

Cheverly STEM Buzz

Cheverly STEM Education Center Student Newspaper

Cheverly, Maryland

January 27, 2015

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COURTESY: Associated Press

Annapolis Mansion Razed by Massive Fire

By GIRIS, Buzz Reporter

In the early morning hours of January 17th, a mansion fire resulted in casualties in Annapolis, MD. Firefighters were on scene at 3:30am fighting the four-alarm blaze. The home owned by Don and Sandra Pyle who were spending the long weekend with their grandchildren Alexis, Charlotte, Katie and Wes Boone.

The remains of four bodies were discovered in the wreckage. The \$4.2 million dollar home was built in 2005, prior to strict home sprinkler system requirements. Authorities have stated they are conducting an active criminal investigation with Anne Arundel Fire Capt. Russell Davies Jr. informing that it is still too early to tell if foul play was involved.



COURTESY: CentralPennParent

Throw a Party as Super as the Super Bowl

By Olivia, Buzz Reporter

The Super Bowl is one of the most popular sporting events. Parodies, such as "The Puppy Bowl", have been formed to draw even more people toward their televisions on the first Sunday night in February. The two champion football teams battle head-to-head on one of the most watched playing fields in America. But what about the eager hostess wishing to provide a friendly gathering around the living room, or the football lover who wants some friends over to watch the big game (and the commercials). Today their dreams will be rekindled as they learn how to throw an awesome Super Bowl party.

Who should you invite?

Family, friends, any neighborhood football fans, anyone you want to hang out with. Send out the invitations about a week and a half ahead of time, and leave RSVP information. Whether you provide the spread or go potluck, everyone is sure to enjoy a great game, and good company.

Continued "Super Bowl Party"



Buzz reporter Sydney (right) talks to Millford Mill High School freshman Thomas Downs (left) about standing up to bullies.

Stand Up to Bullying

By Sydney, Buzz Reporter

Bullying happens often, but do we really know what bullying is?

The website StopBullying.gov identifies bullying as when someone is mean to another person, over and over again. When people bully, they do things such as not letting someone participate in a group, tease, or spread rumors to hurt someone's feelings. Bullies may also hit or yell at a person to scare or create fear.

Cyberbullying is a type of bullying when people bully you on the internet. For example, a cyberbully may post embarrassing pictures of a person on Instagram or Facebook. They may also send mean messages to a person online and encourage others to do it too.

Those who are bullied often feel alone, different, scared, and powerless. They may believe that they are not liked or popular.

Anyone can be bullied. Bullying affects children and adults. Kids who are bullied may have problems focusing in school and they may become bullies themselves. There are about 160,000 children that miss school every day out of fear of being bullied, according to a 2010 bullyingstatistics.org study.

The American Psychological Association states that there are ways to prevent bullying. We as a community must stand up for those who are treated this way. Psychologists state that we can do this by telling others when we see bullying happening.

"I have been bullied at school and at games after school. It happens all the time. I hate it. Bullying others is not cool," said Millford Mill Senior High freshman Thomas Downs. He has been bullied before, and has seen others get bullied at school and during sport activities.

Thomas makes a thumbs down sign with his hands. He also states that he feels the best thing he can do, is tell a teacher an adult when this happens.

We should also teach people about bullying, by creating posters to illustrate bully behavior, or have group discussions. This is very helpful because people may not know that they are bullying too. ###



COURTESY: GoGreenEncyclopedia

How to Help the Environment

By Erin, Buzz Reporter

Our world's environment has plenty of pollution. You might think that you can't help with the problem, but you can. Environmental scientist Jim Stemmler recently retired from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). He recommends the three R's – reduce, reuse and recycle to help the environment.

"Every month, I take one trash bin to the recycle center, because I recycle almost everything, (all types of paper, metal stuff, glass, plastic, light bulbs/batteries, and electronics) and I compost all my leftover food" said Stemmler. "There is a great opportunity to get solar panels in Maryland. You can take a \$20,000 loan from the bank to get the solar panels, and in three years, you will have paid off the loan, and have cut your lighting bill in half!"

Stemmler added, any time you burn objects it converts into carbon dioxide. He explained that it is not only carbon dioxide causing the problem, but there is also methane gas in our atmosphere. He said the combination of those two gases are really affecting our planet. When methane and carbon dioxide goes into the atmosphere it forms a type of invisible shield which lets in sunlight, but then traps the heat from escaping. When the heat can't get back out of our atmosphere, our planet heats up. So now the glaciers are melting at ever increasing rates, and the polar bears are losing their habitats. With rapid glacier melting, the sea water levels are rising. Rising waters also affects the weather. There will be more, and stronger hurricanes. On the earth, everything affects everything else.

"Most farmers put fertilizer in their plants to help them grow, and when it rains it washes into the storm drains. When water goes into storm drains, it doesn't just disappear, it goes back into the rivers and lakes, so the fish that swim in the water with fertilizers, and they get sick and die," said Stemmler. He added, pesticides are similar.

Continued "Environment"

Cheverly S.T.E.M. Buzz is a product of the Cheverly S.T.E.M. Center journalism class. All content contained is purely for educational non-profit purposes. These student newspapers are posted weekly to <http://www.cheverlystem.com/>



COURTESY: USA Today

Pros & Cons of Homeschooling

By Zoe, Buzz Reporter

There are about 2 million children currently being taught at home in the US. The number of kids being home-schooled increases by 7-15% every 12 months. 68% of home-schoolers are White, 8% Black, 15% Latino, and 4% Asian or Pacific Islander. The US has a long history of homeschooling. In fact, 17 U.S. presidents were home-schooled.

John Holt, has been credited as having started the "homeschooling movement". As a teacher in the 1960's, he was unhappy by the limited schooling options. After lots of research and observation, Holt wrote a book called "How Children Fail". The book brought a lot of attention to child education. John Holt's education philosophy slowly started to move away from institutional education towards home learning. He did not know it at the time, but his books and speeches started a movement. There are many reasons parents choose to home-school. A good amount of families feel that their religious and spiritual beliefs are important, and they want to include them in their day to day lives. Statistics show that the religious trend has been tapering off. The majority of families home-school for reasons other than religion. Research has proven that sleep is vital to the emotions and physical well being of children, especially teenagers and preteens.

"I have many reasons that I choose to home-school," said Alexis Montague, a home-school mom. Montague says, "One reason is that I did not like the atmosphere when I visited the neighborhood school. The teacher had too many kids with too many needs to do the best job," said Montague.

"My most important reason is that I don't believe that the institutionalization of human beings is the best thing for individuals or society," Montague added. She thinks society takes anyone who cannot contribute to the established economic system and places them in an institutional setting to get them out of the way and make money.

"Young people are put in school or daycare, the elderly are thrown in nursing homes, and the poor are disproportionately put in prison," said Montague. "These are all multi-billion dollar systems that degrade individuals, relationships, and communities."

Continued "Home-school"

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And the Oscar goes to...

By Bena, Buzz Reporter

February 22nd millions of viewers will turn on their televisions to watch the 87th Annual Academy Awards, also known as, The Oscars. The 2015 nominees were announced last week, and they included big movies from the previous year such as: *American Sniper*, *Boyhood*, *Birdman*, and *Guardians of the Galaxy*. Actors and actresses up as nominees had celebrities such as Steve Carell, Bradley Cooper, Benedict Cumberbatch, Reese Witherspoon, Meryl Streep and more. All twenty of this year's acting nomination were white males, with only a few white women. This will be the least diverse Oscars in nineteen years.

"I feel like there are so many actors of color that deserve a chance to even just be nominated," said high school student Alex Arnason. "If they didn't win, I get it, not everyone can have an Oscar, but at least give them a chance."

Selma, a historical film about a march for voting rights for African Americans in the 1960s was nominated for best picture, but none of the actors or director, Ava Duvernay, were nominated. The civil rights themed movie came out in late December. "It just seems off," Arnason says. "There's already been speculation about white supremacy in the media, and to have nothing but Caucasian people nominated to win such a big award kind of enforces that. It makes it seem as though white men are superior." Arnason thinks the white male status quo should be changed for next year's Oscars.

"[For the 88th Academy Awards] I'd change it by having people of color nominated. A lot of them. Maybe all of the nominees will be of color," said Arnason.



Academy Award nominees for Best Actor, from top left: Steve Carell, "Foxcatcher"; Bradley Cooper, "American Sniper"; Benedict Cumberbatch, "The Imitation Game"; Michael Keaton, "Birdman"; and Eddie Redmayne, "The Theory of Everything." Best Actress nominees are Marion Cotillard, "Two Days, One Night"; Felicity Jones, "The Theory of Everything"; Julianne Moore, "Still Alice"; Rosamund Pike, "Gone Girl"; and Reese



How to Keep Your Skin Healthy in Winter

By Madison, Buzz Reporter

Beautiful skin is one of the most important indicators of health and youth.

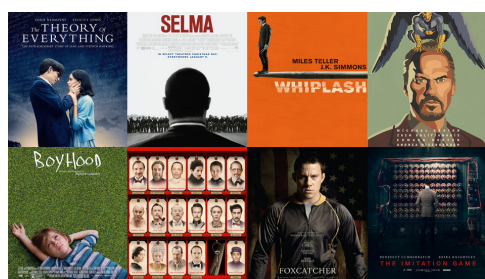
"Keeping your skin clean is good hygiene. If you don't take care of yourself, health problems can occur," said Sierra Thomas, a former employee of the Columbia Life Spa.

"Good sleep, as much water as you need, and a stress free life are some of the most basic and important things to maintain a youthful and beautiful appearance," she added. Thomas advocates healthy eating.

"It is very important to exfoliate and moisturize your skin during the winter," added Thomas. Exfoliation removes dead and dry skin cells, boosting natural skin renewal. Coffee grounds, salt, and sugar are natural exfoliators. Thomas offers a few tips for beautiful hands and combating dry and flaky skin.

"Your hands have a hard time and they need moisturizing to keep them from becoming dry and red," said Thomas. She advises using gentle and fragrance-free hand washes. Thomas said people should protect their hands with gloves when cleaning around your home or washing dishes.

"I prefer to use Aveeno, Jergens and Neutrogena follow close behind," said Thomas. "When rubbing moisturizer, you want to make sure that you are rubbing in a circular motion. That way your skin is getting a full treatment," she added. ###



Oscar nominations: 'Birdman' and 'Budapest' clean up, stunning snubs for 'Selma' COURTESY: Mashable



- 1. MOISTURIZE WITH SPF**
Even though we can't feel the warmth of the sun during the winter, its UVA and UVB rays are still very strong and damaging.
- 2. AVOID HOT WATER**
We may crave hot showers as a respite from the winter weather, but too much hot water can dry out your skin.
- 3. DRINK MORE WATER**
The cold weather may make you feel less thirsty, but your skin needs hydration just as much as in the summer.
- 4. USE OIL-BASED MOISTURIZERS**
Oil-based moisturizers with vitamins C and E will keep your skin moist for a longer period of time than water-based moisturizers.
- 5. GO NATURAL**
Try using coconut oil, honey and aloe to soften up your skin. These 100 percent natural products will leave your skin feeling soft and smelling good.
- 6. EXFOLIATE**
Create your own body scrub with olive oil, lemon juice and sea salt and slather it on your body at least twice a week to get rid of built-up dry skin.
- 7. WEAR GLOVES**
This is an easy way to keep your hands safe from the dry, cold air and to prevent your skin from cracking.
- 8. WEAR LIP BALM**
Protect your lips against dry air and strong sun by wearing a lip balm with SPF. Also, don't forget to exfoliate about every two weeks.
- 9. HUMIDIFY**
A humidifier is a great investment for those who suffer from dry, itchy skin in the winter as it will add a significant amount of moisture to the air.
- 10. AVOID ACNE TREATMENTS**
Your skin may not be able to handle acne medications or other topical treatments during the winter because they tend to be very drying.

SOURCES: [fox.com](http://www.fox.com), [fox.com](http://www.fox.com), [fox.com](http://www.fox.com), [fox.com](http://www.fox.com), [fox.com](http://www.fox.com), [fox.com](http://www.fox.com), [fox.com](http://www.fox.com), [fox.com](http://www.fox.com), [fox.com](http://www.fox.com), [fox.com](http://www.fox.com)

COURTESY: NuvoSa



"Environment" continued
"The difference is that pesticides kill bugs, then birds eat the bugs, and get the pesticide in them and die, or get a very bad disease." In the 1970's, a pesticide called DDT was used, it got in to eagles and made their eggs break before the baby birds hatched, very few eagles survival, they almost want enticed.

"By participating in river clean ups, you can help get the trash out of the water before it gets to the ocean," said Mr. Stemmler. "If you want to help with the global warming, you can always walk places, take the bus, or bike to where you need to go," he added. ###



COURTESY: TheBlackHomeSchool

"Home-school" continued

Montague offered a few tips for parents that are starting home-schooling. "I would give two pieces of advice to a new home school parent. Number 1, find ways to connect the things that your child already loves or is curious about, to the skills that you want them to develop. Number 2, expose them to everything," said Montague. She advised parents to take children to museums, festival, political events, religious ceremonies, restaurants, plays, listen to all kinds of music, and read everything. "You never know what will spark an interest or make a connection for your child," she said 0

But there can be some drawbacks to home-schooling. "The greatest sacrifice is probably the money," said Montague. "Parents often have to change their career plans to accommodate some of the home-schooling activities." She said there are some families in which the parent and child's personalities or learning styles clash. "If mom was a natural book worm or mathematician, she may not get a kid who needs hands on learning and experiments. It could be really frustrating," added Montague. ###



"Super Bowl Party" continued

Provide at least one main course, one side, one drink, and one dessert. For a potluck, ask everyone to bring a dish to serve ten people. Finger foods are best for this sort of event. Good things to eat during the game include chips, dips, vegetables, chili, and pigs-in-a-blanket. To keep your snack mixes sanitary, you can serve it. Offer something for all ages. The adults can hang out in the main room, while the younger guests can play in another room. Any rooms you should engage in should have a TV, and bedrooms can be used for coats. If the TV is small, and you have access to one, connect a projector to it and enjoy the large picture.

Your house may not accommodate larger parties, so don't invite more than you think you can handle. Also, you may not have enough seating in your room of choice, so the invitations should clearly state that some may end up sitting on the floor. Don't go overboard about the team you are cheering for, as other people may have different opinions. "I love getting to know people and enjoy the fellowship around the football game." says Cheryl Wharton, who has hosted Super Bowl parties for twelve years. ###

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Witherspoon, "Wild." COURTESY CBS
News