



Happy New Year!

# THE BOLD EAGLE

The Mount Everett Student Newspaper

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## Commentary: Outward Bound

By Aidan Aloisi

Due to circumstances beyond my control, I was forced to spend 4 weeks last summer at an Outward Bound camp in Minnesota. My experience was filled with some very mixed emotions. At times it was bad and others, very, very bad. Most of the time I was wishing I were somewhere else. If you had to put wet shoes and socks on every day for 4 weeks, wouldn't you hold a grudge? But overall, it was worth it. Perhaps it was a wakeup call for me to move ahead with my life. I'm doing better now, having spent those 4 difficult weeks in Minnesota.



*Camping the Hard Way*

Outward Bound is a place where you are given the skills to kick start the development of self-awareness, self-confidence, leadership skills, and environmental and social responsibility. Outward Bound's mission is to change lives through challenge and discov-

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## Technology: New Us, Old Tech

By Justin Wald

The tech department has been working on upgrading and/or replacing all the computers in the school to accommodate Windows 10. Will we be up to date? How long will the upgrades last? "The simplest answer is the upgrades will last as long as the computers last, which, I hope, is at least 5 years before we have to do it all over again," says Technology Director Chris Thompson.

It seems that in the world of technology there is never enough money or time to achieve what is really wanted. One concern about the current upgrades is the equipment the teachers are receiving doesn't come with CD/DVD drives. The lack of these drives makes it more difficult for teachers to show movies, videos, or pictures on the projector and may be forced to use a small TV in the front of their classroom. "In regards to DVDs, we can work with the issue. We can take their DVDs and make them available on the F drive or on their school device," says Thompson. With this solution, teachers will be able to access the content of DVDs in the F drive and they won't need the devices.

We only have a limited number of computers available for

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## Mount Monument

By Alexia Gonzalez

As of right now BHRSD and SBRSD are rivals. Mt. Everett students frequently trash talk Monument, and the two high schools are fierce rivals on the playing fields. Will the two districts find a way to cooperate or are their futures distinctly separate?

The likelihood of some form of cooperation or combination is increasingly likely. According to Alford selectman Charlie Ketchen, "continuing declining enrollment and increasing costs will make it more and more difficult for either of them to meet the educational needs of their students." Sophomore Nadia Makuc warns, "The intent behind it is not for the better of the students. It's financially driven, which is not an appropriate reason."

As of right now they're already trying to cooperate with one another through the planning of a dedicated coordination committee of members from both districts. So far, no immediate plans have been made public, although speculation on combining administrative, special education and nursing services has been noted. Beyond that, geography, vested interests and traditions will be harder obstacles to overcome.

Merging the schools has

Cont. Pg #2

## Snow Day Cookies

By Emma Stewart

Cookies are not just for Christmas. They make an excellent activity for snow days. You get to do something productive, make the house smell good, and eat treats. Don't forget to stock up on milk in advance!



**Thumbprints**

### **Thumbprint cookies:**

- ½ cup softened butter
  - ¼ cup packed brown sugar
  - 1 egg
  - ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
  - 1 cup all-purpose flour
  - ¼ cup finely chopped walnuts
  - 2/3 cup any flavor fruit jam
  - ¼ teaspoon salt
1. Preheat oven to 300 degrees. Grease cookie sheets
  2. Separate egg, reversing egg white. Cream butter or margarine, sugar, and egg yolk
  3. Add vanilla, flour, and salt, mixing well
  4. Shape dough into balls. Roll in egg white, then walnuts. Place on cookie sheets about 2 inches apart. Bake for 5 minutes
  5. Remove cookies from oven. With thumb, dent each cookie. Put jelly or preserves in each thumbprint. Bake for another 8 minutes.

## Mount Monument Cont.

been discussed for years, but with an active committee on the case, perhaps progress will be made. As Ketchen said, "These talks are hopefully more serious this time, and whether they result in a merger, we all will have to wait and see. If not, it should lead to some other solution, because, I feel, doing nothing is not an option."

### **Peanut Butter Blossoms:**

- ½ cup Crisco Butter Flavor All-Vegetable Shortening
  - ½ cup creamy peanut butter
  - ½ cup firmly packed brown sugar
  - ¾ cup sugar, divided
  - 1 large egg
  - 2 tablespoons milk
  - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
  - 1 ¾ cups all-purpose flour
  - 1 teaspoon baking soda
  - ½ teaspoon salt
  - 48 milk chocolate kisses, unwrapped
1. Heat oven to 350 degrees
  2. Beat shortening, peanut butter, brown sugar and ½ cup sugar in large bowl with mixer on high speed until light and fluffy, for about 4 minutes
  3. Beat in egg, milk and vanilla until blended. Stir flour, baking soda and salt in separate medium bowl as well. Add to creamed mixture. Beat on low until dough forms
  4. Place remaining sugar in small bowl. Roll dough into 1-inch balls. Roll in sugar to coat. Place 2 inches apart on baking sheet
  5. Bake 10 to 11 minutes or until golden brown. Cool on baking sheet 1 to 2 minutes. Top each with chocolate kiss. Remove to wire rack to cool completely

## Technology Cont.

use and this includes the 4 laptop carts and 5 labs. This makes it difficult for many teachers to have a schedule. "Sometimes our curriculum is based on the computers available," says English teacher Kevin Wolgemuth. Without ready access to computer labs or carts, teachers have to plan in advance to ensure they have a booking. If their plans change, or if they want to do something spontaneous, they may be out of luck.

There have been recent upgrades in the G27 computer lab. The bulky towers were replaced with smaller boxes. Sophomore Logan Reynolds says "I think these upgrades were worth it; the smaller computers use SSD's, which makes loading times and boot up times much faster. I don't know if all the computers will be upgraded now or some point in the future, but I believe they are an improvement." But some of the computer labs still use the NComputing thin clients attached to the back of the monitor. The remaining computers use the bulky towers next to them. These computers will often have software issues and problems with the OneDrive and both the F and H drives. Apparently in the tech world, change can never come fast enough.

Training is everything.

The peach was once a bitter almond; cauliflower is but a cabbage with a college education.

-Mark Twain

## Foreign Language Emmigration

By Samuel Kresiak

The move of the foreign language classrooms to the elementary wing has left many students with unhappy faces. With the classrooms so far from the rest of the high school, the absence of audio announcements in those classrooms, and a general sense of disconnect-edness, it would be difficult to find anyone to speak out in favor of the move.

The school year started off with many changes to staff and classrooms. The biggest disruptor was the arrival of the 6th-grade in the middle school. Naturally, these changes were intended to make the school better in every aspect. Yet some of these changes continue to be questioned by students and others.

The remoteness of the foreign language classes had been a hot topic among students. Many hold negative opinions. Junior Emma Nardi commented, "I think it's inconvenient because it's far away from all my classes." Junior Austin Murray pointed out that "One thing I don't like about the new foreign language location is how you can't hear any announcements from the high school office." Restrictions on use of the elementary bathrooms have also been unpopular. Despite the early complaints, talk on this subject had died down, and far fewer complaints are being aired now that we're into the 2nd marking period.

Less clear is the future of this awkward arrangement. Are the language classes in the elementary wing forever or is this a temporary fix until arrangements can be made to return them to the high school?

Only time will tell.

## Mt. Everett vs. Monu- ment: The Choice War

By Emma Stewart

In the ongoing "school choice war" between Mt. Everett and Monument, we're behind. This year we gained 23 students from BHRSD but lost 56 SBRSD students to them. As the years go on, will our numbers get smaller and smaller due to choice students? "Students have their own reasons to why they switch and it just all adds up to their final preference" states Principal Jesse Carpenter. The question is why do people prefer one school over the other?

Students in some parts of New Marlborough, Monterey, Alford, Great Barrington, and other corners of our area choice out for geographic reasons. Some students switch for social, academic or sports opportunities. The fact that a passing grade at Monument is 65 compared to our requirement of 70 to pass may be of interest to some. Others also decide they want a change of scenery and hope the grass will be greener in the neighboring district.

As varied as the reasons may be, the fact is, we're currently losing the school choice war. This is critical at a time of generally declining enrollment for both schools and increasing interest in some form of consolidation.

**Could this be Monument's Secret?**  
*Monument Mountain Student Handbook 2019-2020:*  
*"Monument Mountain uses a numerical grading system to evaluate student performance. A grade of 65 is required to pass any course."*

## Of Spartans and Speagles

By Tyler Duquette

Have you heard of the "Speagles?" That is the nickname Spartans' head football coach Dennis Martin calls the Mt. Everett co-op players on Monument's team.

There are 7 Speagles on Monument's roster; Ashton Aloisi, Grant Chase, Hunter DeGrenier, Tyler Duquette, Nick Henderson, Reece Mullen, and Ben Shannon. Four of them play both offense and defense. The Speagles are a crucial part of the team, and without them, Monument would be in a much weaker state. Martin goes on "The Everett Players have been a great addition; without them it would be doubtful if there would be a program." In football, there are 11 players on field at once, so the Eagles are extremely important to the team.



**Monument and the Seven Speagles**

DeGrenier is the starting quarterback while Mullen, Aloisi, and Henderson are starting running backs. These positions are known as skill positions, and the Speagles have those spots. They have stepped up to new positions as needed. For instance, Henderson is a freshman starter because Monument senior Jack O'Brian has suffered a shoulder injury.

In many parent's eyes, high school football is one of the most

Executive Editor: Nicholas Boardman  
Managing Editors: Alexia Gonzalez, Rochele Worth  
Executive Production Editor: Sierra Blodgett  
Faculty Advisor: Jeff Lang  
Editorial Page Editors: Sierra Blodgett, Riley Davis-Gagnon



## Reporters

Aidan Aloisi, Faith Angell, Kolby Bleau, Nicholas Boardman, Mari-ah Broderick, Riley Davis-Gagnon, Kathleen Dillon, Tyler Duquette, Alexia Gonzalez, Maile Handy, Samuel Kresiak, Kai LaRose, Rose Lewis, Hai-ley Liebenow, Laynie Mullen, Thomas Netzer, Janet Ngoyo Mwanza, Emma Stewart, Justin Wald, Brooke Wells, Rochele Worth

## Spice of Lunch

Ah, school lunches. Despite the valiant efforts of the cafeteria staff, there's always something to complain about, and this time, it's variety. The kitchen staff have even invited our opinions. "I love hearing feedback from the students" says Kitchen Manager Zoe Nelson, inferring that it helps determine what to put on the menu. When he first came here as food services director, Jeremy Wells had the idea for a group of cafeteria users to become a type of menu advisory board. This editorial advocates for fulfillment of that promise. **It is time for a cafeteria advisory board composed of volunteers who regularly dine in the cafeteria. This group should meet at least quarterly to propose changes or adaptations to the foods offered.**

The feedback regularly heard by the editorial board of *The Bold Eagle* is that the roster of lunch choices week after week is extremely repetitive. The hot entrees recycle on the menus with considerable frequency and is very heavy on breakfast items, patties and burgers, hot dogs, etc. Greater variety in the hot entrée options would be desirable, as would the return of a full salad bar and more hot soup offerings in cold weather. There are usually alternates, but they are

almost always the same: pizza, chicken patty, grilled cheese.

Students with dietary restrictions are more affected by this lack of options, Sophomore Nadia Makuc says, "It would only take a little extra time to prepare for more gluten free options. Right now, the only gluten free options are yogurt, which is not horrible, but is certainly not the best thing to have every

## Teacher Policies

Do you hate certain teachers' cell phone, late work, and participation policies? How about the fact that every teacher has a different policy, so you must keep track of where you are to remember what to and not to do. In order to determine student policy preferences, *The Bold Eagle* conducted an informal survey, asking students to identify what they considered best practices in phone, late work, and participation grading policies.

According to the survey, students believe that Mr. Barbieri has the best cell phone policy. Mr. Barbieri stated that "they cannot be out or used on tests or quizzes." He said nothing else on the subject but, the students explained that we, as the students, are respon-

## **B**old Eagle's Reader's Opinions

The Bold Eagle wants to know what's on your mind so send us your opinions at [BoldEagle@sbrsd.org](mailto:BoldEagle@sbrsd.org)

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Cont. Pg #5

"Pursuant to state law, no expression made by students in the exercise of such rights shall be deemed to be an expression of school policy and no school officials shall be held responsible in any civil or criminal action for any expression made or published by the students"

## Letter to the Editor:

Congratulations to: Brooke Wells, Rochele Worth, Jeff Lang and the English Department [sic] at SBRSD as the students writing "DeGrenier's Dilemma" for *The Bold Eagle* have displayed restraint, maturity and acumen beyond their years.

A testament to the fact that parents, along with the SBRSD must be doing something right....We are all fortunate to know these great students will be at the helm, leading the community and the nation, in a few short years: compassionate, inquisitive, and unyielding in a sense of fair play.....

-Cindy Shmulsky

sible enough to recognize when to use our phones and that we understand and acknowledge the consequences.

Most of the survey results state that Mr. Schwartz has the most popular late work policy. Mr. Schwartz states that he takes “10 points off every day that the work is late” but “doesn’t go below a 50” if he receives the work within the marking period. He also mentioned that he doesn’t take points off for late vocabulary homework.

The surveys revealed that students believe Mr. Lang has the best participation grading system. Mr. Lang hands out a grading rubric at the end of every quarter and you, as the student, fill out the rubric based on how you performed in his class that quarter and if he feels he needs to change any of your answers, he will. This seems to be the preferable system because you “get to grade yourself” as one survey response noted.

The editorial board of this paper encourages faculty to look over these individual policies. We encourage you to try and agree on a set of consistent policies that would be used throughout the high school. This would help abolish confusion for the students when traveling from class to class. It would be beneficial for the students to not have to focus on the inconsistent policies and focus their energy towards their education.



*School Lunch*

day. It wouldn't be too hard to add some other options such as gluten free sandwiches, chicken salad, or even gluten free pizza.” Sophomore Ally Anderson adds, “not having options ruins my ability to focus correctly in class because my stomach aches.”



*This is what we're talking about!*

Jeremy Wells responded, “If we are made aware that a student needs gluten free or lactose free, it is provided.” Regarding the menu rotations, Wells said, “Every entrée we have lined up is based off Caloric Data [USDA Nutritional Guidelines]. We are always looking to innovate the food that we serve. The reason we serve pizza or chicken patty is because of the popularity of the item.” Nutrition is not the only concern when designing menus. According to Wells, “I always think that we can improve on everything we do. It’s a matter of staff constraints, budget constraints, and we are required to follow USDA nutritional guidelines which seem to become stricter every year.”

We get that Mr. Wells and Ms. Nelson, and appreciate all the work you do to feed us every day. How about letting us do some of the work for you, by proposing alternative menu items to add a little more variety. You know, they say variety is the spice of life...and of lunch.

## Do Sportswomen Deserve More?

By Thomas Netzer

The salary cap per team in the Women’s National Basketball Association is \$976,300, meaning that the league pays its players a combined \$17,715,600. However, in the NBA, Phoenix Sun’s point guard Tyler Johnson, who is a zero-time all-star and has never won a championship, is making a little over \$19 million this season. That means that this one player, who is not a household name, like LeBron James, and has never been an all-star, is making more than an entire league. Stephen Curry is the highest paid NBA player, and he is making over double what the whole WNBA makes at a little over \$40.25 million per year.

WNBA players must play overseas during the offseason, just to make enough money for them to live comfortably. According to Connecticut Sun guard Courtney Williams, discussing having to play overseas, “I don’t necessarily like going, but it’s something that we have to do.” Furthermore, according to Connecticut Sun forward and 2019 WNBA 3-point champion Shekinna Strickland, “We play all year round. We actually get paid more overseas and doing both we make decent money.”

Even though the WNBA players do get paid a lot less than the men, there is reasoning behind this. The NBA does attract more people to their games and sells more tickets, player jerseys and souvenirs. Also, because of the significantly greater number of viewers and nationally televised games,

## Football Cont.

dangerous sports for their children to play. When asked about his son playing, Kurt DeGrenier says "I personally wouldn't let Hunter play through the youth program." However, coaches, strive to teach their players the safest way to play. Spartans head coach Dennis Martin explains "Players safety is always the main concern of all programs." If not taught correctly, players can receive life-long brain injuries, with high school players racking up far more head injuries than those in college. Over the generations of the sport, the headgear for players' safety has improved substantially. Every year Monument sends their helmets to be updated and accepted as wearable during a game. The main issue with football is the head injuries. While other injuries, like a broken bone, can happen they will most likely not last a lifetime. The team ended the season with Duquette, DeGrenier and Aloisi all suffering considerable medical consequences for their sport,

Although football has the risk of injury, there are many health benefits from the sport. Since the sport is physically demanding, players become more agile, get stronger, and gain discipline. Martin was very thorough about conditioning his players, stating "Conditioning is also very important; a player in good shape is less apt to be injured." The sport is also very mentally challenging, as all players must be on the same page. That means players need to be disciplined. There are plays that need to be executed on both sides of the ball, and they can be very complicated. If one player

doesn't do their job, the play won't work.

The Spartans ended their fall season at 2 - 3.

## Outward Cont.

ery. While perhaps ambitious and bold, OB's vision is to make a more resilient and compassionate world.

Outward Bound has traditional wilderness expeditionary courses for middle-school, high school, college age students and for adults. Outward Bound also developed a range of specialized courses and programs for veterans, teens grieving with the loss of a family member, and families with teens or young adults struggling with issues at school or at home.

Outward Bound also has programs for 'intact groups' and team-building/performance improvement programs for professionals. Outward Bound expeditions and programs are inside city and suburban classrooms and outside in breathtaking wilderness settings. All of the programs constitute a unique and powerful educational framework.

Today in the United States, Outward Bound expeditions and programs bring their mission to life throughout the year, every day for roughly 35,000 students annually. With 11 chartered schools across the country and over 1,000 courses offered, Outward Bound offers something for everyone.

The difference between failure and success is doing a thing nearly right and doing a thing exactly right.

-Edward Simmons

## Philosophy

By Kathleen Dillon

Who am I? What is life?

What is the definition of true happiness? These are some questions students have been pondering in the new philosophy elective added to the curriculum this school year. Philosophy is essentially "the love of wisdom" according to the well-known ancient Greek philosopher, Socrates. "A philosopher is someone who recognizes that there is a lot he doesn't understand and is troubled by it," says social studies teacher John Hammill. Philosophy explores the many crucial questions regarding morals, truth, knowledge, existence, etc. In this subject, there are far more questions than answers, which can be quite frustrating for some. This subject isn't for everyone!

The first semester philosophy elective is currently being taught by Hammill. He took an undergraduate philosophy class at Elon University. He recalls enjoying the topic, but he doesn't "remember too much of the content." He has made up for the forgotten information by reading a "fair amount of political philosophy over the years for [his] Government & Politics class." In this year's new class students are reading the mystery novel Sophie's World written by Jostein Gaarder, which explains the history of philosophy in great detail. The reading is followed by complex and intriguing questions which allow the students to explore and establish their own philosophical beliefs. After the students individually answer these questions, a full class discussion occurs in which the students can express and argue their individual

## Student Drivers

By Brooke Wells

It's a normal winter day in Sheffield, MA where roads aren't plowed, and student drivers are expected to drive to school. When a student driver goes off a back road with no one around and they have nothing in their car to help them out, they are out of service without help. According to senior Justice Mazeralle that's not an uncommon event. He says, "Student drivers should not drive to school in the snow ever. I go so slow it's scary and I still end up in a snowbank."

"The roads this time of year get really bad especially Berkshire School Road- when I was driving the other day, I couldn't see the road because it was covered in snow and untouched by a plow"- Kaylee Chatham

The main thing everyone should have is an ice scraper/ snow brush because if the ice is too thick it will take way to long for you to be able to see and driver safely. It will also waste your gas.

"Berkshire School Road is always slippery and not safe in the winter"- Madeleine Von Ruden

Something is more likely to happen to you in the snow because of where we live. According to several high school students they aren't comfortable driving in these road conditions so maybe some of these items will help them if they ever do find themselves in a situation. So, go buy these items now, before it starts snowing again!

- Winter Driving Necessities:**
- Ice scraper/snow brush (Get the best quality; this is not the time to be cheap)
  - First aid kit
  - Emergency flares
  - Jumper cables
  - Utility knife
  - Blanket
  - Portable phone charger
  - Flashlight
  - Water
  - Sand/cat litter
  - Winter clothes
  - Small shovel
  - Snacks



Ice Scraper



Flares

"Berkshire School Road seems to always be bad when we have snow on the ground"- Ashley Atwood

## Vaping Kills

By Laynie Mullen

Vaping products have been sold for over a decade, but the recent interest teenagers and young adults have shown it has caught up to society along with the risks. As of October 9th, from the National Public Radio, there are 19 confirmed deaths and approximately 1,000 cases nationwide due to probable vaping related illnesses. Out of every person affected by this epidemic, only 5 people were middle-aged and older, with the median age being 19 years old.

Those who were affected experienced coughing, chest pain or shortness of breath before their health deteriorated to the point that they needed to be hospitalized. Other reported symptoms including nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, fever and weight loss. Multiple victims have ended up with acute respiratory distress syndrome, a life-threatening condition in which fluid builds up in the lungs and prevents the oxygen that people's bodies need to function from circulating in the bloodstream. Many believe that outcomes are due to a chemical in the Juul called Vitamin E acetate. Mount Everett senior Brandon Wilson is skeptical, saying, "It's not real, no one's dying."

Jeanne Moran says, "Tobacco companies are targeting young kids to get addicted to nicotine," then following up with, "the Juul is just here in school, even for years now." She noted that she could smell the lingering flavors of Juul in her office on some days. Because of tobacco companies' greed, children

## Philosophy Cont.

philosophies. Once the students have gone through the process of deciphering previous philosophies and then establishing their own, they can then take these skills and apply them to other subjects in school, or even their own life.



**Hammill philosophizing**

Next semester there will be a college level philosophy class. According to Hammill, the class will be “an introductory level class taught by a Bard College professor.” The professor will be traveling to our school to teach a class two or three times a week. This class will be available to high school students in grades 9-12. Students who take this class will be eligible to earn college credits.

With these new philosophy classes being offered, students can learn to live a more examined life. They can learn not to settle but to explore and expand their knowledge. They can learn to question everything they encounter on a daily basis, as opposed to floating through everyday motions without a care. They can learn to examine and delve into endless mysteries of human nature. To quote Socrates “there is only one good, knowledge, and one evil, ignorance”.



**Sophomore Justin Wald gives some pointers to former Massachusetts governor and current Democratic presidential candidate Deval Patrick on how to win The White House.**

If you ever have something bad to say about anybody, be sure the answer to these three questions is yes before you say it. Is it true? Is it just? Will it do anybody good to say it?

I have learned that only two things are necessary to keep one's wife happy. First, let her think she is having her way. And, second, let her have it.

-Lyndon B. Johnson

We would often be ashamed of our best actions if the world only knew the motives behind them.

-François De La Rochefoucauld

When you think of having a woman as president, that's no problem. What's worrisome is the thought of having a man as the first lady.

## Snow Day Cookies Cont.

Ginger bread men:

- 1/2 cup softened butter
- 3/4 cup packed dark brown sugar
- 1/3 cup molasses
- 1 large egg
- 2 table spoons water
- 2 2/3 cup all purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons ground ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/2 teaspoon ground allspice
- Frosting of choice

1. Cream butter and brown sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in molasses, egg and water. In another bowl, whisk together remaining ingredients minus frosting; gradually beat into creamed mixture. Divide dough in half. Shape each into a disk; cover. Refrigerate until easy to handle, about 30 minutes.
2. Preheat oven to 350°. On a lightly floured surface, roll each portion of dough to 1/8-in. thickness. Cut with a floured 4-in. gingerbread man cookie cutter. Place 2 in. apart on greased baking sheets.
3. Bake until edges are firm, 8-10 minutes. Remove to wire racks to cool completely. Frost as desired.



**Cookies!**



## Meet Mr. Daponde

By Rose Lewis

Douglas Daponde is our new assistant principal. Daponde said, "Before coming to Mt. Everett, I was the principal at Michael E. Smith Middle School in South Hadley. The school consisted of students in grades 5-8 with a total of 572 students." Daponde added, "Before Mt. Everett I was in the United States Air Force for 10 years and then in the Air National Guard for 18 years at Barnes Air National Guard Base in Westfield, MA... I was a middle school social studies teacher for 12 years at Westfield South Middle School before becoming an administrator." He certainly has had a varied career.

Daponde was selected for the position by Principal Jesse Carpenter. Carpenter advises that there were multiple candidates who endured multiple interviews with SBRSD staff. Carpenter was impressed with Daponde's ability to relate to both kids and adults. Carpenter said he especially appreciated Daponde's "vision of discipline...[and] his experience as both a principal and assistant principal."

Daponde replaces former Assistant Principal Jesse Carpenter, and previous Dean of Students Kurt DeGrenier. Asked about the difference in titles, Daponde responded, "... the major difference is certification. As a dean of students, you do not need to be certified as an administrator. An assistant principal, besides assisting students, also supervises and evaluates faculty and staff members. My job description is to support the faculty/staff and students at Mount Everett in any capacity that they need me to. Although my position is seen as the discipline person, I want people to feel comfortable coming to me

for any issue or concern they may have."

Daponde describes his arrival at Mt. Everett as follows: "I decided to come to Mount Everett because of the reputation as an excellent school system with a family type atmosphere. There is a lot to celebrate about MERHS." He seems to be settling into his new job comfortably, noting that, "Thanks to the friendly faculty/staff and students my transition as the new AP has been very smooth. The people... make this a great place to work. I thank you all for that."

## Sportswomen

Cont.

the NBA does make more from advertising as well. The NBA simply appeals to a much bigger market than the WNBA, which is why the league can pay their players more. However, the WNBA players are aware of this, and they know they won't make the same as the men; however, according to Strickland, "We know we won't make what guys do, and that's not what we want... But we do deserve to make a lot more than what we are making now."

It is a known fact that even in American society men continue to make more than women for the same type of work. But this pay gap is way too large to not be solved. Professional women athletes are having to play all year round and wearing themselves down physically and mentally just to make enough money to live comfortably. According to Strickland, "Playing all year is tiring!"

Is it time for our society to make a greater effort to bridge the gap between pay for men and women? It's a good bet that all the members of the WNBA believe so.

## Vaping Issue

Cont.

and young adults are falling prey to the addiction, not understanding the consequences and possibly resulting in them becoming ill, even if the Juul does have a fun flavor.

Because of the catastrophic, widespread vaping circumstances in the United States, Connecticut and New York are states participating in raising the age of purchases of tobacco products to 21 years old. Our own state of Massachusetts banned all marijuana related vaping products for next four months due to the public's safety.

The ignorance surrounding the manipulative nicotine products have almost life-altering consequences, some may have even lost their lives to it. But will these adolescents and young adults ever quit? If they are addicted, they will inevitably receive their own satisfactions, even if it is banned in their state... but at what cost? Could vaping potentially take their life? They wouldn't know unless they tried.



*Vaping kills*

# H O R O S C O P E S

Compiled by Justice Mazeralle and Spencer Broderick

**ARIES (March 21 - April 19) – Instead of directing all your energy outward and dominating the conversation with your ideas, consider listening. Let ideas flow your way. Be receptive to opinions and ideas.**

**TAURUS (April 20 - May 20) – Inspiration could hit you like a bolt from the blue. Your imagination, innovation, and ingenuity are high. Capitalize on it.**

**GEMINI (May 21 - June 21) – You may feel like you're spinning your wheels today, especially as the end of the month draws near. Nothing seems to be going your way. Things aren't really as bad as you think.**

**CANCER (June 22 - July 22) – You're in a good position to make a major breakthrough. Your sensitivity works to your advantage. It gives you insight into things that others miss.**

**LEO (July 23 - Aug 22) – Don't get too hooked on the free spirit that may dominate the morning hours. Have your fun at that time, but all good things must come to an end at some point.**

**VIRGO (Aug 23 - Sept 22) – You may feel you're coming to a dramatic emotional climax regarding an issue that you take personally. There's a strong force stirring up your feelings, but that doesn't mean you have to spin out of control.**

**LIBRA (Sept 23 - Oct 23) – Your mind is going a thousand miles an hour. Different ideas, interests, goals, and projects could dart through your mind all day. Write them down!**

**SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 21) – Don't worry so much about others right now. Your job is to have fun. Keep things balanced.**

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22 - Dec 21) – With the current astral environment, your academic and financial interests could take a turn for the better.**

**CAPICORN (Dec 22 - Jan 19) – This is a great time to shop. Join friends and hit the stores to add more beauty and pleasurable items to your life.**

**AQUARIUS (Jan 20 - Feb 18) – You may feel like you're slowly plowing through mud, but things are starting to look up. A weight has been lifted and you're ready to take flight.**

**PISCES (Feb 19 - March 20) – Don't take anything too seriously. People may be careless with their words and end up hurting feelings or even breaking hearts.**