



## Homecoming at Home

By: Riley Myers

Due to the constraints brought upon by the pandemic, homecoming this year looks quite different. One unfortunate situation was that our school dances have been canceled for the year. Luckily, with a little creativity, we still found a way to celebrate our Homecoming King and Queen.

After the voting was in, our homecoming queen is Taylor Tuckek and the homecoming king is Brody Rupe. The homecoming court for the ladies included Molly Howard, Maddie Howard, Carley Stitt, and Brooke Lewis. For the gentlemen it included Dominic Carkido, Greg Dickson, Michael Ferradino, and Dominic Schadl.



Everybody on homecoming court looking fancy.

Photo Credit: Mrs. Stonestreet

When asked how it felt to be on the homecoming court, Carley Stitt replied, "Being on homecoming court made me feel very honored and special. Getting to dress up nice on Friday made me feel so gorgeous and important. I was so excited to be on the court with all my friends because it was more fun and less of a competition."

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When asked how it felt to be homecoming queen, Senior Taylor Tuckek responded, "I feel excited to be homecoming queen! I am so thankful to have such great friends to support me through this experience. And I am very grateful that I got to experience being on the court with such great classmates and friends!"

When asked about the changes and cancellation of the dance, Taylor added, "It is upsetting that we don't get to have a homecoming dance this year! It is always so much fun getting ready and taking cute pictures with your friends. I would have loved to dance at homecoming with my friends one last time, but I am

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very grateful to be able to at least have a court and get the chance to become queen, even in a rough time like this."



The court was introduced before the home game against Waterloo where McDonald dominated with a final score of 42-13.

Instead of having a dance, the students and court celebrated at the football game. Even though we don't have a dance to celebrate our homecoming king and queen, we have our friends and family at the football game celebrating everybody's victory.

When asked about the experience of being selected as homecoming king, Brody Rupe said, "It was so exciting to be the homecoming king. I'd always thought about how cool something like that would be and feel, though I never thought I'd get to be the king!"

**Royals look amazing as ever**

**Photo Credit: Mrs. Stonestreet**

Good luck Blue Devils as playoffs begin, and congratulations to the homecoming court.

# Knock Out Bullying

**By: James Myers and Bri Callow**

Bullying is, unfortunately, an issue that still occurs in schools, even with a wide range of education and reporting methods.

According to the dictionary, bullying is the act of one or multiple people attacking or picking on someone vulnerable. Even though some of our school this year is online, we still have to deal with cyberbullying.

Cyberbullying is the same as bullying, but it's online in any form. With school being online a good amount of the time this school year, cyberbullying is the biggest issue to deal with.

Bullying doesn't just stop there, either. Bullying can be anything from teasing, name-calling, taunting, and threatening comments or statements. It has such a negative impact on people that are being bullied and could lead to depression, anxiety, fear, and low self-esteem.

Ways to prevent bullying is to have students and adults, in general, know what bullying is and be able to recognize it if they see it. Junior Skylar Ague said, "There should be no bullying allowed whatsoever. Nobody should feel unsafe to go into a class, school, or environment. We need to promote kindness and reprimand bullies."

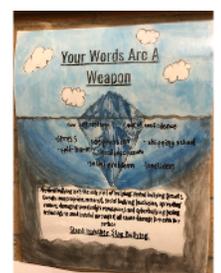
Encouraging students to talk to an adult or someone they trust is vital to success. It's very important that you keep lines of communication open so they can have a sense of security.

Something super easy to do is simply encourage people to do what they love and are passionate about. Some students have even taken initiative by creating anti-bullying posters throughout the school to raise awareness.

Junior Lea Gabrelcik said, "I think bullying, especially for teenagers, can greatly affect people physically and mentally. You never know what's going on in people's lives, so even one bad action can affect someone for a very long time." It's good to know that so many students here at MHS have done their part to help put an end to bullying and creating a safe, kind environment to be apart of.



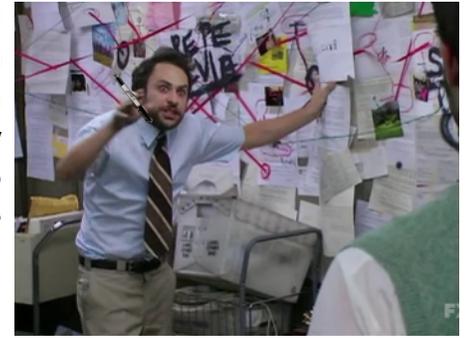
**Nicely colored anti-bullying posters made by Mr. Domitrovich's Tech 7 class.**



# Editorial: Testing Positive for Stress

By: Hannah Werle

You know that overused meme image where the guy has papers all over the walls, strings connecting the papers, a sharpie in his hand, and a crazed look in his eyes (image to the right)? Well, that's basically me while I'm trying to organize all the things I have written in my planner. Trust me, my planner has an extensive list of things in it. Before high school, I never had to use a planner. I just wrote down the math homework in the corner of the workbook then packed up for the day. Not anymore, my friend.



**\*Me\***

The thing is, I'm sure that's how a lot of students are feeling right now. High school is an insane time in everyone's life. You're trying to keep up with schoolwork, get a job, get your drivers' license, take the ACT, take the SAT, figure out your degree, look for colleges, and somehow manage to finish your chores before your parents get home. How on Earth are we supposed to do all these things successfully?



Your list of things to do may be extensive, but there is hope. The trick is to take things one day at a time. Why do you think teachers tell you to study a little bit each night? I hate to admit it, but it works. Your driver's test, the ACT, that math test coming up-- they can all be prepared for. As much as we all love to do it, procrastination isn't an option when it comes to these big life events.

As for the things that you can't study, like figuring out your degree or choosing your college, there are ways to find things that interest you. When trying to find a college, consider factors such as location, residence, opportunity, and affordability. Where is the college located? Are you living on campus or living at home? Does this college offer good opportunities for your major? Then, when you want to decide your major, try to find what interests you. Is there a field in which you could stay engaged for a long time? Things such as interest inventories, gap years, and such were made so that students would have time to think about what they want to do with their life.

High schoolers have many decisions to make before we finally get to throw our cap into the air. Until then, know that you are not alone in this. Your classmates are going through the same things that you are and having friends to go to will make everyone's lives easier. Don't lose hope! Work hard, take your time, and keep positive. Things may not be coming together as quickly as you'd like, but that doesn't mean that the point you are in right now doesn't have plenty to offer.



## Class of 2021 Senior Selections Are In!



Senior selections for the Class of 2021 are:

Class Motto: "I wish there was a way to know you were in the good old days before you actually left them." - Ed Helms

Class Song: "Don't You (Forget About Me)" - The Breakfast Club Theme Song by Simple Things

Class T-Shirt: Yellow Seniors '21 Shirt

Class Colors: Carolina Blue and Silver

Class Flower: White Rose

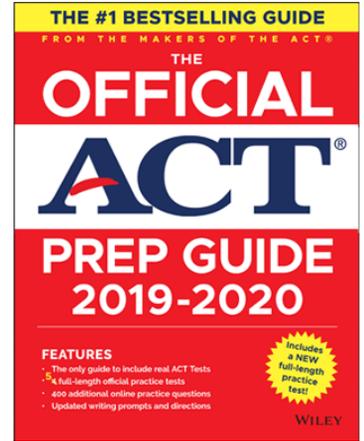
# McDonald, Briefly

By: Theresa Greathouse

If you plan to take the ACT this year and would like to raise your scores or need help preparing for the test, please sign up in the high school office for the ACT Boot-Camp. ACT Boot-Camp will be offered on the following Saturdays:

November 7th, November 14, and November 21st

All sessions will be held from 8:00- 11:00 am



Mrs. Mills now has a Smartphone Photography class. This allows students to get to explore new subjects and places to shoot for their assignments. She said, "I think it's important to offer different media and ways of creating art for students. Photography is a personal love of mine and I am so excited to pass that on to my students." Students learn about photography techniques such as composition, lighting, and editing as well as printing.

# Follow us on Social!

By: Elle Airhart

Follow us on Twitter for daily tweets of Mindfulness Mondays, announcements, and funny and relatable posts about student life!



Follow along with our Broadcast Team on YouTube! They do funny skits and interactive interviews that don't make it in the paper along with timely announcements!



@VillagerVlogs



# What Grinds My Gears

By: Riley Myers



You know what grinds my gears? When somebody uses way too much cologne or perfume. Like, the fragrance smells great, but then the person sits right in front of you and you're eating their odorific chemicals.

Chill out with how many sprays you take. We get it. You're wearing a scent. Like, I mean, walk outside and spray your perfume or cologne and spin around twice or more to shake some extra scent off of yourself. Not everybody wants to smell you. Also, people have asthma or allergies. Let's just keep our scent more subtle and on the DL.

I love the different smells of perfume or cologne, but I just dislike the fact that the person I can smell put so much on. Keep wearing perfume or cologne, but don't bathe in it.



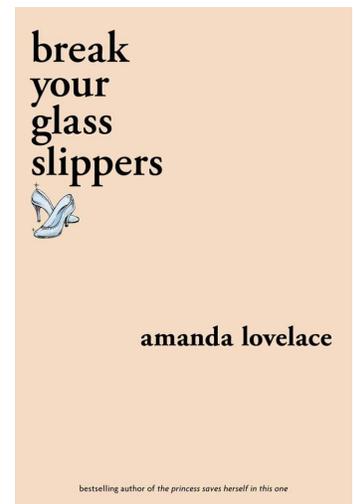
# Werle's World of Books

By: Hannah Werle

Hello everyone! I'm back and excited to review some lovely new novels. To start this year off, the subject of review is *break your glass slippers* by Amanda Lovelace. The modern retelling of Cinderella takes a new perspective, that of the fairy godmother. The nontraditional formatting of the book--a hybrid of poetry, storytelling, and self-help--as well as frequent "you" pronouns allows for a deeper connection with readers. On one page, we see moments from a modern, yet traditional Cinderella story and on the other we see the fairy godmother's advice for the situation. The book deals with serious topics, but always has wonderful advice and encouragement on how to deal with these very real issues.

What I like about this book is that it doesn't shy away from the truths of life. The fairytale of Cinderella is just that, a fairytale. Lovelace tells Cinderella as it would be told today, a young girl is in a bad situation and she finds herself going to others for happiness. Instead of being rescued, the heroine is left to solve her problems and discover her self-worth on her own. One line that I particularly love, and believe is a great summary of the type of encouragement this book gives, is something the fairy godmother says, "...their lack of love for you/ does not make you/ any less lovable." Although she does not discount the serious issues being discussed, the author gives great advice and finds the silver linings of every concern mentioned.

The idea of the title "break your glass slippers" is that you don't need someone to find you to live your happily ever after; this same idea is reflected in the book as a whole. No matter one's age, race, gender, orientation, or socioeconomic position, troubles come to us all. *Break your glass slippers* is a wonderful book to read if you need a moment of encouragement. Amanda Lovelace always finds a way to remind readers that we are magical.



# Horoscope of the Month By: Riley Myers

## Libra

September 23 - October 22

Element- Air

Ruler- Venus

Lucky numbers- 4 or 24

Strengths: Cooperative, diplomatic, gracious, fair-minded, social

Weakness: Indecisive, avoids confrontations, will carry grudge, self pity

### Overall:

What does the month of October mean for you Libra? You're gonna have some stressful surprises left and consequences will have to be faced. You are mostly alright with the ideal that you've been working towards. Where trust was lost, troubles may come behind your back and slap you in the face out of nowhere. But remember Libra, your heart is the only measurement of healing and contact in any bond and your brain seems to be standing in the way.



## Scorpio

October 23 - November 21

Element- Water

Ruler- Pluto and Mars

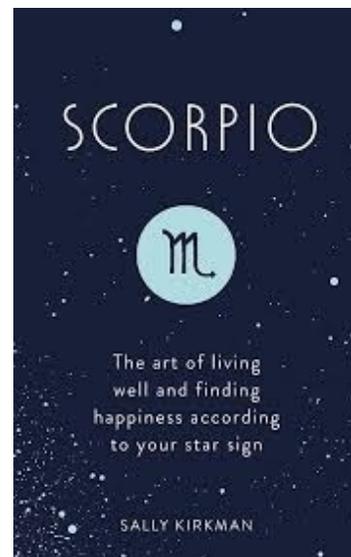
Lucky numbers- 8 or 18

Strengths- Resourceful, brave, passionate, stubborn, a true friend

Weaknesses- Distrusting, jealous, secretive, violent

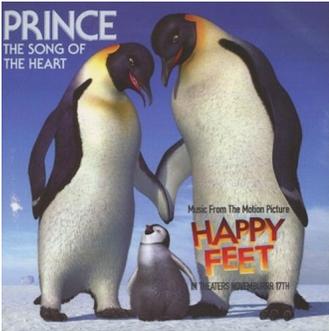
### Overall:

What does October bring you, Scorpio? Things that never got to function properly may need some help to start working, but it is also possible that you should move on and focus on something new. This is an amazing time to determine the course of action that feels right. Instead of holding on firmly, show what you hold inside and remember that's the only way to heal. Even with negative patterns repeated numerous times, there is no way of knowing what the next situation might bring you.



# Song of the Month: "The Song of the Heart" by Prince

By: Elle Airhart



Okay, so! This song is from the movie *Happy Feet* and I swear, if anyone--ANYONE!--says that they don't like this movie, I will be very disappointed. This movie is amazing and talks about accepting others even if they are different through small, cuddly baby penguins and their society's almost collapse. Iconic, right?! Anyway, this isn't about the movie, no matter how good. It's about the song that is featured in it, "The Song of the Heart".

It was produced in 2006 by Prince for the movie. So, already it's a pretty good song. It's cute and lighthearted with some of the penguins singing and dialogue from the movie added into the music. It's something to warm you from the inside out like a relaxing cup of hot cocoa after a day that might not be going like you planned.

The meaning is primarily about how you are unique and, as an individual, you matter. We all literally are dancing and singing along to "the song of the heart" and making life happy "together if we all do our part". It is meant to inspire everyone to let go of their differences and welcome each other with open arms for who they are, not because they conform. That right there hits a little different nowadays, so listen to this song if you are feeling down and reinforce the idea that some people are trying to change and accept others for their beautiful individuality while others are simply a bit slower to accept the positive change.

Take a listen and see if you find the optimistic and bright outlook that many find from this song. Have a great day, MHS!

# Student Poll-What is Students Favorite Fall Activity?

By: Bri Callow

Watching Football Games	10
Going to White House	8
Going on a Hayride	6
Carving Pumpkins	6

Fall is upon us so now seemed a good a time as any to ask MHS students what their favorite activity is to do during this fall season. Out of the 30 people who were asked, the most popular fall activity is watching football, which came in first place with 10 votes. Even though going to games is a struggle this year due to the virus it certainly hasn't stopped anyone from watching at home! Another fan favorite fall activity is taking a trip to White House, which came in a close



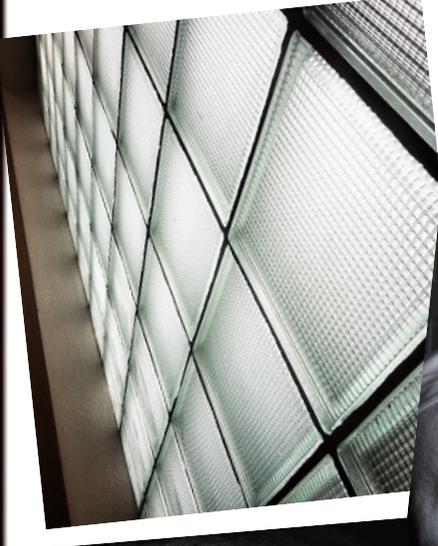
second with 8 votes. Can anyone resist those blueberry donuts? Rounding it out in third place was going on a hayride and carving pumpkins who both had 6 votes. Happy Fall MHS! :)

# Backpage Pics

By: Hannah Werle Photo Credit: Mrs. Mills's Smartphone Photography Class

KODAK PORTRA 400

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KODAK PORTRA 400

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