



# the Tiger Times

## Tri-Valley YMCA Hosts Marching Band Prepares For Performances in New Year School

Community

The Tri Valley YMCA is hosted a party for its one year anniversary on January 7th. Members and interested community members were invited to attend. The radio station Y102 was live from 10:00 a.m. to noon from the Willow Creek Elementary parking lot.

During the party, there were member appreciation giveaways and techno gym equipment demonstrations from professionals. For non-members, there were full tours of the entire facility. Cold drinks and snacks were served all day to visitors. Fitness classes such as Zumba, Cardio Kickboxing, Cardio Pilates, and Yoga were available throughout the day. Member appreciation giveaways included Techno Fit keys and trainings, YMCA bags, and t-shirts.

"The purpose of this party is to celebrate the accomplishment of being a financially stable organization that opened a building a year ago and continued to manage resources and programs from day one of its operation," Brett Mayer, Branch Executive

Director of Tri Valley YMCA, said. "We want to rejoice with the community, thank our members, and showcase our abilities to those who still aren't sure what exactly the YMCA is all about."

Basically, there is something for everyone at the YMCA. The YMCA has been received well thus far in the Fleetwood community. A year ago, it opened its doors started a membership from scratch, and today the Tri Valley Y has over 1600 members. This Y facility is proof that, if you do indeed build it, they will come.

"The future of the YMCA is very bright. Since the addition of this facility, our programs and services have grown dramatically," Mayer said. "What started as a \$450,000 operation 3 years ago is now pushing a \$1 million budget."

The anniversary party was an opportunity to check out the YMCA and take advantage of the promotions included.

By Ryan Steward

## Students Sound off on Cyber-Bulling at FAHS

Science/Tech

Bullying is a very serious issue taking place in schools all over the world. Everyone has heard of it, many of us have been victims of it, and, unfortunately, many of us have probably even participated in it. Bullying can, however, be prevented if the right actions are taken.

There are many different types of bullying that happen every day. One of the most common types among middle- and high-schoolers today is cyber bullying.

"Most bullying seems to take place over social networking sites because the people bullying feel superior looking at a computer screen. They don't have to look into the person's eyes. I feel as if people don't know what harm they're doing to someone else just through words," sophomore Annamaria Rudderow stated.

"Bullying is very hurtful and can sincerely hurt someone. I think everybody should think about what they say and what it is doing to the person. I think bullying is a serious problem all around the world, and it's something that needs to be

watched more carefully. It's easy to make fun of someone in the Internet, and some people think that it's funny when it's not," senior Samantha Sanders said.

Cyber-bullying is one of the most talked about issues at Fleetwood Area High School. Unfortunately, the reason it's being talked about is not in order to prevent it; in fact, most students provoke it and take part in it.

"Bullies are bullies. They'll pick on whoever they can," FAHS Principal Michael DeAntonio said.

When it comes to bullying over the web, it's never just between two people. It's out there for the entire social network.

"Most people don't have the courage to bully in person," sophomore Elaina Hawkins said.

All in all, cyber-bullying, as well as any kind of bullying, still causes great harm to all students.

By Kyle Flannery

Visit The Tiger Times Mobile!

Scan this QR Code with your smartphone to read our newspaper on your mobile device!



Upcoming Performances:

Friday, February 17 - Concert band and wind ensemble with the Ringgold Band of Reading @ Messiah College Brass Ensemble  
Saturday, March 31 - Pasta and Presto  
Thursday, April 19 - Wind Ensemble @ Pennsylvania Music Educators Conference in Lancaster.  
Friday, May 4 to Sun, May 6 - Music Department trip to Pittsburgh  
Friday, May 18 - Vocal and Jazz Spring Concert  
Thursday, May 24 - Band and Orchestra Spring Concert  
Monday, May 28 - Memorial Day Parade

By Nikkole Hagginbothom

SAVE ON THE SHEETZ YOU LOVE



ADVERTISEMENT



CAR WASH

8-18-120 • 241730 • 120 • 241730

Ladies Day Special Every Tuesday

Seniors Day Special Every Wednesday

501 N. 5th St. Reading

A Clean Car Is A Happy Car!

Full Service Wash

Inside & Out

The Way It Should Be Done!

Cars • Vans • Trucks

Soft Cloth Wash • Wax • Hand Dry • Hand Polishing

Express Detailing

Gift Cards

VISA

Corporate Accounts Welcome

610-372-2479

ADVERTISEMENT

## *All I've Ever Known* Combines Stage Presence with Unique Musical Style

Arts/Entertainment

Energy, Presence, Music: these are the three keys to a great live show. One group really captures these ideas. All I've Ever Known is an Alternative Rock/Popcore band of sixteen-year-olds from the surrounding area of Reading, Pennsylvania. Formed in May 2011, AIEK is one of the only local bands to feature a female front man--or, in this case, frontwoman.

All I've Ever Known is composed of Marc Daouphars (Guitar), Glenn Hollenbach (Guitar/ Vocals), Colby Melnyk (Drums), and Jacob Kutz (Bass)--all of whom attend Wilson High School. Giuliana

Kautter, a Wyomissing student, offers lead vocals.

With musical influences of some of today's heavier bands including A Day To Remember, All I've Ever Known has a very strong presence instrumentally. However, with Giuliana's voice atop these cruel and heavy riffs, their music provides listeners with an atypical sort of controlled chaos.

Having performed only four shows, All I've Ever Known's original music promises every fan something to look forward to: A Great Local Band.

"We love the feeling of the crowd

and how they react to music. You have to give them what they came for. It's an obligation, yes, but it's also a privilege," Hollenbach said.

All I've Ever Known hopes to record a demo in the near future, perhaps including one of their newest songs, called "Attack of the Slenderman," which is one of seven current AIEK originals.

All I've Ever Known is on Facebook at facebook.com/AllIveEverKnown. Check them out for updates on shows, schedules, and new music.

By Colin Underwood

## *Chromatic Wakeup* a Local Phenomenon

Arts/Entertainment

Heavily influenced by such bands as Switchfoot, Muse, and Death Cab for Cutie, Chromatic Wakeup is an Alternative Dance Rock group hailing from the greater Reading area.

Chromatic Wakeup is comprised of six members: front man AJ Fink (Lead Guitar, Lead Vocals), Nick Readdy (Keys, Vocals), Zac Cambria (Guitar, Vocals), Mark

Gettis (Bass, Vocals), Rob Dipuppo (Percussion), and Patrick Readdy (Drums). While each member is in a different school, the group still finds a way and a time to rehearse their music.

Through a church music group competition, under the admittedly regretted band name "ShamWow," they came together in Orlando, Florida. While they had a

somewhat lackluster showing in the competition, they enjoyed and wished to continue their musical prowess as a group. Thus Chromatic Wakeup was born.

"We use Chromatic Walkups a lot in our music so we played off of that and became Chromatic Wakeup," A.J. Fink, lead singer and lead guitarist, said.

The stage presence of this group is something that can't be explained to those who haven't seen it. With so many people on stage at any given time, their flow on stage never stops. Everyone is active, and everyone is into it, something that seems hard to come by in this day and age.

With the release of their new CD, The Broken Chairs EP, just occurring in late December, the group hopes to continue their flourishing career as a local musical phenomenon.

By Colin Underwood



PHOTO: CW

## Upcoming Shows!

*Local Rock and Metal Shows Through July*

Feb 23 @ The Croc Rock: *Attack Attack*

March 7 @ The Trocadero: *Mindless Self Indulgence*

March 10 @ The Wells Fargo Center: *The Black Keys W/ The Arctic Monkeys*

March 10 @ The Electric Factory: *Young the Giant W/ Grouplove*

April 3 @ The Trocadero: *Wild Flag*

May 11 @ The Wells Fargo Center: *Red Hot Chili Peppers*

June 14 @ The Mann Center: *Foster The People*

July 5 @ The Wells Fargo Center: *Coldplay*

ADVERTISEMENT  
Berks Home Staging, LLC

Blair Lehman ASP®

blair@berkshomestaging.com

610.926.7734

berkshomestaging.com

Serving Berks & Surrounding Counties

ADVERTISEMENT



SIGNS, TRUCKS, & SCREEN PRINTING

www.graberletterin.com (610) 369-1112

- Commercial Truck & Fleet Lettering
- Vehicle Graphics
- Plywood & Aluminum Signage
- Real Estate
- Construction Job Site
- Banners
- Window Graphics
- Digital Printing
- Logo Design
- T-shirts & Apparel

## Budget Cuts Create Tax Change in Muhlenberg

School

Muhlenberg township commissioners recently approved a 15.5 million budget for 2012. With the approval of this budget, taxes for the residents of the county would rise about 6%. The budget was approved at the end of November.

The rate will increase from \$4.5 million to \$4.25 million. The 0.15 million increase of tax is for general purposes, which covers basic services. The hike also increased because of a .1 million increase in the fire tax.

"Unfortunately, even with the dedication of the volunteers, other costs continue to rise, which is why a .1 mill increase in the Fire Tax is proposed," Michael Molinowski said. Molinowski is the president of the township board of commissioners for the 2012 budget statement.

\$1.47 million of the budget will go to State and Federal grants, \$340,000 will be spent for road improvements, and \$85,000 will be used for a new police officer to work in the township.

"Instead of the economy improv-

ing, our local revenues have remained flat while expenses continue to rise," Molinowski said. "This has required an even greater reliance on cash reserves each year."

After the budget is approved, any tax bills on property valued at \$100,000 will be increased from \$425 to \$450.

Agreeing on the new budget was not the only item discussed during the meetings. Muhlenberg commissioners also rejected an application from MetroPCS to relocate a sign at Keystone Self Storage.

The initial plan for the sign was to raise its height. The original height of the sign was 65 feet. The proposed new height for the sign would have been 85 feet.

This sign existed since 1999. The current height of the sign no longer conforms to zoning ordinances.

The current township zoning hearing board was in favor of the plan. The commissioners, however, were not in favor of it. They wanted to leave the sign alone and have a different tower for the antennae.

By Dan Norton

## Seussified Romeo & Juliet Rehearsals Underway

Entertainment/ Arts

"... I do not like green eggs and ham."

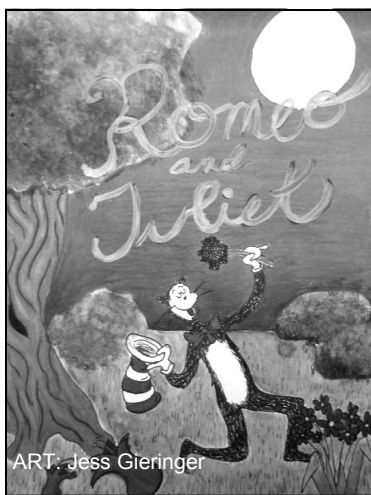
—Dr. Seuss, from *Green Eggs and Ham*.

"Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?"

— William Shakespeare, from *Romeo and Juliet*.

These two very different but very famous lines come from equally famous writers who will meet onstage for *The Sensification of Romeo and Juliet*. On 16 and 17 March, you can experience the fun and Seuss with an exciting cast that will be bringing it to life.

Most people know what *Romeo and Juliet* was like: sort of a depressing story. --Well, not on



Seuss's watch; nothing will be depressing about this.

Many remember the Fleetwood's comical production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, which was full of laughs.

This show is expected to be more comical, which is something very hard to top.

By Melanie Lehman

## FAHS Students Speak out Against School PDA

Human Interest

Public displays of affection (PDA): When does it go from cute to inappropriate?

"There is no place for PDA in school," German teacher Shawn Rudy states.

"I feel teachers shouldn't be all over students for PDA, but I also think students shouldn't be making out in the halls," Sophomore DaQuan Brown said.

"[PDA] makes me want to hit myself in the face," Senior Brian Erb said.

According to the school handbook, "Students are prohibited from engaging in any public displays of affection while on school property. Any violation of this rule will result in disciplinary action."

Although some students get away with doing it, teachers are still on the watch.

The consensus of the freshman class was that the middle school was stricter than high school regarding PDA. Teachers in the middle school give students warnings; after so many warnings, a detention is given to both students.

The hallways are packed enough with crowds of people as it is, and then people stop right in the middle of the hall just to say goodbye to their boyfriends or girlfriends, adding to the frenzy. School hallways do not seem big enough for people to even stand at their lockers and get books due to these PDA offenders.

By Kelsey Steiner

## Hilton Head Island A Sweet Escape

Travelogue

Recently I had the opportunity to get away from school for a week and go down to Hilton Head Island. Hilton Head Island is a beautiful island located off the coast of South Carolina. The foot-shaped island is 12 miles long and roughly five miles wide; it boasts breathtaking beaches.

There is so much to do in Hilton Head, things such as riding bikes along the many paths and trails, some of which lead the biker through the forests and marshlands.

The Island also offers more than 20 public golf courses, 300 tennis courts, horseback riding along the beach, eco-tours of the Island's nature preserves, sailing, deep-sea fishing, windsurfing, and so much more.

Aside from offering these fun ac-

tivities, Hilton Head Island also offers a ton of history. The Island was "discovered" in 1663 by William Hilton.

Before the Civil War, Hilton Head Island was full of prospering plantations that grew rice, indigo, and cotton. During the Civil War, the island was captured and occupied by the Union forces and used as a strategic outpost for the blockade of Confederate sea ports.

For those who love to shop and eat, this might just be the place for you. There are so many places to shop that it would take months to visit all the stores. There's also no shortage of places to eat, with over 300 restaurants on the Island.

Hilton Head's dining options include international foods, traditional American foods, and, of course, amazing Southern

specialties, such as fried shrimp and hush puppies.

Hilton Head Island is also home to over 250 species of birds throughout the year. Loggerhead Turtles use the Island's shorelines as their nesting ground. Off shore, many bottle-nosed dolphins can be seen playing. During walks through the woods, deer can be spotted, while in the lagoons the most interesting creature of the area can be seen: the alligator.

Whether you are interested in recreational activities, local culture and history, or the shopping and the food, Hilton Head Island is the perfect vacation destination for anyone.

By Alexis Sonon

## Cell Phone Ban May Eliminate Distractions Behind the Wheel

Transportation

Recently, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) made a recommendation to create a law completely banning any cell phone use while driving a car. This includes making calls, texting, and even the use of Bluetooth devices.

However, there are those who believe the possible law will not go anywhere.

The original proposal was made by NTSB in December. It was greeted with much controversy and discussion, considering that the law would call for wireless Bluetooth devices to also be banned. GPS devices would be allowed, however, and cell phones would be allowed in emergencies.

Currently, there are 10 states ban-

ning handheld devices while driving. There are 35 states that now only ban texting while driving.

If the United States decides to accept this law, it would not be the first country to do so. In fact, many other countries carry the ban already. Some of these include China, Australia, Russia, and the United Kingdom.

There are still some roadblocks in the way of getting this law approved, however. For instance, many drivers are resisting this proposal because of their desire to remain in communication while behind the wheel. Others, however, are all for the law.

"I can see where the proposition is coming from," Fleetwood junior Cody Mil-

lard said. "I agree completely with the new law."

The statistics back up the proposition of this law. According to the National Highway Safety Administration, there were more than 3,000 deaths behind the wheel because of distracted driving in 2010. Car accidents have been the highest cause of death rate for teens, many of them involving a driver of one of the vehicles being distracted with a cell phone.

For now, this proposal is still just a proposal. Despite the amount of discussion it created, nothing at the moment has changed.

By Daniel Norton

## Jake Conrad Makes Music in Fleetwood

Profile

Jake Conrad is a senior at Fleetwood Area High School. He was born on 7 July 1993. Jake's parents are Scott and Melissa Conrad, or as he affectionately calls them, Bert and Ernie. From an early age, Jake took an interest in guitar. He currently plays the guitar for a local band named *Like Monsters Do*, a post-hardcore band. Jake is known for his humor and all around friendliness.

"Jake is a really swell guy with a good head on his shoulders. He is also my P.I.C. [partner in crime]," senior Ricky Perry said.

Jake currently lives in

Fleetwood. When not at school, Jake enjoys hanging out with his friends. He is always up to do just about anything. He especially enjoys hanging with the "PMC," which is what his group of friends call themselves. You can find Jake "chilling" on the porch all summer long.

"Jake is a great guy and he is funny. He also has the best triceps I've ever seen," Vinny Leiva said.

Jake really enjoys the friendly sports of four-square and hacky-sack. He was a huge influence on the 7th period four-square games before the game was disal-

lowed.

"He is a cool guy, and he is good at four-square when we play," Terry Sterner, senior at Fleetwood, said.

After he "finally gets out of here", as he says, Jake wants to attend a post-secondary school. Potentially, after a while, he would love to attend Full Sail University to major in audio recording. Jake loves music and sees himself doing very well in this career. His friends acknowledge his talents with music as well.

"Jake is a really awesome guy. He is very talented on the guitar. Overall, Jake is a great friend," senior Colin Underwood said.

By Ryan Cortazzo



PHOTO: TT

### Notice of Affiliation and Non-Representation

*The Tiger Times* is a high school news journal that is produced using funds from *The Fleetwood Area School District* as well as club fundraisers. All subjects and topics appearing within *The Tiger Times* are self-selected by student reporters themselves; however, article suggestions are accepted from all students, staff, administration, and community members. Opinions and viewpoints stated in *The Tiger Times* are not necessarily the opinions and viewpoints of the *Fleetwood Area School District*, its administration, its faculty, the club advisor, or even the entirety of *The Tiger Times* staff. *The Tiger Times* is a public forum whose primary goal is to provide an outlet for student expression to *The Fleetwood Area School District* and its constituent communities. Viewpoints and opinions that are contrary to those appearing in *The Tiger Times* are welcomed, but they are not guaranteed publication except by approval from the student editors. Students who are not matriculated in the Journalism course or who are not among the club's roster are still eligible to submit content for the periodical. All articles and letters selected for publication may be subject to editing for length and language consistent with the style established by student editors of *The Tiger Times*.

## Tiger Times Advice Column Returns with New Procedures

Advice

A new advice column will soon be added to *The Tiger Times*.

This advice column is a new option for students to be a part of for the school. Boxes will be placed, along with submission slips, in each English class as well as in the office. On these slips, students are encouraged to write down any issues or topics about which they would like advice.

Once a week, students from *The Tiger Times* staff will come around and pick up the slips. They will then be read and an-

swered to the best of the writers' abilities.

Everything in this process will be anonymous; students are welcome to write an alias so their identity remains unknown. For example, a student dealing with anxiety or difficulty in school could sign his or her submission as "confused" or "stressed."

The journalists who devise responses to the slips will also remain anonymous. The *Tiger Times* staff will do their best to answer the slips in a timely and comprehensive fashion.

People need to speak out about what is bothering them, and *The Tiger Times* staff feels as though this will provide a beneficial outlet. Suicide is the third leading cause of death for people ages fifteen to twenty-five, which can be attributed partly to individuals not knowing where to turn for help.

This column is intended to help students in distress who are too afraid or embarrassed to speak out otherwise.

By Holly Wagner

## The Upcoming Winter Season has Future Effects on U.S.

Weather

It seems as if another brutal winter is in store for the 2011-12 season.

Thanks to La Nina, a coupled ocean phenomenon, multiple storms have been predicted throughout the United States. La Nina is influenced by the Jetstream along the coasts of the United States.

Unlike last year, where Northeast was hit the hardest, North Central U.S. will experience the most extreme conditions this winter.

According to Accuweather.com, Chicago, Illinois, will be the primary victim of this winter's harsh storms, just as New York City was last year.

"People in Chicago are going to want to move after this winter," Accuweather long-range meteorologist Josh Nagelberg said.

Unfortunately, the Northeast will not get through the winter unscathed. Though the weather will be significantly less dramatic, a few snow and ice storms on

their way are sure to pack a punch.

In the western United States, it will, for the most part, be the same as usual: mild.

"I think this winter will be average: no more, no less," Zachary Houpp, a Fleetwood Area High School teacher, said.

Last year had a lot of major storms; this year will simply have very small storms that may add up over time.

"I personally want a lot of snow this winter because I love to snow-mobile!"

Patrick Coles, a sophomore at Fleetwood High school, said.

"I want snow but only during the school week, so I can sleep," Lauren Fuerst, a sophomore from Fleetwood Area High School, said.

This winter should be an interesting one to say the least. Though it won't be extreme for the citizens of Fleetwood, it will certainly make some noise throughout the country.

By Jake Lash

## Random Cheese

By Madison Rice

With the New Year up and running...

What are you excited about in the year 2012?



- "Getting my permit."  
Shaq Cobb ('15)



- "The end of the world."  
Joe Sherman ('12)



- "College."  
John Jaramillo ('12)



"Graduation and senior week."  
Amanda Lynch ('12)



- "The summer before college."  
Emily Shilling ('12)



- "The Olympics."  
Ryan Hollenbach ('12)