This story can fit 175 - 225 words.

The purpose of a newsletter is to provide specialized information to a targeted audience. Newsletters can be a great way to market your product or service, and also create credibility and build your organization’s identity among peers, members, employees, or vendors.

First, determine the audience of the newsletter. This could be anyone who might benefit from the information it contains, for example, employees or people interested in purchasing a product or requesting your service. You can compile a mailing list from business reply cards, customer information sheets, business cards collected at trade shows, or membership lists. You might consider purchasing a mailing list from a company.

If you explore the Publisher catalog, you will find many publications that match the style of your newsletter.

Next, establish how much time and money you can spend on your newsletter. These factors will help determine how frequently you publish the newsletter and its length. It’s recommended that you publish your newsletter at least quarterly so that it’s considered a consistent source of information. Your customers or employees will look forward to its arrival.

New Year, New Look

When you walk through the halls this year, you probably notice a lot of new things: new faces, new carpet, and of course, lime green everything. HOOFBEATS is no stranger to change either. With a new staff that is ready and raring to go, HOOFBEATS is rounding up the news you need.

Seniors:
Katie Love
Katelyn Cogswell
Tessa Peters
Kara Redmond
Stephanie Young
Adrian Reeher
Brian Roecken

Juniors:
Kaitlin Conner
Sophomores:
Rachel Bish
Kaylynn Foore
Kelly Jarrett
Nate Hinkson

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Kaitlin Conner
Sophomores:
Rachel Bish
Kaylynn Foore
Kelly Jarrett
Nate Hinkson
Meet the Homecoming Court

Ian Ollila & Kaylee Banco

**Name:** Ian Jordon Ollila  
**Parents:** Rob and Julie Ollila  
**Extra-curricular activities at MHS:** Golf, show choir, marching band, speech, and jazz band  
**The most famous person I would like to spend the day with:** Morgan Freeman  
**Favorite food:** Smoked Ham and Swiss on French Bread at Panera Bread  
**Favorite show:** SpongeBob Squarepants  
**Favorite book:** Game of Thrones

**Name:** Zach Peck  
**Parents:** Angela and Clifford Peck  
**Siblings:** Reid Peck  
**Extra-curricular activities at MHS:** Football, track, pep band, jazz band, show choir, NHS, and musical  
**Something that people would be surprised to know about me:** “I would rather sit down and read a book instead of doing pretty much everything.”  
**Favorite food:** Tacos  
**Favorite TV show:** The Walking Dead  
**Favorite store at the outlets:** Hot Topic

**Name:** Brianne Caldwell  
**Parent:** Rhonda Caldwell  
**Siblings:** Kyle, Mitchell, Cody, Michael, and Matt  
**Extra-curricular activities at MHS:** Votech  
**Place you would go if you could go anywhere in the world:** “Madagascar to see if I can find any runaway zoo animals.”  
**Favorite food:** Tacos  
**Favorite TV show:** The Walking Dead  
**Favorite store at the outlets:** Hot Topic

**Name:** Kaylee Banco  
**Parents:** Paula and Joe Banco  
**Siblings:** Colin Banco  
**Extra-curricular activities at MHS:** Danceline and ski club  
**Place you would go if you could go anywhere in the world and why:** “Tokyo, because I like the city and the culture.”  
**Favorite food:** Ice cream  
**Favorite movie:** How to Train Your Dragon  
**Favorite TV show:** Teen Wolf  
**Favorite store at the outlets:** Hot Topic

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**Something that people would be surprised to know about me:** “I would rather sit down and read a book instead of doing pretty much everything.”  
**Favorite movie:** Forrest Gump  
**Favorite TV show:** Doctor Who  
**Favorite store at the outlets:** Nike Factory Store
Meet the Homecoming Court

Name: Adelyn Marie Cook
Parents: Kim and Aaron Cook
Job: Jones’
Extra-curricular activities at MHS: Soccer (captain) and basketball
Place you would go if you could go anywhere in the world: “Paris, because I really want to see the Eiffel Tower.”
Favorite food: Ice cream
Favorite movie: The Fault in Our Stars
Favorite TV show: Pretty Little Liars
Favorite store at the outlets: American Eagle

Name: T.J. Peters
Parents: Kevin and Vanessa Suhrie
Siblings: Kyle, Cameron, and Stephanie
Extra-curricular activities at MHS: Football co-captain, wrestling, and Votech
Job: Diesel mechanic/operator
Something that people would be surprised to know about you: “I have a nub from a dumb accident.”
Favorite food: Pizza
Favorite band: Nickelback
Favorite movie: Varsity Blues
Favorite TV show: Fast n Loud
Favorite store at the outlets: Nike

Name: Tiffany Christina Corvino
Parents: Raymond and Heather Corvino
Siblings: Anthony, Josh, Candace, and Deanna
Extra-curricular activities at MHS: Majorette
Place you would go if you could go anywhere in the world: “Italy, because it’s where my family is originally from, and I always hear stories about it.”
Favorite movie: Hunger Games and Divergent
Favorite TV show: Chopped
Favorite store at the outlets: Charlotte Russe

Name: Matthew David Juergens
Parents: William and Marah Juergens
Siblings: Abigail, Zachary, William, Bethany, and Emma
Extra-curricular activities at MHS: Soccer (captain), chamber choir, show choir, and student council
Job: Nelson’s Heirloom Gardens
Place you would go if you could travel anywhere in the world and why: “Capri, Italy, because it is tiny, remote, and breathtakingly beautiful.”
Favorite food: Sushi
Favorite TV show: It’s Always Sunny in Philadelphia
Favorite store at the outlets: Calvin Klein
Meet the Homecoming Court

Name: Adam Hoge
Parents: Hendley and Dawn Hoge
Siblings: Matthew, Rachael, Jessica, and Tyler
Extra-curricular activities at MHS: Soccer, speech, ski club, baseball, and art club
Something that people would be surprised to know about you: “I hate chocolate.”
Favorite food: Burritos
Favorite band: Kanye West
Favorite movie: The Shawshank Redemption
Favorite TV show: The Office / It’s Always Sunny in Philadelphia
Favorite store at the outlets: Nike

Name: Molly Hancock
Parents: Brenda Hankinson and Gary Hancock
Siblings: Zack and Megan
Extra-curricular activities at MHS: Varsity football and basketball cheerleading
Job: Jones’
Something that people would be surprised to know about you: “I’m a crazy cat lady.”
Favorite food: Pizza
Favorite band: Florida Georgia Line
Favorite movie: Let’s be Cops
Favorite TV show: Awkward.
Favorite store at the outlets: Charlotte Russe

Name: Taylor Marie Moon
Parents: John and Debbie Moon
Siblings: Brandon
Extra-curricular activities at MHS: Basketball cheerleading and volleyball
Favorite food: Chicken
Favorite movie: 22 Jump Street
Favorite TV show: The Hills
Favorite store at the outlets: American Eagle

Name: Logan Thomas Clarke
Parents: Thomas and Julie Clarke
Siblings: Lucas and McKenzie
Extra-curricular activities at MHS: Football (captain), basketball (captain), baseball, ski club
Place you would go if you could go anywhere in the world: “Greece because of all the ancient Greek structure, buildings, and stuff.”
Favorite movie: Dodgeball
Favorite TV show: The Office
Favorite store at the outlets: Nike
Meet the Homecoming Court

**Name:** Emily McGhee  
**Parents:** Merry and James McGhee  
**Siblings:** Bobbi and Lexi  
**Extra-curricular activities at MHS:** Fast pitch softball  
**Job:** Paxton’s Dairy Farm  
**Something that people would be surprised to know about you:** “I’m starting my career as a horse chiropractor.”  
**Favorite food:** Chicken and pizza rolls  
**Favorite Movie:** *Varsity Blues*  
**Favorite TV show:** *Law and Order*  
**Favorite store at the outlets:** Rue 21

Name: Brayton Carl Edwards  
Parents: Scott Edwards and Marcy Edwards  
Siblings: Brooke, Britney and Brandi  
Extra-curricular activities at MHS: Football (captain), baseball (captain)  
**Something that people would be surprised to know about me is:** “Lakeview football is my favorite team outside of Mercer.”  
**Favorite food:** Pizza  
**Favorite TV show:** *Family Guy*  
**Favorite movie:** *Hitch*  
**Favorite store at the outlets:** Nike Factory Outlet

Neon Nights by Kaylynn Foore

Homecoming, Saturday October 4th, is the most exciting and magical evening for all students around. Over the past few years there have been different themes, like Mardi-Gras, Candy Land, and for this year, 2014, is Neon Nights. 2013 Homecoming Queen, Elizabeth Smith, will be crowning this year’s queen at the Homecoming football game October 3rd during half time. 2013 Homecoming King, Brian Phillips, will be crowning this year’s king at the Homecoming dance.

The Homecoming court this year includes seniors Molly Hancock, Adelyn Cook, Brianne Caldwell, Emily McGhee, Taylor Moon, and Kaylee Banco. The gentlemen who are on the Homecoming court are Brayton Edwards, Ian Ollila, Zachary Peck, Logan Clarke, Adam Hoge, and Matthew Juergens. Tickets began selling September 22nd and they ended October 2nd ranging from $10.00 for a single person and $20.00 for a couple.

Homecoming wasn’t put together by itself, Mrs. Santom made this possible with the help of the sophomore class officers. President Connor Richards, Vice President Marah Buchanan, Secretary Megan Parker, and Treasurer Jon-Carl Hostetler all came together to pick this year’s theme, fundraise, help make the decorations, and do the little tasks that Mrs. Santom asks them to complete. They picked Neon Nights since they have never had a theme like that before.

“The hardest part about putting homecoming together is the deadlines, and making sure everything is put to together,” Mrs. Santom stated. Homecoming is an event that you don’t want to miss!
Robin Williams Found Dead by Rachel Bish & Kelly Jarrett

On August 11, 2014 the suicide of a beloved actor and comedian took everybody by surprise. Robin Williams, 63, was last seen alive on Sunday, August 10, at 10:30 p.m. The next day, Williams would not answer his door to his personal assistant. His assistant became concerned and finally managed to get the door open at 11:45 a.m. Williams was found deceased. According to the police, the cause of death was “asphyxia due to hanging” and no foul play was suspected.

He started his career as a stand-up comedian in San Francisco and Los Angeles in the 1970’s. Williams worked his way all the way to the with acclaimed work in several big screen movies. He received two Emmy Awards, four Golden Globe Awards, two Screen Actors Guild Awards, and five Grammy Awards.

His suicide got many people wondering why a man that could make so many people smile felt sad enough to take his own life.

Williams previously had issues with substance abuse and he also suffered from depression. Williams’ wife, Susan Schneider, also stated that he was suffering from the early stages of Parkinson’s disease. It was said that the medication he took to help his Parkinson’s disease worsened his depression. His 25 year old daughter, Zelda, told the police, “He was always warm, even in his darkest moments.”

People continue to mourn this tragic loss. His closest friends and family members had a private funeral and later scattered his ashes in San Francisco Bay, which is not far from his home.

Robin Williams starred in many films such as, Hook, Mrs. Doubtfire, Jumanji, Night at the Museum 1 & 2, and Happy Feet. His final big screen performance can be seen December 19, 2014 in Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb.

#ALSiceBucketChallenge by Kaitlin Conner

The newsfeeds of Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter have been filled to its extent with new videos this summer labeled “#ALSiceBucketChallenge”. These videos show footage of people around the world dumping buckets of ice cold water on their heads. The first challenge that attracted media attention was in late June when a group of golfers on the Golf Channel, performed the challenge on-air. Television anchor Matt Lauer was the next attention grabber when he did the ice bucket challenge on NBC’s The Today Show.

After Lauer, the chain continued with celebrities’ participation. Former Boston pitcher Pete Frates who suffers from the disease himself also promoted the challenge. The popularity these videos have brought to the ALS Association is extraordinary. On August 21, 2014, $10 million alone was raised to research ALS. Since July 29, 2014, $53 million has been raised.

Our own school has also showed their participation this summer. The girls’ volleyball team completed the challenge with multiple coolers of ice water and then challenged a few of their teachers including Mr. Piddington, Mr. Acre, and Miss Giles. Other participants were the girls’ soccer team.

ALS slowly paralyzes a person from the tips of his fingers and toes until it reaches their lungs and slowly suffocates him. Some people may describe the worst part of this disease is that the patient is completely aware of what is happening to him and becomes dependent for someone else to do everything for him.

The fun craze on social media, #ALSiceBucketChallenge, has been able to generate more awareness, publicity, and funds for research on ALS than ever before which is sure to help the victims of this disease immensely.
Summer Wrap Up

Mercer Bicentennial by Kara Redmond

Happy Anniversary Mercer, PA. It has been two hundred years since the day that Mercer was founded.

On March 12, 1800 the small town of Mercer was discovered, named after Brigadier General Hugh Mercer, a close friend of General George Washington. On March 28th, 1814 the borough of Mercer was incorporated. That is why the bicentennial was celebrated this year.

The first courthouse of Mercer County was built the year 1807. It was two stories and a square brick structure with wings on the west and east sides. The building was remodeled in 1840, but then something devastating happened in 1866; the building burned to the ground. A temporary courthouse had been named. The Mercer Academy building was used; it was originally built in the year 1867. Many citizens were worried that the records were not safe in the building because it was not fire resistant. A scare occurred when smoke was seen coming from the building. The fire department discovered that the pipes from the boiler were over heating causing it to smoke. If not fixed a fire could have occurred.

Finally in 1910 the beginning production of the new courthouse began. After a full year of building it was complete.

On the weekend of July 11th, a party was thrown at Brandy Springs Park celebrating Mercer. Many attended to experience the wonders that awaited there. In the park there were giant blow up slides for children to play on, bouncy houses, and even a puppet show put on by the Calvary Baptist Church starring Feathers. There was also a car show, a few games, and a dunking booth. Finally at the end of the day fireworks were set off in the high school football field for all to view from the park.

Jefferson Twp Fair by Katelyn Cogswell

This summer the famous Jefferson Township fair started on July 22 and ended on July 26. Like every summer, admission and parking were free. Every day there was something different going on. In the 1970s, members of the Jefferson Township Civic League started the fair to create better relationships within the township. The first fair was held on July of 1971. It was decided to always hold the event to end on the last Saturday in July.

Over the years an additional day was added for entering exhibits and the slogan “It takes a lot- it gives more,” was adopted in 1977. The highlight of the annual events is the tractor and truck pulls sponsored for more than 30 years by Northwest Truck and Tractor Pulling Association. Additionally, garden tractor pulls, promoted by Erie Garden Pullers Association, have also been enjoyed by many people.

When asked about her favorite part of the fair, Senior Rebekah Falkner said, the food is unbeatable. She explained that she always has a great time and would never miss a year. Highlights of the fair include; dinners at the dining hall, bingo, exhibit building, fun rides and games for all ages, pet parade, redneck games, truck and tractor pulls, horse shows, children’s pedal pulls, garden tractor pulls, wood carving auction, square dancing, barn animals, fireworks, and the mouthwatering food.

Another senior, Adrian Reeher, says his favorite parts of the fair are the food and the redneck games.

There is plenty of excitement for the whole family down at the Jefferson Fair.
Fall Sports Season Overview

Boys’ Soccer by Katie Love

After dominating their league last year, the Boys’ Soccer team is adamant about winning the D-10 title this season. Senior Zack Kroll stated that the team is “equally good as the 2012 team who won the title [his] sophomore year,” and is positive that this year’s team has the right chemistry to make it all the way.

Coach Ryan Hoffman has implemented a new formation, which most of the team prefers, saying “[it will be] a lot easier to score goals once they get used to it.” Starting goaltender Trevor Ference appreciates the opportunity to play the ball more than past years, and sophomore Alex Van Woert is confident the team will be more successful by running it.

Adam Hoge claims that he is most enthusiastic about “kick[ing] the ball occasionally” this season, while Zack Kroll is possibly most excited by the upcoming freshman talent; when asked about his favorite underclassman, he stated, “Oh boy do I love Josh Wamboldt.”

Senior Night honoring Trevor Ference, Quentin Hinkson, Adam Hoge, Matt Juergans, Zack Kroll, Nate Kroll, Ryan Carlson and Brecken Ellis is October 23 at 6:30 against Saegertown.

MHS Cheer by Rachel Bish

The Mercer High School Varsity cheerleaders are looking forward to a successful football season for the Mercer Mustangs as they began working hard at summer cheerleading practices in mid-June.

Because of the squad losing a few seniors last year, they have gained some newbies to this year’s 2014-2015 cheer squad, including freshman Anna Brunson, freshman Erin Martin, freshman Carlene Murray, freshman Tera Porterfield, and freshman Julianne Slagle. Senior cheerleader Molly Hancock says, “I am excited for the new freshmen on our squad, because they have all been working very hard, and everyone has come together to make them all feel a part of our cheer family.”

Not only have the cheerleaders been working hard on learning all the new football cheers and pep dances, they have also been learning and critiquing their new competition routine for their 2014-2015 competition season. Coach Elizabeth Burk says, “I am so very proud of each and every one of the girls on this squad. They have all put so much time and effort into our new competition routine, and they all deserve to be here. I look forward to another great football season for MHS and wish the football players the best of luck.”

Come watch the cheerleaders, football players, and marching band all season long as they play under the lights every Friday night. The 2014 homecoming game is October 3rd against West Middlesex.
Take it on the Run! by Kaitlin Conner

The Mercer Cross Country team began their practice as soon as the school year ended last year. All summer long, they met every Monday and Thursday to put some miles in before the official season started on August 11.

The boys this year do not have a complete team but are slowly building every year. Mason Borowicz, Sean Burdette, and Justin Reno complete the boys’ roster.

Mercer does though, have a complete girls’ team with Jaime Burdette, Rose Gigliotti, Kristin Perrine, Kate Shaffer, and Ashley Shoemaker.

Coach Robin Springirth, who is going into her eleventh year of coaching at Mercer, claimed that the biggest challenge is “having everyone reach their fullest potential because staying focused on your goals can be very difficult over a long season.” Tom Meling also accompanies her on the coaching staff.

At the District 10 meet in the ‘A’ division, in order to qualify, the runner has to place in the top fifteen to go to states. The team will end their season at the District 10 meet at Buhl Park in Sharpsville where some are hoping to qualify for the state meet in Hershey.

Mercer Golf by Kara Redmond

Mercer’s golf team, coached by Richard Griffith, has had a rough season placing 4th through 6th place in many of its matches. With Greenville being some steep competition this season, the team is managing to dominate Jamestown every match.

The big news this year is the addition of “Mega Matches,” competitions where teams play against as many as 6 teams at a time, making rivalry much fiercer.

Ian Ollila, 4 year veteran and the team’s only senior, has enjoyed every second of his career. Excelling at short games and putting, Ian encourages the other golfers to swing hard and hit straight. The roster is rounded out by 5 upperclassmen and a handful of middle school students. Ian wants to clear up some of the most common misconceptions about the sport of golf. “Golf is definitely not boring,” Ollila stated, continuing on to assure the team does not “golf clap” either.

Volleyball Returns Home to MHS by Katie Love

After being dropped down to Single A this year, Lady M’s Volleyball is hopeful about making the playoffs this season. The team will be led by seniors Melissa Shoemaker and Taylor Moon and junior Kaitlin Nemeth. The small size of the team has led to better bonding between all of the players in comparison to past seasons. Shoemaker states that the team’s closeness will be the Lady M’s greatest strength on and off the court.

Once again, the high school will be the home of the volleyball team after rendezvousing at the elementary gym last season. The team will now be playing Rocky Grove in place of Grove City, Slippery Rock, and Hickory in addition to varied league games.

Head Coach Dan Davis commented on the overwhelming talent the team has this year. Senior Julia Hile expects the rise of a more powerful offense this season as she becomes a varsity outside hitter, playing opposite to powerhouse Taylor Moon. Bryanna Fedorchak has taken the front row by storm with intense hits and blocks.

The Lady M’s most anticipated match is against New Wilmington at home on October 7 at 7:15. Senior Rec Night on behalf of Taylor Moon, Melissa Shoemaker, Katie Love and Julia Hile is on October 28 at 7:15 in the high school gym versus the Greenville Trojans.
After finishing last season with a regular season record of 7-3, a playoff win, and a loss to rival Lakeview in the District 10 finals, the Mercer Mustangs were poised to make another playoff run this season. The team got off to a great start with a 40-14 win over Eisenhower.

The next two games against Wilmington and Lakeview didn’t go as well as huge penalties and losing the turnover battle took away the Mustangs’ chance of winning both games. Although Mercer came off to a hot start against Wilmington as T.J. Peters returned the opening kickoff for a touchdown, the Mustangs also allowed their opponents to score on the following kickoff causing a high change of momentum on the field, in the stands, and on the sideline. Despite putting up 28 points, it wasn’t enough to outscore Wilmington.

The Mustangs would go on to outperform their next opponent, Lakeview, in many ways. Mercer held Lakeview’s offense but it was the Sailors’ running ability that won them the game.

Leading up to the Sharpsville game, Head Coach Pat McClean emphasized that his team should take care of the little things and the big things will take care of themselves. In their fourth game of the season, the Mustangs fell short again, this time to their conference rival Sharpsville.

Following three straight divisional losses, the Mustangs will have to fight for every win to have a chance at a playoff spot.

As the season starts up, the 2014 Girls’ soccer team is ready to pick up where they left off, on the road to finally winning District 10. Junior Sami Carr says the Lady M’s soccer team looks great so far. As a new coach steps up this year, players say she has some new techniques up her sleeve to improve their game. The captains this year are senior Adelyn Cook, junior Megan Lang, and sophomore Bethany Juergens.

The Girls’ soccer team only has one senior this year, Adelyn Cook. Adelyn has been a part of the soccer team since her freshman year so she’s been practicing up for her final year as a Mercer Mustang. She has played soccer all together for about 9 years.

When asked how they thought they would do this year, playoffs was one of the most used words on the team. Wilmington offers the toughest opposition this season as they are the top team in the region. Come cheer on the Lady M’s on Senior Night against Cambridge Springs on October 22 at 6:30pm at the Lamor Field.

The junior high girls’ basketball team is in great shape this year; the girls are fast, athletic, and exceeding expectations. The coach of Mercer’s junior high girls is Coach Weikal.

Mikayla Redmond says he is a strict coach but cares about the team and wants them to be the best they can be. Her favorite part of playing basketball is learning the game and getting to know her teammates. She believes this season will be successful as long as they work hard and don’t get discouraged.
Here comes the Mighty Mercer Mustang Marching Machine, or more commonly known as the “5M” band. They started the year off with practices which started July 28th and ended August 1st with mini camp from 8:30 to 11:30. Practices started back up with full camp August 4th and ended the 8th from 8:30 to 3:00. These Mustangs were really Marching Machines! Mini camp was successful; it introduced the songs to the instrumentalists and gave an idea for the fronts what to expect for the upcoming year. From what it looks like, the fronts are doing very well. Danceline has done a good job coming up with routines to fit the music. Flagline and the majorettes are doing well twirling to the beat.

The marching band seems very thrilled about this upcoming year, considering all the music is featuring the seventies! “I love working with the staff and waiting for the shows to come together,” Dr. Weller stated.

This year, the band has an extra special performance they will be attending. On the morning of February 15th, the 5M band will be going to Pittsburgh International Airport to travel to Orlando, Florida to perform at Walt Disney World. Flying will be a new experience for the band as all other previous trips to Florida had been made by bus.

This year’s band officers are President Andrea Sajewski, Vice President Sarah Miller, Secretary Megan Parker, and Treasurer Jordyn Buchanan. Sajewski, President, was asked her opinion on of what she was most looking forward to; “I’m looking forward to the Disney trip. It is such a great experience to march through Magic Kingdom past the castle with such a big audience.” Miller, the Vice President also stated, “I’m actually looking forward to everything because I know it is the last time I’ll ever be able to do it all. Of course Disney is something to be especially excited for, but I hope the whole band enjoys every moment of what we do together.”

Choir Department Shines Oct. 22

Mrs. Christy and the choir department have been working hard since the start of the school year to put on a spectacular fall concert.

“With over 230 individuals in our department, it is imperative that we are diligent in working on technique to produce the best ensemble sound possible,” Christy stated.

This fall’s theme for chorus is Disney music. Middle School Chorus will be singing songs from Mulan, Concert Choir is singing an Aladdin medley in memory of Robin Williams, and Chamber Choir is singing songs from Frozen. All of the choirs are coming together to end the show with a great song from Newsies, “Seize the Day.” The concert is October 22 at 7pm; you won’t want to miss it!
From the Horse’s Mouth:
What do you want to accomplish this year?

Dylan Hettrick - Throw less interceptions than Logan Clarke
Hayden Mills - Pass
Brayden Ellis - Get more Stromboli Days
Hunter Houy - I want to be Superman
Zack Stanton - Date Ariana Grande
Tanner McElrath - Score a touchdown
Madison Kimes - Place at the All American Quarter Horse Congress
Adrienne Schupp - Be able to do a Lib Extension
Ella Garner - Break the school record for pull-ups
Brian Shevitz - Get ejected from a football game like TJ
Arielle Reiser - Become fluent in Spanish
Alex Long - I want to go to North Dakota with the Robotics Team
Jenna Burkheart - Not get a detention
Nikalya Jacoway - I want to touch net
Cassidy Murray - Go on a big shopping trip and spend lots of money
Carly Stable - Learn to do a Standing Back Tuck
Rachel Snell - Not fall down the stairs
Michaela Adams - Do all my homework
Cara Zomparelli - Get my Back Handspring
Micah Wojonaski - Make high honors

Maddie Rowe - Soccer D10 champs
Jackson Hazelet - Get a good grade in Algebra 2
Hannah Schmid - Get good grades
Sean Burdette - Make it to tenth grade
Gabe Dembroski - Get good grades
Kaylee Ringer - Stay #1 in Kim Kardashian game and keep 7 million fans
Avery Hoover - Get my permit
Connor Richards - Get a tan
Alex Van Woert - Score another goal in soccer
Bobby Rickard - Get through the year
Hunter Kaster - Letter in a sport
Ethan Horchler - Try not to get any detentions and pass all my classes
Noah Mclaughlin - Pass tenth grade
Britney Edwards - Not fail classes
Kaylynn Foore - Become one with the jellyfish
Zack Tabita - Not get truancy
Hannah Bungar - Do all my math homework
Caleb Smith - Get my history homework done
Tyler Marsh - Pass Algebra 2
Olivia Young - Pass science
Cody Koser - Not fail

Levi Bequeath - Become best friends with the German kid
Sean Strain - Produce Jack B. Nimble’s debut album “Greatest Hits”
Chris Micsky - Make stacks
Jake Schmid - Make a mole of money
Jeremiah Robertson - Pass each class with an A and bench 200 lbs
Mark Peters - Bench 251 lbs.
Austin Hall - Do all of my English journals
Chris Majonek - Get an A+ in POD
Amanda Addicott - Help Emily Kirila not get any more safety tickets in Chem
Sierrah Gibson - Get good grades
Aubrie Angermier - I don’t have any goals
Samantha Carr - Not make bad decisions
Hannah McElrath - Pass Calculus
Kaitlin Nemeth - Go to playoffs in Volleyball
Rebecca Simcik - Ace one of Mr. Krenzer’s tests
Dannah Rutter - Be a better driver than my brother
Janalyn Miklas - Be accepted to a college
Haley Gault - Get a $6,022*10^23
Alyssa English - Pass chemistry

Middle School
Freshmen & Sophomores
Juniors
From the Horse’s Mouth:

What do you want to accomplish this year?

Seniors

Troy Sagulla- Win D10 in football
Ashley Lustenberger- Graduate
Brecken Ellis- Be in Hoofbeats as many times as I can
Bryant Fortenberry– Become 50 Cent “Get rich or die trying”
Zach Peck- Make top 10
Tara Hinkson- Not fall asleep in class
Nicole Young- Not get mixed up with my sisters
Emily Young– Not fail anatomy
Preston Hoover- Place at states in wrestling
Mark Cresswell- Graduate
Aundria Gregory- Not do stupid things
Dean Dlugozima- Carpe Diem
Andrea Sajewski- Figure out what college I want to go to
Kaitlin Wiggins- Pass Physics
Logan Clarke.- Decide on a college before February
Katie Brest- Graduate and go to college and get a successful job
Robbie Abraham- The right to wield Thor’s hammer
Katie Love- Make playoffs in Volleyball

Amanda Velasquez- Graduate mainly, but personally my goal is to go to Comic Con
Shane Urey- I want to graduate
Mikayla Thompson- Do the best I can. I want to be able to hold that diploma in my hands and know I made it through 13 years of school
Kendra Walker- Making the most of everything
Kara Redmond- Write another novel
Shayna Perrine- Not fail AP Psychology
Andrew Zitko- Ability to go to college
Jake Sonntag- Graduate
Timothy Dunham- Win the D10 Title in football
Robert Flack- Graduate
Adrian Reeher- Get accepted into college.
Aaron Ryan- I want to graduate
Stephanie Young– Make it to playoffs in softball and have a great season
Brian Roeken– Make it to playoffs in football, graduate with good grades, and be remembered at MHS
Tessa Peters– Become a moose

Staff

Dr. Weller- Lead kids to better understanding and appreciation of music
Mrs. Stemen- Make a pretty newspaper
Mr. Edney- Prepare students to show growth in class and also in PSSAs
Mrs. Gilmore- All students to pass the Keystones
Mrs. McCracken- Be able to mow the lawn without getting the tractor stuck
Mr. Morris- Prepare students for PSSAs and Algebra 1
Mrs. Bello-B e a better nurse, improve myself
Mrs. Acker- Improve my patience
Mrs. Boal- To have more of my students successfully complete PSSAs and Keystones
Mr. DeGraaf- Put a rocket on the moon
Mr. Gadsby- Give students an appreciation for American history
Mrs. Oates- I want to be a more patient mother
Mrs. Vanderveen- I improve the technology and make it work
Mr. Krenzer- “Can I get back to you on that by the end of the year?”
Mr. Piddington- Provide the best education possible for the students
Mrs. McConnell- To get in better physical shape
Mrs. Christy- Gain athletic ability
Mrs. Springirth- Do well in life and learn how to play tennis
Name: Isaiah Bartolone
Age: 15
Birthday: December 16
Favorite song: Too many
Favorite food: Spaghetti
Best friends: No one
Pets: A dog, a parrot, two cats, and a bunny
Favorite Color: Blue
What do you do in your spare time: Spend time with Kaylynn
Siblings: Two brothers and one sister
Favorite class: Fitness since you don’t have to learn
Favorite TV show: Finding Carter
Favorite Teacher: Mrs. McCracken
Something people don’t know about you: I got to pet a giraffe over the summer
Favorite Dessert: Every-

Name: Emily Thompson
Age: 16
Birthday: June 4
Favorite Song: “Miss Jackson” by Panic! At the Disco
Favorite Food: Burritos
Best Friends: Boyfriend Aric, Tessa Peters, and Jaydn Moon
Pets: 2 dogs and an overly obese cat
Favorite Color: Red
What do you do in your spare time: Mostly hang out with Aric, record music, play piano, and obsess over John F. Kennedy
Siblings: 1 half-brother Brandon
Favorite Class: History, because it’s cool, man
Favorite TV Show: Archer
Favorite Teacher: Mrs. Sevin and Mr. Krenzer
Something people don’t know about you: I can flip the top of my ear inside out.

Name: Autumn Coryea
Age: 14
Birthday: December 24
Favorite song: “Rude” by Magic
Favorite food: Pizza
Best friend: Tessa Peters
Pets: A bird, two dogs and a cat
Favorite color: Purple
What do you do in your spare time: Run
Siblings: Carly Geary, Sarah Coryea, and Tommy Coryea
Favorite class: Biology because Mr. Rust is fabulous
Favorite TV show: Finding Carter
Favorite Teacher: Mrs. McCracken
Something that people don’t know about you: I’m fabulous.

Name: Zack Kroll
Greatest accomplishment: Losing my hair
Favorite hobby: Whippin’ in the Jetta
Favorite movie: Crash
Favorite place to eat: Mickey D’s
Favorite part of homecoming: Slow dances
What do you want to gain from your senior year: Weight
Where do you see yourself in 10 years: Head of a company
What would be your ideal vacation: Beach in Spain
What would you do with a million dollars: Buy a hundred Jettas
Would you rather be rich or have true love: Rich
If you could live anywhere in the world, where would it be: Sri Lanka
The Fault in Our Stars reviewed by Kelly Jarrett

If you haven’t heard of The Fault in Our Stars, you must be living under a rock. The Fault in Our Stars was a film adaptation of John Green’s book, which was published in January of 2012.

This book/movie is about two teenagers, Hazel Grace Lancaster and Augustus Waters, who meet at a cancer support group. The majority of the movie focuses on Hazel and Augustus’ shared love for a book called An Imperial Affliction. They fall in love, they travel to Amsterdam, and an unexpected death takes place. One question still arises, though. Is the movie better than the book? There are quite a few differences between the book and the film. For example, the movie left out the part where Hazel and her mom hear Augustus crying and yelling at his mom before leaving for Amsterdam. This part was important because it foreshadows the return of Augustus’ cancer.

Also, in the movie, Augustus tells Hazel he loves her while at dinner in Amsterdam. In the film, he tells her he loves her on the plane ride there. People really loved that part in the book and were disappointed that they changed it. The last thing that stuck out was the fact that Augustus had a previous girlfriend who died from brain cancer, but it wasn’t mentioned at all in the movie. Her death had a big effect on Augustus, and it definitely made an impact on his character.

Books always seem to be better than the movie, and that still reigns true for The Fault in Our Stars.

Supernatural by Tessa Peters

The popular American television show, Supernatural, is going on its tenth season. The show tells an ongoing story of two brothers, Sam and Dean Winchester, who hunt all things supernatural. From Demons to vampires, werewolves to shape-shifters and skin changers, even some Leviathan, the four horsemen of the apocalypse, and Satan himself.

The first episode of the tenth season will mark the 200th episode of the entire Supernatural series and will reportedly be a musical, featuring both original and cover songs. It is still unknown whether the actors playing the Winchesters, Jared Padalecki (Sam) and Jensen Ackles (Dean) will be singing in the musical episode. Season 9 left its watchers with a cliffhanger; Dean was fatally wounded after fight against the angel Metatron, but in an earlier episode Dean had been influenced by the Mark of Cain. Because of the influence, when Dean was injured and died, he was converted into a demon. After Dean’s death, Sam attempts to summon the demon Crowley to make a deal and resurrect him, but Crowley has already visited Dean and reveals that the Mark of Cain won’t let go of him, hence his conversion into a demon.

Find out what happens when this sci-fi thriller returns to the CW on October 7th.

The Doctor has Landed by Kelly Jarrett

Capaldi & Coleman on set

On August 23, something extremely exciting happened. Season eight of Doctor Who premiered, which means the twelfth doctor landed.

As goes for when any doctor regenerates, every single Doctor Who fan desperately misses the previous doctor. The arrival of the new one, however, is highly anticipated.

This sci-fi show originally started in 1963, but ended in 1989. It was picked back up in 2005 and has been going strong ever since. This year, the doctor is played by Peter Capaldi, and his companion is played by Jenna Coleman. Capaldi has previously starred in Maleficent, World War Z, and even an earlier episode of Doctor Who from season 4. In that episode, he plays a minor character when the tenth doctor goes to Pompeii.

The premiere in America alone gathered 2.2 million viewers. The new episode was eighty minutes and is called “Deep Breath”. New episodes air on Saturdays at 8:00 p.m. on BBCA. It’s definitely worth checking out.
American Horror Story: Freak Show by Kelly Jarrett

This year focuses on a freak show. It is set in Florida during the 1950’s. It will be centered on the struggles between the members of the freak show and certain “evil forces.” Jessica Lange, Sarah Paulson, Evan Peters, Kathy Bates, and many other actors will appear in this season. Some of these people have even been in the show since the start.

American Horror Story: Freak Show will air on October 8 at 10 p.m. on FX. If you like horror, you will love AHS.

Rush by Kara Redmond

“Good Doctor, Bad Habits” describes Dr. Rush, from the new TV series Rush, perfectly. USA’s new original series is about a doctor who privately caters to the medical needs of Los Angeles’s elite, while living in luxury. Six years before the series starts, Dr. Rush was a top surgeon in an LA hospital when his life takes a turn for the worse costing him his girlfriend Sarah, the once close relationship he had with his father, and his booming career.

When the series begins, Rush has opened a new private practice for actors, gangsters, and other privileged citizens of LA. When Sarah comes back into his life, Rush tries everything to win her over but finds his work and drug addictions too cumbersome.

If you are interested in shows like House and Royal Pains you might as well pop a bag of popcorn and get comfy because this is the show for you.

Transformers: Age of Extinction reviewed by Tessa Peters

Michael Bay’s latest installment in the Transformers Saga debuted this summer to many reviews, more negative than positive. Transformers: Age of Extinction takes place about 4 or 5 years after the events of Transformers: Dark of the Moon, following the attack on Chicago which left the world terrified of Autobots and Decepticons.

With aid of a Transformer mercenary named Lockdown, a CIA task-force begins hunting the remaining Transformers on Earth. Optimus Prime loses his faith in humanity and sends his forces into hiding. A struggling inventor and single father, Cade Yeager, portrayed by Mark Wahlberg, discovers a damaged Transformer, and finds both himself and his daughter, Tessa, portrayed by Nicola Peltz, wanted by CIA agents that search for the Transformers.

When Transformers: Age of Extinction hit the big screen the public rushed to go see giant sentient robots smack the snot out of one another and make things blow up. For the first hour, Michael Bay’s extravagant story of ear-shredding, eye-dazzling destruction is impressive. Then you realize there’s almost two hours, and the movie becomes numbing, exhausting, and migraine-inducing, but is worth the near 3 hours of action-packed robots fueled to destroy the human race. The DVD was released September 30, 2014.
Changes at Mercer High by Kaylynn Foore

Mercer High School underwent many exciting changes before the school year began! One night lightning struck the chimney of the school; this caused flooding in the upstairs hallway, damaging some classrooms, and the school even had to block one of the main staircases, causing most kids to be late to class. Work was done all summer to repair this for the new school year.

Just after having brand new sidewalk last year, a harsh winter came into Mercer ruining it; so Mercer polished it up for the upcoming school year. The sidewalk reconstruction began on Monday, August 4th, and has greatly improved.

Lime green is a pretty color, but does it go well with blue and white? This was the big talk of the summer. The football team got new jerseys this school year and added lime green to it. "I don't like the addition of lime green to the jerseys, I think they'll look cool but I don't know how future generations will like it. I think we should just wear green socks," Isaiah Bartolone stated.

Not only did the football team get new uniforms, but so did the marching band instrumentalists. The uniforms are a dark blue with a horse on the front and Mercer written on the back with a cape. A majority of the marching band is ecstatic for these new uniforms. Hopefully everyone enjoys the new uniforms.

Mercer has finally replaced the old carpet with new carpet that actually matches the school colors. It is blue with a combination of black and a few other colors. The carpet is only being added to the main hallway downstairs. The upstairs hallway will still have the carpet from last year.

The school made some popular changes and some unpopular changes over the summer. Overall everything looks good, even though some may not like these changes. We look forward to more improvements in the future to our Mercer High School.

Getting to Know New Teachers

By Katelyn Cogswell

As many of you know, there are two new teachers this year. Ms. Martin is the new art teacher and Mr. Colligan is the woodshop teacher.

Martin attended college at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Her high school art teacher inspired her to become an art teacher. She has taught at United District and Ferndale Area School District too. If you happen to see Martin at lunch, you may see her eating her favorite food, seafood and hot tea. In her free time she enjoys reading, going on hikes, spending time with family, and traveling. She likes watching her favorite TV show, Parks and Recreation and her favorite movie, Amelie. She hopes one day to travel to Czech Republic because it is one of the most beautiful places in the world.

Mr. Colligan attended college at California and Indiana Universities of PA. His dad and high school woodshop teacher inspired him to become a woodshop teacher. Colligan’s favorite movie is Windtalkers and he enjoys watching The Big Bang Theory. If you saw him eating a meal it would be pasta with iced tea followed by a Reese's peanut butter cup. He enjoys cleaning cars, cutting firewood, playing golf, skiing, mountain biking, and boating. He would like to travel to the Galapagos Islands over any other place in the world because he enjoys being outdoors.
Down By the Decades by Kaitlin Conner

Football season has officially begun, Homecoming is just around the corner, and the first day of school jitters are over and done with. 2014 is supposedly the “1” you will not “4get”, but what about 2004 or even 1964? With a flash from the past, it turns out some things have changed and some have not.

1964
◊ Candidates for Homecoming court are three girls; Barb Alderson, Rita Hynniman, and Nancy Jo Johnston.
◊ The elective Physiology is being offered for the first time and is being taught by Mr. Palmer.
◊ The Pep Club is responsible for the organization of the Homecoming dance.
◊ Students enjoy a Friday meal of beanburgers, hash brown potatoes, tomato salad, bread, butter, and ice cream.

1974
◊ The cost of the new football field is totaled at $55,000 along with $25,000 fencing, bleachers, and a press box. Future plans are put in for restrooms and a concession stand.
◊ Currently at this time the school has sixteen overhead projectors, five record players, and eleven 16mm projectors.
◊ The Homecoming assembly in school consists of the candidates being escorted by a senior football player and given a rose by a cheerleader.
◊ Dance classes are being offered in Mercer taught by Mrs. Linda Grundy. Folk dances and the fad dances of the United States are instructed in semester classes.

1994
◊ The Homecoming theme for this year is “Can You Feel the Love Tonight” from “The Lion King” and is decorated as a jungle.
◊ The price of this year’s yearbook order is a mere $30.
◊ Broken concrete on the sidewalk areas was replaced. (It seems as if some things never change.)

2004
◊ Foreign exchange student Vladimir Adnadjevic is attending Mercer from Yugoslavia.
◊ The 2014 girls’ soccer coach Emilie Humes is on the Homecoming court.
◊ The students of MHS begin auditions for the musical “The Wizard of Oz”.

Courts of the Past…

Can you guess who?
Answers on page 11