Coltan is a mineral a lot of students probably have never heard of, but interact with each and every day. Found in our everyday devices and technology, coltan has easily become one of the most valuable minerals to mankind. With this achievement, it also has earned the reputation as one of the most dangerous minerals to our environment. This mineral is mined in huge quantities every single day due to the demand people all around the world have for technology.

There are more than a few problems with this Coltan mining. Elementary age children are the people responsible for working in this mine. A lot of these mines are not taking the proper precautions and children work long difficult hours doing manual labor.

With the deforestation that occurs daily for this operation, gorillas in the DRC, or the Democratic Republic of Congo, are being poached illegally. The UN Environment Program has stated that, “The number of eastern lowland gorillas in eight DRC national parks has declined by 90 percent over the past 5 years, and only 3,000 now remain.” This statistic is drastic as well as concerning. Something needs to be done about this devastation against humanity.
May 25th, 2020: George Perry Floyd Jr. was murdered by officer James Kueng. Three other officers, Thomas Lane, J. Alexander Kueng, and Tou Thao, watched as Kueng stepped on his neck and suffocated him. Why did he kill Floyd? Over a suspected $20 counterfeit bill.

Two months prior, Breonna Taylor, 26, an EMT was fatally shot. Why? Police officers Jonathan Mattingly, Brett Hankison, and Myles Cosgrove claim they drug raided the wrong house. Another life lost over a "mistake".

But this is nothing new. Police brutality has been happening since 1877. A large incident of police brutality occurred in 1965 with the Selma March where people walked for justice, only to be beaten and nearly killed by police. Fast forward to the summer of 2020 where major protests have taken place. Americans were going out in gloves, a mask, and protest signs, pleading for justice, pleading for police reform but the police retaliated. Videos and pictures were released of police officers, who were meant to protect the protesters, throwing tear gas cans, beating citizens and shooting rubber bullets. Protesters became more extreme to the extent where people were looting stores and damaging property. From May 25th until now, police brutality has only increased against POC (people of color), killing people like Elijah McLain for wearing a ski mask because he was anemic, or Jacob Blake who was shot seven times in the back.

I had an amazing opportunity to interview a WOC (woman of color), Zoe, on her opinions on the movement. This is what she had to say.

Q: What aspects of the police force do you think needs to be addressed and changed, if anything at all?
A: I believe that the police force should have longer training. It takes a surgeon years to even be able to help out, but for a police officer it's only 13 to 19 weeks and they're given a gun that has the ability to take a life.

Q: Have you gone to any protests? If so, what was it like?
A: I have been to a few protests one at the start of May. My girlfriend, a few of her friends and I went to Minnesota. When we got there we stopped for gas and a white woman looked at me and my girlfriend and said "you (n-word) better not be going to that protest because if you do, you'll be shot with more than a rubber bullet." We didn't stay long for that one, but when we got back to New York, we went to another protest. We were just holding a few signs and we still got hit with pepper spray and tear gas.

Q: What do you think about the movement in general?
A: I think it is completely necessary. We're in the land of the free, but were still not all free. There is still discrimination and there are still people getting away with it.

Q: What is your personal opinion on the statement "All lives matter" and/or "Blue lives matter"?
A: My opinion with the all lives matter and blue lives matters is that blue lives matter is completely stupid. Cops can take off their uniform and take off their badge and no one would ever suspect that they're a cop outside of the uniform, but I can't take off my skin tone. For all lives matter, it's not the point of the matter right now. We all acknowledge that all lives do matter, but the point is black lives are still being oppressed. We can't say that everybody matters and not acknowledge people are still being discriminated against.

Want to call for justice for Breonna Taylor? Call 502-735-1784 to demand that her police officers be removed from position and are convicted.

Want to donate? Visit Blacklivesmatter.carrd.co too see the many ways you can donate, sign petitions or simply let your voice be heard.
Editorial: Could The U.S. have handled Covid-19 Pandemic better?

By: Meadow Gara

Since the first week of March, we know that the number of those infected by COVID-19 has skyrocketed. What we will be exploring is if The United States could have handled the pandemic better. We will explore this idea by looking at other countries' policies and precautions they took.

In the early stages of the pandemic, South Korea began developing COVID-19 test kits despite their own count of infected being under 100 at the time. They began extensive testing and contact tracing for anyone infected. Their growth of new cases has been fairly steady. Their total number of cases is roughly 22,000 infected, losing only 380 people to the virus. This is a feat compared to The United States 200,000 deaths. Although South Korea is roughly \( \frac{1}{6} \) of The USA’s population, they are more densely populated, making this an accomplishment.

With roughly 2,000 cases and 10 deaths, Iceland is an honorable mention. They instituted a free testing and contact regime to find anyone infected. They were able to function without a complete shutdown of schools, and most businesses could start reopening up by mid April. Though they are a country of 364,000 people, give or take a few, they did an amazing job of containing the spread.

These countries are proof that containing a pandemic doesn’t have to lead to a full shutdown. If the USA had put more safety precautions in place sooner, the spread could have been contained, and maybe even stopped completely without a full shutdown of schools and most businesses. So in conclusion, yes! We could have done more to slow the spread of COVID-19, but with the resources available to the government at the beginning of the pandemic, we may have done almost all we could have.

Pictures courtesy of Google
Covid-19 has taken over people’s daily lives, and it has impacted many within the months we have found out about this disease. Covid is a serious issue, and you should know how to protect yourself and others in this matter.

Covid is a disease which is spread from person-to-person contact, meaning people who are in close contact between 6 feet can be infected by this disease. If an infected person ends up coughing, sneezing, or even talks, their respiratory droplets are pushed on the people who are nearby. They can take in the droplets that’ll either land on their mouth or their nose, breathing in the infected person’s sickness.

Did you know that Covid-19 could also be spread by not even knowing you have symptoms of the disease? 80% of people who catch Covid seem asymptomatic, and don’t even end up realizing that they have caught it. With them having this infection, they still could be spreading it to others and won’t even know it until they get tested for Covid.

The best thing to do to stop the spread is to isolate yourself from others, and just stay 6 feet apart. Try and wear your mask at all times so that you aren’t breathing in that other person’s droplets. The main objective is to make sure to take care of yourself, and think about others when it comes to this disease.

Will Covid Restart with Flu season?

By: Madison Powell

One of the biggest questions that is concerning people today is if the coronavirus, or covid, will restart with flu season. The coronavirus is a disease that has quickly spread through the world affecting daily lives.

“I believe that we will experience more of the same as the virus mutates and adapts to stay alive. The virus generally peaks in the colder months, so I anticipate we will face more challenges during the winter,” James Powell declares. Powell works at Sanofi Pasteur, one of the leaders in vaccine manufacturing.

Powell states that the race amongst companies in all countries is getting closer as each comes up with testable vaccines. Most already have trials going with participants who have this disease. The coronavirus will most likely not fully go away, but with these vaccinations the spread will stop.

These viruses are a part of evolution and force people to discover what causes these infections and how to get rid of them. The upcoming months will be spent trying to find a vaccine to build immunity in order to fight this virus.
Since the very first case of COVID-19 on January 20, 2020, cases have escalated very fast in the United States and around the world. This article will talk about the cases in the United States as well as Pennsylvania.

In this section of the report, we will talk about the top three countries leading in COVID-19 cases and deaths. As of data from September 17, the U.S is leading in cases with 6,672,222. For America, we have 197,589 deaths or roughly 20.9% of the global deaths.

Now, for the second and third spots in our list there are very interesting numbers to be analyzed. India is second to America with 5,118,253 total cases. You might expect that since they have higher numbers, they will have more deaths than the third place. Brazil comes in second for deaths with 134,106 in total, topping India by 50,908 deaths. Brazil comes in third place for total cases in the world with 4,455,386, that is 662,867 cases behind India.

Taking a break from the international cases, let's go take a dive into our own state. For us, we have had a total of 146,990 cases, about 2.02% of the nation’s cases. For total deaths, we have had 7,903, or about 3.09% of the nation’s deaths.

Now, let's dive deeper into these numbers, let's go to our own county. For Northampton County, we have 4,301 total cases and 304 deaths. This leaves us with 2.09% of the state’s cases and 3.08% of the state’s deaths. Now these numbers are not something to laugh at, we still have to follow protocol and do our part to prevent us from getting COVID-19. Stay Safe Wilson!
On Friday, September 4th at approximately 1:45 pm a couple decided to use a smoke generating machine at a gender reveal party, and it ended up causing a massive wildfire which spread all throughout California. This was also accompanied by “one of the hottest days since weather records began across much of south-western California” according to www.bbc.com.

The wildfire was not the only fire to happen in California. Due to the hot temperatures and lightning strikes, there have been other fires all throughout the south-western hemisphere. “Record breaking fires,” says www.bbc.com, spread over millions of acres.

The fires got so bad that California declared a month of state emergency. According to scientists these fires are the worst they have been in 18 years. They have also been linked to recent climate change and global warming.

What's being done about all of this? Due to the high smoke content in the air, Governor Gavin Newsom declared that citizens stay inside the shelter of their houses. Nearly 12,000 fire fighters have been deployed during the fires, and twenty six of those firefighters sadly lost their lives because of the fires.

One thing is for sure we can be thankful for the California firefighters who constantly put their lives on the line to save others as well as the firefighters who have lost their lives.
Chadwick Boseman’s Death

By: Akacia Clark

Chadwick Boseman died on August 28th, 2020 from stage 4 colon cancer at the age of 43. He was best known as the actor as King T’Challa in the movie Black Panther. Boseman was born in Anderson, South Carolina on November 29th, 1976. He graduated from Howard University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in directing. He had small roles in television before his star turn in 2013. He has made appearances in popular TV shows in the early 2000s, such as Cold Case, Lincoln Heights, CSI: NY, Law and Order, and many more.

However, much attention was drawn to him in Hollywood when he starred as the stoic baseball player Jackie Robinson in 2013’s ‘42.’

His family states that Boseman was a true fighter. Even through some of the films many have come to love, many of them were filmed during and between countless numbers of surgeries and chemotherapy. Although he was suffering, he was not open about his diagnosis. He had no children, and he was survived by his wife and a parent.

He passed away on the day that the Major League Baseball (MLB) was celebrating Jackie Robinson. “His transcendent performance in ‘42’ will stand the test of time and serve as a powerful vehicle to tell Jackie's story to audiences for generations to come,” the MLB wrote in a tweet.
On September 20th, 2020, the nation bid farewell to beloved Supreme Court Justice icon, Ruth Bader Ginsberg. Over the course of her life, she was an important figurehead in modern feminism and progressive politics. As we say goodbye to the trailblazing treasure, remembering her noteworthy actions is a major step to honoring the legacy she left behind.

Ruth Bader Ginsberg had always had a good footing in politics from being the first tenured female Columbia Law school professor to being appointed to the US District Court by President Jimmy Carter. It wasn't until 1993 where she was appointed as a US Supreme Court Justice and became the second woman in US history to do so that she gained massive attention.

Since then, she has achieved a high status in the country and even has been deemed as the Notorious RBG. She was the crucial tie breaker in some of the most popular court cases such as United States v. Virginia and Obergefell v. Hodges. Because of her, United States v. Virginia ruled that Virginia Military Institute couldn't refuse women in its services and Obergefell v. Hodges ruled same-sex marriage legal in all 50 states.

She always heeded her stances, advocated for women's rights and stood as an ally for the LGBTQ+ community. In her own words, "fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you." Her icon status even extends to two dedicated movies to her name, On the Basis of Sex and RBG.

No other Supreme Court Justice has captured the heart of the public quite like Ruth Bader Ginsberg. She has left behind a tremendous legacy and whoever is next in line for Supreme Court justice has some huge shoes to fill. We bid farewell to our Notorious RBG, may she rest in power.
Editorial: National Suicide Prevention Month: A Much Needed Discussion

By: Fatimah Bouri

In our society, suicide has always been a sensitive, even stigmatized topic. Over the past few decades, however, suicide and mental health have been brought to the limelight whether through TV shows such as Degrassi or through music like Logic’s 1-800-273-8255 or Twenty One Pilots’ Neon Gravestones. The discussion needs to be had, and it should no longer be shelved for a later time.

How does one have a discussion about this sort of topic? First, let’s talk about the most obvious dilemma: stigma. Stigma harms the discussion around suicide and prevents many from opening up and seeking help for their struggles. Educating and having open conversations are key to help fight back a damaging stigma.

Along with the problem of stigma, mental health resources are costly and therefore, not so accessible. Crisis centers have done a good job combating this issue and go out of their way to provide affordable resources to those in a crisis. Schools play a huge role in this too. Through mental health education and school therapists, teenagers can feel supported in their environment. Already 20 states in the country require mental health education classes, a significant staple for the cause.

With all that being said, it doesn’t stop there. People themselves lending a hand is a vital part of the cause. Sometimes, all someone wants is a friend to check on them. Whether offering a shoulder to cry on or lending an ear, reaching out to and checking up on friends goes quite a long way.

Even after September ends, suicide prevention and awareness won’t. Let’s do our part: continue to have conversations, advocate for change and most importantly, offer support to those in need. A life is a life no matter how small. We all deserve to stay.

If you are experiencing suicidal thoughts, contact the suicide hotline at 1 800 278 8255 or text STAY to 741-741. Remember, you matter, you are loved and you deserve to stay.
The National Football League (NFL) has started their 2020 season with a BANG! There were touchdowns, interceptions, nail biting finishes, and many more exciting plays.

A lot of people had doubts if the NFL would have a season with Covid-19. Fans hoped for an NFL season. With Covid, some NFL players have been concerned about the way they are going to play the game they love. Because of this, 66 players have opted out of the 2020 season.

During week one of the NFL, they are allowing fans to go to the games only if the team allows to have fans in the stands. The only teams that are allowing the fans to attend games are the Kansas City Chiefs, and the Jacksonville Jaguars. By watching the Chiefs and Jaguars games in week one, spectators notice these fans are only allowed in the front row and must follow all safety procedures.

All the matchups for week one have been played, and the results have come in. In the NFC there are seven teams who are undefeated: the Arizona Cardinals, Seattle Seahawks, Los Angeles Rams, New Orleans Saints, Chicago Bears, Green Bay Packers, and the Washington Football Team. There are also nine teams in the AFC that are undefeated. Those teams include the Baltimore Ravens, Pittsburgh Steelers, Kansas City Chiefs, Las Vegas Raiders, Los Angeles Chargers, Tennessee Titans, Jacksonville Jaguars, Buffalo Bills, and the New England Patriots.
The Echo

Stanley Finals Cup

By: Luke Bratkovics

It's September and the abnormal Stanley Cup playoffs will be coming to a close. This year, due to Covid-19, the NHL season was postponed with just less than 15 games left in the regular season. Many people thought that they would just cancel and forget about the season. Yet, after almost five months of quarantine, the NHL was voted to make a postseason comeback on August 1st.

Due to the Covid pandemic, the rest of the season will be very different. This year, they tossed out the last couple weeks of the regular season and decided to give 24 teams a chance to make the cup. The top 12 teams from each conference were socially distanced and put into the NHL bubble, similar to the NBA.

The eastern conference’s bubble is located in Montreal, while the western conference’s is in Edmonton. All 24 teams have their own hotel where only players and coaches are allowed. They were all asked to leave their loved ones back at home, or else they would not be able to participate.

This year, the two final teams are the Dallas Stars and the Tampa Bay Lightning. Both teams have been impressive throughout the entire season. The Lightning beat out the New York Islanders in the eastern conference finals. Meanwhile, the Dallas Stars beat out the Las Vegas Golden Knights. Both of the series ended in game five.

As the final series is about to start, it is good to remember and be thankful for the people who put in hours and hours to keep this postseason smooth and to give us fans the opportunity to watch again.

Pictures courtesy of Google
The Echo

Covid and the MLB

By: Mikayla Smith

March 13th was the fateful day when everything in our nation shut down, and the MLB was no exception. Nearly five months later, after many alterations were made, Major League Baseball has resumed their season. But what exactly happened during the shutdown?

March 13 - Spring training was suspended.

April 1 - The 2020 London Series between the Cardinals and Cubs, scheduled for June 13-14, was cancelled.

June 10-11 - The 2020 Draft takes place via video conference and is televised live.

June 30 - Minor League Baseball called off their 2020 season.

July 3 - The 2020 All-Star Game, which was to be hosted by the Los Angeles Dodgers, was cancelled.

July 23 - The MLB began a safe, abbreviated 2020 season. Many big events had to be cancelled, but that led to the recovery of the season. Though baseball is back in action, there were revisions that had to be made. There was a restriction placed on TV and radio announcers, keeping them from travelling with their teams and forcing them to broadcast remotely. Spectators could no longer attend games. Instead, teams replaced fans with cardboard cutouts and used crowd noise over the stadium speakers. It’s not ideal, however, these changes had to happen to regain some normalcy in our lives.
The Success of the NBA Bubble

By: Joey Vosbury

NBA Basketball is one thing that many people look forward to every year. The feeling of watching your favorite team and players compete against the best players in the world is indescribable. It is because of this that the shutdown of the league, due to Covid-19, upset fans across the country.

Covid-19 halted the 2019-2020 NBA Season on March 11, 2020, after Utah Jazz’s all star center, Rudy Gobert, came down with the virus. This news shook the basketball world to its core, and as quarantine progressed, we’d learn of more and more players who caught the virus.

As the cases started to slow down, basketball fans questioned if the season would continue. The NBA would later answer those questions, as the league restarted on June 30th. With the help of Disney World, the league set up a “bubble” for the 22 teams that could’ve made the playoffs.

With a lot of doubt that the bubble would work, the NBA has had a successful run. Since the restart, nobody in the bubble has tested positive for Covid-19. The NBA playoffs have begun, as both the Eastern and Western Conference Finals are under way. With the NBA Finals on the horizon, the league looks to keep its success going, and the fans' wishes for a finished season are coming true.

NBA Playoff Update

By: Anderson Bastien

Five months after the coronavirus pandemic shut down the NBA season, the playoffs have finally arrived. On paper, it may seem that little has changed, but look closer: Everything is different, and the NBA’s most prized award is up for grabs. After three hard-fought series the NBA finals are here. The Los Angeles Lakers are back in the NBA Finals for the first time since 2010. For the Miami Heat, this will be their first appearance since 2014.

Both teams have had a great amount of success on their respective roads here. It took each team 15 games to get to this point, both losing just three games total through their three series. The Lakers are certainly favorites in the 2020 NBA Finals behind one of the best to ever play basketball in Lebron James. However, looking at the numbers and how each of these teams got to this point, it should be a very even series that could go the distance.
The Wilson Area High School football team has a chance at being successful this year. The Warriors have a lot of skill, talent, as well as potential, but they won't win games unless they collectively use their talent and work as a team.

The first question I posed to the players was how has covid affected the season this year. Zachary Gillen commented, “We worked out for 3 months on Zoom, and we can't use our locker room, so it has had a pretty drastic effect on our season but I'm just happy we are playing football. “

The last question I asked was how do you feel about all the new rules due to covid-19. Cayden Stem commented, “With all the new rules in place it's gonna take some time to get used to, but playing football with these rules is better than not playing football at all.”

In conclusion, the football players are ready to adapt for their season, and score some success this year.

Field Hockey

By: Felicia and Raymond DrePaul

Wilson Area Girls Field Hockey Team takes the field for the first time this season on September 19th. The Girls Field Hockey Team looks to bounce back after going 3-7 last season. It will be exciting to see what the team has to show, especially with a lot of new faces this year for the team.

Sophomore, Jaelyn Raisner, is expecting more wins than last year and is hoping to improve her game. She is really confident in the team this year, especially with the new faces they have on the team this year. Raisner stated that, in some aspects of their game, she is confident and not in others. Although they lost their first scrimmage, she says that there is still a lot of room for improvement. As the season progresses, she hopes to gain more team chemistry with all her teammates. She believes that they will be able to win a championship despite all of that.

With the first game of the season this Saturday, the girls look to start off their season on a win. After a very close matchup with Northwestern Lehigh, the girls managed to win 2-1. Player, Jaelyn Raisner, stood out the most during this matchup scoring the game winning goal. Despite winning the game, there were a lot of ups and downs.

Coach says, “We performed well as a team. We stayed positive and encouraged each other on the field. We took advantage of opportunities in order to score”. But, “we let the other team take advantage of a penalty corner. In the third and fourth quarter we struggled to get the ball out of the back field”. Nonetheless, the girls were able to win the game, and they hope to keep the winning tradition going as they start off their season.
After a hard fought season last year, ending the season with a 15-7 record overall, the Wilson Boys Soccer team is coming up better than ever this year. With a huge roster change, losing eight seniors from the starting 11 last season, the current upperclassmen and even some lower classmen are stepping up to help the team. Led by captains junior (ST) Wilson Bibiano and senior (CB) Kyle Bratkovics, the boys soccer team has unlimited potential to bring success for Wilson Area High School.

The start of the season was debatable due to Covid-19, but once the teams got approval, the grind started right away. To get back in shape the team has gone through tons of conditioning and practice to reboot the season. After three weeks, the boys had their first game at Bangor. Even though they gave up a penalty in the first ten minutes and went down 0-1, Wilson started to heat up.

A foul was called at Bangor’s goal right outside the box for freshman (CM) Benjee Amador to give a nice pass to Wilson Bibiano for a header, making the score 1-1. Next, another foul was called in almost the same exact spot. Wilson Bibiano decides to take the free kick and goes bottom left corner for the goal, giving Wilson the lead. Finally, towards the end of the first half, freshman freshman (LB) Ben Gomez sends a fantastic cross to senior (RM) Tanner Sandt for a tap in goal, for the final score of 3-1 Wilson Warriors.

Defying all the odds coming from last season, Wilson Boys Soccer is hungry for success and wants more than just a positive record. After moving down a division, due to school size, Wilson Soccer has moved down to AA, giving the boys an even better chance to bring home the District Championship to Wilson Area High School.
Is online school as efficient as learning in person?

By: Nick Alvarez

Most schools have given the option to students to either learn online or go to school in person due to the pandemic, but does online learning still give students an effective way to learn?

Students obviously get assigned the same work they would in person, but will the students still get the same amount of assistance online as they would in person? Joseph Vosbery, a cyber student at Wilson High School says, “It’s hard when you don't completely understand assignments and have to try figuring it out on your own.” Not only does online learning make it harder for students to learn as it is now on their own, but it is also hard to even ask questions or get help on a topic you don’t fully understand.

Anthony Fioroino was asked, “Is it hard to find motivation in doing your work while doing online learning?” His response was, “Yes, being able to lay in bed and sit around at home does make it harder for me to actually want to get up and do my pending assignments.” With cyber learning, you can do assignments wherever, and whenever you want. It is students’ responsibility to get up and finish assignments at their best ability when they are due, but as said above it’s harder to find motivation when you're not in school, and when the interaction between the student and the teacher is an essential part of the educational process.

Could not having a teacher around to tell you to put your phone away and not being in around a learning environment be the downside of your learning experience?

How do you feel about schools opening?

By: Jennae Davis

With the reopening of schools, children going back safely is a big deal. How do you feel about schools opening back up and kids returning? As of July 17th, 2020, children under 18 years of age account for 7% of Covid cases. Only 0.1% of covid-19 cases lead to deaths.(https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/reopening-schools.html)

This information is important because more people will be more driven to go back to school. Not many kids die or get covid. After all the covid-19 cases in the Lehigh Valley and the country going on lockdown, the governor said that schools could open back up again. There have been so many disagreements over this topic.

Interview 1: Do you think it was a good idea for schools to open back up again? Aneyjah Harris said, “No, I feel it was not a good idea for schools to open back up. You don't know where the students or teachers have been, and you don’t know if they were exposed to covid.”

Interview 2: Do you think it was a good idea for schools to open back up again? Alicia Wicks said, “Yes it is a good idea if the correct precautions are taken. The systems that are put in place to make sure everyone is safe and the schools are clean is very sufficient.”

Pictures courtesy of Google
Students’ Opinions on Smaller Sized classrooms

By: Holly Rose Echlin

About 85% of the students interviewed enjoyed the new class sizes for our hybrid scheduling. The first impressions for our students were surprising to most of them. Mackenzie Clark says, “I was surprised because I didn't know classes were going to be this small.”

When asked about the efficiency of the sizes of classes, all of the students said they think it's more efficient with fewer students. Chelsie Bracken says, “I think it's more efficient because if you have a question for the teacher, you don't have to wait as long to get a response.” Her brother Matthew Bracken said, “I think it's more efficient because the students won't feel as pressured to get up in front of a larger class.”

Students including Mackenzie Clark miss larger classes because of their friends. She said, “I miss larger classes because I can't ever see my friends.” For this schedule, it's harder to see their friends because of the one way hallways and the smaller classes.
New Covid School Rules

By: Tyler Jones

Here in Wilson we have incorporated tons of new rules due to Covid-19 and preventing the spread of the disease. How do students feel about it?

One of the questions I’ve asked students is with all the precautions, do you feel safe? Caidence Applebee responded with, “One way hallways are kind of pointless because you still walk down the hallways with friends anyway, but wiping down the desk will help and should’ve been done before.”

Another question I’ve asked is, “With a limited amount of people in classes, do you feel more comfortable in a classroom?” Teyana Byrd responded, “Yes, because the less people the less likely you are to contract the disease.”

I asked Wilson Bibiano if he felt that leaving during study hall can actually slow down the spread? He said, “I feel like getting out as many students out of the building at all times will lower the chances and decrease the probability of cases being linked to the school.”

An Optimists Guide to The New School Year

By: Caidence Appleby

Wilson Area High School students are filled with excitement to be back in school this year ever since the COVID pandemic hit the country. In a normal school year, students look forward to many school events, but as we all know, this year is different.

So what can we look forward to? Kyle Harris says, “I'm looking forward to the hopeful progress of us getting through this pandemic.”

Clare Kenny also says, “I'm looking forward to a more easy going schedule.” Kyle agrees, and he hopes that he’ll make good use of his time by getting his tasks done and doing everything ahead of time to make sure he doesn’t forget to do any assignments. Looking forward to having another good year!
Is Dress Code Unbiased?

By: Makenna Sandt

Some view Wilson Area High School’s dress code as very strict, while others view it as reasonable. A few students were asked the question, “Do you think the school dress code at Wilson Area High School was made more for girls or boys? Is it fair?” Here are their responses:

Olivia Werkheiser said, “I think the dress code was based on girls’ attire more than boys. Girls are targeted when getting dress coded because of how boys act towards females. I do not think it is fair. Boys need to be taught the proper adequate way to control themselves around females instead of punishing the girls.”

Chelsie Bracken commented, “I think it was made more for girls because with each coming year there are new trends and some are far more revealing than others. With that being said, it’s not fair. People express themselves with their clothing. A lot of pieces aren’t appropriate in the eyes of school administrators and they try to prevent the females from wearing them. In summers, boys and girls see each other and others wearing clothing that we aren’t allowed to wear in school, and it does nothing in the summer so why would it in school?”

Finally, Brady Werkheiser pointed out, “I believe the dress code at Wilson Area High School was equally made for girls as it is for boys. For an example, girls genuinely have longer hair than guys, so the dress code that has to do with hair ties... is just the way it has to be. If a guy were to have long hair then they would have to follow that dress code.”

Pictures courtesy of Google
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Life Changing Quarantine Occurrences

By: Chelsie Bracken

As 2020 began, it threw everyone for a loop with a virus that spread world wide. Many people in our town have been affected in one way or another. When asked, “What was the craziest event that occurred over quarantine?” ranging from contracting the disease to getting a job, this experience was one for the books.

Holly Rose Eichlin, of Wilson, was not on the bright side of the spectrum and knew someone, her grandmother, who contracted the disease. Eichlin stated, “We were all super worried that she wasn’t going to make it through and that we might contract it.”

Others were fortunate enough to have a positive experience. Riley Haubert, of Palisades, actually got a job in the meantime. Haubert said, “I was able to make lots of money and learn the value of time and working.”

Life In Quarantine: How Have You Been Coping?

By: Teyana Byrd

On March 13, 2020, the world was turned upside down due to the Covid-19 outbreak and global pandemic, forcing the world into a quarantine lockdown for the last six months. With us all going through this lockdown together, I decided to ask the students of WAHS how they have been coping.

Q: What’s been the biggest change in your life due to covid?
A: Tyler Jones responded, “Creating a healthier lifestyle and maintaining a good mental and physical health. Quarantine gave me the opportunity to get my life organized.”

Q: Have you picked up on any hobbies since quarantine started? If so, what are they?
A: Felicia Drepaul said, “I started writing down my feelings to release my emotions and help clear my mind.”

Q: What are some things that you’ve taken for granted that you didn’t realize until quarantine started?
A: Danyliyah Blount responded with, “I didn't think that it would be that serious, so I didn't try as hard in sports and I regretted it because I wasn’t able to improve.”

Q: What is something that you are looking most forward to once quarantine is over?
A: Blaze Hartrum said, “I look forward to going back to sports and school with everyone.”

Q: What has been the most frustrating thing about lockdown and quarantine as a whole?
A: Abby Nolasco said, “Trying to get used to the masks because they never fit my face, but it’s for the safety of myself and others.”
Artists Struggle During Covid Quarantine

By: Jackelyn Cardona

Everyone this year had to take a pause and so did everything around us whether it was waiting to eat out at your favorite restaurant, going out with friends or family. In addition, sports, as well as watching live performances came to a halt. Many artists lost inspiration during these troubling times, especially since our main priority was our health and following health safety guidelines.

Artists used their jaw-dropping talents and their strong emotions that they have been feeling lately and transformed it into such heartfelt relatable music. Other forms of artist painted and created such beautiful artwork that reflected and showed significantly all the events that occurred this year especially with the Black Lives Matter social movement. We are all in this together whether we are six feet apart or on screens.

Famous celebrities and artists worked together to collaborate and make such mood-lifting statements about the injustices that occurred with the Black Lives Matter social movement. According to Forbes magazine, 54% of people were captivated with the new successful music that was released by popular music artists. Not only famous artists but the fans played such an enormous and memorable role for their successes.

This pandemic truly opened the doors to new creative innovations and a diverse social uprising. Despite the hopelessness in the beginning, there is a positive pivoting point for the music industry and togetherness in communities. Fans and celebrities began to make entertaining home quarantine videos and tik toks.

Music, unity, and stability is truly making a comeback to our daily lives. Popular artists such as Ariana Grande, Travis Scott, and Drake as we may be familiar with, open up and share their thoughts and plans about their music careers during this worrying pandemic. They believe that music shouldn’t be on hold so they will continue to do what they do best which is debuting good-vibing songs.
Teachers are the most important people in society. In times like these they don’t get enough credit. As a token of appreciation we interviewed two students to see who their favorite teachers were and why.

The first student interviewed for this article was Elizabeth Hockman. Her favorite teacher is Miss Schaffer because she’s always nice and one of the best teachers she had. Elizabeth was a student in her class freshman year for English. Her favorite memory was when she laughed at Elizabeth for comparing herself to a board drawing. Finally, the most important thing she learned was it’s not normal for cousins to jump off a roof together.

The second student interviewed was Aden Broome. His favorite teacher is Mr. Everett because they both like construction, and he’s very laid back. Aden had him for coding and home repair last year, and product design this year. His favorite memory with him was when he misspelled warriors, and Mr. Everett said he would make a sign that said, “Proof read before mass production.” Finally, the most important lesson he learned was knowledge on circuits and coding.
Movie Review: The Mushuless Mulan

By: Annabella Alves

*Mulan* has been highly anticipated from the start. Mulan is considered a milestone for Asian representation in American cinema. Sadly, it was a huge let down. Fans were angered over the large and notable changes in the plot and characters.

The most notable change is the lack of Mushu. Mushu was removed because the director felt that new friends would be more realistic. Mulan has a friend named Cricket, a younger sister, and a new love interest. Cri-Kee, Shang, Mushu, and her grandmother were removed.

Important plot points were also changed from the original. Her last name was changed and her secret was found out much earlier. The feel of the movie was completely different, and it pays more attention to Mulan being connected to her Chi and her fighting than her story.

The movie was a huge let down. According to Rotten Tomatoes, 51% of viewers liked it. There was too much change at once for this movie to be as successful as anticipated.