some people. As high school principal Tim Payne says, "I do worry a little... it doesn't look like a problem now, but twenty years from now..." Others share his cautious sentiment: science teacher Lar-

ry Bell believes it is "better for a site away from the building." Bell adds that "given the history with perchlorate, people are reluctant to take risks related to possible health issues." Bell referred to an incident when, in 2004, perchlorate, a chemical used in fireworks, was found in Mt. Greylock's water. The school used bottled water until a new well was constructed to supply the school with water. Many people have wondered if perchlorate causes cancer, despite there being no known link between the two. The cell tower dispute raises similar concerns about possible health complications related to cell towers that may be yet unknown.

As Bell says, Mt. Greylock's financial situation is not as dire as when the cell company first approached the school with their proposal for a cell tower, so there is less enthusiasm for construction to proceed. Bell also acknowledges that "opposition has rallied" in the form of environmental groups opposed to the structure because of what construction would do to the scenic land surrounding Mt. Greylock. As of right now, the school committee is still weighing possible options for the future of a cell tower on Mt. Greylock property. ■■

nb21 keep your brain in gear, it's still developing
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DODGEBALL

By WILL WALTER

Photo: Robert Glick



One hundred and fourteen players. Nineteen teams. One common goal: To become the 2012 Mt. Greylock Dodgeball Tournament champions. At this time of the year, students at Mt. Greylock have their own kind of March Madness. On Friday, March 16, the fifth annual dodgeball tournament was held in the Mt. Greylock gym, sponsored by the Mt. Greylock Class of 2014.

Entering the tournament costed thirty dollars per team, or five dollars for each of the six members. "We made about \$600... which we were really, really happy with," said Class President Emily Kaegi, who was in charge of the whole tournament. "[The amount we made] totally exceeded my expectation."

It was an incredible tournament, and all

Above: 'The Suits,' pictured above, were one of many teams to show up to the tournament with unconventional uniforms.

Right: Ryan Mahar and Hank Barrett, captains of the two finalist teams, meet with referees Brian Gill and Blair Dils preceding the championship game.

nineteen teams showed valiant efforts in fighting for a spot in the playoff round. There were four different brackets, and each team got a chance to play at least three games. The top two teams from each bracket moved on to an 'elite eight' type playoff race. Lose and you go home, win, and you move on. The atmosphere was crazy, with fans sitting on top of the bleachers, trying to get the best view possible while avoiding errant fast balls screaming through the air right by their heads. There were numerous upsets, acrobatic catches, and players rallying to take whole teams out on their own. There were even a few back flips and somersaults—this tournament had it all. After many exciting wins and heartbreaking losses, there were two teams

left standing: 'Blood Bath and Beyond,' the defending champs, and 'Bubble Bath and Beyond,' a team of six juniors. When it was over, a new tournament champion stood victorious. Team Bubble Bath and Beyond had knocked off Team Blood Bath and Beyond in a furious fight to the finish.

All in all, the tournament was a smashing success. A large sum of money was collected for the class of 2014, along with a magnificent outcome. "It was a huge success, and I would love to do it again next year," said Kaegi. "It's a lot of work and stress, but the final product was amazing." Expect Mt. Greylock's annual March Madness dodgeball tournament to be back again next year. Only this time, break out the brackets. ■■



Photo: Robert Glick

BASEBALL

By ALEX WHITE

The unseasonably warm start to the spring season can mean only one thing: it's time to break out the gloves and go throw a baseball around. The Mt. Greylock baseball team has done just that with practice starting on March 19. Unfortunately, with the field not quite ready for the season, the team has had to practice for two weeks in the field house. Nevertheless, the players are excited about the upcoming season and look to improve upon last year's run to the Western Mass semifinals. Junior Sean Houston, when asked about the upcoming season, said, "The obvious goal for the season is to, first, make the tournament and then aim for a high seed. Once we are in it, it is anybody's game, and, hopefully, we can make a run."

Noticeably absent from the first few days of practice were a few of last year's seniors, including ace, Tommy Nowlan, and outfielders Kyle Byrnes and Kevin Agostini. Despite the loss of such key contributors to last year's squad, the outlook for this year seems even brighter with a team that is stacked with juniors and seniors.

A deep pitching staff will provide the backbone for the team throughout the year. Seniors Josh Fortier and Avery Cunningham and junior Andrew Leitch have been around for a couple seasons and know the drill when it comes to taking the hill against some of Berkshire County's strongest lineups. Others, like sophomore Robby Buffis, are fairly new to varsity. A call up from junior varsity last year, Buffis exceeded expectations upon making varsity last year and looks to con-

tinue his success on the mound. Rounding out the rotation is Nick Zimmerman, a hard-throwing righty, and Ben Coleman, a crafty southpaw.

The Mounties infield may be their strongest asset as they return all six infielders. Andrew Leitch patrols the hot corner down the third base line. Across the diamond, Ben Alley will be flashing the leather at first base. Up the middle, Eric Leitch and Billy Pulasky form one of the best double-play tandems in the county. Behind the plate, sophomore Nick Disanti controls the game and calls the pitches.

The Mounties opened their season on April 5, with a tough loss against Mt. Anthony. They hope to settle in as the season goes on and make an appearance in this year's Western Mass tournament. ■■



Junior outfielder Sean Houston will be a key returning player this season.

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MT. GREYLOCK PRIDE: COMMENTS FROM A BASKETBALL PLAYER

By TOM DILS

The views expressed in opinion or editorial pieces do not reflect the collective views of this newspaper or the administration, but those of the individual authors.

This is addressed to everyone who attended a basketball game, wore red, or turned to the sports section of the Transcript or Eagle. Most importantly, this is addressed to the Mt. Greylock fans. For two weeks towards the end of February that carried on into March, you forgot about school, homework, and grades (okay, maybe I'm exaggerating a little bit), and focused everything you had on the boys basketball team's playoff run. There was a palpable buzz going around the school—everyone seemed to be talking about the previous night's game and the next one to come. And you did more than talk; you showed up decked out in red and white, paint on your face, braving the cold of late winter in your cutoff t-shirts. And you gave your voices over, screaming until your throats gave out and then screaming some more.

I'm writing not as a sports journalist, but as a member of the Mt. Greylock basketball team. It is only fitting. A journalist is not supposed to be surprised by a couple hundred rowdy fans, but as a player who experienced the lows when no one came to the games, the fans meant everything. You guys fed off of our layups, threes, steals, blocks and victories. In

turn, for every fan that showed up, our team pushed a little bit harder. I know that experiencing the Mountie Dome fill up for our first playoff game against Granby was one of the greatest moments a high school athlete can have. In my basketball career, that will always be the only home playoff game in which I played. I do not want to remember it any other way.

Other memories stand out, too. Watching the faces of the New Leadership players as our fan bus arrived was pretty special. You guys made it feel like a home game, and we went out and played like it was at home—like we were the favorites. And even though we did not get the result we wanted against Lee at The Cage, there is nothing more we could have asked for than to be playing down to the wire—an enormous fan section at our backs—with a chance to go to the finals. We could not have gotten there with out you.

As is expected at Mt. Greylock, the basketball team will come out next season with the goal of bettering its record and going further in the tournament. When the Mounties return to The Cage, there will be a little less awe and a little more of the "we've been here before" attitude. But for me and the other seniors, we will always have that feeling to hold onto. When we stepped onto the floor at The Cage, we were able to say that no matter what happened, we'd made it this far. And thanks to you guys, we'd had some fun along the



Photo: Susan Abrams

During the Mounties' last home game, the Mt. Greylock gymnasium was packed with loud fans, whose support gave the Mounties an edge over their opponents.

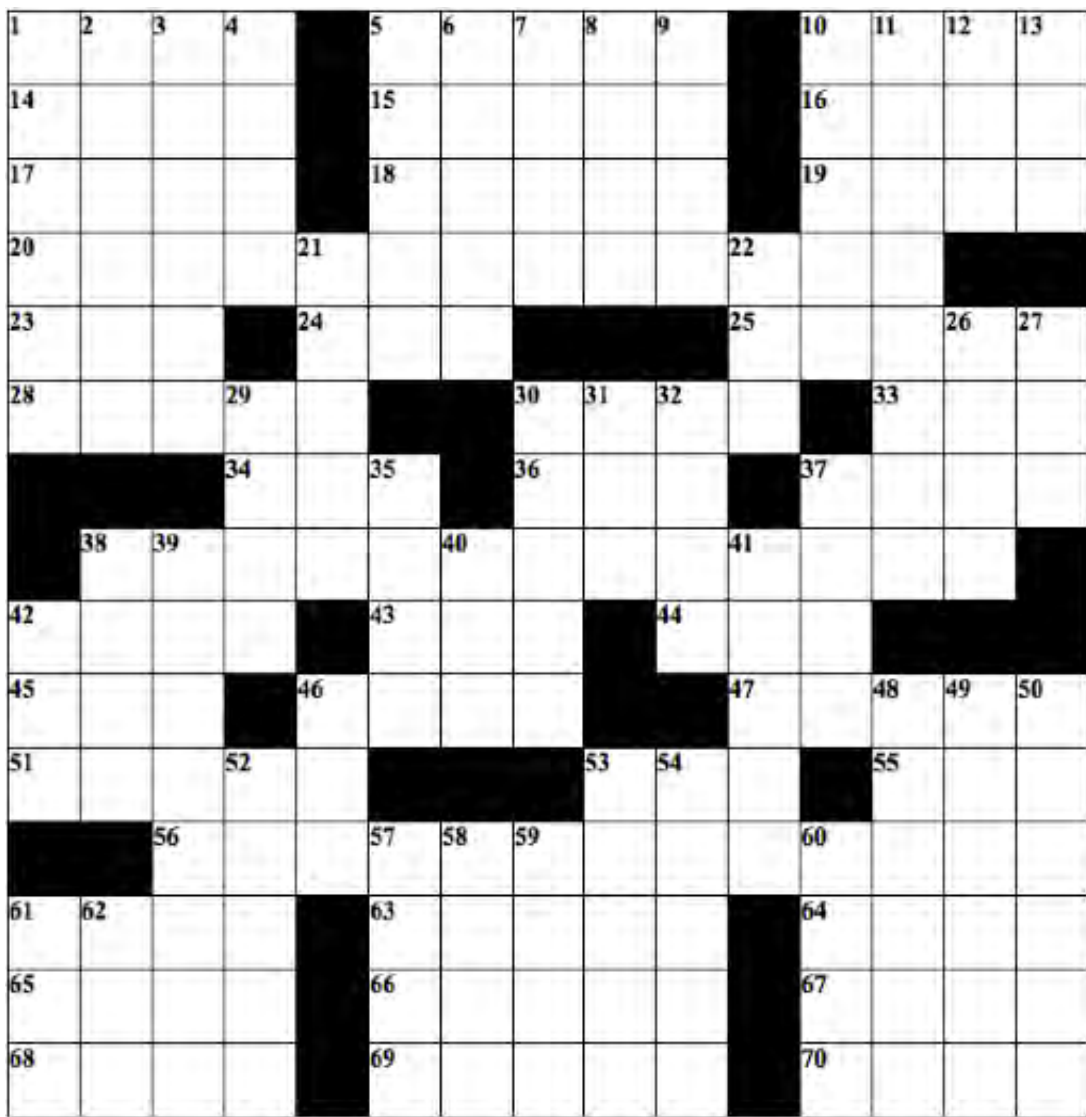
way.

I encourage everyone to try to keep that spirit alive as we support every Mt. Greylock team this spring. Keep getting

louder and crazier, because there is really nothing better. And never forget where it all began. We can all remember that forever. ■■

CROSSWORD

By BLAIR DILS



ACROSS

- 1. Old Thailand
- 5. Winter garment
- 10. Shrek is one
- 14. Year Byzantine Emperor Leo VI was banned from the church
- 15. E.T. is one
- 16. Jodi Picoult novel, with "the"
- 17. Poems
- 18. _____ Kierkegaard, Danish philosopher
- 19. Apple desktop
- 20. Gets disciplined?
- 23. Swamp
- 24. Battery type

- 25. Rear window ornament
- 28. Go bad
- 30. Cribbage pieces
- 33. Mine find
- 34. Landscaper's supply
- 36. Gold of "Entourage"
- 37. Coffee order
- 38. Saucy principal's office dish? (think back a few years)
- 42. Phone plan option
- 43. Flour used to make pumpernickel
- 44. "Evil Woman" (1975) band
- 45. Fall cry?
- 46. Salt Lake City players

- 47. Troy, to Homer
- 51. Less wet
- 53. Off-road veh.
- 55. Messenger or Ribosomal
- 56. Bio man as new hoops coach?
- 61. Begin to awake
- 63. French school
- 64. "_____ Sing America," Langston Hughes poem
- 65. _____ spumanti, Italian champagne
- 66. Varsity, informally
- 67. Tilt
- 68. "Nothing Left to _____," Mat Kearney hit
- 69. Entourage
- 70. Earth, in Berlin

DOWN

- 1. Speaks derisively
- 2. Wide receiver call?
- 3. Skin cleanser
- 4. US pro soccer grp. that folded in 2008
- 5. Carb-rich food
- 6. Greeting in Maui
- 7. Laugh in Madame Demick's class?
- 8. Accumulate
- 9. Tennis ace Kournikova
- 10. Declare
- 11. University of South Carolina coed
- 12. Toshiba rival
- 13. And so forth (abbrev.)
- 21. Place for highlights
- 22. RBs's stats
- 26. Width x Height
- 27. Kind of screen or light
- 29. "_____ She Lovely," Stevie Wonder song
- 30. Loses color
- 31. Period
- 32. Take's partner
- 35. Dodge model '60-'76
- 37. Abdul's former show, informally
- 38. Bosc or Bartlett
- 39. Shows
- 40. Seaman's affirmative
- 41. "_____ Kitteredge," Elizabeth Strout novel
- 42. Bit
- 46. www address
- 48. More mad
- 49. Dump
- 50. Gangster Bugsy
- 52. Like a Stephen King story, often
- 53. Titan who supported the heavens
- 54. Type of park
- 57. Lambeau _____ (Packer celebration)
- 58. Starter for pus?
- 59. Enemies
- 60. Liver secretion
- 61. Jimmy Kimmel's Cousin _____ Iacono
- 62. General order at Chopstick's?