## Berlin High School Newspaper

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Composed and assembled by and for the Berlin High community. Be a part of this: meetings every Tuesday afternoon in the library. Talk with Mr. Scannell or Ms. Larsen

"Avoid fried foods. They anger the blood."

**Satchel Paige** 

## Interact & Italian Heritage Club Join for a CCARC Dinner Dance By Anne Ruwett

There was much excitement all week long as the individuals supported anticipated the Annual Dinner Dance being held at St. Jerome's Church hall on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Each year, the Italian Heritage Foundation makes this wonderful evening of food, fun, music and dancing a reality for people facing intellectual and physical disabilities. Berlin Interact Club students also gave of their time to assist with the set-up, serving dinner and dancing along with individuals from CCARC.

CCARC's CEO Anne Ruwet joined in the festivities that evening saying, "This is a very special gift to the people we support. They truly enjoy dressing up, having dinner and dancing together. We are very grateful that our friends from the Italian Heritage Foundation, St. Jerome's Church and the Berlin Interact Club collaborated to make this possible."

Tony Lazzaro of the Italian Heritage Foundation understands just how important a social event such as this can be for everyone involved. "Being able to brighten the lives of people who face tremendous struggles is an incredible blessing for our members," he said. "These men and woman are so appreciative and really have a great time. Plus, the Berlin High School students have the opportunity to give back to the community and have fun at the same time."

Founded in 1952, CCARC is Central Connecticut's leading nonprofit dedicated to providing personalized services to people with disabilities to help make their dreams happen.





#### Berlin High School Interact has Success at Fair By Michaela Dehm

The Berlin High School Interact Club had a very successful weekend at the Berlin Fair. The club collected multiple bags of recyclables from the fairgrounds, and the proceeds will be donated to the Clean Water Project, the Friends of T. Cop, and the Ryan Lee Foundation. Also, a new task that the club took on this year was volunteering at the Lions Club mini donut booth.

Caitlee McNamara and Claudia Zovich were two among many volunteers at the booth. Recyclable collectors at the Fairgrounds included Meagan Varley, Tarrah Carey, Kamryn Sokolowski, Lucia Addamo and Zach Philippon.



### BHS Chorus Heads to "The Happiest Place on Earth"

#### By Nicole Foertsch

The BHS chorus will be flying to Disney World at the end of March for their major field trip that they get to go on every two years. With all the hype and a countdown in the bottom corner of the board in the chorus room, everyone is greatly anticipating it. Mrs. Scherer herself said, "I'm very excited about it! It's going to be a lot of fun!" when asked how she felt about the trip.

The chorus goes on these exciting trips with a purpose in mind. "One of the reasons [we travel] is to have more community in the chorus, and, hopefully, to attract more people to join chorus. And so that students can really feel a sense of belonging in being a part of this trip," Scherer said. The trip is a beneficial experience for all of the students involved. The chorus has a packed agenda while in Florida. Scherer continued that, the chorus will be enjoying time in the parks, seeing a performance of the opera The Magic Flute and attending a workshop where the chorus will learn background music to a classic Disney movie and record it for judges to use in an individualized lesson.

There is plenty of preparation going on for the trip. According to Scherer, in class, the chorus is learning more about *The Magic Flute* and practicing their sight-singing since that will be a major part of the workshop they will be attending.

There is also plenty of fundraising going on to help the chorus fund the trip. Megan Waldrop, one of the members of the chorus fundraising committee said, "We'll be selling lanyards, doing a trivia night and also doing dine-out fundraisers." Sammi Whitehill, a member of the BHS chorus, also added, "We are selling car magnets for BHS chorus. We are also singing at a Wolfpack game and selling tickets.

Waldrop encourages the student body to get involved and support the chorus by participating in these various fundraisers. There are many activities to help pay for this trip. Lanyard sales will help, and car magnets are a solid fundraiser that is going on. You can come to any BHS chorus member to purchase a car magnet. Berlin Night at the Wolfpack game was Saturday, November 7th. Get involved and support BHS chorus!

### Inside the BHS Cafeteria By Nicole Zieba

Lunchtime at the Berlin High School cafeteria is an hour and a half filled with socializing, laughter and a variety of food provided by the cafeteria staff. During this period of time every day, the students are welcome to anything imaginable ranging from pizza to customized sandwiches to hot lunches of the day.



Besides the cafeteria staff preparing for the lunch time rush every day, a popular addition to the BHS cafeteria is Timothy Prosinski. More commonly known as "Chef Tim," Prosinski comes in frequently and prepares a variety of different lunches for the students each time. "I wanted to show the students that food can be good and good for you just by using simple products with fresh herbs and sauces," Prosinski said. Prosinski has been professionally cooking for twenty years and still enjoys all of the cooking he does. When asked what his favorite dish to prepare at Berlin High is, Prosinski stated, "Pasta with Fresh Pesto is surely the most popular with the students, but I enjoy all of the cooking I do and am always looking for new ideas."

Although some students tend to bring their own lunch from home, there are many students who buy lunch on a daily basis as well and enjoy it. "I feel as though everyone hates the food because they grew up so privileged so they have no interest in the food they provide, but I think some of them are fantastic," said senior student Dan Perez.

People who rarely buy lunch even had a say in what they thought of the cafeteria food. Junior Danielle D'Angelone stated. "I don't usually buy lunch but when I sometimes see other people around me eating it, I notice they have such small portions."

Berlin High provides students with a different choice of a main lunch everyday, giving everyone the chance to have something they enjoy. "My favorite cafeteria meal would have to be pasta with meatballs," Perez also stated. An assortment of different snacks are also provided for anyone who might not be interested in purchasing a full meal, including options from the counter as well as from two vending machines.

Prosinski as well as the cafeteria staff are always looking for new food ideas, so if you have any that you think students might enjoy, feel free to contact Prosinski in person or by email.



# Pentatonix Scores Their First Chart-Topping Album by Sammi Whitehill

A cappella group Pentatonix has had a very successful career since its 2011 win on NBC's *The Sing Off.* However, nothing compares to their more recent album, which has set an all time high point in their career, becoming their first #1 chart-topping album. The album features a high variety of songs, mostly originals, with a few covers added in. The most popular songs include the singles *Can't Sleep Love, Light in the Hallway, Sing,* and *Water.* All of the songs are sung a cappella, meaning that all of the sounds heard are made with their voices, with no instruments or electronic music added in.

The five band members: Kirstin Maldonado (soprano), Mitch Grassi (tenor/soprano), Scott Hoying (tenor/baritone), Avi Kaplan (bass), and Kevin Olusola (beatboxer), have worked together with a song writing team to create an album of original songs that they can connect to and that they have had a part in producing.

In a recent interview with *Time*, tenor Mitch Grassi explained why they had waited so long to come out with an original album. "An original album was always a goal for us..." Grassi told *Time*, "...but I think we just wanted to garner a fan base and work up to it slowly, because it's not an easy thing to tackle."

Nicole Foertsch, who is partial to the band, listened to the album for the first time, and was asked about her reaction to it. "From the songs that I listened to, the album sounds like it's one of their best yet!" Foertsch said regarding the album, "I love how they perform a bunch of different genres of songs on the album and it's clear that everyone's talent really shines.

Nicole is not the only one excited about this album. The members of the band are very enthusiastic about the great press and reviews they have received since the album's release date of October 16, 2015. In an interview with *fuse TV* prior to the announcement, bass Avi Kaplan stated that a number one album "...would probably be the biggest thing we've done so far. I mean, it'd be up there with other things we've done, but we just want this so bad. We're always the underdogs. We really, really, really, really want this."



#### MLB Hot Stove Prediction By Sam Barton

With winter slowly approaching, the fireplaces in our houses aren't the only things heating up. The MLB hot stove is heating up with many rumors already being thrown around about certain top-tier players. Let's see where I believe they will end up.

#### SP David Price- Chicago Cubs

It is clear that the Cubs should start going all in. A year after they lost in the NLCS, the Cubbies are reloading for another big season. A big contract with Price would have made sense for both sides. First, Price came through Joe Maddon's system back when they were both in Tampa Bay, so Maddon knows how to work with him. But all the best reasons in the world couldn't compete with the

\$2178 million over seven years that the Red Sox finally offered the stalwart pitcher.

### OF Yoenis Cespedes- Los Angeles Angels

Cespedes is viewed as the outfielder on the market this winter. The Mets obviously don't have the funds to keep him in New York, so he will more than likely end up somewhere else. There have been many teams that have inquired about Cespedes, but I see the Angels ultimately getting him. The Angels have a tendency to overpay players, so I see Cespedes getting an offer from L.A. that he can't refuse. The one-two punch combo of Trout and Cespedes can prove to be amazing if Cespy ends up there.

### SP Johnny Cueto- Los Angeles Dodgers

It is inevitable that Cueto is going to have a huge market this offseason. This is going to come down to whoever offers him the best deal. Losing Zack Greinke was really hurt the Dodger's rotation. So, naturally, they are going to overpay to continue to be a threat in the NL. Cueto is by far the best pitcher still left on the market, and he honestly has not received many offers from other teams. He reportedly turned down an offer from Arizona, which caused them to go and sign Greinke. Cueto will end up in LA.

#### 1B Chris Davis-Baltimore Orioles

Davis wants a big contract, and he also wants to stay in Baltimore. The big question mark that remains is will Davis accept the \$150 million contract they have offered. I believe that he will. But, what if Boston or New York make a run at him? The Orioles have have let their big player walk before, so it wouldn't be surprising if they did it again.

# Berlin Upbeat Tutoring at Willard Elementary By: Emma Boyer

Berlin High School students from Willard House in the Upbeat program volunteer at Emma Hart Willard Elementary School with the goal of helping the teachers engage the students during their studies.

Teachers very much approve of the Berlin Upbeat program, and they believe that the program helps the students and teachers greatly. These students who volunteer go there daily to tutor the kindergarteners and first graders during their classes. Then the volunteers help after school with Willard's Afternoon Adventure program.

The Upbeat kids help Ms. Cutler's and Mrs. Riley's kindergarten classes. In these classes we create math centers where the kids get one-on-one learning with Upbeat kids and class moms. This helps to strengthen the kindergarteners' math skills. During Willard's Afternoon Adventure program, Upbeat helps by playing with the kids and keeping them occupied during the lessons. We assist the teachers in charge of the program in order to keep the program running smoothly.

Some students, such as Callie Williams, have been in the program for three years now. Williams states, "I love helping at Willard. The kids and teachers always seem to love when we come there and help out. It's always a fun time." Williams is a senior at BHS now and is a house leader of the Willard house. It is not just the volunteers who enjoy when Berlin Upbeat helps out at Willard Elementary. Ms. Riley and Ms. Cutler, two kindergarten teachers at Willard School, are always very happy when the Upbeat kids come in to help out during class.

A kindergarten student at Willard elementary school, Arianna Bula, loves when Upbeat comes to her school. She states, "I like when the Upbeat kids come to my school because they are fun, and we get to play with them."

So far the Willard tutoring program has been going great and the Willard Upbeat House and Willard School plan to sustain this program. We plan to keep interaction between the elementary school and the upbeat program strong in order to keep the elementary kids engaged in their studies and to support afternoon adventures' running smoothly. In the future, Willard and the Willard Upbeat House hope to maintain their relationship and help more teachers and other grades with math centers and afternoon adventures.



#### Berlin High Interact Club Helps for The Holidays By Michaela Dehm

In the beginning of December, BHS Interact Club members participated in two Salvation Army events to benefit those during the holiday season. The first event was the New Britain Salvation Army's Angel Tree Program, where members generously fulfilled the holiday gift wishes of 35 children. Also, on December 5, students helped ringing the bell for the Salvation Army outside of the Berlin Stop & Shop. In one day the club collected \$837 for the Salvation Army.

A **Good Question**How many books are on the shelves of Berlin High School's Thomas Galvin Library?
Answer: 12,834 books